

THE MYTHOPOEIC SOCIETY

is interested in the study and discussion of the fictional and mythic works of
J.R.R. TOLKIEN, C.S. LEWIS, & CHARLES WILLIAMS



ROHAN AND GONDOR

will be the discussion topic of the Mythopoeic Society for
JANUARY 1970

The Mythopoeic Society has never tried to discuss the entire The Lord of The Rings in one evening, rather we have either chosen a topic from the work such as "Frodo, Sam, and Gollum," "The Elves," "The Hobbits," and "The Rings of Power," or we have read and then discussed an essay taken from Tolkien and The Critics, a collection of fifteen excellent scholarly essays on The Lord of The Rings.

This month we have chosen the topic "Rohan and Gondor" for discussion. To me, the topic presents all kinds of conversational possibilities in exploring both countries in and of themselves, and in a comparison of likes and opposites. Comparisons could be made as to culture, heritage and traditions, sense of identity, history, economics, geography, natural resources, political structure, and both countries response and involvement with the struggle with Sauron. A comparison could be made of the capitals, including architecture, of Meduseld and Minas Tirith. Personalities could also be discussed: Theoden, Eomer, Eowyn, Hama; Denethor, Boromir, Faramir, Beregond, Bergil, Ioreth, and others. Another comparison could be made on how Gandalf was able to work in both countries in the struggle against darkness.

Personal Information has been
redacted.

Mythprint

Vol. I No. I

MYTHPRINT is the monthly Newsletter of The Mythopoeic Society. This is the first issue. We have have monthly bulletins before, but now we leave out the map and include more news of whats happening within the Society and other news that should interest the members. Mythprint is sent out to persons in California without specific charge. Those outside California who wish to get it, the rates are \$1.50 per year.

News

Ed Meskys, the Thain of the Tolkien Society of America, and his secretary, Nan Miles, were married December 20, 1969. We assume they will continue to live in [REDACTED] New Hampshire, where Ed teaches College. The Mythopoeic Society has commissioned Tim Kirk to do a painting from them as a wedding gift.

Here some more good news that involves Ed, among others. Tolkien Journal #10 is out. I got one when Ed wrote me first class. The cover is by Bonnie Bergstrom. It's something she drew two years ago. TJ 11 should be out this month. But here's the biggest news: Tolkien Journal 12 will be Mythlore 5! In other words the anniversary issue of Mythlore will be printed and distributed to all the members of the Tolkien Society of America, some 2,000 people approximately. This Christmas I have been working hard on trying to get Mythlore finished, and mailed off to Ed. There will be a temporary drawback to this development. It is not probable that Mythlore 5 will be back from the printers in time for a January mailing. Please be patient on that point. The issue will honor the 78th birthday of Tolkien by a joint George Barr- Tim Kirk cover. The articles and interior artwork are very good. The entire issue will be printed offset. Sigh, no more mimeo, at least for Mythlore.

Since Mythprint is sent out on a bulk mailing, third class, that means It will take longer for the post office to deliver it. Therefore, we are forced to send it out earlier than before. To make Mythprint serve you most efficiently, your personal help is needed. Get a calendar, hang it up, and as soon as you get Mythprint every month, mark the date of the meeting you plan to attend, so you won't forget later. Otherwise it is possible you might forget the meeting if you received the bulletin three weeks earlier.

A new book has just been published that should interest you. It is The Moons of Meer by Dr. Warren Hollister and Judith Pike. New York: Henry Z. Walck. 1969. \$5.00. Dr. Hollister has spoken to the Society before on Tolkien, teaches Medieval history at UC Santa Barbara, and is a Narnia and Oz fan as well. The book is a fantasy where two children from Arizona find the way to the Land of Meer through a tunnel. Meer is tyrannized by the Scarlet Sorceress and there is an ancient prophecy about two strangers from the Valley of the Sun who would "set the kingdom free." The book is illustrated by Richard Lebenson, including a map.

This is the month that see three new branches starting: The Santa Barbara, The Orange County, and the Long Beach Area. The Society is growing basically in proportion to the enthusiasm and co-operativeness of you the members. I am proud and honored to know so many fine people.

With the growth of the Society, there has had to come some structural changes. Each branch is to have a three person steering committee composed of the Moderator, Secretary, and Treasurer. The committee of each branch is responsible for the scheduling of locations of meetings for their branches, and all other local branch matters. The Council of the Mythopoeic Society is made up of the officers of each branch plus other special persons who serve in other ways, such as Bernie Zuber and Dave Hulan. The Council will meet every two months to confer and pass on Society business. One of the main reason this new structuring has taken place is to relieve me of the crushing work load of the Society. Some of you do know how much work it is. I am supposed to be working on a book on Tolkien in collaboration with someone else. Because of Mainly Society matters I have had no time since September. My partner is restless; I really do need to find time for the book.

If you are member of the Society who is not an officer or member of the Council, permit me to make something very clear: Officers and Council members are not a chosen elite group, a sort of aristocracy within the Society. Not at all. They were not chosen on the basis of a popularity contest, but rather to do a job. They know the work involved, and are willing. Being an officer does not make you smarter or better than other member. You who are not officers at the moment can do your part by working with your local branch to make it better. Growth causes growing pains. I ask of you all to help out.

Will everyone receiving this, make your utmost effort to go to the branch meeting this month nearest you. Support your branch and let your officers know you are behind them.

To me personally, the year 1969 was the best ever. I am looking forward to this year as being an even better one. The developments with Mythlore, the new branches, and the plans for Tolkien Conference III / Mytheon I to be held later this year in Southern California make me very optimistic.

Farther up and further in, in 1970!

Best wishes
Glen GoodKnight

The Santa Barbara Branch: at the home of Tom McDaniel,

The San Fernando Valley Branch: at the home of Bonnie Bergstrom,

The Orange County Branch: at the home of Anne Osborn,

The Upland-Pomona Valley Branch: at the home of David Danke,

The San Gabriel Valley Branch: at the home of Karen Trimble.

The Long Beach Area Branch: at the home of Steve and Morgiana Huffman.

The West Los Angeles Branch: at the home of Thomas Wilson.

There will be no regular meeting of the Claremont Colleges Branch this month. There will be a caravan to attend the San Gabriel Valley Branch. For more information about this, and the other planned activities, contact: David Ring, Pomona College, [REDACTED]

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There will be a important meeting of the Council of the Mythopoeic Society on February 1, at the apartment of Glen GoodKnight, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] The Council is composed of the three officers of each branch plus others who specially serve the Society. All members are invited to the meeting, however this is a business meeting, not a party, and since there is little room left in the apartment after all the officers have arrived, it is advised that others should have direct business they wish to present to the council if they plan to come. A light buffet supper will be served. At least one officer from each branch should be present for the meeting.

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There will be further reporting of the New structureing, as to the Constitution, and a listing of the officers of each branch in next months Mythprint.

The topic for next month - February - is Lilith by George MacDonald. There are two paperback editions available. One is part of the Ballentine Adult Fantasy series-for 95¢ The other is called Phantastes and Lilith published by William B. Eerdmans Co. This has an excellent introduction to MacDonald by C.S. Lewis. It is \$2.95 and harder to locate. I suggest ordering it at a book store.

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GoodKnight
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Address Correction Requested

