

NEWS  
WHILE  
IT'S  
HOT!

# FANTASY-NEWS

the science fiction weekly newspaper.

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TEN  
CENTS.

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WHOLE NUMBER 121

## MANY FAMOUS FANS IN BALTIMORE S. F. LEAGUE.

To George Wetzel, Secretary of the Baltimore Chapter of the SFL we are indebted for the following information concerning his chapter.

Meetings are held at the home of Fredric Arnold Kummer, Jr., well known stf author, once a month, the night of the meeting being the first Friday.

Members enrolled are: Frederic Arnold Kummer, Jr., (Director), George Wetzel (Secretary), Virginia Kidd, Alan Marriner, Dr. Dick Dodson (of Hopkins), Henry Andrew Ackerman, Robert Ward, Leonard Baker, Joseph Kummer, Leif Ericson, "Scotty" (can this be a pooch? ED.), and Will Keane.

The majority of the list are known individuals in their own right. Frederic Kummer is a pro-writer; Bob "Swoney" Ward attempted to start the SFL in this city, Virginia Kidd is considered to be the first female actively engaged in science-fiction; Henry Andrew Ackerman is a cousin to the famous 4sj Ackerman; Doc Dodson is engaged in serious sub-atomic research at Hopkins; each of the others have some good, outstanding characteristic (except me and I wont talk) but we'll pass that by for the present.

Our last meeting of September 6th was an unusually technical one; the real discussion didn't get under way until Marriner and his freind Doc came drifting in about 9:15. Doc had the entire group (except for certain local cynics) snowed under with some deep mathematical stuff concerning the laws of (con'd P.2)

### TWO NEW FAN MAGS MAKE DEBUT!!!

The Universal Hound, a new fan mag published by George Wetzel, 3108 Woodland Ave, Baltimore, Md., will "feature stories by aspiring writers for the most part, plus some professional material". The editor will encourage and endeavor to discover new talent. Already on hand is material by Frederic Arnold Kummer, Jr., Henry Andrew Ackerman, Virginia Mildred Kidd, Harry Warner, Jr., Sam Moskowitz, Gene Alfred Duane, and others. Fantastic material of all kinds is warmly welcomed. Contributors will receive a free copy of the issue in which their material appears.

Cosmic Argosy, another new fan mag edited by Blaine R. Dunnire, will be ready for distribution during the week of Nov 24. The staff of FANTASY NEWS, as well as the entire science fiction fan field, has been invited to contribute articles of science fictional interest. All fiction contributed must embrace the cosmos. Stories of more than 1000 words will not be accepted unless of exceptional worth. Articles may be on any subject, but should not exceed 1500 words. Humorous articles will be welcomed, but they must be funny without being slapstick. All new material should be addressed to the Editor at 108 Maple St, Charleroi, Pa.

MENTION FN IN ALL YOUR LETTERS!!!!

FANTASY NEWS is published every week by William S. Sykora.

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NOTE: Please make all checks and money-orders payable to Will Sykora.

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B O O S T    S C I E N C E    F I C T I O N  
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EDITORIAL by Will Sykora.

Having known the founders of the Fantasy Amateur Press Ass'n. very well at the time of its founding, this writer can speak with authority in stating that that club was formed for the implied if not openly avowed purpose of discouraging or even abolishing the publication of subscription fan mags, replacing them with "amateur pubs" distributed free in the club's mailings. That the FAPA has failed in this purpose, and was doomed to fail so, became evident when publishers of then current subscription mags published mediocre one- or two-sheets for distribution in the mailings. Apparently science fiction fans do not believe in the free giving away of their publishing work (with a very few notable exceptions); but, like all true hobbyists, feel that the best hobby of all is the one that pays its way, not to make a profit, mind you, but at the least to cover expenses.

The fact that many fan mags, notably the mimeed ones, do cover expenses, and even show a small though quite negligible profit, is a remarkably good sign of the worthiness of this hobby. If the products of your hobby have to be "given away", can they be worth very much? As a means of self-expression such a gratis hobby may be worthwhile, but how much more worthwhile is a hobby the results of which have an intrinsic worth to others.

Therefore, rather than condemn the appearance of new fan mags, this writer welcomes them (next co.)

BALTIMORE SFL CON'D: probability. The haranguing went on into some arguments about infinities. After a while the group split up into separate factions, each discussing various subjects, some on the science in current stories, others quibbling on some mighty tough theories. During the course of the meeting two of the members, namely Len Baker and Bob Ward, retired to a corner and pursued a chess game, Bob being the winner after a fast two hour game; I know because I looked on. Now you might think this way of conducting meetings very strange and you would be right in a way. But this is the customary way with us. No reading of the minutes of past meetings, no gavel rapping. In fact the entire affair is extremely informal.

Our meetings are nothing more than round table discussions. One thing of major importance happened; Will Keane was suggested as a new member. Of course he was accepted on the spot of letting the new member decide for himself whether or not he prefers to stay in the group. Nor is there any politics practiced by any one member, I would be right in stating that each member is looking out for the whole group while the same formula is practiced by everyone else. Naturally squabbles are exceedingly rare.

SCIENTIFILMS by Mario Racic, Jr.

The 55th St PLAYHOUSE will revive the old famous fantastic film, "The Cabinet Of Dr. Caligari" beginning October 11th.

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EDITORIAL Cont'd; because they are sure signs of the expansion of this truly fascinating hobby of science fiction. FANTASY NEWS will do everything it can toward furthering the interests of these fan magazines, and invites their editors to use these columns to inform the science fiction world IN ADVANCE of the plans, policies, and future material which will find a place on their page of contents.

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SCIENCE FICTION MAGS FOR SALE! Send stamp for list to editor of FN.  
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