

FanActivity Gazette

Volume 2 Number 10

March 2023

News of Fen of Interest to All Fen

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Appropriate Contributions welcome.

Conventions for April Mindy Hunt

Each month we will provide a list of conventions from around the world.

This list is constantly being updated throughout the month. You can find our full events list as well as a calendar at <http://scifi4me.com/conventions-events/>.

During the week, we provide regular updates on our TV channel <http://scifi4me.tv/> with any schedule changes or cancellations. These updates also include any COVID-19 requirements the events are requesting. These requirements are also listed on our calendar for each event.

We are always looking to keep the list and calendar as current as possible. If you know of a local event, big or little, send us and email at events@scifi4me.com so we can add it and make it the most comprehensive conventions list on the internet.

MAR 30-APR 2

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

The Overlook Film Festival – New Orleans, LA Mar 30-Apr 2
CabbageCon – Columbus, OH Mar 30-Apr 2
MEGACON Orlando – Orlando, FL Mar 30-Apr 2
Cinema Wasteland – Berea, OH Mar 31-Apr 2
Creation New Orleans – New Orleans, LA Mar 31-Apr 2
Cyphacon – Lake Charles, LA Mar 31-Apr 2
DayCon – Kettering, OH Mar 31-Apr 2
HAVOC – Sutton, MA Mar 31-Apr 2
Kaizoku Con – Cork, Ireland Mar 31-Apr 2
Kawaii Kon – Honolulu, HI Mar 31-Apr 2
Midwest Gaming Classic – Milwaukee, WI Mar 31-Apr 2
Shake, Battle, & Roll – Southampton, United Kingdom Mar 31-Apr 2

Steel City Con – Monroeville, PA Mar 31-Apr 2
Brick Fest Live Corpus Christi – Corpus Christi, TX Apr 1-2
ETSU-Con – Johnson City, TN Apr 1-2
Cosplay Matsuri – Pasay City, Philippines Apr 1-2
FACTS – Ghent, Belgium Apr 1-2
Gem State Comic Con – Boise, ID Apr 1-2
Paris Manga Sci-Fi Show – Paris, France Apr 1-2
Power of the Force Con – Cologne, Germany Apr 1-2
Quad Con Des Moines – Des Moines, IA Apr 1-2
St Tammany Collectors Con – St Tammany, LA Apr 1-2
Collingwood Comicon – Collingwood, Ontario, Canada Apr 1
Galactic Con Middleton – Middleton, DE Apr 1
Leigh Valley Comic Con – Schnecksville, PA Apr 1
Limitless-Con – Lexington, IL Apr 1
Modesto Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Modesto, CA Apr 1
Oddities & Curiosities Expo – Grand Rapids, MI Apr 1
RodCon – Cedar Falls, IA Apr 1
Barrie Comicon – Barrie, Ontario, Canada Apr 2
Capital Trade Show – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Apr 2
Clandestine Comics – Hunt Valley, MD Apr 2
Doncaster Brick Festival – Doncaster, United Kingdom Apr 2
Elk Grove Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Elk Grove, CA Apr 2
London Comic Mart – London, United Kingdom Apr 2
Widnes Sci-Fi Comic & Toy Fair – Widnes, United Kingdom Apr 2

Apr 5-10

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

Fastaval – Hobro, Denmark Apr 5-10
NorWesCon – SeaTac, WA Apr 6-9
Insomnia Gaming Festival – Birmingham, United Kingdom Apr 7-10
Polymanga – Montreux, Switzerland Apr 7-10
Anime Detour – Bloomington, MN Apr 7-9
BABSCon – Burlingame, CA Apr 7-9
Clockwork Alchemy – San Mateo, CA Apr 7-9
EasterCon – Birmingham, United Kingdom Apr 7-9
Kanpai!Con – Omaha, NE Apr 7-9
Minicon – Minneapolis, MN Apr 7-9
Puerto Rico Comic Con – San Juan, Puerto Rico Apr 7-9
SacAnime – Sacramento, CA Apr 7-9
Sakura-Con – Seattle, WA Apr 7-9
WeebCon – Grapevine, TX Apr 7-9
Brick Fest Live Louisville – Louisville, KY Apr 7-8
Quad Con Madison – Madison, WI Apr 8-9
Blackpool Brick Festival – Blackpool, United Kingdom Apr 8
Collectorabilia Con – Green Bay, WI Apr 8
Heroes and Angels ComiCon – Sherwood, AR Apr 8
Kauai Comic Convention – Lihue, HI Apr 8
Louisvillecon – Louisville, KY Apr 8

Midtown Con – Memphis, TN Apr 8
Oddities & Curiosities Expo –Tulsa, OK Apr 8
Visalia Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Visalia, CA Apr 8
Wayne NJ Toy Show – Wayne, NJ Apr 8

Apr 13-16

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

Jack Williamson Lectureship – Portales, NM Apr 13-15
Chicago Steampunk Exposition – Schaumburg, IL Apr 14-16
CODCON – Glen Ellyn, IL Apr 14-16
Creation New Jersey – East Brunswick, NJ Apr 14-16
GamerCon – San Diego Apr 14-16
Grand Rapids Comic-Con – Grand Rapids, MI Apr 14-16
NEON Retro Fest – Providence, RI Apr 14-16
Big River Comic Convention– Hannibal, MO Apr 14-15
Brick Fest Live Hartford – Hartford, CT Apr 15-16
BrickUniverse – Albany, NY Apr 15-16
LuxCon – Dudelange, Luxembourg Apr 15-16
Manchester Anime & Gaming Con – Manchester, United Kingdom Apr 15-16
Quad Cities Comic Con – Davenport, IA Apr 15-16
Quad Con St Cloud – St Cloud, MN Apr 15-16
SC Comicon– Greenville, SC Apr 15-16
Supernova Gold Coast – Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia Apr 15-16
TimminsCon – Timmins, Ontario, Canada Apr 15-16
Napanee Comicon – Napanee, Ontario, Canada Apr 15
Old School Comic Show – Rochester, NY Apr 15
Waynesburg Toy & Comic Expo – Waynesburg, PA Apr 15
Kingson Comicon – Kingston, Ontario, Canada Apr 16

Apr 19-23

VIRTUAL

Grogmeet – Manchester, United Kingdom Apr 20-23

ON-SITE

Jeux au Boute – Chertsey, Quebec, Canada Apr 19-23
Costume-Con – San Jose, CA Apr 21-24
Anime St Louis – St Louis, MO Apr 21-23
Cheyenne Gaming Convention – Cheyenne, WY Apr 21-23
El Paso Comic Con – El Paso, TX Apr 21-23
Grand Comic Fest – Grand Island, NE Apr 21-23
Huntsville Comic & Pop Culture – Huntsville, AL Apr 21-23
JordanCon – Atlanta, GA Apr 21-23
Mayhem Gaming Convention – Lebanon, NH Apr 21-23
RavenCon – Richmond, VA Apr 21-23
Voughtcon – London, United Kingdom Apr 21-23
Yellow City Comic Convention – Amarillo, TX Apr 21-23
Animangapop – Bristol, United Kingdom Apr 22-23
Brick Fest Live Greensboro – Greensboro, NC Apr 22-23

BrickUniverse – Rochester, NY Apr 22-23
Cornwall & Area Pop Event (CAPE) – Cornwall, Ontario, Canada Apr 22-23
Fayetteville Comic Con – Fayetteville, NC Apr 22-23
FicZone – Granada, Spain Apr 22-23
GeekCraft Expo Twin Cities – Minneapolis, MN Apr 22-23
Oddities & Curiosities Expo – Columbus, OH Apr 22-23
Saluki Con – Carbondale, IL Apr 22-23
Savannah Horror Fest – Savannah, GA Apr 22-23
Sci-Fi Scarborough – Scarborough, United Kingdom Apr 22-23
Supernova Melbourne – Melbourne, Victoria, Australia Apr 22-23
Wicked Comic Con – Boston, MA Apr 22-23
Cardiff Brick Festival – Cardiff, United Kingdom Apr 22
Kokomo-Con – Kokomo, IN Apr 22
Maidstone Brick Festival – Maidstone, United Kingdom Apr 22
Midwest Comic Book Con Madison – Madison, WI Apr 22
Mobile Bay Anime Festival – Daphne, AL Apr 22
Oshawa Comicon – Oshawa, Ontario, Canada Apr 22
Tanoshi Con – Deltona, FL Apr 22
Chicago Toy Show – St Charles, IL Apr 23
Midwest Comic Book Con Peoria – Peoria, IL Apr 23

Apr 26-May 1

VIRTUAL

ON-SITE

Jeux au Boute – Chertsey, Quebec, Canada Apr 26-30
Neotropolis – Edwards, CA Apr 26-30
Ice and Fire Con – Mt Sterling, OH Apr 27-30
Leipzig Book Fair – Leipzig, Germany Apr 27-30
Little Wars – Lisle, IL Apr 27-30
Manga-Comic-Convention – Leipzig, Germany Apr 27-30
Comicon Naples – Naples, Italy Apr 28-May 1
German Discworld Convention – Jugendburg Ludwigstein, Germany Apr 28-May 1
LoBsterCon – Eastbourne, United Kingdom Apr 28-May 1
Amazing! Las Vegas Comic Con– Las Vegas, NV Apr 28-30
Causeacon – Beckley, WV Apr 28-30
HELIOsphere – Piscataway, NJ Apr 28-30
iMagicon – Minot, ND Apr 28-30
South Texas Comic Con – McAllen, TX Apr 28-30
A Salute to Lucifer – Whippany, NJ Apr 29-30
Brick Fest Live Edison – Edison, NJ Apr 29-30
BrickUniverse – Portland, OR Apr 29-30
Central Texas Comic Con – Waco, TX Apr 29-30
Comic Con Holland – Brabanthallen, Netherlands Apr 29-30
Four State Comic-Con – Hagerstown, MD Apr 29-30
MondoCon – Budapest, Hungary Apr 29-30
Toronto Comic Arts Festival – Toronto, Ontario, Canada Apr 29-30
Fangaea – San Diego, CA Apr 29
Long Island Comic Fest – Hicksville, NY Apr 29
Mini-Mini Con – San Antonio, TX Apr 29

Oddities & Curiosities Expo – Indianapolis, IN Apr 29
Sarasotacon– Sarasota, FL Apr 29
Canton-Akron Comic Book, Toy & Nostalgia Con – Akron, OH Apr 30
Markham Comicon – Markham, Ontario, Canada Apr 30
Porterville Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Porterville, CA Apr 30
Raleigh Comic Book Show – Raleigh, NC Apr 30



**The FANAC
Fan History Project**

FANAC.org March 2023 Newsflash!

Just a brief note, mostly to let you know about our upcoming scanning plans and our new mailing system. We also hit a substantial milestone.

FANZINES HIT 20,000!

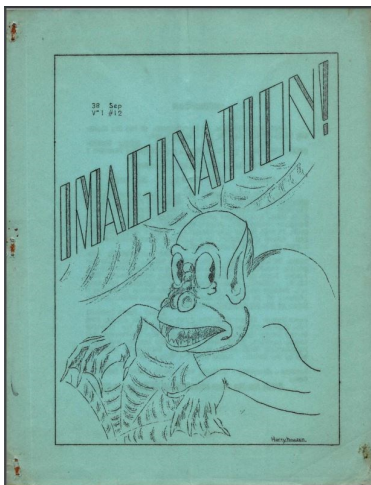
FANAC.org now has more than 20,000 fanzines digitally archived on the site. With zines ranging from 1930 to this week, we are continuing to enrich the available catalog of original materials related to science fiction and science fiction fandom. With a number like that, it's no surprise that we count more than 500 contributors listed at https://fanac.org/FANAC_Inc/fancont.html

Don't forget – We have added some navigation tools to access our ever-growing archive. The Fanzines drop-down button on FANAC.org allows you to find zines by Title, by Editor, by Date, by Country and more. There's a special list of newszines if you're looking for those, and we are building a listing of major APAs. If there are other organizational principles you'd like to see in a nav tool, please let us know at fanac@fanac.org.

FANAC at Upcoming Conventions

FANAC will have a scanning station at Corflu Craic in Belfast at the end of March, and we hope to have one at Conversation 2023, the Birmingham Eastercon being held the following week. If you are planning to attend either of these, please bring fanzines for us to scan. If you can, write to let us know so we can plan ahead.

Please remember two things: First, to scan each issue, we carefully take each issue apart and then re-staple it. Second, we do not put fanzines online without permission from editors who are still around. Keep that in mind when you bring them. If you can provide contact information for the editor, we'll try to reach them later. In the meantime, we will keep them archived until the editors can be reached. If you're not sure, drop a note to fanac@fanac.org.



Of course, please check the site first to see if the issues are already online. We're hoping to get some quality Irish/UK/European zines that we haven't had access to in the past.

Eighty years? That's not so much.

A lot of older fanzines have been scanned and uploaded recently, primarily from the 1940s. In the last few weeks, we've added issues of Alien Culture (Jim Leary), Apollo (Joe Hensley and Lionel Innman), Canadian Fandom (Beak Taylor), Imagination! (Russ Hodgkins - actually 1930s), Plenum (Milt Rothman), STF maglet (Eva Jane Clevenger), Sparx (Henry Spelman), and Sun Spots (Gerry de la Ree). There are more to come.

As we go, we're adding info about the APA mailing (if any) in which zines were distributed. That way, we can assemble under one index page all the issues we have online for a given mailing. Cool stuff.

New Mailing Service

For the last several years, we've been using Mailchimp to send out newsletters. Mailchimp has now changed their terms and conditions, and we are planning to move to Mailerlite. This is our first Newsflash using Mailerlite.

What do you think? Any comments? Let us know if you did not receive this! (Seriously, if you should have received this directly but did not, and received it instead from a friend, please let us know.)

That's about it. Our next Zoom History session is March 18, on the topic of Feminism in Fandom in the 70s and 80s. Read all about it here - <https://fanac.org/zoom.html>

We hope to see you on the Zoom, at Corflu and/or Eastercon. Please pass this update on to any fan or online list where you think it might be of interest. Those interested in subscribing can sign up on our homepage at FANAC.org

Fanhistorically yours. Joe Siclari and Edie Stern

Selected links:

FANAC.org: <https://www.fanac.org>

Fancylopedia 3: <https://fancylopedia.org>

Fanac YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/FanacFanhistory>

The FANAC Fanhistory Project is a project of The Florida Association for Nucleation and Conventions (FANAC) Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization recognized by the IRS.

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FANAC

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Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays

This list of fandom-related birthdays was first published by Bruce Pelz in the Fantasy Amateur Press Association. Andrew Porter published and updated the list for Science Fiction Chronicle. Updates are welcome!

Unless stated otherwise, all birthdays are in the 20th century.

April

Anne McCaffrey, 4/1/26; Samuel R. Delany, 4/1/42; Hans Christian Andersen, 4/2/1805; Redd Boggs, 4/2/21; Elliot Shorter, 4/2/39; Peter Haining, 4/2/40; Joan D. Vinge, Teny Zuber, 4/2/48; Noel Loomis, 4/3/05; Colin Kapp, 4/3/28; Ted Atwood, 4/4/43; Lora Trimble, 4/4/57; Robert Bloch, 4/5/17; Al Halevy, 4/5/31; Sherry Gottlieb, 4/6; Henry Kuttner, 4/7/15; James White, 4/7/28; Marty Cantor, 4/7/35; Ed Buchman, 4/7/42; Susan Petrey, 4/7/45; S.P. Meek, 4/8/1894; E.J. Carnell, 4/8/12; Bill Benthake, 4/8/18; George O. Smith,

4/9/11; Charles Burbee, 4/9/15; Georges Giguere, 4/9/55; Ross Pavlac, 4/10/51; David Langford, William T. Center, 4/10/53; John M. Ford, 4/10/57

J. Ben Stark, 4/11/16; Janie Lamb, 4/12/08; Emil Petaja, 4/12/15; Carol Emshwiller, 4/12/21; John Foyster, 4/13/41; Jean-Marie Stine, 4/13/45; Mary Burns, 4/13/46; Morris Scott Dollens, 4/14/20; Leland Sapiro, 4/14/24; Tom Monteleone, 4/14/46; Kingsley Amis, John Christopher, 4/16/22; J. Neil Schulman, 4/16/53; Lloyd Biggle Jr., T. Bruce Yerke, 4/17/23; G.M. Carr, 4/18/07; Martin Hoare, 4/18/52; Tom Purdom, 4/19/36; Gary Tesser, 4/19; Donald Eastlake III, 4/19/47; Donald Wandrei, 4/20/08; June Moffatt, 4/20/26; Peter S. Beagle, 4/20/39; Ian Watson, 4/20/43

Wrai Ballard, 4/21/24; Clay Hamlin, 4/21/25; Don Hutchison, 4/21/31; John Bangsund, 4/21/39; Fiona Kelleghan, 4/21/56; Damien Broderick, 4/22/44; Talbot Mundy, 4/23/1879; Avram Davidson, 4/23/23; Don D'Ammassa, 4/24/46; Larry Carmody, 4/24/53; Fletcher Pratt, 4/25/1897; Leslie Crouch, 4/25/15; A.E. Van Vogt, 4/26/12; H.L. Gold, Shepard Mead, 4/26/14; Miriam Knight, 4/26; George W. Fields, 4/26/39; Bill Warren, 4/26/43; Jerry Lapidus, 4/26/49; Frank Belknap Long, 4/27/01; Philip E. High, 4/28/14; Bill Blackbeard, 4/28; Brandon & Gil Lamont, 4/28/47; George Senda, 4/28/52; Will Murray, 4/28/53; Jack Williamson, 4/29/08; Elmer Perdue, 4/29/19; Robert J. Sawyer, 4/29/60; Edmund Cooper, 4/30/26; Larry Niven, 4/30/38.

Marty Cantor

Marty Cantor first became involved in fandom in 1975. At one time an avid reader of the pulps, he progressed to reading paperbacks—once visiting a Los Angeles-area newsstand weekly to check for new titles—and remains an active fanzine fan. His home library is impressive and inspiring.

While married to fellow fan Robbie Bourget, they published 27 issues of *Holier Than Thou* in the 1980s, earning a nomination for the Best Fanzine Hugo in 1984-86. Cantor also published *Who Knows What Ether Lurks in the Minds of Fen?*, the “fannish autobiography” of Phil Castora. Long serving as the Little Tin God of the Stannous Church of LASFAPA and official collator of APA-L (until Heath Row took on the role), he’s published the apazine *The Lime Jell-O Gazette* as well as the fanzine *No Award*. After participating in *Aus-siecon Two* under the auspices of the *Down Under Fan Fund* with Bourget in 1985, he published the trip report *Duffbury Tales*. Reportedly, he co-edited the sixth edition of *The Neofan’s Guide to Science Fiction Fandom* with Mike Glycer.

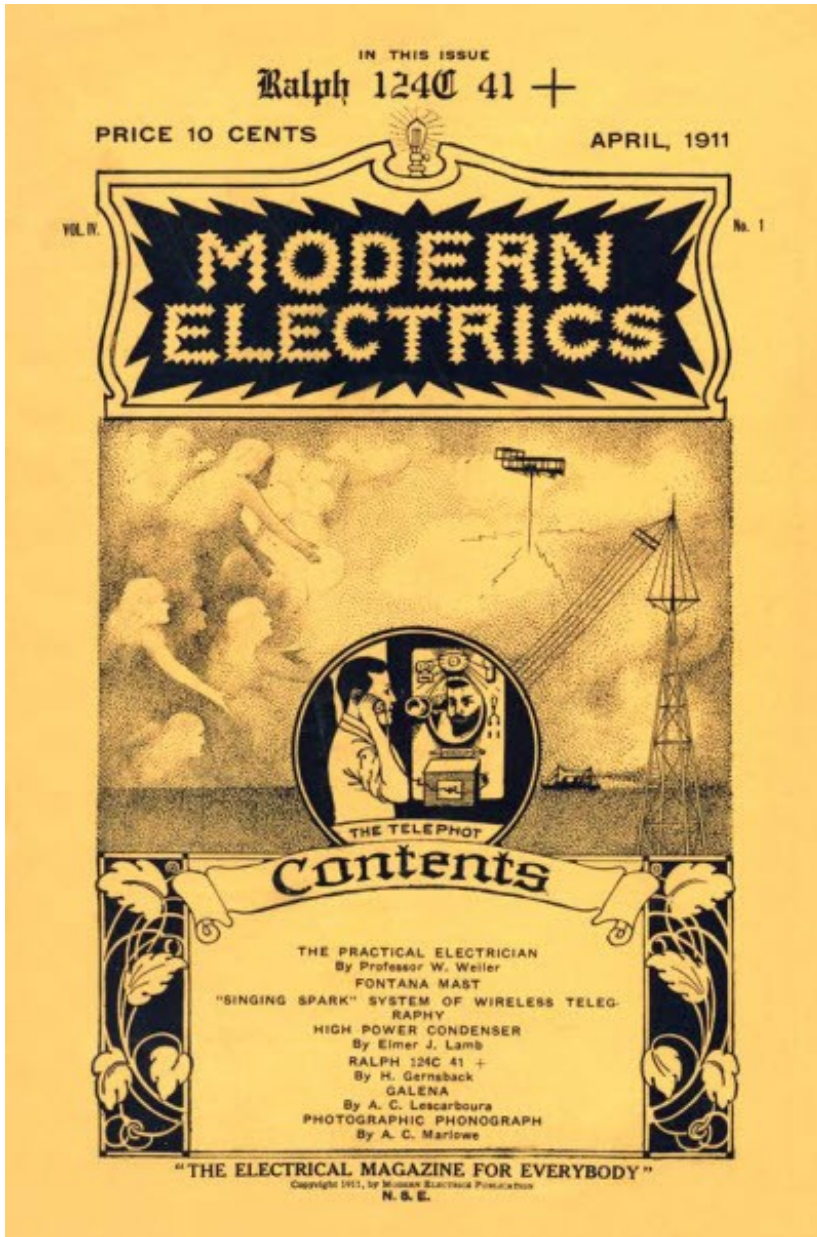
No longer participating in cons, Cantor organized *Lasfapacon*, helped run *Corflu 9*, and chaired *Corflu 34*. He was also an agent for the Britain in ’87 *Worldcon* bid.

He served as the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society’s president and secretary of the board of directors, edited *Shangri L’Affaires* (co-editing for a time with Mark R. Sharpe), and published *De Profundis*, which Row resumed publishing earlier this year. Cantor also served as scribe for almost as long as Karl Lembke was chair. And Cantor received the LASFS’ *Evans-Frehafer Award* in 2016.

On the side, he operated a tobacco shop and managed a storage facility. You can see an interview with Cantor on YouTube at <https://tinyurl.com/cantor-LASFS>.

To update this list, contact Heath Row at kalel@well.com via email with the subject “Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays” or something similar.

APRIL 2023



The April, 1911 issue of Modern Electronics saw the publication of the first chapter of Ralph 124C41+, a novel by Hugo Gernsback, the magazine's editor and publisher. This story ran for twelve monthly chapters in the magazine and proved to be a very influential early work of 20th century science fiction.

Gernsback's magazine was a pioneering, cutting edge publication devoted to amateur electronics, particularly radio, that had generated an impressive readership by 1911, and presented many groundbreaking articles on the subject. Fascinated by the writings of Jules Verne, H.G. Wells and other 19th century writers of scientific romances (as they were termed in those days), Gernsback attempted to show that science was the wave of the future, that scientific developments already underway would create a completely different world in the near future.

The title of the novel was a word pun, meaning 'one to foresee for one another'. The hero of the story, like all citizens of his world set several centuries in the future, has a number for a last name, but has a + after, indicating vastly superior intelligence.

The bulk of the story is basically a voyage of wonder, with a never ending series of info dumps about the scientific advances of

the future briefly explained to the modern reader, using clumsy story telling techniques including "as you know" and "all without a human hand at the controls", all mere excuses for Ralph to reel off more facts and information about the wonders of the future.

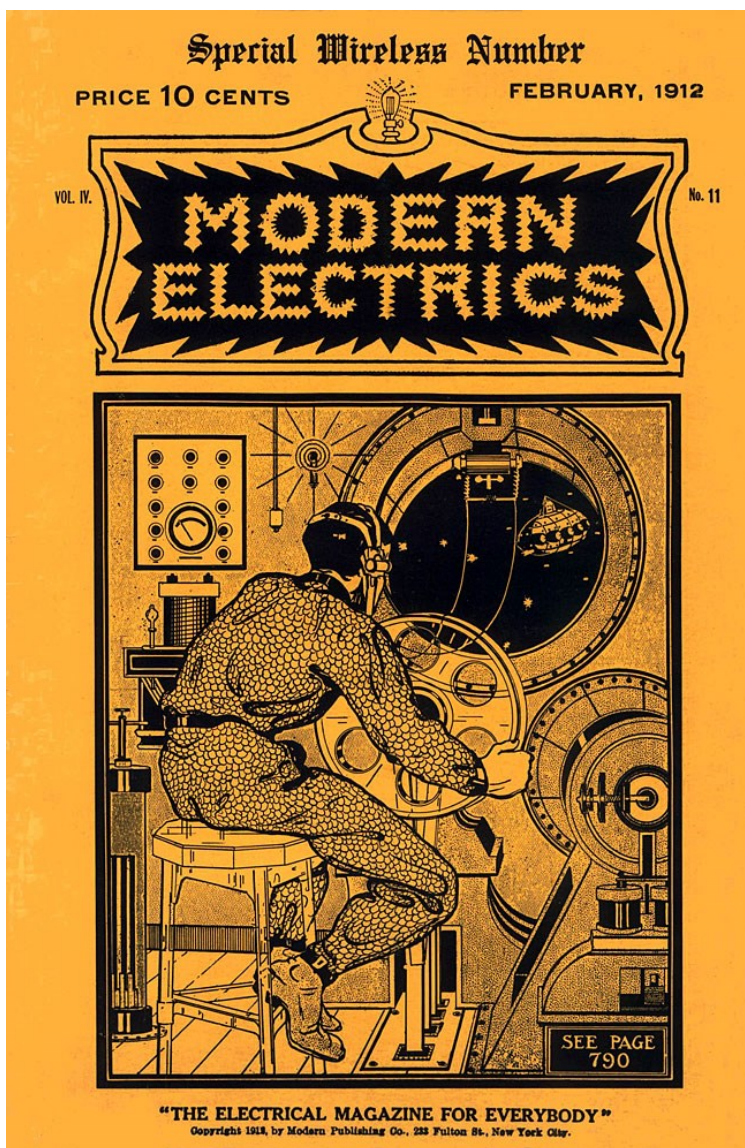
As a predictor of things to come Gernsback's list was astonishingly prophetic, with over well over fifty different devices or processes described with reasonable accuracy. Even his misses were intriguing. He predicted newspapers the size of a postage stamps that would be read with a special viewer. Substitute the word "micro-fiche" or more specifically, "microdot" for newspaper and he was describing the technical gimmicks widely used by spies and international couriers for much of the 20th century. Some of his predictions seemed far fetched even deep into the 20th century, but have proved to be valid in the 21st, including solar energy farms and hydroponic biological re-growth centers.

The problem with this novel is that it is just barely a novel, and is very crudely written. The fictional plot

is almost nonexistent until the end of the book where Gernsback decided he really needed some kind of story to make this work function as a novel, so he had the villain kidnap Ralph's lady love and escape into deep space. Ralph follows in his self contained "space flyer" to rescue her. The writing style thruout the entire work is very poor, the plot is almost nonexistent, with the dialog so stilted that even hard core readers of the magazine complained.

The work has not aged well either. The book is posted for free on Project Gutenberg and other free internet book sites, but modern readers find it extremely difficult to plow thru, with many not even making it half way thru.

Yet for all its flaws, Ralph 124C421+ was a monumentally influential work. The readership of Modern Electronics was over a hundred thousand, with many of them also interested in that new literary form that Gernsback came to eventually call "science fiction" when he published Amazing Stories, the world's first SF magazine beginning in 1926. All those oddball predictions, all those fanciful ideas, all those claims about the future belonging to the scientific community; that science, not politics, not business, not the arts, that science was the true future of civilization, found a ready audience in the readership of the magazine, and a good many of those readers took up the mantle and embarked on careers turning science and engineering concepts into practical reality, making those fanciful predictions come true. Ralph 124C41+ was a pivotal work of fiction, a very badly written piece of fiction, but one that influenced a whole generation of scientific readers and doers.



April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 April Fool's Day
2 National Peanut-Butter And Jelly Day	3 World Party Day	4 World Rat Day	5 Deep Dish Pizza Day	6 National Tartan Day	7 Carmel Popcorn Day	8 Zoo Lovers Day
9 Easter Sunday	10 Safety Pin Day	11 National Submarine Day	12 National Licorice Day	13 National Peach Cobbler Day	14 Ex Spouce Day	15 Rubber Eraser Day
16 National Bean Counter Day	17 Bat Appreciation Day	18 Intemational Juggler's Day	19 National Garlic Day	20 National High Five Day	21 Kindergarten Day	22 World Laboratory Day
23 World Laboratory Day	24 Pig In A Blanket Day	25 World Penguin Day	26 National Pretzel Day	27 Morse Code Day	28 Kiss Your Mate Day	29 National Zipper Day
30 Hairstyle Appreciation Day						