

# Purrsonal Mewsings #82



*Purrsonal Mewsings*, formerly *Feline Journal* and *Feline Mewsings* is a personalzine by R-Laurraine Tutihasi, PO Box 5323, Oracle, AZ 85623-5323; 520-275-6511, Laurraine@mac.com, <http://www.weasner.com/>. I hope to publish every six weeks.

It is distributed through StippleAPA and sent to other friends and family. It is available for the usual (a response of any kind, including letters, e-mail, and phone calls of comment; trade; contributions of illos, fiction, or articles; or even money: \$5.00 per issue). The zine will be placed on the web shortly after paper publication; please let me know if you prefer just to read the web version. I can also e-mail this in Word or rtf format. Kattesmint Press #506. ©2021 R-Laurraine Tutihasi.

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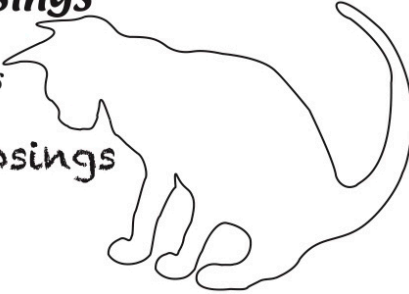
## **PURRSONAL MEWSINGS**

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#82

August 2021

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### **Art and Photo Credits**

Cover Photo—Two antelope squirrels taken by editor  
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Illo p. 14 by Delphyne Woods

Contributions of art, reviews, articles, fiction, letters, even poetry welcome. Publication not guaranteed, but all submissions will be given due consideration.

[  ] if this box is checked, I need to hear from you if you wish to stay on my mailing list.

If you are reading this electronically and would prefer to receive a printed version, please let me know. Or vice versa.

## \* Editorial / Introduction

Just after I published my previous issue, I attended the last couple of events I'd signed up for at the Carleton College Zoom reunion. The last one was a social hour that didn't last long enough.

At the end of June, I flew to Seattle to visit my sister. I had six whole days with her, during which we went out every day to see a sight. My trip report appears later in this zine.

Although June was very dry, with only about two-thirds of an inch of rain, mostly falling on the last day, we've had a greater than average rainfall in July.

Since my last zine, I've also discovered that I'm allergic to coconut.

I guess we all know what's happening with COVID. I've gone back to wearing my mask more inside public buildings.

\* \* \*

## \* Kritter Korner

Before my Seattle trip, I uploaded all the photos in my Nikon camera to my computer. They included a bunch of critter photos from our yard. During June it was very hot and dry, and the animals frequently sheltered in the shade. The photos below show two antelope squirrels trying to stay cool by spreading themselves out on concrete in the shade.





Other animals also took refuge in the shade.



Round-tailed Squirrel climbing the cage I have around my succulents



Desert Cottontail and Antelope Squirrels

Mike managed a photo of a quail family.



In July I got a photo of a quail family but in a very different situation.



\* \* \*

## \* **Astronomy**

Mike didn't have many clear nights. In June it was often because of smoke from wild fires. In July it was because of rain clouds.

He did manage a few. Here's a photo of Albireo, a well-known double star, taken with an iPhone through his 12" telescope.



He bought an accessory that triggers his DSLR camera when lightning strikes. Here's an impressive photo he created by combining several of his photos. The old way to take photos like this is by leaving the shutter open for a period of time.



\* \* \*

## \* **Reviews**

### **Network Effect (a Murderbot Novel) by Martha Wells. Tor, 2020**

I finished reading my second book nominated for the Hugo. I'm still on the waitlist for the others. Our local Oracle Library reopened with regular hours on 7 July; maybe that will be faster access to some of the remaining books and DVDs I have on reserve in Pima County.

This is the first Murderbot book I've read. The Murderbot of the series title is a nickname given to herself by the SecUnit that is the protagonist of the series. She is a mechanical AI being that also has some organic parts that make her look human. She is employed by various people or groups of people for security purposes. In this book she goes after a ship that is hijacked. There are at least two groups of people involved, but some of the people have been infected by some cybernetics that make them turn against other people.

The book reads like a James Bond story. At first I wasn't sure I liked it, but in the end I enjoyed it quite a bit. On the other hand, I didn't think it was a great book, merely entertaining.

#

## **Birds of Prey (and the Fantabulous Emancipation of One Harley Quinn), DC Entertainment, 2020**

I forgot to mention this one last time. This movie was nominated for a Hugo. As with the above book, I wasn't sure I liked it at first. It improved as it went along. Basically it's about people with super talents who mostly seem to be criminals. The lead character doesn't always seem to know whether to be good or bad.

Eventually the movie improved; but like the above book, it's merely entertaining.

#

## **Piranesi by Susanna Clarke, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2020**

Having read and enjoyed *Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell*, I looked forward to reading this. While this work is much shorter than her previous novel, it offers the same style that I enjoyed reading so much. The story is fantasy, as was the previous book. The main character, called Piranesi by another character, lives in an alternate world that seems to comprise vast halls filled with very large statues. The statues are of humans for the most part. The halls are connected laterally and vertically. The lower halls are partially inundated by water. From time to time, the tides grow and flood higher levels. Piranesi has kept journals that he depends on to aid his memory, although some journals seem to be missing. The Other meets occasionally with Piranesi and sometimes brings him items of clothing and other things that he needs. One day another man appears.

This is the third novel I've read for this year's Hugo Award. The first book was the third part of a trilogy. This book stands on its own. It's difficult to compare the two, as I enjoyed both just about equally. However, as the first book depended on the first two books to complete it; I've decided that *Piranesi* gets my top vote so far.

\* \* \*

## **\* Trip to Seattle**

Preface: I'll just mention my newly discovered food allergies here. They made finding places to eat somewhat challenging. I'm caeliac and need to be gluten-free. In addition I had discovered new food allergies: potato and possibly all other nightshade foods, grapes, and coconut. Also due to my allergy symptoms, I hadn't been drinking any alcohol for many months.

On the morning of Wednesday, 30 June 2021, Mike drove me to Sky Harbor airport in Phoenix. The airport people were very helpful in getting me checked in at a kiosk. Standing in line at security was something else; the crowds were huge. I waited at the wrong gate for a really long time before being alerted to the correct gate by e-mail. The plane boarded on time but took a long time to get everyone on, because every seat was filled. I was sitting next to a financial analyst working for private equity. He worked during the entire flight and didn't bother to eat.

A snack was served that took the place of lunch for me. There were two choices, a fruit and cheese plate or a sandwich. I took the fruit and cheese. Unfortunately the fruit was grapes, but I ate three huge hunks of cheese and a dark chocolate piece. I don't think I could have eaten any more.



After lunch I spent most of my time reading a part of *The Miracle of Dunkirk*. I might have dozed for a few minutes. The flight went smoothly except for some bumpiness at the beginning and end. Mimi found me pretty easily at SeaTac airport in Seattle. She took me to Safeway first to get food for breakfast and a few other meals before going home.

For dinner we went to a Japanese restaurant, I think one we went to before. I had sashimi.

Mimi's cats, Bailey (Dark grey male) and Pepper (black female), seemed to like me.

On Thursday, 1 July 2021, we drove to the area of Seattle near the aquarium and parked the car for the day. We discovered that Flight over Washington and the great wheel didn't open until noon or so. To fill some time, Mimi and I walked to Pike Place, which is sort of like the Farmer's Market in LA. We had to climb many steps to get there.

We met local author Amy Thomson shortly after the agreed time near the pier with the Great Wheel at the end and went to the Crab Pot for lunch. The food and conversation were excellent. Mike texted that we'd had some rain at home.



Jellyfish



Seal

After lunch Amy had to keep an appointment, and we went to the aquarium. It was completely different from the way I remembered. The whole area looked very different. However, it might have been way back in the 1990s when I was there before. As aquaria go, it's not huge but a good size. Then we rode Flight over Washington, a ride similar to some at Disneyland. It was quite exhilarating, as it makes you feel as though you're flying over the state. After that we went on the Great Wheel (basically a ferris wheel), a much more sedate ride. Unfortunately the day was mostly cloudy, so the view wasn't as good as we'd hoped.

On Friday, 2 July 2021, we drove to Seattle Center and went up the Space Needle and visited the Chihuly museum. The restaurant that used to be in the Space Needle is no more. Instead that level is mostly an observation platform with a glass floor. It was still

cloudy, so the view of the distance wasn't great. However the view of things just below us was very nice. We located the Chihuly museum from the glass floor. We spent a lot of time at the Space Needle gift shop but didn't buy much. What I would have liked was the kit to build a huge replica of the Space Needle that was on display. At the Chihuly museum, we stayed after looking over all the exhibits to watch a pretty impressive glass blowing demonstration of a decorative vase.



Science Center from world's fair as seen through glass floor of Space Needle



Newly blown Decorative Vase



Chihuly Glass



Chihuly Glass

That day we had lunch at home. After lunch I helped Mimi organize photos on her computer. Then we went to Best Buy to buy a connector cable to connect her iPhone to her MacBook Pro.

We went to Fuzian Restaurant in Tacoma for dinner.

At night I mostly helped Mimi move her iPhone photos to her MacBook Pro. There were a few bumps along the way, but we managed to get the job done.

In the afternoon of Saturday, 3 July 2021, we went to the Washington History Museum in Tacoma. We were able to leisurely look at some exhibits we had previously run through. Some exhibits were closed, allowing us more time for the rest. The special exhibit was devoted to the LGBTQI\* community. My favourite exhibit has shoes



belonging to sixteen people (if I recall correctly); as each pair is highlighted, an audio explaining how and why the people travelled to Washington State is played. One pair of “shoes” is absent, because the wearer didn’t wear shoes in his native country. There’s also a room used by a model railroad club that shows trains in the Seattle-Tacoma area; this is a very popular exhibit that allows patrons to turn trains on.

For dinner we went to the Lobster Shop in Tacoma. The Peach Schnapps I had agreed with me and was tasty. I also had a berry salad with prawns.

After lunch on Sunday, 4 July 2021, we went to the Museum of flight, which seems to be much bigger than the last time I was there many years ago. We had to just about run through the last few areas, because Mimi dawdled so long in the World War sections.

We drove to a Cheesecake Factory for dinner. It was about 18:30 when we sat down. I had a Ribeye steak and was able to make substitutions for the standard sides. I had a Cosmopolitan with my meal, which I drank very slowly. It was delicious because of citrus ingredients. I didn’t have any alcohol side effects.



Contemporary Exhibit



Historical Exhibit

On Monday, 5 July 2021, we went to the Woodland Park Zoo. Although we arrived earlier than the time on the ticket, we had such a long wait at the membership window that it was after the time before we got in. Mimi had paid for a membership but hadn't picked up her membership card yet. The zoo was smaller than I remembered, and many animals were not on exhibit. It was close to 17:00 when finished looking at all the exhibits. Linda Deneroff arrived at the West Gate to meet us for a meal.



Magellanic Penguins



Lioness

We had a nice dinner at Ray's Café on the water. I had Alaska crab leg; it was a chore to get to the meat, mostly because of the arthritis in my hands. Mimi took pity on me and helped. We had an enjoyable conversation with Linda and drove her home to her condo, which is being refurbished in a major way.

It was challenging to find the way to Tamanomus Rock on Tuesday, 6 July 2021. I had read about it on the web; it's a place sacred to the Native Americans and is located on their land in the Olympic Peninsula. We followed printed directions from Bing but only found dead ends. I looked at the paperwork I had printed out at home and found something somewhat useful. In the end it was almost happenstance that we saw a very small parking area off the road that turned out to be what we'd been looking for. The trail to the rock was frequently narrow or steep. We made it up and took photos. There was another trail recommended by a couple we met coming down, but Mimi was too tired to go up it.



By this time it was past noon, and we both were badly in need of a bathroom. So we looked for a place to eat. We headed toward Port Angeles, but traffic was terrible. We turned around and went to Poulsbo. The downtown area looked inviting, but we couldn't find any parking. We finally found an oriental restaurant at a shopping centre called Taste Wei, where we enjoyed tasty and filling food. I had fried rice with duck.

My flight home on Wednesday, 7 July 2021, was in the afternoon. We left for the SeaTac airport about noon. She dropped me off shortly before 13:00. I had to wait for help at the check-in machine, but then things went very well. I quickly got to the correct gate. The only problem was leaving my gel seat cushion there when we boarded. I tried to find it afterward but was unsuccessful. A snack was served on the plane, a sort of second lunch for me. I mostly read *The Miracle of Dunkirk*. The young man beside me watched *Game of Thrones*. He was travelling from Seattle to watch a Suns (basketball) game; I'm afraid he was disappointed at the outcome of the game a few days later..

\* \* \*



## \* **StippleAPA**

StippleAPA is an amateur press association. An APA is like a group pen pal publication. Each distribution includes a fanzine from each member, who usually writes about his or her interests and life and makes comments on the previous issues of the other members. If you're interested in joining, please let me know and I can get you in touch with the person who runs it. Note to non-members: these are my comments to the other APA members.

### MAILING COMMENTS ON STIPPLE-APA #343

**S. Rayne (Wight as Rayne):** Our small mammal population varies by season and by weather. Because we didn't have much rain in the spring, I think many of the animals put off reproducing until more recently. We've seen quail families and numerous small antelope squirrels and rabbits.

The outerwear check was to ensure that we didn't contaminate the local environment.

**Jeanne Mealy (Quirky Bits):** I do some of those organizing tasks that you list. I've organized my earrings by colour in three different earring keepers. I have a lot of earrings.

I periodically go through the medicine cabinet and the pet room to discard expired meds. I did this recently.

Our freezer and refrigerator are not deep enough to worry about stuff that's behind others, but I occasionally check on stuff on the bottom. Some things will keep for a very long time.

When I pick up mail, as opposed to when Mike picks it up, I discard much junk mail at the PO. I'm afraid I sometimes don't get to the mail until the next day or later. This is especially true when I've been travelling. When I

return home, I sort the mail by its apparent importance.

I have a daily to-do list includes a lot of tasks that are one-time things. Once I finish with the first item, I will go on to the second. The list keeps me productive, no time spent wondering what to do next.

When I was thirteen I started overcoming shyness by modelling my behaviour on that of people I admired.

The fire in Dudleyville, which was named the Margo fire, took place in early April. It didn't last very long, fortunately. It was brought quickly under control because of its proximity to homes and other buildings.

Mercury's seizures looked much the same as a human's. He got sort of glassy-eyed and shook all over. It was rather scary and worrisome to see.

**Marge Sehnert (Mamma's Mutterings):**

I used to play the piano, flute, violin, and the ukulele, but my arthritic fingers keep me from playing. I gave my violin away. I use my piano to guide my singing, which I can still do.

Judging by the release date of the movie *Airport*, it was probably filmed in 1969, when Minnesota had its January

thaw. I was a sophomore at Carleton College then.

**Ruth Odren (The Once and Future Zine):** Indianans, Hoosiers, also say “warshed”.

I don’t think that whether a toilet is low-flow or not determines that it doesn’t work well. Mike has suggested that we should replace the toilet in our master bath. I looked in *Consumer Reports* online and discovered that there are ratings for toilets. Do they even sell the old-fashioned toilets that use a lot of water any more?

**Erik Biever (The Fair Is On!):** I’m happy for you that there will be an in-person state fair. I admit I’ve never been to a state fair. However back in California, I attended the Los Angeles County Fair and the Orange County Fair.

Are you still in touch with Charles Hamilton II? How is he doing? Somewhere I probably still have my Chaz badge.

My handwriting used to be fair to good. Some time ago I studied calligraphy. That changed my handwriting quite a bit. Lately my arthritis has not been kind to my writing.

**Justin E. A. Busch (Stipple-Ations: STFan Views and Reviews):** True that you need pretty good equipment and fairly good Internet service to have an enjoyable Zoom session. On the other hand LepreCon was the only con that gave me problems. I’ve attended a few others without any problems at all. I’m thinking of attending another

one in September.

I can probably send you some fanzines. It’ll probably take some time for me to look through what I have. It’s unlikely that I will reread any that I have. I also print out fanzines I receive by e-mail; many are only available in that form. Would they interest you?

**Chrystine (A Sparrow’s Perspective):** Cute cats.

**Lucy Schmeidler (Don’t Ask #33):** I hope Jim is doing better.

Like you, travel for me is all about the destination. Getting there is rarely better than tolerable and sometimes much worse.

The way history, or any other subject, is taught makes all the difference. In college I took a class about the Weimar Republic, because the professor was one that everyone liked. He usually taught Russian history, but he was teaching about Germany that term. I also had a teacher in high school who brought history to life by mentioning such things as that about the time of the American Revolution, Mozart was writing his music. Later in high school, history was taught in two parts. There was the large lecture class. Then we broke into seminars and wrote position papers, such as the real cause of the Civil War. Those were interesting.

Actually I misidentified the rattlesnake. It was not a Mojave rattler but a Western diamondback. They both have black and white stripes at the ends of their tails. One must look at the pattern on the body.

Antelopes squirrels are the size of chipmunks. The orange is an navel and somewhat large.

R-Laurraine is my formal first name. I use Laurraine for informal occasions.

Like you I thought I didn't have to wear a mask any more after being vaccinated. Unfortunately, as I'm sure you've also heard, the delta variant is extremely contagious even among the vaccinated. Although we may not get very sick from it, we may be contagious. My sister is a paediatrician and routinely wears a mask at work, since many of her patients are unable to be vaccinated at present. She wore her mask most of the time when I recently visited her. I was not so conscientious. In Arizona, less than half the population are fully

vaccinated. I don't know which neighbourhoods are mostly vaccinated. I do know, however, that even in the height of the pandemic, there were those in town that refused to obey signs asking them to wear a mask at the Post Office. For a while, the weather was just too warm to wear a mask, but that was just outside. Just about every building in Arizona is conditioned, so it's not a difficult thing to mask up inside.

I never sat down when ice skating, but I did sit down a lot when skiing.

**Bill Thomasson (Musings from the Gathering Dusk #41):** For Mississippi river cruises that go from end to end, check out Viking.

\*\*\*\*\*

I hope to see you all next month.

\*\*\*

## \* Letters to the Editor

The text of letters received will be in **brown**. My replies to the letters will be enclosed in double parentheses and will be in black. I will also routinely make editorial corrections in punctuation, spelling, and the like. I use Oxford standards of spelling and punctuation.

**Tom Feller, PO Box 140937, Nashville, TN 37214-0937**

**22 June 2021**

Thanks for sending *Purrsonal Mewsings #80*.

I have served on a jury three times, all for civil cases. The first time they settled after the plaintiff presented his case, the second time we found for the plaintiff, and the third time we found for the defendant. I was once up for a criminal trial for which we would have been driven to Chattanooga and sequestered, because there had been so much local publicity. I heard enough to learn that it was a rape case in which the issue was consent. Fortunately, they found twelve jurors and two alternates before they even questioned me.

Anita and I took a western Caribbean cruise years ago and visited a Mayan ruin called Kohunlich, named after a Harvard archaeologist who first studied it. The ground was uneven, but did not involve much climbing.

((My planned Yucatan trip is a land trip, no cruising involved. We will be on the peninsula for a week and will probably be climbing the pyramids that allow it.))

#



**Tom Feller, PO Box 140937, Nashville, TN 37214-0937**

**6 July 2021**

Thank you for sending Purrsonal Mewsings #81.

We have summer in Nashville, too, with 90+ degrees Fahrenheit temperatures and high humidity with the occasional thunder storm.

We don't suffer from food allergies, but Anita's doctor has advised her to avoid dairy products because it is hard for her to digest them.

We are going to our luncheon clubs and book groups again. Our Sherlock Homes club recently had a picnic.



Anita's dentist wants to replace one of her crowns.

Hopefully, I will get to the novel you reviewed as I read through the Hugo finalists.

#

**Mary Manchester, 1297 Monroe Ave #2, Rochester, NY 14620-1655**

**22 June 2021**

That it was clear enough to see the solar partial eclipse on 10 June is the really amazing part [newspaper clippings were enclosed].

Fully vaccinated at last! [However, she detailed the hoops she had to jump through in order to achieve this without a computer or e-mail address or an app on a smartphone.]

#

**John Hertz, 236 S. Coronado St., No. 409, Los Angeles, CA 90057**

**7 July 2021**

Thanks for the photos of critters and astronomy. Here I mostly see crows, pigeons, sparrows -- squirrels -- dogs on leashes out for a walk. Now and then a lizard. Two skunks wandered the alley behind my building for a while; I don't know where they lived or what happened to them. Ponds in parks draw ducks, geese, gulls.

Mike's photo of the Draco Galaxy Trio synchronicized with my re-reading *Nova* (Delany, 1968). I found the Sphere edition with the Bob Haberfield cover in a used-book shop. I'm just getting started (halfway through ch. 3, "Paris had remained a more or less vertical city"). I had remembered the poetry but had forgotten the horrid three-page info-dump early in ch. 2. I wish authors wouldn't do that. Otherwise so far it still dazzles.

I liked *Glorious* (Benford & Niven, 2020). A note by me is in *Vanamonde* 1444; the electronic may see it at <<http://file770.com/another-well-titled-book/>> where it first appeared.

About loneliness, I've long found striking this poem by Saigyô (1118-1190; D. Keene tr., *Seeds in the Heart*, rev. 1999, p. 678).

tô hito mo  
omoitaetaru  
yamazato no  
sabishisa nakuba  
sumiukaramashi

A mountain village  
Where there is not even hope

Of a visitor --  
If not for the loneliness,  
How painful life here would be!

#

**Murray Moore, murraymoore at gmail dot com**

**9 July 2021**

Since we returned home from College Station, Texas (Corflu Heatwave – pandemic was declared the day we were driving from New Orleans to College Station), we have taken a total of two day trips, both to conservation areas, last fall.

Yesterday I went book-hunting for the first time in 2021. From a Salvation Army store, I brought home baseball classic *the Southpaw*, Mark Harris; American classic *All the King's Men*, Robert Penn Warren; thriller *The Taking of Pelham One Two Three*, John Godey; and *Life Sentence: Stories from Four Decades of Court Reporting --- or, How I Fell Out of Love with the Canadian Justice System (Especially Judges)*, Christie Blatchford.

Lloyd Penney came to Mississauga for his second vaccination (Paramount Fine Foods Arena, Lloyd?). In that building I received my first vaccination (Moderna). For my second vaccination (also Moderna) I went into Toronto, not far from Lloyd & Yvonne's apartment building (Cloverdale Mall, Lloyd), June 22.

Mary Ellen had received her second of her two Pfizer vaccinations the previous day. Pfizer and Moderna: we are a mixed marriage.

This issue Laurraine you have a high number of Canadian LoCcers (at least four). (Cy, you owe me a letter!)

#

**Cathy Palmer-Lister, cathypl at sympatico dot ca**

**10 July 2021**

Love seeing the critters--the only ones you showed this time that we have here in Quebec are the coyotes and cowbirds. The coyotes have been showing up in urban areas recently, which is somewhat a problem. Mostly, for cats, though.

((As I understand it, the coyotes in the east are mostly coy wolves, much bigger than our coyotes and fiercer. Domestic cats should be kept indoors. The feral cats have to fend for themselves.))

You can see Omega Centauri? Wow. What is the farthest south you can see from your latitude?

((Actually Omega Centauri is about the farthest south we can see clearly.))

#

Hi Laurraine (guessing I don't need to use the "R-")

((Not unless you're trying to be formal.))

Because I'm slowly losing my mind, I sent a reply to you to Trufen by mistake, a list for fanzine fans. Realized it ages later while lying in bed to decide what to do today... not much choice, play vinyl, CDs, or work on another LoC I've been putting off... I think I already did the cut, here comes the paste: Whew, worked.

((I saw your reply later on Trufen. Similar things happen to me. My mind becomes preoccupied with stuff, and I forget other things.))

Thanks, Laurraine. The first time I accidentally sent it to a list I'm on. Oops. Haven't read the whole thing yet, but now I have to play some music, which is helping a lot during these trying times.

That is a great Brad Foster Illo of a cat!

I've been pretty out of it lately since my landlords eliminated the shuttle to the subway. It ran during rush hours only, morning and afternoon/evening and enabled me to go anywhere in the city near a subway. And many stores are near subways, for obvious reasons. I have no idea what it was costing them (big bus, driver); but it was only guaranteed for ten years, and I moved to this building on 10-3-10. (My old building and lots of others were demolished so the landlords could get more money out of large condo buildings and row houses). There was legislation that one had to be an apartment building.

((I sympathize. A friend in LA has been complaining about changes there in mass transit. We have none where we live. People without cars or motorcycles don't live here unless they're really physically fit and can bicycle.))

Now my guy, who is only 51, brings me groceries or drives me to a store; and another friend (also 51!) comes over and cooks for us once a week. Nice to have friends. The friend is from Vietnam, adopted; and he told us he had to learn to cook or his entire large family would have died of malnutrition!

((Friends are wonderful to have. When I was still single, I had a number I could count on for various things.))

I hope you and the hubby are surviving growing older and also enjoying your life as much as possible.

((I try to ignore the growing older part, except that I'm trying to go to all the places that I probably wouldn't be able to go to if I become less healthy. Mike seems to be caving

more to the age stuff; he refuses to exercise except for riding his bicycle every other day or so.))

- Hope (but using Tiki, pronounced "Tick-ee", which my parents called me. I don't have much hope these days, I'm 68, soon to be 69 and just about everything hurts.)

((I do all sorts of exercises and take supplements to fend off aches and pains. I'm a few years older than you.))

#

**Murray Moore, murraymoore at gmail dot com**

**13 July 2021**

P.S.: Three days after sending my LoC on *Purrsonal Mewsings* 81, a LoC in which I nudge Cy that he owes me a letter, I receive a letter from Cy. Impressive service!, *Purrsonal Mewsings*.

((We aim to please. HHOK))

#

**John Hertz, 236 S. Coronado St., No. 409, Los Angeles, CA 90057**

**16 July 2021**

Naturally the result of my locking *Mewsings* 80 was that 81 arrived in the next day's mail.

Swell front cover by Brad Foster. Grand. Thanks.

Critter and astro photos.

Glad to hear <fanac.org> interviewed BJo and John Trimble. They've done much for many; *Star Trek* was just one instance.

I'll look for Mike's memoir *Finding My Way to the Stars*. A used-book shop I like has often been able to order books for me through Amazon.

Incidentally, the expression is "nerve-racking" i.e. as if torturing one's nerves on the rack.

((Thanks for that corrections. Usually I'm an excellent speller, but a few things confuse me.))

Clarabell the clown on Howdy Doody was Bob Keeshan who later was Captain Kangaroo.



You'll see a note by me on Powers's Forced Perspectives at <<http://file770.com/at-the-height-of-his/>> (reprinted in *Vanamonde* 1433), and on Benford & Niven's *Glorious* at <<http://file770.com/another-well-titled-book/>> (*Van* 1444). Richard Chwedyk reviewing Niven, Pournelle & Barnes's *Starborn and Godsons* in *Galaxy's Edge* 51 this month says I made him do it and he's not sorry.

#

**IAHF:** TRinlay Khadro, Torun Almer, Andrew Porter

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### \* Closing Remarks

As I wrap up this zine, we just had some of the heaviest rainfall since we moved here twelve years ago. It's the middle of summer monsoon season, so rain is not unusual. However, the rain pattern is not the usual monsoon rain pattern. Normal monsoon rain pattern is as follows: day dawns clear and sunny; as the hour grows later, clouds move in; in late afternoon, it rains; then the skies clear up. This year it's been mostly cloudy most of July. The last several days have been nonstop clouds with frequent rain, sometimes prolonged. I'm not complaining, but things are not normal.

*Laurraïne*

*24 July 2021*