

EXTRATERRESTRIAL TIMES

The Official Newsletter of the ALF Fan Club



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"All the News That's Print to Fit"

Price: 15 Wernicks

Mr. Shumway Goes to Washington

Who do you suppose was the guest of honor when First Lady Nancy Reagan decided to host a Christmas party at the White House? You guessed it..... the old ALFmeister. The party was given for four hundred children of diplomats stationed in Washington.

The mellifluous Melmacian was on hand to banter with Mrs. Reagan in his best talk-show-host manner. He delighted the children and Mrs. Reagan by reciting—from memory, no less—"The Night Before Twangle," Melmac's counterpart to "The Night Before Christmas."

Mrs. Reagan gushed that she and the President are among the loyalists who watch ALF on Monday nights. ALF gushed back that he watches the President's triennial press conferences. ("Triennial," said ALF, "means once a year you try to have a press conference. HA!") ALF also noted that he had seen the President hosting *Death Valley Days* on cable. "He looks just the same now as when he was heading the twenty mule team."

One of the highlights of the trip to the White House came after ALF's appearance. Producer Paul Fusco and his wife Linda—whom ALF had brought along to help with the luggage—were introduced to the President himself. ALF was touring the kitchen at the time and did not get to meet Mr. Reagan.

"They may have met the President," ALF later remarked, "but I had a memorable encounter with an onion bagel."



ALF and Nancy Reagan trade quips in the East Room of the White House. "I never would have guessed she had a quip," ALF remarked.

ALF's Fan Club Still Growing

Leaps and bounds isn't the word for it! This Fan Club thing is really going crazy. We now have a membership that is over 25,000 strong. You've warmed the cockles of ALF's alien heart (which is in his ear, if you remember) by your support of his show and our Fan Club.

Thanks for all your letters! ALF and his secretary Babette put Pia Zadora albums on the stereo and read them into the wee hours of the morning.

You fans are really the best! ALF sends his love.

News Flash !!!

**ALF is the Top Rated Show in
Australia. . .**

. . . and since Harble (January, dummy! How many times do we have to tell you!) ALF has been broadcast in Europe too. We're still waiting for those ratings.

ALF finished his second season ranked 11th, a big step up from his first season. Of course, we have you fans who watch loyally every Monday to thank for that.

"The Night Before Twangle"

'Twas the night before Twangle and all 'round the planet,
Nothing was stirring except my Aunt Janet.
She was stirring cat soup for our Twangle Eve dinner,
And most of that soup was ending up in her.
The twin moons of Melmac were shining that night,
And 'cause it was Twangle, one green and one white,
One off to the left and one off to the right.
But there in the middle I saw a strange sight.
For out of the sky a red sleigh appeared,
It landed and out stepped a man with a beard.
He asked for directions and said he was lost,
He was looking for Earth, and his signals got crossed.
My Dad said to him "How'd you end up here, Buster?"
Said he'd made a wrong turn at the Andromeda Cluster.

We gave him directions, he got in his sleigh,
We offered him cat soup, but he said "No way."
He thanked us for helping and said he must go,
Then he asked if we knew him. We shook our heads "no."
And then he took off, and we both heard him shout
"Merry Christmas to all." What was that all about?
I had a strange feeling I'd see him again.
I didn't know where and I didn't know when.
And each Twangle Eve I would look to the sky,
And I'd think of that sleigh and that jolly old guy.
Little did I know that I'd soon end up here,
Helping Saint Nicholas spread Christmas cheer.
We're here as a team now, we've got a new angle.
I say "Merry Christmas," and he says "Happy Twangle."

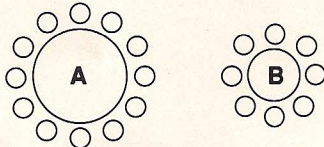
Test Your Aptitude...Melmac Style

Producer Paul Fusco was rifling through ALF's space ship the other day when he stumbled across a document which we have reproduced here. We questioned ALF about it and he told us it was a page from his SAT test. That's **Scholastic Attitude Test**. (On Melmac college admissions boards consider *attitude* more important than *aptitude*.) Take the test and see how *your* attitude measures up. - (The answers—as supplied by ALF—appear on page three.)

1. Which line is longer: **A** or **B**?



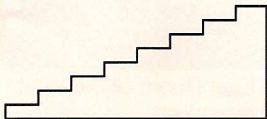
2. Which circle is larger: **A** or **B**?



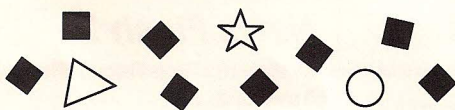
3. Which do you see: a Face or a Glass?



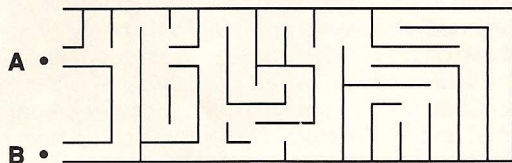
4. Are the stairs going up or down?



5. Which one object doesn't belong?



6. Find the shortest route from point **A** to **B**.



7. Which number is missing?

1 2 3 4 5 6 _ 8 9 10 11

- A) 12 B) 13 C) 46 D) 5

8. Pick the word that means the opposite of *Chicken*.

- A) Dog B) Fish C) Carpet D) Shrub

9. *Baseball* is to *Bat* as:

- A) *Bat* is to *Count Dracula* C) *Football* is to *Odor Eaters*
B) *Turnip* is to *Candle* D) *Bicycle* is to *Amphibious Landing Craft*

10. Mr. Smith has three children. Two of them are older than each other but only one of them is older than Mr. Smith. One of them is a boy. One of them is a girl. Mr. Smith only wears a red hat on Wednesdays. All three children wear suspenders on days beginning with the letter R. One child is seeking psychiatric help.

What is Mr. Smith's wife's name?

Upcoming Holidays

Don't forget to celebrate the upcoming Melmacian holidays.

Twangle 26 (August) — Wear a Plant Day

Because on Melmac plants and some lima beans are sacred, all Melmacians are asked to dress as their favorite fern on Twangle 26. Although this special day has no known religious connotations, theory has it that the holiday started when Melmac's first President Herman L. Zoombabble died of Dutch elm disease. (Hence the famed question, "If Zoombabble dies in a forest and there is no one around to hear it, is he really dead?")

Fanfan 4 (September) — Sing With a Clam Day

Because Melmacians enjoy opera almost as much as bowling for lard, they decided to invent a holiday on which they can dress up, go out, and enjoy a fine evening of singing and seafood. Rumor has it that the clams are starting their own union as they are usually forced to sing under the threat of becoming tomorrow's main course. (Fortunately, the clam in our office has a falsetto voice, because ALF has a false set o' teeth.)

Nathinganger (October)

- 18 Lift a Friend Over your Head Day
- 28 ALF's 231st Birthday
- 29 Dress Like a Bran Muffin Day

Anerva (November)

- 12 Bathe with a Policeman Day
- 26 Melmac's Anniversary

Fibble (December)

- 12 Move the House to the Right Day
- 25 Dip your Head in Fudge Day
- 28 Scream at a Shrub Day

Notes from the Shumway Family Tree

ALF's Aunt Wagner was best known for being able to juggle small rodents with her teeth while she whistled and danced to "When a Man Loves a Woman."

ALF's Grandfather Hickey Shumway worked for eighty-six years as a wolf shortener. One day he gave it all up to write the popular novel, *I'm OK, You're OK, But Your Lamb Just Went Deaf*.

ALF's Great Grandfather Ripweed J. Shumway was the only known Melmacian to ever be imprisoned for affixing stamps to his parents. He served three years and was released after promising never to paint his teeth in front of a dock worker.

Noted inventor Herbert A. Shumway spent most of the eighteenth century dabbling in science. He skyrocketed to fame when he accidentally stumbled upon away to improve the already popular combustible gopher. After that day, travel was never the same.

ALF's half-sister Dianne was a famous singer. In 1944 she hit the charts with her top ten smash, "I Remember the Day Ol' Grandma Tied Her Shorts in a Knot." It was on her debut album "Love Me Or I'll Spit On Your Lawn."

ALF Keeps Baryshnikov on his Toes

On Gorru 12, 1988 (March 12, for those of you who *still* aren't using the Melmacian calendar) a special performance was presented by the American Ballet Theatre. Two of the most dynamic show business greats served as hosts. Who else? Mikhail Baryshnikov and ALF. (Or, ALF and Baryshnikov the Babushka, as our alien friend likes to say.)

The free performance was given to teach the children of Los Angeles about ballet. ALF was present to introduce Baryshnikov to the children and to ask the question that was on everyone's mind: "Isn't *en point* just a fancy European way of saying *on tippee toes*?"

At a press conference explaining his participation ALF said, "I felt the need to broaden my cultural horizons, expand my appreciation of the arts, and learn what it feels like to wear tights."

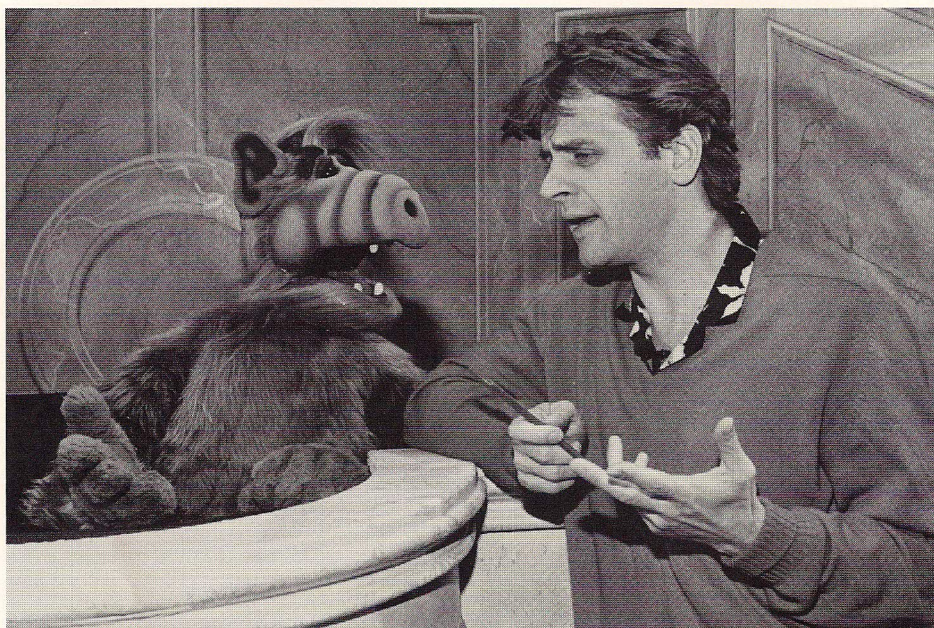
ALF went on, "The children on Melmac are exposed to very little in the way of culture—unless you define a pizza throwing contest as art."

Since his arrival on Earth nearly two years ago, ALF has attended several operas, has read more than two books, and has, at last count, seen nine performances of the hit musical "Cats."

In a more serious moment, ALF drew a perfect analogy. "Being from another planet is a lot like being a kid. Everything is a new experience. The more you learn, the more complete you feel."

So.....what did you learn today?

--Leslie Podkin



ALF and Misha trade quips on the stage of the Shrine Auditorium. "His quip was quite extraordinary," said ALF. "You could see it from the second balcony."

Melmac Facts

- As early as age six, Melmacian squirrels are taught to laugh at wool.
- On Melmac, waving at a halibut is against the law.
- Mary Lee Bender was the first Melmacian woman to wear a parrot under each arm, for profit.
- On Melmac, some farm animals can wink.
- A year on Melmac consisted of 384 days...386 days if you included Sundays
- Melmacian flowers sweat.

Welcome, Leslie

Reporter-at-large Leslie Podkin recently joined the staff of *Extraterrestrial Times*. ALF, whose generosity occasionally knows no bounds, even promised her a byline of her own: Anonymous.

"It's standard, Sweetie," he reassured her. "You see it in poetry books all the time."

SAT ANSWERS (1) B (2) A (3) A Glass (4) Neither. Escalators go up or down. Stairs stay in one place. (5) The third block from the left. (6) A straight line. (Don't even enter the maze.) (7) 12 (8) Fish (You can tune piano, but you can't tune a fish.) (9) Sorry, ALF got this one wrong. And we couldn't figure it out either. (10) Mrs. Smith

Word Puzzle

Many thanks to **Lynne Speicher** of Saint James, New York for this issue's puzzle.

Instructions:

Unscramble all of these ALF-related words. After all words are unscrambled, unscramble the circled letters. One of ALF's favorite sayings will be revealed to you.

YNNL

ATKE

CMMLEA

OLNMPBEOR

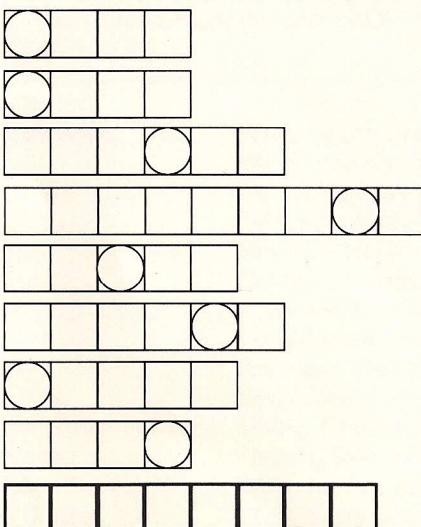
NIBAR

LIELIW

KULYC

CTA!

Answer:



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Published by
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Editor
Matt Avallone

Reporter-at-Large
Leslie Podkin

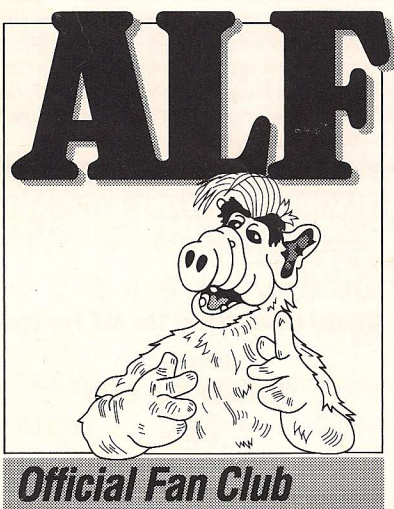
Art Director
Jim Mingin

Please feel free to submit ideas, contributions, or comments to:

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The cast, writers, producers and production staff of ALF's second season trade quips in the Tanner's living room. "It was the highest quip trading volume since the market crashed last year," ALF remarked.



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