

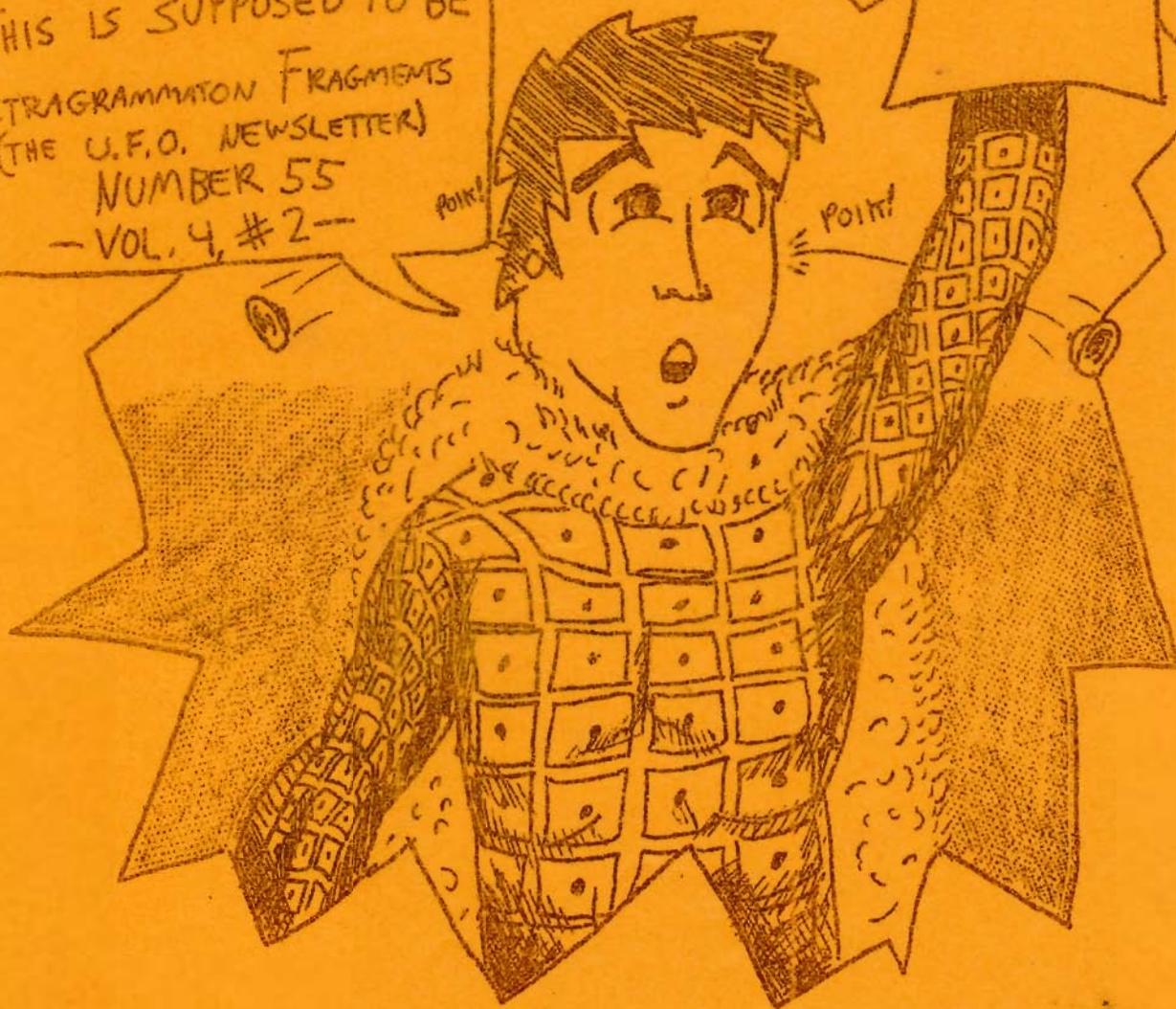
SELF-INDULGENT COMIX

Starring

EAR-FALL-OFF
BLOYD!

NO! NO! NO!

THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE
TETRAGRAMMION FRAGMENTS
(THE U.F.O. NEWSLETTER)
NUMBER 55
- VOL. 4, # 2 -



TETRAGRAMMATION FRAGMENT 5 II

The UFO Newsletter #55 (Vol. 4 #2)

November 1977

Chairman: Jay L. Zilber, Oberlin College Box 740, Oberlin Ohio 44074

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Checklist Changes: Even without a thermofax, the checklist marches on. Add 62x Spitzl Glash #1, Drop Comix Unlimited #1 & 2, Mantra #3, and from "Still Available," Batmania #19 and 20.

Lost and Gained More bad news. Vince Kimzeal and Steve Skeeter, both on double-extension, seem to have vanished into limbo. Skeeter phoned me last month right before the deadline (even though the transitional amnesty was still in effect), but disappeared without a trace this time around. Vince was due to publish this month, so it'll take a new Comix Unlimited if he wants to be reinstated. Skeeter has another month if he wants to talk reprieve.

Your Chairman Still Makes Mistakes Last month when I worked out the financial report, I assessed everyone on the basis of a 20-page newsletter, which should have cost 14¢ by 3rd class or 24¢ by 1st class. Minor miscalculation -- rather than 20 pages, I calculated the postal expense on the basis of 20 sheets (40 pages), resulting in an erroneous assessment of 28¢/3rd and 46¢/1st. Doesn't anybody catch these errors except me? (Accounts have now been readjusted.) // Ira Matetsky complains that I misspelled his name on the roster. (Actually, Ira, I spelled it right -- you've been misspelling it for years.) His copy was also missing two pages, and was replaced. // Not only did my ditto machine screw up Kurt's zine last month, but I mistyped his zip code. (I would have retyped the entire affected area of Kurt's master, but my typer, a common pica, is too large to deal with Kurt's strictly-upper-crust elite.) In case it was completely illegible in any copies, the first section of Kurt's zine was his review of Afterworld, Larry Blake's applicant-zine. // Your Chairman Still Makes Mistakes!

Clarification: Oh for heaven's sake...I'll do write-ups for people's zines if they really want me to. I suggested they do their own writeups to avoid Entropy Comix-type misunderstandings in the future...but if you're secure enough to think that whatever I might say in a zine write-up will suit you just fine, I'll do it. (As if I don't have enough to do already...)

Roster

- # 4.93 1. Kurt Erichsen, MSU/Owen Hall #540-E, East Lansing MI 48824
checklist: 1580 W. Myrtle Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420
ENDEAVOR / AUGUST
- F 3.01 2. Jim Main, 85-A Prospect Hill Road, New Milford CT 06776
ENDMC / HOLOCAUST / JULY
- F 1.49 3. Tom Mason, 705 Draper Road, Blacksburg VA 24060
RADION / SEPTEMBER
- % F 3.95 4. Terrence McCoy, 1424-8th Street, Rockford IL 61104
CLYDE'S CONIX & TAILS / JANUARY
- 4.29 5. Rich Morrissey, 55 Claudette Circle, Framingham, Mass. 01701
BATHANIA / JULY
- \$ & 1.82 6. Bill Nutschlar, 327 Walker Hall, Princeton NJ 08540
checklist: 500 Crestview Road, Wayne PA 19007
ENTROPY EUSMIX / GRAPHEX / JANUARY (17 pages)
- & F 1.75 7. Chris Rock, PO Box 14, West Plains MO 65775
checklist: Rt 2 box 265, Mountain Grove MO 65711
OZARK FANDOM / MARCH
- 5.00 8. Jay L. Zilber, Oberlin College #740, Oberlin Ohio 44074
checklist: 81 Webster Park, Columbus Ohio 43214
FANDOM FUNNIES / GLX SPITZL GLAAN / NOVEMBER

Applicants

- # F 2.50 1. Chester & Cherie Cox, PO Box 356, Shaw AFB, SC 29152
FEEDBACK
- 2. Bill Sherman, 608 East Douglas #2, Bloomington IL 61701
LUDICROUS SITUATIONS, LTD.
- 3. Frank Veripapa, PO Box 647, Freeport NY 10023
FANTASY UNLIMITED

Speculation

- 1. Gary Groth, PO Box 292, Riversdale MD 20840
THE COMICS JOURNAL
- 2. Mark Gruenwald, 319 West 76th Street #15, New York NY 10023
OMNIVERSE
- 3. George Dishevsky, PO Box 127, Station 'T', Toronto Ontario M6B 3T9
COLLECTORS DREAM

Subscribers

- F 8 1. Ron Baker, 3558 College Sta., Fredericksburg VA 22401
- F 6 +35¢ 2. Don Fortier, Box 209, Kenner LA 70063
- 3 3. Ken Gale, 220 East 85th Street #5R, New York NY 10028
- 2 4. Ron Gomes, Computer Sys. Research Group., University of
Toronto, Toronto Ontario M5S 1A4
- F 2 5. Ira Metetaky, 799 Vivien Ct., Baldwin NY 11510
- F 7 +15¢ 6. Greg Swan, 555 N. Miller, Mesa, Arizona 85203
- F 2 7. Kim Thompson, 3826 Florence Drive #6, Alexandria VA 22305

Special Limbo Roster

- &\$\$F -.67 1. Steve Kester, Rt 2, Cape Colony, Edenton NC 27932
- %\$\$F -.17 2. Vincent Kimszal, 1400 S. Stiles Street, Linden NJ 07036

KEY: \$ = You owe money; \$\$ = You owe lotsa money, bwah! & = Must contribute to next newsletter; % = Must publish soon; # = change of address; F = first class postage assessed. The month by your zine titles is your publishing deadline. The numbers on the side of the subscriber roster is the number of issues remaining in their sub.

Voting Schedule: Due immediately: whether to admit Dox and Veripapa, special Don Fortier status amendment. Due in January: whether to admit Bill Sherman, Mineo motion, voting procedure motion, checklist procedure motion -- See Zilber's regular zine -- if seconded.

Roster Notes: No word from either Bill Paul or Craig Henderson on whether they'd like to apply for membership, so both were dropped from the specialist. Both are welcome to apply at any time. Kim Thompson is no longer planning to take over WOVIE KAZOVIE (having just joined up as the new #2 man of The Comic Journal); hopefully WOVIE's current tentative publisher Pete Izo will be on the specialist next time. Bill Sherman joins the applicant list, and has sent out copies of Ludicrous Situations #3 and 4. Mark Gruenwald's OmniVerse will be out by the time you're reading this; he and co-publisher Dean Mullany are still mulling over the prospect of membership. Some big names on Spec this month -- George Olshavsky may be interested in joining, I understand, in the hopes of increasing his pool of potential contributors. And of course, Gary Groth has been an interested bystander for quite some time; this time I'm putting it on the line for him. Come on, Gary! Do it!

About Our Cover This is what happens when nobody sends me anything to use. We do need covers, folks! You don't want ten more months of Ear-Fall-Off Floyd, do you?

No Page Numbers? There is a rational, logical reason why I'm not numbering pages like Kurt did. I print up each zine as they come in, but I don't necessarily collate them in that order. That's why I left out page numbers and restructured the contents accordingly. (And that's as good a rationalization as any.)

Financial Report 7 third class copies (for applicants and specialists) paid for by co-op @ 14¢ = 98¢, or 12¢ per member. 1st class postage is 24¢, 3rd class is 14¢ on this issue. Iza Matetsky transferred one issue of his sub back to Don Fortier, who did the same for him last month. Beginning this month, an arbitrary 15¢ supply fee is also being assessed from each account to help pay for printing costs. By the way, the number listed as your current account balance is, in fact, current; it reflects all estimated expenses for this issue having been deducted. If expenses should turn out to have been slightly different, they will be adjusted next time.

Please Note: In this month's TALES FROM WEIRDOGRAPHIC OCEANS I am introducing several very important amendments to our current constitution. All are open to seconds immediately. I realized that I could be opening myself wide open to serious criticism by introducing these motions while occupying the office of chairman; be that as it may, it seemed pretty silly for me to delay the proceedings by asking somebody else to introduce them, especially since it's fairly well known that they reflect my own publicized opinions. At any rate, I encourage lively debate over these motions, and request that you not vote until all the arguments are heard. I myself am prepared to withdraw any of these motions if somebody comes up with a single convincing reason why I should.

Deadline for TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS #56 (Vol.4 #3) is Friday, December 16th, 1977. All are invited to attend. No RSVP needed.

Deadline Doom Dramas Last month, as you may recall, I said that TF was mailed one day later than I'd hoped to, because of ditto machine woes. Just to set the record straight, it was probably closer to a week late. The mailing was printed up mere hours before my bus left to Washington where I was spending part of my Fall Break. The mailing was collated in Mike Flynn's dorm room in Washington, but I wasn't able to mail them out for another couple of days, by which time I was in New York. (Incidentally, they were mailed from the post office right next door from DC Comics' old 909 3rd Avenue digs). // This time, however, I can guarantee that they'll be going out on the morning of November 21, 1977, from the handy-dandy Oberlin PD. Let me know how long it takes to get to you, people. Obie is usually pretty reliable even with 3rd class mail, but they recently switched to a new system where most of their mail is sorted in Cleveland...which could mean just about anything...

Creation Con ...is at the Statler-Hilton in New York City over the weekend of November 25-27. I'll be there, along with Kurt, Rich, and maybe Jim Main. Anyone else wanna join us in a 1-shot?

Must Write: Bill Mutschler, Chris Rock. Applicants are welcome to contribute at any time. If you're listed on the Speculation roster, it mean we want to know if you're interested in joining the UFO. If you'd like to address the entire membership with your reply, simply drop us a letter written on a ditto master.

Must Publish: By January -- Terrence McCoy and Bill Mutschler (17 pp).

Third Class Mail Is Not Forwarded. Chester and Cherie Cox. All changes of address should be reported promptly. (If you still haven't received either TF #37 or V4#1, we'll replace them from the back issue supply at 50¢ each.)

Note to Don Fortier: I'd be happy to run the CAFA ballots through TF. Just send me 35 copies, or retype the ballot on a ditto master. Wait a minute -- make that 10 copies so I can include one to be permanently stapled into the mailing as a matter of permanent record.

Deadline for TF #56 (V4#3) is December 16th! December 16th! December 16th!

+++++

TETRAGRAMMATION FRAGMENTS is published monthly as a newsletter/apa for the members of the United Fanzine Organization (UFO) TF is free to applicants and Speculation-listers, although postage money is officially requested. Members are assessed postage costs and printing costs. Otherwise, TF is 50¢ per issue, or 4/\$1.50 (3rd class) or 4/\$2.00 (1st class). Volume 3 back issues are in temporary stasis, but will eventually be available again at 5/\$1.50. (Issues available are 8, 15, 16, 23-25, 27-37.) Volume 4 back issues are 50¢ apiece. (Issues available are 1 and 2, of course.) Submit all letters on ditto masters, or 35 printed and finished copies. Please -- list votes on separate sheets of paper when you send in your newsletter contribution, along with motions, seconds, write-ups, and anything else of importance. This is WPCzine #47

(yeah!)

JUMP UP AND DOWN from Tom Mason--705 Draper Road--
Elacksburg, VA 24060 who has nothing
of interest to say but felt like drawing cute pictures.

JAY: You mean you're going to make stumble-tongue Mason
do his own write-ups for RADION in the future? Thank
the fates that #6 came out in time for Kurt to write one.
He has a knack for it, don't you think? 15¢ supply fee,
huh. I'm hip.

DON: Sorry I haven't written back. Lots of time but
none to spare. But I'll write. Promise. Just like
the margarine.

KURT: I like letters. I really do. But I rarely get
any. Except for "God it was great!" or "RADION
ain't worth shit." I'd love to have a lo-col, in fact
I'm planning one in issue 7, letters permitting.

Don't feel bad, I don't know anything about in-
terviewing either. But being polite is not a bad policy.
Besides, do you think Johnny Hart would really admit to
a drinking problem in a little ol' fanzine like RADION? The best thing to do would
be to track down his assistants, or Erant Perker and Bill Rechin.



I did get Bill Sherman's zine in the mail with a letter marked UFO so I know
what that means. And I vote Yes. Some of the stuff doesn't come off as very
funny, but then those are the breaks. Fortunately, there is a lot of Stuff
(oh, if my old English teacher could see that word) and most of it is very
funny. Whether or not comics fans would be interested in reading a zine that
has little to do with comics is debatable, but the choice is yours. Either
door #2 or the money or what's behind the curtain where Carol is now standing.

Heay (Heay?) IRON FIST Zilker, how K'un L'un these days?

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to change the cat.



Dear Gang,

Life has grown mellower for me lately, with business booming, friends around me, and my health returned! It is too easy for me to party and gaffate. Seems so simple to close my life to comics-fiction-panel art, etc. and fill it with other interests. How many facets does one need in one's personality, anyway? The devil I say?!

With Rox in command of CC&T#3, I have done some preliminary and final work on CC&T#4. It will be ditto. I have the cover & page one finished. I have some sketchy plot lines to work into a suitable feature. I have lost all desire to complete #4!

The deadline race is on! Go, team, Go!

VOTES: NO TO EVERYONE! RADION 6 & ENDY 12 → 7.5 EACH

BILL M. - I WOULDN'T EVER BEGIN TO BE ENTERTAINED BY REREADING AND EXAMINING BORDERS! I DON'T HAVE A COPY ANYMORE, SO I CAN'T COMMENT FURTHER. "THAT HORSE IS DEAD!" "YES, BUT HE'S VERY GENTLE".

ROX - TCJ AD NETTED 5 ORDERS #2, 3 ORDERS #1. (OF COURSE SOME ORDERS WERE FOR #1 & 2 BOTH, WHICH MEANS ABOUT FIVE INNOCENT MINDS ARE NOW DESTROYED) DEFURRING FELINES IS SENSELESSLY CRUEL.

CLYDE'S COMICS & TAILS, GOT IT? NOT COMIX!

NO "AND". CC&T IS CLYDE'S COMICS & TAILS. DON'T TRY TO RATIONALIZE MY BEHAVIOR, EITHER. I AM WEIRD! WHO NEEDS ME IN THE UFO ANYWAY?

11-6-77 — Terence McGay

MORE NOTES FROM STRANGE PEEPLES...ARE WE EVEN ON THE SPEC LIST? Chester of Cherie, PO BOX 356, SHAW AFB, SC 29152. Will this appear in TF? Will TF appear in our mail box? Will I stop typoing all over myself? Tune in next time.....

Well, here we are, all the way across the country, and I suppose we'll be climbing out of the chass soon. (Look at my typing! I'm TIRED! Just lemme slleep a couple minutes..)

Isn't that better? Now, to reply to all the stuff I saw in TF #37:

Or, to put it another way, TF #37 never made it to us. As a matter of fact, TF #36 never made it to us until after the deadline for TF #37, thus, no us in #37. But no #37 to us?? Alas. Which reminds me, Kutt, your copy of FB #5 came back marked "undeliverable" so where are you, really?

Have gotten remarks from a grand total of TWO UFO members,---oops!---make that ONE UFO member and a Don Fortier. Chris Rock was kind enuf to give us a line, slightly favorable and very encouraging...Chris, if you're out there, wanna thank you--and wanna thank you for the most enjoyable visit on our cross-country trek. I promise next time I won't be half-strange from sleeplack and road fatigue. (I'll be ALL-strange!)

Lessee, nuthin to say, how to fill in half-a-page? Jay, are you ever gonna contact us, or do you have an automatic hate-on for us 'cause we're in the IFICCT? And USA? God knows what you'd think of us when we join PTA.

Has everyone out there recieved their FB #5 #5s? If not, lemme know fast, as Comic Journal will be mailed out tomorrow, and has our ad in it!--and I didn't print up that many extra copies. (Oh how irritating! I finally got a new typer to cut down on typos--the old one blew up--and now I'm too farshnellgetter to make the zin frgs blp!) Not meaning to be rude, but the only person who sent us any issues of his (that reminds me: Why no wimmen in UFO?) zines in swap was Chris. (They were really good too. Whatcha nmk wasting your time in fandon for Chris? There are several magazines on the stands just dying for your handling of words..)

Oh yeah---if there are any Alan Light "fans" amongst you, wait'll you see the lettercol in FB #6. Hee hee hee hee hee hee hee hee hee hee hhee!

Unpaid advertisement

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ps--just got my RDCC #139 today! Hope you all
liked it as much as I did!

Chester

THE SKEPTIC TANK #44

Or, where the hell is Steve Keeter?

Kurt Erichsen

MSU/Owen Hall #540E

East Lansing, Michigan 48824

517-353-7046

Apposition Mountain Publication #303

November 10, 1977

Intended for TF Vol 4 #2

Apparently there dwell some viruses in Michigan that don't have any cousins in Oregon. In Oregon I was apparently an unconquerable obstacle, because I almost never got sick. But here I am in Michigan on my second cold of the winter--and the first traces of snow are just falling now. So here I sit with a soar, hoarse throat and a sporadic, uncontrollable cough and a generally rundown feeling. I shall try to keep this relatively short.

I see no point on voting on Ed Cox. First off, my copy of FEEDBACK still hasn't materialized, but their copy of TF 37 has--it came back postage due. Yes indeed, they've moved again; as usual, without bothering to tell the Chairman (me, at the time) about it. I don't think they're awfully interested in joining.

RAY ZILBER--Oh, damn. I haven't got my own Checklist write-ups? I thought I was through with those forever! I don't blame you for requesting (requiring, that is) members to do their own write ups (I wish I'd done that!), but you're better at PR than I, and I was looking forward to seeing what you had to say about Endy. [I don't know if anyone ever noticed, but I wrote a number of Checklist write-ups before having read the zine in question. Since write-ups are just a vague description of contents, a bit of skimming is all it takes.

BILL FUTSCHLER: Don't be ridiculous. I never called you an asshole--only a bad poet. There's a big difference. I don't even dislike all poetry. It's just that that's the medium usually selected by a writer to Bare His Soul to the World. There may actually be a lot of esoteric profundities locked up in that verse, but the result is more often somewhere between Tommyrot and gibberish, and your poetry was no exception. If you want to write all your poetry in a diary and then lock it away, it wouldn't be necessary for it to have any meaning to anyone but yourself. But you published this poem, so if it fails to communicate, it is a failure. I'm not in the habit of ripping sensitive statements to shreds; it's just that the poem contained nothing of the sort from my point of view. But as I said before, I don't give a shit about the cosmos and you seem to, and that's why I abstained. You and I don't even live on the same planet. (On a note aside, you are going to make one strange engineer. The usual stereotype holds that an engineer is one of the most dull and mundane types of person possible. You, on the other hand, seem practically completely divorced from mundanity. At least you like records and electrical circuits, or else I'd have written you off ages ago...) (Uh, don't take the preceding statement too seriously)

Thinking it over a bit more, the reason I disliked EC is not really because it was poetry. I do like some poetry, and I'd have disliked EC equally if you'd expressed it in prose form. It's just that this sort of thing seems to usually be expressed in poetic form. You really shouldn't let yourself be so turned off by Christianity, though. The old testament has much to offer from a historical standpoint and the new offers a very admirable philosophy (which only a super-human could strictly follow). The rest, however, belongs in the same category as the Greek and Roman myths. (I don't see how you can call "Violet Women" "sonnet format". A sonnet is a form of poetry with a very rigid rhyme and meter scheme and with a fixed number of lines. Kind of like a glorified limerick.)

TERRENCE McCOY: I had the extra traveling time, and I figured the Upper Peninsula would be prettier than Chicago, so I turned left at Milwaukee. I trust I'll run into you sooner or later, though. Hope your life shapes up. (We care! We care!)

JIM BAIN: If I may quibble for a moment...I've been in this co-op with you for about four years now, and it bothers me to realize that I really don't know much about you; after all this time you remain largely a stranger. You're friendly and likeable as far as your zines go, but you never seem to talk about anything other than fanzine production. If you don't mind, I'd be interested in hear about your life and What You Think. [By the way, that ought to be KCE, not DEE after Healey's name, in that script. Put C, ruel on the artwork, though, and I'll see you with this here lollipop. That's a promise. [Yes indeed it sure does feel good not to have to publish TF this month!

-logoff-

TALES FROM WEIRDOGRAPHIC OCEANS, number 8, for Tetragrammaton
Fragments #55 (V 4 #2), November 1977. Published by Jay L.
Zerber and the triumphantly re-emerging Weirde Publishing Co.,
Oberlin College #740, Oberlin OH 44074. (216) 775-6413, if
you look directly to your left, you'll see the Grand Canyon
as we pass directly over it at an altitude of 32,000 feet.
Whoops...just a little turbulence, nothing to be afraid of.
This is WFOzine #45 (Onward!)

WHAT IF... the chairman had to drop himself for inactivity? Fortu-
nately, we'll never have to find out. GLX SPTED CLEAN
#1 has been printed and collated by the time you read this, and
should be in the mails shortly. Please note: I am the publisher
of GLX, but not the distributor. Unless the third motion listed
below passes, all copies will be available only from Ken Gale; his
name and address should appear on the checklist as the ordering
address.

WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT MOTIONS? True to my word, this is where I
start introducing my program of radical
sweeping changes. Consider these proposals carefully; they may be
some of the most important motions you'll be voting on during my
term as chairman. All are open to seconds immediately.

- MOTION #1: To amend article one by changing the fanzine-publishing
minac from "once a year" to "once every 18 months."

The "18 months" is a compromise between our present minac requirement
and my original desire to extend the minac to two years or drop the
minac entirely. Even in its watered-down version, I concede that
it's wide open for serious and valid criticism. Still, I'm deeply
concerned by the fact that our current 1-year minac is discouraging
many fine, fine faneds from joining our group. It's also forced us
to drop several valuable members (notably Don Fortier) who were
still interested in publishing fanzines but circumstances made it
impossible to publish in time. I submit that the present 1-year
requirement is an arbitrary and unrealistic figure which, though it
may encourage some members to publish more often than they normally
would, also encourages members who concern themselves more with
quality than frequency to do inferior work, and thoroughly discourages
less prolific faneds from joining entirely. I have enough faith in
my fellow faneds to assume that they'll resign of their own accord
when they're no longer interested in publishing, rather than stringing
along until their minac period expires.

- MOTION #2: To provide for an alternative system of rating fanzines
by making all voting confidential (thus doing away with the voting
grid).

By re-interpreting the constitution I could simply impose this
concept of my own accord, but I'd prefer to put it before the member-
ship instead, to hopefully insure that the idea has some measure of
support before I start wreaking havoc with our sacred cows. By
publicly declaring one's numerical rating of each UFOzine, one risks
having that rating misinterpreted as his opinion of the faned rather
than the fanzine. Such misunderstandings can and have lead to some

unhealthy infighting among members...and contrary to popular belief, infighting is by no means essential or desirable to a fannish organization such as ours (no matter how interesting such infighting may be.) From the very beginning of my association with the UFO, I've been completely turned off by having to rate fanzines by numbers in the first place. Numbers are cold, unaffriendly, and meaningless, and more often than not they're a crutch. It's too easy to review a zine by dashing off a few comments and a numerical rating. I for one was enormously frustrated to see Fandom Funnies given lots of nice, high ratings and virtually no constructive criticism whatsoever. Both Vince Kinszal and Chris Rock (I think it was them --- I'm going by memory here) said that FF was lacking in some aspects of its layout, but neither one elaborated on it in their quickie review. It's my contention that, by discouraging the public use of number for ratings, members will be more inclined to actually talk about their criticisms in greater detail. This is one of the greatest potentials the newsletter has...but at present, as members trade numbers rather than discussion, it's a horribly unrealized potential.

If this motion is made law, members would still rate zines by number (or abstain), but their ratings would be submitted to me separately, along with their ni-zine. I would keep a running tally of the ratings and print the tabulated average rating at the end of six months. Members would still have the option of printing their ratings in their own zines, I suppose, but it's an option I would still continue to discourage. By de-emphasizing these numerical ratings, I would ultimately hope that a numerical rating system could ultimately be replaced by a better system or or done away with entirely. But let's take this one step at a time...

-- MOTION #3: To revise the current checklist policy so that all zines would be available from a single centralized source -- for the sake of simplicity, the chairman.

It was pointed out to me by Harry Broertjes that the way the UFO Checklist is presently structured actually discourages people from ordering from it. Since each zine is available only from each individual publisher, a potential reader who is interested in more than one zine from the checklist is likely to be overwhelmed by the prospect of having to make so many individual orders. If all the zines were available from a single source, a reader might be more inclined to order more zines at a time. The same goes for our recent Comics Journal ad...I'm willing to bet that the only modest response people have been reporting stems from the same reason.

It would be my policy if this motion passes to request that each fanned immediately send me ten copies of their available zines, and to list the chairman's address on the checklist and so other. When new UFOzines come out, I would expect the publisher to send me eleven copies of their zine -- one for me and the rest for distribution. Any funds collected from checklist orders would be transferred to the appropriate fanned's account. If the supply of a zine becomes depleted, I would ask the publisher to restock my supply with another ten copies.

I make this proposal knowing full well that it only creates more

work for the chairman...that is, me. Still, I'm willing to go along with it because I think it will improve the checklist's effectiveness, and because I'm working from the assumption that the overall checklist response will never be so great as to be unreasonably more work than I could handle. Most of us, I assume, sell the bulk of our copies through other channels; I don't believe checklist response is now, or will ever be, so great as to make this plan unworkable.

Furthermore, if I had a complete stock of UFO zines on hand, I would be able to do such things as to take them to conventions and comics stores to help promote the UFO and hopefully give even greater opportunity for wider circulation.

- MOTION #4 Just for the sake of dispensing with red tape and pointless constitutional tripping-over, I'd like to propose that immediately upon publication of his next DECFR, Don Fortier be reinstated as a member, and that he should be permitted to make that next zine an official UFO zine, complete with symbol and checklist. Don does not know I was planning to propose this, and he had absolutely nothing to do with this proposal. It's just my opinion that Don is one of our most valuable members, victimized by circumstances-beyond-his-control and the arbitrary 1-year mind presently in effect. If his previous issues were acceptable UFO-quality material, I think it's ludicrous to ask him to re-apply with his next issue, especially when we only lose out on checklist publicity if he doesn't have our official sanction to carry the checklist being of technically non-UFO status. Because I don't know how soon Don plans to prepare his next DECFR, I'd also like to ask that all votes on this motion be submitted by next month's TF deadline. Let's not keep him hanging in limbo like this indefinitely. It's not fair to him...and when you get right down to it, it's not fair to the rest of us. This is a case where we've placed more importance in the rules and regulations of the constitution than in the real-life circumstances involved.

(If TF-subscribers Ron Baker and Greg Swan are planning to publish again, and are interested in similar amnesty, please drop me a line or a ditto letter and say something about it!)

This is not a motion to reinstate Don, only to reinstate him upon DECFR's publication. If this motion carries, I will work up a proposal that will accommodate "inactive members" along these lines so that we won't have to vote on them on a case-by-case basis in the future.

Finally...as soon as these motions are decided, my next goal is to streamline the constitution. It's a bulky, overly-detailed document full of arbitrary and unnecessary regulations which can stand to be cropped considerably, and yet still contain all the necessary outlines of the UFO's structure that it presently contains. Suggestions are now being entertained.

I'M BEGINNING TO SEE WHY KURT WAS ALWAYS SO FAR BEHIND ON REVIEWING UFO ZINES...

Honest. This has been a very busy month. I'll try to catch up next time. Finishing up SIX SPEZL GLARH has been the overriding priority of my life for the last two weeks, forcing me to set aside correspondence, other spac, schoolwork, and general peace of mind. Hopefully I'll be able to re-enter the real world very shortly...

JLZZzzz...

The long-awaited (?) return of Rich Morrissey, 55 Claudette Circle, Framingham, MA 01701, (617) 877-1645, to the pages of TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS--- #39--wh, #2--uh, #55--to be exact. This is ZIP Publication #78.

Has it really been four months since I've appeared in TF? It seems so--- although, with all the delays accompanying Kurt's move to Michigan and the change of Chairmen, almost anyone could have been confused by the deadlines. In my case, encumbered as I was with a full class schedule and a full-time job (now terminated for medical reasons) with the United States Postal Service, I couldn't begin to keep all the TF's and UFO zines and applicants that were coming in straight--but at last I have all the newcomers assembled here and am all ready to go.

To begin with, there's something here from Terrence called ALL-FLY COMIX--which doesn't seem to be intended as a UFO zine. Rather fortunately as far as I'm concerned--it's not that it's bad, but it's just so--different--that I'd despair of ever trying to rate it.

Turning to a definite UFO zine, Kurt's ENDEAVOR #12--well, Kurt, now that you're no longer chairman I can tell you what I really think of your zine! No, really--it's a fine piece of work as always, even though a zine with only one booklength story has to be rather limited in its appeal. When you stop to consider that "A Packrat on Noah's Ark" wasn't even SF- or comics-related, you haven't much more of an audience than the die-hard Endeavorphiles--among which group, fortunately, I count myself.

It was quite a good story, showing your great versatility as a writer--almost a classic Horatio Alger rags-to-riches tale, except that few of Alger's heroes (at least, by reputation--has anyone here ever read a Horatio Alger story?) had the good fortune of inheriting several hundred thousand dollars to launch a business... For that matter, the story had much the same difficulty many professional writers have in inserting topical details without taking the time-factor into account--Walt's investing in "Jaws" merchandise means that we either have to assume the rest of the story took place within two years, or place the denouement in the indefinite future--both of which are rather difficult. Still, I'm a diehard chronologist--probably few people would even think of that, but it might perhaps have been less confusing if you'd had Walt buy, say, all the "Kung Fu" merchandise available instead. (It could have been worse--if the story had been written a little bit later, could you have resisted having Walt invest in "Star Wars" merchandise?) I'm really not sure the Checklist will do much for this issue in mainstream fandom, but I'm sure the Endeavor subbers will like it--as did I; I'll give it a 9.

Speaking of Alger, Bill Sherman does a delightful takeoff on him in LUDICROUS SITUATIONS, LTD. Maybe Bill really has read the originals, even though I suppose "Success in the City" is part of another parody. Actually, much of ALUM NEWS was too true to be funny, but FLAG & FAMILY was perfectly delightful! I also liked the sequence on allergy in the comics--although, for all I know, even it might come true tomorrow. Although I'm really not sure LS,L is, strictly speaking, a "fanzine," it's welcome in the UFO as far as I'm concerned. I vote Yes.

ENTROPY COSMIX #4--hmm. I'm tempted to do what several other people have and just abstain; I'm not sure I understand what this is trying to do. On the other hand, I don't want Bill thrown out of the UFO on the basis of this, so I'll give it a rating of 7.5, just above passing. But do try to make your next issue a little more understandable, OK, Bill?

I had a strange feeling of deja vu when I first opened up the envelope containing FANTASY UNLIMITED #1. One of the first zines I ever contributed to--the first after the one that introduced me (and Jay!) to fandom, THE LEGION OUTPOST--bore that name. A British zine that impressed me a great deal when I encountered it as an exchange student in 1973, it was published by one Alan Austin--and still exists today, though its name has since been

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long since changed to COMICS UNLIMITED. In many ways, this has some of the same flavor as the first FU (and I don't think anyone will begrudge Frank Veripapa the right to use the title he no doubt came up with independently, any more than the previous, long-defunct FANDOM FUNNIES put out by I-forget* whom should make Jay change the name of his zine)--although it has a little more emphasis on strips and a little less on articles, and therefore doesn't appeal to me quite as much.

Nevertheless, the strips were pretty good. "A Parable," in spite of coming off like one slightly-sadistic joke, was my favorite, though "The Heroes of Project Inter-Pax" might have been better if the art were a little more polished. Also, it's rather difficult to introduce a team of heroes in an eight-page story--it may have seemed trite, but I really would have appreciated an introductory page giving all the heroes' names and powers. (The fact that Al made it a little difficult to tell one face from another didn't help much, either.)

The fiction was typical for fan fiction in an above-average zine--not having as high a standard as, say, ENDEAVOR's, but not bad, either. Needless to say, it was the interview that captured my fancy most--although, if you're going to focus on news even to your limited extent, you should be very sure the interview will not be dated! There's nothing that hurts an interview more than the announcement of a great new title that hit the stands last month. But you did quite well, considering--I was fortunate in my Batmania interview (also published several months after it took place); my subject's work in comics was all years in the past. By all means, FU deserves a place in the UFO.

And speaking of interviews, RADION #6 had three rather good ones--maybe not as detailed as I'd like, but then it's always a little bit harder to conduct an interview entirely through the mail. Needless to say, my favorite was the sercon ETERNALS article--it got a bit off the subject when it got into the (perhaps somewhat exaggerated) "logo war" between Marvel and DC, but I don't mind that at all. Douglas made some excellent points; the best perhaps being the 17-page length (happily extinct now at DC at least). Of the books I've read, only the ETERNALS ANNUAL was able to crowd all the concepts Jack really wanted into one story, and it was a fine idea. And then I think of something like the "Cosmic-Powered Hulk" storyline, and think once again how much Kirby needs an editor, and (thankfully) how soon it'll be before his contract is up for renewal... All in all, I'll give this zine an 8.

I seem to be the only one who considers FEEDBACK remotely worthy of UFO membership, but I'm going to vote YES anyway! It's only supposed to be a newsletter anyway--and it's a pretty good one, with some interesting articles and letters. Just one minor point; Red Sonja is hardly the first comic book character to have a convention named after her (him). Has everyone forgotten DC's "Superman's Birthday Con" in February 1976?

* * *

BILL NUTSCHLER: My difficulty wasn't exactly a copyright problem--as far as I'm concerned Arlen Schumer can run off copies of his art to his heart's desire. (But I've still got his originals, and he's not gonna get 'em back for quite awhile, if ever!) In any case, I'm glad it all seems to be settled to everyone's satisfaction.

GREG SWAN: Sorry to see you go (and I'm sure Kurt is even sorrier not to see his story in print! For that matter, so am I). It seems to me you've fallen into the same trap that others (notably Don Fortier) have: getting so interested in TF as an apa that you can't find the energy to put out a genzine... But, with luck, it won't last as long with you--after all, you already knew about apas when you started publishing. The very fact that Jay lists you as a subscriber gives me some hope of seeing TOTD #4 some day. (Even Dwight Decker is eagerly awaiting my story!)

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SKREETER: Glad to have you with us again--I agree that some of the drug laws are preposterous, and I'm glad your stay in prison didn't seem to have any ill effects. All I regret is that you weren't able to see the campaign through--is it true you intended to retype all our letters yourself the way you used to in the days before I joined? That'd certainly save us a lot of ditto masters... (Seriously, I'm sure you would have done a fine job, as you already have--and, as you're going to have all too much contact with me in a similar capacity if you join K-a, I'd better get my foot out of my mouth.) Just don't let all these apas you're joining drag you away from fanzine publishing!

CHRIS ROCK: Don't judge all faneds by ~~Harry B... and Bob S...~~ the ones who kept dragging you to the arcades. We're not all pinball freaks!

KURT ERICHSEN: It's a pity I couldn't contribute to one of your TF's just once more, but you did do a fine job as Chairman. Hope to see you at Creation--unless my doctor tells me I shouldn't travel so soon (it'll only be a week after my hernia operation) I'll be there! And to think that if I go to New York after I graduate, I'll have to get used to a ZIP Code that isn't 01701 and an area code that isn't 617--it does seem odd, doesn't it!

JAY ZILBER: Last but not least--the UFO is in excellent hands still, I can see. For all I care, you can make the OO five pages!

As far as letting us describe our own zines, perhaps that is good for some of us to be allowed to submit our own descriptions, but other members rather liked having Kurt write the descriptions. I know I did--with the exception of his rather sarcastic examples of Comic Oddities (and I thought I did have a rather nice batch in #23, too--did he have to pick the worst one?) he did far better than I could do. Also, it seems every Chairman drops one of the former functions--as I observed, Steve Keeter used to retype all the letters on masters, but Kurt made them submit their own masters--and now you're making us write our own descriptions. Will next year's chairman start making everyone do his own printing? (All right--I know I'm making a big deal out of a trivial point. I just wanted something to criticize; it says a lot for you that that's all I could find.)

Incidentally, next time you retype the Checklist, drop BATMANIA 19 and 20 from Still Available. #20 just sold out, and #19's been gone for months, but Kurt never dropped it! (For that matter, both issues sold only for 50¢, not the \$1 that subsequent issues did, but that's all water over the dam now.)

You forgot to mention that the STRANGE SPORTS STORIES cover Don ripped off for TF #54 was based on your own suggestion, didn't you? (Or would you rather forget that?)

It seems that, whenever a new CM takes over an apa, he brings in a lot of new members. This may not be an ordinary apa, but you're no exception--it's a pity you couldn't get Spanier or Broertjes in. I've never heard of WOWIEKAZOWIE or BEASTIALITY until now, but if you recommend them I'm looking forward to them.

And, with a final apology to everyone for the production of BATMANIA @ #23 (new printer, partially--though the uncorrected mistakes in the Fox interview were my fault) I'll take my leave--but it's great to have time for fanac once more! Now maybe I can do another article for Jim Main and/or Tom Mason (whose publishing relationship still confuses me) as I promised--oh, yes, the forthcoming Deadman one is mine, even though I used a pseudonym for reasons that should be obvious when you read it!

Rich

THE UFO CHECKLIST
(Updated 19-NOV-77)

BATMANIA #23 -- Batmania is the fanzine dedicated to fans who enjoy reading, collecting, and watching the adventures of Batman & Robin.

This issue branches out into related topics as well, featuring a discussion with Gardner Fox of his career in comic book writing, which spanned three decades and saw stories for many major comic book publishers come out of his typewriter -- most notably DC. Other features include Jay Silber's regular "Update" column, this time reviewing the \$2 reprint edition of "Batman vs. Ras al Ghul," reviews of the Batman and Wonder Woman encyclopedias by Tom Fagan and Alan Tuziensky, a look at Batman in The Brave and the Bold by Martin Lock, "The Legend of Two-Face!" by John D. Hennings, and a brief interview with Cesar Romero, who was TV's The Joker. Plus the usual features: "Comic oddities & Bat-facts" ("Superman #120...featured photo supposedly taken in the future. In one of these, Superman is launching the first rocket to the moon...June 7, 1978.") and letters. Artwork abounds, featuring the work of Al Bradford, Arlen Schaefer, Wes Smith, and Nancy Van Vleck, among many others. 28 offset pages, \$1.00. From Richard W. Worriesey.

CLYDE'S COMICS & TAILS #1 -- This issue of Clyde's is art-oriented, featuring "Yes, We Have No Bananas," a funny animal strip by Kevin Funk and Matt Fezzell's "Lenny the Weasel," plus an interview with Tim Corrigan, who talks about his Superhero Comics, its founding, and the trials and tribulations of keeping it going, as well as his future artistic plans. Other artwork is by Dick Kulpa, Fred (RANDRAKE) Fredericks, Sal Successo, and Bob Vojtko. The cover is by Paul Bianco. This issue is 32 8 1/2 x 5 1/2 pages, all offset for 50¢ from Terrence McCoy.

ENDEAVOR #12 -- Most issues of Endeavor feature a collection of stories, but this issue is essentially one story, Kurt Erichsen's "A Peckrat on Wash's Ark," a tongue-in-cheek novella about about a collector of anything-and-everything whose highest ambition in life is to own a junkyard! ...And finally his massive possessions physically overwhelm him. The story is profusely illustrated by Paul Chadwick, and sports a front cover by Kurt Erichsen and a back cover by Lee Jackson. 75¢, 54 mimeo & offset pages from Kurt Erichsen

Entropy Cosmix #4 Eight Color/heavy stock 8 1/2 x 5 1/2 pages featuring "Violet Woman", a cosmic tale of a paradoxed man and the catalyst that brings him to mental re-awakening. In experimental sonnet-graphic format. For open-minded people everywhere. 45¢ from Bill Mutschler

(Bill -- is this price correct? You didn't include one in your writeup and 45¢ stuck in my mind for some reason, even though I have no record of it.)

Fandom Funnies #3 Fandom Funnies is a parody-zine, which lampoons (The Buyer's God) other well-known comics-oriented publications. This tabloid-sized issue parodies a typical issue of The Buyer's Guide, with its regular features "Lead Balloons," by Don and Maggie Married (Bill Sherman, Jay Zilber, and Roger Caldwell), "So What?" by Murray Blastoff (Harry Broertjes), "Cruciflar Comments" by Martin Grime (Mike Valerio and Tom Hageman) and the rest of TBG's regular columnists. Plus advertisements which have to be seen to be believed, including the classic "Jack Kirby SCHOOL of Modern Comics WRITING," and a revealing interview with Alan Right. Also included is a new Ear-Fall-Off Floyd portfolio and an assortment of other Fandom Funnies regular features. Artwork includes covers by Alan Hutchinson, Bill Sherman, and Kurt Erichsen, as well as work by Ron Harris, Rich Bruning, Jim McPherson, Al Williamson (swiped by Martin Grime), Ken Barz (swiped by Martin Grime), and Frank Robbins (swiped by Martin Grime). The Buyer's God is easily the funniest zine of the year, 28 pages, 11 x 17 offset on newsprint for \$1.00 from Jay Zilber

Six Spotzi Glaah! #1 Sheldon Mayer began his career in the late 1930s as the artist/writer of Scribbly, the Boy cartoonist. Eventually, he moved on to funny animals, and then wrote and drew 98 issues of Sugar & Spike. Sheldon Mayer is a creative genius, right alongside Carl Barks and John Stanley...and now, there's a fanzine devoted to the artistry of Sheldon Mayer. Six Spotzi Glaah! #1, the brainchild of Jay Zilber and Ken Gale, premieres with a never-before-published essay by author Ron Goulart on Scribbly; Mark Evanier discusses Mayer's personal approach to humor; Gary Brown interviews the now-retired Patsy Mouse from Mayer's famed Three Houseketeers strip of the 1950s; and Rich Morrissey takes an in-depth look at one of S.M.'s more recent creations, The Black Orchid. Also included are some examples of rare, unpublished Mayer artwork, and information on the REVIVE SUGAR AND SPIKE movement. If you're a Mayer fan, this is what you've been waiting for...and if you're not, you will be long before you finish reading Six #1. 28 offset 8 1/2 x 11 pages for only 60¢ (by mail) from Ken Gale, 220 East 85th Street #5-R, New York, NY 10022

MARK FANDOM #9/10 — This is a special double issue, presenting cartoons and strips instead of the usual letters and articles format. This issue features MOOSIE, Bob Wojtko's answer to Lassie, "Nature Girl," by Ron Ross, and "From Beyond," a comic strip adaptation of H.P. Lovecraft's story, with artwork by Mike Vosburg. On the next side is "The Comic Book Industry Seen As A Hall of Semi-Precious Stars," by David Kirby, which takes on the topic of inter-company imitation and the flow of ideas from publisher to publisher with artists and writers. In all, 20 6 1/2 x 11 pages, all offset, for \$3.25 (\$4.00 to US subbers), from Chris Rock.

Radion #6 Again, the emphasis in Radion is on interviews, this time peering into the creative minds of Tom Batiuk (of the "Funky Winkerbean" newspaper strip) and Michael Wusslan, book cover illustrator, who discusses his background, his work, and getting screwed over by Marvel. Author Ron Goulart discusses his books and his many pseudonyms, with an emphasis on Weird heroes, sf, and future projects. Accompanying the Goulart interview is a checklist of his work, a scorecard of pseudonyms, and the first three episodes of Starhawk, his daily strip collaboration with Gil Kane. In other features, Douglas Herring discusses "The Boom of The Eternals," and Tom Mason blatantly self-indulges in an editorial. Cover by William Neville/Sam De la Rosa and Doug Herring, and other interior illos are by Tom Batiuk, William Black, Willis Blyberg, Alan Weise and others. All Offset, 36 8 1/2 x 11 pages from Tom Mason

VOTES

	HURT	JIM	TOM	TERRENTE	RICH	BILL	CHRIS	JAY	AVERAGE OF			
									Y	N	A	
C+C COX			N	N	Y	N						1 3
VERIDAPA	N	Y	N	N	Y	N						2 4
SHERMAN	Y	Y		Y			Y					4
BATMANIA 23		9	9	9	X	78	9	8				8 6 3
ENDEAVOR 12	X	8.7		75	9	9	8					8 4 4
ENTROPY COSMIX 4	A	7	A	6	75	X	6					6 6 2
RADIUM 6	8.8	9	X	75	8	8						8 2 6
GLX SPITZ GLASS 1							X					

Still Available

- BATMANIA #22 - \$1.00 from Rich Morrissey
- ENDEAVOR #7 - \$1.50...#8 - 50¢...#9 - \$1.00...#10 - \$1.40...#11 - \$1.00 from Kurt Erichsen
- ENTROPY COSMIX #1, 2 -- 40¢ each from Bill Mutschler
- GRAPHEX #2,3 -- 80¢ each from Bill Mutschler
- RADIUM #4, 5 -- 65¢, 75¢ respectively from Tom Mason

** Please mention the Checklist when ordering **

TETRAGRAMMATOR FRAGMENTS! TF is the UFO Newsletter, the official organ of the United Fanzine Organization. This newsletter/apa was founded in 1972, and continues today in its fourth volume under Jay Zilber. TF is published monthly and on time, featuring the official business of the UFO, reviews of current UFOzines and an up-to-date Checklist, lots of fannish natter, personal gab, occasional feuds, and other fun goings-on between the members of the UFO. 15-30 pages, 50¢ or 4/\$1.50 (3rd class) or 4/\$2.00 (1st class) from Jay Zilber, Oberlin College #740, Oberlin Ohio 44074

THE UFO CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1: To be a member of the co-op, one must publish a fanzine at least once a year, and the total pagecount of all issues published in a year must be 25 8 1/2" x 11" non-reduced pages or the equivalent. The zine must comply with the co-op's standards of excellence. The other members of the co-op should send in ratings of each member zine to the Chairman. If the average rating of two zines in a row from any one member is below 7, he/she will be automatically expelled from the co-op.

ARTICLE 2: A member may print as many titles as he/she wishes.

ARTICLE 3: A free copy of every member's fanzine, every issue, must be sent to each other member for review.

ARTICLE 4: Each UFO zine must carry the UFO symbol on the front or back cover, editorial page, and/or contents page.

ARTICLE 5: The membership must not exceed 20 members at any one time.

ARTICLE 6: One person shall be elected to the position of Chairman of the co-op by plurality vote. Regular elections shall be held once a year in August, with results announced in the September newsletter; the new term of office will start with October. Should a Chairman be unable to continue his job, he may call new elections and appoint a temporary Chairman to manage the co-op until a new Chairman can be elected. Should the Chairman prove incompetent, he may be impeached by majority vote. If he is removed from office, he will appoint a temporary Chairman who will edit the NL until a new Chairman can be elected. A Publicity Manager will be elected at the same time and in the same manner as the Chairman. The Publicity Manager's duties are to manage the UFO's advertising and public relations.

ARTICLE 7: Each UFO zine, with the exception of short newsletters, must carry a checklist of all the currently available zines with their prices and addresses of their publishers. The free ad space is one of the main benefits of being a member. Whenever a member releases a new issue of his zine or sells out an issue, he must swiftly inform the NL editor so that alterations can be made in the checklist. If a UFO zine is less than 10 pages, it may carry an abbreviated checklist, listing the zine, pagecount, price, address of publisher, and a brief indication of contents.

ARTICLE 8: New applicants for membership should send a copy of their zines to each member of the co-op for review. They should also inform the NL editor of their wish for membership so that he can bring it up for a vote. Voting is done on a yes/no basis.

ARTICLE 9: Suggestions for changes or additions to the UFO Constitution should be told to the Chairman so that he can bring the suggestions to the attention of the other members to be discussed and voted on. Two seconds are required on a new motion before it may be voted on.

ARTICLE 10: All members are required to participate in the voting and discussion that goes on in the UFO NL. Any member who is not heard from for two consecutive issues of the NL will be immediately expelled, as it will be assumed that he is no longer interested in being a member of the UFO.

ARTICLE 11: If the UFO's roster is full and an editor wishes to apply, he still submits his zine for consideration. If accepted, he is then placed on the waiting list and will be admitted into the co-op as soon as a vacancy appears.

ARTICLE 12: The costs involved in production of the UFO NL and advertisements shall be equally divided among the members of the co-op. When the amount of money in a member's account approaches or reaches zero, he will be assessed for an amount which will bring his level to \$1.00 unless he may contribute more if he wishes. Each month the expenses will be deducted from each account. Advertisements for the co-op will be approved by a plurality vote of the members. The size of the ad, where the ad will appear, and other necessary details will be decided in this vote. Cost of advertisements, like the cost of the NL, will be divided equally among the members and collected from their accounts.