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FANAC

no. 66



FANAC is edited and published twice a month by Terry & Miriam Carr, 1818 Grove Street, Berkeley 9, California. NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES: five issues for 50¢; twelve for \$1.00. (No subs of less than five issues accepted.) Archie Mercer (434/4 Newark Road, North Hykeham, Lincoln, England) is FANAC's agent in sterling areas, where the new sub rate is six issues for four shillings; eighteen for 10 shillings. (No subs of less than six issues accepted overseas.) Alternately, we trade with selected dependable fanzines, and give people who send letters of comment and/or news free issues; people who send occasional fanzines also get some issues in trade. Cartoon this issue by George Metzger and Herb Caen; interiors by Arthur Thomson.

WARNER ATTENDS A CON

Harry Warner, Jr., after over two decades as an active fan, attended his first convention on Saturday, November 5. The occasion was the 19th Philcon, at the Sheraton Hotel, Philadelphia.

There is no room for doubt in this monumental break with precedent on the part of the Hermit of Hagerstown; we first received a letter from Warner himself announcing his intention to attend, followed by an airmail postcard from Les Gerber (who spoke to Warner on the phone after the con), and finally a letter from the con itself in which Larry and Noréen Shaw, Dick Eney, George Scithers, Ted White, and Peggy Rae McKnight all testified that Warner was there. The letter itself was apparently Warner's own handwriting.

A later letter from Ed Meskys, reporting on the con, again mentioned that Warner had been there.

After this astounding bit of news it's perhaps anticlimactic to mention that Lester del Ray spoke (a talk which was billed in advance as "Colonizing the Planets" and which turned out to be on "Polyandry in Space"--apparently the same topic), that Harvey Kurtzman (former editor of Mad) spoke briefly on "The Place of Satire in S-F" and then spent some time in a question-and-answer session, and that a panel went on discussing "My Favorite Year in Science Fiction".

Gad, Harry Warner attending a convention...next thing we know we'll have Bill Danner showing up at a con to plug for Kennerdell in '63!

THE GREAT STF CRISIS!: Almost eight months ago, in FANAC #54, we reported that an epic fannish serial was in the works, with the above title. Authors who had written chapters of the round-robin story at that time were Rapp, Boggs, Harmon, Tucker, Bradley, Eney, Grennell, Economou, and Leman. Following our report, Ellik wrote chapter 10 and the manuscript was sent to Bob Bloch for the final chapter, after which the ms. was to go to Bjo for illos and thence to Rapp for publication.

It's now our sad duty to report that the mss. of the first 10 chapters were lost in the mails. Bloch moved around the time the ms. was sent, and it never arrived, nor was it returned to sender. A fannish classic is thus lost; sob.

--tgc

MY DAY IN STIR, or, Buried in The Tombs is the title of an article by Harlan Ellison in the 29 Sept. 1960 issue of The Village Voice. It was the headline story in that issue, recounting Harlan's experiences after being picked up on a charge of having lethal weapons in his apartment (the police had received a tipoff from a disgruntled ex-fan and enemy of Ellison's that Ellison had narcotics in his room; this wasn't true, of course). Anyway, "Buried In The Tombs" is high-class Ellisoniana, and we just may nominate it for a Hugo next year.

And thanks to both Ted White and Pete Graham, both of whom sent us copies of the article.

UNBELIEVABLE BUT TRUE isn't the sort of title you'd expect to see in a staid journal like FANAC, I suppose, but it is the title of an article in the 8 Oct. 1960 Saturday Evening Post. Authored by someone named Roul Tunley, it's about John W. Campbell, Analog, the Dean Space Drive, psionics, and such things. A typical Post-type article, with a large photo at the beginning of three 12-year-old Beanie Brigaders ogling an issue of Analog. Not a bad article, really, but we'd druther it had been by Pete Martin.

Thanks to Mike Deckinger and Don Franson, who wrote to us to tip us off on the article, and to Les Gerber, who sent us a copy.

RETRACTION: We have here two letters from Don Thompson, one from Maggie Curtis, and one from the two of them, all to the effect that they are not engaged as yet--just engaged-to-be-engaged, like. And it's Maggie who has to finish college, not Don; it'll be four years till they can get married ("...a case of putting the course before the heart," says Don).

They both seem unhappy about the far-offness of the wedding, but our item, though erroneous, seems to have heartened them. Don says, "Do you suppose that FANAC changes events? I've heard it said that when your name appears in the CoA department of FANAC, you'd damned well better move; maybe this item will also come true."

You're right, Don: now that we've printed it, you'd better marry the girl, and make an honest fanzine out of FANAC.

ESPRIT is the name of a new fanzine published by Daphne Buckmaster (8, Buchanan St., Kirkcudbright, Scotland; 20¢ a copy). Two issues have appeared so far, and it seems to me that this fanzine makes it clear that a strong new trend is starting in fanzines: discussion-zines, largely or mostly devoted to letters of discussion on all subjects under the sun, with frequent articles of a controversial nature to touch things off. ESPRIT isn't the first in this trend, either: before it we already had (and have) such fanzines as Pauls' KIPPLE, Boggs' RETROGRADE/DISCORD, and Donaho's HABAKKUK. It's a good trend. However, I'd like to say right here that I am extremely irritated at one article in the 2nd issue of ESPRIT--that by Bill Gray, in which he speaks out for this type of discussion-zine and castigates fannish fanzines, calling them (among other things) "artificially sustained adolescence". Somebody else in the same zine calls fannishness "mere in-group gossip"...and though Daphne herself has been careful not to castigate the fannish element, I think it's time somebody deflated the sails of these superior individuals among us who are gravitating to such zines as ESPRIT. Therefore, this statement: I have yet to see a discussion-zine which contained one whit of genuine literary creativeness or even much care for writing style. Pauls and Boggs have on many occasions been quite good in this respect, but never when on a kick of mere opinionating. And I'll continue to sneer at any discussion-zine fan who claims he's inherently superior to "fannish" fans merely because he is engaged in opinionating in print; ghod knows the mere fact that somebody is willing to shoot off his mouth (like I'm doing) with personal opinions doesn't necessarily make him superior. (This should not be construed as a blast at either ESPRIT or discussion-zines; I approve of both. I just can't stand plain uninformed snobbery.)

LAST ISSUE WE BLASTED the new \$3.00 fee for worldcon memberships, you may recall. Well, we're still against it, but we'd like to make it clear that the Seattle worldcon committee had nothing to do with backing the movement to raise the fee, and therefore certainly shouldn't be held accountable for it. They're merely following the recommendation of the Pittcon members in charging \$3.00 this year--so, like, don't hold back on joining the con because of the new higher fee; instead, join and attend the con and business meeting, where maybe we can pass a resolution to lower the fees again. Doesn't that seem more sensible? (Send money for worldcon memberships to Seattle Science Fiction Club, P.O.Box 1365, Broadway Branch, Seattle 2, Wash. \$2.00 for non-attendees who want progress reports and the right to vote in the Hugo balloting; \$3.00 for attendees.)

BERKELEY DOINGS: The GGFS took a poll among its members in connection with a discussion of The Boring Stfantasy "Classics". Winner hands-down as the all-time drag was Hugo Gernsback's "Ralph 124C41+". Runners-up were Lovecraft's "The Dunwich Horror," E.E.Smith's "Children of the Lens," and the Robert E. Howard Conan series as a whole.

At a more recent meeting, Alva Rogers spoke on the history of Astounding and ended up moderating a discussion on the topic. The next GGFS meeting will be at the home of Alva & Sid Rogers, 5243 Rahlves Dr., Castro Valley, Calif., at 8:00 p.m., Saturday, 19 November. Ed Clinton will speak on "The Real World of Science Fiction". All fans are welcome, of course; call Alva and Sid (LUcerne 2-4138) for information.

Elections were held recently in the GGFS. The new administration, for the next year, is: Terry Carr, Chairman; Alva Rogers, Emergency Officer; Sid Rogers, Cor.Sec.Rec.Sec.&Treas. Miriam has been appointed Program Director.

On Saturday, 29 Oct. the Little Men and the GGFS held a joint Halloween Party. Prizes were awarded for best costumes; Karen Anderson won 1st, as a wood-nymph; Dick Ellington won 2nd, as Fidel Castro. Another highlight of the party was the appearance of Jack Vance, who does too exist!

And finally, on Friday, 11 Nov., the Little Men's speaker was Dr. Ellesworth Dougherty, who spoke on collecting the works of L. Frank Baum and passed around several first editions and such in connection with the talk.

BACK ISSUES OF FANAC still available are numbers 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 16, 17, 22, 25, 26, 28, 32, 36, 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 56, 47, 48, 50, 51, 53 (FANNISH II), 54, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, and 64. All except the FANNISH II go at four for 25¢; the FANNISH II goes at 25¢ per copy.

AND SPEAKING OF FANAC, a few notes are needed here. First, this issue is late primarily because Miri and I went on vacation in October. Second, please notify us immediately when you move; we detest having FANACs come back with no forwarding address. (Dan Adkins, you are a schnook.) Third, Willis' column isn't here this issue because we goofed and forgot to send his copy of the last issue air-mail; we trust he'll be back next time. And lastly, Miri will be taking over some of the newsreporting in FANAC, starting next issue; this time she's too busy with the mailing list.

Oh...one more note: we've terminated all trades with foreign-language fanzines. Sorry, but we don't read any foreign languages.

BIRTHS: A son, Roger Stuart Young, for George & Mary Young. Born October 4. # A son, William Carl Rickhardt the 8th (?!), for Bill & Phyllis Rickhardt. Nine pounds, born October 6.

--tgc

THE APA CORNER: We've been asked to correct our statement last issue that the August FAPA mailing was larger than the last SAPS mailing; it seems that SAPS Official Editor Dick Eney miscounted the number of pages in the last SAPS mailing--it was actually a 631-page mailing, 24 pages larger than the August FAPA mailing. (Ron Ellik for TAFF!)

Well, the September OIPA mailing finally got to Berkeley, with 240 pages. Highlights of the mailing were George Spencer's two beautifully-produced, well written zines, GRIFFIN and UNICORN, and Daphne Buckmaster's one-sheet moebius strip fanzine.

The latest SAPS mailing, the October one, runs to 636 pages, according to fallible Oney. As usual, there's much fine material in the bundle, including three issues of John Berry's POT POURRI, Bob Lichtman's reprint of SPACEWARP #1, Nan Share's spoof, THE TATTERED DRAGON, and fine zines from such new members as Colin Cameron, Vic Ryan, and Arv Underman. The fine showing of the new members, combined with the continued participation of waitinglisters like Dick Bergeron and Shelby & Suzy Vick, suggests that SAPS' current Golden Age is nowhere near an end.

RON BENNETT'S SKYRACK is an interesting little sheet, sometimes. The latest issue, #25, reports that there was a death notice published recently in the Liverpool Echo for a Mr. J. R. Fearn; Bennett isn't sure whether or not this is John Russell Fearn the stf-author, though. And the most fascinating item in the issue is one that Bennett gives only two lines: the inauguration of the first German-language apa, the Futurian Amateur News, with a membership of forty. No other information on this historic development is given.

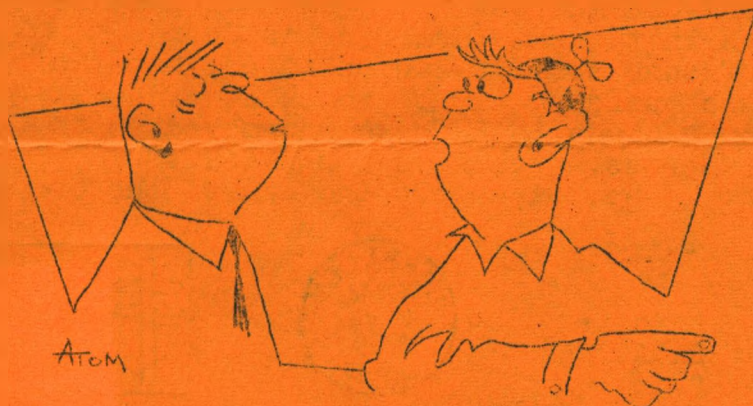
And speaking of SKYRACK (which is sort of a fairly good little thing), in #24 Bennett claims his zine is better than FANAC, but admits that he doesn't opionate on the news he prints. But my ghod, Bennett--how do your readers know what to think?

STUFF 'N' NONESUCH: FANAC is still being duplicated on Dave Rike's Gestetner; incidentally, Dave is doing the duplicating himself, for which we thank him greatly, and assure our readers that the neat appearance of FANAC these last few issues isn't all due to the natural excellence of Gestetners--Dave himself is somewhat of a perfectionist at duplicating. # The members of the Ivory Birdbath are still at it, thespian-wise. Larry Stark directed something called "Twink" this summer; it lasted three performances ("Twink," not summer). Jean Young was in the cast. Larry and Jean were also both in a reading of "The Hunting of the Snark" and "The Mad Tea Party" from Alice. # Andy Young, boy world traveller, is writing up his European trip for Ella Parker's zine ORION; it'll run to quite a few pages. # I (TCarr) am in desperate need of a copy of the seventh issue of my former FAPAZine, DIASPAR; does anyone have one he'll part with? I'll pay money, even. # Crockett Johnson's comic strip, "Barnaby," is back in the newspapers after too many years. Rumors that the current strips are reprints aren't quite true: they follow the older storylines, but are completely re-drawn. # Sture Sedolin says that he's formed the world's farthest-north s-f club in Boden, Sweden, having found five would-be fans there. (Boden is apparently a Swedish Army base.) "We're going to issue an all Swedish fanzine, too," says Sture; "...of course the club will break up when we leave this little place..." # On 19 November, Tom Purdon and Sara Wescoat will be married in Philadelphia. # Les Nirenberg protests about our saying last issue that "TAFF candidates must be nominated by three fans from the U.S. and two from England." He says we're discriminating against Canadians. Shucks, Les, that was just an oversight; of course Canadians can nominate for TAFF. We're very tolerant of Canadians, anyway.

--tgc

THE IRON MAIDEN is at last in working order, and will be used to run off FANAC beginning with the next issue. This is the A. B. Dick 96 model mimeograph, electric with automatic slipsheetter, automatic counter, etc., which was raffled off nine years ago for the WAW With The Crew in '52 Fund. I remember how much I wished I had such a machine then. Nan Gerding won the raffle, and from her it went to Lee Jacobs, who gave it to us, when it broke down. And now we own the Iron Maiden, the legendary machine which duplicated such fanzines as NEKROMANTIKON, NANDU, and TELEKINETIC TERRACE TIMES. It will be used on FANAC and other Carrzines in the future; we feel kind of quietly proud, like.

MISCELLENIASMA: FANAC has agents everywhere, I tell you. We just got a sub from a fellow who said the zine was recommended to him in one of the Welcommittee letters he received when he joined the N3F! # Marty Fleischman (90-09 153rd Ave., Howard Beach 14, New York) has decided to go completely gafia, and has loads and loads of fanzines both old and new to sell. If anyone is interested, write to him for a list and prices. # Les Gerber, who brainstormed the idea of a new apa for apa members who've missed mailings, with restrictions holding each member's activity to six pages every two mailings, says he's decided to change the name a'bit, to Lazy Amateur Press Society --so's it'll come out LAPS, of course. He thinks it's more appropriate. A recent card from Les says, "I got a pretty good response to your announcement in FANAC and my queries at the Pittcon, and so, although the membership isn't anywhere near 100, I've made up bundles of what I've received so far and sent them out to 100 fans who might be interested. You'll get one." That card came a couple of weeks ago, and we haven't seen a single page of any LAPS mailing in our mailbox. I'm beginning to think that's what Gerber means... # Redd Boggs writes, "Speaking of letters from oldtime fans, I heard lately from both Norman F. Stanley and Joel Wydahl. I can't seem to find Norm's letter at the moment, but he still lives in Rockland, Maine, and the only fan he's seen in years is L. R. Chauvenet, if you can call Russ a fan anymore. Wydahl still lives in Marquette, Mich., but must be back at Ann Arbor by now, working for his master's degree in English (he also hopes to go for his doctor's degree). He didn't say whether he knows Joe Kennedy of the English department



"I tellyuh--I saw it with my own eyes. There was Donahq sitting, feet up reading sexy stories, and six cats running off HABAKKUK!"

at the U of Michigan. Joel says he's been working part time as a radio announcer during the past four years, but alas has received absolutely no payola." # All persons interested in subscribing and/or contributing to a fanzine dealing with comic art (strips, books, Big/Better Little Books, animated cartoons, political cartoons or just plain cartoons) should contact Don Thompson, Room 36, 3518 Prospect Ave., Cleveland 15, Ohio. Don says, "Discussion, indexing, reviewing etc. of comic art would not be confined to fsy or stf material, tho they would be heavily discussed because the best seem to fall into these categories." # Earl Kemp (2019 No. Whipple St., Chicago 47, Ill.) is in urgent need of material about Eric Blair (Orwell) from the more obscure sources, fanzine articles or references, etc. Can anyone help him?

--tgc

CHANGES OF ADDRESS (the column with a cast of thousands)::

- > Colin Cameron, Box 541, Univ. of Calif. at Santa Barbara, Goleta, Calif.
- > Ken & Irene Potter, Roydon Mill Caravan Centre, Roydon, Essex, England
- > Chris Miller, Christ Church (Peckwater 4-2), Oxford, England (temporary)
- > Pvt. William L. Sample, RA 14 737 569, Co. C wnd BN. Class 31-A, USAMTC BAMC, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas (temporary)
- Ron & Cindy Smith, Box 134, Canyon, Contra Costa County, Calif.
- > hal shapiro, kl, 6044 W. Fort St., Apt. 85, Detroit 9, Michigan
- Emile Greenleaf, 1303 Mystery St., New Orleans 19, Louisiana
- Robert Christenberry, 8621 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, Maryland
- Steve & Virginia Schultheis, 319 W. Ortega, Apt. B, Santa Barbara, California
- Walter Breen, 1205 Peralta, Berkeley 6, California
- Alan J. Lewis, SA 338-873, GT B-5; USCG Training Sta., Groton, Conn.
- Brian Aldiss, Priory House, 12 Paradise Square, Oxford, England
- Ivor Layne, Bergviksuagen 45, Bromma, Sverige, Sweden
- John McGovern, c/o Jones, 51 Oxbgangs Ave., Colinton, Edinburgh 13, Scotland
- Joe Patrizio, 11 Ferndale Road, London SW 4, England
- Brian Jordan, 86 Piccadilly Rd., Burnley, Lancaster, England
- > Dan Adkins, 5808 Beverly Rd., Brooklyn 3, New York
- > Nick Falasca, 1019 E. Parkhaven, Cleveland 31, Ohio
- > Jim Caughran, 612 Putnam, 2650 Durant Ave., Berkeley 4, Calif.
- Ray Nelson, 333 Ramona, El Cerrito, California

NOTES ON THE ABOVE: Jim Caughran's address has not changed, it's just that when we printed it last time we forgot to include the "612 Putnam," which is necessary. # The changes of address for the Schultheises and Colin Cameron mark the beginning of a real fandom in the Santa Barbara area; these three plus Andy Main now comprise mid-California fandom. (Cameron's move, of course, pretty well kills any hopes San Diego may have had of getting another Westercon in the near future --S.D. has threatened to bid for the last two years, but hasn't. In any case, Los Angeles has announced that it will bid for the '62 Westercon.) # Emile Greenleaf sends a footnote on his change of address: "I was living at 1303 when I entered fandom, and until 1950. So, after ten years, I move back to the old address!" # And hal shapiro says of his new address: "This is in the same building as George & Mary Young and may be the start of some sort of fan building, but the fact that there are 106 apts in the building may be somewhat of a deterrant." # And, finally: Ron & Cindy Smith have not moved; they've simply got a new mailing address. Ron says a new issue of INSIDE is at the printers, and should be out around the end of the year.

--tgc

this is
FANAC #66
from
Terry & Miriam Carr
1818 Grove St.
Berkeley 9, Calif.

PRT MTR ONLY
RET PSTG GNTD
FORM 3547 REQ



E R MESKYS
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