

Balloons  
Over  
Brooklyn

Not to be taken Internally

## The Fan Hugos

I do find it a very useful, if superficial shorthand, to refer a neo to “my Hugo-nominated [or winning] friends, [fill in: Jerry Kaufman and Suzle, Andy Hooper, the Nielsen Haydens, Ted White, Linda Bushyager, Dave Langford, Bob Shaw, Pat Mueller, etc., etc., through a very long list of people I approve of.]”

I don't agree that the Horror of someone whom might not be my personal choice as The Best winning (or even sometimes some zine I think outright not very good, such as the ever-cited *Lan's Lantern*) outweighs the benefit to the number of nominated people who deserve it.

I don't. Looking at my Franson-DeVore list from 1971: *Fanac*, *Cry Of The Nameless*, *Hyphen*, *Jd-Argassy*, *Discord*, *Habakkuk*, *Shangri-L'affaires*, *Axe*, *Warhoon*, *Xero*, *Starspinkle*, *Double-Bill*, *Zenith*, *Australian Science Fiction Review*, *Lighthouse*, *Odd*, *Speculation*, and many of those several times—I wouldn't call that a handful, and I'd consider many of the zines I didn't list as "fairly-to-pretty-good" such as *Yandro*, *Trumpet*, *Sfr*, etc.

George Barr, Jack Gaughan, Jeff Jones, Steve Stiles, Arthur Thomson, Johnny Chabers, Bjo Trimble, Vaughan Bode, Tim Kirk, Doug Lovenstein, Bill Rotsler, Alicia Austin, Steve Fabian. Pretty deserving nominees, to me.

Norm Clarke, Bill Donaho, Alexei Panshin, Harry Warner, Jr., Ted White, Walt Willis, Bob Tucker. Pretty deserving writers. And the ones I've excluded weren't exactly entirely undeserving either.

The 1986 Program Book is handy: Eeuw, that was an awful year for the fanzine nominees. Ick. Fan writers were Don D'Ammassa, Richard Geis, Arthur Hlavaty, David Langford, and Patrick Nielsen Hayden. Not the ideal selections, maybe, but all more than reasonable. Fan Artists were Brad Foster, Steve Fox, Joan Hanke-Woods, William Rotsler, and Stu Shiffman.

Well, I personally really only favor Rotsler and Stu, but I have friends I respect who really like the others, and, gee, that's why it's voted on. I don't have the delusion that My Tastes Are Objective and True.

Here's 1993, which is also handy: Mike Glycer, Andy Hooper, Dave Langford, Evelyn C. Leeper, Harry Warner, Jr. Again, not my ideal choices (they never are), but I think all deserving. Lots of longtime fanzine fans have the horrors at Evelyn Leeper. As I've said before, she's not a pyrotechnic or impressive writer, but she's a good solid reporter. I wouldn't nominate her on that basis, but I think it's entirely reasonable for other people to do so. I find people seriously *objecting* as

opposed to just *disagreeing* somewhat repellent. I wouldn't nominate her. So what? I don't think she dishonors the award.

*File 770, Fosfax, Lan's Lantern, Mimosa, Stet.* Well, I didn't see many of those that year, though I suspect I might only have nominated one of them. The horror, the horror. I just don't lose sleep over the fact that I don't think most of those are The Best this year. Teddy Harvia, Merle Insinga, Linda Michaels, Peggy Ransom, Stu Shiffman. Well, I liked Linda's cartoons in *Idea*, but don't otherwise know her stuff, don't really know from Ms. Insinga and Ms. Ranson, and am rather indifferent to Teddy Harvia, but I'm still shrugging.

You can name some other years, and I'll similarly agree or disagree about how closely the nominees match my choices or not. You'll not convince me that that's worth killing the awards for. I'll continue to grant the weird idea that Other People are entitled to Other Taste than me. I still think the fact that the Fan Hugos are considerably more imperfect than the Pro Hugos is merely Too Bad, but not sufficient reason to kill them. You know what? I Don't Take Them Too Seriously.

I don't take any awards very seriously.

Your mileage may vary.

This is number 7 in a  
series of 13—

## The Lost Fanzines of Gary Farber

Produced by Alison  
Scott and Steven Cain for  
Farberday:

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