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N3F

# *The National Fantasy Fan*

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# The President's Message

From our New President Chris Garcia



I got this email from Madame President (I mean, ex-President) Ruth Davidson today. "Chris, Congratulations! You're now the new President of N3F!"

Wow. I never thought. . . I mean, who ever thinks they'll get to be the president of an organization that has

a history as long and as varied as that of the N3F. I mean, I've known of the N3F for decades, since my Pops had his collection of fanzines that he'd let me read. I knew that Art Widner had published an article by Damon Knight that became the basis for the club, that many great fan names like Ackerman, Franson and DeVore had all been members. Wow, I'm President of one of those long-standing traditions in fandom. As a working historian, it's pretty obvious that history means a lot to me, so this was doubly nice.

Of course, there's the matter that I'm now President and have to, you know, do stuff. That's always the hard part. Like Robert Redford hanging his head after winning the election in *The Candidate*, I kinda have to ask myself 'What do we do now?' Fortunately, I've got an answer for that. We keep up the good work. Ruth did a magnificent job as President and started a process, along with Jon Swartz, to gather, document and present the history of the N3F to our wonderful members. I'm fully behind continuing said project and bringing as much of the N3Fs history to you, our loyal members. I'm sure I'll be writing a lot more about the history of the N3F in these messages in the future, and anyone who has materials or those great stories that most of us fan-types carry with us should let us know and we'll make sure your piece is plugged in. It's all important.

There's always the matter of bringing in new members and keeping the ones we al-

ready have renewing. That's a tricky matter, but it's also one that I think we can tackle with success if we just think about where the potential members are and what the N3F has to offer them. It's making that connection that will help the most and I'm always thinking about matters like that. Then

again, larger memberships are only useful if those new members become active members.

I've had a hope that the N3F could put together a series of guides to the current world of fandom. The N3F has done guides before, but with the Web enabling faster communications and easier updating along with the shift of fanac to the electronic space, I think we can make great strides in helping folks fully understand what's out there for them. There's nothing I'd like more than to better connect our loyal N3F members to the whole of fandom and what it has available. Easily up-datable guides to what's out there in fanzines, cons, costuming, etc would make the N3F a more attractive group for all members of fandom. It's something that I'm thinking about and would love to hear people's opinions on.

And so, that's what I've got. What've you got for me? If you're sitting there with ideas, concepts, recipes for stews, hopes and possible N3F activities, send them my way. Garcia@computerhistory.org. I promise you I'll think on everything that comes my way.

I'm the President, but the important ones are you folks who are members. You're the ones who define what the N3F means and does. We've all got ideas and I think we're in a position to do some great things.

# "BIG HEARTED" HOWARD DEVORE'S MEMORIAL

MAY 26, 1925 – DECEMBER 31, 2005



From firstfandom.org

*From Howard DeVore's friend and caregiver  
Joyce Wheaton*

## HOWARD'S WORDS OF WISDOM

Don't hit women or dogs.

Be frugal, very frugal. Another man's trash can fill up all of your empty spaces.

Walk softly and carry a gun.

Always make them question your sanity.

If your neighbors aren't talking about you, you're doing something wrong.

When in doubt don't throw it out.

I met Howard DeVore when I came to work for him, taking care of his wife. His wife was a little old lady in a wheel chair. Aptly named Sybil, she had her moments. If she was mad or not thinking right, she would think nothing of grabbing any weapon she could get her hands on and try to kill Howard if she thought she could get away with it. The situation was challenging to say the least. Sometimes I think Howard learned his great patience from putting up with all the drama.

Anyway, a few years after Howard's wife passed on I started helping take care of him after he had a massive heart attack. Even on the day he had the heart attack, you couldn't faze him. Before leaving for the hospital, he decided to pack his bags, finish the fanzine that he had been working on, call his daughter to drive him to the hospital, smoke extra cigarettes and then get on with the hospital stay. He was a stubborn one there is no doubt. He was the sort of person who was just always there. It seemed he would always be there.

Howard's greatest joys in life were to save money and collect as many things as possible. Another man's trash will fill your house to

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This issue was completed on 03/16/06. The editor for this issue was Ruth R. Davidson. The editor for the next issue is Bob Sabella 24 Cedar Manor Ct. Budd Lake NJ 07828; bsabella@optonline.net. Please send your submissions and questions to him or the Editorial Cabal bureau head. **All opinions herein are those of the writers and do not reflect the opinions of the staff or other members of N3F except where so noted.** SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS MAY 15, 2006. E-mail accepted by arrangement only! This zine is to be published quarterly in March, June, and December through volunteer effort.

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the rafters if done correctly. Howard knew every garbage day for miles around. Off we would go, stopping traffic if necessary to grab up whatever was salvageable. We had to keep the back seat out of the van so we'd have lots of room for more stuff. "Joyce jump out and grab that TV will ya?. We can test it when we get home". To his way of thinking, there was no job too big or too small for me to do if he decided it needed doing! I think nothing pissed him off more than when he could not get out anymore to collect things.

"Hey Joyce", I would hear a hundred times a day, as Howard had things he remembered and jokes and gossip to tell. I miss his twisted sense of humor. It seemed we were kindred souls even despite the age gap. I remember Howard telling his little great granddaughter to shove her little brother out in front of Bigfoot should he ever appear, and then to run like heck right out of there. She was considering this advice for a time and decided her brother was not expendable. Good girl. Some advice came with a twist as to what was the logical thing to do.

I lost my biological father last year but the tears that I cried for him were nothing like the ones I cried for Howard DeVore. His daughters and grand kids were lucky to have a wonderful dad/granddad like they did. I saw Howard in a dream last night. He was right there smiling at me, with no oxygen tanks in sight. I was shocked to see him, but then he smiled and it was ok. I guess that means he is at peace. Good bye my friend. Till we meet again.

*From Susan Van Schuyver*

I met Howard DeVore by way of a letter correspondence when I became the Directorate Chair in the early 1990's. He wrote to me to explain how he mailed out the copies of the zine, the bulk mailing system, labels, and so on. He said that I needed to know all the details in case he could not mail out an issue since he wasn't a young man anymore. (Of



You got to just love that smile!

course, he lived at least 10 more years!) To say that the letter was slightly odd or eccentric would be appropriate. He wrote to me several times that winter and each letter included a story or anecdote, most of which were about things that he did to people who crossed him. None were serious threats, but I wasn't sure how to take them anyway. Finally, I wrote Bill Center and said basically--"Should I be scared or concerned about this guy?" Bill assured me that Howard was a good guy with an interesting sense of humor.

Over the years, I learned that was true. Howard was more than a good guy--I think he would have done anything for his family and friends. And he did have a fascinating sense of humor! I wish now that I had kept all his letters and postcards with those anecdotes. They would have been great to include in this issue. I valued his pen pal friendship and thoroughly enjoyed his letters. He was such a loyal member of N3F and fandom. I have missed him over the past couple of years.

*From David Speakman*

I was first introduced to Howard DeVore when I first joined N3F back in 1984 The man who was so devoted to fandom and fan-nish pursuits was among the "elders" who ushered me as a young neofan through my fanling stages of blunders and ignorance.



Although I didn't get to know Howard as well as I thought I would have (time is way too fleeting), I did learn much from his examples. These lessons include:

1. Always volunteer when you have time and no one else has the skill to get the job done.

2. Always volunteer to help others learn your skills if they want to learn them.

3. Always accept people for who they are and assume they mean well and give them the benefit of the doubt (even when you don't want to).

4. Being from the Midwest is something to boast about.

And, sadly, the final lesson. DO NOT wait to try make someone a better friend or thank them for the positive influence they had on you. My one consolation is that when someone has a heart as big as Howard's, they send out waves of positive influence. Those waves will affect his blood relatives for generations. As a member of for his extended fannish N3F family, I know we also will be awash in the waves of Howard's influence well into the future.

*From Ruth R. Davidson*

I remember Howard being one of those guys who didn't mind questions. It made me, as a neo-fan, feel like it was okay to ask. I always valued his input and sat straighter in my chair when I got an email from him, whether it be to the group, or personal.

He was loyal to N3F, and served as Distributor of the club zine, and as Election Teller for many years. When his health seriously began to fail him, he gave up those duties. Soon after he said he stayed in N3F out of a sense of loyalty but felt useless to the club since he wasn't doing anything for it anymore; and wasn't going to be renewing because of that and finances.

The N3F Yahoo!Group was quickly flooded with YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE! We're going to keep you no matter what!

Thus, people donated money for Howard's continued Neffer status (we had wanted to make him a LIFE member, but couldn't because the constitution & bylaws forbade it; however the members made him anyway!). From that came the N3F Angel Fund. People who donate a certain amount of funds for Neffers to renew in times of dire financial need that prevents a beloved Neffer from renewing.

I wish I had gotten the chance to meet him and to get to know him better.

Ad Astra Oh Great Big Hearted One!

I'll see you when I get there, and we'll have plenty of time to get to know each other.

## A BIT OF A BIOGRAPHY

I feel a little inadequate writing this, since I've not known Howard nearly as long as others. So, I went hunting on the internet and found all sorts of info. Since I'll be filching from all these other sources and a story or two from people (I'm still in the process of composing this as we speak) I'll be citing my sources (college really was good for something).

Howard, I hope I do right by you.

—Ruth R. Davidson

This is straight from Howard himself about his beginnings in his bio on livejournal.com (and probably written better than what I would have done to boot):

"Born in Illinois in 1925, moved to Detroit at 6 months, moved back to Illinois in 1930 because of the depression, lived on a series of farms, went to a one-room schoolhouse, lived in a log cabin "tenant farmer quarters" in a very small town. My father made a living by whatever means was necessary, including making moonshine and stealing coal. Moved back to Detroit in 1934, lived in a series of houses that are now considered ghettos, though we didn't know it then. . . was quite poor until I quit school at the age of 16, have been employed in various construction trades, auto factories, and was crazy enough to work for the Post Office



for 22 years.

Been retired 14 years, now. . . in poor health and I've already lived far longer than I expected to. Having lived this long I have no fear of dying."

([www.livejournal.com/users/bighoward](http://www.livejournal.com/users/bighoward))

Young "Howie", as his flight jacket proclaims, was a ball turret gunner on a B-17, flying wartime bomb runs over Germany with the 8th Air Force.

Where did the nickname Big-Hearted come from anyway? From the mouth of Howard himself:

"The 'Big-Hearted Howard' name I started myself. . . I, Roger, and Agnes Harook were all in SAPS for a while -- I had talked Agnes into joining. I was the only one with a mimeograph, and I was doing all the work. Agnes would cut a few stencils, and she would leave very wide margins. So after she turned the stencils over to me to print, I would proceed to add comments down the margins of her stencils -- about how nice I was, about how big-hearted I was for doing all this. Then, at some point, I admitted that there wasn't any Agnes, and I was carrying two memberships under different names. This upset Agnes -- she at least wanted to get credit for what she was doing. So, next time she brought the stencils, she waited while I printed them, and then took the finished pages with her to mail them to the Official Editor. At that point, I ran off a cover with my comments, mailed it off to the OE and said we'd forgot to put a cover on Aggie's fanzine, and would he staple it on? Two or three weeks later, the SAPS mailing came and here was a new cover on her fanzine. . . ."

A really spiffy and intelligent thing that Howard did was to start the Hugo, Nebula, and World Fantasy Awards complete listings. He was nominated for a Hugo as a nonfiction author for Best Related Book in 1999.

"In 1970 long-time fan Howard DeVore started publishing a complete listing of Hugo and Nebula awards, including the stories that

were nominated but did not win. The fact that stories were nominated implied that they had considerable merit. Mr. DeVore felt that a complete listing would let fans compare them. The International Fantasy Awards may have inspired the Hugos, so he added them. DeVore brought out new editions year by year, publishing and distributing them himself with the aid of a number of devoted science fiction fans. By 1998 the task had grown to the point where Mr. DeVore happily relinquished the job to Advent." (<http://www.nesfa.org/press/Books/Advent/DeVore-1.htm>)

Also, for fun, he created various business cards for himself, and for a few select friends. Some of the humor is low (a warning for the faint of heart), but they are quite spiffy. Since they are best seen as large images you'll just have to visit the site that has a bunch of samples (yes, Howard really did keep these!).

I think one of my favorites is:

"Flat Earth Society "We stand Four Square for progress."" ([http://fanac.org/Fan\\_Artifacts/d01-p00.html](http://fanac.org/Fan_Artifacts/d01-p00.html))

He was a bit of a trickster, but the loveable kind. I don't know how he made that work, but it seemed like everyone was cool with Howard's love of jokes.

But, when it came down to it, Howard was one of those people that you wanted on YOUR side. He'd stand up for you, rage over injustices, and pretty much be what a true friend should be.

## HIS FANNISH ROLES

This is mostly like NOT a complete list. I bet with someone as involved with Fandom as Howard that it'd be impossible to make a complete list, and to even scratch the surface of the great impact he had made on fellow fans.

The Big Heart had been a member of N3F since January 1950. The club was only nine years old! I'm not sure if there were any lapses in that membership, however, I don't



think it matters. He was a beloved Neffer and fellow fan to the end.

He was also active in First Fandom. And he really was one of the first. He became active in Fandom in 1948, and actually was aware of Fandom long before he became active! (I really do encourage you to read the banter between Howard, Lynn and Roger, it's full of hilarity and interesting stuff:

[http://jophan.org/mimosa/m10/m10\\_p25.htm](http://jophan.org/mimosa/m10/m10_p25.htm))

Starting in about 1938, DeVore accumulated an extensive collection of fannish culture and science fiction-related artifacts and publications. In his later years, as his health was in decline, he donated original and electronic copies of much of his collection to various science fiction-themed archives.

1948-1980 Member of Michigan Science-Fantasy Society (MSFS), The Misfits, (picking a date for the end of MSFS is difficult, as the group slowly mutated from active fanac to a bowling league).

1950-2005 Attended every single Midwestcon since its inception. His wake was held at Midwestcon.

1952-2005 Active member and sometime Official Editor (OE) of the Spectator Amateur Press Society (SAPS), an Amateur press association. Also an active member of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association (FAPA) and the Pulp Era Amateur Press Society (PEAPS).

1959 Worldcon, Detention. Concom, Head of Publicity. "There will be a Worldcon in Detroit over my dead body."

1966 Worldcon, Tricon, a joint bid by Cleveland (where it was held), Detroit, and Cincinnati. Howard was Associate Chairman for Detroit.

1966-1968 one of the founders of Marcon. Fan Guest of Honor in 1975.

1971 Fan Guest of Honor at Lunacon.

1974 Fan Guest of Honor at A2 Relax-Con, the zeroth &/or 1st ConFusion. Also Toastmaster in 1999.

1990 Fan Guest of Honor at Windycon.

1996 Fan Guest of Honor at Kubla



The young, very handsome, used book dealer "Big-hearted" Howard DeVore in some of his fannish glory. February 1958.

Khan in Nashville.

2000-2005 Director at Large, Science Fiction Oral History Association.

2004 Inducted into the Detroit Science Fiction Hall of Fame at ConFusion.

2006 Fan Guest of Honor (posthumous) at the 64th World Science Fiction Convention, in Los Angeles, California. His memory will be honored at the convention.

([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howard\\_DeVore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Howard_DeVore))

See ya later Howard! Cheers to the Big Heart, we love you!

### Online Editor's Notes

I don't know why, but when I converted this to .PDF some white space was left on the end of some pages. I did the best I could to fix it without destroying the integrity of the layout. —Ruth R. Davidson, Online Editor.



# Biographies of Prominent Neffers.

By Jon Swartz – N3F Historian

**Howard Devore** [1925- 2005] - Longtime SF fan who, with Donald Franson, produced several editions of their book on SF/fantasy awards, the latest (Hugo, Nebula, and World Fantasy Awards) published by Advent in 1998. He won a Kaymar Award in 1985. Until 2005 he was the Election Results Teller and fanzine mailer for N3F, and also a member of First Fandom. He is scheduled to be the FGoH at the 2006 Worldcon, and was on the ballot for a Neffer Award in 2005 [He is eligible for 2006]. He was also nominated for the First Fandom Hall of Fame in 2005. "Big-hearted" Howard tried to resign his N3F membership in March of 2005, but some of the club's members offered to pay his dues if he would keep his membership. Devore once stated of himself: "Am considered a huckster, 1st class."

**Forrest J. Ackerman** [1916- ] - Forry Ackerman has been widely recognized during his life as an SF/F/H fan, and received the Hugo Award in 1952 as the Number One Fan Personality. His philanthropic contributions to SF fandom are legendary. He is also credited with creating many of the fan terms (Fan Speak) currently in use. At one time he had one of the world's most complete SF collections (and was known as a completist collector), which he housed in the Ackermansion and several garages. Recipient of many fan awards, in 2002 he received a World Fantasy Award for Life Achievement. He is a member of First Fandom, and at the time of this writing (2005) is the only person in the N3F who holds lifetime member status.

**Jacqueling Lichtenberg** [1942- ] - Current member of N3F, now residing in Chandler, Arizona. She won the N3F President's Award

(Franson Award) and the Kaymar Award, both in 2001. She has published several works of SF, beginning with "Operation High Time" for Worlds of If in 1969. Many of her stories, including several of her novels, deal with cross-species relationships. Her most popular novels are in her "Sime/Gen" and "Molt Brothers" sequences.

**Keith Walker** [19xx- ] - British fan who was a member of N3F in the 19xxs. He edited/published several fanzines in England, and compiled The Fanzindex, an index to all fanzines published in England prior to the last quarter of 1974.

**Louis Russell Chauvenet (Russ)** [1920-2003] - Charlottesville, Virginia SF fan who in October 1940 suggested that amateur science fiction publications, then called fanmags or fanags, be called fanzines. He is also credited with creating the term prozine. He was one of the founders of N3F, and at one time in 1944 was – along with Samuel J. (Sam) Russell – the only member of the club in good standing. When he died in 2003 he was also a member of First Fandom.

**David H. Keller, M.D.** (19xx-19xx) was a physician and psychiatrist, and a former life member, whose book, The Sign of the Burning Heart, was published by N3F in 1948)

**Damon Knight** [1922-2002] - After high school Knight, an aspiring artist, was educated at the Oregon WPA Art Center (1940-1941). He was married twice before he married author Kate Wilhelm in 1963. Knight was a free-lance writer and illustrator, editor, and critic for almost all of his life, and was the founding president of the Science Fiction Writers of America and the founding editor of the Science Fiction Writers of America Bulletin (serving from July 1965 until June 1967).

With James Blish and Judith Merril he also founded the Milford Science Fiction Writ-



ers' Conference in 1956 (and, for over twenty years, directed the Conferences), and he later participated in founding the Clarion SF Writers' Workshop (1968). He began his editing career in 1943 with Popular Publication, worked for a while for a literary agency, then returned to Popular Publications and assisted Ejler Jakobsson at Super Science Stories. He left in 1950 to become editor of Worlds Beyond, which was cancelled after only three issues. Knight wrote for television, including Captain Video and His Video Rangers [in 1952], and returned to editing in 1958 [on the SF magazine *If: Worlds of Science Fiction* ], leaving in 1959.

Knight has also published under the pseudonyms Donald Laverty (with James Blish), Ritter Conway, and Stuart Fleming. First SF publication: "Resilience" in *Stirring Science Stories* (February, 1941); First novel: *Hell's Pavement* (Lion, 1955) [later titled *Analogue Men*]; First collection: *Far Out* (Simon & Schuster, 1961). Awards in SF genre: Hugo (Critic), 1956; *Pilgrim*, 1975; *Jupiter* (Short Story) for "I See You" in 1977; *GoH*, World SF Convention, 1980 (Noreascon Two); SFWA Grand Master, 1994; *Retro Hugo* (Short Story) for "To Serve Man" in 2001 (story originally published in 1950); other awards, including posthumous induction into the Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame in 2003 and having the SWFA Grand Master Award named after him.

In 1977 Knight wrote *The Futurians*, a tell-all book about his early days in New York with the SF club that had as its members many subsequent SF greats. Knight was known at the time of his death primarily as a critic, translator, and editor of anthologies. Some of his anthologies were among the best ever produced, and included the *Orbit* series of original anthologies (beginning 1966) [credited with establishing the original publication of short SF in books rather than magazines], the *Nebula Award* series (beginning 1965), *A Century of Science Fiction* (1962), *First Flight* (1963), *A Century of Great Short Science Fiction Novels* (1964), *13 French Science-Fiction Stories*

(1965), *One Hundred Years of Science Fiction* (1968), *The Golden Road* (1974), and *The Clarion Awards* (1984). His *In Search of Wonder* (1956; rev. ed., 1967), an award-winning collection of essays/book reviews, is a critical yet constructive study of the field.

Other related non-fiction works include *Charles Fort, Prophet of the Unexplained* (1970) and *Creating Short Fiction* (1981/revised edition in 1997). Knight also edited *Turning Points: Essays on the Art of Science Fiction* (1977). Early novels were *The People Maker* (1959) [later titled *A For Anything*], *Masters of Evolution* (1959), *Beyond the Barrier* (1964), *The Rithian Terror* (1965), and *Mind Switch* (1965) [later titled *The Other Foot*]. *The Best of Damon Knight*, with an introduction by Barry Malzberg, appeared in 1976.

The November 1976 issue of *F&SF* (#306) was a special Damon Knight issue, with a bibliography of Knight's work up to that time by Vincent Miranda and an appreciation by Theodore Sturgeon. NESFA published *Better Than One* (1980), a book of stories and poems with wife Kate Wilhelm, honoring their appearance as guests of honor at the 1980 Worldcon, and *Late Knight Edition* (NESFA Press, 1985), a book honoring his Guest of Honor appearance at Boskone 22. Other Knight books were the novels *CV* (1985), a sequel, *The Observers* (1989), *A Reasonable World* (1991), and *Why Do Birds?* (1992); and the short story collection *One Side Laughing* (1991). A more recent novel by Knight is *Humpty Dumpty: An Oval* (1996). A new edition of *Nebula Awards One*, edited by Knight and originally published in 1966, appeared in 2001 [dust jacket art by Frank R. Paul]. A small chapbook, *Faking Out the Reader*, was published in 1991 by Pulphouse; and his final book, *Will the Real Hieronymus Bosche Please Stand Up?*, is available on the Internet.

Knight is credited with founding both the N3F and the SFWA.

# REVIEWS

Jon Swartz – Reviews Editor

## Magazing Review

*Realms of Fantasy Magazine*, Shawna McCarthy (Editor) [The Hart Building, 30 W. Third St., Williamsport, PA 17701]

“Think of things dark, and things dangerous. Of mystical lands, and mysterious creatures. Of heroic quests. Summoned spirits. Sorcery and swordplay. Talismans and dragons.”

And you have the largest magazine in the world devoted to fantasy. For the past dozen years *Realms of*

*Fantasy* has been featuring the best in fantasy short fiction. It is a unique and vitally important production that helps to expose new literary talent and new offerings from established writers. For those who are seemingly unable to tear themselves away from their computer games, this magazine may be a waste of time.

But if you are an avid reader of science-fiction/fantasy literature, consider J.R.R. Tolkien, H.P. Lovecraft, and Ann Rice among your favorite authors, like to immerse yourself in such notable series as *Dragonlance*, or *Harry Potter*, and, as a teenager, played a lot of *Dungeons and Dragons*, then *Realms of Fantasy* might just be the magazine for you. Published six times a year, this literary magazine feeds just this ravenous kind of appetite with short stories from new and up-and-coming fan-

tasy writers, along with offerings from more established authors.

In addition to short stories, each issue is filled with great illustrations that spark the imagination. The cover of the magazine is always a good idea of what can be found inside. Each issue runs in the area of 115 pages, and about half of that is advertising and illustrations. The rest of it is dedicated to text. There are full color drawings and photographs throughout.

There are a couple of regular departments in *Realms of Fantasy*. One of the first pages always lists Contributors. This is an incredibly helpful column, which simply lists what authors are being featured in the current issue, and information on their credentials, and other works. Many times, a web address is given if the authors have their own websites. Other columns may include Renaissance Festivals, movie reviews, fantasy gaming, and other role-playing or re-enactment groups.

And there's *Folkroots*, authored by a guest contributor, as a regular column taking an historical, or cultural look at the evolution of various literary devices and genres. These can be how the “changeling” has been a recurring theme in horror literature, or the significance of the stag as a literary device. There is a section for book and game reviews, and a final column called Gallery, which highlights the work of some illustrator or artist.

The main articles of the magazine are short stories from new, or up-and-coming writers. Also included are offerings from more established writers, obviously to help the magazine's circulation. The stories cover just about every aspect of sci-fi, fantasy, horror, mythology, and so on. There are usually five or six stories in each issue, ranging between four and eight pages in length. Some are boring, and some are entertaining, but there is always a good mix.





The December 2005 issue included detailed and in-depth articles on *Harry*

*Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, C.S. Lewis's *Chronicles of Narnia* being made into a new film series, plus book reviews, current findings about our folk roots, and the latest in the fantasy art world. The reader thus gets a wide range of fantasy stories. There could be a sword-n-sorcery story alongside some modern-day fairy tale, or bit of Celtic lore. However, unlike *Fantasy & Science Fiction* and *Asimov's*, the *RoF* covers artwork specifically do not represent any of the stories within it.

Critics of *RoF* have complained about there sometimes not being current updates in their website, and the lack of any kind of forum for giving feedback and networking with others. But, despite these drawbacks, *Realms of Fantasy* is indeed an interesting magazine. And *RoF* shows the reader that the fantasy genre is not just mere swords-and-sorcery.

Wild wizards certainly do battle with decadent demons, while intrepid knights-at-arms pursue difficult and dangerous quests for wealth and power. Bizarre, fantastic scenarios emerge, set in the distant dark ages to the murderous Medieval era to the furthest reaches of the conceivable future. Trenchant swords, gleaming battleaxes and mysterious crystal globes beckon curious adventurers. Alternate realities and new identities eagerly await. But there's way more than that!

The stories are usually quite entertaining, and amply demonstrate that "fantasy" is a very broad realm. There are tales that take place in settings reminiscent of Tolkien's Middle Earth. Others are a milieu of ancient mythology. And there are some that, on the surface, seem quite modern and mundane, until the writer skillfully segues into the twisted, bizarre or supernatural.

*Realms of Fantasy* does indeed demonstrate that the genre is not quite so limited as far too many people think. For those who do enjoy the traditional swords-and-sorcery, dragon slaying, and treasure hunting stories,

these will be found in this magazine. But one will also encounter fiction that certainly challenges to expand your definition of the word "fantasy".

Despite its few shortcomings, *Realms of Fantasy* is a really good, and important, magazine. It helps to fulfill the current lack of fantasy fiction reading. And it provides an excellent outlet for new writers to get their work published, and get noticed by the public. The cover price is \$3.99 US (\$5.99 Canadian), and a one-year subscription costs \$16.95. The best deal is with a two-year subscription for \$29.95. Enjoy! [Contact Information: Phone: (703) 964-0361/Fax: (703) 964-0366/www.rofmagazine.com]

Reviewed by Jeff Redmond

## Book Reviews

*Regeneration* by Max Allan Collins and Barbara Collins (Leisure Books/Dorchester Publishing, NY, 1999)

This contemporary horror novel is set in Chicago and Los Angeles. Like so many other aging baby-boomers, Joyce Lackey hadn't given much thought to her future; it looked rosy and that was enough. So when she was forced into retirement at age 55, had little money saved, and began thinking about suicide, her future looked grim indeed. Then, the X-Gen Agency contacted her with an offer that seemed too good to be true. Not only did they offer to find her a new job, they offered her the one thing she thought she could never have again: her youth.

*Regeneration* takes a different approach to the horror genre. While the X-Gen Agency and its plans are pretty scary by themselves, the real horror of the novel lies in the choices Joyce makes about her life. But then, who among us would not think longingly of renewed youth if it were offered? And, in Joyce's position, who wouldn't jump at the chance to make a new start at life, particularly when the only other option seems to be suicide? It's not



easy to fault Joyce for choosing the paths she takes, even at the end of the novel when most readers will be wishing she would stop and think before she destroys the rest of her life. She's a strong woman but she has fatal weaknesses. Although educated, she can be foolish. In the end, she reveals herself as a woman who finds it easier to become someone new rather than give up all the material considerations she's held so dear all her life.

This novel is highly readable, but if you're not prepared for a story about a group of people who aren't particularly admirable, then don't even bother. This is not a "happy ending" type of book; and by the end, there's not much hope for Joyce's future. On the other hand, if you like well-written horror stories, then *Regeneration* may be exactly what you're looking for.

Without the aid of his wife, Max Allan Collins has written another novel in the SF/F/H genre, and it is discussed briefly below.

#### *The War of the Worlds Murder* by Max Allan Collins (Berkley, 2005)

What if, on the night of Orson Welles' production of "The War of the Worlds," the young actor was accused of murdering one of his mistresses? And what if the only person who stood between Welles and his arrest for murder was Walter B. Gibson, the author of *The Shadow*, hero of pulp magazines, movie serials, and radio? Given that Halloween night of 1938, in which the force of radio was recognized across the nation, Collins weaves a fascinating story of Welles' life before he moved to Hollywood, the Golden Age of radio, and a murder mystery with a twist.

*The War of the Worlds Murder* is a very good read, especially for those of us who enjoy both science fiction and mysteries. Readers who like this book should look into other books on the Golden Age of Radio as well as more of the historical mystery novels by Collins.

## Mundane Book Review

*The Colorado Kid* by Stephen King (Dorchester Publishing, 2005)

A recent book in the new series of Hard Case Crime Books, *The Colorado Kid* tells of a man found dead on a beach on an island off the coast of Maine. There is no identification on the body, and it's more than a year before the man is identified and his family notified. Two local newspapermen, both elderly, are responsible for turning up the clues that lead to the dead man's identification; but years later the mystery surrounding his death remains unsolved. Then a young woman intern joins the staff of *The Weekly Islander*, the newspaper run by the two old men, and becomes intrigued by the dead man and the mystery surrounding his death.

In an Afterward, King relates how an old cutting from a Maine newspaper led him to write this story. Potential readers should be forewarned that the subject of King's novel is more the nature of mystery itself than the solving of this particular mystery.

Other books in the Hard Case Crime Books series are by such well-known mystery writers as Lawrence Sanders, Erle Stanley Gardner, and Donald E. Westlake.

### *Retro Mundane Mystery Reviews*

#### *The 'Edgar Box' Mysteries of Gore Vidal*

The well-known novelist, playwright, and essayist Gore Vidal (born Eugene Luther Vidal in 1925 in West Point, New York) wrote several popular and critically acclaimed novels, starting with *Williwaw* in 1946; his other books included *The City and the Pillar* (1948), *Julian* (1964), *Myra Breckinridge* (1968), *Burr* (1974), *Lincoln* (1984), the fantasy *Kalki* (1978), and the science fiction works *Messiah* (1954) – a brilliant satire of a future California Messiah who preached death, and a personal favorite of mine -- and *Visit to a Small Planet* (1957), pro-



duced for television, on Broadway, and as a film. A liberal in politics, almost all his writings exhibited his sophisticated, irreverent, and bitter satire of public corruption and private foibles as he saw them. His debates with conservative William F. Buckley, Jr. were engrossing TV fare in the 1970s. Gore long has been a resident of Italy, from where he writes incisively about American politics and government.

In the 1950s Vidal wrote three mystery novels under the pseudonym of Edgar Box, and these satirical mysteries are the subject of this brief review. Of special interest to the writer were the quotes from Gore Vidal printed on the covers of these "Edgar Box" mysteries. One of my favorite Vidal sayings: "A narcissist is someone better looking than you are."

*Death in the Fifth Position*, Signet, 1953 (hc published by Dutton, 1952) Peter Cutler Sergeant II is employed as a public relations consultant by a Russian ballet company that is being picketed by a right-wing veterans' organization. On opening night, Peter's problems are compounded when the prima ballerina falls to her death and foul play is suspected.

*Death Before Bedtime*, Signet, 1954 (hc published by Dutton, 1953) The plot concerns an ultra-right-wing senator who has presidential aspirations and is killed when a charge of gunpowder placed in his fireplace explodes. Peter again is the protagonist. The Washington setting provides Box/Vidal with a field day for his satiric thrusts.

*Death Likes It Hot*, Signet 1217, 1955 (hc published by Dutton, 1954) The story revolves around a weekend party in Long Island's exclusive Hamptons area that includes a varied guest list and the unscheduled drowning of one of the participants. One of the guests is Peter, who proceeds to solve the mystery.

The last two novels in the series served as the basis for two episodes in the Ellery Queen television series, starring George Nader, that were broadcast in the late 1950s. These mysteries were later collected into a

hardcover omnibus volume and published as *Three by Box: The Complete Mysteries of Edgar Box* by Gore Vidal (Random House, 1978).

## Fanzine Reviews

*Fantastic Collectibles Magazine* (Issue Number 146) by Ray Bowman (Box 167, Carmel, Indiana 46082).

Ray F. Bowman's adzine, published irregularly since 1979, usually also contains LoCs and articles, and even fiction on occasion. This issue's cover is a reproduction of the cover of an early issue of *Planet Stories*, a popular SF pulp of the Golden Age of Science Fiction. Featured in this issue is the second part of a SF story, "The Gray Zone," by Jacob Hart. Also included is an editorial, a page of LoCs, and many pages of ads, some in full color.

*Notes from Bob Peterson #94* (December 2005) Robert (Bob) Peterson's personalzine is only six issues away from the century mark, and Bob, at 84 years young, isn't too far from that mark himself. I, for one, sincerely hope he keeps publishing his fanzine for many more years. The highlight of this issue was his tally of *Analog/Astounding* cover artists. The winner with 140 covers was Freas, one of my favorites. Others with high numbers were Rogers (my all-time favorite cover artist), with 80 and Schoneherr (76). Others artists ranking high on the list were Simmons, Brown, Di Fate, Van Doggen, Krauter, Gaughan, and Wesso.

## Current and Forthcoming SF/Fantasy Books

February 2006:

- Neal Asher, *The Voyage of the Sable Keech* (novel, Macmillan/Tor UK)
- Peter Beagle, *Summerlong* (novel, Conlan Press)
- Tobias S. Buckell, *Crystal Rain* (novel, Tor)
- Kate Elliott, *Crown of Stars* (novel, DAW)
- Paul Levinson, *The Plot to Save Socrates*



(novel, Tor)

—Patricia A. McKillip, *Solstice Wood* (novel, Ace)

—Sean McMullen, *Voidfarer* (novel, Tor)

—Diana L. Paxson, *The Golden Hills of Westria* (novel, Tor)

—Steph Swainston, *No Present Like Time* (novel, HarperCollings/Eos)

—John Varley, *Red Lightning* (novel, Ace)

#### March 2006:

—Daniel Abraham, *A Shadow in Summer* (novel, Tor)

—Ben Bova, *Titan* (novel, Tor)

—Simon Brown, *Rival's Son* (novel, DAW)

—Ursula K. LeGuin, *Voices* (young adult novel, Harcourt)

—Sarah Micklem, *Firehorn II* (novel, HarperCollins/Voyage)

—James Morrow, *The Last Witchfinder* (novel, HarperCollins/Morrow)

—Jennifer Roberson, *Karavans* (novel, DAW)

—Sharon Shinn, *The Thirteenth House* (novel, Ace)

—Victoria Strauss, *The Next Messenger* (novel, HarperCollins/Eos)

—Bruce Sterling, *Visionary in Residence* (collection, Thunder's Mouth Press)

#### April 2006:

—John Barnes, *The Armies of Memory* (novel, Tor)

—Stephen Baxter, *Emperor* (novel, Orion/Gollancz)

—Greg Bear, *Quantico* (novel, Ballantine)

—Amanda Hemingway, *The Sword of Straw* (novel, Ballantine Del Rey)

—Jane Johnson, *The Secret Country* (young adult novel, Simon & Schuster)

—Jane Lindskold, *Wolf Hunting* (novel, Tor)

—Elizabeth Moon, *Engaging the Enemy* (novel, Ballantine Del Rey)

—Naomi Novik, *Temeraire* (novel, Ballantine Del Rey)

—Wen Spencer, *Wolf Who Rules* (novel, Baen)

—Sarah Zettel, *Sword of the Deceiver* (novel, Tor)

## Reviewers & Reviewed

Ray Bowman, long-time genre book/magazine dealer, has also written several reference aids for the SF/F/H reader and collector, including indexes to *Planet Stories*, *Famous Fantastic Mysteries*, and the *Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*.

Max Allan Collins has said that he grew up wanting to be a cartoonist, both drawing and writing his own strips. As a young man, however, he watched mystery programs on TV and this exposure changed his goal to writing mysteries. He began with three books (later grouped together as his “Port City Trilogy”) and these spawned his first three series characters: a professional thief named Nolan, a hired killer known as Quarry, and an Iowa detective-novelist named Mallory. Most of the books featuring these characters are entertaining reading, especially the ones featuring Mallory; but my favorite Collins creation is Nate Heller, who stars in a series of historical private eye novels, the latest of which is *Majic Man*. Heller always gets involved with actual historical characters (Amelia Earhart, Al Capone, J. Edgar Hoover, Charles Lindberg, etc.). Probably Collins’ most famous works are his movie tie-in novels such as *Road to Perdition*, *Air Force One*, *Saving Private Ryan*, and *The Mummy*. One of the unique touches that makes Collins’ books so entertaining is the detailed explanation he usually includes after each story. In these afterwords he explains how he came to write the book, credits those who helped him, and provides other interesting facts related to writing and publishing.

*Regeneration* is the first novel of wife Barbara Colins, although her short fiction has appeared in numerous anthologies, including the best-selling *Lethal Ladies* which she co-edited. She and Max have a son, Nathan, and they also have collaborated in other areas.

Stephen King, widely proclaimed as the The World’s Best-Selling Novelist, needs little introduction to anyone who reads. His science



fiction, fantasy, horror, and mystery books have won many awards and several been made into popular movies and TV shows. He himself has appeared as an actor in several of these productions, much to the delight of his fans. Anecdotes about King abound. My favorite is the story he told of being almost completely ignored when he visited his publisher, a company for which he had made millions of dollars. This anecdote brought home to me just how clueless publishers can be, something I have to admit I had always suspected.

Shawna McCarthy is the wife of SF artist Wayne Barlowe. She became editor of Isaac Asimov's *Science Fiction Magazine* in 1983, and served in that capacity until 1985. She joined *IASFM* in 1978, and previously served as Associate Editor (1979-1980), Managing Editor (1980-1982), and Senior Editor (1982). During 1981-1982 she also edited *Science Fiction Digest*, *IASFM's* companion magazine that printed excerpts from forthcoming SF books. Before coming to work at *IASFM*, McCarthy had an editing job (her first) at *Firehouse Magazine*, where she worked for three years. From 1985-1988 she was SF editor at Bantam Books. She left Bantam to form Shawna McCarthy Associates and to serve as a vice president of the Adele Leone Agency. She started agenting at The Scott Meredith Literary Agency, staying until Meredith died, and then joined Russ Galen at the newly formed Scoville Chichak Galen Agency. When *Realms of Fantasy* began in October 1994, she was named editor. She has also edited several genre anthologies, and won a Hugo Award (Professional Editor) in 1984.

Bob Peterson, a member of both N3F and First Fandom, has been active in the SF/F/H genre for many years. In addition to his personalzine, he has published *The Fantasy Index* and *Index of*

*Science Fiction Magazines*, 1926-1948, the last edited by Bill Evans. In 1960 Bob edited the popular anthology *The Science Fictional Sherlock Holmes*.

Jeffrey (Jeff) Redmond, a member of N3F and an author, had one of his books reviewed in this column last issue. He also edited the September 2005 issue of *TNFF*.

Gore Vidal was born on October 3, 1925 in West Point, New York. He graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire in 1943, and then served in the United States Army. After his military service he lived in many parts of the world, including Europe, North Africa, and Central America. He received the PEN Center USA Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2005 and currently resides in Italy.

Note: N3F members are invited to submit reviews, either electronically or by snail mail. If you send a review by e-mail and don't hear from me within a reasonable length of time, please write. It has become apparent that some Internet providers do not communicate with each other. My two addresses are as follows: [jon\\_swartz@hotmail.com](mailto:jon_swartz@hotmail.com) and 1704 Vine Street, Georgetown, TX 78626.



# Bureau Reports

## Official Results of the 2005/2006 National Fantasy Fan Federation Amateur Short Story Contest:

Jefferson Swycaffer – Final Judge

First Prize: "Ballad of Kren" by Darren Moore, under the pen-name of E.R. Alexander. There is a \$50.00 prize.

Second Prize: "Natural Selection" by Michael Simon. There is a \$30.00 prize.

Third Prize: "The Journey of Burduné" by Thomas Reed. There is a \$20.00 prize.

Honorable Mention: "Faith and a Hammer" by Shawn M. Oetzel. There isn't a cash prize, but the winner will be sent a handful of gently-used paperback books from the final judge's library.

Ten stories were received by the Finals Judge, all were smashing good stories indeed. These were paragons of imagination. Some were humorous, some tragic, but all were thoughtful and rewarding. It is very pleasing to know that the art of writing short stories has not been lost in this media-intensive age, and that the good, solid, workmanlike skills of dialogue, narrative, plotting, and writing -- putting one word after another on paper -- are still strong among us. As always when judging this contest, I find myself wishing I were an anthology editor with a real budget, for each of these stories deserves publication.

Congratulations to all the winners, and my very sincere thanks to everyone who submitted a story. Thank you also to Elizabeth Caldwell who organized and publicized the contest, and, of course, thank you to all the N3F for allowing me this wonderful and joyous task of selecting the best among these wonderful stories.

## The MANGAVERSE

Head/Editor – Ruth R. Davidson

After some pondering, I realized that I was making my life far too complicated. So, SFFAMOC.net is dead (it was a great acronym though). I will not be renewing the domain. Instead, everything is now over at my personal blog and website [www.ruthiechan.net](http://www.ruthiechan.net). So non-neffers can respond there regarding The MANGAVERSE if they are so inclined. Neffers to of course. \*wink smile\*

[www.mangaverse.org](http://www.mangaverse.org) still lives and redirects to a webpage devoted to our fanzine. Back issues are available there.

Vol. 3 No. 1 should be out before the end of March. Yep, it's late. Very much so due to hard drive failure. So now I'm really behind on everything.

Well, you can take advantage of this and submit an LoC or review or something if you'd like for it.

Hard copies are always available upon request. If you can send along \$2 that would be nice to help offset costs of printing (doesn't really help with postage anymore these days).

And for our new members, this bureau is for SFF fans who are also lovers of anime, manga, and other comics. Right now it's simply a fanzine published quarterly, mainly in .PDF.

Any Neffer is free to participate or just read. You can ask to be on the mailing list, just email me. I'll assume that you want .PDF if you don't say otherwise.

For those not familiar with these genres, there's a lot of science fiction and fantasy within them. The very best ones are SFF. If you'd like to try one out, let me know what sort of things you like and I'll do my best to give you a few recommendations that'd be right up your alley.



## N3F Historian

### Brief Description of N3F

Jon Swartz – N3F Historian

In 1940 science fiction fan and neophyte artist/author Damon Knight suggested that it was time for a national organization of science fiction and fantasy fans. In an article, "Unite – Or Die!" (October 1940 issue of Art Widner's fanzine *Fanfare*), he wrote: "I sincerely believe that a successful national fantasy association is possible, that it could offer a needed service to every fan, and that it could be established today."

Knight was respected in SF fandom at the time, being a member of the Futurians and known throughout the country. Fans responded to his suggestion, and The National Fantasy Fan Federation (later abbreviated both NFFF and N3F) was the result, with 64 charter members. Other prime movers in founding the club were Widner and Louis Russell Chauvenet. Knight soon lost interest in this national club project, and left its development to Widner, Chauvenet, and others.

Despite some disagreements over the club's constitution, especially in the early years of its existence, the N3F has proved to be a stable and enduring national SF organization for the past 60+ years. Current activities of the club include its quarterly fanzine, *The National Fantasy Fan*, an annual amateur short story contest, the Neffy Awards (annual awards presented in a variety of categories), and 25 different bureaus/activities (including N'APA) participated in by the membership (approximately 100 members in 2005).

The club has been responsible for a variety of publications over the years, including a book by Dr. David H. Keller in 1948. Recently a new club *Handbook* was published, and other writing projects currently are in progress. A large collection of the club's publications is housed and maintained in Special Collections, Temple University Libraries, Philadelphia, PA.

Additional information about the club is

available at its official website ([www.n3f.org](http://www.n3f.org)).

Jon Swartz – N3F Historian

Ruth R. Davidson – Former N3F President

NOTE: This version was submitted to rich brown late in 2005. He edited it extensively for his online fan dictionary; found at: [http://fanac.org/Fannish\\_Reference\\_Works/Fan\\_terms/](http://fanac.org/Fannish_Reference_Works/Fan_terms/)

## Treasurer's Report

William Center – 02/15/05

### Receipts

New members dues	214.00
(includes reinstatements)	
Renewal dues	+260.00
Short Story Contest Entry Fees	+36.00
	=510.00

### Disbursements

The Fan (Dec. 2005) - Printing	167.39
The Fan (Dec. 2005) - Mailing	-75.00
N3F URL Hosting Fee	-20.00
PayPal service charge	-10.49
2005 Short Story Contest Prizes	-100.00
	=372.88

Beginning Balance (11/15/05)	\$3,449.08
Additions	+510.00
Subtractions	-372.88
Ending Balance (2/15/06)	= \$3,586.20

Send all dues, new or renewal to:  
 Dennis Davis, 25549 Byron Street,  
 San Bernadino, California 92404-6408  
 Make checks payable to William Center,  
 not the N3F. Canadian and overseas  
 members, please pay in U. S. funds.



## Round Robins

Head – Lorna Hansmann

February 15, 2006

Hello there wonderful Neffers.

It is amazing that 2006 is already quite underway. Still it is NEVER to late to make new goals like JOINING A ROUND ROBIN. It is an incredibly fun way to get to know your fellow neffers and talk about a common interest.

In the Sept. 2005 issue I explained what a RR is. Here is a repeat for any new members we may have received since then. Round Robins (RR's) are packets of letters that members write on a certain subject. When you receive the packet, you read all the letters, take out your old one, write a new one to include, and send the packet on to the next person on the Route Sheet. You then drop your Robin Master (RM) a note by "snail" mail or email to let him/her know that you have sent the packet on its way.

If you still feel like you don't quite understand please write/email me. My oldest sister had to explain it on more than one occasion, when I first got involved, before it clicked for me.

Well, currently we have 18 active rounds. I was curious to how many people actually participated in the rounds. Including myself there are 23 active members. A lot of us are obviously in more than one. We would love to have new blood in the rounds. I was so pleased when Jean Lamb and Denny Davis decided to get back into them. YAY! And thank you.

In an age full of technology I am so grateful that we support the beautiful art of letter writing. I think computers are great and I happen to enjoy typing quite a bit. However, it is a different and refreshing experience when you put pen to paper.

I look forward to helping you all get rounding. And remember you might as well try it. If you find out it isn't for you, you can just let me know and I can take you off it. No problem.

Alright, I hope you all are doing well. And in case I don't see you, good afternoon, good evening and good night ☺

### Active Rounds

Cats in SF&F –VanSchuyver  
Celtic Folklore-Johnson  
Comics-Davidson  
Deep Space 9 & ST: Next Generation- Benson  
Dragons-Marcum  
Dreams-VanSchuyver  
Fairy and Folk Tales-Davidson  
Horror-Davidson  
Mercedes Lackey-Winters  
Anne McCaffrey-VanShuyver  
Mythology-Davidson  
Sci Fi Channel-VanSchuyver  
SF&F in Films-Davidson  
Star Trek-Benson  
Star Trek Classic-VanSchuyver  
Star Wars-Benson  
Time Travel-VanSchuyver  
TV SF&F-VanSchuyver  
Vampires-Marcum

### Waiting List

Beauty and the Beast  
Harry Potter Books and Movies  
Tarzan

### Additional Ideas

Artists in SF&F  
Batman and other Superheroes  
Dogs and Wolves  
Highlander  
Interstellar Empire  
King Arthur  
Love and Romance in SF&F  
Marvel Superheroes  
Nonfiction Reading  
Science and Technology  
Space Exploration  
Unicorns  
Werewolves





## Writer's Exchange

Head – Joy Beeson

The Writers' Exchange Bulletin #61 was mailed on the eighth of February, or thereabout.

This isn't really the sixty-first issue; I got confused when we moved, and started over at #60. I'm pretty sure there's another #60 and #61 in the files somewhere, maybe a #62 and #63.

There are now twenty members of the Writers' Exchange, and six of them also belong to the W.E. Bouncing Robin.

For intermediate reports, see the W.E. Blog at <http://n3f.home.comcast.net/WEB/WEB.HTM>.

## Artist's Bureau

Head – Sarah Glasgow

I will have the artzine done by May at the latest. I apologize for the delay. For those of you who are contributors please send me your bio asap. Otherwise I will finish the zine without the bio page. I will email the yahoo-group when it is finished.

Everyone, please let me know if you want the artzine sent to you electronically or via snail mail.

This will be the last major project I do in this bureau before my wedding date which is set for May 13th. (I'm sure you all understand with all the wedding planning I have to do - and in a short period of time.) Afterwards I'll be able to work on some other things we've previously discussed.

Feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, concerns, etc. I will respond as quickly as I can (some of my e-pals have noticed my recent slower response time).

## N'APA

Official Editor (Head) - David Speakman  
"No we don't sell car parts; but we do spin tales and sell dreams!"

The reorganization of the N3F Amateur Press Association (N'APA) continues. Because gremlins caused the last ish of The Fan to be delayed despite the best work of our most talented editor and publisher.... The N'APA has also been thrown off track. Our original deadline of January 31 has been moved to May 31. (Just in case there is another gremlin attack at the publisher/printers).

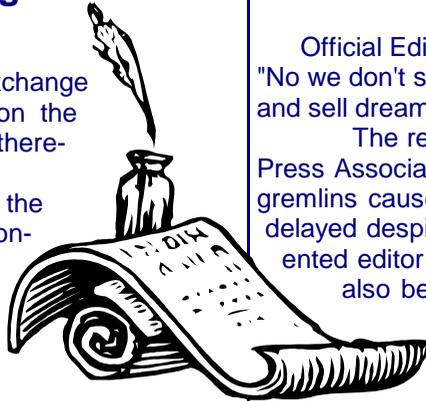
N'APA acts as a kind of trading post and as a soundboard to allow those of use who have the publishing bug - and who want others to read their writing. We discover things together, work out how to overcome mistakes and generally try to develop our skills as writers/editors/publishers.

A few years ago, N'APA fell to the way-side about the same time the dot-com craze hit the fannish world. But, now we are back - and looking for members.

We are currently organizing who wants to be members and associate members of N'APA.

- N'APA Editor/Publishers (Full Members): These are folks who are trying their darndest to publish a regular or semi-regular fan print zine (or printable e-zine). All full members will submit copies of their own work and receive copies of what everyone else has submitted in a bundle. Both electronic (free) and print versions are available. (We ask that you help pay the printing/ mailing costs if you want print)

- Apprentices (Associate Members): These are folks who are working toward the goal of getting up the nerve and learning the skills how to produce their own zine. Associate members will be able to participate in all N'APA activities - EXCEPT - for the fact they will not get the zine bundle delivered to them in





print until they convert to a full member.

If you are interested in joining our little cadre of ne'er-do-wells and do-wells, then drop me a line at david@speakman.com or my mailing address listed at the front of this zine.

## NEFFY AWARDS

Head/Organizer – David Speakman  
"And the nominees are..."

Whew! It's amazing how hard it is to collate the hundreds of nominees that poured into the Neffy Headquarters (my over cramped home office in Mountain View, California). With Taffy the tuxedo cat standing guard over the nomination ballots and overseeing the vote tallying, the final results are in. Every category had enough nominations to make the ballot expect one - the SKIFFY award for worst SF/F development of the year. Was 2005 that good a year for fans? I guess so.

As I type this report, I am taking a break from putting together the Voting Ballot - will be a full-fledged zine of its own - with a min-profile for each nominee. In addition, I am looking for volunteers who are willing to write a long-form profile (or two or three) for the eventual winners. I'm wanting to collate this into a "Best of..." book to be published as a paperback (using Lulu). I'll chip in the cost to make sure each contributor gets one copy free of charge. Contact me for submission guidelines if you are interested in being a contributor to the results book. I'm also looking to do one for last year's awards... same offer/conditions.

Here is the list of nominees that Nefers like you thought were among the best of 2005:

- \* SF Author: Chris Bunch, Harry Turtledove, John Varley, David Weber
- \* F Author: Jim Butcher, Neil Gaiman, Robert Jordan, Terry Pratchett, J.K. Rowling
- \* Film - Animation: Appleseed, Chicken Little, Howl's Moving Castle, Wallace and Gromit: Curse of the Were-Rabbit, Steamboy
- \* Film - SF: Batman Begins, Serenity, Star

Wars: Revenge of the Sith, Fantastic Four, War of the Worlds

\* Film - F: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Chronicle of Narnia: The Lion the With and the Wardrobe, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, Howls Moving Castle, King Kong

\* TV Animation: Drawn Together, Duck Dodgers, Inuyasha, Justice League Unlimited, Star Wars: Clone Wars

\* TV SF: The 4400, Battlestar Galactica, Stargate: Atlantis, Invasion, Surface

\* TV F: Carnivale, Charmed, Lost, Medium, Supernatural

\* Artist: Jim Burns, Kinuko Y. Craft, Tristan Ellwell, Melissa Gay, Todd Lyles

\* Comic: Girl Genius (Studio Foglio), Ranma 1/2 (VIZ), Runaways (Marvel), Serenity (Dark Horse), Supergirl (DC)

\* Game - Non-Vid: Dredmire - (Spellbinder Games), Serenity RPG - Jamie Chambers, Margaret Weis (MWP), Shadowrun 4th ed. - (FanPro)

\* Game - Video: EveOnline - Red Moon Rising (CCP Games - PC), Shadow of the Colossus - (Sony - PS2), City of Villains - (NCSOFT - PC), Star Wars: Empire at War (Lucas Arts - PC)

\* Nonfiction, Reference or Pro Website: "The Road to Dune" - Brian Herbert, Kevin J. Anderson - book, SciFi Channel Website(www.scifi.com), SF Crownsnest(www.sfcrownsnest.com)

\* Reprint - Print: Non-Stop - Brian W. Aldiss, Off the Main Sequence - Robert A. Heinlein, The Body Snatchers - Jack Finney, Deathworld - Harry Harrison, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe - C.S. Lewis

\* Reprint - Video: Cinderella Disney Platinum Collector's Gift Set (1950), King Kong Collector's Ed. (1933), Wizard of Oz Ultimate Collector's Edition (1939)

\* Fan - Year: Phil DeParto, Howard DeVore, Harold Marcum, Jon Swartz, Christopher Garcia

\* Fan - Artist: Lynn Masamitsu, Marc Schirmeister, Steve Stiles, J Andrew World, Frank Wu

\* Fan - Author: Jefferson Swucaffer, Cheryl



Morgan, Frank Wu

\* Fanzine - Print: Alexiad, Locus, Nice Distinctions, Peregrine Nations, Plotka

\* Fanzine - Electronic: Catchpenny Gazette, Challenger, The Drink Tank, Emerald City, WOSSNAME

\* Fan - Website: Browncoats [www.browncoats.com](http://www.browncoats.com), eFanzines [www.efanzines.com](http://www.efanzines.com), Scifi Dimensions [www.scifidimensions.com](http://www.scifidimensions.com), Trufen [www.trufen.net](http://www.trufen.net), Whedonesque [www.whedonesque.com](http://www.whedonesque.com)

The upcoming voting ballot and zine will detail the nomination process, profile the nominees and such. It should be mailed to membership in March.

*[Editor's Note: You can also find this info, etc., at [www.n3f.org](http://www.n3f.org) under Awards, Neffy Awards.]*

## Welcommittee

Helper – Ruth R. Davidson

First, lets get this straight, I am NOT the bureau head for the Welcommittee, I am merely a helper; but I was asked to write a bit about it. What I do is keep the New Member Handbook updated, both the public version available online at [n3f.org](http://n3f.org), and the one for Neffers. I also keep track of who I've given it to online for the Bureau Head, so they only have to worry about the snail mail folk.

Since time won't allow me to do everything in this bureau, (I do try to follow up with those I've emailed though) a new Head is needed.

It's a great way to meet new members and to help neo-fen (newbie fans) dip their toes in the waters of SFF fandom.

If you've got any questions about it, please feel free to ask me since I'll be your number one gal. \*wink\*

Others are also encouraged to help out the bureau (I can't be the only helper, right? Right? \*sweat drop\*). To be on the Welcommittee, contact the Bureau Head (which is not me, but until we get one I can take notes for when we get one \*wink\*). If you'd like to take over as

Head please talk to our new President Chris Garcia (info under President on page 2) since only the President can appoint Bureau Heads.

## WebMistress

Head – Ruth R. Davidson

Since 1941. . . Is the new link to our long history at [www.n3f.org](http://www.n3f.org)! It has all the information that Jon Swartz compiled. He's the first Historian to work towards getting our history readily available to all! Thank you Jon! It's interesting reading, but *there are still gaps!* Please help us fill those gaps!

Hardcopies of our history are available upon request. You don't have to be a Neffer to help us with this endeavor! We have a long and distinguished history, help us keep it around!

The website has also been updated to reflect new changes in our Officers as well as other updated information.

The domain [www.N3FSHOP.com](http://www.N3FSHOP.com) is about to expire and if anyone is willing to donate \$9.20 to reregister that would be great.

The 2006 New Member Handbook will be available to all Neffers by the end of March; email me if you would like a copy. Hard copies will also be available upon request. A public version will be available in .PDF for all to download at [www.n3f.org](http://www.n3f.org).

The ever-awesome David Speakman has helped reflect the changes in our dues with the new paypal system.

David is also working hard on developing a SFF fannish wiki to help out Fandom at large. It'll be a reference guide for all fans, but only Neffers will be allowed to create pages. If you would like to help out with that, get in touch with David; contact info on page three.

Thanks again David for your efforts. You're a wonderful asset to us all!



# Secretary Report

Dennis Davis – Date: 02/22/2006

Drop List: no one this time.

## EXPIRED LIST

November 2005: Lauren Clough 1105; Corey Grey 1105

December 2005: Elizabeth Caldwell 1205; Judy Carroll 1205; Terrence Frost 1205; Sarah Glasgow 1205

January 2006: Jean Lamb 0106

## New members:

NEW 0107 Jamie Herron [jherron13@yahoo.com](mailto:jherron13@yahoo.com)

NEW 0107 Geraline James [gjamesapps@yahoo.com](mailto:gjamesapps@yahoo.com)

NEW 0107 Darrell LuAllen 6001 Old Hickory Blvd, Apt 411 Hermitage TN 37076

NEW 0107 Grace Macy 4071 Jackson Ave. Culver City CA 90232

NEWJ 0107 JerriLynn & Doug Mooney [rangerlyn@yahoo.com](mailto:rangerlyn@yahoo.com)

NEWJ 0107 Joe & Eve Pelletier 216 Manhattan Ave. Crestwood NY 10707

NEW 0107 Stefani Warshaw 520 E. Anderson Street Savanna GA 31401

NEWJ 0107 Victoria Wright 2069 N. 63rd Street Philadelphia PA 19151

## Reinstated:

REIN 1106 Sandi Buck 37 Howard Road Belmont ME 04952-3108

REIN 1006 Helen Davis 2624 Wood Bluff Lane Centerville OH 45458

REIN 1106 Debra Eckert 502 Iwo Street Auburn IN 46706-1857

REIN 1206 Eric, Karl & Janet Glasgow 434 Bird St Yuba City CA 95991 USA

REIN 0107 Lorna Hansmann 715 N. 1130 W. Orem UT 84057

REIN 1206 Leyla Harding PSC 88 Box R2061 APO AE 09821-5000

REIN 0207 John Jeffers III 1110 Tate School Road Huntingdon TN 38344-6814

REIN 0207 Lee & J. J. MacFadden 1315 Rock Rose Rd. Bristol TN 37620-5219

REIN 1106 Joseph Martino 905 South Main Avenue Sidney OH 45365-3212

REIN 0107 John Robinson 8 Sagadahoc Rumford ME 04276-1534

REIN 0107 Crystal & Chris Sarakas 4C Jane Lacey Dr Endicott NY 13760

REIN 0108 Keith Walker 6 Vine Street Lancaster Lancs. LA1 4UF UK

## Renewals:

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RN 0206 William & Michele Center 1920 Division Street Murphysboro IL 62966

RN 0407 Jeniffer Coats [vvsavagev@gmail.com](mailto:vvsavagev@gmail.com)

RN 1206 Tom Feller P. O. Box 140937 Nashville TN 37214-0937

RN 1106 Dorothy Kurtz 230 Kings Highway East, #188 Haddonfield NJ 08033

RN 0207 Lyne Masamitsu 1611-A South Melrose Drive, Apt.#4 Vista CA 92083

RN 1206 Edmund Meskys 322 Whittier Hwy. Moultonborough NH 03254-3627

RN 1106 Christine Moskowitz 361 Roseville Avenue Newark NJ 07107-1721

RN 1006 Jon Swartz 1704 Vine Street Georgetown TX 78626-7228

RN 1106 Jefferson Swycaffer PO Box 15373 San Diego CA 92175-5373

RN 0307 Sally Syrjala PO Box 149 Centerville MA 02632-0149

RN 1106 George Wells 8 South Dorado Circle Apt 2B Hauppauge NY 11788-4638





Address changes/corrections:

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EXP 1205 Judy Carroll 278 W. 1040 N. Orem UT 84057  
GSJ 0606 Ruth R. Davidson 434 Bird St Yuba City CA 95991  
REIN 1006 Helen Davis 2624 Wood Bluff Lane Centerville OH 45458  
RN 1206 Tom Feller P. O. Box 140937 Nashville TN 37214-0937  
GSJ 0606 Bernadette Glasgow 434 Bird St Yuba City CA 95991  
GS 0606 Jennett Kaerie 434 Bird St. Yuba City CA 95991  
RN 1106 Dorothy Kurtz 230 Kings Highway East, #188 Haddonfield NJ 08033  
RN 1206 Edmund Meskys 322 Whittier Hwy. Moultonborough NH 03254-3627  
GS 0806 Valerie Mignault 73 Magnolia Street Cranston RI 02910-2014  
REIN 0107 John Robinson 8 Sagadahoc Rumford ME 04276-1534  
GS 0206 Ruth Sacksteder 2033 Berryman St. (lower level) Berkeley CA 94709

NOTES: My N3F email address is: n3f\_info@yahoo.com If you give my email address out to someone, give them the n3f\_info@yahoo.com address.

Please send your checks to the Secretary:

Dennis L. Davis, 25549 Byron Street, San Bernardino, CA 92404-6403.

Please make checks payable to: WILLIAM CENTER

I am your N3F Secretary and all of the information is as correct as make it. Please contact me if you find a discrepancy or have not found your name in this report. Thank you.

*Please help me to serve you better by doing the following:*

- 1) Check your information in the roster. Notify me of any changes.
- 2) Mark exp. date on your envelope, or include your renewal reminder card.
- 3) Send address corrections as soon as possible. The USPO charges me to return undeliverable zines. Thank you.

**N3F Roster:**

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 002 GS1006 Andrews John PO Box 5681 Santa Rosa CA 95402-5681  
 096 GSJ0906 Bean Rich 501-83 Moorpark Way Mountain View CA 94041  
 003 RN0207 Beeson Joy 1700 Park Avenue Winona Lake IN 46590-1637  
 004 GS0806 Benson Ginny 1265 Dyer Road Tawas City MI 48763-9572  
 005 \*GS0506 Blackwood Bob & Diane 4304 N Marmora Avenue Chicago IL 60634  
 006 GSJ1106 Boyd Craig & Sherry PO Box 17088 Little Rock AR 72222-7088  
 007 GS1006 Brooks Richard PO Box 834 Angola IN 46703-0834  
 117 REIN1106 Buck Sandi 37 Howard Road Belmont ME 04952-3108  
 008 EXP1205 Caldwell Elizabeth 685 South Zeeb Road Ann Arbor MI 48103  
 102 EXP1205 Carroll Judy 278 W. 1040 N. Orem UT 84057  
 010 RN0206 Center William & Michele 1920 Division Street Murphysboro IL 62966  
 011 GS1007 Chen Gar PO Box 1286 New York NY 10013-1286  
 099 EXP1105 Clough Lauren 104 Second Street, Apt. 1 Turner Falls MA 01376  
 107 RN0407 Coats Jeniffer vvsavagev@gmail.com  
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 013 GSJ0606 Davidson Ruth R. 434 Bird St Yuba City CA 95991





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- 017 GS0206 Drexel Kathryn 9 Rogers Street Plymouth NH 03264-1207
- 114 REIN1106 Eckert Debra 502 Iwo Street Auburn IN 46706-1857
- 018 RN1206 Feller Tom P. O. Box 140937 Nashville TN 37214-0937
- 019 GS0906 Fisk Denise greenroseofaltair@yahoo.com
- 020 GSJ1006 Franson Robert & David Editor@troynovant.com
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- 109 \*GS0406 Garcia Rev. Chris 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View CA 94043
- 086 GSJ0606 Glasgow Bernadette 434 Bird St Yuba City CA 95991
- 093 REIN1206 Glasgow Eric, Karl & Janet 434 Bird St Yuba City CA 95991
- 023 EXP1205 Glasgow Sarah 289 Tradewinds Dr. #8 San Jose CA 95123
- 100 EXP1105 Grey Corey 5659 Surrey Lane San Bernardino CA 92407-2428
- 103 REIN0107 Hansmann Lorna 715 N. 1130 W. Orem UT 84057
- 118 REIN1206 Harding Leyla PSC 88 Box R2061 APO AE 09821-5000
- 106 GS0206 Hardy Linda 20190 Milburn Livonia MI 48152
- 026 GS0307 Hayes Art 50 Ruddington Drive Apt 1303 Willowdale ON M2K 2J8 Canada
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- 126 NEW0107 James Geraline gjamesapps@yahoo.com
- 029 REIN0207 Jeffers Ill John 1110 Tate School Road Huntingdon TN 38344-6814
- 111 GS0606 Kaerie Jennett 434 Bird St. Yuba City CA 95991
- 114 GS1006 Keene Ronald 264 E. Orange Street San Bernardino CA 92410
- 110 GS0606 Kling Karen 4003 Sharon Park #29 Sharonville OH 45241
- 035 RN1106 Kurtz Dorothy 230 Kings Highway East, #188 Haddonfield NJ 08033
- 104 EXP0106 Lamb Jean 4846 Derby Place Klamath Falls OR 97603
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- 037 GS0806 Lichtenberg Jacqueline 4133 West Bart Drive Chandler AZ 85226-2116
- 038 GS0906 Loretz, Jr. LaVern 8223 Indian Hill Road Manlius NY 13104-9705
- 039 GS0206 Lowrey Mike 1847 North 2nd Street Milwaukee WI 53212-3760
- 120 NEW0107 LuAllen Darrell 6001 Old Hickory Blvd, Apt 411 Hermitage TN 37076
- 129 REIN0207 MacFadden Lee & J. J. 1315 Rock Rose Rd. Bristol TN 37620-5219
- 040 GS0907 MacIntyre Alister 5184 Normandy Court Evansville IN 47715-2619
- 041 GS1006 Mackay-Galicia Jennifer 15852 NW West Union Rd. #132 Portland OR 97229
- 108 \*GS0406 Macloy Jessica hamburgcoop@hotmail.com
- 124 NEW0107 Macy Grace 4071 Jackson Ave. Culver City CA 90232
- 042 \*GS0406 Marcum Harold PO Box 286 Kermit WV 25674-0286
- 116 REIN1106 Martino Joseph 905 South Main Avenue Sidney OH 45365-3212
- 105 RN0207 Masamitsu Lyne 1611-A South Melrose Drive, Apt.#4 Vista CA 92083-
- 098 GS1006 McAbee K. PO Box 277 Pacolet SC 29372
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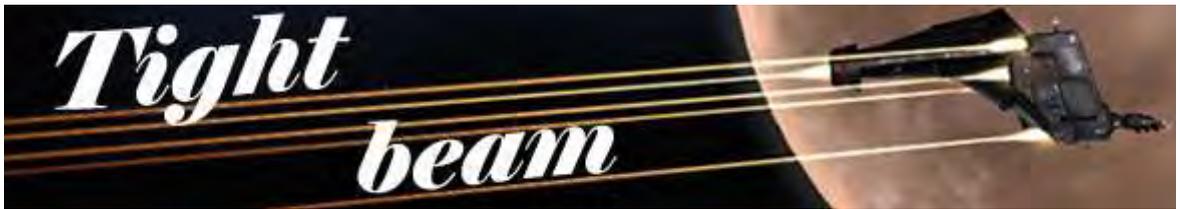


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- 113 GS1006 O'Brien Michael 12 Tower Road Hobart Tasmania 7008 Australia
- 125 NEWJ0107 Pelletier Joe & Eve 216 Manhattan Ave. Crestwood NY 10707
- 052 GS1006 Peterson Robert 585 So. Alton Way, #9-C Denver CO 80247
- 053 GS1006 Phillies George 87 Park Avenue Apt 6 Worcester MA 01605-3929
- 054 \*GS0506 Redmond Jeff 1335 Beechwood NE Grand Rapids MI 49505-3830
- 055 \*GS0506 Richter Cynthia 1740 Ocean Avenue #11B Brooklyn NY 11230
- 057 GS0906 Robins Dr. Jack 223 Lake Meryl Drive West Palm Beach FL 33411
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- 080 \*GS0506 Voharas William 7471 East 29th Place, APT 2004 Denver CO 80238
- 097 REIN0108 Walker Keith 6 Vine Street Lancaster Lancs. LA1 4UF UK
- 123 NEW0107 Warshaw Stefani 520 E. Anderson Street Savanna GA 31401
- 081 RN1106 Wells George 8 South Dorado Circle Apt 2B Hauppauge NY 11788
- 082 GS1006 Wharton William 11 Laurel Drive Oakdale CT 06370-1727
- 0-na special Whitehead Thomas 1210 W. Berks Street Philadelphia PA 19122
- 083 GS1206 Winters Rikki 3535 East Thunderbird Road Phoenix AZ 85032
- 084 \*GS0506 Wolansky Taras 100 Montgomery Street #24-H Jersey City NJ 07302-
- 121 NEWJ0107 Wright Victoria 2069 N. 63rd Street Philadelphia PA 19151



Please check your expiration date carefully. If you believe there is an error, please contact the N3F secretary, Dennis L. Davis, 25549 Byron Street, San Bernardino, CA 92404-6403. Email: n3f\_info@yahoo.com Notify me of any address changes ASAP. Thank you

Legend: GS=member in good standing; GSJ=good standing joint members  
 EXP=expired; LIFE=lifetime membership; NEW=first time membership;  
 NEWJ=new joint members; RN=renewal; REIN=reinstatement  
 =time to renew!



*Rick Brooks – Dec. 2005*

First my apologies for my last letter. I certainly didn't send it in without paragraphs. I assume the editor cut the paragraph breaks out to save space.

It does make it hard to read.

Ruth: I have the first year or two of N3F publications that I got carefully punched and put in a looseleaf binder. But I can no longer find them. And the attic has been invaded by raccoons.

Sarah: I feel the first two Harry Potter books were the best. They keep getting longer and grittier.

Jeanett: I exchanged letters with Andre Norton for about 40 years. Same with Buck Coulson. Leaves a void in my life with both gone.

Medical news: I take my blood pressure pills daily and measure my blood pressure weekly. No trouble for 18 months now.

Arthritis has moved into my left instep. It is damned hard to walk without flexing your instep. More an annoyance while I find heart attacks scary.

Still got the ebooks waiting to go online. Averaging about \$19 every three months on the first one.

Nice to see the older stuff in the book reviews. I find most of the newer stuff hard to read. You can say what you like about the old pulp writers, but most of them could tell a story.

Production values: Both staples have worked loose and TNFF is already a batch of loose pages. Haven't had this problem before.

*Rick Brooks – March 2006*

I started my last letter apologizing for the way my letter before was edited to fit by removing paragraph breaks. Unfortunately my last letter was completely ed-

ited out of Tightbeam.

And I got it in earlier than this one.

Things have not gone well here. My arthritis has gotten to the point where I have trouble getting out of bed. I usually need to get up and go to the bathroom after 4 or 5 hours.

And my bedroom is downstairs and the only bathroom is upstairs. There was no indoor plumbing in the house when we moved here in 1953. There were 2 walk-in closets. The downstairs one was under the stairs and at the back of the master bedroom.

On August 12th, 3 of our kitties celebrated their 16th birthday.

We lost Fatty 8 days before Christmas. She had a large rodent ulcer bulging out the front of her mouth. But we managed to keep her going for over 10 years with it.

Today, I just finished burying Tippy. I am fighting the irrational desire to dig her up and see her one last time. She had been a part of my life for over 16 years.

We still have 7 cats, but the house seems empty without Fatty and Tippy.

Tippy was the runt of the 6 littermates, and she had grown quite thin. The last few weeks, her sense of smell seemed to be going and she would often sniff her food and then look up as though we'd tried to fool her with a substitute.

But in last week, we'd managed to get her eating again. She had a fairly hearty supper on the 12th. But the next morning, she had trouble moving. Possibly, she had a stroke. She refused to eat. By dinner time, she was gone.

At least, she went fast and didn't seem to suffer much.

It is still quite depressing.

Update on my ebooks at Filament books. No change. I'm thinking of switching



publishers.

On to Tightbeam.

Denise: I haven't seen my doctor in months. But I take my blood pressure every week. The readings have both been normal 5 of the last 8 weeks and only very far into the pre-hypertension range one week.

My prescriptions run out in March, so I'll go in to see my doctor then.

Marshmallow, our only remaining 16 year old is very vocal. My sister Betty usually gets home from work between 11:30 and midnight. She stops in the utility room to fuss over Blackie. And Marshmallow wants her midnight snack right away.

I exchanged letters with Andre Norton for about forty years. I miss her letters as much as I miss never seeing a new book from her. She started writing sf just before I became a teenager. Since then, there has been over one new book a year.

Now that is over.

Reviews: Actually I liked the Avon paperbacks by Merritt and CS Lewis the best of any Avon books. I've always regretted A. Merritt didn't write more fantasies.

*Sarah Glasgow*

A neffer friend suggested that I write a little about my upcoming marriage for Tightbeam. Well, I doubt it's as interesting to others as to me, but perhaps I could share a little about how we met. We met at a church dance (held the first Friday of each month). When I got there I noticed that many of the singles there were older than me by quite a bit. When I saw Scott I thought "Oh good, someone close to my age". He was talking with someone I knew so I went over, said hi to my friend, and was introduced to Scott.

I talked with Scott for a little while then went on to the dance floor again. I'd come with a friend who was like a brother to me; this friend upset me however so I left a little frustrated. As I walked past Scott our eyes met and he held mine for a moment. I knew he wanted

to talk more, but I just wasn't up for talking. I felt bad about that so when the dance rolled around again the following month I went and looked for Scott.

Scott was there again. After excusing myself at last from someone 30 years older than me (who was a bit too interested in me) I was able to say hi to Scott. I found out later that he'd come to the dance again hoping I'd be there. When the dance was over at midnight Scott walked me to my car where we talked till 2am! We saw each other at a few other dances in that same month and had our first date on May 31, 2004. The rest, as they say, is history!

As a teen I thought it would be cool to have a medieval wedding. Well, we aren't doing that but it will be elegant with "just a touch" of the renaissance. Our invitations even have a picture of Romeo and Juliet on them (by artist Sir Frank Dicksee). The cool thing is that in this painting Romeo has dark wavy hair - as does Scott, and Juliet has long, curly red hair - as do I (except my hair isn't nearly as red as it used to be. Most people now think of me as having dirtly blond hair though if you look close you can see the red is still there).

Denise Fisk: Please keep us informed as to when your article will be published - that's so cool! I look forward to reading it. I think it's great you want to help distinguish the misperceptions that run rampant about mental health.

I've actually been thinking about seeing if I can get something I wrote about Scott published. For anyone who may not know, Scott was born paralyzed and is in a wheelchair. He is perfectly healthy, drives, works, climbs up the stairs to my apartment, and basically does anything that anyone else does. Anyway, it's about my experiences with other people and their reactions, comments, etc. when they find out I'm engaged to a paraplegic. I actually wrote it for N'APA and was thinking about modifying it for suitability for publication elsewhere. People have different ideas about the handicapped, not all of which are accurate or apply to everyone.



Ruth R. Davidson

A bit of a rant here. Why is it, that very few people (just about no one, other than me), can remember to include my middle initial? Maybe I'm being wayyyyyy too nit picky about it. However, I remember picking up a prescription when I lived in San Jose, only to be asked what my address was. I asked if there was another Ruth Davidson, and they said there were five. FIVE! In the city of San Jose that got their prescriptions at the same place. Merciful heavens, that was totally uncool. Companies could totally confuse me with them, and just think of the havoc that could cause!

So, I became a bit of a stickler when it comes to including my middle initial. While yes, I'm sure there are other Ruth R. Davidson's in the world, I think asking people to remember (and know how to properly pronounce) Ruth Renate Davidson is kinda stretching it. Then again, people have problems remembering just the letter R, so maybe I was wrong and more complicated would be better. . . .

It's weird living in a city that sleeps at night. I miss Las Vegas. I miss the buffets, I miss the Vegas Science Fiction Association, and most of all, I miss living in a city that feels alive. Yuba City – which is really an overgrown town that I've dubbed Gimp Town – feels stagnant. There's no vibrant energy, things just are. It's also a real pain to find a job. Small place where people aren't hired based on skill, but on whether or not you know the people hiring. I am at a serious disadvantage here.

The best part about this place, is living with my family (a house full of Neffers!). My daughter Hazel loves everyone and they love her. When Daddy comes to visit, the three of us have fun together (Mommy and Daddy get along much better now that we don't live under the same roof).

I have my own domain now. My website is [www.ruthiechan.net](http://www.ruthiechan.net). I have three email addresses. One for my scrapbooking business, one for the public which is listed in thish – while

I don't view Neffers as being the public, google apparently has started html-izing PDF's and the last thing I need is spam in my main inbox – and my main one for groups and things.

Public email [qualtree@ruthiechan.net](mailto:qualtree@ruthiechan.net).

The email you probably have if you were on my list of people to tell about my email change (xarph.net blew up and Xarph quit hosting email accounts soon after) is: [ruthiechan@ruthiechan.net](mailto:ruthiechan@ruthiechan.net).

On my website, I have a list of all the fanzines I've ever created or edited. Not many compared to you folk who have been doing this for eons, but not too shabby either.

I'm still not good at managing my time. I had thought about taking over the Future Fandom bureau, but now I'm not sure. . . I don't know, I love the concept of having a bureau for young and new fans alike, to help them feel comfy and dip their toes in fannish things without having to worry about feeling like idiots to a bunch of people – and maybe even creating a fanzine as well (the bureau has a forum on the N3F forums located at [www.n3f.org](http://www.n3f.org)). Then again, I may just need to be a helper on that one, like I am with the Welcommittee. It takes more time and effort to be the gal in charge.

I also still don't have a job, so I gotta look at this in perspective. Right now, I probably have the time (if only I could just manage it better and put my first things first), but after I get a job, my time is gonna be crimped. I don't even know if I'm going to be getting a part time or full time job (I really just want anything at this point), so I gotta be careful, otherwise I'll end up letting people down.

I wish I didn't have the need to sleep. Then I could do everything. . . . No, wait, what would happen is I'd wish there were more hours in a day. . . . 'Cause you just know that's how these things work, no if's, and's, or but's about it. Murphy's Law.

I hate you Murphy.

Denise: I believe you asked me if my husband Robert was taking any medication for his ADD. The answer is no. Not because he



doesn't want to be, but because we don't have any medical insurance, and since he's in school he currently doesn't qualify for aid.

The good part is, he's going to school (his father is paying for his schooling, housing, bills and such things – I wish he had decided to do that sooner, but maybe our separation brought out the heart in him. . . .), and not working, so he'll be able to focus on his school work without a problem. It's when he's trying to work AND go to school that his ADD problems really manifested itself.

When he finally can though, he does want to try Modafinil (aka: Provigil).

### *Jennett Kaerie*

Greetings, oh Neffy Conglomerate. First off, I'd like to commend Taras Wolansky for his super-nifty World Con article last ish. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Just out of curiosity, have you ever visited someone, say a neighbor, an old friend, someone from church, or your sister's aunt's ex-roommate, and as you enter their house, you feel that something is inherently wrong or just plain creepy? You know and like the person you're visiting, so you know it has nothing to do with them. And they have furniture, and walls and a floor that's not made out of dirt, so you know it's not any of that either. You're uncomfortable, but you're polite and you have a seat anyway, and as you settle into your chair and have a good look around, you realize what the problem is. Despite all the space available on the walls, there is not a single book. I can't tell you how much this strange phenomenon **creeps me out**.

I mean really, how can someone NOT own any books? Don't they like stories that traverse the inner-workings of the characters - a feat movies can never achieve to the extent that books can – or maybe they prefer self-help books, or science books, poetry or text books. I mean really, how can someone not have ANY BOOKS AT ALL? Don't they at least cook? It's not like people just grab recipes out of their

toosh.

Honestly, the most comfortable house I've ever been in was filled with shelves that were filled with books. The man hardly even had any statues or paintings or anything of the like, it was all just books. Wonderful, glorious, fabulous books. This should be the décor for every home. I mean people who don't own books really ought to be condemned to eating bad escargot for the rest of their miserable, bookless lives.

And another thing. Fish. They're like faeries, only with scales. Now I know there are a lot of raised brows right now, accompanied by the infamous what-the-heck? reaction, but just hear me out and say "What the heck?" later. Here's why they're like faeries: Faeries are small. Fish are small. Okay, so not all fish are small, but the ones I'm talking about are small. Like sardines. Faeries are interesting to look at. Fish are interesting to look at. Especially when you get them in large, panicky groups. Faeries have wings. Fish have fins. Now I know you're all thinking, "Ok, what's the correlation between fins and wings?" I'll tell you.

First, let's break animals down into three basic groups. There are air animals – anything that is capable of flight. Next, land animals – anything completely dependent upon the land. And last, water animals – anything that cannot exist outside of water for an extended period of time.

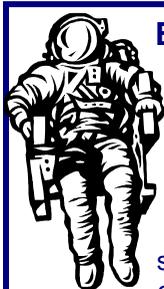
So faeries are air animals, and fish are water animals. First, let's examine the nature of air animals. Air animals use their wings to traverse the four dimensional airways. Unlike land animals, they are not restricted to the four directions of north, south, east and west. While air animals DO have these four directions, they also have "higher" and "lower" and when "higher" and "lower" are combined with north, south, east and west, it makes for a whole limitless set of directions that we haven't even bothered making words for because we, as land animals, don't have the fantastic limitlessness of a four dimensional space.



Water animals are blessed with the same circumstance. In addition to north, south, east and west, they have the “higher” and “lower” directions, or, one could say, “deeper,” and “deeper still.” The only difference is the weight and density of their living conditions. Oxygen isn’t even a legitimate difference because oxygen is in the water, which all fish “breathe” and air can be moist – it contains water. Plus, a fish’s fins serve the exact same purpose as wings do: they are gliding tools for traversing their glorious four dimensional spaces.

So, one could conclude that fish fly through water, or that faeries swim through air. It doesn’t matter which way you prefer to say it, because they are, in effect, doing the exact same thing in different surroundings. Hence, fish and faeries are a lot like.

You may now commence with the, “What the heck?” reaction.



### Editor’s Corner

Apologies for getting this out late. My hard drive failed, and I had to wait for the new one to come in. Of course, the shipment was delayed.

I had to attempt not to sweat too much at the thought of having to redo my entire editing job and asking people to resend their submissions. Luckily that didn’t happen. 99% of my files were saved! Hallelujah!

I hope everyone enjoys this issue.  
Ad Astra!

—Ruth R. Davidson, March Editor.

I don’t understand it. Every time I go to print, it changes everything so now there’s white space where there should be none; and adding something to it would totally destroy what I was trying to do. I suppose I need to find a way to upgrade since this is ridiculous! Sheesh!

## ~\*~ ELECTION RESULTS! ~\*~

Election Teller – Jennett Kaerie

### PRESIDENT:

Chris Garcia 11

### Write Ins:

Harold Marcum 1

Janine Stinson 3

### DIRECTORATE:

Dennis Davis 15

Sarah E. Glasgow 15

Janine Stinson 15

George Phillies 12

Carla Minor 14

### Write ins:

David Speakman 1

Laura Hazelwood 1



CONGRATULATIONS to the winners!

(Or should that be good luck? \*wink grin\*)

Since there was a massive delay in the last ish of TNFF due to the hardcopy being sent to the wrong address (along with our attempts to fix the elections) there was MUCH confusion on whether or not you could still vote for the 2006 Elections. Hence the very few ballots received. Last year we got about three times more ballots (but we were on time with the elections). We’ll do better this year!

If you are interested in running for President or Directorate for the year 2007, start thinking about it now, and get familiar with the Constitution & Bylaws (to be printed in the June ish and available online at [www.n3f.org](http://www.n3f.org)).

Feel free to ask the current Directorate and President any questions you may have.

*[An Editor’s Guide is being written to help prevent things like this from happening again, since we have more than one editor now, sometimes things aren’t communicated as well as they should be. —Ed, and Editorial Cabal Advisor, Ruth R. Davidson]*

# 2006 NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION (N3F) AMATEUR SHORT STORY CONTEST

## Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

- 1: This contest is open to all amateur writers in the field, whether members of N3F or not. We define an amateur as someone who has sold no more than two stories to the professional science fiction or fantasy publications.
- 2: Stories must be original, unpublished, not more than 7500 words in length, and must be science fiction and/or fantasy in the opinion of the judges.
- 3: Manuscripts should be typed on one side of a 8 1/2" x 11" white paper, double spaced, with the title on each page. The name of the author should not appear anywhere on the manuscript to ensure impartial judging. Photo copies are acceptable, if they are of good quality. Computer print outs must be legible.
- 4: Contestants may enter any number of stories, provided each is accompanied by a separate entry blank and fee. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) for the return of the story at the end of the contest. Keep a copy in case of accidental loss. We are not responsible for lost manuscripts.
- 5: Entry fees are \$2 for N3F members in good standing, \$4 for non-members. The extra \$2 is for printing and publicity, paid for by N3F funds. The basic \$2 is for judge's expenses and prizes. Members of N3F are encouraged to enter the contest, but will not receive preference in judging. Due to a long-standing agreement with the British Science Fiction Association, BSFA members pay the same fee as N3F members.
- 6: Cash prizes totaling \$100 will be awarded as follows: First prize is \$50; Second \$30; Third \$20. Honorable mentions and semi-finalists will receive a choice of paperback books available.
- 7: Send all manuscripts, together with SASE's, blanks, and entry fees, to the contest manager: **Jeff Redmond, 1335 Beechwood NE Grand Rapids MI 49505-3830; redmondjeff@hotmail.com** Checks payable to Jeff Redmond. Dollar bills, or unused stamps (mint, not recycled) are acceptable. All entries must be received or post marked no later than **December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006.**
- 8: The Preliminary Judge, who will pick the 10 or 12 semi-finalists, will be a knowledgeable N3F member. The Final Judge will be a professional writer.
- 9: The N3F assumes no publishing rights or obligations. We want to encourage pro sales, not fan publication. All entries will be returned after the contest is over. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. A full report will be made to N3F soon after the first of the year.

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### ENTRY BLANK

(Detach or not, as you wish, but must accompany story)

**Title of Story** (for identification): \_\_\_\_\_

**Author's Name & Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is the entry fee of \$4 (N3F or BSFA member \$2)

I have read the rules for the 2006 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and agree to them.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Submission Guidelines

**Publishing Schedule:** The zine publishes four times a year (quarterly) in March, June, September, and December.

**Deadlines:** The 15th day of the month preceding the publication month. As an example, material intended for the June issue should be in the Editor's hands by May 15. *If it doesn't get here in time, it goes in the next issue.* Watch for updates for this information.

**What We Publish:** The zine is still the official clubzine for N3F, so it includes all the stuff that it has always published. Added to that will be the letter column from *Tightbeam* and whatever else members submit: reviews (book, movie, TV show, game, etc.), con-reports, genre poetry, flash fiction (original short stories under 1000 words), and other fannish texts. Art is always needed; if it can be sent by disk or email please contact the editor for the appropriate format. *Please send only copies of your work, whether it is art or text.*

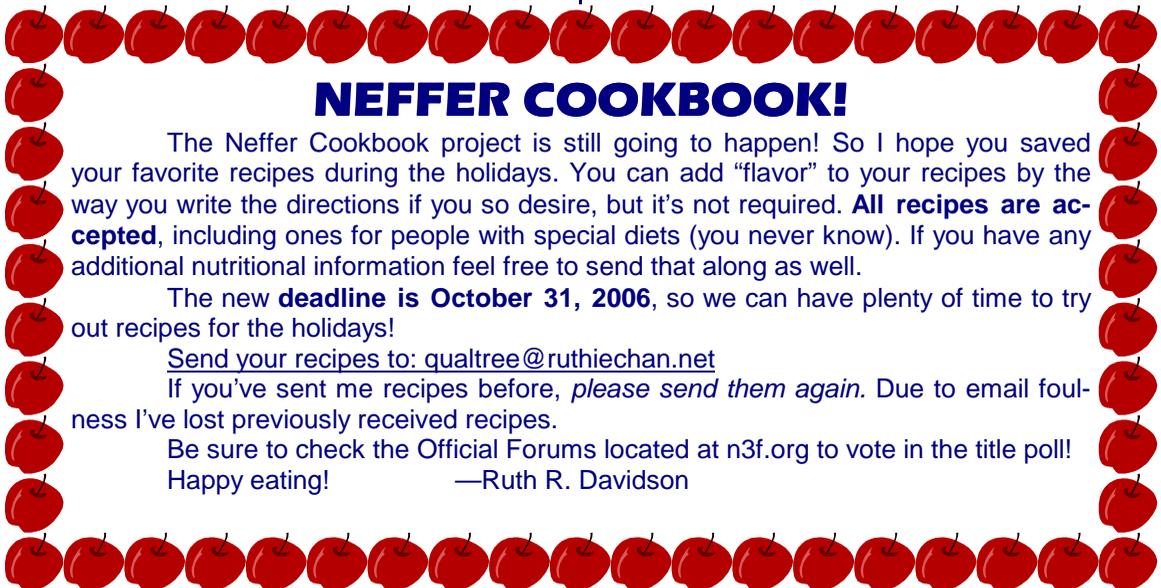
**Formats We Will Accept:** Paper copies are always welcome. Before you send disk or email files please contact the editor for that issue

concerning the format which he/she can accept. Unexpected format files can be eaten by virus checkers.

### **Not Sure What to Send?**

For articles, etc: If you've never submitted an article to any zine, and aren't comfortable with writing an article per se, you can always write about something in an LoC and the editor can do a bit of editing to turn it into an article. More than one article started out that way. Bureau reports, articles, LoCs, con-reports, poetry, flash fiction (original short stories under 1000 words), art; are welcome and needed.

**Art and Reviews:** The formation of the Editorial Cabal helps to spread the work about, hopefully creating a more timely publication of The Fan. In order to facilitate this *Art should be sent to the Art Editor*, Sarah E. Glasgow 289 Tradewinds Dr. #8 San Jose, CA 95123; [ysult\\_sg@yahoo.com](mailto:ysult_sg@yahoo.com). *Reviews should be sent to the Review Editor*, Jon Swartz, 1704 Street, Georgetown, TX 78626



## **NEFFER COOKBOOK!**

The Neffer Cookbook project is still going to happen! So I hope you saved your favorite recipes during the holidays. You can add "flavor" to your recipes by the way you write the directions if you so desire, but it's not required. **All recipes are accepted**, including ones for people with special diets (you never know). If you have any additional nutritional information feel free to send that along as well.

The new **deadline is October 31, 2006**, so we can have plenty of time to try out recipes for the holidays!

Send your recipes to: [qualtree@ruthiechan.net](mailto:qualtree@ruthiechan.net)

If you've sent me recipes before, *please send them again*. Due to email foulness I've lost previously received recipes.

Be sure to check the Official Forums located at [n3f.org](http://n3f.org) to vote in the title poll!

Happy eating!

—Ruth R. Davidson

# The National Fantasy Fan (N3F) Membership Form

New Member    Reinstatement    Joint/Family Membership    Gift Membership

Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB (for the Birthday Bureau): \_\_\_\_\_

Joint/Family Memberships can include other names and info on the back of this form.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please check your current SF/F related interests.

<input type="checkbox"/> APA's	<input type="checkbox"/> Collecting	<input type="checkbox"/> Filksinging	<input type="checkbox"/> Round Robins
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Artwork	<input type="checkbox"/> Games	(group letters)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cartooning	<input type="checkbox"/> Books	<input type="checkbox"/> Movies/T.V.	<input type="checkbox"/> Taping
<input type="checkbox"/> Computers	<input type="checkbox"/> Comics/Manga	<input type="checkbox"/> Online Activites	<input type="checkbox"/> Audio
<input type="checkbox"/> Conventions	<input type="checkbox"/> Fanzines	<input type="checkbox"/> Publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> DVD/Video
<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence (penpals)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Sci-fi
	<input type="checkbox"/> Editing	<input type="checkbox"/> Reviewing	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing

- Which would you prefer?:

A: *The e-Fan* in .PDF format sent to your **valid** email address? \_\_\_\_\_

B: *TNFF* printed and mailed to your home address or PO Box? \_\_\_\_\_

- How long have you been interested in Science Fiction and Fantasy?: \_\_\_\_\_

- How long have you been involved in Fandom?: \_\_\_\_\_

- List any other clubs you are or have been a member of: \_\_\_\_\_

- List any conventions you've attended: \_\_\_\_\_

- What Prozines and Fanzines do you read if any?: \_\_\_\_\_

- What is your favorite type of SF/F?: \_\_\_\_\_

- Who are your favorite SF/F Authors?: \_\_\_\_\_

- Are you interested in online activities? If yes, what type?: \_\_\_\_\_

- Which (if any) of the following would you be willing to help the Club with?

Artwork    Corresponding    Publishing    Recruiting at Conventions    Writing for club publications    Organizing Activities    Other(s): \_\_\_\_\_

- Name of Sponsoring Member (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

- How did you hear of us? \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Dues are \$18 per year (\$22 for Joint Memberships) which includes subscriptions to the club's fanzine as well as other activities and benefits. Make checks or money orders payable to William Center (the treasurer). All payments must be made in U.S. funds. Mail dues and application to club secretary

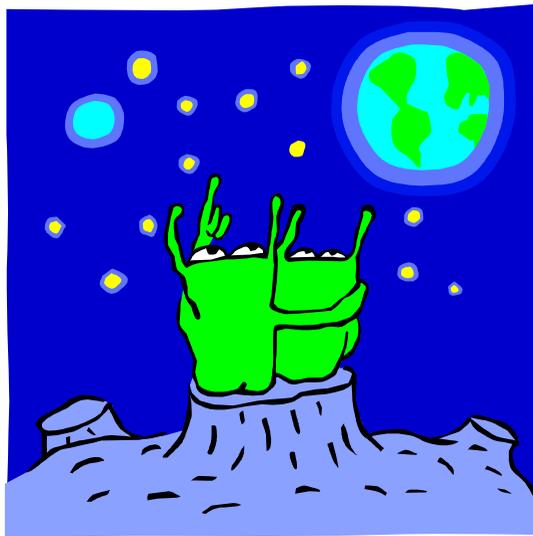
Dennis Davis, 25549 Byron St., San Bernadino, CA 92404-6403, n3f\_info@yahoo.com

Please allow 8 weeks for your first zine to arrive. You can also sign up online at [www.n3f.org](http://www.n3f.org)

*Send all address corrections  
and undeliverable copies to:*

**Dennis L. Davis  
25549 Byron Street  
San Bernardino, CA  
92404-6403**

**Postage  
HERE**



**ADDRESS LABELS  
HERE**