

# AUGUST DERLETH SOCIETY



VOL. I NO. 3

## NEWSLETTER

THE AUGUST DERLETH SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN - A MILESTONE

Wilfred E. Beaver of Sparta, Wisconsin has agreed to accept responsibility for the formation of a headquarters chapter of the August Derleth Society. Mr. Beaver intends to launch a membership and publicity campaign immediately. "A state meeting set up for this spring or summer (depending on acceptance by the people)," is also in his plans.

This is a great moment for the Society. Mr. Beaver's action brings us one step closer to establishing the August Derleth Society on a permanent foundation. Wisconsin, in all fairness, should be the garden where the Society takes root and grows to fruition. It was, after all August Derleth's home state and the place where he grew to become an author of stature.

The chapter formed by Mr. Beaver will be considered our "home" chapter and its officers will comprise the official officers of the Society. It is assumed that membership in this "home" chapter will be open to all, whether residents of Wisconsin or elsewhere, but in more practical terms it makes the greatest sense that the officers of a society should, for the most part, dwell in some geographic proximity to one another in order to facilitate meetings and the business of the organization.

The Newsletter will continue to originate from Uncasville, Connecticut, and since this aspect of the venture is financed solely by members dues, requests for membership and dues payments should continue to be sent to our Connecticut address. Just so there is no confusion, your editor has no intention of relinquishing responsibility for this Newsletter.

We sincerely hope that other local chapters of the ADS will be organized as time goes by, perhaps eventually even outside the state of Wisconsin. We are delighted, however, with Mr. Beaver's offer and with his willingness to give so unselfishly of his time and talent in the interest of furthering the success of the ADS.

A word about the man who figures to play a prominent part in our Society's future:

Wilfred Beaver was born on June 19, 1920 in Huntington, Indiana and moved to Chicago, Illinois at the age of 4. He grew up in that city, spending his summer vacations at the farm of an aunt and uncle at Angelo, Wisconsin. He attended Sparta High School in 1936, later visited "August Derleth country," where he attended lectures given by Derleth himself. Mr. Beaver states that he, "Studied his (Derleth's) style of writing to use in my own works as I grew older."

Disabled as a result of injuries sustained while on active duty with the U.S. Army in 1944, he perfected his writing style and began selling poems and articles during a lengthy three year period of hospitalization and convalescence.

Later, in the 1960's, Mr. Beaver began writing both technical and how-to-do-it articles. It was during this period of his life, while working as an industrial chemist in a grain mill laboratory, that he suffered a permanently disabling accident.

In spite of set-backs that would have discouraged lesser men, Wilfred Beaver stands out as a remarkably tough individual who continues his creative and organizational activities despite all the obstacles thrown in his way. The ADS is indeed fortunate to count this man among its members and is honored that he has consented to assume a primary position of leadership. His action assures a promising future for our fledgling society.

In order to give our members some idea of the energy of this man, the following is a list of some of the organizations to which he belongs.

August Derleth Society  
Monroe County Historical Society  
Spart Poetry Circle  
Heritage Writers Round Table  
Academy of American Poets  
Western Wisc. Regional Arts Group  
Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets  
Council of Wisconsin Writers  
Raconteurs  
Wisconsin Regional Writers  
Wisconsin Rural Artists  
Wisc. Academy of Science Arts & Letters  
State Historical Society of Wisconsin  
Association of American Geographers  
National Space Institute  
Space Studies Institute  
Wisconsin Map Society



## SOCIETY'S LOGO INTRODUCED

We are pleased to introduce with this issue, the emblem of the August Derleth Society as designed by the noted Wisconsin artist, Frank Utpatel.

Newsletter #3 features as its masthead, a beautifully appropriate sketch by Mr. Utpatel which the artist prepared expressly for the Society. It appears here for the first time, and will be featured in all future newsletters as well as serving as an official letterhead for Society stationery.

Mycologists will, of course, recognize AWD's beloved morels in the foreground, but take a moment to study the sketch. Is this a quiet moonlit scene of a peaceful Wisconsin night, or is that "witch-haunted Arkham," hiding just beyond the hills?

Whatever the scene, our debt of gratitude to Mr. Utpatel for his fine contribution will not be forgotten soon.

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## STORIES FILMED FOR TV\*

100 BOOKS BY AUGUST DERLETH lists the following stories as having been filmed for television:

The Metronome  
Mrs Manifold  
The Sheraton Mirror  
The Shuttered House  
Bishop's Gambit  
"Just a Song at Twilight"  
Alannah  
The Adventure of the Frightened Baronet  
Mr George  
The Intercessors (Summer Night)  
The Night Light at Vorden's  
The Extra Passenger  
A Wig for Miss Devore  
The Return of Andrew Bentley  
Colonel Markesan

Since this list was published in 1962, it is undoubtedly incomplete. If you know of additional Derleth stories that have been filmed for TV, please contact the editor so that we may bring the listing up to date.

\*Reprinted permission of the attorneys for Arkham House. Source: 100 Books by August Derleth, Arkham House Publishers, Sauk City, Wisc., 1962. p. 108.

## LETTERS FROM OUR MEMBERS

From Robert Bloch:

"...it brings back a lot of memories, and I'm sure Augie himself would be pleased with such an evocation."

From James Turner:

"The Newsletter moves from strength to strength, and you will have a difficult job surpassing the Copper issue."

From Steve Eng:

"He remains more interesting to me for his lifestyle - many times I have pushed on, with literary endeavors with the thought 'Derleth wouldn't have been afraid to do this.' His lifestyle and example, more than what he wrote remain an influence. What he did for HPL is an incalculable influence in my life, since my first bent toward writing was HPL-inspired."

From Malcolm Ferguson:

"I see by the Feb. issue of Bookviews, (the new mag. pub. by Bowker) that an out-of-print book scout says that Derleth is among his most sought-after authors."

"Somewhere along the line, a note on his comic strip collection, a full article, perhaps by the Wisconsin Historical Society, would be interesting. Note particularly his interest in Clare Victor Dwiggins, who I never met, but whose strip I knew before I met August..."

EDITOR'S NOTE: If any members are interested in starting this project, particularly the Wisconsin Historical Society, we would be most happy to assist in initiating Mr. Ferguson's suggestion, or if members having information about this aspect of August Derleth's varied interests would care to share their information with the editor, he would be happy to have a go at it.

Until such time as a definitive Derleth biography is published, it will do no harm for us to begin compiling a series of articles on various aspects of August Derleth's life. These might one day form the foundation for just such a biography. However, the cooperation of our membership is critically important in gathering information. This cannot be accomplished in a vacuum, particularly when the vacuum is located in Connecticut.

From Stuart David Schiff:

"August was a shining light to me even though I never met him in other than our too infrequent letters. I always wanted to do something in the field and he was my first real professional friend. The oddity that struck me in Basil's closing was really an irony. It took August's death to bring me to the point of doing my own thing in the field of fantasy and horror. When he was alive, I saw no need but to sit back and enjoy the fruits of his work. I venture that neither WHISPERS nor the Whispers Press would exist today if Augie was still alive. It makes me sit back and think hard upon how one man I had never met influenced me so greatly as to make me want to take up where he had left off. Wherever you are today, August, I hope I have done right by you."

EDITORS NOTE: Stuart David Schiff is Editor/Publisher of WHISPERS/Whispers Press. He has been generous enough to offer the following discount to Derleth Society members on the following items published by his organization:

Lovecraft, H.P., A WINTER WISH, edited by Tom Collins. A collection of H. P. Lovecraft's poetry, the book is dedicated to August Derleth. The regular price for this volume is \$10.00. A signed (by Tom Collins, a member of our Society), slip-cased edition (200 copies) is also available at \$20.00. The 10% discount may be applied to both prices.

Mr. Schiff states in part: "The volume gives great insight into Lovecraft and the amateur press associations that were such a driving force in his life. It also illustrates, at least to me, that Derleth was quite incorrect about passing off the bulk of HPL's poetry as just imitative and inferior to his weird stuff."

## MESSAGE FROM ARKHAM HOUSE

Good news from James Turner, editor of Arkham House. He states in a recent letter, "...I suspect that the details concerning the estate, the continuation of Arkham House, and so on, will be disclosed in this company's next anniversary bibliography, either Forty or Forty-five Years of Arkham House, depending upon when we have time to prepare such a compilation. In the interim, AWD's mainstream work will be kept in print by Stanton & Lee, and there will be AT LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL AH TITLE BY DERLETH, POSSIBLY SEVERAL." (The emphasis is my own - Ed.)

DERLETH AS I KNEW HIM\*

(Excerpted from the article by Ramsey Campbell- the following is continued from Newsletter #1)

And as his letters became friendlier his criticism of his own work seemed to sharpen:

18.1.63 "I think, out of close to 5,000 published pieces, I believe only about 2 to represent the best I could have done with more time and convenience. One is a short story later dubbed in as the final chapter of EVENING IN SPRING; the other a novella titled ANY DAY NOW, included in COUNTRY GROWTH. Apart from its formlessness at this stage, I am also reasonably well pleased with WALDEN WEST."

A pity, I think parenthetically, that nobody ever filmed EVENING IN SPRING - Bogdanovitch, perhaps. Did Derleth ever resent the amount of time he had to spend at the typewriter? Yes, but far less than most of us would. Writing THE SHADOW IN THE GLASS, which he initially regarded as a challenge, became "like pulling teeth." The one expression of pure resentment I can find relates to the fact that, having gone some way towards emulating Thoreau, he was unable to enjoy even that:

17.4.63 "All my deadlines are now met, and I am planning - apart from AH, correspondence and proofs - & of course my columns - and I'm doing some of them ahead now - to vegetate and enjoy the spring, which has come in far too warm - 77° today - when 57° would be about right; this has the unhappy effect of telescoping the spring - the vistas of unfurling leaves, opening flowers, etc., esp. the lovely soft green of the early spring landscape are telescoped; they last 3 to 5 days instead of two weeks or more, all of which I find maddeningly annoying, since I sat through a bitter winter for the express purpose of enjoying the spring, and all or most - of its most beautiful aspects will have rushed past before I've had full opportunity to enjoy the season."

Soon after came the letter for which I had searched in the mail each morning: his reaction to the final draft of THE INHABITANT OF THE LAKE. Here's a further example of his criticism:

25.7.63 "As a general criticism, I have to point out that your endings tend to fall down. THE PLAIN OF SOUND, for instance, which is a good, interesting story, comes up with a weak ending. 'I saw what it took from its victims,' as you have it, is a let-down; it is simply not enough, at least for this old pro; we cannot imagine that 'it' took anything sufficiently horrible to drive Tony insane. There are others among the tales with endings that are weaker than the stories; the stories on the whole are strong and move along well, but they build up to relatively poor climaxes. It is very much like the standard cartoon of somebody lighting a giant firecracker with all the bustle and preparation attendant upon making sure everyone is out of the way, only to have the thing explode with a feeble pop."

Early in the following year he justified Arkham House's bias towards fantasy. Some of his points still hold true, sadly.

17.1.64 "Fantasy has a steadier market (and a less crowded one) than sf fantasy, which has too much bilge in it. The sf people seldom buy non-sf fantasy, whereas the fantasy devotees who buy our books buy everything in which they are interested, which includes sf if it's good. The sf people, the fans, that is, are in general a narrower lot."

One point about his weird fiction still surprises me on rereading:

6.2.64 "I set down the other day to write THE SHADOW IN THE ATTIC after one of Lovecraft's notes in the Commonplace Book, and actually couldn't bring myself to make it a Cthulhu tale - I've reached saturation point, I suspect; so I settled for witchcraft."

Later he was to describe this story as reading "Like HPL tongue-in-cheek". Why bother writing at all on that basis? you may complain. Well, consider: on 4 March 1964 Derleth's bank balance stood at \$6,000, while Arkham House's printing costs for the year would be \$21,000. THE SHADOW IN THE ATTIC brought Arkham House books a little nearer your bookshelf, and it was to Derleth's credit that he could be objective about this and still find the urge to write.

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Alert readers will note a discontinuity in the continuation of Mr. Campbell's article from Newsletter #1 to Newsletter #3. This unfortunate occurrence was caused by someone having misplaced the first half of Mr. Campbell's article. Since only one person is presently responsible for the ADS files, the assistance of Solar Pons will not be required to solve this mystery. Apologies to all. Mr. Campbell's article will continue in our next issue.



DRAINED (C)  
by  
Steve Eng

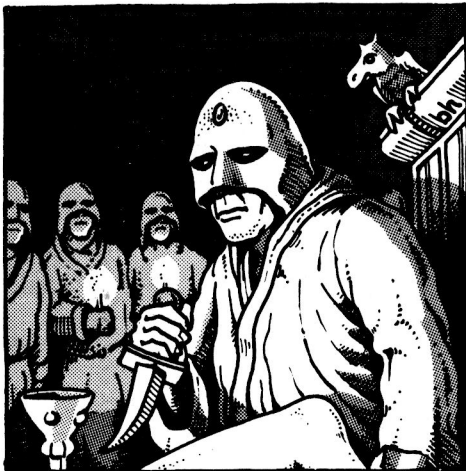
Church of the True Sinner's Saint  
Rots under powdering paint;  
Still the old worshippers file  
Down the cold stone-and-brick aisle.

There the masked pagan priest rants  
Blasphemy into his chants,  
Over the virginal, still  
Sacrifice poised for the kill.

"Kill me and I'll see you soon  
Under the vampire-red moon,"  
She promised just as he thrust,  
Suddenly flaking to dust.

Two short weeks later it came:  
Moonlight that dripped a red flame  
Over the poor prayerless priest:  
Tooth-marks showed he'd been the feast

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#### THE SOLAR PONS OMNIBUS

#### A STATUS REPORT

The following publication announcement is excerpted from the addendum to the June 1977 Arkham House Catalog.

"...THE SOLAR PONS OMNIBUS (Derleth). Past explanations for its delay were in earnest, although the delay is no longer due to the artwork. We are now faced with the delicate task of timing and coordinating its publication with that of the other titles in our program. Since the investment in this one title alone is easily that of four typical publications, this is no slight responsibility. While we are committed to this project (the type has been set and the artwork completed), and while we deeply regret its premature announcement and continual delays, the management will not take unnecessary risks in order to hasten the publication of this work."

#### WORKS IN PROGRESS

RAMSEY CAMPBELL writes that:

"Bentam Books will publish two volumes of Robert E. Howard's Solomon Kane stories late this year, with introductions by me, plus three unfinished Kane tales which I've completed. I've just finished the first draft of a large new novel - 160,000 words - called TO WAKE THE DEAD, a supernatural terror tale, and am now at the typing. Last weekend my ghost story IN THE BAG won the British Fantasy Award for best story of 1977."

#### "MORELS AND IDEAS"

Cyril Owen of Middleton, Wisconsin has provided us with an article from the May 8, 1960 Milwaukee Journal: "Morels and Ideas," a photo essay of August Derleth afoot in the forests of May in search of mushrooms. Among several photographs is one of AWD in an attic room surrounded by long strings of drying morels hanging from the rafters; as fate would have it, a close inspection of another photograph reveals four copies of THE HOUSE ON THE MOUND stacked neatly on a shelf in the background. Our members will remember that this very book was the cause of some comment in our last Newsletter.

#### MEMBERS' CORNER\*

"I had the privilege of becoming acquainted with Mr. Derleth when he first began writing, and have several autographed books. I recall a drive along the Wisconsin River with him and other friends, when he identified every wildflower, every bird call, each little animal, among them a turtle sunning himself in the roadway."

#### KIND WORDS FROM BASIL COPPER

"I think you are going to have a success on your hands and am glad you are getting so much pleasure out of it. August was such a basically nice person that I feel anyone who knew him and who was approached by you for copy or other material could not fail to respond if they were a normal human being at all."

\*Our contributor to this month's Members' Corner has asked to remain anonymous.

AS VIEWED THROUGH AN EASTERN WINDOW

WALDEN WEST is a kind of celebration of life, a celebration containing both joy and sadness, but a celebration nonetheless.

We are given the privilege of seeing life in a small town through the eyes of a writer who possesses three great gifts: the ability to observe detail, to recall totally past events, and most important, to breathe life into the writing of what he has seen and remembered.

As August Derleth explores Thoreau's statement that the majority of men lead lives of quiet desperation, many familiar figures emerge; characters seen as passing shadows on the periphery of experience in his earlier work, *EVENING IN SPRING*, are viewed in greater depth, their lives explored in a fashion that gives the reader a sense of communion. One feels almost a part of the Sac Prairie community, perhaps even a member of the Derleth family, a family in which a child could grow up with a sense of security and a belief in the order of things.

For August Derleth, Sac Prairie was not a retreat from the world, but rather a kind of window, through which an observant writer could view the larger world. As *WALDEN WEST* alternates between observations on man and nature, the two blend together into an interdependent whole. This is American history, not the weighty recitation of great events far removed from the reader's daily life, but the real history of one corner of America (and perhaps of the world). It is the macrocosm reflected in the microcosm; it is what August Derleth sought and found. By studying one corner of the planet in great detail he has seen and recorded something that is a part of us all: the small, delicate, transient beauties and sadnesses of life that are easily missed and all too easily forgotten.



Writing under his pen name of Stephen Graddon, August Derleth completed the stories found in *MR. GEORGE AND OTHER ODD PERSONS* during 1943 within the space of a single month. The collection was originally released over a period of eighteen years, however, beginning with "A Gentleman From Prague" (*WEIRD TALES*, November, 1944), and ending with the publication of "Miss Isberson," in 1963.

All but three of the seventeen stories in the collection have vengeance as their central theme, two dealing with love transcending the barrier of death, and one, "The Night Train To Lost Valley," fits neither category, but is suggestive of the Cthulhu Mythos.

Derleth appears from time to time, hunting morals in "Dead Man's Shoes," and again in "Mara," articulating the central theme of his own philosophy: "And, in essence, it is these little things which are life, for the major events of life happen only once, but the little things are its very fabric."\*

*MR. GEORGE* has twice been made into a TV film. Five other stories from this collection have also appeared on TV, among them: "Mrs. Manifold," "Bishop's Gambit," "Alannah," and "The Extra Passenger."



Mrs. Manifold - by Bill Hartwig

*MR. GEORGE AND OTHER ODD PERSONS* was published by Arkham House in 1963 in an edition of 2,500 copies. Unfortunately, it is now out of print.

This was August Derleth's 107th book.

## IN RE AUGUST DERLETH - A TRIBUTE\*

By Malcolm Ferguson

Concord, Mass. - I first wrote a letter from New Hampshire to August Derleth in August, 1941, and received a considerate reply. So began a correspondence and friendship which continued until his death in 1971. In the process we found that we shared a widening range of interests.

That first letter of mine was directed to the known to be a writer for WEIRD TALES magazine who was also interested in American graphic art - specifically, the comic strip. I think I addressed him as "Professor Derleth," which must have given him a chuckle.

I had also heard that he had reprinted a large volume of Howard Phillips Lovecraft's stories, at \$5, a sizable sum for me at that time (I was then a Harvard sophomore, being ten years younger than August). And yet, if for me a single copy of this book seemed so costly, I was to learn how much of a venture the printing of 1200 copies was for August Derleth and his friend Donald Wandrei.

So these were beginnings for me. I lent him some early comic strip material that my grandfather had collected, and some from Harvard. He criticized two stories I wrote, the first of little merit, while the second - which I put aside and ultimately lost - was, August thought "interesting, - make your motivation clearer, and be a little less casual in the build-up. The story is worth working over once or more times." He then gave me a copy of his SOMEONE IN THE DARK, the second book published by his Arkham House, noting, "I do not hold these stories up as ideal methods, but only as pointers along the way." He then made the first of a number of recommendations of other authors, whose work I could look at in the Widener Library at Harvard, or find means to buy. John Collier's collection, PRESENTING MCONSHINE, was this earliest nominee, and fully enjoyed.

In 1942, at the end of my junior year, I was inducted into the army, and after some months in Alabama, was in England with the Medical Administrative Corps. In London I was able to find a rare book by the Irish ghost-story writer Sheridan LeFanu, which Arkham House needed for an anthology. In England, too, I met, at August's suggestion, the elderly Anglo-Irish writer Matthew Phipps Shiel, author of THE PURPLE CLOUD and a dozen and a half other books. I visited him in Sussex, and found him most interesting, too.

I had married before leaving for Europe, and after the war was discharged in Missouri. My wife and I were re-united in Chicago, and paid a visit to Sauk City and Place of Hawks, now meeting August for the first time. We walked down the railroad tracks, visited the harness shop and looked briefly at his collections. By then the first of my few stories had appeared in Weird Tales. He was editing an anthology of fantasy-in poetry, DARK OF THE MOON, which gave me a chance to see what I might have read that he hadn't, perhaps some of the bittersweet, sometimes cruelty-revealing Scottish border ballads.

This has been to date my only trip to Wisconsin, and while I found it somewhat more open than New England, not that much unlike. August had been in New England in 1938, visiting Concord and Walden Pond. By the time we met, I had read his VILLAGE YEAR and EVENING IN SPRING, and knew country and village life from summers in New Hampshire.

Returning to New England, my wife and I settled in a farm house in New Hampshire where I attempted to start an antiquarian bookshop, with occasional writing for Yankee or the Old Farmers Almanack, and started our family. Here, August, visited us in 1947, including a drive to Wells, Maine, to discover the Atlantic Ocean is as cold in midsummer as the fresh water around Sac Prairie is in early spring.

We did not see August again until 1965. By then my wife and I and our four children had moved to Concord, Mass. My bookstore venture, never heavily capitalized, was shaken up when in my thirtieth year I had polio, luckily causing no irreparable damage, though in order to recoup financially and regain full use of a badly-weakened left arm, an 18-month hitch in a lumber mill was effective.

But like many other countrymen in the last century or more, the need to go where the money was took me to learn the language of electronics in a factory, first as clerk, then as librarian, and then on to Concord and access to nearby research-oriented companies around Route 128.

We were glad to locate in the Concord that had once harbored Thoreau, Emerson and Hawthorne. So gradually beyond the needs of making a living came chances to canoe on the Concord River, to see the Canada geese on the flooded waters of Great Meadow, or to see the 150 foot tall white pines in nearby Carlisle, the tallest I've seen in the swath of that species which sweeps westward to Wisconsin.

While August's visit had been before the Thoreau Lyceum was started, to serve as a center and house for Thoreau interests, with a replica of the Walden Pond cabin, and a collection of books by and about Thoreau and his circle of friends, August was able to see more of the town and the countryside than in his previous visits, and to walk around Walden Pond early one morning. His account of these visits, drawn from his journal (which ran serially in the Capital Times for many years) were gathered into a small book, WALDEN POND, HOMAGE TO THOREAU. Further, August's CONCORD REBEL is a fine biography of Thoreau, showing a sustained interest in his subject. This was August's hundredth book, most clearly and unaffectedly written with apposite quotations and wholly without strained conclusions or far-fetched judgements.

While the Thoreau Lyceum is only five years old, the Thoreau Society is about thirty years old. It meets once a year, in Concord. At this July meeting in 1971 I learned of August Derleth's death. I had been traveling and had not seen the papers before that.

I had been concerned as to how his estate would be managed, but could see no way to help from a distance. I did learn that Arkham House would continue, and that Roderick Meng, who had accompanied August to Concord, would administer it. I was pleased, recently to meet John Patrick Hunter of the Capital Times, and be assured that August's daughter, April Rose and son Walden were being provided for from the estate's proceeds. Mr. Hunter also wrote me of a new firm, E.V.A. Publishers of Verona, Wis., which is taking over August's regional books and has reprinted WALDEN WEST and HOUSE ON THE MOUND. I also knew that new interests and reprint rights would bring in further royalties, especially as a new generation of readers developed. At this writing, over sixty of August's books are currently in print.

Questions still remained in my mind, however, about Place of Hawks, which might make a wonderful regional center for literature and the arts, if this were compatible with the family's interests; and about a possible disposition of his remarkable collection on the history of the American comic strip, which should be in a university or museum collection. On balance, however, the interests of August's family and avoidance of hasty and ill-considered disposal of at least three remarkable collections gives promise of good judgement and the best ultimate resolutions.

\*IN RE AUGUST DERLETH - A TRIBUTE is reprinted from the Capital Times, November 5, 1973 by permission of Elliott Maraniss, Executive Editor.

#### ADDITIONAL CHARTER MEMBERS

Wilfred E. Beaver	Kenneth Alkire
Robert Beaver	Mrs. Walter Batzel
Ruth Beaver	Estella Bryhn
Mrs. William Beaver	Maureen Clause
Mr. Dennis Cantu	Mary E. Counselman
Mrs. Dennis Cantu	Steve Eng
Robert Clause	James Foster
Kristen Clause	Odessa Frei
Richard Davis	Mrs. Darline Hon
Thomas Davis	Alionette Kuester
Claire Emerson	Mary Garland Miller
Stephen E. Fabian	Frederick I. Olson
Walter Frei	Bernard O'Connor
Betty Frei	Dorris H. Platt
Ellen H. Hoy	Alma Poss
Debbie James	Mary Rak
William Kuester	Dave Reeder
Kenneth Lange	Lynn C. Reynolds
Marion C. Michaels	Ronald A. Rich
Erhart Mueller	Steven Rutkowski
Dorothy O'Connor	Valerie Rutkowski
Marcelle O'Connor	Hazel Schams
Dennis Peterson	Walter E. Scott
Mrs. Dennis Peterson	Patti Smerling
Tara Peterson	Nanny Sherman
Anita K. Rigaby	Herbert Stolz
Jean Smith	Mrs. Herbert Stolz
Richard F. Wald	Arthur Tofte
Colin Wilson	Jim Severance
Peter Blankenheim	Ralph R. Marquardt
The Heritage Writers	Round Table
Sparta Free Library	
Sparta Poetry Circle	
University of Wisconsin Mem. Library	
New York Public Library	
Library of Congress	
Quale, Hartmann, Bohl & Evenson	

#### IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

Newsletter #4 will feature a tribute to August Derleth written by Mary E. Counselman. Readers familiar with Mrs. Counselman's literary accomplishments may recall her many contributions to the SATURDAY EVENING POST and WEIRD TALES. Her latest book, HALF IN SHADOW, is scheduled for release by Arkham House this month.



## A NEW LISTING

L. W. Currey of Elizabethtown, New York has prepared an up-to-date listing of August Derleth's works of fiction. While this is a copyrighted list, Mr. Currey has given us his permission to reproduce the list for members of the Derleth Society. He asks that: "In return, if you can shed any light on omissions or have any corrections, do let me know."

Since the list is quite lengthy and thus somewhat impracticable to include as a newsletter item (As the Society grows, space in the Newsletter achieves a premium status.), members who desire a copy for their records may obtain one by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the editor.

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### THE AUGUST DERLETH SOCIETY NEWSLETTER ISSUE #3 - MAY 1978

The August Derleth Society was founded in August 1977 by Richard Fawcett of Uncasville, Connecticut as a non-profit organization to honor the late August Derleth for that author's many contributions to American literature.

The August Derleth Society is committed to:

- a. study the life and works of August Derleth
- b. promote the literary achievements of August Derleth
- c. encourage the efforts of writers, poets and artists

For membership information write:

The August Derleth Society  
Wilfred E. Beaver, Acting President  
418 East Main Street  
Sparta, Wisconsin 54656

For Newsletter subscriptions write:

Richard Fawcett, Editor  
The August Derleth Society Newsletter  
61 Teeconway Drive  
Uncasville, Ct. 06382

Subscription rate: Issues #1 through #4 only: \$1.00 for four issues. Please make checks payable to Richard Fawcett.

As we go to press, word has just arrived that the first meeting of the August Derleth Society of Wisconsin will be held at The Firehouse Restaurant at Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin on Sunday, July 16th. The full-course dinner is available at the bargain price of \$5.50 per person including taxes and tip. For further details contact Wilfred E. Beaver, 418 East Main St., Sparta, WI 54656.

Mr. Beaver will serve as acting president to open the meeting. Our agenda will include the usual organizational items: adoption of by-laws, election of officers, etc. It will feature a taped slide show about August Derleth, prepared and presented by Ronald Rich of Baraboo, Wisconsin. This meeting will provide many of us with an opportunity to meet one another for the first time. As editor and founder of the Society I look forward to seeing many of you at this meeting.

We are seeking candidates for the following offices:

Position	Nominated
President	Wilfred E. Beaver
vice-President	Darline Hon (Mrs)
Secretary	
Treasurer	
Directors (6)	Hazel Schams (Mrs)

Our Society has passed its one hundred-twenty-fifth member. With the major portion of our promised advertising publicity still to come and with a healthy supply of material already in hand for Newsletter #4, we look forward to the completion of a successful first year and to a second year filled with promises of even better things to come.

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Wilfred E. Beaver continues to amaze! Word has arrived of his appointment as membership chairman for Wisconsin for the Academy of Science Fiction Fantasy and Horror Films. Mr. Beaver informs us that membership is open to persons interested in this field. Contact the Academy at 334 W. 54th St. Los Angeles, Ca. 90037

### PICTURE CREDITS

Pl. Logo - Frank Utpatel

All other pictures - Bill Hartwig

Entrepreneurs are advised that this page could have been used to feature advertisements for their endeavours. In an effort to keep this operation on an even keel and as a possible way of obtaining funds to share with our writer and artist friends, space in subsequent Newsletters is offered at a price of two dollars per inch for advertising purposes. Only advertisements pertaining to things literary will be accepted and the Society reserves the right to reject any and all advertisements it deems to be in bad taste or not in the best interests of the Society.

#### ADDITIONAL CHARTER MEMBERS

William Dutch  
Johanna F. Wylend  
Ralph Tolock

Maurice Tolock  
Dr. Donald A. Reed  
David James

Congratulations to Arthur Tofte! His book SURVIVAL PLANET won third prize at the Annual Awards Banquet of the Council for Wisconsin Writers.