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A Progress Report on the next *Mimosa*...

Time passes. We realize that it's been a while since we mailed out *Mimosa* 16, and we apologize for the delay in publishing our next issue. To let you know that we're still alive and well, we've decided to send this one-page update to everybody on our *Mimosa* mailing list. We're also making it available by e-mail, which makes this our first electronic fanzine ever. Welcome to the 1990s...

So why is this even necessary? Well, on the afternoon of January 3rd, there was a bad fire in the townhouse development where we lived. It started in the home next door to us, which shared a common wall with our home. By the time it was over, six homes in the subdivision had experienced damage. Ours sustained the second-most-severe damage (the home where the fire started was completely destroyed), and as a result, we haven't been able to live there for the past six months.

There is no end yet in sight. The contractors tell us that it will be at least another two months before the home is re-built, so meanwhile, we've been living in a small two bedroom apartment (a fourth floor walk-up) about five miles away. Most of our belongings are in storage, including the mimeographs, all of the mimeograph supplies, and our entire inventory of current and back issues of *Mimosa*. We haven't seen them since January, and don't know what condition they are in.

But this doesn't mean that we won't be publishing another issue! In fact, planning for *Mimosa* 17 is well underway, and we hope to publish it (via a commercial reproduction service) before the end of summer. In *M17*, we'll have a lot to say about the fire, and our recovery from it, but there will be much more besides that. We'll have Part 2 of Forrest J Ackerman's remembrances of times and places past, which describes Forry's view of fandom in the 1940s and his activities during World War II. Also, Dave Kyle writes about some of the more notable Worldcon banquets that he remembers, including those for earliest Hugo Awards presentations. Walt Willis continues his "I Remember Me" series of articles with a remembrance of the fannish career of Robert Conquest, who was better known as an expert on Soviet Russia during the cold war era. Sharon Farber will have another entertaining (and disturbing) look back at her medical school years. We'll also have new articles and essays from Ben Zuhl, Michael Burstein, and John Berry. And the lead-off article will be an entertaining remembrance of the late Robert Bloch by Dean Grennell.

There might be more yet. We're still trying to land a few articles that have been promised, but not yet delivered. And, given the continuing delay before the next issue, there is still time for those of you so inclined (and who haven't already done so) to write us a letter of comment on *Mimosa* 16. Your letters are the energy source that keeps fan writers writing and fanzine editors publishing.

However, no response to *this* fanzine is necessary! We just wanted to let you know we haven't forgotten about you. Thanks for not forgetting about us.