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A supposedly biweekly news and comment zine from Bruce Pelz, Box 100, 308 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024. Available for news or 3/25¢.  
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Boardman so he can unite New York fandom!"

WESTERCON 18 was held over the weekend of the 4th, at the Edgewater Inn in Long Beach. Attendees included Hal Clement, Lester del Rey, Sam Moskowitz, and a baker's half-dozen New York fans, in addition to the usual contingent from the West Coast. Guest of Honor Frank Herbert spoke on writing novels from haiku, and the possibility of reducing all novels to haiku. In addition to the GoH speech, the program included speeches by Bradbury and Fritz Leiber, and panels on "1964: Science Fiction in Retrospect" and "There I stood In My Sense of Wonder" -- a pro panel which turned into Harlan Ellison vs. Ace Books.

The masquerade winners included Bob Davenport of Las Vegas, as the bird costume from Three Against the Witch World ("Most Beautiful"); Jane and Bill Ellern of Pasadena, as Star and Oscar from Glory Road ("Most Authentic Costume"); a trio (Carlton Sagura of Hawaii and 2 whose names I didn't get -- see FOCAL POINT) as Starship Troopers ("Best Presentation"); Charlie and Marsha Brown of New York as the Genie with the light brown hare ("Most Humorous"); Grania Davidson as "the Space Mother" ("Most 'Professional'"); and Bruce and Dian Pelz as King Gorice and Lady Sriva from The Worm Ouroboros ("Most Outstanding"). A vote among the winners gave the Sweepstakes prize to the Witchlanders, after a run-off with the Witch Worlder. After the judging was over, Rotsler brought in Jennie Lee in a swirling gold sequin outfit and proceeded to take pictures of her with all sorts of other costumes. And as everything was starting to break up, Jon Lakey (Solacon's "Smudgepot") arrived with the Chesley Donovan crew, making a grand entrance as an Egyptian procession, High Priests and Priestesses, sedan chair with bearers, and the works -- a sure prize winner if they had arrived in time.

The Art Show judging included two innovations: the judges included two local art instructors in addition to two fan artists and Hal Clement, who has served as judge for several other art shows. Also, the "Judges' Choice" award was split up, so that each of the five judges selected his own favorite instead of trying to agree among themselves on one entry.

At the business meeting, San Diego beat out Burlingame as site of the 1966 Westercon by about 4 votes. A bid for Lake Tahoe was entered and later withdrawn, the Tahoe Committee splitting between Burlingame and San Diego. A bid for New York was withdrawn in favor of Lake Tahoe. Dennis Smith will chair the '66 Westercon, which will be held at the Grant Hotel.

The auction grossed around \$400, according to Treasurer Rick Sneary, and all auction material had been disposed of by the second day of the convention. So the auction time on Monday was taken up with auctioning of some material from the art show. A special auction of Harlan Ellison's writing talent netted \$35; for this, Harlan wrote a short story using the name of the winner (Larry Niven) as protagonist, and using three words supplied by the winner in the text. If the story sells, the winner gets 10% of the proceeds.

The evenings were taken up with parties, usually in the New York suite, where the Fanoclast contingent was pushing their bid for 1967's World Convention. The Convention Suite featured Bourree and Diplomacy games.

There were few complaints about the Edgewater Inn itself -- mostly the slow service in the coffee shop and the atrocious combo in the dining room, and the fact that the Hyatt House was more conveniently compact.

Your subscription expires with issue 16.

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LASFS elections on 24 June resulted in the following slate of officers running the club for the second half of 1965: Director, Dian Pelz; Senior Committeeman, Bruce Pelz; Junior Committeeman, Earl Thompson; Secretary, Jack Harness; Treasurer, Bill Ellern. Should the Ellerns sell their house and move to Australia before December, Earl Thompson will take over the Treasurer's position.

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THE ANDY CAPP FUND, undertaken to finance Colin Freeman to the LonCon, is a financial success but a practical failure, as Colin will definitely not be able to travel to the convention. According to Ron Bennett in SKYRACK 80a "Whilst Colin has been able to partake in recent day trips to Manchester's Belle Vue Zoo and to Scarborough on the Yorkshire coast he is not well enough to undertake a more rigorous journey." All money donated to the Fund is being returned, and SKYRACK 80a contains a partial list of donors. Subscriptions to SKYRACK are available from Bennett (35¢ for 6 issues) or from his U.S. agent Buck Coulson, (Rt 3, Hartford City, Indiana 47348).

TAFF OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: "With the close of the current campaign, TAFF is taking a breather before opening nominations again. One thing we do not want is to develop an attitude amongst fans of 'Ho-Hum, just another TAFF campaign.' TAFF has been running steadily for the past several years now, and the enthusiasm that has been its life blood is bound to be replaced by apathy if elections are scheduled by the calendar rather than by need. It is time to stand back and evaluate this remarkable fannish phenomenon."

OUR FAN IN EUROPE: Al Lewis reports that ATom's TAFF Report is done in rough draft, and is being held up by time limitations on ATom's typing, as it can not be done during the day or late at night (Atom's apartment is not well soundproofed). Al says the draft, the rough cartoons which are to accompany the report, and the already-stencilled title page artwork are excellent. He also reports that he visited the LonCon hotel with ATom and Ella Parker. Present convention facilities are good, and the new ones now being built (with a promised 31 July completion date) will perhaps make them excellent. The main hall will seat 200-300 comfortably, and has an adjoining lounge for the conventioners. The Art Show and Huckster Room will be in connecting rooms along a corridor adjoining the entrance to the con lounge. All con attendees are urged to stay at the Con Hotel, as the convention committee will have to pay an extra 50/-/- if less than 200 guests register. The Lon-Con Publicity problem seems to be due to the facts that (1) Publicity Manager Peter Mabey is not a pusher of publicity, (2) Ella's job keeps her busy till 8 PM a good many nights, and (3) the pass-on from Pacificon (\$100) arrived only toward the end of June. After viewing preparations first-hand, Al says he is getting enthusiastic about the LonCon. Go you and do likewise... .