

# FANDOM



# NFT





# FAN DOM

2

## NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF

ARTHUR H. RAPP

THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION

I hope that reading this pamphlet will convince you that you should become a member of N.F.F.F. This is not for the sake of a bigger club (although that is nice to have, too) but for YOUR sake, because of the many ways in which NFFF can be of interest and value to you in connection with the hobby of science-fiction and fantasy Fandom.

Perhaps you were introduced to Fandom by a friend; perhaps, like many of us, you developed an interest in fantasy all by yourself, and perhaps collected the literature for years before even realizing that there were other devotees with interests similar to yours. In any event you are perhaps still a bit bewildered at discovering that Fandom is a highly-organized thing, with its own customs, history, literature, and sometimes even its own language.

Now of course you can be a fantasy fan without participating in the organized aspects of Fandom. But any hobby becomes more fun when you join with other people who share your interest in it. That's why stamp collectors and gokart racers and scuba divers form clubs. That's why fantasy fans form clubs.

There are many organizations in fantasy fandom. Most of them are groups with some specialized interest: there is a fantasy artists' club, a number of fantasy amateur publishers' groups, clubs devoted to Edgar Rice Burroughs, to Robert E. Howard, to J. R. R. Tolkien. There are clubs devoted to letter-writing. There are many local groups of fans, particularly in the larger cities. The National Fantasy Fan Federation, however, differs from most other fan clubs in that it tries to take in the entire fantasy hobby. It attempts to provide the information and activities that will be of interest to each of its members.

Needless to say, NFFF is a non-profit organization -- not only do none of its officials get paid for the time they devote to NFFF affairs, but most of them do not even get reimbursed for the money they spend on postage and stationery and similar materials. These officials, and other members active in NFFF affairs, work for the club because either they get fun out of doing so, or because they feel that NFFF is providing a worthwhile service to fandom as a whole, and deserves their efforts in support of it.

Elsewhere in this pamphlet you will learn what sort of activities and services NFFF is currently providing to Fandom. If you've an analytical mind, try adding up the value of all the things that you are likely to receive in the course of a year's membership. I can flatly state that it will come to far more than the \$1.60 per year you pay in dues. A cost accountant would probably go crazy trying to figure out how it is accomplished, yet somehow NFFF keeps up this fiscal miracle year after year. The individual items change, since we'd like to provide the members and what we can afford to do. But your NFFF dues bring you the biggest bargain you are likely to find anywhere in these inflation-ridden days. Why not try a year's membership and see for yourself? The odds are good that by the end of the year you'll be active in NFFF yourself, and urging next year's crop of newcomers to our hobby, to join. That's what has been happening for twenty-one years now.

ARTHUR H. RAPP. President, N.F.F.F.



Dave Hulan/

As is usually the case with an article that is aimed in only a general direction, I don't know the reason why, specifically, as an individual, are receiving this leaflet, but it is safe to assume that someone has noticed that perhaps you are a potential fan, a potential recruit to Science Fiction Fandom. It is possible, however, that you are already a fan, or have even been one in the past. In that case, there is little you will find in this pamphlet that you don't already know. If you are not currently an active fan but have been one in the past, perhaps this will serve as a reminder and draw you back into the circle.

Science Fiction is one of the few branches of literature that has an active, organized Fandom in the sense that people are fans of sports, coin collecting, model railroading, and other such hobbies. Like all such 'in-groups', it has its own peculiar characteristics which separate it from the general run of society.

The fundamental basis of S.F. Fandom is the fanzine - amateur magazines duplicated by a variety of means, ranging from simple carbon paper for small circulations to multilith and photo-offset for some of the major ones. The great majority, however, are reproduced by either mimeograph or the ditto process. There are currently some 200 fanzines in existence. They carry a variety of material, some being about SF and/or fantasy in general, some being about a specific type of fiction such as the sword-and-sorcery fantasy, some specializing in a single author such as Burroughs, Baum, or Tolkein, some devoted primarily concerned with analysis of world events, with little reference to SF as such - though usually such discussions are prompted by some story or article appearing in a science-fiction magazine. The fanzines are available for money, but in most cases, the editor prefers to trade them for other fanzines or to give them away free for letters of comments. Some of the best fanzines are available only for money or trade, however, since it does cost money to publish them and in the case of a really excellent one the circulation would go into four figures if letters of comment (commonly abbreviated to LoCs) were accepted. Also all fanzines will give a free copy of the issue containing a contribution of a writer or artist to the contributor, if the fanzine uses material by other writers than the editor. The writing level in some of the better fanzines is very high, in some cases better than that in the professional SF magazines (called "prozines"). Anyone who is interested in securing more fanzines for reading can buy a bundle of eight or more from Seth. Johnson, 339 Stiles St., Vaux Hall, N.J. for the price of \$1.00. Reading such a bundle will tell you more about the nature of Fandom than any number of descriptions such as this.

In addition to amateur publishing, which is indulged in by only a small minority of fans at any one time, the great activity of Fandom is correspondence. Most fans correspond with several other fans, ranging from an average of around 12 or 15 to several hundreds in a few cases. This correspondence may take the form of ordinary personal correspondence or it may consist of round robin letters, in which a letter is mailed to several fans in succession, with each adding his own contribution, and eventually returning the whole to the one who started it. Most fans do some of both.

Naturally, all this activity doesn't take place without any sort of organization. There are numerous clubs in Fandom. These take three basic forms. First is the ordinary local club, which is found in most large cities. Particularly active clubs are found in such areas as Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Chicago, New York and Washington, D.C. These local clubs have scheduled meetings at which fans who are within travelling distance get together and discuss SF, what other fans are doing, and other topics of interest to the group.

The second major type of club is the correspondence club. The largest and most important of these is the National Fantasy Fan Federation, commonly called the N3F. This organization contains around 250 members, mostly in the U.S. and Canada, though there are a few European fans who belong. This is the club which usually gets the new fan started in Fandom by introducing them to more experienced fans and in general, orienting them to



a way things are done in Fandom. Joining the N3F is almost a "must" for the new fan who lives outside an area where there is a local club operating because there is no easier way in which he can become acquainted with fandom. Dues are only \$1.60 for one year, \$3. for two, payable to Janie Lamb, Route #1, Box 364, Heiskell, Tenn. Other correspondence clubs include the International Science Fiction Correspondence Club (ISFCC), and for fans living in the South, The Southern Fan Group (SFG). These groups are smaller than N3F, but valuable if you wish to continue to involve yourself in correspondence Fandom.

The third major type of club is the Amateur Press Alliance, or APA. These consist of publishing fans who will each publish a fanzine which is sent to an official editor, who then makes up bundles of all these fanzines, one from each member per bundle, and mails the bundles to the members. Normally the APA is entered only after a fan has been in Fandom for a while, so it will be of less interest to the new fan. At present there are five or more independent APAs, and the three correspondence clubs also have their own APAs for members only. The APAs of the correspondence clubs are usually easier to get into than the independent APAs -- The Fantasy Amateur Press Alliance (FAPA), the oldest and largest of the APAs, has such a long waiting list that it requires a wait of 3 to 5 years to get in.

No description of Fandom would be complete without mention of the conventions. Chief is the World SF Convention, at which both fans and professionals gather yearly on Labour Day week-end for discussion, lectures and general partying. Smaller regional conventions are held throughout the year and are attended by many professionals as well as fans.

What is your pleasure? You have shown some liking to SF or you would not be receiving this. Would you like to correspond with others who share your tastes? Would you like to read perceptive articles about your field? Would you like to meet your favorite authors at a convention? In Fandom, these can all be yours - and more. Try Fandom for size!

#### WHAT YOU WILL GET FROM N3F

Dave Hulan

While this brochure is primarily interested in recruiting you to Fandom as a whole, this writer is firmly convinced that for any fan who doesn't live in a city where there is an active local club, and indeed, even for many who do, the N3F is the best way to join in Fandom. For this reason, I will go into some detail as to what you can expect to get out of your N3F dues. \$1.60 can be quite a bit of money to many of us, and throwing it away on a pig in a poke may seem a bit unreasonable.

To begin with, you will receive your initial packet which contains your membership card; Don Franson's valuable little book, "A Key To The Terminology Of SF Fandom", which explains the meaning of many fannish terms not in common use outside of Fandom (e.g. Sercon, gafia, fafia, etc.); a copy of the N3F constitution; and several back issues of TNFF & TIGHTBEAM (see below for explanation). If Janie happens to have any fanzines on hand other than official N3F publications, she'll usually include one or two of them too, but this is not certain.

THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN, usually abbreviated TNFF is the official organ of N3F. In it are published the reports of various directors and bureau heads; reports of official club activities such as the Hospitality Room maintained by N3F at the World Conventions; classified ads for members who want to buy, sell, or trade books, magazines, and various other things (this is free to members and can be worth the price of membership to collectors); and other items of interest to the whole club. TNFF is published bi-monthly and goes to all members,

TIGHTBEAM is what is called a letterzine. It is also bi-monthly, alternating months with TNFF. TIGHTBEAM has a rotating editorship, each issue being published by a different member. It consists entirely of letters written by members, discussing matters connected with the club and also anything else which the writers may be interested in. Generally all letters are published, though there may be some editing done to avoid too much repetition



if many members want to say the same thing about something. It is a good chance for members to get into print and voice their opinions about their pet topics.

A third publication which used to accompany both TNFF and TIGHTBEAM, though not an official publication, is THRU THE HAZE, published by Art Hayes, a Canadian, who is very active in both correspondence and publishing in the club. It is concerned with news items, particularly in the club, though not confined, either on news items or in circulation, to the club. It also is the seat of Don Franson's popular Information Bureau, a service wherein YOUR questions are answered, as soon as information is available. TTH is monthly and is currently free to members of the N3F.

When you join N3F, your name will be given to members who form the Welcommittee. These fans will write letters welcoming you to the club and advising you as to available activities, particularly the ones they are most interested in. From them you can learn the names of other fans in the club who share your own particular interests, so that you can broaden the scope of your correspondence later if you chose. They will also be able to suggest good fanzines for you to write off for, fanzines whose direction of emphasis corresponds to your main areas of interest. In short, joining N3F is the fastest way to find out all about Fandom, and the price is really nominal for the services performed. Won't you give it a try?

#### SOME WORTHWHILE FANZINES

#### DAVE HULAN RECOMMENDS

##### S.F.-Fantasy Oriented:

DYNATRON, Roy Tackett, 915 Green Valley Rd. N.W. - Albuquerque, New Mexico. 15¢ each.  
FADAWAY, Bob Jennings, 3819 Chambers Dr. Nashville 11, Tennessee. 15¢ each.  
GAUL, Larry McCombs, 147 Bradley St. New Haven, Connecticut. 15¢ each.  
LOKI, Dave Hulan, 228 D. Niblo Dr. Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. 15¢ each.  
YANDRO, Buck Coulson, Route # 3, Wabash, Indiana. 25¢ each.

##### Serious Discussions:

DISCORD, Red Boggs, 2209 Highland Pl. N.E. Minneapolis 21, Minnesota. 15¢ each.  
WIPPLE, Ted Pauls, 1448 Meridene St. Baltimore 12, Maryland. 15¢ each.  
WARHOON, Richard Bergeron, 110 Bank St. New York 14, New York. 20¢

##### Fan Doings:

FANAC, Walter Breen, 2402 Grove St. Berkeley 4, California. 4/50¢  
AXE, Larry Shaw, 16 Grant Pl. Staten Island, New York. 10¢

##### General:

CRY, Seattle Club, Box 92, 507 Third Ave. Seattle 4, Washington. 25¢  
SHANGRI L'AFFAIRES, Fred Patten, 1325 Greenfield Ave. Los Angeles 25, California. 25¢

#### /ADDENDUM/

[This issue is actually a revised edition, the following representing a commentary on the first edition. Since what is said has SOME truth in it, it is included here to illustrate other facets of this weird and wonderful thing, FANDOM]

/CLAY HAMLIN/

"Add this to your recruiting booklet, if you dare! Hayes, you dope, you left out about half of it. Way you've got it here, you will have them all thinking we are a bunch of super-intellectuals who go around trying to solve the problems of the world half the time, & picking fights with anyone handy for the other half of the time. Tell them the rest of it. That it is a hobby that a person can spend a lifetime on for nothing more than sheer entertainment. Even a game, one in which you make up the rules as you go along. And, you of all people, you sadistic fiend, should have mentioned that for every enemy (if any) there are also half a dozen others that become as close as your real brothers & sisters, maybe even more so.

(Continued on Page 10)



I have received letters which stated: "I would like more information on Fandom, such as: Is it an ordinary magazine like STRANGE STORIES? Do the amateur writers and artists who contribute get any credit for their work, or better yet, money? Will FANDOM be sold at newsstands, or do we have to buy subscriptions? Will the magazine be about the same size as ordinary comic books? Can we write serials? How do I become a writer for your magazine?"

To answer such a group of questions is not necessarily an easy task. The information provided in this leaflet will consist of individual opinions of Fandom, our impressions if you will. No guarantees are given that the answers would agree with that offered by any other fans in Fandom. These opinions are indicative of what some believe. We can only give you what WE believe. The purpose of this leaflet is to satisfy a demand that we have been faced with, a demand for information. How well it serves its purpose will be decided by YOUR reaction, whether you join the National Fantasy Fan Federation (N.F.F.F. or N3F) or not. I certainly invite you to join.

FANDOM: Within my frame of references, this is something consisting of followers of anything. Those who like collecting stamps can be said to be a part of Philatelic Fandom. Those who practically adore Elvis Presley, who agitate for more of Elvis, can be considered part of Presley Fandom. Those who are avid Comic magazine readers and who collect them and/or who agitate for their own brand of comic strip heroes, are part of another Fandom. The number of Fandoms is unlimited, since it depends on what will interest a human being. Age is no factor. We all are a part of some Fandom, and a potential member of some Fandom, even if we don't realize it. But Fandom becomes more tangible when there starts to be some method of cooperation amongst its participating members, and some attempts are made to centralize and organize its functions.

Amongst these Fandoms, the most widespread and most active seem to be those based on Correspondence and that based on Science Fiction. These are world-wide and there are hundreds of local, national and international organizations that cater to the wishes of at least some of the members of this vague thing, FANDOM. Because of the activating source of the enquiries responsible for the creation of this pamphlet, it will deal primarily with the Fandom that emanates from an interest in Science Fiction.

We in Science Fiction Fandom have been trying to solve the question of what we are for years and we are, it seems, as far away as ever from a clear-cut decision. S.F. Fandom, it seems, is best defined as being whatever the individual wants it to be. In some cases, the new comers to S.F. Fandom has had to work, work hard, to make Fandom what HE wanted it to be, FOR HIM. Fandom is difficult to describe, but first, let us get a few things it is NOT clear. It is NOT a magazine, not necessarily a writers or artists' agency... Fandom is not something concrete, definite... it is an idea, some even calling it a way of life in so far as modes of relaxation are concerned. Something as indefinite as this will not satisfy the majority of fans, something more definite is wanted, something more organized and, because of the work of those fans, we have the Fan Clubs.

In areas where more than a couple fans with similar interests are found, in Science Fiction meetings are held for general discussion purposes, discussions on anything, not necessarily restricted to Science Fiction. These gatherings take on a more organized appearance and become local organizations under whatever name the group may decide. These local clubs and those in the immediate vicinity, wishing to communicate with others of kindred interests do so, and the first thing that is realized is that there is now a Regional organization. From independents (free-lancers), from the local and regional clubs, come the National and from there the International organizations. Because Fans are highly individualistic, no one organization can contain them all regardless of how well-intentioned that organization and its organizers may be. So, splinter groups form and the result is a multiplicity of clubs, types of free-lancers, types of every facets that composes Fandom. Some have tried, in large professionally printed books, to describe Fandom. None have succeeded beyond describing a part of it, since it defies definition, defies description. It is not



7  
within the intended scope of this small publication to even make a serious attempt to do what experts and even professionals have failed to do.

S.F. & Fantasy Fandom seems to attract one type of person, those who are opinionated, who are willing, even anxious, to argue (some are polite and merely discuss) anything, regardless of whether they really know what they are talking about or not. S.F. Fandom seems to be almost an extreme example of the wish to exercise FREE SPEECH and FREE WILL. They are rarely able to remain within the tight confines of discussing Science Fiction and/or Fantasy and/or Comic strips. Politics, religious matters, all the other Fandoms, anything the human mind can wonder about, is fit for discussion, if not for decision, whether logical or not, as long as it interests someone, preferably two. Age is not a determining factor, for fans from the so-called tender years of 14, to the hoary age of the high eighties, argue with each other. Sex (other than as a subject for discussion) is not a determining factor, though Males seem to outnumber the females by a wide margin. Race or country or origin (in at least the Western sense) seems to make no difference. Iron Curtain Fandom of the S.F. & Fantasy variety DOES exist too but it seems they hold it to be something vastly different than what we believe it to be and so, there has been a relatively little communication between the two. For one, WE hold that we are free to discuss or argue on anything, even what they would consider 'treasonable' subjects. They are restricted in what they can discuss, in fact, their Fandom is under direct Government supervision and control, so that their brand of Fandom holds little interest to us here. But, such restrictions are not to be found in only the Communistic countries, for, some countries of the Western Alliance, do not allow their citizenry to do even what I am doing at this moment, preparing a leaflet for general distribution. Some will not allow a citizen to own a mimeograph. Examples? Well, only this month, July, 1962, Greece has finally rescinded the laws that prevented exactly this. Some fans in some South American countries have had to cease activities because of Government regulations. On the other hand, a few years ago, when attempts were made by the West German Government to pass laws that would have effectively prevented Fandom in Germany, the intervention by both U.S. and British Fandoms, with briefs, etc. resulted in the proposed regulations being dropped. Our equivalent, in some countries, would be feared and militantly opposed.

We have people who are brash, willing to argue and/or even fight about anything. It can be a painful matter to do this face-to-face, since friends can be lost rather rapidly if you call them "Stupid, opinionated ass" to their face. From all this, you may imagine Fandom to be almost an anarchy, and at times, this is almost true. Currently, other than a few lawsuits, things are relatively quiet. The brash fan wants to express himself, release his inhibitions, etc. so he wants to do it before an audience. So, on hearing of some 'stupid' fan in other cities, he tries his hand at fighting with words, with the typewriter or pen. As he gains confidence, however, this way of fighting is not enough, having only ONE opponent at one time, so Chain letters (limited to a definite number and circulating within the limited group) called Round Robins are initiated. Those who, not wishing to argue (and we have those too) may decide to use the Round Robins to write fiction. Some who do not wish to wait the time that a Round Robin takes, will resort to QUADS, wherein, instead of the Chain letter circulating in line, within the group, each member of the group makes enough carbon copies of his letter to send out simultaneously, to each participating member. These are sufficient for some, just as some Fans remain readers only of SF.

But, for those to whom these are not sufficient, those who want wider audience reaction than can be provided by the Round Robins of any variety, resort to multiple duplication to carry on their views. The Hectograph will satisfy a larger group than carbons, but is not sufficient for long, because of difficulties with the system that are soon apparent to one who tries the Hectograph. Most use the mimeograph or Spirit Process (Ditto) methods. Some use really expensive Mimeographs, some use multiliths, presses, etc. Some of these publications (Fanzines) are at times up to 100 pages in size, with circulations as high as 400 or more. Some are good, some bad, some with plenty of illustrations, some without. Some solicit material from others, some don't. Most fans soon find themselves rather short of funds, but, undaunted by either lack of funds or knowledge, Fandom continues. The amateur publishers themselves sometime form their own clubs, 'Alliances' too.



Another facet of A Fandom is the desire to see what that 'stupid so&so' looks like, and, as is common in Fandom, when there is a desire to have something, someone will do something about it. There is also the compelling desire to get away from those who seem too sheepish to want to argue, and to be amongst those he can respect for having minds of their own. So, the results are the conventions. This year, the WORLD convention will be held in Chicago. These so-called WORLD conventions are now in North America, by custom, held on the Labour day Week-end. The regional conventions are more likely to be held on the week-end nearest to July 4th, in the U.S. and at Easter in England where Fandom is active and similar to ours. The 1957 British convention, being a WORLD convention that year, was held on the Labour day week-end. Regional conventions will usually range from 50 to 300 in attendance, while the World Conventions will usually range from 300 to around 1500.

Fandom is forever boiling, already ready to boil over and is always close to anarchy. For a person who wants to have things on a quiet level, Fandom is probably NOT for him. Fandom can only be entered by 'gate-crashing', by DOING. This 'gate-crashing' can be eased by joining a club that will take you. Some have special requirements that must be met BEFORE you are admitted. But NO ONE CLUB CAN CLAIM TO BE THE 'GATEWAY' TO FANDOM, all are a part of Fandom. I will be boosting the National Fantasy Fan Federation in this leaflet, as have others. It is NOT the only one, though it is the largest, currently numbering around 250 members. Unlike some clubs, there are no upper limits to its membership and unlike some clubs, clubs that are more specialized, is unlimited in what it can try to cover in its activities. This is not being claimed as a good point, and others bad, it is just a fact presented to you to judge as you will. The NFFF started in 1941, the first official Convention in Fandom is now accepted to have been in New York in 1939, so it shares with only a few others, the title of 'oldest' continuing club in Fandom.

I will be enclosing, with this leaflet, an application blank. In the following pages I will be giving a brief resume of the N3F and if further information is desired, write and I'll try to do my best, either directly or through advising someone else to deal with you. I can, of course, deal directly only with a limited number. At the moment (and this is almost a normal state of affairs with me) I owe around 150 letters, so you can see I can't undertake much more direct correspondence, but I will do my best in the time I have available, YOU be the judge and jury, either on the basis of this leaflet or on the basis of having acquired additional information.

THE NFFF  
An Opinion / Art. Hayes

[Originally, in only a slightly different form, a letter that was printed in a British Fanzine, ENVOY #4, by Ken Cheslin. I had not intended my letter as an article, but it was used as such, and it seems to fit the purpose of this leaflet, so is included. Hayes]

Once in a while, I am called upon, as you are doing, in regards to the N3F. When those times come around, I try to be as fair as I can, without becoming too biased, etc. I've been in the N3F since 1955. I've been a director of this club over a 2½ year period, during which time I served as Directorate Chairman for two years. I've had my fingers in almost every corner of the club in one sense or another, except President. I did not run for office at the 1961 Fall elections.

The N3F provides the opportunity to do or follow practically ANY fan type activity that can be found in any other club. It is a general purpose club. It has, within its own frontiers, all types, from the beginner to the professional, the good and the bad. It has no Activity Requirements so, in a sense, joining does not bring on any 'obligation' in the sense implied or actual in some other clubs. You do not HAVE to do anything. You can be as active as YOU like, or just plain inactive. In return, you get the Official Organ six times a year, a letterzine during the alternate months. You have the right to vote in its elections. You can enter MOST of its activities. There is only one section of the club where entrance (while limited to club members) may be delayed. This is the Amateur Press Alliance, N'APA, which, when up to quota, causes an aspiring member to wait in the normal



APA limbo until there is a vacancy. Currently, there are vacancies, no waiting list. 9

Other Activities? The apa mentioned (N'APA) for one. No need to mention or describe this in detail, since, it, in general, follows the general pattern of all apas, though there is some preoccupation in its discussions with matters pertaining to the parent club.

MANUSCRIPT BUREAU: This bureau receives and distributes fan written material. When some material seems to hold a possibility of being capable of use in professional circles, attempts are made, with your permission, to sell it, with the Bureau acting as Agent. Whenever the Bureau has the staff, it tries to advise on ways and means to improve the technique of writing of the contributors. In 1961, it had, as its head, the professional Author, Ed Ludwig. In 1961, it had a contest with over \$65. in prizes. A 1962 contest is currently under way. It is not limited to only club members.

Starting within the club, but since given its independence, is an Artists' Show. This is strongly supported by the club, and the club has an annual award amongst the many awards that the Art Show gives out. It has held two public exhibition at World Conventions and plans are well advanced for a third to be held at the Chicon (Chicago Convention).

At world conventions, for several years now, it has had an 'open-house', a 24 hours a day service by the N3F where sandwiches, coffee, tea, etc. (but no alcoholic beverages) are served to all comers, without propaganda. It has resulted in some fans who did not have a surplus of funds, getting something to eat, not going hungry, living off peanut butter sandwiches, cookies, and coffee. This has not been a cheap affair, though the conventions of recent years, recognizing the service, have, when financially able, provided free quarters for this purpose. The SEACON (Seattle Convention) in recognition of the activities of the Neffer Hospitality Room gave, from its surplus, the sum of \$75. towards support of our activities in the next convention, the Chicon.

The N3F, started in the early forties, so, is one of the older clubs in North America, & its activities, looked upon both as good and bad, in turn and at one and the same time, have become an inherent part of North American Fandom. It was originally formed by professionals, with the intent of unifying Fandom, providing a kind of Headquarters, for ALL Fandom. Well Fandom has never accepted any kind of boos, regimentation, and the original intent had to be dropped several years ago as not being capable of becoming a fact.

Almost all fans of more than five years participation in Fandom have passed through the N3F, staying for various lengths of time, some leaving highly angry, some just leaving. The N3F has some who are friends, and also some who, while difficult to classify as enemies, are certainly not friendly. In some ways it has created ill-will by wanting to do more at times, than it was then capable of doing, and the falling down on some worthwhile projects. The original FANCYCLOPEDIA, now under Richard Eney for the 2nd edition, was originally a combined project of the N3F and LASFS, a project that did materialize. In the last few years, greater care has been taken and fewer promises made, with the result that most failures have been halted BEFORE they were given a real horn-blowing of publicity, resulting in less bad publicity for the club as a whole.

In the minor categories, for activities, you get Round Robins and Quads. Quads are more or less the connecting link between the correspondent fan, the Round Robin fan and the Amateur Publishers Alliance. Both the Round Robin and the Quad can be subdivided into sub-categories:

- (1) Those based on one specific subject or hobby.
- (2) Those based on general discussions and mutually acceptable subjects.
- (3) Light and even humorous.
- (4) Story Round Robins, each member writing

a chapter to a story.

There are surprisingly few RRs or Quads that remain restricted to SF as a discussion subject.

There are groups within the club, such as Recruiting and Welcoming. There affiliated services such as The Fanzine Clearing House (where for a sum -\$1. - a bundle of fanzines can be acquired -Seth Johnson)



10

Since the N3F includes ANY fanac you can think of, if it doesn't then it will provide you with as much assistance as it can for YOU to bring it about, those who are inactive are inactive by their own choice. What a member will gain will depend on HIM for there are plenty of opportunities. There are many publications sent to the members but since most of these are NOT official, not regular, they are not promised.

DUES: This can be a problem to overseas applicants, but if they can't send an International Money Order, arrangements can usually be made by trading with members for North American members to pay their dues in return for something mutually acceptable. Since the club's rules currently do not allow acceptance of less than a year's dues at one time, it means that when joining in mid-year, the amount acceptable will be more than the annual \$1.60 amount. This is being written in July. If, before October (by Mail) you join, you will be required to send in the sum of \$2.40. If you join in person at the Chicon, however, it will be \$2.00. Either of these amounts will pay for the remainder of this year, and all of next year. An application form is included with this leaflet. If you wish to join now, send your dues, \$2.40, to Janie Lamb, not to me, address where to send on the form.

Fandom is not easy to describe and once you've joined, you'll form your own opinions. That, naturally, is the best opinion, your own. No one can be as good a judge of what YOU want as YOU. So, my advice is. JOIN the N3F, join whatever else you wish on learning of them, then make up your own mind whether it is what you wish or not.

Thank you.

Arthur Hayes,  
R.R.# 3,  
Bancroft, Ont. Canada.

ADDEMBUMB.... Clayton Hamlin. Continued from Page 5.

"Tell them about the story round robins. Sure, you write a chapter send it on to the next in line, but mention that it is accepted procedure that each of the writers in the group is given a part in the story as a character. Most amusing to take your best friend & do them dirt, even kill them off & see if they can squirm their way out of it. So, if you HAVE to be violent, do it in a story. And mention the games we have. The kind that ever so many people get involved in. Let them know about the heaxes where a group got together and created a fan who got published in dozens of different fanzines so that for practical purposes, everyone thought they were real. And let them know about our creation of a whole new myth, the Odd Ones (ugh) and the Saturnalians (Hurrah), witches, vampires, Mephisto University of Necromancy, Kali's Crypt and dozens of others. Many get involved in the things and it ends up with a full scale fanzine just cause lots of people had fun with a game whose only limit was their imagination.

All you really need to say is that Fandom is people with an uncommon need to communicate ideas; serious and silly ideas; and who mostly have an equally uncommon ability to do that kind of communicating. Extremely talented people they are, and extremely likeable ones too. A high class breed of crittur, these Fans. What I mean, Hayes, is tell them about yourself. They will never be the same again, and they won't want to be either.

[And, in that little essay, you see confirmation of what I said in several spots in this issue, Fandom is what YOU make it. Fandom is EVE YTHING, or nothing, depending on YOU. It can even be what Clayton Hamlin says it is, for some. No, I won't talk about myself, since I'm only ONE individual in Fandom. Once in the N3F, you'll learn about me, both good and mostly bad. I'll let the others talk about me, since, while they are talking about me, they don't have time to talk about others and so the others are spared. It is fun, seriously speaking, and I again say I hope you'll join us in our brand of madness]

Arthur Hayes CH



# NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION

☐ New

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

 Reinstatement ☐

Name ..... Birthdate .....

Address ..... Occupation .....

..... How long have you been interested

..... in Science Fiction?.....

What are your special interests in the field of Science Fiction?

**Professional:**

....Author  
 ....Artist  
 ....Book Dealer  
 ....Editor  
 ....Publisher

**Amateur:**

....Writer  
 ....Artist  
 ....Correspondence  
 ....Publishing  
 ....Book Collector

....Fanzine collector  
 ....Prozine Collector

Others.....  
 .....  
 .....

Are you willing to devote some time to club work if asked? Yes ..... No..... If so, what type of activity do you prefer? Please check:

Publishing..... Stencil Cutting ..... Corresponding ..... Clerical, which may involve keeping files, etc. .... Others.....

Phone number, for visiting Neffers (if you care to give it).....

Do you have, and/or use a: Typewriter(if so: Pica..... Elite..... I.B.M.....)

Varityper ..... Mimeograph ..... Spirit Duplicator .... Offset Litho ..... Multigraph ....

Printing Press .... Silk Screen ..... Photo copying .... Litho Plate Making .....

Hectograph ..... Others .....

How long have you been interested in Fandom? ..... Please list other fan clubs of which you are or have been a member and offices held (with dates) .....

What Fanzines do you read regularly .....

What prozines do you read regularly? .....

What sort of stories do you prefer? .....

Who are your favorite Science Fiction and Fantasy Authors?.....

Name of Sponsoring member:

Signature of Applicant:

ARTHUR HAYES

1 - R. R. 3 -

BANCROFT, ONT., CANADA

Date .....

This form, together with remittance for at least one year's dues should be sent to:

Janie Lamb  
 R.R. #1, Box 364,  
 Heiskell, Tenn. U S A.

Please make all checks and money orders payable to Janie Lamb, not the N.F.F.F. Dues are \$1.60 per calendar year or the amounts below will pay for the remainder of the current year and all of next year:

After April 1st: \$2.80      After July 1st: \$2.40      After Oct 1st or at World Con: \$2.00

jah: If space above insufficient, use reverse side of this application form.