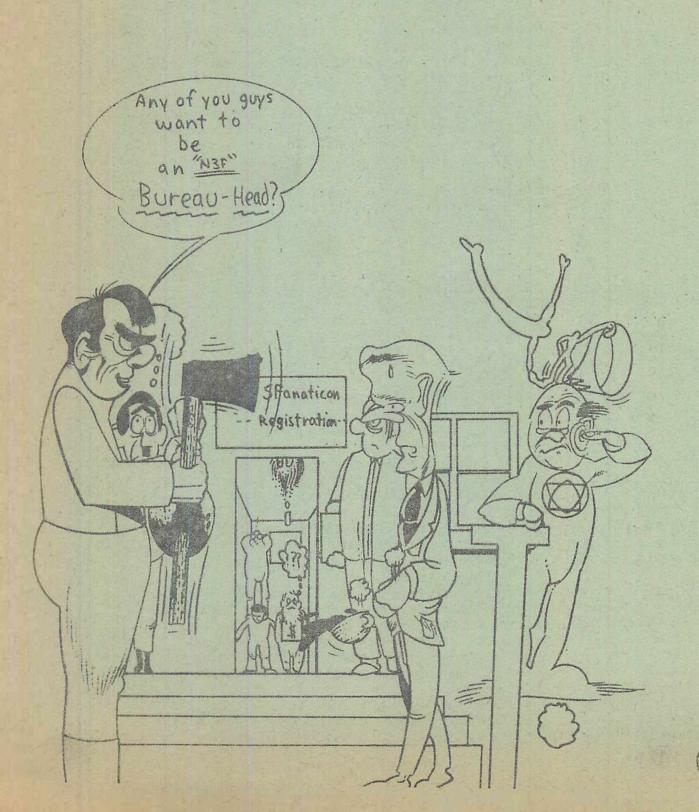
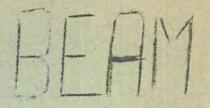
## TIBOLING COM



TIGHT



From: John Robinson, 1-101st Street, Troy, NY 12180.

As of Mid-March more than 100 of you still hadn't paid your 1976 member-ship dues. Joanne has said that she will not mail the April TNFF to any member unless they have paid or until they have paid. So if you are wondering why you haven't received that issue of TNFF, now you know.

This mailing of TIGHTBEAM is late. Sorry, I had problems getting electrostencils; or rather, Frank Balazs had trouble getting into the Cope Center at Albany State to get the electrostencilling done. They no longer allow students to do their own work and the budget was cut so staffing is short and sporadic.

When I am re-elected president (smile, smile) I plan to continue to streamline the bureaus and services through attrition. Hopefully it will drop to as few as sixteen (16) people in charge of bureaus before Stan comes up with more bureaus and services to be staffed.

I want to emphasize services over bureaus. I think we could use a few special publications, but at the present time it costs \$3.19 per year just to send TNFF and TIGHTBEAM (assuming that we have the editors and there are six issues of each). So special publications will require special attention. Already Eric Jamborsky is publishing The N3F Collector and Don Miller says he has a games/hobbies zine. It seems that part of our activities will have to be handled outside of funded N3F publications.

The N3F Room will be a place for special publications -- flyers, brochures, etc. We have to stress our neofan crientation and publicise the fact that we intend to help neofans discover fandom wherever it is. I've talked with a couple of Albany fars who were in the N3F during the 60's and they say they left because the N3F was always talking about bureaus and seldom had a word about fandom in general. The N3F must inform its members about fandom in general more and about the bureaus to the extent the members show an interest in bureaus. Stan has written to tell me he is preparing a survey on bureaus (likes and dislikes) so perhaps we can start to move in the right direction. By streamlining bureaus and expanding SERVICES the N3F can be improved. I hope to be able to continue in this direction as your president for at least another year.

The Welcommittee members have not been living up to their word as members. I've been receiving letters from new members saying they have yet to hear from you. I urge you to check the listings in TNFF and write to a few each time. Try every second or third one, or start from the middle, or start from the end. Sharon Wilkerson will no longer be copying the lists and mailing them to members. She will write to some of the new members each time to greet them and ask if they have heard from the Welcommittee or others. So start doing something. If you are a fanpubber send a copy of your zine, but do something. The Welcommittee comes right behind Recruitment for importance. I see 27 new members so far this year, but few of these have mentioned receiving greetings from others. Get active.

At the Thursday, February 5, 1976, meeting of the Albany State SF Society, Will Norris brought in a letter he'd received from Wayne MacDonald:

" I hope that the following arguments against the N3F don't discourage you from trying to change my mind. After all, if you believe the N3F is truly useful, then you should have no trouble justifying it. One of the things I actively dislike, instead of mere apathetic indifference, is the manuscript bureau. Suppose that through concerted effort the N3F convinced a large number of fan writers to contribute an article or two to the bureau. So they do, and for a while afterward verious faneds pick through the bureau choosing what manuscripts they want, and taking them. Suddenly B.N.F. Jophan finds a pet article of his appearing in FANKRUD 3, somewhere he would never want to contribute to because the repro and editorial work is so shitty; or in MUGGWUMPERS LITERARY QUARTERIX, a zine he finds dreadfully and scholarly turgid; or in TROLL'S BOO-BOO, a zine with low and select circulation in, say, fantasy circles, while Jophan's article was written for the sf community he is familiar with. Of course all these examples are exaggerated, but I feel that any talented writer is going to want to select the appropriate audience for his work. Why should he give up this choice? It will only cost him most of the pleasure he derives from writing ... And then there is the purely functional argument. Maybe Jophan writes a column for so-and-so simply to help so-and-so out, or to get so-and-so's zine. If this writer gives his work to the ms. bureau he cannot count on helping friends, nor can he insure receiving the next copy of whatever zine he wants.

"I doubt, though, the last is really a good argument, since the bureau probably doesn't dream of dealing with all of any given writer's work. Probably all that's wanted is a contribution or two a year. Surely the writers could volunteer an article or two - their own egoboo won't suffer that much, and they're free to write as much else during the year to satisfy themselves. But why should they contribute? Why should a writer work for " the common weal"?

Income tax and socialism are based on these kinds of reasoning.

"A writer should only contribute to an organ such as the manuscript bureau if he wants to. Few do because they enjoy helping out other fans more directly. They prefer direct contact, a letter asking for their help, to an impersonal and distant bureau."

Interesting comments. I agree, in particular, with the last paragraph. But when I hear of a highly rated fanpubber such a Bill Bowers sitting on a piece of artwork for four years, as happened with the Connie Faddis piece on pages 1040-41 of Outworlds 27, then I begin to see why more people should be contributing to the Manuscript Bureau. The Bureau serves a purpose -- to bring fanwriters and fanpubbers together who might never meet. To give contributors and publishers a chance to work together is a great priviledge when it works, and Donn Brazier is trying to make it work. Instead of getting down on his knees far and wide a faned can write to Donn enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope and receive a list of possible contributions. He may then deal through Donn for a fistfull on contributions rather than spending an excessive amount of cash soliciting far and wide. This save the fanpubber time as well, and it means he merely has to send the unwanted manuscripts back to Donn while acknowledging the use of materials to authors and artists. I certainly hope there aren't many faneds who use material without at least sending a free copy to each and every contributor; that's the essence of THE USUAL, the foundation of fanpubbing today. And as for writers who wish to restrict where their works appear, they should restrict where manuscripts are sent by being their own agents.

Wayne MacDonald continues:

"... The Birthday Card Bureau? I need to pay \$3 to receive a birthday card? Why? I don't send out cards myself, and consider it rather embarassing to receive them when I have no intention of returning any. If I want to contact someone for a special occasion I'll either talk with them in person, over the phone, or through correspondence. The card is a rather obsolete and commercially specialized holdover from a bygone era.

" So why is it vitally important to have an organization to send

Birthday cards?"

\$3.19 per year just to produce a nd mail out TNFF and Tightbeam to each member. Other activities are extra. I see absolutely nothing wrong with the Birthday Card Bureau. I would, however, like to see the calendar started up again. The one Art Hayes did on Chinese astrology a couple years ago was great. If some members of the Welcommittee were as dedicated as the Birthday Card Bureau we'd have a lot more favorable remarks from new members ( who in all too many cases tend to receive a letter or two and perhaps a fanzine but certainly not enough of a welcome.)

Wayne, you'd better not go to the Worldcon this year. They get riled up when you put down greeting cards in Kansas City - the home of Hallmark.

"The Kaymar Awards? If there was no N3F, there would be no need for the award. This is known as lifting oneself up by his bootstraps."

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Well Wayne, some people have done especially good jobs for the N3F and more should be encouraged to do so. Quite often the recipient says, " Aw shucks." But continued recognition for those who do a good job as volunteers helps keeps Neffers active, at least in my opinion. And it doesn't come out of the treasury. K. Martin Carlson does it himself, unless I'm mistaken.

"Publicity committee? Same deal. Since an N3F is necessary, a publicity campaign is necessary to build it up, and the N3F is necessary so that there can be things like publicity campaigns. So the circle begins anew..."

itself but former members and those who have never been members should be reminded of the N3F's continued existence and what it is doing. Why does Sammy Davis, Jr. appear on tw so much? He's afraid people will forget him! Such is the motivation of all publicists whether they do it for themselves or others.

"What about the N3F publications? Well, if anyone wanted to publish them that badly they would. And if anyone wanted to get them that badly they would either subscribe or respond..."

 Downes only had 125 names and addresses on his mailing list, and that Will Norris only had 150 names on his list. But the N3F has 175 names! And there a means within the N3F to spread the word to expand mailing lists, etc. I have written to Donn Brazier asking him for xerox copies of the data he compiled to come up with his fanratings for 1975. Donn received 349 issues of 249 fanzines. He compiled; ists of fanzines and lists of contributors (probably at least two fans for each fanzines title.) If these can be alphabetically arranged and printed then fandom will have a valuable resource. Steve Beatty has published a Fanzine Directory but no ratings of fanactivity. Those who wish cam write to Steve at 1662 College Terrace Drive, Murray, KY 42071, enclosing 60¢, but they still won't receive a list of names and addresses of fans according to the amount of fanac Donn observed from them in 1975.

"What the N3F can be is an introductory "club "for new fans, neos, who are too geographically isolated (they live in Prunzefrazz, New Mexico, say) to meet other fans. The N3F can help in these cases, and needs a few old hands to give a helping hand. Almost anything else you can name is either superfluous, self-justified, or equally well done without justification."

\*\*\*\*\*\* Those of you who would like to write to MacDonald and who did not see his address at the beginning may write:

Taral Wayne MacDonald, 1284 York Mills Rd., Apt. 410, Don Mills, Ontario MBA 1Z2 CANADA

Most of you are probably wondering how the N3F Room is coming along for the Worldcon. Arrangements are already in progress for activities in the N3F Room and at the Con. Larry Downes has agreed to be auctioneer, and some people have agreed to contribute auctionable goods such as fanzines, memorabilia, even an old mimeograph (I think). MidAmeriCon has confirmed the N3F Room. The letter from Mike Baker, himself a Neffer, appears on the next page.

## MIDAMERICON

ST OFFICE BOX 221 KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64141

February 17, 1976

Mr. John Robinson 1-101st Street Troy, New York 12180

Dear John:

First of all I would like to apologize for not getting in touch with the Club a little sooner. I'm wearing several hats on the committee and I've been unable to answer your letter or Stan's letter before this. If you don't mind, I'll address this letter to you and send a copy to Stan. Hi Stan! I'm sorry for the delay.

Please rest assured that there will be a place for N3F at Midamericon. We do have a space problem, but I have already made arrangements for the Neffer Room. I'm in the Club myself so I had a personal reason to see that things were worked out.

The room I have reserved is relatively small. It measures only 17 feet by 20 feet. I realize that if all the members of N3F attending the Con decided to meet at once, things would get a little cramped, so I have tentatively reserved space in a larger room for a one time meeting. This would enable everyone to get together at the same time. The N3F room is on the main Con floor just a few steps away from the major function rooms. It is literally in the center of things.

I realize that I haven't answered all the questions you've raised in your letters, but I need to know now if arrangements I've made are agreeable to you. Could you folks on the executive level please appoint a host person so that the final details as to exactly what, when and where can be resolved? Please have whomever you appoint write me in care of the MAC Box.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to write me.

Yours truly,

Make Led Park

Mike Baker, Special Interest Groups Co-ordinator

MB/blv

cc: Stan Woolston



"Having edited a clubnewsletter I have a glimmer of just how much members want a newsletter. Most would say nice things if they ran into you, but few will write, fewer contribute, and three, out of 75, were willing to buy is sues of the same newsletter/fanzine that I financed myself. And SYNAPSE was good, mind you. It was not strictly a functional clubzine with only club news and notices and coas and things. It had genuine articles, a long editorial, locs, good illos, quality repro, covers, heavy coloured paper... It was the distillation of a full size fanzine like GRANFALLOON into 15 to 20 pages a month ( at the time - I cut the budget later.) So now that I've resigned from the OSFiC exec I'll publish my own, and mail to people who show they want what I publish. Nothing impossible there."

that -- you tried to sell it. For a club you have to force the newsletter on the membership or receive outside financial support, as with a college zine. There simply aren't enough to coming in or feedback from as small a geographical area as Ontario unless you start with a massive mailing list and are willing to give a few free volumes (not just issues) away. Local club members know just about everything that's going on from attending meetings. For a newsletter to succeed within a state or province it must be a servicezine containing news, market reports, book, film and fanzine reviews, con listings and a lettercol. Articles are not the sort of thing that turn or club members with. Material that allows a member to expand fan activity is most welcome.

"( I used to send copies of SYN to Janie Lamb, the editor of Tightbeam, as contact from OSFiC. Nothing came of it so I sent SYN to the N3F president - I think - instead. Still nothing doing. This seems contrary to the avowed purpose of the organization. How does this improve fannish communications?)"

not editor of Tightbeam. Beth Slick has been editor for the past couple of years, but now we need someone new. Mailing a copy to the president was a wrong move as well. I must admit the present reviewing system for TNFF is inefficient, but through no fault of Joanne Burger. If there are to be good reviews that cover fanzines, books, films, etc. more people must participate. Joanne did an excellent job in the latest TNFF with the fanzine listings with brief comments. I am suggesting that any Neffer who writes a review for a fanzine or apa send a carbon copy to TNFF. It's kosher to duplicate reviews, especially when TNFF may use the review in a more timely manner than some fanzines provided such a reviews is sent in during January, March, May, July, September or October to meet the deadline. Joanne says she prints about as much as she receives. Let's give her something to EDIT. The same goes for news. Not all Neffers read LOCUS or KARASS. Sorry Wayne, but bureaucracy has combined with your own confucion to really tangle things up. I hope this does something to clear the air.

"Another premise you state for the existence of the N3F is that club, or presumably single fans, are isolated geographically. If this was true, then how can they be corresponding? How isolated is a fan who publishes fanzines that he mails all over the continent and as far away as Australia and Argentina? And how isolated is a club that publishes a newsletter that can be mailed like a fanzine? How can anyone in fandom be isolated as long as postage doesn't sky-rocket to half a buck first class the first ounce? And how is N3F going to help communication by acting as a go-between for the Post Office, anyway?"

JOANNE BURGER
55 Blue Bonnet Ct.
Lake Jackson, TX
77566

About the N3F room at cons. I have an idea. I just got back from Boskone 13, and there they had an orientation room for neofans -- listed in the program as a place where people at their first convention could go and get the various happenings explained to them. This seems to me to be the perfect

things for the N3F to do at the Worldcon. There are bound to be neofans there, and that is going to be a confusing experience for them, with the over 3000 fen who have already joined. The con hotel is booked full and they are starting on the overflow hotel. So if the NFFF has a room there, why not use it as an Orientation Room for people at their first con. I would be willing to be there at designated hours during the con, and perhaps others would also be willing. If the members & the directorate & the President like the idea, let me know and I'll get in touch with the MidAmeriCon committee and try to arrange to have this in the program. I know I was almost lost at my first con, and it was nowhere as big as this one is going to be.

first Worldcon, NYCon 3, back in 1967. I met some neos, talked with a couple of pros, and I enjoyed the programs, but I backed away from cons for a while until I'd made more contacts through fanzines and thus knew there would be people at cons I'd already met through the mail. Yes, you've got a good idea there. Those of you who agree should write to Joanne and tell her your ideas and plans for the Worldcon, and don't forget to write to me as well.

M. Brewer 4808 S. Elwood # 149 Tulsa, OK 74107

Dearest Fellow Fen,

Your name, address and phone number in print absolutely free for all us Neffers who plan on attending the MidAmeriCon.
Purpose: To help establish correspondent friendships before

the con, arrange to and from (" ... if I'd only known that the 30 of us were all coming on the same day, we could have chartered a plane and saved \$80.00, but it's too late now") and arrange a get together in my room.

All of this is available to you for the price of one 13¢ stamp.

I'd like to make the deadline June 14th but don't let that stop you from sending it today.

ART HAYES Box 550 Schumacher Ontario Canada PON 1G0 The type of Neffer room I last experienced at the last conventions I attended, was not only useless but even degrading to the N3F. The N3F has the potential of making such a room useful, but in making it so, it might end up a little controversial, but better controversy than the degrading beggin attitude we have come to assume to have something that has very little use to either the fans or the convention or the convention committee. In the days

when the conventions were not so big a business, the smaller size cons, the program simpler, the atmosphere more relaxing and cordial, the refreshments in the Neffer room, the games, etc, was nice, but this is no longer true. The complexities of the large conventions make for complexities in program (with only a small percentage attending the program event anyhow) that competing programs by such as might be jucluding the Neffer room would hardly be noticed in reducing

Note: pages 4 and six rum in wrong order. Sorry.

attendence to the official program. Any item on the program worth its salt, won't suffer from the competition by such a small event as might be in the Neffer room, might as well be abandoned in favor of something worthier.

or other fund-raising program events. I've written MAC asking if we could have an auction scheduled around auction and other fund-raising programs. The chief item I'd like to auction off is a working mimeo. We'd have the mimeo on view in the N3F Room and even produce a daily newsletter announcing our own program and auction items. Larger items, and special items, would be posted on a bid board similar to the method used by PBS stations during the week-long auctions, with daily highs listed and a bid box for placing sealed bids to be opened at specific times each day and thus update the leading bidders. Fanzine grab bags of various sizes would be auctioned off with a minimum bid of 10¢ times the number of different zines in the package. Contributors should write to me but don't send zines as yet as I am trying to arrange a collection ppint near the con.

DAVID D McGIRR Box 801 Haverhill, MA 01830 Saw your comment in the NFF about auction of old fanzines. I have some of my old fanzines from the 40's still around (e.g. The Ačolyte, Tellus, Jupiter, Shangri-L'Affaires, VOM, Sun Spots, Vampire etc.) Let me know what you decide to do and I'll send out a dozen or so.

As soon as I hear from the MAC committee I'll write to you, Dave. Items such as olde fanzines, Tucker's Other Sock, etc. would be welcome, but as I said before, anyone who wants to contribute should write me first for clearance.

Roger D. Sween Box 408 Platteville, WI 53818 ory, perhaps. I see that the Fan Club Bureau is looking for a chairman. This is something I would like to do. I have in mind the kind of information that ought to be collected. These reports could be made to the N3F in TNFF in an annual direct-

Name of organization:
Date founded:
Membership restrictions if any:
Dues if any:
Interests of the club:
Address for mail:
Phone:
Meeting place:
Meeting time:
Activities of club:
Officers:

I am open to any other suggestions.

 ALLAN CHEN 23-05 126 St. College Point New York, NY 11356

Thanks for your note. I would like the joh //head of Round Robin Bureau/ and I'd appreciate it if you would ask the Directorate for their approval.

A low-profile bureau seems a good way to start being active in the N3F and to learn all (or most) of the little things about NBF bureaus and more generally science fiction fandom. Do you think you could give me some idea as to the topics

that people like to write about? About how long does a Round Robin go on, and how does it cycle among the same few people over and over again, or can it go to a great many people? In other words, is it linear or cyclic? Thanks very much.

\*\*\*\* Round Robins as such are cyclic, though short story round robins are often linear. It depends on the organization and purpose of the people organized in the round robin. The most common type is cyclic and depends on how soon each member responds and sends on the package. Members of an RR often pick their own topic. It is the job of the RR Chief to assemble names and topics, so feel troo to ask prospective members what they want to become involved in. I think it's a good idea to combine short story RRs with the regular kind for the time being. Neffers interested in joining a RR should write to Allan. I seem to recall that two to six RRs were started each year in recent years. Veterans should write to 

STAN WOOLSTON Garden Grove, CA 92640

I sent Irv Koch a book and asked for information for subbing 12832 Westlake St. to MAYBE. He rushed me a copy with a note, and information on the price was inside. Though busy he was thinking of reactivating the Fanzine Clearing House. Of course it is you. as president, he should write to about FCH. I'm curious how

he'd want to do it. Seth used letters to followup classified ads in prozines; a mimeoed sheet among bundles of fanzines would be less personal but might bring results.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* I'd like to see FCH reactivated. Ad rates have just about doubled what they were back when Seth ran the bureau. Perhaps flyers on freebie tables at cons could be used to liven up the number of active newcomers. Please write me, Irv. \*\*\*

I am thinking of the Ideas Bureau setup. If an Ideas Bureau is set up the different title won't cause conflict; but I can pass along information to others, including whoever heads that activity -- if you can find someone. think it is a useful group.

\*\*\*\*\*\* Yes, the Ideas Bureau is still OPEN, and it can be useful, so so meone please step forward and volunteer your services. Stan has advice.

Fandom's Yellow Pages, as you conceive it, seems to be a publication. It could be, with an editor and some planning. Anyway, maybe we could fix a sort of poster or list of ads or squibs on various N3F activities for the attendees to see, with whatever is handed them as a bonus. A sign-in or name-and-address with space for special interests would be fine if we could get that information. A good mimeoed zine for the Yellow Sheetzine might be done for a quarter, but it would have to grab attention and interest for the reader.

\*\*\*\* Yes, I've checked with a possible offset printer and discovered that 500 copies of a twenty pager could be offset for less than \$50, and if we had only 400 copies printed it would come to the same with collating and stapling. WHA CON MILLER
12315 Judson Rd.
Wheaton, MD
20906

Thanks for your recent post card. Yes, the Games/Hobbies
Bureau still exists -- I keep planning to write a report, but
never seem to get the time. (It's not a Bureau so much in
the sense that one physically belongs to it, as an Information/
Service Bureau much like Don Franson's Information Bureau used

to be.)

Perhaps I should do an occasional column in TNFF on the subject of games & hobbies? If so, perhaps you could note in a coming issue that I'm open to questions/requests for information on games, mystery/syspense fiction, and dozens of other interest areas -- and if I can't answer them, at least I could run them in my column for someone else to tackle....

I am still publishing six magazines -- three journals (quarterly) and three news/info/adzines (monthly), one each in the SF/Fantasy, Board Gaming, and SF/mystery fields, and these really keep me going. But at least an occasional column wouldn't be too much to add on to my workload if there is sufficient interest in same.

\*\*\*\*\*\* You sound as busy as that other Don ( D'Anumassa ). Neffers should write and indicate their interests and questions where they think you can help. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

FUTURE N3F GOALS DEPARTMENT: Next issue of TIGHTBEAM will be devoted to the goals of the N3F. I already have a letter from Will Norris. You should have already seen Art Hayes letter in TNFF. But right now I want to take some space to fill you in on who hadn't paid their dues for 1976 as of the end of February. Of the over 209 people on the list 115 had not paid! I think that it is an important goal that everyone who wants to be a 1976 member should pay their dues promptly.

The following have not paid: Amelia Ahlstrom, · George Andrews, Kathleen Andrews, Reed Andrus, Jr., Frank Balazs, David Barbett, Margaret , Ned Brooks, Rick Brooks, William D. Broxon, Edward W. Bryant, Jr., Ann Chamberlain, William Clark, Greg Costikyan, Charles Cushing, Don D'Ammassa (busy supervising his clones probably), James G. Dana, Larry Downes, Richard Doxtator, Kathryn A. Drexel ( how's things in VT?), David Dyer-Bennet, Eris ( Hail ), James K. Farley, Jackie Franke, Richard Friedman, Beverly Friend, Kenneth R. Frost, Margaret Gemignani, Robert W. Gersman, Wally Gonser, Helen G. Hagler, Miller Hahn, Herard Houarner, Roy J. Hunter, Elanor R. Ide, John Inouye, John R. Isaac, Linda J. Johnson, Dorothy Jones, G. Coke Kimborough, David A. Kleist, David Kyle, Mike Laler, Mark J. McGarry ( EMPIRE-builder), , Richard Nacht, Daniel Priscilla Marco, Don Markstein, Paul W. Mayer, , Richard Nacht, Dan: J. Oakes, Mark L. Olson, Jean Palmer, David K. Patrick, Fred Patten, Floyd J. ., Thomas C. Rowe, Daniel Say, Perley, Laurie Rawn, Linda Rhodes, Joseph Schaumburger, Scott C. Smith, W.E. Smith, Ava Sterling, John P. Strang, Mae Strelkov ( it's a long way from Argentina so she may already have sent it in), Walter J. Stumper, Roger D. Sween, Roy Tackett, William B. Talmage, Brian Tanna-, Anthony Triggs, Muriel S. van Swerigen, Tom , Bud Webster, Connie Weir. Walcher, Eleanor Walter, Judith Walter, Elli Ilene Wharton, Ann Wilson, Loubel Wood.

If you don't receive the next TNFF or TIGHTBEAM it may be because you failed to renew. Send in that dues payment now. We want you to remain members, the officers, Directorate and myself, so we will have the money to do services and not have to spend so much time recruiting. One member noted that 20 people joined so far this year so we have 200 members. Well, this shows we don't even have half that. Get your \$\$ in, folks, so we can work on goals and improvements.

HAB

Albary State SF Society For 22670, SUNIA Albary, NY 12222

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