**RUNE 82**

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ROTATING EDITORS:

Garth Edmond Danielson - December
Ken Fletcher - March
Tom Juntenen - June
Jeff Schalles - September

This issue: edited by Ken Fletcher (covers, credits & "KLARN RAYS")

Typesetting by Jeff Schalles • RuneLocs (p.29) edited by Garth Edmond Danielson • MinnMInutes (p.53) recorded by Rob Jop Peterson • Beyond the Twilight Event Horizon (p.37) by Jeff Schalles •

ART CREDITS for Locs & Minutes:

Jeff Schalles 37
Ed Ackerman 34 * Kathy Buburuz 31 * Michael Gilbert 36
Teddy Harvia 34 * Hawk Heath 33 * Peggy Ranum 35 + Shep 31
Tisch 36 + Alan White 29, 32 * S. Clay Wilson 30 + Dennis Wolf 33

*THE ALMOST-ALL-CARTOON RUNE!* Doing comments on cartoons isn't easy — you may have to borrow terms from film critics! You can always talk about the ideas implied by a cartoon — or by its setting. You may want to try and guess the themes the cartoonists were given and my editing tactics — Ken Fletcher.

contributors: KLARN RAYS#0 (RUNE's cartoon art section and this issues covers — )

Scott Alston 5137 Catherine St., Philadelphia, PA 19143... "ST"... art on pages 16, 18
Scott edits several "furry" sf art-fanzines — send a SASE for a catalog.

Kjar'tan Arnöörsön P.O. Box 32292, Tucson, AZ 85751

Leslie Bates P.O. Box 10813, Minneapolis, MN 55408-3813

Larry Becker 3557-26th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55406

Dave Bennett 14418 Miranda, Van Nuys, CA 91401-4232

"Dave Bennett, Creative Director at Rick Reinert Pictures, a small L.A. animation studio, was born on a large blue world with a lot of ice, but left at too early an age to remember its name."

Arthur 'Dr. Artie' Bohm

Robert & Margaret Carspecken

Steve Corbett 1 3 Jim Groat, P.O. Box 32292, Tucson, AZ 85751

"Steve Corbett is a knife maker/artist/fur friend... When not at work at knives, he occasionally gets a chance to draw something for fanzines & apas."

Sam De La Rosa

Rich Larson says: "One of the finest & most meticulous inkers today. A master of the ink brush in adventure comics."

Ken Fletcher 2808 Harriet Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408

Brad W. Foster P.O. Box 165246, Irving, TX 75016

Brad publishes many excellent art zines — send a SASE for info.
Tom Foster
55 South Alicia, Memphis, TN 38112
17, 21, 22

Giovanna Fregni
1017 Raymond Ave., Apt.#9, St.Paul, MN 55114
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Michael Gilbert
203 Gatzmer Ave., Jamesburg, NJ 08831
Burned out art school graduate of the 60's —... Does kids books, military miniatures, computer graphics, etc., but never sold out—good thing his wife has a job—
23

Alexis Gilliland
17

Teddy Harvia
P.O. Box 905, Euless, TX 76039
Teddy Harvia is a long-time contributor to ROCK. He's a one-time (more than once) contributor to VOMIT. The one-time funny animal apa. He lives in Texas with his multiple pseudonyms.
20

Cathy Hill
(Hunt for her black & white comic book: MAD RACCOONS — Kauf)
24, 25, 26, 27

Rich Larson
% FASTNER & LARSON STUDIO, #445 Sexton Bldg, inside front cover: 2
529-7th St. S., Minneapolis, MN 55415
inks: 5
"Local cartoonist Rich Larson has fooled top-flight talent into collaborating with him for the past 15 years."

Ken Leach
1253 G East Jefferson, Mishawaka, IN 46545-7624
Ken Leach publishes worthless small press stuff... His Kinetcom studies packages real comics... and is currently seeking material... He letters for Malibu Graphics, Comico, and D.C. comics.
20

Wayne Modjeski
609 Grand St., Winona, MN 55987
back cover

Cindy Murata
P.O. Box 3055, Kirkland, WA 98083-3055
"Cindy Murata enjoys slogging around on webbed feet in the rainy state of Washington creating sf, fantasy and anthropomorphic art...."
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Bryce Nakagawa
1317 Norton St., San Mateo, CA 94401
"Bryce wrangles pixels for a living. Bryce likes cats, real (NFL) football, real (NL) baseball, outside pitches he can go to the opposite field with, anime, gaming conventions and referring to himself in the third person in print."
17

Roy D. Pounds II
563 E. Tenth St., Azusa, CA 91702
9

Toivo Rovainen
5225-19th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98105-3308
Toivo spent his formative years in the Midwest SCA. Fighting, sewing & publishing... Earning his daily bread as a Kelly Girl; he now edits the Cynic Freedom Examiner for MV Press.
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Mike Sagara
P.O. Box 1378, Belmont, CA 94002
6

Julius A. Shell
615 Liberty St., Plainfield, NJ 07060-2113
20

Stu Shiffman
8618 Linden Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98103
16

Steve Stiles
15, 20

Peter Stoller
8 Orchard St., Spring Valley, NY 10977 "Speet" 14, 16
"Peter Stoller, member of RWRBRAZILLE, digs "Furry" cartoons, most sf & fantasy, computer illiterate, hates RPGs, let Star Trek die already!"

Tara / Wayne MacDonald
1812-415 Willowdale Ave., Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5B4
17
Publishes artzines, prints, t-shirts — send SASE. CANADA cover

Tisch
17

Mel. White
5338 Heather Glen, Garland, TX 75043
16
An excerpt from one of her SHAKEDOWN CRUISE mini-comix. Also does COYOTE stories. Send SASE.

Dennis Wolf
4311 Blaisdell Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55409
28
CUT A FLUMER IN MY AIRLOCK, WILL YOU?...
Turbo

Genre Mantra

Gads! This story is so generic!

Whatever happened to taking risks and innovation? I betcha I could come up with something original...

ZZZ

We're surrounded by... cliches!

Darn! Even my own dreams are selling out!

Long time ago in a comic rack far away, there was variety and innovation... but the dark age of formula and greed had descended, wiping out whole companies, doom.

End

Hey, Neet's Characters © Mike Sagra 1990
A routine mission spells disaster as Randy & Cindy must face the dread Vampire Gas Monsters of Halcyon!

THE Vampire Planet
LONG TIME

186,000 MILES A SECOND. THAT'S THE SPEED OF LIGHT. THAT'S AS FAST AS YOU CAN GO. IT'S NOT JUST A GOOD IDEA, IT'S THE LAW.

IT SOUNDS FAST, BUT WHEN YOU TRAVEL INTERSTELLAR DISTANCES, IT'S REALLY SLOW. A PILOT COULD DIE OF OLD AGE JUST ON THE TRIP FROM EARTH TO A COUPLE OF THE NEARER STAR SYSTEMS AND BACK.

BUT THE PEOPLE WHO SENT ME OUT THOUGHT OF THAT. CHANGED ME, MADE ME DAMN NEAR IMMORTAL. OLE HOMO SAPIENS SURE IS SMART. YESSIR.

I'VE BEEN OUT HERE A LONG TIME. I WONDER IF THERE'S STILL ANY PEOPLE LEFT ON EARTH?

I WISH I COULD REMEMBER WHAT THEY LOOKED LIKE...
IN THE DAYZ OF RICKY, RAY! THEY WERE THE TRAVELERS OF SPACE UNKNOWN TO TIME OR HOLIDAY WEEKEND! KNOWN TO EVERY SPANK 'N' STRIKE, HE WAS A PROPER KOSMIXPHOPTER!

I WAS BORN TO BE WILD BUT CABLE MADE ME BETTER!

WHEN THE OZONE LEFT THE RAINBOW ZONE APPEARED MADE OR THE LOST LAZER SCANZ OF FREE STUFF!

WE MUST WE MUST THE THINGS OF DOMESTIC SPACE NO MATTER WHAT THE SPACE PRICE!

SPACE ENGINE, FOR USE IN ALL TYPES OF SPACE AND/OR CONDITIONS OF SPACE FUELS ANY SPACE DUST PARTICLES!

SPACE CHICK: DUMB!

SPACE KASTLE: DUMB!

THIS MEANZ THIS MEANZ THE RAINBOW ZONE AHH!

WE MUST WE MUST THE THINGS OF DOMESTIC SPACE NO MATTER WHAT THE SPACE PRICE!

SPACE CHICK: DUMB!

SPACE KASTLE: DUMB!

I, DESPERATE, JOINED THE RAINBOW ZONE AND ADVENTURE AWAIT!

SPACE CHICK: DUMB!

SPACE KASTLE: DUMB!
THE RAINBOW ZONE IS A TOTAL HELL EVERY SPACE ADVENTURER MUST FACE, SOME MORE! DO NOT BE FOOL ED IT IS A TRUE AWESOME HELL ZONE THAT SPITZ OUT THE WEAK & STRONG WITH LITTLE MEASURE: BUT, THIS ZONE OF ZOMBIEISM HAS A DOOR TO FREEDOM, ONE NEEDS ONLY THE KEY!!!

LATER!

YES, A SURVIVOR, AS WE ALL MUST, OF HELLZ LIKE THE RAINBOW ZONE WE MUST FOR WE ARE THE KOSMU PROPERZ.
Space Soap Opera

When I'm torn between love and duty, I can't decide.

I'm in love with the one I should hate. My heart flies to Burlington, the academy where I专属 him.

But how can I choose between my first love? Even now, I long for his presence.

I guess I'll just have to lose myself in pointless mayhem.

What a convenient coincidence—a squad of ozone ships just over the lifeboat. Acquire and fire!

Mayday!

Like we're toast gla, duke. We're cheet white.

Captain? Regional command wants a few words with you.
"AH! SPRING!

TAKITA TAKITA TAKITA TAKITA

AHem!

"MY HEARTS ROSE IN MY THROATS AT THE MERE SCENT OF THEM IN THE SPAWNING ZONE! WAS I JUST IMAGINING THINGS?"

"TAK TAK TAK"

"OR... WAS I REALLY AT THE "EDGE"? A VICTIM OF MAJOR IMPROBABILITY? OR, PERHAPS OF TIME ITSELF?"

"HEY!"

"IT ALMOST MADE SENSE!! I'D BEEN IN TORPESCE FOR TWENTY CYCLES, LONG ENOUGH FOR ABSURDITY TO TAKE ON ANY LOATHSOME FORM!!"

"... LOATHSOME..."

"YES, I WAS CONFRONTED WITH TWO MISDIRECTED AND GROTESQUE ABERRATIONS BENT ON RUINING PARADISE!!"

"WERE THEY FROM SOME CRUDE BACKWORLD AS THEY SEEMED, OR A SECRET VANGUARD FROM THE DREAD BLACK GALAXY?"

"PERHAPS ALL LINES OF COSMIC FORCE MET IN THEIR PSUEDOPODS!!"

"... DOT MATRIX... FEHL"
DON'T FORGET TO WIPE DOWN THE VAC WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED, CRESTLEY.

Yeah, yeah.

AND RETURN THE VAC TO THE LOCKER.

UH HUH.

AND AFTER THAT, YOU'VE GOT TO START ON THE LAB.

SURE, SURE.

THAT SHOULD KEEP THE LITTLE DARLING OUT OF TROUBLE FOR AWILE.

I'M NOT SO SURE, ORMAT.

HOW MUCH TROUBLE CAN ONE SMALL DRAGON GET INTO WITH A SEPTIC TANK?

STUPID, STUPID MAMMALS.
HEEY, SWEET THING. WHAT'S YOUR PROTOCOL?

BUTTONHEAD PICK-UP LINES

Deepspace Astrogator

Black hole!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO FIRE YOUR SHOTGUN IN ZERO-G!
And Now For The Exciting New Adventure

Guinea Pigs in Space

©1992 Giovanna Fregni

It all started when NASA remembered that it was much cheaper to send small animals into space than big, bulky humans.

There you go, little fella.

Plop!

But sometimes human plans just don't work out.

I'm tired of this show, turn on something else.

Sure.

Suddenly

Whompeta Whompeta

Houston is right on the ball.

Caviae - this is Houston. Do you read?

Chirp! Twee!

Where?

Unfortunately, they don't understand guinea pig.

What dire events are happening?

What awful things are befalling our innocent heroes?

Hey! This is fun.

Let me try.

So, what do we do now?

I don't - explore new worlds! Seek out new civilizations! Boldly go where no rodent has gone before?

Nah - let's eat.

Knock, knock.

Was that a knock on the door?

I said - was that a knock at the door?

Knock, knock.

Were you expecting company?
The S.S. Mauve Skull is a
demonically fast galaxy hopping and
planet destroying vessel especially
modified by a mysterious previous
owner for wreaking havoc with style
and flair. One of the many special
features is the titanium plated frog
gig that works under any kind of
planetary conditions.

The S.S. Memphis is a slowmoving
and backward flying ship of
indeterminate origin and future.
The last known Elvis sighting was
aboard this vessel. Abu says “Bull
hockey!” but still can’t explain all the
jelly donut droppings that constantly
appear in the jungle motif decorated
rec room.

The S.S. Marie Prevost is one of the
few known animal restaurant ships
in the galaxy. Animals of all species
can feast in comfort in the amply
stocked “Doggy Dining Room”.
Special feline drenching chambers
and fire-hydrant shaped fixtures
help you put on the dog.

The S.S.N.P.R. Audiolave is
soundproofed for broadcasts
from noisy and dangerous
remotes. Comes with a
liberal supply of fuel and a
conservative backlash for
fast starts and sudden course
changes. An interesting and
fun time is to be had for all

Abu says the S.S. Cornpone
will run on anything from
bug spray to a bottle of Rebel
Yell, but is more efficient
when topped off with a
mixture of ethanol and pure
Tennessee Moonshine. All
previous crash damage has
been repaired.

The S.S. Hit or Myth, a
legendary allegorical citrant
vessel with an arbitrary
drive propulsion unit
featuring an alternate belief
backup system good for
delayed second comings. Has
a rebuilt Super Dogmatic
Impulse drive.

The H.M.S. Monolithic State
University is a former sports
ferry that has many special
features such as easy to read
labels and voice-activated
controls for convenient use
by team members drafted to
play but not literate enough
to graduate.
Abu's choice for the shiniest and most streamlined vessel, the S.S. McPherson has a guaranteed no-fail autopilot with the ability to plot a straight course to the nearest pretty girl in any solar system. Comes with a fully operational landing craft, the notorious S.S. Schwenge!

The S.S. Melhorn is the latest in interplanetary photoships. Propelled by several powerful D76s, this marvel of technological development puts the room back in darkroom with its special black hole enlargerator for a picture-perfect flight every time.

This is Abu's best buy - You get more nuts 'n bolts for the money with the S.S. Jules Verne, a watertight little jalopy that's never been out of the solar system except for it's 20,000 league check-up and some kind of mysterious refurbishing (probably to have the captain's organ tuned).

The S.S. George Bush is a government issued and seized surplus drug-smuggling and arms trading gunship guaranteed to keep you one leg up from the long arm of the law during election campaigns.

The S.S. Phallus Sea, just retired from the Kylger Wars on Uranus is a slippery devil indeed! Fully equipped with the latest in Vibrodride technology, you can really leave your enemies behind with this one!

The S.S. John Agar is a stylish 50's gas guzzler for short hops to rising stars and beyond. Pour on the juice in this baby and go make a low-budget SF movie!

The S.S. Electric Rug comes equipped with extra loud external loudspeakers for extremely offensive loud broadcasts of a denigrative nature. A must for the mentally aberrant or the rebellious immature!
Mikie Desiknolde and Bill

In orbit about the long hidden world of UPS, Mikie's ship - the 'old sick and tired' is hit by a beam fired by a warship of the feared Art Patrol.

Our heroes. The wounded ship winds its way through twisted canyons.

The battered little ship comes to rest in a small side canyon - our bruised heroes scramble out as the warship roars overhead...

The Art Patrol - elite arm of the Emperor. Its mission is to bring back, enslave or do anything to stop any free-ranging, free-lance art people.

Return to the 'Art Organization' - all for work - no fun. If you can't work on Sunday - don't bother with Saturday...

Lord Vinno - there they go!

Snap! Small where? That old sent pock.
EVERY YEAR, THE RACCOONS
TAKE A SPRING VACATION. THEIR FAVORITE
SPOT TO VISIT IS THE MOON.

REMEMBER WHEN WE
CAMPED NEXT
TO TYCHO CRATER?

THEY LOAD THEIR RACC-IT SHIP
AND TAKE OFF INTO SPACE.

DID SOMEBODY PACK THE CARD TABLE?

I DID.

HOW ABOUT THE CARDS?

I FORGOT MY
WHISKER BRUSH!

WE'RE NOT GOING
BACK AGAIN FOR
THAT!
THE RACCOONS' SPRING VACATION

WE COULD HAVE A PICNIC TABLE OVER THERE!

THERE'S ROOM TO SET UP THE CARD TABLE HERE!

YOU KNOW, THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY AND YOU'RE TRESPASSING.

EXcerPTS FROM "RACCOONS ON THE MOON"
(SOMETIME TO BE PUBLISHED)

25
SAY, MAYBE WE SHOULD DO SOMETHING REALLY DIFFERENT! SOMETHING IMPORTANT! NOT JUST ANOTHER VACATION... WE COULD GO TO THE FAR REACHES AND DISCOVER MAGICAL AND WONDERFUL THINGS!

YOU MEAN LOOK FOR MAGIC RINGS WITH POWERS?

WHERE COULD WE LOOK?

COULD WE GO ON A SPACE CRUSADE?

LET'S MAKE IT A QUEST! A PILGRIMAGE!

WHAT SHALL WE QUEST AFTER?

HOW ABOUT GOLD AND RICHES?

MAYBE WE COULD HELP OPPRESSED CREATURES ALL OVER THE UNIVERSE.

AND, YOU'RE TRESPASSING...

I KNOW, VIRGIL, WE COULD SEARCH FOR ETERNAL YOUTH LIKE GILGAMESH!

EXCERPTS FROM "RACCOONS ON THE MOON"
(SOMETIME TO BE PUBLISHED)

© C. MILL 1992
I THAID, THITH ITH
PRIVATE PROPERTY!

LITHEN, YOU RACCOONTH, IF YOU'VE GOT TO DO
THOMTHING PROFOUND, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT YOU CAN DO!

WHAT'S THAT?

YOU CAN THEARCH FOR
THE MEANING OF LIFE.
ITEM: AUBREY SMITH HAS LANDED ONCE AGAIN!! THIS TIME? A GARDEN WORLD OF COLOR AND LIGHT AND OF FORESTS PRIMEVAL.

LETS JOIN HIM IN A STROLL THROUGH SYLVAN GLADES...

WHERE THE HELL IS IT?

A SERENE AND PLACID AMUSEMENT...

"RELIEF FROM EVERYDAY STRESS..."

I KNOW THE DAMN THINGS AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.

HERE IT IS!! ABOUT TIME TOO!

I COULDN'T EVEN STUCK HERE FOR HOURS!!

BANK CARD CENTER
Hi, I'm back. Got a few letters. Hope you like them.

[Comments in brackets are mine — Garth]

CHESTER D. CUTHBERT: I delayed thanking you for your very elaborate and kind Christmas Greeting, thinking that another issue of SPANGLER would arrive and I could offer my appreciation of both at the same time. However, the excellent issue of RUNE edited by you tells me why your personal fanzine had to be neglected.

As a collector, this issue is probably the most interesting I have received. My own experience would add little to what has been written, but my advice to any collector is to concentrate only on material of personal interest.

Did I ever tell you that long ago I hated collectors? It was twenty years before I completed my collection of Merritt's works to the extent that they had been published. I used to ask dealers why they could not supply me with them, and the reply was always, "Oh, collectors hang onto them". Now I dislike parting with anything I haven't read in case it is a masterpiece which would be difficult and expensive to replace. Realistically, though, I know I have thousands more books that I shall ever find time to read, and I have collected some authors on the basis of their reputations rather than because I have sampled and liked them. But we all make mistakes, and I am entitled to make my share.

[Yeah, I've got boxes of mistakes in my basement. Not to worry. Yours was the first loc that I received, having been sent directly to my house. It took me a while to think about calling the guy who picks up the mail and ask him if there was any mail. There was, here they are.]

BRIAN EARL BROWN: Has it really been nearly two years since the last issue of Rune? Anyway it was a pleasant surprise finding a Minnsitipple fanzine in my mailbox after all this time.

Curiously, for all that Jeff works as a typesetter and all, my first reaction to Rune 81 was that the type was too small for two column formatting and the ragged right style likewise made it look rather ugly. I think a three column format with both edges justified would make for a neater appearance, save you even more space on wordage and allow you extra flexibility for fitting in illos, but that's just me. Jeff, I'm sure, feels just as strongly about the layout he's used.

I really liked Shep's cover on this issue. I'm surprised to see it since I had thought he had gagfated. The former wraparound cover by Marshall and Harvia was... 'interesting.' And might have worked better if seen as a wraparound.

[I too liked the Shep cover. Too bad to hear that he's out of the game. If you have an address I'd like it, there was no address in the files and I would like to send him a copy of the issue. The art was in the files. The cover is rather appropriate for the changing of the guard. Rune being released to fly to new freedoms, but not too free, you can see that the little dog is keeping an eye on things. You can infer what you like about the robot doing the releasing.

I can't agree with you about the ragged right or going to three columns. It would look too much like Science News. Say, aren't you a scientist? And don't you do your fanzine in a three column format? Humm.]

[[Jeff sez: I agree the type was a tad too small. Its up a touch this time. Garth designed the format. Garth and I agree that justified type has no place in warm friendly fanzines like this one. It's best not to get me started on what I feel strongly about, Brian . . .]]
STEVE GEORGE: Your December issue was the first I have seen in many a year, and it was good. I'm writing, however, to inform you of an impending law-suit regarding the reprinting of an overly long excerpt from Zosma 12 without prior permission. HA! Just kidding. It was weird (and fun) seeing that excerpt, in Garth's collecting article, and made me feel fannishly active again. Did I actually write that? With all the stuff of mine appearing in fanzines these days, maybe I am fannishly active!

As a bit of a postscript, Zosma 12 was written and published only a month before I left on a two month trip to Mexico with Ed Ackerman at the end of 1978. At that time I sold every book in my collection to finance the adventure. So much for burning them to save my life! Since then I've purged my book collection on a fairly regular basis. I do believe that books are meant to be read, and I see no point in keeping books I've already read, books I don't want to re-read, books I'll never read, or books not worth lending to other people to read. My collection thus stays relatively small. To me, books have no value but for the ideas within the covers, so it matters not whether they are hardcover, paperback, tattered or mint. This is a concept I have great difficulty in explaining to my collector friends.

[Here's what Steve had to say about Rune in the recent Joe Wesson Magazine.]

I gotta admit, when Garth and the boys first took over Rune way back when, I was offended. The stuff they wrote and printed, the art they used... it disgusted me half the time. Now, I look back on it, and I think, jezz, those guys made an impact. You grow accustomed to lumpless, tasteless, fannish pabulum, and when somebody comes along and starts screaming in your face it scares the shit out of you. Now, I kind of like having the shit scared out of me. I just got the new Rune in the mail, in fact, edited by Garth, and it's pretty good, but it's not the hellspawn of ten years ago. Garth has calmed down, I guess. Part of it is that he writes so much better now than he ever did before, so he doesn't have to SCREAM to get his message across.

[Hellspawn or not? Sometimes I just don't know. Remember the little dog? Jeez, I guess we were a little too far ahead of our time. I'm glad that you like the new new Rune and have come to appreciate the older new Rune. I look back at those issues with a large amount of fondness, they still make me laugh in places. The SCI-FI PEOPLE WEEKLY issue was one of our best. I've always liked things that were on or near the edge. I used to joke that I didn't live on the edge but near the edge in a three story walk-up. Lately I've been thinking what fun it might be to be a criminal psychopath. This was after reading two Charles Willeford novels, MIAMI BLUES, and SIDESWIPE. Both feature psychopaths as the main criminal element. Sure sounds like an exciting life-style, albeit a tad short. Imagine, not caring about your actions. Wow. Sorts of like Calvin with a gun. I mentioned this to Steve when I called to ask permission to reprint the piece from JWM and he said that someone always has anal sex in a Willeford novel. Then he tried to pass the blame onto our friend Mike Nichols, saying that Mike noticed it first. Who's the hellspawn now? Hey, get that dog off of my leg, and it's not what your thinking either.

Charles Willeford wrote thrillers and mysteries for many years, gathering a small but loyal following. Guys like me, and Steve, and Mike, guys who liked an interesting story. I'm fascinated by the amoral guys who inhabit his stories. Hoke Moseley is the closest thing to a hero Willeford has, he's a homicide detective for the Miami police department. He's not all that perfect. Hoke's a guy with problems, he's also acts as a parallel to the psychopath. They aren't too different in a lot of ways. There are enough clues here to indicate that we aren't that different from them either. It's just a matter of degree. In SIDESWIPE the psychopath would not hurt you if you forgot the ice cream for the apple pie, if you did not know that is the way he liked it. Once he told you what he liked you would be expected to remember it. The psychopath in MIAMI BLUES would hurt you for forgetting the ice cream, even if you didn't know. It's all a matter of degree. It's there in all of us. It's unfortunate that Willeford died recently, but he left some great books behind.]
RICK GELLMAN: Ah! The joys of flitting down memory lane in my little mental flitter. Rune, A Rune to loc. Boy, I haven't done that in years. Why it seems like only half a decade or so ago. Well, there that little rascal memory goes again. Acting up. Playing me false. Being hazy. I hadn't remembered when I last wrote a loc to Rune. So I was happy to find my name in the WAHF at the end of the lettercol, and discover it had only been 2 years.

Dave and Jeanne edited Rune well. I'm sorry that their schedules and commitment to excellence prevented them from getting an issue out. However, I am pleased to see the emergence of a new editorial cabal, hopefully invigorated with fresh energy.

I am compelled to comment: IT LOOKS GREAT!!! I hope that's sufficient to provide Garth and Jeff with well earned egoboo. Jeff, I was really impressed with the typefaces throughout the loc. The sight of the "Beyond" in the title of your interesting personal history entry sent a buzz of delight zinging straight to my aesthetic appreciation center. What is that typeface?

Kathy Marschall's and Teddy Harvia's foldout satire of Manet's "A Bar at the Folies-Bergere" a la Kenfletch's style was superb fun and worth waiting for. It was the first foldout I remember seeing in Rune or any fanzine. Wise decision to not reduce it to the page. I appreciated finding additional information about it in your comment to David Thayer's loc.

I think Garth is right that his article on collecting and mine compliment each other nicely; I really liked his. I like the way Garth writes and what he thinks about. I like his verbal bon mots too. (Besides bon mots are less fattening than bon bons. Bon.) It never occurred to me to try to remember when I started collecting. Thought about it now. I still don't know. It seems I always hated throwing things away. Maybe I threw something out when I was very young, or my parents did, and then I missed it. I know I resented them getting rid of a 1926 (1928?) encyclopaedia, in beautiful condition, when they bought me a new one in 1956. Then again, I might have learned to hang onto my stuff from my parents, who did it. So does my sister. My Ghod! Is there a gene for collecting? If there is I wish it gave me the ability to label everything as neatly and rapidly as my father did. I admire his ability and handwriting; far better than mine. It takes too much time and energy for me to label as he did. I label occasionally. He labelled completely. Another reason I can't locate my stuff when I want it.

I missed an obvious point that I'm glad Garth didn't. I only touched on it peripherally. Collecting as a means of self-identification, of defining who you are. I knew that. I've seen it enough. Didn't think of it when I was writing.

Mr. Wesson's...pardon me,...Dr. Wesson's tone of reserved semi-demi-hemi-pseudo formal silliness was a model of restrained semi-demi-hemi-pseudo formal silliness and evoked appropriate and well attired appreciative responses for his informational report on a tasteful punkishly puckish hoax bid. Bravo.

In short, I liked everything cover to cover. I showed it to 3 non-fans and they all liked it and were impressed! They had no idea that something like this existed, looked so nice, or was so interesting. Ok, so it wasn't a random 3 non-fans, but people I thought might find it interesting. Still...

["I'm just chillin' in the house, thanks to your cool comments and some L.L.Cool J. I think it looks great too...thanks. We'll see what kind of fresh energy we have. Jeff did a great job with the type. He's pretty good with his Mac. I learned how to do italics. [sort of—Jeff] I figured that I should learn one new thing every time I sit down at the computer to enter some of this stuff. This time I actually learned to do a couple of new things, block, italic and I figured out what the show codes was all about. Cool, huh.

What makes you think that Joe's Worldcon bid was a hoax. I'm thinking of getting an address in Texas so that I can be part of the bid, then I won't have to pay state taxes. Tomorrow I'm getting one of those new congressional bank accounts, the one with the huge overdraft protection and no charges. Must be the recession, no that can't be it I heard that was over.

Bahiruz 1989
MICHAEL D. GLICKSOHN: The new issue of *Rune* arrived today, providing somewhat of a shock to these old fannish eyes. As far as I can tell it’s been two years or more since I last received one so I wish you luck on producing issues on a more regular basis. #61 certainly looks good (that cheap printing you have access to is good quality) and there’s sufficient variety in the contents to appeal to most readers. The layout and graphics were of higher than usual quality and the art—especially that of White, Wolf and Taral—was generally a joy to look at. A good shake-down issue that bodes well for the future if you can achieve a degree of frequency in the year to come.

_Dear Garth,_

_The new issue of_ *Rune* _arrived today, providing somewhat of a shock to these old fannish eyes._

_I last received one so_ #61 _certainly looks good (that cheap printing you have access to is good quality) and there’s sufficient variety in the contents to appeal to most readers. The layout and graphics were of higher than usual quality and the art—especially that of White, Wolf and Taral—was generally a joy to look at. A good shake-down issue that bodes well for the future if you can achieve a degree of frequency in the year to come._

It’s a shame that I don’t really remember the name Marvin Kilmer or his fanzine _Fidgoshin_ since I do believe this is the first time I’ve been accused of driving someone out of fandom. I don’t know why I’d have written a whole series of letters about just one issue but I’ll take Jeff’s word that it happened and put it down to youthful over-reaction. Let’s hope young Kilmer went on to award-winning heights in some other field after recovering from the unfortunate experience. (By the way, Jeff, I don’t think you actually meant your fanzine was on a logarithmic schedule. Two years between issues followed by six years between issues is more apt to be exponential in schedule. But, hey, please don’t gaffate if it turns out I’m right, okay? And I promise I’ll stick around if you’ve set up your axes perpendicularly.)

Say, Garth, this is a serious question so don’t get upset and quit fandom, okay? Are the spelling mistakes and errors in grammar left in your material deliberately (a la Rick Sneary) to preserve the essential garthian quality of the prose or isn’t anybody proofreading the issue? (Spell checkers are a delight to me because I’m a mediocre two finger typist and a lousy speller but they are useless when it comes to correcting my grammar and syntax.)

I enjoyed the material on the collecting mania (although I thought some of it, particularly in the Gellman piece, was very overwritten) because I suffer from that affliction myself. I think it is in the blood, I don’t think you need to provide any excuse for doing it, and I hope I never have or want to sell any part of the various collections I’ve got. By the way, I’m fascinated by the style used in Garth’s article on collecting. I’m just not sure if it’s naturally chaotic and still works or is tremendously subtle and clever and was specifically crafted to appear to be chaotic. It’s very effective regardless of whether it’s natural or artificial.
I realize DavE wrote on microprogramming in a previous issue of Rune but I seem to remember reading about these very same episodes fairly recently.

[You sure did Mike. DavE forgot to tell us that the article on microprogramming had been used in the Proper Boskonian some time ago. It was on the disc of Rune material that he gave to Jeff. We BBQ'd DavE and the guy who did the mailing labels wrong. They were good, lots of meat. I'll mail you a couple of smoked joints.

Jeff said that Marvin killed himself in a car, or was that the Beatles song we were listening to. Jeff says he has proof. It's in his collection of papers. He's seen it in the last couple of years, so it should be relatively easy to find. We'll send you a copy. I wouldn't worry about it. You have to have a pretty tough skin to play in this game. Survival of the fittest. There isn't anything you could say to drive me out of fandom, I'm a lifer. I survived killing you off. James a ball dropped out, but not me.

Those spell checkers are indeed pretty good, but as you say they don't catch everything. I couldn't find some of the words that I made up in the spell checkers, so I left them in. I'm going to this help-group for people who make up words. I'm not sure what the name of it is, I can hardly read the newsletter, and everytime they have a meeting they get the address wrong. They never cashed my check.

I'm not sure about this grammar thing either, I'm working on it. I used to have an in-house editor but she died and I'm having to do all that stuff myself. It was nice to have someone to bounce your stuff off of without having to wait until you go visit. Maybe I should get a fax. As for the style in my collecting article I think that it was indeed chaotically subtle, something like my own person, or maybe it's naturally clever and subtly chaotic, humm, I wanted to get that crafted in there too. Well, maybe when I've got some more time I'll work on this stuff.]

BUCK COULSON: Rune V14#1 was a surprise; I hadn't seen one for years. Forgot all about it, in fact. Nice double-page cartoon to lead off.

Collecting stuff, right. Most of what I've collected has been useful, though. The computer sheets from the beginning and end of the boxes I collected from Overhead for the last two or three years I worked there, and used up by writing my COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE column on them for about 8 years. The old metal file cabinets, sold for scrap by Overhead for $1 per drawer, are full of fanzines. Old carbon paper is being used up on columns now that the computer paper, which had 2 carbons attached, is gone. Scores of 3-ring binders, thrown in the trash, are full of assorted stuff — fan writing, pro writing, addresses, photos, stamps, the coin collection, etc. I still haven't made lawn seats out of the huge wooden spoons I picked up, but someday... My desk is one that Honeywell junked in the early 1960's.

I still have my stuffed toys around here somewhere; I think Juanita knows where. Some of the other toys were given to Bruce when he was a boy. My parents' 78 rpm records are in the front room, though I did get rid of about half of them that I never cared for. What you do when you're a collector is buy a large house; ours is 10 rooms, and it's starting to overflow a bit...But I can still locate most of what I want.

Women don't collect things because they're the ones who have to do the cleaning around this junk. Juanita has a collection of miniature animals, it's boxed up, though.
Dear Garth-

I never used language stronger than "irked" to express that I felt bad you used the cover art I contributed to Carol and Lee on the back of RUNE instead of front. I'm disappointed at the circumstances that kept you from using my collaboration with Kathy on your cover, but I'm delighted you finally printed it somewhere. If I took fan publishing seriously, I wouldn't have continued contributing to zines for 15 years. The cartoons are in the mail.

I enjoyed the fillos in your latest issue, Alan White's for their subversive feel, Taral's for their sensual lines, and Ray Allard's for their rumpled polished look. And I loved Jeanne Mealy's Hug-A-Thon illo. Undeveloped artistic talent is acutely evident in it. Ook, ook!

Beast wishes,

TEDDY HARVIA

SHERYL BIRKHEAD: Dear Runions (isn't that a little fish...or some sort of foot...naw, didn't think so).

Welcome to one of the editorial chairs Jeff - have fun meeting deadlines (etc.). This issue is jammed packed full of graphics - perhaps a little too much for my taste. But, hey, I'd rather have it that way than without 'em (sec - ya can't win!). Are your little propeller guys (you know what I mean. I hope) going to grace the pages in future issues?

[Well, this issue is certainly full of graphics, I'll refrain from picking a favorite, there are too many good pages and I have not even seen all of them yet. Ken Fletcher is madly working on the paste ups of the rest of the pages, or was that he's crazy and real busy. I'll ask him if I get the time. It's March 23 and this is coming out real soon. Maybe Jeff will do some cartoons in the future. He hints at it occasionally.]

We also heard from HARRY CAMERON ANDRUSCHAK, who includes two perzines; DAVID HAUGH, who asks to be taken off of the mailing list as he is going out of contact...mysterious; LISA THOMAS, who inquires about Shockwave; and WAYNE HOOKS, who writes doubting reality. History is always getting changed Wayne, even as we speak. Or I do and you read. It's best to doubt. The best illustrated envelope goes to S. CLAY WILSON, who writes about having Alan Watts bed and his friend's dog pooping on it. Yuck. TEDDY HARVIA's postcard is reprinted verbatim, the other side was a bit naughty. There weren't enough zines to make a column. I'll hang onto these until next issue, which should be out in three months. Wow. Good night. Sleep tight.

—Garth
Minn-Stf Minutes — February-March 1992
Polly Jo Peterson, Recording Secretary

Minn-Stf Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 1992

Persons present: Dean Galion, Laura Krentz, Geri Sullivan, Don Bailey, Martin Schafer, Rob Thingler, Polly Peterson, David Dyer-Bennet, Eric M. Heideman

TOTU
Eric gave a report on Tales of the Unanticipated. He would like to keep the current periodicity and the ability to announce in the current issue when the next issue is due out. The board agreed that this is a good thing but wanted an out if there was a catastrophic Minicon (financially). Eric agreed that this was logical and only would like to be able to write to subscribers if this should happen. The question of a smaller print run came up given the number of back issues that we have of most of the series. Eric said that the printer he uses, who has very competitive prices, has a minimum print run of 1,000 copies. Geri agreed that the price was very good for printing. Eric will check if anyone else has come down since the last time he priced printing and the possibility of giving back issues to members of some small con (ReinCONation or 4th St.) to promote interest in it was raised. Eric went home to watch the New Hampshire returns.

Minicon
While Seraphina (resident cat) walked all over Martin's face, David Dyer-Bennet (DDB for you archivists looking at this 20 years from now) reported that they are planning to use the Minn-Stf logo on the back of the Minicon T-shirts. He assumed that this would not be a problem for the board and it wasn't. He was also contemplating making Minn-Stf buttons after all of the oohs and aahs he got for the one that he whipped up while playing around at making a Minicon chairman's button.

DDB then brought up an interesting situation which arose out of the Minicon '92 name badge policy (=people must wear their real names on their badges). He has received several letters from people (mostly women) who have security concerns about wearing their real names at the con. They are not worried about the con, but follow-up afterwards. They (Minicon committee) are pursuing these letters to see if these people have specific concerns or if it is a general (but as yet hypothetical) uneasiness. DDB will write an article about the problem for the Minicon program book. The board discussed options and legal ramifications of confronting any named individuals and options for handling the concerns of these women.

Electric Paper Folder
It has given up the ghost as far as folding more than one sheet at a time is concerned. Don's investigation of purchasing a new but different model revealed that one could be gotten for $150 to $160. After discussion, the board decided that we need to know how much people in the club use a paper folder (do we need it?) and whether or not it can be repaired for a reasonable price (=less than enough to make it more logical to purchase a new one). Don will investigate but it is unlikely to happen before Minicon.

Treasury
(via Jonathan) Carol had hoped to have the numbers from Supercon, but didn't as Victor and Charles haven't finished with the hotel yet. The con did make a few hundred dollars. Carol cannot do the 1991 Minn-Stf taxes until she gets the info about Minicon 26. The board will handle this.

Elections
Polly brought up the question of campaign speeches in the Minn-Stf board elections ballot. (Last year Elise inserted a statement while no other candidate considered the option available). After discussion the board decided to encourage individuals to handle this on a one to one basis (ie, no statements in the ballot) but to ask the membership in a non-binding survey question on the ballot if they think that this is a good idea.

ReinCONation
Martin announced that the guests and dates for ReinCONation had been chosen: James White and Jeanne Gomoll on September 11-13. They hope to do a mailing before Minicon.

The Book
Rob and Karen are working on the Minicon book.

ISDN
Don asked about an extraordinary expense for Minicon: taking official types who have agreed to be on a Minicon panel out to lunch to discuss their participation. The board allowed as that this is not extraordinary enough to be their problem (as opposed to Minicon's decision).

Next Meeting
The next meeting will be on March 5th at the home of Geri Sullivan, 3444 Blaisdel. This will be the final meeting of this board, as the next meeting is the headache of the next board, to be elected on March 21.
Thursday, March 5, 1992

at Toad Hall

Persons present: Geri Sullivan (w/raspberry cake), Don Bailey, Dean Galion, Rob Ihinger, and Polly Peterson

The Cake

The meeting began with cake in honor of the final meeting of this board. It was very good.

Minnicon Treasury

The problem of last year’s Minicon treasury was handled with a phone call by Don.

Poolparty Phone Bill

Geri reported that $7.70 was billed to us from the pool party for phone calls from the suite. Martin Schafer had paid this out of pocket. The board decided to reimburse Martin for this. We need to do something about this at future pool parties. Either signs by the phones or turning off the phone.

Creating Jobs

A new Minn-StF officer position was discussed, but creating the Minn-StF Pinhead was tabled for now.

Voting Procedures

Polly is doing research into voting procedures and the affects of the type of balloting on the results. She would like to get actual raw data from the board election so that she can do research on actual results rather than hypothetical ones (doing cancer testing on humans rather than rats so to speak). The board has always guarded this information zealously to protect the innocent (winners and losers). The board is unwilling for this reason to give her this year’s data, but Dean has the paper ballots from the last decade of elections or so and was willing to disguise the data so that it was valid but unrecognizable from some recent election(s) and give that to her for her research (Thank you Dean!)

Effinger Fund

Don got a letter for the George Alec Effinger fund asking for contributions to help him pay for his on-going medical expenses through a raffle being held by an east coast fan group. After discussing whether the IRS was likely to get upset about this high risk investment of our charitable funds (Rob thought that we could get by) the board decided that they would rather make a straight contribution instead and after discussion decided that $73 seemed the right thing to do. (Then followed a discussion of whether inside jokes are an impediment or a connecting influence on fandom.

Quote of the meeting:

You can do that by drawing a decal on your chest.

—Don)

1991-92 Board Retrospective

Rob asked what did they (this year’s board) do and what do they have to pass on to the next board? They thought it would be a good idea to get a cake for the Minn-StF officers at the final Minn-StF meeting before Minicon but didn’t know for sure who will remember to do it (Anyway, thank you officers for a job well done, they say). It may be time to try to collect some of the money that Denise owes Minn-StF and the next board may want to pursue this. The next board also has to decide on a permanent plan for how they are going to pass the leadership of Minicon on from year to year starting in 1994.

More cake was eaten and it was still very good.

Yummily submitted by—

Polly Jo Peterson
The Twiltone
Event Horizon
by Jeff Schalles

In the later annals of Rune it may be said that by viewing the stream of fannish endeavor of this long running quintessential SF clubzine, one can trace the ebbs and flows of both the microcosm of SF fandom, the macrocosm of life in America, and beyond, and the para-microcosm that is Minn-STF. Minnesota has produced several SF fan clubs over the years, but the current one looks to be the dominant fannish life-form in these parts for many years to come. I see Rune not as just an ephemeral self-indulgent entertainment for a few of the more print-oriented club members, but also as the club's historical journal.

This neck of the woods seems chock full of bright coherent fannish people, many of whom write stuff for fun (and some occasionally for profit). I've always thought that even the incoherent ones have something to say. My theory is that every person who comes across fandom, through fanzines, bookstores, conventions, friends, who sees and becomes attracted to the inherent distant shining gleam of true fandom, in whatever form it chooses to reveal itself to this person, has at least one good idea inside of him or her. And fandom wants those ideas. We are a planetary para-culture, unlike anything ever seen before, held together by conventions, correspondence, computer nets, fanzines, personal friendships, and, dare I say it, semi-pro newszines like Locus and Science Fiction Chronicle. Our common meeting ground is our thirst for new ideas and esoteric information. Our strength is in our diversity.

So we need you writers and would-be writers and wanna-be writers and used-to-be writers to contribute to Rune. This is your clubzine. In three months there will be another issue coming out. Tom is looking for material about conventions, particularly Minicon, for his issue. He wants your fun stories, he wants to hear about the best con you ever attended or the worst con you made the mistake of going to. He is also looking for people's ideas on where Minicon is going, or where it should be going. Minicon, as you all should know, has been tumbling through some changes lately. It has gotten very large and has become a tremendous amount of work for the volunteers who run it. People who's lives (and vacation schedules) have revolved around Minicon for many years are getting turned off and burned out. It doesn't have to be this way.

In the fall issue, my issue, I hope to print material from the fannish, humorous essay realm. Not just a page or two of strung-together puns, but polished humor. Stuff like Bob Tucker or Chuch Harris might write. At the very least I hope that Sue Grandy's comes up with another of her Barbarian pieces. There are a few other wags about town who need to dust off their type-writers and pound out some funny lines. Denny Lien knows how to do it. Victor Raymond is showing promise. Rune is back! Come on gang, show some life out there!

We have the technology and we're ready to rock!