

SCIENTIFICTION

A publication of **FIRST FANDOM**, the Dinosaurs of Science Fiction

New Series #40, 2nd Quarter 2014

The World Science Fiction Convention

Free memberships are available for members of the 1939 and 1957 Worldcons. For more information: http://loncon3.org/members_from39and57.php.

The First Fandom Awards will be presented on August 14th during the Retro Hugo Awards Ceremony.

Remembering Frederik Pohl

“Elizabeth Anne Hull has announced that a memorial service will be held on August 2 for family, friends and fans to celebrate the life and career of Science Fiction Grand Master Frederik Pohl (1919–2013), award-winning author, editor and fan writer; influential literary agent; futurist; lecturer, and member of First Fandom, whose career began in the Pulp Era and continued until his death last year. The free event will be held at the Wojcik Conference Center, William Harper Rainey College (1200 W. Algonquin Road, Bldg. W, Palatine, IL 60067), and will include a program of speakers with a reception to follow. For details, visit www.thewaythefutureblogs.com.”

The Return of AMAZING STORIES

Steve Davidson of *Amazing Stories* writes: “The world’s first science fiction magazine, *Amazing Stories*, makes a triumphant return on April 1st with a special 88th anniversary issue. Founded in 1926 by Hugo Gernsback, the man known as the

Father of Science Fiction, the new version of the magazine will continue the tradition of publishing both big names and newcomers to the genre. This magazine presentation of *Amazing Stories* follows its January 2013 return as a multi-author blog featuring commentary, reviews, interviews galleries and essays.

Fiction and non-fiction will be published during the month of April with a new story or article appearing approximately every three days. At the end of the month, the contents will be bundled together, formatted and offered as an E-zine in a variety of popular formats. If reception of the new issue proves to be popular, the publishers contemplate making a special print edition available.”

Necrology

We are saddened to report the recent passing of some friends: Fred D. Brammer, Richard Coogan, Al Feldstein, H.R. Giger, Peter Ruber, Hilbert Schenck, Lorenzo Semple Jr., Lucius Shepard, Mary Stewart.

Seventy-Five Years Ago this Summer

In this issue we celebrate one of the most important events in the history of science fiction fandom: the 1939 World Science Fiction Convention!

Closing

We are seeking your letters, book reviews, photographs, articles, news items and convention reports to publish in future issues. Thank you!

Remembering 75 Years Ago: The First World Science Fiction Convention!

Forrest J Ackerman

"It had never occurred to me that at a World Science Fiction Convention everybody wouldn't come as future men from Frank R. Paul paintings or vampires or something. The science fiction lady fan of the day who used the name "Morojo" in Esperanto, made a futuristic costume for me. It was like Clark Kent when he steps into the telephone booth and comes out as Superman. When I got into that costume, I walked the streets of New York with little children crying out that it was Flash Gordon or Buck Rogers.



4SJ Ackerman

(Photograph provided by Robert A. Madle)

I went out to the World's Fair, and I had never spoken on a microphone, particularly in public. But, there was a platform and they were inviting people to address the world in their native language. So I went up to the microphone and, in Esperanto I explained that I was a time traveler from the future, where we all spoke this international language. As long as I was in that futuristic costume I had enough nerve to perform."

Ray Bradbury

"I had heard of the convention coming up, and I went to Forry and said, "I'd love to go to that convention and meet all of those famous people, but I can't afford the Greyhound bus." He loaned me ninety dollars and I headed out for New York. I traveled for four days and four nights cross-country with no air conditioning and no toilets. I arrived in New York City where I stayed at the YMCA for five dollars a week. It took me a year and a half to pay back the money that Forry had lent me. Being at the Convention was tremendously exciting. I got to meet Edmond Hamilton, Jack Williamson, John W. Campbell, and Mort Weisinger (who bought my second story)."



Front, L-R: Ray Bradbury, Leo P. Margulies. Rear, L- R: Manly Wade Wellman, Mort Weisinger, Erle M. Korshak

(Photograph by Conrad H. Ruppert)

David A. Kyle

"It was Sam's youthful enthusiasm that helped put together New Fandom, which made possible the bid for the 1939 Convention. Sam knew that it was essential to convince the professionals and magazine editors that there was a group who was capable of holding this convention. Sam needed their

support and needed professionals to attend. There was fragmentation among fans in the Metropolitan area, and many of them didn't get along. It was due to Sam's persistence that the first World Science Fiction Convention was held and was successful. This was one of Sam's biggest contributions to the field.



L-R: Ed Hamilton, Otto Binder, Oswald Train (behind Hamilton is David A. Kyle)
(Photograph by Conrad H. Ruppert)

I went to the 1939 World's Fair in New York City that summer many times. I was working for several weekly newspapers in upstate New York, and I had a press pass. A central attraction that stimulated my imagination was the General Motors Futurama. It was a marvelous experience, like being transported by a time machine into a future that existed, and that is why it was so immensely popular."

Frederik Pohl

"In the late 1930s, Donald Wollheim took notice of the fact that New York City was planning a great World's Fair for the year 1939. His genius was to realize that, among those millions of invading mundanes, there surely would be a tiny, but priceless, fraction of fans. Donald pointed out that if only New York fandom could get itself together long enough to put on some kind of a con that summer,

it could likely attract enough visiting fans in among that invading horde to constitute what would surely be the hugest and farthest-flung sf convention ever imagined---even one that could rightfully be called the first-ever World Science Fiction Convention."

Sam Moskowitz

"Initially, we were going to hold the Convention on the grounds of the World's Fair. But they said that anyone who was going to attend would have to pay seventy-five cents admission for each day that they attended. The guest of honor at the World Convention was an artist, Frank R. Paul. It is unusual, when you stop to think about it, that of all the famous authors alive at that time we selected an artist as the guest of honor. It was unanimous. Frank R. Paul epitomized everything about science fiction."

Lloyd A. Eshbach

"I remember getting to meet Forry Ackerman, who came from California in his futuristic suit. Conrad H. Ruppert took a picture of me walking down the street in New York with Manly Wade Wellman. I recall that at the Convention there were a great many speeches being made. I had the guts to stand up and say that I came here for science fiction and not a political rally, and they shut up."

Erle M. Korshak

"In 1939, we were young at heart, young in body as well as in mind. We had come from various parts of the country, however we could. I had come from Chicago. Several of us, including Morojo, Ray Bradbury, Mark Reinsberg and me went with

Forry to meet some editors and famous people in the field. We went to the offices of *The American Weekly*, and A. Merritt was very gracious. We also went to the offices of *Weird Tales*, and met the editor, Farnsworth Wright. He took us into his office and let us sit down. Ray then brought out the portfolio of drawings by Hannes Bok that he had carried all the way from the west coast. This resulted in the career of one of the most famous and finest artists that ever graced this field.”



Coney Island – Rear, L-R: V. Kidwell, Robert A. Madle, Erle M. Korshak, Ray Bradbury. Front, L-R: Mark Reinsberg, Jack Agnew, Ross Rocklyne.
(Photograph provided by Robert A. Madle)

Julius Schwartz

“One of the things that I was looking forward to at the first World Science Fiction Convention was the meeting between two prominent letter writers. They had letters in every issue of the science fiction magazines. One of them used various pen names to make sure that he could get into print. That fellow was Forrest J Ackerman, and he lived in California. The other one lived in Chicago, and his name was Jack Darrow. I introduced these two letter writers to each other. I had them shake hands, and asked Conrad H. Ruppert to take a photograph of them. I saw Jack Williamson and L.

Sprague de Camp being stopped by a seventeen-year-old kid who had the nerve to ask for their autographs.



L-R: Jack Darrow, Forrest J Ackerman (Behind Forry's chin is Mark Reinsberg)
(Photograph by Conrad H. Ruppert)

I didn't attend the last day of the Convention because Mort Weisinger, Otto Binder and I took off and went to Yankee Stadium. A very special thing happened that afternoon: Lou Gherig announced his retirement from the game of baseball. There wasn't a dry eye in the house. It's something I will never forget.”

Jack Williamson

“Convention management, including maybe Sam, had left out the Futurian group. I spent the morning with them across the street. I met people like Fred Pohl, Cyril Kornbluth, Don Wollheim and others. I had a good time with them, and found them bright and interesting. Meeting Fred at the Convention was an event that really changed my life.

The Futurians did have radical ideas; but they sincerely wanted a better world, and were willing to look at anything. I benefited considerably by meeting them and getting to know them that morning. Those were the great old days. It was really very difficult to make a living of any sort as a pulp writer, but we got to know a lot of people and the Convention was my introduction.”

OBITUARIES***Fred D. Brammer***

“Fred Dennis Brammer, 86, died of congestive heart failure on August 18, 2013 at his home in McLean, Virginia. Mr. Brammer was born and raised in Charlotte, NC before serving in the Army in the Pacific during World War II. In 1951, after graduating from the University of North Carolina with a degree in Geology, he moved to Washington, DC. He worked for the Federal Government for over thirty-seven years, first, at the Army Map Service, then at the Federal Power Commission and finally at the Department of Energy. During that time, he testified before Congress as an expert witness on natural gas reserves and received two Outstanding Achievement Awards.



Fred and Cecilia Brammer
(Photograph © 2009 by Scott Edelman)

Mr. Brammer was an avid Science Fiction enthusiast and First Fandom member. He was instrumental in getting the pilot episode of Star Trek into the Smithsonian Museum, which led to a private tour for him and his family of the Star Trek set in 1968.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-nine years, Cecilia, 84, and his son, Eric, 50, who resides in New York, NY.”

(The Washington Post - Dec. 22, 2013)

Andrew Porter remembers, “I first met Fred at my first Worldcon, Discon 1 in 1963, and I saw him at most Worldcons I attended through the years, but he was conspicuously absent at LoneStarCon. Now I know why. Fred was a really nice guy and I will miss him.”

Letter from Cecilia Brammer, dated March 26, 2014: “Fred’s ashes were interred in Arlington National Cemetery on April 24th. There was a small reception following the service at the adjoining Fort Myer’s Officer’s Club. I’m enclosing a copy of the obituary that was sent to our local paper. If you would include it in your newsletter, I would be most grateful, since some of his friends may not know of his passing.”

Richard Coogan (b.1914)

“Richard Coogan died on March 12, less than a month before his 100th birthday. In 1949, Coogan was cast in the lead role for *Captain Video and His Video Rangers*, which shot live in New York while Coogan was appearing on Broadway in *Diamond Lil* during the evenings. Coogan left the show in 1950, citing low budgets and poor scripts, and was replaced by Al Hodge. Coogan also appeared on the Westerns *The Californians* and *Laramie*.”

(From SF Site News – March 13, 2014)

Al Feldstein (b.1925)

“Al Feldstein died on April 29. Feldstein is best known as the editor of *MAD Magazine* from 1956-1985. He got his start freelancing artwork for Fox Comics before being hired by EC Comics in 1948, where he began as an artist, started writing, and became an editor, publishing work

by Otto Binder, Daniel Keyes, and Harlan Ellison. Feldstein was inducted into the Will Eisner Award Hall of Fame in 2003 and received a Bram Stoker Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.”

(From SF Site News – May 1, 2014)

H.R. Giger (b.1940)

“Swiss artist H. R. Giger died on May 12. He was a surrealist painter, sculptor, and set designer, perhaps best known for his design of the creature from *Alien*. Known for a dark, Gothic style, Giger published the books *Necronomicon* and *Necronomicon II* and had his work appear in *Omni* and other places.

He was hired by Alejandro Jodorowsky to help with the design of Jodorowsky’s failed effort to bring *Dune* to the screen. There is a museum devoted to Giger’s works in Gruyères. He was elected to the Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame in 2013.”

(From SF Site News – May 13, 2014)

Peter Ruber (1940-2014)

“The Australian-born author, editor and critic who was editor at Arkham House 1997-2004 and edited collections by H. Russell Wakefield and Seabury Quinn for Ash-Tree Press, died on 6 March.”

(Reprinted from Ansible 321 – April 2014)

Hilbert Schenck

“Author and Hugo nominee Hilbert Schenck (b.1926) died on December 2, 2013. Schenck began publishing science fiction in the April 1953 issue of *Fantasy and Science Fiction* with his story “Tomorrow’s Weather.” He went on to publish stories and novels

into the 1990s, being nominated for the Hugo and Nebula Awards for his short fiction (his stories “The Battle of the Abaco Reefs” and “The Geometry of Narrative” appeared on both ballots for the years they came out). Hilbert Schenck worked as an engineer and taught at the University of Rhode Island.”

(From SF Site News – April 28, 2014)

Lorenzo Semple Jr. (1923-2014)

“US screenwriter whose films include *King Kong* (1976 remake), *Flash Gordon* (1980) and *Never Say Never Again* (1983), died on 28 March aged 91; his most utterly memorable contribution to SF was the 1960s Adam West *Batman* TV series.”

(Reprinted from Ansible 321 – April 2014)

Lucius Shepard

“Author Lucius Shepard (b.1947) died on March 18. Shepard began publishing in 1983 and his first novel, *Green Eyes*, appeared the following year. He won the Campbell Award for new author in 1985, a Nebula Award for his story “R&R,” a Hugo for “Barnacle Bill the Spacer,” and the World Fantasy Award twice, both times for collections.”

(From SF Site News – March 20, 2014)

Mary Stewart (b.1916)

“Author Mary Stewart died on May 10. Stewart was best known for her Arthurian fantasies -- *The Crystal Cave* (1970), *The Hollow Hills* (1973) and *The Last Enchantment* (1976), but also wrote many other novels, including children’s books. Her novel *The Moon-Spinners* was made into a film by Walt Disney.”

(From SF Site News – May 15, 2014)

A Short History of the Colorado Fantasy Society (by Robert C. Peterson)

I found the 1933 *Wonder Stories* in Ft. Collins, Colorado when I was 12 years old and living in Laramie, Wyoming. During the next two years I found a few *Amazing* and *Astounding Stories* in a neighbor's basement. With the April 1935 *Wonder Stories* the pulps had come to Laramie. Over the next 6 years I would buy various issues and then advertise them in *Amazing* and resell them. This was enough proof at the time to get me into First Fandom.

I finished college in 1942 and almost immediately went into the Army. I received six weeks of training in finance at Maxwell Field, Alabama and was then sent to Ft. Meyers, Florida for 2 years. Then I was sent to Panama City, Florida where I had the chance to visit Raymond Washington at the nearby town of Live Oak. From there I was sent to Ft. Harrison, Indiana for three months where I visited Bob Tucker.

After the war ended, I was sent to Las Vegas Army Air Field which allowed me to attend LASFA meetings on a few weekends. This gave me the opportunity to meet Forrest Ackerman and several other fans. In February 1946, I arrived at Lowry Field in Denver and after being discharged decided I would live there. I looked up Chuck Hansen, whose name I had gotten in Los Angeles and ended up going to meetings that also included Roy Hunt and Stan Mullen.

The Colorado Fantasy Society had started in 1939 and put on the Denvention Worldcon in 1941. The committee to put on the convention

included Lew Martin, Roy Hunt, and Olon Wiggins. At the time, Chuck Hansen, with his father, was raising minks in Washington State. He moved back to Denver after the war but Olon went missing for a while. We started having meetings most Saturday nights still calling ourselves the Colorado Fantasy Society. I had majored in Statistics in college but ended up working for a trucking company in Denver. I had noticed a letter in one of the pulps from a soldier at Lowry and after contacting him, Jim Fee joined our group. He then brought three other members into the group.

In 1950, Stan Mullen, who had been living in Denver moved to back to Colorado Springs. About this time Olon Wiggins also appeared back on the scene and rejoined us. That gave us four regular members (Chuck, Roy, Olon, and me) to meet most Saturday evenings. We would meet at one of the four of our houses and occasionally soldiers from Lowry would also attend.

In 1952, a fellow employee and I were able to buy the trucking company we worked for, starting a new chapter of my life. During this time we would visit Stan Mullen in Colorado Springs and got the chance to meet with Bob Heinlein who lived there. In 1954, I married a woman who I had met through the Colorado Mountain Club. She did not share my interest in science fiction but all four of my sons have become big fans.

Stan Mullen was writing short stories during this period and a number got into *Astounding* and *Planet*. He also wrote a novel in the style of A.

Merritt. His wife died of an aneurism and he ended up marrying a friend of both he and his wife and moving to Reno. He and his wife both worked and he continued writing. About 1960 Olon left our group but we gained new members including Bob Alvis, Norm Metcalf, and Caz. Caz went on to form the group DASFA which we all joined. This group ended up meeting once a month at a bank and later started an annual convention in Denver called the Mile High Con.

In 1981, DASFA was the driving force in bringing the Worldcon to Denver and Bob Alvis was the treasurer. It was also during this period that Norm Metcalf spent time collecting short stories that were science fiction settings for Sherlock Holmes stories. It was called "The Science Fictional Sherlock Holmes."

In the 1970's Emile Greenleaf joined the group. He also married a woman he met in the Colorado Mountain Club. The early 1980's saw the death of Chuck Hansen as well as Emile Greenleaf, so meetings became less frequent. For a while Roy and I and an artist friend of his would meet on Wednesdays at noon and he would fix lunch. Roy died in the mid-1980's and for the next few years I visited his wife once a week in a nursing home.

Bob Alvis lives in Pahrump, Nevada, and Norm Metcalf is living in Boulder, Colorado, last I knew. I kept up my membership in DASFA until 2008. I am currently in an independent living facility in Denver and doing quite well for a person of 92. And that is a short history of the Colorado Fantasy Society.



L-R: Robert A. Heinlein (at podium), Olon Wiggins, Walter J. Daugherty, Maribeth Wheeler - Third Worldcon (Denver, 1941).
(Photograph provided by Walter J. Daugherty)



L-R: Olon Wiggins, Virgil Finlay
(Photograph provided by Robert A. Madle)



L-R: Chuck Hanson, Robert C. Peterson, Roy V. Hunt and Emile Greenleaf. Colorado Fantasy Society (late-1970s)
(Photograph provided by Robert C. Peterson)

IN OTHER NEWS***Retro-Hugo Award Nominees for 1939***

Among the nominees announced recently by Loncon3 for “Best Fanzine” was *Fantascience Digest*, edited by our own Robert A. Madle!

Hodgson Papers to Eaton

“Jane and Howard Frank have donated their collection of papers by William Hope Hodgson to the Eaton Collection at University of Riverside. The collection once belonged to Sam Moskowitz and includes letters, photos and unpublished stories.”

(From SF Site News – April 15, 2014)

Fantasy Amateur Press Association

FAPA member John L. Coker III has submitted a third volume of *Stories from the First Fandom Archives*, featuring articles by Forry Ackerman, Ray Harryhausen, David A. Kyle, Len J. Moffatt and Julius Schwartz.

Announcing the 12th Annual Rondo Hatton Classic Horror Awards

“The winners of the Rondo Hatton Classic Horror Awards (honoring the best in classic horror research, creativity and film preservation) for work in 2013 have been announced. Nearly 3,400 e-mail votes were cast in the poll conducted by the Classic Horror Film Board. The 35-category ballot is the largest survey of the classic horror genre held each year.”

Of particular interest are the awards for **Documentary Feature**, given in recognition of *The Ackermanmonster Chronicles*, directed by Jason Brock; and, **Best Article**, for “A Bradbury Homecoming” by Terry Pace, which appeared in *Famous Monsters #268*.

(Reprinted from File 770 – May 13, 2014)

Spielberg’s New Bradbury TV Pilot

“The Whispers, a story of alien invasion, is coming to ABC as a one-hour drama pilot starring *American Horror Story*’s Lily Rabe. The projected series, formerly known as *The Visitors* and *Forever*, is based on Ray Bradbury’s short story “Zero Hour” in which aliens use children to help with their invasion.”

(From File 770 (May 15th) – With thanks to John King Tarpinian for the story)

2001: A Space Odyssey Being Restored

“The 1969 Hugo-winning film’s screenplay was written by Kubrick and Arthur C. Clarke, telling the story of encounters between humans and black monoliths, a conflicted computer and a voyage to Jupiter. The British Film Institute will release a digitally re-mastered Warner Bros. version on November 28th as part of its science fiction film blockbuster season, which starts in October.”

(From The Science Fact & Science Fiction Concatenation – Summer 2014)

New Contact Information for Members**George H. Jones, M.D.**

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Phillips Wins TAFF

“Curt Phillips has been declared the winner of the Eastbound TAFF Race this year and will attend Loncon 3 as the North American delegate.”

(From SF Site News – April 24, 2014)

CONVENTION REPORT

(By Joe Martino)

Millennicon 28 (March 14-16)

This is a regional convention held annually near Cincinnati. Here are some of the highlights.

Marvel vs. DC Comics

In the Marvel Universe, characters can interact. They are all science-based. Marvel started out with a bunch of characters that didn't preclude each other. DC started out with a bunch of individual characters in different universes. The back story for each is different, and they don't really mesh. DC and Marvel own the copyrights, but we own the stories. They are messing with our folklore. When the culture changes, the writers update the "origin story" of each character. For instance, Spiderman is no longer the result of radiation, but of genetic engineering. We no longer fear radiation, we now fear genetic engineering.

The Walking Dead

Zombie stories are now very popular. Interest in zombies seems to have arisen after 9/11. Zombies are stand-ins for terrorists who can't be stopped and want to kill us, and the people in charge are acting stupidly instead of solving the problem. Zombies, like terrorists, are mindless unstoppable killing machines who can't be reasoned with. The movie ZOMBIELAND was a play on loneliness. People cut themselves off from anyone who might turn on them, or who might slow them down. In THE WALKING DEAD no one makes even the blackest of jokes. In ZOMBIELAND, humor is used to

relieve the tension. When zombies are the result of a disease, the rest of the people deal with epidemiology, transmission, isolation, quarantine, etc. You can't argue with a virus.

Fantasy vs. Dark Fantasy vs. Horror

These are really marketing terms intended to help readers find what they're looking for. The old *Weird Tales* magazine carried all three kinds of stories without distinction, and was a catchall for everything that wasn't science fiction. Horror stories usually involve something invading a normal world. Reality is violated in some way. Fantasy stories involve worlds in which some element of the fantastic already exists and is considered part of the world. It is part of reality.

More Than Just Black Hats

What's the difference between the protagonist and the antagonist? The antagonist thinks he's the protagonist. A successful story humanizes the antagonist.

And Then All the Scientists Groaned

All but one member of this panel had advanced science degrees. SF movies have degenerated to dumb animals chased by dumb people. What did some of those animals eat? How come you have so many apex predators without explaining how they eat? Moviemakers extrapolate scale. Just because an ant can carry so much more than its own mass, doesn't mean it can be extrapolated to human size. If you shrunk a human, the hemoglobin would have to shrink, but the oxygen doesn't shrink, so a shrunken human couldn't breathe.

DESTINATION MOON was technically good except that there is no way a single-stage rocket using chemical fuel could make the round trip. STAR TREK took current sociological issues and transplanted them to other places. It really didn't have much in the way of science. THE BOYS FROM BRAZIL got the science of cloning right. JOSHUA, SON OF NONE portrays an attempt to clone JFK. THE ISLAND didn't get cloning right, but dealt honestly with the ethics of cloning entire individuals to have their organs harvested. A clone has to develop from the zygote. The clone has to grow through childhood to adulthood. You can't produce a clone of the same age as an existing person.

Have the Meek Inherited Sol III?

The panel was really about geekery and how people get into it. To what extent has "our way of life" been adopted by the rest of society? It's now acceptable to admit being a Science Fiction fan, but there are degrees. Convention going is still a bit geeky. Is there a difference between Fantasy Football and science fiction games? Would the addicts of the former look down on addicts of the latter? Children today don't necessarily feel the same pain we did when we were the oddballs in school, pain that helped shape us. Is fandom a place where the oddballs can feel at home? Fandom is one of the few places where people are accepted for the content of their character, not for other things. Society really needs to become more like us. However, there are still differences: STAR TREK vs. Babylon Five; gamers vs. readers, etc.

President's Recommended Reading List

Game of Thrones: A Pop-up Guide to Westeros. (Paper Engineering by Matthew Reinhart, illustrations by Michael Komarck). "This deluxe pop-up book folds out into a 46" x 30" map of five stunning spreads and over thirty amazing pops." Published by Insight Editions, P.O. Box 3088, San Rafael, CA 94912. ISBN: 978-60887-314-2. \$65. For information, please visit www.insighteditions.com.

Ray Bradbury's Former Home for Sale

"For more than fifty years, the house at 10265 Cheviot Drive, Los Angeles was home to Ray Bradbury, one of the most celebrated, beloved authors of our time. This charming traditional features a grand living room with soaring vaulted ceilings, classic brick fireplace, large bay window, original hardwood floors, custom built-ins; formal dining room with detailed crown moldings, expertly crafted wainscoting and wood shuttered windows; 3 generously sized guest bedrooms; maid's quarters on the main floor; expansive grounds with a large yard where one can retreat to outdoors in a secluded environment, and a spacious basement where the author chose to write daily." (Asking \$1.5M - Redfin Real Estate Agents.)

We Get Letters

From Mary Lu Lockhart (March 18):

"Arthur Clarke was the final answer on Jeopardy tonight! And both contestants knew it!"

We also received letters from several of our other members, including Paul McCall, Jack Robins, Joseph Wrzos, Steve & Sue Francis, David A. Kyle and Mary Ellen Daugherty. Thanks!

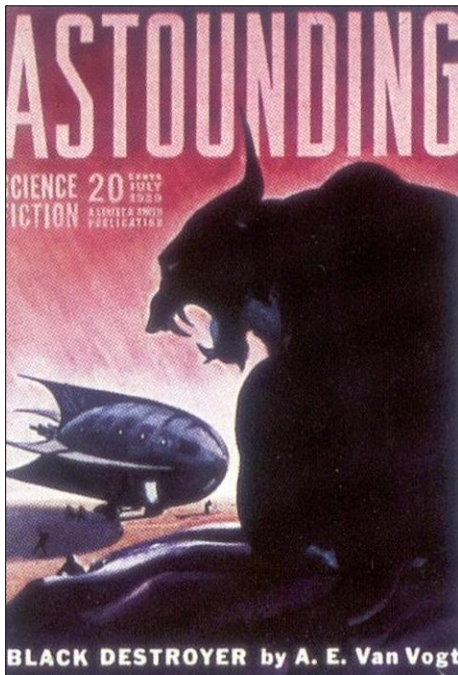
Annual First Fandom Dues Notice

The dues year is July 1 to June 30 and the full **\$10 will be due in June.** Members who have paid a year or more ahead are still paid ahead. Early payments are always welcome.

First Fandom will not drop someone from membership due to inability to pay dues. If you missed paying in previous years, you are still a member. Some of our members have generously included extra to help cover those for whom the dues are a burden. Back dues payments are appreciated, but not necessary.

Checks payable to: Keith Stokes.

Please send to Keith at 14305 West 83rd Place, Lenexa, KS – 66215.

Seventy-Five Years Ago this Summer

Astounding (July 1939)

This is the spectacular cover for the issue of *Astounding* that was being read by many of the fans attending the very first World Science Fiction Convention during July 2-4, 1939!

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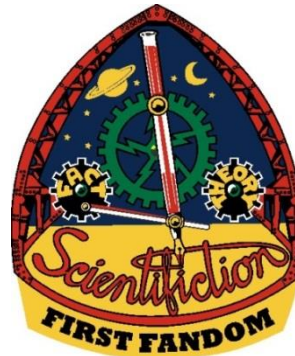
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