

NUMBER ONE #13



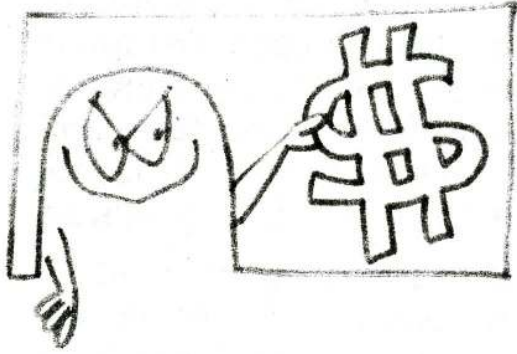
This is intended to be NUMBER ONE #13 and is by
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Sorry to say that I missed Corflu in Las Vegas. I did get to see a few old friends last week as Pat & Dick Lupoff hosted a post Corflu party for Steve and Elaine Stiles in Berkeley Ca. Also attending were Robert & Carol Lichtman, Grant Canfield, Lennie Bailes, and a surprise visit from Felice Rolfe! I hadn't seen her in probably 40 years! She remembered me sleeping on her couch during the Fanoclast Cross Country Trek back in 1965 or 1966. # I tried recruiting Lennie for FAPA as I drove him back to San Francisco, but I don't think I was successful. Anyway it was a lot of fun.

Bill Wright from Australia has a vision called Meteor and I'm including a sheet with some info and links so you can find out more about this good project. He has a big dream about preserving fan history and publications, etc in a permanent facility Down Under. And most importantly he is doing something about this project not just sitting around talking about it. I hope some of my readers will be able to support in some way this fine effort.

Next time I'll try to do full mailing comments again. Actually I think I'm pretty good at it but it doesn't come easy to me. I usually read the entire mailing at least twice before I even start on the mc's. Someone said my mc's were a bit like a review. I can't help that as I am trying to convey how I felt about the zine, but really I'm just using your zines as jumping off points for my own biased opinions. There is a bit of stream of consciousness to it also in that I don't know what memories are going to be triggered off until I start writing. I probably spent 12 hours or more writing the 3 or 4 pages of mc's last time. I do try my very best to make the comments intelligible to people who haven't read the original or don't remember what was written only 3 months before! One reason I do that is because I hope this zine can serve as a recruiting tool on efanazines for FAPA.

Once again I urge my readers from efanazines to join FAPA. Just contact me for info or better yet contact Robert Lichtman and join up. You know you've always wanted to, so get off your butts and do it today !



YOU CAN'T WIN IF YOU DON'T ENTER is Mike's First Law of contesting. The corollary is don't enter if you don't want the prize. I used to enter a lot of contests especially radio contests and local newspaper and store contests. Radio contests require a lot of attention to timing and detail. I made a timetable in a spiral notebook and kept it near the radio and telephone. This was before cellphones so there was less competition then. The phone had speed dialing 10 # memory with the 10 most active radio stations programmed in. 7am KFOG trivia, 7:10am KOIT song of the day, 720am KCBS 10th caller, 730am KFRC mystery sound, 745am KSAN caller #10. etc. etc. If I liked the prize I would call in everyday until I won. Then I put the date, station and prize on my prize list for the year so I could know when the period of ineligibility would be over.

The dj's started to recognize my voice before I said my name and many times they were rude and hung up on me which brings me to

READ THE RULES! is the best tip I could ever give anyone who wants to win a prize. ALL the rules. Many of these rules are there to help the people running the contest whittle down the number of entrants right from the getgo. If it says write the word CONTEST on the left side of the envelope you better do it or else. If it says only one entry per person don't try to send in 2. Sometimes it says enter as often as you wish which might not be a good thing for your chances. For example Miller's Outpost about 20 years ago was giving a trip to Australia. I wanted that trip so bad I could have eaten a jar of vegemite if it would have helped! I read the rule and entered as often as I wished. I filled out more than 680 entries during the next month and waited. I received a prize letter from them. I won 3rd prize a red plastic boomerang!

After that I got lucky when KFOG and Koala Springs(a fruit drink) cosponsored a trip to Australia to celebrate a Koala Exhibit at San Francisco Zoo. The catch was that the entries had to be in within 3 weeks and only official entry blanks were being accepted. To get an entry blank you had to go to Lucky Supermarkets. For 2 weeks I searched every Lucky store within 20 miles of San Francisco until finally I found one that had some. So with less than 1 week left in the contest I sent in 11 entries and while sleepily listening to M Dung(the dj) at 610am one morning I was shocked awake by hearing my name! I probably entered 6 or 7 Australia trip contests before finally getting "lucky".

NOTHING IS REALLY FREE, THERE IS ALWAYS A COST is Mike's rule#2 which means that the amount of time and energy spent in getting "free" movie tickets, or winning "free" prizes can often be worth more than the reward. I used to attend 2 to 4 free promotional movie screenings a week. They still happen, but I'm tired of standing in line for an hour to get the ticket, and then standing in line for an hour or 2 to get into the screening. I did it for more than 20 years along with about 100plus "regulars" that were doing the same thing. Lucky Chuck, Big Al, Longhair John, Goolie Eyed John and many others devote almost every waking moment trying to score something free. They go to art gallery openings for the food and wine, they read the free weekly newspapers for ticket giveaways, they trade information about events as if it were gold ore. Some of these are not nice folks. If they are at a bookstore and see a stack of 20 passes next to the register, they think it is great to take them all and maybe pass a few to their "special" friends, but leave none for anyone else. The dj's and media promoters at best tolerate the "regulars" but in private the really despise them. I've seen fistfights, and mad pigpile scrambling for free tshirts or posters. It isn't pretty. I'm glad I'm not so deeply into that scene any more Mike McInerney

APAS all seem to be recruiting or at least trying to recruit. Over on trufen in the last couple of days, I've seen messages about FAPA, SAPS, FLAP, ANZAPA, SNAPS, EAPA , APAL, LASFAPA, and several others. Here in FAPA we haven't been very successful at getting new members for some time now. I wish I had answers. Maybe we could offer some kind of discount to new or returning members? I'm not sure the dues is what is keeping people away, but everyone likes a discount. How about offering 2 years for the price of one to new recruits? Of course regular activity requirements would apply. Buy One Get One? Is our treasury so low that we can't do this? Other possibilities might include merging FAPA with some other apa such as maybe SAPS. I know they both are proud of their histories and heritage, rightly so. I'm sure some might object to having to increase the # of copies required, but look at the corporate world. Surely there would be benefits to this proposal, but only if all agree. Ah, but that is the rub, not all WILL agree. Worth talking about I think.

The biggest source of new members seems to be former members. Lapsed FAPAns so to speak. There must be 300 of them all very good zine pubbers,if we could only rekindle their enthusiasm for paper fanac!

I hope I haven't offended anyone with these thoughts. I just want to start some discussion that might result in some action to reverse the trend to less and less members... Mike McInerney

FIAWOL
FOREVER!

