Welcome to *Haymaker!*

This APAzine has been devoted to sharing HERO System material among like-minded individuals since 1992. I hope you'll help us continue this tradition long into the future.

By now, you should have read the Contributor Guidelines. If not, they are available online at http://www.haymaker.org/files/guidelines.pdf. These provide some information about your submissions to *Haymaker!*, including minimum activity (MINAC), deadlines, and some content issues. But there are some aspects of the 'zine not covered by the guidelines, or that could stand additional emphasis:

Sections: Each author has his/her own "section" and typically names that section in some distinct way. My section, for example, is titled *Around the World in 6,912,000 Segments*.

Content: You can include artwork (which you must acquire yourself) and write about what you want, as long as you stay within the Contributor Guidelines. Many authors add things to their sections that aren't really HERO System related. Many have a personal intro (what's going on in their lives), and some go beyond that -- e.g. history of their area, or a filk song, or a gaming snack recipe. That's fine as long as it's not the bulk of the section.

Themes: Most issues have a theme. You don't have to rigidly follow that theme, though following it does help make the issue more cohesive. A list of upcoming themes will appear in the Extra Segment section of each issue. You can also look them up on our website (www.haymaker.org), through a link at the bottom of the Issues section.

Soliloquies: Authors are encouraged to comment on other contributors' work in the prior issue. (This section of the APAzine is known as Soliloquies.) Soliloquies aren't required, and you don't have to comment on everybody's work, but some constructive comments about at least one section would no doubt be appreciated by whichever author(s) you're critiquing.

Layout: Keep in mind that how you send your work is pretty much how it is going to appear in the 'zine. You can put as little, or as much, work as you want into the layout and formatting, proofreading, etc. I'm a Coordinator, not an Editor, so I'm not going to mess with it unless it somehow breaks the rules. If you ask me for assistance (for instance, proofreading or layout help), I'll do what I can as time permits, so obviously the more lead time you give me on that, the better.

File Formats and Fonts: When you're done putting your section together, send it to me (at rayelowery@comcast.net) on or before the deadline, in PDF, MS-Word DOC, or RTF format. If you're using an uncommon font, you need to check if I already have that font. If not, you either need to send the font file to me with your submission or, if sending a PDF, make sure the font is embedded in the file.

During the two weeks or so after the deadline, I'll combine all of the sections I've received into the final issue, add a table of contents, etc., and email everybody a link for downloading the PDF.

If you would like a copy of the most recent issue as an example of how other contributors do their stuff, let me know. Also, please email me your mailing address (if you haven't already) so I can add it to the Contributor Info page in the 'zine.

Finally, if you aren't already part of the *Haymaker!* Yahoo group, remind me and I'll send you an invite. Once you're in the group, emails to haymaker@yahoogroups.com will go to all contributors.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

Ray Lowery
Haymaker! Coordinator