

February 20, 2005

NEW, PULP-RELATED BOOKS AND PERIODICALS AVAILABLE FROM MICHAEL CHOMKO, BOOKS
for March 2005

Dear Pulp Fans,

Next weekend, I have an exam to study for. So I decided to put out my flyer a week early. Wish me luck. I have about four weeks left of critical care nursing. The second half of the spring semester will be taken up with geriatric nursing. Then, come the middle of May, I'll be finished with school.

I also want to share some good news about my son, Peter. Many of you met him at last year's Pulpcon. He was watching my table when I was away from it. Last Saturday, he received word from the Merit Scholarship Corporation that he had been selected as one of the finalists for a Merit Scholarship. He's one of a little more than eight thousand in the country selected for this honor. So he's in pretty elite company. Of course, I'm one proud papa.

Before moving to the new books, I'd like to remind you of the particulars. I offer a discount of approximately 10% on orders over \$20. The prices listed in my catalog are list prices (rounded to whole dollars). So your cost will be about 10% off the prices listed. Shipping is between \$2-6, depending on the weight of your order, as long as you are happy getting your order via media mail or bound printed matter. If you prefer UPS or priority mail, shipping will cost more. Shipping outside of the United States will also be more. I can take cash payments, but not credit card payments, through Paypal at chomko@enter.net. Checks and money orders can be sent to Michael Chomko, 2217 W. Fairview Street, Allentown, PA 18104-6542. If there's something that I don't list, please ask. There are many other publications available to me.

For up-to-date information on pulp-related items, I recommend you visit Bill Thom's "Coming Attractions" website. Bill updates his site on a weekly basis—Friday evenings, most of the time—and keeps abreast of the many new developments in the world of popular fiction. The address of his site is <http://members.cox.net/comingattractions/index.html>.

Mike Chomko

ADVENTURE HOUSE <http://adventurehouse.com/>

I should soon be receiving the first of Adventure House's new line of pulp replicas. The first three will be SAUCY MOVIE TALES for July 1936, with cover art by Norman Saunders, and two issues of SPICY MYSTERY STORIES—the May 1936 issue with a cover by H. J. Ward and the February 1938 number with a cover by Parkhurst. Printed on acid-free paper, they will cost \$15.

Coming up next in Adventure House's replica line will be the May 1936 DON WINSLOW OF THE NAVY, the July 1941 SPICY MYSTERY STORIES, the November 1939 SPICY ADVENTURE STORIES, and the March 1929 FIRE FIGHTERS, one of Harold Hersey's highly specialized pulp magazines. Please let me know if you would like me to reserve any for you.

HIGH ADVENTURE 81, which should be arriving in the first or second week of March will feature Ki-Gor, the Jungle Lord. Issue 82 will reprint Frederick Painton's "The Conquest of America" from the pages of BATTLE STORIES." It should appeal to those of you who enjoyed the Purple Invasion series that ran in Operator #5 (and was reprinted by HIGH ADVENTURE). Finally, issue 83 will run the first Dan Fowler story from G-MEN, a Thrilling pulp that played on the popularity of J. Edgar Hoover's FBI in Depression era America. Each issue will cost \$8.

G-8 AND HIS BATTLE ACES #16 will feature "The X-Ray Eye," reprinted from the January 1935 issue of the Popular Publications pulp. It will be out during the first two weeks of May and cost \$10.

BATTERED SILICON DISPATCH BOX <http://www.batteredbox.com/>

I'm still waiting to hear from publisher George Vanderburgh about my restock order of various "Lost Treasures from the Pulps." Eventually they will arrive, but it may be some time. Battered Silicon is a one-man operation, so it often takes some time for my orders to be fulfilled. The next "Lost Treasure" is slated for release in April. It will be

a collection of G. T. Fleming-Roberts' Green Ghost stories that originally appeared in the Thrilling line of pulp magazines. THE MAGICAL MYSTERIES OF THE GREEN GHOST will appear in a two-volume set of folio-sized hardcovers and sell for \$160. If you have not yet reserved a copy, please let me know as soon as possible.

BISON BOOKS

<http://nebraskapress.unl.edu/>

Bison Books five Robert E. Howard books are now available. I will be placing my order after my next exam. So you will have about a week to place your order. They will be available in two states—softcover for \$15-19 and hardcover for \$35. The titles include THE BLACK STRANGER, a collection of Howard's weird fiction; BOXING STORIES, a collection of Howard's boxing fiction (of course); THE END OF THE TRAIL, a collection of Howard's Western fiction; LORD OF SAMARCAND AND OTHER ADVENTURE TALES OF THE OLD ORIENT, a collection of Howard's adventure fiction; and THE RIOT AT BUCKSNORT AND OTHER WESTERN TALES, a collection of Howard's tall tales of Breckinridge Elkins, Pike Bearfield, and the like. If you have not yet reserved copies, please let me know as soon as possible.

According to Bill Thom, the Wildside Press Harold Lamb books previously announced have been cancelled. Instead, Bison Books has agreed to publish the complete adventures of Khlit the Cossack, along with all the tales of Khlit's companions and standalone Cossack stories. Four large volumes are slated for publication. The first two will be printed in the spring of 2006, and the final volumes will be printed in fall of 2006. Provided that they sell well, other volumes of Lamb work will follow, including the proposed SWORDS OF THE WEST Crusader collection.

BLOOD 'N' THUNDER

<http://www.geocities.com/poppub/>

The ninth issue has arrived. It features Al Tonik's extensive piece on the Lone Ranger's early years, covering the character's creation and early years on radio, plus a comprehensive analysis of the short-lived 1937 LONE RANGER pulp magazine. In addition to reproductions of all eight covers and interior art from the first issue, we include a reproduction of the seldom-seen, uncirculated "ashcan" issue prepared in 1936.

The issue also includes Anthony Tollin's review of "A Burglar to the Rescue," a 1931 Universal two-reel short subject that was the first motion picture to feature The Shadow. This two-reeler—the first of six "Shadow Detective filmettes"—followed the format of STREET & SMITH'S DETECTIVE STORY, the radio show that introduced the Shadow character as a narrator of crime yarns adapted from DETECTIVE STORY MAGAZINE. "Burglar" appeared in a 1930 issue of DSM The movie, recently restored by Universal after languishing for more than seven decades in the studio's vaults, was exhibited last year at a vintage-film festival in Hollywood, and Tony Tollin covered the re-premiere exclusively for BLOOD 'N' THUNDER.

But there's more...Alfred Jan examines the "Surgeon of Souls" series written by Victor Rousseau for WEIRD TALES in the mid '20s. This series predates Robert Leslie Bellem's "Surgeon of Souls" stories by a decade and, as Alfred points out, takes an entirely different tack. Rounding out the issue is Will Murray's "Gangsters, Gobs, and Gats: The Rise and Fall of Anatole France Feldman," which takes a look at the checkered career of this gangster-pulp specialist, whose fortunes began to fade with the 1933 repeal of Prohibition.

COPPERVALE

<http://www.coppervaleinternational.com/>

ARGOSY QUARTERLY will be shipping in the next week or so. I am unsure if it will be available in two states as was the last issue, but it will definitely be appearing in its slipcase format. Designed and edited by James A Owen, the first volume of the new issue will be 144 pages, while the second part—featuring the start of a serial by John Grant, "The Dragons of Manhattan"—will be 112 pages long. It will be printed in Sepia ink on heavy Ivory stock, to better present the line art of illustrator Bill Sienkiewicz. In addition to the Grant serial, there will be stories by Richard Lupoff, Steve Rasnic Tem, Marly Youmans, Jim Fusilli, World Fantasy Award winner Zoran Zivkovic, Charles Coleman Finlay, and Chris Nakashima-Brown. There will also be an article on the death of John Dillinger, written by William F. Nolan. Dated Spring 2005, please note that the cost of the magazine is now \$20. Due to the increase, I would appreciate if anyone who has requested it will please verify that they still want a copy. Also, if you have not yet reserved a copy, please do so as soon as possible. I'll probably be placing my order next week.

DARKSIDE PRESS/MIDNIGHT HOUSE

<http://www.darksidepress.com/index.html>

My copies of HORRIBLE IMAGININGS, the new Fritz Leiber collection, were shipped around the end of last week. Midnight House's other Leiber titles quickly went out of print, so please don't hesitate on this one. I ordered ten copies and seven or eight are already reserved.

GIRASOL COLLECTABLES <http://www.girasolcollectables.com/>

February's replicas include THE SPIDER, TERROR TALES, and the second issue of SPICY ADVENTURE. The covers are now available at the Girasol website.

SPICY ADVENTURE #2 Nov/34, the first issue after the ashcan #1, with fiction by Robert Leslie Bellem, E. Hoffmann Price, and others, plus a great H.J. Ward cover \$25

THE SPIDER #9 June/34, featuring the story, "Satan's Death Blast" \$35

TERROR TALES #6 Feb/35, great weird menace stuff with stories by Hugh B. Cave, Arthur Zagat, Nat Schachner, Ray Cummings, and others \$35

One of my customers recently contacted me and offered me eight of Girasol's SHADOW replicas. He will soon be shipping them to me. The issues are 11/36—THE STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE OF JOE CARDONA, 12/36—INTIMIDATION, INC., 07/37—HOUSE OF SILENCE, 09/38—THE GOLDEN DOG MURDERS, 11/38—THE VOICE, 12/39—HOUSE OF SHADOWS, 01/42—THE BOOK OF DEATH, and 07/42—DEATH ABOUT TOWN. Each of these has never been read. They were packed away by the customer and are just as he received them.

As Girasol's SHADOW books are difficult to find, I'm giving my regular customers first shot at these. Afterward, if any are left over, I will sell them on a first come, first served basis to those customers who order something every now and then. So the sooner you get your order in, the better chance you have of reserving the books.

The same customer also had a complete set of Bantam's DOC SAVAGE books for sale. I don't know about the condition of these, but if anyone is interested, please let me know. I'll probably let the two of you arrange a deal.

GRYPHON BOOKS <http://www.gryphonbooks.com/>

PULP CRIME CLASSICS, edited by Gary Lovisi, is a new 188-page trade paperback featuring a baker's dozen of great crime stories from the digest magazines of the 50s and 60s. Included are stories by Mike Avallone, Morris Hershman, Hal Masur, Dan Sontup, Bruce Cassidy and others, plus great sexy cover art by Ron Wilber. If there is enough interest in this volume, I'll be sure to order copies. Please let me know if you'd like to reserve one. \$20.00

HIPPOCAMPUS PRESS <http://www.hippocampuspress.com/>

M. P. Shiel's THE HOUSE OF SOUNDS and the Robert Price's new collection of Lovecraftian-inspired stories, TALES OUT OF DUNWICH, have both been delayed. They will hopefully be out in a short time. Next on the Hippocampus schedule will be H. P. LOVECRAFT: LETTERS TO REINHART KLEINER, Lovecraft's COLLECTED ESSAYS 3: SCIENCE, Lovecraft's COLLECTED ESSAYS 4: TRAVEL, and LETTERS OF GEORGE STERLING AND CLARK ASHTON SMITH. The two volumes of Lovecraft's essays will be available in cloth and trade paperback. The other volumes will be available in softcover only.

LEISURE BOOKS <http://www.dorchesterpub.com/>

Coming in March as part of Leisure's "Hard Case Crime" series is Day Keene's HOME IS THE SAILOR, published for the first time in nearly forty years. It is considered to be Keene's finest novel. Allan Guthrie's KISS HER GOODBYE, a new novel will also be published. The cost of each volume will be \$7.

NECRONOMICON PRESS <http://www.necropress.com/>

I've finally heard from Necronomicon and will be able to supply copies of Joshi's H. P. LOVECRAFT: A LIFE. I will be ordering them in about a week, so please let me know as soon as possible if you'd like to reserve a copy.

A new edition of S. T. Joshi's H. P. LOVECRAFT: A LIFE is now available. It is a trade paperback, 708 pages long, and will retail for \$30. S. T. Joshi—the leading authority on Lovecraft—has gone back to primary sources to set the record straight on the many-faceted "gentleman from Providence." Joshi looks at Lovecraft's early interests in science, mythology, and literature; his involvement in the "amateur journalism" movement; his towering presence in the pulp magazines of the 1920s and the fantasy fandom of the 1930s; and the posthumous rescue of his work by friends and devotees. Along the way, Joshi probes the literary, philosophical, cultural, and historical forces that shaped Lovecraft's work and thought, provides capsule portraits of his close friends and colleagues, and studies the growth and development of all aspects of his creative work. Written from a sympathetic but critical perspective, Joshi's biography dispels many of the myths about Lovecraft the man and wins new converts to his distinctive literary work.

NESFA PRESS

<http://www.nesfa.org/press/>

NESFA has now released both the collection of de Camp's time travel fiction and Judith Merril's science fiction tales. I will be placing my order for them as well as NESFA'S recent volumes on E. E. Smith, Jack Speer's FANCESTRAL VOICES, and a few other titles in about a week. If there's another NESFA volume you'd like, please let me know as soon as possible so I can add it to my order.

YEARS IN THE MAKING: THE TIME TRAVEL STORIES OF L. SPRAGUE DE CAMP has been released. The price is \$25. de Camp was a master of the time travel and alternate history story. In many respects his novel LEST DARKNESS FALL founded alternate history, while "Aristotle and the Gun" is probably one of the best stories about tinkering with history ever written. Also included are "The Wheels of If," "Balsamo's Mirror," "The Gnarly Man," "A Gun for Dinosaur," "The Isolinguals and de Camp's wonderful essay "Language for Time-Travelers." This is a collection of L. Sprague de Camp's SF best stories and essays dealing with time travel. It is the first volume of a projected series of stories and novels by L. Sprague de Camp.

HOMECALLING AND OTHER STORIES: THE COMPLETE SOLO SHORT SF OF JUDITH MERRIL is now available. The cost will be \$29. In addition to the title story, it reprints twenty-five other tales, including the classic from 1948, "That Only a Mother." The bulk of the stories included are from the late forties and early fifties.

I still have a few NESFA collections available from my inventory reduction sale. Most of these are available for about 30-35% off their original price. If you're interested, please drop me a line for further details.

NIGHT SHADE BOOKS

<http://www.nightshadebooks.com/>

My copies of the trade editions of Manly Wade Wellman's GIANTS FROM ETERNITY and STRANGERS ON THE HEIGHTS have arrived. These two fine novels originally appeared in STARTLING STORIES. As a bonus, Wellman's novella from THRILLING WONDER STORIES, "The Timeless Tomorrow," accompanies "Giants" while "Nuisance Value," which originally ran in ASTOUNDING STORIES, is paired with "Strangers." These are the first two volumes in a series that is slated to collect all of Wellman's pulp novels. They are hardbound books with dust jackets, featuring art by Vincent di Fate and Colleen Doran. \$25

The limited edition of these volumes will be a slipcased set holding both GIANTS FROM ETERNITY and STRANGERS ON THE HEIGHTS. Each book will be bound in leather, with a matching ribbon bookmark, and an additional illustration signed by the artist that does that particular book. Limited to 150 sets, the price will be \$150.00. I do not know when this version will be released.

RAINONE (ALMOND PRESS)

<http://www.popularfiction.us/index.html>

I was able to get in touch with Joe Rainone about his new series of books of story papers, dime novels, and the like. At this time, he would like to sell direct to readers. So I will not be able to offer his books as part of my service. If

you are still interested in any of his volumes, you can get it touch with Joe by email at the address, pulp9860@aol.com. Please let him know that I sent you. Thanks.

SEELE-BRENT

<http://www.seele-brennt.com/>

THE DARK MAN: THE JOURNAL OF ROBERT E. HOWARD STUDIES #8 is now available. It features articles on Howard's Gothic and Texas influences, Don Herron's THE BARBARIC TRIUMPH, the influence of Imperialism on pulp authors, and more. I will be placing my order in about a week's time. So if you would like to reserve a copy, please let me know as soon as possible. The cost is \$8.

Forthcoming from Seele-Brent are two journals. LOST WORLDS: THE JOURNAL OF CLARK ASHTON SMITH STUDIES #2 will feature articles on the Atlantis theme in Smith's fiction, Smith collections in the San Francisco Bay region, symbolism in his poetry, and more. It will cost \$7. STUDIES IN FANTASY LITERATURE #3 will feature an interview with Tim Powers, an article on the nature of fantasy, a critical study by Brian Stableford, and other pieces. It will cost \$7. Please let me know if you'd like to reserve copies. Thanks.

According to publisher, Nick Curtis, a second printing of THE HOWARD COMPANION #1 will be available in the spring. I quickly sold out of my copies and so did the publisher. Hopefully, those who missed it will not have to wait too long for this new printing.

SUBTERRANEAN PRESS

<http://www.subterraneanpress.com/>

THE FEAR PLANET AND OTHER UNUSUAL DESTINATIONS (VOLUME ONE OF "THE READER'S BLOCH"), written by Robert Bloch and edited by Stefan R. Dziemianowicz, will soon be available for shipment. According to PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY, "While now best known for his horror fiction, prolific pulp writer Robert Bloch (1917-1994) also often contributed to AMAZING STORIES and other magazines that helped define SF's Golden Age. Critic and anthologist Dziemianowicz has done a real service by collecting 21 Bloch stories from this era, many never before reprinted, in the first volume of a new series devoted to Bloch's short fiction. Because Bloch's science fiction typically featured loony characters and a bunch of gags with a few technical terms tossed in, his work in this vein has dated less than much of the more serious, speculative SF of his contemporaries. Gems include the embarrassingly hilarious "yellow peril" story "Secret of the Observatory"; "Beep No More, My Lady," in which space has been taken over by advertising; and the preposterous "Queen of the Metal Men," an H. Rider Haggard spoof with Lovecraftian touches. As Dziemianowicz so aptly observes in his introduction, "By his own admission Bloch never was a power hitter in science fiction-but maybe it was because he didn't regularly swing for the fences that he managed to connect as often as he does in these stories." There are two states available, an edition limited to 750 copies for \$40 and a lettered edition for \$150. I'm not sure if I can get the latter. Both states are signed by the editor.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/>

I was surprised that there was very little interest in TRANSFORMATIONS: VOLUME 2 IN THE HISTORY OF THE SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE, 1950-1970, available in Spring 2005. Did most of you miss the listing in my catalog last month? Mike Ashley's science-fiction histories are certainly worth reading and come with my highest recommendation. The cost of this trade paperback will be \$28.

VAN HISE

In addition to his new publication, SWORD & FANTASY (my copies are on their way), James has just released an authorized reprint of the 1963 BURROUGHS BULLETIN OMNIBUS EDITION OF #1-12. In 1963 Vern Coriell did an omnibus reprint edition of the first 12 issues of THE BURROUGHS BULLETIN. That edition was in a 6" x 9" format, but this reprint has the pages enlarged 20% to 8 1/2 x 11. It contains all the pages of the original edition in facsimile, plus has new full color covers, the front using the Frank R. Paul art from the cover of the 1927 AMAZING STORIES ANNUAL and the back cover from a 1960s British paperback edition of A PRINCESS OF MARS.

This 126 page volume includes articles by Philip Jose Farmer ("The Golden Age and the Brass"), Forrest J Ackerman (a short article on ERB when he was still alive), articles on Hal Foster, Tarzan movies (including vintage news from when the films were new), a checklist of ERB books and magazine appearances, a Tarzan merchandise checklist, Tarzan radio programs, reviews of Tarzan movies, "The Works of ERB And The Sands of Time" by Thomas S. Gardner, "What Makes Tarzan Act That Way" by Edgar Rice Burroughs, "Science Fiction Discussion" by John Harwood and many more articles. Plus artwork by Rex Maxon, Russ Manning, Hannes Bok, J. Allen St. John and more. The price is \$20 per copy. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to reserve a copy.

WILDSIDE PRESS

<http://www.wildsidepress.com/>

My order of Wildside's January pulp facsimiles is on its way. I expect to receive just about everything within the next two weeks. Included will be the first issue of SINISTER STORIES, the March 1930 issue of SUBMARINE STORIES, Bud Webster's index to the anthologies of Groff Conklin, the second issue of H. P. LOVECRAFT'S MAGAZINE OF HORROR, and many other items. Both SINISTER STORIES and SUBMARINE STORIES are pulp-sized, a welcome change to those of us in the bifocal age.

The 09/01/19 issue of THE THRILL BOOK is the newest addition to Wildside's line of pulp facsimiles. This is the 13th number from the sixteen-issue run of this legendary pulp magazine. THE THRILL BOOK was a magazine of "strange, bizarre, occult, mysterious tales," but not quite a fantastic-fiction magazine, mixing various types of adventure stories with often outstanding fantasy, horror, and science fiction by Murray Leinster, Seabury Quinn, Francis Stevens, Perley Moore Sheehan, Tod Robbins, Edward Lucas White, Grege La Spina, and other giants of the pulp era. While sheer scarcity may have once added something to the luster of "The Thrill Book," now that an issue is finally made available at an affordable price, the reader may appreciate that this truly was a pioneering—and supremely entertaining—publication. \$20

Also from THE THRILL BOOK comes a reprint of H. Bedford-Jones' "The Opium Ship," originally published as a four-part serial in the legendary pulp magazine. Here is the tale of Sir Gerald Desmond, late officer in his majesty's Royal Flying Corps. Broke and drunk in Manila, he befriends a consumptive Irish fiddler, Michael O'Sullivan, and the two become involved in a free fight with the native constabulary. From this brawl they are rescued—but when they come to their senses, they find they have been shanghaied! Typhoons, smugglers, a beautiful woman, opium, and mutiny are just the beginning of their adventures—for two Irishmen, worldly and wise, will always come out on top in the end! Bedford-Jones' novel is a welcome addition to Wildside's "Pulp Classics" series. \$15

SECRET AGENT X in "Claws of the Corpse Cult" is the second issue in Wildside's new series of hero reprints. With the dogs of war snarling at the door of the United States, Secret Agent "X" goes where other investigators dare not follow—to the cesspits of Hawaii, where spies and plots abound and a secret Hindu cult does the bidding of a foreign government bent on plunging the U.S.A. into the midst of a new global war! This thrilling Secret Agent "X" novel, among the best in the series, will delight all fans of classic pulp fiction. This edition features an additional story, "Latin Blood," by Robert Leslie Bellem, featuring Dan Turner, Hollywood Detective. \$15

One alert customer drew my attention to the fact that Wildside had also done an issue 1.5 of H. P. LOVECRAFT'S MAGAZINE OF HORROR for subscribers to this magazine. It offers a selection of five short stories, the usual non-fiction features, a report on the 2004 World Horror Convention, and more. Contributors include Marvin Kaye, Craig Shaw Gardner, Adam Niswander, and others. The artwork is by George Barr, Allen Koszowski, and other fine illustrators of the macabre. A fun 32-page half issue, it is now available through me for \$3. Please let me know if you'd like a copy.

Wildside's second volume of Robert E. Howard's stories for WEIRD TALES, entitled THE MOON OF SKULLS, has been delayed until March.

For those of you who enjoyed the first issue of ADVENTURE TALES, the second issue is now in the works. John Betancourt has asked me to contribute another pulp-related column that I hope to put together following my exam next week.