

SPECIAL 20TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!

Son
Of:



Official Journal of The
OSFW
(Great Pagoda Insurance Company)
Otherwise Known as: **The Oklahoma Science Fiction Writers Newsletter**

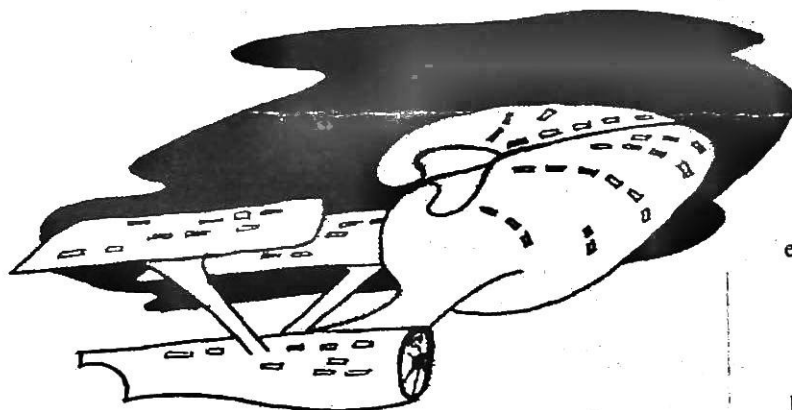


Brought To You By: K. D. Wentworth, Warren Brown, Uncle Guido and Simon McCaffery

Special "Where No Clam Has Gone Before"
Issue • September 1997

*** HELLO OSFW ***

The special OSFW "We're Older Than Star Wars" 20th Anniversary Gala (replacing the normal meeting) will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 27 in the Faculty Study at TU's McFarlin Library. All OSFW members, past and present, and their families/significant others, are welcome. All rejections, good and bad, are also welcome. This is a potluck affair (except, perhaps, if we acquire a HAM), so bring a covered dish, the beverage of your choice, etc. We also encourage you to bring any memorabilia, videos, etc., to share. We want to see those fat ties, plaid jackets, aircraft-flap shirt collars and programs from TREKCON '76.



~WHERE NO CLAM
HAS GONE BEFORE~

*** TOP TEN THINGS TO DO AT THE OSFW 20TH GALA ***

By Harlan Ellison

1. Bury one of each of your favorite "Little Debbie" snack cakes in a time capsule, so the folks in 2097 can sample the diets of moronic late twentieth-century science fiction writers.
2. This time, when someone runs into the room and says they've seen the Aurora Borealis, get off your Little-Debbie-augmented fanny and go outside.
3. Hunker down and watch "Adventures in the Lost Realm" and "Panjo: Giant Dog of Tokyo" for the 127th time and still laugh your head off. Not that I would.
4. When the president calls for your good rejections you sneak in a few bad ones anyway. Screw 'em.
5. When someone new asks you if you've ever won a Nebula, say yes (if you're me).
6. Get down on the floor like Johnny Weismuller and wrestle with Sammy Two-Socks. You're probably too flabby from sitting in front of "Babylon 5" to win.
7. Pass out your business cards, then inform everyone that you spell your name a different way.
8. Invent a new f***in Ritual Question.
9. Bring a large ham, and become the life of the party. Hey, it always worked for me in L.A.
10. Come dressed in only rubber cement and all the rejection slips you've collected over the years, placed in strategic locations, and cavort like the fabled bare-breasted Ogo Ogo dancers.

*** TIME FLIES, OR, THE ENDURING
LEGACY OF OSFW ***

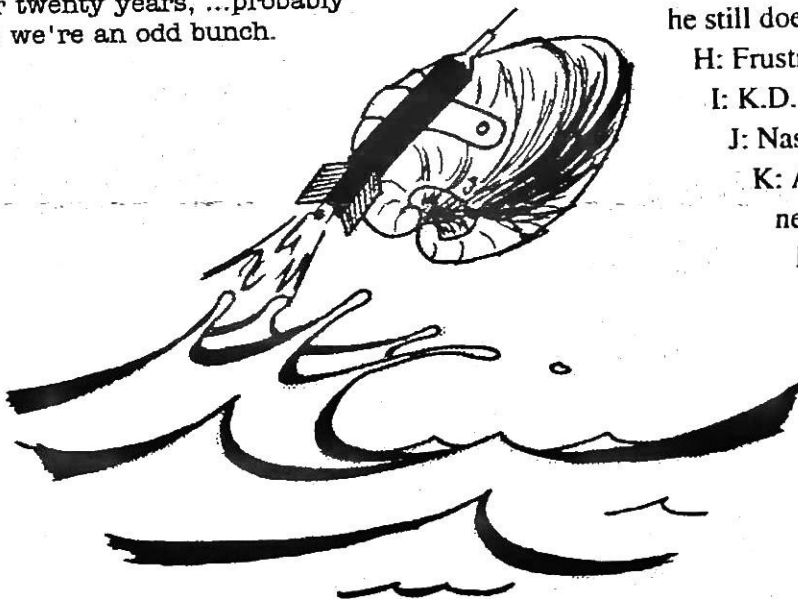
By S.M.

Stephen Kimmel or Warren Brown should be writing this, not me.

When they were busy getting the Tulsa chapter of OSFW going (the first official meeting was held Sept. 20, 1977 at the Sheridan branch library), I was 15, smitten by "Star Wars," and banging out my first atrocious short stories. I would have loved to attend this historic meeting, if I had been a Tulsa resident at the time. For that matter, I wish I'd moved to Tulsa a lot sooner; I credit my involvement in the group, and all the great friendships, with my occasional ability to write a halfway decent story, and maybe sell it, too.

What follows in this scrap book of an issue of the World's Most Obscure Publication are some interesting bits from over the years. You'll find a copy of the letter from C.J. Cherryh that started it all, Steve's call to arms, old mastheads and renditions of the now-famous clam, panels from the original GPIC penned by the late Mike McQuay, and many old friends. How long will the OSFW and GPIC continue? How long have the pyramids stood? How long does a preservative-laden Little Debbie last inside its vacuum-sealed cellophane wrapper?

Mike McQuay once predicted the demise of the OSFW and GPIC, but we've defied the odds for twenty years, ...probably because we're an odd bunch.



*** CAN YOU MATCH THEM? ***

The OSFW has attracted an eclectic bunch over the years. Scan the list below and see how many names you can match with the accompanying descriptions. Answers will appear in the 40th Anniversary issue.

1. Audifax O'Hanlon _____
2. Big Momma O'Hanlon _____
3. Leona Trotsky _____
4. Ben Bovine _____
5. Eddy _____
6. Lane Allworth _____
7. Rownan _____
8. Prof. Tess Tertiary _____
9. Karen _____
10. Zong _____
11. R.R. Bodine _____
12. Guido "The Torch" Mancenelli _____
13. Xenia Xenn _____

A: Big, bad movie critic

B: Semi-illustrious idea man dedicating his life to helping all of us write better sf

C: Mysterious, desirable girlfriend of Eddy

D: Sword wielding hero of a city called Pyrite

E: Bobb the pig's gal

F: Phenomenal girlfriend of Audifax

G: He always knew more than you did. and he still does

H: Frustrated writer and laundry toiler

I: K.D. Wentworth's doppelganger

J: Nasty ruler of Pyrite

K: A handy guy to know if you need something torched

L: Triple Agent Extraordinary, member of the Consortium of Amateur Brain Surgeons, and member of the Thursday Night Barbershop Quartet

M: Fantasy hero of a Celtic bent

Aug. 1, 1977

Dear Friend:

At OKon and elsewhere, we have managed to collect some 24 names of persons interested in or actively engaged in writing SF in Oklahoma.

I could mail a list of addresses, but I'm sure that there are some who treasure their privacy, so I ask you earnestly if you know of someone who is trying to write, is writing, or doing SF artwork, etc., that you kindly mail me that person's address or have them contact me; we are restricted to those within reach of or within this state (in case there is someone right on the border, ok.) I know that I may have missed some, and I would like to remedy those omissions.

What I propose is an Oklahoma SF writer's Association, in the interest of helping new writers and generally promoting the field about the state. I can't do this thing by myself: I would hope that the new writers themselves (who could profit most from such an organization) would be willing to carry the burden of it...actually the pros in the state have nothing at all to gain from the organization except some delightful company and the chance to get together occasionally...but for those of you that are pros, I would hope that you might find it possible to come in on the meetings when schedules permit. I'm probably crazy myself for trying to promote such a thing, but a couple of hours monthly in good conversation with folks who appreciate something beyond the mundane does tempt me: I hope it does you. So one-time-only, I'm sinking my own pocket funds into this mailing, and the one by which I'll respond to those who write me back that they're interested...although SASE would be appreciated. (Special thanks, incidentally to Jan Wolfe, who's helping with this mailing.)

So if this thing is going to work, I need volunteers, input, help, and bodies. DON'T send me money, not, at least, until there is an organization, after which time I hope there will also be a treasurer and responsible people to handle the whole business.

If you are a club president, survey your membership and see if you have any interested parties in your club. I'd like to hear from them.

And if you're interested, please mail back the questionnaire at the soonest possible, with SASE if at all possible. (That's Stamped and Self-addressed Envelope, for those of you who've not sent in a ms. yet.)

Wish you well, whatever.

Best regards,



C.J. (Carolyn) Cherryh

P.S. I'd handwrite, but have mercy; this has to go out twenty four times.

Published Writer of Science Fiction and Nonfiction

Stephen D. Rimmel

4756 South Irvington Place
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135

91777

659-1343

Dear Gentlebeings,

Greetings and felicitations!

C.J. Cherryh has given me your name and asked me if I would be willing to start the ball rolling on a Tulsa District of the Oklahoma S.F. Writers Association. Being the fool that I am, I said, "Sure."

We'll be having an organizational meeting to discuss our district and to begin planning a state meeting. There are fourteen of us, slightly less than half of the state group. If this organization is going to work, we'll need help from everyone. And if everyone pitches in, it won't be too much of a load on anyone.

Appropriate information.

What: District meeting of the Oklahoma SF Writers Association.

When: 6:30 pm, September 20, 1977

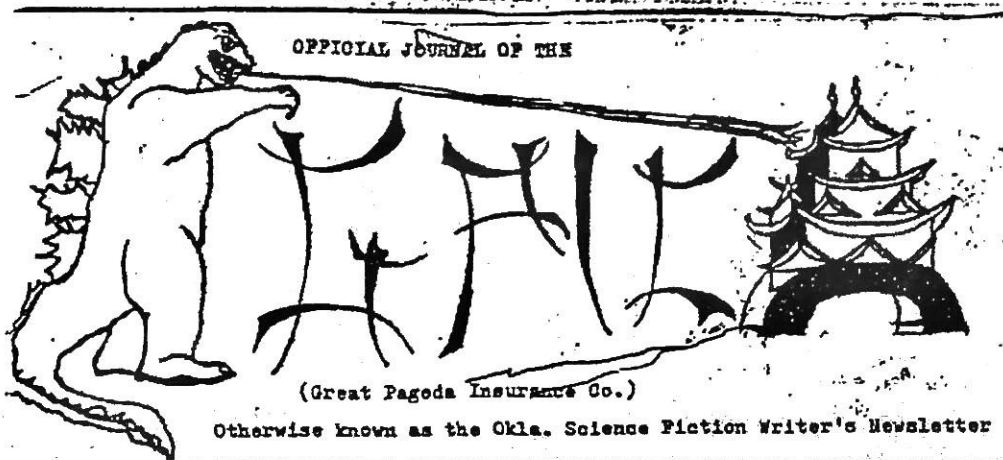
Where: Sheridan branch library, 62 N. Sheridan. Across the street from Moskowitz Furniture and next to the Barber.

Who: Yourself and such friends interested in SF art and writing.

Be prepared to discuss local and state organization, to do some preliminary planning towards a state meeting, and to enjoy some very unmundane company.

Pax,

Stephen



 COPY FROM 1911. Due to the bad
 January 1922

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
 the
**GREAT PAGODA
 INSURANCE
 CO.**



GPIC



(GREAT PAGODA INSURANCE COMPANY)

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF the GREAT PAGODA INSURANCE CO.



No. 2

Oct, 1977

Friends and neighbors,

Welcome to the first real issue of GPIC. Don't blame me for the name, it was a collective disaster; but if you must blame someone, though, Robin Crickman had the almighty gaul to actually say it aloud. So there you have it. Henceforth and forever, Robin's name will be inextricably linked with the Great Pagoda Insurance Company. Tough break. The rest of the meeting went approximately like the title search for the newsletter, but we're all padded cell cases anyway---so what do you expect? A good time was had by all, and if you weren't there, shame on you! We talked about fandom with Jan "the wambat" Fender, editor of fanzine Spang Blah, and all around strange person. When we got Jan to shut-up (just kidding...or am I?), we discussed story critiques, the Roger Zelazny visit, and what has affectionately become known as the Wintercon controversy. These things will be touched on in greater detail shortly.



GPIC

JUNE

1979

Friends and neighbors,

It's been nearly two years since Carolyn had the idea of starting the OSFW, which just goes to prove that even high rollers sometimes misfire. The really incredible thing to me is that the group has managed to hold together as long as it has. When I offered to do this for Loretta (who, even as I type, is propagating the species!) I had no idea in my mind exactly what form this newsletter would take, but as soon as she gave me the folder containing all the back issues, letters, bank statements, etc., the old hundred watt lit up over my head. I realized that now, the eve of the second anniversary of the OSFW, would be the perfect time for a GPIC retrospective issue. Those market reports that we all love so much, and those witty sayings by Asimov, et al, and all those little funky drawings that gave GPIC the white space that David Thayer hated so much — all that is going out the window this time. You people don't understand. You've unleashed a monster on these pages, and now you're stuck with the consequences.

EUTHANASIA

This is the only issue that I'm going to do. And at this point in time, I'm convinced that it will be that last GPIC — at least in a form that we understand it. It's unbelievable what time can do. Two years ago, when I heard that the group was forming, I thought that this was going to be the greatest thing in the free world. Just think, a writing group made up of s/f people, the great free thinking futurians of all time. Imagine my surprise when I walked into a charter meeting of the Carolyn Cherryh fan club. And on top of that, all the great free thinkers turned out to be narrow minded, narrow interested bigots. It's not Carolyn's fault either. She was as surprised as I was by the entire turn of events. That's why she had the good sense to stop coming to the meetings.

Anyway, I did the newsletter. In my innocence I figured that an in house paper for a writers group would be a great place for the exchange of ideas and (yes, Virginia even disagreements). I envisioned a letters column, and guest columnists, and tons of crazy mail coming in. What I got was nothing. I take that back. David Thayer used to send me letters condemning the GPIC as a fanzine disguising itself as a newsletter.

Where were you? Where?

Honest to God, folks, I'd spend a week out of my writing month putting together an eight page monster that spent most of its time trying to reach you knuckleheads. And what did it get me? More letters from David Thayer wondering what happened to all the money that I was receiving.

After eight issues I began to understand. Dianne Dark, who had been the only regular contributor to GPIC, kindly offered to take over as editor. I tried to tell her what a debilitating job it was mentally, but I don't think she believed me. Dianne was a trooper. She worked hard on the paper, and did a damn good job. And when she quit half a year later, she said it was because she had to go back to work full time. You didn't fool me Dianne. Not for a minute. In going through the letters, I found this one from DD to Loretta: "Hehe, he, he, he, ho, ho. Now you know how much work

NONSENSE!

Oklahoma Science Fiction Writers
Poetry Anthology



Edited by
Carol T. L.
Phillips

w/ works by

Mary Mystic O'Trassy
R. A. Lafferty
B. A. Sheen

& MANY MORE!

PRICELESS!
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stars ain't nothin' but

SPACE GRITS



SPACE GRITS is looking for a few good stories. We are a new market for science fiction, fantasy and short poetry by Southern writers. We are interested in showcasing new talent, and welcome the work of previously unpublished writers and artists. Contributors should not take our Southernism too strictly. We do not want to fill every page with rewrites of "Space War Blues," or variations on what if the South had won The War. Tentatively set for first issue are a post-holocaust love story, a galactic quest, an ESPer story, and a time travel tale. The uniting factor of these stories is the fact that all the writers live and work in the South.

More No-No's: No racism, sexism, pornography. No puns, Bat Durstons, cliches. No STAR WARS, STAR TREK, DARKOVER, other media or fannish fiction. No political or religious soapbox editorials disguised as fiction. We will use poetry, both serious and humorous, but no limericks.

So, what do we want to see? Good writing, no matter what the style or subject. Being Southern does not guarantee you a place in our pages. We want to live up to our hype and publish "the best damn zine to appear in the 80's," and will be merciless to ourselves and our contributors to meet that promise. Writers willing to work with us on editorial comments, suggested rewrites, etc. will be proud of themselves for taking that extra effort that goes into making SPACE GRITS as good as it can possibly be.

(over)

LIMBO

The Magazine of Splendid Sordid Strangeness™

Issue Zero Summer 1992



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and Ate Them Like
a Bama Pie"*

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***** GREAT VERSE FROM
THE "UPBEAT, INSPIRATIONAL
POEMS" ARCHIVES *****

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL

The moon is shining full and bright,
I fell like I will die tonight.

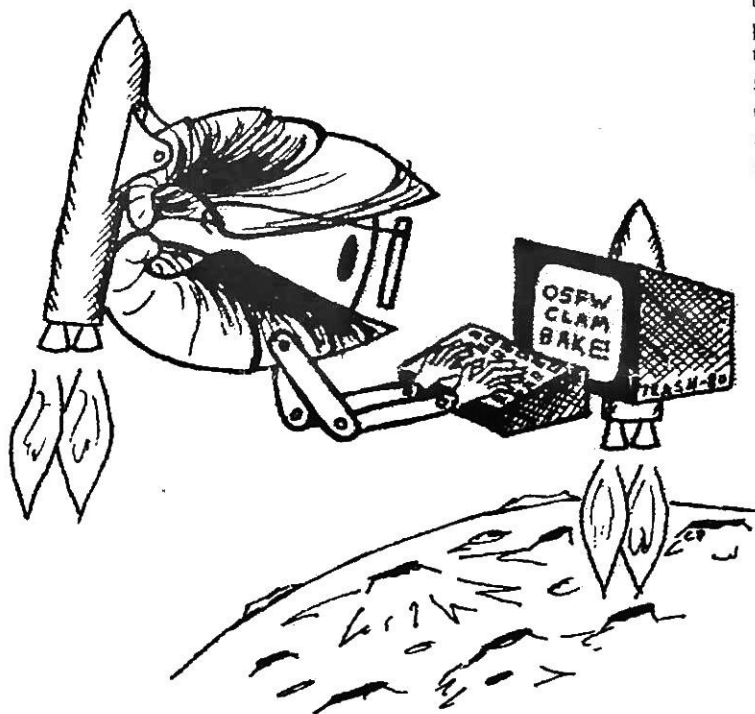
The Moth is buzzing overhead:
"What fun you'll have when you are
dead!"

The dawn is blooming rosy red,
It may be that I'm already dead.

The sky is blue, the sun is tall;
It may be that I'm not dead at all.

"Ahoy!" I cry, and then "Hey, Hey,
It may be I will live all day."

— Audifax O'Hanlon,
Most Obscure Poet in America



***** MANY THANKS TO *****

Warren and Lana Brown

Mike McQuay

Stephen Kimmel

KDW

Uncle Guido

Angela

All OSFW Members, past and present

***** SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION *****

A subscription to *Son of GPIC*, the official newsletter of the Oklahoma Science Fiction Writers, may be obtained by mailing a check or money order in the amount of \$13.00 (\$18 per household), prorated by quarter, to:

K.D. Wentworth, Treasurer

6915 New Haven

Tulsa, OK

(Checks should be made out to K.D. Wentworth)

Please note: An "X" on your mailing label indicates OSFW has no record of either 1997 dues or GPIC subscription renewal. This GPIC will be your last.

***** OSFW INFORMATION *****

The OSFW meets at members' homes the second Friday of every month to read, critique, and promote in general SF, Fantasy, and Horror writing. All willing to contribute and (after a couple of trial meetings) pay their dues are welcome. **There is no age limit but parents should understand that material with adult themes and language is read and discussed.** Membership dues are \$13.00 per year, adjusted by nearest quarter, which includes a subscription to GPIC. Checks should be made out to K.D. Wentworth, and may be sent to K.D. at the address above.

***** GPIC NEWS AND ARTICLES *****

GPIC solicits news and articles from OSFW members. We prefer they be on disk or sent via e-mail. Pseudonyms are OK. We accept files on either a 3-inch Mac or PC disk (720k or 1.4 meg — no 2.8 meg). We like RTF files but we can convert most Word and Word Perfect files; always include a separate ASCII file just in case. Otherwise, arrange to send them by e-mail to Simon at internet:smccaffe@vyvx.com. You retain copyright on material. If this is of special concern you might let us know who you really are along with your pseudonym. We reserve the right to edit (although we try not to).

***** NEXT GPIC DEADLINE *****

Pesky deadline for October issue: Sept. 26

We look forward to seeing you all