

"NIAL OF ULSTER, WELCOME HOME! ..."

This is SPELEOBEM 30
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The Cabal Ladder

MAILING COMMENTS ON 73

SPECTATOR 73 My apologies for the slight illegibility of the contents numbering for the last few items on the front page. The stencil tore when I put it on the machine, and there was nothing for it but fixing it up with corflu and running it. And I suppose I should've dropped the number of required copies down to 38, but when I typed the rules I didn't anticipate such a large turnover. Losing 3 members and an invitee at one swell foop is something we haven't done in ages.

On the other hand, it's been an extremely long time since we dropped an Old-Time Member (i.e., someone who joined before I did in mailing 45). Maybe Dian is right that SAPS will slowly stabilize until eventually we get to the point where no one will drop. Taking Mailing 50 as a good reference point, the following are still with us and still on that same membership: Anderson, Karen (Mlg.23), Wrai Ballard (Mlg.10), John Berry (Mlg.44), F.M. Busby (Mlg.36), Terry Carr (Mlg. 47), Howard Devore (Mlg. 19), Dick Eney (Mlg. 47); Jack Harness (Mlg. 28), Ted Johnstone (Mlg. 50), Bruce Pelz (Mlg. 45), Art Rapp (Mlg. 5), Nancy Share Rapp (Mlg. 22), and Burnett Toskey (Mlg. 38). Thirteen out of 33 after six years -- almost 6 years, anyway. This mailings roster may bring a change or two. This lets us set up the Chart of Antiquity & Status:

How long will The Thirteen remain on the roster?	Art Rapp	5
The 32-man roster has all beet met by the	Wrai Ballard	10
OE except for Foyster and Mann (93.8%). On the WL,	Howard Devore	19
I've met Berman, Lamont, Lerner, Pearson, Hannifen,	Nancy Rapp	22
Gilbert, Gold, Thompson, Stevens and Ellern: 10 out	Karen Anderson	23
of 27 (37.0%). I'm hoping to better this score at	Jack Harness	28
Tricon and Westercon this year.	F.M. Busby	36
I wish someone had the time and inclina-	Burnett Toskey	38
tion to do a chart like Howard did of SAPS Activity	John Berry	44
for the first 40 mailings. It's invaluable when one	Bruce Pelz	45
wants to check on who joined when.	Terry Carr	47
	Dick Eney	47
	Ted Johnstone	50

DEADWOOD SAP 4 (Toskey) You are well on the way to becoming the Sam Moskowitz of SAPS. Moskowitz admitted several years ago that he remained in FAPA partly to get zines not available elsewhere, partly because he'd been there so long already, and partly to annoy people who wished he'd drop. He puts in minimal activity which is totally uninteresting. You are indeed on the way.

EXCELSIOR 5 (Katz) Good ghu, have you been here a whole year already? O, the time does go fast! It seems such a short time ago you were a loudmouthed neofan just getting on the SAPS Waiting List, and now look at you -- a loudmouthed neofan that's been a member for a year! Yeah, I kind of wonder at times how often a Norm Metcalf goes

away, too. (Mostly I wonder this when we get mailbox collection times and reviews of 1920's Amazings and the like; after all, even Coslet went away finally... .)

I have read through the various and sundry reviews of Dylan, Beatles, Stones, Animals, Turdies, and whatever other folk and/or rock groups there may be, and I am still unimpressed with the possibilities of my liking any of the records. It is nice indeed that some people are very fond of them and can say so in reasonably intelligent phrases, but I still maintain that, as a singer, Dylan is a fairly good songsmith. We (Dian and I) like folk music, and use the term to include quite a field, from Child Ballads through NY Folknik-style Protest Songs. We even have "Mr. Tambourine Man," done by the Mitchell Trio, and in spite of the fact that I have my usual problem of fouling up titles and words ("Hey, Mr. Tangerine Man, spray your..."), I sort of like it, and would be interested in someone trying to explain it. But Dylan's singing I still consider atrocious, and no reviewer is going to be able to change that opinion. Same for the Beatles and the others.

Beatles' rock and Dylan's schlock,
Neither can I enjoy
Till comes one thing: they learn to sing!
(But then they would lose employ.)

Well, if you're really hepped on seeing your name in zines....

Spelunker Dave said, "What I crave
Is Fledermauser -- bats!
I've got some Pips* and Austrorips** --
Next I'll get Arnie Katz!"

In Hamelin town the Mayor did frown.
"You've chased out most the rats,
But now, O Piper, get that Griper
Known as Arnie Katz!"

If there's still an unsatisfactory amount of usage of the words "Arnie" and "Katz," I'll see if I can think up some more next time. (*Pips - *Pipistrellus subflavus*; **Austrorips - *Myotis austroriparus*.)

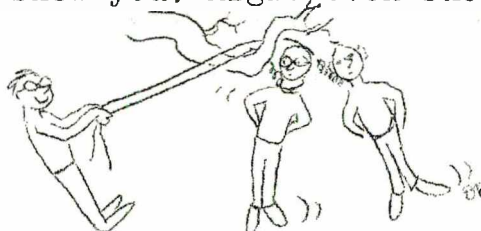
I suggest that NYCon III advocates, when they get to the Tri-con, save a large part of their energy for rounding up their supporters and making sure said supporters are at the business meeting, even if this means they have to cut out of the all-night parties early. Maybe they could work the parties in shifts. Anyway, while parties are great for getting supporters, you still have to make sure they get to the business meeting, or they are useless. Keep a list of them, and their room numbers, so you can get at them when the time comes. Of course, this tactic can also be used by the Baltimore crew, but then it comes down to a matter of relative efficiency in securing the support and in organizing the round-up of supporters, and if you're going to let the Baltos be more efficient than you are, then you deserve to lose. Good luck.

No particular reason why Len should change his title now that he's moved to more civilized parts of the U.S. than Charlotte. After all, Ed Cox hasn't lived in Maine for his last two or three SAPS memberships, but MAINE-IAC still comes out most every mailing. As for the numbering, you'll have to leave it to historians to figure out just when Len did get into SAPS in relation to the time you got in. And, of course, this is one more argument against WLzinos in any form. Probably the most extreme example is Doreen, who got into SAPS with mailing 53, with POR QUE? #1.

But she had had 6 previous columns in my zine, called PORQUE!, so in POR QUE #2, Mailing 54, she continued to number the MC section as PORQUE! #8, though the back of the zine said it was POR QUE? #2. OEney evidently didn't read that far, however, as it came out listed as POR QUE? #8, and Doreen gave up. The next issue, in Mailing 55, was POR QUE? #9, and from there to here she has continued the numbering (and never missed a mailing, either), so her zine count is 6 higher than it should really be for her membership. Like I said, leave it to fan historians.

How come you are trying to kid SAPS that Len Bailes is not that hung up on and/or because of G&S? Wait till the research report I'm compiling gets finished in June and I'll show you! Might even show Len.

I rather like the idea of you and Gordon "swinging" in SAPS. We'll have to get together the rest of the anti-Rock Brigade and see what can be done with the idea. I'm sure we'll think of something interesting....



Gee, if you like having your name lumped with Carr and Berry so much, I ought to try it. How about lumping it with G.M. Carr and Wallace Berry? -- No, I guess that's Wallace Beery, and I'd have to lump either Lee Jacobs or Dave Van Arham with him. Pfui.

I assure you, I was aware of the use of The Purple Gang in one of the Bond Bombs -- Goldfinger, maybe? -- but I could see no reason to discard the idea that some ~~rock~~ group had adopted the name anyway. With the abysmal groups and alleged songs that are currently in use, I would not be the least surprised to find one called Al Kata~~raz~~ and the Q Boys doing something called "Star Spangled Banner Grovel & Squirm." After all, can you recognize this G&S bit:

It's all a matter of musical taste and interest, what one can or cannot recognize in a given field of music.

"For I love she and she loves me,
And raptured are the both of we.
Yes, I love she and she loves I,
And will through all eternitie!" ??

I wouldn't want to have you abandoned in New Mexico. After all, I have nothing against New Mexico except its lousy roads, and those are more than offset by the fact that the Tacketts live there. Kansas, however, would be a good place to dump you, and Nebraska, which is my idea of Nowhere, USA -- miles and miles of nothing but miles and miles -- is an even better one. However, I gather Ted White ignored all such entreatments and took you back to New York. Well, maybe he knows best and New York more deserves you than Kansas or Nebraska. But I didn't realize that Ted White hated New York so much.

WILD COLONIAL BOY 14 (Foyster) I doubt if the satire "Batfink" in Ron Smith's mag could do much more toward emphasizing the relationship intentionally than the comics and now the TV series of "Batman" has done unintentionally.

I gather from your comment about overseas journeyings being juxtaposed with a hope that the 66 con wouldn't be in Vienna that you intend coming stateside this year and attending the con? If so, I hope you can come through LA enroute. Send details when you have them, huh?

DINKY BIRD 16 (Berman) I've got past the stage of being embarrassed by my old zines, and I can now use them as examples of the usual crud turned out by neofans who eventually get around to turning out better zines. I don't even tear up copies of PROFANITY 1 I may come across in the duplicate file.

OUTSIDERS 61 (Ballard) Actually, in the matter of married couples being one or two memberships, while Nancy Rapp is indeed entitled to her own membership should she want it, Jim Webbert is not, as he never worked his way up the waiting list, and SAPS does not have any provision for conditional WL positions, like FAPA does. In effect the rule allows a slight stuffing of the roster to a theoretical membership of twice the specified number, and if say half of the members had spouses (spice?) participating in the mailings, I'd say the ruling ought to be changed to avoid this problem, but a couple such double memberships is certainly no hardship on SAPS, just as a couple married members keeping separate memberships is no hardship on SAPS.

Whuffore you are telling Nance that FAPA is going great? It's been garbage for the last couple years, to the point where even N'APA is that good. Pfui on FAPA.

John Davis's last address said 931 East Navaho Rd, Tucson, Ariz. If you could get those SPECTATORS, I'd be greatly appreciative.

If you get the OEShip, try labeling the bundles as Book Rate and weighing them yourself. Put enough postage on them and ship them off. Ought to work. And speaking of the OEShip, while I'm glad to see a real contest again (especially since I'm not in it), I shall have to Support My Local Candidate. Mainly, he's right here and I can get a zine in almost as late as nowadays. Also, Fred has done a good job with N'APA for the last three years. As for raising the membership again, I frankly don't care one way or the other. It appeared that the vocal majority of SAPS wanted the membership reduced, so I did it, but I'd not complain if it went back to 36 again. And Fred has been consistently active in SAPS with more than minac, too -- in fact the one page he owes in Mlg. 74 is the first he's owed since he joined in Mlg. 60. But, though my support goes to Fred, I wish both of you luck -- Go To It!!

MRAOC 5 (Jacobs) You know, since you're the only one who actually pronounces the name of your zine, shouldn't you say it is "pronounced as an obscene gurgle, and also pronounced by an obscene gargle (or gargoyle)"?

Dian and I have watched the spy-type TV shows, and find we like the British "Secret Agent" best. The only one we haven't seen is "I Spy," which comes on at an inconvenient time Thursday nights. Dian likes "Get Smart," but I consider it too slapstick, so we watch "Secret Agent," which shows at the same time, instead; we both like that one. "Honey West" and "Man from UNCLE" are idiot plots even in the framework of being satires. Two viewings was enough for the former, and one for the latter, which Dian had seen a couple times last year in b&w.

Dik Daniels, boy drunk and practical joker, wound up with the switchblade at the LASFS Auction -- I'm not sure of the price, but I think it was around \$4.50.

I'm quite fond of Anna Russell's songs myself, and have seen her in two concerts -- once at the University of Florida and once here in LA at the Philharmonic. I had a couple of her records, including "The Decline and Fall of the Popular Song" ("Think of the people you play Canasta with, and imagine them all sitting around singing Madrigals -- and that's probably exactly what it sounded like!"), but they seem to have been lost in the shuffle of moving sometime or other.

QUIP 1 (Bailes & Katz) You're right, Ross Chamberlain has done a cover which captures the Bob Stewart flavor of the VOID covers quite well. The problem is, do you want to be known as an imitation VOID? That's as bad as DOUBLEBILL being known as an imitation YANDRO. Mind you, I thought the VOID multi-page covers were great, and

with continuity as good as they had (again you're right: this one's wasn't quite up to par) they would again be great -- on VOID! But hitching your wagon to a burnt-out star -- even one of the first magnitude -- isn't a good idea if you want to build your own image and reputation. Certainly, keep Chamberlain, and even keep multipage covers if you want -- but get a non-VOID schtick.

I'm curious about the response you'll get from the fans who are unfamiliar with the APA L ingroup jokes you scatter through your editorial, Arnie. I do note a few other references, such as the "Go peddle your papers" that Larry Shaw used in AXE, but how many fans know what the Silverlake Playground is? -- You might have mentioned it was the LASFS meeting place.

"A Day in the Life..." is well written schlock, but why the name "Joe Walcott?" I keep picturing a boxer-turned-fan -- or don't you remember Jersey Joe Walcott? (Possibly spelled differently, but certainly pronounced the same.)

Len, your article on other fandoms was quite enjoyable, which is about the only response I could make except to do yet another article on the FS3 -- Caving Fandom -- which I'm not in the mood to do right now. I've been the route of many hobbies and collections, but never to the extent of an actual group-type thing, outside of Caving and SF Fandoms. Anyway, you get more comments on these last two items than you did the first time you put them through SAPS!

The accolade for the issue, however, goes to Arnie's Triprep, a very well-done job. (For the next one, you might try getting some illos to go with it -- even getting them from fanartists along the way.)

Even at my degree of fannish antiquity, I enjoy grubbing thru boxes of fanzines looking for the ones I don't have, or even just the rare and (reasonably) valuable stuff. So I'm looking forward to a long summer trip this year...

"Matty Groves," one of many variants of Child Ballad 81 ("Little Musgrave and Lady Bernard," "...Lady Barnaby," "Little Mathie Grove") has around 30 verses in most versions -- I can see why they'd seem like 76, even with Juanita's singing, which I too like.

That argument with Ed Wood is perennial and encompasses almost everyone he ever argues with. He and Lee Sapiro are on one side, and just about every other fan on the other side. Since Sapiro left LA for Saskatchewan, the LASFS has little in the way of Sercon Fuggheads. Paul Turner comes closest, as he is always wanting to talk of Science And The Space Age, but at least he, unlike Sapiro and Wood, doesn't expect everyone else to do as he likes.

It has been pointed out before, but Elmer Perdue is not Ghod. The SAPS CE is Ghod. Elmer is only God.

All in all, that's the kind of con trip I like to make -- a couple weeks time, many fans, and a con. Haven't done it since the '63 Discon trip, since the '64 trip was only 450 miles up the Coast, so, as I said, I'm looking forward to this summer.

RETRO 38 (Buzby) I would very much like to see Seattle bid for another Westercon, or even for a Worldcon. If the former, how about 1968, when the Worldcon comes back to the Coast and we won't be travelling very far for it?

A few things have been and are being done about casting JRRT into G&S type verse (as well as a few other types). It goes under the Collective Codename of "Make Mine Mordor."

STUMPING 14 (J.Webbort) Getting illos from Rotsler isn't too difficult -- as long as you can get at him in person, hand

him some paper, and grab it back when he's drawn something on it.

IBEX II:3 (Chalker) CONGRATULATIONS!! You become the second winner of The Johnstone Award, for being most successful at getting your foot caught in the typer while there was a stencil in it also. This award, while intended for quarterly presentation, has not been presented for the past several years since its first awarding to Ted Johnstone. But now it is again presented where it is due.

Your qualifications are obvious. You begin your issue by admitting that this is the third consecutive "rush" issue, and a last-ditch attempt to "keep in the good graces of the beloved SAPS constitution." Then, after about six pages of Baltimore propaganda full of off-set and large streaks of ink, you wind up with the admonition: "Vote for those who plan ahead." If everyone does follow that injunction, it will not get Baltimore a convention! Congratulations, and your Award will be on its way to you soon!!

As for your illegal postmailing, AWFUL UNLAWFUL, I find it more difficult to take seriously than IBEX. Item one, you assert that IBEX didn't go outside of SAPS. This is a bloody lie, as you sent me 7 extra copies to distribute at LASFS to anyone who was interested, and the New Yorkers have mentioned in APA L that they finally got copies too. Additionally, one does not usually put a space for a mailing address and a return address on a zine with a circulation limited only to the APA. Item two, IBEX states that the Balticon portion "in a slightly different form, will go out at the end of October as a Balticon saturation flyer." This is something you would do with a hoaxzine? Pfui. I think you are trying to capper some bets that simply won't take the treatment.

NEW YORK IN 1967!!! Down with Chalker and his Cross-Eyed Goat!!

SAPRISE! 4 (Van Arnam) OK, Now there are no immediate cons, When In Rome ought to be finished, and the 15 November movie script deadline has passed. NOW how about RGTA?

I don't think a mask-dancer forgets who or what he is, so much as he changes to be more like the mask. Particularly if the mask results in a more definite Image of himself, and in a better reaction from others to himself. One can try on many masks to see the results of each, then, having found one that seems the best, wear it and reform one's features to agree with the mask. On the fannish level you mention, if one gets egoboo for doing or being something that is not really relevant to oneself, he may decide to change himself to be entitled to that egoboo.

I think you are probably right that my relinquishing the OE-ship will result in more activity. I'm doing better this time, just contemplating my Escape, than I've done in quite some mailings.

"Negoboo" has been used before, usually in the phrase "Gem Carr theory of Negoboo," meaning the attitude of "...just spell my name right" that GM occasionally displays.

My first prozine off the stands was a 1953 Galaxy, I think, with ASF coming about a year later, in Goonsville. (Speaking of which, one of the new localites, one Digby, was also a UF type, getting there the year after I left. He came up with a clipping at the 13 Jan meeting to the effect that they're tearing town Benton Hall, the old physics building, because it's unsafe. About time -- that thing wasn't very safe in 1955! Now if Bob Smith can get to it when they tear it down and liberate the Building Plate, which we couldn't get before because it was too high and too well-lit... I'd have put this bit in APA L, as it explains also where the dance announcement in D65 came from - Digby - but the SAPSazine came up first.) Non-Floridian SAPS can come back now.

Well, here we differ again, on this preferential hiring for Negroes bit. Equal, yes, according to qualifications. Preferential, no. I rather prefer my membership in SPONGE: the Society for the Prevention of Negroes Getting Everything. If people hired Negroes just because they were Negroes, standards would fall, and the results would be shoddier merchandise, less productivity, or poorer service. If they had a choice between two equally qualified people, one Negro and one Caucasian, I would still not favor preference being given the Negro -- nor, for that matter, preference given the Caucasian. Hiring without racial prejudice works both ways, and it had better continue doing so, or there will soon be a small downtrodden group that was once the Caucasian Majority. The Negroes, Mexicans, Orientals, Jews, Irish, Italians, and every other ethnic group will howl for preferential treatment -- the Mexicans are doing so already, or, more accurately, they are demanding equal preference with Negroes, and I suspect the Puerto Ricans are or will be doing the same in New York. Equality, si; preference, no!

BIZARRE (Meskys) When the Fanmark cards came out, one part of the stencil was ruined. Only one card came out since the first group, and that was the 1961 Fanmark Xmas Card from the Fan Hillton.

(WWDBAS - Dupree) The main reason for the "big stink" about people joining APAs just to collect mailings is that they don't really give value for value received. The rest of the members are getting gypped out of a Contributing Participant.

IN PRINT & IN PERSON (Fitch) I seem to be one of the fans who write as part of the thinking-out process, instead of writing after having thought out everything first. I generally get the main idea and the first few developmental ramifications thought out first, and then wing it from there. This occasionally results in a rather truncated piece of writing, when I manage to write myself into a corner, or when I write a Part One, the following parts of which get waylaid by either a change of mind, a muddling of the original idea, or an assumption of a different idea which is more arresting. (Mostly this latter happens in APA L.)

I give you fair warning: Anyone putting in a batch of 1-sheet zines will find them stapled together and lumped under one title. I didn't do it with your tric of the things this time because we had a rather shorts contents page.

MAINE-IAC 29 (EdCo) There is still a lot of sentiment in SAPS, and in general this is a good thing. The Good Old Days are harked back to, neofans brashnesses are promptly sat on by the Older Members, etc. But this also leads to the excusing and eulogizing of Old Time Members on the basis of what they did ten years ago, completely ignoring the fact that for the last couple years they have turned out minac and cruddy minac at that. This sounds quite inane to newer members who weren't around ten years ago, and gives the impression that the ones doing the excusing are Out Of Their Gourds. The case in point is Nan Gerding, who, as far as I can tell, has sort of gone off the deep end in the last few years. The Old Members remember her previous membership and hate to see her drop out. But I see only that her dropping brought in a new member who was both eager and communicative.

Your library card for the Fanzine Foundation is available any time you want it. You'll have to read the zines in the library, of course, as they are all reference material, but Xerox copies are available (15¢ a shot) on 24-hour notice. OK?

Trying to foul people up by reviewing ENTMOOT, a N'APAZine?

CIDEARAL 3 (Harness) Boo, Deadwood!!

MEST 19 (Johnstone) I should bug you more often if it would get you to turn out non-minac MCzines like this. As a start, I have another chance to throw you out with the 75th Mlg!

I wonder just how many frustrated Royalist/Monarchist types there are around these days? Probably a lot of those who favor the Kenndy Clan would fall into the category.

I'll be glad to change the specifics of my comment that I wouldn't mind seeing you dropped from SAPS, as long as you do zines like this one; you go back to minac again and I go back to hoping you'll drop. But the generalities, in any case, remain. I have gotten quite enthralled with watching the Changing Scene -- and more it changed, the more I'm interested in watching. To this end, almost anyone's getting dropped furthers my interest -- except me, of course, as I would then be unable to watch from a vantage point. Mutatur mutandur, and when a SAPSite loses interest so much that he can't do more than absolute minac, he ought to drop. And while I admit that I haven't had much in the way of Large Zines in SAPS lately, I still manage to have six pages of credit in every mailing, usually with some additional material such as Madeleine's report. After I ditch the OEShip we should see larger SPELEOBEMs -- maybe.

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So much for mailing comments. There is no installment of Madeleine's report this time, as the deadline is more than at hand, and I hope to break myself into a new schedule of doing SPELEOBEM right after the mailing comes, so I can use the episode I received this last week for the April SPELEOBEM, and the one that comes in April for the July issue, and so forth. Then, no matter where the OEShip finds itself, I'll be able to get my zine in on time with an episode of The DistAWF Side. But my apologies to you all, and especially to Madeleine, for not having a chapter this time.

Cover by Dian. A special not-prize to anyone recognizing which fantasy poem it's from

FRED

PATTEN

FOR OFFICIAL

EDITOR !!!