

# FanActivity Gazette

Volume 2 Number 7

December 2022

News of Fen of Interest to All Fen

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Appropriate Contributions welcome.

## Memorial Fanfaronade

Fanzine Reviews in honor of the memory of Justin E. A. Busch.

The First Fandom Annual for 2022 is the First Fanthology, a collection of original essays, fiction, poetry, illustration, and a special appreciation of N3F Founding Member Ray Bradbury. The volume includes early convention memories, a closer look at Roger Zelazny, a science fiction alphabet, the thrill of collecting, adventures of Cat McCool, science fiction for the serviceman, and a Ray Bradbury bio-bibliography, with contributions from Arlan K. Andrews, Sr., John L. Coker III, James E. Gunn, Theodore Krulik, Jack Lange, Radell Faraday Nelson, Robert Silverberg, Jon D. Swartz, and David B. Williams.

Edited by John L. Coker III and N3F Historian Jon Swartz, Ph.D., the volume includes 56 laser-printed pages on quality paper. Included are photographs, B&W and color interiors, and gloss covers. To order, send a check or money order for \$35. (payable to John L. Coker III) to John L. Coker III at 4813 Lighthouse Road, Orlando, FL - 32808.

Pablo Lennis (John Thiel, 20 N. 19th Street, Lafayette IN 47904, \$2/issue or LoC or contribution or publication exchange) is John Thiel's own zine, published monthly, now on issue 419. Pablo Lennis runs over two dozen pages printed monochrome, with a whole range of different material in different issues. The September issue includes fiction, a considerable amount of artwork, an extended review of The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction, reviews of fanzines including Fanac Newsletter and Event Horizon, discussion of Internet fandom, a discussion of dark fantasy by Jeffrey Redmond, some of Will Mayo's last writings, and a respectably long letters column. The October issue includes fiction, a discussion of UFO abductions and the fairy folk, more fanzine reviews, a letters column, and several poems.

Corflu is the science fiction convention for fanzines. From them I received a program book (two dozen pages very nicely printed and typeset) Jiant Shoulders (an an anthology from winners of the Lifetime

Achievement Award as given by Corflu), and an eight-page play, *Little Whimsey* by Andy Hooper. The play is full of fannish fanzine references. The program book includes an extended history of Canadian fan organizations, a description of the Corflu Discord channel, the actual program, announcements of the 2022 FAAN Award winners, and an article on the Fanzine Writers of America. The FWA is notable for electing at each meeting its past president and, not its current president. The program book closes with paragraph descriptions of each of the con committee members. *Jiant Shoulders* includes articles from people who are still alive, and articles chosen by their friends from people who are no longer with us. Much of the material is biographical. Mixed in this is a considerable amount of material, quite appropriately on the history of fandom, especially fanzine fandom.

Portable Storage (one hundred thirty-two numbered pages plus a full-color printed cover; edited by William Breiding, [portablezine@gmail.com](mailto:portablezine@gmail.com)). This issue has been carefully done in the typographic style of the old *New Yorker* magazine. There are extended letters of comment, artwork, and discussions of various aspects of science fiction fandom and Science Fiction itself, all with a pleasantly erudite style.

## FANAC Newsletter 20



Worldcon is over, and for Joe and I, our moment of FGoH fame is past. All of us on the Fan History Project are back to working on the archive, and on *Fancyclopedia*, and on making all the material more accessible. In addition to adding lots of zines and convention pubs to the archive since the last newsletter, we've added some useful navigation and context aids (explained below). We're also replacing old JPG zines with new, searchable PDF versions and that is proving exceptionally helpful.

### FANAC at Chicon 8 (Mark Olson)

With assistance from Benjamin Levy and Geri Sullivan, FANAC.org had a very nice area for scanning in the Chicon 8 exhibit hall, next to the Fan Lounge. That placement was perfect, allowing cross conversation and natural perambulation of attendees between the two areas.

Our “special guest” was a life-sized stand-up of Chicon 8 Guest of Honor, Erle Korshak. Erle passed away about a year before the con, and we wanted to have him there in at least this way. A number of fans had their pictures taken with him. The sweet ending to the story is that Erle's family asked if they could take the stand-up image home after the convention. After watching one of the grandkids (great grandkids?) hug the stand-up, it was a done deal.



Of course, our focus was on scanning and we managed to scan well over a hundred fanzines during the weekend, including many brought to the con and loaned to us by people. There were choice issues brought by Murray Moore particularly to finish off runs (and whittle down our “One and Done” list). Thanks, Murray!

Working the table were Perry Middlemiss, Laurie Mann, Leah Zeldes Smith, Steven Silver, Gregory Meyer and others. Thanks, to everyone that helped.

Our next convention scanning station will be at Boskone 60 in February 2023. We hope you can bring some fanzines and other items we can scan for the archives. Please write to us beforehand ([fanac@fanac.org](mailto:fanac@fanac.org)) to be sure we can use what you are bringing.



Photo is Steven Silver with our "special guest" Chicon 8 GoH Erle Korshak New Ways to Navigate (aka How to Find What You're Looking For)

As the archive grows, we've added more ways to find fanzines. Originally, we had a list of Classic, Modern and Electronic fanzines. That gave way to one massive list (which we still call Classic). Over time, we've added other interesting ways to find things, like the Newszine, the Chronological, and the Alphabetical lists.

The latest addition is the "By Editor" listing of fanzines - [https://fanac.org/fanzines/by\\_editor.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/by_editor.html). It's a great way to find the available materials by a given editor (and a great way to egoscan). Even better, we now include one-shots in the alphabetical and "By Editor" lists. So, if the person you're looking up liked to name things uniquely, or had a penchant for one-shots, you can find them easily. Adding the one-shots came about after a note from John Hertz suggesting it. Thanks, John! We hadn't even realized they were missing. Thanks

also to Mark Olson for the software that generates the list.

The "By Editor" list is a work in progress, so if you see spelling variations and duplicate listings, please let us know.

Of course, you can also find zines through Google. Fair warning though – it takes a while for Google to give up links that no longer exist, such as when we replace a set of jpgs with a searchable PDF. We've started adding redirects for the important ones like "Sense of FAPA". If you end up with a "404 Not Found" from a Google search, please let us know and at least we'll send you the working link. (Let us know = write to: [fanac@fanac.org](mailto:fanac@fanac.org))

### Context, Context, and More Context – APA Mailing listings

Having the chronological list let's you see what was published in any given time frame. What it doesn't let you understand is which fans received the zines and presumably read them. We have a partial solution....

APAs provided fandom with a long standing and very viable approach to having a large correspondence circle without having to maintain an individual mailing list. Traditionally, FAPA especially had a membership of BNFs, and provided internet-like levels of interaction.

With the APA Mailing listings, we are providing a navigation aid to contents of the major APAs which are available on the FANAC digital archive. For each mailing, you can easily see and access the zines that were part of it which we have in the archive. As we add more zines which were distributed in the APAs, those issues will be added to the Mailings list. If we don't have any zines from a mailing online, we'll omit it from the Mailings list. Software to generate the Mailing listings courtesy of Mark Olson. Thanks, Mark!

We're focusing on FAPA first. Unsurprisingly, the mailings of FAPA where we have the most content are the ones that were in Retro Hugo years, since we had a push on digitizing zines from those years.

For many mailings, we only have 1 or 2 zines so far, but our ambitions are to do this for FAPA, VAPA, SAPS, OMPA, ANZAPA, N'APA and some of SFPA. We're also using this format to provide a table of contents for mailings of the Futurian War Digest. I am unreasonably excited about this enhancement.

Rich Lynch has led a SFPA project to provide a rich view of several years of SFPA mailings. He's scanned hundreds of zines of early 2000s issues of SFPA, almost all online now, providing a very full look at the mailings of the time. It was a huge effort. Thanks, Rich!

The APA mailing listings are a work in progress so both be kind, and send us info and corrections for any gaps or errors that you see. If you can help identify APA mailings for fanzine titles, please send them to us. OR if you have Inventory sheets for APA mailings and can scan or copy them, please send them to us. [https://fanac.org/fanzines/APA\\_Mailings/](https://fanac.org/fanzines/APA_Mailings/)

### Putting It All Together

As we hoped, the Fan History project is making it easier to do research.

Recently, a request came in from a scholar looking for information on the Manly Wade Wellman auction held at the 1986 Worldcon, ConFederation. The Newszine project has archived thousands of fannish newszines, and the more recent PDF and OCR efforts have made them more accessible. We were able to provide him with an account of the auction, including the name of the buyer for the item he asked about. It took just a single search. The mind boggles. The image is File 770, September 1986, where the search led.

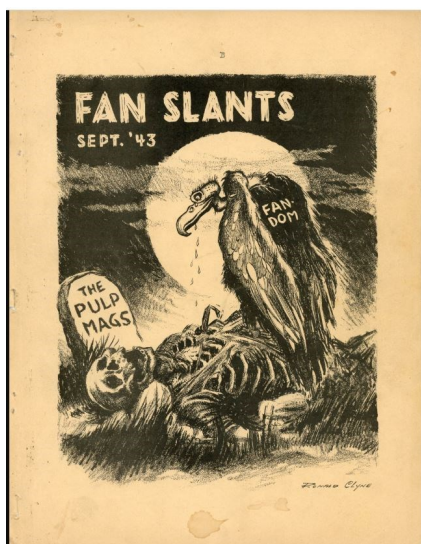
If you are using newszines for research which have not been OCR'd yet, please let us know and we'll move them up the priority list.

### Outstanding Additions since the last newsletter

We've added more than 1,000 publications since the last newsletter, so here are a few highlights.

Operation Armageddon: Recently, thanks to Rob Hansen, we added the run of Operation Armageddon, Vinç Clarke's limited distribution publication from 1954, full of ideas for causing excitement at the 1954 Eastercon, SuperMancon, without the cooperation of the Manchester fans. The ideas being bandied about included fake programs, insulting visiting cards, reserved notices for seats, disruptive timing, and explosive paste. "Nothing fatal tho." But, as Rob Hansen writes in Then, "As it turned out, it wasn't necessary to put Operation Armageddon into action at SUPERMANCON. The official programme began on time but soon disintegrated almost completely, without needing help from London fandom". (You can read more about it at [https://fanac.org/Fan\\_Histories/Then/Then\\_22.html](https://fanac.org/Fan_Histories/Then/Then_22.html) , or better yet, buy the book.)

FAPA Constitutions: Another unusual couple of items are two FAPA constitutions. The first, the original May 1937 Constitution, provided to us by Bob Silverberg, states that FAPA's "... purpose shall be to unite in fraternity the amateur writers, publishers, editors and printers of fantastic and highly imaginative literature and publications; to promote the spread of amateur fantasy writing and publishing; to better the abilities of the members in their fields; to provide an appreciative audience for the amateur fantasy enthusiast." The 1940 revision moves the "amateur" from the writers to the "publications" (and also adds artists, dropping publishers and printers). Both versions are online and listed on the Fantasy Amateur page - <https://fanac.org/fanzines/FantasyAmateur/>



Completed Fanzine Runs: Here are 3 of the runs that were completed at Chicon 8, thanks to Murray Moore.

Fan Slants (Mel Brown, US) was an Outsider Publication from the mid-1940s, with well-known contributors such as Phil Bronson, Walt Daugherty, Francis T. Laney, Gus Wilmoth, Forry Ackerman, Bob Tucker and many more. The first two issues have delightful Ronald Clyne covers.

Smoke (George Locke, UK), an OMPazine that ended in 1963, had contribu-



# On My Sleeve



fanwriting by John Hertz  
collected in honor of Nippon 2007,  
the 65th World Science Fiction Convention  
published December 2009

tors including Ken Bulmer, John Berry, Vinç Clarke, Atom, Harry Warner Jr, Archie Mercer, Ella Parker and Bob Lichtman.

Vanations (Norman Browne, CA), was available under the “Pay After Reading” system. From Fancyclopedia 2: “Pay After Reading: A system instituted in Norm Browne’s Vanations #1, under which you pay what you think the issue is worth, taking into consideration reading pleasure, appreciation for the contribution of the editorial staff, possibility of improvement in future issues, and like that. “Anything under 10¢ I consider an insult and anything over 25¢ hurts my conscience”, said Browne”.

Delightful Zoom Interview: We were fortunate to have an interview with the irrepressible Maggie Thompson, a second-generation science fiction fan, one of the architects of comics fandom in the early 60s, and a much revered professional in the comics field. Interviewed by Chris Couch, Maggie told stories of growing up in fandom, the evolution of comics fandom and her career in both. From costuming to the Comic Buyers Guide, from Harlan Ellison to Carl Barks, I found this interview entertaining and enlightening. It’s up in two parts

on our YouTube channel (link to our YouTube channel at the bottom).

Yesterday, we had another FanHistory Zoom, this one on Pittsburgh fandom in the 1970s. Look for it soon on our YouTube channel.

## FANAC by the Numbers

Fanzines: 19,086 issues (covering 1,702 titles) with more than 342,002 pages. This is up from the 18,005 fanzine issues and 321,385 pages reported in our August update.

Conpubs: 3,447 publications, with 63,816 pages, representing 822 conventions. This is up from the 3,311 publications, with 61,302 pages, representing 788 conventions reported in our August update.

Fancyclopedia: 29,538 pages which include 6,341 for people, 4,593 for fans (a subset of people), 8,338 for fanzines, another 1,518 for clubs and apas, and 6,191 for conventions. This is up from the 29,199 pages including 6,292 people pages, 4,545 fan pages, 8,219 fanzines pages, 1,515 for clubs and apas, and 6,163 convention pages reported in our August update.

YouTube: 149,402 views, 1,189 subscribers and 137 recordings. This is up from 142,436 views, 1,063 subscribers and 133 recordings in our August update.

Please pass this update on to any fan or online list where you think it might be of interest. Those interested in subscribing can sign up on the FANAC.org home page.

Fanhistorically yours. Edie Stern, Joe Siclari, and Mark Olson

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Contributors since the last newsletter: We have received new material and helpful corrections from many fans including: Eve Ackerman, Lenny Bailes, Sandra Bond, Leybl Botwinik, Mike Bracken, John Bray, Claire Brialey, BSFA, Ginjer Buchanan, Thomas Bull, Bill Burns, Linda Bushyager, Darrah Chavey, Randy Cleary, Eli Cohen, Jeff Copeland, Liz Copeland, Chris Couch, Todd Dashoff, Richard Dengrove, Vincent Docherty, Ahrvud Engholm, Tom Feller, Bruce Gillespie, Mike Glycer, Barry Gold, Eli Goldberg, Rob Hansen, John Hertz, Bill Higgins, Mike Hillen, Irwin Hirsh, Arthur Hlavaty, Andy Hooper, Steve Hughes, Bob Jennings,

Steve Johnson, Dave Langford, Evelyn Leeper, Mark Leeper, Guy Lillian III, Mark Loney, Lesleigh Luttrell, LynC, Rich Lynch, Bruce Mai, Joseph Major, Laurie Mann, Paul March-Russell, Sam McDonald, Greg Meyer, Perry Middlemiss, Murray Moore, Fred Moulton, Karl-Johan Norén, Paul Novitsky, Bee Ostrowsky, Joe Patrizio, Meredith Peruzzi, George Phillies, Greg Pickersgill, Andrew Porter, Thomas Recktenwald, David Ritter, Gary Robe, David Schlosser, Steven Silver, Bob Silverberg, Leah Zeldes Smith, Dale Speirs, Alan Stewart, Elaine Stiles, Matthew Strait, Sheila Strickland, Geri Sullivan, John Thiel, Suzanne Thompkins, Maggie Thompson, Jan Vaněk Jr, Jo Van Ekeren, Pat Virzi, Ben Yalow, Julian Warner, Mike Weber, Toni Weisskopf, George Wells, Tom Whitmore and Rolf Wilson.

Selected links:

FANAC.org: <https://www.fanac.org>

Fancyclopedia 3: <https://fancyclopedia.org>

Fanac YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/FanacFanhistory>

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/fanacproject/>

Fanzines: [https://fanac.org/fanzines/Classic\\_Fanzines.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/Classic_Fanzines.html)

Alphabetical List of Fanzines [https://fanac.org/fanzines/alphabetical\\_listing\\_of\\_fanzines.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/alphabetical_listing_of_fanzines.html)

APA Mailings [https://fanac.org/fanzines/APA\\_Mailings/](https://fanac.org/fanzines/APA_Mailings/)

Chronological List of Fanzines [https://fanac.org/fanzines/chronological\\_listing\\_of\\_fanzines.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/chronological_listing_of_fanzines.html)

Editor Listing: [https://fanac.org/fanzines/by\\_editor.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/by_editor.html)

Convention Publications: <http://fanac.org/conpubs/>

Newszine Project: <https://fanac.org/fanzines/newszines.html>

Begging List of Fanzines: [https://fanac.org/fanzines/desired\\_fanzine\\_list\\_to\\_scan.html](https://fanac.org/fanzines/desired_fanzine_list_to_scan.html)

Core List: to Scan: [https://fanac.org/fanzines/core\\_fanzine\\_list\\_to\\_scan.pdf](https://fanac.org/fanzines/core_fanzine_list_to_scan.pdf)

The FANAC Fanhistory Project is a project of The Florida Association for Nucleation and Conventions (FANAC) Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization recognized by the IRS.

FANAC.org is archived by the US Library of Congress for long-time preservation and future availability.

## Conventions for January Mindy Hunt

Each month we will provide a list of conventions from around the world.

This list is constantly being updated throughout the month. You can find our full events list as well as a calendar at <http://scifi4me.com/conventions-events/>.

During the week, we provide regular updates on our TV channel <http://scifi4me.tv/> with any schedule changes or cancellations. These updates also include any COVID-19 requirements the events are requesting. These requirements are also listed on our calendar for each event.

We are always looking to keep the list and calendar as current as possible. If you know of a local event, big or little, send us and email at [events@scifi4me.com](mailto:events@scifi4me.com) so we can add it and make it the most comprehensive conventions list on the internet.

DEC 28-JAN 2

ON-SITE

Brick Fest Live – Hampton, VA Dec 30-31

OKiCon – Oklahoma City, OK Dec 31-Jan 2

Comic Market – Tokyo, Japan Dec 30-31

Furvester – Stuttgart, Germany Dec 28-Jan 1

JAN 5-8

ON-SITE

Anime Los Angeles – Long Beach, CA Jan 5-8  
Japan Meeting of Furries – Toyohashi, Japan Jan 5-8  
Anime-ZAP!– East Peoria, IL Jan 6-8  
Fan Expo New Orleans – New Orleans, LA Jan 6-8  
SacAnime – Sacramento, CA Jan 6-8  
Taiyou Con – Mesa, AZ Jan 6-8  
Brick Fest Live – Milwaukee, WI Jan 7-8  
Columbia Anime & Video Game Expo– Columbia, SC Jan 7-8  
St Pete Comic Con – St Petersburg, FL Jan 7-8  
Spartanburg Comic Con – Spartanburg, SC Jan 7  
Wayne NJ Toy Show – Wayne, NJ Jan 7  
Capital Trade Shows – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Jan 8

JAN 12-15

ON-SITE

Creation Vegas – Las Vegas, NV Jan 12-15  
Arisia – Boston, MA Jan 13-15  
BryceCon – Bryce Canyon City, UT Jan 13-15  
Chattacon – Chattanooga, TN Jan 13-15  
GAFilk – Atlanta, GA Jan 13-15  
Geekway Mini – St Louis, MO Jan 13-15  
MarsCon – Norfolk, VA Jan 13-15  
ANIME Impulse – Pomona, CA Jan 14-15  
Northwest Arkansas Comic Con – Rogers, AR Jan 14-15  
Oddities & Curiosities Expo – San Diego, CA Jan 14  
Fresno Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Fresno, CA Jan 15  
Ft-LauderdaleCon – Fort Lauderdale, FL Jan 15  
Deland Comics & Collectibles Show! – Deland, FL Jan 15

JAN 19-22

VIRTUAL

CONsole Room – Bloomington, MN Jan 20-22

ON-SITE

Niagara Boardgame Weekend – Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada Jan 19-22  
Ohayocon – Columbus, OH Jan 19-22  
COSine – Colorado Springs, CO Jan 20-23  
CONsole Room – Bloomington, MN Jan 20-22  
CanCon – Canberra, Australia Capital Territory, Australia Jan 21-23  
ATG Expo – Waco, TX Jan 21-22  
Brick Fest Live – Chicago, IL Jan 21-22  
Brickvention – Melbourne, Victoria, Australia Jan 21-22  
Central Florida Comic Con – Lakeland, FL Jan 21-22  
RetroMania Collectibles Show – New Braunfels, TX Jan 21-22

Manteca Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Manteca, CA Jan 21  
Middle Georgia Comic Convention – Macon, GA Jan 21  
Chico Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Chico, CA Jan 22

JAN 27-29

VIRTUAL

Conflikt –Seattle, WA Jan 27-29

ON-SITE

Angouleme Comic Strip Festival – Angouleme, France Jan 26-29  
The Vampire Diaries/The Originals Official Reunion Convention – Allen TX Jan 27-29  
Game-itoba – Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada Jan 27-29  
Brick Fest Live – Tulsa, OK Jan 28-29  
G-Anime Winter – Gatineau, Quebec, Canada Jan 28-29  
Garden State Comic Fest – Augusta, NJ Jan 28-29  
RetroMania Collectibles Show – Boulder, CO Jan 28-29  
FrankfortCon – Frankfort, KY Jan 28  
Gasparilla Pirate Fest – Tampa, FL Jan 28  
Comicverse – New Berlin, WI Jan 29  
Pasadena Comic Convention and Toy Show – Pasadena, CA Jan 29  
Vacaville Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Vacaville, CA Jan 29

## Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays By Heath Row

This list of fandom-related birthdays was first published by Bruce Pelz in the Fantasy Amateur Press Association. Andrew Porter published and updated the list for Science Fiction Chronicle. Updates are welcome!

Unless stated otherwise, all birthdays are in the 20th century.

January

Chesley Bonestell, 1/1/1888; Seabury Quinn, 1/1/1889; Ella Parker, 1/1/18; Robert Nathan, 1/2/1894; Isaac Asimov, 1/2/20; Bill Broxon, 1/2/27; Charles Beaumont, 1/2/29; Patrick Nielsen Hayden, 1/2/59; J.R.R. Tolkien, 1/3/1892; Doris Pitkin Buck, 1/3/1898; Mark Owings, 1/3/45; A.R. Morlan, 1/3/58; Arthur Hayes, 1/4/23; Ruth Kyle, 1/4/30; Ramsey Campbell, 1/4/46; Tom Digby, 1/5/40; Madeline Morrison, 1/5/55; S. Fowler Wright, 1/6/1874; Eric Frank Russell, 1/6/05; Algernon D’Ammassa, 1/6/71; Barbi Johnson, 1/7/23; Christine Haycock-Moskowitz, 1/7/24; Graham Stone, 1/7/26; Gene DiModica, 1/7/48; Dennis Wheatley, 1/8/1897; Greg Ketter, 1/9; Algis Budrys, 1/9/31; Elizabeth Anne Hull, 1/10/37; George Alec Effinger, 1/10/47.

Jerome Bixby, 1/11/23; Joyce Jumper, 1/12/37; Thomas Endrey, 1/12/40; Geoffrey Hoyle, 1/12/41; Seth Breidbart, Bill Higgins, Paula Lieberman, 1/12/54; Clark Ashton Smith, 1/13/1893; Ron Goulart, 1/13/33; Ken Bulmer, 1/14/21; Joseph L. Green, 1/14/31; Arthur Byron Cover, 1/14/50; Robert Silverberg, 1/15/35; Ron Bounds, 1/15/45; Nat Schachner, 1/16/1895; Festus Pragnell, 1/16/05; Neville Shute, 1/17/1899; Dean Dickensheet, 1/17; Anna Sinclair, 1/17; Alva Rogers, 1/17/23; Nomi S. Burstein, 1/17/71; Peter Edick, 1/17/49; A.A. Milne, 1/18/1882; Robert Anton Wilson, 1/18/32; Eddie Jones, 1/18/35; Edgar Allen Poe, 1/19/1809; Adrienne Martine Barnes, 1/19/42; Abraham Merritt, 1/20/1884; Louis Charbonneau, 1/20/24; George Jumper, 1/20/40.



Charles Eric Maine, 1/21/21; Judith Merrill, 1/21/23; Arthur Jean Cox, 1/21/29; Robert E. Howard, 1/22/06; Katherine MacLean, 1/22/25; Walter M. Miller, Jr., 1/23/23; Craig Miller, 1/23/54; C.L. Moore, 1/24/11; David Gerrold, 1/24/44; Mike Ward, 1/24/45; Joel D. Zakem, 1/24/53; Russ Hodgkins, 1/26/10; Philip José Farmer, 1/26/18; Judy-Lynn Benjamin del Rey, 1/26/43; Dwight Decker, 1/26/52; Parke Godwin, 1/28/29; Lloyd Alexander, 1/30/24; Edith Ogutsch, 1/30/29; George Barr, 1/30/37; Gregory and Jim Benford, 1/30/41; George Morgan, 1/30/43; Art Lortie, 1/30/50; Heidi Saha, 1/30/59; Gloria Albasi, 1/30/61; Gene DeWeese, 1/31/34.

## Tom Digby

I've never met Bay Area fan Mr. Digby, but I was pleased to learn that he was active on the online conferencing system, the Well, short for the Whole Earth 'Lectronic Link. I've been on the Well since the early 1990s and am currently the host of the comics conference.

The Well is a place that's near and dear to my heart, and I find it more rewarding and meaningful than more modern social media such as Twitter or Facebook—though I don't visit as often, which is something I should reconsider. I don't think I ever crossed paths with Digby's username—bubbles—though I plan to ask at least one Wellpern friend whether they knew Mr. Digby. As it is, there's plenty of material to explore.

Tom Digby *Along Fantasy Way* is available in an extended form online at <https://tinyurl.com/digby-book>. The book was originally published for ConFrancisco, the 1993 Worldcon, at which Digby was recognized as Fan Guest of Honor. The book was published by Lee and Barry Gold, who still have some available.) Copies of Digby's perzine *Silicon Soapware* are also available online at <https://tinyurl.com/digby-ss>. The perzine was published on the Web and via email monthly between February 1995 and November 2014.

During a meeting of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society in May 2022, a couple of people mentioned the term “plergb.” The word has its own Web site at <http://www.plergb.com>, which links to the informative “Plergb Bylaws Summary,” addressing uses and users of the word, as well as the “Plergb Commission Anthem.” John Hertz contributed a piece to File 770 explaining the meaning of plergb, as well: <https://tinyurl.com/plergb-770>.

Digby is also a filker, and some of his music remains available at <https://tinyurl.com/digby-filk>. (One highlight is his piece “43 Man Squamish,” based on a piece by George Woodbridge and Tom Koch in *Mad* #95.) And in 2012, he made a few computer-animated music videos available, as well. I recommend “The ‘Robot Musician Introduction’ song” (<https://tinyurl.com/digby-video1>) and “The ‘Singing About Love’ song” (<https://tinyurl.com/digby-video2>).

He was also an active apahack, participating in APA-L, for which I serve as Official Collator, for more than 40 years. Digby published the apazine *Probably Something for APA-L and Minneapa*—and was nominated for the 1971 Best Fan Writer Hugo and the 1972 Best Fan Writer Hugo. He also participated in the Terrean Amateur Press Society. Digby is a Patron Saint of LASFS.

To update this list, contact Heath Row at [kalel@well.com](mailto:kalel@well.com) via email with the subject “Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays” or something similar.

The brief profile of Digby originally appeared in slightly different form in *Telegraphs & Tar Pits* #17 (<https://tinyurl.com/TnT-17>).

Rabid Ears:  
Ravings of a TV Fiend  
By Cathode Ray

Turn on and tune in for this month's edition of "Rabid Ears: Ravings of a TV Fiend." This is an occasional column about the newest and most notable science fiction, fantasy, horror, and other genre television programming options. Let's see what's what—now, and next—on the old boob tube, shall we?

The "Random Rants & Raves" letter column in the December 2022 edition of Channel Guide featured a couple of letters of interest to fen. Correspondent Cara—if that even be her real name—wrote, "Please tell me it's not going to take another two years for Season 2 of HOUSE OF THE DRAGON, like GAME OF THRONES used to be. What is HBO saying?" Editors responded indicating that rumors suggest production could begin in early 2023, with a premiere in summer 2024. Meanwhile, wonder-filled wordsmith Jim—if that even be his real name—penned a missive commenting, "In the [DOCTOR WHO] special that aired in October, Jodie Whittaker was the 13th Doctor but during the last minutes of the show you saw her face regenerated into David Tennant's face (he was the 10th Doctor). Is he coming back? ... [W]hat about Ncuti Gatwa...?" Gatwa will indeed play the Doctor in the 2023 Christmas special. Three special episodes aired in November to sync up with the show's 60th anniversary—and offer a bridge of sorts. "The path to Ncuti's 15th Doctor is laden with mystery, horror, robots, puppets, danger, and fun!" said showrunner Russell T Davies. That's good. I quite like fun.

In the Dec. 5-18, 2022, issue of TV Guide's "25 Top Shows" ranking, CBS's supernatural sitcom GHOSTS moved up to No. 5, claiming 6.4 million viewers the week of Nov. 7-13. That's the highest the program has ranked in recent memory, offering a bright spot as genre options continue to slow slightly after the heydays of Halloween.

Channel Guide's "The Top 16" featured highlights such as BEAUTY AND THE BEAST: A 30TH CELEBRATION and KINDRED, a series adapting the novel by Octavia E. Butler. A TV Guide feature titled "Netflix: The Best of 2022," recognized STRANGER THINGS's fourth season as Most Worth the Wait following an almost three-year hiatus. Similarly, the piece lauds THE SANDMAN as the Dreamiest Fantasy. "After years mired in development hell, Neil Gaiman's classic comic ... finally got the deluxe series treatment fans have yearned for," Matt Roush wrote.

The Nov. 27 to Dec. 3, 2022, edition of TV Weekly reprinted a "Cheers & Jeers" column by TV Guide writer Damian Holbrook. He gave a Cheer to HBO Max's DC dramas for "giving us the heroes we deserve to see." The critic cited TITANS and PENNYWORTH as "quickly restoring our hopes for DC Comics' TV Future." That column also gave a Jeer to HOUSE OF THE DRAGON for "draggin' out the wait for Season 2." Good one, Holbrook. Despite the program's quick renewal, the second season won't stream until 2024. And in TV Weekly's Dec. 4-10, 2022, edition, the magazine reprinted another "Cheers & Jeers" column in which Holbrook gave a Jeer to LA BREA: "[A] crater ... sent them to 10,000 B.C. ... but neither thought to take any supplies or weapons?"

The December 2022 issue of Channel Guide included a tribute to celebrities who died last year, "Remembrances 2022." Among the fallen: Emilio Delgado, SESAME STREET actor; Gilbert Gottfried, voice actor for Disney's animated ALADDIN series; Meat Loaf, who appeared in The Rocky Horror Picture Show; and Mitchell Ryan, DARK SHADOWS actor.

At the grocery store in early December, I picked up an issue of Stream+, an "Essential Streaming Guide" associated with Us magazine. Offering first looks, interviews, reviews, and more, the A360Media Special includes sections focusing on Marvel & DC, Sci-Fi & Fantasy, and Horror & Halloween. Comic book-related shows of note featured include DOOM PATROL, THE GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY HOLIDAY SPECIAL, the animated HARLEY QUINN, THE SANDMAN, SHE-HULK: ATTORNEY AT LAW, TITANS, and WHAT IF...? Fantasy and sf fare include ANDOR, FOR ALL MANKIND, THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RINGS OF POWER, the animated STAR TREK: LOWER DECKS, THE WHEEL OF TIME, WILLOW, and THE WINCHESTERS. And horror-themed series include CHUCKY, INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE, VAMPIRE ACADEMY, THE WALKING DEAD, and WEDNESDAY. That latter program is attracting a lot of buzz in recent weeks.

There were a few noteworthy premieres, finales, and cancellations in recent weeks. A new season of comic book tie-in DOOM PATROL premiered on HBO Max on Dec. 8. A new season of KINDRED, the Butler adaptation, will begin on Hulu on Dec. 13. And the animated video game tie-in SONIC PRIME will premiere on Netflix on Dec. 15. Even before its series premiere, animated comedy KRAPOPOLIS was renewed by Fox for a second season. Netflix renewed THE SANDMAN for a second season. And Prime Video renewed OUTER RANGE for a second season. For every light that turns on—or stays on—lights go out, however. The CW will cancel DC'S STARGIRL after its third season. Showtime canceled THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH after its first season. And Hulu's THE HARDY BOYS will end after its third and final season next year.

In recent days, you might have missed some quality television. The new streaming series WILLOW debuted on Disney+ on Nov. 30. The program continues the 1988 fantasy film. WICKED CITY became available on Allblk, formerly the Urban Movie Channel. The series focuses on five witches in Atlanta. Kicking off the winter holiday season early, Rankin/Bass Productions' 'Twas the Night Before Christmas aired on AMC on Dec. 2. (Jules Bass died Oct. 25 at the age of 87.) RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER was shown on Freeform on Dec. 3. On Dec. 5, HIS DARK MATERIALS, an adaptation of the writing of Phillip Pullman, returned to HBO. Off the air for two years, the series returned with an eight-episode third season, earning a Best Bet notice in the Dec. 4-10, 2022, edition of TV Weekly. Also that day, TNT aired DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS. And MeTV's TOON IN WITH ME also broadcast its "Tiny Toony's Christmas Special" on Dec. 5, featuring holiday cartoon shorts.

THE WINCHESTERS Dec. 6 episode on The CW received a call out by TV Guide, earning almost a half-page writeup. The six-part Korean drama CONNECT began streaming on Disney+ on Dec. 7: "An immortal human goes gunning for the serial killer who maimed him." The CW aired a series finale for DC'S STARGIRL on Dec. 7. The first two episodes of DOOM PATROL's fourth season became available on HBO Max on Dec. 8. The animated DRAGON AGE: ABSOLUTION began streaming on Netflix on Dec. 9. MeTV aired THE TWILIGHT ZONE holiday episode "The Night of the Meek" on Dec. 9. And FROSTY THE SNOWMAN and RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER aired on CBS on Dec. 10.

Pencil these in your calendar, fen and fellow freaks: The season finale for LET THE RIGHT ONE IN will air on Showtime on Dec. 11: "[T]he mortal-father and vampire-daughter team ... seek help from two allies who may be hiding a shady agenda." The widespread horror of Halloween-related programming continues to shift toward holiday fantasies with programs such as MICKEY SAVES CHRISTMAS on ABC on Dec. 13 and A NEW DIVA'S CHRISTMAS CAROL, an R&B update of Charles Dickens' story, which airs on VH1 on Dec. 14. BEAUTY AND THE BEAST: A 30TH CELEBRATION will air on ABC on Dec. 15 to recognize the anniversary of the 1991 Disney animated feature. It was the first such film to earn an Oscar nomination for Best Picture. (The special earned a cover line for the December 2022 issue of Channel Guide.) Also that day, TNT will air DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS again for fen who just can't get enough. A two-part episode of GHOSTS will also air on CBS on Dec. 15. The holiday episode is perhaps inspired by Hallmark Christmas movies.

On Dec. 17, the Hallmark Channel will air 'Twas the Night Before Christmas. ABC will air SANTA CLAUS IS COMIN' TO TOWN on Dec. 20. FROSTY THE SNOWMAN, RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER, and SANTA CLAUS IS COMIN' TO TOWN are scheduled for Dec. 21 on Freeform. SNAP becomes available on Allblk on Dec. 22. The anthology is reportedly similar to BLACK MIRROR and THE TWILIGHT ZONE. Dec. 22-24, A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS will stream for free on Apple TV+. On Dec. 24, Antenna TV will broadcast 19 hours of holiday-themed episodes of shows, including BEWITCHED. FROSTY THE SNOWMAN and RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER air again on Freeform on Dec. 25. And Antenna TV will air 20 more hours of holiday-themed classic TV episodes that day. THE WITCHER: BLOOD ORIGIN starts streaming on Netflix on Dec. 25, as well. The miniseries is a prequel set 1,200 years before THE WITCHER. Finally, HBO will air HIS DARK MATERIALS's series finale on Dec. 26.

The December 2022 issue of Remind featured the cover line, "Farewell: Stars We Loved & Lost in 2022." While I've yet to see any bookazines celebrating Nichelle Nichols of STAR TREK following her death in July—a shame, given the number of bookazines featuring Leonard Nimoy when he died in 2015—she's included among the primary three deaths on the cover: Olivia Newton-John, Loretta Lynn, and Nichols. On the interior

pages, editors dedicated a full page to Nichols, opposite a one-third-page item on Delgado from *SESAME STREET*. Also included in the “Farewell” feature: Gottfried, Meat Loaf, and Ryan as above; Larry Storch, who did voice work for cartoons including *TENNESSEE TUXEDO AND HIS TALES*, *GROOVIE GOOLIES*, and *THE BATMAN/SUPERMAN HOUR*; Conrad Janis, who appeared on *MORK & MINDY*; and *ELECTRIC DREAMS* and *TWIN PEAKS* actor Lenny Von Dohlen. The issue’s “Back in 1995” Time Capsule noted the premiere of *STAR TREK: VOYAGER* on UPN; the program first aired Jan. 16, 1995, and broadcast until 2001. And “December Birthdays” recognized Rod Serling’s birth Dec. 25, 1924, and Nichelle Nichols’s birth Dec. 28, 1932.

The February 2023 issue of *Otaku USA* featured anime reviews of manga adaptations *DOOMSDAY WITH MY DOG* (Sentai Filmworks), *SHADOWS HOUSE* Season 2 (Crunchyroll), and *SPY X FAMILY* (Crunchyroll); *SUMMERTIME RENDERING* (Disney+); *TOKYO MEW MEW NEW* (Sentai Filmworks); and *YUREI DECO* (Crunchyroll). Features focused on *BLEACH: THOUSAND-YEAR BLOOD WAR*; *DRAGON BALL SUPER: SUPER HERO*; *FUUTO PI*, which seems promising; *MOB PSYCHO 100*; and *ROYAL SPACE FORCE: THE WINGS OF HONNEAMISE*, which seems amazing. The “Tokyoscope” column touched on *The Little Girl Who Conquered Time*, *Tokyo Fist*, and *Ultraman Zearth*. The edition also included its customary game and manga reviews, manga, and cosplay pictorials.

From across the Big Pond, a few recent British magazines included articles of potential interest to Neffers. *Infinity #55* featured *FIREFLY* and *GARTH MERENGI’S DARKPLACE* on the cover. An article by Brian J. Robb addressed *GARTH MERENGI’S DARKPLACE* and related projects such as *WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS*. Richard Molesworth’s column considered the 2022 space western *FIREFLY*.

And the review section covered *MARVEL’S WEREWOLF BY NIGHT* streaming TV special, an excellent program inspired by Universal horror movies and black-and-white monster magazines alike. *The Dark Side #237* included a review of *Pennywise: The Story of It*, a documentary about the 1990 TV miniseries *IT*—based on the Stephen King novel by the same name.

The 2022 Holiday Special issue of *SFX* featured cover lines promoting *DOCTOR WHO*, *DOOM PATROL*, *HIS DARK MATERIALS*, *STAR TREK*, *TITANS*, and *THE WITCHER: BLOOD ORIGIN*. The front section offered short pieces on *STAR TREK* alumnus George Takei’s stage production *Allegiance*, the Octavia E. Butler adaptation *KINDRED*, and a new *STAR TREK: STRANGE NEW WORLDS* comic book.

Feature articles focused on *HIS DARK MATERIALS’* third and final season, *DOOM PATROL’s* fourth season, *THE WITCHER: BLOOD ORIGIN*, and *DOCTOR WHO* alumnus Maureen O’Brien. Reviews included *ANDOR* Season 1 and *DOCTOR WHO* Season 2 (both including a drinking game), *GUILLERMO DEL TORO’S CABINET OF CURIOSITIES* Season 1, *HOUSE OF THE DRAGON* Season 1, *STAR TREK: LOWER DECKS* Season 3, *STAR TREK: PICARD* Season 2, *STAR WARS: TALES OF THE JEDI* Season 1, *WE ARE NOT ALONE*, and *WEDNESDAY* Season 1. And *Total Film #331* (December 2022) included short pieces on *WEDNESDAY* and *THE WITCHER: BLOOD ORIGIN*. The issue also featured a longer article focusing on *WILLOW*.

The Dec. 5 *TV Guide* crossword, Puzzle #1453, included several fannish stumpers. 21 Across is “THE HUCKLEBERRY \_\_\_\_\_ SHOW.” 56 Across is “Mr. Bill’s cry (2 wds.).” 1 Down is “Manjula’s husband on *THE SIMPSONS*.” 5 Down is “Bearded guy on *THE SMURFS*.” 9 Down is “Science Channel series about ancient mysteries.” 28 Down is “Animated explorer.” 34 Down is “\_\_\_\_\_, INDIANA.” 41 Down is “ASH VS EVIL DEAD star Campbell.” 43 Down is “Mork’s boss on *MORK & MINDY*.” 46 Down is “War god.” And 52 Down is “WITCHES OF EAST \_\_\_\_.” Send in your best guesses care of this clubzine. Absolutely no one has ever done that. You could be the first!

The focus of *TV Guide Magazine* Puzzler Vol. 3 #4 (December 2022) was “Holiday Movies.” While more focused on films than TV, there’s still an element of the fantastic. Puzzles draw on movies such as *Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *Elf*, *It’s a Wonderful Life*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *The Muppet Christmas Carol*, *The Polar Express*, and *The Santa Clause*.

Until next time, this is “Cathode Ray,” your guide to the best of what’s hidden in the grids. Turn on, tune in, and blast off!



## Celluloid Sapience By Cathode Ray

This column, “Celluloid Sapience,” is a periodic listing focusing on upcoming movie and DVD (including Blu-ray and 4K) releases of potential interest to fans of science fiction, fantasy, and horror—as well as upcoming Turner Classic Movie and Svengoolie screenings.

Movies labeled with an \* are particularly recommended. Release dates occasionally change. Please check your local listings and retailers before you go to the movie theater or store. And tell 'em Ray sent you! (That's got to be good for a free box of Jujufruits, at least!)

If you become aware of any movie or DVD release dates, send them in care of this clubzine, and we'll do our best to verify and include your submissions. And if you see any of these fantastic flicks, consider writing a review to share with other Neffers.

### Movie Release Dates

The Amazing Maurice (Animated/Fantasy, theatrical, Jan. 13)  
Blaze (Fantasy, theatrical/streaming, Jan. 20)  
Candy Land (Horror, streaming, Jan. 6)  
Craving (Horror, theatrical, Jan. 1)  
The Devil Conspiracy (Horror/Science Fiction, theatrical, Jan. 13)  
\* Distant (Science Fiction, theatrical, Jan. 27)  
Fear (Horror, theatrical, Jan. 27)  
The Flood (Horror, theatrical, Jan. 1)  
Gauge Away (Horror/Science Fiction, streaming, Jan. 17)  
House of Ra: The Legend of Reo (Fantasy/Science Fiction, theatrical, Jan. 23)  
In My Mother's Skin (Horror, theatrical, Jan. 19)  
Into the Looking Glass (Horror, streaming, Jan. 13)  
\* M3gan (Horror/Science Fiction, theatrical, Jan. 6)  
The Mummy Resurrection (Horror, streaming, Jan. 10)  
\* The Offering (Horror, theatrical/streaming, Jan. 13)  
Oregonoda (Science Fiction, theatrical, Jan. 7)  
The Pale Blue Eye (Horror, streaming, Jan. 6)  
Pinkfong Sing-Along Movie 2: Wonderstar Concert (Animated/Fantasy, theatrical, Jan. 28)  
Pretty Boy (Fantasy, theatrical, Jan. 1)  
Robika a biciklista (Fantasy/Science Fiction, streaming, Jan. 20)  
Rock Dog 3: Battle the Beat (Animated/Fantasy, streaming, Jan. 24)  
\* Shin Ultraman (Animated/Fantasy, theatrical, Jan. 12)  
\* The Silent Forest (Horror, theatrical, Jan. 27)  
Skinamarink (Horror, theatrical, Jan. 13)  
Snow Falls (Horror, streaming, Jan. 17)  
Teen Wolf: The Movie (Fantasy/Horror, streaming, Jan. 26)  
Trauma Kills. (Horror, theatrical, Jan. 15)

### DVD Release Dates

\* Aatma (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
\* The Adventures of Baron Munchausen (Fantasy, Blu-ray and 4K, Jan. 3)  
After She Died (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 17)  
Ascendance of a Bookworm: Season 3 (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
\* The Asphyx (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
\* Bandh Darwaza (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)

Black Adam (Fantasy; DVD, Blu-ray, and 4K; Jan. 3)  
 Black Clover: Season 3 (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 17)  
 Blood Dynasty (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 Blood for Dracula (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 \* Bollywood Horror Limited Edition Box Set (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 1)  
 Boruto: Naruto Next Generations: Set 14 (Animated/Fantasy, DVD, Jan. 10)  
 Castle of the Living Dead (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 City Hunter: Movie & TV Special Collection (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 \* Cloverfield (Horror/Science Fiction, Blu-ray and 4K, Jan. 17)  
 \* Crimes of the Future (Science Fiction, Blu-ray and 4K, Jan. 31)  
 Crypt of the Vampire (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 \* Dawn of the Dead (Horror, Blu-ray and 4K, Jan. 31)  
 Death Knot (Horror, DVD, Jan. 17)  
 \* Dino Mech Gaiking: The Complete TV Series (Animated/Science Fiction, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 \* The Dunwich Horror (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 \* Enter Santo: The First Adventures of the Silver-Masked Man (Action, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 \* Event Horizon (Horror/Science Fiction, Blu-ray and 4K, Jan. 31)  
 Fear the Walking Dead Season 7 (TV, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 Friday the 13th: The Final Chapter (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 The Friendship Game (Horror/Science Fiction, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 The Genius Prince's Guide to Raising a Nation Out of Debt: The Complete Series (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray, Jan. 17)  
 The Ghosts of Monday (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 \* Ghost Warrior (Science Fiction, Blu-ray, Jan. 17)  
 Glorious (Fantasy/Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 \* Groundhog Day (Fantasy, Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 A Haunted Turkish Bathhouse (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 Himouto! Umaru-chan R: Complete Collection (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 House of Terrors (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 I'm Quitting Heroing: Complete Collection (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 Inu-Oh (Animated/Fantasy, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 Invitation Only (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 The King of Braves GaoGaiGar: The Complete TV Series (Animated/Science Fiction, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 Legacy of Blood (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 Lupin the 3rd Part 6: Complete Collection (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 \* The Man Who Fell to Earth: Season One (TV, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 Metal Skin Panic: MADOX-01 (Animated/Science Fiction, Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 Mickey & Minnie Vol. 1 (Animated/Fantasy, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 Mobile Suit Gundam SEED C.E. 73: Stargazer (Animated/Science Fiction, Blu-ray, Jan. 17)  
 No Game, No Life: Zero (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray, Jan. 17)  
 Obey Me!: Season 1 (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 One Piece: Season 12 Voyage 2 (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 17)  
 Ouija (Horror, Blu-ray and 4K, Jan. 10)  
 Piggy (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 Platinum End: Part 1 (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 Prey for the Devil (Horror; DVD, Blu-ray, and 4K; Jan. 3)  
 \* Programmed to Kill (Science Fiction, Blu-ray, Jan. 17)  
 Pterodactyl (Science Fiction, DVD, Jan. 3)  
 Puppet Master III: Toulon's Revenge (Horror, Blu-ray and 4K, Jan. 24)  
 \* Purana Mandir (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 \* Purani Haveli (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)

Rock Dog 3: Battle the Beat (Animated/Fantasy, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 Sabikui Bisco: The Complete Season (Animated/Fantasy/Science Fiction, Blu-ray, Jan. 3)  
 Sasaki and Miyano: The Complete Season (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 3)  
 Scorpion with Two Tails (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 Shaman King (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 Speak No Evil (Horror, DVD, Jan. 17)  
 \* Star Trek: Prodigy—Season 1: Episodes 1-10 (TV, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 3)  
 The Stranger by the Shore (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 Sword Art Online the Movie: Progressive—Aria of a Starless Night (Animated/Fantasy/Science Fiction, Blu-ray, Jan. 24)  
 \* Tahkhana (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 Tetsujin 28 FX: The Complete TV Series (Animated/Science Fiction, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 \* They Live (Horror, Blu-ray and 4K, Jan. 17)  
 \* Ultraman Max: The Complete Series (TV, DVD, Jan. 24)  
 \* Veerana (Horror, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 \* Vesper (Science Fiction, DVD and Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 Virtua Fighter: The Animated Series (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)  
 Waiting in the Summer: Complete Collection (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 10)  
 Yu Yu Hakusho: Ghost Files—30th Anniversary Box Set (Animated, Blu-ray, Jan. 31)

The following movies, shorts, serials, and cartoons are scheduled for broadcast on Turner Classic Movies in December, according to TCM's Web site. All times listed are Pacific Time. Please check your local listings before tuning in.

Dec. 10—5 a.m.: MGM Cartoon—Bah Wilderness (1943), 6:30 a.m.: The New Adventures of Tarzan—  
 "Operator No. 17," 7 a.m.: Popeye Cartoon—A Job for a Gob  
 Dec. 11—5 p.m.: Phantom of the Opera (1943), 9 p.m.: Christmas Past (1925)  
 Dec. 13—10:30 a.m.: The Seventh Victim (1943)  
 Dec. 14—4:45 a.m.: A Midsummer Night's Dream (1935)  
 Dec. 16—3 a.m.: Topper (1937), 4:45 a.m.: Blithe Spirit (1945), 6:30 a.m.: Here Comes Mr. Jordan  
 (1941), 8:15 a.m.: The Plague of the Zombies (1966), 10 a.m.: Frankenstein 1970 (1958), 11:30 a.m.: Isle of  
 the Dead (1945), 12:45 p.m.: The Body Snatcher (1945), 2:15 p.m.: Frankenstein (1931), 3:30 p.m.: Bride of  
 Frankenstein (1935), 11 p.m.: Silent Night, Deadly Night (1984)  
 Dec. 17—12:45 a.m.: The Oracle (1987), 6:30 a.m.: The Batman—"The Electrical Brain," 7 a.m.: Popeye  
 Cartoon—Mister and Mistletoe  
 Dec. 18—1:15 p.m.: A Christmas Carol (1938)  
 Dec. 19—1 p.m.: The Great Rupert (1950)  
 Dec. 21—4:30 a.m.: Christmas Past (1925), 6:45 a.m.: A Christmas Carol (1938), 8:15 a.m.: A Carol for  
 Another Christmas (1964)  
 Dec. 22—1:30 a.m.: Beyond Tomorrow (1940), 4:45 a.m.: The Curse of the Cat People (1944)  
 Dec. 23—9 p.m.: Bell, Book and Candle (1959)  
 Dec. 24—4:30 a.m.: Beyond Tomorrow (1940), 6 a.m.: The Great Rupert (1950), 5 p.m.: The Bishop's  
 Wife (1948), 7 p.m.: A Christmas Carol (1938)  
 Dec. 28—10:30 p.m.: Sisters (1972)  
 Dec. 29—1:45 a.m.: The Invisible Man (1933)  
 Dec. 30—3 a.m.: Tarzan, the Ape Man (1932), 5 a.m.: Tarzan and His Mate (1934), 7 a.m.: Tarzan Es-  
 capes (1936), 8:45 a.m.: Tarzan Finds a Son! (1939), 10:30 a.m.: Tarzan's Secret Adventure (1941), 12 p.m.:  
 Tarzan's New York Adventure (1942), 1:30 p.m.: Tarzan Triumphs (1943), 3 p.m.: Tarzan's Desert Mystery  
 (1943)  
 Dec. 31—5 a.m.: MGM Cartoon: Cleaning House (1938), 6:30 a.m.: The Batman—"The Bat's  
 Cave" (1943), 7 a.m.: Popeye Cartoon—Beaus Will Be Beaus (1955)

Neffers might also be interested in the movies screened by Svengoolie on MeTV. Airing Saturdays at 8 p.m. ET (7 p.m. CT), December's features include The Raven, Creature with the Atom Brain, Invisible Agent, Abbott and Costello Meet the Invisible Man, and Earth vs. the Spider. Also airing at 11 a.m. CT Saturdays on the CW 26, Svengoolie is featuring The Crawling Eye, The Raven, Creature with the Atom Brain, Invisible Agent, and Abbott and Costello Meet the Invisible Man.

Until next time, double feature creatures, this is "Cathode Ray," your guide to the best of what's crawling in the aisles and on the big screen. Stop throwing things over your shoulder!

On our



# Science Fiction Calendar

## January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day	2 World Introvert Day	3 Fruitcake Toss Day	4 National Spaghetti Day	5 National Bird Day	6 Bean Day	7 Old Rock Day
8 Bubble Bath Day	9 Play God Day	10 Bittersweet Chocolate Day	11 National Take The Stairs Day	12 Feast Of Fabulous Wild Men Day	13 Blame Somebody Else Day	14 Dress Up Your Pet Day
15 National Bagel Day	16 Appreciate A Dragon Day	17 Kid Inventors Day	18 Winnie The Pooh Day	19 National Popcorn Day	20 Penguin Awareness Day	21 Squirrel Appreciation Day
22 National Blonde Brownie Day	23 Measure Your Feet Day	24 Beer Can Appreciation Day	25 Opposite Day	26 Spouces Day	27 Chocolate Cake Day	28 National Kazoo Day
29 Bubblewrap Appreciation Day	30 National Inane Answering Maching Day	31 Backward Day				



JANUARY 2023

The first issue of *Astounding* appeared dated January, 1930. Originally titled *Astounding Stories of Super Science*, the magazine's first editor Harry Bates had convinced publisher William Clayton to issue a science fiction magazine to fill the last slot on a 12-cover bulk magazine print sheet. Despite *Astounding's* popularity, Clayton went bankrupt in 1933, reportedly due to problems caused by a gambling addiction, and the magazine was soon picked up by Street & Smith.

F. Orlin Tremaine, an editor for Clayton's detective magazine became the new editor of *Astounding*, and quickly began making significant changes in the stories. *Astounding* had previously stressed straight out action type adventures, but Tremaine wanted some science in his stories, and soon got what he wanted.

*Astounding* paid higher rates than the other sf magazines, while Street & Smith also had a powerhouse distribution system. By the end of 1934 *Astounding* was both profitable, and also had the highest circulation of any SF/fantasy magazine in the world.

In an attempt to raise the quality of fiction and to get new blood into the field Tremaine instituted a policy of publishing "Thought-Variant" stories; unusual

concepts with plots that might never have been accepted by a traditional SF fiction magazine. This led to an influx of tales that stretched the boundaries of the genre and helped further increase the circulation of the magazine.

Due to inter office manipulation at S&S Tremaine found himself an editorial director, and then out of a job when that position disappeared. His former assistant John W. Campbell became editor, and immediately began making changes. He wanted stories that would appeal to the mature reader, and he wanted either solid science, or speculative science that looked good on paper to support those stories. Campbell had been a popular science fiction writer himself before becoming an editor, so he knew the mechanics of story telling and insisted that stories be logically and structurally consistent, and have substantial plots.

Campbell's efforts produced what is considered the Golden Age of Science Fiction, with a nearly endless stream of brilliant, groundbreaking, memorable stories. Many of the personalities who went on to become giants in the field first saw print in *Astounding*. Campbell was not just an excellent editor; he energized writers with challenging ideas, and pushed authors to produce their very best work.

Campbell also changed the magazine's title, and the cover style. First he dropped the word "Stories" then it became *Astounding science fiction and fact*, then later *Analog Science Fiction & Fact*. Instead of action pictures with ray guns, monsters, and semi-nude women, he installed covers with astronomical scenes, or character poses, majestic space ships, sometimes even humorous situations, emphasizing that *Astounding* was solidly aimed at the adult science fiction reader.

John Campbell's editorship lasted over thirty years until his sudden death in 1971. Meanwhile Street & Smith had been sold to Conte Nast Publications in 1961. *Analog* has gone thru several other publishers since, but continues to appear on a six-issue per year schedule. Most of its current readers are subscribers, and the magazine continues to be a leader in printing interesting, innovative science fiction stories to this very day.