FANTASYLAND/AGGIELAND:
A Bibliographic History of Science Fiction and Fantasy at Texas A&M University and in Brazos County, Texas, 1913-1985.

compiled by Bill Page

College Station, TX
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INTRODUCTION
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None of the local activities before 1967 were part of any fannish organizations -- at least not as far as I can determine. There's really no way to pick an exact beginning date for the history of science fiction and fantasy in Brazos County. For example, Bryan had a book store by 1870. It probably sold an occasional fantasy or science fiction novel, such as The Tempest or Frankenstein.

After the end of the Civil War, newspapers, including the Galveston News, could be purchased in the county, as were magazines such as Godey's Ladies Book and Leslies Illustrated Weekly. These carried an occasional sf/f story.

Persons wanting to know more about the early history of newspapers, magazines, libraries, and literary societies in Brazos County should read the chapters "Libraries," "Lodges and Civic Organizations," and "Cultural History: The Arts and Recreation in the Nineteenth Century" in Brazos County History: Rich Past -- Bright Future.

I'm not sure when the first fantasy or science fiction film was shown in the county. Movies came to Bryan at least as early as January 1897, when "the magniscope, Edison's latest and greatest invention in the way of vitascopes" appeared in the Grand Opera House. (See the Bryan Daily Eagle, January 28, 1897, p. 4, cols. 2, 6).
Additional Sources:

Additional material on the fantastic at Texas A&M University after 1985 can be found in several sources.

The Cushing Library maintains the following files:

Subject Collection. A clipping file of articles about Texas A&M University.
   Among the topics of interest:
   Cepheid Variable - includes AggieCon material (Listing through 2006 appended)
   Gould, Steven – biography
   Hall, Hal – biography
   Fantasy Role Players – pictures
   Grommets
   Nova/NovaCon
   Check with the reference staff on duty for additional subjects of interest.

The Battalion – student newspaper of Texas A&M University. Check for articles in time periods not covered in the chronological listing or in the “Subject Collections.”

The Eagle (Bryan-College Station) Check for articles in time periods not covered in the chronological listing or in the “Subject Collections.”
Chronological Listing

1913
"The Microbe of Love" (a play) performed by local talent


1914
No citations.

1915
No citations

1916
No citations

1917
?? "The Microscope Mystery" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, January 6, 1917, p. 5, col. 3

? "Witchcraft" shown at the Dixie Theater

Source: Ad, Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, January 8, 1917, p. 3, col. 3

"The Devil's Prize" shown at the Dixie Theater

Source: Ad, Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, January 23, 1917, p. 3, col. 3

? "The Last Man" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, February 14, 1917, p. 5, col. 3

"Snow White" shown at the Queen Theater

Movies were being shown at A&M at least as early as 1917. For example, see "Picture Show Tonight" Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, June 2, 1917, p. 1, col. 2. This movie was shown in the Chapel. By July the College had an "Airdome" where movies were shown. See "Free Pictures at College," Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot. In November 1918, the airdome was enclosed. See "Airdome to Be Closed In," The Reveille, November 3, 1918, p. 4, col. 1

"The Bottle Imp" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan


? "Alladin Up-to-date" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, June 22, 1917, p. 3, col. 5

"Twenty Thousand Feats Under the Sea" (cartoon) shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, June 25, 1917, p. 3, col. 6
"20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" shown at the Queen Theater in Bryan

   Source: "Great Masterpiece Queen Theater July 4th," Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, July 2, 1917, p. 3, col. 4

"The Haunted Pajamas" shown at the Queen Theater in Bryan


"Aladdin's Other Lamp" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

   Source: Ad, Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, July 21, 1917, p. 3, col. 6

? "The Primrose Ring" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan


? "In Slumberland" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan


"The Brand of Satan" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

   Source: Ad, Bryan Daily Eagle and Pilot, September 27, 1917, p. 3, col. 5

1918

No citations.

1919

No citations.

1920

?? "The Beast" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

   Source: Ad, Daily Bulletin, January 18, 1920, p. 3, col. 2

Article about a talk on the fiction of H.G. Wells; lecture was given as part of the Social Science Seminar.

   Source: Miller, M.A., "Mrs. Boyles Discusses Wells as the Novelist," The Daily
John Kendrick Bangs gave a talk at A&M on March 3, 1920. Bangs was the author of over 50 novels, many of which were humorous fantasy. One of his best known fantasies was *The House-Boat on the River Styx*.

Sources: "Lyceum Course for College is Arranged; Starts this Month," Daily Bulletin, October 15, 1919, p. 1, col. 3
"John K. Bangs is America's Best Known Humorist," Daily Bulletin, Feb. 27, 1920, p. 1, col. 2
"Fifth Number of Lyceum in Guion Hall Wednesday," Daily Bulletin, February 29, 1920, p. 1, col. 1

"At A. and M. -- The Year 2323," Battalion, April 8, 1920, p. 10, col. 4. This story consisted of a few excerpts, supposedly taken from the Daily Bulletin of 2323.

?? "The Girl of the Sea" shown at the Lyric Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, The Daily Bulletin, May 7, 1920, p. 4, col. 1


"An Ex-Buck's Dream of Heaven" Battalion, September 30, 1920, p. 7, col. 2. Heaven has a distinctly military arrangement; reprinted from the American Legion.

Among the novels listed as acceptable reading for English 103 were: Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*; Robert Louis Stephenson's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*; H. G. Well's *Joan and Peter* and *The World Set Free*; and Jules Verne's *Twenty Thousand Leagues Beneath the Sea*


"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" shown at the Dixie. The ad notes that this was a comedy -- it might have been a "short."

1921

"3333 A.D.,” Battalion, Feb. 4, 1921, p. 3, col. 5. Short-short concerning the loss of a unique item in the distant future -- the last cigar.

"The Son of Tarzan" shown at the Dixie

Source: Ad, The Daily Bulletin, September 28, 1921, p. 3, col. 2

"A Message from Mars" shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, The Daily Bulletin, November 21, 1921, p. 3, col. 2

1922

On May 17th, the primary department of the A. and M. Consolidated School presented "The Goblin Fair," an operetta, in Guion Hall

Sources: "Operetta to be Given by Primary Children Tomorrow," The Daily Bulletin, May 17, 1922, p. 4, col. 2
"Operetta to be Given by Primary Children Tonight," The Daily Bulletin, May 18, 1922, p. 3, col. 3

Acceptable reading for English 203 included: Thomas More's Utopia and H. G. Well's A Modern Utopia


Supplemental reading for Freshman english included Samuel Butler's Erewhon

1923

A broadcast on WTAW included "a thorough comparative criticism of H. G. Well's The Outline of History, and Hendrick Van Loon's, The Story of Mankind, by Thomas F. Mayo, librarian ...." 


"The Man Who Saw Tomorrow" shown at the Queen Theater in Bryan

Sources: Ad, Daily Bulletin, January 7, 1923, p. 2, col. 2

Ad, Battalion, January 9, 1923, p. 3, col. 3

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: Ad, Daily Bulletin, March 6, 1923, p. 4, col. 2

"Vengeance of the Deep" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: Ad, Daily Bulletin, May 2, 1923, p. 4, col. 2

"Glimpses of the Moon" and "My Friend the Devil" shown at the Queen Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Bryan Daily Eagle, May 3, 1923, p. 1, col. 6

"Around the World in 18 Days" shown at the Palace Theater

Sources: Ads, Daily Bulletin, May 8, 1923, p. 4, col. 2; May 23, 1923, p. 4, col. 2

"Blind Bargain" shown at the Queen Theater in Bryan


Men Like Gods by H. G. Wells was one of the novels the Bryan Reading Club selected to study

Source: "Reading Club of Bryan to Study Modern Novels for the Season," Bryan Daily Eagle, September 14, 1923, p. 1, col. 1

1924

Bryan women presented the play "Mrs. and Mr. Polly Tickk," set in the year 1975, at the
Palace Theater on January 14, 1924


"While Paris Sleeps" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan


"The Hunchback of Notre Dame" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan


Dante's "Inferno" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Daily Bulletin, October 28, 1924, p. 2, col. 2

List of children's books added to the A & M library included a few which were fantasy, including Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Pinocchio.


?? "The Wolf Man" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Daily Bulletin, December 17, 1924, p. 2, col. 2

1925

"Peter Pan" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Daily Bulletin, March 22, 1925, p. 2, col. 2

"The Monster" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Daily Bulletin, March 29, 1925, p. 2, col. 2

"The Thief of Bagdad" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Daily Bulletin, April 12, 1925, p. 2, col. 7

Edward Bellamy's Looking Backward was among the new books received by the A&M Library

Source: Mayo, Thomas F., "New Books Received in the Library," The Daily
"The Phantom of the Opera" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, The Daily Bulletin, December 13, 1925, p. 4, col. 2

75 students from the A. & M. Consolidated School presented "A Fairy Conspiracy," an operetta, in the Assembly Hall on campus

Sources: "School Children Will Present Operetta," The Daily Bulletin, December 15, 1925, p. 4, col. 1
"Operetta Will Be For Public School Music," The Daily Bulletin, December 16, 1925, p. 3, col. 2
1926

"The Lost World" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan


H. Rider Haggard's *She* was among the new books received by the A&M Library


1927

"Sorrow's of Satan" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, *Bryan Daily Eagle*, March 22, 1927, p. 4, col. 4

"Michael Strogoff" shown at the Queen Theater in Bryan; this adventure movie was neither sf nor fantasy, but it was based on a popular book by Jules Verne.

Source: Ad, *Bryan Daily Eagle*, March 30, 1927, p. 4, col. 4

"The Sorrows of Satan" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: Ad, *Bryan Daily Eagle*, April 19, 1927, p. 4, col. 4

"The Magician" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan


"Faust" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, *Bryan Daily Eagle*, June 22, 1927, p. 4, col. 6

"Tarzan and the Golden Lion" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, *Bryan Daily Eagle*, July 6, 1927, p. 4, col. 4

"The Unknown," with Lon Chaney, shown at the Queen Theater in Bryan


"Marriage," based on a novel by H. G. Well's, shown at the Dixie Theater

Source: Ad, *Bryan Daily Eagle*, August 10, 1927, p. 4, col. 6
"Cupid-up-to-date" performed at the Assembly Hall on Campus


1928

"The Missing Link" to be shown on Nov. 21; "London After Midnight" to be shown on December 8. Both movies shown in the Assembly Hall on campus

Source: Battalion, September 26, 1928, p. 5, col. 1

"The Masks of the Devil" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 21, 1928, p. 7, col. 3

1929

Among other topics, article discusses H. G. Wells and his book The Open Conspiracy


"The Terror" (an "all talking picture") was shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 3, 1929, p. 4, col. 3

Review of H. G. Well's The New Machiavelli

Source: Herbert, R. L, "The New Machiavelli," Battalion, October 2, 1929, p. 8, col. 1

1930

"Engineers' Day Features Robot," Battalion, April 2, 1930, p. 1, col. 1. Fictional "article" in the April Fools' Issue

"Liliom" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Porter, Fred L., "Show Talk," Battalion, November 5, 1930, p. 8, col. 1

1931

"Lilion" shown at the Assembly Hall on campus

Source: Parker, Fred L., "Show Talk," Battalion, January 7, 1931, p. 6, col. 2

Tony Sarg, director of a touring company, presented marionette productions of "Alice in Wonderland" and "Rip Van Winkle" in the Assembly Hall on February 9

Sources: "Marionette Shows in Assembly Hall Monday Afternoon and Evening," Battalion, February 4, 1931, p. 5, col. 1

"Just Imagine" shown in the Assembly Hall on campus

Source: John, Philip, "Show Talk," Battalion, February 11, 1931, p. 8, col. 3

"A Connecticut Yankee" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: "Show Talk," Battalion, April 8, 1931, p. 6, col. 1

John, Philip, "The Private Life of Mrs. Noah," Battalion (magazine), April 15, 1931, pp. 16-17. This short story humorously tells the story of the second Mrs. Noah, not quite as one might expect from having read the Bible.

Miller, Alvin, "Memoritor," Battalion (magazine), April 15, 1931, pp. 20-21, 24-25. This short story concerns a lost race on a Pacific island.

"A Connecticut Yankee" shown in the Assembly Hall on campus

Source: John, Philip, "Show Talk," Battalion, May 27, 1931, p. 3, col. 2

1932

"White Zombie," supposedly the first zombie movie, came out that year. It starred, among others, Madge Bellamy, who had grown up in College Station. She was the daughter and granddaughter of A&M professors.

Sources: "Local Girl Star of Movie for Tomorrow Nights Show," Daily Bulletin, April 22, 1924, p. 2, col. 1

"Feature Story Writers of Dallas Formerly Made Homes in Bryan," Bryan Weekly Eagle, January 10, 1924, p. 2
Hassell, Kate, and Mamie Wynne Cox, "Madge Bellamy, A Darling of the Gods," Houston Chronicle, (Sunday before January 10 ?), 1924; this article is mentioned in the Eagle article listed above.

"Frankenstein" and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" were shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan.

Source: John, Philip, "Show Talk," Battalion, Feb. 3, 1932, p. 4, col. 3

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" and "Freaks" were shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan.

Source: John, Philip, "Show Talk," Battalion, Feb. 24, 1932, p. 4, col. 3

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" was shown in the Assembly Hall on campus.

Source: John, Philip, "Show Talk," Battalion, March 23, 1932, p. 4, col. 2

"Freaks" was shown in the Assembly Hall on campus

Source: John, Philip, "Show Talk," Battalion, March 30, 1932, p. 4, col. 3

1933

"King Kong" was shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Gross, Lewis, "Show Talk," Battalion, May 10, 1933, p. 4, col. 1

1934

"Tarzan the Fearless" shown in the Assembly Hall on campus

Source: "Show Talk," Battalion, January 10, 1934, p. 3, col. 1

"The Invisible Man" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: "Show Talk," Battalion, January 24, 1934, p. 4, col. 1


In 1934, Frank J. Malina graduated from Texas A&M. He had read Jules Verne's From the Earth to the Moon in Czech when he lived in Czechoslovakia as a boy, and this started a lifelong interest in space travel. After graduation he went to Cal Tech where he was a co-founder of the rocket research project there. He got his PhD in aeronautics from Cal
Tech in 1940. In 1953 he turned his full attention to art. He was a pioneer in the early use of light and motion in art. Many of his works dealt with space related themes; titles include "Orbit IV," "Expanding Universe," "Stairways to the Stars," "Nebulae II," "Ursa Major," "The Cosmos," and "Polaris." He founded the journal *Leonardo* in 1968, which deals with the interface between art, science, and technology. Malina died on November 9, 1981.


Biographical Clipping Files, Texas A&M University Archives

"Tarzan and His Mate" shown in the Assembly Hall on campus

Source: "Show Talk," *Battalion*, Oct. 10, 1934, p. 6, col. 1

1935

"Night Life of the Gods" shown in the Assembly Hall on campus

Source: "Show Talk," *Battalion*, Apr. 10, 1935, p. 6, col. 1

"Mark of the Vampire" shown in the Assembly Hall on campus


1936

"The Bride of Frankenstein" shown in the Assembly Hall

Source: Huffhines, Howard, "Show Talk," *Battalion*, January 22, 1936, p. 4, col. 1

"R.U.R." to be presented on April 23, 1936

Sources: "Second Feature on Series to Be Three Act Play," *Battalion*, Nov. 6, 1935, p. 1, col. 3

"The Invisible Ray" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: Huffhines, Howard, "Show Talk," *Battalion*, January 29, 1936, p. 4, col. 2
"Midsummer Nights Dream" shown at Palace Theater

Source: "Midsummer Night to Play at Palace," Battalion, May 6, 1936, p. 8, col. 1


"Things to Come" shown in the Assembly Hall


"The Ghost Goes West" shown at the Assembly Hall

Source: Bentley, Buddy, "Show Talk," Battalion, Nov. 11, 1936, p. 2, col. 3

"Tarzan Escapes" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: Bentley, Buddy, "Cinema Scenes," Battalion (magazine), Nov. 18, 1936, p. 16

1937

Fix, Bob, and Lloyd Crews, "Another Mystery," Battalion (magazine), January 13, 1937, pp. 8-9, 23. This story about a death ray was just a dream, wasn't it?

"Tarzan Escapes" shown at the Assembly Hall

Source: [ad], Battalion, Feb. 10, 1937, p. 6, col. 5

"Topper" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: "Cine-opsis," Battalion (magazine), Sept. 22, 1937, p. 27

"Topper" and "Lost Horizon" shown at the Palace Theater


1938

Front cover of magazine depicts A&M fifty years in the future

Source: Battalion (magazine), March 16, 1938

Calvert, W.A., "The Man Fainted," Battalion (magazine), March 16, 1938, p. 10. A Rip Van Winkle type story set at A&M.

"Streamlined War," Battalion (magazine), May 18, 1938, p. 18. Story concerns a future war sponsored by a toothpaste company as an advertising technique.

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan

Source: "'Snow White' Will Be Shown at 9:30 on Thursday Morn," Bryan Eagle, June 6, 1938, p. 3, col. 5

"Tarzan's Revenge" shown at the Dixie Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, Bryan Eagle, July 30, 1938, p. 6, col. 1

1939

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" shown at the Assembly Hall

Source: Battalion, January 31, 1939, p. 2, col. 3

"Topper Takes a Trip" shown at the Palace Theater


"Frankenstein" and "The Death Kiss" shown in the Assembly Hall

Source: [ad], Battalion, Feb. 24, 1939, p. 2, col. 6

"Tarzan and the Green Goddess" shown at the Dixie Theater

Source: [ad], Battalion, March 31, 1939, p.4, col. 7

"King Kong" shown in the Assembly Hall

Source: Battalion, April 4, 1939, p. 2, col. 4

Out of 50 books the A&M Library purchased based on students' requests, Topper and Topper Takes a Trip were included.
"Son of Frankenstein" shown at the Dixie Theater
Source: [ad], Battalion, May 19, 1939, p. 2, col. 6

"Topper Takes a Trip" shown at the Assembly Hall
Source: Battalion, May 23, 1939, p. 2, col. 6

"The Wizard of Oz" shown at the Palace Theater

"Tarzan Finds a Son" shown at the Assembly Hall on Campus
Source: Nisbet, Bob, Movie Review," Battalion, October 7, 1939, p. 2, col. 3

"The Wizard of Oz" shown at the Assembly Hall
Source: Nisbet, Bob, Movie Review," Battalion, November 14, 1939, p. 2, col. 3

News article concerns Glenn Miller recording two songs from the animated cartoon "Gulliver's Travels"

Shelley's Frankenstein was one of the books suggested for possible purchase by the A&M Library
Source: "New Books Suggested for College Library," Battalion, November 21, 1939, p. 1, col. 2

"On Borrowed Time" shown at the Assembly Hall on Campus

1940

"The Hunchback of Notre Dame," reviewed

Source: Nisbet, Bob, Movie Review, *Battalion* (magazine), January 1940, p. 15

"The Invisible Man Returns" shown at the Queen Theater in Bryan

Source: Ad, *Battalion*, January 23, 1940, p. 2, col. 6

"Gulliver's Travels" shown at the Palace Theater in Bryan


"The Hunchback of Notre Dame" shown at the Palace Theater


"Gulliver's Travels" shown at the Assembly Hall

Source: Gillis, Tom, "Movie Review," *Battalion*, April 23, 1940, p. 2, col. 3

"The Return of Dr. X," shown at the Campus Theater

Source: *Battalion*, June 20, 1940, p. 2, col. 4

"Pinocchio" shown at the Assembly Hall


Robinson, A.J., "A Spiritual Investigation," *Battalion* (magazine), Oct. 1940, pp. 8-9. An Aggie tours the realm of the supernatural, which is surprisingly like A&M.

Nesbit, Bob, "Noilatt Abeht," *Battalion* (magazine), October 1940, pp. 11, 18. Story includes a fortune teller and a witch, and their involvement with a writer working for the *Battalion*.

Granville Hick's *The First to Awaken* is reviewed. The book is about a man who falls asleep in 1940 and awakens in 2040. The book was reviewed by the head of the A&M Library.

"The Mummy's Hand" shown at the Campus Theater

Source: [ad], Battalion, Dec. 5, 1940, p. 3, col. 6

1941

A cartoon alludes to the Orson Welles' "War of the Worlds" broadcast in 1938. The cartoon depicts an Aggie talking to a Martian war machine, saying "G'wan Orson, you can't pull that old gag on us again!"

Source: Battalion (magazine), March 1941, p. 7

"Li'l Abner" shown at the Assembly Hall

Source: [ad], Battalion, March 1, 1941, p. 2, col. 5

"The Invisible Woman" shown at the Campus Theater

Source: Gillis, Tom, "Covering Campus Distractions," Battalion, April 5, 1941, p. 2, col. 5

"The Thief of Bagdad" shown in the Assembly Hall

Source: Babcock, Charlie, "Covering Campus Distractions," Battalion, April 29, 1941, p. 2, col. 5

"Man Made Monster" shown at the Campus Theater

Source: [ad], Battalion, July 30, 1941, p. 4, col. 7

Babcock, Charlie, "Fish Hitler," Battalion (magazine), Sept. 1941, pp. 4-5, 21. During the German invasion of America in 1946, Hitler is captured and sent to A&M as a freshman as punishment for his crimes.

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: [ad], Battalion, Oct. 7, 1941, p. 2, col. 6

"Topper Returns" shown in Guion Hall; this was probably the first sf or fantasy movie shown there.

Source: Vannoy, Tom, "Covering Campus Distractions," Battalion, Oct. 9, 1941, p. 2, col. 5

"Lost Horizon" shown at the Campus Theater
"Here Comes Mr. Jordan" shown at the Campus Theater

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" shown in Guion Hall

1942

"Son of Kong" shown in Campus Theater
Source: [ad], Battalion, Feb. 10, 1942, p. 2, col. 4

On Feb. 13, 1942, the Architects held their annual ball, with a theme of "Things to Come"


"All That Money Can Buy" shown at the Campus Theater
Source: Battalion, March 24, 1942, p. 2, col. 5

"Tarzan's Secret Treasure" shown at Guion Hall
Source: "Covering Campus Distractions," Battalion, March 26, 1942, p. 3, col. 4

"The Monster and the Girl" shown in Guion Hall

"The Wolf Man" shown at the Campus Theater
Source: Vannoy, Tom, "Covering Campus Distractions," Battalion, April 14, 1942, p. 2, col. 5
Freeman, Tanner, Jr., "Fantastic, Indeed," Battalion (magazine), June 1942, pp. 6, 18. An Aggie develops the power to make his wishes come true and ends the war.

"The Ghost of Frankenstein" shown at the Campus Theater

Source: Keith, Jack, "Covering Campus Distractions," Battalion, June 4, 1942, p. 2, col. 3

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" shown in Guion Hall

Source: [ad], Battalion, June 18, 1942, p. 2, col. 5

A local band, called "Five Werewolves from the North Gate," performed on WTAW

Source: "Werewolves, Cadets Broadcast Tonight," Battalion, July 30, 1942, p. 1, col. 5

"Tarzan's New York Adventure" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: [ad], Battalion, August 20, 1942, p. 2, col. 5

"The Body Disappears" shown at Guion Hall


"Tarzan's New York Adventure" shown at Guion Hall


"I Married an Angel" shown in Guion Hall


Ramirez, Al, "Turkeys Strike Against Hotard," Battalion (magazine), Nov. 1942, pp. 11, 23. The Thanksgiving turkeys revolt and battle the Corps of Cadets.

"Here Comes Mr. Jordan" shown in Guion Hall
"Radio Speech Class Presents 'The Devil and Adolph Hitler'," Battalion, Dec. 10, 1942, p. 1, col. 1. Fantasy element of the play is uncertain; it was written by Conrad Bering, Jr., of the WTAW staff.

"Invisible Agent" shown at the Campus Theater

1950

The Library purchased G.F.H. Atherton's Black Oxen (1925)

"Abbott and Costello Meet the Killer, Boris Karloff" shown in Guion Hall

The Library purchased Fredric Brown's The Screaming Mimi (1950). The author of this detective novel also wrote a great deal of science fiction.

The Library purchased Jack Williamson's The Humanoids (1949)

"Black Magic" shown in Guion Hall

Trail, Carroll, "A&M's First Flying Saucer Seen by Former Batt Staffer," Battalion, May 3, 1950, page 1. Aliens on their way from the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Pluto to the Venus Solar System College for Women developed carburetor trouble and landed at A&M. Among other things, the campus police gave them trouble about parking illegally.

"The Amazing Mr. X" shown in Guion Hall
"New Course Added by English Dept." Battalion, May 12, 1950, page 4. Course was "Science in Literature," taught by C.D. Laverty. Laverty's doctoral dissertation at Duke University, dated 1951, was titled "Science and Pseudo-Science in the Writings of Edgar Allan Poe."

"Tarzan's Magic Fountain" shown in Guion Hall

Ad, Battalion, May 24, 1950, page 2

"One Touch of Venus" shown in the Grove

"At the Grove Tonight," Battalion, August 4, 1950, page 1

"Literature 334 Offered in Spring," Battalion, Oct. 4, 1950, page 6. This was "Science in Literature"; the course number is the same as the present science fiction class.

"Destination Moon" was shown at a Bryan movie theater.

Sources: "'Destination Moon' Set Draws 'Brass'," Battalion, Oct. 6, 1950, page 3
Refers to the magazine Science Fiction; perhaps the earliest use of the term "science fiction" I have seen in the Battalion so far.

"The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 12, 1950, page 3

The Film Society (forerunner of Aggie Cinema) organized. It showed several classic films at its first event, including "A Trip to the Moon." This film was apparently the favorite of the approximately 275 students who attended.

Sources: Charlton, George, "'Oldies' on Slate for Film Society," Battalion, Oct. 16, 1950, page 1
"Film Society Opens Season in YMCA," Battalion, Oct. 17, 1950, page 1

"Destination Moon" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 3, 1950, page 4

"Mighty Joe Young" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 10, 1950, page 4
The Library purchased Montague Sumners' *The Supernatural Omnibus* (1931)


"Francis" shown in Guion Hall
Source: *Ad, Battalion*, Dec. 15, 1950, page 7
1951

The Library purchased A. W. Derleth's *Far Boundaries*; 20 Science Fiction Stories (1951)

Source: Cushing Memorial Library *Monthly List of Acquisitions*, 7(4): 16 (February 1952)


This is the Gene Wolfe, award-winning sf writer.

"Two Lost Worlds" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, May 21, 1951, page 3

"The Man from Planet X" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, Sept. 17, 1951, page 2

"Abbott and Costello Meet the Invisible Man" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 17, 1951, page 3


"Prehistoric Women" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 9, 1951, page 4

"The Thing" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 21, 1951, page 5

1952

"The Day the Earth Stood Still" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, January 22, 1952, page 3

"Tarzan and the Leopard Woman" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, January 31, 1952, page 2

"Tarzan and the Slave Girl" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, March 5, 1952, page 3

"Giant Basketball Player Discovered," Battalion, April 1, 1952, page 4. This was a "news" story in the April Fool's edition of the Battalion. The player in question was ten feet tall and came from the swamps near the Navasota River.
"Francis Goes to the Races" shown in Guion Hall  
Source:  Ad, Battalion, April 16, 1952, page 3


"Tarzan and the Amazons" shown in Guion Hall  
Source:  Ad, Battalion, May 2, 1952, page 3

May 9:  The Aggie Follies had a "futuristic theme" -- "1976 -- The First Hundred Years are the Hardest." The theme was life at A&M in the distant year of 1976.  
Sources:  "Aggie Follies Have 'Futuristic Theme'," Battalion, May 8, 1952, page 1  
"Follies Begin Tonight," Battalion, May 9, 1952, page 1

"Harvey" shown in Guion Hall  
Source:  Ad, Battalion, Sept. 19, 1952, page 3

Oct. 16:Walt Kelly spoke at A&M  
Sources:  "Walt Kelly to Speak Here," Battalion, Oct. 14, 1952, page 1  
"Pogo's Papa Hits Trail to Ag Land," Battalion, Oct. 15, 1952, page 1  
"Pogo Visits Aggieland Today," Battalion, Oct. 16, 1952, page 1  
"Welcome Pogo! Feel at Home Here," Battalion, Oct. 16, 1952, page 2  
Kelly, Walt, "Texas is Big One, Walt Kelly Says," Battalion, Oct. 17, 1952, page 1  
"Pogo's Success is in Understanding," Battalion, Oct. 17, 1952, page 2

The A&M Film Society showed "Lost Horizons" in the fall semester and was trying to get "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari."  

"Jack and the Beanstalk" with Abbott and Costello was shown in Guion Hall  
Source:  [ad], Battalion, Oct. 24, 1952, p. 4


The Memorial Student Center sponsored multiple showings of "A Christmas Carol" for College Station children.  

1953
"Alice in Wonderland" shown in Guion Hall
   Source: [ad], Battalion, January 15, 1953, p. 3

"Tarzan's Peril" shown in Guion Hall
   Source: [ad], Battalion, January 21, 1953, p. 3

"Francis Goes to West Point" shown in Guion Hall
   Source: [ad], Battalion, Feb. 4, 1953, p. 3

"Mister Drake's Duck" shown in Guion Hall
   Source: ad, Battalion, February 13, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

"The Son of Dr. Jekyll" shown at the Circle
   Source: Ad, Battalion, February 19, 1953, p. 4, col. 1

Willey Ley spoke on space travel.
   Source: Holder, Ed, "Scientist to Speak on Space Travel," Battalion, March 6, 1953, p. 1, col. 1

   "Rocket Expert Says Space Travel Soon," Battalion, March 11, 1953, p. 4, col. 6

"The Man in the White Suit" shown in Guion Hall
   Source: Ad, Battalion, March 10, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

"Lost Horizon" to be shown on April 7; "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" to be shown on April 10
   Source: "'Pygmalion' Scheduled by Film Society," Battalion, March 10, 1953, p. 4, col. 3


Dante's Inferno was the theme for the Architects' Ball.
   Sources: "'Inferno' is ASABAB Dance Theme," Battalion, March 13, 1953,
"AIA's `Inferno' Burns Saturday," Battalion, March 20, 1953, p. 1, col. 3

"Architects Choose Best Ball Costume," Battalion, March 24, 1953, p. 1, col. 1

"Tarzan's Peril" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 19, 1953, p. 4, col. 1

April 27-28, May 10, 1953: Aggie Players' Production of "Harvey"


"Players to Present Stage Productions," Battalion, Sept. 2, 1952, page 4

"'Harvey' Set as Players Final Show," Battalion, March 31, 1953, p. 1, col. 5

"'Harvey' Planned by Aggie Players," Battalion, April 14, 1953, p. 4, col. 1

"Aggie Players Present 'Harvey' Here May 8," Battalion, April 22, 1953, p. 1, col. 2

"Follies, 'Harvey' Set Friday in Guion," Battalion, May 6, 1953, p. 1, col. 2

"I Walked With a Zombie" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 31, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

"Ghost of Frankenstein" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 10, 1953, p. 3, col. 2

"Angels in the Outfield" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 17, 1953, p. 3, col. 4

"City Beneath the Sea" at the Campus Theater
"Superman and the Mole Men" at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 28, 1953, p. 3, col. 3

"Peter Pan" [Disney cartoon] shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 1, 1953, p. 4, col. 4

"Mr. Peek-a-Boo" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 19, 1953, p. 3, col. 3

"Asylum of Horrors" presented on-stage at the Queen; Frankenstein's monster was to be there "in person"

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 26, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

The Grove schedule noted "... Monday, June 15 -- 'Man from Planet X' science-fiction ...."

Source: Battalion, June 9, 1953, p. 1, col. 1

"Abbott and Costello Go to Mars" shown at the Campus

Source: Ad, Battalion, June 18, 1953, p. 4, col. 1

"Invaders from Mars" shown at the Campus

Source: Ad, Battalion, June 25, 1953, p. 2, col. 7

"The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms" shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, Battalion, July 2, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

"When Worlds Collide" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, July 16, 1953, p. 2, col. 5

"Francis Covers the Big Town" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: Ad, Battalion, August 18, 1953, p. 2, col. 5
"It Came from Outer Space" shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 2, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

"Francis Covers the Big Town" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 6, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

"The Twonky" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 13, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

A Dianetics group was formed at A&M in 1953. Initial articles mention L. Ron Hubbard, and note that his "ideas may sound like science fiction to some people ...." English professor Sam B. Southwell soon raised questions concerning whether the group's ideas were valid, and was especially concerned about A&M's officially recognizing the group. A special committee was formed to look into Dianetics, and the group eventually lost its official recognition. After Southwell left A&M he authored one sf novel.

Sources: "Dianetics Group Formed; Goal is Self-Improvement," Battalion, Oct. 14, 1953, p. 1, col. 3

Bennett, Jerry, "MSC Council Probes Dianetics Study at A&M," Nov. 10, 1953, p. 1, col. 3

Bennett, Jerry, "Dianetics Advisor Answers Council," Battalion, Nov. 11, 1953, p. 1, col. 1

"Dianetics Advisor May Appear Before Specialists Board," Battalion, Nov. 18, 1953, p. 1, col. 1

"Dianetics Group Loses Recognition," Battalion, Nov. 20, 1953, p. 1, col. 2

"The War of the Worlds" shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 15, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

"The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 17, 1953, p. 3, col. 2

"Invaders from Mars" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 20, 1953, p. 5, col. 2
"Francis Covers the Big Town" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 24, 1953, p. 4, col. 2

"Phantom from Space" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 9, 1953, p. 3, col. 1

A local board to censor comics was discussed.

Source: "Comics Censorship Board Discussed," Battalion, Dec, 9, 1953, p. 4, col. 1

1954

The Library purchased Fletcher Pratt's Tales from Gavagan's Bar (1953) and the anthology The Best from Startling Stories (1953).


"The Neaderthal Man" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 6, 1954, p. 3, col. 1

"Tarzan and the She Devil" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, February 3, 1954, p. 3, col. 1

"Tarzan's Savage Fury" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, Feb. 19, 1954, p. 3, col. 1

The Library purchased Fredric Brown's The Lights in the Sky are Stars (1953)


"It Came from Outer Space" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 4, 1954, p. 5, col. 1

"Peter Pan" [Disney cartoon] shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 17, 1954, p. 3, col. 1
"Creature from the Black Lagoon" shown at the Campus Theater

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 19, 1954, p. 3, col. 2

"Riders to the Stars" shown at the Campus Theater

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 8, 1954, p. 4, col. 1

"Donovan's Brain" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 23, 1954, p. 3, col. 2

Dr. Conway W. Snyder, a physicist from Oak Ridge, Tennessee, discounted the possibility of manned space travel in the near future as being like Buck Roger's adventures, in a speech he gave at A.& M.


Sullivan, John C., "Death of a Tradition," MSS. One, 1954, pp. 73-75. Humorous account of the events leading to the last, disastrous bonfire at A&M. The story deals with the then current tradition of making the bonfire larger each year ... by 1975, the bonfire was so large that they had to use the water tower as centerpole, logs from the giant redwoods were used in building the stack, etc.

"Donovan's Brain" shown at the Grove

Source: Ad, Battalion, August 12, 1954, p. 5, col. 1

"Creature from the Black Lagoon" in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, October 1, 1954, p. 3, col. 1

"Phantom of the Rue Morgue" shown in 3-D in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 6, 1954, p. 3, col. 3

"Phantom of the Rue Morgue" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 12, 1954, p. 3, col. 5

"Them" shown in Guion Hall

"Abbott and Costello Meet Jekyll and Hyde" shown at the Skyway Drive-In
   Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 19, 1954, p. 3, col. 5

"War of the Worlds" shown at the Skyway Drive-In
   Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 12, 1954, p. 2, col. 5

Someone printed "Space" in front of the word "patrol" on one of the campus police cars. This apparently referred to the television show of the same name.

"Francis Joins the Wacs" shown at the Skyway Drive-In
   Source: Ad, Battalion, Dec. 14, 1954, p. 4, col. 7

1955

After Lubbock banned "objectionable" comic books, a couple of Aggies bought 10 cent comics in Bryan and sold them for 25 cents in Lubbock.
   Source: "Now They'll Probably Ban Students," Battalion, January 4, 1955, p. 1, col. 5

"The Magnetic Monster" shown in Guion Hall
   Source: Ad, Battalion, March 11, 1955, p. 3, col. 1

"Gog" shown in 3-D at the Campus Theater
   Source: Ad, Battalion, March 24, 1955, p. 3, col. 1

"Space Ships Around A&M Have to Go," Battalion, March 29, 1955, p. 1, col. 4. Despite its title, this article has nothing to do with SF. The article concerns problems with students flying model airplanes in inappropriate areas.

"Francis Joins the Wacs" shown in Guion Hall
   Source: Ad, Battalion, April 12, 1955, p. 4, col. 2

"Conquest of Space" shown at the Palace Theater
"Invaders from Mars" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 21, 1955, p. 5, col. 1

"The Atomic Kid" shown at the Campus

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 29, 1955, p. 2, col. 6

"Riders to the Stars" shown in the Grove

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 5, 1955, p. 2, col. 5


"Riders to the Stars" shown in the Grove

Source: Ad, Battalion, June 30, 1955, p. 4, col. 3

"Rocket Ship XM" was shown in the MSC by the Film Society


"MSC to Present 'Rocket Ship XM'," Battalion, July 28, 1955, p. 5, col. 5

"Here Comes Mr. Jordan" shown in the MSC in the Ballroom

Source: "MSC Film Today; Two Showings," Battalion, August 4, 1955, p. 1, col. 4

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 4, 1955, p. 2, col. 6

"The Thing" shown by the Film Society

Source: "Film Society," Battalion, Oct. 6, 1955, p. 1, col. 6

"20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 6, 1955, p. 2, col. 6

"Tarzan's Hidden Jungle" shown at the Circle

"War of the Worlds" shown at the Skyway Drive-In
Source: Ad, Battalion, Oct. 28, 1955, p. 2, col. 1

"This Island Earth" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 4, 1955, p. 2, col. 2

"Animal Farm" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, Dec. 1, 1955, p. 2, col. 6

"War of the Worlds" at the Circle
Source: Ad, Battalion, Dec. 6, 1955, p. 4, col. 7

1956

"The Atomic Kid" shown at the Circle
Source: Ad, Battalion, January 11, 1956, p. 2, col. 5

"Conquest of Space" shown at the Circle
Source: Ad, Battalion, January 18, 1956, p. 3, col. 3

"Creature from the Black Lagoon" shown at the Circle
Source: Ad, Battalion, January 20, 1956, p. 2, col. 2

"It Happens Every Spring" shown by the Film Society
Source: "Film Society Sets Baseball Picture," Battalion, Feb. 9, 1956, p. 1, col. 4

"Pinocchio" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, Feb. 10, 1956, p. 2, col. 2

"Francis in the Navy" shown at the Palace Theater
Source: Ad, Battalion, Feb. 22, 1956, p. 2, col. 7

"Forever Darling" shown at the Palace Theater

Page 37 of 134
"Tarzan's Hidden Jungle" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, Feb. 28, 1956, p. 2, col. 3

"The Snow Creature" and "Abbott and Costello Meet the Mummy" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 9, 1956, p. 3, col. 7

"The Court Jester" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 13, 1956, p. 2, col. 2

"Tarantula" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 21, 1956, p. 2, col. 2

"Creature with the Atomic Brain" and "It Came From Beneath the Sea" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 22, 1956, p. 2, col. 4

"Target Earth" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 23, 1956, p. 3, col. 1

"Revenge of the Creature" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 6, 1956, p. 2, col. 2

"Kismet" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 10, 1956, p. 2, col. 2

"Abbott and Costello Meet the Mummy" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 13, 1956, p. 2, col. 3

"Revenge of the Creature" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 17, 1956, p. 2, col. 2

"Bride of the Monster" and "Beast With a Million Eyes" shown at the Campus
"20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" shown in Guion Hall  
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 19, 1956, p. 2, col. 1

"This Island Earth" shown at the Circle  
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 22, 1956, p. 3, col. 1

"On the Threshold of Space" shown at the Palace Theater  
Source: Ad, Battalion, May 8, 1956, p. 2, col. 5

"The Wizard of Oz" shown in Guion Hall  
Source: Ad, Battalion, May 17, 1956, p. 2, col. 6

"The Bowery Boys Meet the Monster" shown at the Grove  
Source: Ad, Battalion, May 24, 1956, p. 3, col. 7

"Alice in Wonderland" shown by the Film Society in the MSC Ballroom  
Source: "Center News," Battalion, June 21, 1956, p. 4, col. 4

"Satellite in the Sky" shown at the Palace  
Source: Ad, Battalion, Sept. 6, 1956, p. 3, col. 1

Prof. C. D. Laverty was named chairman of the Student Publications Board. This article gives a good biographical background on him.  
Source: Jones, Welton, "Laverty Named Chairman of Student Publications Board," Battalion, Sept. 13, 1956, p. 3, col. 3

"Carousel" shown at the Skyway Drive-In  
Source: Ad, Battalion, Sept. 18, 1956, p. 2, col. 2

"Carousel" shown in Guion Hall  
Source: Ad, Battalion, Sept. 21, 1956, p. 2, col. 2
"Invasion of the Body Snatchers" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, October 3, 1956, p. 3, col. 1

"The Threshold of Space" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, October 9, 1956, p. 3, col. 3

"The Creature Walks Among Us" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, October 25, 1956, p. 2 col. 2

"Threshold of Space" and "Phantom of the Rue Morgue" shown at the Circle; "Toward the Unknown" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: Ads, Battalion, October 30, 1956, p. 2, col. 2

"The Creature Walks Among Us" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 1, 1956, p. 3, col. 1

"Forbidden Planet" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 6, 1956, p. 2, col. 6

"Jungle Moon Men" shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 20, 1956, p. 2, col. 3

"The Beast with 1,000,000 Eyes," "Cult of the Cobra," and "Tarantula" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 23, 1956, p. 2, col. 3

"The Brain Machine" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 7, 1956, p. 3, col. 7

"The Indestructible Man" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 13, 1956, p. 3, col. 1

"Invasion of the Body Snatchers" shown in Guion Hall; "Chamber of Horrors" and "Human Monster" shown at the Campus
1957

"World Without End" and "The Atomic Man" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 4, 1957, p. 2, col. 5

"Fantasia" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 10, 1957, p. 4, col. 1

"Earth vs. the Flying Saucers" and "The Werewolf" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 17, 1957, p. 5, col. 7

"Francis in the Navy" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 18, 1957, p. 3, col. 1

WTAW broadcast a one-hour play, starring Orson Welles and Mona Freeman, which was based on the book Tomorrow, by Phillip Wylie

Source: "WTAW Broadcast Sunday on Survival," Battalion, January 24, 1957, p. 3, col. 3

"Satellite in the Sky" shown at the Skyway Drive-In; and "Hansel and Gretel" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ads, Battalion, January 24, 1957, p. 4

First time I noticed future Cepheid co-founder Danielle Dabbs mentioned in the Battalion: this article is about her father going to India, taking her and her mother with them....

Source: "Language Prof Granted Leave of Absence," Battalion, February 7, 1957, p. 3, col. 3

"Abbott and Costello Go to Mars" and "Abbott and Costello Meet Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, February 22, 1957, p. 2, col. 6

"Gamma People" and "1984" shown at the Queen
"Unidentified Flying Objects" shown at the Circle
Source: Ad, Battalion, March 6, 1957, p. 2, col. 3

"Francis in the Haunted House" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, March 15, 1957, p. 3, col. 3

The Architecture Society's annual ball theme was "Fantasia"
Sources: "Arch. Pick Franklin's for Dance," Battalion, March 19, 1957, p. 1, col. 6

Walt Kelly was one of the speakers at a journalism conference held from March 21 to March 23
Sources: "Creator of Pogo to Speak Here in March," Battalion, Dec. 12, 1956, p. 1, col. 6
"Walt Kelly Featured Here Thursday Night in Guion," Battalion, March 19, 1957, p. 1, col. 2
"W. Kelly Talk Opens SWJC Tonite in Guion," Battalion, March 21, 1957, p. 1, col. 1

"The Creature Walks Among Us" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, March 22, 1957, p. 4, col. 7

"The Incredible Shrinking Man" shown at the Campus
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 2, 1957, p. 3, col. 2

"Francis in the Hot [sic] House" shown at the Circle
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 5, 1957, p. 3, col. 2

"Man in Space" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 11, 1957, p. 2, col. 7
"Curucu, Beast of the Amazon" and "Mole People" shown at the Circle
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 12, 1957, p. 5, col. 2

"The Man Who Turned to Stone" and "Zombies of Mora Tau" shown at the Campus
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 17, 1957, p. 3, col. 2

"Francis in the Haunted House" shown at the Skyway Drive-In
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 24, 1957, p. 3, col. 2

May 1 to ?; "Don Juan in Hell" presented by Aggie Players
Source: "Don Juan in Hell Opens in MSC," Battalion, May 1, 1957, p. 2, col. 4

"Attack of the Crab Monsters" and "Not of This Earth" shown at the Palace Theater
Source: Ad, Battalion, May 17, 1957, p. 2, col. 1

"Satellite in the Sky" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, May 24, 1957, p. 3, col. 1

"War of the Worlds" shown at the Grove
Source: Ad, Battalion, July 18, 1957, p. 3, col. 5

"Jungle Moonmen" shown at the Grove
Source: Ad, Battalion, July 25, 1957, p. 2, col. 7

"Tarzan's Hidden Jungle" shown at the Skyway Drive-In
Source: Ad, Battalion, September 12, 1957, p. 6, col. 2

"Pharaoh's Curse" and "Voodoo Island" shown at the Queen
Source: Ad, Battalion, September 19, 1957, p. 2, col. 7

"Curucu, Beast of the Amazon" and "Mole People" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, October 3, 1957, p. 3, col. 1
"This Island Earth" shown at the Skyway Drive-In; "20 Million Miles to Earth" shown at the Campus

Source: Ads, Battalion, October 4, 1957, p. 2

"The Invisible Boy" shown at the Palace; the credits list "Robby, the Robot"

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 5, 1957, p. 5, col. 6

"Attack of the Crab Monsters" and "Not of This Earth" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 14, 1957, p. 3, col. 1

"Toward the Unknown" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 19, 1957, p. 2, col. 7

"The Curse of Frankenstein" and "20 Million Miles to Earth" shown at the Skyway Drive-In; "Rodan, the Flying Monster" shown at the Campus

Source: Ads, Battalion, December 3, 1957

"Kronos" shown at the Circle Drive-In; "The Animal World" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 6, 1957, p. 2

"The Abominable Snowman" shown at the Palace Theater

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 10, 1957, p. 2, col. 3

"Beast of Hollow Mountain" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 18, 1957, p. 2, col. 5

1958

"Kronos" and "She Devil" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 9, 1958, p. 2, col. 4

"From Hell it Came" and "The Disembodied" shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 16, 1958, p. 3, col. 1
"Deadly Mantis" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 30, 1958, p. 2, col. ?

"The Incredible Shrinking Man" shown in Guion Hall; "On the Threshold of Space" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ads, Battalion, February 7, 1958, p. 3

Dr. Carroll Laverty spoke on Edgar Allen Poe to the local poetry society.

Source: "Poetry Group Has Program on E.A. Poe," Battalion, February 13, 1958, p. 6, col. 2

"Francis in the Haunted House" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, February 14, 1958, p. 2, col. 6

"The Monster that Challenged the World" shown at the Circle; "The Story of Mankind" shown at the Campus

Source: Ads, Battalion, February 28, 1958, p. 2

"Up in Smoke" and "Sabu and the Magic Ring" shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 7, 1958, p. 2, col. 5

"20 Million Miles to Earth" and "The 27th Day" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 13, 1958, p. 2, col. 3

"Rodan, the Flying Monster" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 18, 1958, p. 2, col. 6

"The Beast of Hollow Mountain" and "Rodan ! The Flying Monster" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 28, 1958, p. 3, col. 1

"I Was a Teenage Werewolf" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 25, 1958, p. 2, col. 3

"I Was a Teenage Werewolf" and "Invasion of the Saucer Men" shown at the Skyway
Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 29, 1958, p. 2, col. 5

"Tarzan and the Lost Safari," "Spook Chasers," and "20 Million Miles to Earth" were shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 9, 1958, p. 3, col. 3

"The Giant Claw" and "The Night the World Exploded" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 15, 1958, p. 2, col. 5

"Invasion of the Saucer Men" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 16, 1958, p. 2, col. 4

"Tarzan and the Lost Safari," "The Unknown Terror," and "Back from the Dead" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 22, 1958, p. 8, col. 3

"The Threshold of Space" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, June 5, 1958, p. 2, col. 4

Letter from Matthew P. Murphy, dated 28 June 1958, to John W. Campbell (on microfilm of Campbell's letters held by A&M Library). Murphy was an Air Force Pilot, who is working on a masters degree in electrical engineering. He wanted information from Campbell so that he could write his masters' thesis at A&M on psi machines.

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, October 7, 1958, p. 3, col. 1

"The Fly" shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, Battalion, October 8, 1958, p. 3, col. 2

"The Fly" shown at the Campus

Source: Ad, Battalion, October 9, 1958, p. 5, col. 4

"The Abominable Snowman" shown at the Skyway Drive-In
"Damn Yankees" shown at the Palace

Source: Lyle, Henry, "Movies Highlighted with 'Yankees,' 'Cat,'" Battalion, October 22, 1958, p. 4, col. 6

"X ... the Unknown" and "The Curse of Frankenstein" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, October 23, 1958, p. 5, col. 6

Dr. Harry P. Kroitor came to A&M.

Sources: "English Professor Says Snow Heavy in Saskatchewan," Battalion, October 24, 1958, p. 3, col. 3


"Francis in the Haunted House" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, October 31, 1958, p. 5, col. 2

"Queen of Outer Space" and "Space Monster X7" shown somewhere ??

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 13, 1958, p. 2, col. 3

"Curse of the Demon" and "Revenge of Frankenstein" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 14, 1958, p. 2, col. 3

"The Monolith Monsters" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 14, 1958, p. 3, col. 7

"The Fly" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 10, 1958, p. 2, col. 6

"How to Make a Monster" and "Teenage Caveman" shown at the Campus

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 11, 1958, p. 2, col. 4

"The Revenge of Frankenstein" shown in Guion Hall
1959


"The Return of Dracula" shown in Guion Hall

"Tom Thumb" shown at the Queen

"From the Earth to the Moon" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

"Tarzan's Fight for Life" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

"It Conquered the World" and "She Creature" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

"Return of Dracula" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

"The Spider" and "The Brain Eaters" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

"Screaming Skull" and "Terror from the Year 5000" shown at the Queen

"Macabre" and "Hell's Five Hours" shown in Guion Hall

"Voodoo Woman," "The Undead," and "The Colossus of New York" shown at the Queen
Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 6, 1959, p. 3, col. 2

"War of the Satellites" and "Attack of the 50 Ft. Woman" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 12, 1959, p. 3, col. 1

"Fantastic Friday 13 Spook Show" consisting of "Macabre" and "Hell's Five Hours" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 13, 1959, p. 2, col. 5

"The 7th Voyage of Sinbad" shown at the Circle; "Peter Pan" shown in Guion Hall; and "20 Million Miles to Earth" and "War of the Worlds" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ads, Battalion, March 20, 1959, p. 2

"The Lost Continent" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 24, 1959, p. 2, col. 5

"House on Haunted Hill" shown at the Palace; "Sabu and the Magic Ring" shown in Guion Hall; "Viking Women and the Sea Serpent" and "The Astounding She Monster" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ads, Battalion, April 3, 1959, p. 3

April 7: Town Hall brought "Li'l Abner"

Sources: Aggieland, 1959, page 272.
[no title], Eagle, April 7, 1959
Lindley, Vic, "'Abner' Musical Delights Final Town Hall Audience," Eagle, April 8, 1959

"Town Hall Hosts Li'l Abner April 7," Battalion, March 24, 1959, p. 6, col. 1
"Town Hall to Present 'Li'l Abner' Tuesday," Battalion, April 2, 1959, p. 1, col. 1
"'Li'l Abner' Show Tonight at 8 p.m.," Battalion, April 7, 1959, p. 1, col. 2
"Uniqueness, Color Make 'Abner' a Hit," Battalion, April 8, 1959, p. 2, col. 4

"The Black Scorpion" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 7, 1959, p. 3, col. 3

"The 7th Voyage of Sinbad" shown at the Skyway Drive-In
"Revenge of Frankenstein" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 9, 1959, p. 2, col. 3

"Curse of the Demon" shown at the Circle; "The Blob" and "I Married a Monster from Outer Space" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ads, Battalion, April 10, 1959, p. 2, col. 3

"House of Dracula" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 17, 1959, p. 4, col. 7

"Cosmic Man" and "Giant Behemoth" shown at the Queen

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 17, 1959, p. 5, col. 1

"Attack of the Puppet People" and "War of the Colossal Beast" shown at the Skyway Drive-In

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 1, 1959, p. 3, col. 3

"The Fly" shown at the Circle

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 5, 1959, p. 2, col. 2

May 4-9: Aggie Players presented "The Tempest"


"Ag Players Open 'Tempest' Production Wednesday Nite," Battalion, May 1, 1959, p. 1, col. 3

"Ag Players' 'Tempest' Opens in Guion Tonight," Battalion, May 6, 1959, p. 1, col. 5


"Fiend Without a Face" and "The Haunted Strangler" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, May 21, 1959, p. 3, col. 1

Source: Hord, Dean, "Grove to Provide Top Movie Entertainment," Battalion, July 16, 1959, p. 2, col. 5

*Beginning with September 1, 1959, I only listed films shown on the A&M campus.

"Damn Yankees" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, September 29, 1959, p. 2, col. 3

"From the Earth to the Moon" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 12, 1959, p. 3, col. 1

"Bell, Book, and Candle" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 24, 1959, p. 4, col. 7

"Tom Thumb" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 3, 1959, p. 4, col. 5

"7th Voyage of Sinbad" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 10, 1959, p. 2, col. 4

"Teenagers from Outer Space" and Gigantis the Fire Monster" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 11, 1959, p. 2, col. 7

1960

"Brigadoon" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 7, 1960, p. 2, col. 4

"House on Haunted Hill" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 21, 1960, p. 2, col. 3

"The Blob" shown in Guion Hall
"I Married a Monster from Outer Space" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, February 26, 1960, p. 2, col. 3

"Darby O'Gill and the Little People" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, March 4, 1960, p. 2, col. 4

"Monster on the Campus" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, March 17, 1960, p. 4, col. 1

"The Mummy" and "Curse of the Undead" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, March 25, 1960, p. 2, col. 3

"Hercules" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, March 31, 1960, p. 4, col. 2

"The Fiend Who Walked the West" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 1, 1960, p. 3, col. 4

"Have Rocket, Will Travel" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 8, 1960, p. 2, col. 4

"The Flame Barrier" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, April 8, 1960, p. 2, col. 6

"The Man Who Could Cheat Death" and "Li'l Abner" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, October 13, 1960, p. 3, col. 6

"The Lost World" shown in Guion Hall
Source: Ad, Battalion, December 8, 1960, p. 4, col. 8

1961

"The Time Machine" shown in Guion Hall

Page 52 of 134
"On the Beach" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, January 13, 1961, p. 2, col. 3

Letter to the editor from Prof. R.W. Barzak. Letter protested the proposal to change the name of A&M. In the new name (which was eventually adopted), the "A & M" would not stand for anything. Barzak compared this to the doublespeak of Orwell's 1984.

Source: Barzak, R.W., "Orwellian Ring," Battalion, April 14, 1961, p. 2, col. 4


"Village of the Damned" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, September 21, 1961, p. 2, col. 4

The Intelligent Man's Guide to Science by Isaac Asimov was one of several books mentioned...


1962

"The Time Machine" was shown in Guion Hall


"The Fly" and "The Thing" were shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 2, 1962, p. 2, col. 5

"Visit to a Small Planet" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, November 30, 1962, p. 4, col. 3

need earth men.

1963

"English 334, Science in Literature, is offered only in alternate years. Students study the main development in the history of science as reported in the literature of the Western World. Dr. C.D. Laverty teaches the course, which has two courses in English at the sophomore level as its prerequisite."

Source: "Three Electives in English to be Offered During Spring," Battalion, January 31, 1963, p. 3, col. 1

Schultz, Bob, "The Cheat," Review 4(3): 10-11, 29 (Spring 1963). A man sells his soul for immortality; he is then the only survivor of a nuclear war.


Source: "Among the Profs," Battalion, February 26, 1963, p. 3, col. 1

"A Thousand and One Arabian Nights" (with Mr. Magoo) and "Bell, Book and Candle" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 8, 1963, p. 2, col. 6


"Journey to the Center of the Earth" shown at the Grove

Source: Ad, Battalion, June 13, 1963, p. 2, col. 5

"Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea" shown at the Grove

Source: Ad, Battalion, June 27, 1963, p. 2, col. 3

Prof. C. D. Laverty presented a paper, "Astronomical Lore in the Works of Edgar Allan Poe" at the South-Central Modern Language Association's annual meeting


Willey Ley spoke at the Space Fiesta on February 13

"Noted Rocket Scientist Next 'Fiesta' Speaker," *Battalion*, February 11, 1964, p. 1, col. 1
Wright, John, "Ley Predicts Soviet Moon Shot Attempt," *Battalion*, February 14, 1964, p. 1, col. 4

"Forbidden Planet" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, *Battalion*, February 21, 1964, p. 2, col. 6

"The Day the Earth Caught Fire" shown in Guion Hall


The Aggie Players presented "Dr. Faustus" on April 13-18

"Aggie Players to Present Marlowe's 'Doctor Faustus'," *Battalion*, April 10, 1964, p. 1, col. 5

"Mysterious Island" shown in Guion Hall


"Zotz" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, *Battalion*, October 8, 1964, p. 2, col. 3

"4-D Man" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, *Battalion*, November 6, 1964, p. 2, col. 6

The Aggie Players presented "The Death of Satan" on November 9-14
"Death of Satan in Rehearsal Ten Feet Down," Battalion, Sept. 24, 1964, p. 3, col. 1
"Players Make 4 `Satan' Changes," Battalion, October 9, 1964, p. 1, col. 4
"`Death of Satan' to Open Monday," Battalion, November 5, 1964, p. 1, col. 5
"Satan's Death to be Acted Monday Night," Battalion, November 6, 1964, p. 1, col. 3
Hunt, Jim, "Play is Testament of Time of No Virtues, Vice," Battalion, November 10, 1964, p. 3, col. 1
"`Death of Satan' Nears Conclusion," Battalion, November 13, 1964, p. 3, col. 7

"The Birds" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, December 10, 1964, p. 4, col. 6

1965

"The World, The Flesh and the Devil" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, Feb. 5, 1965, p. 2, col. 5

Edgar Pangborn's Davy reviewed


"Earth vs. the Flying Saucers" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, March 11, 1965, p. 2, col. 4

On April 8 Prof. Carroll D. Laverty spoke on "Caverns Measureless to Man -- A View of Poe and Hawthorne," at the English Dept.'s second annual spring literary festival.

Sources: "Spring English Literary Fete Set April 7-13," Battalion, March 4, 1965, p. 1, col. 1
"Literary Fete Hosts Laverty," Battalion, April 8, 1965, p. 4, col. 2

"It Happens Every Spring" and "War of the Worlds" shown in Guion Hall

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 22, 1965, p. 2, col. 2

The Grove schedule for June included:

June 10, "Fall of the House of Usher"; June 12, "Moon Pilot"; June 13, "Forbidden Planet"; and June 17, "Journey to the Center of the Earth"

Source: "Grove Theater Improves Slate," Battalion, June 10, 1965, p. 1, col. 1
A copy of the Battalion was returned by the Post Office. The puzzled secretary looked for the town in a directory, and then looked for the student's name. Finally, someone explained to her what was going on: the address was C. Kent, 612 Krypton Dr., Metropolis, Texas...


Reprinted: Review 8(1): 7-8, 14, 20 (Fall 1966)
The Devil to Pay and Other Stories. Fort Smith: South and West, Inc., 1967.

Peirce was a long-time A&M English professor. He is a writer of mystery stories but has apparently written almost no fantasy or science fiction. Some of his stories are borderline genre; they concern the "missing years" of Shakespeare in which he acted as an amateur detective.

Sources: English Bulletin, no. 6, January 29, 1971
"He's No Puritan, Has a Sharp Eye," Battalion, April 11, 1974
Biographical Clippings File, Texas A&M University Archives


1966

Article about Harry P. Kroitor's collection of works relating to 18th Century science.

Source: Fuller, John, "Prof Collects Documents," Battalion, April 5, 1966, p. 1, col. 2

Several churches and the Hillel Foundation co-sponsored a showing of "1984" at the Hillel Building


"UC Will Publish Kroitor's Works," Battalion, November 11, 1966, page 1, col. 5
1967

Article about Prof. J. F. Peirce teaching a creative writing course -- English 325. Types of fiction chosen by previous students included "science fiction."

Source: "Peirce to Teach Creative Writing," Battalion, January 11, 1967, p. 2, col. 3

"The Syncopated Psychedelic Time Funnel, or Time Trapped on the Brazos at Gunbutt" was the Aggie Follies presented by the Aggie Players. It was sort of a joint parody of "The Time Tunnel" and "Gunsmoke."

Sources: "Players to Present Follies," Battalion, May 9, 1967, p. 3, col. 4


"Bell, Book and Candle" was one of the summer movies in the Grove.


"The Fly" shown at the Grove

Source: "At the Grove," Battalion, August 10, 1967, p. 6, col. 4

Scences from "Alice in Wonderland" presented in the Bryan Civic Auditorium by a group of 13 to 15 year olds.


Cepheid Variable was first organized as a club during the fall of 1967. Annette Bristol and Danielle Dabbs attended the World Science Fiction Convention over Labor Day weekend, and came away convinced that they would have to start a science fiction club at A&M. Annette Bristol Poth was president of the club; Danielle Dabbs, sec.; Mark Guy, v.p.; John Moffitt, treas.; and Leonard Nimoy, "sweetheart." Other members pictured include: T. Barmum, G. Baxter, R. Black, G. Byrd, J. Conway, W. Dowden, and James Forehand (sponsor).

Sources: The club's picture and list of officers appeared in the `68 Aggieland.

Thomas, Kate, "'Tarzan' Nets $8, Some More," Eagle, March 28, 1971, section A, page 1, col. 6

"The Haunting of Hill House" performed by StageCenter, Inc., at the Bryan Civic Auditorium on December 8-10

Source: "StageCenter to Perform Haunting Play," Battalion, December 6, 1967, p. 1, col. 2

1968

Joanne Burger published her first issue of SF Published in ..., which covered books published in 1967.

"The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" shown on March 18

Sources: Ad, Battalion, February 29, 1968, p. 5, col. 3

"Film Classics to be Shown Here Monday," Battalion, March 15, 1968, p. 1, col. 7

Cepheid Variables Science Fiction Club was one of several clubs mentioned.


"The Time Travelers" shown at the Grove

Source: Ad, Battalion, June 13, 1968, p. 2, col. 3

"Fahrenheit 451" and "The Incredible Shrinking Man" shown at the Grove

Source: Ad, Battalion, June 20, 1968, p. 2, col. 3

"Harvey" was presented by the Premiere Players, teenagers of Bryan -- College Station

Source: "Premiere Players Feature 6-Foot Rabbit," Battalion, July 11, 1968, p. 6, col. 3

"Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea" and "Flesh and Fantasy" were shown at the Grove

Source: Ad, Battalion, July 18, 1968, p. 2, col. 3

Letter (dated July , 1968) from future Cepheid, Barbara Banta, of Fort Worth, submitting story to John W. Campbell (in microfilm copies of Campbell's correspondence located at the A&M Library). Banta notes that she was only 14; Campbell tells her that the story is probably marketable, but that he can't buy it.
"Tales of Terror" shown at the Grove

Source: Ad, Battalion, Aug. 1, 1968, p. 2, col. 2

A response to a letter from Barbara Banta written by John W. Campbell, rejecting another submission. His letter is dated September 22, 1968.

Letter from Virginia Blattner, of College Station, to John W. Campbell (located in microfilm copy of Campbell's correspondence available at Texas A&M Library). Campbell's response is date October 31, 1968. Blattner attacks Campbell's support of George Wallace for President, accusing Wallace of being a racist.

Dec. 1968, Triskelion #2 published. This was a Star Trek fanzine.

1969

Annette Bristol was still president. Meetings were being held twice a month. Cepheid had 25 members. It was an English Department sponsored club with Jim Forehand and Dr. Harry Kroitor as co-sponsors. The club mascot was Pharaoh the cat.


Air Force Ball (had a theme of life in the year 2069). Although there is no stated connection with AggieCon I, held the following week, the timing is interesting.

Source: "Dream Queen' To Be Selected at Saturday's Air Force Ball," Battalion, April 18, 1969, page 1

AggieCon I (not called AggieCon until much later)

Originally called "Science Fiction Week"

Dates: April 21-24, 1969

Co-sponsored by Creative Arts Committee and Cepheid Variable

Guest of Honor: Harlan Ellison
Artist Guest of Honor: None
Toastmaster: None
Special Guest: None
Media Guest: None
Other Guests: Chad Oliver

Guests who cancelled: None
Con chair:
Other con officers:

Films:

Other Notable Events: Ellison read "Shattered Like a Glass Goblin"

Apparently there was an art contest.

Ellison claimed to have talked to nearly 30 classes in four days.

Ellison also appeared on a local "women's" talk show -- "Town Talk"

During this visit to Texas Ellison first met Lisa Tuttle and had the best barbeque he'd ever eaten -- these were the only two positive things he had to say about the visit.

Among other topics, Ellison discussed his participation in the Civil Rights movement.

Sources: Burger, Joanne, [letter], Yandro, no. 188, May 1969, page 27
Huddleston, Tony, "'Mod' SF Author Speaks 'Lightly' on Writing Art," Battalion, April 23, 1969, page 1
"Science Fiction Art Exhibit is Planned," Eagle, April 18, 1969, section A, page 6, col. 3
"Science Fiction Author Writing It Like It Is," Bryan Daily Eagle, April 23, 1969, section A, page 3, col. 1

"Dinny and the Witches" performed by Aggie Players on October 14-16, 22-24

Sources: "Cast of Players Named in `Dinny and the Witches'," Battalion, September 25, 1969, p. 3, col. 5

"Aggie Players Open Season With `Dinny',' Battalion, October 15, 1969, p. 4, col. 7

McClellan, Tom, "'Emotional Brew of Stimuli,'" Battalion, October 16, 1969, p. 3, col. 1

Robinson, Bob, "'Dinny and Witches' Opens Wednesday for Last Week," Battalion, October 21, 1969, p. 1, col. 5

"Animal Farm" shown in the Coffee Loft at North Gate, but the United Campus Christian Fellowship

Source: "Film, Songsters at Coffee Loft," Battalion, December 10, 1969, p. 4, col. 2

1970

"Alphaville" shown January 9, 1970, in the MSC Ballroom as part of the Fall Film Festival

Source: "'Alphaville' Film Here Friday," Battalion, January 8, 1970, p. 3, col. 5


In the fall of 1970 Gary S. Mattingly attended A&M. He had been told that there was an SF club here. Finding none (Cepheid had officially dissolved after the AggieCon I fiasco), he re-organized Cepheid Variable. He became Cepheid's second president. Other members included Annette Bristol, Danielle Dabbs, Brad D. Ellis, Steve Goble, Hal Hall (advisor), David John Hastie (p.r.), Danny Hill (social activities), Bill Kostura (sec.), Floyd Lightsey, John R. Moffitt (v.p. and auctioner), John Ralph (treasurer), Bob Stahl, Stanley Sutton, and Jay Vorhees. Danielle, Annette, and John Ralph were in charge of films.

Cepheid Variable meetings noted:

Source: Battalion, Sept. 25, 29, 1970, both on p.2, etc.

Nov. 10: Arthur C. Clarke spoke at A&M. He was sponsored by Great Issues.

1971:

Overload #1 by Su Masters came out. This fanzine concerned Scotty (James M. Doohan) on Star Trek.

Triskellion #4 also came out in 1971?


January 1971, Cepheid Variable #3 published.

The January issue of Cepheid Variable had an article by Prof. J. Frank Peirce of the A&M English Dept., as did the Dec. issue.

"On a Clear Day ... " Battalion, January 29, 1971, page 2, column 2.

AggieCon II (not called AggieCon until later)
The Eagle refers to the convention as "Comics Sell and Trade Convention"

Dates: March 1971

Guest of Honor: none
Artist Guest of Honor: none
Toastmaster: none
Special Guest: none
Other Guests: none

Guests who cancelled:

Con chair:
Other con officers:

Films: Bride of Frankenstein
In *Cepheid Variable* # 4, Bob Stahl described the con thus: "One pseudo-convention was held one weekend about 3 weeks ago. Some people came up from Houston, we showed a film, an auction was held, and various dealers' tables were set up. Comic books, paperbacks, zines, Playboys, and various other what nots, with even mention in local newspapers."

Sources:  Thomas, Kate, "'Tarzan' Nets $8, Some More,"  *Eagle*, March 28, 1971, section A, page 1, col. 6
Stahl, Bob, *Cepheid Variable* # 4 (May 1971), p. 2

*Cepheid Variable* met in the Physics Building on Monday, March 29, 1971

Source:  *Battalion*, March 26, 1971, p. 2, col. 5

Aggie Cinema scheduled a science fiction night in April 1971 ...

Sources:  *Battalion*, February 11, 1971, page 4, col. 6


On Thursday at A&M.

"The Other Side of the Sun" reviewed

Source:  *Eagle*, April 5, 1971, section C, page 9, col. 1

William M. Kostura, a member of *Cepheid Variable*, won an Appreciation Award form the MSC Chess Club

Source:  *Battalion*, April 14, 1971, p. 1, col. 5

Daniel Keyes, author of *Flowers for Algernon*, spoke. He was sponsored by the Contemporary Arts Committee.


Letter from Brady Elliot, A&M student, to John W. Campbell, apparently written in May 1971 (copy in microfilm copies of John W. Campbell's papers located at the A&M Library). Elliot describes himself as "one of those long-haired weirdos" and supports Campbell's views in an earlier editorial about the "Now Generation."


May ? 1971, *Cepheid Variable* # 4 published; Gary Mattingly editor. This issue listed the
officers for Fall as being: Bob Stahl, president; John Ralph, vice president; Steve Goble, secretary; and Stanley Sutton, treasurer.

"Bob [Stahl] reports he is no longer president of the A&M group due to a big hassle, but he thinks he's still editor ...."

Source: Purple Obscenity # 60


The Club received $200 in Exchange Store profits for use during the 1971/72 school year.

Movies shown during the 1971/72 school year included: Casino Royale, Cyborg 2087, Haunted Palace, House of Usher, House on Haunted Hill, 1984, 7th Voyage of Sinbad, 3 Worlds of Gulliver, and Wild in the Streets. Serials shown were: Buck Rogers and the Phantom Empire.

The first Cepheid Variable constitution was adopted during the 1971/72 school year (about the time of Stanley # 4).

Late in the fall of 1971 Steve Goble was summoned to the Dean of Students office. He took Brad Ellis along. It "seemed" that a California fan had sent a copy of Stanley to the Texas Attorney General's office to find out why Cepheid was "official state business." The issue was resolved in favor of Cepheid. After a lot of ill will was generated, the fan in California convinced Cepheid that he never received the fanzine and that it must have been intercepted on its way to him, and apologies were issued.

Source: Stanley # 7

Cepheid Variable # 6

At some point in the early 1970s, Cepheid produced an award called the Goble Award. In those days Cepheid met in the Physics Building. Steve Goble stood on top of a lab table, hit his head on the ceiling, and nearly knocked himself out. Bob Ziegenhals and Bill Williams cast a solid lead rocket, and named the award after Gobles. The idea was that if you got the award, you were supposed to carry it around with you.

Cepheid Variable held its first meeting in the MSC (at this time, most meetings were held in the Physics Building).


Sept. ? 1971: Cepheid Variable # 5 published; Bob Stahl editor.
Cepheid Variable had a big Halloween party. "Bob Stahl and the A&M gang invited us up for their Halloween bash; Oct. 30; I was going to have a party that night, but if too many of us are going to A&M I won't. Su's going with Daniel and Terry and can take one more person ...."

Source: Purple Obscenity # 59, 1971.


Nov. 15-20,1971: The Aggie Players staged a production of Blythe Spirit

Sources: English Bulletin 2(10): 1 (Nov. 12, 1971)
"Aggie Players to Perform in First Major Production," Battalion, Nov. 11, 1971, page 1

Weird Tails, vol. 1, no. 1, published sometime in 1971; John R. Moffitt was the editor.


1972


"Science Fiction Course Taught by English, Physics, Psychology Profs," Battalion, Feb. 4, 1972, page 3. This article was about a course at another school -- not A&M.

Abstract of a letter from E.C. Oates, Director Civilian Student Activities, dated Feb. 14, 1972, to Hal Hall: Notes that a debt of $127.50 has been outstanding since April 24, 1969. Bills were sent to Kay Annette Bristol Poth who was Cepheid president. Dr. Harry Kroitor was then the advisor. It is further indicated that the student organization left a balance of $64 in the account at the end of the Spring 1969 term. [This and the following abstracts of letters were done in 1975/76. At that time the originals were in the Cepheid Variable Committee files].

Abstract of a letter from Dr. Kroitor to Mr. Oates, dated 15 Feb. 1972: States that he received phone call from Ramada Inn over a year ago, as he was no longer the advisor, suggested they contact the club's present officers. Apparently they never did. States that
dispute is not over whether club owes money but rather whether they (the Ramada Inn) fulfilled contractual agreements with Cepheid.

Abstract of a letter from Dr. Kroitor to Halbert W. Hall; 15 Feb. 1972: Explains that Mrs. Poth tried to reason with the Ramada Inn about the bill in question, explaining that the banquet food and service was bad. The communication was all one-way.

Abstract of a letter to E.C. Oates from H.W. Hall, dated 18 Feb. 1972: Ramada Inn has agreed to settle off this debt on receiving a check for the funds left in the account by the previous club members. The Ramada Inn wrote off the remainder of the amount due by showing that amount as a contribution to the Science Fiction Club in order that no bad debt remained on their books.

John R. Moffitt had had a cartoon strip in the Battalion for some time. See, for example, Aargh!, March 10, 1972, page 2.

March 14, 1972: Thomas D. Clareson spoke on "S.F.: A Dream of Other Worlds." This speech was co-sponsored by the Library and the English Dept.


AggieCon III

Dates: April 7-9, 1972

Guest of Honor: None
Artist Guest of Honor: None
Toastmaster: None
Special Guest: None
Other Guests: Al Jackson
Joe Pumilia

Guests who cancelled: None

Con chair: Bill Kostura

Other con officers:

Location: The Holiday Inn, Bryan, and the Physics Building, A&M campus

Films: The Forbin Project

Page 67 of 134
The Reivers
Star Trek Episodes
Star Trek Bloopers
Three Worlds of Gulliver

Panels: "SF & Fandom"
  "SF & Literature"
  "SF & Technology"

Other notable events: Geo. W. Proctor makes it sound like the whole con was spent drinking beer.

Bob Stahl talked about preparations for the con thus: "... There will be at least one party, one good one, that is, if I have to shell out the stuff myself. I think the club will foot the bill, but the party will go on regardless. Incidentally, Houston's own Earl Blair is supposed to help us out with the flicks -- Filthy Bill [Kostura] is trying to obtain even more freebies ... as it is, we have all the local Star Treks plus Danielle's bloopers (right Danielle?) plus whatever we rent ...."

A con report in Cepheid Variable # 7 stated:

"Conventions mean funny books in Texas, right? Wrong. AggieCon III blew that myth a couple of weeks ago, with what had to be a first, a non-dealer oriented Texas con. All sorts of neat things and people came and went on -- Houston and Dallas fen congregated without bloodshed, Austin invaded Bryan, Proctor and I disagreed on layout until he threatened me with his dog, Annette Bristol trampled 17 people getting to the projector in the movie room as it ate her print of "Where No Man Has Gone Before," and our feature movie, The Forbes Project didn't arrive, which may have been a good thing, since it was rerun on network tv the same night. It was fun, a quiet, informal, talking sort of convention ... until Saturday night and The Parties. They ranged from the incredible beer-filled bathtub in the Aggie's room to the unspeakable horrors being unleashed in Proctor's room to the Houston chick with the hands of Lycra ...."

Sources: AggieCon III flyers
Cepheid Variable, # 7, 1972, pp. 4-5
Ellis, Brad, "Science Fiction Convention to Feature Movies, Auction,"
Battalion, March 29, 1972
Proctor, Geo. W., "Snafu," Citadel, # 6, page 23 (Spring 1972)
Stahl, Bob, [letter], Purple Obscenity # 70, letter written on March 16, 1972
?

July 25: Jack Morgan issued Holy Fungolian Empire Aprocrypha # I-I-3.

August 1, 1972: Buried Mountains # 1 published. Steve Goble was the editor.
Contemporary Arts Committee schedule of movies for the fall included "King Kong" (Oct. 4) and "Metropolis" (Nov. 8).


The MSC Council tabled a resolution to allow Cepheid into the Directorate as a full committee.

Source: Rice, Mike, "MSC Arts Committee Dissolved by Council," Battalion, Sept. 12, 1972

In the Fall of 1972 Cepheid became a sub-committee of the Contemporary Arts Committee in the MSC. Advisors were Dr. Richard Costa and Mr. Sidney S. Cox. Brad Ellis was president. When Cepheid became a subcommittee, it still elected presidents. Members included Bob Stahl, Robert Ziegenhals, Bill Kostura and Floyd Lightsey.

Movies shown during the 1972/73 school year included: Animal Farm, 4-D Man, Zulu, Barbarella, Best of Enemies, The Point, Shuttered Room, and Moon Zero Two.

"King Kong Movie Slated Tomorrow," Battalion, Oct. 3, 1972. This film was sponsored by the Creative Arts Committee.

"Metropolis' Movie Scheduled for Wednesday Night Showing," Battalion, Nov. 7, 1972, page 1, col. 5

"The Point,' Star Trek to be Shown," Battalion, Nov. 9, 1972, page 1, col. 6

Carroll D. Laverty, a professor in the English Dept., presented a paper on "Edgar Allan Poe's Vision of the Future" at the American Studies Association of Texas meeting. The meeting was held in Fort Worth on Dec. 8 & 9, 1972.

Sources: English Bulletin 3(13): 1 (Dec. 8, 1972)
          The speech was published in: Journal of the American Studies Association of Texas 4(1973): 38-45
          1973


"CAC Film Series to Show 3D Horror Film Friday Night," Battalion, March 1, 1973. Film was "Eyes of Hell."
AggieCon IV

Dates: March 2-4, 1973

Guests of Honor: Jack Williamson and Chad Oliver
Artist Guest of Honor: None
Toaster: None
Special Guest: None
Fan Guest of Honor: Bob Vardeman
Other Guests: Joe Pumilia
    Prof. Carroll D. Laverty served on a panel discussion.

Guests who cancelled:

Con chair: Bob Ziegenhals
Other con officers:

Films: Barbarella
    The Blob
    Star Trek Bloopers
    The Thing
    Zulu

    The movies were shown in the MSC ballroom.

Joe Pumilia read "Hung Like an Elephant"

Other notable events: This was the first AggieCon since AggieCon I to be held in the Memorial Student Center. This was before Rudder Tower was built.
About 100 to 150 fans attended. A planned auction was cancelled due to lack of interest.

Sources: "Science Fiction Seminar Slated," Battalion, March 1, 1973, page 1, column 7
"CAC Film Series to Show 3D Horror Film Friday Night," Battalion, March 1, 1973, page 1, col. 1
Terror of the Future--same source ??
    Williams, Joe Bob, [Letter], Stanley # 15

April 10: Rod Serling speaks on "Impact of Mass Media on Today's Society,"
    sponsored by Great Issues
Donald Hackler was Cepheid chair. At this time each MSC committee had to take turns distributing the MSC Diameter. Cepheid was the only committee dumb enough to actually get copies to each dorm room. This was the first year Cepheid was actually a committee. The Yellow Memorandum slowly died. Tony Kallenak was the Cepheid treasurer and got fired for incompetence.

September 1973: Monkey House founded.

[insert Stahl's write-up from Thrilling Monkey Tales]

Cepheids gave $100 to the A&M library to buy art prints and books
(from press release dated Sept. 13, 1973)

Science Fiction/Fantasy class taught in Free University

Source: "Free University Classes Scheduled," Battalion, Sept. 21, 1973


1974

"Four Movies Set This Week by MSC Clubs," Battalion, January 29, 1974. Includes Slaughterhouse-Five, shown by Cepheid Variable.

MSC Open House: Cepheid Display

Page 71 of 134
Feb.: Town Hall and the Bryan Rotary Club presented "Brigadoon"

Sources: "Brigadoon' Scheduled," Battalion, Aug. 22, 1973
"Classic Play 'Brigadoon' Here Monday," Battalion, Feb. 7, 1974
"Rotary Series -- Town Hall Presents 'Brigadoon',' Bryan Eagle, Feb. 10, 1974
Plass, Thyra, "'Brigadoon' -- Delightful Evening," Bryan Eagle, Feb. 12, 1974


AggieCon V

Dates: April 12-14, 1974

Guest of Honor: Harlan Ellison and Keith Laumer
Artist Guest of Honor: None
Toastmaster: None
Special Guest: None
Media Guest: None
Other Guests:
Howard Waldrop

Guests who cancelled:

Con chair: Bob Stahl
Other con officers:

Films: Curse of the Demon
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
Invasion of the Star Creatures
It Came from Beneath the Sea
Jason and the Argonauts
Plan Nine from Outer Space
Planet of the Apes
Robot Monster from Mars
Silent Running
Them
The Thing
Things to Come
20 Million Miles to Earth
War of the Worlds

Other Notable Events: People from the Sketch Pad brought artwork.

According to Allen Kelley Graham, Cepheid ordered the movies early, and showed them all twice at the Monkey House. Once they were shown in AKG's room in the garage, and once they were shown in the living room.

Harlan Ellison bought a Bruce Sterling story for The Last Dangerous Visions.

The con unofficially began Thursday, April 11, with the arrival of Keith Laumer. The art exhibit was almost 24 hours overdue, as was Harlan Ellison. Ellison read "Knox." Laumer was recovering from a stroke, and was difficult to get along with. Mack Pitchford and Maryanne Herzig escorted him around. Howard Waldrop read "All About Strange Monsters of the Recent Past" before the showing of "Them." Movies ran all night -- many Cepheids took pillows and/or blankets into the auditorium.

Admission: $1 for one day; $1.50 for three days.

The con went about $300; in those days we described that as going "deeply into debt."

Sources: "Science Fiction Spree Hits Campus," Battalion, April 10, 1974
[no title], Battalion, April 12, 1974
Goble, Stephen, "Science Fiction Festival Attracts Fans from Across State," Battalion, April 16, 1974
Van Pielt, Gordon, "AggieCon V," Stanley #18, no page, no date


Jack Morgan was "elected" Cepheid chair. After his interview with the MSC Council, they begged for someone else to interview. Don Hackler conned Maryanne into interviewing.

Maryanne Herzig was chosen as Cepheid's new chairman. In the fall of 1974 "Soylent Green" got us out of debt -- finally. Cepheid began doing silk screen posters in a big way. Our resident artist at that time was James Salter.

1974/75 Cepheid Officers:
In the fall of 1974 Cepheid began showing two movies a month, one of which was always a "big" one.

Two SF courses were taught in Free University: "Reading Science Fiction" and "Writing SF".

Source: "Free University Holds Registration," Eagle, Sept. 18, 1974

Cepheid's were the first people to play cards in the new "smart, handsome, comfortable" student lounge. The 1985 Aggieland shows a picture of Cepheids playing "Budge" [i.e., bridge].

Brad Foster began doing p.r. for Cepheid.

Founding of the A&M Science Fiction Research Collection. Formal presentation occurred Oct. 28, 1974. James E. Gunn lectured. This event was co-sponsored by the Library and the English Dept. Three films were also shown. They dealt with Harlan Ellison, Isaac Asimov, and Fred Pohl. Gunn spoke to Kroitor's SF class.

Sources: "Texas A&M Library Receives 12,000 Science Fiction Items," Eagle, Nov. 3, 1974

Oct. 30: "Don Juan in Hell"

Sources: "Shaw Satire Plays Tomorrow," Battalion, Oct. 29, 1974
"Shavian Classic First of Rotary Series Plays," The Eagle, Oct. 29, 1974
"Don Juan in Hell," Battalion, Oct. 30, 1974

Hall, Hal, letter appeared in Analog, December 1974, pp. 174-175

Dec. 1974: Stanley #18, editor John Tim Cowden, published. This was the last regular issue of Stanley.


AggieCon VI

Dates: March 28-30, 1975

Guest of Honor: Larry Niven
Artist Guest of Honor: None
Toastmaster: None
Special Guest: None
Media Guest: None
Fan Guest of Honor: Fuzzy Pink Niven
Other Guests:
Joe Pumilia
Bruce Sterling
Lisa Tuttle
Steven Utley
Howard Waldrop

Tom Reamy: although not a guest, Tom Reamy showed up to sell subscriptions to *Nickelodeon* and to sell memberships in his convention.

Guests who cancelled:

Con chair: Steven Gould (I have a note that says Allen Kelly Graham was the original chair, and then Janie Swatzell, and then Steve ... Maryanne Herzig wanted it, but she couldn't be Cepheid chair and AggieCon chair both....)

Other con officers:

Films: Forbidden Planet
Andromeda Strain
Colossus -- The Forbin Project
Dr. Strangelove
Fahrenheit 451
First Men in the Moon

Page 75 of 134
Mysterious Island
West World

The program book for this con was one sheet, folded in three places. The cover featured a Kizinte (sp.!) drawn by Ann Bogucki.

Other notable events: At one point about 400 people on the 6th floor of Rudder Tower watching "Star Trek Bloopers" were marooned because the cleaning staff had shut off the elevators and the fire doors had been chained shut. Staff calmly called the MSC main desk, and described the situation. We pointed out that the films would be over very shortly, and that there would probably be a riot. Not surprisingly, someone came over very quickly to get the elevators going again.

At that time all MSC publications had to have "Step Into the MSC Circle" on them. Steven insisted that Cepheid add "and a vicious one it is, too." This brought surprisingly little reaction from the MSC officials.

There were problems with a broken chair and a broken panel in the ceiling. A valuable comic book was stolen.

This was Cepheid's first really large convention. (At one point we had to open the balcony on about 5 minute's notice -- we didn't expect to have that many people attend). The financial records were a mess. When con staff -- well, actually Steve -- needed money, they simply took it out of the cash box -- theoretically leaving a note. According to my notes, we actually ended up with an overage in our funds after the con. Anyway, as a result of the financial problems, Cepheid's budget was frozen for months.

Niven was not confirmed as con guest until December or January.

The Houston Science Fiction Society performed excepts from "My Fair Ripper" and sang the Houston Science Fiction Society theme song.

Cepheid arranged a tour of the SF collection in Special Collections for Niven. It was drizzling when we got ready to go, so Sven Knudson loaned Niven his umbrella. It was a collapsable one, and tended to fly apart when opened. Sven didn't warn Niven about this. He opened it, it flew apart, and he went chasing through the mud after it. We were so embarassed.

Apparently, Sven Knudson did some kind of a model display for this convention.

Sources: "AggieCon VI Features First-Season Star Trek," Eagle, March 28, 1975
Gould, Steve, "Visit to a Small Campus AggieCon VI," B.S., # 1, April 1976, page 7

David Hayes was elected chairman by Cepheid. Maryanne Herzig didn't tell the MSC Council Cepheid's preference (she thought they'd ask), and the Council selected Janie
Swatzell as the new chair.

Cepheid Officers, 1975-1976 school year:

Chair: Janie Swatzell  
Treasurer: Wayne Paulus  
Secretary: Debbie Dollar  
AggieCon chairs: John Roark and Anita Moss  
Film Czar: Sven Knudson  
Publications: Tim Sager  
Historian: Bill Page  
Programming: David Hayes  
Theater Manager: Mike Minoia  
Public Relations: Tracy Villareal and Brad Foster

April 24, 1975 (a Thursday): Cepheid Variable showed three horror movies: Dracula, Frankenstein, and Bride of Frankenstein. Admission was $1.

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 24, 1975, page 5

"Grove Flicks Run Through Summer," Battalion, June 4, 1975. Jim Balzrette, an Aggie Cinema member and something of a Cepheid, was Grove Chair. The following science fiction or fantasy movies were scheduled:

June 13: On a Clear Day  
June 25: The House of Dracula  
July 18: Colossus -- The Forbin Project  
July 21: Barbarella  
Aug. 6: King Kong vs. Godzilla  
Aug. 10: A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court  
Aug. 12: Fahrenheit 451

Press release on Hal Hall's book: June 19, 1975

Laverty, Carroll D., "The Unicorn as Antagonist of Violence," Phi Kappa Phi. Article not seen; fantasy element uncertain.

Source: English Bulletin 6(2): 1 (Sept. 12, 1975)

English Society sponsored a preview lecture by Dr. Kroitor before the showing of "Slaughterhouse-Five."

Source: Battalion, Nov. 12, 1975, page 1, col. 1  
Dr. Carroll Laverty spoke to Dr. Kroitor's SF class on nineteenth century American SF.


Dr. Harry Kroitor accepted the invitation of the NCTE to serve as associate chair for the program in "Science Fiction" (EF.2) at the 1975 convention in San Diego, California, Nov. 27-29

Source: English Bulletin 6(2): 2 (Sept. 12, 1975)

1976

Jan. 27: Speech by Dr. Harris on the genetic code.

Feb. 10: Speech by Dr. Schorn on "Comets, Fruits and Nuts"

"O'Halloran's Luck," a play by Stephen Vincent Benet, presented as one of four plays by Stage Center

Source: "Stage Center Presents `Stories of America'," Eagle, February 18, 1976

Feb. 24: Speech by Dr. Young on planetary atmospheres

Feb. 27: Literature of the Sea Conference. Guest speaker was Eleanor Cameron, children's author. Her works include at least one science fiction series, The Mushroom Planet books. This conference was co-sponsored by the English Department, the Sea Grant Program, and Continuing Education. During the event the Library had displays of Cameron's works, including not only published materials but also proofs, etc.

Source: Literature of the Sea flyer.
        English Bulletin 6(17): 1 (Feb. 6, 1976)
        English Bulletin 6(20): 2 (Feb. 27, 1976)

March 10: Speech by Dr. Vaughn Bryant on bigfoot

AggieCon VII

Dates: March 26-28, 1976

    Guest of Honor: Anne McCaffrey
    Artist Guest of Honor: None
    Toastmaster: None
    Special Guest: None
Media Guest: None
Other Guests: Annette Bristol
Doug Potter
Mike Presley
Joe Pumilia
Don Punchatz
Denis Quane
Tom Reamy
Willie Siros
Bruce Sterling
Lisa Tuttle
Steve Utley
Bob Vardeman
Howard Waldrop
Bill Wallace

Guests who didn't come:

Con chairmen: John Roark and Anita Moss
Other con officers: none

Films: Day the Earth Stood Still
Fantastic Planet
Mephisto Waltz
Rollerball
Seven Faces of Dr. Lao
THX 1138
Wizard of Oz
Z.P.G.

Other events:

This con was the first AggieCon to have a real program book. It was also the first con to have publicity in the convention calendar in Analog.

McCaffrey had told us that she usually did not sleep well at cons -- the excitement kept her from doing so. We arranged to have her arrive a day or two early. One day she did nothing except go riding with Jack and Marilyn Morgan, plus a couple of other people.

McCaffrey was very personable. At one point, Bill Page had to go get change. At that time, we sold tickets in several locations, including the dealers' room. Anyway, absolutely no other Cepheids were around. He asked Anne if she would help. She was thrilled to get to take tickets -- it was years since she had done this as a fan. She also surprised a few convention goers when they realized who she was.
We had a birthday party for Anne. Linda Albritton baked her a birthday cake, decorated with a dragon.

Anne also toured Special Collections. She autographed books, and gave them some foreign language editions of her works.

The panels and speeches at this con were held in Rudder Theater. There were panels on "Fanzines" and on "Fantastical Creatures in SF."

The con had a model room, amateur art contest, a trivia bowl, and an auction.

The Model Room was huge. It was set up by Sven Knudson, Don Cravens, and Paul Bogucki. Don's model of A&M as a spindizzing (complete with a tiny flying shuttle bus) and his model of an L-5 colony were big hits.

Two Cepheids got married during the middle of the convention.

As usual, we were late getting p.r. out for the con. So a few of us (Maryanne Herzig and myself, at least), carried picket signs around the campus advertising the con. Boy, did people notice us.

During the convention we detailed our many problems with the MSC for Anne. After the convention she sent the MSC a really nice letter telling them what fine people we were and what a good convention we put on -- boy, was the MSC surprised.

The dead dog party was held at the Monkey House.

Admission: "under $5"

Sources: AggieCon VII Program Book
"Convention Calendar," Analog, March 1976, inside back cover
"Guest Novelist Hails from Ireland," Eagle, March 27, 1976
Sager, Tim, "Dragon Series Results of Hard Work," Battalion, March 26, 1976, page 3
"Cepheids Exhibit Illustrations," Battalion, March 24, 1976, page 4

April ?, 1976: Sven Knudson was impeached as Film Czar for "usurping" the authority of the committee. This was done after the announcement that Sven was the next Cepheid chair. Sven made the mistake of announcing the results of the film selection poll a few days before the last day they could be turned in. This upset a few people, but most
people agreed with Sven that apparently all the polls were turned in that were coming in, and that the choices were so clear that a few more votes couldn't possibly make any difference. However, the committee couldn't resist the opportunity to welcome a new chairman by impeaching him at his last meeting in his old office.

April 1976: B.S. #1 published; Sally Shelton, editor.

Cepheid officers: 1976/77
   Chair:  Sven Knudson
   AggieCon Chair:  Tim Sager
   Film Czar:  Mike Minoia
   Secretary:  Wayne Paulus
   Director of Operations:  Janie Swatzell
   Newsletter Editor:  Lila Young
   P.R.:  Tracy Villareal

"... Wayne and Janie both resigned their offices ...."

Source: Letter from Sven Knudson to Bill Page, July 14, 1976

Grider, Sylvia, "Meanwhile Back in Transylvania, or: Dracula and the Texan," speech given at a joint meeting of the Texas and New Mexico Folklore Societies in El Paso. Compared Quincy P. Morris, Texas hero in Dracula, to the stereotypical Texas hero of other literature.


Michael J. Wolff was one of the winners for fiction in the Texas A&M Poetry and Fiction contest. His short story was titled "Varsity Game." It dealt with war between U.T. and A&M. I think that this was published in a campus literary magazine, perhaps Moebius?

Source: "Poetry and Fiction Contest Awards," Eagle, April 18, 1976

April 27: Speech by Dr. Harry Kroitor on satirical science fiction

It was during this time the Cepheid began investigating buying a copy of the Star Trek bloopers.

Source: Letter from Sven Knudson to Bill Page, July 14, 1976

Sometime, perhaps in the Summer of 1976, Cepheid produced an original video of
"Auditorium Man," filmed in the MSC and Rudder Tower. It starred Sven Knudson, and much of the video taping was done by Mike Belsley.

"Dr. Jekyll and Mister Hyde" was presented by a travelling dramatic company, sponsored by Stage Center.


"Cinema Enjoys Sell-Out Crowd," Battalion, August 31, 1976
Aggie Cinema showed "Monty Python and the Holy Grail"

Tynes, John W., "Cepheid Variable Members See Creatures at Sci-Fi Con," Battalion, Sept. 8, 1976, page 3. 9 students attended the 34th World Con.

Tuesday, Sept. 14, 1976 -- Dr. Schorn spoke on the Viking Mission

Sources: Ad, Battalion, Sept. 14, 1976, page 5


Tuesday, Sept. 21, 1976: Symposium: "Art in Science Fiction"

Source: Ad, Battalion, Sept. 21, 1976


Saturday, Oct. 9, 1976: speech by William Shatner

"William Shatner is coming to A&M. At Mr. Stark's insistence ?, the [MSC] Council is spending $4,000 to bring him. We're to provide P.R. We could be making a BIG mistake and then again maybe not."

Letter from Maryanne Herzig to Bill Page, Sept. 1, 1976

"Shatner put on a good show. He did some one-man skits from 'Romeo and Juliet,' 'Cyrano de Bergerac,' and 'Galileo' and some readings from Jules Verne, H.G. Welles, and others. All this was linked into a central them of "Man & Imagination": a sort of historical
rundown of science-fiction. He only mentioned "Star Trek" once, at the very end of the program. You should have seen the Trekkies leaving! The Council lost about $2000 on this show, so it will be a while before they give us free money again."

Letter from Sven Knudson to Bill Page, Oct. 20, 1976

Sources: "Musical Group, Shatner Slated," Eagle, Oct. 6, 1976
Ad, Battalion, Oct. 6, 1976, page 12


Source: Flyer


Apparently, the symposium series may have been my idea (I don't remember). Sven Knudson wrote: "... your symposium idea has been going over pretty well. We had about 10 people at "SF Movies I" and about 12 at "SF Movies II." Then, last week we had about 18 people at "SF in TV." We've really enjoyed the discussions, too."

Source: Letter from Sven Knudson to Bill Page, October 20, 1976


Tuesday, Oct. 26: "NASA: The Space Shuttle"

Source: flyer for the event


Arts Committee had an open reception for Brad W. Foster and Cary Hill. This apparently coincided with a month-long exhibition of their artwork in the MSC.

Sources: Ad, Battalion, Nov. 4, 1976, page 4.
           "What's Happening ?" Battalion, Nov. 17, 1976, page 6

Nov. 9: "Future Histories Compared," speech by Maryanne Herzig. This speech was rescheduled to March 29, 1977.

Grider, Syvia, "Folktales, Fantasy, and Star Wars" -- speech given to the English Society.

Sources: English Bulletin 8(9): 1 (Oct. 28, 1976)


Wednesday, Dec. 1, 1976: Steven Utley spoke. He read "Time and Hagakure" and another story.

Source: Ad, Battalion, Dec. 1, 1976, page 10

1977


Feb. 1, speech by Dr. Schorn on "Cepheid Variables"

Source: flyer for the event

"SF Predictions That Failed": Seminar scheduled originally for Tuesday, Feb. 15; rescheduled to Tuesday, March 1.

Sources: Ad, Battalion, Feb. 15, 1977, page 4
         Ad, Battalion, March 1, 1977, page 10


AggieCon VIII

Dates: March 24-27, 1977

Guest of Honor: Fred Pohl
Artist Guest of Honor:
Toastmaster:
Special Guest: andy offutt
Other Guests:
andrew and Jody Offutt
Chad Oliver
    Carol Pohl
Mike Presley
Geo. W. Proctor
Joe Pumilia
Don Punchatz
Tom Reamy
Buddy Saunders
Lisa Tuttle
Steven Utley
Howard Waldrop

Guests who didn't come: None, says Tim Sager.

Con chairman: Tim Sager

Other con officers:

Films:
Between Time and Timbuktu
A Boy and His Dog
Dark Star
Doc Savage
King Kong
Logan's Run
Nosferatu
The Other
Planet of the Apes
Rocky Horror Picture Show

Activities:

We had a slide show about Fred Pohl at this con.

During the showing of Rocky Horror, the Cepheids and their advisor took off their name badges and hid in the balcony to watch the movie. This was the first time Rocky Horror
had been shown on campus, and no one was sure exactly how the usually conservative audience would react.

Debbie Dollar was Cepheid's treasurer. Tim was determined that this con would make money. Among other things, he restricted the pass list. No problem. Debbie gave out passes to those people she thought should have been on the pass list, without consulting Tim. Also, she closed the box office two hours before the showing of Rocky Horror. Nonetheless, the convention did make money.

Maryanne Herzig and Bill Page functioned as free-floating trouble shooters. This worked very well. We took care of things like getting more table cloths for the dealers. They'd all been given one set so that they could cover their merchandise when they weren't at their tables. Most of them put these cloths on their tables, and then put their merchandise out, and then complained that they didn't have anything to cover their wares with when they were gone. We also had to track down a room refrigerator for the Pohls. The offutts had asked for one before the con, so we had gotten one for their hotel room. Then the Pohls came, saw that the offutts had one and they didn't ....

Maryanne Herzig took the Pohls to the Vet School for a tour.

Maryanne Herzig and I played bridge with Fred Pohl and Tom Reamy. Maryanne passed my forcing take-out double, and we ended up setting our opponents down two doubled on a one no-trump bid.

Sunday evening Bill Kostura called the Monkey House. He'd discovered the offutts at the MSC with nothing to do, so he was going to bring them to the house. The house was incredibly dirty. Frantically we scurried around, throwing trash into any dark area. Kostura arrived, bringing the offutts in through the back door. Maryanne Herzig walked through the living room door, uttering a low "Shit" as she stepped on the soggy doormat, wearing socks. Andy Offutt looked at her, raised his hand, and returned her "shit," thus defusing an otherwise embarrassing moment.

At that time the Monkey House shower was running a steady stream of water (the plumbing in that house has never worked well). Andy Offutt went to the bathroom at one point, came back, and observed, "This is the first house I've ever been in where I didn't have to ask where the bathroom was."

One write up noted that the Dealers' Room was in a "horrible location." Dealers were in room 201, and the lights wouldn't turn up all the way.

Admission: $4 till March 17; then $5. Dealers tables with admission $10.

Sources: "Science Fiction Fair This Weekend," Battalion, March 23, 1977, page 3
            Analog, March 1977, inside front cover
March 29: speech by Maryanne Herzig on "Future Histories in SF Compared"

Tyson, Kim, "Student's Art Well-Displayed on Campus," Battalion, April 6, 1977, page 8. About Brad W. Foster

English Dept. and the College of Liberal Arts sponsored Jane Yolen as speaker at the Literature of the Sea Conference. She spoke on "Children of the Sea: A Look at the Undersea Folk Creatures in the Literature of Children" and "The Writer as Mythmaker."

Source: Ad, Battalion, April 26, 1977, page 4

In April 1977 Tracy Villareal was selected as Cepheid Chair. Many of the Cepheids strongly disagreed with the manner in which Tracy ran Cepheid. They eventually left Cepheid and formed C.R.A.B. Nebula, an off-campus science fiction club.

These are the names of the Cepheids who signed a petition of withdrawal: (in the same order as they were signed)

Linda D. Albritton
W. M. Pitchford II
M. R. Allen
Gordon Van Pielt
Timothy John Cowden
Lila Young
Bill Page
Sally Y. Shelton
Sven Knudson
Nina Robin Wilson
Lisa Patton
Robert Thornton
Don L. Craven
Jeffrey H. Morgan
Edward A. Graham Jr.
C. Yvonne Dailey
Betty Crockett
Michael J. Minoia
Ann V. Bogucki
Ruth White
V. Roxanne Brown
Paul Bogucki
Donald C. Blavier III
Kimberly A. Weber  
Stephen DeMoye Poe

Late summer or early fall, 1977: Stanley #19 appeared. John Tim Cowden was the final editor. This issue appeared while Sven Knudson was AggieCon chair.

Dec. 8, 1977 -- organizational meeting of C.R.A.B. Nebula held at Roach Haven (residence of John Roark, Sven Knudson, and Paul Bogucki). Interim officers elected:

King Crab (president): Bill Page  
Buster Crabbe (vice-president): Sven Knudson  
Hermit Crab (fanzine editor): John Tim Cowden  
Fiddler Crab (treasurer): Gordon Van Pielt  
Ghost Crab (secretary/newsletter editor): Peter Shorn  
Deviled Crab (chief party person): Janie Swatzell

Initial Cepheid Officers for the year 1977/78 were:

   Chair: Tracy Villareal  
   Treasurer: Kathy Breitenkamp  
   Director of Operations: Maryanne Herzig  
   Film Czar: Rusty Allen  
   Secretary/editor: Becky Matthews  
   Public relations: Linda Albritton  
   AggieCon chair: Val Brown

Source: Notes I made in the Spring of 1977.

Final Cepheid Officers for the year 1977/78 were:

   Chair: Tracy Villareal  
   Treasurer: John Joyce  
   Director of Operations: Noel Watkins  
   House Manager: Lisa Patton  
   Secretary/editor: Becky Matthews  
   Public relations: Tim Sager  
   AggieCon chair: abolished

Source: 1978 Aggieland, page 338

**1978**

Showing of "Rocky Horror" around week of March 18, 1978  
   This showing irritated many con attendees because it was the week before the convention, so they missed it.
March 21, 1978: C.R.A.B. officer elections

King Crab:  Sven Knudson
Buster Crabbe:  Don Cravens
Hermit Crab:  John-Tim Cowden
Fiddler Crab:  Kim Weber
Deviled Crab:  Stephen Poe
Ghost Crab:  Bill Page

AggieCon IX

Dates:  March 30 - April 2, 1978

Guest of Honor:  Damon Knight and Kate Wilhelm
They accepted in December.
Philip Jose Farmer had earlier accepted but then cancelled as Guest of Honor
Artist Guest of Honor:
Toastmaster:  Wilson "Bob" Tucker
Special Guest:  Alan Dean Foster
Other Guests:
Geo. W. Proctor
Joe Pumilia
Roger Stine
Lisa Tuttle
Howard Waldrop

Guests who didn't come:  Kate Wilhelm
Tom Reamy
Philip Jose Farmer

When Farmer cancelled, we tried to call Tom Reamy to get his suggestions for another Guest of Honor. We finally got someone at Tom's apartment, who told us that Tom had died. This AggieCon was dedicated to Tom Reamy's memory.

Activities:  This convention had a writer's seminar, an amateur art contest, a SCA Demonstration, an authors' reception, a banquet, NASA films, a starship design contest, and an auction, but no panel discussions.

At one point we took Damon Knight to the A&M "pig farm." It seems that when he was a boy he'd visited his grandfather's pig farm, and he had very happy memories of the event. He demonstrated a very effective pig call for us.

P.R. for the con had some problems, largely due to Farmer's cancellation. The March 1978 Analaeog, for example, still listed Farmer as Guest of Honor.
Bob Tucker kissed his first bearded man at this con.

Texas United Fandom (T.U.F.) was organized at this convention. Two groups were noticeable in their absence: members of Cepheid Variable and the older group of Dallas fans. T.U.F.'s newsletter was called Notes from the Circular File.

At some point during the con, some of the Austin pros began filing into the party room. All of them had "honeybun" hairdos, a la Princess Leia -- when one of the males entered, the fans went wild.

Admission: $4 in advance; $5 at the door; $2.50 for a one day pass; banquet $6.50; dealers' tables $12 first table, $8 for each additional table.

Con chair: Val Brown, Sven Knudson, Tracy Villareal, Becky Matthews Tracy resigned the week before AggieCon. Since Becky had already been selected as the new Cepheid chair, she took over. Technically, neither she nor Tracy were AggieCon chairs, since at that time the position had been dissolved. They fulfilled exactly the same duties, of course.

Other con officers:

secretary: Becky Matthews
treasurer: John Joyce
p.r.: Tim Sager
film tsar: Henry Schaffer
video tape: Ron Robertson

Films: Futureworld
Happy Birthday, Wanda June
It's Alive
Silent Running
Slaughterhouse-Five
THX 1138
2001: A Space Odyssey
War of the Worlds
Westworld
Wizards

Sometime after the people left to form C.R.A.B., the film line-up for the con was revised. Three films (On A Clear Day, The Raven, the 1961 version, and Charly) were dropped. They were replaced by The Corpse Grinders, The Tenth Victim, and Westworld.

"AggieCon," Purple Obscenity # 185

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AggieCon IX Program Book
[apparently this letter angered some C.R.A.B.'s, but upon rereading the letter, I can't imagine why]

Page, Bill, Letter in the Purple Obscenity # 182.

Cepheid Variable Officers, 1978-79

Chair: Becky Matthews
Film Czar: Jeff Neeley
Treasurer: Noel Watkins
Director of Operations: Jack Cowder
Director of Special Projects: Dale Denton
Director of Fanac: Larry Pedigo
Director of P.R.: Gary Butler
Secretary: Jeanan Jones
Newsletter editor: Ed Graham
House manager: Lisa Patton

Other Con I(also called McCaffrey Con)

Dates: April 8-9, 1978

Guest of Honor: Anne McCaffrey
Con Chair: Mack Pitchford
Location: Oak Forest Trailer Park Party room

Activities: We had dirty movies, shown on my tv, which never worked again after this con. We had an SF match game. There was a TRS-80 with a futile attempt at a Dragon Riders' game. Cliff Davis, from Houston, supplied the computer. The video room was Lee Ziegenhal's trailer. Mike Belsley supplied the videos. We took a field trip to the antique stores in Calvert. Ruth White made an incredible dragon cake. There was an SCA demonstration and a model display. And, McCaffrey had the proof for Michael Whelan's cover to White Dragon. During McCaffrey's visit she went to Bryan and bought western riding tack, which she couldn't buy in Ireland.

April 13: Dr. J. Allen Hynek spoke on "The UFO Experience -- A Scientific View."

Sources: "Expert Explains UFO Theories," Battalion, April 14, 1978, page 1
Jay Vorhees died in May 1978.

Source: "Service Today for Graduate Math Assistant," Battalion, May 17, 1978

[no title], Eagle, June 29, 1978. List of movies at the Grove for the coming week included: Barbarella, A Boy and His Dog, and Finian's Rainbow.

"Frankenstein" [play] performed in Rudder Forum

Source: [no title], Eagle, July 20, 1970

[no title], Eagle, July 20, 1978. List of movies at the Grove for the coming week included: Dark Star, Dr. Strangelove, and Doctor Faustus.


Sept. 6 (Wednesday): Howard Waldrop spoke on "Science Fiction Stories and How to Write Them." Apparently this is the Cepheid event Howard was arrested in Caldwell while on his way to.

Source: 1978 MSC Fall Speakers Calendar

AggieCon X Program Book

Sept. 20 (Wednesday): Neal Barrett, Jr. spoke on "Science Fiction/Fantasy Publication"

Source: 1978 MSC Fall Speakers Calendar

Ad, Battalion, Sept. 20, 1978, page 3


Hoax concerning purported showing of "Star Wars."


1978 MSC Fall Speakers Calendar

C.R.A.B. Nebula had a booth at the Brazos Valley People Folk Festival, ca. Nov. 10-12, 1978

Nov. 21: Dr. Roger Beaumont spoke "Science Fiction"
Source: 1978 MSC Fall Speakers Calendar

Cepheid scheduled a night of horror films on Nov. 30th (bonfire); however, ads for the movie that night show that the event didn't come off as planned.


1979

Other Con II

Date: January 12-14, 1979

Guest of Honor: Marion Zimmer Bradley
Fan Guest of Honor: Margaret Middleton
Toastmaster: Kim Ball
Con Chair: Betty Crockett
Dealer: John Connally (no, not the former governor of Texas -- this man was the only dealer who showed up -- he was from Oklahoma.

Location: Ramada Inn

Admission: $8 in advance; $10 at the door

Movies: Enter the Dragon
                  Left Hand of God
Rollerball
Transatlantic Tunnel

Activities: The con was held the weekend of one of the worst ice storms in years. Almost no one attended -- less than 30 people total. Bradley's talk centered on the theme "It's a Proud and Lonely Thing to be a Fan," and, boy, was she right.

At one point we shut down the con for 4 hours while we all went and had Chinese food, with possibly the slowest service in recorded history.

Bradley had rented a car in Houston, and when she got here, the car died.

Activities included filksinging with Margaret Middleton; speeches by Bradley and Middleton; SF match game; a slide show; and an auction. At the auction we auctioned off a ticket to the AggieCon I banquet.

The panels were: "Assigning Values to SF Books" and "Music as a Theme in SF."

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The Dead Dog party was held at the Monkey House.

Sources: Other Con II schedule of events

Speech by Dr. John Lenihan, history professor

Source: Terrell, Cathy, "50s Flicks Scary, But Reflect Times," Battalion, Feb. 22, 1979

AggieCon X

Dates: March 29 - April 1, 1979

Guest of Honor: Theodore Sturgeon
Artist Guest of Honor: Boris Vallejo
Toastmaster: Wilson "Bob" Tucker
Special Guest:
Other Guests:
  Kim Ball
Neal Barrett, Jr.
Larry Lankford
Chad Oliver
Geo. Proctor
Joe Pumilia
Tim Sager
Buddy Saunders
Lewis Shiner
Lisa Tuttle
Howard Waldrop
Bob Wayne

Guests who didn't come:

Con chair: Charles W. Butler

Other con officers:

  house manager: Gary Butler
Daytime films: Lisa Patton
Nighttime films: Jeff Neeley
  Steve Hageman
Dealers' Room: Stephen Poe and Kimberly Weber
Treasurer: Noel Watkins
Receptions: Kimberly Weber
Headquarters: Jeanan Jones
Displays: Becky Matthews
Program Book Editor: Cathy Rylander

Films: Barbarella
Collisions
Countdown
Day of the Dolphin
Exorcist
Flesh Gordon
Logan's Run
Power
Rollerball
Stepford Wives

Activities: NASA exhibits, pro and amateur art exhibits, radio show, Texas United Fandom meeting, SCA demonstration, and an auction.

Panels: "Fandom in the Southwest"
"The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: The Painful Problems of a Con,"
"The Next 10 Years in SF"

Admission: $5 till March 6, 1979; $6 thereafter.

Sources: McDonald, Rusty, "AggieCon Brings Strange Sights," Battalion, March 29, 1979
Ad, Battalion, March 29, 1979, page 13
AggieCon X Program Book
AggieCon X Progress Report # 2

Cepheid Officers, 1979/1980:

Chair: Larry E. Pedigo
AggieCon XI Chair: Becky Matthews
Film Czar: Lisa Patton
House Managers: David Gaskill
Sherman Starks
Treasurers: Chris Shomenta
Mark Swarthout
Directors of Operations: Donald C. "Chip" Blavier III
David Terrell
Director of Fan Activity: Carole Sralla and Terri Poole
Director of Public Relations: Craig Hanks
Betty Crockett
Starburst Editor: Lila Young
April 17: Fred Saberhagen "Getting Started in Science Fiction"

Source: poster


June 7: Clockwork Orange
June 11: Camelot
June 15: Monty Python and the Holy Grail
June 21: Wizards
June 22: Young Frankenstein
June 28: Dr. Strangelove
July 1: Sleeper
July 4: Tommy
July 5: Death Race 2000
July 19: The Fury
July 20: Oh, God!
July 26: Slaughterhouse Five
July 27: Omen
July 28: Damien: Omen II
Aug. 2: Andromeda Strain
Aug. 9: A Boy and His Dog
Aug. 13: The Haunting


"Science for the Fall of Night," fiction, pp. 173-184

"Weapons in Future Warfare," with R. Snowden Ficks, nonfiction, pp. 147-172

Other Con III

Dates: Sept. 28-30, 1979

Guest of Honor: George R. R. Martin
Other Guests: Lisa Tuttle
             Howard Waldrop
             Gale Burnick
             Dr. Alexander Potter
Christopher Priest

Con Chair: Sven Knudson
Bill Page and Mack Pitchford headed panels?
John Roark handled the parties

Films:
The Raven
Thief of Bagdad
The Wizard of Oz

Location: Ramada Inn

Activities: Panels included one on collecting SF and one other titled, "But Who's Going to Take Out the Garbage?"

Allen Kelly Graham found a $50 bill in Jojo's parking lot prior to the convention. He reported that he'd found a large bill to the cashier, but no one ever claimed it. So, he paid for half of the *Wizard of Oz*. For some reason he then missed the showing of the film.

Admission: $8 to September 15; $10 thereafter; $15 for dealers' tables


1980

"Library Holds Science Fiction Treasures," *Eagle*, January 17, 1980, page 8


March: "Marlin the Magnificent" presented by Aggie Players

Sources: Copeland, Angelique, "Thespians Present Play," *Battalion*, March 19, 1980
"First Performance Tonight," *Eagle*, March 20, 1980

"Gavelkind" # 1, Spring 1980, published. Sven Knudson was the editor.

AggieCon XI

Dates: March 27-30, 1980

Guest of Honor: Poul Anderson

Page 97 of 134
Artist Guest of Honor: Frank Kelly Freas
Special Guest: Jack Williamson
Other Guests:
Neal Barrett, Jr.
Ernie Farino
Ray Files
Randall Garrett
Vicki Ann Heydron
Katherine Kurtz
  Kurtz's expenses co-sponsored by S.C.A.
Larry Lankford
George R.R. Martin
Chad Oliver
Geo. W. Proctor
Joe Pumilia
Buddy Saunders
Steve Schleef
Lewis Shiner
Bud Simons
Roger Stine
Wilson "Bob" Tucker
Lisa Tuttle
Bob Vardeman
Howard Waldrop
Bob Wayne

Guests who cancelled:

  Con chair: Cathy Rylander (for 15-20 minutes) -- after Cathy was elected, more
  Cepheids showed up and we voted over, electing Becky Matthews. In retrospect, Cathy
  considers this one of the nicest things anyone ever did for her.

Other con officers:
  vice-chair: Craig Hanks
Speaker-programming: Laura Brooks
House manager: Darrell Barr
Film Programming: David Gaskill
Dealers' room: David Heiligman
Headquarters and contests: Bruce Bray
Banquet: Noel Watkins
Hall of Fanac: Kim Conner
Special P.R.: Cathy Rylander
Auction: Teresa Poole
Parties/receptions: Carole Sralla

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Displays:  Jeff Bogert  
Special Operations:  Krystal Moses  
Administrative Assistant:  Eric Truax  
Art Displays and Exhibits:  Paul Ortega  

Films:  Boys from Brazil  
Clockwork Orange  
Doc Savage  
Dracula  
The Empire Strikes Back  
  Slide show about the film only  
Forbidden Planet  
Invasion of the Body Snatchers  
The Phantom of the Opera  
The Phantom of the Paradise  
The Point  
The Sentinel  

Activities:  pro and amateur art displays; NASA room; Star Warts, a play given in the MSC Basement; SF Trivia contest; SCA Demonstration  

The annual T.U.F. meeting was held on Saturday, March 29, at 10 a.m.  

Panels:  "How Fans Become Pros"  
"Eye-Catching SF" 
"Stump the Experts on Comics"  
"Stump the Experts on Fantasy"  
"Stump the Experts on Films and TV"  
"Conventions"  
"True AggieCon Stories"  

Admission:  $6 to 3/1/80; $7 after March 1, 1980; one-day $3.50. Dealers' tables:  $20 for the first table; $15 for each additional table.  

Sources:  "AggieCon Starts on Campus," Eagle, March 28, 1980  
           Ad, Battalion, March 27, 1980, page 6  
           AggieCon XI Program Book  
           Runway 37, # 4, (Spring 1980), pages 1-2  

1980/81 Cepheid Officers:  

The Boss:  Carole Sralla  

Page 99 of 134
Silkscreen Queen: Noel Watkins
Filmworker Flayer: Eric Truax
Game Warden (protects the bucks): Krystal Moses
Minutes Man: David "Kong" Heiligmann
Lady Lord of Films: Lisa Patton
Commissioner of the Con: Craig Hanks

Source: 1981 Aggieland

Speech by Dr. Larry Hickman: "John Brunner in Print," April 9, 1980

Speech by Andy Offutt: "Is There Intelligent Life on Earth?" April 22, 1980

Summer 1980: Scott McCullar begins doing cartoons for the Battalion


This story, like many of Gould's, included characters named after persons he knows. Characters include Tom Case and Robert Stahl.

Other Con IV

Dates: Sept. 12-14, 1980

Guest of Honor: Jack Chalker
Other Guests: George R.R. Martin
             Greg Bennett
Steven Gould
Leigh Kennedy
Christopher Priest
             Lisa Tuttle
Howard Waldrop

We got Christopher Priest almost by accident. A few weeks before the con one of the Austin pros called and said that Priest would be in Texas during the con -- would we like to have him as a guest? We jumped at the chance.

Location: Ramada Inn

Con Chair: Sven Knudson

Films:

Page 100 of 134
Angel on My Shoulder
Court Jester
Fantastic Planet
Here Comes Mr. Jordan
The Mouse That Roared
Peeper
A Study in Terror
Thirty-Foot Bride of Candy Rock
What's Up, Tiger Lily

Activities: art show, dealers room, writers workshop

Panels: "How to Become a Real SF Fan
"How to Get Started in an SF Writing Career"

Hutsah Puppet Theater

Sources: "Fantasy Comes to Rudder Theatre," Battalion, Oct. 16, 1980

"Eyes of Texas" tv show featured Annette Bristol-Poth's collection of Tarzan memorabilia


itty bitty con i

Date: Nov. 11, 1980
Guest of Honor: Roger Zelazny
Co-sponsor: CRAB Nebula

films: Dr. Goldfoot and the Bikini Machine
Evil Brain from Outer Space


itty bitty con i program book

Student Book Collector's Contest winners included:

Marilyn R. Kok, "A Collection of Arthuriana"
Jean Jones, "Faeries, Fables and Folklore"
Cathy Rylander, "The Images of Sherlock Holmes" [Cathy claims her collection was titled "The Imitators ...]

Source: Thurston, Charles, "Awards Presented to Student Book Collectors," Library


1981


Jeff Bogert died in February 1981.


AggieCon XII

Dates: March 26-29, 1981

Guest of Honor: Joe Haldeman
Artist Guest of Honor: Alicia Austin
Toastmaster:
Special Guest: C. J. Cherryh
Other Guests:
Neal Barrett, Jr.
Roger Beaumont
Steven Gould
Larry Lankford
Justin Leiber
George R.R. Martin
Chad Oliver
Doug Potter
Geo. W. Proctor
Joe Pumilia
Buddy Saunders
Lewis Shiner
Bob Vardeman
Howard Waldrop
Bob Wayne

Guests who didn't come:

Con chair: Craig Hanks
Other con officers:

   vice chair:     Bruce Bray  
dealers' room:  Kong  
head quarters:  Mike Woods  
film programming:  Wendy Pearson  
art display:  David Ricks  
public relations:  Cheryl Speakman

Films:
Allegro Non Troppo  
Barbarella  
Boy and His Dog  
Close Encounters  
Day the Earth Stood Still  
Fantastic Planet  
Sleeper  
2001  
Watership Down  
Wizards

Activities: The Monkey House party continued almost without interruption for this entire convention. At one point we realized that Justin Leiber was in deep communication with Road Kill, the Monkey House cat.

Sources:  Cawley, Rusty, "They'll Keep Fakin' It," Eagle, March 28, 1981  
         Cawley, Rusty, "Comics are Passion for 'Con Traders," Eagle, March 27, 1981  
         Cawley, Rusty, "Look Out, Here Comes AggieCon!" Eagle, March 25, 1981  
         Ad, Battalion, March 26, 1981, page 16  

Cepheid Officers, 1981/82

Bill Davidson  
Gordon Lewis  
Laura Brooks  
David Matney  
Angela Partain  
John Kovar  
David Gaskill

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Source: 1982 Aggieland

Gould, Steven, "Wind Instrument," Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine, 5(6): 144-166 (June 8, 1981). At this time Steve was living in Houston. Geary Rachel, a musician who also lived in Houston, read the story and really liked it. He started calling Goulds until he found Steve. Thus we met Geary.


Other Con V

Dates: Sept. 18-20, 1981

Guest of Honor: Gordon R. Dickson
Fan Guest of Honor: Margaret Middleton
Other Guests: Steven Gould
Leigh Kennedy
George R.R. Martin
Howard Waldrop

Location: Ramada Inn

Con Chair: Sven Knudson

Films:
Canterville Ghost
Earth Dies Screaming
Ghost and Mrs. Muir
On Borrowed Time
On the Beach
Robot Monsters
You Can't Take It With You
Zulu

Activities: One night before the party we got a frantic call from the Hotel management. They couldn't provide us with the sausage platter (the cheaper option) we had ordered for the party. Would we mind if they substituted shrimp? We told them that would be acceptable. The guests were really impressed.
The con featured readings by the various guests, plus a dealers' room, filksinging, and auction, a "Carl Sagan sound-alike contest," and a reading of "Star Trees," an SF play.

Admission: Membership $8 to September 1, then $10. 2 days $8, daily $5.

Sources: OtherCon V Program Book

Student Book Collector's Contest: Elissa Jean Saunders won $100 for "Science Fiction Novels About Women by Women." Annette Bristol-Poth also won an award.


ittybitty con ii

  Guest of Honor: Howard Waldrop

Maurer, Johna Jo, "Council Authorizes Machine for Cepheid Variable Buttons," *Battalion*, March 9, 1982

**AggieCon XIII**

*Dates: March 25-28, 1982*

- **Guest of Honor:** Roger Zelazny
- **Artist Guest of Honor:** Vincent DiFate
- **Toastmaster:**
- **Special Guest:** Fred Saberhagen
- **Other Guests:**
  - Brian Aldiss
  - Neal Barrett
  - Roger Beaumont
  - Ed Bryant
  - Steve Gould
  - Leigh Kennedy
  - Larry Lankford
  - Justin Leiber
  - George R.R. Martin
  - Becky Matthews
  - Warren Norwood
  - Chad Oliver
  - Doug Potter
  - George Proctor
  - Joe Pumilia
  - Tim Sager
  - Buddy Saunders
  - Lewis Shiner
  - Bruce Sterling
  - Roger Stine
  - Bob Vardeman
  - Howard Waldrop
  - Bob Wayne

*Guests who didn't come:*

*Con chair:* David Gaskill
Other con officers:
  chairperson of vice: Bruce Bray
Finance wiz:         Bill Davidson
Hucksters' room:    David Heiligman and Laura Brooks
Film czar:          David Reed
House manager:      Noel Watkins
Hall of fanac:      David Ricks
Headquarters:       Angela Purtain
Creative Consultant: Eric Truax
Art Displays:       Wendy Pearson
Banquet, Masquerade, Auction: Paul Sorenson
Party Room:         Mary Brooks
Officer in charge of irrelevant nonsequitars: Dan Tolliver
Propaganda:         Cathy Rylander
Staff advisor:      Ted Hoef

Films:  Doc Savage
Dracula (1979)
Flesh Gordon
Star Trek
Superman I
Superman II
War of the Worlds
Wizards
Wolfen
Zardoz

Activities:

Admission: Membership $7.50 to March 1, 1982; then $8.50. Banquet admission $4.50.

Sources: "AggieCon XIII to Draw Science Fiction Buffs Nationwide," Eagle, March 24, 1982
AggieCon XIII Program Book

Davis, Cyndy, "'Cepheidi' Sponsor AggieCon," *Battalion*, Aug. 30, 1982


McElroy, K., "Cepheid Caters to Fantasy Buffs," *Battalion*, March 9, 1982

Dyal, Donald H., "Science Fiction Research Collection at Texas A&M University," *Special Collections*, 2(1/2): 39-48 (Fall/Winter 1982)

Speech by Donna Buhrman of Austin


itty bitty con iii November 1982

Guest of Honor: Vicki Ann Heydron

Randall Garrett was also invited, but by that point his health no longer permitted his attending conventions.


"The Innocents" performed by Stage Center

Sources: "Innocent Horror," *Battalion*, November 12, 1982

Cawley, Rusty, "Young Actors Performing Dark Characters in Stage Center's 'Innocents'," *Eagle*, November 12, 1982

1983


AggieCon XIV

Dates: March 24-27, 1983

Guest of Honor: Harry Harrison

Some p.r. erroneously listed Anne McCaffrey as GoH
Artist Guest of Honor:  Michael Whelan  
Toastmaster:  Chad Oliver  
Special Guest:  Stephen R. Donaldson  
Other Guests:  
Neal Barrett, Jr.  
Roger Beaumont  
Ed Bryant  
George Alec Effinger  
R.S. Ficks  
Steven Gould  
Rory Harper  
Al Jackson  
Leigh Kennedy  
Joe Lansdale  
Becky Matthews  
Ardath Mayhar  
Real Musgrave  
Ralph Mylius  
Warren Norwood  
Doug Potter  
Geo. Proctor  
Don Ivan Punchatz  
Lewis Shiner  
John Steakley  
Bob Vardeman  
Howard Waldrop  

Although not a guest, Roger Elwood attended this con.  His unusual religious views created quite a controversy.  

Guests who didn't come:  

Activities:  Fanac gaming, pro and amateur art; tour of Special Collections; NASA presentations; D & D tournament; masquerade contest; trivia quizzes  

Panels:  

"Will It Fly ? Technology in Science Fiction"  
"Word Processing's Impact on Science Fiction/Fantasy Writers"  
"Artists:  Pros and Fans"  
"Despair and Whimsey:  Finding Your Own Ground"
"Scenarious in Futurology: What Just Wiped Out My Platoon?"

"Fanzines: Contributions, Publishing, etc."

"New Authors: Why Do They Write that Stuff Anyway"

"Who Wrote That Book: Collaborations"

"Humor in Science Fiction and Fantasy"

"How I Became a Science Fiction/Fantasy Artist"

"Neal Barrett, Jr. Roast" held on March 26; included Howard Waldrop, Leigh Kennedy, Lew Shiner, Joe Lansdale, Chad Oliver, George Proctor, and Becky Matthews

Admission: Membership $7.50 before 3/1/83, then $10; one day admission $4; banquet tickets $10

Con chairman: Gordon B. Lewis

Other con officers:
Vice chair: David C. Reed
Secretary: Mary K. Rollow
Treasurer: Kathy Mitchell
Art Coordinator: Jeff Vermette
Dealers' Room: Don C. Gilman
Headquarters: David H. Matney
P.R./Program Book: Cathy A. Rylander
Film Programming: Mark M. Lucas
Banq./Masq./Auction: Mary P. Brooks
Day House Manager: Nancy A. Underwood
Night House Manager: John G. Hill
FANAC: Michelle N. Smith
Party Room: Beth E. Tipton and Robin Siskel

Films:
Camelot
Excalibur
Fearless Vampire Killers
Final Countdown
Monty Python and the Holy Grail
Secret of NIMH
Something Wicked This Way Comes
Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan
Young Frankenstein

Slide shows concerning:

Krull
Something Wicked This Way Comes
Space Hunter

Other Notable Events:

Day After the End of the World (play by Harry Harrison) -- the play included a realist sheep, which was auctioned off to the Donaldsons ...

Aggiecon XIV Program Book

1983/84 Cepheid Officers:

Chair: Kathy Mitchell
Treasurer: Kaye Parker
Film Czar: David Matney
Executive House Manager: Beth Miller
House Manager: Lew Barringer
Director P.R.: Martha Wells
Director Publications: Lisa Robinson
Director Special Programing: ?

April 10 -- Tesseract club meeting held at Wendy Snyder's apartment.

Tesseract members included:

John Burciaga
Cleon Dean
Steve Gould
Bill Page
Wendy Pearson
David Reed
Cathy Rylander (staff advisor)
Wendy Snyder
Dan Tolliver
Eric Truax
Ruth White

Ann ---- (Cleon's wife)

and maybe Dr. Paul Parrish as the other staff advisor

Source: Starburst: The Roger Elwood Memorial Issue

"Grove Slates Summer Flicks," Eagle, May 27, 1983. Movies scheduled for June included:

June 2: Star Wars
June 3 & 4: Raiders of the Lost Ark
June 6: Love at First Bite
June 10-11: Poltergeist
June 16: Mad Max
June 23: Close Encounters of the Third Kind (special edition)
June 27: Bedazzled
June 30: Excalibur


Other Con VI

Dates: Labor Day Weekend, 1983
Location: Baltimore, Md.

Guest of Honor: Leigh Kennedy
Comments: "Off-campus" takes on a whole new meaning ...

This con was one of the bidding parties for the "Austin in '85" bid. It was held Friday night at the World Con in Baltimore. The night before one of the elevators had supposedly dropped 12 floors -- the elevators were extremely hard to catch, and unreliable to boot. As a result, we had to carry the cases of liquor and beer up to the 27th floor. To buy the liquor we had had to walk from the convention center into the slums of Baltimore. I went on a daytime trip, which was pretty interesting, but another group of people went at night. The Texans going to the con had hauled Shiner Bach beer and Texas shaped chips from Texas to Baltimore. Many of the fans in Baltimore didn't like the beer, but they admired our effort in getting it there. Some of the fans there even ate the jalepeno peppers we'd taken. Anyway, about 1300-1500 people showed up -- the most ever for an OtherCon. FACT had a computer set up with a matchmaking program -- it was very popular, even a 25 cents a try. John Roark worked the bar that night (other Texas groups ran the party on other nights). Several of us took turns greating people at the door, often using exaggerated Texas
drawls. No one except the Texans really seemed to understand "vote early and vote often" -- don't other states have corrupt political systems?

Source: Cooper, Carolyn, "Texans Stranded in Baltimore 5 Days, Eat Crabs to Survive," Texas SF Inquirer, #6, December 1983, p. 1


itty bitty con iv

Date: Oct. 1983
Guest of honor: Fred Saberhagen
Film: You'll Find Out

Sources: "Cepheid Variable," Eagle, Oct. 8, 1983


InstaCon

Dates: Dec. 2-3,1983
Guests: Ben Yalow
Jim Gilpatrick
( these were the two out-of-state guests)

Other guests included:

Greg Bennett
Paul and Carolyn Cooper
Steve Jackson
Sven Knudson
Johnny Lee
Becky Matthews
Pat Mueller
Doug Potter
Cathy Rylander
Willie Siros
Robert Taylor
Dennis Virzi

Location: Held in Rudder 701 and MSC Room 145


InstaCon Program Book

1984

Feb. 16-18, 22-25, 1984: Theatre Arts production of "Death Takes a Holiday"

Source: 1984 Aggieland, pages 25, 61

Feb. 18: Star Trek Experience

1984 Aggieland, page 836


"Blithe Spirit" performed, probably by Stage Center?


AggieCon XV

Dates: March 29-April 1, 1984

Guest of Honor: L. Sprague De Camp and Catherine Crook De Camp
Artist Guest of Honor: Don Maitz
Toastmaster: Wilson "Bob" Tucker
Special Guest: James P. Hogan
Other Guests:
David Lee Anderson
Roger Beaumont
Ed Bryant
R.S. Ficks
Brad Foster
Steven Gould

Page 114 of 134
Rory Harper
Vicki Ann Heydron
Al Jackson
Leigh Kennedy
Joe Lansdale
Becky Matthews
Ardath Mayhar
Real Musgrave
Warren Norwood
Chad Oliver
George Proctor
Lewis Shiner
Bob Vardeman
Howard Waldrop

Guests who didn't come: Neal Barrett, Jr.; David Martin; Ralph Mylius; Warren Norwood

Admission: Membership $8 to 2/29/83 [really !], then $10; $6.50 Texas A&M students;
dealer tables, $40; $110/3 tables; banquet $10.

Con chair: Mary Brooks

Other con officers:
   vice-chair: Mark Lucas
night house manager: Elizabeth Miller
Film Czar: Wendy Snyder
   : Dan Tolliver
Program Book Editor: Cathy Rylander
P.R.: David Reed
Starbuck Headquarters: John Kovar
Dealers' Room: Stephen Jones
Day Films: Lewis Barringer
Art: Ernie Hartt
Party Room: Wayne Fowler

Source: 1984 Aggieland, page 491

Films: Allegro Non Troppo
Blade Runners
Dragonslayer
Galaxina
Invasion of the Daleks
The Point
The Sword in the Stone
Time Bandits
Tron

Activities: Auction, banquet, Scavenger hunt; SF Trivial Pursuit; Masquerade; Gaming

The con had a daily newsletter, The Gigag Gazette, published by F.A.C.T.

The Dead Dog party for this con was held at the Monkey House. Don Maitz hopping down the hall with his shoelaces tied together ...

Maryanne Herzig drove James Hogan to the airport in Houston.

George Proctor Roast held on March 30

Sources: "Authors, Movie Screenings Highlight Local Sci-Fi Festival," Eagle, March 29, 1984
Kirk, Tammy, "AggieCon XV Starts Today," Battalion, March 29, 1984
AggieCon XV Program Book

Gould, Steven, "Rory," Analog 104(4): 96-109 (April 1984). This story was nominated for a Hugo in 1985, but did not win. The story included characters named Dr. Herzig (after Maryanne Herzig ?), Rory (after Rory Harper), and Geary, a mongoloid gerbil (after Geary Rachel).


April 1984: English Dept. had display on 1984


"Summer at the Grove," Eagle, May 31, 1984. The following movies were among those scheduled:

June 7: Alien
June 8-9: Poltergeist
June 14: Blade Runner
June 17: Wizards
June 24: Watership Down
June 28: A Clockwork Orange
July 1: Animal Farm
July 12: Barbarella
July 15: Fantastic Planet
July 19: The Exorcist
July 20-21: Star Trek II -- The Wrath of Khan  
July 29: The Last Unicorn  
Aug. 5: Peter Pan  
Aug. 8: Young Frankenstein  
Aug. 9: War of the Worlds  
Aug. 12: The Point  
Aug. 16: A Boy and His Dog  

Brad Foster was nominated for a Hugo for Best Fan Artist in 1984, but lost.


Fall 1984 Movies  

Aug. 30 Mad Max  
Sept. 6 Something Wicked This Way Comes  
Sept. 13 Outland  
Sept. 20 Heavy Metal  
Sept. 27 Conan the Barbarian  
Oct. 4 The Gladiators  
Oct. 11 Escape from New York  
Oct. 25 Masque of the Red Death  
   The Raven  
Oct. 26 Young Frankenstein  
   Dracula  
   The Pit and the Pendulum  
Oct. 27 Dracula  
   Young Frankenstein  
   Twice Told Tales  
Nov. 1 Fantastic Planet  
   Flight of Apollo 11  
Nov. 8 A Midsummer Night's Dream  
Nov. 15 Bugs Bunny/Roadrunner Movie  
Nov. 29 Cabinet of Dr. Caligari  
   Lost World  
Dec. 6 Santa Claus Conquers the Martians  

Source: Promotional flyer for Cepheid  

Sept. 27: Aggie Players production of "Liliom" opens  

Sources: "Aggie Players Open Season Thursday," Battalion, Sept. 21, 1984  
Marrou, Glenda, "'Liliom' Sparks Emotional Plot," Battalion, Sept. 28, 1984  
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Date: Oct. 18, 1984
Guest of Honor: Real Musgrave
Film: Robot Monsters

Source: "Have Big Time at Small Convention," Eagle, Oct. 18, 1984

SF art show in MSC, with Hap Henricksen

Included works by:

Alicia Austin
David A. Cherry
James C. Christensen
Leo and Diane Dillow
Tim Hildebrandt
Frank Kelly Freas
Don Maitz
Michael Whelan
Real Musgrave
Don Ivan Puncatz
David Wenzel
Star Liana York

Sources: "Haunted Houses, Carnivals Scheduled for Halloween Week," Eagle, Oct. 25, 1984

Nov. 5: "Dracula" brought by Town Hall

Sources: "New Town Hall Season Includes Dracula, Gigi," Eagle, April 19, 1984
Neman, Daniel, "Courtly Vampire to Sweep Across Rudder Stage," Eagle, Nov. 1, 1984
Clark, Leigh-Ellen, "Audience 'Seduced' by Dracula's Charm," Battalion, Nov. 2, 1984
Clark, Leigh-Ellen, "'Dracula' is Different, But No Major Surprises," Battalion, Nov. 9, 1984

1985


**AggieCon XVI**

**Dates:** March 21-24, 1985

**Guest of Honor:** John Varley  
**Artist Guest of Honor:** James Christensen  
**Toastmaster:** Ed Bryant  
**Special Guest:** Patricia McKillip  
**Other Guests:**  
David Lee Anderson  
Roger Beaumont  
Patricia Breeding  
Lillian Stewart Carl  
Brad Foster  
R.S. Ficks  
Steven Gould  
Rory Harper  
Dell Harris  
Hap Henricksen  
Vicki Ann Heydron  
Al Jackson  
Leigh Kennedy  
Joe Lansdale  
Justin Leiber  
Becky Matthews  
Ardath Mayhar  
Henry Melton  
Real Musgrave  
Warren Norwood  
Chad Oliver  
Doug Potter  
Don Punchatz  
Lewis Shiner  
Bruce Sterling  
Robert Vardeman  
Howard Waldrop  
Victoria Wheeler
Guests who didn't come:

Con chair: Rob Jones
Other con officers:
  vc administration: Gary Guenther
vc programming: David Reed
vc public relations: Hillary Segl
guest relations/special services: Beth Miller
art/fixed functions: Ernie Hartt
box office manager: Otto Cordray
headquarters: Doc Hyde
dealers' room: John Beadles
night house manager: Lew Barringer
day house manager: Noe Gutierrez
film czar: Michael Traubert
masquerade/fanac: Michelle Smith
party room/banquet: Yvonne DeGraw
program book editor: Martha Wells

Films: The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai
Clockwork Orange
Empire Strikes Back
Laser Blast
Phantasm
Rollerball
Star Wars
Terminator

Activities: Banquet, "Let's Make a Deal," Second Annual AggieCon Sockhop, rooms for open gaming, art show, masquerade.

Admission: $9 before March 1, 1985; $12 after March 1; banquet tickets, $9 before March 1, $10 after March 1; Dealers' tables, single $40, double $75, three $110.

  McKay, Paul, "Visiting a Flea Market for the Weird at Heart," Eagle, March 23, 1985

AggieCon XVI Program Book
Speech and Reading by Steven Gould

Sources: Dietz, Kirsten, "Science Fiction Writer to Give Presentation," Battalion, April 15, 1985


Source: English Bulletin 17(1): 1-2 (Sept. 6, 1985)

August 30 - Sept. 2, 1985: First Occasional Lone Star Science Fiction Convention and Chili Cook-Off (the North American Science Fiction Convention) held in Austin. A number of former Cepheids and C.R.A.B.s were involved in various aspects of this convention, including Joanne Burger, who was the fan guest of honor; Steven Gould, Yvonne Dailey Knudson, Sven Knudson, Becky Matthews, Bill Page, Mack Pitchford, David Reed, Cathy Rylander, Noel Watkins, Robin Wilson, and probably others whose names I have omitted. Many more Cepheids and former Cepheids attended.

Sources: Program Book


Oliver, Chad, "The North American Science Fiction Convention," The Bulletin of the Science Fiction Writers of America 19(3): 7-9, whole # 89 (Fall 1985).

Brad Foster was nominated for a Hugo for Best Fan Artist of 1985, but lost.


Human Chess Tournament

Co-sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism
Location: Held by the Corps dorms

Sources: "Check Mate," Battalion, Oct. 14, 1985  
"Human Chess Match Slated," Eagle, Oct. 9, 1985  
"Only Pawns in Their Game," Eagle, Oct. 12, 1985

Former Cepheid Bill Kostura mentioned in Locus.


The Student Book Collector's Contest winners included a collection by William C. Smith titled "Carrolliana," about Lewis Carroll.


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Guest of Honor: Bruce Sterling?

D.H. Stewart gave a speech titled "C.S. Lewis' Use of Language" at the Modern Language Association Meeting in Chicago, Dec. 28-29, 1985

1986


March 26: "Brigadoon" produced

Sources: "'Brigadoon' Takes Stage March 26," Bryan Press March 20, 1986  
Butler, Jim, "Brigadoon Coming to Rudder," Eagle, March 20, 1986

AggieCon XVII

Dates: April 3-6, 1986

Guest of Honor: George R.R. Martin  
Artist Guest of Honor: Frank Kelly Freas  
Toastmaster: Howard Waldrop  
Special Guest: Orson Scott Card  
Media Guest: Kerry O'Quinn
Other Guests:
Roger Beaumont
Ed Bryant
Lillian Stewart Carl
Katie Lou Cowlander
Joe Delaney
Brad Foster
Danny Gillies
Steven Gould
Rory Harper
Dell Harris
Al Jackson
Joe Lansdale
David Martin
Becky Matthews
Ardath Mayhar
Henry Melton

Guests who didn't come:

Activities: Amateur film contest; autograph sessions; guest receptions, Halley's Comet observations; Hall costume contests; SCA demonstrations; "Let's Make a Deal," masquerade, Cat Boxe Theatre, "Name That Sound Effect," a Quest ("a new event"), sockhop, The Steve and Rory Show, auction, Steve Gould Dancerama, Secular Humanism Revival Meeting, banquet, guest brunch, SCA dance demonstrations.

Panels:
"Sex in Science Fiction"
"SF Films of 1985"

Other Comments: Katie Lou Cowden, the con's official munchkin, won a prize in the masquerade contest. She went as a tiny dinosaur.

Howard Waldrop read "Thirty Minutes over Broadway"

Admission: Member $9 to 9/7/85; $10 to 3/15/86; $13 at door; dealer table, $45.

Con chair: Martha Wells

Other con officers:
vc administration: Rob Jones
vc programming and guest relations: Cathy Ruedinger
vc public relations: Yvonne DeGraw
dealers' room manager: John Beadles
headquarters: Pete Christian
art show/auction: Kevin Raley
      Helo Chen
masquerade/FANAC: Keith Krum
banquet/party room/sockhop: Michele Smith
gaming: Mike Kamei
film czar: David Reed
day films: Tom Reinarts
night house manager: Mike Kamei
day house manager: Noe Gutierrez
special services: Otto Cordray III
treasurer: Purna Murthy
quest master: Troyce Wilson
box office manager: Mary Hankins
display cases/additional graphics/special assistant to program book: Cathy Rylander
official con munchkin: Katie Lou
officer in charge of irrelevent non sequitors: Dan "Dillo" Tolliver
assistant to Mr. Tolliver: David Matney
program book editor: Beth Miller

Films:
Black Cauldron
Cocoon
E.T.
Fantastic Animation Festival
Lady Hawke
Mad Max
Mad Max: Beyond Thuderdome
The Road Warrior
Wizards

Sources: Ad, Battalion, April 3, 1986, page 10
Watson, Karen, "AggieCon Attracts Variety of People from Southwest," Battalion, April 7, 1986, page 4
Butler, Jim, "Annual Science Fiction/Fantasy Confab Set," Eagle, March 27 1986
"Convention Listings," Locus 18(9): 39, whole issue # 296 (Sept. 1985)
"4-Day AggieCon to Begin Today," Eagle, April 3, 1986
Owens, Brad, "AggieCon: Contact with Earthlings," Eagle, April 5, 1986
Gould, Steven, "The No License Needed, Fun to Drive, Built Easily With Ordinary Tools, Revolutionary, Guaranteed, Lawnmower Engine Powered, Low Cost, Compact, and Dependable Mail Order Device," Analog 106(4): 142-149 (April 1986). Includes characters named Father Donahoe (after Pat Donahoe), Floyd (after Floyd Lightsey), and Katy Lou (after Katie Lou Cowden).

Steven Gould was elected as South/Central Regional Director of the Science Fiction Writers of America, perhaps effect April 1986.

Source: The Bulletin of the Science Fiction Writers of America 20(2): inside back cover, whole issue # 92 (Summer 1986)

Brad Foster was nominated for a Hugo for Best Fan Artist in 1986.


Fall 1986?

Ardath Mayhar speaks at Library's book collector contest; she was introduced by Steven Gould.

Lite Nite: A Laser Fantasy

Co-sponsors: Brazos Valley Museum and KKYS-FM

Sources: "Brazos Valley Sky to Be Lit by Lasers," Battalion, Oct. 30, 1986


Dec. 5, 1986: ittybittycon vii?

Ed Bryant speaks on "Why Contemporary Science Fiction is More Successful than
American Foreign Policy,

Source: Ad, Battalion, Dec. 4, 1986, page 4

1986/87


Boenig, Robert, "C.S. Lewis and the Martian Controversy," accepted by Science Fiction: A Review of Speculative Literature

Source: English Bulletin 19(5): 1 (no date, 1986/87 ?)

Boenig, Robert, "Tolkien and Old Germantic Ethnics," accepted by Mythlore

Source: English Bulletin vol. 19, no issue no., no date, 1986/87 ?

1987

Reilly, Lawson, "Evans Library Plays Host to Science Fiction World," Battalion, March 25, 1987

AggieCon XVIII

Dates: April 2-5, 1987

Guest of Honor: Ben Bova
Artist Guest of Honor: Rowena Morrill
Toastmaster: Steven Gould
Special Guest: Christopher Stasheff
Media Guest: Kerry O'Quinn
Other Guests:
Roger Beaumont
Patricia Breeding
Ed Bryant
Lillian Stewart Carl
George Alec Effinger
Beth Fleisher
Brad Foster
Danny Gillies
Rory Harper
Al Jackson
Joe R. Lansdale
Becky Matthews

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Ardath Mayhar  
Henry Melton  
Warren Norwood  
Chad Oliver  
Doug Potter  
Geo. W. Proctor  
Pat Rawlings  
Lewis Shiner  
Nick Smith  
Howard Waldrop  

Guests who didn't come:

Activities: live Lovecraftian quest; dancing; an SFWA regional meeting; a create-a-movie panel series; a guest roast; game shows; a masquerade; art shows; auction; banquet; guest brunch; guest reception; Cat Boxe Theater; SCA demonstration; F.A.C.T. meeting

This con had a newsletter, Aggie Fly Paper.

Admission: Membership $10 to 3/1/87, then $13; supporting membership, $3; SFWA members admitted free

Con chair: Purna Murthy

Other con officers:

vc of administration: Jennifer Rich  
vc of programming: Keith Krum  
vc of public relations: Yvonne Graw (?)  
asst. vc of p.r./program book editor: Puneet Sharma  
art show and auction: Kevin Raley  
treasurer/headquarters/ day house manager: Robin Shear  
dealers' room: John Beadles  
night house manager: Laura McCord  
film czar: Cathy Ruedinger  
fanac/masquerade: Kristine Keene  
banquet/party room: Gary Walker  
day films/videos: Otto Cordray  
gaming coordinator: Mike Kamei  
questmaster: Troyce Wilson  
keeper of the above: Daralyn Wallace

Films:

Alien
Aliens
Big Trouble in Little China
Escape from New York
Labyrinth
Poltergeist
Sleeping Beauty
Something Wicked This Way Comes
Sword in the Stone
The Thing

Sources:  Ad, Battalion, April 2, 1987, page 14
AggieCon XVIII Program Book
"AggieCon 18 Update," Texas SF Inquirer #20, (Feb./March 1987), p. 3
Butler, Jim, "AggieCon 18: A Trip Through New Realities," Bryan-College Station
Eagle, April 2, 1987, section C, page 1
"Convention Listings," Locus 20(1): 26, whole issue # 312 (January 1987)
Knowles, Tom, "Ben Bova A Man for the Future," Bryan-College Station Eagle,

"'The Blob' in Rudder Tower," Eagle, April 30, 1987

Akin, Susan C., "MSC Cepheid Variable Serves Science Fiction," Battalion, August 31,
1987

Brad Foster won the 1987 Hugo for Best Fan Artist


Includes characters named Anita Moss (after Anita Moss), Martha (after Martha Wells),
Robin Wilson (after Robin Wilson), Sally Mander (after someone who would hurt me if I
gave her name), F. X. Herzig (after Frank Herzig), Hal Hall (after Hal Hall), Roark (after
John Roark), Anne Bogucki (after Anne Bogucki), Laura Lehew (after Laura Lehew),
William Reese (after Bill Page), Rory Herzig (after Rory Harper), William McKeel (after
Mack Pitchford), Norren Warword (after Warren Norwood), and probably others whom I
missed. The story also contains a large number of allusions to Rex Stout's "Nero Wolfe
series."

Not-so-itty-bitty-con

Sources: "Roddenberry to Be Beamed to Later Date," Eagle, Oct. 20, 1987
Butler, Jim, "'Star Trek' Creator Won't Beam Down," Eagle, January 27, 1988

1988

Page 128 of 134
Star Trek Fest
   No A&M connection


AggieCon XIX

Dates: March 24-27, 1988

   Guest of Honor: Joe Haledeman
   Artist Guest of Honor: Bob Eggleston
   Toastmaster: Kerry O'Quinn
   Special Guest: Katherine Kurtz
   Media guest: Kerry O'Quinn
   Other Guests:
      Geo. A. Effinger
      Howard Waldrop
      Oscar Cordray
      Danny Gilies
      Joe Lansdale
      Ben Dunn
      Ardath Mayhar
      Judith Ward
      Jim Nelson
      H. Melton
      Scott McCullar
      Real Musgrave
      Brad Foster
      Lewis Shiner
      Roger Beaumont
      Lillian Stewart Carl
      Martin
      Tom Tenney
      Warren Norwood
      Steven Gould
      Neighbors
      Al Jackson
      Rory Harper
      J. Moore

   Guests who didn't come: Henry Melton, Geo A. Effinger, Warren Norwood
Admission:

Con officers:

Jenni Bennett      gaming
Laurie Bernhard    on-campus pr
Mark Camp          dealers' room
Dan Cassitt        house manager
Kathy Gamble       hq/day house
Noe Guiterrez      night house
Purna Murthy       vc of fanac
John Moehring      vc of administration
Loren Rapoport     videos
David Reed         progress reports
Jennifer Rich      chair
Cathy Ruedinger    vc of programming
Robert Sanford     box office
Mike Schiller      party room
Puneet Sharma      program book
Daralyn Wallace    advisor
Mark Watkins        art show
Martha Wells       off-campus pr
Troyce Wilson      QuestMaster

Films:
Bad Dreams
Fire and Ice
Heavy Metal
Predator
Robocop
Running Man
Terminator
Wizards

Activities: Filksinging; Cat Box Theatre; SCA Dance; Art Auction; Los Blues Guys; Howard and Lewis Dance; "Let's Make a Deal"

Rusty Havlin, long time fan, stayed at the Monkey House for a couple of days after the con.

Panels:

"Best and Worst Editors"
"The Graphic Novel"
"Collaboration in Art"
"Who Influenced My Writing the Most"
"Inspiration"
"What Would You Write if Money Didn't Matter"
"Here's How to Get Your Artwork Sold"
"What Piece of Artwork Would You Create If Money Didn't Matter"
"What Do the Spouses Do"
"Who Influenced my Art the Most"
"Taboos Left in Science Fiction"
"Comic Book Artist"
"Here's How to Get Your Work Published"

Sources: Knowles, Tom, "Excess Elements Flaw 'Bad Dreams,'" Eagle, March 26, 1988
Pallmeyer, Karl, "Alternate Realities Draw Artist," Eagle, March 26, 1988
"AggieCon Concludes Sunday," Eagle, March 25, 1988
"Free Sneak of 'Bad Dreams,'" Eagle, March 24, 1988
Hall, Shane, "AggieCon Convention Attracts Science Fiction Buffs to Campus," Battalion, March 25, 1988
Schexnaider, Lee, "AggieCon 19 Brings Week of Magic to Town," Eagle, March 24, 1988
Stewart, Matthew, "'Bad Dreams' Offers Suspense, Terror at AggieCon Screening," Battalion, March 25, 1988
Calhoun, Ronnie, "19th AggieCon Brings Fans of Fantasy to A&M," Battalion, March 24, 1988

May 7, 1988 (Saturday): Former members of Cepheid meet with current Cepheids to talk about support. There was a party that night at the Monkey House.


Picture of Katie Lou Cowden posing with large model of stegosaurus made by her father, John Tim Cowden

Sources: Bryan-College Station Eagle, ca. June 19 ?, 1988

Brad Foster won the Hugo for Best Fan Artist


Sept. 24, 1988: Former members of Cepheid meet with current Cepheids to talk about support. This meeting was held in Rudder Tower, room 301. There was a party that night at the Monkey House.
October 1988:  Author Laura Mixon moved to Bryan.

Article about Cepheid Variable, the SCA, and the Church of the Subgenius


"The Passions of Dracula" performed by Stage Center

Sources: Butler, Jim, "Stage Center Resurrecting Dracula for Season Opener," Bryan-College Station Eagle, October 20, 1988

"'Dracula' Performances Set," Bryan-College Station Eagle, October 21, 1988

Butler, Jim, "'Dracula' Lacks Passion; Special Effects Need Work," Bryan-College Station Eagle, October 22, 1988

"'Passion of Dracula' Showing this Weekend," Bryan-College Station Eagle, October 28, 1988

Nov. 10-13, 1988:  Writers' Workshop

Sources: Neal, Kelly, "A&M Group to Host Writers' Workshop," Bryan-College Station Eagle, October 16, 1988

"Science Fiction, Fantasy and Suspense Topics of Workshop," Bryan-College Station Eagle, October 23, 1988

Nov. 1988:  itty bitty con

Guest of Honor:  Steve Gould

November 11, 1988:  Don Cravens, former member of Cepheid Variable and of C.R.A.B. Nebula, was murdered.

Sources: Boyd, Jade, "Local Theater Manager Found Dead in Office; Police Say Cause Unknown," Bryan-College Station Eagle, November 12, 1988, section A, page 1, col. 3.


Boyd, Jade, "Shooting Death of Theater Manager is Called Capital Case," Bryan-College

Sharp, Elizabeth, "Normangee Man is Charged With Aggravated Perjury," Bryan-College Station Eagle, December 17, 1988, section A, page 1, col. 2


1989


Harrison, Payne, Storming Intrepid comes out. Harrison graduated from Texas A&M.


AggieCon XX

Dates: March 30 -- April 2, 1989

Guest of Honor: George R. R. Martin
Artist Guest of Honor: Real Musgrave
Toastmaster: Kerry O'Quinn
Special Guest: Octavia Butler
Media guest: Richard Arnold
Comics Guest: Chris Claremont

Other Guests:

Authors:
C. Dean Andersson (Asa Drake)
Barbara Bartholomew
Lillian Stewart Carl
Carole Nelson Douglas
Steven Gould
Rory Harper
Vicki Ann Heydron
Katherine E. Kimbriel
Joe Lansdale
Ardath Mayhar
Laura Mixon
Warren Norwood
Nina Romberg
Lewis Shiner
Howard Waldrop

Artists:

    P.D. Breeding-Black
    Sam Douglas
    Brad Foster
    Danny and Jude Gilies
    Doug Potter

Make-up Artist:

    Gregor Punchatz

Fan Guests:

    Floyd Lightsey
    Becky Matthews