

[REDACTED]

I think he was trying to get even with me by later having a marathon tennis and table tennis session. If so, he was only partially successful; he tired me out, but I beat him...

FLAP #77 00

Eric and Jean contributed 65.5% of the mailing. One of these mailings I'm going to be the only one who shows up. And most everyone who contributes the following mailing will do mailing comments...

ERIC LINDSAY

I was "woken by a stewardess" once, but it wasn't on an airplane. Actually, it was on a bus. Damned nice lady; would have missed my stop, otherwise.

Rusty Hevelin always looks "exactly the same", doesn't he? I think he was born at about that age.

Well, yes, alright, I just don't "get out and about" all that much. I'm working on that. I used to be better at that. Now I'm getting better at it again.

JEAN WEBER

Just recently read Walter Jon Williams' DAYS OF ATONEMENT, and it is currently a recommended loan to Mr. Curry. I'm a sucker for good crossover novels of the mystery/skiffy subgenres, because there are so very few good ones, but this is one of the best. Will have to read more of Williams.

Peter Edick is still hanging around in L.A.? I miss Peter. I didn't get to see him as much as I would have liked, but while we were both out there I enjoyed his company very much. With fondness I remember the Robert E. Lee birthday party in South Pasadena, and the time we went to Redondo Beach pier to beat up the machines at the electronic games parlor.

Jean, tell me: what good is it to tell the storyline of a book you haven't read? Just the fact that the book is out there?

Roy Tackett

Well, I go by the sun, too, except for paying attention to the actual time for things like lunch and end of shift. I pay attention to DST because it is a pain in the ass when I'm paying attention to things like beginning and ending of shift. I don't miss it when it's gone.

Arthur Hlavaty

MIDNIGHT is one of my favorite Koontz novels, too. Right up there with THE BAD PLACE and

SERVANTS OF TWILIGHT. Actually, most anything he's written in the last few years is right up there. I buy them as they come out. Sometimes, not resisting the temptation to purchase the hardcover.

"Sturgeon's Approximation" is a good term. 90% of everything is crud was Sturgeon's approximation. However, many years earlier, a fellow named Pareto (not Frank) came up with the Pareto Principle, also known as the 80/20 rule. Statistically he was correct. It was a business principle, and it was generally correct that 20% of your business (your accounts, your clients, etc.) accounted for 80% of your income. It was the source of the "distribution by value report," one of which I introduced to a Fortune 100 company (they hadn't encountered it before). If I recall correctly, one of my old DIFUGALTY columns for YANDRO was on this terribly exciting subject.

Bill Bowers

Yes, yes, I seem to remember how you were beating on me to come up with two columns for what was intended to be two rapidly successive issues of OUTWORLDS. Now I don't feel bad at all that I managed to crank out only one. You did the same. At least Al got even with you for the same request by cranking out his column in longhand... However, I'm all set to write my next column and feel that it's time to press you for a publication deadline...

So, when are we going to get together and publish The Ultimate Fanzine. No, never mind: who cares? We'd probably just wind up arguing about the layout.

Lon Atkins

Your lead story was quite funny, but it's really just a big load of catshit, you know?

Jodie Offutt

Damn, you get more of the interesting jobs than most of us...

Have you sung with Johnny Cash yet?

Sounds like things are moving interestingly forward for you. Will you be at Octocon/Ditto to bring me up-to-date on all this good stuff?

Marty Helgesen

Hmmm, SHOCKWAVE sounds like fun. Guess I'll never get to hear it. Certainly I wouldn't want to move to Minneapolis just for the opportunity.

Thanks for the detail on the use of punctuation marks. It is obvious to me that the Brits use a logic system and that we do not. On the one hand you could say that a system is a system, but when it comes to the use of punctuation I feel that the American usage is far and away off the mark. Really appreciate your comments.

Isn't the correct term for the male member of FLAP the Official Organ? If the Official Organ isn't the male member of FLAP, then what is? Now, what ... well, never mind the next question. Actually I have a third and fourth question, but they won't be asked, either.

Dave Wixon

Listen, Snorkum, Dave Rowe is also an EFR fan and tells me the man produced a book called, maybe, something like THE GREAT ISLAND. About New Zealand. Probably published there, or maybe in Australia. Not listed in any of the biblios we've seen. You heard of this? Lindsay, wake up: you heard of this? We're more than interested.

I didn't want to reprint an entire article to call your attention to just one line. So sue me.

I think what the article was trying to tell those crazy skiffy fans was that 1. "a heavy interest in science fiction or fantasy" meant "they believed in strange things and were often overly concerned with magical or fantasy thinking" and, 2. this is indicative of a "schizotypal personality disorder". There's more flaws than logic here. A heavy interest in skiffy doesn't indicate concern with magical/fantasy thinking. A heavy interest in anything often indicates a hobby. I wonder how many of these schizophrenics' relatives had a heavy interest in baseball or football? Aha!