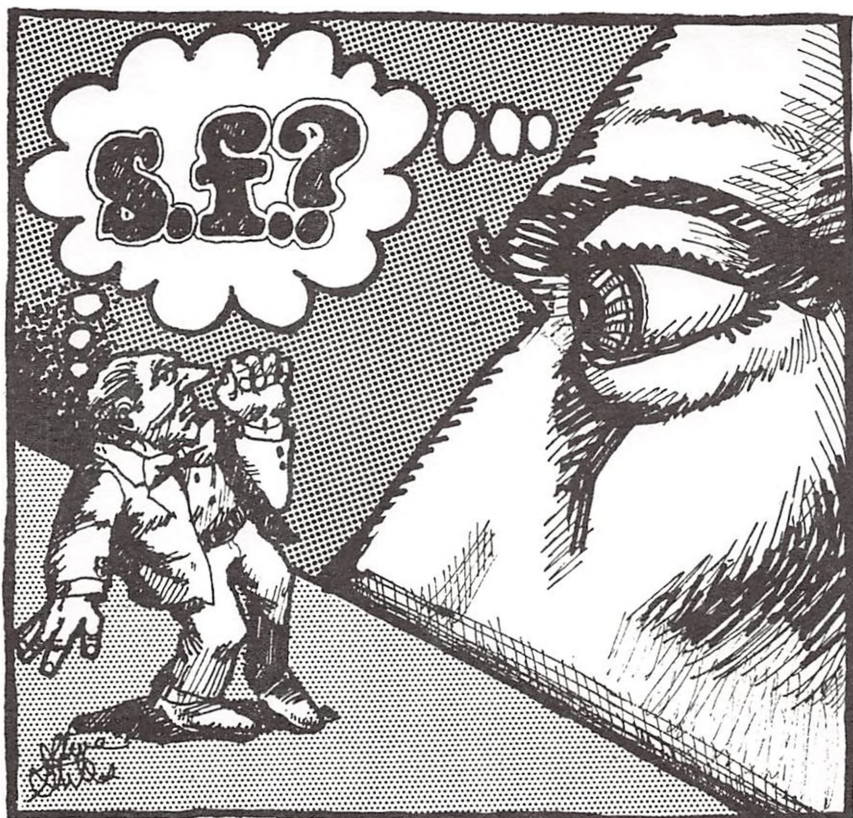


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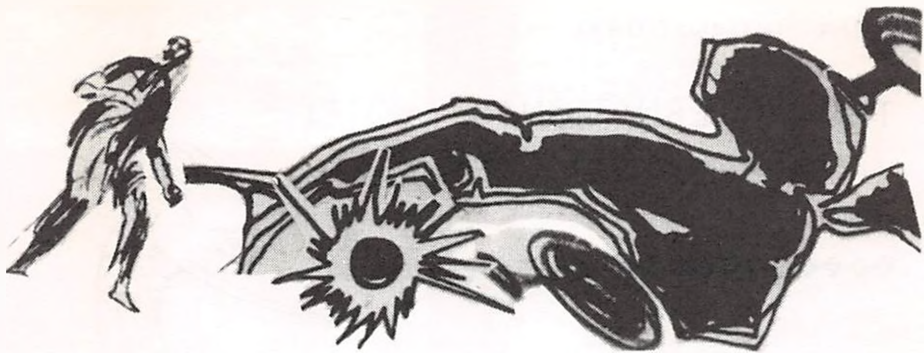
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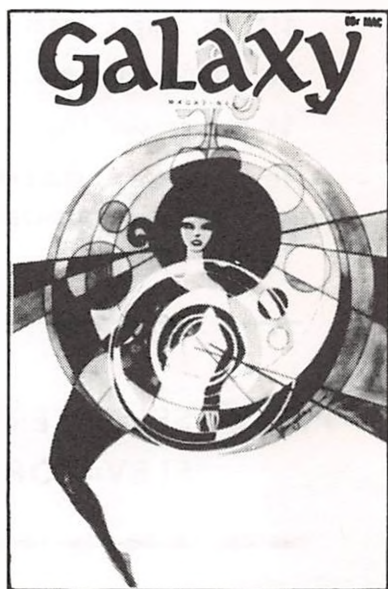


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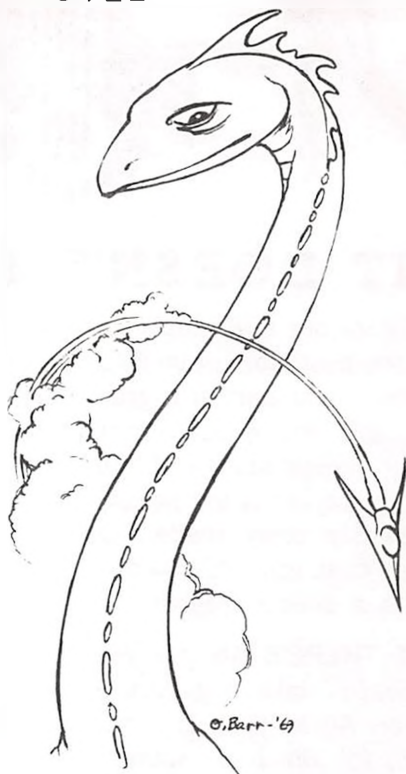
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<u>Year</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Guest of Honor</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
1957	May 12	---	65
1958	April 13	Frank R. Paul	85
1959	April 12	Lester Del Rey	80
1960	April 10	Ed Emsh	75
1961	April 9	Willy Ley	105
1962	April 29	Frederik Pohl	105
1963	April 21	Judith 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	410
1969	April 12-13	Robert A. W. Lowndes	585
1970	April 11-12	LARRY SHAW	

Larry shaw

When you look over the list of men (and a few women) who have handled fantasy or science fiction magazines, you'll come upon a fascinating collection of people. There's the eccentric who considers himself a genius; the eccentric who doesn't, but has a touch of it nonetheless; the missionary who considers science fiction the means to his propagandistic end; the "expert" whose actual ignorance of science fiction is exceeded only by his detestation of it; the established editor, who didn't know science fiction at the start, but was willing to learn -- and grew to like it; the eager novice who knows science fiction but has to learn editing; the person who loves science fiction -- anything at all labelled science fiction -- but has no taste at all; the editor with the big fat budget; the editor with little or no budget; the editor who does his job but no more ... you can extend this list indefinitely, and I'll leave the naming of names up to you...

Except for one further instance. There's the editor who knows science fiction and loves it, and serves with a quiet devotion far above and beyond the necessities of holding a job, whether the circumstances are ideal or even apparently feasible at all. That is the kind of editor we are honoring today, and we're not withholding a name; it's being engraved on a plaque that is not just something handed out to anyone whose name might possibly fit on it; it has been earned over a long period of time. The name on the 1970 plaque is Larry Shaw.

It's especially relevant for the Lunacon to give Larry this honor, for he is one of an increasingly large number of editors who came up from fandom. We saw him first in the letter columns of such magazines as *Planet Stories*, and then in fan magazines. This was during the war, when the first boom in science fiction magazines had died away amidst paper shortages, and it did not look as if there would be many (if any) further opportunities for fans to become professional science fiction editors.



Photo by Jay Kay Klein

I met him first when he came to New York, and was amalgamated into the Futurian Society. Of course, that's the wrong word -- even if this was the intention of the Futurians -- because Larry is a very deceptive person. You'd think a quiet, seemingly unaggressive person like that would amalgamate easily; you'd be so wrong. Larry listened; he agreed and even went along at times; but nobody ever had Shaw in his pocket, and we began to get the first real indications of a real individual when we saw his fan magazines in the old Vanguard Amateur Press Association.

He listened to us, but no less to anyone else who could either

talk sense or be amusing, simply because he's always been interested in learning, and also because he has a real sense of humor. Both these qualities are desirable in a science fiction editor -- as we've discovered by trying to read magazines edited by some on the list who were lacking therein. And in the '50s, when the market began to open up, we found out that Larry could write a good story; and I found out, as an editor, that you could depend upon him to deliver a good story on time.

Then he became editor of *If* and we saw that magazine (a rather good one) become a very good one. I need mention only two stories: *A Case of Conscience* by James Blish and *Malice in Wonderland* by Evan Hunter, this latter being very close in feeling to what we now call the "New Wave;" I doubt if any other editor paying good rates at the time would have accepted them at all. At best, crippling revisions would have been demanded. We can see from the novel-length versions of both that appeared later that Larry saw their worth, as they were, and managed to get them and feature them in his magazine. Any editor might publish a couple of masterpieces by accident, as it were, but not this sort: here was proof that an outstanding personality with excellent judgment was at the helm.

The quiet, devoted sort of editor who goes far beyond the call of duty isn't always to be found in control of a magazine or line of books either paying the best rates or issuing the best produced product, so far as appearance goes. Larry has not had an over-abundance of opportunities to show how much he could do with full resources; but here, as in so many other fields, history repeats itself. He's made a mark with every opportunity he had, and his getting the Conan series for Lancer is again only a small example. Somehow, this is the sort of individual who does make lasting contributions in the long run -- the quiet, devoted man who learns how to do much with little.

I'm no prophet, but I'm willing to risk the prophecy that Larry will keep on doing it. Meanwhile, it is our pleasure to take note of what he's done so far.

Robert A. W. Lowndes

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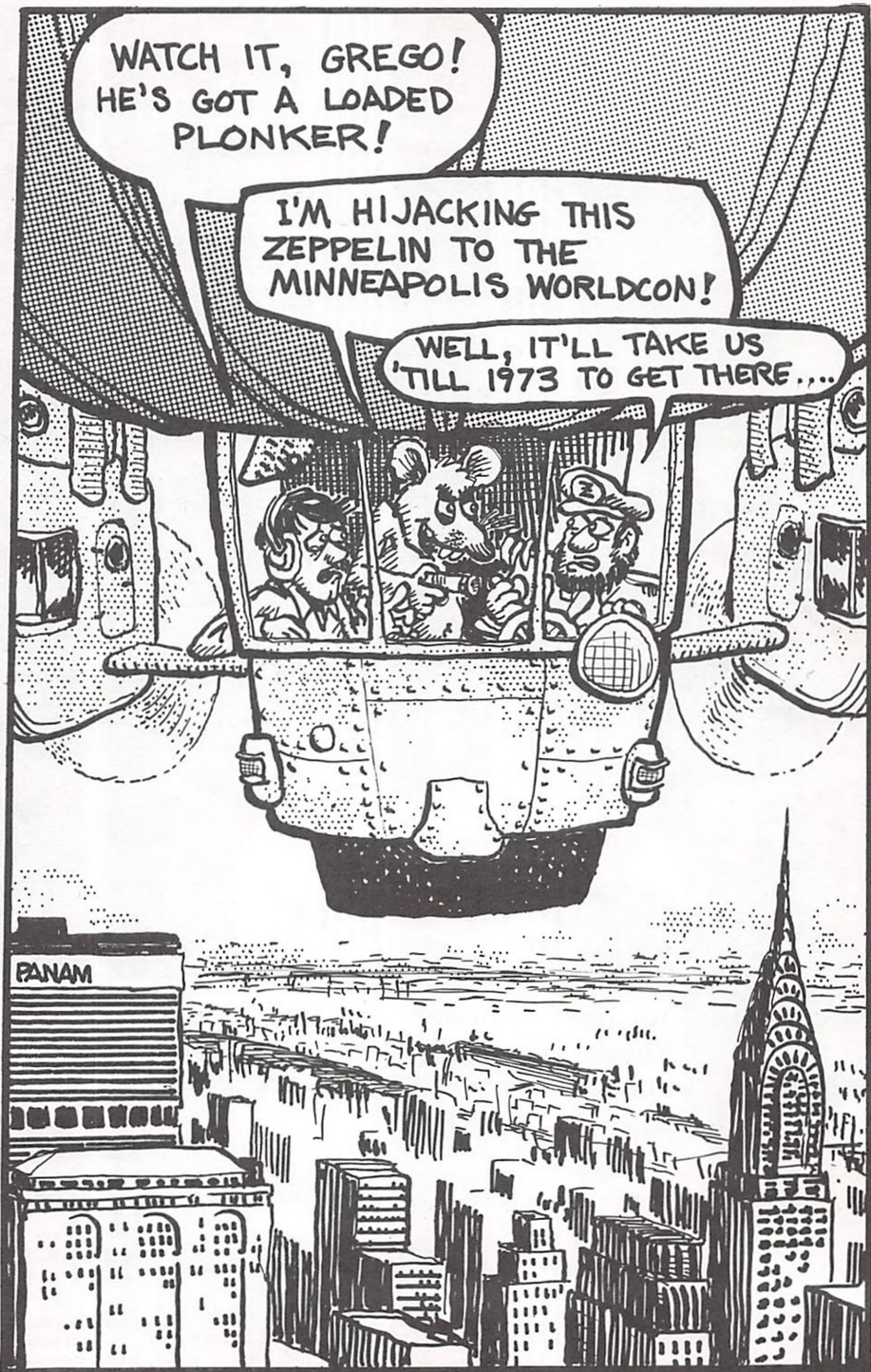
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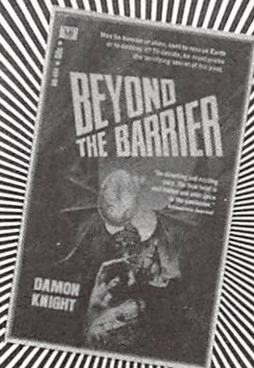


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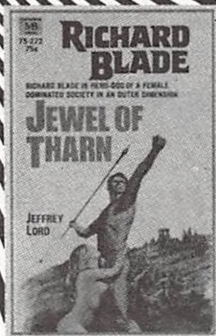
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