

SCIENTIFICTION

A publication of **FIRST FANDOM**
New Series #49, 3rd Quarter 2016

IN MEMORIAM



DAVID A. KYLE
(1919 – 2016)

(Photograph by John L. Coker III)

David Ackerman Kyle passed away on September 18th, at the age of 97 years.

IN THIS ISSUE

- P. 1: Announcements
- P. 2: President's Message
- P. 3: My Life in SF (by David A. Kyle)
- P. 4: I Remember David A. Kyle
- P. 5: Bob Peterson, Sam Basham
- P. 6: Birthdays and Necrology
- P. 7: Memories of Midamericon II
- P. 9: Midamericon II Photo Gallery
- P. 10: First Fandom Awards, 2016
- P. 14: Original Member Spotlight
- P. 16: In Memoriam: Robert Weinberg
- P. 17: STF-Related News Headlines
- P. 18: David A. Kyle Photo Gallery
- P. 19: Correspondence, Masthead
- P. 20: First Fandom Magazine, Annual

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Mary Ellen Daugherty provided a link to Walt's website for fans / friends to enjoy. Please visit: www.WaltDaugherty.com.

ORIGINAL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

We present a profile of **Brian W. Aldiss**.

OCTOBER - DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mike Ashley, Ben Bova, Sue Francis, Gay Haldeman, Erle Korshak, Ursula K. Le Guin, Ray Nelson and Jon D. Swartz.

NECROLOGY

We sadly acknowledge the passing of some friends: Sam Basham, Jack Davis, David A. Kyle, Robert C. Peterson, Madeleine Sherwood, Janet Waldo, Robert E. Weinberg and Alan Young.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Some members still have not sent in their \$15 annual dues. Please send checks (made payable to Keith W. Stokes) to Keith at 14305 W. 83rd Place, Lenexa, KS – 66215. Thank you!

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

Mike Glycer, Tim Kirk, Dave Langford, Christopher M. O'Brien, Steven H. Silver, Keith W. Stokes, Jon D. Swartz.

Please send your contributions by mid-December for publication in the upcoming **50th Issue** of our newsletter!

-John L. Coker III

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First Fandom has lost four members

- **Sam Basham** (March 7, 2015)
 - **David A. Kyle** (September 18)
 - **Robert C. Peterson** (August 15)
 - **Robert E. Weinberg** (September 25)
- (Please keep their families in your thoughts)

FIRST FANDOM AND THE WORLDCON

I prepared two articles that appeared in Worldcon publications this year. In **PR3** they included an abridged version of First Fandom's account of Denvention, and the **Program Book** commemorated the centenary of Forrest J Ackerman.

FIRST FANDOM MAGAZINE – ANNUAL

Jon D. Swartz and I produced a 64-page 50-copy edition of the First Fandom Magazine Annual. All of the copies at the Worldcon were sold, but a few are still available by mail (see ad on P. 20).

MY FIRST FIVE YEARS AT THE HELM

When I became President in September 2011, I committed to five personal goals:

1. Ensure that all of the FF Awards are presented each year at the worldcons.
2. Maintain a membership roster, noting Full Members and Associate Members.
3. Make sure that no Full Member ever be dropped from the roster because they didn't pay the membership dues.
4. Greatly reduce printing and mailing costs by distributing a digital newsletter.
5. Care for the organization during its gradual transformation over the next decade, as the number of Full Members diminishes and we plan for the future.

CURRENT ASSESSMENT

The first four of these goals have been implemented and are now on-going.

Several members, including Steve and Sue Francis, Keith W. Stokes, and Special Features Editor Jon D. Swartz have regularly supported these efforts.

I appreciate the guidance provided by our Vice-Presidents (Erle M. Korshak, David A. Kyle and Robert A. Madle).

However, if there was more participation from the rest of our members, we could get additional things accomplished, and it would be a lot easier on the rest of us.

HOW THE MEMBERSHIP CAN HELP

1. Everyone who is able to do so should be paying membership dues, so that we can afford to operate this organization.
2. Everyone who is able to do so should send their material for publication in our newsletter (film and book reviews, news items, obituaries, photos, convention reports, articles, quizzes, letters, etc.).
3. Everyone who is able to do so should provide their e-mail address to receive full-color digital copies of the newsletter with no page limit, and at no added cost.
4. Everyone who is able to do so should take part in our annual awards process.
5. Everyone who attends the Worldcon should try to support First Fandom's convention activities (help prepare our display, set-up and staff our fan tables, participate in FF programming, provide reports and photos for our publications).

IN CLOSING

Please contact jlcoker3@bellsouth.net if you want to join the **newsletter staff**, or want to help coordinate First Fandom's **awards process** next year. Thank you!

MY LIFE IN SCIENCE FICTION

(BY DAVID A. KYLE, 1919 - 2016)

"For the past seventy-five years or so, my life has been involved in science fiction. Why do I still have a feeling of the sense of wonder? Science fiction gave to me an optimistic view of the future, of mankind's progress in development, not just materially and scientifically, but spiritual evolution.

That sense of mankind's ultimate improvement is what I found as a young man in science fiction and what I still find in imaginative literature. This is in spite of the fact that there is in science fiction negative thinking and a lot of gloom and doom. I think of science fiction in its positive sense, optimistically, of a glorious future that we are developing. Even though we have our low points, ultimately mankind will rise above the ugliness that seems to be inherent in our nature.



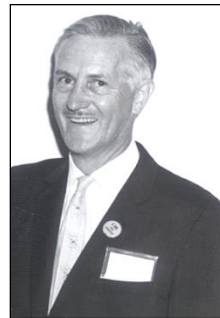
Captain Kyle (1946)



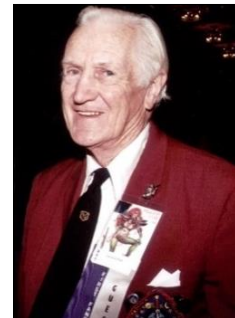
Member, St. Fantasy

Science fiction, in its early formation in the Gernsback magazines saw a mechanistic and a technological future where science was going to do everything, correct everything, and make it better. It turned visions of science fiction into visions of God and heaven, that God could work miracles, now it's science fiction that could work miracles. That was the Gernsback era.

Today, we recognize that science is not the answer to everything. Science can create a lot of problems when misused. Science is not God, and is not going to cure everything. Today's science fiction is realistic in its evaluation of mankind, and therefore much of the idealism and optimism is lost. The difference today is this loss of a sense of wonder that once was prevalent, which was the hallmark of early science fiction.



Worldcon (1968)



DragonCon (1998)

I felt that Gernsback was an idealist, but where do you find idealism in science fiction today? You have to look for the youthful sense of wonder, and cling to it, rejecting the negative and focusing on the positive. Take for example, a science class in high school. There may be one or two students that ponder the wonder of the future from a philosophical point of view. The others will learn the material and then leave the class, but it is those few people with that certain spark that can do a lot to shape the world.

When I was young, those of us who were enthusiastic in science fiction were sparks that lit small fires of understanding and optimism. We were proselytizing an attitude that life is a wonderful adventure and it's going to lead to a wonderful future. And, just as in *The War of the Worlds*, everything was going to turn out all right. It is what I felt then and it is still what I feel today."

I REMEMBER DAVID A. KYLE

(BY JOHN L. COKER III)

There are very few people active today in science fiction (SF) fandom who can remember a time before David A. Kyle.

Dave Kyle had participated in many of the great moments in the history of SF, starting in the mid-1930s. He had personally known and worked with most of the people who had been involved in the field during the past nine decades.

And, Dave was still **excited** about it all.

If you were accompanying Dave during a large convention, you better not be in a hurry, because you were going to get to spend time with everyone. Dave was especially gracious to the younger fans. He enjoyed having conversations with them and introducing them to friends.

First Fandom elected two people to the Hall of Fame this year and Dave Kyle once again was a coincidental common denominator. **Ben Bova** said that Kyle introduced him to SF fandom at the 1956 Worldcon, and **Joe Wrzos** said that he got his start working on the staff at Gnome Press during the mid-1950s.

Dave provided an introduction for **Andre Norton** and me to meet Arthur C. Clarke during Clarke's visit to Florida in 1995, which led me to visit him again (in **Sri Lanka**) in 1999. Two years later I was emcee at I-Con 20 (Long Island, NY) for "**Arthur C. Clarke's 2001 Greetings from Sri Lanka**" (a live teleconference starring 'Sir' Arthur, and on stage with me: '**HAL**' Clement and '**DAVE**' Kyle).

Forry Ackerman: "From the first time I met him in 1939 at the very first World Science Fiction Convention (named Nycon by me) until this day, despite all the slings & arrows of outrageous

fortune aimed at me by a myriad of malcontents, **Dave Kyle** has never so much as cleared his throat at me, raised an eyebrow, written a cross word, has always been one of my steadfast, staunchest supporters. In such a contentious climate I call that a miracle!"

Over the years, I always found Dave to be a thoughtful, considerate, and well-mannered person, all in the most natural way. He was modest and glad to share the spotlight, acknowledging the good work of others. Dave was clever, and really smart, with a wonderful sense of humor, and he delivered terrible puns.

Dave had great capacity for composing well-constructed paragraphs. He was comfortable speaking in an impromptu manner in front of audiences. He was interesting and knowledgeable, idealistic and stalwart, with genuine depth and a real command of the English language.

He was a professional **artist** with natural talent and imagination. And, Dave had a considerable career as a **journalist** for newspapers, radio and television. He will likely best be remembered as an **author**, **editor** and SF book **publisher**.

Dave could legitimize an event with his participation, or just by his presence in the audience. He was considerate of people, and always glad to see you. I remember occasions as I watched his well-wishers form a line as they waited to greet him when he entered a room.

David A. Kyle **devoted his entire life** to promoting the ideals of science fiction. He embodied the true 'sense of wonder.'

He was a **pioneer** with many first-time accomplishments. His **unique** influence will be felt for decades to come, and when SF fans gather in the future to tell their stories, they will all remember 'The Man in the Red Jacket,' **David A. Kyle**.

IN MEMORIAM: ROBERT CONSTANT PETERSON

(By John L. Coker III and Jon D. Swartz)

Robert C. 'Bob' Peterson passed away on August 15 at the age of 95.

Bob graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1942 and served in the United States Army during World War II. For many years he was an avid hiker and an active member of the Colorado Mountain Club.



**Alan and Bob Peterson
Worldcon (Denver, 2008)**
(Photograph by Keith W. Stokes)

Bob was a life-long science fiction (SF) fan and belonged to the Colorado Fantasy Society. In the 1940s he published the genre reference works *The Fantasy Index* and the *Index of Science Fiction Magazines, 1926-1948*, the latter with fellow fan Bill Evans. In 1960, Peterson edited his most famous contribution to the SF/fantasy field, the anthology *The Science-Fictional Sherlock Holmes*.

Bob was a long-time member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. He was elected to the First Fandom Hall of Fame in 2004 and he received the Sam Moskowitz Archive Award in 2008.

IN MEMORIAM: SAM BASHAM

(Prepared by Jon D. Swartz)

Samuel Jerome Basham, Jr. passed away on March 7, 2015 at the age of 88. He was born on February 25, 1927, to Samuel J. Basham, Sr. and Louise R. Small Basham in Adairville, Kentucky.

Sam graduated from high school in 1944, and joined the Navy in January, 1945. He married Ellen Ruth Barnard on August 8, 1949, in Franklin, Kentucky. He graduated from the University of Kentucky in August, 1953 with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering.

At that point Sam began a distinguished 40-year career in R&D / project management with Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, Ohio. Sam obtained a Master's Degree in Nuclear Engineering from The Ohio State University in 1970. He was a past Chairman of the Nuclear Engineering Division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), and was elected an ASME Life Fellow.

Sam was a Boy Scout beginning in 1939, and served in many capacities over the years for that organization -- including Cub Master, Assistant Scoutmaster, and District Chairman. He was a lifelong member of The United Methodist Church.

He was an avid reader of science fiction (SF), science, history, and theology, and had an extensive collection of SF books. He took part in the selection of stories for *The Gernsback Awards 1926, Volume 1* (1982).

At one time Sam was a member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, and he attended Philcon I (1947). He had a letter printed in the Summer 1940, issue of *Captain Future* magazine.

Sam was an original member of First Fandom, and was elected to the First Fandom Hall of Fame in 2013.

(Sources: Fancyclopedia 3, *The Leaf Chronicle* (Clarksville, Tennessee), and *The Kentuckian Yearbook*, 1953).

OTHER OBITUARIES

Jack Davis (b.1924)

“US cartoonist whose genre work was mostly for EC Comics – including *Tales from the Crypt*, *Haunt of Fear*, *Incredible Science Fiction* and the early *Mad* – died on 27 July; he was 91.”

(David Langford, *Ansible* 349 – Aug 2016)

Madeleine Sherwood (b.1922)

“US actress whose genre credits include *The Flying Nun* (1967-1970), *The Changeling* (1980) and *The Electric Grandmother* (1982, co-scripted by Ray Bradbury), died on 23 April aged 93.”

(David Langford, *Ansible* 346, May 2016)

Janet Waldo (b.1920)

“Actress Janet Waldo died on June 12. She provided voices for the television shows *Battle of the Planets*, *The Flintstones*, and *Adam Ant*. Among her most famous roles: Penelope Pitstop, Josie McCoy (on *Josie and the Pussycats*), and Judy Jetson.”

(Steven H. Silver, *SF Site News* – June 13)

Alan Young (b.1919)

“Alan Young, UK-born actor whose genre credits include George Pal's *The Time Machine* (1960), *Mr Ed* (1961-1966), *Battle of the Planets* (1978-1980), *The Cat from Outer Space* (1978), *The Incredible Hulk* (1982-1983) and *DuckTales* (1987-1990), died on 19 May; he was 96.”

(David Langford, *Ansible* 347, June 2016)

BIRTHDAYS

(From a list originally compiled by Andrew Porter)

October

- 1 – J. Allen St. John, Martha Beck, Donald. A. Wollheim, Mike Ashley
- 2 – Alex Raymond, Willy Ley
- 3 – Ray Faraday Nelson
- 4 – Earl Binder, Al Ashley
- 9 – Harry Bates
- 11 – Gay Haldeman
- 15 – James H. Schmitz, E.C. Tubb
- 20 – Erle M. Korshak
- 21 – Ed Hamilton, Ursula K. Le Guin
- 23 – Roy Lavender
- 28 – Fredric Brown
- 30 – Walt Willis
- 31 – Art Saha

November

- 1 – Gordon R. Dickson
- 2 – Sue Francis, Carol Resnick
- 5 – H. Warner Munn
- 6 – Catherine Crook de Camp
- 8 – Bram Stoker, Ben Bova
- 9 – Alfred Coppel, Larry Shaw
- 17 – Raymond F. Jones, John Trimble
- 20 – Len J. Moffatt
- 23 – Nelson Bond, Wilson Bob Tucker
- 24 – Forrest J Ackerman
- 25 – Poül Anderson
- 26 – Frederik Pohl
- 27 – L. Sprague de Camp
- 30 – E. Everett Evans, Milton Rothman

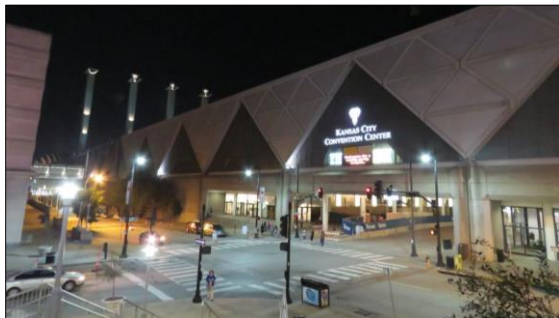
December

- 2 – Jerry Sohl
- 7 – Leigh Brackett
- 9 – Margaret Brundage
- 16 – Arthur C. Clarke, Philip K. Dick
- 18 – Alfred Bester, Walt Daugherty
- 19 – Harry Warner, Jr.
- 23 – David H. Keller
- 24 – Fritz Leiber, Ray Beam
- 28 – Jon D. Swartz

MEMORIES OF MIDAMERICON II

(Article and Photos by Keith W. Stokes)

The 74th World Science Fiction Convention was held in Bartle Hall Convention Center in downtown, Kansas City, Missouri on August 17 -21.



Convention Center

Portions of the Muehlebach Hotel, which housed the 34th Worldcon in 1976 are incorporated in the Marriott, which is the largest of the hotels housing members of this year's Convention.

The dealer's room, art show, exhibit hall, gaming, con suite, party booths, fan tables and site selection were all housed in one exhibit hall, and First Fandom's fan table location was ideal.



NASFiC Site Selection Table

I can't think of a spot which would have been better. We were situated on the main aisle, where most people going to or from exhibits, dealer's room or art show went past our table. SFWA was to our left, University of Iowa Libraries Special Collections was on our right and the bid tables were across the aisle.

First Fandom had two long fan tables with two large bulletin boards behind the booth. Our **exhibit** featured six posters depicting a history of First Fandom, the Big Heart Award and St. Fantony. The fan tables had free information about First Fandom. Steve Francis prepared a **display of historic material**, including reproductions of pulp magazine covers



First Fandom Fan Tables and Display

Steve and I staffed the tables for about 15 hours during the weekend. We met a lot of people and sold all of the copies of the First Fandom Magazine Annual.

Almost all programming was held in other rooms in the convention center, with the largest events in auditoriums which had been renamed the Tucker Stage and Pat Cadigan Theater for the weekend.



Keith and Steve present the awards

First Fandom's awards were presented at the beginning of the Retro Hugo Award Ceremony on Thursday evening. **Steve Francis** presented the **Hall of Fame Awards** to **Ben Bova** and to **Joseph Wrzos**. Rick Wilber accepted the award on behalf of Ben Bova and Steve accepted for Joseph Wrzos.

I presented and accepted the Posthumous Hall of Fame Awards on behalf of **Olon F. Wiggins, Lew Martin and Roy V. Hunt**. I presented and accepted the Sam Moskowitz Archive Award for **Cuyler W. "Ned" Brooks, Jr.**, the first ever to be given posthumously.

First Fandom's Awards concluded with presentation of the Sam Moskowitz Archive Award to **Stephen D. Korshak**. Stephen gave an acceptance speech and was the only recipient to receive any of the awards in person that night.



L-R: Rick Wilber, Stephen D. Korshak, Steve Francis, Keith W. Stokes

The highlight of the evening came as they were wrapping up the ceremony. The house manager came forward and said that A.E. Van Vogt's granddaughter had driven 25 straight hours to be there and then they brought her to the stage.

The Retro Hugo Award for Slan (Best Novel category) was brought back out and presented to **Charlene Piper** in an emotional moment. I spoke with her during the group photo after the awards and learned that she had driven from Idaho and literally walked into the room after the winner's name was announced.

The Masquerade was held the following evening and the Hugo Awards were presented on Saturday evening. At the outset of the Hugo Awards Ceremony, **Sue Francis** presented the **Big Heart Award** to **Edie Stern and Joe Siclari**.



The Big Heart Award

This year's convention was somewhat handicapped by the hotels forcing the parties to be held in the Convention Center and the huge cost of having everything provided by the caterer.

That didn't matter very much to those who received invitations to **George R.R. Martin's 2nd Annual Losers Party**, which was held a couple of blocks away at the 3,573-seat **Midland Theatre**. The Renaissance Revival style theatre (built in 1927) is now a beautiful event space.



George R.R. Martin's Party
(Midland Theatre)

The party included BBQ, desserts, multiple free bars, a live band and the 2nd presentation of **Alfie Awards** made from actual hood ornaments.

Official head count for Midamericon II was 4602 Attending Members, and 7338 Total Members (including Supporting).

MIDAMERICON II (BY STEVE FRANCIS)

Steve Francis shared some thoughts about the Big Heart Award and the First Fandom Awards and Worldcon display:

“The First Fandom and Big Heart award ceremonies both went well.

The display was in a prominent position on one of the main aisles in the exhibit area. The photocopies of the 1941 pulp magazine covers added a lot to our tables. Keith donated the posters from last year's display to the Fanac group to become part of the fan history material. Our banner and six new posters will be kept by Keith for next year's displays.

Keith and I sold all 10 copies of the First Fandom Magazine. I enjoyed spending time with Erle Korshak and Roger Sims.

The Big Heart Award being given to Joe Siclari and Edie Stern was extremely well received by everyone we spoke to after the ceremony.

Next year, Sue and I will most likely be attending the NASFiC in San Juan, Puerto Rico, but not Worldcon 75 in Helsinki, Finland.

We should be thinking about where the First Fandom awards and the Big Heart Award should be presented next year.

Our thinking is that the Big Heart Award should be given in Helsinki at the Worldcon. The First Fandom awards could be given at Worldcon 75 or the NASFiC.

This should be open to discussion.

Vincent Docherty will be in Helsinki next year and has agreed to present the Big Heart Award if asked to do so.”

MIDAMERICON II PHOTO GALLERY

(PHOTOGRAPHS BY KEITH W. STOKES)



Convention Center



Party, Midland Theatre



Bob Silverberg



The Alfie Awards and George R.R. Martin



Connie Willis



Joe Haldeman, Larry Niven



Retro Hugo Award Recipients, 2016

FIRST FANDOM HALL OF FAME BEN BOVA

Since the late-1940s, Ben Bova has been writing and editing award-winning stories about science, technology, and wonders of the future. He has published more than ten dozen books. He was editorial director of *Omni Magazine* and editor of *Analog Magazine*. He received the Hugo Award for Best Professional Editor six times, was Guest of Honor at the Worldcon in 2000, and is a past president of SFWA.



(Photograph by John L. Coker III)

In 1956, while Ben was working as a technical editor on the Vanguard Project, David A. Kyle invited him to attend the Worldcon in New York City.

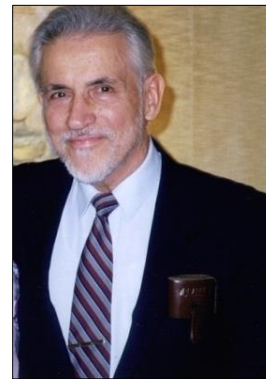
Bova brought along two engineers and an exhibit about Space. There, he met Forrest J Ackerman, discovered SF fandom, and was on a panel discussion with Willy Ley and Arthur C. Clarke.

Ben has taught science fiction courses at Harvard University. His articles and reviews have been published in many magazines and newspapers, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *Nature*, and *Scientific American*.

Ben's work continues to inspire generations to imagine the possibilities, lifting humankind from the mundane, so that we can attain our destiny in the stars.

FIRST FANDOM HALL OF FAME JOSEPH WRZOS

Joseph Wrzos has been a life-long reader, writer, and editor of books. After receiving a B.A. degree from Rutgers University, he joined Phi Beta Kappa and was a graduate student at Columbia University. During the early-1950s, Joe enjoyed a two-year apprenticeship as Assistant Editor at Gnome Press in New York. He worked in the office with Marty Greenberg, editing manuscripts, interacting with authors, artists and staff, and packing a lot of book orders.



Joseph Wrzos

Joe pursued his career in academia, working as a librarian and as a teacher.

From 1965-67, Joe was managing editor of both *Amazing Stories* and *Fantastic*. During this brief tenure, he acquired important new stories and increased the circulation of the magazines.

Joe has edited some very worthwhile books, including collections of stories by August Derleth, and by Seabury Quinn, and a well-received comprehensive volume showcasing Hannes Bok's artwork.

Joseph Wrzos is a man with a sense of tradition who has always followed his passions, approached his work with real dedication and mentored others along the way. He is an enthusiast, a true fan, and a living link to the days of wonder.

POSTHUMOUS HALL OF FAME 3RD WORLDCON CONVENTION COMMITTEE: OLON F. WIGGINS, LEW MARTIN AND ROY V. HUNT

Each year, we honor some of the early SF fans who were not elected to the Hall of Fame during their lifetimes. This year, we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Third Worldcon. Denvention was made possible by two young fans that rode the rails on freight trains from Colorado all the way to Chicago to put in their bid. With Robert A. Heinlein as guest of honor, it was a small but glorious affair, and the last worldcon to be held for the next four years because of World War II.



L-R: Lew Martin, Olon F. Wiggins
(Photo provided by Robert A. Madle)



(First SF Awards presented at a Worldcon, Denver, 1941. L-R: Roy V. Hunt, Damon Knight, Julius Unger, Olon F. Wiggins, Forrest J Ackerman, Walter J. Daugherty)

THE SAM MOSKOWITZ ARCHIVE AWARD (POSTHUMOUS)

Each year, First Fandom presents the Sam Moskowitz Archive Award to recognize a person who has not only built a world-class collection of genre-related material, but has also accomplished meaningful things with it.

This year, for the first time, this award is being presented posthumously, to a long-time SF enthusiast, widely-known and highly-regarded for his service, who passed away on August 31, 2015:

CUYLER W. 'NED' BROOKS, JR.

After earning a degree in Physics, Ned Brooks went to work for NASA in the late-1950s. Over the next fifty years he gathered and cataloged a huge archive of books, magazines and fanzines.



Caricature of Ned Brooks by Tim Kirk
(Used with permission of the artist)

Through the dedicated bibliographic and publishing efforts of Ned Brooks, these historic artifacts have been preserved for future generations and will be made available for research and publication.

It is because of the important body of work that Ned Brooks produced, and for the generous support that he provided to others, and for his dedication to the history of SF fandom, that we honor the memory of **Ned Brooks** this year with this special posthumous award.

THE SAM MOSKOWITZ ARCHIVE AWARD 2016, PRESENTED FOR 'EXCELLENCE IN COLLECTING'

STEPHEN D. KORSHAK

The recipient of the Sam Moskowitz Archive Award for 2016 is a life-long fan whose childhood home was filled with books and artwork from the Golden Age.

For more than fifty years, it has been his legacy to collect, preserve, and put on display some of the finest known and most important examples of original science fiction and fantasy artwork.

Korshak has generously allowed many of the paintings from this collection to be shown on special exhibition in museums throughout the world. Steve has written scholarly articles, been a special guest at conventions, and published five definitive books featuring this artwork.



Stephen D. Korshak
(Photograph by John L. Coker III)

It is in recognition of the unique and historic archive that he has collected, and for all of the good work that is yet to come, and for inspiring generations of collectors, that First Fandom proudly presents the Sam Moskowitz Archive Award for 2016 to **Stephen D. Korshak**.

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH GIVEN AT THE WORLDCON (BY STEPHEN D. KORSHAK)

"Most people know the names of the authors H.G. Wells, Robert A. Heinlein and Stephen King. Some people know who the artists Frank R. Paul and Margaret Brundage were. But few people know who the collectors Forrest J Ackerman, Gerry de la Ree, Darryl C. Richardson and Sam Moskowitz were.

Authors, artists and collectors are inextricably related. An author's work comes to life through an artist's illustrations of the written work. In turn, an artist's illustration work is perpetuated through a collector's collections.

I will always remember the first time I visited the Ackermansion of Forrest J Ackerman. That is when I knew that I was a collector. "Mr. Science Fiction," as he was affectionately known, created one of the first science fiction art museums in his home in Los Angeles.

Countless movie producers like Steven Spielberg and George Lucas, as well as world famous authors like Ray Bradbury and L. Ron Hubbard, all visited and were all influenced by his collection.

Sam Moskowitz, Gerry de la Ree, and Darryl C. Richardson, like Forrest J Ackerman, were great collectors of science fiction art, books, magazines, and memorabilia. What they teach us is that collecting takes a great eye and it takes great scholarship in deciding what to put into one's collection.

When done properly, the collection re-introduces artists to a new generation of collectors who are obligated to act as custodians for another generation so that the cycle continues. Those unfortunate souls who lock up artwork in storage vaults or in closets in their home fail this true test of a collector.

As Einstein said, "Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind." Authors, artists, and collectors all need each other. Authors' words are blind without the illustration artist. Artists' reputations are lost and become empty without collectors researching and exhibiting their work.

The Sam Moskowitz Archive Award honors all of these pioneering giants in the field of research, scholarship and publishing. It is a privilege to be mentioned in the same breath as those other great collectors, to be a custodian, like they were, for a future generation of some great works of art.

I am truly honored to receive the Sam Moskowitz Archive Award."

LETTER FROM STEPHEN D. KORSHAK

May 26, 2016 Shasta Phoenix

It is with great pleasure that I accept the 2016 Sam Moskowitz Archive Award.

I am humbled to join the ranks of the other great honorees who have also received the award.

Thanks again and best regards,

Stephen D. Korshak

LETTER FROM BEN BOVA

17 May 2016

I am honored and delighted to accept membership in First Fandom's Hall of Fame. Thank you, Erle Korshak, Robert Madle and the entire organization.

Unfortunately, I won't be able to attend the Worldcon this year. Rick Wilber has kindly agreed to accept the award on my behalf. Thanks again. I'm truly honored.

Most sincerely, **Ben Bova**

LETTER FROM JOSEPH WRZOS

31 August 2016

Dear John:

Regarding this year's Kansas City World Con, although I was unable to attend, you made it possible for me to be present vicariously, even if in absentia. By sending me copies of the scripted remarks made by presenters during the FF Awards segment of the ceremony.

I thank First Fandom itself, a seasoned group I'm privileged to be part of. So, it is indeed a high honor to be included in the First Fandom Hall of Fame roster, which all recipients cannot but feel deeply, since it comes from our peers, friends, and colleagues in a wonderful, always exciting literary field, which grew out of the concept of "singularity" long before the term became a popular label.

Yesterday, besides your letter you also included a copy of the First Fandom Magazine 2016 Annual, a marvelously rich and inclusive collection of important sf historic records, documents, photos and data all worth passing on to our posterity. I congratulate you and Jon D. Swartz. It's exceedingly well done.

Finally, I am especially thankful to you, and all concerned, for sending me the First Fandom Hall of Fame 2016 honorary plaque. Beautifully designed, and quite impressively executed, it is now mounted on the wall above my desk. Where it will serve as a tasteful reminder that although we sf enthusiasts may continue to do research and enjoy the genre singly, we're also actually part of a much larger dedicated community of mostly self-taught scholars who learned to love the sf field long before it became an Internet phenomenon.

Again, many thanks. **Joe Wrzos**

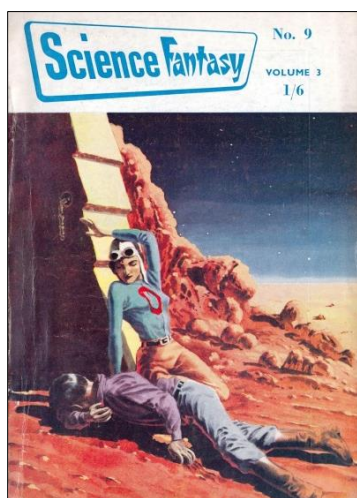
ORIGINAL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: BRIAN ALDISS

(BY JON D. SWARTZ & JOHN L. COKER III)

Brian Wilson Aldiss was born August 18, 1925. He is an English writer, who has been publishing science fiction (SF) novels and short stories since the 1950s. His byline reads either Brian W. Aldiss or simply Brian Aldiss, except for occasional pseudonyms he used during the mid-1960s, including Jael Cracken, Dr. Peristyle, and C.C. Shackleton.



Greatly influenced by SF pioneer H.G. Wells, Aldiss is a vice-president of the international H.G. Wells Society. He is also co-president of the Birmingham Science Fiction Group.



July 1954 (Volume 3, No. 9)

His first speculative fiction in print was the short story "Criminal Record," published by John Carnell in the July, 1954, issue of his *Science Fantasy*, a

companion magazine to *New Worlds*, the most popular British SF magazine for decades.

Aldiss was named a Grand Master by the Science Fiction Writers of America in 2000 and inducted into the Science Fiction Hall of Fame in 2004.

His awards include two Hugos (plus a Special Plaque as Most Promising New Author of the Year in 1957-1958), a Nebula ("The Saliva Tree" in the first year the award was given), and a John W. Campbell Memorial Award (for *Helliconia Spring* in 1982-1983). *Helliconia Summer* and *Helliconia Winter* followed the initial novel quickly and completed the trilogy.

His other noteworthy novels include *Non-Stop* (1958), *The Canopy of Time* (1959), *Starship* (1959), *Hothouse* (1962), *The Long Afternoon of Earth* (1962), *The Dark Light Years* (1964), *Greybeard* (1964), *Earthworks* (1965), *Who Can Replace a Man?* (1966), *The Hand-Reared Boy* (1970), *Frankenstein Unbound* (1973) and *White Mars* (1999).

His non-fiction works include *Billion Year Spree* (1973) and *Science Fiction Art* (1975).

Hell's Cartographers (1975), edited by Aldiss and Harry Harrison, consists of personal histories of six SF writers: Alfred Bester, Damon Knight, Fred Pohl, Robert Silverberg, Harrison, and Aldiss.

Other Aldiss non-fiction works include the autobiography, *The Twinkling of An Eye* (1998); a tribute to his late wife, *When the Feast is Finished* (1999); and a memoir, *Bury My Heart at W.H. Smith's: A Writing Life* (1990). One of his most successful anthologies was *Space Opera* (1974), a collection of classic short stories that also contained an introduction and essays by Aldiss.

Aldiss has received many genre honors, in addition to those already listed, including Ditmar, Pilgrim, Locus, BSFA, Kurd Lasswitz, and Prix Jules Verne awards. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 1990. In 2008 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Liverpool in recognition of his contribution to literature. The Brian W. Aldiss Archive at the University holds manuscripts from the period 1943 to 1995.



Dave and Ruth Kyle, Brian Aldiss
(Photograph provided by Christopher M. O'Brien)

Aldiss was awarded the title of Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to literature in Queen Elizabeth's Birthday Honors list, announced on June 11, 2005.

His influential works include the short story "Super-Toys Last All Summer Long" which was the basis for the film *AI: Artificial Intelligence* (2001) starring Haley Joel Osment and Jude Law.

Aldiss has been active in many other areas. He was associated with the British New Wave of SF. He was faculty sponsor to the Oxford University

Science Fiction Club in the 1960s. He was elected President of the BSFA in 1960. He was the literary editor of the *Oxford Mail* newspaper during the 1960s. Around 1964 he and Harry Harrison published a critical magazine, *Science Fiction Horizons*, for two issues.

He was Worldcon GoH at Seacon '79 and at Loncon II. He was Special Guest, World Fantasy Convention (London: 1988, 1997).

For many years he has been the Special Guest Emeritus, at the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts.

He was married twice, to Olive Fortescue from 1948 to 1965, and to Margaret Manson from 1965 to 1997, and had two children by each marriage.

Aldiss reports that he no longer writes SF. His most recent novel, *Comfort Zone* (2013), is about the breakdown of a community, and is reminiscent of some of the non-SF work of Wells.

A few years ago, Brian began writing a short story every day, with the goal of collecting them into a book. He sent this photograph and his best wishes to all.



Brian Aldiss
(Reprinted from STF 39, 1Q2014)

Aldiss, whose SF fan activity predates the 1939 Worldcon, was elected to the First Fandom Hall of Fame in 2004.

IN MEMORIAM:**ROBERT EDWARD WEINBERG****(AUGUST 29, 1946 – SEPTEMBER 25, 2016)****[Prepared by Jon D. Swartz]**

Robert E. Weinberg was a renowned author, anthologist, editor, publisher, bookseller, collector, convention chairman and science fiction (SF) fan during his lifetime. Born in New Jersey, Bob received his Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from Stevens Institute of Technology in 1968. In 1970, he was awarded his Master of Science degree with Honors in mathematics from Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ. He and his wife Phyllis had a son, Matt.

Bob devoted many years to studying the pulp magazines of the 1930s-1950s, and subsequently published more than a dozen issues of his fanzine, *Pulp*, from the mid-1970s to the early 1980s. He also issued the *Weird Tales Collector* during the 1970s-1980s. Bob acquired *Weird Tales* in 1979.

In the late 1960s, Bob began publishing guides to the works of Robert E. Howard, H.P. Lovecraft and other pulp authors. Robert Weinberg Publications (1974-1981) was devoted to reprinting SF/fantasy stories from the pulps. In addition, he was a mail-order bookseller during the 1980s-1990s.

He was a major collector of SF and fantasy art. This interest led to his 347-page book, *A Biographical Dictionary of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists* (Greenwood Press, 1988), an excellent reference work with 279 entries -- still a central resource for workers in the field.

Bob began publishing SF in 1967. More than a dozen genre books, both fiction and non-fiction, followed. His witty "The Devil's Auction" series (1988-1991) was

noteworthy. With Martin Greenberg and Stefan R. Dziemianowicz, he edited and published 100+ anthologies during the 1980s-1990s.

In 1976, Bob began serving as co-chair of the Chicago Comicon, and continued in this position for nearly 20 years. During this time period, he also chaired the World Fantasy Convention 1983 and the 16th World Fantasy Convention. He also wrote for Marvel comics in the early 2000s, creating the series *Nightside*.

A member of First Fandom, Bob won the Sam Moskowitz Archive Award in 2001; and the 2012 Worldcon presented him with a Special Committee Award for "his years of service and devotion given to advancing the field of science fiction, fantasy, and horror."

(Sources: *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*, *Fancylopedia 3*, *ISFDB*, and Wikipedia.)

A NOTE FROM BOB'S FAMILY

Bob Weinberg passed away on Sunday, September 25. His 70 year old body is being donated to GIFT OF HOPE (800-360-4301). Eyes, skin, tissue and bone will be donated or used in medical research. The remains will be cremated. A memorial service will be set at a later date. Bob was on kidney dialysis for four and a half years. When a patient would receive a kidney donation it was a blessed day...too few and far between.

Knowing that Bob's donation will help someone have a better quality of life has given this day a happier ending. Our favorite Martian that had a body that did not adapt well to Earth will live on.

A perfect ending for Bob, who was so involved in Science Fiction. Or is it a new beginning?

Phyllis and Matt Weinberg

STF-RELATED HEADLINES

RESNICK GETS GOLDEN LION

"Mike Resnick received the Golden Lion Award from the Burroughs Bibliophiles at their annual Dum Dum held just outside Chicago, August 5-7. The Golden Lion Award is given to someone for their lifelong devotion and achievement regarding the works of Edgar Rice Burroughs. Resnick's first published story was a Burroughs pastiche."

(Prepared by Steven H. Silver, originally appearing in *SF Site News*, August 9, 2016)

STAR TREK TURNS FIFTY THIS YEAR

The U.S. Postal Service has issued a [sheet of stamps in commemoration](#).



(Thanks to Mike Glycer for this information, published in *File770* on September 8, 2016)

GUNN HONORED

"James Gunn has received a lifetime teaching award from the Writing the Rockies writers conference at Western Colorado State University. Gunn, who has published numerous novels, stories, and academic books, created the

Center for the Study of Science Fiction at the University of Kansas, is a SFWA Grand Master, a member of the SF Hall of Fame, and a Hugo Award recipient."

[For more information...](#)

(Prepared by Steven H. Silver, originally appearing in *SF Site News*, August 12, 2016)

SEEN IN THE FUNNY PAPERS

Mutts (by Patrick McDonnell)

A man and his dog are standing on the beach looking out at the water. Written on a nearby cloud is a quotation from Arthur C. Clarke:

'How inappropriate to call this planet Earth when it is quite clearly Ocean.'

(*Mutts*, a syndicated cartoon, was published in *The Orlando Sentinel* - September 2, 2016)

"MEET WORLDCON'S BIRTHPLACE, CARAVAN HALL" BY DAVE DOERING

In **File 770 #166** (July 2016) editor Mike Glycer has published an outstanding 12-page article written by Dave Doering, which explores the physical location (and surrounding areas) of the First Worldcon. Detailed maps and vintage photographs reveal locations where STF fans gathered during July 2-4, 1939. To read Dave Doering's article, please visit

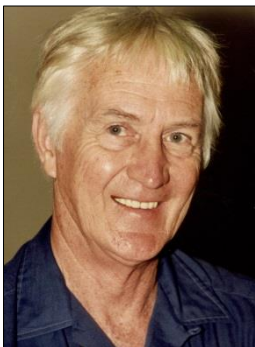
<http://efanzines.com/File770/File770-166.pdf>

FORREST J ACKERMAN IN THE NEWS

The Los Feliz *Ledger* reports that the city of Los Angeles may agree to [name a Los Feliz neighborhood intersection in his honor](#). "The intersection of Franklin and Vermont avenues may soon be known as "Forrest J Ackerman Square."

(Abridged from an article by Mike Glycer that appeared in *File 770* - September 14, 2016)

DAVID A. KYLE PHOTO GALLERY



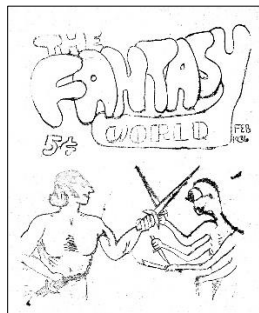
David A. Kyle
(Photo: Rick Hawes)



Ruth Landis Kyle
(Photo: Ed Emshwiller)



After WWII with best friend Dick Wilson



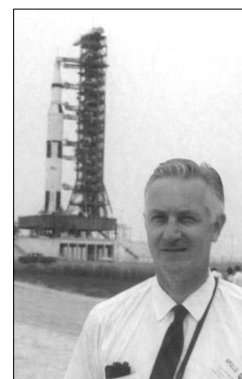
(February 1936)



(Worldcon, 1956)
(Photo: Ben Jason)



College Grad (1951)



Apollo 11 (1969)



Wedding Day (1957)



Florida (1979)
(Photo: Lloyd A. Eshbach)



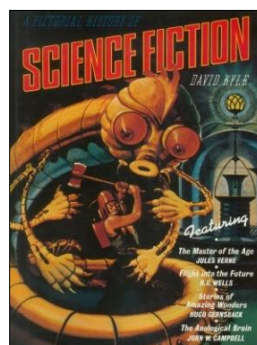
Artwork for Loncon by David A. Kyle (1957)



Gnome Press Ad



Greenberg and Kyle



Hamlyn Books (1976)



Red Jacket (1991)
(Photo: John L. Coker III)

CORRESPONDENCE

ESTHER COLE WRITES:

It's always good to get the newsletter.

For the record: Les Cole (my husband of 69 years) will be celebrating his 90th birthday on July 14. I'm sure you know that July 14 is Bastille Day, so all of France celebrates Les' birthday.

Les stopped writing sf short stories way back in the 1960's and instead wrote a total of seven novels. The last one "Spithead" was published in 2013. It's an alternative universe where WWI and WWII never happened. He also did an archaeological adventure trilogy which begins 3500 years ago on the island of Crete. Plus a spy novel set against the American Civil War.

His books are beautifully researched (sorry, my prejudice is showing) and we were fortunate enough to have visited many of the sites cited in Greece and in the American Civil War.

We also had the good fortune to know sf giants like Campbell and Bob Bloch and Tony Boucher and Poul Anderson. Plus the big fans. Our paths crossed from fan to pro. We met Harlan Ellison when he was a 17 year old smartass. I don't think he ever outgrew that adjective.

Those long-ago conventions were almost intimate compared to the vastness of today. I guess I'm feeling nostalgic.

Es & Les

OTHER MEMBERS STAYING IN TOUCH

It was nice to hear from Joanne Brooks, Earl Kemp, Steve and Erle Korshak, Chris O'Brien, Bob Silverberg, Jon D. Swartz, Jerad Walters and Joe Wrzos.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Help celebrate our milestone 50th Issue!

Please send tributes, articles, photos, news items and letters for publication.

We will issue an updated membership roster and a calendar for 2017. The Original Member Spotlight will feature long-time STF fan **Norman F. Stanley**.

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(By John L. Coker III and Jon D. Swartz)

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