

comes from the typer of Nicki Lynch of P.O. Box 1270, Germantown, MD 20874 because the computer is still in storage somewhere. We have a house loan going thru on a townhouse but probably won't be in until mid to late December. \*sigh\* This zine, with the name taken from an Eric Vogel song of the same name, is for the membership of KAPA to appear in mailing 41.

11/7/88

O.P. # 272

Well, here we are in Maryland in a hotel. I've been looking for a job, but without experience, you might as well just forget any professional job. But I do have an interview tomorrow and I was contacted by two other companies who wanted more information about me. One of them is promoting a training program for computers. Considering how many people have computer degrees and no experience, it seems odd that they are looking for ANY type of degree. What annoys me is the number of colleges and "career centers" who advertise how you can go to school a few months and enter the exciting world of programming immediately. What a crock!! I've spent YEARS looking for an entry level computer job and there are very few open doors.

Come to think of it Chattanooga State ran the same ads.

We found a place to live about two weeks ago, but we probably won't get into it until Christmas time. We decided to look at townhouses a few Saturdays ago and ended up buying one we saw and liked. A townhouse has walls that connect with its neighbors. Looking back, I suppose that it is ~~the~~ the best we can do for what we could spend (about 2½ times what we're getting for the place in Chattanooga), but it worries me all the same. What if the neighbors are jerks like we had in Chattanooga. It will be ~~worse~~ worse considering we have connecting walls. Also, that area is part of a planned community that has a home owner's association, which means you have swimming pools and the like that you have to kick in for whether you use them or not. I never go swimming and don't play tennis - who has time? You also have to conform to that all the other places look like as well as obey all the rules set up by the HOA. We went for a drive around the complex yesterday and found several disabled vehicles in the parking areas, something the literature we got said was not allowed. The complex also doesn't have cable TV, odd for such a Yuppie section of town. It's suppose to be THE place to live in Montgomery county. Oh, well.

But I guess it will be a nice place once we get in; I'm sick of living out of one room. It has a semi-finished basement, which will be turned into a fan room, a living room with fireplace, a tiny kitchen and dining room, two bedrooms and a den. It also has a small attic. Still, it has what we want for the price we could afford. After a few years we can always start looking for another place to "trade up". We had very little capital to work with for the Tennessee house.

Yes, we do have a buyer for 4207 Davis Ln., but it will be late November before the sale is finalized. Since it is going to be done by FHA, we'll have to spring for sewer connection. What a pain. All that outlay and nothing to gain for it. What a boon for the companies who do that sort of work. Dick was interested in going back to Chattanooga for the final signing, but probably won't.

I'm hoping something comes along soon. I attended an open house held by a computer company on Saturday and I may get an interview out of it. Where do people go for experience? I wish I knew.

Well, I guess I'd better move on to mailing comments. This is the first time I've done a zine first draft in a long time. This typer needs cleaning as it does odd things and isn't reliable. I also have ~~one~~ one type face for it and we ran out of correction tape a few days ago. So if my writing doesn't seem as polished as usual, that is why.

Well, rather than start comments here at the end of the page, I'll talk a bit. Thanks so much, Pat, for the NASA button. I put it on my coat and have gotten several good comments on it. Before that I had a button from the Names Project on my coat and also got a variety of comments. If I have time at the end of the zine, I'll talk a little about that.

00 Pat Like the cover! You gave yours away on your zine. \*\*\* You had a good excuse for getting the mailing out late. I was just worried that it got lost in the mail due to the box address. I have no idea how good or bad this post office is. We're planning on keeping the P.O. address even when we move into our townhouse, as it is only  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile from where Dick works.

KENTUCKY NUGGETS #18 Jodie What a great article! Thanks for reprinting it. It is VERY relevant this week as the media is all a buzz about the computer virus from Cornell that invaded many of the government computers last week. The job I'm interviewing sounds like it might have to do with security, so I may learn more about viruses than I want to know! \*\*\* ct me Actually, a company cannot lay off or fire an employee because of jury duty. But I wasn't laid off because of that; I was laid off due to "lack of business". It was just convenient that I wasn't there, so I was gone. I talked to one co-worker and she said there were several times that they were very short and the manager decided not to call me, even though she hired several more people and promised me she would call me first if it came down to that. Considering that honesty with people was never her strong suit, I figured it would come to that. \*\*\* ct me If I recall, we were instructed specifically not to talk with family members about the case we were involved in. They want the decision to be based on evidence, not bias your family might have come up with. True be told, I think most of the jury had their minds made up about him the first day. And it is boring. I was daydreaming about a Perry Mason-like ending to the trial, where the D.A. would makesomeone on the stand confess. Never happened, but I could dream. \*\*\* Dick and I saw A FISH CALLED WANDA and really enjoyed it. We recently saw WITHOUT A CLUE and enjoyed it. The critics didn't think a lot of it, but we thought Michael Caine and Ben Kingsly were terrific. And it was funny. \*\*\* ct Gary I thought Billy Idol always was high and slurred his words. But, you are right about performers not taking college dates seriously. I read about one fellow several years ago who had signed up for the college circuit and did a terrible job. They cancelled his contract and he found himself without gigs. He cleaned up his act and went back out for them, glad to have the work. I can't remember who it was, though.

Strange, as I was typing Jodie's comment I got a call from the place I was to interview tomorrow asking that I come in on Thursday - their computer are down with a virus! I said sure, and I hoped their machines would get well soon. I hope I will get a job there; they could use the help!

CAVEAT EMPTOR P.L. Hi! Glad you're here! You did a great intro zine; I learned things I hadn't known about you. \*\*\* If you don't tell MYRIAD, they'll never know. At least I don't think so. I've been asked to re-join MYRIAD and I may decide to do so, especially as we aren't involved with any fandom here. It would be a good way to keep in touch.

Jodie Oops, I got ahead of myself and I have one more comment. ct Corlis I believe that some of the PLANET OF THE APE movies are really "movies", made by sticking several of the episodes from the TV series together. They are usually shown on WTBS. I believe this was also done with episodes of THE MAN FROM ATLANTIS and SPIDERMAN, as well as THE MAN FROM UNCLE.

PENDULUM MOTIONS Jim and Jann You have been having a bad time of it. Sorry to hear about the relatives who've passed away. I hope you don't forget yourself when it comes to victims, Jann. Please, please get some counseling and stop blaming yourself and cleaning up after Bob. He didn't deserve a fine person like you and you shouldn't have to take the rap as well. I have no idea where to start, but social service agencies might be the way or find a clergyperson you trust. Jeanna needs your help and you need to get rid of Bob's ghost. We're all behind you. \*\*\* Sounds like you had a good birthday. Looks like Dick and I will be celebrating here in the hotel. \*\*\* We like Halloween, too. We got some candy incase some of the kids living here went around. None did, so Dick ate most of it. Just as he planned. \*\*\*

ABOARD THE OBSERVATION CAR "CENTRALIA" Michael Good to see you at NOLACon.  
 \*\*\* You went to some of the same restaurants we did. It was all pretty good and the portions were large. I don't know if I'd want to eat that much all the time. &\*\*\* How about an expedition to Washington for a Disclave? Aren't there any trains that come up this way?

A WORM'S EYE VIEW OF NOLACon II Christa It's too bad that you had to work at your first WorldCon. Still, you did have a good time.\*\*\* I've long known the TRUE PURPOSE of USA Today, having been on the road so much over the last year. It's also great to use as a table cloth; \*\*\* I wanted to see ALIEN NATION, but have yet to get around to it. I heard the Washington club got a free showing, but not being part of the club.....

PROJECT NEW HORIZON Rocky Glad to hear you have a plan to get your life back on track. Accounting can be very rewarding and accountants are NOT dull people at all. I'm told that being an actuary (however it is spelled) is also an excellent job and very few people know about it. It requires more math than accounting and many insurance companies will train people in it. \*\*\* Glad to hear you will be out of debt. It's no fun to have all those old bills over your head. At this time of year (Christmas) it should be NEW bills. \*\*\* ct me I'm still job hunting, but Dick likes DoE so far. He was surprised that the computers they had were not as powerful as the one we have. He was also dismayed that so much softwear pirating was going on. \*\*\* ct me Yes, you can get a lot of interesting stories being on jury duty. If you want to see court in action, spectators are allowed and they get to see (sometimes) more than the jury. I don't know how many times we were sent out of the room and the crowd was allowed to stay.

OLD AND NEW #2 Lynn Wow! You are into zining! Are we on your HICKMAN'S SCRAP-BOOK mailing list? Please include us! \*\*\* ct Gary "Did you have any BBQed kid in Mexico?" I hope you are talking about goats! We'll still looking for good BBQ here in Maryland. Dick said he wants to make a swing thru KY next year on our way to MidWestCon and take me to the Moonlite BBQ, which has some of the best. We found one BBQ place here, called O'Briens, but it was just OK. \*\*\* ct Sue I read in the paper that Skyline Chili just opened a branch in Northern Virginia in the D.C. area. I've always wanted to try the chili there. \*\*\* ct Sue I think the East Coast, rather than the Midwest cons you mentioned, don't serve alcohol. When we get to some of them, I'll find out. \*\*\* I think I'm more of a pack rat than a collector. If I do collect, it's books. I keep the SF and mystery books I like and trade the rest into the used book stores for more books. I used to collect comic books, but that was years and years ago. When we get settled in, I'm thinking of selling the comics off and using the money to get something I want, such as a bike. I haven't had one since I was 15 and the place we're moving has several bike paths.

THE ALATUCKIAN 27 Pat Thanks again for the button! \*\*\* Wow, that must have been great being in the HOSC. \*\*\* re NOLA's daily zine editor. I don't claim to know all the facts, but I don't think many, if any, of the NOLAcon people had ever heard of him and didn't know about his actions in Texas. I don't think the NOLA people take much interest in fandom in general. I know of at least one person on the committee who knew Steve, but that person was fired three weeks before the con. Steve may have been a last minute replacement, but I don't recall. If they had asked us about a dail zine editor, we could have recommended the IN people and Tony Uberor (sp?) especially since they dumped all his work on the pocket program without so much as a by-your-leave. I believe he was given <sup>(he = Steve)</sup> because he demanded it at the last minute or he wouldn't do the zine. Since <sup>discuss</sup> it was a comp suite anyway, they didn't have to pay for it. \*\*\* Congratulations on your engagement!!! \*\*\* re fire alarm at the Marriott. We've had quite a few false alarms here and it's not because of some group. They can be a pain. \*\*\* It's a nice format; Dick also uses a two column format in his apa zines. When we have the computer, that is.

RIVER RAMBLIN'S Sue Glad to hear that Rickey and his mother have a roof over their heads again. \*\*\* You did a terrific job under difficult circumstances at NOLAcon and I hope the chair knows that. \*\*\* ct Lynn re how to run a mimeo. Seems to me that long time ago, we heard about or tried to get a mimeo demo at a con. The problem then was the size of the machine and getting one there. Seems to me I did one demo at a club meeting one time with a very old mimeo. Nowadays it's a problem finding the machines and people not being interested. After all, if you can photocopy, why cut stencils and fool with paper and ink? We still do, but I guess we are rare. If there is a company in Louisville that sells mimeos or dittos, they will be glad to demonstrate their latest models, which do everything! I've seen some mimeos that the only thing you have to do is put in the stencil and paper and the machine does the rest. \*\*\* ct me Too bad they don't have a pool of people who want to be on jury duty that they can draw from. As I told Rocky, you are allowed to sit in court cases.

End of mailing comments.

On the weekends, we have been going into the District and looking at the sites. One of the first times we went in, the Names Project was set up on the Elipse.

The Names Project is the group who is taking the quilt embroidered with the names of AIDS victims on it from city to city to raise public awareness and funds for research. They were in Washington to gain support for the march on the FDA, which happened after that weekend.

The quilt is not one huge quilt, but a series of small quilts, about six large panels, arranged by state, connected by plain cloth pathways. It almost covered the available space. On the perimeter, booths had been set up to sell buttons, pins and T-shirts to cover the costs of the quilt. There were also booths for information on AIDS and the quilt as well as guides if you were looking for a specific patch. There was a large crowd there, some site-seers and some truly moved by the quilt and what it represented. Near the site, a platform had been set up for friends, relatives, and celebrities to read the names of those who died because of AIDS. There were also tables people sewing patches that would be added in the future.

It was very moving and I hope that they did raise some consciences.

On the same trip we went over to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. I've seen pictures of The Wall, but it was more incredible in person. The crowds were crushing, but not disorderly or loud. Even the children were quiet. People were walking by, some were touching The Wall, some were crying and some people were leaving things, which will be later collected by the Park Service and preserved in a special warehouse. I read that, eventually, the collection will become the basis for a Vietnam war museum. With all the commercialism rampant in most tourist spots, this monument was just for the people and not the money makers. It was also very moving.

But don't think we just see depressing stuff, we also are slowly visiting the big tourist spots such as the Smithsonian and National Zoo. Washington is a great city to walk around in. It was built at a time when people DID walk, after all.

Well, that's about it for now. I don't like to leave you hanging about my job prospects, but I need to get this zine out. When next I write, I hope to have A job and be moving into our townhouse, unless the bank doesn't get things moving.

An open question - if you could pick songs for an album of SF related songs, what would they be? So far I have the following: BENSON, ARIZONA (from the movie "Dark Star") by Clam Chowder; ROCKET MAN by Elton John, MIAMI 2017 (SEEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT ON BROADWAY) by Billy Joel, MAJOR TOM by David Bowie, MR. SPACEMAN by the Byrds. I'm sure there are others. What would YOU put on the album? What songs would go on a fantasy album?

See you in sixty!