

FANZINES '78-'79

Featured this issue are a retrospective of fanzine, fan-writing and art from 1978, and an index to service publications. There's still time to get your FAAn nominating ballot in before the April 30 deadline. ~~So hop to it~~ Ballots were circulated with issue #10 -- if you need one, send me an SASE, I have some left.

Take note: sure, I'm bound to overlook a zine that may fit into this list. So send me the information. As with clubs, I don't have a crystal ball to supply all necessary data

File 770

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rites of spring

The Columbus members of Northamericaon, the 1979 Nasfic, have evidently been fired. Columbus fans intend to write a press release for next issue.

RON GRAHAM DIES

/from CHUNDER 2/12/ "Ron Graham, veteran and much-respected Sydney fan, died yesterday, Sunday, Feb. 11. At the recent Unicon 5 he was Fan Guest of Honor, and organized tours of his library for visiting fans. He looked happy but tired that weekend. Ron was active in fandom for just over fifty (over)

/Graham report continued/ years with his first activity being a letter of comment in Amazing Stories for May 1928.. Ron's greatest fan achievements were his publication of VISION OF TOMORROW in 1969 and 1970, and his substantial backing, both financial and moral, for the Australian in '75 campaign. His science fiction library, one of the most admired in the world, was willed to the Fisher Library of the University of Sydney and is a fitting memorial to his life-time of collecting. I enjoyed a visit to his library just over two weeks ago and found Ron to have the encyclopedic memory one would expect. Over the years I have had a great deal of pleasure out of our talks about early science fiction and Ron's knowledge of the pre-Gernsback period was not only vast but so well-organized that he could produce small essays off-the-cuff in conversation about some minute aspect...."(John Foyster: GPO Box 4039, Melbourne Vic 3001 Aust)

MAD CITY OUT OF COURT



R. Alain Everts, Madison fan and JANUS printer, has received \$36,000 as an out-of-court settlement for suits stemming from his 1973 arrest for possession of 10 overdue University of Wisconsin library books -- among other things. According to a CAPITAL TIMES clipping, Everts' suit against campus police and a Dane county assistant district attorney claimed they had exceeded all reasonable bounds of a search warrant by impounding most of his books and papers, violated his civil rights, and libeled him. Jeanne Gomoll, in her note accompanying the clipping, says that during his research on Lovecraft Everts received many gifts of letters, books, etc., including one lot whose donor requested that

Everts forward them to Brown University's Lovecraft collection. Everts said he couldn't do so, but was given the material anyway with a letter to that effect, saying there was no rush. Brown discovered the donation, and accused Everts of stealing the material. Overzealous campus cops checked up on Randy, discovered the overdue books, and jailed him. Then they obtained search warrants to try and recover the Brown material. According to the CAPITAL TIMES the Brown representative sent to go through Everts' impounded collection claimed none of it. Everts, who had a grand theft charge reduced to petty theft and dismissed after he attended first offender's school, then sued campus police and the assistant D.A. The \$36,000 collected will fund Everts' other court action -- in 1973 Brown U. sued Everts to recover materials they claimed he had, and Everts countered sued for \$2.5 million asserting libel and slander. That case should go to trial in a year. (Note -- the state of Wisconsin was also out the money they had to pay to have the assistant D.A. defended. That attorney explained the out of court settlement as the cheaper alternative to fighting the suit.)

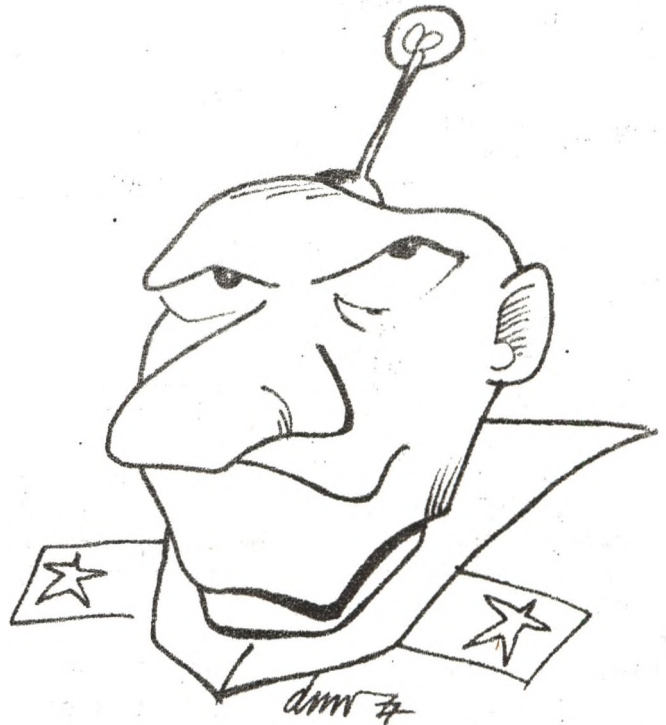
((Dave has resumed supplying news of UK fandom, and there was so much in his first installment that it forms a kind of pseudo-column. Take it away, Dave...))

Saturday 17th of February saw the restarting of the age of miracles as the eagle (formally) mated with the tweed elephant. Yes, Immoral Coral and Rob Jackson made it legal or whatever, they also got married. Rob managed to keep his nervous twitches to a minimum during the service altho' the left knee did jerk a bit, and Coral even looked demure and sounded (if you could hear her nearly inaudible "I do") almost overawed. In a vain attempt to miss the speeches I nipped out to the loo, and thus did not see the cutting of the cake. Best Man Ian Maule gave a pithy speech, mainly taking the pith out of the bride. Rob's was a clearly-typed, one-inch margined no typos monolog which will probably appear in Maya and included an 'impersonation' of Coral for which she should have divorced him on the spot. However, the best laugh came from Coral's father who noted that the father of the bride had two duties the first being simply to answer "I do" to the question "Who giveth this woman?" and that having performed it successfully it only remained to see whether he could carry out the second...the father's speech. In answer there came a long pause as if he had either picked up the wrong speech or couldn't read his own writing, at which the guests roared with laughter.

Having complained bitterly about the treatment of Pooh-sticks Bridge at Hartfield, Sussex (like young ladies racing shire horses across it) and the fact that it's on the border of three properties, making its maintenance responsibilities a matter for conjecture, I was pleased to hear that the £1000 needed to repair it have been raised by the Trustees of the Milne Estate, his publisher Methuen, and the East Sussex City Council. A couple of days after that it was announced that Winnie the Pooh would appear on an 11p stamp! Also Peter Rabbit 9p, Wind in the Willows 11½p, and Alice's Adventures in Wonderland 13p, as the post office's commemoration of the International Year of the Child. ((Hm -- all I've seen in the US is a Steinbeck stamp...mg))

Frank Arnold is the oldest regular member of the London Circle,

DAVE ROWE OVER HERE



dating back to before the White Horse days (Clarke's "White Hart"). He's a short fellow, retired now from the civil service, slightly theatrical in his actions, a sort of pint-sized Mr. Micawber or Methuselaic Peter Pan, and keeper of the Globe/One Tun visitors book. At the January One Tun the fans were greeted with the news that Frank had gone missing after the pre-Xmas Tun, and the murder squad had been called in. The Heights slant shack in North London tried to find out what was happening but were hampered by the fact that no one seemed to know Frank's address. I was able to let Martin Easterbrook and the Heights have Frank's address. By this time it was mid January and we began a frantic phone search. I tried his home town police station and was told the incident hadn't been carried over from the '78 Incident Book (if it had ever been entered therein) because adults aren't considered missing when there are extenuating circumstances. One worrying point was that when he disappeared Frank was only three days out of hospital and had said he might need to return. Finally someone contacted E. C. (Ted) Tubb, a nearby and old friend of Frank's, who went round to check at his home address in southeast London.

Frank had been found at Croydon, 10 miles south of London, suffering from amnesia. He had obviously been wandering sometime because his coat was in such a state that the hospital threw it away and the League of Friends donated a secondhand one which he still has. Whilst there the hospital removed a cyst on his tongue which appears to have snapped him out of it. His first clear memory was waking up at home thinking it was the morning after the pre-Xmas Tun and getting quite a surprise when his downstairs neighbors explained what had happened. He is now planning to start writing his books as soon as he's fully recovered, the first being a history of SF. The amnesia is still playing up a bit, so next time you see Frank reintroduce yourself.

Pamela Boal's book THE ABC OF HOME HINTS has been published in library hardback by W. Foulsham of Slough. The book lists hints and aid about the house for disabled people. // She also runs a charity A.I.D.S. to help disabled people toward self-sufficiency (in this case functioning by themselves in today's society, not wind generators and smallhold farming). British character actor Michael Balfour helped out with a social evening on 2/22. AIDS desperately needs supporting members so if anyone would like to help a charity started by a fan, memberships are £1.00 per year to AIDS 7 Alfred St., Bath BA1 1SQ, U.K.

FAN FUND SHORTS

GET UP AND OVER FAN FUND (GUFF): According to Guff Funndies Four, a flier by Leigh Edmonds, the fund has now accumulated \$647.85(A). Voting results will be published in May.

DOWN UNDER FAN FUND: Candidates who have declared themselves to Paul Stevens or Bill Rotsler currently include Alicia Austin, Cy Chauvin, the tandem of Ken Fletcher and Linda Lounsbury, and Mike Glyer. (Who?) Presumably a ballot with their platforms and nominators should be out before long. (What was that jive last issue about F770 not endorsing fund candidates?)

ERRATA

D. Potter was slightly less than thrilled to have been listed in last issue's coas since she continues to reside at 19 Broadway Terrace, NYC NY 10040. "Don't you ever check your sources?" Well, I could send a certified letter to every CoA I picked up from other zines, but then where would be the mystery in life? Or the rent money?

APAPLEXY

New OE of Mixed Company is Beth Schwarzin, POB 46282, LA CA 90046
-- according to Jo Anne Mc Bride.

Apa 69 is now under the, ah, thumb of Arthur Hlavaty (250 Coligni Ave., New Rochelle NY 10801). Spec copies \$1.

APA VCR: Meade Frierson III, PO Box 9032, Birmingham AL 35213 has founded a bimonthly apa for video cassette ~~tricks~~ aficionados. \$3/yr. dues. Minac is 2pgs. every 2 mailings. First mailing is 6/1/79. 35 copies. Agenting available. Because the apa is public, the 'Great Dictator' will never allow discussion of pirated material (eg, Superman the Cassette). It is presumed all recorded stuff is for home use only.

CLUBS

Appropriate to Frierson's apa, Irvin Koch sends news that my club listing in #10 for the Vidiots is wrongo. Bush is now in Vincennes, and the name of their new leader is secret because they are paranoid about their tapes being confiscated. Further info is only available by finding the secret room number at the proper southern con and giving the password. Last year's password was something like "Luigi Brazzo sleeps with the fishes." Adds Irvin, "I kid you not. This is absolute truth."

OTHER ALTERATIONS TO LIST.

(1) N3F contact Janie Lamb is now at Rt. 2, Box 272, Heiskell TN 37754. (2) Minn-Stf's contact address is PO Box 2128 Loop Stn., Minneapolis MN 55402. Same for that certain con they asked me not to publicize. (I swear!) (3) The Chatt. SF Assoc. meets as listed, but at 7:30 at the Brainerd & Germantown Road Branch of First Tn Bank. (There are 20-30 in the area...)

FRESH FISH: Knoxville Vernon Clark, 6216 Janmer Lane, Knoxville TN 37919, trying to start club. Boston Star Trek Assoc 112 Elm St. Worcester MA 01605. \$7.50 per yr., meets monthly. Newsletter. Baltimore SF Society: Box 686, Baltimore MD 21203. New York SF Soc. (Lunarians) Walt Cole, 1171 E. 8th St., Brooklyn NY 11230. Meets 3rd Sat, except in month of Lunacon. Norway Anlara SF Club, Postboks 93 Blindern, OSLO 3 Norway. Birmingham (Ala.) Meets 2nd Sat, 7:30pm, Homewood Public Lib., 1755 Oxmoor Rd. Bay Area Little Men meets alternate Fridays at Other Change of Hobbit (415) 848-0413. Pubs Rhodomagnetic Bulletin monthly. PenSFA, alternate Saturdays in Palo Alto/Sunnyvale area. "Commander" is Danny Low, 954 Planetree Pl., Sunnyvale CA 94086 (408) 735-0491. Lansing MSU SF Soc. Fridays in Rm. 331, MSU Union. Lisa Mason, Mark Hyde. MSU Tolkien Fellowship (aka Zen Druids) in Union Fridays, Tower Room, mostly social. Both advertise in Stale News, school paper. Tolkien The American Hobbit Association, c/o Renee (Arwen) Alper, 2436 Meadow Drive N., Wilmette IL 60091. Comix Friends of Odkin - Wallace Wood, Box 3733 Amity Sta., New Haven CT 06525. \$5, 4 issues of newsletter. X-MANIACS. Jan Wyman 95 Lake St., Haverhill MA 01830 \$6/yr. 4 issues clubzine, t-shirt, button. Fans of Marvel X-men.

MORE CLUB LISTINGS WANTED

CONVENTIONAL REPORTAGE

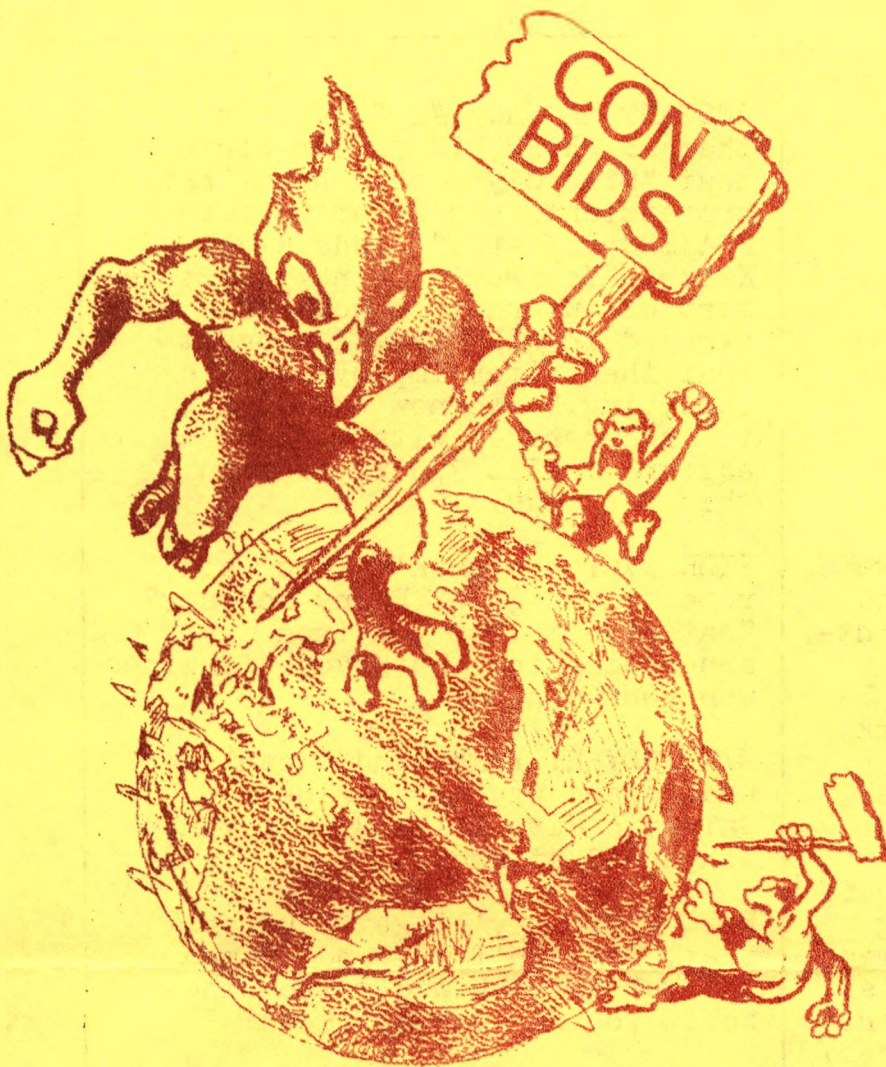
(1) CON SHIFTS: Jeanne Gomoll says Wiscon intends to shift to a less icy time of year. They'll have the GoHs picked before you

read this. She also sent a xerox from ISTHMUS, a Madison weekly, to verify a miracle: a mundane-authored conreport which is more interesting and accurate than most fan conreports. Three cheers for Maxine Sidran -- she'll need them, after all, what editor could keep on somebody who forgot to call fans "Buck Rogers freaks"? OTHER SHIFTS: ROC*KON 4, next year's Roc*KON, will be held this year. To beat the bad weather, and host Gordy Dickson, the con will run 10/26-10/28, 1979. SASE for info, or \$6 til 4/5, \$8 til 10/20, \$10 after, to PO Box 9911, Little Rock AR 72219. SHIFTING INTO THIRD: Instant Message 253 lists as passed a motion to "hold Boskone XVII at the Radisson Ferncroft and call it for the external world by some other name." Evidently the Sheraton, Boskone's traditional site, was booked up by another group over President's Day weekend in 1980. While the Sheraton has been reserved on that weekend for Boskone to as many years in the future as the hotel would allow, in 1980 the site will shift and the pseudonymous con will be more of a relaxicon.

(2) BOSKONE XVI: The Nesfa glove inventory has swelled to 17 after a successful run at the Lost and Found. That and the estimated \$26,000 gross business done at the art show (acc. to Westwind) kicked off the calendar of major regionals for '79. George Flynn cites about 1900 actual attendees out of 2000+ registration. (And Noreascon II memberships peddled there brought that con's total membership to 1590, 1181 attending. Contrast that to 2825 registered for Seacon, according to Locus.) Picked as outstanding artists were Michael Whelan (pro) and Victoria Poyser (fan). Two of her pieces sold for \$460 and \$250 respectively. (Like I say further on, who needs fanzines?) David Gerrold won the Skylark. And I have a thing here called "Boskone XVI Universal Ticket...It may be used as a ticket for limited services" among other things. Talk about bragging. Most cons I've been to the services you get are limited whether you have a ticket or not... Just kidding, guys... I've had lots of piecemeal reports from the LA fans who went, from the group who want to be out of town when a local writer reads the script from the musical, to Marty Massoglia, who met the originators of Zork and had them issuing a new edition of the computer game daily.

(3) CORRECTION OF ERRATA: Rates for Northamericon are \$15 until 6/30, \$20 after. CORRECTION: Ben Yalow writes to clarify Wooster's comment from last issue: "As for Hexacon, it was not run by '86 bid people. It was chaired by Neil Belsky who is not connected with the bid at all."

(4) Several fans kindly wrote in that Midwestcon will be held at the Holiday Inn North of Cincinnati. Among them was Bill Bowers who appended, "However, a group of insurgent Cinti fans have determined that, one way or another, we're going to find a hotel with cheaper room rates for next year. Even if we have to go out of the city." Well, that opens it up Bill. I'd like to get to more Midwestcons, and I think we can set something up with the Airport Hyatt in LA... Bill



would also like it on record that Spacecon (listed below) is not connected with the Detroit in '82 bid (except that he and Rusty Hevelin are involved with both). It being the 10th anniversary of the moon landing and Bowers' birthday, they thought it timely to fulfill their dream of hosting a con in Wapakoneta.

The Chicago in '82 (Chicon IV) bidders have selected the Hyatt Regency in Chicago for their proposed worldcon hotel. When its second tower has been completed in January 1980, the Hyatt will have 2041 rooms, and 185121 sq feet of exhibition, meeting and banquet space. The largest single room is Wacker Hall, 66,716 sq feet. Presupport-

ers are welcome; send one valid US currency note of any denomination to PO Box a3120, Chicago IL 60690.

Phoenix would like the world to know it's bidding for the '82 Westercon, in a strange flier. (The Webberts and Danes somehow get 'name above the title' treatment, while the chairman of the bid gets listed last. And they, too, have volunteered to relieve you of one US currency note of any denomination -- a choice of phrase which I understand earned Paul Schauble a hot welcome in a recent Chicago bidding suite...) Bidders: Jim and Doreen Webbert, Bruce and Gigi Dane, M.R. Hildebrand, Bruce "Animal" Arthurs, Paul Schauble, Don Markstein, Mahala Stubbs, chair Curt Stubbs. Requests for info or presupporting loot should go to either the Danes at 6307 W. Hearn Road, Glendale AZ 85306, or the Stubbses at 3112 N. 26th Fl., PHX AZ 85016.

The '81 worldcon bidders want you to know that the way to vote for the '81 site selection is to join SeaCon (now \$20 att, \$10 supp. thru 8/1), then join the '81 con when the ballots come out. SeaCon agents include Fred Patten, 11863 Jefferson Blvd Apt.1, Culver City CA 90230 and Tony Lewis, Box 429, Natick MA 01769. Make checks payable to the agents.



Freff (see CoAs) says "I have now seen the printed and bound version of TITAN, and the printer did an exquisite job. All people herewith be notified: if you didn't like the artwork in the book, that's my sole fault, because what I drew is what got printed. Very nearly the first time in my 'career' that that has happened." //Freff and Fred Kuhn will be gigging around New York in a band named LIGHT when he returns from his West Coast excursion. 1½ others will join the band (his figures) -- splitting the duties on 17 instruments. And lest Freff seem to have run out of dreams (sleep yes, dreams never) he wants to play the part of Paul Maud'Dib in the film DUNE.

In Arkfandom 9 Lee Pelton notes that the C.L. Grant interview of gothic author D. G. Factor in a past Rune can be explained when you consider that Factor is Grant's pseudonym. Now I get it...

Sandra Miesel's book AGAINST TIME'S ARROW: THE HIGH CRUSADE OF POUL ANDERSON is out from Borgo. She signed a contract with Ace last fall for a novel THE COLUMBIAN SIBYL.

Algis Budrys has commenced a book review column for the Chicago Sun-Times.

INSTANT MESSAGE #252 reports that DE PROFUNDIS #104 reports that "Mike Glyer sold his first professional non SF article in PLAYERS v.5 #10." Adds Rick Katze, "You would think that this sort of information would be carried in FILE 770. I suggest that the editor improve on his reporting." We now cut live to an interview with the editor of FILE 770 to explain this faux pas.

FILE 770: Why wasn't this sale reported in F770? Phony modesty? That didn't stop you from announcing that both your fanzines won your own poll.

MIKE GLYER: Yeah, and I can't understand why my apazine Galactic Jive Tales didn't finish ahead of Rune...

FILE 770: They'll get you for that. But don't try and change the subject. How did two zines scoop you on your own news?

MIKE GLYER: Well, I got the purchase order in the mail the same Saturday that Leigh Strother-Vien put DE PROF to press. I mean, I have to do something to impress Leigh. She's already hanging around with a guy whose got a bigger mustache than mine, and we won't even discuss his beard.

FILE 770: Wait, you tried to slip one by there. Purchase order? Even I know you can't spend a purchase order. Fess up, Mokus, you just plain haven't been paid.

MIKE GLYER: Who blabbed? Er, I mean... Hold it, there's the mail. I can tell because the postman always rings twice. Aha! There it is, only a month after the article was published -- a check for 6½¢ a word -- the drinks are on me! (3/20/79)

Round File

Despite postal rate increases and routine mangling of the mail, the rocketing costs of paper (and on the West Coast, a prolonged paper strike), 1978 was a vintage year for fanzines. Although the forces of postal entropy have curbed the overall number of zines, those which appeared were of generally high quality. Once I got past MYTHOLOGIES 14, obviously the highlight of the year, many zines had a claim on the rest of the top five. The merits of apples over oranges would be easier to debate than the merits of a humor-oriented personalzine versus an elaborate feminist genzine.

Although fandom won't soon return to the days when any zine was bound to appear four times a year if the editor could keep breathing, 1978 had a few more frequent zines than in previous years. With five issues FOUR STAR EXTRA made the most appearances of any quality genzine. DNQ came out 12 times, F770 9, and INSTANT MESS-AGE was also frequent. However zines like MYTHOLOGIES, SIMULACRUM, MAYA, STFR, TANTRUM, FANHISTORICA, PERSONAL NOTES, KHATRU, SHAMBLES, RESOLUTION and others were hard put to get even one issue out. No more than three zines on my best of the year list had as many as three issues in 1978. Nevertheless, even within the subjective tastes that govern this article, I found it quite a challenge to cover all the zines and talents. I felt had achieved excellence during the year. To simplify the task for myself I decided on three things, which you make consider disclaimers.

(1) I don't discuss my zines in this article. You have seen them, and can give them whatever consideration they merit.

(2) No attempt has been made to take into account things I didn't see in 1978. I can think of two zines which received good reviews that I did not get, but the whole point of this essay is to interpret my reactions to what I did see.

(3) Obviously you are free to cast your Hugo and FAAn ballots any way you see fit. By publishing, I intend to refresh your memory on the scope of possibilities, and encourage you to participate in the awards balloting. However, in this editorial I also plan to take the opportunity to explain my feelings on a couple of points that I doubt are widely shared. Further, simply because I don't mention something, it should not be assumed that I didn't enjoy it, think it was well done, etc. One only has so much time and space available.

Mike Glyer

BEST FANZINES

FOR FULL 1978 RUN

1. MYTHOLOGIES, D'Amassa
2. JANUS, Bogstad & Gomoll
3. TWLL DUU, Langford
4. MAYA, Jackson
5. FOUR-STAR EXTRA, A&J Katz,
B&C Kunkel.

BEST SINGLE ISSUES

1. MYTHOLOGIES 14
2. JANUS 14
3. TWLL DUU 14
4. PERSONAL NOTES 9, Harter
5. MAYA 15

Second Five:(alpha order)

DON-O-SAUR 51, Thompson
FOUR-STAR EXTRA #3
JANUS 12/13
SIMULACRUM 8, Vayne
VOICE OF THE LOBSTER 1, Flynn

Honorable Mentions: (alpha)

AYEWONDER 2, Strother-Vien
DNQ 10,12, Taral & Vayne
FANHISTORICA 8, J&K Siclari
FOUR STAR EXTRA 4,7
KHATRU 7, Smith
YANDRO 245 B&J Coulson

MYTHOLOGIES: Don D'Amassa, 19 Angell Dr., East Providence RI 02914. \$2. At 117 pages #14 may have been the biggest genzine of the year, and an all-time rarity in filling so many pages with interesting material. Using virtually no art besides the cover, Don caters to a long-standing fannish preference for interesting writing over interesting art by leading the issue off with .. examples of his own. This was a feminism theme issue, anchored by one of the year's outstanding articles, Avedon Carol's "The House That Shulamith Built." While her article may have been no more profound than the Jennifer Bankier exposition which followed, at least she didn't trip up on great malaprops like Bankier's "Sexism has two prongs in this area." The issue also includes a lengthy piece by George Fergus, whose work on this topic I find unreadable. However, like the work of Jessica Amanda Salmonson which I find pretentious somebody must love it to run so much of it. There are other articles, and volumes of letters.

JANUS. Janice Bogstad and Jeanne Gomoll c/o SF³ Box 1624, Madison WI 53701. \$1.50 in N.A./\$1.75 elsewhere. Trades, accepted locs, accepted contributions. Aside from it being the only fanzine with a picture of Jim Corrick

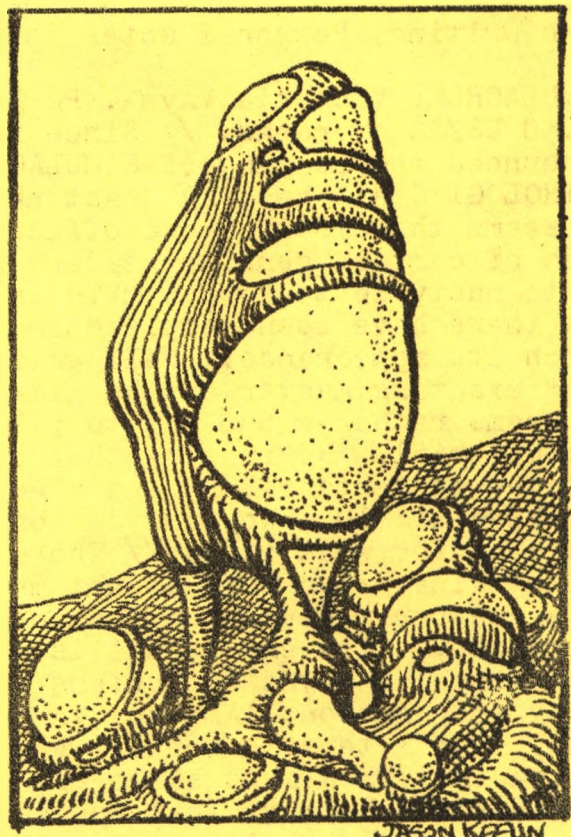
perched on my shoulder, JANUS is second only to MYTHOLOGIES in being packed with diverse material. Though best known for its feminist orientation, in 1978 JANUS fulfilled that role through extensive coverage of science fiction by all stripes of fans. JANUS is also colorfully offset, profusely illustrated, and generally well designed. The layout is very busy, with the art and reduced text, but for me that intensified the spirit of active enthusiasm visible in the participants. JANUS has become a focal point fanzine -- first for the Madison group that produces it, and second for fans throughout the continent with any degree of interest in women sf writers or feminist politics. The list of credits is large enough to strike awe into the average editor's heart. JANUS could use better correlation between art credits and pages where the art appeared...Gosh, what a fault... But then what is it that separates JANUS and MYTH? Mainly my feeling that the latter has pubbed some brilliant material. It may be pure luck. However JANUS' material often shows its scholarly connection. The convoluted style of writers accustomed to pleasing professors is hard to shake, or was for me.

Beyond that nitpick, though, the writing benefits from scholar's tools of research and organization. Writers tend to tackle ambitious themes for JANUS -- for an example off the top of my head, Janice Bogstad's analysis of "Science Fiction and Surrealism" in 12/13. Then much of the rest of JANUS consists of fanwriting -- media columns, fanzine reviews, letters. (It's hard to remember I'd never heard of the zine before the '77 Westercon,)

TWLL DUU: Dave Langford, 22 Northumberland Ave., Reading, Berks. RG2 7PW United Kingdom. Trade, letter, 25p. Humorous writing is not the easiest thing to praise. After you've said that Dave Langford's writing is hysterically funny, all you can do is repeat yourself. Issue 14, with Langford's script-form SILICON report, including a really dry putdown of the IASFM rejecsclip, was the funniest thing I read in a fanzine all year. Langford writes a lively, conversational piece, cutting quickly, using his gifted ear for putridity. (Originally I wondered why he particularly ridiculed Joe Nicholas, but now that I've read NABU, where Nicholas purports to review fanzines, I'm cheering Dave on.) Several issues of TWLL DUU appeared in 1978-- I hope it's a trend.

MAYA: Rob Jackson, 8 Lavender Rd., West Ewell, Surrey KT19 9EB U.K. \$1 to US AGENT Sam Long 1338 Crestview Dr., Springfield IL 62702 For whatever reason, some zines with obviously good material and high production standards still leave me unmoved. In the case of Maya I think it can be explained by Rob's nattering editorial style contrasted against the formal offset layout and the rest of his polished pro contributors. But there is no doubt that Maya is the showcase for UK fan and pro talent. Issue 15 had material from Weston, Platt and Shaw; art by Bell and Barker. Non-Uk contributors included Ted White and Derek Carter. The lettercolumn was massive -- **one** sign that Maya **could** be a focal point fanzine if it pubbed more frequently. Perhaps it is one anyway, considering how seldom most genzines are published.

FOUR-STAR EXTRA: Arnie and Joyce Katz, 59 Livingston St., Apt 6B Brooklyn NY 11201; Bill and Charlene Kunkel, 85-30 121st St., Kew Gardens NY 11415. 6/\$5. Four Star Extra is four fanwriters, ranging from good to excellent, writing about a theme each issue. In #3, the Mystery theme issue, Joyce Katz wrote: "Through some curious stroke of fate I have always been surrounded by people who did not share my distaste for threatening villains." In the Monstertainmentia



JASON KEELIN

issue Arnie seemed to bear this out in an article that included the line "Even a New York cabbie must think twice before cutting off a car full of vampires." (He was in a car full of people wearing souvenir wax fangs.) // Four Star Extra constantly improved during the year, with the four writers becoming more ambitious and writing at greater length. And yet, the first issue from 1978 was my favorite. Arnie and Bill each took their best shot at satirizing hard boiled detective stories, Joyce wrote ironically about her lack of enthusiasm for the genre, and Charlene produced a solid essay on Sayers' Wimsey. The issue ended with Arnie describing a radio show -- one of my favorite pieces in 1978.

PERSONAL NOTES: Richard Harter 306 Thoreau St., Concord MA 01742. Available by whim only. Beg harder. // About once a year Richard Harter unleashes this fascinating compilation of essays, reviews and letters, and generally winds up having produced some of the best fan-writing we'll see all year. Most exciting component of this issue, to me, was his review of Tom Godwin's short story "The Cold Equations" which is a thorough exploration of the story's internal logic (or bureaucratic illogic, as Harter argues). Dick's conclusion is "This is a flawed story. If it is to be taken seriously as a premier Science Fiction story making a profound point then it must stand in part as an indictment of science fiction as a literature of ideas." If Fanthology '78 existed, this would be a choice of mine -- although I would assume Godwin's original concept of the story stemmed from primitive space technology, and assumed its limitation would continue. // Personal Notes has a lot of letters, with lengthy replies from Harter. There are 9 pages of Mike Gilbert comic reportage -- which I found badly drawn, and the text nearly illegible. I remember that Mike Gilbert once put much more skill and time into his fan work. This stuff seems to have just been whipped out. // Because of the fine writing, Personal Notes is a highlight of 1978.

SIMULACRUM: Victoria Vayne, PO Box 156 Stn D, Toronto ONT M6P 3J8 Can. \$2.50 US/\$3 overseas. // Since the appearance of #8, Victoria has announced the folding of SIMULACRUM; KHATRU has also folded, and MYTHOLOGIES at the very least has indefinitely suspended publication. It seems that if the post office can't kill off genzines, the snottiness of certain genzine readers will. There were the people who wrote nasty letters when MYTH dropped off its quarterly schedule. Now there have been people discounting SIM for lack of contents to match its appearance. Well golly gee, folks. Since Vayne is the most exacting master of the mimeographic medium fandom has ever seen, it seems rather a bum rap to pillory her for not having equal written material. No fanzine that doesn't pay for material will ever get the contents of SFR and Algol, which is all that would equal the graphics of SIM. Why not do something radical, instead, and enjoy the zine for what it is? // The ultimate justification for Victoria's painstaking mimeo work is not merely the equalling of offset results in a cheaper medium, but the total quality control she can exert over every copy. The end result is a work of art. I admit that may be the source of Vayne's problems with her readers: they'd be just as happy to read Don D'Ammassa in ditto as in multi-color illustrated text. But I tend to wonder whatever happened to that flexibility of imagination all us slans are alleged to possess... // Last note -- it's hard to believe that the cover is done by the same Barry Kent MacKay -- I wish he'd put more of this skill into his fanart.

((Note: Comments on DNQ and VOICE OF THE LOBSTER are in the public service zines section, and comments on DON-O-SAUR are covered under writers.))

AYEWONDER: Leigh Strother-Vien, 7107 Woodman, Apt #10, Van Nuys CA 91405. \$1, trade, contribution, LoCs, whim.

SCHMAGG: "Mike Hall" 8833-92 St., Edmonton ALTA T6C 3P9 Canada. Usual These two zines, plus Janus and RUNE (listed elsewhere) represent zines that draw on large numbers of fans in a metropolitan area. Actually Schmagg was from Winnipeg, but its editor moved... It was quite funny and fannish.

In the case of Ayewonder, its two issues in 1978 promise greatly for the future provided the editor wants to keep pouring time and money into the bottomless pit.

(That's a working definition of genzine editor, if you want to know...) The one thing about frequent publication, when editors could still afford it, was that editorial skills matured very quickly. Obviously, if it takes you six issues to learn the tricks behind an excellent genzine, that either means you become great in a year with bimonthly issues, or great in six years, at one a year. In its first issue Ayewonder had terrible art. In its second issue the art was merely bad, and sometimes relieved by a really good Capella or Bill Bryan illo. By issue 3 the editor should really be able to lay her hands on some good art. In contrast, the writing was always very good. George Jumper's prozine review column is well done -- given regular publication it would be a landmark in fanwriting. Milt Stevens' satirical columns reprinted from Apa L are hilarious. Tom Digby's poetry introduced yet another facet of the talented fanwriter.

There were myriad departments, letters, and columns. // The creation of focal point fanzines in different cities has been the most successful device so far to steal back some of the fan energy which cons monopolized during the '70s.



I SAW A WEREWOLF
WITH A CHINESE MENU
IN HIS HAND, WALKIN' THRU
THE STREETS OF SOHO
IN THE RAIN

FANHISTORICA: JoeD Siclari, Karina Girsdanský Siclari: 2201 NE 45th St., Lighthouse Point FL 33064. \$1. The main excitement in this year's issue is four chapters from "Ah, Sweet Idiocy". There are reprints from Willis, Ted White and Tucker, plus an original article by rich brown.

KHATRU: Jeffrey D. Smith, 1339 Weldon Ave., Baltimore MD 21211. \$1.25
Khatru 7 was coedited with Jeff Fran. who later resigned, but a successive issue was not in the cards. Jeff Smith always had the knack for turning up features that were both unusual and excellent. The frequent contributions of James Tiptree, the Womens' SF Symposium, Freff's interview with Dick Francis, all helped make past issues exciting. Khatru was also the only place Patrick McGuire, Sheryl Smith, Don Keller, Jeff Clark and other sercon critics of the early 70s continued to work. Their decline as an active group helped complete the split between faanzines and semiprozines, because it left virtually no amateur zines that discussed science fiction for its own sake, rather than as a subset of political debate.

YANDRO: Robert & Juanita Coulson, Rt. 3, Hartford City IN 47348. 75¢ each, 5/\$3. // The contributors to Yandro form an extended family -- extended across the world and across time from LoCs by Grennell and Bloch to the artwork of rank neofans. The persistent dedication to their zine Buck and Juanita show after decades of publication is remarkable. (Well, if it hasn't been decades yet, stick around and it will be...) The editors each provide some personal notes, and there are articles, some artwork. But two things sustain the energy and interest value of Yandro, Buck's voracious reading/reviewing, and one of the three best lettercolumns extant.

"THE USUAL": is a phrase which means that a fanzine can be obtained not only for cash or other valuable considerations, but for traded fanzines, letters of comment, articles, artwork and other expressions of interest.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS FROM 1978

THE INVISIBLE FAN: Avedon Carol, 4409 Woodfield Rd., Kensington MD 20795. 3 15¢ stamps or the usual. // A well done genzine with a unifying editorial presence and some of the best Gilliland cartoons. Two issues last year, edited by an excellent fanwriter as well as a competent zine designer.

MAD SCIENTIST'S DIGEST: Brian Earl Brown, 16711 Burt Rd., #207, Detroit MI 48219. \$1, the usual. // Issue #5 was remarkable for its collaboration between Ian Williams on typer and Jim Barker on croquille. The article introduced Britifen to Americans. // Brian works with color mimeo a lot, but really would benefit from the use of better paper. I would also like to see him be more discriminating in artwork. These changes would show his hard work to much better advantage. #5 was also my first acquaintance with an entire lettercol created by the reduced-xerox-to-electrostencil method. I would argue that the attraction of mimeo vs offset, if any, is the publication of material in nonreduced form -- more readable, more detailed artwork, less eyestrain. When the mimeography is spotty, reduction becomes a disaster (not to say that Brown suffered much from that technical problem.)

ASH WING: Frank Denton, 14654 8th Ave. SW, Seattle WA 98166. Usual. An easily acquired taste, Ash-Wing represents a good example of what I call (probably erroneously) the classic SFR style -- editorial, articles, reviews, letters, neat but undramatic mimeography. Frank sets the relaxed tone of the zine in his personal editorials, but still demonstrates an interest in sf (and other literature), the kind of balance I find missing from most zines lately.

FARRAGO: Donn Brazier, 1455 Fawnvalley Dr., St. Louis MO 63131. \$1, LoC, accepted art. // In his genzine Donn recaptures the sense of enthusiastic participation Title had before it got piled under a year's backlog of LoCs. Produced by xerox on goldenrod paper, simply but effectively designed, Farrago was one of the most interesting (to me) zines all year. Unfortunately Donn doesn't offer it through straight trades, so I tend to fall in and out of the mailing list. The overall effect is fresh, thought-provoking fanwriting drawn out by one of fandom's most popular editors.

SHAMBLES: Dave Locke 3650 Newton St. #15, Torrance CA 90505, and Ed Cagle, Star Rt So, Box 80, Locust Grove OK 74352. Trades and locs to Cagle, requests for samples to Locke. // The thing that these guys have in common with Barry Malzberg is that they believe that the idiosyncratic things which make them laugh will make everyone laugh. What separates Malzberg from them is that Cagle and Locke are usually right. But when these guys get together something strange happens -- something besides two cases of scotch disappearing, that is. I'm sure Dave and Ed will look at this and regard it as a lefthanded compliment, but it's as close as I can come to figuring out why I like so much of their humor and yet find stuff that just leaves me cold.

RESOLUTION: Jackie Causgrove, 3650 Newton St. #15, Torrance CA 90505. 50¢. // The editorial matter is generally a good read, but what makes the zine special is an excellent lettercolumn.

ROTHNIUM: Dave Hull, PO Box 471, Owen Sound ONT N4K 5P7, Canada. \$1.25, usual. // An above-average genzine with a lot of good art and a very good sense of design.

NORWESCON 1978 Pocket Program. A very original concept for a program book, this was literally all pocket-sized, with many photos of authors guested at the con and classy Bill Warren illos.

PHOSPHENE: Gil Gaier, 1016 Beech Ave., Torrance CA 91501. 3/\$2, the usual. Gil Gaier's penchant for finding the heart in fandom is quickly evident in the fan photo section of Phosphene. With his instamatic at cons, Gil keeps shooting and rejecting until he comes up with the frame of frozen time that makes a statement about the subject that Gil approves.

BEST FANWRITERS

BEST NARRATIVE: Don Thompson
BEST HUMOR: Dave Langford
3. Arthur Hlavaty
4. Avedon Carol
5. Richard Harter
6. Arnie Katz
7. Eric Mayer
8. Don D'Amassa
9. Dave Locke
10. Taral

Honorable Mentions: V. Wayne
Jackie Causgrove, George Jump-
er, Joyce Katz, Bill Kunkel,



HEY, GRINGO!
 WANNA BUY
 SOME PICTURES
 OF FEELTHY
FANS?

Cy Chauvin laughing uninhibitedly, Jeanne Gomoll with head tossed back, D. Potter coyly smiling, Taral on a post office wall front and profile (I never said Gil lacked a wicked sense of humor), Andy Porter looking cheerful, Craig Miller looking cute (?) -- you know that Gil's hand is in it somewhere, because you could go years before witnessing some of these facets of the people portrayed.

// Fandom is much more influenced by personalities than is sometimes evident: job functions and hierarchies matter so much less. But the transition to impersonal print sometimes kills an outgoing, spontaneous kind of person. Gil's personal warmth and intelligent insight succeed in leaping over that barrier; it

has resulted in Phosphene having one of the three most interesting lettercolumns around, and some very challenging discussions.

NON SEQUITUR: Victoria Wayne. By whim only, first issue probably is O.P. // Victoria's intensity and articulateness give her the right tools to produce a fascinating personalzine. With more experience and a diversification of her interests, Victoria should ultimately become one of the best.

GROGGY TALES: Eric Mayer, Kathy Malone, 175 Congress St. Apt 5F, Brooklyn NY 11201. Locs and trades. Fabulously hektoed in garish colors during its 1978 run, but Eric now uses a ditto. // Eric Mayer would bore Joe Nicholas to death (a logical fate for him, I assert). What that makes Eric is one of the newest and most gifted practitioners of personal introspection and narrative. At 28 Eric is not quite doddering, although much of his writing originates with childhood experiences and interests. Mayer seems to have a real aptitude for writing. Since he is in law school the courts seemed destined to get the benefit of his clear style -- so enjoy it while you can. // Kathy Malone's illustrations in hekto color helped make issues of Groggy unique works of art, as well as eminently readable.

TANTRUM: Bruce Pelz, 15931 Kalisher St., Granada Hills CA 91344. No availability listed. Try assiduous begging, or a tradezine. // Pelz' brand of personal narrative happens to encompass a healthy dose of fanhistory and con politics, for Bruce is definitely one who takes fanac seriously. (Yes, but does he take Joe Nicholas seriously?) I tend to feel that Pelz underestimates the quality of his fanwriting, perhaps because his 'career' in fanzines stretches back

to the days when fanwriting was measured against Willis, perhaps for reasons I'm unaware of. But his writing does excel along such lines as reporting events, expressing political situations, describing people and summarizing fanhistorical matters so that an audience which did not live through them can capture the feelings of that time.

DON-O-SAUR: Don C. Thompson, 940 Mariposa St., Denver CO 80204 50¢, usual. // Don is the leading and most gifted exponent of personally revealing writing; fandom has. Even if the rate of production for D-O-S has slowed almost to a halt, its occasional appearances still highlight the year.

THE DIAGONAL RELATIONSHIP: Arthur Hlavaty, 250 Coligni Ave, New Rochelle NY 10801. \$1 or the usual. Hlavaty is sort of a latterday Buck Coulson in tone of political self-assuredness, if not across the full spectrum of their opinions. Hlavaty does share an interest in reading and libertarian ideas. Hlavaty has a flair for expressing his sense of humor: an exponent of the Illuminatus Nut Cult, Hlavaty is the Primal Nut. But he is versatile, and does narrative as well as humor. If Fanthology '78 existed, I would pick "Sgt. Shriver's Lonely Hearts Club Band" from #7 to go in it, an account of Hlavaty's VISTA days. // The writing is good, but the design of DR is terrible -- but then if that sort of criticism was going to worry Arthur, he could solve most of DR's graphic shortcomings by throwing away his presstype. // A favorite line of mine from DR: "Comparing 60s Ballantine to Ace Books/ which gave Buck Rogers sci-fi a bad name. Those Godawful tacky blue and red covers behind which something like 'Dork Lords of the Galaxy'

SPECIAL FANWRITING CITATIONS

Nominations for the probably never-to-be-published 1978 Fanthology.

Donald S. Lawson: "John Varley, Taxi Driving and Science Fiction": Mongoose 2/3. This is the taxi driver's perspective of the John Varley character Lilo (from OPHIUCHI HOTLINE), good for a lot of laughs provided you've read the source. "It seems she hadn't had much luck...since her idea of being friendly with a stranger was to ask him/her 'Wanna cop?' This approach caused most persons to move quickly in the opposite direction."

Sandra Miesel: "Figs of Blackford": Yandro 245. "Robert Buck Coulson did not plan on becoming their latest victim. The pigs would be no match for the cunning he had acquired in his wild Hoosier boyhood." With good Shiffman illos.

Mark Aronson: "Smooth and Deadly": Tucker Transfer. I had heard of Aronson, but never that he was a talented fanwriter. I hope to see more.

Avedon Carol: "The House That Shulamith Built.": Mythologies 14. A fascinating evocation of her view of utopia -- an example of how to lead towards the society you want through positive example.

Leslie Turek: "Where Did All That Money Go?": Voice of

FANWRITING CITATIONS, contd:

the Lobster 1. Leslie's retrospective of the Boston worldcon bid provides a great technical record of a poorly understood political process.

Bill Kunkel: 10 best and 10 worst horror films of all time: Four Star Extra #7.

Arnie Katz: "Sound as a Dollar": Four Star Extra #3. Describes the "Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar," radio mystery. Might be a puton, but he tells it straightfaced, and in any case it is quite wryly done. ALSO: Arnie's "Smut New York" from #6. Arnie has always wanted to be recognized as a quality fanwriter, and in 1978 he definitely earned it.

Taral: editorial on fan art from DNQ 10. ALSO: "A Thumb-nail Sketch of an Artist - Paul Kline": DNQ 12. A very good profile of a neglected fanartist.

SPECIAL FANARTIST CITATIONS:

Al Sirois: Cover, Phosphene 7
Funny animals guard spacecraft. Wraparound.

Jason Keehn: Fanny Hill 5
title page: pen & ink landscape.

M. Ruth Minyard: Scratch-board (?) cover for Mongoose

Joe Staton: illos for Shaw article in Mota 26.

Charles Vess: fantasy illos ala Pyle in Space and Time.

Rick Del Monte: Cover, Rally 39. (continued)

or some such was bound in eternal soixante-neuf with the latest Andre Norton extravaganza."

* * *

The absence of commentary, so far, on Bob Shaw has nothing to do with a lack of appreciation for his work in fmz -- he's very witty. However I have always held a strong bias against giving fan awards to professional writers.

It is very easy for a pro to contribute a small number of pieces to fanzines, and still reap a harvest of awards votes, while any fan who did as little work would never be seriously considered for Hugos or FAAns. It is no fault of the writer -- if he wants to come home to fanzines, more power to him. It is the fault of nominators. I very much doubt that Bob Shaw cares about winning a FAAn -- since most British fen can't even be bothered to vote, it is also unlikely that anybody Shaw knows cares about his winning either. But how like American fans to choose a British pro as best fanwriter. Sheesh.

((Stay tuned for further prejudices))
For those many of you who'll be ignoring this argument, Bob Shaw's transcribed speech satirizing astrology, in Drilkjis 3 (K. Smith and D. Langford eds.) was his best thing in 1978. And it was well illustrated by Jim Barker.

1978 FANARTISTS

The average quality of fanart keeps climbing, possibly encouraged by the growing commercial prospects in comics, illustration and the lucrative con art shows. This very set of opportunities may explain the absence in fanzines of talents to compare with Barr and Austin, mainstays of genzines in the late 60s. It's certainly not that we don't have fans with talents of that caliber, it's that we have nothing to keep

them from getting out of fanzines and moving into freelance work about as fast as they possibly can. Shull moved on three years ago, Canfield has been cutting back his fan work for awhile, Carter now claims to have gaffiated, Kirk wasn't doing much even when he was still winning Hugos (most illos for DAW). I see a lot of work in the art shows from people who would be stars in fanzine if they wanted to be. It seems that for a good artist to keep doing fan work he has to have a special desire to do so.

Certainly there is a lot less work fueled by awards ambition than there used to be. The Hugo was monopolized by two artists for six of the past seven years. I know that my own attitude is that if fan work wasn't worth doing in its own right, I wouldn't bother just in hopes of winning an award. But I have run into a lot of fanartists hungering to win a Hugo, and the less chance they see, the less fanzine art they bother to turn out.

One spinoff from that is the existence of a feeling among some fanartists that there is a priority list for winning the Hugo. So-and-so should win first, then we'll give it to you, and then... And if somebody like Foglio should interrupt the order, they just boo him out of fandom. Well, guys, I'm sorry, but I just refuse to promote people for awards who can't be bothered to keep doing work for fanzines. And the idea of nominating somebody I can't even find six illos from all year -- not a prayer.

Let's see, other biases/principles. (To me it's a principle, and if you disagree, it's a bias, right?) --

MORE FANARTIST CITATIONS:

David Egge: Cover, Rune 52. Very nice halftones.

James Odbert: Cover, Rune 54. Odbert has a well-developed sense of graphics, and does good linework and compositions. However his work is characterized by anatomical awkwardnesses comparable to the Brothers Hildebrandt.

Ken Fletcher: Vootie flier.

Tim Marion: Calligraphy. Helps dress up zines, and give them an extra dimension of warmth.

Chris Johnson: Cover, Rataplan 19. "By appointment - Wilson Tucker - Natural Inseminations" deserves recognition for putridly portraying Tucker's calling card. Really good anatomy. Uh,yeah.

Joan Henke-Woods: Cover, Tucker Transfer. Article heading in Xenium 2.7. Joan is very good, and I hope to see a lot more of her artwork.

Linda Miller: Cover, final Westercon PR, adapted from cover of Apa L (no. ?)

Al White: Lettercol heading, Scientifiction 10.

Wade Gilbreath: Cover, Scientifiction 10.

Maureen Garrett: Cover, Holier Than Thou #1.

PROPOSED FAAn NOMINEES:

(alphabetical order)
Jim Barker, Derek Carter,
Alexis Gilliland, Taral,
Bill Warren, Charles Williams

When I decide how to fill out my Hugo ballot (not qualifying to nominate artists for the FAAns), I will consider (1) what artists actually produced or had published in 1978. (2) How excellent their work in 1978 was in terms of humor or artistry. I will also be swayed if they can do more than one type of art well (such as cartoons, astronomicals, illustrations, human and alien figures). That means that in my own opinion, artists could be grouped three ways, by wit, by their degrees of excellence within their drawing specialties, and by their versatility.

ARTISTS 1978

HUMOR	EXECUTION	VERSATILITY
Gilliland	Carter	Carter
Rotsler	Taral	Bill Warren
Schirmeister	Capella	Charles Williams
Charles Williams	Henke-Woods	Pearson
Barker	Barker	Ole Kvern
Stiles	Schirmeister	Shiffman
Linda Miller	Charles Williams	Gilbreath

Of course you're always trying to walk on water when you attempt to justify personal taste. So I shall just settle for having tried to explain that I don't judge everyone by one standard.

ALEXIS GILLILAND: To use a quote from Arthur Hlavaty which tends to express my feelings: "Alexis Gilliland...is reaching the point where his peer group is people like Kliban and Caldwell rather than other fanartists." (Aaaagh! Another quote without permission from Lasfapa! Stop me before I kill again!) Like Rotsler, Gilliland sketches his thoughts, and to hilarious effect. Take this wry caption spoken by a fellow whose head is just above water: "Gold is not preferable to paper money in every case."

BILL ROTSLER: Though less prominent in fmz than in past years, Bill took fandom by storm with his name badges in 1978. Every second fan at Iggy had one on, and he's been swelling the coffers of Duff by selling them off at cons ever since. (Buttons, not the coffers...)

MARC SCHIRMEISTER: Even given his portfolio of covers in STFR 10, the best thing I saw from Marc last year was probably the cover of Skug 3, which is also one of the better pieces of composition he's produced, necessary to that complicated gag.

CHARLES WILLIAMS: Williams has been sort of a genie in a bottle for the newzine Chat this past year. He does fannish comic strips in laid back style, and pages of hard-polished graphics with hypnotizingly busy composition...all for Chat. One thing -- they are done in xerox, to good effect, for xerox adds a sheen that supplies his comix-influenced style extra flash -- blinding whites and glittering blacks. Williams is very talented, but also very underexposed.

JIM BARKER: With a K -- he finished fourth in the F770 poll, there is no Jim Barner (argh). Jim became the most published artist of 1978. This couldn't have anything to do with qualifying for nomination for the Hugo in the year of a British worldcon, could it? Either way, he's earned it twice over. Barker has a flashy, super-

caricature style comparable to a slick magazine gag cartoonist's. Jim's best demonstration of his skills was in Spang Blah #19, where he did a six page comic strip and 8 full-page gag cartoons. If he has a fault, it is a tendency to excessive detail, where the various grades of linework and ziatone shading break up the composition. Something that makes Jim virtually unique these days is his willingness to illustrate articles -- something he does with a dash of fannish humor. // He even had art in Munich Roundup 148! (Talk about being eager....)

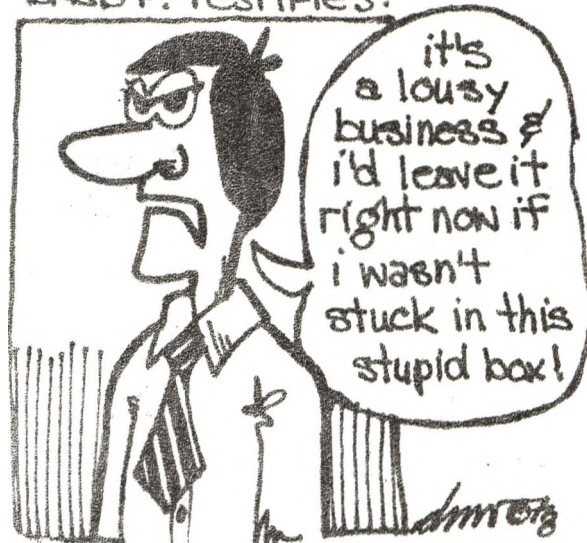
STEVE STILES: Among the finest cartoonists ever to lend his talent to fanzines, Stiles returned in force to fmz this past year. He had something in most every Baltimore-area zine. Of special note: his cover for Fanny Hill 5, and his article headings in Tucker Transfer.

LINDA MILLER: Linda seems not so much into working for fanzines as working for her friends -- some of whom happen to publish zines. Otherwise her gifts as a cartoonist would be very widely recognized, rather than best known to LA fans. Linda, who works as an animator for Disney, is very versatile. Examples of her work with the most circulation in '78 would be the Westercon PB cover, and the Westercon final PR cover (a devastating caricature of the committee).

DEREK CARTER: His cover for Xenium 2.7, executed in a pointillistic style, was a parody of Norman Rockwell's famous self-portrait. It was the piece of fan art that impressed me most last year. He also did the cover of Maya 15, in his dwarf-city-with-gnarled-towers-and-zeppilins style (that, frankly, I'm tired of after six years)(that being almost as long as it's been since I first saw it used on the Torcon 2 PB cover). Now talk about pointless discussions -- Carter's work takes many forms. He does gag cartoons, and then he does painstaking, technically advanced work like the cover of Xenium. Even though the latter is still a humorous work, I say to myself, a lot of fans can be that funny, but nobody can execute a drawing as well as he can at his best. So I hate to see him relegated to best "non-serious" artist.

TARAL: Taral's growth this past year has been phenomenal -- the Iggy PRs, his cover and illos for STFR 10, the foldouts in SIM 8, and particularly his inside cover for DNQ 10, show a vast improvement in technique over earlier drawings. He has evolved a style suited to his naturistic fantasies -- realistic meadows and star-scapes brought alive by the presence of kjolas and giant swans. "Homonid eroticism" is also an area Taral returns to frequently.

CONFESSIONS OF A FILLO BRAD P. TESTIFIES!



RAY CAPELLA: Ray is one of the most proficient artists still contributing to fanzines -- he has a great range of knowledge when it comes to executing an illustrative idea. His best work is positively attention-arresting, like the typewriting serpent in STFR 10, or the centerspread of Phosphene 7 depicting a ghostly Burroughs city in the distance while an alien warrior in the foreground stands watch over Nasa's Mars Viking.

BILL WARREN: Seattle's Bill Warren has been a tremendous asset to their bidding literature -- but used in that way, his art tended to be overshadowed. His covers for estwind, and the wraparound illustration for "Jeffy Is Five" which served as the Iggy PB cover, have offered the fullest scope for his talent. Warren is good at composition and color work. He tends to be only average at portraying anatomy -- the distorted heads and claw-like hands of the figures on the Iggy PB cover marred some of its other excellent elements. Warren is quite good at caricature. With further experience all areas of Warren's skill should improve.

JOE PEARSON: Joe and I tend to quibble over elements in his style. What this boils down to is that he and I disagree when a given illo is "done" -- needs no further hatchwork, inking, what have you. That aside, Joe's maturation as a fanartist (and now free-lancer) has come long steadily. Joe is versatile, as a humorist, illustrator, experimenter with styles and techniques. Although done free-lance, his cover for Sorcerer's Apprentice #1 indicates his skill.

OLE KVERN: If there was more Kvern work out, I'd probably rank him much higher. I get the impression that he gets caught up in causes, which are generally unable to publish all the work he provides. (Or maybe I'm just misinformed; what a surprise...) His cover for Janus 14, published in magenta ink on peach paper, hints at his great potential. The only other place I saw more than a token amount of Kvern art was in Phosphene. But he's very talented.

STU SHIFFMAN: Caricature, of fans and fannish situations, is Stu's strong point. For example, he provided a mock paperback cover to go along with Sandra Miesel's article in Yandro 245: "The Pigs of Blackford: 'Only one man could hold these tusked terrors in check' -- Robert Buck Coulson Adventure." His sense of humor is well developed

WADE GILBREATH: Wade is another fanartist whose skills improve the more he works on them. Wade calls his cover for STFR 10 his best piece to date. He is also a fine fannish cartoonist.

JEANNE GOMOLL: Jeanne is another artist I would rank higher if I had found more examples of her work. She is a skillful cartoonist whose penwork is integral to Janus' successful layouts.

DAVE VERESCHAGIN: Dave has developed a classy graphic style of humorous cartooning that I really enjoy.

- - - - -
That wraps up my remarks, and yet, I feel there is so much more I should have said -- something about Graymalkin and the Cincinnati zine boom; more about the well done feminist material in Mythologies, Janus, and elsewhere, which seems to get lost in my passing criticisms of the examples I didn't enjoy; and something about best letterhacks (Glicksohn, Carol, E. Mayer, Meadows, Deindorfer)

+++++ ACCESS TO SF/FAN DATA +++++

LOCUS: Sf newspaper. \$9/12 in N. Am, and sea mail overseas. Locus Publications, PO Box 3938, San Francisco CA 94119. Sample \$1.00
 AUSTRALIAN SF NEWS: \$5.00(A)/10. Airmail rates on request. To: Mervyn Binns, 305/307 Swanston St., Melbourne 3000 Australia.
 ANVIL: Birmingham club newszine. \$2.50/6 or usual. To: Wade Gilbreath 4206 Balboa Ave., Pinson AL 35126.
 ALPHA CENTAURA COMMUNICATOR: ST clunzine. \$4/yr. To: Owen K. Laurion 1609 Rosa NE, Albuquerque NM 87106.
 ARKFANDOM: Midwest and southern con info. 30¢ 3rd, 40¢ 1st class mail. To: Margaret Middleton, Runway 37, PO Box 9911, Little Rock AR72219
 ATARANTES: ASFiC clubzine. 12/\$3.50. To: Cliff Biggers, 1029 Franklin Rd. #3A, Marietta GA 30067. Frequent southern & pro news.
 BCSFAZINE: Vancouver clubzine. \$2.50 (assoc. status for 1yr.) To: PO Box 35577 Stn. E, Vancouver BC V6N 4G9 Canada.
 CHAT: Clubzine w/pro interviews. Frequent. 25¢/ea. To: Dick & Nicki Lynch, 4207 Davis Lane, Chattanooga TN 37416. Excellent art.
 CHUNDER: Australian fannish newzine. Write for overseas rates. To: John Foyster GPO Box 4039, Melbourne Vic 3001, Australia.
 DE PROFUNDIS: LASFS newszine. \$3.00/yr. To: LASFS, 11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood CA 91601. New Phone mnemonic: SO Ø Y BEG.
 DNQ: The Competition? 3/\$1(US), arranged trades, usual. To: Victoria Vayne, PO Box 156 Syn.D, Toronto ONT M6P 3J8, or Taral, 1812-415 Willowdale Ave., Willowdale ONT M2N 5B4 Canada.
 INSTANT MESSAGE: clubzine, twice-monthly. \$6/yr. To: NESFA, PO Box G, MIT Branch PO, Cambridge MA 92139.
 RUNE: Minnesota SF Society zine. 50¢, usual. To: Carol Kennedy and Lee Pelton, 1204 Harmon Pl. #10, Minneapolis MN 55403. Good genzine.

SPECIAL INTEREST BULLETINS

SOUTH OF THE MOON: Complete apa index, periodically revised. 50¢ or usual. To: Lester Boutillier, 2726 Castiglione St., N.O. LA 70119
 VOICE OF THE LOBSTER: Worldcon planning & politics letterzine, edited by George Flynn for Noreascon 2. 50¢ or \$2 for all issues to come., plus available back issues. Noreascon 2, PO Box 46, MIT Br. PO, Cambridge MA 02139
 WHOLE FANZINE CATALOG: Reviews of current fanzines. 5/\$2 (4/\$3 A.O.) and the usual. Brian Earl Brown, 16711 Burt Rd. #207, Detroit MI 48219. Invaluable service to fanzine fans.

ASSORTED FAN-PUBLISHED ITEMS

NESFA: Index to sf prozines, Noreascon proceedings, many other things. Get list from PO Box G, MIT Br. PO, Cambridge MA 02139
 HISTORY OF THE HUGO, NEBULA & IFA: updated by DeVore & Franson, indexed, 120 pp. Howard De Vore, 4705 Weddel St., BDearborn Hts MI 48125. Also: SF & FANTASY PSEUDONYMS, \$2, 70 pp, 2500 names.
 DIRECTORY OF MULTILINGUAL FANS, 2pp, 20¢ or 1 IRC; also, FANZINE DIRECTORY \$1(US); Allan Beatty, PO Box 1040, Ames IA 50010
 FILLOSTRATED FAN DICTIONARY: fan slang index, 2500 words, 172pp; To: Elst Weinstein, 12809 Neon Way, Granada Hills, CA 91344. Also -- DEVONIAN IMPERIAL LIBRARY \$1, D&D ideas and takeoffs.
 OF SUCH ARE LEGENDS MADE: Fanhistory Taff fundraiser. \$1.25 in person \$1.50 by mail. To: Joyce Scrivner 2528 15th Ave. S, Minn MN 55404
 TUCKER TRANSFER: Humorous appreciations. Fundraiser. \$1.50/\$2.00 by mail. To: Gail Burnick, 2266 Jackson, Dubuque IA 82001

ROUNDFILINGS: As a result of my longwindedness, columns from Taral, Victoria, Dan Goodman, and a letter from Fred Patten will be held until next issue, which I shall target for April 20.

ART CREDITS: Al Sirois (1); Jeanne Gomoll (2); Dave Vereschagin (3,23); Ray Capella (7); Jason Keehn (13); Mike Glyer (15); Wade Gilbreath (18)

SHORT NOTES: Teresa Nielsen and Patrick Hayden plan to Marry March 23.
// Larry Niven has dispatched the manuscript for RINGWORLD ENGINEERS to his publisher, and celebrated with champagne at LASFS.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Ian & Janice Maule, 5 Beaconsfield Rd., New Malden Surrey KT3 3HY UK
Elst Weinstein, 12809 Neon Way, Granada Hills CA 91344 (360-7575)
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(eff. 4/1) Lee Ann Goldstein 6620 Hazeltine Ave #1, Van Nuys, CA 91405
Dave Cockfield, Chestnuts Hostel Rm 6, Branch Hill, Hampstead London NW3 U.K.

Kevin Smith, 7 Fassett Rd., Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey U.K.

CONVENTION UPDATES: Cleveland Star Trek Con (Apr. 20-22) Stouffer Inn on the Square. Doohan, Takei, Gerrold etc. \$17.50 til 3/31, \$20.00 after. To Cleveland ST, PO Box 33092, Cleveland OH 44133.
Xenocon (Apr. 22) No location listed. Goulart, Scithers, etc. Film and hucksters. \$5.00 to Xenocon, 92nd St. YMHA, 1395 Lexington Ave., NYC NY 10028. Leprecon V (May 4-6) Quality Inn West, 2420 W. Thomas Rd., Phx AZ. Pro: Ian Ballantine. Fan: Skip Olson. Spec: MZ Bradley. TM: Curt Stubbs. Memberships to Arizonans \$8, \$5 for out-of-staters. To: Tommy & Mary Williams 1305 W. Sells, Phx AZ. Fal-Con I (May 13) Cerritos College (So. Cal.). Van Vogt, CL Moore, etc. \$4 til 4/30, \$5 after, to CCSFO c/o Student Activities Office, 11110 Alondra Blvd., Cerritos CA 90650. Spacecon (July 20-22) Holiday Inn, Exit 111, Wapakoneta OH. GoH; Kelly Freas. \$7 til 7/1, \$10 after. To: Bill Bowers PO Box 3157, Cincinnati OH 45201. Autoclave (July 27-29) Ramada Inn Southfield, 28225 Telegraph Rd. Southfield MI \$6 til 7/1, \$8 after. To: Diane Drutowski 2412 Galpin, Royal Oak 48073

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