

NEW YORK IN '67

The other day someone was asking us, "Why should we have another convention in New York? They've already had two, and the last one was bad enough to last for ten years."

"By 1967," we pointed out, "it will have been eleven years since the Nycon II."

But that wasn't the real point, of course. The real point was and is that a wholly new fandom has sprung up in New York these last five or so years. And, for the last four years it has crystallized around the Fanoclasts, the most successful and unified club in New York fandom's recent history.

The Fannoclasts are made up of the fannish, fanzine reading and publishing element. It includes just about all of the area's currently active fans, such as Steve Stiles, rich brown, Mike McInerney, Andy Main, Andy Porter, Les Gerber, Arnie Katz, and half a dozen others we're overlooking at the moment -- in addition to older fans such as the Lupoffs, John Boardman, "Ted White," and "Dave Van Arnam," and such distance-hindered less-frequent attendees as Lin Carter, the Silverbergs, and the Shaws.

There has been less internal strife in the group than in any comparable New York fanclub, as is evidenced by not only the clubs' relatively long survival (in a city where splinter groups and new clubs used to be the watchword), but even more by the fact that, alone of all the clubs in New York City history, the Fanoclasts meet biweekly. (Actually, they meet weekly, if you count the FISTFA meetings which alternate with it, and at which the same people show up. The FISTFA was set up for those frenetic fans who couldn't stand the idea of not doing something fannish every Friday night, and has pretty well roped in the entire club -- and has also resulted in a weekly apa, Apa F, circulation roughly 25 copies and 25-60 pages, whose sole, but rigorous, activity requirement is simply attendance at meetings...)

This club is the least insular of any NYC club of the last decade. It is also the least formal, having no officers and no official business. In order to insure group compatibility, a vague blackball exists; the group is supposedly an invitational club. In practice, this has meant very little -- except that it has eliminated the sort of petty politicking which destroyed not only most of the previous NYC clubs, but also caused so much trouble with the last Nycon.

Which brings us back to the convention. We don't intend to make this a coalitional effort. There'll be no phony cooperation between divergent groups. We are bidding as Fanoclasts, and aim to put on a con as harmoniously run as is our club. All other NYC fans are invited to attend and enjoy our con as they would one in Philly or DC -- and we're sure they'll enjoy it all the more for that reason.

Programwise, we intend a relaxed, semi-open-ended program, drawing upon the Season for inspiration. However, ours will not be programs to be drowsed through. We shall try for provocative speakers, and argumentative panelists, for lively controversy of interest to the audience. Items will be programmed for both the pure SF reader, and for the pure fannish fan.

We already have several hotels under consideration, our first consideration being to find a hotel best suited to the conventions' needs, one which is a willing (and not disdainful) host. This is a city where such a hotel can be found — there are more hotels in New York City than any other US city, and more competition between them for conventions.

Finally, we don't think there's any question but that we can — and will, if provided the opportunity — put on one of the best conventions of this decade, and deserve the chance.
— Ted White & Dave Van Arnam

(((The above is a reprint of an article currently appearing in Shadow-FAPA, Apa-F, and N'APA.)))

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IT'S TERRY FOR TAFF!!!

SEND A CARR BY PLANE!!!



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this has been porterpup # 23.

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