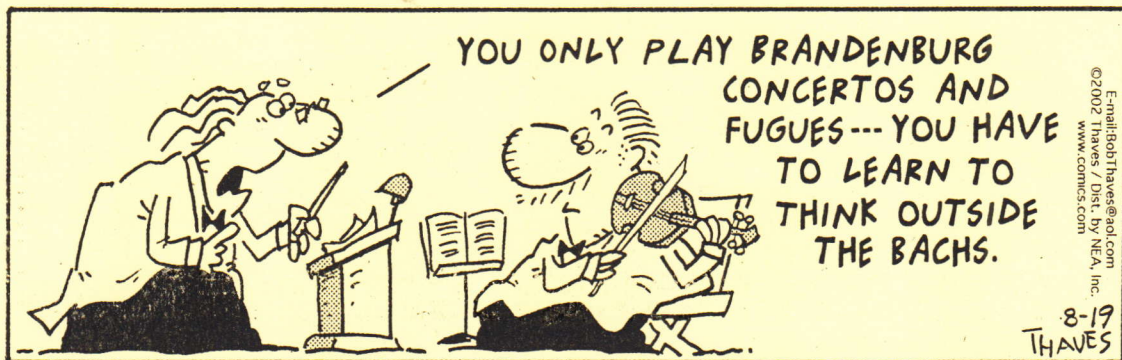


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FRANK & ERNEST / Bob Thaves



PETER, PAN & MERRY #46

A zine for SFPA # 230

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Come and Tarry on SFPA 229

Southerner – Re rule # 4. Are you implying that some of us have gotten your goat? Or vice versa?

Sheila Strickland – I’ve been to more than one museum where the fare offered in the cafeteria resembled what you describe for the Space Center. Although my recollection is that the museums we’ve hit in San Francisco had rather more expansive (if also more expensive) menus. On the other hand, how fancy a menu would you trust at such an establishment? // Ct Norm: Hmmm. If scrolling text would qualify to make a movie SF, one wonders if the Star Wars films are at least partially SF. // Ct me: Well Jimmie’s death was certainly a surprise but wasn’t as hard on Kay on one might have thought. Still she did have difficulties dealing with his affairs and cleaning out his apartment. And I think we’ve had enough of that sort of thing for a while now. // I have a clear view of the process. Lycanthropy is transmitted in the same manner as rabies – by the bite of the animal. // Kay is still enjoying her Prius tremendously. One advantage it has over the Saturn is a higher body so you don’t sit as low to the ground and it is easier to get in and out of as a result. I think Kay would still have gone with a Saturn if we had a local dealership. But with the closest one about 200 miles away... Oh, and there is a tax deduction for buying a Prius. // Ct Gary: While there are certainly places where you can see more, Eureka has a pretty good night sky too. ✓

T.K.F.W.R. – Theoretically getting rid of the need to perform basic memory functions would free up the brain’s computing power to creative and extrapolative thinking. Off course you’d still need to keep some things in memory to be able to do that sort of thinking. // I’m going to go out on a limb and presume that the NPR report said that there was a 28% *greater* chance of women on HRT getting breast cancer rather than “a 28% chance” as the latter is an outright lie. The shift was from 0.3% rate to a 0.38% rate. The problem with decrying it as alarmist is that, when you’re talking about something with a low incidence rate it doesn’t take much of an absolute difference to be a bit %age difference. And there are accepted ways to analyze the data to see if the difference is within the limits one would expect from chance. In any case I suspect you’re more out of joint with NPR than the researchers and I’d agree that a bald “28% increased risk” is inflammatory without the rest of the data – but how many news reports of scientific research do go much beyond that bald “X%” statement?

I would point out that, in the immediate aftermath of Sept 11, fighter planes were in the air and could have been authorized to shoot down an airliner. // Re AIDS transmission: Yeah, pretty much it’s blood, semen and open wounds (which are close enough to equaling blood). But let’s not forget that women menstruate monthly and if they have HIV that’s plenty enough blood if the man has a wound, cut, scratch, etc.// You delineate between a Citizen and an Illegal Alien. Fine, no complaints (although I would point out that treating them for diseases is a public health concern too). But where do Legal Aliens fit in the scheme. Seems to me that, except for certain privileges/responsibilities (like voting), they should generally have the same rights, responsibilities and protections as a citizen would.

Yngvi is a TKFWR - On taxes, boy is your math off. Income tax is a percent of your income, but all the other taxes you mention aren't keyed off of that figure. To add 25% income tax + 8% sales tax + whatever % gas tax + property tax to get 70% tax like saying having three .333 hitters in a row means one will always get a hit. Oh, and the 15% social security tax is included in the income tax portion so adding it in again is double counting. // Re Terry's ct on Elian: So your view is that all 6-year olds in custody battles should be given their choice? Even when the battle is between a fit parent and more distant relatives? // "It's hard to see why not to have a "hard-on" against Castro." Because he seems to be the **only** Communist/totalitarian leader in the world with whom we have that level of a hard-on for in something like 30 years. Why him? // Ct Ned: Yeah, the question of "refugees" is a strange one. There is a refugee camp in Jenin, for example. Until '67 it was in a city inside Jordan. Since '93 it's been in a city in PA territory. Just what are they refugees from? Israel absorbed at least as many Jews that were summarily exiled from Arab countries in the last 50 years.

Ned Brooks - Ct me: Seems to me that, to make any sense, "kiddy porn" would have to a) involve actual children and b) the activities would have to be clearly sexual (as opposed to merely suggestive) in nature. Yes there is a line that would have to be fiddled with there. And there can certainly be related criminal actions even if the porn standard isn't met.

Rich Lynch - Your ct Eve about D.C. not being a dangerous city echoes a bit eerily here in mid-October.

Norm Metcalf - Ct me: Aha. This reference to mystery finally has me going the right direction to figure out your position. It's not that science fiction, per se, has to be written, it's that the use of the term "fiction" defines a literary work and thus a written form (per both my dictionaries). The problem that I see with that is that none of the other genres incorporate the term "fiction" within the name (i.e. "mystery", "romance", "western", etc) and thus the addenda of the term "fiction" could legitimately delineate the form. For SF that doesn't work as well. Or, to put it another way, it's just a case of the dictionary not catching up with the usage.

Richard Dengrove - Ct Ned: I don't think Free Will implies we need to lock up people who claim not be able to control their actions. But it does imply that there has to be some clear out-of-their hands issue. Being drunk/high, for example, is a conscious action - addiction or no. For that matter, not taking meds to control one's diagnosed condition would seem to fall in that category as well. // Ct Norm: My recollection is that there is virtually no evidence of AIDS transmission by saliva (my memory isn't good enough to be sure that there is no possibility out there). Part of that may be the digestive enzymes in saliva that wouldn't be too good for a fairly delicate virus like HIV. // Ct me: I know several people who have mentioned that they have some degree of sciatic pain or other. Those with less often don't get treatment (or have given up on getting relief after trying several things). One of my other coworkers, tho, finally convinced her orthopedist that she really DID need to have her hip(s) replaced. She'll be getting the first one done about 10 days after I'm writing this. // As the person who needed a repeat circumcision said, "Curses! Moheled again." // It's a tough row for Israel to hoe. How do you seriously go after terrorist gps that are living among the civilian population without harming innocents? To not affect the innocents at all seems nearly impossible. Unless you use targeted assassinations - which got everyone ticked off too.

Twyggrove – But “Science Fiction” is two words. // It appears that Jim had had some sort of neurological episode in his recent past but as to whether he had “epileptic seizures” we’ll never know as he didn’t have himself checked out for possible causes (to our knowledge). And, whatever it was, it was apparently a rare occurrence. // No new back pains, just some lingering stiffness, etc from last year. Keep up those stretching exercises. // Ct Jeff: I may be missing the gist of the topic, but Hezbollah is in Lebanon and is – I believe – Syrian backed.

Guy Lillian III – Shouldn’t that be cover art for Challenger? // Ct Toni: Makes sense to me that, if Nat’l Guard (or any such gp) has street patrol / law enforcement duties to perform then they should be allowed to go armed (provided they are properly trained). I’d rather they were feeling “comfortable” about their ability to protect themselves than in a more panicky mode. // Need it also be pointed out that we would probably scream bloody murder if we found out that American citizens were being held in foreign jails on a “no contact with the embassy / outside world” basis? I have no specific complaints about fully enforcing rules re visa violations or other illegal acts by visitors – but that shouldn’t involve violation of their rights under U.S. law unless there were truly exigent circumstances that could withstand scrutiny. // Ct Don: I’m not watching Sesame Street these days, but it seems that the HIV status of that character would have to wander across the plot or dialogue from time to time to make the fact known. As long as it’s not hammered at. // Ct Arthur: I think the point is that, if this had been Clinton’s watch, the outcry from his detractors about his failure would have been deafening. And a stance on Iraq like Bush has taken would have brought howls of protest about how he was trying to distract people from other issues.

Ct me: At least now I understand exactly where Norm’s stance on what is or isn’t SF is coming from. I still disagree but knowing where he’s arguing from helps. // At this point it seems a decided issue so you couldn’t get a sentence of death overturned per se. But there would still be the question of whether the circumstances of a given case warranted it. // I thought I still had a copy of one of the SF porn books that I got back around the Ted Mark era but I can’t find it at the moment to check the publication date. I recall the title as “Everyone Off the Planet!” (there may have been an “All Right” in front of that). // Oh I’ll buy criticality and looking askance at the current administration, but the fact on the ground is that there is no course of action to take beyond kicking the GOP out of it’s strength in Congress. (This is other than letters, protests, etc the point being that any more direct action would be just plain wrong.) // Ct Ned: I think LotR tried to make Sauron this brooding, hidden, almost unknowable evil rather than attempting to describe him more fully. // Ct Richard: I see Ashcroft as the inheritor of Sen. McCarthy and AG Palmer. Only the victims have been changed. // Ct George: So, as a side-note, how do you feel about LotR winning the Hugo for Dramatic Presentation? After all, it’s fantasy and not SF.

Ct Gary B: Maybe someone (or several ones) DID predict the internet – but the stories were such crap that they were never published anywhere? Or in some obscure place that nobody remembers anymore? Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence. // While not exactly heroes on the level of a McGuire, I think there are teams like the A’s, Twins and Angels who’ve just shown lots of guts and drive and have players worth respecting. But for really BIG names, after Bonds there is something of a gap. // My gut feeling is that 911 could have been stopped by those “vault-solid cockpit doors” only if accompanied by a policy of the pilots NOT opening them to come out and try and deal with disturbances. // How far up the chain have court orders for the Justice Dept to release information on detainees gone?

Jeff Copeland – One possible bit of reasoning that would make it less likely for Saddam to use a WOMD is that, given the level of response it would bring, he'd lose something pretty important to him – the power of being in charge (at least of something the size of Iraq). He might be able to maintain his personal safety but the question would be what else he might have afterwards. Still, that's not quite the deterrent that worry about his country would be. Of course, as has been pointed out, if you paint him into a corner with an invasion then the equation changes. I agree that inspections and removing any WOMD from his control are essential but this is not the time for us to be wielding our big stick. // The mistakes in the resolution are scary. 1) Implying that we are the UN enforcer and, therefore, the arbiter of which UN Resolutions get enforced. 2) Punting on the question of whether there currently IS a threat to us posed by Iraq. 3) "Restore international peace and security in the region"!!!! Maybe just restore the Ottoman Empire? Isn't that the last time something like that state existed in the region? // And, of course, just because this is OUR policy nobody else should get the idea that it's OK to attack other countries (i.e. use preemption as an excuse for aggression). Do I hear the chords of "Hail Britannia" in the air?

Another helpful household hint is to cut bagels away from one's self. I totally ignore that advice and (knock on wood) have yet to damage myself in the process. I do admit to being very careful about how I do that though. // Ct Richard D: I suppose Congress could pass an amendment decertifying the Supreme Court but aside from the firestorm THAT would generate comes the simple fact that there has to be a Federal Court high enough to reconcile differences in rulings between various Federal Appeals courts. Or does each region get its own rules? Or would this mean that the Justice Dept would get to decide? (An even scarier notion.) // Ct Janice: Yeah, lots of folk have gone on long exploratory voyages before. The only difference now is that if there's a problem, we'll know and agonize rather than having to not know and agonize for however long the voyage lasts. Risk is inherent in exploration, that doesn't make it a reason to not do so. // Ct Guy: "the constitution applies to citizens; we won't suspend it for our own people, only for non-citizens," Assuming that that's an actual quote, it's self-contradictory on the face of it. If it doesn't apply to non-citizens then you don't have to "suspend" it. Ignoring, for the moment, the question of whether the thing *can* be "suspended" for any group. // Again, I think that under no circumstance should the cockpit crew leave the cockpit to deal with a disturbance in the main cabin. IF they're to be armed it should be with the understanding that it's to prevent someone from breaking into the cockpit. For home defense, not law enforcement.

Ct me: The problem with us "needing Russians" as an outlet is that Bush keeps changing them. Hmm. We seem to be losing interest/focus on Al Queda. Let's invoke some other nasty countries as dire dangers. Even if I agree with parts of the premise I find the manipulation involved disgusting. // Whatever novel you want to use works just as well as an example. Red October is a technothriller and clearly not SF. / On the other part of the discussion I can't see any reason why Fail-Safe is any less of a technothriller than Red October (or why the latter isn't a political thriller, for that matter). The key difference seems to be in where the key points of stress are – away from the "action" in the former and at the site of action in the latter. // Next question – what mechanism gets put in place to allow people to go to someone with their voting receipt and get a redo? Better might be something like what my Credit Union has for their phone service – it repeats back your request for a transfer of funds and you have to verify that it's correct to finalize it. So maybe a receipt that would print up and allow you to say "Yes, that's right" or "No, you think I'm crazy!".

Ojeffigumi – I'd agree that, page count or not, it's nice to have Challenger included. // Nah! Why would knowing you were going to be laid off at the end of a project affect the effort you put in? The fact that various people might find alternate employment and leave on the other hand... // Actually, the *next* line (after "A bris is just a bris") would be "The small fry will not cry. A mohel will get it quickly done...in the blink of an eye."

Tom Feller – My primary reference for John Corbett is from Northern Exposure, not Sex and the City.

Uncle Lon – Excuse me, but how is it that Liz remains in 10th with an 11+ page average but her page total puts her between Steve Hughes and R. Lynch(i.e. 13th)?

Self – As chronicled in natter section. We have now restocked our cat supply.

Gary Brown – Ct One-shot: I think that the proper collective noun for apans would be "A Collation of Apans". // Ct me: Although I haven't talked much with Random about my zines, I do see them as something of a diary – as well as insights into my thoughts – the he may find passingly interesting at some point. If not, well they'll make good kindling. // Ct Janice: Probably superheroes have a place – rather like Diagon Alley in the Potter books – where they can get costumes, accoutrements, side-kicks, etc.

Don Markstein – My, admittedly oversimplified view, is that Democrats lean toward having gov't as a watchdog over businesses while Republicans (at least the one wing) want it as a watchdog over individuals. Given that dichotomy I know which way to favor.

Janice Gelb – Ha-Makon yenahem otkha, betokh shear avele Tziyon ve-Y'rushalaym. // Ct Toni: And now here we are with the Giants and Angels going at it. A game each as I type. Go Angels! // Ct me: The way the story was presented, it's the kids' screams that are the power but the kids who are toxic. // I'm looking at my extended calendar of Jewish holidays and, in 2005, Tisha B'Av is on Sunday Aug 14th. It's on a Thursday in 2006. Speaking of all that, I need to get our memberships for Glasgow. // Damn. The Scouring of the Shire is (to me) a really powerful bit. // That's what friends are for.

Arthur Hlavaty – Ct Jeff: It just struck me that, in Russian at least, it's the "-vich" suffix that denotes son of (and "ova" for daughter of). So the -ski may be something like "from" to reference the name of a town or district. // Ct Guy: Although I shouldn't be surprised, it's interesting that after all these years I've found that a number of people in fandom have/had the Ted Mark books.

Eve Ackerman – Raphi is definitely your son with that reaction to the campus cop. // You didn't mention the name of the store you and Janice went to for party supplies, but there's no doubt at all from your description that it was a Trader Joe's. AND WE DON'T HAVE ONE HERE!

Steve Hughes – Ct Arthur: And, if I recall correctly, the incoming Bush team was briefed on the threat of an attack with hijacked planes and felt it wasn't a strong enough threat to worry about. // Ct Richard: I recently saw a printout of someone's email that was a longish letter citing evidence of various problems (MS-like symptoms being most prominent) associated with large amounts of aspartame (on the order of 4+ diet sodas per day). It may be at work, I'll try to remember to check this afternoon. Off-hand I don't recall just what, if any, evidence beyond anecdotal one's were presented. // Ct Jeff: No argument. Clearly Ashcroft wants to treat our freedoms like '50s living room furniture – cover everything in plastic and don't let anyone use it so it stays neat and clean. // Ct Eve: I think comparing the various Disney parks to each other is something of a red herring. You have to enjoy them for what they are. // Ct me: Aside from the question of the health of the bank itself, wouldn't you say that a CD or money market had a guaranteed return? As for Treasury bond, yeah they can get called – that's a given. But the point is that, as long as the bond is out there it is a guaranteed return. It's just the length of that guarantee that's in question.

Ct Gary: Interesting how your nephews were fed up with the players. Did the owners come into their thoughts at all? (For most of us it would have been more a case of "A pox on both your houses.") / As for that being a harbinger of doom, I'd point out that a lot of kids that age were probably pretty disillusioned about 10 years ago when the whole end of the season was called off – and the game has bounced back. What would happen if that bit of lightening struck twice I don't know.

TKFWR – Ct Gary: Having, I guess, helped create this monster I guess I ought to at least support Gary. Were I to be doing the statistics (as I do in LASFAPA), Challenger would be considered to be franked material and not part of Guy's page count. Yngvi would be counted for you as its core is your zine and is written primarily for SFPA. On the other hand if you were to split your zine into two separate contributions, the one with articles, reviews and letters would be given the same status as Challenger. Whether that's good, bad or purple, it seems the right way to do it. // Ct Jeff: I can tell you that, locally, there has been a big push to get the RR line down to the Bay Area reestablished (it's a long story but the crux is trying to harden the line through the Eel River valley so it won't wash out every year) which would be good for both shipping and tourism up and down the North Coast. Kay and I love train travel even if it can be a bit impractical for long distances (at least if a vacation destination is the goal). // Ct Guy: In this I'll agree. The country is so afraid of anything that even hints at "profiling" that it makes security checks at airports just that much more hassle. There need to be some guidelines for primary candidates for search – and no, I won't suggest any at this moment – while still tossing in some random checks to keep things "honest". Probably key for the criteria should involve cross checks in names vs law-enforcement, intelligence and immigration data. // "(Elian) was here with the father's full knowledge and consent"? First I've heard of that. I also point out that – assuming it's true – the consent may well have hinged on Elian being with his mother. While dad may have felt Elian in the US with mom was a better option, he could just as well feel that being with either parent was preferable to being with neither.

Yngvi is a TKFWR - Ct me: And those were just a sampling of the Presidential puns. You should see it when the pun-off really gets moving. // I agree that cutting off the monetary support given specifically to families of homicide bombers would be a factor – but it would also play a part by showing that the actions were not being supported/condoned by those with power. Anything that would make the bombers more pariahs than heroes would be to the good. // I have my thoughts on what precedents have probably been established re non-citizen's accused of crimes, but as that's just my guess I won't answer your question based on that. // Again, if the policy was that you didn't open the cockpit door to deal with any incidences then things like threatening the passengers get you nowhere – and given the current hijacking worries I can't imagine someone would let that plan work. I could see some sort of arming of the cockpit crew, but only as defense against someone breaking in – not to use to try to go out and deal with potential hijackers. // 1) As Elian's father was the custodial parent, how was the return against his wishes? 2&3) So children should only be returned to their parents if we approve of the gov't of the country? Or if there's no chance that anything untoward might happen there? We'd want to return a child to it's family here even if they were poor, wouldn't we?

George Wells – Having experienced it, I feel your pain. Hope the back and sciatica are better. // I rather like both John Doe (a weird cross between X-Files and The Pretender) and Firefly. In the latter case at least part of that is that it's a show we can all watch and enjoy.

Janet Larsen – For the nonce by enjoyment of Enterprise is rather limited this season. Between our cable company playing a game or two and the scheduling of the series at times just “after” a play-off or World Series game, I've managed to see about one episode out of 4-5. I know we'll catch up eventually but it's really annoying right now. // I assume “the actor from Quantum Leap” you refer to isn't Scott Bakula so I'll guess that it was Dean Stockwell. // Mazel tov. Sounds like it was a fun wedding.

Gary Robe – I expect that in any direct conflict with Iraq we'd end up quite assuredly not humiliated. On the other hand, being more dominant isn't exactly a scenario I approve of since it will just lend itself more to being “the law west (and east) of the Pecos”. We need to demonstrate authority and strength, not just brute force. / As I said in a letter to all my representatives – and President Bush – if we attack “only” because Iraq/Saddam could (or even does) pose some sort of threat to us, how is this different from Japan attacking Pearl Harbor? // For me, and heaven knows I have not cause to support the current regime, the whole argument comes down to the fact that if we say we can launch such an attack preemptively with no evidence of an immediate threat then we're opening the door to every other country doing the same thing on the same basis. That, I believe, really is the road to a WWII. // Ct Gary B: Your wish re the World Series is granted, with extreme pleasure, by us Californios. No autographs, positively no autographs. // Ct Eve: Even in the market of many years ago the name value with that Bachelor's wasn't all that great. And, as my HS counselor advised us, no matter how much they have to teach, you can only learn so much so that BA or BS will be about equivalent no matter where you get it from.

mike weber -- Ct me: I suspect that one reason for the very loose definition of "kiddie porn" is that various people in the distribution process may have no idea if the person involved is underage, just looks that way or was somehow made up to give that impression. Another part is that a portion of the intent of the law is as an instrument to go after potential child molesters and thus the actuality of the participants' ages or reality would get in the way. Which makes it another of those "ends" and "means" things. It also brings up the question of -- if the owner of the material believes the person is a child then where does their intent come into the issue? // Ct Markstein: Well the first Marvel-DC crossover that I can recall was that Spiderman / Superman oversized format comic from some few years ago.

APAC = NC² (Natter x Comments)

Having dealt with Cheeky Bugger, it was only a matter of time before we were going to have to look into acquiring a new cat. As it happened, our synagogue president and her partner had acquired an extra brood when their neighbor passed away. There was a mom, two daughters and two neutered males (a favorite of Kay's). But by the time we were able to get over to take a look, the males had been spoken for. So we let the rest of the cats parade themselves shamelessly around for our inspection (yeah, right). In any event, we liked all three of them and arranged to come by later to get them. Mom is a chubby, largely orange cat of eight with only one good eye. The two others are mostly white with some tortoise-shelling or orange and black areas. And we had two of them named before we got home from the first visit -- Mom, the roundish orange one is Tangerine (or Reenie). One of the sisters has a fleck of black on her head, a triangular black patch under her chin and black nose leather. The combination was distinctive enough that it nagged at me the drive home until I realized it was the classic Errol Flynn/Swashbuckler look. From there it was just bit of mind work to get to the look being piratical and thus Pirate Jenny (Pirate for short).

When we went back the following weekend -- amazingly enough -- none of the three had come back from their usual romp in the hills. A bit of patience got mom to arrive but the other two were more wary and stayed away. So we went home with Reenie and arranged for Kay to go back the next day (after they'd come home and been kept in) to get the other two.

Reenie spent a chunk of the evening under our bed and then came out to be petted. When she was comfortable we brought Corky in for a bit. She was a bit annoyed with that and growled a bit (Corky was just curious but I did hold him back). An acceptable first intro. She spend the night in and under our bed and the next day, while I was petting her, Corky wandered into the room. Slowly. A step at a time. She backed off but came when I offered some more petting. They sniffed noses. She backed off. She came back. They sniffed again. OK.

By the time I got home that evening, Kay had the other two cats home. Pirate was the least happy about Corky (growling rather regularly) even though he was being quite polite. The other cat had shown herself to be quite brassy -- let's check out the house. Oh, a dog. OK. So Kay was thinking about BG (for Bold Girl). I offered that, as Beedge was the obvious nickname that BJ would be good and thus it is. Reenie, Pirate and Beeje.

Another thing we did was to arrange with a friend of ours who was just starting a photography business to do a family portrait. She does classic black and white stuff rather than color so it should be interesting. We did a role of shots outside in the late afternoon. A variety of more and less serious poses both with and without the dog. She seemed pretty pleased with the session and our rather relaxed attitude to posing. (Oh, I had had the passing thought of having a

shot of all three of us doing the bear rug pose but that may have been a bit much for her.) Here's hoping for some good choices so we can have them ready to take with us to L.A. And, again, we were able to agree on doing this as a trade for a couple of massages so that was a definite plus for the finances.

I've seen more baseball in the last couple of weeks than I have all year. Part of that has been games at times when I'm not at work. The fact that mix of teams was different and that I liked (at least on a theoretical level) many of them helped too. I think the best part of the early rounds was the knocking out of the Yankees and Braves, although having the Twins get to the ACLS was pretty cool too considering their status this time last year. And now there are two and it's another all California final (I think the last one was in '89). Probably just as well it's not the Giants and A's though.

The massage business continues to grow slowly and steadily. I have my first "insurance" client. The quotes are ((Hmm. BJ wants to help me.)) because the insurance doesn't pay for it, they have a contract with a company that I'm signed up with and get discounted rates. She's happy enough with the work to have her third app't set up and planning on more. The work at the various StJo locations tends to be fully booked enough that I'm going to try adding an extra visit about once a month to give more people the chance. I may have mentioned it before, but I did my preliminary totals and, after August, I was already up to my earnings for all last year – which includes the loss (from scheduling problems) of Alex's business. So, as Freddie Prinz was wont to say, "Loooookin' Gooooood."

I was at services the other night talking with the woman we were getting the cats from and mentioned the names we'd chosen for the first two. A friend overheard me say "Pirate Jenny" and inquired about that. Seems that he gets a zine from someone who uses that title for it. He then asked me if I understood/knew what a "zine" was. I explained that Kay and I may be half of the county's population of people that understood the term. Anyway, it seems that that Pirate Jenny is a trek-related perzine and we talked a bit about how my zines were a different thing, etc. And now he wants to see a few. So I'm going to let him peruse a current mailing of either LASFAPA or SFPA as well as seeing if I can dig out a copy of Challenger. I don't expect much to come of it, but who knows?

For a change I've been able to watch a fair number of games for the playoffs and the Series. And I was a happy camper within a week of the start as both the Braves and the Yankees got knocked off. And to have two California teams in at the end is always a pleasure in and of itself. Now if only one of them wasn't the Giants... And it's been a fun Series to watch because it really never is over until it's over this time. Do I care who wins tomorrow (ie Game 7)? Yeah, I want the Angels. But if it wasn't for the principal of the thing I'd be happy either way since it's been such a great trip getting here. Can't wait for Spring Training. Hey and we even had a bit of a pitcher's duel for a change. And, after 42 (Holy HHGG, Batman!) years, the Angels have not only played in their first Series, but have won it in 7 games. I guess the Series MVP will be giving out 8x10 Glaussies of himself.

One other thing we've done in the last couple of months is be entertained. I went to see Greek Wedding – and it's as much fun as everyone has said it was. Nice to know you can still make a good movie just by telling a good story. Kay and I went to see The Banger Sisters (Susan Sarandon & Goldie Hawn). It won't win any awards, but you've got good actresses, a good story of

growing up and finding one's youth. It's not wasted money to go see it but neither will it be hurt by watching on video. We all went to see a local theatre production of Neil Simon's "Lost in Yonkers" (which feature two actors that I know) and had the expected enjoyable time. It still stirs a slight desire to start participating in the shows but not on my schedule. Finally, Random and I went to a local performance of the Bay Area a capella group Vocolot (all female and primarily doing Jewish flavored folk music. There was a good turn out – which was nice as the temple had co-sponsored the event – and it was well received by everyone present. I think Random and I were most interested in their percussionist – while she did use various drums, she also did some percussion on her leg and thigh.

AUF WIEDERSCHREIBEN