

The National Fantasy Fan

Volume 75 Number 6

June 2016

Franson Award

The Franson Award is named in honor of long time Neffer Donald Franson (1916-2002), whose service to our Federation would take long paragraphs to list, let alone describe.

This award was started because past N3F Presidents wanted to give a show of appreciation to people – even those who may have won the Kaymar Award (which you can only win once). Unlike our other awards, the Franson Award is given as a personal decision by our President.

As your President, it is my great honor and privilege to be able to give the Franson award for 2015 to N3F Secretary David Speakman, who despite an enormous work schedule, family issues, and much more *did not gafiate!* His work in maintaining our membership and financial records was of inestimable value to the N3F. Without it we might well have ceased to exist.

2016 Neffy Awards Nominations

Nominations for the 2016 National Fantasy Fan Federation Speculative Fiction Awards are now complete. The Neffy Ballot will appear in the August issue of TNFF, giving members plenty of time to discuss the merits of the nominees.

The astute reader will recall that we actually asked for nominations in a long list of categories. Curiously, while we had a considerable number of nominations they were narrowly distributed. Indeed we have nominations for Best Novel, Best Paper Series Novel, Best

Editor, Best TV Show, Best Comic, and Best Film.

The 2016 Neffy Award nominations are

Best Novel

Somewhither—John C. Wright

Shadows of Self—Brandon Sanderson

Best Paper Series Novel

163X—Eric Flint

Schooled in Magic—Chris Nuttall

Safehold—David Weber

Best Editor

Peter Buch (Elsewhen)

Sheila Gilbert (DAW)

Toni Weisskopf (Baen)

Best TV Show

Supergirl

Sense8 Season 1 Jonathan Strange miniseries

The Expanse

Jessica Jones

Humans

Best Comic

Astro City

Girl Genius

Naruto

Best Film

What We Do in Shadows

The Martian

The Lobster

Ex Machina

Remember, there is a Facebook group N3F.org at which these nominees can be discussed.



Contributions Needed! We need more reports! We need more art! We need more letters and comments, and fan-nish news of every sort. Please send to the Editor of this, our Official Organ: George Phillis, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester MA 01609 phil-lies@4liberty.net 508 754 1859



Your Volunteer Team

Directorate:

Heath Row kalel@well.com
 David Speakman davodd@gmail.com
 Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
 Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
 R-Laurraine Tutihasi lauraine@mac.com

President: George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
Treasurer: David Speakman davodd@gmail.com

Editorial Cabal:

Editor and Publisher, TNFF: George Phillies
 phillies@4liberty.net
 Art Editor, TNFF: Cedar Sanderson cedar-
 lila@gmail.com
 Editor and Publisher, Tightbeam **Vacant**
 Keeper of the URLs: Ruth Davidson
 Host of the Web Site: David Speakman
 davodd@gmail.com

Bureau Heads

Artist's Bureau: Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@gmail.com
 Birthday Cards: R-Laurraine Tutihasi lauraine@
 mac.com; Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@yahoo.com
 Convention Calendar: new volunteer needed
 Games Bureau: George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
 Gourmet Editor: Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@gmail.com
 Historian: Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
 Membership Recruitment: Kevin Trainor
 wombat.soho@gmail.com
 N'APA: Jean Lamb tlambsl138@charter.net
 N3F Bookwyrms: Graham and Wolf leeandjj@gmail.com
 Round Robins: Patricia Williams-King doofusming@
 yahoo.com Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@yahoo.com
 Short Story Contest: Jefferson Swycaffer
 abontides@gmail.com
 Video Schedule: David Speakman davodd@gmail.com
 Welcomittee: Judy Carroll
 autumnseas8012@yahoo.com
 Writers Exchange Bureau: Judy Carroll
 autumnseas8012@yahoo.com

Support the N3F! Volunteer Now!

Many New Volunteers are needed: Electronic Publica-
 tion Support, Readers for the Blind, Con Listings,
 Advertising, Convention Hospitality, Outreach, Corre-
 spondence, Comics, Films.

Where We're Going

Cras ad stellae — Tomorrow to the Stars

It's 2016. Fantasy fandom is reaching new highs. Big-budget, big-return motions pictures are mostly fantasy. When I was a little boy, we could be grateful that there was one SF show on the air during each year. We now have an SF channel. The computer game industry is now three times the size of Holly-wood; it sells fantasy of all sorts. Fantasy games, starting with D&D as designed by my late friends Gary Gygax and David Arneson, is a big part of the lives of young people. Courtesy of the Internet, Kindle, and Smashwords, SF novel publishing has soared beyond the wildest dreams of past generations.

Now should be our time. The National Fantasy Fan Federation is the oldest international fantasy organization in the world. It's time to reach out, to put our names and our activities before the fannish public. It's time to create a world in which fen automatically choose to become public and dues-paying members of the N3F, because we are the source of news and events and ideas that all fen no matter where they live will want to experience.

To put this into effect, I am recruiting new people to head new bureaus, or to be added to old bureaus. We are fen, not bu-reaucrats; creatures with several heads are obviously SFnal.

Art Bureau

Art, Pages 3, 4, 10 ... from Cedar Sanderson

Welcomittee

Greetings Members!

Besides greeting new members and giving them information about the club the Welcomittee also has the responsibility of contacting 'old' members to see how they are doing.

Well, I have some GREAT news. We are in the process of doing just that! I am so excited about this. I have wanted to contact 'old' members since I became the bureau head last July, but I didn't have the resources. The resources are available now that the Welcomittee is no longer an "I" but a "We."

I will keep you updated on how this is going in the July TNFF.

Join or Renew

We offer four different memberships. Memberships with zines via paper mail are \$18; memberships with zines via email are \$6. Additional memberships at the address of a current member are \$4. Public memberships are free. Send payments to N3F, POB 1925, Mountain View CA 94042. or pay online at N3F.org

COPYRIGHT NOTICE: All material in this issue, unless expressly noted otherwise, is contributed for one-time use only in this publication in its various print and electronic forms including fair use in electronic archival libraries. All other copyrights are retained by the contributor. Other use of any portion of this publication in any media requires the express permission of the current (at time reproduction is to be made) President and Directorate of N3F or the original copyright holder.

The National Fantasy Fan (Bonfire), Vol. LXXV,
 No. 6, June

2016, ISSN 2169-3595. Published monthly by The
 National Fantasy Fan Federation.

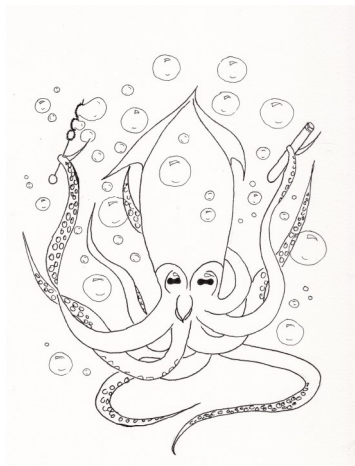
If you would like to join the Welcommittee please contact
Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Wanted: Members!

Your N3F needs more members. It is only through members that we have fannish activities. Remember, electronic memberships are only \$6. Associate Memberships, while non-voting, are **free**! Please recruit your fannish friends as members.

Birthday Card Bureau

Five birthday cards were sent out in May
R-Laurraine Tutihasi



Kraken

Cedar Sanderson

Bubbles —

New and Reinstated Members

Paul Dellinger - Public, Non-Voting
pmd7@hotmail.com
Daniel Wiener - Public, Non-Voting
wiener@alum.mit.edu

New Members

Michael O'Brien - Electronic Voting

Stephanie Souders - Regular Voting
Stephainie's Mystery Household Member - Household Voting

Kevin Welch - Electronic Voting
Birthday: April 7
Interests: APAs (amateur press associations), Blogging, Books, Computers and technology, Correspondence, Fanzines, Round robins (group letters), Writing
Fan since: 1960
Fanac: 20 years
Zines: Efanazines.org
Genres: Hard, cyberpunk
Faves: "William Gibson, M John Harrison, Ian Banks.
Liked Jeff Vandemeer's Southern Reach Trilogy a lot. I think of George R R Martin as the guy who wrote A Song for Lya.

As for film, I liked The Martian more than The Force Awakens."

N3F Interests: Writing for club publications , Corresponding

JM Hilton - Public Non-Voting
77spoon@gmail.com

Interests: APAs (amateur press associations), Art, Audio, Blogging, Books, Cartooning, cartoons, and animation, Collecting, Comic books, Computers and technology, Correspondence, DVDs and videos, Editing , Fanzines, Filk singing, Games and video games, Online activities, Publishing, Reading and book clubs, Reviewing

Fan since" "forever"

Fanac: 25 years

Cons: GenCon, MiniCon, Convergence, DragonCon

Zines: "Anything I can get my hands on!"

Genres: "A good read!"

Faves: "(In no particular order) Larry Correia, Michael Z Williamson, John Ringo, David Weber, David Freer, Mercedes Lackey, Julie Wetzel, Jane Lindskold, Sarah A Hoyt, Robert A Heinlein, HP Lovecraft, David Gemmell, Sir Terry Pratchett.... So many amazing authors!"

Cynthia Bagley - Electronic, Voting
cynbagley@hotmail.com

Mundane Job: Writer

Interests: Blogging, Books, Computers and technology, Editing , Online activities, Publishing, Reading and book clubs, Reviewing, Writing

Fan since: 1971

Fanac: New

Other Clubs: Amateur radio

Cons/Zines: None

Genres: Urban Fantasy

Contemporary Fantasy

Pulp sci-fi

Faves: Andre Norton
Ray Bradbury
Terry Pratchett
Jim Butcher
Anne Bishop
Pam Uphoff
Larry Correia
Tolkien

Robert Heinlein

Patricia C Wrede

Patricia Briggs

Ilona Andrews

J.R. Rain

Cedar Sanderson

Sarah A Hoyt

Dave Freer

Sabrina Chase

Sponsoring Member: Cedar Sanderson

N3F Interests: Writing for club publications , Corresponding

John Thiel - Public, Non-Voting
kinethiel@comcast.net

Mundane Job: Social Organizer

Interests: Art, Books, Correspondence, Fanzines, Online activities

Fan since: 1950s
 Fanac since: 1950s
 Other clubs: SF Fandom (Facebook)--administrator
 F&SF Appreciation Society (Facebook)--administrator
 Analog Club (Facebook)
 Asimov's Group (Facebook)
 SF Fans Unite (Facebook)
 Society for the Preservation of SF Fandom (Facebook)

Cons:
 3 Windycons in Chicago
 World SF Convention in Chicago
 Autoclave 2 in Detroit
 Starbase Indy in Indianapolis
 Hoosiercon in South Bend, Indiana
 Wabashcon in Lafayette, Indiana

Zines:
 IASFM, F&SF and Analog
 efanazines lineup
 Genres:
 speculative sf
 meaningful fantasy

Renewed

Jeff Barnes EXP: 3/31/2017 - Regular
 Thomas McGovern EXP: 3/31/2017 - Electronic
 June E Vigil-Storm EXP: 3/31/2017 - Regular
 Diane & Bob Blackwood - EXP 4/30/2017
 Cedar Sanderson & Sanford Bagley - EXP 11/30/2017
 (Gift)

Expiring

Expired in April
 Diane and Bob Blackwood
 Tom Feller
 Keith Walker
 Holly Wilson
 Roy J. Moore
 Logan L Masterson

Expiring in May & June
 No one! Thanks for renewing early!

Status Changes

Jean Lamb EXP Feb 2016 - To Public
 Ray F Nelson EXP Feb 2016 - To Dropped (no email address)
 Steve Snyder - EXP 3/31/2016 - To Dropped (no email address)

Treasurer's Report June 19

2,600.51 (Apr. 18, 2016)
 + 58.00 Paypal Dues
 + 0.00 Cash Dues
 + 18.00 Check Dues
 - 0.00 Reimbursements
 - 3.17 PayPal Fees
 + 0.00 Interest

 2673.64 (May 17, 2016)
 + 6.00 Paypal Dues

+ 10.00 Cash Dues
 + 22.00 Check Dues
 - 10.00 Reimbursements (Postage)
 - 0.47 PayPal Fees
 + 0.00 Interest

2701.17 (June 19, 2016)



Reading Helpers — Cedar Sanderson

SF Magazines: Famous Fantastic Mysteries

by
 Jon D. Swartz
 N3F Historian

Famous Fantastic Mysteries (FFM) was an American science fiction (SF) and fantasy pulp magazine published from 1939 to 1953. The editor was Mary Gnaedinger. It was launched by the Munsey Company as a way to reprint the many SF and fantasy stories which had appeared over the preceding decades in the popular Munsey magazines, principally Argosy.

The first issue of FFM was dated September/October, 1939; the magazine was successful almost immediately. Less than a year after FFM appeared, a companion magazine, Fantastic Novels, began publication.

Frequently reprinted authors included A. Merritt and Austin Hall; the artwork was also a major reason for the success of FFM, with artists such as Virgil Finlay and Lawrence Stevens contributing some of their best work.

In late 1942 Popular Publications acquired the title from Munsey, and FFM stopped reprinting short stories from the earlier magazines. It continued to reprint longer works, however, including stories by H. Rider Haggard and H. G. Wells. Original short fiction also began to appear, including Arthur C. Clarke's "Guardian Angel," which would later form the first section of his novel Childhood's End.

In 1951, the publisher experimented briefly with a large digest format, but returned quickly to the original pulp layout. The magazine finally ceased publication in 1953, almost at the end of the pulp magazine era.

A Companion Magazine

Fantastic Novels Magazine (FN) was a companion magazine to FFM. It also reprinted classic SF and fantasy stories. The reason given for the magazine was that it would publish the longer, classic works which – if reprinted in FFM – would take years to publish in their entirety.

Fantastic Novels was published by Munsey from 1940 to 1941, and then by Popular Publications from 1948 to 1951. The magazine lasted for 5 issues in its first incarnation, and for another 20 in the revived version from Popular Publications. Mary Gnaedinger, editor of FFM, also edited both series of Fantastic Novels.

Famous novels reprinted in Fantastic Novels included Austin Hall & Homer Eon Flint's *The Blind Spot*, Ray Cummings' *The Girl in the Golden Atom* and *The People of the Golden Atom*, A. Merritt's *The Dwellers in the Mirage*, Ralph Milne Farley's *The Radio Beasts*, and Garrett P. Serviss' *The Second Deluge*.

Reprints

A Canadian reprint edition, with identical contents and dates, began in February, 1948, from All Fiction Field; in October, 1951 the publisher became Popular Publications, Toronto, but this was just a name change rather than a change of ownership. The final Canadian issue was dated August, 1952; these issues were approximately half an inch longer than the U.S. versions.

A Canadian edition of Fantastic Novels from 1948 to 1951 reprinted 17 issues of the second series; two others were reprinted in Great Britain in 1950 and 1951, respectively.

An anthology, *Famous Fantastic Mysteries*, published in 1991, contained 30 of the most popular stories from the two magazines (see the Bibliography).

Mary Gnaedinger

Mary C. Gnaedinger (1897 – 1976) is best known today as a magazine editor of pulp magazines. Born Mary Catherine Jacobson, she attended the Columbia University School of Journalism. After stints as a society reporter for the *Brooklyn Eagle* and work for E. P. Dutton, she became editor of *Famous Fantastic Mysteries* in 1939 and *Famous Novels Magazine* in 1940.

Although it is doubtful she was very active as a SF fan, Frederik Pohl once listed her as a member of the Futurians -- and Damon Knight said she attended Fururian meetings in his book about the club.

A Few Conclusions

At the very least, FFM answered the requests of those readers who wanted access to classic SF and fantasy stories of the past.

Moreover, more than any other of its contemporaries, FFM illustrated the ties between modern SF and the traditional body of American and British fantasy. In addition, the magazine kept in print many works of genre fiction that would otherwise have been lost. Moreover, some SF/fantasy stories were published from non-SF authors, thereby introducing these authors and their works to SF readers.

Although not the first magazine to reprint classic SF/fantasy stories, FFM and FN may have been the most distinguished. Most of the novel-length stories reprinted could be classified as scientific romances, a sub-genre that was originally applied to the fiction of H. G. Wells in the UK and which became very popular reading in the United States during World War I. Many of the scientific romance stories have endured and are now seen as classic SF and fantasy; indeed, some are even seen as literature by critics and the general public.

For all these reasons, these two pulp magazines were important in the history of the SF/fantasy genre.

Sources

Bowman, Ray F. *An Index to Famous Fantastic Mysteries & Fantastic Novels Magazine*. Carmel, IN: Author, 1991.

Clute, John & Peter Nicholls (eds.). *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*. London: Orbit, 1993.

Dziemianowicz, Stefan R., Robert Weinberg, & Martin Greenberg (eds.). *Famous Fantastic Mysteries*. NY: Gramercy Books, 1991.

Knight, Damon. *The Futurians*. NY: John Day, 1977.

Stableford, Brian. *Historical Dictionary of Science Fiction Literature*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow, 2004.

Tuck, Donald H. *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction and Fantasy, Volume 3: Miscellaneous*. Chicago: Advent, 1982.

Tymn, Marshall B. & Mike Ashley (eds.). *Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Weird Fiction Magazines*. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 1985.

Note: In addition to the above sources, several Internet sites were consulted, including Fancyclopedia 3, ISFDB, and Wikipedia.

N3F Founders: Forrest J Ackerman

by
Jon D. Swartz
N3F Historian

Forry Ackerman (1916 - 2008) began reading science fiction (SF) in 1926 with the October issue of *Amazing Stories*, and was a SF fan and collector the rest of his life. He

was also an agent, editor, anthologist, and writer. He was an associate editor of one of the first SF fanzines, *The Time Traveler*, and film editor of *Science Fiction Digest* in the early 1930s. In 1934 he was a founding member of LASFS, the oldest local science fiction fan organization still in existence today. From 1939-1947 he was associated with the publication of the club's fanzine *Voice of the Imagination* (VOM).

Ackerman used scores of pseudonyms over the years, including 4. E van Ackerman, Terri Abrahams, Dr. Acula, Jack Erman, Jacques DeForest Erman, Laurajean Ermayne, Alden Lorraine, Aime Merritt, Vespertina Torgosi, Claire Voyant, Hubert George Wells, and Weaver Wright. In addition, he was known in SF fandom by many nicknames, including 4E, 4e, 4SJ, Forry, and FJA. He served in the United States Army during World War II, and came home with yet another nickname: Sgt. Ack-Ack. In fan circles he was referred to as both "Mr. Science Fiction" and as "Science Fiction's Number One Fan."

Ray Bradbury once called him "the most important fan/collector/human being in the history of science-fantasy fiction." Ackerman early embraced the cause of Esperanto, and his other eccentricities included a fondness for simplified language, neologisms, and puns. He always insisted that no period appear after his middle initial when using his "official name" of Forrest J Ackerman. First SF publication: "A Trip to Mars" in the *San Francisco Chronicle* (1929); First professional SF publication: "The Nymph of Darkness" (1935) [with C. L. Moore]; First edited SF book: *The Frankenscience Monster* (1969).

His honors/awards were many, including: GoH, First International Science Fiction Convention (London), 1951; First Hugo Award, 1953 (Number One Fan Personality); FGoH, Worldcon, 1964; Inkpot, 1974; GoH, Lunacon, 1974; Saturn, 1975; GoH, First Pan-Germanic Con, 1957; many other awards, including a World Fantasy Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2002. In addition, he is credited with many "firsts" -- such as inventing convention nicknames like Chicon, Nycon, and Philcon. He was the first to wear a futuristic costume at a convention, thereby starting the costume ball tradition. He created the term sci-fi (now used mainly to identify SF in the media), and also is credited with the creation of monster fandom due to the enormous success of his magazine *Famous Monsters of Film-land*.

Ackerman wrote several non-fiction books and edited many anthologies of fiction and non-fiction, including *Science Fiction Worlds of Forrest J Ackerman and Friends* (1969), *Amazing Forries* (1976), *Best Science Fiction for 1973* (1973), *Gosh! Wow! (Sense of Wonder) Science Fiction* (1982), *Lon of 1000 Faces* (1983), *Mr. Sci-Fi's Scientifiction Cards* (1991) [set of 45 collector cards featuring SF movie lobby cards from the Ackerman archives]; *New Eves: Science Fiction About the Extraordinary Women of Today and Tomorrow* (1994) [with others], *Reel Future* (1994) [with Jean Stine], *Ackermanthology: 65 Astonishing Rediscovered Sci-Fi Shorts* (1997), and *Forrest J Ackerman's World of Science Fiction* (1997). More recent Ackerman works were *Rainbow Fantasia: 35 Spectromatic Tales of Wonder* (2001); *Famous Forry Fotos: Over 70 Years of AckerMemories* (2001); the illustrated anthology dedicated to Edgar Rice Burroughs, *Martianthology* [edited by Anne Hardin] (2003); and *Worlds of Tomorrow: The Amazing Universe of Science Fiction Art* (2004) [with Brad Linaweaver]. Ackerman edited *The Gernsback Awards, Volume 1, 1926*

(1982), an anthology consisting of retro SF awards and probably his most important published work. Ackerman also edited the American edition of the *Perry Rhodan* series (1969-1977).

He was to have been editor of the magazine *Sci-Fi*, announced in 1956, but the publisher-to-be went bankrupt and the magazine never appeared. *Wonder Magazine* #7 (1993) featured a tribute to Forry Ackerman and a look inside the now-closed Ackermansion. Ackerman on his legacy: "I have devoted my life to amassing over a quarter million pieces of sf and fantasy as a present to posterity and I hope to be remembered as an altruist who would have been an acceptable citizen in Utopia."

At the time of his death, he was a member of LASFS, First Fandom, and the N3F, the only Lifetime Member of our club at that time. He also had the distinction of being one of N3F's founding members.

Sources: "The Ackerman Story" in the Fall-Winter 1952 issue (Vol. 1, No. 2) of *Fantastic Worlds*; Forrest J Ackerman: *The Best Friend a Science Fiction Fan Ever Had* (1974); *Fancy-clopedia 3*, ISFDB; Wikipedia.

Round Robins

Snail Mail—Patsy's List

Round Robin List-May 20, 2016

The Robins maintained by Patricia Williams-King:
A List Of Currently Active Round Robins, And The Number Of Members, Includes:

- Worldwide Folklore-4
- The Speculative In Films-4
- Star Trek: DS9+7NG-4
- Fairy And Folktales-5
- Dreams-3
- Mysticism And Religion-4
- Celtic Folklore And Druid Pagan Folklore-4
- Harry Potter Books And Movies-4 Mercedes Lackey-3
- Mythology-4
- Science Fiction And Fantasy In Films-3
- Star Trek:VOY+EHT-5
- Star Trek: Classic/TOS-5
- Star Wars Books And Movies-4
- Star Wars: The Force Awakens-4
- Guardians Of The Galaxy-3
- The Maze Runners-4
- The Martian, Movie-4

Round Robins That Appear To Be Inactive Or Lost:

- Current Reading-4
- Firefly/Serenity-5
- CJ Cherry-4
- Horror-4
- J.R.R. Tolkien The Lord Of The Ring-5
- Sherlock Holmes-5
- Science And Technology Society-4
- Thieves World-5
- Women SF And F Writers-4
- Darkover/MZB-4
- Jim Butcher/Dresden Files-3
- The Hunger Games-3
- Terry Pratchett/Disc World-4
- High Technology In The Ancient World-4

General Science Fiction TV And Movies-4

Snail Mail - Judy's List

Last month I said I was going to revise the RR. I feel a broader range of subjects rather than specific subjects will make the RR more appealing and longer lasting.

The following RR are now combined and become Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror in TV, Movies and Books.

(Any movie, TV series or book that comes under this subject can be discussed here.)

- Marvels Agents of Shield - TV series
- Beauty and the Beast - TV series with Kristin Kreuk and Jay Ryan

- Avenger Movies
- Divergent Series
- Star Wars
- The Hunger Games
- Grimm - TV series
- Falling Skies - TV series
- The Maze Runner - Books and Movies
- Once Upon a Time - TV series
- General Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror
- Jurassic Park/World Movies
- Star Trek Movies - Old vs. New
- Science Fiction and Fantasy Movie Remakes
- Supergirl - TV series
- Tim Burton Movies

Individual Authors has now become Writers and Their Works - Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror

(Any author who writes Science Fiction, Fantasy, or Horror can be discussed here.)

- Neil Gaiman - Books and Movies - George R.R. Martin - Game of Thrones - Books and TV series
- Diana Gabaldon - Outlander - Books and TV series
- Dean Koontz - Odd Thomas Books
- Margaret Atwood - The Maddaddam Trilogy
- Octavia E. Butler - Seed to Harvest Series
- Jim Butcher - The Dresden Files
- David Weber

The following are Stand Alone

- Fairy Tales and Folklore
- Beauty and the Beast in Fairy Tales, Movies and TV
- Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Artists
- Japanese Anime
- Cartoons and Cartooning
- Science Fiction Fantasy and Horror Video Games
- Comics and Graphic Novels

The following have been Dropped

- Horror
- Dragon
- Zombies
- General Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Books
- Dreams
- Current Reading

Seeking More Members - An RR needs at least 3 members to start rounding.

- Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror in TV, Movies and Books - 2 members

- Writers and Their Works - Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror - 2 members
- Fairy Tales and Folklore - 2 members
- Beauty and the Beast in Fairy Tales, Movies and TV - 1 member

If you see any RR you would like to join please contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Electronic Round Robins

We need at least 3 members to start an ERR. Following is the list of current ERR:

- The Marvel Universe
- DC Superheroes and Villains
- All Things Star Wars
- Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror in TV, Movies and Books
- Beauty and the Beast in Fairy Tales, Books, Movies and on TV
- Writers and Their Works - Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror

Bookworms - In this ERR the members read and discuss books from a list selected by the Bureau Heads of the Bookworms reading club. Currently they have 3 members.

For more information about the Bookworms reading list and their round robin contact --- Graham & Wolf lee-andjj@gmail.com

If you see an ERR you would like to join contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Letters of Comment

1706-24 Eva Rd.
Etobicoke, ON
CANADA M9C 2B2
June 5, 2016

Dear Neffers:

Hello, all, thank you for The National Fantasy Fan Vol. 75 No. 5, and here's a fast loc on a Sunday morning...

Looks like the club is quite busy, with lots of projects on the go, but to many members, it probably looks like it's the same people doing everything. I hope some who notice that will step forward to volunteer, and see what running part of the club is like. In my own experiences, I found it very fulfilling, and it's something to add to your resume, too.

I didn't know that Jack Robins lived in Niagara Falls. I suspect he wouldn't recognize the Niagara Falls on either side of the border. I certainly understand Jack's desire to join the big group; I've wanted to, as well. In many ways, the big group is a close-knit group who may not want outsiders to become insiders, so it is human nature to decide that it wasn't what you really wanted, anyway. I just wish Jack had lived long enough to see the feedback he got on his extended article; he would have enjoyed the egoboo.

As good as it is to see the fannish history that is the foundation of Jack Robins' writings, it is also good to see Jon Swartz's articles on the history of the N3F, and of science

fiction in decades past. Fanhistorians have always seen the need to record our history, and I hope there might be a gathering of all the fannish history texts out there that may outlive the phenomenon of SF fandom.

Well, I did say it would be fast. Many thanks for sending them, and please do continue. See you with the next one.

Yours,
Lloyd Penney.

Editor::

Ken Burnside's *The Hot Equations*, a non-fiction look at the laws of thermodynamics and their implications for space travel in hard SF, was nominated for a Hugo last year in the Best Related Work category. It's not my intent to reopen the arguments from last year's Hugos—in my opinion we're better off looking to the future, not obsessing over the past—but I hope I can be forgiven for saying that I was sad to see such a deserving work get overlooked in all the kerfuffle.

Burnside's released a sequel, *Condition Zulu*, which gives a hard science look at the traditional weapons of SF space fleets. From mass drivers to relativistic kinetic kill weapons to nuclear-pumped X-ray lasers, Burnside does an excellent job showing how reality disagrees with our preconceptions. Additionally, where *The Hot Equations* was purely nonfiction, *Condition Zulu* includes a novella-length piece of fiction that shows many of the ideas described in the previous two books.

I recommend it wholeheartedly to anyone who loved *The Hot Equations* for wants to get a better understanding of hard SF and space combat.

I paid \$2.99 for it from Ad Astra Games. It's hard to beat the price. Interested fans should look at adastragames.com/products/conditionzulu

Yours respectfully,
Rob Hansen

Hi George,

I hate to see the ending of the series about the early days of fans. The loss is ameliorated a bit because he got it published. There are worse monuments to leave behind one than a record of those things that gave you enjoyment.

I've recently been playing a game I found through the open source community. It's called Oolite. Seems to have been a Mac game at one time called Elite. This one is multi-platform doesn't require a superpowered gaming comp and has an enormous number of optional addon mods so you can tailor it to your style. It is worth a view of their site and wiki even if you aren't a comp gamer. You can even download and print out the ships in paper versions to use for SF decoration.

I also noted that John McEwan has a new edition of the Starguard rules out. That game (miniatures SF skirmish) has been around for 42 years. I helped him a bit on the 5th edition (25 years at that time) so time sure does fly past when you're keeping busy.

Another SF comp game I did playtesting on was Decision Games' *Struggle for the Galactic Empire*. It is available in both comp and boardgame form. It is quite different from most games in the span and player viewpoint. It owes a lot to the Foundation series from Asimov. They have a smaller section of the same universe but I haven't got a copy yet. They keep pushing a re-done version of *Battlefleet Mars* back onto their schedule for reprinting. That game was an interesting one when it came out. It even had moving planets on the map tracks.

For those fans with medical problems, seems to go with age, don't despair and don't give up. Medical practice has come a long way and half the fight is your part in it. It is Hell to go through but the impulse to give up is your worst and most pernicious enemy. I speak from experience. So keep on keepin' on as we used to say in the Haight Ashbury days.

Warm Regards
Dave Haren

Writers Exchange Bureau

I am going to be trying different things in the following months; To Entertain, To Get Your Attention, To Make You Think, To Make You Curious, To Make You Wonder, To Make You Want To Write!

The Writers Exchange Bureau is here to help the published writer and you; the would be, want to be, dream to be, writer. You don't have to have the goal of publishing to be a writer. You can write in your personal journals, record your life story for your children, write down the stories your father or mother told you every night before going to bed. You can write for yourself to get those frustrating feelings out or to record a special memory you want to relive again.

Writing most anything can be tough and time consuming and frustrating and nerve wracking. I have wanted to write since I was a child. Except for a brief time, many years ago, I have only written three stories. Unfortunately, I have misplaced them. I can only remember brief scenes and fragments here and there. I have been asked to write them again, but alas, I don't remember them that well, and I so wish I had taken better care of them for I fear they are lost forever. I have written a few poems and memories and started many stories that never saw an ending. Part of me cries out for the lost fragments of stories and the memories buried so deep only death can find them.

But all is not lost.

Since becoming the bureau head of the Writers Exchange and the Welcomittee I have started writing again. Nothing big, yet. I get to write articles every month in TNFF. This forces me to write - something. But better than that I started a story last fall that I hope to finish soon. This creative endeavor was brought about because of two people, a family member who challenged me to write a story and Jefferson Swycaffer, who keeps encouraging me to keep moving forward. (Jefferson is a published writer, a member of the N3F and the only other reader in the Writers Exchange Bureau.)

The encouragement and the understanding and the push to carry a writing project to its completion is what we offer here - not criticism, not judgment, but friendship from one who has been there, done that (Jefferson) and one who is there and doing that (me). So give us a chance to help you become a writer.

"There is no Wrong or Right. Just Write" Anon

If you would like to become a member of the Writers Exchange Bureau as a Reader or a Writer please contact
Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Games Bureau

This list of Gaming Conventions is courtesy the AHIKS Kommandeur with permission of its editor, Omar DeWitt. For more on AHIKS, the world's oldest international gaming club, see AHIKS.com

June 23-26, Hurst, TX
TEXICON
<http://www.texicon.net/>

June 24-26, Reno, NV
RAGECON 2016
<http://www.ragecon.com/>

June 25-July 2, Tempe, AZ
CONSIMWORLD EXPO
<http://expo.consimworld.com/>

June 27-July 3, Charlottesville, VA
PREZCON: SUMMER NATIONALS (NEW)
www.prezcon.com

July 1-3, Austin, Texas
RTX
<http://www.rtxevent.com/>

July 7-10, Hartford, CT
CONNECTICON
<http://connecticon.org/>

July 8-10, Chattanooga, TN
LIBERTYCON
<http://www.libertycon.org/>

July 14-17, Fredericksburg, VA
HISTORICON
<http://www.historicon.org>

July 23-31, Seven Springs Mountain Resort, PA
THE WORLD BOARDGAME CHAMPIONSHIPS
<http://www.boardgamers.org/wbcindex.html>

July 29-31, El Paso, Texas
BORDER CITY GAME CONVENTION
<http://www.boardercon.com/>

July 30-31, Cary, NC
FANTASY GAMER'S CONCLAVE
koflgames@gmail.com

Good sources for information on all kinds of conventions are the Steve Jackson game site: <http://sjgames.com/con> and the Columbia Game site: <http://columbiagames.com/convention/conventions.shtml>

Eat This While You Read That! #1

from Cedar Sanderson

This is a long series. Cedar Sanderson collected recipes from authors, and their book to read while eating their recipe.

I started this column as a way to explore three things: cooking, books, and food photography. It originally appeared on my blog at cedarwrites.com and you can find it there under the ETWYRT tab for all the photographic goodness. However, the recipes and instructions still work without the illustrations, and they can be a lot of fun, as can the reading material they were paired with. Around here, we eat and read. It's not rude, it's efficient!

Schlock in the Kitchen

Howard Tayler was good enough to give me several suggestions for cooking from the schlockiverse. There is a lot of food in the fifteen years of the daily Schlock Mercenary, and it was fun to figure out just which one I was going to do. I didn't have time to do a whole feast, as I was planning to attend LTUE and finally meet Howard in person (and hopefully not fangirl at him). Below are the suggestions by Howard, and then by other fans, and finally, the recipe!

1) Saladupas. (Salad + Zupa) This is a soup & salad. I based it on a cold soup I had 26 years ago. Ice-cold vinegar & water, with lettuce, pickles, and other stuff. Russian, I think. Variants would be sweet, or lemony, or whatever. Better find that Russian recipe first, though.

2) Maple-bacon churros. I suspect this is a churro with a maple glaze and sizzling crumbled bacon. YMMV.

3) Pretzlcoat (the name appeared in a billboard) serves "authentic Mayan blue corn pretzels" under a mole sauce. I think a regular baked, soft pretzel under a mole negro (cocoa-based mole) would be a good start. From there, try making pretzels with corn-meal in the recipe, and try a mole amarillo or mole almendras as a topping or dipping sauce. Those will even look like mustard!

I eventually settled on the Bacon-infused Churros from the October 28th 2014 strip, as being quirky, relatively easy to tweak an existing recipe, and, well, bacon!



Bacon Infused Churros

- 1 cup water
- 1 tbsp white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- Zest of one orange, grated
- 1/4 c very crispy (almost dry) cooked bacon

- 2 quarts oil for frying
- 1/2 cup white sugar, or to taste
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- brown paper lunch sack

Begin to heat the oil. I used a cast iron dutch oven for my frying. I added 3-4 tbsp bacon grease to the canola oil I started with. Boil the water with the sugar, salt, and oil, and zest. Whisk in the flour in small portions, and add the bacon with the last portion.

While the dough is hot, you could either use two spoons to make small portions, or you can pipe it into the oil in finger-length portions. Allow to fry until golden brown, then remove to a draining rack. Once you have the fresh portions in the oil, you can put the now slightly cooler churros in the brown paper sack with the sugar and cinnamon, then shake to coat.

Eat. They don't last well, the ones we left overnight were not crispy any longer, but when fresh they are fluffy inside, crispy out, and the bacon is a lovely salty balance with the sugar crystals on the outside, and the touch of citrus really added something. The First Reader was dubious at first, and then announced this recipe is another we will do again, although he would prefer less orange zest, not being a big citrus fan.

All in all, a fun, simple recipe, and perhaps I will attempt others another time!



Dragon Sketch — Cedar Sanderson

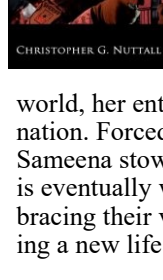
Novels by Neffers

Books by Chris Nuttall

Two years after the Empire abandoned them on Avalon, Colonel Edward Stalker and his Marines have established the Commonwealth, a union of worlds intended to take the place of the vanished Empire. But now contact has been made with a remnant of the Empire, a successor state controlled by a ruthless dictator bent on crushing the Commonwealth and expanding her rule over the entire galaxy.

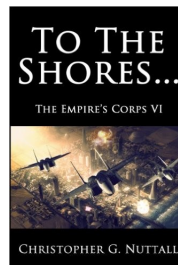


While the Commonwealth frantically prepares for war, a small team of Marines is dispatched to the enemy homeworld with orders to bring down the dictator – by any means necessary ..



When Sameena's brother accidentally annoys a religious leader on her homeworld, her entire family is targeted for elimination. Forced to flee to save her life, Sameena stows away on a trader starship and is eventually welcomed into the crew, embracing their very different culture and making a new life for herself amongst the stars.

But the Galactic Empire is starting the final descent into chaos and her new home is on the verge of collapse, while secretive forces are manoeuvring to take advantage of the Empire's collapse. If Sameena cannot find a way to keep some small part of civilisation intact, the galaxy will crash into a new dark age that will last far longer than a thousand years.



Four years after their abandonment by the now-fallen Empire, the Commonwealth of Avalon is expanding into interstellar space and making contact with other successor states. With suspicion high on both sides, the Commonwealth and the enigmatic Wolfbane agree to hold a diplomatic meeting on Lakshmibai, a neutral world.

But Lakshmibai's government hates off-worlders and, with the fall of the Empire, sees its chance to be rid of the hatred intruders once and for all. While Edward Stalker is besieged in their capital city, Jasmine Yamane must lead an untested army on a race against time to save the diplomats from annihilation.

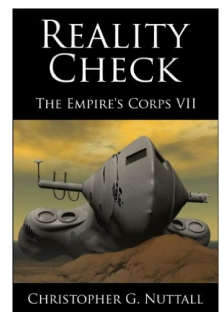
And if she fails, the Battle of Lakshmibai may be the first shot in a new interstellar war.

None of them wanted to leave Earth. It might have been nightmarish, but it was all they knew.

Gary wanted to concentrate on his exams, in hopes of leaving the CityBlock and its bullies far behind. Kailee wanted to become an actress. Darrin merely wanted to live. But when the three teenagers win a competition, they find themselves taking the trip of a lifetime, a voyage to a colony world where they can see how the colonists live.

Meridian is very different from the dark and dismal cityblocks, a place where they can make a new beginning. But it also houses dangers, dangers that their education on Earth didn't even begin to prepare them to face, dangers governed by the cold equations of survival.

And when disaster strikes, they find themselves forced to fight for their lives – or die, alone and unloved, thousands of light years from home.



2016 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest

Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

Now and then, it has been suggested to open the N3F Amateur Short Story Contest to professional writers, writers who have had one or two sales. I've never favored this. It is my opinion that we want new blood. We want to reward the new kids on the block. To be blunt, we want writing that is not that good. We want stories from people who don't know their object from their subject, who don't know where commas go, and who use apostrophes to denote plurals -- but who have a story to tell. I want stories from guys nobody's ever heard of...but in the years ahead, we will. Those who are already successful don't need the encouragement of our little contest. If they were to enter the contest, the danger is that they'd win, every time, and crowd out the promising newcomer.

1. This contest is open to all amateur writers in the field, regardless of whether they're members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. For the purposes of this contest, we define an amateur as someone who has sold no more than two (2) stories to professional science fiction or fantasy publications.
2. Stories entered in the contest must be original, unpublished, not longer than 8,500 words in length—and must be related to the science fiction, fantasy, or similar genres in the opinion of the judge.
3. Email attachments of Word documents are acceptable for submission. Manuscripts on paper should be typed, single sided on 8 1/2"-by- 11" white paper, double spaced, with pages numbered. The name of the author should not appear anywhere on the manuscript to ensure impartial judging. Photocopies are acceptable, if they are of good quality. Computer printouts must be legible.
4. Contestants can enter up to three stories. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) if you would like your story returned at the end of the contest. Stories will not be returned without an SASE. Do not send your only copy in case of accidental loss. We are not responsible for lost manuscripts.
5. Email entries will be accepted. Send to Jefferson P. Swycaffer at abontides@gmail.com. No guarantee can be made of email receipt. Privacy and property rights will be absolutely respected. No one other than the Short Story Judge will ever see the submission.
6. There are no entry fees.
7. Cash prizes totaling \$100 will be awarded as follows: First prize is \$50, second \$30, and third \$20. Honorable mentions and semi-finalists will receive a certificate of award.
8. Send all manuscripts to the contest manager: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373; abontides@gmail.com. Emails with the story attached in word format are preferred. Paper manuscripts are acceptable. All entries must be received or postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2016.
9. The Short Story Judge is a published science fiction professional, and also a loving fan of the sf and fantasy genres. All comments and critiques are solely the Short Story Judge's opinion, but he promises to be constructive and polite.
10. The N3F may want to publish an electronic book including top entries from one or more years of publication. You will not be contacted about this until after the contest is over and prizes have been awarded. If we want to publish your story, you will have to sign over to us first world serial rights. Your willingness to sign over rights cannot affect whether or not you win the contest. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. Announcements and notifications of winning entries will be made in March 2017. Please take your time and submit your best work. You can resubmit stories previously entered. All entries will be kept confidential and will be judged fairly and anonymously. The deadline for all entries is Dec. 31, 2016. Good luck!

Please supply on a separate page the following information as your entry form.

Title of story (for identification):

Author's name and address:

Author's email address:

I have read the above rules for the 2016 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and I agree to them.

Signature:

Date: _____

Mail to: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373 ; or email abontides@gmail.com

In this issue
Franson Award
2016 Neffy Award Nominations
Your Volunteer Team — Where We're Going
Art Bureau—Welcommittee—Wanted: Members
Birthday Card Bureau—New and Reinstated Members
Treasurer's Report
SF Magazines: Famous Fantastic Mysteries
N3F Founders: Forrest J Ackerman
Round Robins—Letters of Comment
Games Bureau
Eat This While You Read That! #1—Novels by Neffers
Short Story Contest—In This Issue

N3F TNFF
c/o George Phillips
48 Hancock Hill Drive
Worcester MA 01609