
* THE CHARLOTTAN *

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A G&S PATTERSONG FOR SAPS

Oh! an apa fan's life is compounded by strife,
If you listen to popular rumour;
From one zine to the next he's continually vexed,
For he must produce good fannish humour!
Must be witty and bright, if it takes half the night;
To contrib to a dull one shot session,
There are one or two shticks, which all fan lunatics
Must observe if they love their obsession.

There are one or two shticks,
In all bhad apa junk,
Which all fan lunatics,
Whether sober or drunk,
Must observe, if they love their obsession

If it's mcs you write and you don't wish to fight;
At all costs do avoid being vicious:
DNQs in LA may be known to fan A
(For fan A is so very suspicious);
And B is unmanned by the works of Ayn Rand
Who writes like a babe in her cradle;
While C traces quotes, and will cry as he gloats,
That your lino was used by Bob Madle!

When your repro they jeer,
You can't let yourself sneer;
And it does make you sore
When some trufannish bore, says 'Oh,
Your lino was used by Bob Madle."

If the OE is grumpy from corflu too lumpy
(don't ask him to run off your stencils),
He's especially mean if you've written your zine
Sans-typer, with number two pencils.
You'll just tighten the noose with a feeble excuse,
Like, in college three subjects you're failing;
He'll exclaim if you shirk, on his face a bright smirk:
"You're immoral if you miss a mailing!"

It adds to the loads
On an apa fan's back,
When the OE explodes
A sarcastic attack;
Don't you know that you can't miss a mailing?

Comes a neo from school, or a serconist fool,
Oh! Refrain, from wild exaggeration.
Better not Put It On in reports of a Con;
For they take it as truthful narration
If your anecdotes tell of too much raising hell,
Then, by ghod, you'll create the impression,
That New Wavers might find the conventions a grind;
Not at all like a funeral procession!

It's a general rule
That New Wavers must be
Dedicated to stf
In unholy degree.
Don't create the wrong fannish impression!

While your humor you hack, you invite an attack
From the sor-heads you've busily been ruining.
You can't stop to step down from your role as a clown
Or you'll soon find it's you they're lampooning!
"What's the point of it all," you may foolishly call;
"What's the point of this idiot wailing?"
But you know it too well--for egoboo's swell;
And you'll want to get your share next mailing!

"Apazines are absurd!"
You have heard them declare.
And you know in your heart,
They are being quite fair
When they call your stuff, "An idiot's wailing."

Hey, that was supposed to take up the full two pages! Owell. I had so much fun with it that I'm almost ready to try another one, but alas, no stencils and no time. Instead of my usual one fanzine a week, I find that I'm publishing three of them this weekend.

Word has it that one of the Elect has decided to drop out this quarter, and if such is the case, I guess I'm IN. Just so there'll be a brief excerpt from "World With Fandom in Charge" let's all say the pledge of allegiance... ready?

I pledge allegiance to the OE
Of the Spectator Amateur Press Society
And to the fangroup for which he stands
One apa, (under Pelz), irrepressible.
With fanac and egoboo for all.

Which is absolutely all the space I'm going to be able to take up on this verdampsten stencil. See you all next mailing.

Urendi Maleldil,
Len

C H A R L O T T E ' S W E B

-- comments on the 70th mailing

LOKI--(Hulan) I think your report on the Pacificon is the best I've read yet. I really enjoyed this issue of Loki, and I'm sorry to hear that you're putting the thing into semi-retirement.

NANDU--(Nangee) What kind of a type face did you use on this issue? It looks like the type face I used to have on my old Royal Portable, Owen, and if it is, the quality of reproduction you obtained with it is amazing.

I really hate to admit my abysmal ignorance, but in order to further my search for truth and provide a comment hook for everybody next mailing, I'll ask anyway. What means "De Garren Haa Det Gut?" You see, that's the price one must pay for living in a fannishly remote area. If I were in a fannish metropolis I could ask someone in private and only shock one person with my appalling lack of knowledge.

DINKY BIRD--(Berman) Gee, Ruth, you're the first fan who ever caught my "Urendi Maleldil" salutation. I, too, think the second book is the poorest in the Ring trilogy, but I can see where this was necessary to make the chronicle a complete history of the War of the Ring.

Manywhere is certainly one of the better Coventry stories, and should serve to show some of the Lafan who detest the thing so that Coventry Isn't All Bad.

MAINE-IAC--(Jacobs) I'm what could loosely be termed a n*u*t on the subject of books. I usually average two a day in the winter when there's school, and in the Summer, when I don't have a lot of idiot busywork to take care of I sometimes read 3-4 a day. Of course you must take into consideration that a lot of the books I "read" are really books I reread again and again. I have a very finicky reading appetite, and when I can't find enough new stuff to satisfy it I return to the old. Of course, this is nothing compared to the number of books some fans devour if we are to believe the lists they publish in their fanzines. Not many of the books I read are science fiction anymore, which poses a Problem when I try to write my review column for Excalibur. One of these days I'm going to break open the flood gates and start reviewing non-stfnal books, at which time the column may leap to monstrous proportions. To continue answering your question, my cruising speed reading light stuff is 4-500 wpm. When I read technical stuff and books on math I usually slow down to 200 wpm. I took a speed reading course a few years ago and found myself able to hit 1000 wpm and retain 90% comprehension, but reading that fast spoils my enjoyment. In 1964 I read just about every American prozine published, in 1965 I have read about three, because I decided to stop buying the damned things a few months ago. My stack of fmz for 1964 is about 3½ feet. Ghod, when I look at it all stacked up like that, the idea of reading through it makes me feel kind of sick, yet this is really a small amount comparatively.

Why are you in favor of stoppage of franked material? Even if you didn't like my stuff, certainly Van Arnam and Mann have made more significant contributions than 9 pages of mailbox listings. ##SAPSloggers much enjoyed...more?

PLEASURE UNITS--(Eklund) Christ! but you are f*u*n*n*y, Mr. Eklund. ##On the subject of apas and communication, I feel that every once in a while, something Deep and Significant may come across in a mailing comment in the form of an exchange where the writer says more than he intended to or would have if he were first drafting. A momentary flash of insight and empathy with the MCer occurs.

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Granted, this is rare, but it does happen. As for me, I'm satisfied with the ordinary ~~bill~~ light chatter and exchange of information on a superficial level. On this level, incidentally, I think SAPS is the best apa. It's so easy to write comments here, whereas in OMPA and N'APA I find myself forced to produce even a page or so. Another thing is that there's a magic to onstencil mcng. My first draft of mcs is never as big as the draft I get when I put it on stencil.

SPY RAY--(Eney) Speaking of God Comics, has there been an issue since the Discon? I enjoyed Scithers' conreport, in fact, I enjoyed the whole issue, except that I'd just as soon see everyone stop chewing and rechewing it. I mean, you aren't going to convince anybody of anything at this late date, nor is Scithers, and I find the whole topic Depressing.

EXCELSIOR--(~~App~~ Katz) Nice bit about the castles. I like your subconscious typo "Fred is the idol of the waitinglist" instead of the "ideal". You conjure up visions of wlers offering burnt sacrifices and dancing around a large facsimile of him praying that someone will get dropped. ...Only shouldn't it properly be Pelz if we're going to be SAPSish about it. Now as for me, if I were going to do something like that I'd pick somebody who stood a chance of being drop- ped.

The kiddy book by Ian Fleming is called Chitty Bang-Bang, and is about a car which can talk and fly. You know, sort of a watered down version of Goldfinger. Gee, Arnie, it didn't take long for SAPS to subvert you into taking cracks at wlers, but I can hardly blame you.

Look at them now, all of you. ...See 'em licking their chops. Even as you read this, busy little minds are checking the roster and eagerly inspecting your zine to see if you show any signs of cutting out. Gee, now they're looking at my zine too. Brrr...

You are wrong, Arnie Katz. I never ever showed you the I-Spy Secret Code Book. What I did do to get you off my neck was to show you an I-Spy merit book, and they weren't secret at all. In fact, you were even supposed to show 'em to your parents so that they could countersign your promotions. You have never seen that code book and you never will...until I reprint it in a fanzine sooner or later. And I was four years old in 1950! Gee, I knew your math was lousy, but I thought you did know how to count up to ten.

RAIN--(Schultz) I'm getting a little tired of these Diplomacy type things (probably because I'm getting stomped out of existence in 1964C) Anyway, why don't you do another one of those great nostalgia pieces like you did a year or so ago, huh, why don't ya?

IBEX--(Chalker) Your arguments against New York in '67 are irrelevant, immaterial and inconsequential. (And I've been looking for an excuse to write that about something for years) The Silvercon committee bears no earthly resemblance to the NYCon III committee, not even an unearthly one. It isn't their fault if some of NYfandom is fuggheaded you know. After all, there are fuggheads in every city.

SPACEWARP--(A. Rapp) Speaking of Alexander Botts, I just saw an old Joe E. Brown movie with Brown as Alexander Botts. I've been a Brown fan for a long time. (disclaimer) I think his best movie was "Elmer the Great" where he played a star baseball player. I also liked "Six Day Bicycle Race!" ~~##~~This may be my only chance to tell you how much I enjoyed the collection of your not-poetry that Dian put through SEPA, since you aren't in the apa. qVas very Gut.

CHARLOTTAN

NIFLHEIM--(Hulan) Aha! So you want to start a pagecount battle, eh? You're on, Dave Hulan. This ish of Charlottan is one of those minac MCType because of the uncertainty of my membership, but I Have Plans for future issues. The two of us can race with Arnie, who tells me he's going to have quite a lot of stuff in this mailing. Unless you think you can beat the two of us put together...which I admit is a possibility if you doublerun stuff from Other Apas. Arnie also seems to be Big on doublerunning. I don't like to do it because I feel like I'm cheating. There's so much overlap between S'APS & N'APA and N'APA and S'APA these days that it hardly seems worth it. I regard anything I do for APA L, however, to be fair game for rewriting and recirculating at a later date.

I'm not in favor of lowering the copy requirement. Enough wlers are being left out in the cold with the other two attacks (reducing membership & barring w/zines) If the copy requirement stays at 42, at least we'll give more wlers opportunity to buy the mailings. You don't know how it is fending off 8 timberwolves every quarter for a copy. If someone doesn't drop and let me in this quarter, for example, I go without a mailing because I sent my \$1 in too late. (the week after the last mlg came out!)

I found your article on LA card games very interesting. Someday Ex may print an article Arnie did on the Fanoclast game, Whammy, if I can find it again. (Oh, so you were wondering what happened, eh Arnie? ...Well now you know) Personally, I prefer Bridge to the poker type games, but I'm not very good at either. I haven't played since coming down to Charlotte, and have thus deteriorated all over the place. On the other hand, my chess has improved greatly since I play that fairly regularly now. I spent some time studying the game out of stung pride when I lost so many.

ARMAGEDDON # n-1 Bm--(Kusske) Aw c'mon, John...stop blaming Bruce for the reign of terror on wlers. He's on our side, remember? I dunno, but it seems to me that circulating a wlerzine in the mlg is a waste of time unless you really want to say something. I mean, in APA L you have to write to get the mlgs. In the apas you're a member of you have to write to keep from being dropped. But here, doing a wlerzine has no effect on whether or not you get the mlg, so the idea of doing one just for the sake of doing it is kind of useless. So why don't you do a few more pages if you're going to do any. You had a much better zine the mlg before this. Of course, anything that makes Don hit the mlgs. is a Good Thing in itself, but you can make it even better.

MISTILY MEANDERING--(Patten) And thankee once again for devotion to Wlers far beyond the call of duty, or Something. Ah bananas, you're just as good a cover stenciller as anybody else. Better than me anyway, if that means anything. (Hmm from the studied silence, I guess it doesn't) I might also add that Kent McDaniel came across with all the items I was missing from the 69th mlg. so a belated note of appreciation goes to John Berry for his excellent Goon novelet.

YEZIDEE--(Pelz, D.) All right, a series can be read in any order, but should it? The Lens series would be awfully dull if one started with Children and worked his way down to Triplanetary. And Prince Caspian isn't as much fun if it's read before Lion, Witch & Wardrobe. Some of CS Lewis, like The Horse & His Boy is interchangeable, but some isn't. Which brings us back to the Magician's Nephew and which brings the argument full circle around to the beginning again.

SPELEOBEM--(Pelz, B.) Since you're also a J. Point fan the G&S in this issue is dedicated to you. One of these days I'm going to have to try Brandonizing a full G&S operetta.

CHARLOTTAN

