



"Are we not men?", Bela Lugosi (not Devo) from The Island of Lost Souls (1933).

PHOENIX FANTASY FILM SOCIETY INC. NEWSLETTER

DEC. '86

EDITED BY DAVID STORCK

It looked like over half the active membership in the club made it to the Ch. 5 advance prevue of Star Trek 4: The Voyage Home, on Tues, Nov. 25 at the Mann Christown Theatre. I saw nearly a dozen of you at the theatre, including UFP members Kent Raleigh and John Fong handing out film programs to people entering the theatre. That's more than usually attend PFFS meetings. Let's chalk it up as a PFFS meeting. I think everyone had a real good time. Thanks Bill.

I hope some of you got to see the recent local production of the Little Shop of Horrors musical. The Actor's Lab of Arizona put on a very fine production of the musical based on the 1961 cult classic Roger Corman film. Warner Bros. even requested use of the plant in the play for promotion of the new film musical.

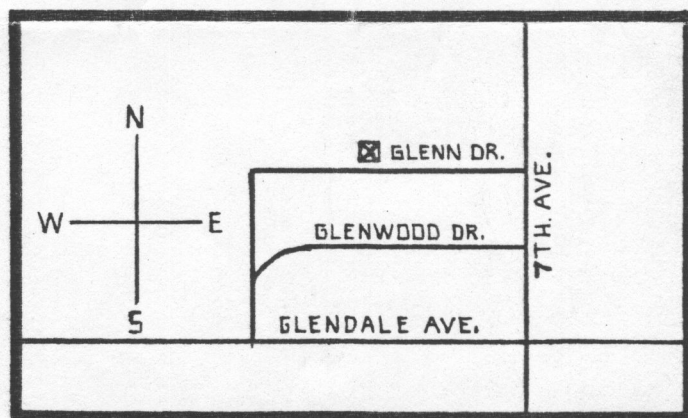
Coppercon 7 will take place two weeks after NASFiC in September of 1987, with Coppercon 8 two weeks after Westercon 41 in July of 1988. The media-oriented PhringeCon may return to replace Coppercon as an annual winter convention.

The next fan gathering will be held at the Caravan Inn, 3333 E. Van Buren, Dec. 12-14, from 6 PM Fri. to Noon Sun. Admission: \$5.

Our last public showing this fall proved disappointing compared to the showing of Alphaville. Still, things went better than in 1984 and we hope to have more showings, possibly next fall. Thanks to Greg Stangal and Kent Raleigh for helping out at the public showings.

The next meeting of the Phoenix Fantasy Film Society, Inc., will be on Sunday, December 14th at 7:30 PM at the home of member Richard

Roberts at 736 W. Glenn Dr., Phx. (943-6989). As mentioned in the last newsletter, Richard has been with the club since the early days, but has been very busy the last few years as a filmmaker (Birth of a Nation-Part 2), theatre actor (Amadeus) and film teacher. Richard is considered one of the top film collectors in the valley and has agreed to show us the feature, The Island of Lost Souls (1933), an extremely rare film version of the H.G. Wells story about the maniacal Dr. Moreau, (fiendishly played by Charles Laughton) who turns jungle beasts into half-human "manimals" (including Bela Lugosi) on a remote jungle island. This still frightening film is rarely seen on TV and is not on video. Richard also promises to show some other goodies from his collection. We hope to see some of you other early members at this meeting. New people welcome.



SCOOPS

The restored version of Frankenstein (1931) will be released this month on homevideo.....Bill Murray is

refusing to have his name or image in any advertising for the Little Shop of Horrors film musical, he has a cameo as a masochistic dental patient.....a new Addams Family TV movie is in the works (who will play Morticia, Lurch and Uncle Fester?).Bob Haskins has joined the cast of Robert Zemeckis' Who Killed Roger Rabbit.

FILM REVIEWS

by Gregory G. Stangal

AN AMERICAN TAIL- The name of Steven Spielberg and good animation can not make up for this rather boring story of a mouse looking for his parents in America. Recommended only for very young children, who like looking at a lot of moving colors. *

THE WRAITH- The ghost of a youth attacked by a small town gang, returns for revenge, in a souped up car. The story is mediocre and the events in the film become repetitious.

SOLARBABIES- For the life of me I do not know what this film was about. The oceans of the world are covered up, kids live in orphanages that resemble prisons and a glowing ball flies around. Originally to be released last summer, this movie was delayed until now. Now I know why. 0

by David Storck

WIRED TO KILL - This is perhaps the only film to begin with its own trailer. In a post-plague future (here we go again) in a crime-infested city, a young man takes revenge on some "Road Warrior" types who left him crippled. A mobile robot is the main element of this rather boring, derivative film.

STAR TREK 4: THE VOYAGE HOME - This 4th Star Trek film offering has the old crew back together going back to face the music for their doings in ST3, only to find the Earth under attack by some strange alien

force. Without giving too much more away, the crew has to go back to present day San Francisco in order to save the Earth. Yes, whales are involved. Although a bit too cute at times, this is the most entertaining of the Trek films, having a warm, humorous tone throughout. The environmental message is nice too. Personally, I still like Star Trek 2 the best.

COMING UP

The Golden Child, with Eddie Murphy searching for a magical child, opens Dec. 5. The Little Shop of Horrors film musical opens Dec. 19. Allan Quatermain and The Lost City of Gold, the other half of 1985's King Solomon's Mines, is about to open soon as is King Kong Lives. I'd wait for the reviews on those last two. Whatever happened to From Beyond?

CONVENTIONS

CACTUSCON, 1987 North American Science Fiction Convention (NASFiC) September 3-6, 1987 at the Phoenix Hilton, Hyatt Regency, Heriatage and San Carlos Hotels and Phoenix Convention Center in downtown Phoenix. Memberships: \$35 til 12-31-86, then \$40. \$60 at door. Guest of honor, author Hal Clement. Contact Cactuscon, P. O. Box 27201, Tempe, Arizona 85282.

LEPRECON 13-June 5-7, 1987. Phoenix Hyatt Regency, 2nd St. & Adams. GsoH: Artist, Phil Foglio, Author, Raymond Feist, Fan, Susan Potter. Membership rates:\$17 thru Jan. 31, 1987. Write to Leprecon 13, P.O. Box 26665, Tempe Az. 85282.

The next meeting should be on January 25 with elections. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.