

# Eldritch Learnings







## Eldritch Leanings no.2



This issue is written and published for the 14th mailing of The Esoteric Order of Dagon, May 1st (Roodmass) 1976 by: William E. Hart, 222 N.Muller #75b, Anaheim, Calif. 92801. Tel. (714) 535-1201.

I'm sure that my cover this issue is familiar to anyone who has ever had an interest in the occult, or just weird literature in general. I've found that very few people have any knowledge of the meaning of the whole symbol known as: Baphomet, The Goat of Mendes, The God of the Witches etc., so what follows here is a little background material taken from some of my musty tomes...

This (cover illustration) is the God of the Witches, but it is not Satan. The true Witch does not believe in Satan. Satanism is a cult of its own and has no association with Witchcraft. It is true that there are so-called Black Witches but this title is given them because they practice Black Magic. Witches do not worship the image known as "God of the Witches". They worship that for which it stands or symbolizes. To the Witch, it is a most sacred symbol. It is also called the Goat of Mendes. His horns represent the waxing and waning moon. The center horn symbolizes the Magical Light of Universal Intelligence, the God-power always available to man when man learns how to use it. The head is that of a goat, symbolizing much the same thing as the sacrificial goat in the Bible. Here, however, it also acts as a reminder that man must make certain sacrifices before he can achieve complete Illumination or "At-Onement". The goat is bearded, symbolic of the "Grand-Old-Man" of the Qabalists. It also represents agelessness and timelessness.

The Pentagram on the forehead is a symbol of light and also represents the Qabalistic Tree of Life. It is a sacred symbol and a most talisman. When the Pentagram symbol is reversed so that the two points are up, it becomes a symbol of infernal evocations, it is evil incarnate, but the true Witch would turn away from a sacred Pentagram so profaned. The right hand of the goat points upward indicating the power being used for good, the left hand points down, denoting that man has a free will and the power can be misused. It also signifies the perfect balance between Mercy and Justice. One arm is feminine and one masculine, the body too, has a feminine and masculine aspect, symbolizing both attributes found in man, thus this androgynous figure represents humanity. The Caduceus represents eternal life, the scales on the body symbolize water, the circle surrounding the belly, half of which is visible, symbolizes the atmosphere, the wings represent air and man's struggle to rise above his environment. The feathers symbolize that which is volatile. The cloven hooves symbolize that man has not yet completely evolved out of the beast kingdom. And last but not least, the goat sits on a half-sphere which represents his universe. Only half is shown because man has not yet learned how to rule his universe.

Hear ye, Hear ye. William E.Hart wishes to publicly thank Robert Weinberg, and all of you other past and present E\*O\*D members who helped me reach my goal of being able to gather up most of the material from the past few mailings. Thanks to everyone, not only did I reach my goal, but I far surpassed it. I would have considered my self lucky to have been able to scrape up material from the 11th and 12th mailings: Instead I ended up with almost complete 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th mailings, a major portion of mailings 1-4 and 7, and a complete 13th mailing. After being told by a number of people that my hunt for back issues was futile, I'm sure everyone can understand my gleefull surprise at what I did recieve!! Once again, I thank everyone, especially Bob Weinberg who donated most of the material that I never expected to see.

Since my first issue was sent out without including any mailing comments (and because the 13th mailing was 847p long), I've decided that other than a few pictures of some of us Californian Lovecraftians, I'm going to devote this whole issue to mailing comments. I may cheat and stick in a few minor thoughts at the end, but that will depend on how many pages this thing runs (and how much my wife will put up with cost wise on the printing). Like I said before, due to the size of the 13th, there's no telling how long this will take, so without further ado, here they are...

Mailing comments on the 13th.

THE MOSHASSUCK REVIEW - Kenneth Faig - In discussing unused "Mythos" locales, you say (p.5) that in a Lovecraft letter probably to Miss Toldridge, Lovecraft spoke of his plans to utilize the ancient Khmer ruins in Cambodia for the purposes of his fiction; I believe Llewellyn M.Cabos incorporated this into his story BENEATH THE SLEEPING CITY (anth. DARK MESSENGER READER NO. 1 Strange Co. 1975), I quote the opening here: "In the land of the Khmers lies the Sleeping City. Older than mankind, it was when the seas were filled with saurian things and the skies with winged monsters. Beware of the day when the sleepers wake.--The L'striga Knishka of Count Koblas"// Once again I was reminded by your essay just how badly I needed copies of THE SHUTTERED ROOM and DREAMS AND FANCIES, so I ran down to Reg Smith's, borrowed his copies, and xeroxed every single page.//It's material like yours that made me want to become a member of the E\*O\*D so keep it coming Ken. // The only complaint I can make about your zine is that sometimes because of reproduction problems it becomes very hard to read.

AT THE SIGN OF THE BLACK GOAT #1 - Charles Korbas - I enjoyed your comments but there's not to much I can say about them as I haven't had a chance to read those mailings yet.

LATE, AS USUAL - JOE Moudry - If I was involved in as many apas as this, the title would have been LATE, AS ALWAYS. Maybe I am just a slow, two finger typer, but I still have a hard time trying to imagine belonging to so many apas and still having time to eat, sleep, work, and convince your wife that you haven't forgotten she still exists. All I can say is, keep up the good work, and more power to you. Your a better man by far than I.



JU<sup>S</sup>TIN CA<sup>S</sup>E: NO. TWO - Meade Frierson III - Meade, I think you better try using a less toxic brand of typewriter cleaner; It seems the one your using now is giving you a bad case of high S!!

ELDRITCH LEANINGS - William E.Hart - It seems I'll have to do a little nit picking here. Poor William, I believe you made one mistake that changed the outlook of your whole introduction... namely, on p.1, fourth paragraph, third line, "...by an author I had never heard of,"...was accidentally typed without "never", thereby changing the context of the statement. Tisk, tisk!! (I borrowed that "tisk" from Bob Eber)

THE ELTDOWN SHARDS - Arthur Metzger - Thanks for letting me know where to find Brian Lumley's story(12-75), I've been looking for this ever since I read about it in one of mifriiii zines. You mention David McCallum's recording of THE RATS IN THE WALLS, how does this compare with Lava Mt-Huckleberry's?

NOTES FROM ALLANOR'S CASTLE - Dr. Howard J. Duerr - Until I reached the last page of your zine, I had begun to think that you might have accidentally sent the wrong zine to the E\*O\*D. I must say though, I tend to agree with you as far as your opinions of the interpretations of H.P.L.'s stories.

TWERKLE, A SECOND - Walter A. Coslet - Enjoyed the information about THE FOSSILS, INC., and also the look at what's happening with NAPA. Due to your comment about Bob Eber's zine, I find myself also calling it LENGthy LETTERS... Maybe we can talk Bob into changing the name.

THE LEFT HAND OF ~~DARKNESS~~ FRIERSON - Meade Frierson III - Lets see, that's CATS OF ULTHAR 1, MEADE FRIERSON O. I'm like you in a way, the first time I went through my Clark Ashton Smith books, I was reading "Mythos" material only. In a since that's like looking at the earth from one side only and declaring IT'S FLAT!!

IBID XIII - Ben Indick - Your tribute to David H. Keller was a very beautiful and moving piece. I've never known much about Keller, but your essay makes me wish I had. Does anyone know the whereabouts of Keller's unpublished bound manuscripts? Why not reproduce all ten of the postcards along with the whole story? I'm sure a number us would be interested in seeing this.

ZARFHAANA - Glenn Lord - In REH, R. Alain Everts publication for REHUPA, Randy reproduced p.244 of the Register of Births, for Parker County, Texas. The sum total of the information obtained from this page (as pertains REH) is as follows: Howard, Robert Ervine, is male, white, born on 24 January 1906, in the town of Peaster, Parker County, Texas, legitimate, parents not foreigners, birth was live, parents names were I.M. Howard and Hester Howard of Peaster. The doctor who attended the birth was J.A.Williams, M.D. of Peaster, and the birth was filed (recorded) by him on 2 February 1906. Am I to take your statement to mean R.E.H. only called himself Ervin, but might have known it was on the record as Ervine? Many thanks for the Gaddis reprint, I've never before seen this.



LETTERS FROM LENG - Robert M. Eber - Me thinks tis shades of ARSENIC AND OLD LACE edged with just a touch of the "Mythos" that I find within these pages!! Is noone a new word? Ah, perhaps this might be none spelled with two o's!? But then again, this also looks like it could be a case of no one typed the fast way, i.e. without spacing!?

DRAKE'S POTPOURRI - David Drake - Thoroughly enjoyed your "ON BEING EDITED" essay; I wasn't aware of just how much writing you had done. Guess I'll have to dig a little bit to read the stories you mentioned.// After receiving my copy of FAR LANDS OTHER DAYS, I'd say you definitely have a reason to be proud!! Beautiful!!

DARK MESSENGER 7 - Crispin Burnham - I really think you should try a different method of photo reproduction, I mean it was great seeing the pictures, but it would have been nice to see who they were of! A suggestion if I may, whenever you're taking pictures of people, try to move in as close as possible. THE MURDER FROM HARKNESS should be retitled, KOLCHAK AND SHERLOCK HOLMES VS. (or MEET) THE NIGHT STALKER.// Let's see now, next we'll line up Gidhra, Mothra, Rodan etc., etc.// You say DARK MESSENGER READER will become ELDRITCH TALES? Sounds familiar, I wonder why? All kidding aside, I'll be one of the first to order a copy as soon as you set the price.// Your a regular storehouse of information this time! Thanks for the contents listing and proposed release date of DISCIPLES OF CTHULHU. Also a thank you is in store for mentioning that Harry Morris Jr. is bringing out Dick Tierney's LORDS OF PAIN !!

"RISING FROM A TOMB THAT'S HAUNTED..." - Arthur Metzger - Love that poem!!!... Any more poems and artwork combined like this and I'm going to have to start framing them! Let's see more from M. Streff!

FROM THE DARK SPACES - GySgt Edward P. Berglund - Welcome back into the fold! // Between you and Crispin Burnham I'm going to go broke trying to keep up with all of the new "Mythos" related material that's coming out!!

ABADDON 6 - David C. Smith - Let's see if I get this right... You start off by resigning, and finish with a retraction (of sorts) of your resignation? That's one hell of a way to get attention! Let me be one of the first to welcome you back!!!// I enjoyed all of the J. Vernon Shea material, although I'm not very well versed in Opera.// Haven't seen CARMILLA, so I can't really comment.

AFTER MIDNIGHT - Reg Smith - It's interesting to note Derleth's statement "You have to remember that the entire domain of the macabre is a minor branch of literature and Lovecraft is a minor figure in that domain", is followed by "He (Lovecraft) has done some very sound work, and in the American group he ranks rather high." Rather contradictory, eh wot? When I first heard your tape, I expected to hear Derleth praise Lovecraft, not call him a "minor figure" in a "minor branch" !!. It's also interesting that so little of the conversation delt with the Lovecraft-Arkham House relationship. Perhaps this was covered earlier in the conversation, If so, maybe somebody could search for a complete recording of the Interview!?!// CTHULHU INVADES THE SOUTH seems like a good beginning for a new(con.)



AFTER MIDNIGHT 5 cont. - type of "Mythos" round robin... With your permission, perhaps someone will continue it. As usual your mc's were enjoyable and enlightening. I must say here that I'm anxiously awaiting the moment when I can see Dirk's response!!

EFFORTS FROM CHURNING FINGERS 2 - Randall D. Larson - Don't worry about those tiny characters from your poster until Mighty Joe Young comes after them. When he does, I suggest you find a safe place to stay for awhile (like Haiti). As much as I'm looking forward to FANDOM UNLIMITED #2, I can't help but chuckle whenever someone mentions it by its initials only (F.U.2)! // Enjoyed DON'T PUT OFF UNTIL TOMMOROW although I guessed how it would end before I got there (perhaps the title gave the ending away?). // I was surprised to read in your mailing comments to Howard Duerr that you haven't read any of the more than abundant material about H.P.L. the man! I had thought of the E\*O\*D as being the "Inner Circle" of Lovecraft readers, scholars, and admirers. // I hope that after reading THAT DAMNED THING, you'll still read a number of Bierce's stories to get a more rounded view of Bierce's style. Some of his short stories (i.e. THE MAN AND THE SNAKE) might just catch you off guard; Although a steady diet of Bierce would spoil your enjoyment (which is true of most authors).

DARKNESS OVER PROVIDENCE - Lawson W. Hill - Very informative and enjoyable little (wish it was larger) zine. I'll be looking forward to your next installment of THE CONTEMPORARY ILLUSTRATORS OF H.P.L.! Does anyone know where I can get copies of the four H.P.L. covers that were made into posters by Ballantine?

NECRONOMICON - Robert C. Culp - I'll be making comments on Prof. St. Armand's essay H.P.LOVECRAFT:NEW ENGLAND DECADENT as soon as I get a xerox copy of it. // While cautiously reading through the NECRONOMICON, I came across the rather puzzling sentence; "Would that the ditch who bore him had died birthing and he had been strangled in the afterbirth." The questions this brings to mind are: 1. Was this supposed to have been ditch, bitch, or witch? 2. If ditch, does this refer to mammoth proportions, or morality? 3. If bitch, could this have been a Freudian slip? And last but not least... 4. If witch, which witch? Either way, very interesting and enjoyable excerpts from the NECRONOMICON!! (I hope whomever types this gets my statement down correctly... They're still trying to convince me that this is all in my mind... Wish they would let me write this down with something other than crayon...)

CRUMBLING RELICKS - Chet Williamson - I've read reports on the FWFCon but so far your's has been the most enjoyable. I want to thank you for taking the time and painstaking effort to transcribe everything that you did. I've tried a certain amount of transcribing from cassette tapes and it's usually a hell of a job. By letting all of us who couldn't be there read the transcripts, you've really given us a taste of the mood and flavor of the con.! Someday when I'm able to get the time off and can afford it, I'll make it to some of the cons. I'll also have to figure out what to do with my wife, as there's no way she'd sit through two or more days of nothing but H.P.L. lectures! In your review of THE YEARS BEST FANTASY STORIES you said (cont..)



CRUMBLING RELICKS (cont...) - "I'll not even remark on his (Carter's) frequent mention in the volume of his own fantasy magazine K D TH." I have a copy of THE YEARS BEST... which I haven't read yet, but when you mentioned Carter's frequent mention of KADATH, it reminded me that I've seen a lot of complaints in the mailings about what a rip-off Carter has pulled with this. Since I'm still not sure what the KADATH controversy is all about, I looked in my copy of THE YEARS... to see what Carter had to say. I thought for once I was going to find out what KADATH actually was but I was disappointed to find that the "frequent mention" turned out to be one mention in the acknowledgement page, and one mention on p.12. I see nothing wrong with varying opinions, but at least let's keep our facts straight.

LITTERAE DAGONIS No. 10 - R. Boerem - Not knowing a thing about Carl Sadakichi Hartmann (other than what you have written in L.D. no.10), all I can say is that I enjoyed your comparison of H.P.L. and Hartmann. Perhaps I'll make further comment when I've become more familiar with him. // I cheated on the crossword puzzle, I got your zine with the answers the same day I got the issue with the puzzle!

ROGER'S REVENGE - Roger Bryant - I'm surprised you were able to last as long as you did in five apas! I (at the time of this typing) work building drivers license and I.D. cameras. By the end of the day, my eyes are shot from aligning lenses and assembling miniature parts. Once I read for a couple of hours after work, it feels like my eyes are on fire!! Add to this the facts that: I'm not exactly a fast reader, I'm basically a two finger typer, I like to watch the Lobotomy box now and then, and I also like to have time for my other hobbies (like Shark fishing). OooooPPsss!!! I almost forgot!! I also like to have time to be with my wife, who quite often gets sick of hearing nothing but "E\*O\*D H.P.L.E\*O\*D H.P.L.". These are the main reasons why people like yourself, Moudry, Frierson etc., amaze me by being able to maintain themselves in so many apas!! // I agree with you about Neville Spearman reprinting THE OUTSIDER, BEYOND THE WALL OF SLEEP, and MARGINALIA. There are also a number of other early Arkham House books that I would like to see reprinted, although I realize some people are afraid reprinting would hurt the value of some of the rarer books. It's really a shame though, with the asking price for early A.H. books now, I can't afford anything but reprints. Since I've had a problem trying to get copies of THE SHUTTERED ROOM, DREAMS AND FANCIES, and THE INHABITANT OF THE LAKE, I borrowed all three from Reg Smith and took them to a store called KINKO'S (near a local college) and I was able to use their IBM copier for 4¢ a copy. Considering I can get two pages on each copy, a book like THE SHUTTERED ROOM only costs me about \$6.30, and then to make the books complete, I went to a print shop and used their color Xerox 6500 and made perfect color copies of the dust jackets at 75¢ each. By the time you read this I'll probably have an IBM copy of MARGINALIA also (anythings better than the \$100.00 a local store is asking for it!).

THE PAUPER #4 - Wally Stoelting - I didn't flinch when I saw CTHULHU misspelled as CTHULU, nor did I wince when YOG-SOTHOTH came out as YOG-SOTTOTH, but when you commit blasphemous sacrilege by calling our patron DAGAN instead of DAGON, I must protest that this (cont..)



THE PAUPER #4 (cont...) - is too much! You've gone too far!! Prepare yourself for a fate worse than death!... This is the Weird I place on you; May the fleas of a thousand camels infest your armpits, and the music of Lawrence of Welk play forever in your ears!! My Gawd!!! Now it's Derelith and Dereleth instead of Derleth and also Connover instead of Conover!! You're the first mongrel to ever deserve this; Change that Weird to, Two thousand camels and the music of Lawrence of Welk in one ear and Guy of Lombardo in the other!!!

DEE-ARR-ENN - Doug Nathman - I thoroughly enjoyed and at the same time hated your account of the FWFCOn. I enjoyed it because as I read your account, I was there! I wasn't sitting at work on my lunch break, I was with you and all of the others in Providence, meeting friends, authors, and correspondents that we never thought we'd get a chance to meet. I was also with you, Chet, and John at Swan Point cemetery; A moment that's very hard to describe. Yes, like I said, I enjoyed your essay for the above reasons, and hated it because your words took me away to Providence, but spoiled it by making me have to return to Anaheim and work again! // Your poem sums everything up nicely. // Two complaints: 1. The bottom of p.11 in my copy didn't come out readable, 2. I would have enjoyed this issue a lot more if you had taken the time to clean your typewriter!

CTHULSZ III - David E. Schultz - You're going to have to send me a copy H.P.LOVECRAFT: THE ANTHOLOGIES, so that I can see what corrections or additions I might be able to help you with. // You got to my funny bone with the Necromancer limerick. // Muchos Gracias for BROTHERHOOD.

LA GARGOUILLE - James T. Bass Jr. - Interesting capsule background on La Gargouille. // For my enjoyment, your poem didn't flow smoothly enough for easy reading, keep at it though. // The pages and reproduction of my copy of your zine are a little fouled up. Everything is fine until right after the page with the beginning of SKULL-TREE, after it I have two very light (unreadable) copies of the page with the snake on it, then follows two pages with SPILLINGS IN A STORM at the top that look like the writing has been washed off of the page. I hope that you can supply me with readable copies of whatever pages should follow the page with the beginning of AMOUCHELEE, as I really would like to read the rest of your zine. // A suggestion you might try, number all of your pages so people like myself can tell what pages were missing.

THE MISKATONIC - Dirk W. Mosig - Enjoyed hearing (reading) yet another account of the FWFCOn. // I wasn't aware of Jacques Fournier and Philippe Amiguet planning a one hour special on H.P.L., let's hear more about this. // Many thanks for continually bringing forth such rare items as COLLAPSING COSMOSES, and yes, I too feel that Lovecraft had a very fine and original sense of humor. // "PROFESSOR FAILS TO EXPLAIN NOISES," wasn't there a follow up to this story in the 9-15-75 New York TIMES entitled "UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT PROFESSOR DISAPPEARS UNDER MYSTERIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES" ?? // H.P.L.: MYTH-MAKER, I believe the main reason that so many would-be Lovecraftian imitators can never write a Lovecraftian story, is that they can't separate the Derleth "MYTHOS" from the Lovecraft "CYCLE OF MYTH"! Hopefully, your essay will bring people back to Grandpa's way of thinking, (cont...)



THE MISKATONIC (cont..) - and we just might start getting some quality stories! // By the way, how did you react to Lumley's Lithard? // FUTURIST ART, Lovecraftian humor perhaps? // CTHULHU IN THE HEADLINES, I'm afraid to check this out to see if Dick is serious. // I think J.Vernon Shea is completely off base calling Conover's gift of a skull to Lovecraft "simple bad taste". I don't think Lovecraft in calling it a "fitting gift", was refering to the morbid irony of this, because H.P.L. had no idea he would die so soon! True, he knew he was ill, but how many of us know for sure when our time has come? I have a feeling that with Grandpa's pleasure in the darker treasures of the earth, he was probably delighted with this graveyard relic! Other than this difference of opinion, I felt this was a very fine biography of " Khono-Vhah ". // Would somebody please fill me in on the story behind the KADATH controversy? Every time someone mentions Carter, they also talk about the rip-off with KADATH. I'm really in the dark as far as how it all got started, so if everybody will fill me in I can quit being the only one left that hasn't gotten involved. // I'd like to add one thing to James Wade's review of HOUSE OF THE WORM; It's getting pretty bad when it cost \$5.50 for a book whose front and back cover thickness combined together, is greater than the thickness of the written pages between them! What are we paying \$5.50 for, covers or the material in-between them? The same statement and questions apply to Carter's DREAMS FROM R'LYEH (only more so). // Where can I find more of Jim Shoffner's work? This was indeed a piece that showed a blooming talent! Encore! // CTHULHU IN SOUTHEAST ALASKA, Dick's got some really good possibilities for stories there, hope somebody uses them (with a lovecraftian slant of course). // SOME THOUGHTS ON THE LOVECRAFT PATTERN, should have been printed before PROFESSOR FAILS TO EXPLAIN NOISES. // How far along on your book for Twayne are you, and when can I expect to be able to get my hot little hands on a copy? // All in all, a very thought provoking issue, although if you plan any more 50 page issues, you better get some longer staples!

THE ARKHAM ANCHORITE 8 - JOE Moudry - It seems that you and I have the same feelings about DREAMER ON THE NIGHTSIDE. My only complaints about the book were the size (small for someone who met with H.P.L. over 500 times and must have known him better than anyone else), and also the spacing of the type (If the type wasn't so widely spaced, it would have really been a small book). // After reading THE WINDS OF ZARR I'm going to be looking forward to any other Tierney material that I can find! // I hope that there are still a few copies of THE HISTORY OF AMATEUR JOURNALISM left when I send my money, thanks for the note on this! // Enjoyed your essay on VICTORIANISM VS PURITANISM. // Thanks for the index-- Now all I have to do is become wealthy enough to buy my first issue! // As much as I agree that a title like THE AYLESBURY TRANSCRIPT has more of a Lovecraftian ring to it than THE CRY OF THE CRICKET, I'd still feel better keeping the original. By the way, I believe that there are probably a few of the Acolytes in the order that don't know why Roger chose that title. Personally, I like the humor in it!// While on the subject of changes... It's been suggested that the membership and publication requirements be raised; Even though I'm just a lowly waiting-lister, I'd like to express my thoughts on this... I'm not against raising the publication requirement, but I am against raising the (cont..)



THE ARKHAM ANCHORITE 8 (cont..) - membership count. Let's see if I can make sense out of that statement... I feel that it would be a mistake to raise the membership just because of the length of the waiting-list. There's nothing to keep an interested waiting-lister from contributing each mailing, unless he's just on the waiting-list to pick up mailings without having to contribute anything but \$1.00! If and when it gets to the point that a large number of waiting-listers are contributing each mailing, then, and only then, would I suggest raising the count. Now, if we raise the number of required publications to 60 or 65, then we can be assured that all members, waitinglisters and other interested parties can receive a copy! there will usually be a couple of unsold sets each mailing just in case the Post Awful (see below) eats a set, and no one will ever again have to go through what Stu did! Also having the extra back-up sets there would help people like myself...For right now, to avoid members missing copies of the mailings, Joe is going to delay sending waiting-lister's copies of the mailings out, until he's sure that no member hasn't received theirs. For someone like myself who needs his copy of the mailing to be making comments on, this will mean not receiving the mailing until about two to three weeks after everyone else. The only way that this can be avoided is if JOE will change the rules so the contributing waiting-listers will have their mailings sent out at the same time as members, and also if the rules are changed so that contributors have priority over non-contributors, no matter what their seniority on the list. **This** change should stir a few people into contributing just so they can make sure they get a copy of the mailing! Two last thoughts as far as changes... I think people who contribute should get their copy of the mailing for \$1.00, and those who don't should have to pay \$3.00 to \$5.00. After all, if someone puts out \$40 to \$50 plus the time and effort to put a publication together, why should somebody else who does nothing, get a huge mailing like the 13th (847 pages!!) for only \$1.00?! My last thought as far as changes concerns the suggestion that Dick Tierney be made an honorary member; I'm nuts about Dick's artwork, crazy about his writing (from what I've seen so far), and I'm sure that I'd like to get my hot little hands on some of his sculptures! Even though I feel this way, I don't think Dick should be made an honorary member. If we make Dick an honorary member, we'll have to do the same for Tom Cockcroft, James Wade, L.S.deCamp etc. Now on the other hand, if Dick will put his name on the waitinglist, and send in a contribution, I'm sure he'd receive a copy of each mailing without any complaints from anyone! // After the cartoon below, I will cont ...

**BROOM HILDA MEETS THE POST AWFUL**

by Russell Myers





THE ARKHAM ANCHORITE 8 (cont...) - I'm most grateful for the reprint of HORROR STORY AUTHOR PUBLISHED BY FELLOW WRITERS. This brings to mind an interesting question-- At the time the article written it stated in re: Lovecraft letters, "Already the collection has run to 27 volumes of extracts alone, 100 single-spaced typewriter sheets to each volume. The end is nowhere in sight for the publishers expect to have 50 typewriter volumes before they're through." (2-24-40) The questions I have are: How many volumes did they compile, and where is all of this material now? Also, if this material still exists, what are the plans for using it?

OMNIUMGATHUM #3 - Jonathon Bacon - Just by looking at the border art, I'd say Richard Huber Jr. is well on the road to being a name we're going to hear a lot about! // I noticed your comment to Tom Collin's about THE FOURTH SEAL, and I truly agree that this indeed is a horror story. When I first read this, it seemed to lack the atmosphere that I find enjoyable in a horror story. It was towards the end of FOURTH SEAL that the full force of the implications hit me, and even though I've read a lot of horror, This story got to me!! I'm sure that anyone who reads this will look upon their Doctors just a little differently from now on.

WHISPERINGS - Stuart Schiff - I'm afraid that if I were in your position, I would have shit-canned the whole mess a long time ago! Speaking for myself and everyone else I've talked to, I hope this won't be what you end up doing. You've got one of the best magazines on the market, and I hope to see you continuing it for a long time. The only way I can think of for someone trying to hold a regular job and then go home and take care of a second business (hobby) to ever have any spare time, is to build up the second business (hobby) until it begins to pay enough to be able to afford dropping the regular job. Hang in there Stu!

NOCTURNE/HAUNTER OF THE MAIL - Harry O. Morris Jr. - You've got to have the nastiest mail-man of anybody I know. Nobody could deliver that much mail on a steady basis to the same address without getting a little bent now and then. Sure hope you give the mail-man a bottle of Scotch for Christmas. While your writing about all of the interesting mail you receive, why don't you allow a little space for a SILVER SCARAB PRESS price list and upcoming events column?

CONTINUITY #6 - Scott Connors - I've got to agree with you about the LAVA MT. HUCKLEBERRY recording of THE OUTSIDER-- The ending was changed to the point where it lost its surprise value. I'm going to send for the David McCallum version of THE RATS IN THE WALLS and I let everyone know how I think it compares. // In H.P.L.'s NEW ENGLAND, Shea mentions Harry Beckwith's statement that some blacks were included among H.P.L.'s ancestry. Where can I find this statement, and has anyone proved or dis-proved this? // Thoroughly enjoyed both your FWFCon and Minncon reports (I'm jealous!!) // Many thanks for the H.P.L. appearances listing! // Joe West's artwork is outrageous!

MISKATONIC LIBRARY ARCHIVIST - John A. Finkbiner - Intriguing artwork, I'd like to see more. // What did cause the black-out and what has it got to do with Apollo? I hope you have a good ending for this!



THE HAUNTED FOREST - Tom Collins - Even though I've had my five dollar deposit on A WINTER WISH for quite some time now, I still would have enjoyed seeing H.P.L.'s poem about J.H.Fowler presented at the same time as Fowler's. // After seeing your comments to Chuck Harmon I'm curious to see how you'll take me apart. As I stated in my first issue; I'm a collector, not a writer! Since I'm not the scholarly type, I'll at least try to have a publication that's nice to look at. // Are you sure your publication didn't belong in the 7th mailing? I was surprised to see a zine with mailing comments on the 5th and 6th mailings in the 13th mailing!? (Good comments though!)

LOVECRAFTIAN RAMBLINGS IV - Kennett Neily - I'm going to go broke trying to get some of the things you mention in your new items list (But I love every minute of it!). // Reading your account of Dirk's visit and the FWFCOn just compounds my misery over not being able to be there! So far I've only met two other Lovecraftians (Reg Smith & Bob Eber) and I can just imagine the constant charge created by a large gathering (WOW!!). // Your index will serve me as a very useful guideline and tool (if I ever get any of the magazines), for this kind sir, I thank you immensely!!

TOOTH & NAIL 13 - Jim Webbert - Interesting essay on origins in languages. // Tell Doreen I'd like to see more of her artwork in TOOTH & NAIL!

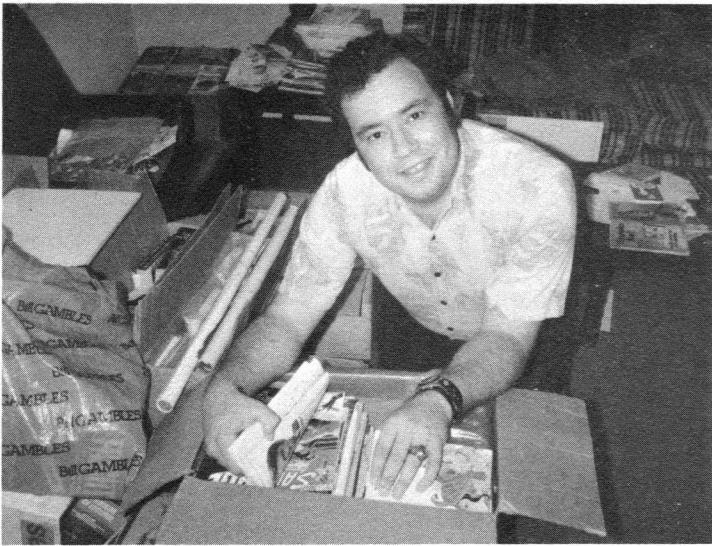
AMBROSE BIERCE - R.Alain Everts - Randy, I've got to thank you for consistently producing some of the most beautiful in the E\*O\*D!!! It's material like yours that's inspired me to begin trying to find an opening for myself in the printing field. (Hopefully before to long I'll be printing my own material!)

THE CONSERVATIVE VOL.1 NO.1 - H.P.Lovecraft - Not bad for a first issue. // After reading your comments on criticism I've decided to not criticize you, as I'd like to see more of your essays and poetry. Have you ever tried writing fiction?

THE LOVECRAFT COLLECTORS LIBRARY VOLS.1-7 - George Wetzel - For this monumental job of reprinting I'd like to thank R.Alain Everts, Scott Connors, George Wetzel, August Derleth, Allan C.Leverentz, Diane M. Leverentz, Marion Z.Bradley, SSR PUBLICATIONS, E.A.Edkins, James F. Morton, Edward H.Cole, Matthew H.Onderdonk, Robert E.Brinely, and last but not most HOWARD PHILLIPS LOVECRAFT!!! (Okay Randy & Scott, where do I deliver my box-tops and the bottles of blood?)

My goodness! I didn't expect to have any room left here at the end of this issue. Kinda caught me with my shorts down didn't you! As promised last issue, right after this bit of drivel you'll find a few pictures of some of us here in California. If anybody likes seeing pictures, let me know and I'll try to have some with each issue. I had hoped to continue my collection listing this issue, but it's getting late (4-13-76) and I want to get this printed and in the mail, so I'll continue it next time. If I try to continue doing 14 page issues offset, I'm going to have to get a job in a print shop fast so that I can afford to print things the way I'd like to, and still be able to buy books. Until nexttime, Hasta Luego Muchachos!



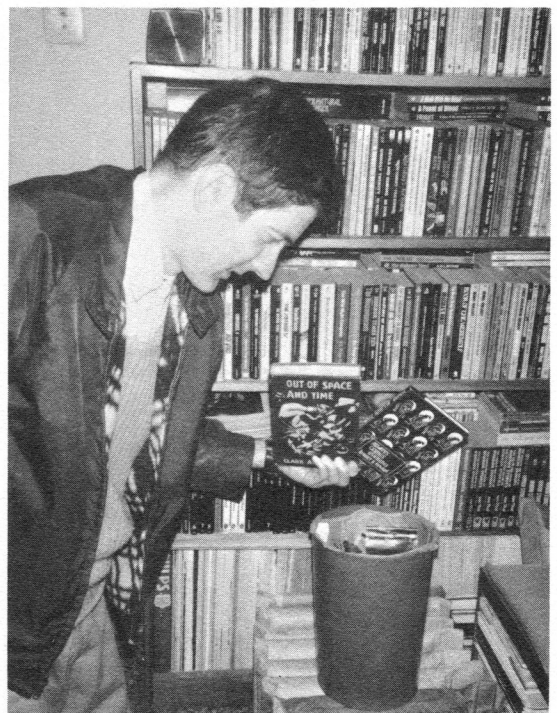
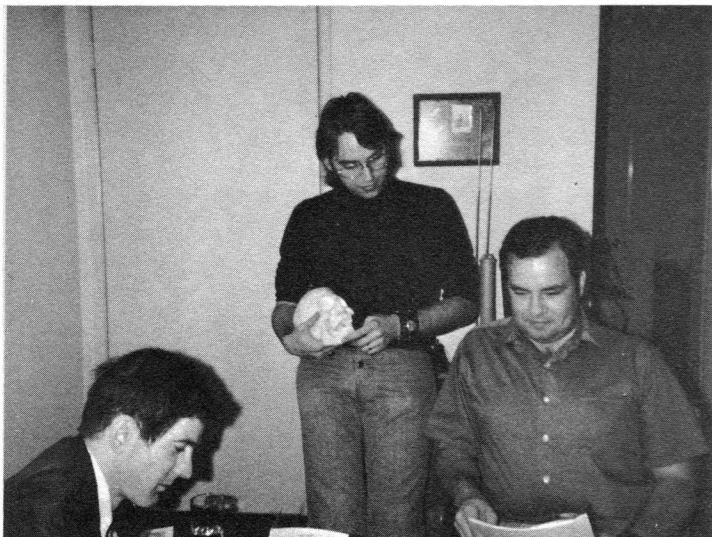
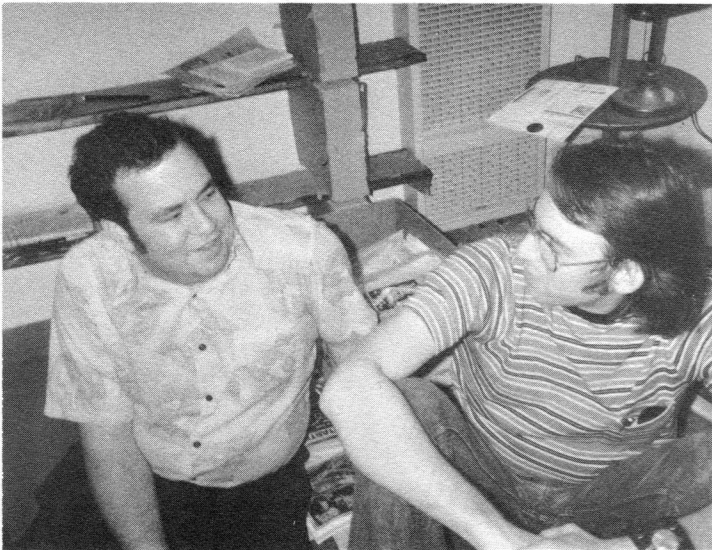


Counter clockwise from above left: This is a special two-way picture. When you first look at it you'll see Bob Eber unpacking his books as he arrived in Long Beach. Now if you look again, you'll see Bob repacking after he got layed-off at Douglas and thought he might have to relocate;

Bob and I discussing future plans in front of his repacked books;

Reg Smith, myself (holding my pet skull), and Bob at my place on 3-28-76 for the first "Cal-con";

Last but not least you'll see Reg throwing away a couple of "worthless" books (OUT OF SPACE AND TIME by Clark Ashton Smith and ALWAYS COMES EVENING by Robert E.Howard), he said he wanted to make room for some valuable books! (You might notice that every shelf behind him is double layered..It's the only way he can make room for all of the things he's collected in the past twenty years.)





Clockwise from above right:

Reg reacting mildly to Dirk's latest issue. On the shelf in front of Reg's forehead you can see some of his Arkham House books (yes there are books on top of them);

I took this for J.Vernon Shea, so that he could see my pet skull sitting in front of my favorite poster (everybody has a pet skull, don't they?);

I wasn't going to print this picture of Bob and I, but everybody said it showed the "real" me (actually that's a combination of glare and a silver metal tooth, I'm sure I'll get comments on this!);

Last but not least, Reg again. This time browsing through some E\*O\*D material that he doesn't have. (Calcon again)

Since I have a little room, here's me with my beard.....

