

THE OFFICIAL
PLANET OF THE
APES
BULLETIN
NUMBER 17



YOU SEE CHILDREN, THIS IS THE NIGHT WHEN HORRIBLE MUTANTS, MONSTERS AND EVEN HUMANS COME OUT OF THE FORBIDDEN ZONE TO PROWL THE STREETS.

THAT IS WHY WE CARVE THESE HIDEOUS FACES ON PUMPKINS, TO FRIGHTEN THE EVIL ONES AWAY.



LETTERS

Dear Bill,

I want to thank you and all the fans for thier interest and love. At the present time I am working on a play in Seattle---and it is very nice and very satisfying to know the "Apes" still have such a loyal following. All my best to everyone-----

Roddy McDowall
Seattle, Washington

Dear Bill,

I have a question for you, is it true that Planet of the Apes will return this year on Staurdays? I think it would be far out if it did!

Sincerely,
Janette Peterson
Minneapolis, Minnesota

ED--Yes, Planet of the Apes has returned in the form of a weekly cartoon on NBC. Check your local listings for exact times!

Gentlemen,

I have one thing to say, FANTASTIC. I have been looking all over creation for a POTA club to join. All those other clubs around are nothing compared to the ideas you have presented. Never before in the history of science fiction has one particular series brought about ape and possible domination of our world. All of the other science fiction series have no way of coming true, while the "Apes" could. I have a fantastic collection of pictures from every magazine I could find of Roddy and the apes that I have collected since 1968. I would not give it up for the world, and when I saw the chance to improve it by joining your club, I said, "Oh Yeah!"

I have seen each movie at least three times, not to mention taping all the films and very TV episode. I am happy to be a member of the club!

Sincerely yours for Apedom
Gary Perich
McKeesport, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Woodruff,

I have just received my first copy of the POTA bulletin (#16), and I wanted to write to tell you my reactions because they are pretty bad. First, it looks like you put a lot of work into the bulletin and there were a lot of things I liked--especially the cover, the drawing of Zira was really nice.

Would you please tell me what that article Hotline From Apesville is doing in the bulletin? To tell you the truth, I think it's just a waste of paper. I'm sure there are many more interesting things you could have written about.

Last but not least, I must say something about the column written by you Mr. Woodruff, entitled "TV Now". That is ridiculous! Of all the articles that I think should go, this one has got to be the first. What's the big idea of writing about other television shows other than POTA? This is a POTA club isn't it? So why are reading about Vivian Vance and the Apollo Mission, etc, etc. I definitely think it should go and never, never, never come back!

If you took out these things I have mentioned, you would have two extra pages to write articles on POTA and its stars.

Thanks,
Barbara Czarniak
San Gabriel, California

LETTERS FOR THIS COLUMN MAY BE SENT TO: Bill Woodruff

TV NOW
Bill Woodruff

In what may be the last edition of this column, I thought we would take a look at the new season and make a few fearless predictions. Last year the predictions were fairly accurate, I hope that I can be a bit more accurate this year!

To make things a bit more understandable, I'll take the scheduling night by night, choosing the best rated show for each and the lowest rated show. Then I'll have some general comments on the chances of the rest of the schedule.

On Saturday night, we have a great deal of power in the CBS lineup with The Jeffersons, Doc, Mary Tyler Moor, Bob Newhart, and Carol Burnett--all these shows are assured of success. The only real opposition on this night will come from ABC's S.W.A.T. Nevertheless, it appears that The Jeffersons will win the ratings battle with little opposition. In the bottom slot will probably be the Howard Cosell Show but look for Matt Helm to early cancellation material.

On Sunday we are filled with heavyweight programming. NBC's Mystery Movie will continue to dominate the ratings, but there are several other shows with excellent chances of success---The Family Holvak appears to a piece of boring television, but with Julie Harris and Gelnn Ford it will have a loyal following. Also with a lot of power is the top rated variety show for last year, Cher, and of course, Theo Kojak. The big loser on Sunday looks like Three For The Road.

Monday nights belong exclusively to CBS with its heavyweight lineup. Phyllis, Rhoda, Medical Center, Mauds, and All In The Family are all safe and secure. The latter will easily win the ratings battle and it appears that we will have one of the lowest rated shows on this night, namely Barbary Coast.

In the Tuesday schedule we have a clear cut winner in Good Times. Beyond that however it appear a close race. We can look for Marcus Welby and Mo'In' On to leave early and possibly Beacon Hill will be abandoned by CBS in favor of more police shows. I look for Welcome Back Kotter and Joe & Sons to really have a battle. Joe Forrester looks safe also.

Wednesday night is again a CBS night with one exception---Tony Orlando & Dawn will survive but still lose out to Little House On The Prairie, which will win the Wednesday ratings war. One other show appears safe, and that is Kate McShane. It has very little opposition and it should prove a big success. As far as low ratings go, Doctor's Hospital might go early simply because its battling two established crime fighters, Cannon and Baretta.

Thursday belongs to The Waltons. The rest of the schedule is rather dull with Streets Of San Francisco and Harry O safe. Medical Story will be around for a long time and likewise On The Rocks won't last 13 weeks.

Friday night is a night of cut-throat programming by CBS. They have set up tremendous ratings wars between Mash and Chico & The Man, Hawaii Five-0 and Rockford Files and Barnaby Jones and Police Woman. All six shows are strong draws and we could see ABC simply destroyed on this night. Mobile One has no chance of success and the original movies scheduled for Fridays will probably be the lowest rated two hours in television history. I'm picking Sanford & Son over Big Eddie which shouldn't surprise anyone. Despite the good possibilities Sheldon Leonard brings to television, this show just has no chance. We remember the tale of Planet of the Apes last season in this same time slot. This year CBS will do better because they have Mash on during the second half hour. But they will not be able to adequately battle Sanford unless they move one of their top comedies to that slot.

All in all this season holds a bit more promise than last year, with five big hits possible this year. In my view we will also have our share of early cancels like we did last season---Archer and Khan each ran less than five episodes. The only chance of that repeating appears to be in On The Rocks and Howard Cosell.

The season as a whole will again belong to CBS. ABC has improved only a little with its new entries Welcome Back Kotter and Swiss Family Robinson. NBC has a few big possibilities in Ellery Queen, Joe Forrester, and Medical Story. But CBS has the big bonanza of new hits as we have already mentioned. Here are my predictions on the new series':

MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED

Phyllis (CBS)
Kate McShane (CBS)
Medical Story (NBC)
Ellery Queen (NBC)
Doc (CBS)
Joe & Sons (CBS)

LEAST LIKELY TO SUCCEED

Howard Cosell (ABC)
On The Rocks (ABC)
Barbary Coast (ABC)
Big Eddie (CBS)
Mobile One (ABC)
Matt Helm (ABC)

EVEN CHANCE TO SUCCEED

Swiss Family Robinson (ABC)
Three For The Road (CBS)
Family Holwak (NBC)
Bronk (CBS)
Invisible Man (NBC)
Welcome Back Kotter (ABC)
Beacon Hill (CBS)
Joe Forrester (NBC)
Starsky & Hutch (ABC)
When Things Were Rotten (ABC)
Fay (NBC)
Montefuscos (NBC)

I hope you will all keep score with me as we see how well I do when the ratings begin to appear next week.

Finally, television in general is the greatest medium ever discovered by man. It offers countless hours of entertainment as well as the most accurate reporting of the news this country has ever seen. I resent politicians criticizing the television industry. When we examine the record of performance, television rates very highly. Generally it is those who complain who are somehow guilty of gross misjudgments. I needn't mention names, we all know who televisions harshest critics have been in the past few years. We must ask ourselves if television is responsible for the downfall of Spiro Agnew and Richard Nixon? Or did they do something to create their own problems? Was it television who forced Lyndon Johnson to leave office at the end of his first full term, or was it the war in Vietnam? We must ask ourselves these questions and honestly answer them before we criticize the television industry.

Well, that's it for now, I want to thank everyone who has written to me in the past year expressing their views about this column--it's been fun! Bye for now!

BALLOTS

I would like to remind all of you to please complete and mail back the ballot in this bulletin as soon as possible. The future of the club depends on your quick response. You are determining in which direction we will follow. We both feel this is your chance to voice your opinion. Please feel free to drop us a line about anything that is troubling you at any time. We welcome your active participation and we urge it! Thanks for your continued support!

Bill & Patty

THE APEVERTISEMENTS

FOR THE POTA MEMBER WHO CARES!!! FOR THE POTA COLLECTOR! PLANET OF THE APES PHOTO STAMPS OF OUR FAVORITE APE COUPLE, ZIRA & CORNELIUS. Yes, if you're a POTA collector or just plain proud to be a member of this great club you should have one of these fine rubber stamps with C & Z's photos. They're \$2.00 each we pay the postage (we also have "Chimp green" stamp pads at \$1.00). Due to copyrights a part of each sale goes toward the printing of memberships cards for the club. For your stamp and pad write to: PAUL'S GRAPHIC ARTS, 171 E 4th St., Rensselaer, NY 12144

WANTED TO BUY: Famous Monsters #52. Will pay \$2.50. Also original Ape movie bubble gum cards, back issues of POTA comics, pictures, stills, pressbooks, and collectables. Send list and prices. I have about 150 doubles of the POTA TV bubble gum cards, will sell or trade. Contact: Ron Keating

Quantico, VA 22134

FOR SALE: 2 Ape LP's which cost \$1.25 each. These albums are more suited young children: approximately ages 5-9. One album contains all Ape stories except Conquest. The other contains four new stories. So if you have any younger brothers, sisters, or cousins who are Ape fans and you would like to buy these records contact: Sandi Necchi

Fall River, MA 02723

WANTED: Someone to make copies on blank tapes of the first 9 or 10 episodes of the POTA TV series. I will provide you with the blank tapes. I would appreciate some help from a willing person. Please contact: Sherry Hinkelman

Pocatello, ID 83209

WANTED: Planet of the Apes merchandise. Especially bubble gum cards; stills; this club's back bulletins #'s 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 12, 14. Also info on the play sets with plastic figures mentioned by Greg Nicoll in Bulletin #8. Send complete details to: William Silvester

Victoria, B.C. Canada V9A 3M4

PERSONALIZED MERCHANDISE!: Beginning this month, the club will be offering various merchandise to members at low prices. Enclosed with this bulletin is our advertisement. We have address labels and many other goodies for sale. The club will receive a portion of the profits made by your purchases. So we ask you to consider these items--they are of excellent quality. Please send all orders to the address on the blank and checks should be made out to POTA CLUB. On all personalized items please allow four weeks for processing. Non-personal items should reach you within two weeks. Again, thank you for your help! We know you'll love the merchandise you buy! And you'll be helping the club too!

APE FILM PHOTOS: We now have arranged to sell color photos to you from two of the films. We will have five different shots available. We are currently working on a contract for their reproduction. We anticipate this agreement will be reached by the first of October. So in Bulletin #18 the photos will be ready to sell. The color is absolutely out of sight, and we know you're gonna love them

XEROX FUND: Many members have written suggesting that we resume using a Xerox page in the bulletins. We would like to do this but with 170 members, it will cost approximately \$9.00 a month. So therefore, Patty Patey has suggested that we open a Xerox fund. Please send in your dimes and nickles and as soon as we have enough money, we will resume the Xerox pages. Send your donations to Bill Woodruff. Thanks for the great response to this idea, now we need your help.

PLANET REBORN
Leahna Hoxie Larsen

CHAPTER ONE

Third planet from the sun; once proud and beautiful, once overcrowded with life, is now dead. Killed by the deadliest disease--hatred and greed. This intelligent life form, gone. Two intelligent life forms each sought to annihilate the other. Both wanted to rule the planet. Neither wanted to share the world. Neither would show mercy, neither would give an inch. So they fought a final war--neither won.

But God in His infinite wisdom has spared a few so that life might again flourish and see planet fulfilled. This time perhaps the follies of the old world will be left decaying rubble that remains. . . .

Aeneas rubbed his tired brown eyes and looked around. His mouth was dry, his tongue swollen. This was the 23rd day of his lonely trek and as yet he had not seen the slightest sign of life. His thoughts again drifted back to that day 27 days before----it might as well have been 27 years before--when the whole world seemed to blink out.

They were exploring an underground cave, Aeneas, Bachaas, and their assistant. Aeneas went ahead while his assistants remained to eat their meal of dried fruits and nuts. Eating his dinner while exploring was second nature to him and he was against stopping when he was so close to discovery. Aeneas touched the walls. Their structure and material make up had changed since the last chamber. These were smooth and completely round. Rusted tight against one side was a circular grid. That lent support to his theory that nature had not carved them. "Manmade" he muttered. His pandering was cut short as the ground began to shake. For a moment, non-existence reigned; then, the floor flew out from under his feet and his head crashed against the wall. Unconsciousness flooded over him.

When he came to, Bachaas was with him. "We're trapped", his paunchy friend said simply. Aeneas' head throbbed. It was as Bachaas had said. They were held prisoner by mother nature herself--a cave-in. After a while, Aeneas stood, and, making use of the time to further his study, resumed examination of the walls. They were made of cement and from a missing chunk near the round iron grid, he guessed that they were several inches thick. "Yes, my friend," Bachaas spoke aloud their thoughts, "this cylindrical structure has seemingly saved our lives."

"Where is Huborn?" asked Aeneas. "Your friend ran at the first tremor." The senior geologist's voice held no hint of reproval for his assistant's over concern for his own safety at the expense of others. "With luck, he escaped before the cave shattered."

"While you returned for me." Aeneas clapped his hand fondly on the small, plump geologist's back. Bachaas had devoted his life to others and now it seemed he would die for that devotion!

(Chapter 2 next month!!)

INTERVIEW
Sandi Necchi

Hi Friends! This time around, Harold A. Smith is in the spotlight.

Hal is 38 years old and he joined the club because, "A pen pal (Dot Fent) urged me to join and I am interested in science fiction." Hal works as a staff writer for King Features Syndicated in New York. He does corrections on comic strips and freelance cartoon work. He's also written some gags for the Achilles strip. He's seen all the ape films and also all the TV episodes.

Hal's favorite performer is Roddy McDowall. In his spare time, he also enjoys photography, pen pals, trains, collecting movie stills, film clips, records, movie film (Super 8) and tapes. Ha's secret ambition is to produce his own movie but he feels he probably never will! Nothing is impossible, Hal!

Hal has attended all the Star Trek cons in NY and he's done extensive traveling in Canada. Hal is single and he's a native New Yorker, and he has lived in the city of Brooklyn all his life. Finally, Hal firmly believes that other intelligent beings exist besides man as we know it!

So that's it for this month--see you soon!

ISAAC APESIMOV
Greg Nicoll

Recently a friend of mine turned up at my doorstep with Super 8 cut versions of all 5 of the Planet of the Apes films. I was curious as to how they would endure the 'home movie' editing so we dug out the projector and loaded them on.

We were in for a disappointment with the first film PLANET OF THE APES. Perhaps it was because we had black and white print though color editions are available. Anyway, the tinting was all bleached out, making it difficult to perceive the screen image. The print was also silent and the dialogue between characters was printed in white letters against white backgrounds and totally obscuring most of it while giving tantalizing peeks at selected words which became visible on occasion. As for the actual story, well, the editors who released this disaster didn't have much sense, apparently. The action opens with the astronauts walking along, and the spaceship is never shown. The suspenseful build-up leading to the first climactic appearance of the Apes is shortened into nothingness, and the film hops from one scene to another so fast that the entire message behind the closing shot of the half buried Statue of Liberty is long lost in the rapid succession of ill-defined events.

On the other hand, BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES was excellent. The print quality was the finest I have ever seen from this film company, and the screen image was sharp and well defined. The editors did a fine job on editing, and the subtitles are well printed and easily readable. The scenes progress in logical sequence and are not choppy at all. Not that there are no defects. For one thing, the Apes are not involved with most of the action, and Cornelius and Zira never appear at all. (The film starts with Brent and Nova outside the Mutant temple.) Another complaint I have is that too much time is spent on the fight scene in the cell. Although it is exciting, I would have preferred that they include a shot of the Mutants unmasked than waste so much time on the fist fight. There is a bonus for those who didn't get to see the full length film until it came on television: the Super 8 edition contains several scenes that were censored by CBS. All the characters finally converge in the Mutant temple, where the Apes break in and unwittingly activate the Great Bomb. The sequence is well edited, and BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES emerges as the best of the home-movie cut down editions of the Apes films.

RORY MONTETH

(Next time---reviews of CONQUEST, ESCAPE, & BATTLE!)

POSTAGE HELPERS

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the postage fund during the past year---the list is too long to print. You have helped greatly as we try to answer over 75 pieces of mail per week. Thank you very much!

ROCK-A-THON

Congratulations are in order for Marc Pauga who recently rocked for Muscular Dystrophy. He broke the world record and raised money for the cause. Thanks to those members who had money to contribute!

MORE ON McDOWALL

Darlene White

CHAPTER ONE---DISCOVERY!

Roddy McDowall is one of the few remaining actors who experienced success as a child star, enabling him to speak with some authority on the subject. Roddy's name can still bring to mind the very talented and winsome child star of the forties, even though it's been over thirty years since he co-starred with the likes of "Flicka" and "Lassie". To everyone who knew him it seemed that success was, and always would be, a part of Roddy's fate.

Roderick McDowall was born on September 18, 1928 to Winfred and Thomas McDowall in London, England. It didn't take him too long to be in front of a camera either. He became a child's clothing model when he was five and by the time he was eight, he was a seasoned veteran of the camera and ready to make his film debut in a movie called "Murder in the Family". "I guess I had a certain amount of talent and boyish---rather babyish charm," Roddy is quoted as saying. "My mother was determined that this 'prodigy' of hers would be a miniature super star." Despite the many stories of the typical stage mother, Roddy denied anything of that sort ever happened to him. "It would be dramatic for me to say I resented being pushed, but I can't. She was an intelligent thoughtful human being. and I went along with it simply because it seemed the thing to do. I don't really think I missed a thing."

By the time he was twelve, in 1940, Roddy had completed fifteen movies. But something else happened that year that brought Roddy into the limelight. Twentieth Century Fox chieftan Darryl F. Zanuck had sent for him!

Of the various stories surrounding Roddy's arrival in Hollywood, one of the more interesting ones tells of how he arrived with his mother and his sister Virginia. It seems in 1940 they had been forced to evacuate London due to the second world war. It describes how the McDowalls had been required to leave after London had been heavily bombed. They arrived in America with a total of \$42.00.

However, there is another, perhaps more believable. Actually, Roddy was a four year veteran of British movies when Darryl F. Zanuck was so impressed with his acting ability, that he signed him to a contract and brought the McDowalls to America. While it is less dramatic, it is the story most people go by as the way that Roddy McDowall was discovered!

PUBLICITY PROGRESS REPORT #2

As you undoubtedly know, we have been welcoming a host of new members---nearly 100 since March. Most of these members came from out of the woodwork when they saw our ad in the "Collector's Corner" of a recent Rona Barrett magazine. We know there are still a large number of unreached Apes fans, and we hope to get to all.

Also our long-awaited ad in The Monster Times put in an appearance, and the club has been deluged with mail as a result. The wait was obviously worth it!

In the works now are also ads in The Nostalgia Journal and The Black Oracle. We are sure these ads will also help expose the club to yet unreached fans.

So in closing, let me extend a warm welcome to all our new members, and urge old and new members alike to continue to spread the word of this club. Word-of-mouth is by far the most efficient and enthusiastic (not to mention CHEAP!) form of publicity around!

See you in three months,

Susan Todd

Publicity Director

IN THE NEWS

CONTEST: As yet no one has solved the puzzle accurately. So here comes another clue---Puzzle part #6 had a hit record with "Strangers In The Night". I hope we will soon have a contest winner.

CARTOON: On September 6th, Return to The Planet of the Apes premiered on NBC TV. Reaction from most critics has been highly positive. The show is very well done, and the story line seems to be headed in a very interesting direction. It will be interesting to see the first set of ratings when they come out next week. We will keep you up to date on the ratings as soon as we have them!

PUBLICITY: We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sue Todd for some excellent work on behalf of the club. She has done just a sensational job. Our membership has grown from 20 last September to over 170 now.

POSTAGE: As you may know, Postmaster General of the United States, Benjamin Franklin Bailar has announced that first class mail will increase to 13¢ an ounce on December 29, 1975. We regret this decision and we go on record as opposing any more postal rate increases. Write to President Ford and your congressmen telling them how you feel.



BALLOT

I would ask that you take the time to carefully consider the questions on this ballot, complete your vote, and return it at once to Bill Woodruff

ALL BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 10, 1975. On October 11th we will inform the International Fan Club Registry of your decision. So if you really care about the questions, hurry your ballot!

DUES INCREASE

On December 31, 1975 dues will increase because of higher paper and postal rates. Please choose the plan you feel best. The plan receiving the most votes will go into effect on October 11, 1975.

PLANA---The cost of joining the club will remain at \$1.75 per year for all charter members and \$2.50 per year for all new members. However, the Official club bulletin will be published only 6 times per year. This will allow us to operate on the same budget as 1975. If you choose this plan you are asking for no dues increase, this will reduce the bulletins to 6 a year and we hope that they will be larger and better.

PLANB---The cost of joining the club will rise to \$2.50 for all charter members and to \$3.50 for all new members. The bulletin will continue on its regular monthly schedule. If you choose this plan you are willing to pay higher dues for the same amount of product as you got in 1975. The benefits of this plan is that you'll continue to get the bulletin every month.

I CHOOSE PLAN _____

YOUR NAME _____

TV NOW---Some members have suggested that this column be removed because the series is no longer running. DO YOU THINK TV NOW SHOULD BE TAKEN OUT OF THE BULLETIN?

CHECK ONE:

YES-----

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NO-----

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