

MAW, 4th Quarter, 1988

MAW is the Newsletter of the Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society (CASFS), a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. It is being published on a quarterly basis. Circulation is approximately 3,000 households for this issue, mainly to members of CASFS and attendees of recent Arizona sf&f conventions.

MAW is currently under going a change of leadership. Bruce Farr, due to time considerations, is stepping down as the editor. Eric Hanson (my hero) has agreed to become the new editor of MAW. While Bruce is stepping down, he will still contribute to this newsletter.

Please...anyone who changes their address, let us know!..This saves everyone money (lets you receive this newsletter plus know about Con price breaks and lets us save money on COA's from the Post Office). This will also let us pass COA (change of address) information on to conventions where you also have a membership! Anyone who wishes to receive or not to receive MAW only needs to request same.

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MAW

Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society, Inc.

(a non-profit corporation)

P.O. Box 11743

Phoenix, AZ 85062

Editor, Eric Hanson

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EDITORIAL POSITION

MAW is intended to be a source of information for people interested in science fiction, fantasy, and related subjects. We'll also publicize related Arizona Cons, clubs, or activities along with important out-of-state information. Just write our P.O. Box or call the editor, Eric Hanson, at (602) 968-7833 on weekends. Please note that everything not credited with a byline was written by the editor, Eric Hanson.

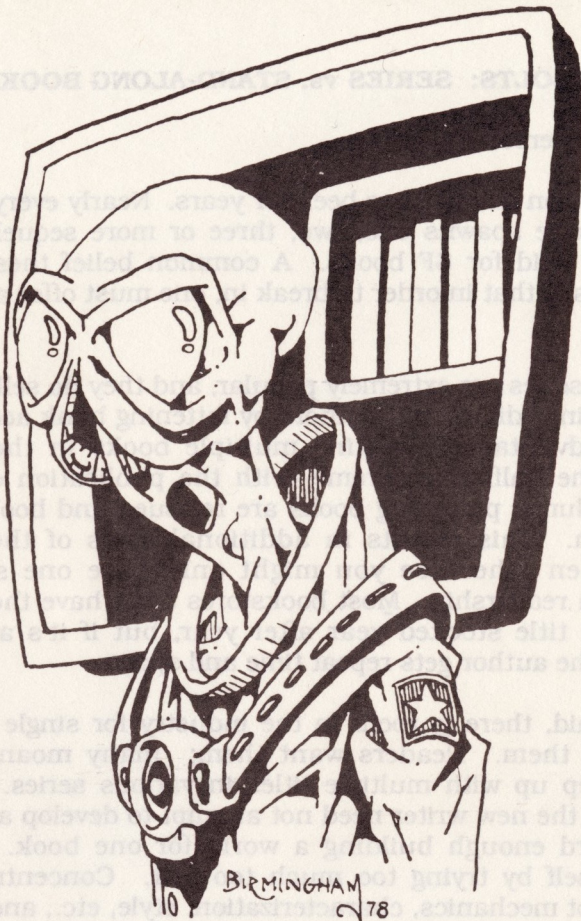
CENTRAL ARIZONA SPECULATIVE FICTION SOCIETY, INC.

What REALLY is behind putting on a convention? What are the funds raised by a convention used for? Does everyone REEEAAAALY smear each other all over with lime jello at CASFS meetings? Why not attend a meeting and find out!

We're the sponsor of MAW, CON GAMES, Fan Gatherings, the 1988 SMOFCon convention, and the annual CopperCon convention. CASFS, also known as "Melvyn", usually meets at the Cafe Casino at 24th Street and Camelback (Southwest corner), but are changing our meeting as listed below due to changed summer hours at Cafe Casino. We are a charitable, IRS-recognized non-profit corporation that exists to further science fiction, fantasy and science fields in Arizona. We'd like to see you involved, too!

THE NEXT MEETING OF CASFS will take place on Friday, November 18, 1988 at 8pm at the Fan Gathering being held at the Ambassador Inn at 4727 E. Thomas Road in Phoenix. The reason for changing the date of the meeting is to allow for the holiday weekend on the usual meeting date.

Everyone is invited to attend two meetings prior to becoming a member. Membership rates are \$12 per year (plus an initial \$3 application fee), or slightly more if paid quarterly or semi-annually. Membership rates are prorated for the amount of the year remaining. For more information, call Bruce Farr at (602) 968-5673 or Doug Cosper at (602) 849-3338. BYOLJello.



FAN GATHERING 13

Fan Gatherings are the local relax-a-con thrown several times a year. Fan Gathering, the 13th, will be held November 18-20, 1988 at the Ambassador Inn, 48th Street and Thomas Road in Phoenix. Room rates are \$27.00 +tax per night. As fan gatherings are small, informal affairs, we do not have a scheduled guest of honor, but we do have some fun planned.

This con will feature Friday Night at Callahan's Crosstime Saloon, Saturday night at the Human Restaurant on Altair One (come as your favorite alien), a special Sunday morning surprise and concluding with Wheel Fortune (made famous at CopperCon 7). Fan Gathering 13 is sponsored by CASFS and presented by the elves of Silvercreek Holt, et.al.

NUTS'N'BOLTS: SERIES vs. STAND-ALONG BOOKS

by Jennifer Roberson

Sequelitis is upon us, and has been for years. Nearly every highly successful movie spawns one, two, three or more sequels; the same can be said for SF books. A common belief these days among writers is that in order to break in, one must offer a trilogy or a series.

Trilogies and series are extremely popular, and they do sell better, thereby pleasing editors and authors by fattening bank accounts. The major advantage to writing multiple books in the same universe is the halflife syndrome--with the publication of each successive volume, preceding books are reissued and bookstores restock them. This results in additional sales of the early volumes, when otherwise you might only have one shot at establishing a readership. Most bookstores don't have the space to keep each title stocked year after year, but if it's a series chances are the author gets repeat time and space.

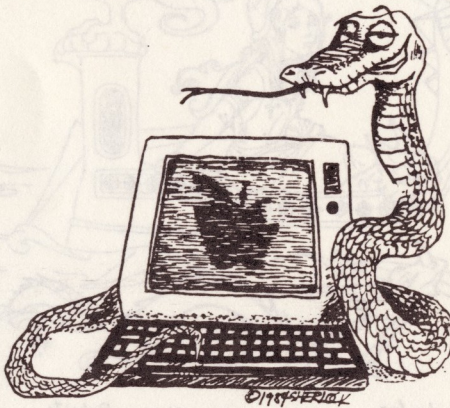
That being said, there is room in the industry for single books. Editors want them. Readers want them; many moan about having to keep up with multiple titles in various series. What this means is the new writer need not attempt to develop a trilogy when it's hard enough building a world for one book. Don't burden yourself by trying too much too fast. Concentrate on technique, plot mechanics, characterization, style, etc., and make it all strong enough for one very solid book. If you do it once, you can do it again, but it's asking too much of yourself right at the beginning to think about doing two or three or four. You don't need that pressure. Make that one book the very best it can be, then try to sell it. If it has the potential for sequels, the editor will see it. But at this point it's difficult to interest an editor in buying more than one at a time because you haven't proved yourself in the marketplace.

Certainly there are exceptions. Some new authors do make a first deal on the basis of a trilogy. But only if they've already turned in all three manuscripts and the editor knows the work is publishable. So if you're dying to write the penultimate trilogy or series before you have a deal, go ahead. You'll be a better writer by the time you're done, because practice does make perfect. But be prepared for a more difficult and lengthy break-in time. And be prepared to rewrite your first novel yet again, because by the time you've finished the others you'll see serious problems in

your first. You might even wish you hadn't sent it out quite so fast.

Right now, the sf/fantasy industry is experiencing a drip-off in profits. This means it will be harder than ever for a new writer to break in, because editors will become more selective in what they buy. Don't make it harder on yourself by anticipating a done deal for your trilogy or series. It's hard enough writing--and selling--one.

And if your dreams include Nebula and Hugo awards, keep in mind series books almost never, ever win.



1991 World Fantasy Convention

A group of Phoenix and Tucson Fans, chaired by our illustrious Randy Rau and Bruce Farr, will be conducting the 1991 World Fantasy Convention (WFC) at the Doubletree Hotel at Randolph Park in Tucson. This limited membership convention (paid memberships are not allowed to exceed 750) is traditionally held over the weekend closest to Halloween. Tucson also hosted the 1985 WFC.

This year's WFC was in London, England. Professional membership (editors, publishers, authors and artists) included almost half of those there. Pro GOH was James Herbert and Toastmaster was Clive Barker. The con's Program Book was a 260 page hardbound book of stories and articles.

Since the WFC is oriented to serious fans of dark and light fantasy, the convention features an extensive program, presentation of the World Fantasy Awards during an awards

banquet, and incredible art show and a heavily book-oriented dealers' room. There is little media emphasis, no masquerade, no gaming, little video or films, and hall costumes are highly discouraged (as are simple t-shirts).

Memberships will be available after the conclusion of the 1990 WFC in Chicago. Attendees of the 1989 & 1990 WFC along with those members of the 1985 WFC we can still locate will receive the first two progress reports. We're delighted and honored to be hosting this prestigious event!



35/50/87

Mary Hansen-Roberts

CONVENTION NOTES

CASFS makes no representations about conventions listed (except for their own conventions, CopperCon 9, Fan Gatherings, and the 1988 smofCon) other than simply providing a listing service. Please note that many conventions have arranged with Endless Universe Bookstore in Mesa, One Book Store in Tempe, and Stalking Moon Book Store in Glendale to sell their memberships.

Fan Gathering - November 18-20, 1988 (Friday to Sunday) at the Ambassador Inn at 4727 E. Thomas Road in Phoenix. Fan Gatherings are our local "relax-a-con" held several times a year. Memberships for the con are \$5 for the weekend, (free to all members of CASFS). Room rates at the Ambassador Inn are \$27 per night - call (602) 840-7500 for reservations. This event is sponsored by CASFS and presented by the elves of Silvercreek Holt, et. al.

1988 SMOFCon - December 8-10, 1988 (Friday to Sunday) at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Phoenix, Arizona. This is the annual national convention on conducting sf/fantasy conventions. Includes workshops, publications, and panels on con conduction techniques. Membership is \$35 to 10-15-88 and \$50 thereafter. Hotel rooms are \$60. Contact P.O. Box 27201, Tempe, Arizona 85282 or call (602) 968-5673.

STARFEST '89: Star Trek / Science Fiction Media convention. Planned guests for our March 31st - April 2nd convention include: William Shatner (Star Trek V Director, Actor & Writer), Harve Bennett (Star Trek V Producer & Writer) and Dave McDonnell (Editor Starlog Magazine). Special emphasis on Star Trek V and possible rough-cut screening. For more info, call (303) 671-8735 or write : STARFEST '89, P.O. Box 24590, Denver, Co 80224.

LepreCon 15: April 14-16, 1989 (Friday to Sunday) at the Hyatt Regency in Downtown Pheonix, Arizona. Memberships are \$20 through 2-12-89. Contact P.O. Box 26665, Tempe, Arizona 85282 or call (602) 839-2543. Guests are artist Richard Hescox, author Chelsea Quinn Yarbro, and Tucson fan Sue "Dragon Lady" Thing. Dealers tables are available at \$45.00.

NOREASCON 3, 47th World SF Convention - August 31 - Sept. 3, 1989 at the Sheraton Boston, Backbay Hilton, and Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts. Attending memberships are \$70 to 3-15-89, \$80 to 7-15-89, Supporting rates are \$20. Contact Box 46, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge, MA 02139. Guests are author Andre Norton, Publishers Ian and Betty Ballantine, and the Stranger Club (Louis Russell Chauvenet, Chan Davis, G. Timothy Orrok, Harry Clement Stubbs, Robert D. Swisher, and Art Widner).

TusCon Sweet 16: October 6-8, 1989 (Friday to Sunday) at the Executive Inn in Tucson, Arizona. Contact TusCon at P.O. Box 26822, Tucson, Arizona 85726 or call (602) 881-3709. Membership rates are \$12 to 12-31-88, then \$15. Guests to be announced.

WORLD FANTASY CONVENTION 1989: October 27-29, 1989 at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel & Towers in Seattle, Washington. Memberships are \$70 through 5-1-89. Contact P.O. Box 31815, Seattle, WA 98103-1815. Guests are authors Ursula K. LeGuin, S. P. Somtow, and Robert R. McCammon and Toastmaster is editor Ginier Buchanan. Membership is limited to 750. WFC is a

convention oriented to professionals and serious fans/collectors of fantasy and horror.

CopperCon 9 - September 7 - 9, 1989 (Thursday to Sunday) at the Safari Resort, 4611 N. Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85251. Room rates: \$38.00 single/double/triple/quad. Memberships are \$15 to 12-31-88. For memberships or more information, contact P.O. Box 11743, Phoenix, AZ 85061 or call (602) 849-3338 on weekends. Guests of honor are author A.E. Van Vogt and fan Jim & Doreen Webbert.

ConDiego (NASFiC 1990): Aug. 30 - Sept. 3, 1990 at the downtown convention center in San Diego and headquartered at the Omni Hotel. Memberships are \$45 to 1-1-89, \$55 to 7-1-89. Supporting memberships are \$25. Contact P.O. Box 15771, San Diego, CA 92115 or call (619) 461-1917. Guests are author Samuel R. Delaney and fan Ben Yalow.

CHICON V, 49th WORLD SF CONVENTION: Aug. 29 - Sept. 2, 1991 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago, Illinois. Attending membership is \$50 through 12-31-88 and \$75 for all of 1989. (Voters received an automatic \$20 supporting membership and can convent for \$20 more). Guests are author Hal Clement, Artist Richard Powers, Editor Martin Greenberg, and fans Jon and Joni Stopa. Marta Randall is Toastmaster. Contact P.O. Box 218121, Upper Arlington, Ohio 43221 for memberships, or P.O. Box A3120, Chicago, Illinois 60690 for info.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

SF/F oriented organizations are welcome to send info. to our P.O. Box for listing! **Important!!!** If you want to continue to be listed, please correspond with updated club information at least twice a year. This keeps your listing current and lets us know you still exist.

When contacting a Club or Con, please send a SASE (Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope) for return reply!

Dimensional Masque: a non-profit organization founded in 1985 to provide a forum at science fiction conventions for creative fans to meet, produce, and show original file or video productions. Contact Richard Rouse and Elinor Mavor at (602) 941-0349 or write 7015 E. Pasadena Ave., Scottsdale, Arizona 85253.

United Federation of Phoenix: the Phoenix area Star Trek Club. Meets every two weeks at various locations around the Phoenix area. For information, write P.O. Box 37224, Phoenix, Arizona 85069 or call Jim Strait at (602) 242-9203.

The Lion Legion: Phoenix area team for Sabrtract International, the battlefield sport. For more information, contact Kevin Hedgpeh at (602) 246-0199 or write to 4231 N. 31st Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85017.

LepreCon, Inc.: one of the two Phoenix Area corporations that puts on yearly conventions. Best described as SF/F generalists with a main thrust into SF/F art. For more information, write P.O. Box 26665, Tempe, Arizona 85282 or call Eric Hanson at (602) 968-7833.

Role Players and Wargamers, Inc.: otherwise known as RAW Games. Wargaming (board gaming) and fantasy club. Contact 8159 W. Weldon, Phoenix, Arizona 85033.

Central Arizona Speculative Fiction Society, Inc.: the non-profit corporation that puts on CopperCon conventions, Fan Gatherings, and does MAW and CON GAMES newsletters. Best described as SF/F generalists with a strong bent towards literary SF/F. Meets at 8pm on the last Friday of each month - call for meeting location (we're in the process of possibly changing). Write P.O. Box 11743, Phoenix, Arizona 85061 or call Bruce Farr at (602) 968-5673 or Doug Cosper at (602) 849-3338.

Phoenix Japanimation Society: local chapter of japanimation/general animation oriented fans - meets monthly. Membership are free, though optional monthly newsletter is \$5/year or \$.50 per month. Call Tom Perry at (602) 996-2196 or write P.O. Box 5189, Glendale, Arizona 85312.

Society for Creative Anachonisms (Tucson): or how to get in touch with your past. Contact SCA Inc. DBA Tir Ysgithr, Box 43335, Tucson, Arizona 85733.

National Space Society (National): successor to the L-5 Society. Contact 922 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20003 or call (202) 543-1900.

International Brotherhood of Jedi Knights: Star Wars club, of which the local group is the Tatooine Base. No membership dues for the Base, but the I.B.O.J.K. has annual dues of \$5.00.

Contact Lilly or Patty at (602) 956-3568 for more information or write 3111 N. 34th Place, Phoenix, Arizona 85018.

The Phoenix Fantasy Film Society: film society for classic SF/F film. Membership is \$25.00 lifetime. PFFS also rents projectors, films, and video tapes. Contact PFFS, Box 30423, Phoenix, Arizona 85067.

Igen Weyr: a Phoenix-area local club based on the Dragonrider books by Anne McCaffrey. For more information, call Kim Farr at (602) 968-5673 or write 3411 S. Margo Drive, Tempe, Arizona 85282. Publisher of the fanzine, Weyr Notes.

T.A.R.D.I.S.: (The Arizona Regional Doctor [Who] Interest Society) Dr. Who fan club of Phoenix. Memberships are \$18.00 for first year. Membership includes a monthly newsletter, business cards, TARDIS key, and quarterly publications. They meet every two weeks at various locations around the valley. Contact Belle at T.A.R.D.I.S., Box 63191, Phoenix, Arizona 85026.

CompuShop Forum / DBUG Computer Users Group: SF/Fantasy discussion group including SF directory, reviews, etc. Computer board set up at 745-1889...set up own password with board and leave message in public area for D&D group. Space available for groups with membership in DBUG (\$10/year for each group or discussion leader). Contact Fred Runk at 4817 E. 26th Street, Tucson, Arizona 85711 or call (602) 747-9096.

Starbase Tucson: Star Trek club for people whose interests include sf, role-playing games, Dr. Who, media sf, computers, sca, filking, etc. Contact K'Shona Jackson, Diplomatic Liaison Officer, 7948 E. Winnepeg Drive, Tucson, AZ 85730 or call (602) 885-5778.

SIG on The Source Information Network: (run by Flying Buffalo Games). For wargamers, role-playing games, & SF and fantasy fans. There you will find: an extensive list of game and SF conventions from around the country, news and new releases from game companies, role playing and other games, and a bulletin board where you can leave messages for other games. From Command Level on The Source, just type FLBUFSIG. The SIG is run by Flying Buffalo Inc., makers of NUCLEAR WAR and TUNNELS & TROLLS games. For more info, call (602) 945-6917 or write P.O. Box 1467, Scottsdale, AZ 85282 (Flying Buffalo, Rick Loomis, SIG Operator).

Doctor Who Information Network: a multi-national Doctor Who club. Includes a bi-monthly newsletter, ENLIGHTENMENT, membership card, convention and series news, pen pals, and classified services. Memberships are \$8 per year. Contact DWIN, P.O. Box 912, Station F. Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2N9, Canada.

Southwest Costumers Guild: a Phoenix area branch chapter of the International Costumers' Guild, based in Maryland. Dedicated to exploring, teaching, researching and enjoying all aspects of costuming. Dues are \$12 per year (which includes \$6.00 International dues). For more information, call Pati Cook at (602) 973-8611 between 3 and 6pm. The Guild meets the second Friday of each month at 7:30pm - call Pati Cook for meeting location.

M.A.G.I.C. (Manga/Animation/Gaming International Circle): Besides what's in the title, this club deals with art, costuming, cultural exchange and play-by-mail gaming. The group runs as a strictured anarchy. Their newsletter is called "Through the Mirror". contact Gregg Sharp, 3901 W. Camelback #A13, Phoenix, AZ 85019.

Blake's Several: fan club dedicated to promotion of the Blake's 7 tv show and bringing together fans of the show. Contact Blake's Several, P.O. Box 1766, Bellaire, Texas 77401. Memberships are \$7.00 per year.



21/50/87

Mary Hanson-Roberts

Local News

The fourth annual Arizona Book Fair will be held at the Ramada Inn at 3801 E. Van Buren in Phoenix, AZ on Nov. 18-20, 1988. The admission on Friday is \$5 for the weekend, \$2 on Saturday and free on Sunday. The hours are Friday 6am to 9pm, Sat. 10am to 5pm and Sunday 11am to 4pm. They will appraise one book for free on Saturday and Sunday.

CONTACT has been awarded to Phoenix to be held in late April of 1989. The theme is "Cultures of the Imagination", otherwise known as the Anthropology of Science Fiction. CONTACT is a national, interdisciplinary scholarly conference that brings together some of the nation's foremost anthropologists, and other social and natural scientists, science fiction writers, space scientists, artists and future researchers to exchange ideas, explore possibilities and stimulate new perspectives about humanity's future. More on this as dates and venue are confirmed.

A local fan has started a computer BBS and so far the response to it has been tremendous. The "Mad Dwarf's" BBS may be reached at (602) 278-6196. Access on the board is free, but you must first fill out a questionair about yourself before access to the board is allowed. So dial up and plug in and don't forget to send a message to your friends in the "Oreo Gang".

The look and feel of MAW is going to be changing slightly over the next few issues. We are planning on doing pieces of those FANS who have been instrumental in the areas of fandom and furthering the goals of our organizations, that being the expansion of knowledge of sf/f in the literary and art fields. We would also like to add a section to allow you to input something that you feel is important to the area. Biographies, short stories, fan and pro profiles, etc should be sent in to the Post Offal Box but the editor reserves the right to review all articles for printablity.

