



## ***The ZINE DUMP #31***

A zinezine (i.e., a fanzine about fanzines) by  
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This issue is dedicated to **DENNIS DOLBEAR**

Dennis Dolbear, who died last June, was one of my best friends in fandom and out. In many ways he was the most influential acquaintance I ever had. When I was sunk in a miserable job at New Orleans' Charity Hospital, literally up to my ears in diseased blood and jaundiced piss, he encouraged me to try for better. When I finally got my head out of my nethers and sought law school, he cheered me on and even gave me a recommendation.

When, in 1993, I decided to broaden my publishing fanac from apazines to genzines, he helped me create *Challenger*, contributing the first issue's layout and a fine article about Fats Domino. Later, he gave me pieces on his London trip, his experiences as a host, our meeting with ~~Frank Booth~~ Dennis Hopper, and most impressively, his terrible and heroic experiences during Hurricane Katrina, an account reprinted in the current issue.

Dennis' writing was witty and effective, and I only wish that I could have convinced him to do more. I specifically wanted him to pen a column about New Orleans cuisine, since he was a devout and articulate epicurean, but though he could discourse delightfully about chow for hours, Dolbear was strangely shy about spreading the word in print. He claimed people would not be interested – an absolutely *inaccurate* reading of fannish interests. Look around you at your next convention. Tell me science fiction fans aren't *fascinated* by food!

Dennis enjoyed fandom because he liked the conversations and the camaraderie. But he wasn't suited to the childish rough&tumble you occasionally find here. Erudite conversation was his *raison d'fanac*, and confrontation and psychopathic "KTF" crap embarrassed and even intimidated him.

That reticence was regrettable, but it wasn't the point. My friend Dennis Dolbear had an incredible breadth of interests, a rich intelligence, a raconteur's wit, an abiding affection for SF fans, and an inordinate generosity. Salutes to a good man. Catch you later, DD.



***The Zine Dump* wants to see every science fiction- or fandom-oriented fanzine published in the English language.** Your overwhelmed editor will *try* to give notice to each, but as you see, I will fail.

This is my first issue in a year, and I apologize to those fan editors who have been faithfully sharing their zines with me through the post, expecting some response. I have all the better excuses: a job ending, a move to Florida, financial travail, an ongoing – but fading – ADHD thanks to my ongoing surgical recovery. But however true and however overwhelming, excuses won't do. I must do better. This issue will cover what it reasonably can and post by the end of April. I will rely on a clearer head to insure a quicker schedule, and if I miss you now I'll get to you next time.

*TZD's* viewpoint is that fanzines can be the freest and most open medium of self-expression and communication possible. We do these things to broadcast opinion and to relate to like souls. As readers, we owe our comrades in fanzining acknowledgment, by trade and letters of comment. I do this. *Viz:*

**Alexiad** Vol. 12 no. 6, Vol. 13 no. 1 / Joe & Lisa Major, 1409 Christy Avenue, Louisville KY 40204-2040 / jtmajor-@iglou.com / Quarterly. \$2@ or an eFanzines / The model of fanzine consistency, *Alexiad* brings forth Joe's eclectic breadth of interests and witty writing on an enviably regular basis. A nut for the classic days of polar exploration, Major never misses an opportunity to discuss Ernest Shackleton. He has a regular column updating his readership on the dwindling roll call of World War I veterans, and material on monarchies – not to mention trip reports by Sue Burke and Bob Kennedy, astute book reviews, and a long piece by Taral Wayne on the collecting mania. Excellent and entertaining writing abounds. The most compelling moment in these zines, alas, is Rodney Leighton's LOC in the later issue. *Alexiad's* lettercol is usually a vibrant chorus of opinion and expression with a tone of jolly wit prevailing, but here bitterness rules, as Rodney responds to rejection from what he perceives to be a

closed “in-group” in fanzine fandom. The story: Leighton asked to be placed on the mailing list for a noted fanzine and the guy refused – politely, I thought, but definitely. Rodney blames the restrictiveness and snobbery of that editor’s “us” crowd, exemplified by the publishing of trufan lists and the overt us-vs.-them hostility often voiced against outsiders. Even Major, as sweet-tempered a dude as there is in fandom, acknowledges a chill from what he feels to be a clique. Damn shame. As one who’s run into mean-spirited fanzine snobbery often over the last 21 years, I can but agree but it’s there. But I know it can be overcome. Fanzinedom is everybody’s turf. Publish. Respond to others’ fanzines. Don’t accept anyone else’s view of the gameboard. Roll with any punches, publish from the heart, and even if I’m shunned at the front door I’m damned if I won’t get to a Corflu one of these aeons. Hope Joe comes too. Rodney, pay for the postage and I’ll lend you my copy.

**Ansible** #321 / Dave Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 5AU, U.K. / U.S. Agent: Janice Murray, P.O. Box 75684, Seattle WA 98125-0684 / Friend or google it. / Web news.ansible.co.uk / April issue of the indispensable *Ansible*, centered in Britain but heard ‘round the world. Into its pages Dave packs Thog’s Masterclass – professional writing that no editor should call professional – How Others See Us – insults to the field from without – RIPs (including, this month, the brilliant Lucius Shepard, actor Richard Coogan – TV’s first *Captain Vide* –, and Lorenzo Semple, Jr., godfather of camp and butcher of *Batman* and *Flash Gordon*) – a list of forthcoming British conventions, and news.

*Aphelion* / Dan Hollifield / [www.aphelion-webzine.com](http://www.aphelion-webzine.com)

**Argentus** / Steven H Silver, 707 Sapling Lane, Deerfield IL 60015-3969 / [shsilver@sfsite.com](mailto:shsilver@sfsite.com) / t.u. /

**Askew** #6 / **Askance** #7 / **Askew** #8 / John Purcell, 3744 Marielene Circle, College Station TX 77845 / [j\\_purcell54@yahoo.com](mailto:j_purcell54@yahoo.com) / \$2, trade or on eFanzines / The latest issue of Purcell’s perzine is printed on white bond but blushes bright pink with embarrassment. It isn’t every fan-ed who forgets the name of his own fanzine. Issue no. 7 is *really* also an *Askew*, since *Askance* is a genzine and this publication is naught more than LOCs on #6. Said #6 is a report on LoneStarCon, at which John oversaw the Fanzine Lounge and WOOF. Purcell laments the horrendous task we – for I was there – took on in assembling and stapling the Worldcon Order of Fan-eds packet, beset by weird paper- and zine sizes as it was, but personally, I think he handled it well. And though I hate to contradict Bob Jennings, I must: WOOF is never distributed loosely; it’s traditionally bundled and bound. To return to the latest *Askew*, #8 sports a heartfelt memorial for Minnesota fan Louis Fallert (a.k.a. “Blue Petal,” one of those comrades who make this hobby worth pursuing), more friendly LOCs (Jennings’ is a hoot) and a sensible perspective on the lamentable brouhaha over Jonathan Ross’ suitability as MC of the Hugo ceremony. I’m with John: looks like Loncon missed a good bet.

**Auroran Lights** #9 / R.G. Cameron, Apt 72G – 13315 104th Ave, Surrey, B.C., V3T 1V5 / [rgraeme@shaw.ca](mailto:rgraeme@shaw.ca) / eFanzines / “The Fannish E-zine of the Canadian Science Fiction & Fantasy Association, Dedicated to Promoting the Prix Aurora Awards and the history of Canadian Fandom.” Schedule is said to be monthly. Its purpose is to promote the Aurora Awards – the *Prix* Aurora Awards. There’s another Aurora, apparently given to advertisers, and it’s a handsome statuette indeed. But winners don’t get the trophy, only the right to *buy* it. Science fiction fans aren’t that cheap. (Reminding me of the other Hugo Award, also an advertising award, also a pretty tchotchke. Is it still presented?)

**Banana Wings** #54-5 / Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer, 59 Shirley Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 7ES, U.K. / [fishlifter@googlemail.com](mailto:fishlifter@googlemail.com) / The foremost British fanzine of the day, and it didn’t make the Hugo ballot. I can’t be the only publisher mystified by this slight. What are these blogs that they so enrapture today Worldcon fans? Anyway, *Banana Wings* is the fanzine in-group at its most pleasant. Both editors are first-rate, much-encompassing fannish writers, as shown by Mark’s opening “Roadrunner”, where – despite being totally offline due to computer problems – he congratulates Robert Lichtman on his 30 years of zine publishing, cleverly thwarts Chris Garcia’s attempt to cadge an article from him for *Drink Tank*, puts in a good word for “eligibility posts” (which some condemn as

schmoozing for awards), and metaphorizes the death of fandom from the last gasps of rock'n'roll in *Almost Famous*. (I found but one unbelievable emotional moment in that movie.) Claire ripostes with a charming report on their beer-marked trip to Potlatch, and later, muses elegantly about the world's weird weather, quitting the Worldcon committee, extolling the TAFF candidacy of Curt Phillips (who has a sharp article elsewhere in the issue), working with people who like the SF genre, nominating for the Hugo and FAAn awards ... Clarie has a lot to say and says it so very well. The lettercol is long and friendly; I especially enjoyed Robert Lichtman's epic epistle, especially when he laments the insufficiency of foodie natter in convention reports. Indeed, how better to know a strange city than by the table it sets? Again the pain of losing my friend Dennis, a gourmand, digs deep.

**Baryon Magazine** 127 / Barry R. Hunter, 114 Julia Drive SW, Rome GA 30165 / [www.baryon-online.com](http://www.baryon-online.com) / free online, \$5@ printed / Fall 2013 edition of Barry's zine of book reviews – hitting more titles than any other pub I see. Most notices are the work of Harriet Klausner, who has an apt talent for describing a plot and getting you interested in what transpires, although Barry himself tackles a *Graphic History of Gettysburg*, which I'd love to see.

**BCSFazine** #467 / Felicity Walker, #209-3851 Francis Road, Richmond BC, Canada V7C 1J6 / [felicity4711@gmail.com](mailto:felicity4711@gmail.com) / \$3Canadian, \$2US / The monthly newsletter of the British Columbia club, cover-dated April ... 1986. Inside they get it right. In a strange serif font Felicity notes the loss of Mickey Rooney, continues a serialized report on the last VCon (V for Vancouver), and among its LOCs prints a request that Canada recall Justin Bieber. Nice behind-the-scenes photo from the new *Godzilla*.

**Beam** 7 / Nic Farey and Jim Trash, 3342 Cape Cod Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89122 NEW ADDRESS and 273 The Rowans, Milton, Cambridge CB24 6ZA, UK / email [fareynic@gmail.com](mailto:fareynic@gmail.com) and [jimtrash@eggoboo.com](mailto:jimtrash@eggoboo.com) / There is much to entertain any reader in this issue of *Beam*, specifically co-editor Trash's piece on *Redshirts* and his horror on its winning the Hugo, a funny parody of "50<sup>th</sup> fandom," Part III of Rob Hansen's long report on Corflu 50, and more moving than merely entertaining, Ro Nagey's eulogy for his friend, Larry Tucker, a fella possessed of "a natural humor that could kill bullshit." There's a splendid cover from Alan White and interiors custom-drawn for the LOCs they illustrate. But it's clear where the emphasis of attention and commentary lies. This focus is evident in Joseph Nicholas' article on "zine ideologies" and the emphasis, common in many zines, on fan history – looking back, not forward or even around. The focus is also obvious in the lettercol, "Suscipe Verbum". There, LOCs from Claire Brialey, John Purcell and Robert Lichtman key on Kay Templeton's plaint, in an earlier number, that the age gap between her and the so-called fanzine in-group has made her feel like an "outsider." It's evident that her problem is with the same exclusiveness noted – much more antagonistically – by Rodney Leighton in his *Alexiad* LOC. Nic explains the alleged cliquishness in the kindest way: facing a new, loose and unfocused fandom, the fanziners of old are "still keen to be part of some kind of community." Alas, many fans seem to find that community gated.

**Ben'zine** #s 1-2 / Ben Zuhl, 2646 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. South, Minneapolis MN 55407, but don't trust the address / eFanzines / A zine from 1977 reprinted on eFanzines, great art (Brad Foster was creating epic covers even then), hand-scrawled contents pages and headlines, hypnotically nostalgic 10-point typewritten font – takes one not only back, but 'way back. Oh, the classic contributors – John Berry taking us up a mountain, Mike Glicksohn on conventioning – I think – and Denny Lien with more tales of Minneapolis in '73. Ah, nostalgia. People knew how to do *fanzines* in those days.

**Big Sky** #2 / Peter Young, eFanzines / *Big Sky* is big stuff! Very entertaining and most comprehensive journal. Pulps, porn, movies! The high point of this issue, and possibly of all the stuff I've read for this *Zine Dump*, is Brian Hitt's piece on his famous father, Orrie Hitt, author of shelves and shelves of sleazy soft porn paperbacks and the inspiration for at two male generations' midnight shame. The quotes are hilarious, as many porn quotes are, and the insight into the father by the son is quite affecting. Sticking to the paperback topic, there's an irresistible come-on for Stephen King's *Joyland* by his Hard Case publisher, a great portfolio of lesbian paperback covers – Midwood and Beacon Books, the homely

teenage boy's best friend! Pulps are *Big Sky*'s other focus, featured in a revealing article on The Spider, but movies – specifically, *The Wages of Fear*, are given their due. (Am I the only viewer who liked *Sorcerer*, the remake? “I think you are jus’ a stoopid gringo *ahsshole!*”)

**Broken Toys #27** / Taral Wayne, 245 Dunn Ave. #2111, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5K 1S6 / E-mail Taral@bell.net / E-fanzines / Not content with being an oft-nominated Hugo contender and powerful fan writer, Taral has become a prolific fanziner on his own. In this issue he writes about “Torontocentric” media (citing the venerated *Tugboat Annie* TV series, where first I heard the name “Bullwinkle” ), complains about a drawing someone didn’t pay for (wasn’t me!), and opines on Lovecraft (hates him – I rather like his work these days). Other items covered, Harry Potter and the Oak Island “mystery.” I should write to Taral about the weird reality show we followed in the winter: a rich cynic, out of filial loyalty, supporting his goofy believer of a bro in his fruitless excavation of the island. Wayne never hides his personality; the lettercol here is remarkable for Taral’s exchange with Andy Hooper regarding the FAAn Awards. Indeed, there’s a strong undercurrent of bitterness in *BT*, surprising when you see all the sweet, sexy furries in the author’s art (the cover to *File 770* 163, furry-stance). Art is obviously where the good vibes come forth.

**Brooklyn!** Nos. 82-3 / Fred Argoff, Penthouse L, 1170 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn NY 11230-4060 / \$10 in cash per 4 quarterly issues / With humor and depthless zest, Fred continues to spread his love of his beloved borough. Herein learn about Jeremiah Johnson “(not the mountaineer, the Brooklynite),” father of the city-within-a, the first Thanksgiving in Brooklyn “(a fable),” a Brooklyn-esque version of “Four and Twenty Blackbirds” and much more, whilst gazing on photos (lamentably blurry) of the abandoned gabled house on Granite Street, the Gowanus why-a-duck, a monks’ parrot’s nest, and shots of Brooklyns beyond the New York borders – an Illinois hamlet, a Portland OR neighborhood. I wish I had a complete set of these zines; I wish more we could revisit Brooklyn.

**Christian New Age Quarterly** Volume 21, Number 2 / Catherine Groves, P.O. Box 276, Clifton NJ 07015-0276 / 4/year, \$12.50/year / What’s *this* doing here? A publication with an overtly religious base: could there be a more alien pub to SF fanzines? I number it here because fan-eds Dale Speirs, Frederick Moe (a new SFPAn; welcome) and Rodney Leighton appear in its lettercol, and because its lead content is a highly interesting comparison between Buddhism’s *Lotus Sutra* and various gospels, tracing such parables as the prodigal son to possible Buddhist roots. It’s too bad SFdom prides itself on its hostility to religion, relegating all believers to the intellectual sinkhole recently vacated by the reprehensible Reverend Phelps and therefore beneath notice. Somebody is missing something.

**Chunga 22** / Randy Byers, Andy Hooper, carl juarez, 1013 N. 36<sup>th</sup> St., Seattle WA 98103 / Three copies requested in trade / t.u., \$5/single issue, or on eFanzines / A well-wrought and diverting fanzine, nicely produced on thick, *graspable* paper – a throwback to the days when zines were meant to be *held*. (Insensate readers can find it on eFanzines.) Amusing art (these covers by D. West, interiors by Stiles, Marc Schirmeister, many others), content often whimsical and light-hearted (Graham Charnock retells Moby Dick from the whale’s p.o.v.; Randy on the Ring ... as in *Nibelungen*, that is; Hooper on recent film), interplay hat is energetic and cheerful in “The Iron Pig”, the zine’s incomprehensibly-titled lettercol ... and I can’t say enough about the layout, airy and unique and easy on the eye. *Chunga* hits high notes all ‘round.

**Claptrap #1** / Arnie Katz, 909 Eugene Cernan St., Las Vegas NV 89145 / I hope that’s still Arnie’s address. Here is another new title – with another new purpose – from the endless creative chief Vegrant of Las Vegas fandom. It’s the genzine version of a TePe electronic apazine which he trusts will be more accessible than his *fanstuff*, and if that’s a lot of information requiring a lot of background knowledge prompting just the slightest confusion – just sit back and enjoy it. Anyway, Katz expounds on his love of old radio – seen that a lot lately – with emphasis on mystery programs of the ’40s and pro wrestling (long live Bobo Brazil!). Harry Simon proffers a refreshingly light-hearted political page and Joyce – like a zephyr banishing the cruel heat of desert summer – chimes in with a column about the sands of that desert

(I was born there; it's in my skin), Russian novels, *Huck Finn*, the botched Nicolas Cage SFer *Knowing* (had promise, botched it) – grand to read her words and imagine her voice. One distinction of *Claptrap* from other Katzines, Arnie declares, will be *theme*, which he reveals through illos. Here we find both antique and contemporary ads for baldness cures. It brings a tear to be so thoughtfully considered.

**Curt Phillips for TAFF!** / Randy Byers & Claire Brialey, c/o Phillips, 19310 Pleasant View Dr., Abingdon VA 24211 / Byers brings the same immaculate layout and production of his *Chunga* to this collection of Curt Phillips' fan writing, published in support of Curt's successful candidacy for the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund. Classily illustrated by Steve Stiles and Ulrika O'Brien, plus a piece by ATom, these writings range from fine eulogies for Harry Warner, Jr. and Lynn Hickman to an evocative slice-of-life portrait of a hospital emergency room from the viewpoint of a compassionate EMT – which is what Curt is. A worthy volume. Curt shows here that he certainly has the chops.

**Dagon #646-650** / John Boardman, Room 238, Montevue, 1910 Rosemont Ave., Frederick MD 21702-8249 NEW ADDRESS / for Apa-Q; others, 10 issues for \$15 / Writing from an assisted living center, John is dependent on family members for zine repro, and in the latest issue laments how the infrequency of their visits damages his fanac. Another reason to keep in touch with elderly family. Though *Dagon* is no longer the perdition-raising liberal flamethrower of its past, its author still reads and reviews, comments copiously (on comets and ancient Jewish history and Lindsey Davis' Marius Falco novels, among other miscellany), and still works in a dig or two at political foolishness (such as the oft-voiced assertion that had he lived, Kennedy would not have gotten us involved in Vietnam, Republican Party psychosis, and NSA surveillance of RPGs – role-playing games). *Dagon* rocks on.

**DASFax** April 2014 / Tay Von Hageman for the Denver SF club, 4080 S. Grant St., Englewood CO 80113 / DASFAEditor@HotMail.com / <http://www.dasfa.org> / t.u. or DASFA membership / The Denver club looks forward to a filmed William Shatner show in April – saw a live show once; he was fun until a trekkie tried to give him a birthday card. Sourdough Jackson continues his article on the Lensman series in “Writers of the Purple Page”, R.K. Hageman clues members in on the many celestial doings in April (we suffered cloudy skies the night of the lunar eclipse), and the great Marc Schirmeister delights with an irreverent portrait of Darth Vader on the back page.

**De Profundis** 474 / Marty Cantor, c/o LASFS, 6012 Tyrone Avenue, Van Nuys CA 91401 / [www.lasfsinc.info](http://www.lasfsinc.info). / 55¢ in person, \$1.00 by domestic mail, and on-line / Unofficial newszine of the Los Angeles SF Society – why is it “unofficial,” again? – *DeProf*'s content seldom varies but is never tedious. The psychopathic “Cream of Menace” – meeting minutes to you and me – pause in their telling to heap praise on Patron Saints of LASFS like Fred Patten and Marty himself (he's given “Three Cheers and a cur to mudgeon”). Notable here, and not so fun, is the “special business” of the March 27 meeting,

**The Drink Tank #369** / Chris Garcia, [Garcia@computerhistory.org](mailto:Garcia@computerhistory.org) / On eFanzines / Often very brief, this Hugo-winning perzine roams from topic to topic and tone to tone, touching on whatever catches Chris' eye. This issue begins with news of a breakup – always tough – and continues with poetry and a review of a wonderful Jean Harlow movie. Never still, never the same, forever surprising (for how many SF fanzines deal with Jean Harlow?).

**Ecdysis** #s 1-2 / Jonathan Crowe, PO Box 473, Shawville QC J0X 2Y0 Canada / [ecdysis@mcwetboy.net](mailto:ecdysis@mcwetboy.net) / eFanzines / “A mix of serious criticism, postmodern buffoonery, and the frankly unclassifiable. (Plus graphs.)” So the editor sums up his new fanzine, which debuted on eFanzines in December. Brimming with ambition – as what new fan editor does not? – Crowe describes his intent with *Ecdysis* as an attempt to bridge the gap between the “actual” Hugo voters and the fannish in-crowd, offering content that is longer and more thoughtful/considered/polished than blog writing. Certainly his premiere issues provide entertaining writing – “Clockwork Fish” (skillful and cheery line art by Jennifer Seely!), a piece on *Pacific Rim* (did the monsters really invade Sydney Harbour? The *swine!*), “snakesploitation” movies, thoughts on *The Hemingway Hoax*. True to his promise, Jonathan offers

graphs – on Hugo voting and SFWA pay rates – and some clever parodies, advocating that zombies be employed as astronauts and publishing a newsletter for a school for magic. *Ecdysis* may not bridge many gaps but it certainly shows off the staff's talent. Miss Seely's fish, again, are charmers. I love such excellent line art.

**Eric the Mole #5** / Ron Gemmell, 8 Kinsale Drive, Locking Stumps, Warrington, Cheshire WA3 6LX, UK / ron.gemmell@btinternet.com / t.u. and eFanzines / Friendly perzine from a legendary Brit, adorned with neat illustrations from Brad Foster. After pledging TAFF support for Brad and Cindy, Ron natters congenially about his collection of snow globes – I can't help but think of *Citizen Kane*. Much of his lettercol – which features Brad (again), Andy Hooper and other notables – discusses Ron's penchant for mountain hiking. He should meet SFPAn Gary Robe, whose accounts of hikes with his sons in the Smoky Mountains make *my* feet hurt.

**Fadeaway #40** / Bob Jennings, 29 Whiting Rd., Oxford MA 01540-2035 / t.u. or \$15/6 issues, also eFanzines / Bob was the first Official Editor of the Southern Fandom Press Alliance, the mighty Southern apa to which we both belong. Fascinated by pulps, comics and old radio shows, through *Fadeaway* he wallows – figuratively – in each. In this issue he propounds on a star of all those media, the Green Hornet, with a horrified wince directed at the ghastly movie and nary a mention of Bruce Lee's TV series. Bob happily mentions a visit by Murray Moore and gawks at the circulation a zine may enjoy on eFanzines. He vows fealty to print – but note, he also distributes with Bill Burns. A long article on kid-cowboy radio hero Bobby Benson, by Jack French, is enthralling. Them were the days. Personally fascinating among the book reviews which follow, a collection of *Viking Prince* tales written by the difficult and mostly-uncelebrated genius Robert Kanigher (and illustrated by the easy-going and much-celebrated Joe Kubert). Among my regrets from my experience at DC Comics was never nailing an interview with Kanigher. We always got on well, despite our disagreement on the gloriousness of his onetime officemate, Julius Schwartz.

**File 770 163** / Mike Glyer, 705 Valley View Ave., Monrovia CA 91016 / Mikeglyer@cs.com / ; Mike has gravitated strongly towards the Web (as who can blame him). But here is a hard copy of his December 2013 issue of the essential American newszine, replete with eulogies for Elliot Shorter, Dick Geis, Bobbie DuFault, Dave Locke, Fred Pohl, Andy Offutt, many others, including Bradbury – God, what an awful year! Superior con reports by Randy Byers, John Hertz, Joel Zakem, excellent lettercol ... I spend too little space this time on *File 770* because of the length of time since its publication. I hope Glyer doesn't take this short notice negatively; I was and am very grateful for his support when a critic waxed *ad hominem* on yhos after my last issue.

**The Fireball Vol. 44 Issue 80** / Chris Sechrist, 36 Shank Road, Carlisle PA 17015 / The newsletter of the 457<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group Association, veterans of a European unpleasantness of some 70 years past. The fracas was marked by frequent visits by the association's members – in B-17s – to the skies above the eventual site of Heicon and other Hessian municipalities, and as the future of ... *everything* was at stake, one greets the zine with gratitude. Is fascinating stuff. The lead article deals with the mysterious crash of a 17 and the flight of a captured Heinkel 111 by its pilot. The history of the Group's home airfield is mentioned, and, alas, several memorials follow of members who have recently signed off. A mini-reunion is planned for May at Glatton, their British base. Admittedly, this is no SF fanzine, but we note it this once out of respect and affection for Harold Rothbard, its recipient – and Rose-Marie's stepfather.

**Flag #s 9-14** / Andy Hooper, 11032 30<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Seattle WA 98125 / t.u. / Andy Hooper hates my guts. I deny doing anything purposeful to offend him, but alas, offend him I have. His problem. That said, *Flag* is an often enjoyable and possibly important fanzine by a gifted fan writer, a trip back in time to the lost art of the perzine, available solely in print, solely through the mail. Topics of discourse include Jonathan Ross' dis-invitation to be Worldcon Hugo host, *The Dispossessed*, LeGuin's most adult novel, John Varley's *Triton*, Hooper's police force family, and his determination to revisit several of the books

referenced in *Among Others*. All gives way to anguish, however, over the illness of his wife, showing once again that human reality rules even in this beknighted hobby.

**For the Clerisy #75-77** / Brant Kresovich, P.O. Box 404, Getzville NY 14068-0404 / kresovich@hotmail.com / t.u. / “Clerisy” are readers, but the word could as easily apply to watchers – of old movies, anyway. Issue #75 lists a slew of them, neglected treasures recently paraded before Brant’s eyes. They range from a 1932 Bela Lugosi murder comedy, *The Death Kiss*, to Boris Karloff’s Dick Tracy movie to a Jackie Chan kung fu masterpiece from the ‘70s; if there’s a common thread to the listed flicks, it escapes me. It’s back to neglected books in the follow-up issue, gems by Kotzwinkle and Simenon, a bio of Aaron Burr and an Oxford collection of ghost stories. But old movies still nose in, including *Secret Agent*, which is, I suspect, the only time *Father Knows Best*’s Robert Young got to play a bad guy. Of the three issues, #77 is most delightful, again reviewing “old or neglected books” like Dumas’ *Captain Pamphile*, Garry Wills’ tome on Henry Adams (Wills’ book on the Gettysburg Address is a classic) and a couple of whodunits from the ‘40s.

**The Insider #298-300** / Michelle Zellich, 1738 San Martin Dr., Fenton MO 63026 / mzellich@csc.com OR michelle@zellich.com / \$10/year / Colorful, rich with purloined comic strips, acres of “news shamelessly stolen from the internet” (“unknown *Dr. Who* episode found in Ethiopia!”), “too many” obits, a rainbow-hued listing of forthcoming events, birthdays, conventions, and so on, *The Insider* holds the whole fan-oriented world open in each issue. Of late Bob Jennings has been offering welcome fanzine reviews, hitting zines seldom mentioned elsewhere and doing an exceptionally good job of it. He even manages to be critical without seeming arrogant. Lotsa LOCs. I adore Michelle.

**Instant Message #897-903** / NESFA, P.O. Box 809, Framingham MA 01701-0809 / info@nesfa.org / http://www.nesfa.org / Boskone, the magnificent NESFA Press, business is the business of NESFA, and *IM* carries it to the mighty club’s many members. Fandom as a business, and nobody does it better.

**Janeens\_news@yahoo.groups.com** / Janeen Schouten@nrm.qld.gov.au / News on forthcoming TV shows and films, irregular of course, but always cool info. I wish Lena Headey would abandon whatever trivial TV show she’s wasting time on these days and get *Sarah Connor Chronicles* back on the air.

**Jiant 1** / Sandra Bond, 40 Cleveland Park Ave., London E17 7BS, U.K. / jiant@ho-street.demon.co.uk / “available purely on editorial whim” / Good to see this Brit perzine, along with a two-year-old issue of *QuasiQuote*, since it *has* been years since Sandra dropped in on our mailbox. She explains the lapse by saying she’s simply lost her joy for writing, beset by writer’s block (as illustrated by a tremendous Rotsler fillo) brought on by what she calls “impostor syndrome” – a secret certainty that she’s no good and that she’ll eventually be found out. Got news for her: she either *is* that good or the rest of us aren’t that clever. Sandra’s other content this issue includes response to a rereading of classic Clarke (*Tales from the White Hart*), reviews of recent Brit radio SF – do we have *anything* like that here? – a righteous response to “Wossgate,” the Jonathan Ross Worldcon *contretemps* (I agree with her outrage ... although “Hugos” is *not* spelled with an “e”!), and an endorsement of Curt Phillips for TAFF.

**Join Together #1** / Nic Farey, see *Beam* / A progress report for the 31<sup>st</sup> Corflu, coming up May 2-4 in Richmond. As can be expected of Farey, it’s an attractive and well-presented fanzine in itself, with a squib on the city (watch out for all the freeway tolls), the FAAn awards, the FWA, the traditional Corflu programming, the Fan Fund, and so on. I’m aggravated that we can’t afford Richmond. Have fun, guys.

**JOMP, Jr. 32** / Rich Dengrove, 2651 Arlington Dr. #302, Alexandria VA 22306 / RichD22426@aol.com / t.u. / “Even more of a potpourri than ever,” says my fellow SFPAn Rich Dengrove about this latest collection of essays on matters sundry and various. For instance, a history of early manned balloon flight, from da Vinci through the Montgolfiers to the American navy’s first experiments with dirigibles, a subject Rich but mentions. (I’d love to hear about the *Shenandoah*.) For another instance, an assertion that Attila the Hun was related to the Beowulf clan (and was, in fact, its

“black sheep.” Good-reading lettercol, with correspondents familiar from many: Lloyd Penney, Joe Major, Sheryl Birkhead, etc.

**Journey Planet 18** / Chris Garcia, James Bacon, Helen Montgomery, 962 West Weddell Dr. Apt. 15, Sunnyvale, CA 94043 / [journeyplanet@gmail.com](mailto:journeyplanet@gmail.com) / A special issue of one of the most intelligent zines we see, themed on Social Media and its effect on SF fandom. Most of the articles are anonymous, disconcerting at first. But I learn from Helen’s introduction that the namelessness has a purpose – to protect the authors from “reprisals” from fannish “personality cults,” and allow true candor in the voiced perspectives. While I find it distressing that anything in fanzines could be so threatening, the editors’ concern is sharp. So the question is, are the social media that make communication instantaneous, spontaneous, and potentially thoughtless good for fannishness or not? The author of “Old Fan’s War”, one of the more thoughtful pieces, offers an essay on the aging of fandom and the oft seen conflict between newbies and graybeards, Worldcon v. Dragon\*Con, *Dark Matter* v. old-timers (or vice versa, rather), and calls for generosity and a general loosening of tight sphincters. Another unsigned article – which I suspect to be Garcia’s, due to a clue he lets drop – cites specific instances where the rapidity of social media communication enhanced the anger in the issues, asking if quick resolution lends itself to reckless fury. There’s a wealth of solid comment here, typical of *JP*, one reason the zine is racking up deserved Hugo nominations in recent years – and is, I confess, the only 2014 Fanzine Hugo nominee of which I was previously aware.

**Klaus at Gunpoint 7** / Chris Garcia, see *Journey Planet* / Chris’ movie-oriented zine marks its first anniversary with a long, meandering appreciation of *American Hustle* – completely blanked at the Oscars – marked by a solid analysis of the acting and what Garcia calls the film’s “contradictory points.” He seems to talk *around* the movie a great deal – describing what it’s not – but hits home identifying its central metaphorical moment: the false Rembrandt. God, Amy Adams is yummy. Be nice to have a colophon; I had to identify the editor by Mo Starkey’s caricature. Also noted: the 2013 additions to the National Film Registry, among which I rejoice to find *Forbidden Planet*, *The Magnificent 7* and *The Right Stuff*. The last film lost its Oscar to a clever dramedy, *Terms of Endearment*; which, I ask rhetorically, has better stood the test of time?

**Littlebrook 9** / Jerry Kaufman & Suzanne Tompkins, P.O. Box 25075. Seattle WA 98165 / [littlebrooklocs@aol.com](mailto:littlebrooklocs@aol.com) / eFanzines & t.u. / Dated May 2013. A typically witty Stu Shiffman illustration fronts this issue, and it is no surprise that Jerry opens with an appreciation of the great fan artist, a lifelong friend who suffered a stroke two years back. There is much here from past friends: the zine’s major article is a fine and detailed tribute to Buster Keaton by Jerry’s late friend, Jim Young. A sad piece on a noble cat by Sandra Miesel maintains the zine’s bittersweet undertone. Fortunately, Suzanne’s “Suziecol” has us looking forward to the two forthcoming Worldcons, including the LSC where we were delighted to see them both.

**Lofgeornost #113-4** / Fred Lerner, 81 Worcester Ave., White River Junction VT 05001 / [fred.lerner@dartmouth.edu](mailto:fred.lerner@dartmouth.edu) / FAPA and trade / Fred’s erudition shines from the pages of his FAPAzine; it’s always a calming pleasure to peruse. Here Fred discourses on Kipling’s life in America (did you know that *The Jungle Book* was written in Vermont?), his retirement from a fascinating and important librarian job (indexing material on PTSD) and his many plans (learning German, finally writing that novel, tackling *War & Peace*), and pulps. His correspondence with readers, as you can imagine, is a cut or two more intellectually stimulating than the usual run.

**MT Void** Vol. 32 No. 42 (Whole #18020 / Evelyn C. Leeper, [eleper@optonline.net](mailto:eleper@optonline.net) / <http://www.geocities.com/evelynleper/> / Subscribe *gratis* at [mtvoid-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:mtvoid-subscribe@yahoo.com) / The Leepers provide a consistently involving and well-written e-pub or focused reviews and mini-essays of wit and insight. This latest number touches on the present TV SF glut – shows worthy of attention amidst the chaff. Mark Leeper wonders how the real world would react to a town vanishing, effectively, from the Earth a la *Salem’s Lot*; Quinn Yarbro answered that question in a story: the IRS would take a *strong*

interest. John Purcell reminiscences on – and reviews – *Robinson Crusoe on Mars*, and Evelyn takes on Andy Weir's *The Martian*, a mainstream incursion into SF's sacred domain.

**My Back Pages #7** / Rich Lynch, P.O. Box 3120, Gaithersburg MD 20885 / rw\_lynch@yahoo.com / eFanzines / Another collection of essays and travelogues by the multiple-Hugo-winning co-editor of *Mimosa*, drily witty and always interesting, often enviable – although no one could envy his endurance of a shingles attack during a jaunt to Perth. That's a gorgeous city and shame on "Zoster" for affecting Lynch's trip there. I recognize all of the sites he mentions in Fremantle ... and also the atomic symbol of the Belgian World's Fair, which I begged my parents to take me to ... in the late '50s. Lynch got to go. Rich's photos are often touristy – "Here I am in front of [insert tourist attraction here]" – but hey, I wish I was there.

**The NASFA Shuttle** March 2014 / Mike Kennedy, c/o North Alabama SF Association, P.O. Box 4857, Huntsville AL 35815-4857 / nasfa.shuttle@con-stellation.org / \$1.50@, \$10/year / Available electronically / "Continuing our 34<sup>th</sup> year of publication," *The Shuttle* contains not only a club calendar and meeting minutes, but the most complete awards news in fanzine publishing. Where else can one learn the nominees for the "Kitchies" and "Audies" as well as the Stokers and Nebulas? Basic info on the 2016 Worldcon bidders – Kansas City vs. Beijing, what a contrast – is here as well. Issues occasionally include chapters of fiction by the possibly pseudonymous "PieEyedDragon," not to jump to any conclusions.

**Newsletter of the Middle Tennessee Science Fiction Society** / Reese Morehead, skywise@bellsouth.net / Links to a number of neat sites keeping Southerners abreast of the outside world.

*Nice Distinctions* 22 / Arthur Hlavaty, 206 Valentine St., Yonkers NY 10704-1814 / hlvaty@panix.com / print version \$1, \$2 outside of the US /

**Number One** #21-2 / Mike McInerney, 83 Shakespeare St., Daly City CA 94014-1053 / FAPA and whim / Marking his tenth anniversary in FAPA, and his 70<sup>th</sup> year on the planet, Mike gifts us with Sanford Meschkow's memories of a fannish New Year's Eve celebration in Times Square (I should write up my own Times Square/New Year's Eve story – terrifying!) and FISTFA, the "open and inclusive" NYC group each belonged to. The following issue consists of LOCs from Steve Stiles – hilarious vampire cartoon – Ted White and Lloyd Penney, each reminiscing about New York. Mike and his wondrous Linda competed against Rosy and me for DUFF ten years back; they're charmers and ought to run again.

**OASFiS Event Horizon** Volume 26 Nos. 4-11, Issue #s 310-7 / Juan SanMiguel, PO Box 592905, Orlando FL 32859-2905 / subs \$12/year / Monthly newsletter of the Orlando SF club. Meeting reports, upcoming events, reports on and photos from conventions in the mid-state area (which we're anxious to sample). The latest issue has shots from the International Conference of the Fantastic in Arts and Megacon 2013 – authors opining in the former, cosplayers cosplaying in the latter. The report – by Juan? – sports an extensive list of forthcoming anime.

**Opuntia** 267-273 / Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Station D, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7 Canada / \$3 @ or. / "Whole numbers are sercon, x.1 issues are reviewzines, x.2 issues are indexes, x.3 issues are -apazines, x.5 issues are perzines." / The last paper issues of *Opuntia*, dating from 9/13 to 3/14. Rising postal costs – which obviously respect no borders – claim yet another victim. And it's a substantial loss; *Opuntia* was the most prolific Canadian fanzine as well as the most eclectic. Speirs discourses on human evolution (in a long series of articles), Sherlock Holmes, prints photos from the aftermath of a terrible flood, critiques old SF movies (and "mundane" fiction), evaluates Napoleon Hill's get-rich schemes, lists fanzines, talks Canadian history, hails the "golden age of radio" – and does it all quite well. Let's hope *Opuntia* maintains on eFanzines; such a broad swathe of energy can't just vanish, the hole it would leave

would swallow a mountain.

**Orpheum** #6 / Alan White, Alan@PixelMotel.com / eFanzines / Once again denied the Hugo nomination he deserves, Alan still rolls, producing a zine “dripping with color and fannish excess” ... in other words, rich with his own artwork and writing. And DeDee’s reviews of such fannish staples as Nobel laureate Alice Munro’s *Too Much Happiness* to *Catcher in the Rye* – you know, I’ve never read it. Coolest item, methinks, is Alan’s tour (suggested by John Purcell) of Las Vegas fan groups, which range from the Katzes’ mighty Vegrants (I miss my *Wild Heirs*) to the recently formed League of Nerd and Geek Parents. The lettercol reveals a problem with *Orpheum*; what happens when even great LOCs from Purcell and Penney, Ron Solomon and Al Sirois are o’erwhelmed by the editor’s wild, color-crazed art? Is that a second zombie novel Alan has written? All that said, and you can never say enough about Alan’s attitude and artwork, my favorite illo in this issue is the picture of visitor Katybug Medina, who turned 21 on a recent Vegas visit and, with the Whites and her husband, burned the town to the ground.

**The Other Side of the Wood** #3 / John Nielsen Hall, Coachmans Cottage, Marrison Hill, Ramsbury, Wilts SN8 2HG U.K. / johnsila32@gmail.com / .

**Pablo Lennis** / John Thiel, 30 N. 19<sup>th</sup> St., Lafayette IN 47904 / \$2@ / John promised a new issue in April, but it hasn’t appeared as of May 1. Gotta admire Thiel’s stick-to-it-tivity. No matter what else can be said about **Pablo**, John hangs it out there.

**Purrsonal Mewsings** #1 / R-Laurraine Tutihasi, PO Box 5323, Oracle AZ 85623-5323 / Laurraine@mac.com / \$3 per issue, \$10 per year / R-Laurraine has discovered the virtues of the short perzine, which she intends to use mto complement *Feline Journal*, where longer pieces like trip reports will run. Alas, this premiere issue must record dental catastrophes of several sorts, for which we wince.

**The Reluctant Famulus** 95-99 / Tom Sadler, 305 Gill Branch Rd., Owenton, KY 40359 / thomasdsad@copper.net / A consistent, and consistently attractive, publication, *TRF* has never received the attention it deserves. Perhaps that’s because its interest is historical – but not fannishly historical. Beneath the handsome covers (by Stiles, Foster, and others) of these four issues, we find a series of articles on Kentucky’s storied past (by columnist Alfred Byrd), Matt Howard discoursing on Indiana’s role in the birth of rock’n’roll, the horrifying tale of Petersburg’s Battle of the Crater during the Civil War, and much else. Sadler has attracted a number of fine writers to his contents who return again and again: Gene Stewart (whose “Rat Stew” hunkers down on any number of topics), the wonderful Sheryl Birkhead, the aforementioned Byrd and Howard, and more. He always comes forth with an impressive, readable and entertaining fanzine. One gripe: the slick cover papers don’t hold ink well; expect to carry some away on your fingers.

**The Revenge of Hump Day** / Tim Bolgeo, tbolgeo@comcast.net / Weekly e-zine / God-awful jokes and commentary spun with friendly gusto by the South’s Uncle Timmy – whose Chattanooga club also offers the ongoing and ever-successful LibertyCon. Politics out of Fox News, humor out of *Captain Billy’s Whiz Bang*, camaraderie out of the days when a club gathered every week or so at a favorite eatery and wasted the evening away talking and b.s.ing about the world, each other, and science fiction.

**Rhyme & Paradox** / Katrina A. Templeton, 3400 Chugwater Cr., Antelope CA 95843 / katster@retstak.org / t.u. or eFanzines /

**SF Commentary** 85-87 / Bruce Gillespie, 5 Howard Street, Greensborough VIC 3088, Australia / gandc@pacific.net.au / on eFanzines, but hard copies preferred / There is no more beautiful zine published, nor one more professional in appearance, than Gillespie’s *SF Commentary*. Slick publication, attractive color covers (usually by Ditmar, though Steve Stiles claims one of these issues), excellent interior repro. In such respects it is easily the finest such zine in the world. Content is eclectic – with a 76-to-92 page length and 9-point type, it would almost have to be: Bruce leads off with personal, faanish

material (“I Must Be Talking to My Friends”), provides exceptional sercon articles and an outstanding letter column featuring witty and with-it correspondents from both sides of the Pacific. Notable contributors of late: Michael Bishop on Steven Utley, Paul Di Filippo on Michael Bishop, Bruce himself on the work of Joanna Russ. There’s a melancholy tone in the latest issue: Bruce not only mourns lost friends, but the lost meeting place of the Melbourne SF club. Rosy and I visited that marvelous old church – with the projection booth stuffed with fanzines and the exceptional library – during our DUFF visit. I hope, but I doubt, they’ll find another home as comfortable. I’m given grief for my enthusiasm about *SFC*, but in all honesty, it is *the* class act in this company.

**Space Cadet #26** / R. Graeme Cameron, Apt # 72G, 13315 104th Ave, Surrey, B.C., Canada V3T 1V5 / eFanzines / Leading off with thoughts on the 2014 Hugo nominees, Graeme, like me, is astounded at how few of the fans listed he recognizes. “I’m a 20<sup>th</sup> Century guy,” he sighs. “I fit into the niche of old guys who live (at least mentally) in the past and have little appreciation or knowledge of the genre as it exists now.” He then describes falling out of bed. Recovering his mojo, Cameron gives a history of Canadian fandom, complete with representative fanzine covers and photos of various guilty parties. Taral Wayne assumes the page next, with (among other items) a piece on Roman coins. Good lettercol, but he misspells “Lloyd.” That cover’s by Brad Foster? Very unusual for him.

**Tightbeam** Nos. 262-268 / David Speakman for the National Fantasy Fan Federation, P.O. Box 1925, Mountain View CA 94042 / 47 years as a science fiction fan and the N3F is still all but unknown to me. I’d never even seen an issue of *Tightbeam*, its official organ, before this packet of recent numbers surfaced in my mailbox. Each issue is saddle-stitched, changing stock from thick to slick in September of last year; later issues have attractive color covers. Content reflects N3F’s pleasant in-groupishness: amateur fiction – and announcements of a contest of same; nomination and final ballots for the “Neffy” Awards, which cover only professional activity in both SF and horror; small squibs honoring members new and renewing; a very valuable membership list; a “New Fanzine Appreciation Society”, which I don’t quite understand; reports by various “bureaus,” the purpose of which, also, I don’t quite comprehend. Keep sending *Tightbeams*, David; someday I’ll catch on.

**Trap Door** No. 30 / Robert Lichtman, 11037 Broadway Terrace, Oakland CA 94611 / locs2trapdoor@yahoo.com / t.u. or \$5@ / *TD* is the first zine I’m reviewing this time; I might as well start at the top. *Trap Door* is oft-touted as one of the best fanzines going, and this 30<sup>th</sup> annish underscores that judgment. It’s blest with excellent art by Dan Steffan (cover) and Steve Stiles (interiors) and outstanding text. As in most zines of its ilk, the articles tend towards the historical and the nostalgic. History gets its due with Andy Hooper’s extensive account of Ray Bradbury’s attendance at the first Worldcon, a reprint of Hooper’s 2013 WOOFF contribution. Ray’s own tale of the event, complete with one-line impressions of his fellow fans, is extensively and delightfully quoted (though Julie Schwartz *never* looked like Groucho Marx!). We also note Greg Benford’s snapshot reminiscence of Phil Dick (how can one smoke a cigar and eat spaghetti at the same time?). The lettercol is rich with solid, lengthy LOCs from a huge number of experienced and respectable fans, a sure signal of the zine’s success, and there are several other good pieces, but I think I most enjoyed Robert’s editorial, bringing in the nostalgic: he muses over his first days as a fan editor and the enviable welcome his *Psi-Phi* enjoyed to the hobby. Would that every newbie drew such generous and helpful attention.

**Vanamonde** No. 1081 / John Hertz, 236 S. Coronado St. No. 409, L.A. CA 90057 / Apa-L & Trade / Received with several issues from the winter and spring of 2011, a two-page/one-sheet zine for LASFS’ legendary weekly apa, adorned by a Brad Foster logo (changed every year). John always provides a compelling moment for general consumption in addition to responses to the previous week’s ‘L. This time, in honor of Black History Month, he writes on Oscar Micheaux, an inspired black author and filmmaker from the postwar years, and the trailblazing politico Shirley Chisholm, fondly remembered from her days keeping them honest as a presidential contender. Also in John’s packet: DUFF ballots for 2014. Who won?

**Warp 87** / Cathy Palmer-Lister, c/o MonSFFA, c/o Sylvain St-Pierre, 4456 Boul. Ste-Rose, Laval, Quebec, Canada H7R 1Y6 / [www.monsffa.com](http://www.monsffa.com) / [cathypl@sympatico.ca](mailto:cathypl@sympatico.ca) / Warp is about the only example we see of the venerable fanzine subclass, the club genzine – a well-produced, enthusiastic project reflecting MonSFFA as a whole rather than a single fan-ed. An evocative Sasquatch cover – thinking of next year’s Worldcon? Doubtless – opens to a list of upcoming events, essential for a clubzine. The Montreal membership next gives its readership fanfiction (on Dracula and *Trek*), then, after Keith Braithwaite expounds on the genre, listing essential elements, challenges us to write our own. Crossovers preferred: can one imagine *Thunderbirds* united with *Breaking Bad*? Reviews of flicks and apps and novelettes segue into con reports (anime and costuming), and that’s that, Cat.



There is plenty of fanzine activity out there that I’ve neglected this issue, and I do apologize. But it is May 1, 2014, and I have a *Spartacus* to finish and a SFPazine to begin. I must move on. I promise, I will soothe hurt feelings in my next issue, this summer.

So if there’s any connective thread running through this season’s spasm of fan publication, it’s most observable in the 2014 Hugo nominations. The thread bespeaks the changing nature of fan expression in this era, and the Hugos, in the Fan categories, prove it. The fanzine that we know no longer speaks to Worldcon fandom. *Science fiction fandom’s generational wheel – The Wheel of Time, if you wish – has turned.*

If any of the nominees for Fan Writer have appeared in any of the publications cited here, they got past me. No Chris Garcia. No Claire Brialey. No James Bacon. No one I know at all. Four of the five nominees for Best Fanzine are utterly unknown to me. They’re probably blogs. Not even the most-honored British fanzine of the last umpteen years, *Banana Wings*, made the shortlist. As Brialey, its co-editor, won the Fan Writer Hugo a couple of years back, this cannot be due to any unfamiliarity of the Worldcon membership with the zine – so what happened? Has there been a sudden influx of blogging neofans crowding the rest of fandom from its most prestigious award? Or is this one of those what’re-you-gonna-do flukes of public taste that Alva Rogers, Ben Stark and Poul Anderson warned me about in my neo days with the Little Men?

How will this sea change affect the still-thriving fanzine world? Could it make the alleged in crowd even more insular? Or is that tendency an illusion brought on by the obvious joy old comrades take in their common identity? (They’re enjoying the Richmond Corflu this weekend. Have fun and be gentle, guys.)

As for the rest of us ... As a great man once wrote, *Publish. Respond to others’ fanzines. Don’t accept anyone else’s view of the gameboard. Roll with any punches, publish from the heart.*





## **SASQUAN ALERT**

After Rose-Marie and I finished editing the progress reports and program book for Chicon 7, we swore, “Never again!” Which explains why I signed up on Publications Chair for **Sasquan**, the 2015 World Science Fiction Convention, in Spokane.

I am in search of experienced fan editors who would be interested in working with me and the con committee on the following convention publications.

**Progress Reports** (these need to be in a format that can also be posted to the website). I believe I’ve found our editor in Warren Buff, who has been working with Fan Guest and Cover Artist Brad Foster (that’s his work above) – he has PR1 well under control. The **Restaurant Guide** undoubtedly should be handled by a local, who loves both food and fanzines. Does such a creature exist?

The **Pocket Program** will be the publication most often consulted during the con, and will require the quickest and most accurate fan hand. Expect grief.

The convention **Newsletter** will run twice a day. I’m looking for energy, clarity, whimsy, and a light tone.

The **Program Book** I will probably reserve for Rosy (design) and myself (general editing). Between us we’ve done three Worldcon souvenir tomes and one for a NASFiC – so I dare suggest we’re qualified.

And of course, we’ll need proofreaders – every correction found will be made! – ad salespeople – and a local liaison with the printer. *Help!*