

THE SOUTHERN FAN

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTHERN FANDOM GROUP

Volume 1, Number 2

September, 1960

CONTENTS:

Director's Report.....	Alfred McCoy Andrews.....	2
Official Roster.....		4
Corresponding Secretary's Report.....	Bob Farnham.....	5
Historian's Report.....	Harry Thomas.....	6
Honorable Mention.....	Bob Farnham.....	7
Retorts & Editorial.....		8

For those who didn't get the first issue a few words about the Southern Fandom Group might not be amiss here. The SFG was created for the purpose of bringing together the active fans of the South into an organization which will serve as a rallying point and a center of fan activity in the South. Because southern fans are scattered all over the landscape instead of being concentrated in the cities, we've been missing many of the high points of fan activity--such as conventions, and such like. The SFG intends to remedy that situation.

Two basic requirements must be met in order to join the SFG. You must be an active fan and you must reside in one of the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

The SFG is a membership-by-invitation-only organization and in order to be certain that all applicants meet the requirements a questionnaire must be filled out. If you are interested in joining, you may obtain a questionnaire by writing our Corresponding Secretary, Bob Farnham, 506 2nd Avenue, Dalton, Georgia.

THE SOUTHERN FAN is the official organ of the Southern Fandom Group, published for the SFG from 1707 Piper Circle SE, Atlanta 16, Georgia. Editor: Jerry Burge; Associate Editor: Jerry Page. Letters invited; but no other outside material accepted at present.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

BY ALFRED MCCOY ANDREWS

If there has ever been any doubt about there being a fandom in the South, that doubt has now been substantially removed. Our Corresponding Secretary's report in this issue will give ample proof of the existence of a South-fandom--a potentially highly active South-fandom--and our Historian in his report adds concrete evidence of its activity in the past and the present. We realize, of course, that there are still many Southern fans to be reached, and the SFG will continue its efforts to establish contact with these fans. And let me personally ask each of you to send the names and addresses of any Southern fans you may know of to our Editor, Jerry Burge, so that we may check those names against our present mailing-list. Whatever you may or may not do, this is one way you can do a great service for the SFG. Why not check your letter-files, address books, and the letter-columns of fanzines and prozines to see if you can find any Southern fans there? In this way you can certainly help to build your fan organization--the SFG.

In my last report I mentioned that we would soon be setting up several committees to study various aspects of our program. We are now ready to make appointments to those committees. One is already partially set up. This is the South Fandom Press Association (SFPA). The Chairman of the SFPA is Bill Plott (P.O.Box 654, Opelika, Alabama), and he is ready to select his committeemen. So if you are interested in working with him to set up a fan press association within the SFG, by all means write him at once. Tell him of any experience you may have in this field and whatever equipment you may have with which to publish a fanzine. Or if you have any information relating to fan press associations write Bill and let him know what you can supply.

There are two other committees that we would like to put into operation as soon as possible; these are the Activities Committee and the Benefits Committee. As yet we cannot properly define certain ideas as activities or benefits, because they could be consigned to either category, but when the two committees are established we can then attend to the matter of definition. Here I want two things. First, if you want to serve on either of these committees as chairman or committeeman, write me personally (1659 Lakewood Drive, Birmingham 9, Alabama) and tell me you want to serve. And add any information about yourself or your activities that you think necessary. In my last report I said, "You can serve on these committees and be one of the guiding hands that shape the SFG for the future." This was not an idle promise. The time is NOW, so let me hear from you!

Secondly, whether you want to serve on a committee or not, I want to hear your ideas, views, opinions, and suggestions concerning possible SFG activities and benefits. There are many good ideas that can be given to our committees to work with. Would you favor the SFG publishing a yearly checklist of all prozines, perhaps establishing a trading-post for used magazines and books, or publishing a SF & Fantasy Record Listing? What do you think about a South-Zine Board for aiding Southern fans in getting their fanzines started, Round-Robin letter-groups, or arranging for subscription discounts on fanzines published in the South? You will recall that in my last report I said,

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

"The SFG plans and works towards practical and solid benefits for all its members, depending on its membership to dictate their needs to the organization." We are ready NOW to hear YOUR voice in these matters. What are the things you want from a fan organization? Sit down and think carefully about it; make a list and send it to me with any comments you care to add. Now, don't say, "Oh, well, I could suggest a couple of things, but I'm sure a lot of other people will suggest those same things." That, my friend, is the very point. I hope a lot of people do suggest the same things, because then we will know that many fans want that activity or benefit and we can go to work on it. Some of you might have a tendency to say, "Well, I've got an idea, but I doubt if it would work." Maybe it won't, but when our committees get through taking it apart and putting it back together, we'll know it won't work and not just have some vague doubts about it. And even though it might not work in its original form our committees may be able to alter it or change it into a fine and workable plan of activity or benefit. Give us a chance. We are depending on hearing from you. (Send your letters directly to me and when the committees are in operation I'll promptly forward them to the committees.)

And now a few words to those who wish to volunteer for committee service. You may wonder what the Chairman's duties are and how his committeemen work with him on a program. Basically, it is this. The Chairman collects all the suggested ideas for activities (or benefits, as the case may be) and any accompanying or available data related to those ideas. He then chooses one activity-idea that is promising and submits it in a round-robin letter to his committee, which is composed of three members. In the subsequent rounds of this round-robin the idea is discussed, examined, explored, and literally taken apart and put back together--with one and only one idea in mind; to make the idea into a workable, economical and beneficial activity-plan if humanly possible.

I will first appoint a Committee Chairman from those who write and tell me they want to serve in that capacity. Then I will leave it to the Chairman to select his three committeemen from those who volunteered to serve in that way, as well as the remainder of those who applied to serve as chairman. After I appoint the chairmen all letters which I have received concerning each committee will be turned over to the respective Chairman. In the next issue of THE SOUTHERN FAN there will be a report from each committee.

You may ask, "Who is qualified to serve on a committee?" I leave to the individual the personal factors of whether he or she is suited to so serve, but there is one basic requirement or qualification that must be met. HE OR SHE MUST BE AN OFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE SFG. An official member is one who has had his questionnaire okayed, received his letter of invitation and paid his dues. One might ask, "Can you serve on a committee if you have received your invitation-letter, but have not yet paid your dues?" The answer must be emphatically "No!" It must be "no" because it would be grossly unfair and totally illogical to allow non-members the privilege of being an important part in forming the future policies and programs for those who are members of the SFG. I realize that sometimes we are all a bit pressed financially, but the SFG has quite a bit to recommend the spending of that two dollars. With the paying of your dues you become an official member of the SFG,

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

the fastest growing fan organization in the South. You meet the basic requirement for serving on important committees, and share in the forthcoming benefits and well-planned activities of the SFG, as well as helping to provide the same benefits and activities for your fellow fans in the South. So in giving us your moral support and personal help, give us also the funds to do the job you want done.

In summing up matters on the committees, let me add two further points. One is that a Chairman is not "in command" of a committee, but is to preside over it and direct it in its examination of ideas and its drawing up of plans. The Chairman will direct the discussion, provide sound counsel, and keep his committee working smoothly and progressively. The second point is that no committee has the executive power to put a program into action if it is to be sponsored by the SFG. The programs of activities and benefits will be submitted to the full membership for a vote as the plans for these programs are completed.

In conclusion let me say that there are critical times in the development of any organization, and for the SFG this is the critical time. We have grown from a relative handful to a considerable number; we are broadening our scope and our actions; and we are meeting the challenge of the future by taking on new responsibilities. If we are to survive the rigors of development we must all work and plan together in harmony and consideration of each other. For you are not merely a member of the SFG, you ARE the SFG.

-Al Andrews

-----*****-----

OFFICIAL ROSTER (as of August 27, 1960)

Alfred McCoy Andrews, 1659 Lakewood Drive, Birmingham 9, Alabama
Ted Brooke, 4950 LaVista Drive, Tucker, Georgia
L.D.Broyles, Route 6, Box 453 P, Waco, Texas
Jerry Burge, 1707 Piper Circle SE, Atlanta 16, Georgia
Carroll Collins, Route #4, Church Hill, Tennessee
Bob Farnham, 506 2nd Avenue, Dalton, Georgia
Emile Greenleaf, 1309 Mystery Street, New Orleans 19, Louisiana
Bob Jennings, 3819 Chambers Drive, Nashville 11, Tennessee
Norman Metcalf, Box 1267, Tyndall AFB, Florida
Richard H. Minter, 412 East 2nd Avenue, Draper, North Carolina
Larry G. Moore, 3829 James Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas
Earl Noe, 3304 East Belknap, Fort Worth, Texas
Frederick Norwood, 111 Upperline, Franklin, Louisiana
Michael J. Padgett, Jr., 3230 Washington Street, Augusta, Georgia
Jerry Page, 193 Battery Place NE, Atlanta 7, Georgia
Bill Plott, P.O.Box 654, Opelika, Alabama
Roy Tackett, 412 Elderberry Drive, Laurel Bay, South Carolina
Harry Thomas, 310 South Oak Street, Sweetwater, Tennessee
Bernie J. Wermers, c/o S S A, 300 Droyton Street, Savannah, Georgia
Loubel Wood, Star Route, DeFuniak Springs, Florida

Which makes 20 members so far--and what are the rest of you guys and gals waiting for?

As Al might say, SFG is on the move! You wanta be left behind?

--jb

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

BY BOB FARNHAM

When the eight charter members were planning the Southern Fandom Group we faced the initial problem of simply: "Is there a potential Fandom in the South?" This report is the "early returns" on that question but I think it is decisive!

The first issue of The Southern Fan was mailed out with its questionnaire on July 18, 1960; allowing a conservative period of 3 days for its arrival to the fans and 3 days for the individual "Q's" to be filled out and returned to the Corresponding Secretary, I base this report on a period covering July 25 through August 22. In this brief period I have okayed 33 questionnaires. I feel that this is a decisive and gratifying response. Applicants are from the broad limits of Georgia (8); Alabama (6); Texas (4); Tennessee (3); North Carolina (2); Florida (2); Louisiana (1); Virginia (1); West Virginia (1); Kentucky (1); and South Carolina (1). All states within the SFG's limits, with the exceptions of Mississippi and Arkansas, are represented by these returns. This is a fine average for a period of less than 40 days!

The ages of applicants have ranged from 14 to 80 years with a totalled average of 28 years per applicant. The activities of these applicants are varied in SF and Fandom. There was a predominance of those who collect science fiction (in magazine and book form), many of whom have hundreds of items in their collections. Six collectors had over a thousand items with one fan having some four thousand items.

Collection-wise at least 33 different magazine titles were represented (and there were some indecipherable abbreviations). These ranged from BLACK CAT of the 1800's to modern-day magazines, with treasures beyond count in between. Early pulps were in profusion and present digest-size were en masse. These fans are also very active in Fandom, 23 having contributed all kinds of material to over 35 different fanzines, and they are still willing to contribute!! (HE YE, FANEDS!) It was found that there are nine now-pubbing faneds among SFG applicants and three who had published previously.

The pro-ranks were, of course, not so high. But there are 4 who have made sales to the pros, and a goodly number of fans were interested in making sales to the prozines in the future. We also had one back-issue dealer among the applicants.

There is little doubt that the South has a Fandom. The foregoing facts are ample proof. We know that there are still many fans who need to be contacted. I ask all of you who read this report to send me the names of any southern fans whom you know. YOUR name was received from other fans who wanted to help you enjoy the benefits of the Southern Fandom Group, so why not give any other fans you know the same opportunity to become members of the SFG??? Make a search of your correspondence files and check the letter columns of prozines and fanzines for names of fans who live in the South. In closing I want to thank our State Secretaries, our Historian, our editors and other officers for their concerted efforts in behalf of Southern Fandom Group.

-Bob Farnham

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

By HARRY THOMAS

This time around it has been suggested that, among other things, I give a brief introduction to myself, so here goes. The name is Harry Thomas, age nineteen, and I am presently a sophomore in college planning to major in art with English as a second choice. I have been interested in science fiction and fandom actively and remotely for close to eight years. I think that the above should serve as an adequate introduction, so let's get down to the business of the report.

Since the last report, or shall we say paragraph which was all it seemingly consisted of, things have really been moving at this post. As it was stated in the last issue of TSF, the SFG is going to attempt to compile as complete and factual a file on the history of Southern Fandom as is possible. As Historian of our group, it is my duly appointed job to gather this material for our files. Since my request for aid in the gathering of this material, such as sending me back issues, or for that matter, current issues, of Southern published fanzines, lists of any Southern fan clubs ever in existence and any names and addresses of any of the members thereof, or any other info concerning Southern Fandom, I have been swamped with donations of such material. This material has come not only from members of our own SFG, but even from fans outside of our group's boundaries whom I have contacted or fans who are in our boundaries but who have not yet joined up. I had no idea that this project would be met so enthusiastically by the fans. Let me express my thanks to you all. To let you all know what we have on hand to date, I am going to list all the articles that have been donated.

First our fanzine file. This is our fastest growing and largest file to date. I shall list the 'zines in alphabetical order to prevent confusion--

ASFO (Donated by Jerry Burge, art editor of the first two issues, associate editor with Carson Jacks of the second issue and editor of the third issue. Ian T. Macauley was editor of the first two issues. This was the O-9 of the now defunct Atlanta Science Fiction Organization): Vol. 1, Nos. 1,2,3 (1953)

COSMAG/SCIENCE FICTION DIGEST (All copies donated by Jerry Burge. Editors were Ian T. Macauley and Henry W. Burwell. This was really two 'zines in one): Vol. 2, Nos. 1 and 2 (1951); Vol. 3, No. 2 (1952).

MAELSTROM (Issues # 2 and 3 of this 'zine were donated by Al Andrews; #4 was donated by its editor, Bill Plott, POBox 654, Opelika, Alabama): Vol. 1, Nos. 2,3 and 4.

MONDAY EVENING GHOST, The (#s 3 and 4 of this 'zine were donated by Al Andrews, 5 and 6 by its editor, Bob Jennings, 3819 Chambers Drive, Nashville 11, Tennessee): Vol. 1, Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6.

PROFANITY (All issues donated by Al Andrews. Profanity is edited by Bruce Pelz, 1980 Figueroa Terrace, Los Angeles 12, California): 1958: March, #1, May, # 3, August #3, November, # 4; 1959: April #5, August # 6; and, 1960: February # 7.

SPECULATIVE REVIEW (Donated by Al Andrews. Editor is Dick Eney, 417 Hunt Rd., Alexandria, Virginia. Published by the "ashinton Science Fiction Association): Vol. 2, No. 3.

SPELEOBEM (Donated by Al Andrews. Edited by Bruce Pelz. SAPS mailing no. 48): Nos. 4 and 4 1/2.

SI*FAN (Donated by its editor, Jerry Page, 193 Battery Pl., NE, Atlanta 7, Georgia) No. 1, August, 1960.

And that, dear friends, covers the present standing of SFG's fanzine file.

Next, the prozine file. Herein we are keeping copies of any promag in which any Southern writer of stf has a story printed. In this file we have:

SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, Vol. 7, No. 3, Nov. 1956, containing a story by Alfred

McCoy Andrews, "The Messiahs."

IF, Vol. 10, No. 1, March 1960, featuring a story by Bob Farnham, "Old Shag."

So far this file is very small. If anyone has any info concerning it, let me know at once.

In other corners of our files we have such items as the Constitution of the A.S.F.O. donated by Al Andrews, a letter of encouragement for the SFG from Alan Dodd (We consider this important because Dodd is a very important member of British Fandom) and last, a hardbound anthology "Short Short Stories" edited by Robert Oberfirst which contains a short or two by Southern Fans. This book was donated by Al Andrews (Old Faithful, I'm beginning to call him ...)

In closing up shop this time around let me say that in the next issue of TSF I hope to have an article, the first of a series on the history of Southern Fandom. Without your help, I can't get very far with this. If you have any info whatsoever on Southern Fandom, clubs or organizations, back- or current-issues of fanzines, old memories, etc., please let me know as soon as possible. Don't let me down, now, please. I really need copies of the programs of the Nolacon and the Agacon. And fanzines containing reports on them. Can anybody help me? Send all correspondence to:

Harry Thomas,
310 South Oak Street,
Sweetwater, Tennessee

A special thanks to Al Andrews, Ted Brooke, Jerry Burge, Bob Farnham, Bob Jennings, Jerry Page, Bill Plott and anybody who I might have forgotten for all the help they have given me.

*
-
*
-
*
*** *** ***** *** ***
*
-
*
-
*

AN OPEN LETTER FROM BOB FARNHAM

On behalf of the Southern Fandom Group, a vote thanks is hereby extended to the following fans for assistance to the Corresponding Secretary of Southern Fandom Group by donations of stamps, envelopes and typewriter paper:

Donald Anderson
Alfred McCoy Andrews
Lloyd Douglas Broyles
Ann Chamberlain
J Arthur Hayes
William Heide (My former boss.)

Without these folks' helping hands, SFG would have had a much harder time of it getting started. The thanks of all SFG goes to them in every sincerity.

Bob Farnham,
Corresponding Secretary

RETORTS

BILL PLOTT

Just received and read the SFG 00, Jerry. You did a nice job with it. My questionnaire is on its way to Bob Farnham and I am awaiting my invitation to join.

I realize that repetition filled a lot of space in the first issue, but I'm sure that as SFG progresses The SOUTHERN FAN will increase also. Is there a set schedule for our 00 yet?

The fourth issue of my zine, The MAELSTROM, is in the mails as you probably know and I am cutting a lot of deadwood from my mailing list so I can include more Southern fen on the list. I hope to have 75% of my readership SFG members by the end of the year.

I have written to Al Andrews for some info and permission in re of my apa plans. I think I can handle it without too much difficulty. It will mean cutting MAELS down in size in order to get out my apa zine, but I am quite willing to do this if we can forward SFG through it.
-P.O.Box 654, Opelika, Alabama

Welcome to the club, William. You're a lad with ideas and the will to carry them out--just the kind of member SFG needs. TSF will be monthly once we've ironed out a few snags. Maelstrom is quite an up-and-coming fanzine and I for one would be sorry to see it suffer a cut in size for any reason. But your willingness to let it be cut demonstrates your loyalty to the grand old SFG. -jb

NORM METCALF

Here's with a few comments of the SFG:

First off, looking at your cover makes one think of some of these 'egoboo and a high position for everyone' organizations. Probably the ultimate in ridicule of this was done by SAPS where every member is a vice president with the exception of the OE.

One item which bothers me (mainly because it applies to my case as well as a few others) is that of fans who move to the South and then leave. What happens to their membership?

One good point which you've taken care of is this deadwood business. The N3F is notorious for this. But with your smaller and more select group you should be able to accomplish more. To give a concrete example, the N3F decided it wasn't feasible to publish a book. Now many fans have gotten together and pubbed, the ASFO, Advent: Publisher, etc.

Other 'southern' fans editing fanzines are Rich Brown, Shelby Vick, Bruce Pelz, myself and probably others. And look, just what do you plan to do with this file of fanzines? Until someone points out a good reason for sending along my fanzines they're not going to be sent.

And one item which should unify southern fandom is the holding of a convention. Why not try for New Orleans, Atlanta or such in '63?
-Box 1262, Tyndall AFB, Florida

Seven of the eight "charter members" are temporary officers--we needed that many. Their names and addresses were on the cover for three reasons: 1) prospective members might

RETORTS

want to write them; 2) egoboo for a bunch of hard workers; 3) I had nothing else to put on the cover.

The problem of what happens to the membership of those who leave the south is still under discussion. We should be able to announce a definite rule next issue.

Those fanzines will be put to good use. Harry Thomas is working on a history of southern fandom for which the fanzine file will be an essential source of information. Also we hope to preserve them as a permanent record for future historians.

-jb

TED BROOKE

I was most pleased to receive The Southern Fan. Southern fandom has certainly needed organizing for a long time and it now seems that it finally will be.

Ever since I first became aware of fandom (somewhere around three years ago) it has needed to be organized under one strong, unified heading such as the Southern Fandom Group.

I believe that if this organization can gain the staunch support of all the most outstanding Southern fans, the less outstanding fans will follow them instinctively into the Southern Fandom Group. This will, in turn, unite the Southern fans into a solid block of active fandom.

I am certain the Southern Fandom Group can succeed, if only given the support it deserves.

-4958 LaVista Road, Tucker, Georgia

This is more or less what we've had in mind, Ted. We hope, though, that fans will come to us, not "instinctively," but because the SFG has something not otherwise obtainable to offer them.

-jb

A. J. OFFUTT

I just scrawled on the bottom of the questionnaire, "I'm still willing, although I'm not aware of being a Southerner." Ohioans call us Hebs. Tennesseans call us Yanks. Bostonians call us hicks (they're right). But...on the other hand--you can guess what A. J. stands for. (You're wrong. Second name is Jefferson. My ancestors liked both Jackson & Jefferson so they combined the names. I'm # V of the name, although I hate Roman numerals tacked on the ends of names.

NOW...Damme! You guys ARE serious! (1) White paper. (My wife, my mailman & I thought all fanzines had to be printed in topaz ink on diarrhea-colored paper). (2) No screwy name! The Southern Fan. Neatly lettered. Serious. Goldwaterishly conservative. At the very least I'd have expected "The Star & Bar," if not "Yigzhuiciip" of the usual ghastly title.

I suppose I can't really comment on it. It's so dry and staid & serious & reserved. Everyone talking quietly, explaining whoisit whatisit whenisit. Although the editor stepped out of the traces a couple of times.

Things I'd like to see--(1) Continued excellent reproduction, on WHITE paper (white's sooo Southern). (2) Discussions, via letters and articles, of things other than science-fiction. (3) A campaign to accept Rob't Heinlein's new term "speculative fiction," particularly

RETORTS

in view of Hollywood's having made of it a Joke & a nasty word. I'm in Big Brothers...a few weeks ago the boy I work with INSISTED we go to the Drive-in to see "Menace of the Red Planet" (I think that was the title). It was THE WORST. The VERY worst. Each and every cliché. And the special effects man should've been stillborn.

Bobby loved it.

I'll be happy to lead the campaign. Or further it, or write or speak about it.

(Along those same lines, perhaps we should think of another word to sub for "South" "Southern" "Scouter." In view of developments at the conventions in L.A. & Chicago the last two weeks, I'm not so sure I wouldn't rather be called Sunuvabitch or something equally less controversial.)

Back to things I'd like to see--(4) Different book reviews. They go on & on and they're all so confounded amateurish & similar. Either (1) high school book reviews, i.e. synopses, or (2) planned attack. This meaning attack-to-show-the-reader-how-learned-the-"reviewer"-is-because-he-doesn't-like-anything.

Analyses? Real analyses?

That's enough.

Rots of Ruck.

-233 Savoy Road, Lexington, Kentucky

Whew! Transcribing your hand-lettered and -written missive was no job to tackle in hot weather. There's a limit to this typer's versatility.

Okay, so you're a southern yankee. We're not prejudiced. Kentucky was one of the Confederate states (however briefly), so, yankee or reb, you're in. If you can read a significance into our all-white paper, what do you make of the integrated black ink?

(1) We'll probably keep the white paper--reproduction should improve as Jerry Page gains experience on the mimeo. (2) What "things other than science fiction"?--what else is there? (3) You can start a campaign for "speculative fiction" if you want to--but I don't wish you luck. The term strikes me as (a) ridiculously dignified, (b) childishly polysyllabic and (c) meaningless. "Science fiction" on the other hand is informal, terse and neatly descriptive. Anyway, what do we care what th' hoi polloi think of it? And so what if Hollywood wants to appropriate our term for its crudities? Will we let 'em get away with it without a fight? And, suh, Heinlein and co. notwithstanding, science fiction is not respectable, it never was respectable--and I hereby submit a correctly notarized prayer to Ghu that it never becomes respectable. Go ahead and launch your campaign and we'll see how far it gets. Maybe fans really are dignified nine-to-fivers with gardenias in their button-holes and Alf Landon buttons on their propellor beanies.

I, for one, think that science fiction is fun, amusing, entertaining; and that "speculative fiction" is for humorless old fogies.

Your book-review idea sounds difficult but interesting. If you can write 'em, I think TSF can expand enough to print 'em.

-jb

RETURNS

LOUBEL WOOD

Thanks for sending me the first issue of The Southern Fan. I have filled out the questionnaire enclosed and will mail it to Bob Farnham as directed.

This first issue, while short, is nevertheless very well prepared. Some considerable brain work seems to have gone into the organizational planning. I particularly like the simplicity of the name and the general adult manner of presentation.

If I am accepted as a member, I shall be glad to assist in a general way to making it a worthwhile project. However, at the present time, I am helping my husband build a house. Ha! We have recently moved to this section and have been somewhat overwhelmed with our own efforts. But as time passes, this experience should ease up.

May you get many happy returns from this first issue.
-Star Route, DeFuniak Springs, Florida

Thanks for the encouraging remarks. We hope to keep Everything simple and straightforward like the name. It's amazing how involved these organizational details can get.

And thanks for the verse. Alas, we couldn't make room for it this issue. -jb

--/--/--

Pickings were rather lean this time, but I suppose that's easily explained by the fact that most of the first issue's mail was directed to Bob Farnham. I'm not mad. I'll live through it. But how about sending me your letter this time, huh?

It seems desirable for the SFG to have an official emblem before too long. We've had some suggested designs (a couple of them very good ones), but nothing that seems precisely right. If you have an idea for an emblem, how about sending it to me? In fact, we might make a sort of contest of this (no prizes, of course, just egoboo). Send me your designs and I'll publish them in TSF #4 or #5 (perhaps touched up a bit unless you forbid it) and we'll let the members vote on them. If necessary, we can have two or three ballots. One thing: the main trouble with the designs we've seen so far has been overemphasis on the southern angle. There's nothing wrong with the Stars & Bars or the CSA battle flag or some other southern symbol, but I think that sort of thing should be subordinated to the sf & fantasy part of the design.

The constitution is still being worked on. It will probably be a couple of months before it's in shape. We want it to be as perfect as possible before submitting it to your tender mercies. It will be published along with a ratifying slip in TSF #5 or #6, probably.

Beginning with the next issue, TSF will go on a monthly schedule. This issue was a bit delayed for various reasons, but henceforth we'll try to stick strictly to schedule. In later issues we'll try to soup up the mag somewhat with special articles and stuff, but the next couple of issues, at least, will continue to be devoted to SFG business. We've got a lot of things to accomplish before we can start playing around.

Things have already started rolling along pretty well, though, as you've seen in this issue. Harry Thomas has started work on a history of southern fandom which you'll be seeing in TSF; Billy Joe Plott is organizing as apa for SFGers (more about this next issue); and Al Andrews is ready to appoint those Activities and Benefits Committees. Not bad for the first couple of months, huh? -jb

THE LAST HUZZAH

B.F. Wermers has moved. His new address, for those of you who want to get in touch with him, is 1703 Lenore Ct., Baltimore, 7 Md. This brings up two questions: (1) Also mentioned by Norm Metcalfe on page 8, is What happens to members who move away from the South? and (2) Should Maryland and Missouri be considered as Southern states and admitted into the group? It is my personal opinion that we can narrow our limits a little too much; losing fans such as Bernie Wermers and Norm Metcalfe can work into more than an annoyance. Also, a number of well-liked and capable fans live in these states, particularly Maryland, which boasts Harry Warner, jr. and Robert A. Madle. We want to hear your opinions on this matter, and soon, because we'd like to cover it in the Constitution. Both Jerry Burge and I have discussed these and some other matters which we would like opinions on before framing the constitution. More on this next month.

Jerry Page

THE SOUTHERN FAN
1707 Piper Circle, SE,
Atlanta 16, Georgia



PRINTED MATTER
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED
FORM 3547 REQUESTED

Norman Metcalf
Box 1267
Tyndall AFB
Florida