



The National Fantasy Fan

Volume 75 Number 8

August 2016

Elections

It is time for our Annual Elections. Page 11 shows the Constitution sections on elections. We are electing one President and five Directorate members. To be eligible to run, your dues must be paid up through the end of 2017.

This issue is the call for nominations. The September issue will print nominations and campaign statements. The October issue, which will be published by October 10, will include the ballots.

Send your nominations and statements to the Editor, George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester MA 01609, phillies24liberty.net.

Neffy Awards

This month, we vote on the 2016 Neffy Awards. The ballot is in the back. The nominees are :

Best Novel: Somewhither—John C. Wright
Shadows of Self—Brandon Sanderson

Best Paper Series Novel: 163X—Eric Flint, Schooled in Magic—Chris Nuttall, Safehold—David Weber

Best Editor: Peter Buch (Elsewhen), Sheila Gilbert (DAW), Toni Weisskopf (Baen)

Best TV Show: Supergirl, Sense8 Season 1 Jonathan Strange miniseries, The Expanse, Jessica Jones, Humans

Best Comic: Astro City, Girl Genius, Naruto

Best Film: What We Do in Shadows, The Martian, The Lobster, Ex Machina

Franson Award

One of the few privileges as President is to give loyal Neffers the Franson Award, honoring people who have served the N3F. Many awardees have done a great deal for our Federation, investing vast number of hours in the past year in important tasks.

However, it is also important to remember people who have performed more modest tasks faithfully over long periods of time. It is by taking up part of the burden that would otherwise lie on the shoulders of a very few Neffers that our Federation can be what it is today.

In years past, we have given as many as four awards in a single year. I have already given one, and today I am giving one more, to R-Laurraine Tutihasi, who for many years has kept alive an ancient N3F tradition, the Birthday Card Bureau.

A Sea of Stars Like Diamonds

I have had some unexpected delays in getting things together. The most annoying of these will be gone in seven weeks. To paraphrase a famous book title, October First Is Just On Time. Meanwhile, if you want to submit additional short stories, you are welcome to do so.

Tightbeam Rises from the Dead

Yes, once again Tightbeam will emerge from its hyperspatial hiding place to reappear as the N3F occasional magazine. There will be a new orientation and a new look. I currently expect that the first issue will be out early in the new year.



Art — Jose Sanchez on page 3
Cedar Sanderson on page 5
Please send contributions to Editor George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net
We desperately need your contributions



Your Volunteer Team

Directorate:

Heath Row kalel@well.com
 David Speakman davodd@gmail.com
 Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
 Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
 R-Laurraine Tutihasi laurraine@mac.com

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

Editorial Cabal:

Editor and Publisher, TNFF: George Phillies
 phillies@4liberty.net
 Art Editor, TNFF: Cedar Sanderson cedar-
 lila@gmail.com
 Editor and Publisher, Tightbeam George Phillies
 Keeper of the URLs: Ruth Davidson
 Host of the Web Site: David Speakman
 davodd@gmail.com

Bureau Heads

Artist's Bureau: Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@gmail.com
 Birthday Cards: R-Laurraine Tutihasi laurraine@
 mac.com; Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@yahoo.com
 Convention Calendar: new volunteer needed
 Games Bureau: George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
 Gourmet Editor: Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@gmail.com
 Historian: Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
 Membership Recruitment: Kevin Trainor
 wombat.soho@gmail.com
 N'APA: Jean Lamb tlamb1138@charter.net
 N3F Bookwyrms: Graham and Wolf leeandjj@gmail.com
 Round Robins: Patricia Williams-King doofusming@
 yahoo.com Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@ yahoo.com
 Short Story Contest: Jefferson Swycaffer
 abontides@gmail.com
 Video Schedule: David Speakman davodd@gmail.com
 Welcomittee: Judy Carroll
 autumnseas8012@yahoo.com
 Writers Exchange Bureau: Judy Carroll
 autumnseas8012@yahoo.com

Support the N3F! Volunteer Now!

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

The National Fantasy Fan (Bonfire), Vol. LXXV,
 No. 8, August 2016, ISSN 2169-3595. Published
 monthly by The National Fantasy Fan Federation.

Orientation? Tightbeam will target publishing excellent fiction, excellent art, fiction reviews, and a lively letters column.

Fiction? As Editor, I plan to follow the editorial stand-
 ards I followed when I edited Eldritch Science some
 three decades ago. Where these standards any good? In
 the course of nine issues, I lost at least three of my regu-
 lar writers to major commercial science-fiction novel-
 publishing houses.

So what are the standards? First, there is a minimum
 length limit of 7500 words. I am actually open to pub-
 lishing works of up to novel length, though I don't ex-
 pect to do so very often.

Second, Tightbeam is open to tales of science fiction,
 fantasy, horror, supernatural mystery, as well as poems
 and artwork with similar themes. Tightbeam characters
 are expected to act, not the passive observers. Tightbeam
 plots should weave a believable conclusion, not abandon
 the morass of unresolved hints.

I am not interested in publishing:

1. Rolegaming stories in which the roll of the dice is still audible. Stories inspired by rolegames are acceptable.
2. The master detective and his faithful amanuensis are acceptable; Holmes and Watson are not.
3. Explicit erotic or pornographic material.
4. Tales in which the protagonist is simply a witness — panoramas of alien worlds — or in which the protagonist is overwhelmed by events, having the free will of a snowflake in the path of an avalanche.
5. Political tracts disguised as works of fiction.
6. Works of horror and terror in which the focus is on shocking the reader with gore and pain.

Poems are expected to have both rhyme and meter:
 The setting sun, her golden rays

Join or Renew

We offer four different memberships. Memberships with zines via paper mail are \$18; 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

COPYRIGHT NOTICE: All material in this issue, unless expressly noted otherwise, is contributed for one-time use only in this publication in its various print and electronic forms including fair use in electronic archival libraries. All other copyrights are retained by the contributor. Other use of any portion of this publication in any media requires the express permission of the current (at time reproduction is to be made) President and Directorate of N3F or the original copyright holder.

Strike towering cloudy casements high,
 Sets airy castles all ablaze,
 Draws fiery shades o'er twilight sky,
 Gives burning sign that night creeps nigh.

Look? Tightbeam will now appear only in electronic form, because once freed from the financial and physical constraints of the paper format there will not be a rigid length limit to the magazine. If you want to receive Tightbeam, you will have to provide us with some way to send it to you electronically, as most of you already have. Send submissions to: George Phillips, editor, Tightbeam, phillies@4liberty.net, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester, MA 01609.



Beastie — Jose Sanchez
SF Magazines: Fantastic

by
 Jon D. Swartz, Ph. D.
 N3F Historian

Fantastic was a digest-sized, fantasy and science fiction (SF) magazine published from 1952 to 1980. The first issue, dated Summer 1952, appeared on March 21st of that year. It was founded by publisher Ziff-Davis as a fantasy companion to its Amazing Stories, a SF pulp that had been published since 1928. Early sales of Fantastic were good, and Ziff-Davis quickly decided to switch Amazing from pulp to digest format as well, and to cease publication of their other SF pulp, Fantastic Adventures. Within a few years Fantastic sales fell off, however, and editor Howard Browne was forced to switch the focus to SF rather than fantasy. Browne – who liked fantasy but not SF -- lost interest as a result and the magazine generally ran poor quality fiction in the mid-1950s, under both Browne and his immediate successor, Paul W. Fairman.

At the end of the 1950s Cele Goldsmith took over as editor of both Fantastic and Amazing, and quickly in-

vigorated the magazines, bringing in new writers and making them, in the words of one science fiction historian, the “best-looking and brightest” magazines in the field. Goldsmith helped to nurture the early careers of writers such as Roger Zelazny and Ursula K. Le Guin, but was unable to increase significantly the circulation of the magazines, and in 1965 they both were sold to Sol Cohen -- who hired Joseph Wrzos as editor and switched to a reprint-only policy. This change proved to be financially successful, but brought Cohen into conflict with the newly formed Science Fiction Writers of America. After a turbulent period at the end of the 1960s, Ted White became editor and reprint stories were phased out.

White worked hard to make the magazine successful, introducing artwork from artists who had made their names in comics, and working with new authors such as Gordon Eklund. His budget for fiction was low, but he was occasionally able to find good stories from well-known writers which had been rejected by other markets. Circulation continued to decline, however, and in 1978 Cohen sold out his half of the business to his partner, Arthur Bernhard. White resigned as editor shortly afterwards, and was replaced by Elinor Mavor; but within two years Bernhard decided to close down Fantastic, merging it with Amazing, which had always had a slightly higher circulation.

Howard Browne

Howard Browne was born April 15, 1908, in Omaha, Nebraska, and died October 28, 1999, Santiago, California. He was an editor and mystery writer. He also wrote for several television series and films.

Beginning in 1942, Browne worked as managing editor for Ziff-Davis publications on Amazing and Fantastic Adventures, both under the editorship of Ray Palmer. Palmer left the magazines in 1949, and Browne took over in January, 1950. Browne ended the publication of the Shaver Mystery series and oversaw the change in Amazing from a pulp magazine to a digest. He left the magazines in 1956 to move to Hollywood.

In Hollywood, Browne wrote for several television shows, including Ben Casey, Maverick, and The Virginian. His last writing credit was for the film Capone (1975).

Cele Goldsmith

Cele Goldsmith Lalli (1933 – 2002) was a magazine editor. She began working on SF and fantasy magazines under Paul W. Fairman. When Fairman left Ziff-Davis in 1958, Goldsmith took over as editor of both Amazing and Fantastic. Goldsmith was open to new authors and experimentation in writing. She married in 1964 and took Lalli as her last name. By this

time, she'd received a special award from World Science Fiction Convention for her work on the two magazines.

Ted White

Ted White (born February 4, 1938) is a Hugo-award-winning writer, known as a SF author, editor, and fan. In addition to books and stories written under his own name, he has also co-authored novels with Dave van Arnam as Ron Archer, and with Terry Carr as Norman Edwards. White held the position of assistant editor at *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction* from 1963 to 1968. From October, 1968 until October, 1978, he edited *Amazing* and *Fantastic*, upgrading the quality of the fiction while showcasing a variety of talented illustrators. He also edited two 1973 anthologies, *The Best from Amazing Stories* and *The Best from Fantastic*.

The First Issue

The first issue of *Fantastic*, from cover to cover, was literally fantastic. In addition to the stunning artwork (Barye Phillips & L. R. Summers, a six-color front cover; Frank Lerner's photograph of Pierre Roy's "Danger on the Stairs" from *The Museum of Modern Art*, back cover), there were quality SF and fantasy stories by Walt M. Miller, Jr., Ray Bradbury, Isaac Asimov, Kris Neville, and H. L. Gold. And to the amazement of many readers, there was a featured short fantasy novel by famous mystery writer Raymond Chandler! Internal illustrations were by Ed Valigursky, Ed Emsch, Virgil Finlay, L. Sterne Stevens, David Stone, and Summers. Other features included short biographical sketches of the authors, cartoons, and a preview of the next issue that featured a fantasy by Truman Capote, and such SF writers as Anthony Boucher, Fritz Leiber, Jerome Bixby, Eric Frank Russell, and Theodore Sturgeon.

And that second issue previewed a new fantasy by Mickey Spillane for the third issue! There were no editorials in these issues, as Browne let the contents speak for themselves.

Title Changes

The magazine changed titles many times during its run. First, it changed to *Fantastic Science Fiction* (1955); then to *Fantastic Science Fiction Stories* (1959); then to *Fantastic Stories of Imagination*

(1960), and finally, back to *Fantastic* (1960); then to *Fantastic Stories* (1970); to *Fantastic Science Fiction with Fantasy Stories* (1971); to *Fantastic Sword & Sorcery and Fantasy Stories* (1975); back to *Fantastic Stories* (1977); and back to *Fantastic Science Fiction* (1979) before it was finally merged with *Amazing* in 1980.

By the late 1950s, *Fantastic* was almost indistinguishable from *Amazing*, relying upon many of the same authors and publishing editorials and letters from readers like most genre magazines. Once it passed into the hands of Cohen in the mid-1960s, it became a drab reprint magazine.

Some Conclusions

When it first appeared, *Fantastic* was the primary literary fantasy and science fiction magazine being published, rivaled only by *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction*. Unfortunately, *Fantastic* could not keep up this quality. By the time it merged with *Amazing*, it was like most of the other routine SF magazines of its time.

It should be commended for its longevity, however. *Fantastic*, like most Ziff-Davis magazines, had a way of hanging around while other magazines ceased publication, primarily because of the publisher's excellent financial status and distribution outlets.

Bibliography

Clute, John & Peter Nicholls (eds.). *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*. London: Orbit, 1993.
Tuck, Donald H. *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction and Fantasy, Volume 3: Miscellaneous*. Chicago: Advent, 1982.

Tymn, Marshall B. & Mike Ashley (eds.). *Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Weird Fiction Magazines*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1985.

Note: In addition to the above sources, Internet sites were consulted -- including *Fancylopedia 3*, *ISFDB*, and *Wikipedia*.

Founding Member: Cyril Kornbluth

by

Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.

N3F Historian

Cyril M. Kornbluth (July 2, 1923 – March 21, 1958) was an American science fiction (SF) author and a notable member of the New York Futurian Society, the club that gave us so many influential figures in SF fandom in the 1930s-1940s. He used a variety of pen-names, including Cecil Corwin, S. D. Gottesman, Edward J. Bellin, Kenneth Falconer,

Walter C. Davies, Simon Eisner, Jordan Park, Arthur Cooke, Paul Dennis Lavond, and Scott Mariner – usually when collaborating with other members of the Futurians.

He came into SF fandom through the Washington Heights Science Fiction League, and soon joined the Futurian Society, where he lived for a time at various Futurian Houses. He was one of the six SF fans who were excluded from the 1939 Worldcon (The Exclusion Act).

The “M” in Kornbluth's name is said to have been a tribute to his wife, Mary Byers; he was acknowledging that she was a collaborator in his writing. Kornbluth's colleague, collaborator, and fellow Futurian Frederik Pohl confirmed Kornbluth's lack of any actual middle name in at least one interview.

Kornbluth started writing in 1939 with “The Rocket of 1955,” which was published in the fanzine *Escape*; but he then enlisted in the army –where he served as an infantryman and was decorated -- and did not turn to professional writing until the late 1940s. During his decade of writing professionally, he excelled in short fiction -- including classics like “The Little Black Bag,” “Two Dooms,” and “The Marching Morons,” but he also wrote novels.

His novels included *Outpost Mars* (1952), with fellow Futurian Judith Merrill (writing as Cyril Judd); *Gunner Cade* (1952), with Merrill (again writing as Cyril Judd); *Takeoff* (1952); *The Space Merchants*, with Pohl; *The Syndic* (1953); *Search the Sky*, with Pohl; *Gladiator at Law* (1955), with Pohl; *Not This August* (1955); and *Wolfbane* (1959), also with Pohl.

Kornbluth died at age 34 in Levittown, New York. Scheduled to meet with Robert Mills in New York City to interview for the position of editor of *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction* (F&SF), Kornbluth had to shovel the snow out of his driveway, which left him running behind schedule. Racing to make his train, he suffered a heart attack and died. His death, along with some others, caused fandom to refer to 1958 as the “Year of the Jackpot.”

A number of short stories remained unfinished at Kornbluth's death; some of these were eventually completed and published by Pohl. One of them, “The Meeting” (published in the November, 1972, issue of F&SF), was the co-winner of the 1973 Hugo Award for best short story.

More than a dozen collections of his short fiction have been published. Some of his early pseudonymous work was collected in *Thirteen O'Clock and Other Zero Hours*, edited by SF author and critic James Blish, another former Futurian. Almost all of Kornblu-

th's solo SF stories have been collected in *His Share of Glory: The Complete Short Science Fiction of C. M. Kornbluth* (NESFA Press, 1997).

He was a recipient of The Prometheus Hall of Fame Award in 1986, and was elected to the First Fandom Posthumous Hall of Fame in 1995.

Like several other members of the Futurians – Donald Wollheim, Jack Gillespie, Damon Knight, David Kyle, John Michel, Richard Wilson, and Robert Lowndes -- Kornbluth was a founding member of The National Fantasy Fan Federation, our club now celebrating its 75th year of existence.

Sources: The Futurians; *The Way the Future Was: A Memoir*; *Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Weird Fiction Magazines*; *Fancyyclopedia 3*; ISFDB; Wikipedia; other Internet sites.



Cat and Dragon — Cedar Sanderson

Welcommittee

The Welcommittee has received a few responses to the letter that was sent to our members in June. I would like to share some comments from two of our members.

GAR CHEN
(Round Robins)

"Kudos to Patricia King, who keeps the robins chugging along. She seems to have boundless energy."

(Welcommittee)

"Keep up the good work. Sometimes members vanish off the face of the earth and you wonder if..."

WESLEY KAWATO
(Gaming Bureau)

"Lately there haven't been many Gaming Bureau reports in the N3F newsletter. I'm not sure what happened."

(GAMING)

"I'm a boardgamer who sometimes dabbles in roleplaying games. Does anyone out there play the Dr. Who RPG? I really love Dr. Who."

(Writers Exchange Bureau)

"I did take advantage of the Writer's Exchange once. I think Jefferson Swycaffer and Judy Carroll did a good job of evaluating my Dr. Who fanfic story."

The Welcommittee appreciates our members and their support. If you have any questions, concerns, comments, ideas, please contact us.

Ron Hansen rjh@sixdemonbag.org - sent out member letter OR Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.org
Welcommittee Bureau Head

Video Report

by David Speakman

I will be attending Dragon Con in Atlanta and moderating three fan panels this year in the American SF/F Media track in the Marriott Marquis room M301-303:

Saturday, Sept. 3

5 p.m. "Killjoys: Dark Times in Rank 6"

10 p.m. "Expendability: Plot lines and convenient deaths in Genre TV"

Sunday, Sept 4

7 p.m. "Dark Matter: Change of Heart"

The upcoming return dates (as of 8/6/2016) for genre TV are as follow:

KNOWN RETURN DATES 2016-2017 -- U.S. TV
(Only SF, Fantasy & Supernatural Horror shows)
New shows in are in ALL CAPS

AUG

21 - Fear the Walking Dead - AMC

28 - The Strain - FX

SEPT

6 - From Dusk Till Dawn - ELREY

14 - American Horror Story - FX

14 - Blindspot - NBC

16 - Z Nation - SYFY

19 - THE GOOD PLACE - NBC

19 - Gotham - FOX

19 - Lucifer - FOX

20 - Marvel's Agents of Shield - ABC

23 - THE EXORCIST - FOX

23 - VAN HELSING - SYFY

25 - The Last Man on Earth - FOX

25 - Once Upon a Time - ABC

25 - SON OF ZORN - FOX

30 - MARVEL'S LUKE CAGE - NETFLIX

OCT

2 - WESTWORLD - HBO

2 - Ash vs Evil Dead - STARZ

4 - The Flash - CW

3 - TIMELESS - NBC

5 - Arrow - CW

5 - FREQUENCY - CW

10 - Supergirl - CW

13 - DC's Legends of Tomorrow - CW

13 - Falling Water - USA

13 - Supernatural - CW

16 - The Walking Dead - AMC

21 - Black Mirror - NETFLIX

21 - The Vampire Diaries - CW

22 - DIRK GENTLY - BBCA

22 - The Good Witch - HALL

27 - PURE GENIUS - CBS

28 - Grimm - NBC

31 - PEOPLE OF EARTH - TBS

31 - STAN AGAINST EVIL - IFC

NOV

15 - Teen Wolf - MTV

18 - Man in the High Castle - AMAZON

20 - The Librarians - TNT

DEC

7 - SHUT EYE - HULU

25 - Doctor Who (Special) - BBCA

JAN

10 - Shadowhunters - FREE

Birthday Card Bureau

The Birthday Bureau sent out five cards in July.

--R-Laurraine Tutihasi

Round Robins

I am making another change to the RRs.

Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Artists is no longer a Snail Mail Round Robin. It has been changed to an Electronic Round Robin. I have asked Sarah Harder to be the Robin Master. She graciously accepted, and is excited to be the RM.

She wrote:

"... with art, it's easier to share on the computer where we can add a link to share our favorite artists easily. ... I think if electronic we can share our own work with each other. But I want to make sure people know they don't have to do art to be a part of it, they just have to love art."

Sarah was the Bureau Head of the Artists Bureau for close to 15 years. She is an artist herself and besides having her work appearing in N3F publications her work has also been in Robin Hood the Hooded Man fanzine. She has sold some of her work at BayCon.

Sarah developed a love of drawing at an early age. At three she began drawing simple cards with a lady on the cover. She took four years of drawing in high school and still finds ways to improve her craft.

We are excited to have Sarah join the Electronic Round Robins.

If you wish to join the Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Artists ERR or if you have any questions you may contact Sarah directly Yseult_sg@yahoo.com

Snail Mail Round Robins

We only have 8 Round Robins now that I have combined them and moved Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Artists to the Electronic Round Robins.

Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror in TV, Movies and Books. (Any movie, TV series or book that comes under this subject can be discussed here.)

Writers and Their Works - Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror
(Any author who writes Science Fiction, Fantasy, or Horror can be discussed here.)

The following are
Stand Alone

- Fairy Tales and Folklore
- Beauty and the Beast in Fairy Tales, Movies and TV
- Japanese Anime
- Cartoons and Cartooning
- Science Fiction Fantasy and Horror Video Games
- Comics and Graphic Novels

Seeking More Members - A Round Robin needs at least 3 members to start rounding. Please help these

members by joining one of the following Round Robins.

- Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror in TV, Movies and Books - 2 members
- Writers and Their Works - Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror - 2 members
- Fairy Tales and Folklore - 2 members
- Beauty and the Beast in Fairy Tales, Movies and TV - 1 member

If you see any RR you would like to join please contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Electronic Round Robins

We need at least 3 members to start an ERR. Following is the list of current ERR:

The Marvel Universe
DC Superheroes and Villains
All Things Star Wars
Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror in TV, Movies and Books
Beauty and the Beast in Fairy Tales, Books, Movies and on TV

Writers and Their Works - Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror

Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Artists

Bookworms - In this ERR the members read and discuss books from a list selected by the Bureau Heads of the Bookworms reading club. Currently they have 3 members.

For more information about the Bookworms reading list and their round robin contact --- Graham & Wolf leeandjj@gmail.com. If you see an ERR you would like to join, contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Short Story Contest

We now have six entries for the Short Story Contest, which is enough, I think, for a real and successful *contest*. Winners and (alas) non-winners. And I have every expectation of more entries to come. Yay!

Cheers!
Jefferson Swycaffer

Writers Exchange Bureau

I am pleased to tell you that we have two writers we are reading for and the hint of another on the horizon. If you want an unbiased reading or your work, please, send it to us.

You may contact either Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com or Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

A Touch of Trivia

What do you know about Wonder Woman? You probably know that "Wonder Woman is a fictional superhero appearing in American comic books published by DC Comics. The character is a founding member of the Justice League, demigoddess, and warrior princess of the Amazons, which are based on the Amazons of Greek mythology. In her homeland, she is Princess Diana of Themyscira, and outside of her homeland, she is known by her secret identity Diana Prince." (Wikipedia)

Did you know that Wonder Woman was created by a man?

You heard right. Wonder Woman was created by a man. His name was William Moulton Marston. He was an American psychologist and writer and a consultant for DC comics who had an idea for "a modern female superhero." His wife, Elizabeth Holloway Marston was his co-creator.

"Marston created the character to rival the strength of Superman, but also have all of the positive characteristics that he associated with females, such as fairness and loving of peace. He originally called her Suprema, The Wonder Woman, but her name was shortened before she made her comic book debut in All Star Comics #8 in December 1941. Wonder Woman was granted her own series in 1942. The Wonder Woman title has been published by DC Comics almost continuously except for a brief hiatus in 1986." (Wikipedia)

If you want to find out more about Wonder Woman and her creator read *The Secret History of Wonder Woman* by Jill Lepore

From Barnes and Noble review:

Wonder Woman, created in 1941, on the brink of World War II, is the most popular female superhero of all time. Aside from Superman and Batman, she has lasted the longest and commanded the most vast and wildly passionate following. Like every other superhero, Wonder Woman has a secret identity. Unlike others, she also has a secret history.

In Jill Lepore's riveting work of historical detection, Wonder Woman's story provides the missing link in the history of the struggle for women's rights—a chain of events that begins with the women's suffrage campaigns of the early 1900s and ends with the troubled place of feminism a century later.

If you have an idea for a superhero, an alternate universe, a ghostly character and want impute on your creation send it to the Writers Exchange we would be glad to hop on your idea and go on an adventure with you. You may choose your companion by contacting either Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com or Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

"Realize what you really want. It stops you from chasing butterflies and puts you to work digging gold."

...William Moulton Marston

Conventions

In the absence of a Convention Bureau Head, I urge all Neffers to submit convention location reports to the TNFF Editor.

Anime banzai
October 21-23, 2016
Davis Conference Center,
800 Heritage Park Boulevard
Layton, Utah
animebanzai.org

Anime Banzai is an annual three-day anime convention held during October at the Davis Conference Center in Layton, Utah. The name of the convention roughly comes from the Japanese word for "hooray". The convention is organized by Utah Anime Promotions and is run by an volunteer staff. (Wikipedia)

CONVENTION TRIVIA

The following was taken from THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (online) Comic-Con: How the Giant Fan Gathering Got Its Name
By Ben Zimmer July 10, 2015 11:24 a.m. ET

The tradition of "cons" goes back to the summer of 1939, when the first World Science Fiction Convention was held in New York City in conjunction with the World's Fair. While the meeting wasn't called a "con," one participant, Forrest Ackerman, soon dubbed it "Nycon," combining New York's initials with the first syllable of "convention." The following year, when the convention moved to Chicago, the program booklet proudly carried the name "Chicon." The World Science Fiction Society later labeled the annual convention series "Worldcon." (Ackerman is also credited with shortening "science fiction" into "sci-fi," on the model of "high fidelity" becoming "hi-fi.")

Fusing a part of a place name with the "-con" suffix became a popular pattern. By 1944, when Jack Speer published the first edition of "Fancylopedia," there were numerous local gatherings that Speer dubbed "somethingcons."

Games Bureau

Reviews by Wesley Kawato

There are now 10 resource books for the Dr. Who role-playing game, one for each of the first 10 doctors. Each resource book contains an episode guide, along with instructions on how to turn these televised episodes into role-playing adventures. Even if you're not into role-playing games, the episode guides may make the resource books worth buying. This is a good way of catching up on episodes you've missed.

Rocket age is a role-playing game set in an alternative universe where Mars has canals and Venus has lush jungles. This reality diverged from our reality in 1931, when Tesla, Einstein, and Goddard developed the first interplanetary rocket. Rocket Age uses the same character generation system as the Dr. Who role-playing game. Both games were published by Cubicle Seven Entertainment.

In the Apollo 13 game, it's April 1970 and the players are flight controllers trying to get the crew that ill-fated space mission back to earth safely. This is a cooperative game. All of the players win if the crew was saved. All of the players lose if the crew dies. Cards are drawn to determine random events during each phase of the space mission. Apollo 13 is published by Pentagon game Studios, a company I'd never heard of before. This may be their first game.

Forthcoming Game Conventions

Sept. 1-4, Colorado Springs, CO, TACTI-CON
<http://tacticoncolorado.com/>

Sept. 2-5, South Sioux City, NE, TRI-CON FALL 2016
<http://tristategamers.org/>

Sept. 2-5, Sterling, VA, TCEP 23: TAD IS MY SHEPHERD
<https://barkingmad.org/>

Sept. 2-5, Seattle, WA, PAX PRIME <http://west.paxsite.com/>

September 2-5, Los Angeles, CA, STRATEGICON: GATEWAY <http://www.strategicon.net>

Sept. 10-11, Washington, DC, WASHINGTONCON
<http://www.washingtoncon.com/>

Sept. 16-18, Scranton, PA, BETACON 2016
Andrew Sussman at Betaconstaff.pa@gmail.com

Sept. 16-18, Topeka, Kansas, TOPCON <http://topcon.us/>

Sept. 17, Burleson, TX, (BAM FEST)
BURLESON ARTS & MANGA FESTIVAL
<https://www.burlesontx.com/1206/Burleson-Arts-Manga-Festival>

Sept. 17, Newark, DE VERSUS CON <http://versuscon.com/>

Sept. 30-Oct. 2, Tucson, AZ RINCON 2016
<http://rincongames.com/>

Sept 30-Oct 2, Calgary, AB Canada FALLCON
<http://www.fallcon.com>

Gourmet Bureau

From Cedar Sanderson

When I asked Sarah Hoyt for a recipe, I wasn't sure what I was going to get. This is bacalhau, the infamous dried, salted cod. And this is not a recipe to approach lightly. You're going to have plenty of time to read, because from the form you see in the pot, which I started working with on Thursday, it took three days to meal on Saturday. So I recommend you begin with her fantasy set in Regency England, with dragons, and magic, and elves, and it's difficult to sum up, but a whole lot of fun to read: Witchfinder.

Before you start on the reading, put the dried cod into cold water (I cut the filet you see above into halves to fit it in my pot) and cover it. Put it in a cool place (I used my pantry, which isn't heated) and let sit for about 12 hours. Go curl up with your book and a nice cup of tea.

When the time has come, drain, rinse, and put fresh cold water over the fish. Let it sit another 12 hours. Read, enjoy, and then when you drain off the second change of water, you will want to tear off a tiny pinch and taste the fish. At this point it will look almost like fresh fishmeat, but very tough. If it is still very salty, repeat the rinse, refill with water, and let it go another 12 hours. When you have the fish to the point where you don't taste much salt, drain, and set aside.

Bolinhos de Bacalhau

Boil enough potatoes that when smashed they'll be about double the codfish. (It can be less than that, if you're feeling generous with codfish. One part codfish, one part potatoes is not unheard of.) I food process the two together at this point, and add a couple of eggs, enough to make it stick together, not enough for it to be runny. Add parsley and lemon and garlic to taste. Salt if you overdipped the fish. Form into cakes by playing them between two soup spoons. (Cakes will be oblong.) Fry till golden. Eat.

Another thing the village did with codfish, but which I never liked, was batter made of one egg, one spoon of flour, one spoon of water. Beat together. Thrown in oiled pan. Put some codfish in middle. Fold batter like omelet. Fry till golden. Eat. (Called Isca. Poor people's food. Which means we had it for lunch three days a week. We weren't poor. Just ask grandma.)

I incorporated two more eggs (bring it up to 4 in the batter) and the rest of the fish into the batter. Now, it worked. Whew!

We also discovered that Sarah's recommendation of a good beer was spot-on. With the oily, salty bolinhos the German dunkel we chose was perfect. We like a nice dark beer, I rarely drink beer at all, but happily gave this one, in combination with this meal, two big thumbs up. Served with olives, fresh bread, and a little salad.

I made the codfish cakes with 1lb codfish, 2 cups (after cutting) of celery root. Boil the celery root for an hour and the codfish for twenty minutes, food process together with four eggs. Because you need to balance the celery root, use some garlic powder, some dried onion (like three table spoons of the later and a sprinkle of the first.) and parsley (fresh, 1/4 cup) Shape with spoons. Fry in hot oil till golden. Drain on paper towels. They look like regular ones and taste pretty close too.

Letters of Comment

David Haren writes:

Hi George,

I have many fond memories of Worlds of IF. Mostly for the tales of the CDT diplomatic corps. a highly engaging and humorous romp through the thinly disguised American state department during the cold war years.

No one can forget characters like Miss Braswell or the coded expressions used during staff meetings. Laumer was one of the few who used humour and could consistently pull it off, a real high point of IF.

Since we are currently attempting to repeat the 20th century (this time as farce) we need a dash of his methodology today.

The Wasatch Front gamer emag should be putting out issue 43 any day now. I have found their material quite entertaining but not much SF involved but quite a bit of Steampunk style Brits versus North Africa scenarios.

Steve Jackson says 'Car Wars' will be out again in 2017 in HO (1/87) scale. That means you can easily expand it by swinging by the model railroad shops. A real wag could stage duels using Jordan Highway miniatures (model T Fords or chain drive Mack trucks) some healthy arms were available after WW1 but full autos were pretty rare. Pre-war, not so many, so it might be fun to try an earlier than 1914 game.

I found that N gauge cars were perfect in size for the original game. But us Olde Fartes like bigger stuff which can be seen and handled better.

There's a site called Cryptoscatology which has links to 'The Prisoner' videos of YouTube for the nostalgic.

Warm Regards
Dave Haren

Lloyd Penney writes:
1706-24 Eva Rd.
Etobicoke, ON
CANADA M9C 2B2
July 22, 2016

Dear Neffers:

I have TNFF Vol. 75, No. 7 here, and I will make the attempt to write something else for the letter column. Let's see what I can generate...

A list of all SF conventions may be a difficult task, I know of others who are struggling to create a Canadian SF convention list. Most conventions do a lot of pre-con advertising, but not all, and sometimes, an event crops up out of the blue, with a week to go. Usually, that event is never heard from again. I went to an even event with Keri Dullea and Gary Lockwood some years ago in downtown Toronto... Dullea looks much the way he did back then, but you might not recognize Lockwood. I hope there will be issues of Tightbeam again soon, and I hope I might see them.

I have never really been a pulp collector, but I have held on to the issues I've been able to get over the years. I think I do have some issues of IF; I'd need to start digging.

I enjoyed Superman way back when, but haven't kept up with him over the past couple of decades. I always enjoy the George Reeves series, and all the Christopher Reeve movies, but my interest flagged after that. Perhaps the only thing that kept my interest was that one of Superman's creators was Canadian, and that the Daily Planet was actually an homage to the Daily Star, now the Toronto Star daily newspaper. Postage stamps and collectors coins for Superman have been popular here.

I have seen flyers for Fan World in Niagara Falls...I don't know how they will do it, but part of the con is in Niagara Falls, NY, and the rest of it in Niagara Falls, Ontario. They have some interesting guests, but I suspect it will literally be two very separate cons on the same weekend, a short distance apart. I guess a passport will get you back and forth...

A good healthy letter column! Always good to see. And with that, I think I will fold it up, and say thank you. We are less than a month away from our trip to England, and everything is coming together. I am planning to bring some fanzines with me to read and make comment on as we travel on the planes and trains. Many thanks, see you with the next one.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

Article 1 – 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. ...

Article II – Officers

1. A President conducts the affairs of the organization. ...

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...

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.

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.

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.

National Fantasy Fan Federation Speculative Fiction Awards

—2016—

Please rank-order your choices for each category, with 1 being the highest choice, 2 being the next-highest, and so forth. Sign your mailing envelope, and mail your ballot to George Phillis, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester MA 01609 by September 15, 2016.

Best Novel

Somewhither—John C. Wright

Shadows of Self—Brandon Sanderson

No Award

Best Editor

Peter Buch (Elsewhen)

Sheila Gilbert (DAW)

Toni Weiskopf (Baen)

No Award

Best Paper Series Novel

163X—Eric Flint

Schooled in Magic—Chris Nuttall

Safehold—David Weber

No Award

Best Comic

Astro City

Girl Genius

Naruto

No Award

Best TV Show

Supergirl

Sense8 Season 1 Jonathan Strange miniseries

The Expanse

Jessica Jones

Humans

No Award

Best Film

What We Do in Shadows

The Martian

The Lobster

Ex Machina

No Award

In this issue
Elections—Neffy Awards
Franson Award—A Sea of Stars Like Diamonds
Tightbeam Rises from the Dead
SF Magazines: Fantastic
Founding Member — Cyril Kornbluth
Welcommittee—Video Report
Birthday Card Bureau—Round Robins
Short Story Contest—Writers Exchange Bureau
Conventions—Games Bureau—Gourmet Bureau
Letters of Comment
From the N3F Constitution
Neffy Award Ballot—Mail In Soon

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