

# MID SOUTH CON

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

JUNE 20-22, 1980





# chattacon six



January 16-18, '81



BOOK JACK  
CHALKER

ALSO:

Bob Tucker

Sharon Webb

Jerry Page

Forrest Ackerman

memberships \$7

CHATTACON, PO Box 21173, Chatt., TN 37421

# MIDSOUTHCON

Presents

Guest of Honor

**Fred Pohl**

Master of Ceremonies

**Kelly Freas**

Fan Guest of Honor

**Wilson Tucker**

MIDSOUTHCON COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN - Andy Purcell	PROGRAMMING - David Pettus
VICE-CHAIRMAN - David Pettus	PROGRAM BOOK - Andy Purcell, Debbie Purcell
REGISTRATION - Nancy Tabor Linda Bolgeo	ART SHOW - Dick Lynch, Nicki Lynch
CON SUITE - Ronnie Sheldon	FILMS - Eric Jambrosky
HUCKSTERS - Debbie Purcell	VIDEO ROOM - Tim Bolgeo, David Tabor, Tola Varnell
HEAD GOPHER - Rhett Mitchell	

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Charlie Williams, Rusty Burke, Robert Mack Hester, Nelda and Michael Kennedy, Dan Caldwell, and Ken and Lou Moore.

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ARTIST CREDITS

Charlie Williams - front and back covers, page 17  
 Charlie Williams and Rusty Burke - pages 9, 15  
 Robert Mack Hester - pages 10, 11

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BANQUET ENTREES: Southern Fried Chicken, Barbecued Ribs, Baked Beans, Corn, Green Beans, Whipped Potatoes, Pan Gravy, Salad, Assorted Jello Molds, Assorted Desserts, Rolls, Coffee, Tea or Milk.

Banquet tickets limited. Buy early to avoid disappointment.

# Program

NOTE: The Con Suite is rooms 302-304-306 and will be open 24 hours. Masquerade rules will be available in the main lobby.

## FRIDAY

12 Noon -- HUCKSTER ROOM SET-UP BEGINS. Capitol and Briefing Rooms.

3 PM -- REGISTRATION OPENS. Main Lobby.

4 PM -- HUCKSTER ROOMS OPEN. Capitol and Briefing Rooms.

4:30 PM -- VIDEO TAPE ROOM OPENS. Apollo Room.

6 PM -- ART SHOW OPENS. Mercury Room.

8 PM -- ART SHOW CLOSES.

8:30 PM -- OPENING CEREMONIES. Empire and State Ballroom. Moderated by Kelly Freas and introducing the pros in attendance.

9 PM -- READING: Jack Chalker. Empire and State Ballroom. Jack's works include the books of the Well World, The Devil Will Drag You Under, A War of Shadows, Dancers in the Afterglow, and others.

9 PM -- HUCKSTER ROOMS CLOSE.

9:30 PM -- PANEL: "An Introduction to Southern Fandom." Empire and State Ballroom. Panelists to be arranged. New fans get their chance to ask the old-timers about the origins of Southern Fandom and where it is headed.

10 PM -- REGISTRATION CLOSES.

10:15 PM -- VIDEO ROOM CLOSES.

10:30 PM -- FILM: "The Night of the Living Dead." Empire and State Ballroom. Possibly the greatest low-budget film of all time, shot on a shoestring from a super script filled with non-stop action.

12:15 PM -- FILM: "Comedy of Terrors." Empire and State Ballroom. Starring Boris Karloff, Peter Lorre, Vincent Price and Basil Rathbone.

??? -- ROOM PARTIES: Don't miss the ABC party. Remember the Con Suite is open 24 hours!

### SATURDAY

8 AM -- HUCKSTER ROOM SET-UP. Capitol and Briefing Rooms.

9 AM -- REGISTRATION OPENS. Main Lobby. HUCKSTER ROOMS OPEN. Capitol and Briefing Rooms.

10 AM -- ART SHOW OPENS. Mercury Room. VIDEO TAPE ROOM OPENS Apollo Room.

10 AM -- SLIDE SHOW: Kelly Freas. Empire and State Ballroom.

11 AM -- PANEL: "The Way the Future Was." Empire and State Ballroom. Fred Pohl and Bob Tucker. Hear tales of "fandom past" by two men who played important roles in early fandom.

12 Noon -- LUNCH: Eat something -- your body cannot run on alcohol alone (unless you're Ken Moore).

1 PM -- WRITER'S WORKSHOP: Sharon Webb, Jack Chalker, and Jerry Page. Empire and State Ballroom. Would you like to be a writer? The panelists tell you how they began writing, how they sold their first story, and their writing techniques.

2 PM -- READING: Fred Pohl. Empire and State Ballroom.

3 PM -- SPEECH by John S. Welzin : "The Space Shuttle and Space Benefits." Empire and State Ballroom. Mr. Welzin is the Executive Assistant to the Director of the Material and Processes Lab at the Marshall Spaceflight Center.

4 PM -- AUTOGRAPH SESSION: Fred Pohl, Kelly Freas, Bob Tucker and Jack Chalker. Main Lobby. Books will be available.

5:30 PM -- REGISTRATION CLOSES. ART SHOW CLOSES. VIDEO ROOM CLOSES.

6 PM -- HUCKSTER ROOMS CLOSE.

7 PM -- BANQUET. Empire and State Ballroom. Awards and Guest of Honor Speech.

9 PM -- ART AUCTION. Empire and State Ballroom. Don't miss any of the fine bargains. Jack Chalker is the Auctioneer.

9 PM -- VIDEO TAPE ROOM REOPENS. Until approx. 12 midnight.

11:15 PM -- MASQUERADE PRE-JUDGING. By the pool.

12 Midnight -- MASQUERADE. Empire and State Ballroom.

??? -- MORE ROOM PARTIES. Don't forget the Con Suite is always open and lively.

#### SUNDAY

9 AM -- HUCKSTER ROOMS OPEN.

9 AM -- FILMS: "Dunwich Horror," "Fahrenheit 451," "Day the Earth Stood Still," and "Invasion of the Star Creatures." Empire and State Ballroom. Schedule posted in lobby.

9:45 AM -- BUSES LEAVE FOR SPACE CENTER.

10 AM -- ART SHOW OPENS. VIDEO TAPE ROOM OPENS.

12 Noon -- ART SHOW CLOSES. Artists should have their work out of the room by 2 PM.

1 PM -- HUCKSTER ROOMS CLOSE.

2 PM -- VIDEO TAPE ROOM CLOSES.

2:15 PM -- Dead Dog Party. Con Suite.

# Fred Pohl

By David Pettus

In the thirties Fred Pohl and a dedicated group of SF enthusiasts got together to form the Futurians, a New York SF group that stayed together from 1938 until 1945. Members included Donald A. Wollheim, Cyril Kornbluth, David Kyle, Isaac Asimov, James Blish, Damon Knight and Judith Merril.

In 1940 at the age of twenty-one, Pohl was editing Astonishing Stories and Super Science Stories. After the big war, he began working as a SF literary agent and represented many of the finest and most popular writers in the field during the late forties. In addition to his work as an editor and literary agent, Pohl was either writing for a Futurian fanzine or writing professionally most often under the pen name of James MacCreigh.

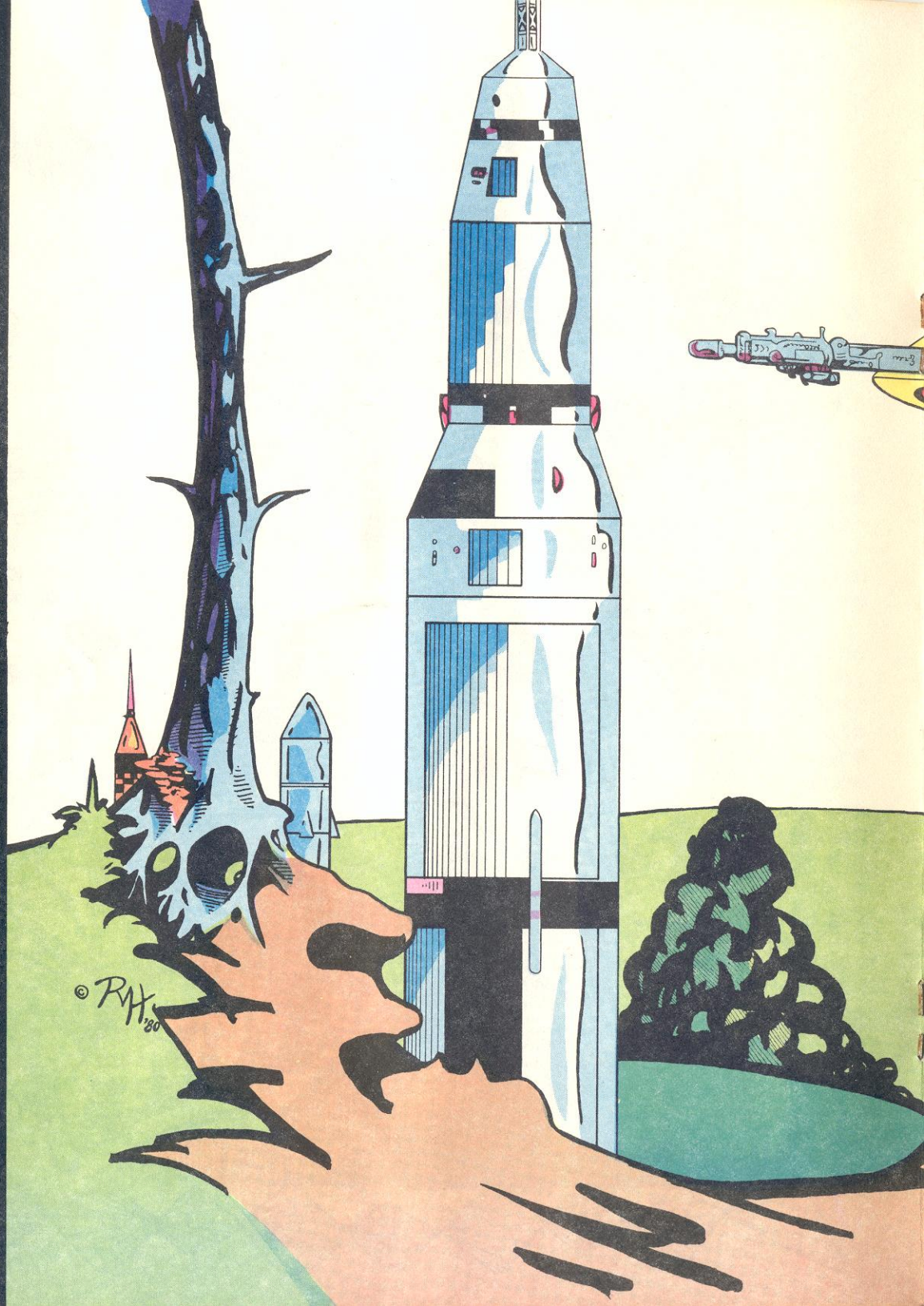
The 1950's were good to Fred Pohl. It was during the fifties that Pohl collaborated with writers C. M. Kornbluth, Jack Williamson, and Lester del Rey. Pohl stopped writing under his MacCreigh pen name in 1953 when he and Kornbluth published The Space Merchants, a book that envisions a future dominated by advertising. History has increased its relevance somewhat, and The Space Merchants is a standard science fiction classic today. Pohl and Kornbluth also collaborated on Gladiator at Law (1955), Search the Sky (1954), and Wolfbane (1959). Fred Pohl and Jack Williamson collaborated on a series of juveniles: Undersea Quest (1954), Undersea Fleet (1955), and Undersea City (1958), which are still in print and popular with young readers. Fred Pohl and Lester del Rey collaborated on a book titled Preferred Risk (1955). In addition to the collaborations, Pohl edited the Star Science Fiction series, which was the first significant original anthology series in science fiction. There were six volumes published between 1953 and 1959.

Then came the sixties! From November of 1961 to May of 1969 Pohl was the editor of Galaxy and If, and he was

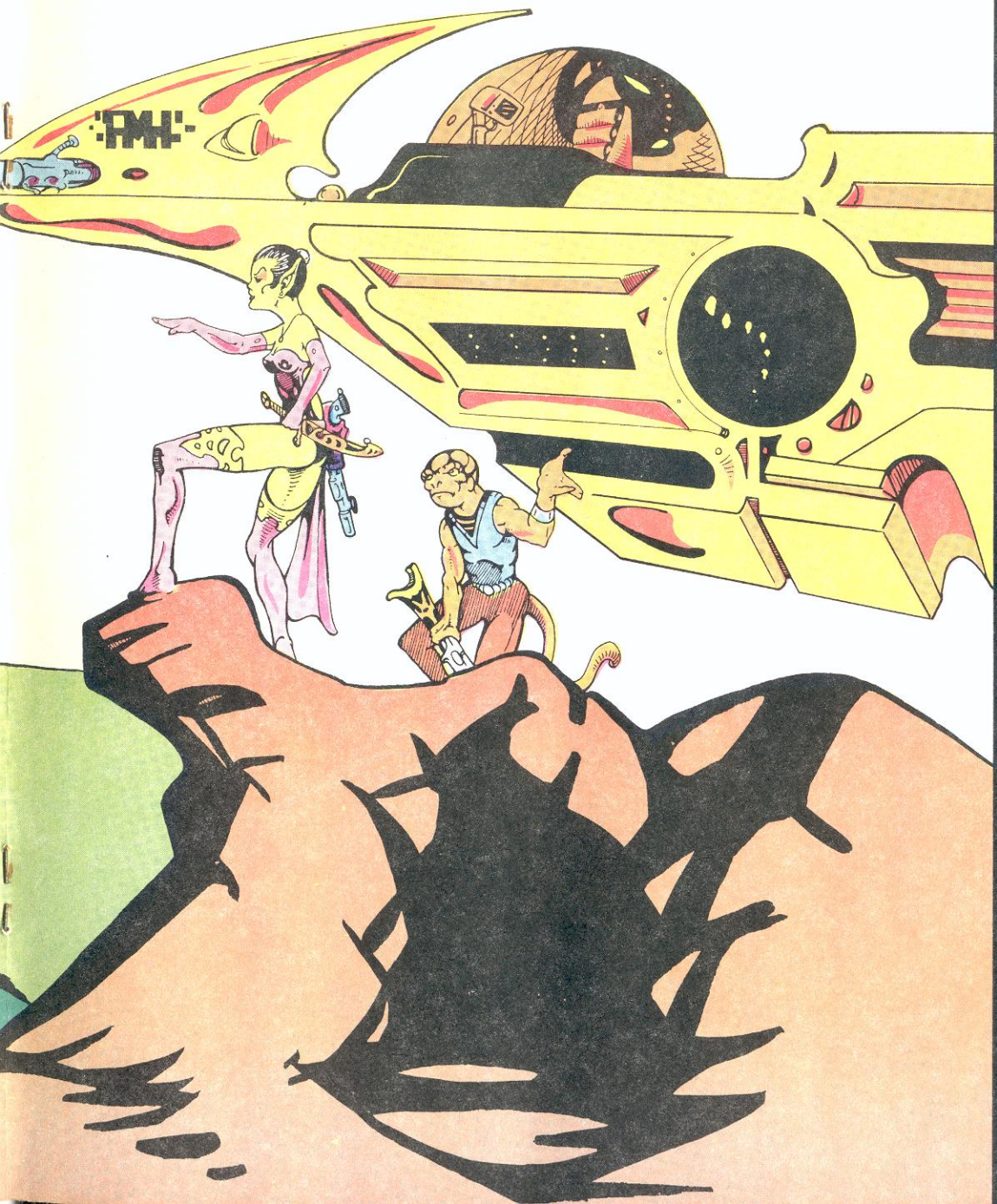




It was a  
dark and  
stormy  
night...







Fred Pohl (cont.)

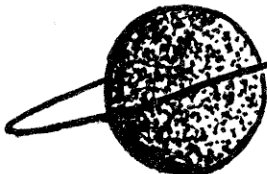
responsible for introducing many fine writers into the field of science fiction. He also founded and edited Worlds of Tomorrow ( published from 1963 to 1967 ) and International Science Fiction ( published from 1967 to 1968 ). It is an understatement to say that Fred Pohl has had an impact upon magazine science fiction, when for many years, he was magazine science fiction! He also collaborated with Jack Williamson on another series of books known as "The Starchild Trilogy" which included : Reefs of Space (1964), Starchild (1965), and Rogue Star (1969).

Until recently Pohl has been noted primarily as a short story writer. He has written some very fine short-fiction, such as: "The Midas Plague" (1954), its sequel "The Man Who Ate the World" (1956), "The Tunnel Under the World" (1955), "Day Million" (1966), and "Shaffery Among the Immortals" (1972). Pohl won the Hugo award for best short story in 1972 with his posthumous collaboration with Cyril Kornbluth titled "The Meeting". Most of these stories can be found in a collection called The Best of Frederik Pohl (1975).

Pohl published two very good novellas in 1971: "The Gold at the Starbow's End" and "The Merchants of Venus". "The Merchants of Venus" is a prelude to Gateway (1977), which won both the Hugo and Nebula awards for best novel. The year before Pohl's novel, Man Plus, won the Nebula Award. In 1979 Pohl published a new novel, Jem, which was on this year's Nebula and Hugo ballots and has won the American Book Award. This year Pohl has published his long awaited sequel to Gateway, titled Beyond the Blue Event Horizon.

You can find more commentary regarding Pohl's early career in the following books: The Early Pohl (1976), Hell's Cartographers ( 1975, edited by Brian Aldiss and Harry Harrison), and in Pohl's autobiography, The Way the Future Was.

We are pleased and proud to have Fred Pohl here at MIDSOUTHCON as our esteemed Guest of Honor.



MIDSOUTHCON '80





# ALABAMA SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION

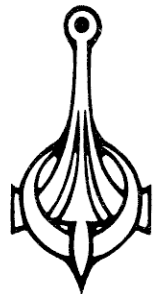
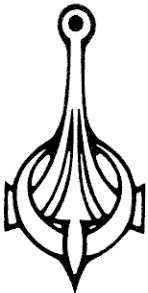
ASFA is one of the newest Science Fiction organizations in Alabama. The purpose of ASFA is to provide Alabama fans with up-to-date information on the activities of the various Science Fiction, Fantasy and Star Trek Clubs of the state. We cover all the conventions of the area, including pictures and unbiased reports. Our newsletter is professionally offset printed. We welcome comments and contributions to and about ASFA.

If this is your first convention, let us help you break into the world of Science Fiction Fandom. If you have any questions, look me up. I'm at the Con somewhere, or see one of our members in the dealers room. The table will be marked.

*Best Wishes  
Tim*

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# Kelly Freas

By David Pettus

Frank Kelly Freas grew up in southern Ontario, Canada. He is a native of upstate New York, where he did commercial artwork throughout his high school and college days. He studied art at the Art Institute of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania as well as other institutions of higher learning. He began his career as an artist working for a Pittsburgh ad agency and soon discovered that advertising lay-out and artwork were not the place for him. He learned that he had much rather be doing freelance work, since the money was better, and the work itself was more fun. And so, that is exactly what Kelly has been doing successfully for thirty years.

Kelly's very first cover painting appeared on the Nov. 1950 issue of Weird Tales. Since then he has been nominated for eighteen Hugo awards for best professional artist, and he has won ten. Also, the Eastern Science Fiction Association has named Kelly Freas "Dean of Science Fiction Artists", a lifetime title. For many years Kelly was the primary illustrator for Astounding Science Fiction. Readers of Mad magazine will remember that it was Kelly Freas who put Alfred E. Newman on the cover of Mad for over five years. He has done cover illustrations for many paperback publishers and is, in short, "The SF Illustrator".

Kelly's artwork is a smooth combination of the romantic and the realistic. He can in one expert stroke with the brush inspire us and offer us a glimpse of what the future holds.

Frank Kelly Freas : The Art of Science Fiction (1977) contains a fine sampling of Kelly's work. Kelly Freas is without doubt the nicest person you could possibly meet in science fiction fandom. He is a fine illustrator and a fine human being.



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# Wilson "Bob" Tucker

By David Pettus

Wilson "Bob" Tucker has been around a long, long time. It very well may have been Bob Tucker who first discovered dirt. He most certainly invented Beam's Choice Whiskey.

Tucker was one of the earliest and most popular Big Name Fans. He discovered science fiction in 1929 at the age of fourteen, and in 1932 he began his illustrious career as a fan-writer. Tucker's fannish activity over the years has been remarkable both in quantity and quality. Since 1932 Tucker has written more than two million words which have appeared in fan publications in the form of articles, essays columns, convention reports, book and film reviews, and even an occasional short story. In the thirties Tucker published his very first fanzine, The Planetoid. His more popular Le Zombie had its heyday from 1939 to 1944. Tucker also published a zine called The Science Fiction Newsletter, which dealt mainly with the professional field of SF. He played an important role in organizing the second World SF Convention (CHICON I in 1940) and was the fan guest of honor at the World SF Convention in 1948 and 1967. In 1970 he won the Hugo award for best fan-writer.

Tucker made his first professional sale in 1941 with a story titled "Interstellar Way Station", which Fred Pohl bought for one of his magazines. Since then Bob Tucker has written numerous short stories and novelettes, as well as fine novels such as: The Long Loud Silence, The Lincoln Hunters, The Year of the Quiet Sun, and Ice and Iron. Pocket Books will soon be publishing Tucker's new novel Rejoice! It's Resurrection Day, and he will have a short story in Harlan Ellison's The Last Dangerous Visions titled "Dick and Jane Go to Mars".

Bob Tucker is a living legend. You will hear all kinds of strange stories about him from fans, and a good many of those stories will contradict each other. But ol' Bob Tucker will never deny any of them. He will tell you that they are all true stories, each and every one! And, somehow, I'm compelled to believe him.



JUST IN TIME FOR  
THE SMOOTH!



By Rhett Mitchell

## to Huntsville

### RESTAURANTS

The following restaurants are listed from the west to the east on University Drive (same as the Sheraton).

1. Pizza Hut: 11 AM - 1 AM.
2. Taco Bell: 10 AM - 1 AM. Mexican food.
- \*\*\*\* Sheraton Motor Inn \*\*\*\*
3. Golden Bowl: Lunch 11 AM - 2:30 PM, Dinner 4:30 - 10 PM  
Chinese food at reasonable prices.
4. Captain D's: 10:45 AM - 11 PM.
5. Bonanza: 11 AM - 10 PM.
6. Arby's Roast Beef: 10:30 AM - 11 PM.
7. Wendy's Old-Fashioned Hamburgers: 10:30 AM - 12 PM.
8. McDonald's: 6 AM - 11 PM.
9. Kentucky Fried Chicken: 10 AM - 10 PM.
10. Sambo's: Open 24 hours. Cheap food at cheap prices.
11. Steak & Ale: Lunch 11:30 AM - 2 PM, Dinner 5:30 - 10 PM  
Moderate to high prices.
12. Ol' Heidelberg Kitchens: Lunch 11 AM - 2 PM , Dinner  
4:30 - 10 PM. Germanic food at expensive prices.
13. Fogcutter: Lunch 11 AM - 2 PM, Dinner 5 - 11 PM. Good  
food at high prices.
14. Quincy's Family Steak House: 11 AM - 11 PM.
15. Shoney's: 6:30 AM - 1 AM.





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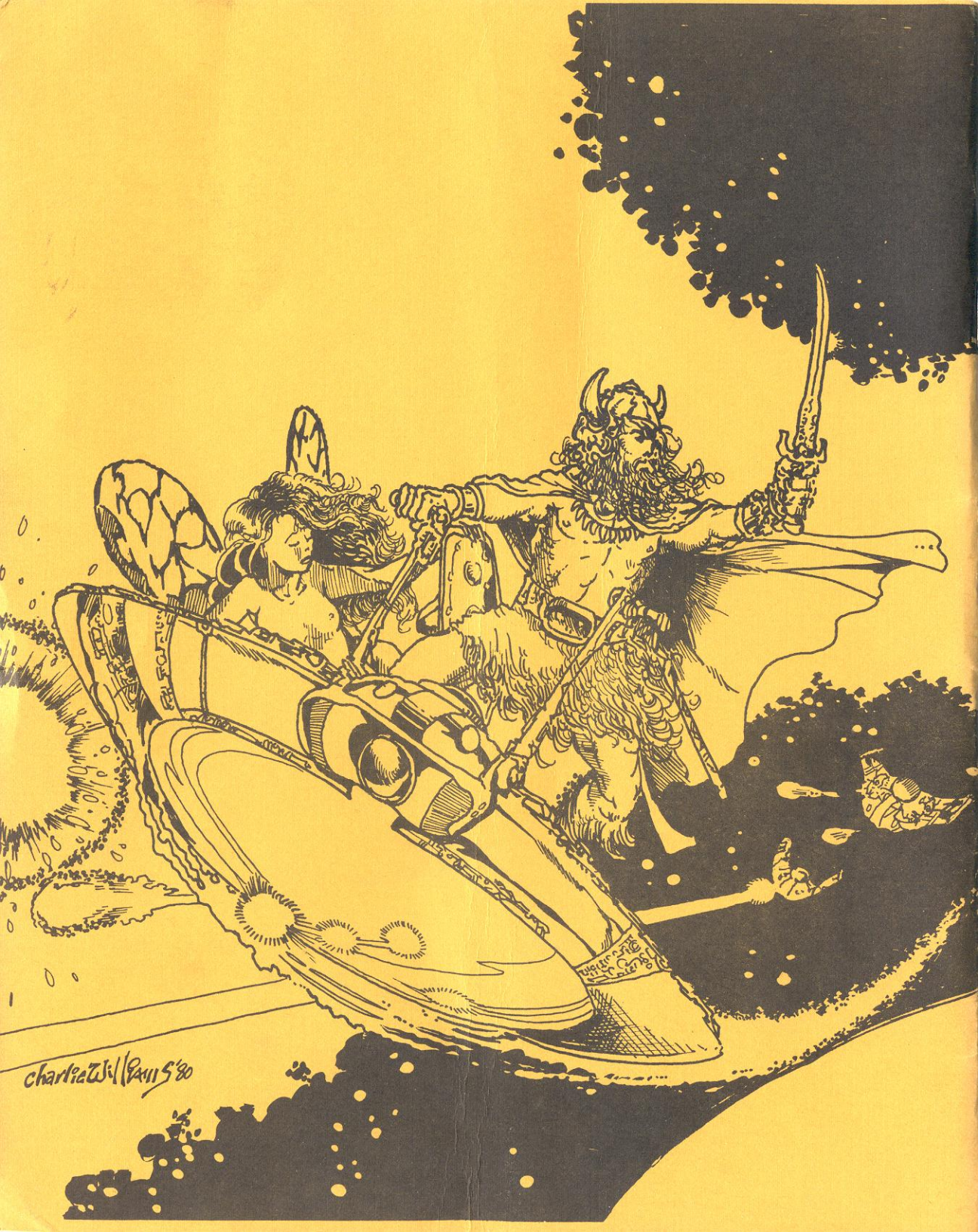


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