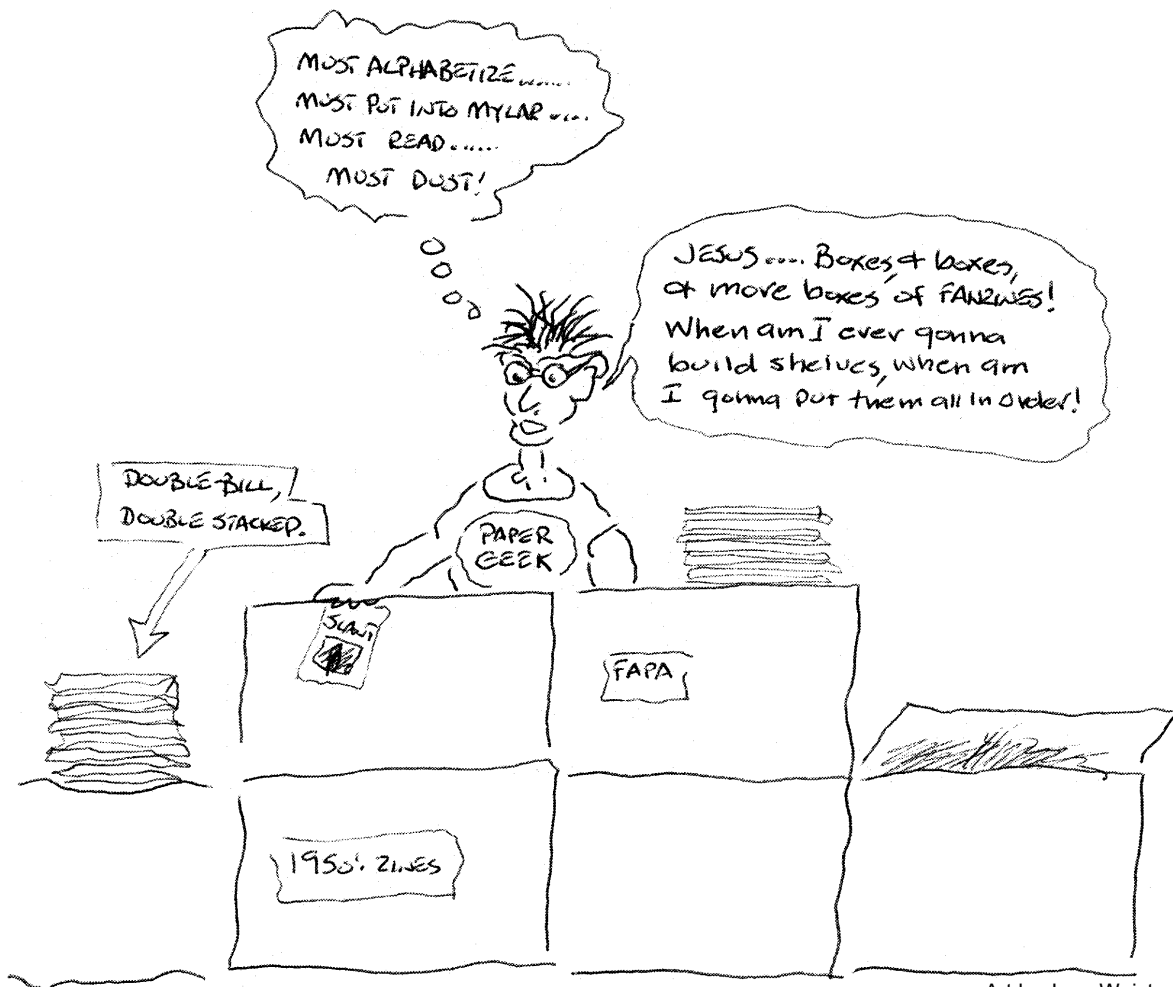


No. 5

Oct. 12-14, 2001
Bloomington, Ill.

SPIRITS OF THINGS PAST

The program book
and other trivia for
ditto 14 & FanHistoriCon 11



Art by Jerry Weist

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Jack Speer Mini Bio..... | 2 |
| The Program | 3 |
| “Eleven Years Ago....” article by Leah Zeldes Smith..... | 5 |
| “The Secret Handgrip of Fandom” article by Ro Nagey..... | 6 |
| Timebinding Teazer | 11 |
| Locs | 12 |
| Bloomington Eats guide | 14 |



Jack Speer, Fan HistoriCon Speaker

We are grateful for a generous grant from the Don Ford Fund, administered by Margaret Ford Keifer and Roger Sims, which has allowed us to bring in our FanHistoriCon speaker and we are delighted that Jack Speer (a k a John A. Bristol, juffus and the Hily Magnified Woggle Bug) is joining us in that role.

In 1939, Speer wrote fandom’s first history, *Up to Now*, spelling out his theory of Numbered Fandoms, which lasted up till the “Phony Seventh” in the 1950s, and is still used by many of today’s fanhistorians to describe early fandom. In 1944, he codified fandom’s jargon and institutions in the seminal Fancyclopedia, much of which is still in use today.

Other Speer innovations include the quasi-quote mark and the interlineation. Where would fanzines be without linos? He also invented FooFoo, the ghod of mimeography, the fearsome foe of Ghu.

* * *

ditto/FanHistoriCon is brought to you by *Dick Smith, Leah Zeldes Smith, Wilson “Bob” Tucker, Fern Tucker, Henry Welch, Letha Welch, Dave Rowe and Carolyn Doyle.*

Our thanks to Bob and, especially, Fern, for putting up with this invasion, to Carolyn and Dave for taking on the essential task of running the consuite (and to Lynne Aronson, Joel Zakem and Ben Solon for helping to stock it), to Beverly Friend and Tom Veal for other assistance, and, most sincerely, to our gracious supporting members, those who pay but don’t get to play: Harry Andrushak, Tom Beck, Ned Brooks, Cy Chauvin, Karen Cooper, Moshe Feder, Deb Geisler, JaniceGelb, Ben Liberman, Bill Mallardi, Laurie Mann, Morris Keesan/Laurie Meltzer, Catherine Mintz, Michael Pins, Andrew I. Porter, Sarah Prince, Laurraine Tutihasi, Michael Waite, Bobb Waller.

Do good. Avoid evil. Pub your ish.

Spirits of Things Past is published by Dick Smith (rhes@enteract.com) and Leah Zeldes Smith (lazz@enteract.com), 410 W. Willow Road, Prospect Heights, IL 60070-1250, +1 (847) 394-1950

The Program

~~Get~~ Foo, what a lot of programming for a **ditto!** Most of the program will be held in an auditorium (it was cheap) but don't let the formal setting stop you from contributing to the discussion. Your input is welcome. The following is probably subject to change at any moment.

Thursday

Evening sometime.... Consuite opens
Anyone who shows up will probably be pressed into helping unload, unpack and set up. Come to think of it, you might end up collating this thing....

Friday

Afternoon sometime.... Consuite opens
The consuite will be open off and on throughout the weekend as we have people available to watch it. It might therefore be closed during programming and prime mealtimes. Why don't you volunteer?

7:30 p.m. The ditto game. A Tradition.
Instructions will be given you at registration. Please do not take a packet unless you intend to play — you'll spoil things for everyone else.
Consuite

8:30 p.m. Opening ceremonies
Bob Tucker, MC.
Speech by Jack Speer:
“Fanzines Are Better Than....”
Jesse R. Smart Auditorium

9:30 p.m. “The Widneride”
Slide show by Art Widner on Nycon I and Denvention I.
Jesse R. Smart Auditorium

Late night.... Party time
Hang about, kibitz and work on fmz contributions. Last one out of the consuite, please throw out the trash and lock the door.
Consuite

Saturday

Morning sometime.... Consuite opens
Somebody will wake up and open up eventually. Are you an early riser? Volunteer!

11 a.m. KE, Cartoonist
Fan and professional artist Kurt Erichsen shares a retrospective of his decades of cartooning.
Consuite

Noon Saving the paper
Gregg Trend offers advice on the physical preservation of fanzines and other paper ephemera.
Jesse R. Smart Auditorium

1 p.m. The past and the future
How do we interest neofen, lassifans, and others in preserving fanhistory, lore and traditions such as fanzines?
Dick Smith moderates a discussion with Rich Lynch, Priscilla Olson and members of the audience.
Jesse R. Smart Auditorium

2 p.m. Great gafiates and other bygone fen
Rich Lynch moderates as Bob Tucker, Jack Speer and Forry Ackerman remember the colorful characters of fanhistory. Maybe you have a great story to tell, too?
Jesse R. Smart Auditorium

Saturday (cont.)

- 3 p.m. Fanzine show and tell**
Bring an interesting fanzine and be prepared to tell us about it. What makes this zine, be it one of your own, or another faned's unique? Is it something stellar or a crudzine?
Jesse R. Smart Auditorium
- 4 p.m. Seven decades of fandom**
Fandom as we know it began in the prozine lettercols in the late 1920s; many experts consider the start of organized fandom to have been in 1929, when the first fan club held its initial meeting. The first fanzine was published in 1930. Bob Tucker and Joe Siclari moderate a fast ride through the highlights of the fannish eras from then till now with fans who were there and comments from the peanut gallery:
1930s and '40s: Forry Ackerman, Jack Speer, Bob Tucker, Art Widner
1950s: Roger Sims, Gregg Trend, Jon Stopa
1960s: Alex Eisenstein, Phyllis Eisenstein, Ben Solon
1970s: Neil Rest, Leah Zeldes Smith, Pat Virzi
1980s: Mary Kay Kare, Mark Olson, Tony Parker
1990s: Murray Moore, Joe Siclari, Tom Veal
Jesse R. Smart Auditorium



Art by Leah Zeldes Smith

AND WHY NOT A
HUGO FOR BEST
FANNISH CAT?

9 p.m. ditto/DUFF auction

Come and see the treasures for sale. Bring lots of money. Auctioneers include Dick Smith, Joe Siclari and whoever else we can draft.

Jesse R. Smart Auditorium

Late night.... Party time

Have you done something for the fanzine yet? Last one out of the consuite, please throw out the trash and lock the door.

Consuite

Sunday

Morning sometime.... Consuite opens

It will probably close again during brunch. Meanwhile, work on your fanzine contrib.

11 a.m. Brunch

Strictly optional — but most of us are going to be there. See about tickets at Registration.

Bonaparte II

1 p.m. Jack Speer interview

With Joe Siclari

Jesse R. Smart Auditorium

2 p.m. Bob Tucker interview

With Dick Smith

Jesse R. Smart Auditorium

3 p.m. Forry Ackerman interview

With Rich Lynch

Jesse R. Smart Auditorium

Till whenever.... Dead-dog party

We have the consuite till Monday morning. Have you done your fanzine contribution yet?

Consuite

In the wake of **ditto** 3, held in October 1990 in Northbrook, Ill., Leah wrote about one of the program items in *Spirits in the Night* 4:

Eleven Years Ago....

By LEAH ZELDES SMITH

The discussion on the good parts of fandom did not take off as I'd hoped. People waited to be called on, rather than jumping in. Indeed, the liveliest part was a tangent on alternate fandoms, emphasizing dog fandom.

People are too used to thinking about what's wrong with fandom today and not what's right. I may be a Pollyanna, but I still see a number of good things and think we should work to encourage those traits.

Or why are we still here? We're mostly grown-ups, now. We don't need fandom in order to get drunk, high, laid, or use the swimming pool.

Moshe Feder summed it up best, I think (he had the most opportunities). "The best thing about fandom may be that it inspires generosity of spirit," he said.

Besides being a great pun, considering the time and place and listeners' drinking habits, that really embodies much of the rest of the discussion. "The people," people said, over and over again.

"You can travel hundreds of miles to strange places and have someone to show you around" Hope Leibowitz said.

"No matter where you move," said Dave Rowe, "you have a ready-made set of friends."

There are other reasons to be a fan. Despite changes in the outside world, fandom is still a place to be different, yet accepted. "I can say things that would drive my co-workers bonkers," said Covert Beach, "yet in fandom I'm considered somewhat sedate."

"Communication," said Vijay Bowen.

"It's an audience for things you write," Bruce Schneier said. "A lot of stuff is written [in fanzines], and probably more of it is read than deserves to be."

"Egoboo," said Karen Cooper.

And of course, fandom still remains a great place to meet men.

At some point, Moshe remarked that we were discussion things that had always been true, that were not unique to fandom in the '90s. But so what?

Charles LoPiccolo, a revenant N3Fer who turned up after reading about **ditto** in *Factsheet Five*, said it well: "The best parts seem to have gone on uninterrupted."

Besides, as Larry Downes said, "You can't escape no matter how you try."

So you might as well relax and enjoy fandom.

AUTOCLAVE
May 28-31, 1976
Detroit



GoHs:
Gene Wolfe
Donn Brazier

Toastmaster:
Mike Glicksohn

Howard Johnson's New Center Motor Lodge, Grand Boulevard at Third.
Membership rates: \$5.00 in advance, \$6.00 after May 1, 1976, and \$7.00 at the door. Make checks payable to AutoClave.

AutoClave will be a science fiction convention especially oriented toward fanzine fandom, faanish fandom, and fandom in general. Planned features include a varied program of unique panels, a great film line-up, art show, banquet, hucksters' room, auctions, and a number of special surprises. And parties, of course!

Chairfen: Gary S. Mattingly,
Joe Wesson, Leah A Zeldes.


Box 04097, Detroit, MI 48204

Illo by Franke.

Remembering the *first* fanzine convention

How Ro Got a Grip

By way of illustrating that fandom attracts people in all walks of life, we offer this reprint. Patia von Sternberg was, as far as we know, fandom's only professional ecdysiast. She was perhaps at the height of her fannish fame a couple years after this story takes place, when she entertained fans and, especially, Guest of Honor Robert A. Heinlein during the masquerade judging at MidAmeriCon.

The Real and True (*My Version*) Story of The Secret Handgrip of Fandom*

By RO NAGEY

Patia Sandra von Sternberg, per square inch of exposed flesh, has, in her heyday, provided a good deal of male neos with some heavy masturbation fantasies. In point of fact, there was a neo, who while attending his first convention, Infinity 1, had decided that fandom was definitely not for him until he saw the flashing red hair, exposed back, midriff and thigh of Patia. Suddenly he had an insight into the Real and True meaning of fandom. The fact that this neo now runs ConFusion, the Ann Arbor con, irregularly pubs a fanzine and is now writing this article testifies to the impact of that first meeting.

With this in mind, let's go back to Saturday night at Pghlanqe 1974. Saturday night at any con can, and generally does, provide a known cure to that ailment known as "Glicksohn throat," which, in layman's terms is best described as a burning need to consume alcohol in great quantity without a great concern about quality. On this particular Saturday night, however, Glicksohn would have had to stand on his own shoulders to see over the crowd and into the bathtub where this medication was kept. Unheard of amounts of alcohol were being consumed.

In a pause between drunken conversations (one of which was to see if any of the conversants had been in fandom back during pre-history when Glicksohn still published fanzines. But enough about Mike; I bring him in as only as a short subject), you might well have muttered to yourself, "Hi there! I'm Bacchus! Remember me?" and then amble to re-arm yourself with still another can of beer; walking past 16- and 17-year-olds having their first meeting, *mano a mano*, with Demon Rum, and losing; stepping over couples (generally one of each sex) that have found out that touching each other's bodies is fun. Suddenly, out of the corner of your eye, you see framed in the doorway two genetic throwbacks who could aptly do stand-ins for King Kong and, in all likelihood, be more convincing. They were met at the door by a femmefan and the ensuing conversation was something like this:

RICHARD: What sort of party is this?
FEMMEFAN: A science-fiction party.
RAYMOND: Can we join in? (his eyes searching out feminine anatomy).

* Reprinted from *Outworlds 27* edited by Bill Bowers, 1976.

FEMMEFAN: Do you read science fiction?
 RICHARD: Of course!
 FEMMEFAN: Gee, that's great! Who's your favorite author?
 RICHARD: Bradbury.
 FEMMEFAN: Really? He's good. What's your favorite work of his?
 RICHARD: Well, I forget the title, but it had to do with outer space or something.
 FEMMEFAN: Good enough. Come on in!

Now, whether this femmefan anticipated the events that were to transpire or knew that a large percentage of the fans in the consuite were not as well read as the goons is open to conjecture. However, the stage had been set.

I certainly had no foresight of what was to come, but I kept one eye, the one I don't use to watch my drink, the left one, on these two enormous Cro-Magnons who made me feel like a late, soon to be extinct, Neanderthal. Their attire came straight out of Playboy: Arrow shirts with the four buttons undone to expose their hairy barrel chests. Double-knit pants. Cordovan wing-tips. They emerged from the john with beer cans in their hands. (At least one assumes that they were drinking beer, as their hands were so large the cans were rendered invisible. So they were either drinking beer or their palm sweat. But drinking, nonetheless.) They eased their way suavely through the con suite ... stopping and talking momentarily to each femmefan that they encountered and then moving on.

A femmefan approached me.

"Ro, you'll never guess what happened."

"Whazzat?"

"Those two jocks — those — over there ... asked me — Quote — Do you want to come up to my room and fuck? — unquote."

Hmmmm. They might have dressed out of Playboy, but they talked out of the Penthouse lettercolumns. I refocused my attention on their goings-on. Classical chain reaction. Question from goons. Opening wide of eyes by femmefans. Expletive not deleted. Undaunted jocks move on. Femmefan joins ever-growing group with statement, "You'll never guess what those — those — those apes over there asked me!" Question from goons. Opening of eyes.....

There are times in every man's life when he is forced to look after the weaker sex and protect them from goons such as these. Fortunately, I'm a fan and not a man, and my credo is "Everyone for themselves" or, since this is Outworlds, haven for the uncensored phrase, "Cover your own ass, eœksucker!"

Still, from deep within, there were those stirrings of machismo lurking about. Besides, I figured I had the right to proposition the femmefans first. Isn't that what the registration fee is all about?

Standing in a circle with Moshe Feder, Ctein, Lin Lutz and Linda Bushyager, my first thought was that we should all yell *SHAZAM!* in the hopes one of us would turn into Captain Marvel. Unfortunately, with the singular exception of Linda Bushyager, I was sure it wouldn't work.

"This is shameful," I bemoaned. We were on our own. No Bob Tucker to ask for guidance, no "Eighth State of Fandom" to refer to. Then, my eyes aglow, in my best Andy Hardy voice, "Here's how to take care of them. Let's get Patia Sandra von Sternberg!"

Ebulliently, we all ran up the two flights to the room where Patia was holding forth at her Infinity con party. Excitedly, interrupting each other, we outlined our plan. As we went on in our narration, her face became transfigured by the challenge.

She was adorned in a skimpy outfit: a black bikini top and a black skirt slit all the way up. Accepting the challenge, she slinked over to her suitcase, the one that is stocked with items obtained through her direct hotline with Frederick's of Hollywood. On went the opera-length gloves and out came an 8-inch cigarette holder that she waved about, Marlene Dietrich style. On her right breast, an inch or so above the top of her narrow bikini top, was affixed a small red felt apple.

Like little children pulling a prank on the teacher, we quickly ran down the two flights and positioned ourselves, with great dignity and above suspicion, about the consuite.

I went over to my two gonadal hyperthyroid friends and attempted to engage in small talk.

"What do you do for a living?" I feared they would answer, "Whatever we want to." Instead:

"We work for an insurance company." Uh huh. I imagined their sales routine: "This is a nice place you got here, Mr. Bonaducci. Wouldn't it just be a shame if something happened to it?" My mind became fixed on that image, so they had to pick up the conversational ball.

"Do you know where we can get laid?"

"Well, er, there, must be some good bars downtown where you ought to be able to find someone to service you."

"Don't get us wrong, we're just normal guys." Yes sir, Clark Kent. The guys looked like they could take on the Empire State Building and win.

At that precise moment, Patia Sandra von Sternberg sashayed into the room. *Boom ta da Boom ta da Boon Boom Boom*. Red animal lust sprang forth from their eyes. Their jaws dropped open at .9 c and their tongues dangled helplessly out.

As moans issued forth from their throats, Patia would turn and talk, touch and kiss various fans and then — with a *Boom ta da Boom ta da Boom Boom Boom* of hips — move on and repeat the process.

With all the humility and innocence that could muster, I queried of the two, "Would you like to meet her?"

Assuming that their murmurs of adoration, glaze eyes and rapid breathing could be taken as an affirmative answer. I gestured Patia over. Putting her best efforts, and her chest, forward, she approached. *BOOM TA TA BOOM TA TA (I AM WOMAN!) BOOM BOOM BOOM!!*

"There are some people that I would like to meet you," sez I.

"Helloooo. My name is Patiasandravonsternberg."

"Uh ... can we call you something — er — shorter?" sez Richard.

"Some people," she said, shifting her weight from one leg to the other with an impressive, suggestive circular motion of her hips, "call me ... the Countess." She took a puff from the cigarette in that incredibly long holder and blew smoke into their eyes.

"Well, it certainly is a pleasure to meet you, er, Countess." The rutting drive was so strong in these two bulls that they hadn't noticed the smoke at all. In fact, Raymond, the smaller of the two, had lapsed into a semistupor. Richard, on the other hand, saw the little red felt apple and saw, apparently, that his name was written on it. He reached out, index finger extended, in an attempt to touch it, and asked, "What does this mean?"

As he thrust his finger forward, Patia made a dipping of the right shoulder, a twisting of the upper torso and a parrying move with the right arm that not Antonioni, Truffeau nor Fellini could have directed better. The parry, instead of saying "No," said, in

a very promising manner, “Yes, Yes.” With this move she replied, “Don’t touch me unless you plan to do something.”

CLICK

I awarded Patia both ears and the tail. *Olé*. She had killed the bull neatly and with style. He was now little more than a machine. Upon her statement, his parried hand formed into a cup, he centered his sights about two inches below the red felt apple and homed in on his target.

And — oh my god — a nother parry, better than the first, unbelievably, saying in effect “Not good enough, big boy, but you’ll learn.” Richard got the message alright. In the suave and sophisticated manner of one of his upbringing, he asked, “Why don’t we go up to my room and fuck?” Subtle. (Raymond was insensate at this point, suffering from terminal sensory and fantasy overload. He took to muttering silently.)

“I only go to bed with big-name fans,” Patia replied, smiling sweetly. “Are you a big-name fan? How many conventions have you been to?” flutter, flutter of the eyelashes.

“This is my — er — first.”

“Well, come to five or six more and I think that I can fit you into my ... schedule.” And another shifting of the weight with the circular motion of her hips.

After a bit more conversation following this same level, Patia informed them that she had to move on. Richard, obviously wanting to leave a good impression, extended his hand in the thumbs-up Freek handshake.

“This is the handshake of brotherhood and I really believe in that, you know,” The sincerity that dripped from his voice formed little brown puddles, ankle high, beneath him.

“It was a delight meeting you!” She shook hands and breathed heavily. “In fandom, we have our own secret handshake, don’t we, Ro?”

Now, mind you, I had no idea of what she was going to do but I knew that it was going to be good.

“That’s right, Countess.”

“See you later, Ro.” So saying, she reached down and grabbed my crotch and gave it a squeeze and walked off. *Boom ta da Boom ta da Boom Boom Boom*.

The Crucifixion of Jesus. Napoleon at Waterloo. The Fire-bombing of Dresden. Armstrong on the Moon. These events pall in contrast. I had seen a Real and True miracle. Patia Sandra von Sternberg and the Real and True Secret Handgrip of Fandom.

“Who was that woman?” Richard asked.

“That,” sez I, “was the Countess.” So saying, I took my leave.

Patia and I went from small group to small group, retelling the story time and again. Each and every time I got to the Secret Handgrip of Fandom, she would reach ever and demonstrate on me. I began to realize that I wanted to tell this story, as often as possible, as long as Patia was standing next to me.

Elation raced through us all when Raymond left. He paused at door, surveyed the reveling fen and said. “Fucking weird people!” He split, halving the field in the process.

Then the field report came in. In that inconspicuous manner of fans, my shoulder was nudged.

“Hey! Take a look at that! Half the room turned to look. Oblivious, aware only of his madonna, there was Richard with his puppy-dog eyes and sprung-steel muscles. I sauntered over, my sprung steel eyes flicking back and forth between the two; my puppy-dog muscles rippling, cleverly hidden by my shirt. Somewhere, perhaps in the far land of

Hagerstown, Richard would find the answer to his quest, In Pittsburgh. however, Patia was fondling the people nearest her, ignoring him.

The field may have been halved, but apparently this halfass would be a harder prey. Something New was Needed.

May I have your attention, please?" Perhaps quicker silences have occurred elsewhere. Perhaps Shaver is right.

"As you well know, *any* con can have a Pro Guest of Honor, and *any* con can have a Fan Guest of Honor," I intoned in my best #7 sincere voice. "But only Pghlange has adapted to the changing times. Pghlange is proud to announce the Lady of the Night Guest of Honor, The Lady of the Night is none other than *Patia ... Sandra ... von Sternberg!!*"

The house came down when Patia stood with a *Boom ta da Boom* still lingering in her hips.

The Image was quickly conveyed that the best a Pro GoH can give you is an autograph; the best a Fan GoH can give you is an egoboo mention in his zine; the best a Lady of the Night GoH could give you would eliminate the need for Fan and Pro GoHs at conventions.

The only *fair* way to give out the honor was by lottery. The only *fannish* way was to rig the lottery. Numbers were as assigned to each member in the consuite. Cheers came from all parts of the room when Jerry Kaufman, whose reputation is spanning the globe, won the draw. Richard was downtrodden. When Jerry picked another number, gasps of surprise came from all. When Rusty Hevelin, the winner, picked yet another number, enthusiastic applause broke out. Moshe Feder, whose winning brought several appreciative New York femmefen to their feet in gratitude, picked still another number. The four winners, Rusty, Jerry, Moshe and Jeannine Treese picked up Patia and ran out of the room.

Richard approached, downcast.

"There were four of them."

"She's quite a woman."

"But one of them was a woman!"

"Yes sir, she's quite a woman."

Richard split.

Nanoseconds later the consuite door closed. Game, Set, Match. Since he would be unable to find the five, having locked themselves in Patia's room, we would say when he returned that "well, the party's over" and "hope to see you again real soon." A nonviolent solution been found and a Good Time was had by all...

Except Patia et al forgot to close the door. The suite emptied to lend support and to observe the goings-on. Eventually, after additional merriment when, after Richard's most recent proposition, Patia said she had to consult with her wife, we formally announced vespers and everyone went their own way, only to regroup in the stairwell and, safely later, back in Patia's room.

As time passed, I began to feel a little, well *evil* about the whole thing. When I heard that Richard had later confronted one of the femmefans and asked, "Why are you people trying to make fun of me?" I felt worse. Until I found out that he had asked the question while standing well inside the ladies' john on the main floor. I felt justified once again.

And that is the Real and True (my version) Story of the Secret Handgrip of Fandom. Or ... should that be the Secret Fangrip of Handdom?

Timebinding Teazer

Identify the sources of these words and phrases

Fandom.

He was an old fan, and tired.

That's not too many.

I had one once, but the wheels fell off.

Are we not fen?

1. Do good. 2. Avoid evil. 3. Throw a confab.

But if you don't like crottled greeps what did you order them for?

It is a proud and lonely thing to be a fan.

I have a cosmic mind — now what do I do?

I had one grunch but the eggplant over there.

Dave Kyle says you can't sit here.

All knowledge is contained in fanzines.

The gostak distims the doshes.

If fandom isn't fun it's futile.

Who sawed Courtney's boat?

Goshwowoboyoboy.

CFG Rules.

Dead-dog party.

OK, this is a cheat — we freely admit it. We don't know where a number of these phrases came from, but we hope to find out by the end of this weekend's discussions. The answers that we have will appear in the post-con fanzine.

LOCS

CY CHAUVIN

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The Seth Johnson approach might work today. Adjusted for inflation, \$3 would be at least \$20 today, which would certainly cover all postage. F&SF charges \$1.50 per word, 10 word minimum, with a 15 percent discount if the advt runs for 12 months. So for less than \$127 per year, an advt could run.

But I think fanzines have changed since we have entered fandom. Every one of the first fanzines I read had something about science fiction, or even fan-written science fiction. I found one of the first fanzines I had gotten, *Infinitum* edited by David Lewton, with a hand-colored offset printed cover. It was filled with amateur SF! And that was one of the first controversies I remembered encountering, whether fanzines should print amateur SF or not. And then later, it was sercon vs. faanish. Are there genzines that actually publish articles about SF *and* fannish matters anymore? The gap may be too big.

Please don't think this is my plea for more writing about SF in fanzines. SF has become so dull that I rarely read it, or look for it in bookstores or libraries. Perhaps the Seth Johnson type of advt should be placed in the local free or "alternate" newspapers, or college newspaper. Or if it goes into a prozine, one of the DNA Publications with a title like Tales of Decadence might be more likely to reach someone new. But that would still suppose that fanzines have some connection with SF, and probably the kind of SF we all dislike. But I suppose for the survival of fandom, we must all gird our loins, and stuff like that.

[I dunno. While the first fanzine I received, Yandro, had some SF-related stuff in it, that wasn't the part I found most interesting. I was thinking of some of the zines

you gave me, early on. Primordial Ooze (Slime? something like that) from Seth McEvoy (whatever became of him?) — what had they to do with SF?. And yet, they were fascinating, smudgy purple ditto and all. LAZS]

Please don't feel bad about your low Hugo vote. I'm afraid I intended to vote, but didn't. I remember wanting to vote particularly for the retro Hugo's because I had actually read the stuff nominated, but when I took the time to go through it the deadline was already past. People may be voting No Award for the reasons you suggest, which is disturbing, but not surprising. But I think it's equally depressing for the same people to win the award every year. And it's interesting to see how some people have such strong nominations but end up at the bottom with the award.

I thought your suggestions about what to do about the problem seemed pretty good. Perhaps too a web page could be posted with samples of the fanzine, fan writer and fan artist nominations. I wasn't familiar with all the nominees this year. This seems better than yet more reforms to the Hugo Award process. And perhaps better than my personal solution, which is mostly not to care and not to vote.

SHERYL BIRKHEAD

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The last few years the Worldcon has made "most" of the pro fiction available via the Internet once the nominations are in — what about an individual issue of each of the nominated zines? Or excerpts from over the year? I had originally envisioned a "goodie" bag for sale to voters which would include all

nominations — but that would either simply *not* work, or be too expensive.

Is there a mailing list which correlates to those who voted? That way a faned could cross off any current readers and pick say — a handful or so to send for the next year's issues. Of course, there would not be (nor should there be) any way to know exactly who voted No Award, but the other aspect is to make certain voters understand *exactly* what voting No Award means. Personally, if I'm unfamiliar with those nominated in a category, I don't vote period.

Should the voters have credentials beyond Worldcon membership if they are voting in the fan categories? (If so, that would seriously injure the fanartist category in case any convention-only artists are represented)

It's education and circulation — other than that I dislike the numbers but don't see any way around them.

[I don't think I would care for a system that encourages people who don't participate in fanzines during the year to vote based on some superficial comparison of samples at year's end. It seems to me that would give the slickest, most professional-looking zines an edge over the fannish zines that build community.]

[On the other hand, I would welcome some Worldcon-sponsored outreach that encourages interest in fanzines generally. I can hear the smofs grumbling, "Why should Worldcon support this "minority"? I think I could argue successfully that there are more participants (vs. passive watchers) in fanzines who attend Worldcon — and certainly in fandom at large — than there are in the Worldcon masquerade, a hugely expensive resource sink. Ah, but the masquerade is Traditional. Well, if fanzines aren't traditional, I'd like to know what is.]

[Your concept of a mailing list has merit. Worldcons are won three years out, after all, so there's time for new members to delve into the fanzine picture. Perhaps there's some way Worldcon joiners could check a box that says they're interested in receiving fanzines ("Yes! I would like to get free publications about fandom and SF") and

willing to have their addresses circulated to faneds? Somebody on the concom would have to oversee that people receiving the addresses were bonafide faneds and not junk mailers, but all that would take would be to require interested faneds to submit a copy of their zine in exchange for the address list. The collected zines could then be put on display in the fan lounge every year. LAZS]

ERIC LINDSAY

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Australia, <fiawol@ericlindsay.com>

You know, I could never figure the appeal of Beer Nuts, and always thought it a waste of time to have to peel off the terrible red skin. I still feel that way.

I'm not sure a Johnny Fanseed can work in these days of email and instant messaging. I fear that producing anything at all *in print* is a technological dead end. Even MS Office is obsolete and needless, when all you need is the contents of an e-mail or a web page.

I equally fear fandom is obsolete. Or, more reasonably, it has already moved away from paper. Paper is dead. Note that we correspond more often via e-mail than by letters. (On the inverse, I loc — by email — almost every paper fanzine I receive. I get almost no response to any web fanzine I publicize by e-mail, but do get a response to those few paper zines I manage to send out. I don't respond to web or e-mail fanzines. I can't reconcile this observation with what I would like to have happen.)

I agree with you on the No Award item. I'd have to be pretty pissed off with *all* the nominees in any category to vote No Award. If I felt insufficiently informed, I'd avoid voting in that category (which I've done often, although in the few years I've had a membership I've re-read all the fiction nominees).

However I'm not sure that the Big Lie technique will work to revive fanzine fandom. Obviously, most Worldcon members just don't find fanzines interesting. Their loss, of course, but I think it is true.

DAVID B. WILLIAMS

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USA, <dwilliams@kiwanis.org>

Just a thought on the Fanzine Hugo items. Since the voting is by a distributed ballot, it seems to me that the weak spot is allowing anyone, even the No Award folks, to mark only one choice. If the administrators would require that ballots have at least two or more choices, including No Award, to be counted, that would eliminate the fans voting only No Award because they oppose fan Hugos and would eliminate fans voting for only the one nominee that they had actually seen.

Of course, annoyed or uninformed voters could just mark their ballots randomly, but hey, they can already do that.

OK, second comment. The interlineation about “Nydahl’s Disease curable” has it all backwards. It should have read “Flash!

Fandom incurable ... Joel Nydahl relapses after 48 years! Seen at MilPhil.”

Seeds for Tucker. Let him grow his own straw!

STEVEN H. SILVER

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In Leah’s article about “Finding New Fans,” which I’m sure was written before I joined, she mentions that **ditto** has “no members under age 35 and none who entered fandom less than 15 years ago.” I would like to point out that both Erik Olson and I are less than 35 years old and I made my entry into fandom a mere 14 years and 11 months prior to this year’s **ditto**.

WAHF: Linda Bushyager, Bill Higgins,
Ben P. Indick, Peter Weston.

Bloomington Eats

Bloomington-Normal seems to be a model city for restaurant chains, so you needn’t fear unfamiliar eateries. We have not extensively researched the dining scene, but here’s a list of what’s relatively nearby, and what we know about it.

Comments in {brackets} are by Tucker, who lives here. Other info is stuff Leah found mostly on the Web or, for chains, based on her knowledge of branches outside Bloomington.

The Tuckers highly recommend reservations for Friday and Saturday nights.

Very approximate price guide: \$ = Entrée prices \$15 or less, \$\$ = \$15+

In the hotel

1. **Le Radis Rouge (in Jumer’s), 662-2525.** {Exceptionally good but the prices are high.} This French-influenced restaurant offers breakfast, lunch and dinner daily, with such fare as steaks, prime rib, seafood and Continental favorites like chateaubriand, *cog au vin*, *coquilles St. Jacques*, veal mornay and roasted garlic pork. “A Jumer dinner is a total event,” says the Web site. \$\$

American

2. **Applebee’s, 504 N. Veterans Parkway, 663-2134, www.applebees.com** {Good American food at reasonable prices.} A chain, in what used to be called the fern-bar style. \$
3. **Bakers Square, 321 S. Veterans Parkway, 454-5555, <http://www.vicorpinc.com/bsmainframe.html>** {Very good American with reasonable prices.} A Midwest and California chain best known for pies. \$

4. **Bennigan's, 115 S. Veterans Parkway, 454-5577, www.bennigans.com** A chain, in what used to be called the fern-bar style, with a sort-of hokey Irish theme but decent American food. I like the Monte Cristo sandwich. \$
5. **Bob Evans, 801 IAA Drive, 663-5131, www.bobevans.com** {Typical chain restaurant, serves breakfast all day long.} \$
6. **Garden of Paradise Restaurant, 1412 E. Empire St., 828-8080** American family dining for breakfast, lunch and dinner. 6 a.m.-10 p.m. M-Sa; 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Su. \$
7. **Jerry's Grille, 1605 S. Morrissey Drive (at Veterans Parkway) 661-8383, www.jerrysgrille.com** American. Prime rib is a specialty. \$
8. **Old Country Buffet, College Hills Mall, 454-6757, www.buffet.com** American cafeteria chain. \$
9. **Red Lobster, 714 Eldorado Road, 663-9405, www.redlobster.com** Unimpressive national seafood chain. \$\$
10. **T.G.I. Friday's, 9 Brickyard Drive, 662-2231, www.tgifridays.com** {Good food but more expensive.} Another fern bar chain with perfectly good American fare. Good weekend brunch spot. \$

Late-night

11. **Denny's, 701 Eldorado Road (at Veterans Parkway), 663-5251, www.dennys.com** Never very good, but open 24 hours. \$
12. **Steak'n Shake, 325 S. Veterans Parkway, 454-2899** {Top-of-the-line fast food and hamburger place.} Gus Belt founded the chain in Normal in 1934. 24 hours. \$

Steak

13. **Alexander's Steakhouse, 1503 E. College Ave., 454-7300, www.mercedesrestaurants.com/alexnorm.htm** A regional chain. 4 p.m.-10 p.m. M-Th; 4 p.m.-11 p.m. F-Sa; 4 p.m.-9 p.m. Su. \$\$
14. **Lone Star Steakhouse, 903 IAA Drive, 663-7827, www.lonestarsteakhouse.com** Another mid-priced steakhouse chain, not as good as Outback, but they'll give you peanuts and you can throw the shells on the floor. \$\$

15. **Maverick Family Steak House, 1700 Parkway Plaza Drive, 454-1100** Buffet-style dining with steaks and broasted chicken feature at this chain. 11a.m.-9 p.m. M-Th; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. F-Sa; 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Su. \$
16. **Ned Kelly's Steakhouse, 1603 A. S. Morrissey Drive, 663-7100, nedkellyssteakhouse.com** {Australian atmosphere. Top-of-the line steaks and fish.} Another mid-priced steakhouse chain. \$
17. **Outback Steakhouse, 1407 N. Veterans Parkway, 663-0455, www.outbacksteakhouse.com** Reasonably priced chain steakhouse with good choice beef and an Australian theme. The food is nothing like Australia's but they do offer "Take home Tucker." \$\$

Barbecue

18. **Damon's, 1701 Fort Jesse Road, 454-5000, www.damons.com** Barbecued ribs, in the tender, rather than chewy, style, prime rib and steaks are the specialty of this chain. \$
19. **Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que, 2306 E. Oakland Ave., 664-0044 www.famousdaves.com** A Minneapolis-based chain with fall-off-the-bone-style pork ribs and other barbecue fare. Excellent bread pudding. \$

"Bagels"

20. **Bagelman's Restaurant, 1503 E. Vernon Ave., 663-8200, www.bagelmans.com** The chain's Web site says the bagels are kettle boiled. \$
21. **Chesapeake Bagel Bakery, 1519 E. College Ave., 862-3125 www.chesbagel.com** D.C.-area-based chain claims their bagels are the real, kettle-boiled thing, made from scratch and baked fresh at each location. \$
22. **Lox, Stock & Bagel, College Hills Mall, 454-5645** Cafeteria-style café, another chain. Dick and I have actually eaten at this one. The bagels are round bread. \$

Pizza

23. **Chicago Style Pizzeria, 1500 E. Empire St., 663-9566, www.chicagostylepizzeria.com** {Pizza served like smorgasbord — 10 to 12 different pizzas on hot table, take a plate and help yourself. Also soup, salad, and spaghetti sidebars.} Black Angus burgers, sandwiches, salads and pasta along with thin-crust pizza, deep-pan pizza and stuffed pizza with traditional sauces as well as whole peeled tomato, Alfredo, garlic butter, BBQ sauce and Buffalo sauce. A cheeseless pizza is available. No telling how “Chicago-style” the pizza really is. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Su-Th; 11 a.m.-11p.m. F-Sa \$
24. **Godfather’s Pizza, 1540 E. College Ave., 452-4466, www.godfathers.com** Omaha-based deep-dish pizza chain. \$
25. **Monical’s Pizza, 2103 N. Veterans Parkway, 662-6933, www.monicals.com** {Good and reasonable. Eat in or take-out.} Regional chain of pizzerias offering sandwiches and pasta as well as thin- and thick-crust pizzas. \$
26. **Pizza Hut, 1601 E. College Ave., 888-4911 \$**

Sandwiches

27. **Blimpie Subs & Salads, 2109 N. Veterans Parkway, 663-0279, www.blimpie.com** Chain serving what its name implies. \$
28. **Panera Bread, 208 Greenbriar Drive, 454-8666, www.panerabread.com** Chain of bakery-cafes (also known as Saint Louis Bread Co.) serving decent soups, salads and sandwiches, as well as baked goods. \$
29. **Schlotzky’s Deli, 508 IAA Drive, 663-6364, www.schlotzskys.com** Fast-food deli chain. \$
30. **Subway, 1407 N. Veterans Parkway, 862-7827** Submarine sandwiches. \$

Chinese

31. **Dragon Palace, 1407 N. Veterans Parkway, 663-1388** Chinese. \$
32. **Great Wall, 1520 E. College Ave., 454-7218** Chinese. Free delivery on orders over \$10. 10:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. M-Th; 10:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. F-Sa; noon-10:30 p.m. Su. No credit cards. \$

33. **Hong Kong Restaurant, 1540 E. College Ave., 452-1212** Chinese. \$
34. **Hot Wok Express, 401 N. Veterans Parkway, 663-5300** Chinese fast-food chain. \$.
35. **Lin’s China Buffet, 506 IAA Drive, 661-2288** Chinese — Szechwan, Hunan and Cantonese dishes. \$
36. **Mandarin Garden House, 106 S. Mall Drive, 454-1118** Chinese. \$
37. **Oriental Grill and Buffet, 305 N. Veterans Parkway, 661-8828** Chinese. \$.
38. **Tien Tsin Mandarin Chinese Restaurant, 1500 E. Empire St., 663-9361** {The best Chinese restaurant we've found.} \$

Mexican/Southwestern

39. **Carlos O’Kelly’s Mexican Cafe, 2105 N. Veterans Parkway, 662-9747 www.carlosokellys.com** {Very good, don't be fooled by the name. Mexican and American.} A national chain. \$
40. **Chili’s, 2107 N. Veterans Parkway, 663-8060, www.chilis.com** {Very good. Mexican.} Mid-priced Southwestern-oriented chain, known for — what else? — chili and Tex-Mex fare, as well as burgers and pretty good chicken-fried steak. \$
41. **Delgado’s Mexican Food & Drink, 201 Landmark Drive, 454-4747 \$**
42. **Diamond Dave’s Taco Company, College Hills Mall, 454-5971** Mexican, part of a regional chain. \$
43. **El Rancherita, 502 IAA Drive, 661-1012** Mexican \$
44. **Fiesta Ranchera, 2103 N. Veterans Parkway, 665-0170** {The two best Mexican places in town share this name.} Bob & Fern’s favorite, and we thought it was pretty good, too. What appears to be a Midwestern chain offering Tex-Mex standards. \$
45. **Qdoba, 1507 N. Veterans Parkway, 661-0747, www.qdoba.com** Mexican fast-food chain. \$
46. **Taco Bell, 1527 E. College Ave., 454-7576 \$**

Italian

47. **Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano**, 1501 N. Veterans Parkway, 661-8322, www.biaggis.com A Bloomington-based regional chain of casual, white-tablecloth restaurants offering Italian standards. The chain's corporate chef, Peter Schonman, was for many years at Vivere, an excellent, high-end Italian spot in Chicago. \$
48. **Fazoli's Italian Restaurant**, 215 Greenbriar Drive, 452-7700, www.fazolis.com Fast food Italian-style. Pasta, pizza, salads and sandwiches. "Real Italian, Real Fast" is the chain's motto. On the other hand, the CEO/President's name is Kuni Toyoda. \$
49. **Olive Garden**, 1701 E. Empire St., 663-7375, www.olivegarden.com {Very good Italian place. Chain restaurant.} Mid-priced Italian chain known for its all-you-can-eat salad and soup offerings. \$

Other international

50. **Le Petit Bistro and Café, Eastland Square**, 1704 Eastland Drive, 663-0784 Classic French bistro fare such as *bouillabaisse*, *canard a l'orange*, *steak frites*, Dover sole, prime dry aged beef, souffle Grand Marnier and *tarte tatin*. Lunch, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. M-F; Dinner, 6-10 p.m. M-Sa \$\$
51. **Smiling Moose Bar & Grill**, 706 Eldorado Road, 661-8889, According to its advertising, this tavern is "set in a CANADIAN THEME accented by decor, menu and large beer selection," with "Gourmet Burgers." The kitchen was slow when we tried it, the food average. \$
52. **Taj Mahal**, 716 Eldorado Road, 661-0853 Indian. \$

Ice cream

53. **What's the Scoop**, 301 N. Veterans Parkway, 454-3366 Ice cream. \$
54. **Dairy Queen**, 1528 E. College Ave., 454-5850 Classic soft-serve ice cream and burger chain. \$

Fast food

55. **Arby's Roast Beef**, 1240 E. Empire St., 829-2041 \$
56. **A & W Hot Dogs**, College Hills Mall, 454-1898 \$

57. **Burger King**, 1601 Clearwater Ave., 662-5315 \$
58. **Hardee's**, 1523 E. College Ave., 454-5420 \$
59. **KFC**, 501 Prospect Road, 662-4613 \$
60. **McDonald's**, 1535 E. College Ave., 454-4141 \$
61. **McDonald's**, 1610 E. Empire St., 663-8450 \$
62. **Wendy's**, 1600 E. College Ave., 454-7303 \$

Drugstores, supermarkets, etc.

63. **Phar-Mor**, 2103 N. Veterans Parkway, 663-5773
64. **Walgreens Drug Store**, 1525 N. Veterans Parkway, 661-8600 24-hours
65. **Cub Foods, Eastland Commons**, 403 N. Veterans Parkway, 663-8323 24-hours
66. **Kroger, Landmark Plaza**, 1540 E. College Ave., 452-7475 24-hours
67. **Schnuck's**, 1701 E. Empire St., 662-9300 24-hours
68. **Clark Oh! Zone, Fort Jesse & Landmark Drive** Gas station offers Chicago-style pizza from Gino's East till 9 p.m. Also sandwiches, fruit and convenience-mart food items. \$

Office supplies and photocopying

69. **Kinko's**, Lakewood Plaza, 1407 N. Veterans Parkway, 662-6869 24-hours
70. **Office Depot**, 1700 E. College Ave., 862-1606

Bookstores

71. **B. Dalton**, Eastland Mall
72. **Barnes & Noble**, 1701 E. Empire St., 662-1506
73. **Berean Bookstore**, 1611 Clearwater Ave., 664-2000
74. **Dwelling Place**, 1520 E. College Ave., 888-9696
75. **Hastings Entertainment Superstore**, 1700 E. College Ave., 454-9430 Books, music, videos, software
76. **Waldenbooks**, College Hill Mall

Shopping

77. **College Hill Mall, 301 S. Veterans Parkway** Von Maur, Target, Hobby Lobby, Waldenbooks
78. **Eastland Mall, 1615 E. Empire St.** Kohl's, Sears, Famous-Barr, JC Penney, Bergner's, B. Dalton, food court
79. **Beer Nuts Factory outlet, 103 N. Robinson St., 827-8580, www.beer-nuts.com** Free samples are available, plus a 15-minute video factory tour. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. M-F
Beer Nuts Sale Barn, 2019 S. Main St., 829-8091 10 a.m.-6 p.m. M-F, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sa
80. **The Apple Barn, RR #4** (5 miles west on County Road 1650N), **963-5557** Started by Jacob Birckelbaw in 1918, this orchard sells apples, ciders, fresh fruit pies, bakery goods, jams, jellies, etc. This weekend is "Pumpkin Weekend," full of pumpkin pies, muffins and breads. Wagon rides will take visitors to the pumpkin field where you can buy a pumpkin to take home. A gift and antiques shop also features. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. M-F; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sa-Su

Area Attractions

81. **Prairie Aviation Museum, Frontage Road at Central Illinois Regional Airport (Route 9 East), 2929 E. Empire St., 663-7632, www.pamusa.com** Exhibits include a 1942 DC-3, a DeHavilland Beaver seaplane, Ozark Air Line memorabilia, a collection of items related to Charles A. Lindbergh, who crash landed in McLean County in Nov. 1926, a model airplane collection and a teletype (described as a "Pre-Internet communicator"!). The current exhibition is "Women in Aviation." 11 a.m.-4 p.m. W-Sa, noon-4 p.m. Su. \$1; children under 12, 50 cents.



82. **David Davis Mansion, 1000 E. Monroe St., 828-1084, www.ice.net/public/david_davis_mansion** A State Historic Site, this 19th-century estate offers a look inside the lifestyle of the wealthy and powerful of its day. Also known as "Clover Lawn," this mansion was the home of U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Davis, mentor to Abraham Lincoln and the man who helped Lincoln win the presidential nomination. Built in 1872, one of the mansion's most prominent features is the asymmetrical design of its front. Its modern features for its time include a coal-burning stove, gas lighting, and indoor plumbing, as well as eight fireplaces with Italian marble mantles and a large library.. Sixty-minute tours begin every half hour in the Barn/Visitors Center north of the mansion. An informational video precedes the tour. The Mansion is handicapped accessible. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Th-M. \$2, youth \$1.
83. **McLean County Museum of History, 200 N. Main St., 827-0428** On the National Register of Historic Sites, this former county courthouse, built after the great fire of 1900 which destroyed over four square blocks of downtown Bloomington, is a fine example of American Renaissance architecture, built of marble, bronze and mahogany. The permanent exhibit, "Encounter on the Prairie," contains over a thousand objects and pictures focused on people, farming, work and politics, all factors in the growth of the area. Other items on display include the baseball used in the first World Series game and the desk used by Abraham Lincoln when he practiced law here. 10am-5pm M-Sa, 1-5pm Su. \$2, youth \$1.
84. **Illinois Route 66 Museum/Hall of Fame, Dixie Truckers Home, 400 Dixie Road, McLean, 874-2323** Housed in the oldest truck stop in Illinois, this commemorative exhibit celebrates the legend and lore of historic Route 66, with displays and plaques. The burgers and fries are said to be OK, too. 24 hours. Free.
85. **Miller Park Zoo 1020 S. Morris Ave., 434-2250** Highlights: Sumatran tigers and an indoor tropical rain forest with 20 species of exotic birds. The outdoor exhibits feature sea lions, bald eagles, red wolves and the "Wallaby Walk-about." 10 a.m.-4:30p.m. daily. \$3, seniors and youth (3-12) \$2.

Ft. Jesse Road

College Ave.

College Hills
Mall

JUMER'S

Vernon Road

G.E. Road

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Eldorado

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Empire St. (Hwy 9)

Eastland
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AIRPORT

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Hwy 150/Morrissey Dr.

ditto 14 & FanHistoriCon 11

October 12-14, 2001

Bloomington, Illinois

PRE-1950 FAN HISTORICA?
TWENTY DOLLARS AN
ARTICLE. LATER
STUFF'S CHEAPER,
OF COURSE.



Art by Linda Michaels