





# FIRST FANDOM BULLETIN number three

Published by Lynn A. Hickman at 224 Dement Avenue, Dixon, Illinois.

Cover by George Barr reprinted from JD-A #55

Artwork by Wm Rotsler, Plato Jones, and Gregg Trend

Back cover by Dave Prosser

\*\*\*\*\*

## Notes from the President.....

Things have been kind of slow during the past few months. I have not been as active as I would have wanted to be, but, thanks to Lynn, a good issue of First Fandom Bulletin came out. I have moved again, from Alexandria, Virginia to Rockville, Maryland. Please note the new address: 4500 Aspen Hill Road). I have also been traveling lots lately, and am now in the process of getting settled in our new home which is large enough for me to finally uncrate my collection and put it in working order.

For me, the biggest thing that has happened during the past few months will be described in an article in the next issue (along with photographs taken at 4e's party). This was a real thrill to me -- meeting for the first time such oldtimers as Morris Scott Dollens, Wm. H. Crawford, Roy A. Squires, and all the others.

Lynn tells me that many of the articles he was expecting have not shown up yet. I'm sorry to hear that and hope that David A. Kyle, Sam Moskowitz and the other good fan historians will get their stuff in to him. And I'd still like to see those articles I suggested by Wollheim and P.S. Miller.

In the last issue Allen Glasser made a good suggestion when he mentioned reprinting letters from the old prozines by First Fandom members and Don Franson is perfectly correct when he suggests all the old First Fandomites who are now pros should be contacted -- as they are First Fandom. And Dan McPhail and his "Then and Now" photo section has great merit.

But what we need and need bad is material. It is urgent that we receive more articles than we have been getting to date. So what say boys? While in California I received the promise of a cover from Morris Scott Dollens. This will be a good one as Morris can really draw and has the old spirit, for he was one of the originators of early fandom.

The first official meeting of First Fandom was held at the Midwest-con, Saturday night, 25 July. Important business was conducted, which is discussed in detail in Don Ford's report elsewhere in the magazine. The provisional slate of officers (President - Madle; Secretary-Treas. - Ford; Official Publisher - Hickman) and all members of the Board of Directors were returned to office. Approximately twenty members were present, and the club got a real shot in the arm when Dr. E.E. (Sky-lark) Smith became a member. Plans were discussed for the publishing  
(continued on page 7)

## L E T T E R S . . . .

Dear Lynn,

I'm glad I got to stop in Cincinnati and was happy to see you and the rest. Only sorry that we couldn't stay longer. I think if the Milford date conflicts with Cincy next year that maybe we'll start back a day early so we can catch most of both.

Milford was really great. Kate Wilhelm came up here on Thursday night and we took off at 4:00 A.M. in the morning on Friday. We drove straight through and arrived at about midnight, after twenty hours on the road. Kate was staying with Dick McKenna and wife in the cottage next to ours, so we unloaded and hit the sack. I got up early next morning and found that most everyone had gotten in. Gordie Dickson came into the cottage, introduced himself and we went to A.J. Budry's place, where we bummed coffee and conversation. Later we had our first meeting and I met the rest of the people, none of whom I'd met before. Present full time were the following: Gordie, A.J., Carol Emshwiller, Avram Davidson, Dave Fisher, Randall Garrett, Ron Goulart, "Mac" McKenna, Kate McLean, Ted Thomas, Kate Wilhelm and the Milford bunch, being Judy Merril, Damon Knight and Jim and Virginia Blish. Ed Emshwiller was there with Carol and the first night he showed "Dance Chromatic", which I hadn't seen before and enjoyed a great deal, plus some others of his films.

The whole week had a kind of run-together quality. We had workshops, where stories were commented on acidly, kindly and well. Every night there seemed to be an impromptu party, usually at McKenna's. Bob Arthur was in one night and talked about tv and especially the "Alfred Hitchcock" shows and Clayt Rawson, sf and mystery editor for Simon and Schuster, was in and available for advice on the book field. We had group discussions on Plotting, Novel v. Short Story, Collaborations and other writers problems. During the first week-end Kurt Vonnegut and Dick Wilson were in to help along with Manny Mittleman and Dan Sugrue, who's collaborating with Judy on a non sf novel. Ted Thomas and AJ swam in the river and toasted in the sun. The weather was warm and fine. Avram gave his party for the kids, of which there were multitudes and wives discussed how to keep out of the way and stay sane with husbands that write.

The last night was the best. Gordie got out his guitar and we sang with it. The McKenna's finally gave up the ghost about five in the morning, but AJ and Randy and I cooked what was left of last night's picnic around a dieing fire and didn't make it to bed till 7:30 in the morning. I was up at 10:00 and on my way back soon after. It seemed more like a week-end than a week.

Joe Hensley  
Madison, Indiana

←←Joe's first novel "THE COLOR OF HATE" is an ACE release for August. He has another in the works that will feature the same main character, that should be done sometime this fall. Joe also writes that he is planning to be at the Pittcon if nothing unforeseen develops. LH→→

Dear Lynn,

FFB #2: Do you say you want illoes, or only if they are on Multilith Masters? I'd like to do some cartoons or something. (Send all the cartoons you wish. I can trace them onto Multilith masters. Naturally, anyone that can draw directly on the masters is welcomed with opened arms as it saves me much time. But, don't let that deter you from sending in artwork. I will trace your work. 1h) Glad to see the list of FF members has expanded. Surprised to see the name of Bob Pavlat, after that funny parody of his with FANAC, I thought he had just missed the dateline and was getting revenge. Was funny. Also Atom cover, and his cartoons poking fun at FF in the fanzines. I get a kick out of them. I was disappointed there weren't more letters, though. Send a simple questionnaire with the next Bulletin, for biographical material. Just age, when started reading sf, fanzines, etc. You could reprint the first letter of every fan. Mine was in the Oct. '34 Astounding and I got a letter in return from the editor (which I lost). Don't even have the magazine anymore. Oh yes, Madle's article was good.

I am enclosing a clipping from the letter column of Writer's Digest, June, 1960, which I just noticed. I thought maybe that First Fandom might have some information and that a reprint in FFB might be helpful.

Don Franson

For quite some time we have been trying to contact Jerry Siegel, formerly of 50 Knightsbridge Rd., Great Neck, Long Island, New York. Mr. Siegel happens to be none other than "the writer with the \$100,000,000 brain -- the original creator, with Joe Schuster, of SUPERMAN.

We are in possession of Siegel's manuscript, "Miracles on Antares" (the origin of which is described in the June, 1958 issue of FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE) and which Nicholas Diamond assures us is "eminately appropriate" for immediate motion-picture production.

Must we call SUPERMAN personally, in order to locate his own creator? Can readers of WRITER'S DIGEST help?

G. Bernard Kantor  
Ries-Kantor Promotions  
533 W. 112th Street  
New York 25, NY

Dear Lynn,

Congrats on a darn good issue of FFB. What a truly excellent cover by ATOM! Its wonderful, a really clever bit of work in spoofing us.

Robert Madle, in his notes from the Pres. writes most absorbingly about FF and I think he hits a real keynote in speaking of the enthusiasm of members - you see it in the letters printed, it pops up in correspondence and is much in evidence wherever the clan gathers. How true his remarks on that marvelous, nostalgic letter by Vernell Coriell.



I really enjoyed Terry Jeeves "In Days of Old". I nod agreement with his statement "those were the real days of the 'Sense of Wonder', when everytime you entered a bookstall, it was with a feeling of adventure". How true it was.

Most interesting to read the roster of members. I was checking the names of members that I actually knew or was in contact with. They were 4sj, Agnew, Alger, Bloch, Beck, Bradbury, Conner, Derleth, Dollens, Glasser, Kyle, Madle, Miller, Moskowitz, Pohl, Train, Taurasi, Unger, Warner, & Wollheim.

The letters were all of interest and should prove a most popular feature of future issues. Harry's mention of his biographical sketch of C.S. Youd is a welcome bit of news and reminds me that I have several similar items, including one by Harry himself. All in all, you have put together a most interesting issue. It's 14 pages contain more real interest than many fanzines far larger. In closing I'd like to compliment Jeeves for his interior artwork and George Barr for the fine Weird Tales - like back cover. I hope you will use more of him in the future (and is he eligible for membership?) <<I will be using more Barr artwork in the Bulletin. No, George is not eligible for membership. lh>>

Dan McPhail

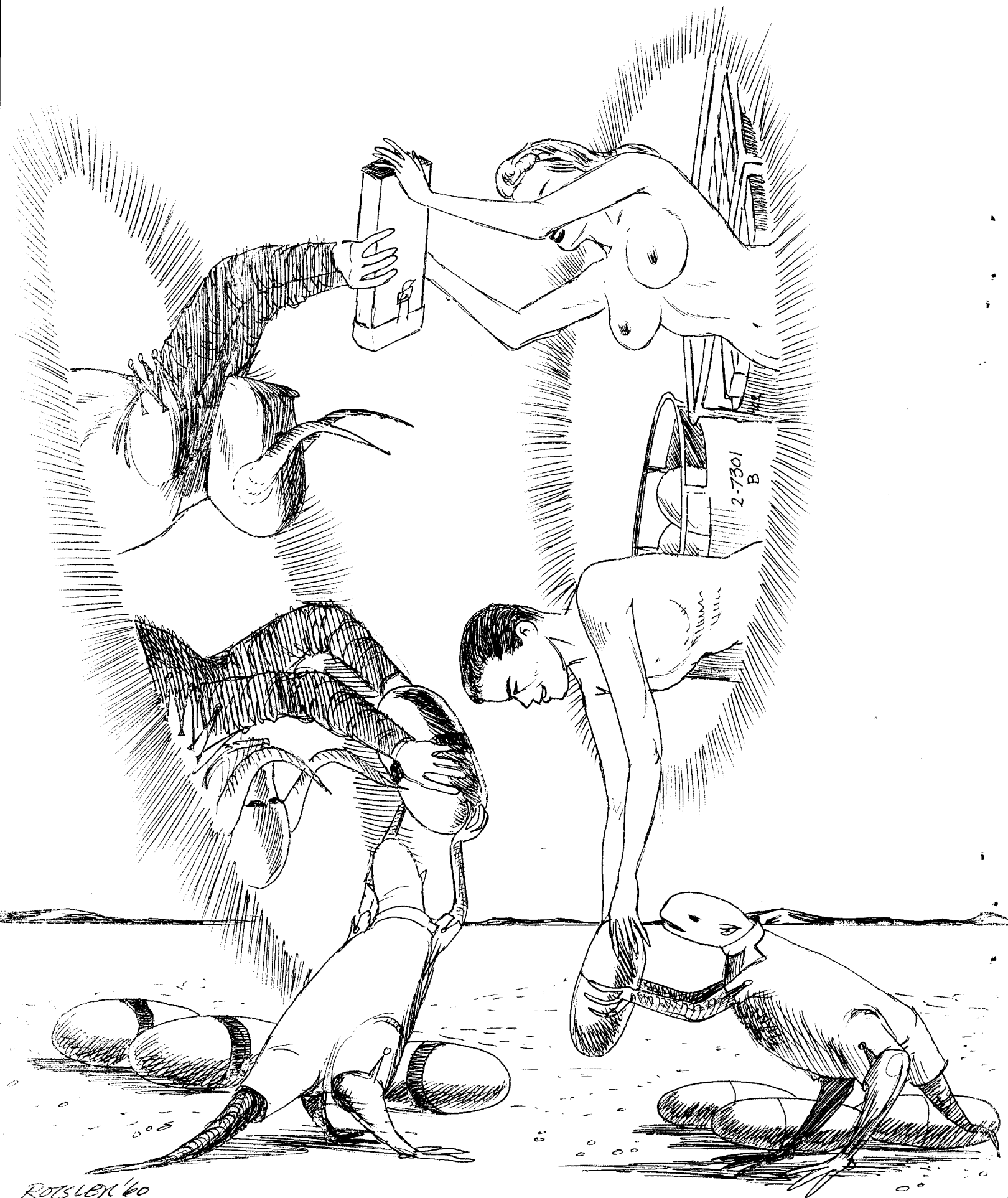
Dear Lynn,

Your mention of needing issues of Argosy reminded me suddenly of another oldtimer who could conceivably respond to an invitation. He's Willis Conover, who as you undoubtedly know has become globally famous as jazz commentator for the Voice of America short-wave broadcasts. I don't have his home address, but a letter addressed to that outfit in Washington would undoubtedly reach him. Reason I remembered him was because of the hours that I spent with him one day in a local shed containing the surplus stock of a second hand store. One whole wall was nothing but Argosies. Willis bought about two hundred of the things and had them shipped to his home in Cambridge or somewhere; he was at that time on his way to Cumberland, Md., to take a job as radio announcer that started him on his career. There was no electricity in the shed, it was so full of magazines that there was no safe place to put the oil lamp, and I was scared to death it would fall over and explode. That would have started a fire that might have burned out the whole business section of town.

Harry Warner

In a letter from Don Ford, he asks me to mention that Fred Pohl wrote him: "Happens I have somehow or other acquired maybe a hundred photos of old fan events, ca 1933-1937. If First Fandom is planning a library or museum, or archives, I'd be glad to donate them." Well Fred, we are planning exactly that. I would suggest that you send them to Don until we decide who should handle the photos and the movies.

Lets have more letters in for the next issue. There are many of you that we haven't heard from.



ROUSCHEN '60

of both Don Ford's London Report and my Fake Fan in London. A committee was established to delve into the past and come up with copies of all the old fan films and photos that may exist hither and yon.

The next meeting of First Fandom will be a combination meeting and party at the Pittcon. The exact time and place will be announced at the convention. A short business session will precede what should be an affair that every First Fandom member should attend. And, based on last years party, we can expect people like Willy Ley, Isaac Asimov, etc., to attend. Only this time we'll make members of them!!

Robert A. Madle

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Report from the Editor.....

It has been some time since the last bulletin, not because there has been nothing to report, but due to a group of circumstances that could not be helped. Since the last Bulletin I have changed jobs, moved twice, and generally have been not only busy, but all fouled up with the processes of moving, getting acquainted with a new group of dealers, learning a bunch of new product lines and of course proceeding with the normal activities of family life.

In the future I expect to be able to spend more time on the FFM (First Fandom Magazine) and have recently resigned from SAPS to cut my other activities. If I find time is still scarce, I'll also resign from FAPA and OMPA. First Fandom can be a good thing and I feel we should all do the best we can to keep it rolling and to have the organization mean what it should. First Fandom is my major interest and I hope it is yours.

With the next issue (#4) the Bulletin part of the title will be dropped and Magazine will replace it. (So you see, there will be an FFM again). We hope to continue as in the past Bulletins only in a larger quantity. With the talents we have in the organization, and with the outside talent I can pull in, FFM should be the most interesting amateur publication in fandom. I feel that we should publish articles of lasting importance to the lovers of sf/fantasy and leave the hi-jinks to others. We have better artwork available to us than most of the professional magazines have. And I have the equipment to produce it properly. George Barr, Gregg Trend, Wm Rotsler, Dave Prosser and Gene Duplantier, although too young to be members of First Fandom, are fine artists, and their work is available. We have Morris Scott Dollens as a member, and there are few artists better than he. I believe that as we progress that artwork will be available from people like EMSH, and Kelley Freas. So lets all pull





together and put out a magazine that we can all be proud to be a part of.

Lynn A. Hickman

\*\*\*\*\*

### Don Ford Reports

At the Midwestcon, a meeting of First Fandom members present was held in the suite of the Cincinnati Fantasy Group. Those present, including 3 new members were: Dave Kyle, Howard DeVore, E. E. Smith, PhD, Stephen Young, Ben Jason, Bob Madle, Jean Carrol, Ed Bielfeldt, Mary Martin, MD, P. Schuyler Miller, Lynn Hickman, Dirce Archer, Marty Greenberg, Dale Tarr, Lou Tabakow, Richard Hickey, C.L. Barrett, MD, Bob Pavlat, Martin Alger, Don Ford, and Rosemary S. Hickey.

All members present voted to retain the present officers & Board of Directors for one additional year. There being no nominations by mail, they were elected by acclamation.

Don Ford gave the Treas. report stating that there were 63 members and \$24.00 in cash. (now it is 66 members and \$27.00 cash.)

Don Ford mentioned that Lynn Hickman is publishing his TAFF TRIP REPORT as a FIRST FANDOM project. After the costs are met, and returned to FIRST FANDOM'S treasury, all profits will go to TAFF. Lynn Stated that he expected to have this published by Pittcon time. Probable price, in view of its length, will be \$1.00 at conventions and \$1.25 by mail.

