

WESTERCON 26
WHERE NO
KITTY LITTER
HAS GONE BEFORE

As soon as you walked into the St. Francis Hotel you could tell it was the right place to hold a Westercon from the way they had "StF" stamped into the sand of ashtrays everywhere in the hotel. And it was the kind of WESTERCON Donn Brazier might enjoy -- for it was "three in one."

There was the straight, programmed convention planned by SAMPO, with a good slate of films, a masquerade with severe organization problems (and, LOCUS, "Queen of Air and Darkness" won BEST OF SHOW, NOT Most

Beautiful!), brilliant Guest of Honor Speeches by George Barr and Larry Niven, a flopped Banquet, vast huckster room (yet not a single copy of PAST THROUGH TOMORROW to be found anyplace), art show with inadequate lighting (in the opinion of my humble eyes, to be sure), a theoretical schedule of panels, and the theoretical newszine The Organ Bank.

Then there was the Do-It-Yourself-Westercon, resulting from random organization and imported putridity. While it may have been indirectly advantageous in getting people who were interested in the given topic of the moment, quite often a scheduled program would be listed and attract a number of people. Then randomly, through the rumor mill, a couple of fans would get their heads together, grab some people to sit on the panel, and then rap away for a couple hours. Twenty minutes after I walked into the St. Francis Frank Denton had me serving on the fan publishing panel with him, Alpa-

ORGANLEGGER

WOULD YOU BELIEVE - A FANNISH NEWSZINE?

Naw, it can't be -- there's no Ross Chamberlain art -- not even a Kinney fillo.

THE ORGANLEGGER, Vol. 2 No. 1 (Whole number 6): a fannish newszine published by Mike Glycer (14974 Osceola St., Sylmar, CA 91342) chiefly to see how long it can last, for as Norm Hochberg would say: "Fandom Is Just A God Damned Way of Life." Subscriptions: 25¢ each, 12/\$2 Subs (foreign): 35¢ each, 9/\$2.

Policies of the Organlegger. Nyeh. You can either trade for PREHENSILE, or for this. Unless I hear otherwise, your trade will remain with PRE. Organlegger will trade one-for-one with most any fanpublication, and up to four for each tradezine depending on its entertainment value (to me, of course). For usable news, two freebies. Or if I hear from you often enough, you go onto the Permanent list, with my pleasure. (more policies at end.)



(WESTERCON, continued): puri, Charlie Brown, and Bill Patterson. Now that's all right for off the cuff, since Frank publishes about half the fanzines on the West Coast, and the rest of us have a variety of credentials (I hear Patterson publishes a good zine, though I've never seen a copy, hint hint) -- though I felt a little strange when the audience included such "novices" for us to expound to as Mike Glicksohn, Milt Stevens, Terry Carr, Susan Glicksohn etc. But if nothing else I got to tell them about APA L and the Galactic League writer's workshop/apa. And naturally the best part of the discussion was after the panel when, crushing an aluminum Coor's can in one fist, Mike Glicksohn stated, "This can is as weak as the beer it holds." He also passed around a color slide of his ostensible boa constrictor, Larson E., attractively draped over the living room couch of his Toronto suite. We all humored him.

Other do-it-yourself facets included riding the glass elevators to the 32nd floor -- leaving your breakfast on the 10th and the rest of your meals on the 20th -- and the incredible bidding parties for Miller and Newman's successful Oakland in '75 Westercon bid. (The name, by the way, will be OakLAcOn, reflecting its interzonal nature.)

Last but not least was the third stage, the putrid Westercon. Featuring the daily Organlegger, dittoed each afternoon and distributed at large to advertise Herbangelist service and ranq entertainments, the putrid Westercon culminated at McDonald's convention Tuesday with Dena Brown as Pro GoH and Bill Donaho as Fan GoH. The allegation that the Ranquet drew more paying customers than the Banquet is under investigation, though it's official that Banquet tickets will be collated into APA H. Nutritious (?) McDonald's food seemed a better bet than a surprised chicken in vegetable garnicht. The five Westercon Organleggers began as a simple parody of the con's own Organ Bank, but by the end of the con had printed a letter column, a daily comic strip, heading art by Shull, Freff, Nordling, Harness and Braziman (hi Norm), & corrections to errata in Organ Bank. (It may be a blow to future putrid publications in that I am the real Publications Committeeman for the next two Westercons.)

Anyway, between the three conventions fans were kept running for five days, and that says a lot.

PORTERGANDA, PATTEN PENDING

Charlie Brown does not publish matters of opinion in LOCUS, explaining that he is not intent on operating the open forum which would be required if he did. For that reason, I assume, you have not read in LOCUS Pelz' letter on the NASFiC, Eloch's reply to a Terry Carr column on LACOn and pros, nor will you read there the following letter by Andy Porter. Normally I'd be just as happy to see the thing buried, as it may be anyway. But since he sent me a xerox, and since the figures in it are being widely circulated elsewhere, and since they are erroneous, as all such accusation against the LAConcom have been so far, it seems worthwhile to expand on the matter. And Andy's putrid opening line is worth the price of admission -- eh, Ed Buchman?

"I've caught LACOn with its pants down, and the feeling is interesting. Their final progress report states, among other items, ad revenues of \$788.50 and expenses for their program book of \$4510.38. This is a pile of shit and I have the figures to prove it.

AD REVENUES, PR #1:	\$70.00	AD REVENUES, FAN ADS, PROGRAM BOOK	
AD REVENUES, PR #2:	can't find my copy		612.50
AD REVENUES, PR #3:	100.00	AD REVENUES, PRO ADS, PROGRAM BOOK	
AD REVENUES, PR #4:	109.50		1040.00
AD REVENUES, Final:	20.00/all PRs		
TOTALS:	\$299.00		

(Porter continued) TOTAL AD REVENUES, PROGRAM BOOK:	1652.50
MINUS MY COMMISSION FOR SELLING ADS IN PB:	-260.00
TOTAL:	1392.00
DIFFERENCE FROM REPORTED INCOME: +903.50	
COST PER MY CONVERSATION WITH THEIR PRINTER AND FRED PATTEN OF PRINTING PROGRAM BOOK:	-2800.00
ASSUME MIS. EXPENSES (includes overrun of 200 PBs for tearsheet copies, stripping halftones, etc.)	-500.00
TOTAL PB EXPENSE	-3300.00
DIFFERENCE FROM REPORTED EXPENSE:	-1210.38
TOTAL UNEXPLAINED INCOME DIFFERENCES: ((both plus and minus))	2113.08

"Now I know what the income from advertising was -- I sold over \$1,000 worth of pro ads in the program book alone. So I know that the figure given for ad income is wrong. And going through the publications and totalling up the income is easy to do, if time-consuming. I just want to know what the hell is going on with LACon; if they want to pad their wallets a little they should know better than to use such patently false figures. Hope these will find an outlet in LOCUS."

Porter includes these addenda, written on subsequent dates.

"While talking to one of the higher committee members today, he informed me that the combined book exhibit was highly profitable, but run by the LASFS. As such, any proceeds went to the LASFS directly (and I am told a very handsome profit was made), and not to the convention coffers. This same individual tells me that Bruce Pelz attempted to set up situations where other parts of the convention would be run by the LASFS, with any profits going directly to the club. The committee member was not aware whether other parts of the convention were put under the LASFS, other than the book exhibit. If one assumes the worst, the cost of the book exhibit room was put under 'Hotel' while 40% of the gross (the discount given to all booksellers) went directly to the LASFS. I somehow doubt that the LASFS received only \$50 from the convention."

And this gem: "I have also been informed that the highly profitable 'Space War' games, fed by many a fan's sticky quarter, were also supposedly run by the LASFS, and that all profits went to LASFS."

Through APA L I clarified Porter's circumlocution to three questions. What was the financial arrangement involved (a) in renting the CBE room, (b) to buy the CBE stock of books, (c) to rent the Spacewar machines and transportation, and (d) whether these monies were disbursed before or after the con.

Fred Patten answered the following week: "I'm not aware that the Combined Book Exhibit had any 'cost' to the Con; it was part of the free meeting facilities that the Con got for filling the hotel with paying guests, and which the Con turned over to non 'official' groups to arrange items of general interest in. Like the Art Show, or the babysitting service, neither of which the Con Committee has anything to do with other than providing a free room as a public service. I suppose the Con Committee could be accused of nepotism in turning over that room to the LASFS for a CBE rather than to the NFFF for a hospitality room, but not of pouring the proceeds of a lucrative Worldcon activity into private pockets. The CBE and Spacewar games didn't exist until LASFS organized them.../They/ were both LASFS projects. That is, they were run by LASFS members under LASFS auspices. If some fans had gotten rambunctuous and knocked over one of the Spacewar machines, it would have been LASFS that would've had to pay the damage, it wouldn't have come out of LACon monies..."

Patten's response to Porter's figures can be paraphrased as follows. A lot of the

"income/profit" cannot be shown because it hasn't reached the LACon committee yet. Like, about half the advertisers have not paid, though Porter has gotten his commission regardless. The Japanese membership money has also not been forthcoming. "Then why did you publish a "Final Report" if so much money is still outstanding?' 'Because we announced that we'd publish one in January, by April we were getting queries as to where it was, and we felt it was more important to get out an incomplete Report as of the moment than continue to delay publication indefinitely and have it look like we were abandoning our promise. Obviously we aren't going to have a complete financial reckoning until we know how much our Proceedings is going to cost, and that won't be for a long time yet."

So. Who's next? Norm?

Cover illo -- Freff.

This is supposed to be a fanzine with fan news in it, so I guess it would be something of a major disaster were I to overlook the MAE STRELKOV fund. Overall called MAE STRELKOV'S FRIENDS, the organization's chairwomen JOAN BOWERS and SUSAN GLICKSOHN are bringing Mae from Argentina to the Worldcon at Washington DC in '74. They have to get together \$700.00 by May '74. They've already got a big chunk, but nothing less than the full amount can do. In support of the fund the first 25 subs to ORGANLEGGER will be donated to the org. Afterwards, send it straight to: JOAN BOWERS, Box 148, Wadsworth, OH 44281. GET IT ON

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MORE OFFICIAL BOONFARK CONTINUED FROM PAGE PRIMUS...

The ORGANLEGGER will hold a relatively open forum for news-related opinion and discussion, or whatever tag you care to place on it, to the degree that it fits. While personal abuse will not be permitted, everything that serves the interest of information spreading will be taken into consideration.

Send me subs! news! tradezines! ~~psyc/iatr/c help!~~ ENDIT

THE ORGANLEGGER
MIKE GLYER
14974 Osceola St.
Sylmar, CA 91342

JACKIE TRANCE
BOX 51-A
RR 2
BEECHER, IL 60401

