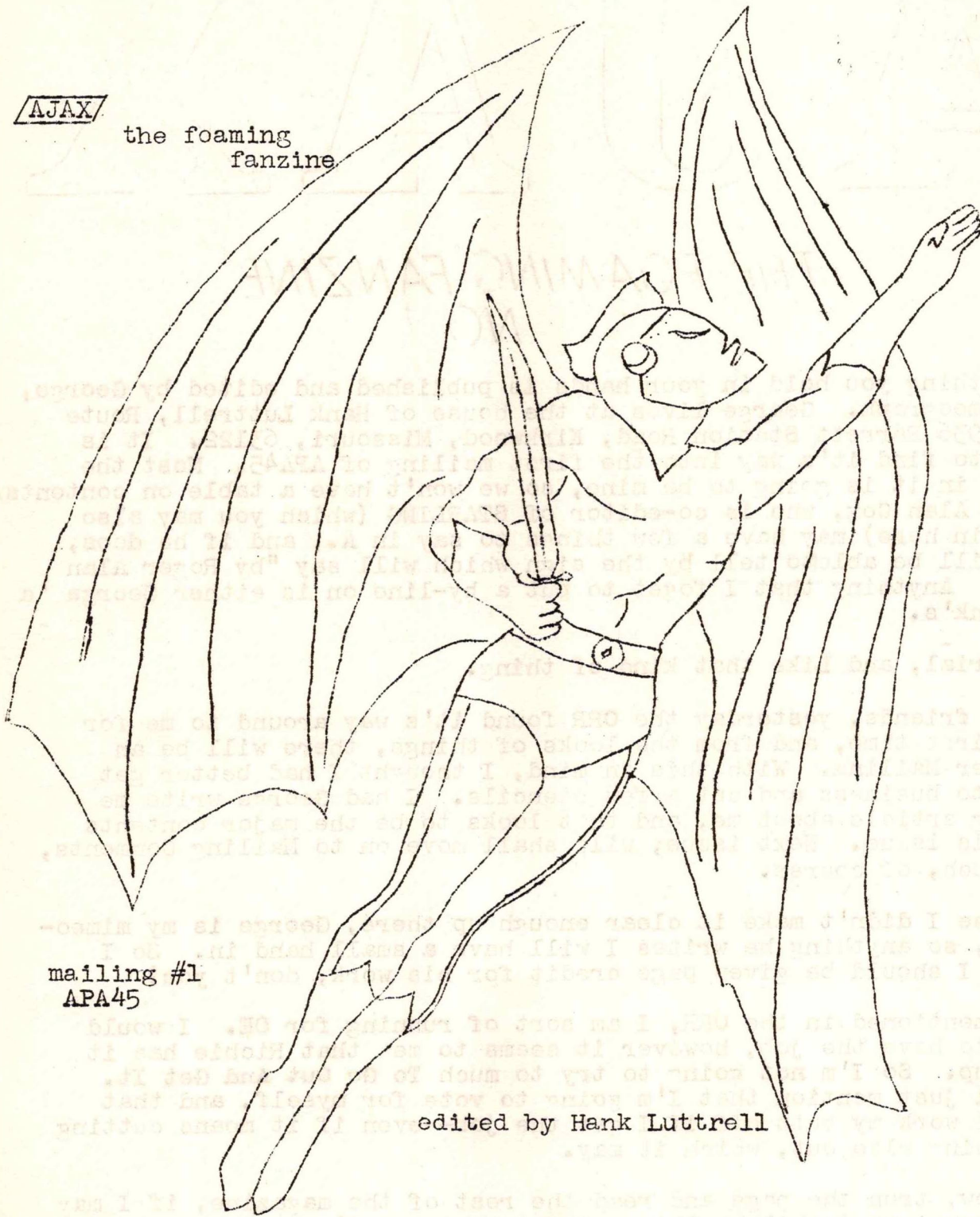


AJAX

the foaming
fanzine



mailing #1
APA45

edited by Hank Luttrell

SMO

A J A X

THE FOAMING FANZINE NO 1.

This thing you hold in your hands is published and edited by George, my mimeograph. George lives at the house of Hank Luttrell, Route 13, 2936 Barrett Station Road, Kirkwood, Missouri, 63122. It is ment to find it's way into the first mailing of APA45. Most the stuff in it is going to be mine, so we won't have a table on contents. Roger Alan Cox, who is co-editor of STARLING (which you may also find in here) may have a few things to say in A., and if he does, you will be able to tell by the sign which will say "by Roger Alan Cox". Anything that I foget to put a by-line on is either George 's or Hank's.

Editorial, and Like that kind of thing.

Well, friends, yesterday the ORR found it's way around to me for the first time, and from the looks of things, there will be an October Mailing. With this in mind, I thought I had better get down to business and cut a few stencils. I had George write me a long article about me, and that looks to be the major contents of this issue. Next issue, will shall move on to Mailing Comments, and such, of course.

In case I didn't make it clear enough up there, George is my mimeograph, so anything he writes I will have a small hand in. So I think I should be given page credit for his work, don't you?

As I mentioned in the ORR, I am sort of running for OE. I would like to have the job, however it seems to me that Richie has it sewn up. So I'm not going to try to much To Go Out And Get It. I will just mention that I'm going to vote for myself, and that I will work my butt off if I get the job--even if it means cutting something else out, which it may.

Ok, ow, trun the page and read the rest of the magazine, if I may use such a word while talking of this thing. I'm sure you are all wondering what it has in it.

Frankly, I am too.

Hank Luttrell & George

All About Hank Luttrell

by a great and noted writer

Once upon a time, long, long ago, there was born to this lucky world a child named James Henry Luttrell by his parents. Years later, the world knew him as Hank. But I get ahead of my story.

For years Hank lived a very ordinary life--he went to school, and hated it. He loved baseball, and played it...or tried, at any rate. He loved ice cream, and he ate quite a bit of it--as much as he was allowed. In fact, he was ready about as average as you could have possibly wanted him to be. Except for a few things, and these few things tend to make him interesting to us at this time.

One of these things may surprise you, the other most likely won't. First, he hated to read. The only thing that he hated more was writing. Secondly, he had a strong, illogical love of science and nature.

First, let us look into the topmost mentioned feature of the Young Hank. Why did he feel this way. Why didn't he like to read and write? Was it because he was lazy? Perhaps. But, he is still lazy, and he now likes to read and write. What, then? Was it the fault of his teachers? Was it because he had never found anything he was interested in enough to read? Dick, Jane And Sally aren't very interesting, you know. Who can tell? At any rate, he did not always remain quite so ignorant of the worth of the English language. (Though it can be argued that he never learned to use the same properly.)

In the later part of the 5th and the 6th grade a Change took place in Hank. I call attention once more to his love of science. This became important at this point; in that he discovered a literature devoted to his love. "This," he thought, "is what I am interested in; I shall like it." Doctor Dolittle, a series of fantasies by Hugh Loftings, (I'm not sure about that spelling--Great and Famous Author) (((I'm not either--Hank))) was one of the first to meet his eye favorably. Then came Heinlein. Then Norton and Clarke. Then--he began to read many books, by many authors, and injoying it.

It was about the spring of 1960, after he had been reading hard-cover sf from a near by library for some time, and paperback science fiction for not quite such a time, when he discovered the science fiction magazine. Within a few weeks, he was a subscriber to all of them, and a rabid fan of science fiction magazines in general. Not too long after that, Things started happening, all at about the same time. And these Things can be traced to his current activity in your fine organization, and all of fandom.

He had a small part of a letter published in WORLDS OF IF SCIENCE FICTION. He sent away for INSIDE, a fanzine then advertised in F&SF. He began to be interested in writing some of this Buck Roger stuff, of which he had been reading so much.

The letter in IF brought a letter from another neo-fan, wanting to corry with Hank. This, after some time, lead to the fan in question (Tim Eklund) introducing Hank to The National Fantasy Fan Federation.

The second of the 2 issues of INSIDE that Hank recieved contained fanzine reviews, which resulted in Hank buying a few more of these rather strange publications.

And lastly, he began to want to wrtie--not only fiction (which he has almost given up--he is talentless in this department) but all forms of prose, including the letters and everything else that is so much a part of fandom. I dare say, if this hadn't happened, all else would have been in vain.

Well, Friends, this is how Hank present came into being. He has up till now done such things as edite 3 or 4 issues of STARLING (one can't be sure at this date), he has done the same (and with less help) to at least 2 issues of KER*CHEIF(which is a N'APazine). He has authored an article for Al Andrew's SFFA zine, ISCARIOT, and is at the moment thinking of joining that same organization.

He's done just about everything worth doing as far as fanning goes, I guess. Joined N3F, Corried endlessly, round robined, published a genzine and a few apazines, collected (Magazines, in case your interested. He has been know to cry "They Live" in horror while tring to find a place to sleep in his over crowded room.). He is sorry to report that he has never been to a fan gathering of any great size.

What type of science fiction does Hank like? Well, at this point, this article becomes a little more complicated. This is because there is really no one type of fantasy or science fiction that he doesn't like. Take for an example, heroic fantasy. Some people dislike this on princible. Hank doesn't. He also likes space opera, 1940 Astounding fair, and Robert A. Heinlein. He likes to think that the only thing that he doesn't like in the way of science fiction and fantasy is a bad story.

He does tell me he has favorites, though. This, he tells me, is A. E. van Vogt. He goes futher to say that his @njoyment of vV is in some ways not unlikie many people's injoyment of Edgar Rice Burroughs. While he is completely aware of vV's many faults, and agrees with his many critics, he is completely unable to do anything but @njoy him while reading him. The faults, which are so easy to notice when looking back on a vV story just don't make themselves known on the first time through.

PRE-FIRST MAILING MAILING COMMENTS ON MEMBER'S PUBLICATIONS

OR

HOW I AM GOING TO FILL UP THE NEXT FEW PAGES.

I wonder if anyone else thought of doing this? Will I be the only one? Or will I be only one of ten? We shall see. At any rate, like I said above, I'm going to talk about what the members of this organization have done up to now in their publishing efforts. Maybe I'll finish up the next four pages with this. Maybe not. But, onward!

GALACTIC OUTPOST #1 (Richie Benyo) I sent a quarter, or what ever it was, to Richie mainly on the recommendations of Paul Gilster, a fan who lives very close to me. Also because Buck Coulson had seemed to almost half like it when he reviewed it in YANDRO. I must admit however, that upon getting the thing and reading it, I wasn't overly impressed.

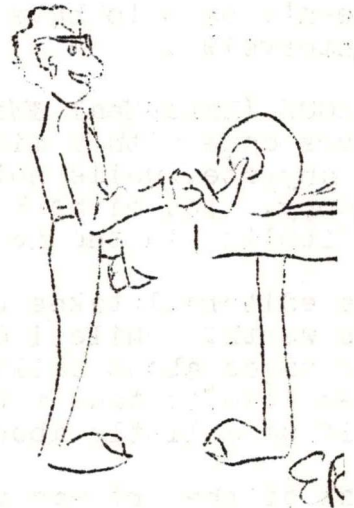
The cover was...well, like I said, very unimpressive. The drawing itself wasn't very well done, and I dislike the idea of having the contents advertised on the cover. It serves no purpose. A fanzine isn't interested in attracting readers with it's cover, like the prozines. It's only purpose is to make the 'zine more attractive, and lettering of this type doesn't do this.

As for textual material, not much of it was of too much interest to me. None of it was bad, with the possible exception of the Flying Zombies, which I was never quite sure about. I felt there was quite a bit of promise, but that's about all: promise. "Next issue," I thought to myself. It seemed to me that Rich might have a bit more of an idea what was going on by then.

In the next issue, I found my hated cover lettering still there, with interest, if anything. The drawing itself seemed less messy this time, however.

This time a bit of the promise was fulfilled. The story by Phil Dick, while not very good for Phil Dick, was pretty good for a fanzine. For the most part, the Really Good issues of GO appeared still to be in the future. The letter column was horrible this issue. Not only did the letter writers have nothing to say, but Richie had nothing to say, too, and said it anyway.

A Special issue! Well, it was special in the sense that it was the first issue to use lettering guides all the way though. And in that the cover, while not too well drawn, wasn't crowded to one side by

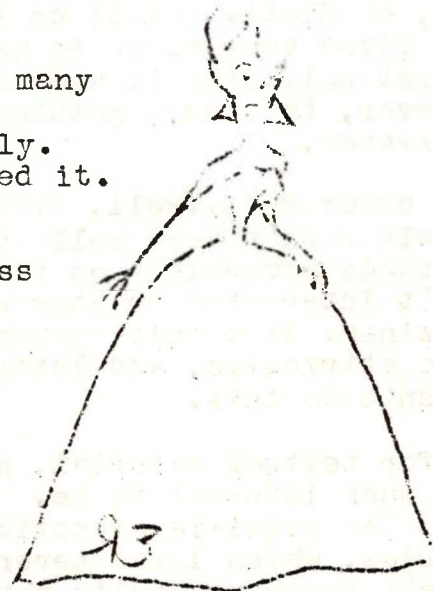


a column of type. But the main contents..a long story by Mr. Benyo.. almost put me to sleep. I'm sorry I didn't like it. Maybe I was in a bad mood when I started it (I never did finish it.). The Germ-That Grew was interesting, however, and the layout and repro was very good.

Then came #4. The cover was very..well, attractive. Very nice. The contents were pretty good, however, they all seemed much too short. A long interesting article could have been written around Poul Anderson's series. Instead, a page was given to it. HIEROGLYPHICS was as short as I've seen something like this, and it seems that Mr. Benyo recieved enough mail to make it longer, he just edited each letter to a bare fragment. EARTHISM, Paperbacks In Reveiw, and Richie's fanzine reviews all were alright.

#5, another special issue, also seemed to have many features that ended before they really began. THE DUNGEONS OF FE wasn't one of these, happily. This one didn't put me to sleep. I rather liked it. The Sword Speacks was. The opening paragraphs were all right--would have been alright, if he had gone on to say anything. I couldn't be less interested in anything than I am in Mr. Bing's Germ That Grew, I'm sorry to say. Miss Norton doesn't seem to have said very much in her 'interveiw'.

BEACON (Dave Heal & Woods) Is that cover of yours done with a mimigraph?? Or a steno? At anyrate, while not Great Art, it's not sloppy. You might have done without the scribbling in the Lower left.



The editorail takes up more room than it was worth. While I don't recommend rambling for pages about childhood memories, it does seem that you might have been able to take a bit more room (that one page, at least) and told us a little about yourself, and your publication.

Most of the art was very good (want to do some for me?), and the repro, considering that you used a steno, was out of this world. The book reviews were all right, Heal's being the better of the two. John, I don't think you need quote anyone else, just tell us what you think.

The story was all right, while nothing really Great.

I can do without anymore "SF Profiles" What was the idea, anyway?? I might be albe to draw that well, if I tried real hard. Or was it suppose to be funny. Ha Ha.

The Marsly Menace didn't interest me too much. The poll is too complex.

It would take me a day to come up with some off those answers.

ATHEISM AND FREE LOVE #1 (Krusske) I thought that a Quad letter would be better while we were still getting things started...but we are now started, and I think the Round robin will be speedy enough.

MICKEY (Krusske) I didn't have too much to say about this when I commented on it in N'APA, and I still don't. One thing I thought surprising was the worth Of Mr. David Patrick's story.

THE WANDERER (Pete Jackson) I think this fanzine's main value, like the first few issues of GO, lies in it's future, in it's promise. It is very readable as far as reproduction goes, and almost un-readable in some places as far as the writing goes. I'm still waiting for the cover to this issue.

Gosh, Haven't I been just horribly Cruel and Frank and Mean? Really, I didn't intend to be. I shall expect the same from you people. Come on, get even.

Have I forgotten anyone? Most likely. But, then, I don't have all of all you people's publications, either.

I watched television tonight. Watched the new "Outer Limits" . Perhaps it's too soon to tell, but it seems to have taken a few turns for the better. Last year they had so much sound effects you couldn't hear the actors speaking most of the time. This year that doesn't seem to be the case. Last year they gave us one horrible monster after another. On this show, at least, the monster was a bit more subtle. We shall see. Another show I have watched a few times is the thing called VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA. Ha, Ha. It was very funny. On the first one, a bunch of skin divers fought a thing made out of rubber and that had a bunch of arms or something and didn't fight back. It was sort of interesting, though. Adventure on the level of the average comic book, I should think.

I'm afraid to watch "The Munsters", "The Adams Family", or that thing about the witch that married this guy or something. I just know it would turn my stomach.

ART CREDITS, which I forgot to put on my first page: everything but the cover is by

Liz Riggs, "ER"

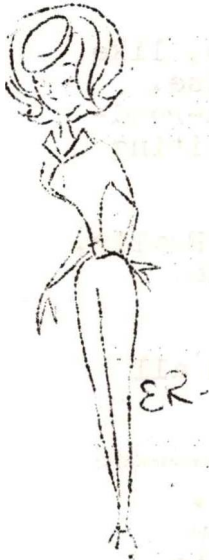
and the cover is by Gary Hubbard:"SMOCK"

Why does he sign it "SMOCK"? Good question. Gary, why do you sign your work "SMOCK"?



EARTING SHOTS

In the front of this thing you may have noticed the words, "Roger Alan Cox, who is co-editor of STARLING may have a few things to say in A., and if he does, you will be able to tell by the sign which will say "by Roger Alan Cox"." Now, looking through this thing you will find that he didn't have a few things to say. Furthur, if you will turn to STARLING, you will find that Roger is no longer listed as a co-editor. The reasons for this you will find in my editorial in that publication. They are, simply, that Roger never was a co-editor, really, and I don't see any reason he should be listed as such. Call him a regular contributor, if you wish.



Back when I still thought of Roger as a co-editor, I thought perhaps he might want to write something for this publication, too. But..now..I think I'll just write the whole thing by myself.

Miss Liz Riggs, who has much art work in this issue, is a student at Parkway Sr. High, which I also attend, thus explaining my contact with her. She can draw quite well, and I think some of the things in this issue should come out well enough to prove this. If not, well, I'll try again. I hope the cartoon of me working with the mimeo comes out. I would hate to have all you good people out there miss that.

She is a non-fan, reading little else than nurse novels, or so it seems. But, then, we all have our little faults. Me, I can't draw. She is going to be reading this, so maybe I should be watching what I write. But, then, I always do. I can't type without watching my copy.

I don't know how many times in the last few weeks I have been asked, "What are your plans for STARLING?". I have a little space left, and nothing better to write about, so I might as well tell you.

In the way of general policy, I don't plan to have one, other than to publish things that interest me, and hopefully, will interest other people. I will not support one opinion over another to the point of not allowing contributors or letter writers to take one which does not agree with my own. I may take a stand in my editorials but anyone may argue. There will be no "official policy".

In the way of specifics, next issue I plan to publish my own and Roger Cox's book review, my editorial, as long as a letter column as possible, one fiction, and a short one at that, and one non-fiction, also a short one. I hope to make next issue mostly letters. I have almost enough on hand now to do that. But I need more. Write.
Hank Luttrell