

FANTASTA

"The Counter-Clockwise Fanzine"

FANTASTA is published irregularly by Larry Balint, 3255 Golden Ave., Long Beach 5, California (The Land of Milk and Honey).

Sub rates : 5¢ per copy - 6/25¢ - 12/50¢ - 25/\$1,

CONTENTS - How To Grow An Airplane Plant	by Larry Anderson
Strange Breeze	by Raleigh Multog
Fishbowl of the Future	by Bob Stewart
Stop! Damn It	by Don O Cantin
A Wanderer's Ramblings	by David A Bates

plus fanzine reviews and assorted readers comments

EDITORIAL - If you have been keeping any sort of track of FANTASTA, you will probably notice that this is a rather strange format as compared to earlier ish's. Also the price has been raised to an entire 5¢. If you already have a sub, it will be carried out as contracted at the time you sent your money. All future subs will be charged according to the above chart. I will try to maintain as near a monthly schedule as possible, I will. That's all. 1'

HOW TO GROW - The first essential for growing an airplane plant is a runway. IN AIRPLANE All airplanes must have a runway. You put the roots of the plant PLANT in one of the cracks between the slabs on the runway. After it dies, plant another and be sure to water this one. Now your airplane plant will grow to a height of about a foot. After it grows this big it will start putting off little Pipers (commonly called tubers, but who ever heard of a Tuber plane?) Your little cubs will have a gay time, but watch to be sure they don't crack up. If your little Pipers are above a crack weigh them down to the dirt in the crack with some dirt on the middle joint of the leaves. Water it plenty and your little pipe to the main plant decays and the little cub takes root. After a few years you have a whole runway of airplane plants. Ain't it gay?

STRANGE - The ship landed deep in the weeds	*	
BREEZE Among the planet's trees	*	WHAT BECAME OF STETMAN
by It had plowed the ground	*	
Raleigh And the bodies of three	*	?
Multog Were seen lying among the leaves	*	
But they were revived	*	next issue
By the planet's strange breeze	*	

FISHBOWL OF THE FUTURE - I predict: In 1957; while running off the last page of the OOPSLANISH, Gregg Calkins' tie will get caught on the handle of his mimeo and he'll become so wound up in his work that OOPS will come out one week late....Willis will drown in the Atlantic after swimming halfway across to attend the 11th World SF Con....Finlay will be kidnapped by the LITTLE MONSTER....QUINDRY will come out one week early in Dec. 1954....Rich Elsberry will write a book called THE CARE AND FEEDING OF HOAXTERS.... (cont. page 2)

Subtitle: This Fishy World

by Bob Stewart

FISEBOWL OF THE -in December 1967 issue of STARTLING STORIES, SaMines
 FUTURE (cont.) will spell Marian Cox's name correctly....SCIENCE FICTION
 PLUS will go slick after the eighth issue....Tucker will
 be murdered in his sleep by two unsuccessful death hoaxters
L Ron Hubbard will be committed to an institution
 after finishing a book entitled "Dianctics and YOU"....
 the '78 Convention will be held in Northern Siberia....
 The Rhodomagnetic Digest will be hoktoed better after the
 #0th issue....Lynn Hickman will write a book called "The
 Raising of Little Monsters" and I doubt whether this will
 see print....

 this fanzine bears the

UNCENSORED

seal of quality

 STOP! DARE IT - A piece-meal article if you wish. An appeal to the fan; don't
 by put out a fanzine! There are 350 amateur publications right
 D now in fandom. You can't read them all...no one can review
 O them all...there aren't enough fan to support all these zines
 CANTIN Therefore some of them don't last more than two or three
 issues. Then some other potential BNF comes along and puts out
 a zine to replace the folded one. Another aspect - there are
 not enough good contributors to support a zine. If a zine
 falls off for one issue and has below-par material, there
 won't be another issue. I discovered the above facts after I
 had decided to put out a fanzine. Had I known that, I would
 not have attempted to compete with the impossible. Not that I
 didn't care for fandom, but putting out a zine against count-
 less others is foolish. How dedicated can one get? When I told
 Bob Silverberg that I was planning to put out a zine, he said
 "Gad! another new faned! Well welcome to the already over-
 crowded field, and I hope you can weather the competition, be-
 cause there are certainly too many fanmags being published
 now." Seems that every fan with a typer puts out a fanzine -
 says Tucker. Bob Bloch says; "I manage to get about four mag-
 a zines a week - roughly 200 issues a year - and that's only
 a part of the available fan material." This can't go on for-
 ever. For the fan who want to get away from it all, there's
 always FAPA and/or SAPS.

I need an exit....

THE SNAKE PIT (our letter column)

As we open the door to the SNAKE PIT thish we see many new faces and many old
 faces all staring expectantly. When the gong rings they will all commence to
 babble at the same time. Ready? GONNNNNNNNNING!

JOEL NYDAHL In order to improve the looks of FANTASTA, I would suggest
 MARQUETTE, MICH. you drop the double columns, or if you keep them, for ghpds
 sake, even up the right hand margins.
 ((Your wish is our command, Sire))

LARRY ANDERSON Porsnickilly, I thot fantasta (like fantastic - don't cap-
 BILLINGS, MONT. italize, trademark, and all that guff) was a one-shot type
 mag. It was fairly good, but not the type of material for
 (cont page 3 - sorry)

a regular, good mag. Inconsistent. You need a good feud. That always raises publication.

((Agreed that it is not the type of material for a regular mag. Don't want to be regular. As to it's being good is purely a matter of individual taste. What type of feud do you suggest.))

GEO. VIKSINS
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Thanks for FANTASTA. It has hopes if you make it bigger and more like a fanzine than a newsletter. Have a cover, editorial, larger letter column, some articles, make it maybe 5 sheets on both sides, but do not leave it as it is now, because I don't like it at all, except for some parts which I got a laugh out of. No meat to the whole thing. Don't take this criticism too hard, just try to make FANTASTA larger, etc. and you won't get any gripes from me.

((I have chopped the news down to a one-column thing, have inserted a so-called editorial, enlarged the letter column, printed quite a few articles and have added four pages. Except for the cover, which I think is a waste of space on such a small zine as this, I have followed your instructions. Now what?))

DEAN GREENELL
FOND DU LAC, WIS.

I got a rather large charge out of FANTASTA. I like to glurphed when I read POLES FOR LIFE---thizzza scream! FLYING TEACUP is a bit too over-frantic methink--- Do you believe in regurgitation?

i.e. -- things coming out in a new form?

((FLYING TEACUP was bitterly denounced by the majority of readers and so has gone the way of the Dodo. I firmly believe in regurgitation. As a matter of fact, I am an active member of THE ASSOCIATION OF REGURGITANTS (AGAINST THE WIND AND OTHERWISE).))

MONA RHINES
ALGER, MICH.

I like FANTASTA, but I'd like to see more of it even if it means raising the price. THE RACE is clever. Raleigh Multog should write more like it. Sorry to say I couldn't make much out of David MacDonalds letter. Who the heck is Granny? The mimeographing could be improved a little. Why don't you use capital letters when printing your name? "lb" looks like "pound" to me. FLYING TEACUP didn't make any sense, but I thot it was cute.

((You don't make any sense, but I think you're cute too. REM has another poem in thish. Dave says that Granny is from SLAN. I like "lb".))

SHELBY VICK
LYNN HAVEN, FLA.

I just recieved your fanzine and found it zany and a little whimsical. Bates' column was the most sensible thing in the ish, and should be lengthened to at last a full column. You need a little sense to ballance the nonsense. Walker's little bit was readable, but nothing outstanding. THE FLYING TEACUP as pure unadulterated nonsense--almost too pure-- but had interesting spots. (The ones after each sentence like '.'). Don'tcha know that SOLs letter column is called EGOBOO? ..ren't you kinda' snitching?

You're one o' them rabble-rousing pacifists!

((OK- I changed the title of the letter column altho I don't think it made that much difference. WANDERER'S RAMBLINGS has been lengthened. Am I really a rabble-rousing pacifist? Wow! Boy! This is it!))

WANDERERS RAMBLINGS

by
David A. Bates

Well, here I am again. From now on I hope to build this into one of the best fanews columns around. At first I wrote this as an experiment. You all know fanzines are short lived, but I feel that FANTASTA has passed her initial period and is likely to continue as a regular "friend" for many more issues. To you who read this: if you like this column, I'd like to see your reactions. The best way to express your ideas is to write Larry who in turn will print as many letters as he believes deserve to be in the zine's letter column. I guess I've raved enough so now for the news:

ASTOUNDING is enlarging the key word in her title. The difference is minor and liable to be missed by many fans. Quality of the stories, after a brief slump last year, is at their usual high standard that makes ASF one of the best in the field.

FANTASTIC ADVENTURES, alas?, is dead. It is now a part of FANTASTIC. AS has gone digest sized. Material in #1 was lower than that of the stf comics. I just bough the latest issue of FUTURE and was overjoyed to see the many improvements including better book reviews, a fanzine review, and trimmed edges. Hope these will spread to SFQ and DYNAMIC.

WIERD TALES is starting a swap column. That, the oldest still published fantasy zine has a wonderful heritage sprinkled with such names as CASmith, Robert E Howard, Mary E Counselman, and Robert Bloch. I would greatly regret it if she should fold. Wouldn't you?

LOS CUENTOS FANTASMICOS is no longer on sale in New York. It uses reprints from U.S. zines and illos from the same place. Its published in small format, no spine, and in Spanish.

I just got SAINT DETECTIVE MAG, a giant pocketbook, quarterly and \$.50 per. Several stf authors are present with mysteries plus a Sax Rhomer yarn. A new Gold Medal novel by Rhomer is out.

SCIENCE FICTION PLUS is here. So far only fair, but even with #2 I could see an improvement. Looks like a top-notch. I hope it's here to stay.

English editions of SPACE and GALAXY are out. (What the hell ever happened to the proposed Italian edition of GALAXY?) NEBULA seems to be quite popular here in the states.

Understand Del Rey's ROCKETS is out. I haven't seen it, but have heard that it is good PLANETish space opera.

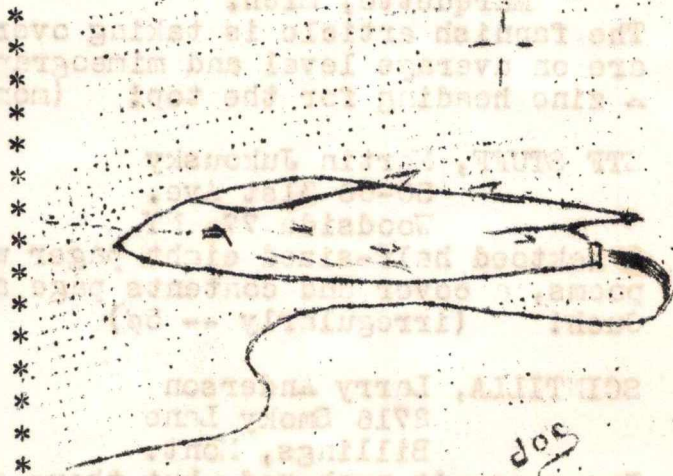
A new magazine from Europe devoted to Science and Fantasy has been mentioned. I believe it is from Denmark. See my next column for more information on this if I can find more.

I have heard rumors that FANTASTIC STF #3 will soon be out. I hope it proves that it could be a good zine, but as it stands it is doomed.

That is it for now.

ACTUAL PHOTOGRAPH of a THING FROM ANOTHER WORLD

This is not a hoax! Melvin Osborne caught photo of a thing beside a flying saucer which he spotted near his home in the Arkansas back-country. He submitted the photo to us, and thinking it would be of great interest to all of you we printed it on page 8! Turn there now and view this startling photo. It is not a drawing!



Joe

All fanzines recieved in trade for FANTASTA, fandom's leading crudzine, will automatically be reviewed in this column. All derogatory remarks made by the reviewer must be overlooked as he is not responsible for his actions.

OPUS, W. Max Keasler
Box 24, Washington U.
St. Louis 5, Mo.

This of OPUS (#20) is made of entirely of Richard Elsberry's Convention Report. It gives complete coverage of last years shindig and far outweighs other reports previously published elsewhere. (monthly -- 2/25¢)

MICRO-, Donald O Cantin
214 Bremer St.
Manchester, NH.

This is digest sized with 50 pages, cardboard covers, and colored mimeoing. Illos are quite above average especially in reproduction. Material is mostly of fannish nature (six weekly -- 10¢)

INSIDE, Ron Smith
332 E. Date
Oxnard, Calif.

A fiction-zine carrying 54 pages and about half size. Double columns are to be found on each and every page. Good cover. Average mimeography. Illos are nothing to brag about inside. (irregularly -- 25¢)

SOL, Dave Ish
914 Hammond Rd.
Ridgewood, NJ.

There are 28 half-sized pages in #8 here. No fiction present, but plenty of fannish articles of high quality. Mimeography is still at a low point, but it's readable. Very. (bi-monthly -- 10¢)

VANATIONS, Norman G. Browne
13906 - 101A Ave.
Edmonton, Alta., Canada

Articles of serious nature are infiltrating into VANATIONS, but light touches of humor are still to be found. Excellent art and art reproduction. 30 pages with cardboard front cover. Full size. (bi-monthly -- free)

VEGA, Joel Nydahl
119 S. Front St.
Marquette, Mich.

The fannish article is taking over VEGA and fiction is losing ground. Illos are on average level and mimeography is very good. 26 pages in #6, full size. A zine heading for the top! (monthly -- 10¢)

STF STUFF, Martin Jukousky
50-06 31st Ave.
Woodside 77, NY

A hektoed half-sized eight pager with a four page piece of fiction, a page of poems, a cover and contents page all done by the editor. Hand written too. Ouch! (irregularly -- 5¢)

SCINTILLA, Larry Anderson
2716 Smoky Lane
Billings, Mont.

Pages aren't numbered, but there are a great many 'cause this is the annish. SCINTY is dittoed with excellent art reproduction and several reprints. Both articles and fiction are present. (irregularly -- 10¢)

BOO!, Bob Stewart
274 Arlington St.
San Francisco, Calif.

Now mimeoed with 34 full sized pages. There is still a hektoed art section which is always of high quality. The reproduction is below average tho even if it is readable. Little fiction, not much. (monthly -- 10¢)

MOTE, Robert Peatrowsky
Box 634
Norfolk, Neb.

Dittoed, half-sized and 28 pages. Lots of good material for the price charge. Excellent artwork and lettering. Average duplication. Humor is injected with good taste. Non fiction. (bi-monthly -- 5¢)

STARMAG, George Viksnins
4152 Parkside Ave.
Philadelphia, Penn.

20 pages in this hektoed, full-sized zine. Some fiction here, but articles outweigh it. FANDOMS HIGHLIGHTS by Lyle Kessler is the outstanding piece. Very brief letter column. Average reproduction (irregularly --10¢)

NONSENSE, Terry Carr
134 Cambridge St.
San Francisco, Calif.

A cartoonzine, hektoed and one-quarter sized. Near 26 pages almost entirely of cartoons of stf. Short Letter Column. Reproduction only slightly below par. Bargain if you like cartoons. (bi-monthly --2/5¢)

STAR ROCKETS, Raleigh Multog
7 Greenwood Rd.
Pikesville 8, Maryland

Reproduction in STAR ROCKETS is very poor. Promise of better reproduction is made tho. SR is an O-0 of a Correspondence Club. Material by members is most all short fiction and poetry. (irregularly -- 10¢)

REVIEW, V L McCain
RFD #3
Nampa, Idaho

This dittoed review-zine is available only by trade with other fanzines. All reviews are well written and interesting. Pages vary from 8 to 14 and are full sized. Good reproduction. (trade)

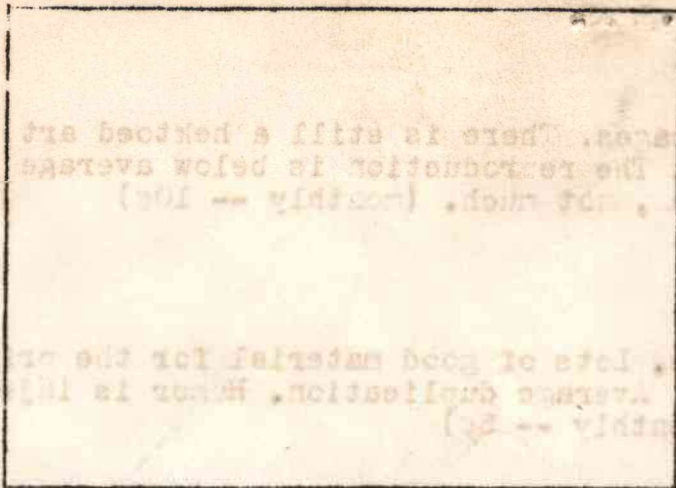
GEM TONES, G M Carr
5319 Ballard Ave.
Seattle, Wash.

Another mag available by trade only. Primarily for SAPS. GMC reviews other fanzines with skill. Average duplication and 36 near half-sized pages. Also a little poetry present. (trade)

BREVIZINE, Warren A Freiberg
5018 W. 18th St.
Cicero 50, Ill.

BREVIZINE is full sized with 26 pages of fiction. Reproduction is readable but not outstanding. Art is average and fiction is better than most fan-fiction. Short letter column. (bi-monthly -- 10¢)

Whew! Kinda' long this time! When you send for any of these zines, I wish you'd tell the ed that this is where you heard about his mag. Next ish will be larger and I'll be able to handle this column with more ease. lb.



Above is the photo taken by Melvin Osborne. Unfortunately Melvin had forgotten to load the camera with film. When this startling fact was revealed to him he laughed hysterically. Shortly thereafter he was committed to the ROBERT E LEE INSTITUTE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL. We regret this deeply and will keep you posted on how Melvin is doing. I'm sure he would appreciate it if you were all to send him a little gift. Please --- no cameras or photographic equipment.

YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS ZINE BECAUSE:

- You are a reviewer
- We trade our THINGS
- Something belonging to you is in this here THING
- You flung some money my way
- Free Sample
- You have _____ more issues to be hurled at you! Duck for cover!

 Back issues of FANTASTA are available. All three for a dime if you want them. Otherwise one for 4¢ or 2 for 7¢. Is that fair enough?

FOR SALE

- cheap -

werewolf puppies!

FANTASTA
 c/o Larry Balint
 3255 Golden Ave.
 Long Beach 6, Calif.



To:

Martin Jukovsky
50-06 31ST Ave.
Woodside 77, NY

mimeographed matter only
return postage guaranteed

this is the staple to
 remove!

