

JD-Argassy #46 June 13, 1959

JD-Argassy is published monthly and sometimes even oftener by Lynn A. Hickman at 304 N. 11th Mt. Vernon, Illinois. Subscriptions are 12 issues for \$1.00. Single copies are 10¢. Twice a year the single copy price is boosted to 20¢, but this isn't one of those times.

Dainis Bisenieks writes that his gafia may now be considered permanent and also sends a clipping from the 'Michigan Daily' of Friday May 22nd, showing what may become of ex-fans. The clipping reads: "The winners of the 1959 Hopwood awards were announced yesterday. Largest money winner was Joseph Kennedy, Grad., who received the largest single award of \$1,400 for a collection of poems titled "The Nest". He also won a major award of \$1,000 in the essay division for "Who Killed King Kong."



"YEAH, I KNOW WHAT YOU WANT. YOU WANT THE WHOLE DAMN BED."

REPRINTED FROM GOOSE.

Stopped in Peoria while Vernell Coriell was in off the road. Jack Cordes also dropped over that night and we discussed evrything from the old stories to Harold Sherman. The best part was going through Vern's fabulous Burroughs collection and seeing his collection of St. John originals. Vern even has one that St. John did for him personally (of Tarzan and Jane) that I think is better than any I've seen published. I'd like to describe it for you, but it is almost impossible. It is one of the most beautiful paintings I've ever seen. Verne has an issue of The Gridley Wave about ready to go, so if you are interested in Tarzan or the worlds of Burroughs I would suggest you send a dime to Verne and ask him to send you a copy.

Ted White in VOID #17 takes exception to my editorial in JD-A #44 in which I took exception to an editorial of his in a previous Void. In this issue he wonders why I wrote the way I did and says that the title of his editorial didn't mean that I was a dirty campaigner but was intended to refer to his own editorializing on the subject of D.C. He then asks me to 'grow'up' which I certainly wish I wasn't doing. You get old too quick.

Ted further states that he feels personalities have nothing to do with the campaigning (with which I certainly agree). I wish I knew why the statement that I was for Pittsburgh had to be used in his 1st editorial, and why he built his editorial around that statement. It seems to me that that is dealing in personalities.

I also stated that in my opinion any of the three bidding could and would put on a good con if they got it. My choice (as I stated before) is 1. Pittsburgh. 2. Washington D.C. 3. Philly. I also said "But no matter who gets it, I'm sure we'll have a good con and I'll be there." So quit bugging me, Ted. I'll support who I want to regardless.

Follow your advise Ted, and quit indulging in personalities. Campaign for Washington, not against pittsburgh. This kind of by-play doesn't become you. As far as I'm concerned this bantering back and forth on the subject is over.

LETTERS, Letters, letters.....

Dear Lynn,

I believe I shall start a "Write a Letter To Lynn Hickman Every Week" movement. Mighod, you are a prolific publisher!

But let us dispense with the usual stalling and get right to the meat of the thing. Namely, JD-A #44. Cover is of superior quality, and about the only other comment is that I was wondering how this illo would have looked in color ditto. Fine, I should think.

Since I am no longer a member of the VOID staff (disliking, as I do, weekend walks to New York), I'll let Ted write his own rebuttle to your bit on page 2. I will say, however, that I'd like to challenge your statement Ted took paragraph upon paragraph to explain why you were a "Dirty Campaigner". He did not. That title was meant to infer, in a joking manner of course, that he was doing the dirty campaigning.

Jim Harmon's "Harlan Ellison" would probably seem a lot funnier had not A.J. Budrys' two-three hour session on Harlan made it almost insignificant at the Disclave. Be this as it may, I'll be looking forward to further columns by Harmon.

The 16-year old Siamese

twins, Madle and Bloch were of course superb.

My my, I agree with everything Adkins said this time. I must be mellowing.

I disagree with me. after seeing this issue, I think 10c/20c is a perfectly fair price.

Ted Pauls
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Lynn,

JD-A #44 came yesterday; and after taking it out of the envelope, I was immediately thankful that you did mail this issue flat and thereby preserve that wonderful front cover. It would have been a shame to see the illo blemished by an ugly fold. Dan is to be congratulated for his fine work, and you are to be no less congratulated for seeing that it reached the readers in mint condition. (I won't be using these envelopes very often Bob, except on overseas mailing, the cost of the envelopes runs several dollars per issue. 1h)

I notice that you're using a better grade of paper now, too; and your reproduction is well-nigh flawless.

It's good to see Plato Jones back on the job. Why not have him do a back cover illustration for each issue.

Jim Harmon's "One Man Confidential" is a welcome addition. I've always wondered just WHO Harlan Ellison is; he's become so prolific during the past few years that I was beginning to think he was an aggregate of writers pooling their talents under a common name. Harmon makes him come to life (and what life!) as very much so an individual.

Bob Bloch's article was a nice insert. Talk about your prolific writers -- this guy has (and has had for quite a while) them all beat. And he finds time to act as panelist on a tv show. Incredible.

Great guns, how much longer can Bob Madle keep this FAKE FAN IN LONDON series going without writing something bad? He takes top (or near top) honors in every issue. That effortless rambling style of his just seems to take you over the moment you read the first line, It's inevitable that the series must one day end; but frankly I can't imagine an issue of JD-A without a Bob Madle saga...

Glad to see Les Gerber's "reports from New York" holding a constant place in JD-A. I've been using his column as a checklist for new titles.

Here in Florida, the erstwhile citizens are making a concentrated attempt to hasten the coming of space travel. An example: The Chamber of Commerce in Cocoa, Fla. has issued something like 75,000 tickets to the moon. This activity, as far as I know, has not reached Orlando; and the modes of travel here remain dismally mundame.

Bob Warner Orlando, Florida

Dear Lynn,

You people who publish monthly fanzines are too much for me. I'm just thinking of writing a letter of comment on one issue and another is upon me. I've been enjoying JD-A very much, but this issue is really outstanding. One thing you can always say about Ted White he's always in a hassle with somebody. It keeps things interesting though. Harmon on Ellison is very smooth, but I'm left wondering how much is actual fact, and how much Berry-factual. Bloch in a straight mood this time, is very interesting. Madle's running serial seems to get better and better, perhaps because that huge chip on his shoulder seems to be shrinking a little. For Bob's information, "sercon" is an abbreviation of "serious-constructive". Far from "general usage resulting in it meaning 'serious-constructive'" it has never meant anything else. BUT, "serious-constructive" is NOT the same thing as "serious" and in fanzines, the term "serious-constructive" has always had only one meaning, for which I would refer Bob again to The Neofan's Guide. Vin¢ Clarke may merit the description of "serious fan" but I am sure he could not be described as "sercon" (serious-constructive) Later Bob says that he's using his own definition, but if people are to make up their own personal definitions of words, they can't expect to communicate very effectively. I musn't forget to comment on the excellent appearance of the zine as a whole. It makes it a pleasure to I'm not planning to attend the Midwestcon this year, but I guess I'll see you at the Detention. Seems that just about everybody is going to be there this year.

> Boyd Raeburn Toronto, Canada

Dear Lynn,

I was very flattered and entertained by Jim's sketch on me, and while I feel some of his facts might be slightly out-of-joint, at least his sense of humor--which I have always considered of the crashing variety--was not displaced. The piece brought back some dim and fond half-memories.

Oddly enough, for the fellow who was supposed to have written the story, "Thrill Killer" (with or without flame throwers) does not strike a familiar chord in my recollection. But then, I'm merely a writer. Not, like Jim, who has been aptly labeled by Gold, a volcanic talent. Us crass, commercial hacks have to write about everything, like sorid juvenile delinquency, while volcanic talents such as Jim have the admirable artistic integrity to write nothing but good old, solid science fiction.

And contrary to Jim's footnote, I have not seen any stories by him here at Rogue. However, let him be assured that any scripts submitted will be read with a particularly friendly, sympathetic and discerning eye. I've always known Jim had the drive, the force, the shoulder-to-the-task ability to do sparklingly well in the writing game. So if Vesuvius wants to shoot his big mouth off, tell him he can try it at 5¢ a word for Rogue, instead of giving it away to fanzines; that is unless it will damage his amateur standing.

Hope to see both of you at the Midwestcon. Maybe we can all get together over a door.

Harlan Ellison Evanston, Illinois

Dear Lynn,

JD-A #44 came this morning and naturally, the first thing I did was read The Fake Fan. . . and got a bigger kick out of it than anything so far. The way Madle writes, one can see what went on as plainly as the one had been right there when it all happened.

The piece by Jim Harmon made me laugh more than once. As I have always felt Jim to be a personal friend-and still do-and as I've met him a couple of times, the article was all the more interesting to me and I'm happy to note there will be more work by him in JD-A... Keep him going! I am also personally aquainted with Ellison. Harlan was always nice to me, always had a nice word to say to me and always was ready with a smile. I like that lad and side with him on many things he has written about regarding delinquency. He has a subtle form of humor that sort of gets me....

Ellison has that Art of Diobology down pat.

Bob Farnham Dalton, Georgia

Dear Lynn,

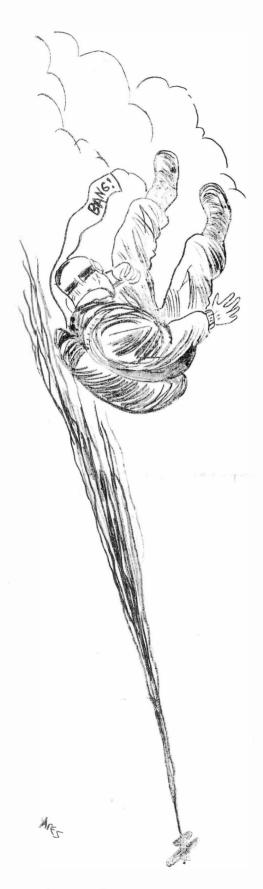
You can't blame TEW for his critical comments. After all, VOID's supposed to be the "focal point" and needs controversy.

As all

fandom knows, any Bloch is a good Bloch, and this article is no exception.

Tucker seems to have been hit with a fit of neo-fannish enthusiasm...doubtless Bloch or someone will straighten him out, and fandom will not get the badly needed Neo's guide. Anyhow, I'll write, being a neo, and gee-whizzzz.....

Could be this is the best installment of the Madle saga yet. Nothin else to be said but that this was real good.



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You're also lucky to have Gerber at his sercon best in reporting. Now I can sit back and see what I'm missing with the poor distribution that the pb's have here in town. I still haven't seen the last two issues of FANTASTIC, which is no great loss. Glad to see a new Jeff Sutton book is to come out. Now I'll have something to criticize.

Liked your bit on the BEACON covers. Being a sex starved youngster I'll rush right out and buy the cover.

I was talking to the fellow who runs that bookstore east of the Leland Hotel, asking where the sf was. He told me the boys in the "main office" often "lost" the sf. Quite convenient. This fellow says that he often goes out to the warehouse to look for sf, as he wants to display it. He thinks it sells pretty well...but he hasn't found any yet. Do you suppose a bit of complaining would get those boys off their arses and put sf on the stands?

Since you refuse to tell me who W---- is, I'll just have to learn for myself. Les see, Warner, Welham, Willis (no!)...
Who?

Vic Ryan Springfield, Illinois

Dear Lynn,

Particularly liked everything except Adkins' fanzine reviews. Understand now, now, that this critique isn't because I didn't care for his review. I rather liked it in my own fashion. It's just that I don't care for Dan's style of reviewing. He just doesn't have it as far as I'm concerned. His reviews are not even critical, in the normal sense. And you can't really form an opinion about the zines he reviews. But perhaps its just me, though I doubt it. Also, his punctuation (or lack of it) annoys me.

Bob Lichtman Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Lynn,

Impeccable repro this time, and the contents, for the most part, matched it. But, after saying how

much I thought Adkins' column had improved since the first installment, I hate to say that it has fallen down again. It seems to have done so though. No doubt the fourth one will be an improvement over this one but not unless this high-schoolish faaake-beat yak of his is toned down. I hate that term "swing'n" with a passion.

Jim Harmon's article on Ellison was tops. I chuckled over this as I read it, and then went back over sections to chortle even more gleefully. Certainly looking forward to the one on Redd Boggs.

Bloch and Madle both came across fine. Alright, I've groused in the past about the Madle report being a trifle out of date, so what? It's still very good. Am looking forward to seeing it complete, though.

I agree with you about TAFF candidates in your remarks to Ted Pauls' letter. No, I'm still supporting Bjo for TAFF like mad, but I can't say that I'm against any of the other candidates. I'm convinced that Bjo would be the best person to send; most fun for the Anglo fans, and most entertaining when it came to reporting the trip for us stay at homes. If you equate TAFF on who's done the most in the past, Don Ford is the only choice. And no one can deny that Terry Carr's parodies and satires have been entertaining (not forgetting the parts Ron Ellik, Dave Rike, and Pete Graham played). So, while feeling that Bjo would/will prove the best TAFF delegate, I'm sure that Don Ford or Terry Carr would also turn in a good account of themselves if they were selected. (All I've done is to turn what you said about Don Ford around and apply it to Bjo. But you said it so darned well, damnit, and it was how I felt anyway.)

Good artwork all the way through, but I wonder how many people aren't going to spot that illo on "HASH HARBOR" as Bjo's work, and chalk it up to Adkins' experimenting? (I put it there for that reason, John, to see how well people noted the art. I'm happy to say that they do, and that they noticed it was a Bjo. 1h)

John Trimble Long Beach, Calif.

Dear Lynn,

If the green stamps get into the magazine field, please consider this Galaxy's and If's application. The only flaw I find in the premium-stamp business is that need money to get them. No, one other-giveaways are priced (in stamp-book terms) at deadest possible retail. No discounts or sales.

Les Gerber means anything but 142 or 182 pages. Neither is possible on any sensible sort of press.

We knew about the kickbacks in news-stand chains, missed the N.Y. Times' report, are grateful to Tucker for reporting the FTC action. It's more widespread, though, than the FTC charges. Somebody with the necessary financial backing--lots and lots!--and a genius for organization can earn hundreds of millions by pulling magazine distribution out of its present chaotic state. Just putting it into the 20th century--early, even, not middle--would help greatly.

H.L. Gold New York, N.Y. Dear Lynn,

Received JD-A #44 and read it with a great deal of enjoyment. That Harmon's sfconfidential very funny (especially since I know Harlan fairly well, the I've only seen him for a total of four days) and am looking forward to the one on Redd Boggs (my only contact with Redd has been thru his publications and correspondence but I8ve enjoyed both very much and have a great deal of respect for him).

Also liked Bob Bloch's article and again find myself amazed that this man can write so much professional stuff and still contribute so many articles and keep up such an extensive correspondence--all of highest quality.

Apparently I'd not written you that I received a second letter from Horace in which he stated the requirements of a BEACON-GALAXY novel, one of which is 60,000 words. I couldn't see stretching THE LOVERS that much; its structure just won't allow that much wordage; so I politely declined. As of now THE LOVERS is in the hands of ADVENT. Am conferring with Horace Gold now over a novel for BEACON tentatively titled THE AWFUL GRASP (from a line in John Peale Bishop's ODE). Takes place in the future but the ideas originated while reading Robert Graves' THE WHITE GODDESS, THE GREEK MYTHS, and SEX IN HISTORY by a fellow whose name escapes me at this moment.

(I'm personally glad you didn't expand THE LOVERS, Phil. Advent can give the novel a very fine presentation and their books have done well. All have been sellouts. If you're reading this, Earl, reserve a copy for me. Am also happy that you are still working on something for Beacon-Galaxy. My main grouse on your writing has always been that there wasn't enough of it and I'd like to see a series of FARMER books hitting the bookstores and the stands. 1h)

Phil Farmer Scottsdale, Arizona

Dear Lynn,

JD-A #44 here and this one does provoke more comment than usually. On the matter of VOID and the 1960 consite, I think you rather jumped to a conclusion that Ted was accusing you of being a dirty campaigner. He didn't say, and I got the impression that he was jokingly labelling his own campaigning with that title.

Harmon's write-up of Ellison is abysmal. It reads like he was trying to write down each encounter he'd had with Ellison, and forgot half of them in the middle.

Bloch is good, but too short to make up for Harmon.

tion, Dan Adkins: Try reading all of Berry's story in CRY 125, not just the final blurb, and you'll find you've mistitled the story and tossed in a couple of wrong characters. Skipreviewing looks good, but sometimes leads to errors.

Sky Miller is quite correct: with that committee, I wouldn't come to Pittsburgh for the sake of meeting the committee. I'll wait and see what the program is intended to be.

is still quite good on the conreport, and I'm glad to note that the report is intended for complete publication. The feeling exists that Madle, Bennett, Berry and Carr (you mean Ford, don't you? 1h) may all be writing conreports at the same time, and scattering them through a couple of dozen fanzines. By the way, I give Madle (and you) credit

for keeping the report all in one fanzine, no matter how long it takes. With Bennett's report, it's gonna be late AND shotgunned through fandom. As of now, Parts I. II. III. and XIII are in print. Pfui.

I, too, see no reason for Ted Pauls being against Don Ford. There's no good reason whatsoever for any fan to be against any of the three candidates, no matter how much he may be FOR one in preference to the others. Friend Pauls yappeth a bit overly.

As I've said before, I like your artwork, particularly the Plato Jones stuff, but I think he was a little too hurried on the illo for the Bloch article. The Adkins cover is excellant.

JD-A #45 here, this is fine with me except when the letters are side comments to you that don't make sense by themselves. Such as Bloch's references to the bulletin on THE DEMOLISHED MAN (it should make sense if you read the bulletin Bruce. 1h) and to PSYCHO, whatever that is. (It is a new book by Bloch that has been published by Simon & Schuster. Get it. 1h)

I agree that it should be an unwritten law that the TAFF rep should write up the trip and publish it in one volume, whether or not it is serialized beforehand. Has Ken Bulmer ever said why he hasn't written up his trip?

I haven't read anything in the Tampa papers about the FTC case against the ANC.

Somehow Bjo's art doesn't look as good on multilith as it does in either duper or mimeo. I guess there are styles that go better with one particular kind of repro, such as Adkins for duper, Bjo for mimeo, etc. plato Jones is used to working with multilith, so his stuff comes out better in that medium. This is a brick-subtle hint.

Bruce Pelz Tampa, Fla.

Dear Lynn,

#45 at hand and I agree that Madle's FAKE FAN IN LONDON should definately be reprinted in one shot form.

I read Nick Palasca's letter with a smile. Methinks he doth protest too much. Who the hell does really want a feud.

Talking about feuds in general (outside of fandom as well as in fandom), have you ever noticed that it is seldom the principals themselves that start the feud, or keep it going. It is usually the well meaning but misguided friend who rushes in to protest your honor by attacking your opponent in the controversy. Enough defenders like this, on both sides, and you have a full blown feud raging.

I think that the letters you receive seem to contain a certain sparkle that most other letter columns never get.

George N. Raybin New York, N.Y.

Dear Lynn,

#44 was lovely, lovely. Sort of like a large photo-offset zine. Jim Harmon was the best. Funny as hell in places and certainly cool all the way. The man is neat and sharp as a tack. Ellison must be quite a guy.

Bloch was slightly dry and Madle good like always. Another good Plato Jones illo for the heading.

Liked Gerber's information, and your reply to White. He was in town again and we had a good time talking. I like him in person and generally, but our opinions sometimes differ greatly.

#45 was most enjoyable and I'm grateful for the constructive comments on my column. Love Bjo

art and am anxious to see more.

Dan Adkins New York, N.Y.

Hi!

Of course I knew you were joking: Sorry that someone else didn't. I get touchy about things like that, myself, and begain explaining them to everyone.

But some of my good opponents' pals have not been joking, and have come up with some pretty silly things. Makes me feel that fans aren't a special breed, after all, and that we have a few unhumorous clods in the group.

Like the bit (totally unfair, since it was in FAPA, which I can't officially answer) that "MY candidate isn't running on a platform of sex". Hooha! Well, that's the way it goes. If you have been reading all the stuff (and where do you find the time?) that has been going on about me/sexy redheads/wild artists it musr really sound

like I'm fandom's BB. Actually, it is only a standing joke around here. Big, blonde Djinn they could right-fully accuse of really running on a Pure S*x Platform. Not good ol'freckle-faced me! But it is fun, no? I dunno who they were accusing of running on beauty alone...that must be YOUR candidate. Hmmm?

I liked the way you handled my little pic; but I wonder how many fans will simply assume it's an Adkins, and let it go at that? It's not exactly what they are used to seeing me draw! Which is why I do things like this. I like to keep shifting abit. Bad to get too stylish. I have a definate way of drawing, but I've tried not to get in a rut about it. Art-wise.



I liked Jim Harmon's bit on Harlan Ellison. I met Har, at two conventions. When he was running around as the Specter General at the costume ball at the Chicon, he was also wearing several inches of leopard-skin printed velvet to complete his costume. These few inches came off the bottom of my costume.

This perfectly strange little man, boldly accompanied by a huge pipe, suddenly showed up in my doorway, looked at the velvet on the bed, stared at me intently, and informed me that he needed just that to make his costume perfect. Without question (an unusual thing for a redheaded Irish gal!) I gave it to him. That darned velvet cost plenty, but I somehow never thot of telling him to go to hell...

Again in 1954, I met him at the SFCon. Crazy time. I like Harlan very much, and I'm glad so many of his stories sell. Only one thing bothers me; whatever did he do with the fifteen or so

cartoons I gave him at the SFCon? I've seen about five of them.

Bloch

is good; isn't he always so? I enjoy finding out what folks do, and what they think of it.

Cover is excellent! One of the best Adkins I have

yet seen.

I like the Fake Fan In London, too. I'm beginning to wonder, without really worrying about it, just how long it will be. It's good reading, and there's no complaints here, no matter how long it is. I like to read about things like this.

Adkins reviews are good, but somehow leave me quite unsatisfied....and I can't explain that, tho I'd like to.

I LOVE the "there's a Ford in your future" bit! Too bad I can't use something like that...but what can you do with Bjo? (lecherous ol' Lynn could think of something. lh) ---sigh!--- well, enuff yakking!

Bjo Wells Los Angeles, Calif.

Don Wollheim, Forest Hills, N.Y. Liked Harmon's bit on Ellison and Bob Madle's London account. Says he finds Harlan a joy and a delight and could watch his verbal skyrocketing for hours. Dan McPhail says the cover on #44 was the most striking one he's seen on a fanzine in ages. Larry Shaw writes that he has a TATTOOED DRAGON for me but that I should send the \$1.50 to the Berry Fund. Since the money goes to the Berry Fund, Larry, I'm raising my offer to \$2.50 and will get the check off to Nick Falasca today. And many thanks for sending TTD. Ron Ellik writes that he may join FIRST FANDOM. Says he was conceived in late Dec., 1937 and that he and his mother were cooperating on getting him born before the deadline of Jan. 1938. He further states that his mother reads sf and that anything two fans do together is Fanac. Vincent Paul Nowell writes that Harmon's article on Ellison left something to be desired, that Bloch's and Madle's articles were good, that Hash Harbor had improved and that ASTOUNDING has been 50¢ in the ALAM-OGORDO, N.M. area for the past two months. He also states that Andy Harris should preserve Murphy's Law; "If anything can possibly go wrong, it will." as one of his 10 quotations. Other letters from Bob Pavlat, Bob Madle, Don Ford, Ellis Mills, Vernell Coriell, Carol Burgin, Rog Ebert, Don Franson, Mike Deckinger, Jan Penney, and Al Swettman.

I had originally planned to run Hash Harbor and chapter 8 of A Fake Fan in London in this issue, but the letters kept piling up and I did say I would print most of them. This makes the 3rd more-or-less weekly issue of a monthly zine and I may do it once more to get caught up on my material.

How many of you have looked through an issue of Larry Shaw's 'GUNsport'? It is a 50¢ magazine that is available at most newstands and of particular interest to fans would be the 'Handloader's Corner' by Dean Grennell. Even has a photo of his smiling (?) face.

Picked up some "ADULT SPACE FICTION" the other day. At least it was "labled" adult. Its a 32 page printed booklet with a poor offset cover,

titled "Rockets vs. Flying Saucers" and sells at 35¢. Very nice printing job and even has a reprinted Cartier cut from Astounding. BUT, don't buy it unless you're a completist.

This issue of JD-Argassy is intended as a post-mailing to the 21st OMPA mailing.

Cover by Dean Grennell. Artwork by Newton, Yares, and Bjo. Written material, other than letters, is by Lynn Hickman. Multilithed in Mt. Vernon, Illinois by the Actifan Press. If there is an X below, you must comply if you wish to receive further issues.

WRITE SEND \$1.00 TRADE

In issue #47 or #48 I will be including a questionaire developed by Dr. C.L. Barrett and Prof. Hirsch with the help of various and sundry fen. We would like to have 100% participation in this, so do your part and fill it out.

Lynn A. Hickman

PITT IN :60

JD-Argassy #46 Lynn A. Hickman 304 N. 11th Mt. Vernon, Illinois NERNO W



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