

EOFANDOM

Before the organization comes the organ. Before the group exists, there are the individuals who have the potential to belong to the group. It is on this concept that we are proud to announce the formation of EOFANDOM, which is to all other science fiction groups as the wheel is to the carriage.

The purpose of EOFANDOM is to antedate all other numbered fandoms, to give both the senile and neo a rallying point in fandom, and to give all an ancient and revered name which they can bear in pride. Unlike any of the numbered fandoms, we have limitless possibilities. We are a select group, since our membership requirements preclude the possibility of every fan becoming a member of EOFANDOM at any one time, and yet we are a group to which any individual can aspire, and for which any not now qualified will qualify within a few brief years.

To qualify for membership in EOFANDOM during 1959, you must have been born on or before December 31st, 1937. Each year, we will extend the date of birth cut-off by one year--that is, in 1960, fans born on or before December 31st, 1938, will be eligible for membership, and so forth. NO NUMBERED FANDOM MAKES AN OFFER SIMILAR TO THIS. ALL NUMBERED FANDOMS IMPOSE AN ARBITRARY AND UNCHANGEABLE CUT-OFF DATE FOR MEMBERSHIP. Other fandoms will die out as their members become more senile -- EOFANDOM has a perpetual youth serum built in. We had originally proposed additional requirements for membership, such as sending in the top of the box in which you found any member of either First or Seventh Fandom hiding, but these proposals were discarded. Of course, we do insist that you have some participation in fandom/science-fiction/fantasy in your background. Laughing at the Three Little Kittens, crying over Humpty Dumpty, or dreaming you were the noble knight who awakened the Sleeping Beauty (or being the Beauty awakened in case of femme fans) are considered participation. On a test case we have admitted to full membership one individual whose only participation in fanac was the use of his toes in the "This Little Piggy" playlet. Currently under consideration is a case where the applicant claims participation by falling asleep during the singing of Rockaby Baby.

To avoid giving any fan that left-out feeling, we have organized an auxiliary branch, to be known as NEOFANDOM. Admission requirements for NEOFANDOM are that you not be qualified for admission to EOFANDOM; a badge, pictured at the right, has been designed for these two groups. You need not apply for this badge--it will soon be distributed through the mail to everyone. It will be the responsibility of the recipient to determine whether he is an EOFAN or a NEOFAN, and for those who are EOFAN, to scratch the first letter "N" off their badge. The "N" will flake off in one piece, and when removed will reveal that the mimeo pictured is in reality a Gestetner.



It should be obvious that EOFANDOM, and its auxiliary, NEOFANDOM, were not created in a day. The badge alone was the subject of many high level discussions, and correspondence on this subject forced the post office to hire 4/5th of an employee. The founders have refused to allow their names to be used in connection with the forming of EOFANDOM, since they unanimously agree that they have all the egoboo they need, and that the egoboo normally due to founders of a FANDOM should go, instead, to the members. To accomplish this, any EOFAN may claim that he was a founder of EOFANDOM, and all other EOFANS are enjoined to administer egoboo for this feat. We modestly point out that this, too, is not offered by any numbered fandom. ALL NUMBERED FANDOMS NAME THEIR FOUNDERS.

The first claimant under the preceding paragraph is....

Bob Pavlat.