



TROAT issue number 8

January 1969

The fanzine that is **ALP** heart, published by that kind old man from Wauseon. Published for naught, both in price and from what you can get out of it. This sterling publication is brought to you from the center of the free world. In fact you may even address any comments to Center of the Free World 413 Ottokee Street in Wauseon, Ohio 43567 and after our fine men in blue pass on the contents, you may rest assured that it will be delivered, providing you donot slur the Republican party, motherhood, or the great seal of Ohio.

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This is TROAT, a cry issuing from the house of Hickman in good old Wauseon, Ohio. It is available to all you fine fans out there in the wilderness by sending a wee letter of comment plus the largest unused six cent stamp you can find. For these paltry bits, good old Lynn will send you the next issue. That would really be a comic valentine on you.

As far as material goes in this issue, anything that is written was done especially for you by me. The artwork is as follows. Pages 1 & 6 are by Jay Lynch. Page 2 is by John Rackham. Page 5 is by Jay Kinney.

Next issue will be an EXTRA fine one. Almost as good as this one. Don't miss it. Don't be left out there in the hinterland with the good fans. If people know that you read TROAT, they can honestly say, "He must be pretty bad."

Here in Wauseon, though, they call me Sweet Old Brother. I know, because as I was walking down the street the other day I heard a sweet little old lady say "There goes that S.O.B. Hickman."

And she didn't even really know me that well.

It gives you a real good feeling to be liked.

Next issue I might even have a letter column. I have several letters here now. They aren't really the ones I want to print though. None of them sent stamps, and they all read the same. "PLEASE don't send the next issue." And I'm not. Just look over to the right and see what those dumb bastards are missing.

George Young and Hal Shapiro: The young lady who modeled for this drawing especially asked that we NOT give you her address. Sorry fellows. Don't even ask.

Gary Zachrich: The young lady said I could give YOU her address, but only if you shaved off that ghodawful mustacho.



It is close to the start of a new year and the free thinkers of the world have united and elected a new president of the United States. GREAT things will come in the next 4 years. A reduction in surtaxes, an advancement in ALL human rights that always follows a reduction in surtaxes, GREAT new things for EVERYONE!! But don't just take my word for it, the Everett K. Record Co. of Dogwalk, Illinois has just issued a new stereo record of ALL the fine campaign speeches of ALL the candidates. It is available in a limited edition at \$125.00.

Or -- if you are prejudiced or biased, they will garble ALL of the speeches of those candidates who were not YOUR choice for only \$5.00 extra.

Wallace was only expected to draw 6,000,000 votes. Campbell came out for him in Analog and he drew 9,585,028. That proves that more than one person reads each copy of Analog.

Here in Wauseon the vote ran something like this. 5,000 for Nixon, 1,000 for Wallace, 1 for Humphrey. The dissenter has since left town. I think he took a job with some shoe company in Minnesota.

After the tomato pack, 1,000 migrant workers returned to Alabama.

But enough of this, I'm sure you have all read it in Time, Newsweek, U.S. News & World Report, Fortune, or many other of the magazines all fans read.

The weekly Pornographic Fan Journal says that the Supreme Court will now go back to the basic premises of the Constitution guaranteeing Free Speech and freedom of the press. It is surmised that if this is true that all Corinth Books will now be illustrated with scenes from life as it REALLY is in the United States.

Corinth has already sent a crew of fine photographers to Mexico to take pictures of life as it REALLY is in the United States.

Femfanne Arlene Alling (that should be Elling, erasers don't work well on these masters with a carbon ribbon) will be married to Keith Ziegler on Dec. 28th. Much happiness is wished to them.

I'm going to write and research an article on Simon Girty.

You all remember Simon. He was a dirty bastard, a Napoleon boy.

Actually, he was a Snakesville boy. (Snakesville was since renamed Florida, Ohio).

That's Simon, not Keith.

Keith is a good Bheerdrinking buddy.

Gary Zachrich and I spent the afternoon drinking WILD TURKEY and throwing bread crusts to Starlings. People that love birds can't be ALL bad.

Gary says that I should feed songbirds, but somehow I feel that that would be the same as segregation.

Wauseon is the center of The Free World.

New Years has come and gone. I practiced the night before so was able to perform extra well on New Years Eve. We had a party over at Gary's and a fine time was had without having to brave the highways. I would have liked to have gone to the gathering at The Greentree Inn in Sandusky, but just wasn't brave enough to take to the road.

AVON BOOKS is publishing THE ME NOBODY KNOWS. CHILDREN'S VOICES FROM THE GHETTO on January 15th. While this will probably be covered at greater length in THE PULP ERA, I did want to include one of the selections here. These were written by children who live in the slums of New York. Most of the children whose writings appear in the book are Black or Puerto Rican. The following selection was written by a 7 year old girl named Rhonda. It was titled I HAVE A DREAM.

I wish that I could have a better block then I have now. My landlord said that He was going to put Swings in my back yard. how can He do that when the backyard is junky I do not like people throw junk and I demand a Pretty good houses and more food to eat thats What I demand and I better get it.

This will be a Discus Book published by Avon Books at 95¢. It should be very interesting from several angles.

January 10th now. I've just returned from another trip to Florida. Sadder this time, as my father suffered another attack which took his life. He was a good father and will be greatly missed.

January 19th. Fred Cook dropped over Friday night. For those of you that were wondering about his fine fanzine, BRONZE SHADOWS, Fred has been promoted to plant manager for his company at the West Unity, Ohio plant. He has naturally been very busy at his new job (as I have at mine) but BRONZE SHADOWS will appear soon. In fact I have the masters here now and will do the printing for him this coming week.

I should also finish the printing on THE PULP ERA this coming week, as well as seeing this issue of TROAT out. Things should look up considerably during the next two months as far as my publishing schedules are concerned.

Have been reading in the old magazines again. Just finished the June 1935 BILL BARNES, AIR ADVENTURER and am starting the June 1935 issue of G-8 and his BATTLE ACES. Have also been rereading some Thunder Jim Wade tales from THRILLING ADVENTURES and will probably report on most of these in upcoming issues of THE PULP ERA.

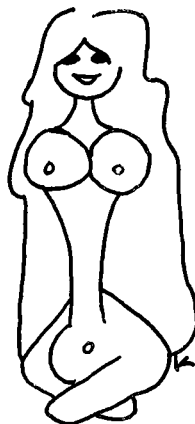
There are still around 20 or so copies of The Best Art-work from JD-A and The Pulp Era for sale. You can get your copy by sending \$1.00 to me and asking for the art booklet.

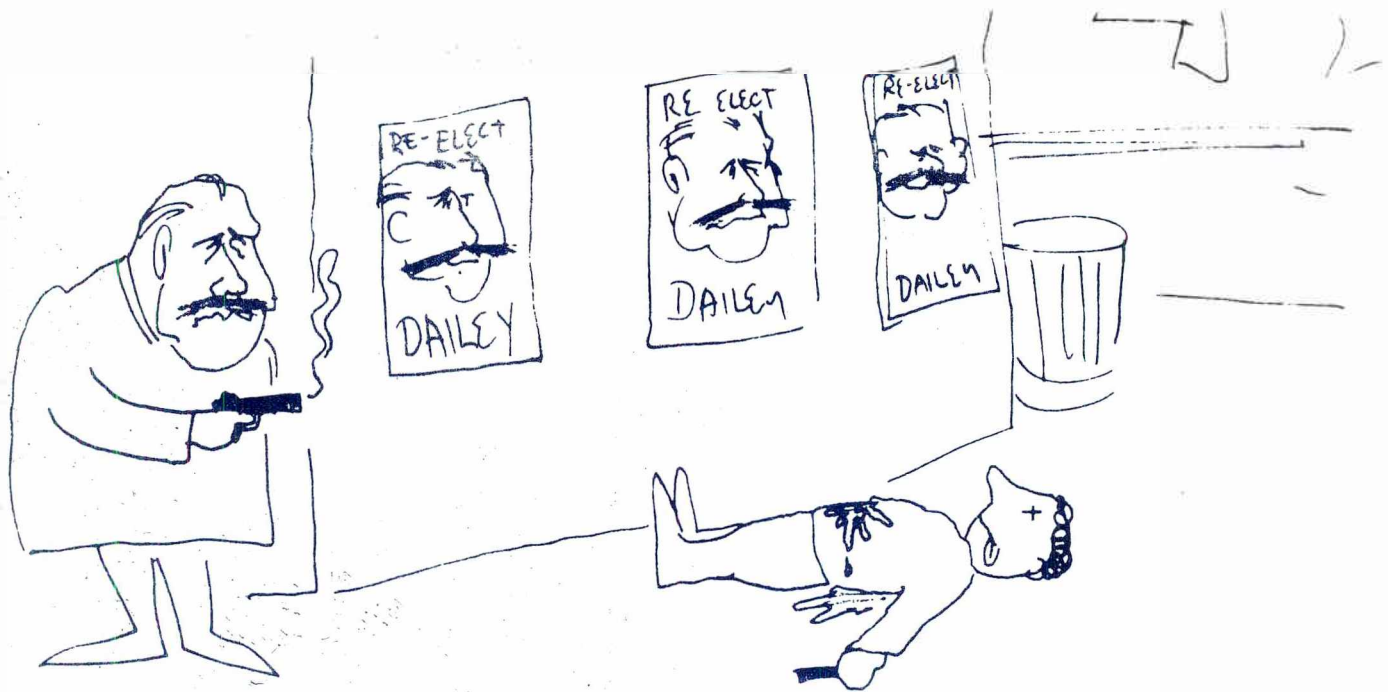
Besides publishing and pulp magazines, my other biggest hobby and time consumer is basketball. I have always loved it from the time I was a lad and played myself. I watch very little television, but in season when basketball is on the tube, I stay glued to the set. Today was an excellent day for that. In the afternoon I watched a game between Western Michigan and Kent State. This evening at 8:00, I watched Toledo U and Ohio University. Then tonight at 11:30 they televised the UCLA & Houston game. So right now it is going on 2:00 am and I am once again in the basement playing fanzine publisher.

I plan to keep TROAT as a letter substitute type zine of about 4 to 6 pages on an approximately monthly basis as long as you all enjoy it and keep up some comment on it. Once in awhile, as I have fannish material to use, I'll bring out a bigger issue, but it won't be too often. I will be using more and more cartoons if I receive good ones that really hit me. So send in the cartoons and the artwork.

Any artwork or articles, etc. that are sent in, could end up in any of my zines unless you specify that it is for a particular one. At present, I especially need material for BADMOUTH. This can be on ANY subject but must be exceptionally good. If I can ever get the type material that I want that is really good, BADMOUTH will be a quality zine with the best in layout and printing. I want it to be a magazine of opinion, but in a humorous vein. If there is anything that you want to badmouth or just write about, try us on it. Even if it doesn't make BADMOUTH, you could end up in THE PULP ERA, TROAT, or some of the other things I publish.

You know, for a while I was buying paper like mad. Picked some real old stuff up at a sidewalk sale for next to nothing. Mostly legal size mimeo paper in a variety of colors. Then I bought a closeout on some litho paper





from a wholesale house in Toledo. Got to counting all the paper I had, including my regular stock and came up with the amazing total of 85,000 sheets of paper in the house. I've GOT to do some publishing just to make room. *each*

Then I thought I'd figure what else I've bought in the 19 years I've been publishing fanzines and came up with this. 1 mimeograph, 3 multiliths, 2 vari-typers, 2 typewriters, 1 plateburner, 1 copy machine, a mimeoscope, and ghod knows how much paper, ink, supplies, stamps, envelopes, typer ribbons and what have you. Also bought some typing stands, desks, file cases, bookshelves, steel shelving, etc. that I wouldn't have normally bought. I haven't yet tried to count all the fanzines that I've published for myself and others, but I think think the total would be staggering. Is this really a hobby? Or is it some kind of compulsion? I'm afraid to count all the magazines and books that I've bought during my lifetime.

And then if you consider the conventions I've gone to, the original artwork that I've bought and collected, the time that I've spend that I could have used to a more useful moneymaking cause, its really astounding. I could have been rich instead of broke!! Would I do it again? Hell, yeas!! Fandom IS a way of life!

And on the plus side -- think of all the good cherry pie I used to get at Tuckers!!