

RUMBLE NEWSLETTER

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In addition to this rumbling, in several days time I shall begin publication of a weekly review of the science fiction magazines. And of course, Varioso will be on a monthly schedule. Two weeklies and a monthly -- quite a joke, isn't it?

But when I look back on the past few years and realize how little I have done, compared to what might have been done, it is apparent that steps have to be taken to insure a better record in the future. This doesn't count only for fan doings. It applies as well for my business, educational, professional, and introspective life. All of them have been given the short end. Where has the long end gone? There just hasn't been any long end.

The idea, then, is to increase activity in all areas; and my hope is that realization in one will lead to inspiration in another. This may sound dubious -- but do you realize that the faster you read, the more you comprehend? Psychological fact. Fact #2: Generally speaking, first decisions are more accurate than more deliberate ones. That things written faster are thereby better does not follow from this, but you may have found this to be as true from your experience as I have from mine.

Momentum is a funny thing. It doesn't require nearly as much work to keep it going 16 hours a day as it does to build up for only three or four two hour periods.

Why such a mania for activity? The last time somebody asked why I was in such a hurry, I told him I couldn't think of anything else to do. But actually it's just a matter of it being more fun to do things than not to do things.

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The Disclave will be held in mid-May at a posh Virginia motel. Or will it be March? I dunno -- whichever month has Mothers' Day. It will be a two-minute ride from the airport, a ten-minute ride from downtown D.C. Most of you are close enough to make it in a few hours, and the rest of you generally wind up in this area several times a year, anyhow. It's about time WSFA got on its horse. Come see D.C, visit George Friend's bookie...er, book shop, and enjoy the fantastically low liquor prices in tax-favored Washington.

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More on conventions: I hear from George & Mary Young that Detroit wants the '59 convention. Dallas and Chicago are apparently also interested. But Detroit has it all over them -- they probably have more combined convention-going experience than any other city, save N.Y. They have experience at putting on conventions, too, and to boot are about the most thoroughly fannish batch in the universe.

Some of the Detroiters, and the Falascas of Cleveland, are buzzing about a caravan, or carafan, to L.A. for the '58 con. Ten or twenty cars travelling together, having a convention every night for about two weeks...what could be more epic?

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A slick eight-page flyer on "The Earth Satellite" is out with an ACE distribution imprint. Feature of the thing, and raison d'etre for the one buck price tag is a record of the 20,005 mc. tooting of the thing. It's a genuine vinyl pressing of the sort sold for 89¢, so the price is fair if you want the thing. It is an interesting journalistic curiosity.

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Harry Warner isn't sure when he's moving yet, but mail sent to the following new address will reach him, so why not switch over now -- it's loftier: 423 Summit Avenue, Hagerstown, Md. He writes:

"I enjoyed the first rumble, particularly because you like Arnold Bennett, too. ...But if you're really planning to be a writer, take Woodford with an extremely large grain of salt. He's an entertaining man to read on the question of how to become a writer, but never says anything that is accurate, for all his fancy verbiage. The dullest books are the best ones on the problem of learning to sell professionally."

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Hickman writes from 304 N. 11th St., Mt. Vernon, Ill.: "Like the rumble newsletter. Hope you continue writing it. I've been watching a lot of the old Wheeler & Woolsey comedies plus a few Joe Penners. Haven't seen these since I was a kid and I've really enjoyed them."

"Steve Schultheis wrote me about the Philly affair and that he hoped to attend. (He did -jlm)

"Expecting another neo-fan in a month or so.

"...Am working on new Scurvy & JD now. Have gotten extremely fannish again of late. Wonder if it will last..."

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Wads of people are getting "extremely fannish again of late." Gad, but I hope it stays that way for just a little while.

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"...Smoke-filled room." Dylan Thomas, Quite early one morning.

"...A pocketful of Bradburys..." ibid.

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Alex Kirs appears in SFA Jan '58 with "Man Overboard," the first thing (that I've seen by him) in the prozines. Larry is pretty sharp at picking out fans.

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Don't miss Dementia Praecox, a new zine from Rickhardt, Young, and Beerman. Beerman has himself a great start at a fanzine review column, and the editorial is fine -- in the old fannish tradition.

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\$64,000 Question has come up with a space travel category. It would be fun to have a couple of fans battling it out on the \$64,000 Challenge. It would be even more fun if I were one of the fans.

