

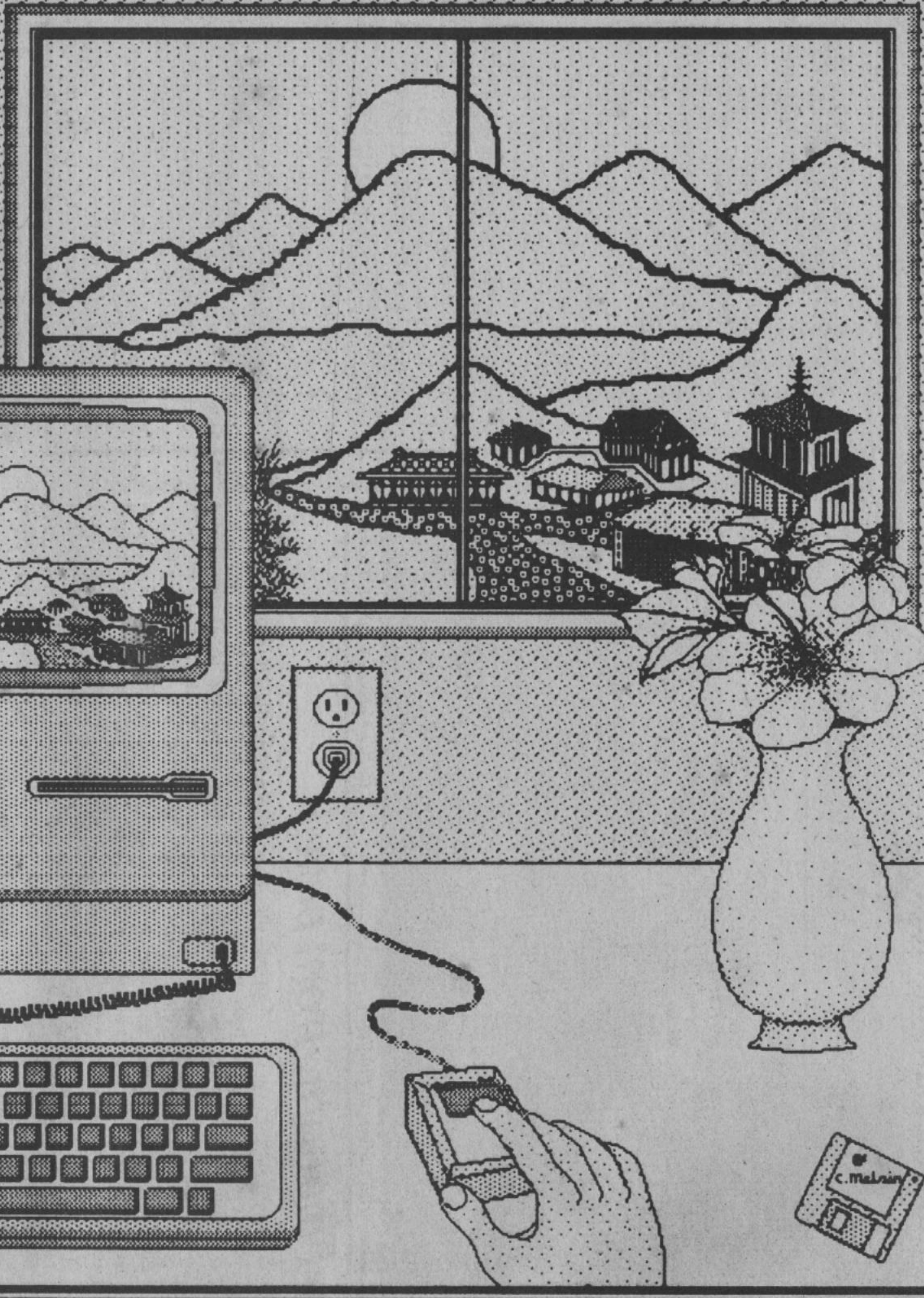
# SPECTRUM

A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community

Late Summer 1984

Issue 45

FREE



# Victor Nunez's Films Reflect Florida

"A film's effect is as much...the way it is made as what it's about"

by Frank Brown



A low-pitched synthesizer drone is heard over the soft whir of air conditioning...notes of a harp enter and are punctuated by breathy pan pipes. The music speeds up, getting faster and higher, and still more until all is a wailing screech, then abruptly slows to a growling halt as a dial is turned.

"I don't hear the flute — Charlie, what's our mix on this?" asks filmmaker Victor Nunez.

Nunez sits hunched over his moviola, an editing console with multiple reels, a screen and digital frame counter, cutting in the final music tracks for his next film, *A Flash of Green*. Strips of film hang from tables and shelves; countless racks of reels pack shelves which line the walls.

"The flute's gone forever," replies composer/musician Charles Engstrom.

Engstrom and two others sit or sprawl nearby, attention focused on the scenes Nunez flashes from the moviola.

"We all took that cue for granted, and if there's one thing I've ever learned..." Nunez trails off.

He has had many opportunities for learning. Since graduating from the school of filmmaking at UCLA, Nunez's films continue to mature, each more ambitious than the last.

The Tallahassee filmmaker's last effort, a screen version of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' *Gal Young 'Un* received acclaim from discerning critics around the country, and evoked pride of association from the local arts and literature community.

Nunez chooses to make "independent," rather than "Hollywood," films. His stories are regional; they spring from and reflect the area he knows and grew up in — the south, specifically Florida. He likes working with local people, too.

"Give me your thoughts on this," Nunez asks the musicians, "I think we need some kind of note to transition into Jimmy's state of mind."

It's 10:30 p.m., and Nunez is still cutting in music cues. He and his crew have been staying up until 1 and 2 in the morning to get the work completed on schedule, and done well. Coffee is dispensed from Charlie's thermos.

When asked if he has a philosophy of filmmaking, Nunez stuttered a bit for a

reply, and after a couple of statements he obviously was not pleased with, finally asked if he could try another question.

If he isn't comfortable philosophizing, Nunez is plainly a craftsman, with a craftsman's dedication and meticulous attention to the details of his craft. By remaining independent, he retains a lot of control over each stage in the filmmaking process. He does most of it himself, including scriptwriting, photography, directing, and editing.

*A Flash of Green* is Nunez's first film shot entirely in "Super-16" format, which provides a bigger image than normal sixteen millimeter. This means that when blown up to the final 35mm print necessary for projection by movie theaters, the picture will be sharper than one made from ordinary 16mm.

*Flash*, adapted from the novel by John D. McDonald, is the story of Jimmy Wing, a newspaperman who gets involved in corrupt development schemes in Palm City, a fictitious Florida coastal town.

One departure from his previous films, according to Nunez, is the use of actors from New York. *Flash* features Ed Harris, Blair Brown and Richard Jordan in the leading roles.

It was shot in the Sarasota area in nine weeks over the last summer, with most of the same crew that worked on *Gal Young 'Un*.

"Everybody working really wanted to make a film instead of being there for some kind of status or glamor thing," Nunez said. "A film's effect is as much a result of the way it is made as what it's about."

All of the music was written by Charles Engstrom and Van Crozier of Red Gator Studios, also located here in Tallahassee.

Two and a half years of work have gone into *A Flash of Green*. Once the music tracks are cut in, Nunez is leaving for New York, where two-thirds of the film is already at the lab. A final blowup and master will be made. Then it's off to show the film to distributors and at festivals.

It will premier at the Toronto Film Festival September 15, and at the New York Film Festival September 28 - October 14. When asked when local audiences will get a chance to see his latest work, Nunez said "Florida may get it sooner than other states."

(From the top down) — Ed Harris, who plays Jimmy Wing, and Victor Nunez, director; Harris gets makeup treatment; scouting out Grassy Bay; and (bottom right) director/camera man Nunez gets down on the beach.

Photos by Chuck Pittman



# SPECTRUM

A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community

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Linda Miklowitz, Lisa Krehbiel

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Back cover photo by Lisa Krehbiel

Ad Sales This Issue — Larry Teich and Mike Crew

Next issue published October 18

Article and announcement deadline is the Thursday one week before our publishing dates. We have an editorial meeting at that time and what is selected for the upcoming issue is agreed upon at that time, with rare exception. Please contact us personally if you cannot meet this deadline, so we can still plan to preview your article. Thanks.

Please address all inquiries: SPECTRUM, 625 E. Brevard St., Tallahassee, FL 32308, 904/224-7222.

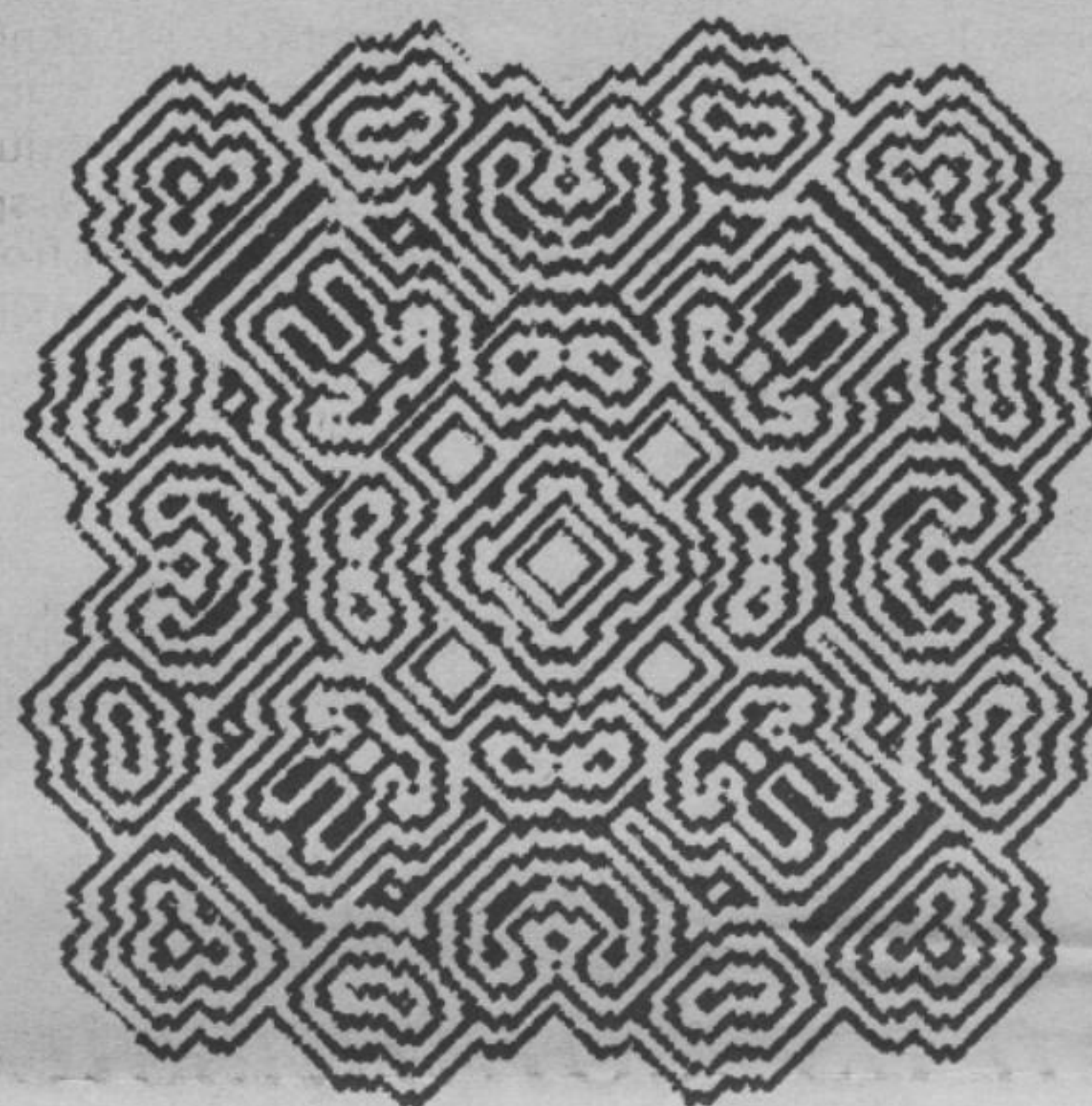
## SPECTRUM's Evolution

by Larry Teich

Here we are on our sixth anniversary. We took the summer off because of how slow things get in Tallahassee, article and ad-wise, but mostly due to the boniness of our skeleton crew. Over the years people have come and gone, but mostly have gone, so the three to five of us who put out SPECTRUM felt like we needed a break to be fresh for this issue. Continuity and most of the responsibility are still provided by Carmy, Frank and myself. Lisa, Linda (soon, with Richard, having a baby), and Kathy (a fresh dose of competence), provide support and necessary encouragement by their presence. This therefore, is our annual request for assistance in any of the many tasks it takes to provide a useful, satisfying community publication.

We need people to help in production every six weeks doing typesetting, paste-up, camera work, graphics, etc. We always need informative, readable articles — our lifeblood. Someone to help sell ads or scheme up other fundraising activities would be great, too. We need readers to remind advertisers and distributors (listed below) that their support is appreciated. And we could use a couple of people to come along every year to be committed to SPECTRUM's future existence.

For those of you wondering, we never did arrive at a definitive answer to our cover question last year of "Why go on?" but we went on anyway out of habit and belief in the basic concept of SPECTRUM — a cooperative publication for the Tallahassee community. So, unless we find a strong enough reason not to continue (like moving to another city), look for us every 6-8 weeks. Excited volunteers can call me at 224-7222, Frank at 224-9933, or Carmy at 224-2339. Thanx.



## Sister City Celebration

You are invited to a Sister City Celebration Benefit to increase membership in the Tallahassee/Krasnodar (Soviet Union) sister city program. It happens on September 22, Saturday, at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church at 2810 N. Meridian.

There will be a slide show and discussion, door prizes, souvenirs from

the Soviet Union, music and refreshments. A \$5 donation or \$10 per family (includes door prize ticket) is requested. Tickets are available at Haverly House, Taproot in Governor's Square Mall, Nature's Way, and the Leon County Food Co-op. For more information call 576-4906.

## Give Peace A Dance

There will be a benefit on September 30, 1984 at the Miccosukee Land Co-op Community Center for the Tallahassee Peace Coalition. There'll be food by Patience and friends, and music by Faith In Medical Technology, Rose Tadoo, and

other bands to be announced. Festivities will start at 4:00 p.m.

If you would like to help with the benefit, or want more information on tickets, call the TPC office at 222-5845. Come dance for peace!

## community announcements

If you know of anyone who is not required to register for the draft (women, men born before 1960 or not yet 18) and : 1) was denied federal student aid because of their failure to fill out the Selective Service compliance form; 2) who dropped out of school or sought alternative sources of aid instead of federal aid because of the Solomon Amendment; 3) who objects to filling out the compliance form and would not have done so if it were optional; who would join in a class action suit against the Selective Service, please have them contact the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors. For more information call the Tallahassee Peace Coalition at 222-5845.

The Honduras Information Center's objectives are to educate, publicize, and report about increasing U.S. involvement in Honduras and the use of Honduras as a stage for intervention elsewhere in the region. The main vehicle for this work is the monthly *Honduras Update*. If you would like to receive the *Update* — without charge — or arrange a presentation or receive further information, please write or call. 1151 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA. 02138 (617) 497-0150

Land Co-op Forming — A group is forming to purchase land for a co-op. Various parcels of land are being considered at \$3000-4000 an acre. Meetings are held at 6:15 p.m. at the Leon County Food Co-op, 649 W. Gaines street. Leave message for Joyce Blair at the information desk of the co-op, 222-9916.

Paths to Inner Peace: workshop of personal and spiritual growth — Weekend Workshop series Aug. 31-Sept. 2; Nov. 2-4. Four week series Sept. 7,9,16,23,30. For information pick up brochure at Leon County Food Co-op or call Beth Haythorn at 878-3520.

The first Southern L.E.A.P. (Lesbians for Empowerment, Action, and Politics) will happen Oct. 19-21 on 640 acres of campground near Gainesville, Fl. Workshops are being planned about lesbians and with a southern focus whenever possible. L.E.A.P. has a strong commitment to childcare, interpreting, physical accessibility, and a sliding scale that starts at \$0. If you want to work with us now, ask questions, obtain registration info, or send money contact Jayne Orr; 148 W. 6th St. Jacksonville, Fl. 32206 or call Charis Bookstore in Atlanta (404) 524-0304.

## SPECTRUM Distribution Points

- |                                 |                                                     |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Leon County Public Library      | Miccosukee Land Co-op                               |
| Hopkins Eatery                  | Taproot                                             |
| Guitar Specialty Enterprises    | Harralson's Arts and Crafts                         |
| Honey Tree                      | Governor's Square Mall                              |
| Moxie Mercantile (Lake Ella)    | Department of Environmental Regulation (Winewood)   |
| Fabulous Futons                 | Clothesline                                         |
| Birth Centre                    | North Florida Womens Health and Counseling Services |
| Lafayette Park Community Center | Capitol Building                                    |
| Thompson's Plants               | Radcliffe's                                         |
| Curley's Bookstore              | Petroleum Building                                  |
| Nature's Way                    | Moxie (Downtown)                                    |
| Backtrax Records                | Trail and Ski                                       |
| Vinyl Fever                     | Uptown Cafe                                         |
| Magic and Fun Shop              | Rainbow Cycles                                      |
| FSU Student Union               | Rubyfruit Books                                     |
| FAMU Bookstore                  | Subway                                              |
| TCC auditorium                  | Ouy Lin                                             |
| Leon County Food Co-op          | Holistic Chiropractic Center                        |
| Railroad Square                 | Drakes Massage Studio                               |
| Bill's Bookstore                | Lewisseafood                                        |
| FSU Women's Center              |                                                     |
| Campus Edge Laundromat          |                                                     |

## Farmworkers urge Publix boycott

Bart Church, a large agricultural corporation in California, has refused to meet with its farmworkers in good faith to improve problems such as toxic chemical exposure, sexual harassment on the job, unsafe working conditions and unfair labor practices.

Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers union unsuccessfully appealed to Publix Supermarkets in Florida for assistance in influencing Bart Church

since Publix is one their large purchasers of produce, especially lettuce.

The workers are now appealing to the public to stop shopping at Publix and to notify them about it and to explain why. The United Farm Workers are also requesting that post cards be sent to them at P. O. Box 62, La Paz, Keene, CA 93531 to show your support and to give them an idea of how many people are taking part in this action.

ELECTIONS

# Kim O'Connor challenges entrenched Fuqua *by Carmy Greenwood*

Running against any Member of Congress with 22 years of experience is bold. Running against a man like Don Fuqua in North Florida is positively dare-devil. No Republicans will challenge Fuqua for his House seat this year, but two Democrats will meet him on Tuesday, September 4 in a primary election which will decide the race, unless an October 2 run-off is required.

Eugene Stinson, former local coordinator of the Rev. Jesse Jackson's presidential campaign and a Jackson delegate, is one of the challengers. The other is Kim O'Connor.

She is a Tallahassee tax lawyer and former realtor. She has been active in Florida politics in recent years working for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment, as co-chair of the Women's Political Caucus, and as a candidate for uncommitted delegate in last spring's presidential primary. Although not chosen as a delegate to the convention, she polled more votes than any of the other nine uncommitted delegate candidates in Florida's Second Congressional District.

Fuqua's incumbency and high name recognition, and the prestige and financial backing that accompany his position as Chair of the powerful House

Science and Technology Committee, have apparently made his victory a fait accompli to most local media. The Tallahassee Democrat endorsed Fuqua while expressing reservations about some of his policies, especially support of the MX missile and other weapons systems.

When SPECTRUM spoke with O'Connor on August 7 in her office in Tallahassee, she too expressed concern about Fuqua's support of expensive weapons. The two fundamental problems O'Connor discerns in Fuqua's defense votes are that new weapons divert money from other more basic needs — social services, education, and environmental protection — and that they put the country in a posture of war rather than a posture of peace.

In contrast, O'Connor says that if elected she would co-sponsor the "Arms Race Moratorium Act" which now has about 109 sponsors in the House but only one from Florida. The Act would put an immediate halt to the production of specific weapons, and presumably be a first step toward further reductions.

O'Connor also opposes Fuqua because of his vote against resubmitting the Equal Rights Amendment to the states. She does not

believe Americans should be satisfied with the Reagan Administration approach, which is to avoid "tampering" with the Constitution by instead reviewing and amending individual laws which discriminate against women.

"The Constitution is the basis of our law. What we're looking for is a fundamental guarantee of equality and fairness. You can go through statute by statute and change the laws, but then you can go through statute by statute and change them back."

**Of her opponent's influence: "You have to look at how he uses that strength."**

O'Connor's platform does not offer many specific proposals beyond her general support of liberal and progressive causes. This is probably not unusual in a first-time candidate, and could be a practical acknowledgement of any newcomer's inability to fully understand the complexities of Washington politics. But it is also not much to offer a skeptical public being asked to vote against a very well known quantity like Fuqua, fresh from winning the battle of the Super-computer.

O'Connor acknowledges the value of Fuqua's committee chairmanship and the strength it gives him, but warns that "you have to look at how he uses that strength." She suggests he uses it to represent military-industrial interests rather than North Florida's interests. However, it is not clear how O'Connor relates her own candidacy to support of women's rights, student loans, free trade and revamped drug laws (on marijuana: "I think if it grows from the ground then it's all right; the earth does not commit crimes by growing"), and opposition to the death penalty are shared by many Americans. But legislators have a double-sided, sometimes contradictory responsibility to serve both the good of the nation and the good of their district and state. If O'Connor can fill out her platform with solid positions on "Florida" issues — immigration, the elderly, the environment — she will have more to offer voters.

O'Connor hopes that she and Gene Stinson get enough votes between them to force Fuqua into a run-off. If that is the case, O'Connor predicts that at the very least the Congressman will have to come to the district to defend his seat and answer some questions from the home folks. If he does, Kim O'Connor will be the first one with her hand raised.

# Bob Hurst would plan growth as commissioner

Imagine town meetings held regularly by various communities in Leon County. Picture wheelchair-accessible buses and vans transporting elderly and handicapped folks in Woodville and Chaires to Tallahassee and back. Think about Leon County's booming growth — suppose planners took steps to identify and protect the county's five primary areas for development. These are all ideas discussed by Leon County Commission candidate Bob Hurst.

The twelve-year Tallahassee resident has been spending a lot of time standing at busy street corners lately, holding his sign, smiling and waving at passersby. When

you pass a man like that, you know he's out there for just one purpose — getting votes.

Well, that routine always makes me sneer, but after speaking with him I found he's an intelligent, progressive-leaning guy who knows his way around the local political scene.

I met Hurst at a recent party hosted by a concerned bicyclist who had invited members of the Capital City Cyclists, Tallahassee's bicycle club, to get to know the candidate.

With a Masters degree in Urban and Regional Planning from FSU, he stressed the importance of planned growth for Leon County.

"We need to do a water resources inventory and a land resources inventory," said Hurst, "and identify areas of critical concern," citing drainage as the problem most mentioned.

While he talked about preserving our area's "quality of life," Hurst is not anti-growth. He favors expanding the economic base of the community.

"For so long Tallahassee's been a 'one-mill town'," Hurst said. "We can't depend solely on state government any longer," stating a desire to attract "mid-tech," clean industry to the area.

"We need more than just a new hotel which will provide a lot of jobs for janitors and maids," Hurst said. As for the city's plan to subsidize funding for the Hershey Hotel, Hurst said, "It stinks."

Hurst's third priority is increasing citizen awareness and participation in local government. He would like to change the schedule of County Commission meetings (currently held at 3 p.m. on Tuesdays) to a time when more people can attend, and have the meetings televised.

*by Frank Brown*

"It's hard for people to get interested if they don't even know what's happening," said Hurst.

Hurst is running for the seat currently held by incumbent Bill Montford, who won his two-year term in an election held when former commissioner Jim Crews vacated the seat in an unsuccessful bid for the state legislature. Crews, a former progressive voice on the commission, is endorsing Hurst.

• • •

*Editor's Note:* Also running in a three-way race with incumbent Bill Montford is David Fountain, who is also stressing planned growth. He advocates impact fees for developers, strengthening the tree protection ordinance and following the comprehensive growth plan. Fountain, 42, has been an assistant to former U.S. Senator Dick Stone and an executive assistant to Comptroller Gerald Lewis. He is a co-founder of the Friends of our Parks Foundation and a charter member of the Emergency Help Care Organization (ECHO).

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# Leon County Food Co-op takes \$10,000 gamble

by Linda Miklowitz

Leon County Food Co-op directors took a \$10,000 gamble this summer. Faced with serious red ink problems for the first time in five years, they closed the Gaines Street store for three days in August during which time workers laid a new tile floor, painted the outside and inside walls, and bought sixty clear acrylic dispensers for bulk goods.

In addition, operating profits were used to purchase three new cash registers for \$2,500 and two scales for \$1,500. And LCFC has advertised in the *Tallahassee Democrat* and *The Florida Flambeau*.

"All the renovations are a risk to boost sales," said LCFC Board Chairman Chuck Goodheart.

"A lot of this is crisis oriented," he said of the Board's summer decision to implement recommendations of a task force.

The \$10,000 came from a one percent at-register markup from December 1982 to last May. A total of \$13,000 had been raised. "We would like to plan as much as we can, but it's hard to run a small business by committee. We were faced with having to do it (close the store) now ... or otherwise we would have not been able to do it at all."

Three days' gross sales from August 13 to 15, traditionally a slow period because the universities are closed, would have yielded \$6,000, estimated Carol Wilkinson, acting financial coordinator.

Goodheart said the Board alone made the decision to take the risk rather than seek a general membership vote. "We're having difficulty getting decision-making at a general membership meeting, but we had a lot of support at the previous membership meeting," he said.

A flooring company installed the Armstrong floor tiles for \$4,500. A professional painter donated his time, and painting inside and outside walls, including sealing the leaky outside walls, cost \$2,800 according to Wilkinson. Air conditioning cleaning cost about \$500, she said. The Co-op will spend \$150-\$200 monthly from now on for a janitorial company to do semi-monthly floor treatments to keep the warranty in effect, a little more expensive than giving about five floor-cleaning members assistant coordinator credit (food at cost), Wilkinson said.

Goodheart credited members for moving all the fixtures and then moving them back. He singled out Corporate Secretary Richard White for putting in an all-nighter to work on the shelves.

The Board Chairman said it will take at

least a month or so to see if sales have improved over last year at this time.

"That's the strategy. We're ready to bring more people in and let them see how nice and well-done the store is, and fulfill their needs," said Goodheart. "We're on the road to financial stability."

Still the low morale of a less hopeful time lingers. The president's job has remained open since last January. The vice president's job is open, too. Two board seats are the subject of three weeks of balloting which began August 19.

Goodheart noted that there aren't too many places someone without experience can have a chance to manage a million-dollar-per-year business. He said the planning experience he's had on the Board has helped him as city forester. "It's a lot of work but you get something for it."

# Taking control of the birthing process

by Marjorie Menzel

Judith Lyons' two experiences of giving birth were so different that they gave her the impetus to co-teach, along with Vickie Peace, a childbirth class beginning Sept. 18.

"I went through Lamaze classes the first time, and I thought I understood what it was going to be like, but I was basically scared the whole time. I don't know if you really can prepare a woman for labor if she's never gone through it before. You can tell her what it's like for you, but every woman's labor is different. From my experience, I could tell a class it'll hurt like hell for 20 hours - but for most of them, it won't."

Orenda, the elder daughter of Judith and her husband Tom, arrived only after her mother had spent 30 hours contending with a traditional hospital setting: an intravenous tube, a fetal heart monitor, induced labor, and confinement to a single position and an intake of ice chips. Halle, in contrast, was born under circumstances Tom and Judith could better control, at their own home.

"There were six people in the house, and then, all of a sudden, there were seven," Judith recounts. "Tom hadn't been allowed to touch Orenda until two days after she was born - that's crazy! He was holding Halle within a few minutes - she was on my belly first."

"The second time around, I had a whole lot of confidence in the midwife and the other friends who were part of the birthing team. I had constant support."

Judith points out that the eight years since Orenda's birth have brought some of the advantages of home delivery to the maternity wards, but explains that's not her focus.

"It's changed somewhat in hospitals. But what I really want is for women and their partners to both be informed, making agreements long in advance with the doctor or midwife, and to feel that, if a decision needs to be made halfway through, they have the information to make it."

"My purpose for teaching the class is to educate people so they can participate as fully as they want to in the birth of their child and have as much control over the process as they'd like. The less you know about something you're doing, the more you will rely on the authority figures, and the more they will take decisions out of your hands."

"They've viewed childbirth as a sickness for a century or more, a state of ill health. And the medical profession views ill health as an enemy - something to combat and overcome. Birth is not something that can be controlled and channelled down a narrow avenue of what's going to happen."

And why not?

"Because every body is different. There's a full range of 'normalcy' from 30-hour labors to 2-hour labors, from the water breaking first thing to breaking at the end... There are a lot of negative ramifications to intervention, an unreasonable increase in Caesarean sections, for example. I don't say some intervention isn't necessary at times, but I want people to be educated about it so they can decide for themselves."

"It's really hard, when you're in labor, to make these decisions with a clear head."

Judith and Vickie have planned a 12-week class that will meet Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 at North Florida

Women's Health and Counselling Services. The starting date is Sept. 18. Topics will include Lamaze and Bradley instruction, hospital and home birth, breastfeeding, pregnancy and the postpartum period, and the newborn baby. The class will also get to hear "some really good resource people," says Judith, who'll talk about nutrition, the Birth Centre, et al. Above all, the class is intended as a support group for its members, which Judith claims to be the key ingredient to a joyous birth.

There's no reason why it can't be the way it was for me the second time."

To register, call Judith at 877-6851 or Vickie at 878-8412.



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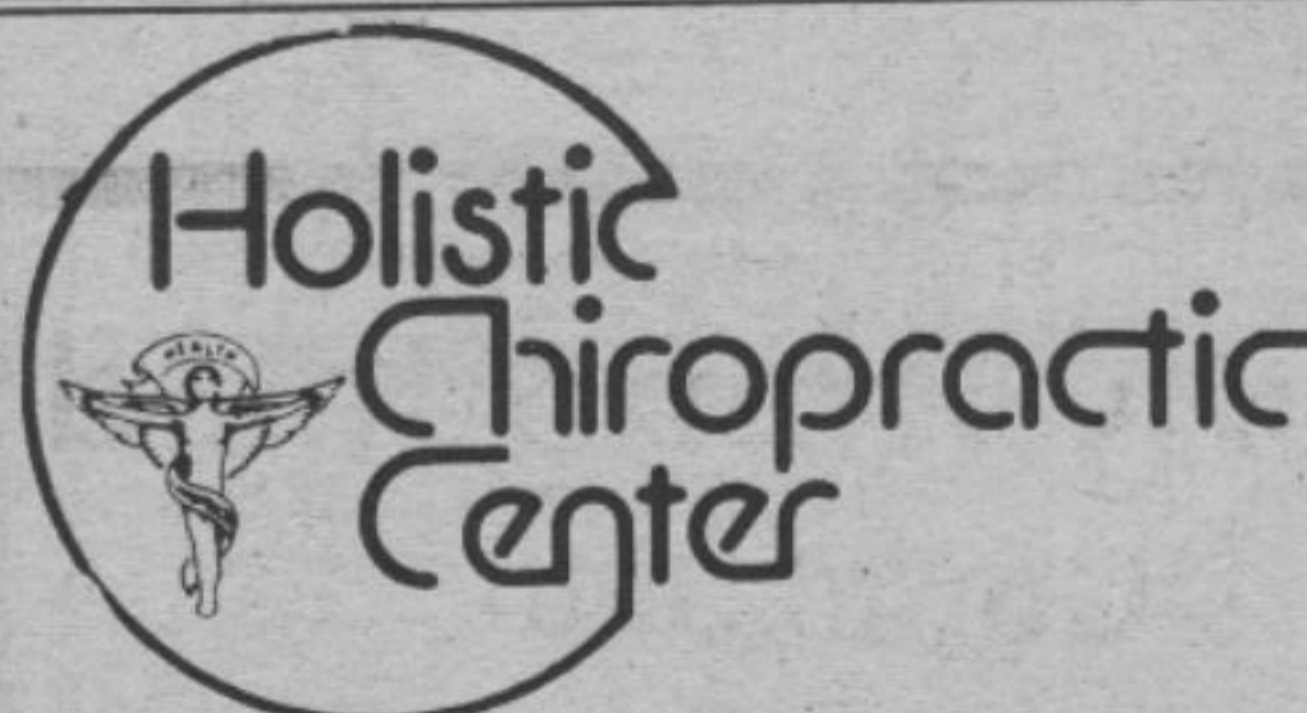
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# Tallahasseeans find Russians a lot like us

by Mark Greenfield

On July 17 the Tallahassee City Commission unanimously approved a resolution inviting the city of Krasnodar in the Soviet Union to become our sister city. My wife Sandy and I volunteered to deliver this resolution to city officials of Krasnodar.

We left on August 4, accompanied by a delightful group of seven Gainesville residents on a similar mission to Novorossiisk, about 100 miles south of Krasnodar. The city is situated just north of the Black Sea and has a moderate climate by Soviet standards. It is the capital of its region, a prosperous agricultural and industrial area dotted with farms of black soil and numerous overlapping oil fields. Krasnodar, a busy city of over a half-million inhabitants, is extremely green, with tree-lined malls, parks and sprawling residential areas. It is the home of Kuban State University and several smaller technical institutes. As the educational center of its region, Krasnodar, like Tallahassee is considerably more cosmopolitan than its immediate environs. There are numerous Africans, Indians, and East Asians, most of whom we assume were participating in the state educational system.

**The Soviets tell a joke: "What is the difference between Capitalism and Communism? In Capitalism you have the exploitation of one man against another. In Communism it is the reverse."**

On warm, breezy, summer nights, people poured into the streets clustering in small groups engaged in animated discussions. Many gathered in open air cafes, ice cream parlors and tea houses. On weekends surprisingly loud music blared from rock bands and discos. One smoke-filled disco was reminiscent of Tallahassee with jean-clad youths dancing wildly to western rock music.

The cafe-bar-coffee house scene was similar but with a somewhat older clientele. When I saw a uniformed officer enter a particularly rowdy establishment I expected trouble, but was surprised by how little notice was taken of him.

The dinner club was far more sedate with older and more well-to-do patrons, but here as everywhere we went people were in a party mood and having fun.

We attended a brilliant performance by two Jewish folk singers in a large, beauti-

ful theater in the center of town. The house was packed, the applause loud and long. After three encores, the audience was still on its feet. We spoke briefly with the two afterwards, and the possibility of a performance in the States was discussed with cautious optimism.

By day we toured the city, visiting war memorials, administrative buildings, parks, a permanent theater for the regional circus, a man-made lake, the neighboring sea coast and a collective farm.

We met with city officials to deliver the resolution and key to the city from our mayor. Along with letters of friendship from FSU, FAMU, the Leon County School System, The Florida Department of State and local civic and religious groups, we presented a box of maps, brochures, magazines, gifts and general good will collected the week before we left. They were warmly receptive and obviously pleased.

The sister-city relationship is taken quite seriously in Soviet cities. There is a substantial budget set aside for these activities once the relationship is made official. Accordingly there may be a significant delay before their city council, much larger than ours, finalizes the relationship. There is nothing to prevent exchanges in the interim, as demonstrated by the Gainesville-Novorossiisk program. We witnessed a well-received entourage from Gainesville deliver children's art and an excellent photography exhibit to their prospective sisters in Novorossiisk.

After leaving the Black Sea region we toured Volgograd (formerly Stalingrad), Kiev and Minsk. We saw memorials, museums, galleries, monuments, day care centers, summer day camps, took a river cruise and met student and veterans' groups. We left the Soviet Union on the East-West express through White Russia, Poland, East Germany, West Germany, Belgium and France.

Since we saw more than we could digest in two short weeks, it would be impossible to tell the whole story here. Although we are experienced travelers, Sandy and I are not experts on Soviet history, economics or culture. We saw much, but clearly much was either missed or hidden. At the risk of seeming naive, I would like to share some impressions of the Soviet Union based on what we saw.



Russian children display peace poster they made at summer camp. photo by Mark Greenfield

Economically, the Soviets are behind the West, but coming on strong. So much attention has been given to rebuilding after the devastating effects of World War II (many cities and towns were totally destroyed along with the loss of 20 million lives) that little attention has been given to consumer items. Basic food supplies and necessary consumables are abundant as is evidenced by many overweight people, but cosmetics, jeans, hosiery, radios, televisions are in poor supply and of low quality.

The people are orderly, well mannered and move at a much slower pace. People in parks, circuses, concerts and on the streets seem to be sedate, secure and with little fear of crime. The buildings are clean but austere; walkways, buses and trams are crowded but functional. The subway systems are immaculate, swift, brightly lit and safe.

Propaganda extolling the value of hard work and glory to the Communist Party is visible everywhere. We saw no military propaganda, which we were told was outlawed four years ago. The most prevalent slogan found in nearly every city, town and village we visited: "Peace to the World."

It was difficult to tell to what extent this morality was culturally imposed or enforced by the state but it did seem

effective. Although we saw a few active churches, religion was clearly not a force in the society, and I cannot recall the word God being mentioned. We saw no more police than are visible here; most carried no visible weapons. There were extremely few police cars. People seemed to behave as if they had been raised by very strict parents, not as open and free as Americans, but more respectful and mindful of themselves and each other.

Soviet society is culturally and socially progressive. Much attention is given to visual arts, music and dance with resulting quality and good taste. Women received equal pay for equal work, children were well fed, clothed and attended to, and day care centers were excellent. Summer camps were abundant, clean and affordable.

The people are hungry for ideas, products and fads from the West. They crave books, news and conversation. The news that we could understand had a strong anti-U.S. bias, but many of the people we met seemed aware of this. Comparing what I saw of Soviet society with what I have read in the U.S. there seems to be a similar but reverse bias. This may be understood in part by viewpoints that are dated or culturally biased. Regarding the reporting of the stalemate in arms negotiations, Soviet stories seemed to be carbon copies of Western reporting with the villain and hero interchanged.

The strongest impression of all was how much the Soviets are like us. Much has been written regarding the differences in our economic systems, but the feeling was that there may be more difference in theory than practice. The Soviets tell a joke: "What is the difference between Capitalism and Communism? In Capitalism you have the exploitation of one man against another. In Communism it is the reverse."

—see Krasnodar, page 11



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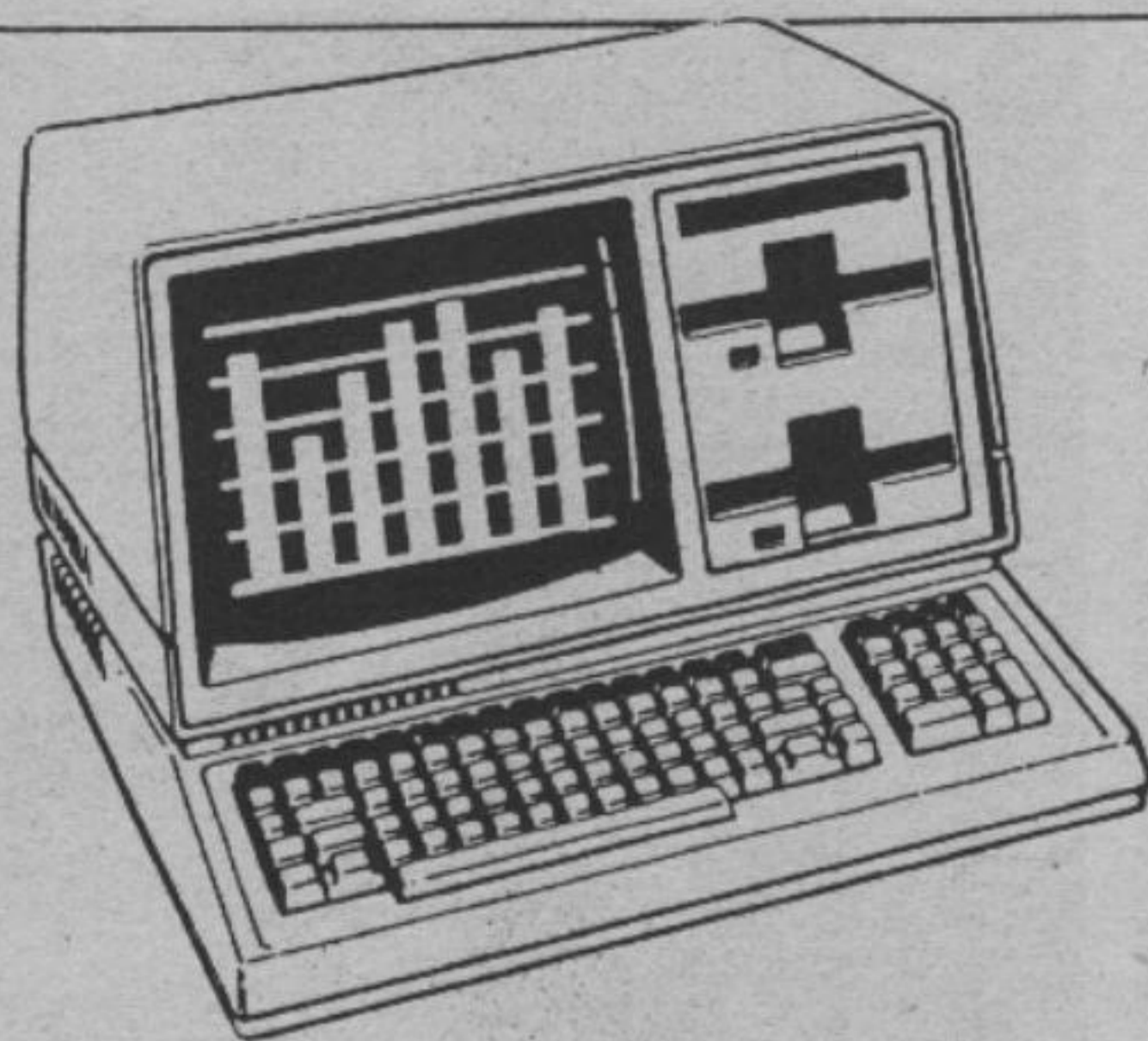
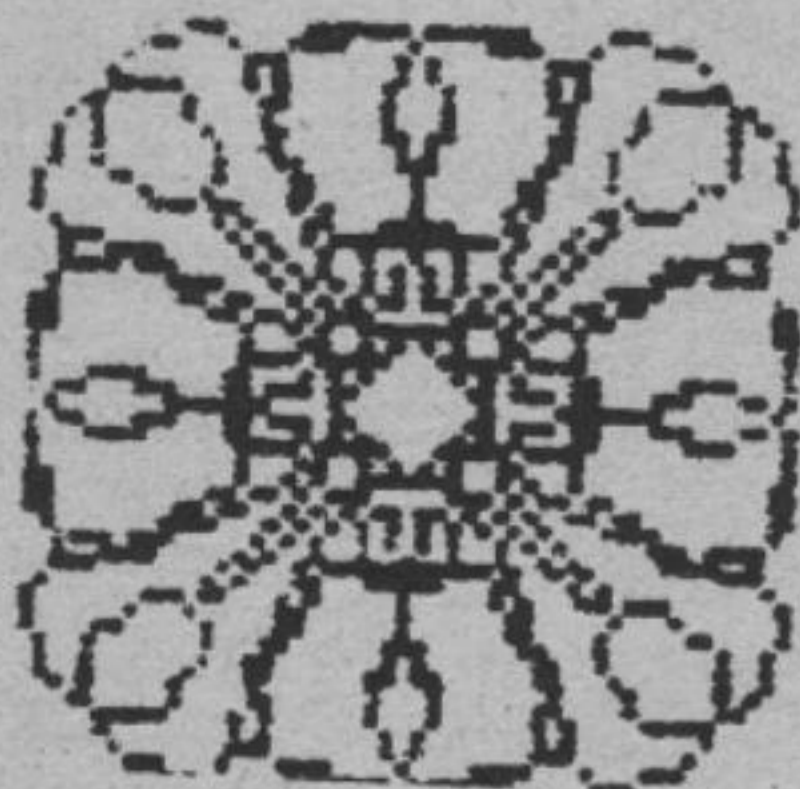
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# Computer Bulletin Boards Link Hackers

by Frank Brown

The first few times there was a feeling of suspense during that timeless moment after dialing, waiting for either "CONNECT" or "NO CARRIER." And an exhilarating, intoxicating feeling as lines came scrolling across my screen once a "CONNECT" was made.

Computing over telephone lines (modeming) lets one read and write messages on numerous electronic bulletin boards. Why would anyone want to do that?

Vanity is a pretty good reason. So is argumentativeness and information exchange. All of these and more are reflected in messages and discussions on Tallahassee computer bulletin board systems (BBS). You can even meet people!

A discussion is only as interesting as its participants. So this is a call to intelligent, opinionated, or just curious folks — we need you!

Tallahassee microcomputer users have access to at least four local telephone bulletin-board systems.

## TACS (NITEOWL): 386-2355

The original, called the TACS board after its sponsor the Tallahassee Amateur Computer Society, is also the most popular, if popularity can be judged by how often the line is busy when one tries to dial it.

Operated on a TRS-80 by system operator (sysop) Bob Watson, this BBS is a good basic bulletin-board which allows users to read and leave messages. A particularly nice feature is how it allows one the option of replying to any message

immediately after reading it. Other features are available only to TACS members. I was unable to log on to request more information about this board.

## TIME-LORD RESEARCH: 878-1399

The second, an RCP/M board, went on-line April 20. There were 90 users in the log as of August 20, with 30 'active' users calling in twice a week or more, according to sysop Bob Swanson (CP/M is a computer operating system). The message is divided into six different sub-boards: Personal, General Interest, Politics, Jokes, TV, and a section devoted entirely to "Dr. Who" trivia.

"Almost without a doubt the Politics board has seen the most activity," said Swanson. "While the other sub-boards seem to have spurts of activity, Politics is fairly balanced with a basically even growth pattern. I had to limit the length of time a message stays on that board to two weeks, since it was consuming so much disk space! There are representatives of almost all political ideologies, some more vocal than others."

Another main feature of this BBS is its libraries of public domain CP/M files. If your computer runs CP/M, you deserve to call up and just browse. A recent policy change has limited access to CP/M to those who specifically ask for it, Swanson said, adding that most SIG/M (Special Interest Group for CP/M) and several CPMUG (CP/M User's Group) disks are available.

Sysop Swanson is helpful with problems when you can get his attention away from his ferret.

## SANCTUARY: 681-6250

TNTB stands for "The New Tallahassee Board", which was what this board was called until a recent "name-the-BBS" election.

On-line since July 14, this board boasts the only daily weather reports available on local BBSs, displaying a simple but cute national weather map. Still pretty new, it doesn't quite have focus yet, containing a plethora of mostly unused sections with names like "Peasant's Place" (classified ads), "Cutthroat's Corner," etc.

The original sponsor, T.APPLE (Tallahassee Apple users group) has been joined by new cosponsor COGOUT (Commodore users group), a healthy sign of growth.

Yes, the board allows up and downloading of programs. Run on an Apple by sysop and expert typist Pete Bianchi, downloading Apple programs is a breeze. A recent user poll revealed a preponderance of Radio Shack CoCo (color computer) users, and the up/download section reflects that.

"Downloading is an off-and-on-thing," said Bianchi. "Since everyone here has access to downloading, they 'window shop' every now and then and take a program while they are at it."

## THE SECOND RING: 893-4839

The existence of this BBS was a surprise to me. I saw the number listed in a message on another board, and dialed it up to reveal—voila!—a BBS run on an IBM PC by Steve Bliss.

The name "Second Ring" is misleading; it has nothing to do with telephones. Rather it's a reference to an "ancient Gaelic legend" — connect and see for yourself.

This board welcomes writers of poetry, fiction, and feelings as well as the typical technical exchanges. A program upload and download section is also included with IBM files prevailing.

This is the only local BBS which supports both 300 and 1200 baud modeming (speeds at which information is exchanged over phone lines).

A final note: Most of these boards will ask for a password. Unless you like having your identity stolen, use one! To this day I can not sign on to the TACS board because I didn't think I needed a password. Some prankster logged on with my name, specified a password, and now the system will only admit a "Frank Brown" with the right password—which is unknown to me. This can be pretty aggravating, especially when messages are left in your name that you never wrote.

## SUPERCOMPUTER

Since the production of the first computer, the evolution of computing in the U.S. has been intimately linked with the development of nuclear weapons. Today that relationship continues and is motivating a new initiative by the Departments of Defense and Energy to increase access of civilian users to supercomputers.

The newest projects for nuclear war-fighting, Reagan's "star wars," require quantum leaps in the speed of computers within the next decade. Dr. Edith Martin, Deputy Undersecretary for Research and Advanced Technology, made the following testimony before the House Science and Technology committee November 15, 1983: "the President's recently announced initiative in space-based defense will perhaps present the most severe of all future military computational problems in that the real time requirements for fail-safe detection and warning, target tracking, discrimination of thousands of space objects, including decoys, locking in or detecting warheads and guiding defending weapons is potentially one of tomorrow's most formidable tasks. The raw computational power required for such a system is far beyond that of any other system contemplated today, but let us not forget the software challenge that it is going to bring. The software for all previous systems, including the space shuttle, are going to be dwarfed by comparison."

The "software challenge" appears to be where Florida State University's new supercomputer fits into the plans of the Department of Energy. Colin Norman discussed FSU's Supercomputational Research Institute in the June 8 issue of *Science*: "One of its major activities would be to develop software for scientific research on supercomputers."

News of the supercomputer first surfaced in a *Tallahassee Democrat* article September 15, 1982. The article stated: "The computer also would help attract high-technology industry to Florida, FSU officials said, because companies could buy time on the advanced system."

This has simply turned out to be mythology. There is no private sector demand for use of supercomputing time because the reductions in time from running jobs on the supercomputer cannot justify the cost. Supercomputing time ranges from \$1500 to \$5000 per hour.

The local press has also been consistently misled with respect to the availability of other supercomputer facilities in the Southeast. Dr. Robert Johnson, the FSU Dean

## Are We Getting The Right Information?

by Tom Harrington

responsible for the project, told the *Democrat* in September 1982: "Although several major research institutions throughout the world have supercomputer systems, just a handful of American universities have them. None of the schools in this country that has a Class VI however, is in the Southeast." This same refrain was repeated in a front page article in the *Democrat* July 8, 1984. This article, by Jonathan Peterson of the *Democrat's* Washington bureau stated: "Currently, the only universities with supercomputers are Colorado State, Minnesota and Purdue."

According to an article appearing in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* March 30, 1983, the University of Georgia had a supercomputer since about August 1982, a month before Johnson's statement in the first *Democrat* article. Moni Basu of the *Florida Flambeau*, in an article August 20, 1984 was the first reporter to bring these discrepancies to the attention of the Tallahassee public.

Nathan W. Dean, Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of Georgia was well aware of this important omission, however, and was prompted to write in the August 3, 1984 issue of *Science* that a computer center, serving the purposes proposed for the one at FSU was already in operation in the Advanced Computational Methods Center at the University of Georgia. Dean said: "The University of Georgia ACMC already exists. It already has a Cyber 205" (The same model computer FSU is obtaining.) "It is already developing software for scientific research on supercomputers with on-site collaboration from ETA Systems. It would not make sense to spend \$7 million initially and \$55 million over 10 years to start from scratch, at Florida State, to build what already exists at the University of Georgia. Such a duplication of effort would waste not only the taxpayers dollars, but valuable time and effort."

For those conscious of and concerned about issues of peace, and desirous that our own community avoid becoming even more deeply entangled in the web of a permanent war economy, it is imperative that we learn all we can about the uses to which the supercomputer at FSU will be put. In light of the misinformation that has thus far marked press coverage of the supercomputer in Tallahassee, several members of the Tallahassee Peace Coalition have formed a committee for the purpose of learning as much as we can about this issue. A lasting and bountiful peace can only be achieved if we take responsibility for the wise use of tools we create. If you are interested in this project contact me through the Tallahassee Peace Coalition at 222-5845.

## Book Reviews

### Viet Wisdom

by Joe Lama

*Long Time Passing: Vietnam and the Haunted Generation*  
Myra Macpherson  
Doubleday: 1984.

*Long Time Passing* is the most comprehensive book of the "Vietnam Generation" a reader might ever encounter. It is sufficiently lengthy so that it begins to form a meditation of understanding. Until you reach the end of the book you will not know it is written in the spirit of reconciliation.

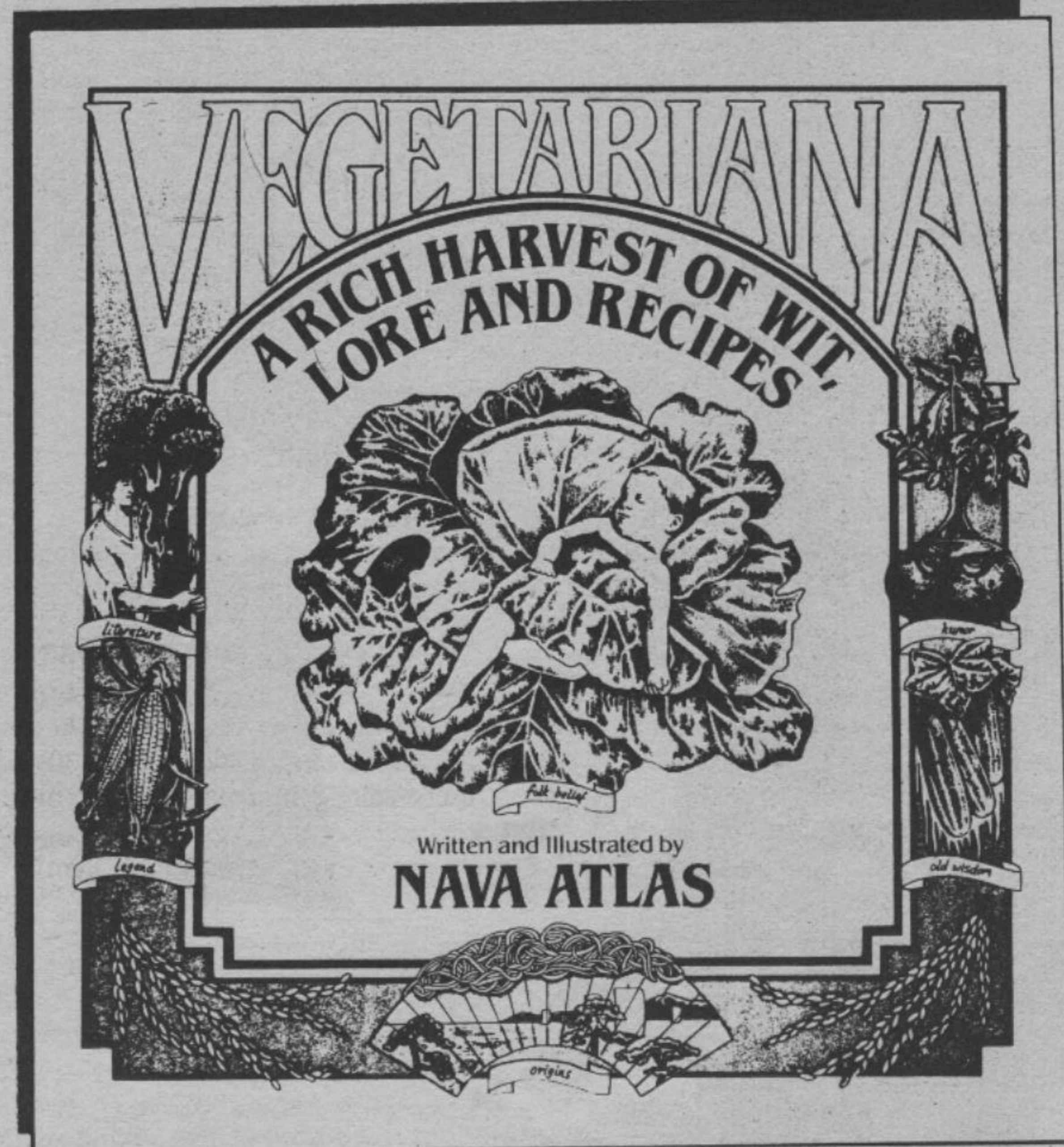
In most succeeding chapters, as in the first, the writer compares the lives of two Vietnam Generation persons — one pro-war, the other anti-war — veterans, non-veterans; mothers and fathers; women in the war and the women at the barricades. I am not one who usually reads a book of this length, but I did this one.

The person who wrote this book has a definite political out-look, but manages to keep that out-look separate from

members of the Vietnam Generation, pro and anti-war, telling their own stories. The most memorable line describing both sides appears on page 612, and is one I would like to remember for the rest of my days: "Above all, Vietnam was a war that asked everything of a few and nothing of most in America."

Sometimes by accident and sometimes on purpose people turn to film and literature to understand an experience through which they have lived. *Long Time Passing* compares favorably with such older movies as *M\*A\*S\*H\** and *Catch-22* (which gave me my first perspectives on Vietnam after having returned from there); and, *Dispatches*, Michael Herr's journal of personal experiences. For some unknown reason I have yet to read my first fictional work of Vietnam War literature.

In reading *Long Time Passing* you might come to a place of wisdom. Your emotions may be confronted, but you will be able to make peace with them.



### Veggie Folklore

by Kathy Blaha

*Vegetariana*  
Nava Atlas  
The Dial Press: 1984.

"I was sad in the evening because I had eaten anchovies. In the morning, the doctor comforted me; why be sad? After all, I ate the anchovies, not the anchovies me."  
—Franz Kafka

If you are a vegetarian, and have been one for any length of time, you will remember, not too long ago, the scarcity of cookbooks for vegetarians. In the early 1970's the field came into its own with *The Vegetarian Epicure*, *The New York Times Natural Foods Cookbook*, and by the mid-1970's, *Laurel's Kitchen*, and the *Moosewood Cookbook* from Ithaca. These books established vegetarianism beyond the fad which it once was considered in the early 1960's. Actually, vegetarianism was a popular movement here in the States in the mid-nineteenth century.

Nava Atlas' new book, *Vegetariana*, takes us one step beyond a recipe book for the vegetarian: Among the recipes, it tells us all about vegetarianism, from the vegetables to the people.

Atlas has culled the factual, and the not so factual, on vegetarians and assembled it among a selection of her own recipes. A graphic artist as well as a cook, Atlas has illustrated her book in the same tone as her bits of vegetarian lore. For example, on introducing the potato to us, Atlas sketches an Elizabethan Miss on a stroll with her umbrella to protect her from the raining potatoes. Her quote is from Shakespeare: "Let the sky rain potatoes; let it thunder to the tune of 'Greensleeves'."

There are plenty of old jokes: "How do you suppose borscht was made? Beets me," "Cheese: Milk's leap toward immortality," and plenty of stories like those on the evolution of bean's seams, the origin of spaghetti noodles, and the story of the three bean curd gods in Chinese folklore, Chiao Kuan, Huai Nan Tzu, and Kuan Yu.

The recipes amidst all the wit take advantage of fresh herbs and spices and were created by Atlas to be prepared at the end of a long day. They are easy, made with a lot of ingredients usually found on hand. I've found new twists to old recipes, like the addition of avocado to gazpacho, giving it a richer (and greener) base. Typically my complaint about vegetarian cookbooks is that the recipes are shy of spices. Not so here: Curried ziti with broccoli and chick-peas, sweet and sour lentils, or tomato-leek soup are spiced with more than the obligatory dab.

Because Atlas creates recipes that are to be prepared quickly, she calls for some pre-packaged foods now and then, like ready-made pie crusts. Depending on your own preference, and time schedule, substitutions can easily be made.

The joy of this book though lies not in the recipes, but in the sketches, quotes, and wives' tales throughout — from who the famous vegetarians are (Pythagoras, Benjamin Franklin, Susan B. Anthony, Leo Tolstoy, George Bernard Shaw) to what the famous have said about vegetables and their healthful, political, humorous and even lustful nature.

If you're bored with your cookbooks, or just looking for an easy way out at the end of your day that will give you an interesting meal, pick up Atlas' book and read what Mark Twain had to say about cooking: "Training is everything. The peach was once a bitter almond; cauliflower is nothing but a head of cabbage with a college education."



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### Micro Info

by Frank Brown

*How To Buy Software*  
Alfred Glossbrenner  
St. Martin's Press: 1984.

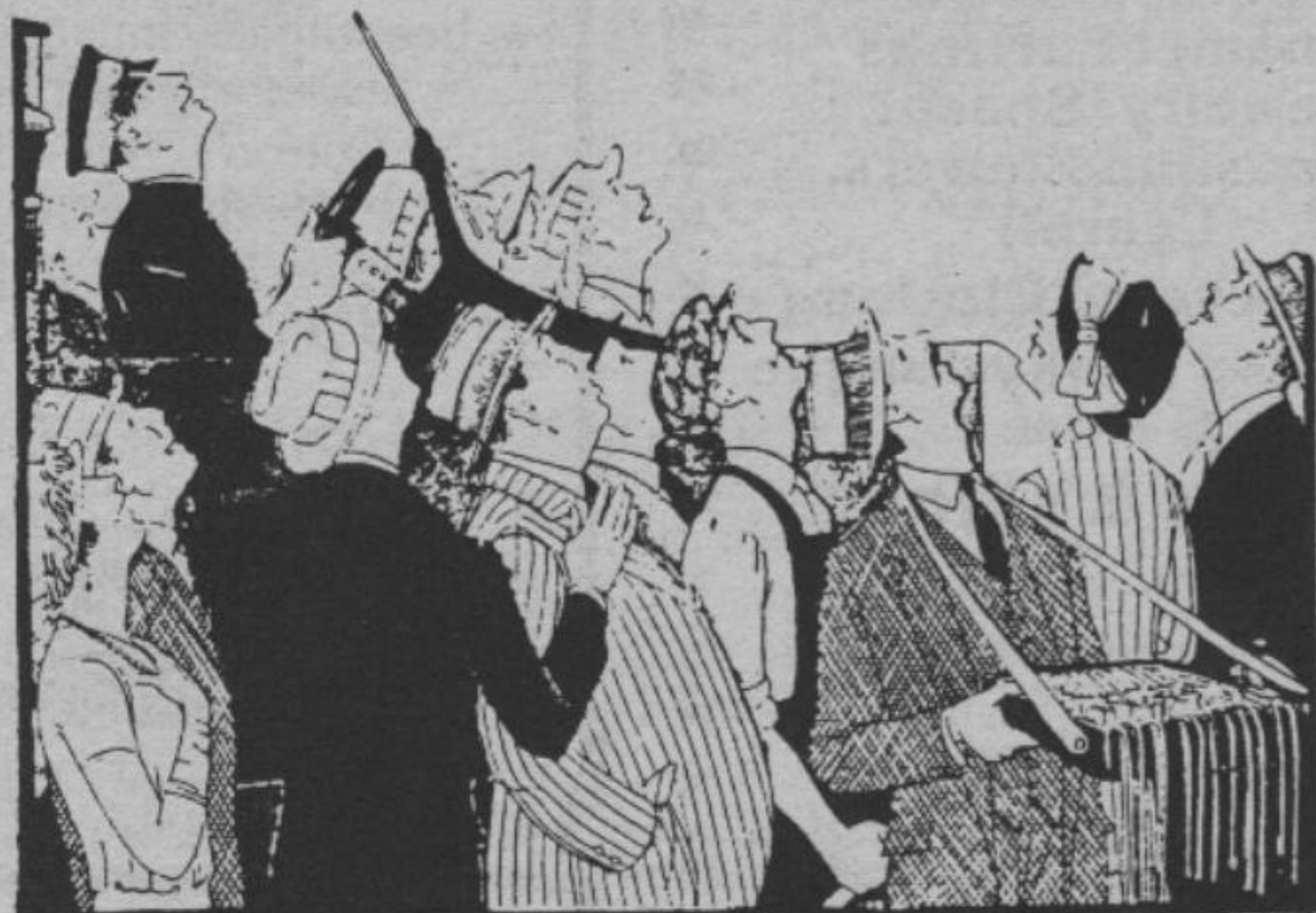
Amidst the proliferation — nay, a veritable boom — in glossy new computer books one finds stuffing booksellers' shelves, it's hard to know where to start. Start Here.

This book is an excellent general introduction to micro-computers and what they do. Reading it, I was frequently captivated by information and anecdotes new to me. Glossbrenner does a very thorough job of covering his subject, in an

engaging and pleasant style.

This book is well organized. It is equally educational for owners of Apple, IBM, Radio Shack, and other computers, with details about many different computers, operating systems, software compatibility, and other brand-specific facts.

Plenty of current names, addresses and phone numbers are peppered throughout. Glossbrenner includes several useful appendices in the back which list software sources, magazines and newsletters, online databases for telecommunicating, several hundred free computer bulletin board phone numbers, and the ever popular dictionary of jargon and computerese.





# Scotland's Findhorn community blends ordinary and sublime

by Howard George

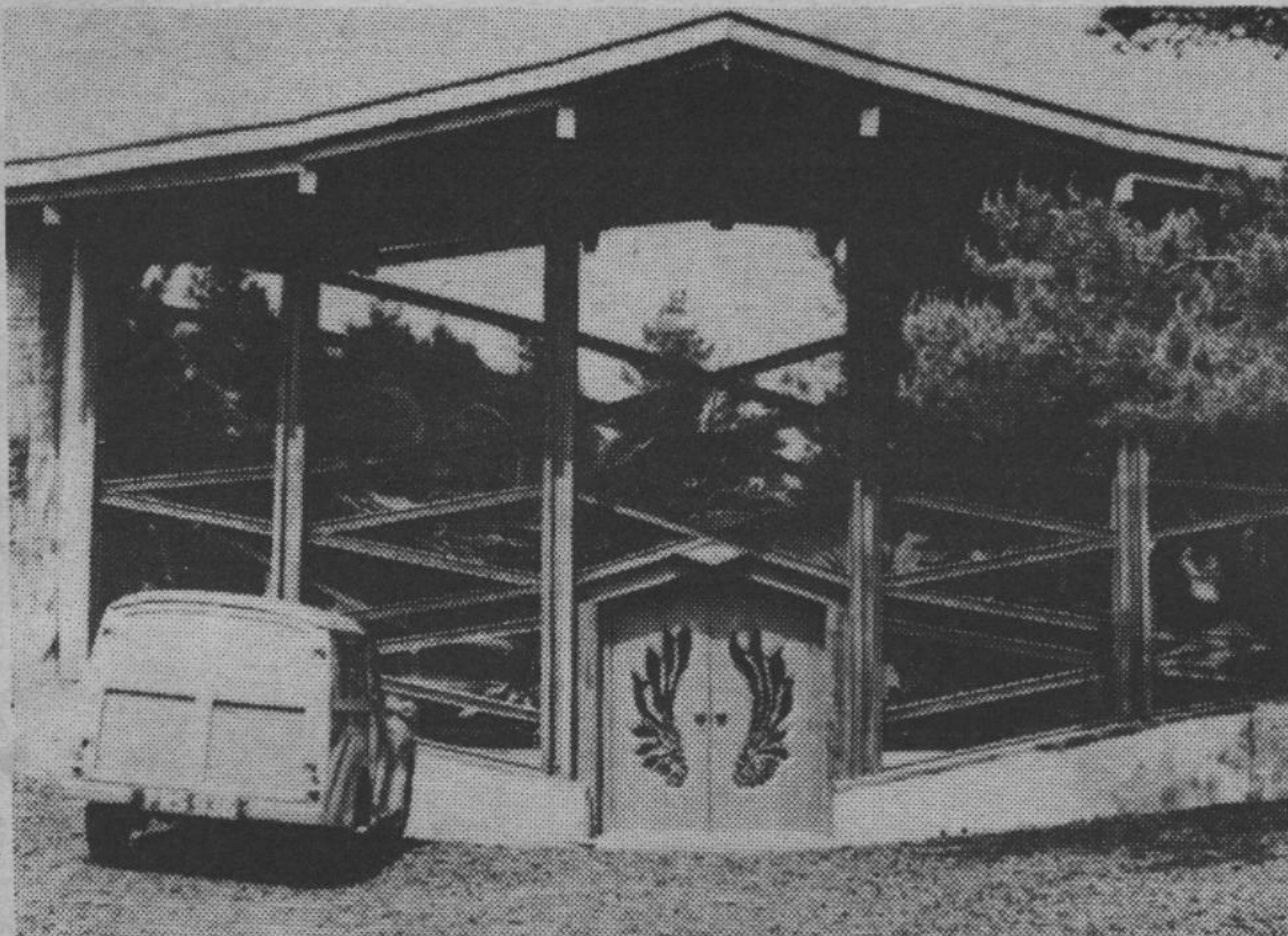


Photo by Elizabeth Markus

Universal Hall at Findhorn

This past June, Elizabeth Markus and I had the pleasure of making a pilgrimage to the Findhorn Community in northern Scotland and I wish to share some of the insights and observations brought back from this amazing visit. Before setting off on our two-week tour of the United Kingdom, I must admit my knowledge of Findhorn, this "Magic Kingdom" of the North, was limited to the stories I'd read and heard about 40-pound cabbages growing in their remarkable gardens and roses blooming in the snow. I had read a bit of the history of the community and, quite frankly, was expecting a monastery-like atmosphere, with everyone chanting as they worked or "glowing" like neon, as they lived in such a holy place. I had visions of being overwhelmed by the "intense energy" of such a power point on the Earth, much like Paul being humbled on the road to Damascus.

What I found was a community of people — people from many countries, of various religious and spiritual backgrounds, bringing their individual skills and knowledge to share with others. The first thing I noticed upon entering the Caravan Park (the sight of the original Findhorn Community and gardens founded 22 years ago and still the hub of the Community) was that it didn't look out of the ordinary at all. Like any other

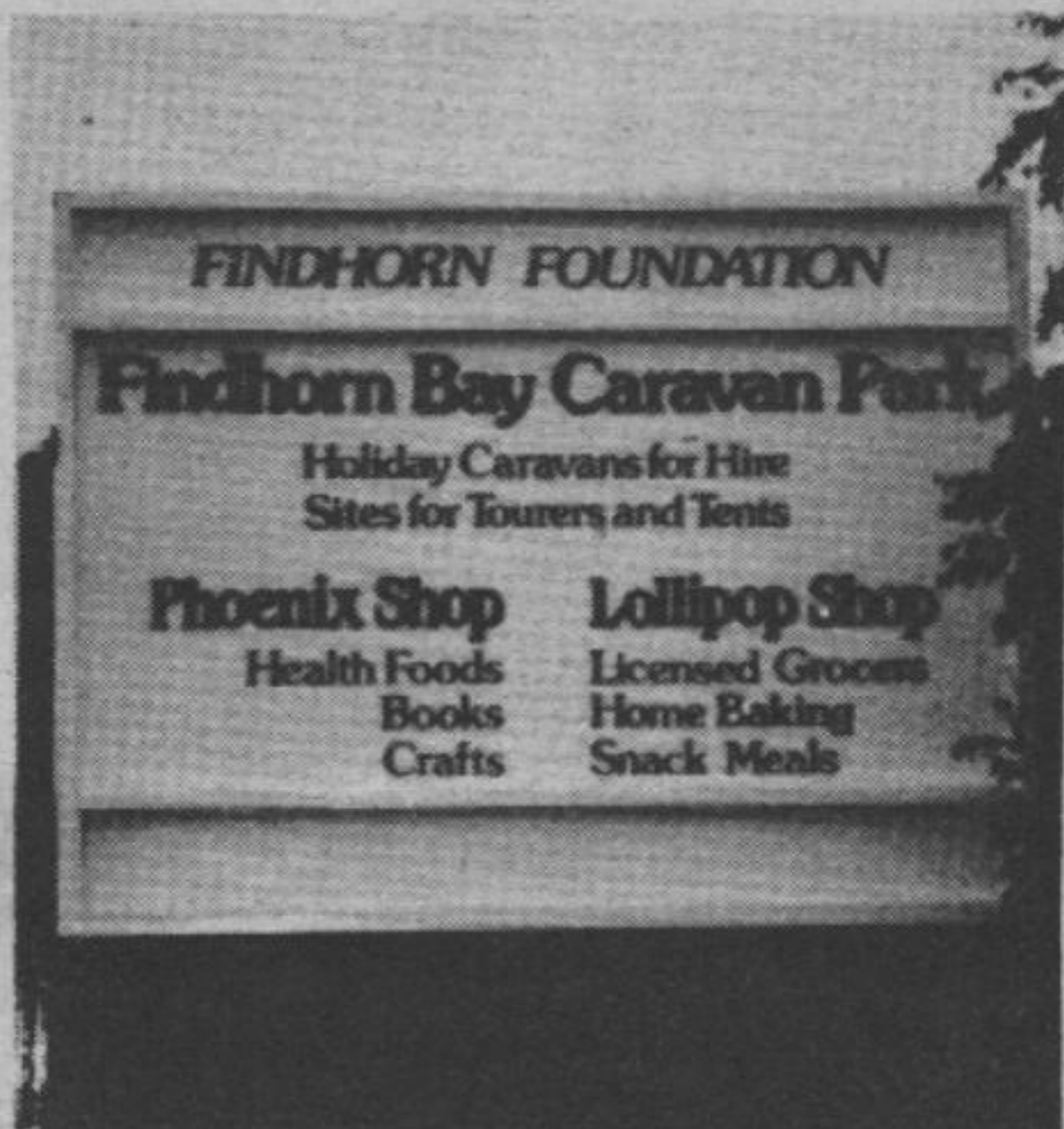
trailer park. Then I noticed the flowers. They were everywhere. The gardeners keep quite busy not only in the gardens, growing food and herbs for the Community, but all around the Park, lovingly tending beds around trailers and bungalows.

As we walked with our tour group in the afternoon rain, we were delighted to find people down-to-earth, very open and friendly, not "in the clouds" or in such deep meditative states that we weren't noticed. Besides the lush and beautiful gardens, which were a little difficult to see and really appreciate in the rain, the most memorable spot on the tour from me was the Universal Hall. This pentagonal structure houses a number of conference and activity rooms, art galleries, a tea room complete with homemade cakes and scones as well as a variety of teas, and a magnificent 300-seat auditorium. The stained-glass panels adorning the front of the building were created by world-renowned artist James Hubbel. For those who saw the movie *My Dinner with Andre*, this is the building with the ceiling with seemingly no visible means of support of which Andre spoke. I'm afraid I was unable to see it quite that way, but I was certainly struck by the beauty of the natural wood and stone so lovingly and meticulously assembled.

After recovering from the shock of *not* being shocked, I began to discover the true beauty of Findhorn. Beyond the healthy gardens and fantastic architecture, I was awed by the community spirit, the seemingly effortless way everything ran so smoothly. Each person has a specific task. Some are gardeners, others secretaries, or cooks, babysitters, electricians, carpenters. When, upon returning home, I commented to someone that everyone seemed to know exactly what to do, with no apparent leader running things, I was quickly reminded that the "leader" is Spirit. These people are drawn together by a common concern for the Earth and are guided by their faith in Spirit, or Mother Nature, or God, if you will.

Gone now are the 40-pound cabbages and other phenomenal gardening feats. Some believe that these miracles of the early days were to demonstrate what is possible through faith in and cooperation with the spirits in control. Some claim to be in direct contact with Devas, Nature Spirits, even Pan himself, while others remain skeptical about such tales yet admit that *something* amazing is happening at Findhorn. The Community is now much more than the gardens, though they continue to grow and bless the members with fresh food and radiant flowers. Findhorn prides itself in being "people oriented" today, offering numerous workshops, seminars, and "experience weeks." Quite an impressive and comprehensive communication and education network has been established among Findhorn and other New Age communities worldwide. There is an effort being made to bring about a positive change in the attitudes of people toward each other and the Earth, and Findhorn is an integral part of that movement.

We enjoyed an evening meal of fresh vegetarian dishes in the community Center dining hall. After dinner, everyone went off to do as they pleased, some visiting friends in the Park, others driving into the town of Findhorn, a mile down the road, or perhaps to the beach at Findhorn Bay.



On the morning of our second day, we were asked by our hosts, Jonathan and Karen Caddy, if we would like to work for a few hours to get a better feeling of how things are "run" at Findhorn. Naturally, we eagerly agreed. Elizabeth opted to work in the kitchen helping to prepare lunch and I helped the gardeners mulch a flower bed. We began work at 8:30 and broke for "tea" at 10:30. How very British!

Sanctuary is held daily at 8:00 a.m. and again at noon. Although Findhorn is a spiritual community, no particular religion or creed is condoned or sanctioned over any other by the community as a whole. People of any or no religious persuasion are welcomed. Sanctuary is an opportunity for members of the community to come together for 20 or 30 minutes of meditation, to share a

—see Findhorn, page 11

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# Resolving disputes takes patience and finesse

by Linda Miklowitz

Bartolo Albanese returned to the family home one summer afternoon to visit his ailing parents. One of their favorite pastimes has been to sit on the front stoop during warm evenings and listen to the radio show "Italian Hour," but their new neighbor has constantly complained about the "jibberish."

The neighbor, Mary Mild, also complained about the odor of cooking from Mrs. Albanese's kitchen and yelled at them, "Keep the damn windows closed if you insist on cooking that damn Mafioso food."

Bartolo found his parents visibly upset and pacing in front of their home. As his weeping mother told him about the latest confrontation, he spotted Ms. Mild peering at them from between the plants on her solarium deck.

Impulsively he vaulted a five-foot fence that separated the two properties, pushed open Ms. Mild's screen door, and rushed upstairs to the solarium to confront her. He found her obviously frightened and very much nude. She had no access to a wrap with which to cover herself, and he blocked the doorway, laughing at her predicament. He spotted a Polaroid camera on a nearby chair and quickly snapped two photos of her. Now she was screaming hysterically for him to leave. He did — but not before smashing the camera on the floor and knocking over some plants.

Ms. Mild called the police, who arrested Bartolo within 15 minutes of the incident. Because he had no prior criminal record, the county court referred him and Ms. Mild to the restitution and resolution project. As their first session begins, Ms. Mild wants the photos back and for someone to pay for her broken back door, camera and potted plants. Bartolo wants to avoid a criminal record.

That was one of several scenarios enacted by about 70 participants in an Advanced Course in Dispute Resolution held one weekend at Tallahassee Community College several months ago.

The diverse group had given their Friday dinner hour and evening, all day Saturday and most of the day Sunday to learn how to resolve conflicts with both sides going away feeling like they won something.

As you might have guessed, it's not easy. The process is an art. Some came closer than others to developing finesse.

The instructors were William F. Lincoln and Nancy A. Huelsberg, co-directors of the National Center for Collaborative Planning and Community Services Inc. in Watertown, Mass. Lincoln, formerly a faculty member at the Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

The instruction left much to be desired. Lincoln rambled and was much too disorganized in his presentation. In contrast, Huelsberg meticulously followed notes, but repeated herself often. The high points of the instruction were their own very entertaining videotape of what to do and not to do as mediator, and the sessions when we broke into small groups and participated in a wide variety of situations like the Albanese-Mild incident. These ranged from the loud-stereo complaint which escalates to a battle of the generations to a dispute based on religious convictions to a complex zoning and land-use planning problem stemming from thinly disguised discrimination. Since casting was not a priority, and we were trying to understand how different people think, I played Albanese and a man played the modest Ms. Mild in our group.

Another problem was that beginners like myself were thrown in with students who felt they knew the basics from Lincoln's longer course last year. We were trying to learn them, and much of the lectures was spent doing just that.

While I recommend the \$70 course, I've found at least one paperback book that spells out the basics a lot more clearly — *Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In* by Roger Fisher and William Ury of the Harvard Negotiation Project, Penguin Book, 1983. Lincoln is acknowledged by the authors.

The difference in the book is that it covers situations in which the student is a party. In the seminars we were strictly neutral facilitators. We asked questions of the parties to make them come to solutions we may have already thought of but were not allowed to say. Sometimes we were silent after receiving an answer to see if it would change. The name of the game was for them to "buy in" to the process by structuring it to their preferences.

This method took a lot of patience, but was probably more lasting than the quicker method of persuasion using force or intimidation, however satisfying it might sometimes be.

For those of you who wonder how Bartolo and Ms. Mild end up, there is no answer. It depended on the personalities of the participants, although in some cases they were instructed what to insist on and what to give up. I played my Bartolo like Stanley Kowalski, and I couldn't understand why "Ms. Mild" didn't act more outraged about being trapped in the altogether. I don't think he understood her.

# Helping hearing impaired kids

by Stephen Sandler

I'd like to use this community forum to introduce the workings of a new non-profit organization, the Florida Foundation for Hearing Impaired Children. Before I describe the services that the Foundation will provide, a little background information is probably in order.

Deafness has often been called the "invisible handicap." Despite the common fascination many of us have with the beautiful language of signs, the proliferation of deaf theatre troupes, and interpretation of musical events, such as Holly Near's two concerts in Tallahassee, many of the problems and needs of hearing impaired persons remain unknown to the public because deaf

people have such low visibility in our day to day lives. These problems include severe delays in the learning of language and speech, social isolation, increased family tensions, and limited opportunities for employment.

Our public schools have been charged with the responsibility of teaching hearing impaired children the academic skills necessary to "get on in the world". The legislature has provided approximately four times as much money to educate a deaf child as a non-handicapped student. For their part the state government and local schools have shown a strong commitment to provide a quality education for hearing impaired children.

Despite these efforts, statistics reveal that a great deal more needs to be done. Consider the following facts:

- The average deaf student graduates high school with a fourth grade reading level. She/he would have tremendous difficulty understanding this article.
- Approximately 90% of the parents of deaf children cannot communicate

effectively with their children. Only one tenth of one percent of the general population can communicate effectively with deaf people.

• Deafness is a low incidence handicap. Consequently, school districts must work together to create school programs for the deaf. For example, the Leon County Schools serve hearing impaired children from seven surrounding counties. As a result, deaf children often live over 100 miles from their classmates (i.e. their best friends). Consequently, they rarely see each other outside of the school environment. This does little to enhance the social development of these children, especially when many are socially isolated in their own communities because of their handicap.

The Florida Foundation for Hearing Impaired Children has been created to alleviate these problems. The Foundation will be:

- offering academic tutoring to hearing impaired students.

- coordinating special activities to bring hearing impaired children together outside of the school setting.

- offering Sign Language classes to parents of hearing impaired children and to the general public.

- planning the development of a foster care facility that would serve hearing impaired children from throughout the state of Florida.

In addition we will continually remain sensitive to the needs of hearing impaired children and their families and create programs necessary to meet those needs.

The Foundation is seeking the support and involvement of every member of our community. Please contact us if you would like to learn Sign Language or learn more about hearing impairment, to volunteer your time and skills to help the Foundation reach its goals, or to provide financial support for the services the Foundation provides.

Contact us anytime, at 222-0322. We look forward to hearing from and working with you.



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Cluny Hill College at Findhorn

photo by Elizabeth Markus

## Findhorn, from page 9

common loving energy. During the session we attended, a man played a beautiful Aborigine wind instrument. We spent that afternoon exploring the grounds and washing clothes. At Findhorn, even inanimate objects are given names and accorded the same respect as living things. Two of the washing machines, for example, are named Michael and Gabriel, after angels of the Bible.

That evening, Elizabeth and I were treated to a "grand tour" of another Findhorn property, Cluny Hill College, a 100-room Victorian hotel recently purchased by the Community. Around 35 of the 200 permanent residents of Findhorn live at Cluny Hill, which is also used for many of the seminars and workshops the Community sponsors each year, as well as for housing guests. It is a remarkable building, quite easy to get lost in. Our private tour was conducted by David Earl Platts, who lived in Tallahassee and taught at Florida State University for several years. Some of you may have attended the Findhorn workshop he conducted at Unity of Tallahassee two years ago. It was such a joy spending time with him.

We decided to leave the next morning and get on with our travels. Besides all the

souvenirs and gifts I bought at the gift shop, I went away with a feeling that I had been a witness to a very special phenomenon. On the surface, Findhorn appears to be a small community like most others, save for the fact that people felt safe enough to leave their houses unlocked and children run and play freely in the streets. Yet at closer examination, I realized we had, for two short days, been a part of a community with a conscience. Its citizens have come together to become actively involved in the growing New Age concept and genuinely believe that how we live, and think, and treat one another and our Mother, the Earth, determines what path our species and all those around us will take. The average span of time a person stays at Findhorn is three years. People are encouraged to go out into the world and share what they have learned there. Though our tenure was a mere 48 hours, we felt our experience was worth sharing, and encourage our friends here at home to visit Findhorn.

If you would like more information on Findhorn, the following addresses may be helpful: Findhorn Publications, The Park, Findhorn, Forres IV36 OTX, Scotland, U.K. and The Accomodation Secretary, Cluny Hill College, Forres IV36 ORD, Scotland, U.K.

## Meg Christian takes a break

by Marjorie Menzel

Well, Meg Christian is off. Everywoman's cultural heroine is taking a sabbatical from her singing career, and Tallahasseeans considered themselves lucky to be included on her final tour. An alternately hushed and roaring crowd gave her a big send off at her May 31 concert.

"She'll be in our history books," the local producer, Loretta Bussiere of Birds of a Feather Productions, predicted.

"She is the author — the artist — of the first woman's album in the world," Loretta told the audience as she presented Meg with a plaque. "She is the co-owner of the first women's (recording) label." (Olivia Records.)

"They said I could hang it in the Olivia office," rejoined the singer. "I said, 'The hell I will. I'm hanging it in my living room.'"

The crowd, as they say, went wild.

Crowds have a tendency to go wild over Meg Christian, but people seem to respond to her in highly personal ways as well. Conversations about her continued for weeks after her visit. People remembered her jokes, recited her lyrics, recounted her wiser words.

"I'm going to take a rest," she told me

in a phone interview. "I'm going to see what life without performing is like. I'll spend some time in India studying meditation, but I mostly want to be ready for whatever comes along — not structure my time."

Meg can discuss her political and personal hard times without either cloying or instructing. It's the core of her appeal. It's fun to learn about her, fun to identify with someone who errs with such humor and courage, and fun to laugh with her at herself.

"What am I to you?" she begs the musical question of two cats she had to give away because she wasn't at home enough, "A wizard of cans...scratcher of itchy places..."

"I'm waiting for the revolution," she explains in "My Life Keeps Standing Me Up," "for the president to have a spiritual transfusion/ I'm waiting for all my planets to align..."

A post-concert fan summed it up as she took her turn with Meg in the line of well-wishers, friends and autograph seekers.

"When you said you needed a whole 'nother body to hold all you felt inside," she told the singer, "I thought, 'Take mine!'"



photo by Mark Greenfield

A common sight on Russian streets, the sign says, "Peace to the World."

## Krasnodar, from p5

The Soviet people in the regions we visited (Russia, Ukraine, White Russia) look like us, dress like us (or would like to), eat like us, drink like us (or more than we do), play like us and most importantly feel and love like us. Much would be gained through mutual understanding.

When talking with students, teachers, veterans, tour guides, and just plain people of the Soviet Union, Sandy and I would always ask if they had a message to carry to the people of America. Here there was not language barrier, no age gap, no ocean to cross. The message was always the same, but perhaps best expressed by the children we met at a summer camp. They had a poster of a big shining Earth with a smiling face and pig tails with ribbons. The caption read, "Peace to all the World."

A benefit for the Tallahassee-Krasnodar program will be held September 22. Call 576-4906 for more information.

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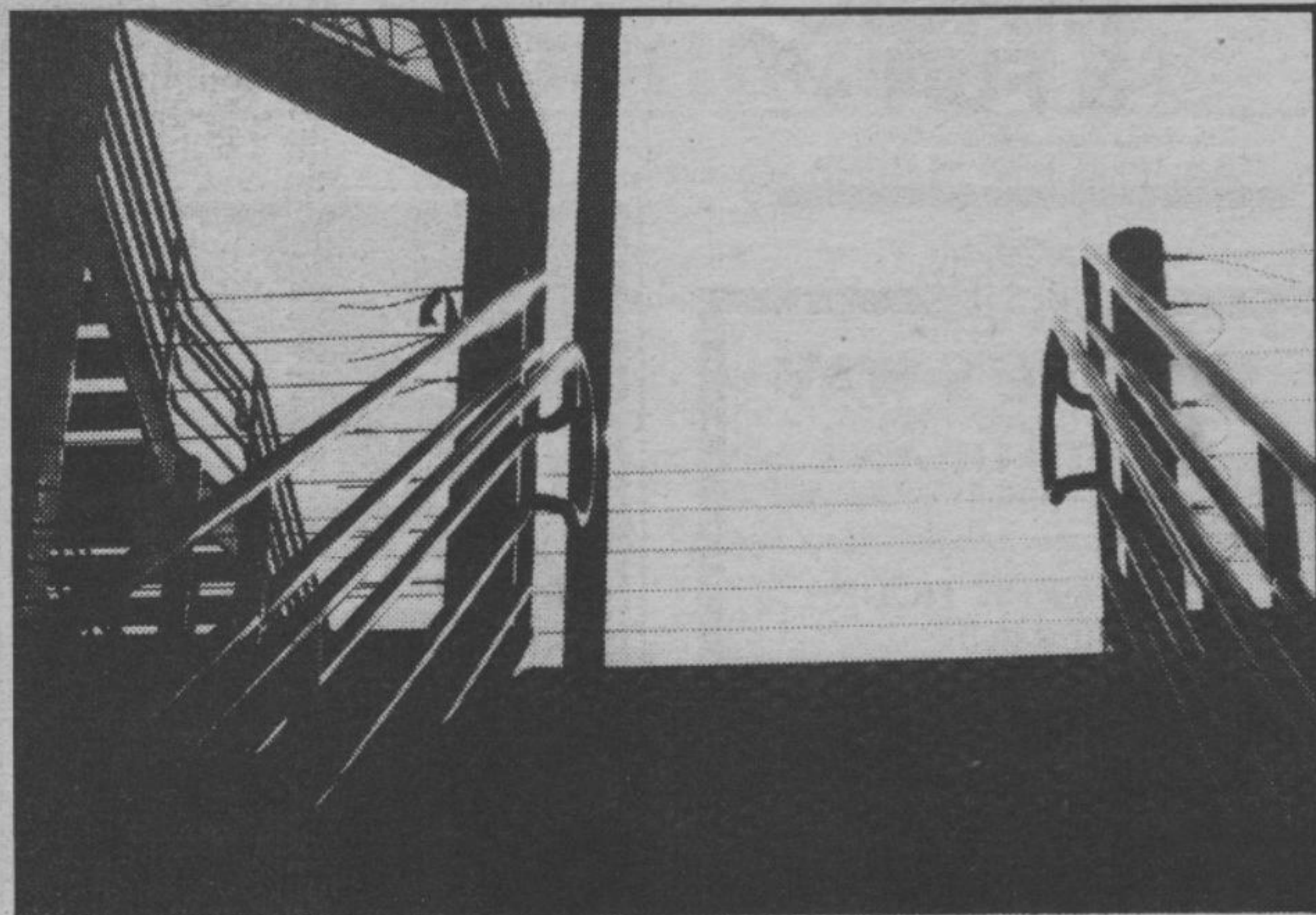
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