MAIN COMPUTER

Newsletter of the NATIONAL SAVE:1999 ALLIANCE **Volume 1 Number 4**

A Letter from Jeff Jones

To the members of the NATIONAL SAVE:1999 ALLIANCE:

It has now been over 6 months since Con '78 and we are rapidly approaching Con '79. Many events have occurred during the time since last year's convention, much of which has led to confusion and misunderstanding within *SPACE:1999* fandom.

As you are all aware, I resigned my position with the ALLIANCE after Con '78. The amount of work and the expense involved in running the ALLIANCE and the convention simply made it almost impossible for me to continue for another year considering my plans to purchase and restore an old Victorian-style house and to return to graduate school. I chose Mare Fitzgerald to be my replacement for the simple reason that she was the best person available for the job.

During the year-and-a-half before the con, our primary goal was to help organize fandom, to find as many *SPACE:1999* fans as possible, and to let them know that they were not alone. With the close of the con, that direction changed. There was some disagreement as to which direction things should go when the change occurred. There was also a slight case of bruised egos when a couple of last year's con heads discovered that I had chosen 'an outsider' to take over.

A vote was taken resulting in Kathy and John Von Kamp, Chuck Raue, and myself supporting Mare, and Ted Hruschak and Mona Delitsky opposing her. While Ted and Mona are devout *SPACE* fans and close personal friends, the direction which they felt the ALLIANCE should go did not mesh smoothly with Mare's plans. They were offered the chance to remain with the ALLIANCE but chose instead to break off and form their own group.

The resultant split led to some bitterness, mostly centering around the ALLIANCE name. Ted wanted to register the ALLIANCE name as his own property since he and Mona, along with myself, created it. I felt, along with many others, that the ALLIANCE was the entire membership, not just the three of us, that since they had chosen to leave they had no right to the name. There was also the fact that the name was registered with the government for both tax purposes and non-profit status. At the moment, this problem still has not been resolved, but we are attempting to work out a satisfactory solution.

The other major point of disagreement was the location of Con '79. Ted and Mona, along with a number of others, felt the next con should be in New York. My experience had led me to believe that the con should be in the home city of the person heading up the con. I therefore advised Mare to hold Con '79 in Pittsburgh. However, when Ted and Mona split from the ALLIANCE, they decided to hold their own con in New York. This, along with the bickering over the name, has led to a great deal of confusion.

I suppose what I am about to say is not going to sit well with some people, but I feel it must be said. The plain simple fact is that the official NATIONAL SAVE:1999 ALLIANCE, the one registered with the U.S. government as a non-profit organization, the one licensed to sell *SPACE:1999* merchandise, the one that brought you Con '78, the one Gerry Anderson wrote of in his *STARLOG* article is the organization now run by Mare Fitzgerald, no matter what Ted and Mona decide to call their organization. I do wish them much luck with their group. *SPACE:1999* needs as many fans as possible. It is quite possible that their group might offer some things that the ALLIANCE can't or simply doesn't by choice offer. It is also quite possible that they can reach some fans that we have not been able to reach. We all know that there are still many out there who don't know about organized *SPACE* fandom. If Ted and Mona's group can find some more of these people and bring them into organized fandom, that's tremendous. What I object to is an attempt to confuse members by saying that they are really the ALLIANCE, and not us, that their con is the ALLIANCE con, not ours. *(continued)*

Perhaps the most amusing thing is that none of us really cares for the name. The thing that we are really fighting over is the reputation that goes with it. Ted and Mona seem to feel that they have as much right to the reputation as does the ALLIANCE. The fact here is that I did over 80% of the work on Con '78 myself. Kathy and John Von Kamp did most of the remainder. We are all still strongly associated with the ALLIANCE and we refuse to have the reputation that we worked for used by anyone else. While Ted and Mona were a valuable part of the ALLIANCE Con '78 staff, I do not believe that they have the right to try to claim that their organization is in fact the ALLIANCE.

At the present time we are attempting to work this out. We all agree that it would be best for the groups to work together. I want to stress the fact that we are still friends and all working for the same goal, to bring back *SPACE:1999*. There are no good guys or bad guys. We have all made some mistakes, as humans are prone to do when something they care very much about is involved. My sole reason for writing this has been to help clear up some of the confusion as to what has been happening.

I would also like to tell you all how much I enjoyed meeting you at Con '78. To all of you who wrote to me after the con, if I did not answer your letter I am sorry. In moving to the new house, many letters were accidentally lost or misplaced. I still have about six boxes of unpacked items in the basement waiting for storage cabinets to be built. If any of you do feel a burning desire to write, the address is: 1136 Neil Avenue/Apt. A/Columbus, OH 43201.

Finally, I would like to commend Mare on the job she has been doing. Many decisions have been difficult to make. She has been unafraid to ask advice or opinions and strong enough to make her own decision and act on it. While I may not always totally agree with her, I do believe that she has done a tremendous job (probably better than I did) and I have never once regretted choosing her to take my place. I thank all of you for giving her the same fantastic support that you gave me.

SAVE:1999!
Jeff Jones

Movie Review . . . "SUPERMAN"

by Chuck Raue

At $35-50 million, *Superman--The Movie* is the most expensive movie in the history of filmmaking. The movie boasts of a ready made (almost, at least) sequel, an impressive list of stars, and of probably one of the world's largest ready-made audiences. With all of this in its favor, how can it go wrong? Apparently it can't. The film is one of the most entertaining and well-done sci-fi/fantasy movies ever made. It takes the legend of Superman and successfully transfers him, his origins, his youth and his adult life to the big screen. It's the kind of film which is also going to draw the repeat crowds (like *STAR WARS*). By the way, Derek Meddings (*Thunderbirds*, *U.F.O.*) did the model work for the movie.

What's your opinion of *Superman*? I'd like to know what you think of the movie and about anything else in *MAIN COMPUTER*. Write to: P.O. Box 402/Mobile, AL 36601. Letters may be selected for publication unless you specify otherwise.

Announcements

Any members who will be attending conventions and would like to distribute ALLIANCE brochures should write to headquarters for a supply. Please state how many you'll need and which con you are attending. These brochures may also be requested for placement in book stores, libraries, etc. There is no charge.....Supplies of all ALLIANCE-produced materials including calendars, Con '78 reports, 8x10 and 3½x5" photos are still available. Details on the *1999* photos mentioned in #3 are upcoming; plus we may soon offer *1999* stationery. Watch for them!

CONVENTION '79 UPDATE 1

Convention plans are going along very smoothly and on schedule. Since *MAIN COMPUTER* #3 was mailed, we've received a steady flow of 3-day membership reservations and from all indications, we're going to have a very successful con. As of mid-March the banquet is half sold out; if you plan to attend the banquet we suggest you make your reservation as soon as possible.

A brief word here about the hotel. Everyone should have received a reservation card from the William Penn with the last newsletter. The card listed all the rates and the room sizes available. If you did not receive a card and want to stay at the hotel, write to ALLIANCE headquarters. If you should need to call the hotel their number is (412) 281-7100. The address is: WILLIAM PENN HOTEL/Mellon Square/ Pittsburgh, PA 15230. Always mention the *SPACE:1999* Convention '79 when you write or call.

Now some news you'll all be very happy to hear:

ANTON PHILLIPS WILL DEFINITELY BE ATTENDING CON '79.

BARRY MORSE HAS TENTATIVELY ACCEPTED OUR INVITATION TO ATTEND CON '79.

We've received very gracious letters from both Anton and Barry. To clarify Barry's tentative answer, here is what he writes: *"...if it turns out that I'm going to be anywhere accessible to Pittsburgh on your dates, I'll surely be with you."* We all hope Barry will be able to attend, and of course are very excited about meeting Anton as well.

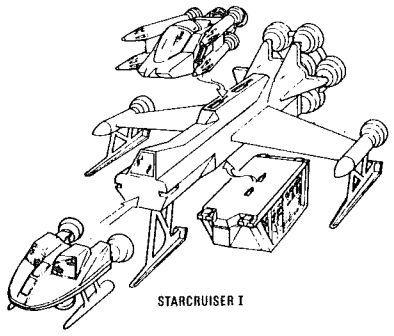
Auction Update

So far, items for the Con '79 auction have been coming in rather slowly, but the pace is beginning to pick up. Just last month we received five original scripts from *SPACE:1999* from Michael Butterworth. Books, annuals and slides have also been received. At this year's auction we'll have a mystery box up for bids. We won't tell you what's in the box of course, but all the items will be sci-fi related. Currently the package weighs 10 pounds; as the box gains weight we'll keep you informed of its size.

Starcruiser 1 Arrives!

Some of the best news we've heard recently is the advent of Gerry Anderson's new spacecraft model *STARCRUISER 1* from USAirfix. When assembled, the model is actually 4 independent units. All members will be delighted to learn that the kit will be available at Con '79, and all profits from the sale will go to the Children's Hospital.

Fuller details on *STARCRUISER 1* are in a recent issue of *STARLOG* Magazine. The models will make their retail debut in several months.



STARCRUISER I

---A REMINDER---

CON '79 Membership rates go up after May 1...send your reservation forms in NOW if you plan to attend!

MAIN COMPUTER goes monthly starting with this issue. We'll be able to give you the very latest news on other star confirmations almost as they are received. Plans call for bulk rate mailing of issues #4 and 5; the last two issues of this volume will probably be mailed first class to be sure everyone gets all the important information in plenty of time for final con preparations.

WANTED: Betasystem Videocassettes of all episodes of: *U.F.O.*, *Thunderbirds*, *Supercar*, *Joe 90*, *Secret Service*, *Fireball XL-5*. And, Betasystem Videocassettes of *Into Infinity*, *The Day After Tomorrow*, *Doppleganger*, *Thunderbird 6*, *Thunderbirds Are Go* and any other Anderson productions. Send SASE for info to Michael Liebich/2171 N. Rockwell/Chicago, IL 60647

---WANTED---

Models or toys of *Fireball XL-5* starship and 'Sky One' from *U.F.O.* Model-kit or toy 'Thunderbird One' from *Thunderbirds*.
Write: Mr. Allen Jones/1600 18th St./Port Arthur, TX 77640

LAST CHANCE! MOONBASE ALPHA Model Kit. This model is no longer made so get yours while you still can! Regularly $5.39; but now only $3.75 plus postage ($1.00). Limited supply so send a check or money order now! John J. Link/48017 Starlite Ct./Fremont, CA 94538

FOR SALE: *SPACE:1999* cassettes for year 2. All episodes recorded. Also available: *Star Trek* episodes on cassettes; also *Lost in Space*, *Outer Limits*. Send SASE for information. M. Totsky/6034 N. 64 St./Milwaukee, WI 53218

FOR SALE: 21 Full Frame 35mm slides from *U.F.O.* blown up from the old *U.F.O.* View-master reels. $10.00 for complete set. Steve Griffis/1718 Alee Dr./Mobile, AL 36605

INTERESTED in trading your Superhero Comics for my *Star Trek* slides, photos, etc.? Then send comic list and SASE for my catalog. Lorne Lecker/5607 Palmer/Montreal, Quebec H4W 2P2/CANADA

STAMP COLLECTORS. Great buys on stamps. SASE or IRC brings info and list. Mark S. Feuer/47 E. 41 St./Bayonne, NJ 07002

HAWK: The Magazine for *SPACE:1999* Fans. Each issue includes stories, reviews, art work and fantastically produced photos. Subscriptions: 1 yr. (6 issues): $6.00; single issue: $1.00. Allen McClearnen/2 Panorama Dr./Patterson, NY 12563. SASE for information.

FOR SALE: BUTTONS & STATIONERY for the following TV series: *SPACE:1999*, *U.F.O.*, *Man/Girl from U.N.C.L.E.*, *New Avengers*, *Voyage*, *Stingray* & others. Also available: CASSETTE RECORDINGS (sound only) from various series new & old. Send 2 stamps (or double stamped legal size envelope) for complete catalog. Sue Cole/2710 Rohlwing Rd./Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

AD RATES (starting with issue #5):
Members: 25¢ per 15 words. Non-members/dealers: $2.00 per 15 words.
PLEASE NOTE: name and address must now be counted when figuring ad costs.

DEADLINE FOR ADS IN ISSUE #5 IS APRIL 10

Watch for...

CLIFTON JONES can be heard as the voice of the rabbit Blakavar in the animated fantasy film *Watership Down*.....ED BISHOP (Commander Straker from *U.F.O.*) appears in *Force Ten from Navarrone*.

Star Addresses

Several ALLIANCE members have asked for star addresses; and several people have sent letters for the stars to ALLIANCE headquarters so that we could forward them. Please note: WE CANNOT GIVE ANY STAR ADDRESSES OUT and WE CANNOT FORWARD MAIL TO THE STARS. If we find that some or all of the stars have addresses you may write to, these addresses will be printed in this newsletter. Thank you for your cooperation.

~Want Ads~

WANTED: All *1999* books (year 2). Anything concerning *1999* or Martin Landau and Barbara Bain. Lea Anne Stanley/208 North St./Batesville, MS 38606

WANTED: *1999* books--*Time Fighters*, *Psychomorph* and cassette tapes of *U.F.O.* Will offer good price. Joey Klemann/3012 Tingler Road West/Richmond, IN 47374

WANTED: *SPACE:1999* Warner Books 1-6, Novels *The Space Jackers*, *The Time Fighters*. Super 8 or 8mm film of *SPACE:1999* episodes. Replicas of stun and commlock. *SPACE:1999* soundtrack of year 2. Cassettes of episodes in year 2. Send list to Wayne Grant/18 Roselawn Cres. N.W./Calgary, Alberta T2K 1K6/CANADA

WANTED: *SPACE:1999* and *U.F.O.* books, fanzines, models, and any other related items. Kathi Overton/2732 N. Harrison St./Arlington, VA 22207

WANTED: Back issues of *STARLOG* Magazine, preferably Issue 7. Send lists and prices. Pat Weadick/R.R.#1/Eaton, OH 45320

WANTED: Detail pictures of Alpha Moonbase, Eagle craft and *SPACE:1999* aliens. Send lists and prices. Pat Weadick/R.R.#1/Eaton, OH 45320

WANTED: Model eagles and parts. Any condition. Please contact Gary Nunn/R.R.#1/ Williamsburg, IN 47393

WANTED: Moonbase Alpha model. Also, eagle models for sale; send price willing to pay. Include SASE. Terry Lemons/129 Cardinal Pl./St. Louis, MO 63103

WANTED: Good recordings of: *Space Brain*, *Sunset*, *Arcadia*, *Black Sun*, *Ring Around Moon*, *Voyager's*, *Wonder I & II*. Send SASE. Christopher Paulsen/1195 Westside Rd./Healdsburg, CA 95448

WANTED: Any *1999* fans to correspond with! Also looking for *Godzilla*, *Dr. Who*, and/or *James Bond* fans to correspond with. Please send SASE! Moonbase Alpha/c/o Bill Pierson/1401 Veale Rd./Wilmington, DE 19810

---WANTED---

SPACE:1999 models, toys, uniforms, badges, transfers, poster magazines, records, and *U.F.O.* models. Will pay.....Commlocks & Stun Guns (reasonable looking), *1999* yr. 1 & 2 soundtracks, also *1999* props.....Yr. 2 novels, 8mm (silent) *Bringers of Wonder*, *Seance Spectre*, *Dorcons*! *1999* poster magazines.....Yr. 2 music song sheets! Alien costume patterns, designs (yr. 2). T-shirt transfers .....*Fireball XL-5*, S.H.A.D.O. interceptor, sky diver models. Moonbuggy blueprints. *1999* folders, character dolls, rare items.....Professional drawings of Yr. 2 creatures, Psychon octopod eyebrows (2), Yr. 2 jackets, uniform belts..... *SPACE:1999* Blueprints, photos of the Maya creatures, *U.F.O.* props.
SELLING: *1999* merchandise guide (100 items).
Write: Ronald James/108 Woodside Ave./Freeport, NY 11520

WANTED: Anything on William Jordan (*Project U.F.O.*, First Year). Also, bubble gum card collectors, he played for the Cincinnati Reds. Have his card? Willing to buy. ALSO WANTED: RCA-VHS unit cassette tape recordings of William Jordan's *Project U.F.O.*'s or someone who can get me shows I don't already have of same on cassettes in their area. Contact Frances Emerson/R.D.#3/ Box 142/Geneva, NY 14456

WANTED: Anything pertaining to *Joe 90*, *Captain Scarlet*, *The Secret Service*, *U.F.O.* and *Doppelganger* including stills, cassette episodes, episode guides and TV listings. Please send prices and list any Anderson questions to Douglas C. Pelton/65 Park St. E./#508/Port Credit, Mississauga, Ontario L5G 1M3/CANADA SASE not necessary.

FOR SALE: *SPACE:1999*, *Battlestar Galactica*, *Star Trek* TV and movie, *Mission:Impossible*, *Silent Running*, *U.F.O.* and other slides. Send envelope and 3 stamps for list to: Glenn Nilsen/59-27 68th Rd./Ridgewood, NY 11227

2068

The first in a 4-part series about the Anderson works. by DOUG PELTON

Before *SPACE:1999*, Gerry Anderson had at least 15 years experience with television. His career could be divided into four phases.

The first phase gave Gerry his first encounters with the industry and his first forms of marionation. Three series of non-sci-fi nature came in the last half of the fifties; they were *Torchy the Battery Boy*, *The Adventures of Twizzle* and a western series *Four Feathers Fall*. Compared to *Joe 90* this material was very home movie-ish.

Gerry's next phase started with the SuperMarionation string with series most familiar to American audiences. *Supercar* came into being in 1959, *Fireball XL5* with Steve Zodiac came about two years later after *Supercar* broke open the U.S. market and started the ITC relationship. *Stingray* followed in 1963, and Gerry's most popular series, *Thunderbirds* came in 1964 and warranted a second year. At this point, the A.P. Films crew made 2 *Thunderbirds* feature films, both for United Artists.

For the next phase, and the rest of the SuperMarionation string, Gerry made a wise decision. He had all new marionettes made for his next 3 series: *Captain Scarlet & the Mysterons* (1967), *Joe 90* (1968), and *The Secret Service* (1969). The marionettes had smaller faces and hands and looked more mature and realistic. Concurrently, the special effects of Derek Meddings and music of Barry Gray underwent changes for the better.

With all of this steam going for him and almost a decade of solid production behind him, Gerry, with Sylvia and the rest of the Century 21 Productions team, made the switch to live actors for the movie *Doppelganger* (aka *Journey to the Far Side of the Sun*) and the classic *U.F.O.* series. After this point, the effectsman Meddings went on to the *Bond* movies and Gerry went on to *The Protectors* (1972) with Robert Vaughn and Tony Anholt. Then it was on to blowing the moon out of orbit.

I would welcome your enquiries about the details I have had to omit for reasons of space. Send your letters to me at: 65 Park St. E./#508/Port Credit/Mississauga, Ontario/CANADA L5G 1M3.

SuperMarionationally Yours,
Doug Pelton

Western U.S. Section

Hello, everybody. Very happy to report membership is growing very nicely in this section, especially in California where I have had to appoint Suzann Molnar as state rep. Thanks to Suzann's efforts, our address was placed in an L.A. paper and it was then picked up by several other papers around the country. As Kathy and John Von Kamp mentioned last time, don't forget bulletin boards, laundromats, word of mouth, any way you can think of to spread the word. If you've suffered the same fate as Oregonians and had *SPACE:1999* cancelled, keep writing; not just to the station which originally aired the series, but to others in your area too, particularly independents.

See you all at the con...
Mary Tchir

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STARLOG Magazine
ALPHA TECH NOTEBOOK
Dept. 2001
475 Park Ave. S. (8th Fl.)
New York, NY 10016

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BY THE ALLIANCE

Alliance News & Info

Mike Rathke reports that Mandala Productions is considering production of *SPACE:1999* fotonovels. If you would like to help convince them to issue such books, write to: MANDALA PRODUCTIONS/8831 Sunset Blvd./Penthouse West/Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Charlene Scott reports that the only *SPACE:1999* book currently still in print with Warner Books is *Planets of Peril*. The book can be obtained by sending $2.00 ($1.50 plus 50¢ postage) and giving the book's serial number (88-341) and title. Mail to: WARNER BOOKS/75 Rockefeller Plaza/New York, NY 10019.

Congratulations go to Matt Butts and other fans of the New Orleans area for mounting a successful letter campaign that convinced their local independent station, WGNO-TV to carry *SPACE:1999*.

ATTENTION CANADIAN/U.S. MEMBERS:
Those who watched *SPACE:1999* on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation stations can write to their headquarters and request a return of the series. CBC no longer runs *1999* because their contract for showing it has expired. If each of you writes in, they may get the message that you want them to pick it up again. Also, you might stress that you'd like to see both years this time. The address is: CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORP./P.O. Box 500/Station "A"/Toronto, Ontario M5W 1E6/ CANADA. Remember to keep your letters brief, to-the-point, and most of all polite. Write today!

SPACE:1999 CONSERVATION CORP.....
If you live in New England and are devoted to *SPACE:1999*, come join us in our thrilling efforts '1999'!! No money; just write:
R.A. Fucillo/215 Lynn Fells Pkwy./Saugus, MA 01906

LUNAR BULLETIN BOARD...
There's been some confusion over exactly what information is required for listing in the Bulletin Board. Here is what you should send Kathi: NAME, ADDRESS (street, city, state, & most importantly your zip code), BIRTHDATE, OCCUPATION (i.e. student, housewife, brain surgeon, etc.), FAVORITE *1999* CHARACTERS, FAVORITE *1999* EPISODES, OTHER INTERESTS & HOBBIES. Also, don't forget to include 50¢ printing/postage costs per edition. The Bulletin Board address is: c/o Kathi Lynn Higley/354 Hewitt Rd./ Mystic, CN 06355/

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NATIONAL SAVE:1999 ALLIANCE
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Permit No. 640

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