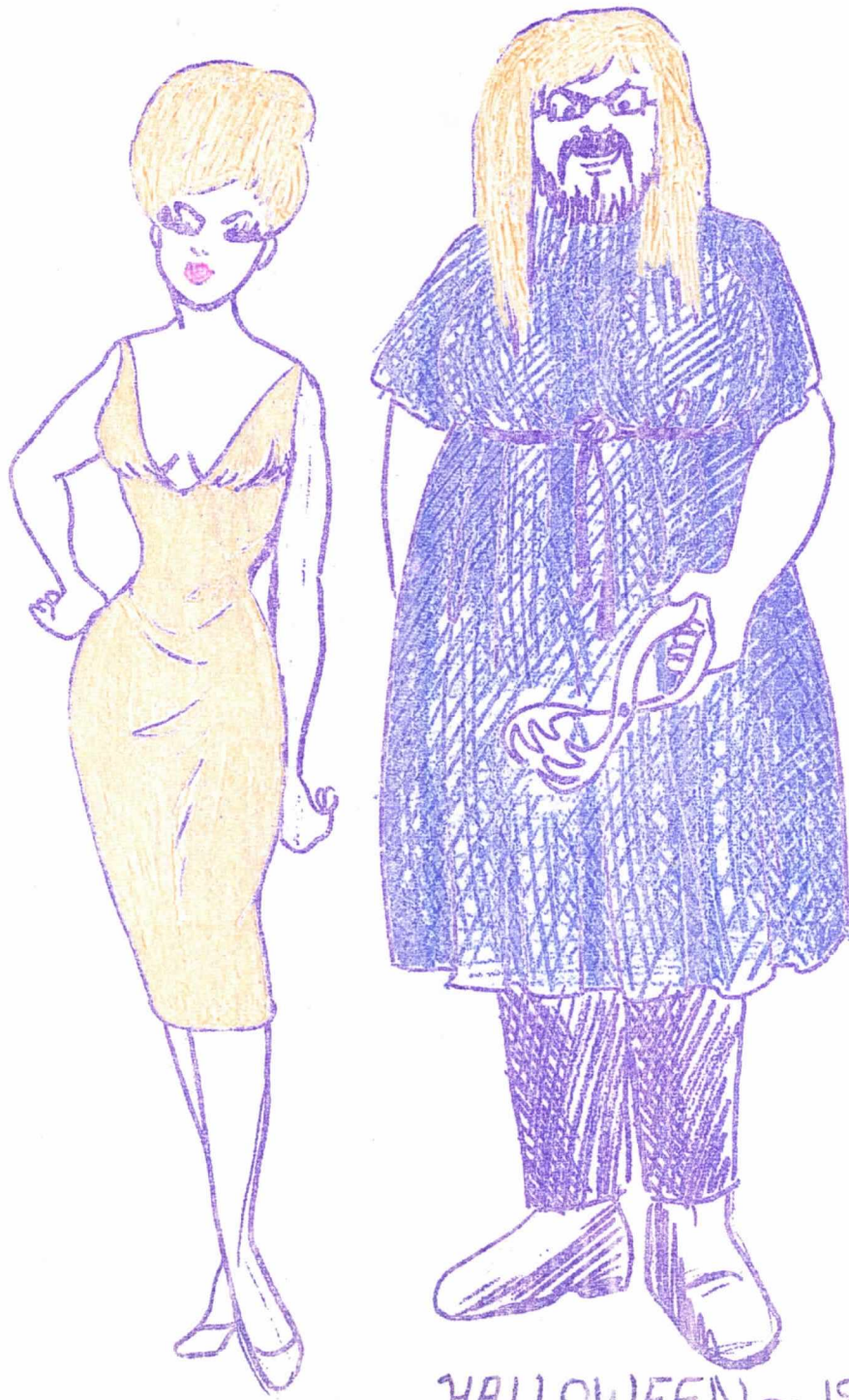


ANKUS 19



HALLOWEEN ~ 1966

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for FAPA 117

BRUCE PELZ
NOV. 1966
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First, I want to thank everyone who voted for me for OE again, especially since Bob Pavlat is a formidable opponent, and I more than half expected to lose. Four years in the office of Official Editor is quite a bit, and even when the election results were announced, I began to think that this should be the last year I ran for the job. A certain masochism kept suggesting that five years is a good round number -- and after all, I'd been OE of SAPS for five years and five as FAPA OE would sort of give me book-ends. I was vacillating between the two attitudes when Rusty Hevelin decided my problem for me: I shall run for a fifth term next year, on a platform of Intimidation!

As Mr. Hevelin implies, I successfully intimidated about 27 people this election. (This includes myself -- I always intimidate myself into voting for me the first thing, every election.) But it is apparent that More Must Be Done -- after all, there were 21 people who voted against me this time, not to mention the 17 who didn't vote at all. I consider this a rather slipshod job on my part, and I will endeavor to do a better one next year. I will, of course, expect those I already intimidated to stay that way next year, while I work on the others. Backsliders will be given 40 lashes with a wet copy of ALIQUOT. We shouldn't have any backsliding, though -- it is patent that the majority of FAPA (or at least a controlling minority of 27) is quite easily intimidated. Please remember this when the next election comes around and you have to decide who to re-elect as OE. OK?

The covers for this issue, drawn by Dian, illustrate the Halloween costumes we wore to the last two LASFS Halloween parties (1965, 1966). To take the latest first, it was suggested at a club meeting that this year's party have a theme: Come As Some Other LASFSian. The suggestion was merely a trial balloon which expected to get shot down, but the LASFS is never entirely predictable, and they adopted the suggestion. Prizes were to be awarded for the costumes that were Most Authentic, Most Humorous, and Most Insulting, with three others to be given at the Judges' discretion (if any).

The party was successful, though rather quiet. Dian fixed up a dress with a low-cut neckline, dyed it yellow, sprayed her hair blonde, and went as Katya Hulan. I decided to go after the Most Insulting, and went in a yellow yarn wig, and a drag outfit, as Gretchen Schwenn. As the Original had spent most of her LASFS party time in pinching and trying to pinch Jack Harness's tail, and I always stay in character, I brought along the set of tongs for the ~~sanitary~~ sake of hygiene. (There was one problem: Should I chase the real Harness, or Jay Freeman who showed up as Harness? The problem solved itself: Jay was there early, Jack didn't show till late, and Jay left early. I could alternate.) I also added one of the dime-store Medusa masks to hide the beard, because instead of shaving it off as I usually do when a costume requires it, I decided at the last minute to do a Double. I bleached the beard and hair to a sort of strawberry blond, strapped on a sword belt under the drag outfit, and went as Owen Hannifen going as Gretchen Schwenn. (I remember only one previous double costume at a LASFS party: in 1960, Blake Maxam came as Zacharly being the Phantom of the Opera.) I got the Most Insulting prize all right.

There were some very good costumes, and some poor attempts. Among the former was Len Bailes as Ted Johnstone -- ratty sweater, motorcycle helmet (with, instead of Ted's Thrush emblem, a Chicken Delight emblem), shades, an U.N.C.L.E. novel in the pocket, and a flow of chatter about his writings and plans for same.

Chuck Crayne, who had just two days previously been elected LASFS Treasurer to replace Bill Ellern, who had resigned, came as Bill Ellern: handlebar mustache, Treasurer's Green Box, and a tendency to buttonhole people about unpaid dues. His wife, Sally, came as Jayn Ellern: black cape, tight black outfit, bottle of wine. And Bill Glass, coming as his room mate Mike Klassen (guitar, black cape, cigarette for posturing with), dutifully followed Sally around, strumming occasionally -- and discordantly -- on the guitar. (Unfortunately, as part of the Klassen act required drunkenness and passing out on the couch, Bill did too good a job, and the Judges didn't notice him.)

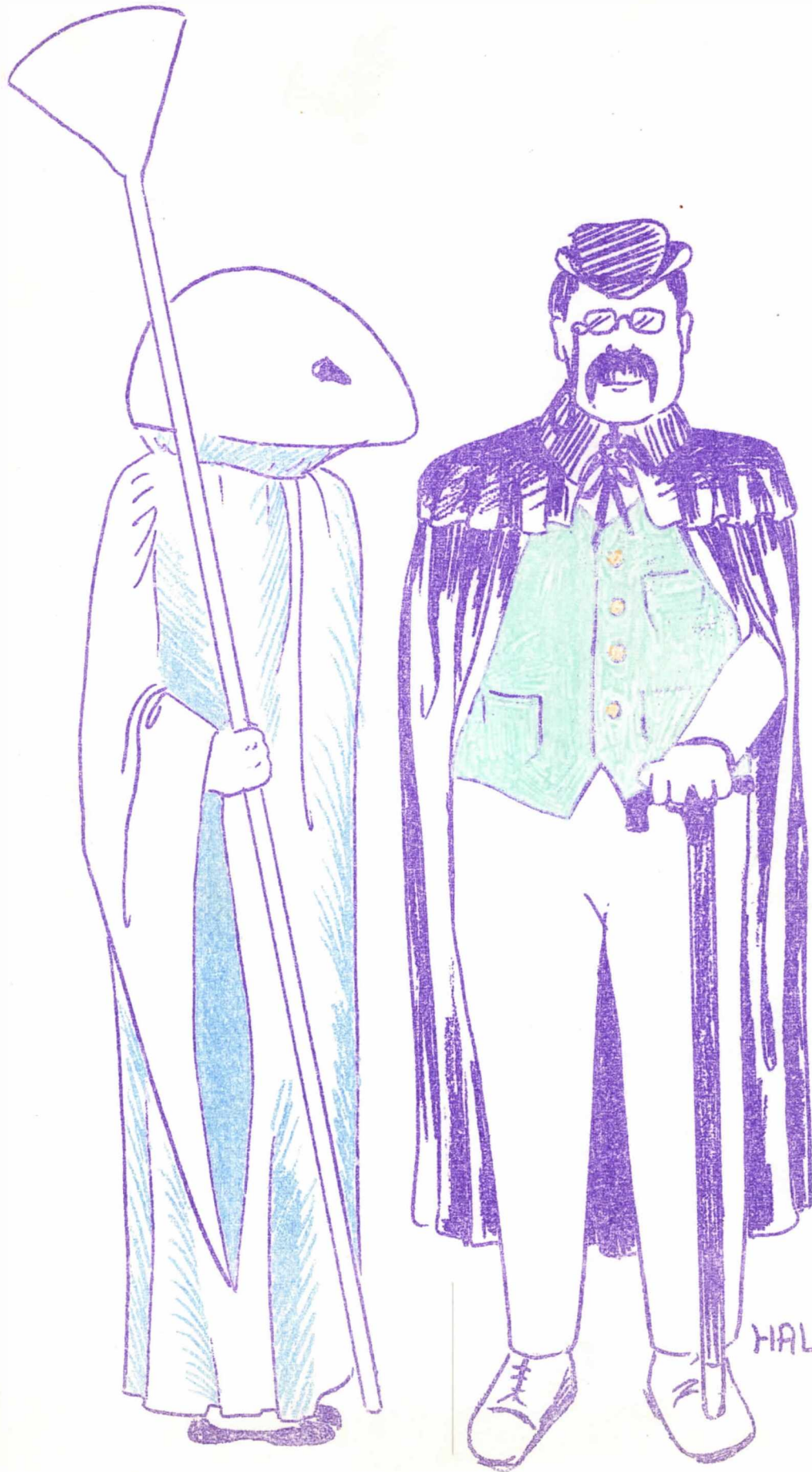
Bill Rotsler wore a white T-shirt and a large "Captain Hero" shield, as Paul Turner. Fred Hollander put a propellor -- no beanie, just a propellor -- on his head and came as Who Else? (one of the half-dozen pseudonymous and non-existent members of the LASFS, each of whom has duly paid his \$1 membership fee.) Jay Freeman's take-off on Jack Harness involved a loud shirt, a large Scientological cross, and having his hair combed down in a Hitler-like style. Betty Knight did another Harness, but just wore a very loud outfit to do so. Helen Smith came as J.G. Newkom, borrowing a set of J.G.'s khakis and padding herself so that they almost fit. However, she wore a Tam to cover her hair, and produced a very different effect. The Judges gave her the prize for Most Authentic Costume - Female, for coming as Hilda Hoffman. (Hilda, J.G. and Helen were successfully restrained from murdering the Judges.)

Hilda Hoffman came as the LASFS itself, borrowing a phrase from a recent New York comment that the LASFS was "the snake pit of Fandom." The costume was as little as possible, plus some net, some silver trim, and two pint-size boa constrictors. (Hilda had been apprehensive about the club's reaction to the snakes, and was quite astonished when almost everyone took turns holding them. The only danger was to the; snakes, who might have been petted to death. At one point Fred Patten walked around with one of them sticking its head out of his collar, which sight would have really shaken anyone whp'd just arrived and had been drinking... . The only one with ophid-iophobia bad enough to not go near them at all was Bill Rotsler.) Hilda got the prize for Most Humorous costume.

Frank Coe, who stands about 6'2" and weighs about 270 or so -- maybe not, he has lost weight lately -- came dressed in solid black, with about six swords and knives on his belt, plus a prop gun in a holster, and cartridges in the back-loops of the belt. He spent the evening being drunk, and no one could guarantee how much was acting, since Coe stays in whatever character he sets up -- and Coe also gets drunk when he isn't in character. He did his Trick several times: dropping dead like he was pole-axed, and crashing to the floor with a THUD!! that shook the house. In spite of the fact that the gun and cartridges were out of place, and he smoked, which was out of character, he did quite a good job of being loud, fat, and obnoxious, in keeping with his impersonation of myself. Frank won the Judges' Award for Most Disgusting.

The other two prizes went to Dian (Judges' Choice - Most sexy) and Len Bailes (Most Authentic - Male. The only costume which was merely crude rather than humorous was Jack Harness as Jayn Ellern. It included a can mounted on a framework and labelled "Lard" -- from which a tube ran to the head. He was pretty much ignored. Prizes were Polacolor shots of the costumes, mounted and labelled. They helped run up the costs, and the LASFS wound up paying about \$45 for the party -- about what it had cost the year before.

The 1965 costumes are those of an Objectivist Mutated Mouse Musician -- created by Jack Harness in APA L the previous year -- and Dr. Gideon Fell. Dian whipped up her costume quit quickly -- the head was chickenwire covered with cloth, the M'tah horn a couple golf-stick tubes and a funnel -- but finding pince-nez and a pattern (or even a description) of a shovel hat for mine was murder. (It didn't look quite so much like Teddy Roosevelt, though there was a resemblance,) We took, respectively, the Judges' Choice and the Most Authentic prizes. I still wear the box cape... .



HALLOWEEN
1965