

Holmdel Science Fiction Discussion Group
Club Notice - 2/4/82 -- Vol. 4, No. 25

MEETINGS UPCOMING:

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

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
2/9,10/82 Tu,W	Video Meetings: THIS ISLAND EARTH, HO 4A-606
2/24/82	DEAD ZONE by Stephen King, HO 4A-606
3/2,3/82 Tu,W	Video Meetings, HO 4A-606
3/17/82	WORLD OF THE PTAVVS by Larry Niven
4/7/82	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. Don't forget video meetings coming up on February 9 and 10 to see THIS ISLAND EARTH, based on the novel by Raymond F. Jones. This is one of the gee-whizziest of all 50's science fiction films and it is the only film I can think of (correct me if I am wrong) to depict full-scale interplanetary warfare. See if you can spot Eddie Parker in a cameo role. [Who's Eddie Parker? He was the stuntman who was usually inside the monster in the old Universal horror films. He was under the makeup when Lon Chaney Jr. got credit for being the Mummy and did Boris Karloff's athletic stunts as Mr. Hyde in ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE.] He once again plays a monster uncredited in THIS ISLAND EARTH.

2. As will come as something as a surprise to those of us who knew what was going on in Traveller, our Thursday 2/4 meeting did not decimate all our characters. I say this is a surprise since as we went into the session we were just moments away from death for all the characters at the hands of hands of a horde of well-armed rebel miners. As it happened, one of our more resourceful, intelligent, and charming characters (modesty forbids me to tell you who) had the quick wit to save the lives of all but one of his fellow players by threatening to blow up himself and take a certain briefcase of valuable stock certificates with him. [I'd have saved the other player, too, if he'd followed my instructions.] Another Adventure starts 2/11 and this one promises to have a little more interesting s.f. content. Join us to explore an unexplored planet.

Mark Leeper
HO 2B-515 x7093

THE BOOGENS: Old-Fashioned Horror

A film review by Mark R. Leeper

The last year or so has not been very good for horror films. The vast majority have been carbon copies of each other with the now-tired plot that a psychopathic killer is after scantily clad women. There must be three or four of these films released each month while all other horror plots are dying out. Now like a breath of fresh Colorado air comes THE BOOGENS. THE BOOGENS is actually a sort of a hybrid -- a second cousin of the mad slasher yawn-a-thons and a first cousin of the old monster films. While some of its approaches are similar to those of its fellow Grade B horror films, it at least has an honest-to-goodness monster as well as some honest thrills.

The story deals with the reopening of a Colorado silver mine that had once been plagued with mining accidents. The viewer quickly realizes that the so-called accidents were actually attacks by boogens, immensely powerful tentacled creatures who inhabit the rocky corridors of the silver mine. Aroused and freed from the mine, the boogens proceed to depopulate the cast. One by one the human invaders are dispatched, usually before they can warn the other humans.

Director James L. Conway breathes more than the usual life into his six likable main characters (seven if you count the obnoxious poodle). If you look, there is even a tear of pathos for the lot of the poor monster forced to kill periodically to protect his home turf. There is more than a subtle touch of sex in the script, enough that a few years ago might have seemed excessive, but in the Eighties doesn't seem all that unrealistic. In all, not the best film to come along in years but a pretty good exercise in horror considering that until now director Conway did those puerile but wholesome documentaries for the notorious Sunn Classics film company.