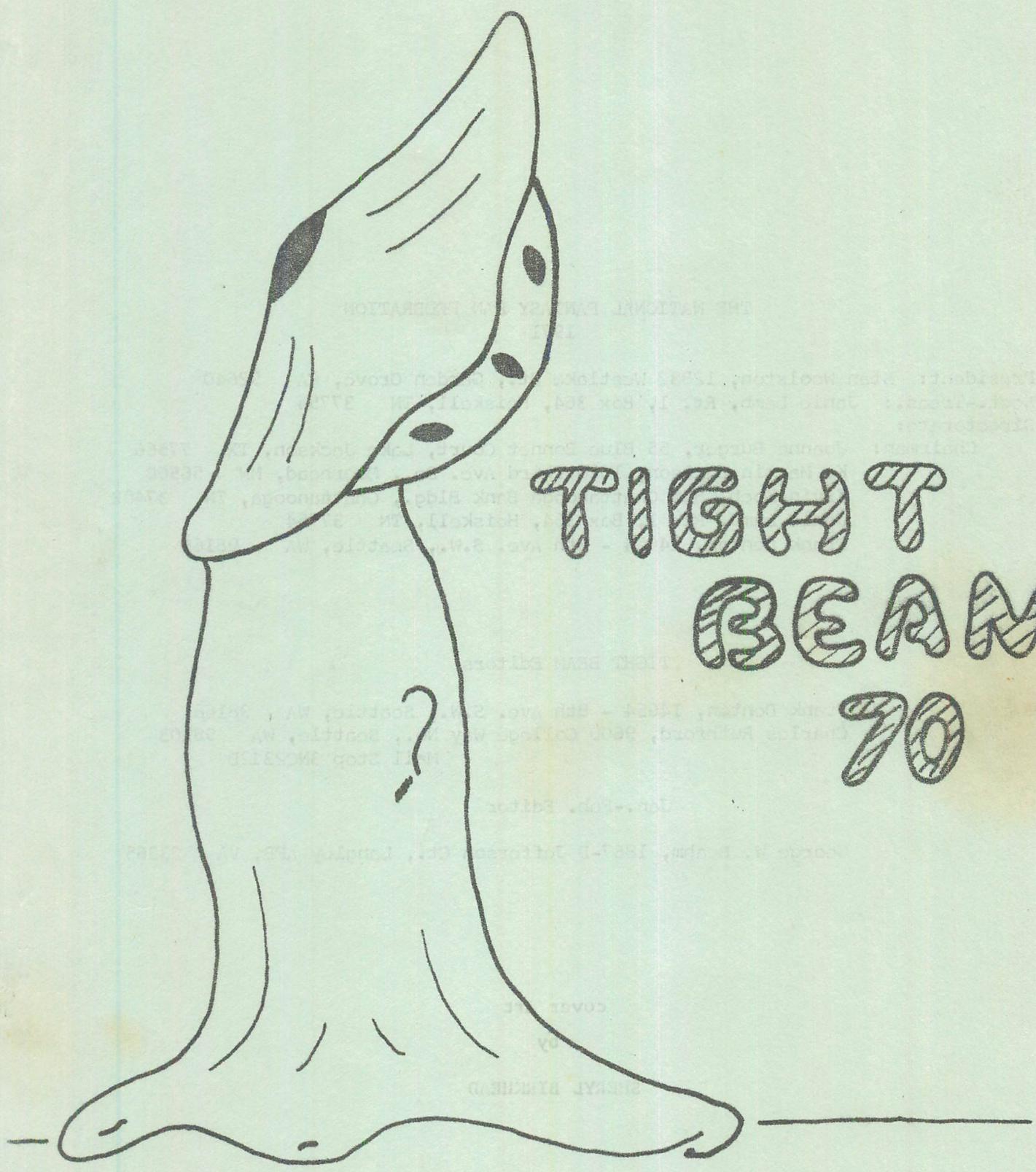


11/71



TIGHT
BEAM
70

THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION
1971

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TIGHTBEAM 70

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Tightbeam # 70, November-December issue of the letter column of the National Fantasy Fan Federation

Tightbeam is published for the N3F January, March, May, July, September, November and is distributed free to members of the N3F and for trade of other science fiction fanzines. Persons mentioned in passing are invited to comment, regardless of membership status. Contributions to Tightbeam should be sent to the new editor. See the editorial for name and address.

Hello, Neffers,

And so Charles and I come to the last issue of Tight Beam; that is, for us. It has been a pleasant task in some respects and in other respects, a time-consuming one, of course. The consumption of time has been the primary reason for our having to bow out. Our campus, our student body, our own responsibilities have grown since we took over from Gary a year ago and we just can't continue. My own genzine has not seen publication since July 1st. And the material is all sitting there in my file just getting dated.

The pleasantness of the task, of course, is hearing from the regulars and the not-so-regulars each issue. While there has not been a great raging controversy this year, a great number of words have gone over the mimeo drum. (I was going to say "a great river of words over the dam" but I'm trying to rid myself of cliches.) A great many of those words were far from dull, albeit they were not exactly controversial.

I personally recall the pleasantness of meeting Phil Muldowney in England. I wouldn't have done so except through Tight Beam. And I recall the pleasantness of knowing that between Art Hayes' editorship of TNFF and the Lateneffernews portion of TB the membership was once again being communicated with and informed of the more important happenings in fandom.

I am happy to report that the next two issues are in good hands. The Jan.-Feb. issue will be done by my good friend and fellow SLAN-apan, George W. Beahm. And the March-April issue will be done by Verne F. O'Brien. So the next couple of issues should come out in time, and by that time there will be other volunteers, or there will be a permanent editor. It really should be done by someone that would be able to take it over for a year or longer, but evidently our President has not had that sort of volunteer as yet.

This is as good a time as any to make a plea to those of you who are on the other end of this; the reading end, that is. There are lots of places where each and every one of you can jump in and make NFFF a better and stronger organization. Of course all of you don't have the facilities to publish. But there are lots of others places where NFFF can use your help. Think over what you have done for the organization and see if there isn't a little bit that you can do. This hobby of ours is one of the greatest there is and NFFF could be a very fine organization if everyone would pitch in to make it as strong as possible. Study the list of activities in your last issue of TNFF and write to some of the Bureau Heads to find out how you can get involved. You'll have that much more fun by being involved. Remember that all of the officers and bureau heads are volunteers. They spend a lot of time leading the various activities. Some are more successful than others. But I don't know of one who is so selfish that he wouldn't grin from ear to ear at the thought of someone to share the tasks, make the workload lighter, and provide a better and bigger service to the rest of the membership. So think it over. If you have some spare time and a special interest within fandom, get involved a little. You'll enjoy it more and you'll help make everybody happy.

Last words: it really has been fun for Charles and me. Now I turn it over to your next editor:

GEORGE W. BEAHM
1867-D Jefferson Ct.
Langley AFB, VA 23365

Letter Deadline: DECEMBER 15, 1971

KOCH

Irvin Koch
835 Chattanooga Bank Building
Chattanooga, TN 37402
September 8

This is being written Monday morning at NOREASCON.

A N3F meeting was held yesterday and some things were brought up that need immediate action. First of these falls to me. From now on, anyone in NFFF who wants a ride to any convention or who is capable of giving a ride to a convention should write the Membership Activities Bureau. You can also advertise wanting a ride in Kmar trader of TNFF and doing both might be the best idea. Also, anyone wanting to charter buses or planes who need to have a central point can write the MemAc Bu. Because TNFF and/or TB and N3F setup in general will have to be used for this but on the other hand this deal involves all fandom, I will extend the transportation/charter clearing house to everyone whether a N3F member or not to start with but non-NFFFers had better write with SASE's. If you publish a fanzine or have any influence with one, please see that this is publicized. This deal can also extend to advance arrangements to split room expenses at Cons or anything else of the sort.

Remember the MemAc Bu has always functioned as this sort of clearing center for anyone or any group wanting to set up an activity in N3F or get workers for any existing project. Please use my permanent address given above as my FL address is subject to change without notice.

There was also brought up the old idea that we should have some sort of liason with all Cons. OK - if you know in advance you are going to be at a Con and can keep in liason with the Con committee or are going to be on a committee, write me. The only duties are 1) Sending all info on Con to TNFF. 2) Wear a N3F tag at the Con and have material from N3F to pass out if any is available and just generally keep us in contact with fannish organizations. This also applies to people to represent us to/from local and regional clubs. N3F can serve as a clearing for anything of this sort.

HAYES

Arthur Hayes
Box 1030
South Porcupine
Ontario, Canada
September 20, 1971

I write when I get around to it, regardless of deadlines, etc., and so this is caused by TB 68. You're coming along nicely with TB so on to some contents that I want to comment on. I note that several used my name in vain but I won't answer each and every one.

ANN WILSON:- When I discussed the ideas of clubs joining the N3F, it was with the hope that someone would come up with suggestions. Decentralization of the N3F does not seem to be in line with that request. I am not saying that decentralization might be a bad idea, but it implies to me that if we can't get other clubs to join us, let's form our own clubs within N3F by this decentralization idea. It might be a good idea, but it does not deal with clubs, regional, national or international who frequently join the N3F temporarily. But first a few more words on Ann's idea.

Group rates for regional groups:- There would be a slight saving in postage if all official zines the regional individual members got, were sent bulk to the regional HQ, but it would be a small saving...I can't see that group rates being much lower than the present individual rate. Presumably, the regional clubs would more or less specialize to handle specific Bureaus moved down to the regional level.

To me, this would move the administration of some of the bureau activities we now have to the regional level and the N3F would no longer have either responsibility or ability for control of those activities. I think that this amounts to fragmentation and makes the N3F organization so loosely connected as to make it administratively impossible.

What I was trying to get was a form of an idea wherein the clubs who joined us would find that they could BENEFIT from a N3F affiliation and that N3F would likewise benefit from these affiliations. I think that the first thing a club that affiliated with us - especially a local club - should undertake through its own membership, to cover ONE specific activity, and BE that Bureau as well as an affiliated club. Rather than fragmentation of the N3F, it might be better if regional clubs undertook, UNDER the specific Bureau NATIONAL chief, to handle that activity within their own region. The National chief would keep himself aware of the level of activities of the regional clubs and report in TNFF on it briefly.

I think some modification of this idea might be workable, but it requires that the regional club volunteer to handle a specific activity within its own region, just as it is necessary for individuals to volunteer now to handle things at the National level. As a local group, they could find that the additional labourers available might be able to make administration of that activity more easy. Some Regional groups might be so efficient that they would find themselves handling things more on a National level than a Regional level, but if this was due to efficiency of that Regional organization, then, no one could complain about it. //Are you not falling into a trap, tho. For it to work all Regional clubs probably would have to agree to do such and such a job. It would appear that you should have some sort of consistency. ccr//

I remember Postie, Postwarp, Hyperspace Tightbeam and TIGHTBEAM, which more or less covers the history of TB for Gersman. Hyperspace Tightbeam didn't last long - I was the one to drop the Hyperspace off of it - and Postwarp was returned to Art Rapp who had the original claim on that title and who said he wanted to use it again. (I don't think he ever did re-use it.)

As for the Neffer Secret Police, it came close to being created at the NOREASCON, when, during the Neffer meeting, such was discussed. The group there were all but one officially against the idea.

Enclosures with TNFF. Anyone wanting to include something with TNFF can do so. They should send 3¢ as Irvin Koch mentions, for EVERY OUNCE of the enclosure, (or part of an ounce) multiplied by the membership, which should be estimated as being a little higher than the previously published figure to allow for new members. Now, if it should happen that the enclosure does not catapult TNFF into a new postal bracket, then, the money received would be held as a credit for that person for future enclosures, or returned, as he willed (minus money order charges and postage for the letter). True, this, if widely accepted, could make TNFF almost as big as an Apa mailing, but as long as they pay for the extra costs, I don't particularly care. In any event, anyone who wants to do this, should discuss the matter with me, so I can give at least a membership estimate so he can send the proper number of copies for enclosure (as well as the right amount of money).

SCOTT

Mike Scott
Box 2043
Alhambra, CA 91803
September 21, 1971

Sorry to hear you're suspending publication after number 70 as I've enjoyed your zine very much. If the next editor puts forth half the effort you have, we can

look forward to an excellent letterzine. Best luck on your future projects.
//Thanks for the nice thoughts.ccr//

KOCH: Ga'wan with ya! The idea that your election would insure the metamorphosis of the N3F into a well organized club is a delusion worthy of Thomas de Quincey. Whatever inefficiency existing in the N3F rests largely on slack bureau heads and yahoos that never contribut anything. A strong president doesn't necessarily constitute a smooth running organization. Voting for your nebulous promises of organization would be similiar to voting for another's equally dreamy promises of "law and order". Read Bob Gersman's comments directed to you in TB 69. So true. I do agree with your statement that publishing a list of the officers and activities is up to the editor. Art Hayes runds the list regularly in TNFF so I don't think we need to see it twice a month.

KESSEL: Your point is well taken and as I have a copy of Baxter's great work I should have noted it long beforehand. However, I was attempting to point out to others that "The Thing" as a cinematic experience was rewarding. As an adaptation of JWC's "Who Goes There?", it was terrible, but you must remember those magic words - "box office". The horror of the story was the alien's uncanny ability to imitate the true humans. Far too many mundanes would simply shovel popcorn into their maws and misunderstand what was going on if the theme of the story was carried over into the film. Rememb er the nemisis of all SF films: production thinking and box office. Sure, the film is simplistic in its view of good and evil, but so was practically every film of that era. It isn't fair to judge a twenty year old film of that era, by today's standards and never will be. In any case I agree with you that discussions of this nature usually result in the shouting match you so aptly described. To be punny, I thing we've talked about this enough! (May Ghu forgive me!) Best luck with Uranian.

KRIEG: I can see that THX 1138 could be nominated for a Hugo but Night Gallery? The television adaptation of Kornbluth's classic "Little Black Bag" was the best episode but it certainly doesn't beat THX. Serling reached the nadir of his questionable ability as an SF writer with that giant mouse on the moon segment. Oh, for Charles Beaumont!

HILL: Your thoughts on JWC and others in TB 69 were written with sensitivity and insight. Great letter!

SCHER: By this time you've received my letter concerning the NFAS. I urge every Neffer to write to Ken and join up. How else are you going to know where fandom is headed? Hey, Ken!. Do people really want to read Purple Jellyfist stories?

TO ALL: The first issue of Collector's Bulletin should be in the hands of all that expressed interest (and a few who didn't) by now. Anyone seeking information should write me. By the bye, a happy Christmas and a better New Year to all!

GERSMAN

Robert Gersman
3135 Pennsylvania
St. Louis, MO 63118
September 24, 1971

Glad to see you had a safe enjoyable trip, Frank. Sorry to see that other committments prevent you from continuing at the helm of Tightbeam, and Chuck, too, losing two at a crack!

SABELLA: You say Tightbeam and N3F are run inefficiently, and you offered to do something about it. Nothing you heard so right away you want to change to Koch, he's so good. NFFF runs better on Cole, why switch to Kcch; Gas burns more efficiently,

why not a heavy writer. //That has to be the worst series of puhs that I have ever seen.ccr//

SCHER: A new head to get NFAS going once again, we ken scher use one. Be glad to scher my fanzine appreciation with your own. //Ignore him! Maybe he will go away.ccr//

Black Hole British propaganda, eh. Typical. News to me but not surprised at anything those Sassenachs would do. Look what they're doing in the North of Erin, buttin' in. Internin' a foine bunch of Irish patriots, the I. R. A. thim dhirty souts using the Black an' Tan tactics like they did in "16" and "21", The Time of the Troubles.

May Cormac come back and smite them and the wrath of all the saints of Erin be on thim.

I disagree, plenty of fanzines are better than PULP FICTION but there is a place for them just like Stoker, Rohmer, Fitzgerald, Hemingway, etc. Pulp is pure escapist literature, no message, no moral, just read and enjoy.

KESSEL: Science is usually so wrapped up in research and results that he is willing to imperil our very existence in order to prove something is wrong or he's right. The scientist in the picture "The Thing" is ty pical, he was willing to risk millions of lives just to protect an inhuman life-form, inimical to our earthly existence, who if he succeeded in reseeding his off-springs, would have taken over the world and used man and animal for his own benfit, guinea pig or slave, he felt towards humans as we feel towards bugs.

KOCH: What is your source of infor on the Black Hole, I'd like to read it.

KRIEG: Is's a shame Dallas stepped down. St. Louis did a very good job for their first Con. Who decided Cons should be strictly for Pure SF, and it's nice of you to be so condescending as to permit Movie, Comic and other types to attend. Depends a lot on what the area abounds in, SF or Comic fans.

We Lovecraft fans thank your allowance and permission of recognition because he wrote a FEW PURE SF STORIES. Quite nice of you O'l chap. SF is nothing if it's just pure science, a little Space Opera is needed to liven it up.

BERGLUND: All the Cthulhu Mythos have been reprinted by Beacon Horror, Berkeley, and Ballantine.

Derleth is more to be missed than Campbell. All I can say for John is he inspired the motion picture, "The Thing".

Derleth kept Lovecraft with us. And wrote quite a few good ones on his own!

P.S. Shades of Dracula. What a cover!

BIRKHEAD

Sheryl Birkhead
23629 Woodfield Rd.
Gaithersburg, MD 20760
September 28, 1971

Just got TB 69 and I'm hereby asking about artwork for the publication. I'm not really sure who I sent the first inquiry to, b ut since you don't remember it then it must have been to Frank.//I don't remember it either.fd//

Art Hayes has kept the material I sent to him, so maybe something I can rig up will be suitable for TB. Do you generally choose artwork along a line you've chosen? Do you have favorite Topics? How should pieces be done (medium)?

I wrote to about a dozen faneds listed in the Mss. Bureau's sheet, but so far have only gotten two replies (one negative and the other turned out to be unable to use what I had done.) Perhaps, I'm just not going about this volunteering business in the right manner. Yes? No?//Yes! Take a look at the cover, Sheryl. We were real proud and pleased to use it. ccr//

I'm more of a doodler than an artist - which means most of my material has been in the filler category. As soon as I finish here and clean up the place enough to find some paper, etc., I'll see if I can fix something up and send it along so you can see what I doodle - - - OF COURSE I'M GAMBLING THAT THIS WILL GET THROUGH TO YOU, just in case that first query letter never actually made it to either of the TB eds. Thanks for printing my letter.//O.K. Gang! Let's hear it for Sheryl's cover. 1, 2, 3. Yeh!//

SCHER

Ken Scher
3119 Mott Ave.
Far Rockaway, NY 11691
September 28, 1971

Obviously, Frank and Chuck deserve a vote of thnx for the "Ps they put out.

I get the feeling that I have the right to be annoyed about late TBs again... for the 2nd time, I've received an answer to my TB letter at the same time that my copy of TB arrived...but since the letter was Mike Scott's NFAS membership, I can't complain. For those who are interested (most of you, I hope) the NFAS now boasts six members. The two who are listed as dropped in the TNFF contacted me after the deadline (Paul Cass called me...from Oakland, California as far as I can tell . . . the nut). The member ship list is therefore the following:

Ken Scher: 3119 Mott Ave., Far Rockaway, NY 11691
Stan Woolston: 12832 Westlake St., Garden Grove, CA 92640
Joseph D. Siclari: 1951 N. Meridian Rd. #54, Tallahassee, FLA 32304
Paul Cass: 1418 Trestle Glen Rd., Oakland, CA 94610
Sp/4 E. Dean Sweatman, 460-72-3989, HHC 1st Bde 25th Inf Div, APO SF 96557
Mike Scott, Box 2043, Alhambra, CA 91803

I see no reason why new members should have to wait two moths to be listed as a member of the NFAS in TNFF, so I'll try to send what might be termed "interem" bureau reports in TB . . . is that OK with the publishers and reader? It seems to me that this might be a good idea in any case . . . bureaus whose activities age quickly (the news bureau is the most obvious example, I think) shouldn't be forced to wait so long. So, if it's alright with everbody, I'll continue.

Staying with NFAS stuff, in the Lateneffernews in TB 69, it is implied that the NFAS is only interested in "brand new fanzines". This is not, strictly speaking, true. While it is anticipated that the faneds who make use of our services will, in most cases, be putting out brand new fmz, we welcome any fanzines whose editors care to send them to us, even if its working on issue #50 on a once-a-year schedule.

KESSEL: How about sending copies of URanian to the members of the NFAS???

KOCH: Maybe I;m dense, but what's the difference between a regional club and a local one that merely takes in a large area? From what I can figure out, the type of "regional" club that you mean is almost completely a letterclub with conventions rather than meetings. I don't know about ESFA and NESFA, but the Lunarians in NYC regularly draw fans from Baltimore, and I think we might be said to cover the mid-Atlantic region of the East Coast . . . I suspect that you should compare your definition of the word "region" with other fen to get some sort of consensus as to just what it includes.

KRIEG: Personally, I've always considered Lovecraft's "pure" sf stories to be pure garbage, with the exception of At the Mountains of Madness, which is simply a Cthulhu Mythos story in SF form. From the little that I know of his mundane writings, however, I think Derleth'll be mourned more by his mundane readers than most of fandom (except for the Arkham House nuts like me, of course). Let's vote everybod who publishes anything well for the N3F a triumph at the next worldcon . . . dependable pubbers are more valuable than executive officers in a mail club . . . and much rarer apparently!

Speaking of the worldcon (and with Brooks' mention of the Hospitality Room), I've been wondering . . . just what did the separate bureaus do to help make the HR a successful center for membership recruitment? Did those bureaus that have their own zines provide copies? Did those that don't provide flyers to say what they do and try to enthuse other about it? (such flyers would also be useful for the Welcom bundles.) Why should the bureaus wait for neos to enter the N3F to get their interest? Get their interest first . . . and then make Neffers out of 'em. Needless to say, the NFAS is in the process of preparing such a flyer (and this is an open invitation to all to make any suggestions as to the content and wording that you feel are worth making!

AND HOW ABOUT A VOTE OF THANK FOR alma hill's WORK IN THE HOSPITALITY ROOM?

I think Kring's idea about greater publicity for the N3F is also good . . . the last time I remember the N3F getting any great amount of publicity was in Lin Carter's "Our Man In Fandom" series . . . and those of you who remember that may remember the fact that it wasn't what I'd call "favorable" publicity.

As I may or may not have mentioned elsewhere, I am attempting to compile a fannish dictionary somewhere between the usual neo's introductory glossary . . . and Fancyclopedia. Obviously, the simplest way to do this is to mine already existing glossaries (tho, that isn't always as good an idea as it sounds . . . would you believe 3 different definitions of Twonk's Diseases?). so that what I'd like . . . old glossaries. I'm quite willing to a) borrow and then return them, b) buy, or c) pay for photostats, as you wish.

I am also interested in the names and some details of local cons, the meanings of local fanclub name abbreviations (like FSFSCU), and the location of the club, etc.

HILL

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE NFFF
A report of stewardship,
by Noreascon Convention Representative
Alma Hill

Putting latest events first, folks, I have taken out a membership in L. A. Con, c/o Janie Lamb, who will get the progress reports. I'm about to send a deposit for advertising space in the next PR #3, deadline in December, giving time for that detail to be planned further. As for other plans, that, of course, is up to Stan and his appointees in that direction. It's just that the best time for planning for any convention is during the one preceding, when it is a simple matter to find people and talk about mutual concerns. So, I go that going this time.

Now here is a fine example of just that; the fan at the L. A. Con desk turned out to be Fred Patten, formerly an OE of the Neffer apa, and a very constructive member. (Why we lost him, I know not, but we may well rue it.) We were able to have a few minutes' conversation. He will be in charge of publicity, and gave me a copy of PR #2 (already out - see how slow we are with help to conventions?) in which the hotel's convention floor is all mapped with all locations designated.

No space is being donated to any club, this one or any other, not even SFWA. We will have to rent our own. This is probably all for the best in the long run. Strictly speaking, for best accomodations it is more important to us to have space up in the room area, since in the evenings the convention area is rather deserted, once the programs are over, and that is the very time we like to foregather, get into discussions, and so on.

A club lounge on the con floor is good, too, and is what we had this year. The Noreascon committee treated us very well, giving us exactly the same space as SFWA next door, and at that we had the end with the built-in bulletin board, nearest the entrance from the stairs.

We got it set up as a combination reading-room, message center, and game room, with chairs around the wall, one sofa, and three games tables, one large and two small. Chessboards and cards were provided and much in use. Neffer Erwin Strauss had his new game, "Space War", in there until the meeting, after which he moved it down to the Information Lobby on the second floor. (Incidentally, I was mistaken about our being on that floor; the conference area began there but extended to the third floor where there were many more activities.) We were not needed as a message center; the larger lobby space with several bulletin boards was more than adequate for the convention as a whole. Still, we had material they did not, and provided good secondary space. It is always useful to post a map of the general area, of the floor space, and a set of pages from a program book, nearest the door, and we did so. We had a table of giveaway books in one corner, and a reference table with neatly-laid-out informational materials in the opposite corner. I bought some good new books, several of which were promptly stolen. So that idea was a lemon for this occasion at least. Mind you, this mention of theft is not meant as a complaint. It seems to be a plague of these times, something that must be reckoned with. I had also hoped to start up a set of games and such to pass along to the next convention, as we have sometimes done, but there was nobody to take charge of those, so instead we gave them all away as souvenirs.

Our giveaway books were entirely successful; we must have sidposed of several hundred books and fanzines, no telling how many, as people were seen to add contributions of their own, in the classic tradition of the loaves and the fishes. The Boston Public Library furnished us with 300 copies of a reading list in booklet form for young adults. They insisted on having this distributed by us, since that was how the BPL cooperation got started: I offered NFFF facilities if they wanted to distribut any reading lists. It was all news to them, as of this July, that there'd be a convention in Boston. Apparently the convention committee was following the usual fannish custom of living in a world of our own. When the librarians learned that there would be all those beloved authors on live, right up the street in the next block, they went boinggggggggg, got in touch with the concom, opened press channels (the newspaper coverage seems to have been unprecedented - I have here an item from the Boston Globe which lists Asimov as one of their columnists) and set up some displays of handsome books in glass cases in their famous old neo-Venetian central building.//You might be interested that there was an article about the convention in our Seattle papers.ccr//

This is 1971 and space fiction is surrounded by friends. One of the ways in which the NFFF has been ahead of fandom right along is that we have learned to proceed on such a basis and no other.

It is no disgrace (no matter who, in or out of our membership, may leap to any hasty other conclusion) for us to be few and widely scattered. We have the advantages of our disadvantages and have learned what's what in that regard. At least, we have as a grroup. Since this point is being questioned all the time, and not always by neofans, the above is a case in illustration. We had a delegate with powers to act, and a good word in a good place did a good deal. No other groups

could have done this. We are never in a position to offer miracles, but every so often we pass a few. The history of the NFFF is full of such instances, if anybody wants to look.

Fred Patten took a few of those booklets for the L. A. Con. They look like a nice neat mimeographed fanzine, on yellow paper, with an artistic cover and several pages listing speculative fiction under various categories, with annotations. I saved out a few for a report to all directors, and the rest were taken by individuals; Art Hayes has a copy if the directors want it phot-reproduced. All volumes are in the BPL collection and probably available through interlibrary loan to other cities. The list is selective rather than comprehensive, of course. As it was made up by their reading advisor for young adults, it is extra handy for anyone teaching a course in sf, a practice getting so widely spread that sizeable publishers are putting out textbooks for it.

The one best thing we do is provide a quiet conversation lounge for ourselves; as we are a cross-section of the sf field, and admit guests to our space without question, this is our best service to conventions. The table games and reading matter establish the atmosphere more comfortably. As to games, here is a note from Games Bureau:

". . . it has been my experience that the most popular games at conventions are Chess, Poker [for that we had card games in general this year, abh] and any new game (like Diplomacy) or SF-related game (like Interplanetary) which someone happens to bring with him.

No time left for me to send you any Games Bureau pubs; too close to convention time, so wouldn't reach you in time for them to be of any use. Will have to consider this far enough in advance for future cons.

I think it would be a good idea to pass the games along from con to con (or from N3F representative to N3F representative) as I make very few cons myself, and I couldn't speak for the other G. B. members. Perhaps a member of each con committee could hold these games "in trust", making them available at each con?

/s/ Don Miller

This year no continuity could be set up, but all games were used, none were stolen, further packs of cards turned up, and there was no difficulty giving them away for souvenirs Monday afternoon.

Our Information Bureau was also consulted and sent information that as "Convention Representative" with no time to call for votes, or get in touch with distant officials, I was the NFFF, but had had his quite unnecessary blessing on informational services. He said he'd write again, so let's hold him to that. Both Stan and Don Franson live in the LA area, don't they? But remember, just things we can afford to lose - a large crowd has all kinds of philosophies of life.

We posted the following notice:

THE NFFF ROOM
AT SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTIONS
IS ONE CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE
WHERE ANYONE IS GLAD TO SEE ANYONE
AND NOBODY HAS TO HAVE ANY PARTICULAR
BUSINESS, RACE, CREED, AFFILIATION
OR ANYTHING.
WE ARE JUST HERE FOR THE FUN OF IT
THE SAME AS YOURSELF

The thing is - at every picnic, somebody has to remember to bring the can opener; somehow the fun takes care of itself, but not the facilities. So why not plan further ahead? That is, for those for whom it is easy, let's?

The giveaway books are a very easy thing to provide. Paperbacks have a way of accumulating more than one has room for (in many homes) but too good to throw away after one reading. What about a collecting point? Recycle these treasures? Find stuff you missed reading yourself?

Many people expressed disappointment that our famous coffee urn was not in evidence this year. Folks, can you imagine coffee around the clock for hundreds of people in a space about the size of an ordinary living room? Four experienced Neffer hostesses attended the meeting Sunday noon and were unanimous that on the convention floor a coffee urn at worldcons is utterly impractical. In a suite or at a small local con, maybe; at a worldcon let's be reasonable. When a concom gives us free space, that's their sayso as to location, but as to what we do in it, that's our sayso and has to be decided in terms of what we CAN do, not what we MIGHT LIKE if circumstances were suitable.

For this reason I've long and vainly protested this "Hospitality Room" designation, which seems to promise something different from what we do best and can do most reliably. A hotel expects to set us up with some beat-up old folding tables under talbecloths, some folding chairs, and a big bill from the catering department. They give a convention free space but they expect to make money from the room service, the banquet, and catering. They set us up that way at NYCon III - bad scene, that. Convention committees vary enormously as to knowledge and as to appreciation of the NFFF, we can expect that.

This year's meeting mooted and recommended setting up a Convention Bureau as a standing project. It would need funds but we have seen saving money by doing less than we wanted to. Perhaps that could be used to start a back-log. People have always been generous to us in this connection, not out of obligation but out of goodwill. Why not have a central collecting point for whatever anyone wants to put in? We enjoy those ent-moots hugely, in our vegetative way; haven't you noticed this?

One other thing is the matter of our door signs; the hotel people let us put up an escutcheon in blue contac-plastic -- it peels right off again, with the letters NFFF cut out of the same material above it, and the yellow starbursts, white chevron and skull, and red bottony crosses in sticky-tape looked fine. I did another on cloth for a banner at our Huckster Room display table. Members could have sold any of their fanzines there, but that opportunity was mostly missed. Still, it was there, and all sales projects could be referred there from our clubroom. Red felt-pens makes easier corsses than mystik-tape, but the white tape and yellow are fine for the rest of the desigh. When the hotel won't allow stickum on the door they might allow a banner to be tjump-tacked or draped over the top; it's much easier than a stick-out stand sign. Looks both gaudy and neat. Felt pens on cloth make the club slogan "Science and Fantasy" in a couple of minutes.

We always need such indications so people know where we are when they want to find us.

The occasion in general was most pleasant. Your ~~hopeless~~ convention representative has a ball. Everyone is in a good mood. We feel such admiration and respect, amounting to affection for the leading authors in this field that it keeps things sunshiny no matter what. (Granted that there can be a what, but everyone rallies around and helps, truly.) Setting up our space is more fun than playing doll houses. It's just that we could use, might need, enough more continuity so that we can have still more fun and still fewer whats.

The main thing the NFFF provides costs us nothing but realization of a fact, namely that those who appreciate such a good thing as sf are entitled to respect ourselves accordingly. So we provide mutual moral support out here in all this drafty blue sky. It's just great. I hope we never get too slick to appreciate our mimeographs and postage stamps, our simple civilized games, our wonderful people.

Thanks again for a chance to share in these enjoyments once again.

DANIELSON

Garth Danielson
20-327 Edison Ave.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada
October 9, 1971

Let me start off by saying that I am sorry that both Frank and Chuck are quitting TB. I hope that whoever is taking over TB will try to do as good a job as Frank and Chuck. (Nothing like a little flattery to start off a letter. It gets you in good with the publishers.) //you better believe it. Thanx for the nice workds.ccr//

I am always interested by the letters and wait expectingly by my mailbox each other month. Too bad it wasn't monthly, then some people could complain twice as much. Gee - much fun!

As for bad language. As Truman Capote said on Johnny Carson about a month ago. If it fits the situation, it should be used. After all, if one's writing a book about some subject, that subject should be included.

On mail delivery: Just about every other issue of TB puts the mailmen down. Well, in a different light, here's a build-up of these boys in blue. Just recently I moved and all my mail is being delivered to my new address with very little delay. Mail delivered in Canada (First Class) gets to just about any other major city within two days. When writing to Art Hayes, I can get an answer in the same time as it takes to get a letter to California. Mailmen aren't perfect but you must give them some credit. After all, you do get your mail even if it takes some time. If you want speed you can send a telegram or special delivery. If you want low cost put up with what you've got, or build a better system. Like they say - build a better mouse trap and the world beats a path to your door.

On letter writing: I have never been able to write very good letters, so I don't expect anyone else to write good letters just for me. Letters should be comfortable to the writer and understandable to the reader. But don't bust a gut trying to make it all deathless prose.

Here, also, is my pledge for the New Fanzine Appreciation Society, which I sent to Woolston when it first started. But he never wrote anything back. So put me down as a new member and send those zines. They types of zines I am interested in are general sf and fantasy types. There you are, Ken Scher - a new body.

KRIEG: Saw the Andromeda Strain and liked it. Night Gallery is another good show. About the same quality as Twilight Zone but with more humorous parts.

I also saw LA:2017. Now it's out in a book by Philip Wylie, called Los Angeles: A. D. 2017.

On comics: Has anyone ever read some of the letter of comment in some comics? Weird! Make your own decisions.

isn't really all that interesting . . .

Sure hope that Bob Sabella has heard from Stan in regards to taking over TB - imagine he is first in line for the position after his comments in the last TB! Bob, wish you the best of luck!

Due to last month's heat wave, I got on good terms with my mailman - Ski - and his substitute mail-lady (one his days off she delivers his route . . . and she's cute, curvaceous, vivacious, little doll. You mail - oopsh - that should be male fen out there can eat-your-hearts-out for she has no intentions of leaving San Pedro . . .). We are now most friendly - I did all this with a few glasses of ice water and offering them a few minutes in front of our 20 inch fan . . . while they rested I told them about those manila envelopes they deliver to me - they now understand that they aren't all junk mail , . . I now receive my mail a lot sooner than I was before!

Muchly enjoyed Ken Scher's letter and agree with his views on N3F - as current W. C. Chairman, I can see what help the N3F is to new-fans . . . and I was/am still one myself and without the N3F I never would have become as envolved in fandom as I am. Also, wish you lots of luck with the NFAS, Ken - sounds like you're really going to revive it and had I more time I'd be glad to join . . .

I really must disagree with Edward Krieg - most or even 1/2 of the comic fans are NOT juveniles. In fact, most of the comic fans I know and correspond with are very literate and intelligent people and well over the age of being called "juvenile" (which I consider to describe mental rather than physical condition but in this case I mean it in the physical sense). Aso, many comic fans also collect sf and sf fans also collect comics - how do you reconcile this, Ed?? Will take this opportunity to mention a really beautiful zine while I'm at it - "Anomaly" by Jan Strnad which is a fantastic blend of both serious and not-so-serious sf and comic - the last issue, #3, had some fantasy in it as well and in a comic strip format yet - was really a most impressive issue!!

Since I'm not Frank Denton guess it's okay for me to comment on the deaths of John W. Campbell and August Derleth. I think it tragic when every any man dies . . . but necessary, too. Not that I mean to sound un grateful - for I do realize the importance JWC was to the beginnings of sf as well as to the prozine field - and I'm very thankful that he was here for awhile and that he did so much . . . I hope that the sf field and Analog can survive his death . . . I hope that what he built is strong enough to stand on its own. As to August Derleth's death, it didn't really come as that much of a surprise - I do sincerely hope that someone will be able to keep Arkham going and do as well a job as he did but I rather doubt it. Fortunately, the rise of fantasy and horror in the pb field alone should prevent many old manuscripts from becoming more obscure - and I do thank August for starting and inspiring this rise! Hope that both men rest in peace! and that what they started will continue to grow!

So Ned Brooks wants a recipe for a fanish drink for Worldcons - Sweet Blog, yet. Well, here's my rendition - two cups Black Velvet wine, chilled; two TBSP Hisshon Sake; one cup Cossack Vodka; one cup of Canadian Black Velvet Whiskey; a very short dash of Beefeaters Gin,; two TBSP of bitters; two lemons, crushed; two limes, crushed - mix this in a sterling silver punch bowl and add two jars red maraschino cherries and enough Giner Ale to fill the bowl - then add ice cubes to your glasses and fill them and rejoice!//Where are you ever going to get glasses that will withstand a brew like that. Your stomache - yes! A glass - no! ccr//

I agree with Mike that there should be more advertisement of the N3F - its activities, purpose and meaning. Our membership is really low and has been this past year - when I joined in 1968 there were at least 350 members if not more . . . and now . . . Well, I'm serious, too! Mike, I wish you the best of luck with your

ad campaign and if there is some way I can help, you let me know . . .

Well, that about does it for this time - again, Frank and Chuck, wish you good fortune and much happiness and again, thanks!!

KOCH

Irvin Kock
Letter the 2nd
Undated

GERSMAN: It is not that I know so much more about N3F than anyone else, it is that there is much less to know than most people think. Practically anyone can do anything, but there is much confusion because everyone waits for everyone else.

SABELLA: Thank you for illustrating the above point.

KOCH: There is much new information on APA's. Southern Fan groups, regional groups, etc., I may be written for this at Apt 16, 440 Diplomat Blvd, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931 before 1 July 72 or to my roster (Chattanooga) address at any time.

BROOKS: N3F will not be given a room at IACON. We will have to rent our own suite off the con floor. We can do what we please with it but no one wants to take care of coffee.

MATTINGLY: Agreed.

KRING: N3F is presently discouraging new members except good workers because we lose 72¢ per year per member. Until dues are raised to \$3 a year, we can do no recruiting at all much less advertising.

HAYES

Art Hayes
Letter the 2nd
October 18, 1971
His letter # 18297

TB 69: You mention that the summer doldrums caused you to receive fewer letters. I am reminded though that I sent a few letters which were intended for use in TB but which never did see print. I'll admit that they may have been either too long or too controversial, but nevertheless I have wondered.//So have we, Art. It seemed strange to us that we hadn't heard from you. Honestly, folks, we have printed every letter that we have received, regardless of content. It would be of interest to know where they went. Sorry that we didn't get them. ccr//

Sheryl Birkhead hits the nail right on the head with an excellent and constructive criticism, that while she appreciated reading what the various activists in the club are supposed to do, she would rather read what they actually did. Now, this is the purpose of Bureaus reports and getting such a report as she requests has been what we've been trying to get all along. Generally, some Bureaus do report in this fashion, the latest and best being the Library Report. It not only gives the idea of what is intended, but takes the initiative and gives what is NOW going on and initiates greater activity for the future.

Of course, explaining to a new member who is as willing as Sheryle, what is needed, first requires that those who need help, be specific in how they can use help. This sounds like an easy thing to do, but it isn't always as easy as that.

Several of our activities are such that even though called Bureaus, are, in reality, one man shows. To split up the activity would actually create a negative aspect to it by creating delays. The help required is usually rather general. TNFF and TB require art, but to say exactly what kind of subject required takes away from

the initiative of the artist. I am not an artist. I can only say that I prefer artwork for a cover of TNFF, having some fantasy or sf theme to it. I can give a few technical bits I want, such as the art should not be done with a marking pencil, pencil or lead based inks preferred, and I can specify the space requirement. The rest is up to the artist. You require letters for TB, but again, you would be restricting the writers if you said that a particular issue was to be on one specific subject. The material discussed in the letters must be the original thoughts, right or wrong doesn't matter, of the writer. You can't write the letters for them. Fanclubs . . . what is required is information on all clubs, local or of a larger sphere of greater coverage. But there, greater information on what has been gathered is needed in our publications. Information, when it is published, is self-explanatory. I don't know what is keeping Don Franson so busy, maybe his pro-writing, but it hasn't appeared very often this year, once only. Manuscript, well, with our difficulties in acquiring someone to head it, can't be adequately covered. Negotiations are going on about this, but I can't say, at the moment, who will head the MssB.

So, a person can go down the list. Welcommittee, Correspondence, N'APA, Recruiting, NFAS, RRs, Conest (SF Story), can always make room for participants.

As for Gersman, well, since 1955 I've become used to getting few kudos in my direction and probably would be embarrassed into inactivity if they started coming my way. So, Gersman better not start something that is foreign to us.

SABELLA: I think I'll have to answer him in person. After all, that 18297 number listed at the top of my letter indicates a rather large correspondence. I'm sure Stan is close to either exceeding my level of correspondence or if not, isn't much below it. To answer all letters promptly, is impossible, unless one restricts himself to just correspondence and even then it's impossible as the more prompt one is with answers, the more letters come in until even one restricting himself to correspondence would be snowed under.

D. JONES: Biographies on Authors? It's an idea but like all good ideas, someone must follow it up. Who will write them?

Ken Scher summarizes the N3F about as well as anyone has in a long time.

CCR

A Final Word

It is with mixed emotions that I type this last page of TB. ,

I have so many things that I must be doing that I don't have time to spend doing this type of thing (which everyone must admit can be very time consuming).

Yet I am going to miss hearing from those that have found time to write. I'll especially miss the gentle philosophy of Alma Hill, the horrible puns of Gersman, the forceful thrusting of Irving Koch, the letters from Art Hayes typed on the back of what looks like a computer printout sheet, the bright, sharpness of Mike Scott's letters - just to mention a few.

I feel like I somehow know all of you. In a way I'm glad that I haven't met any of you. Only because in my mind I have a mental picture of each of you that I wouldn't want to destroy. You are all like characters in a story - a most fascinating and alive story. I can create the rest of your lives for you just as if I were writing a story about each of you.

Thank each of you for letting me be a part of those stories.

Best wishes for the Christmas Season. May God be as kind to each of you in the coming year as he has been to me this past year. ccr//R

LATENEFFERNEWS

I don't have great gobs of news this time, primarily due to the fact that we are running late. Our last issue and for the first time we are late. So I'll start out with new members and a list of changes of address.

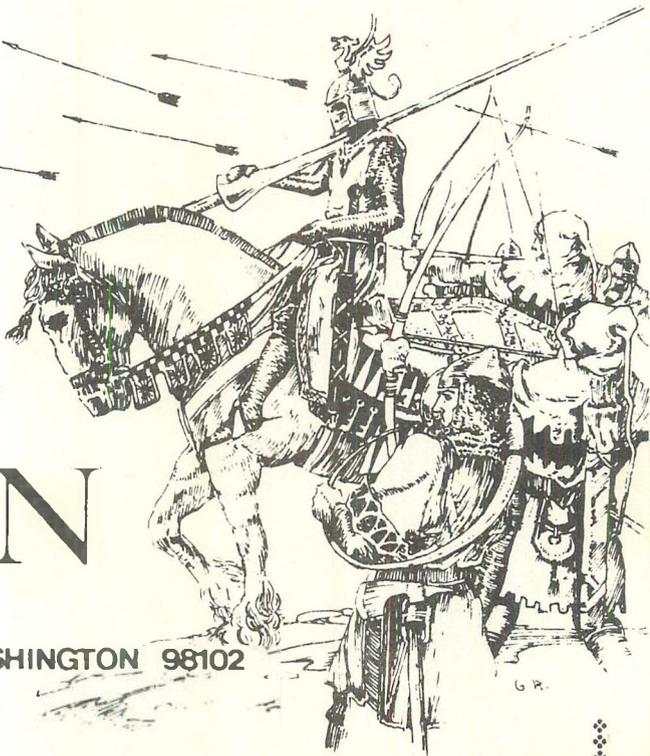
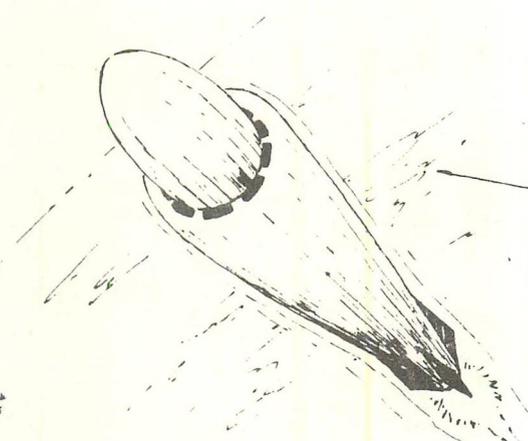
NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Antonio Dupla, P.O. Ma. Augustin 9, Saragoza, Spain
Mrs. Nancy Dodds, Rt. 1, Eddyville, KY 42038
Richard Trout, 918 Main St., Bethlehem, PA 18018
Billie Reid, 1107 Shelby Ave., Nashville, TN 37206
J. Grant Thiessen, 28-1050 Moncton Ave., Winnipeg 15, Manitoba, Canada
Benjamin P. Indick, 428 Sgamore Ave., Teaneck, NJ 07666
D. Wilchowy, 1021 Talbot Ave., Winnipeg 5, Manitoba, Canada
Jeffrey S. Anderson, 1707 Sebring St., N.W., Huntsville, AL 35805
LaRRY Nielson, 1506 N. San Antonio, Pomona, CA 91767
David W. Shank, 30 East Laurel, Lawrence, MA 01843
Dwight L. Raulston, 6418 Auden, Houston, TX 77005
Bee O'Dell, 1554 State Line, Calumet City, IL 60409
Jay Cornell, Jr., 213 West Residence St., Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, MI 49242
P.L. Garuthers, 19 S. Tucker, #7, Memphis, TN 38104
Buzz Dixon, 3147 Ridgecrest Dr., Madisonville, TN 37354
Sean K. Summers, 78 Mathews St., Columbus, GA 31903
Marguerite H. Coriell, 6657 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64121
Wally Gonser, 10257 - 5th Ave. S.W., Seattle, WA 98146
Joseph Schaumburger, 1836 Longview Ct., Teaneck, NJ 07666

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Gary S. Mattingly, 210 Marlatt Hall, KSU, Manhattan, KS 66502
Richard A. Friedman, 7 Brighton 10th, Brooklyn, NY 11235
George R. Frerich, Jr., P.O. Box 746, Kingman, AR 86401
Garth Danielson, 20-327 Edison Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R2G OL9, Canada
Ron Wilson, 1937 Maple Ave. N.E., Canton, OH 44714
George Wells, 24 River Ave., Riverhead, NY 11901
Ted Olzewski, 544 Leonard St., Brooklyn, NY 11222
Alma Hill, 78 Summer St., Natick, MA 01760
David K. Patrick, 27 Silver Birch Rd., Turnersville, NJ 08012
ERIS, % D.K. Patrick, 27 Silver Birch Rd., Turnersville, NJ 08012
Sandra Deckinger, 447 - 15th Ave., Apt. 12, San Francisco, CA 94118
Irvin Koch, 835 Chattanooga Bank Bldg., Chattanooga, TN 37402

The attached flyer from Horizon Books of Seattle is a favor for a friend. Don Glover, owner of the shop, is a science fiction fan and a member of The Nameless, Seattle's science fiction group. He has just opened his book shop in the front rooms of his home within the last few months and is willing to help collectors to find the items for which they are looking, particularly in the field of science fiction. I hope you will keep him in mind and write to him for those special items.



HORIZON BOOKS

425 15TH AVE. EAST SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98102
1-206-329-3586

HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT BOOKS. HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT ALL KINDS OF BOOKS:!!!!!!
HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT PAPERBACK BOOKS AND HARDCOVER BOOKS, LEATHERBOUND BOOKS
AND A PARCHMENT BOUND BOOK, BOOKS THAT ARE OLD (1615 ON UP)
AND BOOKS THAT ARE LIKE NEW (SEPTEMBER 71 AND ON DOWN * YOU DRAW
THE LINE), BOOKS FOR THE INTELLECTUAL, THE PSEUDO*INTELLECTUAL,
AND THE NON*INTELLECTUAL, BOOKS FOR THE PROFESSOR, THE T.A.,
THE STUDENT AND THE FREAK, BOOKS FOR "THE RAT-UPON, SPAT-UPON,
SAT-UPON, AND MISUSED," BOOKS FOR THE CLERGYMAN, BUSINESS MAN,
ESTABLISHMENT MAN, LAYMAN, LAID MAN, LAID*UP MAN, BOOKS FOR EVEN
DINGHYMAN (Q. WAIT A MINUTE * WHO'S HE? A. STICK AROUND AND
FIND OUT * ONE THINGS FOR SURE * HE MAKES THE WHEELS GO ROUND.)
BOOKS YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN, BOOKS YOU CAN'T PICK UP (ANYWHERE ELSE)
BOOKS YOU CAN PASTE PICTURES IN, BOOKS YOU CAN PUT COINS AND
STAMPS IN (EVEN A COUPLE OF POCKETBOOK BOOKS, I.E. WALLETS, THAT
YOU CAN PUT FOLDING MONEY IN), BOOKS YOU CAN GET INTO AND BOOKS
YOU CAN'T GET OUT OF, BOOKS YOU CAN GET IT ON WITH, BOOKS THAT
ARE ILLUSTRATED AND BOOKS THAT AREN'T, BOOKS THAT MIGHT BE WORTH
SOMETHING IF YOU WROTE OR DREW IN THEM BUT OTHERWISE NOT, BOOKS
YOU'LL LIKE, BOOKS THAT ARE OLD FRIENDS, BOOKS THAT YOU MAY
VIOLENTLY DISAGREE WITH. HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT BOOKS FOR YOU.

HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT RECORDS. NEED I REALLY TELL YOU WHAT KIND OF RECORDS
HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT.

HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT A LOT OF OTHER THINGS TO * FROM COINS AND MEDALS AND PINS
AND BUTTONS TO ORIGINAL OILS AND OLD COMIC BOOKS.

HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT AUDACITY AND SOMETHING ELSE TOO.....

HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT HOURS: 12 - 9 MONDAY * FRIDAY
12 - 7 SATURDAY

HORIZON BOOKS HAS GOT AN ADDRESS * THE ABOVE MENTIONED * THE CREST OF
CAPITOL HILL



