

File-770

FILE 770:40 (what, again?!) emits from 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys CA 91401 -- usually once each six weeks, but sometimes more or less often. Clear, now? Yeah. As long as you're asking my opinion about how to get this publication, I am perfectly happy to accept \$3 for 5 issues when remitted in US currency. Issues are mailed first class in North America, printed matter overseas. For \$1 per copy I'll send issues at air printed matter rate. (That means I lose 16¢ per on Australian copies, and clear 4¢ on European copies. Would Marc Ortlieb be willing to let me send his copies to France instead of Tasmania?)

Other successful schemes for obtaining F770 have been to send along hard news, soft gossip, or malleable prose, make expensive long-distance (not collect) phone calls to the editor at (213) 787-5061, contribute artwork, or make a deal to trade your clubzine or newzine with mine. Anybody want back issues? Send for info.



HUGO NOMINATIONS

At 11 p.m. March 31, I received a phone call from Andrew Porter congratulating me on once again being nominated for the Hugo in two categories. At 7:45 a.m. April 1 I called Worldcon chairman Mike Walsh to express my opinion about hearing this news from the competition rather than the committee. Just one week earlier Bill Evans, charged with counting the Hugo votes, had informed me that individual nominees would be notified by the committee, to offer them an opportunity to withdraw, before the list of nominees would be made public. Walsh explained that the list of nominees was being made available with the caveat that they still had the option to withdraw, therefore newzine editors might go to press with a potentially inaccurate list of finalists.

Well, I know damn well that Andy and I aren't withdrawing. That leaves 54 other spots on the ballot to speak up... Turn page for the list, and statistics.

Let me add on behalf of Bill Evans that he did place calls to each newzine editor, it just so happened I wasn't home when he called. Later April 1 when I reached Bill by phone he provided the following list of nominees. Also shown are the ballots cast within each category, how many slots on those ballots (total) were voted, how many individuals were mentioned at least once, and what range of nominating votes was received by the finalists (maximum and minimum). Evans stated that 660 Hugo ballots were submitted, overall.

<u>BALLOTS</u>	<u>VOTES</u>	<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>CATEGORY/TITLE OR NAME/RANGE OF NOMINATIONS</u>
606	2085	156	<u>BEST NOVEL</u> (189-96) (3-way tie for 4th) COURTSHIP RITE, Donald Kingsbury FOUNDATION'S EDGE, Isaac Asimov FRIDAY, Robert A. Heinlein PRIDE OF CHANUR, C. J. Cherryh SWORD OF THE LICTOR, Gene Wolfe 2010, Arthur C. Clarke
309	761	41	<u>BEST NOVELLA</u> (77-52) (4-way tie for 3rd) <u>Another Orphan</u> , John Kessel <u>Brainchild</u> , Joseph H. Delaney <u>The Postman</u> , David Brin <u>Souls</u> , Joanna Russ <u>To Leave A Mark</u> , Kim Stanley Robinson <u>Unsound Variations</u> , George R. R. Martin
353	1005	124	<u>BEST NOVELETTE</u> (49-43) <u>Aquila</u> , Somtow Sucharitkul <u>Fire Watch</u> , Connie Willis <u>Nightlife</u> , Phyllis Eisenstein <u>Pawn's Gambit</u> , Timothy Zahn <u>Swarm</u> , Bruce Sterling
404	1095	269	<u>BEST SHORT STORY</u> (55-36) "The Boy Who Water-Skied to Forever", James Tiptree "Hike at the Mike", Howard Waldrop "Melancholy Elephants", Spider Robinson "Spider Rose", Bruce Sterling "Sur", Ursula K. LeGuin
220	387	52	<u>BEST NONFICTION BOOK</u> (60-32) FEAR ITSELF: THE HORROR FICTION OF STEPHEN KING, ed. Underwood-Miller READER'S GUIDE TO FANTASY, ed. Baird Searles, Beth Meachem, M. Franklin THE WORLD OF THE DARK CRYSTAL, Brian Froud THE ENGINES OF THE NIGHT, Barry Malzberg ISAAC ASIMOV: THE FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENCE FICTION, James Gunn
439	1186	164	<u>BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST</u> (188-47) (3-way tie for 4th) Kelly Freas Don Maitz Rowena Morrill Barclay Shawl Darrell Sweet Michael Whelan

<u>BALLOTS</u>	<u>VOTES</u>	<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>CATEGORY/TITLE OR NAME/RANGE OF NOMINATIONS</u>
528	1676	63	<u>BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION</u> (278-119) BLADERUNNER DARK CRYSTAL E.T. ROAD WARRIOR STAR TREK II: THE WRATH OF KHAN
376	968	71	<u>BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR</u> (191-85) Terry Carr Edward Ferman David G. Hartwell Stanley Schmidt George Scithers
364	842	190	<u>BEST FANZINE</u> (123-45) FANTASY NEWSLETTER, ed. Paul Allen & Robert Collins FILE 770, ed. Mike Glyer LOCUS, ed. Charles N. Brown SCIENCE FICTION CHRONICLE, ed. Andrew Porter SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW, ed. Richard E. Geis
200	486	155	<u>BEST FANWRITER</u> (46-32) Richard E. Geis Mike Glyer Arthur Hlavaty Dave Langford
			((Only 4 nominees in this category because 8 individuals were tied at the next highest vote total))
256	595	201	<u>BEST FAN ARTIST</u> (65-19) Alexis Gilliland Joan Hanke-Woods William Rotsler Stu Shiffman Dan Steffan
236	284	123	<u>JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD</u> (34-19)(5-way tie for 3rd, one of whom was ineligible) Joseph H. Delaney Lisa Goldstein Sandra Miesel Warren G. Norwood Dave Palmer * Paul O. Williams *
			* denotes last year of eligibility (2nd)

Bill Evans, Hugo vote counter for the Constellation committee, is to be commended for the extensiveness of the voting statistics he has made available this early in the contest. Although I have not been able to include the sources for the short fiction, there is a small overlap with the Nebula nominees, you can check F770:39 for them.

HUGO NEAR MISS FOR LRT

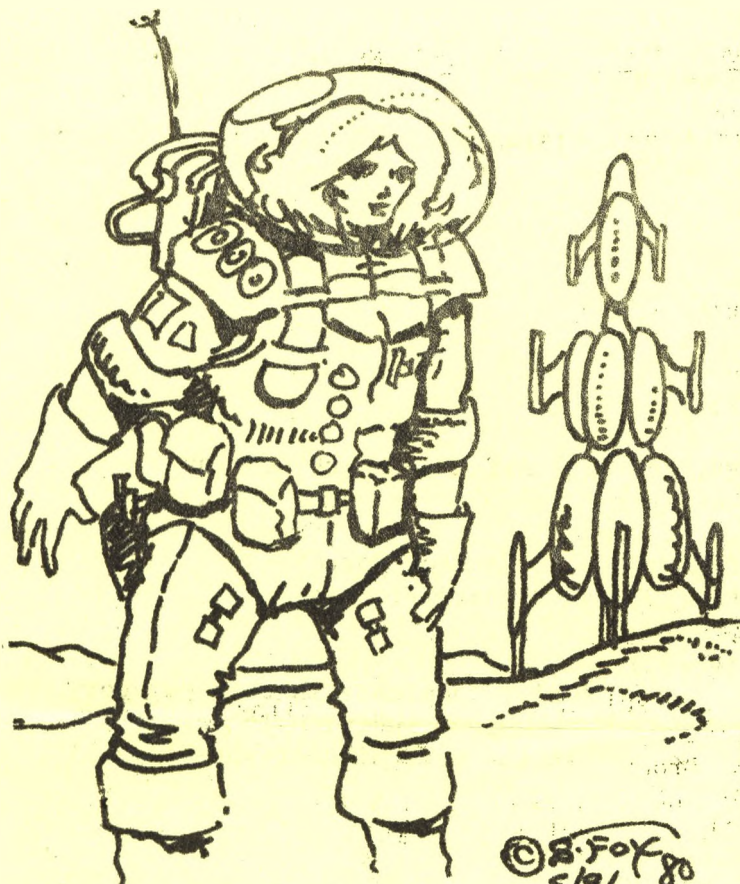
A funny thing happened on the way to the Hugo nominations -- L. Ron Hubbard's BATTLEFIELD EARTH nearly became a contender on the strength of a last-minute edition of the nominating form circulated by the Trimbles.

As reported last issue, the Trimbles, Los Angeles-area fans, published a letter soliciting members for a Battlefield Earth fan club. The letter was sent to 200-300 individuals who had contacted Authors Services Ltd. about the book. They were sent a letter and a Hugo nominating ballot with instructions on how to join as a supporting member and qualify to vote. According to Bjo, Fred Harris of Authors Services obtained information that Hubbard's book secured only 20 fewer nominations than the C. J. Cherryh novel reportedly getting the minimum vote of finalists in that category. Although the Worldcon committee did not release any such statistics to me, and did not offer for publication any corroborative background, it is evident that a hefty number of individuals who received the Trimbles' mailing did send in membership

money and copies of their edition of the ballot.

Bjo Trimble states that Authors Services placed her in contact with an individual whom she describes as a fan and collector of L. Ron Hubbard fiction, who funded their club's initial efforts on the possibility that thousands of members may be generated. If not, he's prepared to lose his venture capital. The collector is a private businessman in Los Angeles -- someone, in Bjo's words, who has never attended a LASFS meeting. (Well, that narrows it down to 3½ million men...)

Charles Platt, editor of THE PATCHIN REVIEW, also circulated the nominating form in a recent issue urging people to nominate Hubbard's novel in hopes that it would win and discredit the Hugos. Platt takes the incomprehensible position that the Hugos are a corrupt popularity contest that fail to reward the genuine literature in the field. I don't recall the WSFS Constitution requiring the Hugo voters to select the works most derivative of James Joyce and D. H. Lawrence -- isn't that what SFRA is for? Bjo reports that Fred Harris, of Authors Services, was horrified when he discovered that Platt was advocating a Hubbard



vote as the means to ridicule the award. Harris reportedly went frantic trying to figure out how to let people know "he's not one of us!" I can only savor the irony of BATTLEFIELD EARTH promoters trying to avoid being tainted by association with Charles Platt, after reading off Whitaker in the last issue for his speculating whether Scientology would publicize hypothetical members like John Wayne Gacy, David Berkowitz and Charles Manson.

PHOENICIAN DISTRESS: Mention in F770:39 of an announcement for Phoenix in '87 worldcon bidding committee yielded this postcard from Bruce D. Arthurs: "I presume you sent F770 #39 to see if I had any reaction to the mention of two 1987 Phoenix worldcon bids. I can think of three possible reactions: (1) Oy vey. (2) Oh shit. (3) What's the housing market like in Seattle? Actually, the fact that I found out about this from your fanzine is rather pleasing. It means I'm being successful in keeping the hell out of Phoenix fanpolitics. I'm just a fanzine fan who happens to have an address in Phoenix."

MARCH FOOLS: You can never tell about INSTANT MESSAGE any more since they blew the cover on #327 -- the hoax issue apparently generated in New York fandom. (They blame Ben Yalow. I find that hard to swallow, since the longest thing I've ever seen written by Yalow is the two-sentence renewals he sends in to F770 every other year. On the other hand, this assures that I would never recognize any hoax journalism Yalow might perpetrate...) When I saw April 1 as the date on page 1 of issue #333, I approached the contents with renewed skepticism. However, all the inside pages were dated March 27 -- including the one reading: "IT'S OFFICIAL. At the MCFI ((Massachusetts Convention Fandom Inc.)) meeting on Wednesday, March 23, after 4 minutes, 56 seconds of debate, it was decided that they are still crazy after all these years. The vote: Boston in '89 -- 18; George Flynn -- 1. Consequently 2 committees were established: (1) the Advertising Committee, chaired by Suford Lewis, to prepare ads for the ConStellation Progress Report 4; and (2) the Structure Committee, chaired by Dave Anderson, to propose modifications to the structure of MCFI to facilitate bidding for the 1898 Worldcon /sic/." I must confess that my skepticism is still not allayed.

AMENDED CONVENTION LISTINGS: Add these to the lists of the past two issues:

BRAVE NEW CON: (Jan. 13-15 1984) Sheraton International, Reston VA
Rooms: \$46 sgl/dbl. Dealers tables: \$25 each. Membership: \$8 til 5/31/83, \$10 til 12/15/83, \$12 at the door. To: WACO, PO Box 5818, Bethesda MD 20814.

GENUINE CONFUSION: (Jan. 27-29, 1983) Plymouth Hilton, 14707 Northville Rd., Plymouth MI 48170. PRO: Mike Resnick. FAN: Martha Beck. TM: Dick Smith.
FRIDAY SPEAKER: Wilson Tucker. Rooms: \$46/sgl, \$49/dbl. Memberships: \$10 til 11/24, \$12 til 1/15/84. Contact: AASFA Inc. PO Box 2144, Ann Arbor MI 48106.

BOSKONE XXI: (Feb. 17-19 1984) GoH: Gene Wolfe. Official Artist: Vincent DiFate, Special Guest: David G. Hartwell. Memberships \$14 til 7/15/83, more later. To: NESFA, PO Box G, MIT Station, Cambridge MA 02139.

MORE SCIENTOLOGY: Lifted from the pastel blue pages of ANSIBLE 32, which relates the Platt item described above: "The first repercussions have already hit in Britain, with lovable George Hay ((of England's SF Foundation)) served with a SUPPRESSIVE PERSON DECLARE AND EXPULSION ORDER giving him the boot from the Church of Scientology for 'suppressive action' (unspecified by George), and signed by an INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE CHIEF, no less. Lateral thinking George says he'll be taking this up in a letter to FOUNDATION as soon as he's read BE... (His current limp is not because he's been done over by a squad of International Justice Chiefs; he encountered a hit-and-run driver in London late last year." To place Hay in context for American readers -- Perry Chapdelaine has announced him as a co-editor of Those Amazing Campbell Letters (Insurance companies have yet to settle with the survivors of all those fans who held their breath, turned blue, and died outside neighborhood bookstores waiting for the series to appear.)

ANGST IN ONTARIO: Writing in the newsletter of the Ontario Science Fiction Club, OSFIC, London (Ont.) fan Dick Weilgosh publicized the following complaint on behalf of Canadian science fiction collectors: "For the past 18 months, DAW Books of New York has been releasing here in Canada all of their new books stating 'First Edition of Printing' but bearing the number 2 instead of number 1 under the first edition logo -- this shows a second printing and not a first. This is not acceptable to this collector and I'm sure is not acceptable to other collectors out there. I recently wrote Donald A. Wollheim -- publisher of DAW -- asking why we in Canada get second printings of his books and as you can see from his dumb, stupid answer, he doesn't really care. I wish that we up here had the guts to take up a petition and send it to DAW stating that we won't be buying any more of his books. What do you say? I for one have bought my last DAW book."

Weilgosh wrote his letter, indeed. Did it disappear into the void of big city publishing offices? Did it receive a form acknowledgement? No, Donald Wollheim did Weilgosh the courtesy of sending the following reply: "Dear Mr. Weilgosh. Your problem is that you have not understood in the past that all DAW books marked Printed in Canada have always been second editions, even if they still carried the '1' of the original USA printing. These Canadian editions are usually printed a few weeks after the American printings. Actually, they were always supposed to have their numbering start with '2' but for many years it was hit-or-miss with the Canadian printers -- most of the time they simply neglected to make this correction. As you have noticed, this error has been corrected in the past 18 months. But there has not been any real change in our procedures. You should consider these as the 'First Canadian Editions.' As far as collecting is concerned, one would hope that the content of the book was the first concern! As long as the book carries the serial logo number on the cover, it is still a collectors' item!"

There appears to be some justice in both points of view. I empathize with the collector, Weilgosh, who feels that he is being sold second edition books. The books' having a DAW serial number does not reassure Weilgosh that he has a collectible of the highest potential. However, DAW is not guilty of misrepresentation -- they are Canadian first editions, they obviously aren't reprints. Wollheim, to avoid misrepresentation, has even gone so far as to see that the proper printing number appears on the book. Weilgosh was simply unaware that US and Canadian runs were not simultaneous back when he was blithely acquiring copies in Ontario bearing a '1' printing number. As a collector, Weilgosh can always mail order DAW books to get his first editions. I fail to see what would motivate anyone to join Weilgosh in a boycott of DAW books in Canada who buys sf books simply for the pleasure of reading them, other than Ian McKeer and Joseph Nicholas who in the Edmonton clubzine NEOLOGY are mouthing holy war against "American cultural imperialism and the debasement of SF's mythopoeic potential by technophilic hacks..."

RED SHIFT: Speaking of ideological cliches, McKeer and Nicholas will doubtless be gratified to receive a press release from the Red Shift Readers and Writers Collective of New Haven (CT) announcing the premiere issue of its fanzine RED ROBIN. They report, "Red Shift is an organization of 'left' and 'progressive' writers and readers of sf & f who are interested in developing a literature of 'redeeming socialist value'. As one of its classified ads states: 'There is a progressive trend within sf!! We wield words that will change the world!!'" Sample copies of RED ROBIN may be had for \$1. Red Shift also plans an sf magazine to make its first appearance in March 1984. Send to: PO Box 946, New Haven CT 06504-0946.

TRANS-ATLANTIC FAN FUND: ANSIBLE 32 rumors that Rob Hansen and D. 'Dave' West may contend in the 1984 race to travel to Los Angeles. One may inquire what motive West would have for visiting American fandom after writing so contemptuously about it in WARHOON and various Britzines, or what motivation we would have in funding his trip.

THE FAN FUND OF AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND:

THYME #23, published by Roger Weddall of Australia, furnishes much-needed details about this fund. Like such basic information as -- the fund will bring a New Zealand fan to Syncon. Voting deadline is/was March 31.

The race has brought out some New Zealand nastiness that rivals the domestic strain practiced among Atlanta in '86 committee past and present. Weddall implies that Greg Hills' comments in TANJENT 13, virtually withdrawing Michelle Muysart's FFANZ candidacy, should be disregarded. He adds: "It would probably not be out of place to mention here that there is currently a fair bit of the substance with the mud-like qualities being flung around in NZ fandom at the moment, especially in NASF circles. There is talk of the rifling of personal papers, lawsuits, and 'plots': you get the idea."

STARDOM FOR SF AUTHOR? In the March 13 Los Angeles Times, "Book Notes" by Dick Lochte stated "Arthur C. Clarke will appear as Virginia Woolf's husband, Leonard, in a film adaptation of Woolf's 'The Village in the Jungle.'"

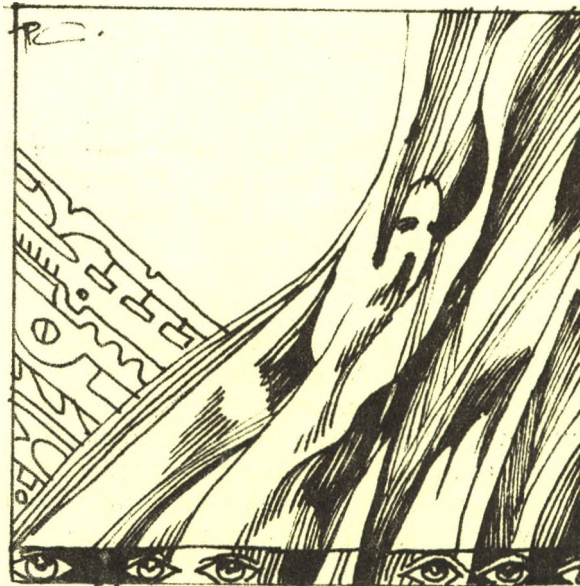
VITAL STATISTICS: RATS ON FIRE #16 accidentally published some news, to wit, Randy and Diane Bathurst, and Steve and Denise Leigh are all expectant parents.

CHANGE BACK FROM YOUR WORLDCON: Along with a check for \$75 I received a letter from Chicon IV stating "Attached to this letter you will find yet another pleasant surprise from the Chicon IV Board of Directors. At the Board meeting held in Chicago on the 15th of January, it was approved to pay to each qualifying Department Manager or Assistant Division Manager who had not had their room bill at Chicon totally paid for by the convention the flat sum of \$75 as a thank-you for exemplary services to the Convention."

THE UN-BID. Chairman of the Chattanooga Science Fiction Convention, Inc., Richard T. Bolgeo, has withdrawn his committee's bid for the 1984 DeepSouthCon, citing the physical and mental burnout of a third of his Board of Trustees after holding the 1983 Chattacon. The strain of running a 715-attendee con deterred them from attempting to fit a DeepSouthCon into their lives in addition to the regular January con.

THE COSMIC TRUTH: Reports Andy Andruschak, Voyager Two will have its closest approach on 24 January 1986 at 21:48:17 UTC -- 1:48 PST. Good, Andy, that gives you plenty of time to write in and tell me what Voyager Two is going to approach so closely on that day. (How these minor details do slip one's mind.)

CONTRETEMPS ADD-ON: Steven Keith Tait says pre-registtation is \$12 til 4/1. GoHs are Gordon Dickson, Kelly Freas, Joe & Gay Haldeman. Change of address is to L.O.O.S.E. PO Box 12422, Omaha NB 68112.



FRED PATTEN REVIEW

KEEP WATCHING THE SKIES! American Science Fiction Movies of the Fifties. Vol. 1, 1950-1957. By Bill Warren. Research Associate, Bill Thomas. Photos. Cartoons by Marc Schirmeister. Jefferson NC, McFarland & Co., 1982. xvi + 467 pp. \$39.95 ISBN: 0-89950-032-3. Order from: McFarland & Company Inc., PO Box 611, Jefferson NC 28640.

Bill Warren's KEEP WATCHING THE SKIES! is one of the best books on SF movies ever written. It should serve as a model for movie scholars writing on films of every genre. Warren covers the 1950-1957 SF films knowledgeably and in depth, but in a relaxed and entertaining style rather than with academic formality. In addition to detailed plot synopses and production data, Warren cites the pro and con contemporary reviews which each film got and then adds his own analysis of how the film stands up after 25-30 years. This is both an armchair reader for casual movie buffs and an important source of information for anyone who wants more than a shallow overview of "the great sci-fi flicks."

Warren was seven years old in 1950 and originally saw many of these films through the emotional viewpoint of a gosh-wow kid. For this book he has tried to look at each film in two ways; as a gosh-wow kid of the 50s, and as a sophisticated viewer of the 80s. He is more tolerant of mediocre films than most modern SF film scholars are, judging them by whether they achieved their marketing purpose of entertaining the audiences of the 1950s. On the other hand, he does not hesitate to hilariously dissect the real stinkers such as "Cat-Women of the Moon", or to warn against films that would be considered overly naive by today's public. Unlike many SF film books which discuss the plots, special effects and direction only, Warren analyzes all of the elements which create the overall effect that the film has on the viewer: the acting, good music, sets, etc.

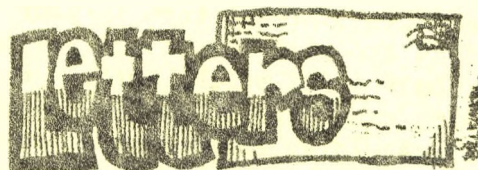
KEEP WATCHING THE SKIES! covers every American SF film (or foreign film released in America, such as "Godzilla") that came out during the eight years of 1950 through 1957. The dates aren't tied just to Warren's boyhood nostalgia. He postulates that there were definite factors which made "1950s SF films" distinct from SF films in general. These included the political climate, the cinematic technology of the day, and the state of public awareness (or misunderstanding) of current popularized science. Warren develops his thesis plausibly as he reviews 134 individual films. Since "trends don't watch calendars", the second volume will cover the SF films of 1958 through 1962, which in Warren's opinion is the year when the genre of "1950s SF movies" evolved past that designation.

Unfortunately, the format of this book makes it a pain to use. There is no clear table of contents to the individual films. The reviews are arranged alphabetically by film title within each year of release. Therefore, if you want to look up "The War of the Worlds" but you can't remember whether it came out in 1952, 1953, or 1954, you have to look under "W" in all three years. Well, not really. Fortunately the book is well indexed. There is also an appendix which lists all the films alphabetically and gives complete cast and credits for each (including the names of both the actors and the characters they play,) as well as the running time and official release date. This will also show you which year to look under for the main review. (Other appendices include a chronological list of all the films in order of release date, a list of SF film titles announced during the 50s but never made, and SF serials.) But it would have been of more help to the reader to have an alphabetical table of contents at the front of the

book rather than make him dig through the appendices and the index at the rear.

Considering how complete the book is in all other respects, it's curious that there is no formal bibliography. Warren refers frequently to comments about these movies in other books and magazines ("The Hollywood Reporter said..."; "Other writers, such as Gail Morgan Hickman in his useful but not incisive Films of George Pal, have implied..."), sometimes to debate them. But there is no bibliographic data to indicate when or where these books were written (some are American, some are British), or in which issues of the magazines the cited reviews appeared.

The main thing wrong with KEEP WATCHING THE SKIES! is its \$40 pricetag. Even though you get almost 500 pages, who has \$40 to spend on a single book in today's economy? Yet this title is a must-buy item for anyone with a serious interest in SF cinema. If you can't afford it for yourself, try to persuade your public library that it needs this book.



STEVE & SUE FRANCIS, PO Box 58009, Louisville KY 40258

Cliff Amos has resigned as Chairman of Rivercon effective March 15, 1983. We have assumed (with concurrence of the Rivercon committee) the chairmanship of Rivercon. Please note the new address.

BRUCE D. ARTHURS 3421 W. Poinsettia, Phoenix AZ 85029

You wanted a concise statement re Gigi's letter. How about this: (1) Ms. Dane's letter is highly incomplete. (2) The facts she does cite are mostly inaccurate. And (3) the conclusions she reaches are totally wrong. I'm sure it makes her feel better to think that I resigned from CASFS in a fit of anger, but the true facts are that I had been considering such a resignation for months. I'll also point out that the claim that resignations must be addressed to the Chairman of the Board has no basis in reality. Hope that covers it. You might also add that I'm a lot happier not being a CASFS member than I was being one, and continue to stay that way.

JEANNE GOMOLL (SF³ PO Box 1624, Madison WI 53701-1624)

Due to some extremely good media coverage -- the front page of the WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL and a full page article in ISTHMUS and coverage by 2 TV stations, Wiscon may now be known in the Madison area as a Trek-con... *sigh* The enclosed programming material ((shchedule)) should prove we're still the solidly-programmed, slightly academic, feminist-oriented convention we ever were. But the media, as usual, seems only to want the outrageous, media-centered material. Well, to be fair, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL was the worst, but being on the front page with 1/2 of the page taken up with a beautiful, full-color photo of a masquerade participant -- it will probably have the greatest impact. Still, the con was a great success. I'll forward our "post-mortem meeting" minutes to you in a month or so.

((Public events are at the mercy of the media's desire to reach the most common denominator -- they'll seek eye-catching, easily-grasped images. In a slightly academic, feminist-oriented SF convention, the choices seem to be between a group shot of pipe-smoking teachers in tweed coats with patched elbows, a NOW logo, and something evocative of Crazy Buck Rogers Stuff. You were probably lucky...))

KEEP THOSE CARDS AND BALLOTS COMING: And other cliched show-biz lead-ins... Although for the majority, this issue will reach you right around the PONG POLL's April 15 deadline, please continue sending in those FILE 770 POLL ballots, and Hogu Nomination forms. I have already uncovered two people who would be willing to accept Dick Geis' Hugo for him, unconditionally, and two others who would (1) if he lived in the same state as Geis, and (2) if he was ever planning to attend the worldcon. On the Hogu front, INSTANT MESSAGE has run an edition of the ballot and urges "all loyal NESFen /to/ nominate Ben Yalow, the alleged producer of the hoax IM, INSTANT MESSAGE #327, for 'Best Fan Hoax.'" F770 POLL deadline: April 30. HOGU NOMINATIONS deadline: May 15.

FURTHER CLIPPINGS AND SNIPINGS FROM INSTANT MESSAGE: Although I have read one snide review of IM which referred to NESFA having declined so far that they've been reduced to listing their pets in the club's newzine, Clerk Claire Anderson has resorted to a new twist on the old scam. "HELP CHOOSE THE NESFA MASCOT" reads the headline in IM #333 (which is, after all, one-half the Number of the Beast). Continues the article: "Please turn in your NESFA Mascot Selection Forms (which appeared in the last IM) to the Feline Deity by the end of the April Business Meeting. Only 1.37% of the entire membership has returned their forms. The leading candidate so far is Treasurer Mark Olsson's nominee, a female tortoise shell cat (also known as a 'money cat')..." This may be a case of the Golden Rule working -- he who has the gold makes the rules! NESFA's building fund in the March tally was \$10,918, an impressive amount. The Clerk wants NESFen to submit their ballots, but reminds members "DO NOT SEND ANY POTENTIAL MASCOTS TO BOX G; just send your filled-in forms."

ART CREDITS: Stu Shiffman: 1. Tim Marion: (calligraphy) 1. Steven Fox: 4. Paul Chadwick: 7. Bill Kunkel: 9. Stu Shiffman: 10,



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