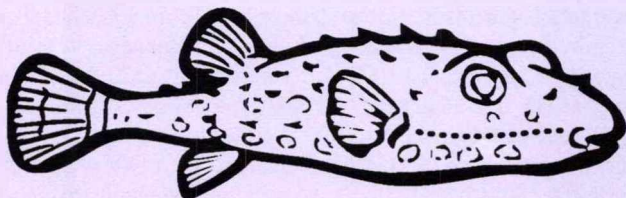


Welcome to *Union Street* (issue #35 and Obsessive Press #135), the zine with the transmogrifying masthead. (This time reversing the order of a famous seasonal character's name.) It comes to you from Jeanne Gomoll and Scott Custis, whose address is coincidentally 2825 Union Street, Madison, WI 53704-5136. Phone 608-246-8857. *Union Street* was created on a Macintosh computer—a IIx or an SE at various points in its lifetime—and hardcopy was printed on a Laserwriter IIINTX printer. Text was created with Microsoft Word 5.0 and laid out with Aldus Pagemaker 4.2. The *Union Street* Logo was designed with Adobe Illustrator 3.2 and Adobe Photoshop 2.0. All contents are copyrighted © by Scott Custis and Jeanne Gomoll, 1992. December 1992 for Turbo-Charged Party Animal APA #78. Members FWA.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

[SC] Tracy, the only easy rule to use with regard to extending grace is simply to never do it. All you have to do is take the position that minac really means minac and drop anyone who fails to measure up no matter what, no excuses accepted. That would be the easy way, and less stress for you in the long run. You have chosen to take the more humane route of trying to weigh the long term value of individual contributors against the need to be fair and keep everyone contributing regularly. The method to achieve that end is to decide what excuses constitute valid reason to extend grace. It's a tough job and bound to be stressful. I would choose the same route if I were OE. Life is tough on everyone sometimes and who is really to say what is and what isn't a good enough excuse to justify grace? Most of us can see that **Kathryn Beth Willig's** illness is an excellent reason to justify grace, but how do we evaluate **Bill Hoffman's** grant-writing hassles? I have no experience with getting grants, but I know it causes him a lot of stress and I want him to stay in the Apa, so I would choose to grant him grace also. What is the difference between granting grace once for a good excuse and granting it three times for equally good excuses? I think fairness should take a back seat to your own judgement as to which writers you prefer to go to some length to keep in *Turbo* and those you feel we wouldn't really miss. Do you think a particular writer is worth saving or will improve their performance? If the answer to either is "no," drop them. We did not just elect you OE for your skill at the mechanics of putting the Apa together, we also elected your judgement, leadership and common sense. I am still satisfied that you are the right person for the job.

[JG] I voted for you as OE partially because I trust your judgement. Use it.



PAT DYJAK

[SC] Welcome. I would also like to compliment you on a very fine first submission. Being a night shift worker, I have a weird relationship with sleep. I seem to spend more of my time struggling with it than actually enjoying it. The occasional deep eight-hour sleep is always terrific, of course, but most of the time I'm either struggling against sleep when I'm trying to stay awake, or unable to keep my eyes closed when it is finally time to sleep. I frequently go to bed tired just to get up after a couple hours, still tired, but unable to fall back asleep. This was never a problem when I worked during the day. That's probably the reason sleep has not moved up on *my* list of basic needs.

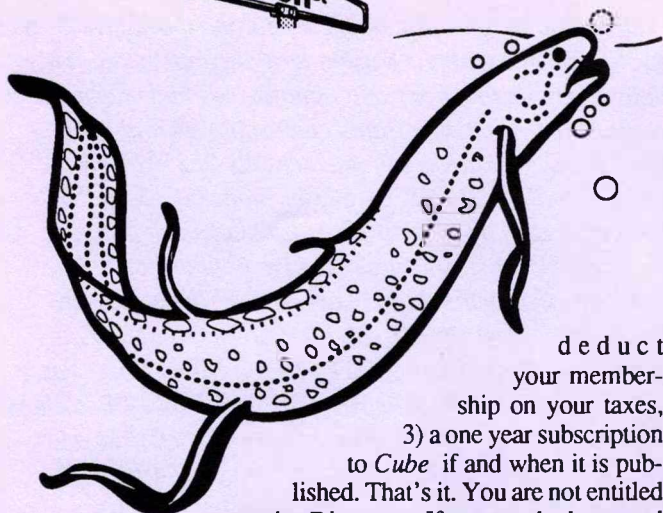
YCT. Bill Bodden: I think it was actually *Bill's* "over-active, sexually deprived imagination."

[JG] What a wonderful essay topic, sleep. Very nice. I love to sleep. I love to dream (mostly). It's never been something that has been difficult for me. I can finish a can of Coke, put it down on my bed-side table, pull the covers up around my shoulders, and bam, I'm asleep in a few moments, no problemo. The thing is though, that I never really want to go to bed: I've always got something I want to finish. "Just a while longer," I'm actually saying to myself right now, as I type my comments into the computer. It's midnight, and I've got a horrible cold, and I really should get to bed and get some rest because I can't miss work tomorrow: we move our offices and I will have to defend my equipment during the chaos. But still I sit here and type. ("I'm almost done, just a little more.") I love to sleep mostly in the morning. I hate to get up. I stay in bed just for the next dream, or the next news story (from the radio alarm), and inevitably end up rushing around the house late, trying to find my keys.

KIM WINZ

[SC] I don't remember if I sent you a second Directory. Please let me know if I didn't and I'll send one immediately.

Judging from your comments to **Steve Swartz** and **Julie**, you still need clarification on a few points. SF³ is not simply a "club," but a non-profit educational foundation that is legally incorporated. Your money basically goes to support the group's activities. The "perks" or "premiums" you get in return consist of 1) A vote at the Annual Meeting in October (or Proxy if you are absent) if you paid for a voting level membership, 2) the right to



d e d u c t

your member-

ship on your taxes,

3) a one year subscription

to *Cube* if and when it is published.

That's it. You are not entitled

to the Directory. If no one had stepped

forward to do it, you wouldn't have gotten one

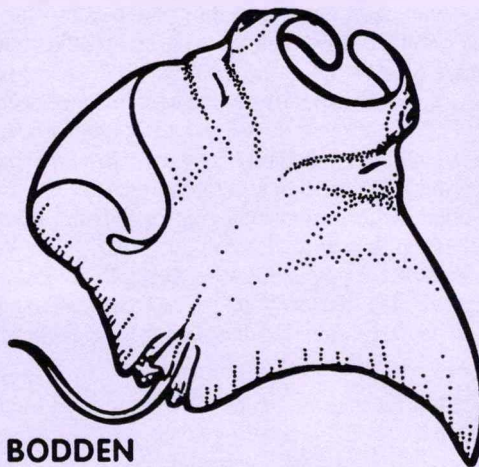
at all and still have had no grounds for complaint. The Directory is one of the group's "activities" that we have simply elected to do for the last several years. To the best of my knowledge, we are the only SF group in the country that does one. I was not elected nor appointed to update the Directory. I just saw a need for it, made an announcement, and did it. Badly, I'll admit, but I expect to get better unless someone else comes along who would like to take it over. There is no rule that specifies that you get one, two or twenty Directories. I send out however many I can convince the group to pay postage for.

Finally, about *Cube*. I don't think any previous *Cube* editors sent copies to each individual member if they were married and living together. I don't understand where the need to fire on Steve so hard comes from over this. Your angry comments were regrettably typical of the responses people have made in *Turbo* about Steve's work on *Cube*. Where is the praise for a job otherwise well done? Where was all this anger and indignation when the prior editor produced exactly one *Cube* all year? Steve was the best and most ambitious *Cube* editor this group ever had. Where is your appreciation for that? The group now gets the *Cube* it most deserves. A little newszine mailed to absolutely everybody. Due to a lack of support, Steve has decided to turn his attention and ambitions to his own personal projects. Who can blame him?

[JG] I was also disoriented by your comments about SF³ distribution of *Cube*, the directory and the proxy ballots. The fact that you tied all three together suggests that you are thinking of the Madison group like some sort of monolithic government agency, even though—as a former Madisonian yourself—you know that the group is a rather *dis*-unified tossed salad of headstrong individuals. Publications are created, conventions are convened, and projects completed because individuals choose to involve themselves in at those activities and to cooperate with others. We're constantly reinventing the wheel, it seems, and so after almost 20 years, we still haven't streamlined the most basic organizational activities ... like mailing lists and meeting announcement procedures. Ah well, that's one of the problems inherent in a volunteer organization. If you can't pay the workers, the typical top-to-bottom organizational structure of a business gets turned over 180°. Priorities, planning and energy bubbles up from the individual level where members choose to get involved, rather than from the administration level which might like to tell others what to do, but can't.

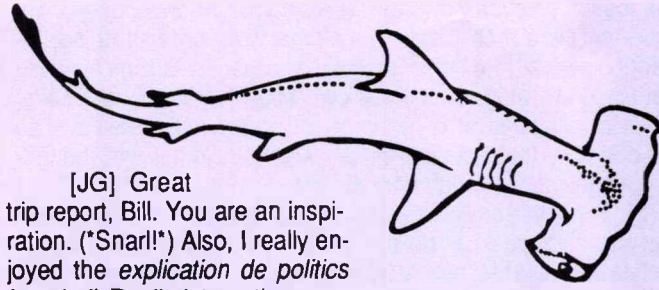
The thing that upset me about your comment, was that I don't think that the *Turbo* apa is the place for discussion of SF³ business. *Turbo*, after all, contains only a minority of (paid) SF³ members: 17 out of 36 people. More importantly, the majority of SF³ members are effectively excluded from this forum when SF³ issues are discussed here. Complaints should be directed to the person or persons involved, written to *Cube*, or brought to the SF³ Executive Board, or to the whole SF³ membership. "Going outside" SF³ with complaints about how things are being done just creates ill-will among the people doing the work. I didn't think **Julie Humphries** should have used *Turbo* as the forum for her complaints against **Steve Swartz**. (If she had taken up her complaint with Steve directly, she would have received her own issue of *Cube*; and we might all still be enjoying one of the best edited incarnations of the zine.) And I'm rather puzzled about your complaints regarding the proxy ballots here too...

Pete (or you? I don't recall.) already wrote a note to me complaining about the lateness of the proxy ballots, suggesting that the notices might have been sent so late as to invalidate the legality of the meeting. And I wrote a short note back apologizing for the lateness of the mailing (and also assuring you that it had been sent in a "legal" fashion: the bylaws require that letters be delivered to the post office within 10 days of the meeting and I made that deadline, exactly.) I also agreed with you that—practically speaking, this particular rule should probably be amended, and even if it was not, that I would make a special effort next time to get notices out earlier than actually required. (However, it never occurred to me to enclose two proxy ballots, and I am sorry about that. I will next time. However, you certainly wouldn't have had to make a special trip to a photocopy shop: all you would have had to do was to write out the wording on another piece of paper and sign it. It seems to me that I've done that several times in years past when I lost my proxy form.) In any case, I actually thought that we had discussed this by mail. Weren't you satisfied by my response? I do not understand why you are now bringing it up again for discussion in the *Turbo* apa.



BILL BODDEN

[SC] Thanks for the next installment of your trip report. You should be an inspiration to all those TAFF winners who failed to do their reports (I'll be amazed if that line makes it to print.) Anyway, I enjoyed it and look forward to more. Just tell me straight, Bill. In all that time that you spent in pubs, did you ever get around to trying the beer? You could have done a toast to beerloving Madison fa—oops, folks! On my short list of the very best things about the U.K., the beer ranks high. Maybe even higher than the castles.



[JG] Great trip report, Bill. You are an inspiration. ("Snarl!") Also, I really enjoyed the *explication de politics bazeball*. Really interesting.

You referred to the small pox blankets in your comment to **Owen**. That reminded me of a more contemporary scandal I heard about on *All Things Considered*, the National Public Radio show. It seems that the US government has been donating blankets to a New York City homeless shelter and a couple weeks ago the government notified the shelter that they should stop distributing them because it turns out they were contaminated with DDT. The worst part of this story is that according to US records, they *knew* about the contamination six years ago and just recently got around to letting the shelter know about the situation. Of course, it's impossible to track down the blankets at this point and the homeless shelter staff is outraged...

LAURA SPIESS

[SC] Welcome back. I miss the drawings in the margins, but it was a fine zine anyway. You've been living on such a hormonal rollercoaster lately, I don't know how you keep your bearings (if anyone tries to see a pun in that last line, I will deny it). Congratulations on the office move, at least. And thanks for the reviews. I do appreciate book reviews from people because I don't get around to reading as much fiction as I'd like and I can use all the help I can get selecting only good books.

[JG] I liked *Steel Beach* quite a lot. It's certainly not a Tiptree contender since there's no really revolutionary gender ideas in it. (When a man changes their gender to female, she gets suddenly interested in fashion? Sheesh! Herb!) But I really did like Varley's take on the Heinleinian idea of human goals, mortality, and life's meaning. And I loved the various recreation areas that humans design on the moon. I've got a landscape architect friend who's starting to collect material on various science fictional predictions about parks and recreation and I've been feeding her Varley.

JAE ADAMS

[JG] Don't you think there might be a good reason for taking a coherent position (other than the motive you suggest, i.e., just to "get debating points.")? I certainly appreciate your use of writing as a way of clarifying your thoughts. I have done just that in my journals and certainly do it often in my rough drafts. But the point of clarifying one's thoughts is to come to a conclusion (no matter how temporary), isn't it?

I enjoyed your description of paper-making. It seems like an impossible task to make room in my life for yet another hobby or project, but I would like to try. I'd love to watch you make paper some day (and participate, if I could). Please put me down as a person to call when you next schedule a demo. I can't promise that I will be able to make it, but I will promise that I'll try.

CATHY ARBUTHNOTT

[JG] Words. We seem to keep getting hung up on them. But it's not something I want to just ignore. The meaning of these words is rooted in the basic understanding of issues. For instance, Cathy, you say the terms "pro-life" and "pro-choice" are euphemisms. I strongly disagree. The term "pro-choice" more clearly defines what I am support, than the term "pro-abortion." I am not "for" abortions. I don't know if I could personally make the decision to have an abortion and I am very glad I was never forced to do so. The thing I am "for" is the right of women to have the *choice*. Without legalized abortion, there is no choice. The term "pro-life," in my opinion, is a calculated attempt to re-define the opposition as "pro-death." The actual political concerns of the anti-abortion groups is not nearly as global as their chosen name implies.

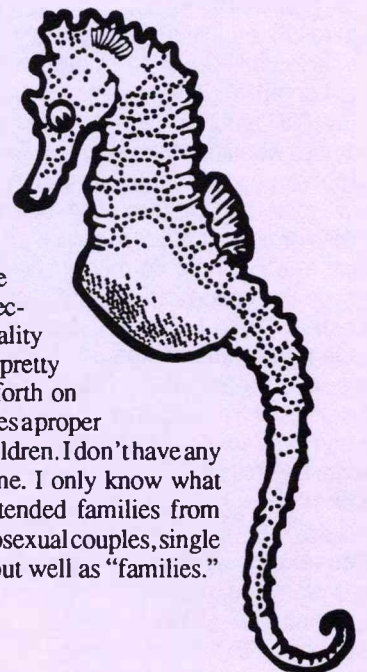
So too, this term "Neanderthal Feminist" still bothers me. You defined it as "the tiny minority who bring the cause into disrepute by an unthinking and bigoted attitude to men." This is an ambiguous definition, depending upon your own position on the political spectrum. This coincides, in fact, with the definition of a "strident feminist" to quite a few people: any woman who reacts with anger and prejudice against men in general. To many people, I am a strident feminist. To those same people, given your definition, I would also be a "Neanderthal Feminist." Lots of women go through a very emotional, very angry stage in their feminism. Lots of women attempt to separate themselves from men and masculine culture at some point in their feminist evolution. I think its a waste of valuable energy to get angry at certain women for getting too angry, or for practicing a stricter form of separatism than you think is justified. Our enemy is institutionalized sexism, not the individuals who react to it more emotionally or more angrily than we might like.

I applaud you for a very brave, eloquent, and powerful essay about your experiences in your comment to **Ross Pavlac**.

[SC] Congratulations to you both on a terrific contribution. Very meaty. One minor quibble, however. It is still occasionally confusing to me which of you is writing. I don't know what you think of our method of initialling our comments, but it might be worth a try.

Cathy, your comment to Ross was awesome.

"Loving family relationships are the cement of society" sounds perfectly fine to me. At the risk of sounding hopelessly Politically Correct, broadening the definition of "family" is the recognition of reality. At least reality as I see it. I'd be skating on pretty thin ice if I started holding forth on my opinions on what constitutes a proper parenting arrangement for children. I don't have any kids and look forward to none. I only know what I've observed. I've seen extended families from divorce and remarriage, homosexual couples, single parents and others all work out well as "families."





KAREN BABICH

[JG] Having your honeymoon before the wedding is sort of like eating dessert first. What a good idea! Congratulations to you and Nigel. But now you've got me really curious about what all this gossip is that I've obviously missed completely...

PAT HARIO

[JG] You're welcome. Thank you for the cookies. They were delicious.

[SC] Great cover. Great game. I've played it three times and, by my calculations, lost each time. We know what that means. I'm just "legally" prohibited from saying it for another two and a half months.

[JG] I'm reporting you to Judge Roy Rihn, Scott! What the hell do you mean, "one *year!*" That prohibition against saying you're not a fan lasts **FOREVER**. And anyway, the only reason you "lost" the game three times is that you ate all the game pieces first. You're in big, big, big trouble.

[SC] Congratulations also on your zine's new look. Today you master boxes. Tomorrow you'll be laying out and pubbing your own fanzine to mail all over the world. Right?

KIM AND KATHI NASH

[SC] I liked the Climbing Fences adventure. Sounds to me like you are closing in on one of Life's Great Truths—Escorts suck.

I'm planning to be joining you at Essen Haus on the 30th. Cheers.

STEVE SWARTZ

[JG] I know that **Julie Humphries'** criticisms really discouraged you. I'm feeling pretty worn out by the various controversies that she's pursued here in the apa during this past year too. With me too, the effect has been to make me want to concentrate on spending time with good friends, rather than in large groups. But mostly: It makes me really sad to know that the end result is that you felt you had to bow out of the editorship of the "enlarged" *Cube*. The zines you produced were really good, and I greatly regret the loss of future *Cube* genzines.

It all reminds me of the time, many years ago, when Jim Cox was working on the Madison Review of Books: a project that he developed with the SF group. Jim and other SF³ members did print, radio and cable access TV book reviews, and then sent copies or notices of those reviews to publishers, who then sent them free books to do more reviews. We had a little office on University Avenue with a wall of bookshelves, most of which were constantly filled with books. Jim reviewed most of the books, wrote most of the (hundreds of) letters to publishers, kept up files, and organized the books. He put in hundreds and hundreds of hours of work on that project, and gradually began making a name for himself in the publishing world. He sold the books he reviewed to local used book stores and even got some invitations to publisher conferences and got wine and dined as a prominent reviewer... He deserved it for all the work he was doing. But some people got jealous and, demanded that

the "perks" be evenly divided. Realizing that he was going to get more criticism than thanks for all the work he was doing, he handed over all the "perks" to those who were criticizing him. Jim set up a new organization, his own Midwest Review of Books, which he operates out of his home to this day, and turned over all the books, all the perks and the office space to those who thought he was taking too much from the group.

The Madison Review of Books folded almost immediately. No one stepped in to do the grimy, boring, day-to-day letter-writing and filing that needed to be done. And the whole group lost a great resource: a source of free, new books, available for the price of a review.

It seems to me that too often in this group that we fail to compliment the people who are doing good work and tell them how much we appreciate what they are doing. Then, when minor criticisms are voiced, there are no appreciative comments to balance them out, and the people who work hard get to feeling bad about what they've doing and stop doing it. This is a bad thing.

On the subject of publication count for your press, this is what I did: At the point I began counting (well into my fannish career), I went through my records and retroactively assigned numbers for past publications. I only assigned numbers for zines that I absolutely knew that I had published, which mostly meant that I had copies. If you haven't kept copies of your zines, maybe you could use the highest number of each of your apazine titles and add them together...

What an awful image you painted of being a woman on a navy vessel! Whew! But it seems to me that changing the sailors' behavior might not be a totally hopeless job, since presumably the sailors understand a totally different set of standards when they are not on board ship. It would simply be a matter of convincing them to apply civilian standards to the navy environment.

I still like some of Vonnegut's stuff: especially *Mother Night*, the ominous theme of which is that we become what we pretend to be. This continues to carry great personal meaning for me.

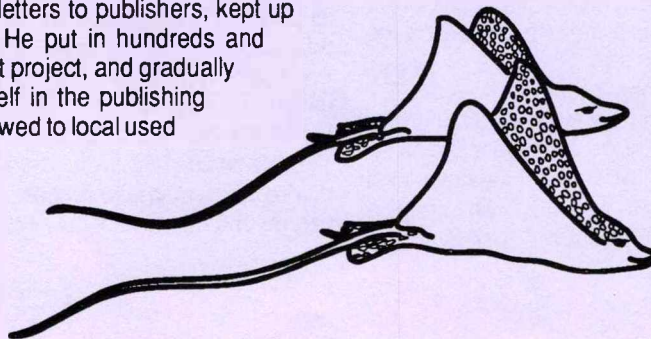
No, I don't think that I can identify needs in myself that **Steve Johnson** seems to be exploring. That's probably the root of some of his and my failure to communicate.

Your comments about women's reactions to the men's movement reminded me of some of the thinking I've been doing in reaction to reading *The Biography of Malcolm X* and to the movie. But at this point (and late hour) it would end up being far too long of an essay. So maybe we can sit down and talk about it some day, or maybe I'll write about it here next month.

Very good comments to **Ross Pavlac!**

[SC] I'd like to read the Eric Mader-Lin zines if you're holding on to them.

Speaking as a contributing writer to the last three issues of *Cube*, I must say it was a pleasure working with you on it. I have my very own copy of the new *Cube* now, even though I never really needed it. I don't see how SF³ comes out ahead from these changes, but then I also don't think the welfare of the group was the point in the first place. Oh well, onward



and upward. At least I have two new things to look forward to—*Widdershins* and Nevenah's *Badger Roulette*. It's just a shame that the SF³ organization has lost the bulk of your fanzine interest, talents and ambitions.

Jeanne was telling me about a recent incident on a Navy ship in which several sailors beat to death another sailor because he was gay. NPR covered the story and one of the ship's sailors they interviewed about the incident blamed the administration. He blamed the Navy's hard line against homosexuals for the attack. I completely agree.

The administration's commitment to success is the first and most necessary element of any effort to incorporate women or homosexuals into any traditionally male bastion like combat ships. It was much the same when the services had to racially integrate. It was hard at first, but the leadership insisted on success and today the military is almost a model of racial integration.

Your story about the female programmer on a Navy ship was an interesting example. Certainly she needed security since she was a civilian and on temporary assignment. But it is also true that by surrounding her with armed guards, the administration was making a statement to the sailors that they were not expected to control themselves. It was a signal that sexual assault was expected and even condoned as appropriate behavior for fighting men on a combat ship.

Years ago when I worked in the Iowa prison system, they decided to hire female guards to work in the male institutions. We thought at the time that it would be a disaster. After all, many of the inmates were doing time for rape and sexual assault, many others had had no contact with women outside the rigid restrictions of the visiting room in years. But the administration made it clear that success was the only option and anyone who couldn't adjust would be dealt with severely. It was slow, careful and stressful at first, but the leadership made it plain that women guards were here to stay, and today it's reality. Police and fire departments around the country have had to struggle with it too. Most are glad they did. The failures can usually be traced to leadership that wavers in its commitment.

The military can deal with homosexuals. After all, they have always been there. It's a matter of getting the Generals to recognize reality.

TRACY SHANNON

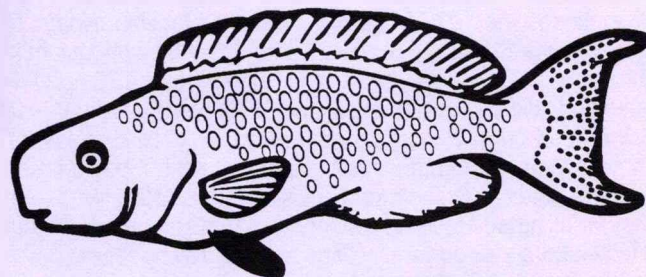
[JG] Let's discuss the women-talking-in-mixed-groups issue at the next B&B meeting and keep track of how much each gender talks during the experiment...

It seems like the fannish pendulum is starting to swing back, here in Madison. About the time *Aurora* was beginning to die (long before its last issue, long before you joined the group), it seemed that all the fans in Madison who had been interested in publishing the zine, were getting more and more interested in putting on WisCon. The con, it seemed, was sucking the lifeblood out of the zine. Now, it seems as if things are reversing. More and more WisCon concom members say they are stepping back from WisCon and wish to spend time pubbing their ish! I kind of like this trend, even though it might end up making our group a poorer one (financially). I liked the birthday zine a lot! I think you should publish a regular zine of your own. You'd be a fine fanzine editor! Are many people talking seriously about a WisCon hiatus?

LILLIAN EDWARDS

[JG] I liked your essay on the difficulty of making big life changes. It's funny sometimes how difficult it is to contemplate the changes and to start changing, etc., etc., but then one day one realizes that the change has been made and it doesn't seem at all difficult in retrospect, at least not in comparison to the next big change that one really ought to make...

I sympathize with (and envy) your whirlwind summer, and the influx of guests. I had to laugh that Scott and I seem to have dealt with you and Tommy in a rather unique way that you might have copied: Scott and I simply weren't home when we invited you to stay with us. Really, it wasn't on purpose, I promise.

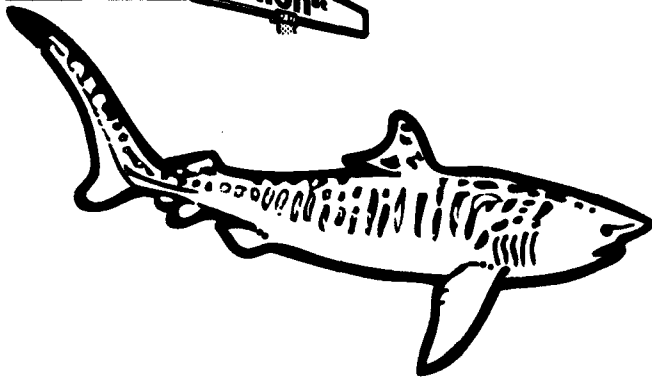


LIFE, THE UNIVERSE, AND EVERYTHING

[JG] I am writing this postscript first, rather than last as it appears, and do not know yet exactly how many of the little red "x's" floating in the margins of *Turbo 77* that might actually catalyze a JG mailing comment. Life has been busy. I finished reading the apa, and for the most part, enjoyed the issue. There are certainly lots of little red "x's." But time is short. It is Wednesday night as I type. I am missing the Brat und Brau meeting so that I can do this because it is the only night of the week that I have free. What's going on?

The Quilt. Elk Krisor is coordinating a massive project for the (financial) benefit of the James Tiptree, Jr. Award. **Tracy Shannon** and I came up with the basic design of a king-sized quilt that will be sold in 1993; all profits going to the Tiptree award. The design is based on the Tiptree novel, *Brightness Falls From the Sky*, and will be made up of over 4,000 pieces of cloth (not counting the backing and batting), 20 different fabrics (only a few of them solid-colored), and 5 quilt patterns. The overall design is quite complicated, and I took over the production of design details, since I could do it on my computer at work. Actually I can just barely handle the design, since the massive complexity of the thing keeps bogging down my Mac. Even though I've got 20 megs of RAM I keep getting memory warnings! Anyway, I've put in well over 100 hours on this so far, and figure that I've got another 5 or 6 more hours to go before I can give Elk a complete plan so that she can start her cadre of quilters working.

The Cookbook. The new Tiptree cookbook should be out in March for WisCon, and I've been collecting recipes, writing for more information from the authors (or for new recipes from those who submitted recipes that duplicated recipes submitted earlier). Karen Joy Fowler wrote a great, very funny essay for the introduction to the cookbook. I'll probably start production during the holidays.

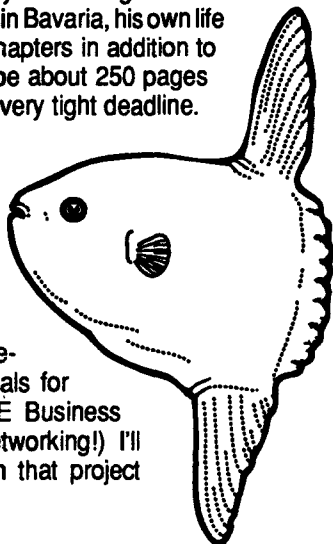


The Corflu Publication: the *Khatru* reprinting. The 1993 Corflu committee (Bill Bodden, Tracy Shannon, Ellen Franklin, Jim Hudson, Steve Swartz, Andy Hooper, and me) have chosen the 1975 issue of Jeff Smith's fanzine, *Khatru* to reprint as the Corflu publication. It's an amazing symposium in which most of the major feminist SF authors of the 70s participated and talked about feminism and SF: Ursula Le Guin, Vonda McIntyre, Joanna Russ, James Tiptree, Jr. (still unmasked), Samuel Delany, Virginia Kidd, Kate Wilhelm, Suzy McKee Charnas, Chelsea Quinn Yarbro, Luise White, and Raylyn Moore. They've all agreed to let us reprint their stuff, and in fact all want to write about their current feelings about the symposium. We're planning to circulate those new essays among the group, in case any of them wants to respond to the new stuff, and then to circulate the whole package—original material plus new stuff—to a number of contemporary authors and fans interested in feminist issues. It actually took a bit of work to get the original authors to agree to the project, a lot of typing (mostly on the part of Steve Swartz and Elk Krisor), and several long, painful sessions of proofreading (because the mimeographed text didn't scan well by an OCR), but it's out on the first leg of its journey. Already we've gotten an truly amazing letter from Joanna Russ and a mind-bogglingly important essay from Ursula Le Guin... This is going to be a *great* publication!

The 3rd Corflu Publication. Tracy Shannon edited it. I laid it out. It's done and mailed. Still, I've got a list of Corflu-related jobs I should get to Real Soon Now.

The Ed Faber vanity press book. I accepted a freelance job during the summer that didn't actually show up in disk form until mid-November: it was to produce camera-ready pages for the memoirs of a guy who retired from the DNR several years ago. It's actually a pretty interesting book: he wrote about his family's history in Bavaria, his own life story, and all his kids wrote chapters in addition to his. Anyway, it turned out to be about 250 pages long, and I finished it under a very tight deadline. He needed it by the end of November so that the printers and binders could deliver finished books to him by Christmas.

More Freelance work. I'm beginning a project with waitlister, Ellen Franklin, to design corporate identity materials for Diane Martin's company, AE Business Solutions. (Yeah, fannish networking!) I'll probably do a lot of work on that project during the holidays.



Another wedding invitation. This is the 6th wedding invitation I've designed in the last several years. Considering my well-known attitude toward matrimony, it is a pretty weird thing to become known for, don't you think? This time, the invitation is for one of Scott's nieces, and the bride and groom to be, chose Micky and Minnie Mouse as their "theme." (After, Hope & Karl's, Maryellen & John's, and a couple other relative's invitations, I worried for a while about getting typecast as a flower illustrator. No more!) Here's the new artwork:



Holiday-related projects. All of you should have received our holiday cards by now with the invitations for Scott's and my New Year's party enclosed. (If not, demand one immediately! All *Turbo* households are entitled to an invitation.) I am also designing a wine label for my dad who has started making his own wine, and a label for Scott's and my Union Street Salsa. We managed to spend a weekend shopping, and that's about all the time we had. Luckily we managed to get most of it done.

Drawing fish for Hope's baby. Some of them illustrate this zine.

Other, minor complications. Like work at the DNR. I've got a couple weeks off at the end of the month (that aforesaid holiday time which I'm already planning to pack with work on the cookbook, the AE Business Solutions job, cookie baking, gift wrapping, entertaining, checkbook balancing, catch-up reading, some work on Steve Swartz's and my new zine, *Widdershins*, an article for Nevenah's zine, *Badger Roulette*, etc., etc.), which means that I've got to work twice as hard in the earlier half of the month because everyone wants me to get their projects done for them before I leave. All this is complicated by my cold and by the fact that the second week of December (this week), my bureau is moving up two floors into new office space. The computers are out of commission even as I type. There will only be one day of "up" time for me between moving and vacation. Some of my clients are acting a tad hysterical. Ah well, one thing about a stressful job, is that it takes one's mind off the traditionally stressful holiday season.

Happy holidays.

— Jeanne & Scott