

"Rules! We don't need no stinking rules."

have you ever noticed that whenever you th

The ties that Bind

The power of choice

Recently, the people of Russia were allowed to vote for their ow representatives

CABIN FEVER BLUES.

Most of us long for a time when we can spend some "quality time" with our families. We honestly believe that we can have

Staying Focused

As this issue of AC goes to press, I am

It's February.

Well, it isn't really. OK, the cover date says February, but as we all know, in the magazine business the cover date is almost a full month ahead. So this issue of AC will actually hit the stands and your mailboxes in early January.

So this is January. Uh, not exactly. In order for the issue to be in the mails and move through the freight and distribution systems, this issue actually must be shipped no later than December 30.

Then this is the end of 1993? No, in order to meet the press deadlines and avoid production problems caused by the holidays, this final bit of the magazine is being written at 5:00 AM on the morning of the very last day I can submit it—ten days before Christmas.

It is times like these that I am glad I read so much science fiction growing up.

Heinlien and Assimov

We all look for heros when we are young. Growing up in the fifties and early sixties, my impressionable youth was spent with fictional characters from outer space and worse. I remember the first science fiction horror movie I saw. It was "The Return of the Fly."

My Mother was sure that the movie had frightened me too much and swore that she would never let me see another. But, my Father understood a bit more clearly. He understood that I needed a little fright. Being scared is as much a part of life as being happy. It is just a little harder on the heart.

Needless to say, I saw other horror films. I watched the genre move from movies with a phony science background into the realm of pure mysticism. How else can you explain Freddy Kruger and Jason's abilities to continue to riuse from the dead? Ok, if

you want to be cynical you could say their invulnerability arises from box office revenues more than from some supernatural powers.

Science Fiction films, on the other hand, continually appeared to be more realistic. Their direction was defined in what has become an icon of movie making, Stanley Kubrick's 2001. Here it was apparent that every effort was being made to maintain a level of realism. Aside from the movie's enthusiastic

Rod Sterling's Twilight Zone