

July 10, 1968

Address all correspondence to:

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ABOUT THE NEWS LETTER:

At the risk of seeming senile, Dave Kyle has volunteered to publish this. The commitment was made at the First Fandom meeting at the MidwestCon (see overleaf) in the attempt to overcome our problems of communication. The hope is for an issue about every six weeks, with extras during emergencies. Cooperation, however, is essential. First, news is necessary from you. Get the facts to us on a postal card and we'll do the rest. Second, as this is a non-FF-subsidized effort, any contribution toward postage will be appreciated. Stamps will be accepted.

MIDWESTCON 1968. As usual (this was the 19th) we met on our social weekend in Ohio. Again at the North Plaza Motel, on Reading Road, north of Cincinnati, which we filled. A measure of its success is the large (nearly 200 persons) banquet held Saturday evening at David's Buffet. For \$3.50 the food was excellent in variety and quantity, in a very fancy cafeteria-style place. The banquet hd, traditionally, the only semi-official programming of the three days. Lou Tabakow was The Head; Bob Tucker, M of C; Mark Schulzinger, the Entertainment (a pseudo-scientific mind-reading act as "Marko" which was well-done). Fritz Leiber was the Big Name Pro.

All night long, Saturday-Sunday, a guy whose name we should know but have at this moment forgotten (something like "Wisemeyer"?) showed movies-movies-movies. There were endless coming-attractions, about 50% of which were for sci-fi or fantasy films, and the feature length "Flash Gordon" (Buster Crabbe) which came on at 1:05 a.m. and was over at 2:20. Most of the audience were neo-fen and kids, but a few old men there proved that First Fandom isn't dead.

The swimming pool, naturally, was the most popular focal point even considering the many wet parties. The weather cooperated by growing successively hotter each day, eventually going into the 90's on Sunday. Once more the "Relaxacon" has lived up to its name.

BAYCON, (1968 World Science Fiction Convention) will be held over Labor Day weekend at the Claremont Hotel, Oakland/Berkley, Calif.

- DEATHS: Tony Boucher, April 29, 1968. Of lung cancer.
- Ron Ellik, January 27, 1968. Auto Accident.
- Lee Jacobs, February 15, 1968. Fall in bathtub.
- Andy Harris. (Facts unknown) *Dale Hart*

CHIT CHAT: Rosemary Hickey has moved to Texas where her husband has a new job as Project Engineer with the General Electrodynamics Corp. ... Dirce Archer has suffered two losses in her family since the 1967 NYCon. Her husband, Archer, died in the Fall and her father died April 7 this year. Arch didn't get around with us during his long period of ill health. Incidentally, after years of suffering from vertigo, Dirce feels better than in years because doctors finally found a rare disease as the culprit and have been able to prescribe medication.... André Norton has left the Midwest. She now lives in Maitland, Florida. (Banks Mebane lives near Cape Kennedy.) She's presently finishing the last story in the Witch World series. Title is unknown, but this is Karen's story. (These items from BEA TAYLOR. Thanks! --Now you send us some!)

FIRST FANDOM MEETING at MidWestCon (June 29, 1968)

Some minutes after three o'clock Saturday afternoon the First Fans began their official get-together in the Seascope Room. Their dedication was tested and proved by their sacrifice of the joys and comforts around the swimming pool. Present in and around were:

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|-------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| Frank Andrasovsky | Ed Bielfeldt | Doc. Barrett | Jean Bogert |
| Howard Devore | Margaret Ford | Paul Herkart | Les Couch |
| Ed Wood | Joe Hensley | Jay Klein | Dave Kyle |
| Rusty Hevelin | Ben Jason | Ben Keifer | Mary Martin |
| John Millard | George Raybin | Stan Skirvin | Dale Tarr |
| Beatrice Taylor | Lou Tabakow | Bob Tucker | |

In the absence of the President, Bob Madle, the presiding officer was Dave Kyle. Dale Tarr recorded the proceedings. The treasury has \$165.00 Membership is 142, with 17 new and seven more applying. Two FF magazines have been published under the editorship of Lynn Hickman, despite the general apathy and other frustrations. The News Letter, it's hoped, will take the pressure off the FF magazine to be our only means of general communication. If nothing else, the News Letter will simply be up-to-date.

At the written suggestion of Alva Rogers, it was agreed that there will be an FF meeting at the Baycon this Labor Day weekend. At that time all matters discussed at this June meeting will be re-opened, discussed and acted upon.

Ed Wood and Howard Devore reported on "old fanzines." Ed proposed that FF publish, in book form, a reprint edition of the famous "Time Traveler". The object would be to contribute something desirable to fannish bibliography while at the same time earning money for FF for future projects. The cost (selling) would be in the \$2 to \$5 range for 290+ pages in 8½" x 11" format. Dave Kyle is to investigate prices with the help of Dale Tarr and Lynn Hickman. This proposal was favorably voted. Doc Barrett suggest that we ask fan editors and publishers to send us file copies for our archives.

Jay Klein and George Raybin reported on the attempts to get a copy of the "fan films" possessed by Will Sykora. No progress.

Dave Kyle reported on the blazer badges. A full report (as of March 1968) is awaiting publication in FF Mag. Meanwhile, all those who have ordered and paid for their badge should have them. If not, contact Dave immediately. Another dozen has been ordered by Dave personally in order to accomodate those who might wish to purchase one at the Baycon.

Concerning the award to Jack Williamson: Lou Tabakow will write to Ed Hamilton for the wording to be engraved and is in charge of the presentation.

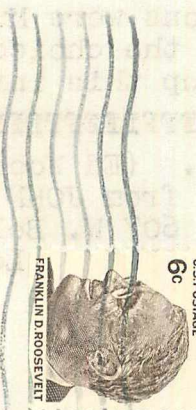
The 1969 Hall of Fame nominations were Murray Leinster and Seabury Quinn. Murray Leinster was the choice to be recommended to the Baycon FF meeting. Note: Keep this information CONFIDENTIAL.

FF

CONTRIBUTORS: Bea Taylor, Dale Tarr. (Ed Wood promised).
ANGELS: (For postage) A buck apiece from JOHN MILLARD & ED BIELFELDT
CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Rosemary Hickey, 607 W. Belt Line Rd., Richardson, Texas 75080 (Please furnish the FF News Letter as you wish)

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