

PETER, PAN & MERRY #64

A zine for SFPA # 248

David Schlosser – 2041 “N” St, Eureka CA 95501

707-HID-HALO Schloss17@aol.com

Come and Tarry on SFPA 247

Southerner – I’ll let it go for now, but the roster has an additional “0” in my zip code. // Not of immediate concern but as my wife has no objections, if nothing comes up in the meanwhile, I guess you have at least one candidate for your successor. I will give way early notice that if that occurs the delivery in and out of here will probably take a day longer than expected. // So Rule 4 has gone aft and is playing golf?

Egoboo Poll Ballot - At least this isn't a *&%# Special Election.

Uncle Lon (i) – No that's a bit more like it. / Good to know that you can be bought too.

Ned Brooks - Ct me: If you use a double-pace as the unit then 1000 of my paces would be somewhat akin to 5300-5400 feet ((I've measured my pace on the golf course so I can use that as a rough guide to distances and I run about 10% shy of a yard with each step)) so a pretty good measure of a mile. What that does for the marching ~~merons~~ legionnaires I'm not sure. An interesting question is whether the Legionnaires' pace for purposes of measuring a defined mile was that of a fully laden one or those that could march more freely paced. // Ct Jeff: Of course that I bring in a sample ballot and give them the information doesn't prove that I'm the person that I claim to be. I have not specific problem with wanting photo IDs but I'd want to see that there was a problem before instituting such changes. Perhaps, if you are going to do that, each polling place should have the equipment to do ID cards on the spot and have that going on for at least one or two elections before they became required. And those IDs would be valid even if you move - at least as much as any other ID would be if you moved in the interim. Also, if photo ID is required, what do you do about absentee ballots?

Ct mike: I don't see what kind of test you can reasonably use to allow someone to vote. For one thing, there's nothing in the law (thank God) that allows limits on the right to vote by intelligence. And what assumptions do you make? Being illiterate doesn't mean you can't understand the issues and being literate doesn't mean you can (or will) understand them. If I were going to set any limit it would be that only those who had read (or had read to them) voter information pamphlets would be allowed to vote on Initiatives and Referenda (ie weren't just relying on the ads) but when you start disenfranchising one group or another you just get further from a true representative vote.

Jeff Copeland - Ct Dengrove: In thinking about it, the last two Democratic nominees have, as you said, had “gravitas” and lost to Bush who has - I guess I'd have to call it - “the common touch”. Note that Clinton beat two Republicans who, arguably, had more gravitas than he did. To put it another way, the winning candidacy (and we'll leave the argument about who won in 2000 alone) seems to revolve more on personality/people smarts than on policy know-how.

Fake Jeff - I think the Virginia laws outlawing any contractual relationship "that even smacked of Gay marriage" wouldn't be relevant in the case of either Microsoft or Disney - both are based elsewhere and the state doesn't have the authority to interfere with interstate commerce. On the flip side I could see where either company *might* decide to not establish business in the state because of laws like that. // Well, however Tarantino may be wanting to film Casino Royale, he won't be using Pierce Brosnan in it. // I'm curious about the mechanics of this "pay the reader" system for "taxing" email. How, for example, does AOL know if someone on Yahoo actually read a piece of mail? And, if the Yahoo person does read it, how does AOL bill them? Clearly taxing on the sending side is much simpler (albeit probably less popular). // At least the Boston fan group doesn't have a large payroll to lure con-runners away from other areas. //

Ct me: No argument from me that saying objecting to all or part of the Patriotic Act is unpatriotic is stupid. In fact, I'd argue that that position was what was unpatriotic. // I'd say that a bart mitzvah was either a) A good deed done by Brett's brother or b) a good deed done on the subway in SF. ((A mitzvah isn't really a charitable deed per se, altho a charitable deed would be included in the larger category of "mitzvah".)) // Now would certainly be the time to try some of the simple changes in the SocSec system and see how they work out in real life. There's still time for more draconian measures if it comes to that. // Hmmmm. That Greek line you quote from *The Frogs* looks like the first word reads "Bre-ke-ke--ke-kex". If that's right then I have to doff my hat to original Trek. In "Plato's Stepchildren" (the one with the Kirk-Uhura kiss) there was one scene where the midget was reading from a scroll of some sort and that was one of the words he recited. // Ct Guy: I'm not sure how "naming one's apazines" is a lost art seeing as everyone here (and in LASFAPA) have names for them (some continuing and some not). Maybe Guy's just angling for people to explain where their titles are coming from? ((Good luck trying to get explanations of Alan Winston's zine titles.))

Richard Dengrove - Ct Ned: Another problem with the claim that all the parts of the eye *couldn't* have evolved independently is that not all eyes are alike - ie there's more than one way to skin a cat - and ID would seem to imply that organs with similar function should all be in (at least) a continuum of the same design. But, having parts that are not useful doesn't - evolutionarily speaking - imply that they will disappear (at least not in anything but the very long run). Useless isn't detrimental and thus has survival problems. In fact that too would be an argument against ID - wouldn't useless organs be designed out rather than leaving them around "just in case"? // Ct George: Just as a point of idle curiosity, why couldn't Jesus have redeemed souls on other planets? // Ct Arthur: I found it interesting a few weeks ago when Random mentioned that he'd asked someone to be his girlfriend (and, as with his dad, he's got a friend). Both Kay and I were bemused since - to us - the boyfriend/girlfriend relationship is one that develops from dating rather than being one declared up front with a conscious decision.

Ct me: The problem with Gnomes trying to visit that Loch Gnomond is that it's off-limits. Sort of a gnomands land. // In the Turtledove series, the CSA's blitz worked well but not quite well enough. Not quite cutting all the way through Ohio to the Lakes, thus setting up a long war.

TreeGrove - I don't know. I think there's some potential traction in doing things to eliminate "victimless" crimes as a way to allow tougher sentencing for more serious crimes. (Let's agree we know what we're talking about without debating the absolute accuracy of the term.) Or maybe just downgrading them to misdemeanors. The principle remains essentially the same. Hmmm. I wonder if regularly testing hookers for STDs would be as useful a program as needle exchange. // Most of our accounts are in both names - and the two that are in my name only are linked via the bank's computer system to our joint accounts for easy cross access. // So twice in the 20th Century a sitting US Senator won the Presidency. As I go over the last 100+ years in my head, it occurs to me that a) while Governor is a good position to run from, the "other" category seems to be best (ex-office holders, holders of cabinet posts, generals) and b) now I'm at a loss to even think of anyone from the House (in that time frame) who made it directly to the presidency. // Oh come now. God has a lot of titles, but only one Name - even if we're not sure of the exact pronunciation.

Hold it. The Ru'ach are souls that never get born? That doesn't sound at all like the usage of the term that I'm used to - generally of a, well, higher level of the soul. Nothing to do with any form of "disembodied soul/spirit" (other than when refereing to the spirit / breath of God). / And my source has the first mention of the term "dybbuk" in Cabalistic works of the 16th Century although the concept appears rather a millenium or two older. // I'd phrase it that Israel's dislike of Saddam was a "non-negative" factor in the invasion (ie "It didn't hoit.") but hardly a primary or secondary prompter. // I think the two congregations could be reunited sooner than that since there are only minority who bear *real* grudges about the split. The problem would then be one of which rabbi do you keep - because two just aren't needed. Although I suppose splitting the part-time position might be possible my impression is that the old rabbi is one of those who would be more, rather than less, uncomfortable with recombining. // "Bush got elected because he scares bin Ladin". Is that anything like the Tom Lehrer line "M...L....F....Will scare Brezhnev. I hope he is *half as scared as I!*". // Temples named Beth-El don't have to be of any particular flavor of Judaism. The congregations pick their own names.

Don't know about the other Fundamentalist sets but, in general, the UltraOrthodox Jews are preserving the flavor of the religion from a particular set of times and places. I'd have to dispute that being the "true flavor" - although I have no doubt that that would be an accurate description of what they see themselves as doing. // Random's not as into golf as I am - partially, I think, from my schedule making it harder to go out with him on the regular basis that I did with my dad. I do keep trying though. // But my lab partner didn't wander off to have fun (I think) since he HAD to be there and we didn't have independant transportation. He wandered off to play with another instrument - maybe he works better self-paced. // Ct Gary B: I believe that the '60s was considered the Silver Age of Comics. // Ct Sheila: They say the haven't yet decided who wins the Presidency on West Wing but, again, unless they plan to end it this year it has to be the Democratic candidate (if they do plan on ending it this year, all bets are off).

Guy Lillian III - Ct me: I'm curious if there is a particular point in the shuttle launches when the foam is most likely to cause damage. Right at take off? The first minute of flight? One has to wonder if some sort of protective coating/cover could be used that would deflect the debris during that window and then be ejected/removed. // I realize the "prosecute the doctor, not the mother" is a popular strategy in anti-choice legislation and that's exactly why I wonder if it might be a direction to attack any such laws from. // As for LASFAPA page counts, you're not even really close: Disty 23 - 412 pages, Disty 22 - 380, Disty 25 - 376, Disty 28 - 371, Disty 32 - 357, Disties 33 & 105 - 345, Disty 100 - 339. It should be noted that 22 & 23 were immediately prior to Iguanacón. / But it was a great set of photo-covers. // Let's expand on that. 10 years a SFPA, 29-years a LASFAPAN.

Ct Jeff: Sounds like there's a bit more being said and written about the outing of Valerie Plame. Even if Rove isn't the primary target, he is getting some peripheral damage. // I believe that Jeff was referring to Spokane's mayor, not Seattle's. // Ct Gary B: What's wrong with Martian machines buried underground for a million years or so -- that was the premise of 5 Million Years to Earth.

Self - Ct Rich L: Having use of the Force (at least for physical feats) requiring something solid for leverage at least makes sense and somewhat avoids the "6-Million Dollar Man" conundrum. // Ct Richard D: I need to restate - more than a "majority" of scientist need to be convinced of the evidence for a concensus to be there. What the "supermajority" level is is somewhat irrelevant but it needs to be substantial. // Ct Guy: Correction. I have decided on a birthday party - a potluck, all afternoon, come when you can affair on my next weekend off.

Box Scores - Hey, I liked that other set better.

Reinhardts - Ct Ned: "Show me in the Christian religion (ie New Testament) where it says it is okay to kill someone because they don't believe like you..." Interesting conflation but - at least in Catholicism - there's more to Christianity than the New Testament, specifically Papal decrees. And, considering the Crusades and the Inquisition, I'd be inclined to cite those decrees in response to your request. // Ct me: Funny I was pointing out that the saying the Crusades were launched to take back lands that "were originally Christian and had been for several hundred years" was historically inaccurate as Palestine was only in Christian hands from about 400 - 650 CE. (Albeit certainly there were Christians there before that.) Whether the Byzantines were considered Roman or not is rather irrelevant to the point. That land was hardly "historically Christian territory." As for the intent of Islam being to convert the whole world, I didn't dispute that - I didn't say anything one way or the other. // I note disagreement re SocSec reform, with Toni at least applauding raising the issue. My memory is bad, but what was her view on the Clinton Health Care reform effort? Surely we have a need for reform in that area as well. // Hey Hank, at least we can fully agree that Intelligent Design has no place at all in any science curriculum.

Jeff Copeland - Hey, is the clan going to be coming to LACon next year? // Why don't we have something called gomorrery? Because "sodomy" is nice and short but it's a long way to gomorrery. // While I admit to not having kept up too well with it, everyone in California pretty much knows that you need a 3-day supply of food, water, etc because that's the time line for help to arrive after a major quake (note that our water supply is now more in line with that, we've always had a camp stove & canned gas, a barrel of emergency supplies and are generally stocked with enough food to get us through - if not on the most balanced of diets). On the other hand, certain responsibilities do work their way up the ladder - tsunami warning systems, levee construction/maintenance, construction standard, etc are beyond local control and outside relief has to be ready to come in but to coordinate and supplement, not override other help. // Careful - you're dealing with "persistent rumors" and blog postings as if they were hard facts. Don't dilute your statement that way. // Kay and I have been West Wing fans for just about the entire run - fiction it may be, but one-sided it certainly isn't. We just finished watching the live Debate episode and would like to see more of that in the real world. // Ct mike: Well, after Katrina we had gas up over \$3 per gallon. In driving today (Nov 6) I noticed \$2.53 for regular.

Ct Janice: I'd guess that middle-aged men are perfectly happy to talk about sex lives -- just not their own. // Ct Guy: I can look it up if you'd like but you're not on the quick list of high level contributors to LASFAPA. // Ct me: "Are you trying to fake us into believing you're really Janice?" And what makes you think that I'm not really Janice? (How do we differ, let me count the ways.) // I'm just glad that we didn't buy this house as an investment - makes market value a side issue that we can note but not be really concerned about. And, of course, in a lot of parts of the state we wouldn't have been able to afford this house, even 12 years ago. // I know for sure that various of KHUM's DJs do advance taping of some (not all) of their shows to cover for times they may be out of town or the like ((and they also sub for each other)) so it's quite likely that Digital Dan does prerecord a lot of his stuff (unless he's a fast typist). On the other hand, Top 40 they are not. If you had the chance to catch their internet broadcast I think you'll see that. Very much a community based station. // It's been a lot of years, but for silly and playful partners I still think nostalgically of Lee Ann. // It's just odd / a shame that a budget surplus was needed to find the money to be able to do the safety and infrastructure work that Clinton planned. // I think we both said about the same thing about the "your wife, Kitty" question even if your version had more force behind it. // Ct Eve: Margaritas don't have fruit, but they do have citrus juice? OK, fine.

Liz Copeland - And the Copeland take on Firefly / Serenity is...? // So, talking behind my back were you? I hope you'll get the chance to talk to my face in LA next year. // The guy in the picture with Fifi looks like someone I ought to recognize.

mike weber - For the most part I think any movie that relies on SFX (or the animation) rather than on the story it's telling is going to be in trouble. Not the people might not watch for the Gee Gosh effect but they won't want to see it multiply or own it. (Fantasia being a bit of an oddity here.) // Actually no, I didn't the address for Ben's home. I'm guessing Yancy street but maybe not.

Gary Brown - Glad your sister is doing well after the follow up surgery. As for a lawsuit I think the question would involve negligence vs "risk of the procedure". I don't know enough to address that but it might be possible to negotiate with the hospital based on the possibility of a lawsuit. // Reading your page ten just now I saw it as "Bad Things come in Paris" for a moment - and considering this is early November, it seemed appropos even if a bit prescient on your part. // I'm not as up on the current Gulf Coast recovery as I might be, but my impression is that two-months out we're still pretty much drifting semi-aimlessly in the recovery effort. Admittedly there are aspects here that are different than many others (needing the land to dry out for instance) but it still just feels like a fairly desultory effort. // I'm noticing a bit about heroes retiring - what with Jack Nicklaus stepping off the scene this summer. Certainly those that I grew up with have all reached or passed that point. / So far personal aches and pains and limitations haven't been making themselves known to me though. (Knock on Wood) Although I do make a point of doing at least a little stretching in the morning and before hitting the course, but I figure that's just basic warming up exercises like everyone is supposed to do.

Ct Ned: It's been a while since I've had to deal with it, but when I was mailing LASFAPAs there was nary an issue with the ones that were sent Book Rate. Mind you, I weighed and stamped them myself and never asked the clerk to do more than take them. Ask no questions and get no unwanted answers. // Ct Norm: That's sort of the reason behind my keeping copies of my zines. Somewhat for the back-and-forth but mostly for the natter about what was going on in my life. // Unless there is some sort of lein on the funds I don't see what call the bank may have on the money. And I really can't see what cause it would have to hold onto any funds that were in a joint account. // Ct me: And here I thought the blank check had fallen into a black hole. If you're looking for numbers to put on it, may I suggest "pi" or "e" or Aleph. "Chai" would work well too. Maybe have a random number program print a few rows. // Let's just hope that a Carter or Clinton is lurking in the wings for 2008 - although I keep coming back to the idea of having a Nixon -- he won 8 years after a razor-thin loss. One never knows. // I'm not having any trouble seeing all the personal stuff (photos or otherwise) that my mom wants to pass along every time she sees us. I'm having trouble with wanting most of them since only a very few have any meaning to me. Still, sifting for the stuff I want is nice (I'd just like to do it before getting them home).

So, if I'm threatened by a careless driver and pull out my gun and then he shoots me. He's protected since it was self defense even though I only pulled out of justifiable provocation? Why not just set up duelling fields at all exits? // If ID checks and verification were to expand, I just might think of making a point of going about my daily business without ID. Walk to work with only cash for the day, ditto shopping, leave the license in the car after driving somewhere, etc. // I saw that \$150 for the Calvin & Hobbes collection. That I'll have to think on - unless someone here would like to make that my *birthday present*. // Let's clarify. You're to blame for my rejoining SFPA 10+ years ago. I have only myself to blame for still being here. // Ct Don: My old dictionary of American slang says that "google", as a noun, referred to the Adam's Apple. As a verb, "googly" meant protruding or rolling. // Ct Jeff: Yeah, the older kid in Frazz does look like he's an older Calvin.

Janice Gelb - Dang, you're gonna be gone just in time to have one of them nearly endly summers. As falls fades here you should be getting there in time for spring to have sprung out. // Glad there's no significant damage to you, you're much more important than the car. And it's amazing what a little difference in bumper heights will do to the relative damage to each vehicle. // Somehow a class on "Basic Knife Skills" makes me abit nervous about meeting up with you in a dark consuite. // Ct me: I wasn't so much saying that Not prosecuting mothers in abortion-limiting legislation was mostly out of sympathy as that, by not targeting them, they were avoiding a sympathy backlash against the proposed legislation. I'd still love to see the mother prosecuted under one or the other such law. // I wasn't aware that there had ever been any special exhibit about Jews in the Majors (at Cooperstown or anywhere else). I wonder if we even make up our population percentage (2-3% I believe) relative to our representation in baseball. I do know that there are a few books around on the topic of Jews in sports though.

In my relationship with Lee Ann, we only had seperate accounts. She gave me \$ for her share of the rent and we kept a log of who paid for other things which we reconciled on occassion. I wonder if that had any effect on how the relationship turned out since there were virtually no ties other than emotional ones. / Overall though the joint and separate has worked well for us since it ties us together but also doesn't leave our finances in each others faces all the time. // The point of my analogy isn't that they were in 1:1 correspondance but that they would all involve similar logic - that keeping people in ignorance and telling them not to do something is safer than actually teaching the right and wrong of how to do things. // So we'll hang out a bit in L.A. next year. /// If Stephen's dinner *that* night was a lamp roast I'd say that calling it as safe thing to eat would be a bit off. It wasn't a lava lamp, was it? Because that really would explain everything.

Gary Robe - Gee, popular picture that one. // Your experience with the gift shop in Shrewsbury reminds me of ours in Aviemore last time in Scotland. We were in the entry area of a local amusement park and checking out the shops. One had Thunderbirds pins. However I did buy a set of them - even though I did half expect to be able to find them at the con. Sometimes you have to grab when you can. // And your memory of our encounter needs adjusting. I called to you before the BBC interviews - we were together when they came up and we were both chatted up. Also, I recognized you from the pictures you've run through here - I do good correlation. // You weren't expecting to see us? I'd mentioned a few times that we were going to be there - and I knew you were going over. As for actually *seeing* you, it seemed a fair bet all things considered. // Nick and Random looking eeriely like cousins would explain Eve's trying to foist Random off on your family at dinner. And they sure did spend a bunch of time in the game room - at least Random had a good time, had someone to hang with and met up with us when expected.

Sheila Strickland - Condolences on your aunt Rita.

APAC = NC² (Natter x Comments)

Following our viewing of *Corpse Bride*, we caught both *Serenity* and *Curse of the WereRabbit*. *Serenity* is the big screen continuation of Fox's series, *Firefly*. A very enjoyable and true to the series follow-up. Really my only "complaint" was that the concept felt like it was more at home on the small screen. Part of that may be that, being familiar with the show, I could see where 2-3 seasons of development had been compressed to fit into a 2 hour movie. Sort of like taking seasons 2-4 of *Babylon 5* and doing a single movie to tell the tale. But, as I said, the characters were true to themselves and it was a fine follow-up. Who knows now there may be some books to fill in the gap in the fossil record.

And the Big Screen Wallace and Gromit film was just plain fun. It's nice to see that some of the "Old Ways" can still be used to turn out high quality material. And, of course, the homages (or, in this case, fromages) to Charles Shultz, King Kong and, even, *Mummy II* were quite appreciated. I do have to wonder just how many picked up on the Shultz reference but it's nice that us oldpharts can have stuff to catch that the sniperwhappers may miss.

And then there was Hurricane Rita. This is really a bit over the top. At least, as we move into October, it looks as if various sorts of rebuilding efforts can finally get underway along the Gulf coast and, knock on wood, we can get through the rest of the season without any more major damage from storms. Well... Wiiiiilma! (And, less importantly in the states albeit no less dangerous, Alpha & Beta) This is becoming nothing short of ridiculous. But yes, I will say that I hope this confluence of natural and political disasters is enough to turn the 2006 elections into a resounding lack of confidence vote in the GOP.

I'm bothered by the proposal that the armed forces should become the primary agency to move in to deal with natural disasters. The argument that "they are the best equipped, logistically, to act quickly" strikes me as a negative argument in that - if that's right - then the current administration has let FEMA slip unconscionably since they are the agency that should be best equipped to act quickly on this front. (And I do realize that FEMA is largely about coordinating responses rather than providing the responders per se - which is why any responders should be under them.) Also use of armed forces as the lead responders assumes their availability and ability to respond to ongoing disasters while dealing with military operation. Besides, the army can already be called in so it seems to me that the deal would be more to smooth the road for that to occur rather than to take the decision out of state hands except in very extraordinary situations. (Say something that happened very fast and took out communications for a while as well.)

About the time this hits collation, we'll be up near Bandon, Oregon on a little 4-day weekend. Random will be staying with friends and minding the house/critters. This is birthday present for myself since we'll be staying at the Bandon Dunes golf resort and I'll be trying each of their courses during the stay. Kay will be joining me for the hike, albeit not the playing, and I expect we'll have plenty of time to check out the old town area of Bandon itself. Here's to nice weather.

Auf Wiederschreiben