

# S.F. WEEKLY 204

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DEGLER!

## NOVEMBER 6, 1967 / PHILLYCON ISSUE

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COLUMBUS IN '69?: After several weeks of silence, we have heard from the Columbus in '69 bidding committee. To quote Lawrence Smith, "The Columbus 1969 Worldcon bid is formally known as the ØCon. Sponsoring group is the Olentangy Science Fiction Society, Inc. Chairman of the ØCon is Larry Smith, Associate Chairman and Treasurer is Bob Hillis, Vice Chairmen are Brian Burley and Mike Lalor, Secretary is Betty Gaines."

Readers of SFW might note here that the sponsoring group is evidently not the Columbus SF Society, as stated in an earlier issue. We can only assume that there has been some sort of split in the group, or perhaps this, the sponsoring group, is a different club altogether. For further information on the Columbus bid write Lawrence Smith, 216 East Tibet Road, Columbus, Ohio, 43202.

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TOLKIEN SOCIETY OF AMERICA: Ed Meskys, publisher of NIEKAS, is now the head of the Tolkien Society of America, taking over from its founder, Dick Plotz. Plotz, who found the burden of heading the society too great while attempting to continue his studies in college, turned the whole thing over to Ed. The TSA plans to hold a meeting in New York on Friday, December 29th, 1967 at the Hotel Piccadilly, 227 West 45th Street, at 8 pm. Plans at the moment include showing of slides of Tolkien-inspired costumes from past World SF Conventions, plus Tolkien-oriented paintings from Art Shows at previous Worldcons. Whether or not the TSA sends out any more notices announcing the meeting (the current mailing list is about 3,000, considerably more than Meskys can handle in comfort) the December meeting will definitely be held. In addition, there are plans for further meetings in Chicago in January, in Boston during Mrach, and at other times. For information on the TSA write TSA, Belknap College, Center Harbor, NH 03226.

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ROGER ZELAZNY, HARLAN ELLISON ON NEW YORK RADIO: Harlan Ellison and Roger Zelazny are now reading stories of theirs over Radio Station WBAI, 99.5 FM, in New York. Times at which they are appearing are as follows: Thursday, November 2nd: Harlan Ellison reading "Shattered Like A Glass Goblin," 11:30 pm, repeated November 17th, 3:30 pm. Tuesday, November 7th: Roger Zelazny reading "The Doors Of His Face, The Lamps Of His Mouth," 8:00 pm, repeated November 12th, 1:45 pm. Saturday, November 11th: Harlan Ellison reading "Pretty Maggie Money Eyes," 8:30 pm, repeated November 13th, 11:30 am. Thursday, November 16th: Roger Zelazny reading "Love Is An Imaginary Number," a story not previously published in America, 9:15 pm, repeated November 20th, possibly at 7 pm.

In addition, WBAI will feature dramatic readings from the Gormenghast Trilogy by Mervyn Peake at 8:00 pm, Tuesday, November 21st. The 1½ hour reading is from the trilogy recently published in the US by Weybright & Talley (Source: McInerney, Gillam, WBAI)

FANZINES RECEIVED: The Proper Boskonian, published by the New England Science Fiction Association, c/o Cory Seidman, 20 Ware Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138. The NESFA is a new organization built on the ashes of the Boston in '67 Worldcon bid. This, the official organ of the group, gives promise of uniting New England fandom into what could be a strong role in the fan world. For information on NESFA or TPB write to Cory Seidman at the above address.

Heckmeck 14, published by Mario Kwiat, 4400 Munster, Stettiner Strasse 38, West Germany. An informative German fanzine, written in English, with a lively lettercolumn, fanzine reviews, and much information on H&A and the Germany in 1970 convention bid. Available for letters of comment and contributions.

Pulp Advertiser And Collector, Rusty Hevelin, 6594 Germantown Pike, Miamisburg, Ohio 45342. Available for 40¢. Primarily an advertisement mag, PAAC features a history of The Avenger magazine, as well as advertisements for pulp for sale and wanted. Circulation of the mag is over 600, so if you have something to advertise, this is the place for you. Ad rates on request.

Yandro 175, published by the Coulsons, Route 3, Hartford City, Indiana 47348. This is possibly the top fanzine now being published. Editorials, articles, fan fiction (ptui!) letters, book and fan reviews round out each issue. A sample copy is available for 35¢, artwork or other contribution -- Coulson hates subscriptions.

The Rigger Digger #1, published by Dick Schultz, 19159 Helen, Detroit, Michigan 48234. Available thru FAPA, 40¢, Letter, trade or contribution. The hordes of Avengers fans (the British TV series, not the comic book) have finally come into their own. This is a fanzine for Avengers fandom. This rather slight first issue shows promise for the future. Entirely editor written, contributions by avid Avenger fans could beef it up. This issue features a long editorial, much news and notes on the Rigg-MacNee team, and a huckster section in which Schultz offers stills of the series for sale, all proceeds to go to TOFF.

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MUST RENEW THIS ISSUE: Kay Anderson; John Ayotte; Martha Beck; Rick Brooks; Ed Bryant; Bill Conner; Lynn Hickman; Brian Hill; RMLalor; Dean McLaughlin; Bob Madle; Don Miller; Art Saha; Alan Shaw.

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AUSTRALIAN SF REVIEW: Numerous subscribers to ASFR have commented to me that their subscriptions have taken several months to arrive. May I remind US subscribers that John Bangsund is informed of your subscription, and all issues are mailed from Australia, presumably via seamount. Generally, this takes about 1-2 months to reach the United States. If in doubt, it's probably the Post Office's fault. Subscriptions to ASFR are \$3/year, sent to myself, Andrew Porter, 24 East 82nd Street, New York, NY, 10028.

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COA's: Ann Dietz, 1750 Walton Avenue, Bronx, NY, 10453  
Elliot Shorter, 512 West 169th Street, New York, NY 10032  
Ed Meskys, Belknap College, Center Harbor, New Hampshire 03226  
George Fergus, B-113 Armstrong, MSU, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823  
Linda Eyster, Room 5B7, 1060 Morewood Avenue, Pittsburgh, Penna., 15213

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JOIN THIRDMANCON: I am American Agent for the 1968 British National SF Convention to be held in Manchester, England. \$1 sent to me, or 7/6 sent to Harry Nadler, SFConvention, 51 Thorn Grove, Cheadle, Ghes., England, will entitle you to all membership information and bulletins.

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Swing at St. LouisCon -- Support St. Louis For '69!!!  
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Dave Van Arnam, of 1730 Harrison Ave,  
Apt 353, Bronx, NY 10453, has been  
putting this fanzine out every week  
since early 1964. It has been going  
as a free rider with SF WEEKLY for  
a month or so, and is obtainable free  
with that publication, which sells  
at 14/\$1. Andy Porter handles that.  
Anyone want to trade besides Ted  
Pauls?

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FIRST DRAFT #189

Vol. 32, No. 3

27 Oct 67  
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'69 IN ST LOUIS WD BE GREAT!

THIS WEDNESDAY MORNING our female cat Sunny had three kittens by Mickey Mouse, our huge lovable black-and-white male. Sunny is a Ted White cat, Mickey a Lupoff cat with Silverberg Siamese blood. Now there is a Van Arnam breed of New York pussy cats. This may mean a great deal. There is also the possibility that it does not.

What does seem to mean a great deal is procreation vs book productivity.

Now I realize that doesn't make too much sense. But, consider. Two hours after I saw my daughter Wendy for the first time, I saw my first copy of my LOST IN SPACE novelization.

And about two hours after Cindy called me Wednesday morning to tell me the third kitten had been born, she called back and said Mike McInerney had gotten in my Belmont STAR GLADIATOR at Bookmasters.

At your leisure, insert here a pregnant pause. For effect.

This was especially effective in its impact on me because I had been assured that STAR GOODGIE's publication date was January 1968...hence I decided that it must have been the kittens. A little fertility is a wonderful thing.

The final crux is that ever since Ted White & I sold WHEN IN ROME to Pyramid in mid-'65, I have been making a career out of being a professional sf writer who had never had anything in print. By the time LOST IN SPACE came out, I had sold 3 novels and none had come out.

(Parenthesis: I had some words of mine in print, come to think of it. Four in FANTASTIC UNIVERSE, the title "Have Time, Will Travel" for Lin Carter's article there, and some eleven more as the first sentence in Ted White's SORCERESS OF QAR. Not precisely enough to build a solid reputation on...)

Anyway, from being an unknown sf fan I am now in the same month the author of two books. If you think this isn't causing tremendous seismic upheavals in my self-image, you are wrong. The trouble is, it's apt to take a while to take full effect. It took me quite a while to adjust to Lin, Ted, and Lee being published authors; and now that the Holy Lightning has strooken me twice between the eyeballs in two or three weeks, I've got a full-time job ahead of me just convincing myself that, after all these years of thinking of myself as being a Real Writer, I can finally prove it. Or at least that several publishers think I am. It's not that I'm suffering an Identity Crisis, don't get me wrong. I've always known I was the World's Greatest Poet, Critic, And Novelist. I just never had anything published before. (And of course they don't do much to prove my case, but that's another problem.)

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Null-Q Press

Undecided Publication #287 (last issue wrongly numbered #282)  
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Rather stupidly, I failed to include a chapter-heading list with my ms of STAR GLADIATOR, tho I had delightedly titled all the chapters with what I considered phrases in the grand old manner. For the convenience and delectation, therefore, of those who might deign to read STAR GLADIATOR, here is its table of contents (Belmont pagination):

CHAPTER ONE:	Flames at Midnight	85
CHAPTER TWO:	"A World Dies Tonight!"	93
CHAPTER THREE:	The Arena of Death	107
CHAPTER FOUR:	Flames at Noon	115
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CHAPTER EIGHT:	Savage Noon	165

I am, by the way, inordinately interested in people's opinion of my professional writing; if anybody knows of any reviews of any of my books, either in fan or pro press, I wd greatly appreciate hearing of same. Tho FD has a relatively wide distribution these days, I don't get all the fanzines by a long shot, and I'm not rich enough to afford a professional clipping service, just yet.

I might mention as a caution in passing that though my name is spelled correctly on the cover and within the covers of the book, the spine of STAR GLADIATOR credits it to one "Arnham." This takes away three of my very favorite letters and gives me an extra one I never wanted. My last name is Van Arnham, two independent words each title-capped (even if Dick Eney doesn't believe it...). The trouble with the spine error is that most people will continually see the misspelling as the book sits on their shelves (alphabetized incorrectly under "A"). This is something that doesn't so much irritate me (I've had, understandably, to put up with my name being butchered all my live; I'm used to that) as simply make me sad. So many thousands of people convinced my name is Arnham... \*sigh\*

Why cdn't I have a nice simple name like Carter or White?

IT WD BE INGENUOUS of me, I suppose, to pretend that I wasn't really aware that SF WEEKLY and, hence, FIRST DRAFT as of last month, is circulated to a couple of dozen pros in the field. My intent in making FD available to Andy's mailing list had nothing to do with the presence on his list of editors and other professional writers, but with the fact that SF WEEKLY mostly goes to fans. This is a fanzine; it shd go to fans. QED. It tickles me, of course, that some pros now will be reading this too, but (unless specifically stating otherwise in a particular case) I'm not writing to them. Still, it's difficult for me to write with my own relaxed, who-the-hell-cares style, when it is suddenly borne in on me that some of you people out there might think I'm Putting You On, or something. No, gang, FD has always been like this, whatever this is.

Did I hear somebody say, "Don't apologize"? (Or did they say, "Nebraska spinach"? Damned acoustics...)   Hoping you are the sane...