

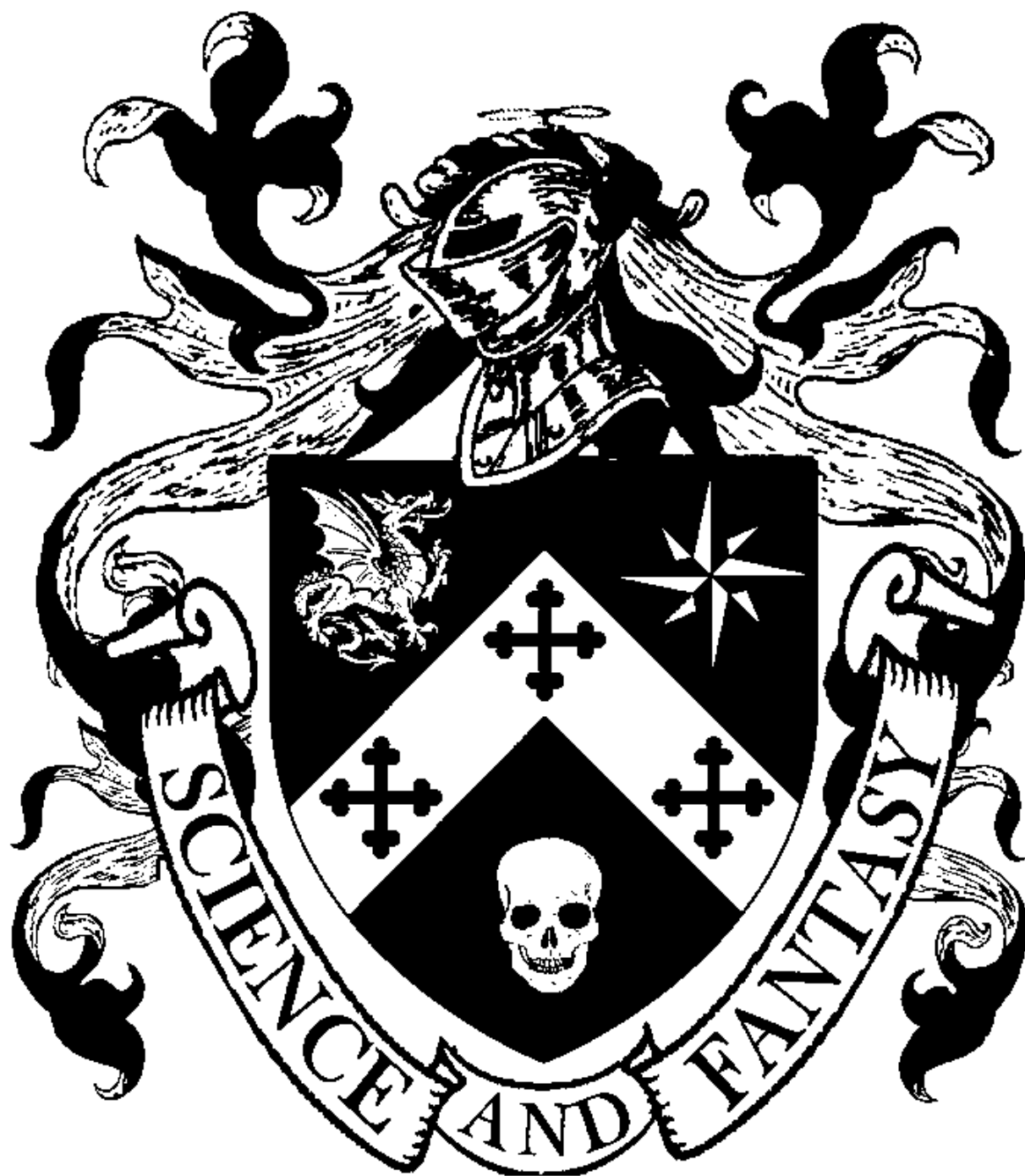
NFF

TNFF Vol. 71 No. 1
TIGHTBEAM # 260

2012

MAR

THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION



2012 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest

Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

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 Stories entered in the contest must be original, unpublished, not longer than 8,500 words in length—and must be related to the science fiction, fantasy, or similar genres in the opinion of the judges.
 3. Manuscripts 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. Email attachments of Word documents are also acceptable.
 4. Contestants can enter any number of stories, provided that each is accompanied by a separate entry blank and fee. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) if you would like your story returned at the end of the contest. Do not send your only copy in case of accidental loss; we are not responsible for lost manuscripts. Stories will not be returned without an SASE.
 5. The entry fee is \$3 per story for N3F members in good standing, and \$5 for non-members. The extra \$2 is for printing and publicity, which will be paid for using N3F funds. The basic \$3 is for judging expenses and prizes. While N3F members are encouraged to enter the contest, members will not receive any preference in judging. Because of a long-standing agreement with the British Science Fiction Association, BSFA members can pay the same fee as N3F members.
 6. 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.
 7. Send all manuscripts, accompanied by SASEs, entry forms, and fees to the contest manager: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373; n3f.story.contest@gmail.com. Make checks payable to William Center. Well-concealed American cash (dollar bills is also acceptable. All entries must be received or postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2012.
Email entries will be accepted, but no guarantee of email receipt can be made.
 8. The judge is a published science fiction professional. All comments and critiques are solely the judge's opinion, but he promises to be constructively critical and polite. 9. The N3F assumes no publishing rights or obligations. We want to encourage professional sales, not fan publication. All entries will be returned after the contest is over, if accompanied by an SASE. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. Announcements and notifications of winning entries will be made in March 2013.
- 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, 2012. Good luck

(Detach or photocopy. Must accompany all entries.)

Title of story (for identification): _____

Author's name and address: _____

Author's email address: _____ Author's age: _____

Enclosed is the entry fee of \$5 (for N3F or BSFA members, the fee is \$3). I have read the above rules for the 2012 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**

THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN

The Official Organ of the National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F)

TNFF Vol. 71, No. 1

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This issue was started on March 3, 2012 and completed on March 10, 2012. The editor was David Speakman. The editor of the next issue is, again, David Speakman. Submissions may be emailed to him at cabal@n3fmail.com or via U.S. mail at: David Speakman, 501-83 Moorpark Way, Mountain View CA 94041. All opinions herein are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of other members of N3F except where so noted. **Submission deadline for the next issue is May 15, 2012.** This zine is to be published at least quarterly in March, June, September, and December through volunteer effort. All material in this issue, unless expressly noted otherwise, is contributed for one-time use only in this publication in its various print and electronic forms. All other copyrights are retained by the contributor. Reproduction, distribution, or republication of any portion of this publication in any media is prohibited without express permission of the current (at time reproduction is to me made) president and directorate of N3F or the original copyright holder.

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David Speakman

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Ruth Davidson (2003-2008)
Heath Row (2009-2011)

ART EDITOR

Sarah E. Harder

REVIEWS EDITOR

Heath Row

ONLINE EDITOR

Ruth Davidson

PUBLISHER

Craig Boyd

DISTRIBUTOR

Dennis Davis

SUBMISSIONS

All submissions are to be sent to the editorial cabal via email at:

cabal@n3fmail.com

unless otherwise noted.

On The Cover



Credit: David Speakman,
"Arms for the 21st Century"



2012 Officers

PRESIDENT

Dennis Davis

DIRECTORATE

Sarah E Harder, Chairman
Heath Row
David Speakman
Jon D. Swartz
Holly Wilson

TREASURER

William Center

ELECTION TELLER

Ruth Davidson

ELECTION RESULTS

By Ruth R. Davidson

Apologies everyone, I lost my file with the vote tallies so I don't have any numbers. Everyone who ran won, there was a write in for David Speakman as President and for Pasty Patricia Williams-King as one of the Directorate.

BUREAUS

Artists Bureau

Sarah Harder

Birthday Cards

R-Laurraine Tutihasi

Convention Coordinator

Heath Row

Gaming

George Phillies

Kaymar Award

William Center

Mangaverse

Ruth Davidson

Membership Cards

Dennis Davis

Membership Drive

Dennis Davis

N3F Bookworms

Heath Row

N'APA

Jean Lamb

HISTORIAN

Jon D Swartz

WEBMISTRESS

Ruth Davidson

Neffy Awards

David Speakman

Round Robins

Patricia King

Short Story Contest

Jefferson Swycaffer

Welcommittee

Cynthia Richter

Open (Contact Pres)

Blind Services, Computer Gaming, Future Fandom, Teaching Science Fiction, The Writer's Exchange.

Directorate Report

By David Speakman

N3F Directorate Activity: January 1 - February 15, 2012

The following were the final acts of the 70th N3F Directorate, which held office from January 1, 2011 -February 15, 2012):

* * *

MOTION 2012-01

Suspend bylaws to allow elections for 2012 officers as per Heath Row's suggestions with a ballot deadline of February 15, 2012. Re-Appoint Ruth Davidson as Election Teller.

SO MOVED

January 17, 2012, by Speakman

PASSED

January 19, 2012

Yea: 5 (Unanimous)

(Continued on page 5)

Directorate Report (cont.)

(Continued from page 4)

* * *

MOTION 2012-02

In honor of our 70th anniversary: As a thank you to all the N3F fen: living current and former members of the N3F get a one-year membership extension.

HOW IMPLEMENTED:

1. CURRENT MEMBERS: 1 year EXTENDED to their current subscription; no subscription ends before January 2013:

Examples:

Expiration date of 02/2012 becomes 02/2013

Expiration date of 11/2014 becomes 11/2015

Expiration date of 12/2011 becomes 01/2013

2. LAPSED/DROPPED PEOPLE IN OUR RECORDS:
We mail and email people on the inactive/former member roster and offer them a free year-long membership in the N3F if they respond favorably to the offer. Lapsed members need to opt in at any point in the year 2012 to take advantage of the invitation. Their one-year term starts when they opt in.

Examples:

We contact Joe Schmotz via mail and email. He opts in, in March 2012. His membership runs until March 2013.

We contact Mary Sue via mail. She opts in, in June 2012. Her membership runs until June 2013.

We contact E. E. Yor via email. He never replies. He gets no free year.

3. FORMER MEMBERS NOT ON ROLL/WE'VE LOST TRACK OF: Folks we no longer have record of simply need to contact us before Dec. 31, 2012 with some sort of simple proof of former membership. Their free year starts once former membership is verified and they are re-added to the roster.

Examples:

Former member asks for free year reinstatement on 01/2012, added to roll in 02/2012 - reinstated with expiration of 02/2013 (one year after added to roster)

Former member asks for free year on 11/2012, added to roll 01/2013 reinstated with expiration of 01/2014 (one year after added to roster)

RATIONALE:

The benefits:

Thanks loyal Neffers for sticking with us.

Welcomes back old members who are willing to give us another chance in a "try before you buy" way.

And it's a general act of good faith.

SO MOVED

January 20, 2012, by Speakman, supported by Swartz, president.

AMENDED

January 21, 2012, by Row, supported by Speakman, to allow more member control of status.

PASSED:

January 21, 2012

Yea: Davis, Harder, Row, Speakman

No Vote: Walker

From the Editor

Welcome to my first issue as Editor of the clubzines: TNFF and Tightbeam, which since 2000 have been combined and collectively called "The Fan." I hope it doesn't have too many errors, as I slapped it together in a week.

I would like to thank Ruth Davidson and Heath Row and their guest editors for their hard work these past few years to ensure that the clubzines continued despite a changing world and technological upheaval in fandom; times have changed.

The TNFF started as a newsletter (the official organ, or "OO") in 1941 called, "Bonfire" (a nickname of "BONFFF" – or Bulletin Of the National Fantasy Fan Federation) and was renamed TNFF (The National Fantasy Fan) in 1945 – which has been its name since. The purpose of TNFF is to related club news: what the officers are doing, the status of the treasury, what the bureaus are doing and general news about fandom.

About 20 years after the launch of Bonfire/TNFF, N3F started "Tightbeam," which featured fan-created content: original fiction, fan fiction, art, essays, and letters of comment (LOCs). In the age before the Internet and the ease of email and Facebook, the functional need for communication made the LOCs in Tightbeam (TB) take priority over other content. By the mid 1980s, Tightbeam had largely become a LOC-zine.

When I first joined N3F in 1983 (19 years ago!) the two publications were separate with 6 issues each - and alternated monthly. In Odd months (January, March, May, July, September, November) we'd get Tightbeam. In even months, (Feb, April, June, August, October, and December) we'd get the TNFF. The issues were always at least 36 pages and packed with fan activity (fanac).

This year, I inherit both zines. No longer 12 issues a year, we are down to 4 issues combined. The TNFF absorbed Tightbeam in 2001 – and it became the name for the LOCs. Gone were the days I remembered when getting Tightbeam every 8 weeks was the highlight of being a Neffer.

When I first joined, TNFF was edited by David Heath, Jr. and Tightbeam by Owen K. Lorion. Getting those 8"x7" (legal size folded in half and stapled) zines was a

wonder for me as a 15-year-old in rural Churubusco, Indiana. I was exposed to hundreds of Neffers from around the world – who brought up ideas of political theories, feminism, conventioning, fan fiction, and amateur presses – all as alien to me in rural America as the green men on Edgar Rice Burroughs' Barsoom.

With N3F, the world opened up to me. It showed me the first glimpses of life beyond my small town and its small minds. I blame (and thank) the conversations I had in the pages of Tightbeam in the early mid-80s for my moving away from home and going to college at age 18. (With the N3F zines following me – showing up, monthly, in my dorm mailbox as the only familiar friend from high school that followed me to college.)

In the generation-and-a-half since then, the world has changed and fandom changed right along with it. Electronic communication via email and social networks such as Facebook have removed the need for most LOCs and zine-as-communication needs.

N3F and its zines struggled. Once published 12 times a year, the publication schedule was slashed to 4 issues a year as we re-grouped and tried to figure out what place print zines have in the future of N3F. At this time, we also are struggling to figure out the place for N3F itself in the 21st Century.

When Damon Knight envisioned the N3F in the 1940s, it was envisioned as an organization to **allow fans to come together and pool interests to get things done on a national level that they could not do individually.** Back then, that meant to him—a sort of clearing house for fandom and faans. (This did not work and was almost universally panned as being impractical and counter to the individuality that is fandom). This original goal died quickly as N3F evolved into a general interest fan organization with a focus on its own member's fanac rather than its original goal of steering members to other sources of fan activity. [There also were scandals and nasty fan politics – and many of the ancient, self-styled BNFs and other SF faans still have a grudge against N3F from this early, abandoned folly.]

Between the 1950s and 1990s, N3F's focus changed.

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Part of it became a sort of Welcome Wagon to fandom. Part of it became a publishing house of professional and fan-created content – a sort of training ground for future writers. The largest part of N3F was that of a medium for communication among fandom.

This is when N3F Press published books and pamphlets and Tightbeam started and N'APA formed, N3F suites at cons were the places fans could crash if they could not afford a hotel room, and the Writer's Exchange was a vital fandom force, the short story contest began and the reputation of N3F as a breeding ground for new talent in SF and the amateur press started overshadowing its failed beginnings as a grand folly silliness of trying to control all of fandom.

And now, we are in the second decade of the 21st century. It is quite apparent that technology has changed fandom irrevocably in many ways. Just as N3F's role as a clearing house or coordinating body for fandom died – so has its other functions that were needed in the 50s through the 90s. The internet has largely supplanted our role as the sole Fandom Welcome Wagon that N3F used to be. Clubzines as the fastest way for fan to communicate are now relics of the past.

Are zines still needed? Is an (inter)national fan club still needed? Yes.

Going back to the main thesis of why N3F was started by Damon Knight, Art Widner and Louis Russell Chauvenet in 1941 – to allow fans to do things as a group that they cannot do as individuals.

Although it is clear that email and social networks have made personal LOCs, largely, a thing of the past, there is still a much-needed place for print zines in the future of fandom.

Just as N3F adapted to a world in the 1950s when it became readily apparent that there was no need for a governing body for fandom – in the 2010s we are in the midst of adapting to a world where we are no longer a de facto medium of national communication among fandom. And this is a good thing. Really.

This means we can focus on the things that make the N3F excel: reaching out to fans in rural areas that do not have local fan clubs, providing a print medium for fan-created content, foment a mentoring process where veterans in fandom interact as equals with neo-fans and learn from each other.

So, in my tenure as editor, these are my goals: 1) RESTORE: continue the process started by Heath Row with the help of Jon Swartz to restore the history (and numbering scheme) of the zines, 2) RELIABLE: hit the deadlines – on time, 3) RELEVANCY: deliberately separate TNFF from Tightbeam with a goal of making them separate pubs to meet definite member needs again.

So, with those three goals in mind, this is how I see the TNFF and TB under my hand in future issues:

- **TNFF:** A Clubzine. Only N3F business and general fandom announcements. Bureau reports, Calendars/Up-coming events. A Fandom newszine with an N3F focus.
- **Tightbeam:** Fanac content, Reviews, Original fiction, Fan Fiction (yes, Jacqueline L. - I'm *finally* bringing back fanfic to N3F), essays, art, comics, whatever (and, of course, LOCs). N3F members will get priority for publication, but non-member work also will be included as space allows for it.

For now, the zines will remain as combo issues – but who knows what the future holds? The N3F and its publications have changed many times since its founding in 1941. I'm merely here to help that process along.

- David Speakman

1 Year Membership

FREE

NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION
Free to any former member of N3F.

Fill out the back page and check the FORMER MEMBER BOX
Expiration Date: 12/31/2012

Bureau Reports

Artist's Bureau

By Sarah E. Harder,
artistsbureau@yahoo.com

We've had a great rejuvenation within the bureau these past couple of years that has just started to wane. I will do my best to help invigorate it once more. There is always something to look forward to and new projects and assignments to work on.

We thank Heath Row for his part in making this bureau exciting again through his editorial work and illustration assignments. We also look forward to working with David Speakman and any other future editors.

I will soon be launching an idea within the bureau, which will be announced in the next zine. If you'd like to find out what this is all about early on and join the discussion please contact me at artistsbureau@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Birthday Card Bureau

By R-Laurraine Tutihasi,
laurraine@mac.com

Since whenever I last reported, seven birthday cards have been sent. The birthday card recipients are dwindling. Our new members don't seem to be interested in receiving them.

Convention Coordinator

By Heath Row,
Kalel@well.com

As convention coordinator, I will continue to compile the Convention Calendar for The Fan. If there's an event in your area that you'd like listed, send me the details for consideration.

If you're going to a con, let me know, and I can provide fliers for you to take for the free table. Need a roommate or a ride? Maybe another Neffer is going to the con, too. If you've gone to a recent convention, consider submitting a con report for The Fan. If you live near other N3F members, consider getting together for dinner or a movie.

Because I am new to this bureau, I welcome your ideas on how to better encourage N3F participation in con-

ventions. -- Heath Row

Correspondence Bureau

By Sarah E. Harder

I've thought on whether this bureau is even needed anymore, but every time I consider recommending we drop it I think of all the potential articles that could be written. If this bureau can transform itself from its old purpose of connecting pen pals to helping people connect better online then it will still hold value to the membership.

Unfortunately, I am not technically savvy and I do not spend a lot of time communicating with others online except for Facebook, which I've already written an article about. If any of you are willing to write articles - or even just send me an email with ideas and info - then we might be able to pull something together here. Maybe we'll only produce one or two articles per year and that's OK. Maybe, with your help, we can provide lists of the best sites to communicate with others regarding specific areas of fandom. Perhaps that can even be a subject for a fanbook. Please share thoughts and ideas (perhaps even with each other first) and send them on to me. Thank you!

N3F Bookworms

By Heath Row,
Kalel@well.com

For the first half of 2012, the N3F Bookworms will read and discuss Connie Willis's novels *Blackout* (Spectra, 2010) and *All Clear* (Spectra, 2010). The linked time travel novels won the 2010 Nebula Award for Best Novel, the 2011 Hugo Award for Best Novel, and the 2011 Locus Award for Best Science Fiction Novel. If you'd like to participate, buy, borrow, or check out a copy of one or both books, and read them. Let me know that you're doing so, and we'll figure out the best ways for the group to discuss the book, be it in letter form, via email, or online in a chat or discussion forum. Portions of our discussion might be published in a future issue of The Fan.

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Initially, discussions will take place in blog posts and comments on the new N3F Bookworms blog, <http://n3fbookworms.blogspot.com/>. – Heath Row

Welcommittee

By Heath Row,
Kalel@well.com

The Welcommittee hasn't done a single thing since I replaced David K. Robinson early last year. Regardless, I'd like to welcome three new members:

- Richard Handloff in Arlington, Massachusetts, joined in July
- Wesley Kawato in Chino Hills, California, joined in October
- Dionicia Parker in Albuquerque, New Mexico, joined in December

Welcome! I will mail those new members their new member kits in the next few weeks.

The new member kit will be sent to all new members upon joining. It will be a CD-ROM featuring various N3F member information, recent issues of The Fan and N'APA, and additional goodies intended to help new members get more involved more quickly.

Because the new member kit is just being introduced, every existing member of the N3F will receive a copy, as well, to see what new members receive. Those will be sent to all members in the next couple of months. – Heath Row

Neffy Awards

By David Spekman,
davodd@gmail.com

The Neffy Awards Ballot is in this issue. Please vote. The deadline for voting is May 15, 2012.

UPCOMING GENRE MOVIE RELEASES

By David Spekman

April

8

- Purification [DF] Ltd

13

- The Cabin in the Woods [SF, H, Com] Wide (Joss Whedon)
- Lockout (SF) Wide (Guy Pierce, Space Opera)

20

- The Moth Diaries [H, DF] Ltd (Vampire)
- Zombie Dawn [H, SF] Ltd

27

- The Pirates! Band of Misfits (F, Com) Wide (Animated)
- The Raven (H) Wide (Poe)

May

2

- The Avengers [SH] Wide (Iron Man, Thor, Captain America)

11

- Dark Shadows [DF] Wide (Johnny Depp)

18

- Battleship [SF] Wide (Transformers)

25

- Men In Black 3 [SF, Com] Wide

June

1

- Snow White and the Huntsman [DF] Wide

8

- Prometheus [SF, H] Wide

(Alien prequel)

- Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted [F, Com] Wide (Animated, Children)

- Safety Not Guaranteed [SF, Com] Ltd (Time travel)

22

- Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (DF, Com) Wide (Vampires, Steampunk)

- Brave [F] Wide (Pixar, Animated)

- Seeking a Friend for the End of the World (SF, Com) Ltd (Steve Carrell)

28

- G.I. Joe: Retaliation (SpyFi) Wide

Convention Calendar

The following conventions will occur between May-July 2012. Not all events can be listed, and con planners should send event listings to the convention coordinator, Heath Row, at kalel@well.com for consideration. Please contact event organizers before making travel plans.

CoreCon

May 4-6, 2012, Moorhead, Minnesota
Science fiction, fantasy, horror, and anime
<http://www.fargocorecon.org/>

Gaslight II: The Expedition

May 11-13, San Diego
Steampunk and Victoriana
<http://www.gaslightgathering.org/>

H.P. Lovecraft Film Festival and CthulhuCon

May 11-13, Portland, Oregon
Literary horror
<http://hplfilmfestival.com/>

Acon 5

May 17-20, 2012, Mariehamn, Aland
Science fiction
<http://aconfive.wordpress.com/>

Nebula Awards Weekend

May 17-20, 2012, Arlington, Virginia
Organized by the Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America
<http://www.sfwaweb.org/nebula-awards/nebula-weekend/>

Keycon

May 18-20, 2012, Winnipeg, Manitoba
Science fiction and fantasy
<http://www.keycon.org>

Otafest

May 18-20, 2012, Calgary, Alberta

Anime

<http://www.otafest.com/2012/>

Sci-Fi in the Valley Con

May 18-20, 2012, Johnstown, Pennsylvania
Speculative fiction
<http://www.scifiinthevalley.com/>

The Steampunk World's Fair

May 18-20, 2012, Piscataway, New Jersey
Steampunk
<http://steampunkworldsfair.com/?cat=32>

Conduit 22

May 25-27, 2012, Salt Lake City
Science fiction and fantasy
<http://conduit-sf.com/>

Oasis 25

May 25-27, 2012, Orlando, Florida
Organized by the Orlando Area Science Fiction Society
<http://oasfis.org/oasis/>

Timegate

May 25-27, 2012, Atlanta
Doctor Who, Stargate, and science fiction media
<http://www.timegatecon.org/>

Balticon

May 25-28, 2012, Baltimore, Maryland
"The Maryland Regional Science Fiction and Fantasy Convention"
<http://www.balticon.org/>

BayCon 2012

May 25-28, 2012, Santa Clara, California
"The Bay Area regional science fiction convention"
<http://www.baycon.org/>

(Continued on page 11)

WisCon 36

May 25-28, 2012, Madison, Wisconsin
Feminist science fiction
<http://www.wiscon.info/hotel.php>

ConCarolinas

June 1-3, 2012, Charlotte, North Carolina
Speculative fiction
<http://www.concarolinas.org/>

DuckKon 21

June 1-3, 2012, St. Charles, Illinois
Science fiction
<http://www.duckkon.org/>

Fantasticon

June 1-3, 2012, Copenhagen, Denmark
Science fiction, fantasy, and horror
<http://fantasticon.dk/fantasticon2012/>

Continuum 8: Craftonomicon

June 8-11, 2012, Carlton, Australia
"51st Australian national science fiction convention"
<http://continuum.org.au/>

Odyssey Writers Workshop

June 11 to July 20, 2012, Manchester, New Hampshire
Workshop for writers of science fiction, fantasy, and horror
<http://www.sff.net/odyssey/workshop.html>

North American Jules Verne Society Annual Meeting

June 13-17, 2012, Marion, North Carolina
"Every Vernian topic"
<http://www.najvs.org/meetings.shtml>

SoonerCon

June 15-17, 2012, Oklahoma City
Science fiction
<http://www.soonercon.com/>

Clarion West Writers Workshop

June 17 to July 27, 2012, Seattle
Workshop for writers of science fiction and fantasy
<http://clarionwest.org/>

ConTemporal

June 21-24, 2012, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Science fiction
<http://contemporal.org/>

ApolloCon

June 22-24, 2012, Houston
Science fiction, fantasy, and horror
<http://www.apollocon.org/>

Das Frühlingsfest der Filksmusik

June 22-24, 2012, Bad Salzdetfurth, Germany
Filk music
<http://www.d-f-d-f.org/>

4th Street Fantasy Conversation

June 22-24, 2012, Minneapolis
Fantasy literature
<http://www.4thstreetfantasy.com/2012/>

HeroesCon

June 22-24, 2012, Charlotte, North Carolina
Comic books
<http://www.heroesonline.com/heroescon/>

Clarion Writers' Workshop

June 24 to August 4, 2012, San Diego
"Teaching science fiction and fantasy writing"
<http://literature.ucsd.edu/affiliated-programs/clarion/index.html>

NEFilk 22: ConCertino

June 29 to July 1, 2012, Boxborough, Massachusetts
Filk music
<http://www.concertino.net/>

Con Calendar...

(Continued from page 11)

Campbell Conference and Awards Ceremony

July 5-8, 2012, Lawrence, Kansas
Organized by the Center for the Study of Science Fiction
<http://www.sfcenter.ku.edu/campbell-conference.htm>

ConClusion: Westercon 65

July 5-8, 2012, Seattle
"The West Coast regional convention"
<http://drupal.westercon65.org/>

Convergence

July 5-8, 2012, Bloomington, Minnesota
Science fiction and fantasy media
<http://www.convergence-con.org/>

Polaris 26

July 6-8, 2012, Toronto
Science fiction media
<http://www.tcon.ca/polaris/modules/tconquests/>

Unseen University Convivium

July 6-8, 2012, Adelaide, Australia
Discworld fandom
<http://ausdwcon.org/>

Ascendio

July 12-15, 2012, Orlando, Florida
Harry Potter symposium
<http://hp2012.org>

Readercon 23

July 12-15, 2012, Burlington, Massachusetts
Imaginative literature
<http://www.readercon.org/>

ConnectiCon

July 13-15, 2012, Hartford, Connecticut
"Massively multi-genre"
<http://connecticon.org/>

G-Fest XIX

July 13-15, 2012, Chicago
Godzilla fandom
http://www.g-fan.com/html/gfest_xix/gfest_xix.php

Con 9 from Outer Space

July 14-15, 2012, Melbourne, Australia
The "golden age" of science fiction media
<http://www.con9fromouterspace.com/>

Necon

July 19-22, 2012, Bristol, Rhode Island
Northeastern Writers' Conference
<http://www.campnecon.com/>

Ancient City Con

July 20-22, 2012, Jacksonville, Florida
Multi-genre fandom
<http://www.ancientcitycon.com/>

Finncon

July 20-22, 2012, Tampere, Finland
Science fiction and fantasy literature
<http://2012.finncon.org/>

Launch Pad

July 22-29, 2012, Laramie, Wyoming
"Improving science literacy through words and media"
<http://www.launchpadworkshop.org/>

Cascade Writers

July 26-29, 2012, Vancouver, Washington
"A unique workshop for writers"
<http://www.cascadewriters.com/>

Letters of Comment

A more interesting than usual TNFF, but not without the usual errors often found in the group's publications. Jon D. Swartz's article on the Welcomittee's informative booklet "What Is Science Fiction Fandom?" has a number of them – revealing either typographical errors or incomplete scholarship.

In the section on Harry Warner Jr., he writes: "He started publishing fanzines in late 1936; his first was Spaceways, which lasted four years." He's right about how long Harry produced it, but the first issue was in November *1938*, not 1936. The 30th and final issue appeared in September 1942. He also writes: "He was a member of N3F, published the first issue of Bonfire, the club's first fanzine." Harry did stencil and mimeo that issue, but the *editor* who (to quote its colophon) "conjured up and dummied" the issue was Art Widner.

The final paragraph opens with, "Although no publication date is given, internal evidence indicates that this small booklet was issued in the mid-1940s, probably in 1944." Some of that internal evidence: In Warner's article he writes, "Since the beginning of 1944 the NFFF has been running smoothly, gaining new friends and new members, growing in influence and in its ability to serve fandom." In Tucker's article he notes that the newszine FANTASY FICTION FIELD is "now approaching its 200th issue." A check of the Pavlat/Evans FANZINE INDEX shows that issue was published October 21, 1944. (And the same source notes this booklet also published in '44.)

It's good to have an up-to-date printing of "Unite or Fie!" - Damon Knight's article that led to the N3F's formation – but looking at the list of (only) fifty members, most of whom I've never heard of, I wonder what their reaction/response will be. His "vision" bears little resemblance to the N3F as we know it today.

Robert Lichtman

Many thanks for Vol. 70, Nos. 2-4 of The National Fantasy Fan. I know you're not planning another issue, I

don't know who might replace you, and I don't know when another issue might appear, but every good fanzine deserves some feedback, and here's mine.

Anyone volunteered to take over yet? I am just a little bit past the deadline, but I suspect whoever that volunteer might be is still looking for submissions. I'd be interested in what new Fandbooks the officers might be thinking of.

My loc...I have gotten in touch with Robert Jennings, and have now received several issues of Fadeaway. I get so many zines these days, and I wouldn't have it any other way. I have to wonder if it might be an idea to re-issue What Is Science Fiction Fandom? as a historical document. It certainly has a historical list of contributors, and I hope they won't be forgotten by our successors.

Great article on Damon Knight. He was someone I had wanted to meet, but never could. Such a comprehensive essay, especially seeing he is the NFFF founder. Again, someone to remember as the club passes its 70th anniversary.

I've been to Nevada twice now, once for a Corflu in Las Vegas, and a second time for the Reno Worldcon last year, and both times, I found out just how little of the state is not owned and operated by a branch of the federal government. We never did drive out of the cities we were in, but a look at a detailed map of the state shows we may have seen a good part of the state. We will never see more, given that we are foreign nationals.

I met Vonda McIntyre many years ago at our own local convention, Ad Astra, where she was the Author GoH, and while I have yet to meet China Miéville, I did meet Lev Grossman several times at the Reno Worldcon. And, the convention calendar does list my next convention, Ad Astra 2012, coming up in April in Markham, just north of Toronto.

I think I am done now, Heath...a good run of the zine, I hope your fellow officers were pleased with it. I hope your successor will consider sending me The National Fantasy Fan for reading and commenting. Many thanks!

Lloyd Penney.

Reviews

By Heath Row, ed.

Unless otherwise indicated, the reviews editor compiles and writes the review section. Members of the N3F are invited and encouraged to submit reviews, preferably by email, although postal mail will be accepted. If you send a review by email and do not hear back within a reasonable length of time, please write to check on its status. Publishers: We are especially interested in receiving new books to consider for review. Heath Row, 4367 Globe Ave., Culver City, CA 90230; kalel@well.com.

Editor: Heath Row (HR). **Contributors:** Heath Row (HR) and Jefferson P. Swycaffer (JPS).

Books

Ailsa Page, by Robert W. Chambers (D. Appleton & Co., 1925)

The Crimson Tide, by Robert W. Chambers (A.L. Burt Co., 1919)

Robert W. Chambers wrote a long series of romance novels, mostly set among New York's upper crust. It's ever so leveling to read about the problems millionaires have! There is a theme of prohibitionism in his books: At least two deal with alcoholism as a "fate worse than death." He's also fixated on social class and breeding. Not for him are 'tween caste relationships: Boys and girls must be of respectable upper-class families, with pedigrees back to Edward the Great. He also has the era's horror of unchaperoned visits between the sexes. In one novel, a girl's reputation is ruined because she stayed up late one night and talked with a boy in the hallway. Oh, gasp!

One of his novels, *The Crimson Tide*, I found to be unreadable. It is set during and after the Bolshevik Revolution, and his anti-communist bias (and his anti-German bias) were simply too glaringly grotesque for me to countenance. In all of his books, he suffers from the bias of physiognomy. Good people are beautiful, and bad people are ugly. Always. In *The Crimson Tide*, this inanity ascends to a major theme, with endless harping of Lenin's appearance:

"The Red Parliament called him Vladimir Ulianov, and that's what he called himself. He had proved to be reticent, secretive, deceitful, diligent, and utterly unhuman. His lower lip was shaped as though something dripped from it. Blood, perhaps. His eyes were brown and not entirely unattractive. But God makes the eyes; the mouth is fashioned by one's self." Etcetera, etcetera, ad nauseam. I couldn't make it to page 100.

In contrast, I admired the deftness of his treatment of the American Civil War, in *Ailsa Page*. While his sentiments were strongly pro-Union, he allowed a Confederate faithful a major, even pivotal role, and gave her many and many strong speeches in support of her beloved Southern Nation. There was a kind of grace in this, more than mere tokenism. It was, alas, I think the only thing I have ever read of his that made the effort of seeing things from more than one point of view, with any kind of impartiality.

Charles Dana Gibson did, indeed, produce many illustrations for Chambers's stories. The two were good friends, and "The Gibson Girl" is sometimes even known as "The Chambers Girl." (JPS)

Bengey and the Beast, by Olaf Baker (Dodd, Mead & Co., 1947)

This was a delightful little "summer fantasy," rather in the tone of *The Wind in the Willows*. The animals are a little more naturalistic, and there is a human element, headed by little Bengey, a 12-year-old boy. The cast is plumped up by a handful of forest dwelling humans—squatters, outcasts, eccentrics—all wonderfully filled with that endearing British quality of charming insanity. The book perfectly captures the colorful, soft, romantic timelessness of the 'tween wars or pre-war eras. (JPS)

Movies

Fright Night

Even though my tastes lean more toward horror and science fiction of the '40s-'60s, I'm also a big fan of horror movies from the '80s. Yet I'm consistently skeptical of remakes. Given the casting of Colin Farrell and David Tennant in the 2011 remake of the 1985 movie starring Roddy McDowell and Stephen "Evil Ed" Geoffreys, who went on to a strong second film career in pornography, my hopes were a little higher. And truth be told, the remake in this case might be better than the original source material!

The story is this: Man moves in next door, boy thinks the man is a vampire, the boy is right, horror ensues. Farrell plays an utterly unrepentant vampire—no charm in this role at all—and Tennant takes the McDowell role, retooling the original horror host role as a Las Vegas-style stage magician. The result is more frightening than cheesy, even if viewers might know what notes will be struck.

I was slightly disappointed that Christopher Mintz-Plasse—Fogell from *Superbad*—didn't do more as Evil Ed and that Farrell was so, so clearly evil from the get go, but otherwise, the movie was a fun one. (HR)

Insidious

My wife and I love Big Dark House movies, as well as good old classic ghost story and possession movies. This one is a little of all three. A young family with two children thinks that the house they're living in is haunted, but upon relocating, learn that it's not as simple as it seems. Drawing on the concepts of lucid dreaming and parallel planes, the family proceeds to bring in a team of ghost hunters, who help them rescue their comatose son. The ghost hunters add welcome comic relief to the otherwise grim proceedings, and screenwriter Leigh Whannell's character Specs even delivers a line stressing the importance of good writing—welcome sentiments to this literary sf fan!

The Lipstick-Face Demon was a little too Darth Maul for my tastes, and the treatment of the Further—the parallel dreamscape—was a little shallow and sparse, but otherwise, the story unfolds well, strikes the right chords, and is delightfully suspenseful. Better than expected. (HR)

Trollhunter

I missed this during its limited big-screen release in the United States, but I eagerly awaited this Norwegian creature feature because of coverage in Fangoria. And it's wonderful. Done in a pseudo-documentary style similar to *The Blair Witch Project*, the film tells the tale of a student news team trying to get the scoop on a trollhunter employed by the government to keep trolls from encroaching on areas of the country inhabited by humans.

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Made for a relatively small budget in terms of movie making—\$3.6 million—it’s still far from homemade, and the special effects used to depict the trolls are impressive. Some of the shots of the trolls, which can be quite large, are breathtaking. Given the limited release in the States, the film only grossed about \$250,000, but it’s been optioned for a remake directed and written by Guillermo del Toro. As wonderful as del Toro is, I suggest you watch this, as well. (HR)

Zines

Paranoid #24

In 21 pages, Ian Maule shares his newfound love for fan fiction—Jane Austen fanfic, that is—Harry Bell recounts some recent adventures in genealogy; Mike Meara appreciates the horse-racing tabletop game Escalado; and Jim Linwood sheds some light on Bruce Burn’s game Jophan’s Quest, which was based on Walt Willis and Bob Shaw’s The Enchanted Duplicator. Fans including Eric Mayer, Lloyd Penney, Robert Lichtman, Taral, and Mike Meara contribute letters of comment. I would love to read some of Maule’s Austen fanfic if he ever gets around to it, and I quite enjoyed the game-related content. A great first impression!

The Usual from Ian Maule, 14 Salcombe Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 3BS, United Kingdom; ian@nabu.net.

Quantum B*llocks #8

Editor Jinnie Cracknell reports on recent activities of the Birmingham Science Fiction Group; publishes letters of comment from Chris Garcia and Lloyd Penney; proposes a fun—and funny—reading/drinking game based on The Tough Guide to Fantasyland; and comments on some of her favorite movies and fictional futures. A friendly, five-page fanzine. The Usual from Jinnie Cracknell, 100 Balsall Heath Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B5 7NQ; cyberdestiny_40@hotmail.com.

Scratch Pad #80

This zine is based on *brg* #74, the apazine Bruce Gillespie does for the Australian and New Zealand Amateur Publishing Association, so if you’ve read that you might not need to read this. Mostly a “favourites of 2011” issue, this edition lists Gillespie’s favorite CDs, novels, books, and movies encountered—or re-encountered—in 2011. His comments, or “tasting notes,” are insightful and interesting, and if you need some inspiration for your media diet, you’re sure to find fine fodder herein. Note: The final issue of Gillespie’s Steam Engine Time is also now available. The Usual from Bruce Gillespie, 5 Howard St., Greensborough, Victoria 3088, Australia; gandc@pacific.net.au.

Help Needed With the Mystery of the N3F Arms

By David Speakman

The N3F is such a storied beast that decades ago, the organization already had a long tradition. Among these were the membership cards. (Pictured below)



As you can tell, part of the card in the upper left corner is a device—a shield and a banner.

Unfortunately, in the past couple of decades, this shield has fallen out of use and is in danger of disappearing - extinct to history.

Over the past couple of weeks, I have been trying to recreate the device—to piece it back together from memory and research.

My first attempt turned out something like that which is pictured to the right. All I remembered was the skull—which freaked me out a bit as a teenager.

And I thought there were stars...

Unknown Graphics



But further examination showed that the stars were crosses and I remembered the motto on the ribbon was “Science and Fantasy.”

And closer examination of the shield showed that one of the upper “unknown” graphics was likely a compass star,

So. My next iteration was this:

Which much more closely resembled the N3F shield I remembered from the 1980s.

I sent out this version to the email list, asking for help.

I was answered with the sound of crickets. So, knowing fandom as long as I have—there is one sure-fire way to get a response: do it anyway and wait for people to correct me by explaining how I am wrong. So, in the spirit of egging on those who I wish will correct me, I made a full-on coat of arms—and put it on the cover of this zine.

My hope is that its inaccuracies will irk people enough that they will feel compelled to correct me.

Additionally, I am hoping that someone volunteers the history behind the device - what the symbols are and what they stand for.

My desire is to incorporate the correct version of the shield, and its vision into the N3F archives as a celebration of where we came from.

But until then—the new shield stands—with propeller beanie cap in place. That is ... unless I am successful in goading someone to put me in my place and educate me on what the real device should look like.

Unknown Graphic



NEFFY AWARD BALLOT

NEFFY AWARDS

c/o David Speakman
501-83 Moorpark Way
Mountain View CA 94041

For best original work in 2011

Rules:

1. All entries for and winner of the NFFF Speculative Fiction Award (Neffy) must have appeared for the first in the previous calendar year. If both a copyright and publication date exist, the publication (cover issue date) will take precedence.
2. Only NFFF members in good standing may nominate works or cast official ballots for the awards. Vote for one in each category – return must be emailed or postmarked by May 15, 2012. Ballots may be mailed via U.S. mail to David Speakman (contact address at back of this publication) or via email: davodd@gmail.com.
3. Winners will be announced in the June 2012 issue.

Movies - Fantasy/Dark Fantasy

- Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2
- Fright Night
- The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1
- Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides
- Cars 2
- Paranormal Activity 3
- Immortals
- Puss in Boots
- Kung Fu Panda 2
- Insidious
- Red Riding Hood
- The Rite
- Beastly
- Winnie the Pooh
- Write in: _____

Movies - SF

- Source Code
- Rise of the Planet of the Apes
- Super 8
- Cowboys & Aliens
- Battle: Los Angeles
- Contagion
- The Adjustment Bureau
- I Am Number Four
- Apollo 18

Movies - Superhero/Comics

- The Thing (2011)
- Another earth
- Limitless
- In Time
- Attack the Block
- Write in: _____
- Transformers: Dark of the Moon
- Thor
- Captain America: The First Avenger
- X-Men: First Class
- Green Lantern
- The Green Hornet
- Sucker Punch
- Priest
- Dylan Dog: Dead of Night
- Super
- The Adventures of Tintin
- Write in: _____

TV - Science Fiction

- Stargate Universe
- Outcasts
- Falling Skies
- Eureka
- Caprica
- V
- Fringe
- Chuck

TV - Horror

- Terra Nova
- Star Wars: The Clone Wars
- Doctor Who
- Futurama
- Primeval
- Write in: _____
- Supernatural
- The Vampire Diaries
- American Horror Story
- Bedlam
- True Blood
- The Walking Dead
- The Event
- Being Human (UK)
- Being Human (US)
- Death Valley
- Torchwood: Miracle Day
- Gimm
- Teen Wolf
- Write in: _____

TV - Fantasy

- The Cape
- Medium
- No Ordinary Family
- The Secret Circle
- Smallville
- Once Upon a Time

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(Continued from page 16)

- Alphas
- A Game of Thrones
- Camelot
- Haven
- Merlin
- Misfits
- Sanctuary
- Warehouse 13
- Write in: _____

Author, Book - Horror

- Melissa Marr, Graveminder
- Dean Koontz, What the Night Knows
- Mira Grant, Deadline
- Steve Hocksmith, Deadly Ever After
- Chris Bohjalian, The Night Strangers
- Diana Rowland, My Life as a White Trash Zombie
- Christopher Farnsworth, The President's Vampire
- Jesse Petersen, Eat Slay Love
- Colson Whitehead, Zone One
- Sophie Littlefield, Aftertime
- Ania Ahlborn, Seed
- Glen Duncan, The Last Werewolf
- Donald Ray Pollock, The Devil All the Time
- Guillermo Del Toro & Chuck Hogan, The Night Eternal
- Write in: _____

Author, Book - Science Fiction

- Stephen King, 11/22/63
- Ernest Cline, Ready Player One
- Hillary Jordan, When She Woke
- Illona Andrews, Silver Shark

- Daniel H Wilson, Robopocalypse
- Rob Thurman, Basilisk
- China Mieville, Embassytown
- Philippa Ballantine, Phoenix Rising
- Ann Aguirre, Aftermath
- James S.A. Corey, Leviathan Wakes
- John Scalzi, Fuzzy Nation
- Robert J. Sawyer, WWW: Wonder
- Sharon Lee & Steve Miller, Ghost Ship
- Charles Stross, Rule 34
- Write in: _____

Author, Book - Dark Fantasy

- Karen Marie Moning, Shadowfever
- Deborah Harkness, A Discovery of Witches
- Charlaine Harris, Dead Reckoning
- Jim Butcher, Ghost Story
- Ilona Andrews, Magic Slays
- Richelle Mead, Succubus Revealed
- Jeaniene Frost, This Side of the Grave
- Kim Harrison, Pale Demon
- Patricia Briggs, River Marked
- Chloe Neill, Hard Bitten
- Darynda Jones, Second Grave on the Left
- Laurell K. Hamilton, Hit List
- Gail Carriger, Heartless
- Seanan McGuire, One Salt Sea
- Write in: _____

Author, YA SF-F

- Veronica Roth, Divergent
- Cassandra Clare, City of

Fallen Angels

- Ransom Riggs, Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children
- Richelle Mead, Bloodlines
- Julie Kadawa, The Iron Knight
- Becca Fitzpatrick, Silence
- Lauren Olivr, Delerium
- Maggie Stiefvater, Forever
- Beth Revis, Across the Universe
- P.C Cast & Kristen Cast, Awakened
- Lauren DeStefano, Wither
- Lauren Kate, Passion
- Cynthia Hand, Unearthly
- Rachel Hawkins, Demonglass
- Write in: _____

Fanzine

- Christopher J Garcia, Drink Tank
- Earl Kemp, el
- Jean Martin, SF/SF
- Shelby Vick, Planetary Stories
- Mike GLyer, File 770
- Ron Gemmell, Eat That Duck
- Lisa & Joseph Major, Alexiad
- Bruce Gillespie, Scratch Pad
- R. Graeme Cameron, WCSFAzine
- Warren Buff, Southern Fandom Confederation Bulletin & Update
- Robert Mapson, Forbidden Worlds
- Write in: _____

**Deadline to cast votes—
May 15, 2012 11:59 P.M. PST**



National Fantasy Fan Federation Membership Application *(Former Members get 1 year Free! [exp 12/31/2012])*

New Member FORMER MEMBER Joint Membership Gift Membership

Name (Please Print): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Postal Code, Country: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Occupation: _____ Male: Female: Birth date: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Interests. Please select any and all of the following that you're interested in or would like to get involved in

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> APAs (amateur press associations) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fanzines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Filk singing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audio | <input type="checkbox"/> Games and video games |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blogging | <input type="checkbox"/> Movies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books | <input type="checkbox"/> Online activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cartooning, cartoons, and animation | <input type="checkbox"/> Publishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collecting | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading and book clubs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comic books | <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers and technology | <input type="checkbox"/> Role-playing games |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conventions and clubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Round robins (group letters) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence | <input type="checkbox"/> Taping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Costuming | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching science fiction |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Editing | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing |

Which would you prefer?

A PDF of The Fan emailed to you The clubzine printed and mailed to you Both

How long have you been interested in science fiction and fantasy? _____

How long have you been involved in fandom? _____

List any other clubs you are or have been a member of: _____

List any conventions you've attended: _____

What prozines and fanzines do you read, if any? _____

What is your favorite type of sf/f? _____

Who are your favorite sf/f authors: _____

Are you interested in online activities? If yes, what type? _____

Which, if any, of the following would you be willing to help the club with?

Artwork Recruiting at conventions Writing for club publications

Organizing activities Corresponding Publishing

Other: _____

Name of Sponsoring Member (if any): _____

Regular dues are \$18 per year (\$22 for Joint Memberships) which includes subscriptions to the club's fanzine as well as other activities and benefits. Make checks or money orders payable to William Center (the treasurer). All payments must be made in U.S. funds. Mail dues and application to club secretary Dennis Davis, 25549 Byron St., San Bernardino, CA 92404-6403.

Please allow at least eight weeks for your first clubzine to arrive. You can also sign up online at <http://n3f.org>



National Fantasy Fan Federation

C/O Dennis L. Davis
25549 BRYON ST
SAN BERNADINO CA 92404-6403

ADDRESS AND RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

[
We're on the web:
<http://www.n3f.org>
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