

## Vegrants to Host Open Party To Say Bye-Bye Bernardi!

Las Vegrants flings its doors wide open and cranks up the party machine to bid fond farewell to semi-legendary Las Vegas fan Woody Bernardi. The group invites all Vegas fans to come to the Launch Pad (909 Eugene Cernan Street) on Saturday (8/6) for a big open party. The fun begins at 7:30.

You don't have to bring anything, but donations of food and drink are always welcome to supplement the buffet. Snacks, fruit, cake, cookies, wine and soft drinks are a few possibilities. If you need a suggestion, feel free to contact Joyce.

As always, the living room and dining room areas are designated as smoke-free zones. There are two indoor rooms and a large backyard area for those who wish to smoke various things.

Woody's plane leaves Boston at 8



Woody Bernardi will be honored at the Vegrants Open Party, even if he is now full of (Boston) beans.

this year's worldcon, have announced that they will lead a bid for the 2008 Westercon for Las Vegas! The popular fan couple, rich in con-giving experience, had floated the idea when they first

# VEGAS FANDOM WEEKLY

PM EDT. We're hoping that if the winds are favorable and the flight is uneventful, the time zone difference will allow Woody to make a Grand Entrance at the height of the party.

Let's show Woody how much he means to us (and has meant to Las Vegas Fandom)!

## Las Vegas Will Enter a Bid For the 2008 Westercon!

They said it couldn't be done. Yet as in so many things "they" — in which I include me — are about to be proven wrong. And "they" — if I may be permitted to speak for my overly pessimistic colleagues — are absolutely delighted!

Kathryn & James Daugherty, writing from the UK where they are enjoying

arrived in Glitter City, but the prospects for a convention over the Independence Day Weekend didn't look good. After some time

### This Weekend in Vegas Fandom

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

\* **Las Vegrants Futirsts**

Friday, 6:00 PM

\* **Las Vegrants Bye-Bye Bernardi Open Party**

Saturday, 8:00 PM

You'll find all the info you need in preview articles or the calendar.

# Inside Story Two Cons Are Better

No one was sadder than me to hear, at the July Sunday Social, that VSFA members had no plans to host a convention before “2007 or 2008.” It seemed a little odd that a club that claims, as its chief distinction from SNAFFU, it’s agenda to host a convention would have roughly the same timetable as SNAFFU does when it comes to putting on a convention: Real Soon Now. (That’s fanspeak for “Sometime Never.”) Maybe the two clubs will demonstrate different ways of *not* hosting a convention.

One extremely positive thing at last Monday’s VSFA meeting is the willingness of fans in VSFA to offer Merric & Luba Anderson help putting on Toner 2 the week before the 2006 Los Angeles world-con. This will be a great chance to introduce some terrific Las Vegas fans to their brothers and sisters from around the country — and give the locals a chance to enjoy a totally cool con weekend.

I know that Las Vegrants will be out in force, ~~causing~~ helping and I hope we will see a similar response from fans who are primarily members of SNAFFU. Vegas Fandom, “The Fandom of Good Cheer,” has always been known for its hospitality. When fans come to Toner 2, they’ll find out that the New Generation is every bit as warm and friendly as the gang that produced *Wild Heirs*.

And now the Daughertys will chair a bid for the 2008 Westercon for Las Vegas! I know they have what it takes to put on a fine convention and I hope they will also find a way to incorporate some elements that truly reflect the achievements and traditions of Las Vegas Fandom.

If they do that, as I think they will, then it will be up to us, to the fans of Vegas, to make sure that the vote goes the right way at next year’s San Diego Westercon. That means an outreach campaign for the next year — and a full complement of Vegas Fans in SF next July. — Arnie



wrestling with the difficulties, the Daughertys are ready to go forward.

of subnormal mentality — VFW remains (ahem) non-partisan and completely factual in all things — a Vegas Westercon bid looks highly ap-

The Las Vegas Westercon bid will be outside the normal rotation, which is permissible. The only other announced bid is for Phoenix. Without casting aspersions on that pathetically beige citadel

*Continued at bottom of next page.*



**Vegas Fandom Weekly #38, August 4, 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 Earl Kemp (photos), Joyce Katz (proofreading), Woody Bernardi (Star Reporter Emeritus).

**Reporters this issue:** Kathryn Daugherty, Rebecca Hardin, Gilda Cabral, Joshua Andrews and Joyce Katz

**Art/Photo Credits:** Alan White (1), Bill “Potshot” Kunkel (9), Bill Rotsler (all other cartoons)

**Columnists This Issue:** rich brown, Joshua Andrews

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 dinner table agitators were harmed during the production of this fanzine.

Member: fwa. Supporter: AFAL. Believer: United Fans of Vegas Toner II in 2006!. Vegas Westercon in ‘98!

# Dinner a la Russe Katzenjammer

I made several references in Vegas Fandom Weekly #37 to how quiet Las Vegas Fandom was on this "fifth weekend. In fact, as a note from Carol Kern reminded me, there were things for fans to do, even if there were no large open parties or formal club meetings.

Carol mentioned VSFA's Dinner and a Movie. I didn't go with that group to see "Sky High," but Joyce and I did have the extreme pleasure of attending a small dinner party at the cozy home of Merric & Luba Anderson.

*Lemme tell ya about it...*

Luba's mom is a wonderful cook and, spurred on by Luba and Merric's bountiful hospitality, produced a multi-course Russian-themed dinner that challenged even voracious fannish appetites with irresistible course after course. (I especially liked the blintzes, which Luba's mom makes every bit as well as my own 90-year-old mother from Poland.

It was a leisurely evening, but far from a dull one. The fannish contingent — James Taylor, Ayesha Ashley, Teresa Cochran, Joyce and I — helped the Anderson keep the chitterchatter flowing as freely as the wine. Ayesha brought a friend, Marshall. He must've thought we were a strange, wild crew, but he stayed with it and appeared to have a passably good time.

Talk ranged over many topics, though there was quite a bit of discussion of Las Vegas Fandom's shifting landscape. The consensus seemed to be to let events take their course while encouraging all Vegas fans to maintain the spirit of cooperation and community that has always characterized our Fandom.

Which doesn't mean that opinions were scarce. Each of the fans had things they would like to see, but no one seemed especially eager to impose those wishes on others.

The Andersons get high marks for their maiden voyage into fannish hosting in Las Vegas. I hope they'll do it again — and keep me on the guest list. — Arnie



peeling and certainly has a fine chance of winning with James and Kathryn at its head.

Here, in part, is what Kathryn had to say:

*"The voting for 2008 will be held in San Diego next year. There is a zone exclusion the means that any bid for 2008 should not be in the Southern Zone, but right now the only two bids are Las Vegas and Phoenix. We thought about just waiting for 2009, but if no other bid from the Central or Northern zone*

*files by January 1, 2006, then any bids are eligible regardless of zone. So Phoenix is still bidding and so are we. We will have a table and a party at Loscon. We even have a spiffy Las Vegas lighted sign."*

You can expect more coverage of the 2008 Westercon bid after Kathryn and then James return after their Worldcon trip.

*Cont. on page 6*

# A Tale of the Outlands

## rich brown's Fanhistory Corner

Sometimes, if the stars are in proper alignment and fans are willful and inventive enough, dreams come true. They have once, at least, and could again.

The world's oldest regularly meeting sf club, the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (LASFS), was in turmoil in the mid-1940s. The reasons aren't important here, since I want to talk about the peaceful alternative for fans who lived in the "outland" communities of Los Angeles, a bit too far away to attend LASFS regularly -- a club called the Outlander Society. It was a light-hearted informal group, in no way a real rival to LASFS, based on the notion of having a good time. The founder was a little man who came to be known as the Sage of South Gate (the municipality in the greater Los Angeles area where he lived) -- Rick Sneary.

Rick was known for his "inspired" misspellings. They appeared not just in fanzines and personal correspondence but in the missives he wrote for the lettercolumns of pulp sf magazines like THRILLING WONDER STORIES, STARTLING STORIES and PLANET. Rick was a dwarf who'd suffered such severe birth defects that he'd never been allowed to attend school: He was severely disfigured, his body twisted, one arm ending with a couple of small finger nubs only good for grasping. Rick typed his letters one-handed on a manual typewriter, and often claimed that if he'd waited to learn how to spell he probably never would have started writing, so he decided writing was more important than learning to spell. Rick was generally a gentle soul -- he had strong opinions but didn't take "sides" and even people at odds with each other tended

to be on their best behavior around him.

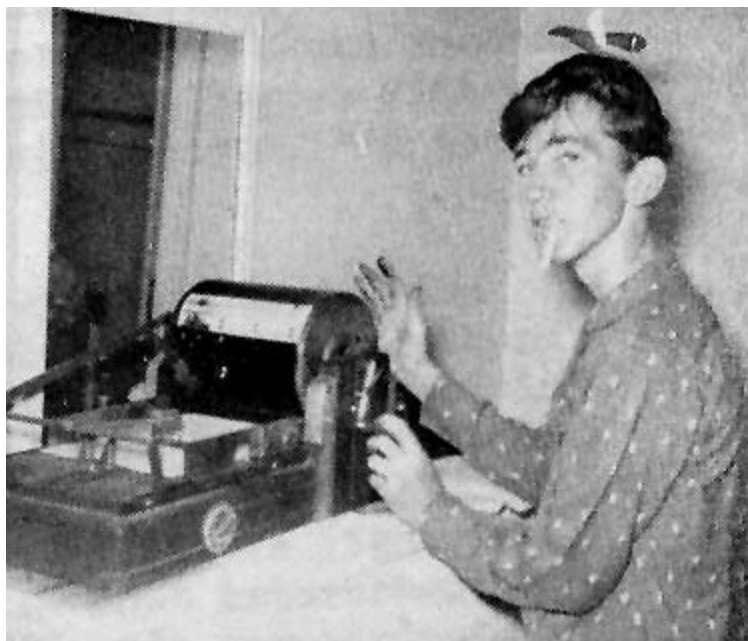
His club, the Outlanders, disbanded in 1948. Members moved away and it seemed pointless to continue to call irregular get-togethers of a few friends a club. But departing members suggested a reunion, perhaps after 10 years. Maybe as a convention in the club's home town. Someone eventually said it -- "South Gate in '58" -- and the euphony of the phrase was recognized, picked up by Rick and others for use in their letters and fanzines.

Fanzine publishers were always on the lookout for one-liners and fannish catchphrases they could use as fillers. And for the first half of the '50s, it was a popular practice for fans to send "quote cards" along with their correspondence -- 3x5 cards, most often, with a fannish phrase or a captioned newspaper illustration taped to them, which the recipients were supposed to sign and pass on to their correspondents, which would then be returned to the originator when completely filled. The phrase might be "Yngvi Is A Louse," or "Dave Kyle Says You Can't Sit Here," or "It Certainly Is A Wonderful Thing," or even "South Gate in '58."

Just as fans were beginning to think perhaps "South Gate in '58" should be a Worldcon, two impediments popped up -- one fannish, one not.

The fannish one was the "rotation plan." Site selection in those years involved the members of the year's Worldcon picking the site of the next -- and most years the bids were hashed out in the pages of fanzines before the Worldcon took place. Active fans went to the 1952 Chicago Worldcon fully ex-





Rich Brown fans it up at solacon! Photo from Earl Kemp's superb *eI*, available at efanazines.com.

pecting San Francisco to win the nod for 1953, but a Philadelphia bid appeared and won instead by appealing to walk-in voters who had no knowledge of the fanzine debates and who based their decision at least partly on proximity. The rotation plan was meant to keep proximity out of the voting -- but its institution sent the 1954 Worldcon to the west coast, the 1955 Worldcon to the midwest, the 1956 Worldcon to the east coast, which meant the 1957 Worldcon should go back to the west and 1958 -- the "South Gate" year -- to the Midwest.

Fortunately, the hardy breed of Trufen active in the United Kingdom at the time stepped forward to save the day by promoting "London in '57 and South Gate in '58." It resulted in the first Worldcon to be held outside the North American continent -- and allowed the dream to continue.

The mundane impediment was that, in 1958, there was not a hotel in South Gate large enough to accommodate 500+ people (yes, Worldcons really were that small then). Forry Ackerman, standing in a box of soil flown all the way to England from Rick Sneary's back yard, placed the successful bid for the Solacon at the Worldcon in London -- but the convention itself had to be held in the

Alexandria Hotel in Los Angeles. On the opening day, however, the Mayor of Los Angeles ceded the hotel, for the duration of the Labor Day weekend, to the Mayor of South Gate. The dream held sway.

It's a little known fact that the one detail which had been agreed upon among the Outlanders was that the reunion should be held at noon on the Saturday of the convention on the steps of the South Gate City Hall. Or that, on the Saturday of the Solacon, just a bit before noon, two figures, an old woman and a little man, stood on the low stone steps of the city hall to confront the Outlanders who could only make it there in spirit. The two were Rick Sneary and the 98-year-old Rory Faulkner. Rick was holding a small worn sign with a short phrase painted on it in black: "Outlander Society -- South Gate in '58." The dream had become reality.

Neither Rick nor Rory are with us any longer, but it might come true again. You see, another slogan got started immediately after the Solacon -- "South Gate Again in 2010!" I grant you I haven't seen it picked up with the fervor of the first, and I'm not aware of any bid being mounted for it. Arguing against the possibility is the fact that the 2006 Worldcon will be held in Los Angeles. But countering the argument somewhat is the fact that in 2007 it'll be in Japan, which means the rotation plan -- the first impediment which nearly prevented the 1958 dream, recall -- will bring the Worldcon back to the west coast in 2010 barring any additional out-of-rotation bids. It would go against precedent to have it in the same city in two consecutive eligible years, of course -- but then again, the first London Worldcon was unprecedented in its time, too.

I'm observing, not promoting or urging -- the fact that the dream came true once is sufficient, so the *possibility* that it could happen again is all that's really important. If it's still a dream and if the dream is made real a second time, that would only be -- pardon the terrible word play -- LAGniappe.— rich brown

Continued from page 3

### LV Futurists Hold Special 8/5 Meeting With Steve Potter as Special Guest!

A special meeting of the LV Futurists will be held Friday (8/5) to hear invited guest speaker Steve Potter of the Georgia Institute of Technology. The meeting will take place at Border's book store (2189 N. Rainbow Blvd.) and will start at 6 PM.

Gilda Cabral, president of the LV Futurists, had this to say about the event:

Steve will speak about his reasearch in the field of cognitive and neuroscience AND re-view two books The first being "Natural-Born Cyborgs: Minds, Technologies, and the Future

of Human Intelligence" written by Andy Clark and a second book

"Rebuilt: How becoming part computer made me more human" written by Michael

Chorost. More information about Steve Potter, the speaker, can be found at <http://>



CHECKING THE PROOFS

## Joshings It's Time to Party!

*Note: Joshua's announcement of a party came in just as I was about to wrap up this issue. Giving him his own column for the second issue in a row seems like the best way to handle it. Maybe this double dose will give him the courage to write more for "Joshings."*

In Science Fiction Fandom (hereon called FANDOM) there is a tradition of naming ones home. Woody Bernardi has chosen the name "Woodshed" for his abode. Now I (Joshua Andrews) am pretty much throwing Woody out. (Just kidding)

The Woodshed is changing hands so it must change names to reflect its new occupant. So in the Tradition of FANDOM, I will rename the house.

But What's not necessarily a tradition is the party that will go with it. So join me for a wonderful time and a tribute to Woody. And if all else fails, you will be present at the party to bring a new name to a home.

### The Specifics:

When: August 13th (a Day that will live in Infamy!)

Who: Anyone may attend; just let me know.

What: ReChristening of the Woodshed and Woody Bernardi "Back to Boston" Party.

Where: The WOODSHED\* (6400 Cosmo Lane - Las Vegas, NV 89130)

When: Saturday, August 13th 2005

Time: 4:00 PM - Potluck Dinner (Bring Some Food for your Fellow Fan)

8:00pm - After Dinner Party (Only food available will be Chips and Dips and probably some veggies)

10:00 PM - Renaming Ceremony of the "Woodshed" to..... (You have to be there to find out!!!)

Why: To Rechristen the Woodshed to the new name and honor Woody Bernardi.

How: Plane, Train, or Automobile.... Buses and Walking are also good ideas.

\* This is the LAST Fandom event that the WOODSHED will be called WOODSHED. So Join us for the ReNaming.

\*\* Times are subject to change.

Check Out the website at: [www.geocities.com/kehstat/woodshed](http://www.geocities.com/kehstat/woodshed).

— Joshua Andrews

[www.neuro.gatech.edu/groups/potter/potter.html](http://www.neuro.gatech.edu/groups/potter/potter.html). A *Wired Magazine* article on his research is found at <http://wired.com/wired/archive/8.02/potter.html>

Many fans have expressed curiosity about the Futurists, which they have not been able to satisfy due to the usual conflict between the Futurists' monthly discussion meeting and the Westside SNAFFU meeting. Here's a good opportunity to check out this forum for mature discussion of future-based books and topics.

### SNAPS Deadline Creeps Closer For the Fifth Distribution!

"Remind them that the deadline for the 5th SNAPS distribution is coming closer," said the group's OE (Official Editor) Joyce Katz as she snapped her flail in a friendly and humorous manner. (She makes me say that.) "The calendar seemed to trick some of the regulars last month and we wouldn't want that to happen to the August distribution, would we?"

"No, we wouldn't want that," I agreed. "Definitely not."

"That's good, that's good," she said as a smile played across her sensitive fannish face. Her flail kept snapping, however, as a reminder.

The deadline for the 5th Distribution of the Southern Nevada Amateur Press Association is Sunday, August 14, at noon.

The group, one of the most successful local activities introduced in some time, is now fully electronic so *no* printed copies of your fanzine are required. All you have to do to participate is send your contribution via email to Joyce ([joyceworley1@cox.net](mailto:joyceworley1@cox.net)) or bring it on PC disk to Joyce at the Westside SNAFFU meeting (on Friday, August 12).

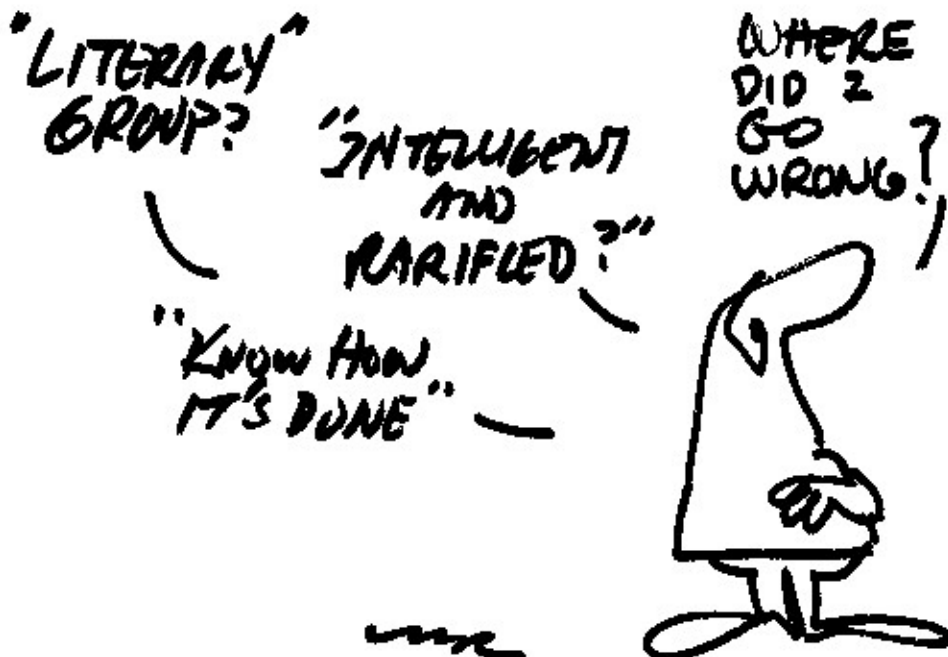
Putting your fanzine in Microsoft Publisher is best, but Microsoft Word is fine, too. Joyce can also handle .PDFs, which will help those using less popular formats.

Joyce and I are also more than willing to help anyone produce their SNAPSzine. If you can prepare something in .txt and inform us in advance that you'd like help, we can create a DTP file for you.

### Implications #1 Takes Its Place Among Las Vegas Fanzines!

*Implications #1*, a monthly electronic fanzine by Joyce Katz, JoHn Hardin and I, is now in full distribution. You can get the .PDF in a variety of ways: send me an email, go to [efanzines.com](http://efanzines.com) or visit the SNAFFU or VSFA web sites.

Although the fanzine is designed to showcase Las Vegas' New Generation fans, the first issue is dedicated to Ken & Aileen Forman, Vegas Fandom's first two "home-grown" BNFs (Big Name Fans). The 20-page issue, done mostly over the Independence Day Weekend, contains art and articles by some of Vegas' top fans as they unite to wish the Formans (and the absent Ken & Cathi Wilson) "Bon Voyage!" as they headed off for



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a world of amazing new experiences in Flip-pin, AR.

*Implications* hopes to provide a bridge between Las Vegas Fandom and the rest of the fan world. The second issue will feature pieces by several New Generation Vegas

fans. We hope you'll give *Implications* a try and that you'll write something — articles and letters of comment are both excellent ideas — or draw something for it.

### **'Re-name the Woodshed' Contest Will End with a Party on 7/13!**

Joshua Andrews will end the suspense over who will win the coveted free subscription to this fanzine for picking a new name for the abode formerly known as The Woodshed.

He'll announce the winner, while honoring former resident Woody Bernardi during his visit to Las Vegas to pack up his belongings for Boston.

There are full details on the party, scheduled for Saturday, August 13, in a box at the bottom of page six.

### **Vegas Music Reschedules Sing!**

The Las Vegas Music Circle has decided to reschedule its August gathering due to the unavailability of its two main musicians, Teresa Cochran and Ayesha Ashley. Little Tee will be out of town that weekend, while Ayesha really needs the weekends to imple-

# IMPLICATIONS

Las Vegas Fandom — Unleashed!

#1 July 2005





ment her move to the recently purchased condo.

The VMC now plans to meet on Sunday, August 28 at the Launch Pad (909 Eugene Cernan Street). The event, open to all Vegas fans, will run from 2 PM to approximately 4 PM.

### **VSFA Unveils Slate of Officers!**

The Vegas Science Fiction Association, at its Monday (8/1) business meeting, confirmed Rebecca Hardin as the group's new president. Rebecca, a long-time local fan who recently returned to activity after almost a decade of Gafia, had stepped up to the presidency on a pro-tem basis when Woody suddenly departed for Boston.

Mindy Hutchings is secretary and Terry Wilsey is Treasurer. Ruth Davidson and Joshua Andrews are "at large" members of the Board of Directors.

Sentiment at the meeting was to not hold new elections until "2006 or 2007."

### **Library Committee Cancels Session**

The SNAFFU Library Committee, originally slated to work on Saturday, August 6, will instead convene at 8 AM at the Launch Pad on Saturday, 8/20.

### **August Social Goes All-Social!**

VSFA has announced its intention to continue the monthly Sunday Socials through at least this month. An attendee at last Monday's meeting reports that the club plans to "phase out" the Socials, perhaps reducing to a quarterly schedule. The venue will also move away from The Tap House to a back room at a Vegas IHOP.

This month's meeting will differ from the previous ones in one major respect: there is no program planned. The group couldn't come up with one that satisfied its members, so it elected to follow Merric Anderson's suggestion that they try a Social that is purely... Social.

Since the unfettered conversation and debate has been the best feature

of the last two Socials, this looks like one experiment that is almost certain to produce a highly enjoyable afternoon with some of Las Vegas' most entertaining fans.

The August Social is scheduled for Sunday, August 21, from 2:00 PM to approximately 4:00 PM at The Tap House. You don't have to order food and drink, but the prices are modest and the fare is much better than fair.

### **Heard Around Vegas Fandom...**

Let us spare a sympathetic thought for Roxanne Gibbs and Michael Bernstein, whose air conditioning system has quit in the middle of a triple-digit heatwave...

Commiserations are also due to JoHn & Karla Hardin. No sooner had they moved into their new apartment than a chain of events outside their control resulted in the renter giving the Hardins a month to relocate. It seems

# Potshot's Cartoon Theater



## Las Vegas Fan Event Calendar

**LV Futurists** August 6 6:00 PM

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

**Las Vegrants Bye-Bye Bernardi Open Party** 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.

**Woodshed Re-naming Party** August 13 4:00 PM

Joshua Andrews invites everyone to bid farewell to Woody Bernardi and celebrate the re-naming of the resident formerly known as the Woodshed \*6400 Cosmo Lane).

**Las Vegrants Meeting** August 20 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** August 21 2 PM

VSFA sponsors this event, open to all Vegas fans, at The Tap House. Specifics about the August Social are pending the VSFA business meeting.

**SNAFFU** August 26 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 Hugo Winners and Also-Rans.

**Vegas Music Circle** August 28 2:00 PM

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

that the owner suddenly needs a place to live and intends to move into the place as soon as JoHn and family depart...

Joyce Katz had her eye appointment and is now awaiting an appointment with the specialist for a pre-surgical examination. Unfortunately, it will be two-three weeks before she will even be able to get on the calendar, according to the nurse who talked to her about it. Mindful that she can have her ankle fusion any time after September 1, Joyce is also in process of arranging a pre-surgical consulta-

tion with the foot doctor to get that going, too. Ideally, she'll get the eye done first and then the ankle, but the order is not something we can determine.

### **I've Run Out of News — and Space!**

I come to the close of this issue, just two short of my nine-month anniversary, buoyed by the knowledge that I got it out in reasonable time despite a fair bit of professional work that had to take precedence.

Next time: letters and much more — Arnie