

BOBOLINGS 30

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FEATURING

The

SHADOW

Mailings

May 1960



Aug 1966

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Mailings

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THE SHADOW MAILINGS

The Shadow mailings were a group of mailings "shadowing" the regular Fapa mailings and produced primarily by Fapa waiting-listers in the early 1960's.

When Fapa was founded in 1937, a significant portion of fan publishers still used the hectograph. Current Fapans Speer and Chauvenet used it at various times--they're welcome to correct any possibly erroneous notions of the hectograph that I may have. My impression is that one took a shallow pan. Into this one poured some goop similar in texture to the infamous lime jello but in appearance more resembling something that Raeburn might try to feed Hughes under a name such as Jellied Consume of New Zealand Eels. A master copy of whatever one wanted to duplicate was typed or drawn on a master, using some rather intense dyes, laid on the solidified goop, and then removed--with the dyes left behind in the goop. You then laid a sheet of slick paper on the goop (tho I have seen good hecto work on non-slick paper), carefully peeled it off, and--voila--you had a copy. Do it sixty times, you had sixty copies. If your dye had lasted. If your jellied consume hadn't liquified or reverted to wriggling eels, or peeled off in amorphous globs. There were some good technicians. Chauvenet was one, and some of his early Sardonvix, now some forty years old, still glow with color. Russ was interested in text, and his work could be defined as "illuminated." Artist-publisher Jack Baltadonis was probably even better. But none of them could completely lick the fact that the hecto process was slow, and that there was a physical limitation on the number of copies possible. That limit was about sixty copies.

The quantity limitation of the hectograph was the reason that the Fapa membership limit was initially set at fifty members. At the time this limit was fairly realistic. There weren't many more than fifty fan publishers in all of fandom in 1937.

And yet, in August 1938, with the fifth Fapa mailing, incoming Secretary-Treasurer Taurasi reported:

The total limit of the FAPA membership was reached under the term of /former S-T/ John V. Baltadonis. Since then there have been four /individuals/ who have expressed their wish to join. ... These fans have been placed on a list and will be allowed to join as soon as some of the present members quit.

And so was the waiting list born.

The waiting list soon disappeared due to internal Fapa problems (see All Our Yesterdays or the information under "Interregnum" in either edition of the Fancylopedia) but

came back into being with the seventeenth mailing in September, 1941. Even at that time the hectograph was fading out of fandom. The waiting list grew, the number-of-copies-possible limitation disappeared, and in September 1943 Fapa expanded to 65 members. (This date I've extrapolated from various sources--I'm missing the mailings for that period. The story line is the same even if I've missed the date.) For the next eleven years, right through the August 1954 mailing, the waiting list held within a range of about zero to fifteen people.

November 1954 was the magic date. The waiting list had been 13 in August. In November it went up to eighteen. Three months later, in February 1955, there was a net increase of six, and the waiting list was twenty-four. By 1956 the waiting list numbered in the thirties.

As the waiting list swelled like dough in a warming oven, the Fapa tried to find an answer. There was talk about expanding the membership limit, and I believe that such a proposal even came up for a vote. If so, it failed to pass. With the November 1955 mailing, waiting list at 31, Fapa placed more stringent requirements on new members. Formerly a newly admitted member had been allowed a full year to meet activity requirements. With that mailing the requirements were tightened to today's standard of publish or perish by the third mailing. Over the years this would have some effect, but it was slow. The oven was still warm; the waiting list still swelled. In May 1956, Secretary-Treasurer Don Wilson instituted a policy of having waiting listers respond to the FA to retain their place on the waiting list. Thereafter, for years to come, each S-T periodically punched down the waiting list only to see it immediately begin to rise again, through the forties, the fifties, and finally peak in the sixties (at 64 names on the waiting list) in 1967.

The Fapa membership had some sympathy for the waiting lister. Some members sent copies of their Fapazines to some portion of the w-1, usually limited to the top ten or twenty. Mailings were quite commonly lent to waiting listers, and one Fapan went so far as to have his mailing sent direct to a waiting lister while he, the member, borrowed each mailing from Fapa friends. Mailing comments by waiting listers were quite commonly found in Fapazines.

But none of this was like being in Fapa.

The idea of an organized mailing of waiting-lister fanzines to be sent to the membership of Fapa and the top of the waiting list originated with Russ Chauvent. Russ had once been in Fapa, and had once been OE; possibly it took this combination to make the idea credible. Russ made this proposal in the first issue of Spinnaker Reach, May 1960, which he labelled "A Shadow Fapazine." Quoting Russ from that issue:

The Shadow Fapazine is, naturally enough, a publication put out by a waiting lister to serve as a credential, and distributed to the membership and other waiting listers at private

expense. In no way an official part of any mailing, the SF occupies a peculiar position, but until it is demonstrated otherwise I am going to assume that it is just as legitimate a credential as any other kind of fanzine.

...

In the event that any other waiting listers are moved to try this same expedient, I am agreeable to serving as an informal unofficial editor of a shadow mailing. The best deal is to send the shadow mailing out a couple of weeks before the target date of the official mailing, especially in view of the normal size of these recent mailings. ((We were running 600+ pages right then.)) Correspondence is invited from WL members interested in the scheme.

Other waiting listers were interested in the scheme. Not many, but enough to convince Russ to carry through with the idea. Three months later, in August 1960, the first Shadow mailing came out. Chauvenet, Hansen, and Metcalf were the three contributors, and there were 24 pages in the mailing. The first two were former Fapa members, all three had some contact with the then-current Fapa mailings, and the three fanzines were typically "Fapa" in content and appearance. The Fapa flavor is strong in all 17 Shadow mailings. Bill Blackbeard's ambitious Queen Anne's Revenge in the 15th mailing is the only major exception, but occasionally a genzine such as this will appear in the mailings.

Chauvenet served as "unofficial editor" for the first four Shadow mailings, thereafter passing the torch to Les Gerber. This set the pattern, with each UE sending out four mailings and then passing the job on--Gerber to Calvin Demmon, Demmon to Don Fitch, and Fitch to Dave Van Arnam. All Shadow mailings went to the entire Fapa membership, but not all waiting listers received copies. Chauvenet sent out 100 copies, thus covering the membership and the top 35 waiting-listers. Gerber upped distribution with the sixth mailing to cover the top 40 waiting listers, Demmon held it at the same level, Fitch called for either 100 or 130 copies from contributors and covered as much of the WL as the copies provided covered, and Van Arnam called for 135 copies. The mailings varied in size, but four or five fanzines and about 40 pages was fairly typical. Berman and Demmon tied with Hansen for appearance in the most mailings--8--but Hansen had the greatest number of pages with 115. Chauvenet and Fitch both appeared in 7 mailings, Metcalf and Gerber in 5.

The mailings stayed on a fairly regular quarterly schedule through the first twelve mailings. Fitch slipped a bit on his first three mailings, running about a month late on each, and then slipped badly on his fourth mailing, the 16th, which was a full nine months late. Van Arnam then picked up the ball and ran with it, bringing out his one and only Shadow mailing a full fifteen months late, in August 1966.

The Shadow mailings ended, but the waiting list went on. Six months after the last Shadow mailing was posted the waiting list reached its all-time peak of 64, one short of the active membership. That was in February 1967. By 1969 the waiting list had fallen into the forties, it moved slowly downward thru the thirties in 1970-73, and the twenties in 1974-75.

Both before and since the Shadow mailings, waiting listers sent copies of occasional fanzines to the Fapa membership. But I know of no effort made to ever revive Shadow mailings. The payoff wasn't there. The egoboo was too little to sustain life, if I may borrow that phrase from Dave Locke (If I have my credits straight.) The Shadow mailings received very limited comment in the main mailings. A few Fapans might have been moved to send copies of their Fapazines to the top waiting listers, but not enough to justify the extra work by the waiting listers, many of whom were active in general fandom and didn't need the credential created by publishing for a Shadow mailing.

Sure, Van Arnam probably killed the Shadow mailings. They could have gone on. I'm convinced, on no evidence at all, that his one mailing exists only because the group he was associated with--the Fanoclasts--was bidding for New York in 1967, and he (or they) figured the failure to put out a mailing, as he had agreed to in the sixteenth mailing, would damage the chances of winning the bid. But interest was never high. Maximum turnout, except for the last mailing, was eight fanzines.

An index to the mailings follows. I've taken one liberty. I've created Shadow Mailing #0, for the Shadow Fanzine that started it all.

SHADOW MAILING 0 -- May 1960 -- Russ Chauvenet

Spinnaker Reach	I 1	May 1960	Chauvenet	L;6;m
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SHADOW MAILING 1 -- Aug 1960 -- Russ Chauvenet

Idle Hands	<u>1</u>	Aug 60	Metcalf	1;6;m
The Lurking Shadow	I 1	Aug 60	Hansen	1;8;m
Spinnaker Reach	I 2	Aug 60	Chauvenet	L;8;m

SHADOW MAILING 2 -- Nov 1960 -- Russ Chauvenet

fap	<u>1</u>		Les Gerber	1; 8;m
Idle Hands	<u>2</u>	Nov 60	Metcalf	1;14;m
The Lurking Shadow	I 2	Nov 60	Hansen	1;12;m
Persian Slipper		Oct 60	Ted Johnstone	1; 4;m
*Shadow Mailing #2 mailing wrapper			Chauvenet	1; 1;m
Spinnaker Reach	I 3	Nov 60	Chauvenet	1; 8;m

*Listed only because it lists mailing contents.

SHADOW MAILING 3 -- Feb 1961 -- Russ Chauvenet

Idle Hands	<u>3</u>		Metcalf	1;20;m
The Lurking Shadow	I 3	Feb 61	Hansen	1;12;m
Pariah	<u>2</u>	Win 61	Al Fick	1; 6;d
Spinnaker Reach	I 4		Chauvenet	1; 6;m

SHADOW MAILING 4 -- May 1961 -- Russ Chauvenet

Idle Hands <u>4</u> May 61 (md 60)	Metcalf	1; 16; m
The Lurking Shadow I <u>4</u> May 61	Hansen	1; 21; m
Moenshade <u>1</u> May 61	Len Moffatt	1; 2; d
Pantopon <u>1</u> May 61	Ruth Berman	1; 4; m
*Sinkrec <u>1</u>	Chauvenet	1; 2; m
*"An abbreviated Spinnaker Reach"		

SHADOW MAILING 5 -- Aug/Sep 61 -- Les Gerber

fap <u>2</u>	Gerber	1; 2; m
Idle Hands <u>5</u> Aug 61	Metcalf	1; 22; m
The Lurking Shadow II <u>1</u> Aug 61	Hansen	1; 17; m
Pantopon <u>2</u> Aug 61	Berman	1; 9; m
Pipsissewa <u>1</u> Aug 61	Jerry Page,	
	Charles Wells	1; 8; m
W'Basket <u>1</u> Jul 61	Calvin Demmon	1; 2; d

SHADOW MAILING 6 -- Nov 1961 -- Les Gerber

fap <u>3</u>	Gerber	1; 5; m
The Lurking Shadow II <u>2</u> Nov 61	Hansen	1; 28; m
Pantopon <u>3</u> Nov 61	Berman	1; 7; m

SHADOW MAILING 7 -- Feb 1962 -- Les Gerber

Amnesia <u>1</u> Jul 61	Bob Lichtman	1; 4; d
fap <u>4</u>	Gerber	1; 13; d, m
Pantopon <u>4</u> Feb 62	Berman	1; 6; m
A Rubber Meatball <u>1</u>	Steve Stiles	1; 6; d
Spinnaker Reach II <u>2</u> Feb 62	Chauvenet	1; 10; m
MAPX Feb 62	Ed Meskys	1; 2; d

SHADOW MAILING 8 -- May 1962 -- Les Gerber

fap <u>5</u>	Gerber	1; 1; m
Gradus ad Parnassum <u>1</u> Feb 62 (bw <u>2</u>)	Don Fitch	1; 4; m
Gradus ad Parnassum <u>2</u> May 62 (bw <u>1</u>)	Fitch	1; 2; m
Pantopon <u>5</u> May 62	Berman	1; 4; m
A Rubber Meatball	Stiles	1; 2; m
Serenade <u>2</u> May 62	Richard Bergeron	1; 18; m
Sinkrec <u>2</u> 1962	Chauvenet	1; 2; m
W'Basket <u>2</u>	Demmon	1; 4; m
MAPX 2	Meskys	1; 4; m

SHADOW MAILING 9 -- Aug 1962 -- Calvin Demmon

*Dry Martooni <u>1</u>	Fred Patten	1; 10; m
A Rubber Meatball <u>3</u>	Stiles	1; 6; d
Serenade <u>3</u> Aug 62	Bergeron	1; 12; m
W'Basket <u>3</u>	Demmon	1; 4; d

*Franked into FAPA mailing 100 for Fapa members but included in this Shadow mailing for waiting listers.

		Pages	Mailing
BILL BLACKBEARD			
Queen Anne's Revenge	<u>1</u>	63	15
BILL BOWERS			
Outworlds	I 1 <u>1</u> Sum 66	10	17
CARL J BRANDON, JR			
Zlewyy	<u>1</u> (second series) Aug66	4	17
NATE BUCKLIN			
Enchanted Forest	Jul 66	1	17
KRIS CAREY			
Cosmic Raise	<u>1</u>	4	15
Cosmic Raise	<u>2</u>	10	16
Cosmic Raise	<u>3</u>	12	17
RUSSELL CHAUVENET			
Spinnaker Reach	I 1 May 60	6	0
Spinnaker Reach	I 2 Aug 60	8	1
Spinnaker Reach	I 3 Nov 60	8	2
Shadow Mailing	mailing wrapper <u>2</u>	1	2
Spinnaker Reach	I 4	6	3
Sinkrec	<u>1</u>	2	4
Spinnaker Reach	II 2 Feb 62	10	7
Sinkrec	<u>2</u> 1962	2	8
(Spinnaker Reach II 1 was mailed separately)			
GARY DEINDORFER			
Dighting Permit	<u>1</u>	6	10
CALVIN W "BIFF" DEMMON			
W'Basket	<u>1</u> Jul 61	2	5
W'Basket	<u>2</u>	4	8
W'Basket	<u>3</u> Aug 62	4	9
W'Basket	<u>4</u> Nov 62	3	10
W'Basket	<u>5</u>	6	11
W'Basket	<u>6</u> May 63	1	12
W'Basket	Nov 63	2	14
W'Basket	<u>8</u>	4	15
Wake Up Stupid	<u>1</u>	2	15
TOM DUPREE			
The Shadow Knows	<u>1</u> Aug 66	1	17
AL FICK			
Pariah	<u>2</u> Win 61	6	3

DON FITCH

Don needs more room than I have remaining here, so flip on to the next page please.

		Pages	Mailing
DON FITCH			
Gradus ad Parnassum	<u>1</u> Feb 62 (bw <u>1</u>)	4	8
Gradus ad Parnassum	<u>2</u> May 62 (bw <u>2</u>)	2	8
Gradus ad Parnassum	<u>3</u> Feb 63	6	11
Gradus ad Parnassum	May 63	2	12
Gradus ad Parnassum	Aug 63	7	13
Shadow Fapa cover & back page	Aug(Sep)63	2	13
Gradus ad Parnassum	Nov 63	4	14
Shadow Fapa cover	<u>14</u> Nov 63	1	14
Gradus ad Parnassum	<u>7</u>	12	15
Hiatus I	<u>1</u> Feb 65	1	16
JOHN FOYSTER			
The Horrible Voyages	<u>1</u> Aug 66	2	17
LESLIE GERBER			
fap	<u>1</u>	8	2
fap	<u>2</u>	2	5
fap	<u>3</u>	5	6
fap	<u>4</u>	13	7
fap	<u>5</u>	1	8
CHARLES FORD HANSEN			
The Lurking Shadow	I <u>1</u> Aug 60	8	1
The Lurking Shadow	I <u>2</u> Nov 60	12	2
The Lurking Shadow	I <u>3</u> Feb 61	12	3
The Lurking Shadow	I <u>4</u> May 61	21	4
The Lurking Shadow	II <u>1</u> Aug 61	17	5
The Lurking Shadow	II <u>2</u> Nov 61	28	6
The Lurking Shadow	III <u>1</u> <u>7</u> Aug [62])	9	11
The Lurking Shadow	<u>8</u>)		
Shadow of a Lurking Shadow)		
The Lurking Shadow	<u>2</u> May 63	8	12
ROSEMARY HICKEY			
Cognate	Dec 63	4	14
Cognate	(for Shadow Fapa 15)	2	15
Cognate	<u>4</u>	2	16
Cognate	<u>5</u>	1	16
TED JOHNSTONE			
The Persian Slipper	Oct 60	4	2
LENNY KAYE			
The Commiebeatniksexpervert Quarterly	<u>1</u> Aug66	4	17
BOB LIGHTMAN			
Amnesia	<u>1</u> Jul 61	4	7
DAVE LOCKE			
Corsair	<u>1</u>	3	13
RICHARD MANN			
Timpanogas	I <u>1</u> <u>1</u> Aug 64	3	16

		Pages	Mailing
ED MESKYS			
ГЛАВГХ	1 Feb 62	2	7
ГЛАВГХ	12	4	8
ГЛАВГХ	13	8	10
ГЛАВГХ	14 May 63	4	12
NORM METCALF			
Idle Hands	1 Aug 60	6	1
Idle Hands	2 Nov 60	14	2
Idle Hands	3	20	3
Idle Hands	4 May 61 (md 60)	16	4
Idle Hands	5 Aug 61	22	5
LEN MOFFATT			
Moonshade	1 May 61	2	4
*Moonshade	5 Nov 63	12**	14
***Moonshade	6 Feb 64	5**	15
*With Sneary & Woolston			
**Total pages in the magazine, not just those by Moffatt			
***With Woolston			
JERRY PAGE			
*Pissisewa	1 Aug 61	8**	5
*With Wells			
**Total pages in the magazine, not just those by Page			
FRED PATTEN			
*Dry Martooni	1	10	9
*Franked into Fapa Mailing 100 but included in Shadow mailing 9 for non-Fapa copies of that Shadow mailing.			
DIAN PELZ			
Pahoehee	1	5	16
TOM PERRY			
Quark I 1	1	2	14
GEORGE SCITHERS			
Owlswick Night Owl, The		2	16
DON SIMPSON			
Phantom Circuit	1	2	16
RICK SNEARY			
*Moonshade	5 Nov 63	12**	14
*With Moffatt & Woolston			
**Total pages in the magazine, not just those by Sneary			
STEVE STILES			
A Rubber Meatball	1	6	7
A Rubber Meatball		2	8
A Rubber Meatball	3	6	9
A Rubber Meatball	4	2	12

DAVE VAN ARNAM

New York in 1967 I 1 <u>1</u> Aug 64	2	16
*Yes, Virginia Jun 66	2	17
New York in 1967 I 2 Aug 66	2	17
Shadow Fapa cover <u>17</u> Aug 66	1	17

*Mailed separately in June 1966--announcing that there would be a 17th mailing--also included in the 17th mailing.

CHARLES WELLS

*Pipsissewa <u>1</u> Aug 61	8**	5
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*With Jerry Page
**Total pages in the magazine, not just those by Wells

STAN WOOLSTON

*Moonshade <u>5</u> Nov 63	12**	14
***Moonshade <u>6</u> Feb 64	5**	15

*With Moffatt & Sneary
**Total pages in the magazine, not just those by Woolston
***With Moffatt

JAMES WRIGHT

Bheer Can <u>1</u>	2	17
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PAUL WYSZKOWSKI

Peng Wind <u>1</u>	2	17
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Tomorrow's mail will probably bring the news that there were three more Shadow mailings that I somehow lost in the filing space crisis at my last house or in the move from there to here. If it does, then this will still serve as a guide to the first seventeen Shadow Fapa mailings.

A few extra copies of this have been produced and are available--an SSAE (28¢ at current rates) or 50¢ cash. Published for FAPA and specifically for Rosemary Hickey by Bob Pavlat, 5709 Goucher Drive, College Park, Md 20740. Completed June 1978.

The Temple

The temple has been visited many times, by many people. Some have described it as a magnificent and ancient building, some as a graveyard of the past, and some as both. It has been, and is, loved by some and hated by others. It was, once upon a time, both revered and feared. It's tattered and worn now; it instills neither reverence nor fear. The tides have sucked the sand away from its base, and while the foundations appear strong they are showing. The marble is covered with moss, vines cover the walls and encroach upon the stairs.

My wife and I recently toured the temple with a friend. Our tour guide was old. Not so old as to have helped build the temple, but old enough to have been born before the final stones were set into place. He knew the temple well, and appeared to be familiar with every room, every passageway, and the details of its past history. He told us of its construction, the first and greatest of all the temples, and of the early practices of its inmates.

He told us that in its earliest days the temple was a refuge for all. The old and tired could find peace. The homeless had shelter and a bed. There was companionship for the lonely, food for the hungry, and paths to explore for the adventurous. There were rules that the inmates had to follow, he said, but although the enforcement was strict and the punishment was heinous, the rules themselves were undemanding.

But now, he said, the inhabitants of the temple had grown lax. The gatekeeper did not know or apply some of the rules governing behavior in the temple. The chefs prepared excellent food but the waiter was not serving it promptly. The priestess no longer led them. The priest, who had once had the ritual duty of human sacrifice, had not performed that office in many years. Even the lay sisters and brothers lounged slothfully day and night, scarcely even talking to their fellows.

As our guide told of the decline of the temple his voice shook, and tears dimmed his eyes. But he gathered his strength and told us the story of the beginning of the decline.

A lay brother was falsely accused of a transgression within the temple. He was forcefully evicted. Later, when the accusation was proven false, neither the gatekeeper, nor the priest, nor the priestess would invite him back into the temple. Before long the man went out of the sight of the people in the temple, and was never again seen. Since no other temple ever admitted him, and since he had no other place of refuge, it is presumed that, as intended, he was eaten by demons.

Some of the lay brothers and sisters wailed at the treatment of their brother. Prayer wheels were turned the mystical 68 revolutions.

Petitions were passed from hand to hand, but since there was a shortage of pens in the temple none were signed. Even today, the guide said, there was some talk of the expelled brother. Strangest of all, his voice was still heard from time to time in one of the larger rooms.

The guide paused, gave a quiet shudder, and raised his eyes to the vaulted ceiling for a moment. I believe that we were all startled by the changed appearance of his face as his eyes came level with ours once more. "That was the last fatal sacrifice," he said. "Seventeen years it has been, and see how we have fallen." How his eyes glared. "It was a mistake" his voice snapped "to discontinue the sacrifices. For the good of the temple there must be more."

Again he stopped, and his eyes studied us. "The tour is over," he said. "Kindly exit through the double doors. You must leave within three minutes."

We left, not even waiting the allowed time. I'm not sure what we feared, but our guide was a determined man, and I would not have wanted to find those eyes staring into mine after the deadline had passed.

That night my wife and I talked of our visit to the temple, and of our old guide, and of the people that we had caught glimpses of during our visit. How did they survive? What did they do? We'd asked, in the town, but the townspeople had stared at us blankly. "The temple is empty" they said. "Nobody lives there anymore." "There hasn't been any activity there for years."

So they said. But our guide was real, I know that. And he was sincere. I've dreamt about the temple since our visit. In my dreams it's as it was in those few minutes when our guide spoke of human sacrifice. For in those few minutes a glow had suffused the marble halls, the colors in the paintings had been bright and vivid, and soft breezes stirred beautiful tapestries in immaculate hallways.

I want to go back to the temple. I know that old guide is there. I like that sincere and determined man. And, by God, if he hasn't yet found someone to sacrifice then maybe I can help him.

..Bob Pavlat

Newer members of the temple may need to be told that the brother who was eaten by demons was Edgar Allen Martin. The other persons, officers, fanzines, etc, need no further comment.

The decline is stated from Harry Warner's point of view, for which the author assumes no responsibility. The author is responsible for all other points of view expressed.

THE 163rd MAILING arrived on June 5, 1978. It was a mailing that I'd looked forward to, and it turned out to be an enjoyable mailing. There was a nice mixture of old Fapans and new, there was a frequent scattering of mailing comments along with balancing quantities of less derivative items, and I enjoyed reading it.

What the Since about half of Fapa is replaced every six years,
Dormouse Said maybe we should have a re-introduction ceremony by
 those with more than six years in Fapa every sixth
year or so. Terrible idea. I guess we let enough slip into Fapa
from our mundane lives to cover that need, if one exists, over most
six-year periods. ++ I don't think we should talk about music.
From your list I recognized Jefferson Airplane. Missy (age 12)
recognized that plus Jackson Browne Bootleg, Patti Smith Band,
and Linda Rondstadt. I can be fairly sure that I won't like any
that Missy recognizes. ++ Goon Show. My God, does that still
go on? ++ Enjoyed your Naracoorte and house story. The method
of providing housing for the new teacher sounds much like what
mom experienced in Kansas around 1915 or so--probably still true
today in some unpopulous localities. ++ I'll now comment that
Bangsund is showing signs of irregularity, but only to benefit
the Australian (and Californian) prune industry. ++ The worst
schools I ever heard of, from the standpoint of Blackboard
Jungle, were some where Ron Bennett taught in--Liverpool? ++
Shouldn't it be "Je suis beaucoup pissed"? Sudden remembrance
here to one of our French housekeepers in Dijon--an easy 70 years
old and with about five words of English in her vocabulary--
telling one of her many stories (my lack of French didn't bother
her) and a particular one including the phrase "beaucoup zigzag,"
with appropriate hand signals. I've often wondered whether
zigzag was a French word or merely her own beautiful method of
getting her point across. Language was no barrier to her ability
to communicate. ++ Part of the reason the Fapa waiting list is
short is because turnover is up. Part of the reason turnover is
up is because minac has sometimes turned out to be subminac. The
cause/effect relationship is damn hard to pin down. 1966-71, Fapa
turnover was 36. 1972-77 it was 62. (Rough figures, but close
enuf.) Minac is fantastic--over half of the members in any given
Fapa renewal month are ATM. But the old (8+ years in Fapa) members
are every bit as active as the new (under 8 years in Fapa) members.
I guess it's the way things are; I gather that Fapa's sea is
smoother than that of some other apas. ++ Welcome to Fapa.

Synapse Wound down is a common colloquialism, and I rather liked
 the wound down - wound up parallelism. ++ "dinosaurs
were presumably coldblooded, and it would be hard for anything to
function at the temperature of a Scottish lake." I presume that
the word "coldblooded" was intended following the word "anything."
I understand that scientists have discovered a coldblooded animal
that functions at Scottish lake temperatures. I've forgotten the
scientific name, but "fish" will do. ++ Any religious ceremony
that I know of is a practice of superstition, whether Indian or
Catholic or Moslem or Buddhist. "The whole Gaulish nation," wrote
Caesar, "is to a great degree devoted to superstitious rites..."
and I imagine that had a Druid written of the Romans that he might
have expressed similar ideas about the religious rites of the Romans.

Synapse (cont) Assumptions do not need to be unjustified to permit either logical or ironic results. You're quite right, of course, that there must be an underlying assumption as to the proper order of things. In the instance you cited, "ironically" conveyed the author's thoughts about what happened; the rest of the sentence is pure exposition. In "Ironically, arid Southern California got normal rainfall all winter" the factual "arid...winter" is the potato-while the "Ironically" is the seasoning. ++ I'm glad that you asked for a translation of Myghtern Arthur nyns yu marow. I don't expect that many Fapans have much knowledge of Medieval English, but you're one who might. And that phrase defeats me, so at least I have some comfort that I am not alone. Nyns is rare, but I can identify it as meaning "nor." Yu is rare, but it means you (probably plural). Marow can mean bone marrow, vegetable marrow (squash), strength, or mate (such as peer, spouse, equal). I'm missing something, for I can't make my limited knowledge of the words into a translation. Myghtern defeats me; I assume it's a rare contraction with might (my3t) as one of its components. ++ I believe that you radically underestimate your fellow members when you state that only DAG and you could associate Markstein's remarks with Grennell. I certainly had no problem. I don't think Markstein was trying to continue anything, but rather that he was trying to talk it out of his system, and I respect the effort he made to depersonalize the incident. ++ Yes, a very nice vintage Rotsler. ++ Belated thought on that quote. Mightiest Arthur, none your equal might fit. I know nothing on ME superlatives. A bit more information on source or dialect would help. It's not the West Midland of the Gawain poet, nor the East Midland of Chaucer. The rest I wot not. But oh! I bet Roberts and Bangsund and maybe others have enjoyed my feeble attempts at this. And, if you don't know Middle English, don't try to learn it through my limited understanding. But maybe it will help qualify Fapa for that "Educational Materials" stamp on the mailing envelope.

The Drinking Readers Entropic
Gaming Society

This is almost too close to home, but dearly loved all the same. Ron Ellik and Lee Jacobs were two of my very closest friends in fandom. (The tears start! Damn!) (That's better.) Both stayed overnight at our prior house more than once, and with both I go right back to beginnings--Jacobs back to maybe 1949 or so, when we were both fairly new in active fandom, and Ellik to maybe 1954-56 when he was a neo, but more particularly in 1958 and later when we really knew each other. We both learned Brag from the same teacher--Ron Bennett, on his TAFF trip to the Solacon in 1958. At the Pittcon, 1960, Ron introduced me to my wife, Peggy Rae, and as you know, Bruce, though more recent members do not, those two were engaged in 1962-63. Since I was corresponding with Ron quite a bit in 1960-63, and seeing Peggy Rae quite often in 1961 and later, the triangular relationship at times had its strange aspects, tho only once was there any strain that I felt. But maybe I'll tell of that some day, but not here. Hulan's article was particularly good. "Beer is the only true God" was Lee's phrase (rather than one true god--a minor point), and I never knew him to refuse one while he could still navigate. I'm glad Dave finally identified a coronary as the cause of death. I'd never known, and had been under the impression that it had been a fall. ++ Very much appreciated, and very good.

Damballa So Emile Greenleaf is in the Denver area. My regards to him. ++ The best example of antiquing that I know of in fandom was a page from the Necronomicon created some years ago --quite likely in 1949--by Nekromantikon editor Manly Banister. You might be able to reach him through his publisher, Sterling Publishing Co, Inc, 419 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016. You might also have some interest in some of his books: Prints--from Linoblocks and Woodcuts, and Wood Block Cutting & Printing. I have his Bookbinding as a Handcraft, which is quite good. ++ Yes, one of Tucker's youngsters was once on the waiting list. And one of Lynn Hickman's. Neither made it into Fapa. The Tucker youngster (I believe it was David, but haven't looked it up) just this year resumed touch with fandom, and has been to at least two cons so far in 1978. ++ You perhaps carry on a bit too much about activity. Your own, I mean. On that subject of concern about activity, I don't believe that I ever said (in the last ten years anyway) that I was "trying to stir up some of Fapa's deadwood to either contribute more frequently or drop out." I did say that I was trying to break the pattern of the annual eight page crew (Juffus, how's your memory? If it's good you'll now know one of the factors behind my comment about nine-month memberships of a year or more ago. Very tongue-in-cheek, but still with an intent.) I have no desire to cause any member to drop (though I think I could make an exception for Don Miller, who seems as unable to fill a role in Fapa as were Myers and Higgs of times long gone). The pattern that disturbs me is that, with annual contribution, there is little communication, and I think that without communication one of the basic reasons for Fapa disappears. With the convention-a-week fandom that developed during the 1960's and is now fully upon us part of the reason for Fapa did disappear, for some of fandom. With that same con-a-week situation there's less time to sit as I now am, typing a stencil. Four days ago I was in Cincinnati, and so far as I could tell DeVore did not produce a single page for Fapa there, nor did Glicksohn, nor Locke, nor Boutellier, nor Chalker, nor Porter. This weekend is Wilcon. Next comes Unicon. Rivercon is either one or two weeks later. The disruption of the pattern of communication removes feedback, and hence reduces contributions to the mailings. The telling fact is this: There were sixteen people who could have been marked ATM in the May mailing. Thirteen of those sixteen people were ATM. (By the way, don't check this against Speer's data in the FA--he was wrong in several cases (Frierson and O'Brien both were ATM tho not so marked--they probably deserve the "error of an officer" courtesy of a one-mailing extension)). In February the ATM gun pointed at 16 of 23 possible Fapans. In this August mailing, barring post-mailings not yet received here, it will point at 9 of 16 possibles. Over half of the membership produces the required eight pages only under threat of expulsion. Yes, Chuck, I'd like to break that pattern. Better yet, I'd like Fapans to know that this pattern exists and decide for themselves whether they ought to do something to change the pattern. For what it's worth, Egoboo poll votes have been rising--12 in 1976, 16 in 1977, 18 plus 1 late in 1978. Did you know that people who voted in the Egoboo poll generally stayed in Fapa? Only two people who voted in any of the last three polls have left Fapa since voting. ++ I did enjoy your photo quizzes in issues past, and hope you can have more in the future.

Quantum Sorry that your comments on Legman didn't appear. I'm
Sufficit still curious. I know that his first name, Gershorn,
 was not his given name, but the Legman is to the best of
my knowledge his proper name. ++ I've always considered the
likelihood of a trip report from a TAFF/DUFF candidate as part of
my voting criteria. ++ Sorry that I slung that useless word
"recordation" into Fapa. It's a word that occasionally shows up
at the office, which is where I should have left it. ++ Yes, I
did blow it on your prior membership. I had your memberships
recorded, but the cards were (and still are) filed in four-year
blocks (to match with the four year blocks covered in each issue
of Fapa Book.) When I pulled the current member list together I
failed to pull your prior membership. I made the same mistake on
one other member, but Peggy Rae caught that one before the final
printing. ++ Enjoyed. More.

Mumble You mentioned that you were part of the chain of people who
Gutter received Irvin Koch's Fapa mailings. At Disclave I was
 talking to someone in the huckster room (maybe Brian
Lockhart?) who commented on Fapa Book, which surprised the heck out
of me until he explained that he was on the Koch hand-me-down chain.
++ Time on the Fapa waiting list is running about five mailings.
Peggy Rae says Andy Porter is concerned about the shortness of the
waiting list. My own opinion is that a three-mailing wait is about
ideal. At current turnover of three-four people per mailing, that
equates to a waiting list of maybe 10 or 12 people. ++ Sorry that
I missed you at Disclave, but expect that we'll meet at next week's
Unicon.

Horizons If your paper goes to computerized typing it may not
 affect your life style as much as you expect. A link
to your home would be relatively simple, though your paper might
not accept the slight extra expense. ++ I have come up with another
explanation for the five-year gap in Fapa members still with us.
There was a recent article in the National Enquirer or some such
concerning flights made by a number of women over the Bermuda
Triangle as part of a derby. The watch of each participant was
found to be off by from 2.5 to 4 minutes upon their arrival in
Bermuda, even though all had been set accurately when they left
Miami. It seems possible that Fapa lost its coordination with real
time back around 1956, and didn't reconnect until 1961. The gigantic
mailings of those times, the 64-person long waiting list, the
constitutional crises--all came from a land of alternate time and
as such will disappear, just as the "fans" who "joined" Fapa over
those years have. ++ I thought the mailing comments on Hunter's
item in the February mailing were generally constructive rather than
harsh.

helen's Fantasia No comments, but much enjoyed.

Gnomen's Island The same is true.

Detours I'll have to admit that I'd forgotten how good your poetry
 was. It's a pleasure to see good poetry in the mailing. ++
Since we will be voting on a change to the dual member provision a
bit of background might be helpful. As you indicated, Section 2.5
is permissive. A married couple may hold a joint membership, two

individual memberships, or only one may be a member. The "establish and maintain" wording to my mind requires that each person in the joint membership should be active in Fapa. As ST, I dropped one person from a joint membership on just that basis. Evans and Busby, in discussions while both were officers, came to a non-binding conclusion that six pages from each half of the joint membership should suffice. The joint provision was established to permit access to Fapa mailing status to couples where both were individually active-- Jean & Andy Young, Lee & Larry Shaw, FM & Elinor Busby, etc. Jointly active couples as the Coulsons were and the Moffatts are fit nicely into the intention. But I don't believe Fapa should carry as a joint member anyone who is not visible in the mailings as a member. Chuck Crayne is an obvious case where one could wonder why he's listed as a member. In fact, I did wonder, and asked Speer that question in November 1977. Speer replied "If Dian Crayne qualifies for membership, I suppose Check does too. ...even if the voice is the voice of Dian, the hand that turned the mimeo may well be her spouse's." I hope future ST's will apply themselves to keeping "track of members' standings in regard to renewal credentials" with somewhat more diligence than that statement implies, but perhaps it's also necessary to better define what activity we require from the individual parts of a joint membership, keeping in mind couples who produce independently as do my wife and I, and those who produce jointly as do the Moffatts.

Whispers in You don't do Mailing Comments? Sure could have fooled a Deaf Ear me! ++ You can trust Glycer's comments on the recent history of Fapa; they're true. ++ As a librarian perhaps you can help me on a couple of questions. How are numerical titles (e.g., 1984, 2C₆H₂ (etc)) indexed? In indexing, I ignore leading articles (A, An, The) whether in English or in a foreign language. Am I right? What about a title such as "L'Oasis d'Horreur?" ++ Welcome to Fapa.

Ecce Fanno I think that I can vote for your proposed amendment. It's in keeping with our world, and if we find that it doesn't work we can change again. ++ All-time youngest Fapan? I don't know, but Ellik would come close. Ellik joined in February 1955, at age 16 years and a few months (his birthdate was September 28, 1938). Terry Carr might know if others were even younger.

The Tiger Last mailing I mentioned to Helen Wesson that Hamlin, is Loose of the Alley Oop strip, was at some ancient con. Lou Tabakow says that the con remembered is the C invention-- 1949. It was at that con that Hamlin said that he would send Alley Oop to the moon--the incident that you cited. Hamlin sketched many a mouse on many a female at that con--accepting that the "many a female" means maybe half of the twenty or so present. ++ I haven't yet decided whether your tongue was in your cheek when you wondered "if we'll begin to see a pattern emerging if (the Fapa member) chart is extended to cover the next few years." Your innate grasp of math seems ok, so I'll assume you intended me to laugh, as I did. It's a curve with four slopes, with the highly odd break in one trend line which does not change the slope except at the break, where it makes a five (now six) year rightward jump. Dig it out even now--six months later--and drop out the members dropped since I put the chart together. The pattern leaps out at you. ++ Nice meeting you at Midwestcon.

Esdacyos At both the Midwestcon and Disclave, Tucker was holding forth on the theme that SF is the mainstream. The sales --and prices--he was quoting make his theme believable. ++ The real Al Ashley? Sounds like another classic on its way.

Voyager Enjoyed, but no specific comments. Welcome to Fapa.
Thru Fapa Good luck on mending your fences on your terms; I hope it works well for you.

The Hog I think that the developing debate with Speer on usage
on Ice is a vitally healthy sign. This may sound like encouragement of the "Let's you and him fight" kind, but it's not so intended. Debate is the blood of Fapa, and too little flows in our paper veins.

Heil Is there an AZAPA as well as an ANZAPA? ++ Your early
Discordia! attempt at fiction leaves me happy that you came into Fapa instead. That effort at fiction was decidedly below the writing standards that you've displayed in Fapa.

The Speed No comments on the first, but nice to have you in
of Dark the mailing with another issue. On the second, I'm
Galactic glad you put this in, for the variety it added to the
Jive Tales mailing, and for a bit of nostalgia induced by seeing Phil Castora's name after all these years. Good reporting (whether or not true) and a lot of fun. ++ Seems to me that another author popularity contest was under way when I visited LASFS three or so years ago. If it raises money I guess it's well worth repeating.

Twentieth Century Good mailing comments. Brief, easily readable,
Unlimited and you commented on Bobolings. ++ Yes, you'll be buying a computer, or leasing time on one, assuming Algol's subscription list continues to expand. ++ I'm not too fond of the burn out theory of the overly long waiting list, but I can't deny that fans did disappear before getting into Fapa during the long wait. They probably would have burned out just as rapidly had they gotten into Fapa. The wait has been down to about 5 mailings for almost a year now. Give it another year and we'll have taken in about 20 fans who've had "short" waits; a few more as active as Glycer, Boutellier, Arthurs, and Chauvenet would change the character of Fapa. I like the mailings--this May one in particular--and it looks like they are getting continually better.

Ornithopter Both were enjoyed, but failed to pick up any
comment from me. Which is just as well. Six
The Rambling Fap pages of mailing comments is enough.

The Fantasy Can't agree with Bill's comment that "Confusion between
Amateur best fapazine and best single issue was noted, with the same zine in both places." Some people voted for Grandfather Stories as best Fapazine. I didn't. But I did think the Alger issue was one of the best items in the 1977 mailings. I think the votes express differences of opinion, not confusion.

Egg A very worthy and worthwhile postmailing.

Bob Pavlat, 5709 Goucher Drive, College Park, Md 20740

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