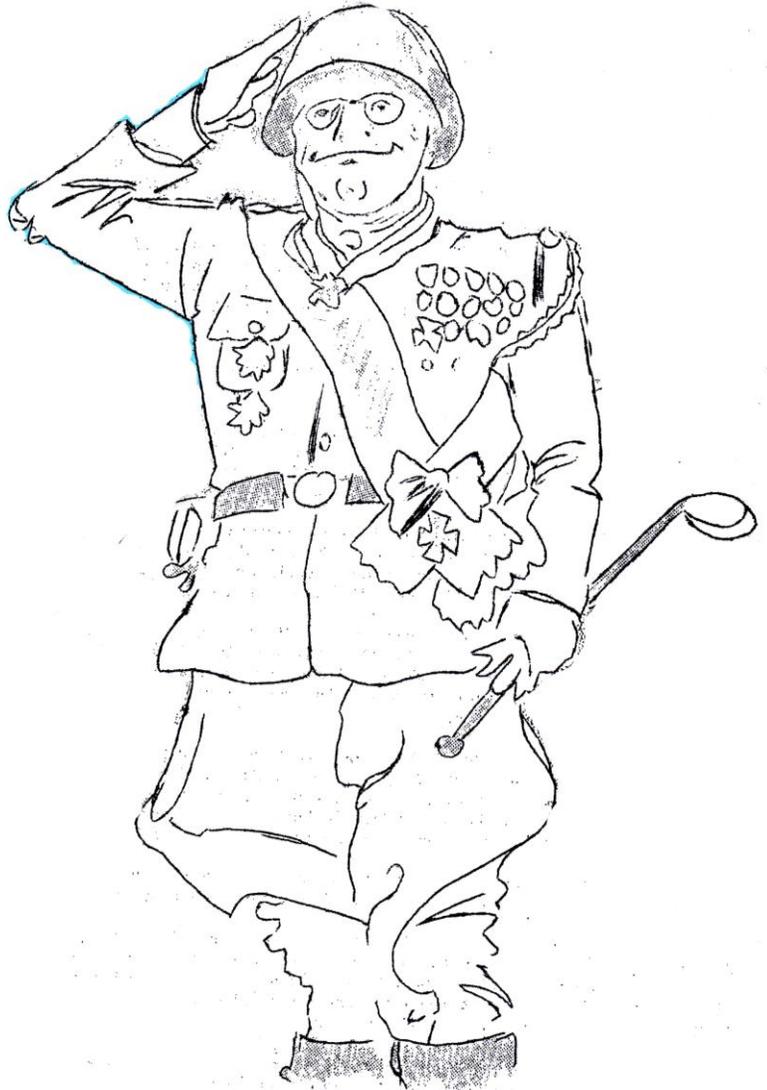


I met Fred Patten at the '71 Westercon, where he generously allowed me to join CAPA-alpha, the great comics amateur press association. Fred was its Central Mailer for many years; I remained in the apa for several of them.

In paying this small tribute to Fred, who passed from this veil – or is it “vale”? – of tears on November 12, 2018, I hail back to that earliest year of my printed fanac for my opening illo. The original was by Dany Frolich, traced onto mimeo stencil by Don Markstein. It dates from my first year as an apan, 1971, and was originally done for a special tribute members of CAPA-Alpha put together for Patten. I forget the occasion, but the massive production was yclept *It's for You, Fred*, and Frolich's illo – a take-off on the movie *Patton*. obviously – fronted Markstein's and my piece of it. Our zine was *You Knew the Job was Dangerous, Fred*, dated November, 1971, and it was GHIII Press Pub #74.

1,174 fanzines and 47 years later – check out all the 4s and 7s! – I publish the illo again, to mark the great and inestimable influence of Fred Patten on my fanzine life and his career in apas. I understand that his string of Apa-L disties hit is the longest such in fandom – and may never be equaled. A fond and awed farewell, then, to this mentor of us all.



# THE ZINE DUMP #45

**Dedicated to the great FRED PATTEN**

A fanzine about fanzines by  
Guy Lillian III  
1390 Holly Ave. Merritt Island FL 32952  
[GHLIII@yahoo.com](mailto:GHLIII@yahoo.com) \* 318 218 2345 \* GHIII Press Pub #1248  
Nov.-Dec., 2018

*The Zine Dump* wants to see every science fiction or fandom-oriented zine published in English.

The following zines caressed my eyes between mid-September and mid-December, 2018.

**Alexiad** Vol. 17 No. 5 / Joe & Lisa Major, 1409 Christy Avenue, Louisville KY 40204-2040 / [jtmajor@iglou.com](mailto:jtmajor@iglou.com) / [efanzines.com](http://efanzines.com) / Recently celebrating their 22nd anniversary (“YAY TEAM!”), Joe and Lisa again overcome personal adversity to produce the 101<sup>st</sup> issue of this jolly genzine. Book reviews on a range of historical (two true stories of espionage) and SFnal topics (beginning with a Henry Kuttner from 1952!). Joe loves Arctic exploration and “Monarchist News.” Sue Burke provides one of the few reports on the San Jose Worldcon we see in this zinecrop; shame our paths didn’t cross. After some awards news – even *The NASFA Shuttle* didn’t mention Dragon\*Con’s Dragons – Joe’s penchant for parody takes over, with a script for the last scene in a real-life *I Love Lucy* and a Doc Savage pastiche co-starring a green, grinning gargoyle familiar from Joe’s pieces in *Challenger*. Shovel out of the blizzard, Majors!

**Ansible** 377 / Dave Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berks, RG1 5AU, UK. / Website [news.ansible.uk](http://news.ansible.uk) / Along with *File 770*, one of the most essential news pubs in science fiction fandom, presented with a rueful wit that is distinctively Langford. Where Dave – a great fella, by the way – finds the assaults on the language reprinted in “Thog’s Master Class” is unknown, although I take credit (?) for directing him to *Werewolf vs. the Vampire Woman* by Arthur N. Scarm. Also here every month: “How Others See Us”, slanders against the genre by mundane swine and a sad list of “RIPs.” I get the zine on Facebook; however you can, get it yourself.

**Archive I: Down by the Old Slipstream** / Arthur D. Hlavaty, 206 Valentine Street, Yorkers NY 10704-1814 / [hlavaty@panic.com](mailto:hlavaty@panic.com) / “Old” writings by a pivotal fan writer, multiple times Hugo-nominated, centering on various SFers. The insight and critical wit of the pieces are a delight. I was particularly pleased to see a squib on Robert Coover, whose *The Public Burning* Arthur rightly describes as “one of the masterpieces of our time.” Hlavaty’s pieces on C.M. Kornbluth and that funny man Randall Garrett are also outstanding, and he pins Kurt Vonnegut and his “baby talk,” but it’s all good stuff. Arthur promises his *Nice Distinctions* will continue, swelling his archives for the future. Further volumes have followed, available on eFanzines, and well worth your laughter.

**Argentus** 16 / Steven Silver, 707 Sapling Lane, Deerfield, IL 60015-3969 / [shsilver@sfsite.com](mailto:shsilver@sfsite.com) / personal whim / Too long absent from these pages is Steven Silver’s multiple Hugo-losing fanzine, formerly entitled *Angelbuns*, making a welcome return at the San Jose Worldcon. When Silver pressed this pub into my hands, he begged me to pay special note to the cover, drawn by the editor himself with crayons on wax paper. I can’t tell what it shows. Themed, as *Askancee Argentus* often is – this time on “Fan Guests of Honor that Never Were” – he features transcribed speeches from those “unjustly denied” the honor. Silver’s own spiel dwarfs those from Claude Degler and Ed Kramer. Among Silver’s other articles in this massive publication, a thrilling account of his career as a professional stalker at Chicago Bears games, a paean to myself as “The Fan-Ed Who Taught Me All I Know, and Much That I Ignored” and “Why I Put Punctuation Inside the Quotes.” Steven promises another issue before the Antarctic Worldcon, bidding for 1973.

**Askance** #45 / John Purcell, 3744 Marielene Circle, College Station TX 77845 / [j\\_purcell54@yahoo.com](mailto:j_purcell54@yahoo.com) / quarterly, eFanzines / Delightful genzine by last year’s TAFF winner, illustrated on the cover by photos from various Euro-venues and filled with fun stuff. Such as John’s opening mention of Andy Devine’s *Andy’s Gang*, and the impossible Froggy. I’m so old I remember Smilin’ Ed McConnell, Andy’s white-haired predecessor. Purcell reports on Armadillocon in Austin, Karl-Johan Noren teases TAFFster Johan Anglemark with a funky filksong (what’s with the giant squirrel?), Ian Millsted discourses on Cambridge University’s connections with SF, Teddy Harvia proffers a *Chat* toon, books and zines are reviewed, a lettercol unveils. As usual, John details forthcoming regional conventions, including one devoted to Dickens. Wear appropriate costume for half-price

admission. Sydney Carton should get an additional discount. Sam Long's wicked poem "Ozyfandias" closes this light-hearted issue, a verse to be *recited*, not sung.

**Askew #26** / John Purcell, see above / trade or whim / Set back at the end of summer, John and Valerie celebrate summertime, which, to the great chagrin of their friends, did not include San Jose. John's perzine does include the visit of TAFF winner Johann Anglemark, their visits to Armadillocon and Bush Sr. Presidential Library, where each posed behind a replica of HW's desk in a *faux* Oval Office. He reviews tomes by "James S.A. Corey" and lays a load of LOCs upon his readership. Jerry Kaufman's is most apt. Good to see Purcell at the heart of fannish life, even if not at the Worldcon *where he belonged*.

**Banana Wings 71-72** / Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer, 59 Shirley Road, Croydon, Surrey CR0 7ES, UK / [fishlifter@gmail.com](mailto:fishlifter@gmail.com) / t.u. and eFanzines / Britain's premiere genzine has won that notoriety for three reasons: its quality, its longevity and its consistent fannishness. Gaze upon the exceptional contributors to these latest issues and the topics in #71: Taral Wayne, on the Corflu fanzine convention held in his backyard (Toronto); John Hertz, on the Hugo awards; James Bacon, on his fannish travels; the editors themselves, on the late Steve Sneyd and John Clute's adventures on the subway. #72 is no less literate, no less steeped in genre culture: John Purcell continues his TAFF report with a return to Croydon and London, Simon Ounsley tells a most poignant tale of a lifelong "feud" brought on by a friend's harmless claim to authorship, and Fred Smith spins a wartime tale interweaving his life story with that of the great British ship *Wasp*. The editors, to say again, are excellent writers; Claire won a Hugo and Mark merits one. Here Plummer discusses 59 Shirley Road's backyard animal population before turning to the Arthur C. Clarke Awards; Claire reviews Novacon 48 before it happens and mulls YA fiction. Never forget that in *BW* enthused correspondents fill the superb lettercol, demonstrating with every issue the intense connection they share with this ongoing opus of UK fandom.

**BCSFAzine #533** / Felicity Walker, Apt. 601 Manhattan Tower, 6601 Cooney Road, Richmond, BC, Canada V6Y 4C5 / [felicity4711@gmail.com](mailto:felicity4711@gmail.com) / \$3, trade or eFanzines / The monthly newsletter of the British Columbia club, this issue is the current one, although it declares in below the logo that it stems from *October 2017*. Fortunately, a splendidly silly Brad Foster 'toon is immediately before us, erasing our confusion, and we are into upcoming club events, LOCs, a calendar covering local birthdays and SFnal events, eulogies for genre people dating back a year or more, a VCon report by Michael Bertrand ("it was fun to talk about the future of sex") and clever SF haiku from Denny Marshall.

**Brooklyn!** 102 / Fred Argoff, Penthouse L. 1170 Ocean Pkwy., Brooklyn NY 11250-4060 / trade or \$10 for four issues / quarterly / As usual, I begin my reviews with *Brooklyn!*, one of the most diverting specialty zines I receive. This number, alas, begins with Argoff expressing hurt feelings because of two negative reviews. Hmmph! I suppose the *positive* notices he's garnered from *TZD* over the 16 years it's been an independent zine have vaporized upon reading! Ingrate! Anyway, I remain grateful for this funny paean to New York's favorite collection of neighborhoods, celebrated this time with miscellaneous photos of cool buildings and sites about the borough. There's an informative piece on Gowanus, a Brooklyn version of the Chicken Little fable, more of the ongoing lexicon, even a book review. It's all grand. Relax, Fred; your zine is loved.

**The Cathartic Route** / me / eFanzines & SFPA / I'm in the habit of chronicling our vacations in "Route" zines, this one celebrating not only the San Jose Worldcon but the journey there and back and the important stops we made. Most delightful, tourist-wise: the Hearst Castle. Most important, personal-wise, my cousins' home in Rosamond CA and the reconnection with family it offered. Learned a lot, left a lot of mental garbage behind, brought home more than enough heart to compensate. Anyone offering us Christmas gifts of trips to Ireland and New Zealand are promised mention in the *Routes* dedicated to those venues.

**Christian New Age Quarterly** Vol. 23, #4 / Catherine Groves, P.O. Box 276, Clifton NJ 07015-0276 / [info@christiannewage.com](mailto:info@christiannewage.com) / The lead piece in this edition of the most unlikely but the most intriguing “crossover” publication I see – that pun should win me another 45,000 years in Purgatory – is “A Political Jesus?”, examining Christ’s attitudes on feminism – remember His conversation with the adulteress? – and his surprisingly cynical observations on wealth and poverty, among several other fascinating points. Catherine’s editorials proclaim for freedom, which suits the truth of the subject, and the whole zine is an intelligent, heartening read.

**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@ / Beautifully produced collection of past comic strips – *The Phantom*, *Rick O’Shay*, *Buz Sawyer*, *Gasoline Alley* ... and many more. Of course, not a fanzine, but wow.

**Counterlock** #33 / Wolf von Witting / Via Dei Banduzzi 6/4 33050 BAGNARA ARSA (Ud) – ITALIA / [wolfram1764@yahoo.se](mailto:wolfram1764@yahoo.se) / eFanzines / No issue seen since September, when this lively fannish number appeared. Convention and travel reports form its contents: a long, photo-rich piece on Eurocon by Jeorg Ritter and Martin Stricker, the editor’s report on Swecon, and another delightful episode in John Purcell’s TAFF report, which he’s spread over a raft of fanzine titles. His pictures from the Netherlands are beautiful. Am I off in saying that such fannishness is rare for *Counterlock*? Whatever, it’s one of the top European zines and always worth seeing.

**CyberCozen** November, December 2018 / Leybl Botwinik, [leybl\\_botwinik@yahoo.com](mailto:leybl_botwinik@yahoo.com) / The monthly newsletter of the Israeli Society for SF and F, instantly recognizable for its highlighted text and beautiful Hebrew font. Fandom is a’thrive in Israel, according to Leybl, so who wants to wager that we’ll see a Worldcon bid therefrom sometime in the 2020s? In the meantime, film reviews from Montreal’s Keith Braithwaite and a link to the 25 greatest spaceships of the genre. The December issue promises a tribute to Stan Lee and calls for contributions; the new(est) *Lost in Space* and *Black Mirror* win reviews.

**Dagon** #701-2 / John Boardman, 12716 Ginger Wood Lane, Clarksburg MD 20871 / trade / John’s Apa-Q zine winds its way across any number of topics, from national anthems and flags to Boardman family genealogy. There’s a surprising lack of politics in these numbers, although yes, John, I did vote for Andrew Gillum for FL governor. Attached: a list of *Dagon* trade addresses, of high value.

**DASFax** November 2018 / TayVon Hageman, 4080 S. Grant St. Englewood, CO 80113 / [DASFAEditor@HotMail.com](mailto:DASFAEditor@HotMail.com) / The Denver clubzine begins its penultimate issue for 2018 with a slight and understandable confusion over who is doing what with parties and whatnot as the new year approaches. Rose Beetem, the president, mentions the celebration of life event for my dear buddy Dana Cain’s daughter – I believe I remember Hannah from Dana’s Nawlins days, and send hopes for good memories. Sourdough Jackson continues a rich report on the recent Worldcon; we were at several parties and panels together (including the magnificent “Evolution of the Fanzine”, of which my \*kof\* question was the highlight) but didn’t meet. Phooey! **LATE ARRIVAL**: the December issue, announcing Christmas party plans and featuring Jackson on *A Lit Fuse*, spicy fare taken, we’re told, a few bites at a time.

**De Profundis** #548 / Marty Cantor for LASFS, 2 Tyrone Ave., Van Nuys, CA, USA / [www.lasfs.org](http://www.lasfs.org). / \$1 for domestic mail / Reporting on the latest doings and undoings of the Los Angeles SF Society, Marty opens with a December calendar, dominated by the legendary Gift Exchange on December 20. Before getting to that crazed event, we have news of the club’s new meeting place, in Burbank, and Cantor’s unexplained request for a new editor for *De Prof*. I smell sordid club politics at work. Fortunately, lovely Leigh Strother-Vien (Iggy forever!) intervenes with the rules for the aforesaid Gift Exchange, which are complex and confusing. Trust LASFS. The “Cream of Menace” meetings minutes are entertaining, as ever, but I wish I could be a lizard on the ceiling during the club’s discussion

of the expulsion of lifelong SFer, fanzine editor, Nebula-winner and Worldcon GoH Greg Benford from the convention for alleged violation of a PC stricture. A lizard? Try a **T-Rex**, because as much as I love L.A. and more than love its fans, that incident pisses me to the max.

**The Drink Tank** #s 406-407 / Chris Garcia, [garcia@computerhistory.org](mailto:garcia@computerhistory.org) / eFanzines / Intensely creative and ever-changing, Hugo-winning, psychedelic-in-the-best-sense. *Drink Tank* is both impossible to miss and impossible to describe. Chris' zine – one of several – often devotes itself to themes, and in these two issues, appearing simultaneously on eFanzines, he takes on books and musicals. He is assisted in issue 406 by co-editor Alissa McKersie and collage (a French word, meaning paste) *artiste* Evelyn Nelson, with rich reviews on all kinds of stuff by Stephanie Alford. *Really* neat art – also a quality of the following issue, headed by an evocative “tribute to *Sweeney Todd*” by Maurine Starkey. Favorite article is Stephen and Melanie Silver's account of their first Broadway musical, *First Date*. Hmmp. A first date and they already had kids. Too bad I wasn't conscious of this themed issue: Mike Resnick wrote a splendid piece for *Challenger* once – with hilarious illos by Kurt Erichsen – on *his* favorite musicals, and if the editors desired, a reprint could certainly have been arranged.

**Fadeaway** / Robert Jennings, 29 Whiting Rd., Oxford, MA 01540-2035 / [fabficbks@aol.com](mailto:fabficbks@aol.com) / *If I've missed an issue here, Bob, I'll mc it in SFPA. Promise!*

**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.” / *If you would know fandom, know ye File 770. Terrific writing, huge scope, extraordinary in every way. And no longer Hugo competition, thanks to the editor's generosity.*

**For the Clerisy** #89 / Brant Kresovich, P.O. Box 404, Getzville NY 14068-0404 / [kungbairn@yahoo.com](mailto:kungbairn@yahoo.com) / trade / “Reviews of old or neglected books for people who read for pleasure (i.e., the clerisy).” / If I didn't know better, and I don't, I'd suspect from Brant's opening natter in this 4-page issue that he's suffering from FAFIA. “This is only issue in 2018,” he writes, before describing his busy-ness and granting fan-ed's the right either to drop him from our mailing lists or alert him when we post on eFanzines. Weird. But on he goes, discussing classics among classics: the penultimate Baum Oz novel, *Peter Pan*, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, and that cornerstone of all science fiction, present and past, *Emma*. His discussion is energetic and iconoclastic, and fun. Brant, check eFanzines.com weekly. You're in grand company.

**The Halloween Fornax** (the unnumbered horror) / Charles Rector, [crector@myway.com](mailto:crector@myway.com) / eFanzines / This issue of horror movie reviews covers some righteous flicks indeed, from 1936's *Revolt of the Zombies* (which may or may not be “righteous,” since I haven't seen it, and this review calls it boring) through *Bucket of Blood* (a highlight of life: meeting the star at LACon) and the almost-contemporary classic, *It Follows*. Robin Bright's succeeding essay on horror films is ... Wright-on, readily recognizable for Robin's readers. A good book review by Shirley Damsgaard, and a *funky* Gerd Maximovic story, translated by Isabel Cole, add to the mix. Charles needs to find a local artist to add illos to *Fornax*. “The Darkcloud” suggests several scenes, but I am too untalented and shy to put them to paper.

**Inca** 15 / Rob Jackson, Chinthay, Nightingale Lane, Hambrook, Chichester, West Sussex PO18 8UH / [robjackson60@gmail.com](mailto:robjackson60@gmail.com) or [jacksonshambrook@uwclub.net](mailto:jacksonshambrook@uwclub.net) / eFanzines / A gorgeous Steve Stiles cover lies above a fine editorial on fannish history, to wit: “what generated hotbeds of fannish creativity, and which [was] the greatest.” Rob's answer: the U.K.'s Ratfandom, in the mid-'70s. As a rank neo, I know little about the movement, and enjoy hearing an informed account. Rob himself cannot claim Rat status, he says, because he attended university (a local cow college called Oxford), but he insists on identifying with its contrariness. The thought leads Rob into reflections on the value of “high-status careers,” in which category he is kind enough to include the law. Public defenders having all the status of

a shit-shoveler in Champaign, I appreciate the egoboo. Jackson goes on to describe three journeys of the past twelvemonth, including to the Toronto Corflu. His “trptych of trips” is broken up by Taral Wayne’s marvelous account of his early career drawing hot rods and Jim Barker on his attack of ascites (in the brilliantly-titled “Liver Phoenix”). Righteous LOCs follow, and Stiles comes forth again with a berserk bacover. I haven’t paid as much attention to *Inca* over the years as I should have, because it’s a model genzine: fine contributors, quality articles, inclusive content.

**The Insider** #310 / Michelle Zellich, 1738 San Martin Dr., Fenton MO 63026 / [mzellich@csc.com](mailto:mzellich@csc.com) / \$10/year / Miss you, Michelle!

**Instant Message** #953 (x 2), 955-6 / NESFA, P.O. Box 809, Framingham MA 01701-0809 / [info@nesfa.org](mailto:info@nesfa.org) / What lunacy is this? *Two* issues of the newzine of the preeminent New England SF club, dissimilar in content, given the same month (August) and number? Like the October number, each details new Boskone plans, actions on behalf of the superb NESFA Press, the club’s substantial treasury, library acquisitions and website plans. But all have changed between one issue and the other! I am crogged to the point of despair. Fortunately the November issue attaches the NESFA Roster, an invaluable directory to addresses of SFers and SF clubs strewn about civilization like rubies on the floor of the cave of Ali Baba.

**Lofgeornost** #132-3 / Fred Lerner, 81 Worcester Avenue, White River Junction VT 05001 / [fred@fredlerner.org](mailto:fred@fredlerner.org) / Nice to meet Fred’s wife at the Worldcon! Here are two issues of Fred’s erudite (I love that word) and ever-entertaining FAPA/perzine, the first centering on a magnificent trip to Yorkshire, the second on Jules Verne, a Greenlandic novel of a century back and a panel on which Fred served in San Jose. “Topics”, a segment of every issue, lists and answers compelling remarks from Lerner’s readership, often as stimulating to this calcifying fannish brain as Fred’s own writing.

**MarkTime** #123 / Mark Strickert, PO Box 1171, Rialto CA 92377 / [busnrail@yahoo.com](mailto:busnrail@yahoo.com) / eFanzines and e-mail / As should be able to tell, Mark’s interest – both fannish and professional – is *transit*, buses and trains. This issue sends him to the metropolis of Needles, California, gateway to ... well, Barstow, I guess, and the desolate rest of the Mojave Desert. Since July 20, 1949 nothing of great interest has occurred in the Mojave – I don’t count such trivialities as the shuttle landings at Edwards AFB – and I’m amazed Mark could get any ink at all from the place. But he does, praising the Giggling Cactus Café, the local radio stations (also a concern) and the town’s Spike-bro-of-Snoopy statue, which he mentions but does not show. Best news: a trip coming up to Brazil. A bus around Ipanema in the offing!

**MT Void** Vol. 37, No. 23, Whole Number 2044 / Evelyn C. 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 e-zine of reviews and commentary distributed via e-mail. Mark and Evelyn – fine folks I’ve met at several Worldcons – hit on any number of genre subjects and do so very well. Take this present issue. Mark’s thoughts on the death of Stan Lee and how he extrapolates them to a telling personal story make for powerful reading, and Evelyn’s book reviews are far more compelling than simple “liked – meh” notices such as many write. Very good reading, and it comes at you weekly, too.

**My Back Pages** 21 / Rich Lynch, P.O. Box 3120, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20885 / [rw\\_lynch@yahoo.com](mailto:rw_lynch@yahoo.com) / trade, whim / Essays and trip reports from a multiple Hugo winner (along with Nicki) back when fanzines were zines by fans, nicely illustrated with color photos., His covers show Rich posing with the giant Superman statue in Metropolis, Illinois, ogling the world’s largest chest of drawers, and regarding with *moi* the neon command NO FARTING at a Bumminham BBQ joint. The interior thrives with tales of a Burning Man exposition and a jaunt by Abi Dhabi but my favorite writing within concentrates on theatre – the Lynchi enjoyed plays with Uma Thurman and John Lithgow – but for Rich, there are no limits. Exceptional all ‘round.

**The NASFA Shuttle** Oct.-Nov. 2018 / Mike Kennedy, P.O. Box 4857, Huntsville AL 35815-4857 / [nasfa-shuttle@con-stellation.org](mailto:nasfa-shuttle@con-stellation.org) / Crave awards news? Not satisfied with such trivia as the Hugo or Nebula winners or the Nobel Peace Prize? Then attend the *Shuttle*, monthly clubzine for the outstanding Huntsville crew, where updates on the British Fantasy Awards and Auroras rub pixels with the Nommos (SF by Africans), Stalkers (Estonian) and Ringos (comics), plus, of course, the Ig Nobel Prizes. There's even mention of something called the **Emmy**, dealing with television. Also: general news from about the genre, specifics from the club, an extensive calendar and, in November, a heart-shredding eulogy for one of life's, and fandom's, superlative human beings: costumer, con-worker, Rebel-winner and heart-stealer **Maurine Dorris**. Love you, babe.

**OASFiS Event Horizon #372** (December 2018) / Juan Sanmiguel, P.O. Box 323, Goldenrod FL 32733-0323 / [sanmiguel@earthlink.net](mailto:sanmiguel@earthlink.net) / \$12/year, includes club membership / Juan is distributing the Orlando club news online these days, and spreading news by e-mail – the latest being details of the group's Christmas party. The zine is great fun, containing a fine report and many photos from the Worldcon (at which he was great company). The picture he runs of the Fanzine Lounge is a bit blurry, but I *think* I can make out my bald pate somewhere amongst the pixels ... I miss Orlando's con; I need to chat seriously with Juan about a DeepSouthCon bid one of these whenevers.

**The Obdurate Eye** #s 1,2,3 / Garth Spencer, 4240 Perry Street, Vancouver, BC Canada V5N 3X5. But LOCs via [garth.van.spencer@gmail.com](mailto:garth.van.spencer@gmail.com) / e-mail, eFanzines / Touted as “Garth's latest personalzine” on eFanzines, topics herein show Garth's wide scope and various concerns. The first issue involves Canadian SF awards, his cat Yvette, SF's former “cheerful Charlie” attitude towards environmental matters, Facebook groups he belongs to and the wit and wisdom of senior Canadian fan John Mansfield. The second number consists of LOCs on the first (of course), a sad eulogy for a lovely west coast fan, and an extended history of the Auroras, complete with references. Mini-reviews of the zines he's received. None are mine. #3 contains “all the lists I could make” (beneath a vivid purple cover): awards (check out *The NASFA Shuttle*), award winners, apas (he needs info about SFPA – what can I tell you, Garth?) ... A wide range indeed.

*The Occasional Biased & Ignorant Review Magazine of Canadian Speculative Fiction Dedicated to Promoting the Absurd Personal Literary Taste of R. Graeme Cameron a.k.a. Obir Magazine #3* / R. Graeme Cameron, 13315 104th Ave, Apt 72-G, Surrey, B.C. Canada V3T 1V5 / eFanzines / <http://www.obirmagazine.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Obir-Magazine-3-July-2015.pdf> /

**Opuntia** 430 / Dale Speirs, [opuntia57@hotmail.com](mailto:opuntia57@hotmail.com) / eFanzines / Beautiful illos of beautiful scenery and articles on a multiplicity of subjects distinguish *Opuntia*, Canada's most frequent perzine. (You don't attain 430 issues by publishing once every six months.) This latest issue – there are more by now – describes the Prime Minister's visit to Dale's stompin' grounds, the municipal party for the city's Grey Cup victory and recent reads. About the Grey Cup – I've recently taken to watching the odd scrimmage in Canadian football, noting the differences between gridirons north and south of the parallel: their field is *much* larger, they only get three downs to advance 10 yards, the teams can score something called a “single,” the offense can put three men in motion before the snap instead of just one, and the goalposts ... Anyway, *vive la difference*, it's fun to watch.

**Random Jottings** 15 / Michael Dobson, 8042 Park Overlook Dr., Bethesda MD 20817-2724 / [editor@timespinnerpress.com](mailto:editor@timespinnerpress.com) / A progress report on Corflu 36 (May 2-5, Rockville MD) that reads like a genzine; no peruser will have many questions left about the Fanzine Fans' convention. Dobson tells Corflu's history and explains his version of the FAAn Awards (providing not only a nominating ballot but a bit of controversy – no further comment). I wish there was a fan fund to schlep a deserving fan-ed who's ne'er been to one – and who has no money – to Corflu; I'd never win but it's fun to dream.

**Ray X X-Rayer** #142 / Ray Palm, a/k/a Boxholder, PO Box 2 Plattsburgh, NY 12901-0002 (postal correspondence: Only use Boxholder as addressee) / [www.x-rayer.com](http://www.x-rayer.com) [raypalmx@gmail.com](mailto:raypalmx@gmail.com) / eFanzines / Soaked in misery, here is a short and unadorned issue of a usually enjoyable perzine; Ray suffered a bad scalp injury and a miserable broken tooth shortly before composing this issue, and it shows. In addition to detailing his medical horrors, he publishes a response by Dr. Robin Bright to Bob Jennings' horrified review of his work, which, like everything connected with Robin, genuinely and delightfully boggles the reader. Get well soon, Ray.

**The Reluctant Famulus** 124 / Thomas D. Sadler, 305 Gill Branch Rd., Owenton KY 40359 / [tomfamulus@hughes.net](mailto:tomfamulus@hughes.net) / t.u. / Rich Lynch once criticized *Challenger* for printing different articles in different fonts, saying that it made my genzine look amateurish; I reluctantly took his advice and lo, *Challenger did* look better in the hand. Such advice could well be applied to *Reluctant Famulus*, which remains thoroughly entertaining, with a strong and enthused stable of contributors ... but which runs some pieces single- and other squibs *double*-spaced, and one or two articles in a different typeface from the rest of the zine. The reading is always rewarding – Al Byrd on Kaintucky history, Gayle Perry on prehistoric beasts, Eric Barraclough on the mysteries of Virgin Gorda island, Joe Napolitano on libraries, etc. – and the illos still very attractive (pulp covers, mostly, although Brad Foster has a contribution here and there). But the variance *does* lend this venerable genzine a touch of *slapdash*, and it doesn't deserve it. I wonder about "The Mystery of the Moving Planet", though. An *unmoving* planet would be more mysterious!

**Revenge of Hump Day** / Tim Bolgeo, [tbolgeo@comcast.net](mailto:tbolgeo@comcast.net) / *Tim's been silent of late. Hope he's well!*

**SideTreked** #59 / Stephanie Hanna and Mark Ambroglio, c/o [ScienceFictionLondon@gmail.com](mailto:ScienceFictionLondon@gmail.com) / eFanzines / The official journal of the aforesaid group; this is the September issue. Content: well-writ articles on why domain names matter and what the movies miss about SF – the latter mentions *Humans*, a quality program neglected in fandom as far as I've seen.

**Skyliner** #4 / Alan White, eFanzines / The first word that will likely come to mind when you first view Alan's unique genzine is "Amazing!" and the first emotion will be Awe. There are few greater imaginations at work among science fiction artists – Ditmar alone comes to mind – and White's color and creativity are matchless. After complaining that a previous issue somehow ran afoul of Facebook "standards," whatever they are, this master of form and hue reprints a very cool interview (by Forrest J Ackerman, no less) with forties *Weird Tales* cover artist Margaret Brundage – an invaluable addition to the history of pulp art. The great Earl Kemp adds his appreciation. Earl and Forry continue on in this terrific issue with reprinted goodies, but the editor isn't intimidated, adding a hilarious piece on slot machines – Alan lives in Vegas, remember – and the illos, some familiar from covers of *Challenger* and *Askance* – to a hearty lettercol. *Why* isn't Alan White playing darts with Hugos as we speak?

**SF Commentary** / Bruce Gillespie, 5 Howard St., Greensborough VIC 3088 Australia / [gandc@pacific.net.au](mailto:gandc@pacific.net.au) / *A grand genzine from downunder, usually decked out with Ditmar art and filled with splendid content. If it's appeared this fall/winter, I've missed it.*

**Stapledon Sphere** (formerly the newsletter of the Middle Tennessee Science Fiction Society [aka the Nashville SF club]) Issue # 21 / Reece Morehead, [skywise@bellsouth.net](mailto:skywise@bellsouth.net) / E-zine of great interest, usually replete with links to various cool websites, this time unfortunately dominated by eulogies for Maurine Dorris and Lee Billings, great ladies of the region. Lots of news for locals and lots of news *about* locals for the rest of fandom.

**Tightbeam** 291 / National Fantasy Fan Federation. c/o George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester, MA 01609 ([phillies@4liberty.net](mailto:phillies@4liberty.net)) and Jon Swartz ([jon\\_swartz@hotmail.com](mailto:jon_swartz@hotmail.com)) / eFanzines and e-mail / The lead zine for the *very* busy N3F, which also publishes a zine for its every bureau, of which there are scads. “*Tightbeam* is published occasionally by the National Fantasy Fan Federation and distributed electronically to the membership. We offer four different memberships. Memberships with TNFF via paper mail are \$18; memberships with TNFF via email are \$6. All other zines are email only. Additional memberships at the address of a current member are \$4. Public memberships are free. Send payments to N3F, POB 1925, Mountain View CA 94042. Pay online at N3F.org. Our PayPal contact is [treasurer@n3f.org](mailto:treasurer@n3f.org) Send [phillies@4liberty.net](mailto:phillies@4liberty.net) your email address for a public membership.” Got that? That e-note to Phillies will bring you the works. By the way, the artwork on TNFFF’s publications is quite good.

**Vanamonde** 1246, buncha others, 1320 / John Hertz, 236 S. Coronado St. #409, L.A. CA 90057 / Apa-L / John tackled me At the Worldcon to thank me for my praise of *Vanamonde*, his ever-fascinating one-sheet zine for LASFS’ weekly apa, but wondered why I never praised the *artwork* published there. Ohhhhh-kay: Brad Foster’s logo, changing yearly, is ever-brilliant, and the tiny fillos adorning each issue (from stars like Tim Kirk, Andy Porter, Ray Nelson and the like) are nifty. But it’s John’s own writing that distinguishes *Vana* from the rest of the stack: ranging in subject from superb memorials for Harlan Ellison and June Moffatt to quotes from Asimov, Byron and Dickinson, the latter dedicated to me, he’s a literate and compassionate master of the fannish realm. Having friends and fan-writers like John Hertz is one reason SF fandom is more than a giggle; it’s a fulfillment of life’s promise. And yes, I like the art.

**Vibrator** No. 49 / Graham Charnock, 45 Kimberley Gardens, London, N4 1LD / [graham@cartiledgeworld.co.uk](mailto:graham@cartiledgeworld.co.uk) / eFanzines / Graham’s saw-edged humor is what’s made *Vibrator* one of the most popular pubs on this list; it’s won FAAn Awards and kept itself fresh for decades. Alas, Charnock says this is the last of the line, although he also declaims that if enough readers write LOCs, there *might* be a fiftieth issue! After a colorful Steve Stiles cover, as funny as always, Graham editorializes on his hatred of summer – the neighborhood kids are mind-rippingly noisy – compares the Fatty Arbuckle case with today’s #MeToo movement, handles “the last ever *Vibrator* letter column,” then turns the zine over to “taxi diver” (Charnock’s typo!) Nic Farey. Nic regards us with hideous medical/insurance tales and one good cab story. Graham ends things with a salute to his wife, his proofreader, but one remembers his tease. Our duty to fandom is clear. *Flood* Kimberley Gardens with LOCs!

**Warp** / Cathy Palmer-Lister, via MonSFFA, c/o Sylvain St-Pierre, 4456 Boul. Ste-Rose, Laval, Quebec, Canada H7R 1Y6 / [cathyp1@sympatico.ca](mailto:cathyp1@sympatico.ca) The link to the low res pdf to the Montreal club’s genzine: <http://www.monsffa.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/WARP-93-LR.pdf> / Nothing lately! Is MonSFFA snowed in?

**The White Notebooks** #13 / Pete Young, 136/200 Emerald Hill Village, Sol 6, Hua Min, Prachua Khiri Khan 77110, Thailand / [peteyoungk@gmail.com](mailto:peteyoungk@gmail.com) / the usual and eFanzines / Literate and challenging genzine from Southeast Asia, winner of FAAn acclaim, always educational and intellectually exciting. This issue opens with a piece on “Harlan Ellison’s favorite writer,” Gerald Kersh, whose speculative fiction’s muscularity was an obvious inspiration. An article on British dystopias ranges from unknown novels to *A Clockwork Orange*, and inspires thought as to why the U.K. is a more suitable setting for such than the USA – size, probably; as we see in the film version of *The Man in the High Castle*, especially, the sheer expanse of America is its best defense against uniform fascism. After discussing the first fraction of several genre books of personal importance, Pete turns to zines purchased at a zine store in San Francisco, at which he encounters Chris Garcia; first, I am aghast that Young apparently attended the Worldcon without our meeting, and second, I am astonished that an entire shop exists devoted to amateur

publishing. Garcia buys wrestling fanzines and Young stares in amazement, as would I. Appended: *The Thai Literary Supplement*, highlighting recent publications from the country of Young's domicile.

**W.O.O.F.** 43 / GHLLIII. See colophon above / \$3 / One of the high moments of Worldcon 76 for *moi* was editing and assembling the 2018 disty of the Worldcon Order of Fan-Eds, the incredibly foolish invention of the late Bruce Pelz: an *annual* apa. Fronted with a cute doggy cover by Charlie Williams, the mailing is filled with perzines by such estimable personages as Alan Stewart, Johan Anglemark, Kay Templeton and \*blush\* myself, an excellent sercon piece by Andy Hooper, the previous issue of *TZD* and most importantly, stats on the previous disties courtesy of the great Roger Hill. After getting copies to all the contributors, I have several left, available for \$3, my postage cost. *Who will handle W.O.O.F. in Ireland?* Volunteers contact James Bacon or me. By the way, is anyone getting a group flight together for Dublin or for New Zealand? I'm fantasizing about us going again ...

*The usual apologies*, still sincere, to any zines I've neglected and any goofs I have made. Alert me and I'll correct them. This zine closes at a crowded time. Not only does Christmas loom, but I'm scheduled for two laser eye surgeries before the New Year, have the last bureaucratic annoyances of the fall school semester to handle, and – not least – a FAAN ballot to figure and fill. In the meantime, what would a fanzine be without a note from Lloyd Penney?

We keep losing our friends as time marches on, and Shelby Vick is but one of the many. We need to improve our health so we won't soon be joining that number. I did attend Corflu 35, only because I live in Toronto. Even with that, I was still feeling on the outside looking in. I always feel that way, I guess. I finished a healthy fourth for the Warner award, so I am pleased. I doubt I will ever get to another Corflu, but I hope I am wrong.

I hope you enjoyed San Jose...we are saving our shekels, not for a Worldcon, but for a return trip to London in 2019. I know the Worldcon will be in Dublin, but we will be in England in late May to mid-June. I will turn 60 in London, and we will celebrate there, thanks to my sweet Yvonne, who somehow cares about me, don't know why.

I am finding that for today's fandom, there is little room for fans. Our national awards are typical...the fan Auroras now go to those who work with the pros on their websites, or produce websites to promote the pros, or pros who run the literary conventions. I remember getting the *SFC Bulletin*, and I hope to get it again, and letters are promised.

■ *Lloyd Penney, 1706-24 Eva Rd., Etobicoke ON, Canada M9C 2B2.*

Before I close, calls – *begging* calls – for contributions and LOCs to *Challenger*. Along with “serious” writing, issue #42 is a front-burner project for 2019. Theme is A.I., but don't let that stop you!

And above all, Rosy and I wish every man-jack and lady-jill of you a most

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS and a  
TGRRIF 76 2019!

