

## PERSONNEL TURBULENCE

I'm afraid this will be a quick zine. My work site was moved even further out of town, to Columbia, MD. It takes me almost three hours of commuting time a day to get there and back. It's only about 25 miles, but over two-lane crowded roads, it takes a long time. This zine is for KAPA 46 and is done by Nicki Lynch of P.O. Box 1270, Germantown, MD 20874.

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Obscure Press # 282

My title this time does not come from a song, but from my work. According to one of the plans we're reviewing, "personnel turbulence" is one of the things they track with the computer. That really caught my eye, so I decided to use that as a title.

If you were at Noreastcon III, you know how much fun WorldCon was this year. We had a good time, even though I probably saw less programming than I usually attend. I'm not sure if there was less there to interest me or if most of the things I would have attended were opposite one another, canceled or moved to another time that I never heard about. But there was a lot to do at the con. The idea of a ConCourse was a good one. It was a great place to sit and talk or meet people. Dick and I hung around the fanzine table there and got to chat with friends, as well as meeting people.

Boston is a great city. I'm glad we got a chance to take the MTA and see a bit of it with Gary, Corlis, and Cullen (whose last name escapes me). The restaurants were a lot of fun. Looking back on the con, I tend to see it as a collection of meals, with events, such as the Hugos, sandwiched in.

Dick has been making improvements on this computer, so I hope it will print alright. He's adding another disk drive, the kind that uses the small, hard floppies, but has had trouble with it. It won't format the disk to the right memory. Other than that, he's working hard downtown, now with TWO offices in the Forestal Building in D.C. His project there should be over by the end of November, as should mine, so life may return to some semblance of normal (Sort of personal turbulence.)

I'm hoping that when we go back, if ever, to NIST, that I will be doing programming and possibly move out of computer security. It's gotten boring and I can't see quoting regs all my life. No, I want to be a programmer, at least once in my life.

Washington is a terrific place to be in the summer. We got to see several free band concerts at the outdoor pavilion near the Washington Monument. We lucked out and saw the 1812 Overture, complete with cannons. We didn't realize that it was a Bid Deal in town and were there with 15,000 others. The only bad part was that they all seemed to take the Metro home as we did

Mailing comments on KAPA 44

OO \_\_\_\_\_ Gary        Not a bad size mailing. \*\* Since I live in Maryland and don't see you at cons to hand deliver zines, late mailings really put the squeeze on me. I also noticed that you have two people who must contribute to #44, one of whom is not on the roster. It took me a while to realize that it was Mike Sinclair.

Yo! \_\_\_\_\_ Alain        Your computer problems might still be hardware, but the software could also be the problem. We had a printer that didn't want to work after the move at work, but it just needed reconfiguring. We also have a disk drive at work that forgets its configuration when turned off. \*\* Glad to heard you made the move to your new place OK. Did you have to put down any money for the place you didn't end up renting. I would say that rental agency did a poor job. \*\* No comments to me. \*sob\*

"May You Live in Interesting Times" Is Not Necessarily a Curse  
Rocky        I think your current plan of action will work. I'm not always sure that an English degree will train you to be a writer, but it will get you use to deadlines and having to write for someone else, as well as reading a lot of other writers. I take it that SF will be your main focus. Actually, if you were an accountant, you could handle your own business end of being a writer. It's not a bad skill to learn. \*\* ct me The next Corflu will be in New York City, unless the negotiations break down entirely. We talked with the chair and may have a contingency plan if the NYC hotels are totally unreasonable. As of today, Corflu does not have a hotel. You know you could always BID for a Corflu. \*\* ct Corlis *Earth Girls are Easy* played quite a few theatres in this area, but not for all that long.

Assorted Zines \_\_\_\_\_ Lynn        Wow! Look at all the zines! \*\* We would have attended Atomicon if we had been in the area, but no such luck. When Deb and Roger originally had the idea, we talked with them about doing a track of programming, but it didn't happen while we were there. We ran into a couple from the area who know Deb and Roger and who had attended Atomicon at the Bridge Books party in Boston. Small world. \*\* ct me Germantown is just north of Gaithersburg (which is where we live), which is just north of Rockville, which is just north of Bethesda, which is just north of D.C. All in all, we're about 20 miles north of the District line. \*\* We did make it to MidwestCon, but we did have car trouble. \*\* ct Jodie One of the people I work with says she speed reads by reading only the dialogue. She only reads the narrative if the dialogue doesn't make sense. \*\* It's nice seeing some of the old stuff. I'm glad you are put these in Kapa.

Notes from the Club Car \_\_\_\_\_ Pat        I'm not surprised that the waiting area for the rides at Six Flags has TV sets; I remember going to some amusement park years ago that also did that. They ran movie promos I recall, so

it might have been on the Universal City Tour. Considering the long wait by youngsters, the TV sets probably keep them amused. \*\* It was great seeing you and Naomi at Boston.

Kentucky Nuggets #23      Jodie      I don't remember seeing you or Andy at Boston. Were you there? \*\* One feature I enjoyed at Boston was the Author Picture Project. The display was on the top floor of the Hynes, but the pictures of the pros (authors and artists) was a great idea.

Connected Spaces      Corlis      Sorry to hear about your grandfather. I spent my formative years living with my grandparents. \*\* SFPA can be a fun place, but it is a big apa. When I was on the waitlist, years ago, there was a Shadow SFPA for the waitlisters. I was the OE for a while and it became almost an apa on it's own. Sadly, it faded away when the waitlist became huge after the 100th mailing. I don't know if people rather contribute to the regular mailing or the best people had just moved up to being members. \*\* I'm surprised that Ken was sitting in the non-smoking room. He must have wanted to sit with you and the Cards.

Decaying Orbit      Gary      I understand that the sequel to *Chinatown* will be out this fall or winter. It's called *The Two Jakes* and will star Nicholson, who will also direct. For a while Harrison Ford was rumored to be a co-star, but I don't think he's playing the other Jake. \*\* I enjoyed your thoughts on what the popular culture embraces, but you still left the question begging - how does something (like a movie, singer, song, etc.) become popular? Money? I don't think so, because we've heard about movies made with megabucks and four-walled advertising that didn't make it big. Look at *Willow* and *Howard the Duck*. (I liked the latter one.) I don't think people know what will hit popular culture and what won't. A few months ago *Newsweek* has an article on the song "Don't Worry, Be Happy" and the return of the Smiley button. They didn't know why both had hit popular culture so hard. They also didn't know that the Smiley button with a bullet through it was from *The Watchman*. \*\* Nice short essay on Yes. I wondered what Rick Wakeman was doing now a days. \*\* ct me Actually, the computer security people were vary similar to SF fans, but they had more money and got a lunch with the conference.

Isvestia - Ii      Christa      We missed you at Boston and wish you could have made it. The fans in Washington were croggled (to say the least) when an announcement of your bid was made at a club meeting. I suspect that most people don't realize you ARE serious about this bid.

Well, it's a short zine this time. I hope by the next deadline all this foolishness in Columbia will be over and I'll be back on the NIST Campus.