

SAUCER MUSE

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- Dedicated to Science, Research & Egotism -

In the "old days," when we published SAUCER NEWS (averaging 32 pages, quarterly), we received dozens of exchange UFO periodicals from all over the world. In recent years, this list has shrunk to a handful of zines published by old friends and acquaintances, such as Palmer, Barker, Greenfield, Hilberg, Manak, Easley, and the venerable Laura Mundo.

Now that we've started publishing again, we're beginning to receive, in exchange for our "modest" little sheet, a number of the periodicals put out by the current crop of Ufologists (some of which we had not even heard of.) There is: "Crossroads Quarterly" (denton/Thor, 1471 Second Ave., #19, New York, N.Y. 10021); "Unknown worlds" (Steve Elliott, Rt. 2, Box 159, Vina Al. 35593); "National UFO Newsletter" (Gilbert Ziemba, 719 29th St., Rockford, Ill. 61108); "UFO Sightings Newsletter" (Janice Croy, 512 S. Logan, Denver, Co. 80209); "APRG Journal" from New Zealand; and even "The Journal of Borderland Research" published by Riley Crabb (P.O. Box 548, Vista, Calif. 92083.)

We won't comment on the quality of any of the above, for fear someone will comment on our quality. However, Crabb's effort does deserve a word of (hopefully) interest: His magazine (founded by another man) is labeled "Volume XXXII, No. 1", meaning that it is apparently in its 32nd year of publication. This is little short of amazing, considering that the average life of an off-beat zine is a mere two years, approximately. Another fact worth noting is that the Borderland Sciences Research Foundation, publisher of the above-mentioned zine, claims to have come out with a "4-D" explanation of UFO's back in 1946, quite a few years before "4-D" became respectable or even acceptable in Ufological circles. Among those who used to sneer at that sort of thing was yours truly. Now we aren't sneering quite as loudly.

Crabb writes: "Good to hear from you again, and to read Keel's uncensored comments!" Thanks, Riley; Glad to hear from you again. But what about the time you accused me of being a CIA agent, or the time I met you at a Giant Rock Convention in California, and all you said, when I asked you if you were Riley Crabb, was "yes." I got the feeling there was some antagonism on your part, but hopefully it has now subsided. We all grow older inevitably, and wiser hopefully.

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"Saucers and Saucerers," a book just published by Allen Greenfield of Atlanta, is a quaint and nostalgic look at Ufology 1960-1975, together with more "alternate reality" stuff. A hasty reading of this little tome finds SAUCER NEWS mentioned on Pages 38, 39, 44, 49, 52 and 58. James Moseley is mentioned on Pages 39, 44 (twice), 45, 46, 47 (twice), 48, 49, 51, 52, 53 and 62. Available for \$1.00 from Allen Greenfield (now mentioned twice in this review), P.O. Box 98214, Briarcliff Branch, Atlanta, Ga. 30329.

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THE MAIL EGO: Paris Flaimmonde, a free-lance writer we've known for years through the Long John radio program, writes: "My newest (and, very likely, final) contribution (?) to Ufology will be "UFO Exist!", the companion volume to "The Age of Flying Saucers." G. P. Putnam will be issuing "UFO Exist!" in mid to late April. I understand copies are already out. Publishers Weekly was fairly affirmative about it, and I see no reason for that to be an exception, as, if one overlooks it being grammatical and syntactical, verging on literacy, it has no major flaws." Good luck, Paris. Literacy can be a major handicap in the UFO field!

Daniel Cohen, a free-lance science writer (a good friend but a terrible UFO skeptic) writes:

"Delighted to see that you are back in the UFO business, if only in a non-scheduled way.

"I was also somewhat relieved to see the sort of letters that you have been getting from John Keel. I used to get letters like that from him. I began to get the uncomfortable feeling that one day he was going to decide that I was a member of the Silence Group or something, and come after me with an axe. Now I find that I am not a particular target, just one of many. He will have to do a lot of chopping before he gets to me.

"You may quote me in YE OLDE MAIL BAG if you like. Just don't give my address. I don't want to start getting those spooky letters from John Keel again."

Finally, Gilbert Ziemba writes: "I have just recently received word that you are publishing again. This is absolutely great! It seems now that all the one time prominent Ufologists of the 1950's are getting right back into the scene of things, and I want to personally congratulate you on your latest efforts of becoming editor of SAUCER NEWS. Many, many, many years ago, I used to subscribe to your excellent UFO publication "Nexus!" That was sometime in 1954 and 1955. At that particular time I was only a tot, but I can remember very well its contents and interesting features." Thanks, Gilbert. As a great writer once said (just a few paragraphs ago), we all grow older inevitably and wiser hopefully.

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We urge you to read the March 1976 issue of "Gray Barker's Newsletter" (wisely so named, to avoid needless confusion with our newsletter.) It contains a spirited defense of yours truly, against the Dark Forces of NICAP and MUFON. To read it, send self-addressed envelopes and a generous financial contribution to: Saucerian Press, P.O. Box 2228, Clarksburg, West Virginia.

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Finally, we must (WHY?) again call attention to the vast wave of public apathy that has been stirred up by the forthcoming THIRTEENTH ANNUAL NATIONAL UFO CONFERENCE, to be held on the weekend of August 28th in the Cleveland, Ohio area. (Make reservations at the Holiday Inn, Route I-71 & 82 (Turnpike Exit 10), Strongsville, Ohio 44136.) This will be a chance for the remaining "uncommitted" (to NICAP or MUFON) members of "Middle Ufology" to get together for serious, semi-serious and trivial business & conversation. Just remember, the swimming pool at this motel may well be one of the nicest in the entire northeast!

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The space below is reserved for letters from Allen Greenfield.