

LASFETE

No one is holding a regional con on the west coast this year, but if one there were, its presiding committee (no, Paul; I am not bringing up controversial issues in the club journal) would have no cause to be embarrassed at an official program consisting largely or even entirely of the events listed below. Far from it; any convention that could boast of such figures as Forry Ackerman, Bob Bloch, Walt Daugherty, Fritz Leiber and Warren Brick* in its roster of headliners could count on drawing fans from such unlikely roosts as Ameoameca, Mexico and Moscoow, Idaho. Yet all these, plus rare stf and fantasy films and an auction well salted with treasures, have somehow been crowbarred into the LASFS schedule for a quartet of fortnights between 4/16 and 6/11, with one date (5/28) somehow still open (who knows; perhaps we'll get some completely preposterous and unlikely figure such as Charles Hornig...no, that's too fantastic...for that spot). The crowbarring (Paul, in using the term, "...barring," I am not engaging in fan politics) has been ably undertaken and carried out by our director, Paul Turner, damned near singlehandedly, an accomplishment I think we club members would be justified in doublehandedly applauding at an opportune time. But...ogle the program schedule below (Paul, gee; honest. I know "ogle" sounds like part of "dogle," but --) and remember, all excess charges are for the Clubhouse Fund. Have fun, attend, and help buy yourself a clubhouse!

"If it's a boy, one thing's sure," said John Trimble. "We won't name him John..."

ON THE FOLLOWING THURSDAYS IN APRIL, at 8:00 P. M., the club will present:

- 4/16 FORREST J. ACKERMAN in an illustrated discussion of "The Golden Age of Gothic & Science Fiction Films: 1925-1935." (Regular 35¢ dues to members; \$1.00 to guests.)
- 4/23 "FLASH GORDON" Feature film made from the original classic serial of circa 1935, with Buster Crabbe as Flash & Charles Middleton as Ming the Merciless: a delightfully faithful adaption of the memorable comic strip. Presented by the courtesy of Kenneth Anger. (50¢ to members & guests.)
- 4/30 AUCTION NIGHT again, with WALT DAUGHERTY presiding. Details on page 2.

"...every Tom, Dick, and Harry is named John."

ON THE FOLLOWING THURSDAYS IN MAY...

- 5/7 FORREST J. ACKERMAN, ROBERT BLOCH, AND FRITZ LEIBER will join for a panel discussion of "The Future of Fantasy Fiction." (35¢ members; 50¢ guests)
- 5/14 "FLASH GORDON'S TRIP TO MARS" Feature film made from the second Flash Gordon serial, again with Crabbe. More of the same, and wilder. Thanks to Kenneth Anger for this one also. (50¢ to members & guests.)
- 5/21 WALT DAUGHERTY in an excellent film slide presentation of the arcana, lore and fascination of Egyptology. (This is the talk Walt has given to hundreds of men's and women's organizations, schools, etc., over the years.) (35¢ to members; 50¢ to guests.)
- 5/28 Unless otherwise notified, we rest. Ed Baker, program.

Old radio is back! Chandu the Magician presents "Our Gong Comedies" nitely on KOOL

ON THE FOLLOWING THURSDAY IN JUNE...

- 6/11 "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM" The superb MGMovie of 1935, with Mickey Rooney, Joe E. Brown, Olivia de Havilland, James Cagney, Dick Powell, et al. (This is also, I believe, the film that produced the classic anecdote about screen credits: "Screeplay by William Shakespeare; Additional Dialogue by Oskar Glotz.") Thanks due again to Kenneth Anger; this noted film-maker is also providing the club with a projector and screen for each of the above films.

We have learned at the moment of writing that Warren Brick has succumbed to an overdose of Psycholybin and Expired. R. A. P.

The Los Angeles Science Fiction Society

Except by happenstance, the paper making up this LASFS Newsletter #23 might have been part of an issue of *Elmarmurings* or something equally rare and fine; as your luck would have it, it reaches you in this dreary form...little more than a club program schedule & auction list...but at least it should be handy (if the flies are fat and slow). This journal is the publication of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, Silverlake & Van Pelt Sts., Los Angeles. Officers are: Paul Turner, Director; Sam Russell, Senior Committeeman; Bill Blackbeard, Junior Committeeman & Newsletter Editor; Ted Johnstone, Eavesdropper; Ed Baker, Highwayman. Everybody gets it.

 AUCTION::AUCTION::AUCTION::AUCTION::AUCTION::AUCTION::AUCTION::AUCTION::AUCTION::AUCTION

This is another Big One...set for Thursday, April 30th, with Walt Daugherty huckstering the goodies again. The most salubrious items are listed below, together with the base prices to be used as starting points for all bidding. Sealed bids may, of course, be submitted at base price or higher in advance of the auction, either by mail to Walt, 3065 Leeward Ave., Los Angeles 5, or in person to a club officer.

1. The Thrill Book, September 15, 1919. This rarity is usually advertised at between sixty and seventy five dollars a copy. It is unbelievably rare in the condition of this copy, which is near mint. Material by Frank L. Packard, Tod Robbins, Murray Leinster, Francis Stevens, Clark Ashton Smith, etc. About half of this one is fantasy. Starting base bid: \$50.00
2. Last Men In London, by Olaf Stapledon. Rare copy of the first English edition in very good shape. Sbb: \$10.00
3. The Time Stream, by John Taine. Mint copy of this hard to find book, with dust jacket. Sbb: \$10.00
4. Unknown, Volume One, Number One, March, 1939. "Sinister Barrier" by Russell. Fine copy of this issue. Sbb: \$3.50
5. The Acolyte, #1. Fran Loney's HPL-oriented zine. Excellent copy of the first, dittoed issue. Very rare. Sbb: \$5.00
6. The Story Behind the Story, by A. Merritt. Autobiography of the fantasy author; hardest of all Merritt titles to get. Sbb: \$7.50
7. Science Wonder Stories, Volume One, Number One, 1929. Crisp, clean copy of this magazine, large size. Rare. \$3.00
8. Amazing Stories, Volume One, Number Two, 1926. Excellent specimen of this rarity, large size. \$5.00
9. Fanciful Tales, only issue, 1936, Fall: material by Lovecraft, Howard, Derleth, Keller & others. Fan-published (Don Wollheim) Mint condition. Sbb: \$3.00
10. Fancylopedia #1. Very rare now. Good clean copy, numbered #85. Sbb: \$2.50
11. The Fabulous Faust Fanzine #2, Barrell C. Richardson zine devoted to Max Brand. Stunning production item. Good shape. \$2.50
12. The Bok Portfolio: reproductions of first rate Bok black & whites of his early pulp illustrating days. Very good items here, separate for mounting, blank on backs. \$1.00
13. 1948 Fantasy Annual: fat, amusing combozine with photos, drawings, of the the period. Collectors' item. \$2.50
14. Fantastic (Complete set of the unequalled Howard Brown issues, which started as a beautifully illoed, literary pulp with top material by the best stf men in the field and ended as one of the junkier digest pulps; all here, in mint condition.) A fabulous item, sold as a unit only. \$10.00

NOTE: This list is being sent to collectors and dealers around the country, so don't expect to get your item cheap. Bid high...remember the Clubhouse Fund; Our Fund.

A S C I E N C E F I C T I O N F A N ?

JOIN THE L. A. SCIENCE - FANTASY SOCIETY

The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society holds meetings every Thursday evening, from 8:00 P. M. onward, with after-meeting socializing over coffee and sandwiches lasting well on toward midnight and sometimes beyond.

The LASFS meets at present in the Silverlake Playground gymnasium, Silverlake and Van Pelt Sts., Los Angeles 26. (See the map at right for details.)

The "average meeting" of the LASFS doesn't exist. No two meetings are ever alike, and it is hard to form an accurate picture of the club from just one or two meetings. Club programs include guest speakers, panel discussions, movies, slide shows, and other entertainment. For many members, the best part of the meetings is the informal discussion among the members themselves: animated conversation regarding the latest science fiction books and magazines, news and gossip about the sf editors, authors, fans, artists, and readers, and talk about upcoming conventions and parties.

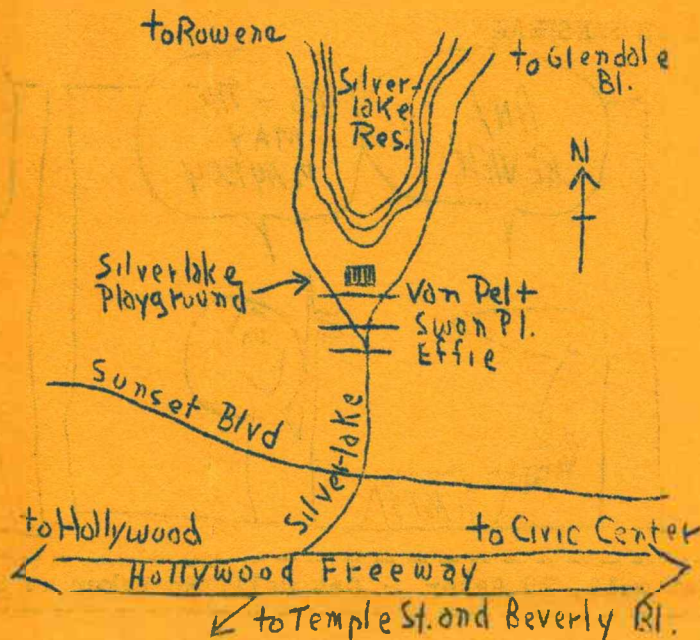
Science fiction fandom itself is almost as old and hardly established as science fiction itself. The LASFS has itself held close to 1400 weekly meetings since the mid-thirties, with many of its members graduating from club activity and interests to a professional career in science fiction writing, illustrating or film-making. National science fiction fandom holds annual conventions of more than a 1000 attendees at major cities, and every year sees a number of smaller, but eagerly supported regional conventions take place; one is held in west coast cities annually for this part of the U. S.

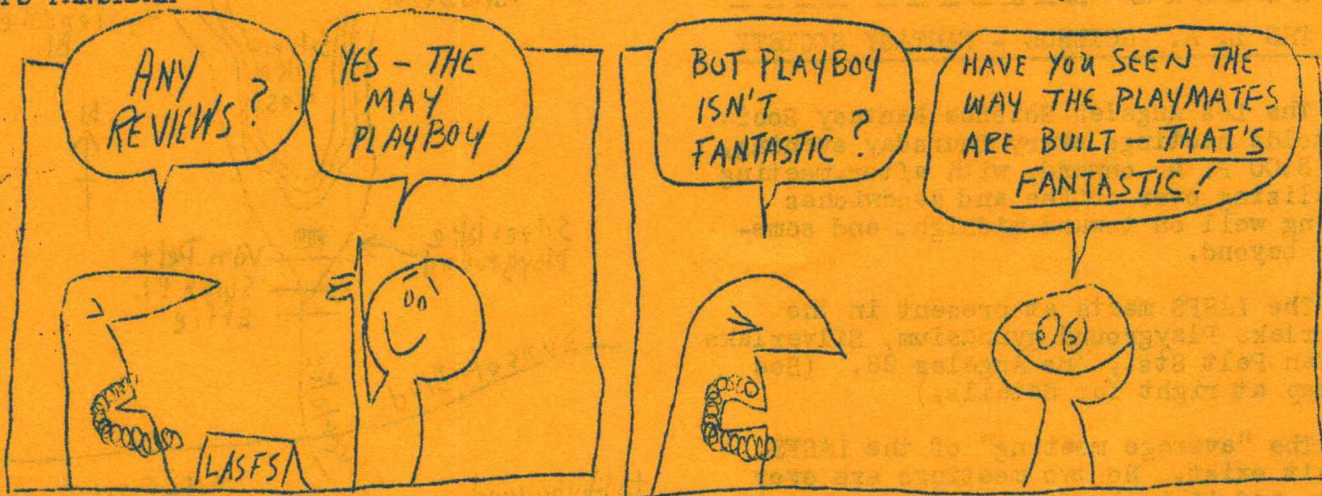
LASFS members include established writers, engineers, clerks, magazine editors, salesmen, physicists, teachers, students, artists, geologists, literary agents, coin evaluators, librarians, machinists, and many others. These members hold varied interests beyond science fiction itself, and talk moves among many fields at the meetings: photography, film-making, costume designing, philately, coin collecting, book hunting, rockhounding, gun collecting, amateur publishing, and many other interests. Guests are always welcome. You may attend up to three meetings as a non-dues-paying guest. Then, if you wish to join, you pay a membership fee of \$1.00 to the treasurer. After that, dues are normally 35¢ per meeting, or \$1.25 per month in advance.

The LASFS produces several publications for the information and entertainment of members and others. One is Shangri-L'Affaires, the bi-monthly official organ of the club, which contains articles, reviews, fiction, and artwork by members and top fans from around the world (science fiction fandom has branches in England, Germany, New Zealand, France, Sweden, Japan, Australia...everywhere). Another is Menace of the LASFS, a bi-weekly publication that reprints in full the minutes of each meeting. A subscription will keep you in touch with what goes on at meetings you miss. Still another is the LASFS Newsletter, a copy of which you hold, which contains news of coming events of the Society, spiced between the lines with "in-group" gags and references which you will quickly pick up after a few meetings. There is, as well, an annual LASFS Calendar, the artwork in which runs the gamut from breathtakingly beautiful to outrageously comic. Many other outstanding fan publications, devoted to Edgar Rice Burroughs, the Lovecraft circle, Tolkein, Robert E. Howard, etc., etc., published around the country and the world, are available through contact at the club.

For information about the LASFS, or about its publications, contact Ron Elik or Al Lewis, 1825 Greenfield Avenue, Los Angeles 90025, or phone Ron or Al at 743-6321.

Or...come along to the meeting next Thursday evening at the Silverlake Playground (a little earlier than 8:00, if you want to mix in some of the pre-meeting conversation). The club always welcomes new faces. Drop around and get to know the LASFS.





Get well, Ed Baker :: Get well, Ed Baker :: Get the hell well, Ed Baker & Peter Sellers

WOOL PULLED OVER THE EYES DEPT. (Lee Sapiro, Prop.)

"'Burks is a hack writer,' he said, 'and he turns out some terrible stuff. But I made him write good stories for Astounding.'"

-- Harry Bates, interviewed by Julius Schwartz & Mortimer Weisinger in S. F. Digest, 2/33.

"It seems that after being rebuked by Harry Bates for his hack work, he was warned by Bates that if he intended to write for Astounding, he should spend more time on his stories.

"Burks said O. K., went home, and dashed off "Earth, The Marauder," in three days. However, he let it remain on his desk for about two weeks and then his secretary brought it to the Astounding office...Bates looked the story over, and decided to accept it... In a later conversation with Burks, Bates commented on the 'marked improvement.'"

-- Arthur J. Burks, as interviewed by Schwartz & Weisinger, S. F. Digest, 5/33.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS DEPT. (Lee's, also)

"'Done! It is done,' (the President) announced, reappearing and laughing, with a laugh that was like a cackle. 'All that remains is to touch off the final fuse!' And his three fellow conspirators joined him in low, clandestine chuckles..."

-- Stanton A. Coblentz, "Making of Misty Isle", Science Wonder Stories, June, 1929

Coming in the next NEWSLETTER: a Printed Logo! In Color! Just like Starspinkle! Whee!

Printed Matter::Please return to: : : : : :

ADDRESSEE BELOW

LASFS NEWSLETTER
c/o Editor, Bill Blackbeard
192 Mountain View
Los Angeles 90057

"...And shall we stroll down Memory Lane tonight, with old Franzines?"

SUPPORT THE NONCCN! (In 1965, Paul...)

Anyone for tenets?

Where've you been, Don Fitch?