

Holmdel Science Fiction Discussion Group
Club Notice - 10/20/81 -- Vol. 4, No. 14

MEETINGS UPCOMING:

(Unless otherwise stated, all Holmdel meetings are on Wednesdays at noon in room HO 4A-606)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
11/4/81	TACTICS OF MISTAKE by Gordon Dickson, HO 4H-305 (HP: SNOW QUEEN by Joan Vinge)
11/10,11/81	Video meetings: LATHE OF HEAVEN, HO 4H-305
11/17,18/81	Video meetings: FIVE MILLION YEARS TO EARTH, HO 1A-505
11/25/81	FIFTH HEAD OF CERBERUS by Gene Wolfe, HO 4H-305
12/8,9/81	Video meetings: QUEST FOR LOVE, HO 1H-606
12/16/81	RIDDLEMASTER OF HED by Patricia McKillip

Our library is in HO 4B-510. Mike Lukacs (x4043) is librarian. Debi Bennett (HP 1B-368 x2408) is in charge of South Plainfield activities. Evelyn Leeper (HO 1E-313 x6033) is Club book-buyer. Alan M. Gopin (HO 1D-407 x2089) is the game chairperson. This notice publishes anything (not slanderous or libelous) submitted by club members. Members, feel free to submit.

1. There was a story of some science fiction interest on WNYC's (National Public Radio's) MORNING EDITION this morning. Apparently Crick (of Watson and Crick, who shared the Nobel Prize for discovery of the genetic significance of DNA) has written a new book in which he theorizes about the origins of life on Earth. His theory is that another civilization seeded the Earth with life. When asked if Earth was indeed seeded, where are the seeders, he responded that they are all around us today. We are the seeders, or at least they have become us. He also discussed the possibility that we should be seeding other planets with our bacteria to create new civilizations. All this sounds like a replay of ideas that Nigel Kneale put into his BBC-TV play QUATERMASS AND THE PIT back in the 1950's. The film based on that play, FIVE MILLION YEARS TO EARTH, will be our second video meeting of the current series which we will show November 17 and 18.

2. Our subscription to ARES has begun. ARES is a magazine that concentrates on the interest of science fiction gamers. Since S.F. gaming is becoming a major subactivity of the club it was suggested that might want to subscribe and it was so voted at a recent meeting. ARES contains science fiction (mostly SF that can be turned easily into games), articles about gaming (particularly science fiction gaming), and each issue contains one game that has been play-tested by people who have the time to sit around and play games all day. These are usually people for whom the games are part of their therapy. This, in fact, accounts for why you will never see a game in ARES that requires any equipment sharper than a crayon. [People who play TRAVELLER will notice, incidently, that -- besides dice rolling that can be delegated to an attendant -- there is nothing in the play of the game that would not be possible for a player who has temporary restraints placed on his hands and arms.] The game in the current ARES is based on the STAINLESS STEEL RAT stories of Harry Harrison.

Mark Leeper
HO 2B-515 x7093