



The Newsletter Of Arisia, Incorporated

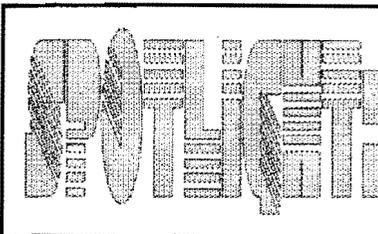
VOLUME 5, ISSUE 54

MAY 1995

MENTOR OF ARISIA

ARISIA '96 CONVENTION REPORT

CLOCK TICKING ON CONCHAIR SELECTION FOR ARISIA '97



BUT THAT'S NOT HOW WE DO IT AT...

It amazing how the more things change, the more they remain the same.

At today's meeting, there were some comments on the new style of *MENTOR*. Cris Shuldiner, stated that he had not realized he had received his copy until he went looking for it in a seperate pile of mail--I've got one of those piles, too, (Continued on page 3)

Nicholas Sheckman reporting:

April, 1995

As of 4/20/95, there are 337 memberships, including some of the comps from '95. We are ahead of where we were last year, but memberships are coming in more slowly now. Please distribute more flyers!

Budgeting is proceeding apace. If you have any questions or needs concerning money please get in touch with Dave Corriveau. Dave is currently meeting with division heads. The preliminary budget that appeared in mentor will be heavily revised; some line items will be dropped and new ones created. Dave wants to have the budget ready to vote on by the May meeting, but it may have to wait until the June meeting. It will appear in the Mentor before the meeting at which it is voted on.

Craig McDonough, from Readercon, is our new programming division head. He is busily whipping programming into shape.

(Continued on page 4)

May is the month that selection procedings begin for Conchair Selection. Do you have what it takes to pull together the numerous individuals that it takes to produce a sucessful convention?

Submit you name, and credentials to the Executive Board of ARISIA, Incorporated at the next meeting. The procedure after that is quite simple. The candidate's name, and resume will be published in the next issue of *MENTOR*, and each candidate will be interviewed by the Executive Board at the June Corporate Meeting.

Only the Executive Board is allowed to ask questions of the candidates. Members may submit questions to the E-Board for consideration. The selection of Conchair is an import action. Members are reminded that they may only nominate themselves, and not draft others without their consent.

Some thought should be considered before nominating

(Continued on page 2)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Submissions for: UPCOMING EVENTS, CONVENTION CORNER, and MENTOR, should be submitted the THURSDAY BEFORE the PRESS DATE listed for the MENTOR Issue it is to be published in.

Members are reminded that all reports, motions, and announcements should be submitted, in writing to ensure proper reporting

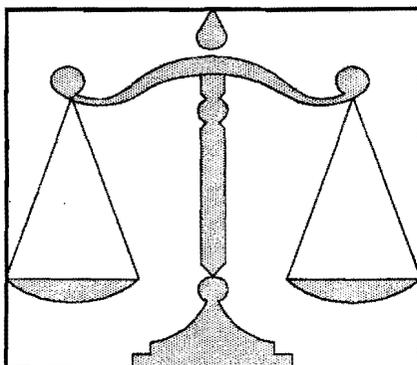
SELECTION (From page 1)

yourself to the job. Candidates are chosen based on their experience (both in the organization and outside it), their answers given in their interview, and by whatever other factors each individual E-Board Member may chose to base their desicion on.

The appointment of the Convention Chairman is ratified by the vote of the Corporate Membership. It is possible to be considered capeable of the job by the E-Board, but not capeable by the membership. If a candidate is not ratified by the vote of the Corporate Membership the procedure begins anew. It is not a popularity vote where the next popular member gets the job. The procedure starts fresh.

The membership should remember that this is the second announced time that we have tried resume submission/publication and interviews. This is not a perfect procedure. Input from the membership in the form of questions, letters of recommendation, or other input is a good way for the membership to be a part of the procedure. Ask an E-Board member if they want additional input. The clerk has no problems asking difficult questions.

But remember, you might be questioned on *your* comments. Character assassination will not be tolerated.



- 05/10/95 Executive Board Meeting at 7:30 PM at the home of Patricia Vandenberg and Allan Kent in Arlington
- 05/11/95 MENTOR 54 PRESS DATE
- 05/14/95 Mother's Day
- 05/17/95 Executive Board Meeting at the home of the Clerk in Waltham
- 05/20/95 Eliza Doolittle Day
- 05/23/95 ARISIA Corporate Meeting
Time: 7:30 PM.
Place: UMass Boston, Wheatley Hall, 4th Floor
- 05/26/95 DISCLAVE '95
- 06/06/95 MENTOR 55 PRESS DATE
- 06/08/95 ARISIA '96 ConCom Meeting at the home of Patricia Vandenberg and Allan Kent in Arlington.
- 06/10/95 Budget Committee Meeting at 2PM at MIT, Bldg 66 Rm 168
- 06/18/95 ARISIA Corporate Meeting
Time: 3:30 PM
Place: MIT, Bldg 66, Room 168

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President:
Joel Herda
17 Creighton St
Cambridge,
MA 02140
(617) 864-0171

Vice-President:
Jim Stevenson
55 Idlewell St.
Weymouth,
MA 02188
(617) 335-4406

Treasurer:
Dale Farmer
46 Greenhill Rd
Sudbury,
MA 01776

CLERK:
Ed Dooley
37 Morton St
Waltham,
MA 02154
(617) 894-4853

NOT THE WAY (Continued from page 1)

amazing what gets into it. When asked if there were corrections to the minutes, George Flynn answered, "What minutes?" Both were chuckling when they made their comments. I will interpret this as a positive welcome to the new format. Actually a better reception than I expected.

Oh, that is not to say there are not any covert silent grapes. I am aware of one individual who has taken the liberty of criticizing the new format, but as the said individual has not attended any meeting so far this year, or had the courtesy of saying anything to my face, I am willing to ignore their ignorance as hear say. I feel an Executive Board member should attempt to set a good example to the membership. How am I doing guys?

On the subject of example, that is precisely what the new format is. In ARISIA's Articles Of Organization, we are mandated to be new and innovative. What this means is that we should always be looking for new and cost effective methods of doing our jobs, but at the same time we should be teaching those same jobs. If we do not, we are encouraging burnout. Burnout is not a new thing to our organization. Trying to do something about it might be.

MENTOR is now produced on actual publishing software, not just a word processor. The new software utilizes more fonts and sizes, which are

acceptable on the corporation's printer, than the program I used previously, and brings a higher level of professionalism to the corporate newsletter.

And the cost was \$30.

Oh, the program isn't perfect. For one thing, it has no spell checker, but will import text files which I can write in other programs using their utilities. After all, we all know what a GOOD speller I am.

One of the nice things about being CLERK, and producing the corporate newsletter on MY computer is that, like the clerks before me, I get to choose what the final product looks like. An important thing—so important, in fact that it is one of the duties set in the bylaws. Tempered with the fact that the newsletter is the information conduit which exists to serve the membership and inform. Not just what goes on at meetings, but in events and happenings which may be of interest to everyone. This is OUR newsletter, and it is open to everyone's submission.

At the last meeting, I announced to the membership that all reports, motions, and announcements, should be submitted in writing. This isn't just a good idea, but it's also corporate policy. Members should plan to bring a notepad to each meeting for this reason. If you forget, I probably will have paper.

Corrections to the minutes will also be easier if the membership is taking notes. I am the first to admit that I don't always catch the finer points of some members speeches as they sit in the rear of the room, with their chins down against their chests.

Don't be afraid to project your voice when making a statement. Lord knows nothing stops most of you if you disagree. Meetings might also run faster if you are prepared for them. Somethings can be anticipated.

But remember, we are suppose to be a educational organization, so I know you can do it. As one advertiser advises, "PUT IT IN WRITING!"

PROXIES

Skip Morris exercised the proxy of Sheila Oranch and Bill Powers for the April Corporate Meeting. The were no other proxies.

Bits and Pieces

The membership voted to set the time for adjournment at 4:00 pm, this time was later amended to 4:30 pm. The membership voted to limit debate on an issue to ten minutes. An extention might be granted if it seemed reasonable and productive. A fifteen minute break was called for at 3:15 pm. The meeting was called back to order at 3:30. A motion to adjourn was made at 4:50, when it was called to the president's attention that no motion to had adjourn had been made at the conclusion of

ConChair '95:

Sheila Oranch
45 Christopher
Road
Holliston,
MA 01749
(508) 429-4301

ConChair '96:

Nicholas
Sheckman
PO Box 2457
Cambridge,
MA 02238
(617) 491-9683

E-MAIL:

phi@frank.
harvard.edu

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

LONG RANGE PLANNING:

Patrick
McCormack

ORDER OF THE LENS

Ted Atwood

ROLL CALL

04/23/95

ARISIA Corporate Meeting

Ted Atwood
Jeremy Brown (N)
David Corriveau
Ed Dooley
Dale Farmer
George Flynn
Joel Herda
Allan Kent
Ben Levy
Patrick McCormack
Skip Morris
Tim Roberge
Diane Rosenburg(RS)
Nicholas Sheckman
Cris Shuldiner
Patricia Vandenberg

Members are reminded that failure to sign in may effect quorum calculation, and it is the member's responsibility to sign in!

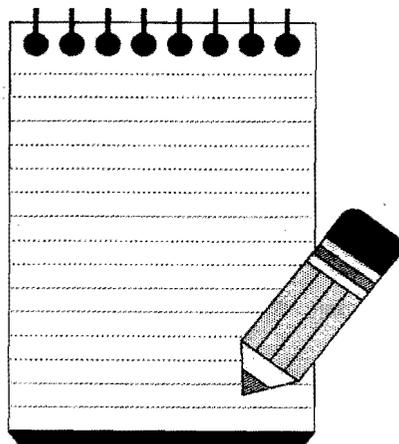
ARISIA '96 (From page 1)

Further discussion was held on the need for the voice mail information line. The Chairman for ARISIA '96 needed to know if the corporation intended to keep the line so that the vm number could be printed in various flyers, ads and publications.

The cost for the line was placed at \$15 to \$20. Not the most economical service, but it was felt that it was not too much more. The service was also cost free in the 617/508 area codes on incoming calls.. Further research might be called for and information on the present service was asked to be presented at next month's meeting.

It was questioned who presently had the number. It was pointed out that the voice mail service was tacked on to Sheila Oranch's cell phone while Ms. Oranch was chairman for the 1995 convention. Patricia Vandenberg pointed out that certain problems existed when someone's home number is used as an info line. Numbers get established in people's heads.

Voted: to extend the voicemail info line for another year until the end of the convention.



LONG RANGE PLANNING

Patrick McCormack reporting:

The Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee reported that the committee had no new motions. As an addendum to his previous report Pat reported that he had gone to Balticon and had spoken with the committee on how to handle babysitting. A formal written report was promised for a later time, but some of the things he found were:

o **Balticon deals with a much easier set of state laws.**

Balticon also did things that ARISIA should never consider doing. Some of these things were:

o **Balticon will take a child as young as a new born just sent home from the hospital.**

o **Balticon will allow children to sleep over in the babysitting room.**

Balticon did have a good administrative structure that ARISIA should consider studying and possibly adopting. The head of the program acts solely as an administrator, and does no sitting. The administrator volunteers for several years. Balticon also pays the people who sit, approximately \$10 an hour. The administrator is responsible for tracking how well a sitter does. A sitter who does well is invited back. Many of the sitters Balticon uses are either college students or nursing students.

It was the opinion of the LRP Chairman that on the subject of Babysitting either we don't offer the service, or that we make sure that we are in conformance.

Some members asked if it was possible to see if the hotel we use offers any type of service or if we could cut a deal with the hotel for a reduced rate.

Past hotel liaisons for the conventions noted that the Boston Park Plaza does not have a babysitting service, it does, however, have telephone numbers of various services.

It was pointed out by Ted Atwood, that a member of Philcon had told him they were losing guests with
(Continued on page 5)

Fanstock 2

The Fun Continues

June 17, 1995, Cochituate State Park, Fatick

Barbecue!

(bring your own meat)

Music!

(provided by M.A.S.F.J.L.C.)

Grass!

(plenty to sit on, shade too)

Acid!

(soda and lemonade)

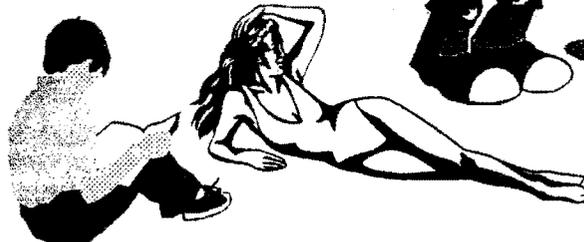
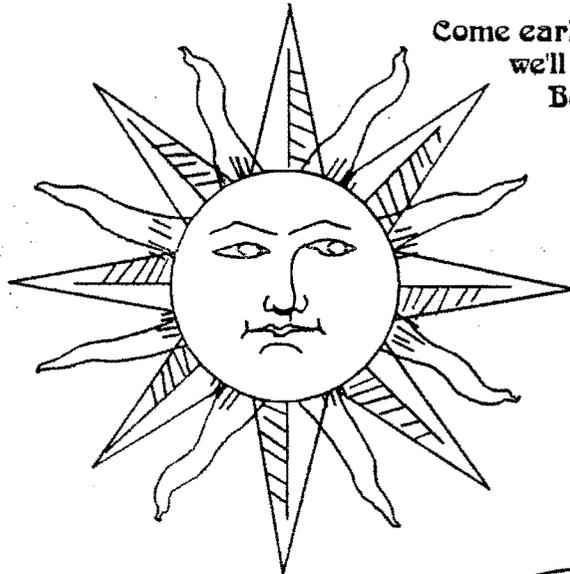
Celebrate Boston's
Fannish community
and join us for a day
of food and festivities.

No Alcohol per state regulations!

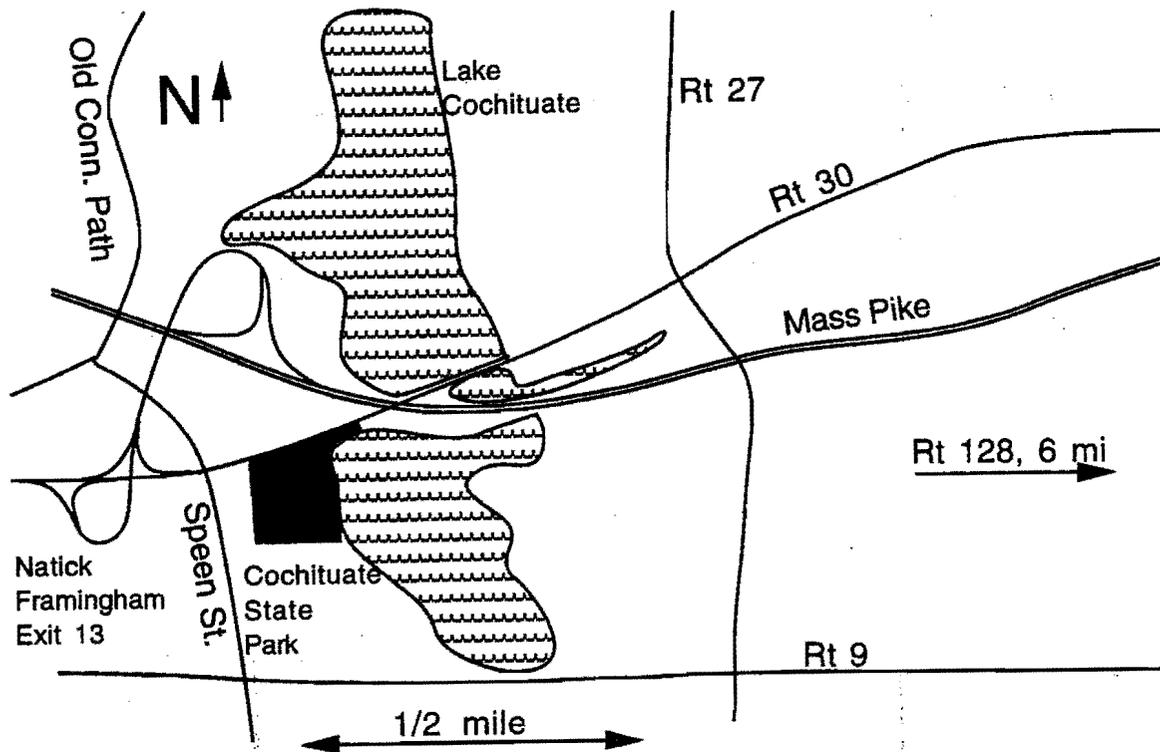
Map on reverse side

Come early! Parking fills up quickly but
we'll be there by 10a.m. until dark.

Beach with swimming available.



rain or shine



By Car:

Take the **Mass. Pike** (Rte. I-90) to **Exit 13**, "Framingham/Natick." Bear **left** after the toll booths and get on to **Route 30 East**. Go east for about 1/2 mile, crossing Speen St. (light). Look for a sign for the parking lot on the **right**. Parking is \$2.00. If you pass over the Pike, you missed it! The parking lot is chained off when it fills up—often by 11a.m. on nice days—so **come early** and carpool if possible. **Don't** park on the street because you will get a ticket.

By Public Transportation:

There is a **Logan Express** bus from the airport to the malls. Find **Rte. 30** (the less major road, in "back" of the malls) and walk about one mile **east** (go right). The **commuter rail** also runs to Framingham center. When you get off the train, take a cab to the park.

State Park Regulations:

Absolutely NO ALCOHOL is allowed. Pets on leashes are welcome.

More Info:

We will provide all normal condiments, some snacks and side dishes, paper goods, charcoal, sodas and juices. Extra grills and barbeque utensils will be appreciated. Feel free to bring friends, food, and fannish foolishness. We'd like to get as many fan groups as possible represented (there were five last year) to bring the Boston fannish community together. M.A.S.S.F.I.L.C. has courteously agreed to provide extra entertainment. Both shade and beach areas are available, but our picnic area will be **shaded**. Come prepared for a day of outdoor fun—no RVSP is needed. See you there!

Fanstock is sponsored by the Roreascon*2001 Committee (MCFJ).

LRP (From page 4)

young children because of no babysitting. There were also problems with staffing for the same reason.

Long Range Planning was asked to look into whether a non-profit organization might have a different standard to follow. Also, the question of liability over hiring a service. Who is liable? Patrick asked the any member interested in the subject to come to next month's meeting early and discuss it with Long Range Planning.

ORDER OF THE LENS

Ted Atwood reporting:

Mr. Atwood submitted his resignation as head of the award committee sighting that he was now on 24 hour notice to travel as part of his job. As such he did not feel he could head the committee under those terms.

The president discharged the committee from their responsibility and made it the business of the corporation. Joel asked that any names submitted to the committee be presented to him. Ted agreed. The clerk was asked to reprint the criteria for the award in **MENTOR** so that the membership might take up the matter and vote on a candidate.



FOLLOW UP TO A CONCHAIR'S PEROGATIVE

The membership resumed discussion on when a decision to barr someone from attending a convention should be made. In March, a motion was made to limit the time peroid which a Convention Chairman might refuse a registration. A motion to amend motion made by the Long Range Planning Committee to substitute "close of the convention" for "6 PM Sunday". The motion to amend was accepted. A second motion to amend was made to append the phrase "extend to head of security and/or head of operations. An immediate motion to amend the amendment was to substitute "may be delegated to" for "extend". The amended amendment was accepted by the corporation.

The membership questioned whether the authority should be given to a vice-chairman if the position of vice-chairman existed. Patrick McCormack, Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee, cautioned the membership on spreading the authority to barr someone from attending too thin. It was pointed

VOTED: That ARISIA, Inc. set up as a standing policy that the ConChair of a Convention may only refuse registration to a guest, or withdraw the registration from an already registered guest from a con, for actions which take place at the site of the Con during the period from noon, Wednesday, before the convention officially opens until the close of the convention; the end of the convention; and that only the ConChair will have this perogative which may be delagated to the Head of Security and/or the Head of Operations. All other cases must be handled by the Corporation, itself, in accordance with its current standing policy on such matters.

FOLLOW UP TO ON-LINE REGISTRATION AT ARISIA

The membership discussed the four requirements that the Long Range Planning Committee presented at the March meeting for on-line registration.

Patrick McCormack, Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee, stated that the system used at the last ARISIA did satisfy the four requirements, however there were numerous flaws and problems with it. Cris Shuldiner, past president of ARISIA, Incorporated and one of its founders, stated that we have never seen it work well at a convention. Mr. Shuldiner also pointed out that just because we can do something, does not necessarily mean we should.

Tim Roberge, of Corporate Inventory, stated that if it works, great. If it doesn't we're doomed. Twelve weeks out from con is a good time to test. Last year the people working on the system had six months to present a system to the corporation and they (Continued on page 6)

out that in the past the authority has rested with the head of security and the head of operations and that the authority has been delegated from time to time, con to con, by the

ONLINE (From page 5)

were still coding right up to the convention. David Corriveau, Convention Treasurer for ARISIA '96, stated that the main benefit of having a computer at-con would mean that someone would not have to go back and do the work, however, Mr. Corriveau also stated that the proposal from LRP as it stands sounds plausible. The Convention Treasurer said he saw no benefit from an on-line system at con.

Nicholas "phi" Sheckman, Chairman of ARISIA '96, stated his problem with the proposal was the number of computer slated to be in the back. Phi felt that the number should be struck, and left blank. Pat McCormack clarified that back room meant back of the actual room registration operated in. Discussion with some people who worked registration led him to believe that the equipment, was at times, in the way.

Patricia Vandenberg reported that there had been numerous complaints when registration was only done on paper. Computer alone was a bad idea. Paper backup is always a requirement.

Ms. Vandenberg felt that she did not have six months to develop the system she needed.

Cris Shuldiner clarified that the meaning of section A in the motion was that there be no mixture in the process (half on paper, half data entry). The president of ARISIA, Incorporated, Joel Herda, pointed out that the motion did not exclude paper entry.

A vote to extend debate by ten minutes was taken.

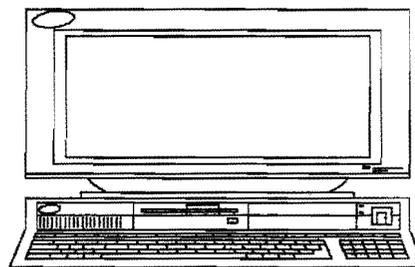
Skip Morris stated that in general the motion was bad. It conditionally endorsed, but endorsed with conditions a computerized system; but it did not give a reasonable set of requirements. Mr. Herda pointed out that it did not specify, because then we would have to rent or buy a system. Mr. Morris countered that a better approach would be to look at what we have done. What worked, what went wrong, and how do we fix it.

The president stated that people appeared to be having problems with the motion, and therefore it was recalled to the Executive Board, and would be addressed at the next E-Board meeting, and then referred back to LRP. The chairman of LRP stated that the committee did as much as possible in the time allotted, one month. It was voted to commit the item to the Executive Board.

ON-LINE HISTORY

As a quick history on the present state of the system that had been attempted to be developed, as reported in issue 36, November '93, the target date for completion of system development was set for the Annual Meeting in September 1994. The data base group met in October to complete specifications of the Registration system for the '94 Convention.

In March of '94 the group met once again to tie down various items for other components of the database and were bogged down once again with registration, as reported in issue 41, April 1994, the completion date for Registration was May 15, 1994, as reported in issue 42, May 1994. This deadline was missed due to unauthorized requests from Registration. A one month extension was granted, as noted in issue 44, July 1994. In late July the database was distributed without permission to various members, and a copy was denied to the clerk, head of the project, on grounds of "data integrity", and as such all copies were ordered recalled, as reported in issue 46, September 1994. In September, when a compiled version of the system could not be presented to the corporation, it was reported that commercial software was being looked into to house the database. Approximately one year was wasted on the development of a database system beginning in August of 1993 to September of 1994.



RE: Donations

A brief discussion was held on the Executive Board recommendation concerning acceptance of a donation. As one member pointed out, you can not always agree on what something is worth. Other organizations send a loose thank you note describing the item and leave off the value.

A motion was made to substitute the E-Board's motion with the following which was **VOTED:** *That whenever any question of value, an acknowledgment letter will be sent describing the item leaving off the value.*

New Business:

A formal request was received by Ted Atwood, from D. Cameron Calkins of the art show for (Cont'd pg 7)

NEW BUSINESS (From page 6)

MERRY MEET which was to be held in August of 1995. The request was to borrow a small section of pegboard and staging from ARISIA for their art show. At the present time the exact dimensions needed were not known, however it would either be

1_1 or 1_1_1
1_1 1_1_1

The request also included the particulars for lighting fixtures for whatever configuration they eventually settled on. The request was made with the understanding that **MERRY MEET** would be solely responsible for transport of the panels, and replacement of any damaged materials while the panels are in their possession.

The president amended the proposal to include that **MERRY MEET** would agree to the "care and feeding" of the materials lent. Ted agreed. The item was approved by the membership.

The president raised the point that he had received the bill for our mailbox at 1 Kendall Square and felt we were being overcharged for the service. The president requested that the membership approve his spending of up to \$400 to secure our present box for one year, and to open a new P.O. Box at the North Cambridge Post Office. The reason being that the move to an actual U. S. Post Box would be cheaper, and the hours were better.

The membership approved this request.

The president announced that he had received a letter from Ed Council requesting that ARISIA donate \$500 to the Folk Song Society for the past use of the Society's sound equipment.

Several members were uncomfortable about the request of a donation after the use of the equipment had been granted at no charge. The president stated that the apparent purpose of the request was intended to close a relationship as the Society's equipment was historically not for loan and the ARISIA was the only organization that had received the equipment outside the Society. It appeared that the equipment would not be available for future ARISIA's. It was Mr. Council's request that ARISIA donate \$500, the Society was asking only for \$200.

It was voted to approve \$300 from the General Fund for the donation.

From the Desk OF "EL SUPREMO"

"I am pleased to announce that we have been catching up on monies owed. Please get your paperwork in and get paid soon! If any has other business for my office as president to take care of, please don't hesitate to call me. The hotel contract is due. Revisions will be discussed after the meeting."

Joel Herda

The clerk asked the president concerning an item which was brought to his attention by a member who had gone to Balticon concerning the reimbursement to Jael. Joel acknowledged that the check had not cleared the bank, and appeared to have been lost in the mail. A stop payment was being done, and the check was going to be reissued. An item from ARISIA '94 cropped up. It

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

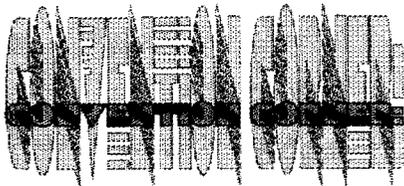
04/09/95

The Executive Board met at the MIT Student Center. Present were Joel Herda, Dale Farmer, Ed Dooley, Nicholas Sheckman. Also present were Joanne Handwerker and Tim Roberge.

The Executive Board had no real business to discuss and spent most of the time eating ice cream, and talking about computers. The clerk requested a copy of the General Ledger account numbers so he could begin using PEACHTREE, the account/business software the corporation now owns. Dale stated he would get back to him on that. The clerk also submitted his budget for fiscal year 1995-1996 for review by the budget committee. The board discussed briefly that the Chairman for ARISIA '96 should present artwork for this year's T-shirt to the Board and to the membership as soon as possible. Phi stated that he intended to talk with his Artist Guest of Honour at Balticon and should have something soon.



appeared that the reimbursement check for David Kyle had never been cut. Joel asked the current treasurer to contact Mr. Kyle and settle the matter. The bills had been turned into Jim Belfiore after a dispute over the original check which had been returned. No follow up was ever done.



05/26/95 CONQUEST26:
 GOH: Octavia Butler
 AGOH: David Lee Anderson
 Kansas
 City, MO

05/26/95
 DISCLAVE
 '95:

GOH:
 Charles
 Sheffield

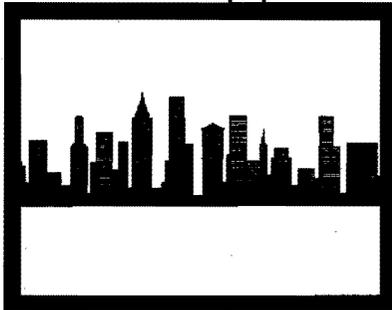
AGOH:
 Bob Eggleton
 Washington, DC

06/02/95 Project: A-KON 6:
 Dallas, TX

06/23/95 ARCHON 19:
 GOH: Jack Williamson
 AGOH: Doug Chaffee
 Collinsville, IL

06/30/95 WESTERCON 48:
 GOH: Vernor Vinge
 AGOH: John R. Foster
 Portland, OR

07/13/95 DRAGONCON:
 Atlanta, GA



07/28/95 CONFLUENCE:

GOH: John Barnes
 GOH: Kara Dalkey
 Mars, PA

07/28/95 MYTHCON 26:

GOH: Tim Powers
 GOH: Michael Collings
 Berkley, CA

08/04/95

TORONTO TREK 9:

GOH:
 Timothy Zahn
 ACTOR GUESTS:

R e n e
 Auberjonois -
 ST:DS9

Majel Barret -
 Roddenberry

Mira Furlan - BABYLON 5
 Grace Lee Whitney
 Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada

08/20/95 NECRONOMICON 2:
 GOH: Ramsey Campbell
 Danvers, MA

08/24/95 INTERSECTION: 53
 World Science Fiction
 Convention
 Glasgow, Scotland

10/06/95 ARMADILLOCON 17:
 GOH: Alexander Jablov
 AGOH: Vincent DiVate
 AUSTIN, TX

10/20/95 NOT JUST

ANOTHER CON 11:

GOH: Judith Tarr
 AGOH: Courtney Skinner
 Amherst, MA 12/01/95
 SMOFCON '95:
 Austin, TX

01/12/96 ARISIA '96:

GOH: Emma Bull &
 Will Shetterly

AGOH: Lissanne Lake
 FGOH: Rob Bazemore
 Boston, MA

02/16/96 BOSKONE 33:

GOH: Lois McMaster
 Bujold
 Framingham, MA

07/04/96 CONDIABLO/
 WESTERCON 49:

GOH: James P. Blaylock
 GOH: Howard Waldrop
 AGOH: Brad W. Foster
 El Paso, TX

08/29/96 L.A. CON III
 54th World Science Fiction
 Convention

GOH: James White
 MGOH: Roger Corman
 Special Guest:

Elsie Wollheim
 Anaheim, CA

Convention Chairman Applicant

TO: ARISIA, Inc., Executive Board
FROM: Patrick McCormack
RE: Application for Convention Chair '97

Briefly, I started working conventions the year of the great Boskone blow-up. I did Logistics and Security work for them that year. The next con I worked was Noreascon 3 on the Technical Crew in the main ballroom. Then I got involved with ARISIA, at what I believe was the first or second general meeting. The first two years I ran Logistics, as well as doing work with Technical and Operations. The next year I worked Technical and Operations. The fourth year, I was Con Services Division Head (and babysitting was the biggest pain to supervise, let me tell you.), as well as being corporate president. The fifth year, I took a year off and only did work at con with Technical and Operations. And last year I ended up running Operations by default until Friday evening. I also ran Opening Ceremonies for years 2-5, come to think of it. Interspersed with the ARISIA stuff, I have worked with Technofandom crew at Lunacon, Balticon, & Philcon, and lent a hand at Concept.

I have wanted to chair our convention for several years now. I threw my hat in for '95. I purposefully stepped out of the running for '96 because I felt that after Jim Belfiore and Shelia Oranch, it would be better for the organization to have a "young turk" take the lead for a year. I feel it is important that we show the newer fans that it doesn't take a 10+ year commitment before they have a chance to do the big jobs. I now want my crack at it to see if I can ameliorate some of the continuing problems we have in our concomm.

If selected, the "theme" of the concomm will be "The Iron Boot of Tyranny". The first major plank in my platform will be this: "We need to lighten up about the little things." Frankly, there isn't a lot of whimsy left in our view of ourselves. We all need to learn to laugh about unimportant things again. The Staff T-shirt is already designed with this in mind. It will show a large boot crushing a little person. The shirt will read "The Few, The Proud, The Oppressed!"

But the "Iron Boot" isn't all just a joke. The flip side of the first statement is that there are too many people treating the really important matters as trivial or ignorable. There are three major areas where I think the organization would benefit from

someone taking a strong stance and making everyone tow the line.

The first of these areas is communication, both internal and external. Communication has always been one of our organization's biggest failings when you talk about the actual nuts and bolts of the concomm. People inside don't know what everyone else is doing. People who would like to join up and help can't make the initial connection with someone "in the know." Fans and guests can't get prompt replies to their queries. A lot of this confusion could be lessened with a single level of redundancy in our communications network, combined with some accountability. The redundancy can be had by making the Asst ConChair act as an Ombudsman for the committee. The key "before con" work loads know that they will be expected to turn in periodic, written reports on all decisions and work their department has done so far. These written report, in the hand of the ConChair and the "Ombudsman", will provide a safety net when someone drops out of touch, making sure someone is capable of giving at least semi-coherent answers in their stead.

The second area is adherence to budgets. If communications is a disaster area, the way some people have treated the budget makes it a toxic waste dump. I made the threat during my year as President that anyone who overran their budget would be thanked for their contribution. The following Eboard didn't back up the threat, unfortunately. The threat has been made several times since then, but never given teeth. If selected, I will make sure everyone who accepts a position on the concomm which will give them access to money will know what the procedures are by which they can spend money, and, that if they circumvent those procedures, I will not reimburse them unless directed by the corporation to do so.

The third and final area which needs to feel the "Iron Boot" is at once the place where it needs to be applied most forcefully and with the most caution. I am speaking of course, of the culture of attack politics which has thrived within our organization for the past couple of years. A lot of us have had a taste of this, and a lot of our founding members are with us because of it. I understand that, in the real world, we will never be completely free of politics and cliques. There are line, however, that should never be crossed. Arguments and politicking, without the attached emotional baggage, when people have differing views of how something should be done is one thing. When political skulduggery has no root

(Continued on Page 9)

CONCHAIR APPLICATION (From Page 8)

beyond wanting to "get" a particular person or group, it has to be stopped hard. Everyone who signs on to my concomm would be told that if they engage in this sort of activity, they will be thrown off the concomm for the rest of my tenure as conchair. This is not a promise of an immediate purge should I take the reins for '97. Everyone will be allowed in without prejudgement. This will only be a warning of what will happen if trouble begins during my year.

It is my firm belief that by insituting the last three measures, the entire experience of running the con will be enhanced for all. Strict adherence to these few rules should greatly reduce the number of incidents which cause upset to all of us. If there are no problems, it makes it hard to get into arguements over whose fault something is and who could have done it better. If we could manage to have a year where the important things are strictly observed and we got to laugh at the little tings, I think we would set a standard for future years.

Executive Board Meeting 05/10/95

A meeting of the Executive Board of ARISIA, Incorporated was scheduled by the president, Joel Herda for May 10, 1995 at 7:30 PM at the home of Patricia Vandenberg and Allan Kent, for the primary purpose of discussing the subject of the Corporate Database. Present were: Dale Farmer, Treasurer; Edward Dooley, Clerk; Nicholas Sheckman, ARISIA '96; also present were: Allan Kent, Patrick McCormack, Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee; Skip Morris, Tim Roberge, Corporate Inventory Control; Richard Stoddard, Patricia Vandenberg. As quorum for the Executive Board was not met, no meeting was called to order. The Treasurer and the Clerk listened to the various members who had items on the subject. Skip Morris made a short presentation on the subject, and took down information from the various member present. The clerk asked Mr. Morris to formally submit his report to the corporation.

Skip stated that the present system might be completed and operational after hearing the needs of the membership represented by the membership present. The clerk suggested that any system developed be brought before the Corporate Membership no later than the Annual Meeting for

demo presentation to the membership. Mr. Morris asked that if the system could be presented earlier than the Annual Meeting could it be presented. The clerk stated he saw no reason why it could not be. Skip asked if a presentation might be made in June, and the clerk was reminded that the ConChair selection for ARISIA '97 would be taken up at the June meeting. The clerk advised Mr. Mrris to speak to the board prior to his bringing in his demo in order that it be placed on the agenda and that the persons making arrangements for the location may be advised. Ed also promised to get Skip a copy of the information print in the October 1993 issue of **MENTOR** which gave the proposed development plan of the last system. Skip said it would be a help.

As no quorum existed no decision was made regarding the request from ARISIA '96 for on-line registration or Long Range Planning's request that the matter be back burnered for one year for people to depreasurize. As the clerk stated to the Chairman for ARISIA '96, "As clerk of the corporation, I would have no objection to a computer in a back room with the paperwork brought to a gopher [or staff member] to enter data at con. I have problems subjecting the guests to the convention to yet another year of online registration that has not been proven.

"The Order of the Lens"

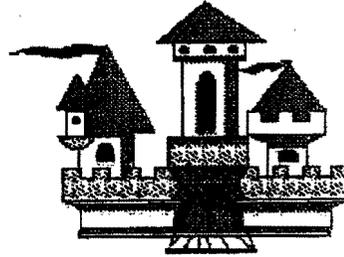
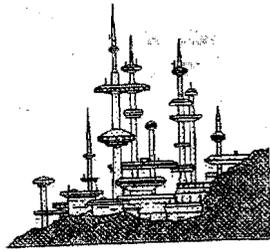
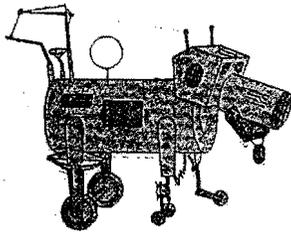
ARISIA, Inc. is pleased to announce the creation of an award to recognize rising stars in the area of speculative media. The purpose of this award is to grant exposure to hot new talents. Please look for nomination forms at the Information Desk. The first Award, including a medal and certificate, will be presented next year at ARISIA '96.

The Award shall be given to new talents in the field of speculative media, i.e. the written word, film, video, painting, music, or any other art form in the genres of science fiction, fantasy, horror, and any others that are of general interest to the fannish community. Writers, editors, painters, songwriters, illustrators, actors, and anyone else who fits into the above guideline is eligible. The first Award will be presented at ARISIA '96.

The Award shall only be given to professionals and those who have their work shown regularly on a professional basis. It is for individuals, not organizations. The Award will not be given to someone from the same category of artist more than two years running.

The recipient of the Award shall be chosen by vote of the membership of ARISIA, Inc. each year from a slate of candidates nominated by the fannish community of ARISIA. The period for nominations will run from the end of one year's ARISIA Convention until the end of the next year's ARISIA. Pick up your nomination forms at the Information Desk to cast your vote.

New England Science Fiction Association 1996 Science Fiction & Fantasy Short Story Contest



The contest is open to all amateur writers, defined as anyone who has not sold a story to a professional publication before 15 November 1995. Entries must be either science fiction or fantasy, less than 7,500 words long, and the original work of the person submitting them.

Entries must be in black type, double spaced, on one side only of 8½-by-11-inch white paper with one-inch margins all around. The title of the story must appear at the top of every page, preferably centered on the first page and in the upper right hand corner of subsequent pages. Number the pages. High-quality copies are acceptable. Computer output must be dark and legible.

The author's name **must not** appear on the manuscript. Put it on a separate cover sheet along with the author's address and the title of the story. This is to insure the greatest objectivity by the judges, especially in the case of several stories entered by the same person.

Include a self-addressed stamped envelope (with adequate postage if you wish your manuscript[s] returned). Entries must be postmarked by midnight, **30 November 1995**. Send them to:

NESFA Story Contest
Post Office Box 809
Framingham, MA 01701-0203

For your own protection, keep a copy of your manuscript. Any entry that does not conform to the rules may be refused and the author will be notified using the SASE provided (the manuscript will be returned if sufficient postage was provided). In all cases, the decisions of the judges are final. The final round judges include: **David G. Hartwell, Patrick Nielsen Hayden and Jane Yolen.**

The results of the contest will be announced at Boskone 33, to be held in Framingham, MA on 16-18 February, 1996. The winner will be awarded a plaque, guaranteed publication in *Proper Boskonian* (subject to author's permission), and a free Boskone membership (either a refund of their Boskone 33 membership or membership in Boskone 34 in 1997). Two runners-up and several honorable mentions may also be recognized.

Entries will be mailed back during the month of March 1996. NESFA will keep an archival copy of finalists' manuscripts, but all other copies will be destroyed. All rights will remain with the authors.

Reproduction of these rules (in their entirety) is authorized and encouraged.

Mentor Of ARISIA, is a publication of
ARISIA, Incorporated
1 Kendall Square, Suite 322
Cambridge, MA 02139

ARISIA, Mentor of ARISIA, and the **Arisia Lens** are
service marks of ARISIA, Incorporated.

Subscriptions to **Mentor of ARISIA** are included in
Corporate membership to ARISIA, Incorporated. Membership
runs from September 1st to August 31st and costs \$24.
Dues are pro-rated on a monthly basis for members joining
during the year. Membership for members joining in MARCH
is \$12.

September	\$24	January	\$16	May	\$8
October	\$22	February	\$14	June	\$8
November	\$20	March	\$12	July	\$4
December	\$18	April	\$10	August	\$2



ARISIA, Incorporated
1 Kendall Square, Suite 322
Cambridge, MA 02139



FIRST CLASS MAIL