

Registered for posting as
Publication Category B

volume 2, number 7

• • • • •

1978: Iguanacon

Novel: Frederik Pohl for GATEWAY

Novelette: John D Vinge for 'Eyes of Amber'

Dramatic Presentation: STAR WARS

Professional Editor: George Scithers

Fan Writer: Richard E Geis

(*According to my information, these pipples are withdrawing from future contention.)

John W Campbell Award: Orson Scott Card

Gandalf Award for best novel: J R R Tolkien for THE SILMARILLION

First Fandom Award: E Hoffman Price

Pat Terry Award: Spider Robinson for CALLAHAN'S CROSSTIME SALOON

Fan

Best Fantasy: Tom Kidd

Best Comic: Grant Canfield

Best SF: Vincent Di Fate

Best Fantasy: Alicia Austin

Best Comic: Larry Todd

'Bill Bowers' speech at the Hugo Presentation was characterised by "I don't give speeches, I read them" and "when this is over I'll be able to relax for the first time in two years." Father William expressed great love for fandom and his fellow guest of honour, disclaiming any appearance of unfriendliness towards Harlan, while admiring him for being able to devote his life to causes that mean so much to him. Harlan, upon leaping onto the stage, was struck dumb with emotion. "I don't mean to cause trouble..." he said, and affirmed that he too was one of us. On fandom's poor reputation he said "No one said ((to the press)) that a bunch of kids brought 6000 people together for a convention that has lasted for bearly a week - and it runs!" as opposed to the army of workers the Shriners would need. From there he turned to his stand on ERA. Pointing out the absurdity of a fan being ejected from the art show for wearing an ERA shirt by convention committee workers because of alleged political content, Ellison declared that we can't just ignore the important injustices in this world of ours. It was a warm and moving speech.' (Brian Earl Brown in THE BULLSHEET 4)

(The previous page courtesy John Millard)

1979: Seacon '79

The second Progress Report (Summer 1978) has just arrived in Australia: as of June 1978, membership was over 1830. Forms for booking accommodation are to be mailed on October 1. The program for SEACON '79 will be formally opened on the afternoon of Thursday August 23, and a four-day convention is planned. From page 3: 'Currently under serious consideration is Robin Johnson's suggestion of an England Vs Australia fannish cricket test-match. If you fancy yourself as fandom's answer to Len Hutton or Donald Bradman, let us know!' Hm, sounds as though our Northern Hemispherical friends are worried that we might sign some Packer players. (Dennis Lillee for GUFF?)

The 32-page PR includes the first episode of a history of British conventions, by Peter Roberts, and an alphabetically-organised membership list: they don't have a country-by-country breakup, however. The NORTHAMERICON will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, from August 30 to September 3. Attending membership is US \$10 to the end of this month, thereafter, who knows? Address for Northamericon - PO Box 58009, Louisville, Kentucky 40258.

Robin Johnson, GPO Box 4039, Melbourne, Vic 3001, is Australian agent for SEACON '79, and until the end of the year membership costs Australians \$14 attending, \$7 supporting.

1980: Noreascon II

Although Boston won the right to stage the 1980 World Science Fiction Convention (to be held August 29 to September 1, 1980 at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel & the Hynes Civic Auditorium) at IGUANACON, precise voting details are not yet available (to me at least). A note from Noreascon II secretary George Flynn indicates that 1024 votes were regarded as valid when site-selection was being determined. Some later cross-checking produced 1070 payers of the voting fee, and by the end of IGUANACON Noreascon II had 805 supporting members and 357 attending members.

The professional Guests of Honour are to be Damon Knight and Kate Wilhelm, and Bruce Pelz is fan Guest of Honour. The Australian agent is once again Robin Johnson, and a recent telephone call has established Australian membership rates for Noreascon II as \$7 supporting, \$13.50 attending. The copy deadline for the first Progress Report is 8 November 1978, and the rates for fan advertisers are full page (10" x 7½") - \$50, half page (either way) \$30, quarter-page \$20.

Noreascon II also plans to publish a fanzine in which discussion of the convention and the plans for it. The Voice of the Lobster is available at 50¢ per, or \$2 for the lot.

The address for direct enquiries is
Noreascon II, Box 46, MIT Branch Post Office, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.

NEWS AND STUFF

I didn't bother to mention in the last issue that Stanley Schmidt is the new editor of Analog, so why should I bother to note that Hank Stine is to edit Galaxy? Probably only to spite Paul Stevens. // Last issue I published a letter from George R R Martin concerning his story "With Morning Comes Mistfall" which, quoting from his letter, I said appeared in the November 2, 1977 Australian Women's Weekly. Ho hum. Christine Ashby has pointed out that the story appears in the November 16, 1977 issue, so all those eagerly searching for copies to send to GRRM are advised to try again. I'm not at liberty to reveal exactly how Christine came to be glancing at Womens Weekly, but it is something to do with Derrick and chess. // Hm, and I witnessed an immortal game in which L Edmonds crushed Derrick. Later, apparently, D Ashby beat Edmonds then Edmonds beat Christine. Funny game, chess. // a shocked world is

is probably still reeling from a public exposure of Leigh Edmonds' musical talents - or some of them. Well, I vaguely recall hearing a piece of Leigh's titled '3LM' on 3CR at about midnight on Thursday September 21. // Why so much mention of Leigh Edmonds? Well, Chunder! is usually run off on his Roneo, and it helps to keep up the egoboo. John Bangsund's machine was responsible for the last issue, and he still has some involvement, as this stencil was stolen from him only yesterday. // Late tennis scores: St Kilda beat Kew 6-1, Juveniles beat Geriatrics 6-4 (after Geriatrics had gotten away to a 3-0 lead). // Mervyn Binns is thinking of running an ASFN benefit on Cup Day. // Bob Smith is now involved in running a winery south of Campbelltown, and retains an interest in cats: sounds a good fannish combination.

THE SPEEDER REEKS (or, how to generate letters of comment)

APOLLO PAPPS

I'm writing this letter in a massive camping ground on the Seine, 3 km from the Arc de Triomphe. It's cheap and within Metro distance - three stops - from Paris central. Paris is grand, beautiful, exciting, and very clean. Yesterday we spent time in the Louvre - I wish I could camp inside it: it's something one should spend days in.

Oxford is magnificent (except for tourists shopping on Saturday morning). We drove into Oxford August 19th and contacted Brian and made arrangement to meet next day for afternoon tea. Sunday morning we drove back into Oxford to visit some more of the colleges. As I drove into a multi-storey car park we heard a horrendous shattering sound - van too high for overhead clearance! I demolished the plastic ventilator bubble above the van. My first thought was, Christ, where in the UK do I get a replacement?

Anyway, we drove sadly on to Brian and Margaret's home - a fantastic 2½ storey home set in a beautiful English garden. Picture us: Richenda, Margaret (great person) and Brian - long-legged and bare-footed, lounging back in garden chairs; a white rabbit in a wire enclosure and a Venus de Milo type sculpture in a flower bed nearby, everyone drinking tea and eating beautiful English cake. The Aldiss children were away for a week so Brian and Margaret were oozing pleasure. Brian decided to block up the hole in the van roof and so proceeded to plaster a big plastic bag down with leftover ends of insulation tape, durex and spit, while his 8 ft body was precariously balanced on a step ladder. Sadly the afternoon drew to a close. But Brian and Margaret decided they wanted to eat with us at a pub, near the vale of the White Horse (an iron age relic on top of the most beautiful hill you could imagine). Well, the kids wanted to travel with Brian, so he drove my family and I drove Margaret. She is really a wonderful person. While at the inn we drank a few pints and ate a great country meal - Christ, Brian can eat! After the meal we drove to the top of the Vale of the White Horse and we had coffee in the van; the kids watched sleepily from the front. Brian was not designed to fit into a VW van, although he seems to be able to fold himself neatly. He afterwards offered us the use - for six months - of his tent, so that we could spread out a bit. He remarked to me sotto voce that it would do wonders for our sex lives, having the children out of the van...

We were very sad to see them drive away. Day after tomorrow, Germany! (from a letter to Lee Harding)

CHRIS PRIEST

By the way, how's GUFF getting on? From this position it looks fairly static, not to say stagnant. I have conned everyone in GB to vote for you - all 3 of them.

JF: Well, there was supposed to be a GUFF newsletter with this, but

GUFF Administrator Leigh Edmonds tells me that since nothing has happened, there's no GUFF Newsletter.

PAUL STEVENS

Sorry I let Merv Scoop you on the Hugoes! It was either that or my job and after all the debts I am running up I need the job desperately. I have been pushing you for GUFF! But you must come back via the USA. Lots of fans want to meet you.

JF: But what have they got in their hands (or behind their backs)? Don't worry about not keeping me up-to-date with your sex life - I check that out in your letters to Merv anyway. // As you know, I do believe that eventually TAFF, DUFF and GUFF may be better off as a consolidated around-the-world Fan Fund, but there is a serious problem with such an arrangement - while the Australian National Convention and the Worldcon are within a week or so of each other, there's no British/European convention also in that period. One-off fundlike the Gillings Fund (more details next issue) may become more common, too.

LEIGH EDMONDS

The letter from Perry Middlemiss and your reply were of interest, and make me realise why I don't put as much energy into genzines as I once did. The statistics on RATAPLAN 19 are interesting in comparison to Perry's, a response of 16 of which you could class only 12 as letters of comment. Of the twelve only one is from Australia and I don't think Stuart Leslie is considered a fan these days which leaves Valma and me with a complete zero of halfway decent responses from Australian fans. If we'd thought RATAPLAN was a crudzine we wouldn't have minded, but when you spend 40¢ eighty or so times and get less than 1% response it doesn't encourage one to rush into print again.

On the other hand, the response we've had from overseas has been fairly enthusiastic so as soon as Rob completes his trip report we'll rush out the next issue - for the overseas audience of course. But I really can't complain since I haven't LOCed either of Perry's fanzines either, or any other Australian fanzine this year.

However I'm writing to point out an interesting item of news which is buried away in the letter column of the latest issue of LOCUS in a spot where it might pass unnoticed. The relevant paragraph reads:

'A committee to bid for the 1983 World SF Convention has been organised here in Lund. The names of our officers, together with the rates for pre-supporting membership, will be available later this year, probably at the end of summer. In the meantime, information can be obtained direct from me (Richard L. Kinney, Fack, S-221 01 Lund, Sweden), as I have been designated information and press secretary for the bidding committee.'

One looks forward to seeing how the Sydney people respond to this event. I suspect that more than one or two Australians who are not impressed by the Sydney performance so far may begin saving up now to attend a more distant '83 Worldcon.

BOB SMITH

It was almost pathetic to see that Fandom hasn't changed too much when it comes to fanzine response, and I noted yours and Perry Middlemiss's remarks with tired amusement... It's pretty much the same with my cat fanzine: little titbits of thot-provoking material from yours truly and colleagues that should bring forth experienced comments from fellow breeders in fact does not. And I guess our common interest is a lot more basic than perhaps your apa, gen, and etc zines. There seems to be an almost primitive reluctance to commit oneself to print. Homo Sapiens is a strange creature...

JAMES STYLES

As yet I don't support the FAAAAs because I believe the Hugos are sufficient and the wingeing propaganda of the FAAAAs repels me. Furthermore, the only US fanzines I receive are SFR, RÜNE, REG-personal journal and various one-shots from multilingual US fans. Therefore I am not familiar with the people involved or the people nominated. Likewise, my fanzine CRUX has more copies circulated in Europe and Canada than in the USA.

My ghod Perry Middlemiss circulates that many fanzines and doesn't get any LOCs? Either that fanzine is not very LOCable or he sends them to all the wrong people! I try to LOC all fanzines I receive but yesterday I was writing to Jon Noble (SOUTH OF HARAD EAST OF RHUN 10) in answer to the fanzine he sent me in February of this year. This just goes to show how far one can get behind and how timeconsuming LOC writing can be, especially when one considers that the time could be used for something one considers more important. For instance if I wasn't LOCwriting now, I could be writing short stories (or finishing the plotting of my novel on a certain Beta Cruxan), training for next year's football season, practising my Yoga lotus position, working out my Tattsлото system entry (7 of course - sacred Sunni Fouroborous number!), studying Air legislation or a hundred other things I've promised myself to study this year (already $\frac{3}{4}$ gone). Yes, LOCwriting is an art practised by some but mastered by few.

Most faneds I contacted when I first decided to publish a fanzine advised joining an apa first to gain 'fanzine' publishing experience. From personal experience I know that one learns a lot more quickly by publishing a genzine than joining an apa. Apas can be an exercise in regression, an. say:

JF: I wonder if anyone will listen to your last paragraph? Peter Toluzzi contributed to the discussion on LOCs a neologism so horrifying that I am unwilling to print it here. If no one else wants to have a go on letters of comment, Perry and I will move on to our next proposed topic.

BERT CHANDLER

I am pleased to note that you are among those not impressed - or impressed in the wrong way - by CE3K. I didn't want to see that film but was dragged to the cinema in which it was showing in Los Angeles. Those with me were gluttons for punishment, it being their third or fourth viewing of the thing.

As far as I was concerned the only character for whom I felt any sympathy was the long-suffering wife who, not before time, flew the coop, leaving her moronic husband to he model-mountain-building...

One thing does amazine me about CE3K, however. That is the number of people whom I used to think were quite intelligent who go into raptures over the bloody thing.

Talking of films - it looks as though I may soon be in the firing line myself. I've sold the option on STAR COURIER to an Australian film company. I have been assured that the special effects will be up to STAR WARS standard. But most of the s-x will have to be deleted.

JF: Congrats on the last paragraph development. And while I am pleased to report that CE3K closes in Melbourne next week, I suspect that a few readers of Chunder! have funny ideas about the film.

EDITORIAL QUICKY

The mailing list for Chunder! is now produced by computer: while you get computer labels, your credit is good. A change to hand-written is an invitation to Do Something. First copies of subs will also usually be handwritten. // Chunder! seems to be moving away from a newszine format: any strong feelings amongst regular readers as to desirable contents?

FANZINE REVIEWS

A Tale of Three Apas

The three apas, and the mailings to be considered, are ANZAPA mailing 63, August 1978, 189 pages, 27 members, 13 waitlisters, Official Bloody Editor: Gary Mason, PO Box 258, Unley, SA 5061; APPLESAUCE distributions 3 & 4, August & September 1978, 65 and 50 pages, Official Editor: Peter Toluzzi, 29 Moira Crescent, Randwick, NSW 2031 (whoops, 32 members, no waitlisters); and FAPA mailing 164, August 1978, 232 pages, 65 members, 10 waitlisters, Secretary-treasurer: Jack Speer, 2416 Cutler NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106.

In his fanzine for APES, the Adelaide-based apa, Frank Payne makes some remarks about FAPA and ANZAPA, comparing them and finding little to be said in favour of FAPA. This brief review is not directed towards the 'better-worse' question, but to the production of some ideas about what each of these apas is up to.

Ten years old, ANZAPA is now fairly stable. Over the years it has had occasional overseas members, usually friends of Australian members who come along for the ride, though some become far more involved than this would suggest. Lately some members have been feeling that ANZAPA is stagnating: the last time this happened, about five years ago, there was a short spell of monthly mailings. Generally speaking, however, ANZAPA jogs along, not too concerned with the outside world (it is the only fan publishing for quite a few members), and enlivened only by occasional contributions from the Brilliant Deadwood (currently Bill Wright and Bruce Gillespie), and shocks like Paul Anderson changing the title of his contribution. It has a few crudzines - but not many, and very few high spots. Less than a third of the members are long-term members but everyone, new and old, seems to get along well: there aren't many open disputes though (hint, hint) members don't get along quite as well as the publications indicate.

APPLESAUCE is quite new. These two mailings are the first after a settling-in period, and new OE Peter Toluzzi takes over from Keith Curtis. Started by Sydney fans, it is still dominated by them: Sydney seems under-represented in ANZAPA, by contrast. It is an unlimited-membership operation, which presently seems more 'democratic' - or at least that's the way it's talked about around the traps - but there may be a few disadvantages. APPLESAUCE doesn't do too badly on the crudzine count either: perhaps it has a slightly higher percentage of crappy contributions than ANZAPA, but the difference is not great. It is probably fair to say that Ken Ozanne and Eric Lindsay seem to be carrying the apa, although I find that, amongst the regular contributions, Jack Herman's and Peter Toluzzi's are the most enjoyable. There's a good demonstration in the third distribution that one's first fanzine doesn't have to be a crudzine: Leanne Frahm's PITHY PAPERTH gets right in to the swing of things.

FAPA can't really be compared with either of these. One of the charms of FAPA is the occasional jewel: this time it is probably Silverberg's SNICKERSNEE: but then Tom Perry's TEMERITY could be an augury of good things. Since members can get by with an average of one contribution a year, one has to stick around a while to appreciate the range of FAPA: will Boggs be put off publishing poetry by Barry Hunter's effort a few months ago? (FAPA also has crudzines) What will Moskowitz get up to this November? But the regular publications - HORIZONS, THE RAMBLING FAP, SYNAPSE - mean that something good appears in each mailing, whereas the other two apas can have dry spells. And then of course there's the Burbee-managed oneshots... FAPA is something to be experienced - savoured if you like - certainly not swallowed in one gulp.

NOVA MOB SPECIAL NOTICE: November meeting (Lee Harding speaking about John Carnell) has been moved to 1 Glen Eira Rd, Elsternwick (chateau Binns). Regular time. Not quite enough room to talk about HEAVY METAL...