

Holmdel Science Fiction Discussion Group
Club Notice - 12/7/79

MEETINGS UPCOMING:

(Unless otherwise stated, all meetings are on Wednesdays at noon.)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
12/12/79	GATEWAY by Fredrick Pohl, rm 3H-506
1/9/80	BLIND VOICES by Tom Reamy, rm 3H-506
1/16/80	Iguanacon slide presentation, rm 3H-506
1/30/80	BERSERKER by Fred Saberhagen, rm 3H-506
2/20/80	LAST AND FIRST MEN by Olaf Stapledon, rm 3H-506

Our library is in HO 2D-634A. Rich Ditch (x3432) is librarian.
Evelyn Leeper (HO 1G-318A x6334) is Club book-buyer.

1. As you might have guessed, this is a reminder that there is a meeting coming up to discuss GATEWAY by Fredrick Pohl.

2. On January 16, Evelyn Leeper will show a set of slides of costumes from the Iguanacon (i.e. the 1977 World S. F. Convention) costume ball. Rich Ditch may also be showing some slides at that time.

3. Attached to this notice you will hopefully find:

- one (1) book review by Evelyn C. Leeper
- one (1) listing of upcoming science fiction conventions that Rich Ditch has contributed in flagrant violation of all copyright laws
- one (1) newsletter from the Science Fiction Shop in NYC
- one (1) staple just to sort of hold things together

4. Tomorrow STAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE opens across the country. Rumor has it that it really is just a project to test whether old tv shows can be viably revived as popular films and to raise seed money for the spectacular \$52,000,000 FATHER KNOWS BEST: THE MOTION PICTURE.

Mark Leeper
HO 2B-502A x7093

THE BEST OF TREK, edited by Walter Irwin & G.B. Love. Signet, New York, 1979, 239p, Paper, Non-fiction, \$1.75. ISBN 0-451-08030-0.

This is a book with an established market -- fans of Star Trek will buy it, those who are not fans will not. This is probably all for the best; only a dyed-in-the-wool fan will enjoy this book.

The book consists of 31 articles previously published in TREK, a Star Trek fanzine. Most of the articles are predictable: interviews with actors from the series, convention reports, discussions of the technology used in Star Trek, etc. All the articles seem based on the same premises: 1) "Star Trek" was a wonderful show with deep intellectual and emotional content, 2) Paramount Studios or NBC was to blame for anything that was wrong with the series, and 3) Every member of the cast and crew was a wonderful guy to work with. These biases make serious study of the series impossible. For example, one author blames the poor quality of the third season on the fact that NBC moved the show to late Friday night; while the new time was less desirable than the old, this doesn't forgive the sloppy production values of that season. There are several articles along the lines of "how Star Trek cured me of my racism" (really!), or "how Star Trek can solve the world's problems". The articles on history and technology tend to gloss over the sociological and scientific inaccuracies of the show, and, in general, the articles are amateurishly written. The cover by Eddie Jones is quite good, but has absolutely nothing to do with Star Trek. Recommended for hard-core Trek fans only.

Evelyn C. Leeper

CONLOG

Nov. 9-11. PHILCON 43. Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel, King of Prussia PA. GoH: Joan D. Vinge. Artist GoH: Karl Kofoed. Registration: \$6 to 10/1, then \$8. Write: Randi Millstein, 10104 Clark St., Philadelphia PA 19116.

Nov. 9-11. ICON 4. Coachman Inn, Iowa City IA. GoH: Gene Wolfe. Fan GoH: Rusty Hevelin. Registration: \$7 to 10/26, then \$9. Write: Science Fiction League of Iowa Students c/o Hinchcliffe, Rte 3, Farm 696, Cedar Rapids IA 52401.

Nov. 10-12. LOSCON 6. Airport Park Hotel, Los Angeles CA. GoH: A.E. Van Vogt. Registration: \$10. Write: Loscon 6, c/o Elayne Pelz, 15931 Kalisher St., Granada Hills CA 91344.

Nov. 16-18. TUS-CON VI. Executive Inn, Tucson AZ. GoH: Ed Bryant/Suzy McKee Charnas. Registration: \$7.50 to 10/15, then \$10. Write: TusCon VI, P.O. Box 40934, Tucson AZ 85717.

Nov. 23-25. CHAMBANACON 9. Ramada Inn, Champaign IL. GoH: Andrew Offutt. Fan GoH: Al & Peggy Tegen.

THE PENULTIMATE TRUTH:
WHEREIN THE SUBSCRIBER
MEETS THE REALITY OF THEIR
MAILING LABEL...

The number following your name on the STARSHIP envelope is the whole number of your last issue. To find the whole number of *this* issue, look at the first column on page three. Untrue fact: nearly 73% of all subscribers who have failed to renew their subscriptions have been devoured by wild civil servants.

Ad Index

Advent: Publishers	15
ALGOL Press	7, 21, 43
Author's Coop	61
Avon Books	Cover 3
Berkley Books	16
A Change of Hobbit	20
JAW Books	Cover 2
Jell Books	13, 19, 33, 62
Joubleday	11, 22, 51
Eon Products	34
G.K. Hall	44
Barry R. Levin	48
McGraw-Hill	61
Pennyfarthing Press	28, 47
Playboy Press	36
Pocket Books	49
FChronicle	30, 31
John Shirley	55
G. Stemplen	63
TSR Hobbies	4
Thrust	57
Vantage Press	52
Workman Publishing	Cover 4

Registration: \$5, \$7 at the door. Write: Al Babcock, 1404 W. Eureka, Champaign IL 61820.

Nov. 30-Dec. 2. NUTRIACON. Grand Hotel, New Orleans LA. GoH: Karl Edward Wagner. Fan GoH: Bob Tucker. Registration: \$6 to 10/30, then \$9. Write: NutriaCon, 6221 Wadsworth, New Orleans LA 70122.

Jan. 4-6, 1980. CHATTACON 5. Sheraton Downtown Hotel, Chattanooga TN. GoH: Joan D. Vinge. Registration: \$7 to 9/30, then \$9. Write: Chattanooga, P.O. Box 21173, Chattanooga TN 37421.

Jan. 11-13. HEXACON 2. Host Town, Lancaster PA. GoH: Donald R. Bensen. Registration: \$5, \$7 at the door. Write: Bruce & Flo Newrock, Box 270-A, RD2, Flemington NJ 08822.

Jan. 18-20. CONFUSION 6 and/or 7. Plymouth Hilton, Plymouth MI. GoH: Stanley Schmidt. Fan GoH: Elliot Shorter. Registration: \$6 to 1/1/80, then \$10. Write: Ann Arbor SF Association, c/Karen Persello, 1115 Granger, Ann Arbor MI 48104.

Feb. 15-17. BOSKLONE. Radisson Ferncroft, Danvers MA. GoH: Spider & Jeanne Robinson. Registration: \$7 to 1/14, then \$10. Write: NESFA, Box G, MIT Branch P.O., Cambridge MA 02139.

Feb. 15-17. RAIN TOO. Rembrandt Hotel, Vancouver BC, Canada. GoH: John Varley. Registration: \$6 to 2/12, then \$7. Write: RAIN Too, P.O. Box 48478, Bentall Centre, Vancouver BC V7X 1A2, Canada.

Feb. 16-18. DUNDRACON V. Villa Hotel, San Mateo CA. Write: Dundracon V, 386 Alcatraz Avenue, Oakland CA 94618.

Feb. 22-24. PENULTICON III. Denver Hilton, Denver CO. GoH: Vonda McIntyre/Hal Clement. Fan GoH: Marty Massoglia. Registration: \$10 to 2/1, then \$15. Write: Penulticon III, 4430 West 36th Ave., Denver CO 80212.

Mar. 7-9. WISCON 4. Wisconsin Center & Madison Inn, Madison WI. GoH: Octavia Butler & Joan Vinge. Fan GoH: Bev DeWeese. Registration: \$8 to 2/29, then \$10 at the door. Write: SF3, Box 1624, Madison WI 53701.

Mar. 14-16. LUNACON '80. Sheraton Heights, Hasbrouck Heights NJ. GoH: Larry Niven. Artist GoH: Vincent DiFate. Science Speaker: Dr. Rosalyn S. Yalow. Registration: \$10 to 2/29, then \$13. Write: Lunacon '80 c/Walter R. Cole, 1171 E. 8th Street, Brooklyn NY 11230.

Mar. 27-30. AGGIECON XI. Texas A&M University, College Station TX. GoH: Poul Anderson. Write: Aggiecon XI, P.O. Box 5718, College Sta. TX 77844.

May 2-4. MARCON XV. Holiday Inn-on-the-lane, Columbus OH. GoH: L. Sprague de Camp. Fan GoH: Brian Earl Brown. Registration: \$8 to 4/1, then \$10. Write: Marcon, P.O. Box 2583, Columbus OH 43215.

May 2-4. LEPRECON VI. Hyatt Regency Hotel, Phoenix AZ. Write: 3112 N. 26th Pl., Phoenix AZ 85016.

May 2-4. KUBLA KHANATE. Quality Inn, Nashville TN. GoH: Stephen King. MC: Andrew Offutt. Registration: \$7.50, \$10 at the door. Write: Ken Moore, 647 Devon Drive, Nashville TN 37220.

Jul. 4-6. WESTERCON 33. Hyatt Hotel, Los Angeles CA. GoH: Roger Zelazny. Fan GoH: Bob Vardeman. Registration: \$15 to 5/31, then \$20. Write: Westercon 33, Box 2009, Van Nuys CA 91404.

Jul. 19-21. OKON '80. Mayo Hotel, Tulsa OK. GoH: Alan Dean Foster. Fan GoH: Shelby Bush III/Mary Kay Jackson. Registration: \$7.50 to 7/1, then \$9. Write: Okon, P.O. Box 4229, Tulsa OK 74104.

Aug. 1-3. SON OF PARACON. Sheraton Penn State Inn, State College PA. GoH: Charles L. Grant. Artist GoH: Kelly Freas. Fan GoH: Richard Frank. Registration: \$6 to 6/30, then \$8. Write: Bob Castro, 425 Waupelani Drive #24, State College PA 16801.

Aug. 29-Sept. 1. NOREASCON 2. 38th World SF Convention. Sheraton-Boston Hotel & Hynes Civic Auditorium, Boston MA. GoH: Damon Knight, Kate Wilhelm. Fan GoH: Bruce Pelz. Registration: \$8 supporting at all times; \$30 attending to 7/1/80. Write: Noreascon 2, P.O. Box 46, MIT Branch P.O., Cambridge MA 02139.

Feb. 12-15, 1981. AQUACON. Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim CA. GoH: Philip Jose Farmer. Fan GoH: Janice Bogstad/Jeanne Gomoll. Registration: \$10 to 3/31, then higher. (Formerly Disneycon). Write: Aquacon, P.O. Box 815, Brea CA 92621.

Sep. 2-7. DENVENTION II. 39th World Science Fiction Convention. Denver Hilton, Denver CO. GoH: C.L. Moore/Clifford D. Simak. Fan GoH: Rusty Hevelin. Registration to 1/1/80: \$7.50 supporting, \$15 attending. Write: Denvention II, P.O. Box 11545, Denver CO 80211.

sfs newsletter

NEWSLETTER # 14

MIDWAY BETWEEN THE
AUTUMNAL EQUINOX &
THE WINTER SOLSTICE
1979

The Science Fiction Shop Newsletter is brought out for the friends and customers of The Science Fiction Shop and appears at irregular intervals.

What's selling? Best sellers in the last couple of months have included Delany's Tales of Neveryon, White's Ambulance Ship, Anderson's Avatar, Vance's The Face (the long-awaited fourth "Demon Prince" novel), the Meredith "Timeliner" trilogy, and A Reader's Guide to Science Fiction, which has been one of the all time best sellers at the Shop (and we really weren't twisting anyone's arm). For that, thank you all. Springer's The White Hart (see below for an evaluation) is really taking off. And in hard cover, Zelazny's Roadmarks seems to be leading the recent list.

What's new and good? Baird, Beth and Michael agree that The White Hart is the best fantasy of its kind to come along since Riddle-Master. Martin says that Ballard's The Unlimited Dream Company maintains that author's high standards. The Merman's Children (or "Spawn of Ethel" as it's known around the Shop) is second only to Broken Sword among Anderson's too-few fantasies. Welcome back into print Vance's The Dying Earth, his first book and maybe his best. For all the young at heart, it's marvelous to have the first 7 Oz books available in mass market editions, and we look forward to the next lot, coming out early in 1980. Two "art" books of special interest--Michael Whelan's Wonderworks is an awesomely beautiful collection of that fine artist's works, and Barlowe's Guide to Extraterrestrials gives us Wayne Barlowe's meticulous portraits of many of the aliens that we have known and loved from various works of science fiction. (Beth did the research and writing on it.)

What's upcoming of interest? Michael G. Coney's Charisma (Dec.) is a neat combination of science fiction and murder mystery.

Anderson and Dickson's Earthman's Burden (Dec.) brings back to us the lovable Hokas and their dizzy imitations of various aspects of Terran culture. McCaffrey's Dragondrums will be available in paperback in Feb. Later in 1980 will be the fifth Vance "Demon Prince" novel, The Book of Dream. And in the farther future, Elsie Wollheim tells us that DAW will be getting two more Darkover novels from Marion Bradley.

As this is written, Christmas is looming over us like an avalanche of sugar plums. Some sugges-



tions for Christmas giving for S/f aficionados (to and from): The Science Fiction Encyclopedia in hard cover would be a kingly gift (and a princely one in paperback). No need to say who would like Pictures by Tolkien or The Tolkien Bestiary. Conan fans would go ape over the two new deluxe Howard books from Donald Grant. For more esoteric tastes, the hard cover, collector's editions of Vance's Green Magic, Dunsany's A Dreamer's Tales, and Lafferty's Archipelago are very handsome, indeed. The 7 Oz books in paperback would be splendid for a young fantasist. And for a real one-of-a-kind gift, how about a '30s or '40s pulp magazine, perhaps containing an early Sturgeon work, a John Taine novel, or illustrations by Bok or Finlay?

John Brunner's visit to the Shop a few months back was recorded on film by the BBC and was broadcast last month in Britain as part of a documentary on John himself. We learned this from a letter from Brian Aldiss who had seen it the night before he wrote (the letter was mainly some very kind, very welcome words about A Reader's Guide). A subsequent letter from Brian went into some detail about his recent trip to China. We've also had a very jolly letter indeed from James Tiptree, Jr., about the Guide.

If you're wondering about the absence of two large-format paperbacks--Anderson's A Stone in Heaven and Dickson's Spirit of Dorsai--from our shelves, rumor has it that Ace sold the entire print run to several large chains, leaving the specialty shops and wholesalers totally out in the cold. We will point out that they will be published next year in less expensive, mass market editions which Ace may even condescend to make available.

Also missing was the Nov. issue of The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction for different, if equally infuriating reasons; it was lost in the mail somewhere between them and us (as was the next-to-last issue of Locus). We try, dear customers, we really try, but sometimes circumstances defeat us.

Now that Wall of Serpents is out in paperback, let's clear up the Harold Shea confusions, shall we? Two magazine novelettes, "The Roaring Trumpet" and "The Mathematics of Magic," were put together to make the first book, The Incomplete Enchanter. The second book devoted to Shea was The Castle of Iron. Those two (or three) went to make up The Compleat Enchanter (just recently out of print, according to our trusty Ballantine/del Rey salesman. Natch.). Two subsequent novelettes, Wall of Serpents and The Green Magician, made up a hard cover, titled Wall of Serpents, that is now a collector's item. The novelette Wall appeared in a short-lived anthology in paperback. The book Wall was recently republished in hard cover, and is now in paperback. There will now be a test...

A dramatization of Ursula K. Le Guin's Lathe of Heaven will be broadcast on PBS early in January. And if you see that station is repeating a three-part British series called An Englishman's Castle, don't miss it.

May your holidays be all jollies and no hassles, and a happy and prosperous 1980 from Baird, Martin, Michael and Beth...