

Susan McInerney, Mike McInerney's sister, confined her fan activities almost exclusively to the East Coast. She corresponded with a few fans, but was not a member of any club or organization (except that she was Princess Rima Susan, Vigilantress of the Citadel of Linn, of Coventry). She had poetry published in fanzines, the little of it under her own name. She attended, at irregular intervals, meetings of ESFA, FISTFA and Fano-clasts. She attended a couple of Phillycons and the Eastercon/Lunacon.

Her Coventrian name was not given to her without reason: she looked and seemed very much like Rima, the bird-girl, of Green Mansions. She had a striking face, with eyes full of merriment and life. She was a very delicate girl with beautiful near-waist-length hair.

She laughed easily, but she was a serious girl. She was trying, like a lot of us, to find some meaning in her living. She was in New York a few months ago, studying acting at Barnard College; she had worked in Summer Stock. She was a Mystic and a Spiritualist; she believed, very strongly, in an afterlife of some kind.

While she was in New York, she contracted a virus infection which later led to pneumonia. She survived the pneumonia, but the strain was too much for her already weakened heart.

Susan McInerney, Princess Rima Susan, died Saturday, October 23, 1965, after two months of hospitalization at Meriden Hospital in Connecticut.

The bird-girl has flown away to the life she believed in so strongly.

# FOCAL POINT

this fifteenth issue of a fanzine of news, views and reviews, is edited bi-weekly by Mike McInerney (326 E. 13th St., Apt 7, New York, New York, 10003) & rich brown (236 Mulberry St., Apt. 12, New York, New York) and published as regularly as possible on QWERFYUIOPlus One. It is available for news, comments, trades, 3/25¢, 12/\$1. Our Overseas Agent is Peter Singleton, Ward 2, Whittingham Hospital, Near Preston, Lancashire, England, and subs thru him are still 12 for 7/-. Backcover illustration by Arthur Thompson. Circulation: 235. November 1, 1965. NEW YORK IN '67!

NEW ANNUAL SF ANTHOLOGY SCHEDULED: The Science Fiction Writers of America have arranged to publish an annual anthology, under a rotating editorship, the first editor to be SFWA President, Damon Knight. Coincident with this will be an annual awards banquet at which awards will be given to the best of short story, novelette, novella and novel of the year. Winners will be voted on by balloting by the membership of SFWA, and the winners and runners up will be included in the anthology.

The basic concept here seems to be similar to that set up by the Mystery Writers of America, and Damon has secured an extremely favorable contract on the anthology, with 65% of the royalties being divided among the contributing authors.

The only question remains: with a new award analogous to the Mystery Writers of America's Edgar, what will happen to fandom's Hugo -- and what will the SFWA call theirs?

BOSKONE '66 is scheduled for March 11, 12, & 13 at the Statler Hilton in Boston, Massachusetts. This should be of interest to the ESFA, which holds its yearly Open Meeting around that time and has for some years.

## THE 1964 FOCAL POINT POLL RESULTS

Voting in the 1965 FOCAL POINT Poll were the following people: Ann Ashe, Jeanie Berman, Ruth Berman, John Boardman, Carl Brandon Jr., rich brown, Redd Boggs, Jack Chalkor, Mike Dockinger, Frank Dietz, Mike Domina, Alex B. Eisenstein, EEEvers, Jack Gaughan, Cindy Hoap, Mike Irwin, Arnie Katz, Harriot Kolchak, John Kusske Jr., Fred Lerner, Bob Lichtman, Richard A. Luc, Richard O. Mann, J. A. McCallum, Mike McInerney, Andy Porter, Jim Sanders, Gretchen Schwonn, George H. Scithors, Peter Singleton, Ben Solon, Ted White and Greg Wolford. 33 out of 230...that's not too many. Ye eds were the first to vote and were thus not influenced by the other voting.

### BEST FANZINE

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. YANDRO (69 points)          | LIGHTHOUSE (26 points)      |
| 2. NIEKAS (51 points)          | 7. SAM (19 points)          |
| 3. LOGHORREA/QUARK (34 points) | 8. HYHEN (18 points)        |
| 4. DOUBLE BILL (33 points)     | 9. ZENITH (17 points)       |
| 5. AMRA (26 points)            | 10. STARSPINKLE (15 points) |

(14 points:) MINAC, RIVERSIDE QUARTERLY; (10 points:) QAR, WARHOON; (7 points:) KIPPLE, LES SPINGE; (6 points:) ENCLAVE; (5 points:) HORIZONS, MIRAGE; (4 points:) CRY, FANTASY ROTATOR, JESUS BUG, SHAGGY, SPIROCHETE, TIGHTBEAM, VECTOR; (3 points:) FANAC, FRAP, GAMBIT, KNOWABLE, RATATOSK, SKYRACK; (2 points:) DEGLER!, DESCANT, HOWARD COLLECTOR; (1 point:) AVANG, THE CRUZZINE QUARTERLY, DIFFERENTIAL, DINKY BIRD. A total of 48 votes were either not used or marked 'No Award' on the ballot.

### BEST NEW FAN

- |                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Tom Gilbert (16 points)   | Arnie Katz (8 points)          |
| 2. Richard Mann (13 points)  | 6. Ross Chamberlain (7 points) |
| 3. Joni Markwood (10 points) | Hank Luttrell (7 points)       |
| 4. Ron Bounds (8 points)     | Creath Thorne (7 points)       |

(3 points:) Jeanie Berman, Dan McPhail, Alexei Panshin, Robin Postal, Harry Warner; (2 points:) Len Bailes, Richie Benyo, Bill Blackbeard, Barry Gold, Dave Hall, Dwain Kaiser, Al Scott, Greg Shaw, Milt Stevens; (1 point:) John Boston, Don Fitch, Paul Gilster, Cindy Heap, John Kusske, Richard Luc, Jim Sanders, Pete Weston. A total of 85 points were either not used or marked 'No Award' on the ballot.

### BEST SINGLE PUBLICATION

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|--|--|
| 1. DISCON PROCEEDINGS (7 points)       | 4. THE LOYAL OPPOSITION (6 points)     |
| THE GREAT RAYBURN DOGDIDDLE (9 points) | 5. GRAND VIZIER'S HORSETAIL (5 points) |
| 3. NIEKAS #9 (8 points)                | QAR #1 (5 points)                      |

(4 points:) LIGHTHOUSE #11; (3 points:) DOUBLE BILL #8, THE GAME OF FANDOM, THE GREAT BREEN BOONDOGGLE, LES SPINGE #12, MIRAGE ON LOVECRAFT, ORIGINAL SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, QUARK (Oct. '64), REQUIEM FOR ASTOUNDING, SCIENCE MADE TOO EASY, STAFFINK, TAFF PROGRESS REPORT #6; (2 points:) CONVENTION ANNUAL #2, HARLEQUIN, HYHEN #36, WARHOON #20, XERO INDEX; (1 point:) AYLNER ONESHOTS, FANAC #92, REPORT ON THE CANCELLATION OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF WALTER BREEN, RIVERSIDE QUARTERLY. A total of 97 points were either not used or marked 'No Award' on the ballot. This category is a farce.

### BEST FAN ARTIST

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|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Steve Stiles (78 points)    | Ross Chamberlain (23 points) |
| 2. Arthur Thompson (70 points) | 7. Jim Cawthorne (14 points) |
| 3. Bjo Trimble (43 points)     | 8. Dian Pelz (13 points)     |
| 4. William Rotsler (29 points) | 9. Roy Kronkel (12 points)   |
| 5. George Barr (23 points)     | 10. Dan Adkins (9 points)    |

(8 points:) Gretchen Schwenn; (6 points:) Eddie Jones, Ray Nelson; (5 points:) Jerry Burge, Tim Dumont, Jack Gaughan, Don Simpson; (4 points:) Perdita Boardman, Ray Capella, Robert E. Gilbert, Tony Glenn; (3 points:) Ron Bounds, Ann Chatland, Brian McCabe, Ted Pauls, Andy Porter, Dennis Smith, Bhub Stewart; (2 points:) Alex Eisenstein, Jack Harness, Joni Markwood, Nott, Joe Statton; (1 point:) Steve Barr, Richard Bergeron, Mike Hinge. A total of 80 points were either not used or marked 'No Award' on the ballot.

### BEST FAN WRITER

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Walter A. Willis (72 points) | 6. Norm Clarke (12 points)     |
| 2. Terry Carr (40 points)       | 7. Bob Coulson (11 points)     |
| 3. Harry Warner (34 points)     | 8. John Boardman (10 points)   |
| 4. Ted White (31 points)        | Redd Boggs (10 points)         |
| 5. John Berry (24 points)       | 10. Bill Blackbeard (8 points) |

(7 points:) Richard Bergeron, Ron Ellik, Paul Wyzkowski; (6 points:) Walter Breen, Tom Perry, Steve Stiles; (5½ points:) Bob Shaw; (5 points:) Ron Bennett, rich brown, Carol Carr, Calvin Demmon, Bill Donaho, Harry Harrison, Jim Linwood, Felice Rolfe, Si Stricklen, Dave Van Arnam; (4 points:) Greg Benford, Barry Munchausen, Alexei Panshin, Fred Patten; (3 points:) Ruth Berman, George Charters, Tom Gilbert, Bob Lichtman, Ed Meskeys, Joe Pilati, Ben Solon, Wally Weber; (2 points:) Gretchen Schwenn, Bob Tucker; (1 point:) Len Bailes, Jean Berman, G.M. Carr, Les Gerber, Ted Pauls, Frank Wilimczyk; (½ point:) James White. A total of 93 points were either not used or marked 'No Award' on the ballot.

### TOP TEN VOTE TOTALS\*

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|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Steve Stiles (103) | 6. Felice Rolfe (65)/Ed Meskeys (62) |
| 2. Walt Willis (92)   | 7. Bjo Trimble (53)                  |
| 3. Bob Coulson (80)   | 8. Ted White (48)                    |
| 4. Terry Carr (70)    | 9. Tom Perry (43)                    |
| Arthur Thompson (70)  | 10. Harry Warner (42)                |

\*The result of tabulating all totals, or maybe I mean the result of totalling all tabulations. The above totals are arrived at by allowing full credit for a coedited zine to each individual, providing they received some votes as individuals.

Just what this whole damn poll is supposed to mean, I'm not quite sure. I disqualified only two votes -- one for FOCAL POINT, one for a too too silly made up name. I even counted votes for things published in 1965, tho I said I wouldn't; such are the results of trying to take a poll a year late. C'est la cotton pickin' vie.

focal point: four



THE PHILCON this year will be held from Friday, November 12 to Sunday, November 14; starting at 8:00 Friday at the regular FSFS meeting at the Central YMCA at Broad and Arch Streets, adjourning to Harriet Kolchaks for a welcoming party (2330 N. Hancock St). Saturday and Sunday, the conference will be held at the Sheraton Hotel at 17th & J.F.K. Blvd in the Hall of Flags, with a party at Harriet Kolchaks Saturday night. Guest of Honor will be L. Sprague de Camp, and the conference will also feature such notables as Dick Lupoff, Sam Moskowitz, Tom Purdom, Dr. Milton Rothman, Hans Stefan Santesson, George O. Smith, Chris Steinbrunner, and a host of others. BE there--we will.

BOTH THE LUNA CON AND EASTERCON will be held at the Edison Hotel in New York this year. The Lunacon, due largely to its success last year, has become a two day conference, and will be held the 16th and 17th of April. For further Lunacon information, contact Frank Dietz, 1750 Walton Avenue, Bronx, New York. The FISTFA is still debating whether to expand the Eastercon to a three-day party, but watch this space for developments.

BORN, to John and Perdita Boardman, a girl, Dierdre Boardman, 9 lb., 9 oz, Saturday, 4 September 1965, at 10:43 a.m.; our congratulations to them all. John reports that in the intervening time, she has gained a few pounds and discovered that nighttime is best for sleeping.

LENNY KAYE, who used to publish Obelisk, is now a recording artist. As reported in an earlier FP, Lenny was working with an R&R group which called itself The Vandals; a friend of his from New York, a songwriter, came and heard him sing and wrote a song. Lenny recorded it and they sold it to Columbia Records in Boston. It's called "Crazy Like a Fox," a folk-rock bit, and will probably be released around the 1st of the year. It's recorded under the name of Link Cromwell; everybody reading FP should run out and buy five or six copies.

ALVIN DAVIDSON has just finished a novel for Ace called THE KAR-CHEE REIGN which is a prequel to ROGUE DRAGON. He's now working on a shorter novel entitled TLOLOC which has a Mexican background and will be in a lighter vein than previous novels. "Awaiting publication are such works of my hand as RORK! and THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY and THE PHOENIX AND THE MIRROR, all Berkeley Books. The latter is the Vergil Magus one and publication was delayed in hopes of hardcover and/or magazine publication, but I doubt that either of these will occur." We've seen (and bought, tho not read yet) RORK! on the stands here in New York; the others may also be out now, for all we know.

ROY TACKET reports to us the sad news that "a combination of personal reasons is forcing me to cut back on fan activity and, therefore, I've suspended publication of DYNATRON."

LASFS AUCTION: Four Items (THE BEST OF FANDOM '58; THE FANCIENT II; FINGERTIP NEWS DIGEST #30, 33-36; STARTLING STORIES v. 17-18 (6 issues, 1948, very good condition)) are being auction by LASFS, proceeds to their building fund; Bruce Pelz (Box 100, 308 Westwood Plaza, L.A., Cal.) accepts bids 'til 24 November.