

# MYTHPRINT

The Monthly Bulletin of The Mythopoeic Society

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Oct. 1982

Whole No. 29

## HELP!

A thousand times, HELP! Starting next month (everything going with us) we will be changing formats. The new *Mythprint* will be on 8 1/2 by 14 inch paper folded in half to make a pamphlet. We will have more pages of *Mythprint* for the same low price.

But we will be creating something we have never had before, a front cover (shudder). I shudder primarily because a front cover requires front cover art and I have never received much in the way of art from you people. And as some of you may have seen, I do not draw that well. Thus, I am on bended knee, praying that someone out there will be kind and send me art work. For the front cover, we will need art no more than seven inches high by six inches wide. We also need art for the inside pages, too.

People who get published will have their subscriptions extended by one issue (if I forget, please remind me).

THANK YOU!!! *Lisa Deutsch Harrigan*  
Lisa Deutsch Harrigan, Managing Editor.

## NEWS NOTES

MYTHELLANY is out again, with more wonderful fantasy fiction and puzzles by and for members of the Mythopoeic Society. This issue is \$2.50 and requests should be mailed to ORDERS, [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

### FROM GUINEA PIG PRESS:

The Rampant Guinea Pig -- a magazine of fantasy and subcreation is looking for submissions.

The Rampant Guinea Piglet -- book review newsletter published six times a year is available for two first class stamps an issue. Submissions also desired.

A Middle Earth Cookbook -- still in the works. Submissions still wanted. Send SASE for more information.

Address: Mary Ann Hodge, [REDACTED]

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## Editor's Mailbox

by David Bratman

There are a lot of small fantasy groups floating out there in the wide world, and one of the more interesting is the National Tolkien League, based in upstate New York not far from Poughkeepsie. It's been around for a while -- the recent issue of their Journal *The Frodo Fortnightly* I have at hand is #139, the ninth anniversary issue. Editor Jeffrey Miles puts together a somewhat neater package than earlier issues I've seen. The major feature of the 7-page issue is an article by Valerie Protopapas on Morgoth's genetic engineering. The magazine follows the somewhat disconcerting practice of printing editorial critiques of its own artwork and articles.

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## Membership Directory

The Mythopoeic Society is planning a Directory for the use of its members. We hope to put you in touch with each other, help new discussion and activity groups form, help you get word of Mythopoeic events and opportunities in your area.

But you have to let us.

It won't happen unless a significant number of *Mythprint* and *Mythlore* subscribers agree to release their names for inclusion (in fact, only those who have consented can be included). So please, clip, xerox, or hand copy the form below, sign it, and send it post haste (ie, eftsoons) to Lee Speth, [REDACTED].

(You needn't bother, if you signed a form displayed at MythCon XIII.)

The Mythopoeic Society may publish my name and address in its official Membership Directory.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Deadline for Activity Calendar is the first of the month preceeding the month of publication, i.e. November issue information will be due the 1st of October. December information will be due the 1st of November. Thank You.

## Discussion Group Meetings

### NEW GROUPS

Oakland-Berkeley, California: STORISENDE  
Daniel Oakes, [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

### CALIFORNIA: North

Sacramento: AVALON

John McPike, [REDACTED]

South Bay: KHAZAD-DUM

Pat Witham, [REDACTED]

\*Oct. 3, 1982 (Sunday) 1 PM  
The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis,  
at Frankie Jemison's, [REDACTED]

\*Nov. 7, 1982 (Sunday) 1 PM  
Anything on Lord Peter Wimsey by  
Dorothy Sayers (we decided that we  
wanted a whimsical topic) at Pat  
Witham's house.

\*December, 1982  
Our traditional Reading, Eating,  
Meading, and Meeting Meeting at Edith  
Crowe's and Amy Wisniewski's, [REDACTED]

### CALIFORNIA: South

Hollywood-Wilshire: MYDGARD

Dolores Espinosa, [REDACTED]

Orange County: NARGOTHROND

Kathryn Benedict, [REDACTED]

LOCATION: University of Calif. at  
Irvin Campus.

Nargathron is also recognized as a  
Tolkien Fellowship.

San Diego: CAIR PARAVEL

Pam May, [REDACTED]

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Washington: KNOSSOS

Mary Morman, [REDACTED]

### HAWAII

Honolulu: SAMMATH NAUR

Stephen L. Brown, [REDACTED]

\*Oct. 3, 1982 (Sunday)  
Lud in the Mist by Hope Mirrlees

\*Nov. 7, 1982 (Sunday)  
The Earthsea Trilogy by Ursula K.  
LeGuinn

\*Dec. 5, 1982 (Sunday)  
The Princess Bride by William Goldman  
Plus: Monthly readings from The  
Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by  
Douglas Adams.

All meetings start at 2 PM and are  
located at: Ken Burtness, [REDACTED]

### ILLINOIS

Chicago: MINAS AERON  
Renee (Arwen) Alper, [REDACTED]

(Also the home of the American Hobbit  
Association)

### MICHIGAN

Ann Arbor: GALADHREMMIN ENNORATH

Please contact their secretary:

Dave & Grace Lovelace, [REDACTED]

### MINNESOTA

Minneapolis-St. Paul: RIVENDELL

David Lenander, [REDACTED]

### NEVADA

Reno: CRICKHOLLOW

Joanne Burnett, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] or  
Tina Fields-Murphy & Stephen Gaddis,  
[REDACTED]

### OHIO

Dayton-Kettering: THE PRANCING PONY

Eileen Ribbler, [REDACTED]

ALL MEETINGS are on the third Sunday  
of each month at 7 PM. Contact  
Secretary for location.

### WASHINGTON

Seattle-Tacoma: EREBOR

James Wallace and Ginger Johnson.  
[REDACTED]

\*October 30, 1982 (Saturday) 7 PM  
Fantasies with Greek and Roman  
Settings at David Bratman's, [REDACTED]

\*November 20, 1982 (Saturday) 7 PM  
Clan of the Cave Bear by Jean Auel at  
Bridget Tierney's, [REDACTED]

\*December, 1982  
Reading and Eating Meeting at the  
Secretaries'.

SECRETARY FOR DISCUSSION GROUPS (Please  
write to her about forming groups, or if  
you have any questions):

Margaret Carter  
[REDACTED]

## WorldCon Report

Once again, Dear Reader, your Managing Editor is going to tell you of a convention she has attended. And apologize for the lateness of Mythprint because of her nature to enjoy play rather than work. This time I was lucky enough to attend one of the greatest annual Science Fiction Conventions, WorldCon (also called Chicon IV this year).

For those of you who have never been to a WorldCon, it is truly huge (almost 5,000 attended) and attracts people from all sections of Science Fiction and Fantasy. You can be as serious (one track of programming was a college credit study program) or as frivolous (Attack of the Killer Tomatoes was shown Saturday night) as you wish. Many authors attend and there are signature parties and small discussion groups so that you can meet them. And the film people come to tell of their new movies. Which (since I spent most of my time listening to them) is what I want to tell you about.

There are enough fantasy movies coming out in the next year to keep us all quite broke and without a moment of free time. And that's the good news. The bad news is that none of it comes out until Christmas season, and then films will be frequently coming out at near identical times.

The first two films (both coming out in mid December) not only deal with people not of this Earth, they do not even use human actors. One called Twice Upon a Time uses a new animation technique called "Lumage", which uses cut out pieces of paper (Don't sneeze) and multi-planing to create a beautiful three dimensional effect. It is highly intellectual, yet a great deal of fun, with many puns in the characters names and lines. We were able to see a small section of the film at the con and it works very well. It should be placed on everyone's must see list.

The other movie is the long awaited Dark Crystal. Forget everything you knew about Muppets, for these characters have little to do with Kermit or Miss Piggy. Jim Henson came to the con with short film on the the making of Dark Crystal and also with a short segment of the film. Once you actually see the characters in context, moving about, you no longer need to suspend any belief that they are alive. It is truly spectacular. My only complaint is that one character that Frank Oz does sounds suspiciously like Master Yoda with the words in the right direction.

Speaking of Master Yoda, he is coming back, too. Revenge of the Jedi (the last movie in the current Star Wars trilogy) is being released May 25, 1982. We were shown pictures of some of the costumes and sets. And a short movie on the making of their non-human creatures was also shown. Except for the fact that Han Solo is defrosted, no vital plot information about the movie was given out. They also had a nice exhibit room filled with pictures, a speeder bike (much like a motorcycle without wheels), and Han in Carbonite. Both the bike and Han were the ones used in the movie.

There were also displays for other Science Fiction and Fantasy films coming out soon. I won't list them, because I know little about them. But all in all it promises to keep us very busy for the next year. -- Lisa Deutsch Harrigan

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### THE EDITOR'S MAILBOX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

One becomes a member of the N.T.L. by passing an exam in Tolkien lore. Non-members can subscribe to Frodor Fortnightly: 35 cents for a sample issue, and \$8 for a year's subscription, from Louis Epstein, [redacted]

Two interesting and artistic books have come my way. Tiger Webs is ten poems about cats by G.N. Gabbard, with appropriate illustrations by L. Dickison. The poems are mostly a Westerner's impression of the Orient in the imagery, fairly free verse in form. A few have intricate rhyming schemes. The illustrator has done comic strips, and it shows in his style, but, unlike much comic-influenced art, the technique is impeccable. These are wonderfully lifelike cats. The book costs \$3, including postage, from [redacted].

The other new book is The Westerfalk Collection, Volume 2, a massive collection of some 57 'falksongs' -- folksongs of fantasy and science fiction. Some are parodies of other songs, but most are original, and almost all include music: melodic lines and guitar chords. I am no objective judge, having helped edit an earlier volume of Westerfalk, but I'll say it anyway: this is a good book. The songs are of high quality and varied in their styles, and the production work, including illustrations by six different artists, is beautiful and appropriate.

The second of the three sections is the fantasy songs: this is the part of interest to us. There are quite a few highlights among its 22 songs. There's "The Ballad of Ranger Arvid" from Poul Anderson's "The Queen of Air and Darkness", set to a haunting melody by Penelope A. Tredray, and Jordin Kare's "Set Sail for Amber", based on the Roger Zelazny stories. Two particular favorites of mine are "Burden of the Crown" by Derek Foster and "Rosie-dawn Day" by Robert A. Cook. Then there's "The Lord of the Dance", an alternate incarnation of the "Chorea Magna" we often sing at MythCons -- the subjects are similar, though the viewpoints are different, and they both go to the same tune. Tunes, actually; "Lord of the Dance" here is accompanied by a much more attractive melody than the usual "Simple Gifts". I'd suggest singing "Chorea Magna" to this tune sometime.

The Westerfalk Collection, Volume 2 is available from the publishers Off-Centaur Publications, [redacted] for \$9, including postage.

## Discussion Report

SILVERLOCK by Myers  
Discussed by KNOSSOS (District of Columbia)  
Reported by Lee Burwasser

The July meeting was held a UniCon 82, and served as a recruiting party. We set up as a normal convention room party, and put up notices on bulletin boards, in elevators, and at the Con Suites. (For those of you new to Fandom, this is an excellent way to meet more people like yourself at a convention. - LDH)

Of the regular members, only Lee and Wendel were able to make the meeting. Total attendance over time was seven, with some able to stay for only part of the meeting. Of the six present at the start, four had read Silverlock.

The meeting began with a pitch for the Mythopoeic Society, a discussion of Knossos chapter, and passing around examples of Mythprint and Mythlore. Newcomers got an address and phone number to contact if they decide to join, and learned that the next meeting would discuss Deryni Rising.

Before getting into the discussion, Lee reminded the meeting that Languages of the Night, the collection of LeGuin's essays, is now available in mass-market paperback. She suggested that critical works, as well as fantasies themselves, are legitimate discussion topics. This will be taken up when more of the regular membership is present.

Some of those present had read other works by Myers. The Moon's Fire-eating (or was it Fire-Haired?) Daughter is billed as a sequel to Silverlock; it's not and it's bad. It has neither the characters nor setting in common, only a formula ver perfunctorily used. The Harp and the Blade, on the other hand, is recommended by those who have read it. It takes place approximately fifty years after the reign of Charlemagne.

Opinions on Silverlock varied. The meeting agreed that as a puzzle it can be entertaining, but differed as to whether that was enough. After some initial floundering, the meeting played 'Guess who?' with the text until we found something that seemed worth some deeper discussion.

All agreed that the book does have some resemblance to a D&D overland expedition: one encounter after another, each restricted to its own territory and not affecting the player character after he passes through. Some felt this to be accidental, not of any significance to the story, while others regarded it as a major fault. While the book is divided into three separate adventures (chance, choice, and the oracle), no one could point to any encounter and say, that had to be in this adventure and no other.

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## mythcon XIII Report

MEMORIES OF CELTIC CON  
By Dolores Espinosa

The music at MythCon, to me, is one of the best things. I went to the Bardic Circle all three nights; and each time I stayed til I couldn't keep my eyes open any longer because the toothpicks kept breaking. Diana Paxson was there with her harp and some of her own words and music. Newcomer Dinah Le Hoven was there with her Irish harp, and in full Irish tartan costume. My favorite of her songs was an old Irish May Day song "We have brought summer in with us." And everyone liked "The Flour of Northumberland."

Once, at the beginning, the Bardic Circle was small; so we did some things you cannot do in a big Circle, which is more formal and has many people waiting their turns. Diana and Dinah talked harps for awhile, exchanged notes, and answered questions. On Sunday, Diana gave a lecture/demonstration on Celtic harps; but in the Bardic circles she played and sang.

The uniquely delightful performer David Bratman enchanted everyone with "I'm a Ronald Reagan, Carl Sagan, San Diegan Pagan"; "The Murderous Little Toy (remember Peter, Paul, and Mary?); and a reprise of last year's filk hit, his own "The Medfly Song". Then he led the gang in the LOTR Troll and Bone song. Julian Gillman played his guitar and sang LOTR poems to his own music. His rendition of "All that is gold does not glitter" was truly exciting. Tina Fields-Murphy of Reno sang "Hey doll! Merry doll! Ring a dong dillo!" in a charming and lively manner with a good voice as well. She also chanted a short strange song something about sex with peanut butter. (Does Tina wish to come forward and deny or substantiate these charges?)

The whole group gratified me by honoring my request for "Men of Harlech" and "Woad". I never get enough of that wonderful stuff. Besides, it wouldn't be a CelticCon without it. Judy Bell Williams, a long time Mythie, former Steward, and professional style soprano, flitted in and lit just long enough to treat us to "The Ladies of the Court of King Haractacus", a presto con molo tongue-twister, and "Little Georgie's Lost his Panky", a double entendre shaggy dog story in dialect. Where else but at MythCon? -- I ask you! Paul Edwin Zimmer did a thrilling dramatic recitation of his own poetry version of the legend of Rama and Sita.

After the feast, there was exhibition Scottish dancing, which is like square dancing (or square dancing is like it, since square is actually based on Scottish folk dancing. -- LDH); and a

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DISCUSSION REPORT: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Except for the introductory and closing episodes, which would have to have changed if they were located anywhere else, we agreed that any of them could have appeared at any point along the way.

Most of the verses were mediocre and forgettable. The drinking song and the rowing chant, however, have inspired some people to write tunes to them; both were heard at filk (yes, that's an 'i' not an 'o') sessions. Lee regards "Death of Bowie Gizzardsband" as an excellent way to introduce modern school kids to "Beowulf" and alliterative verse in general. (She was restrained from reading the entire poem to the meeting.)

Unresolved debate over the place or status of characterization in an Everyman story: how blank can a mask be? Is there some lower limit, below which the intended Everyman is so uninteresting that the reader doesn't bother to identify? Paul maintained that Silverlock was the better Everyman for being totally without culture, while Lee insisted that no reader could be expected to maintain interest in such a total ignoramus. One suggestion was that Silverlock is an introductory work for the unsophisticated, putting their culture into a puzzle to give them a motive to explore it; this would make it horrendously tedious for those who already knew about Moby Dick, the Mad Tea Party, Job, Robin Hood, and the rest. Two suggestions were not accepted: first, that everyone but the suggestor was ignorant of all but modern "novels of characterization" and were thus unfit to judge; second, that a female could not identify with a male protagonist.

Somewhere between eleven o'clock and midnight, the meeting de facto adjourned, as people drifted off to other parties. Occasional run-ins afterward developed the beginnings of another question: Rosalette was clearly meant for Silverlock's anima -- has anyone ever written up an animo for a female character? Nobody could come up with one, and occasionally rapping (amid the usual wee-hours affairs of a con) got nowhere on the question of what the animo might be like.

Mythprint is the monthly bulletin of the Mythopoeic Society, a nonprofit educational organization devoted to the study, discussion, and enjoyment of myth and fantasy literature, especially the works of J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis and Charles Williams.

The address for subscriptions and back issues of Mythprint is c/o Lee Speth,

Subscription, including membership in the Society is \$6 for 12 issues (one year) in the USA and Canada, \$8.50 elsewhere. Please add \$2.40 for first class delivery, if desired. Checks should be payable to The Mythopoeic Society, and may be paid in US or the equivalent UK or Canadian funds. Submissions of news, reviews, discussion group reports, letters, and art work are always wanted and should be sent to [redacted]

MYTHCON: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

soloist in a black, white, and pink costume for the Highland Fling. And Dinah Le Hoven gave a short concert.

The goodly number who stayed for the closing Ceremonies sang "Chorea Magna"; "The Baby and the Bird", led by its writer-composer Diana Paxson; and finished with "What Shall We Do With a Drunken Hobbit?... Make him watch three dealers' tables... Lock him out of all the bathrooms... Take his soap away and hide it... Lock him in a room with Boo Hoo the Myth Con's over -- earligh in the morning!" Lee Speth says this song is perfect for sending people back to dullsville in a cheery mood, as well as allowing them to vent out annoyances and disappointments in a fun and harmless way.

After this there was yet a handful who couldn't bear to tear ourselves away and hung around talking to each other for at least another hour. Next morning I woke thinking I was still at MythCon; then I remembered I wasn't and \*sigh\*.

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ADDITIONAL IMPRESSIONS

By David Bratman

This was the MythCon where the program really began to come into its own. There were a lot of good papers, as there always have been, but there were more readings than we've had before, and more panels. Bigger panels, too. I moderated one that had six other people on it. Was I dismayed? Not I! But I did feel more like a traffic manager than a panel moderator.

This was also the MythCon where the family began to come into its own, too. Our energetic chair, Lisa Cowan, managed to bring various old-time Mythopoeics out of the woodwork. Now we know what they have been doing off in the woodwork: raising children! Numerous and well-behaved children, too. Just think what it must be like to be brought up thinking MythCons are a normal experience...

ti

--STAFF--

EDITOR: David Bratman  
MANAGING EDITOR: Lisa Deutsch Harrigan  
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Tezra Reitan  
PROOFREADER: Karen Colleen Savitzky  
STAFF WRITER: Lisa Cowan  
COMPUTER WIZARD: Harold Harrigan  
TEXT EDITOR: Wordstar 2.21  
MASCOT: "The Widget"

The numbers used at the bottom of the pages are Feanorian Script and were originally drawn by Christopher Tolkien based on J.R.R. Tolkien's notes.



# NEWS NOTES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

BEYOND BREE -- Newsletter of the Mensa Tolkien Special Interest Group. Dedicated to the exchange of information and ideas among Tolkien Lovers everywhere. Subscription is \$4.00. Write: Nancy Martsch, [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

FLYERS FOUND AT WORLD CON!

CLAS MYRDDIN is a new APazine being formed to explore the mythological and legendary backgrounds of Fantasy Literature with emphasis on Celtic Tales. Write to Donya Hazzard White, [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

DRAGONLORE #2 is out. This is a fanzine for Dragon friends. Also includes information of Elfquest. \$7.00. Write: [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

CANTINA WORKSHOP is a fanzine dedicated to costume construction. Write to them for their latest flyer (I don't have enough space here to list all the goodies!). Cantina Workshop, [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

If you love Celtic Interlace, John Benson has just published a 1983 calendar with nothing but interlace. Price is \$5 per calendar, plus \$1 per order. Write: John Benson, [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

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OCTOCON IV, October 9-10, 1982. At El Rancho Tropicana Hotel, Santa Rosa, CA. \$15 by mail/\$17 at the door. Write to: Spellbinders Inc., [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

MYTHCON TEN will have one of its never ending parties there. Look for signs.

WORLD FANTASY CONVENTION VIII, Oct. 29-31, 1982. At Park Plaza Hotel, New Haven, Ct. \$25. Write: [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

WESTERN RECON, Nov 12-14, 1982. Guests: Fritz Leiber, Richard & Wendy Pini, Paul Edwin Zimmer, Diana Paxson. \$12.50. Plus \$16 if you want the Banquet. Write: Intermountain Science Fiction Regional Convention, [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

FANTASY WORLDS FESTIVAL, March 18-20, 1983. At Oakland Airport Hyatt Hotel, Ca. Guest of Honor: Octavia Butler. Also: Marion Zimmer Bradley, Katherine Kurtz, Ray Nelson, Paul Edwin Zimmer, Sidney VanScyoc, & Diana L. Paxson. Info: Lisa Waters, [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

LUNACON '83, March 18-20, 1983. GOH: Anne McCaffrey. \$14 until 2/28/83. Write: [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

SATYRICON II (DEEPSOUTHCON 21) June 3-5, 1983. Guests: Stephen King, Chelsea Quinn Yarbro. \$15 until May 1. Write: [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

CONSTELLATION (WORLDCON 41). Sep 1-5, 1983. Guests: John Brunner, Dave Kyle, Jack L. Chalker. \$30 until Dec. 31, \$40 until Jul. 15, 1983. write: [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

ESOTERICON, Jan 13-15, 1984. A bit of Avalon in New Jersey (heavily into magic). Guests: Jacqueline Lichtenberg, Marion Zimmer Bradley, Katherine Kurtz. \$15 until Dec. 1, \$20 until Jul 1, 1983, \$25 until Nov. 15, 1983, \$30 at the door. Write: c/o Roberta Mendelson, [REDACTED], [REDACTED].

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY OTHER CONS THAT WOULD INTEREST OUR MEMBERS, PLEASE TELL MYTHPRINT!

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