Alpha News Service

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SPACE: 1999 SOCIETY

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LANDAUS, MORSE, HARRIS INVITED TO 79 CON

Martin Landau, Barbara Bain, Barry Morse and Galactica and Lost in Space star Jonathan Harris are among the SF personalities invited to the 1979 Space: 1999 convention this fall in New York City.

Confirmations from the stars are currently coming in. Barry Morse (Victor Bergman in the first season of 1999) has definitely expressed interest in attending the November convention. The Landaus and Jonathan Harris are currently negotiating with The Space: 1999 Society. Harris, who has apparently (and surprisingly) never been invited to a convention before, has specifically requested information on what conventions are like and what is generally expected of the guest speaker.

The amount of money raised by the Society will determine the number of stars invited to the convention. Currently it looks as if four stars will be appearing, although if ticket sales go higher, more may be invited. As potential back-ups to the Landaus, Morse and Harris, invitations have also been extended to Gerry Anderson and Barry Gray, and to Galactica star Lorne Greene (Commander Adama). Another possible guest being considered at this time is Sylvia Anderson, producer of the first season of Space: 1999.

Events are also being planned for the convention which are special, one-of-a-kind offerings, not to be repeated at any following cons. They are discussed further elsewhere in this issue.

SOCIETY & NEW ORLEANS GROUP JOIN

The Space: 1999 Society is pleased to announce its affiliation with The New Orleans Space: 1999 Society, headed by Matthew Butts, editor of the fanzine Alpha Chronicle. The SNS is also negotiating affiliations with some of the other recently-emerging 1999 fan clubs, and will keep fans posted.

Society & Hanna-Barbera pact on SPACE merchandising

Hanna-Barbera Productions, holders of the rights to Space: 1999, early this year licensed The Space: 1999 Society to market and manufacture Space: 1999 products. The contract extends to the United States, Britain and Australia, and means that the SNS's existance and products are officially licensed to operate. The contract does not give individual members of the organization the right to market 1999 goods, however.
First samples of 1999 materials were sent by the SNS to Hanna-Barbera in New York for approval. The response so far has been enthusiastic, with one official of H-B stating that The Space: 1999 Society is more professional than and superior to other Space: 1999 groups it has licensed.

SPACE CANCELLED IN MANY CITIES AS "MOVIES" PREPARE TO BLAST OFF

Space: 1999 has slowly been undergoing a series of cancellations around the country. It has been on and off several times in New York and Detroit, has been cancelled in several cities on the west coast and in southern cities such as New Orleans, and has disappeared after lengthy four-year runs in both Toledo and Cleveland.
All this comes on the heels of the announcement by ITC that there will be two Space: 1999 movies released to television in the near future. Both are merely re-edited versions of episodes of the show. The first of the movies, "Destination Moonbase Alpha", is a recut version of the Year 2 episode "The Bringers of Wonder". The other film, tentatively entitled "Alien Attack", is actually the "Breakaway" and "War Games" episodes of Space. While there is no apparent connection between the release of the movies and the cancellation of the series around the country (it still runs in several markets), it is known that once the movies come out this fall, the four episodes will be pulled from syndication. In some ways this may be considered fortunate, because viewers can expect the two movies to run uncut in most markets. Fans may end up seeing segments of the show they have never seen before. Some fans have been particularly angered over the cutting out of a segment of "War Games" in which Victor Bergman, before leaving Alpha for the final time, leaves a tape-recorded message in the base's files in

which he invites anyone finding the message to "seek us out" and teach them how to co-exist with the universe.
The two Space: 1999 movies are expected to be in an ITC package which also includes "The Boys from Brazil", "Capricorn One" and "The Cassandra Crossing". The film package has already been sold to stations in Los Angeles, New York and Houston.

METEOR STRIKES OCT. 19

American-International Pictures has announced that its long-awaited SF-disaster pic, "Meteor", is due to open nationwide on October 19. One of the stars of the motion picture is 1999's commander, Martin Landau.
The plot is basically the same as the earlier TV-movie, "Fire in the Sky". A comet is discovered heading directly for Earth and threatens to destroy the city of Phoenix, Arizona.
The picture had been delayed earlier, when it was discovered that special effects prepared for it were not convincing or adequate. A reported $750,000 worth of effects was thrown away and many sequences were started over. In the process AIP went bankrupt. Over the past few weeks, however, AIP has been taken over by Filmways, and re-financing of the motion picture has been accomplished. The picture is reported completed and will open on the scheduled date.

FANS TO PICK BEST EPISODE, NEW TITLE

The 1979 Space: 1999 convention is expected to set two new precedents when it convenes in New York this November. One involves the establishment of a formal title for Space: 1999 fandom. The Board of Directors, noting that Star Trek fans have their own particular name ("Trekkies"), have decided that 1999 fandom should have a title of its own. This would be particularly helpful in binding fandom together and giving it unity. At the convention this fall there will be balloting on what the official name for fandom will be. Several nominations will be extended by the Board, but write-in nominations will also be accepted at the convention. Balloting is expected to take place during the opening remarks, with annoucement of the winning title to take place later at the costume party.

Another event planned is the selection of the best episodes, actors and producers of Space: 1999. Tentatively titled "The Alpha Awards", the event will ask convention-goers to pick the best episode, actor, actress, guest actor, guest actress, writer and director of the series. No actual awards will be given, although the winners will, again, be announced at the costume party.

The costume party is expected to have a distinctly disco/rock/SF theme. Music will be selected from Space: 1999, "Star Wars" (the Cantina Band piece), "Westworld", "Love at First Bite" and other films and TV shows.

Our New Logo

Along with the change of name of our organization to The Space: 1999 Society, we've modified our logo. At right is our new emblem, which employs many designs seen in the Space: 1999 series. The trapezoidal design is, naturally, based on the Alpha Moonbase patches seen on spacesuits around the base. The inner portion of the logo contains the Space: 1999 title, and the rest of the lettering is printed in Bauhaus Bold, the style of lettering seen prodominantly on the Alpha Moonbase patches.

This logo will be seen on all products the SNS manufactures. It is your assurance of a quality product. Remember, if you don't see this logo, it's not from The Space: 1999 Society.



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Letters, ads begin next issue

Beginning with the next issue of Alpha News Service, classified ads and letters will be accepted for publication. Ads will be run free of charge for the time being, until prices are set, for members of The Space: 1999 Society. The SNS reserves the right to decide the acceptability of all ads and the right to edit copy where necessary. Ads for copyrighted materials (such as audio or video tapes of TV shows) must be accompanied by the appropriate licensing material

from the copyright holder.
Letters may be either questions about certain aspects of the show or the SNS, or may be commentaries from fans, analyses of particular episodes, etc. We regret that only letters selected for publication can be answered.
Ads and letters are welcomed and encouraged. Deadline for issue #2 is November 1. Correspondence should be sent to: The Space: 1999 Society, Box 11123, Cleveland OH 44111.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MONA DELITSKY, a product of New York City, has, at 26, two college degrees in chemistry and is working toward a Ph.D. A graduate of the State University of New York and currently a graduate student at the University of Michigan, where she is working on data from the Pioneer-Venus probe and on instrument optimization for a possible mission to the comet Halley, Mona was also once a jazz DJ on WHRW-FM, as well as being a member of the board, publishes the fanzine Cosmoconnection, and enjoys shortwave radio monitoring and travel.

TED MICHAEL HRUSCHAK was educated in television, radio and film at Cleveland State University and holds a Bachelors degree in the field. Born August 31st, 1956 in Cleveland, Ted worked for four years as a caretaker for multiple-handicapped children at Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital/Highland View Hospital, and now heads the audio-visual division of its Pediatrics department. Ted has also worked for two years at WUAB-TV in Cleveland, the third-largest independent station in the country, first as an FCC logkeeper, and now as a studio crewman. His duties at WUAB include audio mixing, lighting, camerawork, vidifont programming and occasional directing for commercial dubbing sessions for such products as Time-Life, Sports Illustrated, Encyclopaedia Britannica and General Tire, as well as a variety of mail-order record companies. Ted has also written for Starlog magazine. (His article and episode guide to Lost in Space was featured recently.) A video enthusiast, Ted owns two recorders and a collection of over 100 VHS tapes. Ted also likes classical music and soundtracks and occasionally raises hell in fandom.

DANIEL J PALLOTTA was born January 5th, 1957 in Cleveland. Also a "media person", Dan is studying journalism currently at Cleveland State University, and writes for CSU's newspaper. At one time he was a stringer for one of the city's two major dailies, The Cleveland Press.



Pictured (l-r): Ted Hruschak, Brian Anderson, Daniel Pallotta, David Barnes. Not pictured: Mona Delitsky.

Dan enjoys paleontology, classical music, photography and SF and fantasy, and was, with Ted Hruschak, founder of The Space: 1999 Society. DAVID BARNES was born January 12th, 1960 in Pennsylvania but has moved more times than he can remember. Presently taking electrical engineering at Louisiana Tech University, he is interested in good SF such as 1999 and The Prisoner, classical and rock music, soundtracks, space exploration, electronics, model building, computers, cons and skydiving. David currently is working for Martin Marietta Aerospace.

BRIAN ANDERSON lived in Huntsville, Alabama from November 26th, 1960 until 1962 when his father was transferred to Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, where he worked on rocket engines for the space program. Brian naturally became interested in SF, being able to witness the Apollo launchings from his own back yard, or, from the Cape. Brian later moved with his family to Slidell, Louisiana and is studying mechanical engineering at Louisiana Tech. He works periodically at the Michoud Assembly Facility of Martin Marietta Aerospace in New Orleans, where the non-reuseable Space Shuttle External Tank is built. Brian collects classical music and soundtracks, slides and promo materials from TV shows, does spacecraft modeling, blueprint designing, fanzine writing, flying, skydiving, disc jockeying for his campus radio station, filmmaking and good SF.

Supercar?

Board of Directors member Ted Hruschak swears that recently in Cleveland he has seen a yellow Buick with the license plate EAGLE 3. Funny thing is, the car has a Landau roof....

"I'm sorry, Dr. Smyslov...I'm really not at liberty to discuss this."

"2001: A Space Odyssey" is a movie full of mysteries. Dr. Heywood Floyd won't tell his Russian counterparts why he is travelling to the moon. NASA won't tell its astronauts the real reason they are being sent out to Jupiter. Poole and Bowman don't want HAL to know they're planning to disconnect him, and HAL doesn't want Poole and Bowman to know that he knows....

One of the biggest mysteries of all, though, is, "Where is Ed Bishop?" The star of UFO's name appears in the credits at the end of the film, but no one so far has been able to tell exactly where it is in the film he is, nor what character he portrays. Is he in the conference room scene with Dr. Floyd? Is he one of the astronauts in the hibernacula? Does anybody really know?

Anyone having a good guess is invited to send it to us. We'll check them out and publish the most likely answers. If necessary, we'll try to check with MGM to see what role Ed Bishop played in the film. In searching for him, remember that his real hair color is brown. It was dyed blond for his part in UFO. Happy hunting.

LATE NEWS: Harris & 5-STAR-5 are no go

As we went to press it looked unlikely that Jonathan Harris, originally announced as a convention guest, will be attending. Though both the Society and Mr. Harris agreed that he would be able to come, Mr. Harris's fee turned out to be out of the range of all but the largest, most professional convention organizations. It is hoped, though, that at some time in the future, the Society will be able to host Jonathan Harris at another convention.

Contrary to reports in the most recent issue of Starlog (#28, out September 12th), Gerry Anderson's production of "Five Star Five" will not go into production at Pinewood Studios. Pinewood announced this past week that the action/adventure SF film has run into budgetary problems and has been indefinitely postponed, along with two other productions that were scheduled to be started soon.

There is no word right now on the fate of Gerry Anderson's "Five Star Five". Further announcements will follow.



proudly presents!

THE CONVENTION

Holiday Inn
La Guardia

100-15 DITMARS BLVD.
NEW YORK, NY 11369
(212) 898-1225

Just off Grand Central Pkwy. 94 St. exit

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Events include:

Ballotting for the OFFICIAL name for Space: 1999 fandom.

Selection of the BEST EPISODES of Space: 1999. (Other categories include Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Guest Actor, Best Guest Actress, Best Writer and Best Director.)

Space disco costume party (including music from 1999, "Love at First Bite", "The Amityville Horror", "Star Wars", "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and others; costumes are requested but are optional).

A variety of episodes of Space: 1999.

Times: Convention opens at NOON Friday November 23rd, and closes at midnight, Saturday November 24th.

Supporting memberships: Includes convention program book and post-convention report. $7.50

Dealers rates: $50 per table. Price includes both days and includes convention admission fee.

Ticket deadline: Tuesday, November 13th, 1979.

$15.00

FROM THE SPACE:1999 SOCIETY

BOX 11123
CLEVELAND OHIO 9411



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2
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Suffern
Mahwah
Tallman
Monsey
Spring Valley
Nanuet
Valley Cottage
Bardonia
W. Nyack
Upper Nyack
Nyack
N. Tarrytown
Tarrytown
Thornwood
Hawthorne
Armonk
Conn.
Round Hill
Valhalla
Elmsford
White Plains
Stam
Glenville
Greenwich
Port Chester
Rye
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Mamaroneck
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New Rochelle
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Irvington
Sparkill
Tappan
Orangeburg
Blauvelt
Pearl River
Montvale
Park Ridge
Woodcliff Lake
Old Tappan
Northvale
Hillsdale
River Vale
Westwood
Harrington Park
Norwood
Closter
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Tenafly
Dumont
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Teaneck
Hackensack
Fort Lee
Leonia
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W. New York
N. Bergen
Union City
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Bayonne
Newark
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Union
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Linden
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Cranford
Kenilworth
Roselle
Roselle Park
Hillside
Clark
Colonia
Iselin
Avenel
Carteret
Port Reading
Woodbridge
Fords
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Staten Island
St. George
Port Richmond
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Orange
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Maplewood
Millburn
Springfield
Glen Ridge
Ridgewood
Fair Lawn
Glen Rock
Paramus
Oradell
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Manhorhaven
Roslyn
Roslyn Harbor
Glen Head
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Sea Cliff
Glen Cove
Locust
Lattingtown
Plandome
East Hills
Old West
Albertson
Thomaston
Lake Success
Williston Park
Mineola
Garden City
New Hyde Park
Floral Park
Elmont
W. Hempstead
Franklin Square
Malverne
Roosevelt
Valley Stream
Rockville Centre
Lynbrook
Baldwin
Oceanside
Hewlett
E. Rockaway
Woodmere
Cedarhurst
Lawrence
Inwood
Far Rockaway
Island Park
Barnum Island
Atlantic Beach
Long Beach
Lido Beach
Auburndale
Kennedy International Airport
Pelham Manor
Yankee Stadium
Rikers Island
Coney Island
Rockaway Pt.
N.J.

Below is your Space: 1999 Society membership card. It is good from September 13, 1979, to September 12, 1980. If this card is lost or stolen, notify the Society for a replacement.

Due to printing delays, card will be sent separately

Those who purchased tickets to Space: 1999 Convention 1979 will find them enclosed with this issue. KEEP THESE TICKETS AND PRESENT THEM FOR ADMISSION AT SPACE: 1999 CONVENTION 1979.

Main Computer

As of August, The Space: 1999 Society has acquired the use of a TRS 80 II computer. The computer will be used to store and update membership lists and to print out address labels. The TRS 80 II is provided through the courtesy of Cleveland-based Kurtz Microcomputer Software.

SNS Hunts for Go-fers

The Space: 1999 Society has several positions open for "go-fers" at the 1979 convention. Shifts are four hours in length and go-fers may sign up for up to three shifts. Go-fers will be invited to a special wrap party with the stars following the convention.
Prospective go-fers are asked to submit a brief letter to the Society, including age and previous convention work, if any.

THE SPACE: 1999 SOCIETY

BOX 11123
CLEVELAND OHIO 44111
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CLEVELAND, O
PM
10 OCT
1979



KENNETH SCOTT
4 ELAINE ST
PAWCATUCK CT 06379