## THE ZINE DUMP

#58 Summer 2023

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The Zine Dump is a zine about zines for SF fandom. We want to see every generally distributed fanzine, paper or pixel, published in English and devoted to science fiction and/or its fandom.

(Range: 3-1-23 to 8-1-23. Most of the following publications can be found on *eFanzines.com*, and most reviews are of the latest issues only.)

GHLIII's personal and political blather is also available on eFanzines through my perzine, *Spartacus*.



## This issue is dedicated to Marty Cantor.

Marty Cantor had strong accomplishments in fandom. His *Holier than Thou* genzine made the Hugo ballot a couple of times, and he and his then-wife, the wonderful Robbie Bourget, won DUFF once upon a time. Cantor edited the "unofficial" LASFS clubzine *De Profundis* for years and ran the collation and distribution of weekly Apa-L. He also maintained **LASFAPA**.

Like many geezers in this hobby, I made my fanzining bones in amateur press associations, or **apas.** *SFPA* was my first, the mighty Southern Fandom Press Alliance – and I'm still in it, after 52½ uninterrupted years. It was followed by SAPS, FAPA (the king of all), K-a (the great comics apa), and NYAPA (hail, Spanier!). I was lured into LASFAPA in late 1976 by the apa's founder, Harry Andruschak, and stayed for many years – thanks to the people.

The most successful apas get that way by becoming communities in *person* as well as in *print*, and being centered in L.A., home to the LASFS, Loscon, and many a Worldcon, LASFAPA debuted with a network of friendships in place. But the lotus-eaters of LASFAPA weren't elitist snobs – they more than welcomed outsiders, numerous New Yorkers and even one fan-ed from New Orleans: *moi*. LASFAPA – which Marty Cantor helmed for many, many years – tied me not only to L.A. fandom but to active fanziners around the whole country – and for that favor I hold special gratitude.

Over the years, several lady LASFAPAns visited me in N.O., our weekends devoted to fervent prayer \*kof\*. When I flew \*urk\* to the City of Angels before the 1978 Worldcon in Phoenix, Iguanacon II, or Iggy, the krewe bid me welcome and *meant* it. I crashed on the couch of the girl with the *most* beautiful eyes, Celia Chapman, partied with Bobbi Armbruster at Bruce & Elayne Pelz', danced about the Watts Towers with Ruth Judkowitz, and rode with two lovable ladies to Iggy, Maureen Garrett and Leigh Strother-Vien. All were LASFAPA members. I praise fate that I remain friends with all.

Anyone interested in the more squalid details of my Iggy experience is encouraged to seek my massive convention report, *Up the Darth Vator*, on Joe Siclari and Edie Stern's **Fanac.org** (courtesy of Mark Olson, who scanned it). If you're shocked by my behavior, remember that I was a *victim of circumstances*, a pure and untouched innocent plucked from the sinless climes of New Orleans and plopped into the over-lubricated fleshpots of L.A. (Trich? What's that?)

The zine was welcomed into LASFAPA by its Little Tin God, the aforementioned **Marty Cantor**. He – and Harry, and Dave Schlosser – were the only Official Editors LASFAPA knew in the many years of my membership. They kept us going. They maintained the Chart, about which the less implied, the better. I left the apa in 2003, sending my *Chinatown* into oblivion, but returned for the apa's 500th mailing 15 years later. Marty mc'ed my zine with a hearty "Welcome home!" and believe me, I was tempted to rejoin. But the LASFAPA of 2018 wasn't the LASFAPA of 1978, nor was the GHLIII ...

Well into his 80's, Marty abandoned this mortal coil earlier this year. As Dave Langford mourns in noting his passage, another pal gone. A great one.

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This will be my last *Zine Dump* of 2023, unless I include catch-up columns in *Spartacus* and my zine for the **Worldcon Order of Fan-Eds** – assuming WOOFmeister John Hertz can find some sap trufan to collate this year's mailing, which, as usual these past few years,

will probably be digital. It's unlikely anyone will be collecting material at Chengdu! Several WOOF mailings are posted on eFanzines.com – take a look at what we do!

Alexiad Vol. 22 No. 3, WN 129 | Joe and Lisa Major, 1409 Christy Ave., Louisville KY 40204-2040 | jtmajor@iglou.com | Although it's always a pleasure to open The Zine Dump with Joe & Lisa Major's Alexiad, there's much sadness in this shortish, 12-page number. Here Joe memorializes our mutual friends Marty Cantor and Rickey Sheppard and his own great BFF Grant McCormick. Joe and Lisa cared for Grant for years, and his loss is a deep wound, Blessings on the Majors for their grief. Also, this issue is produced in defiance of the editor's own health issues; beset by fleshly frailty myself, I am stupefied with admiration. At the outset, Lisa gives results and dates of horseracing's various Triple Crowns (and opines on the thoroughbreds). Joe gladdens my murmuring heart by editorializing about the Chengdu Worldcon and the perils of inexperienced foreign bids. (Europe. Australia and Japan have seen fine Worldcons, but their committees were well-tested; having a Worldcon in Antarctica, say, just to have a Worldcon in Antarctica would be foolish. Let's discuss this question again after Chengdu.) A very helpful list of forthcoming Worldcons (and bids) and NASFiCs (and bids) leads to an excellent lettercol (\*snf\* someone gets letters of comment) and a strange piece of fan fiction (?) about America's earliest codebreakers, the Black Chamber, attributed (for stylistic reasons, I suppose) to Poe. Nice Schirm art as ever.

Ansible 432 (July-August 2023) | David Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berks, RG1 5AU, U.K. | news.ansible.uk | Monthly newszine of vital importance, containing awards news (it just caused me to order the latest Stoker winner), mortality notices (always too many), and supremely witty observations of the field and how it's perceived. Who can survive a moon cycle without Thog's Master Class and its horrendous metaphors? How can any SFers face themselves in the mirror of their consciences without pondering How Others See Us? All this is fun, but it's the encyclopedic list of links that makes *Ansible* invaluable to any member of the field. Google it now and get on the mailing list.

Askance #55 | John Purcell, 3744 Marielene Circle, College Station TX 77845 | askance 73@gmail.com | The beautiful Alan White cover gives no clue as to the grim news, but it's clear from the title of John's editorial: "The Final Log of the Starship Askance". After 16 years, John is folding his genzine, at least for time foreseeable. Blame rests with his busy academic life and that ol' debbil fafia – fannish exhaustion. The fate of Askew, John's perzine, is left unstated; as Purcell promises an eventual return to fanac, it will probably serve to release his occasional pent-up fannishness. Anyway, Askance exits bearing a funny article by fellow TAFF delegate Curt Phillips on his high school's insipid fight song and pieces on the you'll-regret-it coming of spring by Bill Fischer and John-thegardener himself. Finally, in "Thots from the Throne", fetchingly photo-illustrated by an outhouse, the editor promises publication of his TAFF report RSN and possibly a new zine based around steampunk. Can't happen soon enough; Askance is ... was ... a zine of Challenger's generation and it hurts to see it go.

**Beam** | Nic Farey, 2657 Rungsted St, Las Vegas, NV 89142, USA, <u>fareynic@gmail.com</u> and Ulrika O'Brien, 418 Hazel Avenue N., Kent, WA 98030, USA, <u>ulrika.obrien@gmail.com</u>

**Brooklyn!** #120 | Fred Argoff, Penthouse L, 1120 Ocean Pkwy, Brooklyn NY 11230-4060 | subs 4 issues /\$10 cash. Quarterly | I've been meaning to check to see when I started receiving *Brooklyn!*, possibly my favorite non-SF zine. Probably before I split *TZD* away from *Challenger* and set it up on its own. Whenever, it's always a hoot; everybody loves

Brooklyn and New York's famous city-within-the-city has proved an inexhaustible source of material. Here Fred returns to an old subject, remarkable borough buildings. The addresses resonate with familiarity, even for non-New Yorkers: Flatbush, Prospect Park, Red Hook, Bedford-Stuyvesant – not that Argoff includes those last two infamous 'hoods in this issue. But he does print photos of cool and unique edifices, all of which prove that Brooklyn is a marvelous place to live. Though Fred seems to reject the idea as overdone, I'd love to see an issue devoted to DUMBO or the Brooklyn Bridge, which Rosy and I crossed by foot in late 2001, shivering in the gentle sub-zero zephyrs wafted there unhindered from the Arctic.

Captain Flashback #56 | Andy Hooper & Carrie Root, 11032 30th Ave. NE, Seattle WA 98125 | fanmailaph@aol.com | In a change from his previous fascination with TV horror movie hosts, Andy turns his ear to music, opening his perzine/apazine with a finely-written piece on the history of Hip-Hop. The piece is informative, exhaustive and entertaining — even for a tone-deaf tesseract (a four-dimensional square, of course) like me. The joy of the article stems from Hooper's enthused writing style, which grips and won't let go from his first paragraph. The editor's mailing comments to Turbo-Apa also benefit from his language skills, avoiding the confusion that often attacks readers when they drop into the middle of written conversations. Andy touches on the strain Worldcons place on aging bods (although he has >15 years on me, he feels the same stress seeking room parties as I do), fannish writing on music (invoking the holy name of Harry Warner), cheese sandwiches, heart problems ... One gleans from Hooper's comments that Turbo-Apa is a tight and personal community, a club party in print, just as all the best apas (SFPA, LASFAPA, NYAPA) are/were.

Christian New Age Quarterly Vol. 26 No. 1 | Catherine Groves, PO Box 276, Clifton NJ 07015-0276 | info@christiannewage.com | Catherine opens the latest issue of this heartfelt (and unique) religious publication with a beautiful piece on aging, memory and the constant reinvention they impose on life and faith. Her intelligent and compassionate perspective transforms what could be a frightening topic into a wise and hopeful one. Robert Price's long article on the Law of Attraction and Monadology (Gottfried Leibniz' specific orthodoxy) shows that heavy-duty philosophy remains as far beyond me as it was in college, but the value of C\*NAQ is as a bridge between the glories of cosmic thought and the simple precepts by which boobs like me try to live our lives, After "love thy neighbor," what else do we need?

Claims Department 45 | Chris Garcia, journeyplanet@gmail.com | Looking over the many issues of Claims Department Chris has placed on eFanzines, I find myself baffled: what the hell is this? A genzine? The issue devoted to Julius Schwartz features multiple paeans to the great man by various admirers, including myself. But this latest number is all Garcia, small articles on unrelated subjects: that's the definition of "perzine." Nothing wrong with either tack, but ... well, I've been a Chris fan since his curly head first rose to the surface in fanzine fandom, so I can appreciate these pieces for the nifty writings they are: disgust with privileged fighter Conor Macgregor, whose celebrity shields him from ugly charges of sexual assault, queries about a debunked UFO sighting in Florida (not near here), writing projects, an appreciation of rock band Weezer, and so on. Some very nice art is interspersed, as disconnected from the text as each article is from the others. I may not understand Claims Department, but as I say, I can appreciate the pieces for the nifty writings they are.

CyberCozen Vol. XXXV No. 07 | Leybl Botwinik, <a href="leybl\_botwinik@yahoo.com">leybl\_botwinik@yahoo.com</a> | The July issue from the Israeli Society for Science Fiction and Fantasy, with occasional notes in Yiddish. One particular Yiddish song, pubbed in a previous issue, provokes a beautiful LOC, as it inspired a warm family memory for a reader. A piece on the Star Trek universe, stretching from "The Cage" to Strange New Worlds, showcases changes in the bridge set; the rest of the issue is packed with SFnal links and photos of food inspired by Return of the Jedi. Annakin Ham doesn't seem to be on the menu.

Dark Toya #75 | Taral Wayne, 245 Dunn Ave. Apt. 2111, Toronto Ontario, M6K 1S6, Can (416) 531-8974, Taral@bell.net | Reinventing his perzine for the umpteenth time, Taral attaches a fresh title (and an old illo) to Dark Toys, his perzine. His content and tone remain as they have almost always been, entertainingly written but suffused with the dark spice of gloom. // You'd think a guy as brilliant with art and words as Taral would be forever dancing down the street. Well, certainly not driving; though he proclaims himself sick of the subject, Wayne can't help but catch us up to his car troubles. His "Traveling Matt", like my Mini Cooper, is probably on its last treads. // From there he moves into a long mull on fandom prompted by his non-showing in the last FAAn Awards. With impressive fluency, Taral looks on modern SF fanzines and laments the lack of connection among us. I've heard such plaints concerning print's fall in Hugo popularity, and it bears quoting: "To see fandom as it really is, there is a telling simile. We are a tribe of Indian chiefs, without warriors. Each takes the pipe in turn and tells his tales, then hands the pipe to the next chief. But he isn't listening... he is planning his next turn at the pipe. There are no war parties, no buffalo hunts, no trophies for brave deeds. That was in the bygone days of the Wild West, and now we are more concerned for our bedtimes and fading dreams..." Worst, this onetime Worldcon Fan GoH numbers himself among the indifferents when he admits that he seldom reads fanzines. Fortunately, the animation natter and hearty LOCs that follow dispel Taral's gloom, but his plaint rings sadly true. There's damn little interaction among zines in this era and, as I've found in assembling this TZD, damn little discussion of "outside" fandom and its issues in zines of the day. We're not quite as isolated as Taral warns, but he's more right than not.

**DASFAx** | Jeanne Jackson, 31 Rangeview Drive, Wheat Ridge CO 80215 | <u>DASFAEditor@Hotmail.com</u> | The monthly newsletter of the Denver SF club. No word lately. I imagine it's just too hot.

**De Profundis #586** | LASFS, c/o Heath "Scribbles" Row, 4367 Globe Ave., Culver City, CA 90230 | <u>kalel@well.com</u> | The monthly newszine from the Los Angeles group, which seems to regaining its feet after a long period of collapse. Good to see. The Cream of Menace — that's "meeting minutes" to the uninitiated — show a club on the definite rebound. Plea to Heath: the amazing list here of zines received includes several *TZD* hasn't seen, especially clubzines: we who wish to trade could use links.

Eldritch Science June 2023 (revised) | George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Dr., Worcester MA 01609 | phillies@4liberty.net | When the first edition of this N3F zine devoted to fanwrought fiction appeared I rejoiced. My fable "The Candlestick Maker", which had won an Honorable Mention in the N3F's 2023 Short Story contest, was to be printed therein, After a Romanian translation and a publication in my genzine *Challenger*, the tale was really getting around! Imagine my horror when the story appeared lacking 3 or 4 vital pages right in the middle! I harangued Phillies to publish a corrected version – and now he has. The

tale of Manfred and Minka is in this issue with other contest winners, hale and whole. *Schoen*. I won't comment on the other fiction, a matter of policy for *TZD*, but I will congratulate the N3F for its contest, a most generous idea.

Endeavor 16 | Kurt Erichsen, 2539 Scottwood Ave., Toledo OH 43610-1358 | mail@kurterochsen.com | A fine fella and generous fan artist, always willing to help a faned with an illo or two (or three), Kurt has asserted himself recently as a superb fan editor as well. This *Endeavor*, alongside *SF Commentary*, is the class act among fanzines this summer. Inspired, no doubt, by the COVID quarantine, Kurt has chosen Contagion as the theme for this extraordinary anthology of graphic tales – and the many artists contributing have done well by it. I mention especially Dan Burke's "Hollywood Extra" and "It Felt Like Murder" (I, too, miss Kolchak) and Doc Boucher's "Sisters of Anarchy", but the whole production is of like interest and quality. Professionally printed, professionally bound ... Wow, Kurt.

**Ethel the Aardvark** | LynC c/o Melbourne Science Fiction Club, P.O. Box 110, Moonee Vale VIC 3055 Australia | melbsfclub@yahoo.com.au |

Fanac Newsletter 21 | Joe Siclari and Edie Stern, jsiclari@gmail.com, estern7770@gmail.com | If you're not up on Joe and Edie's magnificent FANAC.Org project, it's remarkable: they're collecting and scanning every amateur SF-oriented publication from the creation of the world to date, with the aim of preserving and making them available to SFdom in the future. Here's the summer '23 update on their astonishing progress. And it is astonishing: >21,000 fanzines scanned into the database, over 340,000 pages, coming in from the U.K. and France as well as the U.S. (Andy Porter frequently lists new acquisitions online.) In addition to the stunning numbers, Siclari explains how he breaks down the zines into categories (clubzines, regionals, etc.) and Edie amuses us with an exercise in ChatGPT, having AI write an introduction to this update in successively more specific ways. I still prefer the meanderings of the wordiest neo. It's too bad this newsletter appears so seldom; its editors' love for its subject and for its readers is inspiring.

FanActivity Gazette Vol. 3 No. 2 | Mindy Hunt, mindyhunt@scifi4me.com NEW EDITOR | "News of Fen of Interest to All Fen." Founded on listings of forthcoming conventions (we could use contact info!) and genre birthdays, the real attraction to this N3F publication lies in its extras. Specifically, this issue features a piece by Heath Row reviewing two antique fanzines from the early fifties, The flavor the fandom of the time comes through nicely. Completing the emphasis on those halcyon years is an article on the George Pal *War of the Worlds*; Ann Robinson's goofy gawp at the Martian camera and all.

**Ibid No. 367** | Gary Brown, 6306 Tall Cypress Circle, Greenacres FL 33463 | garyfbrown@bellsouth.net | Ordinarily I don't note apazines in *TZD* unless they're also distributed to fandom at large, but this issue of Gary's zine for K-a demands response. Our man in Greenacres has recently gone through an operation for gut cancer – and come through it well. Coupled with Nic Farey's news, Joe Major's ongoing health hassles and my own relatively minor foibles, I'd say today's fanzine fandom is in pretty sad shape – but all of the above dudes seem in good spirits and handling things well. *Get* well, Gary. The zine is comics-oriented, as befits CAPA-Alpha, with a wonderful Jack Kirby cover, a cool photo of Jack Larson with Gary's beloved Noel Neill, a surprising piece on *Nancy* comics, *Submariner* art ... Comics fans who haven't discovered K-a have a great find before them. See you in SFPA, Br'er Brown.

Instant Message #s 995-999 | NESFA. PO Box 809, Framingham MA 01701-0809 | info@nesfa.org | So what has the New England Science Fiction Association been up to in 2023? Scanning these monthly issues of the club's newszine, one finds that NESFA, as ever, is simply awesome. A regular convention, Boskone, the major event in the northeast, prepared with the care given a space launch, a publishing house unrivaled in producing vital collections of vital SF authors in hardcover and e-book forms, staff for any and all Worldcons – simply the pre-eminent SF group in America. I wish they'd revive their genzine, *The Proper Boskonian*. It was a good zine and it's been decades.

Intermission #134 | Ahrvid Engholm, ahrvid@hotmail.com | Bursting upon the eyes like a July 4th firework is the latest issue of Swedish fandom's most prominent perzine. So what if its author/editor apologize for typos immediately before misdating the zine by a year? Intermission remains a fun and invaluable insight into the land of my forbears. All kinds of cool – or hot; it's roasting in Scandinavia as everywhere else – stuff going on there. Engholm hails two venerated Swedish fans, one (living) with a new award named for him, the other a sad but admiring memorial. He reports on the recent Eurocon through his tweets and photos, including some of himself. It's great fun, except for his plaint about a fellow member of "Swefandom" whom he accuses of fan fund fraud and a righteous rant against Codes of Conduct at various conventions worldwide. A long article on our "science fiction world" hails the Webb telescope and Sweden's third astronaut, due to launch from within sight of here in 2024, but laments the huge rate of COVID deaths. Pieces on national fandom and nation history follow, and mailing comments to apas where Intermission runs follow that. All in 18 pages! By the way, Ahrvid approves of Sweden's new membership in NATO, as do I; together our countries will help Ukraine bring Putin's liver home on a spike.

**Ionisphere 34** | John Thiel, 30 N. 19<sup>th</sup> St., Lafayette IN 47904 | N3F "Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau" zine. Though the typo-filled cover says this zine comes from March 2022, the content seems new to me – surely I'm not so senile as to mistake new articles for old! Some good material here – an apt article on politics in SF by Jeffrey Redmond, intelligent observations on publishers by Jefferson Swycaffer, two solid interviews with new writers – but Thiel's last-page editorial, "Going Over the Issue", is – except for the title – completely blank!

Lofgeornost #151 | Fred Lerner, 81 Worcester Ave., White River Junction VT 05001 | fred@fredlerner.org | This issue of Fred's FAPA- and perzine dates back to May, so another should appear shortly. I'll be relieved; Vermont has been socked with terrible flooding and choking Canadian smoke since this issue came out and we've worried about our scholarly friend. Not much scholarly about the first subject he deals with in this issue, the great Miss Phryne Fisher, Australian bon vivant and amateur detective, central character in her own series of terrific TV mysteries. Apparently Phryne was succeeded in her endeavors by her niece, in a sequel series, but that hasn't surfaced here. One wonders if Fred has discovered Scandinavian thrillers on the streaming service ViaPlay; they're far superior to America's cliché-bound cute-cop shows. On Fred goes to discuss artist David Bloch, a friend of his family, Polynesia expert Robert Suggs, and the problem with p.c. pronouns (my description). I'm delighted to find a long letter here from Bill Plott, a gentleman very like Lerner in wit (and stature), whose return to Southern fandom is a boon to the region. His praise for the fannish experience is a joy. Bill's epistle is only one of several; Lofgeornost is home to some of the most stimulating conversations in fandom.

Jach Spake! #2023.7 | Jeffrey H. Wasserman, JHW@Witty.com | CAPA-Alpha is the great comics-oriented amateur press association, a gathering point for graphics aficionados for more than a half century. I was an enthused member for many years. Jeffrey, a talented fan of the field, joined in 1975, and here presents a candid reminiscence of his time there. Wasserman became part of the NYC comics fan scene. (He prints a photo of the lot of us gathered at a Seulingcon table. Who is that hirsute young demigod sharing space with Charles E. Spanier, Carl Gafford, Scott Paauw and others? Why, c'est moi!) He goes on, detailing his relationships with K-a's various Central Mailers and personalities, sparing no opinions. The story involves much fannish conflict, alas – I truly wonder about the identity of the "Mr. Ego" who drove him out of K-a. But he gives credit to some happy names – Paul Levitz, Spanier, Gary Brown – and is nice to me. Great zine!

Jenzine #5 | J. L. (Jen) Farey, <a href="fareyjen@gmail.com">fareyjen@gmail.com</a> | This delightful perzine opens with a witty piece by Jacq Monahan beckoning fans to COR41U, next year's fanziners' convention in Las Vegas. Her description of Sin City's attractions is all but irresistible. Jen takes over to note her birthday and regale her readership with alternating limericks and haiku from her writer's group; since the limericks don't scan, I regretfully agree with her assessment of the attempts as "dissonant." Her next piece, on trademarks and the algorithms involved, baffles me but should be of interest to my wife, who deals with them all the time re Greenhouse Scribes. Good lettercol; Steve Jeffery's LOC touches on the merger of work with home life in these post-COVID times and mentions Nate Silva's book on gamification, which approaches publication. Final words in the issue deal with husband Nic Farey's reaction to the sentence "The doorbell rang." I flash on the second-to-last Nero Wolfe novel, where it's J. Edgar Hoover himself ringing the chimes. (And being ignored.)

Journey Planet #s 73-74 | James Bacon et. al., JourneyPlaney@gmail.com | The cover to issue #73 of Journey Planet shows a Hugo rocket in a gaudy gift box, a symbol both appropriate and just: a lead article in the zine deals with the gifts bestowed on Hugo nominees by conventions past and the zine has won a couple of our chrome doodads in its time. (It's up for another this year.) Credit Alan Stewart for the research, text and photos for this neat piece, and the various Worldcons for the wallets, tumblers, kaleidoscopes and other takeaways gifted to Hugo finalists. Issue #74 is 112 pages almost completely of, by, and for Vincent Docherty. He waxes heartily on the history of Interaction, the Worldcon franchise he founded, his own fannish autobio (well I remember him promoting haggis and dancing in his kilt at DeepSouthCons in Atlanta and Birmingham). This Journey Planet is a worthy tribute to a worthy dude, and a worthy contender for another rocket.

MarkTime #145 | Mark Strickert, PO Box 1171, Rialto CA 92377 | <a href="mailto:bushrail@yahoo.com">bushrail@yahoo.com</a> | Travel is the bailiwick of Mark Strickert, whose penchant for public transport shows not only in his e-dress ("bushrail": get it?) but in his elaborate and detailed trip reports. None in this issue; it's a catch-up number, with lists of and links to Mark's favorite radio stations and record stores, plus several "challenged" books he's perused since issue #144. Good for him for fighting political censorship in the best way possible: by reading the banned volumes and spreading the word. Most compelling are his lists of favorite cities visited and places he wants to go but hasn't yet, He includes Paris – no kidding! – and for his own odd reasons Durham NC, home of Duke University, acres and acres of tobacco fields and not much else. Mark gets good letters from readers – gee, I wonder what that feels like – and responds enthusiastically before heading off on another road.

The Megaloscope #7 | David R. Grigg, eFanzines | A gorgeous color cover opens this zine of reviews for the downunder apa, ANZAPA, and general readership. Sprightly writing, compelling notices — I'm tempted to order Ray Nayler's *The Mountain in the Sea* tonight. David also transcribes his podcast discussion with Perry Middlemiss on the subject of Kate Arkinson's *Life After Life*, both novel and BBC TV series, and other works in the "time loop" subgenre exemplified by the World Fantasy winner Replay. Their conversation makes for one of the more interesting lit'ry discussions of recent. Reviewing DVDs, he turns to Jessica Jones, the first time I've seen SFers give that show much published notice, and isn't adverse to discussing the antique comedy *The Great Race*, memorable for its climactic pie fight.

MT Void Vol. 42, No. 4, Whole Number 2286 | Evelyn Leeper, eleeper@optonline.net | available by subscription | This weekly zine of opinion on matters SFnal and related has apparently been going on for forty-five years, an amazing display of commitment and scope. The Leepers' reviews and thoughts are always sharp and valuable. So much is covered I'll have to pick issues at random – there's a review of The Mountain in the Sea almost as enthused as David Grigg's ... John Hertz joining in a discussion of Moby Dick, not quite SFnal ... Evelyn on Peter Jackson's tremendous and original WWI documentary They Shall Not Grow Old ... Mark Leeper on the Quatermass films (Enemy from Space really impressed the tween GHLIII) ... Gregory Frederick's review of a fascinating book on physics ... Mark again on The Truman Show ... even a bit of a discussion on Finnegans Wake! Exhausting but exhilarating.

My Back Pages 28 | Rich Lynch, P.O. Box 3120, Gaithersburg MD 20885 | <a href="mailto:rw-lynch@yahoo.com">rw-lynch@yahoo.com</a> | Rich calls this his "I think we're finally escaping the pandemic" issue, marked by several first-class articles from *Mimosa* and other Lynchi publications of the past. There's a new essay/travel journal about his and Nicki's move to D.C. environs, a rundown of the various items on his "no-effing-ways" anti-bucket list (I too have ridden a roller coaster once in my life, at 5 with my father, and never again), a solid Bucconeer report, a memorial for Bruce Pelz and another fine article on another fine fannish mentor, Harry Warner. One reason this particular *Back Pages* resonates so strongly is how it reminds me of some of the great people both Rich and I have known. Fortunately for me, we don't share memories of the DC Beltway snipers, subject of another piece, and Rich can keep to himself ChatGPT, whose attempts at various poetic form he also relates. Yeats has nothing to worry about.

The N3F Review of Books June 2023 | George Phillies, see *Eldritch Science* | As it says. Lots of SF scanned and reviews by a skew of Neffers. They do a good job. The authors touched upon range from the famous (LeGuin, immortalized in a stamp) to the obscure; several writers promise free e-books to those pledging to review them. Also here, a good interview with fantacist Howard Andrew Jones and pieces on the writing craft, including the use of the passive voice. In the same e-mail, there was an announcement of the nominees for the 2023 Laureate Awards. The "Best Non-N3F Fanzine" honor came to *The Zine Dump* last year; alas, we have no nomination in '23. The August issue appeared as we approached press time, good reviews of a solid shelf-full and interesting professional insights by Cargill and others.

The National Fantasy Fan Vol. 82 #7 | George Phillies, see *Eldritch Science* | The publication of the business end of the N3F, containing reports from the group's surfeit of

bureaus. All that info, valuable to Neffers though it may be, is outshone by Judy Carroll's beautiful opening sentiment on the value of the organization, metaphorizing it as a friendly town filled with like-minded, accepting people. A good article on old-time SF radio by Jon Swartz is another stand-out. I wish I'd heard *Lights Out*'s "Chicken Heart" – ever since Bill Cosby's tale of listening to it as a gullible kid, smearing Jell-O on the floor to keep the monstrosity away, I've craved a full listen. *BumBOMPH! BumBOMPH!* 

OASFiS Event Horizon vol, 36 issue 425 | Juan Sanmiguel, 1421 Pon Pon Court, Orlando, FL 32825 | sanmiguel@earthlink.net | Created by the main Orlando honcho for the city's SFers. Juan reports on the *Locus* awards and Orlando's recent Anime Festival, which must have been a full and jolly event from his report. Are there any plans – any *hopes* – for an Oasis convention sometime?

The Obdurate Eye #29 | Garth Spencer, 6960 Doman Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5S 3H7 Canada | garth.van.spencer@gmail.com or brothgarweems@gmail.com | Garth's perzine is decidedly fannish, concentrating at the outset on internecine problems within Canadian SFdom. A strong critic. Den Valdron, contributes a solid piece on the Ukraine war and the anti-American U.I.s who support Russia. To my particular delight, Garth reviews a number of recent fanzines, including several yhos only gets around to in this present *TZD*. The more the merrier. I'm extremely impressed by the number of books Spencer reviews; if all are recent reads he puts a sluggard like me to absolute shame.

Opuntia #552 | Dale Speirs, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; opuntia 57@hotmail.coes | The weird beach photo which covers this latest issue of the most prolific fanzine out there reminds one of Seurat's Sunday on La Grande Jatte, though there isn't a pointillist in sight, just umbrellas, wigs and stilts. Concentrating on Canada Day, Dale opens with images of the local celebration, including the first-ever photo of himself I've ever seen. A mystery solved! In cowboy hat, Maple Leaf kerchief and tie, he cuts quite a figure. Never one to present only one topic, Speirs segues into "Sherlockiana" for his 41st excursion into the Holmesian world, discussing some of the many pastiches that Holmes has inspired. (I wonder how Dale liked my account of 221B Baker Street last issue.) The extensive article ranges delightfully over all media – except cinema. Another article, perhaps? Science takes over after Holmes is dealt with: I find a university's worth of disciplines here, with reviews of such stimulating articles as "Neoproterozoic reorganization of the Circum Mozambique orogens and growth of Megacontinent Gondwana" and "Viral emissions into the air and environment after SARS-X=CoV-2 human challenge," which sounds topical, anyway. He closes with a list of the world's most livable cities, which include two from Australia, two from Canada (including Calgary, Dale's stompin' ground), but surprise, none from the good old USA. Have they never seen Noo Aw-leeeeens?

Origin 65 | co John Thiel, 30 N. 19th St., Lafayette IN 47904 | kinethiel@mymetro-net.net | "Journal of the Naonal Fantasy Fan Federaon's History and Research Bureau." One thing I'd suggest they research is why "ti" keeps disappearing from Thiel's headlines! This same ridiculous typo has been fouling his fanzines for years. Aside from some good color art and a nice Job Swartz piece on the career of Kate Wilhelm – whose Hugo for When Late the Sweet Birds Sang was a high surprise at Suncon ('77) – this is a strange zine anyway. I can't penetrate John's editorial; the "Hello from [frequent contributor] Jeffrey Redmond" consists of three random photos of the man, no text, no message; Judy Carroll's musings on kindness are beautiful sentiments, but seem out of place in a zine allegedly devoted to history and research. Still, fine thoughts. At the close Thiel admits ignorance of most of

Damon Knight's *oeuvre*; I'd suggest the awesome Hugo-nominated short works "I See You", "Masks" and of course, "To Serve Man."

Perryscope 34 | Perry Middlemiss, 32 Elphin Grove, Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia 3122 | perry@middlemiss.org | Published monthly and almost always adorned by a photo or portrait of the editor, Perryscope has evolved from an apazine to one of the most reliable and enjoyable perzines. Assisting Perry this time is his wife Robyn with a cooking column (a Moroccan dinner \*drool\*) and Julian Warner – one of our DUFF trip hosts – talks audio gear at extensive and entertaining length. Perry himself memorializes British fan-ed Eve Harvey, one of his prime fannish friendships, and reviews his recent reading – including Slaughterhouse-Five, along with The Sirens of Titan and Cat's Cradle the best of Vonnegut, and Norman Spinrad's Bug Jack Barron, a greatly hyped novel which had the bad luck to run into The Left Hand of Darkness on the Nebula and Hugo ballots. (TM Robert Bloch even forgot to mention the book when announcing the Nubble-Bubble nominees, adding inadvertent insult to injury.) Recent TV is also touched on. How Perry has time to watch, read, and review as broadly as he does is a mystery to me; maybe it has to do with the cool shoelaces he flaunts in his cover picture.

Purrsonal Mewsings #89 | R-Laurraine Tutihasi, PO Box 5323, Oracle AZ 85623-5323 | Laurraine@ma.com | The latest issue I've seen of Laurraine's Stippleapa/perzine is dated March and features a snow-covered bird-feeder on its cover; I'll bet she's missed that snow in the last few months. She doesn't deal with snow in this issue but a journey west to L.A. and Disneyland, Her report is illustrated by Mike Weasner photos, as usual, and is detailed down to her afternoon snacks. The Disneyland she describes seems much changed since I went there in its opening summer. A very extensive lettercol – it still blows my mind that Laurraine prints her correspondents' words in red.

Ray XX-Rayer #171 | Ray Palm, BoXholder, PO Box 2, Plattsburgh NY 12901-0002 | raypalmx@gmail.com | Ray's fierce wit flashes on several apt targets in this latest perzine. He's taken up flower photography as a hobby, to the apparent annoyance of passing "Peeburgh" soaks, whom he delightfully describes as "rectal polyps" and "Star Trek salt vampires." He goes on to ream the late "QAnon guru" Michael Protzman, who gained fame promising the return to life of JFK Jr. (and lured a crowd of anencephalic faithful to Dealey Plaza for the event). He also "deconstructs" pop artist Roy Lichtenstein; I wonder what he thinks of the recent commemorative stamps. After a brief remembrance of two ancient and obscure comics characters, the Eye and the Hand, he cedes space to a Lloyd Penney LOC and returns to his lens and lilacs. Hurry, issue #172.

Scientifiction (New Series) #76 | John L. Coker, 4813 Lighthouse Rd., Orlando FL 32808 | <u>ilcoker3@bellsouth.net</u> | The quarterly official journal of First Fandom, soon to be the First fandom Foundation. John is President of the group, dedicated to advancing and preserving the values of the "Dinosaurs of Science Fiction." (I'm an Associate Allosaurus.) As sadly suits a zine devoted to the founders of fandom, the zine is replete with eulogies and memorials, this time for such stalwarts as Joseph Wrzos and the extremely impressive Joseph P. Martino. TAFF news, archival news (Neil R. Jones' papers at Syracuse University), Coker's con report on a Chicago "pulp & paper convention," birthdays (including mine; I'm honored), a reprinted piece by Asimov torpedoing the science in his own most famous story, "Nightfall", and a few photos, including one of two grand gentlemen, Dave Kyle and Ray Harryhausen. Such an honor to be affiliated, even distantly, with this krewe.

SF Commentary 112-113 | Bruce Gillespie, 5 Howard Street, Greensborough, Vic 1088 Australia | Visit https://efanzines.com/SFC/index.html#sfc105 to download PDFs of SFC – and believe me, you won't regret it. | It's not enough for this congenial Aussie – such great company on our trips downunder – to publish the finest fanzine on the planet, he has to bring them out two at once! #112 is dated June 2023, #113 a month later – impeccably professional in appearance, definitively fannish in tone. I'll let his eFanzines descriptions speak for these amazing zines: "SF Commentary 112, June 2023. 76 pages Portrait edition; 114 pages Landscape edition. Tributes to Lee Harding, Charles Taylor, Valma Brown, Eve Harvey, Martin Morse Wooster, Peter Ryan, Marty Cantor, Denny Lien, and Jennifer Bryce, highly valued friends and fans who have left us in recent months. Also included is Jenny Bryce's last article: 'Ten Best Books of 2022', Bruce Gillespie's 'Favourite Things 2022', and John Hertz's 'The Worldcon I Saw: Chicon VIII 2022." An aside: these tributes do appropriate honor to the lost fans they hail, and Hertz brings Chicon VIII to life so vividly I almost feel I didn't miss it. On to #113. "SF Commentary 113, July 2023, is edited and published by Bruce Gillespie. Portrait edition: 84 pp. Landscape edition: 124 pp. Articles by Daniel King (on Michael G. Coney) and Mats Dannewitz Linder and (climate change SF); also Colin Steele's Bookworld and 50 letters in 'I Must Be Talking to My Friends'. Cover by Ditmar (Dick Jenssen)." Jenssen and his collage-like art – that's a French word, meaning "paste" – is so revered in Australian fandom that they've named their award after him! Speaking of awards, that Gillespie doesn't have Hugos falling off his mantelpiece is a shame on fandom. No one else collects such fine material or presents it in so professional a manner.

**Shooting My CUFFs #3** | Garth Spencer, see *The Obdurate Eye* | This zine dates from June; if there's been a subsequent number it's news to me. Garth gives financial and other info about the Canadian Unity Fan Fund. Long list of fanzines for sale – none of them products of my GHLIII Press; I suppose Spencer can't bear to part with them ...

**Telegraphs & Tar Pits #70** | Heath Row, see *De Profundis* | Fan-eds seem determined, this time, to completely torpedo my pledge not to review apazines, because like *Lofgeornost* and *Captain Flashback* and several others, this zine for an apa (in this case, Apa-L) has plenty to offer of general interest. Specifically, an account with photos of a backyard party in memory of Marty Cantor, a continued tale of Heath's trip to Portugal, a couple of TV and book reviews.

This Here ... #66 | Nic Farey, 2657 Rungsted St., Las Vegas NV 89142 | fareynic@gmail.com | ...and NOT #67. In the hiatus between the last issue of The Zine Dump and this one, Nic published three issues of his spiffy perzine – and a letter explaining why the next number is in abeyance. I've never met Farey except in print but still, the news he reveals in #64 and deals with subsequently stuns my guts: the man has leukemia. Thank the Christ, it's the treatable kind, and Nic is a born fighter, so he maintains, and fills This Here with interesting matters unconnected with his health. For instance, in #66 he "egotorializes" on gay pride, recognizing its value despite being straight himself and being leery of "compartmentalizing" such concerns ... promotes next leap day's Vegas Corflu ... a "Footy" column by David Hodson ... friendly LOCs from well-wishers ... excitement over TAFF winner (and onetime fanzine star) S&dra Bond. His health natter occupies only a paragraph or two. But there's no summer issue of This Here: the exhaustion and stress are too much for fandom's foremost cabbie. Need I echo the good wishes Nic receives from all? Well, I do anyway.

**Tightbeam 346 (July 2023)** | George Phillies, see *Eldritch Science*; Jon Swartz, jon\_swartz@hotmail.com | Jose Sanchez' excellent cover illo shows three spaceships of vaguely suggestive design, unconscious imagery I'm sure for the N3F's zine of literary reviews. This is a prize issue, too, with a good piece by Jon Swartz on the unfortunate life and spiffy work of H. Beam Piper, a writer too few remember, Chris Nuttall on the deathless *Star Trek* franchise, and several reviews by Heath Row. Includes a poll: which of the many N3F zines do I read? Answer: all, but these should be merged into a single coherent genzine, as I've said a dozen times.

Vanamonde nos. 1528-1546 | John Hertz, 236 S. Coronado St., No. 406, Los Angeles CA 90057 | These weekly numbers of John's one-sheet Apa-L zine cover almost the entire first half of 2023. It's a fascinating journal of John's seemingly infinite interests, all adorned (like this year's Brad Foster logo) with the noble cap of fannishness (i.e., a propeller beanie). Many are the subjects he discusses in addition to commenting on others' zines for the weekly apa, starting in the earlier numbers with panel accounts and anecdotes from Chicon VIII – contrary to what I wrote before about *SF Commentary*, John's writing makes me ache that I missed that con. His comments on the Hugo nominations reflect conversations we've had in the past, and an ongoing question: why doesn't our generation care anymore? He goes on top talk black history, the Bessie Coleman quarter, Women's History Month, Shakespeare, our mutual friend Marty Cantor ... In these past several months, Hertz has done an incalculable service for another mutual friend, for which I am personally grateful; he remains one of fandom's great lights (which is better than being one of our light greats).

Warp 113 | Danny Sichel, dsichel@gmail.com | c/o Montreal SFF Assoc., 29 rue Harold, Kirkland, QC H9J 1R7 Canada | www.monsffa.ca | http://www.monsffa.ca/?page\_ id=20361" | Appropriately enough to the summer's film news, MONSFFA's magnificent clubzine features a mermaid Barbie on #113's cover, the work of the appropriately-named Josee Bellemare. No sign of a merman Oppenheimer. There's also no sign of a suitable meeting place for the club, which precipitates a disturbing announcement that the club is restricting itself to ZOOM activities for the nonce. (COVID is apparently still a problem there, too.) An account of such meetings is given, along with a photo of the beloved club president and former Warp editor Cathy Palmer-Lister, very much missed in our company. Cathy herself casts a fond look back at a 1993 issue of Warp – gorgeous cover – and Lloyd Penney, in addition to his usual LOC, recalls his first convention in a nostalgic article. Sercon matters are not neglected: Keith Braithwaite begins a series on Canada's comics during World War II. A review in French follows, another in English, followed by fiction and the cool frivolity of a list of the writer's favorite SF names. I don't see my favorite, Gulliver Foyle, on the list. The ersatz vacay poster of "Earth – Your Oasis in Space!" makes me yearn for such a pretty, pollution-free planet. I also yearn for more zines like Warp, a clubzine, produced by a group of like-minded nertz who love the genre and want nothing more than to celebrate it. NASFiC is in Buffalo in 2024; I have family there and it's not too far from Montreal. See you guys there, eh?

Wild Ideas #37 | Henry Grynnsten, <a href="mailto:grynnsten@hotmail.com">grynnsten@hotmail.com</a> | Noting three years of consistent monthly publication, Henry looks back on some of his favorite issues to update his essays. From #1, and its contemplation of Brian Aldiss' wild conception of God, he draws new conclusions involving A.I. Turning to high art, he expands on issue #2's idea that Johannes Vermeer used a camera obscura to create his famous work. I'm not sure what difference that should make. An article in Wild Idea #8 dealt with creativity among

siblings; the new thoughts on the topic here carry Henry's iconoclastic concepts forward. And so on. *Wild Ideas* just gets wilder.

As usual, in preparing this *Zine Dump* I must have missed some publications. I abuse myself in apology. (*That* doesn't sound right.) Please feel free to contact me at once if you find such omissions or factual goofs. I'll note them in *Spartacus* later this summer, if the heat doesn't combust me first. Speaking of fanzine plans, in addition to my usual SFPAc, this autumn I hope to produce *Challenger* #44 – devoted to *The Bride of Frankenstein* and anything else that suits contributors' fancies. *Contributions needed* – and *LOCs!* 

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**GLOSSARY.** For those readers unfamiliar with the language of our hobby, here are a few quick definitions, with examples.

**Apa** – Amateur Press Association. A group of fan-editors each does his own fanzine, sends a number of copies to a central mailer, who bundles and distributes them at stated intervals. Examples cited in *The Zine Dump* include Apa-L (Los Angeles club), FAPA (Fantasy Amateur Press Association), LASFAPA (Los Angeles Science Fiction APA), SFPA (Southern Fandom Press Alliance), Turbo-Charged APA, Stipple-Apa. Highly recommended for a newcomer to fanzines.

Disty - Distribution. An apa "bundle." Also mailing.

**Clubzine** – A publication by a local or regional group, usually dealing with club news. Example: *DASFAx* (the Denver club). Can also indicate a genzine produced by club members. See *Sidetrekked* and *Warp*.

**Fafiation / Gafiation –** Forced away from it all / getting away from it all. Dropping out of active fandom either for reasons not of or of the fan's choosing.

Fanac – What SF fans do to amuse themselves and keep in touch. This is fanac.

**Fan-Ed** – Fanzine editor.

**Fanfiction** – Fiction written by fans, duh. Also **faanfiction**, fiction by fans about fans.

**First Fandom** – As the name implies, the folks whose fondness for the field founded our fandom. The organization hailing them is open to younger fans who have been around for a number of years. I'm an Associate Member, for instance, entering active fandom in 1967. The recent passing of First Fandom's last surviving charter member moved the group to change its name, if not its aim.

**Genzine** – A fanzine with a number of contributors, with content addressing a wide scope of the genre. Examples: *Alexiad, Askance,* and my own *Challenger,* if I ever get off my ass and create issue #44.

**GoH** – Guest of Honor. Also **FGoH** – Fan Guest of Honor.

**Hugo** – SF fandom's award, administered by annual vote at the World Science Fiction Convention. Dave Langford has won dozens. *I've* been nominated on 14 occasions, and each time been advised by voters to pound sand where the sun shineth not, and waddle off.

LOCs or locs - Letters of comment. See "lettercol".

MC's – Mailing comments, exchanged among apa members about their zines.

**N3F** or NFFF – the National Fantasy Fan Federation, an ancient fan organization dating back to the '40s, which publishes zine after zine from its many, many bureaus. A member of N3F is called a **Neffer** by other members and polite society.

**Newszine** – A pub devoted to news of the field and/or fandom. Example, *Ansible*.

**Perzine** – A zine by an individual fan, usually concerning his own activities and opinions. Examples: *Askew, Perryscope*, my own *Spartacus*.

**TAFF** – Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund, which pays for a cross-oceanic visit east-to-west, west-to-east in alternate years. Also DUFF, which does the same between North America and Australia (Rosy and I were delegates in 2003), CUFF, between the coasts of Canada, and MAFF, the Mid-Atlantic Fan Fund, wherein the winner is thrown out of the plane in mid-ocean.

"The usual" - Trade for a zine of your own or a letter of comment, hinthinthint

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An aside: I didn't think it could ever happen, but my oldest fanzine-ish connection has gone *digital*. Staggered by the surging cost of paper publication, SFPAn Gary Brown recently suggested that the great Southern apa abandon print form. There was a huge reaction; most members objected. The apa's official Editor, Jeff Copeland, initiated a compromise: he asked everyone in SFPA to send him a PDF of their zines as well as paper copies, leaving the member free to choose which he wished to receive. A member for 52½ uninterrupted years, I'd never missed a paper mailing – but now I have. Twice now I've let the paper copies of my mailings sit unopened, and commented on my fellow SFPAns' work from the PDFs! I've told the Official Editor to cease sending me paper.

This change saves the SFPA treasury the cost of printing and postage my mailing, over 30 bucks a year. I still publish physical copies of my zines for my files and for members who haven't made the change to digital, but at less expense. So why do I see this as a milestone in my fanzining history?

Because there *is* a casualty in this: the Guy Lillian Collection at Texas A&M University. After umpteen years of membership, I noticed that my accumulated mailings filled half of a storage unit. The great Ned Brooks, the senior SFPAn at the time, suggested I contact Hal Hall at Texas University, who had assembled a magnificent collection of SF books, magazines, manuscripts. Why not fanzines? I contacted Hal, he said sure. He'd take my SFPAs off my hands, Rosy and I drove down to College Station TX, met the fantastic Hal, & dumped the mailings.

Hal retired, but his successor – graced with the Holmesian name of Jeremy Brett – agreed to keep taking my SFPAs, thus satisfying my reluctance to see part of my miniscule

contribution to popular culture relegated to recycling, I've been shipping TAMU boxes of SFPA ever since.

Now I can't.

It's not like the apa will see its history vanish into the Cloud. At least two other college libraries maintain paper collections. One, at the University of Georgia, is based on Ned Brooks' complete set of SFPA, and receives copies of every mailing. Nevertheless, I regret that I won't be preserving a copy of my own.

But I will be joining the 21st Century.

Another aside: While reviewing Barbie in my latest Spartacus, I forgot to mention what happened when I first encountered Mattel's goddess of plastic. (No, I didn't get one for Christmas. It was my birthday) 13, I accompanied a friend to a local TG&Y. Wandering the aisles, we found a Barbie display, central to which was a doll in a one-piece bathing suit. Being 13 himself, and something of a giggling lout, my friend pulled the suit down and away from the ersatz blonde's magnificent plastic boobs. Nippleless though they were, Barbie's mammaries were most impressive, even on a girl less than a foot tall, especially to a twerp who would have fainted had he - I - seen two for real. Obviously I've never forgotten the moment.

Barbie saved Mattel from its history of aluminum Fanner 50s, now the most collectible classic cap guns, which broke minutes after their first use. That was the way it was back then: we guys got guns, the girls got dolls. They *still* make Barbies.

And we still do fanzines. As Toni Weisskopf says, see you in the pages.

## **GHLIII**

