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E D I T O R I A L

I was looking thru my stencil file one day and noticed the ones that I had used on N'APA mailings. Here were some of the stencils of the first two chapters of "What is Science Fiction Fandom".

I may as well carry on with it -- maybe when I retire I'll get a chance to finish it up and do it as a 'Benefit' for NFFF. At least I won't have so many stencils to do -- I have now done 9 and will save the stencils for future use. Maybe 11 or so will be all the stencils I'll need to finish the job.

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M I N I C O N I I - E A S T E R W E E K - E N D

I just had word from Jim Young of Minneapolis that the dates for the MiniCon II to be held in the Andrews Hotel in Minneapolis, will be April 4,5,6 (Easter Week-end). Quite a program is slated for this event and all Fans who can possibly attend should get in touch with; JIM YOUNG, 1948 Ulysses Str. N.E. Mpls, Mn., 55418.

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W H A T ' S I N A N A M E

Every name has a beginning. Eight centuries ago the population of Europe was comparatively small, but it was already necessary to formulate names as a descriptive identification in order to distinguish one person from another.

Thus, the John who baked bread became John Baker.....and the John who lived on the other side of the hill was known as John Overhill. As children grew, it was not uncommon to refer to them by the name of their parents.

Thus, the Scandinavian and English suffix "son".....The Greek "pulos".... the Finnish ... "nen".... the Polish "wicz" ... Spanish "ez"....all denoting the son. Similarly, the Irish "O' " means grandson, while the prefix "Mac", "Mc" indicates "son" in Gaelic and Scottish.

Between the 11th and 13th centuries, all last names were new.

An article that I read some years ago stated that the real beginning of name giving was when the people had to be registered for tax purpose. Overseers were sent out to the country side to record names of the people, but found that many had no real name. The problem was to get them to select a name to be taxed by. Have you ever noticed the many queer names that you see every day.---

Its not unusual to see Black, White Brown, etc as a last name. Some of the Official must have had a time in getting some person to select a name for himself .. and maybe gave him some help.

In the Scandinavian field alone. I can think of many that I thought were different than the usual SON (Carlson, Nelson, Johnson etc.) some were evidently picked at random, like; Lindquist, a twig of the Lindea tree, Lövblom, leafblossom. Sjöberg, meaning Ocean Mountain. I can think of many many more.

And many were comical and rude in their real meaning. One that I came across in my work in the Drug Store was a person who had the name of Uthus, now any good scandinavian knows what that means. Just simply "out house", the little house behind the big house in the old days before inside plumbing! How would you like to have a name like that tied to you for the rest of your life.

Of course many persons changed their names when they came to the U.S. You can do this very easily now-a-days. With one or two witnesses who have known you for many years, you can go before the Judge in court any apply for a new name that you have selected.

And others simply changed the spelling of the name or Americanized it. Mine was KARLSSON (Carl's son) so was'nt hard to come up with Carlson. One Swedish name was Örn(eagle) so he calls himself Eagle, here in the U.S.

So that is why someone says "Whats in a name?"

#### HOW DID AMERICA GET ITS NAME?

This is Thure Gustafson's version of how America was named. It is a pleasure to note that historians are now agreed that America is properly named after its real discoverer, Leif, the son of Eric.

The prefix "AMT" simply means "LAND OF" and the combination "AMT ERIC" or "AMERICA" simply means "LAND OF ERIC".

Among the indians the ancient name is still given as AM-ERIC-E or Amerika; and when Columbus and his friends crossed the southern part of the Atlantic 500 years after Leif Ericsson and his friends had crossed the northern part of the same body of water, the name was in general use.

The idea that the name America had anything to do with one of the explorers, Amerigo Vespucci; who, by the way, was unable to write his own name, rests upon a single sentence in the writings of a Roman monk, where it appears in the form of a suggestion.

If the country had been named after this man surely it would have been Vespuccia and not after his first name, Amerigo.

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#### SEA SERPENTS MAY BE TURTLES

Just read where they think that the sea serpents that we hear of, off and on, may in reality be giant turtles of long ago.

Ten foot long turtles have been seen on locales where sea serpents are most often sighted. The turtle fits almost all the criteria of the monsters; it has a blunt head carried well above the water on a medium length neck, a smooth brown back and a white underside.

Of course it's much shorter than sea serpents are supposed to be. This might be unseen or exaggerated in sea serpents.

K A Y M A R      K O M M E N T S

ACETYLSALICYLIC ACID - Joanne Burger.

Just plain aspirin to me. You see I've worked in a Drug Store for nearly 46 years and will soon retire. Only been a member of N3F for 23 years, so I guess I'm an 'old timer'. You have a good ditto I could read every word. Was wondering where the rest of your zine was...only 4 pages. (Art tells me that the minimum is 6)

P A T T E R #1 - Paul Doerr. I don't think you should be using CAPS all the way thru your zine. It is a little hard to read, or is it just the ink that bothers me? I had to change to a better ink and it sure makes a difference, But my mimo is pretty old now.

2001 LIGHT YEARS FROM HOME - Jerry Lapidus. A zine of mostly comments! Nice typeing and the cover pic was neat, but I couldn't make out the artist name. A good idea here; line separating each comment really shows up.

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see what I mean

POTPOURI - Fred Hypes.

How-come! is everyone just sending in COMMENTS and nothing else? I've noticed 3 or 4 zines like this before. Oh, no. KAYMAR has to come out 6 times a year (every other month). So I've only been in N'APA about 3 years or so. Yup, the yellow means you HAD bad breath.

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ASH-WING 2 - Frank Denton. I enjoyed reading Ash-wing, very neat. The cover pic and the other small illos were very good. In fact, I like your zine. I always like to hear what fans are doing.

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G U A N O - Art Hayes. You had a lot of poetry in this issue and I read most of it and liked it. Who is Dottie Hansen? A femfan? One thing I do know is that she comes from a Danish ancestry. With a Hansen, I know it isn't Swedish. A nice thick issue. I never get active enough to do a big issue anymore. Tho, I remember when I did 20 stencil for KAYMAR TRADER, back in 1946-7.

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THE NEW NEWPORT NEWS NEWS #4 - Ned Brooks. A nice ditto job! Never had much use for ditto, maybe because I was weaned on a minio in 1946. Mary Brooks does some delightful illos and fancy stuff. More poetry? Guess I'll have to see if I can get some for my next ish.

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H O O M 2 - Bee Bowman and Frank Denton. Very interesting reading. Also noticed that you had letters from some of the fans that I know through correspondence. Harry Warner, Ann Chamberlain, and Richard Labonte. You had such a variety of articles, music, pics, etc that it was delightful reading.

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This last bit of stencil is coming up pretty fast and I still have a lot of fanzines to comment on. Well there is always a next time.

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## P R E S E N T - D A Y   O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

(Prepared by HARRY WARNER, JR., Maryland)\*†(This is 1944)\*†

Fan organizations split up into three distinct types--those attempting to cover a town or city; those meant to unite the Fans in an entire state or geographically related group of states; and those that are intended to be nation-wide in membership and activities.

A precise description of the present status of a particular group, or a cataloguing of them, is impossible in this pamphlet because of the constant shifting in the organizations, and their frequent changes of address, officers, and even names. The NFFF Welcoming Committee, as part of its service to Fandom, will gladly inform you and every other new fan of the situation in his locality and region at the present time.

Of the three types, local or municipal organizations have always been the most numerous. A general bird's-eye view of their status in the middle of 1944 might run something like this:

The nation's largest city, New York, lacks an open, regularly meeting Fan group. In its place, there are many small informal gatherings of the numberless Fans from the Boroughs and the surrounding communities, and a "closed group" of individuals, the Futurians, who have been remarkably active for years, retaining today most of the members with which they started out almost a decade ago.

Chicago boasts of the Windy City Wampires, which is just now a very informal group that hardly retains the characteristics of a club, with so many of its members away at the Wars.

Los Angeles has the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, oldest of them all, and a direct descendent of the old Los Angeles Science Fiction League chapter.

San Francisco-Oakland's Golden Gate Futurian Society has been inactive since its officers entered the armed forces, although a large body of active Fans reside in that area. Lately it has begun to show signs of renewed activity.

The Stranger Club, composed of Fans in and about Boston, holds meeting sporadically; and Oswald Train is making valiant efforts to keep the draft-ridden Philadelphia Science Fiction Society alive. The Minneapolis Fantasy Society, too, has been forced into semi-inactivity by Selective Service; and the same situation exists in Detroit, although a new group of younger Fans is coming into prominence recently.

Battle Creek, however, is the center of the Galactic Roamers, a Southern Michigan club. The remainder of the country's cities are largely unorganized, although informal gatherings and visits between Fans take place wherever Fans exist.

State and Regional Federations, since the war, have been forced into inactivity. Up to the time of Pearl Harbor, a network of these groups was rapidly covering the entire United States, and continuance of this process when the war ends, and the draft and transportation cease to be difficulties, seems inevitable. The outlook, dread as it is, is not at all hopeless, as these many federations and clubs will become greater than ever after war's close.

Nation-wide Fan groups split into two divisions--those created by Fans, and those sponsored by the professional magazines. Two of the latter, the Weird Tales Club, and the Futuremen, can be dismissed immediately as merely "name" groups with no intention or activity.

The Science Fictioners was once rather active, but vanished with the suspension of the sponsoring magazine, SUPER SCIENCE STORIES. The Science Fiction League, on the other hand, still continues nominal existence, a decade after its organization. Some of its early projects almost came to fruition, but the only lasting effect has been creation of municipal chapters.

Most successful of the existing national Fan organizations is the Fantasy Amateur Press Association. Patterned after the other amateur journalism groups, it has far outstripped them in quality and quantity of output despite a much smaller membership body. Activity is a requisite both of becoming and of continuing a member.

Unprejudiced analysis of The Cosmic Circle so soon after its collapse is difficult, but made necessary the great effect the CC has left on Fandom. Claude Degler, a Newcastle, Indiana, Fan of proven psychological instability, spent most of 1943 hitchhiking over the United States preaching a new gospel that Fans are biological mutations destined to breed a superior race, and urging that everyone possessing one of these "cosmic minds" join the Cosmic Circle. The CC promised to do everything previous attempts at Fan clubs had proposed, besides governing the new race of supermen.

At first, Degler was tolerated by Fandom and welcomed by impressionable younger Fans. Later, his violent outbursts, outlandish proposals, juvenile tactics, and propaganda methods alienated Fandom from the CC. While theoretically other Fans today run the CC, actually it will remain in nominal existence only as long as Claude Degler retains any interest in the club and Fandom.

The National Fantasy Fan Federation, which is responsible for the publication of this pamphlet, began as an article by a now inactive Fan, Damon Knight, suggesting that Fandom unite for its own benefit. A few intrepid souls succeeded in bringing the theory to life, although handicapped by a series of unpredictable mishaps, and the mistakes inevitable in the organizing of such a group.

In spite of the sheer, hard luck that the NFFF's president in 1942 should be forced to cut all ties with Fandom for ever a year; and the similar misfortune when the Fans entrusted with production work on the organizations first big publishing project chose that time to quit Fandom and did not restore the materials and money in their possession, the Fans never really lost their desire for this new National organization.

The war did its share in preventing the immediate success of the NFFF, in the same manner as it has caused suspension of liquidation of so many smaller Fan organizations for the duration. But since the beginning of 1944 the NFFF has been running smoothly, gaining new friends and new members, growing in influence and in its ability to serve Fandom. It is working under an emergency constitution, which will remain in effect until the end of the war, or until the organization feels solidly enough built to return to a more permanent constitution.

Outside of the United States, little activity in organizing now exists except in England. Canada has no groups; and Australia's promising Fandom was dealt a mortal blow when government regulations made fanzine publishing impossible. In England, the British Fantasy Society carries on the work begun by the Science Fiction Association, a group that was suspended at the beginning of the war in 1939. Activity of the BFS is along lines similar to those of the NFFF, and is growing stronger each month. England also boasts of several local

fan groups with regular meetings, most of them made up of newer fans with gregarious tendencies, contrasting with the "Fanarchists" that comprised the old guard of English Fandom. England also boasts the first really International meetings, when American Fans in the services visited English Fans in their homes and their meetings.

Contact with non-English-speaking Fans has been limited to one Frenchman and one Austrian. If any organizations exist in other foreign lands, discovery of them will be one of the first post-war tasks of Fandom.

The absence of inactivity of Fan clubs during the war should not be cause for distress. Rather we pride ourselves that we have been able to keep going so well. And our plans for renewed activity after the war have the full support of our many Service Fans, as well as those still in civilian life.

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### K A Y M A R     H I S T O R Y

This is just a few words to let some of the fans know something about me. How I happened to get into Fandom and NFFF, etc.

I had never heard of Fandom or NFFF until I happened to read a letter in the Reader's Column in a PLANET Stories magazine. Here I read that a fan who lived just across the Red River from me was selling some of his magazines! It didn't take me long to get over to his house to see those mags. He was Walter Dunkelburger, then Sec-Treas of NFFF (1945). I learned a lot from him in the many hours I spent with him. I typed stencils and helped him run them off on his mimeo. I was hooked. I just had to have one of my own, BUT no money for one. I finally managed to get a second-hand one for the low price of 10.00. It was a large brute. A neo-style SF, I think it was. So that started me off on a fanzine, which became the Adzine KAYMAR TRADER. First issue was in 1946 and it carried on with the help of other fans till 1955. It was getting to big for me and I didn't have the time to spend on it. I used to run 150-200 copies a month, regularly. I finally got George Bibby of California to take it over under the name of FANTASY COLLECTOR. I no longer had an interest in it. I helped him get started with my list of subscribers and Advertisers. He run it for many years and just recently sold out to CAZ.

In 1945 I joined NFFF thru the insistance of (DUNK) Dunkelberger. I run for office in 1946 and worked for NFFF. Have held ALL the offices in NFFF at one time or another. Now I'm getting to old to be very active. Will be 65 this next May. I still like the AD business and do the NFFF TRADER for TNFF nearly every issue.

I have made many, many friends in those 23 year of N3F work. That is one thing about Fandom, you can travel all over the U. S and can drop in on a fan, in nearly every state, who is a neffer. If I remember correctly we have over 400 members on the Roster. We had that many back in the 40's, when I was Sec-Treas for two years. But it is like everything else -- some come and some go.

Many of you don't know that we even published a BOOK. Yes, Paul Spencer was the guiding force on THE BURNING HART by Keller. It was a costly venture but we came out of it in good shape. Money was hard to come by in those days, too. I said "just a few words?"