

S.F. WEEKLY 201 October 16, 1967

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IF TO FEATURE SCIENCE FICTION CALENDAR: Worlds Of If Science Fiction, edited by Fred Pohl, will feature a monthly calendar of events in the science fiction field beginning in their March, 1968 issue. The calendar will feature listings of events on a consecutive basis, that is notice of the event will appear in each issue of If until the event is past. This way, If will bring world conventions, sf film festivals, writers conferences, and other events of a science-fictional nature to the attention of a much wider group than such events ordinarily receive.

Based on NYCon experience, estimates vary, but at least 200 people are expected to respond to notices of world conventions and regional meetings. Response to the article by Lin Carter in If on the NYCon 3 was approximately 125 to 175 memberships in the NYCon. (This information was easy to arrive at, as Mr. Carter, in his column, got the box number and zip code of the convention post office box wrong; membership applications were forwarded by the post office, assuring an accurate count of If memberships received)

An information sheet, supplied by If, features space for filling in hotel, name of convention, details of the program, expected attendance, past attendance, and membership fee. For a sheet to fill out, write: Judy-Lynn Benjamin, Galaxy Publishing, 421 Hudson Street, New York, N.Y., 10014.

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ST. LOUIS IN '69 COMMITTEE FINALIZED AS "ST. LOUISCON": Ray Fisher, chairman of the St. Louis in '69 convention bid, reports that the name of the bid has been finalized as St. Louiscon. In addition, Leigh and Norbert Couch have been appointed, respectively, Secretary and Treasurer of the bidding committee.

In a separate move, the Ozark SF Association plans to put on the third annual Ozarkon on the last weekend in July. Committee for the event are Ray Fisher, chairman, Chester Malon, co-chairman, Norbert Couch, secretary, and Leigh Couch, treasurer. For information on the St. Louiscon or Ozarkon, write Ray Fisher, 4404 Forest Park, St. Louis, Mo., 63108.

Meanwhile, Columbus Ohio, whose Central Ohio Science Fiction Society is bidding for the 1969 Worldcon also, has released a deafening broadside of silence. Sam Moskowitz, on a recent trip to the burg to attend a frozen food convention, reports that the buildings and citizens are still there, but has no word on the status of the worldcon bid. The head of the bid is a subscriber to SFW, but he appears to have run out of postage stamps. Or perhaps he has doubts about sending news to a fanzine which so brazenly displays the sentiments expressed below.

Support St. Louiscon -- swing in St. Louis in '69!!!

STAR TREK: The New York Times' Drama Section of the Sunday, October 15th issue features a half-page article on the follies of inexperienced writers writing for S-T. Based on the scripters' guide, the article provides an insight into the problems Desilu faces in getting competent scripts for the program. The second half of the article delves into the personalities of William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, and Gene Roddenberry. The article, illustrated with a photo of Kirk and Spock, is generally well-done, in the somewhat dry NYTimes manner.

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For Sale: A set of 14 illustrations for Three Hearts and Three Lions, by the author, Poul Anderson. Offset printed on quality paper, the pictures were originally published with (I may be wrong) an issue of Shangri l'Affaires. Price: \$1.50.

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Changes Of Address:

John Kusske, Box 354, UMM, Morris, Minnesota 56267

Ron M. Bennett, c/o S01 (Edn), Far E. L. F., Singapore Base Area, Tyersall Park, c/o GFO, Singapore

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Dainis Bisenieks, 542 County, Apt. 1, New Bedford, Mass., 02748

Tony Thomas, Flat 2, 109 Albert Street, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002, Australia

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FANTASY IN THE CLASSROOM: The New School For Social Research, commonly called The New School, is currently teaching a course entitled "The New Mythology," on Tuesdays, 8:10-9:50 pm. The course, which began September 26th, deals with the works of J. R. R. Tolkien and C. S. Lewis. The course, which deals with legendary and mythological material in Tolkien and Lewis, mentions other 20th century authors in the course of the work. The class, working on a comparative basis only, is conducted by Nathan Comfort Starr. (Source: Mike McInerney)

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These Subscriptions End This Issue; Resubscribe Now!: George Foster, Worthington, Ohio; Richard Labonte, Ottawa Canada; Ed Meskys, Belknap College, NH; Gordon Phillips, Calgary, Canada; Mike Viggiano, NYC; and Frank ilimczyk, NYC.

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SPACE CONFERENCE TO FEATURE SF WRITERS: The New York Academy of Sciences will feature, on 25, 26, and 27 October, the 2nd annual Conference on Planetology and Space Mission Planning. The conference, at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in New York, will feature Hal Clement, Ben Bova, Lester del Rey, John Campbell, Sam Moskowitz, Isaac Asimov, Willy Ley, Fred Pohl and Harry Stine among others. Nonmembers may attend the conference for a fee of \$10.00. For information, contact the New York Academy of Sciences, 2 East 63rd Street, New York, New York. A program is available on request. (Source: John Boardman)

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HATCHED:

Wendy Fawn Van Arnam, 7:09 am, Friday October 6th. 6 lbs., 8 oz., 19 inches. Mommy and Daddy Cindy and Dave Van Arnam doing fine.

Timothy Nicholas Aldiss, Saturday, August 5th, 9lbs., 5 oz., to Margaret and Brian Aldiss.

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ACE BOOKS FOR NOVEMBER: Moon Of Three Rings, by Andre Norton (H-33, 60¢); New Worlds Of Fantasy, edited by Terry Carr (A-12, 75¢); Lords Of The Starship, by Mark S. Geston (G-673, 50¢); The Secret Visitors, by James White (G-675, 50¢) reissue; Man From UNCLE #13: The Rainbow Affair, by Dave McDaniel (G-670, 50¢); Death Is A Dream, by EC Tubb/Computer War, by Mack Reynolds (H-34, 60¢); Andre Norton Boxed Set (7 titles, colorful box-\$3.40). Somewheres, hey Wollheim?...

At about 2 AM this morning Cindy and the doctor decided she and I shd troop on down to Lenox Hill Hospital.

FIRST BORN #186

Vol. 31, No. 6

6 Oct 67

Some five hours later we acquired new titles and position in life -- mother and daddy...

At 7:09 AM, Friday, October 6, 1967, Wendy Fawn Van Arnam came the rest of the way into this world, statistically 6 lbs 8 oz, 19", and aesthetically quite beautiful. This last I had not expected, having seen a fair number of children at approximately the same age (about 15 minutes old, I shd estimate, when I got to see her). Of course I'm prejudiced.

No, that's not quite accurate. I didn't make that judgemen pre seeing her. But I am nitpicking -- babbling, even, it might be. After all, I've been going about 29 hours without sleep now, and this is not my idea of a creative regimin. (I'm not even sure I can spell, any more.)

Thirty seconds of looking at one's small girlchild for the first time, especially under stress & fatigue conditions, isn't condusive to the higher flights of perceptive philosophical insights this fanzine has long been noted for.

Wendy will, I hope, grow up in a world grown a little saner than it is now -- it'll have to be saner, or it won't be around that much longer -- and perhaps she will give me that final incentive to go ahead and do my thing, whatever it turns out to be, to help make it saner. Whether things like my LOST IN SPACE novelization (which, he slips in slyly, he picked up in Bookmasters less than two hours after first setting sight on his daughter) qualify as sane-making is the sort of question which might well make me more uneasy if I weren't too tired to worry about such things right now. I did the book as best I cd, however, and seeing it in print for the first time seems to be showing me that there are times, points, things in the book which are sane rather than schlock. It's not a bad book, I see. And considering that I signed my first book contract two and a half years ago and am finally seeing words of mine in print only today, I think such a restrained statement is not inappropriate.

I am trying to discover what sanity is (and it is not writing a fanzine after 30 sleepless hours, the birth of a child, and the first sight of a first book). I hope to keep to this effort. I think that even if the stories I am currently working on are in one way fundamentally shallow (and, being basically adventure fiction, most people wd think this so), still, there is still some reality-perception in them that is my own. My own vision, I might even say; and whether my own vision will get more dangerous (to what?) as I go on, it will be mine. I think there are some good things in LOST IN SPACE.

Why does this comfort me? Why is it relevant to Wendy Fawn? I shaped the book, and by and large it pleases me for what I attempted in it. There is something in the book at times that is genuine, I think.

People shd be genuine too. And one's children, I shd think, might well serve eventually to indicate whether one is, onself, genuine. All the treasures of the world are not equal to that. But this is all
----- uncentered words to me now. I'm going
Null-Q Press home and get some sleep before the
Undecided Publication #282 Fanoclasts. Hoping you are the sane...
----- -- dgv