

Spring

2000

SCIENTIFICTION



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NEWS:

This news from Erle Korshak - Ray Bradbury is expected to make a complete recovery from

his stroke of last November. Erle had dinner with Ray and reports he (Ray) is feeling much better!

COVER NOTE:

This issue's cover is a combination of my art (everything in front of the window) and (beyond the window) the classic art of Frank R. Paul from the cover of *WONDER STORIES*, July 1934. I used this piece as the cover of *ACES* #14 somewhat larger and in color and I thought it was also appropriate for use here. (Yes, that's the lazy man's rationale but it's also true.) pm

DEADLINES:

Scientifiction:

Summer Issue:

Closing date, April 15

Fall Issue:

Closing date, July 15

Winter Issue:

Closing date, October 15

Spring Issue:

Closing date, January 15

First Fandom:

May 31, 2000 - Deadline for nominations for Hall of Fame and Sam Moskowitz Awards.

Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2000 F.F. Reunion, Archon 24, PO Box 8387, St. Louis, MO 63132-8387

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SCIENTIFUNCTION™ is edited for this, the last time, by Paul McCall, 5801 W. Henry St., Indianapolis, IN 46241-0529 (pmccall@indy.net) (www.paulmccall.com), next time by Jim Harmon, 634 S. Orchard Dr., Burbank, CA 91506 and no Erle, I don't have his phone #.



DINOSAUR DROPPINGS:

- Bill Beard -

Adios Dr. Mark:

Mark Schulzinger is gone. Doesn't seem possible. He had been going downhill due to cancer, but he was supposed to have time. The Beam family and I were to visit with him to say our farewells. But he couldn't wait that long. Mark passed on Feb. 9th. We had scheduled our trip to start on the 10th. We went. Mark was buried on the 11th. It was the most touching ceremony that I ever attended. The family and friends actually buried the casket. I could not. I had to walk away for a while. Mark was buried in a very fancy pine box. It was the cowboy way.

Mark's family and wife were there. Sally, his wife was extremely courageous under terrible stress. A very brave lady.

I saw old time fans Martha and Henry Beck whom I have not seen for 40 years. I also met for the first time Stan and Jane Skirvin, fascinating people who lead fascinating lives. They have a wonderful place in Scottsdale. Alan

Waddel from San Jose was there too. One of the most interesting people that I have met in ages. Alan is a claims settler for the IRS and his wife is a computer software programmer.

The next day was supposed to be a celebration of life and a wake for Mark. I didn't make it. Due to an intestinal blockage and the passing of a kidney stone, I ended up in St. Joseph hospitals ER. Thanks to Mary Ann Beam and a Dr. Engle, I am still here. I took a lot of talking to, but I finally gave in to Mary's insistence that I go. THANK YOU M.A.B. I flew home under sedation and was admitted to the hospital here. I was released Thursday the 17th. I guess our plane had a close call landing in Indy, but I was flying high myself. I don't think that I would have noticed.

I am sorry that I missed the wake, I wonder if we could do it again? Perhaps at ARCHON. Join me? Join me in saluting Dr. Mark. Thank You.

Bill Beard
Con Liaison.

Subject: Bicentennial Man

Date: Mon, 27 Dec 1999

From: Bill <wbeard@nltc.net>

Just saw the Robin Williams flic. It was based on a cupla things that Asimov did. It moved for me, like a 1930's novel.

Quite a few people wont like this, but I think us old guys will really dig it...; I DID...

If you can spare the time and the money...GO SEE IT.

Bill Beard

- Bill Breuer -

Subject: Y2K vs. Yesteryear

Date: Fri, 24 Dec 1999

From: billbreuer@juno.com

To: pmccall@indy.net

Hi Paul!

Phyl and I just got the zine today. Since so many of us in this org. are "up there" in age, I thought you'd appreciate this...

Y2K vs. Yesteryear

I was in a "-Mart" store this morning and the power went out. They were completely crippled. "Shadows of Y2K!", I immediately thought.

Cash registers were dead, no PA system, vacuums were silent. People left the lines... and waited in the light of the store entrances. For a brief moment my mind wandered to a time when I was growing up. I could almost hear old Mr. Pauley speaking over the scores of years as I reflected on this typical New England-style general store.

"Hmmm, Y2k eh? Well, time to open up... I'll raise the window

shades and check my pocket watch against the wall clock. Better wind them both. Little chilly this morning, I'll stoke up the potbelly. Floors need a little cleaning, when the boy comes in I'll have him broom it then maybe a mop it depending on the weather. I'll just unlock the front door and then take the burglar alarm... give him a pet on the head and feed him. Cat, too, though she's probably done her job during the night, eh?

"I'll unlock the cash register... it's lever is a bit stuck and it's one drawer has developed a squeak when it rings. Probably needs oil. Got a new receipt pad hanging by the register if anyone needs it... even has numbers preprinted on it! I'll put out a new note sheet... mostly as stock reminder. The lever-operated adding machine has still got some paper. Not real worried about looking up accounts... the book with three columns is right back here. Post Office window is ready... yesterday got some new sheets of stamps to tear from and the drawer is full of single stamps.

"I hear the tea kettle about to whistle... means the apple cider is warm and the coffee should be ready soon. That old stove takes care of them all. The games are ready for anyone who comes and wants to stay around. I'll feather dust off the chess, checkers on the shelf near the tables... those old games entertain folks and

promote some good conversation.

"Oh, I'll be back in a minute... I'm going out to the cold storage shed out back and bring in some milk and a few refrigerator items I expect someone likely might need. They'll keep a while in here.

Then the present snapped back as two young men forced open the automatic doors of the " - Mart" and I looked around faced squarely with the contrasts... (and personal age!).

Even though it is © 1999 Bill Breuer, you may freely use it if you like.

Have a great holiday!

Bill

Dr. Bill Breuer
Louisville, KY.

- Ron Small -

Dear Paul;

Once again, please take a bow for another good issue.

Quite a few questions brought up, which I am undoubtedly not qualified to answer. I am a bit puzzled by the internecine warfare which seems to have sprung up, and do cling to the notion that much of it stems from personality clashes which, if true, is most unfortunate. I suppose that anyone who wishes to pay his dues should be welcomed into the fold, but perhaps it goes much deeper than that. (Solomon, where are you????) I do feel that if dues are required for club membership, there is no

question that they should be paid. It FF wishes to award any honorary memberships, that is a question which should be resolved. Above and beyond these not-very-cogent remarks, I do not know what to say

Now, about longevity of FF. It would seem a great pity that the organization should not be perpetuated by some means or other - Perhaps by some means whereby those who qualify as dyed-in-the-wool fans a certain number of years prior to eligibility for membership. We do seem to have a stream of newer fans who appear qualified to carry the torch once the ancients have departed, and their dedication could well keep things going.

Now let me respond to Terry Jeeves concerning the modern science fiction. I thoroughly concur with his complaint concerning those authors who seem to be honoring real science fiction more in the breach than in the observance (thanks, Will!) and instead insist on using it to promote their tastes for porn. "Good authors who once knew better words, now only use four-letter words, writing prose" (thanks, Cole.). Not for me. If these people want to write porn, so be it, but kindly keep your mitts off our science fiction. Guess that's why my esteem for Connie Willis is so high. Keep pitching!

Sincerely,
Ron Small

- Sam Basham -

Dear Paul,

I nominate Frank M. Robinson for the First Fandom Hall of Fame Award.

In addition I nominate Frank M. Robinson for the Sam Moskowitz Award. I know of nothing that precludes nominations in both categories the same year. If there is, then I withdraw the Moskowitz Award nomination. If not, then let both stand.

Sincerely,
Sam Basham

- Erle M. Korshak -

Dear Paul:

In the past few years we have embraced a very useful principle in joining two or more proposed recipients for the First Fandom Hall of Fame Award where such multiple nominees share a common denominator. For example, the 1995 award to Jack Speer and Harry Warner Jr. (common denominator: pioneers in fan history) and the 1998 award to Jack Agnew, John Baltodonis, and Milton Rothman (common denominator: early Philly fans). And so, on that principle, I should like to propose for the 2001 award another duo who are doubly qualified, first because their professional lives in science-fiction were merged for many years and, second, because at the same time they were active Chicago fans. The nominees: Frank M. Robinson and William

Lawrence Hamling. A vote for one is a vote for both: they stand or fall in tandem.

Frank Robinson is undoubtedly the ultimate pulp collector of our time: his recent tome *PULP CULTURE* is already a "must" in the field. And as the author of *THE POWER* and, later with Tom Scoria, of *THE TOWERING INFERNO*, it would be difficult indeed to find anyone among us who has not read Frank's books or seen the excellent motion-pictures that were made from them. In the early '40's Frank served with Bill Hamling on the pulp fiction staff at Ziff-Davis, Frank as first reader and Bill as editor (under Ray Palmer) of *AMAZING STORIES*.

Bill Hamling is a legend in the field. An active Chicago fan since the mid-thirties, he published five issues of *STARDUST*, one of the best early printed fanzines, and by the '40's he was working alongside of Frank Robinson at *AMAZING STORIES*, then as Managing Editor of *FANTASTIC ADVENTURES* and, later still as Editor and Publisher of *IMAGINATION*. Frank later worked for Bill as editor of *ROGUE* (Bill's *PLAYBOY* wannabe).

The Robinson-Hamling ticket is so appropriate for still another reason, it gives us the opportunity to honor two giants of First Fandom at a time when the survivors of First Fandom are coming closer and closer to their Judgment Day.

Respectfully submitted.

Erle Melvin Korshak

(Co-recipient of the First Fandom Hall of Fame for 1996)

A copy of this nomination has been sent this date to Mark Schulzinger.

- Bob Peterson -

Dear Paul,

Was sorry to read of Mark's death in *Locus* the other day. He will be missed.

I went through the roster the other day and found about a

dozen FF members who should have the Hall of Fame award. The one most conspicuous by his absence, I thought, was Arthur C. Clark. Therefore I will nominate him for this years award.

Also, I noticed that A.E. Van Vogt had never received the award, so I am nominating him for the posthumous Hall of Fame award.

Best,
Robert C. Peterson



the Van Vogts and Joan Knappenberger Archon XIX - Collinsville, IL 1995 First Fandom Reunion
Photo© John L. Coker III

NECROLOGY:

Everett Slosman
A.E. Van Vogt
Mark Schulzinger
Charles Horning
Art Saha

non-members:
Howard Browne
Walt Willis

REVENGE OF THE SCI-FAN:

by mark schulzinger



Editor's Note:

Mark is gone. Last issue's "Revenge of the Sci Fan" was his last contribution to StF barring any undiscovered cache of hidden rants and ravings. I doubt we'll get that lucky.

There are some member's farewells within the letters column

but I decided to run this under his old banner.

- John Coker -

In 1998, Mark Schulzinger responded to my questionnaire on his involvement in Science Fiction:

"I was reading STF as soon as I learned to read. My dad, who was a fan since Hugo Gernsback started Amazing Stories, had a subscription to Astounding Science Fiction, and there were copies of magazines all over the house. Early friends in fandom included the Cincinnati Fantasy Group (Don Ford, Lou Tabakow, Ray Beam, Charlie Tanner, Dale Tarr, and a host of camp followers). I bought STARTLING STORIES, and the first convention I attended was Chicon 11. Favorite authors and artists include Doc Smith, Will F. Jenkins, Stanley Weinbaum, Hubert Rogers, and Edd Cartier. Favorite stories and films include The Lensman series, 'A Martian Odyssey', 'A Spectre is Haunting Texas', 'Outland'. Space travel and nuclear power are some of the Science Fiction marvels that I have seen developed in my lifetime. The "sense of wonder" is a feeling that is experienced when one is presented with something which boggles the mind with its immensity or conception."

Mark was a life-long fan of Science Fiction. He accomplished a number of important things during his tenure as

Secretary/Treasurer of First Fandom. He personally ensured that the organization's newsletter was published on a regular basis. He organized yearly regional First Fandom reunions, where sufficient time was made available for presentation of First Fandom's Lifetime Achievement Award. He helped to establish several new

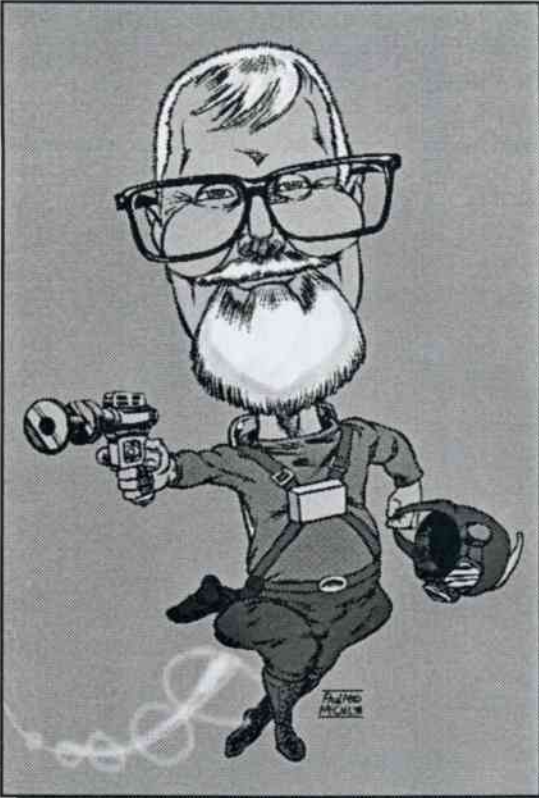
annual awards, including in 1994 the First Fandom Posthumous Hall of Fame Award, and in 1998, the Sam Moskowitz Award (given for outstanding achievement in the field of Science Fiction Collecting),
John L. Coker III



Mark Schulzinger - 1995 First Fandom Reunion, Archon XIX - Collinsville, IL
Photo© John L. Coker III

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

by ray beam



There have been several changes in the officers of First Fandom. The most profound one is the death of Mark Schulzinger, our Secretary - Treasurer on February 9, 2000. Joe L. Hensley has taken over as Secretary - Treasurer. The funds have been transferred and are safely in his hands. Mark was diagnosed with lung cancer in October of last year. It spread very quickly

through his respiratory system. For that reason his activities were very limited personally as well as with First Fandom. I have the bulk of his files, except for those which I have sent to Joe. I have uncovered dues checks that date back to November of last year. I will get these to Joe as quickly as I can for deposit in the account. If any member sent cash to Mark from November to date, please contact Joe Hensley.

My family and Bill Beard had planned a trip to Phoenix February 10 for a 3 day final visit. We picked that date because Wesley was out of school that friday. But Mark could not hold on, He passed away the day before our arrival. We were there for the grave side service. First Fandom members in attendance were myself, Bill Beard, and Stan Skirvin. Martha Beck arrived after the service. Our sympathy goes out to Mark's widow and his brother Jake.

As for the other changes, Don Dailey was appointed Mid-West

Vice President after the death of Hal Shapiro. Since the death of Marjorie Ellers, we have no West Coast Vice President. Mark and I made the offer to Erle Korshak. We felt he would do a good job. Come on Erle, get off your duff.

SCIENTIFICTION will be passing from Paul McCall to Jim Harmon with the next issue. Jim volun-

teered to take over the publication when Mark wanted to step down but Paul got in a little ahead of him.

I leave you sadly this time, Mark was a good friend for many years.

Ray

A TRIBUTE TO HUGH B. CAVE

by John I. Coker III

(Accepting on behalf of Hugh B. Cave the 25th World Fantasy Convention's Life Time Achievement Award - 11/7/99)

For generations of readers the stories of Hugh Barnett Cave conjure images of strange terrors, menacing figures, and faraway exotic places. He is a writer who has continuously been publishing Speculative Fiction since the 1920's, a distinction shared only with Jack Williamson. Hugh is truly prolific, having had more than forty novels published and at least fifteen hundred stories appear in hundreds of different magazines, in more than thirty countries during the past seventy-five years.

Born in England in 1910, Hugh B. Cave's life has been a series of adventures, played out all over the world, from New England to the South Seas, from the Caribbean to the Pacific Northwest. In high school he

wrote fiction, and had two prize-winning stories published in the Boston Globe Magazine's annual short story contest. At age sixteen, he began to work and was soon designing book jackets and proof-reading copy at a vanity publishing company. Soon after that, he began writing for many of the great pulp magazines of the day, including *WEIRD TALES*, *ARGOSY*, *BLACK MASK*, *ASTOUNDING STORIES*, *BLUE BOOK* and *SPICY MYSTERY*.

Later, as the Rhode Island representative for The American Fiction Guild, he wrote to H. P. Lovecraft initially about joining, and they exchanged several other letters as friends. Hugh made the mistake of citing the famous quote 'No one but a blockhead writes, except for money.' Lovecraft then wrote to someone else that Cave was 'purely a Philistine, only in it for the money.' At the time, Cave was writing for over a dozen pulps,

and getting paid at least two cents a word. Lovecraft was writing for mainly one market, and getting a half cent a word, paid upon publication.

From the time that he started selling to the pulps, Hugh began subscribing to and reading everything in the 'slick' magazines, such as *COLLIERS*, *LIBERTY*, and *RED BOOK*. After selling a few stories to the Canadian markets, he got a letter of interest from one of the three top editors for *THE SATURDAY EVENING POST*. Cave did some quick learning, and after several revisions the editor bought his next story. After that, The Post bought five or six stories a year for the next two or three years. Cave was started at eight hundred dollars, and after every five stories, he received a raise. By the time *THE SATURDAY EVENING POST* changed hands, Hugh B. Cave had sold them forty-four stories, and had received thirty-five hundred dollars for the last one. One of Hugh's stories, 'The Mission', published in 1959 in *THE SATURDAY EVENING POST*, featured a full-page portrait of the heroine. The Post's art department later reported that 'no other illustration has rivaled it for amount, duration and enthusiasm of reader reaction.'

Cave also used to write for *THIS WEEK* magazine, which was published as a supplement in Sunday newspapers all over America. They used one 'short' short story per issue, and paid him about a

thousand dollars for a thousand words.

During the Second World War, while writing several war novels he was nearly killed in Borneo and Formosa. In the 1950's, Hugh spent five years living in Haiti, where he gained a unique understanding of the people and their spiritual culture. Then, for fifteen years, he built and successfully operated a renowned coffee plantation in the remote Blue Mountains of Jamaica.

In 1978, Hugh received the World Fantasy Award for his collection of stories entitled '*MURGUNSTRUM*'. In 1991 he was presented with the Bram Stoker Lifetime Achievement Award by the Horror Writers of America. And in 1997, Hugh was a Special Guest at the World Fantasy Convention, held in London.

Today, Hugh B. Cave is alive and well, working and living in Florida. There are some people whom he would want me to thank. His loving wife Peggy, Stuart D. Schiff and David A. Drake, Dr. Robert M. Price, Jo Fletcher, Stephen Jones, Robert Bloch, Karl Edward Wagner, Don Hutchison, Joe and Gay Haldeman, biographers Audrey Parente and Milt Thomas, Richard Chizmar, Tom Roberts, Pumpkin Books, Fedogan & Bremer, Robert Weinberg, and Rusty Hevelin.

The change that Hugh B. Cave has witnessed during his lifetime is almost incomprehensible, from

the end of colonial empire to the emergence of space travel. Yet, he has endured and flourished as a writer, perfecting his craft, finding markets and forging new ground, enjoying an unbroken string of success for nearly nine decades. In spite of his many experiences, Hugh remains modest and unassuming and maintains an optimistic view about life. When asked what makes a good writer, he replied "I don't think that talent is so much an integral part of this, as is learning

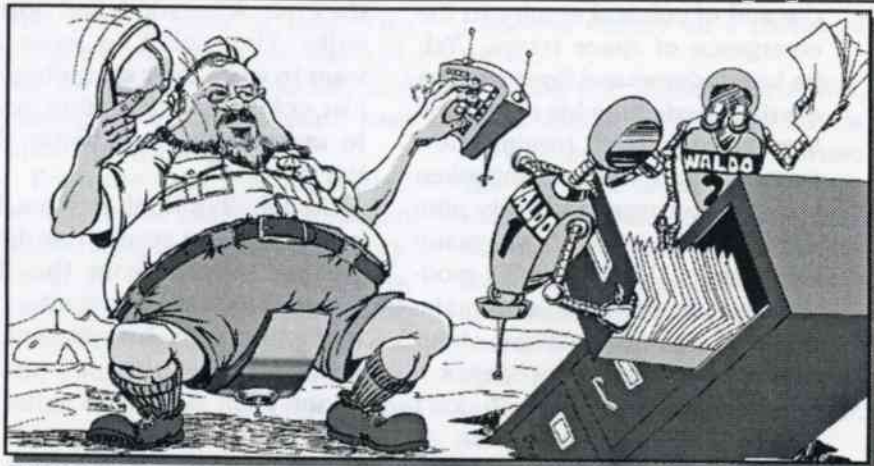
the craft. A person is not born to write. They learn to write and want to write by first reading. I'm just going to keep writing, trying to make each story better than the last one."

On behalf of Hugh B. Cave, it is my privilege to accept this distinguished award from the 25th World Fantasy Convention, in recognition of his lifetime of achievements.

Thank you!



John Coker presents the 1999 World Fantasy Convention's Lifetime Achievement Award to Hugh B. Cave - Nov. 13, 1999 Photo© John L. Coker III



FROM DOWN IN THE FOSSIL BEDS:

by don dailey

Success! Thanks to Sam Basham (who in his own words "finally got off his lazy duff") both Bob Peterson and the FF Archives have a complete set of the "Notes From Bob Peterson". Sam was kind enough to furnish copies of the missing "Notes #28" to both of us. Many thanks, Sam. And Bob has given me permission to copy complete sets of his "Notes" for FF members who request them. I think that such a complete set would be of interest to any FF members who came on board in the years after 1980 when Bob first started the "Notes". Anyone interested in a complete set (or individual issues to complete their own sets) should just drop me a line.

And thanks to President Ray, the FF Archives will soon have a complete set of Wilson Tucker's "Bloomington Newsletter/Science

Fiction Newsletter" from way back when. As with Bob's "Notes", Mr. Tucker has also given permission to make copies for interested FF members.

On the down side, I will soon be adding a couple boxes full of documents to the Archives from the late Mark Schulzinger's files. I only hope these documents contain some of the "institutional memory" we lost along with Mark. Even such simple documents as original membership applications contain a wealth of knowledge about FF members and their history.

It has just dawned on me. It's a good thing I am not allergic to dust (or mold), otherwise I wouldn't be having near as much fun as I do in this "job"!

'Til Later
Don Dailey

editors comments

by paul mccall

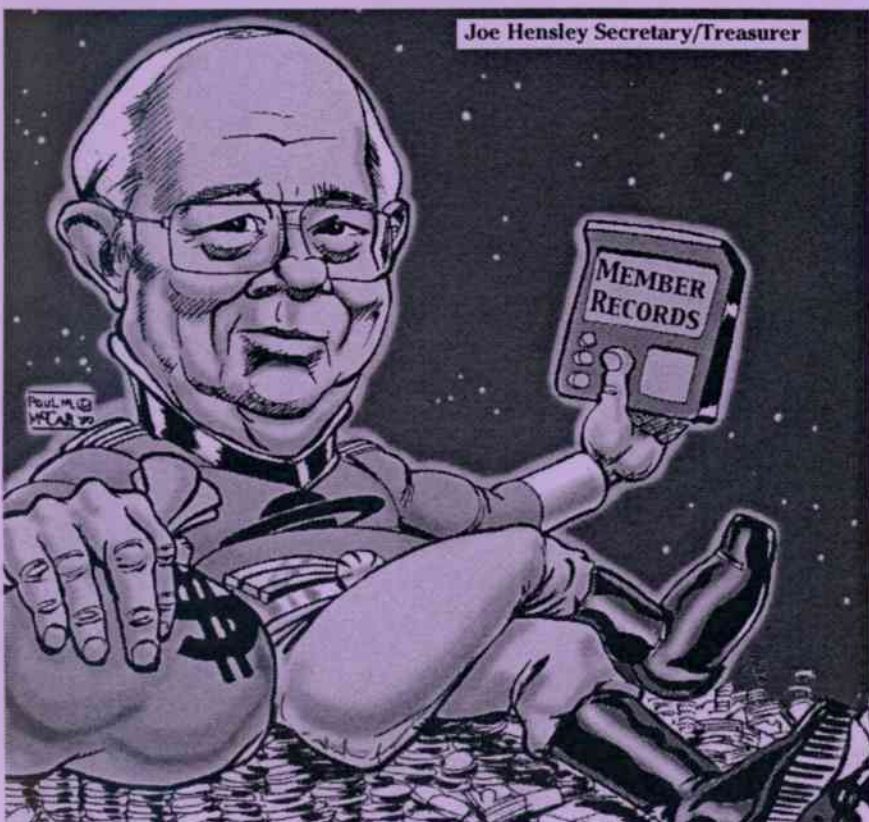
This is my last issue as editor of StF. Real life has once again intruded onto more pleasurable pursuits such as my fannish publishing ventures.

Jim Harmon will be taking over the reigns of StF with the next issue. Address all gripes, brickbats, etc. to him from now on.

I have enjoyed my all too brief tenure on this 'zine and I will miss interacting with the membership and reading your letters.



NEW SEC./TREASURER:



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