



# The National Fantasy Fan

Volume 75 Number 3

March 2016

## Fanthology

This year is the 75th anniversary of the formation of the N3F. In celebration of the 75th Anniversary, we are planning at least two special publications.

The first publication is a fanbook, a history of the Nebula Awards. The Nebula Fanbook is almost good to go. It is momentarily on hold, waiting for this year's announcements of Nebula Awards.

The second publication is a fanthology, a collection of fiction from Neffers. The working title is "This Diamond Sea of Suns", diamond as it is our diamond anniversary. The objective of the fanthology is to showcase the work of winners of our fiction contest. To that we'll add works of fiction by Neffers.

The fanthology will be lightly edited. Some of us are professionals. Others of us are gifted amateurs. But perhaps a few Neffers need to continue to improve their writing. We look forward to publishing all of the good fiction we get, but we are not sacrificing the right to decline to publish your work. Also, the fanthology will be a publication for all ages, so substantially erotic works, no matter how brilliantly written, are looking for a different market.

Submit to the fanthology! Send your electronic manuscripts in .rtf (preferred) or other microsoft or open-office compatible format to George Phillies, [phillies@4liberty.net](mailto:phillies@4liberty.net). Expect a prompt response. Fanthology Associate Editor Jefferson Swycaffer has been emphatic that we will need a signed contract for each work that we use, granting the N3F first serial rights in all formats in perpetuity, the author to retain all other rights.

## Publisher's Apology

The publisher's printer had an exotic fault. Naturally, this happened just before mailing the December issue. Absolutely everything went poorly in terms of Christmas vacation, holidays, my swapping in replacement modules into the Phaser 8560 that were not the broken module, and then the repair people moved. I have purchased a new printer. which should be arriving soon.



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

## Behold, a Neffie!



Thanks to an anonymous member, we had a physical award to send to Toni Weisskopf.

## Kaymar Awards

The Kaymar Award is given for loyal service to the N3F. It is somewhat unique among fannish awards in the you may never win it more than once. Any Neffer may nominate. The Awards Committee is composed of all past winners. I have asked David Speakman to chair the Awards Committee again. Please send your nominations to David Speakman [davodd@gmail.com](mailto:davodd@gmail.com)

## Letter

Richard Madle is a founding member of the N3F.

Hello, George,

Thank you very much for sending me the copies of TNFF.

I especially liked 'Our Higher Purpose' by David B. Williams.. Might mention that I was there when all of this was transpiring. it is essentially correct — with a few minor errors.

I also enjoy the articles on 'Our Founding Members' by Jon Swartz. He does similar articles for First Fandom.

Sincerely,  
Robert A. Madle  
301 460 4712



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 Many New Volunteers are needed: Electronic Publica-  
 tion Support, Readers for the Blind, Con Listings,  
 Advertising, Convention Hospitality, Outreach, Corre-  
 spondence, Comics, Films.

Support the N3F. Volunteer Now!

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## The Futurians—A Personal Experience

A series of Articles by Jack Robins  
 Jack Robins was the next-to-last living Futurian  
 His obituary appeared in the February 2016 issue.

Part Three — The First (and Only) Science Fiction Com-  
 mune

A number of Futurians moved into the apartment and shared the rent and meals. I wished so much to be a part of them, but previously having had so much difficulty finding a job, I knew that I could never manage it. I asked Wollheim if I could join them one evening a week for which I would pay the group \$1 each time. He agreed. Each Wednesday evening I would go there and would be given a couch to sleep in. Each Thursday morning I would leave for work. I felt delighted and honored to be a part of the Commune even for one night a week. The rest of the time I was just one of the many visitors (no one was ever barred from visiting the group).

Having the Commune, the Wollheim group of Futurians blossomed. It was my impression that the Fantasy Amateur Press Association (FAPA) was invented and instituted by Wollheim. He told me that fans wrote fan magazines and newsletters and had a rough time trying to circulate them. So the FAPA served as a medium for fan periodicals. He said it would be limited in membership (I think to about 20). All of the members periodicals were sent to the Commune. I saw Michel sort them out into large envelopes addressed to each member and send them out. There must have been a fee to pay for postage.

I was envious. I had never written a fan newsletter. I asked Michel if I could join the group by writing a newsletter. He agreed. I typed out my newsletters on mimeograph stencils, Michel ran them off and now I had a publication. I made up 3 altogether and then quit. For some reason I felt that people weren't really interested in what I wrote (my poor boy

## 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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from the slums complex). About a year ago a member of N3F (whose name I lost) emailed me that a copy of the third issue was successfully auctioned off on EBAY.

Donald also instituted other fan events but, since I was not involved, I don't remember them, although some of them have been written up elsewhere.

Wollheim's father was a medical doctor and Don must have been given a big allowance. He subscribed to all the science fiction magazines and periodically had them bound. Don had one wall of shelves full of books. He lent me a copy of *The Skylark of Space* which I could otherwise not have read. He also gave me copies of Baum's Oz books. Looking over his wall of books, I asked him, "Did you read them all?" "Every One," he said. I was impressed.

By the time of the formation of the Commune, there no longer was a Futurian organization or a Futurian club. We were just a bunch of friends, mostly SF fans, who enjoyed being together. There were no officers, but Wollheim naturally became the leader. Because of his wide range of correspondence and his knowledge of what was going on, he told us of many meetings and arranged groups to attend them. There were so many of such activities that I couldn't keep up with them. For example, there was a Midwestern convention that some fans went to but I couldn't.

The best I can say is that we were a Fellowship. Some people, fans or not (no one was barred) would join us and often take part in the activities. They were of all sorts of political opinions but no one cared. We were just people who liked each other. For want of a better term, I call the group "Futurians."

Wollheim was able to help Lowndes get an editor's job and Wollheim himself got a job editing SF books.

But the best activity of the group was the walks. We would always go on walks. I will discuss them later.

## Poem—The Dying Girl

(Me, Earl, and the Dying Girl – movie)

Her mother said  
Scissors were her favorite toy  
She cut her father's books when he left them.

On the wall her shears arc  
A steely congregation whispering  
The one like a stork  
Brings to mind deft hands, cutting

In the silence of her empty room  
Opening books to little hidden worlds  
Carved out, ignoring the words.

...Sasha Kasoff

## The First Electronic Interactive Novel

It dates to 1955. You can see a video on it here:

The Brainiac project was successfully presented last Sunday (15 Nov) at the Practice 2015 conference in Brooklyn. A complete, illustrated transcript of the lecture is available here: <http://www.ludix.com/moriarty/electric.html>

Make sure you view it using a browser that supports YouTube embedding, or you won't be able to watch the videos.

As forwarded to me from Brian Moriarty

## Founding Member

N3F Founders: Mary C. Gray

by

Jon D. Swartz

N3F Historian



Mary Corinne Gray was a Los Angeles science fiction (SF) fan who was known in fannish circles as Patti and Pogo. She was a cousin of Myrtle R. Douglas (Morojo), one-time girlfriend of LA super-fan Forrest J. Ackerman. Gray later married fellow SF fan Russell (Russ) M. Wood.

Gray was one of the charter members of The National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F) and with Wood, in 1942, she was one of the founders of the Harbor Fantasy League, a group of five fannish couples living in coastal cities in the greater Los Angeles area. Membership in the League was restricted to married couples in order to keep immature fans from joining. She was the club's director, and she and her husband also edited the club's publications.

She also edited/published the fanzines STF-ETTE and Fan-Damn. In addition, she was heavily involved in FooFoo and was thus, of course, an anti-Ghughuist.

Only female fans were supposed to contribute to STF-ETTE and SF historian Sam Moskowitz has written that he believed it to be the "first feminist fanzine." It was published during 1940-1941.

Fan-Damn was a 10 page, one-shot fanzine published in the summer of 1942 by Gray and her husband.

Foo-Fooism was a burlesque of Ghu-Ghuism and militarism and not established religion, and was created by Gray with the help of BNF Jack Speer (John Bristol Speer). Foo was widely considered to be the second fannish Ghod, after Ghu, created in the 1930s by New York fans Donald A. Wollheim, John Michel, and their fellow Futurians. Gray dressed up as the High Priestess of FooFoo at the masquerade party of the Second World Science Fiction Convention in Chicago (Chicon I) in 1940.

Gray's photo appears on pages 135 and 248 of Harry Warner's history of SF fandom in the 1940s, *All Our Yesterdays* (Advent, 1969). She was quite photogenic.

She was one of only three female SF fans who were charter members of The National Fantasy Fan Federation. There were very few female fans in the early days, and most

of the ones who were active were girlfriends or relatives of male fans. Out of a total of sixty-four founders of the N3F, only Gray, Gertrude Kuslan (wife of Connecticut fan Louis Kuslan), and Clarissa Smith (daughter of famous SF author E. E. "Doc" Smith), were involved in the formation of the N3F in 1941.

This year our club is celebrating its 75th year of existence, and we have had many women involved in the running of our club over the years. Thankfully, women are now involved in all aspects of science fiction and fantasy in the United States, as well as many other parts of the world.

## Ned Brooks (1938 - 2015)

by

Jon D. Swartz  
N3F Historian

Cuyler W. (Ned) Brooks, Jr. was a long-time science fiction (SF) fan and collector who was a member of both the National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F) and First Fandom.

Brooks was born in Montana and was the son of Cuyler Warnell Brooks Sr., who was also nicknamed "Ned."

He went to school at Georgia Tech where he graduated with a degree in physics. He went to work for NASA, in Hampton, Virginia, in 1959, during which time he rented a room on Briarfield Road in Newport News, Virginia. Somehow he found an issue of Buck Coulson's fanzine Yandro and started subscribing to fanzines from that time. At one point or another, Ned was quite a letterhack.

He won the N3F's Kaymar Award in 1972 and Southern Fandom's Rebel Award in 1976 and Rubble Award in 1992. He was one of the founders of the rotating apa, Slan Apa, and published several fanzines, including the genzine New Newport News News (five issues), the personalzine It Goes on the Shelf (thirty-six issues), and It Comes in the Mail (twenty-six issues) – the latter, a zine listing and reviewing fan-related mail he received.

In the mid-1960s he edited the N3F's Collector's Bulletin, and in 1966 he was a member of the club's Directorate. He was responsible for writing/editing several N3F publications, including the following:

**Collector's Bulletin.** A total of eleven issues were published in the 1960s. The Bulletin was edited/published by Brooks via Purple Mouth Press for the N3F's Collector's Bureau. It featured discussions and reviews about SF books and collecting. Don Markstein was comics editor. Markstein later became well known for Don Markstein's Toonopedia.

**Hannes Bok Illustration Index, 1970.** An index of the published artwork of SF/fantasy artist Bok, published for the N3F. The third revised edition appeared in 1994. The editors were Brooks and fellow N3F member Don Martin. Both Brooks and Martin were active in the N3F's Collectors Bureau.

Later in life Brooks published several small press books in magazine format, including an edition of C.L. Moore's and Henry Kuttner's story "Quest of the Starstone" which was illustrated by Alan Hunter (the book was titled Quest for the Green Hills of Earth).

Brooks was the Fan Guest of Honor at Rivercon IV and

at DeepSouthCon 39.

He worked for NASA for 39 years, then retired to Lilburn, Georgia, in order to be closer to his relatives. He purchased and arranged a large house with room for all his books, and there was even a separate room for his antique typewriter collection.

It has been reported that Brooks died at age 77 when he fell from his roof while doing repairs on it.

[Sources: Fancyclopedia 3, John L. Coker III, Mike Glycer, Tim Marion, Stephen H. Silver, Taral Wayne, Kyla and Rich Lynch]

## Neffies

Based on input, the Neffie categories for this year will be as follows:

"Paper" publication is from a traditional publishing house. "Electronic" publishing is modern self-publishing via SmashWords, Amazon Kindle, etc. The length divisions for written works are based on the published recommendations of Eric Flint on his blog. One could readily imagine replacing "100,000" with "50,000". Some awards could be divided between science fiction, fantasy, horror, superhero, and romance works.

- Best Paper Novel (> 100,000 words)
- Best Paper Short Work (< 100,000 words)
- Best Electronic Novel (>100,000 words)
- Best Electronic Short Work (< 100,000 words)
- Best Paper Series Novel (> 3 volumes)
- Best Electronic Series Novel (> 3 Volumes)
- Best Fan Author
- Best Fan Artist
- Best Fan Editor
- Best Fanzine
- Best Fan Web Site
- Fan of the year
- Best Pro Author
- Best Pro Artist
- Best Pro Editor
- Best Live Film
- Best Animated Film
- Best Video (includes TV)
- Best Comic Series
- Best Comic Single Issue
- Best Paper Game
- Best Electronic Game
- Heroic Achievement

## Pins

Ruth Davidson writes: I have these N3F pins. I need to know who I should send them to. This the logo [http://wlweather.net/N3F/link2us\\_files/N3Flogo2.jpg](http://wlweather.net/N3F/link2us_files/N3Flogo2.jpg)

Your President will be collecting them and figure out how to send them to members. These are 2" diameter classic steel pins.

## Electronic Round Robins

The Bookwyrms are being added to the Electronic Round Robins. If you would like to join please contact me.

Don't forget to contact Graham and Wolf and let them know you are interested, and also make sure you have the Bookwyrms Reading List for this year.

As of this writing no one has contacted me about joining the ERRs. I hope the reason for lack of interest is because the paper TNFF for January was delayed. This can be a lot of fun, People. So, pick out the ERR that best suits your interest and contact me so we can get these Robins rounding.

To join an electronic Round Robin, contact Judy Carroll, autumnseas8012@yahoo.com

## Writers Exchange Bureau

"What we can or cannot do,  
what we consider possible or impossible,  
is rarely a function of our true capability.  
It is more likely a function of our beliefs about who we  
are."

Tony Robbins

Ask yourself this: Who do you believe you are?  
What was your answer?  
Did you give your occupation?  
Did you name the position you hold in your family?  
Or did you tell your Mind to take a rest,  
and you listened to your Heart?  
And with every fiber of your being you said  
"I AM A WRITER!"

I am waiting to hear from you.  
Let us explore this exciting  
Revelation together.

Judy Carroll  
Autumn Seas8012@yahoo.com

## Membership & Recruiting

I went to Otakon Vegas, the local offshoot of the monster anime & manga con from Baltimore, and distributed dozens of the brochures George provided to attendees and staff, especially the artists in Artists' Alley, who seemed especially interested in the Artists' Bureau. We shall see how many folks follow up and actually join us, as public members or otherwise. I also picked up cards advertising a local game shop and a couple of other conventions: LVL Up Expo, in mid-May which I'll probably go to since it's here in Las Vegas, and Anime Las Vegas in Ontario CA which I will definitely not be attending since it's next weekend. While some people like to go to anime cons, other people like us, well we gotta work. I'll be going through the membership list and contacting people who need to renew their memberships.

...Kevin Trainor

## Welcommittee

I'm still here, sitting by myself in this lonely room wondering if anyone is going to wander by and notice the sign on

my door -WELCOMMITTEE- and knock. But, no, nothing. No one. It has been seven months since I took this job. I knew it would be lonely at first- waiting for that first knock at the door. But, I figured once the light was seen shinning in the room a passerby would surely know someone was here, and out of desire or curiosity knock on the door. Aw, but alas it has not happened. Perhaps it was not meant to be. Maybe I have set my sights too high; my expectations too wide. Surely there must be someone out there who wants to meet new people; guide them through this fascinating experience called the N3F. Perhaps if I put out flyers. Maybe then someone will see the light in my room and knock at the door seeking to help. Then I wouldn't be alone any more.

WANTED

Someone interested in people.  
Must have desire to help others.

Contact: Judy Carroll  
AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

## Website Report:

Over the Christmas-to-New Year break, I updated the website to be compatible with the mobile era.

The bones of this Website update was the first refresh of the site since May 2007 version of the site, which was launched before the first iPhone went on sale and before people started browsing the Internet with mobile devices like their phones and tablets.

The reconfiguration of the new website is complete - with mostly the same content - had the main goal of making every page mobile friendly - and changing the fonts so that the pages are easier to read.

What still needs done: The blog portion of the site - which is now just links to N3F publications as they are released - needs to be prettified. And some of the content will need to be updated, but that was not my focus this time.

So far, the website has served multiple uses:

1. A place for general information and history of the club.
2. A means for people to pay their dues and fill out the membership form online (added in 2012)
3. A library for past publications in PDF and archive lists of past award winners and presidents (Added in 2013)
4. An archive of past Bylaws and Constitutions (Added in 2013)

We will need to figure out if that is enough or if we want to do more.

Some future possibilities include email and the blog:

N3F EMAIL:

N3F.org email addresses. We have the capability to pro-

vide an N3F.org email address to people. These can exist in two types:

1. A generic email that forwards to a person's existing email address. (i.e. president@n3f.org would simply forward to phillies@4liberty.net as long as George stays in the office. Upon the election of the next president, the address would be set to forward to the new president's email.) This could be useful for both officers and bureau heads.

2. A log-in personalized email address for a person. This would be a normal email account that someone would log into with a username and password. There are positives and negatives with this type of email. Positives include every time a \*\*\*\*@n3f.org email is sent, the club gets "free" publicity. The negatives would include the risk that an account gets hijacked and used to spam folks, that a user misuses the account for illegal purposes (online harassment, illegal pornography, etc.) and has the club liable for stuff stored on its email servers.

I highly recommend we pursue Email Option 1 and avoid Email Option 2.

N3F BLOG Content.

Along with our PDF publications, we have the option to have articles, con reports, fiction, art, and reviews appear live on the N3F website, as well as the publications. This is already set up and ready to go.

David Speakman

## Birthday Card Bureau

R-Laurraine Tutihasi reports: Birthday cards sent out in January—8.

## Letters

George,

So far as Ray Palmer goes; I personally enjoy most of the material he published in Amazing. He and his assistants had a good eye for science fiction and fantasy, and most of the material in his mags was pretty good. The advantage Astounding had, despite prestige as the eminent magazine in the field, was that Campbell was paying two cents a word, whereas Palmer's mags had a budget that allowed mostly a penny a word, or sometimes a cent and a half with a little juggling.

However, Palmer and William Hamling and most of the people he hired on were long time science fiction fans, long active in SF fandom, and they recognized that there were a lot of wannabe authors who would be delighted to have their material printed in a promag at any price, or even, in some cases, for no payment at all. Palmer's mags always paid promptly on acceptance, but he also admitted that he and his staff and a close group of friends filled up the empty pages of the mag with material they themselves wrote to supplement their own editorial salaries and, in the case of the 'monthly regulars', to assure that there was a sufficient number of short stories of acceptable quality every single issue.

SF fandom disliked Palmer because of his bombastic carnival barker style, but an honest reading of his mags will show that a lot of excellent material got printed in his publications, including the titles he started after he left Ziff-Davis. While he was hyping the Shaver Mystery Amazing's circulation was the highest in the business, running regularly from

80K to 140K an issue; especially impressive for a publication catering to what most publishers at the time regarded as a safe but small niche genre. That's also one of the reasons the core of fandom never forgave him---not only did he promote the bizarre, unbelievably silly Shaver Mystery, but he was eminently successful doing it, validating his viewpoint completely on the commercial market. Most people can't accept the success of something they have pre-judged to be unacceptable, and SF fandom sure couldn't.

---Bob Jennings

If all of the Bureau Heads /Activities Leaders could put just a little note or comment in each TNFF about their activities they may find more people joining them. I'm not saying I have had much luck with this approach, but I try to find something to say for each activity in every TNFF. My reasoning is the old saying- Out of Sight. Out of Mind. I learned this saying to be true several years ago when I sold Avon products. If I didn't get the current brochures into the hands of my customers and potential customers, I lost sales. Unless Avon is something you are actually crazy about chances are you won't miss not seeing a brochure around the house. Same goes for Fuller Brush, Watkins, and other businesses. Store ads appear in your mailbox once or twice a week and online ads for most every site you visit. Even on your email. Right now Nordstrom is trying to get me to buy snow boots. Barnes & Noble tempted me with The Gatefather by Orson Scott Card (which reminded me I was waiting for it to be published since I have the first two in the Mithermages trilogy - so I bought it).

We need to sell the N3F. We need to have our bureaus and activities out front at all times.

If there isn't enough room each month for all BH & AL to put in a short note, they could do one every other month. Assign them the months they are expected to put in items for TNFF.

We also need more EYE CATCHING material. Artists Bureau could put in a picture to draw members attention to them. Changing it every few months would help keep readers eyes going to them. (Grocery stores change the order of things on their shelves every few months to keep buyers from getting into a buying rut.)

A current member of the Artists Bureau could have their art work featured in the TNFF. Maybe if they knew that they would join.(Chuckle-Maybe if we featured those of us who can't draw the true artists would jump at the chance to show what art really is.)

Birthday Cards could list the name of members birthdays each month. Everyone likes to see their name in print. (This has been done in the past. See TNFF June 1993.)

We could ask members to tell us about their favorite SF, Fantasy, or Horror movie or book. Someone would be notified each month and asked to write for the next TNFF. More than one member could be asked at a time and then a back order would be available for future publications. Or 3 members are asked to write and all would be put in the next TNFF. If there wasn't enough room for all of them in that issue than they would be notified they would appear in the next.

New members could be asked to tell us something about themselves-doesn't have to be personal-maybe something they like to do. Or members who have been with the club for a long

time could tell us about why they like the club or fond memories of the club from when they first joined.

I wish I could say I have great ideas for the Welcomittee, Writers Exchange and Round Robins, but I don't. No one has joined the Welcomittee. I have 3 readers (including myself) and no more material to read for the Writer's Exchange (other than you we have had only 2 other people to read for). No one has joined any of my Round Robins (I joined 3 hoping to get it going, but it didn't work). So far, with Patricia's RRs I haven't seen any make their way back to me, yet.

I've thought of having a quiz where participants decide whether the Super Heroes or Villains are from the Marvel or DC universe. Or a word search about the Marvel and/or DC universes. Or a word search with club members names or founding members names, or matching the member or former member with books they have written. Putting excerpts from well know works and having participants guess who wrote it. I've even considered having a contest (what kind I don't know) offering a prize for the winner-a new book (I can't think of anything else since for me a book is always a prize). But I don't see how any of this would make a difference.

Most everyone seems to be dead out there. What happened to all the interest there was in the club when I was with it before? We have the members. But, at least with the activities I'm involved in, very few participants. It's like they notice a new store and go in out of curiosity. They like what they see and decide to buy a few items. They might come back every week or so to check things out, but sooner or later, usually sooner, they stop going in and become content just window shopping-no longer interested in going in and perusing the merchandise.

Sorry, George if this is turning into a downer. I keep trying to find what I lost-The N3F as it was when I first became a member. I guess Thomas Wolfe was right, "You can't go home again."

...Judy Carroll

I enjoy reading Jon Swartz' and Jack Robins' historical pieces and particularly liked this month's on Harry Warner, the Futurians and *Other Worlds* magazine. Hopefully we'll see many more of these in the issues to come!

...Kevin Trainor

Several Neffers remind us that all honor for the book Geep! should be given to Rose Secrest who fronted the \$3000 for publishing it. It was a project by Neffers but was not an N3F project. (Yes, I still have my copy).

Hey Boss,

I enjoyed the bit about Other Worlds Science Stories in the last ish of TNFF. I've always thought the relationship Ray Palmer has had with both the world of SF and the world of Paranormal was a strange one...poor Ray seems to be reviled in SF for his work in the world of paranormal, yet mention Mr. Palmer to the average paranormal 'fan' today and they will have no idea who you are talking about. They won't know he founded Fate magazine, or remember Flying Saucers, Search, or Mystic magazines. Only the SF fan will remember the Shaver Mystery, and not in a good light. Too

bad. RAP did a lot for both SF and the Paranormal worlds.

For those interested in learning more about Mr. Palmer I suggest reading *The Man from Mars* by Fred Nadis. *War Over Lemuria* by Richard Toronto is a good summation of the 'Shaver Mystery'. The Shaver Mystery fiction is collected in four volumes by Armchair Fiction ("The Shaver Mystery" books 1, 2, 3, and 4). All can be found on Amazon.com in both digital and paper formats.

I find it interesting how the worlds of SF and paranormal sometimes cross paths...there was Mr. Palmer, John W. Campbell Jr. backed some pretty strange ideas in some of his editorials, Charles Fort had one of his paranormal books published in *Astounding* ("Lo!", in 1934)...you could lay the \*genesis\* of the greatest fantasy magazine of all time, *Unknown*, at the feet of Charles Fort (some of his ideas were the basis of *Sinister Barrier* by Eric Frank Russell, and it was that novel that prompted JWC to found *Unknown*). An entire shelf of books could be written about the ideas lifted from SF by the UFO and Conspiracy crowd, and vice versa. To this day, the UFO crowd still can't understand why the SF world won't drop all that 'Buck Rogers stuff' and run off chasing flying saucers with them.

Note to Bob Jennings: If those "enterprising collectors" selling those CDs of dime novels are on e-Bay, you should know you are likely being ripped-off. Most of those turkeys on e-Bay stole their scans from that group of scanners I'm always talking about. Our stuff is free. Contact me and I'll set you up, on the house. Also, if you are going to get a tablet to read with, I suggest the newest Kindle Fire (that would be the one that takes the memory chip expansion...you don't want the small Fire, it's no good for reading...get the 10 inch one)...it's what I use. Regardless of the tablet you go with, you'll want to download the Caliber e-book manager software for your computer (it's free, just Google "Caliber e-book")...learn to use it, it's a great tool. Also you'll want the ComiCat app from your tablet's app store (about \$3)...it reads more than just comics, it can handle .cbr and .cbz files, a very helpful app. Stay away from the Nook, had one of those, it's awful.

A question for the N3F Bookwyrms...why not set up shop on Goodreads.com? The Goodreads site is easy to use, I belong to a group there myself. What's more, about a zillion people use it so we would be sure to pick up lots of new eyes, and some of those new eyes will surely become new members of N3F (new blood is always good, right?). What's more, this would solve our e-mail problem as brought up by David Speakman last ish...Goodreads has a private message feature, Goodreads does all the work and if anyone sends any crud on it, it's on Goodreads, not N3F.

Gary Casey

garycasey1701@gmail.com

Hi George,

I have to express my dismay at the loss of the Futurians, since they had such an effect on my life. I never met any of them but their imprint on the field of science fiction was vast comprising most of a century. The trouble with aging is feeling like you are on an island that is crumbling away around you. I have re-read Tanith Lee off and on for years so her recent loss took a big bite from the island.

I just learned Marvin Minsky has died also. He was implicated in writing at least one SF book on my shelves but made his mark in Science at MIT. He was an early experimenter in AI where he did research for years. A truly nice person as well. The attached picture is a collection of some of the bigger brains around. Guth and Smolin from physics, Dennet in Philosophy, Brooks and Minsky from AI research and I missed the sixth name but he's another boffin of note.

On current SF writers: I'm no longer completely aware of everything in the field but it seems to me that the current state of the world needs a few dystopian writers to explain what is taking place. We now have a bunch of people who seem to think that Orwell's 1984 was an instruction manual for 21st century governance. Couple that with the bizarre mess that fits in a category called the "middle east" and you have a lot of fodder to write about.

The EU on the other hand started as a business cartel and still hasn't been able to mutate into anything resembling a real government. The current rhetoric from the upset masses sounds just like the same old crap from the 1930s and that did not end well the last time around.

Well no matter, no one is getting out of here alive.

Warm Regards

Dave Haren

Dear Neffers:

It is indeed a new year, so thank you for Vol. 75, No. 1 of The National Fantasy Fan, and congratulations to the N3F for 75 years of fanning, and keeping those with the common interest together. Plus, condolences on the passing of Jack Robins, whose article appeared in a most recent issue. 2016 has been a deadly year for so many. Stay healthy, you lot!

Thank you for the list of Kaymar winners. Another part of fandom's history, and I am pleased to see that I know a fair number of the winners. I would be very interested in a copy of Fandbook #7...I have copies of the first two Fandbooks, both from the early 60s, and a copy of Ralph Holland's Ghu's Lexicon.

Something from 4SJ's collection? A collectible indeed. And, the local looks quite full, good to see. As any important decision will do, fandom will split down particular lines, and this has happened with the decision to change the World Fantasy Award from the bust of Lovecraft to a design to be decided. Some are for it, some are against it, and a few are furious enough to accuse others of stupidity or fascism. I think some people are just too eager to be offended.

Good bio of Harry Warner Jr. I just happen to have an old letter on my desk from January of 1991, a letter of comment to the final issue of Torus, an old fanzine I worked on with Keith Soltys too long ago. Harry, as a working journalist, was my example of what to do in fanzines, and so, I have been in the letter column for nearly 35 years. I am pleased to say I have won the Warner Award (FAAn) for Best Letterhack five times.

Reading the Robins article is that much more important,

seeing he passed away about a month ago. I think that just leaves Dave Kyle? I believe Dave may be unwell, so our prayers go out to him.

All done! Please do keep them coming, and I hope someone will step into the rather large Tightbeam editor's shoes. See you then.

Yours, Lloyd Penney

How about a social media campaign to get new members? How many members of the N3F Facebook group are also members of N3F? We could post links on our own FB pages and in the N3F group. I was also a member of a couple other SF-related FB groups, until I grew disenchanted because they were all about self-promotion. Some members may also belong to other groups where they can post link.

...Lauren

## Directorate Report

from David Speakman

Updated Bylaws, incorporating Directorate Motion 2016-02, are now here: <http://n3f.org/about/the-bylaws-of-the-national-fantasy-fan-federation-2016/>

As required by the Bylaws, I submit this Directorate Report for publication in TNFF. The following actions were taken by the Directorate in January.

The 2016 Directorate considered and voted on the following matters.

2016-01: Organization: Chair

Submitted by: Constitutional/Bylaws Requirement.

The Directorate must choose a member from among its ranks to fulfill the duties of Directorate Chair as defined in the Bylaws of the N3F.

Nominations: David Speakman (No other nominations)

YES: Swartz, Tutihasi, Swycaffer,

NO:—

ABSTAIN: Speakman

No Vote: Row

Passed: Speakman confirmed as Chair, Feb 1, 2016.

2016-01: Bylaws Amendment: Dues

Submitted by: George Phillies, President of N3F

Proposal: All living founding members who are listed in the N3F official organ, Vol. 1, Issue 1, shall be appointed as Life Members, notwithstanding limitations of life members listed in Bylaws Sec. VIII.2.

Affected Section of Bylaws:

CURRENT

VIII. Dues

1. Membership dues are payable annually as follows:

A. Regular Member: Individual memberships are \$18 per year, and include receiving one print copy of all club publications.

B. 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.



C. Life Member: Dues are \$0 per year.

D. Electronic Member: Dues are \$6 per year. This membership does not include print copies of club publications.

2. 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.

PROPOSED CHANGES appear like this

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B. 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.

C. Life Member: Dues are \$0 per year. Any Founding Member, as listed in the June 1942 membership list of the official organ, shall be granted life membership.

D. Electronic Member: Dues are \$6 per year. This membership does not include print copies of club publications.

2. The number of Life or Honorary members, other than Founding 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.

YES: Swartz, Tutihasi, Swycaffer, Speakman

NO: --

NOT VOTE: Row

Passed: Feb. 1, 2016

2016-01: Bylaws Amendment: Publications

Proposal: Move "Standing Rule" - which applies to publications - to Sec. V.15. Also: add an "s" at the end of "V. Publication" to reflect that these bylaws cover more than one publication.

CURRENT:

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 By-laws 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.

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.

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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.

YES: Swartz, Tutihasi, Swycaffer, Speakman  
 NO: --  
 NOT VOTE: Row  
 Passed: Feb. 1, 2016

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 Forthcoming Action:  
 2016-04: Expenses: Round Robins  
 Submitted by: George Phillies, President  
 "I request that the Directorate appropriate a stamp budget for the Round Robin papermail operations. I believe \$98 for one roll each of forever stamps for each of them would be a good start."  
 To be submitted to the Directorate for discussion and consideration for vote.  
 Submitted: February 16, 2016  
 David Speakman,  
 N3F Directorate Chair

## Membership Roster

The roster shows we have 154 members of all sorts (including archival locations) including 95 public members, 3 Life and Founding Members, and 56 other Voting members. By contrast, last April we had only 131 members of all sorts, including only 48 voting members.

## Treasurer's Report

January:

\$2,758.65 Starting Balance (Dec. 8, 2015)  
 + 40.00 Paypal Dues  
 + 0.00 Cash Dues  
 + 18.00 Check Dues  
 - 121.00 Reimbursements Submitted  
 - 100.00 Short Story Contest  
 - 2.53 PayPal Fees  
 + 0.02 Interest  
 -----  
 \$2,593.14 (Jan. 18, 2016)

February:

\$2,593.14 Starting Balance (Jan. 18, 2016)  
 + 18.00 Paypal Dues  
 + 0.00 Cash Dues  
 + 0.00 Check Dues  
 - 0.82 PayPal Fees  
 + 0.01 Interest  
 -----  
 \$2,610.33 (Feb 16, 2016)

## Novels by Neffers

Novels by Chris Nuttall

### Schooled in Magic



Emily is a teenage girl pulled from our world into a world of magic and mystery by a necromancer who intends to sacrifice her to the dark gods. Rescued in the nick of time by an enigmatic sorcerer, she discovers that she possesses magical powers and must go to Whitehall School to learn how to master them. There, she learns the locals believe that she is a "Child of Destiny," someone whose choices might save or damn their world ... a title that earns her both friends and enemies. A stranger in a very strange land, she may never fit into her new world ...

### Lessons in Etiquette

After completing her first year of learning magic at Whitehall School, Emily accepts an invitation from Princess Alassa to accompany her on her progress back to her home country of Zangaria, where the princess may meet her future husband. Alassa, who was a spoiled brat before she met Emily, wants to show off her friend – and impress potential suitors.



For Emily, it is a chance to relax and explore a world very different to Earth, meet new people and come to terms with her reputation in the Nameless World. After her defeat of Shadye, everyone wants to know her, to talk with her, to kill her ... or to marry her. For Emily, hardly a social butterfly, the experience is disconcerting. She was never seriously courted before, not on Earth.

And yet, as she sees more of the countries surrounding Whitehall, she feels more and more out of place. The locals come from a very different culture, one that is often strange and horrifying to her eyes. Even her friends seem different people in their homes.

But dark forces are at work, plotting to capture the princess, take power in Zangaria ... and undo all of Emily's work. As all hell breaks loose, Emily may be all that stands between Zangaria and a return to the dark ages of brute force that threatened to lay the kingdom low, once before. And if she fails, her friends will be just the first victims of a war that will rip the Allied Lands apart.

### Study in Slaughter

Brimming with new ideas for magical research, Emily returns to Whitehall School for her Second Year, only to discover that things are going to be different. Her friends have become sports-mad fanatics, her new roommates are strangers to her, her new classes are far harder and one of the teachers seems to ac-



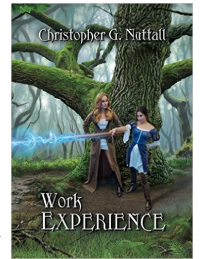
tively dislike her. As she returns to the comforting routine of the only place she considers home, she finds that Second Year will be far harder than the first.

But as the students settle in to continue their studies, it rapidly becomes clear that all is far from well at Whitehall. There's a murderer running loose in the school. A murderer who may be a newborn necromancer. And then there's the spy watching Emily from the shadows, waiting for her to make one tiny, but fatal mistake ...

As the darkness falls on Whitehall, Emily may be their salvation...or the person who damns them all.

### Work Experience

In the summer between Second and Third Year at Whitehall, Emily accompanies Lady Barb on her rounds of the Cairngorm Mountains bringing magical help to the locals and searching for new magicians. For Emily, tired and broken after the events of Study In Slaughter, it should be a chance to relax as well as a visit to a new part of the Nameless World, to put her responsibilities aside and just be herself.



But the locals aren't quite what she expects, with problems of their own, while Lady Barb is a different person away from Whitehall. As children start to go missing and evil things are abroad in the night, Emily discovers that a deadly plot is slowly bringing the mountain community to the brink of disaster ...and that her oldest enemies are about to make a very unwelcome return.

### The School of Hard Knocks



A plot is being hatched at Mountaintop Academy, a plot that threatens the lives of Emily and her friends... and the integrity of the Allied Lands. In a desperate bid to uncover the secrets of Mountaintop, and recover her stolen notes, Emily goes undercover into Mountaintop, a mission that may cost her everything..

### Love's Labors Won

Two families, alike in dignity...and armed with powerful magic.

The Magical Families of Ashworth and Ashfall have been feuding for countless years, ever since something happened to split one family into two. Now, they have been invited to Cockatrice Faire... when no other magician would dare invite them both. And when it becomes clear that the Ashworth Heir and the Ashfall Heir have fallen in love with one another, Emily finds herself caught in the middle between two powerful families, each one capable of destroying her once and for all...



## In this issue:

Fanthology—Publisher's Apology  
Behold, a Neffie!—Kaymar Awards—Letter  
Your Volunteer Team

The Futurians—A Personal Experience  
Poem—The Dying Girl—The First Electronic Interactive Novel

Founding Member Mary Gray—Ned Brooks 1938-2015

Neffies—Pins—Electronic Round Robins

Writers Exchange Bureau—Membership & Recruiting  
Welcommittee—Website Report

Birthday Card Bureau—Letters (Bob Jennings, Judy Carroll,  
Kevin Trainor, Gary Casey, Dave Haren, Lloyd Penney, Lauren)

Directorate Report—Membership Report—Treasurer's Report

Novels by Neffers: Chris Nuttall

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

N3F TNFF