

3 August 1966

"Oh come now, does it take that long to bat out a stencil or two for Lilapa? It isn't such a big project that it has to wait until you have all these other things out of the way, does it..."

Boyd Raeburn

Well now, Boyd, I just received the 27th mlg with your note tucked inside, so I ripped the most recent page of the Western I'm working on out of the typer and stuffed in a stencil to see what happens. The real problem is not the amount of time it takes to cut and run off a stencil or two. It's thinking of something to type onto the stencil or two.

When one is overflowing with gossip or brimful of excitement over some new adventure or hobby-horse, a few pages of fanaticism is no sweat. It is when one doesn't have anything to say that it gets sticky and time-consuming. Do you have any idea of how little I have to say?

Well, alright, maybe I do have something of a sort to say, or I wouldn't have bothered starting this stencil. What I have to say is:

I was talking to a fellow-Lilapan and I mentioned as how I'd like to propose Dave Van Arnam as a potentially worthwhile member. I got a reply to the effect that Dave didn't stand much of a chance of getting in because "he is considered too much a part of the TEW axis". This intrigued me no end because I have a notion that I, too, am a part of the TEW axis, whatever that is.

What is it, fellas?

I consider Ted one of my closest friends. And not just because he got me started into Writing For Money, either. I like him. I don't always agree with him--but I've never met anyone I always agree with. In years gone by he's done things I didn't approve of--but then so have I. Right now he's one of the bulwarks of New York fandom. He is genial host of the bi-weekly Fanoclast meetings. Fanoclasts include some of the best people in New York--people like Mike McInerney, rich brown, DVA, Cindy Heap, Andy Porter, Don & Jo Meisner, Jack Gaughan, and me--not to mention a lot of others. Even Lilapa-in-suspended-animation. Steve Stiles, is a dirty old Fanoclast. Is he, too, part of the TEW axis?

I think I must be part of it. Does this mean I'll be blacklisted out of Lilapa? Am I to be condemned to wander ragged and domed because of it?

LeeH-2

Okay then, if being buddy-pals with Ted White is an Evil Thing, call me Evil. Blacklist me if you want...

Geez, you know I was blacklisted from Fanoclats once upon a time. I didn't know about it then, though, as I was gafiating. Later, times changed, and I got invited to meetings. I went and as a result got active in fandom again. I guess that's largely Ted White's fault.

Anyway, getting back to Dave Van Arnam, to the best of my knowledge, he is not an android under the secret control of mad-scientist Ted White. He's a people like most of the rest of us. He's a very swinging person with a lot more to say on fannish (and even non-fannish) topics than I have. I think he'd make a more worthwhile member for an apa than I am. So...

I PROPOSE DAVE VAN ARNAM for Lilapa membership*

*That is, if I'm still a member and entitled to propose someone.

STEVE STILES: Your attempt to get out of Lilapa is a finky thing, and I, for one, feel Boyd is Right in putting you into suspended animation. I would say not to worry about activity or being a drag on the Goat or anything like that. From what Boyd says, the bulk of Lilapa would agree--it's better to keep you as deadwood for the time being than to lose you forever. Lilapa is an ideal sort of fan-contact to retain through a period of gafia.

So, Boyd and all the rest of you, there it is. I read the entire mlg. I thoroughly enjoyed the talk about the Westercon and look forward to the rest of Alva's report. (Alva, you told me to write a report. All I did was sketch out enough about the trip to get my eight pages into FAPA. I made a couple of starts at doing a real report--and got nowhere with it. Sorry.) I enjoyed and/or chortled at several things in the mlg. I skimmed lightly over the talk about music and nodded in agreement at several things Buz said.

But I still find that I don't have anything worthwhile to say in reply, or to offer as fresh topic material.

And that, Boyd, is as much of a reason as any other, why I am do damned inactive in Lilapa. It is my hope that once I get all the other garbage I mentioned to you out of the way, I will have time and inclination to goof around contemplating, and come up with something to say.

Any suggestions?