



This is Shoreline 11, and an Obsessive Press Publication (#60), by Jeanne Gomoll who lives at 2018 Jenifer Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53704 (608-241-8445)—written for C/Rapa 20 and copyright © 1981, by Jeanne Gomoll. The drawing above was done by Arlin Teeselink, a joking apology for getting my name spelled wrong once and another weird view of Wisconsin as seen by a West-Coast denizen.

Since I wrote last time, many things have happened. The last issue of *Janus* was published. (The next time it come out, it will be called *Aurora*.) WisCon 5 happened and is over with. I had a cold that ebbed and flowed (and when it flowed I was totally incapacitated) for over a month and a half. During WisCon I was unable to talk above a whisper. After that I made an appointment to have my wisdom teeth taken out (I'd gotten used to feeling miserable, y'know.) and am now over that. The resemblance to a chipmuck is markedly missing. Also, I'm starting to contemplate eating solid foods without too much fear. And now, working 8 hour days at the office for stretches of a week at a time (as opposed to taking sick days off in mid-week), my work basket begins to look as if it won't take over the room. I'm getting caught up at work. Such is not the case with work at home on projects I've committed myself to, fannishly and otherwise, but I'm working on it. I'm doing this aren't I. Even if it is very much deadline pushing. It isn't helping that I've chosen this time to get involved with a new lover and am letting stuff pile up on my desk, but it's nice not being sick anymore. (It's feeling good in the way that one feels good when one stops hitting one's self



over the head with a hammer.) Anyway I am determined to save my membership. I like reading C/Rapa too much.

I will go right on to mailing comments and if there is time and inclination afterwards say more about things in general.

### MAILING COMMENTS

*Mike Bentley* I like the cover drawing on your zine and its print quality/texture. But if you can afford the paper, it'd be nicer if you did not have to print on the other side. Too much show-through.

*David Bratman* But doesn't Los Altos Hills translate into High Hills? There are others though. Sierra means mountain and Mekong means river. Lots of features named in ancient times when people called the feature by its descriptive label because no other examples were known, tend to become redundant names later on. I.e., the Sierra mountains, the Mekong river, etc. I'm sure there's lots of examples. Someday they'll be referring to the Moon moon and the Sun star.

*Pauline Palmer* Re the fine arts vs. crafts discussion: I was talking the matter over with a friend who disagreed with my contention that the distinction is a classist/sexist/racist one. He maintained that crafts involve essentially useful products whereas fine arts involved the creation of aesthetically beautiful things. I do not agree and brought up architecture as an example that favors my argument. Take, for instance, a cathedral, the design of which is certainly done by a privileged (white, male) member of society. While it may be considered only tangentially a fine art by some, its design would never be referred to as a craft. And architecture is obviously involved with the making of useful things. It seems to me that

there are probably other examples to point out the real cultural biases that determine the line between fine art and craft, much like the line that separates the kinds of work women do from the work that men do in our culture and determines appropriate wage levels. The movement to update the definitions that separate crafts from art is the compliment to the movement to equalize wages for similar work.

*Eli Cohen* Having missed contributing to the last mailing (because of WisCon, mainly, but also because of a rather late C/Rapa), I missed the chance to thank you for your writing on Susan. I have a very good memory of the last time I was with her: I met her the first day of Noreascon and we went off with a group of women to see Judy Chicago's *The Dinner Party*. It was a very emotional and close few hours and I only wish that I had many more such times to look forward to. This is the first time someone I knew well has died, and I'm at loss for something to say, for how to offer comfort when I'm feeling badly myself. But thank you for your beautifully heart-felt thoughts.

*Amy Thomson* I enjoyed the introductory bio very much. It sounded a bit like a fairy tale in itself (no pun intended, really), growing up the lonely, rich kid on the seaside...

*Paul Lemman* Yeah, the incongruities and inconsistencies (not to mention the stupidities) of the Moral Majority are going to be interesting topics in coming years. I was interested, though, in the churches' forthright criticisms of the El Salvador situation. I wonder how people in the MM feel about that stand?

*Denys Howard* Damn, I did forget the Christians, didn't I? Must have something to do with wanting to forget. Your feelings on the irony of

things when your politics seem to alienate people, started me thinking about how often my lovers have tended to be people considerably more conservative than myself. (I'm talking here about people you have not known, mostly not even met: long-term lovers here in Madison.) This bothers me a lot and I've been mumbling about it under my breath more and more recently, since I seem to have done it again. The reason your thoughts sparked that one in me, is that your dissatisfaction in not combining the two things in your life—politics and emotions—matches very much with my confusion as to why I so often put myself in a position of having to explain really basic feminist ideas and their connection to my life to men I've chosen to become intimate with... But whereas you seem to feel that your politics turns potential lovers away, I tend to worry that I'm not serious enough about my politics. Perhaps both of us should just shrug it off and hope that we get luckier...

I do enjoy this sarcastic, underhanded by-play between you and Paul here in the apa. Are you keeping score? Will there be a tournament? Do you need a referee?

Laying out the newsletter looks like it might have been fun. Too bad management had to be such dummies about their first confrontation with you. It's been my experience that when creative projects go the committee route for approval, everyone on the committee feels obliged to make some suggestion, any suggestion, to change the concept or design in order to make themselves look like they are "on the ball" (as they say). That the accumulation of "suggestions" utterly ruins or drastically changes the project and may negate the basic idea of the original artist or writer doesn't get noticed really. I don't get involved in committee-decided projects too often (phew!), but once last month I was asked to draw a cartoon for the cover of what was essentially a dry, dull rule-book for campers in the State Parks system.

It was felt that something amusing would be more likely to attract attention and encourage people to actually read the thing than a merely printed cover. So I did a drawing (of a family leaving to go on vacation with a little girl supervising the packing of the car, listing off necessary items like camp stickers, etc.—the things the booklet talked about—and, to the surprise of the cat sitting nearby, "a catleash."). This was meant to make a joke about the rule in the parks which require that all pets be restrained by leashes in the parks. Well one of the committee members suggested that they didn't really want to suggest to people that they bring pets to the parks at all and why not eliminate that line from the cartoon. Everyone liked that idea, but didn't seem to notice that it wasn't a cartoon any longer with the bug-eyed cat removed. So when I took the cat out (on redrawing it), I put in a little boy shaking a finger at a large bullfrog, saying to the bullfrog "...and keep an eye on my rock collection!" So far no one on the committee has suggested a way to change that. ...Anyway, after that long digression, I suppose I should say that I realize that you didn't mean that the reason your newsletter was being criticized was for committee approval reasons... but I wonder if that wasn't the impetus for the objection in the first place. To feel important, it so often seems that those in charge of approving work of their underlings really need to pick out something and suggest a change. And then when you objected, they needed to rationalize and stand by their objection.

Doug Barbour I enjoyed the con report. Someday I'd really like to get to a NonCon. They always sound like good cons.

Chuck Spear I appreciated your comments (and other people's comments too) to Owen about Reagan, Republicanism



and US imperialism. Well said.

And I enjoyed your comments to Denys about the difficulty (though the real temptation) of equating an aesthetic with all Art through your example of what Beethoven or Mozart would have to say about Stravinsky's music. Beethoven, I think, would have gotten over his outrage sooner than Mozart would, though.

Congratulations on your leave-taking of the Mormon religion. You and Theresa tempt me to see if I could get myself formally excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church. It might be quite a contrast to the MM groups if lots of disaffected Catholics and Lutherans and Mormons and Jews and etc. all demanded to be formally and publically removed from the membership rolls of their respective religions. "It'd be a movement!"

That's all for now. I read and enjoyed all the other zines, but didn't jot down any comments for them. That's how it goes sometimes.

Eventually, I'd like to write some stuff in my apazine about the kind of music I listen to, which seems to be in marked contrast to the stuff that mostly gets talked about here. (For instance my all-time favorite music is by Ralph Vaughn Williams.) I would also like to try some short book reviews. This year I've been keeping track of all the movies and books that I see/read. Surprisingly the books so far outnumber the films, and I see a lot of films. But not this time.

Maybe getting the apazines first class will help me to do better next time...

See some of you in Denver, I hope.

*Jeanne*



FFA photo: J.L. Thompson

*FFA workers and friends enjoy a much deserved sugar and dairy break after a long production week-end.*

(FFA) Research has determined that the lack of attraction for the opposite sex, and the increasing number of gay men and women this causes can be attributed to the great amount of dairy food we eat. Dairy food works in conjunction with meat

and eggs to cause lesbianism, and when eaten with sugar it causes male homosexuality. *East West Journal*, the source of this information, does report some hopeful news--changing one's diet can reverse either development.