

FAPA, the War Years...to...Ireland, the Years of Legend

July 13, 2018



It's been almost six months since our last newsletter. Hopefully, you've turned your yearning for fan history into browsing the FANAC sites, and wallowing in our collective past. While this newsletter is a bit late, we have been doing quite a lot about Fan History. We have plans for what's next as well. You can find those at the end of the newsletter under "Things to Come".

But first...

Recent Highlights :

Retro Hugo Awards: In January, we told you that we were making available as much 1942 fan material as possible for nomination consideration at Worldcon 76. If you've received your voting packet, you'll note that almost all of the Retro material for the Fan categories links back to the scans on the FANAC.org site. We're glad we can provide robust access to these materials, which are rare, not readily available, and physically frail.

Fan Funds are a long time tradition in science fiction, allowing a few individuals to meet fans from distant exotic places (like the US, UK, Europe, New Zealand and Australia). Trip reports are also a long time tradition, so that these experiences can be shared, and also raise money for the next year. Unfortunately, many trip reports are never written and that history is lost. To encourage fan fund winners to write up their travels, FANAC has been offering a \$500 bounty to TAFF and DUFF for each completed Fan Fund Winner Trip Report. We're happy to tell you that we have recently paid the bounty for three trip reports, one each for TAFF, DUFF and GUFF. Support your fan funds! They're a great way to bring fans together.

Fan History Spotlight:

Next year's Retro Hugos will cover 1943, and we've been focusing on that year as we put up additional fanzines. We have almost 250 zines from 1943 already online. Remember, before the internet, before inexpensive long distance phone calls, before air travel was common, the world came to your door by the mailbox, twice a day. The byplay, the chatting, the fannish flame wars were all conducted on paper. In 1943, FAPA (aka the Fantasy Amateur Press Association) sent out over 1,200 pages of fannish writing in 4 mailings. We have 1,196 pages of those online for you now. FAPA is a real window on the fannish world of that era, with contributions by all the BNFs of the time, including Ackerman, Ashley, Joquel, Laney, Shaw, Speer, Tucker, Warner, Widner, Wolheim and more. There's the first publication of Lovecraft's "Fungi From Yuggoth" Cycle. There's a "Decimal Classification of Fantastic Fiction" by Sam Russell, and interesting in-context materials and commentary on Degler and the Cosmic Circle controversy. But wait! There's more. See for yourself at http://www.fanac.org/fanzines/FAPA_Mailings/.

FANAC Fan History Project website: <http://fanac.org>

Highlights: Hundreds of regular zines have been added since the last newsletter, along with some unusual items. Among the high points, *The Mimeo Man* (1974) with book by Moshe Feder, lyrics by Moshe Feder, Debbie Notkin and Eli Cohen, and music by Meredith Wilson. This fannish musical favorite was performed at several conventions across the country. If you have a full or partial recording of a performance, please let us know.

The Newzine Project: We added about 60 newszines, as we find individual issues to fill the gaps. We have 2,557 newszines online and there are still lots more to add. Of course, we have been busily adding to some of the other important zines that are in progress.

Other fmz: We have complete or long runs of many fanzines at http://fanac.org/fanzines/Classic_Fanzines.html . These include: *Abstract, Amor, Aspidistra, CheapTruth, Fanscient, Fantastic Worlds, FMZ Digest, Granfalloon, Hyphen, It Goes on the Shelf, Journal of Science Fiction, Kratophany, Le Zombie, Mad Three Party, Melbourne Bulletin, Niekas, Peace on Sol III, Science-Fiction Five-Yearly, Shangri-LA, Shangri L'Affaires, Spaceways, Stellar, Voice of the Imagi-Nation, Void, and Zenith/Speculation.*

Photos: Several photo albums have been added. From the West coast, we have photos from Gil Gaier's albums (over 200 thanks to Patty Peters). From the Midwest, we have the start of a photo album from Mark Hickman. From the East, we have photos from Ted Krulik (mostly added to the photo pages of the conventions at which they were taken). Just added: a photo album from The Cult (courtesy of Andrew Porter).

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

The FANAC YouTube channel is our way of providing an ear and an eye on the fannish world of decades past. As of 7/6/18 we have: 60 pieces of video/audio, 271 subscribers, and over 44,000 views.

Two of the audio pieces (with added relevant images) that we've uploaded since the last newsletter come from Pacificon, the 1964 Worldcon. These come to us from SCIFI, thanks to Jerome Scott. If you never had a chance to meet or listen to Leigh Brackett, Ed Hamilton or Fritz Leiber, here's your opportunity. We have the Guest of Honor speeches (Brackett and Hamilton, introduced by Tony Boucher) and a charming talk on "Monsters and Monster Lovers" by Fritz Leiber. (links below)

As we reflect on gihants of the field now gone, you might enjoy watching the Hugos from the 1984 Worldcon, LAcon II. Robert Bloch is the Toastmaster, and his introductory remarks are like a standup comedy routine. The video has a brief glimpse of Harlan Ellison too, as he and Robert Silverberg present a tribute to Larry Shaw (who died within the next year). There's more byplay, and yes, presentation of the Hugos.

Check out these and other pieces at <https://youtube.com/c/FANACFanHistory>. Oh and the comments on the *Star Wars* pieces are priceless too. Imagine...there's a generation that views *Star Wars* as an ancient pillar of science fiction.

FANCYCLOPEDIA.ORG

Fancylopedia.org (Fancy3) is our "Wikipedia" for fandom, and we're building it with your help. To put the original materials in context, look at the articles on Fancy3. Blown away by the FAPA material? Read more about FAPA at <http://fancylopedia.org/fapa>. Not only does Fancy3 have the current article, but also the articles from Fancylopedia 2 (1959) and Fancylopedia 1 (1944). Going to Dublin next year? Check out the article on Irish Fandom at <http://fancylopedia.org/irish-fandom> . Know more? About these or other topics? This is fandom's Wikipedia/encyclopedia. Become a contributor. Instructions are on the site (or write to us if you have trouble).

Things to Come:

At closing ceremonies for MagiCon, the 1992 Worldcon, we created a time capsule. It was loaded with convention publications and the like, but at the ceremony something unexpected happened. Folks in the audience wanted to have their part of fandom memorialized in the time capsule, and came forward with all kinds of things to put in it. Well, at this year's Worldcon, the time capsule will be opened. The contents will be put on exhibit. Has fandom really changed that much? If you are at the con, come and find out. We'll also have a FANAC table with some interesting materials, so come get your contributor ribbon or sticker, and say hi.

In 2019, Worldcon goes to Dublin. To celebrate, we're starting a project to put fanzines and materials by and about Irish fandom on line. The Wheels of IF (IF=Irish Fandom) were gihants. They inspired the creating of fan funds. They were not just important locally, but in the U.S. as well. Fandom rotated on the Belfast/Savannah Axis. They published focal point fanzines like *Hyphen* and



Quandry. They created legends like the Fort Mudge Steam Calliope & Locomotive Company and Proxyboo Ltd. We're starting with issues of the Walt Willis fanzines *Hyphen*, *Peace on Sol III*, and *Slant*. There will be Goons, Glass Bushels and Random AToms. Watch this space...

http://www.fanac.org/fanzines/Irish_Fandom/

Bye: That's it for today. We're still looking for more fannish recordings, either audio or video to put up on YouTube, and of course for scans of original fannish publications and photos. Help us make the sites better.

Thanks for your interest in fannish history. After all, those that don't know fannish history may be condemned to repeat it, but those that do know it understand the structural importance of beer cans in tower architecture. (<http://fancyclopedia.org/tower-to-the-moon>)

Selected links:

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

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

Participate! Join our Contributors: http://fanac.org/FANAC_Inc/fancont.html

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

Bob Bloch and Hugos at LAConIV (1984) - <https://youtu.be/bUBL5jOSVok>

Fritz Leiber at Pacificon II (1964) - https://youtu.be/c1B_EEFq1Bw

Brackett & Hamilton GoH speeches & Hugos at Pacificon II (1964) – <https://youtu.be/504j2tU0VZg>

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

FAPA Mailings: http://www.fanac.org/fanzines/FAPA_Mailings/

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

Irish Fandom: http://www.fanac.org/fanzines/Irish_Fandom/

The Mimeo Man: <http://www.fanac.org/fanzines/MimeoMan/>

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

Fancyclopedia 3: <http://fancyclopedia.org>

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

Irish Fandom: <http://fancyclopedia.org/irish-fandom>

Fan Photo Albums: http://www.fanac.org/Fan_Photo_Album/index.html

Gil Gaier album: http://www.fanac.org/Fan_Photo_Album/g02-p00.html

Mark Hickman album: http://www.fanac.org/Fan_Photo_Album/h01-p00.html

The Cult album: http://www.fanac.org/Fan_Photo_Album/c06-p00.html