

RODNEY'S FANAC #1

Introductory issue. eFanzines Edition.
Snail Mail, Zines, and things of Interest should be sent to
Rodney Leighton,
11 Branch Rd,
RR 3
Tatamagouche
Nova Scotia
B0K 1V0



Issue #2 should appear in due course. It will be a "cheater zine". 10 pages like this. Paper fanzine only. If you want a copy send me something to write about or a gift of something interesting or if necessary \$2 cash. Or \$5 for 3 issues. Not available for letters.

If I had the equipment I would have put some footnotes in there but since I don't I will leave that to the queen of such things Catherine Groves.

The Spring edition of *CHRISTIAN *NEW AGE QUARTERLY* has a cooperative editorial, a lengthy letters column which starts off with an excerpt of a letter from me bitching about footnotes and gets much better. Also a reprint of cool parable by Robert Price. Most readers have already seen me recommending *C*NAQ*. Website: www.christiannewage.com - P.O. Box 276 Clifton N.J. 07015-0276 USA.

Footnotes can be useful. For readers not familiar with the term, fanac is primarily a term from science fiction fandom which is simply fan activity conflated into one word meaning any sort of activity one does as a fan: write letters of comment, do fanzines, whatever.

XEROGRAPHY DEBT #34 arrived recently. I found all sorts of interesting things in it. Covers are cool. 63 page digest. 46 of those pages are zine reviews done by 15 folks. Some variety in style, much variety in quantity. Ken Bausert reviews about 15 of the things, including *THE LIFE OF RODNEY YEAR 64 #5*. He suggests a price; I have never understood why some reviewers take it upon themselves to suggest such things but it's not unheard of by any means and thankfully no one has sent me money for something I don't have. He doesn't seem too positive about the thing but he still sends his zine and did review it. Hmnnn. I dug out the copy I kept and looked it over...

Sweet loving Jesus what a load of shit!! Christ the thing is boring!

Ken writes that: "...it's more like an old friend writing you a letter." Thinking about this at work one day I had a flash: *THAT* is what has been bugging me about the zine! The original idea of *TLOR*, the main thing was it was to be a sort of letter to people who sent me zines and a few copies to others. But it became more like a zine. I started thinking of it as a zine. I was bugged at the lack of response. But, see... letters should be responded to or at least acknowledged. Zines don't carry that caveat. Well, many do, especially those that welcome letters of comment. But there is a different dynamic.

Ken also reviews *OPUNTIA*, since migrated to the web, killed, says editor Dale Speirs, by Canada Post. Catherine included a note with *C*NAQ* in which she wonders if they have killed off *TLOR*.

Well, in a sense. Postage rates have increased very dramatically. My income has dropped quite a lot. Ken says he still finds mailing paper copies bearable. Issue 31 of *THE KEN CHRONICLES* arrived in an envelope bearing a 45¢ stamp. Jeepers! 26 page digest, this one is mostly a report of a vacation trip

to Florida in which he spent more money on things he reported like house rental; car rental; wine purchase and stuff than I take in most months. A few letters, bunch of photos of various things, couple of reviews(*LEEKING INK* #32 by Davida Gypsy Breier); 2 pages of random thoughts which were the best part of this issue. \$3 cash, trade, loc,4 issues for \$10. 2140 Erma Drive East Meadow NY 11554-1120 USA.PassScribe@aol.com

Footnote #2. In *XD* 34 there is a very short section by some person named Maynard who reviews 4 zines, 2 of which are described as cheater zines. Thus: "not a standard booklet form but 6 pages simply stapled at the corner. I wish I had the balls to do mine this way", he writes. I laughed my ass off. I wondered what universe this lad comes from. But he shows promise. If I wanted this thing reviewed I might suggest to Davida that she give this to him. Maybe she will show it to him. Hey, listen: I have seen literally thousands of zines like this, page counts of everywhere from 2 pages, no staple required, to 80 pages with one staple.

I create these things on an IBM Wheelwriter typewriter. I bought it at a library sale about 11 years ago for 20 bucks. Just like the operator it is getting old and worn; some parts no longer work, other parts are fussy. It's kind of cranky. I have a bitty screen and a spellchecker thing which beeps at words like that and also at the edges provided I remember to set it. Used to be it would stay where it was set until I changed it but now it all goes away every time I shut it off. And being a poor typist, slow and I need to watch where the two fingers I use are going I sometimes forget to check the screen and sometimes ignore the beeps and occasionally I get going fast for me and hit the print button before I realize there is a typo or something.

I keep expecting the old thing to give up the ghost. I don't know what I will do when that happens. I think there is still a ribbon in the machine I was using when I bought this one but I forget why I switched. There are a lot of factors which go into making a zine. Money is one. Desire is a huge one. Lots of other factors. Distribution has always been an issue for me. The more issues the better one would think. But. Catherine launched *C*NAQ* in 1989. I believe that was the year I killed the original *THE LEIGHTON LOOK*. I was having a lot of fun with that, getting all kinds of zines and some books and some music; it was strictly a reviewzine. First few were done with a manual typewriter and carbons; typed it twice, 8 copies per issue. Back then I was working in forestry about 40 hours a week; farming about 50 hours a week and doing small press stuff when I could. But as Ken points out in *TKC* #31 making zines is a hobby; every hobby requires an expenditure of time, energy and money. I didn't have enough of any of those to work 90 hour weeks and still do small press stuff and that was what went. There have been lots of incarnations of *LOOK* since. I considering bringing it back. But I want to toss in some perzine type shit here and there. These days the farm is long gone. I do a different sort of forestry. 30 hour weeks are good weeks.

It is looking as though I am going to have to endure some medical intervention. Don't know what that means.

THE LIFE OF RODNEY is officially kaput. The 5 issues of Year 64 and issue #1 of Year 65 are on www.efanzines.com. Issue #2 is in purgatory. No more issues of that one.

XEROGRAPHY DEBT comes out twice a year. I am going to order a copy of #35 and suggest you all do so as well. \$4 from Davida Gypsy Breier, P.O. Box 11064 Baltimore MD 21212 USA.davida@leekinginc.com.

So what to do. I contemplate many things. Having been forced to quit smoking I have, in a sense, some money. I declined to renew my sub to *MACLEAN'S* and *ON SPEC* and some others. *ON* the other side of things, my income has decreased, all costs of living have increased. A trip to the local grocery that would have cost \$40 two years ago now costs \$60. Gas is running close to all time highs. Taxes. Well.

I thought about becoming a consumer. Finding some money and buying zines from time to time. Preferably in batches. Thought about writing letters to everyone who sent me a zine or zines. Thought about telling other people about my appearances in various zines. Thought about passing zines on to other people, possibly as a sort of trade. But, well, sometimes that works.

If a doctor tells me that I require an excision and chemo and I tell him to shove it up his ass, is that a form of suicide?

Got a bundle of stuff from Kjartan Arnorsson. He suggests sending those that I had seen before to other people. I might send some. But with the horrendous price increases that Canada Post has imposed doing any amount of that would soon suck up what money I can afford to spend on small press stuff. He included a copy of *THE ZINE EXPLORERS' NOTEBOOK* which is likely not on my radar since it spends a lot of time on mechanical matters and is suffused with prisoners which is not an audience which interests me. Maynard would describe it as a cheater zine. Issue 4, spring 2013 is 14 pages, chopped into 3 columns per page, created on printing presses. Reviews of 30 zines, widely varied in length and tone. 6 pages of letters. I found a chap whose computer has crashed but he intends to support the papernet with letters and donations. Yeah. Editor Doug hasn't put his surname anywhere in the thing that I can find! I know, I haven't either, yet. It is coming, never fear. Doug does chastise Idy for his failure to use capitals in *SOMETHING FOR NOTHING*. But I have gotten distracted. I found a few folks in those 30 zines I would like to contact. I wondered if I sent, say, *ARIZONA FUNNIES #5* off to, oh, Jason Rodgers, what would happen. Well, how do I know whether the guy might love the comic or hate it. Or maybe he has already seen it. Given that Karno has sent me the issue of *TZEN*, no doubt he has contacted many of the folks in there.

Having put this in here I better send this guy a copy. Contact him at P.O. Box 5291 Richmond VA. 23220 USA.

Footnote #3: Paper fanzine from me only. I suspect it will appear on efanzines at some point.

After diddling around, money troubles,pondering if I wanted to do it, having a full 10 page issue ready to go and having neither the money nor the desire to drive down to Truro to get it copied and some other things I bundled those 10 pages plus some extras in to an envelope and mailed it off to England. My friend Chuck appears to be busy or embroiled in real life or possibly pissed off at me. At this point I have not heard what he did with the thing. I fully expect it will appear on efanzines at some point if it is not there. I hope he hasn't printed a bunch of copies and shipped them to me. Of course, if Canada Post managed to lose it or British Post ruined it or it became obliterated in the deluge or... meaning that as far as I know that issue will be electronic and e only. This thing will be typewritten and copied at Staples when money, time, energy and etc allows and paper copies mailed out. Recipients are encouraged to redistribute the zine in any manner they can and wish to do so. Chuck will almost assuredly get a copy. He thinks my stuff should be on the web. Ergo...

Basically what I am going to do is try to buy some zines. Karno sent a big bundle which arrived in a Canada Post bodybag, top ripped open. A bundle of *EIGHT STONE PRESS* zines shipped earlier went missing entirely; they kindly shipped another order by courier which is fine when I am here but gets expensive for the publisher. So perhaps I should consider smaller lots.

I am thinking I will try ordering some things from folks I know will ship their zines and trying a few people I haven't had any contact with for ages and also trying someone new occasionally. Write about what I get in these pages. Also write letters to people who send me zines and things, maybe with comments. Hopefully I can order a couple of things each month. I have pondered publishing a record

of what happens when I order zines and things. But with the lousy postal service and various other factors and plus people have problems and most zine reviews are fairly dated and who knows what might happen to folks so I don't think that is a good idea. I used to simply write off money which vanished with no response but I think I will keep a record and if nothing appears in a month or so send an enquiry.

If a person believes in predestination and that life is laid out in advance of birth is it arrogant to believe that one is a plaything for higher beings?

I don't expect any response from things like that although any response would be welcomed, read and considered. Detailed and or lengthy response would get you a letter in return, likely. Probably a copy of the next issue. I know I said at the front it is not available for letters. I can break my own rules.

Issue 74 of *ALEXIAD* has a page and a half written by me. Is that an incentive to anyone to order a copy? Or even go to efanzines and read it there? One thing that I have pondered is suggesting zines to folks embedded in locs. But that presumes on either the good nature or the laziness of the editor(s), I have thought that I might point people who like my writing at those publications which print my words. But that idea meant writing the same stuff 3 or 5 times. So I decided to try this.

There is a lot more in *ALEXIAD*. Also a "cheater zine", this one is 26 pages; most issues are. It arrives every couple of months. Lots of letters: 12 pages, 20 people. Also commentaries on a few of the books editor Joe Major reads and con reports and trip reports and other things. I used to love writing locs, stopped, mostly, for awhile but seem to be getting back into the habit. Issue 73 had an old fashioned Leighton loc; I thought Joe might edit it but no, it ran and he added a comment in it. That comment generated comments from 3 or 4 folks and 3 or 5 people made some comment about or to me. Sample is free. Paper copies can be had for letter of comment, trade or contribution; consumers can subscribe for \$10 a year; computer junkies can get it in .pdf whatever that is. C/O Lisa & Joseph Major 1409 Christy Ave. Louisville KY. 40204-2040
USA.jtmajor@iglou.com.<http://efanzines.com/Alexiad/index.htm>.

I wonder what it is for *THE LIFE OF RODNEY*?

Anyone who has read this far, if you have found some money in the envelope, there should be a note enclosed. If not: send me something, please. I am interested in bundles of various zines of different titles but the idea is really to get interesting mail and back issues of one title might be as interesting or more interesting than a different zine which holds no interest. I stuck the label on the front.

So, *TKC* arrived last Monday, I read it that afternoon and then later thought, well, that may be the last zine I see until the next issue of *ALEXIAD*. About the end of June. And, well, there was no mail at all on 2 days and the only small press thing was the package from Karno. Stupid to start a reviewzine, right? Well, not really. I used to be concerned about the time lapse between the publication of fanzines and most reviews. But it is a very common thing. And if I take out most of this chatter and make it almost entirely reviews, well, 10 pages will likely be filled about October. Which will make a good time to go visit my aunt provided she is still going. Stop at Staples and get copies made. Pick them up on the way home...

Kjartan does tons of comics and comix and zines and things. He is on the electronic thing but loves zines and mail and paper. *ARIZONA FUNNIES 5* is subtitled Humor From Below The Belt. It's comic book style; colour covers; b&w in between. It occurs to me that I have written a review of this before in one of those *TLOR* things. What the hell. No numbers on the pages. Published in Jan. 2013. Well drawn

with easily read words. First tale is of the Zonies: very thinly disguised Karno and some friends. ON a road trip the one name Kano takes a shit in the hat of the one named Wulf and passes it back; out the window into the face of a motorcycle cop. Various stuff ensues. Apparently guns are legal in AZ. There is a walking talking dog who chases a poodle whose owner doesn't want her baby defiled by that cur and ends up sacrificing herself to the chagrin of the poodle. The page by Donna Barr is not very good; this one has a 2 page squirrel thing from 1998 by Karno which is one of the few things I have seen by him that I thought was bad. Savage Squirrel makes a few appearances. A letters page. A page of recommendations by Karno. Back cover is the Shits. For adults only. Previous 4 are all good. \$5 but he has a pile of things and offers and deals and God knows what. Write and ask for a catalogue. Kjartan Arnorsson 1505 W. St Mary's Road 123, Tucson, AZ. 85745 USA.
Kjartana@comcast.net

Ah, that's enough of that for one day!

Well, actually, it's May 11. Mother's Day. Mama left us 11 years ago. She would not have approved of most of Karno's stuff. But it is 74 degrees F. at noon, summer has arrived for a day. I did some digging and for a wonder found the issue of **THE LIFE OF RODNEY** in which I devote a page and a bit to Mr. Arnorsson and his goodies. Maybe he doesn't have as much stuff as I thought he did. I had thought there were only 3 or 4 repeats but I see I got about 9 or 10 repeats in this order. It might be better to order specific items and keep some kind of track of what I have read. If any of you still have **THE LIFE OF RODNEY YEAR 64** #4 for some strange reason and want to see a bit more of my thoughts on Karno's comics look it up. I see I neglected to number the pages but the thing is only 8 pages long. Expect some more in issue #2 of this thing.

Canada Revenue Agency strikes again! I am going to have less money than I had thought I would. Expect shorter reviews, less crap and probably a fall publication.

If it seems like I am deriding that Maynard chap I don't mean to. I just found it very funny. And, of course, thinking about it, I keep remembering booklet style zines.

So, I decided to go ahead and order some zines. Ordered a couple from Davida. And, well, since I have been teasing Maynard maybe I should try something he reviewed. The zine that he describes as a cheater zine actually looks to be fairly similar to this thing albeit a hell of a lot more interesting if the lad is to be believed. It's called **TWILIGHT WORLD**. Don Fields used to be a pro wrestler but I think he died; probably not the same one. I think I will send him a copy of this next week with the \$10 in it and see what comes back. Issue #15 sounded good; issue 14 sounded even better.

May 15. We bypassed spring and went right to summer. On the way to work I heard that the Habs won their game and thus go on to the next round. 8 more wins to the Stanley Cup! Came home and found a big bundle of webzines in the mailbox. Does this constitute fanac? Works well for me.

Davida Gypsy Breier's partner produces zines in booklet form. Not very often. **SMILE HON, YOU'RE IN BALTIMORE** #15 is copyright 2012 and #16 in 2013. He also did **OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS** last year. All 3 are anthologies of folks and life in the city of the title. That last one is 68 pages, contains an index and bitty bios of the authors and a lot of reading. There is some poetry and some photos. I think the articles are true stories. Strangely enough the one that touched me the most was one about a guy selling drugs. Editor W.P. Tandy's contribution was the most boring in the zine, it was like an essay by a newspaper reporter. I really enjoyed this zine and the 2 issues of **SMILE HON**. Going to try to obtain a copy of #17. I could fill a couple of pages writing about these zines. This guy has every means of contact known to modern man. These zines are \$4 each. Other older zines are other

prices. Also they have other [stuff](mailto:David@leekinginc.com). David@leekinginc.com will take your money via PayPal whatever that is. Cash to P.O. Box 11064 Baltimore MD, 21212 US. Email wpt@eightstonepress.com.

GOLDEN GREATS, a CHER zine 2. Hmnnn, I read most of this. Lots of Cher stuff. Should do a for real review someday. There are 3 of these so far. Publisher Mary McCray plans on another one, I think. Interested in reading about Cher write a letter to Mary McCray 3924 Trailing Place NW Albuquerque NM 87114 USA.

This one is done. Planning on a trip tomorrow. Monday is a holiday in Canada and I suppose the U.K. Start hurling the things into the mailstream next week. Some kind of rockabilly on the CD player. "I'm having fun but I don't have a dime!"

Please note that due to financial issues I am likely going to limit distribution of copies of issue 2 to people who have sent me something good or substantial during the life of its construction. Past gifts and mailings don't count.

Gonna try to send a copy of this one to everyone who should have gotten a copy of **THE LIFE OF RODNEY YEAR 65** #2 if there had been paper copies.



The vibrant community of Tatamagouche is located on the Sunrise Trail along the shores of the Northumberland Strait. It has a population of 600 and is a thriving tourism community boasting art galleries, museums, craft shops, restaurants, cultural centre & a marina. The Train Station Inn is located on the edge of this quaint village.

Tatamagouche (native Mi'kmaq word meaning "meeting of waters") is a unique area where the old and the new exist in harmony. A village of Victorian homes, long established businesses, and a slow traditional way of life mixed with modern living and new facilities.