

NUMBER ONE # 6 is being published for FAPA #266 by Mike
McInerney, 83 Shakespeare St., Daly City, Ca. 94014-1053. Email is
ELANDEM@ATT.NET. Feb 2004 issue.

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I was thrilled to finally become a member of FAPA and receive my first mailing just before the New Year began. Just a couple of updates to make in re NUMBER ONE #5. I am unemployed again. Shortly after mailing lastish in to the OE, I quit my job at the Airport so I could start my new job at the Post Office without any conflicts of timing or interest. To make this short, during the first two weeks at the PO I only "worked" 3 days, one orientation, one 8 hour driving safety lecture, and one half day testing on driving a Post Office Vehicle with the steering wheel on the right side, a "mirror system" made necessary due to total lack of vision from the sides or rear, and no advance or detailed training. I failed the test and was terminated instantly on Dec 10th! So now I feel very discouraged and just hate the thought of starting over from scratch again.

I also want to make it clear that I support the concept of Fan Funds and encourage everyone to contribute and vote for your favorites. I think the main reason I ran for DUFF was just to have some fannish proof that I exist. What I mean is that despite a lot of fanac, and multiple con attendances, there doesn't really seem to be any record in fandom that I was there. No mention in any fan histories, no awards or even nominations, not even a photo at any of the links on the web. If it weren't for Jay K Klein's Photo Annuals of the early 1960's I'd doubt that I was there. So I guess my wish for egoboo caused me to run, and I'm glad that I did! It made me feel good that more than 50 people voted for me and that was reward enough.

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MAILING COMMENTS: Well, I enjoyed all the zines and was really blown away by TERMINAL EYES 10 and VISIONS OF PARADISE #97 which together comprised more than one third of the mailing.// FAPAment #803 John S. Davis, was all mc's so it is hard to comment on. But I do wonder how you were able to find the time to publish 802 previous issues? Or are you just numbering them by the date on which you started writing them?// IT'S BAD NEWS WEEK from Keith Walker tells of dealing with learning he has diabetes Type 2. His blood testing machine, needles, and test strips are free! I just priced out 100 test strips at Costco a couple of days ago for my wife \$77 ! She uses 2 or 3 a day. From Kaiser we get them for about \$12, but it costs almost \$500 a month to keep her a member of Kaiser! // GHOSTS, GOBLINS, & GODS by Helen V Wesson is good to see here even though I'm not too interested in Japanese mythology. We last intersected some 30+ years ago in NAPA the mundane apa. we both belonged to back then.// I enjoyed Dale Speirs SANSVIERIA 57 quite a bit even tho it was mostly con report from Calgary. On our honeymoon 31 years ago we took the Canadian National train from Toronto to Vancouver. It passed through Calgary. Beautiful mountains and scenery on that ride which also went through Saskatoon, Kamloops Junction and Jasper Alberta where the Moose Club had real moose playing in the parking lot. Or maybe they were Elks, I'm not sure anymore. I do remember the white tailed deer turning their backs on us and displaying proudly their white tails, of

course. // Marty Cantor's FISH WRAP PAPERS show us how mc's should be done. He references the previous comments and takes off on mini-essays inspired by them. He is also surprised that FAPA had a waiting list, but probably not as much as I was since I was on it! // BEN'S BEAT #74 by Ben Indick was read with interest by me. Apparently ESFA in New Jersey no longer meets in Newark and has a completely new cast of members since I used to be a regular. Its only been 40 years ago. Oh Well. Since I am an Arkham House collector, and a HPL fan I enjoyed your comments about them. I must say I've never read anything by Gregory Maguire, but I did see the play in San Francisco and liked it quite a bit while certainly noticing its diversions from the books and movies. I see that it is a big hit on Broadway!/// KING BISCUIT TIME 41 by Robert Lichtman has an informative article about HPL and I agree with his point that HPL wasn't significant in the formation of what later became sf fandom or FAPA. Except of course that amateur groups like NAPA did provide a model to the people who started FAPA to some extent.//

Just to break up the nonstop print, I'm indenting here at random. It's a couple days later and I'll try something different now.

ALPHABET SOUP:Milt Stevens. I too am totally in favor of space travel and it galled me to hear Bush promoting trips to the moon and Mars in a way that is very unlikely to happen with the budget crunch so bad at this time. He raises false hopes to distract us from his failings!/ As for Young Frankenstein I heard that they used the actual sets from the original movies, which is why they looked so right on./ Good luck with your new duties as Official Editor, and Thanks for taking over a thankless job.

TERMINAL EYES 10:Tim Marion. 80 Page Giant issue indeed! Its been a long time since I've written a letter of comment and I'm not going to try one now. But this zine covers so many topics it certainly deserves one. Unlike you I didn't enjoy the film League of Extraordinary Men. I didn't read the comic but that might have made it even worse. The premise was promising but let me down./ I am also a comics fan but my favorite is Carl Barks./ You write about the cost in time and money of producing such an elaborate and large fanzine and seem disappointed at the low response. Obviously your zine is a labor of love. I'm not sure apa are the best place to look for response. You write good meatly mc's but most of the apa members, including myself of course, are just touching on a few points and going onwards. I have to say that this is the best zine I've read in the mailing so far while admitting that I still have a few more left to read.

A PROPOS DE RIEN :Jim Caughran. What is the significance, if any, of your license plate APAF 017 ? Was it named after APA F ? // You are right that "dom" is an official Scrabble word, but real Scrabble pros don't usually know or care what the words actually mean. They just need to remember if they are in the "official" word list. My wife Linda plays occasionally in Bay Area scrabble Tournaments and does very well. I just play for fun and never bothered to memorize the 2 or 3 letter word lists.

VOICE OF THE HABU:Roger Wells. Sounds like you have job hunting concerns too as do I. The red tape involved in trying to work for the government is so thick that I'm shocked that anyone ever gets hired by them. For 3 years I've been either unemployed, on probation, or working for companies that were either going bankrupt, or cutting way back on expenses. And the easiest expense for shortsighted firms to trim is

payroll. Very discouraging!

THE ROAD WARRIOR: Tom Feller. I enjoyed your con report and photographs. You said Dragoncon had up to 50,000 attendees on Sat! can that figure be real? And at \$65 a head does that mean the committee took in \$3,250,000 .These numbers dwarf Worldcon don't they? I doubt that I would enjoy anything that crowded.//Good to see you here in FAPA.

LOFGEORNOST#73:Fred Lerner. Thanks for sending me your zine . I read all the issues you sent and I regret not commenting on them. // I read Silverlock in the mid '60s and remember enjoying it. I'm sure I would enjoy rereading it if only I could catch up on all the books I already own that I haven't had time to read even once yet!// Unlike you I enjoyed The Russian Ark movie which I saw in a theater. I did not expect coherence or narrative and thus wasn't disappointed by that. I guess I was somewhat fascinated by the technical aspects of filming that all in one long take, swirling in and out of the Hermitage. But I also liked Dune which you call tiresome. As for Prospero's Book it was indeed a bore to me.// I envy you all your traveling and the ability to describe each place in such detail. Alas I've only made a few trips abroad, 2 to Italy, 1 to Australia . Wish I could do more.

SWEET JANE#29: Gordon Eklund. 94 movies in 23 days probably beats me for stamina. I do a lot of volunteer work for various film festivals in San Francisco. They seem to have a lot of festivals here, maybe 30 or 40 a year, but my favorites are the SF International, The Jewish Film Fest, Berlin and Beyond, and the Cine-Latino Fest. So I most likely see about 400 films a year in the theaters. But even at the SF International I only see 40 to 50 films during the 2 to 3 weeks. I find it hard to concentrate if I see more than 4 in a day. Some of my recent favorite films would include The Station Master, The Triplets Of Belleville, and The Barbarian Invasions. The writing in your zine is outstanding.

FELINE MEWSING #14 by R-Laurraine Tutihasi I read with interest mainly for the cruise to Alaska report and pictures. I'd love to do this someday. On the other hand why do you feel it necessary to explain what and apa is and what a loc is. Is your readership so sheltered that some of them wouldn't know?

THE DEVIL'S WORK by Norm Metcalf . This reads like a list of errata or addendums or whatever the heck they are called. Footnotes without the original text being present. At times interesting, at times confusing, but lots of white space in between and giving a feel to me at least of stretching out the material to fill more pages. It is probably easier to read than THIS fanzine I'm doing here with very little white space and dense fields of text from top to bottom, left to right!

GRIN AND (TEDDY)BEAR IT from Janice Morningstar. Thanks for the stickers and the very nice Christmas cover. Too bad it arrived after Christmas.// I agree that Santa Clara is part of the San Francisco Bay Area. Of course it isn't part of San Francisco itself. a place commonly referred to as The City around these parts. That means we don't usually give a darn about Oakland or San Jose, even though we realize they are lurking not too far away. I live about 50 feet away from SF in Daly City commonly referred to as Little Manila as probably 30% of the residents hail from the Philippines.//I wish you hadn't mentioned failing driving tests. I cringe now every time I see a post office truck drive by me. They spent a whole day telling us to never get into a position

where we would have to back up. Then 7 days later when I finally got into the vehicle for the first time ever they made me back up for an hour and a half around an obstacle course of barrels without getting too close or too far away from them. They wanted me to stay about 2 or 3 inches from each barrel and kept threatening to fail me. This was before we started the road test, where they gave me 3 black marks before we got out of the parking lot! I know I can drive safer than most of the employees they currently have if only I could have had some training or practice with the unfamiliar vehicle.

VISIONS OF PARADISE #97 from Robert Michael Sabella is a zine that I enjoy more and more as I read more issues. At first I thought it was mostly like reading someone's diary of activities. Since he writes a lot about his family, friends, students, and vacations and trips, and since I didn't know any of those people I was a bit put off initially. But now I begin to get a feeling for his life and interests. Of course this zine is more of a genzine than an apazine. It reminds me of Yandro which was always a favorite of mine during my first few years in fandom. Thick, reliable, full of articles, reviews, artwork, locs, and bad jokes. I do wish there was some connection to FAPA herein, i.e. mailing comments.

PLASMA# Nov '03 by Arnie Katz is all mailing comments on a mailing that I didn't see. Yes like you I remember Wendy O Williams and The Plasmatics. She would have put on a great Super Bowl halftime show I bet. // Singles mostly went away by the mid '60s with albums replacing them. Still I remember buying "Rock Around The Clock" b/w "Thirteen Women" on 78rpm and playing it until the grooves literally wore out. "Thirteen Women" was a funny science fiction song about nuclear devastation. Bill Haley sang about a world in which everyone was killed by the A Bomb except 13 women "and me the only guy in town!" Another single I loved was "Whole Lotta Shaking Goin' On" by the great Jerry Lee Lewis and his "Pumping Piano!" My 3rd choice would be "Mixed Up Confusion" by Bob Dylan backed up by "Corinne, Corrine." Oh yeah, "Maybelline" by Chuck Berry and almost anything by The Coasters!!! I downloaded your PDF's and others but I'm afraid to print them out because I'm afraid of running out of ink. It is amazing that as soon as you replace ink the warning messages begin "printer is low on ink, do you wish to print?" and the cost of the ink is \$50! Yow! So your pdf's stay in my stuff to save inbox and get looked at occasionally.// So your first contact with fandom was Judi Sephton. But what was your first club meeting or in person contact?

WESTERN ROMANCE#7 by Joyce Worley Katz was fun to read. Glad you are happy about your move. Your water bill dropped from \$189 to \$6.57! Yikes.// I don't watch much tv. I did see the first episode of Carnivale but didn't think much of it. We don't have HBO or Showtime. We already pay \$40 a month to watch tv. When I was a kid no one would have believed that people would pay that kind of money for tv, or that others would be buying small bottles of water to carry around either. Times change don't they?// I still have my record albums (500 to 600 I guess) and vhs tapes maybe 400 of those, and cassette tapes 350+, and Laser Discs 60+, but I seldom listen to or watch any of them. It is reassuring to know they are there when I need or want them!

BIRD OF PREY #2 by Janine Stinson is entertaining and does manage to cover a lot of sf writing in a few pages. I read so slowly now that I'm lucky if I can finish a short story in only a day or two. The only Bruce Sterling I've read was Crystal Express his

Arkham House book. Currently I'm reading The Rim Of The Unknown by Frank B. Long also an Arkham House book. I'd say I'm half way through it in about a month of reading.

DISINFORMATION #59 by Arthur Hlavaty didn't present much to comment on as it was one page of mc's. I will take this moment to thank you for your kindness in mailing me all those copies of DR. I always enjoy reading your viewpoints and frequently find myself agreeing with what you say.

UPDATE ON ME: Well, I think I have my old job at the airport back again working for SWISSPORT. Yesterday I took another piss test and soon I will get fingerprinted again and photographed for an ID card. 10 year background checks, FBI checks, etc.. It is a stressful job at times, but not as stressful as having NO job.//

I really hadn't intended to attempt full mc's this time, but maybe it is the right way to treat FAPA with proper respect. I hope I didn't offend anyone with my blunt opinions about their zines. I look forward to the next mailing. Last issue I forgot to credit the illo on page 4. It was a previously unpublished circa 1961 sketch by Bhob Stewart.

I certainly hope no one is offended by being left out of the short piece of fan fiction that follows. I am running into the deadline and had to cut it a bit shorter than I had originally planned. On the other hand I suppose someone may be offended at being included. To which I have to say "Oh Well." Can't please everyone I guess.

THE FIGHT FAN CLUB

Incident at Vegas

By "The Invisible Fan"

There was an almost audible hush that enveloped the Arena that had been hastily erected inside the main ballroom of the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas as the Main Event, The Battle Royale, was about to begin. The Steel Cage in the center of the room began to vibrate and hum with resonance from the tension in the room.

BNFs and wanna BNFs started pouring into town days earlier to establish their presence and also to gobble up all the free drinks and food at the legendary pre-event parties. On Thursday night cakes and cookies disappeared at record speeds and Tom "Kegman" Springer almost got a hernia from constantly replenishing the beer supply to slake the truefans all-consuming thirst. Joyce "The Answer Lady" Katz seemed to have all the answers despite frequently repeating her motto, "I am not on the committee!" She and Arnie "Pubber Boy" Katz hosted the most deluxe, elite, A List, hardest to get into party which somehow everyone attended anyway. No gate crashers were turned away. Arnie didn't have much to say, for a change, excusing himself "Sorry folks, I have a piece of chicken stuck in my teeth." Meanwhile Ross "Inkmaster" Chamberlain sat in the corner sketching away making caricatures of all the guests and crashers. Folks had journeyed from halfway across the globe just for this event "Traveling" Jean Weber and Eric "The Kicking Kangaroo" Lindsay claimed to have come all the way from Australia, but weren't believed. Sanda "The Solicitor" Bond from the UK insisted on everyone following the rules of law. Most of the Americans misunderstood what a

“solicitor” was.

The steel cage enclosure had been built with the help of Tracy “The Facilitator” Benton and had a swinging gate with a lock. Once inside the contestants weren’t leaving until only one was left standing. The contest was a combination of The Fight Club, Masquerade Ball, and Free For All Fan Trivia Contest. The only rule was if you enter The Cage You Must Fight- No Spectators Allowed in there! Last Fan Standing wins all the glory! If someone taps out, or submits, it’s all over for them.

The fanfare played loudly, the crowd began cheering wildly for their costumed favorites as the trufans marched slowly into the arena-- proudly, bravely they strode forward through the Gaping, Ghastly Gate of Doom.

Ted “Diehard” White, the “hardest of the hardcore” led the pack. He was dressed all in black with fannish symbols stenciled onto his clothes. A styli, bottles of correction fluid, and pictures of typewriters adorned his outfit. Closely following came Art “Ironman” Widner, with his face coloured ditto purple, only one step behind in his quest for a perfect attendance record. Then the masses streamed in, some making their first appearance ever such as Earl “Killer” Kemp dressed as a Chicago mobster from the ‘20’s. They swarmed in including Nigel “Kiwi Klobberer” Rowe, Ken “The Chair” Foreman, “Queen” Aileen Foreman, “Peaceable Rich Coad, rich “mr lowercase” brown, Robert “The Ruler Of Order” Lichtman, Cathi “Blushing Bride” Wilson, Marty “ Smartass” Cantor(dressed like the Court Jester with a smoking pipe in his hand), Oakland Jack Calvert a first timer, but exuding danger and mystery, R-Laurainne Tutihasi as Cat Woman flashing a set of feline claws, and following just behind the rest but towering over most while flinging piercing questions right and left and dressed as Torquemada came Ulrika “Inquisitor” O'Brien.

I attended as “The Invisible Fan” and slipped unseen inside the Cage just as the door clanged shut. What followed was too horrible to describe, like some Lovecraftian daemoniacal battle , the ineffable miasma of blood, insults, one-upmanship, and faanish one liners was beyond the mental capacity of mere fen to recount. Suffice it to say that Peaceable and lower case were the first to tap out. And after 10 min of carnage only The Inquisitor and Diehard were still standing! As they simultaneously hurled invectives they spontaneously passed out, hitting the canvas at the exact same moment thus bringing the match to its sudden finish. A draw! A dead heat! A rematch is planned for next year, of course! As I got outta there Lenny “PC” Bailes and Dave “Techman” Locke notified all the fannish list serves.