

Beyond the [#524] Fringefan

BEYOND THE FRINGEFAN has been enduring the unusual July heat mostly by staying in the air-conditioned (if not entirely bug-free) comfort of his room at the N.Y. Cadre (1088 East 40th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11210 (☎(718)

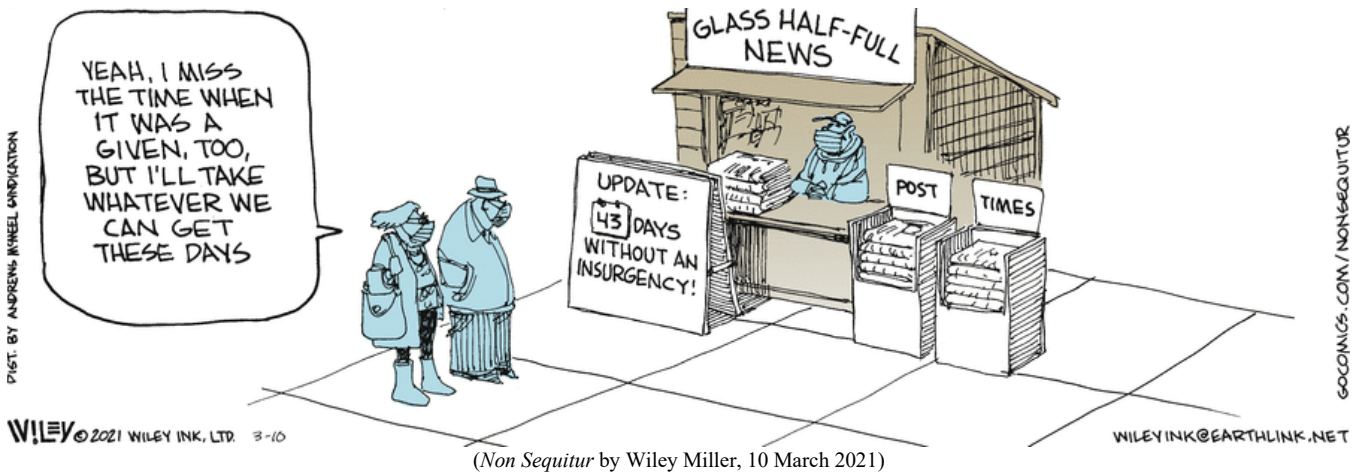
NY-CADRE; 🖥️↔️🖥️ nycadre [at] acedsl [dot] com; 🌐http://www [dot] nycadre [dot] org)). He has had to emerge periodically for supply runs, but kept them brief and took plenty of fluids. Somehow, though, all the time he spent at home hasn't resulted in a lot more writing for **Beyond the Fringefan** #524, for readers of **APA-NYU** Volume 20, #7 (e-APA-NYU #200) and other patrons of Edy, Ben, Jerry, Häagen, and Dazs, published July 2022 as a combined production of Quick Brown Fox Press and Syscrash Consulting, both subsidiaries of **THIGAMAJIG**. (What's the opposite of brain freeze?) Cartoon above from *Close to Home* by John McPherson, 14 June 2022. All uncredited material copyright ©2022 by Marc S. Glasser. Member fwa.



I hasten to add that the bugs we're not entirely free from have just been the usual New York summer pests: a few mosquitos in the back yard, a *cucaracha* in the basement, ~~Rudy Giuliani~~, the occasional stray ant. We're relying on regular visits from Terminix to keep these at a tolerable level. But (knock wood) we've had no sightings of bedbugs in over a year.

One thing that's occupied my time this month has been the television coverage of the increasingly detailed findings of the January 6 committee. I never thought I'd consider CNN must-see TV, but I've continued to find the hearings fascinating. I already knew that the then-president had spent over three hours that day watching the crowd he'd incited to riot doing just that on Capitol Hill, communicating only in the form of a couple of tweets that just encouraged them further. I hadn't put it together that his timing for finally getting on TV to tell them to give up and go home, was based simply upon waiting until it was clear that the coup attempt had failed and there was no way they could stop the House from completing the certification of the electoral vote that he'd lost. I only hope that Attorney General

Garland truly meant it when he reiterated that “no person is above the law in this country”...but I’m still not placing any bets on the ultimate outcome.



FERRY WELL, I THANK YOU: We did indeed have a Staten Island Ferry meeting once more, with ten people showing up (plus one who somehow missed the group in the terminal and got on the wrong boat, but still reported having a pleasant ride). I chose not to bring my guitar—I’m getting a bit old to shlep it there and back, along with the pizzas, for ten or fifteen minutes of playing—but we did accomplish some a cappella singing, using the latest song sheets from the Raging Grannies (thanks, Mercy). Afterward, seven of us took a bus that got us to a different location in Chinatown from where we’d expected (it was an adventure), and we dined at a place several of us had been before but probably won’t go again (good food, lousy service). I was encouraged, and intend to keep up the tradition next year. Save the date: Thursday, 6 July 2023 (good Lord willin’ and the Bay don’t rise).

Fringe Reception: Comments on APA-NYU, Volume 20, #6 (e-APA-NYU #199)

JAMISON, TAKE e-LETTER (Mark L. Blackman):

[The illos you mentioned didn’t appear in the hardcopy version. More computer tsuris?] /*/ I didn’t find the June FISTFA “too large for the space” at Deb and Sue’s, though it came close. /*/ The reference works I’ve checked say “gringo” derives from “griego,” which is Spanish for “Greek”; it originally meant any foreigner whose language a Spaniard didn’t understand—precisely analogous to “It’s Greek to me.” The story that it derives from “Green Grow the Rushes-O” is dismissed as folk etymology. /*/ (¢APA-NEWS) “Nuclear fusion existed 14 billion years before humans.” ...which is why Dr. Sagan could say that we’re all made of star-

stuff. /*/ (¢me) I only have the one senior MetroCard, but there’s enough value left on it for about 60 more rides. I’m now afraid the MTA will get the senior-discount version of OMNY working before I’ve depleted that value, and it will vanish on me. /*/ The Honda Element was a “compact SUV” manufactured in the first decade of this millennium. They made about 325,000 of them, a lot more than five. Maybe the owner of the “Fifth” Element was using it to transport bottles of liquor. /*/ And happy belated birthday. You can now use, when asked your age, the response I recently stopped using: “Everyone’s favorite number, 69.”

Follow-up on poll work: I e-mailed the U.S. Election Assistance Commission <eac.gov> to verify what its site seemed to say about New York requiring poll workers to be affiliated with a party; the EAC e-mailed me back and told me to contact my state or county election office. So I found the New York City website <vote.nyc> and spent a few minutes filling out a form applying to be a poll worker. A week later I received an e-mail informing me that “A decision about your application has been made!”

Logging on to <ElectionDayWorker.com> confirmed that my application had been accepted; but since then I've heard nothing about what polling place I've been assigned, or even about where to go for training. Standing by...

We're still waffling on whether to try to make it to Chicago for this year's Worldcon. If we go, our logistics will necessitate driving, which means at least two days and probably three on the road each way. Sixteen hundred miles round-trip is a lot of driving for one 70-year-old guy. Nonetheless, we have hotel reservations in (which we can cancel pretty much last-minute). A decision will be necessary within another week or so if we want to reserve a scooter for Donna (probably non-refundable if we cancel).

...Hey, anyone wanna drive to Chicago around Labor Day? Only licensed drivers need inquire.

May everyone's Dog Days be more malamute than chihuahua...and remember them during those three-dog nights next winter. (Those are going on right now among the people who invented the term, I guess.) Meanwhile, show your support for the brave shepherds of the investigation as they hound the domestic terrierists who spitz on our democratic traditions; I hope their pinschers catch 'em all, throw a spaniel in the works of their mischief, and retrieve our republic from the teeth and claws of those sons of bitches. Until next time...



"You handed me your license to kill. What I need is your license to drive."
(I and Done by Eric Scott, 21 July 2021)

**>Portions of the preceding recommend you call the Justice Department
if your insurrection lasts for more than three hours.<**