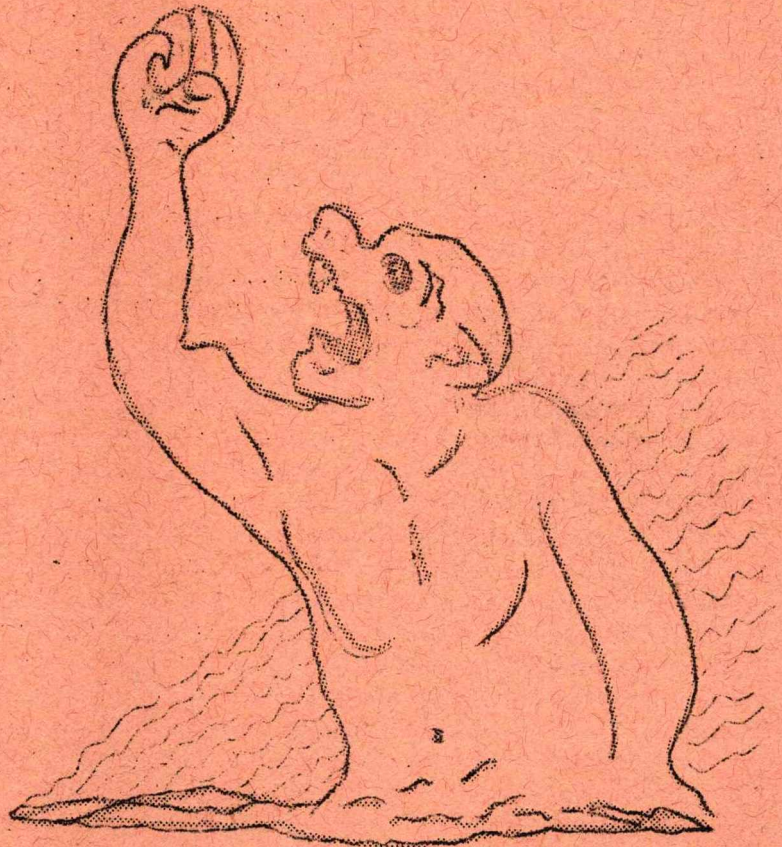


MARTIN ALGER  
KAREN ANDERSON  
LARRY ANDERSON  
MAL ASHWORTH  
WRAI BALLARD  
ROBERT BLOCH  
REDD BOGGS  
GERTRUDE M CARR  
TERRY CARR  
DON CHAPPELL  
WILLIAM CLYDE  
WALTER A COSLET  
ED COX  
RON ELLIK  
BILL EVANS  
PETER GRAHAM  
DEAN GREENWELL  
JIM HARMON  
JACK HARNESS  
CHUCK HARRIS  
RAY C HIGGS  
JAN JANSEN  
RON KIDDER  
P HOWARD LYONS  
VERNON MC CAIN  
EDGAR A MARTIN  
SAM MARTINEZ  
HOWARD E MILLER  
SAM MOSKOWITZ  
JOHN MURDOCK  
ELMER PERDUE  
BOYD RAEURN  
RAY SCHAFFER JR  
BOB SILVERBERG  
JACK SPEER  
GERALD A STEWARD  
BOB TUCKER  
NORMAN WANSBOROUGH  
HELEN WESSON  
WALT WILLIS  
STAN WOOLSTON  
A & J YOUNG  
DAMON KNIGHT  
ROBERT A MADLE



THE RAMBLING FAP IO

FAPA 79

GRUMP! If your name is among those listed on the cover, you're one of the many holding up the parade. I'd originally planned to publish the poll results in this mailing, but to date (15 April) only twenty-six are in and that's counting two from the waiting list. That comes to slightly less than 40%. So, I've decided to hold off until next mailing to publish the results, which will give you laggards an additional three months to get yours in to me.

One slight correction...one of the names on the front cover does not deserve to be there, but I do not know which one. There was only one poll I could not identify either by handwriting, facts submitted or post-mark, and although I have my suspicions which one of you it is I cannot be sure enough to take off your name.

One other thing...some very interesting conclusions can be drawn from the results thus far received and I'm certain they'll be worth some discussion. I'd like to continue along these lines with more polls, but I'm not at all sure it's worthwhile for less than 50% response...I know it's not as far as the postage is concerned, but I hesitate to think how many of the twenty-six replies to date would not have been sent back if I didn't pre-stamp the form.

AND FOO TO DEAN A GRENELL So what if he does have six? Jo and I have two of our own...got both of them at the same time, too. They're the cutest babies you ever did see, even if I'm sure neither one of them is mine. I'm positive on that...one's black and the other is yellow!

They're kittens I hasten to add before G M Carr has some of her own. When my in-law's cat decided to get in a family way again, Jo and I decided we'd take one of the kittens but when the time actually got around to the blessed event we decided to take two...after all, they were small. Besides, Jo and I are gone a lot of the time and they're wonderful company for each other.

If you don't have or haven't had kittens of your own, it's practically indescribable. They alternately wrestle and sleep all day and all night long, with more emphasis on the former than the latter. And such jumpers! Not for distance, but straight up in the air...they'd put Nijinsky to shame with ease. One will come charging across the room at the other and BOING!...straight up. BOING! goes the first one, right after him. And BOING! and BOING! and BOING! it goes all over the room, tables, chairs and occupants notwithstanding.

They're getting pretty sure of themselves now, but it's surprising to see how just plain awkward a kitten can be when it's young. For a long time we had the sofa pillows on the floor by the bookcase because the rascals liked to climb up on my chair and walk along the ledge of the bookcase, falling off as often as not. Didn't seem to bother them, but the pillows deadened the thump when they hit and allowed me to keep on reading without being shell-shocked.

Their most disconcerting trick, though, stems directly from their excess energy. They sleep only in snatches which don't begin to last all night long (or even for the rather small part of the night Jo and I manage to sleep) and there is no sensation quite like waking up in the middle of a sound sleep to referee a wrestling match over your own ear. The black kittle uses no preliminaries...he just starts right in with a big bite. The yellow one is more subtle. If they get under the covers, that's plain murder. It'll be peaceful one moment and then all of a sudden forty claws are romping over the nether regions and back again.

But all in all they're adorable and we're quite attached to them. The cute little devils house-broke themselves, too...we've had to clean up after them only twice (the black one was a little slow to catch on) and after that they've been good as gold. That's a load off of my mind, because I wasn't particularly looking forward to the toilet-training issue. Just goes to show there's something to be said for the do-it-yourself fad after all.

## The Rambling Fap III

THINGS DONE AND PROJECTS COMPLETED Recently finished and zestfully recommended to the fantasy fan are Tolkien's three "Ring" books...although if you're not a confirmed fantasy fan I'd suggest looking for them in the library before you pay \$5 each. For more than a week, off and on, I sweated through the adventures of Frodo and Sam and Merry and Pippin and my only regret with the tale was that it had to end. Indeed, I wasn't exactly pleased with the ending itself and I hope it ended that way because author Tolkien has plans in mind for still more adventures for Frodo and the elves.

And yesterday I finished the first photo album...over 450 pictures in it. It's a big album and the back of it is bound in book fashion so it should last for a good many years. At \$6 each, it certainly should. I'll need a second one, though, just to catch up to the current pictures. The first ended with pictures taken just before I got married last September, so the second one will begin with all of my wife's pictures and the several dozen I've taken since we've been married. It's been quite a project and I'm glad the end is finally in sight.

DOUBLE DOUBLE TOIL AND TROUBLE Sorry about some of the mimeographing in RamFap #9 this time...the ink on the roller on page V is something I didn't find out about until much too late and I had other troubles as well. I hope everything goes better with this publication.

OOPS For those of you who keep nudging me on the subject, the 21st issue of OOPS is in the process of being edited and stenciled. I know it was originally promised around Christmas time and then sometime this spring, but each time I wound up working instead of hobbying. As of today, however, four pages are done (printed and all) and several more on stencil. I'll print them when I run these off--which has to be pretty soon for me to get it to Eney before May 11th--and get to work on the last twenty-two pages as soon as I can.

MORE ON DETROIT MONSTERS I've decided to get as big a one as I can afford, next time I can afford any at all. Light vehicles are too dangerous in today's traffic. My wife's kid brother got hit by a car last night as he was taking a friend for a ride on his motor scooter. They were slowed down prior to making a left turn when the car hit them from behind and scattered kids and scooters all over the place. The driver of the car was going too fast and knew it because he didn't even stop but just kept right on going. Another car just behind him chased him far enough to get the license number, though, and now I understand that the hit-run driver came back of his own accord before too much time had elapsed. I guess he panicked...maybe he was thinking of what would happen to him when he got before the judge--I understand his driving record up to this time has been very bad so this might just about finish him. He was cited for leaving the scene of an accident and not hit-and-run since he did come back before too long. The kids? Well, Jo's brother is in pretty good shape...had fifteen stitches in his knee where it was split open from the force of impact against something. The kid on the back is not in such good shape...they think he may have a fractured pelvis but don't know for sure yet. I guess they're lucky to get off that lightly in view of today's accident statistics.

Of course, I don't pretend to believe a big car is the answer...I was just kidding, even though it does have something to do with it. But the big thing that can be used for saving lives--and it really surprised me when I found out--are safety belts! Insurance statistics claim that eight out of ten highway deaths could have been prevented if the riders had been wearing safety belts...most fatalities occur when the occupants are thrown from the car. To me, this seems to be an overwhelming figure and I just cannot see how anybody can afford to continue driving without the belts. Believe me, I'm getting them as soon as I can...eight out of ten odds just can't be ignored. And I wonder why the National Safety Council and other organizations aren't playing this figure up in a big publicity campaign?

The Rambling Fap IV

DO PEOPLE STILL TRADE? I haven't tried in years myself, but when I first got interested in fandom it seemed to me like there was a great deal of trading going on all the time. I dabbled for a while and then became too busy to trade much, but now I'm interested again. I have mostly copies of OW and IMAGINATION and older magazines, but I would consider trading off my whole collection of GALAXY to the right person...I've lost interest in the magazine. I guess FAPA is a pretty poor place for this, though...most of the members profess not to even read science fiction any more. Just for the record, however, things I am interested in (mostly books) are things like FARMER IN THE SKY, THE GREEN HILLS OF EARTH, BETWEEN PLANETS, THE ROLLING STONES, STARMAN JONES, TUNNEL IN THE SKY, and TIME FOR THE STARS (all Heinlein), THE MOON IS HELL (Campbell), THE DEVIL IN VELVET, THE BURNING COURT, THE CROOKED HINGE and FEAR IS THE SAME (all Carr), DARKER THAN YOU THINK (Williamson) and THE BROKEN SWORD (Anderson). Anybody got and interested in trading?

LAST THOUGHTS Well, I've got to get busy and finish this up so I can get back to the old school books. I'd originally planned to do this (and OOPS) during our eight to ten days of spring vacation, but work reared its ugly head. Worked two days cleaning house for my wife's grandmother, the next five for my summer boss who turned up with some odd jobs he wanted done, and the last day or so helping my father-in-law finish up some of his income tax returns as he was beginning to get behind. And that's where my time goes. It certainly will be nice when JoAnn graduates and starts teaching school...that will be March next year. Maybe then we'll have enough money that we can afford to take our short vacations when they come around. As it is we work during Christmas vacation, spring vacation summer vacation and any other time we get a chance. It makes some much needed money--I can't deny that--but it's starting to dull Gregg something fierce.

To make it worse, I work on Saturday and Sunday during the summer...I'm a fire fighter for the US Forest Service...and Jo has those days off, so as a result we never get to have a day off together for picnics and things. These weekends in the late spring and early fall are about our only chances to go anywhere during the nice weather and this spring we're too poor to do much. Since the U of Utah just raised tuition \$50 per person per year that means another \$100 we have to save this summer, so we'll probably be broke in the fall, too. I don't mind that so much, but the year 'round job-study schedule gets me down after a while.

This quarter is being particularly difficult. It's the last chemistry and math I have to take and being doubly stubborn because of it...if I get through this quarter alive I'll be very happy. But next year, after getting the math and chemistry off of my back, the rat-race starts all over again with physics and mineralogy. It won't be until the year after that until I can start in on the more interesting geology classes.

MORE ON POLLS As I mentioned before, I have some very interesting poll results on hand and I'll print them next mailing at any rate...but they do deserve a follow-up poll and that can hardly be justified on a less than 40% response. I'm particularly disappointed because a good many of you non-responders are considered among FAPA's more active members...maybe I just picked a bad time of the year. At any rate, if you haven't already filled out your poll sheet and sent it back to me I'd certainly appreciate your doing so.

And I'll see you next mailing with the results.

