

Woody Bernardi Bolts for Boston!

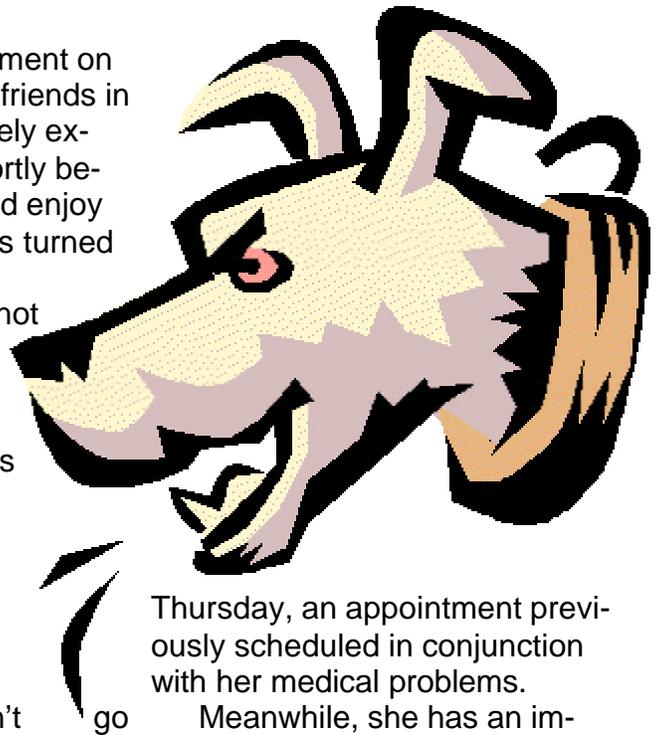
Woody Bernardi, in an emotional statement on the VSFA listserv, has informed his many friends in Las Vegas that he has decided to indefinitely extend his stay in Boston. He went there shortly before the July 4th weekend to see family and enjoy the Gay-laxicon. And now the vacation has turned into a permanent move.

Many reasons motivated his decision, not the least being the need to earn a steady and sufficient living. Whatever the reasons, Woody will be great missed here in Glitter City — and we all look forward to his first visit as a Boston fan.

You'll find Woody's full statement on page 6, along with some commentary by me.

Dog Bites Joyce!

Although domestic animals usually don't go crazy until Joyce starts singing, Steve Brust's Great Pyrenees decided not to wait. The moment



Thursday, an appointment previously scheduled in conjunction with her medical problems.

Meanwhile, she has an impressively ghastly black and blue circle about 3 inches in diameter

on her right upper thigh/

Fans may inspect the Hideous Wound at special viewings. The tickets cost \$5, but children accompanied by adults may see

VEGAS FANDOM WEEKLY

Joyce stepped in the front hall for Tuesday's musical evening at the fantasy and science fiction author's home, the dog calmly walked up to Joyce and bit her on her thigh. (I looked for an appropriate photo of a slavering, ferocious Great Pyrenees. Unfortunately, all of the hundreds of images I Googled were so damn cute I was afraid you'd think I was making up this story.)



complications. Joyce saw a doctor on

Al- though the big (200-lbs.) dog bit right through her dress and left three gigantic teeth marks, the wound doesn't appear to have any long-term

this educational attraction for \$2.50.

Ayesha Escapes Apartment Fire!

A fire in the apartment directly

This Weekend in Vegas Fandom

Here are the major events scheduled for Las Vegas Fandom for this coming weekend:

- * **Las Vegnants Meeting**
Saturday, 7:30 PM
- * **VSFA Sunday Social**
Sunday, 2:00 PM

You'll find all the info you need in pre-view articles or the calendar.

Inside Story Can't Wait Till Friday

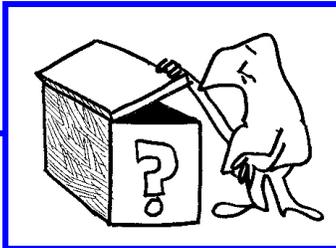
One of the hallmarks of the classically bad first issue fanzine is the editor's plaintive wail that "It's your magazine!" What follows this exhortation is a plea for material. I've published well over a thousand fanzines, yet here I am, making more or less the same supplication. Granting that it is my fanzines and not yours, *Vegas Fandom Weekly* is worthy of your support and aid, because it is a catalyst and unifying factor in the local fan community and a bridge between Las Vegas Fandom and the rest of the microcosm.

From Las Vegas fans, I am looking for news, including reports and previews, and photographs. David Gordon is taking a time out, and Alan White can't be everywhere. I would like to report on the doings of the Gay/Bi/Les/Trans SF Club and the LV Futurists in particular, but an amusing story about what you and some other fans did is every bit as welcome. A letter of comment is also a nice way to express your appreciation. Just pick out something in the issue that sparks an opinion or an associated thought and go with it. I love getting letters from the out-of-town readers, but I would also like to hear from the fans with whom I spend so many hours each week.

My friends around Fandom, outside Las Vegas, are invited to follow the examples of columnists rich brown, Rob Hanson, Bill Wright and Bruce Gillespie (and coming soon, Randy Byers) and write something for *VFW*. Besides reports of what your local Fandom is doing, I'd like to find someone who'd review one electronic fanzine per issue.

And, as always, I love cartoons and a letter of comment makes me a happy ole fanzine editor.

I won't whine about this for a few issues, but *VFW* offers a fairly large fanzine audience and I'd love to have you be part of it. — Arnie



below hers summoned fire engines and emergency equipment to Ay-

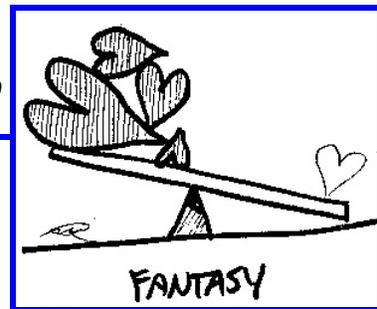
sha Ashley's building last week.

We all knew something was not quite right when Ayesha failed to show up for Steve Brust's musical evening, because our blonde troubadour seldom passes up a good opportunity to sing and play, especially when other good musicians will be present.

She called during the gathering to explain that the fire kept her out of her home for the entire day. Once they let her return to her apartment, all she wanted to do was catch up on all the missed sleep.

Joyce talked to a rested and revived Ayesha on Wednesday (7/6). There was no fire damage to her apartment, though

Cont. on page 10



Vegas Fandom Weekly #35, July 15, 2005, is written and produced by Arnie Katz (PMB 152, 330 S. Decatur Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89107; Email: cross-fire4@cox.net; phone: 702-648-5677).

Special Thanks to Alan White (photos), Michael Bernstein (motivation), Joyce Katz (proofreading), Woody Bernardi (Star Reporter Emeritus).

Reporters this issue: Woody Bernardi, Ayesha Ashley, Josh Andrews and Joyce Katz

Art/Photo Credits: Ross Chamberlain (4). Alan White (8 and all photos, but p. 5), Bill "Potshot" Kunkel (11), Bill Rotsler (all other cartoons)

Columnists This Issue: Joyce Katz, Kent Hastings

VFW is free by request — and you may get it anyway. It can be downloaded at the SNAFFU and VSFA sites as well as at efanazines.com. No procrastinating fanzine editors were harmed during the production of this fanzine.

Member: fwa. Supporter: AFAL. Believer: United Fans of Vegas Toner II in 2006!.

This one's dedicated to Woody Bernardi.

Amateur SF -- No! Katzenjammer

It's rare to meet a neofan who, upon contacting Fandom for the first time, doesn't expect fanzines to be full of amateur science fiction and fantasy stories. It's a logical assumption that people who admire professional fiction enough to make it their hobby would also want to read and write the amateur variety.

Logical, yes, but untrue. Early fanzines sometimes ran stories that pro authors could not sell to the prozines, but the practice fell into disuse when small circulation hectographed fanzines replaced the large-circulation, lithographed ones.

Ray Bradbury is said to have published one story in a fanzine, but it was very early in his fan career — and before he sold anything. The most likely explanation is that it was a reject story and he didn't know enough to just shove it into a drawer.

Roger Zelazny also donated a rejected story to a fanzine called *Thurband I*. That isn't the issue number; that's the name. So Roger's story appeared in *Thurband I #1*.)

As he readily admitted, the story was terrible. He was both proud and embarrassed that the presence of his story in what is widely acclaimed as the worst fanzine of all time, made it one of the most valuable fanzines of all time. The last copy sold on eBay went for over \$100!

When Lenny Bailes and I produced our first fanzine *Cursed* without benefit of seeing even one fanzine, we each wrote short amateur stories. Once we got the hang of fanzines, we stopped printing all amateur SF and Fantasy.

What changed? We learned enough about Fandom to realize that our "logical" assessment missed the mark. Once we discarded our preconceptions, the reasons why fanzines don't publish amateur SF and Fantasy grew more convincing.

The basic problem with amateur SF is quality. If it's good, it ought to be printed in a professional magazine or book. Considering how bad some professionally published SF is, why would anyone want to waste space putting it in a fanzine or waste time reading it?

This is where someone will raise the question of "overlooked gems." Such stories are theoretically possible, but it takes a very special set of circumstances for it to happen.

The first issue of Walt Willis' *Slant* printed two short-stories that eventually sold professionally, proving that they were worth printing. Willis published from Belfast, Northern Ireland, and SF markets were not so numerous in Great Britain at mid-century. It's also worth noting that both pieces were also of the most defensible type: parodies of professional stories. There might be

one or two such stories in the entire history of Fandom. The odds are not encouraging.

Some fanzine editors champion amateur SF as a way for beginning writers to improve enough to sell professionally. That's high-minded and generous, but it doesn't jibe with reality. Writers of amateur SF and Fantasy almost never become professional science fiction authors. Ted White stunned an audience of fanzine editors at CORFLU a few years back with data gathered from a close examination of the 30-plus years of the monthly fanzine *Yandro*.

The Coulsons, probably from the motives I just mentioned, published an amateur story in every issue. Not a single author of such a story has sold. Although Buck & Juanita Coulson both sold professionally, neither "warmed up" with amateur fiction in *Yandro* or anywhere else. Even fan friends who contributed to their fanzine, like Gene Wolfe, did not write amateur fiction.

Fandom is a lot of things, for sure, but it's a lousy place to look for detailed, constructive criticism that would help a potential pro. If you want that kind of interaction, a writer's workshop or writer's group will yield much better results in far less time.

Yet fans become professional writers. Many SF and Fantasy writers, from Isaac Asimov to Steven Brust have used Fandom as a springboard to SF and Fantasy writing.

Some do little or no writing in Fandom. The RPG games hobby has generated an endless parade of pulp fantasy writers who turned their campaigns into novels. A few fans-turned-pro seem to have parallel, but separate, interests in Fandom and professional writing.

Most professional writers who've spent any time in Fandom gravitate to fanzines were they find kindred souls interested in written communication and entertainment.

And what do they write? To the chagrin of the serious fans, they mostly write fannish articles, con reports and the like. Bob Tucker, Robert Silverberg, Greg Benford, Ted White, Joe Halderman and Bob Shaw are just some of the many professional SF authors who learned characterizations, narrative and other fictive techniques as they recounted anecdotes about themselves and their fellow fans. (Fandom has also spawned many non-fiction writers, including Joyce, Bill Kunkel, Aileen Forman, Ross Chamberlain and John Hardin.)

No one can stop you from writing or (gasp!) publishing amateur Science Fiction and Fantasy. No one can stop you from farting in public, either, but that doesn't make it a good idea,— Arnie

In Search of... TED

Arnie reports on the 7/8 SNAFFU Meeting

The 7/8 Westside SNAFFU meeting rebounded nicely from the previous, unusually small June Westside session. Michael Bernstein, president, ran a pretty good meeting that got lively, but not out of control.

The topic, *The Enchanted Duplicator*, was especially strong, but I could see its potential to repel as well as attract. Members would've had to go online to acquire copies and, in the past, any discussion topics that required participants to read a specific work have occasionally foundered. Happily, a surprising number of the fans had prepared for the discussion, which made it that much better.

After calling the meeting to order, Michael zipped through the old business and asked if there was any new business. When I got the floor, it seemed like a good idea to try out an idea I'd had for some time.

I gave a news report, with emphasis on the headlines and stories of local interest. Fans



seemed to like it enough that I am emboldened to do it again at the next Westside meeting, if Michael has no objection.

I closed the segment with brief mentions of the activities scheduled in Las Vegas for the rest of the weekend. I also encouraged SNAFFUties to read *Vegas Fandom Weekly*, which has all the details and contact information.

Joyce took a turn after me. She invited everyone to the first full-fledged meeting of the Vegas Music Circle (see her report on page 6). She also explained SNAPS' new digital distribution scheme and informed potential participants that they had until Sunday night to send her an email with their SNAPSzine.

The discussion of *The Enchanted Duplicator* filled the rest of the meeting — and made it run about a half-hour longer than usual. Linda Bushyager passed around a copy of the Dan Steffan edition of *TED* for “show and tell,” Michael made an opening statement, I offered historical perspective and we were off on Jophan's obstacle-strewn road to Trufandom.

The discussion turned on the question of the relevance of *TED* to today's Fandom. There've been many changes in the hobby since Walt Willis and Bob Shaw wrote their fannish masterpiece in 1954, including (as Linda pointed out) that fans no longer turn the crank of a mimeo or spirit duplicator to produce their fanzines.

Fandom has grown from a fairly homogeneous community of no more than a thousand to a vast, diverse subculture with at least 25,000 participants and nearly a million more passive observers and audience members. At



(Left to right): Walt Willis, Ethel Lindsay, James White and Ian MacAulay are shown at the Peterborough convention in the UK

the time of *TED*'s publication, most active fans participated in the full range of fanac options and fanzines occupied a more central place in Fandom.

Fandom is now an umbrella for a loosely connected network of specialized sub-Fandoms. Each of those sub-Fandoms — filking, gaming, convention, fanzine, costume, media — puts its unique spin on the original, historic concept of Fandom.

It is generally acknowledged that Fanzine Fandom is closer to the ethos and aesthetic of “classic” Fandom. (That is not to say that Fanzine Fandom is better; only that its word-orientation, access to historical documents and mind-set are more traditional than the other sub-Fandoms.) Yet within each sub-Fandom, there are fans who truly do “get” the spirit of Fandom. They’re Trufans in their own way. That means there is more than one road to Trufandom and that, when Jophan gets to the top of the mount, what he finds there depends on the goal he set. Fanzine fans still commune with the Magic Mimeograph, but perhaps Trufannish con fans find the Perfect

Podium and filkers get their Pick.

Readers of *The Enchanted Duplicator* up to about 1984 could take the allegorical story on a literal level, too. The actifans of that era took essentially the same road to Trufandom that Jophan traveled and had many of the same interactions along the way.

Today, would-be Trufans must take *The Enchanted Duplicator* wisdom metaphorically. Jophan starts as a lonely outsiders, alienated from those around him in Mundane.

He ventures into Fandom with an open mind and a friendly attitude and has encounters that educate him about the meaning of the Trufannish Ideal. He progresses by dint of his own efforts, not through tricks, shortcuts or other sleazy strategies.

Ultimately, his efforts bring him to an epiphany. He realizes that Fandom is not organizations and pretentious blustering; Trufannishness is in the heart of the fan. And all any fan needs to do is look inside to find that special spark that makes fans and Fandom so wonderfully different from the Big World Outside.

— Arnie

Bye-Bye Bernardi!



I missed Woody Bernardi even before I knew he was gone. Las Vegas greatest recruiter, Woody's boundless enthusiasm for Fandom and his friendly personality won him many, many friends here in Las Vegas.

Over the last year, which has seen the rise of Vegas Fandom's New Generation, no one has contributed more than Woody. He chaired the Las Vegas

A Letter from Woody...

While visiting my parents in Boston, I met up with a friend who owns a real estate company here in the Boston area. Over the past several years he has opened his own mortgage company. While having dinner with him he mentioned that he needed someone in his office. He offered me the position.

Initially I tried to get him to hold the position open until the end of August but he indicated that he would have to fill the position soon.

Since my current employment (AmeriCorps VISTA) would be finished at the end of August and I hadn't known what I would be doing at that time I decided to take the job. This of course necessitated my resigning my VISTA position now rather than awaiting the automatic ending of my position on August 31.

Some of you may be aware that the main reason I returned to Las Vegas in 2002 was because I just couldn't afford to continue living in the Boston area. Well this position will effectively solve that particular issue.

Most of you realize, I'm certain, that I have had some very big plans for my participation in Las Vegas Fandom. But the necessity of actually paying my bills makes it necessary for me to be practical about such things as "gainful employment" and the like.

As much as I enjoy the friendships I have made among LV Fans (both over the past decades and even some very rewarding new ones) "Fanac" just doesn't pay the bills. Besides, Boston has a very active Fandom and there are always west coast cons to reconnect with old friends from time to time--did ANYONE catch that hint about a LV con?

We can still make it work in LV and I'll be able to play out of town Fan for a weekend.....:-)

This will be my final posting as the President of VSFA, but as there are several others on this list who live in other cities, so will I continue as an out of town onlooker and well wisher to Las Vegas Fandom.

Thanks,
Woody Bernardi
Formerly of Las Vegas Fandom
Currently of Boston Fandom



Fantasy & Science Fiction Day (with the backing of the United Fans of Vegas) and created the hugely popular Sunday Socials. He also pumped considerable life into the revived VSFA, piloted the VSFA listserv to its current success and supported all events and clubs in the area in many ways.

Of course, Woody's contributions to Las Vegas Fandom didn't start in 2005. One of the moving spirits of the UNLV club of the late 1980's, Woody became an early member of SNAFFU. He co-chaired the first formal fan-run convention in Vegas fanhistory, Vegascon and published a fanzine, *Marquee*. Woody also helped organize Silvercon 2 and worked on the early stages of Silvercon 3.

I met Woody shortly after Joyce and I contacted Vegas Fandom in 1991. Seldom have I encountered someone with a greater thirst for Fandom in all its varied guises. We used to joke that any time two fans got together, one of them was Woody, but we admired him for his energy and the missionary zeal with which he proselytized potential fans.

Putting aside all those worthy achievements for a moment, I will most of all miss Woody as a friend. I always looked forward to seeing him arrive at an event, because that guaranteed there'd be some life at the party.

— Arnie Katz

Wow ... I'm kind of speechless, or wordless, rather.

I'm very happy for you, and I admire your ability to avail yourself of an opportunity when it hap-

pens. I hope I'll see you in fandom somewhere along the road.

I just want to thank you for introducing me to Las Vegas fandom; you are a master of recruiting. If it hadn't been for you, my fannish life would not be as rich as it is now. I'll remember that it was you who introduced me to Arnie and Joyce, and you who encouraged me to be a part of Las Vegas fandom.

I loved the great time we had at losCon.

Good luck in your new job, and take care.

— Teresa Cochran

I think I can speak for everyone in the group in saying we are sorry to lose you, but I totally understand about earning a decent living (something I haven't been able to do for nearly 10 years).

This sounds like a great opportunity for you in your own home town. I wish you the best of luck in your new endeavors, both in a new career and a new fandom group. — Joelle Barnes

I am sure that everyone agrees with me, in sending you our very best wishes for your happiness in Boston. May you always have good friends, good work, great companionship. I'm glad that there's such a large fandom in Boston -- I know they will learn to value your fannish companionship, too.

We will miss you. You are an integral part of Vegas Fandom, and a great many of us have a lot to thank you for. I'm sure we are all hoping that you'll eventually return to us -- but in the meantime, you'll be able to use that great talent for recruitment in a city with real fannish roots.

I personally am sorry to see you leave, but I hope it is for happier days. I'm glad to learn of your new job, and I know it'll be nice for you to be near your family. You have done many favors for Arnie and me over the years, and we continue to appreciate all the efforts you've made on our behalf.

In order to stay close, I hope you'll continue to follow the list servs, read the fanzines, and, hopefully, publish regularly yourself! Stay in SNAPS! Rejoin FAPA! Let us continue to be fans together!

Let's plan a bang-up party on August 6. That's a Vegrants' night, and we'll try to give you a proper send off!

With affection,
Joyce Katz

The Circle Is Unbroken

Joyce Katz reports pm the 7/10 VMC Gathering

The Vegas Music Circle had its second gathering on Sunday July 10, with 12 in attendance. The locals included James Taylor, Teresa Cochran, Linda and Ron Bushyager, Alan and DeDee White, Ayesha Ashley, Bob Carroll, Joelle Barnes, and Arnie and Joyce Katz, and they were joined by Richard Brandt, visiting from Colorado.

Linda came armed with a stack of sheets of well-known filk ditties, so the music started with a group sing of *Stranger in a Strange Land*, done to the tune of *My Bonnie*. From that point on, the afternoon varied between performances by Ayesha, Teresa, and Bob, interspersed with group sings of classic filk. Ayesha led off with *Girl of the Low Country*; then Teresa did *Cosmic & Freaky*. The group sang *Bouncing Potatoes* (to the tune of *Waltzing Matilda*.) Bob did a guitar instrumental, with DeDee and Linda on castanets, Joelle on tambourine, and Teresa on flute.

Linda had provided several Tolkien-inspired songs, so Linda and Teresa did a duet of *High Fly the Nazgul*; then Linda did a rousing rendition of *The Orc's Marching Song*. We didn't do *Onward Sauron's Soldiers*, nor *Hooray for Frodo Baggins*, but perhaps we'll hear those next time.

Ayesha did the blues classic *Nobody Wants You When You're Down & Out*, and Joyce followed it with a verse of the *Ballad of Sam Hall*. Ayesha continued the outlaw theme with *The Ballad of Pretty Boy Floyd*.

Linda and Teresa teamed again to sing the sentimental favorite, *Green Hills of Earth*. Teresa played her dulcimer and sang *Go Tell*

Aunt Rhody, then Ayesha played the ocarina. Before the group dispersed, she performed *Silver Dagger*. Joelle capped the afternoon with *I Did It My Way*, done her way.

The next meeting of the Vegas Music Circle will be on the second Sunday of August, at 2 pm. — Joyce Katz



You Got Stf in My Fantasy!

Kent Hastings' SNAFFU (6/26) Meeting Report: Part Two

Rachel arrived in the middle of the program and announced that a Henderson Library team broke a Guinness world record for reading out loud and thus, as reported in the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, "helped raise about \$6,000 for MEL, Henderson's mobile extension library program that makes books available to rural residents."



Speaking of libraries, Lori reminded us that the SNAFFU library committee tentatively scheduled Saturday, July 23 as a day that six to ten volunteers will move boxes, and sort which books stay and which duplicate copies should go to charity. We were also warned of fires started by lightning in the southwest part of the Vegas Valley.

April passed around *The Return of the Bunny Suicides*, then spoke of editor Esther Friesner's funny *Chicks In Chainmail* anthology series and contributor Margaret Ball's *Mathemagics* spinoff novel.

Mindy discussed Piers Anthony's *Xanth* and John DeChancie's *Castle Perilous* series. Lori recalled Arnie Katz' comment that "science fiction is dead and what you're seeing published now is fantasy." Mindy quoted Ursula K. LeGuin's contrary remark from the SFRA conference that, "Science fiction is open to new writers and has spread everywhere." Mindy also noted that Tim Powers had problems with some of his books being sold as mainstream novels because the SF readers couldn't find them and the mainstream readers were puzzled by the fantasy elements.

Lori mentioned Jasper Fford's literary detective who can go into other books (such as *The Eyre Affair* about *Jane Eyre*). Some folks said they couldn't get into fantasy because the books they encountered were just Tolkien rip-offs, but Mindy praised the originality of Elizabeth Haydon's *Symphony of Ages* high fantasy series. Woody mentioned *Dinosaur Planet* and prompted discussion of the Dinotopia world. Michael stated that *Get Off The Unicorn* and *Pegasus In Flight* straddled the F/SF line, and described L.E. Modesitt's *Saga of Recluce* series as an exploration of technology, complexity and order. Michael also used the interesting phrase "fantasy with bolts."

Lori agreed that McCaffrey's Pern novels explained things in science terms, opined that early Andre Norton and the first six Xanth books were great, but later volumes were worse. Lori also said she'd give her left arm to get reliable psychic powers. That sounds like a Halloween Simpsons episode to me. Mindy mentioned Alan Dean Foster's talking animals and that put the fear of furry in us. Michael B. described *The Wiz Biz* computer programmer using magical primitives to automate away from the old magic by rote system in an alternate world and attending Comdex at Vegas in our world. Michael also described Zelazny's *Madwand* series and Mike Ma remembered seeing *Madwand* and *Changeling* in one volume.

Rachel listed some titles in Christopher Stasheff's viking mythos series, including *Wizard In Bedlam*, *Warlock In Spite Of Himself* and *Her Majesty's Wizard*. Mindy wrapped up the discussion with Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Darkover* series depiction of psionic powers used for finding minerals to mine.

The meeting adjourned at 9:26pm and most attendees went to the evening's vote-winning restaurant, Applebees.

— Kent Hastings

Contact Information

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Continued from page 2

smoke damage is another story. By the weekend, she was back in full fanac mode, leading the Sunday (7/10) Vegas Music Circle.

SNAPS Goes All-Electronic With Fourth Distribution!

In a message sent to SNAPS (Southern

Nevada Amateur Press Association) sent before the deadline for Distribution #4, Official Editor Joyce Katz announced that the group was going all-electronic.

The decision came after extensive discussion by contributors, the overwhelming majority of whom spoke out for the lower cost and greater convenience of digital distribution.

Freedom's Just Another Word For the Topic at the July Social!

Kent Hastings presents the following preview of the July Social, scheduled for this Sunday at The Tap House at 2:00 PM.

Woody asked if I'd be the Social Engineer for the VSFA Sunday's meeting.

I'll be preaching Liberty from the VSFA pulpit. (Making the sign of the dollar) "In the name of the Rand, the Branden, and the Holy Galt--Qua Man!"

My plan, in this month of Heinlein's and Konkin's birthdays (one day apart), is to talk about



"Freedom Fighters in Science Fiction." (The obvious joke is "If crimefighters fight crime and firefighters fight fires, then what do freedom fighters fight?") I also plan to introduce the group to the Libertarian SF Writers' Mafia, as listed in back issues of Konkin's *New Libertarian* magazine ("Since 1970, everyone appearing disagrees!"), and describe the reaction to them by their critics (and sometimes allies).

For example, Moorcock's "Starship Stormtroopers" expresses dismay at how conservatives like Heinlein and Token could be embraced by freedom lovers.

I think I could explain the appeal of the revolution in *The Moon Is A Harsh Mistress* and the destruction of the ring of power in *The Lord of the Rings*.

After Heinlein's death, many of the Lib SF Mafia members wrote amusing stories for a special tribute issue of *New Libertarian*, set in shared universes with each other and Heinlein's works. I'll be waving a copy of that around if I can lay my hands on one from storage.

So TANSTAAFL, MYOB, and INITFMHYK (There Ain't No Such Thing As A Free Lunch, Mind Your Own Business, and I'm Not In This For My Health, You Know). — Kent Hastings

The Social, sponsored by VSFA, is open to all fans, even those whose hearts don't beat faster at the thought of this discussion topic. The food is good, the company is excellent and the ambience is very congenial.

The Tap House Bar & Grille is located at West Charleston between Decatur and Jones (5589 West Charleston Boulevard). The get-togethers start at 2:00 PM and run to about 4:00 PM.

VSFA Barbeque to Celebrate Joshua Andrews Birthday!

Saturday, July 23rd is the date for VSFA's Birthday Barbecue Bash to honor Josh Andrews on the anniversary of his birth.

It'll take place at the former residence of Woody Bernardi, the Woodshed (which needs a new name). The address is: 6400 Cosmo Lane.

Josh asks for RSVPs (email: Andrews1701@gmail.com) by July 18. Josh has put up a website (<http://www.geocities.com/kehstat/bbq>) for the barbecue that has maps and a way to click an RSVP.

This is a potluck, so attendees should bring some kind of food — and it probably wouldn't hurt Josh's feelings if you brought hard and soft beverages. It's open to all fans.

Heard Around Vegas Fandom...

Richard Brandt, who visited Vegas last month, returned for another stay at the beginning of the week. He attended the Vegas Music Circle meeting and is expected to be at Las Vegrants on Saturday before going back to Colorado on Sunday...

Don Miller, who has been experiencing some severe symptoms, finally got a helpful diagnosis: he has too much iron. Corrective measures are underway and Don is already feeling better. He came to the 7/2 Vegrants Farewell Formans and Arnie Birthday Bash; maybe he'll become less reclusive as he feels better...

Potshot's Cartoon Theater



Las Vegas Fan Event Calendar

Las Vegrants Meeting July 16 7:30 PM

The informal club meets on the first and third Saturdays of the month at the Launch Pad, the home of Arnie and Joyce Katz

Sunday Social July 17 2 PM

VSFA sponsors this event, open to all Vegas fans, at The Tap House. The theme is Freedom in Science Fiction. Kent Hastings will preside.

SNAFFU July 22 8:00 PM

This formal SF club meets the second and fourth Friday's of each month. This time, it will be held at Borders bookstore on the East Side. The subject is Robots.

Joshua Andrews Birthday BBQ July 23 1:00 PM

Joshua Andrews hosts this open-to-all at Cosmo Corners (6400 Cosmo Lane).

Las Vegrants Meeting August 6 7:30 PM

Las Vegrants invites *all* Vegas fans to its Open Party It's at the Launch Pad, the home of Arnie and Joyce Katz. We are awaiting confirmation of a Major Guest Star. Hint: He is a Boston fan... now.

SNAFFU August 12 8:00 PM

This formal SF club meets the second and fourth Friday's of each month. This time, it will be held at Borders bookstore on Sahara.

Las Vegas Futurists August 12 7:00 PM

This discussion group looks to the world of tomorrow on the second Friday of each month at Borders bookstore (2190 N. Rainbow Blvd.)

Vegas Music Circle August 14 2:00 PM

All fans are invited to make music or just listen at the Launch Pad. The session starts at 2:00 PM.

Su Williams, who has become even more reclusive than Don of late, had a cataract operation recently. It went so smoothly that, the next day, she drove herself all the way to San Diego...

Joshua Andrews has moved to 6400 Cosmo, Woody Bernardi's former abode. He mentioned in an email to Joyce that a prime motivation for the move is to use Cosmo Corner to give fan parties so watch the calendar for announcements...

Stan & Tintin the Inferno haven't been to a fan meeting since the magician's second blow-up with Bill Kunkel, but there has been a Tintin sighting. She's working a cash register at a 99-cent store, which ought to be a crash course in American culture...

Baby, Baby, Baby, We're Out of Time...

... and space, too. See you all with #36 (including letters) next Wednesday. -

— Arnie Katz

