

Retros, and Photos and Star Wars. Oh my.

January 31, 2018

I hope your year-end holidays were grand. We are celebrating: FANAC.org has passed 50,000 pages of fannish history online and available on our website. That's not too much, considering how prolific fans have been for the last almost-100 years, but it's something.

Fan History Spotlight: Retro-Hugos are back. Both **Worldcon 76** and **Dublin 2019** have announced that they will award Retro-Hugos for work done in 1942 and 1943, respectively. We have been feverishly scanning and uploading materials from 1942 so that voters can make informed nominations and votes for the Retro-Hugos. You can find our list of available materials here - http://fanac.org/fanzines/Retro_Hugos.html. As we locate and scan more material, the list will be updated to include it. Our thanks go to Sam McDonald for providing additional material for these lists.

FANAC Fan History Project website:

The Newszine Project (<http://fanac.org/fanzines/newszines.html>) update: We have over 2,500 newszines online, with more to come. We'll be asking for help again with missing issues. Can you help provide any of the missing four issues (26, 27, 29, 30) of *Chat*, the newszine the Lynch's edited in the late '70s. Please let us know. (<http://fanac.org/fanzines/CHAT/>)

Our newszine archives are extensive: *Fandom on Parade*, *Phan*, *STEFnews*, *Tympany*, *FANAC*, *Axe*, *Luna Monthly*, *Fiawol*, *Karass*, *SFinctor*, and *File 770* are all complete, plus long runs of *Ansible* (180), *the Australian S-F Bullsheat* (248), *FANEWS* (223), *Fantasy Fiction Field* (192) and *Fantasy/S-F Times* (475).

Retros: We have added hundreds of pages of 1942 fanzines, including 3 mailings of the *Fantasy Amateur Press Association* from 1942. Most BNFs were in FAPA, and the mailings are a good showcase of their writing styles, and attitudes. Some, like Jack Speer, had multiple titles in the mailings, each with a different feel to it. If you think it's hard to be a fan now, read these mailings and the newszines of the period to find out what it was like being a fan in time of war. Scanning by Mark Olson and myself.

And... you will now find many issues of Ed Meskys' fanzine *Niekas* on FANAC.org. *Niekas* started as *the Tolkien zine*, and was soon one of the best and largest sercon zines with page counts hitting 100 more than once. We're starting to put up Linda Eyster/Bushyager's *Granfalloon* as well, along with smaller runs and issues of other titles like *Speculation*, *Mirage*, *Shangri-LA*, *The Time Traveller* and. Check the "What's New" heading for details

Photos: We've added hundreds of photos, from convention pictures to those in Gil Gaier's scrapbooks. Thanks to the scanning of Patty Peters, we are putting Gil's photos on line. Many are identified, but many are not. We hope you will help out with identification in those cases. Corrections, enhancements and additions are welcome via the form on each photo. (http://fanac.org/Fan_Photo_Album/g02-p00.html)

FANAC Fan History YouTube Channel: <https://youtube.com/c/FANACFanHistory> .

We've had strong interest in our YouTube offerings. First surprise (good): In the run-up to the new Star Wars movie, Mashable discovered our 1976 **MidAmeriCon** footage of the Star Wars Q&A. It features a very young Mark Hamill along with producer Gary Kurtz, answering questions from a curious and unimpressed crowd of fans. With the Mashable publicity, the number of views shot up past 10,000, and is now at 14K+. The comments about the video show wonder and amazement at the attitudes of a pre-Star Wars audience, as if it were an anthropological study.

The second surprise (not really good): After the death of Ursula Le Guin, interest increased in her 1975 Guest of Honor speech at **Aussiecon**. I hope that those mourning the loss of a beloved author were eased a little to find a “new” 40 minutes of her in that video. There have been over 7,500 views to date.

Check out the channel. We’ve also added an interview with greatly illustrated recordings of Forry Ackerman, a **Lunacon** GoH speech by Theodore Sturgeon (recordings provided by Evelyn Leeper), and Heinlein’s **MidAmeriCon** Guest of Honor talk from 1976 (Video Archeology Project). We now have 222 subscribers. The YouTube effort is also run by our Webmaster Edie Stern.

Fancylopedia 3: <http://fancylopedia.org/>

We’ve been using Fancy3 ourselves, and hope you are too. For example, as we put up the FAPA zines from 1942, the Fancy3 articles are helping Edie figure out exactly who the zines were by. More than one discussion thread on social media has referenced an article in Fancy3. There are some super contributors, and some merely regular contributors. Help us capture the facts, and perhaps shape the interpretation. It’s not that hard to get started.

There’s a lot more... We’re cross linking with other fan history sites. We’re putting up audio of conventions gone by. We’re planning to proselytize for fanhistory at various conventions. Next is **Boskone 55** (<http://www.boskone.org/>) and **Follycon**, Eastercon 2018 (<https://www.follycon.org.uk/>).

Thanks for your interest in fan history. Are you a FANAC.ORG contributor? Help preserve our fannish history by providing content, or photo identifications, or articles for Fancylopedia. Check out our [contributors](#) (and if you should be listed but we missed you, then please let us know).

Those who don’t know fan history may not be condemned to repeat it, but those that do know better than to draw Langdon charts. (<http://fancylopedia.org/langdon-chart>)

Regards...Joe Siclari, Chairman

We encourage you to bookmark (www.fanac.org/) and click on *What’s New* every week to find our most recent additions, and subscribe to our YouTube channel [Youtube.com/c/fanacfanhistory](https://www.youtube.com/c/fanacfanhistory).

Selected links:

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

Fancylopedia 3: <http://fancylopedia.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 links:

Mashable article: <https://mashable.com/2017/12/03/mark-hamill-worldcon-video/#J2oQhKZMmqT>

Forry Ackerman interview (1996): <https://youtu.be/ZIQCHHGbhQ>

Robert Heinlein GoH speech (1976) : <https://youtu.be/LoSnjYLw2A0>

Theodore Sturgeon GoH speech (1971): <https://youtu.be/QPjVcgZcC24>

Le Guin GoH speech (1975): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Deuas-AuzbU&feature=youtu.be>

Star Wars Q&A (1976): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gmhjvkj8_aw

Fanzines links:

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

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

Niekas: <http://www.fanac.org/fanzines/Niekas/>

Granfalloon: <http://www.fanac.org/fanzines/Granfalloon/>

Fancylopedia link:

FAPA: <http://fancylopedia.org/fapa>