

FANAC Fan History Project

Update 4

"Keeping You Abreast of the Past"

November 20, 2017

It's been a long time since we last sent out an Update. I hope you have been checking the website or our Facebook page. Here are some highlights of the last 6 months:

Fan History Spotlight: Nearly everyone has heard of the Cosmic Circle and Claude Degler's notorious fannish exploits in the '40s. If you haven't, check the article at Fancylopedia.org. However, few people have ever read the original "writings" by him, or the reports that fans wrote about him. This last summer, we added a section with over 40 of his original pubs and the investigations by T. Bruce Yerke and Jack Speer. (See http://fanac.org/fanzines/Cosmic_Circle_Pubs/)

Access: We're trying some new ways to keep you aware of what we have online. Providing a bit more quick information has been a priority. On our Fanzine Index pages, you can now find the number of issues that we have online for that title. The last column will tell whether it is New, Complete or Updated. Another item is our Newszine Directory started last year. It's a chronological list of all the Newszines (2,338) we have so far on FANAC.org. If you want to know the S-F and fan news of any given period, you can navigate directly to that month. The first ones are from way back in 1938 and the last in 2011. Finally, at the end of this FANAC Update, we provide direct online links to everything mentioned.

FANAC Fan History Project website: We keep adding more Newszines as we acquire them. In the last month, thanks to Richard Lynch, we've added a run of Chat, the Tennessee newsletter edited by Nicki & Dick Lynch in the early 1990s. We have been continually uploading issues of Mike Glycer's File 770. Mark Olson has scanned dozens of them.

Since our last Update, we have added about 250 other pubs with "news from the past". These issues come from 19 different titles. We are doing a lot to fill-in the runs of different zines. Unfortunately there are some issues I just can't find or don't have. Here's where I need your help. If you can provide missing issues (zines, scans, even photocopies), please let me know. In particular, right now, I'm looking for:

- Jack Speer's Stefnews #58 (1946)
- Merv Binns' Australian SF News #1, 2 (1978), 47 & 48 (c1989)
- Taurasi's Fantasy Times #3 (1941)

Laney: We've added multitudes of material. Francis Towner Laney's notorious memoir, *Ah! Sweet Idiocy!*, is the most requested item and it's now online, plus lots of material about FTL in *FanHistorica*.

FAPA: So is Dick Eney's *A Sense of FAPA*, a huge sensational historical anthology of fannish writings (nearly 400 pages), with contributors such as James Blish, Redd Boggs, Charles Burbee, Joe Kennedy, F. Towner Laney, John Michel, P. Schuyler Miller, Milt Rothman, Bill Rotsler, Jack Speer, Harry Warner, Jr., Donald A. Wollheim, C. S. Youd (John Christopher) and many others from the Fantasy Amateur Press Association.

LASFS: The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society has given us permission to put their primary publications *Shangri-LA* and both runs of *Shangri-L'Affaires* online. So far, we have added 20 issues from the 40s and 50s, with many more to come.

Mirage: We've also been given permission to put Jack Chalker's Hugo nominated fanzine, *Mirage* online. *Mirage* was one of the best sercon zines of its time.

FANAC Fan History YouTube Channel: We have over 50 videos/audios online at YouTube! In the last week or so, we put up a Harry Harrison talk (1971 Eastercon) on "Stonehenge and Sex". It includes a roaringly funny discourse on the introduction of sex into science fiction stories in the 60s, with anecdotes about well-loved

authors and editors including Brian Aldiss, Mack Reynolds, Ted Carnell and George O. Smith. He also talks about the filming of an editorial lunch with John Campbell, and just how much of the iconic fiction of the classic Astounding Magazine was intimately shaped by John.

We keep adding great recordings and subscribers get first notice. We're over 180 subscribers and nearly 18,000 views, with 3 pieces having over 1000 views. It's heartening that even for the less viewed videos, many get an intense response from their audience. As always, if you have audio or video material that we might use, please let us know.

FANCYCLOPEDIA 3: This is our encyclopedia (yours and ours), so we hope you are using it (and adding to it!). Going to a convention this year? Read about the "first conventions". Want to know more about famous fans, infamous fans (see Degler above), convention facts, clubs in your area, or fanspeak (the jargon of our people)? It's all there. But is your local club or convention listed? If not, contribute an article (or the beginnings of an article). It's easy. Just follow the instructions on FancyCyclopedia.org.

Outreach for Fan History: FANAC has a Fan History Project Table at conventions whenever we can. In February, we will be at Boskone 55 in Boston and we will be at Worldcon 76 in San Jose.

FANAC was at Balticon earlier this year. The Fan Lounge Discussions we helped organize were well attended and great fun. You can listen to the Steven Brust/Geri Sullivan discussion on the raucous history of Minneapolis fandom on our YouTube channel (link below). Most recently, we were at Philcon this month. In addition to showcasing our history project websites, we have been showing selected fannish artifacts, including fanzines, original art, convention publications, and video and audio recordings from as far back as the 1940s.

When you next see our table, come say hello and help us preserve and promote our fan history. Take a sticker for your badge and/or your contributor ribbon. Bookmark <http://fanac.org> and click on What's New every week to find our most recent additions.

As we keep saying, this is a community effort and we can only say "Thanks" to those of you who have helped us make our Fan History websites successful over the years. We're continually adding to our contributors list. We have 248 of you listed so far and adding more as we update our older files. If you DO want to let people know you are a contributor, ask for our "I Help Save Fan History" ribbon. And don't forget to follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/fanacproject/>

We've added more: Photos, fanzines, and convention publications, video and audio recordings, and FancyCyclopedia entries. We provide information for fans, academic researchers, fan writers, and film documentaries. We've made some changes to the website to make it easier to use, with more to come.

Those who don't know fan history may not be condemned to repeat it, but those that do know that Carl Brandon is not dead! Thanks for your interest our mutual fan history.

Regards...Joe Siclari

Selected links:

Fanac.org: <http://fanac.org>

FancyCyclopedia 3: <http://fancyCyclopedia.org>

FANAC Fanhistory YouTube channel: <https://youtube.com/c/FANACFanHistory>

Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/fanacproject/>

Contributors: http://fanac.org/FANAC_Inc/fancont.html

Video and Audio:

Harry Harrison – Stonehenge and Sex - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QayqjJWWLmg>

Geri Sullivan/Steve Brust on the history of Minneapolis fandom (recorded at Balticon 51): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LbkGwq_MYKc

Fanzine Indexes:

Classic Fanzines: http://fanac.org/fanzines/Classic_Fanzines.html

Modern Fanzines: http://fanac.org/fanzines/Modern_Fanzines.html

Electronic Fanzines: http://fanac.org/fanzines/Electronic_Fanzines.html

Newszine Project: <http://fanac.org/fanzines/newszines.html>

Fanzines:

Cosmic Circle Publications: http://fanac.org/fanzines/Cosmic_Circle_Pubs/

Ah! Sweet Idiocy! : http://fanac.org/fanzines/Ah_Sweet_Idiocy/

Mirage: <http://fanac.org/fanzines/Mirage/>

Sense of FAPA: http://fanac.org/fanzines/Sense_FAPA/

Shangri-LA: <http://fanac.org/fanzines/Shangri-LA/>

Fancylopedia:

Claude Degler: <http://fancylopedia.org/claude-degler>

Cosmic Circle: <http://fancylopedia.org/cosmic-circle>

F. Tower Laney: <http://fancylopedia.org/f-towner-laney>