



# Union Street

A joint zine by Jeanne Gomoll & Scott Custis

have studied up on yard care, get into it early and end up with something I'm happier with. Going on seven years now and I am still planning to do just that.

[JG] Welcome back to *Turbo*, Spike. Nice evocative zine. It sounds like you are enjoying your new home.

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## Michael Rawdon

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[SC] I liked your piece about your trip to Cape Cod. Sounds nice. As I finished it, I thought your idea of "vacation" and mine are pretty close. I am a big fan of a stretch of time spent in a beautiful place with nothing much to do except reading and relaxing. Anything undertaken beyond that is just a break from the prime activity of reading and relaxing.

I appreciate your ambitious book reviews. I liked *Trouble* a lot more than you did because I liked the politics of the book. I saw Scott making a comparison here between the free and open net frontier of the netwalkers and the gay and lesbian community today. I saw the main character as a study in being an outlaw in a hostile society because of who they are rather than what they've done. I thought *Trouble* was about personal politics and not much about the nuts and bolts of a realistic cyberspace.

Same problem with *Red Mars*. I consider it one of the best SF novels I've ever read not only because of the depth and detail of information it provided on the prospect of terraforming *Mars*, but (more importantly) because it created realistic characters who interacted in realistic ways. The personal and social politics interested me most. There was a lot in this book about how groups of people work together, how individuals come to dominate groups and how individuals conflict and compete with each other over power. The plot was very slow in unfolding, but that only added to the realistic feel of the book. Life is not a series of explosions and car chases packed into one afternoon. I loved it.

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## Official Business

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[SC] I second **Jae's** nomination of Ruth Merrill for APA membership. I don't know Ruth, but I only barely knew **Lisa Freitag** before Jae brought her in, and look at what a fine candidate she turned out to be. So, on Jae's reputation and good sense if nothing else, I welcome Ruth.

[JG] I also second **Jae Adams'** nomination of Ruth Merrill. I agree with Scott; if Jae thinks she's an interesting writer, I'm willing to take it on faith. **Kim**, you can take that as two seconds, or two halves of a second.

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## Spike Parsons

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[SC] Welcome. Beautiful first zine. My first thought as I finished it was how it was a small shame that our most avid gardener and lawn fiddler, Diane Martin, is temporarily out of *Turbo* and won't get to see it (that is, unless someone over on the West side of town, on her very same street, shows it to her.) I think she would find the California gardening adventures of a transplanted Midwesterner particularly amusing.

As an apartment dweller, I never needed to take an interest in gardening. I was hopelessly incapable of keeping house plants alive so I figured gardening was just not for me. As a homeowner, I cannot escape confronting the issue of The Yard. Fortunately, it is a small yard and, as you observed, I only really have to deal with it about half the year. I have decided that I don't hate it, but I am pointedly aware that I also don't know what I'm doing. So I tell myself every fall that by next spring, I will

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Same, of course, on *Left Hand of Darkness*. For me the book is all about personal politics and, though slightly flawed by her use of pronouns, still carries a powerful message about the importance of gender prejudices.

Politics, both personal and social, are very important to me. I can rarely read a book or see a movie without giving it some sort of political spin on what it means or says. Maybe that is the difference between us and our tastes. You might see things from a more neutral standpoint.

[JG] I haven't read *The Forever War*, but have heard many people talk about it as Haldeman's Vietnam novel. In fact, many of the things you mention, including some of the things you seem not to like about it, struck me like rather interesting commentary on the Vietnam War. For instance, your reference to the point of view of a soldier for whom the home world changes so radically from the one he knew before the war: this is an typical experience of any soldier, but especially that of Vietnam vets, many of whom felt their country turned against them while they were fighting.

*Trouble and Her Friends*, on the other hand, I did read and have a much more positive reaction than you did. ...But I've already published my review of that book here, so I'm not going to go into detail. The different slants you and I have taken on a number of books has made me think a little, however. I am reminded of a conversation Laura Speiss and I had recently about the different things she and I look for in fiction. (Almost invariably, Laura and I disagree diametrically on nearly every book we've ever read in common. It's actually pretty weird, and most of the time amusing to our friends.) I am convinced that what one brings to a book, is almost as important as the material itself, when it comes to whether or not one finally likes the book or not. Laura's and my conversation got real interesting when we began to identify the specific ways our motivations for reading differed.

What do you want when you read fiction? What characterizes your most enjoyable reading experience?

My most enjoyable reading experience is one in which the work of fiction offers several levels of

Quote of the Month #1

***I went to see Tommy Thompson today. I wanted to turn in some welfare mothers, you know like General Motors and the Milwaukee Brewers. He wouldn't even see me. I don't understand. Last year he hugged me.***

understanding, above and beyond plot. I look for plot to relate to thematic levels, the more the merrier. Laura looks first and foremost for good characterization and actually dislikes multiple "levels," and symbolism in novels. How about you?

Re your comment in "Official Bidness:" The proposal for the rule change had very little to do with the question of whether the extra month of minac provided or did not provide foreign contributors with enough time to submit their zines. It has to do with the fact that *even with three months*,

many zines sent in by folks outside the U.S. were insubstantial, and seldom (except for Lynne Ann Morse's zines) included any mailing comments.

I discovered a web site with extensive summaries of all *Babylon 5* episodes. I see that we're actually only a season away from the finish of the story, and have been talking with Scott about whether or not we should just wait for the reruns to start and see it from the beginning, rather than try to read up on three seasons-worth of episodes and try to catch up now.... I haven't decided yet. I've skimmed some of the introductory material and glanced at the a few of the massive synopses, and already understand a lot more of the couple episodes Scott and I have caught recently, and understand now that there are several long-standing mysteries that may eventually be explained by the end of the series. I like that. It seems to me that watching *Babylon 5* is something like putting together a very complicated jigsaw puzzle. It takes a while, but at the end, you end up with one complete picture. (*X-Files*, on the other hand, is like putting together a jigsaw puzzle comprised of pieces from a dozen different jigsaw puzzles, none of them complete in the set of pieces on the table. No matter how many pieces fit together, a single complete picture will never emerge.)

There'd be two kinds of terminally fannish elder homes. One like a big convention and one like a library with discussion rooms. I'll take the library, please. Conventions are only fun, in my opinion, when they punctuate one's schedule. Too many—more than say 3 or 4 a year—exceed my appetite. I certainly wouldn't like to live, full-time in a convention. No thanks.

If you are unsure of what the demands on your time would be if you joined the WisCon 21 committee, come to a meeting sometime and find out what's available. You'll get a pretty honest assessment from the committee as to what kind of commitment would be necessary for various jobs.

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### Vicki Rosenzweig

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[SC] Jim Hudson and Diane Martin are WisCon 21 coordinators. I am very glad you are coming again. I hope to have more time this year to sit around and talk with folks.

Congratulations on the tattoo. Tattooed *Turbo*-apans seems to be a trend (attention, the alliteration was accidental.) I would like to see photos of these works of art, but I will refrain from calling on all tattooed apans to run photos. If I do that, then the pierced apans may feel they need to show off too, and I don't think we want to go there.

[JG] Careful now! Roger Tory Peterson's editors strictly enforce copyright and treat copyright violators harshly! You don't want to get fined for an illegal tattoo! (Just kidding. It would be a funny thing though, if copyright law extended to copying artwork on bodies and people were hauled into court with the evidence written all over their bodies, so to speak.)

I reminded Jim Hudson and Diane Martin (neither of whom are in the apa) of your offer to volunteer for WisCon 21 work. I hope they contact you soon.

Sorry if I gave you the impression that all settlements on Kim Stanley Robinson's *Mars* are rural. They aren't. In *Green* and especially, *Blue Mars*, there are lots of descriptions of urban living.

As you wrote to Jae, "*The question is ... what can be done with the net that can't be done at least as well without it.*" An excellent measuring stick. It's the same one we artists at the DNR (in 1989) used when we were considering shifting from technical pens, t-squares, velum and mylar to electronic production. If we couldn't reproduce the kind of work we were already doing as well as — or better — by electronic means, none of us were interested in getting rid of our drafting tables and investing in the time to learn the new technology. Only later (but not much), did we realize that doing graphics on a computer not only allowed higher quality, but actually enabled us to do work that wasn't even *possible* with our old methods.

The process of adoption to net technology, however, seems to be happening differently for me than the switch to electronic graphics. I didn't start using email because it could reproduce a certain

quality of communication pegged by written correspondence or telephone conversations. Right from the start, I used email to communicate in ways that phone conversations and letters don't allow. Only later did email displace my former reliance on those other methods of communication. I don't rely upon the research capabilities of the net because I imagine that electronic resources are equal to that of a good library or even the yellow pages. At present, I am mostly using it to get information I don't know how to find without it. I can already see, however, that as I get more proficient in navigating the Internet, that its ease of use will supplant impulses to walk down to the library or even to telephone the library's reference department.

Michael Moore, the amazingly witty and accurate commentator on American politics, spoke enthusiastically about the net during a visit last week to Madison. Moore has been banned from NPR. His most recent movie, *Canadian Bacon*, received no distribution in the US. His excellent TV show which satirizes American politics and culture has been canceled by both NBC and Fox, because corporate sponsors are unwilling to back it, despite its high Nielsen rating. (*TV Nation* will return, however, funded by a consortium of interests from the U.K., Australia, South Africa, and other foreign countries. Yah! A weird kind of foreign aid.) Anyway, my point is that Moore has considerable trouble getting access to mainstream media outlets because of his radical message, and — as a result — he's wildly enthusiastic about the internet: because it does something that cannot be done — is not allowed — any other way. A huge protest was mounted on the internet when FOX threatened to ax *TV Nation*, sparking big protests in front of all the FOX offices across the country on the day his show was canceled. As Moore noted, it would have taken weeks for any grass-roots organization to have organized such a thing. And the situation was not being covered even by the liberal press. The word got out immediately on the Internet, without expense. Moore says the freedom and access offered by the Internet may be a temporary thing, that big business is most certainly trying to figure out a way to control it and to make money from it. And I agree; without vigilance, this incredible medium will be crippled as much as our other media have been crippled by corporate and governmental pressures. But for now, its a pretty wonderful thing.

Re your comment to Tom, I would think that computer classes wouldn't have to supplant other curriculum items, any more than the availability of

overhead monitors supplanted curriculum items. Ideally, kids aren't *just* learning how to use a computer, but they're learning other subjects while they use a computer....

## Georgie Schnobrich

[SC] I was amused at how you described Madison's Farmers Market in your distinctive style. Since I am away from home at supper time four nights a week now, our need for fresh vegetables has gone down. What we don't use on the week-ends often goes to waste. So going to Farmers Market on Saturday morning is less about stocking up than having a pleasant walk around the square, coffee and tea with pastry, picking up a few things, signing some petitions, (this year) shaking hands with politicians running for office, listening to music and checking on the Planned Parenthood stand that is always being picketed by the anti-choice crackpots. The weather this year has been very cooperative.

Under my old schedule, we went to the market as soon as I got home from work Saturday morning. Jeanne would have to get out of bed and be ready to go at about 7:30 am. Tough for Jeanne, but a very nice time to get to the market. This year, I no longer work on Friday nights so it is a matter of self-discipline for both of us to get up at a reasonable time. More often than not, we get to the square around 9:30 or 10:00 am which is prime time for the dog and stroller crowd. This is not good, we remind each other every week as we elbow our way through the mass of people.

I would be a fan of a Farmers Market in any city I happened to live in, but I would always miss Madison's own odd mixture of real food, trendy food, politics, music, petting zoo, playground, fashion show and sports boosterism under the shade trees on the Capital square.

[JG] What happened to your signature orange paper, Georgie? I really liked that color, partially because it isn't available at any of the copy shops I use. // Lovely picture of your local farmers market.

I think you are right about the difference a slower reading pace makes for the enjoyment of Jane Austen. However, I think I was quite capable of the appropriate reading pace when I first tried her in high school. The problem was that I was looking for something other than what was in Austen's writing, and when I didn't find it, I kept rushing ahead looking for it. At the end, I was conscious most of the disappointment at the supposed failure of the book and I entirely missed the actual things she was

doing.... I think that still happens for me. If I don't understand a book, I get impatient with the parts that seem opaque to me and I hurry ahead looking for the sort of resolution I expect, or an explanation I need, and at the end don't understand what the book is really about. (That happened recently with Rachel Pollack's *Unquenchable Fire*. Luckily our book discussion group had a fantastic talk about it and some of the members had some very interesting things

Quote of the Month #2

***I went to visit the world headquarters of Manpower, Inc. yesterday in Milwaukee. Did you know they are the largest employer in the country now? Yes, they recently passed up General Motors. What does that say about America today when the largest employer in the country is a company that guarantees its employees a job for a day?***

to say about religious archetypes and tarot symbolism woven through the novel. The discussion turned out to be far more interesting to me than the actual experience of reading the novel, and made me respect and enjoy — in retrospect — what I had just read. If I ever read *Unquenchable Fire* again, I will get much more from it.) Anyway, now I have a much more confident — not to mention affectionate — understanding of Austen. Just yesterday, I finished the last of her novels, *Persuasion*, having read the rest of her books over the summer as well as a collection of letters written by Jane Austen to her sister, Cassandra. I even read *Northanger Abbey*, which I had been thinking — when I first began the Austen project — that I would skip. I'd read it in college, and thought I remembered it accurately enough. But it turns out I did not, and really enjoyed the very modern self-conscious commentary in the novel. Some of the funniest and most quotable Austen, at least in terms of her opinions about literature and writing, can be found there.

I have been fantasizing about time traveling back to Austen's time and talking with her. (Don't worry, I am not about to turn up in Regency fandom.) I think a very good movie might be made of several episodes in her life....

I'm very sorry I didn't contact you and Greg to tell you the sad news about Karen Axness. We generally got the word out in Madison, and I'm sorry it didn't get to you before you saw the notice of her death in the newspaper, though I am very glad you saw it there and were able to attend the ROOO memorial.

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### Michael Shannon

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[SC] Good luck with the flying lessons. Is it your plan to own a plane someday?

We'll be seeing you at ReinConation.

[JG] I don't think difference in color perception by women and men is a very good example of the subjectiveness of reality. The differences can be explained by very *non*-subjective differences in female and male physiology, of pupil construction. The visible light spectrum, described by wave length measurement, either exists or doesn't exist, but no one argues that blue light has a different wavelength than green light. Accuracy of a man's or woman's perception can be checked against the results of a spectrometer; the difference of opinion can be easily arbitrated. There is no ambiguity. There are better examples for the subjectivity of reality.

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### Nevenah Smith

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[SC] Congratulations to Johnny on the new job. And good luck to you in your continuing search for one. Great graphic on your zine.

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### Sandy Taylor

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[SC] I seem to recall that Jeanne and I had some questions about *Mission: Impossible*, but I don't remember what they were. I rather liked it, compared with most of the action pictures I saw last summer. Tom Cruise was far more enthusiastic and dynamic to watch than leaden leads like Stallone, Seagal, Sheen and Swartzenegger (though he was pretty funny in spots in *Eraser*.)

[JG] I use aerial photo maps all the time. Some of them are really quite beautiful, especially in color. They make great "abstract art," sort of like an organic Miro. // Why am I not surprised by the Martha Stewart gossip?

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### Kim and Pete Winz

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[SC] Tough news about the miscarriage. We wish you the best of luck on the next try.

[JG] I am so sorry to hear about Kim's miscarriage. This must be a very sad time for you both. Take care.

I laughed to read your comparing Nick's conversational level to a Piers Anthony novel. Funny. You may be onto a new pop psychology metaphor, describing various maturation levels in terms of literary examples.

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### Jae Adams

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[SC] Wonderful zine, Jae, once again.

Thank you for the fine piece on George Bernard Shaw. I have never read anything of his, but your essay sure provides motivation. It's times like this that my college education spent almost entirely in the halls of the business department grates hard on me. I missed a lot that I may never recover.

I also liked very much your trip to the Oregon shore piece.

Ah, rolling oranges. You noticed that. Nurse Barb mentions rolling oranges in her letter because she knew I disapproved of the practice and never participated. My philosophy was that the night shift was largely self-governed and as long as we didn't attract any negative attention, the administration would mostly leave us alone. Rolling oranges (or orange bowling as it was more generally known) worked against that plan. The maximum security unit at Mendota consisted of four units, each on a wing splayed out from a joint center area like spokes on a wheel. The units were long halls with patient rooms on either side. At the end of each hallway was the unit nursing station, an office with big windows all around that looked out on the two dayrooms on either side of it. The nursing stations had doorways that were normal sized but the doors were made of steel and reinforced glass. The night crew was stationed on the center area of the wheel monitoring all the unit hallways at once. Three of the units were unlocked units. Patients could go in or out of their rooms all night. One of them, the Management Unit, was a lockdown unit. All the guys were locked in all night and the nursing station door was left open. This unit was a favorite site of orange bowling on the night shift.

The object of orange bowling was to stand at the our end of the hallway with an orange and, without stepping over a line in the terrazzo marking the start of the hall, roll the orange the length of the hall and through the open nursing station door on the other end. You earned extra

credit if you hurled it with enough force to have it bang off a chair or smash against the far wall of the station. The best time to begin this activity was if someone was in the station and they could roll it back. You earned hoots if you startled someone coming out of the breakroom into the hallway or dozing in the nursing station. The oranges were leftovers from the patient's evening snacks.

The problem, of course, is that it is a messy sport. An orange is not a ball. It has a mind of its own when rolled. That's what made it a challenge. They often bounced off patient doors and careened into the dayroom, or rolled behind doors or furniture. They had a short life-span when used this way. A couple times up and down the hall will render the inside of an orange into mush and the skin will eventually split, leaving a mess of juicy goo. My coworkers were not so good at cleaning up after themselves and the housecleaning staff started complaining about us. This was the source of my annoyance.

Orange bowling was at a peak several years ago when we had a particularly rowdy bunch of guys working nights. They tried rolling oranges down the very long hall to the control center and East side of the building by rolling it under two big iron gates. They once even rolled an orange past our clueless supervisor as he was making rounds on the unit. They really liked to rocket an orange up the hall from the nursing station at my coffee cup or backpack on the floor by my chair. I lost a couple cups that way. Eventually they mostly moved on and orange bowling declined. I was always telling Barb that orange bowling would soon be gone forever, but it never did completely die out.

[JG] You make me very interested in reading Shaw's *Mrs. Warren's Profession*. I remember liking Shaw quite a lot when I read him in college, but I don't remember coming across that play. Thanks.

Great cookbook photos. I always enjoy the similarities to which you draw our attention (implicitly and explicitly) between various arts and the joys of their by-hand production.

You ask me if I think society lacks opportunities for kids to express themselves as roughnecks and anti-intellectuals. Do I have to answer that question? It sounds like it could get me into trouble. Certainly, I don't care if roughnecks and anti-intellectuals fail to receive nurturance by our schools. But onward.... I expect that if I were a parent or a teacher, my style of supervision would probably tend toward the autocratic end of the scale. I'd be a selfish teacher, not nearly as sensitive to the needs of my kids as I should be, no where near as patient and encouraging a parent as you are. But then, my opinions on supervising kids don't come from experience as a

guardian; they come from my experience as a kid. And from my experience, the kids that get stifled aren't always the rowdy or unintellectual ones. Kids that grow interested in subjects that the parents or teachers don't care about, don't know about, don't have the time to think about — these kids also get stifled. I feel like I was pretty thoroughly squashed and it's taken me quite a while to fight my way back into a comfortable space.

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## Tracy Benton

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[JG] You wrote about having missed Indian Summer, but I think it's going on outside even as I type. Isn't Indian Summer, a warm spell that follows the first significant cold spell?

I also sometimes find it weird that I'm not doing publications for WisCon 21. Certainly it would be a much much easier thing to do than programming. On the other hand, I've got experience doing both. (I worked on both programming and pubs in the first 5 or 6 years of WisCon. I was younger and definitely more foolish in those days.) I can help with pubs, at least early on, before programming work gets too all-consuming. (In fact I just did the first W21 brochure.) But mainly my reason is this: programming is the heart of WisCon, in my opinion ... and nobody was volunteering.

However, I haven't done much work on programming yet. I've got to get started soon.

[SC] Yes, of course I noticed the Dave Barry quote on Iowa. Being from Miami, Dave is used to a dramatic mix of ethnic cultures. The differences between folks there are pretty obvious from a lot of angles. But in Iowa and Minnesota it is a more subtle thing. We all know Dave Barry is not good at subtle. It's mostly a question of solid sensible German and British descendants in Iowa making a little fun of our stolid, slightly clueless, Norwegian neighbors with the funny accents.

Very lovely zine Tracy. I liked Smokey's adventures in your dishwasher story.

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## Vijay Bowen

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[JG] You described yourself as carrying yourself smaller these days. I can see it (and feel it too). At times, I am also aware of holding myself in when very nervous (crossing my arms, pressing my legs together when seated, hunching my shoulders together). It feels to me like an expression of a diminished sense of confidence. Because when I am feeling confident, my body language tends to a lot of hand- and arm-waving — sometimes endangering

passersby. My legs sprawl to take up greater space if I'm sitting; my gait is looser if I am walking. When I'm feeling less confident, I try not to impinge on other people's space, because I doubt my right to be there.

A couple days ago, Scott and I attended a reception for Michael Moore. (Scott is a subscriber to *The Progressive* and qualified for one of the extremely rare and very coveted invitations. He took off work so that we could attend.) The thing was, that once we got there — well before Moore arrived — we discovered that we didn't know anyone there. It was a classic scene: dozens of people filled a very beautiful old house, sipping on wine or beer, snacking on cheese and fruit, all of them seeming to know one another, engaged in pleasant conversation. We walk in, the host nowhere in sight, people turn and we both feel like intruders. Well, of course, most of that initial reaction is pure nervous fear. I doubt that many of them knew a lot of people in the room. In any case, we felt a little more comfortable fairly quickly, when Matthew Rothschild, editor of *The Progressive* greeted us. Still, we kept to ourselves for a half hour or so, approached by no one, talking to no one but each other. We finally decided that this was silly and walked into a hallway where several groups were conversing. I was determined to do my old trick of pretending to be an outgoing person and introduce us to *someone*. But it took a few minutes to finally get up the courage. I finally introduced myself and Scott to a guy who was standing alone. He turned out to be a fascinating person (conveniently named Scott), an editor for a small textbook press in Madison. We ended up having a great conversation with Scott 2, which lasted until Moore finally arrived at the reception. And all the way through the process I could feel myself becoming less claustrophobic and more comfortable in the room.

I sympathize with you again on your job situation. At the DNR we have also seen management ask for our input on the restructuring process, and then turn around, ignoring everything we offered, and complain that we weren't buying into the result....

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### Clay Colwell

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[JG] Your comments to **Michael Rawdon** on the subject of necessary unemployment percentages clicks in with a lot of the stuff Michael Moore talks about. (By the way, you might like his book, *Downsize This!* a lot. It's very funny and very serious at the same time.) One of the stories he told when he

was in town was of a small town in Illinois that he visited just before he came to Madison. It's the town where they make Payday Candy bars. Apparently there are signs all over town that say "Every day is Payday here—"

"...Until last Friday," Moore amended. Payday closed up shop last Friday, in spite of record profits, and moved its entire operation to another state to a facility where they don't have unions. Michael Moore talked to the owner of Payday, who assured him that this move was planned a long time ago. They had planned that as soon as the company recouped the money that had been initially invested in land and factory, they were going to move. If the company had made a larger profit they would only have moved sooner, said the owner.

Finish this sentence for me, said Moore to Payday's owner. If your workers had done a shitty job and turned out bad candy bars and your profits had been hundreds of thousands rather than millions....

...we would be here for another ten years, said the owner, obligingly finishing Moore's sentence.

This is really bad. Moore's point (in nearly all of his stories and talks) is that the quality of the lives of the people who work for big companies is not a factor in the business decisions of those companies. And it should be. It's that kind of thinking that leads to headlines like "Wall Street Electrified" when a corporation lays off more people.



How could I see the expression of the guy sitting in front of me in the theater when I was looking at Scott? Well, I was looking directly at Scott, (perpendicular to a line of sight to the stage) which put the guy sitting in front of me well within my peripheral vision. It looked to me, when he turned around, that he was expecting to look directly at me.

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### Bill Dyer

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[JG] Congratulations on the new tattoo, Bill. Up to a few days ago, I would have sworn that I would never get a tattoo under absolutely any conditions. The conditions are still fairly stringently circumscribed, but I think I've discovered an exception. The other day, Scott and I were strolling through an exhibit of posters and I saw a really powerful photograph — possibly for the American Cancer Society. I don't know for sure, I was too focused on the image of the amazing woman portrayed. She was nude

from the waist up. Surf and a sand beach filled the background behind her, and her arms were raised above her head in joyous celebration — of the sun and the sea and herself. One of her breasts had been surgically removed and the scar embellished with a lovely tattoo that outlined and ornamented the basic lines of the scar. It was beautiful. I can imagine wanting to do something like that to turn a scary experience into an artful one....

I hope you enjoy your tattoo for entirely different reasons.

[SC] Congratulation on the new tattoo. See my comment to Vicki.

Re: the group of exotic dancers who just joined SEIU, lighten up Bill. Look on the bright side. Think of how great the union conventions will be. I think I'd sign on as a representative at once if I were you.

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### Jim Frenkel

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[SC] Hi Jim. Jeanne and I are going to ReinConation. Maybe we'll run into your assistant.

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### Pat Hario

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[JG] My question is: who got custody of Little Becky? Has she had any traumatic reactions to your moving out? I understand that some little kids, following a divorce, imagine themselves to be unloved and invisible....

[SC] Great zine Pat. Well, you had some difficulties painting your house, but I think the group turned out well for you when it came time to do the job. You really had your act together and made good use of the army of people who showed up help. I think you saw more than a bunch of people show up who owed you favors. You saw a bunch of folks who really like you.

I think the Little Becky thing is cool and funny.

Re: SOLVED BY SUNSET, you can become the group's problem solving guru now! We can just "refer" people to you who have problems you can help them solve in a day or less. I have quite a list already.

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### Kim & Kathi Nash

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[SC] I enjoyed your zine very much this month. Kathi's hedgehog washing story was a great piece. Kim, I think all of your apa related decisions so far are sensible and worthy of support. Your offer to resign in two years is a very wise plan that I wish I would have thought of. I am tempted by your tale of Liana's driving lessons to launch into a recollection of my own early driving experiences, but I just ran out of time this month. We have to get this zine to you early because we are heading for Reinconation on Friday before deadline. Keep us posted on how Liana is doing. Learning to drive is one of those adventures almost all of us went through with varying degrees of success.

Jeanne Gomoll & Scott Custis  
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