

# The Montgomery Papers

VOLUME 4 (PART 2)

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A few days before Christmas, 1964, the 14th mailing of the Southern Fandom Press Alliance appears in the mailboxes of the score of apa members. At 139 pages, it is 200 pages shorter than its predecessor, although postmailings will eventually make up a bit of that slack. The Southerner, second OO of Official Editor Joe Staton, lists Dave Hulan as a member this time, unlike mlg 13, though his name does appear out of order. Other things are missing from this OO -- but we'll get to that.

Who and what is here, as SFFPA completes 1964? Dick Ambrose and Al Andrews head the roster alphabetically, co-editors of Iscariot, SFFPA's premiere apazine. Alas, neither is represented in this mailing's contents. Ambrose's address is even given as "unknown". Len Bailes, of Charlotte NC, is next -- and his Zaje Zaculo is on the contents. Bill Gibson of Wytheville VA is listed as owing pages -- he'll have no more than an occasional cartoon in SFFPA mailings to come. Mississippi's Jim Harkness has no zine in this mlg to match the Bel-Marduk & Stranger than Fact which ran through mlg 13, but damnyankee Arnold Katz has a zine by that same name. Lynn Hickman is not on these contents, alas, but Dave Locke -- like Katz, a New Yorker -- is. Missouri's Hank Luttrell has two zines on hand, Michiganite Rich Mann one (of 2 pages), Illinoisian Kent McDaniel his third Outré. Dave Hulan, already a Californian, has a Loki and an Utgard, but the dynamic duo (long suspected of being an "uno") of Larry Montgomery & David Mitchell will find no representation till the rash of postmailings which follow. Rick Norwood is absent, Dian Pelz elegantly present, Bill Plott startlingly absent. OE Staton has a zine in the mailing, but Huntsville's Wally Weber, a newcomer, does not. There SFFPA stands on December 17th.



Monetarily, SFFPA is in strange shape. Treasurer Al Andrews reports, on page 2 of the OO, that Bill Plott, former OE, has yet to pass along the \$40 Treasury to his successor. Educational and marital pressures are blamed. "Nevertheless," says Al, "we are not penniless." Seems that when SFFPA's progenitor organization, the Southern Fandom Group, folded, its President had promised its \$26.41 treasury to the then-struggling SFFPA. Al had held it until needed -- and now, needed it is. After expenses and income, and not counting Plott's \$40, SFFPA has \$25.63 with which to conduct business: plenty.

Page 3 of the OO presents two Constitutional amendments for SFFPAs' consideration. The first is a controversial bugaboo which has haunted SFFPAs for several years: the Non-Publishing Member Amendment. This clause would allow LOC-writers to receive SFFPA mlg without publishing their own zines. The second is a Returned Status Clause, which

goes like this:

Individuals who are residents of one of the Southern states as defined on Article II, Section 1, at the time that they become members of the SFPA are considered to legally retain that status as long as they maintain continuous membership in the SFPA, even though they change their residence.

It's obviously a messy wording replete with redundancies & a split infinitive. Cleaning it up will take a decade and cause a savage in-fight in 1975 ... but at this time, it simply lays the legal groundwork for the return to the OEsip of Dave Hulan. Dave has left the South, but he wants to make it clear that the South has not left him.

Also in the OO, news of Dave Locke's impending marriage, and a strange item about Larry Montgomery winning \$100 on a quiz show. ("Notkme," Larry will say.) Gary Labowitz is dropped for lactivity, Creath Thorne invited, and Bruce Pelz thanked for a gift of jetpaks. Bruce was then married to SFPA's "Girl of Some Sort", Dian ... said nomenclature Staton's faux pas from mlg 13.

But first there is Nothing 3, leading off the non-OO iyrms in this mailing. Dittoed, its single page (Joe gives it 2 in the OO) deals with author Rich Mann's recent purchase of the machine it was run on. The page is still legible after 17 years; Mann would be pleased. But then the page is read, and flipped, and Nothing 3 is forgotten.

For underneath is the first page, the cover, of Dian Pelz' Kabumpo I. In Melikaphkaz #33, his major pub for SFPA #50, Lon Atkins as much as credits this illo for drawing him into the apa. Only the busiest or most jaded fan could have resisted it, for this is not merely fine ... it's exquisite.

In one sense it isn't all that much: a simple side drawing of an elephant with howdah and headpiece, black ink on purple paper. But the simple ideas are often the most striking. Rather than paint in golden accoutrements, Dian has placed a sheet of yellow paper behind the drawing and cut out the proper sections. The howdah roof, the tusks, the elephant's nails thus gleam with golden elegance. The effect is utterly amazing. It is certainly the best cover SFPA has seen yet, and SFPA's first female member, its "girl of some sort", debuts with quite a splash.

The zine within is also attractive. Flawless mimeography and stencilwork speak well for Dian's residence in one of fandom's most accomplished households. Her writing is loose and jolly. Her mc to David Mitchell revolves around zine titles; forever bonded are their names in SFPA history for another conversation they will have, in time. Talk about Catch-22 and Gunnar Asch & some notes on catacomb paintings fill the issue.

The Invader is Joe Staton's zine, and, surprisingly, he fronts it with another artist's illo. Larry Montgomery's unique "blueprint" repro, giving large, even black areas, displays figures borrowed from comic book covers (Space Ranger and Dr. Mid-nite). Within, Joe tells the tale of his new \$19 Press'n'Print quasi-mimeo, which gives blotto repro. He sounds quite apologetic about it, which is understandable: this page is reasable, but awfully overinked. A short, positive review of Robinson Crusoe on Mars follows, and then his mc's. Wherein he gripes about a new (1964) Shadow comic (which does sound awful), crows at Goldwaterite Harkness about the election returns, puts his 2¢ in on the Martian Breast issue (why do Martian women in ERB tales have tits, if they're ovipatous? Dian says the luscious lumps are actually eggs awaiting, uh, laying), argues Hiroshima morality with the pacifistic Plott, mentions Green Lantern (a remarkable harbinger). He rfers to Locke, comically, as "a dirty heathen", as religion is one of Dave's stock subjects.

Two zines by Missouri member Hank Luttrell pop up next. Such and Such Two contains mc's, which seem bored and a little forced, mainly because Luttrell "just cannot comment on mailing comments." He struggles on for 4½ pages. Hank seems more at home with his genzine, Starling, the 3rd issue of which follows. His editorial, "Your Man in Mo.", calls for material in an airy fashion that's rather intriguing; Luttrell has learned early that affected indifference can attract interest. Hayden Cotterill's "Funk's Fable" tells an insane story about a man with a prehensile proboscis; Luttrell haphazardly reviews Night's Black Agents, a horror collection by Fritz somebody-or-other. A section from a serial by Roger Alan Cox leads us into LOCs ... one of which bears a familiar name: C.W. Brooks, Jr., of Newport News VA.



(Working one's way through the Montgomery Papers is like sailing down the Mighty Muddy. Some of the sights -- the name of Hulan, the name of Jennings -- are familiar at journey's outset. The others are islands that rise before you, then fall behind. And every once in awhile an isle arises in your path and assumes a familiar shape -- one which you know you will see again -- a suggestion of truly familiar territory; you know that soon you will be home. To carry this absurd metaphor further would require that we determine just what sort of geological land mass Ned Brooks resembles, and that task I leave as an exercise for the reader.)

Starling concludes with more Cox fiction and reviews & a quite good story by E.E. Evers. Except for the Brooks LOC, there's little of specific SFPA interest ... but never fear -- here's Damnyankee.

In a way, it's remarkable that anyone could say that; Arnie Katz' entry into SFPA in mlg 11 was abrasive and nasty, and the rebuking replies he received from other SFPAs would have flayed the bark from an oak. But something in this sandpappy New Yorker responded to the rough treatment -- and he has joined in happily. This is his 4th issue, and is fronted with a fine Staton cover. Belying the title, it depicts a Confederate flag and a typical pair of rebel soldiers: a busty babe and a frog.

Within Arnie establishes himself as a history major at the frigidified University of Buffalo; he is aghast at having to wash his own clothes. In saucy mc's, he jabs Staton for calling Dian "a girl of some sort", though he praises Joe's overall performance in the OEship. He discusses dope with Norwood, the first dialog on the subject I've found in SFPA history. He argues "Whenawei" with Rich Mann (will anyone but Stven recognize "The Lion Sleeps Tonight"?), and hails Lennon-McCartney -- still new in late 1964. He credits Dave Locke's intelligent reply to his pugilistic first SFPazine for turning his head around on the SFPA question ... and one reading this would see the initial wound as being completely healed.

Arnie co-edits a zine called Excalibur with tarheel Len Bailes, and though there is no Excalibur in SFPA's 14th mailing, there is a Bailes zine: Zaje Zaculc #4. A Larry Montgomery blueprint cover adapted from an Adventure Comics Legion tale precedes 4 pages of text ... at least in the SFPA copies. Len says that a last-minute increase in the copy requirement dooms the extras to coverlessness, a fact he bewails piteously. He argues against the Non-publishing Members Amendment, and mentions the tattered condition in which mlg 13 reached his door. He credits

The Worm Ouroboros with his title ... not the last SFPAN to dip into Eddison in search of a zine title. On page 4, top line, the name of Harlan Ellison appears. This SFPAN of old is beginning to look at least slightly familiar...

It may be the age of the paper, or it may be its original hue, but Dave Locke's Sentinel #1 is now a rather attractive snakeskin green. Appropriate color -- not because Locke is serpentine, mind you, but because he mentions his Yellow-jacket fanzine appearing "in a blue moon or two" (my underscore) ... yellow & blue, y'see...

Anyway, Sentinel is almost entirely mc's. That to Hulan expresses hope that the two longtime friends might someday meet. Of his religious argument with Christian Scientist Al Andrews, he says that "everyone knows that Al Andrews is an underhanded, corrupt, evil, thoroughly disgusting person. But he tries to be nice about it." (What fun to take a facetious comment out of context!) For some reason he talks about asparagus while arguing with Harkness about fan-fiction. His mc to Conglomeration opines, "Yeah," shortshrifting the classic DSC II one-shit. He calls Norwood "a real nut, with ears". And a pastiche by Jim Williams moreorless completes this funny, argumentative, inimitable Lockezine.

Outré 3 is Kent McDaniel's zine, up next. A Staton cover and Gibson interiors add artistry to this, the first McDanielzine in 4 mailings (how he kept membership during this time is anyone's surmise). After an editorial in which Kent calls his Earth Science teacher "a pig", he prints a weak Staton article on Dick Tracy & an odd fable by "Ahmed Ben Lester"

-- surely not our own beloved Boutillier, who was 12 or so at the time. He speaks well of Playboy &, later, of nudes in fanzines. What's wrong with them, he asks David Mitchell. We build towards an historical moment, folks. Poignantly, he mentions a great sweet shop where he used to buy s.f. mags & "the best candied apples in the world". Jeez, I can taste them.



The regular mlg ends with two zines from Dave Hulan, making a resurgence after a year or so of negligible activity. Loki 9 is first, a 41-page genzine typical of what we still expect from Hulan. It is, he announces editorially, a genzine without pretense of being apa-oriented, but which will still find apa distribution. He leads off with a funny Ed Cox article on various topics, including Dick Tracy's Moon Maid (The Nation that Controls Chester Gould will Control the Universe), a memory of the '60's no one should be without. Movie reviews of classics like The Last Man on Earth follow, closely heeled by a page on Tom Swift books.

A long report on the 1964 worldcon and events leading thereto -- a jaunt to Yosemite, the Sequoia National Park, Disneyland & other diverse places -- centers the zine. It's a typical Hulan journey -- he can find more stuff to go see than anyone else I've ever known. Anyway, an incredible chance meeting with Burnett Toskey in Yosemite and tales of Katya's spectacular yellow dress are the most remarkable topics.

The zine goes on with an enthusiastic Sharon Towle review of a UFO tome and a Joe Staton story -- pretty good. Bill Plott provides a review column and Peter Rogers a poem; Hulan closes the ish with a call for contributors and a terrific ATom cartoon. Almost immediately another such is before us, the cover to Utgard 3, Dave's mczine. Where is ATom, Arthur Thompson, these days? Fan art could use him.

Utgard is almost all mc's, although Dave runs his version of the Box Scores at

zine's end. He is mildly critical of Staton's first OO (after all, he'd been left off the roster), though "astonished" by the size of the 13th mlg. Good mc's, knowledgeable and calm, hit every issue SFFPA 13 brought to the fore. He is the first to suspect David Mitchell of being a hoax. Best comments are those to Katz & Harkness on Southern reaction to the '64 Civil Rights bill; it's the most cogent explanation of the way people thought back then that I've ever read. He comes out against the Non-Pubbing Member Amendment and for the Retained Status Clause. (No surprise there: he wrote it.) And in so declaring, he announces that if the amendment passes, he'll run for OE in the next election. Furthermore, he delights in maintaining his Box Score lead in total pages despite having missed the last 2 mailings. (He has 204 pages, Plott 166.)

That's it for mlg 14, and had I been a SFFPA then, I would've been most upset. Where is Iscariot? Where is Sporadic? Where is Warlock? Half of SFFPA is missing! It's like someone had left Mel, Thin Ice and Alan's zine out of the contemporary apa.

Postmailings come roaring in -- and Montgomery's Warlock is thankfully among them. Also present is Manndate #2 from Rich Mann and Canticles from [Gary] Labowitz #5, not to mention a fractional OO from JOE. Manndate features a neat Dian cover and mc's on mlg 13. They're fun to read, non-argumentative, jolly. Most important line, grammatically clumsy but historically significant: "I think I shall try to convince Al Scott to consider the SFFPA, too."

Warlock is unnumbered and nowhere close to Montgomery's usual excellence. The two text pages explain that busy-ness has been at a high pitch 'round Larry's way, a jaunt to Andrews' house to meet Camille Cazedessus and Lewis Harrel, and attention to the first mlg of Apa-45 have combined with schoolwork to keep him away from SFFPA. A Christmas greeting from Larry and Dick Ambrose completes this 4-pager. Gary Labowitz is too late to save his membership with the postmailed Canticles #5, though he began his zine on November 21. Double-spaced, it's 17 pages of natter (he's a radio amateur), fanzine reviews, and brief SFFPA mc's. His comment to David Mitchell makes fun of the then-only-suspected hoax for wondering why so little s.f. shows in fandom; to Dave he grunts for a photo of Katya. Mc's to N'APA fill the issue.

One flimsy page remains to SFFPA 14 -- a Special Important Type Announcement from Staton. (Indexers note: this one-page item does not appear in Markstein's mlg 73 Index.) Seems he'd left the deadline and the copy requirement for mlg 15 out of the OO. This postmailing goes forth on 12-23-64, giving March 10, 1965 as the 15th's deadline & 25 as the copy requirement. 4¢ -- that was the postage. A further deadline of 2-1-65 is given from Amendment votes. Every OE leaves stuff out of the OO from time to time ... screws up a record, miscounts the pages of a zine. But one really gets a sense of harassment out of Staton's OEs hip, and with mlg 15, the final issue of SFFPA's Volume 4, it just gets to be too much.

Mailing 15 is a watershed mlg, one of the pivotal moments in apa history, for many reasons. Not the least of these is the OEship upheaval. Misdated March, 1964, its OO nevertheless scans complete. The next deadline is given, although the repro is so spotty on Larry's copy that this info can barely be read. A full roster of 20 members is given, the same as last time plus David N. Hall. I confess that Staton's membership policies puzzle me. Some of the people listed hereon have not contributed while Joe Has been Official Editor, and yet here they are. David Hall, a new member, has no zine amongst the 15 listed on the 153-page contents. There is a zine by another newcomer, a guy from Chapel Hill NC, but he & his partner/contributor are relegated to a waitlist.

Hey -- big moment here, folks. Note that word: waitlist. Such a list has long been constitutionally provided for (in II.4), but never before has it been needed. The two tarheel bwahs given here have already made history ... SFFPA's first wait-listers. No discussion of a Shadow-SFFPA is heard.

In his OEeditorial, Staton reveals that Al Andrews' Iscariot is missing, apparently after Al had shipped his stencils off to Dick Ambrose for publication. hindsight tells us that Ambrose was thick into gaffiation at that point; easy enough to take it from there. Rick Norwood had sent stencils to Bill Gibson, says the OO, but the p.o., determined to bloody the upstart rebel apa (HHOK, Alan), had torn the package to shreds and delivered only the wrapping to Bill. "I guess Uncle Sam owes six pages," mulls Staton. He thanks Bruce Pelz for donating jetpaks ... and begs Plott for SFFPA's Treasury, still unpaid 9 months after Plott left office.

The 3 unofficial postmailings to mlg 14 are listed, though for some reason Staton fails to mention his own Announcement. The amendment votes are given -- Retained Status is unanimously approved, Non-Publishing Membership trashed 7 to 4. Duly, as required, the Constitution is reprinted, along with Joe's Official Rulings. Allowing for inflation, evolution, and the 2nd law of thermodynamics, both are recognizable ancestors of the documents in mlg 105.

The OEgoboo Poll ballot is next -- 7 categories and the OElection. Certain gluts of points are allocated to each category, a system Staton likes. Larry Montgomery -- the owner of these mailings -- has copied his votes here. To avoid injured egos, I won't reprint them here, except to cry "Shame, oh shame!" at the 5 points he gives David Mitchell for "Best New Fan". If Larry does say so himself ...

The OEballot lists Hulan, Staton and Larry as candidates. Hulan announced his intentions last time, and Larry does this mailing -- but I am confused. Staton announces support for first one, then the other of the opposing candidates within the body of the mailing. If he's really not running, why wasn't his name removed?

The official conduct of Staton's OEs hip may have been confusing, but there is no doubt about his artistic talent. The first zine in mlg 15 is Arnie Katz's Damn+yankee #5, fronted with a good Staton drawing, a mermaid being plucked from the waves. Arnie's editorial wanders from the Non-Pubbing Amendment (he's ag'in it) to some albums he's just bought (Baez, Dylan, Hamilton Camp -- who he? -- and his first Beatles disc, Beatles '65). "Dylan is worth the effort to grok," observes A the K.

"Have at the New Wavers" is "an article of opinion" up next. Is not an attack on Harlan Ellison (that particular New Wave is 5 years in the future) nor Elvis Costello (need I add), but an articulate reply to those who would insist on a rather uniform sercon bent to every aspect of fandom. Arnie comes down foursquare in faaaaavor of faaaaaanishmess, & good for him. A funny article about fannish greeting cards is next, and Nicki Lynch gives notice. For example,

Congratulations, lucky jerk,  
your worldcon bid just didn't work.  
Twas beer and whiskey did you in  
and let your poor opponents win.  
While you waved signs that were so arty,  
we all got \*drunk\* at your rival's party.

His mc's begin with a suggestion that Staton list postmailings, a suggestion jOE has taken, as we've seen. In his laudatory comment to Dian, he lists Things He Likes. In order, they are busty blondes, Jean Sheperd, Mickey Spillane novels, chocolate ice cream, and Pepsi-Cola. "I can just see myself with a busty blonde on my lap, drinking a pepsi-float (with chocolate ice cream, natch), with Jean Sheperd on the radio to provide atmosphere, and the girl and I reading (and acting out, of course) the juicier passages from Mike Hammer novels." The perverse Northerner ends the mc with a mad proposal to Dian. His paragraph on civil rights is addressed to McDaniel, another yankee, and is sensible.

Endless Shadow Two is next before us, the second David Mitchell zine. The cover is a rather ugly Montgomery drawing, but the interior is crisply reproed mimeo.



His announcement of support for Larry's OEship bid (no surprise) is the mailing's first notice of the Montgomery candidacy. A silly tale of a vampire's trip to the dentist, then mc's, in which he tells Hulan, "I'm for real, just ask Larry."

He also says, in an mc to McDaniel, "I still disapprove of nudity because I'm a Christian. I will admit that I like girls and consider myself normal, but I DON'T like nudes in s-f zines." Oooooooooooooops.

The next item in SFFPA 15 is Stop the Presses, a very dark dittoed pub

from Staton. He calls it "A Rider of Sorts to Invader #6", though the vast bulk of the mlg separates the zines. Its purpose is to switch his endorsement from Montgomery to Hulan, on the basis of experience (Hulan was SFFPA's 2nd OE). Joe expresses unhappiness with his performance in office, but feels that he has "liberalized" "a slightly provincial attitude" pervading SFFPA to date. In addition to the experience question, he feels that Dave will carry on this expansion of SFFPA's horizons, carrying it away from its strictly Southern focus. "I have a feeling that he has a more cosmopolitan outlook than Larry," he says.

No one would deny Hulan's experience, since he'd been OE before, written the apa constitution, and named its OO. Nor could anyone deny that Staton's OEship has beefed up SFFPA's roster with lots of non-Southern members. Whether this is a good thing -- and whether Joe's late switch in support and subsequent actions are particularly fair -- is another fettle of seaweed. These might be expected to be the central campaign issues -- but not so. Confusion, as we shall see, gets in the way.

To such matters we shall turn in time. Starling No. 4, a Hank Luttrell genzine, is next before us, the mailing's longest pub at 38 pages. New SFFPA David Hall had a short story and a couple of editorial notes within its pages. Dwain Kaiser has a good club-oriented article, and one finds LOCs from E.E. Evers and eventual LASFAPA Nate Bucklin within. Unfamiliar names, however, mostly fill the zine. Missouri, despite Dred Scott, is not SFFPA's South. Such and Such #3, up next, contains a few mc's, fairly disinterested, and a review of a recent F&SF. Fascinating ...

W\*H\*O\*O\*S\*H ! That was my breath. Once again, Dian Pelz' Kabumpo cover just plain takes it away. Let's see if I can describe this one, which is, if possible, even better than her previous effort. Dark blue paper -- a princess, framed by the shining moon, which is cut out and backed by white paper. Simple, beautiful ... and masking a treat. For when the blue cover is opened, a cartoon appears on the white sheet beneath. A far less demure damsel warns a dragon, "here comes that idiot knight again" (no doubt a harbinger of Reinhardt). The cut out moon corresponds to a blank area in the art. Wow.

Contents-wise, Kabumpo begins with a request for mlg's 10, 11, and 12 and the pre-mlg 1 flyers. The Pelzes have everything else in their SFFPA collection. An explanation of Belly Button Fandom is addressed to Hulan, and Dian asserts that she didn't mind being called (again) "a girl of some sort". A juicy 6-page article on Torture (jeezus) follows, graphically illustrated by the author. Interesting ... and very gross. Gack. A great section of Art Rapp's faanish poetry and a check list of his (still-continuing) Spacewarp series lead us to a good 3-page article on Thorne Smith. Dian's Kabumpo is a gem of a zine, certainly one of the mailing's best. And that cover ... oh, wow.

Utgard 4 features no such masterpiece on its cover, but the ATom drawing is his usual fine work. I'd love to see some more Thomson art; he's grand. Within, superb repro (on brownish fibretone) brings us another excellent Utgard. Dave announces that he'll fold Loki after #9, and takes back some remarks about Ted White made in that zine, since found to be false. He campaigns briefly for the OEship, running on his experience, and promises to pub zines for SFPAns at cost. He gives his postmailing policy, which is to give such disties activity credit in the mlg after they go out. The current practice on insisting on OE distribution & a partial OO would be long in forthcoming. He notes with sadness the snap in Bill Plott's 13-mailing string.

"Holot", Dave's mc's, talk about everything under the SFFA sun. "A blivit is five pluegers," he notes. Robert E. Howard is discussed, the possibility of a St. Louis worldcon (it made it in 1969), the Yamdankee quotient, codes, civil rights ... and, after mc's are done, "The Fan of Bronze".

This one-page faanfiction is the beginning of a serial that will wind on for some time. Like "Goon with the Wind", it features SFPAns in wacky heroic roles. Here, assassin DAVID MITCHELL (Hulan caps all names) of the MONTGOMERY mob takes a shot at BILL PLOTT. A precursor to The Amazing SFFA-fen, no doubt.

Loki 8 is next before us, at 13 pages the shortest issue to date. The low page-count underscores Dave's displeasure with the zine. The cover (by "harness", I think) is poor and there are no interior illos. Within, Dave mentions his Hugo choices -- Witch World and Yandro among them. Both, I'm sure, were on the final ballot. LASFS has discovered Diplomacy, and Hulan is deeply involved, his enthusiasm tempered by the hours it forces him to keep. An amusing if silly Dave Locke story, Ed Cox's eclectic column (what a natterartist!), a fine though brief letter-col (Warner, Coulson, Boggs ... top that!) ... and the very sad, very painful note, hard to read even 17 years down the pike, wherein Dave reveals son Roy's severe retardation. It is, of course, a blisteringly terrible thing to have to convey in a fanzine, but fandom is home for Dave, then as now. To avoid extended explanation within this extended family, he just wants the facts known.

Ditto is becoming more & more rare in SFFA, but here is Manndate #3, a two-pager writ at Michigan State. Rich mentions a comic apa in an mc to Staton -- K-a? He contrasts N'APA -- "a lot of good material, but the personal touch just isn't there at all" -- with SFFA -- "quite a close-knit group". "While you won't find a Niekas here," he says, "it's a bit more fun." All of which might something to do with the next zine on the contents.

This 22-page pub -- Clarges #1 -- would have been historic even had its editor never done another thing. It's SFFA's first waitlisterzine, involving SFFA's first waitlisters, appearing in the first mlg which could boast of a waitlist. The editor is #2 on the wl, having lost a coinflip to #1, his friend and contributor. Published on thin white paper, blest with even repro, cused with light and really negligible showthrough, it is a pub of energy, variety, and high quality. Indeed it shows a bit of promise. Its editor? Lon Atkins.

Lon was a graduate student in physics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His major extracurricular interest -- at least in January, 1965 -- was the 64-square madhouse. Playing chess one day, Lon overheard a kibitzer mention the word "grok". "Stranger in a Strange Land, Heinlein, right?" said Atkins, and his friendship with Al Scott and SFFA immortality were born.

Lon had encountered fandom before, very briefly, but the encounter had not been particularly happy. In Al he found not only a kindred spirit, but a faanish mentor who would lead him \*music swells up to crescendo\* into a fabulous new world. Al, himself a protege of Len Bailes, published Theorem, a good genzine. After bringing Lon aboard as an s.f. reviewer, he showed him some apa mailings. Lon read SFFA 14, saw Kabumpo's cover, and was gaffed for life.

"I was hooked," he later said (in Mel #33, SFFA #50), "on the apa concept, seeing



it as an avenue of expression that I'd never known existed before. " A good mimeo showed up, Lon got some artwork from Staton, and not unlike Jehovah, brought forth his new world in six days of frantic creativity ....

And lo, it was good ...

Anyway, Clarges #1 is next in SFPA's 15th mailing, and it is good, a solid, interesting, well-constructed zine, combining articles and natter with mc's in the best apa style. The cover is by Staton, and the bacover is by Atkins: an elegant, evial Siamese. Lon promises weekly publication after 2242 A.D., quarterly production prior to that. In "Brood", his editorial, he introduces himself, thanks Al Scott, prints a short chess game, plugs Nate Bucklin's chess fanzine Kibitzer, offers a chess problem, gripes about local bartenders and p.o. employees. A fond reminiscence of the 1956 Astounding follows -- Under Pressure, Double Star, and The Naked Sun all ran there that year. Sam Long, who appeared at the 1975 DSC, has a wonderful page & a half of crazed rap & Tom Swifties. Poetic interlinos are by Yeats and Eliot. "Just a Tini Problem" focuses on a research challenge Lon and his fellow whitecoats faced a couple of years before. The problem was undoubtedly fascinating, but I can't make hide nor hair of it. William Morse's "Eternity and Mr. Edgar Rice Burroughs" is more like my meat, high-falutin' literary gab on a writer whose work bears no more than its own weight.

A putrid Feghoot precedes "Wedge", Lon's mc's on mlg 14. (He will create "Charybdis" along with Melikaphkaz a mailing hence.) He expresses a desire to see the west coast and LASFS in an mc to Hulan; within a couple of years he'll have his wish. Like many other fans, he dislikes fan-writ fiction.

Al Scott chimes in with "Nova Alscotia", his mc's. He has trouble negotiating Atkins' typewriter -- the gaps between line vary considerably. His comment on atheism to Locke is well done. A putrid pun (from Lon) and natter about the bacover cat (Suzy her name), a signature, and Clarges #1 is finished. I wonder if Lon sensed that he'd found a home? For, of course, not a single SFPA mailing from that day to this has gone forth without Lon Atkins material.

Some mailing for art is #15! Invader is up next, and its art is possibly Joe Staton's best yet. A lovely SYT (sweet young thing) stretches to pluck a flower from the pinnacle of a robust red flame ... airbrushed, we learn from natter. We also learn that our eyes are not deceiving us; the repro is superb. Len Bailes is credited with it.

Joe's early support of Larry Montgomery for the OEship comes next -- as we've seen, he's already switched allegiance. A page of verse and illos precedes a blast at censorship by Les Sample, which itself precedes "The Warmonger of Mars", a very funny ERB parody by Staton himself. His mc's are tired, it seems, but are generally amusing. Thing will pick up for Joe later ... his OEship will soon be through; he can relax and enjoy SFPAC again.

Here's Zaje Zaxulo #5, without cover. It's four pages of mc's, in which Bailes reveals that he may be going to college "up north". He prays Retained Status passes, and wonders if yankee waitlisters will be placed on a separate list from greycoats. Waxing philosophical, he asks whether SFPAs would retaliate in kind in the event of a Russian nuclear attack -- hardly an issue in this OElection -- and reveals that he's in 5 apas. The first 50 Bailespubs are listed, and then Ipsik! #21 runs, "A G&S Medley for Apa L". It's quite charce.

Oh we pub our zines each week  
For the apa in our city,  
We are sober fun and seek  
To make all our schticks quite witty.

Warlock #7 is up next, a rather odd, as well as odd-numbered, issue. It's 7 pages long, but the page #s on the bottom of the pages don't match. Larry fingers

lack of time as the culprit. He also explains his cover -- a rather weak Montgomery original, rather like Fosco Piva -- by writing that he has two Statons on hand, one of which might be transferrable to stencil. Guess not.

Larry announces for the SFFPA OEs hip and gives his Southern residency as his major advantage over Hulan. "Whether some of you people like it or not," he says, "this apa was founded and continues today to stimulate SOUTHERN fandom and an OE who lives in California just can't do this." How many times has this same argument been voiced in OElections between Southern residents and non-? (Twice, at least, by me.) One wonders how SFFPA history might've been different had no more been said than this.

"Fallen Idols" features the standard Montgomery logo and, as usual, handsome layout. These mc's befuddledly deny Larry's participation in a quiz show ("That was Guy Lillian," he says, "and you'll have to wait until 1973") and angrily deny swipery at work in the covers he does for other apazines. There's an uncharacteristic angry energy flowing throughout this little pub ... perhaps the competitive juices of OElection at work. Running for OE has always been tension-fraught; this is SFFPA's first true contest, and it sets a tone that will seldom be broken. In hindsight, what follows is not all that surprising.

Because postmailings fly now, fast and occasionally furious. Rick Norwood's Cliffhangers #7 is first, featuring a biker Lone Ranger & Tonto as cover subjects. It presents its mc's and natter in a quasi- (pronounced "crazy") novelistic format, chapters and dialog and so on. It's quite effective, and a nice addition to mlg 15. The other pmlgs are not so innocuous.

Hulan's Take-Over is the first of these postmailings, and one shudders to imagine the reaction it engendered in Anniston, Alabama (Larry's home). For this page documents a fait accompli ... Dave, even though a candidate in a contested election, has been appointed Emergency Officer for mailing 16.

Seems that the unlucky OEs hip of Joe Staton has finally bottomed out. A suspicious postal clerk inspected SFFPA 15, with the result that Book Rate was denied. Rather than haul the next mlg to another p.o., and complete his turn at bat, Joe has decided to pass the responsibility on, and chosen Dave. This is not the most impartial action he might have taken, nor, one could say, the fairest, but Dave is hardly one to turn down responsibility, and he shoulders it. In a campaign plug at page bottom (next to a nifty little illo of an arrow-stricken OE), Dave pledges to clear the apa of "deadwood" and enforce membership rules. Clarges impressed him with the quality of SFFPA's 2-man wl. Lastly, as if somewhat hurt by Montgomery's vote-Southern campaign, he reminds SFFPans "I'm a Southerner born and bred -- I've lived more years in the South than Larry has, for what that's worth..."

Across the continent Larry Montgomery rolls a now-much-regretted ditto master into his typewriter, Wait a Minute!! is emblazoned across the top of the page. In a ten-minute burst of energy, he rattles off perhaps the most unfortunate page in SFFPA's campaigning history, and practically



gives Dave the election.

He starts off by declaring his strong belief in the Southern nature of the apa. He assures yankee members that this doesn't mean that he wants the apa "to be a battleground for or against integration OR segregation. I'd rather we kept to fannish-slanted subjects." In other words, he didn't want the schism twixt North & South in the real world to infect SFPA. However, this sentence croggles many SFPAns, who see it as a non-sequitur. Montgomery furthermore challenges Hulan's candidacy on constitutional grounds. Despite the new Retained Status Clause, he understands the document to be explicit: an OE must live in the South. To bolster this contention, he reveals that he's shown the SFPA Constitution to his poli sci professor (a lawyer) and gotten his supportive opinion. "Laws are laws," he closes.

**F I R E S T O R M!** Hulan's Conflicting Interpretations shoots forth soon after. "Exciting," Dave calls SFPA's first contest OElection. (No lie.) He counters Larry's accusations & arguments, denying that he doesn't want SFPA to remain Southern (at the time, he declares, he believes he might move back to the South someday). He owes that he might even reduce the Yamdankee Quotient from 25% to 20%. Furthermore, he has "no interest in making the SFPA a battleground for segregation or integration ... Why should anyone think I would?" He defends himself against the assumed charge that he had forgotten SFPA in recent mailings -- pointing out that he had moved across country, started a new job in a new town, and dropped most other fanac -- surely, he says, good excuses for his small activity. His charter membership and paramount pagecount speak for themselves, says he.

Finally, and at length, he argues for his reading of the Retained Status Clause, which clearly makes him eligible for the OEship.

Point of Order! comes forth next from Staton, making the same ruling -- Dave is a Southerner and eligible for the OEship. Not much more to say about this pmig, except that the repro is okay ...

Larry responds to all this with the last item of Volume 4, and the final post-mailing to SFPA 15. This is Wait a Minute #2, a two-page dittozine. In it he protests Staton's decision to appoint Dave EO -- "Talk about favoritism!" -- & defends his consultation with his professor. Al Andrews has told Larry that the first flyer did much more harm than good -- and who's to know? Larry's post-mailings seem petulant and angry, Dave's calm and righteously indignant. Beneath such appearances the important issues of the campaign -- the Southernness of the apa and the OEship, and, possibly, the propriety of Staton appointing a candidate EO (though he could not have chosen an abler man) are lost.

SFPA has its first contested OElection under way as Volume 4 of the Montgomery Papers finally closes. How will it all work out? Tune in same time, same zine, next mailing, spo'ts fans.



"Miss Wilson,  
we don't call them  
aliens anymore.  
We call them  
'guest workers'."