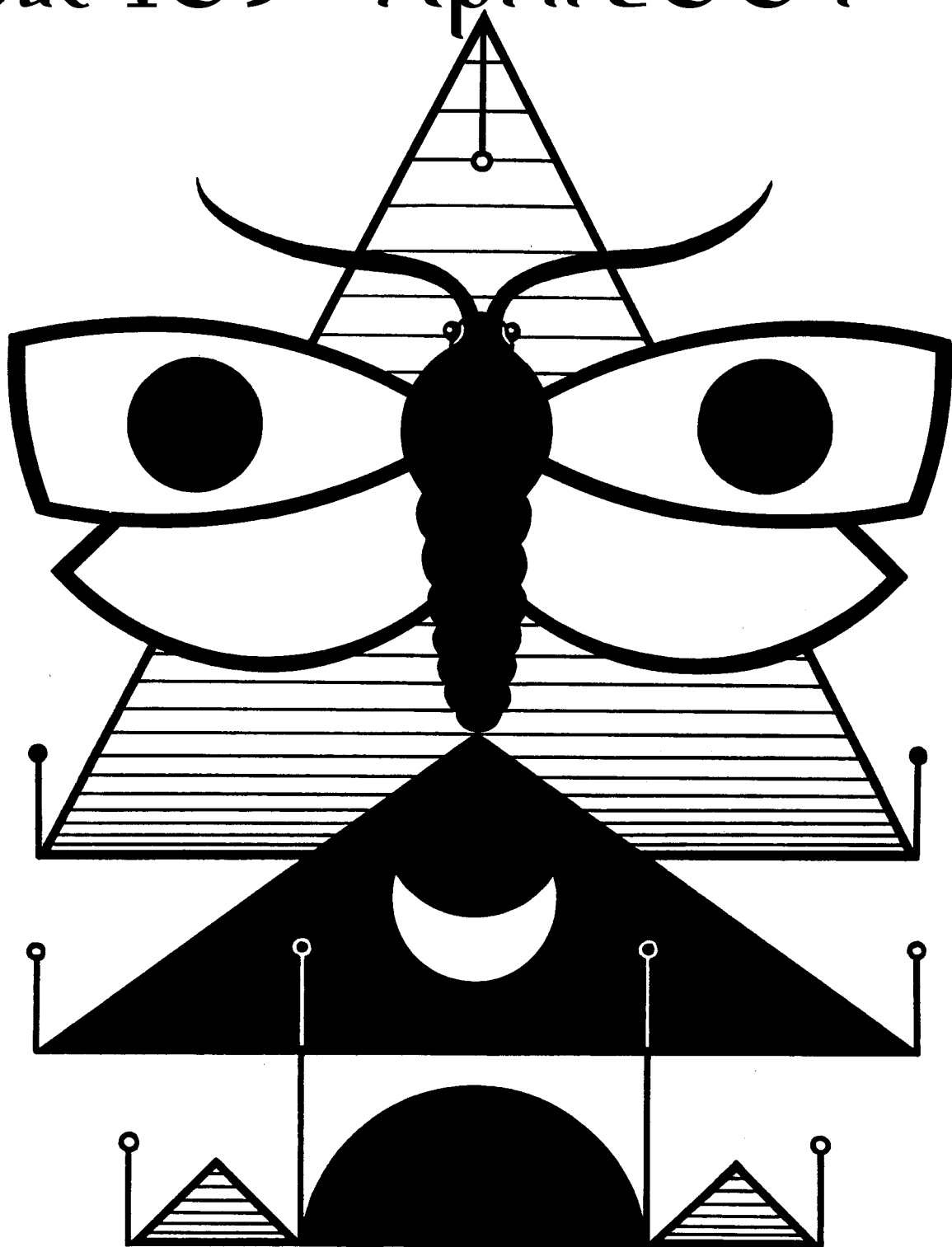


The Knarley Knews

Issue 105 - April 2004



The Knarley Knews -- Issue 105
Published in April, 2004

Table of Contents

| Item | Page |
|---|------|
| Table of Contents/Colophon | 2 |
| Editorial | 3 |
| Reflection On ... <i>The Zine Dump</i> Rodney Leighton | 5 |
| Sue's Sites: Vail Revisited Sue Welch | 6 |
| InterLOCutions (alphabetically) | 7 |
| Sheryl Birkhead | 10 |
| Brad W. Foster | 12 |
| E.B. Frohvet | 9 |
| Bill Legate | 8 |
| Rodney Leighton | 11 |
| Eric Lindsay | 13 |
| Joseph T. Major | 7 |
| Alex Slate | 14 |
| Joy V. Smth | 12 |
| Milt Stevens | 13 |
| WAHF List | 14 |
| Fanzines Received in Trade | 15 |
| Conventions/Back Cover | 16 |

Art Credits

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|--------------------|---------|
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| William Rotsler | 12 |
| Marc Schirmeister | 8 |
| Kyle Welch | 7 |

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Editorial insertions are denoted: ☐TKK:...☐ or
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1. All contributions may include a pseudonym (e.g. Knarley, Sydrous, Shit-for-Brains) at the contributor's whim.
2. To get this fanzine you are required semi-yearly to initiate contact with the editors (black-holish behavior is not rewarded). This could be a postcard, phone call, your fanzine, or contribution of your choice. The editors, of course, prefer a contribution so they don't have to write so much. This notwithstanding, you may purchase copies for \$1.50 each.
3. Advertising is free provided that the ads are of interest to the editors and that it is for a non-profit organization.
4. It is the editors' policy not to unduly censor or restrict the ideals of free speech. (We like a good argument as much as the next guy.) However, we reserve the right to make minor content and format changes to fit your piece in or to add appropriately denoted editorial comments.
5. Contributions are currently acceptable using the following computer formats.
IBM: Virtually any format
MACINTOSH: Virtually any format
6. The editors are open to bribes of any size, although their efficacy is highly suspect, and have never turned down a financial contribution.

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Next Issue Deadline: June 10, 2004

Editorial

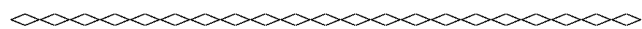
(In which Knarley gets to spume!)

As they are so often fond of saying the Midwest “April showers bring May flowers” (“and Mayflowers bring pilgrims”). I suppose there is some truth to this adage, but it seems like more and more that April showers first bring unwanted flowers and then the desired May flowers appear. That’s right its time for operation Snow White (there will be no white in my yard; at least any white that I don’t want). This makes for open season on garlic mustard and dandelions. I actually got an early start on the garlic mustard this year since there were a number of warmer days over the past few weeks and I managed to decimate most of the plants throughout the yard through the simple expedient of pulling them up. In the areas where I’ve been diligent the past two years it wasn’t too bad and down by the river it was clear that I’d been neglecting my duties there.

It is a little early for any serious work on the dandelions, but I made the first assault on them yesterday. I suspect that this is simply a holding pattern given how easy it is for the wind to deposit my neighbors’ seeds onto my yard. Kira still enjoys and looks forward to helping me put the heads and buds in the old paint can I use for this purpose. I had to explain to her what the old brown crusty stuff was in the bottom of the can before we began yesterday. The concept of compost is still a bit foreign to her. She at least is no longer aggressively afraid of earth worms, but I doubt I could get her to hold one.

While working on the garlic mustard down by the river I noticed a large number of bones in remarkably good shape. I sent Connor and Kyle down there with a box and they recovered most of what is probably a fox skeleton and the skull of a second fox. Most of the teeth were still in the lower jaw, a number of the vertebrae were still connected as well as some of the ribs and leg bones. There is no sign of obvious trauma so I’m not certain what did the beasts in.

This looks like it is shaping up to be the year of the tree fort. There are now two forts going on in the backyard built by rival factions (Connor and his friend Braden vs. Kyle and Braden’s brother Devon). They children are remarkably adept at scour the neighborhood and its garbage piles for building supplies. They have the usual assortment of boards, but they’ve also found baskets, message boards, and even a recliner. They want to take the couch from the garage and move it down there, but I’m not quite ready to sacrifice it to the rain gods.



It’s official. I received my letter of acceptance into the part-time law program at Marquette University yesterday. This is despite not receiving the second letter of recommendation which is the first departure from official requirements as I’ve

found in this whole process so far. Now begins the grand quest to figure out how to pay for it all.

MSOE has a tuition assistance program that is supposed to apply in circumstances like this. I’m required to write a plan of study with an explanation of why I would like this to be covered and to explain its benefit to MSOE. The packet is then forwarded to my department chair for approval and then onto the Vice President of Academics and the Human Resources department for final approval. My first attempt in this process yielded a simple e-mail that said they were declining to pay for a full law degree and that they may be willing to pay for courses in Intellectual Property. When I asked about coverage for the required pre-requisites I was told to resubmit my proposal.

I met with the Vice President of Academics who is a man with no real vision and certainly no willingness to make hard personnel decisions. It was clear from my conversation that he feels I could find an industry seminar that would teach me what I need (I doubt I could find one that would teach me more than I already know) and that he simply cannot see the value of this to MSOE. In my proposal I talked about tailoring seminars for software practitioners and possibly to attorneys who need to know more about software. I even suggested that a graduate-level specialty or a center for intellectual property as it applies to software was a possibility. He certainly doesn’t understand the idea of supporting a dedicated employee in a somewhat divergent professional development effort. Part of this, I’m certain, is the lack of money (there were no raises this year) but I have not been told “we like the idea, we just can’t afford it this year”. This would be an admission that they have not planned/budgeted well and would represent a failure on their part. Instead I’m being told they don’t see the merit and would never cover it because it would mean they’d have to cover everyone else’s radical plans for school. This is crap, but it follows the “zero tolerance” trend in society today.

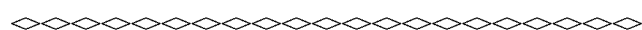
I have certainly indicated that I felt that MSOE owed me some support given all my work over the years, but since that cannot be quantified they don’t see it. I believe they feel that faculty are a commodity rather than a resource which adds yet another straw to the camel’s back of my continued employment there. I clearly indicated that if I had to take out loans to do this that MSOE simply did not pay me enough and I would be forced to leave in the end. This was presented not as a threat, but rather as a simple statement of fact. Everyone else that I have talked to understands the value this could add to MSOE and see the value in giving me a little lee way, but in the end they don’t make the decisions.

Certainly the effects of their decision will be felt almost immediately as I shift some or all of my overtime contribution to MSOE over to interning at a law firm to pay the bills. First to go will be my involvement with the summer programs and possibly the advising of incoming freshmen. Almost certainly will be any summer courses or projects. I suppose this is their loss, but it still pisses me off.

One professional activity I've been trying to become more involved with is as a technical consultant/expert witness. The pay for this is exceptionally good and the work is always challenging and interesting. The problem is that it is sometimes a bit hard to find and follows a typical catch-22. The law firms would like someone with experience, especially someone who makes a good witness, but they aren't always willing to try someone new.

Earlier this year I was contacted by the attorney who filed my only granted patent. They needed someone with some knowledge of PLCs (programmable logic controllers) and embedded systems. I do OK in the first area and very well in the second. It was a patent infringement case which aligns well with my interest in law school. The lead litigator likes to develop his experts and was willing to help educate me on the legal side of things in exchange for my helping him learn about the technology (plus they pay me well). The case has been slow to develop and the other side put up a number of road blocks to my having access to the subpoenaed material. (The technical term for this is a protective order. Until infringement is shown the materials requested in the discovery process are classified as trade secrets. The experts on the cases are deliberately chosen so as not to work for a competing firm so as to protect the defendants from bogus patent lawsuits designed to learn their secrets.)

While this was proceeding I was contacted through another faculty member on another case. This one looked immediately promising since they needed help in preparing for a potential deposition in the next few weeks. (The plaintiffs were essentially fishing to see if there were more patents than they had already identified as potentially being involved with the case.) Everything was going fine and I was on the verge of billing as much as 10-20 hours when it was discovered that the attorney who contacted me for the first case was one of the defending attorneys in this case. Needless to say there is at least the appearance of a conflict of interest and to avoid all of this I was asked by the attorney to remove myself from one of the cases. I chose this latter because I had already committed to the other case. Further since the first case involves a local law firm with a strong IP department I felt that in the long run they would provide me more business opportunities, including potential legal internships. Needless to say I'm not very happy about it. Giving up \$1000s in income in the short term is not a nice option. I was, however, able to refer the case to a colleague at MSOE who will now have to be nice to me.

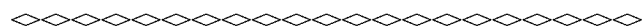


The children received as Christmas presents from their great uncle a trip to Vail in March (see my mother's column in this issue). This was very generous of him especially this year since neither Letha nor I would be able to attend. The timing for this trip is such that they are set by my cousin (the one who married last year in Vail) and since he went back to school it had to coincide with his spring break; which is not mine.

The great uncle even flew to Milwaukee (he's from Detroit so it really wasn't much out of his way) to escort the children. We were a little hesitant about sending Kira, but Kyle was the most likely to suffer from some home sickness. It turns out that any concerns were largely wasted. The children really enjoyed themselves. They were met in Denver by my mother and cousin who joined my uncle and everything went well from there. The children only felt compelled to call home once and other than some sunburn about the face they had an excellent time.

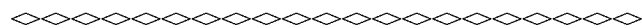
The one thing that most struck me about the trip is that even though they were only gone five days they grew up so much while they were gone. All the reports were that they were very well behaved and mannered (as children always are when their parents aren't around). I think there is something to be said for the fostering system.

Another added benefit for the trip was that the Saturday they were gone was the first time in at least six months where I had absolutely no where to be and no one to take care of. I turned the alarm off and slept in without guilt.



The campus gaming club held their convention Concinnity last weekend. Like most student run events they have a tendency to reinvent the wheel and put off planning until after the last minute. Despite this the event turned out rather well. I gave a presentation on applying statistics to gaming. The final aspect of this is a demonstration on how to replace a d20 system with an open-ended normal distribution that is almost as easy and simple to use. I also ran a session of Clay-O-Rama. This is a game where each player builds a combatant from a can of Play-Doh and then the fun begins. The game was originally published in *Dragon* magazine in 1987 and everyone I've taught to play it has had an enjoyable time. (A quick internet search will turn up the rules.)

Connor and Kyle came down with me for the day and enjoyed themselves. They got to paint a lead miniature, play some video games, and even participate in Clay-O-Rama. Connor came in second after a close fought battle where his beast was subjected to the "bowl" attack (just as the name sounds) four times. You'd be surprised how well Play-Doh will hold together under these conditions.



Enjoy the issue.

Reflection On ...*The Zine Dump*

by Rodney Leighton

Some time ago a correspondent enquired about obtaining a copy of *The Leighton Look* currently in progress. I replied that traditionally I only sent copies to those people who provided the items reviewed but since you are one of the very few people to ever express interest in reading the damned thing I will try to remember to make a copy for you. However, if you want to be certain: I have been reading that Guy Lillian has published *The Zine Dump* as a standalone zine. If he mailed me a copy it got lost. If you got one, send that along. Shortly it arrived, printed off the net. Not too long ago; sometime in early March, issue #2 arrived from the same source. Apparent ezine. Someone wanted me to review ezines that is difficult to do without a computer or a benefactor. So I thought I would take a shot at this.

There is not a lot that one can say about *The Zine Dump*. If you have read *Challenger*, you already know that it is a well written compendium of publications received by Guy Lillian. #2 is about a dozen pages, albeit the final bits concern DUFF. Typical of these “paper saving” computer things, the final page contains about 25 words and acres of white space.

One of the things that bothered me about #1 was a considerable amount of denigration of self and *Challenger*. This seems to have evaporated by #2 and was quite possibly a psychological defense mechanism against losing the DUFF deal; having succeeded, that need disappeared. Guy does some things that I would never do; his habit of printing zine titles that he hasn't seen lately in italics is beginning to irk. And he reviews some things that are not zines; promo releases and form letters and such.

That said, this is a fine place to examine many fanzines. Guy includes some non-sf zines, including some forwarded by me, although he is starting to say he doesn't want to review too many other types of zines, preferring, instead, to join the masses of other folks who spend hours in front of a computer screen.

In #1 I found this in the review of *TKK*: “Rodney Leighton anguishes over whether his zine reviews are welcome; Welch spends money to print them, Rodney, so what does that tell you?” Well, it tells me that Henry likes what I write or possibly is just happy to have something to print other than locs that he would publish anything. Doesn't have anything to do with how the readers feel about the column, which is what my “anguishing” was about. I admit to being a bit disappointed with the response but there was enough positive comments, and no negative comments, unless Knarl held them out, so that I was happy to provide something. I have a couple more in mind to accompany this; if all I have sent and send are received, Henry will be able to pick and choose and if he uses them all, will have enough of these columns to run well into 2004.

Issue #2 has about 54 reviews and somewhere around 35 (I admit I lost count) zines listed in italics. Sometimes this works, apparently: #1 had *Plokta* in italics with a comment about Guy seeing mention of one being published but no one sent him one and #2 has a long review of all the missing issues of that wacky but mostly fun fanzine. They are, of course, all reviews, with some personal references thrown in here and there. As an indication of my opinion of this fanzine: I am currently seriously thinking of discontinuing small press activities for a number of months; I have a couple of zines which I would like to see reviewed and I thought, well, I will send them to Guy Lillian who has a lot wider distribution; especially if he has these things out in the ether and besides, he's a lot better writer than I am. This may be construed as bribery so that I can get copies directly from Guy or, better yet, some photos of Rosy on one of Australia's famous beaches, but is, just like everything I write, strictly my opinion.

I am uncertain as to distribution and availability of this zine. I did write a letter to Guy to try to ascertain the facts but before I mailed it I realized that he wouldn't have time to respond prior to going to Oz and about the time that he is being dragged by the ear from some topless beach, I am going to put this machine away for most of a year. So I figured I would write this and if Henry decides to publish it, Guy could correct any errors. And yesterday, while I was considering all this, *TKK* #97 arrived and confirmed that he will do these things.

Issue #1 states that it will be distributed to the *Chall* mailing list. #2 says: “This zine will go forth, moreorless(sic) three times a year, by email, perhaps appear on eFanzines”. Hmnnn. Well, I seem to recall that Joe Major told me that is a net thing with lots of electronic sf fanzines on it. No indication in #2 if paper copies are available. There are indications that Guy expected me to read each issue; I haven't received them if he mailed them but New Orleans seems to have a problem with their post office; at one point, he mailed me two successive issues of *Chall* which both vanished. If any readers did not receive this fine review publication and would like a copy, as everyone interested in sf fanzines should, the zillions of people with computers can send a message to: GHLIII@yahoo.com. If you are rich enough you can pick up your phone and dial: 504/482-7083. I contemplated this but I was afraid Rosy would answer. No, actually, it's beyond me financially. I don't think there is anyone in the SF world any longer without a computer except me, EBF, and the late Harry Warner. I think it was in *Twink* that I first saw this mentioned. But did he get #2?

□*TKK*: *The Zine Dump* can be found online at <http://www.challzine.net/zine/dump.html> □

Sue's Sites: Vail Revisited

by Sue Welch

Opening my cold drawer, I stared at its contents: two wool sweaters, long sleeve thermax turtle necks in various colors, navy long underwear, hand made wool mittens and wool scarf to match my blue 28 year old down jacket. My suitcase isn't big enough, I thought, trying to salvage energy to transfer this pile of big bulky stuff into my roller bag. Currently, Los Angeles was having a heat wave, beautiful 80 degree summer days, in the middle of March.

Our family, skiers and cold weather people, assemble in Vail each year to enjoy the slopes and each other's company. We were going to be a small group this year, especially compared to the hundreds who came last February for my nephew's wedding in Vail Village, in the beautiful church with floor to ceiling windows. As the bride began her walk down the aisle, snow started to fall, creating the most awesome scene of standing in the middle of a heated snowstorm.

Getting out of the car at our condo failed to produce the blast of cold air for which I always brace myself. In fact it was actually warm even at our 7000-foot plus elevation. Bright sunshine awoke me the following morning. Hustling to get my three oldest grandchildren up, fed and bundled into their warm ski outfits, to attend ski school, I kept thinking that it didn't feel cold. However stepping outside, I was not quite prepared for the summer like temperature of 75 degrees that greeted me. For the next week, it got warmer each day and more snow disappeared. The bare ground or wet mud and little streams of water were everywhere. I saw a park with swings, slides, and tennis courts that had always before been hiding under snow. We walked on a paved road instead of layers of ice. It was sinful to spend a minute indoors; we could have been on the Kona coast of Hawaii. The skiers took long lunches and early happy hours in the Village. Toward the end of the week, many were spending the day on the swings in the park with the kids. How I wished for my shorts, t-shirt and tennis shoes, left behind in LA. My feet were sweating in my fur-lined boots. I foresee water rationing this summer. The melting snow forms the Colorado River, which in turns supplies west-

ern states with irrigation and drinking water. The water is leaving too early this spring, I thought. It is going to get to California before summer.

Vail is celebrating its 41st year as a vacation ski destination. Average temperatures for March in Vail Village are a low of 11 and a high of 28. Snow pack should be 65 inches. Vail supports 193 ski trails, the longest of which is 4 miles. Elevation at the base in the Village is 8,120 feet and rises 3,450 feet to the summit at 11,570 feet. Total ski able acres are 5,289. Not this year! The profile doesn't fit.

Quickly, on the next to the last day of our stay, the sky darkened and the temperature dropped 40 degrees in a few minutes. A light snow began to fall and by morning the slopes were beginning again to be covered with snow. Skiers donned their jackets and headed once more to the slopes. The blast of cold air hit my face as I walked down the road with my tongue out to catch the falling snow.



INTERLOCUTIONS

Joseph T Major
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March 8, 2004

And now the knews ... Of course we have had a real winter. Shall I present my heating bills in support of this assertion?

I took the LSAT, yeni unotime, er many years ago, when I had the idea that I wanted to go to law school (quickly got over it, thanks in part to the school turning me down) and don't remember the security being quite that ferocious. I suspect someone managed to run in a ringer to take the test. There are enough stupid lawyers as it is. (See *Gladiator-at-Law* by Pohl and Kornbluth for an example.)

Leighton Looks: For an update, Marty Helgesen and Alexis Gilliland let the argument die. By the time this letter appears *Alexiad* Volume III Number 2 will be out, with the usual collection of reviews, including one by **Rodney** himself.

Gene Booms: And he should remember that the aluminum (or aluminium) foil is most efficacious when assembled shiny side OUT.

InterLOCutions: The little girl came by last night to rake the last few leaves, before the recycling crew picked up yard waste and other big trash, including a dead portable heater. This may be her swan song for Christy Avenue, inasmuch as she said her folks were moving out to LaGrange (where, by an odd coincidence, Lisa's church is moving).

Ned Brooks: Can you get Caller ID? After getting this, Lisa's concerns about dead-air calls vanished. To be replaced by annoyance, but then I signed us up for the Do Not Call list.

"Ores" is a Middle English word. Naturally Tolkien would have run across it. As opposed to Orcas, which are also known as "killer whales."

Joy Smith: "Calamari Water Park" could even have a Beatles song as its theme: "I'd like to be/Under the sea/In an octopus's garden..."

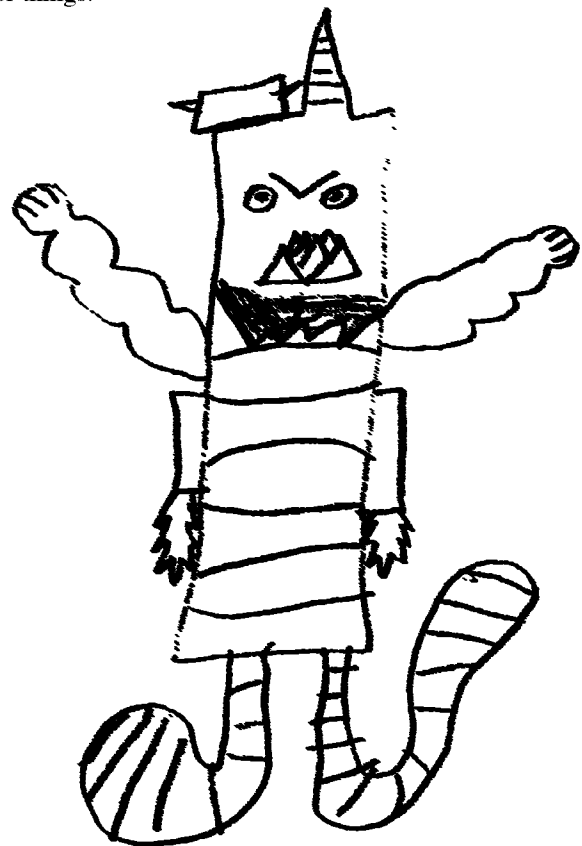
E. B. Frohvet: You weren't the one who first put around the story.

The S.F. Book Club has been issuing classics of the fifties and has now gone on to the sixties, going up from \$9.99 plus postage and handling to \$10.99. The fifties selections were *The Door Into Summer* by Heinlein, *The Space Merchants* by Pohl & Kornbluth (but the author pictures on the back were of Poul and Kornbluth, Poul Anderson that is), *The City and the Stars* by Clarke, *Three Hearts and Three Lions* by An-

derson (right one this time), *City* by Simak, *Under Pressure* by Herbert, *The End of Eternity* by Asimov, and *The Stars My Destination* by Bester. Rereading them gives me that sad feeling.

The forthcoming sixties works are *To Your Scattered Bodies Go* by Farmer, *Norstrilia* by "Cordwainer Smith", *The Man In the High Castle* by Dick, *The Dream Master* by Zelazny, *Stand on Zanzibar* by John Brunner (one of my first SFBC selections, for what it's worth), *A Canticle for Leibowitz* by Walter M. Miller, *The Left Hand of Darkness* by LeGuin, and *Rite of Passage* by Alexei Panshin. That was, you will recall, an era where there was any quantity of crap being published, unlike the days before when quality ruled. Right.

The news today is of the horrific sinking of the Baltimore water taxi, with one dead and three missing, probably amended to four dead by the time this comes out. Sometimes one hears of things.



Laser visaged
ketekup a'ttak

Brad W. Foster: So then if you were to put up the yellow and red sign from *Jurgen* by the highway it would prove its point:

READ ME!

Read me, and judge if you understand!
So you stopped in your journey because I called,
scenting something unusual, something droll.
Thus, although I am nothing, and even less,
there is no one that sees me but lingers here.
Stranger, I am a law of the universe.
Stranger, render the law what is due the law!

Jurgen felt silly but so does everyone else. (I have a copy hanging in my office at work.)

It is forbidden here to put yard waste in the home dumpster. They pick it up once every quarter. See above about the cute little girl.

Eric Lindsay: One hears about people who drive through neighborhoods with a laptop, trying to pick up someone else's WiFi so they can download pornography. There are enough distractions for drivers today. ("While I was on the freeway driving to work I looked at the next car over and the woman driving was using the rear-view mirror to put on her makeup. That shocked me so I dropped one of my cell phones into my coffee and it spilled all over my laptop and I choked on my donut and the other cell phone caller asked what was wrong.")

Milt Stevens: I see you liked my history of "If Coxinga Had Lived." I managed to get in not only a Poul Anderson (him again?) joke (and considering what he did with that word in *There Will Be Time* that's something to be careful about) as well as a slam at someone who infested the newsgroup where I originally published it, spreading nonsense. Basically, everything after the first paragraph when Coxinga, the pirate who was the last defender of the Ming Dynasty against the Manchu, did not die was alternate history.



Robert Lichtman: See the listing of Fifties and Sixties reissues from the SFBC given above.

Bacover: Is the gentlebeing delivering a pizza to Han Solo? "Delivered in 30 parsecs or you get it free!" ha!

Namarie,
Joseph T Major

☐**TKK:** *I consider myself reasonably well-read in the SF arena and of the classic books you've listed I've only read one from the 50s and four from the 60s. I'm not certain how this reflects and on what, but it must be relevant in some way, isn't it?*☐

Bill Legate
Box 3012
Sequim, WA 98382
March 9, 2004

Thanks for 104, Henry.

There's no end to stuff to say about *FOSFAX*, but I recall it as somewhere I could rave at length about 'most anything.

Junky old cars keep moving, **Joe?** In the '50s, old cars usually did keep on moving, as I recall. I also found Schoenfeld's 1951 *Built Down Logically* making fun of logical necessity – in which the genius baby, Hillbert Hoover Aspasia, has the same name as the "author" who appears in two places at once in *Built Up Logically*. (Compare Vonnegut's embarrassing his character Trout in *Breakfast of Champions*.)

Alex, remember the "significant" illustrations in Kahlil Gibran's *Prophet*? I once drew up one of those eerie pictures, the foot of the cross on Golgotha, and had a guy walking around it operating a leaf blower.

Anyone who is suspicious: Two years ago, in #92, I mentioned J. Miller et al., *Germes: Biological Weapons and America's Secret War* (2001), in reference to repeated lying by Iraqis about their germ warfare preparations. I've seen no more recent reference to this subject, although it sounds too good a propaganda for our side, to be so ignored. Among so many secret alliances in recent decades, I just kind of wonder who all is telling lies about it.

The book of Daniel recasts a variety of tales into a story of purported events between 606 and 536 B.C. Daniel in its present form was apparently produced between 167 and 164 B.C., after the profanation of the Temple and before the death of Antiochus IV, to interpret that Temple event. A kind of history digest (counting days = years) is laid out, particularly in chapters 8 and 9, of some centuries' events interpreted as fulfillments of prophecy.

Daniel 9:24-27 seems to count years from Artaxerxes I to John the Baptist, to the Crucifixion, to the carrying of the gospel to the gentiles. And the 2300 evenings and mornings in Daniel *:3-9 are sometimes taken as years from when the he-goat (Alexander) flew at the ram (the Persian Empire

when it occupied Asia Minor in the spring of 334 B.C.), to the putting of Jerusalem's Temple mount under Israeli security after the Six-day War of June 5-10, 1967.

Some suggest the timing of the latter event, the elicited responses of both Golda Meir and some Egyptians, fit a predetermined timetable for U.S. readers of Daniel – by the same management that scheduled Israel's July 3, 1976 Entebbe airport (Uganda) raid for U.S. press coverage. (And some say that conspiracy is where you find it.)

Shining armor is not our strong suit.

Chapters 4 and 5 of *Germs* describe the complicated problem of Iraq's biowar capacity which we faced from 1990 on, time constraints on anthrax and botulism defense, emergency options and possible consequences. And **Tim Lane** caught me out: He discussed the book last summer in *FOSFAX* 208, p. 34, and somehow I skipped the page.

Planck time, again: In Rocky Kolb and Mike Turner's *The Early Universe* (1990, 1994), an appendix of fundamental constants lists Planck time, 5.3904×10^{-44} sec.

In *100 Great Detectives*, ed. Maxim Jakubowski (1991), David Langford says that John Dickson Carr borrowed his detective Dr. Gideon Fell's "appearance, mannerisms, and fondness for beer" from Gilbert K. Chesterton.

Nevermore
Bill

☐**CKK**: *There are conspiracy theories everywhere and any sufficiently loose interpretation of a prophet is bound to find resonance with modern events. I see stuff about Nostradamus all the time.*☐

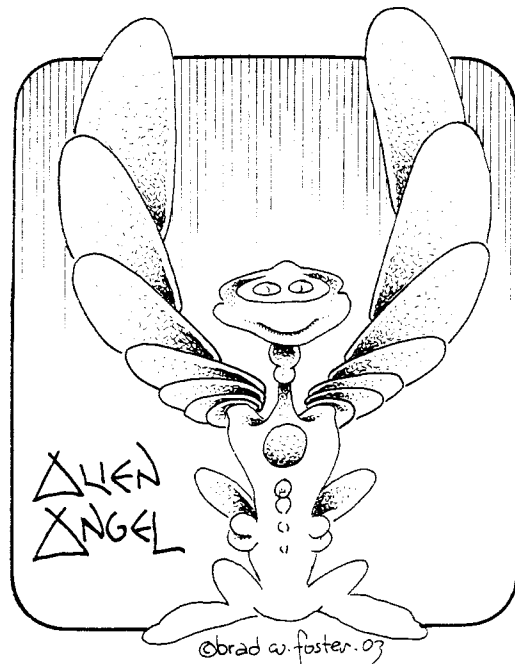
E. B. Frohvet
4716 Dorsey Hall Dr. #506
Ellicott City, MD 21042
March 10, 2004

Dear Henry,

Honest to Ghu, clue in the Baltimore *Sun* crossword recently: "sci-fi writer _____ LeGuin". Not surprisingly, I got that one right; though I suspect she might wince at "sci-fi".

This will probably come as afterwit, advice too late to be useful (but it will get cold again next winter): If you're going to buy thermal long underwear, do so in November, when the stores are well stocked. If you wait until January, it will be too late.

You know what's missing in C. J. Cherryh's Chanur Saga books? Insurance. For those who have not read the five volumes, it takes place in Compact space, an area some distance from Earth, with six (or seven, no one is quite sure) sentient species. They have some sort of inter-species banking, Clan Chanur has accounts at Meetpoint and other stations. There



is some form of inter-species court; there are references to kif indulging in what human jurisprudence calls "barratry", the persistent bringing of petty litigation in the hope the target will find it cheaper to settle. What there isn't apparently, is insurance. After the loss of *Starchaser*, for instance, Clan Faha just takes their loss and lumps it. All other problems of some sort seem to be settled by either fighting, or calling in personal favors. The notion of impartial underwriting seems quite lost. Just an observation...

The Denver group newsletter (*Dasfax* Vol36#2, February 2004) reports that consideration is being given to bidding Denver/Colorado Springs for Worldcon 2008. One might wonder if 2009 is not a more reasonable choice – anyone bidding for 2008 is on a very tight schedule to get their bid up and running.

I see that **Jose' Sanchez** caught up with you. As I am no longer publishing, I told him that I would send some of his stuff (he sent me a whole stack) on to other faneds. I suppose you have enough for immediate needs.

Hockey is not my sport, however the problem of questionable officiating is well known. The American tennis player Jeff Tarango once defaulted himself out of Wimbledon, accusing the chair umpire of deliberately making bad calls. (It was common knowledge that the official hated Americans, Tarango was just the only one willing to say so publicly.) ...Obviously it is not my place to comment about Kira; I just wonder about pushing children into activities in which they have no interest. I was pushed into playing Little League baseball, for which I had no talent, and it was a waste of my time. The good athletes played, and the rest of us mostly sat... As for the LSAT, perhaps the intent is to discourage those who cannot cope early. As in medical school, where the most important part of the first year consists of furnishing a group of students with a human cadaver and some scalpels, start cutting **here**...

As usual, I mainly agree with **Rodney Leighton**; *Alexiad* does bear a strong resemblance to its forbear *FOSFAX*, the principal differences being, as **Rodney** observes, that it's less political and more polite. I've cut back on book reviewing, but I find enough in *Alexiad* to LOC nearly every issue.

Joseph Major: How, in those post-disaster stories, do they keep those "junky old cars" going? I have one word for you: Cuba. Virtually every account shows the forty-year-old cars still kept running by human ingenuity. Barring some fundamental failure (thrown rod through the side of the block) the technology is pretty basic. There are museums which have much older cars in running condition.

Sorry to hear that **Ned Brooks** doesn't like *Joan of Arcadia*, I quite enjoy it. A little thin theologically, of course. The show's theme song begins, "What if God were one of us/Just a stranger on the bus..." Surely this is the essential premise of Christianity, that God was one of us, see John 3:16.

In my admittedly small kitchen, I have a 100-watt central light (which in fact I seldom use), a 60-watt light over the stove, and a 60-watt light in the adjacent dining nook. Suffices for my modest needs.

Yes, I've had many of the same driving experiences as **Brad Foster**. If some jackass rides right on my rear bumper, I just slow down (gradually) until they go around. For signs, I had in mind those electric signs over the highway they use to flash information; as during/after a sleet storm, "ICY CONDITIONS POSSIBLE". (No chit, charlock.)

Hope **Eric Lindsay** and **Jean Weber** enjoyed their latest American trip. Small chance that I will ever get to meet them, for obvious reasons I don't do Corflu. What's up on the current DUFF race? I haven't heard anything.

Milt Stevens: I wouldn't be surprised if quite a few factions agreed that having bikini wrestling in chocolate sauce at Worldcon was a good thing. (To those who would object, I'm reminded of the fellow who was criticized for regarding the models in *Sports Illustrated* Swimsuit issue as "sex objects". His reply: "Hey, those girls work very hard to become sex objects!")

Speaking of Ditto, what's up on the Milwaukee for 2005 bid? You never know, I might actually come. The atlas shows that Brown Deer (**Trinlay Khadro**) is a northern suburb, and Grafton (you) is an exurb in the next country to the north, but still in the metro area. **Jan Stinson** is across the lake in Michigan, but I'm not quite sure how she'd get there, unless there's some air shuttle service across the lake.

Best gremflods,
E. B. Frohvet

☐**CKK**: *Kira showed plenty of interest in playing hockey. I still don't fully understand why once she is on the ice she gets cold feet. I coach hockey with exactly the opposite philosophy*

of Little League. All my players, despite their skill level, skate equal shifts. Over the course of the season the ice time differently between the stronger and weaker players was less than 10 or 20 minutes.

The Milwaukee Ditto will happen one of these days. I see Trinlay every other week or so at a regular social event. There are plenty of commuter flights over the lake.☐

Sheryl Birkhead
25509 Jonnie Court
Gaithersburg, MD 20882
March 12, 2004

Dear Welches

On the law school item – do you intend to graduate or just focus on an area.

My brother, as a teenager, enjoyed pipe bombs. His joy was shortened when he blew out the side of the pigpen (no pigs were injured...) and our father was not pleased. The response at **Gene's** kid's school seems a bit cavalier.

About the telemarketers – for me, not answering the phone, is not a good option since there is no special ring if it's an emergency. I've had people call at 2am; then act confused... "uh ... I didn't expect you to answer", but at 2am I assume this it is an emergency.

I used to keep all the SFBC flyers to use as art sources, but quit that long ago.

I just had the four kitchen light fixtures redone. It was 2x150 watts in each (1200 watts total) and it was still dark. The new setup has 65 watt flood lights and is much, much "lighter" at 260 watts. Yeah, and a \$600 price tag, but I was there when it was done and it was over two days work plus materials.

Thanks-
Sheryl

☐**CKK**: *At least with the required caller-id feature most telemarketers can be identified before you answer the phone. \$600 for four light fixtures, labor included is a very good price.*☐



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Rodney Leighton
RR#3
Tatamagouche, NS B0K 1V0
Canada
March 12, 2004

Dear Henry:

Thanks for *TKK* 104 which arrived yesterday.

I am sending some sort of letter with my 2 page things. I am starting to think about writing some sort of letter to those publishers who send me their fanzines directly. There are only four who publish regularly and a couple or three others. I am now back to where I was about nine years ago; getting more secondhand fanzines from a friend than I get directly. Suits me fine, truth to tell.

I thought that I had demonstrated that *FOSFAX* was not purely a political fanzine. However, since I am trying not to argue with anyone, I won't mention that. I will mention to **EBF** that I heard the bit about **Joseph Major** being a house name before I had heard of anyone known as **Frohvet**.

I found **Eric Lindsay's** story of his war with his computers amusing in spite of the fact I only understood about half of it. I recently had an encounter with the damned things and thought about typing it up but, hell, it would take a page and is too boring to bother with. I will mention that the government department which handles Employment Insurance has changed computers three times in the last three years, which seems rather excessive, and that my sister, who uses a computer daily to earn money and who, unlike me, very rarely uses anything resembling foul language at one point screamed "**You asshole!**" and at that point we abandoned the attempt to file my E. I. claim at home as they claim one can. It was the third time the thing had kicked off everything entered and when blank; this time within three questions of the end. I went to the office where an employee basically did it for me and even she was afraid the thing was going to do that disappearing act and when I returned to my sister's apartment I mentioned that the biggest trouble I had when I was trying to do it myself was with the mouse and she said "Oh, everyone has problems with the mouse. I get angry at mine at least three times a day."

All the comments about **Stewart's** SFBC article were interesting. The SFBC sends me a new "Please join again" thing regularly. I always look at them; they are intriguing. The one I got a few months ago is different from the one **Gene** describes. I don't know if it has to do with the country or the fact that I was once a member. Looking at **Lichtman's** list; I see a number of similarities. One of the reasons I gave some thought to sending this one in was that *Dangerous Visions* was one of the books on offer. Alongside it is an anthology of 100 Bradbury stories. Not that I was considering that one. One of my other choices would have been *Legends II* with stories by Robert Silverberg, Terry Brooks, Neil Gaiman, and George R. R. Martin among many others. The offering has

only 20 pages and provides five books for \$2.50 plus shipping, handling, and taxes. Plus a free gift: a book or an SFBC baseball cap. Hard choice. Page 7 is all Tolkien (seven books including the 3 in 1 *Lord of the Rings* volume). I looked over the catalog again last night. I found it interesting that many of the same authors that **Robert** mentioned appear here. One the pages devoted to science fiction I see: *The City and the Stars* by Arthur C. Clarke, *Expanded Universe* by Robert Heinlein, *Changing Planes* by Ursula K. LeGuin, and *In the Presence of Mine Enemies* by Harry Turtledove.

I don't know about **Lloyd Penney's** comments about book clubs. I have joined and canceled any number of Doubleday clubs any number of times. I think I was only in the SFBC once; I got out in about six months. Of course, I spotted enough books in that time that I thought I would like and had the money to do so. Ended up with about 10 bookss, some of which are on selves as yet to be read; some in boxes, unread. I think it cost me about \$100 total. Which is considerably cheaper than buying new books in bookstores. But it is considerably more expensive than buying books in convenience stores for \$1.99 plus tax.

I have found the Doubleday clubs valuable in that I get 5, 6, or 7 books at once then 3, 4, or 5 others and then cancel my membership. And do the whole thing all over 6 or 8 months later. I don't know how ethical it is but, hell, if they keep sending me offers to rejoin, why not? Well, now I am wondering if it is worth it. Especially since I have not read many of those I did get. I usually do this with the Mystery Guild but the last time they sent a catalogue I only found one book I thought I might want.

The Quality Paperback Book Club is a good one but one needs to have a rather esoteric range of interests to find good books there. I might note that they are harder to get out of than other Doubleday clubs, for some reason.

Recently I bought a paperback version of what was *Night Visions* 5 in hardcover (\$1.99 plus tax ... \$2.29). Three tales by Stephen King, two of which were good and one boring; three stories by someone named Dan Simmons, never heard of him, stories were all good; and the feature "The Skin Trade" by George R. R. Martin which I haven't read yet, but will soon.

Anyway, somewhat to my surprise, this has turned into a real loc.

Best
Rodney



☐CKK: *I've been a member of the SFBC for about 25 years. I order about two books a year.*☐

Joy V. Smith
8925 Sleph Road
Lakeland, FL 33810
pagadan@aol.com
23 Mar 2004

Dear Knarley,

You and the kids have certainly been busy this hockey season. I hope you can relax a bit when the season's over. Studying intellectual property sounds like a challenging idea. How much time might that take? Are you in yet?

Intriguing cover, and I loved the illo on the back cover. I enjoyed **Rodney Leighton's** study of *Alexiad* (Fosfax, Jr.). I enjoy *Alexiad* very much, btw.

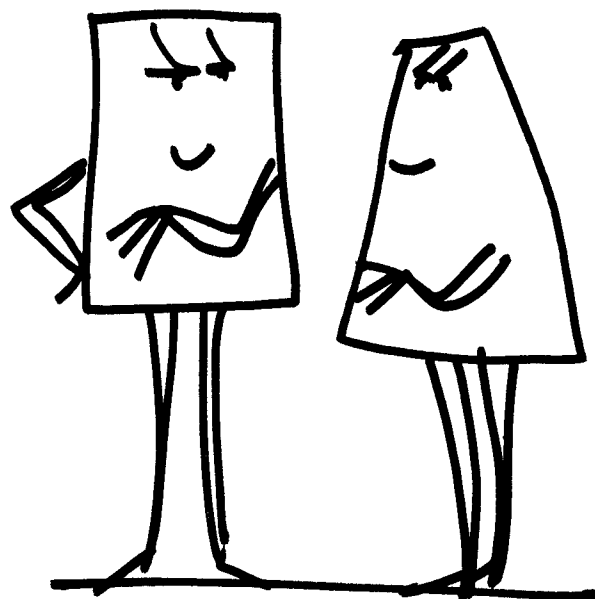
LOCs: Re:Science Fiction Book Club. They are reprinting classics, and they've asked for input. (I've ordered *Beast Master Team* by Andre Norton and Lyn McConchie; and I recently got the *Firefly* DVD from them. Great show. Oops. Just checked. I actually got *Firefly* from amazon.com because it was cheaper.) Re: postal rates. I've noticed that sometimes air is cheaper for some foreign packages than economy.

To: **Brad Foster**: I don't suppose you filmed that exploration of your sewer pipes. Could be interesting for a house show or maybe a horror show.

To **Eric Lindsay**: I sympathize with your computer wrastlings. I've been known to say – What do you mean you can't see the printer?! It's right there! (I had to buy a new printer once to go with my new computer.) I have to check my spam filters daily to be sure it hasn't gobbled up good mail. I've often discovered important mail in its innards. No telling how much I lost before reading a hint in an AOL folder about doing that. Speaking of houses (are you completely finished with your remodelling yet?), I'm working on a house book; it's about my house-building experience and saving money when building. And thanks for the fanzines listing; I got a copy of Page 84 from England also – interesting, but a bit hard to read.

Appreciatively,
Joy V. Smith

☐CKK: *Still haven't been admitted yet. My packet is waiting upon a letter of recommendation. At part-time I expect to take about five years. Every time I think the house is finished I discover something else. Last month it was the missing floor radiator in Connor's room. This week it's the second phone jack in the master bedroom. I think I'll finish about the time it's time to remodel again.*☐



Brad W Foster
PO Box 165246
Irving, TX 75016
bwfoster@juno.com
23 Mar 2004

Greetings Henry and Letha ~

First, that's a very cool idea for symbolizing fantasy and science fiction in that cover image from Sanchez. I keep flipping back to that one, very, very nice solution for an image that artists have been trying to do over and over again. Congrats on this one!

You mention getting snow to hang around for a bit. By that I assume you mean more than a day. Around here, we actually got the snow to hang around for 24 hours, which is a major thing for us. We could tell there must have been a heavy fall, as the neighborhood kids had made a snowman in our front yard (we've got the widest expanse of yard on the cul de sac), and, unlike previous years when there would be a snowman and a bare yard around it, we now still had a beautiful white lawn. This is Texas, after all, but snow is nice once in a while.

I got a nice email from **Joseph Major** about getting a copy of *Alexiad*, a zine I've read much about, but never received. It was very nice of him to offer, as I always feel bad about coming out and asking someone to send me something for free, even after all of these years in fandom. I am -such- a nerd!

I was surprised by **Eric Lindsay's** blunt declaration that "I don't actually like music..." I've heard of folks not liking certain -kinds- of music, I do that myself. But no music of any sort, any style? And not a "I don't care about", but the more active "don't actually like", which gives me the impression of not even being able to ignore it in the background.

That's a bummer. I have no musical skills at all, and certainly there are a number of musical genres I would not miss were they removed from the face of the earth. But there have also been so many pieces that have lifted me, have made me happy, or simply got me to tapping my foot and smiling. Shame he can't enjoy that

☐*TKK: Not only don't I have any musical skills, I have almost no ability to really appreciate it. That doesn't mean I dislike it, just that I wouldn't miss it all that much.*☐

Milt Stevens
6325 Keystone St.
Simi Valley, CA 93063
miltstevens@earthlink.net
31 Mar 2004

Dear Henry,

In Knarley Knews #104, you mention going to law school to study intellectual property. That seems to be a lively field for litigation these days. Opinions run all the way from the Balboa Approach ("I claim the Pacific Ocean and all lands adjacent to it") to the Gremlin Approach ("Gremlins do not exist"). Obviously, there is lots of room for argument between those two positions.

The discussion of intellectual property as it pertains to software is probably a little more sensible than a discussion of intellectual property in general. I remember when Apple tried to claim they had exclusive rights to spreadsheets. They didn't succeed. The idea of organizing numbers into columns and rows to do mathematical calculations is really intuitively obvious. People have been doing it for thousands of years. You can't get exclusive rights to something that has been in use for that long. At a later date, I remember a version of Quattro Pro which advertised it could be made to look and operate exactly like Lotus. That seemed questionable. Imitating your competitors is one thing, but advertising it is another.

There will always be a disagreement between software companies and common users. If you were to ask a software company, a man and his wife who have two high school age children with all of them needing a word processing program should buy four copies of the word processing program. In practice, the family will buy one copy of the word processing program. The software companies aren't going to scream too loudly if they can sell one word processing program per household. However, there was a case several years ago where the Los Angeles Unified School District had bought three copies of Word and installed it three thousand times. That was definitely egregious.

The incident **Gene Stewart** describes of finding a half made pipe bomb near a school wouldn't have even made the news in Los Angeles. Such things happen commonly. Kids are reckless by nature and will fool around with many things they shouldn't. Some of those things will go boom. I knew guys like that when I was in high school. Some of them went on to

attend Cal Tech. Ask Jerry Pournelle sometime about how he cooked up some nitroglycerin when he was in high school. He got the recipe from an old issue of Britannica. He set the stuff off in a swamp and wound up with a rain of frogs that didn't have anything to do with Charles Fort.

As to bomb threats at schools, nobody pays much attention to them, because they are so common. Just about every high school and middle school will get bomb threats during finals week. They come in at other test times too. The schools notify the police for record purposes and have an administrator do a walk around inspection. If they actually find anything suspicious, the bomb squad will come out and take a look at it. This situation didn't arise out of 9-11. It was going on for decades before that.

Yours truly,
Milt Stevens

☐*TKK: I haven't studied the Apple case, but what they may have tried to patent was the idea of a cell with a built-in and programmable computation field. This is an innovation above and behind simply a table of numbers. The software company would say you should buy one copy per machine. We have one package that will examine our internal network to see if we are using it more than once simultaneously. We bend the license slightly by installing in multiple places, but only running it on one machine at a time.*☐

Eric Lindsay
PO Box 640
Airlie Beach Nth. Qld.
Australia
fijagh@ericlindsay.com
03 Apr 2004

Dear Henry,

Thanks for *TKK* 104. While in the USA I happened to see a game of children's basketball. After the game I asked who had won. The children didn't seem to know. It was however highly energetic.

Equally energetic is your educational program. Law school now? I do recall some fan lawyers who also seem to have interests in areas similar to the intellectual property that you mentioned. Lilian Edwards for example had some articles out on copyright and computers. These days I'm taking the view on copyright that musical performers better plan to make their income in concert and live performance. Technology (the record player) enabled the middlemen of the recording industry, and now a better technology (broadband and cheap data recording) is taking away that particular niche.

I still find responding to *Alexiad* rather difficult. Just so massive a read. **Joseph** writes faster than I can read.

It wouldn't surprise me to find that a student made a pipe bomb. Some kids like making things that burn or go boom.

One of my friends in high school blew off some of his fingers making a pipe bomb. I guess I paid enough attention in chemistry not to make any too obvious mistakes when I made things I shouldn't have. Also, I didn't try ramming the chemicals into a piece of pipe. Of course these days you probably can't admit to having any former interest in such things, but when I was growing up it all seemed a natural part of the local (slum) social environment.

We returned a week ago from our two months away. Jean got to move her mother from her house to a nearby apartment. I got to overpack 52 boxes, and then escape to Silicon Valley, Potlatch in Seattle, various parts of Florida, Corflu in Las Vegas. Jean at least got to the two conventions. Now I just need to catch up on all the mail and everything else that has happened.

One mail sack of books arrived while we were gone, and another is on the way. Thus my past misdeeds frustrate my every attempt to reduce the clutter in this apartment.

I commented last time on printers that could read camera cards. What I bought instead was an Addonics multiscard recorder. It reads any of several different camera cards, and burns them onto a CD. It also plays DVDs if you want to connect it to a TV, and MP3 and regular audio CDs if you want to use it as a sound player. Like most external DVD/CD drives, it also connects to your computer via USB, but you don't need to do this for many of its functions.

I did get good deals on my internal USA flights, when Jean bought them on the internet. Los Angeles to Las Vegas return ticket was US\$99, which wasn't great, but the Seattle to Orlando, Florida return ticket (do you call it "both ways") was only US\$203, which seemed really good to me.

When I had a fannish doctor here (cartoonist Craig Hilton) he started me on the annual flu shots, and also pneumonia shots every five years. At the time I wasn't over 55, however Craig told me it was worthwhile for anyone with a previous heart problem.

Eric Lindsay

☐**CKK:** *The recording industry is one that better figure out a new business model. The vast majority of recording artists never made any money with the old model and the internet with free distribution works to their best interests.*☐

Alex Slate
9223 Lasater
San Antonio, TX 78254
alex.slate@brooks.af.mil
16 Apr 2004

Dear Knarley & Letha,

It's amazing how badly I am out of the loop. **Brad Foster's** letter (hi, **Brad**) was the first time I had heard of what happened to Lori Wolf, whom I have known since the late 70s

and Cepheid Variable (the Texas A&M SF club). If I remember correctly Lori was a year behind me. Lori was, for a long time, a stalwart in the Fandom Association of Central Texas. She will be missed.

Just read a newspaper article about the 'virtual colonoscopy' in the paper yesterday, Knarley. That's what they called the diagnostic tool you were referring too. The article indicated that it was not as good a diagnostic tool as going in the other way, with discovery rates of only 55% (I forgot what the percentage for the older method is). Fortunately, I haven't had to worry about either method. Meanwhile, my own health seems to be doing fairly well. My blood sugar was good, my cholesterol was good (actually my 'good cholesterol' was a bit low, but my bad 'cholesterol' was also quite low so the ratio was really good. My blood pressure is okay, but not quite what I (or my doctor) would like so we upped my dosage a bit. My weight is good, I weighed in today at about 166, 2 weeks ago I was 164-1/2, the lowest I have been in at least a decade, maybe two. I don't even recognize myself in the mirror any more. I had gotten used to having a very square face, but now I almost look like the youngster that went to West Point in 1975. It amazes me no end.

As to that, I spoke to my kid brother last week. He's gone very gray, and although I have the odd gray hairs here and there, my hair is still pretty much the same dark brown it has always been. (I wish I could say as much for that picture in the attic, though!)

I didn't take the flu shot either, this year, and didn't get the flu. I'm considered to be in one of the risk categories, having diabetes, but put off getting it and by the time I was ready, there was no more vaccine to be found.

Good luck with law school. I'd like to do it myself sometime. In fact, I'd like to get my doctorate, been shopping around for programs locally, but they're rare in the field that I would like to get it in (Philosophy, specializing in ethics) and on the expensive side. Maybe, after the kids are out of school.

Well, that's going to do it for this episode....

Best wishes,
Alex

☐**CKK:** *Congratulations on the weight loss and the good health. I had heard that the virtual colonoscopy was better because it examines more of the intestine; and it is certainly less invasive.*☐

We also heard from:

Al and Megan Bouchard, Karen Johnson, Guy Lillian, and Sue Welch



Fanzines Received in Trade

TEMPLATE

Fanzine Title by editor(s)' name; address; e-mail (if known); web URL (if known); frequency of publication; acceptable "payment" to receive a copy. Some mostly useless commentary by me about the issue. "The usual" generally refers to either a letter of comment (LOC), a contribution, or trading with your fanzine or generally any friendly means of communication. As a general rule I don't list internet-only fanzines.

Banana Wings #19 by Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer; 14 Northway Rd.; Croydon, Surrey CR0 6JE, UK; banana@fislifter.demon.co.uk; irregular; the usual. A nice fanzine that has been a bit irregular in publication (the last issue was in 2002). Showed poor form in disrespecting the great badger of Wisconsin :-)

Challenger 19 by Guy H. Lillian, III; PO Box 53092; New Orleans, LA 70153-3092; GHLIII@yahoo.com; irregular; \$6 or the usual. This is a fine genzine with good articles, lots of photos and letters. A good read and quite worthy of its Hugo nomination.

DUFF Ballot 2004 - Australasia to North America from Guy H. Lillian III. Vote by May 1 (US\$4 or A\$6) for either Norman Cates, Danny Oz (nee Heap), or Erika Marie Lacey. For details see duff2004.com or write to Guy at the address under *Challenger* above.

Erg 165 by Terry Jeeves; 56 Red Scar Dr; Scarborough, YO12 5RQ; United Kingdom; terryjeeves@madasafish.com; quarterly; the usual. A smallish zine celebrating its 45th anniversary. (And I think I've been at it a while and I haven't made it to 18 yet.)

Ethel the Aardvark #108-111 by Sue Ann Barber; PO Box 212; World Trade Centre; Melbourne, VIC 3005; Australia; b-monthly; \$25/year or the usual. This is the official zine of the Melbourne Science Fiction Club and covers club news and SF related material in Australia. The editorship has been rather fluid of late, lets hope it stabilizes.

Fanzine Fanatique by Keith Walker; 6 Vine St.; Lancaster LA1 4UF; England; KWalker777@aol.com; quarterly; exchange or editorial whim. A short zine composed primarily of capsule reviews of other zines.

The Leighton Thingee by Rodney Leighton; RR #3; Tatamagouche, NS B0K 1V0; Canada; irregular; editorial whim. Listed here only because I'm anal about these things. Rodney doesn't subscribe to the usual so you'll have to write him to figure out how to get copies.

Littlebrook 3 by Jerry Kaufman & Suzanne "Suzle" Thompkins; 3522 NE 123rd St.; Seattle, WA 98125-5643; littlebrooklocs@aol.com; irregular; \$2 or the usual. This is becoming a nice genzine. Jerry goes whitewater rafting in this issue and becomes a convert.

MaryMark Press by Mark Sonnenfeld; 45-08 Old Millstone Dr.; East Windsor, NJ 08520; irregular; the usual. Various strange publications with experimental writing styles.

MOZ 1 by Murray Moore; 1065 Henley Road; Mississauga, ON L4Y 1C8; Canada; mmoore@pathcom.com; unknown; the usual. An introductory ANZAPA zine.

Nice Distinctions 5 by Arthur Hlavaty; 206 Valentine St; Yonkers, NY 10704-1814; hlavaty@panix.com; quarterly; \$1 or the usual. A small perzine with discussion on recent reading and encyclopedia articles written.

Nth Degree 8 by Michael D. Pederson; 77 Algrace Blvd.; Stafford, VA 22556; editor@nthzine.com; <http://www.nthzine.com/>; irregular; free or \$15/6 if mailed. A semi-prozine with clear fannish roots that contains a mix of fiction, articles, poetry, and humor.

Opuntia 53.1B by Dale Speirs; Box 6830; Calgary, Alberta; Canada T2P 2E7; irregular; \$3 or the usual. A nice review-zine issue wherein Mail art and fanzine listings accompany a review of an anthology of prairie SF.

Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin Vol 8 No 5 by R.B. Cleary; 138 Bibb Dr.; Madison, AL 35758-1064; rbccleary@bellsouth.net; quarterly; \$10/yr or the usual. Official fanzine of, you guessed it, the Southern Fandom Confederation. This issue is primarily con reports and LOCs with a campaign to get Darrell K. Sweet a Hugo nomination.

Vanamonde No. 533-42 by John Hertz; 236 S Coronado St No 409; Los Angeles, CA 90057; This is John's APA-L zine with interesting tidbits.

Variations on a Theme 27 & 28 by Rich Lynch; PO Box 3120; Germantown, MD 20885-3120; fiawol@cpcug.org; monthly; \$4 or the usual. This is a SFPA zine. In addition to the mailing comments Rich discusses a trip to Rome for a business conference.

Visions of Paradise #98 by Bob Sabella; 24 Cedar Manor Ct; Budd Lake, NJ 07828-1023; BSabella@optonline.net; quarterly; the usual. This is a fine example of a personal zine which includes considerable commentary.

Knarley's Planned Con Attendance

Ditto 17 (Orlando, FL)

October 8-10, 2004

Mars in 2095 (Worldcon 153) Marsport, Mars

Labor Day, 2095



You Got this Issue Because ...

- ☐ You are going to write me some witty articles.
- ☐ The new tax credit for children (\$1000/each on top of the standard deduction) provides for a significant reduction in federal income tax.
- ☐ Frohvet wanted a pink cover, so in honor of *Twink* and the recently passed Easter, here it is.
- ☐ We trade
- ☐ You sent me a contribution. Thanks.
- ☐ You sent me a letter of ~~complaint~~ comment.

You have _____ issues left before you are designated a black hole and dropped from the mailing list.