

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19TH 1968

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LEE JACOBS DEAD

Lee Jacobs, well known Los Angeles fan, died Thursday night, the 15th of February, apparently of a blow on the head. Jacobs had evidently been getting ready to attend that evening's Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (LASFS) meeting, when he slipped in his bathtub, striking his head and killing him instantly.

The last time anyone in Los Angeles saw him was at Ed Cox's house during dinner, Wednesday night. At that time he made a date with Dave Hulan for bridge, Saturday. When he didn't appear Saturday morning and failed to answer his phone, Dave Hulan, Kris Neville, and Elmer Purdue drove over to his apartment. When Jacobs failed to answer the door, Hulan got a pass key from his landlady. They found him, dead, in the bathroom.

The Los Angeles police found no evidence of foul play. An autopsy did not disclose a coronary but rather a sharp blow to the head as the cause of death.

Jacobs had been in fandom for about twenty years. He was a member of several amateur press associations, including FAPA, SFPA, and SAPS. About 40 years old, he had been living in Los Angeles after spending a year or so working in Marietta, Georgia, for an aerospace company. While in Georgia he had become a member of Atlanta fandom, many members of which eventually followed him back to the Los Angeles area.

Lee Jacobs was a member of what might be called "bheer fandom," a group of fans whose capacity for that beverage has been termed astounding. At the many conventions he attended, he could most frequently be found down in the bar, where some of the best conversations can be found. He was in New York for the NYCon 3, after which he went to Europe for a short vacation, bought a car, later returning to New York to pick it up. While in New York Mike McInerney threw a small party for him, a party which many of New York fandom's regulars were unaware of until after it was over.

Lee's death, coming but weeks after the death of Ron Ellik, another fan whose presence highlighted whatever gathering he attended, has come as a bitter blow to fandom. The sudden deaths of these two has cast a dark pall over much that made fandom what it is. I think that we are all saddened; I will miss these two very much.

These two deaths seem the most vivid of several deaths within the general sphere of the fan community. In recent correspondence, Dick Geis wrote of a death within his immediate family, and Isaac Asimov was in New York Wednesday to attend the funeral of his father-in-law. In regard to Ron Ellik's death, Roy Lavender has written, "Mrs. Edythe Ellik and the Lavender family were fully informed of the plans of Ron and Lois. Both families were very much in favor of the marriage." SFW regrets any errors that may have appeared in our reportage.

FANZINE REVIEWS

ECCO 3, Randy Williams, Box 581, Liberty, NC 27298. 25¢, Trade, Contribution, LoC.

Although this fanzine has good duplication, there's not too much else to recommend it. The Editor has attempted to make this into a little prozine, and as such it's neither an effective fanzine nor a well put-together prozine. Three fan fiction stories, a listing of some fanzines; a short summary of some recent books and a very poorly edited letter column are not very impressive. Perhaps he'll improve in the future.

Tanstaaf!, John Godwin & Gary Grady, 2426 Belvedere Dr, Wilmington, NC 28401.

This half-size crudzine has been modelled on Ecco, it seems. As such, it's pretty terrible. Lousy repro, rotten art; not too much redeeming social merit, in fact.

Eternity #3, Stephen Gregg, POBox 8, Sandy Springs, SC 29677. 30¢, 4/\$1.20. This 28 page half-size zine is full of fan fiction. There is also a review which says, "Beyond Infinity looks like it should develop into a top notch magazine." Hmmm.

Quark #5, Lesleigh & Chris Couch, Box 889, Arnold Mo 63010. Letters, Contributions. This competent fanzine goes through apa45 as well as to general fandom. Contributions include a witty faanfiction story, "Sybil Ann Fan"; Hank Luttrell on the current rock scene; Lesleigh In Disguise, an interesting commentary on happenings in St. Louis fandom; plus excellent repro and competent layout. Recommended.

Sol 43, Thomas Schlueck, 3 Hannover, Georgswall 5, W.Germany. Trade, Letter or Comment. This is a fascinating, rambling account of recent events in germanfandom, german sf, and just plain recent events in germany. Tom covers conventions that he's been to, and promises a report by Waldemar Kumping on his trip to the US and the NYCon 3. Very highly recommended.

Psychotic 23, Richard E Geis, 5 Westminster Ave., Venice Cal 90291. Trade, Contribution, 25¢. This fascinating fanzine has managed, in the space of 2 issues, to become one of the best fanzines around. This issue features an article on prozines and why and how they sell by Ted White; a column by Harlan Ellison; an article on fan usage of the english language by Harry Warner, plus fanzine reviews, an editorial, and one of the best letter columns I've seen in recent years. If you're not reading Psy, you're missing the action.

Australian Science Fiction Review #14, \$2.40/6 issues from Andrew Porter, 24E82, NY 10028. John Bangsund, editor of ASFR, has put together a very fine issue, with special emphasis on European SF. Articles on SF in Germany, Scandinavia, Europe, and Argentina give a comprehensive view of this other world of sf publishing. The usual outstanding letter column, featuring Delany, John Brunner and others caps this issue. This issue is another good reason why ASFR has become the international arena for serious discussion of science fiction.

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There will be more fanzine reviews next issue, plus the usual news features.

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MUST RENEW THIS ISSUE: John Berry, James Blish, Camille Cazedessus Jr., Norman Codner, Howard DeVore, Don Fitch, Lewis Grant, Mike Hakulin, Joe Halderman, Paul Herkart, Dave Hulan, Fred Jackson, Bob Kinney, Waldemar Kumping, Bill Kunkel, Tony Lewis, Hal Lynch, Bob Madle, Len Moffatt, J. B. Post, Mark Roth, Ted Serrill, Alan Shaw, Larry Smith, Ben Solon, Harry Stubbs, Creath Thorne, and Bill Warren.

Must Renew Next Issue: Kay Anderson, Alex Panshin, Judi Sephton and Elliot Shorter.

Turn On With St. LouisCon!!!

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WRITERS' WORKSHOP in
SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY

Visiting staff at the Clarion Workshop will be • JUDITH MERRIL

• FRITZ LEIBER

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• DAMON KNIGHT

• KATE WILHELM

June 24th to August 2nd, 1968. Participants may enroll for two, four, or six weeks. College credit will be given. Address inquiries to: Robin Scott Wilson, Director, Clarion Writers' Workshop, Clarion State College, Clarion, Pennsylvania 16214

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