



WORLD SF Newsletter

Number 3, July 1981

Elizabeth Anne Hull, Editor
1502 Seven Pines Road
Schaumburg, IL 60193 USA

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

We have had a number of letters from members expressing good will and willingness to participate . . . but asking, "Really, what is WORLD SF good for?"

The only answer is the time-honored riposte of "Well, what is a baby good for?" In a practical sense, for very little! But it grows and develops.

It seems to me self-evident that, first, everyone professionally connected with science fiction shares interests in common; second, that this is true no matter where in the world we practice our profession; third, that no other organization attempts to bring us together.

Therefore--WORLD SF!

The first step is for us to register our interest in making contact with each other by joining. The second is for us to participate by contributing to the NEWSLETTER, encouraging others to join and participate, and, when possible, attending the world meetings. And then the practical uses of WORLD SF will, I think, begin to unfold.

The agenda that follows indicates some of those practical uses--I hope to see as many of you as possible in Rotterdam to help make them real!

--Frederik Pohl

WORLD SF GENERAL MEETING

Hotel Atlanta, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
27-29 August 1981

Thursday night, 8:00 p.m.

Informal get-together in the hotel lounge, no program. An opportunity to meet each other and relax.

Friday morning, 9:30 a.m.

General business meeting of World SF. Discussions and elections. Planning sites for next meetings. Future plans.

Friday afternoon, 2:00 p.m.

Special interest working groups and panels:

-Problems of translations of sf, Chair, Annemarie Kindt.

-Bibliography of sf, Chair, Gerald Bishop

-Teaching sf, Chair, Elizabeth Anne Hull.

-SF in the 1980's, Chair, Frederik Pohl.

(Other special programs will be added.)

Friday evening, 8:00 p.m.

Informal presentation of the world of science fiction in the Netherlands, conducted by Annemarie Kindt.

Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m.

Final plenary meeting.

(Hillcon '81 convention then continues through Sunday night for members who wish to stay on.)

If you are going to attend, please register in advance by writing:

Annemarie Kindt
Postbus 87933
2508 DH DEN HAAG
The Netherlands

She will provide booking forms for the Hotel Atlanta (at a special rate of approximately \$25 U.S. per person per night). There is no registration fee for the World SF meeting for members in good standing. Members who wish to stay on for the Hillcon may do so at a special registration fee of \$5 U.S.

Notes on the Rotterdam Agenda

On elections: Any member who wishes to offer himself/herself for office is asked to notify the Secretary, Gerald Bishop. All offices are up for election. In most cases the present officers are willing to serve for an additional term (but few are eager to do so!)

On finances: The amount of dues must be considered, and decisions taken on how to allocate WORLD SF funds. (In some cases local bank accounts for individual countries are authorized.)

Proposals have been made for various other publications for WORLD SF, including a Journal. These are to be discussed and decided.

Our Chinese members have provided samples

of recent books, which will be on display at the meeting. All members are invited to prepare similar displays if desired.

1982 WORLD SF MEETING:

The 1982 meeting has been tentatively scheduled for Linz, Austria, in September 1982, subject to the approval of the Rotterdam business session. It will be held in conjunction with the Ars Electronica festival in Linz. A full description of program and facilities will be provided in Rotterdam and published subsequently in the Newsletter.

1983 WORLD SF MEETING:

Krsto Mazuranic, Yugoslavian National Chairman of World SF, has invited us to hold our 1983 meeting in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, in June 1983. He writes:

May I offer a few arguments that speak strongly in favor of the Zagreb bid:

-A hotel that specializes in organizing conferences, conventions and such, tailored to our needs (accommodates 250-300 guests), voted the Best among Inter-Continental Associations twice: Esplanade Inter-Continental.

-A town with direct daily air service to major European airports. A town where a single block of houses separates streets clogged with the rush-hour traffic from the medieval tranquility of the Upper Town where never a single car entered: Zagreb.

-Easily the most open country in the world today. (The only spot where East and West can meet with no red tape.) Probably the safest spot on the face of our planet today. A country where your nickel is worth almost a dime: Yugoslavia.

-A team of interpreters for any combination of languages imaginable. (This argument is worth a second thought: WORLD SF has members who don't speak English!)

This invitation will also be offered to the membership in Rotterdam for decision.

NEWS FROM FRANCE:

Scholars, writers and aficionados of science fiction are invited to participate in a special series of workshops entitled "American and European Science Fiction: Interface and Interchange," to be held as part of the European Association for American Studies 1982 Biennial Conference in Paris, France, late April, 1982.

Interested parties are urged to submit paper topics on any aspect of American and European SF. All approaches are viable, although essays which explore the interaction between American and European SF since World War II are especially desired. Requested length of paper presentations: 20-25 minutes, approximately 2,600 words. Papers must be in English.

Please submit paper topics and brief abstracts as soon as possible to: Professor John Dean, Universite Paris-Nord; Av. J-B. Clement; 93430 Villetaneuse; France.

The papers themselves will be due during the late fall, 1981. Further information regarding the conference as a whole, our SF workshops, and accommodations in Paris will be supplied to interested participants in response to their replies.

All the meetings will be under the direction of Professor John Dean, Universite Paris XIII, and Professor Jean Raynaud, Universite de Bretagne Occidentale.

FROM CHINA:

An Anthology of Chinese SF Stories, edited by Ye Yong-lie

This collection embraces fifteen influential and representative SF stories in China from 1940-1980, along with 11 contemporary Chinese SF writers' autobiographies and their photos. The Chinese version of this book will be published in autumn, 1981, and will serve to entertain readers of Chinese. We also hope that they will be translated into other languages to provide a representative selection of 40 years of SF in the People's Republic of China.

Here is the contents of the book:

Preface, Ye Yong-lie
 Dream of Peace (1940), Cu Jun-zhong
 The Missing Elder Brother (1956), Yu Zhi
 The Elephant with Its Trunk Cut Off (1956), Chi Shu-chang
 Whale Pastureland (1956), Chi Shu-chang
 Dense Fog Over Old Gorge (1960), Tong En-zheng
 Bu Re's Adventures (1962), Xiao Jian-heng
 Little Know-All Travels to the Future (1978), Ye Yong-lie
 Death Ray on the Coral Island (1978), Tong En-zheng
 Quin (1978), You Yi
 Flight Spanning the Ages (1979), Yan Jia-qi
 Forward Sagittarius (1979), Zheng Wen-guang
 Columbus from America (1980), Liu Xing-shi
 The X-3 Case (1980), Ye Yong-lie
 The Mysterious Wave (1980), Wang Yiao-da
 The Moonlight Island (1980), Jin Tao
 Dream (1980), Xiao Jian-heng
 Autobiographies: Gu Jun-zheng, Yu Zhi, Chi Shu-chang, Tong En-zheng, Xiao Jian-heng, Ye Yong-lie, Yan Jia-qi, Zheng Wen-guang, Liu Xing-shi, Wang Xiao-da, Jin Tao.

DIRECTORY UPDATES:

Ye Tong-lie (change reported in Newsletter #2) should be Ye Yong-lie, 75/302 Village No. 1 Cao Xi Road, Shanghai, People's Republic of China.

New Members:

Valerie Broege; 5390 Decelles Avenue, #5; Montreal, Quebec H3T 1V9, CANADA

Dr. Robert Collins; Florida Atlantic University; Boca Raton, FL 33431, USA

Scott E. Green; 47 Byledge Road; Manchester, NH 03104, USA

Jane Jewel; 80 Kirkland Street; Cambridge, MA 02138 USA

Dr. J. E. Pournelle; 12051 Laurel Terrace; Studio City, CA 91604, USA

Peter Stampfel; DAW Books; 1633 Broadway; New York, NY 10019 USA

David W. Wixon; Box 8600; Minneapolis, MN 55408, USA

Uwe Anton; Johannesstr. 9; 5630 Remscheid 1; WEST GERMANY

Piergiorgio Nicolazzini; Via S. Rocco 6/bis; 28026 Omegna, ITALY

Liliana Quaratesi; Via Rubens, 25; 20148 Milano, ITALY

Virginio Marafante; Via Civenna, 5; 20151 Milano, ITALY

Antonia Bellomi; Via Tolmezzo 5/1; 20132 Milano, ITALY

Riccardo Scagnoli; Viale della Vittoria, 6; 60100 Ancona, ITALY

Fianni Pilo; Via Gallese, 30; 00192 Roma, ITALY

Karel Thole; Via Vittadini 25; 20100 Milano, ITALY

Sandro Pergameno; Via Centuripe 34; 00192 Roma, ITALY

Allessandro Voglino; C. so Monforte, 21; 20122 Milano, ITALY

Roberto Bonadimani; Via G.B. Bodoni, 27; 37100 Verona; ITALY

Inisero Cremaschi; Largo Murani 4; 20133 Milano, ITALY

Gilda Musa; Largo Murani, 4; 30133 Milano, ITALY

Luigi Menghini; Via Ogliaro 44; 10131 Torino, ITALY

Daniela Piegai; Localita S. Pietro a Cegliolo, 48; 52044 Cortona, ITALY

Anna Rinonapoli; Via B. della Torre, 31; 18100 La Spezia, ITALY

Sebastiano Fusco; Via del Casale Piombino, 30; 00135 Roma, ITALY

Germano Bonazzi; Via Boschetto, 4; 44100 Ferrara, ITALY

Franco Storchi; Via Trento, 29; 30019 Sottomarina (VE) ITALY

Marsan Dino; Via Bulgarelli, 26; 44100 Ferrara, ITALY

Michelangelo Miani; Via F. lli Cervi, 3; 20059 Vimercate (MI), ITALY

Francesco Paolo Conte; Viale Monza, 27; 20125 Milano, ITALY

Berni Oliviero; Via Marcona, 86; 20100 Milano, ITALY

Maruo Gaffo; Via XX Settembre, 5; 35031 Abano Terme, ITALY

Massimo Pandolfi; Via Michelini Tocci, 31; 61100 Ancona, ITALY

Karl-Heinz Schmitz, Broichstr. 26, D-5300; Bonn, WEST GERMANY

Changes of Address:

Brian Aldiss, 16 Moreton Road, Oxford, England, U.K.

Thomas Franke; Strasse der Freundschaft 55; 4101 Zappendorf; German Democratic Republic

Tom Shippey, School of English, The University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT, England, U.K.

Patricia Warrick; 3308 Scarlet Oak Lane; Appleton, WI 54911 USA

Craig Gardner, 658 Green Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA

Marshall Massey, Inside Science Fiction, 1201 S. Columbine, Denver, CO 80210 USA

Prof. Dr. Herbert W. Franke; Thal 23; D-8195 Egling 2; WEST GERMANY

Philip Smith, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 USA

ON WORD PROCESSORS

Word processors aren't for everybody. They're still expensive. They don't think. They aren't portable. They require new skills. They can break down. Copy in them can vanish into nowhere from a static spark or a voltage surge or the touch of a wrong key or no discoverable cause. If you buy one, you should know computers or have friends who do.

I have friends. In spite of the problems, I'm delighted with my own. It has been down two or three times in the year I've owned it, but only briefly. I've lost maybe four hours of copy, mostly through errors I hope not to repeat. Though I doubt that it has increased my limited output, it does make writing easier and more fun.

I like the light keyboard touch. I enjoy the freedom to look at a passage before it goes on paper, the ease with which I can overstrike typos, the ability to open up a sentence, drop in an afterthought, and close it up again. Or to wipe it out entirely if I decide I don't like it, all without retyping whole pages.

My own processor, bought last year, cost about five thousand dollars--if that's too much, computer prices keep dropping as their capacities go up. Less costly than most, mine has proved adequate. A TRS-80 Model I computer, 48K, modified with a Percom "Doubler" for double density. Two Percom disk drives. A NEC Spinwriter printer with tractor drive; this is an impact printer which can use film ribbon and turn out Selectric quality copy; it's more than half my total investment, but one I don't regret. I use Scripsit software; a more expensive system would do more, but it's pretty satisfactory.

There are numerous ways of creating tribal lays; immortal prose can still be recorded with a lead pencil. For the writer happy with his pencil, the computer could be a barrier to expression; but I'm now at ease with the machine and I'd hate to work without it.

--Jack Williamson

THE ACKERMANSION

WORLD SF members are always welcome to tour the "finest collection of sf memorabilia in this or any other galaxy." It is the home of our member, Forrest J. Ackerman, but it is soon to be moved to a full-scale museum of its own in facilities provided by the city of Los Angeles, California. It comprises more than half a million pieces: almost every science-fiction magazine ever printed, almost

every book; stills from "sci-fi" films and TV shows; original paintings, photographs and sculptures. The Ackermansion has the original model monsters from King Kong, Lon Chaney's makeup case (with strands of his own hair still caught in the brush), Bela Lugosi's vampire ring--and the robot from Fritz Lang's Metropolis. This one is not exactly authentic. The original was lost in the bombings of Berlin, so Ackerman commissioned a duplicate, but in a sense it's better than the original--the one Lang used was shown only from the front; this one is complete all around.

Member Ackerman, sometimes called "Mr. Science Fiction," has devoted himself to the field for his entire adult life--or perhaps even longer. He discovered science fiction in October 1926. Born in 1917, he now says, "I just wasted the first nine years of my life."

THE BOOK DEPOSITORY

All members are invited to send copies of published science fiction works, fiction or non-fiction, in any language, to the WORLD SF Book Depository (c/o Alexandra Mason, Head of Special Collections); Kenneth Spencer Memorial Library, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 60045, USA. They will be made available through personal inspection or by listing in computer data bases to publishers, scholars, and others.

NEWS FROM SRI LANKA

Arthur C. Clarke reports that, although he has yet to learn of the existence of any other sf person on Sri Lanka, he has not lacked for visitors--in recent months, Vassily Zakharchenko from the USSR, Walter and Betsy Cronkite from the US, and several busloads of tourists and students. Clarke's new television series, "Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious World," was a big success on English television and is now in process of release in other countries around the world. Although Clarke, who announced his retirement as a writer in 1977, has done no new writing since then, he has recently completed a revision of his non-fiction book, Profiles of the Future--maybe he will yet change his mind and give us another Childhood's End!

MISCELLANEOUS FROM YOUR EDITOR

Conference and Award Information:

At the 11th annual Science Fiction Research Association meeting (19-22 June 1981, Denver, CO), the Pilgrim Award was bestowed on Sam Moskowitz. His acceptance speech, "Pilgrim's Progress: Prelude and Postscript to the Publication of J. O. Bailey's Pilgrims Through Space and Time," will be

appearing in the first edition of the new SFRA annual volume (ed. by Gary Wolfe, Roosevelt Univ., Chicago), along with Joe DeBolt's introduction, "Sam Moskowitz: Scholar of the Sense of Wonder." The volume should appear in mid-1982.

SFRA President James Gunn announced plans approved by the Executive Committee to resume publication of Neil Barron's recently discontinued Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Review (possibly under another name), which will be available to non-members at a subscription rate yet to be determined (probably around \$10 U.S. for individuals).

During that same conference I was appointed editor of the SFRA Newsletter. Any information to be publicized must be in my hands approximately three months in advance, since the Newsletter is sent bulk (delayed) mail in the U.S. and under the new dues structure effective in January 1982 will also be shipped overseas via surface unless the member pays a first-class surcharge.

The John W. Campbell, Jr., Memorial Award (not to be confused with the award given

by the fans for best new writer) went this year to Gregory Benford for Timescape, which of course also won the Nebula. Placing second in the competition was Australian writer Damien Broderick, for Dreaming Dragons, and third was Gene Wolfe for Shadow of the Torturer. The award is juried by an international seven-member committee.

Call for Contributions:

Is the WORLD SF NEWSLETTER accomplishing what you hoped? What features would you like to see added? Omitted? Expanded? Should it have an informal "Letters to the Editor" column?

As our president says elsewhere in this issue, we have the potential to define ourselves in any way that serves our mutual needs.

Please send items you would like to share with the membership. Especially interesting, I believe, would be information on what's going on in other parts of the world than the already well-publicized U.S. science fiction fan conventions.

FOR ALL MEMBERS

In order to bring our records up to date, we are asking all members to fill out, detach and return this Membership Form. (If you do not wish to mutilate your Newsletter, you may give the information on a plain sheet of paper, but please answer all questions.)

U.S. Members and those others remitting dues in U.S. currency, please return to Elizabeth Anne Hull, 1502 Seven Pines Road, Schaumburg, IL 60193 USA. All others, please return to Gerald Bishop, Aardvark House, 2 Cowper Road, Cambridge, CB1 3SN, England, U.K. Dues are \$10 U.S.; £4 sterling, or the equivalent in any unblocked currency.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Professional connection with science fiction:

- Writer Editor Translator Academic Critic Artist
- Librarian Filmmaker Agent Publisher Historian
- Other (please specify) _____

Languages spoken, written, and read fluently: _____

Languages known with lesser familiarity: _____

- Dues status: I have paid dues since May 1980.
- My dues are herewith enclosed.
- I am unable to pay dues at this time but wish to remain a member.

If professional connection with science fiction entails employment by or association with an institution (school, publishing company, etc.), please give name and address, and your title, if any:
