

DUFFund '77 NEWSLETTER ONE

Your name is listed below, left, if your ballot for the '77 DOWN UNDER FAN FUND race is in. If you voted in earlier campaigns, the total number in which you have voted is shown after your name. How about those seven who voted every time?

John D Berry 5
 L Bushyager 5
 Eli Cohen 5
 Terry Hughes 5
 Andy Porter 5
 George Wells 5
 Susan Wood 5
 R Hevelin 4
 Dennis Lien 4
 Doug Barbour 3
 D Langsam 3
 Steve Miller 3
 Ben Yalow 3
 Jack Chalker 2
 Frank W Doss 2
 David Shank 2
 L White 2
 Paula Smith 2
 Tom Whitmore 2
 P Williams 2
 DD BEETEM
 DM Beetem
 John Benson *
 Alan Bostick
 L Boutillier
 Bill Bridget *
 RL Brown
 Elinor Busby
 FM Busby
 KM Carlson
 S DiMaria
 Ken Hoyme
 Lynn Kuehl
 Mary Mueller
 E Pearse
 Thomas Perry
 Bradley Ross
 MM Shepard
 Stu Shiffman
 Roy Tackett
 Bob Vardeman
 Edward Watts *
 Mike Wood
 Ben Zuhl
 Diane
 Jacquemotte *

GOAL - We want to raise enough to pay all of the travel expenses to send the winner (Fred Haskell, Bill Rotsler or Bob Vardeman) to visit a bunch of Australian fans this summer (our summer, that is). Presumably, but not necessarily, that will be at the 16th Australian National Science Fiction Convention near Adelaide on July 29-30. If he can't make it then, the Aussies will arrange smaller gatherings to welcome him whenever and wherever... Ideally, we'd raise enough for a small carry-over to get the '78 DUFFund under way.

CAMPAIGN '77 - Thanks to all fanzine editors who publicized the fund and circulated ballots with their zines. Convention committees held auctions, let me hold auctions, or contributed to DUFF from their profits, and I thank them all...and those generous fans who donated auction materials ranging all the way from books, jars and propellor beanies right up to themselves. Some were concerned about the shortness of the campaign. Two reasons: some of us dislike lengthy money drives; an earlier closing gives the winner more planning time after he knows he won. We do raise money outside of the 90-day voting period, so be not alarmed.

VOTING - There should be a lot more votes in the coming month, but you must make the move if your name is not listed here already. Note that the majority of our early voters are newcomers to DUFF. In a few cases I may know the face, but not the name. Will someone please tell me whether those with * after their names were known fans on 9-1-75 so I can count their votes? They did not provide a reference and I may be embarrassed to learn that it was assumed that I knew them. If you wish to challenge anyone listed, please do so NOW or forever hold your peace.

FINANCES - DUFF is totally dependant on the generosity of fans. Money comes in in four ways: 1) Donations with ballots have ranged up to \$25, 2) Contributions from non-voters, bid-

ding committees and con cons have come in throughout the year.
3) Auctions have been great and will continue, probably at Mini-
con, Marcon, Kwintus Kublius, Disclave, Midwestcon, Autoclave,
Silvercon... (you may donate auction items at the cons or by mail-
ing them here) and 4) Sale of DUFF trip reports (see ballot) has
brought in a little; I have few copies of "Emu Tracks" to sell
at conventions, but mail orders should go to Leigh Edmonds.

OBSERVATIONS - There were 232 voters in the '74 DUFF race won
by Leigh Edmonds and 212 in the '75 balloting which left me the
grateful winner. Both of those campaigns were conducted mainly
through and in fanzines. Last year I thought that if convention
fans knew more about DUFF they would support it as strongly as
the fanziners had. My campaign was mostly at cons, plus one of
these letters and whatever help (unknown to me) was volunteered
by fanzines. Same this time! In '76 there were only 105 bal-
lots, but we raised close to the same amount of money as we did
in '75. I don't know how many votes to expect this year, but it
looks fine down at the bank. There is more than \$1,000 in the
account already, so the winner should have his travel expenses
over the water fully paid and be able to use whatever they have
raised Down Under for his expenses during his visit. Con fans
seem to put up more cash per ballot, while a fanzine campaign is
likely to produce more ballots. Perhaps there is a moral in all
this for next year's administrators. A strong thrust both ways?
One more thing...names on two ballots were not listed because in
both cases the donation was only \$1 and thus under the require-
ment for eligibility.

This newsletter, to aid the DOWN UNDER FAN
FUND goal of improving the ties of friendship between sf fans in
North America and those in Australia and New Zealand, is done on
3-15-77 and comes to you from

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