

# VEGAS FANDOM WEEKLY

## Las Vegas Fandom's Sorta Weekly Newszine

### First Sunday Social Honors Joyce Katz!

Las Vegas Fandom came out in force for the first Sunday Social, sponsored by VSFA under the guidance of its president, Woody Bernardi. The event, held at The Tap House on March 13, featured Vegas Fandom's salute to Joyce Katz for her contributions to Fandom in general and to Las Vegas Fandom in particular.

After some rearrangement of tables and exploration of the restaurant's ample menu, Woody welcomed the 15 fans to what will hopefully become a regular series of meetings. (SNAFFU had some of its most suc-



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Special Thanks to Alan White (all photos), Aileen Forman and Joyce Katz (proofreading).

Reporters this issue: David Gordon, Woody Bernardi, Michael Bernstein and Joyce Katz

VFW is free for the asking — and you may get it anyway. It can be downloaded at the SNAFFU and VSFA websites as well as at efanazines.com

Member: fwa. Supporter: AFAL.

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cessful meetings on Sunday afternoons at Skinny Dugan's some years ago.)

Steve Brust showed the heart of a Trufan (inside the body of a Filthy Pro) by coming to pay his respects to the Guest of Honor, even though he had to return to his battle against computer catastrophe. Vegas fans will get a chance to reciprocate and show Steve that we have some spirit, too, when he headlines the one-day Las Vegas Science Fiction & Fantasy Day on April 30.

Woody then turned over the meeting to Ken Forman, who acquitted himself well as emcee, despite the lack of advance warning.

The Mainspring lauded Joyce as a great fan and a wonderful person in his usual upbeat style that always fills a room with positive energy.

Ken seems destined to be-

come Fandom's Toastmaster once the current ones have passed the blog mug.

After getting everyone in the proper mood, Ken handed off to me for a short talk entitled "Life with Joyce." I apologized that a private agreement prevented me from going

into Joyce's career as a porno actress, and proceeded to give attendees a peek into two entwined, strange lives.

After me came Aileen Forman's marvelously evocative talk about Joyce's 14 years in Las Vegas Fandom and what she has meant to Aileen and other Vegas fans. This proved to be the best of the introductory speeches and Aileen's eyes weren't the only damp ones in the room as emotion



Aileen Forman puts an affectionate hand on Joyce Katz's shoulder at the first Sunday Social...

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## Introducing SNAPS! — Arnie Katz

### **A New Activity for Local Fans**

Joyce came up with an idea for a new local fan activity — the Southern Nevada Amateur Press Society (SNAPS). She said that, since I liked it, I had become a co-founder and thus had earned the privilege of explaining the whole scheme to you. (The third co-founder, JoHn Hardin, cleverly secreted himself on the far side of town.)

SNAPS is a local, monthly amateur press association for members of SNAFFU, but open to all interested Las Vegas fans.

### **How It Works**

The first monthly distribution is at the April SNAFFU meeting. That means contributions must reach the Official Editor, Joyce Katz, by that meeting.

You can write your contribution with a desktop publishing program, but a word processing program or even Notepad will do in a pinch. ( I strongly recommend that you buy or borrow *Microsoft Publisher*, because it'll make things easier and produce a prettier result. Look at *Hard Science Tales* for an example of a very simple format for a SNAPSzine. (See *this* fanzine for a format you can whip up in five minutes with *Microsoft Publisher*.)

Don't worry about being a Great Writer. Few of us are. You're writing to your friends here in Las Vegas Fandom. They're going to be more interested in what you say than how you say it — and they're going to be interested because, gosh darn it, they *like* you. SNAPS is designed to give you a chance to try fanzines without stress or risk. This is "in the family," so that people who have never tried before can try their hand without feeling like everyone in Fandom is watching.

Each person who wants to be part of the historic first distribution brings their contribution (mostly a page or two) to that meeting. There's a Kinko's next door to Borders bookstore and I can also run off a two-page (one sheet) SNAPS contribute for \$2 if a get hard copy or a usable digital version by Wednesday night before the meeting.

Joyce would also appreciate a PC-compatible disk (or an email) with a digital version of your SNA{S fanzine. We want to post it on the SNAFFU website so that Teri will be able to play (and those who aren't at the meetings will know what they're missing.)

Joyce, as OE, will assemble the distribution and pass out copies at the SNAFFU meeting.

We do it again next month. Starting with that distribution, members will also have the option of commenting on content of previous SNAPSzines.

### **What to Write?**

You can write about anything, but some people have trouble getting started. Here are a few possibilities: How you got into Fandom, A book you liked (or detested), an anecdote about something that happened to you on the job or goofing around.

Try it for a couple of months. I think you'll find it's an enjoyable addition to the local fan scene, just as the listservs were.

— Arnie

### The SNAPS Rulers

1. The Southern Nevada Amateur Press Association (SNAPS) is a monthly Las Vegas apa open to all interested fans.
2. The Official Editor (OE) collects contributions for the apa, collates them into substantially identical SNAPS distributions at the monthly Westside SNAFFU meetings and distributes them. The OE also sets the copy limit and makes whatever other rules seem necessary.
3. SNAPS is distributed in the following order: Contributors to the current distribution, contributors to last month's distribution, non-contributors at the Westside SNAFFU meeting, local non-contributors who arrange to pick up their distributions at some other time.
4. Contributors must submit 15 copies. Members are strongly urged to provide the OE with an electronic version (on PC-compatible disk or via email) so that we can post the distribution on the SNAFFU website.

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overtook her as she described her personal affection for The High Priestess. (see elsewhere in this issue for the full text.)

Bill Kunkel having fallen victim to a serious flu relapse, Woody substituted as the fan charged with introducing the Honoree herself. He spoke from the heart and did very well.

Woody talked about a few of Joyce's achievements. We would've been there all night if Woody had attempted a full list of even just the major ones, but he wisely selected a cross-section of her accomplishments to give a good overview of her wide-ranging fan activity. Finally, he turned the meeting over to the Fan of the Hour.

Joyce began with a respectful nod to Poplar Bluff (MO) Fandom, which lived and died before she became aware of it. Still, Duggie Fisher and Max Keasler (and their fanzine collections) led her toward her

Ron Busdhyager, James Taylor and Woody Bernardi ponder the menu and other weighty issues.



Janes Bacon's TAFF report causes a temporary lull at the Sunday Social. Reading are (left to right) Joyce, Arnie & JoHn. Waiting for Time to Pass is Rebecca.



Ken and Aileen Forman made the day especially memorable for Joyce because they came to the Sunday Social all the way from California.

The sensitive fannish face of Teresa Cochran, is at the lower left. .

fated rendezvous with our Fanzine Fandom subculture.

Indeed, Joyce declared that she had only two regrets in Fandom: that she had not become active much earlier and that she had gafiated from 1976 to 1990.

Although she said many nice things about her friends, and the good times, in St. Louis and Brooklyn Fandoms, Joyce came to tears when she described the friendship and love she has felt since coming to Nevada in 1989 and the rise of Vegas Fandom.

Woody presented her with a Special commemorative certificate, designed by Kent Hastings, and the Formans gave her an autographed copy of the new *Best of Xero* and Ken also showed everyone some great photos from Corflu.

After all the speeches, toward the end of the meeting, I distributed free copies of the 52-page Joyce Katz anthology, *The Sweetheart of Fanac Falls*.

## SNAFFU (3/11) Meeting Report — Arnie Katz

Every fan club has its occasional ups and downs, meetings that turn out a little better or a little worse than usual. Last (3/11) Friday at the Borders bookstore, the Westside incarnation of SNAFFU experienced one of those hiccups. The numbers were all right, continuing the recent run of double-digit attendance, but the spirit was a little lacking. My policy, as always, is to report events honestly in the hope and expectation that every false step is a lesson learned and that the next SNAFFU gathering will be right back up to its recent good standard.

The weirdness began before the meeting even came to order under the invisible, but potent, gavel of President Michael Bernstein. As fans arrived in the corner of the store reserved for SNAFFU, they encountered a woman sitting in the circle, reading a book and ostentatiously ignoring the rest of us.

Since the meeting area isn't fenced off from the rest of the store, it wasn't the first time this had happened. It was a mild surprise, however, to realize that the previous instances had involved the same woman! Bursting with fannish good will, I made a determined effort to pierce the veil of anonymity. Several questions elicited her name, Amber Allen, and the impression that she was a lurker at the edge of Fandom inhabited by the Baen website forum. Unfortunately for the club, which could certainly use another new member, Amber attempted to apply the same lurking approach to the club meeting. She resolutely read her book through the meeting, occasionally shooting out a small comment over the top of her literary shield. Perhaps we can persuade her to put down the book and join us next time.

Lori Forbes and Michael Bernstein got into a lukewarm argument — not much real heat — about when to start the meeting and which of them had a rep, as president, for starting late. Darmon Thornton took a seat after a side trip to the bookstore's café, and the quibble was forgotten.

Old and new business, primarily consisted of the results of the Library Proposal vote (17-2 in favor), announcements of upcoming events and Michael's Science Report. It took a while to get the night's scheduled topic, Science Fiction Art going, but the discussion (and meeting) livened up considerable as Michael, Linda, Joyce, Lori and I led a give-and-take about art that made us buy a book — and covers that made us pick another title.

Michael opened with praise for Michael Whelan. He felt that the artist's dedication to illustrating only books he likes makes his covers indicative as well as decorative. I mentioned Powers, who did the first painting (Heinlein's *Glory Road*) that sold for more than \$100 in a Worldcon auction and an anecdote about how Jack Gaughan used Mike McInerney as the model for Frodo on an Ace Books' *LOTR* paperback. Linda, a collector of SF art, talked about some of her favorite pieces, which led to comments about such as Emsch, Finlay and, from Shane Roth, Frank Frazetta.

SNAFFU finished on a strong note as many of the fans headed to Chili's for the usual post-meeting food fest.

Attending were: Michael Bernstein, Kent Hastings, Ron & Linda Bushyager, Woody Bernardi, Lori Forbes, Darmon Thornton, Jolie LaChance, Rachel Mainz, Shane Roth, Amber Allen, Joyce and me.

(I figured that handing them out earlier would have turned the event into a reading party...)

The salute filled about one-third of the time, so there was plenty of opportunity for

eating, drinking and fannish chatter.

The Tap House's menu is fairly diverse within the "bar food" genre. I had a burger, priced at about \$6, that was not bad, though

## Play the Vegas Fandom Trivia Game!

Welcome to the third round of the Las Vegas Fandom Trivia Challenge! All the questions are based on Las Vegas Fandom, so those who know a little about their roots will be able to breeze right through. The rest can check out the correct answer to this issue's question *next* week.

### The Rules:

1. *VFW* will print one question per issue, with a point value assigned on the basis of difficulty.
2. Answers may be submitted in person or by email to Joyce Worley ([joyceworley1@cox.net](mailto:joyceworley1@cox.net)). She will report only correct answers, so please feel free to guess.
3. *VFW* will print the names of all those who get the right answer. In the case of ties, everyone wins the same thing (nothing).
4. We'll maintain cumulative standings. At the end of the year, the fan with the greatest number of points will be proclaimed the Vegas Fandom Trivia Champion. The winner will also receive *twice* as much nothing as the weekly winners.

**Special Announcement:** Although several fans are playing the game, I'd like to see wider participation. Accordingly, I'm going to give *two* weeks for each question. That'll give everyone a better chance to make their guesses in person at meetings or on the phone.

Current standings, before counting points for this question, show a first place tie between JoHn Hardin and Roxanne Gibbs with four points each. Lori Forbes and Ken Forman are a shade behind the leaders with two points a-piece/.

### **The Current Trivia Question**

**What was the name of the first Las Vegas Slan Shack? (One Point)**

not a likely "Best of Vegas" contender, either.

It was a fairly lively afternoon, for which Woody deserves much praise. The seating plan may need a little work, but that's a minor detail.

I definitely recommend the Sunday Social to every Las Vegas fan. Joyce and I are planning to be at the next one, circumstances permitting, and hope that the turnout will continue strong. This should be a very enjoyable series of meetings.

Attending the first Sunday Social were: Ken Forman, Aileen Forman, Woody Bernardi, Alan White, James Taylor, Kent Hastings, JoHn Hardin, Teresa Cochran, Steve

Brust, Kathryn Daugherty, Ron Bushyager, Linda Bushyager, Lori Forbes, Rebecca Hardin and, of course, Joyce and me.

After the fannish festivities at The Tap House, Joyce and I returned to the Launch Pad and found, to our delight, that a number of fans had followed us there. Ken, Aileen, JoHn, Teresa and Lori spend the balance of the afternoon and early evening with us, before the Formans had to hit the road for Yucaipa.

It's a wise Fandom that cherishes its BNFs (Big Name Fans) and honors its greatest fans. VSFA can be proud it sponsored a fitting and significant tribute to Joyce Katz.

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## Katzenjammer — Life with Joyce

*I was clever enough to give a speech at the Sunday Social, but not smart enough to write it down for posterity. What follows is a written version of my theme, but not nearly a verbatim one.*



I have a great talent, an extraordinary talent. I made sure by marrying her 34 years ago. And if you've wondered about the path that led me to that sublime state, let me tell you how it happened.

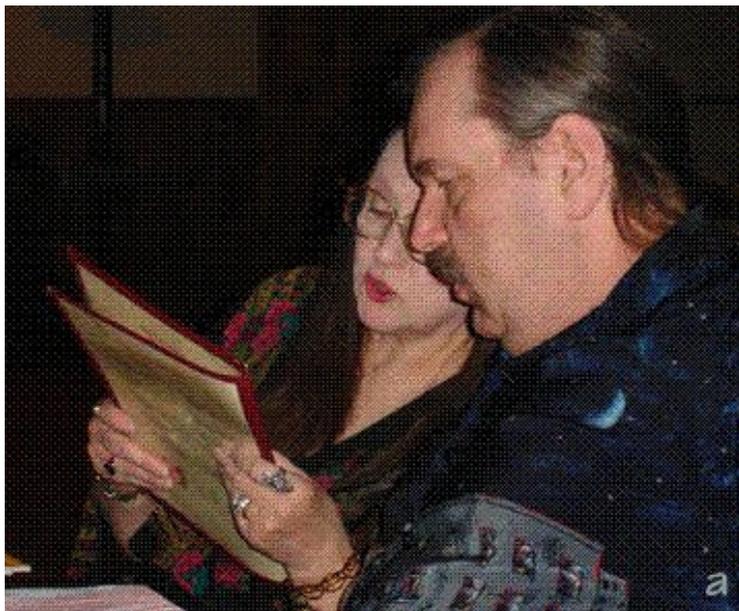
When I was a young fan, and not unlike a lot of young fans today, my thoughts sometimes went to the question of finding the ideal fannish mate. At that time, wisdom held that what a tru-fan wanted was a girl who could write and draw. At first I followed that Grail, but as time passed, I found that I'd acquired a lot of friends who happened to be superb artists, so finding a woman who could draw became a much lower priority.

Like President Bush many years later, I felt a growing interest in Iraq. I resolved to find a woman who could write and had Iraq, at least a D cup's worth.

Once Joyce and I met, it seemed almost inevitable that we would end up together. She often pleads ignorance about the exact nature of our wedding vows, administered to us in Hebrew by the rabbi who stood with us under the *Huppah*. It may be vague to her, but I distinctly remember promising to love her, honor her and keep her out of the sanitarium if at all possible.

That may sound pretty easy to anyone who hasn't had long conversations with Joyce about things like talking to blinking Christmas tree lights and the ownership of the planet by the collective intelligence contained in rocks. She's Fandom's answer to Gracie Allen, true, but she's also a lot to control when she isn't dazzling Fandom with her four-level puns.

I didn't really choose Joyce due to her writing ability, but I'd have made a damn good selection if I had. In her close to 40 years in Fanzine Fandom, she has edited such major fanzines as *Odd*, *Potlatch*, *Wild Heirs* and *Smokin' Rockets*. And as *The Sweetheart of Fanac Falls*, her new anthology shows, Joyce is one of the best fanwriters of all time. Her model and mentor Lee Hoffman has every right to be pleased about the effect of her influence. — Arnie



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## SNAFFU Accepts Library Proposal!

The votes are in — 19 of them by SNAFFU President Michael Bernstein's

count — and the decision is as close to unanimous as these things ever are in a free-thinking group like Fandom. By a mar-

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### Las Vegas Futurists (3/11) Meeting Report — David Gordon

Ten members of the Las Vegas chapter of the *Futurists Salon* again gathered for their monthly meeting on Friday, 11 March. This was second meeting I have attended, and I am both happy and enlightened for having done so.

The topic was **Stem Cells**, and presenter, *Michael Korn*, in spite of his prefatory admission that he is *not* a medical professional, did a phenomenal job. Michael collapsed a subject fraught with complexity and divisiveness into a manageable whole, as he ably parsed this heady subject. What follows are highlights in bullet point format of his presentation.

- Background: Medicine is in its Infancy
  - o First herbal treatments
  - o First Surgical Treatments
  - o Scientific understanding of germs
  - o Discovery of Penicillin
  - o Human Genome Project
- Regenerative Observations in Nature
  - o Amphibian limb regeneration
  - o Most organic hair, nails, and skin regenerate constantly
  - o Skin is the *largest* human regenerative organ
- Regenerative Experiments in the Lab
  - o Regeneration (Pax7 gene) of injured muscle from adult stem cells
  - o Regeneration of animal heart tissue
  - o Regenerative chemical (Reversine) turns muscle cells into stem cells
- Funding for Regenerative Medicine
  - o Bush administration effects embryonic stem cell research
  - o Britain to allow cloning of human embryos
  - o California enacts a \$3 *billion* stem cell research initiative
  - o Potential for rapid progress in future research
- Initial Treatment Successes
  - o Repair of Alzheimer's plaque in mice
  - o In celebrated examples, stem cells used to repair teenager's heart, skull injury, and spinal cord
- What Could Go Wrong
  - o Complex science tends to run into unforeseen roadblocks
  - o Political objections
  - o Religious objections
- Future of Regenerative Medicine
  - o Life expectancy (US) rises to record level
  - o Possibility of developing technology for engineering tissues
  - o Use of bone marrow
  - o Role of genomics, proteomics, and nanotechnology
- Synergies
  - o Creation of neurons from embryonic stem cells
  - o Creation of artificial cells
  - o Creation of artificial bio-electric circuits
  - o Synthetic chromosomes

What these bullet points fail to convey is how well Michael knew this topic, as he repeatedly answered questions no matter how tangential. Perhaps the most amazing item of the evening, however, was the knowledge the other eight attendees also displayed. Their questions displayed a deep understanding of this and other topics, as each attendee had gleaned intelligence, information, or understanding to share.

*Gilda Cabral*, captain of the Las Vegas chapter of the *Futurists*, runs a tight ship: she started and ended the meeting as scheduled. At 9PM, seven of us headed to a nearby *Tony Roma's* restaurant for an après-meeting soiree. The intelligent conversation continued there for another 2 hours. I arrived home at near midnight, tired, and yet intellectually refreshed.

If interested in learning more about the *Futurists*, visit their site at (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lvfuturists/>). Their next meeting is scheduled for Friday, 8 April, at Borders Bookstore (2190 N Rainbow Blvd). The guest speaker will be *John Smart*, President of Acceleration Studies Foundation (<http://www.accelerating.org/>). - David Gordon

## [A Salute to Joyce Katz — Aileen Forman](#)

*Aileen Forman (and her husband Ken) drove more than four hours on Sunday to join Las Vegas Fandom's salute to Joyce Katz. She didn't just watch, either; her speech was the highlight of a fine fannish afternoon. She wrote it on the road and here is the full text.*

SNAFFU had only been in existence for about six or seven months when Joyce and her husband threw their fannish lot in with our own. After an initial phone call, the Katzes invited us to their home for the "traditional" spaghetti dinner. Of course, at that time, we knew nothing of fannish traditions. Still, that was the first time that I was the recipient of Joyce's gracious hospitality – but it was far from the last time. For the next five years without a break, Joyce and Arnie hosted monthly SNAFFU Socials, inviting one and all to their home, feeding us, entertaining us and educating us in the rich history of the fandom in which we had only dipped our toes. They opened their home to the ravaging hordes of uncouth SNAFFUties and every month Joyce would bake and cook, clean up the resulting mess and repair the damage. Not to mention the turkeys! There was almost always a turkey at every social, and not just the ones in the pool splashing water onto the side of the house!

Right from the very beginning, though, Joyce's unfailing good cheer and gentle encouragement set a sweet melody for the newly formed Vegas fandom to dance to. When the Socials ended, they began hosting the ongoing Vegnants meetings, focusing a little more on fanzine fandom.

Joyce doesn't try to drag us into her interests but instead listens with at least a façade of enthusiasm to our blatherings about gaming or the latest fluff fantasy novel. She often encourages us to explore classic science fiction and has introduced many a Vegas fan to works that they wouldn't have otherwise found.

I can't tell you how many times I was at a Social and saw Joyce sitting with a somewhat shy member of SNAFFU, gently encouraging them to talk about their particular interest. Whether it was fanzine fandom, live action roleplaying or even pornographic anime, Joyce would be drawing them out and encouraging them. Well, maybe she didn't get as enthusiastic about the anime. Still, she could find something to talk about with everyone she met. She encourages her friends' interests and their personal growth.

Of course, Joyce's contributions to Vegas fandom aren't solely those related to hostessing. Joyce has been an active and interesting member of SNAFFU since she first arrived on scene. She was even president of SNAFFU for a while. Every president has had a particular specialty – something they bring to the position that no one else has – and Joyce's was the reading of classic SF and fanzine articles, which led us into a better understanding of the rich history of fandom and our part in it. And, of course, she ran the meetings with a sweet smile and an iron fist.

The Katzes encouraged and supported SNAFFU's Silvercon conventions both emotionally and monetarily. When we had such difficulties with Silvercon One, the shoulder I cried on was Joyce's. And what a strong shoulder! She has been a source of strength, wisdom and fun in Vegas fandom for more than fourteen years.

Joyce's hospitality was so famous that the pre-Silvercon parties they threw made fans from across the country change their travel plans just to attend. Joe Haldeman made gravy in her kitchen. William Rotsler and Charles Burbee reunited in her living room. Fandom's Golden Age was renewed under her loving hands and warm hospitality.

Joyce never brags about her fannish fame, although it is such that she surely could. It took me years to realize just how famous, honored and beloved Joyce is within worldwide fandom. Like the child of a movie star, it came as a shock to me when her fame and influence in fandom became clear. Although this fandom thing may be "just a goddamn hobby," it's a goddamn big, worldwide hobby and our Joyce is one of fandom's shining jewels.

When the Katzes arrived in Vegas, they were already well known, "Big Name" fans. Joyce had helped establish St. Louis fandom in the sixties, co-chaired a worldcon and had, in a sense, moved beyond the somewhat narrow world of local science fiction club fandom. She was friends with bestselling authors, was one of the best-received fanzine writers in the world and could have easily disdained going back, as it were, to the beginning. Instead, she metaphorically sat on the floor with the kids and played our neo games with enthusiasm and encouragement.

Joyce has been the voice of reason, the voice of insurgentism, the voice of comfort and the voice of friendship resounding through the history of fandom. Her value to Las Vegas fandom is without measure and her friendship is priceless and precious. She has been mentor, guide, confidant and friend to so many of us and I can't imagine my life without her in it. I'm so grateful and honored to call her MY Joyce, my friend.

— Aileen Forman

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gin of 17-2, the club has ratified the proposal. (See *VFW #13* for the full text.)

In brief, the club will clear out our garage, build shelves and make other necessary provisions, integrate our book and magazine collection with the SNAFFU library and create a card catalog so fans can borrow items.

Joyce and I will be custodians of the Library as long as we maintain access for the club members and do not move out of town. In either eventuality, it all becomes club property. The donation of the Katz Library will also yield many duplicates that can be sold for good prices, possibly online. (Billy Pettit, whom many of you met at the Gillespie Gala & Hardin Birthday Bash, is versed in this sort of selling and would, I'm sure, be willing to advise SNAFFU on the best method of disposing of the surplus books.)

### **Fans Found Local Apa!**

Las Vegas fans will soon have an activity that has proven extremely popular in such fan centers as New York City, Madison, WI, Minneapolis and Los Angeles — a local amateur press association. Joyce Katz — she insists that I use her full name several times per issue so she can see it underlined — proposed the idea and, after enlisting the support of Teresa Cochran, John Hardin and me, announced that the first distribution will be at the April Westside SNAFFU meeting (4/9).

The idea is fairly simple — see the full explanation on page 3 — and should add a new dimension to the local scene. (Las Vegas had a monthly apa for about five years, but this one will be oriented towards SNAFFU rather than Las Veggrants.)

### **Heard Around Vegas Fandom**

Kent Hastings will be in Los Angeles this weekend, making a couple of book signing appearances...

Joyce Katz saw the cardiac specialist on

Monday (3/14). The doctor has ordered a somewhat different stress test to confirm findings before proceeding with an angiogram. As things stand, the test will be on 3/30...

Bill Kunkel had a relapse of the flu bug he picked up during his recent trip to New York City. Laurie doesn't sound well, either.

### **Time to Go**

I've reached my self-imposed limit for this week, so it's back into the cave until next Wednesday.

Don't forget to send/call in news — and the letter column will be back in full force, too! — Arnie

### **Event Calendar**

**Las Veggrants** March 19 7:30 PM

The informal, invitational club meets at the home of Arnie and Joyce Katz.

**SNAFFU** March 25 8:00 PM

This formal SF club meets the second and fourth Friday's of each month. This time, it will be held at Borders bookstore on Sunset.

**VSFA** April 4 7:30 PM

This formal club meets at the Clark County Library on the first Monday of each month.

**Las Vegas Futurists** April 8 7:00 PM

This discussion group looks to the world of tomorrow on the second Friday of each month at Borders bookstore (2190 N. Rainbow Blvd.) This meeting's featured speaker is John Smart.

**Daugherty Open House** April 16 Noon

All of Vegas Fandom is invited to the home of Kathryn & James Daugherty.

**Sunday Social** April 17 2 PM

VSFA is sponsoring this event, open to all Las Vegas fans, at The Tap House.

**Las Vegas S F & Fantasy Day**

April 30 10 AM-5:30 PM

A free, one-day convention for all Vegas fans. Woody Bernardi is chairman.