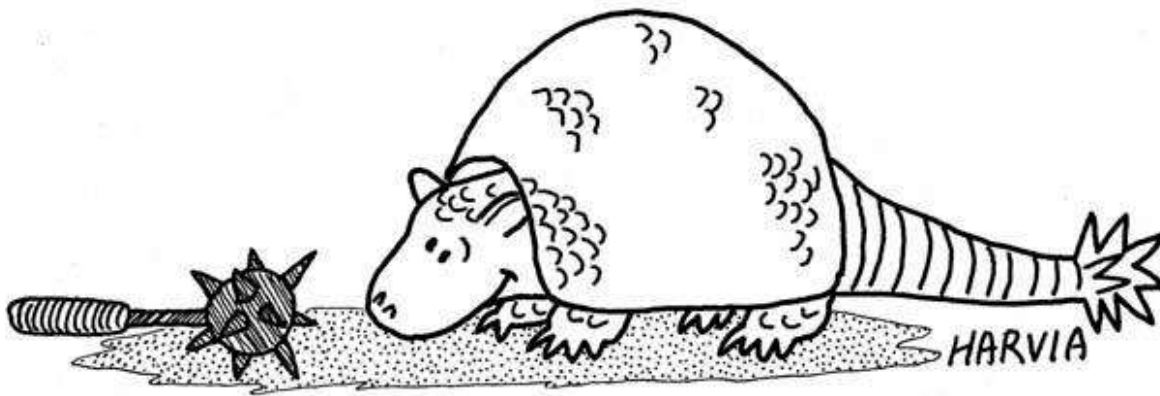


the zine dump

#54 * JANUARY/FEB. 2022



Guy Lillian * 1390 Holly Ave Merritt Island FL 32952
GHLIII@yahoo.com * Jan.-Feb. 2022 * 318/218-2345 * GHLIII Press #1316

Illo by Teddy Harvia

"The baby ankylosaurus finds a friend"

This issue is dedicated to Roger Sims, Frank Denton and Bill Wright.

I can add so little about **Roger Sims**. He was a sweet fella who represented the best about SF fandom. He was part of fannish legend – he wrote the true story of Room 770 for an issue of my *Challenger* – and hit the apex of fannish accomplishment, chairing a Worldcon, winning a fan fund (DUFF, with Pat), being named Worldcon Fan Guest of Honor.

Since his passage from this planet in mid-January 2022, tributes and valedictories and fond memories have filled the Net, and soon the same will swell the pages of fanzine fandom. Indeed I can add little, just how grand it was to see him and his wonderful Pat at most every con and how much fun it was to hail him in a teddy bear suit and, as a baby, in his *birthday* suit in the Nolacon II souvenir book, with a spirited text by his lifelong bud Lynn Hickman.

Roger was exemplary ... what fandom should be like. Like Roger.

I never met **Frank Denton**, but early issues of this journal were happy to feature reviews of his friendly and candid perzines. He passed away on January 5, one of us forever.

On our DUFF trip in 2003, **Bill Wright** was our friendly guide, and a magnificent and *life-saving* one he was, too. On our excursions to Hanging Rock and Fremantle and Rottneest island, Bill was there (along with Robin Johnson), introducing us to Vegemite, quokkas, and on

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Hanging Rock, helping your helpless editor out of a pit into which I'd gone to recover some of his expensive picnic gear. The editor of *Interstellar Ramjet Scoop*, he won DUFF himself and attended the Worldcon in San Antonio. A deserving cap to a great fannish career, and his loss this January will be sorely felt.



A reprint from my perzine, *Spartacus*: “As readers of eFanzines should know, I publish an irregular “zine about zines” called, elegantly enough, *The Zine Dump*, devoted to mini-reviews of *Spartacus*’ fellow publications. Issue #53 came out the week before Halloween, touching on the latest number of every zine appearing on eFanzines.com, in my e-mail, or in my mailbox since the previous issue, last summer. Or so I thought.

“The response I most anticipated – and feared – for *TZD* was from Nic Farey, whose *Beam* (co-edited with Ulrika O’Brien) is a fine genzine and whose *This Here* shines among the current crop of personal zines. For those who don’t know Nic, he has a laser wit and an eagle eye for errors. He always manages to find several screw-ups in every *Zine Dump* and zing me senseless for them. So I made a special effort to avoid goofs in *TZD* #53, and what happens but that I hit the wrong key while correcting a typo and *erased Farey’s fanzine from my reviews*.

“Naturally I didn’t notice anything before shipping the zine into the ether and placing it on eFanzines. Nic’s comment was laconic, but still threw me into a panic: “So I take it I’m no longer publishing?” Babbling with guilt and terror, I searched my hard drive for the lost review, and after much effort, found it. I promised to publish the same in my next generally-distributed fanzine [*and first thing in my next Zine Dump*], and here it is:

“**This Here ... nos. 45-46** | Nic Farey, 2657 Rungsted St., Las Vegas NV 89142 | fareynic@gmail.com | Moving backwards in time, let’s open the last issues of Nic’s energetic perzine and see what we shall see. #46, the September number, strikes a chord with me on the very first page, dealing with the events of September 11 this year (the passing of Judith Hanna) and where he was on 9/11/2001 (D.C., within sight of smoke from the Pentagon, yoiks). It also holds a photo of Farey’s parents in their youth. The juxtaposition hits home: *my* parents were married on September 11, 1947. His usual “Radio Winston” piece discusses Those Darlins, a group I was unaware of. I should seek out their recordings, since it was Nic’s comment that turned me on to Delta Rae and “Bottom of the River”. After reviewing an Aussie dystopian series and discoursing on the nature of fanzines – when he finds out, I hope he tells me – he passes the proverbial pen to David Hodson for his regular column on British football, the like of which no American normally sees. Back we go to #45, with front-page emphasis on fanzines – he even mentions my pathetically infrequent *Challenger*. The emphasis here is, however, on music, particularly Aussie music, as surveyed by that epic gent Bruce Gillespie, but there is “Footy” and there are taxi driving stories and LOCS from all over.”

There!



Okay, an **announcement** to begin with: I have at long last set a deadline for *Challenger* #43, my Theodore Sturgeon issue. It’s my birthday, **July 20**. I have a raft of article ideas but don’t want to write them all myself. So if you’re interested in Sturgeon, and every SFer should be, find the addresses below the Harvia cartoon on page 1 and *use* one.

On to the usual. *The Zine Dump* wants to see every generally-distributed fanzine, paper or pixel, published in English and devoted to science fiction and/or its fandom. Like these guys:

(Range: 10-23-21 – 2-4-22.)

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Alexiad Vol. 20 No. 6 | Joe and Lisa Major, 1409 Christy Ave., Louisville KY 40204-2040 | jtmajor@iglou.com | Neither rain nor snow (feets of it) nor low hemoglobin nor gloom of night will stay this fan editor from pubbing his ish – and producing a most stable and consistent zine we see. The main impact Joe’s lousy health and Louisville’s snow inundation seems to have had on *Alexiad* is simple. Though Lisa still natters about horseracing and Joe still takes note of monarchical news, eclipses, polar exploration and other Major fascinations, most of this issue is devoted to the lettercol, where the Chorus holds forth mightily (and enviably; there are some righteous fanwriters in that number). Never fear: here’s a musical Batman satire to remind us that Joe Major, ever the able parodist, is still in command.

Ansible 415 (February 2021) | David Langford, 94 London Road, Reading, Berks, RG1 5AU, U.K. | news.ansible.uk | News and asides from the great Langford are an essential part of the trufan’s regimen. Included: a sad, long list of RIPs, including the three dedicatees for this *Zine Dump*, “Thog’s Masterclass”, wherein professional writers – Phil Dick this time! – make you wonder WTF they smoked while writing, “How Others See Us” (usually) and a fine link to Cheryl Morgan’s Worldcon report. The way we are with wit and whimsy. By all means subscribe.

Askance #52 | John Purcell, 3744 Marielene Circle, College Station TX 77845 | askance73@gmail.com | John’s latest genzine is, he says, “blue-themed,” but for me the issue is commanded by Sam Long’s parodic filk songs, inviting readers to sing “The Ballad of Buck Coulson” to the tune of “John Henry Had a Little Hammer”, and Purcell’s own faanfic, reprinted from 2010. (12 years ago! Unbelievable!) The editor also gives his take on COVID isolation, hopefully please-God soon to end. There’s also a fun *Figby* ‘toon, as ever, some zine reviews of far greater depth than you’ll find here, a LOC from e’er-reliable Lloyd Penney and a list of forthcoming local events. John promises a complete TAFF report RSN, which, to judge by the chapters pubbed already, should be nifty stuff. Must mention this issue’s cover by Hugo winner Sara Felix: very pretty and indeed, very blue.

Askew #35 | John Purcell see *Askance* | This is an old issue of John’s perzine, dating from December ’21 and revised from an October draft (“October draft” – there’s a joke there somewhere). The delay gives Purcell a chance to discuss the recent Worldcon and declaim upon the victorious Chinese bid for ’23. Though he eschews (gesundheit) opinionating on the ... *remarkable* site selection vote, he echoes my worry about fandom landing in a dictatorship with a hideous human rights record. He turns with relief towards reviews of recent reads, mostly classics from decades gone by. Perzines are fun to do, fun to read; John promises a new issue RSN.

Banana Wings #77 | Claire Brialey & Mark Plummer, 59 Shirley Road, Croydon, CR0 7ES, U.K. / fishifter@gmail.com | Emerging from COVID’s penumbra after almost two years of shadow, the U.K.’s premiere genzine returns. Only one article in this number is not written by the editors (Nigel Rowe’s entertaining account of a 2019 flight to D.C.), but this is no flaw: the Plummer/Brialey combo always produces thoughtful work. A lot of energy has pent up since the country went on lockdown. Mark leads off with thoughts on an obscure writer whose name is on a magazine seen in *The Dig*, items on a local jukebox, the “chemicalization” of Crosby, Stills, and Nash (and Young) (whose premiere album played out of almost as many windows in my Boikley days as *Abbey Road*), books read in the isolated 21 months of lockdown, philosophical musings on whether it’s a horse or a picture of a horse (pause for breath), eulogies for lost friends, and much more. Claire evinces tension over returning to fanac in her long editorial, but the enthusiastic, chockful lettercol belies that anxiety: it’s obvious that fandom has missed *BW* and will be happy to have it back.

Beam #16 | Nic Farey, 2657 Rungsted St, Las Vegas, NV 89142, USA, fareynic@gmail.com and Ulrika O’Brien, 418 Hazel Avenue N., Kent, WA 98030, USA, email : ulrika.obrien@gmail.com |

Nic's opening editorial deals smartly with intertwined topics dear to my wit: the U.S. Civil War and the current era of Wokeness. Apparently some dunderhead declared, in a post, that the SF series *Firefly* was in actuality a camouflaged paean to the Confederacy, which perversion of opinion startled Farey as would a thunderclap out of a deep sleep. Simple-minded perspectives of the Late Unpleasantness aside, Nic skillfully skewers the specific libel against *Firefly* and passionately lambastes the petty tyranny of wokeness. If there was any confusion about it, I concur from the marrow. Ulrika comes in, next, lamenting the treatment of the brontosaurus by paleontologists over the decades. (Remember the comic apatosaurus/brontosaurus skull-juggling act at Chicago's Field Museum?) Her editorial segues into the career of Richard Feynmann and the mutability of science ... which sounds straight out of Bronowski and *The Ascent of Man*. More good stuff follows. Lucy Huntzinger describes her search for her birth parents. COVID gets its due attention through poetry/lyrics from the editors: "Don't Touch Your Mouth." Lee Wood takes us onto the farm; Jane Carnall takes on Sir Arthur's *Rama* tetralogy. Tommy Ferguson regales us about John Purcell's Texan Corflu. The skilled – and fair (meaning they liked my *Smokin' Route*) – fanzine reviewers John Wesley Hardin and Jacq Monahan take on a blog, [Lulzine. Sandra Bond compares fandom to a classic car; doesn't say which get better mileage. An extraordinary Chorus provokes Ulrika into lively poste and riposte. Fun zine. I need say no more.](#)

Brooklyn! #114 | Fred Argoff, Penthouse L, 1120 Ocean Pkwy, Brooklyn NY 11230-4060 | subs 4 issues /\$10 cash. Quarterly | The last issue of *The Zine Dump* felt empty, since – almost uniquely among our 54 issues – it reviewed no *Brooklyn!* But here, thank Fred, it's back with photos and natter about the world's most famous city-within-a. Argoff's "special feature" this time involves Brooklyn industry, which, frankly, looks post-apocalyptic; his editorial, though, also deserves attention: why, he asks, don't other fanzine editors publishing stuff about *their* home towns? Well, I used to write about New Orleans all the time, and aside from rocket launches and manatees, there's nothing unique about Merritt Island, and as for Mojave, California, where I was born, well ... fuhgeddaboutit!

Captain Flashback #38 | Andy Hooper & Carrie Root, 11032 30th Ave. NE, Seattle WA 98125 | fanmailaph@aol.com | Sez Andy: "CAPTAIN FLASHBACK is devoted to old fanzines, crusader kings, Christian amazons, and other fascinating phenomena of the 12th Century." I'll buy that! Andy's publication for Turbo-Apa works as far more than an apazine, which typically revolve around comments other apa members. Each issue of *Captain Flashback* features a piece on that peculiar manifestation of the American personality, a TV horror host (this time: Hollywood's "Sinister Seymour"), plus such additional goodies as scenes from Hooper's fannish play *Read and Enjoyed but No Content*, complete with guess-the-lost-member contest. Andy ought to collect his in-groupish theater; they're unique to him and – to the initiated -- funny stuff.

Christian New Age Quarterly Vol. 25 No. 2 and 2+ | Catherine Groves, PO Box 276, Clifton NJ 07015-0276 | info@christiannewage.com | Dominant in the first of these issues is Robert Price's piece on *Thelema*, Aleister Crowley's philosophy of discovering one's true purpose in life. (I hope I'm not misinterpreting Catherine's explanation.) It's complex but rewarding stuff, like the best of human studies. Elsewhere, a correspondent, Wendell Wilkinson, holds almost total sway over the lettercol, but the editor is not silent: like every other fan-ed, Ms. Groves laments the USPS. Her eulogy for a thoughtful contributor is heartfelt, as is almost every word in every issue of this fascinating Christian "genzine." Alas, in the followup edition, Catherine confesses "exhaustion and depletion," as well as the symptoms of COVID PTSD, and wonders if she should "step away" from C*NAQ. I hope she doesn't – the zine is certainly unique among the perspectives I see, as shown by Father John Groff's thought pieces in this issue – but the hassles are real. Catherine's frustration with the website would p.o. John the Baptist. I

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suggest a respite. Let C*NAQ's schedule go for a while. Rejuvenate those batteries (and mix those metaphors), let material build up, then see about a return.

Corflu Pangloss Progress Report #2 | Suzanne Tompkins, POB 25075, Seattle WA 98165 | hal.obrien@gmail.com | (N.B. I have no idea if Suzie edited this 12-page guide to the forthcoming Corflu, but dammit, I can't find a colophon!) The next "fanzine fans' convention" will be held in the delightful climes of Vancouver, British Columbia – but COVID has forced a delay from March until **October 21-23**. Ulrika O'Brien is listed as "Instigator" and Jerry Kaufman is also involved, fine recommendations for an open, accessible, friendly con. This zine reflects the committee's strong preparation and enthusiasm – and offers some gorgeous illos.

CyberCozen Vol. XXXIV, No. 01, January 2022 | Leybl Botwinik, leybl_botwinik@yahoo.com | The Israeli Society for SF and F newszine wishes its readers a Happy New Year, both 2022 and "TU beShvat (or khamishoser beshvat) = 15th day of the Jewish month of Shvat, which is the New Year for Trees!" As I was only this moment discussing the "Patty Tree" in front of the Greenhouse with my father-in-law, it's an appropriate greeting. Reviews of *More Zion's Fiction* (Israel's connection to the field is strong), Stephen Fry's *Making History* (kill baby Hitler? I say wait) and an article on "the Jewish roots of *Star Trek*" precede a long list of interesting websites. I can't stop saying it: I love the look of Hebrew writing – מועדון הקריאה הירושלמי.

DASFAX December 2021 | Jeanne Jackson, 31 Rangeview Drive, Wheat Ridge CO 80215 | DASFAEditor@Hotmail.com | Sourdough Jackson's essay in December involves the challenge of propulsion in space; I'd say the real problem explorers will face in DA FOOCHUH will be the universe's *vastness*. Elsewhere, party announcements and a report on the last meeting (Connie Willis' husband gave a well-received talk) by Rhonda Hageman, further evidence that in recovering from the *verdandt* pandemic, Mile High leads the way.

De Profundis | Marty Cantor, 11825 Gilmore St. #105, North Hollywood, CA 91606 | *The unofficial clubzine of the great Los Angeles club is dormant. Thanks, COVID.*

The Drink Tank CDXXXVI | Chris Garcia, journeyplanet@gmail.com | One might be forgiven if one thought this issue of Chris' first Hugo winner – *Journey Planet* has scored too, or two, or both – was assembled in the dark. The cover is demonic, occult, a creep in a goat's mask – and the contents are all about the Dan Ackroyd *Dragnet* satire from 1987. Maybe it's age – I remember the *original Dragnet*, from the fifties – but I avoided the movie, anticipating Dan Ackroyd would parody Jack Webb with hammy mockery. I could have been offbase; IMDB quotes Ackroyd as being a huge fan of Joe Friday. Anyway, *The Zine Dump* is a huge fan of Chris Garcia, so confusing cover or not, this issue and most others is a spiffy read.

Ethel the Aardvark 212 | LynC c/o Melbourne Science Fiction Club, P.O. Box 110, Moonee Vale VIC 3055 Australia | melbsfclub@yahoo.com.au | Our visit to the MSFC was a peak point of our DUFF visit in 2003; glad to see its clubzine still rolling and some familiar faces in the illustrative photos. How come no one there has aged? Here the Aussie group celebrates the end of the 6th municipal COVID lockdown with a colorful, photo-ful issue. ZOOM meetings and gaming, visits to mini-libraries, an enthused review of Andy Weir's *Project Hail Mary* (will it break the string of female-writ Hugo winners? Stay tuned), manga movies, TV adaptations of comics, Ditmar Awards, lists of upcoming events – *in-person* events – even two pages of Halloween lawn décor ... The liberation of MSFC dances off the page.

Fanac Newsletter 17 | Joe Siclari and Edie Stern, jsiclari@gmail.com, estern7770@gmail.com | The most comprehensive, ambitious, and thorough project I know of in fandom is the effort of Joe & Edie to collect, scan and make available every fanzine published since Julie Schwartz and Mort Weisinger revved up the mimeograph for *The Time Traveler*. In addition to this e-zine,

every so often they mail forth a progress report, replete with zines and PDFs contributed to the cause. In this newsletter Joe fills us in on their efforts to modernize their equipment, and says that so far they've scanned 16,634 issues of 991 titles with more than 286,845 pages. This massive task is supplemented by the ZOOM panels on fannish history Edie has hosted. The only effort I can compare to this ongoing project is eFanzines; both projects deserve honorary Hugos. Joe & Edie were frequent visitors to this Greenhouse pre-pandemic; pray Ghu they can and do come back soon. Thai foodies await!

The Fan Artists 2021 Alan White, pixelmotel.com | An explosion on the talent farm! Alan White, whose photoshopped covers and illos have revolutionized contemporary fanzine art, presents work by several ace comrades in colorful, nicely-laid-out form. Their stuff is magnificent: Al Sirois, Frank Circocco, Joe Pearson, Ulrika O'Brien, William Clausen, Kurt Erichsen, the *great* Alicia Austin, Geneva Bowers, Taral Wayne, Alan himself ... some I know, Some are unfamiliar, all excel. And this edition hardly exhausts fandom's army of fan artist talent – have past issues featured luminaries like Foster, Schirmeister, Harvia, Charlie Williams? If not, will future numbers?

FanActivity Gazette Vol. 1 No. 7 | George Phillies, see *National Fantasy Fan* | Two articles in this brief N3F publication, both well-written. “Cathode Ray” – like I believe *that* name – attacks the past television scene with energy and wit in “Rabid Ears”; I'll bet no more than 2% of his (?) readers will get the joke. Very jolly. In “Fanfaronade #17” Justin E.A. Busch reviews the three – *three* – fanzines he received since his last column, and quite articulately and with good insight. But he cripples his mission by staying distant – I can't believe purposefully – from eFanzines.com. Restricting his attentions to printed zines denies him the spectrum of fanzine expression. (For Justin's address and e-dress see *Films Fantastic*.) Mindy Clark does a good job listing cons to come and fannish birthdays.

Films Fantastic #14 | N3F Film Bureau, Justin E.A. Busch, 308 Prince St. #422, St. Paul MN 55401 | jeab@musician.org | Justin is the new editor of this quarterly publication, and opens his administration calling for contributors; he doesn't want to write everything himself. (He could do worse; I'm impressed by his wordsmithery.) Jean Lorrh is Busch's first contributor, with an article on *Star Trek's* “Operation: Annihilate” from 1968. I've often thought of that episode as “bogus barf on the back,” but Jean teaches us to respect it. Continuing with the *Trek* theme, Justin admiringly discusses *Star Trek III: The Search for Spock*, an underrated entry in the canon. (I wish they'd devoted more screen time to the Vulcan girls in filmy nightgowns in the *fal-tor-pan* ritual.) The penultimate piece in this issue is Artemis van Bruggen's *apologia* for the execrable cinematic miscarriage *Star Crash*, which had the virtue of displaying Carolina Munro in a tight space outfit and nothing else. The final page is a come-on to join N3F.

For the Clerisy #91 and #91 | Brant Kresovich, P.O. Box 404, Getzville NY 14068-0404 | kungbairn@yahoo.com | Yes, two issues, same number ... and a year apart, December 2020 and December 2021. I'd been wondering why *TZD* hadn't seen anything of recent from Brant, and here's why: the editor endured quadruple bypass surgery in January '20, and didn't feel up to his zine of reviews (the “clerisy” are readers, if you didn't know) for almost a year. He wasn't idle, however: he read. And read and read and read. Classic material like Jane Austen's *Persuasion*, a choice Maigret, even *I, Claudius*. Brant's reviews are thoughtful, even philosophic. A year later, the second issue #91, opening with pieces on E. Nesbit's *The Five Children and It*, a unique fantasy, and an Italian mystery before turning to a long, photo-illustrated essay about female guest stars on *Perry Mason* – with a short paragraph about the series only continuing lady, Barbara Hale. (I understand she gave Frank Sinatra his first screen smooch.) Hopes from here that Kresovich won't wait till December 2022 to gift fandom with another *Clerisy*, issue #91 or not.

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The Incompleat Register 2021 | Nic Farey, 2657 Rungsted St., Las Vegas NV 89142 | fareynic@gmail.com | A guide to and for the 2022 Fanzine Fans' awards, which deserve greater general recognition than they receive. Using *TZD* (a great compliment), eFanzines.com and other sources, Nic lists eligible candidates in the various categories: perzine, genzine, special pub, fan writer, fan artist, letterhack, and fanzine cover. The award for best website has been cloven from the list. Deadline for voting: George Harrison's birthday, *February 25*. I highly recommend participating in this poll; it's fun and doing so will tighten your bonds to the people and publications of the hobby. The awards are presented at Corflu – see their progress report.

Instant Message #s 982 | NESFA. PO Box 809, Framingham MA 01701-0809 | info@nesfa.org | The latest issue I've seen of this business-oriented clubzine (of the most business-oriented club in the world) is from last November, so all of its news is obsolete – especially since as *TZD* hits the Net, it's only days until its major concern: Boskone 59. Still, it's inspiring to see the care and professionalism with which NESFA handles its – you guessed it: business.

Intermission #115 | Ahrvid Engholm, ahrvid@hotmail.com / I hope Ahrvid won't be offended when I say that the English in his N'APazine is fluid, witty and enjoyable; my Swedish great-grandparents would be proud. Right at the first line, Ahrvid promises that "[t]hish will have a broader mix than some recent issues." In addition to fan history, his usual gig, he hits on Swedish politics (their prime minister is prettier than Joe Biden or Trump, but then *the bottom of King Kong's foot* is prettier than Trump), pandemic natter (of course), a report on a recent convention (praise Balder, including a righteous response to Jeanette Ng's repulsive swipe at John W. Campbell, Jr.), a terrific dinner with Sweden's ultra-BNF Sam Lundwall, some admiring stuff on ABBA (I admit it: I have "Take a Chance on Me" in my YouTube favorites), Vikings lore, and of course, national SFnal history, as replete with snobbish mainstream naysayers (I hate to say "mundanes") as America's. "Sorry that thish is so full of content," he says. We'll *suffer*, Ahrvid!

Ionisphere 33 | John Thiel, see *Pablo Lennis* | "Ocial Organ of the Naonal Fantasy Fan Federaon Fan-Pro Coordinang Bureau." Come on, John; that typographical mess was on the cover. I don't quite understand what a "fan-pro coordinating bureau" does; apparently it seeks interviews with professionals, for Thiel laments in an editorial that they have run out of interviews to print. Fortunately, Jeffrey Redmond rides to the rescue with a good article on the movies' multitudinous problems in getting good SF to the screen, for instance, over-reliance on FX and neglect of good characterization. Where *haven't* we seen that?

Journey Planet #61 | James Bacon, Sara Felix, Chris Garcia, Sarah Gulde, Erin Underwood, and Errick Nunnally, journeyplanet@gmail.com | The Christmas issue of the only Best Fanzine Hugo nominee recognizable as a traditional fanzine. What I really love about it is the absolute absence of irony or condescension or anger over religious subject; *JP* sees the holiday as joyous, and that feeling soars across through the New Year's wishes collected from friends of the *JP* team, Bacon's long piece on *Mugby Junction* (a collection of stories set at Christmastime in 1866), Anne Gray's Worldcon report (nice-looking Hugo bases), Bacon's favorite Christmas cards (ours were Snoopy-oriented, too), Nicholas Wayte's wild boar recipe (he should talk to SFPAn Gary Robe, who hunts such critters), Tammy Coxen's paean to hot buttered rum ... So what if it's six weeks past as I write? Merry Christmas, *Journey Planet*!

Lofgeornost #145 | Fred Lerner, 81 Worcester Ave., White River Junction VT 05001 | fred@fredlerner.org | Fred always gasses his readers with superb erudition; in the opening segment of this *Lofg* he shows his chops as a writer. His account of his discovery of *All Things Considered* is smoothly composed and fun. He goes on to critique *This is How You Lose the*

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Time War in the only negative notice I've seen for the Hugo- and Nebula-winning novella. After mentioning how close he may have come to being a supporting character in Greg Benford's *Timescape*, Fred turns his zine over to his Chorus, who touch on topics many and engaging.

Meteor | John Thiel, see *Pablo Lennis* | Three items of strong interest in this Thiel perzine: an excellent article by Jeffrey Redmond on SF utopias, a poem on cloning by Gerald Heyder, and some outstanding color art. Available on eFanzines.

MT Void Vol 40 No 31 (Whole No. 2208) | Evelyn Leeper, eleeper@optonline.net | Only the latest e-zine from Evelyn and Mark; there's more out by now. Over the weeks the Leepers and their contributors review and review and review. Along with such regular contributors as Gary McGath riding their lettercols, they provide witty and perceptive opinions, up-to-date, popular and obscure: movies (the Japanese *Door Into Summer*, animated *Cryptozoo*, Arthurian films, 1938's Yiddish gem *The Dybbuk*), books (*The Economics of Star Trek* – huh? – *Project Hail Mary*, *Leviathan Falls*), both (that great science fiction classic, *Billy Budd* – portrayed by William Shatner in an early TV version). They even hit on the differing translation of the Bible (the KJV or the Revised Standard; I shrink from the so-called New English).

My Back Pages 26 | Rich Lynch, P.O. Box 3120, Gaithersburg MD 20885 | rw_lynch@yahoo.com | Nifty and eclectic collection of some of Rich's trip reports and essays – and he has a slew of them, as one can tell by the issue number. Rich's photo covers perform the task of hiding his chops – on the front with COVID masks, on the back with grey-white beard. After nostalgic pieces on trick or treating and Halloween candy – the Lynchi hail from Hershey Chocolates country – and model rockets from the days of youth, Rich artfully eulogizes Walt Willis and the great Southern fan cartoonist Charlie Williams, one of fandom's unsung geniuses, and then ... museums, impressionists and soldiers/artisans, both in Paris. (April. APRIL!) This batch would be enough for any normal fanzine, but Lynch adds pieces on a local quarry, the first Discon, and *The History of Time Travel*. And it's all well- and enthusiastically-written, too.

The National Fantasy Fan Vol. 81 #1 | George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net | The “base” publication of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, or N3F, which has been around since time began. Awash in bureaus for almost every aspect of SF appreciation, this issue lists the same, calls for book reviewers and prompts discussion of a revamp for the group's Neffy Awards, presented in far too many categories. Despite all this, the N3F director, Judy Carroll, laments in a column that activity in this vaunted organization is down. (Viz: the emptiness of *Ionisphere*.) Cheering matters is a good lettercol, Jon Swartz' article on *Red Ryder*, juveniles' hero of the forties (subject last issue: the Lone Ranger), and announcement of the winners of last year's short story contest – and calls for contributions in the contest to come. Actual cash prizes – *folding money* – is pledged!

The N3F Review of Books Jan. 2022 | George Phillies, see *National Fantasy Fan* | Loads of books, loads of reviewers, loads of reviews – almost all worth a read. All this input marks the former *Prose Bono* as N3F's most successful zine this go-round. couple of cute pieces by Cedar Sanderson cap things: no reviews but laments as Cedar tries to master the language on his own.

OASFiS Event Horizon issue 407-8 (January) | Juan Sanmiguel, 1421 Pon Pon Court, Orlando, FL 32825 | sanmiguel@earthlink.net | A eulogy for Roger Sims adorned by a nifty photo mark the February issue of Orlando's clubzine, like everything with OASFiS ably helmed by Juan. All of the forthcoming events are past now, but Juan can be relied on to keep locals and visitors up to date. Lists of 2021's SF/fantasy movies (arranged by box office – guess which won?) and “best” SF/Fantasy novels (chosen by Amazon – I don't see Greg Benford's *Shadows of Eternity*, which I anticipate being on *my* list) are prominent in both issues.

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The Obdurate Eye #14 | Garth Spencer, 4240 Perry Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5N 3X5 Canada | garth.van.spencer@gmail.com | “The Cheese Issue” – why Garth chose that label is a question for him. Although Cheese and Cheesiness figure in article titles and the like, no reason is given for the *homage to fromage*. Jose Sanchez’ triangular spaceship, on the cover, *could* resemble a cheesewedge ... Anyway, the editor opens with wry and a bit bitter natter on his ongoing life, familiar to fans our age: his home, his reading, his employment trouble ... somehow Spencer, like Taral Wayne, makes such writing entertaining. He lists lots of nearby cons for 2022 – they should help take the edge off. Until then, the energetic lettercol and thick list of fanzines received provides distraction. Interesting debates loom over Nic Farey’s definition of fanzines and George Phillis’ membership campaign for the NFFF, right-wing sites included.

Opuntia #516 | Dale Speirs, Calgary, Alberta, Canada; opuntia57@hotmail.coes | For thirty years, this month, Dale has been publishing his frequent and eclectic journal reflecting his many, many interests and his appreciation for pretty scenery. Or as Speirs says on eFanzines, “*Opuntia* began in March 1991 as an SF and Canadian fan history zine and has evolved over its decades of monthly publication. It now concentrates on reviews of SF and mystery, economics, history, and vignettes of life in Calgary. No fiction or poetry, but does include zine reviews other than those posted on efanazines.” This issue features a cool article on Boris Karloff’s radio shows—he died on this date! – stories influenced by Poe (what isn’t?), recent biological scholasticism, photos of beautiful local art exhibitions. Definitely a movable feast.

Origin 46 | N3F History & Research Bureau c/o John Thiel, see *Pablo Lennis* | Stars of this issue, as they usually are, are Jon Swartz and Jeffrey Redmond; Swartz offers a beautifully illustrated piece on early Dell SF paperbacks – oh, those covers – and Redmond discourses on the challenge SF writers face, making science believable and comprehensible. N3F chairman Judy Carroll challenges each Neffer to “make a new friend” and thus make ’22 a better year than the one before it. I like her tude. I *still* don’t like N3F’s practice of publishing half a zillion different fanzine titles when a substantial genzine could be made by merging the lot.

Pablo Lennis #411 | John Thiel, 30 N. 19th St., Lafayette IN 47904 | kinethiel@mymetro-net.net | “A great issue for a great new year!” reads the subhead beneath the title of the latest *Pablo*, Thiel’s long-running journal of fan-writ fiction and verse accompanied by him-writ editorials. *PL* fills a void left by the passage of Shelby Vick, publishing fans’ creative writing. I don’t critique amateur fiction, but I will express delight at finding a story by Burnett Toskey here. That’s a name wafting m back to my early days in fanzining, SAPS and FAPA supplementing SFPA as an outlet for my immortal fannish prose.

Perryscope 18-19 | Perry Middlemiss, 32 Elphin Grove, Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia 3122 | perry@middlemiss.org | Every issue of Perry’s monthly perzine – produced for ANZAPA, the downunder apa, and general fandom – sports a portrait of the editor on its cover. #18 shows a toddler wielding a pingpong paddle, the next is a portrait of the fanartist by his son (?). In natter, he reveals his family worries with COVID, which all went well. After a piece on a convict-turned-author-turned-millionaire, Perry synthesizes recent podcasts he’s co-hosted with David Grigg; I’d love to eavesdrop sometime. He lists and ranks the books he’s perused in 2021 – some familiar this time– and reviews many. Then: TV he’s watched, movies he’s seen (we both liked *The Power of the Dog*, me more than he, and the new *Dune*) and ... well, you get the picture: a wide-ranging, well-ordered, firmly-balanced portrait of an accomplished fannish life, just what a solid perzine should be. I highly recommend it.

Purrsonal Mewsings #84-5 | R-Laurraine Tutihasi, PO Box 5323, Oracle AZ 85623-5323 | Laurraine@ma.com | Laurraine’s hexaweekly personal- and apazine (for Stipple Apa). Alan White’s charming cover to this issue shows a diminutive your lady smiling up at a righteous snowfall. Hopefully the blizzard which have swamped much of the country this winter did

nothing to counter Laurraine's joy. After a couple of cool animal photos from Mike Weasner, we're shown a couple of cool astronomical photos from the same camera. Very easy, chatty zine. | The follow-up issue arrived as this *TZD* was being finished. Cover is a photo from the editor's trip to the Yucatan, interior photos are by Laurraine and Mike, even though – Gad! – poor Weasner was hurt in a hit'n'run in December. (He seems OK now.) After a review of *Twelfth Night* by William Something-or-Another, Tutihasi arrives at another remarkable trip, to and around Iceland, at the core of her zine. The photos – puffins and waterfalls, orcas and volcanos – are evocative and inviting. Having fallen for the chilly island through the media it streams (the cop show *Trapped* is terrific), my envy sears the page.

Ray XX-Rayer #161-2 | Ray Palm, Boxholder, PO Box 2, Plattsburgh NY 12901-0002 | raypalmx@gmail.com | Ray supplements his chatty perzine with a longer blog, but in both venues he has fun with QA-nonsense, which he argues is actually SF. Here in pixel/print he expounds, in deadpan seriousness, on the Dallas rally to welcome poor JFK Jr. back from Glory and the ascension of a believer to the throne of Canada. The later issue seems tame as Ray addresses goofy closed captioning in streaming films and reviews the ridiculous *Curse of the Stone Hand*. The wry horror he experiences through this dud will lead you to explore the aforementioned blog, where further goodies await.

Scientifiction (New Series) #70 | John L. Coker, 4813 Lighthouse Rd., Orlando FL 32808 | jlcoker3@bellsouth.net | I love the title of First Fandom's clean, attractive official zine; it evokes days long gone when the genre bore the name, and also what the publication, and its organization, celebrate: the people who made the fandom of those long gone days. Sadly, eulogies for lost members dominate this mailing, with photos and memories of Klaus Dieter Haisch, Ruth Tompson, Wiktor Bukato and even Anne Rice. We're glad of notes on 2021 First Fandom Hall of Fame inductees William F. Nolan and Richard & Pat Lupoff. Included with the zine is the '22 FF Membership Directory and a survey on First Fandom activities at Worldcon. As a beaming new Associate Member, I pledge attendance and help.

SF Commentary 107 (November 2021) | Bruce Gillespie, 5 Howard Street, Greensborough, Vic 1088 Australia | <https://efanzines.com/SFC/index.html#sfc105> to download PDFs | Let's start with Bruce's description of his masterful production: "*SF Commentary 107*, November 2021, 100 pages, edited by Bruce Gillespie, cover by Alan White, is a catch-up edition that includes tributes to lost friends such as Judith Hanna, Doug Barbour, Carol Carr, Genie DeModica, Ed Meskys and Monica Litchen, as well as the gigantic letter column ('everyone who's anyone' -- Nic Farey), including long letters from people such as Mark Plummer, Leigh Edmonds, and Steve Jeffery; and Colin Steele's 'The Field' column covering a wide range of recently released SF and fantasy books.." I don't have room to exult over how brilliantly this zine, which I've often called the best published, succeeds. But so it does. Moving tributes, interesting commentary, impeccable production, a great history and great promise.

This Here ... no. 48-9 | Nic Farey, 2657 Rungsted St., Las Vegas NV 89142 | fareynic@gmail.com | The latest issue of Nic's highly approachable perzine opens with his efforts to get tested for COVID (funny how often that subject has come up lately), and its negative result (*whew*). The sense of relief as he talks Corflu (postponed till October is palpable. A note on the Melbourne Ska Orchestra makes me wish Nic could have heard the late *obeah mon Ozuma* live at Nawlins' Maple Leaf Bar; if a tone-deaf stick like GHLIII must dance to that music, Farey would go berserk. (Ozuma is on YouTube.) Fannish stuff comes forth: TAFF, FAAn Awards (I've voted), movies are reviewed (including *Don't Look Up*, a controversial 2022 Hugo nominee, my guess), Footy discussed at some length by columnist David Hodson). The lettercol is simply brilliant: Nic's Chorus is wide, enthused, interesting, enviable. Got to say I appreciate Farey's constant use of "Ageless Beauty" photo illustrations – lovely women of a certain age. It's either the best thing about life or the most unfair or both: they get better as we

get worse. || Dropping back to issue #48, I said in my brief response to the zine: "Ulrika's piece is righteousness in ink!" That's Ulrika O'Brien, of course, and the squib in question is a satirical piece about the proliferation of Hugo categories. Her suggestion for an award to "Best Swearly Rant by a Woke Neo Slagging Off an Elderly or Dead Giant of the Field (Live Performance) [There is still some argument as to whether this category wants further splitting into short form, long form, transcript, blog post, and interpretive dance]" deserves an award itself. Probably a FAAn.

Thoughts on Paper #25 and The Futilitarian Nos. 4 & 5 | James N. Dawson, PO Box 950, Spokane WA 99216 | Apazines for two groups I've never heard of, Cuneiform and the Connection, at one time a Libertarian outfit. I don't see any familiar names in the mailing comments to the former, but Erwin "Filthy Pierre" Strauss and Jim Stumm are prominent Connectees [*sic*]. Dawson says he's thinking of taking a break from Cuneiform, but his mc's are lively and enthusiastic. As for their subjects, I'm stumbling into the middle of multiple conversations of which I know nothing – which is one reason I don't post *my* apazine, *Spiritus Mundi*, for the Southern Fandom Press Alliance, on eFanzines. A relief: James doesn't cast about for pen pals for prison inmates, as he has in the past. A nice gesture but quite reckless.

Tightbeam 328 (July 2021) | George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Dr., Worcester MA 01609; Jon Swartz, jon_swartz@hotmail.com | This N3F publication – monthly, they say – is devoted to reviews, anime, books, films, "graphic tales," sercon. Will Mayo's reviews of science fictional films, TV and anime are many and various. It begins with a photo of Damon Knight, "Our Glorious Founder," and contains Jon Swartz' fine "bio-bibliography" of the great SFer. (His "I See You" should have won the Hugo in the year of its nomination.)

Vanamonde nos. 1456-1463 | John Hertz, 236 S. Coronado St., No. 406, Los Angeles CA 90057 | I think I've figured out why John chose a weekly apa – Apa-L, located out of the Los Angeles club – to showcase much of his fan writing. (With LASFS in seeming hiatus, does Apa-L still publish?) So many and various are his interests that he needs the quick schedule to get them all into print. In these few issues, in addition to commentary on other L-zines, he prints his poetry, eulogizes Stephen Hickman, prints some cool fillos, and inspires his friends, in whose number I proud place myself.

Vita Transplantare Vol 3 No. 4 Whole No. 23 | John Nielsen Hall, johnsil32@gmail.com | Cheery Brit perzine; we last saw issue #20. Herein "Uncle Johnny" lets his able Chorus – Gary Mattingly, Taral, Lloyd, familiar but welcome names – ring in before nattering on his current subject, the newly returned Radio Caroline, a "pirate" outfit playing, from what I gather, classic rock. Just reading the words "Moody Blues" starts "Tuesday Afternoon" going in my head. TV is not neglected; his review of *The O.A.*, created by and starring the magnificent Brit Marling (*Sound of My Voice* – a masterwork – *Another Earth, The East*), laments its slow pace and confusing plot, but does not deter me. Marling has me enraptured.

Warp 111 | Cathy Palmer-Lister, c/o MonSFFA, c/o 29 rue Harold Kirkland, Québec H9J 1R7 Canada **NEW ADDRESS** | www.monsffa.ca | Once upon a time one of the purposes of SF clubs was to put forth fanzines featuring work by the club members – Minneapolis had *Rune*, LASFS *Shangri L'Affaires*, New Orleans *Nolazine*. North of the border the practice still reigns, with excellent *Warp*, edited by the better-than-excellent Cathy Palmer-Lister. Class act: friendly, attractive, witty, inclusive. That could be either the editor or the genzine, but I better cut it out: it reads like I'm pitching woo. Anyway, a beautiful antique-ish cover by Ingrid Kallick leads to a brief lettercol, club news, and Keith Brathwaite's anguished memorial to his friend and fellow

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MonSFFAn, Sylvan St-Pierre. Fan fiction and a good essay on “The Cold Equations”, one of SF’s most controversial and enduring stories, follow, as do a slew of decent genre reviews by Braithwaite. {Yes, I loved *A Quiet Place II*; no, I haven’t been able to see the “Zach Snyder cut” of *Justice League* [which I both fear – I loathed what Snyder did in *Man of Steel* – and anticipate] and never heard of *The Nevers*.} Donny Sichel’s report on the World Fantasy Con reminds us that the event will return to New Orleans in the near future ... hopefully a near future where COVID is contained and Cathy & Co. can write up WFC for *Warp*.

Wild Ideas #19 | Henry Grynnssten, grynnssten@hotmail.com | Says Henry on eFanzines: “In *Wild Ideas*, I present highly speculative ideas on the fringes of science, philosophy, and science fiction. In fact, it is hard to know if they should be classified as philosophy or some kind of science fiction presented in a non-fiction format.” Indeed a mixed bag. In recent issues Grynnssten waxes philosophically on such topics as the Neanderthals, predictive dreams, Mozart and, in the December ’21 number, John Lennon. (I can’t believe it’s been 41 years since John died.) He interviews experts and opinion mavens on all subjects and comes up with answers that “should be classified as philosophy or some kind of science fiction.” Excellent and evocative cover art, though seldom relevant to the matter at hand.

W.O.O.F. #46 | Rich Lynch, see *My Back Pages* | For the third straight year the Worldcon Order of Fan-Eds, an *apa cum* oneshot, appears only as a digital edition – I think. I wasn’t at DisCon to see for myself. Anyway, the bundle is ably edited by the worser half of the Hugo-winning team of Rich & Nicki Lynch, and contains input from a whole buncha fan editors. Present as always is the great Roger Hill with *Report from Hoople* and a “road thingie,” plus Andy Hooper, John Purcell, John Thiel, Chris Garcia, etc. etc. and *ahem* myself. Like its predecessor, WOOOF #46 is fronted by a new illo by Tim Kirk, probably thanks to chief organizer John Hertz. A great tradition to be part of – but who will handle the task at Chicon 8?

World Fantasy Convention Progress Report No. 1 | www.WFC2022.org | Exciting news – another major convention coming to the Crescent City, WFC at the Hyatt Regency, a gorgeous facility adjacent to the Superdome. Its dizzying umpteen-story atrium is reminiscent of Confederation. This sharp, readable p.r. hails the several GoHs, describes the art show and dealers’ room and clearly states sane policies regarding COVID (a physician advisor is on staff) and convention etiquette. Very impressive. Dates? **Nov. 3-6**. Busy autumn coming up.

Zineth (actually **Resnick at Zineth**) #1 | Doug Roemer, 674 Newbridge Court, Arnold MD 21012 | I close with a mystery, perhaps 30 years old. Someone – I forget who; wasn’t Rosy or her father – found this pub from the early 1990s in a drawer and handed it off to yhos. As the title suggests, it’s a tribute to the late, great Mike Resnick, whose head (!) is displayed in the hand of a friendly alien on the cover by Jay Harless. It’s undated but the first sentence of text reads “Mike Resnick left me behind in 1990,” so draw your own conclusions. Beginning with an editorial exulting over the Resnick material to come, it contains short pieces on Resnick’s rejection of religion, his embrasure of African history (complete with specific extrapolations), a ‘toon version of “The Destroyers”, and a bitter note: “Keep an eye out for the *Santiago* movie.” Oft-promised, never delivered. So: was there a second issue of this zine? Why was it bound in plastic rather than by staple?

Okay ... Please alert me if I skipped anyone’s zine or made a stupid error. This will be the last *TZD* until summer. In April, *la belle* Rose-Marie and I will be visiting Paris (& Environs), London (& Vicinity) and Edinburgh (& Thereabouts), a gift from her father. When we return, I’ll write a report, of course, then turn to my Theodore Sturgeon *Challenger* and the public defender memoir I’ve neglected for years. Completing these long-delayed projects *must* be my priority. Do you hear me? They *must*. Does this mean I want to stop seeing fanzines? *God* no! *Fill* my mail. *Glut* my inbox! *Bulge* the limits of eFanzines!! (Poor Bill Burns.) *Shame* me into breaking my word and publishing again! *We need* each other, fanzine fandom!