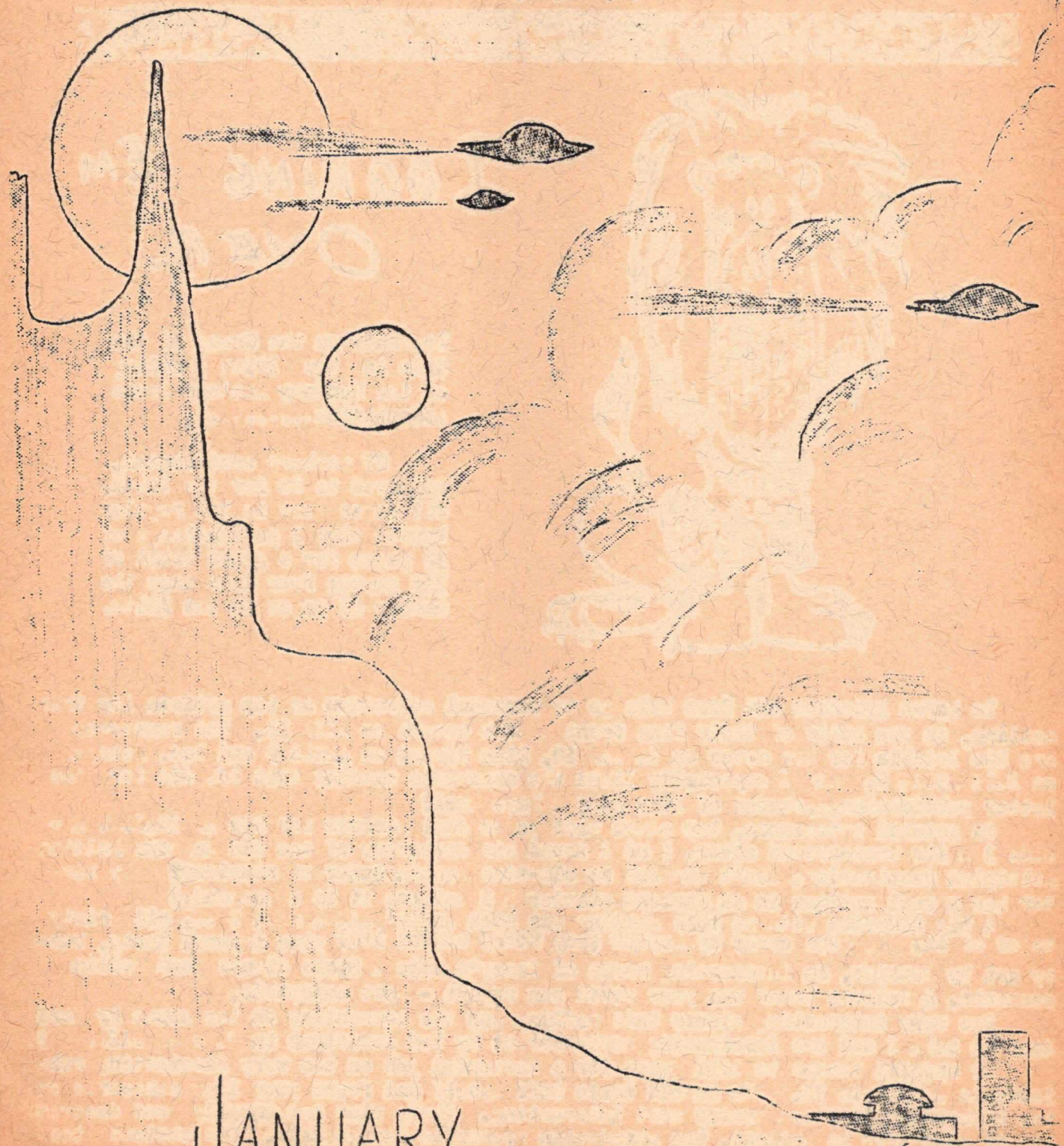


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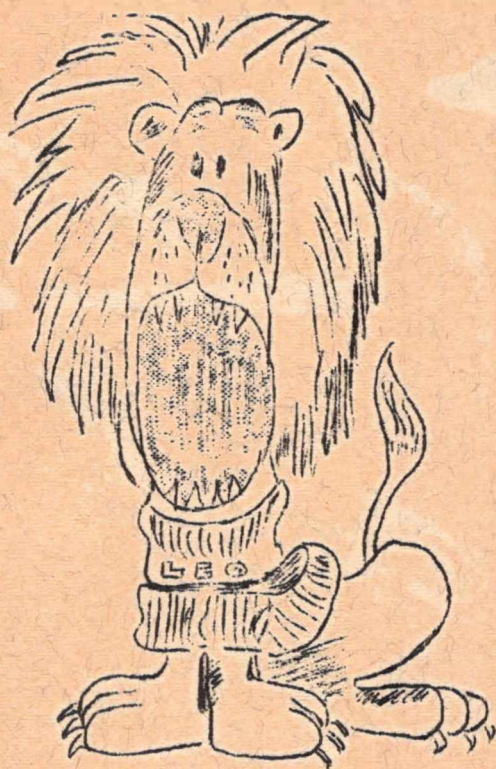
No. 44



JANUARY
1964

Sana in E

Dan McPhail
Editor



LOOKING 'EM OVER

Comments on the Cream of the
Crop in the 105th mailing
of the Fantasy Amateur Press
Association.....

27 members contributed,
compared to 20 for the 104th.
267 pages were in the regular
bundle plus 3 postmailings of
32 pages for a grand total of
319 pages; four less than the
number of pages in the 104th.

To Karen Anderson and Dian Dale go my personal selection as top artists for this mailing, on the basis of their fine front back covers on ALPS 18. The runner-ups are Bjo Trimble for her cover on L.A. 10, Dian Girard on ARKUS 9 and Geo. Metzger on BITE NOIR 6. And I especially liked the nameplate heading that BJO did for the latter publication...shades of King Kong &aye wai!

On general appearance, top award must go to Jack Harness for his AL IVALLT AL-OLBA 3 & its wrap-around cover. (And I found his discovery of the old Hammond holding multiplex fascinating. Isn't Hammond an old-time manufacturer of staplers? My sister has a real antique in an ancient stapler & I believe it is a Hammond.)

A big favorite with me this mailing was Dick Lneys' ALBA-LUA T 10, all sixty pages of it. A good cover by Laynew (any story behind it?) plus typical lusty, bus-ty art by Rotsler, an interesting rerun of Laney's epic & Dicks always good mailing comments. A welcome bonus was your vivid con report - most enjoyable.

Two very interesting pieces this mailing was the commentary on the South by Earl Kemp in SAFA I and the fascinating movie script by Ted Johnstone in P. 34. SLIP 3.

My special thanks to Bill Evans for a masterful job on two very fascinating subjects in JOURNAL 37. I'm an old train buff myself and found your long discourse on the background of steam trains most interesting. That, plus the equally good description of your trip to Holland, the Scandinavian countries and England. Its obvious that you had a wonderful trip, and I am glad for you -- and a little envious!

Top feature of 10 IZOLS, for me, was Harry's description of his duties as city editor and the many sidelights and interesting phases of his work. No comment on comments other than (a'ain) endorse your stand on the Martin affair.

Say, that's a cute cover for 303ILLGS, Bjo! And to go with it, Bob Pavlat (one of the few Eastern fans I have met) has 8 pages of general interest stuff.

About the time Hugo Bernsback left Amazing and started the Wonder series, I was a real nep kid about airplanes and bought all the "air mags" I could rustle dimes for and, for a spell hobbled with R.O.C.s and other model planes, so I really enjoyed C. Jank's article on same. As it turned out, Bernsback's Air Wonder helped glide me in to an active interest in s-f.

Dick & Pat Ellington, with KICHI 1, cap second-largest mag honors, and manage to fill it with a variety of material. As to your comment on trading stamps, I would say that I have planned an article on the subject but can't seem to be able to get out enough pages anymore to include it.

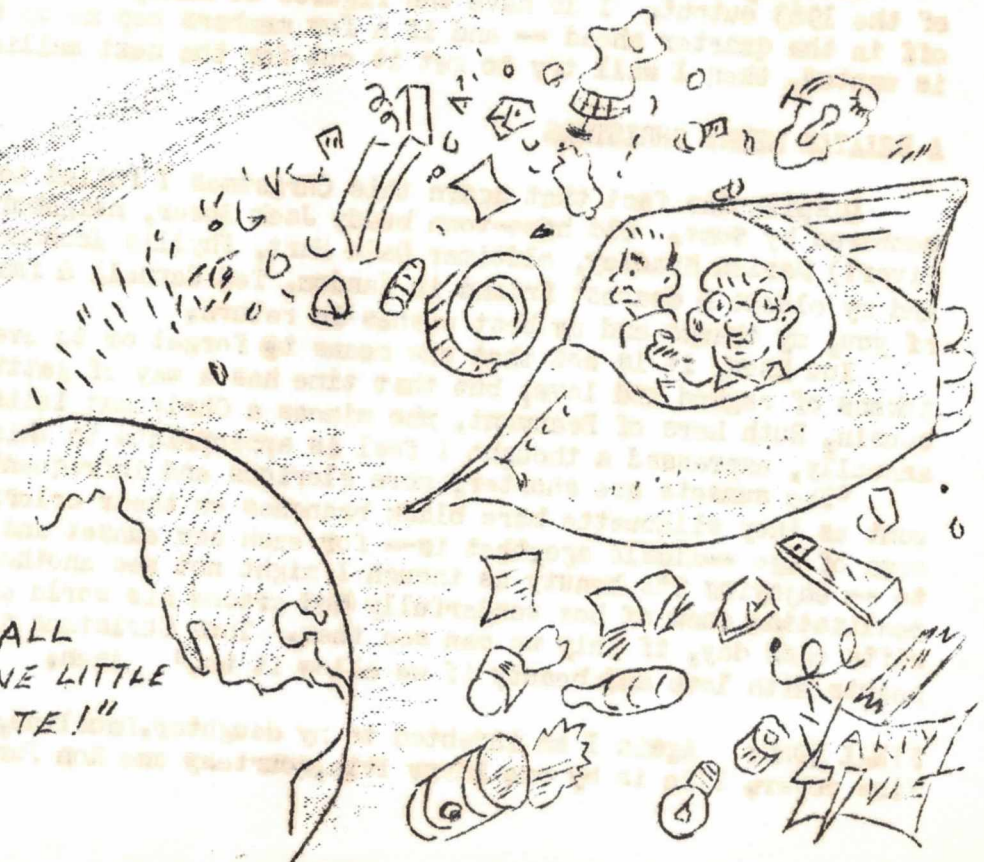
Jim & Susan Caughran had another interesting, if small (who am I to talk!) A PROPOS DE LIA and I enjoyed all comments. Now a personal comment-on-comment: Of course I don't object to Castro simply because of his beard...I have friends with them (but better looking) By "highest priority" I mean a powerful blockade (as urged by the president of Costa Rica) to prevent the flooding of South & Latin America with agents & war material from red Cuba. As I said in the July Press, we have a problem in the Carribean, as witness the immediate danger in Panama.

Two always interesting and welcome writers are Elinor and L.L. Busby - our Honorable Veep (s) and I find these issues of 303 IZOLS DARE and SAILD no exception. Leo, the back is better, Buz. However, I despair over my small IAPA output situation.

There are two other items I enjoyed; the Berry story in LUCIFER, DEVELOPMENT (yes, Martin, I liked the artwork by "Aip", too) and the reviews by Sam Moskowitz in DARE AT.

So winds up another year in IAPA. It seems to me, without having time to check, that our production has been a lot less than in previous years. But I seem to always find things of interest and (providing I get this in, and my dues) I look forward to a lot of interesting stuff for 1964-65.

"AND TO THINK IT ALL
STARTED WITH ONE LITTLE
SPACE SATELLITE!"



Smoke | Signals

by
DAN McPHAIL

OOPS! A STATISTICIAN SLIPS UP! (or, THE BLUNDER DEPT.)

As some may recall, the last mailing had only a single page issue of PP. It was the smallest edition since I revived it in 1955. I regret that I had so little to offer, but personal troubles in recent months have made it almost impossible to contribute anything. But, small as that issue was, I managed to pull a major goof. It should have been numbered Volume 11, Number 1, as October starts the editorial year. Instead, it was labeled Vol. 10, No. 5. Almost as bad as the time I titled the mag Fantasy Press on the cover! Needless to say, this issue is correctly tabbed.

X-RAY MACHINE OUT OF ORDER

It has become traditional for PP to carry a comprehensive recap of publishing activities of members for the previous year in each January issue. We have did this in the past simply as a service, in the hopes it would be of interest and that it would help in the annual EgoBoo poll.

However, due to severe criticism by some, I have declined to complete the tally of the 1963 output. I do have the figures at hand, and if my personal pressures ease off in the quarter ahead -- and if a few members pep me up by indicating the report is wanted, then I will try to get it out for the next mailing.

A BELATED MERRY CHRISTMAS

Dispite the fact that again this Christmas I failed to get cards out, I was remembered by some. Old home-town buddy Jack Speer, neighbor (well, just across Red River!) Marion Bradley, oldtimer Dale Hart, Phyllis Economou (we do miss you, cutie! and my oldest & dearest friend in fandom, Ted Carnell & family of London. To all of you, my thanks and my best wishes in return.

You know, it is not that one means to forget or to overlook the gestures and tokens of regard and love, but that time has a way of getting away from you. My cousin, Ruth Mers of Beaumont, who mimces a Christmas letter to relatives & friends annually, expressed a thought I feel is appropriate to this season as she wrote:

"The sunsets are shorter; more glorious and infrequent, but somehow more eloquent as they silhouette bare black branches on their colorful scene. I suppose I've come of age -- middle age, that is -- for each new sunset and each colorful leaf I cling to -- enjoying its beauty as though I might not see another. Maybe though, it's a realization anew of how wonderfully God graced his world & blessed us with tiny gifts each day, if only we can see them. Thus Christmas can live all year in our hearts with love and beauty if we allow it to." Amen.

FINAL WORD: Again I am indebted to my daughter, Danaline, for helping Dad with fine cover. Illo is by one Larry Ivie, courtesy one Ron Parker, late of Oklahoma.