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FANAC #40

A news-and-commentary zine published every other week by Ron Ellick and Terry Carr, 70, Liberty Street, #5, San Francisco 10, California. Subs are four for a quarter, nine for 50¢, or four for two shillings (to Archie Mercer, 434/4 Newark Road, North Hykeham, Lincoln, England.) This issue's heading cartoon is by Ray Nelson. Special assistance this time by Randy Brown (see changes of address). Please note FANAC's latest change-of-address!



DOUBLE-BILL ON PARTY-GOING-Giants' SCHEDULE

WHITTIER (30 May): Fans from as far away as Germany converged on the Durbee home Memorial Day to wish Charles Durbee a happy 42nd birthday. No special fanzines were produced for the occasion, the police were not summoned to break up any riots, and there was no guitar-playing, but a wonderful time was had by all...and speaking of all of them, our peccable memory recalls that the following were present: Forrest Ackerman, Ingrid Frittsch, Eleanor Turner (and annex), John Trimble, Edmond Hamilton, Leigh Drackett, Rich Kirs, Djo, Steve Tolliver, the Elliks Edythe-Ron-& Noel, Zeke Leppin, Larry Gurney, Lee and newly-minted wife Jane Jacobs, Will Rotsler, Rick Sneary, Len & Anna Moffatt, Elmer and sister Charlotte Perdue, Jim Caughran, and Howard Miller. Besides the Durbees who aren't currently at sea.

Highlights of the party were a lengthy birthday card from Poul & Karen Anderson, the SOP poker party in the garage, twenty quarts of home-brewed root beer, a brain-storming session to invent obscene book-titles for Cal Tech students, Isabel's superb cuisine, a G&S piano roll given Durb by Djo, and a brief (but interesting) episode in the Rotsler Extension Course for Immature Fans, Section 4: "Buttons v. Zippers."

BERKELEY (7 June): Many, many things have happened to Berkeley fans since the first of the year, so the Gibsons decided to throw a party for all of them at once: Roberta Gibson celebrated her ~~42nd~~ birthday, combined with a house-warming for their new apartment, combined with a Going-Away Party for the Elliks, combined with congratulations to Rog Phillips for selling his first hard-bound book (THE INVOLUNTARY IMMORTALS), combined with Welcoming Randy Brown to the Bay Area, combined with consoling the Carrs on Being Evicted, combined with Wishing Dick Ellington Were Here, combined with a Bean Feed which did its ingenious authoress credit. Guests included Rog & Honey Graham, the Elliks Edythe & Ron, Mr. & Mrs. Reg Dretnor, Poul & Karen Anderson, Jim Caughran, Randy Brown, Djo, Terry & Miriam Carr, Ron & Cindy Smith, and a freshly-weaned Siamese kitten which played with Astrid Anderson or slept during much of the party.

Chili beans, salad, beer & pop, and jokes, flowed like water the whole day: in one corner of the apartment, money changed hands over a poker-table; in another, Djo taught Astrid how to spell cat; in another, Poul held forth on apes and tigers.

-oOo-

INCOMPLETE DURBEE: almost 100 pages by ## INN'S OUT: Innuendo #9, June 1959, has Charles Durbee; second printing, run from ## just been mailed out at this writing. original stencils. Available at 75¢ from ## Available for lettercomment or trade in Ron Ellick, 127 Bennett Av, Long Beach 3, Cal ## T.Carr, above address.

CONTESTCONTESTCONTEST DEPT.: That auction of Andy Young's tooth for the benefit of the Berry Fund was won, apparently, by Bob Lambeck (22 Long View Drive, Simsbury, Conn.), who changed his bid a little while before the deadline. He was offering a tooth of his own in trade; now he's offering \$1.99½ plus 32 used postcards and 6¢ in postage due stamps. He says he does have a halfpenny coin, too, so I guess the bid's legitimate.

WORD FROM ENGLAND has it that the entire BSFA Committee got together at a sort of joint meeting of the London Circle and the Cheltenham Circle, with a few outsiders, and the Committee "provisionally agreed that the 1960 English con should be in London, at Whitsun." So now Bjo and Don Ford and I know in which direction to bow at sunset.

RON BENNETT will be staying with Inchmery Fandom during the summer school holidays from about the end of July to the beginning of September and will be posting the September OMPA mailing from that address (236 Queen's Rd., New Cross, London S.E. 14, England), so OMPA members are requested to send their zines for the Sept. mailing there.

OTHER NEWS FROM INCHMERY is that it looks like APORRHETA will be running circa 52 pages monthly, what with all the letters and material coming in. Those mad, mad fools (a synonym for "publishing giants") say they are happy about it.

Also, Sanderson will be serialising in APE soon a rewritten, updated, and expanded final version of Carl Brandon's "The Cacher of the Rye," so those fans who missed the original version in its circulation-of-fifty INNUENDO version a couple of years ago can look for it there.

RETRIBUTION IS NOT FOLDING, writes John Berry, who should know. He explains that the rumor got out through a misapprehension on Arthur Thomson's part. Berry says, "RET, as far as I am concerned, is scheduled to be pubbed for years yet." He mentions that Atom "sent me a brilliant cover for RET 13, but it had a black line round the edge, and depicted the Goon with a resigned look on his face, pulling down RETRIBUTION letters off the wall. I had to scrap the illo unfortunately." (J. Berry, 31 Campbell Pk Ave, Belmont, Belfast, N Ireland)

John has been ill in bed with acute bronchial catarrh for weeks, but when last heard from was "hoping to be up and about by the first of June." We hope you're better now, John.

KEN BULMER REPORTS on that combined London Circle-Cheltenham Circle meeting mentioned above: "This was the most successful fannish affair in years. The spirit pervading everyone was really fine and the two groups meshed admirably. Everyone wore costume, the London O emphasis being on a fantasy mixture of Crusaders--knights in armour and red crosses--and of Roman legionaires--gladii greaves etc. One highlight was the battles between Ted Tubb and Pete Taylor and Bob Richardson in armour made by Ted and myself. We had taken down a selection of weapons and the sight of mailed men bashing each other on the grass in the sunshine, surrounded by knights and their ladies, was terrific."

CHICK DERRY (7703 Alpine Street, District Heights, Md.) wonders "if anyone, anywhere in this vast land we call fandom would be interested in publishing a REAL science/fantasy quarterly magazine." He says fandom has too much literary talent to let it go to waste. He says he has both letterpress and offset equipment, and can acquire materials at reduced rates, "and ghoddamnit I want fandom to have a REAL amateur magazine. Anyone interested? Any guts in the crowd? Speak up!"

DETENTION NEWS from Howard DeVore has it that damon knight will speak at the con, that the Emsh-designed playing cards are selling well, and that there will be a huge auction of art there, from infinity, Imagination, Kelly Freas, Morris Scott Dollens, New Worlds, etc.

Big-Hearted Howard says he'll get in on the Berry Fund auctioning by putting up the original illustration for Bradbury's "Here There Be Tygers" (Amazing, Apr-May 1953) to go to the highest bidder. "The illio is about 9 x 13 with a color overlay, and is matted and framed in a 12 x 17 frame." Bids will close on July 1st, so get your bid off to Howard quick: 4705 Weddel St., Dearborn, Mich. The money will go to the Berry Fund.

And incidentally, Howard says "I talked Earl Kemp into auctioning his fine beard for TAF. The only reservation being that he reserves the right to shave it off himself and mail it." We don't know any more about this--can you fill us in, Earl? (By the way, if you'll include some nail-clippings you might get more spirited bidding, Earl.)

BOB LAMBECK (22 Long View Drive, Simsbury, Conn.) is "interested in obtaining fanzines containing matter by or about Kent Moomaw. Also the newspaper notices of his suicide, if possible."

DON WOLLHEIM sends a "News note for the Religious Page: On June 21, 1959, GhuGhuists will celebrate the 25th Ghu Year's Day, welcoming Dawn 1, of the Year 25 A. Gh." Then he adds, "25!? Ghod!"

JOHN MAGNUS AND JOANNE RUSSELL have announced that they will be married this month, reports Dick Eney, and adds, "Fancy ol' Magnus being a June bride." Congratulations, people.

SAX ROHMER DIES: Both Jerry DeMuth and Vic Ryan sent clippings reporting on this. Unfortunately, I lost DeMuth's clippings, which were quite complete and detailed, and Ryan's doesn't even mention the date.

Anyhow, Rohmer (pennname for Arthur Sarsfield Wade), the author of the Fu Manchu thrillers and various fantasy novels, died recently in London "of an illness that puzzled doctors. He was believed to be about 73 years old." He "never knew his exact age. His birth certificate was never found."

--tgc

THE SCI-FI SCENE: LA

by FJackerman, 915 So Sherbourne Dr, LA 35, Cal--in NYC & like that 19Jun to 7Jul.

RELAXICON IV BEGETS COLLAPSICON I; or, Where the Hell was Everybody? Five fen and a fanne from SoCalifandon were all that showed at the 4th annual Relaxicon at Los Laureles Lodge in Carmel Valley, Cal--scene of a riotous first Relaxicon, a quietous second, a moribund third and the dead-through-dearth fourth. No Northerners made the comparatively short trip and, inexplicably, none of the sponsors (the Coles & the Tulleys) put in an appearance! Djinn Faine, Roy Squires, Dick Sand, Larry Gurney, M Milo Mason and myself mourned the Relaxicon's wake; when we returned, Barney Bernard proposed at a LASFS meeting that a Collapsicon be created next year in the environs of Greater LA to replace this informal gathering.

GEN ABOUT FEN: Ellie Turner is infanticipating...Ingrid Frittsch, fanne from Hannover, Germany, has joined LASFS...Sylvia Hirahara is winging off for a month in Gotham...

My Itinerary: 19 June, jet to NYC; Sat-Sun in Philly with my FMof publisher; Mon-thru-Thurs, make rounds in NYC; Cincy for the MidWesCon; a day with Doc Barrett; to Seattle by 3 Jul for the Westercon; stop in offices of FANAC enroute home to sell the inside story of my fabulous adventures and collect check...My story, BORN WITCH, BURN! has sold as illustrated by Bjo, which makes her a P&R*O

Dear Richard:

Apparently you Ellington's have said something about moving to Berkeley in a couple years or so. Somebody has told somebody else about it and Rick Sneary's complained about it and finally, at last, it comes to me that maybe you did say something like that. Si I says to Robbie, what is Ron Ellik's phone number? And she says THornwall 3-2513, why? And I says, because--and I blow the dust off the typewriter case--I am going to write Dick Ellington.

The little wife freezes motionless and gives me an icy look. I know, she says slowly, that the Ellington's address is still packed away somewhere...but Does This Mean---

O no, I says blithely, I am not going to ask FANAC for a fact; you know better than that! I am simply going to ask if the Ellington's said they would move to Berkeley sometime, maybe. Besides, it was probably in FANAC and Ellik will know if I haven't read it. You never do, Robbie says, you just look for Bjo illos and Rotsler cartoons. It's the nipples, I says, and she says Bjo's? And I says just give me Ellik's phone number and she does, again, and I call him.

Ellik says you said you're coming to Berkeley, amybe. And Big Bill is coming out maybe sooner, perhaps, to join Danny Curran among the Beats in San Francisco...

Well, Danny's young and Donahue has strength. Ron and Cindy Smith are over in the hills behind Oakland, too--but they've been out here before.

But you, Richard? No.

Don't read FANAC for the facts, man, or let Pat catch you reading it for Rotsler's nipples (and for contretemps you must survive when your daughter gets older, check with Bob Bloch). Let me tell you about Berkeley, boy.

The Bay Area is just as much an interurbia as the NYork/NJersey mess--but with a difference. You could wake up in a gutter in Lower Jersey City and think maybe you're in Brooklyn, but out here you'd never mistake Oakland for San Rafeal. Otherwise, this is just one big hunk of water almost completely surrounded by city and criss-crossed with bridges. Berkeley's just a piece of it.

Public transportation is lousy. They used to have electrical type trains to San Francisco; now they just got busses. You absolutely got to have a car. Traffic congestion actually isn't so bad, here--unless you're stupid enuff to think you can drive to/from work on one of the main arterial streets, Freeways, or Bay Bridges. There's never a rush hour without its traffic jam.

Commercially, the whole Blast Area stinks. Back in the lush war years, these characters could sit on their fat asses and make money; they're still sitting on their fat asses and wondering sluggishly why they don't make money now. Plenty of the downtown area looks run-down and neglected. Stores are full of cheap junk--you have to get out and search for anything good. Good jobs are damned scarce, but dirty, cheating sucker-bait jobs are always available.

And Berkeley's a piece of this, too. The town's full of university students with little money and fish-eyed merchants and landlords trying their damndest to get every penny of it.

The one nice thing about having all these cheating bastards around is that they're bigger suckers than anybody....

No doubt Rick Sneary could paint a prettier picture of LA, especially if you live in South Gate, but my conclusion was that it stinks even worse. Naturally you don't have to live with it--just init. You can always live with faaans. We've got some of those, too; at least, there are some around here somewhere. The Little Men meet at Poul Anderson's place every other Friday nite--but frankly, I've never been there one o' those nites. I've been to the Anderson's .unaccountable times, too; it's just never been those times!

Actually, it's just too much bother to go anywhere on some particular night. It's like we got publishing giants here, which are a couple or maybe three young punks wandering around the university campus. A warm summer day, pretty coeds in rump-sprung skirts and sheer blouses with bouncy brassiers and these guys sitting on the grass discussing fanzines--I mean, that's the atmosphere of this area. There are Rog&Honoy Graham's place, Poul&Karen Anderson's, and Joe and Roberta Gibson's.

So occasionally the kids will drop by to bum a Pepsi or beer, borrow/lend a book or stash a girlfriend for the weekend.

That's the real joy of this place. You may recall, Richard, those carefree nites when you and I and Saha used to roll around the village with that wild bunch circulating out of Mason's cellar. It's just like that all the time, here. Somebody comes around to Organize Random, Publish A Great Fanzine, or Win The World Con, we send 'em up Ellick's tower with another beer can. Why, man, this is the place LA fandom comes to relax!!!

And things just happen, y'know? T/M Carr might brag up a storm about how they got it in San Francisco, but let them match an exuberant Poul Anderson winning MacMillan's Cock Robin Award, then Guest of Honor spot at the Detention--then buying a bright blue Morris Minor and discovering real pleasure in driving for the first time in his life! Or Rog Phillips getting sick of Oakland Shopping News piling up on his front lawn, discovering the Society-type babe in charge of Shopping News distribution, and taking a whole bundle of 'em up and throwing them on the roof of her house. Or the Siamese cat that flies at the Bretnors, and the joy Reggie glows almost visibly--or maybe it's the number of gin-and-tonics--showing off his collection of clean, bright Samurai swords, his .450 express rifle and stubby Webley revolver. Things like this I like. I like the town, the scenery, the climate. The bad things I've mentioned are not insurmountable--it just takes a little time. But I mean, if you want to come out, you won't have it easy. It's just that it'll be worth it.

--JGibson--

OOPSIA! (Gregg Calkins, 1484 East 17th South, Salt Lake City 5, Utah) #'s 26 and 27. Gregg's battle (as told in "A Sad Tale of Woe", a flyer mailed with these two issues) with a new Rex Rotary ends with him apparently on top of the heap. We'll find out for sure in mid-July but, at any rate, Gregg turns out two fine issues of the new blue OOPS! Material by Ron Bennett, Harry Warner Jr., John Berry, Walt Willis, Bob Tucker, Dean Grennell, ...gad, there's no end. You'll find twice as much Warner and Bennett along with Gregg's interesting comments. This must be had at any price. Send money (15¢ or 2/25¢). Send wisdom teeth. Get it!

SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES # 43 (LASFAS, 2548 W. 12th St., LA6) is here and contains material with a large range of quantity and quality. About the most interesting thing is Ted Johnstone's LASFAS minutes (the humorous passages therefrom). Paradoxically enough, about the most uninteresting thing is a Ted Johnstone profile, done by Rich Brown. Pretty large issue this time; about 36 pages. 20¢ a copy. JD-ARGASSY (Lynn Hickman, 304 N. 11th, Mt. Vernon, Ill.) #'s 44 and 45 have come in rapid fire style. #44 is not up to the JD par, I'm afraid. A humorous but unnecessary article on Harlan Ellison by Jim Harmon is the highlight of the issue, with Bob Bloch's article a close second. #45 is all letters and makes interesting reading. 10 or 20¢ a copy depending on how large, I suppose. VOID #17 (Greg Benford and Ted White. Greg's address; 10521 Allegheny Dr., Dallas, Texas; Ted's--2708 No. Charles St., Baltimore 18, Md.) makes the scene in an interesting manner. Adhering rigidly to their monthly schedule these boys are getting There with VOID. Get this one. Other fanzines received are UR #6 (Ellis Mills, PO Box 244, Carswell AFB, Ft. Worth Texas - trade, comment) and HOCUS #8 (Mike Deckinger, 85 Locust Ave., Millburn, N. J. - 5¢ a copy now...10¢ soon).

--drb

VECTOR #4 (Terry Jeves; future editor to be Roberta Wild, 204, Wellmeadow Rd., Catford, London SE 6, England). This issue is Spring, 1959, and contains reports of the recent BSFA convention in Birmingham, plus high-class book & prozine reviews by some of the most conscientious scientificfictionalists in the Isles. Dues to join BSFA, July to December this year, payable to Archie Mercer-10/-.

HOWARD DE VORE offers the original illo from Bradbury's "Here There Be Tygers" (Amazing Stories, Apr-May 53, p 80) to highest bidder; send bids to FANAC, send highest bid to Nick Falasca; bidding closes Jul 1st. Illo is 9x13", framed. --rds.

SRO SECTION: Bob Lichtman (6137 S Orbert Ave, LA 96, Cal) wants FANAC 1, 2, 18, 19, 25, 27, 31, will pay Money. Bruce Pelze (4010 Leona St, Tampa 9, Fla) wants FANAC #1 dated 24 Feb 58, will pay Money or swapcrates of Floriday oranges. ##Eney sez: the Wash DC SFA held annual meeting 3May59, electing Dick Eney prexy, Bill Berg vp, Phil Bridges treas, Miss E.O.Cullen Secy, and Bill Evans, Bob Pavlat and Chick Derry as trustees; this gp to hold office Sep59 to Sep60.

APORRHETA #11 (HPSanderson, "Inchmery", 236 Queen's Rd, New Cross, London SE14, Eng). New format again--the diary no longer forms the entirety of the magazine; artwork by Joy Clarke, Atomp, and Bjo. Truce accepted for Southern CaliFANAC, Inchmery--I have not had opportunity to discuss this with Carr, but I think he will agree. Here's 52 pages of magnificently reproduced fan-writing probably unexcelled in topicality and general interest in a fanzine of its size today. 15¢, 6/\$1; send \$ to above address.##

PhilaSFS will hold its annual picnic in July, says Geo R Heap, 513 Glen Echo Rd, Philadelphia 19, Penna. ##Guy Terwilliger, publisher of THE BEST OF FANDOM '58, informs us that he made a mistake in crediting INCORPORATION IS TOO RESTRICTIVE to Sam Moskowitz. Sam did not write the article and shd not be identified with it. ##Send cash to Nick Falasca, 5612 Warwick Dr, Parma 20, Ohio, for the fund to bring John Berry to this year's world convention in Detroit (4-5-6-7 Sep 59); the Berry Fund is rising slowly, but needs \$\$\$\$. ##Kirs has moved again, is now living with LASFS Director Jerry Stier in Echo Park section of LA. Address nextish. ##Ron Bennett says (22 May) that his latest figures show \$200 approx in combined British and USA TAFF treasury, which is about half of what will be needed--here's the time to start your summertime convention-goer TAFF campaigning, Midwest fandom. This TAFFund is not so distant as it was at the Solacon--the winner is to go to England this coming spring. ##No, Alan Dodd, I've never heard of Jellied Elliks. What are they? ##

The International Wizard of Oz Club does exist, Ted White--its address is as given in VOID 16½, and they open their membership to all devotees of L. Frank Baum. ##"The sup rises in the east and sets in FANAC," says Don Ford (2Jun59). He also says Hal Shapiro is involved in a bomb hoax case concerning an unidentified man who reported a non-existant bomb on a Plane at the Cincy airport. Shapiro was his alibi witness, but they didn't believe Hal and found the man guilty. The case is being appealed.##

CHANGES OF ADDRESS: PFSkeberdis, 450 Bancroft St, Imlay City, Michigan
 Robert Lambeck, The Loomis School, Windsor, Connecticut
 Norman Metcalf, POBox 35, Lowry AFB, Colorado
 Randy Brown (temporarily) c/o TCarr, 70, Liberty Street, San Francisco 10, Calif.
 Ron Ellik, 127 Bennett Avenue, Long Beach 3, California
 Jim Caughran, Student Trainee, Engineering, WODC, c/o Sptdt, Canyon de Chelly Nat'l Monument, Box 8, Chinley, Arizona
 Buck & Juanita Coulson, RR #3, Wabash, Indiana

Apologies for the missed issue--thish produced 18 Jun 59 by John Trigble on the LASFStetner, and will be included in the first N3F APA mailing because we love helping out new causes. Nextish immediately following the Westercon (3-4-5 July).

--rde.

FANAC, from
 Terry Carr and Ron Ellik
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