RATATOSM APRIL 13TH 1967

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A biweekly news and commentzine from Bruce Pelz, Box 100, 308 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024. Available for news or 3/25¢. Seattle in 1968! Zonk the Pongs! Support TAFF:

ERIC JONES DIES

ERIC JONES, British fan whose activities in and around fandom stretched back before WW II, died January 8th of a brain tumor. Eric went into the hospital last July, and except for a short period of 3 or 4 weeks was very ill since then. Among his activities, he was the founder and mainstay of the Cheltenham SF group, the Chairman of the 1961 LXICon, the editor of SIDEREAL, publisher of SPACE TIMES, co-editor of TRIODE, and a candidate for TAFF. He was interested in taping, filming, fanzines, SF clubs and cons. Most especially Eric was interested in the Noble Order of St. Fantony, which he helped found in 1957, and of which he was Grand Master.

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY has begun a major project of collecting SF, apparently the largest project in scope of any university. A press release from the Syracuse University News Bureau's director, Richard Wilson (himself a SF writer) announces that the Science Fiction Writers of America will use Syracuse University as a repository for their archives, and will arrange to have publishers send copies of their latest titles as they appear. The university is also collecting prozines, although it is suggested that space limitations—a problem with all libraries—may force a decision to preserve microfilm copies of the magazines instead of the originals, a decision which I would regret. Some of the contributors of records and papers to the collection are Pohl (manuscripts and correspondence), Guinn (Galaxy Publishing Corp. papers), and Kyle (Gnome Press papers and records). From England, Ted Carnell has donated papers tracing his 30 years as agent and editor, as well as morocco-bound volumes of his magazines, New Worlds and Science Fantasy. It is to be hoped that Syracuse University's example will encourage other Universities to build special collections of science fiction and fantasy.

EASY PICKERINGS: In late December of 1966, a houseguest of Forry Ackerman, who had come to Los Angeles ostensibly to help sort and put in order the fantastic conglomeration that is the Ackermansion and collection, went one step further and took part of that collection away from the Ackermansion. Stephen Pickering, 19 years old, stole over 400 items, some of them unique and completely irreplaceable (e.g., Bradbury manuscripts). Total value of the items recovered by Forry (with the help of Walt Daugherty, and involving a drive to Pickering's home in Bakersfield) is more than \$4300. Forry, as usual, has refused to press charges. Charity is fine, but this sounds like an invitation to larceny...

THE LUNACON will be held the weskend of April 29-30, in the Terrace Room of the Hotel Roosevelt, 45th and Madison Ave, New York. Guest of Honor is James Blish. Programs will be held from 1-6 PM. In conjunction with the Lunacon, the FISTFA will hold an Eastercon, consisting of fan parties from 8PM on, during the evenings of the 28th and 29th. Combination Lunacon-Eastercon membership is \$2 at the door.

LASFS NEWS: There isn't very much. Owen Hannifen and Hilda Hoffman are engaged. (In doing what, Owen didn't say.) //The Blackguardcon was called off for lack of response, and will probably be put on in September as a Non-Con for people not going to NYCon III.// E. Joseph Baker ("Esperanto Eddie") left for his 6-month National Guard hitch; Jack Harness finally got started on his trip to Saint Hill, England, to pursue his Scientology studies and become "Clear." His route was to be LA-Frisco-Pitt-NYC-England; we haven't heard from him since he left for Frisco.//Lon Atkins moved to the LArea in March, and has already (1)become lost on the freeways, and (2) hosted an apartment-warming for fans who took his money from him at poker. Also, Jean Berman visited for a week or so around Easter. (That's a pretty good 2-for-2 trade...)

Your subscription expires with issue____.

JOHN AND BJO TRIMBLE are now the proud parents of a second daughter, Lora JoAnne, born April 4, 1967, at 9:51 AM (by Caesarean) in Peralta Hospital, Cakland, Cal. The new Trimblet weighed in at 8 lbs. 8 oz. Congratulations!

ENCLOSED WITH THIS ISSUE you will find two flyers. TAFF Progress Report 9 is purely informational. Ballots will be forthcoming soon for the present W.FF race (in which, so far as I know, the candidates are Ed Cox, Steve Stiles, and Ted Johnstone). The Award Nominations ballot, however, should be used immediately if you wish to make your opinions known to the NYCon III Committee as to what outstanding items in the SF field during 1966 should be recognized. Concerning the Fan Achievement Awards, I again recommend crossing through that section and writing in "Best Fanzine" in the Science Fiction Achievement Awards (Hugos) section. If the "Pong" is allowed to be presented this year -- and its introduction is contrary to the Hugo rules which NY-Con III agreed to accept -- there is nothing to prevent the 1968 con from giving a Burb, an Ack, a Gem, or anything else. (1970's Frankfurt con could present an Ernst, maybe.) A number of editors of top fanzines -- Mallardi and Bowers of DOUBLE BILL, Reamy of TRUMPET, Rolfe of NIEKAS, Weston of SPECULATION (previously ZENITH) -- have taken an anti-Pong stand, saying that they would not want to win one. (To be fair, Coulson of YANDRO said he wouldn't mind winning a Pong (but he already has a Hugo), and Sapiro of RIVERSIDE QUARTERLY has come out strengly in favor of Pongs.) If enough protest ballots are received, NYCon III will give a fanzine Hugo, according to Co-Chairman Ted White. He didn't how many "enough" would be. Get yours in!!!

A TWO-CAR COLLISION between Potsdam and Syracuse, New York, on 14 March, sent Dave and Ruth Kyle and their guests Carol and Fred Pohl, to the hospital. All were released about 4 hours later. Fred Pohl had stitches above his right eye and in his shin, and a multiply broken left wrist immobilized in an arm-length sling; Ruth Kyle had numerous contusions and abrasions and 2 broken front teeth; Carel Pohl and Dave Kyle also had bruises and scratches, and Carol developed a black eye the next day. The driver of the other car, which had skidded broadside on the icy early morning road into the oncoming traffic lane right in front of the Kyle car, was still in the hospital at the end of the week in "serious" condition. The insurance adjustor for the other car (a '66 Olds), accepting full responsibility, considers it likely the Kyle car (a '65 Cad) will be a "total loss."

THE 1967 NEBULA AWARDS were presented by the Science Fiction Writers of America at their banquets (New York and Los Argeles) in March. Winners were:

Best Novel: a tie - Flowers For Algernon (Daniel Keyes)

Eabel-17 (Samuel R. Delany)

Best Novella: The Last Castle (Jack Vance)
Best Novellette: Call Him Lord (Gordon R. Dickson)
Best Short Story: The Secret Place (Richard McKenna)

Now let's see, at Hugo time, if the fans agree with the pros' choices!

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

Atkins, Lon - 21205 Roscoe Blvd, Apt. 40, Canoga Park, Calif. 91304

Baker, Ed - (Pvt. Edwin J.) NG 28 297 811, 5th Plateon, Co. B, 1st Bn, 3d Bde,

Fort Ord, Calif. 93941 (Personal letters only; all other mail: c/o

Stine, 130 N. Lake St, Apt. #3, Los Angeles, Calif. 96026)

Barry, Jeremy A - P.O. Box 5301, China Lake, Calif.
Groves, Jim - G.P.O. Box 1884, New York, N.Y. 10001.

Main, Andy - 2016 La Combadura, Santa Barbara, Calif 93105

Mann, A/2c Richard - CMR Box 721, March AFB, Calif. 92508

Pettit, Billy - c/o Control Data, 1(10 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, Tex. 77025

Plott, Bill - 827 Oak St, Anniston, Alabama 36202

MISC. Dave Van Arnam and Cindy Heap were married in New York April 1st. //The BArea Elves, Gnomes, and etc. elected Bill Donaho Chairman, Jerry Jacks Vice-Chairman, and Alva Rogers Secretary-Treasurer at their 7 April election.//TED JOHNSTONE FOR TAFF!!

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Neminations are now open for the following categories: Hugees (Science Fiction Achievement Awards): Best Novel (any science fiction novel first published in 1966 -- previous serialization will disqualify nevels published in book form in 1966), defined for our purposes as being in excess of 30,000 words; Best Novelette, defined as being between 10,000 words and 30,000 words; Best Short Story, defined as under 10,000 words; Best Artist; Best Science Fiction Magazine; and Best Dramatic Presentation (TV programs, such as "Star Trek" or "Time Tunnel" can not be nominated in toto, but must have specific episodes named.

In addition, we are launching a separate series of awards this year, the Pongs (Fan Achievement Awards): Best Fan Magazine (any fanzine is eligible which has reached its fourth issue during 1966); Best Fan Writer (considered for his or her written material in fan publications during 1966); and Best Fan Artist (again, for cartoons er illustrations which have appeared in the fan press in 1966). Both the Hugo and Pong awards will be announced at the Awards Banquet.

While the final balleting will be restricted to NyCen3 members, nominations are open to all. To be considered a qualified nominator, you must be known to the Committee, or known by someone known to the Committee. If you suspect you may not be known to us, simply give the name of a well-known individual who knows you.

Please nominate only one item for each category. This will simplify our tabulations. Multiple nominations will not be counted.

If you do not feel qualified to nominate in any particular category for any reason, please do nominate in the other categories available. The greater number of nominations we receive in every category, the more representative the final ballot will be of your choices and opinions.

Fanzine editors are requested to publish duplicates of this form for wider circulation. All nominations must be in to NyCon3, Box 367, Gracie Sq. Statien, New York, NY 10028 by May 1, 1967.

	SCIENCE FICTION ACHIEV	EMENT AWARDS		
Best Novel:		Best Magazine:		
Best Novelette:		Best Artist:		
Best Short Story:		Best Dramatic:		
FAN ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS				
Dest Fanzine:		Best Fan Writer:		
	Best Fan Artist:			
(signed)				
(NyCon3 membership #) (known by: _)		

NOVEMBER 1966

TAFF PROGRESS REPORT NO 9

Published in the interests of the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund by Terry Carr, 35 Pierrepont St., Brocklyn, N.Y., 11201, and Thomas Schlück, 3 Hannover, Altenbekener Damm 10. Germany.

NEXT TAFF TRIP: 1968

Following the 1966 TAFF trip by Thomas Schlück to the Tricon in Cleveland and thence onward all across the country to the west coast, back again to New York and Washington D.C., and finally home to Germany, plans are now being laid for a west-to-east TAFF trip to the British National Convention in Easter, 1968. Nominations are now open for worthy fans to send on this trip, and nominations will close at midnight, March 31, 1967.

To appear on the ballot, an American fan must meet the following four qualifications:

(a) He must be nominated by three American fans and two European fans.

(b) He must submit a one hundred word nominating platform to be published on the reverse of the TAFF voting ballot. It's customary for a nominator to take care of this.

'(c) A \$5.00 bond of good faith must accompany the nomination -- the five signers ought to scrape this up. too.

(d) The candidate must sign a statement of willingness to travel to the 1968 British National Convention if elected.

We understand there are already some movements afoot to nominate prominent fans for this trip, and we advise you that now is the time to talk or correspond with your friends about who you'd like to send to England in '68. Gathering nominations on two sides of the Atlantic can take longer than you may think, and sometimes a prospective candidate has to be coaxed a little to bolster his courage to run.

Remember: Nominations will close at midnight, March 31, 1967, by which time all four requirements for candidacy must be in the hands of one or the other TAFF Administrator. Voting ballots will be distributed early in April 1967, and the final voting deadline will be January 5, 1968.

The "Australian Ballot" system of voting which was inaugurated with this past election will be continued in next year's election, as will the "Hold Over Funds" option on the ballot. Tom Schlück will open a TAFF account in Great Britain in order to handle British donations easily -- he can also handle German funds, of course, or French, Italian, Japanese, Pakistani or Nationalist Chinese if the money is forced upon him.

Tom has not yet had time to straighten out the complete changeover of the European Administration from Arthur Thomson to himself, so an exact accounting of funds currently on hand on that side isn't available; however, they are very low. The TAFF account in New York has \$212.32, of which \$60.00 was obtained at the Tricon through a special auction of the original manuscripts of the DOUBLE:BILL Symposium, kindly donated by coeditors Bill Mallardi and Bill Bowers and expertly auctioned by Harlan Ellison. \$150.00 more was turned back in to TAFF by Tom Schlück out of the \$200.00 special donation made by the Pacificon II Committee over-and-above the regular TAFF bankroll of \$600.00 for the TAFF representative. The number of people deserving loud thanks is already mounting, therefore, and before the end of the upcoming campaign we hope to add your name.

The following is the official final count on the 1966 TAFF campaign which elected Thomas Schlück on the first ballot:

TOM SCHLUCK	83	
Eric Jones	39	
Pete Weston	20	
Bo Stenfors	5	
Hold Over Funds	2	
Write-in: Len Moffatt	1	(But Len wasn't eligible for this trip!)

The breakdown by European and American voting was as follows:

Selection of the select	American	European
TOM SCHLÜCK	35	48
Eric Jones	17	22
Pete Weston	15	5
Bo Stenfors	2	3
Hold Over Funds	2	0
Write-in	1	0

Tom Schlück won on the first ballot with 83 out of 150 votes, a clear majority. The list of voters on the American side was:

Lon Atkins, Ruth Berman, Dainis Bisenieks, John Boardman, Jean Bogert, John Boston, Charley Brown, Marsha Brown, Rich Brown, Robert P. Brown, Elinor Busby, F. M. Busby, K. Martin Carlson, Terry Carr, Jack Chalker, Hal Clement, Ron Ellik, Dick Eney, Donald Franson, Jack Gaughan, Dan Goodman, Cindy Heap, P. G. Herbert, Allan Howard, Ben Jason, Arnie Katz, Miriam Knight, June Konigsberg, Deedee Lavender, Lois Lavender, Roy Lavender, Fred Lerner, Al (West Coast) Lewis, Dick Lupoff, Robert A. Madle, Bill Mallardi, Richard Mann, Lore Matthaey, John A. McCallum, Larry McCombs, Dave McDaniel, Joyce McDaniel, Mike McInerney, Banks Mebane, Don & Jo Meisner, Ed Meskys, Len Moffatt, Alexei Panshin, Fred Patten, Bob Pavlat, Peggy Rae Pavlat, Bruce Pelz, Dannie Plachta, Andy Porter, Boyd Raeburn, Alva Rogers, Jock Root, Leland Sapiro, Beresford Smith, Rick Sneary, Ben Solon, J. Ben Stark, Bill Thailing, Bjo Trimble, John Trimble, Paul Turner, Dave Van Arnam, Michael Ward, Harry Warner, Wally Weber, Charles Wells, Ted White, Donald A. Wollheim and Elsie Wollheim.

Contributors who did not vote or whose ballots arrived too late to be counted were: John W. Andrews, Harold Palmer Piser, Oswald Train, Kathryn Arwen Trimble and Richard Wilson.

The final list of voters on the European side is not yet available.

*** ***

TAFF Trip Reports: At last report, Arthur Thomson had most or all of his trip report on stencil, and it remained simply to run it off, collate and staple. Fans who have read the manuscript report it's one of the best TAFF trip reports yet. Wally Weber, after discarding his first draft of his report because of dissatisfaction with its quality, is working on another draft. Terry Carr intends to have his report finished by the end of this year -- he'd better, since it's title is LAST YEAR AT THE MOUNT ROYAL. And Tom Schlück says he's working on his now. Watch your favorite newszines for announcements.