

VERTICO

under the elm tree

GEE, YOU'VE LOST WEIGHT Dept

As you have probably noticed already (if your copy didn't float out of your mailbox it was so light) this is a rather short issue of VERTIGO. For various reasons (one to be mentioned later) the publishing date of this issue had to be moved up about a week and the earlier deadline caught us short as some of the features we had been planning on could not be completed in time. With luck things will be tack to normal next issue for everyone's favorite overpriced fanzine. Those of you looking for something to help you over the disappointment of this issue should send 25¢ to Eric Larsen for the latest issue of IN THE SHADOW OF THE MONOLITH. An s-f fanzine for the Nameless Order of R'lyeh, the SHADOW comes out more often than we do (every four weeks), is thicker, has more art, has a larger staff, has more s-f content, and costs less. They also have a bit of news, local and other. Send your sticky quarters and grungy dollars to Eric at Box 16369 NCSU, Raleigh, NC 27607 (during school months).

COMING OF THE CON Dept

Durham mini-con XXIX will be held on October 5, 1975 at 2540 Chapel Hill Rd. Nothing unusual is planned this time so there should be plenty of time to browse, buy, sell, talk, trade, etc. With luck the weather will be nice so that we can spread outside and relieve the crowding. I know we could have used the space last time when we had more dealers than we had space for in the main area. Things generally run 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM though things have been breaking up earlier at all cons in recent months.

For those of you who plan ahead the next two mini-cons after October will be January 25 and April 4. Mark these dates down now because I probably

won't remember them when you ask me at the mini-con.

IT'S WET OUTSIDE Dept

On July 13, 1975 we held Durham mini-con XXVIII at the old same place and attracted almost 80 people in spite of the weather. It rained off and on most of the day so everyone was kept bottled up inside most of the time. If it hadn't rained we would have dissappointed fewer people by being able to set up some sellers outside. More people brought things to sell and people brought more things to sell so we just about ran out of table space and space for tables. Nobody wanted to deal from the third room "cave" so it was temporarily transformed into an art gallery for some beautiful paintings by George Chastain. Especially memorable were the large Donald Duck (taken from "Sheriff of Bullet Valley") and "Citizen Kane" with Wagner's Kane in the Orson Wells role. There were also another Kane (standing over Able), and dedications to Brando, Fields, Frandenstein, and the movie gangsters. With luck we hope to have George do us a cover for some future issue of VERTIGO. This con marked the return of Yance Parrish from the streets of New York. Nobody knew he had moved back until he walked in the door at the con. This also marked the last con Bill Starnes will be making for a while as he has finished school and has re-enlisted. He will be stationed in Ga until about the first of the year when he will go to Germany for two years. Some of our regulars were missing and missed.

Scott Whiteside had to work that day and missed the con for the first time in a while. We didn't get some of the usual carloads of s-f fans from Newport News (Ned, Tim, George, Elaine, David, and others) and comics fans from Norfolk (Tag & Jay among others). We did have some who braved the weather and came that far though. It doesn't seem that there are many solitary fans anymore as a glance over our sign-in sheet shows us that people are coming in groups now, or at least that some cities have several fans. The most populous cities according to the latest con are (in no order): Durham, Raleigh, Chapel Hill, Greensboro, Rocky Mount, and Richmond. One reason could be that most of the new people we see at the cons learned about us by word of mouth and were brought or sent by friends. We are happy to have new people come in this way because it helps make things a bit more friendly and personal. ((Side note: Even though, or maybe because, I am the host I don't get to see and talk to many people each con so if you want to meet me or talk about something please track me down. We don't want anyone to go away feeling left out.)) (One conreport on the last mini-con said that the rain made things more personal but the author was a duck anyway so. . .) We don't advertise the cons because we have reached a comfortable size and a much larger attendance would detract from some of the traditions we have built up. Before I ramble onto any more subjects that have little or less to do with the past mini-con let me go ahead and list the people who signed in at the last con. As always, handwriting what it is, I must apologize for the ways some of the names aren't spelled. Attendees include: Grier Neely, Sam Joyner, Clay Kimball, David Lucbke, Floyd & Paul Snead, Helen Oakley, Janet Rawlins, Billy & Mancy Saunders, Jimmy Wade, Jane Fisher, Norman Hunter, Richard Llewellyn, Bill Starnes, San Hutchens, Bill O'Shields, John Allison, Elmer Clark, Rebecca Baggett, M C Goodwin, David Southerland, Ed Wray, George Chastain, Jim Kent, John Squires, Shelie Pollard, Carolyn & Paul Deane, Ernest Moore, Kent Prillaman, Tony Galloway, Watson Edwards, Mark Austin, Rick Hubbell, Jerry Minter, E H Blohn, Richard & Mildred Minter, Lem Nash, David Kelly, Brian Lockhart, Karl & Barbara Wagner, Dave-& Joanne Drake, Walter Harper, Pam Turner, Steve Massey, Mike Cromartie, Marty Massoglia, Milton Read, Stuart Schiff, Eric Larsen, Ken Stambaugh, Gordon Briscoe, Charles Lawrence, Ross Kubeny & wife, Will Bullard, Bill Homovec, Robin Caldwell, Jay Leonard, Ben Brown, MTE Woodbury, Bill & Leslie Pearce, Leon Howard, Chris Woodbury, Steve Turner, Clai Smisson, Yance

A GOOD COVER STORY Dept

Parrish, elm, Torry.

In spite of various hardships and illness Nancy Barker has done a fine cover for us this issue and I thought I would take time out to thank her, especially since it was just delivered by Hal, her husband. She almost didn't get a cover in to us this issue through no fault of her own. I realized at the last moment that we would have to print up VERTIGO earlier than usual this issue and didn't give her much notice of the new deadline. In addition to that, we decided that the cover she had been working on might not reproduce well because of the large black areas so even though I liked the other cover fine she started work on a new one for a future issue. Knowing that Mancy is a big Kelly Freas fan I think it is safe (or I hope it is safe) to say that his recent covers for DAW and others were a major influence in the design for this cover. Those of you who want to see more of here work should get the SHADOW. My favorite is the cover she did for #46 based on a Larry Niven story. You can write Nancy at 3022 Chapel Hill Rd - Apt 48-B, Durham, HC 27707. They just recently moved over here from Raleigh.

ON DISPLAY Dept

One of the reasons this issue is early is that on the weekend when we would ordinarily be printing VERTIGO we will be busy with a display on comic books at/for the Northgate Shopping Center Mall here in Durham. The people at Inform Inc, who arrange these things, found out about us and asked that I prepare a series of tables for them on comic books. Some of the themes we plan for tables are adaptations, revivals, Superman, Batman, and the various different types of comics. We will be out there Sept 12-13 so this may be too late for you to plan to come out.

FILM-FLAMMERS Dept

There were two area mini-cons/meetings recently but we only made it to one of them. There was an Old Time Western Film Club meeting in Siler City on August 2nd and we were able to attend it. Featured films were: "Hoppalong Cassidy Enters" (the first Hoppy), "Heart of the Rio Grande" with Gene Autry, and some shorts including "Flash Gordon" chapters and an Andy Clyde comedy. We always enjoy these meetings and this was no exception. I understand that another is planned for this Fall but I don't know the date yet. For more info write Herb Swilling (Sec-Treas), 401 S. Florida Ave., Greenville, S.C. 29611.

Tidewater mini-con III was held on Aug 31st at the Lake Wright Hotel in Virginia Beach. We were unable to attend due to our work schedules (I very rarely make cons more than two hours away) so we have no first hand info. We can say that the con area was expanded from what they had before and that they had a room primarily for showing films. Announced highlights were a Kelly Freas art display and GoH Rich Buckler. I'm sure the con was as successful and the first two and hope that we get a chance to announce the next one in advance instead of telling you what you missed.

FOLKS AROUND HERE Dept

We have a number of address changes this time, some of which we have already mentioned. Eric is in school and gets his mail there now and Nancy has moved to Durham. Other COAs are: Will Bullard, LFD 1, Box 245, Wagram, NC 28396 (also Will's News Stand, 109 McKay St, Leurinburg, N C 28352). . . Mike Cromartie, 1112 Filmore St, Raleigh, N.C. 27605. . . Clay Kimball, 212 S. Mendenhall, Greensboro, NC 27403. . . Yance Parrish, 1906 Glendale Ave, Durham, N.C. . . PFC E. N. Stinson, Co.A, USAICS, Box 2108, Ft. Huachuca, Az. 85613. . . Ed Williams, 201 Sunset Dr, Elon College, N.C. . James Childress, 8238 Donaldson Dr., Tampa, Fla. 33615 Please note that everyone's favorite cartoonist has moved to Florida, the southern haven of artists. From all I hear CONCHY is doing well now and for that we are thankful. Best of luck in your new home, Jim, and drop by anytime you are in the area again. . . I haven't talked to Karl recently but I understand that he is resigning his regular job as a doctor in order to devote full time to his writing and publishing ventures. Since BLOODSTONE came out Karl has been much in demend by both publishers and fans. We can all be proud to say that we knew him when. . . As things turned out, the Dave Drake story was in the Aug GALAXY instead of the July issue and nobody was more surprised than Dave. In case you missed it, the story was "Ranks of Bronze." . .Dick Moores is now doing the Sunday for GLSOLINE ALLEY in addition to the daily. You can catch the Sunday in the Menomonee Falls Guardian as well as the daily and the Sunday and daily for CONCHY and the daily for BOONDOCK. As mentioned last issue, Dick Moores recently won the Reuben for Outstanding Cartoonist of the Year so we don't have to tell you that we are glad to see more of his work.

The 1975 Kelly Freas Selections are out and those of you who got his previous prints will want these too. The selections this time are the covers for ANALOG 6/74 and 2/75 and DAW books 115, 123, 131, and 135. A set of six is \$19.95 unsigned and \$29.95 signed. Single prints are \$4.00 unsigned and \$6.00 signed. Order from Kelly & Polly Freas, Route 4, Box 4056A, Virginia Beach, Va. 23457. . . MIDNIGHT SUN #2 is due out shortly from Gary Hoppenstand (2014 Mackenzie Dr, Columbus, Ohio 43220) and is sure to be another sellout. Featured are "Dark Muse" (a Kane novella), the second installment of the serialization of Karl's first book DARKNESS WEAVES, short stories by Dave Drake and Karl Wagner, and a William Hope Hodgson portfolio by George Chastain. There will also be art by John Mayer, Bill Black, and Lee Brown Coye. The price is only \$3.98 (marked down from \$4). Also out from Gary Hoppenstand is "Sign of the Salamander" the first John Chance vs Dread booklet by Karl Wagner. Though not as polished looking as MILNIGHT SUN it is still well worth your \$1.98, especially if you are a fan of the character pulps, pulp-type villains, or Karl Wagner.

VIEWS AND NEWS Dept

Those of you who understood what I was saying last issue will note that in MEDIASCENE #15 Steranko (or whoever does his news) vehamently denied any vendetta against DC, saying that it was not their faust that DC news is bad. It the very next paragraph they went back to slamming DC and praising Marvel. According to them Marvel cuts titles because times are bad and better things are waiting in the wings but National drops titles because management is wishy-washy and Marvel did it first. The zine itself remains interesting but the comics news must be taken with a bag of salt. . . James Blish died on July 30 in London of lung cancer. He was 54. . . Vaughn Bode died in Oakland, Calif. on July 18 of accidental strangulation. He was cremated on July 22, his 34th birthday. . . Kelly Freas once again won the Hugo for Best Pro Artist. Best Novel wert to Nebula winner THE DISPOSSESSED by Ursula K. LeGuin. Best Editor west to Bova again. Best Novella to "A Song for Lya" by George R. R. Martin. Best Novelette to "Adrift Just off the Islets of Langerhans" by Harlan Ellison (read aloud at the previous WorldCon). Best Short Story to "The Hole Man" by Larry Niven. Richard Geis got Best Fan Writer and THE ALIEN CkITIC got Best Fanzine. Bill Rotsler got Pest Fan Artist. John W. Campbell. Award to P.J. Plauger. Gandalf award to Fritz Leiber. . . There will be a new s-f magazine in January. It will be a digest titled ALPHA SCIENCE FICTION and will be edited by Larry Shaw, former editor of INFINITY and SCIENCE FICTION ADVENTURES. . . Orlando will be WorldCon site in 1977. We were well represented at Aussiecon by Ned Brooks and Lynn Hickman. . . There are two new Leigh Drackett books coming up from Ballantine. . . Philip Jose Farmer hopes to finish the final Riverworld novel by the end of September. He plans to finish all of his series in the next four or five years before he retires from s-f to make a lot of money writing mainstream books. For many more details we suggest you get SF REVIEW #14 from Richard Geis (P O Dox 11408, Portland, Oregon 97211) for \$1.25 Now you will have something to say when people ask you when the new Riverworld book will be out. The tentative title is either ALICE ON THE RIVERWORLD or ALICE MOVING UNDER SKIES. The interview is a must for all Farmer freaks. . . All-Star Comics #58 and Blackhawk #244 will hit the stands in Oct. Blackhawk will have art by George Evans (spotlighted here earlier). . . The Superman & Spidey team-up will be 100 pages long and feature them against Luthor and Doc Ock. . .

CKIME IN THE KEEL WORLD Dopt

I was anazed to read in the morning paper last week that thieves had troken into the film vaults of Technicolor Co. in Rome and had stolen the negatives for three films in production. The films were Fellini's "Casanova" and, by other directors, "Salo, Or The 120 Tays Of Sodom" and "A Genius, Two Friends and a Fool." Watchnen were always on duty but none noticed any unusual activity during the holiday period when the films were stoken. The article said the 74 reels stolen threatened a loss of millions of dollars and that the theft could only have been done for the yet to be demanded Interesting you say, but why should I waste space on this news in a fanzine? Readers of the MFG knew instantly. The current SECRET AGENT CORKIGAN story (just finishing up after a long run) is about an ex-movie exec who gets revenge and lots of money by stealing and ransoming the negatives and work prints for a just finished movie. Knowing how popular strips are in Italy I wonder if the thieves could have gotten the idea for the crime from strip since it was running at the time of the crime. I had not heard of filmnapping before the strip and wonder if Archie Goodwin has invented a new crime.

MORE STRIPPERS ONLY Lopt

The impossible has happened! Those of you who read MEA strips in places other than the Guardian are familiar with CAMPUS CLATTER, a strip about college students that started before LOONESLUKY went public. It has long been a gripe of mine that Mike & Jerry will print any and every NEA strip except this one. Just recently the strip surprised me when Dimo, the star, started sending out graduation announcements. Sure enough, he graduated weeks later after only six years in school (near the Bill Starnes record). I am a little behind in reading the strip but the last time I looked he was pounding the pavement every day job hunting with little luck. LOONESDURY isn't the only relevent strip. At least Dimo is smarter than Archie who has been in high school for 40 years and still has not graduated.

The Menomonee Falls Guardian will soon have some new additions that will be of interest you many of you. To take the place of the cancelled POGO as well as MICKEY FINN and JOE PALOOKA dailies which have moved to the Gazette they will be adding the current Sunday strips for GASOLINE ALLEY, RICK O'SHAY, and MICKEY FINN. They will also add two reprint dailies: KKAZY KAT from 1927 and MICKEY MOUSE from 1931. We are especially glad to see MICKEY MOUSE as it was one of the better strips in the departed VINTAGE FUNNIES. The Guardian and Gazette remain the two best buys in fandom and have done quite a lot to popularize strip collecting.

FAKE IT Dept

I have that old problem that many faneds have of running out of things to say and having space to fill. One way is to make comments to people you should send a letter but don't see letter writing time coming up in the near future. ASIDES: to Tim Marion: I appreciate the thought but don't feel ready to join an apa at this time. to Lynn Hickman: Many thanks for the cards and I hope to see a new PULP Ekk from you in the future, especially with all of the revived interest in the field. to Gary Brown: I'm thinking about trying to make the con down there just before Xmas but don't have enough info on the con, program, hotel, area to make a decision yet. Any info you could pass along would be appreciated. to Randy Williams: Are you still out there? to William Wilson Goodson: Thanks for your comments on the reasons for the popularity of the vigilante killer. And that should be enough to fill the rest of the page. Turn now to the mailing page and portions of our want list.

The following items are wanted by Edwin & Terry Murray, address clscwhere: BRAVE & BOLD #2, #7, #12, #14 ADVENTURES INTO THE UNKNOWN #62 #66 MYSTERY IN SPACE #2, #3, #11, #12, #14-16, #18, #40 JUNGLE JIN #8, #10, #20 FORDIDDEN WORLDS #36, #41, #43, #47 CONGO BILL #1 #3 #5 FRONTIER FIGHTERS -any the following books by Fred Brown: DAYMARES; FIVE-DAY NIGHTMARE; MALDALL; COMPLIMENTS OF A FIEND; THE OFFICE; HERE COMES A CANALE; THE FAR CRY; MURLER CAN DE FUN; NIGHT OF THE JADBERLOCK; WE ALL KILLED GRANDMA ; THE DEEP END ; KLOCK THREE-ONE-TWO ; THE WENCH IS DEAD ; A PLOT FOR MURDER; THE CASE OF THE DANCING SANDWICHES; the final Hunter & Hunter book (title forgotten) ((We know several other Brown fans and can find good homes for almost any of his books we already have.)) SHORT STORIES April 1959; M.X DRAND WESTERN May 1954; WEST 1945: Jan 1946: Dec 1947: Apr May July Aug Oct Nov Dec 1948: Feb Apr 1950: Jan May July Sept 1951: May Sept Nov 1952: any with Zorro ; THE RAT RACE by Alfred Dester; THE KING AND FOUR QUEENS by Sturgeon; the following books by Farmer: BLOWN: FEAST UNKNOWN; FIRE AND THE NIGHT; THE ALLEY GOD; THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST. books by Andre Norton: SCARFACE; STAND TO HORSE . books by Poul Anderson: THE ENEMY STARS; TWILIGHT WORLD; ROGUE SWORD. Henry Kuttner books: MURDER OF A MISTRESS; MURDER OF AND AVERY. Leigh Brackett books: RIO BRAVO; 13 WEST STREET; NO GOOD FROM A CORPSE. . MISSION TO UNIVERSE by Dickson:: INVASION FROM 2500 by Norman Edwards;; the men's sweat mag that fratured an early version of the first Executioner book. . . ON STAGE dailies before 1966. . . John D. MacDonald books: WEEP FOR ME; I COULD GO ON SINGING. . . many Gardner Fox non-sf/fantasy books under his name or the names: Kevin Matthews, Jefferson Cooper, and James Kendricks (I don't feel like listing all of them). ((Loes anyone know if he did the novelization of the X-Rated movie The MINX that appeared under the Kevin Matthews name?)). . .THE LONE RANGER: TROUDLE ON THE SANTA FE; THE LONE KANGER ON REL DUTTE TRAIL; an early edition of FORBIDLEN PLANET by W. J. Stuart. . . early paperback editions of many Dashiell Hammett books. . . CL.Y KIMD.LL needs the following kichard Stark books: The M.N. WITH THE GETAWAY FACE; THE JUGGER: THE RIPE COIN SCORE; THE DAMSEL; THE DAME; THE DLLCKDIRD; LEMONS NEVER LIE

FROM: Edwin L. Murray 2540 Chapel Hill Rd Durham, N. Car. 27707





TO:

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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