

S F O H A N E W S L E T T E R

October, 2001.

NEWSFLASH!!! S F O H A IS NOT DEAD YET!!!

TO ALL SFOHA MEMBERS

SFOHA has been reactivated and revitalized. A series of tragedies (death and illness) stripped the organization of the leadership it had enjoyed for so long. It is necessary to start over--but in starting over, we have twenty-five years of experience to draw upon.

The By-Laws will be rewritten with numerous small changes to make the organization run more smoothly.

The retiring Board of Directors has authorized the installation of a new slate of officers to run the organization temporarily until new By-Laws have been approved by the membership and an election held. There may be new offices that did not exist under the old By-Laws. Right now, the acting officers are:

President: Lloyd Biggle, Jr.
First Vice President: David Gardner
Second Vice President (for publications and PR), open.
Secretary: Sharon Myers Shaw
Treasurer: Chad Childers
Directors-at-Large: (two, to be elected by the membership):
Mike Gardner; Howard DeVore.

In addition, special directors will be appointed by the officers for jobs that require special expertise.

When the reorganization is completed, the officers will submit new By-Laws for membership approval and hold an election of officers for probably a three-year term--to get us out

of the bind of having an election every year.

The acting officers invite your comments and suggestions. If you have any, write to Lloyd Biggle, Jr., 569 Dubie Ave., Ypsilanti, MI 48198. If you wish to sit in on a Board meeting, run for one of the offices yourself in the next election, or fill a current vacancy, let us know. We need all of your help, and we will continue the provisions that permit anyone to run for office who wants to and that allow write-in votes.

The new officers are at work planning a number of exciting projects for SFOHA. You will read about some of them in this Newsletter.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

2002 Dues are now due and payable at the old rate of \$5.00 annually. The acting officers will consider whether the dues should be raised. (If you have an opinion, let us hear from you!)

SPECIAL BONUS! All members renewing their memberships with the payment of the 2002 Dues at this time will receive a genuine collector's item, a limited edition copy of a special publication entitled, THE LOOM OF ORAL HISTORY. This collector's edition will contain columns by Lloyd Biggle, Jr., that have appeared in the SFOHA Newsletter over a number of years. Now they will be available in this special edition limited to 200 copies with each copy signed and numbered by the author. It

will be supplied free to old members paying (or who have already paid) their \$5 2002 Dues and to new members joining SFOHA now. (Also, of course, to life members.) The price to non-members, (with all proceeds to SFOHA) will be \$7.50.

If your 2002 Dues have not been paid, or if you are not a life member, send your 2002 Dues to: Chad Childers, 4535 Mead Dearborn, MI 48126

TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Director-at-Large Mike Gardner also serves as SFOHA's technological consultant. He has attacked a problem that has long been discussed by SFOHA directors: How to find a better, more permanent medium than audio tape to store our archives on. We had a volunteer working for a year and a half to find a method of re-recording the archives onto CDs. When he finally reported failure, Mike looked into the problem. A month later, at the meeting on July 9, we listened to a Kelly Freas interview that Mike had transferred from a cassette to a CD. The process is now perfected, and sample copies are being sent to the three universities that house regional collections. They give us a far longer-last-

From: SFOHA
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ing medium for our archives. When we have talent like Mike's available, I am unable to feel gloomy about SFOHA's future.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: SFOHA TO SPONSOR A CONVENTION!

Or perhaps we should say, "Should SFOHA sponsor a convention?" This is up to you, the members. We have an idea for an entirely new approach to a Science Fiction Convention--a convention for readers. We have discussed it widely with professional authors, editors, long-time fans. The response has been enthusiastic.

But running a convention requires a lot of housekeeping and a lot of help. Your handful of directors can't do it by themselves. We need a rally of support by the entire membership. Do you have experience or talent (or both) that would be useful in running a convention? We need you. If you have neither, but are willing to have fun learning, we need you. That is the key phrase: Have fun. We see this as a brand new type of convention that would be fun for everyone. Write and tell us. If you can't help but merely want to come and cheer, tell us that! Promoting an entirely new idea can be a lonely chore!

Send Oral History Dues (\$5)
to Chad Childers
4535 Mead st
Dearborn, Mi. 48126