



Being SPELEOBEM 28, IncuNebulous Publication 381

from Bruce Pelz, Box 100, 308 Westwood Plaza,
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for the 72nd Mailing of SAPS, July 1965

The Cabal Ladder

PHIL CASTORA: Somehow I don't think you'll get elected OE even if I don't run, but for what it's worth let's examine the question of franking of WLzines. The objections are based mainly on the fact that SAPS is supposed to have a limited membership -- limited, right now, to 34 members. Every time a WLER can put in his own zine and then buy a mailing to comment on the next time he puts in his own zine, we are adding another de facto member to the organization. On the other hand, there are a number of WLEs who are much more enthusiastic than the majority of members, and it is a trifle annoying to have people bitch about that enthusiasm when the bitchers are doing little more than minac. Somewhere a balance must be struck. My practice is boiling down to exclusion of separate WLzines, but listing them as inclusions in other zines if there are enough lines on the Contents Page to permit the listing. (So if all members hit every mailing with a zine, we might not have WLzine listings.)

RICH MANN: As to why I seem to be collecting OEs. There are quite a few advantages to offset the amount of work the job entails. One can do his zine for the APA at the last-minute-plus-one-or-two; one can pick out the best copies for oneself, one can warn one's friends about their being in danger of drop (while hoping one's opponents will drop out). Then, too, I think I've set a couple of records for OE'ing: 5 years as SAPS OE, 2 years as both SAPS and FAPA OE. I think they'll stand for a while.

Dian and I played the usual guessing game of "What does the fan look like?" when Gil Lamont visited us before the Westercon. She guessed short and heavy, so I won. (I had a very slight advantage, having heard his voice on the phone.)

There was a time when I was collecting Collections, and to some extent I still do. The stamp collection is dormant, but I buy most of the new commems in plates plus 2 singles; I collect miniature liquors, comics, comic strip compilations [e.g., the Pogo books], and of course SF and fanzines -- the fanzines being the most extensive collection. I used to collect coins, but I quit and spent everything but the Lincolns, Indians, Canadian cents and nickels, and a few old coins in a type set. There are probably quite a few other collections, both dormant and active, that aren't important enough to come to mind immediately.

My set of Things to Come begins with March 1953, and is complete to date. At least I think it is -- in 1962 they began issuing selections for "Spring" and "Fall" as well as every other month, and it's impossible to know how many of these extraneous ones there were. I only joined the SFBC with the January 1956 selection, but I completed the set through the publisher and a bunch I picked up with some books I bought. A completist SF collector, by the way, will have to have a set of these things, as they contain illos that are original and not available elsewhere. I'll probably bind my set, eventually. Does anyone know when the things began? (I suppose I could write Doubleday...) And can anyone supply me with any issues prior to March 1953? Trade, sell, or what-have-I? [The odd-ball issues I have are Fall 1962, Winter-and-March 1964, and Spring 1965. Any others kicking around? I'll be interested in them, too.]

THE CABAL LADDER...2... - - -

ALAN J. LEWIS: The collecting of fanzines is an insidious hobby. I wonder just how many active fans are trying to be completist fanzine collectors? I spoke to the LASFS a month or so ago on the subject of fanzine collecting, and then ran a brief article on it through N'APA. It's really a difficult thing for a young fan to attempt, as it takes money and time, both of which may be in short supply when a fan reaches college age. (They're not in very abundant supply even for me.) You have the problem of keeping up with current fan publication as well as the problem of getting the older stuff you're missing, and the latter problem by itself is enough to drive one slight round the bend. Example: I knew Tucker had a lot of fanzines to get rid of round the end of June, but there wasn't a damn thing I could do about it, with the NYfen coming through the Midwestcon. They got quite a bit of good fanzines, too.

Being in a Fan Center help, of course. New York, Berkeley, Chicago, Seattle, and Los Angeles have a bunch of gaffiated and semi-gaffiated fans whose collections can eventually find their way into the hands of an active collector in the area. A completist outside a Metro area will have to have a lot more time and/or money than one in said area, in order to offer more for a collection, or else devote more time to the location and extraction of said collection from its present holder.

All of this is a sort of musing spawned by the idea of moving the Fanzine Foundation to whatever apartment we have next summer, so it can be sorted, filed, bound, and the duplicates listed and sold off. This move will obviously aid my collection -- at that price it damn well better -- but it will ultimately aid other collections, too, as the duplicates are spread out to other collectors. ...somehow, I'm glad Reed College wasn't interested in the Fanzine Foundation.

ED COX: I'd like to know what happened to Dude Jawn Davis, myself. Wrai loaned him his copies of SPECTATOR for a whole bunch of early SAPS mailings, and Dude Jawn never returned them. I have those mailings now, and I'd like to get my hands on the SPECTATORS that go with them.

But speaking of old-time SAPSsites, did you see Irene Barron Scortia at the Westercon? We spoke briefly of old SAPSazines -- and the idea that "the evil that fen do lives after them." That is, the fanzines that one has published in bygone days may come back to haunt you when you've forgotten them for years. These ghostly shreds of paper may be merely one's early babblings, embarrassing because of poor production, incredibly bad contents, or the fact that you have improved -- or hope you have -- quite a bit since then. (I understand that Bradbury would like to remove copies of FUTURIA FANTASIA from circulation.) Or they may be feudzines or other such stupidities done in heated moments. I wonder how many fans would like to completely obliterate at least one fanzine in all copies? I know several people who destroy all copies of certain titles which they come across...how many more are there that I don't know about?

Ever since Pacificon, Toskey's membership has been up to Toskey. All he has to say is "I resign." I've had it with trying to keep people in the organization -- anyone who wants to quit has only to say so.

JOHN KUSSKE: You suggest that Fred Patten not stencil his covers himself if he can do only an adequate job, since there are obviously all kinds of people in the Los Angeles area who could stencil them and do an excellent job. Not necessarily so. Of the local artists, Zuber is quite unfamiliar with stencilling even his own stuff. Jack Harness can do an excellent job, all right, but only if he really wants to, which is seldom the case if the artwork isn't his own. Rotsler is almost impossible to find when you want a cover (or other artwork) stencilled. That leaves Bjo and Dian, both

of whom are usually very busy (Bjo has a baby and a house to take care of, in addition to fanac; Dian is still going to college, besides being in 4 APAs.) There have been a couple non-artists who were very good at stenciling art, but Lichtman has moved to Berkeley, and Steve Tolliver is seldom seen. Whups, forgot a couple artists: Don Simpson is quite good at stenciling his own art, but I don't know how he does with anyone else's. Sylvia Dees is almost totally out of the fanpublishing scene. Anyway, it is a question of catching an artist with some free time that coincides with your own free time -- they live scattered all over the Greater Los Angeles area -- and in time for a deadline. When one has a lot of deadlines, this gets more and more difficult. Much better, from the viewpoint of the faned, is the idea that he himself stencil what artwork he can do satisfactorily.

MIKE MCINERNEY: The present-day parallel to the Carolyn Kennedy Comics you mention would be Linda Bird Comics, rather than Ayn Rand Comics, wouldn't it? With a comic strip called something like "Linda and Lucy" to take the place of "Miss Caroline." (As I collect compilations of comic strips, I hastily added the pb of "Miss Caroline" to the collection soon after the assassination.)

Your idea that Wlers should be allowed to put in zines as long as they pay all the cost and do all the work sounds reasonable. As soon as Kusske, Mann, Van Arnam, and a few others are willing to come out here and put their own zine into the envelopes instead of having the OE do it, and pay a percentage of the postage in addition, maybe the idea should be reconsidered.

While I like a number of Dylan's songs, I insist on having someone else sing them; the record I have of Dylan himself doing the singing has convinced me that he is a good writer. Period. And "Masters of War" merely annoys me -- I suppose it is appropriately set to the tune of "Nottamun Town," an old nonsense song.

I have a complete set of the old CARAVAN that LeeH published, and I think I have a complete set of its continuation in 1/2-size litho, but I've never been able to find out how many issues the thing ran under Billy Faier before it dropped dead.

DAVE VAN ARNAM: Okay, with conventions out of the way for a while, how about getting on with RGTA? It's been a while... . This is a problem with a lot of Projects -- especially those that collect money in advance, even when there has been evidence (such as, in this case, RGBA) that the project will be completed as advertised. Something inevitably comes up to delay things. I don't think I'll ever try soliciting funds for a publication before it comes out again -- I hate having to work off a dead horse.

Quite right, Syracuse could get the 1966 con without the Constitutionally-prescribed 3/4 vote. No law says London has to follow the WSFS Constitution at all. They could even give the convention to Vienna (as there have been rumours to the effect that Vienna does want the thing). However, in either case, I would bet on a Palace Revolution in the U.S, with Tricon actually putting on the 1966 Worldcon. There are too many US fans who prefer to follow precedent when there is no law.

Well, since you asked, the last time I saw you at a LASFS meeting was a couple weeks ago.

Oh, sure there's been an apology as backhanded as APOLOGIA -- moreso, maybe. Try TEW's to ChrisMos in FAPA.

Ha! Decrepit old Dave Van Arnam is a year older than I am! Why, in another ten years he'll be F*Q*R*T*Y!! Practically senile already.

You suggest that building a mask to hide one's own self is a dead end because the mask becomes the self and another mask must be built to cover the

first one. I don't think this is necessarily valid, particularly if one can keep shifting back and forth between the mask and his own self -- or, at worst, between a first mask and a second. Mostly, it's a question of timing; done correctly, those outside will be unable to determine which is the mask and which the actual self. I remember one of Bertrand Russell's Nightmares of Eminent People: The scientist's nightmare. He was in hell, and had to conduct experiments, none of which came out as they should. Then, as soon as he got used to the idea that they would come out wrong, things changed so that they would come out right, when he got used to that idea, things changed again... . Mask-dancing isn't impossible; in fact it is only slightly difficult. You'd be astonished at the various ideas some people have about other people, even in the local microcosm -- most of which ideas are probably wrong, if one could ever know for sure.

DAVE HULAN: Well, this should be quite a race for SAPS OE this time, what with you, Castora, Wrai Ballard, and Ghu knows who else in the running. As far as I can tell from here, I'll just sit back and watch this one, for a change.

I vary my preferences in number of Bourree players between 6 and 7, under local house rules. With seven, there are no compulsory pots, and I invariably bourree on compulsories. But six is definitely better for building up large pots (even if it my 7¢ that helps do so.) I have got to the point where I refuse to play two compulsory pots, so I don;t sit in on 4-player games at all, since they pretty much demand two compulsories to get going. There is a worse "demon" at the damn game than the three you mention (the three being Harness, Gail Thompson and myself), and that is Milt Stevens, who has a habit of quietly winning all kinds of money against any opponents. It should also be mentioned that, faced with a decision whether to split a pot or let the pot go and bourree someone -- even if the pot goes to another player -- the best idea is to bouree the person and let the pot go, as a bourree puts 2 cents more into the next pot than a split. There are several situations where you may be in control and be able to decide which of these to do, though you yourself may not be able to take the pot no matter what you do.

BUZ B.: It is slightly embarrassing to have one's wife bump one out of the fourth slot in the Pillar Poll -- and I've been a member for four years more than she has, too! You think I should start doing some artwork? Or maybe artowrk? No, maybe I'd just better take more time and do more of a SAPSzine....maybe next year, anyway, after I get rid of the OEs ship. Thanks for doing the Poll Work.

DICK ENEY: You know that issue of STUPEFYING STORIES you sent through SAPS that was all about your imaginary world. The one you were offering to buy back for 25¢ each, after the response was sort of negative? I sold off a duplicate of the thing a month or two back, getting 75¢ for it, and from the way the guy grabbed, I expect I should have asked \$1. Thought you might like to know the effort wasn't totally unappreciated even outside the few SAPS (like me) who liked it.

RUTH BERMAN: The alphabet I used in SPELEOBEM 26's comments to Ted was Armenian, and stated that Hannifen had resigned (rather than being dropped unfairly, as Ted was claiming.)

I expect that Dian and I will be reading William Morris before too long, as he was one of the precursors to the art period known as the Decadence, which period Dian is now collecting. Have to have Morris in the collection, and especially anything published by Kelmscott Press.

JOHN FOYSTER: Thanks for the transcription of the Goon Show. Got any more? I've only heard a few of them, such as "The Sleeping Prince," and would very much like to see transcriptions of some others.

Pfui. You consider scansion, that is to say meter, the "essence" of poetry, but dismiss rhyme as a "device." I'm quite sure that many people, those who prefer free verse to even blank verse, would dismiss both meter and rhyme. I agree with Cox that rhyme and meter are necessary for good poetry -- or at least for poetry that I can appreciate and enjoy -- with very few exceptions. (The exceptions were almost all written by a cockroach namedarchie.) To quote Slanders&Fawn: "It is simply a case of chacun a son gout."

Since when did the OE have to have any integrity? I think I'd rather be slightly dishonest and very gauche. The SAPS I wouldn't mind seeing dropped from the roster include Baker, Castora, Chalker, Harness, Johnstone, Lewis, Schultz, Toskey, and anyone else who does strictly minac.

ARNIE KATZ: It is nice to have a schedule where fanac fills in the odd moments of the day. With me, everything else fills in the odd moments during which I am not doing fanac.

The more Chalker yammers about Baltimore, the more NYCon III looks good to me. The more the Fanoclasts talk about NYCon III, the more I like Syracon for 1967. The more Dave Kyle blithers about Syracon being attacked, the more Boston sounds like a good idea. Now if Boston just knows enough to keep their mouths shut... .

I wondered where the Queebconshot RATS IN MY ROOM got its title. Penny Passion and the Purple Gang? No bull? B*A*R*F!!

The resolve to Be Yourself is a noble one, I'm sure, but we have so many people making that resolve these days, it might be nice if you could manage to Be Someone Else for a change.

ALAN SUNDRY: It is a bit fantastic to note that SAPS now has a 27-man WL, and better than 1/3 of the WLers are trying to buy the extra mailings. This is SAPS, and not FAPA, isn't it?

Gerding and Foyster are the only two members I haven't met, giving me a score of 94.1% of the membership. Having managed to meet Gil Lamont this past quarter, I still haven't met WLers Mann, Kusske, Blum, Clarke, Bergeron, Haskell, Brandon, Thorne, Wright, Wilson, Scott, McFarland, Guthrie, Dupree, Atkins, Barr and Avery: a low score of 10/27 or 37%, for a total of 42/71 or 59.2%. Have to do better than that...maybe we can drop a few WLers I haven't met? Or else they could come to LA...?

That's the lot of them for this quarter. See you in the October mailing.

Cover by Dian, except for the color swash, which was on the sheets when I inherited them several years ago from Mathom House.

Back cover by Dian, also.

*Y*O*U*R* *O*W*N* *P*E*R*S*O*N*A*L* *G*O*L*D* *M*I*N*E*

Your Own Personal Gold Mine #5 is Rich Mann's (249B So. Nevada, Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota 58201) contribution to the 72nd SAPS mailing, July 1965, and is brought to you through the courtesy of your friendly neighborhood OE, Bruce Pelz by name, whose fanzine this is appearing in. That makes this a column in SpeleoBen #28, doesn't it? Why, yes. And, finally, this is going to be ROMPress Publication No. 74, even if it is cheating a bit...

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Golly, you know a lot can happen between two mailings of a quarterly apa. I've finished my first year of college and left Michigan, perhaps for good, for a start. I started the year with a very good term, getting a 3.43 average and enjoying myself all along. And then, the next term I got involved in a certain form of madness known as Calculus, which lowered the old grade point substantially, and the last term's continuation of it really threw me for a loop. That plus a magnificent sort of madness known as Qualitative Chemistry have really fouled me up, and now the next year is going to be a mess. Ah, well, the life of a Student of Higher Education doesn't really agree with me.

Now, a life that does agree with me is that of summer. You see, my family bought a "cabin" at one of the lakes across the border in Minnesota, and in every spare moment, we drive out there (some 75 miles from the base) and live the simple life. The cabin, or rather cottage, isn't much, really -- just a old frame house, on a slope on the shore. We've got a boat now, 17 feet long, and really rather old. The motor is new and fine, though, and we go zipping around the lake in fine style. The house is just old enough to be fun to fix up. For instance, the floor under the kitchen is rotting out, and we're going to have to either replace it or shore it up somehow. The kitchen needed painting, and the roof leaks, but it's lovable as can be, and I'm very happy when I'm out there. The fishing is wonderful, really, and it's an ideal place to relax....

Wraii, you never told me that there were such wonderful places so close by. While the Grand Forks area is not really too bad once you get used to the idea of living here, it's much nicer over at Maple Lake (now there's an original name for you). I'll have to get John Kusske up there sometime this summer. The lake's even closer to his home than GF is.

And what else has happened to me? Well, I've been job-hunting at a rather alarming clip for a couple of weeks now. I just about got on with Collier's selling their encyclopedias door to door, but that didn't seem right, and I barely escaped with my life. It looks like I'll be working with the Consolidated Construction Company building missile sites all through N.D. and Minnesota -- not a particularly nice job, but it pays well. Well enough for me to afford to do some bigger fanzines perhaps, and if a good machine comes up, I'll buy myself that mimeo that I've been promising myself for so long. Then I can start publishing all my own stuff, not just the stuff that can be ditto'd. Just about in time to have my first SAPS zine as a member of this sterling organization done in what I am sure will be very faltering print. Oh well, as dgv would say only not quite, that's the way it goes in fandom.

And, to round out the page: SAPS I HAVE MET: none. Owell. I have met our former #4 w'l'er, John Kusske, though, for 1 out of 27 on the w'l. Quite an accomplishment, really -- living all over the country and sometimes out of it and travelling like mad, and still never managing to get in range of any fans. It just sometimes seems like they all live in LA and New York, two places I don't visit very often at all. Owell.

NOTED: 71...

Well, I finally decided on a title of sorts for my mailing comment column. I was leafing through one of the FAPA mailings that Wrai was kind enough to sell me about a year ago, when I ran across Ted White's mc column name in Null-F, and I rather liked it, so it is brought to you here in SAPS by your friendly neighborhood waitlister at no charge. Now, if I could only do decent lettering, I'd be all set, eh? Oh well, maybe next time....

SPECTATOR 71: BPOE :: Well, I see that you've gone back to listing the wlzines as semi-separate publications in the contents -- seems to me that your ruling of no wlzines did nothing at all, except help me and a few others conserve staples here and there. Staples aren't that expensive, really. Oh yes, this way I have no need for a cover, thus saving a bit of expense and trouble getting that cover. Not that I'm complaining by any means, no, not hardly.

#3 on the wait list, eh? Well, it could be worse, I guess, but it sort of feels bad to be sitting out here on the sidelines while Len and Arnie are in. However, it can't last, though I calculate that it would take a drop of five people to get me in. But, when I do get in, I plan this Huge Big issue of YOPGM with lots of articles and Stuff, and I'm just Very Anxious to present this huge batch of Worthwhile Material to you, that's all. Uh huh.

DINKY BIRD 14: Ruth Berman :: I think I know what you mean about not really knowing just what it is that you want to, and feeling sort of "I don't really care" about things like fandom, etc. I get the same feeling rather often -- too often. It comes when I do APA L zines, for one thing. I know very well that my APA L stuff is so much crud, and that I spend too much of my limited money on it, and after all, why should I be doing any such thing? I mean, really, is it that important? Do I really care?

And then every so often another SAPS or SPPA mailing comes in, and I feel a little fore encouraged with the whole thing, and go back to work on the zines. Right now, I'm feeling pretty good about it, and I hope that the feeling will last long enough to let me really work on a few fanzines, and perhaps produce something just a bit better than normal. Normal for me, that is....

WILD COLONIAL BOY: John Foyster :: I don't really know what a Goon Show is, but it's wild and very funny, whatever it is. I recall reading about the Goon Show somewhere (I thought it had something to do with John Berry), and being curious about it. Trouble is that I don't remember anything about it other than the name. How about some enlightenment about what this is and where it came from, eh?

While at Michigan State this year, I got the idea that all those thousands of kids from Michigan thought I was personally nuts for coming all that way to Michigan to merely go to school. You know, I think they were right....

Gee, all I meant, John, way back in the 69th mailing, was that you said only a half page of mailing comments, and in the same breath said that you were dropping everything but the mc's. Which means that perhaps if you continued in the same vein, you'd soon be O*U*T on your ever-lovin' ear. But we wouldn't want that to happen, would we? Never, never, not in a million years!

"...you couldn't even lick your way out of a paper bag." Of course not; my tongue has never been known for its unusual strength, and paper bag of the size it would take to encapsulate me would necessarily be made of rather stiff and thick paper. Of course I couldn't, and I doubt if you could either. Hmph.

DEADWOOD SAP 2: Burnett Toskey :: Oh, well, I didn't really want to belong to SAPS for another year anyway....

The ENTROPY twins: Terry Carr :: Wunnerful stuff; I hope that these two last a long time. This is a real service to us young ones who never had much of a chance to read the old fanzines. Especially us isolated ones; some can read Pelz's zines, etc. Not I. Thanks...

HOBGOBLIN 14: Terry Carr :: My ghod, stf book reviews, even. And very good ones at that. I thank you particularly for the quotes from Phil Dick anent STIGMATA. I don't know how anyone can be expected to understand a book the author can't even figure out. Especially me.

EXCELSIOR 3: Arnie Katz :: I don't think you realize how long it took me just to read through this thing. While I've got nothing against long zines or anything, I think that this time you got a little too carried away with yourself. Your faan fiction was clever, and your mailing comments are the same thing as usual -- enjoyable. However, they aren't enjoyable in doses this large. I think that about ten pages is the limit of my enjoyment of mc's. Of course, if you make nine of them to me, then I could take much more than ten....

Thanks, I'd been wondering about the Purple Gang ever since Elvis Presley first sang about them back in '56 or '57 (or thereabouts). One of the phrases in Jailhouse Rock, one of EP's earliest hits, goes like this: "...and the rhythm section was the Purple Gang!" Some memory, eh?

Come now, I just happen to like nice, long colophons, much for the same reasons that Bruce has pointed out in NBAPA (Just call me Wrai...) and APA L. You'll notice that my colophons haven't been overly long recently -- I was discouraged by Tom Dupree's 2 page colophon in APA45.

As for the Rolling Stones, I'm very much taken with the recent one that seems to have taken the country by storm. Or at least the parts of the country I go through.... It was new the week before I left East Lansing, and all the local dj's were raving over. Then, as we drove through upper Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and North Dakota, playing the radio all the while, they were all excited about "Satisfaction" -- and every time I hear it, I like it more. As for the Stones' previous efforts, blech.

That's an extremely intriguing typo you made there -- veratin. I couldn't figure it out for the longest time, until an examination of my keyboard showed that the v is near the c, after which it all fell into place -- you meant certain. I'll have to remember that one...

I thought I heard the same thing -- the John Berry Orchestra playing the theme from Goldfinger.... I, too, doubted my senses when I heard it. Maybe it is just what we heard, though....

Arnie, you talk of APA45 quite a bit in this issue -- I think we ought to tell them that you did join us last mailing, though unless you get your 8 pages to me by the SAPS deadline (the same as our deadline), you may not be a member for very long. Maybe.

A pretty good zine, Arnie, though a trifle long. I shuddddddd (excuse please, I sometimes get Carried Away) at the thought of what you'll have in this mailing. Only "Maybe Not".

Horrors! I just discovered that all of that above on this page was typed with no cushion sheet. It'll probably look horrid. D**n.

SPY RAY: Dick Eney :: Very good caption for your cover. ## Who gets copies of all those issues of Stupefying Stories? It's listed as general, you know, yet all I've seen is the one you put through the N3F, of all things.

POT POURRI 38 & 39: John Berry ~~0/0/0/0/0~~ :: Very nice. Your comments on the egoboo poll are well taken. I've got to make up the format for the first APA45 egoboo poll in the next week sometime. The suggestion that the top five only be listed is a good one -- there is a lot of embarrassment and discouragement in getting only a few votes on one of these things -- I know. Still, it would be sort of sacreligious to list only the top people -- the rest would be beset by curiosity as to where they placed.

PLEASURE UNITS 10: Gordon Eklund :: I just don't know what to make of you Stories. I am Baffled, completely. I was amused by Little Freddie the Soldier, but that other bit about the baseball player... I just don't, I just don't know....

Little people boring each other over the back fence, we are, eh? I don't know about that, Gordon. I know very well that all my SAPstuff is nothing but Meaningless Blather, but then I happen to really enjoy reading other people's Meaningless Blather, and just perhaps they enjoy reading mine. Maybe. Sure, we're just chattering over the back fence, but we're not boring each other with dull stories and uninteresting opinions. We genuinely enjoy it, and therefore it is Good and Fine. Perhaps it takes a Shallow Personality to enjoy it, but I happen to have a Shallow Personality, and enjoy it, I will!

I know very well that the 1956 Topps baseball cards series featured an action shot of the player on the right 3/4ths of the card, and his face on the left quarter. And the card was horizontal, not vertical like it became in later years. I liked them that way, and when they went to the vertical face cards, I stopped buying them. (Shallow, shallow)

Odd. I rather enjoyed my early life at the hands of the Air Force -- until I was around eight years old, I never lived in one city for more than six months at a time. Travel Broadens One, you know. And who else do you know that's lived in Phoenix, Arizona; Midvale, Utah; Pasadena, Texas; Atlanta, Georgia; Fort Worth, Texas; Topeka, Kansas; Sacramento, California; Wichita, Kansas; Atwater, California; North Highlands, California; Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico; Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota; East Lansing, Michigan; and Mentor, Minnesota? This transient history of mine may have something to do with my unfortunate tendency to get along better with people by mail than in person. Not that I'm hard to get along with, I just have trouble sometimes with getting to know people properly. Or something.

I, too, became a vending machine addict for a time, while at college. There was a lovely coke machine downstairs in my dormitory all last year, and I must have

spent 40 or 50 cents a day on cokes and potato chips, which came in dime bags, or rather, nickel bags that cost a dime. Studying didn't seem proper without a coke in hand, and I spent all my spare money there. I had ten dollars a week, and I'd spend about \$2.50 on Tuesday afternoon, when the week's new books came to the local newstand. Then every Monday night, I'd need 50¢ for my APA L zine's airmailing out to Tom Gilbert in LA. Then about 50¢ for each day's sustenance at the vending machines, and I'd be pretty well out of money. Quite a mess.

GOLIARD 836: Karen Anderson :: Your "Quadruple Image" reminds me very much of a computer experiment that a bunch of us did at Michigan State this winter. We tried our best to get the thing to write fiction for us, providing the general sentence patterns and a large set of vocabulary cards. These, along with the program and format statement ran us to over 1200 cards in the deck, and we had trouble getting the computer lab people to accept it as a legitimate deck for Electrical Engineering 302, which we were trying to pass it off as. Anyway, it came out much the same as your piece did. I'll quote just a paragraph for you

"Unfortunately, Bilbo Baggins slew the FAPA at the same time. ... To prove a point, Jock Root taunted. Kim Kinnison teased ingratiatingly, too. Ack! Ack! Insanely, the SAPS debauched. Then and there, Sauron enticed and he folded longingly. Religiously every morning, Kim Kinnison and the mechanism and the girl martyred greedily. "Shucks!" said Sauron. With the turn of the slant, Kim Kinnison defenestrated Sauron. Greedily, Sauron barfed on him. Their stencil fooled."

So now you know. Undoubtedly, though, the best line in the whole piece that really shows fannish understanding is, "Insanely, the SAPS debauched." And by the way, this paragraph is reprinted from Romann #5, my N8APA zine. Gee.

RETRO 36: FM Busby :: Oh, no, by letting John onto my page in SpeleoBem last time, I've confused our Images. This is Bad Business. Now, about what you say about "Kusske": I certainly don't want to run SAPS or take over or anything. I think that you are right -- I talk too much of Len and Arnie and the others that are my closer fan friends -- which I think is only natural, but I grant that I should stop it. However, I don't think I've told anyone how to run this organization, or done anything but make innocuous mailing comments. Kusske, now, has been doing a bit too much trying run SAPS, but that's not my fault, by any means. Do you mean that when I become a member, I'll suddenly be absorbed into the ingroup in SAPS, or will I continue to be with my own group? I don't think that I'll be absorbed any more than I have been already, which is somewhat, I think. Never mind, soon I'll be a member, and this will be academic.

Pardon me, but I think you just hurt my feelings. Have I really been building up all my buddies and ignoring the rest of SAPS? Why, I thought that I was being a respectful young fan extending tentative advances into SAPS, trying to get acquainted with the Elder Ghods and to get into their good graces. I'm sorry that I haven't been coming through like that. I am sorry.

OUTSIDERS 59: Wrai Ballard :: I think that I'll be attending school this fall right here in Grand Forks at the University of North Dakota, and school starts some time in the middle of September here. I still haven't been able to make a firm decision about it, yet, partly because the abysmal grades I expect from Michigan State haven't shown up yet. Perhaps they were lost in the mail -- it's been over a month since school got out. Anyway, I'll be here any time, worse luck.

Hey, I can probably take you over to the cabin at the lake. You'd like it up there, Wrai.

STUMPING 12: Jim Webbert :: Cute dragon on your cover. ## Saw your (?) book the other day in a used book store. SO YOU WANT TO BE AN ENGINEER? An engineer? I thought y6u shot guns and stuff.

POR QUE? 25: Doreen Webbert :: Yes, but why don't I dare change my title?
I don't really want to lose all those numbers and start over at #1 again -- I've published entirely too many #1's of fanzines over the last year or so, and I want to cut it out. Anyway, I'm glad you, er, like my title. I do.

EXCALIBUR: Len Bailes and Arnie Katz :: Ok, you two, I'll try to comment this time enough to cover all that effort. Besides, if you don't send #11 through an apa, I want to get a copy, by Roscoe. I notice that your repro in here is considerably improved. Whatever it was that bugged Len seems to have cleared up at least temporarily. And since you got that new old typer, Len, your repro has improved 1000% or so.

That story of the flame breathing friend of yours, leaw, well... I still don't know what to think. Not at all. What is it, d**n it?

Arnie, the Joe Walcott struck me very favorably. I think that perhaps you were overly optimistic about fandom, but I like to think that that's what fandom is like: a warm place, full of your friends, a place that you can come and spend a few years getting in and then enjoying it. A fine ending line, too, "Never lonely."

I'm sorry fellas, but the cartoon portfolio Turns Me Off. Yecch.

THE CHARLOTTAN 4: Len Bailes :: All I have to say is that I'm glad I was the first one to think of sending in a huge sum of money all at once for future mailings. I'm paid up through the 74th mailing, and if I'm not in by then, I don't really no what I'll do. Probably cry.

I notice that you, too, have no trouble getting mc's for SAPS. It's a curious phenomonor. I can hack away at comments for SAPS all day and night, and enjoy every minute of it, while the mc's for N'APA are like pulling teeth. And then three months later, when I go back and read my zines, I enjoy the SAPS efforts much more than any of the others. But then, SAPS is Best.

Odd. I just noticed that this is now a scene of Ultimate Happiness or something. I've got the radio tuned to the nearest R&R station, and it is currently blasting out "Satisfaction" by the Stones at its max volume (I can't hear the keys hitting the stencils!). I have a Dr. Pepper open and sitting on the desk along with a "bund" copy of the latest SAPS mailing. There's a stencil in the typer and I'm doing mailing comments. On the table next to me is a four foot stack of fanzines for the next APA45 mailing, along with this morning's mail, which includes TT#7. And there's my copy of THE JEWELS OF APTOR sitting here with a bookmark protruding therefrom near the end of the book. This is my idea of the Ultimate in fannish atmospheres. For me. What's yours look like?

COLLECTOR Apr65: Howard DeVore :: Why the odd size? It's hell on us Serious Apa Binders with our handy dandy Accopress Binders and all. ##I have always wondered just how the Post Office managed to sometimes take two or three weeks to deliver something that was sent AirMail. Now I see. Via Grèce, you say? Actually, I'm pretty fond of our Postal System. Considering the volume of mail you poor people handle, you do an amazingly good job. Thanks.

IF LOGIC BLOCK ... #1: Dick Schultz :: Your repro has improved, but it's still
unmistakably yours. ##I'm already having
troubles finding a job, but it's not because of a computerized society. I simply
got here too late --after all the summer jobs had been taken. Still, I find the
computer to be an immensely fascinating piece of machinery, and while at Michigan
State, I utilized the one there as much as I could, even to the extent of having
it print my fanzines and write fiction for me. And programming seems to be a
fascinating sort of puzzle. I couldn't really say; it was roommate that was
taking the computer courses, but I picked up quite a bit by sitting on the fringes
and watching. Fascinating.

NIFLHEIM 11: Dave Hulan :: I love those Atom illos! Especially the one on page 3
and the one you head your mc column with. Ah...
I would say that you spend a lot of time stenciling these, because you seem to have
done an excellent job. The illo of Col. Beauregard Bragg loses much in the
transition from colorful ditto to not-so-colorful mimeo. Now that you've got a
ditto, perhaps you could ditto him this time, eh?

Now. The question of your becoming SAPS OE is a good one. I certainly hope
that you run and that I will have become a truSAP by then so that I can vote for
you. There are many advantages to your being OE -- you're a capable fan, as was
shown by your handling of this SFPA mailing that just came out. (Well, sort of.)
I like the idea of having the SAPS OE in LA, near Bruce's mimeo or the LASFSRex.
And you Think Like Me, or maybe I think like you. Anyway, our opinions run about
the same a lot of the time. Yes, I'd vote for you.

I wonder. You speak of spending 45 minutes on the newspaper each morning.
While I do read the paper, I don't think that I read it that thoroughly. Do you
read everything in the paper, or just skim it for interesting items? That goes
for all of you -- how do you read a newspaper?

Interesting. I wonder just how many of the SAPS started out with WLzines.
I never suspected that you would have, though it's a logical enough thing. I know
that you did, Doreen did, and then the current bunch of us are. Who else? It
seems that there may be a whole lot more precedent of this sort of thing than I'd
realized.

I'd say that a ten page zine or so from every member would be a Just Right
mailing. There is danger in over-doing the mc's, as Arnie has shown, but ten or
fifteen pages of them is Fine. And in SAPS, if all of you did ten pages, that
would be ...um... 340 pages, now. Which is perfect.

I checkmark mailings for one reason: I like to sit down and type my mailing
comments in a stream, not sit here reading the whole mailing and searching for
comments while facing the typer. Takes too long. I'd rather read a bit ahead,
checkmark appropriate items, and then go type a full stencil's worth of comments
in one burst.

I, sir, have a *complete* set of mailings from APA L. Hmmp.

Geez, really? I do like this typeface, sometimes. It can be sheerest
hell, if I were to write long paragraphs and never skip spaces between paragraphs.
A solid page of this stuff can be very, very dreary. Since I had my electric fixed,
the letters don't hit the page with equal pressure, and the tops of the letters
show up and the bottoms fade out, and I don't like the look of it at all. I
liked the look of it when it was new.

Nearly a page for you, too. Do you feel smoorgy?

Gak. I'm going to try an old stencil here for a change. It's one that I bought from Mishek's for about \$2 the quire, but it's several years old, and I don't think it bodes very well for Bruce to have to run this. I still have about six of these left though, so use them up I must. And I ran out of the regular Gestencils. Owell...

Say, Dave you don't happen to have any copies of Garm left, do you? I'd like to see them, if so. In fact, I'd kind of like to buy a copy of somebody's LAAPA mailings, just to see what they're like, of course. And to have one. I've got mailings from all the current apas, even if I'm not in them.

NUMBER ONE 2: Mike McInerney :: The title gimmick isn't that new, you know. It's been done many times in many forms. Aren't you just so glad I told you? NO? Owell.

The filk songs aren't too good, I fear. Keep trying.

So that's what FISTFA means! I'd been wondering for some time now, but I keep forgetting to ask anyone who would know.

This is something that had been bothering me. Your image, somehow, grew to be that of an undesirable sort, though I can't say why. This zine, however, is a good one, with no ravings, rantings, etc. There's no question that you were contemned (as you spell it) by a lot of SAPS without reason, including me. Whatever the reason, I think that you've countered it with this zine. Good snow.

I can't imagine anyone wanting to bind a whole run of YOPGI. I mean, after all, if it ever shows up in bound volumes at all, it will be in bound SAPS mlg.s. If a person likes my zine and is a binding type, then by golly, he'll like SAPS and will bind the mailings. That way, it doesn't make any difference. The only person who might conceivably have problems is me, when I go to bind the full file of ROMPress Publications. And I brought it on myself.

Earracini, I've seen before, but the Dylan article was most interesting. I've never liked Dylan's singing or his songs particularly, but I wonder about what sort of person he is. I dislike his singing very much, and have a sort of lukewarm feeling for his songs. I'm not the Protest type.

SAPRISE! 2: Dave Van Arnam :: When's the last time anyone saw you at a LASFS meeting? Exactly 6 days and 18 hours ago, by my watch, that's when. That'll teach you to ask questions like that in a Quarterly Apa.

Odd. I knew quite a few AP's (you know, like LP's in the Other Service) down in Puerto Rico, and they were all intensely Ghood Men, and all the other ones I personally ran across (you know, for speeding on my putt-putt motor scooter and such like) were nice-seeming fellows. However, There Are Stories....

Ick. More Breen Business? Let's drop it.

And now, let's pull a typical oneshottish trick, and try to fil up these last few lines with blather so we can start out nice and fresh on the next stencil. It isn't easy to a very inexperienced one shot fan, to fill the extra lines, so let's just say, way up here on line 57 where we shouldn't be stopping, take 'er from the top, ~~Yess~~....

IBEX v2n1: Jack Chalker :: Pretty good for a last minute minacazine, not bad at all.

I have always had a fascination for miniature golf. I'll have to find out about these miniature golf pros; the thought is a croggling one. And some day, I plan a long article on Miniature Golf Courses I Have Known. I've played courses in 15 or 20 cities throughout the country....

Your report on Harry Harrison and Brian Aldiss is received well here. I never would have thought them capable of such things.

SLUG 11: Wally Weber :: Great. ~~##~~You speak passingly of Decatur, Alabama. I, sir, Have Been There. Yessir. We stayed at a very nice little motel there, one of the best ones I've had the pleasure of staying at in the South. Isn't that *interesting*? Owell.

I like them like this: A,E,B,D,C. Let's see, that's: Sex, security, honesty, morals, and money. That's odd, I'm not like that. At least I don't think I am. I liked A because she stood up (or lay down, perhaps) in the face of adversity so that True Love will always win, even after enduring what turns out to be a Fate not really Worse Than Death. D is a louse for scorning her, E is a Ghood Man for helping the poor girl out, C is a cad for taking advantage of her, and B is lukewarm, honest but immoral. Or something.

BEYOND FANTASY FICTION (19): Ed Meskys :: I haven't been around fandom for too long, and I've picked up quite a lot of the fan mythology without Really Trying. There are details (i.e. Doheugs, "De garren haa det gut!", etc.) that I've missed, no doubt, but I'm picking them up as time goes on. The neos pick quite a bit from the current zines, especially the apazines.

ROQUAT 1: Ruth Berman :: "...making noises li'ke an ox-goad." Egad.

MISTILY MEANDERING 12: Fred Patten :: I love them Atom covers! Simply scrumptious. ~~##~~Re: Loafers of Refuge. I love this sort of book -- your description of it as a "quiet-pleasant" book is about right. I have always enjoyed this sort of thing more than any other kind of stf book. There aren't many others of this type, unfortunately. And as of yet, it is the top book for Cleveland's Hugo in my mind. Lovely.

Very interesting remark about the Beatles and your sister. Mainly because while you're in London collecting their autographs, they're going to be right in Los Angeles (Aug 29 and 30) on their Stateside Tour. Tell her to get her own autographs.

MEST 18: Ted McJohnstone :: Well, you've met him now. I dislike UNCLE very much. Could be that my sense of humor is warped or something, but I just don't find it funny, generally. In the last one I saw, I heard two, count 'em, two funny lines, one of which was a masterpiece: "Ecch, you're poisoned." Still, I dislike the show in the extreme, finding their humor awfully sophomoric and clumsy. So there.

However, your escapades with Mr. Solo and Mr. K. were read with many a chortle by all my UNCLE-loving buddies, of which there are Too Many. I'll be watching for your version of THRUSH, or at least I'll have my appointed delegates watching for it.

Priestess is interesting, but I wonder just how this is "promotional" material. Promoting what? Perversion?

DIEGO NARVAEZ JEREZ CREAM SHERRY (7): Don Fitch :: You don't say. ##Well, even if Apa L puts some 100 pages out a week -- and it hasn't for some time, you know -- it's still a large proportion of "crud" and near-crud. That includes my contributions, those of a lot of the CalTeah group, and others. Though there is much enjoyment to be found in Apa L, I'd say that the quarterly apas (mostly SAPS) are better. Or at least, less crud. Or something.

ARIAGEDDON 2BM: John Kusske :: Hi, John. ##What's this? There's no reason why I should worry about what my opinions will be in a year's time? I don't see any logical reason why not. For instance: If I know that the consequences of ...hmmmm... trying to get John Kusske kicked out of fandom as a Sex Maniac will make me sorry that I did it after a year's time has gone by, then by golly, I won't do it. But don't think I haven't considered it!

We are too touchy about APA45. Let it go at that.

MAINE-IAC 28; Ogre EdCo :: I dunno if I should comment to you, since you don't believe in waitinglisters like me. Maybe you'll give me some mc's after I become a Member. Maybe.

I think the major problem of waitlisters versus oldtimers is a matter of outlook. EdCo, you've been in apa's for years and years, and they are a Fact of Life to you (you know, the birds and the fanzines), whereas to me they are something new and exciting, a new idea that looks like an awful lot of fun. I think that it's only natural that in my youngsterish enthusiasm, I'd try to take part in all the fun. I have no desire to Make Life Miserable for anyone, and I'm only here in hopes of making it a little more fun for someone out there. But in my mind, an apa is a large group of people that are having fun, I want to have fun too, so I try to participate when it is legal to do so. To you, a wait of a year to a couple of years is nothing, they come and go, and you've got OtherApas, your LASFS friends, etc. A year to me seems like an awfully long time -- as long as my entire career as a fan. If my presence is all that loathsome to you, EdCo, I'll leave SAPS and go back to being the small-town OE of APA45 or something. I have no desire to stay where I'm Not Wanted.

TTT(R)2#3: JaHuCo :: JaHuCo? That's a ridiculous set of letters. ##Nothing to say but keep them coming, I enjoy every precious word of these things. Dave Hulan seemsto be a valuable addition, but Katya? Women at a TTR session? Gads.

ENZYME 9: Phil Castora :: I doubt if people will vote for an OE they can't even be sure is going to be a member at this time next year. You are the only person registering outraged complaint at my "title", therefore I shall keep it as is for the while.

SON OF SAPROLLER 37: Jack Harness :: I just noticed that I bound this in the wrong place in the mailing. Oh, well, I can always take it out and put it in the right place. That's one advantage to my system of "binding" mlg's. ##You didn't seal me any of the fanzines you were offering last mailing. Golly gee.

ISSUE 4: Ed Baker :: Gee.

Isn't there some sort of transliteration for your title? I'd rather like to know just what it means.....

WHEN THE GODS WOULD SUP 11: Alan J. Lewis :: So did you get that Summer Employment from your resume? Somehow, the bit of being active in Amateur Journalism and editing, writing, and publishing amateur magazines sounds more impressive than it should. My first thought for a job this summer was the local mimeo shop. Ha!

OK, here is a collection schedule for all the mailboxes on Louisiana Avenue at Grand Forks AFB, North Dakota. There are four of them:

2:30 PM

How about that, eh? Maybe next time we can have the collection schedule for the downstairs mailbox of Bryan Hall at Michigan State University. Goshwow.

Are you still having trouble with the double AJLewises? There isn't too much overlap between your various fanr-ish fields any more is there? You're in SAPS, the other AJLewis is in FAPA, but not SAPS, etc.

RESIN 21: Norm Metcalf :: To Be Continued? If you must. I do consider myself to be pretty much of an sf fan besides being a faaan, but I just couldn't find this interesting. I like stf, read it like mad, and to some minor league extent, I collect it. However....

I am interested in ERB's handbook on African whateveritwas. Tell us.

YEZIDEE 11: Dian Pelz :: Nice cover. The ERB fans in the crowd Bless You. I Bless You, too, but for Other Reasons. ##I have always been fascinated by the thought of actually living in a castle. What with the rock walls, drafty, smelly, cold, and dirty atmosphere, and all, I think it would be more than most of us could stand. Still castles enchant me, and even when I play chess, I'm overly dependent on my rooks.

Looks like you will have to water down EdCo's beer. Or perhaps you could have Katya of the Yellow Dress do it for you at the next TTTR session. Anyway, I vehemently agree with you that Desperate Measures must be taken to insure that Edco and/or LeeJ finishes The SAPSloggers.

Just being around Metcalf in SAPS makes me feel Horrid. I don't even begin to know all the things about stf that they do. However, within my own little field, I feel pretty good. Paperbacks since 1950 and magazines since 1950 I know pretty well. I haven't memorized Tuck yet, though. One Of These Days, though.

SPELEOBEM 27: Bruce Pelz :: I like that cover. Is it anything, or is it just the imaginings of Don Simpson? ##Mathematical analysis of your zine list shows that for pubs 231-340, you averaged 5.26 pages per publication. Pretty darn good for someone in Apa L.

=+==+==+==+==+==+==

I'd better cut it off there; this is the bottom of the 11th page, and I've got to get this out to Bruce so that he won't have to do it at the very Last Minute -- I'm late enough as it is; this is the 8th of July already. We're leaving in the morning for another three days at the Lake cabin, and there are things to be done before leaving.

Hey! The Astronauts are playing at the Maple Lake Pavilion this Sunday Night. Hot dog! All you true r'n'r fans will recognize the name, I'm sure. Full report on the Fabulous Astronauts next time, perhaps.

YOPGM#5, July 1965, SAPS 72. DGH0149070865. Thanks again, Bruce.

SpeleoBem 28

