

VEGAS FANDOM WEEKLY

Las Vegas Fandom's Sorta Weekly Newszine

Don't Forget

The Sunday Social

Sunday, March 13
The Tap House
(on West Charleston)
1:00 PM

The first in a series
of Sunday afternoon events
featuring a blend
of socializing and formal program

Special Feature
Las Vegas Fandom
Salutes
Joyce Katz

Free Admission

All Fans Welcome

Food & Drink Available

Gillespie Conquers Vegas!

Still in search of fannish thrills after Corflu
Titanium and Potlatch, Bruce Gillespie mo-



Vegas Fandom Weekly #16 March 9, 2005, is written and produced by Arnie Katz (PMB 152, 330 S. Decatur Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89107; Email: crossfire4@cox.net; phone: 702-648-5677).

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Reporters this issue: Woody Bernardi, Kathryn Daugherty, Michael Bernstein and Joyce Katz

VFW is free for the asking — and you may get it anyway. It can be downloaded at the SNAFFU and VSFA websites as well as at efanzines.com

Member: fwa. Supporter: AFAL.

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tored to Las Vegas (with Billy Pettit at the wheel of a Big Fancy Car) for the Gillespie Gala and JoHn Hardin Birthday Bash.

They arrived late Monday, rested up at the Excalibur and swooped down on the Launch Pad around 11 Tuesday.

A total of 22 fans partied at the Launch Pad on Tuesday (3/8) to meet the Australian fan and out-of-town guests Billy Pettit and Earl Kemp and celebrate JoHn Hardin's 40th birthday.

Attending, besides those already mentioned, were: Woody Bernardi, Karla Hardin, Teresa Cochran, James & Kathryn Daugherty, Alan & DeDee White, Gilda & Michael Cabral, Ron & Linda Bushyager, James Taylor, Lori Forbes, Michael Bernstein, Darmon Thornton and Dave Gordon.

(You can check out my complete party report of the big day, starting on page 10)

Las Vegas Sciencvr Fiction & Fantasy Day Picks Steve Brust as Keynote Speaker!

Las Vegas' most popular science fiction author, Steve Brust, has agreed to give a featured talk at the First Annual Las Vegas Science Fiction & Fantasy Day. The one-day

convention will be held at the Clark County Library at 11 E. Flamingo Rd. It is located at the corner of Escondido (1 block East of Maryland Pkwy).

SF and Fantasy Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 30, from 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM. Woody Bernardi is chairman of the convention, which is open to all Las Vegas fans. There is no admission charge.

Steve Brust will deliver his talk on Saturday afternoon. This is expected to be a highlight of the program, which also

The Sweetheart of Fanac Falls

The Joyce Katz Anthology



Edited by Arnie Katz

Shown here is the cover of *The Sweetheart of Fanac Falls*, the anthology that will be given out free at the first Sunday Social.

Continued on page 4

The SNAFFU Library: Today & Tomorrow — Arnie Katz

I've been relatively silent about the subject of the Library to give everyone else space to air their views as fully as possible. With the vote only days from completion, I've decided its an opportune time to discuss not only the proposal, but some ideas for the library itself.

SNAFFU's greatest asset, apart from its members, is the Library. Nurtured by Ken and Aileen Forman in its early days and responsibly administered by Roxanne Gibbs and Michael Bernstein in more recent times, the library is the most valuable tangible asset in all of Las Vegas Fandom. Yet circumstances have conspired to largely negate the Library's value to the members. When no alternatives merged after a discussion at a SNAFFU meeting, Joyce and I put forth our proposal.

We are offering to give the club a place to set up the Library, if the club will put it on shelves and catalogue it to facilitate lending. At the same time, we are donating our science fiction book and magazine collection, which would substantially increase the size of the Library and give the club a treasure trove of duplicate books that can be sold to offset the cost of the shelving.

SNAFFU members will have access to the library, by appointment. We plan to be available most weekday evenings and several hours Saturday and/or Sunday.

Everything will belong to the club, though we will retain the privilege of being the hosts unless we are no longer able to maintain the location or give proper access or we plan to move out of town. You can check out the fine points in *VFW #13*, but that's the gist.

I think the proposal is great and plan to vote for it. I hope you will, too, but I won't be upset about fans voting the other way. Such differences of opinion are all in a day's fanac.

If the proposal passes, the Library will be under the control of a committee headed jointly by Woody Bernardi and Lori Forbes. Joyce I will participate in the committee's deliberations and also speak at hosts for the thing. I have a few ideas that might prove useful I want to lay on the table:

1. SNAFFU should consider selling "library passes" to well-known local fans who aren't members of the club. This could be a very nice moneymaker for SNAFFU and might even draw a few people into the group.
2. SNAFFU should create a digital catalogue rather than one using file cards. It isn't more work and yields a more flexible, usable catalogue. Having the card catalogue online would make it much easier for club members to browse without physically walking the shelves.
3. SNAFFU should have a Book Sale, in person and/or online, to dispose of the best of the duplicates for the most possible revenue.
4. When the construction and consolidation phase is complete, the club should elect or appoint a Librarian to administer the Library itself.

I know the Library is a burning issue to a lot of SNAFFU members and I am very impressed with the generally high level of the debate. If the club can continue to handle things in such a mature manner, SNAFFU will have gained more than the largest science fiction library in this region.

— Arnie



Members of the Library Committee (left to right: Lori Forbes, JoHn Hardin, Darmon Thornton and Michael Bernstein) survey the Launch Pad's garage, possible future site of the SNAFFU Library.

includes panels on a variety of subjects of interest to SF and fantasy fans.

Meetings of both SNAFFU and Las Vegas will be held in conjunctions with Las Vegas Science Fiction and Fantasy Day, the largest fan-run *general* convention in Las Vegas since the legendary Silvercons.

SNAFFU Votes on Library Proposal!

In a post on the SNAFFU-Discussion listserv, club President Michael Bernstein called for a vote on the proposal concerning the SNAFFU Library. The post included a ballot with three choices — Yes, No and Duh — and a deadline of the 3/11 SNAFFU meeting (*See the Event Calendar for details*).

You'll find the whole proposal in *VFW #13* (<http://www.snaffu.org/weekly/VFW13.pdf>), but the essence is that Joyce and I have offered to donate our science fiction collection to the club and give it a place to erect shelves and conduct business. The one-page document sets forth what the club must do to fulfill the agreement and contains safeguards for both us and SNAFFU in case

we should move or even leave town.

SNAFFU has appointed a Library Committee to implement the merger and relocation. Woody Bernardi and Laurie Forbes are co-chairmen.

Sunday Social to Give Fans Joyce Katz Anthology!

What's better than free? If you don't know now, you will on Sunday, March 13, when VSFA sponsors the first Sunday Social. The event is open to all Las Vegas fans and is absolutely free, but the deal just got even sweeter.

How? Everyone who attends will be given a free copy of *The Sweetheart of Fanac Falls*, an anthology of some of Joyce Katz's best fan writing (and artwork). The anthology is being published in conjunction with the Salute to Joyce that will be one of the highlights during an afternoon of relaxed socializing (and maybe some eating and drinking).

The first Sunday Social will be held on Sunday March 13, 2005 from 1 PM to 5 PM at The Tap House bar and grille on West Charleston. We will have the luxury of a private room for the event, so fans will be free to socialize without feeling that all eyes are upon them

You'll be able to buy food and drink from



Las Vegrants (3/5) Meeting Report — Arnie Katz

We studied the calendar on the wall and peered at the weather out the window — and we didn't like either one of them. "It's going to be a small meeting," Joyce prophesized gloomily as Friday afternoon faded into the twilight of early evening.

Joyce often predicts small meetings. I think it is her way of combating the feelings of loneliness and abandonment that a poor turnout incites in her trufannish heart.

This time, though, I had to admit my Cassandra might be on the right track (or whatever it is that seers use to divine the future). The weather was rainy again and the calendar was packed with upcoming events. I could easily imagine that a Vegrant, faced with forbidding weather and with the intention of being at our place on Tuesday for the Gillespie Gala and Hardin Birthday Bash might decide that this was the right night to just stay at home.

That still seems a reasonable expectation, especially in light of the Vegrants' celebrated devotion to sloth and laziness (to save up energy for their devotion to hedonism...). And yet, when the evening's snacks were arrayed on the living room coffee table, hearty fans began to emerge out of the rain-swept gloom.

Those braving the elements (and a potential surplus of seeing me) to attend the meeting were: Ross Chamberlain, Alan White, Bill Kunkel, Stan Jecawicz, Derek Stazenski, John Hardin and James Taylor. Everyone was particularly glad to see JWT, who has not attended Vegrants for a regrettably long time. James is showing signs of shaking off his year-long fannish lethargy, which would be a very positive development for local fandom.

Nine fans can generate a lot of gabble, even if they pause occasionally to quaff soft drinks and shove salsa-laden chips into their mouths. I don't think I can evoke all, or even most, of the favorite topics, but they included the plans for the Gillespie Gala and Hardin Birthday Bash, a quirky CD James brought that blends bagpipes with Dixieland jazz and general happenings in the fan world. We also talked a good deal about air travel in 2005 and flu symptoms, since Bill had endured both within the last week.

the Tap House's menu or just come for the salute to Joyce and the socializing.

Unlike existing events in town, the Sunday Social will mix a little formal programming with a lot of informal fannish fellowship. It should be a great afternoon — and especially good for those who can't make the city's Friday and Saturday night get-togethers.

Few fans have accomplished more in Fandom or, even more importantly, done so much for Las Vegas Fandom. This is your chance to show your respect and affection for Joyce (and score a free anthology valued at \$10).

Let's Go Crazy!

Crazy from the Heat wasn't conceived as an annual event, but it has slipped into that

low-key schedule. Issue #3 made its debut at Corflu Titanium and it is now available at efanazines.com, courtesy of the site's noble proprietor Bill Burns. It's a free download.

The issue leads off with Ross Chamberlain's *Chunga* parody cover that even fooled at least two of its editors. What follows is a parade of entertaining articles and columns by lots of current Vegas fans and the alumni group that congregates around Yucaipa, CA. The issue's highlight is Cathi Wilson's photo-filled Corflu Blackjack report but there are contributions by (among others): Aileen Forman, Ken Forman, Joyce Katz and me.

Daughertys Plan Open House

James and Kathryn Daugherty have announced plans to host an Open House on Saturday, April 16, at their home in Henderson.

The festivities begin at about noon and will run to 5:00, an early enough ending to permit Vegants to participate and still make that evening's regular meeting.

The Daughertys promise food, entertainment and an opportunity to start the swim season off with a dip in their pool.

VFW will have more details soon

Fandom Versus the Flu

A number of fans have come down with a fairly severe flu in the last week or so. Quite a few who attended Corflu, including Vegas Fandom's good friend Ted White have been fairly sick and Vegas' own Bill Kunkel manifested very similar symptoms upon his return from his New York trip.

Heard Around Vegas Fandom

Marcy Waldie continues her recovery from knee replacement surgery. She's not quite ready to go visiting, but she is working hard to regain her mobility...

Woody Bernardi should be back from his trip to Boston by the time you read this. He drove cross-country with his sister and flew back in time for

NO FANZINE MAY BE PUBLISHED
IN THE KNOWN FAN WORLD
WITHOUT A ROTSLER
DRAWING.



That's a well-known rule of tentacle!

Monday's VSFA meeting. I was a little worried when he called me last Wednesday from Arizona, which seemed somewhat off the likeliest route, but he didn't seem worried (and neither am I)....

Stan and TinTin Jackewicz are moving. They'll occupy the house in which Stan lived prior to his divorce. We'll have CoAs for both them and for Woody when the parties involved are ready to let us in on their still-

secret locations. Oh, and "two doors down from the Batcave" is not very helpful...

Bill Kunkel has just returned from a week in New York. He visited family, transacted a little business and then got so sick he actually had to delay his flight until he felt strong enough to take the trip...



JoHn Hardin pauses to admire his birthday cake at the Gillespie Gala and Hardin Birthday Bash.

FM 'Buz' Busby Passes Away

After a long illness that eventually confined him to his immediate environs, FM 'Buz' Busby passed away on February 17 at the Health and Rehabilitation of Seattle. He was 84 at the time of his death and is survived by his wife (and longtime fan), Elinor.

Though he became widely known as a science fiction writer with over 20 published novels, after retirement from his Mundane job, Buz is better known to fans as one of the true BNFs of his era.

Buz was a tremendous fanzine writer and publisher who was also very important in Seattle's local fandom. He was chairman of the 1959 Westercon and co-chaired its 1961 Worldcon (Seacon). He was Toastmaster of IguanaCon II, the 1978 World Science Fiction Convention. From 1974-1976

he was Vice President of Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA).

He was one of the founders of Seattle's fan club, The Nameless Ones, which dominated Seattle Fandom from the 1950s through the 1970s. As co-editor and star columnist, he helped lead the group's fanzine *Cry of the Nameless* to recognition as one of Fandom's top fanzines of the 1958-63 period.

Buz attended Silvercon 4 and Corflu Vegas before his health limited his travel.

Victor Gonzalez has posted a wonderful 22-page memorial fanzine on his website, Trufen.net. The URL is: <http://trufen.net/fandom/05/03/07/0624204.shtml>

(See *Katzenjammer* in this issue for some personal memories).

Event Calendar

SNAFFU March 11 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 March 11 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.)

Sunday Social March 13 1 PM

VSFA is sponsoring this event, open to all Las Vegas fans, at The Tap House.

Las Vegrants March 19 7:30 PM

The informal, invitational club meets at the home of Arnie and Joyce Katz.

VSFA April 4 7:30 PM

This formal club meets at the Clark County Library on the first Monday of each month.

Daugherty Open House April 16 Noon

All of Vegas Fandom is invited to the home of Kathryn & James Daugherty.

Las Vegas S F & Fantasy Day

April 30 10 AM-5:30 PM

A free, one-day convention for all Vegas fans. Woody Bernardi is chairman.

Chat Back — The VFW Letter Column

It's time for the letter column and what better to present than with the fan who just won the Harry Warner Memorial Award as Best Letterhack of 2004.

Lloyd Penney!

Finally starting to warm up here, and there's finally time to get with the programme, and get some loccing done. I have issues 7, 8, 9 and 10 of *Vegas Fandom Weekly*, and it's time to catch up.

7...We'd love to join you some time and be among those rowdy fans. Our New Year's eve was spent with local fans, too... none of us rowdy, but at least there was the chance to party and hug and smooch with a few cuddy fannes, Yvonne among them, of course. (Whew, good answer!)

Robbie the Chair looks great... perhaps a few blinkies could be attached for further realism. (A voice box mentioning Dr. Morbius from time to time would be just too much.)

8...Can't expect all these young fans to have the energy to have something going every weekend, not like us older types, hm? Gotta let them have the time to recharge the

[Play the Vegas Fandom Trivia Game!](#)

Welcome to the third round of the Las Vegas Fandom Trivia Challenge! All the questions are based on Las Vegas Fandom, so those who know a little about their roots will be able to breeze right through. The rest can check out the correct answer to this issue's question *next* week.

The Rules:

1. *VFW* will print one question per issue, with a point value assigned on the basis of difficulty.
2. Answers may be submitted in person or by email to Joyce Worley (joyceworley1@cox.net). She will report only correct answers, so please feel free to guess.
3. *VFW* will print the names of all those who get the right answer. In the case of ties, everyone wins the same thing (nothing).
4. We'll maintain cumulative standings. At the end of the year, the fan with the greatest number of points will be proclaimed the Vegas Fandom Trivia Champion. The winner will also receive *twice* as much nothing as the weekly winners.

Last Week's Trivia Question

Who was the first chief executive of SNAFFU? (Two points)

Laurie Forbes and JoHn Hardin got the right answer. JoHn is now in the lead with JoHn Hardin's 4 points putting him on top in the standings.

Although a retiring temperament and some other circumstances curtailed his role in Las Vegas Fandom, Alex Borders was one of the prime movers in the formation of SNAFFU. So it was not especially surprising when he became the group's first chief executive.

It was also not entirely surprising, given the state of fan humor in the city at that time, that Alex was not known as the President, but rather as the Supreme and Beloved Leader (SABL). I've always liked "Director," as the title for the person who leads a local club, in homage to LASFS (Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society), But that's just my quirky taste.

This Week's Trivia Question

What was the name of the first Las Vegas Slan Shack? (One Point)

batteries by relaxing with something tasty to drink and eat, and perhaps crack open a book or two, or given the current tastes, let them see the newest episode of *Battlestar Galactica*. (Not to my tastes, rather open a good book, but such is fandom of the moment.)

Any more information about this one-day con in Vegas in April? We've done one-days

before, filled it with activities three-day cons never have, and we've had a great time. We still have people asking us about whether we're ever going to have another Science Fiction Saturday.

9...With all the get-togethers for good food here and there in Vegas fandom, is there the need for a regular fannish exercise

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Katzenjammer — FM Busby, The ‘Beat’ Goes On

I enjoyed FM Busby’s science fiction, especially his paradox-laden time travel series. It may seem odd to say this about the author of 20 novels, but I never think of him that way. I knew him so long as the number one fan in the Pacific Northwest that it’s hard not to think of him solely in that way despite his late-in-life eminence as a SF writer.

I encountered Buz — fans speculated about those initials, until dogged harassment unearthed “Francis Marion” — on paper before I met him in person. I entered Fandom in 1963, by which time *Cry* had become a legend. He and his cohorts did a few more issues, but my main contact with Buz came in the Spectator Amateur Press Association (SAPS). He was a star on a very strong and active roster, so I got to read a lot of his stuff and exchanged many mailing comments with him.



We got along so well that he let me turn a particularly interesting letter into a column for *Excalibur*, which Lenny Bailes and I published in our neofan days. We were so elated that, when John Berry (the

one in England, not my old friend John D. Berry of Seattle) sent us an article, too, and the late Ed Cox also volunteered a column, it emboldened us to fold *Excalibur* and begin our first good fanzine, *Quip*. It was probably fortunate that I didn’t yet have enough knowledge of Fandom at that time to realize the enormity of my presumption in asking him for a column; he had authored columns that scored heavily in the annual Fanac Poll for both *Cry* and *Aphorreta*. He produced columns regularly over *Quip*’s 13-issue life.

It was Buz who introduced me to a man who became like a second father to me, Charles Burbee. Since it happened at the 1965 Westercon in Long Beach, CA, he could have introduced me to Alan White, who was attending his first convention. He probably spared Alan years of fan artistic toil.

My next face-to-face meeting with Buz occurred at the Baycon, the 1968 worldcon at the Claremont Hotel on the border between Berkeley and San Francisco. The counter-culture was at an all-time high (and so were most of us), so the con committee hired three rock bands and a light show.

I saw Joyce Worley, her eyes as big as saucers, Peering in every direction for a friendly face in all the sonic and visual fury. She was not yet the High Priestess, of course, but we were already buddies and, besides, she looked incredibly hot.

So I chatted with her, trying to seem infinitely hip. I felt a nudge and realized that a skinny little plastic hippie was trying to inject himself into the conversation. He came complete with oversized neck medallion and a huge nimbus of unruly curly hair. He kept pushing his way between Joyce and me. I didn’t want a confrontation, so I contented myself with partially successful attempts to close any gap to keep him from getting in the way.

Things went along like this, with me subtly fending off the increasingly offensive intrusions. The hippie just smiled vacantly, flashed an occasional peace sign and just kept pushing. Finally, my frustration sparked a little temper. I turned toward him, ready to blow him away with a stinging verbal blast, when he yanked off the hair to reveal a smiling, bald FM Busby! We laughed and made room for him in the conversation, once he promised to ditch the wig.

Party Time in Vegas!

“Welcome to Las Vegas,” I said to Bruce Gillespie when he came through the doorway at the Lunch Pad at about 11:16 on Tuesday morning. “And welcome *back* to Vegas,” I continued as I stretched out my hand to shake with Billy Pettit, who has visited Glitter City fandom at least a couple of times in the past.

Billy drove Bruce from San Francisco, where he had attended Corflu and Potlatch, to Las Vegas so the Australian fan could meet Las Vegas Fandom.

Bruce came bearing gifts. He played courier for Lenny Bailes, who sent a couple of CD disks and also gave Joyce the extraordinary “get well” card with art and signatures from just about everyone at Corflu Titanium.

Naturally, Joyce and I were extremely



Bruce Gillespie (*behind JoHn at the far right*) digs into the mountain of food..

curious about Corflu and related matters. Bruce kept consulting his notes and muttering about the difficulty of reading his own handwriting. I sympathized deeply. Before I switched to recorded notes, my handwriting got so bad that I was never quite sure what I was trying to remind myself to say.

In one extreme case, I pieced together the first day of a Corflu report from supposedly comprehensive notes. And when I got it done and reviewed what I had written, it suddenly came upon me that the con had, in fact, been absolutely nothing like what I had described. Misreading my own notes had propelled me in the wrong direction; the tattered remains of my short-term memory confirmed that nothing in what I had written had actually occurred. (As those who read my con reports have sometimes observed, this would not ordinarily



Billy Pettit, unlike today's neofans, will always take time out from a party to devote himself to dedicated study. Here we see him perusing *Sin-A-Rama*.

stop me, but I do think it's better if those who attended a con can actually recognize it from the report.

Bruce and I talked about the progression of generations in Fandom, which gave me the opening to try out the theory behind an article I'm currently writing on Bruce and Billy. I'll spare you the details here, but the essence is that history repeats itself and now Fandom has finally reached the point at which Fanhistory is repeating itself.

Joyce labored to her feet to go to the dining room to call Ross Chamberlain on the phone to see if he wanted to come for a visit. Ross had to work from early afternoon to midnight on Tuesday, so we wanted to make sure he had a chance to see our visitors.

No sooner had Joyce actually started toward the dining room than the phone rang! I scampered ahead of her and soon found myself talking to Ross! He immediately set off for our place.

"Well, Joyce," I told her when I returned to the living room, "that was Ross and he's coming over. Would you like to call Pam Anderson Lee?" Hey, if it worked once, who knows?

Ross spent a half-hour or so with us. With the avarice born of decades of fanzine publishing, Bruce ingratiated himself with Ross and then took down his email address for the follow-up *written* request for artwork for his excellent, if somewhat sercon, *SF Commentary*.

When Ross left for work, we found ourselves facing one of those weighty decisions that sometimes rise up to bedevil even the finest fannish minds. In short, we had to figure out where to eat lunch. As is her habit, Joyce offered about five alternatives, but Bruce insisted that we free him from the need to choose.

So it was that we went to the Bagel Café, where Bruce encountered Ameri-



DeDee White (on right) talks with James & Kathryn Daugherty.

can-Jewish cuisine and Billy revealed that he does not like matzoh balls. (I didn't tell him that I don't care much for them, either.) He evaded one in his chicken noodle soup with a polite request to the waitress. The Bagel Café, a good place to eat despite the lame name, did pretty well by us. Our guests seemed to enjoy their lunch and I know Joyce and I enjoyed ours.

We talked about the Bring Bruce Bay-side Fund surplus. Our efforts were *too suc-*



DeDee White, Dave Gordon and Bruce Gillespie chat.



Woody Bernardi, one day removed from a cross-country odyssey, catches his breath and kicks back.

cessful. Even after reserving money for the printing and distribution of Bruce's trip report, there is still likely to be a wad of cash.

I told Bruce that I felt he, as the fund recipient, should make the final decision. He suggested, and I readily agreed, that some be earmarked for DUFF and GUFF, which gave up proceeds from an auction at an Australian regional to help the BBB Fund, and that all the continuing fan funds should share in any surplus. (Not that this is what will necessarily happen, but it indicates the general trend of thinking).

Bill put an intriguing topic on the table. He asserted that there are fans who have done very well in a material way who would like to give something back to Fanzine Fandom by funding a really worthy project.

He asked us to think about what that project might be. "The thing that would help Fanzine Fandom the most," I said without hesitation, "is getting the great fanzines online." Billy told me about a project he is currently doing to post a file of the remarkable covers from Ted

White's 1950's fanzine *Stellar* along with an article about them Ted White is now writing.

The innovative techniques Ted used achieved some remarkable results in brilliant mimeography, but I wish Billy were also doing the contents of that fanzine. *Stellar* specialized in faan fiction (fiction about fans), a genre very dear to my heart.

Someone had given Bruce a bag of disposable cameras during his journey and he had lots of photos that needed to be developed. Billy and he drove to a Walgreen to get them processed and did a couple of other errands to give Joyce a chance for a mid-afternoon lie down.

Joyce and I tried to get a power nap, but I think she was too keyed up to fall asleep for more than a few minutes. As always, I slept the Sleep of the Innocent, but we were both up and preparing for the party by the time they returned – with Earl Kemp in tow. They'd run into him on their way out and taken him along to insure Joyce's katznap.

Billy Pettit volunteered for a supermarket



Alan White (right) took all the photos at the party, except this one. With him is Dave Gordon.

run. He disdained Joyce's offer of directions, wisely putting himself in the hands of the OnStar system. *We did* have second thoughts when he didn't return from the store, about four blocks away, for over an hour. I could read Joyce's dire imaginings on her face as the minutes passed. All worry proved unnecessary when a smiling Pettit returned, obviously unscarred by his foray into Vegas, laden with the groceries.

Lori Forbes called shortly after 6:00 to say that she had left work a few minutes late but was now zooming towards the Launch Pad for the meeting of the SNAFFU Library committee I had scheduled for just before the party. I told her not to worry about a few minutes, because the Library meeting was little more than an excuse to pry some fans out of their homes and into a celebration.

Lori called again a little while later to tell me that she was not, in fact, zooming toward the party. She was inching towards it at 5 miles per hour on Desert Inn Road. I almost felt like we should set up a map of the area and start marking her advancing position with pins.

James Taylor arrived about 6:15 and immediately went to work assisting us with party preparations. It is so good to see James coming out to fan events again; he's intelligent and nice, always a welcome combination.

Our cross-country traveler Woody Bernardi arrived just ahead of Michael Bernstein and Darmon Thornton. It wasn't even 6:30 (the official start time) yet, but the party had already taken on a life of its own.

Fans began to pour into the house – and immediately began pouring soft drinks and shoveling snacks, to Joyce's delight. Dave Gordon arrived seconds behind Alan and DeDee White and just ahead of the birthday boy John Hardin, escorted by Teresa Cochran. Karla Hardin had arrived to find cars filling the driveway and the curb space and had gone in search of a place to stash the



Teresa Cochran continued to win friends in Las Vegas Fandom — and made a few conquests among the visitors, too.

car for the evening. Soon, she, too, had joined the fannish throng.

The Library Committee – Lori, Woody, Michael, Darmon and John plus me -- adjourned to the garage to scope out the situation for the probably merger of the SNAFFU and Katz science fiction collections and the resulting library's relocation to the garage.

I don't know if it was just that everyone was on the same page or the irresistible lure of fans and food back in the house, but this was a short and highly productive meeting. We discussed the tentative positioning of shelves, the need to weather strip the garage's back door and the methodology for



Michael Bernstein tasted it — and found it good.

clearing the stacks of cartons out of the central part of the structure.

The phone rang just as I stepped back inside. It was Michael and Gilda Cabral, from the Las Vegas Futurists. (For those who don't read every word of *VFW* as an article of faith, the Futurists are a club in a parallel, but entirely separate, fandom that has only recently met our subculture.)

Gilda had called earlier in the day, our first phone conversation, to say that she and her husband would make their Las Vegas Fandom debut at the party. Now Michael was on the phone, checking to see if there really was one.

"It's tonight, isn't it?" he asked. I assured him it was. Then he admitted that they were

calling from a cell phone in their car, which was parked right in front of the house!

Under my questioning, he agreed that there were lots of cars in front of the house, but he expressed doubt about the party because he couldn't see anything happening when he looked through the living room window. I didn't tell him that he was actually looking into our bedroom and it wasn't *that* kind of party, but instead encouraged him to take the risk and knock on the door.

They braved the unknown and soon found themselves in the midst of a raging fan party. They seemed to enjoy it and I know we enjoyed these newcomers, too.

My recent correspondence has been largely with Gilda, so Michael had a store of questions about Fandom, fanzines and such. I have him a two-minute overview of the genesis of Fandom and agreed that the Futurists are in the midst of a similar development path.

The party went until 9:00 before the first wave of fans departed and it was 10:30 or so by the time it got down to the Hardins, Teresa, Bruce, Billy and Earl. All too soon, the realization that Bruce needed to be at the airport at something like 7:30 Wednesday morning forced us to say reluctant good-byes to Billy and Bruce.

I still can hardly believe they went to all this trouble, came all this way, for Vegas Fandom. Makes me proud (but not lonely) to be a fan.

Earl Kemp – I keep stopping myself from putting "fabulous" in front of his name, which may mean I've been writing about pro wrestling too long – stayed over in our guest room and breakfasted with us Wednesday morning. We talked about fans past and present and I collected a little fanhistorical information about Chicago Fandom in the 1950's and 1960's.

Eventually, he, too, left for his home in Kingman, AZ, officially ending one of Las Vegas Fandom's most successful days since Corflu Blackjack. —Arnie

Corflu Sends Its Wishes

All the fans at Corflu Titanium got to together and sent this card, hand-delivered by Bruce Gillespie and scanned for posterity by Robert Lichtman. Here's what they did to show their affection for Joyce. Cartoon by Jay Kinney.



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regimen? Well, that's not going to happen, unless you count the turning of book pages as regular exercise.

We may all look like Michelin men, but at least we have trim page turning and typing fingers. Many of us have our own religious convictions, and we keep them close to our hearts, but I believe that some who spread them out to everyone are a little naïve, perhaps too naïve to recognize that such constant halleluiahs bore people and offend others. Science fiction association meetings are not revivals.

I have a copy of *The Enchanted Duplicator*, plus a copy of its sequel, and I also have several editions of *The Neo-Fan's Guide*. Has there been a copy produced in recent years, and is there the need for one? I wonder what it would look like today, given so many changes in fandom? Blogs, .pdfs, cosplay... someone from 50s fandom wouldn't recognize fandom today, and probably wouldn't be able to speak to them. Just as a quick note, I'm glad David Gordon is finally able to get in touch with everyone and become a part of things Vegasite.

10...We used to turn the crank on a mimeo to produce a fanzine. Now, when we



Billy Pettit took some time from the revelry to wrestle with Joyce's balky computer.

do it on a computer, we produce the fanzine to turn on a few old cranks.

Ten issues, and congrats. I hope Vegas fans appreciate your efforts. I receive triple digit fanzines from folks like John Hertz, and some clubzines have reached the triple digits, like those in Ottawa, Vancouver and Melbourne. And at least one apa I know of has reached the quadruple digits. And, that when you wonder...have we been doing this fanzine thing that long?

I would happily watch all three LoTR movies one after the other, as long as there were potty breaks and opportunities to get the blood back into tingling buttocks on a regular basis. We'd also follow the hobbit diet by snacking continuously on mushrooms and other nibbles...people think we're hobbits anyway, being 5'4" and 4'8" respectively.

Arnie: The more recent editions of The Neofan's Guide have suffered from not-completely-successful attempts to revise, update and rewrite Bob Tucker. There's also the problem that TNG first appeared when Fandom was relatively small and homogeneous. Its individual segments have now become such defined, separate entities that I don't think one Guide would adequately cover all the sub-Fandoms, anyway.

I did a guide to Fanzine Fan called The Trufan's Advisor a few years ago. By coincidence, I was just looking at it the other day and whipping up some enthusiasm in myself for a second edition.

It's (Finally) Time to Say 'Good-Bye'!

There's something almost poetic, and yet at the same time semi-psychotic, about 16 pages for the 16th issue. I fear nightmares about the size of the 100th issue will now invade my nights.

I said I would publish within 24 hours of the end of the party and, as you see, I have. I hope you all enjoy it — and don't be shy about writing those letters of comment.

See you all next week with a much smaller, but still meaty, issue — Arnie