

August 10, 2019



It's been six months since Update 8. A lot has happened, and we've sent you a few *Flash! Updates* during this time. Now it's time to fill you in on the rest. We've had some great success scanning fanzines at a few selected conventions. We had a serious slowdown in March and April because of my hospitalization. Now it's August, and we are back on track, and about to attend the Worldcon. Before we launch in, remember additional links are at the end.

Fan History Spotlight

At Boskone 56 (February) and again at Corflu 36 (May), we arranged with the conventions to set up our FANAC Scanning Station. We bring at least one scanner and computer and ask that fans bring fanzines to the convention that we can scan and archive online. This has been pretty successful, resulting in our scanning over 2,000 pages at Boskone and over 3,500 pages at Corflu. We had many notable contributions of fanzines for scanning, including from Grant Canfield, Frederic Gooding III, Susan Graham and her scanning team at UMBC, Rob Hansen, Dan Steffan, Geri Sullivan (2019 TAFF delegate), Pat Virzi and especially Rob Jackson who allowed us to scan a large stack of zines that were later auctioned for fan charities. Since Corflu, we've put over 600 fanzines online. We've arranged with the Dublin 2019 Worldcon to have a scanning station there as well. If you're coming, bring something for us to scan. Please note: we do have to take most zines apart to scan them. You'll find us in the area set aside for Fan Tables. Between Boskone and Corflu, I had heart bypass surgery and spent about 3 weeks in the ICU. We didn't get much fanac done.

Before Boskone, Mark Olson had bought a new sheet fed duplex scanner and it allowed us to process fanzines much quicker. Shortly afterwards, Steve Rosenstein donated a similar scanner to us and we have been on a scanning roll ever since.

Recent Highlights

Corflu Recognition: The FANAC.org team was very happy to receive an award at Corflu for "The Best Online Archive or Resource". In addition, several fans donated fanzines for the benefit of FANAC to the Corflu charity auction. Andy Hooper and his team auctioned them at-con and later online. We appreciate the recognition, and hope that you all are finding FANAC.org, Fancyclopedia.org and our YouTube Channel useful and fun. Thanks!

Website Renovations: As the FANAC.org site has grown enormously, Edie has been working to make the website easier to navigate and hopefully more attractive. The front page will continue to have relevant pictures and soon some that can guide you to material you are searching for. We have added the ability to find newszines and other fanzines chronologically (http://fanac.org/fanzines/chronological_listing_of_fanzines.html) and alphabetically (with software by Mark Olson). We've also combined the pages for Classic, Modern and Electronic fanzines into one page so you don't have to know the age of the zine you're looking for in order to find it. http://fanac.org/fanzines/Classic_Fanzines.html

Mark and I have been experimenting with scanning even older fanzines so they are searchable. Some zines are so deteriorated or poorly printed that it's not possible to do that, but you'll begin to see some newly scanned fanzines in searchable PDF format. Hoping this will be a big aid to the historians among us.

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

As of today, we have 8,069 fanzines online, with over 92,500 pages. Of those, 2,902 are newszines (and thanks to David Ritter for the first volume of Taurasi's *Fantasy News!*). Recently, we've tried to increase the number of fanzine titles for which we have complete runs. These are as varied as Joe Kennedy's *Vampire* (1940s) to Karen Anderson's *Vorpal Glass* (1960s) to Benford/White/et al's *Void* (1950s-1960s). Other recently complete runs include *Aporrheta* (Sanderson), *Bane* (Ryan), *Bastion* (Bentcliffe), *BEM* (Ashworth), *Blat!* (White/Steffan), *Epsilon* (Hansen), *Oops!* (Calkins), *Pendulum* (Venable), *Pong* (White/Steffan), *Spaceways* (Warner), *Starspinkle* (Ellik), *Telos* (Nielsen Hayden), and *Tolkien Journal* (Plotz/Meskys).

As a sidelight, one of our favorite fans, Lee Hoffman, also published two of the earliest (if not the earliest) folk music fanzines, and we've put those online as well: *Caravan* (1957-59) and *Gardylloo* (1959-60).

We've also been adding a lot of UK fanzines. These have ranged from the 1930s to the present. They include Maurice Hanson's *Novae Terrae* (thanks to Rob Hansen for the scans), C.S. Youd's (aka John Christopher) *Fantast*, plus the above listed zines *BEM*, *Aporrheta*, *Bastion*, and *Epsilon*. Others include:

Weston's *Speculation*, Clarke's *Eye*, Joan Carr et al's *Femazine*, Enever & Parker's *Orion*, Berry's *Pot Pourri*, and more. One more interesting item from the UK: thanks to Ian Sorensen, we have the transcript of the highly entertaining GoH speech that James White gave at the 1983 Eastercon in Glasgow, titled "The Scottish Influence on Sector General". With our scanning station at Dublin 2019, we hope to add many Irish and other European fanzines.

You might also be interested in newly uploaded issues of Terry Carr's *Innuendo* and *Lighthouse*, Riddle's *Peon*, Geis' *Psychotic/Science Fiction Review*, *Alien Critic*... and Harlan Ellison's fanzines.

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

Today's stats: over 64,000 views and 417 subscribers. We've added 3 recordings since Boskone for a total of 70 altogether. Normally, we try to add one per month, but it's been an atypical year.

Since the last newsletter, we've added what's now our oldest recording. It's a 1962 radio interview with John W. Campbell, both conducted and now supplied to FANAC.org by Fred Lerner. As always, it's now enhanced with images. From the YouTube write-up: "Fred Lerner, noted librarian, bibliographer and historian, was just 17 when he interviewed John W. Campbell, the man that shaped much of science fiction for decades... Topics discussed include Rudyard Kipling as a science fiction writer, the government's interest in Cleve Cartmill's fiction and the nature and value of science fiction." <https://youtu.be/SC-o9z-E010>

A delightful Corflu program this year was "The Void Boys Speak!". *Void* was a focal point fanzines of the 1950s, and this panel had original editors Jim and Greg Benford, co-editor Ted White, and Luis Ortiz (who's publishing a book on *Void*). Video is courtesy of the participants and of videographer Rob Jackson with additional technical assistance from Bill Burns. You can find the complete run of *Void* at <http://fanac.org/fanzines/VOID/> and hear what it was like to publish a focal point fanzine of the late 50s/60s by the editors themselves. <https://youtu.be/fMz7fBytt34>

Last but not least, we've added the James Blish GoH speech from the 1970 Eastercon. This recording was kept safe by Eastercon committee member Bill Burns (also one of this year's Worldcon GoHs!) and provided to us. From the write-up: "With wit, insight and quiet passion, James Blish (who was also the respected critic William Atheling Jr.) talks about science fiction before the debut of *Amazing*, and his perceptions of the malign influence of the specialty magazine." Thanks to Bill for letting us hear Jim Blish in his own voice. Audio enhanced with images. https://youtu.be/Sbj_ClqiQ4c

Teaser for the future: We're experimenting with professional media conversion to get more audio and video ready for adding to the YouTube channel. Watch this space.

Fancylopedia.org

There were some issues with searching on Fancylopedia for a while, but those have been fixed by the wiki provider. Don't let any previous problem stop you from using Fancylopedia. It's a fabulous resource and getting better all the time. By now you know why – in addition to Mark Olson and his dedicated colleagues, everyone with knowledge to share is encouraged and invited to contribute to this wikipedia of fandom. If you know something, add something.

For those who are not in Dublin for Worldcon (and maybe for those that are), here's your reading assignment: search Fancylopedia and read the articles for "WAW with the crew", for "Bob Shaw" and for the "Goon Defective Agency".

Coming Attractions:

Next time, we'll tell you about our list of the top 100 fanzines to scan. We've been guiding our scanning to prioritize these zines, and we'd like your feedback on what you think is important. We'll tell you what happens at Worldcon, with our media conversion work, and with our upcoming convention plans. As always, thanks for the contributions (both of material and financial donations). Remember: Those that don't know fannish history may be condemned to repeat it, but those that do also know that the Gnurr's come from the Voodwork out.

Selected links:

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

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

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

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

Chronological Listing:

http://fanac.org/fanzines/chronological_listing_of_fanzines.html

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

White's "Scottish Influence on Sector General"

http://fanac.org/fanzines/Irish_Fandom/Irish_Fandom16.pdf

FANAC Fanhistory YouTube channel:

<https://youtube.com/c/FANACFanHistory>

Some Ellison zines:

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