

NO

...BUT, LOOKIT, HORSIE, YOU  
CAN'T EVICT ME... I'VE GOTTA  
10 YEAR LEASE...

HARD CHEESE,  
BONELESS!

Ooh! Ooh!... Me  
brain... It don't  
itch no more!

AWARD  
13

SCHIRM '03.



# NO AWARD

13

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This fanzine is available for the fannish usual (which I tend to translate as my own whim, but I do honour trades, locs, artwork, written articles, and other contributions). If all else fails, send me US \$5.00 and I will send you a copy. *NO AWARD* is not pubbed on any regular schedule (even though I want to get it out at least twice a year). Mostly, issues will be put out when material and money decide to get together in a meaningful way.

### LEGALESE

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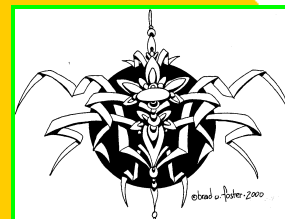
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## SOME EDITORIAL NATTER

There are two things which have recently occurred which has led me to write this column. Those of you who regularly read *NO AWARD* know that I do not often have an editorial column in the zine . . . so enjoy it whilst you can. Or . . . at least puke someplace else if you intend to pass the zine on to another fan.

There have been a few fans who have bemoaned . . . or, at least, mentioned . . . that I do not seem to have enough editorial presence in this zine. Succinctly, the reason for this is that it is not my normal writing style to create this type of essay. At least not very often.

My first fan writing occurred in APAs, initially in APA-L but later also in LASFAPA, AZAPA, and MINNEAPA. These are comment-oriented APAs. (Unfortunately, both AZAPA and MINNEAPA are no more, so the past tense applies here.) As a natural-born smartass, the comment-style of writing suited me quite well. Indeed, to this very day my main fanac remains APAhacking . . . in the weekly APA-L, the monthly LASFAPA, and the quarterly FAPA.

Now, FAPA is not really a comment-oriented APA as its quarterly periodicity tends to lead its members more towards orations rather than mailing comments. This elephant's graveyard of an APA has a rather heavy membership skew of Boring Old Pharts relatively older fans who have been around in fandom for some time, so I guess that this is natural. But it is an interesting group of fans and I enjoy myself there. And contribute mostly mailing comments to that APA, hoping that disease will catch on there.

When I finally went on-line in early 2000, I soon found e-lists . . . a sort of "instant response" form of electronic APAhacking, and I joined several of the fannish ones. The quality of thought on these e-lists is quite high . . . which is to be expected from groups of fans who have been fanwriting for quite some time.

The main problem I have with e-lists as that the "instantness" of them leads some members to a certain, shall we say, *slackness* in spelling and grammar. Naturally, these, er, mistakes are a fertile field for a smartass like me, so I am getting fat on this rich harvest of opportunity.

This now leads me to the second reason for this editorial.

Randy Byers recently produced a zine, *WASSAMATTA U*, a compendium of his fannish writing over the past several years.

On one or another of the fannish e-lists, somebody mentioned that this self-publication of one's writings was a Ghood Thing and went on to wonder why other fans did not produce similar zines. This soon led to e-mail postings from several list members about what they might pub and to speculations about what other fans they would like to see create zines of this sort.

Whilst I did not participate in this thread . . . other than to read the e-mail postings . . . it got me to thinking. Usually, this thinking can be dangerous . . . but not this time.

But I did get to thinking about what I would pub if I were to pub a zine of my own fanwriting.

And I here bring up a third matter . . . you did not think that I would stop with a mere two? . . . my rereading of my first genzine, *HOLIER THAN THOU*, something I did last year. In reading what I wrote in those 27 zines, I think that my best writing was the replies I wrote to the letters I received. By far.

In my APAhacking, I always try to make my commentary in each zine as self-contained as possible so that the readers do not have to pull out the previous disty to read that about which I am commenting. This is not necessary in editorial interjections in responses to locs in a genzine as the material which is being responded to is right there up above the editorial comment. But that is the only difference 'twixt my letter column responses and my e-list posting (on the one hand) and my APA comments (on the other hand). (Um - having only two hands I do not feel constrained to write anything about other tentacles.)

So, let me tie up all of the above into the main point of this editorial: I do not think that I can write a coherent . . . or even interesting . . . zine which consists of my best writing.

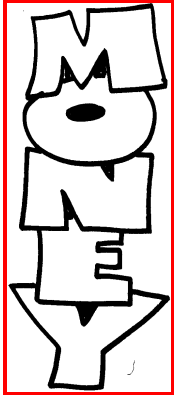
Even if some other idiot, er, fan were to attempt to do so, I think that the task would be daunting. Not that I believe that all that much of what I have written is good enough to be preserved in a zine . . . in formaldehyde, maybe . . . and looking through all of my almost 800 zines to find the few gems would be A Lot Of Work.

A zine composed of essays and such can be interesting as the reader can sit down and savour each essay, getting from it what they will. A zine of snippets, as it were, having no "plot line" . . . or "plot lines" . . . would be much less interesting to most people.

Besides, a zine of miscellaneous smartassery would probably have much less interest to fans than a zine like *WARHOON 28*, the collected writings of Walt Willis. Plus, I am not in that league. But, if anybody wants to try, feel free.

*I started reading APA-L in its early 500s, contributing my first-ever zine of any kind to APA-L #522, thus missing the first time this information about Trantorcon was pubbed: APA-L #500 (11 December, 1974, Pixilated Pink Press #200, put into the APA by Fuzzy Pink Niven, Larry's wife). Phil Castora, receiving permission by Larry, reprinted this as part of his zine in APA-L #1967. To share the enjoyment which I received when I read this in APA-L a few weeks ago, I asked Larry if I could put this into NO AWARD and he agreed. It should be noted that this con bid brought about a competing bid, Terminuscon.*

## **SOME PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR THE TRANTORCON**



by Larry Niven  
Chairman of the TrantorCon Bidding Committee

Aided and Abetted by Fuzzy Pink Niven

### **ADVANCE MEMBERSHIPS**

This far in advance of the Convention itself, memberships are relatively cheap. During 1972 to 1974 they will cost \$1.00. They will rise by \$1.00 every year thereafter. Memberships at the door will cost \$22,336 or the equivalent in commercials, UN Marks, dinars, etc.

Supporting memberships will carry the same price up to the cutoff date in 6973, and will continue thereafter at \$5000. This may seem a little high, but it is necessary to cover the cost of mailing Progress Reports over a period of 21,335 years, and distances up to 70,000 light years, excluding possible members in the Clouds of Magellan.

**YOUR MEMBERSHIPS CAN BE PASSED ON TO YOUR DESCENDANTS!**

### **THE PROGRAM**

PRO GUEST OF HONOR: Hari Seldon

FAN GUEST OF HONOR: Isaac Asimov

The Hugos this year will be full-sized working interstellar spacecraft.

### **PANELS**

#### **RELIGION IN SCIENCE FICTION FANDOM**

Ghu, Roscoe, Cthulhu, Edapt, Trent, and Ron Hubbard. Questions from the audience will be permitted, but may be dangerous.

#### **TIME TRAVEL — FACT OR FANTASY?**

H. G. Wells, Nostradamus, Hanville Svetz, and Adolf Hitler (author of *The Iron Dream*).

#### **HAS SCIENCE CAUGHT UP WITH SCIENCE FICTION?**

Barry Malzberg, Joanna Russ, Harlan Ellison, J. G. Ballard, and David Gerrold.

#### **ARE WORLDCONS GETTING TOO LARGE?**

Open discussion.

The panel on Seyfert galaxies has been postponed due to the recent increase of supernovas in the galactic core.

### **ART SHOW**

Space for large items will be made available in orbit around Trantor (or vice versa, as required). Gazornflot, the master terraformer, has already informed us that he will have several of his projects available for such display. Phil Farmer has promised a full-scale Riverworld, complete with android population.

The Show will have top grade security. Kzinti and Coeurls will act as Art Show guards (remember to wear your convention badges in the Art Show at *all* times). Exhibits which are noxious to some species must be so labeled. A special area will be provided for works involving exotic gravitational effects, such as neutronium or quantum black holes. (Transportation is *your* problem.) Artists with special requirements should notify the committee as soon as possible.

## MASQUERADE

Due to the expected size of the Masquerade, we have commissioned a special free fall ballroom, so that costumes will be easily and completely visible. This arrangement should also be more comfortable for contestants wearing heavy or awkward costumes. Gravity stages will be available for costumes requiring this effect. Tentative plans call for an inflated plastic bubble about the size of Mercury.

Presentations will be strictly limited and limits enforced by the usual gang of ferocious monsters regular guard staff. Special effects *must* be checked out with the committee prior to the Masquerade. Absolutely no laser cannon, thermonuclear devices, or peanut butter! Flash photography will be restricted to frequencies not perceived by any sentient species.

A special prize will be awarded to the entrant who least resembles his actual species. We are open to suggestions on what to do during the inevitably long time while the judges are deliberating. (Hold a convention?)

## CHARTER FLIGHTS

The distance between Earth and the hub of the galaxy is 33,000 light years. We cannot possibly cross that distance at slower-than-light speeds and still get there by 23,309 AD. There is no way to know just when humanity (or anybody!) will lick the lightspeed barrier.

There are many possible ways to reach the TrantorCon. It is not too early to start thinking about charter flights.

### I

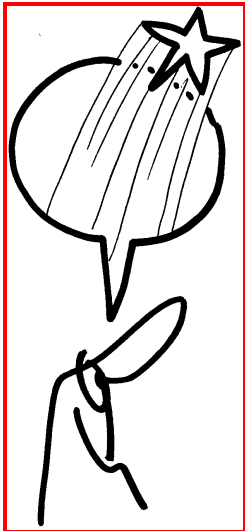
The Bussard ramjet seems to be the best bet. We wait until a working Bussard ramjet ship is invented, then take off immediately.

The advantage of the Bussard ramjet is that it uses interstellar hydrogen for fuel. There is no limit to its fuel supply, and we can accelerate constantly. By taking advantage of relativistic time contraction, accelerating at one gee all the way and making turnover at midpoint, we can reach Trantor in twenty-one years.

Unfortunately, 33,000 years will have passed on Earth and Trantor, with the result that we will arrive around 35,000 AD, or 11,693 years too late. But there is a good chance that some faster-than-light ship will pick us up. After all, we will be passing through 33,000 light years of space; a number of intelligent, space-traveling species must occupy that space, and billions of members will surely be attending the TrantorCon.

If it should turn out that FTL travel is impossible, then the Bussard ramjet is the *only* way to fly. Species in our neighborhood and localities further from the Core will also be arriving late. We should arrive in time for several thousand years of dead dog parties.





## II

Many of us will be needing either longevity treatments or frozen sleep, even when using method I. It is not likely that an interstellar spacecraft will be built in the next fifty years.

Our younger members will probably want to wait around for the invention of geriatric drugs. Our older members may want to opt for frozen sleep. This is something of a gamble. Thousands of people have already been put in frozen sleep and are now awaiting one or another version of the Day of Resurrection. However, nobody has ever been successfully thawed as of this writing.

With geriatric drugs, one need simply wait for whatever develops: Bussard ramjets, various breeds of faster-than-light drives, instantaneous teleportation, black hole links. For those who opt for frozen sleep, it would be sensible to include the freezer vaults as part of the charter flight, with the vaults in the care of the TrantorCon Committee. Thus they could be sure of being awakened on time. (The sleepers' working capital and other possessions should also be left in care of the TrantorCon Committee, so that their interest could be maximized during what might amount to tens of thousands of years of waiting.)

## III

Any means of reaching Trantor is bound to be expensive. A charter flight seems mandatory. Whatever the nature of the transportation, the cost per passenger usually drops as the size of the craft rises. For those of our members in frozen sleep, it may be possible to ship them to Trantor in that state, saving room aboard the ships. If no means has been found to thaw them, we can take advantage of the superior medical facilities at Hospital Station. (Consult James White for details.)

If the Bussard ramjet turns out to be infeasible, we will need a Macro-Life vessel — in which case a charter flight will be mandatory. In the absence of longevity drugs such as stroon or boosterspice or the anti-agathics, we may have to count on our descendants being the actual attendees. Remember, *your membership can be passed on to your descendants*.

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

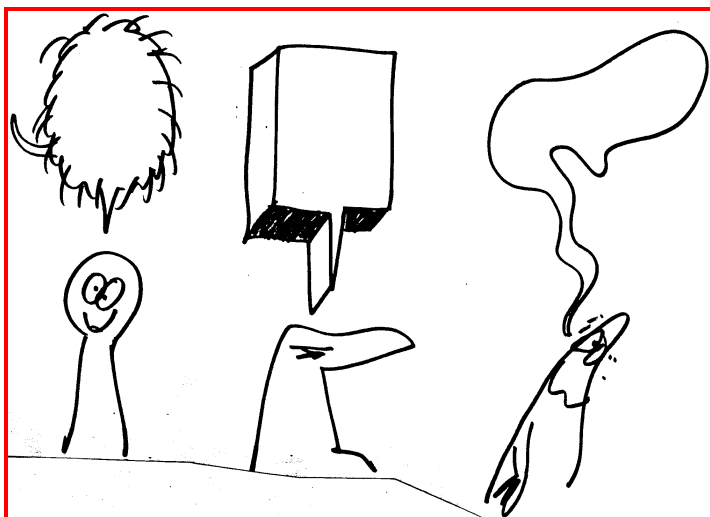
This time there won't be any nonsense about the Businessmen's Bible Association complaining about our room parties. We have booked the entire planet. There will be no conflicting conventions. The municipal government is building new hotels on top of some of the older hotels to accommodate an expected one trillion attendees.

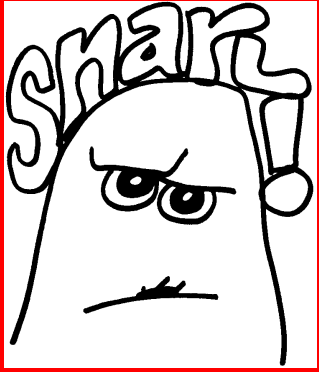
Naturally, the hotels want their bookings confirmed well in advance. This is why we must bid so early. If we lose the bid, it would be well to do it before the Hotelkeeper's Guild on Trantor can demand money up front to hold reservations.

Thus it would be well to *get your reservations in early*, unless you're a teela, in which case something will probably will turn up.

The hotels on Trantor are famous for the variety of their controlled environment accommodations. Naturally, the rooms for human and other protoplasmic beings are the cheapest, as Trantor was an Earthlike world before they paved it over.

THE LENS MAN is one of the largest hotels on Trantor. The spaceport and ferry facilities are quite unique. The ferry service, in particular, covers two galaxies, and is cheap, but is *disrecommended* for those who cannot take inertialess flight.





THE SKYLARK is *The Lensman's* companion hotel. It also offers ferry service and facilities for a variety of species, including a room for four-dimensional beings. (One room, but it's very wide in the appropriate dimension.)

THE HUMAN SPACE (somewhat misnamed) is not large, though it has an *enormous* adjunct in a neighboring system. Facilities for human, dolphin, kzinti, Pierson's puppeteers, bandersnatchi (expensive because of the room needed), Outsiders (expensive because of the antigravity, vacuum, and low temperature equipment), and Pak (expensive because of the guards needed to protect the other guests). *The Human Space* supplies telepathically-controlled Dolphin's Hands for all species lacking appendages, and mobile platforms for grogs. The kzinti and puppeteer sections are separated by four feet of hullmetal in stasis. General Products Corp. has already leased all the huxter room; see them.

THE POLESOTECHNIC is also one of the largest hotels on Trantor. Nicholas van Rijn, owner and manager. Facilities for a wide variety of species, mostly protoplasmic. Prices are high to very high; rooms are comfortable to luxurious. Enormous acrobatics gymnasium for flying species. Huxter rooms available.

THE VIAGENS INTERPLANETARIAS is medium-sized, and features a ferry service which is unfortunately rather slow. Species further than 21,000 light-years from Trantor should *send down payments to hold their reservations*, or the hotel will not hold the room. The manager does not believe in faster-than-light travel. Facilities for protoplasmic beings of reasonable size. Huxter rooms available.

THE MESKLIN HILTON offers extreme environments, more so than any of the others. Artificial gravity goes up to 800 G, temperatures and pressures vary unbelievably. Our agent could not even procure equipment to inspect most of the rooms, but he was able to interview some of the guests, and they seemed satisfied. No facilities for humans, and the facilities for protoplasmic beings are scarce.

THE HUB is justly named. Stay in the bar long enough and you'll see everyone and everything you've ever known, heard of, or dreamed of on a bad night. Facilities for a tremendous variety of species, largely, but not exclusively, protoplasmic and Earthlike. Game rooms for testing of parapsychological talents. (Demand a telepathic index before playing poker with anyone here.) An intensive complex of rooms for program items. *Warning:* Many of the guests are dangerous.

THE STARMAKER is the biggest hotel on Trantor. Controlled environments include a sea the size of Lake Michigan for sentient sailing craft.

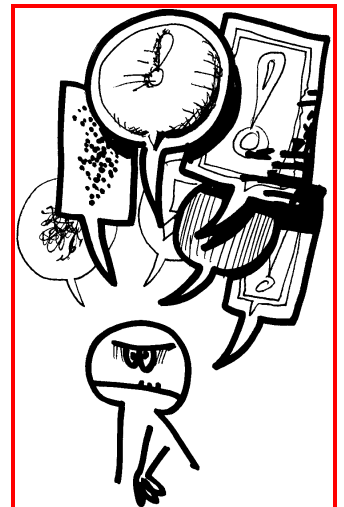
THE SECOND FOUNDATION HOTEL houses humans only, and is owned by the Emperor himself. Shuttle service is adequate. The big advantage is that no reservations are needed; the management has an uncanny knack for predicting precisely how many accommodations will be needed at any time.

## NEARBY RESTAURANTS

Always there are those fans who do not like the hotel food. They have a point. We all know that a Con hotel tends to treat a Convention as a captive market. The restaurant prices go up. The waiters behave as they damned please; you're not going anywhere. They close early; why not? You'll still be hungry tomorrow.

On Trantor this will not be a problem. We have booked every hotel on the planet, and the hotel restaurants will be competing for our custom. But the food prices will still be high, because every mouthful must be shipped in from off Trantor.

For those who prefer to eat outside the hotels, there are many good, cheap restaurants in the local neighborhood. Remember, the stars in the central galactic core are only a third of a light-year apart!



*Colonel Xanthpf's Kentucky Fried Bandersnatch* orbits Trantor itself. The diet is limited, but cheap and plentiful. Large groups are suggested. The Small Basket offers fifty-six tons of succulent bandersnatch meat for 4,250 commercials. *For protoplasmic vertebrates only.* The rights of the bandersnatchi are fully protected; they must be killed in armed combat, with the armaments of the cooks rigidly restricted.

*The Living Jungle* is a specialty place. Your admission fee buys you all you can eat in twenty hours, but the trick is to be the eater, not the eaten. Favored by kzinti, coeurls, and other carnivores who like to fight for their meals, *The Living Jungle* is open to anyone vicious enough or stupid enough to walk in. Watch out for the vampire trees. (Certain big herbivores have praised the taste of the vampire trees. But if you want to try them, you'd better be tough!)

*(Click)Fiss's* is mainly a Pak place; their attitude toward breeder-phase humans is ambivalent, usually over-protective. Service is excellent if you don't mind being told what to eat. Avoid any dish that might be flavored with tree-of-life root. (It'll look like slices of underdone sweet potato.)

*Horus* is for vegetarians vegetables of the photosynthetic persuasion. It offers a variety of sunlights. imitations of every type of star from red dwarf to supernova, and an even wider variety of soils, including helium<sup>II</sup> with dissolved nutrients.

*Eye of Edapt* is not a restaurant *per se*, but a dueling ground featuring referees and a variety of hand weapons for rent. A good fighter can stretch his funds here. Nobody will object if you eat your victim, provided he is not of your own species.

*Noknokhoodair: Eats* is expensive but shouldn't be missed. Floating in the permanent night of Trantor's cometary halo, this ancient converted Berserker craft is known from here to Andromeda as the true home of the gourmet. Just one thing: *bring your pocket chemical lab along.* In his lust for new flavor combinations, Noknokhoodair CMIX uses flavorings noxious or harmful to many species: camphor, arsenic, ozone, prussic acid, heavy metals such as lead, gold, and plutonium, and even green kryptonite.

## **BABYSITTING**

Stasis boxes will be provided in convenient locations as a cheap alternative to babysitters.

