

ARGLEBARGLE #6 / done for SPINOFF 14 / started 30 September 1980 at noon

It's up to #6 already? Sigh.

Done by Denny Lien / 2528 15th Ave. S. / Minneapolis MN 55404 / (612) 722-5217
(home) or 376-2550 (work), who is up to 35 already (as of last Friday) and Feels
Old and Tired. I hear the first seventy years are the hardest. . .

What I've Done since last July--went to Worldcon and came back. Big. A con report of some sort may follow somewhere, but probably not in this apa. On balance, I rate it a 6. Visited New York and Philadelphia with Joyce after the con. My previous negative feelings about New York City were reinforced. Played co-host to two BritFen, two Australians, and a Baltimorite (not all at once; the house isn't that large). Bought books, though fewer than usual, and drank beer, though less than usual. I really am getting old. . . Attended a semi-secret local relaxacon. Small. A con report of some sort may etc. 3 out of 10. Since in a perverse way I enjoy feeling lonely and unhappy and depressed at cons (it helps persuade me that I am a Sensitive type beyond the common herd--at least in my better moods it persuades me of that; the rest of the time it just helps persuade me I'm a klutz so drab and awful as to bore even myself), in some sense I enjoyed myself more than at worldcon. Cheaper, too. Came back to work and got told I had one week to do a full-scale goals and objectives statement, with budget, for the subdivision I theoretically run (mostly it runs itself, and a good thing too). Found the stuff I'd sent to printing before vacation, urgently needed for welcome week, would be late. Found my budget had been slashed 15%. And then turned 35.

Time out to rev up the Frivolousity engine and run full tilt into mailing comments...

us, TORQUE ToC: "The numbers in parentheses indicate blank sides for those of us who find the concept of one-sided sheets of paper a bit . . . disquieting." But I am one such, and neither of my sides is blank, except possibly my insides, which I can't see very well. (For that matter, I find the concept of three- or four-sided sheets of paper a bit disquieting too.)

Joyce Scrivner, TOUCHSTONE 6: "Ever think what the blue and green dragon riders do while their dragons mate?" Nope. Take bets on what color the pups are going to be? Do con reports ("con" standing for "congress" in this case)? I'm more curious about what the dragons do when they've finished mating. I would presume they are traditional enough to smoke. . . .

. . . is found in the given phrase: 'Femenists ain't got no sence of humor' "--and presumably have a few problems with spelling and syntax too (they're taxing that now?). . . But if our purpose is to refute that, whom are we convincing? I don't think anyone who reads SPINOFF believes that, or that anyone who does believe that sees SPINOFF

None of my lesbian friends or acquaintances has any particular interest in porn, so far as I know, and the Minn-STF females who have borrowed any of my sf porn are all, I think, straight, or technically bi with ~~strong~~ hetero preference. Don't know what that proves, but it seems to support your impression.

You should note that just because Sue Rae's guest room was "being used immorally" at one party doesn't mean that Sue Rae was in it at the time. Unless you are referring to the use of it for playing that vile and contemptible game, bridge.

Joyce, continued: "Stencils come with holes (stencils are female)." Males don't got any holes? ~~Not yet/II have to kill yet.~~ I hear what you're saying, but let me mouth off anyway; oh, shit.

D Potter, DEATH AND DISASTER FUNNIES 7: Long laugh at your cover. Of course, Florence King specified the town dump, where I am sure dead Harlan would caught be not (to do my annual Marty Cantor imitation). Harlan only visits city dumps. That's where it's all happening.

"Speaker to Keyes"? Ask him when he's going to write more sf. (Actually I rarely speak to my typewriter keys; they are cliquish and enjoy jam sessions together, producing strange results like # . ((Actually² # may be a perfectly good letter, but I have my doubts, though I can't put my finger on it...)))

"I discovered Ted Sturgeon . . . Chip Delany and Philip Jose Farmer, left school and learned to make an ass of myself." Ah, you discovered Apuleius also?

"Spinoff Flies Left"? But Terry didn't send them along with the money and extra copies. Maybe the Great Spider intercepted our mail and either ate the extra flies or used them to make godpieces. . . . at least if It was in a crotchety mood.

"I couldn't get the tampon all the way in until the age of 22." Perhaps you should have tried a shorter tampon (reminiscent of the old joke about being born on June 17-19th . . . "I was a very tall baby...").

Hank Davis, HALF A MINAC 1: You have the lower half of the apartment? Do you share it with a human fly (or an inhuman fly)? Perhaps that's where the leftover Spinoff flies disappeared to. Also, do you walk stooped over a lot, or is the ceiling twelve feet high?

Vee isz nod a "new regime." Vee isz the democratically self-appointed successors to de old regime and isz just full of continuity to de legitimate founders of der glorious empire. You haff relatives in other apas, hmmm?

Having moved the deadlines because of complaints from members with conflicts in other apas, we now find the new deadlines also cause complaints from members with conflicts in other apas. Why don't all youse guys* join the same apas and make life easier for the OEs of this one?

*guys to me is a non-sex specific word; I've gotten in arguments about this in a previous apa which quickly degenerated into an argument about Mary Tyler Moore's use of it. Any response here?

On holidays, note that October has its share; 2nd is Groucho Marx's birthday (1895), 5th is the 11th anniversary of the first showing in UK of the first Monty Python episode, 15th is 101st anniversary of the sawing of Courtney's Boat, and 21st is LeGuin's 55th birthday.

My erratic memory says that I sent Gina Clarke a copy of 13. My almost-as-erratic bookkeeping isn't sure. I'll send her one of 14 for sure and send 13 on request if she so requests. . . (This may be the moment to point out that of your two-headed OE the Denny head is in charge of finances and mailing, plus photocopy repro; the Joyce head is in charge of who's in/out, inviting new members, covers, and mimeo and ditto repro if we ever get any requests for that; TORQUE will be done by whomever feels most ambitious.)

The only possible Emergency OE is Gerri Balter, unless we can persuade someone else to move to Mipple-Stipple. Gerri?

Hank continued: Fandom Has Spoken and all that, but I obviously don't agree that the "do not boycott Chicago in 82" ad made "more sense than" Terri's.

One point that the former assumed that I don't think I ever saw challenged in print is that there need be a correlation between site of a con and home address of its committee: if there is discrimination involved, it is against the former and not the latter--how many of the Suncon committee lived in Miami? of the Seacon committee in Brighton? For that matter, at the time the first ad came out, one co-chair of each bidding committee--Chicago and Detroit--lived in Ohio.

If any fan politician who faunches after a worldcon wants a shoo-in, I won't even object to a worldcon in Minneapolis . . . just as long as Minn-STF doesn't have to have anything to do with it (aside from pointing out that we don't have the hotels to hold it, perhaps). But not in St. Paul . . . I'm boycotting them too . . .

Valli Hoski, FANDANITY: "me, who is female (obviously)..." not obviously from your first page, which doesn't have your name on it anywhere. I suppose that the fact that your apt. number is "1W" may mean woman, but I assumed it meant west. . . .

On second glance, I see that you do refer to yourself as "she." But do you really expect everyone in the apa, some of them total strangers, to believe you? Maybe if you had your zine notarized . . .

(A sudden idea trip on "notary pubic" will be Suppressed while the writer thereof goes downstairs for another beer.)

Back again. I might note that this zine is being typed on a day when I am working an evening shift and can thus ~~stay at home~~ stay home during the day to do fanac: no distractions except cheap beer and cheap cassettes. ~~Not back to cheap shots.~~

A good place not to break a sentence at the end of a page: "Among my other talents ... I also diddle //// with photography. . . ." (Insert usual Monty Python lines here.)

Ah yes, PLATO--another advantage of doing this at home during the day during the week is that I can't access PLATO--my fanac is likely to remain at a low ebb until we lose our terminal, or until my favorite D&D programs get removed from the system again.

Welcome.

Gerri Balter, LIFE AND TIMES OF GERRI BALTER: Denny didn't pursue membership with you because ~~it was too fast~~ that is Joyce's baliwick. (Which is a room deoderant sold only in Bali.)

You're overusing strikeovers ~~just as I am~~, I think. They are insidious.

I have seen Uni students who were "well dressed." They tend to be in MBA programs (master of business administration) and getting in some practice stuffiness before it becomes official.

Your class seems to consist of no one between 25 and 40, by your description. Some of our opossums are missing?

Welcome.

Bottomofpage filler dept: now 3 p.m. Drinking Buckhorn beer (like water, only crunchy) and listening to nothing right now ...Rita Coolidge, and Janis Ian before her, having stopped singing. Temperament, temperament. Next: Lisa Minelli, THE ACT. (For people who are tired of merely Causing a Scene.)

Lynne Dollis, REVOLUTION ETC.: Actually, as apazine titles go, I think I prefer OH HOW GLORIOUS IT IS TO CARRY MANURE UP THE HILLSIDE ETC. Makes for a very fannish composition.

"Lot's of you don't know me. Denny will get a straight line out of this somewhere." Nobody in this apa is Lot's, though each of us is worth hir salt. (Sod 'em if they can't take a joke, and gomorrah our house for the barbeque.) By the way, please don't encourage me; I find too many straight lines as it is. Some I succeed at twisting, and some I fail at walking.

"Expect to be in Dawson Creek for a few years yet. This is all Denny's fault." Sorry. If I leave town, will you move closer to civilization? Is it my breath?

Welcome.

Rick Mikkelson, DAYS GONE DOWN 1: No mailing comment hooks present themselves, not even when you mention aardvarks, but welcome anyway. (All four new members in a row? That wasn't a good idea.) Technically I suppose a member ought to contribute a full page every other time or so, but we'll accept half a page for the first one. ("The first one's always free....")

Marc Ortlieb, ILLIODOR 4: I share your problem about trying to decide what to say that is both frivolous and feminist. I don't share your problem in that once I start typing I tend to stop worrying about it and say what comes to mind. At this point, it becomes the other members' problem....

Exaggerated folktales "like the tales told by Australian Bushmen, or the American John Bunyan." Author of religious tracts on logging, I gather? (No, wait a minute, it's the Bushmen who gather, and hunt. As opposed to fans, who hunt and peck. Or directors of violent movies, who peck and paw.) Actually, you mean Paul Bunyan, and he's the protagonist of such tales, not the narrator.

"Is a female protagonist enough for a feminist story?" Of several possible counterexamples, I will restrict myself to mentioning CANDY.

"Space Invaders is very much like life. One fights for ever against overwhelming odds and eventually dies." I like that a lot . . . of course, one could point out that in life one doesn't have the option of dropping in another quarter . . . at least, I don't think one does...

"It's nice to have an official editor who communicates with members." Marc: Call your office.

Ham, we got our bootleg tapes of part two of HITCHIKER'S GUIDE months ago. We've even passed on n+1 generation copies to continue the string. Not quite up to part one, but still fun.

Denny Lien, ARGLEBARGLE 5: CToAFein--my, I was in a pretentious mood, wasn't I?

"Joyce got on the only pay phone within sight to a friend": if the phone was really within his sight, he must have been very surprised to see Joyce perched upon it ~~(pppt flash)~~; I think you meant "to call a friend."

It is possible, but unlikely, that there may be a page five (and six, and..) following this. If so, please turn to it. If not, please forgive. "Later on . . . when you do mailing comments on this . . . and you will . . . please be kind."