

PETER, PAN & MERRY #43

A zine for SFPA # 227

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Come and Tarry on SFPA 226

Southerner – Y’know, maybe Liz and Eve should produce a joint zine titled Quilty Pleasures?

Norm Metcalf – Ct Ned: I think that the temperature that Fahrenheit chose as zero was the coldest that it got where he was. Or, perhaps, as someone else said, the coldest that he was able to produce. I’d guess that, given the technology of the time that the coldest produceable temperatures were those that nature provided. // Ct me: I quite agree. One should like what one likes and be done with it rather than worrying about “refining” one’s taste. Of course there’s that peer pressure thing that people tend to go through in their teens and not everyone makes it out the other side fully intact. And, that’s probably not going to keep people from influencing one’s choices – heck, I try to toss a variety of things Random’s way to expose him to more stuff even if I can’t make him like it. // Bob Dole reading the Necronomicon was worth the price of admission for that Simpson’s episode – not to mention showing that someone on the show (Groening?) has some grounding in “the classics”. // Ct Sheila: As it’s the bite of the werewolf that carries the infection, it seems that it would involve passage by saliva (rather like rabies) instead of being bloodborne. That being the case, I don’t see how a flea on a werewolf would be able to transmit the condition.

Ned Brooks – Ct Lynch: Why Red Cross came up with “more than 6 months since 1980” come under the heading of educated guesses. Partially estimating the incubation period of BSE and back-counting from the first victim and partially estimating the likelihood of some having eaten something contaminated over a period of time. I’d suspect that, after the AIDS uproar, they are taking a fairly conservative approach in their estimations. As to there being a shortage, there usually is to one extent or another but the catch is that, if a decent %age of the population would donate, the loss of donors from the screening process wouldn’t mean jack. // Ct Feller: Interesting SF story idea about the single photon. But as it happens that experiment has been done. Seems that, while any single photon will “randomly” find a place to end up, when you do it with enough of them (going one at a time), you still get the traditional refraction pattern.

Ct me: While the post office didn’t refund our postage per se, they did let us do a remailing at no charge. So it pretty much amounts to the same thing. // I realize that there couldn’t have been a “confederate flag” before the Civil War, but it’s possible that one or more of the southern state had a version of it in use which was adopted as the flag of the Confederacy. // As ever, I have trouble with the concept of being able to sue over the use of a previously accepted medical practice. Even if it’s later found to be a bad idea. The “they should have known better / acted faster” argument leaves me cold since it’s just as likely that the same agencies could get sued for not being cautious enough with something new. // The problem with using common sense in a school weapons policy is that there will ALWAYS be some moron ready to sue because action wasn’t taken, no matter how silly the root event. / And while I hadn’t put it quite as well, I’ve said more than once that a pencil or pen could be a nasty weapon too. And they’re readily available in school. // Ct Jeff: I don’t think that the countries are part of the “axis of evil” **because** they are working on nukes except to the extent that that makes them more dangerous and thus of more concern.

Richard Dengrove – Ct Ned: After a few complaints from the women’s locker room, one of our local health clubs enacted a rule that kids over the age of *three* had to use the same gender locker room. (They did offer to have staff members help if needed.) Most of the women I know find that whole notion to be absurd. // I don’t have a copy handy to check the wording of the Constitution as to whether non-citizens are specifically included or excluded, but clearly it seems implied that they should be included. (And yes, there are certain areas in which a non-citizen could get in trouble, or dealt with, in ways that wouldn’t impinge on a citizen.) // Ct Lynch: As I’ve said, since blood supply safety is a big issue, anyone who tests positive in any of the screening tests used is excluded from donating. Again, the problem would really be solved if just another few % of the population would donate. // Ct Guy: My hope is that a “I’m Republican and will support the President” vs “He’s Democrat and won’t agree with everything the White House wants” type of campaign will drive people to the Democrats. Coat-tails are a fine thing, but you can’t just go with “What He Said!” // Ct Tom: The problem with postulating an attack on the CIA building on 9/11 is that the other three targets were easily identifiable ones and that would make me lean in the direction of any 4th target being equally so.

Ct me: In a sense the retro Hugos are even more arbitrary and capricious than the current ones. Current one are, at worst, based on current popularity of the writer/editor/etc while the retros would be based on current, rather than contemporary, popularity. What that makes the retro Hugos is anyone’s guess. // The catch is that, while Random will talk on and on about things, it’s rarely about stuff that we ask him about or need information on. Not that that’s something unusual, mind you. // Why not check with some translator (gov’t or private) to see if the name Genderov has a specific meaning? // We do what we can with the kid. There are times when we think we’ve done better and times we think we haven’t. Usually depending on what action, response, or whatever we’re looking for. // I don’t think a technothriller has to be SF. What about “Fail-Safe” for example? // Whether or not Saddam tolerates Moslem fundamentalists within Iraq is irrelevant. I don’t think he’d have any qualms about supporting them elsewhere if they were attacking his enemies. // What’s “reverse the usual order” for Disneyland rides? Heck, what’s “The Usual Order”? // Why would visiting another of my ex-s bother Kay? She knew where I was going. For that matter, we’ve stayed with one or two of said ex-s while traveling. She knows them.

Ct Gary: But if Cheney was chairing the Energy Committee, isn’t he a public employee? // Re recriminations and retaliations. Although not a complete policy, Israel has tried restraint by not retaliating for periods of time. Didn’t do a whole lot of good. // Ct Jeff: I get a receipt for having voted (the top of the ballot sheet) but it doesn’t show who I voted for. While a receipt could be made to show that info, I don’t think it would be either necessary or wise.

Rich Lynch – Ct Ned: Experience certainly goes along with your saying that the biggest risk in space travel (at least on the scale we’re working with) is equipment failure. Three biggies I can think of in the U.S. program and some in the Soviet program as well. // Ct me: While they may never use the WTC design again, as was pointed out in an article in USN&WR, you don’t design buildings to resist every possible form of damage. The biggest flaw I’ve seen about the design seems to be the clustering of the stairs near the center. // You may have missed the semi-joke in my remark about MLB having contractions so new teams could be born. There’s no question it’s about the money that some teams aren’t making.

Guy Lillian III – Ct Southerner: You do realize that Alan Winston has had several close calls in the perpetuation of his consecutive disty string, right? He has, in fact, used stringsavers on file twice in the last year or so (which clearly isn't the same as a postmailing). And there's the classic example from almost 20 years ago of Mike Gunderloy handing him a ditto master on the day before deadline, telling him to write something and then going home to run Alan's contribution off.

// And, just to keep things correct, Alan's string in LASFAPA does go back to disty #1 – I only joined in #2. // Ct Rich: If you want to have a second try at Magen David winé, I have no doubt that you could find some in NOLA. Try the Blackberry variety. // The problem with our calling for international cooperation in the effort against terrorism is that we turn around and utterly reject efforts by the international community to enlist us in that sort of cooperative effort. I'm not saying that we have to agree to all international treaties and efforts, but how often can we say that what we want the world to do is good for the world and what the world wants our help to do is bad for us?

Ct Gary R: Kay and I both felt that the “using drugs helps terrorists” ads were a rather interesting tactic for taking away the “I'm only hurting myself” line of argument. The more paranoid implications hadn't occurred to us. Besides – it makes just as good an argument for legalizing drugs so the \$\$ stays out of the hands of foreign drug kingpins and terrorists. // Ct me: I haven't read the novelization so I'm going with my own interpretation, but I don't think that QiGon was talking “blood chemistry” when he referred to a “Midiclorian level” in the blood. I think he was referring to some sort of microscopic organism / group intelligence found in Jedi blood. (Don't know if that makes it better for you or not.) // Now I'm out of my element, I have no idea when Supe's “real name” was revealed to the world. // Re an expulsion vote: Just say the word Guy and I'll go. Don't pass the buck to the rest of the apa. // Hugo, Shmugo. **Young Frankenstein** is a hoot. Any awards are secondary. So what's your problem with Mel? // Yeah, the fact that Phobos isn't a moon of Saturn sort of Mars the joke. But Ober-on the other hand... // Ct Gary B: The non-counting of Challenger in the Box Scores can probably be traced to my bringing up the question of whether it should count for your total or not – after all, whatever work you put in, most of the verbiage comes from others. The discussion was one statistician to another. ~~The \$ Jeff gave me didn't hurt either.~~ // Ct Jeff: Wouldn't the zines that Ruth wrote from Guam qualify as furthest away from the south?

Self – Ct Richard D: In looking at the latest state data, about 220 people passed their licensing exams for Laboratory Scientist last year – and the non-renewals were over a thousand. // Natter: Well, Corky's problem(s) has segued into diabetes. He's developed a dislike of needles.

Sheila Strickland – I didn't find the true ending of LotR to be of the “Happily Ever After” variety in any case. So if the film version isn't, I can deal with that. // Ct Feller: For my money, if there was some LotR “slash” fiction, I'd bet on Gimli & Legolas as a favorite pair. // Ct me: I'll agree that an answer to casual questions about one's faith shouldn't be considered proselytizing. On the other hand, giving out of Bibles – IMO – is proselytizing. Same as handing out any religious tract. // For us, Disneyworld is a rather more expensive proposition than Disneyland but I can't help considering it for a major vacation splurge. I'm sure even Orlando has slower times than others – my bet would be on Thanksgiving. // My hope is that, with the growing that Merry and Pippin are suppose to go through during their time with Theoden and Denethor, their maturation will show up in even starker contrast than in the books. // Ct Eve re immersion heaters: Yeah, we've got a gozinta around here somewhere.

Gary Brown - I think the factor you're missing in having seen two people thrown out in your two games at Clearwater is that the umps have to use Spring training to warm up too. Gotta get that "You'rrrrrrrrre outta here!" down before the season starts. // Ct Ned: I'd guess that the WTC was hit high up primarily because that made for an easier flight path. / As to the buildings not being supposed to collapse, I think the problem is simply how much you can really disaster-proof a building. // Ct Rich L: If nothing else, this discussion of contraction of MLB probably means we won't have to worry about an expansion draft in the near future. In a puckish moment, I think that Havana might be a good place to move a team to but there probably ain't the \$ to support the effort. Maybe Mexico City? // Ct me: Besides Vietnam and Afghanistan being different in terms of the available technology, there are also differences in the goals, the outside support for the opposition and (I hope) our understanding of the limitations of what we can do by certain tactics. // "Didn't a group of Jewish men come up with the idea (of a Christ figure) in the first place?" *strangled snort* // Yeah, at our parents' age, things can change fairly quickly – even if they seem never to change slowly. // I have to think that the Secret Service might have had a thing or two to say about just exactly where the President went in the immediate aftermath of the plane crashes. // Oh, I absolutely do enjoy visiting L.A. regularly. Should I have to move from here for some reason, it's be my first choice still.

Janice Gelb – That's quite a perq you're getting from work. I just hope you manage to get some work done on this working vacation (or whatever the proper term is for what you're doing). And a zine done while downunder would probably qualify as the one produced furthest away from the South (or, conversely, the southernmost zine done for SFPA). // If Jackson didn't win for LotR because "there are two more films, so we can honor him later" then (surprise) I think the politics of the Oscars are overriding the merits. Of course, having not seen the others, I'm not in a position to say if that's the case or not. // Not to spoil the joke or anything, but you would always ignore line 13a unless line 12b was somewhere under a dollar. (The specific gravity of Jupiter is <1.0)

I'm glad your toe's getting better in time for your trip. // Ct Rich L: But if anyone were to contract HIV from a transfusion and the blood banks hadn't been doing everything possible to screen out potentially infected donors, you know what sort of stink would get made. Even if I would agree that, logically, after a certain amount of time that certain dangers should be considered over. // Ct Arthur: Of course, as the Hugos are the "property" of, and awarded by, WSFS, it seems perfectly reasonable to limit the voting to members of the Worldcon. // Ct me: I have no problem with the notion of frequent fliers being allowed to volunteer for stringent security checks to get a card that let's them past most security checks as long as there are some basic precautions:

- 1) Photo & some sort of biometric scan ID, 2) some sort of basic check is still done and 3) No "extra suspicion" on people who don't have the card. // Interesting that you had the biggest problem with Galadriel and Lothlorien – that was the part that David Bratman felt was truest. I think you're impression is partly from them really only showing the arrival and the mirror while the mood was somber with the news of Gandalf. Again, it was a compression of the time involved that produced the distortion. // The idea of a discussion of "proper" transliteration of Hebrew words into English and how it relates to the "meaning" of Superman is almost too bizarre. Even if it is a valid point.

Gelb 100 - But would you (or Sun) really want to drop people in the middle of a project that was proceeding well? Or imply that they would be cut after the project? I see what you're saying about keeping the best people there but sometimes there are no good ways to go about things. // As I said last time, I conceded the point re animal feed. And you're quite right that carnivores and scavengers aren't tref for being so (at least that isn't the reason stated) so the parallel isn't a definitive one even if the amount of inclusion of carnivores in non-kosher animals is considerable. // So what else would you call it when a person, as an adult, takes the time to study, get the skills and then wishes to have the ceremony to acknowledge it? The ceremony itself is the same the Bar/Bat Mitzvah that any 13-year old would have so why a different name? A bris is a bris, no matter the age at which it's done, right? ((You must remember this, a bris is still a bris..)) Of course the ceremony doesn't make the child an adult but it is a public acceptance of that responsibility and some people want to make that affirmation. I suspect we'll just have to agree to disagree. // In saying that Chandra Levy was only a story because of Condit, I was referring to his being in Congress rather than him per se. I agree that any Congressional intern would have had the coverage if it had happened to them. My point is that without that Congress connection it would have been :”just another” missing person’s story. // We were/are members of the Disney club so our lodging and tickets were part of a package which saved us a bit. // Yeah, the golf cart had a GPS. And you can even buy a portable system that works with courses that have the system in place. // So far my mom’s finished her main treatments and is just on meds. The doctors are all happy with her situation. // Ct Gary: I still think that most bills should be dealt with the in a way similar to taxes – if the postmark is OK then you’re fine. At the least, if the postmark shows that a payment was sent of with reasonable expectation of on-time arrival there should be no penalty. Not that I’m holding my breath for that to happen and I do realize there are differences in the situations. // The wedding ceremony was Reform and so was the reception. Maybe the blessing on the bread was for the breaded shrimp?

Eve Ackerman – Sounds as if your transmission guy was speaking authentic, frontier gibberish.

Gary Robe – Glad the doctor caught on to Isaac’s condition when he did and I hope that things are driven back to normal by the meds.

mike weber – Ct Guy: I’ve tried that Google search for “Supergirl”, etc and haven’t had nearly the luck you have with images.

Jeff Copeland – That Arlo and Janis cartoon reminds me of a yogurt commercial we’ve seen recently where a “French Maid” is feeding this guy the yogurt and getting close, sitting on his lap. Then the door opens and two teens walk in. The woman, dropping her French accent, says, “You’re home early.” and one of the girls comments to the other, “My parents are so weird.” // And while we’re adding to the list, we’ve also lost Thor Heyerdahl, Stephen J. Gould and The Elephant. // Michelle Pfeiffer naked – with or without the lime jello – would certainly get my attention. // Ct Dengrove: If we’ve shifted into a diamond shape economic system with the goal of raising everyone up, then the goal is to get back into a pyramid but with “middle class” being the baseline. // Ct Guy: “Ah mon cherie, you’re lips are lahk spleet sausages.” // I think his vilification of Sherman is a debatable point. Yes, the way he chose left a path of destruction (and enmity) but what would have been the effect of trying to force through the Confederate army. Might not that have been just as destructive if over a longer period of time?

Pepe le Jeff – Ct me: As was brought up in a West Wing episode, the partisan “this way we win” stuff is what makes people dislike politicians. // 224 / Ct Ned: Fred Gwynne also wrote a rather amusing children’s book “The King Who Rained” each page consisted of an illustrated example of such an variable phrase. // Ct me: You realize that both a noose and a cross bear similarities to the Egyptian Ankh symbol. I don’t know if that has any significance at all. // And, using recent news for referent, it occurs to me that we give China “Most Favored Nation” status and trade agreements in order to give us some leverage to promote a more democratic society. But for Cuba we continue to go in the exact opposite direction. Is this a science experiment to see whether the carrot or the stick gives better results? // The Dracula that Random has seen is the Bela Lugosi version.

Janet Larson – I’m afraid that I have to question the data in that book your partner loaned you on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. The Palestinians had their country stolen from them? Difficult to have happened as there wasn’t any such country there in the first place. England was mandated control of the area now encompassing Israel, the West Bank and Jordan by the League of Nations after WWI and the fall of the Ottoman Empire. England essentially created Transjordan out of the eastern part. The UN voted to partition the area referred to as Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state. Israel declared itself and the neighboring Arab countries attacked resulting in the pre-1967 borders. Jordan controlled the West Bank and Egypt the Gaza Strip. At no time in that 20 year span did either offer this territory as “a Palestinian state”, nor was there any agitation by the locals for such an entity. So just when was their country stolen from them? How can they be given *back* a country and autonomy they didn’t have? / Also, you may want to take notice that closing in on a peace agreement doesn’t seem to stop terror attacks. Israel offered , essentially, 95% of the territory as a state and got the intifada in reply. Until then, much of the Palestinian job force worked in Israel. The jobs disappeared when it was no longer safe to let Palestinians freely into Israel Having jobs didn’t stop the terror attacks. The terrorists don’t want a state, they want no Israel. / Fourth strongest army in the world? I have my question about that but letting it go, you seem to think that the PA territory is the only thing that Israel has to consider. There have been a couple of wars involving multiple Arab countries and that is the situation that Israel has to be able to defend itself against. It’s like asking why the US needed such a strong military to defend against Cuba during the Cold War. Americans may have a soft spot for underdogs, but you have to be careful or you include the guy in the bank holding a dozen hostages as one of those underdogs.

APAC = NC² (Natter x Comments)

I managed to head off a potential controversy. One of our religious school teachers had arranged with our student rabbi to do a student play in conjunction with the Yom HaShoah observance ((Holocaust memorial day)). Fine. In talking with her a bit, she tells me that it’s going to be an upbeat play. Still fine. Random brings home his script and we do his part. I was vaguely puzzled by it but let it go. After the first rehearsal, Kay is a bit concerned so I read the whole play. Whoa. 1) It’s way overproduced. 2) It has no relationship to the observance. 3) It’s not “upbeat”, it’s flip. When I can’t get hold of the teacher to ask about it, I call our student rabbi to find if she’s OK’d the production or what. Well, she called me back and – having been on vacation – had not yet read the script but assured me that this play would not be produced on Yom HaShoah. ((It’ll be done as a separate event about a month later.)) ((Followup note: While I still think it was a bit overdone, the play went off very well and the parts that I was a bit worried about came off in a more controlled manner than I had thought might happen. All told a event that everyone enjoyed.))

In early March, Kay placed the order for our Toyota Prius (the hybrid electric car). It should be arriving by the beginning of summer – and apparently not a moment too soon either. To begin with, almost immediately after ordering the new car, her Fairmont started to show signs of incipient transmission failure (having to really warm up before shifting into gear, sometimes needing to be babied in gear, etc) which we have no plans to do anything about.

Then, early last week, while taking Random to school, someone in a van pulled through the stop sign and turned into her, hitting the Fairmont just behind the right rear door. Even at the low speeds, it was enough to spin her around and make her hit the telephone pole dead center (the front bumpers are both angled forward now and remind me of a handlebar mustache or an animal's whiskers). Physically, no problems. Kay took a slight bruise on her wrist and Random bumped his jaw a bit and was checked out by the school nurse before class. We all agreed that a better time/place couldn't have existed for this to happen (unless it was about 2 months from now) since a) all traffic is slow since school was starting, b) there were a bazillion witnesses and c) a cop "stationed" nearby was there within a couple of minutes. And she did take it in to our garage to have it checked out (no fluid leaks and just little metal bending needed to make it driveable). Now we just have to see what the insurance company makes of all this.

And speaking of insurance. It seems that our current carrier doesn't have the Prius set up in their system – so they won't insure it. So we go looking for a new carrier. Wonderful. More annoying still, I called the local agent who sold us our mortgage and homeowner's policy and AllState has a temporary moratorium on new auto policies other than the High Risk category. A little on-line hunting has turned up some decent quotes but it's still annoying.

Work has almost been in the category of who's idea of a joke is this? Starting in early March, we've been playing "musical breakdowns". First our hematology analyzer went on the fritz (it sprung a leak and kept acting up even after that was fixed, plus the leak shorted out one of the main internal "black boxes"). No sooner was that fixed than our chemistry analyzer started acting up and as that was being fixed, our blood gas analyzer gave us several hours of being funky. Then we had another incident with the chemistry instrument (the monitor went dead), then there were some communication problems between the analyzer and the hospital computer system, then one of the internal parts broke and THEN the part that loads the samples onto the instrument broke. "Spring. When a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of Murphy."

On the plus side, our "theoretical" night staffer did indeed appear and is about halfway through his training as I type. While he'll need the next week of days plus a week of night's (plus some hard knocks time) to get up to full speed, he seems solid enough. Even better, we've now got two potential applicants for our PM shift position (one from Santa Cruz and one from Costa Mesa) and that bodes very well for my desire to cut a day off of my schedule again to leave more down time around my massage schedule. Just have to keep my fingers slightly crossed and not get too ahead of myself. And it gets better. A tech from the other area hospital has been hired (he'll take the place of someone retiring in June) and, due to a recent set of lay-offs and rumors, we've had inquiries from other people from there as well. As I told somebody, I'm sure that someone or other will blame any troubles that Mad River Hospital is having on us.

Slight follow up on that. In thinking about the near term possibilities, it occurred to me that it may be possible to not only cut a day off my schedule but to (big maybe) finagle myself onto a day shift. I think I could shift my ongoing massage gigs around to fit that but a bigger concern looms – between the two of them, that's about a 17% pay cut and much as I'd like both of them, it may come down to deciding which option I want more.

Oh, I think I mentioned that the nurses were going to be voting on whether or not they wanted to be represented by the California Nurses' Ass'n – the vote was a resounding “YES”. So that's resolved and now we move (at some point) to the actual negotiations. Stay tuned for further developments as I find out about them.

Our seder this year was a touch smaller than I had anticipated thanks to a last minute cancellation, but it was a very enjoyable event anyway with a fair amount of lively conversation to go with the good food. Which brings me to the Passover food situation, odd. I'd worked with one of the local markets to get a good selection and had marked up the order form that they had given me (all with “off name” products). To my surprise, while they had a good selection (ie a sufficient variety to allow you to eat decently throughout the week) and a prominent end-cap display, they were all Manischewitz products and at least half of the stuff were things I certainly had not suggested. So I'm not sure just where it all came from. On the other hand Safeway, while having a minimal variety of stuff, had most of it on sale (with Safeway card) well before the holiday began. As a result, I bought most of my staples from them while getting the depth needed from the other market. Weird. But as long as they sell enough to keep on stocking for the holiday I'll be happy.

Hey! Surprise! The Prius arrived at the dealership 2 months ahead of schedule. That set of a semi-frantic weekend of arranging for the insurance and finalizing the loan prior to actually picking up the car. So Kay's been enjoying her new toy for the last week or so.

Speaking of surprises. For the first couple of weeks in April we had noticed that Corky was drinking and peeing an awful lot. When it kept up for a while, I opted to check his urine for glucose. Sure enough, it was through the roof. A vet consult resulted in a prescription for twice daily insulin. This just after having started him in Rimadyl for his (I hope) arthritic hips. (That's my hope since the medicine is apparently quite effective if that's the problem and if it isn't then there's rather little we can do about the weakness in his hind legs.) The insulin, at least, has had a fairly immediate effect and he's been feeling better and we haven't had to mop the floors for a couple of days now. ((Part of that may be that he's now willing to bug me at 5am or so if he needs to go out. 7-8 hours can be a long time when you're producing as much urine as he's been doing. And the weather's turned nice so I have no qualms about letting him out and going back to sleep.))

We've changed his meds to a daily formula for insulin and are going through a readjustment to get the dosage right. I think he'll be staying out for a few nights while we get that dealt with.

This is twice this year that I've had to consider intimations of Corky's mortality and I haven't found the contemplations to be pleasant. As long as the treatments are fairly simple, I'm willing to invest some time and money in him. He's been low maintenance for a long time so a little effort on our part isn't begrudged. We'll see what a month or so of medication does for him and take it from there. I have made him (and me) a promise that I won't make him live in pain.

Speaking of mortality. We got a call (well, several) this last weekend. Seems that Kay's brother Jim was killed in a one-vehicle accident at the Bay Bridge. She's spent the last few days on the phone a lot with her sister (who'll be coming out to help with “stuff”), and the police, coroner, cremation facility and CHP trying to get all the ducks in a proper row before she and her sister (who'll be flying into and out of Eureka) go down there after Memorial Day.

As usual, you find out more about people afterwards. In the midst of all this, we got a call from a friend of Jim's who saw the notice in the paper and had been given contact information by Jim as a just-in-case. So it sounds like Kay and Irene will be getting (and giving) a bunch of information while they are down there – probably at the wake that is intended.

And on that cheerful note. **AUF WIEDERSCHREIBEN**