

ScientiFiction

Spring, 1995



The First Fandom Report



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On the cover: Andre Norton holding her 1994 Hall of Fame award.

Photo by Sustaining Patron John Coker, III, Orlando, Florida

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NEWSBITES

WARNER AND SPEER WIN HALL OF FAME

Harry Warner, Jr. and Jack Speer, both well known for their documenting of fan history, were the winners of the Hall of Fame balloting which ended at the finish of 1994. The award presentation will be made, as usual, at the 1995 Worldcon.

Congratulations, fellows!

ARCHON OFFERS REUNION

FIRST FANDOM TO BE FAN
GoH

Archon, the largest St. Louis regional con, has offered to host the First Fandom reunion in 1995. As such the entire attending membership of First Fandom will be designated Fan GoH. As incentive

the concon has offered membership for both members and their spouses, a private room for the exclusive use of First Fandom, meal money for a First Fandom meal on Saturday night, and full access to the VIP suite.

Archon is a long-standing and well-attended con. It will be held June 23, 24, and 25, 1995. Jack Williamson has agreed to be GoH for the affair, and Sam Moskowitz will be the Toastmaster.

This is an excellent offer. St. Louis is an air hub for TWA, and transportation is readily available to the con site. We do not yet have final data on the con site, but those interested should write:

Jonie Knappenberger

1474 Summerhaven

St. Louis, MO 63146

APPLICATIONS

The following have applied for associate membership:

Roy R. Wood

NEW MEMBERS

The following is a new Founding Member of First Fandom:

A. Langley Searles

48 Highland Circle

Bronxville, NY 10708-5909

The following have been accepted as associate members:

Bruce E. Pelz

15931 Kalisher Street

Granada Hills, CA 91344

Lawrence C. Smith

2325 Sheringham Road

Upper Arlington, OH 43220

Welcome Dinosaurs!

DEADLINES

The deadlines for First Fandom events and *S/F* are as follows:

First Fandom:

May 31, 1995 -- last date for nominations for 1996 Hall of Fame award.

June, 1995 -- Dues Notices, Hall of Fame Ballots, Roster all sent out.

December 31, 1995 -- Last date ballots for HoF voting will be accepted.

ScientiFiction.

April 15, 1995 -- Closing date for Summer ish.

July 15, 1995 -- Closing date for Fall ish.

October 22, 1995 -- Closing date for Winter ish.

January 20, 1996 -- Closing date for Spring, 1996 ish.

DUES

Dues in First Fandom remain \$5.00 per year. The number on your mailing label will tell you to the end of which year your dues are paid. Please keep your dues current if you possibly can.

CONADIAN REPORT

by

David H. Blair

Apart from myself, the First Fans who attended this Worldcon were Forrest J. Ackerman, Clifton Amsbury, Fred D. Brammer, Jack L. Chalker, Dalvan M. Cogger,

Marjii Ellers, Steven Francis, Joe & Gay Haldeman, Ben Jason, Jay Kay Klein, David A. Kyle, Kenneth Moore, Frederik Pohl, Andrew I. Porter, Melvin C. Schmidt, Roger Sims, and Harry C. Stubbs.

Some other persons with whom I talked were Anne McCaffrey, Ian & Betty Ballantine, Judith Merrill, Peter Nicholls, Stanley Schmidt, Harry Turtledove, Peggy Rae Pavlat, Erwin S. Strauss, Charles N. Brown, Joe Mayhew, Barry & Regina Longyear, Robert & Karen Silverberg, Kevin J. Anderson, Nancy Kilpatrick, and Norman & Ann Hartman.

I am most sorry about all the friends whom I did not manage to see. The Winnipeg Convention Centre is more than large enough for most tastes, and finding anyone could be extremely difficult -- if not worse.

The official Convention, with its super-plethora of tracks and panels, received little attention from me. When not in pursuit of elusive First Fans and guests, I spent considerable time in Huxter Hall (and elsewhere) talking to fellow First Fans, whether as such, or as one or more of the categories of agent, dealer, author, editor, and publisher, as well as to journalists, etc.

Most of my mingling with ordinary fans was at parties. It might even be said that we overdid the party lark, for there was a lot-of late-rising going on.

Acting on behalf of Everett Bleiler to receive his Hall of Fame award was, of course, the high-point of the Convention for me. It was a pleasant duty.

Off-campus, one might say, Chester & Muriel Cuthbert received numerous visitors. The big event was a visit by Forry Ackerman and Jay Kay Klein.

There was rain on Saturday night, and some of us made it back to the Place Louis Riel from the Convention Centre and the Holiday Inn between the rain-drops, as the saying goes.

However, the real disaster caused by unwelcome rainfall came on Sunday night. The First Fandom party, so long in the planning, was rained-out. Our Members and guests (most of them lodged at the Holiday Inn) were unable to reach the Place Louis Riel without becoming very, very wet. What should have been a party of fifty ended-up as a party of five. The big gathering was ruined. Were I not such a gentle soul, I'd jump up-and-down, and utter all manner of rude things, at this point!

Grrrrhhh!!!

RIVERCON TRANSCRIPTS NOW AVAILABLE

Sustaining Patron John L. Coker, III has produced written transcripts of some of the proceedings from the July, 1994 First Fandom gathering at RiverCon XIX, including:

Opening Ceremonies (Remarks by convention guests Forrest J. Ackerman, Paul Lehr, Julius Schwartz, David A. Kyle, and Co-Chairs Steve and Sue Francis).

Professional Guest of Honor Speech (Forrest J. Ackerman).

Artist Guest of Honor Speech (Paul Lehr).

Tributes to Verna Smith Trestrail (Dave Kyle, Forry Ackerman, and Ben Jason).

1st Annual First Fandom Posthumous Hall of Fame Award Ceremony (Ray Beam, Mark Schulzinger, and Sam Moskowitz).

John has offered to send copies of these transcripts to any member of First Fandom who provides their complete mailing address on a business card or 3x5 index card and SIX \$.32 U.S. postage stamps. Send to

John L. Coker, III
3701 Glen Garry Lane
Orlando, FL 32803

REVENGE OF THE SCIFAN

MOVING ON

As you can see from this I have completed my move. Sally, Ashes, Buddy, and I are now residents of Gallup, NM. That was easy enough to write, but the events leading up to the move were remarkable.

Sally and I had occasion to vacation in Arizona a few years ago. We based ourselves in Phoenix, but traveled from the Canyon in the north to Tucson in the South, to the Superstition Mountains in the East. By the end of the trip we found ourselves in love with the desert.

Sally had long held a fantasy of ministering to the Amerindian population in her profession of nurse. Since most of these folks lived in the Southwest, I urged her to apply for a position with the Indian Health Care Service, a division of the U.S. Public Health Service. She did this and in June, 1994 received an invitation to visit three Indian Health Care sites in the Navajo reservation in the four-corners area. The trip was to be paid for by the service. We decided to go together and see if high desert was as fascinating to us as was low desert.

On the trip, which we took

right at the conclusion of Con-Quest, Memorial Day, we visited Gallup in New Mexico, and Ft. Defiance, Chinle, and Kayenta in Arizona. To our delight we found that high desert was something we enjoyed very much. Sally registered her interest in all four health centers, and we sat back to wait.

Toward the end of September she received a job offer from Ft. Defiance. The hospital there is in an ancient tuberculosis sanitarium built during the WPA days. It has no air conditioning, and is in a primitive area of the Big Res even though it's only seven miles from Window Rock, capital of the Navajo nation and 27 miles from Gallup where there is a much more modern Indian hospital.

We discussed the offer and decided that we could live in Gallup. Ownership of land on the reservations is reserved for the indigenes, and Gallup was the only city nearby where we could purchase a house. The alternative was to live in cramped G.I. housing, an unthinkable option with our book collection, my workshop, and my office.

Then the fun began in earnest. Once she accepted the position, Sally was committed to report to work on October 31. I had business obligations in Missouri until the end of November. We had two months in which to find a house, sell our current house, and

get moved.

I flew to Gallup in mid-October and located a house, a sprawling place with close to 4,000 square feet of living space and an immense yard. There is little space in Gallup on which to build houses so the buildings tend to be large in proportion to the lot size. Fortunately this house is built on a double lot.

House acquired, Sally set off for Ft. Defiance, and I remained in Springfield to coordinate the moving, sell the house, arrange for financing on the new house, and get ulcers. On December 1 I closed on our house in Springfield, tossed Ashes the cat in the car, and set off for our new house in Gallup.

The trip was pleasant, but tiring. We stayed in Elk City, OK the first night, and Albuquerque the second. Ashes was an excellent traveling companion. She watched the scenery, waved to passing trucks, and kept me warm at night. She particularly enjoyed our stay in Albuquerque where she had a balcony overlooking an indoor swimming pool.

We arrived in Ft. Defiance on December 3, were moved into the new house on December 5, and I spent a frantic three days unpacking our 18,000 pound cargo. I had to set up not only the house, but also my office. Fortunately the house is large enough to give me a three-room office suite which I

manage to share with Ashes. I think she thinks we're married.

And here we are, residents of the great Southwest, the sunbelt. In reality we're on top of a mesa some 6,500 feet above sea level, and the winter weather isn't that much different from Springfield except for the low humidity. Our house has room for guests, both fannish and mundane. It's reasonably close to a number of First Fandom members, and not too far off the air travel lines. Gallup is even on an Amtrack route.

Living at high altitude has its side effects. On occasion I find myself short of breath and have to consciously breathe deeply a few times to oxygenate my blood properly. I have to remember to force fluids because of the altitude. Still, I can look out a window and see the other mesas glowing golden in the sunlight, view a vista twenty-five miles in depth, and stand under the biggest sky I've ever experienced.

When you write to me, remember my new address: **4 Nevada Circle, Gallup, NM 87301.**

Bill Beard, our Vice President in charge of Worldcon liaison, is an accomplished musician. Most recently he's been doing a lot of MIDI composing, and his output never fails to surprise me. He has composed a march for First Fan-

dom, appropriately entitled "First Fen," and has given us permission to disseminate it among ourselves and to play it at weddings, funerals, bar mitzvahs, and Hall of Fame award ceremonies.

If you would like a copy of this piece for yourself please send me \$1.25, and I will send you a tape of the piece. For an additional 25¢ I'll include a copy of the sheet music. I'm sorry to burden you with additional expenses, but the price of postage has just gone up again and I'm not charging First Fandom for any of the expenses associated with this venture.

Some of you probably noticed that last ish was short by four pages. Part of that had to do with the move to New Mexico, but part of it had to do with a lack of material. I like to maintain a 20 page per ish zine, but I can't print what I don't have. Your mission: write for your zine!

EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL EXPOSURE LAW

Believe it or not, this is a law which was added to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 14, Section 1211, on July 16, 1969. Tireless research by Bill Beard,

our Tireless Researcher Of The Weird And Wonderful, unearthed the text on the Internet. We wonder, though, if the provisions of this law could be stretched to cover extra-terrestrials who visit us.

Additionally, this very law may explain why we have not been visited, at least openly. The BEMs may have their own bureaucracies!

1211.100 Title 14 - Aeronautics and Space

Part 1211 - Extra-terrestrial Exposure

1211.100 - Scope

This part establishes: (a) NASA policy, responsibility and authority to guard the Earth against any harmful contamination or adverse changes in its environment resulting from personnel, spacecraft and other property returning to the Earth after landing on or coming within the atmospheric envelope of a celestial body; and (b) security requirements, restrictions and safeguards that are necessary in the interest of national security.

1211.101 - APPLICABILITY

The provisions of this part to all NASA manned and unmanned space missions which land or come within the atmospheric envelope of a celestial body and return to the Earth.

1211.102 - DEFINITIONS

(a) "NASA" and the "Administrator" mean, respectively the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration or his authorized representative.

(b) "Extra-terrestrially exposed" means the state of condition of any person, property, animal or other form of life or matter whatever, who or which has:

(1) Touched directly or come within the atmospheric envelope or any other celestial body, or

(2) Touched directly or been in close proximity to (or been exposed indirectly to) any person, property, animal or other form of life or matter who or which has been extra-terrestrially exposed by virtue of paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

For example, if person or thing "A" touches the surface of the Moon, and on "A's" return to Earth, "B" touches "A" and, subsequently, "C" touches "B", all of these - "A" through "C" inclusive - would be extra-terrestrially exposed ("A" and "B" directly; "C" indirectly).

(c) "Quarantine" means the detention, examination and decontamination of any persons, property, animal or other form of life or matter whatever that is extra-terrestrially exposed, and includes the apprehension or sei-

zure of such person, property, animal or other form of life or matter whatever.

(d) "Quarantine period" means a period of consecutive calendar days as may be established in accordance with 1211.104 (a).

(a) Administrative actions. The Administrator or his designee..shall in his discretion:

(1) Determine the beginning and duration of a quarantine period with respect to any space mission; the quarantine period as it applies to various life forms will be announced.

(2) Designate in writing quarantine officers to exercise quarantine authority.

(3) Determine that a particular person, property, animal, or other form of life or matter whatever is extra-terrestrially exposed and quarantine such person, property, animal, or other form of life or matter whatever. The quarantine may be based only on a determination, with or without the benefit of a hearing, that there is probable cause to believe that such person, property, animal or other form of life or matter whatever is extra-terrestrially exposed.

(4) Determine within the United States or within vessels or vehicles of the United States the place, boundaries, and rules of operation of necessary quarantine stations.

(5) Provide for guard services by contract or otherwise, as many be necessary, to maintain security and inviolability of quarantine stations and quarantined persons, property, animals or other form of life or matter whatever.

(6) Provide for the subsistence, health and welfare of persons quarantined under the provisions of this part.

7) Hold such hearings at such times, in such manner and for such purposes as may be desirable or necessary under this part, including hearings for the purpose of creating a record for use in making any determination under this part for the purpose of reviewing any such determination.

(b) (3) During any period of announced quarantine, no person shall enter or depart from the limits of the quarantine station without permission of the cognizant NASA officer. During such period, the posted perimeter of a quarantine station shall be secured by armed guard.

(b) (4) Any person who enters the limits of any quarantine station during the quarantine period shall be deemed to have consented to the quarantine of his person if it is determined that he is or has become extra-terrestrially exposed.

(b) (5) At the earliest practicable time, each person who is quarantined by NASA shall be given a

reasonable opportunity to communicate by telephone with legal counsel or other persons of his choice.

1211.107 COURT OR OTHER PROCESS

(a) NASA officers and employees are prohibited from discharging from the limits of a quarantine station any quarantined person, property, animal or other form of life or matter whatever during order or other request, order or demand an announced quarantine period in compliance with a subpoena, show cause or any court or other authority without the prior approval of the General Counsel and the Administrator.

b) Where approval to discharge a quarantined person, property, animal or other form of life or matter whatever in compliance with such a request, order or demand of any court or other authority is not given, the person to whom it is directed shall, if possible, appear in court or before the other authority and respectfully state his inability to comply, relying for his action on this 1211.107.

1211.108 VIOLATIONS

Whoever willfully violates, attempts to violate, or conspires to violate any provision of this part or any regulation or order issued under this part or who enters or departs from the limits of a quarantine station in disregard of the quarantine rules or regulations

or without permission of the NASA quarantine officer shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

DINOSAUR DROP-PINGS

Dear Ray:

Any news on new FF stationary? Mine was lost in the earthquake.

I attended the second meeting of the Fanhistoricon group in L.A. It was in conjunction with another convention. I know you've heard from them and will again. They are of great interest to our members. The next meeting is scheduled for Midwestcon '95 & I know they will advise you.

Regards,

Noreen Shaw

{Noreen, we are out of the original FF stationary. I am designing a new letterhead that can more easily be reproduced on a computer. How about a name and address on the Fanhistoricon folks? -- Mark}

Dear Mark & Ray,

I've finally agreed with the local members of the Foundation

for the Blind that I need a reader to do various things for me. There's a card table in this office which has paper that has probably been stored/hoarded waiting for filing until a reader would appear through the wall to help me.

Cindy arrived from CAPH, and I must admit the experience was delicious. I've been enjoying books on tape better than anything. My eyes have given up the reading process, and that's a shameful admission for me to voice.

If Dave Rike reads this, 1 Audio Drama will be contacted by me. If someone else is writing them you might add my name to the list of request for catalogs. My reader will be there this A.M. just long enough to paint out my typos and get this in the mail.

My congratulations on the new format, the pages are quite readable, and there's so much to respond to that I don't know where to begin.

Rosemary Hickey

{Rosemary, we could use the address of the Audio Drama group. Other members may be experiencing your difficulties and want to contact them. -- Mark}

Dear Mark:

I enjoyed SaM's excellent obit of Morris Scott Dollens in

SciFiction, Winter 1994 (is it really winter already?), but there are a couple of small things worth adding. One is that Morris was a leading member -- perhaps a founding member -- of the Minneapolis Fantasy Society, and was active in the club from 1940 to 1942, while he lived all or part of the time in North St. Paul, Minnesota. As SaM says, Morrie was a photographer, and most of the surviving photos of the early club meetings and members must be those taken by him.

Another thing is that he was one of the earliest fans to own a home recorder. That was before tape recorders, or even wire recorders, were a common household possession. His was a disc recorder. I have a vague recollection that it was a large and bulky machine, and I don't know how he brought it to meetings -- it was hardly portable -- but he did. At the time I first attended an MFS meeting, sometime in mid-1941, he tended to dominate the meetings with his disc recorder, on which he recorded and then played back random chatter by club members and, more formally, little "radio" dramas written and acted by the members. I remember hearing a play he recorded called "Stroke," by John L. Chapman, which John cleverly revamped later into a short story that appeared in Robert Lowndes *Science Fiction Quarterly*, Summer 1942.

Morrie was also one of the people who received the *Shangri-La Record*, the famous "fanzine with round edges," a disc recording that circulated round-robin fashion around fandom in those times. Of course it originated in Los Angeles and as I recall was recorded on a disc recorder belonging to Walter J. Daugherty. I remember hearing the voices of Daugherty, Ackerman, and others on a *Shangri-La Record* which Morrie played at an MFS meeting. But if any of the voices of MSF members like Clifford Simak, Oliver Saari, Samuel D. Russell, Donald Wandrei, Carl Jacobi, and others still sound distantly on scratchy old discs from the era of the early 1940s it is entirely due to Morrie's efforts.

I got a chuckle out of SaM's remark that in his artwork Morrie did "effective" work in astronomical and symbolic drawings but "never mastered the human figure." Well, neither did Frank R. Paul. But SaM's observation called back to mind, after more than half a century, Morrie's lithoed cover for the 1942 annish of Phil Bronson's fanzine, *The Fantasite*, which depicted, against a background of ringed planets and comets, a bulky half-naked male figure that I remember characterizing at the time as "a muscle-bound young man." I don't mean to disparage Morrie's artwork, however. He was very good at the things he was very good at.

Tell SaM thanks for a fine tribute to a well-known oldtime fan. I think Morrie would be proud to be remembered that way.

Yours,

redd boggs

{redd, the old disc recorders were clumsy and cumbersome, but they were protable. A pair of my uncles had one which they lugged around with them, and they cut delightful stories on them with which to entertain me as a child. I recall that the unit looked like a very large typewriter case, or a smallish steamer trunk. Operation of the mechanism required the operator to constantly brush plastic material which was removed from the surface of the disk by the recording/cutting head. I still have those disks around, but, alas, it's difficult to find equipment with which to play them. -- Mark}

Dear Mark:

I'm sitting here reminiscing about Bob Bloch. I ran across something today that triggered these thoughts.

In Milwaukee, 1958 the local club included the Economus, the Steaffens, the Grennells, Michael Nimtz, William Neumann, Joe Rubb, Jr., Curtis Janke, Robert Wielgus, myself, and of course Bob and Marion Bloch.

Bob had a habit of carrying his highball in his sport jacket. I

remember him always in a sport or suit coat -- and the cigarette holder which fitted him perfectly.

Did you know that Bob wrote three original Trek episodes?

October 20, 1966 -- *What Are Little Girls Made Of?*

October 20, 1967 -- *Catspaw*

December 22, 1967 -- *A Wolf In The Fold*

Bob had a greater influence on my life than I'd realized. I'll miss him.

Sincerely,

Bill Beard

{We will all miss, Bob, Bill. For myself, I will always remember his opening line: "Once there was a sane scientist who had an ugly daughter." -- Mark}

Dear Ray:

Here is a copy of a letter to Dave Kyle. He knows you are getting it.

I think we are pretty much of the same opinion.

At any rate feel free to publish the letter to the club

Paul Herkart

Dear Dave:

You asked my opinion as to the current doings in First Fandom. The negative first:

I deplore the way that Art Saha was removed from the presidency of the club. It should not be possible for a small meeting, really a minority, to do such a thing in a club that is so widespread. If Art had wanted to be relieved, or if he had been derelict in duty, the matter should have been brought before the whole membership. I think this should be reviewed.

I also deplore, despite Sturgeon's dictum "95% of everything is crud," the trend to give a FF Award to everyone who published in the early mags.

Now to a couple of positives:

Bob Petersen's letters are one of the things that cement the group together. I don't think that I possess the energy to do such a thing.

If you can revive the FF news letter that will be an excellent undertaking. As to running the organization I see nothing wrong with younger members who are willing to take up the chores being secretary, treasurer, or president. I haven't seen any method of electing or appointing them so far.

Now to a general matter. In some of the literature you sent you have asked, "Can everyone be first?" The trouble with this is that first can have more than one meaning. First in time? First in importance? First in quality? First in prestige? Who among the

people who read Jules Verne, H. G. Wells, *Argosy*, Munsey, or *Amazing Stories*, and other SF mags were first? In what way? One thing, the SF mags had letter columns. Gernsback I think encouraged readers to form clubs. That was his idea.

I must have been about ten when I discovered SF. That is, almost a teenager.

Some clubs were formed. Philadelphia, Boston, New York, Baltimore, and these go along to this day. Presently First Fandom was formed. Now if I had been there I would have gone along with the "Last man" idea. To a teenager there is something romantic and ego boosting to belong to a last man group.

Not anymore. Quality, and improving the aura of fandom, are more important than driving my nail in the coffin of FF when I die.

These are the reasons that I suggested at the Midwestcon meeting that the two grades of member be founding member, and member. After all these latter were just as delighted and bewildered when they read their first SF as the rest of us. And they will increasingly be the people who carry on the chores of the organization.

I am sending copies of this letter to a few other people. I hope the ideas in the letter are well enough expressed that they can

be communicated to others and discussed.

Paul G. Herkart

DeaRay --

My periodic gaffations do not mean that there is a lack of interest in the workings of First and other Fandoms. Just the normal putting off syndrome. Am very good at it. You may be aware that I have recently been nominated as *man of the year/1948* by the Procrastinator Club of the United States.

As you may have noticed, was not at RiverCon. Things got tangled and was not able to get away. However, since ConQuest is so much closer, will definitely be there. Only problem right now is we have no information for address, hotels, etc. Can you supply us?

Does the posthumous HoF award have to be singular? As you can see from the enclosed copy of my letter to Madle I'm making two suggestions. Would really like to add several more, including Tom Sherred. At the normal rate of attrition there is likely to be many more than one addition a year to the candidate pool.

'zalwayz,

Hal Shapiro

[Yes, Hal, we noticed you were

not at RiverCon. But Don Ford was there. I believe it's up to the posthumous award committee to set the award rules, they can probably have multiples if they so desire. My only concern is that it might dilute the impact of the presentation. Can't help you with ConQuest since it looks like we'll be going to Archon in St. Louis instead, and I don't know where that con is held. -- Mark]

Dear Ray:

Thanks very much for sending me the First Fandom Award, which came yesterday.

The trophy itself is handsome, and I am proud to stick it on the fireplace mantle.

Best regards,

Ev Bleiler

AVAILABLE ARTI-FACTS

From time to time I get letters asking me about the availability of back issues of *SciFiction*, membership rosters, and such. Although I haven't unpacked completely, I now have a pretty good idea of what's around. Here is a list of what we have available:

SciFiction.

1984 -- January-April*

1988 -- Fall-Winter*

1989 -- Spring*, Summer*, Winter*

1990 -- Fall*

1991 -- Summer, Winter

1992 -- Summer, Autumn, Winter

1993 -- Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter

1994 -- Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter

*Photocopies available only

I'm going to try to make photocopies available of other issues as well. Watch for more information.

Membership Rosters:

1989

1991-1992

1993

1994

The above paper goods cost \$1.50 each

PATCHES

Yes, First Fandom Patches are still available. The cost is still \$5.00.

CON Badges

These are nice badge inserts which have the First Fandom Logo on them, and the legend "REMEMBER US, We're the ones that started all this." Cost is \$1.00 for a pair of inserts along with pin-on badges.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

These come in two flavors: Member and Sustaining Patron. They're free if you're entitled to them. I've tried to make certain everyone has a membership card, but I have been known to make mistakes. Write me if you need a membership card, either original or replacement.

Special!

I have uncovered a cache of **ORIGINAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS**. These come in two flavors: Founding Member and Associate Member. The obverse of each card sports the First Fandom logo in blue with the motto "FIRST FANDOM IS NOT DEAD" in red. These will cost you \$1.00 per pair.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

It is a new year and the holidays have passed. Several months ago when my wife asked what I would like for Christmas and my birthday, which falls on December 24th, I thought a while, then told her I wanted a Colt 45 Peacemaker. This desire was brought on by my watching the fast draw exhibitions at The Charlotte Western Film Festival. I have always been a firearms advocate. I have had a .38 caliber Smith and Wesson Police Special since I was in the Tavern business.

Those were the days when I used to strap on my trusty piece and go to work. This one is strictly for use against people, it had very little value as a target gun and no value as a sporting firearm, so I told her she could trade it in on the new one.

When we went looking at gun shops I found that the Colts start at about \$1000. Even though she assured me that I was worth it I felt it was too much to spend for a whim and opted for a replica. These sell for about half the price of a Colt. We immediately discovered that this type of weapon is extremely scarce due to the recent interest in western fast draw. As a result we went to a Gun Show at the Fair Grounds in

Muncie, Indiana. As I entered the door I was reminded of Van Vogt's "Weapon Shop" stories. It was the biggest collection of "red necks" that I have seen in one place in a long time. Everybody was "packing."

In light of the Federal Crime Bill just passed I couldn't help but see the fallacy in the idea that removal of guns from our society would solve our crime problem. There were well over a thousand individuals and at least 95% of them were armed. I did not feel the least bit threatened even withstanding the .38 tucked neatly in my boot holster. Everybody in the room was extremely polite. These were not criminals because permits were checked at the door by a deputy sheriff, and in the state of Indiana a convicted felon cannot get a permit. If the guns were taken away, these people would lose theirs but the criminal would not. Van Vogt was able to see this fact. If the criminal were unable to get a weapon he would make it. Remember the zip guns of the 60's. All you needed was a metal tube, a block of wood, some rubber bands, and a nail.

After we looked over the options being sold at the show, I picked about four possible choices. I gave the locations where they could be purchased to Mary Ann, and she told me to get lost.

On my birthday I was the

proud owner of an American Arms replica of the Colt .45 caliber Peace Maker revolver. Mary Ann was surprised when I told her that I was going to get a shoulder holster for it rather than packing it on my hip. I have no interest in "fast draw." Its a good way to shoot your foot off. I do plan to take Wesley to the target range and teach him the proper use of the weapon.

We attended two of the floating New years parties. The first at Stephen Leigh's home, and the second on New Year's eve at Roger Sims's. I had a lot of nice conversation with Steve Leigh, Mike Resnick, Roger Sims, John Millard, Margaret Keifer, Bill Bohle and a lot of other people. Both parties were quite enjoyable. We are not as rowdy as we were in our younger days. I drank very little and give up shortly after midnight.

I would like to wish every member of First Fandom a happy and prosperous New Year.

Until next issue-----

Ray

COLLECTABLE PROZINES

(ad)

From the underside of fandom comes a collection of prozines of strange and wond'rous provenance. Here is a sample:

AMAZING STORIES

Jan '29 NBC \$5

Nov '29 NC \$3

Jan '30 NC \$8

May '31 NC \$4

Jan '33 VG \$8

May '33 G \$5

Apr '49 VG \$3

ASTOUNDING

Jan '34 G \$25

Mar '34 NC \$5

May '34 VGB \$15

Mar '35 G \$10

Sep '35 VG \$18

Jan '36 G \$9

WONDER STORIES QUARTERLY

Fall '32 NC \$10

Legend: F -- fine copy with little wear or use; VG -- very good, average condition for age; G -- good, can have tape, soiling, frays, chips; NC -- no covers; B -- no back cover.

Shipping & Handling: Under \$20.00 -- \$2.50; \$20.00 to \$50.00 -- \$4.00; \$50.00 to \$100.00 -- \$6.00.

Mark Schulzinger

4 Nevada Circle

Gallup, NM 87301

FIRST FANDOM
Dinosaurs of Science Fiction

Mark Schulzinger
4 Nevada Circle
Gallup, NM 87301

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