

The National Fantasy Fan

Volume 75 Number 9

September 2016

Neffy Award Winners

The 2016 Neffy Award winners have been chosen. The winners are :

Best Novel: Shadows of Self—Brandon Sanderson

Best Paper Series Novel: Schooled in Magic—Chris Nuttall

Best Editor: Toni Weisskopf (Baen)

Best TV Show: Supergirl

Best Comic: Girl Genius

Best Film: The Martian

Elections

It is time for our Annual Elections. Nomination statements are inside on page 3.

Tightbeam

Tightbeam has returned. The new Editor is Bob Jennings, who also publishes Fadeaway. Not quite as planned last month, Tightbeam has risen from the grave. It is electronic-only. The first issue has been sent to all members who have supplied us with email addresses.

Bob's original proposal for Tightbeam read:

I envision Tightbeam going back on its previous bimonthly schedule, alternating with the bimonthly issues of TNFF. This would give both members and non-members alike an N3F presence every month. This should not be difficult once Tightbeam begins offering an open forum where people can write and see their letters and comments in print.

A letterzine creates its own critical mass by providing things for the readers to offer comments about. TNFF primarily presents the club's business, including bureau reports and opportunities/activities for club members may get in-

volved with. This kind of stuff generally doesn't offer a lot of comment hooks. A fanzine that presents reviews, short articles, fiction and also offers that open forum will naturally attract a lot more letters.

I can help with some reviews myself, and I believe I can get a few fan friends to offer up some of their book and current movie reviews to get things started as well. I might be able to get some interesting color cover art also. Since Tightbeam would be an all electronic venture, no print copies, color art would not present any additional expense.

Your President then proposed Plan Ten from Inner Space: We keep TNFF as is, except to try to replace letters (of which there are few) with reviews and more bureau reports. I will edit and publish. Hopefully more bureaux will squeeze out reviews.

N'APA

The Latest issue of N'APA has appeared. Ask your President for a copy if you are interested.

Eldritch Science

What happened to the proposal for a fiction-poetry-art magazine? It's still around. Only the name has changed. I will revive and give to the N3F my old zine Eldritch Science, as the highly irregular electronic-only fiction and art zine. Eldritch Science has already received several contributions. Eldritch Science will follow the editorial policies seen in the last issue.s

Ionosphere

How many members from decades of yore remember the N3F magazine Ionosphere, published by our Fan-Pro Coordinating Committee as founded by N3F President Irwin Koch. Recently renewed member John Thiel has offered to revive the magazine and its associated bureau. He writes of the current proposal:

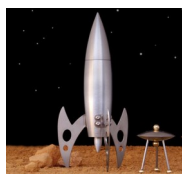
The intention of the fan-pro coordinating committee is

Art — Page 9: Dave Haren

Page 10: Cedar Sanderson

Please send contributions to Editor George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net

We desperately need your contributions



Your Volunteer Team

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Support the N3F! Volunteer Now!

Many New Volunteers are needed: Electronic Publication Support, Readers for the Blind, Con Listings, Advertising, Convention Hospitality, Outreach, Correspondence, Comics, Films.

to facilitate contact and interchange between fans and pros, both within and outside of the N3F. The committee may be contacted by way of the N3F President, or by email to kinethiel@comcast.net. The committee is being creatively evolved. Comments and suggestions about fan-pro relations will be welcome.

I believe that fans should have contact with writers and editors, and that writers and editors would benefit from this contact. In the past I have had some success with this activity.

The committee's publication, IO, will publish material relevant to this end, and will be distributed among the membership. In its previous existence, the publication furnished the addresses of editors and writers, but this no longer seems feasible, so we will try to compensate for it in other ways.

John writes of his activities: Here's what I can do: I can head the Bureau, and publish an issue of a resurrected IO, and in that issue describe the Bureau and its functions and intentions and its modus operandi. I'd like the issue distributed to the entire net membership, which would be better than I was doing with the earlier IO. Then I could build it from there. I would like you to look for other people to join the committee. I'd also like you to send the current roster so I can contact some people.

Where did this all come from? John writes: The Fan-Pro Coordinating Committee was started by N3F President Irwin Koch. He appointed me to run it. IO did a number of things including listing the addresses of authors so that members could write to them. It sometimes had interviews with authors, such as Phillip Jose Farmer and Somtow Sutcharil, and had news about the writers and what they were doing.

Join or Renew

We offer four different memberships. Memberships with zines via paper mail are \$18; 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

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Directorate nominations to date follow. The ballot will be in the next issue. Ruth Davidson ruthiechan@gmail.com has agreed to count the votes.

Jefferson Swycaffer writes:

I'm still kinda "new blood" in Directorate terms, and would like to run for (at least) one more term. If it isn't in appallingly bad taste, I would like to nominate myself. My platform is "Bigger is Better" and that we need more overall membership. Growth for Community's Sake, because the more members there are, the better everyone's individual chances are of meeting a "fellow visionary," someone who likes the same things we do! It can be lonely being, say, the only Sherlock Holmes fan in a group full of Dr. Who fans. The N3F should be large enough to provide everyone with someone to talk to!

My platform is also based on supporting the President in every possible way.

Jon Swartz writes

"I am again running for the Directorate. I would appreciate your vote. Jon D. Swartz"

Judy Carrol writes: I will run for the Directorate.

George Phillies writes: If elected as President, I will serve. I have done what I can to set our Federation on a new course. Our membership is increasing. We have more magazines. We have more volunteers. We have more active bureaus. The best I have been able to do is to try to persuade fen to become more active in the N3F. Sometimes I have even succeeded.

I have several other hobbies in my life, one of which is going away in two weeks. That will give me far more time for the Federation.

I look forward to a much larger N3F, one in which all types of fantasy fen remain welcome as members. How large? The world has hundreds of millions of fantasy fans, broadly defined. I'd like all of them to join as dues-paying members. I look forward to more activities, by reviving old activities that have ceased to happen and by creating new activities that current members will enjoy.

Birthday Card Bureau

R-Laurraine Tutihasi reports that 4 birthday cards were sent out in August. Also, R-Laurraine has taken over a new task, namely sending our renewal letters to members whose N3F memberships are expiring. Many

thanks to R-Laurraine for doing this additional bit for our Federation.

Review: *First Fandom Magazine*

Yes, science fiction from the days of long ago, when dinosaurs roamed the earth, or so we are led to understand from the cover of the 2016 annual issue. This 68 page, lavishly illustrated, historical magazine is printed on 11 x 17" glossy paper, and is center stapled. The cover is even heavier in weight. Credit for the scene goes to John L. Coker III and Jon D. Swartz. It's a wonderful piece of work, full of information lost to the rest of the world. This is the 2016 issue; plans are already in place for the 2017 issue, which will focus on the life and work of Jack Robins, who died late last year at the age of 96. Readers of TNFF will recall his long article on the Futurians as he remembered them 80 years later.

First Fandom was founded in 1959. It had a simple membership restriction. To join, at least originally, you had to be active in science fiction fandom prior to 1938. Mindful that the supply of such people is somewhat limited, the organization now has two membership categories. The dinosaur is a person who was active in fandom before the first World Science Fiction Convention. The associate member is anyone who has been engaged in science fictional activities for at least 30 years.

First Fandom Magazine covers news events of science fiction fandom from some years ago, including coverage of the first Eastern science fiction convention (1936), the Third World Con-Denvention (1941), and profiles of members of first science fiction fandom, including David Kyle and Robert Madle. The largest single bit of coverage in the current issue is a 14 page, illustrated chronology of the man who many would describe as the world's greatest science fiction fan and science fiction collector, the late Forrest J Ackerman. There are a long series of photographs beginning with Ackerman as a baby and continuing through middle-age until relatively late in life.

The magazine continues with the description of *Amazing Stories* magazine, as it appeared in 1926. Your reviewer confesses that he has in fact read all of those issues, indeed all that *Amazing* and *Astounding* published through World War II. Included in there someplace is a solid engineering analysis of why it is impossible to build a rocket capable of carrying men to the moon. The designer came up with a good description of the Saturn Five rocket, though as technology was less advanced the designer's Saturn Five was about twice as heavy as the real one. However, in the absence of computers and digital communications, all of those people who you saw in control rooms in real moon launches would have had to be on board the various stages of the

rocket, attempting to control an incredibly complicated machine by turning dials and pressing buttons. The author noted that the effort would be about as practicable as flying a Navy heavy cruiser by balancing it vertically on its stern, which is to say that control was impossible. That was science fiction in the old days, when there was serious attention to science as well as writing.

We then get an account of the first nonlocal Science Fiction Convention, held in 1936 in Philadelphia. It was called a “convention”, it seems because politicians held conventions. Then there’s coverage of the Third World Science Fiction Convention, held in Denver in the summer of 1941, soon before the United States became involved in the second world war. It turns out that the convention was recorded electronically, assuredly the first convention to been recorded that way. The Third World Science Fiction Convention also had awards given, establishing a practice that continues with modest controversy to the present day. We get large numbers of photographs of fen and writers of long ago.

As coverage of recent Science Fiction news, Ben Jason gives us an article on the 1966 world convention. There are then biographic articles on original science fiction fans, a few of whom are in their 90s and still alive, together with photographs in some cases from many years ago.

First Fandom Magazine is a fine effort, a worthy tribute to the men (and a few women) who established our noble hobby.

In Memoriam: Robert C. Peterson

by
Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.
N3F Historian

Robert Constant (Bob) Peterson (May 30, 1921 – August 15, 2016) was a science fiction (SF) and fantasy fan for most of his life, publishing his fanzine, Notes from Bob Peterson, for many years.

Bob lived in Colorado, and belonged to the Colorado Fantasy Society in the 1940s. Other members included Chuck Hansen, Roy V. Hunt, Stan Mullen, and Olon F. Wiggins. In the 1940s Bob also published the genre reference works The Fantasy Index and the Index of Science Fiction Magazines, 1926-1948, the latter with fellow fan Bill Evans.

In 1954 Bob married Winifred, a woman he met through the Colorado Mountain Club. She did not share his interest in SF, but all four of their sons – John, James, Alan, and Douglas -- eventually did.

In 1960 Peterson produced his most famous contribution to the SF/fantasy field, the anthology The Science-

Fictional Sherlock Holmes. Published by The Council of Four in Denver, this anthology consisted of an Introduction by Anthony Boucher (“Sherlock Holmes and Science Fiction”) and eight stories by seven authors: Poul Anderson (“The Martian Crown Jewels”), Gordon R. Dickson (“Half a Hoka --Poul Anderson”), Anderson & Dickson (“The Adventure of the Misplaced Hound”), Boucher (“The Anomaly of the Empty Man” and “The Greatest Tertian”), August Derleth & Mack Reynolds (“The Adventure of the Snitch in Time” and “The Adventure of the Ball of Nostradamus”), and H. Beam Piper & John J. McGuire (“The Return”). The Council of Four was so-named because there were four original members.

Peterson was named to the First Fandom Hall of Fame in 2004, and won First Fandom's Sam Moskowitz Archive Award in 2008. He was one of the First Fandom founders featured in the 2016 First Fandom Magazine.

A longtime member of both the N3F and First Fandom, during his lifetime Bob donated many of his SF materials to the archives of these organizations.

SF Magazines: Imagination

by
Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.
N3F Historian

Imagination was a sister magazine launched by Other World's editor Ray Palmer in October, 1950. It emphasized science fantasy aimed at an adolescent audience, with the first cover painted by Hannes Bok. The magazine was sold almost immediately to Greenleaf Publishing Company, owned by William Hamling. It has been speculated that it was really Hamling's magazine from the start, with Palmer only acting in his place because at the time Hamling was editor of Amazing. Palmer was Hamling's mentor, and they had very similar editorial views, so this speculation is quite plausible.

Imagination was more successful than most of the numerous science fiction and science fantasy (SF) titles launched in the late 1940s and early 1950s, lasting a total of 63 issues. Despite this success, the magazine had a reputation for low-quality fiction, and genre historians often refer to it in dismissive terms. Hamling adopted an editorial policy oriented toward entertainment, and few of the stories from Imagination have received recognition.

The magazine often contained a long novel as the lead attraction. In addition to less well-known regulars, some more prominent writers occasionally appeared. Ray Bradbury's “The Fire Balloons” was published in the April, 1951 issue; and Robert Sheckley's first story, “Final Examination,” appeared in the May, 1952 issue.

The first issue, sub-titled “Stories of Science and Fantasy,” appeared on newsstands in the fall of 1950. However, in September of that year, Ziff-Davis made the decision to move to New York from Chicago; Palmer promptly contacted William Hamling, who did not want to relocate and suggested that Hamling take over *Imagination*. Like Palmer, Hamling had made preparations to leave Ziff-Davis by establishing a separate publishing company, Greenleaf Publishing, and in November 1950 Hamling left Ziff-Davis and became *Imagination's* editor and publisher.

First Issue

It was planned that *Imagination* appear on a bi-monthly schedule. The cover story for the first issue, published in October, 1950, was “The Soul Stealers” by Chester S. Geier, a regular contributor of stories to the Ziff-Davis magazines *Amazing Stories* and *Fantastic Adventures*. The story was a science-fantasy tale of Leeta, a beautiful woman from another dimension stealing the souls of men to try to save her father. The cover illustration, by Hannes Bok, showed Leeta on her flying steed. Other contributors to this issue included prolific SF author Rog Phillips and newcomer Kris Neville, whose first story had been published only the year before.

William Hamling

William Lawrence Hamling was managing editor of both *Amazing* and *Fantastic Adventures* during 1948 – 1950, and in 1951 became editor/publisher of *Imagination*. A companion title, *Imaginative Tales* (later titled *Space Travel*) was added, and he continued both until late in 1958. After he canceled his SF magazines, he put his energies into his men's magazine *Rogue*. His company, Greenleaf Classics, also published erotic novels, and he had legal problems because of it.

Ray Palmer

Palmer (1910 – 1977) said he discovered SF in *Amazing Stories* and became a fan. He is credited with editing the first SF fanzine, *The Comet*, May, 1930. Ziff-Davis acquired *Amazing* in 1938 and offered the editorship to Palmer. He was the editor from 1938 through 1949. During this time, he was responsible for turning the venerable magazine into an embarrassment to some, mainly because of the Shaver scandal that alienated much of fandom.

When he left *Amazing*, Palmer set up his own company to publish and edit *Fate Magazine* and other occult periodicals, as well as several books related to flying saucers, including *The Coming of the Saucers* (1952), with aviator Kenneth Arnold.

Mari Wolf

Mari Wolf was a California SF fan and occasional author who ran a fan column for *Imagination*. In her column, “Fandora's Box,” Wolf wrote about SF and SF

fandom, reviewed and ranked fanzines, and interviewed authors. In addition to SF, she wrote mysteries, including *The Golden Frame* (1961). She once wrote that she had wanted to be a writer since she was five years old. *Mari Wolf Resurrected: The Complete Short Stories of Mari Wolf* was published in 2011.

Companion Magazine

In 1954 Hamling started a companion magazine, *Imaginative Tales*, that featured humorous fantasy stories. By the end of 1958, many SF titles had disappeared as a result of distribution problems, with *Imagination* one of the victims; Hamling closed down both *Imagination* and *Imaginative Tales* to invest his time and money in *Rogue*, his men's magazine.

Final Issues

The last issue of *Imagination* was dated October, 1958, the 63rd issue, while *Imaginative Tales*, retitled *Space Travel*, ceased publication with the November, 1958 issue. Hamling had changed the title to *Space Travel* in an attempt to bring in readers interested in space because of the recent launch of Sputnik, but the change did not significantly improve the magazine's circulation.

Unique Contents

In addition to “Fandora's Box,” every issue of *Imagination* carried an editorial, and a letter column appeared in every issue but the very last. A book review column began in June, 1953, and appeared in every issue except the last one. A “Cosmic Pen Club” column, where fans could post requests for pen-pals, began in February, 1957; as with the book reviews it appeared regularly, excepting only the last issue. Beginning in September, 1951, the inside front cover was often used for an “Introducing the Author” feature. These included photographs of the authors in question, a feature not typically found in other SF magazines.

Some Conclusions

Today *Imagination* is remembered in fan circles mainly because of the fan column by Mari Wolf (married at the time to Rog Phillips, who ran a similar column, “The Club House,” in *Amazing*) -- and later by Robert Bloch.

Because of its informal nature and chatty columns, *Imagination* was known affectionately by its readers as *Madge*.

Some issues, especially those with the “Introducing the Author” feature, are sought after by SF readers/collectors even today.

Bibliography

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

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.

Our Founding Members: Scott Meredith

by

Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.
N3F Historian

Scott Meredith (1923 - 1993), born Scott Feldman, founded the Scott Meredith Literary Agency with his brother Sidney in 1946. They landed their first big-name client, the British humorist, P. G. Wodehouse, shortly thereafter.

As Scott Feldman, he was an early New York science fiction (SF) fan and one of the founders in 1941 of The National Fantasy Fan Federation. He also attended Boskone I in 1941, and at one time was director of the Queens Science Fiction League. Although not a Futurian himself, he knew many of the members of this club and, over the years, employed some of them – including Damon Knight, James Blish, and Larry Shaw -- as readers of manuscripts for his agency.

As an agent, Meredith also represented Norman Mailer and introduced the concept of the book auction to publishing. He was known as a publishing iconoclast, a tough, finance-minded negotiator who looked out for himself as well as his clients. He once chidingly said of other literary agents: "I'd like them all to be assassinated and there be one agent and that's us."

In addition to Mailer and Wodehouse, Meredith represented the famous SF writer Arthur C. Clarke as well as mundane authors such as Margaret Truman, Spiro T. Agnew, Judith Campbell Exner, and Roseanne Arnold.

Meredith was the author of *Writing to Sell* (Harper Collins) a practical guide for aspiring writers published in 1950 and still in print, and of *George S. Kaufman and His Friends* (Doubleday), a biography of the famous playwright, published in 1974.

In 1952, Meredith initiated the book auction: the offer of a manuscript to many publishing houses at once, with publication rights going to the highest bidder. Considered an outrageous maneuver at the time in the once staid and polite publishing world, the book auction has since

become a standard operating procedure, one that has helped increase the fees that publishers pay writers. No one seems to remember the book that started it all.

Meredith was born in Manhattan in 1923 and attended public high schools. As a teen-ager he published letters and stories in pulp magazines. He joined the Air Force at the beginning of World War II.

"He wanted to be a pilot, but he had truly poor vision," said his wife, whom he married in 1944. Instead of flying airplanes, he worked on the editorial staff of *Air Force Magazine*, a publication for servicemen.

In addition, of course, as stated above, he was a founding member of our SF club, now celebrating its 75th anniversary.

Sources: *Science Fiction and Fantasy Authors*; *The Futurians*; *All Our Yesterdays*; *The Immortal Storm*; *Fancyclopedia 3*; *ISFDB*; *Wikipedia*; other Internet sites.

Round Robins Snail Mail Round Robins

The following is the list of current Snail Mail Round Robins and the number of members in each.

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

A Round Robin needs at least 3 members to start round-ing. Please help these members by joining one of the above Round Robins.

The following Round Robins have 0 members each.

Japanese Anime

Cartoons and Cartooning

Science Fiction Fantasy and Horror Video Games

Comics and Graphic Novels

A Round Robin needs at least 3 members to start round-ing. 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 and the number of members in each one:

The Marvel Universe - 0 members

DC Superheroes and Villains - 0 members

All Things Star Wars - 0 members

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

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 leandjj@gmail.com

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

Welcommittee

Shagatom (Sha-gaw-tom)*

Trying to make the Welcommittee TNFF articles interesting is not always easy. So, to keep me and the rest of you from boredom, I have decided we are going on a little language adventure. Each month I will greet with "Welcome" in a language other than English.

*Bengali - Shushagatom/ Shagatom. The first is for welcoming singular people, the later for plural groups of people. (From- How to Say Welcome in Different Languages - wikihow.com)

The Welcommittee has received a few responses to the letter that was sent to our members in June. I would like to share some comments from two of our members.

GAR CHEN (Round Robins)

"Kudos to Patricia King, who keeps the robins chugging along. She seems to have boundless energy."

(Welcommittee)

"Keep up the good work. Sometimes members vanish off the face of the earth and you wonder if..."

If you would like to join the Welcommittee OR if you have any ideas for future articles please contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Writers Exchange

I am pleased to report that we have 3 writers whose work we have been reading - George Phillies, Wesley Kawato and Sarah Harder.

I would also like to report that I finally finished the short story I began in late September, 2015. I finished rewriting the last week in August, and I sent it off to

Jefferson to read the first part of this month. Yes, Folks, it took me almost a year to write. But it was worth it. When I completed it I felt a sense of relief and happiness and accomplishment. And though it took me forever to write, I found myself a few days later, back on the computer working on another story. Let's hope this one doesn't take me almost a year to write.

We know that there are more of you out there who like to write, but may be afraid to ask us to read your work. Don't be afraid. We are kind and understanding. If you would like to have your work read please contact Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com OR Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

A Touch of Trivia

Wondering why some of your favorite Marvel characters from the comics are appearing so little or not at all in the movies and on TV?

Following is from an internet article by Nick Cannata-Bowman (CheatSheet August 27, 2016)

6 Superheroes That Marvel Does Not Own the Rights to Anymore

"With all the superhero movies coming out nowadays, there's a lot of money to be made. The Avengers alone made \$1.5 billion worldwide according to IMDb, while franchises like Spider-Man have made a habit of breaking box office records. Way back before they were cash cows though, Marvel saw their various superheroes as commodities to be sold off to make a quick buck. Starting as early as 1985, franchises were offered up to studios like Sony, 20th Century Fox, and more, culminating in a whole mess of reasons now why Marvel can't bring characters they themselves created into the cinematic fold.

Each studio with a Marvel property keeps it jealously guarded, knowing full well the moneymaking potential each respective franchise represents. While it would make sense for the rights to return to their original creators, the current owners have kept an iron grip since they first acquired their various properties."

- Spiderman. Owned by: Sony Pictures (and Marvel, sort of) Spider-Man | Source: Sony.
- The Fantastic Four. Owned by: 20th Century Fox. Fantastic Four | Source: Marvel.
- X-Men. Owned by: 20th Century Fox (Sort of).
- Deadpool. Owned by: 20th Century Fox.
- Namor. Owned by: Universal (maybe)
- The Silver Surfer. Owned by: 20th Century Fox.

If you would like to read the complete article just Google the title- 6 Superheroes That Marvel Does Not Own the Rights to Anymore

If you have a short story, poem, etc. you would like us to read please contact— Jefferson Swycaffer abon-tides@gmail.com OR Judy Carroll AutumnSea-s8012@yahoo.com

Membership Report

Robert Jennings - Regular Voting - REINSTATED
fabfcbks@aol.com
Expiry: 10/31/2017
Job: Seller of books/comics/games
Fan Interests: APAs (amateur press associations), Books, Collecting, Comic books, DVDs and videos, Editing, Fanzines, Publishing, Reading and book clubs, Reviewing, Role-playing games, Television, Writing
Fan since: Age 8
Fandom since: 1969
Clubs: SFPA (The Southern Fandom Press Alliance)
Zines: Dozens
Fave Genres: adventure, hard science fiction
N3F Interests: Writing for club publications, Corresponding, Publishing

Peter Buck - Public Non-Voting - NEW
pete@elsewhen.co.uk
Job: Publisher/Editor
Fan Interests: Books, Computers and technology, Editing, Publishing, Reading and book clubs
Fan for: 53 years
Fandom: 5 years
Clubs: British Fantasy Society, British Science Fiction Society
Cons: NovaCon 42,43,44,45; EasterCon 2013,2015,2016; LonCon 3 (WorldCon 2014); Nine Worlds 2016
Fave Genres: Almost all sub-genres!
Fave Authors: Terry Pratchett, Douglas Adams, Robert Rankin, Stephen Donaldson, Hermann Hesse
Online Fanac: Participate (half-heartedly) in social media ;-)

RENEWED:

Jon Swartz - Regular Voting
Expiry: 12/31/2018

EXPIRED/EXPIRING

Renew Now!!

Expired in August
None - Thanks for renewing early!

Expiring in September
Chris Nuttall
Kevin Trainor Jr.
David Rubin
Michael Broussard

Expiring in October

Jaymie Collette
Robert Hansen

STATUS CHANGES

Terri Drake - to Public (Expired in July)
Cynthia Bagly - to Public (Expired in July)
Robert Jennings - from Zine Exchange to Reinstated Regular Voting

Treasurer's Report

2631.69 (August 18, 2016)
+ 18.00 PayPal Dues
+ 0.00 Cash Dues
+ 0.00 Check Dues
- 0.00 Reimbursements
- 1.64 PayPal Fees
+ 0.00 Interest

2648.05 (September 18, 2016)

Letters of Comment

Received your letter of recent date.

It was useful to know the renewal date, instead of checking the annual member's roster. Now that the National Fantasy Fan has arrived, I see that the information is on the mailing label. A great benefit, as renewal notices are not sent out.

Kudos to Patricia King, who keeps the robins chugging along. She seems to have boundless energy.

A Gourmet Editor? Really? I suggested something similar to Patricia as a robin topic without knowing about this option.

As you can see, I prefer written missives as the means of communication--just to keep the U.S. Post Office from fading away. A minority of one? Email addresses are fine, but the USPS won't recognize them. Yes, 'living analog in a digital age'. Yes, avoiding pop-ups, viruses or ransomware.

Keep up the good work. Sometimes members vanish off the face of the earth and you wonder if...

Except for the scorching weather slowing things down a bit, still standing upright.

"Why be normal?"

Regards,
Gar Chen

Hi George,
That is good news about Tightbeam. Freed from the fetters of the material printing press it can now soar through cyberspace.

The editor of Tangent seemed to hit a nerve with his japery. Hoping for some entertainment (fan feuding) I downloaded the podcast audio of the panel. I was saddened to find that fans have become so lame they found anything controversial in the entire tepid performance. The whole thing strikes me as Victorian age sissidom akin to the modern version as our glorious armies slaughter overseas we are putting bloomers on piano legs to save youth from the corruption of non PC thoughts. Good luck with that there is no cure for the reality outside of the con doors.



Matt in Warning Order #43 has a nice rundown of SF gaming. I told John McEwan about it and he's going to bring Matt up to speed on Starguard gaming (40+ years of hard fought skirmishing against alien hordes). I got a Dreenoi (alien

ant based) Cockroach Tank from the game which is a work of art of the type. That model pleases me immensely since SF miniatures gaming is all about the pageantry of the visual effects of them on the gaming table.

The pictures are of the previously mentioned. The troops are carrying 'lawnmowers' backpack fed miniguns and a PML with a loader. The roach has a conversion beamer and a vortex gun and twin Slaver disintegrators plus two heavy cone machine guns. Starguard is all about firepower and mobility.



Fantastic was always welcome as I grabbed the latest issue to see what came next. I found it to be worth every penny at the time. Living far from the cultural centres of big citydom, country folk had to make do with the pulps which made it out into the weeds. There are a lot of magazines



that I never saw a copy of but get to see covers of on the Net nowa-days.

For a nice change of pace those with an ebook reader or comp can find the R W. Chambers story of three noble indigents at

Project Gutenberg #52842. The illustrations are by Gibson (of the Gibson girl fame). It doesn't add much to the King in Yellow saga he is famed for but not everything can be dire.

Warm Regards
Dave (Haren)

Gourmet Column

Chris Nuttall's Gulyas

The name of the dish is from Chris Nuttall, who just won a Neffy for Schooled in Magic. One thing about this meal, it leaves you with plenty of time to curl up with a book. Just keep a half an eye on your herd while you read, you don't want them wandering off. The nice thing about Chris's books, you have choices. He can offer fun space opera, military science fiction, or fantasy. I'd recommend The Empire's Corps if you like Mil SF or Schooled in Magic if you prefer lighter fantasy.

Once you've chosen your books, it's time to begin. I recommend starting in the morning, and leaving this in the slow cooker for most of the day, then finishing in a stock pot or dutch oven on the stove top.

Gulyas with Csipetke

Ingredients

2 lbs goat or beef, cut into chunks
4 tbsp smoked paprika
2 tsp chili powder
2 tbsp brown sugar
1/2 c flour
1-2 cups diced fresh pepper (I used Anaheim, Poblano would be nice for more heat)
1 can diced tomato (or about 1-2 diced fresh tomato)
1 large onion, diced
1 packet Goulash seasoning (I used Alba)
1/4 c oil
1 can beef consomme
1 can water
salt and pepper to taste
For the Csipetke
1/2 c flour
1 tsp salt
1 egg

Instructions

In a cast iron skillet heat the oil on medium high. Add the diced onion and saute until translucent. Transfer the onion

to the slow cooker with a slotted spoon to leave the oil.

Put the goat (or what have you) into the oil and brown it on all sides, then add the spices and turn to coat. Sprinkle on the flour and fry until it's all coated. Spoon the meat into the slow cooker. Deglaze the skillet with the water, having put the consomme into the slow cooker.

Put all the remaining ingredients into the slow cooker and stir well. Set the cooker for 6-8 hours, depending.

In the evening, put the flour, egg, and salt into the stand mixer with the bread hook on. Stir until dough forms a tight ball. Dough will be hard. If dough will not ball up, add water a teaspoon at a time until it does. Allow to knead for about five minutes, then cover and allow to rest at least 15 minutes. Transfer the goulash to a heavy pan on the stovetop and bring to a boil.

While the goulash is coming up to temp, roll the pasta out to about 1/4 in thick, and pinch fingernail-sized pieces off of it. Put these on a floured plate to keep them from sticking together. When the dough is all pinched out, put the pasta in the goulash and cook for 5-10 minutes.

Serve!

I chose to make this with goat, and the halal market where I



bought it basically cut a goat leg into chunks for me. Which meant there were a lot of bones in my finished product. Also, given the spice level, the meat could have been anything and it wouldn't have mattered. So doing this with stew beef would work just as well.

Games Bureau New Mayfair Railroad Games

Mayfair Games has come out with their latest additions to the ever popular 18 XX line of railroad games. One of these games is "1844", which simulates the development of the Swiss railroad system. The other game is called "1854", and it simulates the development of the Austrian railroad system.

Both games use the same core rules as Mayfair's "1830" game, which simulates the development of the rail network in the eastern United States. In an 18XX game, players buy private companies and start railroad corporations. They then sell their private companies to the railroad corporations they control. Private companies give railroad corporations special abilities. Their sale to the railroad corporations provides players money to buy more shares in the rail corporations. Players strive to gain majority control of at least one real Corporation. Rail corporations lay track tiles, build stations, and by trains to run their routes. The longer the route, the more dividends that rail Corporation will be able to pay. At the end of the game, the richest player wins.

Most 18XX games have only one type of private company. "1844" adds a new twist. The game has private companies and mountain railroads.

"1844" and "1854" also have a special type of private company called tunnel companies. Tunnel companies are important because they reduce the cost of building track in mountain terrain. Anyone who knows anything about Switzerland and Austria would know that both countries have lots of mountains.

"1844" and "1854" come in a combined package that sells for \$95. That may sound steep until you consider that the package is two games in one box. That's it for now.

...Wesley Kawato

Forthcoming Game Conventions

With acknowledgements to Omar DeWitt, Editor of the AHIKS Kommandeur (currently celebrating its 50th year) at AHIKS.com for permission to reprint his collated list.

Sept. 30-Oct. 2, Tucson, AZ
RINCON 2016
<http://rincongames.com/>

Sept 30-Oct 2, Calgary, AB Canada
FALLCON
<http://www.fallcon.com>

Oct. 8-9, Macon, Missouri
EXTRA LIFE @ MACON
<http://www.extralifeatmacon.com/>

October 13-16, Essen, Germany
ESSEN INTERNATIONAL SPIELTAGE
<http://www.merz-verlag.com>

Oct. 14-16, Noble, IL
NOBLE CON
<http://noblecon.weebly.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>

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

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