

J D - A R G A S S Y # 4 9

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Ninth Year of Publication

## ARGASSING . . . .

The Detention is over. A GREAT convention in my estimation and the Detroit gang are to be sincerely congratulated on the fine job they did. Other than a few comments, I do not intend to run a convention report. There will be umpteen other fanzines running them. If you turn to page 13 and 14 you will see Walt Cole's photopages taken at the con.

Most of you probably know by now, but I'll repeat it here. HUGO Awards went to James Blish, Clifford Simak, Robert Bloch as best authors, with Brian Aldiss receiving a plaque as best new author of the year. The best prozine was The Magazine of Science Fiction & Fantasy, and the best fanzine was Panac.

Of course I saw many fans that I've known for years, but rather than mention all of those names I'd rather just say that of the fans I met for the first time in person at Detroit, the following impressed me deeply with their extra-fine personalities and manners. First, would have to be JOHN BERRY who couldn't have been better or nicer. John circulated freely, did not stay with only one group, and it made no difference to John whether he was talking to the biggest name fan at the convention or the smallest name neofan. He was -- well heck, he was just the kind of person that you would wish everyone was. Bjo Wells, in spite of not being fully recovered from her accident and being very tired, was a sparkling personality. John Trimble, John Koning, Burnett Toskey, Wally Weber and Sylvia White also made me wish that I had had the opportunity to meet them before.

Pittsburgh won the 1960 consite on the first ballot -- and this is important -- any con committee needs your registrations at once to have money and start the ball rolling for next years con!! So send in your \$2.00 now, and get signed up for the PITTCON. Send money to P. Schuyler Miller, Treasurer, 4805 Centre Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Penna.

Deadline for copy to be included in the first Pittsburgh Progress Report is December 10th 1959. Ad rates will be reasonable, please see page 20 for rates and sizes. (continued on page 20)

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JD-ARGASSY #49. Sept. 13, 1959 published monthly by Lynn A. Hickman at 304 N. 11th Mount Vernon, Illinois. Subscription rates are 12 issues for \$1.00. Single copy prices are usually 10¢.

Cover by Warner. Photopages by Walter Cole. Back cover illustration by Warner. Written material by Les Gerber and Lynn Hickman. Interior illoes by Bjo Wells, Bob Warner and Colin Cameron. Letters by faaans.

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LETTERS, Letters, letters. . .

Dear Lynn,

A few comments on JD-ARGASSY 47: Artwork is generally quite good, although it looks like the cover master tore. <(it did)> Harmon on Boggs is like Harmon on Ellison--too superficial, too much Harmon, too little Boggs. This is quite an assignment, to be able to give a good profile of a fan, and I'd say that on his short acquaintance with Boggs, Harmon just wasn't up to it. As a report of a meeting, though, it's pretty good. Some of the gags and timing are worthy of Terry Carr--if you'll pardon a nasty word in your fanzine. <(I know you are kidding, and I'm sure that Terry does too, but for those that misinterpret Ellick's and my comments I want to say that my Carr's a Ford. 1h)>

The primary reason for writing, though, is to reply to Adkins. I didn't on his last go-around, since I'd said the same thing in VOID, and dislike repeating myself, or blowing up any discussion that much.

I'm not sure why Dan feels it necessary to pick fault even with the favorable fanzine reviews I write--he reaches a bit here, but he certainly has it in his system to take exception to anything I say. The tone of his writing, though, is too rabid to make him worth taking seriously here. Somehow, unwittingly, I must have stepped on one of his toes. I mean, "Never has there been such idiotic remarks in a fanzine. Almost insane mouthings. ...You're sick kid, sick!" This isn't criticism; it is the voice of a prejudice, reacting with full, violent emotional fury. It hasn't got anything to do with what I said, or any criticism of it.

What I was saying, for the benefit of those who came in late: was that fandom can move, as a social group, in one of two directions: toward a center, a vortex, or away from it into separate splinter-groups with little overall awareness. I wrote what I did on stencil, in the lettercol, and maybe I wasn't clear enough for Dan.

To amplify, then: fandom is basically a heterogenous social group, oriented along one general line, with various sublines trailing out, spiral-like from the center. Ideologically, the "center line" is enthusiasm for science fiction(not just sf alone) and the others encompass collecting, reading clubbing, convention-going, fanzine publishing, etc. Socially, the "center line" is whatever main force, personality, or event forms the major interest for all of fandom, be it a BNF, a fanzine, or an event like the Solacon. The sidelines are the various other self-interested activities like the apas, the N3F, etc.

Up until 1953 or '54, fandom was relatively unified. It had no more than two-to-five hundred participants, with about a hundred to two-hundred active. (This is born out in convention figures up to the Chicon). The center of fandom shifted often, but due to the relatively smaller number of fans, the diversification of interests were less pointed, and everything stood out in clearer relation to everything else.

With the final, gasping death of sixth fandom, VEGA and SFB-DIMENSIONS buried, and the last upholders of the ideals of 6th Fandom gone, fandom entered a chaotic period in which few fans came into prominence, few good fanzines were introduced, and fandom became diversified. Lee Hoffman said in PANHISTORY that she thought that fandom had finally grown too large for itself, and that fandom would probably never revert to its former unification.

Viewed from the point of view of things done in fandom, and in terms of interest and enthusiasm, the period 1954-57 was a doldrums. Everyone sensed that something was wrong, and articles were written wondering Whither Now?, and people said that fandom had gone into the apas, and in general fans just wrung their hands. Sure, this wasn't the Dark Ages--fanzines still came out, we had the Joan Carr hoax, etc., but in comparison the fandom of today with three or four monthlies and many other thriving fmz is a New Era indeed.

That which characterized the period of 1954-57 was disunification. Activity continued, but within specific groups and cells within fandom. Intercommunication was lost.

Fandom now is regaining a center--not one focal-point fanzine, as Adkins suggests, though a "focal-point" zine is a symptom of unity of thought--in the widespread interest in the Solacon, the WSFSInc hassle, the TAFF battle, and in the existence of an "indispensable" fanzine like PANAC (though Ellik hasn't been 'dispensing' enough lately).

Now maybe specific fans find it more to their enjoyment that fandom be split up into many smaller groups. If the pond gets small enough, they'll be the big frog. Wow! for them. And they scream when someone looks them over in light of the whole scene, instead of just their own little power-clique.

Now my purpose in putting down all of this was to show, that from the over-all point of view of Fandom, its healthiness and self-interest and awareness, the unified direction is better. It produces more good fanzines, more fans of worth. It stimulates interest. What made you, Lynn Hickman, decide upon jd-ARGASSY's current format? The interest in news-and-comment zines like PANAC, RUMBLE, GAMBIT, SWINGING BORE, etc.? ((JD-A's current format was decided on for several reasons. The first was my enjoyment of RUMBLE and GAMBIT. The second was that I could swing from a large zine to a small zine and back without undue comment as I had time to do the various zines. I like publishing monthly, but certainly can't swing a 30 page zine every month. This way, I can publish what I have time for, stay on a regular schedule, and still have fun. lh)) Why are four or more fans all publishing monthlies now with more fervor than ever, when previously only two were publishing, and in/dull, pre-determined manner?

I originally said that in reviewing fanzines, I had to look at them from the point of view of fandom as a whole. I couldn't say, well, "in the N3F this is a hot fanzine", if it was really a very cruddy one. A zine like SPHERE may be real hot stuff in its own little circle, but compared with any other fanzine, it's pretentious, stuffy, sercon, silly--and pretty fuggheaded all around. ((I like it myself. lh))

It doesn't hurt to note that a zine is specialized in nature, but it shouldn't get a favorable review for just that reason. Anyway, that, I said, was the basis from which I judged a fanzine: whether it was set up to perpetuate disunity, or functioned within the scope of fandom-as-a-whole.

I wasn't saying that a fanzine had to be "fannish", or aspire to being a "Hub" as Adkins insists. A fanzine like PSI-PHI isn't especially either, but it functions as a fanzine within the context of Pandom. SIGMA OCTANUS certainly doesn't--to judge from the number of fans who don't read it and never heard of it. For a real example of a fanzine which tried to create its own corner, how about BREVIZINE? Remember that one, Lynn? Pandom finally disowned it.

"What about INSIDE boy? The literary SKYHOOK? These fanzines aren't worth anything, huh son? Just old zines like VOID will do, right daddy?" Well, lad, you said that; I didn't. I think INSIDE is a really great fanzine, which fits into my definition of fandom-as-a-whole quite well--when it's published. Likewise SKYHOOK which I faunch over even more. And, buddy, I don't consider them or their kind "crap". In fact, daddy-o, you're all wet when you try to shove words like that down my epiglottis.

If you must know, I think Adkins, with his exaggerated jive-style, his constant crude methods of 'talking down', are way out. Sick. And while I can't speak of his other reviews, in his one of VOID, he just doesn't know what he's talking about.

Hell, with all this talk about "fannishness", you'd never believe that I used to be criticized because STELLAR wasn't fannish enough, now would you?

A better than usual issue of JD-A, other than that, Lynn.

Ted White  
New York, N.Y.

◀(I have my own ideas on this Ted. There are many ways in which I agree with you, but I can't go for this unity-disunity bit. However, I'm going to keep still on this so that people won't say we have a great feud going. Many thought so in our disagreement of terms re: the Pitt-Washington bids. lh)▶

Dear Lynn,

I have heard a rumor that somebody is ignoring somebody else. Please print this so we can stir up another hornet's nest.

Ron Ellick  
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Lynn,

Thanx for relaying my request to Don Ford; he sent me a file of POOKA, which I enjoyed reading. So now I'll join you: DON FORD FOR TAFF!

The Adkins and Barr artwork was excellent in #47, and you know I like Plato J., even for such little cartoons. Then there are the Rotsler illos. Ech. Oh, well, I'll just look at the others.

How many chapters are there to the Madle report? If someone doesn't finish his report soon, there will be four TAFP-or-equivalent reports going at once (now that Ken Bulmer's has started). It could drive one nutty trying to keep up with them all. Or nuttier maybe. In this chapter, Bob wanders further afield than usually, with the reminiscing of PSFS matters, and it distracts from the main trend of thought. But it's still interesting to read, even though I've begun to wonder, what with the long-drawn-out report, the traveling here and there, etc, whether he'll ever get back to the U.S. again.

Sky Miller's line-up of program for Pittsburgh sounds interesting. Wonder where in hell the other two are with their propaganda?

Bruce pelz  
Tampa, Fla.

Dear Lynn,

Enclosed is one dollar for renewal to JD-A. Congrats on issue #47--the cover is stunning--absolutely! And so delighted to see you having illos by George Barr--an extremely talented fan--his illo of the python-femme on page 17 is surely one of the finest pieces of work I've ever seen in any mag, fan or pro!! Superb!! I would like to see you do an all art-work issue if you have illos of this calibre.

Written content as always is fine and dandy--Madle's report still taking 1st place in my book. He could go on for the next century and I'd be content. ((He may just do that. We are planning to have the Fake Fan go other places after he returns from England. It will be a regular column.))

Shades of the future!! Have you read in the papers that Curtiss-Wright will start manufacturing those "air-cars" right here in South Bend starting this November? Including small private air cars--these I've gotta see!

Betty Kujawa  
South Bend, Ind.

Dear Lynn,

JD-A came the other day and I've just finished reading it with a good deal of pleasure. Interesting to watch the metamorphosis the zine has undergone from a 'newszine' to its present generalzine form. Now I'd like to see it undergo one further step....to a letterzine. Fandom hasn't had a really good letterzine since the days of CONFAB and I think you're in a good position to take its place. Of course you no doubt have different ideas than mine as to what you wish your zine to be. I'm just dreaming aloud, I guess. I agree 100% with Jim Caughran's letter in #47....about there being several ways to be a sf fan, but merely being a sf fan does not make you a member of fandom....which, by the way, while it is undeniably based on science fiction is still not at the moment bound to sf too tightly. Perhaps a new word is necessary here...we seem to be using two terms--fan and fandom--as having more than one meaning, which can be confusing. ((Actually JD-A has no real policy other than what I want to do when I'm running it off. I'll have news issues, letter issues (such as this one) and general issues. It will be up to what I receive and what interests me at that time. Regarding the terms fan and fandom, they now have too many meanings to too many people.

It is getting to the point where you almost have to state exactly what you mean when you use the term. 1h)~

Gregg Calkins  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Lynn,

To comment on JD-A 46 & 47, both covers were good, and that by Dean Grennell very good. Both letter cols were provoking and I could write a lot about them. Nick Palasca, for example, may just possibly have misinterpreted Chuck Harris' 'SWANSONG'. From my personal knowledge of both Chuck and Ron Bennett, they are both humourists first and foremost, and I can't see them planning to offend each other.

Harmon on Boggs makes him appear as a quaint, lemur-like creature, blinking thoughtfully out of the foliage at our razzmatazz society. Surely this cannot be so! What we observe is surely Harmon-ized Boggs, containing a proportion of artificial colouring matter. altho' very enjoyable, how close does it really come to the natural Redd meat?

The various Rotsler nudes are rather sweet, and would, I am sure, corrupt no one. But what is one to make of those futuristic urinals scattered throughout the backgrounds? One of the girls seems to be having quite a struggle to flush the damn thing. Surely the 21st Century can do better than this?

Sid Birchby  
Manchester, England

Dear Lynn,

JD-A #47 arrived yesterday. It's a nice issue and it's pleasing to see that a fanzine which appears regularly without being precious about it has been nominated for a Hugo. I especially liked Bob Madle's report on his stay in London, but wished that he would get his facts straight. In a previous instalment he mentioned me as being present when the vote was taken for the 1959 con siting. I've since had fans writing (not that I mind fans writing, y'understand) to ask whether such and such a point was put in such and such a way.

I wasn't there. True to form, I'd been partying the night before and overslept. History in the making, with South Gate getting the Con, and I slept through it! In this particular instalment though, Bob gets his rivers wrong, when any Atlas would have told him that the two rivers are the Mersey and the Dee. M-A-D stands for Mersey and Deeside. The two rivers flow practically parellel into the Irish Sea. Between them is the Wirral Peninsula where Norman Shorrock lives. Across the Mersey, to the north, is Liverpool. Even more important is Bob'd gross blackening of my name as regards Lyn Berman. I have never competed with Tony Klein for Lyn's attentions at the Globe or at the Worldcon. Tony, Lyn and I have never been together at any one time. True, otherwise we HAVE competed, but again Bob is wrong; there is nothing friendly about it. I would cheerfully wrap his head round a doorpost, and I know that he would just as cheerfully do the same for me. The difference is that he could do it, too. I saw Tony at the Globe the other week and we had quite a talk about the situation. It appears that with Lyn in South Africa, we're both losers.

Oh, yes. While I appreciate the support in the wrangle against Chuck Harris, which is after all, I realize, being fought in the name of

TAFF, I'd similarly appreciate it if you'd let it die down now. Chuck has apologised after all, and there the matter is closed as far as I'm concerned. I'll probably have something to say on the matter generally in the coming OMPA mailing. ←(AS far as I'm concerned the matter is closed. lh)→

Similarly, I must say that the one thing I do dislike about JD is continual knocking at Inchmery. ←(I haven't noticed my Knocking at Inchmery. Even in my answer to Sandy's statements in Ompa, I published it in BB which was sent through the same channel as Sandy's mag. I have nothing against Inchmery at all. Joy and I are now corresponding, and I for one am enjoying it. I have nothing but the highest regard for Ape and have said so. Any knocking done in JD is by others that write in and I certainly donot control their feelings nor do I censor letters to show only one side of an arguement. I will say that I don't agree with many of their ideas, but have said little myself with the exception of the Madle-TAFF arguement. lh)→ It's true that I'm at Inchmery now, but Sandy, Vinç, and Joy are on holiday in Manchester. I consider them three fine people, myself, and I by no means agree with everything they say, nor they with everything I say. I've probably got to know Sandy better than ever before during my stay here, and must admit that I'm more than ploysently a little surprised that he is by no means the louse he's often painted.

Ron Bennett  
Harrogate, England

Dear Lynn,

Les Gerber phoned me for the part of the poop that refers to Galaxy Novels, and how magazine signatures work. His talking is fine, but he's not a distinguished listener, for both reports were Gerberled.

Sixteen pages happens to be only one of the multiples of a signature on a standard press -- I mean web, of course. He asked for more information, which I gave, but by then he'd turned off his hearing aid.

I asked Philip Jose Farmer if he would like to blow up "The Lovers" for Galaxy Novels. He explained that it could go to 35,000 words -- much to short to make a GN -- and that the structure wouldn't take any greater weight. The book deal he'd made, which fell apart for reasons that it is not for me to go into, was to include two novellas, but be called "The Lovers". Nor is it for me to argue with or justify in print his conviction that 35,000 is the upper limit that the story can take. I felt otherwise and said so. He doesn't happen to agree. It may be that he'll change his mind, or find a way of expanding the story to actual book-length, or stick to his present decision. I don't know and I'm not predicting.

But he offered an original in place of "The Lovers" and it's a fine job called "Flesh". Strong red meat, man! For those that are addicted to past stories at the expense of present or upcoming ones, it won't be as good. For those who aren't -- which includes me -- it's a more powerful, better integrated story.

H.L. Gold  
New York, N.Y.



Dear Lynn,

I am sorry about the delay in writing you but we have just got back from what was euphemistically termed a 'holiday'... the only trouble was that young Nicki had just got to the stage of wanting to stand all day long. As she isn't yet able to stand by herself somebody has got to hold her upright - and we're delegated. The first ten minutes is sufficient to exhaust you (she stomps on your stomach and waggles her behind back and forward with frightening energy), so you can imagine what a whole fortnight of it did to us. We got back to find a load of your zines waiting for us and I've grabbed the first minute I could to answer your letter.

As to personal contact, yes I do agree that IF you can make personal contact, it is the strongest - but it's not easy across 3,000 miles of water and that is why I consider fanzines a far stronger method between US and UK fans than any personal contact. It is stronger in that you develop contacts with far more people. ((I agree with you on this Joy. When you can't meet the people personally, fanzines & letters are by far the best communications between fans. However, I've found that a fanzine personality and an in person personality are sometimes two different things. In fact, I've even had that said about myself. One personal contact that I have just enjoyed though, where the in print and the in person are both close to the same and are both wonderful, is John Berry. I was extremely impressed with his manner, his wit, his friendliness, actually everything about him. And I believe most everyone at the convention felt the same. I heard several people mention that he is even a better man than Willis. Now this was in no way meant in a derogatory note to Walt, but was meant as an ultra compliment to John. I'm very pleased that I met him, and will enjoy his writings even more now. lh)>

You would like Chuck, Lynn, I can assure you. He is a fine person, and another idealist. His attitude was understandable. People over here had been worried about the conduct of TAFP before Bob came over: when he did they liked him but when he went back they wanted reassuring that this time everything was going to be done the right way - that votes would be counted in only one fashion - that families would not be stacked up to vote - and for a whole year Bob sat tight and never put one word in print that would reassure them. He was a good man, yes, but they'd had some experience and they were really worried. Then came the Ted White rules and panic. Lack of communication again. Trouble is I can see both sides and both are so logical. Chuck's is everything going to be all right? Bob's well they met me and we got on o.k. so they'll trust me. I don't need to say anything yet. And worry, worry, worry, and an undercurrent running through fandom - why haven't we HEARD anything. Meantime Gem Carr blasting her filthy little mouth off, twisting and turning other people's words and suddenly, BLAM! The whole thing exploded.

I quite agree with you that Don deserves to win TAFP: he's done a hell of a lot for fandom - his con work alone is remarkable. I'm still not sure whom I shall vote for: quite candidly I don't know whom I'd prefer to see and am holding out until the last minute when I shall HAVE to make up my mind.

Joy Clarke  
Inchmery, London, England

Dear Lynn,

The artwork in your zine I just loved. Am glad that we have someone who is not afraid to use nudes. It has always been a mystery to me when someone gets shocked over a beautiful painting or drawing of a nude. Male or female, I think a perfect form is a thing of beauty and an honor to our Creator who put us here. Why be ashamed of it when it is displayed in a pure artistic manner?

Isn't this Adkins boy a genius? I love his style and I also liked this G. Barr. I liked that "A Fake Fan In London" but isn't Robt. A. Madle a pro? Jim Harmon's article must of been extra good to whoever might know who he was talking about. Parts of it were funny even to me who was in the dark what it was all about. ((Bob and Jim both sell professionally. lh))

Esther Richardson  
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Lynn,

The Adkins cover is outstandingly good. Excellent, in fact. The more I see of Adkins' current work the better I like it. Now, if he could only write....

Also enjoyed the Barr artwork and some of the Rotsler stuff -- the littul people, that is; I don't care overmuch for the nudes.

I see what Bruce Pelz means. Without a memory to refer back to while reading Harmon's expose, it seems to lack something. On the other hand, I've no doubt that if I knew Redd -- heck, if I'd ever met him; I don't know Ellison, except from listening to him at a couple of Midwestcons -- this piece would have appealed more to me. Some very good things here, though. Especially, the description of the waitress. Hey, the restuarant scenes were the high spots of the Ellison article; is Jim trying to become fandom's Duncan Hines?

Madle's serial just keeps rolling along. I'll be sorry to see it end, even though I'll be glad to get and read it complete.

The letters are interesting, but uncommentable upon with the exception of Nick Palasca's line about standing with friends, RIGHT OR WRONG. I don't agree, but I feel it's a thing for a long article rather than a brief letter of comment.

Joe Saunders  
Roachdale, Ind.

Dear Lynn,

I suppose those two x's after "WRITE XX" mean that I'd better make with the comments or you won't send me any more JD-A's ((right)) and I wouldn't like that to happen because I enjoy reading JD-A even though they do not get me all fired up with arguements to spout.... I like the nice, legible contents; the beautiful reproduction of the illos, and the relaxed and easy-going air about the whole. Trouble is, arelaxed and easy-going air doesn't blow up any flurry of comments. At least, not from me it doesn't.

One odd thing I notice about the comments on Jim Harmon's article on Harlan Ellison. Almost everyone who commented seems to think he did a devastating job. But I read the article -- read it a couple of times in fact. First when I got the mag, then again to see what it was that everybody was chortling over -- but for the life of me I

can't understand these reactions, let alone figure out what was so remarkable about it. After all -- Harlan Ellison is Harlan Ellison. The guy himself is such a firecracker that no matter who wrote what about him, it couldn't help but crackle, snap & pop with excitement. Not even if the writer stuck only to the objective facts. It will be interesting now to see the reaction to this report on Redd Boggs. Of course, not so many people -- fans, I mean -- have seen Redd Boggs as have seen Harlan Ellison. I haven't myself. But I have met Jim Harmon, and the article rings true as far as Jim's part in it is concerned, so I have every reason to assume that it rings true as far as Redd's part goes too. And that does nothing to dispell the "ivory tower" impression one gets from corresponding with Redd.

I agree with Bob Warner that fandom is tending to take itself seriously to the point of absurdity when it permits the dropping out of a few fans to become focal wailing-walls. After all the fans themselves may be permitted the egregious egotism of thinking that fandom will collapse without them -- if they weren't such colossal egotists in the first place they wouldn't have made all the fuss and to-do about leaving -- but there is no reason fandom should agree with their own estimation of their importance to it. No man is indispensable. Not in fandom, certainly! If any comment at all is called for, it might better be, "Good by and good riddance!"

G.M. Carr  
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Lynn,

I greatly enjoyed JD-A #47. There was a professional quality about the artwork; Adkins' cover was a minor classic, and Barr's interior illustrations were equally excellent. In my humble opinion, Adkins and Barr are two of the finest fan artists presently producing.

The monthly book review you propose will be a welcomed advent. I have become addicted to reading book reviews and depend upon them to help me make my reading selections. Thanks for calling attention to Harry Golden's ONLY IN AMERICA, a book I'll long remember and read again and again. Needless to say, I'm eagerly awaiting publication of his forthcoming book. (( Harry's new book, 'For Two Cents Plain' is now on sale. lh))

Harmon on Boggs seemed a bit ambiguous, as though Harmon were relying on puns to uphold the bulk of his writing. And, too, he is supposed to be writing about Boggs, yet there is almost as much Harmon as Boggs in the article. The effect produced makes Boggs emerge as a rather vapid, naive, although highly intellectual (?) fellow. Looks as though you were pressed for time, Mr. Harmon, and submitted a first draft.

I was pleased to see that JD-A was nominated as a candidate for BEST FANZINE award. I'll be even more pleased if JD-A wins same award. Maybe I'm prejudiced, but I think it is the best.

Bob Warner  
Orlando, Fla.

Dear Lynn,

If you remember, at the Midwestcon, we talked, among other things about running a profile on Harlan Ellison in every issue of JD-A. You said you'd run them if I would write the next profile. Here it is. ((Your profile on Harlan will appear in the next issue. I also remember Steve Schultheis saying that if you wrote one, he would too. OK, Steve, it's your turn. lh))

Did you dig this last issue of Rogue with the article by Robert Courtney on our college bohemians? I merely glanced at it on the newsstand as I usually do. I was surprised because the photos had a degree of authenticity, that I had never seen in any of the other articles. On the strength of this I bought a copy and while inspecting at my leisure, I distinctly got the impression that these photos were authentic. But I found them also, somewhat disturbing, because everything about them seemed so damned familiar. Then it struck me that the place could easily be the Nunnery. Of course, I knew it wasn't the Nunnery, by the way the stacks and stacks of books were piled about with the hi-fi equipment. ((most of the pictures were taken in Bill Halfpenny's apartment. Bill has quite a nice collection of sf. lh)) Then I finally realized (so I thought) what gave it its air of authenticity. Almost everybody had a glass in their hand. "Dammit," I said, "They look like a bunch of fans. I've seen these scenes a hundred times before, ever since New Orleans."

After letting my mind explore these channels I began to get the feeling that I KNEW these people. "Certainly, the fellow with the guitar on page 30, and the one below him, sitting watching the chess game must be fans. I'm sure I've seen them before." My eyes traveled across the page and I studied the girl with the open blouse. "She looks just like Sally Dunn," I said. And I also felt I knew the other girl pouring cream into a coffee cup. I turned again, back to the beginning of the article and looked at the group photo at the bottom of page 29. "Jesus," I yiped, "That IS Sally Dunn!" With haste, I took a look at page 32 at the upper right hand corner. That lout leering at the floor, is none other than Harlan Ellison. And if that's Harlan the girl with her back to the camera must be Charlot. I flipped to the beginning of the article to see who wrote it and the byline read Robert Courtney! No wonder the pictures looked familiar. No wonder they looked like a bunch of ghod-damned starbegotten faaans. They ARE a bunch of ghod-damned starbegotten faaans.

\*\*\*\*\*FANS ARE BEATER THAN ANYBODY\*\*\*\*\*

Nick Palasca  
Cleveland, Ohio

Other letters here from Dave & Ruth Kyle, Potsdam, N.Y., Dan Adkins, Don Wollheim, Jim Harmon, Don Ford, Jim Caughran, Les Gerber, Stan Vinson, Mansfield, Ohio, Andy Main, Goleta, Calif., Al Swettman, Springfield, Ill., Belle Dietz, Sture Sedolin, Sweden, Steve Schultheis, Springfield, Ohio, Art Hayes, Canada, Vernell Coriell, Bob Farnham, Dalton, Ga., Barbi Johnson, Cleveland, Allen Glasser, Brooklyn, Colin Cameron, San Diego, Bob Litchman, Los Angeles, Guy Terwilliger, Honey Wood, Berkeley, Mal Ashworth, England, Brian Caden, Louisville, Stu Hoffman, Black Earth, Wis., Bob Madle, Vic Ryan, Ann Chamberlain, Los Angeles, Bjo Wells, Andy Reiss, Brooklyn, Bob Pavlat, Busby's, Mike Deckinger, Millburn, N.J., and Paul Shingleton, Dunbar, W. Va.



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# 17<sup>th</sup> WORLD SCIENCE FICTION Convention



Photographs by Walt Cole

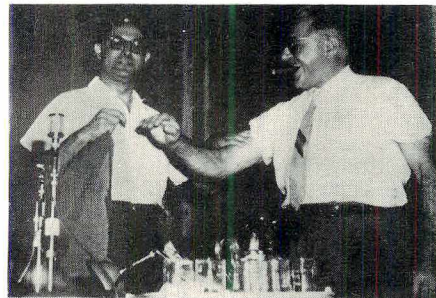
DETROIT



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1

Lee Ann Tremper and Frank Kelly Freas with Freas painting which Lee Ann paid \$36. This was the highest price paid for any item at the auction.



Willy Ley has his muscle felt by Sam Moskowitz during the Author's Auction.



2 Forrest J Ackerman announcing a new series of awards in memory of E. Everett Evans, and the awarding of the first award to Robert Bloch.

3

Joe Christoff as the King of the Crab Monsters and Nancy Moore Shapiro as a visitor from outer space. Nancy Shapiro won the prize for the best anatomy.

7

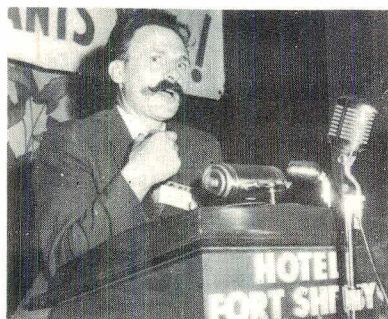


6

Poul Anderson was the professional guest of honor.



4 Robert Bloch being congratulated on winning the new Evans award.



5 John Berry (from Ireland) was the fan guest of honor.

Being admired by a group of gals is Randy Garrett. The gals are (left to right) Joyce Kallahan, Bjo Wells, Virginia White &

seated on the stage is Pat Ellington.



8

Seen acting in the play BEYOND THE UNKNOWN is (left to right) Sam Moskowitz, Fritz Leiber, Evelyn Paige, Djinn Faine, Tom Scortia and Randall Garrett.





# 17th WORLD SCIENCE-FICTION CONVENTION



1 Belle Dietz (left) as the cowardly lion and Barbara Silverberg as Alice from The Wizard of Oz.



11 Joyce Kallahan & Stu Hoffman. Stu's costume is from Jan '59 ASF cover by Freas.

12

Al Lewis (with camera) and friend won prize as the most nauseating costume.



George Nims Raybin presents John Berry with drawing of a typewriter on behalf of the readers of the fanzine CRY OF THE NAMELESS. Actual typewriter was given to Berry in N.Y.

13



14 Bob Bloch accepts award for his story THE HELL-BOUND TRAIN voted the best short of the year.

15



Ed Emsh being given the

once over by Sam Moskowitz during Author's Auction.



Jim Blish receives award for his A CASE OF CONSCIENCE from Ike Asimov. His novel was voted the best of the year.

18



17 Ron Ellik accepts Hugo for his fanzine, FANAC which was voted best fanzine of '58.

16

Bob Mills receives the award for F&SF from Robert Bloch. F&SF was voted the best magazine.



19

Isaac Asimov giving Frank Kelly Freas the award as the best artist.



20

John Berry accepts the special plaque awarded to Brian W. Aldiss as the "most promising new author."



21

Poul Anderson accepts the award on behalf of Clifford D. Simak. Simak's THE BIG FRONT YARD was voted the best novelette.

## LES GERBER REPORTS FROM NEW YORK

### Forthcoming Avon books:

- October-- "The Man Who Could Cheat Death" by John Sansom (movie tie-in) from the script by Jimmy Sangster, adapted from a play by Barre Lyndon
- November-- "Planet in Peril" by John Christopher (reprint of "Year of the Comet")
- December-- "Death is No Stranger" by Theodore Drachman (former medical examiner of Westchester county) (reprint of an s-f mystery, packaged as s-f)
- September-- "Beyond the Night" by Cornell Woolrich (original collection part reprints, part original, fantasy&mystery stories)

Also due in October is a space book, title presently unknown, by Julian Scheer. Future Avon releases include an original, untitled novel by James Blish and original, untitled collections by Theodore Sturgeon and Robert Heinlein, for Spring 1960; "The Doom Stone" by Cornell Woolrich, an unscheduled fantasy novel; "Time Paradoxes" by Murray Leinster, an unscheduled collection. Avon also reports that, at present, s-f is selling best in New York and on the west coast, fair in the mid-west and poorly in the south-west. Sounds like fanzine pubbing.

### Forthcoming Bantam books:

- December-- "Immortality Incorporated" by Robert Sheckley--the original version, which has been substantially changed when it appeared in Galaxy (as "Time Killer") and in an Avalon hard cover edition (as "Immortality Delivered")
- February-- "The Stars Are Too High" by Agnew Hunter Bahnson
- April-- "A Medecine for Melancholy" by Ray Bradbury

### Forthcoming Signet books:

- October-- "Galactic Cluster" by James Blish (original novel)
- November-- "The Other Side of the Sky" by Arthur C. Clarke (reprint)
- December-- "Revolt in 2100" by Robert Heinlein (reissue)
- January-- "Methuselah's Children" by Robert Heinlein (reprint)
- February-- "Islands in the Sky" by Arthur C. Clarke (reprint of a Winston juvenile--but not very)
- March-- "Starship" by Brian W. Aldiss (reprint)  
(tentative) "Visit to a Small Planet" by Gore Vidal--the text of the Broadway play version with stills from the movie



Forthcoming Galaxy Novels (no date known)

"Flesh" by Philip Jose Farmer (original)

an untitled novel by Randall Garrett and Larry M. Harris (original)

"The Virgin Planet" by Poul Anderson (reprint: Avalon)

"The Time Traders" by Andre Norton (reprint: World)

GALAXY and IF news: The December GALAXY will contain novelets by Robert Sheckley, George O. Smith, Jim Harmon and A.J. Offutt, short stories by Rosel George Brown, Con Blomberg, Philip K. Dick, Frederik Pohl, Robert Bloch: Willy Ley column called "Dead or Alive?" and the regular features....The mail on the possibilities of a letter column continue to be about 50-50. Gold will continue to use columns such as the one in the October issue when ever enough mail piles up..... British edition of IF will be out shortly....A 2,000 word story by Bob Shaw and Walt Willis will be in the January or March IF, depending on where it fits....A story in the November IF bylined "Ted Bain" was written by E.C. Tubb. The pen name was used because Tubb has another story in the issue.





Amazing and Fantastic are both for sale from Ziff-Davis. They may possibly fold....Belle Dietz has written a fanzine review column for FANTASTIC UNIVERSE. It will start in the third pulp-sized issue and run as a monthly feature. Title is "FANnotations".

Thanks for the info to Don Preston, June Wacker, H.L. Gold, Larry Shaw, Dave MacDonald, and Belle & Frank Dietz.

Les Gerber

\*\*\*\*\*

## B O O K S . . . . .

THE TIME TRADERS Andre Norton \$3.00 World publishing Company  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Andre Norton is one of the few authors who has the ability to write a teen-age science-fiction novel (this one is listed for 12 years up) that is also of interest to the adult reader. In The Time Traders we have our hero, Ross Murdock given his choice between a "treatment" by the Rehabilitation Service, because of his criminal activities, or of volunteering for a secret government project. He of course chooses the project.

Murdock is taken to a secret Artic Base where he learns that both the Russians and our own government are traveling back in time to find lost scientific ideas and weapons supposedly left by a super civilization of the lost past.

Ross and his partner Ashe's adventures in the prehistoric Baltic, their finding an alien Galactic race that had come to Earth in that remote time, their encounters with prehistoric men and their



destruction of the Red's time installations, combine to make this a book that was equally enjoyed by myself and my 12 year old son Doug.

The Time Traders has an above average binding for a science fiction book and is printed on a good grade of paper. A good Virgil Finlay cover jacket completes a book I am happy to have on my shelves.

Recommended for those who enjoy good adventure science fiction.

THE GOLDEN APE Adam Chase \$2.95 Avalon Books New York, N.Y.

This is a difficult book to review. There are parts I like quite well, but on the whole I felt that the various episodes were dealt with too lightly and needed expanding and tying together to bring the story into full focus.

This novel was first published in Amazing Stories until the title 'Quest of the Golden Ape' and for my money should have been left at Ziff-Davis. It is a time-world transfer story of the type Murray Leinster wrote for Startling (I believe it was called Journey to Barut) but without the skill of Leinster.

I like the plasti-clear covers Avalon uses, and I do think Vernell Coriell and Stanleigh Vinson will want to buy this book if only for the Emsh Tarzan-like book jacket.

Recommended paperback books. . .

TOMORROW TIMES SEVEN Frederik pohl Ballantine Books New York, N.Y.

Worth 35¢ of anybodys money!! Contains 4 excellent stories, 1 good, 1 fair and 1 rather poor, which is a very good average in todays anthologys. The Gentle Venusian is worth the price of the book by itself.

MASTERS OF EVOLUTION Damon Knight FIRE IN THE HEAVENS George O. Smith Ace Double Novel Ace Books New York, N.Y.,

In my opinion Ace, with its double novels, consistantly offer the greatest bargains in science fiction, and for 35¢ you can really hit the jackpot by buying this one. Two excellent stories, one a short novel by Knight, the other a reprint of Smith's Avalon book. Ed Emsh showed a movie at the Detention on how he painted the cover for Knight's half of the book.

NO TIME LIKE TOMORROW Brian Aldiss Signet Books New York, N.Y.

An original Signet book, by the author who received an award at the Detention as the most promising new author. A rather uneven book, some really fine stories and some, so overwritten that even a fanzine wouldn't touch them. One passage I liked is from The Failed Men. "It's a funny noise it makes," he said. "The sound of a time ship breaking out of the time barrier." "It scares the chickens," she said. Uneven, but well worth the 35¢ asked.

BACHELOR SUMMER  
Herbert D. Kastle  
Avon Books N.Y., N.Y.

While this book is a romantic general novel, rather than sf, it was of interest to me as the novel is built around the publishing business. Some passages from the book that I enjoyed are: "Sure. But what I've got to say won't take long. Ran into a little gal I used to know. We got to talking, and she mentioned that she loves science fiction--reads it all the time, even tries to write it."

"Ah me," I said. He laughed. "wait'll you see her. She used to model. Works as a secretary in a TV studio now. And when I told her I had a friend who knew a science-fiction editor, she flipped.

So I halfway promised I'd give you a ring and set her up. Her name's Terry Drego. Tall, blonde, terrific. She'll call sometime this week. See the pretty baby, won't you, Harry? You won't be sorry." "Okay, Okay. I suppose she'll bring some of her writing along?" "Sure. Has typewriter, will you-know-what." "Just promise to give her stories a boost and you're in." ----- another I liked had to do with sf covers. "I was excited. I stayed that way until Moe Crown called me to his desk for a conference on a new science fiction cover. Then I argued with him, saying that shrieking nudes and bug-eyed monsters weren't going to sell magazines to today's science-fiction fans. We needed covers with a touch of artistic and symbolic integrity. Moe's answer was that our magazines had sold 300,000 copies per month ten years ago with the shrieking nudes and BEM's. Now our circulation was below 50,000.

Spend the 35¢ here, just for the kicks you'll get out of it.

\*\*\*\*\*

This will be the last issue of JD-ARGASSY that you will receive unless you :

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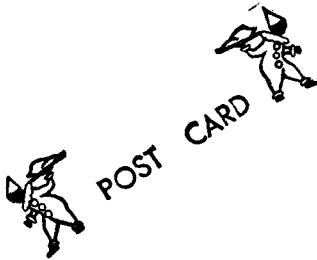
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Copy not provided in given sizes \$1.00 extra.

Deadline PR #1 copy Dec. 10th. Publication mid Jan. 1960.

\*\*\*\*\*

Ann Chamberlain 2440 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles 6, California has or can make any rubber stamp you might want. And, at reasonable prices. So if you need an address stamp or a stamp such as I've used below, write Ann for prices.



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\*\*\*\*\*

Stopped for a short chat with Jean Grennell in Fond du Lac, Phyl Economou in Milwaukee and Bob Tucker in Bloomington this past week.

Bob tells me that The Lincoln Hunters will be published by the S-P Book Club in London in 1960 and that Macdonald Publishers, London, will publish Beggars & Choosers, a straight novel of his. Publication date isn't yet known.

Judy Mays (Bob's daughter) announces her little girl Carol will have a new uncle or aunt around April next, courtesy Grandpa Tucker.

\*\*\*\*\*

The use of color on some of the illustrations in this issue has been an experiment. Do you like it? It takes a double run of these pages and naturally entails more work, but I like the effect on pages 16 and 17 and will probably experiment further in issues to come. I would like your comments on this though.

Only a couple of months left to vote for your favorite TAPP delegate if you haven't already. So get that TAPP money in to Bob Madle or Ron Bennett. I'm voting for Don Ford. I hope you do likewise.



Since Dan Adkins Gafiated, JD-A needs a new slave to write fanzine reviews (monthly). Any interested party rush details.. I want a reviewer who will review zines honestly and say what he thinks about them. The column will be his (or hers) and I will not force my own opinions on the reviewer. Personally, of the review columns I've read, my preferences have always run to Ted White's, Marian Bradley and of course, Dan Adkins' reviews.

Have you filled in and returned the questionnaire included with #48? We want as many as possible to be able to get a good cross section of fandom. Results of this poll will be published here sometime next year.

\*\*\*\*\*

I am planning an "ANNISH" for January. It will be the start of my 10th year of amateur publishing. In the past I had never attempted this after seeing what had happened to VEGA, and some of the other zines after turning out an extra large issue. (by the way, what did happen to them?) Now, I'm not planning anything as gala as a 100 pager as Lee Hoffman did, but I do hope to put out an issue running around 70 pages and I also hope to have some short articles by some of the fans that have written for JD-A in the past and have helped it to hold a steady high circulation. I can't yet guarantee who or what will be in it, but I do hope to have material by : Wilkie Conner, Basil Wells, Manly Banister, Ian Macauley, Bob Madle, Bob Tucker, Bob Bloch, Richard Elsberry, Joe Gibson, Honey Woods & Rog Philips, Jim Harmon, Wm Rotsler, Plato Jones, Alan Hunter, Steve Schultheis, Harlan Ellison, Lee Hoffman, Dean Grennell, and quite a few others. Front and rear covers will be offset and I promise a quality zine. This "ANNISH" will not be included in your regular subscription and will not be sent out as trades. It will cost a lot to produce and to mail, so I will have to charge 50¢ to help offset the costs. I will print only the number of copies I have orders for plus a few extra for those who might want it but didn't hear of it in time. So if you want to receive this special issue, send 50¢ to me before Jan. 1st.

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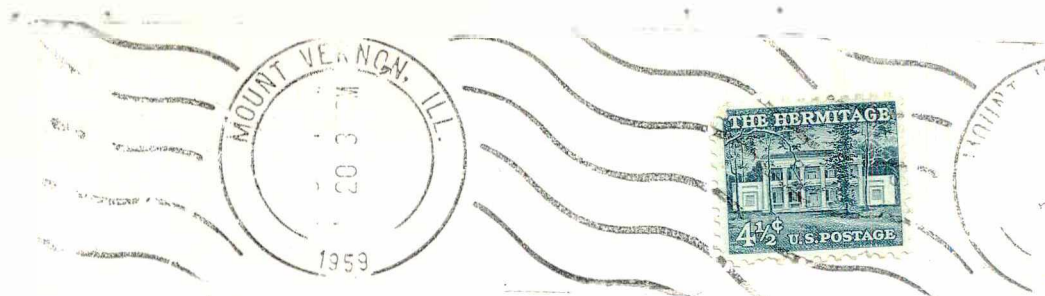
If you were a science fiction or fantasy fan before Jan.1, 1938 write for information on the First Fandom Organization.

\*\*\*\*\*

Bill Donaho writes that he is moving to San Francisco. He'll spend 3 or 4 weeks in Texas on his way and then will be at the following address.

Bill Donaho  
c/o Mellman  
288 Clementina  
San Francisco, Calif.

JD-ARGASSY #49  
Lynn A. Hickman  
304 N. 11th  
Mt. Vernon, Illinois



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