

# The Jot 'Em Down Journal

Official Publication of  
The National Lum and Abner Society



Christmas 1989

# EDITOR'S NOTE

Due to some sort of delay in the postal system, some copies of our October issue were very much past due when they were delivered ( they were mailed on Oct. 4, but some of them took over a month to reach their destination ).

If for some reason you never received an issue for October, please let us know. We do not have many extra copies left, but if they should run out, we will extend your membership by an extra month as compensation. Thanks for your understanding.

( Incidentally, this issue is being mailed on December 4, and hopefully it will reach you before Christmas!)

## The Golden Era

by Gary Stivers



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# THE JOT 'EM DOWN JOURNAL

## Christmas 1989

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THE NATIONAL LUM AND ABNER  
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Cover illustration depicting a  
 scene from the 1953 Lum and  
 Abner Christmas program;  
 drawn especially for this issue  
 by Prez Uncle Donnie Pitchford.

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### In This Issue:

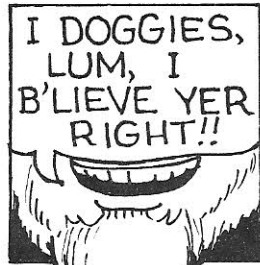
LUM & ABNER AND THE CHRISTMAS TREE.....2  
 A comic-book rendition of the 1953  
 Christmas show

AND NOW.....9  
 What's going on around the country.

(Our regular features, such as "The Many  
 Faces Of..." will return in the February  
 issue, as well as a new series of articles,  
 "Lum & Abner & Their Sponsors"!)



**RING  
RING  
RING**

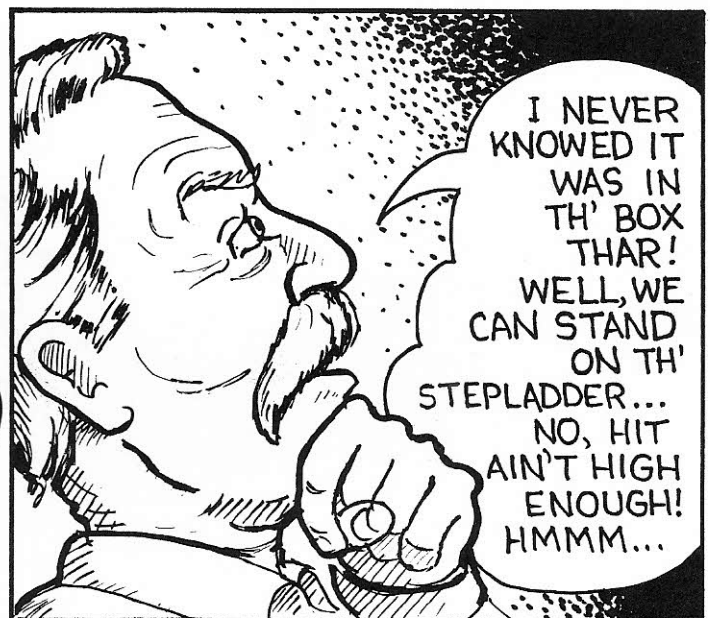
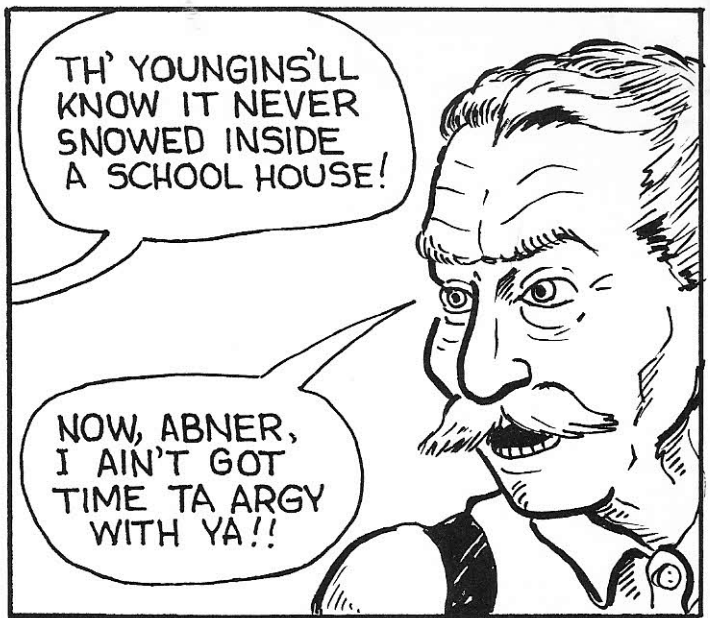
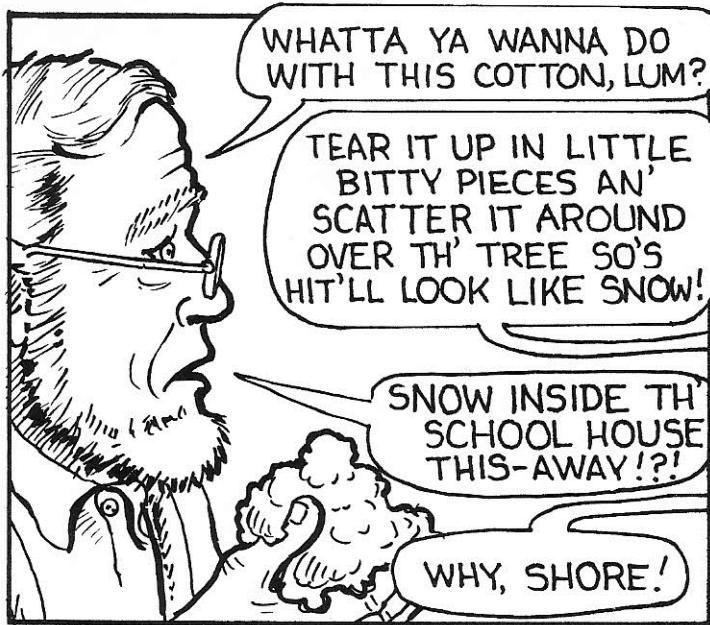


THIS  
IS

# LUM AND ABNER®



PITCHFORD '89





WELLLL, MERRY CHRISTMAS, GENTLEMEN, MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

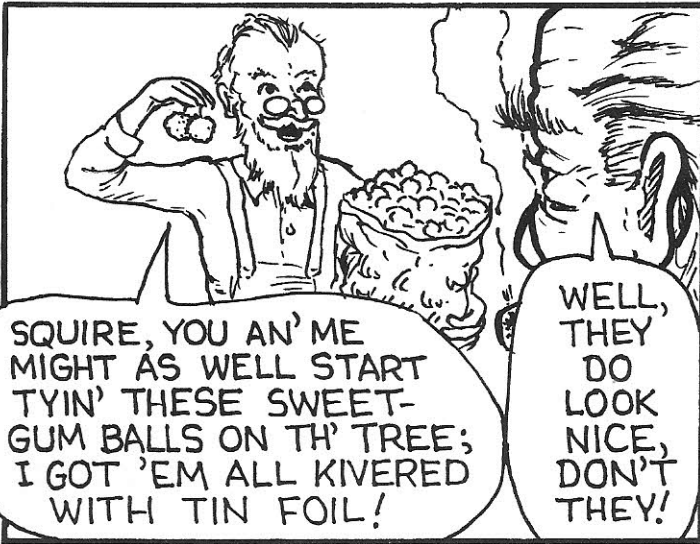
COME IN, SQUIRE, COME IN!!



LUM, THIS WAS A GREAT IDEA YOU HAD, PUTTIN' ON A CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE CHILDREN!

WELL, I'M JIST GLAD O' THE CHANCE! YOUNGINS IS THE MOST IMPORTANCE THING THIS TIME O' YEAR!

YES!



SQUIRE, YOU AN' ME MIGHT AS WELL START TYIN' THESE SWEET-GUM BALLS ON TH' TREE; I GOT 'EM ALL KIVERED WITH TIN FOIL!

WELL, THEY DO LOOK NICE, DON'T THEY!



Whoop Whoop

OOPS! PARDON ME, ABNER!



SAY, WHO'S GONNA ACT AS SANTA CLAUS, LUM?



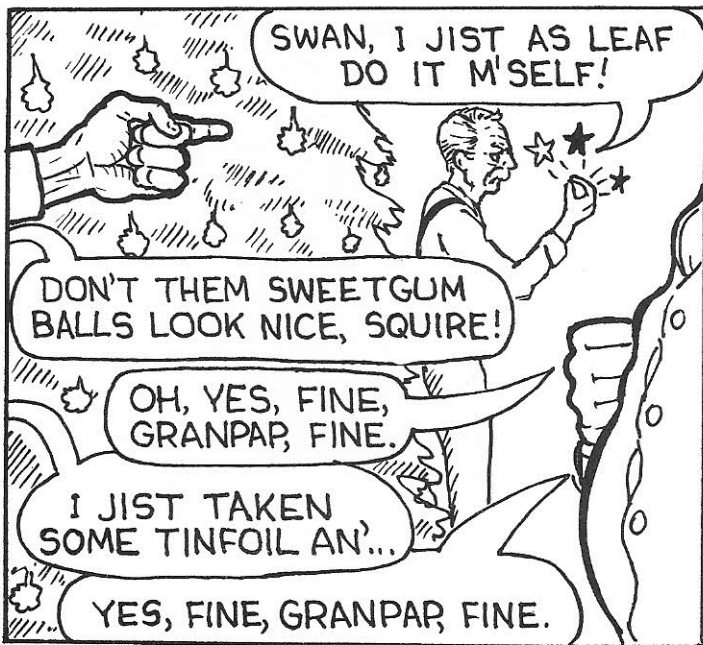
WELL, I RECKON I-

CRUNCH

OOOH! FER GOODNESS SAKES!! GIT OFFA MY FINGER, ABNER!!



GIT YER HAND OFF THE STEP, THERE! THEM STEPS IS FER FEETS!!!



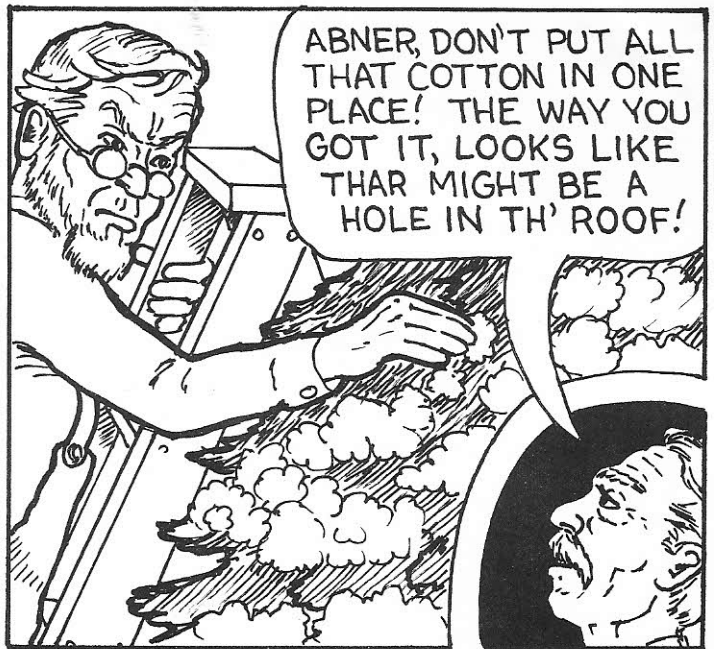
SWAN, I JIST AS LEAF DO IT M'SELF!

DON'T THEM SWEETGUM BALLS LOOK NICE, SQUIRE!

OH, YES, FINE, GRANPAR, FINE.

I JIST TAKEN SOME TINFOIL AN'...

YES, FINE, GRANPAR, FINE.



ABNER, DON'T PUT ALL THAT COTTON IN ONE PLACE! THE WAY YOU GOT IT, LOOKS LIKE THAR MIGHT BE A HOLE IN TH' ROOF!



GRANNIES, I GOTTA BE GITTIN' OVER HOME D'RECTLY AN' GIT THAT SANNY CLAUS OUTFIT ON!



I'M OUTTA COTTON LUM!

THAT'S ALL THEY AIR! COME ON DOWN AN' I'LL PUT YE TA DOIN' SOMETHIN' ELSE!



UH, GRANPAR, TAKE THOSE GUMBALLS-



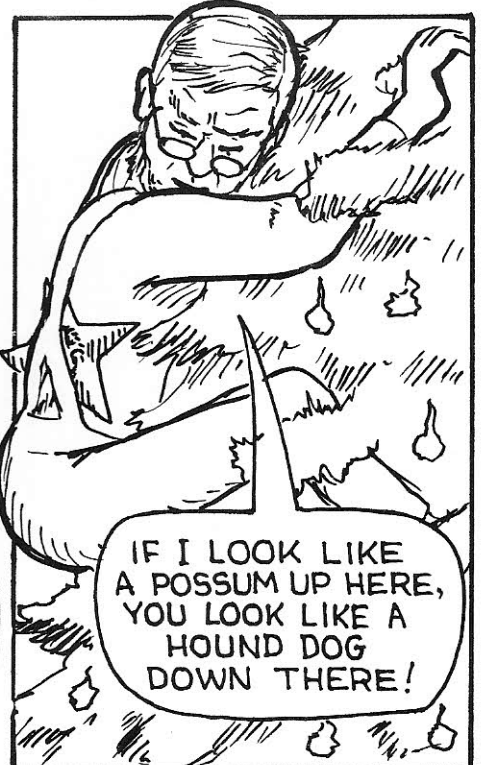
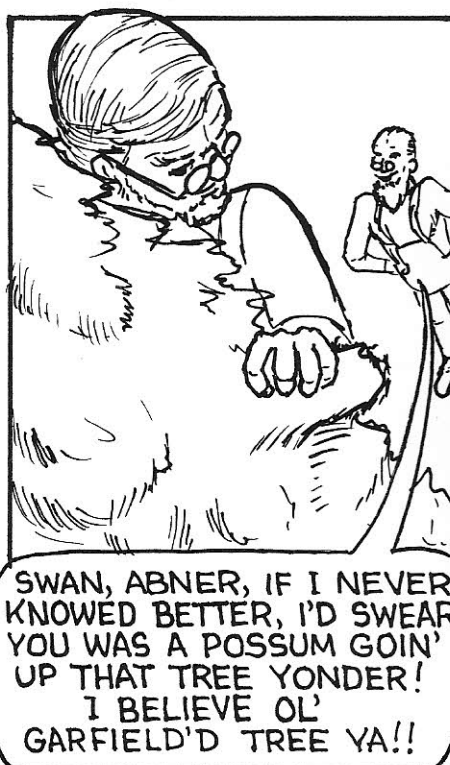
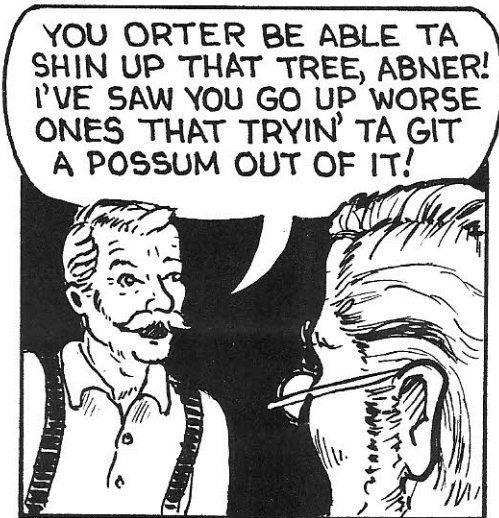
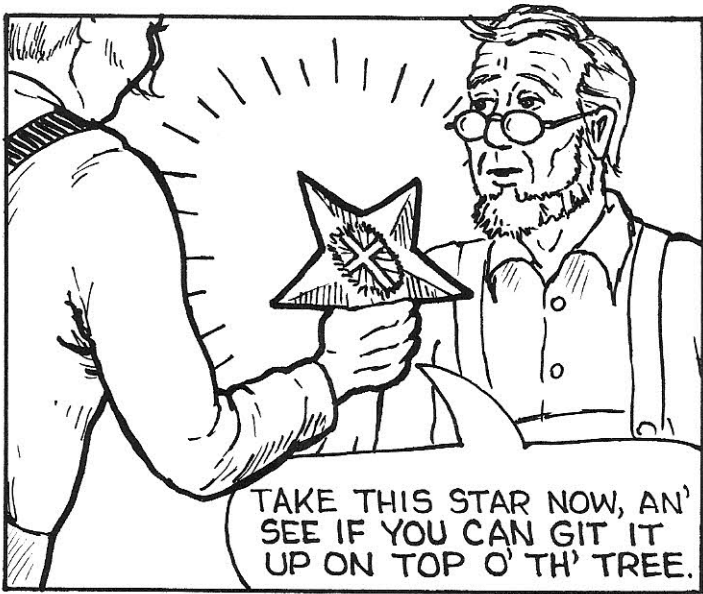
'SCUSE ME! I WARN'T LOOKIN'!



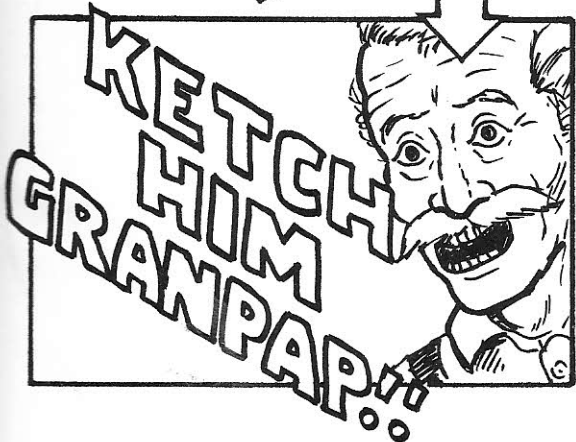
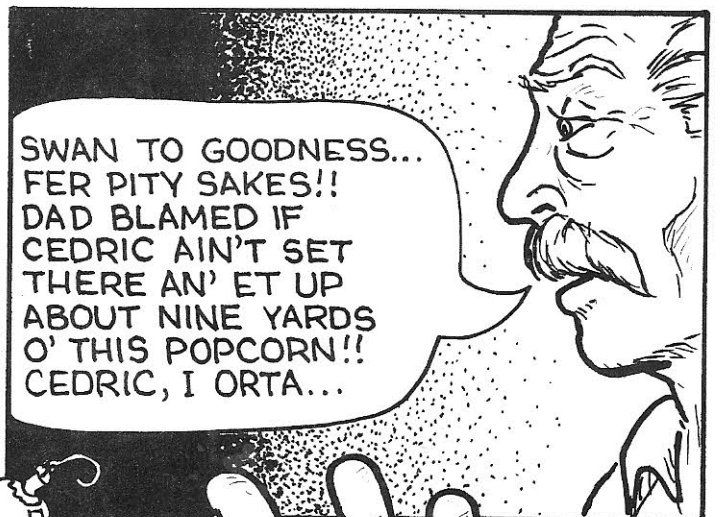
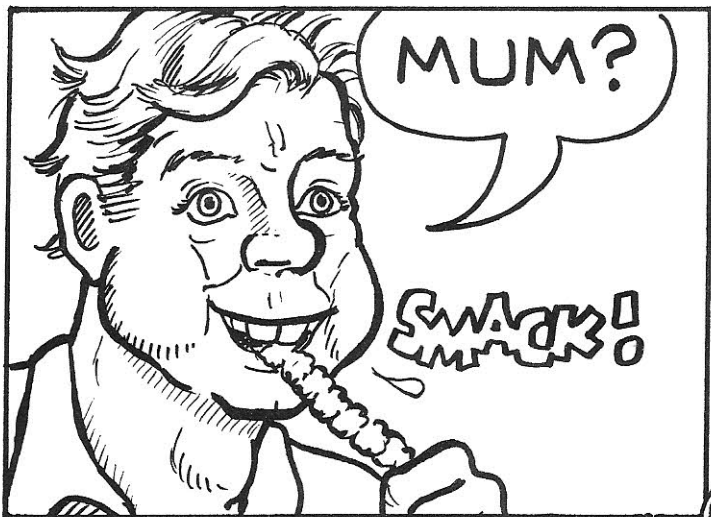
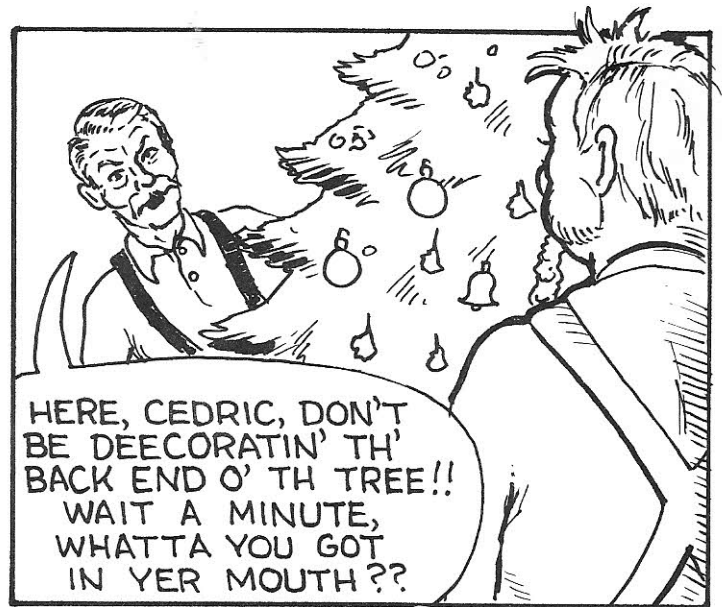
**STOMP!**  
**OOH!** FER GOODNESS SAKES! WATCH WHERE YER STEPPIN'!!

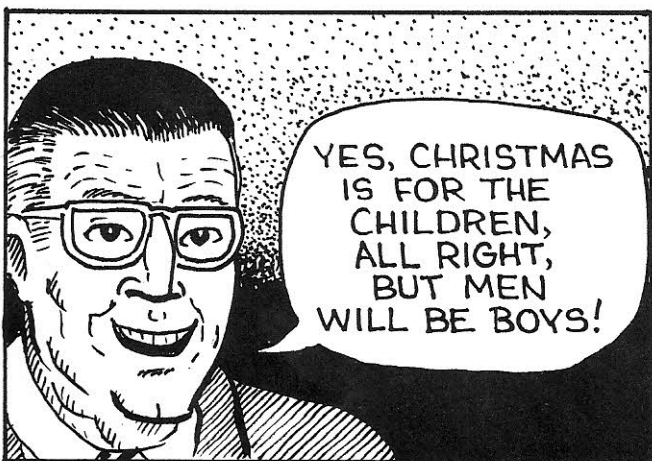
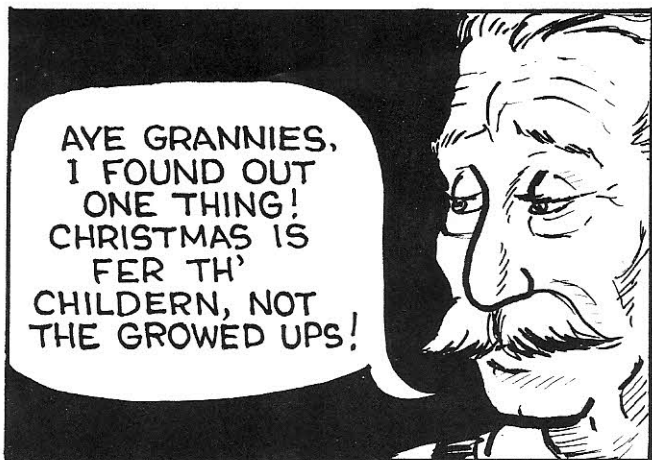


YOU GOT BOTH MY HANDS NOW! I HOPE YER SATISFIED!









# “AND NOW...”

...let's see what's going on in 1989 in the "wonderful world" of Lum and Abner!

In past years, we have kept you informed of the activities of Southern Illinois' own version of "Lum and Abner and Cedric", those faithful impersonators, Ed Frost, Kurt Jensen and Sam Brown! In conjunction with Mack's Superfoods in Marion, Illinois, and WGGH Radio, the station that carries Lum and Abner in that area, these three gentlemen again trod the boards bedecked in the garb of our three old friends.

Happily, Ed Frost, who was unable to portray his part of Lum in last year's festivities, was able to reunite with his longtime partner Kurt Jensen (Abner) to perform as the "grand finale" float in the Big Lakes Country Festival Parade on October 7th. The duo rode down Main Street of Marion in a horse driven wagon with Mack Janes, owner of Mack's Superfoods. This was Ed and Kurt's fifth appearance at this annual event. The fact that Ed once met Chet Lauck in person, plus the fact that both men are longtime purists who corresponded with Mr. Lauck, gives their portrayal of Lum and Abner an air of authenticity.

Later, Ed and Kurt were joined by NLAS vice-president "Singin' Sam" Brown, who made his second appearance as Cedric Weehunt. The trio did "spotted 'nouncements" on WGGH, leading up to a stage appearance at the Big Lakes Country Festival Gospel Jubilee. Appearing on the bill with other local groups was Lulu Roman Smith of Hee Haw fame. Lulu has been on the popular TV show since its beginning in 1968. Although Lulu claimed no knowledge of Lum and Abner, serious fans of Hee Haw know the living link between Grandpa Jones and Lum and Abner; plus in 1968, country music singer Ferlin Husky did some Lum and Abner routines on the show.

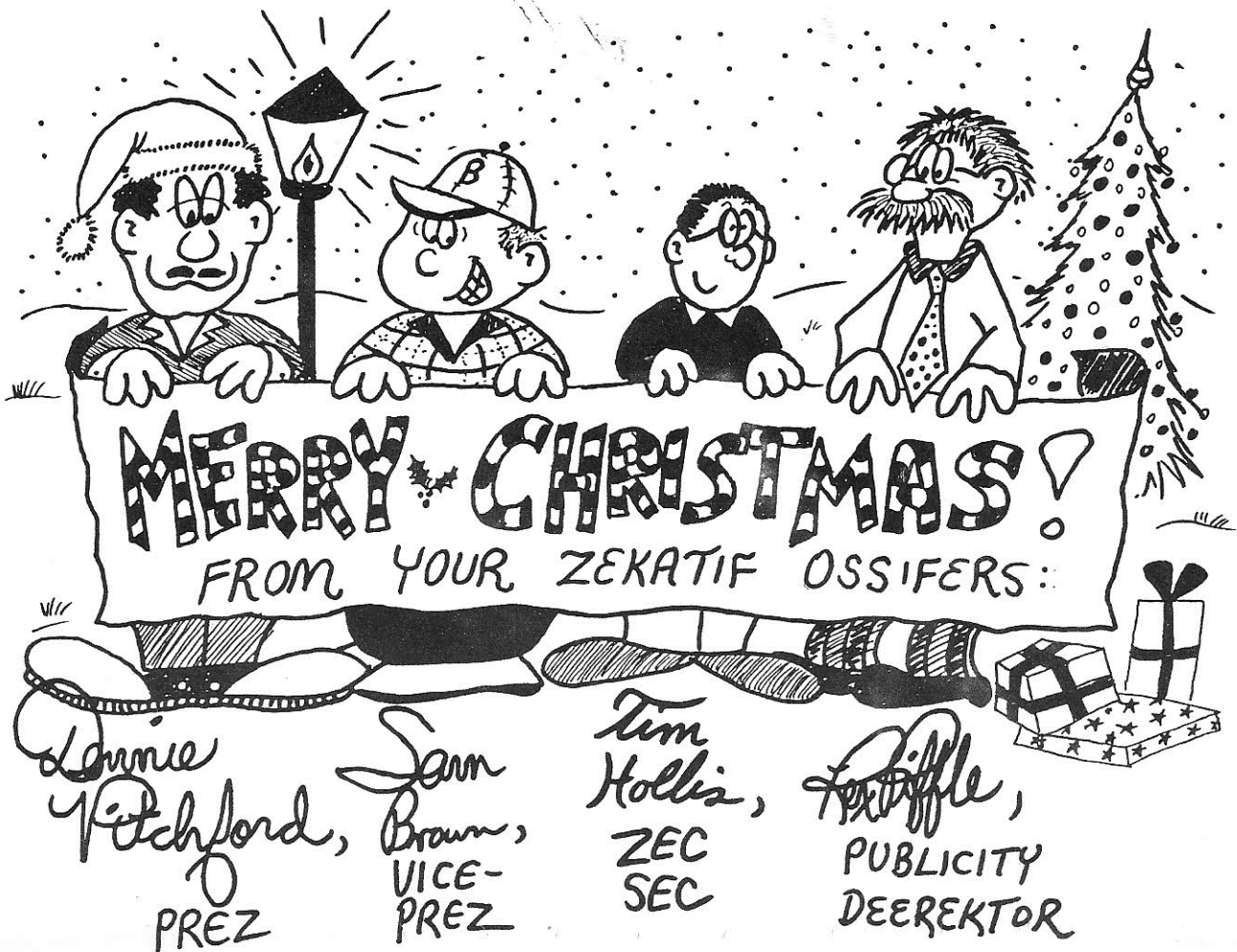


During a casual moment, "Lum" Frost was happy to find himself being asked by a group of seven to eight young teens about his "rocketship", which is the current L&A series being run on WGGH (where new schoolteacher Professor Sloane convinces L&A to help build and man a rocket flight to Mars!). Both Ed and Kurt were encouraged to see another generation of Lum and Abner fans on the way up! And so are we...maybe they'll be the NLAS members of the future!

Aunt Laura and I extend our most heartfelt wishes to all the members of the NLAS during this holiday season. Many thanks to Kurt Jensen for supplying 99% of this article, even though he did write it with his "stub of a pencil" on the "back of a old en-vellup" (just kidding!). God bless you all, and have a Merry Christmas and the happiest of new years!

— Uncle Donnie Pitchford





ABOVE: UNPUBLISHED DRAWING BY TIM HOLLIS, ORIGINALLY PREPARED FOR THE CHRISTMAS 1985 ISSUE OF THE JOT'EM DOWN JOURNAL



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*Merry Christmas*