



the zine dump #52

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Illo by NANCY MAYBERRY

This issue is dedicated to Ed Meskys, Alex Bouchard and Michelle Zellich

Beside this desk is a small chest of drawers, with three compartments. The bottom drawer is a catch-all where stuff accumulates – admit it, you have a junk drawer too. In the middle I've stashed material for my next *Challenger*, the special tribute to Theodore Sturgeon – print-outs of articles, memorials, etc., a copy of Lan Lascowski's magnificent *Lan's Lantern* #36 (which I'm thinking of reprinting *in full*), SaM Moscowitz's *Seekers of Tomorrow* its piece about Sturgeon was recommended by Samuel R. Delany. More on that project later.

On top, crammed to the gunwales, is the drawer devoted to fanzines received in the mail. Joined with the glut of fannish pubs in my e-mail and the wealth of fanzine gold growing steadily on eFanzines.com, and the fact that it has been five long months since my last issue, they shame and convince me: it's time for another *Zine Dump*, my zine about zines.

And so here we are.

Michelle Zellich was the heart of St. Louis fandom, and a universally beloved soul. She published a wide-ranging general interest zine about everything SFnal, *The Insider*, remarkable for its scope and color. Inclusiveness and cheer predominated, which seems to have been true for Michelle's every fannish moment. Her husband Rich reported her loss in the spring. How we will miss this warm and beautiful human being.

Alex Bouchard Alex published a perzine, *Lightning Round*, and was always a friendly, affable presence. His wife, who won a Worldcon masquerade prize at Millennium Philcon as "the Liberty Belle," sent forth a brief e-mail in June reporting the good fella's death in an auto accident. We join her in mourning.

Ed Meskys was a Hugo winner for his genzine *Niekas*, and when asked by yhos what his title meant, simply replied "Nothing." He bravely kept up his fanac after blindness claimed him and always maintained the friendly, accepting, generous nature which is our GDH and WOL at its best. Salutes!

I shouldn't be doing this. I must set to serious work on the Theodore Sturgeon *Challenger*. I've completed my accumulation of Sturgeon's fiction, am trying to accumulate his reviews, and seek photos, critiques, puff pieces ... whatever else there is! Pray, contact me if you have anything you'd care to share – or if you'd like to write something about one of SF's best.

There isn't much fandom could contribute to the major writing duty which preys upon my mind – my memoir of my years as a public defender. 95% of the book is already drafted – articles from *Challenger* about my cases (revealing no confidences, of course) – but I need to draw it all together, and despite having loads of free time thanks to Mr. COVID (we're fully vaccinated, thanks), motivation has been hard to come by. I'd much rather be fanzining.

72, going on 7.

It would be nice to be finished with these major projects by the end of March, because very soon after, I'll face another. In early April, off Rosy and myself will go to France and the U.K. It's all thanks to the gratitude and generosity of Rosy's father, Joe Green. A detailed trip report will follow (they always do). Then I'd like to indulge in more attempts at fiction – I actually wrote a short story this spring, and though I can't vouch for its quality, I *can* declare that it felt damn good to do it. (Next project: rewriting it!)

Throughout it all, however, my mantra remains the same: ***The Zine Dump*** wants to see every amateur publication devoted to SF and its fandom

published in English. Like these:

Alexiad Vol. 20 No. 3 | Joe and Lisa Major, 1409 Christy Ave., Louisville KY 40204-2040 | jtmajor@iglou.com | I must begin this comment with an apology; normally, I'm amenable to and accessible for yappetyyaps with the great Joe any time, but as spring has morphed into summer I find myself uncommunicative as almost never before. I'm sure this excellent fella – like John Hertz, another favorite conversation-mate – feels slighted. Do not! Consider my weirdness a symptom of Florida heat and pandemic isolation, bound to evaporate as these horrors fade. In the meantime, I have excellent *Alexiad* to sustain me. Like many issues, this one begins with a heartfelt paragraph from Lisa, this time on the void left by the death of her aunt. Joe is quickly off with tales of his nifty obsessions: arctic/Antarctic exploration, monarchical news, Napoleon (I wish he'd seen the extraordinary exhibit on Bonaparte I viewed in Memphis many years ago), an annular eclipse. After the shocking news that Berkeley's "Naked Guy," who

wandered around Berkeley *au naturel* (some years after I left, thank heaven) has committed suicide (apparently he was schizophrenic), here come to book reviews, sharp, detailed, informative. Major is extremely catholic in his reading tastes – an intriguing true crime account, the *Medici* series, an Antarctic mystery (of course). He cedes his zine to Lisa for a piece on cicadas, an article on high tech by frequent contributor Rodford Edmiston (metal is prominently featured; I wish my old pal Joe Celko could see this). Then the Chorus takes over for a rousing lettercol, which actually mentions this year’s controversial Worldcon. *Alexiad* appears regularly – the pandemic couldn’t derail it – and while I’m in my reclusive fugue. Is a most welcome connection to great fans and their store of nifty arcane lore.

Ansible 408 (July 2021) | David Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berks, RG1 5AU, U.K. | news.ansible.uk | This issue came in an e-mail with the message, “You know the sort of thing to expect,” and so we do, but it’s with avid anticipation that we open each new edition. I always call Dave’s newszine “indispensable,” and so it is. It’s also hearty and happy. Even the insults directed towards SF, as reported in his “As Others See Us” section, somehow seem fun. An ambition of mine is to write and publish fiction that *doesn’t* make it into “Thog’s MasterClass.”

Askance #51 | John Purcell, see *Askew* | I will never forgive John for getting his genzine past issue #50 long before mine reaches issue #43! This number does have some things in common with my next *Challenger*, though – a stunning Alan White cover and logo. He’s planning a foreign vacay next spring, as are we (he’ll love Vancouver), he too mourns a beloved pet, I just can only hope, though, that any zine of mine can flow with John’s easy grace. Contributing here are his college buddy Bill Fischer (with a *very* funny “revisit” to history, to see if Facebook will notice, and of course a “Figby” strip) and Wolf von Witting, with a piece on short films complete, hallelujah, with links. John stars in his own pub, however, with a chapter of his excellent TAFF report, bringing the Purcells home from Liverpool, and a very cool salute to Dale Speirs and *Opuntia* in celebration of its 500th issue. “From the Hinterlands”. John’s lettercol, features names we don’t often see, like Joel Thingvall’s and Steve Jeffery’s, and perhaps the last published words of Timothy Lane, who has since writing his LOC left us. As has the great Steve Stiles since creating his clever and colorful bacover. Okay, the gauntlet is down, Purcell! I’ll make *seventy-five* issues before you do!

Askew #34 | John Purcell, 3744 Marielene Circle, College Station TX 77845 | askance73@gmail.com | June issue of John’s perzine, more political than usual, as he responds to recent lunacies of America’s right wing. As can be expected, he mentions the incredible Marjorie Taylor Greene, though not her most egregious loathsomeness – cursing out a school shooting survivor for damaging her 2nd Amendment rights. Much more happily, he recounts a recent recording session at which he cut several demos; multitasking, this Purcell! His reading list follows—classics, mostly, with Steven Silver’s *After Hastings* (a “sprawling, brawling novel”) among them. His notes on *More than Human* have me faunching for the article he promises for *Challenger* on Theodore Sturgeon’s most famous novel. Good LOCs from other zinesters, a homey reflection above a backyard barbecue grill – sounds good to me.

The Balooobius Takes the Fifth | Taral Wayne, 245 Dunn Ave., Apt. 2111, Toronto, Ontario, M6K 1S6, Canada | Taral@bell.net } In his e-mail Taral – he of the sexy funny animal art – disparages this zine as a catch-all for odds & ends, the product of pandemic malaise – first is “The Year that Never Happened”, and didn’t it feel that way? Best news Taral can muster is the replacement for his old traveling chair ... and the completion of his latest novelette. “Cancel My Order”, his next section, deals with the cancel culture and, like my own *Spartacus*, rails against the revilement of certain Dr. Seuss volumes and Pepe le Pew (whom he finds irritating). Taral goes on to talk about a century-old token he finds in the street and natter about his aforementioned new fiction. Write me something about .Sturgeon, Taral!

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BCSFazine \$549 | R. Graeme Cameron, the.graeme.bcsfazine@gmail.com | Volume 47, #2 of the official pub of the British Columbia SF Association, but Cameron begins his editorial proclaiming that “BCSFA is *not* an organized club with membership roll, annual fees, scheduled events, or a public presence.” Instead, it is “a nostalgic concept based in distant memory.” As for BCSFazine, it is “nothing more than an exercise in nostalgia for gaffiated fans rather than an organ for a functioning club.” But the zine itself belies this gloom. A touching tribute for a late BCSFAn, Stewart Smyth, shows how much life and energy remains in the group. Spider Robinson provides a highly enjoyable piece about “correctable” books. Justifying the Kelly Freas classic cover on this issue’s front, *Martians Go Home!* gets a retro-review (book: yay; movie: phooey). Stan Hyde adds a lively article on SF in the streaming services, Michael Bertrand reviews new animation, Felicity Walker reflects on the original *Robocop*. “I’d buy *that* for a dollar!” Though Cameron retreats to malaise in his end piece (noting his 70th) this clubpub seems perfectly fresh.

Brooklyn! #112 | Fred Argoff, Penthouse L, 1120 Ocean Pkwy, Brooklyn NY 11230-4060 | subs 4 issues /\$10 *cash*. Quarterly. | Fred merges his passions about life in New York with a special issue on Brooklyn subways, with lotsa lore, photos and text. As usual, this terrific zine is so evocative I can hear the accents from the people and the screech of subway brakes, smell the falafel and the subway ozone, *feel* the vibes of the trains as they careen towards you down the tracks ... Not SF, you protest? Fuhgedabowdit!

Captain Flashback #32 | Andy Hooper & Carrie Root, 11032 30th Ave. NE, Seattle WA 98125 | fanmailaph@aol.com | Sez Andy: “CAPTAIN FLASHBACK is devoted to old fanzines, crusader kings, Christian amazons, and other fascinating phenomena of the 12th Century.” Not to mention the Horror Host of the Month, this issue honoring Adam Keefe of Buffalo’s *Fright Night Theater* and Toronto’s Gene Taylor and Billy Van. The major part of this issue is devoted to Eleanor of Aquitaine and the wars thereto associated. It’s fascinating stuff, certainly as Hooper – a terrific writer – relates it. Looking back on fandom past, we find an Art Rapp poem, a 1951 piece by Redd Boggs, some great Rotsler art, and an enthusiastic lettercol featuring Rich Lynch, Lloyd Penney, and John Hertz. What can one say? Along with *This Here*, the best perzine extant.

Christian New Age Quarterly Vol. 25 No. 1 | Catherine Groves, PO Box 276, Clifton NJ 07015-0276 | info@christiannewage.com | SF has very seldom touched on the possibilities of *spiritual* exploration as a venue for speculative fiction; science being as secular and rational a discipline as can be, the two perspectives have almost always been looked on as mutually exclusive, if not hostile. Certainly the Trumpish evangelists have done nothing to heal the divide. But *C*NAQ* might; its religion is sane, thoughtful, humane and open; this agnostic always finds common ground in its writers’ search for answers to life’s questions. In this issue spiritual growth seems central, through well-wrought pieces by Jacquie Higinbotham and Joanne Winteski. Hey, someone suggest good SF that treats spirituality with respect: Lafferty, Sturgeon, Cordwainer Smith, Phil Dick ... they rank among my favorites for a reason.

CounterClock #38 | Wolf von Witting, wolfram1764@yahoo.com | One of the very finest genzines I see, enthusiastic, varied, well-written, niftily illustrated (beautiful cover by Emilian Enanche). The editor himself is a good, poetic writer, which fact adds immeasurably to the attraction of the fanzine; his opening muse on stress vs. joy is a minor wonder. He also relates an encounter with a UFO – which leads to a long, sumptuous discussion of same – and the sight of a gliding (*not* fluttering) butterfly, which opens his mind and pen to the nature of reality. A cuss word from the new *Picard* series sets off a piece by Owen Morawitz on “the Blue Language of the Future” – I flash on an Alfred Bester time travel yarn I read many years ago. The guy kept shouting “Verlish vorlash!” (or somesuch). Most interesting here is a history of the Eurocon, complete with illos from the convention’s long past. A terrific lettercol includes a LOC from a “Herbert George Wells” which I suspect *may* be a put-on.

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Creating a Faux 1960s Fanzine | Anonymous. c/o Taral Wayne, see *Baloobius* | Taral writes on eFanzines: “An artist friend of mine, who prefers to remain anonymous, faked up some “mimeo” pages, using various filters and fonts to recreate the look of a 1970s fanzine. (Although he seemed to think he was doing a 60s fanzine, but that’s about ten years off.) This is how he did it.” And how he did it is remarkable, mysterious (to a non-techie), extremely impressive. Step by step, he – I guess it’s a he – takes us through the involved process of turning a piece of contemporary art into a convincing replica of work done 60 years in the past, those good old days of liquid fuel, when mimeographs walked the Earth. Pardon my awe, but this stuff is genius.

CyberCozen Vol. XXXIII, No. 07, July 2021 | Leybl Botwinik, leybl_botwinik@yahoo.com | The Israeli Society for SF and F newszine, just two pages this time, with a photo of the *Virgin Galactic* passengers (“astronauts” my ass) and some cool-sounding links. “Earth’s fifth ocean just confirmed.” Where was it all this time?

DASFax July 2021 | Jeanne Jackson, 31 Rangeview Drive, Wheat Ridge CO 80215 | DASFAEditor@Hotmail.com | Brief edition of the Denver club’s newszine; Jackson has a minor surgical procedure coming up, and of course we wish her the best. Club life goes on: a good speaker is scheduled, though I can’t tell if the presentation will be on-line or in-person. No Sourdough Jackson article this time, but the June issue sports an excellent piece on SF comics.

De Profundis 679 | Marty Cantor, 11825 Gilmore St. #105, North Hollywood, CA 91606 | The unofficial clubzine of the great Los Angeles club, absolutely smashed by COVID, meeting on-line and by ZOOM, and though these magnificents are obviously trying assiduously to keep the LASFS spirit going, one senses catastrophe. One of Marty’s aims in *DeProf* is to print the minutes – or “menace” – of each club meeting, which have in the past been delightful fannish reading. There’s little he can do with ZOOM meetings, and he lists multitudinous events for which he has *no* minutes. The club seeks a meeting space and has for years. Cantor seeks a replacement editor (a quest that has lasted for several years). L.A. continues buckled and bent by the pandemic. *Augh!* Keep fighting, heroes.

The Drink Tank 302 | Chris Garcia, | It’s almost unfair to review *The Drink Tank* based on a single issue, but the issues Chris serves up are so many, and so various, that there’s just no alternative. I could fill a whole *TZD* with commentary on a year’s worth. A Hugo winner == and who can forget Garcia’s acceptance ... uhh, speech? In this issue he surveys the recent admissions to the National Film Registry – *Bambi* made it, and the ’53 *War of the Worlds* – Taral Wayne makes pledges for the coming year (this one), and Chris takes a fond look at *Alien*, following up on the issue’s nifty cover. Good memories, good reading, great movie.

Endeavor 14 | Kurt Erichsen, 2539 Scottwood Ave., Toledo OH 43610-1358 | mail@kurterichsen.com | This must be the season for professionally produced fan publications. Kurt Erichsen, a blazingly witty fan artist, comes forth with his first genzine in 43 years, a signature-bound masterpiece with *gasp* its own ISBN number and typically, for Kurt, diverting contents. Artwork, of course, abounds, with many fan illos and graphic stories, but there’s a slew of amateur fiction in text form as well. I usually don’t critique such material, so I’ll just say that Kurt’s editorial is excellent, especially when he remembers several fan friends who passed on during the huge gap between issues – among them people I knew too, like the delightful Cara Sherman and SFPA bro Rich Morrissey. Rather shyly, he asks if we readers want him to continue *Endeavor*; this reader shouts yes, and I hope I won’t have to wait until 2064.

I Remember Me and Other Narratives | Rich Lynch, PO Box 3120, Gaithersburg MD 20885 | rw_lynch@yahoo.com | “Walt Willis articles and essays from *Mimosa*.” I’ll say that again, putting due emphasis where it belongs: “*Walt Willis* articles and essays from *Mimosa*.” If, like me, you got into fandom in the late ‘60s and into zining some time after that, the name of

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Walt Willis is more than historical, more than legendary, it is *mythic*. His fanzine work, mainly in is the standard by which all subsequent written fanac is judged. He was recipient of the first fan fund, predecessor to TAFF. With Bob Shaw, he wrote the epic fanfiction *The Enchanted Duplicator*. Willis is the standard by which all written fanac is judged. He passed in 1999, and I never got to meet him ... except through the epic majesty of Richard Bergeron's *Warhoon* 28 and these columns and articles from *Mimosa*, Rich & Nicki Lynch's Hugo-winning journal of fannish history. I can find no price for this zine in its text (nor a proper colophon, tsk) so contact Rich at the address above. Do it! (Thanks to **Rob Jackson** for a vital correction to this comment.)

Instant Message #s 975-7 | NESFA. PO Box 809, Framingham MA 01701-0809 | info@nesfa.org | Spring issues of the report from the New England SF Association, busiest and most businesslike fan group in the world. I'd compare NESFA to the two fan clubs I myself belonged to in the day – the Little Men in the Bay Area and New Orleans' NOSFA – but it would do those two wonderful groups no favors. Here we have an organization with a treasury in six figures, a professional publishing company (#977 is heavy on NESFA Press talk) and an ongoing convention to its credit, and a genuine clubhouse to call its own. No shine on any other group anywhere, but NESFA is a class unto itself.

Jomp, Jr 38 | Richard Dengrove, 2651 Arlington Dr. #302, Alexandria VA 22506 | richd22426@aol.com | Another excellent set of essays on historical and – this time – literary matters, bedecked as usual by Rich's "old friend," the constipated demon from the *Dictionaire Infernal* (1863 version). In addition to a cool piece on early stage magicians (the 1500s; no kidding, "early") Dengrove explores the existence of an historical Macbeth, but doesn't touch on whether it's bad luck for actors to mention the real guy.

Lofgeornost #143 | Fred Lerner, 81 Worcester Ave., White River Junction VT 05001 | fred@fredlerner.org | A splendid review of two biographies of John Lockwood Kipling – Rudyard's daddy – opens this issue of Fred's always informative and entertaining FAPA-/perzine. Apparently Kipling *pere* was a museum curator and illustrator; perhaps the book explain how he and his wife came up with the name "Rudyard." (Kipling's work is disparaged these days as racially Incorrect and therefore beneath notice; *why* can't people look at their forbears in the context of their own times?) After discussing an analysis of a Poul Anderson essay – always fine to see Poul's name in print – Fred lambastes the dreadful Netflix series *The Irregulars*, which I also found fatally contrary to canon. A superior lettercol from smart correspondents complete this inspiring read.

MT Void Vol 40 No 4 (Whole No. 2181) | Evelyn Leeper, eeper@optonline.net | Ever mutable, always readable and interesting, *MT Void* (get the pun? It took me years) features wise opinions on all sorts of stuff from Evelyn and Mark Leeper, and comes to its subscribers weekly via e-mail. Great way to insure frequent renewal of fannish spirit. Topics this issue include James Bond themes – *From Russia with Love* and *Goldfinger* excel here, as in all other measures of 007 excellence – and past issues hit on *The Thief of Baghdad* (IMHO the only film fantasy arguably as grand as *LotR*), Evelyn's reading, the new (and quite excellent) *Invisible Man*, *Stepford Wives*, and anything else you, the Leepers, or the sundry Chorus enlivening their letter column can think of.

The Nameless News Vol. 1 No. 2 | George Phillies, see *Tightbeam* | A new publication from the National Fantasy Fan Federation concentrating on fannish news. N3F President Phillies seeks suggestions from readers – Neffer or not – for an appropriate title. *My* suggestion is and has been to merge all of N3F's many pubs into one big, juicy genzine – which may sound hypocritical, as *The Zine Dump* originated as part of *Challenger*.

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The National Fantasy Fan Vol. 80 #7 | Several editors listed, but first among them is George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net | An eightieth anniversary deserves a historical write-up. Editor/President Phillies should do such a detailed, spirited zine. Here, In the N3F's flagship fanzine, reports are given from the group's many "bureaus," the by-laws are reprinted, the editorial discussion is over a new name for *The Nameless News*, see above.

OASFiS Event Horizon issue 401 (July) | Juan Sanmiguel, 1421 Pon Pon Court, Orlando, FL 32825 | sanmiguel@earthlink.net | The Orlando clubzine deals with recent award winners in the July issue (Juan also reviews the Hugo nominees), as well as group events; one hopes their 4th of July *soiree* came off well, and marks the return of OASFiS in-person activity. We miss the Orlando con!

The Obdurate Eye #12 | Garth Spencer, 4240 Perry Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5N 3X5 Canada | garth.van.spencer@gmail.com | Beautiful and mysterious UFO on the cover to Garth's perzine, which announces the 2021 Aurora Awards ballot (but doesn't list the finalists), boosts SMOFcon (this year in Lisbon, of all places) and its scholarships, prematurely mentions the end of the pandemic – good old Delta Variant, if it wasn't so tragic and if I didn't love some Trump voters, I'd call it evolution in action – and the age-old question: what don't I understand about life and why? (This section, called "Garth Not Understand", is both sad and witty.) His list of fanzines received doesn't include the two I regularly post on eFanzines; does he read Bill Burns' vital site?

Opuntia #505 | Dale Speirs, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; opuntia57@hotmail.com | Prolific and eclectic, *Opuntia* is also colorful and attractive, with good photos – both scenic and city-based. Here the star of the pictorial show is a snacking squirrel. Great and varied text, too, reflecting Dale's incredible scope of interests. His first article this time deals with "murder by telephone," from a story by Hugo Gernsback no less through *Boston Blackie* (loved that show as kid) through a grisly yarn by Derleth and *The Life of Riley*. He should have mentioned Richard Matheson's "Long Distance Call", one of the spookiest of stories, much better than "Night Call", the *Twilight Zone* based thereupon. Speaking of twist endings," Speirs evokes a slew of old radio shows which relied on the gimmick. Not to neglect hard science, he lists a number of scientific papers whose very titles scare me. "Disaster microconchids from the uppermost Permian and Lower Triassic lacustrine strata of the Cis-Urals and the Tunguska and Kuznetsk basins (Russia)". Yikes! And that's not all ... and only one issue. There were two in July.

Pablo Lennis #400-403 | John Thiel, 30 N. 19th St., Lafayette IN 47904 | kinethiel@mymetronet.net | John has pulled out all the stops in these recent monthly editions of his genzine: an Alan White cover for his 400th issue, riotous color on the weird but evocative Larry Etn illo that adorns the following number, handsome b&w fantasies atop the next two. The text of these issues is different from the *PLs* of before; my favorite piece takes Thiel back over the contents of issues past, an introspective tour a lot of fanzines could use. He still runs his share of philosophical musings and amateur fiction and verse. (Mib, depicted elsewhere, greatly appreciates Lawrence Dagstine's "Panda with the Golden Tongue".) He now reviews fanzines, prints LOCs, and Jeffrey Redmond contributes sercon articles; he's always a good read.

Perryscope 12 | Perry Middlemiss, 32 Elphin Grove, Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia 3122 | perry@middlemiss.org | Perry's perzine percolates along – 12 issues in a year. Here, beneath a portrait of the man by Robyn Mills, he laments the resurgent COVID restrictions assailing Australia; they've prevented him and his from properly interring his father's ashes. Sad stuff. Reminiscing over a rediscovered membership card for Aussiecon I, studying the genesis of gin, relating and critiquing his prodigious reading and viewing (I wish we backwards Yanks – that sounds obscene – had better access to Aussie fiction; we see a lot of their TV), he maintains – and demonstrates the real value of a good perzine: you come to know someone through their

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writing. He closes with acknowledgment of the **aboriginal** – Joycean pun to be made from that word – owners of the turf on which he lives. (I should do the same for the Seminoles ...)

Portable Storage Five | William M. Breiding, 3507 N. Santa Rita Ave. ##1, Tucson AZ 85719 (last address) | portablezine@gmail.com | You hold this volume, as you would earlier issues, and you deny to yourself that it's a fanzine. 160+ pages, professionally typeset and bound with an ISBN number, surely this is a genuine book from Amazon or at least a souvenir tome for a major convention. But the contents belie that impression: fannishness prevails. Articles – good ones, too, autobiographical by Kurt Erichsen, medical by Lynn Kuehl, cinematic by Kim Kerbis, and many more; fannish artwork, Erichsen again; great fannish names like Alva Svoboda and Cy Chauvin; there's a sizable and thoughtful lettercol featuring names not often seen elsewhere, and a grand fanzine "review" column by Andy Hooper centering on the collection of Wally Weber. Included in Andy's discussion is the 100th disty of the Southern Fandom Press Alliance, the 1981 mammoth mailing (1750 pages) that was the glory of my youth. But there is much more, more to Hooper's article and more to Breiding's fanzine, which stands on a level of overall quality shared only with *SF Commentary* and, this season, Erichsen's *Endeavor* 14. It's a good thing fan-eds *aren't* in competition with one another, because seeing *Portable Storage*, most of us would be choking in Breiding's dust. One more thing, as Columbo says – William isn't afraid of personal writing, even in this magnum opus: the prose and verse he runs about his late brother are powerfully moving. *No blog can top this.*

Purrsonal Mewsings #78-81 | R-Laurraine Tutihasi, PO Box 5323, Oracle AZ 85623-5323 | Laurraine@ma.com | Laurraine's personal- and apazine (for Stipple Apa). Hexaweekly, hopefully. Oft-bedecked with beautiful nature photographs by Mike Weasner, ranging from astronomical shots of galaxies to birds and bunnies encountered on the trail, two of these issues offer art instead: Ray Nelson and Brad Foster, both strangely depicting cats. Text includes reviews of COVID-caused TV binges, apa mailing comments, and every once in a while, a convention report, virtual or not. *Very* good lettercol; it's grand to keep in touch with Murray Moore, for example, and many others chiming in here. And with Ms. Tutihasi, well-met at Suncon in 1977. 44 years, Laurraine ... *most* of our lives!

Ray XX-Rayer #156 | Ray Palm, Boxholder, PO Box 2, Plattsburgh NY 12901-0002 | raypalmx@gmail.com | With typical dryer-than-desert-sand humor Ray – who produces a very sharp perzine – opens this issue with a spear to the ego of an idiot Republican congressman who thinks climate change can be fixed by altering the orbit of the Earth. Palmer has found a Japanese monster movie (starring Maguma the giant walrus) that backs him up. Ray reports technical problems with his blog that convinces him that "the blog bloom is over," which suits me fine: maybe print zines will reassume their rightful place atop fannish expression.

Sarcastrophication #s 1-3 | Espana Sheriff for House Sarcastrophe, c/o eFanzines, I guess | "Oh Look. A Real Fanzine That is Real" – or so says the line below the title of this "con report for Punctuation," to wit, a virtual Brit convention at which a scavenger hunt was held. Creating a fanzine is required. Espana – and I certainly buy *that* moniker – leads "House Sarcastrophe." He swears that the first issue "was certainly not at all cobbled together by yours truly in the final thirty minutes of the event." Issue #1 is a single-paged account of the author's enjoyment of the ZOOM convention. #2, for Punctuation 2, shows photos of the snacks consumed. #3, at eight pages, actually resembles a real fanzine. Done in response to "House QuasiQuote"'s *Scavenger's Daughter* (see below), it recapitulates the reports and foodie tips from the first two issues, adds details from Punctuation panels (including one on SFnal cookbooks; I don't see *To Serve Man*), presents filks by Meg MacDonald and Michael Ward (not I take it the guy I've known since 1968), gives a photographic guide to summoning dragons. Brits have all the fun.

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Scavenger's Daughter #s 1-3 | Marcin "Alqua" Klak for House Quasiquote, c/o eFanzines, as above | Longtime fanzine nuts will recognize *Quasiquote* as Sandra Bond's nifty perzine, long gone but missed. Marcin's report is jolly and much pleased with the event. The second issue displays Punctuation 2 artwork by Sue Mason, poetry by Sandra Bond and Marcin, and ends with photos of "drinks with a disconcerting ingredient," which are disgusting. The third installment of this craziness is a written account of the con and the hunt by House Sarcastrophe's Espana Sheriff and a LOC from Samuel Johnson, no Boswell needed, as this correspondent appears to be a cat. To repeat, Brits have all the fun.

Scientifiction (New Series) #68 | John L. Coker, 4813 Lighthouse Rd., Orlando FL 32808 | jlcoker3@bellsouth.net | This issue of First Fandom's official fanzine begins with heartfelt eulogies for Michelle Zellich, indeed one of fandom's great ladies; like me, she was an associate member of First Fandom. News of other members, conventions and the field at large follow, but most interesting are the archival activities – *The Visual History of SF Fandom* sounds particularly neat, and Coker reprints a cute "Plato Jones" (Lynn Hickman) 'toon from the *first* FF publication, from before I was born. Ouch – I owe dues.

SF Commentary 105 (March 2021) and SF Commentary 106 (May 2021) | Bruce Gillespie, 5 Howard Street, Greensborough, Vic 1088 Australia | <https://efanzines.com/SFC/index.html#sfc105> to download PDFs | Sez the great Gillespie: "They are really two parts of one issue, 80 pages each. No. 105 includes my natter, plus Colin Steele's reviews column, and the first half of the Gigantic Letter Column, plus covers by Carol Kewley and Alan White. No. 106 includes my tribute to Yvonne Rousseau (1945–2021), noted Australian fan, critic, essayist and editor; Perry Middlemiss's article about the 1960s Hugos; Andrew Darlington's discussion of early John Brunner; Jennifer Bryce's Top 10 Books of 2020; and with Tony Thomas, a coverage of the most recent Booker Prizes. Plus the second half of the Gigantic Letter Column. Cover photographs by Elaine Cochrane and Jeanette Gillespie." To this summary I can only add appreciation for the professionalism of the production. *SF Commentary* is not only great reading, its *appearance* is practically peerless among amateur SF magazines.

SideTreked #64 | Stephanie Hanna and Mark C. Ambroglio, ScienceFictionLondon@gmail.com | Literally, a *London pub* ... but it's London, Ontario and "pub" is short for "publication." Lots of good sercon articles in this atypical clubzine, with good pieces on *Star Trek: Discovery*, *The Dispossessed* (a novel I feel neglected, despite its multiple awards), and an obscure Daphne du Maurier *science fiction* novel (*The House on the Strand*). Nice art; I wish the pictures were larger.

This Here ... no. 44 | Nic Farey, 2657 Rungsted St., Las Vegas NV 89142 | fareynic@gmail.com | Don't be fooled by the Vegas address: the tone and flavor of Nic's latest perzine – one of the best in the bizness – is Brit all the way. Centered on page one, a photo of SF's Abbott and Costello: Bob Silverberg and Harlan Ellison, illustrating a Zoom confab featuring Farey and Mark Plummer. Farey's discussion of their long friendship compels thoughts on my longest-running fan relationships; Quinn Yarbrow and Mike Ward ('68) and Nawlins stalwarts John Guidry and Justin Winston, qualify ('69). Point being: fandom and its connections are indeed lifelong. An inevitable discussion of the FAAn Awards – I don't believe I've voted yet this year – brings up the Fanzine-Related Website category, won for many years by eFanzines.com, now the exclusive purview of Joe Siclari/Edie Stern and their Fanac.org. Nic's right; the domination of the category by one candidate year after year only hurts one's enjoyment of the award; perhaps an X-year limit on consecutive victories should be set. Taxi stories – a "footy" piece by David Hodson – good give'n'take lettercol ... Hey – while discussing

band names, Nic reveals his love for James Joyce! He doesn't propound on *Ulysses* or the *Wake* here, but that would be a neat commonality to explore.

Thoughts on Paper and Etc. | James N. Dawson, PO Box 950, Spokane WA 99216 | A clutch of various publications from smoky Spokane. I hope James has somehow weathered the sickening heatwave. The zines include *Thoughts* and *The Futitarian*, apazines for groups I do not recognize, *JND Ads and Contacts*, notices of mundane zines and flyers, *The VLBS Report*, about, by and for the Vegan Liberation Benevolent Society, and *Cries from the Gulag*, a forum for convicts seeking pen (haha) pals. James joins me in advising extreme caution in writing to any incarcerated individual whom you do not know. The VLBS is founded on principles of veganism and libertarianism, whatever they are, and seems to consist entirely of Dawson. *Thoughts* is more personal; the writer describes his fear when a town where his younger brother lives is decimated by fire. We share his relief. He goes on to rant about the pandemic and other matters. To be blunt, I'd much rather read such human matter than odd philosophical musings, and again, be *very* careful when writing to prisoners. As a retired PD I agree with St. Paul in *Hebrew 13:3*: "Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them", but never forget that they are where they are for a reason.

Tightbeam 322 (July 2021) | George Phillis, 48 Hancock Hill Dr., Worcester MA 01609; Jon Swartz, jon_swartz@hotmail.com | An N3F publication – monthly, they say – devoted to reviews, anime, books, films, "graphic tales," sercon. Lots of contributors, many pretty sharp. Unfamiliar subjects: of the books, I recognize only *The Bone Clocks* and Andy Weir's new *Project Hail Mary* (which I read and, despite its complete lack of characterization, enjoyed); of the films, only *Hellraiser* (which I applauded) and *Tron* (which I did not). George Wells take note! *Psycho Goreman* is touched on.

Tommyworld #85-6 | Tommy Ferguson, 125 Haypark Ave., Belfast, BT7 3FG, Northern Ireland | tw@tommyworld.net | This issue of this short but pungent perzine deals with Ferguson's conventioning in this age of ZOOM meetings and virtual events. He dislikes the latter on general principle – they fulfill few of the needs met by the classic in-person con, require too much tech expertise – but allows he will attend and even participate in one again. You take what you can get in this COVID world. #86 sneaks in just as I'm ready to go to "press": thoughts on two iffy movies he loves, *Sneakers* and *Hackers*, with a mention of *Gravity*. He finds puzzlement in the negative reactions to the Hugo-winning, Oscar-hailed Sandra Bullock/George Clooney Sfer – other people noticed the same idiotic orbital mechanics as my NASA retiree father-in-law – whereas he, like I, appreciated the stunning FX and the strong characters.

Vanamonde nos. 1402-1424, 1446-1455 | John Hertz, 236 S. Coronado St., No. 406, Los Angeles CA 90057 | One of the few positives about being so lackadaisical in published *The Zine Dump* is that the delay gives us more issues of *Vanamonde* to peruse at once. John's one-sheet Apa=L zine appears weekly (see *Welcome to Apa-L during the Interregnum, infra*) so the pubs do mount up. And what a pleasure! John is not only a fine, clever writer, he is also one of fandom's best-informed wits, and you never know where that wit will turn in each *Van*. Examples from this batch: L.A. Lakers basketball, the late Ben Bova (a true gent), Jacq. Du Pre's genius with the cello ... The pubs are oft graced with poetry (John posts a mean *haiku*). Oh yeah – fine illos! Bill Rotsler lives on!

Warp 110 | Cathy Palmer-Lister, c/o MonSFFA, 125 Leonard, Chateauguay, QC 16K 1N9 Canada [NEW ADDRESS] | www.monsffa.ca | Pubbed by the Montreal SF group, led and edited by the wondrous Cathy, this *Warp* opens with a fine montage cover honoring longtime member Sylvain St-Pierre, a victim in March of the coronavirus. As far as I know his tragic loss is fandom's only casualty to the disease. MonSFFA's earnest tributes – a long photo section, many memorials, verse -- speak most well of the gent. Undefeated, however diminished,

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MonSFFA details its 2020 meetings – virtual, of course – which sound creative and fun. Many are thanks to St-Pierre. *Warp* moves into fan-wrought fiction – Barbara Silverman’s *Trek* pastiche, *Starfleet Treachery* – Keith Braithwaite talks *The Star Lost*, whose FX make early *Rocky Jones Space Ranger* look like *Arrival*. It’s for the memorials, however, that this *Warp* stands out; how happily is great friendship remembered.

Welcome to APA-L during the Interregnum | Marty Cantor, 11825 Gilmore St. #105, N Hollywood CA 91606 | APA-LASFS@yahoo.com | The “Interregnum,” according to John Hertz, is the period while LASFS is not meeting physically, and here is a page of rules members in its venerable weekly amateur press association are expected to follow. I don’t know of any difference from occasions when the club is meeting physically, but the apa must be at or approaching its 3000th disty by now, so why quibble with success.

Those zines not available on Bill Burns’ marvelous **eFanzines.com** can be requested by e-mail or the good old-fashioned way.

Wild Ideas #13 | Henry Grynnsen, grynnsen@hotmail.com | Henry’s zine always lives up to its title, here with a long essay on Stanley Kubrick’s oeuvre and *2001: A Space Odyssey* in particular. Grynnsen’s analysis, complete with footnotes and references, climaxes with his contention that, as he writes at the last, “*2001: A Space Odyssey* is... a musical about filmmaking.” His path to this conclusion is fascinating and well worth the read, even if it doesn’t conform with *my* ideas about the movie.

Fanac.Org | Joe Siclari and Edie Stern, jsiclari@gmail.com and estern7770@gmail.com | Protecting the past of the fanzine hobby – and insuring its future – Joe and Edie publish regular e-mails listing the additions to their voluminous library of amateur publications devoted to the science fiction genre. The assimilation hearkens back to the ‘30s – the 1930s – and there’s no better way to educate oneself in the origins of the fanzine form than to delve into the Fanac.org files. Just as efanazines.com is the best entry into fanzinedom’s *present* – and its future is no further away than your fingertips. *Pub your ish!*

LETTERCALL ...

John Purcell
3744 Marielene Circle
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Hey, how about that? Here I am writing a letter of comment, albeit brief, on the 51st issue of *TZD* the day after commencing work on *Askance #51*. Synchronicity lives!

Many thanks for the kind comments on "The Sound of Fanac" in the 50th issue of *Askance*. It feels good to get that albatross off my neck, but now I am burdened by another big dead bird called my 2017 TAFF Trip Report. My goal is to get that done by the end of this year, which I should be able to do; knitting it all together in a smoothly flowing narrative will be the tricky part. Even harder will be selecting the photographs to use: there are well over 4000 photos to choose from, so no shortage of material, but which ones to use is the question. A happy, nostalgic project, though.

I have to agree with your last page comment that if you "drive a fan-ed indoors...the zines will flood out." The recent output of online zines has definitely gone up, and I heard from Claire Brialey that *Banana Wings* is not dead, merely awaiting the reopening of the printer: a sad side-effect of the closures caused by the coronavirus over this past year.

Here's hoping the vaccine rollouts go well. Valerie is getting her first shot this afternoon, and in a couple weeks I will be receiving my second Moderna shot. Infection and death rates are decreasing, but we are nowhere near the safety line. Still, this is progress and gives me hope that face-to-face conventions, classrooms, and businesses will be back in business Real Soon Now; I am expecting the earliest will be late fall this year, most likely in 2022. Until it is safe to do not wear masks, Valerie and I will still wear them.

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George Phillies <. phillies@4liberty net>

Whoever told you that I *had* spread invitations to join the N3F through Parler and Gab was wrong twice.

At the time, Parler was down for the count, and no one was spreading invitations to anything there.

Also, I was too busy to try this, and didn't. I asked for volunteers. I got a twitter volunteer. I got a gab volunteer who is too busy to do anything.

Also, the oceans of N3F zines that Burns did take down were rather small. He never listed most of our zines.

Bob Jennings fabficbks@aol.com

Thanks for sending *Zine Dump* #51 along. Is it just my imagination or are there fewer zines this time round? Maybe it's just me, but I don't find the quantity of titles and issues we have seen in even the recent past. Of course The Plague we are all living thru may have something to do with that. My new issue of *Fadeaway* was supposed to come out late last August, and here it is over six months later and I still haven't found the time to finish it up and publish the issue. I am striving to make new time allocations so I hope to correct that situation in the immediate future.

I mainly wanted to make a few comments on the sticky situation with George Phillies and the N3F blowup about seeking new club members on assorted internet flash communication sites. I agree with you that seeking new members on Gab and Parler in light of the recent political rants noted on those sites was an unwise move, but I honestly don't think George even suspected for a moment that this reference would cause any kind of problem, and certainly nothing like the uproar that did result. He was simply trying to find more ways to reach potential club members.

That said, once he caught the first wave of reaction from fans both within and outside the club he should have taken a few steps back and reassessed the situation. Unfortunately, like most human beings, once committed to a process George is unwilling to admit he made any kind of misstep.

He is technically correct that those sites probably have some people among their users who are not primarily politically focused, and he is also probably correct that there could be some potential science fiction people there who might be interested in joining the club, but I personally doubt that any sort of recruiting effort there will actually result in any new members.

The majority of new people joining the club primarily come from personal referrals, and occasionally a person will join who has heard about the club thru a Facebook SF board or chat oriented site on Facebook. As of this date no person has joined or even expressed interest from Twitter or any of those other type locations. Of course, that might also be due to the fact that so far as I can tell, no club members has stepped forward to volunteer to do any kind of recruiting on Twitter, Snapshot, Chat, Parler, or any of the other social sites, except for Facebook. I sincerely doubt that even if crews of dedicated evangelistic N3F missionaries were to make a concerted effort that it would result in any new members. The science fiction fans who are on those chat and post-it-note sites are probably not the type of people who would be interested in a full-fledged club like the N3F in the first place.

While I tend to echo George's comment that too many people are using the guilt-by-association tar brush when it comes to discussing Gab and Parler, the reality is that there are quite a lot of loons and violent nut cases who make those two sites their primary platform. For example, the head honcho of Gab invited the DC rioters to post their pictures and comments on Gab and even guaranteed that their statements would be published and would remain on-line and would be "safe" from censorship of any kind.

Trying to recruit people from those sites is useless, and has certainly smeared the reputation of the N3F. The only way George could not have made a bigger blunder would have been if he had asked volunteers to try and recruit new N3F members at Ku Klux Klan meetings.

I would hope that George will rethink his position, and say it was a mistake to try and recruit from Gab, Parler, or any other site that has users who express, endorse or urge violent political actions, but the way this mess has continued to grow and spread I doubt that he will. My fear is that this will create not just short term disruptions, but that this situation will linger and have long term detrimental consequences for the entire club. I suppose time will tell.

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Cathy Palmer-Lister

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<http://www.monsffa.ca>

I always look forward to *The Zine Dump*. There are way too many zines for me to read, so I look for the ones you mention that sound like they may have an article I will like.

Thanks again for such a glowing review of our WARP. Keith Braithwaite was having so much fun with his gerbil in the snow, he missed the deadline for the MonSFFandom news! LOL. That's an artist for you. He spends so much time on the road between pet shops, it's hardly any wonder he starts seeing giant gerbils on the highway!

I did see your ZOOM panel on Southern Fandom, something I know very little about, and so I found it especially interesting. Thank you for having sent the invitation.

Danny Sichel, the club's most avid reader, is taking over the editorship of WARP, starting with 110, due in April. Val Royale will be doing the layout, and since she has professional software, I look forward to an even better looking zine. And such a load off my shoulders! Being a president of a fan club during a plague is much harder than I expected it would be, and it really is not good for the health of the club to have so much on one person. Oh, how I tire of Zooming. I want to see people! OTOH, thanks to Zoom, I am sort of "meeting" people I might not have otherwise.

Due to time constraints I concentrated on the latest issues, and avoided mentioning zines that *didn't* appear like I usually do. Time frame: June and July, 2021. Next issue: fall, I hope.

And oh yes – don't neglect the blogs. I wish someone would do a listing of the many and various weblogs in science fiction fandom, just as I try to list physical fanzines. Of the blogs I know, Mike Glycer's legendary *File:770* is the *ne plus ultra*, unparalleled for news and commentary on the field. (I'm so old I remember when *File* came out on paper, and we didn't know when it would *ever* win a Hugo. I know how Mike must have felt: I've been working on my acceptance speech for thirty years.

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Enjoy the rest of summer, people – get inoculated – and wear your mask!

Mib sez: **DISCON 3:**
REINSTATE TONI
WEISSKOPF AS
WORLDCON EDITOR
GUEST OF HONOR!



