JIM SULLOS’ FOREWORD – THIRD DRAFT REVISION BZ & JG

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ndertaking and completing a project as large as *Edgar Rice Burroughs: The Bibliography* takes a variety of skills. It also requires stamina, imagination, and a passion to see it through. Bob Zeuschner exemplifies all of these.

Bob says his bibliographical interests were first inspired by the lists of ERB titles he found in the advertising pages of Grosset & Dunlap books he bought and read in the 1950s. Over the next several years he came across several other brief listings of Burroughs books. Then, in 1964 Henry Hardy Heins published a detailed bibliography which Bob studied and treasured. Through the years, as new Burroughs titles and editions were released, Bob kept adding valuable information to his own notebooks until he was finally ready to publish his first Burroughs bibliography in 1996. It was almost 300 pages.

This new bibliography adds so much more information, as you can see from the number of pages in this volume. For example, the entry for *Tarzan of the Apes* has grown from 37 citations to 128 in this volume. Even a lesser-known story like *Apache Devil*, the first book listed, has expanded from seven citations to 11. And the second book, the well-known *At the Earth’s Core*, has increased from 23 to 39 citations. This can only come from painstaking research, combined with consummate organizational skills. Quite an achievement considering that he started his research nearly 60 years ago using three by five-inch cards.

Bob’s passion for this project began at age 11 when his grandmother gave him two books to read, *The Son of Tarzan* and *The Gods of Mars*. He was overwhelmed by the fantasy and the adventure and had to read more. He began frequenting used book stores. Within three years he had acquired several first editions and never looked back, even though at the beginning he had to pass on some rarer editions because the 15 dollar cost was out of reach for this young student. That was the start of a lifelong collection of all of The Master of Adventure’s books. He now owns every single hardback first edition authored by Burroughs, including all 29 A.C. McClurg first printings of which 13 have the original dust jackets making it a very valuable collection indeed. But that’s not all. He read all of the Burroughs books aloud to his children, several chapters every night, and then he repeated that process with his grandchildren. Now that reflects the passion he brings to this body of work. Having read every book, he is inclined towards the Tarzan series and the Mars series, with a slight nod to Barsoom as his favorite. But considering that he was a gymnast on the rings in high school and college, Tarzan couldn’t have been far from his center of gravity.

This Burroughs bibliography is expansive, so much so that it could also be thought of like an encyclopedia, considering the exhaustive, detailed information he has provided for each entry. Bob is a trained scholar with a Ph.D. in comparative philosophy, learning to read both Japanese and Chinese in the process. This scholarship has made the bibliography a contribution to Burroughs’ legacy like none before. Bob’s first bibliography took him 15 years to assemble all available data. It has required an additional 20 years to build on that research and produce the volume you are about to read.

On behalf of Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., I am proud to have this book appear under the Burroughs imprint and have it become the official bibliography of the works of Edgar Rice Burroughs for years to come.

James Sullos

President, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc.