

June 1942 *20*
the Fantasy Amateur

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

Volume Five Number 4

June 1942

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FANTASY AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION

Officers of the FAPA:

Harry Warner jr., President
Milton Rothman, Vice-President

Elmer Perdue, Sec'y-Treas.
L. R. Chauvenet, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The FAPA has gone through another year of rather smooth sailing---a year that has been possibly its best. There is no important official business on hand at this time, and I shall be brief.

My thanks to all the members of the FAPA who have helped the organization in the past year, by their writing, publishing, recruiting or other work. There is no reason why this year shouldn't be as successful, if all will continue to do their best. To begin, I hope each member will cast his vote in the present election.

My best wishes go to the new officers, whoever they may turn out to be. Now let's all go to work and keep the membership list full, and make the mailings during the coming year the heaviest ever.

Donna M. Laughton
---Harry Warner jr.
May 17, 1942

~~une petite rose au entre les prés pleins de fleurs si une petite rose au~~
ELECTION NOTICE

All members eligible to vote will find a copy of the official ballot in their mailings. Time limit, and name and address of the poll officer, will be found printed on the ballot sheet.

THE FOUNDING OF THE FAPA

--Donald A. Wollheim--

In 1936, fan magazine publishing first began to enter into the phase of growth that marked the transition from the club organ period to that of amateur journalism. Prior to that year only few fan publications were attempted, and outside of the famous Fantasy Magazine and two or three less successful ventures, the only fan publications were club organs, often of a local nature. But the growth of fandom and its gradual acquisition of certainty in itself and independence of mind resulted in a larger and larger output of fan publications everywhere. Fandom took on something of the aspects of today with new magazines appearing on all sides and old ventures collapsing or combining. A certain amount of chaos grew.

In that year, while corresponding with the late H. P. Lovecraft I first heard of the existence of national amateur press associations where persons interested in publishing and editing for the fun of it and not for profit would exchange magazines in general mailings. I joined the National, the United, and several local Amateur Press Associations. Likewise some of the New York fans, primarily John B. Michel and Frederick Pohl.

Gradually it grew upon me that an amateur press association modeled after the decades-old national types and specializing in fantasy amateur journalism would be an excellent thing. So many fans wanted to bring out magazines "for the hell of it" and for indefinite periods. They did not like to have to depend upon dubious subscription lists which they might never be able to live up to or to repay. They did not want the bother of commercial fan publishing. They wanted to bring out fanzines for the fun of it. In cautious discussions with various fans, it became clear that fandom would welcome the creation of an organization for the free exchange of amateur non-subscription fantasy magazines.

I discussed this at length one night in the Spring of 1937 with fans Bill Miller and Jim Blish and it was there that the Fantasy Amateur Press Association was first formulated, named and planned. However, affairs having to do with the dissolution of the I.S.A. kept me from further work on it until June.

In June John B. Michel and I decided to start definite work on the organization of the F.A.P.A. We decided to have a simple clear workable constitution already written, to have an emblem prepared, to get a nucleus of enthusiastic members and to prepare a first mailing with which the campaign for organization would be formally started. We determined to start it with a bang in order to give it the best chance for survival.

After studying the constitutions of existing general amateur press groups, I took the Constitution of the New England Amateur Press Club as the simplest and best model, and wrote the first FAPA Constitution. It followed the wording and organization of the NEAPC in most particulars. The present revised FAPA Constitution is still essentially the original document in general.

After correspondence, the following accepted the posts of

organizers: I took the presidency as it was my job to direct the work and co:ordinate things. Michel undertook the Editorship so he and I could work together on that. Bill Miller agreed to handle the secretarial work of registering applicants and collecting dues. Daniel McPhail undertook the Vice-President's task of booming up membership.

I wrote Morris Dillens, at that time foremost fan artist, requesting designs for an emblem. He sent three of which Michel and I picked the one which has remained official. I then had engravings made of this emblem and we printed membership cards on the Michel-Tollheim press. One of these engravings I kept, the other cut I presented to the FAPA to remain in the custody of each Official Editor. When last heard of Milton Rothman had this cut.

Correspondence was beginning to bear fruit and we had a few applications in before any mailing appeared. The first fan to pay dues and receive a card was Frederik Pohl. Among the original members of pro-first mailing status appear the names of Edward Carnell, Harry Dockweiler, J. M. Rosenblum, Robert A. Madle, Robert W. Lowndes, and James Taurasi.

The first mailing was due to come out in July 1937. Time did not allow Michel and I to prepare a first Fantasy Amateur so instead I mimeographed a three page magazine entitled "The FAPA Fan" the third page of which was an application blank, the first two pages of which contained an explanation of the FAPA and a request for members. The FAPA Fan did duty as a semi-official organ until the appearance of the first Fantasy Amateur, which was not until after the first regular election.

The first mailing appeared in July. It contained mostly excess copies of older fan magazines, some new material done for the occasion such as two or three "Mijimags" and stuff. It wasn't a bad bundle considering.

Response was very encouraging. But Secretary Bill Miller unfortunately chose that moment to lose interest in fandom. He allowed his work to lag and finally resigned in September turning material over to me. I undertook the work of Secretary-Treasurer for the rest of the year as well as the President's post. Oddly enough, it can be recorded that our first Secretary, Miller, never became a member of the FAPA!

Another organizational mailing came in October and the first election was held in December. The first Fantasy Amateur, dated Spring 1938 and sent out in May 1938 contains the results. Myself and MacPhail remained in our organizational offices. Baltadonis took over the secretaryship and Fred Pohl relieved Michel as Editor. The number of ballots received reveals that by January 1938 we had about 25 members. By May 1938 we had 43 members and had reached healthy maturity. A host of new FAPA magazines were appearing and healthy discussion was permeating the ranks. A heated contest was forecast for July and the FAPA was 100% alive and kicking.

ADMINISTRATIONS OF THE
FANTASY AMATEUR PRESS ASSOCIATION

July 1937 to December 1937	October 1938 to June 1939
Organizing officers self-appointed	Pres. - Olon F. Wiggins (Colo.)
Pres. - Donald A. Wollheim (N.Y.)	V-P. - Walter E. Marconette (Ohio)
V. P. - Daniel McPhail (Okla.)	S.-T. - James V. Taurasi (N.Y.)
S-T. - William H. Miller jr. (N.J.)	Edtr. - Milton A. Rothman (Penn)
Edtr. - John B. Michel (N.Y.)	
January 1938 to June 1938	July 1939 to June 1940
First regularly elected officers	Pres. - Milton A. Rothman (D.C.)
Pres. - Donald A. Wollheim (N.Y.)	V-P. - Jack Speer (D.C.)
V. P. - Daniel McPhail (Okla.)	SecT. - Robert A. Madle (Penn.)
S-T. - John V. Baltadonis (Penn)	Edtr. - Walter E. Marconette (Ohio)
Edtr. - Frederick Pohl (N.Y.)	Jack Agnew (Penn) March to June 1940.
July 1938 to October 1938	July 1940 to June 1941
Pres. - John B. Michel (N.Y.)	Pres. - Bob Tucker (Ill.)
V.P. - Robert W. Lowndes (Conn.)	V.-P. - Harry Warner (Md.)
S-T. - James V. Taurasi (N.Y.)	S.-T. - Milton A. Rothman (D.C.)
Edtr. - Donald A. Wollheim (N.Y.)	Edtr. - Elmer Perdue (Wyo.)
July 1938 to October 1938	July 1941 to June 1942
	Pres. - Harry Warner (Md.)
	V.P. - Milton A. Rothman (D.C.)
	S-T. - Elmer Perdue (Wyo.)
	Edtr. - L. Russell Chauvenet (Va.)

THE FANTASY AMATEUR: Publishing History

Vol.	Number	Editor	Published at	Medium	Pages	Date
1	1	Pohl	Brooklyn	Mim.	7	Spring 1938
1	2	Pohl	Brooklyn	Mim.	4	Summer 1938
1	3	Wollheim	Brooklyn	Mim.	7	Autumn 1938
1	4	Wollheim	New York	Mim.	4	October 1938
2	1	Rothman	Philadelphia	Hecto	4	December 1938
2	2	Rothman	Philadelphia	Hecto	11	March 1939
2	3	Madle	Philadelphia	Mim.	6	June 1939
3	1	Marconette	Dayton, Ohio	Mim.	6	Fall 1939
3	2	Agnew	Philadelphia	Mim.	6	March 1940
3	3	Rothman Speer & Ferdue	D.C.	Mim.	6	June 1940
3	4	Ferdue	Washington D.C.	Mim.	4	Sept. 1940
4	1	Ferdue	Casper Wyo.	Mim.	8	Dec. 1940
4	2	Ferdue	Rock Springs Wyo.	Mim.	6	March 1941
4	3	Ferdue	Rock Springs Wyo.	Mim.	7	June 1941
5*	1	Chauvenet	Esmont, Va.	Mim.	6	Sept. 1941
5*	2	Chauvenet	Tollaston, Mass.	Mim.	8	Dec. 1941
5*	3	Chauvenet	Charlottesville	Mim.	6	March 1942

*"V 4 N 4"; # "V 4 N 5"; @ "V.4 N 3"; see Ed. note in this issue

CRITICS' REPORT: MARCH MAILING

5

PAUL FREEHAER; Official Critic

H. C. Koenig, Associate Critic

Mimeographed Matter

THE FANTASY AMATEUR V.5 N.3 (see ed. note in this issue)

Freehaer: Good, though so poorly mimeographed that I could not read part of it.

Koenig: Poorly mimeographed. The membership list was a

AGENDITY OF FANTASY pp. 7-8

/total loss.

Freehaer: Better than last time.

Koenig: Another single sheet. Editor Lowndes could and should develop this into a real magazine. His articles are always worth reading.

APOLOGIA! (#1)

Freehaer: Even when ZEE has nothing to say, he says it far more interestingly than most of us.

Koenig: Old Man Evans apologizes in a breezy fashion for not having an entry in the Spring mailing. The apology was far too short but still quite acceptable.

CALIFORNIA MERCURY #11-12

Freehaer: Sorry, Joe, but this is a waste of paper.

Koenig: A single sheet in spite of the fact that it represents two issues! Nothing to write home about.

CENSORED V.1 N.3

Freehaer: Large magazines in the FAPA are definitely to be encouraged; but one of the mildest things that can be said about this publication is that it shows vast room for improvement.

Koenig: Voluminous but mediocre. Contents spoiled, particularly the latter part, by extreme carelessness in proof reading, (if any). Editor Hunter could get out a fine magazine if he took more pains with his editing.

F. F. F. #72-73

Freehaer: Very good, even though a widely circulated subscription magazine.

Koenig: Getting one or two copies of a weekly magazine every three months is the height of something or other; even if one of them should be marked an FAPA issue.

GUTETO V.1 N.4

Freehaer: At least there's a trace of fantasy evident in this one. But it still isn't legitimate FAPA material.

Koenig: I still insist that this magazine (or any other devoted to Esperanto) does not belong in a FAPA mailing.

INSPIRATION (#1)

Freehaer: An excellent little magazine. I suppose one might consider this a war casualty, and one deeply to be regretted. Anyway, best of luck, Lynn!

Koenig: In spite of Editor Bridges' opinion of his own magazine, I liked it. One of the best in the mailing. If, due to the war, Bridges finds it impossible to publish future issues; I hope he finds time to send in contributions to some of the other magazines.

THE MADMAN OF MARS (#1)

Freehaer: I don't know what you're going to say about this one, Koenig -- but I'm afraid I'm going to have to

Koenig: The opening instalment is every bit as good as some of the stories appearing in both the pro and fan magazines during the past 5 years. A good start.

JINX V.1 N.2

Freehafer: A very interesting issue. Best was the opening of the book with Koenig. Keep it clean, boys, and this should be enjoyable for everyone.

Koenig: A marked improvement over the first issue. A good variety of articles and departments and well mimeographed. I liked, particularly, the new column, "Fading Thoughts and Fancies."

MILTY'S MAG March 1942

Freehafer: As usual, I like anything Milty writes. I hope the Philadelphia saving splurge doesn't mean even the temporary demise of this magazine.

Koenig: A typical Rothman number. Well written and well mimeographed. Too little of a scientific-fiction of of a fantasy nature but one can't get mad at Milty.

NACHGEMACHTESCHILDKRÖTENSUITE (2)

Freehafer: Warum muss man eine Schrift verlegen wenn der Abdruck so schlecht ist dass man es nicht lesen kann?

Koenig: A complete mystery to me. I can't read German and even if I could I still couldn't read it.

THE NUCLEUS V. 3 N. 3

Freehafer: Gosh, I feel sorry for us fans.

Koenig: Provides the usual interesting and provocative reading. Gertrude's "Portrait of a Fan" was exceptionally good.

THE PHANTAGRAPH (##37 to 41).

Freehafer: A curious assortment varying from quite good to quite bad. I don't like the phrase "We Told You So" and I still don't agree with all that Don said, but he has a lot of justification.

Koenig: Five numbers of what at one time was my favorite magazine. An uneven collection of material; with a mixture of good and bad poetry. Oh, hum.

THE READER AND COLLECTOR V. 2 N. 5

Freehafer: Despite the somewhat justified criticisms of Jenkins this remains one of the best magazines issued through FAPA.

SARDONYX V. 2 N. 1

Freehafer: I find I rather miss the old hectographed issues. But no matter -- this is really good.

Koenig: Learned discussions on art and poetry; Interesting reading; but I still feel that too much space is being devoted to non-fantasy items. Never-the-less, a good issue.

SAETRIC #1

Freehafer: A somewhat inferior (and very small) imitation of "Sweetness and Light."

Koenig: Editor Martin got off to a good start; but the course was far too short. That first page was a "wow"; mimeographically speaking. Future issues will be awaited with considerable interest.

SCIENCE FICTION FASH V.1 N.2

Freehafer: A disappointment after "Jinx".

Koenig: The only redeeming feature of this issue is the "Index for Unknown for 1941." That was a good job. There was nothing else worth reading or printing.

SCI-FIC VARIETY #4, 5

Freehafer: Somehow that indefinable something that makes us love "F&Z" just isn't there. It's good, though.

Koenig: A miscellany of Tuckerish items; plus an easy-reading book-review by Wilson and a report by Lowndes on his first year as editor of Future and the Quarterly. Lowndes' frank resume of his trials and tribulations is to be highly commended. Okay.

WRIGHT (undated)

Freehafer: The cover, though a bit fantastic in an unintended fashion, is good. The rest is not so not.

Koenig: The best part of this appears to be the cover illustration--a nude by Tom Wright. The gal seems to be slightly round shouldered; but she has beautiful, long, dark hair and a wonderful pair of eyes. The contents: just so-so.

INFAMOUS FANTASTIC MYSTERIES (#1)

Freehafer: I can't quite see the reason for reprinting a pro story in a fan magazine.

Koenig: Fine. Gilbert has hit upon a splendid idea; I hope he finds it feasible to issue the magazine quarterly rather than bi-yearly. His introduction to this promising series was well done.

Photographed matter

WORMZONS V.3 N. 3

Freehafer: At least most of the magazine is readable. It continues to be good where decipherable.

Koenig: Warner slipped again with his reproduction; but even at that the magazine ranks high in the spring mailings. Excellent reviews.

Aftermailing

IN GARDE (#1)

Freehafer: Very good, both in contents and format. Orchids are especially due on that cover!

Koenig: A lunge at a fan and a few thrusts at some nudes. Result: a promising first issue by that euphonious duo, Al & Abby Lu. I, for one, want more.

SUSTAINING PROGRAM Spring 1942

Koenig: Speer's comments on the mailings furnish a liberal education and his reviews of "Unknown" stories were good--if a trifle long-winded.

FAN DIRECTORY (#1)

Freehafer: An excellent idea, though so horribly out of date as to be almost useless.

Conclusion:

Koenig: Not a bad mailing; about 50% of the membership being represented in one way or another. (We should get this figure up to about 75% in each mailing.)

Best liked: Infamous Fantastic Mysteries, Sardonix, The Nucleus and Inspiration.

Don't forget to VOTE NOW in The election.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Membership list

Dues--pay your dues of 75¢ right now.

Dues-activity--you may not apply for renewal until six months have passed.

Activity--if you have nothing in the next mailing, you will be ineligible to renew.

Expired--Your membership expired in December; you will not get this mailing until you renew; if you have not renewed by July 1, you will be dropped.

1. Ackerman, Forrest J., 236½ W. New Hampshire, Hollywood, Calif. DUES
2. Ashley, Al & Abby Lu, 86 Upton Ave., Battle Creek, Mich.
3. Blish, James, 215 Duane St., Orange, New Jersey. DUES-ACTIVITY
4. Bridges, Lynn, 876th Chem. Co. A.B. Sarasota-Bradenton AAB.
Sarasota, Florida.
5. Bronson, Phil, 224 West 6th St. Hastings, Minn. EXPIRED
6. Carnell, Edward J., 17 Burwash Road, Plumstead, SE 18, London
England.
7. Chauvenet, Louis Russell, 1920 Thomson Rd., Charlottesville, Va.
8. Connor, Edward C., 929 Butler St., Peoria, Illinois.
9. Daughtery, Walter J., 846 1/3 W. 82, Los Angeles, Calif.
10. Eastman, Les B. % Joe Gilbert.
11. Evans, E. E., 191 Capitol Ave, SW, Battle Creek, Mich.
12. Farsaci, Litterio B., 48 Lewis St., Rochester, New York.
13. Fortier, Joe J. 1836 39th Ave., Oakland, California
14. Freehafer, Paul, 349 S. Rampart, Los Angeles, California.
15. Gergen, John L., 221 Melbourne SE, Minneapolis, Minn.
16. Gilbert, Joseph, 908 Lloyd Court, Columbia, South Carolina
17. Groveman, William, 38 Maryland Ave., Hempstead NY (Home)
623 Central Ave. Cedarhurst NY (June 3-28)
Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio (After June 28)
18. Hodgkins, Russell J., 1903 W. 84th Pl., Los A, Calif. EXPIRED
19. Hurter, Fred, 5590 Campden Place, Cote St. Catherine Rd.,
Montreal, PQ, Canada.
20. Jenkins, Harry, 2409 Santee Avenue, Columbia, South Carolina
21. Jones, Bob, 281 14th Ave, Columbus, Ohio. DUES
22. Koenig, H. C., 540 E. 80th St., New York City
23. Kuslan, Gertrude, 170 Washington Ave., West Haven, Conn.
24. Liebscher, Walter, 101 S. Eastern, Joliet, Illinois.
25. Lowndes, Robert W., 136 E. 28th. New York City
26. Marcquette, Walter E., 2120 Pershing Blvd., Dayton, Ohio.
27. Martin, Edgar Allen, 2 Broad St., Manchester, Conn.
28. Michel, % Lowndes. DUES
29. Moffatt, Leonard J., 419 Summit Ave., Ellwood City, Penna.
30. Perdue, Elmer, 1218 S. Cedar St., Casper, Wyoming.
31. Morojo, Box. 6475 Met. Sta., Los Angeles, Calif.
32. Rosenblum, J. Michael, 4 Grange Terrace, Leeds 7, England.
33. Rothman, Milton A., 2113 N. Franklin St., Philadelphia, Penna.
34. Smith, Edwin Hadley, 301 Laurel Court, Point Pleasant, N. J.
35. Speer, Jack, 6323 Western NW, Washington DC
36. Schwartz, A. L., 229 Washington St., Dorchester, Mass.
37. Studley, Bob, 210 W 109 NYC EXPIRED
38. Swisher, Robert D., 15 Ledyard Rd., Winchester, Mass.
39. Thompson, D. B. 1903 Polk St. Alexandria, La.
40. Thompson, R. G., 44 Norgate Rd., Manhasset, L.I., NY. ACTIVITY

41. Tucker, Bob, Box 260, Bloomington, Illinois
42. Unger, Julius, 1702 Dahill Rd., Brooklyn NY. DUES
43. Warner, Harry, 303 Bryan Place, Hagerstown, Md.
44. Widner, Art, jr., 25 Arnold St., Quincy, Mass.
45. Wollheim, Donald A., 244 W. 74th New York City DUES
46. Wood, Mrs. Russell M., 524 W. 2nd St., San Pedro, Calif.
47. Wright, Tom, 3618 Maple Ave., Oakland, Calif.
48. 2375076 Sigm. Youd, C. S., 244 Nesbrough Rd., Eastleigh
Hants, England.

Financial report covering March mailing, etc.

	in	out	bal.
on hand, 2-25-42			\$12.52
DUES	\$12.75		25.27
stamps		\$1.80	23.47
Postage		5.99	17.48
Postage due		.15	17.33
Postage		.23	17.10

Account to date, May 28, 1942

Treasury going back up.

Applications on hand: Barbara Bovard, W.S. Houston, Dan McPhail and William Ryder. Vacancies exist in the membership.

--Elmer Perdue.

Editor's notes....

President Warner wishes me to announce that he is naming Forrest Ackerman and Arthur Widner to form, with Vice President Milton Rothman, the Laureate Committee. This Committee is asked to get to work soon, so that Awards may be announced in the Sept. issue of the Amateur.

The election committee is directed to mail election results to the members on postal cards as soon after the polls close as may be. The treasury will pay for this.

I must apologize for the confusion I have created by mislabeling the several Amateurs I have issued. I meant to start a new volume, as each editor should, but did not do so.

Issue	Called	Should properly be
September	Vcl. 4 No. 4	Vcl. 5 No. 1
December	Vcl. 4 No. 5	Vcl. 5 No. 2
March	Vcl. 4 No. 3	Vcl. 5 No. 3
June	Vcl. 5 no. 4	Vcl. 5 No. 4

My successor should begin Vcl. 6 with the September number.

I greatly regret the blundering incompetence which led to all this confusion.

--L. R. Chauvenet.

FAPA BALLOT

1942

for President

- ☐ Robert W. Lowndes
- ☐ Jack F. Speer

for Vice-President

- ☐ Fred Hurter
- ☐ Elmer B. Perdue.

for Sec'y-Treasurer

- ☐ Art Widner jr.
- ☐ L. R. Chauvenet

for Official Editor

- ☐ Harry Jenkins jr.
- ☐ Al Ashley

- ☐ for amendment
- ☐ opposed

Amendment: Article 9 shall be amended by striking out "Maintain a register of active members" from

section (b) and inserting them into section (c) [Duties of Sec'y-Treas] after the words "... applications and renewals." [Amendment proposed by Rothman - Chauvenet - Thompson - Speer - Gilbert.]

SEND BALLOT TO R. D. Swisher, 15 Ledyard Rd, Winchester, Mass.
BEFORE JULY 1st Election Committee: Swisher, Schwartz, Widner.