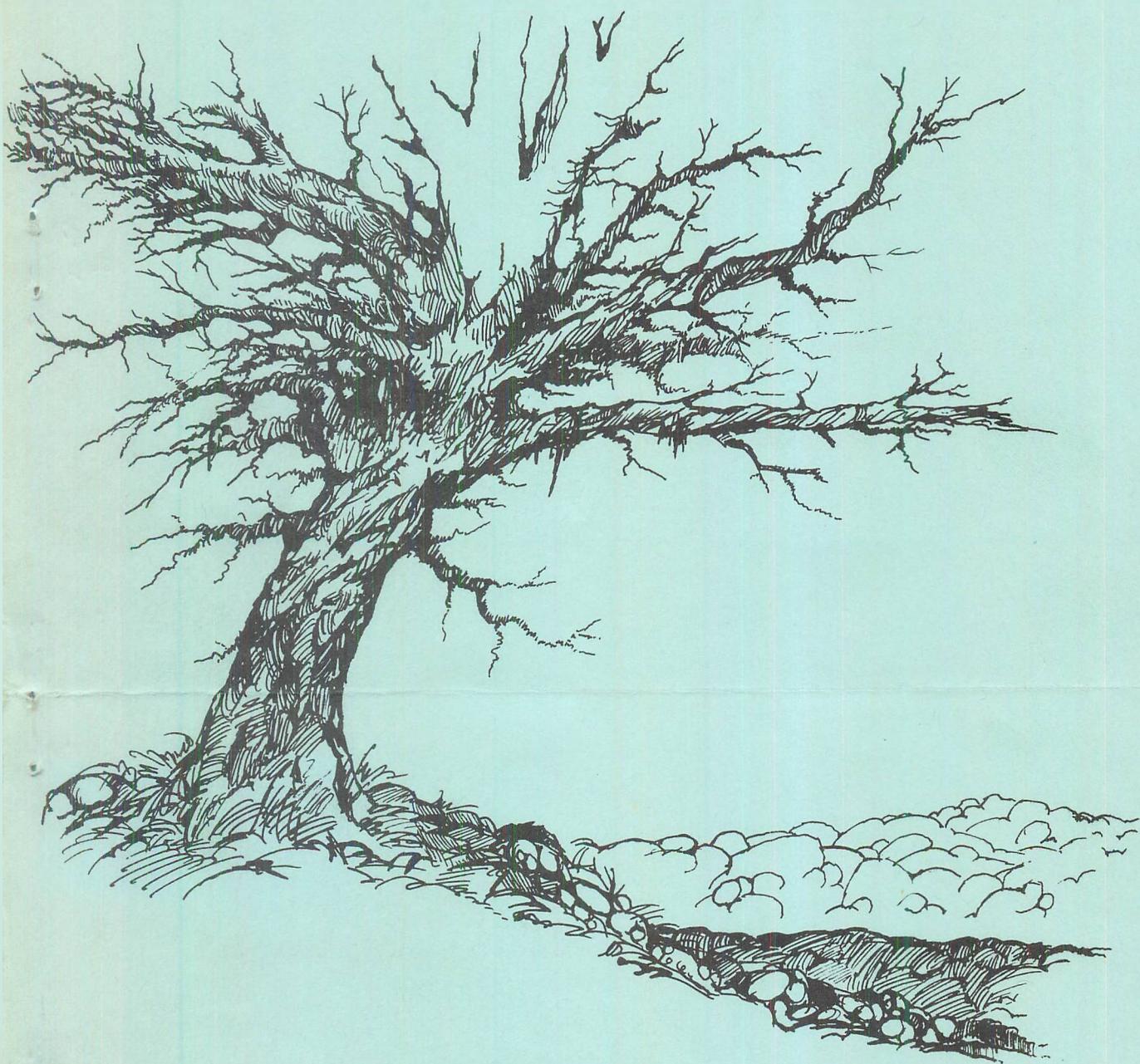


1/72



STEPHEN RILEY • 1962

TIGHTBEAM 71
TIGHTBEAM 71
TIGHTBEAM 71
TIGHTBEAM 71

Dear Neffer:

Between the time that I printed the issue and mailed the issue, I got a letter from Stan Woolston who said:

"I know that Verne F. O'Brien was listed in the last TB to be the upcoming editor for issue #72. Verne just wrote to me and he says that he has become involved with three fanzines and won't have room to take on one with a set schedule..."

"Anyone who writes to me will have their letter sent on to the next editor of the letterzine, so you can list my name and address if as the place to send loc's for Tightbeam #72."

So, send all your massive miss missives to: Stan Woolston; 12832 Westlake Street; Garden Grove, California 92640.

IF ANYONE OUT THERE WOULD LIKE TO DO AN ISSUE OF TB, PLEASE WRITE TO STAN NOTIFYING HIM OF SUCH. TB NEEDS AN EDITOR (EVEN A TEMPORARY ONE) FOR TIGHTBEAM!

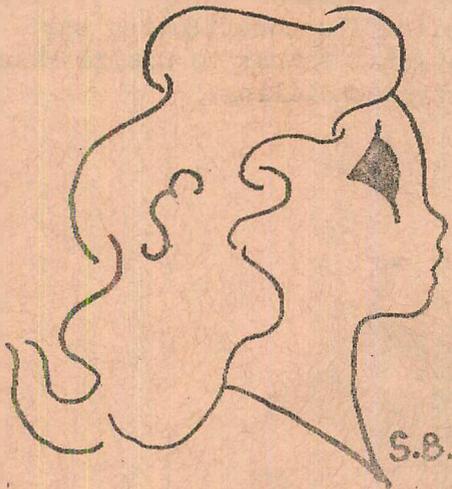
... Best Always--

George W. Blahm

THANKS GO TO: Frank Denton & Stan Woolston for advice, assistance and other offerings; to Steve Riley who was absolutely no trouble at all in matters of art, and to Ronn Sutton, Sheryl Birkhead, Riley, BB Sams, Phil Hawkins and James Keller for contributing spot illustrations. An extra special thanks to Claire Mason who arranged for the electrostencilling.

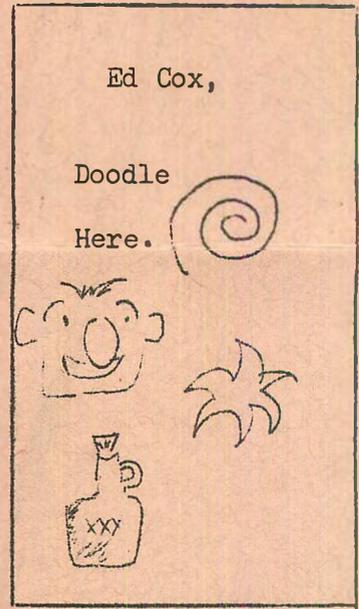


TABLE OF CONTENTS



Tightbeam #71, January-February 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 for other science fiction fanzines. Persons mentioned in passing are invited to comment, regardless of membership status. Contributions should be sent to Mr. Verne F. O'Brien; 1320 Arthur Avenue; Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 no later than the deadlnne, February 15, 1972. All N3F members are encouraged, prodded and otherwise asked to add their two bits for the next issue.

The Editor Speaks.....	page 1
Thanks Go To:.....	acknowledgements...page 2
Tables of Contents.....	page 3
Double Jeopardy.....	dialog.....page 4
Robert Gernsman, Rose M. Hogue.....	by Keller.....page 5
Alma Hill.....	She does her thing!.....page 6
Alma Hill.....	Still Doing her Thing!.....page 7
Alma Hill.....	Finishes her thing!.....page 8
Irvin Koch.....	Kochian Logic...art by Rotsler...page 9
Ken Scher....	NESFAS List.....art by BB Sams.....page 10
David Shank....	Palaver.....art by Phil Hawkins.....page 11
Stan Woolston....	the Big Guru speaks!...art by Sutton...page 12
Woolston's Carboniferous Newsletter.....	page 13
Sean Summers, George Wells...	Sorcerer's Apprentices...page 14
George Wells....	descendant of H.G. Wells.....page 15
Plugs and other Pretentions.....	page 16



THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION 1972

President: Stan Woolston; 12832 Westlake Street; Garden Grove, California 92640

Sect-Treas.:Janie the Lamb; Route 1, Box 364; Heiskell, Tennessee 37754

Directorate Chairman: Joanne Burger; 55 Blue Bonnet Ct;Lake Jackson,Texas 77566

Directorate:Art Hayes;Box 1030;South Porcupine, Ontario, Canada

K. Martin Carlson;1028 Third Ave. So.;Moorhead,MN. 56560

Gary S. Mattingly;210 Marlatt Hall;Kansas State University;*

James Corrick III;2116 Lake Avauue;Knoxville, Tennessee 37916

*Manhattan, Kansas 66502

THE EDITOR SPEAKS

Hello--

Welcome to Tightbeam. Once again, we have a change of hands in the people who publish TB. I've been in SF fandom for less than a year but my memory can vividly recall the wonderful times I've had with SF fandom and especially, the enjoyment derived from activity in the N3F. Many people join the N3F with the erroneous conception of: "What can the club do for me?" rather than the correct conception of: "What can I do for the club?" Any member can sit back, see his name appear on the roster and await the regular N3F publications but only a fraction of those members ever get up and do something for the club. I'm not advocating that each member become super active but I am advocating that each member try and do something for the club--however small the effort may be. A simple loc or thanks to the Tightbeam editor or to Art Hayes for publishing TNFF would at least assure the publishers that the member is interested in the publication. How many people write to Elaine Wojciechoski for her work in sending out a birthday card to neffers? Very few. How many reciprocate and send her a card on her birthday? Even less...How many people write to Stan Woolston for the things that he has done to make this club a real one instead of a club in name only? Very few. How many people drop a line to Joanne Burger for her devotion to preserving radio shows on tape? How many people write to Janie Lamb and congratulate her on the work she has done in the secretarial field for the N3F? Again, very few. For we, being human, do not recognize one of the greatest things that can occur: One person unselfishly giving his/her time to further a cherished cause. In this case the cause is the N3F and it is always a handful of the same people who do most of the work.

If you have ever published a fanzine (especially one that must be on schedule) then you know of the work that goes into each issue of TB: Burning the midnight oil to meet the deadline; hours upon hours of reading letters, editing them, rereading them; sorting the ones to be used; searching for art to be used; gnashing teeth upon finding out that no art is to be had; spending more hours typing the stencils; spending time at the mimeo machine adjusting the ink, feeding paper and finally having the pages printed and of course collating the thing and stuffing them into envelopes with neat little stamps on the upper right hand corner. Frank and Chuck deserve profuse thanks for putting out a very enjoyable zine that was a joy to behold. Together they published 6 issues of TB--#65-70--one years worth.

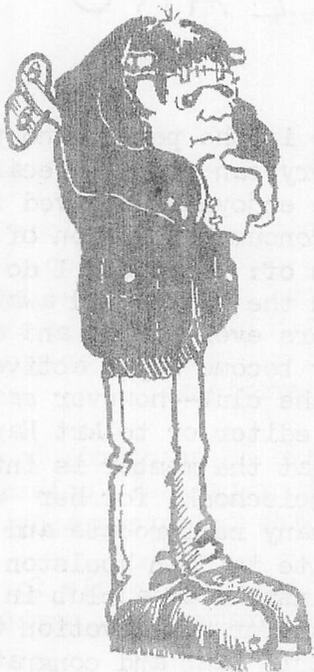
I wish you both Frank and Chuck the very best in all their future endeavors and I know all the neffers echo my sentiments. Thanks!

I hope you enjoy the art in this issue--intended to balance the art with the text. A loud cheer goes to Stephen Riley for doing an excellent custom cover on short notice and to all the other artists who did their bit to add graphics to this issue.

This issue, by the way, is the 1st and the last issue that I will be editing. It has been a labor or love and I hope you all enjoy it. The next editor for Tightbeam is Mr. Verne F. O'Brien; 1320 Arthur Avenue; Las Vegas, Nevada 89101. The deadline for the March-April issue is: FEBRUARY 15, 1972.

Since the N3F is supposed to promote friendship, why not help some of the fans by listing the names and addresses of neffers along with a short description of their likes and interests? This way, neffers would be able to see who matches up with their own interests and correspondence could be started. I'm serious about this idea and would welcome your opinion.

DOUBLE JEOPARDY



George: *Yawn!* Hey Tightbeam, you monster, wake up! Time to rise and shine!

TB: Leave me alone! Let me sleep! (looks at the calendar) By Ghu! The deadline approaches! No wonder all the typing, writing and typos for the last two weeks!

George: Yeah. For the first and the last time, I'm editing you...you are too much trouble!

TB: What's the matter with you? If you were a trufan, it wouldn't bother you! The sheer joy of all that typing, corfluing, printing, collating, stapling me--how romantic! What sheer fun!

George: P-tui! All you had to do was sit back and listen to the staples creaking in the wind while I covered your ornery carcass with that sensuous black ink...

TB: "Hey, you really went first class with the cover!"

"Yup. Steve Riley did that custom job just for TB!"

"Talented young fan...say, doesn't he also publish PULP?"

"Yup. The same Steve Riley."

"Oh Wow! Lookity all the art by Ronn Sutton! Really fine stuff there!"

"Yeah. Ronn is quite talented--and I'm glad he decided to grace your pages."

"Gads, art by Birkhead, Riley, Hawkins and *choke!* even BB Sams and Rotsler!"

"Yeah. Kinda makes you look better."

"Hey...what is this? You practically butchered almost every letter!"

"Edited, TB, not butchered..."

"They aren't gonna like that...they are going to complain!"

"It ain't me babe. Unwritten Rule #2 in fandom: He who complains about the zine must publish the next issue to emulate the zine he complained about."

"Good Ghu! Too make things worse, you didn't even mail the issues in an envelope!"

"'Coundn't afford it. Much too expensive!"

"Oh."

TB: "Hey, who is going to take care of me nexish? As far as I can recall, Labowitz fondled me for a year, Denton and Chuck took care of me for another year and now you cop out with one lousy issue!"

"Yup one issue. That's it. Much too busy. Anyway, Verne O'Brien has got you for an issue--he is an ex-marine so he isn't going to play around! You are going to be moving!"

"Just the way I want it."

"I hope he decides to publish for at least a year. It's a chore but he could do it pretty well!"

"A true fan...."

"Every inch."

"I noticed that you printed Woolston's 'Carboniferous Newsletter'...wasn't that supposed to be in TNFF?"

"Yes, but Stan foolishly gave the news to me and I just had to publish it!"

"Well, in all these years, there's been a lot said about Stan--some good and bad. I've yet to see a better man--he is a giant among us."

"Definitely a fact of life. Let's not forget all the other active neffers:

Joanne Burger, Janie the Lamb, Art Hayes..."

"Yeah..." "Thanks for publishing me this issue..." "It's been fun..." "Beahm: Write on..."

Robert W. Gersman; 3135 Pennsylvania;
St. Louis, Missouri 63118

Dear George,

As the sun sinks in the west, we bid fond
farewell to Frank and Chuck.

SCOTT: I like that word, "nebulous", Koch
has made his pre-campaign speech, but
what it boils down to is that we have to
take a chance with him just like any
other person and see whether or not he
lives up to his promises.

Today's films have no standards to judge
anything by past or present, unless you
are comparing notes on pornography.

BIRKHEAD: Why don't you doodle for
children's books? That's a big market!
The cover is cute.

SCHER.: Yes, why not?: A VOTE OF THANKS
FOR ALMA HILL'S WORK IN THE HOSPITALITY
ROOM!

As for you, Scher, may Lovecraft
come back and haunt you. More Lovecraft
you should read before expressing an

opinion. Have you read them all? Lovecraft's work kept Arkham house going and in-
spired Der. leth to write.

CHUCK: Are you saying my letters were pun-geant rather than smelly? Well, anyway,
just because you don't edit doesn't mean you can't correspond in TB.

Rose M. Hogue; 1067 W. 26th St.; San Pedro, California 90731.

Dear George,

Very muchly enjoyed Sheryl's fantastic mushroom man cover and it really set me into
a holiday mood--candy cane lettering of "TB" yet!! I do so enjoy light, entertaining
art! Am so glad that Sheryl has found something to do within the N3f and do so
look forward to more of her art!

The ideas Irvin Koch mentioned for the Membership Activities Bureau to act as a con
info clearing center--ie. setting up rides/charters & helping with room sharing
arrangements--really sounds great. Also like the idea of having some Neffer in
laison with different Cons...will help to keep the N3F informed more of the cons &
activities therein. I do hope that people take advantage of Irv's kind offers!

MIKE SCOTT: I like your artwork! And you did a most excellent job with "Collector's
Bulletin"--I'm looking forward to the next one! And thank you for the holiday wishes!

GERNSMAN: You're your usual salty self...How dare you say, "All I can say for John
is that he inspired the motion picture, 'The Thing'"...He did write several more
short stories than just "Who Goes There" and you don't even mention Analog...

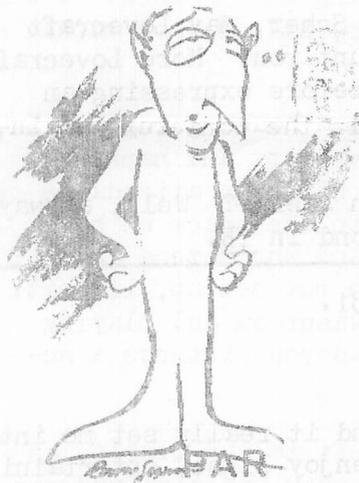
Again, Sheryl, I love your cover!

KEN SCHER: Your "interim" bureau reports in TB are OK with me--in fact, most bureaus that have news to dispense should do so through TB as well as TNFF--I agree that news does tend to age all too fast. Also, mention of a bureau in TB will show that the bureau is still active and this is itself is a good thing. I wish you much luck with NFAS and the fannish dictionary thingy!

Muchly enjoyed Alma's Noreascon report! Sounds like you did a lot of work, Alma, and I agree with Ken--here's my VOTE OF THANKS! I am in agreement with the N3F Room designation rather than "Hospitality Room". Also the door/escutcheon thingy sounded really great!! Hope to see one at LA Con. Speaking of which, wouldn't it be a good idea to appoint a Hostess/con representative/steward for LA Con now rather than in July? Also, I don't feel it is too early to start collecting pbs, prozines, fanzines and games to have on hand for the N3F Room--any Calif. based fan care to do do? Again Alma, you did a great job! And sounds like you had fun at it too!

KOCH: Why don't you propose to raise the dues to \$3 per year? Which brings to mind the fact there really have been no controverseys about dues in ages..well, months anyway..

((Ken's new updated interim report on NFAS is published later this.//Also, how does one pronounce "LA CON?" Would you say, "lay-con" or would it be "Ell-Ay Con?"--gwb))



ALMA HILL: 78 Summer Street;
Natick, Massachusetts 01760 (note COA)

Dear Tightbeam:

For a change, let's be fair to Stan Woolston & therewith be fair to ourselves. Whats the greatest thing the N3F does, has been doing ever since it was founded? We provide moral support, as among reasonable people, for such enterprises as seem reasonable to us. On that basis, Stan has been a great President. If a project doesn't seem reasonable to Stan, maybe he knows something the projector hasn't thought of. That's part of Stan's job, isn't it? In this club, we can't go out and hire help, so our executive department has to wait for volunteers and then decide how much to risk. Again and again, we've had volunteers for publishing who failed to come through; some didn't even

explain why (feeling a bit embarrassed) or returned the material entrusted to them. More have enjoyed our projects (I always have) and been able to hold up our end ok. With such activities, Stan has always been generous with encouragement. Once in a while, I've even knowhim to be prompt with disoouragement that was thoroughly called for.

So it looks as if Stan really understands this club. He should; he's seen us through vicissitudes for thousands of years microcosmic time. He must have found out some things about what works and what doesn't. Those things don't always appear to the first glance. Yet as this club is so worthwhile, in its own odd fashion, unique in the Microcosm, it must have some values that are worth looking into. So instead of looking around for some person to blame, oneself or anyone else, if we don't seem be accomplishing enough -- why not look around and see who else is doing as much in our own specialities?

With all the space to operate in, why have we no competition? I hear it said that there is an agency which duplicates any service of ours, yet a check down the list does not confirm this criticism. In any case, we would cheerfully carry news of such agencies, in our usual role of moral supporters. Who duplicates that role?

This doesn't mean that we agree with every idea we hear of, just that we give them a hearing. For instance, I want to argue with Ned Brooks, but as you shall see, it comes out to a better understanding of what can be done as a practical measure -- which is what we are both thinking about, actually:

NED BROOKS: You have long been with this club and a winner by nature, so when you have something to say, it deserves careful consideration. But once in awhile you oversimplify, and you know the physical universe retains its ramifications whether or not they are being looked at. So as I know, it is not "a lot of crap" about the big bad hotel not letting us serve coffee in our own clubroom, please give me a hearing and I'll fill in some of the details.

To begin with, any con hotel, if equipped to serve refreshments at all (& usually they are) will do so, but at a price. Right now, our dues hardly covers the rising cost of postage and paper for publications, so how do we figure to serve coffee to hundreds of people at catering prices? The last time I looked, it was 35¢ a serving, and this year it must be more; we didn't dare look. So if we have a room on the con floor, the hotel will usually insist on serving any food there and this is what I understood about this hotel this year. Later I heard some hints that they would look the other way but I want things clear cut and well understood about such matters. So I didn't bother with curves around corners. Call me wrong if you will, but I refused that gambit without even consulting the members. I did, however, consult Stan and some ex-hostesses, including Janie, all of whom backed my opinion about this.

Now supposing we had appeared in the Sheraton-Boston, in the conference area, with our famous coffee urn full of hot water, plenty of paper cups and napkins, instant coffee and so on, it would have cost much less, but still an attendance of 1600 is formidable. About all we could have had room for, in the space we had, would be a long folding table and a few folding chairs. And who'd tend bar? I'm over 65 now, folks, warned all hands that I couldn't do much but set up, if that. Can you picture me fetching buckets of hot water from some washroom and playing counter girl day and night for a long weekend? Much less, can you picture a supporting cast of members doing that?

The setup for us has to be one that can be set up and left to run itself, as our famous urn (when practical) has done. So what makes it okay one time and not another? We're coming to that now.

At a small con, or in a suite, given funds voted or donated, an instant-coffee bar with simple refreshments may be practical. That should be left, shouldn't it, to the people on the spot and on the job?

Certainly there are other matters about our clubroom, which have to be taken care of first. We hold a meeting once a year--we have to have the premises free for that. Non-members would mostly be bored. This year, I offered "honorary membership for the weekend" to a few such strays, and one accepted and stayed. He had highly polished shoes, but so do some other fans.

Anyway, we offer the best hospitality to fans when we offer a chance to sit down and talk. So first of all we have to have some comfortable chairs and lots of ash trays. I had funds to tip the porters and they were most obliging. We also like table games,

and had two chess tables and a card table. We also like a bulletin board for messages, and we can usually provide free reading matter by way of fannish decoration. But first and last, we like to meet other fans, Neffers and non-members, it doesn't matter. We are very communicative people, otherwise we couldn't sustain an organization that meets mostly by mail. So this meeting in person is something that helps us to maintain our own territory and enjoy it. Only when this is set up in good shape can we offer hospitality worth having, and as other fans are also communicative people, conversation comes first with them also, coffee last--if at all.

That being so, and you know it's so, why do we accept this label of "Hospitality Room" as if our justification for being at a con is some form of restaurant service? Next year, let's get off on the right foot instead. We know what has worked out well and how to work it. Ideally, we should have a corner suite in the room area, and there we might serve some kind of space rations. That's something to work out with the one on the job (you? He Who Suggests Idea Shall be Chairman of the Project--unwritten club rule #1) but in a corner suite there is less traffic; there is a handy supply of water; there is a living room already furnished with nice chairs; so refreshments on the side are at least not out of consideration.

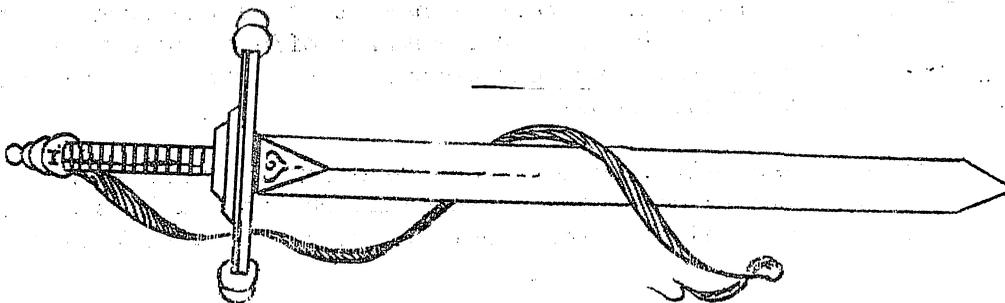
Sometimes a hotel will furnish some space free to cons, and I asked about that about this year but was turned down hard, not out of any discourtesy of course but on a basis of what the hotel would and would not do. And as we had a donated room in the conference area, it did not occur to our directors to vote funds. I thought of hiring a suite myself and wished later that I had, but as my personal means are limited, I hope to be excused for chickening out on that one. A clubroom in the conference area can and should be set up as an open lounge for reading, games, conversation. It makes a nice extra, and pleases many, offends none--if that is all we have.

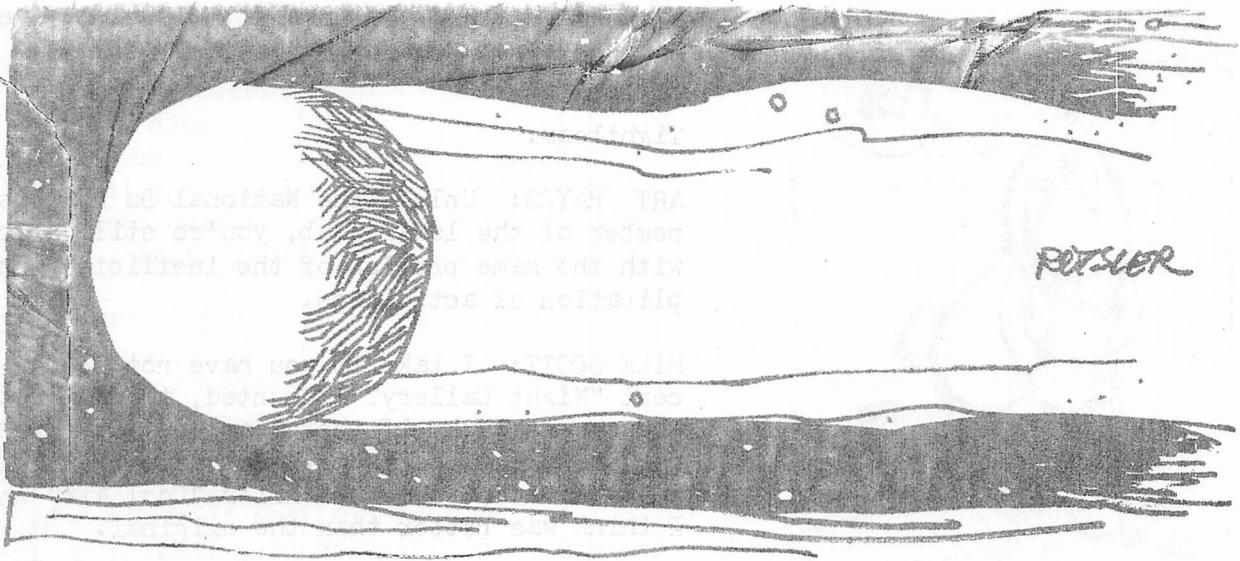
Ideally, we should have both-- one lounge mostly used by day, handy to the program area, and one mostly used afterwards, handy to the room area. Only in the latter are refreshments practical, and even then, we should leave that to current circumstances. Ned, this is not just one person's opinion. Ask all the other ex-hostesses. I did. This is inherently a hospitable club, only first we have to be practical.

So now, we come to your suggestion of a cold drink. I suggest three: 1) iced coffee in pitchers with ice cubes 2) powdered chocolate milk with water and, 3) orange concentrated drink with water. This circumvents the waiting for the urn to boil, and might be more popular at a Labor Day con, when the weather is apt to be still very warm. It makes sense IF and ONLY IF we are first in charge of what you call "our own" territory--not set up as a public service only.

Want any more details? I know plenty. Hoping this info contributes to the most enjoyable time yet, next con. We have invariably been serviceable to all cons when we had any action at all. It's just that it would be nicer if our main service (moral support) shows up the MOST.

Sincerely,
Alma Hill





IRVIN KOCH: Chatanooga Bank Bldg; Chattanooga, Tenn. 37402
(oops! that's 835 C. Bank Bldg.)

Greetings Beahm and Tightbeam:

First, I need to repeat th. I came out with last ish: 1) Anyone having rides to give, rooms to share, or wanting busses or planes to charter--or wanting a ride or room--at any con...use the N3F Membership Activities Bu as a clearing house. The same goes for getting workers for fannish activities or setting up new N3F activities. 2) We need people to act as liaison with all the zillion con coms and local clubs in the US for N3F. This only requires wearing an N3F tag at activities, having N3F material to pass out, and providing info to N3F. I'll take care of coordinating this if you will write me. Of course, 1) can also be done via advance in Kaymar Trader ((TNFF--gwb)) and, 2) can be done by writing to Stan.

SCOTT: Surely you've got to allow me to say something or else we can't have any election campaign at all.

SCHER: Right. A true "regional" club, like Southern Fandom Confederation, meets very seldom if at all and does most of its business by mail while a local club, like my "?" Club (which spans at least 100 miles) is supposed to have scheduled meetings. Also a regional usually has local clubs tied in to it, like the Carolinda Fan's Federation, while a local is one single group. The clubs you mention on the East Coast are all locals even if they call themselves otherwise and have people come to meetings from far away; if they had separate chapters in different cities which had separate meetings then they would really be regionals. More people with projects like your fancyclopedia are needed. Keep up the good work.

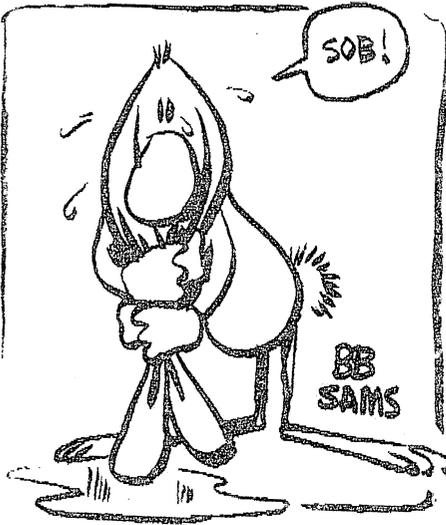
KRING: Be sure to advertise hardest to get new members capable of publishing long runs (400+ copies) TNFFs and TBs.

CCR & Denton: See you at LA Con and thanks for the great zines.

(Oh, the Chattanooga address is good wherever I am.)

((Isn't there a fancyclopedia already out? So, that fan dictionary by Scher would only be a duplication effort, right?--gwb))

KEN SCHER: 3119 Mott Avenue;
Far Rockaway, New York 11691



Tightbeam:

ART HAYES: Unless the National Bu Head is a member of the local club, you're still stuck with the same problem of the inefficient duplication of activities.

MIKE SCOTT: I take it you have not seen a recent "Night Gallery?" Granted, those first 4 shows were lucky if there was one good episode per show, but the latest ones have been quite good. A recent show had HPL's "Cool Air" that I think was better than the original.

GERSMAN: I disagree about Derleth being more missed than Campbell. If only because more people read Analog than read Arkham House books. Of course, Derleth will also be mourned by mundanes who liked his prarie books. As I

said, except for HPL and Arkham House fen, Derleth won't hardly be missed.

SHERYL BIRKHEAD: Ignore what she says group, I've seen her art and it's good.

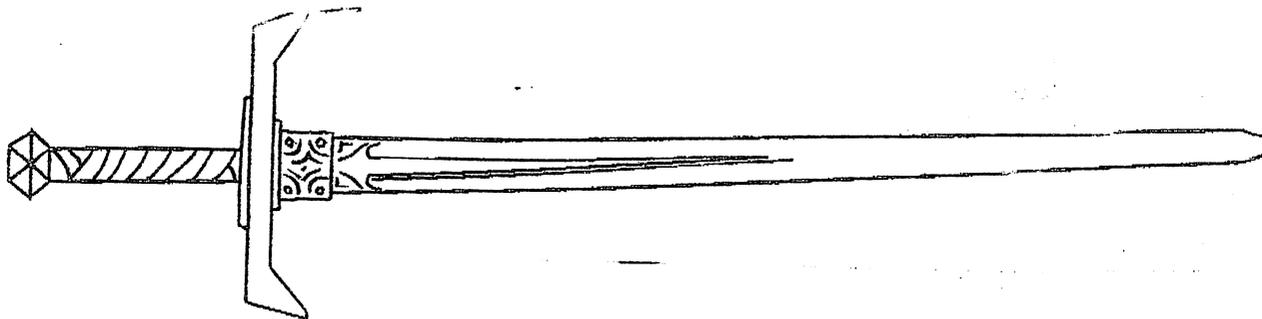
ALMA HILL: Well, you've certainly answered my question, but tell me, are you satisfied with the cooperation that you got from the Bu's?

ROSE HOGUE: Judging from my own experience, it is the Bu heads that should be sparking the members. Face it, the N3F has a membership largely made up of neos who haven't found their feet in fandom yet. It is up to the Bu heads to spark their members...give them ideas for activities until they can develop their own. (At first, I was almost completely inactive, for the simple reason that I lacked the background and resources to be an effective member; I have since developed both, but at the time, I didn't even know what I didn't know.

INTERIM NEW FANZINE APPRECIATION SOCIETY REPORT

1. Ken Scher; 3119 Mott Avenue; Far Rockaway, New York 11691
2. Stan Woolston; 12832 Westlake Street; Garden Grove, California 92640
3. Joe Siclari; 1951 N. Meridian Road, #54; Tallahassee, Florida 32304
4. Paul Cass; 1418 Trestle Glen Road; Oakland, California 94610
5. Sp/4 E. Dean Sweatman; 460-72-3989; HHC 1st Bde; 25th Inf. Div.; APO SF 96557
6. Mike Scott; Box 2043, Alhambra, California 91803
7. Sheryl Birkhead; 23629 Woodfield Road; Gaithersburg, Maryland 20760
8. Jeff S. Anderson; 1707 Sebring Street, NW.; Huntsville, Alabama 35805
9. Richard Trout; 918 Main Street; Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018
10. Robert Gersman; 3135 Pennsylvania; St. Louis, Missouri 63118
11. Mike Ramage; P.O. Box 750; Huntsville, Texas 77340
12. Sean Summers; 78 Mathews Street; Columbus, Georgia 31903
13. Garth Danielson; 20-327 Edison Avenue; Winnipeg, Manitoba; CANADA
14. Ben P. Indick; 428 Sagamore Avenue; Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

(PS-Just because you have to respond to every fanzine you get ((via contrib, loc or a trade)) you don't have to have a favorable response. If you don't like the zine, say so! If you don't like the zine because of its subject matter, simply request the fanned to not send copies to you.)



DAVID SHANK

: 30 East Laurel Street; Lawrence, Mass. 01843

Dear Tightbeam:

Neffers Joanne Burger referred you to me as one who would help me in my wish to correspond by letters with other Neffers. I am interested in: New Wave writing; Isaac Asimov's works; science in sf; SF history--especially the post Wells era; fan art by Kirk, Rotsler & Co; and in sf in TV and the cinema.

GERSMAN: Derleth and Campbell are both to be missed. Both devoted significant time to their favorite fields and they are equally important. John Campbell kept the spirit of true science fiction alive and heavily promoted it. He made it what it is today. He is more worthy than Gernsback, I feel, who only contributed the Hugo. If Hugo Gernsback wasn't around to start the "first" SF zine, someone else would. August Derleth kept weird fiction popular by making it more popular to the hungry public. And if it wasn't for Derleth, many fantasy artists would be left obscure. For now, Lin Carter with his Adult Fantasy series is the newest major resource for fantasy.

DANIELSON: What embarrasses the hell out of me when I buy comix is the model car ads plastered all over the back cover.

((I think that more Neffers who are interested in correspondence should write to TB and summarise their interests so that other members may see if their own interests coincide and then correspondence can ensue. This is, perhaps, the best way for a neofan to inform his fellow fans of his interest.

Also, your point on the value of Gernsback is somewhat invalid. True, if he didn't edit the first SF zine, then someone else would have--but, how many years later would that be? Would the zine be as good as Gernsback's? Would he have done it in the inimitable style that Gernsback did it in? Also, he didn't "contribute" the Hugo. It was named in honor of him after he died--it was a posthumous award.

Also, Lin Carter is not the newest major source of fantasy. Most of his editing (if not all) encompasses past classics--no new material. (with a couple of exceptions) For fantasy, one can turn to the prozines, paperbacks or special prozines that specialize in that sort of thing: Coven 13, Witchcraft & Sorcery, Forgotten Fantasy; Magazine of Horror, ad infinitum.

Lastly, all fans should mourn the deaths of Cambbell and Derleth. They wrre both great losses to the sf & f field--losses that will never be filled. Instead of moaning that one death was "more important" than the other, mourn them both and let's hope it doesn't happen to strike other leading giants in the sf & f field with alarming ferquency.--gwb))

STAN WOOLSTON

12832 Westlake Street;
Garden Grove, Calif. 92640.

Dear Tightbeam:

Many fans get involved in writing letters, then in writing for fanzines, and have professional sales in mind as a goal. Of course, N3F has activities in all these areas.

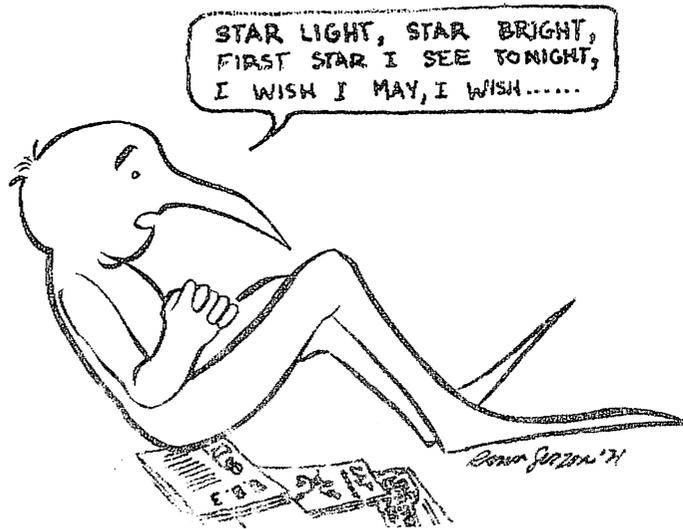
Alma Hill has written me about the people in her Writer's exchange who have circulated copies of their stories to get the perspective of other's pointers on their strong and weak points and how to make them stronger--and then sent them to the annual SF and Fantasy short story contest N3F sponsors. The results of the 1971 contest should be known soon, but I can say this now: Howard DeVore volunteers to run it again in 1972, so he'll deserve a double thanks from us! Repeaters of this sort probably will find it easier to do a second time.

Robert Gersman, who took on the Manuscript Bureau recently, will be glad to get fiction, articles and essays--and of course, other things like literary criticism and reviews. The habit of writing regularly is important for the pro, and it can be important in fandom too. There are many approaches to criticism and review, and it seems most fanzines use some material of this sort. It's possible to do both review and criticism on an item; if it is done well, it will not be repetitious, and fan-editors really need good material at all times. Articles on SF, fandom, and almost anything is appreciated too--and there is no reason a fan should not keep an envelope handy with Gersman's address on it, to be sent to the Bureau, and then do another envelope addressing for things done the next week or month. Fanzine contributions on a regular basis can give you good habits in case you plan to be a pro.

Two members have written recently about "chain letters" involving a pyramiding of money--they say. This is not the kind of thing we do; our round robins are usually made up of 5 people who want to correspond who form a voluntary group and who write letters so the last person gets 4 letters, adds his own, and passes it back to the first writer--and thereafter everyone gets 5 letters that draw comment. Fans have many subjects in common--interests that range through the areas of imagination including SF and fantasy. It doesn't take long for a newcomer to discover some people wander far from the subject of this imaginative fiction.

I'm glad when members write in to volunteer for things---or just discuss matters relating to N3F. Sometimes I hear for the first time they've written me. If I don't reply and a member feels strongly about something, they are invited to write to me again or complain by way of TB or to the directors.

I've written comments already to Koch on his 2 letters t in TB 70. I'd like to see him publicize his offer to serve as a center for bus or plane trips to LA Con in our clubzines each issue, or often enough so all members who can use it are informed. As he says, the Membership Activities is involved in fan activities--he offers to extend it. (continued next page)



Woolston's CARBONIFEROUS NEWSLETTER

Election Results: Formally, results of the election will depend on the final checking Janie Lamb gives the list of voters to make sure all are members, but as no office is changed by a few votes I am writing those who are concerned. Perhaps Harry Warner sent the news to TB and TNFF editors and contestants, but as I don't know, this letter goes to them--and also to the current directorate. I'll just give votes and leave the rest of Harry's report for TNFF.

Presidential vote: Stan Woolston, 39; Irvin Koch, 24; Ned Brooks, Mario Bosyyak, Elinor Poland, one apiece.

Directorate vote: Joanne Burger, 63; Art Hayes, 61; K. Martin Carlson, 52; Gary S. Mattingly, 50; James Corrick III, 45; Hal Hall, 22; Stan Woolston, 3; Ann Chamberlain, Dorthy Jones, Rose Hogue, Frank Denton, Irving Koch, Gary Labowitz, Perri Corrick and Janie Lamb, 1 apiece.

Harry Warner counted ballots for 6 weeks after the first one arrived, and not a single ballot has arrived in the previous 3 days as he wrote. I thank everyone for running--and hope we all can be active in N3F next year!

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Tightbeam:

I've just finished reading TB 70--with a little sadness, but with thanks for the two Seattle men who put it into print this year. They provided 6 good issues, and helped clarify a few things with comments or editorial notes. It's true a few letters might lead to some confusion, but conversation is apt to be a little confusing when it is in process--with different people making different claims as to facts that circumstances or others may refute. I see Alma Hill and Koch repeat that we'll not have a free room at LA Con, but TNFF will say otherwise; this is a case of not being able to predict the future, a human trait. Maybe Alma Hill and Koch are human. I know I am.

IRVIN: The idea of offering to coordinate con-going trip contacts is something that should be very useful, but nothing I'd comment on officially. I imagine you'll mention it in TNFF. I'd like a list of attendees in TNFF in advance, if possible. (Also, a list of members, their zines, sub rates, etc--and maybe copies for N3F room or the N3F table--a sort of fanzine stand seems a good idea to me. One con at least had one; it seems a fine idea to continue--so why not try to get faneds to send maybe 10 copies for sale at LA Con?)

And as to the second letter--if Irv's first paragraph encourages more to be active in the club, in any way, it will very, very helpful! But not everyone waits for everyone else; you're a bit too all-inclusive. Most fans do, and I understand your impatience in the way you overstate this! But we do have a group of actives.

We'll have a free room at LA Con. If we rent a table, we can work out ads for recruiting selectively. We have a loss on each member, true--but the reserve may allow us to coast for year or two while we use it constructively. Anyone who wants to contribute money to N3F can--like paying \$3 now, Irvin...but I've not, and if we're ready to raise it when circumstances demand, we should be as strong then as now. Even at a loss, we should try to hold on the active members, interested members and helpful members.

SEAN SUMMERS:78 Mathews Street; Columbus, Georgia 31903

Dear Tightbeam:

I'm wondering if anyone in N3F can do something about this: Most people here know of the TV show, "Night Gallery" and hopefully watch it. But regardless of your feelings about the show itself, you have to admit the paintings & sculptures on the show are really good. The problem: Is there any way they could be released in a portfolio or something? I sure would buy one. And it might well appeal to a larger group than just fans. Does anyone know what to do and how? It seems like a worthwhile cause.

((The chances of having the paintings in a portfolio are slim. Somebody would have to convince the sponsors that it would increase the interest in the show and it would be a worthwhile cause. Also, Sean, do you notice the beautiful artwork that is done for fandom and prodom? Witness the works of Bode', Jones, Kaluta, Frazetta, Mike Hinge, Roy Krenkel, Leo & Diane Dillion, Tim Kirk, Bill Rotsler, Ken Smith and the other many artists who are extremely talented. And, a lot of their stuff is published in portfolios! 'gwb))

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GEORGE WELLS: 24 River Avenue, Riverhead, LI,N.Y. 11901

Dear George--

Isn't next issue's editor "Verne F. O'Brien" a famous writer from the early days of Amazing Stories? I'm not thinking of Jules Verne either...I've just looked at my few issues of pre-1931 Amazings and I cannot find the name I'm thinking of that is so similar.

I would like to take this opportunity to join those who thank Chuck and Frank for their work on TB. I hope we continue to hear from both of these gentlemen and I hope they will continue to be as active as possible. Frank has carried quite a load indeed for the N3F, and we are lucky--now, tho, he must be exhausted...I would also like to say that we are fortunate to have Art Hayes around. I particularly loke his attempts to kid TB into a friendly rivalry recently and the resulting combination of wit and accomplished work. Art certainly does a great deal for somebody stuck in a town named after the rear end of a hystricomorphic rodent. (I assume that the Porcupine is facing north, Art) I'm in a confused daze trying to figure out how Joanne Burger, Hayes, Denton and company accomplish so much...I'd like to meet such perole in person; maybe this disease is contagious.

SCOTT: As for Hugos, "Night Gallery" had Seabury Quinn's 'Phantom Farmhouse' and HPL's 'Pickman's Model' which I've mentally noted for possible nomination.

GERSMAN: I don't get your puns so I guess we should ask Irvin to tell us how he pronounces his last name. I can remember being heart-broken when I found out I was mispronouncing Robert Bloch's last name. Since Bloch is neither "blotch" or "bloke", I wonder what this all makes Irvin. When some friends told me it was supposed to be pronounced "blotch", I felt that my life was a little poorer...I suppose the Great Glaroon works in mysterious ways...

BIRKHEAD: I welcome this opportunity to cheer Sheryl on her cover for TB 70. I shall drink tonight to her further artistic efforts.

HILL: I was quite shocked with your last letter that I read late last night in an exhausted state. My reaction was something like, "Gee, these big cons must be really wild, licentious debaucheries..." Then my eyes cleared a little and I realized that you had written "Message Center" instead of "Massage Center" in listing the purposes of the Neffer Hospitality Room.

Also, Alma mentions interlibrary loan in regards to the Boston Public Library. Since I'm a public librarian, I think I could point out to fans that they can try to get sf through their local public library. In my county, fiction books can be interloaned from other libraries in the county through the centralized Union List at the center of the County System, but this has to be done by your local librarian for you. Research requests can be sent on to Albany for interloan through other research material (in fact, it may not be Categorical, though I do not have the rules in front of me and cannot remember the exact words of the restrictions.) I tried to get Red Shadows by R.E. Howard through interloan. This caused bloody confusion indeed! Grant's publications are not in Books In Print, no doubt because they are limited editions and he doesn't care to have them listed. I kept getting notes from the library (my local one, not the one I work at) since I try to keep my sf reading activities somewhat separate from my professional work) saying that they couldn't interloan Paperbacks which they assumed Red Shadows to be. I did try to get several sf books I wanted to read though, including I Am Legend, In Search of Wonder and All Our Yesterdays

DANIELSON: I've taken a lot of time to think about how to use resources and publicity for the N3F. I think most of the people who are fans know about the N3F already) An obvious thing we can do to reach fans is pay and send out a flier via Locus. If we do try to recruit non-fans, we should definitely be determined beforehand to give them their money's worth and handle as many as can join. Thus, before we advertise on a very wide spread basis, we should be prepared psychologically and physically for any large influx that might occur. If by some chance of fate, 500 people all of a sudden decide to join the N3F to learn about fandom, and if each of them had a different understanding of what sf hobbyist should be doing, N3F would be stuck with quite a job; one that it could not ethically ignore since we advertised.

One more thought for now: Advertising can be expensive, and I therefore suggest the consideration of a separate fund for Neffer advertising. Instead of taking funds from the dues, we could try letting interested Neffers contribute voluntarily to a separate advertising fund. That way, the dues remain committed to the current publishing and postage costs, and members who don't care for advertising can cease to worry that their hard-earned dues money are going toward a "silly" enterprise. I myself think we should try some advertising, gradually, so that: 1) we can see how effective it is, and 2) we can stop advertising activity at any judicious moment when it seems that further advertising would commit use to handling more new members that we could handle.

I would like to see more international members, and thus we can think about international publicity. A question--are overseas members sent their N3F zines via surface printed matter rates? If so, we might think about spending the money for first class (or airmail) postage for overseas members only, in order to keep international members close within the activities of the N3F. Since this would benefit all members, I would be opposed to higher dues for overseas members.

May the Great Glaroon protect you all, as I remain, drinking to your health...

George Welby

PLUGS AND OTHER PRETENTIONS

NED BROOKS: The Bode' Collectors; 713 Paul Street; Newport News, Virginia 23605. He has set up an organization which deals strictly with pro artist, Vaughn Bode'. Ned puts out an irregular newsletter called, "The Bode' Bulletin" which sells for 10¢ a sample copy (or #4-8 for 50¢) and is 8-10 pages mimeo--with occasional off-set pages. The first 3 issues are o.p. but the 4th issue can be had for your mental stimulation. They also have 3 posters out now. Send a stamp for details.

Ned, by the way, has published a beautiful Index to the collected artwork of fantasy artist., Hannes Bok. 22 pages of detailed, researched information that makes it a "must" for all reference shelves. For Neffers, the Index is 50¢ for the first a copy and \$1 for the second or subsequent copies. In both the Bode' Collectors and the Bok Index, make the checks/m.o.s payable to: Cuyler W. Brooks Jr.

= = =

STEVE RILEY: 18 Norman Drive; Framingham, Massachusetts, 01701. Steve, besides being talented with the ability to draw, is the editor of "PULP.", a fancy printed zine that is devoted to scholarly, in depth examinations of the pulp era and its offerings. The second issue, nearly o.p., sells for \$1.25 and has 4 comprehensive articles... "The Digest Docs" and "Ki-Gor" are but 2 of the 4 articles. The third issue should be of special interest to all sf fen as it deals with Edmond Hamilton. "It promises to be a landmark issue with all the Edmond Hamilton material we have in it. We've also got experts in the field of pulps as well as authors working for us, so the serious collector should not have to settle for less." I agree.

MEADE FRIERSON III: 3705 Woodvale Road; Birmingham, Alabama 35223. Meade, always innovating, is working on a quality, professionally printed fanzine entitled, "HPL" which will deal exclusively with the famed macabre writer, Howard Phillips Lovecraft. To quote Meade, "HPL is a one shot magazine of tribute to H.P. Lovecraft, with a bias towards his Cthulu Mythos. Approximately 64 pages, 8½" x 11" in a limited edition of 500 copies. Contents include: Artwork done exclusively for HPL by messrs Steve Fabian, Herb Arnold, Dany Frolich, Robert Kline, Jaxon, Tim Kirk, Lee Brown Coye and others. 4 major articles will also be in the magazine. "My Life with the Greatest Old One", "A Haunter of the Night", "HPL's Philosophy" and "Researching HPL" provide factual information in a clear, concise article. Also, there is fiction from the wicked pens of Brian Lumley, Manly Wade Wellman and poems from L Sprague De Camp, Joseph Brennan and Meade Frierson III.

To top the cake with icing, noted Arkham House collector Stuart David Schiff interviewed the much acclaimed horror writer, Frank Belknap Long, who corresponded with Lovecraft for fifteen years. Also, there will be unpublished Lovecraft correspondence--the type that found its way into complete volumes by Arkham House.

The zine costs \$1.50 a copy and I think, after you seriously consider your interest in HPL, that you should send the money, to Meade--you can then sit back and await a zine that is guaranteed to chill your spine.

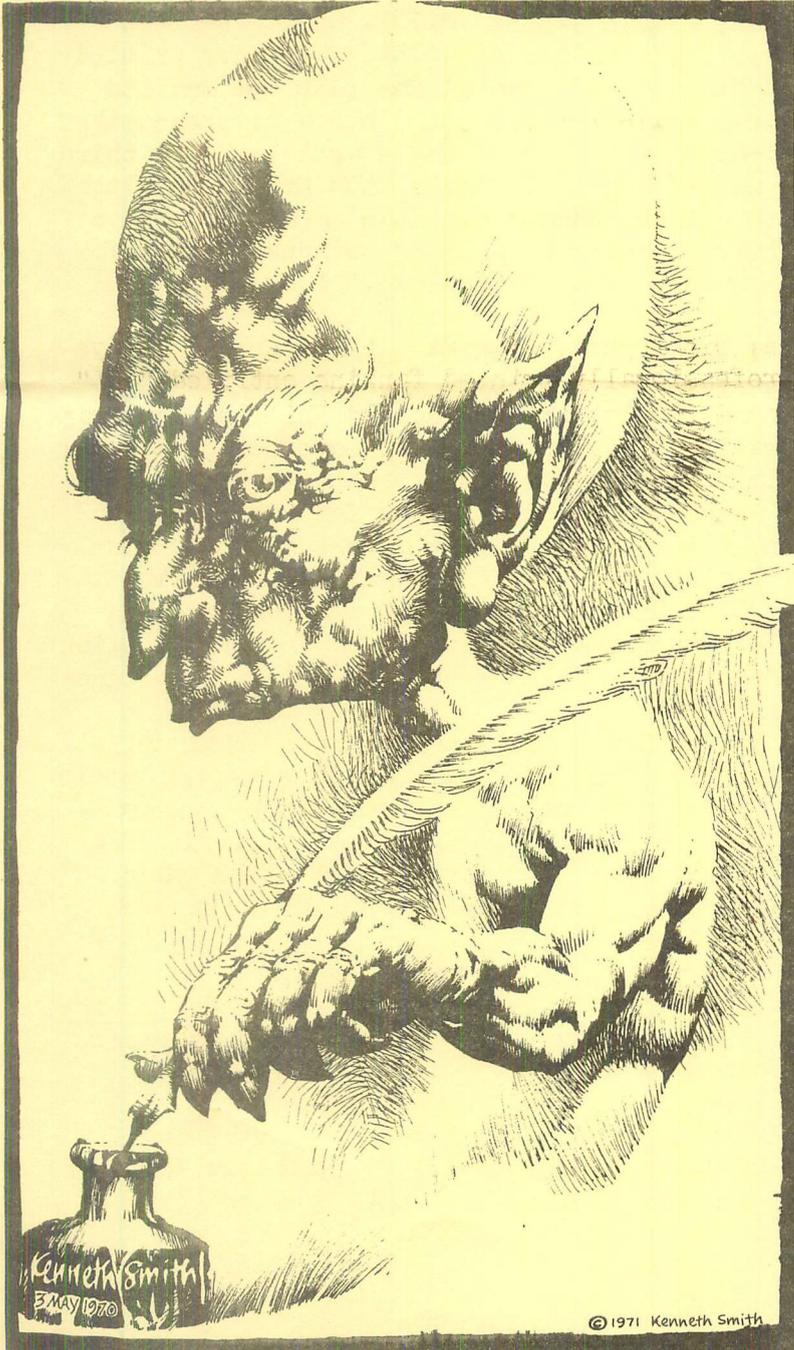
MIKE SCOTT: Box 2043; Alhambra, California 91803: The first issue of Collector's Bulletin under Mike Scott has been published. 30 pages on multi-color stock paper. Contents include an article on Robert Nathan, a checklist of his work, a short piece of fanfic concerning those "Damn Young Pests", some Love Letters from Jack the Ripper and, finally, "The Collector" by Robert Weinberg which tells of the "Chronokinesis of Thrill Book, Weird Tales and Astounding." CB is available for trades, articles, artwork, indices and stories. If all else fails, you can get for 25¢ a copy or a one year subscription (6 issues) for \$1. Get it.

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