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Welcome to *SERCON POPCULT LITCRIT FANMAG #7* (August 1996), the fanzine that's still looking for an English word that rhymes with orange. This episode of *SERCON POPCULT LITCRIT FANMAG* is brought to you by Garth Spencer at Box 15335, V.M.P.O., Vancouver, B.C. CANADA V6B 5B1 (hrothgar@vcn.bc.ca), maker of ~~five~~ fanzines since 1980. All contents copyright (c) 1996 by Stop Press. All copyrights immediately returned to contributors. Patent pending. Fire door no exit. This fanzine is not a signatory of the Communications Decency Act, SALT I & II, or the Geneva accords. This fanzine is not certified biodegradable, non-toxic, or politically correct. This fanzine does not accept Jesus Christ as its personal saviour. This fanzine knows why the caged bird sings. This little fanzine went to market. And this little fanzine went wee wee wee all the way home.

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**MISSING, PRESUMED FLED:** Ron Currie?

### SINCE OUR LAST EPISODE

Life proceeds in its regular way this side of the creek.

Since May I have been on UI, having been relieved of employment for reasons unclear to me. I'm just as happy, like two or three of my fanzine correspondents, except for the reduction in disposable income. I have spent rather little time on job-searching -- can't see myself having a productive interview in a suit, in this weather -- and rather a lot of time on e-mail, and on fiddling with a Web site.

Why just as happy? Well, I have this big chip welded to my shoulder, when it comes to issues of communication. As I've said bluntly in the past, people who won't communicate aren't people, in my value system. That just means I can't deal with them, of course; but to me, that's a good enough reason not to try. I am a little wary of unclear directions, and frankly, a bit obstinate about getting task requirements spelled out. Many of you humans require me to go to great lengths to get adequate communications from you, but you are programmed very badly to communicate co-operatively and effectively with co-workers.

Come to think of it, if I acted like I expected bullshit, that may be why I was canned.

"What Web site?" you ask. Well, thereby hangs a story.

At some point I came into contact with a sort of Ginger Group in the local Freenet, all wanting to know when they could get on with some projects long promised. Since a local lawyer got off his duff and OK'd a form for local non-profit groups to sign,

there has been a lot more progress getting the Vancouver CommunityNet upgraded to a new, Lynx-based setup, and making Web pages available for non-profit groups to use.

So now, when darkness falls and the moon rises, I don my masked crimefighter outfit and become the Royal Swiss Navy.

This gag was kicking around in my head anyway, and I wanted to /p/l/a/y work with a Web page, so that's how the URL specified below came into existence. So far I have concentrated on presenting documents, lists of names and addresses and groups, and Web links that are useful and interesting to science fiction fans, or just generally useful (like "Father of Shareware"), or just generally absurd and amusing. The RSN itself ought to be a reasonable excuse for comedy, practical jokes, or various forms of satire, especially if I get other people involved.

I did get a little energetic about job-hunting in August, not that I expect a whole lot of results immediately. Casting seed on stony ground, as it were; even in the Big City of Vancouver, jobs, as "jobs", are not as thick on the ground as they were ten years ago. New world order, global economy, "free trade" and all that. Still, I ought to get a \*few\* returns.

Much against my better judgement I was persuaded to work on the committee for a new science fiction convention. In the new world order any new convention faces an uphill climb, to get established successfully. I now find myself working with people who want to hold a 500+ member convention in Harrison Hot Springs. (This is an improvement, at first they thought they could get over a thousand people and hold it in Canada Place, God help us.) I'm just going to finish my work on the program book and not deal with anything else; the success, or lack of it, of a new convention is very much a matter of chance.

My cousin Anthony has had me over to his place a few times to show him around the Internet and Web URLs. Unfortunately he's working on a much more sophisticated system, and program -- as a Freenet user I am limited to a DOS-based Web browser like Lynx, even if I weren't limited to a Zenith XT from the early 1980s. His 486 and Netscape system are almost foreign territory to me. Well, we're still learning things.

I have been refusing to spend much money for a while, as I expected to get a deal on a used 386: making connections in the SF community has its payoffs.

## The Royal Swiss Navy: How I Got There From Here (1)

(see <http://www.vcn.bc.ca/sig/rsn>)

As I said above, I found myself starting a Web page on my local Internet service provider. This has become a repository for my various files on SFnal subjects, and it just keeps on growing.

Mindful of a need expressed by Chester Cuthbert, I should explain a few fundamentals that lead up to this.

I remember clearly the first time I heard the word "software", in high school; I thought it was somebody's cute back-formation from the word "hardware". Now people say "hardware" to mean physical machines and "software" to mean the programs they run on the machines, and nobody thinks twice; it isn't being cute or with it, it's just standard English now.

After several years working as an electronic peon, I have an adequate, but not very impressed view of computers and their applications. Computers are multipurpose tools - in effect, they are used like very powerful typewriters, given that they relate to typewriters as the Swiss Army knife relates to a flint blade. **Programs** are the real stars, they make computers useful. "Files" or "documents" are what programs produce, or modify. (Of course there are more things than written text that programs can produce, but I'm not much interested in games, graphics, or other program applications.)

In the last two decades, and especially in the last five years, an increasing number of people are "going online", that is, getting access at least to second- and third-hand computer equipment, and at least limited access to Internet communication capability. As I point out elsewhere to Lloyd Penney, you don't **have** to have first-hand, up-to-date equipment, or programs. But he's quite right to point out that the ability or inability to afford relatively current computer products is creating a class division.

The usual method for playing about with the Internet is to get ahold of an Internet Service Provider - a company like CompuServe, GENie, or America OnLine - and paying monthly for an electronic address at their mainframe. The computer program then handles the telephone calls, conversion of digital information to electronic noise and back again, and merely charges you for time.

The Freenet (in Vancouver, now called the Vancouver CommunityNet) makes limited Internet access available to people who aren't necessarily in the upper middle income class tax bracket (remember what I said about a class division?), and especially to non-profit, community-oriented special interest groups. Some of these are seriously motivated and some are more leisure-interest motivated.

There seem to be three main activities that require hooking together a computer, a modem, and a telephone line: electronic mail (e-mail), reading and writing to "newsgroups", and viewing World Wide Web "pages".

It's one thing to send what is, in essence, an electronic letter via telephone line from your terminal or computer to the electronic address of another computer user. If matters had proceeded thus far and no farther, the Internet would simulate essentially the kind of home radio operation my uncle had in the basement. It's quite another thing when people with special interests - political, business, medical or SFnal - set up a newsgroup, which essentially banks a series of e-mail messages on a common notice-board. As I've written elsewhere, leisure-interest newsgroups, umm ... drift off their stated topic right quick, shall I say, rather the way APAs have done and continue to do.

Then there is the World Wide Web, which is something else again. Apparently there are at least two contributing parts to this. ARPANet, one of the first progenitors of the Internet, was partly an electronic communication system conceived for the purposes of the American military; for one thing, there was a need for fast communication of large files of research, and for another thing, there was a concern that "infrastructure" - at least, continent-wide communications - be preserved even in the face of nuclear bombardment. What happened was the development of a distributed system; ostensibly, no mainframes, machines, or lines in the Internet have priority over any others, if some are knocked out by direct hits or electro-magnetic pulses, others will survive and establish communication links by alternate means. Another step was taken by CERN, the European particle-accelerator research establishment, where any number of links to distant machines, directories, or files could be attached to a name in a document file, and as you read a body of text, you could select the link and jump to the related subject. This developed into Hypertext, and thence Hypertext Markup Language. (Now you can poke holes in the foregoing and point out the mistakes in my understanding of the subject. I think it will do for a first run, though.)

Being the man I am I thought immediately of running a science-fiction-oriented Web page.

It must have struck you that one whole category of fannish enterprises does not develop fully, then another, and then another, anywhere you look on the globe. At one and the same time, some fan groups are growing, some are feuding and splitting up, and some are dying; in the middle of this, some of them (not always the logical ones to expect) are starting fanzines, or starting a new convention; and in the middle of this, some are starting rilly sercon literary reviews, at the same time as others are starting fannish hoaxes; and ... well, sooner or later we can expect a sercon review from a Star Trek club or a hoax apa from a Tolkien/Mythopoeic Society group, or what have you. Really mixed up. What I'm getting at is that you don't see a fan community sequentially gather members, start a registered club, start a fanzine, then

found a con, then have their First Fight, then split into opposing groups (zines, and cons), then ..., and then ..., and then ... In fact, this absence of sequentiality is something that Hypertext documents might deal with, better than the "linear" documents fans have produced until now. I am thinking of the New Moon Directory of apas, Harry Hopkins' Fandom Directory, or other lists of clubs, conventions and fanzines; or the rather linear fanhistories (and conrunning guidelines) that fans have struggled to compile.

Only I had to tell my Internet Service Provider I was a club, not an individual. Hence the Royal Swiss Navy, and I will tell you more about them next issue.

This summer has passed relatively cheerfully because I keep finding more Web sites out there to link to -- Saul Jaffe's SF-Lovers site at Rutgers, Paul Neumann's Canadian SF fandom guide in Ontario, various sites for conrunning files -- and because it gives me something to learn. Not only HTML, but also how challenging it is to remember to end the boldface or italic formats as well as start them, in HTML files. It's generally simpleminded things that trip you up.

There are linked subjects to this: for instance, whether there is a real need for one more fannish Web page; how page and book design considerations resurface in Web publishing; the hidden threat to Western linearity represented by Hypertext, perhaps; but I invite you to express them yourself.

## CONVENTION REPORTS

### Potlatch 5, Portland, Oregon, February 1996

I could just barely afford this con, as I was working. So I bussed down to Portland, pulled in just after the hold on my room expired, and got to party with other fannish types starting about 1 a.m. Saturday morning.

The downtown hotel turned out to be a good venue for a smallish con, given that the interests of Potlatch are so focused, the low attendance didn't really challenge the limited function space. While I was there the depopulated dealers' room was pretty dead.

My own focus was kind of odd, as it bore on the kinds of conversations I had, topics covered and information exchanged. For months afterward I was referring to the complimentary issue of *Speculations* magazine included with each member's package (a writers' market digest), in the course of updating my Electronic Scrapbook.

Now, remember, this was February. In Portland, which is part of this mild-isn't-it coastal weather zone. So of course everything froze up just as I was getting ready

to leave. I was lucky, I got the last bus out (and still had to stay overnight in Seattle). The next act: massive flooding in Washington state when the weather warmed up.

V-CON 21, "MARS WINS!", May 17-19, 1996 at the Delta-Pacific Resort and Conference Center, Richmond, B.C. Guest of Honour: Kim Stanley Robinson. Fan Guest of Honour: William Gibson. Toastmaster: R. Graeme Cameron. Special Guests: Spider and Jeanne Robinson, Don H Debrandt, Alan Barclay, Mike Jackson, Sally McBride, Dale Sproule, Eileen Kernaghan, Mel Gilden, Richard Pitt, John Gadjeci and anyone else they added while I wasn't looking.

This was the revival of Vancouver's regular May convention after a suspension of three years. There has been almost a complete changeover of who in BCSFA is willing to put effort into conrunning, and this year's committee decided to go to a Richmond hotel; their choice was a very confusingly laid-out structure. When closing ceremonies included the announcement that V-Con 22 would be at a different hotel, people applauded.

This gathering served mainly as another chance for me to touch base with people I hadn't seen in months, if not years. The main information exchange I can point to is that Richard Wright dropped off with me a copy of *The Conventioneer*, a newsletter now put out by the Northwest Convention League. Not before time.

Viking Con 16, August 16-18 at Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA.

Decided to treat myself, and spent one (1) day at a small convention in Bellingham. It was interesting to have the kind of conversation there I don't get to have too often in mundane, philistine Vancouver, or to hear Greg Benford expound on how few writers grasp personal finance. Mind you this is coming from a scientist who is also a successful SF author, and lives in California, and has stock in Microsoft, and like that.

Practically the only panels I saw were the tail end of Benford on current GUTs physics (one idea tossed off: has the universe been trying out different basic parameters, field forces and space curvatures and so on, and winnowing out by stages the ones that don't work?), and the panel on the history of fandom, and local conventions. Don Glover was there, of course, and circulated photos of past Northwest conventions, i.e. the first Norwescon, and Seacon (early Worldcons held in Seattle). I learned that Marci Malinowycz originated from WWU and the early Vikingcons.

To my surprise John Mansfield was there, having detoured from doing business in Seattle, and we had a conversation with Steve Forty. One thing that surprised me was

John's story of how Creation Con ended up getting canned from doing cross-border business.

Got a number of people at Hospitality interested in the Royal Swiss Navy, and had a gas doing associated routines with other frustrated comedians present. This running gag may yet acquire a state of reality. Maybe I should start a newsletter for the various people who have suggested words that rhyme with "orange". Maybe I should run ads.

LOCS

(A: to SPLF 5)

**Michael McKenny** <bn872@freenet.carleton.ca>, 8 Nov 1995

... Here are a few SF items of interest from around the world that I am sharing with other people, including N3F. I am the Overseas Bureau Head of this fannish organization which has existed for more than fifty years. Some of these you may have already read in earlier communications of mine or others.

CHINA: I found out a few months ago that there is sf in this vast country. The previous head of N3F, Ann Valley, has been in touch with a publisher there. I've written to him but so far have had no response. Previously when I asked Chinese students here, they did not know about sf except as a Western thing.

UK: Recently, I received a copy of *Zene*, a British publication about various independent publishers. These included a new fantasy magazine, *Broadsword*, which was to be out in July. I have written to both *Zene* and *Broadsword*, including a copy of Canada's *Bardic Runes* with its notice about N3F.

AUSTRALIA: Through the Internet, I have access to considerable info on Australian sf and fantasy, much of it media related. If anyone would like more information on this country kindly let me know. (I'll try to send you tid bits regularly)

NEW ZEALAND: Lyn McConchie has sent a copy of the book she co-wrote with Andre Norton to Rodney Leighton in Nova Scotia who has not read any other Andre Norton.

Former USSR: I remain in touch with a number of sf people in various parts of this vast area. The latest addition to the list is writer Yuri Scherbatykh who gave a copy of one of his books to an Ottawa fan at Worldcon to be passed on to a Russian reading person here. He asked for this person to correspond with him and he has already replied to my first letter.

Among other activity is my placing a story by Sergei Strel'chenko with US small press sf zine *Xizquil*.

Well, now I ought to get busy trying to solve the printing problem of *Bardic Runes XII*.

Chester D. Cuthbert, 1104 Mulvey Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3M 1J5, March 12, 1996

*(a misplaced loc to SPLF 5)*

Surely you know that few Canadian fans are better known than yourself; for years you have been enlightening us about history and events in Canadian fandom, either through your own publications or through outlets like *Opuntia*.

*((Well, uh, no, I didn't know I was particularly well-known. Consider as a parallel the fact that it takes a fanzine editor at least quarterly publication and a print run of at least 500 copies to be well-known enough for, say, fanzine Hugo nomination; obviously I don't rate. And that information is ten years old. So is my claim to fame, as a Canadian newszine editor.))*

The fanzines you list at the conclusion of SPLF 5 are more than I am prepared to read and respond to; my personal correspondence takes up much time, and my reading, which has been my main activity since I retired from business, still uses the bulk of my available leisure. You may have noticed that Dale Speirs does not print my full address now; I cannot add to my correspondents.

Although most of the letters you published are dated from 1994, their contents are still interesting and valuable. You are inspiring a good readership.

I have recently sold my full set of *Astounding Science Fiction* from January, 1930 to 1965, and age compels me to break up other parts of my collection. I doubt that there is any market for the collection as a whole, because most collectors already have parts of it. ...

Lloyd Penney (see COA), May 11, 1996

I suspect it will be a long time before I ever get online. I would need to buy another computer (I have a clunky 286), another monitor (mine's monochrome), a new OS (I have DOS 5.0, I think), a new modem (someone recently took pity on me, and gave me an old 2400 baud modem card), a dedicated phone line and an Internet software package in order to get access on a Freenet. *Free?* I don't have \$5,000 to blow. In fact, we've cancelled our plans to go to the Worldcon in order to pay off some serious car repairs. I just can't afford this free access. I'd love to get access to the Timebinders' files, but not without Net access.

*((Yeah. Well, I am working on donated or second/third-hand equipment, which reduces my capital outlay for hardware by an order of magnitude and more.*

*((I am \*stunned\* by the requirements you attribute to the Toronto Freenet. I accessed the Vancouver CommunityNet (formerly Freenet) using an XT with DOS 3.30, Procomm Plus, and a 2400 baud modem, using this house's voice telephone line when everyone was asleep, and paying only a \$35 yearly membership. With that I was uploading my fanhistory files to the Timebinders, downloading SF market information and writers' guidelines from the Web, and all kinds of neat far-out groovy things.*

*((Because the old Compaq I was using went a little wonky I am now using a Zenith XT with DOS 5.0; I now use Procomm Plus 2.4.2, and I decided to spring for my own phone line, but that's not necessary.))*

*(On my not understanding John Mansfield's attitude to out-of-towners looking at ConAdian:)*

John Mansfield's defensive attitude about the Winnipeg Worldcon in his convention fanzine is not surprising, given how much criticism he took in the planning of ConAdian, and even the staging of it. I enjoyed the con, but then, I was busy in the fanzine lounge, running into people who I'd never met before, like Dale Speirs.

*((Ah. So John was taking shit that I didn't know about? Yeah, that was the sense I got from his comments, after thinking them over a few times. Wish he wouldn't assume people already know things he hasn't directly related ...*

*((I also have the sense that John took shit from Canadian, rather than American fans; \*or\* that he's still taking personally a ritual, "bash-the-upcoming-Worldcon-with-a-rumour-campaign", which I think is enacted for every upcoming Worldcon or Westercon. Thus it was either some party's insecurity at issue, or a regular rite of initiation/abuse, but in neither case was it actually personal.))*

Now that I have spent portions of 14 years working on or running conventions, I find that my energy levels are a little down, too. I also figure that I've done more than my bit, and most of us wander from one interest to another during our fannish careers. I still enjoy cons, because the social contact is a vital part of fandom for me, and fanzines provide the virtual contact.

Yes, media fandom is fragmenting, and continues to do so as newer and better shows eat away at the still-burgeoning Star Trek franchise Paramount continues to flog. For many areas of fandom, communication is not important. Sure, there are conrunning zines, filking zines, mediazines and publications for most other fannish interests, but for those interests, the real part of fandom is doing. For the most part, the mediafans merely observe and gawk. A litcon will have some individuals, but I find myself a part of a large interconnected group of friends. At a mediacon, however, most seem to be there for an individual experience, and not to meet others with similar interests. They will arrive as an unconnected individual, meet an actor, and buy an action figure or 12, but they will leave as an individual, never having made any social contact.

*((Thus mediafandom grows and fragments, as fandom grew and fragmented, as in fact mainstream culture has swelled and fragmented into subcultures. Do you see here why I think SF fandom is both the product and the captive of impersonal mass culture? There wouldn't have been an SF fandom without SF, itself the product of speculative literature meeting the pulp fiction industry, or without the need of the readers to find **someone** who shared and validated their interests. Perhaps it was inevitable that fandom would grow enormously when media SF appeared, but that also meant it would become less a community with some common values and understandings.))*

My letter ... I will be Chairman Emeritus for Ad Astra 16, although my activities have been kept to zero by the committee. Yvonne and I ran the con suite at FilkONtario 6 this year, and involvement in the Los Angeles and San Antonio Worldcons have been reduced to nil and little, respectively. We're not going to L.A.Con III, and even going to San Antonio is iffy now. *Rune* has had some kind of revival, even if it was an issue that hadn't been delivered to me until some months after its publication.

And your comments on my letter ... there is almost no contact between the local Trekfen and the fen who hang around the Merril. The exceptions are Peter Bloch-Hansen, who is a Trekfan and a correspondent for Starlog Press in New York, and Lorraine Pooley, who is a part of local Trek club and con committees, and is also a voracious SF reader and member of the Canadian SF & F Foundation. ...

(B: 10 SPLF 6)

**Harry Andruschak**, Box 5309, Torrance, CA 90510-5309, USA, March 9, 1996

... I was on vacation in Italy from 18 February to 2 March, and I am still trying to clear out the backlog of mail. Italy was a marvel of churches, museums, art galleries, Roman ruins, and the charms of Venice. The downside was that the country was mostly inhabited by Italians trashing up the landscape and smoking up a storm. I need to type up a vacation report for FOSFAX when I have the time.

Reading through the zine, I came across Joseph T. Major's comment on my looking for a "balanced" lover. Well, one day of the tour was spent passing through Verona, and we walked to Juliette's (*sic*) house with the famous balcony from which she addressed Romeo as well as a bronze statue of Juliette which the locals insist will bring you a new lover if you rub the left breast. Of the tour group of almost 60, I was the ONLY one to rub the left breast. I assume everyone else was happily married besides which their spouses were there also. Just to make it sure, when I was in Rome I threw two coins into the Trevi fountain, one to return to Rome and another to wish for a new lover. Mind you, I am not superstitious ... but ...

SF conventions. The last Worldcon I attended was the 1998 in New Orleans. ((1998, did you say?)) I have been unable to get time off from the Post Office to attend another. Indeed, with my current days off being Thursdays and Fridays, working weekends, the last convention I attended was the 1993 CORFLU. I am not sure if I will even bother to attend this year's Worldcon.

And having minaced out of FAPA, I probably qualify as a GAFIAtE anyhow.

**Teddy Harvia**, 701 Regency Drive, Hurst, TX 76054-2307, USA, 17 April 1996

...The acceptance of computer spelling checkers of any word anywhere as long as it is spelled correctly will eventually blur subtle meanings, and choices such as "they're," "there" or "their" will no longer matter. So thar!

*((Not hardly, mate. I correct this sort of confusion in my employers' handwritten drafts all the time. The spelling checkers I use just sit there and go "duhhh" without someone like me in the loop, who has to make such distinctions to make sensible sentences. They're hardly subtle distinctions, what you're pointing out, except to people who don't spend half their waking lives reading ... come to think of it, that describes over 75% of the population, doesn't it? No. What I said in the beginning must have been wrong.*

*((You may be thinking of distinctions like /insure/ vs. /ensure/, /principle/ vs. /principal/, or /practice/ vs. /practise/, which I grant you are not distinguished in North American English. Much. I admit I confuse /will/ and /shall/ a lot, myself.))*

**Terry Jeeves**, 56 Red Scar Drive, Scarborough, N. Yorks. YO12 5RQ, U.K. (May 1996)

Excuse [my] hand scrawl and brevity, but I'm into my fifth week of laying flat on my back with a very painful "slipped disc" -- which shows no signs of improvement. /Erg/ 134 is on indefinite hold and correspondence level down to an all-time low.

Many thanks for the copy of SPLF -- typing that title often will show you why I called my fanzine *Erg*. Beautifully produced and printed, but not enough illos -- sob.

Interesting to see the USA now has a law against indecency on the Net -- and that abortion must not be discussed. Does this also apply to letters in the mail?

Why does a project carry on? Well, my *Erg* is in its 38th year, and each time I considered stopping it, I got withdrawal symptoms as I *have* to write and communicate.

Who's Who:  
JEEVES, Terry, 56 Red Scar Drive (you got it right).

Married.

Fan since 1938.

Member: First Fandom.

In OMPA, FAPA, ASFA, N3F, FAS, etc.

Awards: Doc Weir Award.

Published *Triode*, *Con Science*, checklist of *Astounding* Parts 1, 2 & 3, *Duplicating Notes*, *Erg* 1 to 133, *Vector* 1, 2 & 3.

First con: 1947.

Credits: artwork, stories & articles. Sold stories, contributed to index to *Astounding* & SF Fandom.

Hope you can read that, as the pen does like working upwards (now using pencil).

Re: unreadable media. I have three cine-cameras (2 Std. 8 and one Super), all unusable as you cannot get film. When my dual-gauge projector packs up, all my old films will be unscreenable.

You can no longer buy reel-to-reel recorders, so my library of tapes, including con tapes, will vanish when my recorder packs up. Cassette players no longer have microphone inputs and record decks will not play 78's, 45, or 33 1/3 discs ... so *all* my huge stock of memorabilia will soon be lost completely ... what price progress?

Clifton Amsbury, 768 Amador Street, Richmond, CA 94805, USA, May 6, 1996

I'm not annoyed; there is no reason I should be in "the secret papers of the CPUSA" or any other documents of theirs. On the other hand there's no reason McCarthy should have had any ideas about Earl Browder, since by the time the senator discovered the political values of anti-Communism, Earl Browder was *not* the chair of the reorganized party.

But actually Joseph Majors has a legitimate grievance against me. We had a very active correspondence going, but both of us tend to answer our mail immediately. I was almost finished responding to his last letter to me when I realized that the correspondence was too active and set the letter down. Well, I develop piles. After a couple of years I got back to the bottom of that one and I still haven't gotten around to picking our letters up and finishing. I've been very busy lately, but that's not why.

*((I'm reminded of Chester Cuthbert's letter, above. Practically, you can only do so much correspondence, and no more.))*

Chester Cuthbert, May 7, 1996

Although you do not mention having received my letter of March 12, 1996, I did acknowledge SPLF 5, and I now write to thank you for #6, which arrived yesterday.

*((See your letter above -- I honestly didn't find your March 12th letter again until after your May 7th letter arrived! This is the price I pay for using the Pile method of organization.))*

One of my big problems in reading modern fanzines is my computer-illiteracy; many of the words used are incomprehensible and lead me to wonder how much else in the current world is a complete mystery to me. I am beginning to wonder if it may be difficult for me to communicate with new generations of people!

Referring to the letter of Harry Warner, Jr., I have a 3-speed player and plenty of LPs and 78s but only a few 45s. I am content with records and have no taping facilities or means of using them. Almost like Lovecraft, it seems that I am still living mostly in the past, a comparatively recent one, but out of tune with modern life. Muriel and I often comment about how different today's world is from that in which we began life.

*((By stages computers are becoming normal fixtures, like typewriters. Most of us know as little about the innards or technicalities of computers as we do about*

*electronic typewriters. The outside, user end of the widget is all we have to bother with, normally, and part of the process of socializing the machines is our settling down and accepting this.*

*((Yet I take your point. Recently it dawned on me again what Dick and Leah Zeldes Smith were trying to bring up and discuss, one or two years ago, in Stet -- how much technological change we have accepted in the course of our recent lives. I was struck by the thought of how English has changed, into the deal! Computer technese is just one visible part of the vocabulary change.*

*((At 39 I find myself already living in a world I don't recognize. Mind you I can handle all the changes, one by one, it's dealing with their consequences all together that challenges me.))*

*((I prefer not to think about how much \*I\* live in the past -- the mainstream society around me seems utterly Philistine to me, and I can't even see how many ways I come off as a geek, or a time-traveller from 1972, in 1996 Vancouver. It doesn't bear too much thinking about.*

*((If you like I can put together a glossary of neologisms. C.F. Kennedy of Toronto seems to need one, just for the fanspeak terms I use.))*

Garth, the Canadian Who's Who "short biographies": How in the world could you compile a short list of your own published material? I have been published both professionally and in many fandom outlets, some of them long forgotten, even by me. I may not even live long enough to survive publication of the list and practically no-one remembers events of the '30s and earlier.

If you have suggestions about condensation of material, I might try to send you sufficient data, but I think the whole idea is impractical. Consider the *Canadian Fan Directory* which was assembled during the 1950s: most of the fans could not even then be located.

You will likely receive similar comments from others; please cover the situation in your next SPLF.

*((Here's your bio as I construct it:*

*("Cuthbert, Chester: An older fan and surviving member of an early Canadian SF group (the Winnipeg SF Society, a member group of the 1948-1951 Canadian SF Association), Chester Cuthbert later inherited the former WSFS SF library, which he found engulfing and devouring his home."*

*((The speed of communication on the Internet is such that I plan to post on the Web a trial Who's Who in Fandom file, inviting corrections and additions as people view it, and basically cut-and-paste into it the information they send me. This reduces the time - and labour, interestingly enough - by a few orders of magnitude.*

*((As long as all the machinery works, of course.))*

Joseph Major <jtmajor@iglou.com>, Fri, 10 May 1996  
Subject: NIEKAS Rises From the Grave?

In *Twink 2* (4725 Dorsey Hall Drive, Suite A, Box 700, Ellicott City, Maryland 21042 USA) there is a letter from Ed Meskys saying "Since losing my



regular typesetter I have had a great deal of trouble producing *NIEKAS*, but am well along on both 45 and 46. Both should come out before the end of the year." [op. cit. p. 10]

That sounds rather ambiguous.

SPLF 6 arrived -- Lisa got a copy and so did the club. It was Joe Hensley who raised the point to me about Degler not being a thief, and I believe *All Our Yesterdays* says as much.

**Joseph Major**, 7 Jul 1996:

Harry Andruschak reports that Ed Meskys has a complete issue of *NIEKAS* on disk but will have to find the money to publish it. Andy met Ed at the National Federation of the Blind convention in LA, on the 5th.

**Erwin S. Strauss**, 101 S. Whiting St. #700, Alexandria, VA 22304, USA, May 11, 1996

Thanks for sending SPLF 6. I'm currently involved in a couple of projects that are basically running on an initial rush of enthusiasm, and I'm wondering if I'll bring them off before I hit the "Daugherty limit". Keep the perzine faith (even if I don't) ...

*((See Harry Warner's letter below ...*

*((In later mail I received an explanation of Erwin's last sentence: he has ceased publication of the SF Convention Register, whose role will now be assumed by Con-Temporal, another convention listing publication, from Texas.))*

**Julia and Craig Hilton** <archon@ois.com.au>, Sun, 12 May 1996

Thanks for SERCON POPCULT LITCRIT FANMAG. Life is pretty busy, but I found time to squeeze it in. Julia and I have just gone \*on-line\*, as you \*computerheads\* seem to call it. It's great fun to \*surf the net\*, but also greatly consuming of time. So anyway, I've got a spare moment now, and I thought I'd send you a letter.

One thing I've just discovered is that with the advent of the modem and the net and all that, there's a new application for the fanzine. You can read it in the waiting time while the screen is showing all the bytes that have been downloaded. As I said, you can spend an awful lot of time simply waiting for something to appear before you even know whether you wanted it in the first place or not. I once thought that going on the net was like opening the door to a great library with all its possibilities and many more books and magazines than you could possibly read in one lifetime. I've now refined that - it's like a library where you have to count to five hundred slowly before you can take any book off the shelf. You might as well read a fanzine in the meantime.

The Telecommunications Decency Act was frankly a law of which I was unaware. It's true, I live in Australia and might easily miss news of this sort from the USA, but I do try and keep an eye out for it. It just seems a very restrictive - and

subjective - measure. A US person is not allowed to put anything on the net which is "indecent", or in other words "not suitable for children under the age of 12". Who's to say what's suitable for these children and what's not? You may want your 12 year old to know what abortion and AIDS are, and yet protect them from outright pornography. Abortion and AIDS are out. Strangely, Coke and KFC are in. The one side the powers-that-be don't want our children to be conversant in, the other side it's open slather on brainwashing. Funny values we allow to be inflicted on our children.

Must fly. I hope this gets down the wire to you in one piece.

*((It sounds a little as though your modem works slowly, compared with the speed/mass of data that is out there. I am in a similar position. I suspect that a lot of real people, as opposed to those "earning" over \$50,000 a year, are struggling with yesterday's technology. David Langford is, or was, attempting to serve people saddled with "orphan" software and hardware, but he can tell you whether this company has any degree of success yet.*

*((I also suspect the Communications Decency Act in the States is a "spent provision", like constitutional or legal provisions that are essentially a waste of paper. Not enforceable; or only an excuse for legal agencies to selectively harass some targets. Just a political gesture, intended to impress some interest groups. More later ...))*

**Harry Warner Jr.**, 423 Summit Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740, USA, May 15, 1996

Your query on page 1 about whether fans and fan groups fail to meet their own goals and your reference on page 2 to the Daugherty project seem made to order to evoke one of my strong convictions. I don't think that fans fail to attain their intentions any more regularly today than they did in the past, but I do think it's wrong to refer to Daugherty projects.

Walter J. Daugherty was one of the excellent, capable fans who were vilified endlessly in print by several of their enemies (Al Ashley and E. Everett Evans shared this fate). But Walter has triumphed in the end and the "Daugherty project" insult isn't really justified. I had a long telephone conversation with him some months ago. He is retired from his career as a museum director, apparently in comfortable circumstances, still providing photographic assistance to Forry Ackerman's professional undertakings, occasionally visiting an LASFS meeting, and possessed of a razor-sharp mind with astonishing memory of people and events dating a half-century and further back. Those who tried to turn him via mimeograph into an idiotic Fan Quixote haven't all lived to see Los Angeles fandom accomplish things that they would have decried as Daugherty projects: ownership of its own club building, for instance, sponsorship of Worldcons and annual regional cons, publisher of a fat fan history book, and so on. Every time you see a fan at a con with an audio or video tape recorder to preserve speeches and panels, he or she is following up Walter's pioneering project of preserving the voices of the LASFS on phonograph

records. He has lived a successful mundane life, something several of his detractors failed to achieve, and he doesn't deserve to be given a fictitious character as a fan.

*((I stand corrected. Thank you.*

*((Your use of the word "successful" brings up one of my perplexities, one so old I usually pass over it. There are a lot of things people say and do that I find meaningless and don't think twice of it. One of them is the word "success." I myself am "unsuccessful", and always feel vaguely bothered about it, but I would be hard put to define what "success" is. In the context of 20th Century English, what does "success" mean? Financial security? Building a business? Establishing a personal, or family estate? Professional accomplishment? Granted, "success" may mean all of these things, but no-one has ever defined it in my hearing.*

*((I think the same fuzzy-mindedness that got me to traducing Walter Daugherty gets us to swallowing some party or party's social values without demanding definitions. We might well consider just how much BS we have taken in this way, and with what result.))*

rich brown isn't right in identifying Claude Degler with the 1930s. He claimed to have organized the Cosmic Circle in 1940, and that was the year when his first known contacts with fans occurred at the Chicon in 1940. His first fanzine appeared in 1941. It wasn't until 1943 that fandom became really aware of the Cosmic Circle. He was still semi-active as late as 1950.

I don't think I would define Claude as "mad". His effort to convert fandom into Cosmic Circle wasn't any more irrational than the dozens of fans who were ardently spreading Communist propaganda in fandom during the same years, and its potential for harm was much smaller. There's some reason to believe that some of Claude's wildest effusions were deliberate attempts to stir up the fannish anthill, done simply to enjoy the reaction. I also feel it's wrong to claim that fans, on the average, were no more intelligent than mundanes, on the average, only because there were no illiterates in fandom. Several tentative attempts at giving intelligence tests and mental alertness tests to fans seemed to indicate a better than average intellect for the typical fan.

*((If, that is, the tests weren't skewed to favour the literate subjects with a lot of urban, abstract vocabulary -- as indeed the standard IQ tests have been.*

*((The trend in recent decades -- rather slow, in my opinion -- has been to recognize that there are several different kinds of intelligence, and until very recently "IQ" really excluded a lot of intelligence; that in fact the majority of people do not naturally think in terms of words, let alone print, but in visual images, or kinesthetic sense impressions. The fact that even highly-paid professionals have spelling problems in English tends to bear this out. You have to wonder how many potentially effective and productive people are wasted, merely due to language-based prejudice. I say this as someone aware of his own language-based snobbishness.*

*((I concede, though, the people who master verbal thinking and English spelling also absorb the importance of making distinctions, keeping similar things separate, which is critical for clear thinking.))*

Tony Davis is right about the treasures to be found in old pulps. I might point out that not all those old magazines cost as much in second-hand condition today as *The Spider* or

*Weird Tales*. Hundreds of issues of the science fiction pulps from the 1940s and 1950s can be found by a little shopping through dealers' catalogs at prices approximately the same as the average new paperback science fiction published in 1996. In most cases, the old magazines have a better quality of fiction. They also have the advantage of bringing much more if the owner decides to sell them after reading them than the new paperback book.

I know all about the limited longevity of the paper used in books and periodicals today. But one thing I haven't encountered yet is a report on how rapidly deterioration occurs for the type of paper used by commercial copy shops. These establishments haven't been around long enough for apparent changes in colour or flexibility to occur. So I wonder if there's any real point in preserving the contents of old documents via office copiers. Of course, paper shouldn't be blamed because it isn't immortal. Carving in stone sounds like a good way to preserve information but a visit to any old graveyard will show what happens in a couple of centuries to gravestones. Black and white film that is properly developed and stored at the right humidity and temperature levels is probably the longest-lived method generally available today, but colour films deteriorate in a few decades. There have been enough reports of CD rot and aging of laser discs after barely a dozen years since their introduction to discourage me from hoping those little pits will survive indefinitely. Anything that depends on magnetism is bound to lose its contents over long periods of time.

*((Points well taken.*

*((I have sometimes wondered why, if 3M and Dupont can make non-biodegradable (and sometimes toxic) carbon-based plastics, they can't make silicon-based plastics for very-long-life documents? Or, have they been developed - and mothballed?*

*((I suspect that, along with the impending crash of many computer systems if they can't count from 1999 to 2000, or from the year 2000 to 2001, we have an impending crisis from the physical dissolution of valuable reference documents on short-lived media. Poul Anderson suggested that even in a resource-depleted future, the technical information to use whatever scrap remained would be widespread. Not for more than a few decades, I suspect; certainly not for a century or three, as in his Maurai future history.*

*((It's interesting how widely different future histories vary in their projection of a) future social change, and b) the endurance of hardware and software. Compare Hogan's Giants trilogy, for example, with Wayland Drew's Memoirs of Alcheringia trilogy: the first assumes that some miniature electronics found on the Moon can remain operable after tens of thousands of years, and later, that an interstellar colony can retain the memory of its founding society after millions of years; the second assumes that a post-Holocaust society can utterly forget its technological past, its values, customs and institutions, within a couple of*

centuries, while a technological enclave can keep its systems running for just about that long. Both the Alcheringa trilogy and Paul O. Williams' Pelbar stories assume that remnant thermonuclear devices can remain operational for centuries.

*((Do you see any large assumptions here?))*

Rodney Leighton, May 11, 1996

Hey, thanks for SPLF 6. I enjoyed reading it. I'm afraid it didn't inspire much of a loc. Certainly not 7 pages. What would you do with a 7 page loc?

*((Edit.))*

I have the impression that you are looking for a community of civic and social-minded folk who go for group activities, while ignoring the fact ... at least, I THINK it's a fact ... that fandom is made up of a large number of individuals, who are independent and essentially anti- (or at least non-)social people. Except when they attend cons, so as to party.

*((Well put.*

*((Actually I got honest with myself and admitted, some time ago, I was running around trying to be a joiner when I am, honestly, a loner. In the first place, throwing yourself into something you have no facility for rarely works, and in the second place, throwing myself into the group activities at hand did not mean I had the company of friends, or that fans were ipso facto the friends I needed.))*

I've been sort of considering gafiating, in large part due to the number of people in fandom who enter your life and then leave it with neither warning nor explanation. This is certainly not limited to fandom nor even the small press and it's very common. A concept espoused by yourself, from things I've been told, as well as many people. Not all, of course.

*((???)*

Being much more sensitive and emotional than my reputation would suggest, what happens with me is that I will receive a number of fanzines from a person, I will loc each one, and maybe there will be a letter or three. Then, suddenly, nothing. For months. What happens with me is that I first of all wonder if I alienated the person enough to be tossed from the mail list; then, since I tend to form attachments of a sort with these people, I wonder if something bad has happened to them. Eventually, usually, I'll see their name in a WAHF column or something; or maybe mention of a new issue. Then I just wonder what I said that alienated this person to the point that s/he can't take a few minutes and a few cents to let me know what I did. Or, in the case of no new zines, what did I do or say that was so bad that this person won't answer a letter. Most of the time I believe it's a fan mindset. Sometimes it bothers me.

*((Don't know what concept it was you attributed to me. When people fall out of touch with you, you need only assume a) they've got more locs and fanzines and stuf on their hands than they can really deal with, b) they forgot to write you.*

*When someone neglects to loc your zine or send you theirs, you need only assume a) they really don't know what to make of it, b) they really forgot to send you a copy. Assuming you alienated people can make you crazy. No need to do that to yourself. That way paranoia lies.*

*((Perhaps some people think a wrestling fan is going to be quite tiresome, which is a misconception on their part; perhaps you have yet to establish what interests you share with them. I wouldn't get crazy about it; people fail to communicate all the time, which is less surprising to me now that I know something about the range and diversity of personality types.*

*((Note also Chester Cuthbert's letter above.))*

I think a person's zeal for publishing depends a lot on feedback and also, of course, on such mundane factors as money. But, also, your outlook changes. I have never published a SFzine but, once upon a time, I was really into publishing a wrestling zine. Once a week, every week. I loved doing it. But I lost a bunch of money and there wasn't much interest in what I was doing and I quit. My wrestling interest is fairly strong again but I have absolutely no interest in doing another zine, wrestling or otherwise. I sometimes wonder how I did it. Of course, finances are worse and also my health is worse, which likely makes a difference.

No problem doing a bio for me:

LEIGHTON, RODNEY L. (17/7/48)

Fringefan; sorta letterhack since, oh, 1991 sometime (Stet 3, whenever that was). Single.

No other categories apply.

As I guess, proof of Harry Warner's statement: I received, many moons ago, some material and a letter or two from Bernadette Bosky. I believe we were discussing apas. Can't recall when it was. Somewhere in there ... I tend to think Bernadette mentioned it as something I might aspire to ... "the Hermit of Hagerstown" was mentioned and described as someone who never attends cons, never goes anywhere but has built an exceptional reputation by writing letters and contributing to apas." Or something like that. I believe the first Harry Warner Jr. loc I read was in *Novoid* something, in, I think, 1989. Many more since, in many zines. Yet, I never once made the connection.

*((Sometimes things take me a while, too.))*

Lloyd Penney (N.B. COA) July 14, 1996

Thank you for issue 6 of SPLF. Learning to edit is one thing, but also learning that you can put into your zine whatever you please is another. Don't edit for e-mail [length], edit for the fanzine itself.

Fandom has a sense of community, but forms nebulous communities, and fails to act as a community toward the fans within it. I've heard the phrase "Fandom looks after its own", but [it] is selectively applied. I do enjoy the community feeling

within fandom. but know that I can rely on it about as much as I can [on] my own family. Perhaps fandom is a dysfunctional family, much like the ones we came from, so that's why it's so familiar and comfortable.

*((I'm coming to question that, just as I am coming to question whether more than a minority of fans fit whatever stereotype is applied to fandom. True, without straining myself I can name at least a dozen fairly dysfunctional fans, some Filthy Pros among them. But I think, I really think, the nerds and flakes among us number about the same minority as in other interest groups, or in the general population. If we have 5% or 10% more, I would attribute that to nerds and flakes drifting into one or another small leisure interest group or occupational group, more or less in search of a niche, or shel'er. Fandom can function as a shelter; at least, we can tolerate behaviour that wouldn't be accepted elsewhere.))*

Interesting that portions of the Communications Decency Act has been declared unconstitutional by the US Supreme Court. America's desired role as morality police for the world has been struck a blow, but we'll have to see if that blow was even noticed.

The Canadian Fannish Who's Who project is interesting, but will anyone care enough to publish it, or will the rest of the world care? I'd work on our entries now, but my fanzines, including *Torus* and all the apazines I worked on, are packed away.

*((I may get the lead out and at least send Chaz Baden updated profiles of the CUFF fund winners. Sometimes I think the Internet is the best bet for getting out the word about a Who's Who in Fandom, or other projects. Then I am reminded how many people the Internet does not reach:))*

People are spending \$2,000 or more on hardware and software, just to call the Net the cheapest way to communicate? Something wrong here, folks ... Perhaps not just an e-mail address, but also a regular mail address would be suitable when locs are printed, so that ALL your readers can communicate with each other. But then, I know some people in the Toronto area who are such Netheads, they refuse to answer lettermail, or even return telephone calls. ...

*((Sounds dumb.))*

Carolyn Ibis will be happy to know that Creation left Canada because of tax problems, namely failure to pay any. Revenue Canada levied a six-figure fine, and Creation slunk away. Then, they filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in the USA, and they operate in only a few areas of the States.

*((Great! Uh, I mean, too bad. ;-))*

*((You may not be surprised John Mansfield has quite a different take on the altercation between Creation Con and Canada Customs. An evaluation that exonerates Creation Con and places the onus squarely on their customs broker and one dishonest dealer.))*

Also, I hope she [Carolyn?] got to Chicago and Visions '96, the British SF media con held there. The winning costumers, Martin Hunger and Christine Carr, dressed as Kosh and Delenn from *Babylon 5*, are from Toronto.

**Brad W. Foster**, P.O. Box 165246, Irving, TX 75016, U.S.A., June 20, 1996

It's always so nice when we get hard-copy versions of zines these days, what with everyone going for net/e-mail/WWW/neep-neep stuff. It's still hard to get any of those into the bathtub for my usual reading session, so I very much appreciate your keeping the old-fashioned print-n-mail version going for those of us who refuse to advance into the cyber age. (At least until they bring the price down a bit more, anyway!)

On your opening comments about how, in your opinion, the fan community (whatever that might be defined as ...) repeatedly fails to be a community, I can only say that I think you are expecting a bit more from one particular group than others. Every facet of my life, aside from immediate family, has gone through changes over the years, as far as who the actual players in those facets are at any time. People will move in and out of your life all the time. Different people might share interests at some point that their lives intersect in time and space, but then later both will change in a million little ways that might make the sharing, the contact, less and less. The trick to this is not to feel you must hold on to the people who are moving at a tangent from that original connection, but to stay open to meeting more people who now share your own interests. If you're lucky, you might have a connection with someone that lasts a lifetime. That's easier with immediate family, neighbours - pure proximity in space will keep the connection stronger, since you will naturally be sharing more moments. But to feel that the "fannish" community would be any different is to assume no one there will change. Ain't gonna happen, we're all different people under the fannish beanie.

*((I hadn't actually focused on the issue of change, but the point is well taken. The matter of personal difference has occupied me more. I am at present working my way through a book based on the Myers-Briggs Temperament Test, which claims people naturally fall into sixteen different personality types. While I'm aware there are any number of systems for identifying personality types, Western and Chinese astrology among them, this approach seems to me more useful than a great deal else in contemporary psychology.*

*((The impression I have is that "community" is not even a concept to growing numbers of people, notwithstanding the recurring intentional-community movement. This is a dangerous loss. It can be lethal, as I think residents in southern Florida will know.))*

Your later comment about how "a fan's Daugherty level has a very short half-life" only relates to those fans who have a Daugherty level of a very short half-life. By that I mean it's not *all* fans, as your statement implies, but just those who have short attention spans, who fit into that. If all fans did, there would be no cons, zines, etc. The whole question seems moot - I mean, some people stick with projects

and finish them, some won't. More specifically to your final question: some projects carry on longer than others because the people involved remain interested and motivated longer. Seems self-explanatory.

*((See Harry Warner's letter above ...*

*((One of the personality distinctions in the Myers-Briggs structure is between those who are motivated by spontaneity, and those who relate better to structure. The kind of voluntary and, let's face it, leisure activities there are in fandom will attract a lot of "spontaneous" types, but they get carried to completion by those who stick to a plan and a schedule. Local fan Gerald Boyko pointed out something like this, between ten and fifteen years ago. About five years ago, however, Lisa Girling pointed out in BCSFAzine 219 that fan activities like conventions depend on relatively very few fans, a small minority, who carry them through. Less than 25%. That proportion is what concerns me.))*

The "Who's Who in Fandom" was under the subheading of "Canadian Who's Who", so by that can I figure you only mean this to be a listing of Canadian fandom? *((No.))* I hope so, 'cause recently a guy with way too much spare time on his hands put together a checklist of my published work over the last twenty years, and I think the majority of the 2000 plus entries would relate to fandom. I'd hate to try and edit that down to a manageable list for a Who's Who project! You know, I really got to get a life someday!

*((Check out Terry Jeeves' and Chester Cuthbert's letters, above.))*

Kinda scary seeing so many locs with only e-mail listings. If I start up a fanzine the old-fashioned way, no way to get it in their hands. Of course, if they don't give you a physical address when sending the e-mail, no way for you to know it, so never mind.

*((See Lloyd Penney's letter above ...))*

We also heard from: Lyn McConchie (who tells us that mice to cats are like chocolates to children) and David Gordon-MacDonald (who is gafiating in favour of pursuing his studies, but he still sent me a bunch of fanhistorical material)

## ART CREDITS

Cover: Ian Gunn  
p. 24: William Rotsler  
p. 27: Teddy Harvia

## LET'S MAKE A GLOSSARY

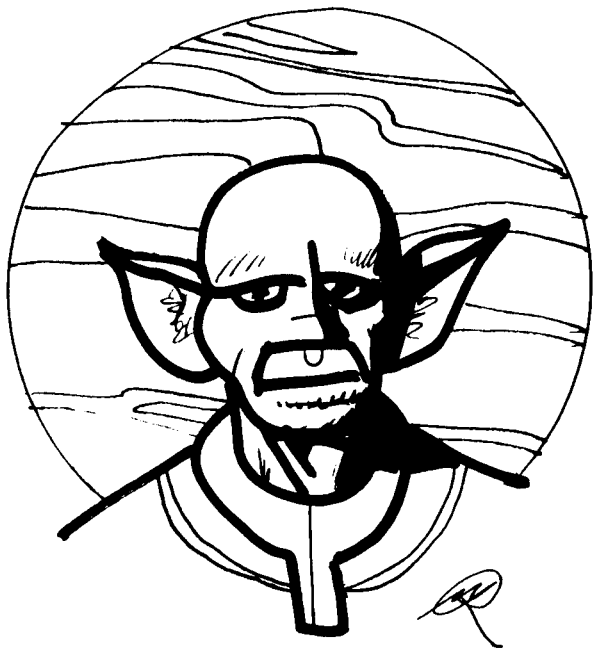
It dawned on me in recent months that the English language has changed, within my short lifetime. There is a lot of scope for confusion about what a speaker is referring to, and what is implied about it. At the least it's interesting to consider how our own writing and speech habits have changed.

How would you define the major neologisms of the past 30 years? What would you add to the list below?

address	field
alternative	file
behaviour mod	filename
calculator	floppy
CD	Freenet
CD-ROM	freeware
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome	Goth
challenged	grrrlz
chaos	grunge puppy
code	hacker
cognitive deficit	hardware
command	hip-hop
community	holistic
complex	homeless
computer	HTML
corrupted	Hypertext
criticism	impaired
cyber( )	interactive
database	interface
data entry	Internet
deconstruction	ISP
decryption	laptop
demonstration	liaise
deprived	line noise
developer	link
digital	macro
disk	nationalist
document	network
DOS	notepad
dysfunctional	novel
Ecstasy	password
E-mail	phreak
encryption	PIN
fanzine	politically correct
feedback	post

postmodern  
pre-owned  
program  
programmer  
publish  
rave  
recession  
redundancy  
role  
shareware  
short story  
Sick Building Syndrome  
signal  
ska

social engineering  
software  
squat  
system  
systems analyst  
text  
therapy  
terminal  
Twentieth Century Disease  
URL  
virtual  
Windows  
work-sharing  
World Wide Web



## FANZINES RECEIVED

One reason I know I left this zine too long is that I have WAY too many zines to loc to, to review properly, or even to deal adequately with all the ideas and issues they raise.

I have received an increasing number of e-mail zines, and (like the increase in e-mail addresses among my correspondents) I have seen an increasing number of Web page URLs in both e-mail and paper zines.

My apologies if I have omitted you and your zine in the following list. I am running about a month after, and several kilobytes over, the limit I set for this zine. In fact I may have to cut some of this for the paper edition of SPLF 7!

I have received the following:

Ansible 102-104, from DAVE LANGFORD, 94 London Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5AU, UK. Fax 01734 669914. ISSN 0265-9816. E-mail [ansible@cix.compulink.co.uk](mailto:ansible@cix.compulink.co.uk). Available for SAE or the golden apples of the sun.

Apparatchik & Apparatchik Now! 4, edited and published by Andrew Hooper and Victor Gonzalez, reached by e-mail at [fanmailaph@aol.com](mailto:fanmailaph@aol.com), or by paper mail at 4228 Francis Ave. N. #103, Seattle, WA 98103. (Note: send also issues to Victor Gonzalez at 403 1/2 Garfield Street S., #11, Tacoma, WA 98444, e-mail [VXG@p.tribnet.com?](mailto:VXG@p.tribnet.com?))

BCSFazine #269 (courtesy copy - see COAs): Graeme Cameron's last issue as editor. #270; John Wong takes over from next issue on.

Communique (Derryl Murphy - see COAs): The bimonthly newsletter and writers' market journal of SF Canada, the national organization for SF and fantasy writers. WAY useful.

Con-Temporal (Nov. 95): must be a complimentary copy, my subscription has run out. Lots of cons around the world listed, but most in the Northwest they heard of through me. (They probably have MASSES more information now that Erwin Strauss has handed the reins of his zine over to them.)

Derogatory Reference 81-82 (Arthur Hlavaty, Yonkers, NY <[hlavaty@panix.com](mailto:hlavaty@panix.com)>). The entertaining thoughts of Arthur Hlavaty as he plies his mysterious way in darkest New York.

Digging Through the Snow #1 (Michael Hall, Fort McMurray, AB <[mhall@ccinet.ab.ca](mailto:mhall@ccinet.ab.ca)>). Personalzine; thoughts on those wide-open spaces where you

can't read, the scenery is boring, yet you don't DARE take your eyes off the road when you're driving across Alberta, and the joys of journalism.

Emerald City Issues 6-12: An occasional zine produced by Cheryl Morgan and available from her at 100610.3413@compuserve.com.

FHAPA 1: Not a fanzine but the only apa in which I now participate. Perhaps predictably this first apa of the Timebinders, the fanhistory association, did not meet with critical acclaim. Well, these are the tryouts as yet, no routines are ready for Carnegie Hall right at first.

Flashnet (The Heliocentric Net), February - July 1996: A monthly e-mail digest of the Heliocentric Net, a writers' market newsletter. WAY useful.

FOSFAX (October 95 - July 96): battle is not quite joined; when I complained mildly about the incessant political tone here I got just a few comments.

From Sunday to Saturday 1:0: A new e-zine from Don Fitch of California, at fitchdons@aol.com.

Mimosa 17 (the post-fire issue): one of the best-looking issues ever. The Lynches are still not quite moved back into their home since the fire damage has been repaired.

Opuntia 26-28. IB (Dale Speirs, Calgary): #26 was another egoboo issue for me, with my survey of attempted national fannish zines/apas/societies in Canada, plus a reprint of Jack Bowie-Reed's history of the CSFA (a case in point). #28 has a really interesting reprint article on the history of fanzines as self-publications, including a survey of apas, 19th-century small publications, and some of the background history of reproduction methods used at different times.

Ottawa SF Statement 220 (Oct 95): a courtesy copy, sent me as some e-mail announcing my Toronto fanhistory research appears here.

The Reluctant Famulus - I will have to defer until next issue a proper review of this genzine. Too many interesting topics and ideas!

Scavenger's Newsletter: a monthly digest of writers' market information, professional and small press, mainstream and alternative genres. Also: Scavenger's Scrapbook, the twice-yearly compendium of general market information.

Second Thoughts (Faye Manning, Oregon): a Westercon 48 report entwined with a personal-growth essay.

The SF Con Register (Erwin Strauss, Virginia): the first and perhaps still the best ongoing listing of conventions around the world, though Erwin maintains there are

more comprehensive listings for Star Trek and other cons. Sadly, the Register is now FOLDED; it is succeeded by *Con-Temporal*, from Texas.

Spasm #1 (E.B. Klassen): My first HyperRead zine! A collection of related essays on disk.

Speculations, the Potlatch edition, Feb 1996: a digest writers' market newsletter, this one bearing general surveys of SF and fantasy markets, professional and semipro, short story to novel-length markets.

Thyme (Alan Stewart): Alan Stewart has been very patient about sending me Thyme, the same way the Melbourne fans have been patient about sending Ethel the Aardvark, when I haven't had much to say. Or about sending these zines through the post when I keep locking them by e-mail. I love the illustrations, and I look forward to Ian Gunn's Fanimals and Space-Time Buccaneers series.

ZX2:1, Aug. 1996 - the revived personalzine of Andrew Murdoch (<raven@wolf.spydernet.com>, Victoria, BC), World Wide Web Site (<http://web2.spydernet.com/raven/zx2.htm>). One of the fearless souls who has offered me an English word that rhymes with "orange". Hey, how come he got to see the Elron Awards at V-Con and I didn't?!

