

The DAILY DISCARD

OFFICIAL Newsletter of the 32nd World Science Fiction Convention
Issue #2

Saturday, August 31 1974

Jim Landau reported a breathtaking, world shaking, record breaking 3809 members at the close of registration last evening. This is a dramatic increase over previous attendance records. Previously, the largest worldcon attendance was at Torcon II last year, where approximately 2900 people joined. In L.A. the year before that, were 2007. Boston, the year before, had 2050. No worldcon prior to that had ever achieved much over 1500.

And incidentally, anyone whose membership number is below 1050 is entitled to a small book of Roger Zelazny's poetry. If you didn't get yours when you registered, go back for it.

OUR FAVORITE MARTIAN, Ray Walston was presented with a plaque by Andy Offutt at the meet-the-pros gala last night, in appreciation of his simple, but entertaining, portrayal of a martian in the long-running and popular series which has helped to convey a positive image of our genre to the public. Mr. Walston came prepared with a speech, but due to the completely inadequate sound system, he was unable to give it. Mr. Walston says that he enjoys SF mainly in the cinema, but that he did try to acquaint himself with material that he thought would help him in his role as a martian.

The babysitting staff is handling a large job with a very small number of people. They are paying helpers, so please try to give them a hand. The babysitters have moved to the TAFT-VINCINS Room, due to poor air conditioning in the other room.

Alternatives to eating: tired of paying criminal prices for outrageous meals? Try staying out of the hotel's eating places. The last time I looked, someone had started a list of places to feed yourself cheap within walking distance on the bulletin board near the Calvert Room.

Kim Weston, who's responsible for the outstanding film show, informs me that the "to be announced" movie scheduled for Saturday afternoon (3:30?) will probably be the Hugo award winning Star Trek episode "City on the Edge of Forever," written by Harlan Ellison.

SCHEDULE: Gathering for fanzine people, initiated by Jodie offutt & Jackie Franke, Saturday, 1 P.M., Franklin Room; Science Fiction Research Association, free coffee, Saturday, 4-6 P.M., Adams Room; Hyborean Legion Muster, Sunday, 1 P.M., Franklin Room; First Fandom (members only), Sunday, midnight, Continental Room.

SIDESHOWS: Make good use of the N3F Hospitality Suite. It is a rare haven of sanity, and there's sometimes a bridge game. If you don't know what N3F means, go there and find out. It's in the Madison Room.

The World Future Society is sponsoring various activities throughout the con. Collar William Moore or Roy Mason, or see who's manning their table in the huckster's room for more info.

The Arica Institute is represented, also. This is a well organized group which is into altered states of consciousness. They will hold a lecture-demonstration on Monday, 1-3 P.M., in the Franklin Room. They also have a table in the huckster's room.

Those of you who were shocked to see a Bernard Lawrence Janifer listed on the In Memoriam page of the program book will be relieved to know that this is not the Lawrence Janifer whom we all know, but his child, which only lived a few days, sadly.

Take advantage of the various groups promoting other conventions. These people will give you 1) beer, 2) a pat on the back and a friendly word, 3) discounts on memberships, 4) lots of pretty literature, and if it's Aussiecon, all of the above.

There are a number of real old-timers at this convention who belong to a group called First Fandom. They have the distinction of having been active in fandom since at least 1939! It's a last-man-club which is still going strong, with over two hundred members. Most of the Big Name Fans of yesteryear have become professionally involved with SF, and the annual social get together of First Fandom this weekend will be a collection of great names. They're not great just because of their contributions collectively to SF, but also because they're really really true fa-ans. (Try to get one of them to show you his fancy Gernsback blazer badge.)

KEEP THOSE NOTES coming folks. Bring me news. Drop those little scrawled comments in the little blue box in the Calvert Room labelled "for the newsletter." I hate doing this paper by myself. Aaargh!