

# THE ZINE DUMP

no. 42

A fanzine about fanzines by  
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*This issue is dedicated to*

**Dian Crayne, Milt Stevens, and Randy Byers**

I never met Dian, who passed away last month at the age of 75, but she is of incalculable importance to my foremost fanzine activity. In 1964 she became the first female member of the mighty Southern Fandom Press Alliance, and for the nine mailings of her membership blessed the Rebel apa with *Kabumpo*, a zine rich with creativity and craziness. Once she stenciled a piece of *bubble gum* with the words "SFPA 20 – Take It and Blow!" Her alter ego Sadista was ... yeah. So long, Dian, our "girl of some sort."

**Milt Stevens'** *Crypt of Ennui* ran in SFPA in 1971, when I first joined, but it's for his many other accomplishments in fandom that I remember him, and for his great friendliness that I mourn him. My zines benefited from his many letters of comment and Rosy and I always enjoyed his company. Bad loss.

I didn't know **Randy Byers** as well as I wanted, but the guy I last saw at Sasquan was friendly, talented, and brave. I'll let his *Chunga* partners and many friends speak details; I will simply say that he gave this hobby of ours class, quality, and good vibes.



What kind of screwed-up existence is this, anyway, when great people have to die? It's a question above my pay grade.

*The Zine Dump* wants to see every science fiction or fandom-oriented zine published in English. Approximate range for this issue, 9-1/12-7-17. Behold the zines! Most everything listed is available on **eFanzines.com**.

**979represent** vol. 9 issue 10 / Kelly Minnis & Kevin Still, 15530 Creek Meadow Blvd. N., College Station TX 77845 / [redchapterjubilee@yahoo.com](mailto:redchapterjubilee@yahoo.com) / <http://www.979represent.com> / A gift from John Purcell is this "local magazine for the discerning dirtbag." You can probably guess the contents, but the editors and authors present them well. A serious editorial on DACA. Tats (one of my students is doing a paper on skin art). A Nazi amok after being fired by Google. Mass shootings. A chapter in a serialized novel. A memorial for Tom Petty, who once performed at a birthday party for Peggy Ranson. Booze. A concert calendar and record reviews. This discerning dirtbag enjoyed it, even if the print was tiny and SF was nowhere in sight.

**Alexiad** 95 / Joe & Lisa Major, 1409 Christy Avenue, Louisville KY 40204-2040 / [jtmajor@iglou.com](mailto:jtmajor@iglou.com) / [efanzines.com](http://efanzines.com) or trade / Great thanks to our great buds for reprinting Rose-Marie's GoFundMe request for help in securing her inheritance. Joe announces that he's continuing his writing and publishing, and reminds us that *Heinlein's Children* is available from NESFA; Lisa, as ever, has her mind on the little critters, from "roly-polies" to migrating birds. After reminiscence and details about eclipses past and future (remind me what "Saros" means again?) he's off to the reviews, which include a fascinating alternate history novel (*A Prophet without Honor*), an account of the start of World War II which *sounds* like alternate history, and "a supernatural history of the Third Reich", which I wish *was* alternate history. Rodford Edmiston chimes in with sidearm history – jolly stuff in this issue – and the very familiar Taras Wolansky reports on the NASFiC held in pre-hurricane Puerto Rico. All is solidly well-written; there isn't a sloppy sentence here. The lettercol is likewise literate, the outstanding attribute of this consistently smart and informative and entertaining publication.

**Ansible** 365 / David Langford, [news.ansible.uk](http://news.ansible.uk) / There has now been an *Ansible* for every day of the year. Unless it's a leap year. In that case wait till next month. I dub only two or three zines in my listing as "essential," and this is one – a wily look at the genre and its people that has won David a raft of rockets Cape Canaveral would envy, the facts and the flavor of science fiction. Occasionally SF is cantankerous – as shown by the anger evident in S.T. Joshi's quote – occasionally gracious – as shown by Mike Resnick's accreditation of his "Chinese Hugo" to his translators. We are a genre rich with awards (viz: *The NASFA Shuttle* and the long listings here), losses (*Ansible's* "R.I.P." column is all too extensive, including Randy Byers this issue), ridiculed ("As Others See Us" is always painful to read) and ridiculous ("Thog's Masterclass" – ditto). *Ansible* engulfs it all. Of course, you read it already.

**Askance** #42 / John Purcell, 3744 Marielene Circle, College Station TX 77845 / [j\\_purcell54@yahoo.com](mailto:j_purcell54@yahoo.com) / It seems that, like me, John is writing his fan fund report in installments. He begins with an account of his TAFF campaign and laser-thin victory. A lost Taral Wayne LOC – coincidentally on the subject of lost fanzines – has been found and is printed. We don't hail Taral's witty writing enough. The letter from Milt Stevens is presented with appropriate appreciation and grief. John teases those of us anxious to share his European adventures with photos (including one from a Paris museum devoted to chocolate), libels south Louisiana with an aerial shot of the bayou country (it ain't libel if it's true), lists cons in his region, and yes, prints an article by Dr. Robin Bright along with a light-hearted theory on the

good doctor's *oeuvre*. It contrasts starkly with John Wesley Hardin's diagnosis in *Beam*. I hope Purcell's right.

**Askew** #21 / John Purcell, see above/ John's perzine opens with the itinerary of his recent TAFF trip (the full account is personal, friendly and funny and a shocked but quite evocative reaction to the passing of David Romm, shortly after the Helsinki Worldcon closed its doors. I wish I'd known Romm. Purcell reviews a few books; Lloyd Penney LOCs. His last page is fulsome with thanks for those who aided him and his on their TAFF journey, with a final fond farewell to the Baron. Thanks to John, by the way, for his encouragement as I taught my first semester of college composition.

**Banana Wings** #65 / Claire Brialey & Mark Plummer, 59 Shirley Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 7ES U.K. / [fishlifter@googlemail.com](mailto:fishlifter@googlemail.com) / Beneath a very funny bodybuilding-themed cover by Rob Hansen is the U.K.'s best genzine, themed this time on memories of Conspiracy '87, Claire & Mark's first Worldcon. (Since Claire seems to ask, mine was in 1969.) Their memories and thoughts thereupon follow contemporary photos of the two: Claire looks demure and mysterious, Mark very Britishly fannish. Their written accounts are, as can be expected of a Hugo-winning fan writer and a Hugo-worthy chronicler, elegant and surprising (poor Harvey, getting thrown into the ocean like that: can six-foot rabbits swim?). Claire supplements her 2007 memories of Conspiracy a report on Worldcon 75. She maintains that part of the appeal of having the event travel to foreign cities is introducing fans to those realms – an ambition I'd count worthy of the fan funds, too. Her closing paragraph on the subject is magic. The next 26 pages of *BW* is lettercol, with excellent letters from TAFFster John Purcell (he obviously made a hit), Leigh Edmonds (epic comments on fanzine fandom: "all fanac is performance"), Daves Langford and Hicks, Jerry Kaufman, Lloyd Penney and – God love him – Milt Stevens. Ah! Here's Bill Wright, from whom we haven't heard since San Antonio! "Roadrunner", Mark's traditional closing comment, mentions the "wordy" TAFF ballot and the Helsinki Worldcon among much else. There's a curious and welcome sprightliness to this *Banana Wings*; contact with The People seems to have done *these* people good.

**Beam** 12 / Nic Farey, 3342 Cape Cod Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89122, email: [fareynic@gmail.com](mailto:fareynic@gmail.com) and Ulrika O'Brien, 418 Hazel Avenue N., Kent, WA 98030, email: [ulrika.obrien@gmail.com](mailto:ulrika.obrien@gmail.com) / It's impossible to improve on Andy Hooper's rich and funny bacover comparison of *Beam* to a circus clown car, so I'll just fall back on pedestrian compliments: this is a zine with verve and care and quality, the liveliest genzine being produced in SF these days, a rack joy both to read and simply to look at. (I've come to believe that a clean, recognizable layout is a sterling quality in fanzines. Nic's double-boxed pages are certainly that.) Herein Nic and co-editor Ulrika proffer a star list of contributors, including Randy Byers with a Schirmeister- and photo-illustrated Corflu report. His mood is delighted and delightful, and if there is sadness in his last lines – "I hope to make it to Toronto next year. Corflu is apparently just like riding a horse: you never forget how." – it should be leavened by the knowledge that Corflu will never forget him. Also here, Lucy Huntzinger with a bittersweet column on her fanzine career ("Fanzines never went away. I did.") and John Wesley Hardin and Jacqueline Monahan take on reviewing *Fornax*. John feels like me: nothing wrong with *Fornax* or the writing of its editor, but the works of Dr. Robin Bright ... well, John's diagnosis is just that, a serious diagnosis, and I hope it isn't so. Hardin and Jacq are probably the best zine reviewers in the hobby right now. Other excellent material, by Jeff Schalles and others, an important piece on fan funds by Ulrika, fannish poetry, superb LOCs, the aforementioned bacover – *Beam* shines.

**Brooklyn!** 98/ Fred Argoff, Penthouse L. 1170 Ocean Pkwy., Brooklyn NY 11250-4060 / trade or \$10 for four issues / quarterly / Very often Fred's paean to his beloved home borough is the

first zine I review in TZD – and so it is this time. A Brooklyn History Special – a look not at the Brooklyn that is but at the city-within-a-city that was, as always through its architecture and old photos. Depicted here are the Coney Island elephant hotel, the smallest cemetery in town, a still-standing Flatbush toll booth, the old South Ferry terminal, the 1895 Memorial Day parade, the Prison Ship Martyr's Monument – a Revolutionary War story I'd never heard – the New Town Hall, ca. 1878. With a book review of *The Bridge*, Gay Talese's salute to the Verrazano Narrows span, this zine is even more like walking through a Ken Burns film.

**Christian New Age Quarterly** Vol. 23 No. 2 / Catherine Groves, P.O. Box 276, Clifton NJ 07015-0276 / 4/year, \$12.50/year / The late Judith Eir Lansdale's essay "Belief is a Journey" is the compelling center of this gentle religious publication, which often features SFnal themes. E.g.: the editor bashfully admits editing out a *Star Trek* reference in Ms. Lansdale's touching article.

**Chunga** / Andy Hooper, Randy Byers, carl juarez, 1013 N. 36<sup>th</sup> St., Seattle WA 98103 / [fanmailaph@aol.com](mailto:fanmailaph@aol.com), [fringefaan@yahoo.com](mailto:fringefaan@yahoo.com), [heurihermilab@gmail.com](mailto:heurihermilab@gmail.com) / *Lest we forget ...*

**Claims Department** / Chris Garcia, [journeyplanet@gmail.com](mailto:journeyplanet@gmail.com) / *I owe Chris an article.*

**Comics Review** / Rick Norwood, Manuscript Press, P.O. Box 336, Mountain Home TN 37684 / [f.norwood@att.net](mailto:f.norwood@att.net) / \$19.95@ / Great comics, beautifully reproed. Masterful. Speaking of masters, I wish Rick would reprint *Sky Masters*, Jack Kirby's wonderful SF strip, and *Gordo*, but I imagine the rights to each are rather hard to come by. I'll bring it up to him at the DeepSouthCon this February, at which he's Fan Guest of Honor.

**CounterClock** #30 / Wolf von Witting, Dia Bei Banduzzi 6/4, 33050 Bagnaria Arsa (Ud) – Italia / [wolfram1764@yahoo.se](mailto:wolfram1764@yahoo.se) / The best zine I see from Europe. Beneath a terrific fillo – one of many – by Mats Ohrman, who also did the cover, Wolf editorializes about a disastrous computer glitch that cost a friend an extensive Helsinki report (has he never heard of *back-up*?) and introduces new contributor Stefano Re. Re comes forward with a thoughtpiece on Thinking (appropriately) and the current assaults thereupon. The editor joins in for a righteous colloquy. Turning fannish, Wolf discourses on his first fanzines (he began in 1978) and those you can find on eBay. Praise for the Swedish Big Heart winner and photos of possible TAFF candidates – some criminally cute – precede serious musings on the fan fund. A report on an Italian convention, a look back at a 1990 event through splendid photos of Harry Harrison, Brian Aldiss and Sam Lundwall, The lettercol features new names to me.

**CyberCozen** Vol. XXIX, No. 11 / Leybl Botwinik, [leybl\\_botwinik@yahoo.com](mailto:leybl_botwinik@yahoo.com) / eFanzines / Whoa! Every paragraph of text in the Israeli Society for SF & Fantasy official fanzine is in a varying color, which makes for something of a dazzling effect. Penetrating it takes some fierce focusing, but once done, there's news of an interesting partnership in the works with *Warp* from the Montreal group, an appreciation of the Cassini spacecraft, and reviews of *Star Trek:Discovery* and *Blade Runner 2049*, which reviewer Shlomo Schwartzberg hated. (*I loved it. So there.*) Last-pixel "breaking news: Saudi Arabia grants citizenship to a robot!"

**Dagon** #690-692 / John Boardman, 12716 Ginger Wood Lane, Clarksburg MD 20871 / for Apa-Q or trade / The earliest issue of these three monthly publications contains perhaps the best writing I've ever seen from John, as he describes the teachings of Hessian "Uncle Dunkle" to the child Boardman and others. His tales of the Four-and-a-Half Kingdoms are ribald – within reason – and explain much about John. He returns to his usual seriousness in #691, describing "the Battle of Charlottesville", but leavens the understandable grimness with natter

on the Marx Brothers – and whether Harpo changed his real name from Adolph to Arthur when Hitler rose to power. Guess grimness maintains. In #692, the massacre in Las Vegas – two or three mass shootings ago, as I write – leads John to mull over the hopeless composition of the II Amendment. Fortunately, he closes with the tale of Teddy Roosevelt and the original “teddy bear,” and the Pooh stories of A.A. Milne. I’ve seen the original Winnie at the NY Public Library. He sent greetings.

**DASFax** Nov. 2017 / TayVon Hageman, 4080 S. Grant St. Englewood, CO 80113 / [DASFAEditor@HotMail.com](mailto:DASFAEditor@HotMail.com) / The monthly Denver clubzine, announcing Connie Willis’ appearance at the November meeting, a museum visit, a forthcoming Ed Bryant book. Sourdough Jackson about his “Golden Age of Science Fiction”, which occurred for him – appropriately for his name – in Alaska, when he was 6-14. Obviously the grip of the genre has yet to loosen. Clear ether!

**De Profundis** #538 / Marty Cantor for LASFS, 2 Tyrone Ave., Van Nuys, CA, USA / [www.lasfs.org](http://www.lasfs.org). / \$1 for domestic mail / The December issue of the “unofficial” Los Angeles clubzine. Gift exchange coming up December 22 – get your chocolate-covered manhole covers ready! Announcing that the fabled L.A. group has found a temporary meeting place courtesy of Null Space Labs (“No playing with the toys!”) After some bureaucratic fol-de-rol (a By-Laws amendment), Marty moves on to the fun stuff, the “Condensed Cream of Menace”, or minutes of the last few meetings – distressingly brief this time. Let’s hope the *real* LASFS returns ASAP.

**File 770** / Mike Glycer, 1507 1/2 S. Sixth Ave., Arcadia CA 91006 / [Mikeglyer@cs.com](mailto:Mikeglyer@cs.com) / “news, art, arranged trades, or subscription: \$8 for 5 issues, \$15 for 10 issues, air mail rate is \$2.50.” / An Essential, just like on TCM. Once a dead-tree mimeozine, now a live-pixel blog, *File* features news and commentary from throughout fandom, with stories on the fan funds (seeking candidates), reviews (*Justice League* is a splat), brilliant con reports by John Hertz and others.

**Fornax Halloween 2017: The Unnumbered Horror** / Charles Rector, [crector@myway.com](mailto:crector@myway.com) / eFanzines / I feel it only fair to divide my notice of this holiday *Fornax* in twain – one part to express genuine enjoyment of the contributions of Isabel Cole (translating two stories by Gerd Maximovic) and the editor (reviewing books on slasher flicks and Hammer horrors – and *The Collector*, *not* the film that set my pubescent organism a’throbbin’ in the early sixties, considering that I went to high school [and later college] with a redhead that much resembled Samantha Eggar). All this is dandy. I really appreciate the list of horrific websites that end the zine. But it wouldn’t be *Fornax* without Dr. Robin Bright, who adds two articles – one ostensibly on Hammer films – and a work of fiction, all of which dissolve into incomprehensible spiels about “woman’s seed” and send me lurching like Charles Ogle’s Frankenstein, not Chris Lee’s or Karloff’s, into the Florida night.

**Instant Message** #942-945 / NESFA, P.O. Box 809. Framingham MA 01701-0809 / [info@nesfa.org](mailto:info@nesfa.org) / The hyper-efficient machine that is NESFA, the great Boston club, churns on, producing Boskone annually and, more occasionally, volumes in the gorgeous NESFA Press. A model of fannish business sense and coordination, NESFA should be studied by all organizations in SF creating ongoing fanac. I’d like to hear more about the members occasionally, but I guess they’re busy.

**iOTA** #12 / Leigh Edmonds, [hhandc@hemsleypark.com.au](mailto:hhandc@hemsleypark.com.au) / Devoted to Australian fan history, this 12<sup>th</sup> issue concentrates on Sydney fandom. Learning more about SFdom in Sydney is welcome here, because when we visited Nick Stathopoulos there as DUFF delegates, he assured

us that, as of 2003, there was none. Not so in the 1950s – and not so during Leigh’s four-day visit, chronicled first in this *iOTA*. He finds good folk and good history. Moving on to that history, Edmonds discusses a pre-WWII “falling-out” over fanzine material and reprints a terrific piece by contemporary fan William Veney about 1941’s “fanmag” crop. Jumping to 1953, a long report on a Melbourne convention leads to a review of the fanzine depicted on Leigh’s cover, *Chao*, published in 1973, convention reports from years in between, and invaluable photos, with names appended to smiling, spectacled faces that could only be fans.

**Lofgeornost** #128-129 / Fred Lerner, 81 Worcester Ave., White River Junction VT 05001 / [fred@fredlerner.org](mailto:fred@fredlerner.org) / FAPA and trade / The intelligence and civility of this mature and entertaining zine open this time to include some righteous literary outrage. Fred’s denunciation of the recent TV version of *Anne of Green Gables* – spiked with adult themes and suggestions of violence – is possibly the strongest writing we’ve seen from him. Rosy is an *Anne* fan and we’ve visited Green Gables (see *The Panoramic Route* on eFanzines); I’m sure she’d agree. A baffled review of a “Doggie Hamlet” follows – it’s as odd as it sounds – thankfully countered by a delighted response to a “heavy” tome on Dutch painting. After thoughts on a recent re-broadcast of *King Edward VII*, Fred grants his correspondents large space to respond to earlier *Lofgs* – and no doubt inspired by the source, the Chorus shines with wit. / Ah – Mr. Mailman brings the subsequent issue as this issue is being composed. The lead piece in #129 is a lengthy disputation of William Baring-Gould’s *faux* biography of Sherlock Holmes, concentrating on the great detective’s education. Fred’s reviews include the latest Emberverser novel from S.M. Stirling (“disappointing”) and *A Lit Fuse*, the bio of Harlan Ellison by Gary Wolfe (“entertaining and well-informed”). The letter column concentrates on the *Anne of Green Gables* set-to described above, and is, like everything connected with *Lofgeornost*, engrossing.

**MT Void** / Evelyn and Mark Leeper, [eleeper@optonline.net](mailto:eleeper@optonline.net) / <http://www.geocities.com/evelynleeper> / free subs through [mtvoid-subscribe@yahoo.groups](mailto:mtvoid-subscribe@yahoo.groups) / Weekly reviews and sharp commentary from two of the best writers in e-fanzines. S’been going on for decades, judging by the issue numbers (well into four figures), and the energy and intelligence have yet to flag. Recommended without hesitation.

**The NASFA Shuttle** Aug.-Nov. 2017 / Mike Kennedy, P.O. Box 4857, Huntsville AL 35815-4857 / [nasfa-shuttle@con-stellation.org](mailto:nasfa-shuttle@con-stellation.org) / Probably the most complete and readable clubzine going, the *Shuttle* offers the club news you would expect – new meeting place – and an extensive calendar, but the most comprehensive information on SF awards anywhere. You won’t believe how many trophies this genre gives out. This includes the Nobel Prize this year, since winner Karun Ishiguro has dipped into the spaceships-and-rayguns pot a couple of times. Fine zine, great club, *we miss Con\*stellation!*

**The National Fantasy Fan** Vol. 76 No. 11 / George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester MA 01609 / [phillies@4liberty.net](mailto:phillies@4liberty.net) / Elections underway in the N3F: candidates and later, their platforms. We see the many sub-offices of the oldest fan group going, read about N’APA, and learn about founding member Arthur Sehnert and “neglected” author David H. Keller, long a New Orleans favorite.

**Nice Distinctions** 31 / Arthur D. Hlavaty, 206 Valentine St., Yonkers NY 10704-4861 / [hlatvaty@panix.com](mailto:hlatvaty@panix.com) / \$1 or LOC for print copy, e-mail *gratis* / One of fandom’s sharpest wits, Arthur holds an unenviable record: he’s one of two fans nominated for 12 consecutive Hugos without a win. (The other? Never mind.) The assorted zingers in this perzine show why he was unjustly denied. He opens with a mini-history of the amateur press association, hailing FAPA’s 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary and somehow missing mighty SFPA’s robust survival in a plethora of internet

blogs. Arthur then launches into reviews of a *My Little Pony* convention, the International Conference of the Fantastic Arts (isn't that what "ICFA" stands for?), his new smartphone, elitism, the coincidence of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of *Star Wars* and his fanzine career, Nickelback, hate speech and much else. He notes the passage of friends and notables, and closes the zine with self-congratulations: "I didn't mention the sumbitch once." Whoever could he mean ... ?

**Nowhere Fan** 4 / Christina Lake, 4 West Rise, Falmouth Cornwall TR11 4HJ UK / [Christina\\_1@virgin.net](mailto:Christina_1@virgin.net) / I've been whistling the John Lennon tune *sotto voce* since this zine showed up on eFanzines. Christina begins with an unnecessary *apologia* for how her fanzine has turned out: a perzine rather than the genzine she envisioned. No problem, of course. Though time and busy-ness has further frustrated her thoughts to create a dream sequence, she offers wise thoughts on Brexit and a rich, very fannish report on Helsinki, followed by friendly locs and some delightful Foster fillos. Christina will be a Guest at the 2018 Eastercon, alongside Kim Stanley Robinson.

**OASFiS Event Horizon** Vol. 29 No. 7 Issue 360 / Juan Sanmiguel, 1421 Pon Pon Court, Orlando, FL 32825 / [sanmiguel@earthlink.net](mailto:sanmiguel@earthlink.net) / \$12/year (includes membership in the Orlando Area SF Society) / Alas, Juan has canceled his club's Oasis convention for 2018. I'm trying to talk him into reviving his dream of hosting a DeepSouthCon there in 2020, since 2019 is taken. Check out Juan's Rainbow War Room at the above web-dress. This December issue of the online clubzine includes club stuff, reviews of *The Orville*, and a most welcome Helsinki Worldcon report, with lotsa photos of masquerade, panels, various members – a delight to see Gay Haldeman, a roaring relief to see Bob Silverberg. It *aches* to see shots of the Hugo ceremony! Nevertheless, great issue!

**Opuntia** #398 / Dale Speirs, [opuntia57@hotmail.com](mailto:opuntia57@hotmail.com) / Gorgeous photos from Healy Creek in the Rocky Mountains, some cool stamps, these are typical illos for *Opuntia*; the text is *unexpected*, however, a piece on Lilian Jackson's *Cat Who* mysteries (Rosy has a complete set) precedes Part 7 of an article on fiction set at SF and comic conventions, rather a significant subgenre. We go on to an italicized discourse on speleothems from Yucatan, which look frightening, some silly signs, and the next issue, here before you know it.

**Pablo Lennis** 358-359 / John Thiel, 30 N. 19<sup>th</sup> St., Lafayette IN 47904 / monthly, the usual or \$2@ / I'd know a *Pablo* if it was written in Sanskrit. The cover art on #359, by "Esmiralda", is distinctive; it could appear nowhere else. This isn't a putdown: however amateurish, there's something in the art that permeates the whole zine. Hitherto *PL* has concentrated on fan-writ fiction and poetry, but lately we see more reviews and thought pieces. This time work by Gerald F. Heyder predominates: a review of *It*, poems, a spooky story. But he's not alone: Thiel proffers his own review of *The Lost Symbol*, creation thoughts by G.A. Scheinoha, much verse (including lines by John Purcell) and collages – that's a French word, meaning *paste* -- by "Peter, the Dark Inker". Very good lettercol, including a note and verse from Steve Sneyd, whose name is missed in these pages.

**Purrsonal Mewsings** #60 / R-Laurraine Tutihasi, P.O. Box 5323, Oracle AZ 85623-5323 / [Laurraine@mac.com](mailto:Laurraine@mac.com) / Although the cover subject is a Harris' hawk (photo by Mike Weisner), the front part of Laurraine's StippleApa-zine is devoted to a long, name-filled account of Westercon, which seems to have been dominated by *Trek*, Connie Willis (the GoH) and good science panels.. I am delighted to see that the ice cream social was civilized, i.e., offered vanilla ice cream and orange sherbet, the mixed flavors of which are ambrosia. After more nature photos, Laurraine reviews a few books (agreed, Cixin Liu's *The Dark Forest* was terrific), comments to

StippleApa, prints lotsa LOCs. Among her correspondents: Tim Lane of *FOSFAx*, much missed in this madness.

**Ray X X-Rayer** #138 / Ray Palm, [raypalmx@gmail.com](mailto:raypalmx@gmail.com) / “a publication devoted to offbeat topiX.” / Ray’s breezy perzine opens with a reprinted *Adventure Comics* cover from the Mort Weisinger era, depicting one of the several stories set on Krypton. My favorite had Jor-El and Lara going undercover as fascists. Palm goes on to describe his tablet troubles (not Bayer but Samsung), a goofy flying saucer story from 1953 (cute illo), LOCs from the usual suspects, a photoshopped illo straight from *They Live*, the movie version of “8 o’clock in the Morning”.

**The Reluctant Famulus** 118-119 / Thomas Sadler, 305 Gill Branch Rd., Owenton KY 40359 / [tomfamulus@hughes.net](mailto:tomfamulus@hughes.net) / t.u. / It’s not unusual two have two issues of Tom Sadler’s genzine built up for review; he and Joe Major rival one another for publishing consistency. Must be something in the Blue Grass. Here we have two typical issues of *TRF*, both entertaining and attractive. #118 is blest by a Brad Foster cover, “Unicorn”, *not* what you’d expect, a *Dr. Who* rant by the editor (he dislikes the new dark tone), sad news about the “Wow!” star-signal (it’s natural), wonderful SF magazine covers ranging from a 1926 *Argosy* to a *Magnus: Robot Fighter* comic book, an Alfred Byrd Civil War article, Gayle Perry on “New Ancient Earthlings” (her usual column on paleolithic exploration), plus pieces by other usual contributors, Eric Barraclough and Michael Jordan. All return in the following issue, joined by Denney Marshall (haikus) and Walt Wentz (two parodies, well worth your time). Byrd switches his focus in #119 from the Civil War to nuclear conflagration, trying for a sardonic tone. We live within short miles of Cape Canaveral on one side and a major Air Force base on t’other; no sardonicism (?) necessary. *Fine* stuff.

**The Revenge of Hump Day** / Tim Bolgeo, [tbolgeo@comcast.net](mailto:tbolgeo@comcast.net) / Weekly e-mailed insanity from a Rebel Award winner, Southern fandom mainstay, Hugo nominee, con chairman and family man. In the Thanksgiving edition Tim pontificates on music and politics and what-have-you, tells *terrible* jokes, reprints praise for Roy Moore (unfortunately, *not* a joke), and criticism of New Zealand’s war on mammal predators (we’ll see how it goes in 2020). Science news too.

**Rubber Crab** 07 / Graham James, 12 Fearnville Terrace Leeds England LS8 3DU / [Grahamjames@gmail.com](mailto:Grahamjames@gmail.com) / “[A]n occasional Fanzine, primarily given out at meetings of The Leeds SF Group.” / The September issue, “focused on reflections of Alan Dorey, one of the leading lights behind the Leeds Group in the ‘70s and -80s.” Bit of a contradiction and an obvious pun in that sentence. Contributing are Graham James, Joseph Nicholas (whom we miss in our lettercols), Ric Cooper (a moving tribute) and several others. Wish I’d known Dorey. We *definitely* get to know Las Vegas fandom through the series of “Nobody knows but” introductions thereto by Nic Farey and his compadres. Pages of photos of the Leeds club do much the same for the current jolly krewe.

**SF Commentary** #95 / Bruce Gillespie, 5 Howard Street Greensborough VIC 3088 Australia / [gandc@pacific.net.au](mailto:gandc@pacific.net.au) / eFanzines.com / As I’ve done before, I’ll let Bruce describe his own fanzine. From eFanzines: “Cover by Ditmar (Dick Jensen). // Major articles by John Litchen (the second part of ‘Fascinating Mars’) and Colin Steele (his usual book round up ‘The Field’), as well as articles by Tim Train and Yvonne Rousseau. // Major tribute to 2017 Chandler Award-winning Bill Wright by LynC and Dick Jensen, and memories of Brian Aldiss, David J. Lake, Jack Wodhams, Randy Byers, Joyce Katz, among others. // Lots of lively conversations featuring such SFC stalwarts as Michael Bishop, Leigh Edmonds, Robert Day, Patrick McGuire, Matthew Davis, Doug Barbour, Ray Wood, Larry Bigman, and many more.” What Gillespie can’t convey through

his rundown of *SFC*'s contents is the effing *awe* the whole package engenders. Surely this is the *ne plus ultra* of contemporary fanac. The Ditmar cover ("Adrift in the Klimt Universe") is brilliant in both color and execution. The artist credits the film *Woman in Gold* for its inspiration. Bruce memorializes Aldiss beautifully, including a photo of Gillespie with long hippy hair threatens to steal its thunder. A series of tributes to our DUFF buddy Bill Wright also features photos from the past, hailing Bill's winning of the A. Bertram Chandler Award. Lead article in the issue is John Litchen's "Fascinating Mars", the second part of a study of SF centered on the Red Planet, which hits on works by Ben Bova, Greg Bear, Kim Stanley Robinson (of course), Andy Weir (again of course) and many others – our genre's fascination with Mars has never been so evident. And there's much more, just as Bruce describes: exceptional sercon writing. Fine reviews follow by Colin Steele. The lettercol even includes a photo of the great Steve Sneyd, and a standard of literacy and reader interest unmatched in fandom. Good phrase, that, true for *SF Commentary*, in many ways the most impressive zine here.

**Stapledon Sphere** (formerly the newsletter of the Middle Tennessee Science Fiction Society [aka the Nashville SF club]) Issue # 1 / Reece Morehead, [skywise@bellsouth.net](mailto:skywise@bellsouth.net) / Practically the latest item to be reviewed in this *TZD* is the Nashville club's e-mailed newszine, hailing in its December issue the next meeting (subject for discussion, *Double Star*), an upcoming Christmas party (I miss club fanac!), manifold links and events. Most interesting item is from *Ansible*, the digitalizing of Rusty Hevelin's YUGE fanzine collection and rumored film versions of *Fahrenheit 451* (again) and *The Left Hand of Darkness*. What? No Stars My Destination?

**Vibrator** 45 / Graham Charnock, 45 Kimberley Gardens, London, N4 1LD / [graham@cartiledgeworld.co.uk](mailto:graham@cartiledgeworld.co.uk) / eFanzines / It takes a second to get Steve Stiles fear-inducing cover ... but it sets a tone. What begins as a light "Vibratorial" on Halloween becomes a distressing mull on suicide and, eventually, Trump. From a zine that usually inspires laughter, it's a painful screed to read. (For the record, I've known one person who actually committed suicide – terribly regrettable but understandable under the medical circumstances – and one who tried once with a razor blade and seems to have succeeded with dope. And I walked up on the body of a guy who'd leapt out of a 14<sup>th</sup> floor window and left a divot on the grass of my NYC apartment complex. Ripeness is all.) The serious tone for the issue established, Charnock goes on to discuss Brit politics and the value and cost of crying. I hate to say this about such an excellent perzine, but the lettercol is a relief, as is Nic Farey's taxicab column. Graham closes with a note on Christmas shopping; may Yule brighten the vibrations around London.

**The White Notebooks** #10 / Pete Young, 136/200 Emerald Hill Village, Sol 6, Hua Min, Prachuao Khiri Khan 77110, Thailand / [peteyoungk@gmail.com](mailto:peteyoungk@gmail.com) / the usual and eFanzines / Pete's zine won a well-merited FAAn Award; it ranks with *Beam* as one of the best new fan publications going. As with *Beam*, it's the personality that distinguishes *White Notebooks*; viz, for instance, Young's opening reminiscence of the adult recognition that started him on his path to SFdom. It's unique, but familiar, a common experience for the two of us and for many. His several columns of "Bollocks" bring forth amusing anecdotes, but it's his "Unexpected Fen" that really gels. Somehow he gets the dirt on several celebrities and pegs them as SF fans. (Hmm ...

la *Chastain* has made two spectacular science fiction films; I wonder if she reads the stuff.) Coupled with this zine is Pete's *Thai Literary Supplement*, reviewing SF from Thailand's best; I told you *White Notebooks* was unique.

That must conclude matters for this issue. My apologies to all whom I neglected. Complain and I shall compensate next issue. OVERALL: Some fine reports on the Helsinki Worldcon, a lot of nostalgia, not much sense of any controversies at work in fandom (we'll have to explore the

blogs for that). All's then well & good as 2017 cedes its space to 2018. May all who read this feast well and rest with family and friends over Christmastime, and have a splendid 2018!

## FANAC Fan History Project - Update 4

**Joe Siclari**

"Keeping You Abreast of the Past"

November 20, 2017

It's been a long time since we last sent out an Update. I hope you have been checking the website or our Facebook page. Here are some highlights of the last 6 months:

**Fan History Spotlight:** Nearly everyone has heard of the Cosmic Circle and Claude Degler's notorious fannish exploits in the '40s. If you haven't, check the article at [FancyCyclopedia.org](http://FancyCyclopedia.org). However, few people have ever read the original "writings" by him, or the reports that fans wrote about him. This last summer, we added a section with over 40 of his original pubs and the investigations by T. Bruce Yerke and Jack Speer. (See [http://fanac.org/fanzines/Cosmic\\_Circle\\_Pubs/](http://fanac.org/fanzines/Cosmic_Circle_Pubs/))

**Access:** We're trying some new ways to keep you aware of what we have online. Providing a bit more quick information has been a priority. On our Fanzine Index pages, you can now find the number of issues that we have online for that title. The last column will tell whether it is New, Complete or Updated. Another item is our Newszine Directory started last year. It's a chronological list of all the Newszines (2,338) we have so far on [FANAC.org](http://FANAC.org). If you want to know the S-F and fan news of any given period, you can navigate directly to that month. The first ones are from way back in 1938 and the last in 2011. Finally, at the end of this FANAC Update, we provide direct online links to everything mentioned.

**FANAC Fan History Project website:** We keep adding more Newszines as we acquire them. In the last month, thanks to Richard Lynch, we've added a run of *Chat*, the Tennessee newsletter edited by Nicki & Dick Lynch in the early 1990s. We have been continually uploading issues of Mike Glycer's *File 770*. Mark Olson has scanned dozens of them.

Since our last Update, we have added about 250 other pubs with "news from the past". These issues come from 19 different titles. We are doing a lot to fill-in the runs of different zines. Unfortunately there are some issues I just can't find or don't have. Here's where I need your help. If you can provide missing issues (zines, scans, even photocopies), please let me know. In particular, right now, I'm looking for:

Jack Speer's *Stefnews* #58 (1946)

Merv Binns' *Australian SF News* #1, 2 (1978), 47 & 48 (c1989)

Taurasi's *Fantasy Times* #3 (1941)

**Laney:** We've added multitudes of material. Francis Towner Laney's notorious memoir, *Ah! Sweet Idiocy!*, is the most requested item and it's now online, plus lots of material about FTL in *FanHistorica*.

**FAPA:** So is Dick Eney's *A Sense of FAPA*, a huge sensational historical anthology of fannish writings (nearly 400 pages), with contributors such as James Blish, Redd Boggs, Charles Burbee, Joe Kennedy, F. Towner Laney, John Michel, P. Schuyler Miller, Milt Rothman, Bill Rotsler, Jack Speer, Harry Warner, Jr., Donald A. Wollheim, C. S. Youd (John Christopher) and many others from the Fantasy Amateur Press Association.

**LASFS:** The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society has given us permission to put their primary publications *Shangri-LA* and both runs of *Shangri-L'Affaires* online. So far, we have added 20 issues from the 40s and 50s, with many more to come.

**Mirage:** We've also been given permission to put Jack Chalker's Hugo-nominated fanzine, *Mirage* online. *Mirage* was one of the best sercon zines of its time.

**FANAC Fan History YouTube Channel:** We have over 50 videos/audios online at YouTube! In the last week or so, we put up a Harry Harrison talk (1971 Eastercon) on "Stonehenge and Sex". It includes a roaringly funny discourse on the introduction of sex into science fiction stories in the 60s, with anecdotes about well-loved authors and editors including Brian Aldiss, Mack Reynolds, Ted Carnell and George O. Smith. He also talks about the filming of an editorial lunch with John Campbell, and just how much of the iconic fiction of the classic *Astounding Magazine* was intimately shaped by John.

We keep adding great recordings and subscribers get first notice. We're over 180 subscribers and nearly 18,000 views, with 3 pieces having over 1000 views. It's heartening that even for the less viewed videos, many get an intense response from their audience. As always, if you have audio or video material that we might use, please let us know.

**FANCYCLOPEDIA 3:** This is our encyclopedia (yours and ours), so we hope you are using it (and adding to it!). Going to a convention this year? Read about the "first conventions". Want to know more about famous fans, infamous fans (see Degler above), convention facts, clubs in your area, or fanspeak (the jargon of our people)? It's all there. But is your local club or convention listed? If not, contribute an article (or the beginnings of an article). It's easy. Just follow the instructions on [Fancylopedia.org](http://Fancylopedia.org).

**Outreach for Fan History:** FANAC has a Fan History Project Table at conventions whenever we can. In February, we will be at Boskone 55 in Boston and we will be at Worldcon 76 in San Jose.

FANAC was at Balticon earlier this year. The Fan Lounge Discussions we helped organize were well attended and great fun. You can listen to the Steven Brust/Geri Sullivan discussion on the raucous history of Minneapolis fandom on our YouTube channel (link below). Most recently, we were at Philcon this month. In addition to showcasing our history project websites, we have been showing selected fannish artifacts, including fanzines, original art, convention publications, and video and audio recordings from as far back as the 1940s.

When you next see our table, come say hello and help us preserve and promote our fan history. Take a sticker for your badge and/or your contributor ribbon. Bookmark <http://fanac.org> and click on What's New every week to find our most recent additions.

As we keep saying, this is a community effort and we can only say "Thanks" to those of you who have helped us make our Fan History websites successful over the years. We're continually adding to our contributors list. We have 248 of you listed so far and adding more as we update our older files. If you DO want to let people know you are a contributor, ask for our "I Help Save Fan History" ribbon. And don't forget to follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/fanacproject/>

**We've added more:** Photos, fanzines, and convention publications, video and audio recordings, and

Fancylopedia entries. We provide information for fans, academic researchers, fan writers, and film documentaries. We've made some changes to the website to make it easier to use, with more to come.

Those who don't know fan history may not be condemned to repeat it, but those that do know that Carl Brandon is not dead! Thanks for your interest our mutual fan history.

Regards...Joe Siclari

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#### **Selected links:**

Fanac.org: <http://fanac.org>

Fancylopedia 3: <http://fancylopedia.org>

FANAC Fanhistory YouTube channel: <https://youtube.com/c/FANACFanHistory>

Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/fanacproject/>

Contributors: [http://fanac.org/FANAC Inc/ fancont.html](http://fanac.org/FANAC%20Inc/fancont.html)

#### **Video and Audio:**

Harry Harrison – Stonehenge and Sex - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QayqjJWWLmg>

Gerri Sullivan/Steve Brust on the history of Minneapolis fandom (recorded at Balticon 51): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbkGwq\\_MYKc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbkGwq_MYKc)

#### **Fanzine Indexes:**

Classic Fanzines: [http://fanac.org/fanzines/ Classic Fanzines.html](http://fanac.org/fanzines/Classic_Fanzines.html)

Modern Fanzines: [http://fanac.org/fanzines/ Modern Fanzines.html](http://fanac.org/fanzines/Modern_Fanzines.html)

Electronic Fanzines: [http://fanac.org/fanzines/ Electronic Fanzines.html](http://fanac.org/fanzines/Electronic_Fanzines.html)

Newszine Project: [http://fanac.org/ fanzines/newszines.html](http://fanac.org/fanzines/newszines.html)

#### **Fanzines:**

Cosmic Circle Publications: [http://fanac.org/fanzines/ Cosmic Circle Pubs/](http://fanac.org/fanzines/Cosmic_Circle_Pubs/)

Ah! Sweet Idiocy! : [http://fanac.org/fanzines/Ah Sweet Idiocy/](http://fanac.org/fanzines/Ah_Sweet_Idiocy/)

Mirage: [http://fanac.org/fanzines/ Mirage/](http://fanac.org/fanzines/Mirage/)

Sense of FAPA: [http://fanac.org/fanzines/ Sense FAPA/](http://fanac.org/fanzines/Sense_FAPA/)

Shangri-LA: [http://fanac.org/fanzines/ Shangri-LA/](http://fanac.org/fanzines/Shangri-LA/)

#### **Fancylopedia:**

Claude Degler: [http://fancylopedia.org/ claude-degler](http://fancylopedia.org/claude-degler)

Cosmic Circle: [http://fancylopedia.org/ cosmic-circle](http://fancylopedia.org/cosmic-circle)

F. Tower Laney: [http://fancylopedia.org/f- towner-laney](http://fancylopedia.org/f-towner-laney)

