

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Loscon 33,

I hope you enjoy my choices of guests, they are an eclectic trio. William Tenn also known as Phill Klass is one of the earliest writers that I had the pleasure to read, Bernie Wrightson is an artist that drew some of my favorite stories, and Fred Patten is one of the first people that I was introduced to at LASFS. Fred is something of a legend having started at least two fandoms and a club that still meets monthly at the LASFS. Bernie is the first artist to put pen (with Len Wein) to "Swamp Thing" one of the first comic strips that I followed regularly. He also invented "Captain Sternn" which amused me greatly when I first saw it in "Heavy Metal". William Tenn wrote some of the best short stories that I have ever read, and his novel *Of Men and Monsters* was one of those books that make you go "Hmmm". I've done my best to present them and honor them as they deserve and I bet you'll enjoy them as much as I have over the years.

Though these people are not necessarily from the "Golden Age of Science Fiction", they all define different aspects of my "Golden Ages". Mr. Klass was penning the early stories I read in the magazines, Bernie was drawing the comics and Fred was busy trying to import the Anime that I would come to enjoy much later. Different places in time but all told they define a "Golden Age". There is a quite worn out joke about the "Golden Age" of science fiction being 10. I tend to agree. I was 9 when the SF bug hit me with my first Robert Heinlien story. I suspect many of you were about the same age. So define your own "Golden Age", explore everyone else's "Golden Age" and have fun expanding your universe.

This Loscon follows a tough act, and believe me Worldcon is a tough act to follow. However I think that I have brought together a very good bunch of people for this Loscon. For some, their departments were new. For others, old hat, but they all pulled together to get a convention ready despite having just run a Worldcon (and for some of us, a Westercon as well). That said, there have been a few bumps, and a few triumphs, and a lot of hard work. My staff have done a bang up job, and it's been quite a bit of fun watching them get things together. Enjoy the convention and I hope to see you all for at least one short "Golden Age".

- Scott Beckstead