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[illegible]

Well, hi there. How's everybody? I'm just fine, thanks. Nothing new, really. Let's move right along to the mailing comments, rather than dithering up here with natter.

TITLE WAVE Well, thanx for the "Congratulations for six fine years." "I hope the
Mike Shoemaker job is not too burdensome to you." Well, no, it hasn't been. Except at
 times. There are times and then there are times, you know? If the apa
makes it through to ten years I'll have to ask myself (provided that I make it through,
too) whether it isn't time enough to hang it up or whether it's too much of a tradition
(or habit) to give it up. Four more years and I may decide to take up knitting as a
hobby.

Clubs as sponsors for fanzines. The idea has been kicked around by a few here in the CFG, but there are only a few in the CFG who have an interest in fanzines. Guess that's the way it is with most skiffy clubs.

MISSSED MAILINGS I'm sure I'd hate it, but your mention of freeze-dried food reminded me
Eric Lindsay that I'd like to try freeze-dried alcohol. The Japanese came up with
 powdered booze; just add water, or just sprinkle it into a mixer.
Sounds terrible, I know.

DUFF is open to all fans, and Jeeves would be a good candidate. TAFF, as it stands right now, is closed to him. He was suggested as a candidate just a ways back, and Pickersgill and others badmouthed him enough that it didn't happen. Too bad. I think he'd be an excellent choice on a TAFF ballot.

KAJ-TIEL-PLU Yes, a "Local Native" is definitely the best kind. THE GODS MUST BE CRAZY
Kaj Stevens was a movie about a travelling native.

ALL THEM ZINES I think we're in absolute agreement on the subject of victimless-crime
Arthur Hlavaty laws. Causes victim-crime and serves only to dilute enforcement efforts
on victim-crime. Victim-crime?

Baby Jesus dolls with glowing halos. El barfo.

I think you've succinctly pinpointed the basic flaw with so many of Charles Platt's skiffy interviews. It's his "'Would you care to tell our readership why you decided to become an asshole?' approach."

"Cretinous rednecks". The worst kind.

I see in Avedon Carol's letter that she uses the word "asshole" four times. Twice in one sentence, even. Certainly she has served to popularize the word in many circles.

I note that you like Heinlein a whole bunch more than I like Heinlein. Did like a number of things he wrote in the long ago, but nothing he's written in approximately the last two decades. Have not tried anything since FRIDAY, though we bought JOB at remainder prices and may even get around to it someday.

IF IT WASN'T FOR LONG JOHN SILVER... The character I find the most amusing in NIGHT
Roy Tackett COURT is the prosecuting attorney. Next most
amusing is the baliff. It's an erratic show, but
worth watching (if only because I really enjoy the shows on each side of it, and there's
nothing worth watching opposite it).

Well now, I think we could find enough competent fans to run a corporation. I mean, we wouldn't accept just anybody who reads that skiffy stuff. They'd have to be able to do it without moving their lips or scratching their heads, and they'd have to pass the pounding-sand-down-a-rathole test.

NO THEORY! FACTS!! #1 Welcome. Good to have you here. Anyone who has access to The
D. Gary Grady Lower Case and reprints choice items is to be cherished... For
 a while there, after Pauline Palmer left FLAP, I wondered if I
shouldn't subscribe to COLUMBIA JOURNALISM REVIEW just to get my fix on these things.

Another computer person. Must be some kind of conspiracy. Everything I know about computers I've learned from SHOE cartoons.

ANOTHER THINK Nice title. Will there be another think coming, or is this it?
Marty Helgesen I gave up on playing games with the sequencing of FLAPzines many moons ago. Now they're sequenced by order of receipt, which makes life and FLAP easy because I collate the zines as they come in (we have an A-Z Sorter) and when the last zine is processed the mailing is collated. Saves a whole bundle of time on deadline day.

Didn't see Halley's blur. Had already heard how unimpressive it was from this remove, and I was rather unmoved at the idea of saying just what you said -- "It's nice that I've seen it, I suppose, but I was not impressed."

Ah, soup du jour. My favorite.

To me, the most amazing thing about AMAZING STORIES is that it consistently gets higher ratings than TWILIGHT ZONE.

LAST STAGE FOR SILVERWORLD Yes, it is to ponder: "What do dentists think about while
Bruce Arthurs French-kissing?" The poor bastards.

Jalapeno liqueur? I'll bet Curry would be willing to try it. I tried watermelon liqueur and didn't find it particularly tasty; but then, I forgot to put salt on it.

Turns out my son, Brian, likes Root Beer Schnapps. I can only handle it on vanilla ice cream, but he can drink it straight. Tough kid.

Sorry to hear about Hilde's recent problems.

THE METRIC CRESCENT WRENCH As soon as I get around to finishing the second one, I'm
Dean Grennell going to send you two "Mac Slade" books. "He's hard as rock, tough as nails, dense as concrete, he's MAC SLADE, private dick." The one I've read is THE CASE OF THE HARDBOILED DICKS. The one to go is THE TINSELTOWN MURDERS. No, wait, I've got that backwards. Well, never mind, I'll send them when I get done reading all the Robert B. Parker novels I'm racing through and get back to finishing the other Slade novel. Quite a romp. Future titles promised include MAGNUM FARCE, MURDER MOST FOWL, and TOUGH GUYS DON'T READ NORMAN MAILER.

WHIMQUIRK IX "It has become increasingly difficult just to find the time to find the
Al Curry time." I think that's very close to being seminal. If not, it should be. In business circles I think the topic is entitled Personal Time Management. I don't have the time for it.

The cartoon of me standing behind you as you diddle your crt can never be. Not legal for me to have a cig in my mouth unless I'm at my desk with my electric ashtray running, or in somebody's private office, or in the lunchroom. Yes, I know, it wouldn't look like me if I didn't have a cigarette hanging from my lips.

WHISTLE POST Hey, that's you on the cover there. I remember that face. I watched it
Jodie Offutt telling dirty jokes to Andy & me over seafood at the last Midwestcon.
No, that's a lie. Actually, it's not, but no one would ever believe it.

Are you & Andy and Joni & Jon and Jackie & I gonna get together for dinner at the upcoming Midwestcon? Think we can coordinate that?

FENRIS Hi, old shoe. A BNF in Ballroom Dance Fandom, eh? Sounds like it's got
David Hulan quite a bit going for it, not the least of which is exercise. Regular exercise. Brian and I went out today (3/29) and I got in my first whack at a tennis ball since 9/21/85. We rallied it around for about an hour, not actually playing a game (it's easier to play a game than to practice). As a consequence, I know that I need to get exercise more regularly. Huff, puff.

KENNING Hi, dear. Ya know, I held off a long time on getting shoes with
Jackie Causgrove velcro fasteners, but this pair of tennis shoes I'm now wearing out are really good and really convenient. I hate shoes with laces, have always hated shoes with laces, and have always resented the fact that (supposedly) tennis shoes had to have laces or they just weren't good news (deck shoes don't work well on the court; tennis shoes with velcro fasteners do).

"Must See" shows. We've got a fair number of them these days. I think the last couple of years of tv have been the best ever.

Time to sign off for another bi-month. To you, and all. Everybody stay warm.