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FILKING TIMES

The Monthly Filk Newszine

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Kushyon's Flyte House Returns!
 Will Host a 2nd Maxi-Filk Next Spring

Kushyon's Flyte House, once a major presence in the SoCal filk scene, is showing welcome signs of reviving and returning to life. A second Maxi-Filk is being planned for next Spring. The LASFS Clubhouse is again being considered for the event site. The original Maxi-Filk was held way back when at the LASFS Clubhouse in North Hollywood and was a smashing success. Over 100 Filkers and Fans attended the event which lasted from Saturday afternoon to early Sunday morning. Hopes are high for a successful return performance.

Wild and crazy ideas for the next Maxi-filk are wanted. If you see any, report their whereabouts at once to the Authorities. Consider them armed and dangerous, approach with extreme caution.

EDITORIALS AND OPINION

The State of Filking by Mike Liebmann

Being that I'm still somewhat of a neo, in that I've only been filking for four and a half years, I realize I'm not the ultimate expert on filk and that I'm still learning. When I came into filking at Bayfilk 2, perhaps I was overenthusiastic, but that's the way I am. To me, filking has become a way to express myself in a way never before available to me.

What I've found in filking today is somewhat akin to situations I've found in the Civil Air Patrol, the insurance industry, and life in general. There is politicking, there are cliques, there is snubbing of people, back-stabbing and the like. Unfortunate, but true.

As I see it, some of the joy of filking is gone due to the politicking. The situation with some of the people in the Bay Area is horrendous, and it's probably affecting all of us down here in our relations with each other. The fact that some people will not come to filks, for whatever reason, does us no good as we try to spread our goodwill and good feelings. The fact that some people are not 'allowed' or "invited" to other people's filks doesn't help the situation either.

While I'm not sure what's going to happen, I wish to propose something: it's time we ALL got together for a day, separate from the filking, and have a session where we air ALL the "dirty laundry", letting people know how we feel. People are going to be hurt. However, if we hide all our feelings and don't get them out, this situation is going to fester to the point where filkdom as we know it now (or perhaps as it was known a few years ago) is going to fade into nothingness. We have to work together for the betterment of all of us, not only as fellow filkers, but as friends.

The State of Filking cont'd

To wit: I am willing to have my condo serve as the location for this session (hopefully there'll be enough room) so that the first steps can be taken. I for one, do not wish to see filking die in SoCal. Is anyone else willing to work to get us back on a proper track?

"Quoth the Filklord . . ."

by Quentin Long

An eccentric column

From an off-centered filker

Those of you who scan the headlines may have noticed the name "Quentin Long" shining like a high-level waste repository in the night. "Why is Quentin Long in this newsletter," you ask? Well, I'm not. My writing contrariwise, is here because someone asked me to write a regular column.

"You got a great command of the language," says she. The deal is you write whatever you like, and I smack your nose when you need it. Whattaya say, Pal?"

"Yes," says I, and that's how I got here. Introduction over; now I get to the meat of the matter...

My first Filkish notoriety was probably due to "Elitist Intolerance for Pleasure and Profit," a charming little two-part essay which appeared in PFNEN #31 (go ahead, look it up; I'll wait). I was rather surprised when I saw it in print; when Paul sent the first section back to me, with the "Bury this trash!" note attached, I figured he'd never put it into his zine. Nor did I expect him to, because I knew I'd been in a foul, vitriolic mood when I wrote it -- one could accurately think of it as the transcript of a one man bitch session -- and the vitriol of my mood soaked into the paper. I also thought of it as a stand-alone essay, rather than a part of a greater whole...

So, fine (said I), that'll never see the light of print; I then wrote, and submitted to Paul, the material which became Part 2 of "Elitist Intolerance." I thought this second essay contained an interesting idea, and maybe some of them what read it might come up with interesting ideas after reading about this one (by analogy with nuclear chain reactions, no?). This second piece, too, I thought of as an independant essay, well able to stand on its own two feet. I also suggested, independantly, that if Paul were ever lunatic enough to print my previous essay, he ought to call it something like "Elitist Intolerance for Pleasure and Profit". You see, I figured that a truly ludicrous title of that sort might serve to defuse fome of the ill-feeling that the essay itself might (might??) otherwise generate.

And when I saw PFNEN 31, and, well, the rest is history. Or hysteria, if you prefer...

Editor's Note: Yes, Quentin, it did indeed generate lots of interesting ideas, and many of them were indeed analogous to a nuclear chain reaction in that they discussed possible methods of introducing the body of the said Quentin Long into the core of a nuclear reactor...

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QUICK NEWS

This issue is being produced by simple word proc due to certain unfortunate circumstances:

Deborah Leonard's father died early on Saturday, 10 Dec and she flew up to Boise to be with here family. As she is the expert on the desktop publisher, this issue will be rather plain.

For something with a happier ending, Cindy McQuillan underwent surgery on 7 Dec and is doing well.

UPCOMING EVENTSLA Filksings

December 15 Filk program at regular LASFS meeting
January 14 at Mike Liebman's
February 4 at Harry and Mara Brenner's
March 18 at Lee and Barry Gold's

Parties

December 25, as we all know, is the birthday of one of the greatest men in history, Sir Isaac Newton. Stop by the Gold's house, 3965 Alla Rd, Los Angeles CA, 213/306-7456 anytime after noon on 25 Dec and ask them to show you the proper way to celebrate this birthday. Note: this is a party, not a filksing. While singing is possible, it is not required.

Chrys Thorsen, of Thor Records, is planning some sort of New Year's party at her place, 9920 Dolan Ave, Downey, CA 213/862-1722. Tentative plans put it on 31 Dec, but you should call to confirm this before going.