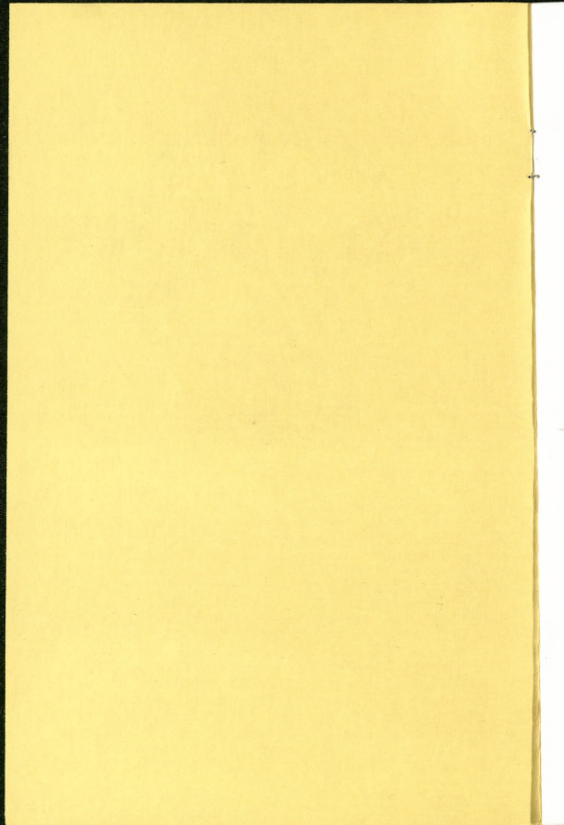




El Paso, Texas

March 26-28, 1975



WELCOME TO SOLARCON I

SPONSORED BY

ZOTHIQUE--THE UTEP SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION

ConCom Members

William Siros
Mike Emery
Roxanne Wonciar
Debbie Bean
Dale Walker
Jay Duncan
Clint Hiser

Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Coordinator
Art Director
Publicity
Audio Visual
Hucksters

Ray Gonzalez
Greg Seegar
Ed Scarbrough
Joe Holihen

LOCAL SF CLUBS

ZOTHIQUE--The Science Fiction Association at the University of Texas at El Paso was founded a year ago by William Siros and Ray Gonzalez to organize students interested in fantasy and science fiction. Members try to maintain a serious interest in f and sf. The club has helped expand the sf collection at the UTEP Library and is sponsoring Solarcon I. A fanzine is forthcoming. Regular luncheon meetings are on Friday afternoons from 12 to 2, in the Elkins Room of the Student Union Building on campus. For more information, call Willie at 778-5926 or Mike at 592-2638.

NEHWON--The El Paso Science Fiction Club meets on alternate Saturday evenings at various members' homes. This is a group united by its interest in sf; they enjoy getting together and sharing their ideas about sf and whatever else comes up. For more information, call Debbie at 598-0029 or Willie at 778-5926.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(All events in Plaza Theatre unless otherwise specified)

Wednesday, March 26, 1975

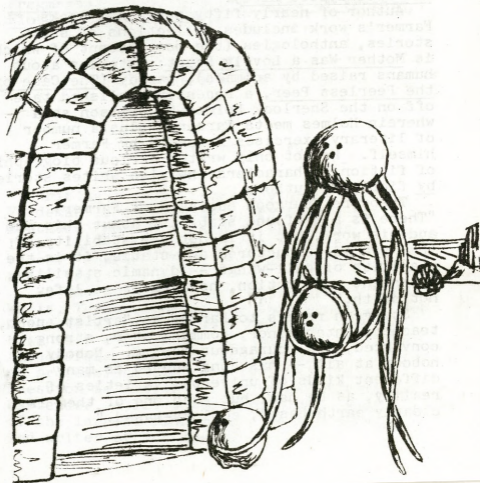
- 10:00--Registration in Treatre Lobby
- 11:00--Star Trek episode
- 12:00--Hucksters open in Theatre Mezzanine
- 1:00--Twilight Zone episode
- 2:00--The Man Who Could Work Miracles
- 3:30--Panel on the History of Fandom
- 5:00--Star Trek episode
- 6:00--Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge
- 6:30--Mysterious Island
- 8:30--Meet the Pros Party in Hotel Green Room
- 10:00--Destination Moon
- 10:00--Hucksters close
- 11:30--The War of the Worlds

Thursday, March 27, 1975

- 9:00--Hucksters open
- 10:00--The Day the Earth Stood Still
- 11:30--The Seventh Voyage of Sinbad
- 12:00--Philip José Farmer at UTEP Union Ballroom
- 1:00--Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge
- 1:30--Panel on Academia and sf (with Dr. Larry Johnson of UTEP)
- 3:00--Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
- 4:30--Trivia Bowl
- 7:00--Masquerade
Mexborough Hotel Scion of the Baker
Street Irregulars in Green Room
- 8:00--Things to Come
- 9:45--Metropolis
- 10:00--Hucksters close
- 11:20--King Kong

Friday, March 28, 1975

- 9:00--Hucksters open
10:00--The Island of Lost Souls
11:30--Panel on sf screenplays (with Ed
Bryant and Jon Manchip White)
1:00--Metropolis
3:00--Auction
4:30--Hucksters close
5:00--Buffet in Hotel Rose Ballroom
6:00--Guest of Honor addresses (Philip José
Farmer and Bob Vardeman)
7:00--Works in Progress Session in Ballroom
9:00--Diatribes Session
10:00--Adjournment
Dead Dog Party



Philip José Farmer

A man who for well over two decades has been in the top echelon of American science fiction writers, Philip José Farmer is guest of honor at Solarcon I, El Paso's first sf convention.

Farmer's best known work includes such novels as The Lovers (1952), Flesh (1960), Lord Tyger (1970), To Your Scattered Bodies Go (1971), and The Fabulous Riverboat (1971) (two novels in the Riverworld series); and such nonfiction works as biographies of Tarzan (Tarzan Alive), Phileas Fogg (The Other Log of Phileas Fogg), and Doc Savage (Doc Savage: His Apocalyptic Life).

Author of nearly fifty published books, Farmer's work includes collections of short stories, anthologies (the most recent of which is Mother Was a Lovely Beast: stories about humans raised by animals), parody (The Case of the Peerless Peer, a recently published take off on the Sherlock Holmes-Dr. Watson saga wherein Holmes meets Tarzan), plus a number of literary exercises invented by Farmer himself. He not only writes serious biographies of fictional characters, he also writes stories by fictional authors.

Theodore Sturgeon has said of Farmer: "There is a profound stability about this man and his work, but it is not the stability of the pyramid, structured and static; it is the stability of gull-wings -- dynamic stability, dependent upon motion, not stasis -- life, not death."

Sturgeon refers to Farmer as "artist, poet, teacher, entertainer, communicator, strong, convinced, and courageous man.... Nobody -- nobody at all -- has constructed as many different kinds of universe, varieties of reality, as he has, but each one of them is clearly earth-based, ecology-based."

Farmer, 57, lives in Peoria, Illinois. He will arrive in El Paso on the afternoon of March 26 and will make his Guest of Honor address during the evening of the 28th at the Plaza Hotel: headquarters of Solarcon I.

-Dale Walker

(Dale L. Walker, director of the News Bureau at UT El Paso, is author of several books, most recently a biography of the Arizona pioneer and hero of Roosevelt's Rough Riders, W. O. O'Neill: Death Was the Black Horse. He has written extensively on Jack London and his collection of London's fantasy-science fiction works, Curious Fragments: Jack London's Tales of Fantasy Fiction, is forthcoming.)

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Bob Vardeman -- FGoH

Writing a short biography about Bob Vardeman is similar to describing a Marx Brothers' movie in twenty-five words or less. And attempting to do it in blank verse. However, I've been asked, and I shall try.

He was born at a very early age in Mineral Wells, Texas. Overcoming this handicap, Bob moved to El Paso in 1956 and stuck around this fair city until 1963 when he moved to Albuquerque, where he still resides. As far as profession, that one is a difficult question to answer. I could say dishwasher, bartender, solid state physicist, owner-manager of the largest fishmongery in Albuquerque and writer of MCP books.

I could say that.

I suppose I'll stick with his writing books extolling the virtues of male chauvinist pigism since that's about all he's doing right now.

Which brings up an interesting point. What's a guy who lives off his writing and is a member of the SFWA doing here as a fan Guest of Honor? Maybe it gets in the blood, not unlike syphilis. Fandom, that is. For, you see, Bob's been a fan since 1965, printed a fanzine since 1967, founded a monthly apa which just celebrated its fifth anniversary in January, been in N'APA and APA45, is a member of TAPS, and is currently a resident corpse in the elephant's graveyard of faneds, FAPA. Bob was toastmaster at Denver's MileHiCon in 1972 and fan Guest of Honor at Aggiecon in 1973. (Please don't get him started on Aggie jokes.) And through covert and overt bribery, he even managed to cadge a Hugo nomination for best fan writer in 1972. He lost.

Vardeman's been to so many cons, I doubt if even he can remember all of them. I doubt if he can even remember which ones he has served as chairman or treasurer or just been prestnt and on some panel at. I'm certain he knows which ones he has gotten drunk at: all of them.

In merciful summary, Bob Vardeman, even if he does make a living from his writing, seems well enough qualified to be FGOH. Fmz, cons, letter hacking, review writing and, yes, even science fiction reading, are all within his baliwick (he keeps his baliwick in a fallout shelter in case of nuclear war.)

-Victor R. Edwards

Jon Manchip White

Jon Manchip White, master of ceremonies for Solarcon I, is the University of Texas at El Paso's own Cardiff Giant.

Born June 22, 1924, in Cardiff, Wales, Prof. White took his B.A. and M.A. degrees at Saint Catherine's College, University of Cambridge -- honors degrees in English literature, prehistoric archeology, oriental languages (Egyptology), and the University Diploma in Anthropology.

He served 1942-44 in the Royal Navy and 1944-45 in Her Majesty's Brigade of Guards (the Welsh Guards).

As a writer, Jon White knows no boundaries. He served as story editor for BBC-TV, as screenwriter and story editor (in Paris and Madrid) for Samuel Bronston Productions ("55Days at Peking", "El Cid"); and has published books of history (Ancient Egypt, Everyday Life in Ancient Egypt, Anthropology, Marshal of France, The Rout of San Romano, Diego Velasquez, The Land God Made in Anger, Cortez and the Downfall of the Aztec Empire), novels (Mask of Dust, Build Us a Dam, The Mercenaries, Hour of the Rat, The Rose in the Brandy Glass, Nightclimber, The Game of Troy, The Garden Game), poems (The Mountain Lion), opera (Chariot of Fire), magazine and newspaper work, and book reviews.

He has written science fiction films (the screenplay for The Crack in the World) and his two newest books (scheduled for April and July, 1975, release) are the novel Send for Mr. Robinson! and A World Elsewhere: An Englishman's View of the American South-west.

Prof. White is married to Valerie Leighton White and the couple make their home in El Paso where Prof. White has been, for several years, on the faculty of the University of Texas at El Paso.

-Dale Walker

Ed Bryant

Ed Bryant. In 1971, Robert Silverberg called him "another of the bright new names in science fiction." In 1975, Harlan Ellison says he's "a major talent in the field of speculative fiction." Does this mean Ed has come of age? He's 29 now, which puts him this side of no man's land, at least.

It all started in 1957 at the age of twelve (doesn't it always?), when Ed unsuspectingly picked up the August Amazing Stories magazine. It wasn't long after that he had his own fan magazine out, Ad Astra. After a B.A. and M.A. in English, he attended the first and second Clarions, and immediately started selling his work. His first collection was Among the Dead (And Other Events Leading to the Apocalypse). His most recent book is Phoenix Without Ashes, a novelization of the Starlost TV series. His story "Shark" (from Orbit 12) was a Nebula Award finalist in 1974. And his Cinnabar stories are forthcoming this year in the form of a "mosaic novel."

Ed has one of the most deadpan deliveries in the genre, but don't let that fool you. If you turn around without looking, he may bite you on the leg.

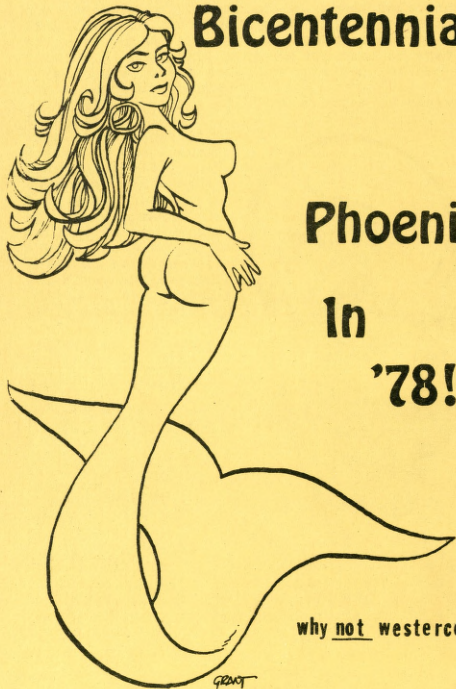




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