



The National Fantasy Fan

Volume 74 Number 11

November 2015

Elections

It's November! We have elections. Slightly late, but better late than never. The candidate statements, returnable ballot, and membership roster are on pages 9 and 10, which are only going to voting members. If you are a public member, you do not see these pages.

The nominated candidates for the Directorate are Jean Lamb, Heath Row, David Speakman, Jon Swartz, Jefferson Swycaffer, and R-Laurraine Tutihasi. The declared Presidential candidate is George Phillies. Judy Carroll, who was nominated for the Directorate, declined the nomination and is serving as election teller.

N3F Bookworms

Thanks to new volunteers Lee and J.J. MacFadden, the N3F Bookworms have been revived. They contemplate reading a new or old book every two months and discussing it as a Round Robin.

Electronic Interest Form

It's here: <http://n3f.org/join/membership-form/>
It's self-archiving. It helps us bring together people with similar interests. Please consider filling out as much of it as you want.

N'APA

The next issue of our APA *N'APA* will be coming out about the time the post office delivers TNFF to members. The contributor count is up a bit from last issue. ample copies have been emailed to new members; Please ask phillies@4liberty.net if you would like a sample.

Editor's Notes

It's the election issue, so this issue of TNFF includes the Bylaws, the membership roster, candidate statements and the ballot. **Please vote!!** We'll have more room for articles in the next issue. **Please write!!**

Neffies

Something wonderful and unique has happened. We will have more about it in a future issue.

Presidential Notes

Local and topical groups: There's nothing like interaction with fellow fen to build a stronger N3F. If you have a local library or town hall that has public meeting space, please consider forming a local N3F SF discussion group. If you are one of our foreign members, please consider starting a branch of the N3F to support fen in your country. If you have a topical interest like Star Trek or Kapitan Mors (the SF magazine that coined the word 'spaceship', rather before World War I), speak up, start an electronic discussion group, and let us know what you are doing.

By my count, we have picked up 26 new members, public and voting, since the last day of September. Our count of voting members is up to 53, a recent record. I shipped the 26 -- well all of the 26 for whom we have an email address -- an electronic copy of my novel *Mistress of the Waves*. See, you join and you get something. If any of the rest of you would like an electronic copy, please email me at phillies@4liberty.net. I believe much credit for membership recruitment goes to Kevin Trainor, wombat-socho, for this progress.

Letters of Comment

David Speakman writes: On the Hugos: I may be in the minority here, but I find the Hugo Awards, themselves, a big yawn - irrelevant to fans outside of literary fandom. The way Worldcon's Hugos treat media fans - as a cute afterthought - is insulting. Like most fans born after 1960, I love genre film, TV, and games as much as (and sometimes more than) print SF. Worldcon and the Hugos are headed toward extinction unless they start treating "media" fans as something other than a side joke instead of legitimate art forms that extend beyond the script-writer. This, I believe, is why younger fans increasingly opt for DragonCon over WorldCon.

"Jeffer the Neffer" (Jefferson Swycaffer) writes: I worry about the N3F. At times, I have thought it was beyond saving, and needed to be put peacefully to sleep. George says no, and I'm willing to back him up in whatever it takes to keep the club vigorous and happy.
Cheers!



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



Your Volunteer Team

Directorate:

Heath Row kalel@well.com
Jean Lamb tlombs1138@charter.net
Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
R-Laurraine Tutihasi lauraine@mac.com

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

Editorial Cabal:

Editor and Publisher, Tightbeam Vacant
Editor and Publisher, TNFF: George Phillies
phillies@4liberty.net
Maintainers of Electronic Publications: vacant
Keeper of the URLs: Ruth Davidson
Host of the Web Site: David Speakman
davodd@gmail.com

Bureau Heads

Artist's Bureau: Sarah E. Harder
artistsbureau@yahoo.com.
Birthday Cards: R-Laurraine Tutihasi lauraine@
mac.com; Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@yahoo.com
Convention Calendar: new volunteer needed
Games Bureau: George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
Historian: Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
Membership Recruitment: Kevin Trainor wom-
bat.soho@gmail.com
N'APA: Jean Lamb tlombs1138@charter.net
N3F Bookwyrms: Lee and J.J. MacFadden
leeandjj@gmail.com
Round Robins:
Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@yahoo.com;
Patricia Williams-King doofusming@yahoo.com
Short Story Contest: Jefferson Swycaffer
abontides@gmail.com
Video Schedule: David Speakman davodd@gmail.com
Welcommittee: Judy Carroll
autumnseas8012@yahoo.com
Writers Exchange Bureau: Judy Carroll
autumnseas8012@yahoo.com
Many New Volunteers are needed: Electronic Publica-
tion Support, Readers for the blind, Con Listings,
Advertising, Bookwyrms, Convention Hospitality, Out-
reach, Correspondence, Comics, Films.

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Kevin Trainor writes: Well, it might be an oots presumptuous of me to say so, but I think the only thing holding us back from rapid growth over the next year or two is our willingness to reach out. Until I saw one of George's posts on Baen's Bar, I had thought N3F was as dead as the Futurians, and was happy to discover that not only was it not dead, but that I could do a little bit to kick the tires and light the fires. If we are serious about reaching out to all the various fandoms that now comprise geek culture, I think we have the ability to grow into the largest national fan organization and do some good along the way for both fandom at large and individual fans who may need help.

Good morning, George.

I sit here on this fine November morning, drinking coffee and skimming through recent fanzines posted to efanzines.com, and read through the latest issue of The National Fantasy Fan. This one was quite interesting on a number of levels, so since I will be writing a couple letters of comments before getting onto grading papers, I think I shall start with TNFF.

The Neffy Awards were an interesting opening to the issue, especially their tongue-in-cheek nature. The notion of awarding all of fandom a Neffy for reviving the "all-hobby fan feud" had me giggling a little, and I agree that Toni Weiskopf is definitely deserving of an award for her contributions to the sf field as a fine, dedicated editor. As Ken Burnside wrote in his most interesting article "How the Hugos Crashed," she, along with Mike Resnick and others, were unfortunately stonewalled by the No Award bloc voting this year, which definitely had the unforeseen effect of hurting very deserving recipients of the award. The entire foofaraw over the Hugo Awards this year has left a very strong distaste in my mouth, making me reiterate what I said earlier this year in my own fanzines, "vote for the quality of the work, not the name of the author." The Hugos are, in my opinion, simple popularity contests, even though most sf fans consider themselves fairly well-informed of the literature and other genre-related endeavors. Ken's article was informative reading, and I thank him for taking the time to write it. Perhaps this year's idiocy will result in

Join or Renew

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

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fans who truly care about the science fiction genre to really spend the time to read as much of the available work as possible - a truly impossible task, I assure you - in order to nominate deserving works. We shall see. There are proposals on the WSFS docket for discussion at next year's World Convention in Kansas City, so something is going to happen, that's for certain. And the results probably won't help the matter at all. At least that's my projected conclusion.

Well, that's quite the list of fans listed on the ballot for the N3F Directorate. What is most interesting is that I know many of these people, and a cursory glance through the other lists herein reveals other folks I know. While it is doubtful that I will ever join this long-lived fan organization, it pleases me to see familiar names. The N3F appears to be going strong these days, and that's cool. Just out of curiosity, how many people are now registered members of this organization? A brief historical article on the numbers and demographics of N3F is something that I for one would enjoy reading.

Judy Carroll's letter bemoaning the death of all those book clubs is a sobering reminder of the slowly devolution of the printed word, which I hope never happens. Then again, text is migrating from paper to pixels, so reading itself shall continue, yet I still enjoy holding a book or magazine in my hands. There is something comforting and reassuring about the physical nature of reading, and that is what I would miss the most.

Jon Swartz's profile of Robert Madle is greatly appreciated. I will be honest: I did not know until earlier this summer that Madle was still alive. Bless his heart! Boy, has Robert seen this crazy hobby interest grow during his long lifetime. Over the years I have had the pleasure of meeting and talking with a lot of long-time fans, and learned a lot from them by listening to their stories. Thank you for sharing this article.

Also, very interesting articles about "Science Fiction in Russia" and Galaxy magazine. I don't have much to say about these two articles, but the former reminds me to practice my Russian language skills - it was my foreign language during my undergraduate years at Iowa State University - and the latter makes me miss not only Galaxy, but also If, Worlds of Science Fiction. (I still call this magazine Worlds of If, just FYI.) I still remember being saddened at first of If's merger into Galaxy, and then the demise of Galaxy. Sadly, that's how it goes in the publishing business. But like Jon Swartz wrote, some of the best works of the 1950s and 1960s were published in Galaxy. Now I need to find more old issues of these magazines for my collection.

And so it appears the end of this loc has arrived. Many thanks for posting a very interesting issue, and I look forward to seeing the next one.

All the best,
John Purcell askance73@gmail.com

Lloyd Penney writes: Dear Neffers:

Many thanks for Vol. 74, No. 10 of The National Fantasy Fan, and again, it's time to see if I can make any cogent comments on the issue at hand.

Congrats to all on the Neffys. I was a member of Hugo Fandom for a long time, but basically left it a few years ago, so I cannot take any part of the Neffy. Some might not accept an award for feuding, though. I sincerely hope that this feuding and the mess caused by assorted Puppies ends, but I know it won't. The Ken Burnside series of essays will explain some things. Some writers might say that fandom isn't a part of their SF. Will this forever split fandom into left and right?

I can't help but feel that fandom is slowly going away, at least, where I live. We still try to keep some fannish events going, like pubnights, and I write as many locs as I can, but as far as a fannish community goes, it's mostly gone. Other interests are fandom-like, and they continue to prove it with feuds and fights, but mostly constructive events, and some real fun.

A great biography of Bob Madle. I've purchased a few things from his extensive catalogue. Keep running the biographies of your founders and other fans from fandom's beginnings, and overcome the time differential between their day and ours.

Time to go, it's a late dinner for me tonight. I will look for more issues; thank you all very much.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

Membership Report

[Editor's Note: The complete roster is being sent to all voting members. Addresses of voting members will only appear there.]

New/Reinstated PAID Members, Expiring Nov. 30, 2016

Kathy Powe - Electronic BDAY: Jan 26 Interests: Art, Books, Cartooning, cartoons, and animation, Costuming, Fanzines, Reading and book clubs Fan since: 50 years Fandom since: 7 years Favos: Enterprise Tardis Connection Cons: "FenCon several times, Lonestar Con (WorldCon)"

Jason Freeland - Electronic
Stewart Hunsaker - Electronic
Cedar Sanderson/ Sanford Begley - Electronic (Family)

Steven D. Roberts - Regular BDAY: April 16 Job: Consultant Interests: Blogging, Books, Collecting, Computers and technology, Conventions and clubs, Online activities, Publishing Pub: A PDF of the clubzines emailed to you (fastest) Fan Since: 50 years Fandom since: 39 years Cons: WorldCon seven times, too many others to list or remember Proazines:

Tangent, Analog Genre: MilSF, space exploration Fave
 Authors: Heinlein, Weber, Hoyt, Drake, Torgerson, Correia

Brian Toberman - Regular BDAY: July 7 Job: Controls Engineer
 Interests: Audio, Books, Costuming, DVDs and videos, Filk singing, Reading and book clubs, Role-playing games, Television Pubs: PDF and Print Fan: 40 years Cons: KC-Con, Minicon, MARScon, Anime Detour Genres: MIL-SF, High fantasy, Alt-Hist, Swords & Sorcery, Hard-SF Fave Authors: Roger Zelazny, Fritz Leiber, Isaac Asimov, Andre Norton, Emma Bull, Lois McCallister Bujold, Larry Correia, John Ringo, R.A. Heinlein, Anne McCaffery, Spider Robinson

Dues Renewals

Jon D. Swartz - Regular EXP: Dec 2017
 George Phillis EXP Apr 2019

New Public (Non-Voting) Members

Denis Tudor Via Alessio Pezcoller 10, TN Trento 38123Italy
 blackvex@gmail.com BDAY: Oct 7 Job: Flight Attendant
 Interests: Books, Cartooning, cartoons, and animation, Computers and technology, Games and video games, Publishing, Reading and book clubs, Role-playing games SF Fan: Since birth! Fandom: No idea Genre: Military SF Fave Authors, etc: weber, Sanderson, eddings, kratman, ringo, lawrence, kloos, williamson, Heppner, conroy, pierce, etc N3F Interests: Writing for club publications, Corresponding

Anthony Dutson, 3713 Christy Hill Way, Taylorsville, Utah 84129
 avdutson@yahoo.com BDAY: July 24, 1969 Job: Mail Processor Interests: Books, Cartooning, cartoons, and animation, Collecting, Comic books, Computers and technology, Conventions and clubs, Costuming, DVDs and videos, Editing, Games and video games, Publishing, Reading and book clubs, Role-playing games, Teaching science fiction, Television, Writing Fan since: 1977, the release of Star Wars Cons: CONduit, Worldcon, LTUE, LDStorymakers, Prozines: Clarksworld, Nightmare, Genres: All of it. Gimme...N3F Interests: Recruiting at conventions

Christine M cmjwyr@gmail.com BDAY: 8/24/1964
 Interests: Blogging, Books, Reading and book clubs, Reviewing, Role-playing games, Television, Writing Fan since: 40 years Cons: Demicon 26 Genres: "Fantasy, Alternate Earths, Urban Fantasy, but not raunchy Space drama" Fave Authors, etc.: "Mercedes Lackey, Cedar Sanderson, Larry Correia, Robin Hobb, Kat Richardson, Jim Butcher, Illona Andrews, Patricia Briggs, Katherine Kurtz, J.R.R. Tolkien C.S. Lewis Tanya Huff Kim Harrison Annie Bellet" Interests: RPGs

Chuck Krin cskrin2@hughes.net
 Fritz Bahten leaperman621@yahoo.com
 Brad Torgerson brad.r.torgersen@comcast.net
 Julian Thompson crawtrapman@yahoo.com

Joel C Salomon joelcsalomon@gmail.com
 Jason Harrell jasonharrell6@gmail.com.
 Jack Weaver fanac@fanac.org

Expiring Soon:

Angela Myers EXP: 11/30/2015
 Robert S. Miller, III EXP: 11/30/2015
 Ruth R. Davidson EXP: 12/31/2015
 Rikki Winters & Chant Lafayette (Household) EXP: 12/31/2015
 Wesley Kawato EXP 12/31/2015
 ...David Speakman, Treasurer

Tightbeam

Since my last report in August, there have been zero submissions of any content to Tightbeam. Therefore, there has been no publication. Due to lack of apparent interest, I withdraw as editor of Tightbeam. Perhaps some new blood could help resurrect this storied zine. We published requests in August in TNFF in the thundering sound of crickets. Also, you took TNFF in a direction that overlaps with TB quite a bit in that TNFF is no longer just a club newzine. No biggie. If it's working, then it's working.

David

Treasurer's Report

\$2,621.93 Starting Balance (Oct 14, 2015)
 + 100.00 Paypal Dues
 + 0.00 Cash Dues
 + 0.00 Check Dues
 - 0.00 Reimbursements Submitted
 - 5.28 PayPal Fees
 + 0.00 Interest

 \$2,716.65 (Nov. 8. 2015)

Round Robins

I have been helping Patricia reactivate her RRs. The following RRs I have started rounding; Dragons, Anne McCaffrey, Babylon 5, District 9. Two of the RR's Patricia has started rounding are: Cats and Star Wars (Books & Movies). These RRs are from Patricia's list that she started at the first of this year. You can find this list in the October TNFF.

I have a separate list of RRs which are listed in the September and October issues of TNFF. I have only 1 Member each for the following RRs: Current Reading, Dreams and Beauty and the Beast in Fairy Tales, Movies and TV.

Round Robins are really a fun and enjoyable way to talk to others about things you care about. Please join us! To join one of my RRs or if you have any questions about the RRs please contact me at: AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com If you wish to join one of Patricia's RRs contact me at the above

email and I will let her know of your interest.
...Judy Carroll

We have a considerably longer Round Robin Report that will appear in the next issue.

Writers Exchange
WANTED
People with the Desire to Write
Many Openings Available
Experience NOT Necessary
Contact Judy Carroll at
AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Welcomittee

Great News!

We have had several new members in the last few weeks. If you are a new member and have not received a Welcome E-card please contact me. I sent them out weeks ago, but many have bounced back due to non-acceptance by the recipients email.

If you are interested in Greeting New Members and Chatting with 'Old' Members, or if you have ANY questions about the club and it's activities you can contact me at AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com
....Judy Carroll

Our Founding Members: Bob Tucker

by
Jon D. Swartz
N3F Historian

Arthur Wilson (Bob) Tucker was born November 23, 1914, in Deer Creek, Illinois, and died October 6, 2006, in St. Petersburg, Florida. An orphan, he was educated at Normal High School, Normal, Illinois. He married Mary Joestine in 1937, and they had two children before divorcing in 1942. He then married Fern Delores Brooks in 1953. He and Fern, who died in 2006, had three children together. Tucker worked as a motion picture projectionist, electrician, reporter, and editor while writing his science fiction (SF) and mystery stories part-time.

Tucker was an early fan, once saying that he had liked SF since he learned to read. He stayed active in fandom his entire life, publishing several fanzines of his own: The Planetoid, 1932; The Bloomington News Letter/Science Fiction Newsletter, D'Journal, and Le Zombie, 1938 - 1975; Fantasy and Weird Fiction, 1938 - 1939; Yearbook of Science, Fanewscard, and Fanzine Yearbook, all during 1941 - 1948. In 1966 he published the first edition of his Neo-Fan's Guide to Science Fiction Fandom. He also founded the fabled SPWSSTFM (Society for the Prevention of Wire Staples in Scientifiction Magazines) and is credited with originating the

term space opera to describe a certain type of SF story. Known in fandom as Bob Tucker, other fannish names he used included Hoy Ping Pong and Sanford Vaid.

Tucker was profiled in the August, 1954, issue of New Worlds, and interviewed in Speaking of Science Fiction: The Paul Walker Interviews (1978). The Really Incomplete Bob Tucker, a one-shot fanzine containing some of his fanzine writings from the years 1942 through 1971 -- with an introduction by Robert Bloch -- was published in 1974 to help raise money to send Tucker to the 1975 Worldcon in Australia. In 1979 The Tucker Transfer, a one-shot fanzine edited by Gail Burnick (Mrs. George R. R. Martin at the time), was issued to help send Tucker to Brighton, England for the 1979 Worldcon. He was interviewed in issue #7 of Lan's Lantern (1977), and issue #46 of this fanzine (dated November, 1997) was "A Bob Tucker Special," with the entire contents devoted to Tucker's life and work. The February, 2004 issue of SF Commentary 79 was a tribute to Tucker's seven decades as a fan and pro. An article I wrote about him and his work appeared in Paperback Parade #70 (July, 2008).

Tucker's first published SF story, "Interstellar Way-Station," appeared in the May, 1941, issue of Super Science Stories. From 1941 until his death he published over two dozen short stories in the leading SF magazines, including Astounding/Analog, Fantastic Worlds, Future Fiction, Galaxy, If, F&SF, Other Worlds, Planet Stories, Science Fiction Quarterly, and Universe. Ten of his stories were collected in The Science-Fiction Subtreasury (1954); and nine of his stories appeared in The Best of Wilson Tucker (1982). Tucker also had a story, "Dick and Jane Go To Mars," accepted for Last Dangerous Visions, but this anthology has yet to appear.

He had several SF novels published, including Prison Planet, 1947; The City in the Sea, 1951; The Long, Loud Silence, 1952; The Time Masters, 1953; Wild Talent, 1954; Time Bomb, 1955; The Lincoln Hunters, 1958; To the Tombaugh Station, 1960; The Year of the Quiet Sun, 1970; Ice and Iron, 1974; and Resurrection Days, 1981.

His mystery novels included The Chinese Doll, 1946; To Keep or Kill, 1947; The Dove, 1948; The Stalking Man, 1949; Red Herring, 1951; The Man in My Grave, 1956; The Hired Target, 1957; Last Stop, 1963; A Procession of the Damned, 1965; The Warlock, 1967; and This Witch, 1971.

Several of Tucker's mystery novels contained SF elements. For example, in his first published novel, The Chinese Doll, Tucker mentioned not only SF fandom and fanzines but also began his practice of naming fictional characters after SF personalities. This practice became known as "Tuckerisms" in fandom.

After Tucker's death in 2006, SF fan Erle Korshak wrote a letter to Locus Magazine in which he stated that he considered Tucker to be one of the three most important SF fans

who ever lived. Although his writing was uneven, Tucker was also an important professional SF and mystery writer -- as evidenced by the many positive reviews of his work.

Tucker received numerous honors and awards in his lifetime, including the following: Hugo (Best Fan Writer), 1970; The Bob Bloch Black Block Award, 1970; John W. Campbell, Jr. Memorial Award (Special) for The Year of the Quiet Sun, 1976; Skylark Award, 1986; FGoH, World SF Convention, 1967; Toastmaster, World SF Convention, 1976; First Fandom Hall of Fame, 1985; E. E. Smith Memorial Award, 1986; SFWA Author Emeritus, 1996; Science Fiction & Fantasy Hall of Fame, 2003; Retro Hugo in 2004 for Best Fan Writer of 1954; various other awards/honors, including being commissioned a Kentucky Colonel in 1993. Archcon 31, held in August 2007 in St. Louis, was also called the TuckerCon in his honor.

In addition to all the honors and awards he received, he should also be remembered as one of the Charter Members of the N3F in 1941. In addition, in both 1942 and 1945 he served our club as its president.

(Sources: Science Fiction and Fantasy Authors; A Checklist of Wilson Tucker; Wilson "Bob" Tucker – A Working Bibliography; several Internet sites, including Fancyclopedia 3, ISFDB, and Wikipedia)

The Constitution of the National Fantasy Fan Federation

Preamble:

The activity that centers around science fiction and fantasy has grown to require organization in order that desirable objectives, beyond the achievement of single individuals, may be attained through united effort. Under this Constitution, the National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F) is established as an association of persons interested in promoting the progress of science fiction and fantasy, and in furthering its enjoyment by themselves and others.

Article I – Membership:

1. Membership, including any benefits created by the organization, and all rights such as voting, is gained by paying dues as set forth in the Bylaws. Dues changes may not go into effect until two(2) months after publication in the Official Organ and shall be further delayed until the completion of voting if the Official Organ receives a petition for submission as set forth in Article V, Section 1 for reversal, unless the change is the result of a vote on petition.
2. An organization may become a member of the N3F upon payment of dues as defined in Section 1 and is entitled to all rights and benefits of membership as outlined in this Constitution except that said organization may not vote or hold elective office.
3. Joint memberships are available to two persons residing in

the same household. A joint membership will include The National Fantasy Fan Federation (TNFF) and all rights such as voting and club activities. The dues shall be more than a single membership but less than a double, to be set by the Directorate.

Article II – Officers

1. A President conducts the affairs of the organization. His/her appointments, suspensions, and removals from office, whether the office concerned is elective or appointive, are subject to the review and approval of the Directorate, as are also his/her methods of procedure.
2. If, for any reason, the office of President becomes vacant, the Directorate appoints a President to complete the unexpired term. Any interim administrative duties are performed by the Chairman of the Directorate, during which time he/she may not vote in his/her capacity as Director except on motions of appointment.
3. A Directorate, composed of five members, regulates the affairs and controls the finances of the organization, and may define the duties of any office or official of the association.
4. Decisions of the Directorate are by majority of its five members except in the following instances: by unanimous vote the Directorate may refuse membership to any person; expel any member by refunding the balance of his dues; and may remove the President from office.
5. Vacancies in the Directorate, whatever the cause, are filled by majority vote of the remaining Directors. If fewer than three Directors remain, the President shall appoint one or more up to the minimum of three.
6. Any person designated as Treasurer or otherwise empowered to keep or convey the funds of the organization must be over twenty-one years of age.
7. The Treasurer shall also have free dues as long as he or she holds office.

Article III – Elections

1. The President and five members of the Directorate are decided by the membership in an annual election of those officers. Ballots for the election are to be distributed before October 10th and the elected candidates take office on the following January 1st. Any member may seek office by complying with the official requirements which are to be published in the Official Organ at least two months previous to the filing deadline.
2. No person may hold two elective offices at the same time.
3. Each member may cast one vote for each of the five candidates of his/her choice in the election of the Directorate. The five candidates receiving the largest number of votes is elected. Ties are resolved by majority agreement of those elected candidates not included in the tie.
4. Of the candidates for President, the one receiving the largest number of votes is elected. In case of a tie, the elected Directorate chooses a President from the tied candidates.

Article IV – Official Organ

1. The association issues a publication of at least quarterly schedule which carries in addition to other material, a quarterly statement of the financial status of the organization, together with a listing of new members and their addresses.

Article V – Petitions & Amendments

1. Petitions of whatever purpose, endorsed by five per cent of the members or twenty-five members, whichever is less, must, within sixty days after the Directorate receives them, be submitted to the membership for decision unless the Directorate has already taken the indicated action. Petitions looking towards the revision, reversion, or setting aside of any action of the President or the Directorate must be submitted within two calendar years following such action, or such petition is invalid and without force.
2. Any motion by the Directorate approved for presentation to the membership to alter or amend the Constitution must be printed in the next TNFF, and in no event, not less than two months prior to the actual voting date, if not the result of action under Section I of this article.
3. Amendments to the Constitution shall require two thirds (2/3) of the votes cast to be approved. All other decisions by the membership shall be by a majority of the votes cast.
4. Any alteration or amendment of the Constitution will be presented to the membership for vote exactly as it is to be entered, or the alteration or amendment is invalid and without force.
5. The power to alter or amend the Constitution is vested solely in the membership.

The Bylaws of the National Fantasy Fan Federation

I. Authority

Under the authority implied in Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, the Directorate shall establish certain Bylaws to regulate the affairs of the organization, such Bylaws to be effective when approved by a majority vote of the Directorate as set forth in Article II, Section 4, of the Constitution.

II. The Directorate

1. The Chair of the Directorate shall report to the membership all measures passed by the Directorate. The Chair of the Directorate shall maintain updated copies of the Bylaws, distribute them to the Directorate, President, Treasurer, and Official Editor of The National Fantasy Fan(TNFF), at the beginning of the year and whenever changed, and direct that current copies of the Bylaws and Constitution are maintained on the club website,
2. Copies of all official Directorate correspondence shall be sent to the President and Treasurer.
3. Each Directorate shall adopt standing rules of procedure, which shall remain in force for the Directorate of the following year, until such time as the new Directorate shall vote to accept them or adopt new rules.
3. A Director who has not voted or participated in Directorate discussion or correspondence in any period of three consecutive months may be declared inactive by the Directorate, and may be removed by the President for this cause only, without prejudice.

III. The Treasury

1. The President or designated person may bill the Treasury, as needed, for expenses incurred in the discharge of the office, including the purchase of supplies for new members, the sum not to exceed \$100 per year.
2. The Treasurer will assist the President in maintaining a current online membership roster by reporting new membership payments, renewals, and changes of address to the President and such other officers as the President may direct, not less often than once a month.
3. The Treasurer will prepare a yearly report of all income to the N3F Treasury and an itemized list of expenditures. Also included in this report will be a listing of items which will require additional outlays, in the forthcoming year from the Treasury, and have been approved by the Directorate, but have not yet been paid. This report will be prepared for the first issue of TNFF to appear in the year following the year which the report covers.
4. The President shall not hold the office of Treasurer, except on a temporary basis not to exceed 4 weeks – due to vacancy or emergency. If the president fails to appoint a replacement within three weeks of an office vacancy or either the Treasurer, the Directorate shall move on its own to appoint a replacement for the vacant office.

IV. Elections

1. All candidates must, by the filing deadline of August 15 of each year, have paid their dues for the year in which they will hold office if elected, and agree to serve if appointed under Article II, Section 5 of the Constitution.
2. In addition to the regular candidates listed on the ballot, members may write in the name of any member in good standing as a candidate for any elective office. Any candidate so elected must submit a written statement of his willingness to serve plus the dues for the year in which he will serve within 14 days of his notification of election. In the event of non-compliance with the foregoing, the election will be voided and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes for that office will be declared the winner.
3. Annual election platforms are to be printed in the September issue of TNFF. The election ballot will either be printed in the September issue of The Fan or mailed to members separately. Members may submit either a photocopy of the election ballot or vote from an email account previously registered with the secretary rather than the ballot itself. Each paper ballot shall include space for the N3F member to write their name in print, provide their signature and also the date the ballot was completed. Ballots for Constitutional amendments and other membership referendums may also be sent out with TNFF.

V. Publication

The intent of this club is to distribute at least one publication each month to members in good standing in the form of either the Official Organ or other publication as follows:

1. Regular publications of the N3F: The N3F has two regular publications: The National Fantasy Fan (TNFF), the Official Organ, and Tightbeam (TB), a member-created fanzine.
2. Special Publications may be issued upon approval of the President.
3. Publication Officers: The Official Editor and Publisher are appointed by the President. Editors of special publications are appointed by the Official Editor with the President's approval.
4. Printing: The Publisher shall print enough copies to send to every regular member of the N3F as of the date of publication, plus any other extra copies that the President may direct the Publisher to print.
5. The National Fantasy Fan shall be published at least quarterly with no more than four months between issues.
6. In the event a Regular Publication does not appear as scheduled, the President shall appoint a Stand-by Editor. This Editor shall be reimbursed as if he were the regular Editor if the magazine is mailed within two months after the appointment by the President.
7. Required Notices: TNFF shall contain a list of new members and renewals in each issue; the Constitution and Bylaws of the N3F in the Summer quarter; and the roster of the membership in the Spring and Autumn quarters
8. Submission Deadlines: Deadlines for material submitted shall be the 15th of the month preceding the month of publication. Any deviation from this date must be announced in the previous issue.
9. Reimbursement. The treasury shall reimburse expenses for printing and mailing regular publications. Total annual reimbursement per voting member household from the Treasury for printing and postage shall not exceed \$14 for 12 issues. No single issue of a regular publication may exceed a printing cost of 50 cents per issue, without Directorate approval. The Publisher shall notify the Chairman of the Directorate of receipt of any issue not conforming to this limitation, before printing. All other publication reimbursements require Directorate approval.
10. Advertisements in N3F publication are free, restricted to N3F members, and are subject to space limitations in the judgment of the editor.
11. The N3F Roster, while available for membership use, is not for sale as a mailing list to anyone.
12. Others. Publications issued by subordinate Bureaus of the N3F and not sent to the entire membership shall be sent to the President or other designated person for information and record. In the case of N'APA that shall be construed to mean the Alliance Amateur or other official business publication and not the entire bundle. The cost will be borne by the Treasury of the N3F upon presentation of an itemized bill to the Treasurer.
13. Neffer Amateur Press Alliance. All N'APA members must be members in good standing of the N3F.
14. Exchange Agreements. The President can authorize exchange agreements with other publishers who will receive all N3F publications, and the President or other designated person will receive all their publications.

VI. Rescissions

Directorate motions in the nature of Bylaws passed prior to the original compilation and publication of these Bylaws and not included among them, are rescinded.

VII. Amendments

Amendments to these Bylaws may be made with approval of a majority of the Directorate.

VIII. Dues

Membership dues are payable annually as follows:

1. Regular Member: Individual memberships are \$18 per year, and include receiving one print copy of all club publications.
2. Joint/Household Member: Dues are \$4 per year per person residing at the same household address at the same household address as a Regular, Life, or Electronic Member. This membership does not include print copies of club publications.
3. Life Member: Dues are \$0 per year.
4. Electronic Member: Dues are \$6 per year. This membership does not include print copies of club publications. The number of Life or Honorary members created by Directorate vote may not exceed 5 memberships or 1 percent of the total membership of the N3F, whichever number is greater. This rule shall not operate to reduce the number of existing Life memberships at any time.

IX. Member Benefits

1. The following membership benefits are reserved solely to dues-paying members ("paid members"): holding, running for, or being appointed to any elected office; holding the office of Treasurer, Publisher or Official Editor; voting for elected office; receiving printed copies of club publications paid for by the treasury; and representing the organization in any official capacity.
2. Life Members appointed by the Directorate are granted the same membership benefits as Paid Members, regardless of whether they pay dues or not.
3. Members of the general public may fully participate in all N3F activities except for those reserved solely to paid members.

Standing Rule

Fandom rests on honest recognition of the creative works of others. If in an N3F-sponsored activity there are reasons to believe that nominally creative works claimed to be by a person appear to be copied from creative works of others, the person suspected of having copied without appropriate attribution will be presented by the President or Chair with the evidence and invited to explain the similarities. The President or Chair will report the person's response to the Directorate, which will choose an appropriate action, up to and including finding the person exonerated or returning dues and severing all connection between the N3F and the person.

How the Hugos Crashed

(aka “The Diary of a Self-Deploying Human Sandbag In The Culture War”)

by Ken Burnside

<http://www.adastragames.com/products/the-hot-equations>

Continued from our previous issue

There’s a sub-genre of SF that I call “The Heroic Engineer Story.” It’s not always about an engineer, and another term for it is “competence porn.” Analog still publishes a lot of it. It’s very much about “put character into a puzzle box, have Act I be about how they realize how screwed they are, have Act II be about making things worse, while getting the key needed to escape the puzzle box at the end of Act III.” While it’s from the pulps, and borrows something from the pulp formula, it’s not really 1950s style pulp writing. In Heroic Engineer Stories, most character details of the protagonist are secondary to “How Does She Solve The Problem?” In Literary SF, the character development is MUCH more important.

A lot of people read Heroic Engineer Stories and project “straight white dude” onto the protagonist, unless the author specifically states they aren’t such. One of the appeals of the Heroic Engineer Story is that it focuses on the universally human fascination of solving problems, along with life-or-death stakes.

For the SF readers who are the target of the Heroic Engineer Story, there’s an intellectual thrill akin to reading a murder mystery in seeing how the problem is solved, and a comforting escapism from emotional nuance. For the readers of the Heroic Engineer Story (and its related subgenres, the Exploration of the Mysterious Yet Logical Thing Story and the Defense Against The Inhuman Aliens By Mighty Pluck And Human Courage Story), the Competent Protagonist who puts aside emotions to Solve The Problem is an aspirational character.

And yes, more of those aspirational characters should be women. David Weber carved one hell of a market niche by doing exactly that.

It is damned difficult to do a literary SF version of The Heroic Engineer Story. There are two I can think of, and both are movies: “Her” and the problematic “Ex Machina.” In both cases, the “human element” is “man falls in love with feminine machine and is creeped out because even Simulated Women Are Mysteriously Creatures.” I’d like to see less use of the “Woman As Mysteriously Creature” trope, but that’s secondary to saying that writing a Literary Heroic Engineer Story is a difficult juggling act.

For people who write and read literary SF, that Competent Protagonist is as staid and cliched as Horatio Alger. They don’t have any internal conflicts, or any hard decisions to make about emotional issues. All the interesting stuff is external, and the only motives in conflict are in a strictly Manicheist vein. A lot of very good recent SF—notably a good chunk of Charlie Stross’ output—pokes deliberate fun at the Heroic Engineer Story and its subtropes.

Heroic Engineer Stories drive a lot of sales. Nearly every SF author I know who doesn’t need a day job writes an action-adventure series, where the Heroic Engineer/Officer/Competent Protagonist Solves The Problem. They sell, and they sell to a

male demographic, often current or recently retired military, and that demographic skews conservative.

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You can make an argument that Ringworld or Rendezvous with Rama wouldn’t make the Hugo ballot if published today. One of the reasons why they wouldn’t make the ballot is that the standards for prose smithing have risen since the early 1970s; the general quality of **writing** in the field has improved noticeably in forty years.

The Heroic Engineer Story has all but vanished from the Hugo awards; this year’s Three Body Problem will be seen as a reversal of that trend. They still show up in the Nebulas. Chuck Gannon’s Caine Riordan series has a protagonist who’s clearly “Chuck Gannon in better shape, and the universe cheats on his behalf.” Both volumes have made the Nebula shortlists. The entire series is pretty pulpy in its premise and protagonist. It’s published by Baen...and large swathes of Baen’s catalog is conspicuous in its absence from the Locus Recommended Reading List.

For what it’s worth, I have a three-fold explanation for why that imbalance exists:

1) WorldCon Fandom (the small sliver of SF fandom that goes to WorldCon) is liberal and fairly insular.

2) Literary SF, as expressed above, is generally better written. All else being equal, truly excellent writing will be the tie breaker.

3) The Baen Invisibility Factor in the existing recommended reading list channels.

There’s no need for a grand conspiracy; I doubt that organized Fandom could keep a secret conspiracy secret for two weeks. The idea that they could do so for fifteen years? I read SF, I’ve got a good imagination, but...no.

Addressing this imbalance is why I became a “Puppy.”

What happened instead? The Hugos became a front in the culture war. Brad Torgersen’s posts at the very beginning about “victim class check box fiction” destroyed any rapport with people who weren’t already in his camp. Other comments made by Torgersen kept the same divisive tone. Vox Day’s posts on the subject started at inflammatory and went up from there. His business model is built off of it.

Both were using the tactic of “say something outrageous, wait for the ‘other side’ to get pissed off, and turn to the choir to say ‘see, I told you they’d over-react.’” When trying to build a roster of voters nominating literary works, this sure as hell doesn’t convince people that your side has any merit.

Conducting literary criticism via the rhetoric of culture war is profoundly stupid if you want your complaints listened to. The counter-reaction to the Puppies was justifiable, predictable, and seems to have fed into a considerable media campaign, one that Torgersen had to threaten libel lawsuits to tone down.

The actual Puppy “grievance” is that the WorldCon fandom has gotten insular, and needs more nominators and voters. It also needs to reflect things outside the narrow purview of the current WorldCon membership.

I lay most of the initial blame on the Puppies, but the reaction (and cyclical counter-reactions) leave plenty of blame to go around. There’s been enough decrying of fault and blame on this matter. No side of this, Sad Puppies, Anti-Puppies or especially Rabid Puppies, comes out without char marks.

To Be Continued

In this issue:

Elections—Bylaws—Electronic Interests Form N'APA—Editor's
Notes—Neffies

Presidential Notes—Letters of Comment

Your Volunteer Team—Membership Report

Tightbeam—Treasurer's Report—Round Robins

Writer's Exchange—Welcommittee

Our Founding Members: Bob Tucker

N3F Constitution and Bylaws

How the Hugos Crashed Part 2

**Members Only: Membership Roster
Elections 2015 Ballot...Please Vote**

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