

# THE ROYAL SWISS NAVY GAZETTE

#1



THE ROYAL SWISS NAVY GAZETTE #1 (Volume 1, number 1), dated September, 1997 (never mind when it actually comes out), comes from Garth Spencer at Box 15335, V.M.P.O., Vancouver, B.C.  
CANADA V6B 5B1 \*or\* hrothgar@vcn.bc.ca, depending on how I get it to you.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Continuing Adventures .....	1
Feature Articles:	
Insidious Threat .....	4
Time, Money, Power .....	10
Holodynamics .....	12
Zines Received .....	14

## COAs:

Jim Ferris (Vancouver) now at  
<jferris@rogers.wave.ca>

Daniel Farr: Unit #106, 77 Maitland Place, Toronto, ON M4Y 2V6

Victor Gonzalez: 905 N.E. 45th St. #106, Seattle, WA 98105;  
squib@galaxy-7.net > (email address may change)

Alan Stewart (Australia) now at  
<a.stewart@chemeng.unimelb.edu.au>

## ART CREDITS

STEPHEN FOX	-	COVER
HART'S PICTURE		
REFERENCE FILE	-	P. 3
PETROGLYPHS	-	PP. 11, 19, 20
CHARLES JANA		
GIBSON	-	P. 21

## THE CONTINUING ADVENTURES OF GARTH SPENCER:

### - Excuses, Excuses

I've decided to retitle and renumber this zine, partly because you have to start fresh sometimes to get where you're trying to go, and partly because *Sercon Popcult Litcrit Fanmag* has been bogged down trying to do things I hadn't intended to do.

I have a lot of apologies to make. Some of them go back ten years, like my apology to everyone who didn't get *Maple Leaf Rag* #30; some of them for the lateness of my next zine, or even the last one; some of them for bad editing, or promises I didn't keep because I just plain forgot. Let me know what I spaced out on, OK?

I'm not just sure why my fanzines have taken longer and longer to come out, unless this is what they used to call Twonk's Disease. Maybe it's simply that when I have regular wages coming in, I've got little energy left, and when I have the time and energy, I don't have money for copying and postage. And now I have another excuse: the dreaded Canadian Postal Strike Syndrome is about to recur, just as I'm getting this issue together.

About editing. There is no way I can print every letter I receive, though I've certainly tried to. There is no way I can even print every interesting, informative letter I receive. For that matter, if I saved up enough to publish one zine that held *all* the good material I wanted to print, I'd never be ready. So I have had to set my page count as a priority. Bottom line, no letters this issue.

It was my intention, with SPLF, to keep my costs down by keeping my perzine down to 16 digest pages (5.5x8.5 inches, that is). Maybe I can actually do that, if I start fresh.

This is one reason why I decided to launch the *Gazette*, and why I didn't publish a print version of SPLF 8 last December, like I planned.

## The Royal Swiss Navy

Some of you haven't already heard about this gag. For those who haven't, a brief recap: I invented the "Royal Swiss Navy", as an SF club almost approaching a state of being, in order to gain permission to set up a Web page at the Vancouver CommunityNet. Since then, I have put together a sort of omnium-gatherum SF page, and started putting together ideas for a fannish sort of club.

You are all hereby designated members of the Royal Swiss Navy, which is not royal, not Swiss, and does not float. May you be very happy together. Maybe we can enter the Nanaimo-Vancouver Bath tub Race, or something. (I'd like to enter a pedal-powered jet-assisted paddle-wheeled dirigible bathtub; some friends have suggested a floating hot tub with a built-in cider cooler, plus some oars the inhabitants can whale around when they feel like it.)

I'm trying to put together a Royal Swiss Navy Handbook; in the interim, a preliminary version exists on the Web page, at <http://www.vcn.bc.ca/sig/rsn>. I'm open to suggestions and constructive criticism.

This is another reason why I decided to launch this *Gazette*.

Another reason for the delay in publication was the lack of steady money — I lost a fairly good job over a year ago, for no damn reason, and only got another one in February. (Why didn't I publish last spring, then? Don't ask me that.)

I now work as a secretary at a trademark search and registration office. I am now learning all about trademark laws and procedures, the difference between Canadian and American and even Malaysian trademark offices, and the growing implications of trademark law in respect of Internet domain names.

As you might expect I first apply these things in my mind to fannish concerns. Trying to work out who has what copyright in fanzine material, and how it should be credited, could drive a lawyer round the bend. The closest application that trademark law has to

fanac, however, seems to be in convention names; at least that's my take on it.

The Unwritten Code of Fandom says that no two conventions should have the same name; that's one analogy to trademark law. Naturally not every user has heard of the Unwritten Code, or gives a good goddamn if they have - there's another analogy to trademark use - and in practice, fans feel fairly safe about using the same name as another convention if it's pretty far away (e.g. Constellation or ConText), or the name was only used a good long time ago (e.g. "Norwescon"); in trademark law, this is referred to as the "scope" of a word mark.

Let me ask you something: is the name of a convention a trademark, properly speaking, or a trade name? Because the difference is the same as the difference between a product or service you sell, and the business name under which you operate. This sort of distinction in law might be important the next time fans launch a lawsuit. Given the amount of money conventions got used to slinging around in the last two decades, this could be an important concern.

Or else the coming implosion in the congoing population might move the whole issue into small-claims court.



## AN INSIDIOUS THREAT TO ALL OF FANDOM

Garth Spencer

We have some socially retarded people in fandom. Fans need to upgrade the social skills in this minority, as a matter of self-defense, not altruism.

I've been leading up to something like this statement, over several fanzines. I put it to you that SF fandom has a problem, and we're not facing it.

This is not the best way to establish a point, or to put a question to people, I admit; but since I have a question or two that some people seem to have trouble grasping, I'll have to put it to you piece by piece.

The first piece I put to you was in an article about SF conventions. The way I see it — and after more than six years, I still see it this way — any group of fans only has so much, in the way of resources, to bring to an attempted convention; but some fans' aspirations aren't so limited. From my viewpoint the way to a successful convention is to "cut your suit to fit your cloth", that is, scale down your convention to something you can actually achieve.

I kept seeing and hearing of fans who would not get real: a strange personality type, or troublesome behaviour, which we never come to grips with, but which could be tracked by the number of fiascos and vapourcons some fans produced.

(This is not something a lot of fans want to hear, at least coming from me. Notice, I have never claimed to have a lot of experience either attending or working on conventions, but the response I got was as if I were getting up on my high horse and talking down. Peculiar response to get, I thought, and rather annoying.)

The second piece I put to you was an article about changes in fandom in general; this was occasioned by a run of fanzines with articles or letters on much the same topic.

Like a good many other fans now in their late thirties or forties, I feel something of value has been lost, in fandom. Maybe it's peculiar and eccentric to feel that a leisure interest group such as fandom should act more like a full-fledged community; if so, here's another strange personality type, another strange behaviour that keeps cropping up in fandom. Another issue you just gotta deal with.

I may not agree that you can characterize contemporary fandom as merely the TV audience for Star Trek and Babylon 5; in fact, I'm increasingly sceptical of the image of fanzine fandom, before 1971, as one fairly harmonious community. But if English-speaking SF fandom up to 1971 was one group (at least) pretty much all in communication with each other, fandom after Star Trek became several such groups, often out of touch with each other. There may or may not have been some consensus, once, as to what was "fannish"; there certainly is no consensus now.

Now it's time for me to grasp the nettle. If some of us, at least, are interested in fandom as a community ... do we deal with community problems?

For instance, how do we deal with fans who need remedial training in just being human?

They are among us. You may not have to think too hard to list five or ten local fans with social handicaps. Pathological shyness; ignorance of basic manners, or hygiene; unawareness of personal space, and acceptable speaking distance; inability to carry out tasks as promised, or on time; worst of all, incomprehension of what is an acceptable, let alone legal come-on ... all of these behaviours show up in a minority of fans, and really come out at conventions.

Personally I think the overtly nerd or geek percentage of fandom is a constant minority, and has little to do with the nature of fandom, but much to do with demographics and statistics. Maybe 10% to 40% of any fan group have social deficits. But even a 5% minority would be significant and require attention. Probably any small, leisure interest groups attract their share of socially challenged members — and

more than their share, since the point in the late 1970s or 80s when more and more therapists started directing them to hobby clubs.

The worst case for us is when a socially disabled fan not only embarrasses himself, or herself, but calls down the laws on a fannish event. There was a case in the States (described in *Con News*, a good seven or eight years ago) when a Trekker was fondling a fourteen-year-old in a hot tub, who had somehow become separated from her bikini briefs, and said Trekker was carted away by police.

Now, I ask you: do you want to set up a convention, only to host such an exhibition? Granted, some scumbuckets are unteachable. But wouldn't you rather buy some insurance, and \*try\* to teach some poor schmucks what is expected of them?

I can't get past the notion that even the Trekker in the hot tub could have been simply *told* what he could do, and what he could not legally do, even at a convention.

Apparently a lot of fans would rather not even try.

\*

A decent respect for the people reading this compels me to admit I have my own peculiar perspective on issues.

The most painful parts of my home life I can sum up by a resolution I made when I was five: "I can only know what is *said*." That is, if the people around me aren't honest enough to *say* things to me, in words, in plain English declarative sentences, then I cannot know what the hell they want from me. The fact that I was growing up among English people — who thought they didn't have to put their feelings and their Edwardian Unwritten Code into words — meant that I lived in a good simulation of hell, until I moved out.

This sort of background gives you Attitudes. One of my attitudes was that real people (unlike myself) knew everything and never made social mistakes; this turns out to be BS, but it's just the attitude a lot of "real" people carry around. Another attitude I acquired



was that the people around me knew damn well what they wanted me to do, they just wouldn't spit it out. (Finally, after forty years, I am beginning to wonder about that.)

Another was that virtually feral children, like me, *could* learn to do anything if only we were *shown* and *told*. I still think that's true, and that socially inept fans can get remedial training in the people skills other fans don't even think twice about. I bet it would be simple, cheap, and not take much time, either.

A good deal of my post-secondary education can be viewed as an attempt to define the problem at hand, and find answers. Perhaps the closest I ever came was in sociology and anthropology courses; they gave me the concept of the cultural, normative knowledge most of us pick up in the formative years ... but I kept forgetting, this is largely subconscious knowledge, customs and habits we know without realizing that we know them, or that they aren't common knowledge around the world.

Perhaps I am also inclined to these attitudes by a local experience. While I was brushing up against the local SCA I encountered a character named Gunther, or at least he went by that handle; Gunther, apparently, is one of the least socially-skilled people who has drifted into conventions or SCA events. An SCA household took it upon themselves to accept him and retrain him, in human interactions. He made progress.

But there's no telling whether socially retarded people can or will get the simplest help they need. And I have no reason to think fans, on the whole, will offer that help.

\*

I've been buying books like crazy since I got steady money coming in again. One was *Emotional Intelligence*; another was *Shadow Syndromes*. I think they both touch on something we've never dealt with, successfully.

*Emotional Intelligence* makes the point that what we usually call "intelligence" - academic problem-solving ability - seems to have little bearing on being "successful" in life. (That last is a loaded, undefined term. I guess it means making a rewarding living, acquiring enough property, to get some security and some respect in this life. But I have to guess.) The people who "succeed" seem not to be the brightest, but the most people-skilled, those best adapted to dealing with other humans and their feelings and behaviour.

The authors are recognizing the fact that there are any number of people who don't have these nonverbal skills. They also argue that they can be taught and learned; our formal schooling simply does not recognize them.

*Shadow Syndromes* makes the point that any number of people walking the streets seem to have mild, unnoticed versions of mental dysfunctions; but because they're mild, they are neither diagnosed nor treated. Syndromes such as hypomania (rather like the charismatic, inspiring politician who can't keep it in his pants), manic-depression (rather like severe teenage angst that last lifelong), or autism — a classic inability to recognize or respond to others' feelings — are examined at chapter length.

Of course I saw the chapter on mild autism as describing a number of fans I knew; I saw it as describing myself, more or less. The fact that I was simultaneously rereading Damon Knight's *The Futurians* may have had something to do with it.

The point I want to stress is that there are such people as *Emotional Intelligence* and *Shadow Syndromes* describe, there are some fans like this, and semi-autistic social outsiders are not hopeless cases, but can be taught if only their companions will try.

\*

Much of the foregoing was on my mind before Clint Budd addressed the issue, sort of sideways, in a recent edition of *BCSFAzine*. I say "sideways" because Clint addressed all sorts of life skills that some people lack, and I am concentrating on a central issue, the cognitive

and behavioral abilities to perceive and respond to people appropriately.

In talking with other fans later I found a disappointing response. Palle Hoffstein put it most concisely: why should he, why should anyone take it upon themselves to do remedial education? It wasn't what fandom was for.

That's the bottom line, I guess. Most people are up for fandom as leisure entertainment, not as a volunteer social service group. And not as a community. Not here and now, at any rate.

If we were a little more honest, we might dig a little deeper. The fact is that a lot of skill in being with people is *not* a conscious, explicit knowledge, not something you verbalize. Perhaps a lot of people *can't* express it. Which means that a majority of fans are honestly not up for teaching the backward, and most of us backward types are screwed.

\*

### *Conclusions*

I'm not convinced that we (fans, anyway) deal with problems, when they arise. In fact, I'm pretty much convinced that we ignore problems, as long as they can be ignored, and expel people, rather than communicate with them. To that extent, then, fandom is not a community.

This forces me to ask what it takes to make a community; and why I am in fandom still.

## MATHEMATICS FOR REAL LIFE

(Another download from the Net)

From Barbara Kiss

For all those not taking a real math or physics course, or who wish they didn't, the following paper demonstrates why math is so important and useful in life.

*Knowledge, Power, and Money*

*Abstract:*

A novel mathematical understanding on the secret to wealth and success is obtained.

We start with the well-known information

Knowledge is Power,  
Time is Money,  
Power = Work/Time

We rewrite the above information into mathematical form

$$\begin{aligned} K &= P, & (1) \\ T &= M, & (2) \\ P &= W/T. & (3) \end{aligned}$$

where we have defined K=knowledge, P=power, T=time, M=money, and W=work.

Substituting (3) into (1), we obtain

$$K = W/T. \quad (4)$$

Now substituting (2) into (4), yielding

$$K = W/M. \quad (5)$$

Rewriting in English we obtain

Knowledge equals Work over Money.

Thus, we arrive at the important results

1. The More You Know, the More Work You Do, and
2. The More You Know, the Less Money You Make.

)  
)  
Furthermore, solving for Money, we get

$$M = W/K. \quad (6)$$

That is, Money equals Work Over Knowledge, and is independent on the Work done. We see that Money approaches infinity as Knowledge approaches 0, regardless of the Work done.

Thus, we conclude that

The More You Make, the Less you Know.

Solving for Work, we get

$$W = M \times K, \quad (7)$$

so that Work equals Money times Knowledge.

From (7) we see that Work approaches 0 as Knowledge approached 0, thus verifying another piece of well known information

The Rich do little or no Work.



## OBLIGATORY CRANK THEORY OF THE YEAR: HOLODYNAMICS

(Another download from the Net)

### *Fundamental Concepts of HoloDynamics*

1. Everything is everything - there is a part of each objects "essence" in every other object in the Universe.
2. Everything seeks to become one with everything else - the natural order of things is to connect together in harmony. When this is seen in a system from outside the system this is seen as increasing entropy or a movement toward greater chaos (the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics). When this is seen from inside a system this is seen as antientropic or a movement to greater order.
3. Time is nonlocal - all moments are connected to every moment, past, present and future.
4. The feeling in the human mind associated with (2) is the feeling perceived as Universal Love.
5. The interconnectedness of all things occurs at many different levels or resonances. The greater the number of things that are connected by a resonance than the "higher" the resonance. The number of the types of resonances is beyond human comprehension.
6. The human mind seeks to break down groups of patterns into their resonances. The higher the resonance then the closer the perceived feeling is to Universal Love.
7. The feeling of all things in resonance is perceived as spirit, oneness, or God.
8. The universe and the mind are in harmony when the mind moves toward Universal Love and resonance.

9. HoloDynamics is the study of quantifying higher levels of resonance in the holographically structured (everything in everything) universe and understanding how these resonances change and flow.

10. Since HoloDynamic research deals with the interconnectedness of all things (including HoloDynamic research), normal deductive methods and the scientific method are less favoured as research methodology than intuition and synchronicity.

All comments, criticisms, collaborations, and contributions in the study of HoloDynamics are welcome. Write me!

To greater Love and spirituality!

(originally [?] from shaw@koa.ifa.hawaii.edu)

(received 21 Oct 1995 from: uj257@freenet.victoria.bc.ca [John W. Herbert])

## REVIEWS

I get the odd feeling, while reading zines like *Apparatchik* or *Attitude*, that I am reading about a small in-group from outside. I recognize some of the names, people involved in Corflu or Ditto or Potlatch, and some are even people I know; I catch some in-jokes and references, but not all. Well, this is what I get for not keeping up.

It has been almost a full *year* since my last fanzine came out. In that time I have accumulated a lot of zines in trade, and responded to just a few. I am not going to do justice to them all in a review column. How do I make up for lost time? (That isn't a rhetorical question, I'm open to suggestions.)

*Apparatchik* (which just recently ceased publication, after 80 issues) came closer to being a slim, frequent personalzine than SPLF ever did. The editors managed this by publishing tri-weekly; in a limited space they fit fannish op/ed pieces, a bit of fannish news, articles by the likes of Greg Benford and Ted White, locs and zine reviews. (See *Jezeil* and *Squib* below for the editors' current adventures.)

*Bardic Runes* is a small-press fantasy digest from Ottawa, edited by Michael McKenny (424 Cambridge Street S., Ottawa, ON K1S 4H5), who has been publishing for fifteen issues. Past and present contributors have been scattered across Canada and the States. I'm not sure what else to say about it; fantasy, especially sword-and-sorcery, isn't my strong point.

*BCSFazine* (c/o #110 - 1855 West 2nd Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1J1) continues to publish monthly from Vancouver, now desktop-published by John Wong. Although it is rather better laid-out since John became editor, and there are regular contributions such as a guide to upcoming conventions, Graeme Cameron going on about BCSFAzines of yore, letters, editorials, Internet and media columns, even a gossip column ... I get the sense of something missing. Why is that?

*Le Bulletin* #10, summer 1997, - the new incarnation of the Canadian SF & Fantasy Society. Dare I say more, I wonder. Another bilingual cross-



Canada SF effort, nebulously aimed at supporting SF in Canada. For more information write to the National SF and Fantasy Society, P.O. Box 45063, North Town Postal Outlet, 5385 Yonge St, North York, ON M2N 5R7.

Every so often C.F. Kennedy in Toronto sends me strange little small-press chapbooks. *Curse of a Legendary Bird: A Blessing to Canadians* appears to concern the adventures of, and surrounding, a misplaced phoenix, an Ontario police chief, an Osirian cult which eventually occupies the Egyptian Embassy, and the gruesome but symbolically fitting fate of Ottawa's Parliament Buildings. I kind of liked it. Also received: *Drift* 86 (Necessary Press, Box Forty, 90 Shuter Street, Toronto, ON M5B 2K6)

**Communique** (summer 97 issue) eventually appeared again in my P.O. Box, with news of, by, for and about the writers and other members of SF Canada. This issue was a little light on market news, though considering the contents are in both official languages, they're gamely striving to cross the communication gap across the Ottawa River. (new address ...)

**Con-TRACT:** The last issue I received was in May 97. Presumably I haven't received any more due to non-response on my part. This is a useful newsletter for convention committees, hucksters and others interested in SF conventions across Canada; presumably further editions are available from John Mansfield at [jmansfield@genie.com](mailto:jmansfield@genie.com).

**Derogatory Reference #85 & 86** (July 1997), from Arthur Hlavaty, posted in Yonkers, e-mailed from [hlavaty@panix.com](mailto:hlavaty@panix.com). Issues and opinions from one of fandom's more mysterious figures.

**EMERALD CITY #24**, August 1997 & **#25**, September 1997, from Cheryl Morgan at [cherylmorgan@compuserve.com](mailto:cherylmorgan@compuserve.com) or on-line at <http://www.emcit.com>. How to be a fan with no fixed address; the wanderings of Cheryl Morgan from Australia to Worldcon to the U.S.A. Also: a conreport on LoneStarCon 2 that digs somewhat under the surface.

**Ethel the Aardvark:** I've got so many editions of *Ethel* I don't know how I can catch up. One issue devoted to Japanalia was particularly striking. I greatly enjoyed the "Fanagotchi" fake ad on the cover.

**Converse #1 & Existentialism's a Cruel Business**, another text-heavy, thin zine from Kim Huett (P.O. Box 679, Woden, ACT 2606, Australia), talks about Minnesotan Cultural Imperialism in fanzine fandom, and music in Australia. I kind of like this, although I discovered I don't know anything about contemporary music; I found the description of the power structure in Australian music distribution rather engrossing.

**FanHistorica #5** (Nov. 96), from Joe Siclari & Edie Stern, 4599 NW 5 Ave., Boca Raton, FL 33431-4601.

**File 770** has appeared again. I keep being surprised by that, as I keep thinking over and over that my subscription has run out. (This fall I finally received a plea to renew.) Regulation Taral Wayne cover (great as usual), some con news, even some other fan news. My problem is, I no longer find *File 770* engrossing, or even much concerned with my Canadian/Northwest orbit, in fandom. So what is it about, really? It isn't entirely about the Permanent Floating Worldcon, or American cons, or even California fandom; so what is the focus here? (Mike Glyer, P.O. Box 1056, Sierra Madre, CA 91025; mglyer@compuserve.com)

I've mislaid the envelope in which *First Congress* came, so I'm not sure who sent me this First Congress of the New Lettrist International. As it stands, I learn that the "Neoist Alliance" and the "London Psychogeographical Association" are proposing this virtual congress — and you can write your own report on it *before attending*. I don't know whether this just lampoons political conventions, especially Communist ones, or suggests a novel approach to conreports as well. Hope the editors get lots of contributions. (NA: BM Senior, London WC1N 3XX / LPA: Box 15, 138 Kingsland High St., London E8 2NS, U.K.)

**Fixed Link**, a Maritime regional fan newszine by Brian Davis, appears to be an idea whose time has not yet come: "... of the twenty-one introductory letters that I sent to Maritime SF Clubs, Societies, and Conventions, inviting them to participate, I have not received one

response," he writes. I'm not surprised; even if he offers news to, from and for Maritime con fans, the fans I see tend to devote most of their energies to cons or mostly to fanzines — the majority, these days, to the former. We'll see if the local newszine idea catches on, with anyone. I'm just surprised Davis located all of 21 fan addresses in the Maritimes.

Now, Dale Speirs of Calgary sent me another copy of *Fixed Link*, and two progress reports on inCONsequential, gleaned from his congoing. Thus I learn that even if Maritimers are unfamiliar with fanzine communication, they've joined the bandwagon and put their conventions on Web pages.

FOSFAX is, well, FOSFAX. A sort of highly-charged, opinionated, bimonthly apa, if you judge from the loccol; tastes a little right-wing to me, but then I'm from Canada. Worth getting but you may fall well behind on loccing all the comment hooks, like me. Write c/o FOSFA, P.O. Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281, U.S.A.

**Gasworks** is a new personalzine from John D. Berry (no, the one in Seattle) and Steve Swartz. Fascinating, especially for Howard Waldrop's take on the latest resurgence of the UFO thing. Write to Steve Swartz at 4114 Interlake Ave. North, #4, Seattle, WA 98103 <sts@aa.net> or to John Berry at 525 19th Ave. East, Seattle, WA 98112 <jdb@seanet.com>

**Gegenschein ##75-79:** *Geg* is one of the longest-running zines I have seen from Australia; some of the first issues to come this way were small-press fiction magazines, as I recall. In these issues editor Eric Lindsay (7 Nicoll Avenue, Ryde NSW 2112, Australia) is producing a personalzine, and gives us glimpses into his personal life, which I gather is rather an accomplishment for him. Good show.

What struck a chord for me, in Eric's writing, is how his mother's death made an impression on him. Suddenly he realized how much of a packrat he had become himself, and resolved to change that immediately. Right, that's a good lesson for me too. (Considering I was persuaded to write a will recently, I am well advised to put my effects in better order for proper disposition of my papers ...)

**Hissy Fit** (Vol. 2, 1996) is a local feminist zine I came across at a recent VCon, subsequent to which I started corresponding with editor Margot

Dame (P.O. Box 113, 4250 Fraser Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5V 4G1).  
Check it out.

**The Jezail** is a new zine from Andy Hooper, following the demise of *Apparatchik*; well worth getting. Write him at 4228 Francis Ave. N. #103, Seattle, WA 98103, or e-mail fanmailAPH@aol.com.

The Klingon Imperial Diplomatic Corps periodically sends me email titled "**Klingon Subspace Transmission**", from Capucine Plourde in Montreal. Basically this lets you know who's done what or gotten which rank in their organization. I'm still waiting for fun stuff like "Worf's 1001 Human Jokes" or the next Shakespeare play translated into Klingon; even better would be Gilbert & Sullivan operettas. How about "Pirates of Penzance" or "The Mikado" in Klingon? <<"Three little maids who all unwary ...">> Now I had Capucine's email address right here ...

The thing about *The Knarley Knews* is that it's a nice, regular personalzine, it even features a number of the loccers on my own mailing list ... and I have trouble saying anything about it. Oh, Dr. Welch tells the end of the story about the Tenants from Hell, and another contributor writes an article about his personal information being abused to the extent of his address being sold on a junk-mail list ... but none of this quite strikes a chord with me. Still: write Henry Welch at 1525 16th Ave., Grafton, WI 53024-2017, or email [welch@msoe.edu](mailto:welch@msoe.edu).

**LAST RESORT**, January 1997, from Steve George, 642 Ingersoll St, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3G 2J4 — Steve's first issue online. The continuing adventures of the George family, and Steve's writing life moving from fiction to copy writing. For future editions  
Email: [sgeorge@pangea.ca](mailto:sgeorge@pangea.ca); see also Steve's  
WebPage: <http://www.pangea.ca/~sgeorge/resort.html>

**THE LIPSIG LETTER**, a fairly frequent e-zine from Charles Lipsig <[lipsig@atlantic.net](mailto:lipsig@atlantic.net)> ... many opinion/editorial pieces, on sex, marriage, religion, politics, economics, and sport; a few of them actually strike a chord with me.

**Mimosa** ##19 and 20, Nicki and Richard Lynch, P.O. Box 1350, Germantown, MD 20875, U.S.A.; email [lynch@access.digex.net](mailto:lynch@access.digex.net); Web page <http://www.smithway.org/mimosa>

The exemplar of fannish fanzines as she are writ. Op/ed pieces, fanhistorical pieces, funny/ghastly intern stories from Sharon Farber, letters and zine reviews and locs, and remembrance of fans who have passed on, such as Bob Shaw.

**Opuntia** ##29-34, Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, AB T2P 2E7. Letters, fanhistory, the history of rubber stamps and mimeography, from the man who brings us *The Canadian Journal of Detournement*, *Sansevieria*, *Sempervivum* and other fairly unique zines.

**Pinkette** 15e and 16a (June-July 96 and April 97), the zine Karen Pender-Gunn puts out when *Pink* is still in production. Going back to college; strange laws; Australian driving instructions; fragments of a GUFF trip. I like it. Contact Karen at P.O. Box 567, Blackburn, Vic. 3130, Australia.

On a more sombre note, Karen's husband, famous fanartist Ian Gunn, has been battling with cancer in recent months. Updates have been appearing on email. Everybody think positive or pray for him or burn incense or one of those things. I put a sticker on my MSP card saying I'll donate my organs. Do something.



**The Reluctant Famulus ##46-48**, 422 W. Maple Avenue, Adrian, MI 49221-1627, U.S.A. <tomfamulus@dmci.net >

This should strike me as a gengine like *Mimosa*, but ... I don't quite get it. I don't know why.

**Squib 1 and COA** from Victor Gonzalez: 905 N.E. 45th St. #106, Seattle, WA 98105; squib@galaxy-7.net. A new personalzine from a contentious former co-editor of *Apparatchik*. Well worth getting.

**THE VIEW FROM ENTROPY HALL #12-14** for APA-Q 408, May-July 1997, from Ed Meskys, RR #2 Box 63, (322 Whittier Hwy Mbo), Center Harbor NH 03226-9708, edmund.meskys@gsel.org, 603-253-6207. Text online at: [http://www.conknet.com/~b\\_thurston/entropy](http://www.conknet.com/~b_thurston/entropy)

Also received: *Shadow of a Fan*; *Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin*; *Space Cadet Gazette*; *Stairway to Cleveland #3*; *Thingumybob #15*; *Thyme ##112-116*; *'ukulele 4 & 5*; *Under the Ozone Hole #15*; *Voices from the Boneyard July-Dec 96*; *WeberWoman's Wrevenge 8:6, July 97*; *ZGL Christmastime Report 96*.





Charles Dana Gibson. *Life*

Garth Spencer  
P.O. Box 15335, V.M.P.O.  
Vancouver, B.C.  
CANADA V6B 5B1