

NEWS
WHILE
IT'S
HOT!

FANTASY-NEWS

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BOSKONE AUCTION

BRINGS HIGH PRICES

STRANGER CLUB PROMOTES WELL-ATTENDED BOSTON CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 22.

ART WIDNER, Jr. REVEALS HIS FOUR MONTH MARRIAGE TO MISS RUTH CASHIN

Approximately 25 stfans attended the Second Annual Boston Science Fiction Conference, the Boskone, on Sunday, February 22, 1942 at the Ritz-Plaza Halls, Boston, Mass. Bob Jones of Columbus, Ohio and Joe Gilbert, Lee Eastman, and Harry Jenkins, Jr. all of Columbia, South Carolina, came from the greatest distance. Jack Speer represented Washington, D.C. Charles Hidley and Mr. and Mrs. Will Sykora represented the Queens SFL of New York. Bob Madle, Rusty Barron, came from Philadelphia for the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society. Gert Kuslan came from West Haven, Conn. And the Stranger Club of Boston and Cambridge, Mass was well represented by its members Harry Stubbs, Jr., A. L. Schwartz, John Vazakas, L. Lopez, J.L. Lazar, Bob Swisher, Art Winder, Jr., Chan Davis, Tom Gardner.

The Science Fiction Auction brought nearly \$25. A Finlay colored cover brought the highest bid of \$5.25 by A. L. Schwartz. A small black and white Finlay brought the phenomenal sum of \$2.50. This was bought by Rusty Barron. Will Sykora and Bob Jones paid the next highest sum: \$2 for a large Paul and a large Rogers. Prices then ranged all the way down to 5¢ paid by Joe Gilbert for a Fuqua. Two Dolds sold for 75¢ and 65¢ respectively and would have brought far more had they been better known. Lone Kyle sold for 55¢, a Hunt for 30¢, and a Forte for 45¢. Bidding was at all times spirited, and buyers had to fight hard for their (P2C2)

EIGHT NEW MEMBERS

JOIN QUEENS SCIENCE

FICTION LEAGUE MAR. L.

On Sunday, March 1, 1942, the Queens Science Fiction League held its largest meeting in many months. Twenty members and visitors were present, and eight of the latter, all regular science fiction readers, joined the chapter. The register was signed in the following order: Thomas S. Gardner, C. Hidley, Harry Harrison, Robert G. Thompson, Anthony Ahearn, Alvin Brown, Don D. Patterson, Daniel S. Ahearn, Stanley Crandon, Mr. and Mrs. Mario Ratico, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Will Sykora, Eddy Schlossberg, Melvin Siegel, Abraham Oshinsky, Rose Alberti, Frank J. Moroff, Leonard S. Grunberg, and Judy Oppenheim.

After the meeting was called to order and the minutes read, the stfans present held an open and lively discussion on how each had first come to read science fiction. Two had been attracted by covers, one of WEIRD and the other of TWS. Two had been attracted by the titles of Science Wonder and Dynamic Science. The fathers of two introduced them to stf, and the friends of four lent them mags to read. One was attracted by the low price of ASTONISHING after having read detective and western fiction. The remainder - two graduated from Science and Invention to the old Gorncs back AMAZING, and the rest first began by browsing round the second hand book stores and then got a yen for the current stuff.

ASTOUNDING, THRILLING WONDER, AMAZING, and SUPERSCIENCE seemed to be the favorite mags, though many read all that appear on the stands, and every mag was represented by at least one enthusiast.

A feature of the meeting (P.2C1.)

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BOOST SCIENCE FICTION

EDITORIAL by Will Sykora.

Well, folks, here we are back again. How long we'll stay, no one knows. The war has taken away our Saturdays and some of our evenings, Two Sundays a month we study Esperanto, a Queens Science Fiction League project and the third Sunday we attend Queens SFL meetings, leaving one divine Sunday "free". Now you see how it is. We'll keep 'em coming as often as we can, and we might just as well be realistic and admit that weekly publication is almost a dream. However, we'll keep it in the title so that we can retain the trade-mark, as it were, and when this is all over and back to normal, we can again expect weekly publication.

QUEENS SFL Cont'd: were the two Denvention recordings made by Walt Daugherty in Denver at the 1941 World Stf Convention, and loaned for the meeting by Will Sykora. The larger record contained the voices of many well known stfans commenting on some of the Denvention fan mags. The smaller record was a report of the recent Fantasy Amateur Press Association elections by Milton A. Rothman, vice president.

Thomas S. Gardner, author and old-time fan, spoke encouragingly of the work the Queens Chapter is doing, and suggested ways to promote the interest and entertainment value of the program.

As usual, several original illustrations, fan mags, comic first editions, and other items of interest were raffled off. One of the new members won the free door prize.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

BOSKONE Cont'd: choices.

Art Widner, Jr. revealed that he a married man of four months standing, having married Miss Ruth Gashin on October 12, 1941. They are now living in Quincy, Mass. Art met his bride-to-be in 1938 when he purchased a typewriter at her place of business, where she was employed. The acceptance of a yarn of Art's by LEIRD in March 1941 which he had sent in at about the time of meeting, decided things, and when the check arrived, they were married.

Jack Speer requested the conference to discuss the coming Wrold stf Convention. The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society holds some doubt of the feasibility of holding the Pacificon owing to the war situation, although they feel they can put it across. They are not certain of fan support in one case, and the possiblity of government intervention (limitation of rail trips) in another. Speer announced the LASFS will circulate a questionnaire to obtain a cross-section of fan feeling, and if the fans desire, the Pacificon will be abandoned in favor of a mid-western or eastern convention. Philadelphia and New York fans put in a strong bid for Philly as the convention city if LA plans fall through, and promised a large Philly conference after the Pacificon if it is held.

The Sykoras and Charles Hidley were entertained by Mrs. Irene Gardner, Tom Gardner's mother, who was very kind to the New Yorkers.

Art Widner, Jack Speer, Bob Jones, and several other fans saw Gert Kuslan and the New York fans off on the excursion train at South Station shortly after midnight Monday morning.

One of the most enjoyable events of the Boskone was the pseudo-stf play "Legions Of Legions" written by Lou Chauvenet and adapted by Art Widner. Saro Leeth, the heroine, played by Harry Stubbs was a scream. Tom Gardner, who played Smiles Babbledroola, and Bob Swisher, whose role was that of Oohiee, assistant monster, were simply hilarious. A copy of AMAZING was the monster's weapon.