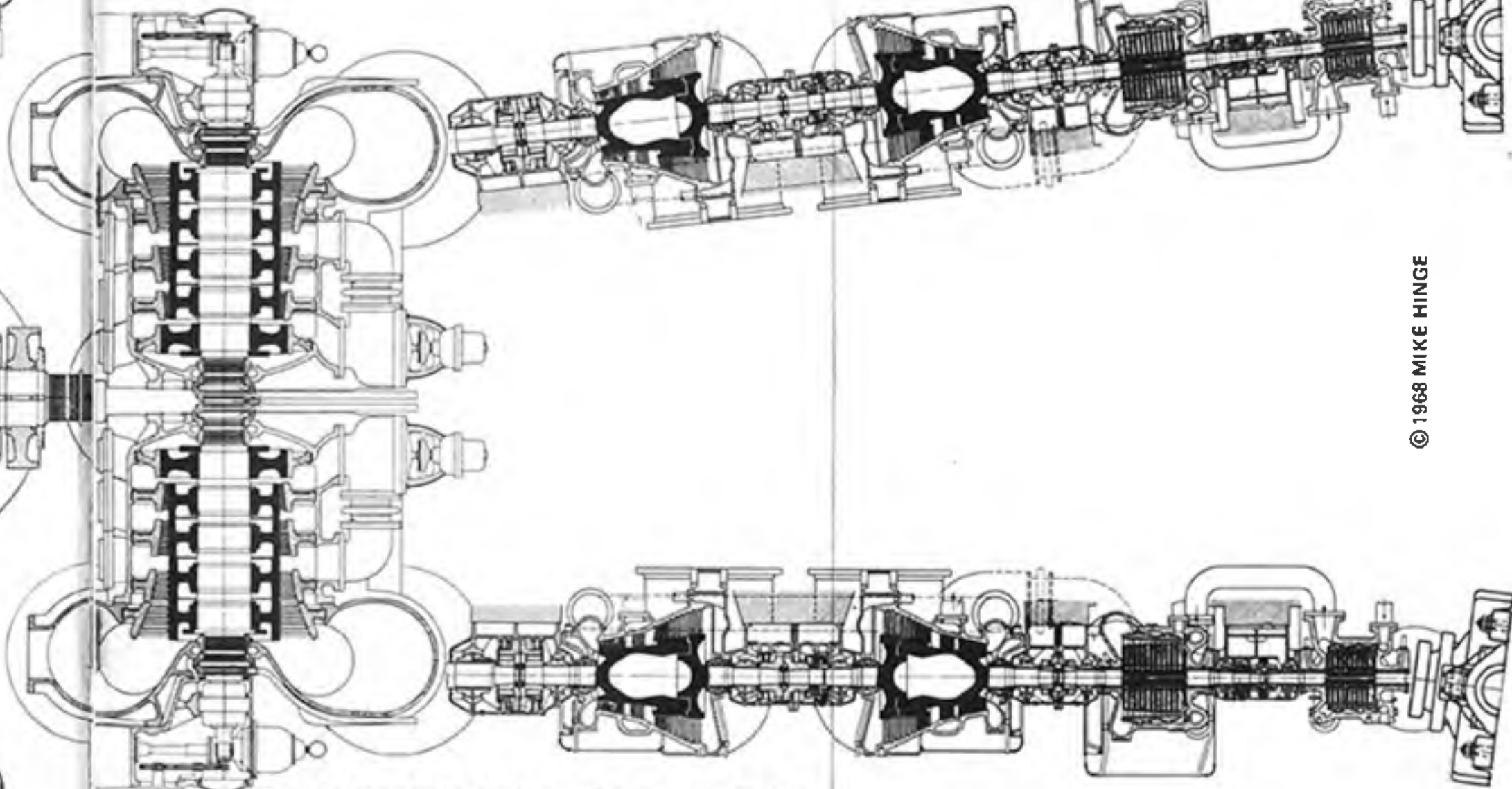


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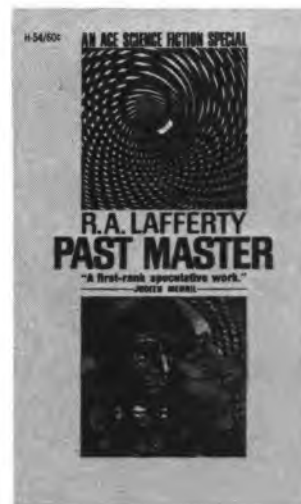
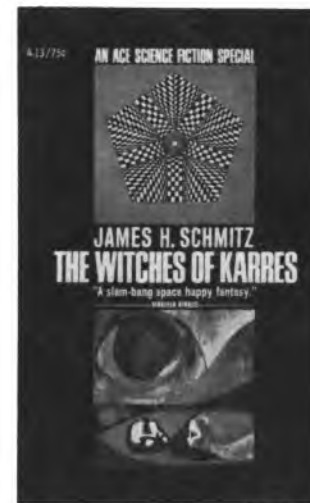


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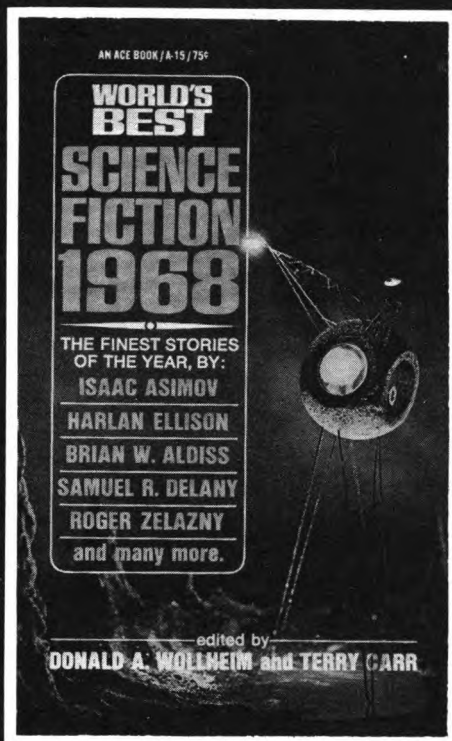
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DONALD A. WOLLHEIM

an appreciation

Donald A. Wollheim is one of the few people in the world of whom it can be said that modern science fiction would be entirely different if he had not lived.

Just to begin with, he practically invented the present structure of fandom. He was the primary founder and organizer of the first World Science Fiction Convention, for example. He was also the founder of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association, and later, of the Vanguard Amateur Press Association. Originally, he wanted to call VAPA the Gothic APA, and perhaps we should have gone along with him; whatever the reason, VAPA is now dead, but FAPA sails gloriously on.

His hospitality to new writers, as an editor, goes back a long time, too. He was the first man to publish Cyril Kornbluth, and if he had never done anything else we would still be in his debt; and there are a good many other writers still operating who got their starts in the pages of Stirring and Cosmic.

As is true of any venturesome man, not all his inventions have been entirely happy. Perhaps he himself no longer looks back fondly on the only science fiction magazine ever to have had a comic book bound into it. On the other hand, the Avon Fantasy Readers may fairly be called among the very first ventures in anthology publishing; and it is worth noting that today, science fiction supports more anthologies per year than any

other field of writing, by a very wide margin.

He has made a notable record, too, in anticipating trends in public taste invisible to everybody else. The present revival of sword-and-sorcery can be attributed quite directly to his venture in putting Edgar Rice Burroughs into paper-back. And if there is any one man after Tolkien himself who can be said to be responsible for the Great Tolkien Craze, that man is Donald A. Wollheim. It ought also to be noted to his credit that Ace publishes more science fiction of all kinds than any other publishing house -- a fact of considerable importance itself. He also made it possible to put a great many relatively short novels or long novelettes into book form by the invention of the Ace Double.

He was the first man to try a series of books based on a popular television program -- the U.N.C.L.E. series. As a result of their success, we now also have Star Trek books, Invaders books, Time Tunnel books and even Flying Nun books. As a curious by-product, we also have a rash of other books with acronyms in their titles, which seem to sell well even without a popular television show to back them up; the visitor to a paperback stand these days may sometimes get the impression that he has gotten caught in a spelling bee, though some of the words being spelled are considerably less innocuous than UNCLE.

In the meantime, his interest in new writers is undimmed; he may some day have as good reason to be proud of Chip Delany as he can be of C. M. Kornbluth. That he is still taking this kind of chance after 28 years is characteristic. He has the most important (and, unfortunately, one of the rarest) qualities for a science fiction editor: he is not now and has never been a follower.

-- James Blish



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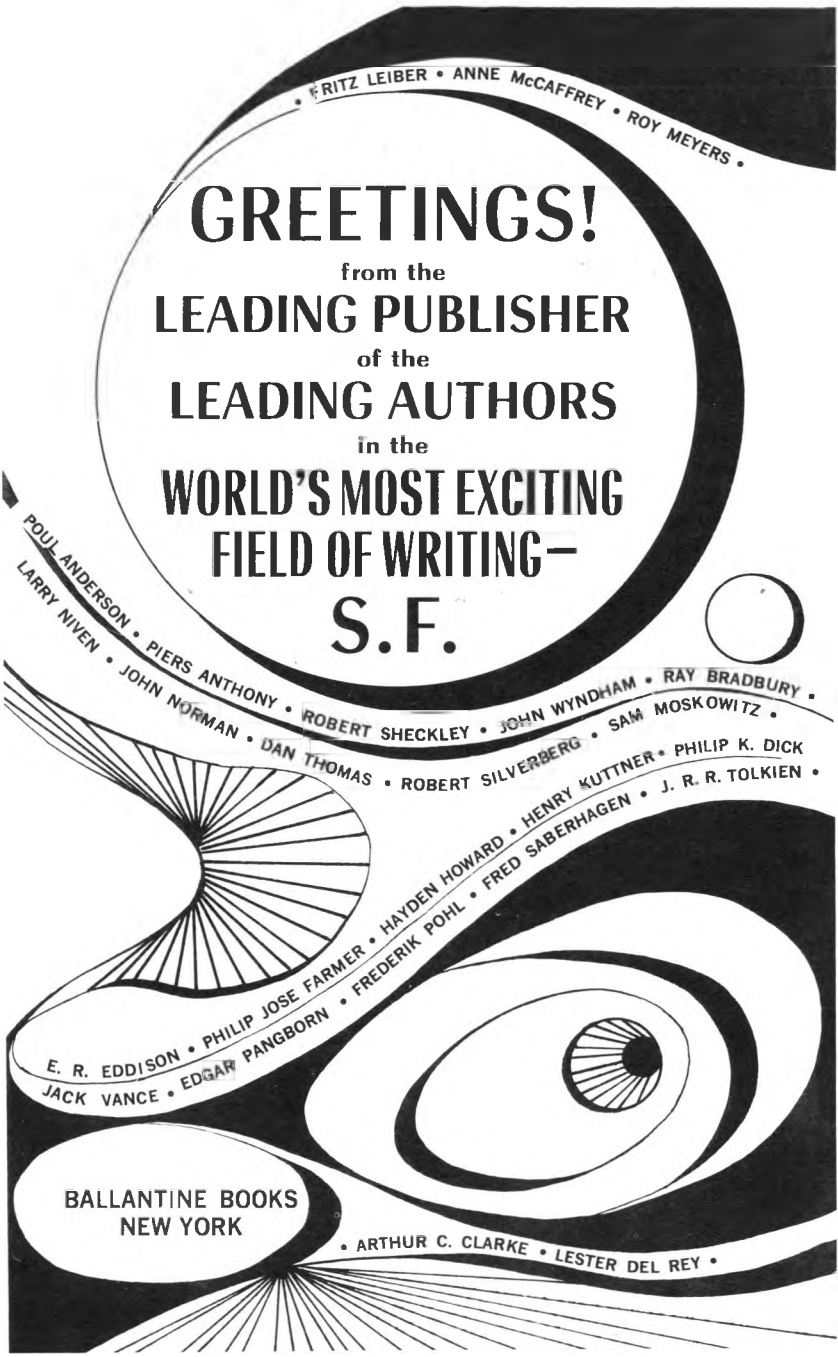
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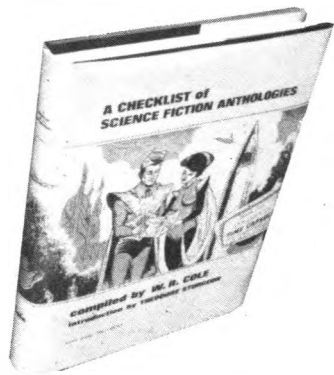
This year the Eastercon has been planned for the same location, the Park-Sheraton suite. Your membership card provides admittance to the Lunacon both days and the Eastercon, therefore you must retain your card and holder for all events.

Committee members (the active members of The Lunarians) will be happy to provide you with information about the Lunacon or other activities in the New York area; they will be wearing committee ribbons so that you may easily identify them.

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<u>Year</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Guest of Honor</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
1957	May 12	---	65
1958	April 13	Frank R. Paul	85
1959	April 12	Lester Del Rey	80
1960	April 10	Ed Emsh	75
1961	April 9	Willy Ley	105
1962	April 29	Frederik Pohl	105
1963	April 21	Judith Merrill	115
1965	April 24	Hal Clement	135
1966	April 16-17	Isaac Asimov	235
1967	April 29-30	James Blish	275
1968	April 20-21	DONALD A. WOLLHEIM	

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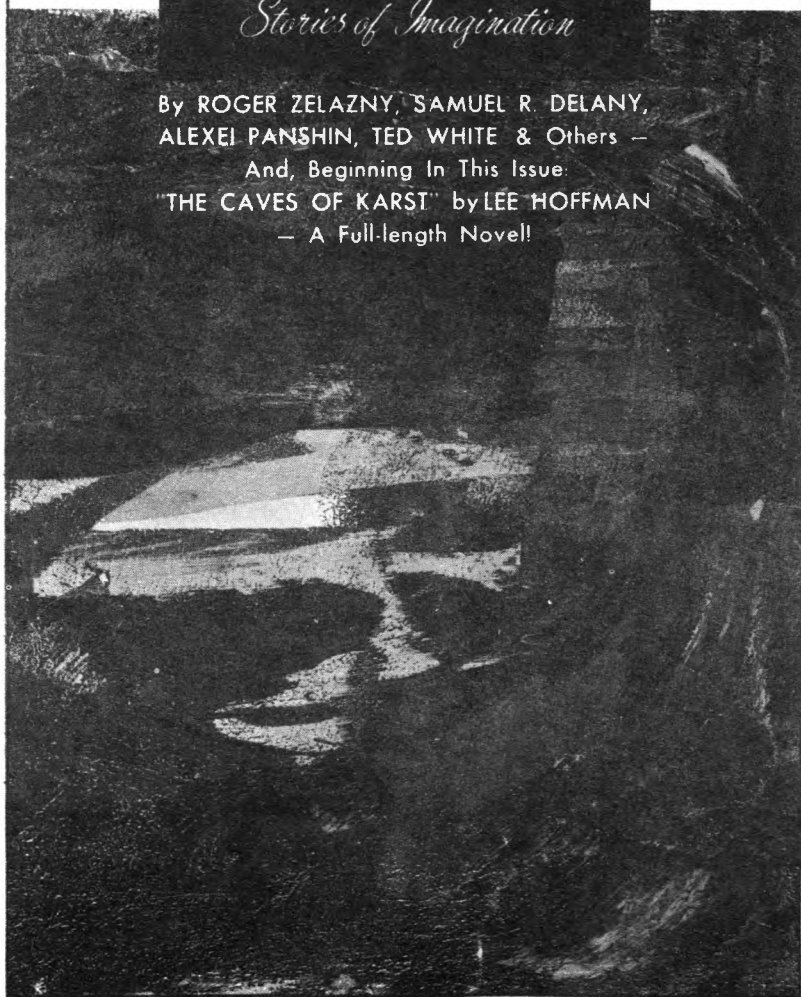
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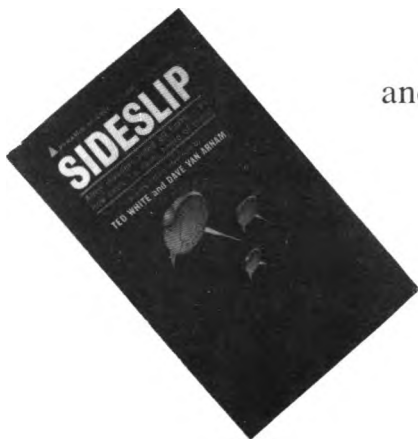
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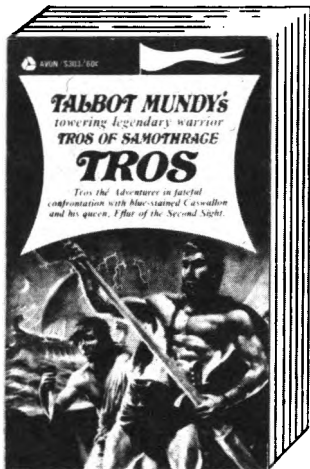
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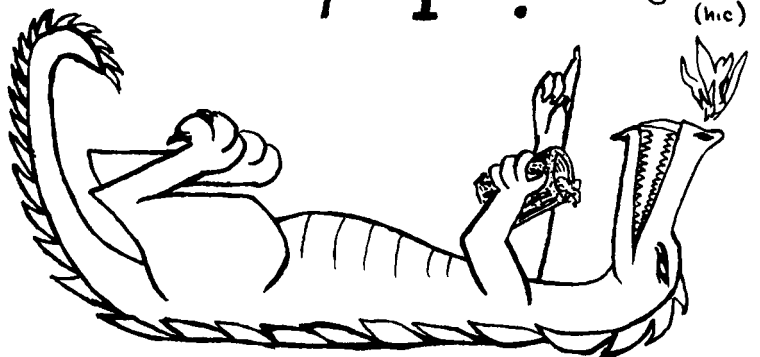
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