

'THE W S F A JOURNAL

The official organ of the Washington Science Fiction Association --- Issue Number 17
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IT'S BEEN A LONG, LONG TIME

By Robert A. Madle

(This is a speech delivered by Bob before the 1965 PHILCON, last November. Although it deals largely with the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, it also contains a great deal of fannish history, and so is being published in the JOURNAL. Bob's speech was actually interrupted many times by Sam Moskowitz, who illustrated the talk with slides. Unfortunately, we don't have the services of SaM and his slides to illustrate it this time.)

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the PSFS. Thirty years may be an extremely short or extremely long period of time -- depending upon what the topic under discussion is. So far as S-F Fandom is concerned, it is a very long time -- for Fandom can be traced back to about the beginning of 1930 when Ray Palmer, P. Schuyler Miller, and several other S-F enthusiasts formed the Science Correspondence Club and issued what can be called the first fan magazine, "The Comet". Almost simultaneously, a group of New York fans, led by Allen Glasser, formed The Scienceers, and issued their club magazine, "The Planet". In reality, "The Planet" was a forerunner of what eventually became known as "Science Fiction's Only Fan Magazine", The Time Traveler.

So, organized Fandom can be traced back 35 years. Those who want to argue a little might claim it can be traced back to 1927, when Hugo Gernsback initiated Discussions in Amazing Stories and readers wrote in raving about the stories and recommending their own favorites. For Amazing, in the beginning, was primarily a reprint magazine.

Throughout his publishing career, Hugo Gernsback constantly attempted to inject reader interest in his magazine and their type of fiction. He had a cover-story contest as far back as the December 1926 Amazing. He devised Science Fiction Week, started a campaign for S-F movies, offered short story contests in Science Wonder, Air Wonder, and Wonder Stories. And then, in the April 1934 Wonder Stories, Gernsback made an announcement that, for importance to, and impact on, S-F Fandom has never been equalled. This was the formation of the Science Fiction League, an organization formed with the purpose of drawing together into one large organization all those whose hobby and interest was in S-F. This organization did more toward the formation of a unified Fandom than any other single factor before or since.

From now on this "scene-setting" presentation may sound to be a little personal to you. However, it is difficult for me to present it in any other way because, so to

speak, I was there. And all I intend to do here is to show the beginning of the club, and briefly, describe the S-F field as it was then.

Immediately following the announcement of the SFL in the April 1934 Wonder, and expanded on in detail in the May 1934 Wonder, S-F fans joined by the hundreds. Local chapters of the SFL were formed all over the world. One of these was Chapter 11, the Philadelphia Science Fiction League. Milton A. Rothman, Philadelphia's only active fan and demon letter-writer at the time, recruited four SFL members, submitted their names to Charles D. Hornig, then Managing Editor of Wonder Stories and Secretary of the SFL, and received its charter in December 1934. The initial meeting of the PSFL was held in January 1935 with Rothman, Raymond Peel Mariella, Paul Hunter, and Charles Bert in attendance. Several meetings were held, but the club soon faded into inactivity because of non-attendance and lack of interest. Rothman, convinced that there just weren't any S-F fans in Philadelphia, ceased his intensive campaign to organize a local group.

However, operating independently of Rothman, was another small group of young fans -- extremely young, as a matter of fact. They were John V. Baltadonis, Jack Agnew, Harvey Greenblatt, and Robert A. Madle. In January 1935, they formed a small S-F discussion group and termed themselves The Boys' Science Fiction Club. The average age of the group was 13-14 years, and it is interesting to note that three of this group still retain an interest in science fiction -- the fourth, Harvey Greenblatt, was killed in action during World War II.

Not only did this little group meet, but they actually published fan magazines! They brought the first one out soon after the first meeting. Copies were made only for the members, and it is interesting to note, we thought nothing of copying a story word for word from Astounding. The Science Fiction Fan made only one appearance and was followed by another carbon-copied magazine, Imaginative Fiction. The covers of both of these were the earliest work of J. V. Baltadonis, later to be known as "The Paul of the Fan Artists".

The group, noticing Rothman's formation of the PSFL, wrote requesting information, but alas, Rothman never received the letter, and believing they had created too juvenile an impression, (they) did not repeat their request for membership in the PSFL. What they didn't realize then was the fact that Director Rothman was just slightly more mellow in years (or was it months?) than they. However, several months later, several members of the Boys' Science Fiction Club appeared in Amazing Stories Discussions column and Rothman communicated with them, and his dream of a Philadelphia Chapter of the Science Fiction League materialized.

The first "reorganization" meeting of the PSFL was held in October 1935, with Rothman, Mariella, Baltadonis, Madle, and Oswald Train in attendance. Train, a collector for many years, had just relocated in Philadelphia. He had written an entire test for the SFL and had appeared in print in the legendary fan magazine, The Time Traveler. (I might mention that almost everything was "legendary" to us then. Finding a copy of Science Wonder was legendary; getting a copy of Fantasy Magazine was legendary; finding that we had Stephen G. Hale; a science fiction writer, was legendary; in fact, just meeting somebody who read and collected S-F was legendary). Ossie was considered by the younger members to be a real "old-timer". I guess he must have been about twenty then.

Jack Agnew and Harvey Greenblatt joined the following meeting. Meetings were held weekly (on Saturday evenings) and these early gatherings were informal affairs with the entire several hours being consumed with science fiction discussions. For, as

some of you may remember, Fandom was completely magazine-oriented in those days. A science fiction fan was, completely and irrevocably, a science fiction fan.

In October 1935, what was the S-F field like? Well, there were only four magazines that fell completely into this category: Astounding Stories, Wonder Stories, Amazing Stories, and Weird Tales. At least, these were the four that most fans religiously bought each month. Other magazines the fans sometimes bought (but usually didn't collect) were Doc Savage, Secret Agent X, Operator 5, Bluebook, Clues, Argosy, and others. Each of the S-F magazines encouraged the development of Fandom by running lengthy reader columns.

Astounding, with 160 pages for 20¢, paid the highest rates, and got the best writers. For instance, the October 1935 issue featured Nat Schachner, Don A. Stuart, Stanley G. Weinbaum, Raymond Z. Gallun, and Jack Williamson. Wonder Stories was, to me, the most exciting of the four, primarily because of the SFL and the lengthy readers column, plus the fannish enthusiasm of its teen-age editor, Charles D. Hornig. The October 1935 Wonder featured the usual wonderful cover by Frank R. Paul, with stories by Edmond Hamilton, Laurence Manning, and Alexander M. Phillips, later to become a Philadelphia club member. Amazing Stories, although the stories were readable, didn't have the appeal of the others. As a matter of fact, about this time Amazing was making an effort to recapture some of its lost glory and had revived the old "comet-tail" title. Stories in Amazing for October were by Miles J. Breuer, Joe W. Skidmore, Nat Schachner, and George H. Scheer, Jr. Weird Tales had a lot going for it with Brundage's incomparable pastel-crayon covers. This issue featured one of C. L. Moore's Jirel of Joiry adventures. Based on this, and some others of M. Brundage, the young fans might have been heard singing, "The Girl I Love Is On a Weird Tales Cover."

Who were some of the active fans of October, 1935? Well, there was Milton A. Rothman. But we've mentioned him, haven't we? The two most active and most well-known were a couple of letter-hacks named Forrest J. Ackerman and Jack Darrow, both of whom were so well known that they were made Executive Directors of the SFL, along with Eando Binder, Edmond Hamilton, David H. Keller, P. Schuyler Miller, Clark Ashton Smith, R. F. Starzl, Charles D. Hornig, and Hugo Gernsback. Other active fans were Bob Tucker, who was pushing his SFWSSTFM in Astounding's Brass Tacks reader column; Donald A. Wollheim, later to become the unquestioned Dictator of Fandom, had started his own organization, to keep wire staples in S-F magazines. George Gordon Clark, Member #1 of the SFL, was publishing The Brooklyn Reporter.

Most of 1935 Fandom revolved around Fantasy Magazine, probably the greatest of all fan magazines, and its editors Julius Schwartz, Mort Weisinger, and Ray Palmer. James Blish was coming into the fan field about this time, and there were other SFL publications such as Chicago's 14 Leaflet, and Brooklyn's Arcturus. Other fans of the day were John B. Michel, Kenneth Starling, Julius Unger, William S. Sykora, David A. Kyle, Frederick Pohl. In fact, three of 1935's leading fans, Wollheim, Sykora, and Michel, had been so active that they had been expelled from the Science Fiction League. And, let's face it, getting expelled from a magazine organization is no easy accomplishment!

So, that was the Science Fiction scene in late 1935. As Bob Tucker said, "They don't make Fandoms like that anymore."

If you people liked Bob's article, how about letting us know -- if the response is good enough, perhaps we can get Bob to do some more "historical" writing for us!

-- ed.

THE CON GAME

Open ESFA -- Sunday, March 6, at 1:00 p.m. At the YMCA, Broad Street, Newark, N.J. To get there, take the turnpike to Newark and follow road signs. Admission: \$1.00. Refreshments and snack bar available. Program: Only things firm are a panel on H. G. Wells' influence on S-F, in commemoration of the Wells Centenary, conducted by John Boardman, and a panel on new writers in S-F conducted by Fred Lerner. There will be other program features, but just what is not known to the editor.

BCSKONE '66 -- March 11-13, at the Boston Statler-Hilton. Theme: "The Science in Science Fiction". Guest of Honor: Frederik Pohl. Membership: \$2.00. Sponsored by the Boston Science Fiction Society. Program includes Dr. Batteau on "Problem with Dolphins" and other speakers on Saturday, and, on Sunday, presentation of the Skylark Award and a panel: "Scientific Impossibilities". Statler Hilton rates: singles start at \$12, doubles at \$18, and Twins at \$19; mention the Boston S-F Society when making reservations (The Statler Hilton, Park Square, Boston, Mass.).

LUNACON '66 -- Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17, from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m., in the 7 Arts Room of the Hotel Edison, 16th St. West of Broadway, N. Y. City. Guest of Honor Isaac Asimov. Also, an outstanding program of speakers and panel discussions, the latter including "Pro Artist's", "Anthology Editor's", "Editor's", and, possibly a continuation of the Fred Pohl-Ted White-Lester del Rey-Tom Purdom panel cut off at the last PHILLYCON. There will also be an auction. Membership is \$1, collected at the door. Presented by the New York Science Fiction Society (The Lunarians, Inc.). LUNACON Program Book is accepting ads at \$1 a page (4½x7½), \$2.50 per half-page, preparation for offset. Advance \$1.00 memberships may be sent to Frank Dietz, 1750 Walton Ave., Bronx, N.Y., if desired. Hotel Edison rates are: singles \$11; doubles, \$15.50; twins, \$16.50; "threes" (twin + rollaway), \$19; mention New York Science Fiction Society when making reservations.

EASTERCON -- Same weekend as LUNACON -- on the evenings of Friday, April 15 and Saturday, April 16, at the Hotel Edison. A Fan Party, sponsored by the New York FISTFA, and open to all fans.

DISCLAVE '66 -- Friday and Saturday, May 13 and 14, at the Diplomat Motel, 1850 New York Ave., N.E., in Washington (i.e., at N. Y. Ave. and Bladensburg Road). Program is being planned for Saturday afternoon, with party Saturday night (and Sunday morning), but full details are not yet known. Motel rates: Single \$11 to \$15; twins and doubles \$14 to \$20; each additional person or additional rollaway bed \$2. Postage paid reservation cards are available for the asking from the editor.

MIDWESTCON '66 -- Saturday and Sunday, June 25 and 26, at the Carrousel Inn, 8001 Reading Road, Cincinnati, Ohio. For further information write: Lou Tabakow, 3953 St. John's Terrace, Cincinnati 36, Ohio.

WESTERCON '66 -- Weekend of July 4, in San Diego, Calif. For membership (which includes Progress Reports and Program Booklet) send \$1 to John Hull, 1210 Hemlock, Imperial Beach, Calif. Memberships will be \$1.50 at door, so join now!

OZARKON I -- July 29-31, at the Downtowner Motor Inn, 12th and Washington Sts., St. Louis, Missouri, 63101. Guest of Honor is Ted White. Convention membership is \$2, to be sent to James Hall, 202 Taylor Ave., Crystal City, Missouri, 63109. Room rates (special for convention, so obtain special rate card from Jim Hall): \$10 for a single, and \$13 for a double. Program not yet decided upon. Huckster space will be provided free-of-charge.

DEEPSOUTHCON IV -- First weekend in August, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Write to:
Lon Atkins, Box 228, Chapel Hill, N.C., 27514, for more information.

VIENNA CON '66 -- August 5-8, Vienna, Austria. Write: Alex Melhardt, 11 Hintzer-
strasse, Vienna 3, Austria, for information.

TRICON -- September 2-5, 1966, at the Sheraton-Cleveland Hotel, in Cleveland. Guest
of Honor, L. Sprague de Camp. Banquet m.c., Isaac Asimov. Registration begins at
6 p.m., Thursday. Room rates \$7.85 for a single, \$13.85 for a double, \$16.00 for
a twin; all rooms air-conditioned, with private bath, radio, and T.V. Membership
fees \$3 for attending membership and \$2 for a non-attending membership (other \$1
may be payed at door if desired). Make checks payable to "24th World Science
Fiction Convention", and mail them to: 24th World Science Fiction Convention, P.O.
Box 1372, Cleveland, Ohio, 44103. Copy deadlines: for Progress Report #3, June 1;
for Program Book, July 15. For more information on program, hotel, and copy rates,
see THE WSFA JOURNAL #16. Also, for Hugo Nominations Ballot (deadline May 1, 1966)
see issue #16 -- and be sure to get your nominations in on time! Of course, if you
really want plenty of TRICON info, send in your membership fee and get the Progress
Reports.

NORWESCON '66 -- New Years' Eve, December 31, in Spokane, Washington. More info on
this later.

There will also be a British con at Great Yarmouth over the Easter weekend; we will
print details on this when (and if) available.

And remember, BALTIMORE IN '67.

And Washington, D.C. in '73.

(We'll let New York have a con in 1970!) (Of course, if Tokyo puts in a bid . . .)

((Our thanks to FOCAL POINT #20 for some of the above info re the LUNACON, the
MIDWESTCON, and the OZARKON I.))

SPIES AT LARGE

Book Review -- COME DIE WITH ME, by James Dark (Signet Books, 50¢)

This is the first novel in a new spy-thriller series by Australian mystery-novelist
Carter Brown, using a pen-name, written in a very close imitation of the style of the
"James Bond" series of the late Ian Fleming. If you're not already tired of the
growing legion of Fleming imitations, you may very well like this specimen of the
genre. This time our hero is named Mark Hood; he's a British-educated American play-
boy and professional athlete, who is actually a secret agent for an organization
called Intertrust with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Intertrust is a combined
intelligence effort by the U.S., Britain, France, and Soviet Russia to prevent a nu-
clear war from taking place, but, of course, the Reds are trying to cheat and double-
cross their Western partners in this operation. A Nazi underground organization in
Brazil, the Bahamas, Florida, and Germany -- acting in partnership with Castro of
Cuba and the Red dictatorship of China -- is planning a nuclear sneak-attack against
the U.S. Navy. In a secret laboratory, germ-warfare experiments are being made.
Mark Hood goes to Nassau and gets on the trail of these neo-Nazis. Before long, he
is captured by the enemy and has to fight his way out of one perilous predicament
after another. The ending is not very conclusive. The villains are defeated, but
their leader gets away to plot mischief elsewhere in future, so further sequelization
may be expected. All-in-all, it's an enjoyable yarn, and pretty good ersatz Fleming.

Albert E. Gechter

April AMAZING -- This is the "Giant 40th Anniversary Issue" with a "Big 196 Pages" (count them -- you'll have to include both covers). It's all reprints, ranging over all of history since the Creation by Our Hugo. The interest in the issue is mostly historical, too; you might want to read Don Wilcox's "The Voyage That Lasted 600 Years" as possibly the earliest example of the "generations ship" (it antedated Heinlein's "Universe" by several months) -- I can't think of any other reason for wanting to read it. There's a fair '39 action story by A. M. Phillips and period pieces by Wallace West, Edmond Hamilton, Doc Keller, and G. Peyton Wertenbaker (anybody besides Madle remember him?). There's a slight story by Beam Piper. And finally there's a yarn by Nelson Bond, newly retitled "Pilgrimage" but originally called "The Priestess Who Rebelled"; it's the first story in the "Meg the Priestess" series, and I remember it fondly -- on re-reading it, I don't quite know why, but I still like it. If you yearn for the good old days and don't have a magazine collection, you'll want this issue; handle it carefully -- the ink on the cover comes off on your fingers.

April GALAXY -- Jack Vance's "The Last Castle" is a novelette that will undoubtedly be a Hugo contender next year. It seems to be an attempt to duplicate the success of "The Dragon Masters"; it has a similar decadent society based on mutated non-human servants. It is not as well-realized as "The Dragon Masters" but does demonstrate Vance's preoccupation with constructing unusual societies; the background is good but the plot is weak. There are two other novelets -- one by Bob Silverberg in his "Vors-ter" series and a very slight one by Frank Herbert -- and four shorts that did nothing for me.

GREAT SCIENCE FICTION #2 -- This one is selections from FANTASTIC -- none older than 1959. There are some illustrious names on the list of contents, but they are mostly represented by sub-standard stories. The only one I particularly liked was J. G. Ballard's "The Singing Statues".

April IF -- Heinlein's "The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress" concludes in this issue -- after reading it all, it still strikes me as the best thing he's written since "Double Star". A new serial, "Earthblood", by Keith Laumer and Rosel George Brown, gets off to a tedious beginning. Fred Saberhagen has a novelet in his "Berserker" series, but it's not up to the rest of them. There are three short stories -- a good one by Alma Hill, and two of which the less said the better. Lin Carter institutes a new regular department called "Our Man in Fandom". In this first effort, he gives a brief and condescending account of fandom and fanzines, and information for subscribing to the last two Hugo-winners, AMRA and YANDRO. Buck Coulson's going to hate him -- Buck's been trying to reduce his circulation.

Feb. 26 SATURDAY EVENING POST -- The SATEVEPOST gets in here because it's running Isaac Asimov's "Fantastic Voyage" which is based on a screen-play by Harry Kleiner from the original story by Otto Klement and J. L. Bixby". I'll report on this at more length when I've read the second, concluding installment and experienced the full horror of the thing.

Banks H. Mebane

From Alex's Gilliland -- "A friend of mine, Warren Felkel, has asked for a list of S-F novels and short stories dealing with equality of races for a term paper called 'The Amelioration of Ethnocentric Attitudes After Reading Science Fiction'.

"Perhaps if you put the request in the JOURNAL the members could make a few suggestions. Or have a contest -- I offer a prize of 'Almuric' by Robert E. Howard, 'Warrior of Llarn' by Gardner F. Fox and 'The Mad King' by ERB for the list with the most acceptable names. (Or a six-pack of beer, should someone not want the books.)"

Book Review -- THE SWORD OF LANKOR, by Howard L. Cory (Ace Books, F-373, 40¢, 158 pp)

The hero of this very minor epic is one Thuron of Ulmekoor, a kind of undersexed Conan, who gives the impression at times of disbelieving in himself. His sideman, Gaar of Kendsahr, is a cross between Sancho Panza and Shere Khan, with a touch of Delphic Oracle thrown in. Gaar is by far the most interesting character in the book, and the only one not pulled directly off the stock shelf.

We have also alien traders in orbit, posing as Wabbis Ka'arbu, the local War God, via a golden ball with miraculous powers. Thuron becomes the Son of Ka'arbu by winning one of the dullest gladiatorial games I can remember, and after climbing a mountain (for no reason, as it later turns out) has his blade, No'ondo'or, charmed so it cuts through anything without effort. He was invincible to start with, now he bids fair to become a whiz-bang godlet, complete with Gaar, his ever-loving Prophet. Showered with goodies, a daughter of King Xandnur, and consulted by the God-ball, Thuron is really it.

The conflict in the plot hinges on the willingness of Ka'arbu's High Priest, good old Yang T'or, to plot skullduggery against Our Hero. He does, of course, mixing in pirates and such, but would he? I submit the answer is NO; a high priest does not go against the Son of his Diety, especially after public acknowledgment of the fact.

The writing is sloppy. After Thuron loses No'ondo'or (a pirate holds a knife at his girl's throat, and Our Hero tamely hands over the enchanted blade) he uses the missing sword briefly to prove his Godhood to some sceptical Amazons. By the end of the book the aliens are able to put the end of their hyper-spatial tube anywhere they please, and not merely on top of high mountains, while in the final brawl Gaar is simultaneously slinging rocks at the Yang T'orites, and taking care of the girl.

There is other stuff done carelessly as well. All-in-all, a mediocre book. poorly written and apparently not edited at all.

Alexis A. Gilliland

EDITOR'S NOTES

In brief --

Sorry we couldn't get your "further thoughts on the consequences of Ayn Rand's laissez-faire Capitalism" in this issue, Alex, but we ran out of room; next issue, we promise! This also goes for your review, Mark Owings. However, this doesn't mean we have too much material -- please keep it coming, as two issues per month keep our supply moving pretty rapidly.

The WSFA Constitution (and possibly the By-Laws) will be published as a supplement to the next issue (#18).

Reports from the club Librarian (Jim Latimer) will begin in the next issue; yes, WSFA, you do have a Library -- books, magazines, and fanzines! Use it.

Remember to cast your vote for this year's Transatlantic Fan Fund (deadline April 13); we'd hoped to have some voting forms to distribute, but Bruce Pelz has not responded to our inquiries on the subject. Bruce??

We have also asked Rich Mann for a supply of "Who's Who in Fandom Questionnaires", but he, too has failed to respond. We don't have the time to run anything extra off at the moment, so you people will have to supply your own ballots, forms, etc. Anyway, info on Rich's project is in TWJ #14, and the deadline is April 15.

DIPLOMANIA #3 is out, and the first MIDDLE-EARTH DIPLOMACY II postal game is about to start. Should prove interesting to you Tolkien fans . . .

"Straw" ballot for Hugo Nominations for WSFA will be distributed with next JOURNAL.

Don Miller

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

At the meeting of February 18, we received a report from Bob Pavlat on the Disclave; it will be held at the Diplomat Motel, New York Ave. and Bladensburg Road, on Saturday, May 14. It was suggested that WSFA take a suite for Friday night, May 13, to receive early arrivals. The Disclave itself will include a program Saturday afternoon and a party until 2:00 a.m. Sunday morning.

Also discussed at the meeting were the Hugo Nominations for this year. WSFA has taken a membership in the TRICON and is entitled to vote its single membership for the Hugo Nominations and the final Hugo Ballot. It was suggested that THE WSFA JOURNAL will publish a straw ballot to determine the preferences of the members before WSFA submits its nomination ballot. I designated the meeting of April 15 as the meeting at which the club will vote on its selections; the JOURNAL will publish the straw ballot sufficiently in advance so that all members may send or bring their votes to the April 15th meeting.

An informal discussion was held, during which members mentioned some Hugo Nomination possibilities. For the Best Novel, suggestions included Tolkien's LORD OF THE RINGS (it's eligible), Frank Herbert's DUNE, Heinlein's THE MOON IS A HARSH MISTRESS, Roger Zelazny's AND CALL ME CONRAD, and Brian Aldiss' GREYBEARD. The Short Story category provoked little interest; the only title mentioned was "On the Storm Planet", by Cordwainer Smith. The Best Prozone category brought forth cries of "IF!" and a few murmurs of "GALAXY". The Artist and Drama categories brought out little -- I mentioned Gaughan and somebody said something about "The Tenth Victim" and "Lost in Space" (ugh). Fanzines mentioned included NIEKAS, YANDRO, AMRA and (surprise) MIRAGE. And THE WSFA JOURNAL, of course. A special category for this year is the Best All-Time Story Series, which brought forth a myriad of names -- everybody seemed to be mentioning every series they had ever heard of. I don't think anybody named the Zorome series, but I did hear Bob Pavlat and Bill Evans muttering about Northwest Smith and Jirel of Joiry. That category is going to be hotly debated -- but remember, Tolkien is eligible for that, too.

Banks H. Mebane

TREASURER'S REPORT

On hand, 15 February, 1966	\$95.29 (*)
Dues, Regular members	\$11.00
Dues, new Corresponding members	2.00
Dues, Associate members	1.10
Refund, JOURNAL postage overpayment	2.44
First class postage JOURNAL fees	1.00
Fee, Diplomacy game TWJ-1966-B	1.00
Expense: Paper for JOURNAL (balance)	\$4.17
On hand, 1 March, 1966	\$109.66 (**)

(*) Treasurer held \$89.49; Banks Mebane held \$3.30; Bill Berg held \$2.50.

(**) Excludes \$7.00 Fees for Diplomacy game TWJ-1966-C held by Don Miller.

Dues are now due for the March-May quarter. Remember, to be eligible to run for office or vote in the annual elections to be held during the Annual Meeting the first Friday of May, you must be in good standing.

WSFA membership in good standing now includes 29 Regular, 3 Associate, 22 Corresponding, 6 Life, and 9 Honorary (plus one deceased). A quorum stands at 15. Of the 29 Regular members in good standing, 15 have paid their dues for the current quarter

BEST AMATEUR MAGAZINE:

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

BEST ALL-TIME STORY SERIES:

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

JOURNAL READER'S PREFERENCE POLL

Please check types of material you'd like to see in the JOURNAL:

Like: Book Reviews _____ Movie Reviews _____ Fanzine Reviews _____ TV Reviews _____

Fan Fiction _____ Satirical Pieces like "The Barber Mystery" _____ **Con**

Reports _____ Fan news _____ Pro news _____ SPIES AT LARGE _____ Magazine

Reviews _____ Vignettes of club members _____ Vignettes of other fans _____

Letter-columns _____ General Features _____ Science Articles _____ S-F

Crossword Puzzles _____ Fan Poetry _____ Fan Art _____ Fan History _____

Comments (or further likes or dislikes, etc.) _____

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

WSFA HUGO NOMINATIONS STRAW BALLOT

(Complete and return to the editor of the JOURNAL not later than the meeting of April 15; mail to: D. Miller, 12315 Judson Road, Wheaton, Md., 20906. See the TRICON ballot attached to and the announcement in issue #16 of the JOURNAL for elaboration on the categories to be voted on below)

BEST NOVEL:

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

BEST SHORT FICTION:

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

BEST PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE:

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST:

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION:

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

(Ballot continued on other side)

(Bill Berg, Phyllis Berg, Russ Chauvenet, Frank Clark, Ron Bounds, Alexis Gilliland, Alan Huff, Jim Harper, Dick Eney, Jim Latimer, Don Miller, Bob Pavlat, Jan Slavin, Joe Vallin, and Lois Vallin). Regular members paid up beyond May include Russ Chauvenet (through August, 1966), Frank Clark (through November, 1966), and Alexis Gilliland (through November, 1966).

Associate members who are paid in advance are Alan Luehrmann and Steve Patt. Corresponding members are reminded that dues are due for renewal on June 1, 1966, with dues paid during the past year, for those who joined after August, 1965, prorated at the rate of 25¢ per quarter for each quarter owed. Corresponding members joining between the last meeting and June 1 will be given credit through June 1, 1967. This includes Ben Jason and Ron Parks, whose membership applications were o.k'd last meeting.

If anyone should see or write to Fred Gottschalk, remind him he still owes WSFA the sum of \$7.35 (this amount is also excluded from the balance on the preceding page).

A roster of members in good standing appeared in the February issue (#15) of the JOURNAL; the next complete roster will appear in the Mid-April issue (#20). Several changes to the roster appeared in issue #16 of the JOURNAL; additional changes are:

Regular members (Active) -- Add:

Clark, Frank -- 5506 Fiske Place, Alexandria, Va., 22312 (FI4-9077)
Evans, Buddie -- P.O. Box 1015, Langley Park, Md., 20787 (-)
Evans, William -- P.O. Box 1015, Langley Park, Md., 20787 (-)

Associate members -- Add:

Weston, James K. -- 4220 E-W Highway, Univ. Pk., Hyattsville, Md, 20782 (927-0136)

Corresponding members -- Add:

Jason, Ben -- 3971 East 71st St., Cleveland, Ohio, 44105 (-)
Parks, Ron -- 7201 Ridgewood St., Chevy Chase, Md., 20015 (OL6-2364)

Advance dues -- Add to the list Frank Clark, paid through November.

First class JOURNAL fee paid -- Ben Jason, Ron Parks.

Philip N. Bridges

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Present at the meeting of 18 February were 18 persons: Bill Berg, Phyllis Berg, Phil Bridges, Elizabeth Cullen, Dick Eney, Bill Evans, Buddie Evans, Joe and Gay Haldeman, Jim Harper, Alan Huff, Tom Haughey (guest), Jim Latimer, Banks Mebane, Don Miller, Bob and Peggy Pavlat, and Robert Weston.

Elizabeth O. Cullen

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

New Corresponding members: Ben Jason, Ron Parks.

Transfer from Regular to Associate member: Kim Weston.

William B. Berg

REPORT OF THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Exclusive of the present issue, 16 issues of the JOURNAL (and several supplements, including 3 issues of DIPLOMANIA) have been published to date. Supplies on hand include 15 stencils and 14.9 reams of paper. After the current issue is published, the club will need to purchase additional stencils.

Donald L. Miller

March/April Calendar --

- WSFA Meetings -- March 4, 18; April 1, 15, 29 (party); at home of Miss E. Cullen.
The Gamesmen -- March 11, 25; April 8, 22; at home of D. Miller; call first, if poss.
BSFS Meetings -- March 12 (at home of Ron Bounds, 649 N. Paca St., Baltimore); March 26 (at home of Judy Sharken, 3112 Bancroft Rd., Baltimore); April 9 (at home of Bill & Enid Osten, 1011 Ingleside Ave., Catonsville); April 23 (at home of Jerry Jacks, 4203 Labyrinth Road, Baltimore, Md., 21215).
Phone numbers -- Cullen, RA3-7107; Miller, 933-5417; Bounds, SA7-8202; Sharken, FL8-1368; Osten, 744-8391; Jacks, RO4-2987.
Open ESFA -- Sunday, March 6; Newark, N.J. See inside this issue.
BOSKONE '66 -- March 11-13; Boston, Mass. See inside this issue.
LUNACON '66 -- April 16 and 17, New York City. See inside this issue.
EASTERCON -- April 16 and 17, New York City. See inside this issue.

THE WASHINGTON SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION -- Regular membership \$4 per year (\$2 if under 18), payable quarterly; Associate 15¢ per meeting attended (10¢ if under 18); Corresponding \$1 per year, renewable June 1 of each year, 1st year prorated as appropriate at 25¢ per quarter; Life and Honorary, no dues; only Regular and Life may vote and hold office. Meetings at 8 p.m., at the home of Miss E. Cullen, 7966 W. Beach Drive, N.W., Wash., D.C., 20012 (phone RA3-7107). Meetings are generally of an informal nature. See TWJ #14, or call one of the WSFA members, for directions.

The JOURNAL is published bi-weekly, and is free to all Regular and Life members in good standing; \$1 per year via 3rd class mail or \$1.50 per year via 1st class mail for Associate members, with payments credited to member as advance dues for the year; free but via 3rd class mail to Corresponding members, who may receive it via 1st class mail by paying an extra 50¢ per year. For trades, write the editor. Third class mailings sent two issues at a time, at end of month. Ads accepted; see the editor. Deadline for material for issue #18, March 11; for #19, March 25. Please check the address label and the code thereupon: A, Associate member; C, Contributor; G, Guest; H, Honorary member; L, Life member; M, Regular member; P, Corresponding member; R, for review; S, Sample; T, Trade; X, last issue, unless . . .

Don Miller

THE WSFA JOURNAL
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FIRST CLASS MAIL