



The National Fantasy Fan

Cras ad Stellae — Tomorrow to the Stars

Volume 76 Number 6

June 2017

Editorial

Welcome to the June 2017 issue of the National Fantasy Fan. The Table of Contents is on the back page. Many of our back issues are found at <http://efanzines.com/NFFF/index.htm> Please contribute. Letters are always welcome.

Our Other Zines

These zines are only published electronically, for which we need your email address. I would be delighted to have someone with the time to do paper printing. Please send them your writings!

Ionisphere

Fan-Pro Coordinating Committee: Our author and fan interviews in Ionisphere are bringing about a lot of activity and I hope Neffers are taking advantage of the authors' pages URLs and email addresses we have been printing. I am thinking of adding a permanent listing of authors and fans addresses and pages for all those who have been interviewed. There simply must be open interchange between fans and pros for fandom to be active.—John Thiel, bureau chief kinethiel@comcast.net

Tightbeam

Bob Jennings FabFicBooks@aol.com reports: Thus far almost no N3F members have contributed anything to Tightbeam. A number of members have promised to do articles or reviews, but except for reviews from you, nothing comes in. I don't know what is happening, but I only get material when I reach out to people outside the club, and even then it's hard. I'm not completely discouraged, but if the members won't even write letters of comment, then perhaps they really have no interest in or need for a zine like Tightbeam.

N'APA

Nest month, about the same time we publish TNFF, we will publish an issue of our APA, N'APA, which is one of the oldest APAs still extant. Please consider contributing. Ask me for an issue via email phillies@4liberty.net if you are interested.

Eldritch Science

Your fiction and art are welcome. George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net

New Electronic Options

My proposal for the N3F is the development of a digital media format for all applicable publications constituting publication and digital delivery. The app portion of this project would provide a consolidated archive of publications available for download, a social media platform for member communication in a way that has not been utilized before, as well as a communication channel for pertinent information via notifications and text messages.

With the increasing importance of mobile technology within our lives, it makes sense that an organization such as the N3F would offer this format to its members. With the creation of an engaging platform, a future generation of membership and interest could be fostered.

I have a foundation in mind but would love to hear input from everyone on how this app/platform could be of benefit and any feature requests that may be included. If you need more information, please don't hesitate to let me know via this email address.

Christopher Flatt <ctflatt@me.com>

Treasurer's Report

2,861.11 (May 20, 2017)
+ 24.00 PayPal Dues
+ 0.00 Cash Dues
+ 64.00 Check Dues
- 76.70 Ad in Asimovs/Analog
- 66.00 Ad in F&SF
- 40.00 Awards
- 1.29 PayPal Fees

2,766.41 (June 18, 2017)



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



Your Volunteer Team

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Bureau Heads

Artist's Bureau: Cedar Sanderson cedarlili@yahoo.com

Birthday Cards: R-Laurraine Tutihasi laurraine@mac.com;

Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@yahoo.com

Convention Calendar: new volunteer needed

Fan-Pro Coordinating Activity Bureau: John Thiel
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N3F Bookwyrms: Graham and Wolf leandjj@gmail.com

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Video Schedule: David Speakman davodd@gmail.com

Welcommittee: Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@yahoo.com

Writers Exchange Bureau: Judy Carroll
 autumnseas8012@yahoo.com

Many New Volunteers are needed: Electronic Publication Support, Readers for the Blind, Con Listings, Advertising, Convention Hospitality, Outreach, Correspondence, Comics, Films. Support the N3F. Volunteer Now!

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Birthday Card Bureau

5 birthday cards were sent out in May.

R-Laurraine Tutihasi
 laurraine@mac.com

Round Robins

Patricia Williams-King reports that she has about 30 Round Robins up and running, up to the limit of member interest.

We currently have one electronic round robin up and running. Data transmission is far faster; everyone gets a copy each time. Participant time is still a barrier; the person whose turn it is to write must still write..

Many years ago, when I joined the N3F the first time, I was fascinated with the Round Robins. They were fun. They were entertaining. They were a way to discuss favorite books, movies, authors - anything one was interested in. They were a way to get to know some of the N3F members. They were something to look forward to.

Back then, all Round Robins were by mail. I joined several of the fifty or so, that were offered. I eagerly awaited the mail - hoping I would be gifted with a Round Robin that day. When no Round Robin appeared in my mailbox, I would sigh for the lost hope, but then would smile knowing hope might deliver a Round Robin tomorrow.

At that time my little corner of the world was changing. Changing and going rapidly in a direction I did not understand, not could I change. Those Round Robins became an important part of my existence. In my world of colliding philosophies and lost dreams the Round Robins kept me grounded. I not only heard the opinions of other Round Robin members on the subject we were discussing, but I also learned about the members themselves. I loved hearing about one

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 or send phillies@4liberty.net your email address for a public membership.

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member's experiences on the farm, or how another member handled life in a large city, or how one member was coping with personal changes. These people brought me into their lives, and I am very grateful for the time we shared.

I would love to see many members joining the Round Robins. Please give others a chance to add a new dimension to your life.

What is a Round Robin?

Round Robins are discussion lists. They are a way of connecting with people who have similar interests. Traditional round robins are sent through the mail. Each round robin consists of a packet of letters from its members - which is mailed from member to member. As each member gets the packet, they read all the letters, then remove their own previous letter, write a new one, and send the packet on to the next member.

The N3F offers two kinds of Round Robins; traditional - where members send letters in the mail, and electronic - where members send letters by email. Both kinds are fun and informative and a good way to meet other members and to discuss topics of mutual interest.

Electronic Round Robins

We need at least 3 members to start an ERR. Following is the list of current ERR and the number of members in each one:

Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror in TV, Movies and Books - 3 members

Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Artists - 2 members - ONLY 1 MORE MEMBER NEEDED

Writers and Their Works - Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror - 1 member

The Marvel Universe - 0 members

DC Superheroes and Villains - 0 members

All Things Star Wars - 0 members

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

Snail Mail Round Robins

(George, N3F president, likes to call them Paper Mail)

Following is the list of current Snail Mail Round Robins and the number of members in each.

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

A Round Robin needs at least 3 members to start rounding. Please help these members by joining one of the above Round Robins.

The following Round Robins have 0 members each.

Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror in TV, Movies and Books

Japanese Anime

Cartoons and Cartooning

Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Video Games

Comics and Graphic Novels

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

Recruiting

We're doing okay on recruiting and you can watch the new members coming in here. Our recruitment advertising is now on its way to the magazines and should be in within a couple of months...though word has it that the bimonthly schedule of the magazines could slow that down. —John Thiel

Directorate Report

The hold-up on the advertising was solved. Nobody was knowing who was to do what. But that was straightened out and the advertising went in. Other N3F problems are being discussed—there not being uniformity of computers, that perhaps being solvable by a booklet of instructions on computer usage for NFFF members; the lack of certificates for award winners, which the President says is now being taken care of; and the general need for looking over things and finding what problems are existing. Hopefully the director bulletins I have been sending out are facilitating directorate communications.—John Thiel, chairman

Welcomittee

Tagalog -

Tuloy ka (singular), or Tuloy po kayo (plural).

The first simply means "enter," and is used for one person or a casual acquaintance.

The second is for groups or elderly people.

Too-loy kah Too-loy poo kai-yoh

(From How to Say Welcome in Different Languages - wiki-how.com)

It's another beautiful day in Littleton. I love sitting in the park and watching the world go by. It's such a pleasant experience. There is a lot of hustle and bustle today. I wonder why?

Here comes Mayor George Phillies. Let's see if he has time to talk to us.

"Mayor Phillies, Hello! How are you on this beautiful day?"

"I'm fine. Doing well."

"You seem to be in a bit of a hurry. Is there a problem?"

"No problem. I'm just reminding a few of our shop proprietors their articles for the town publication are due today."

"Now which town publication is that? The town has several publications."

"TNFF."

"TNFF? What does that stand for?"

"The National Fantasy Fan."

"Can you tell us more about it?"

"Of course. TNFF is published once a month. Our shop proprietors have the opportunity to inform our citizens of what their shops are doing and inviting them to join in their activities. As mayor of the town, I publish the TNFF. I also help the shop proprietors with any problems they might have with running their shops"

"That seems like quite a bit to do when stacked along-side your other duties as mayor. Do you have many problems with the shop proprietors?"

"No, no. These people are dedicated to their shops and the responsibilities that come with being a proprietor. The only problem, if you want to call it that, is reminding some proprietors to get their articles in to me by the due date."

"Thank you so much Mayor Phillies for taking time to talk with us. We know you are very busy."

"No problem. I love talking about my town. Have a good day."

Following is a list of the shops, what they specialize in, and the name of the proprietor:

Artists Keep -Discussing Art and Artists - Cedar Sanderson - cedarlili@yahoo.com

Birthday Grove - Birthday Greetings to Town Members - R-Lauraine Tutihasi - laurraine@mac.com

Fan-Pro Road - Coordinating Fan Activity in the Town: John Thiel - kinethiel@comcast.net

Games Away - Town Gaming Interests - George Phillies - phillies@4liberty.net

Gourmet Square - Delicious Food - Cedar Sanderson - cedarlili@yahoo.com

History Heights - Town Historian - Jon Swartz - jon_swartz@hotmail.com

Lord High Gardens - Providing Proofreading for Town Publications - Jon Swartz -

jon_swartz@hotmail.com

Recruitment Circle - Inviting People to Join Littleton - Kevin Trainor - wombat.soho@gmail.com

and John Thiel - kinethiel@comcast.net

N'APA Woods - A Town Publication By Town Members -

George Phillies - phillies@4liberty.net

Book Row - Town Members Reading Club - Graham and Wolf - leeandjj@gmail.com

Round Robins Bend - Town Members Get Together and Discuss Various Subjects

Judy Carroll - autumnseas8012@yahoo.com or

Patricia Williams-King - doofusming@yahoo.com

Story Trail - A Yearly Writing Contest for Town Members - Jefferson Swycaffer - abontides@gmail.com

Video Point - A List of News and Reviews of Interest to Town Members -

David Speakman - davodd@gmail.com

Welcome Avenue - Greets New Town Members and Informs Them of the Towns Activities - Judy Carroll - AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Writers Way - A Gathering of Those Who Like to Write and Those Who Like to Read - Judy Carroll - AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

For those of you who would like to join in the uniqueness and history of this town, and not just pass through it window shopping, Please contact the Shop Keepers listed above for the Town Activities you would like to be involved in. Or contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Don't just be in the town

Live in the town

Writers Exchange Bureau

Do you have trouble finding the right title for your novel or short story?

You are not alone. The following is taken from Mental Floss - online:

What 10 Classic Books Were Almost Called

By Stacy Conradt

1. The Great Gatsby

F. Scott Fitzgerald went through quite a few titles for his most well-known book before deciding on The Great Gatsby. If he hadn't arrived at that title, high school kids would be pondering the themes of Trimalchio in West Egg; Among Ash-Heaps and Millionaires; On the Road to West Egg; Under the Red, White, and Blue; Gold-Hatted Gatsby; or The High-Bouncing Lover.

2. 1984

George Orwell's publisher didn't feel the title to his novel The Last Man in Europe was terribly commercial and recommended using the other title he had been kicking around—1984.

3. Atlas Shrugged

Ayn Rand referred to her magnum opus as The Strike for quite some time. In 1956, a year before the book was released, she decided the title gave away too much plot detail.

Her husband suggested Atlas Shrugged, and it stuck.

4. Dracula

The title of Bram Stoker's famous Gothic novel sounded more like a spoof before he landed on Dracula—one of the names Stoker considered was The Dead Un-Dead.

5. The Sun Also Rises

Ernest Hemingway's original title for The Sun Also Rises—Fiesta—was used for foreign-language editions. But he changed the American English version to The Sun Also Rises at the behest of his publisher.

6. Catch-22

It's because of Frank Sinatra that we use the phrase "catch-22" today. Well, sort of. Author Joseph Heller tried out Catch-11, but because the original Ocean's Eleven movie was newly in theaters, it was scrapped to avoid confusion. He also wanted Catch-18, but, again, the recent publication of Leon Uris' *Mila 18* made him switch titles to avoid confusion. The number 22 was finally chosen because it was 11 doubled.

7. To Kill a Mockingbird

To Kill a Mockingbird was simply Atticus before Harper Lee decided the title focused too narrowly on one character.

8. Pride and Prejudice

An apt precursor to the title Jane Austen finally decided on for her most beloved novel was *First Impressions*.

9. The Secret Garden

"Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow?" Secretly, apparently. *Mistress Mary*, taken from the classic nursery rhyme, was the working title for Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden*.

10. Dubliners

Originally called *Ulysses in Dublin*, James Joyce's book of short stories, *Dubliners*, featured characters that would later appear in his epic *Ulysses* a few years later.

At the writers Exchange we are here to help you with your writing, whether you need someone to read your work, help you find a name for a character, or choose a good title.

If you are interested in any of the following please contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@Yahoo.com

1. If you would like to join the Writers Exchange to be a reader or have your work read by others.
2. If you would like to help start a Writers Sharing Group
3. If you have passages from novels, short stories, poetry, movies, screenplays, or TV you would like to share please contact me and I will put them in the TNFF for July.

Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

A Touch of Trivia

Guardians of the Galaxy.

The following information is taken from rakin.com 50 Things You Didn't Know About Guardians of the Galaxy, and concerns the first movie only:

- Dave Bautista's Makeup Took Five Hours a Day and He Never Sat Down
 - Chris Pratt Got the Role in Just 30 Seconds -
 - Pratt Wasn't Shy About Basing his Performance on Harrison Ford's Han Solo
 - Director James Gunn Did the Groot Dance
 - Vin Diesel Recorded His One Line Over 1,000 Times
 - In Dutch, Afrikaans, and Flemish "Groot" translates to "big."
 - James Gunn's brother, Sean, played Rocket on set during filming, with Cooper's voice added later.
 - Chris Pratt says his Star-Lord is a mix of Marty McFly and Han Solo.
 - Karen Gillan actually shaved her head in preparation for her role of Nebula. They then made a wig made out of her own hair!
 - Unlike with most films, the score by Tyler Bates was written BEFORE the cameras started rolling (along with the soundtrack being pre-selected). That way the actors and crew could get a feel on-set of what they were going for tonally.
 - Vin Diesel recorded all of his lines on stilts to get a feel for how large and imposing Groot is.
 - James Gunn kept a pile of Play-Doh canisters on set and would give them out whenever someone did an amazing job that day
 - Star-Lord's ship, the Milano, is indeed named after Alyssa Milano, tying into his love of 80s pop culture.
 - Benicio Del Toro said his goal was to portray the Collector as "Liberace in outer space."
 - Bradley Cooper cited Tommy DeVito (Joe Pesci's character in *Goodfellas*) as his main influence for Rocket Raccoon.
- .Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Games Bureau

Last time I mentioned gaming opportunities in the Los Angeles area. I failed to mention conventions. We gamers of the Los Angeles area are fortunate to have the Strategicon Network. This group runs three gaming conventions each year on three holiday weekends, namely Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, and Labor Day. Convention memberships are available for fifty dollars. That is for the entire four day weekend. Strategicon runs three kinds of events at their conventions: historical boardgames, Euro-style boardgames, and role-playing games. There is also a dealer room where attendees can buy games. The strategicon conventions are always held at a hotel near Los Angeles International Airport. All of these hotels charge extra for parking.

I finally got to play "Terraforming Mars" and will now review the game. Each player in "Terraforming Mars" represents a corporation that is out to terraform Mars. Development cards are used to do this. Players are dealt ten develop-

ment cards before the game, and four more development cards at the start of each turn. It costs three money units to keep the card that has been dealt to you. Each corporation has special abilities. Some corporations can make better use of certain cards than others.

Then comes the action round. Players can take two actions when it is their turn. An action round continues until all players have passed. Some actions require development cards and others don't.

Your major source of victory points will be your terraforming level. At the end of the game, players get one victory point for each terraforming level advancement. In most cases development cards are used to advance your terraforming level.

There are three ways to increase your terraforming level. One is by increasing the oxygen level of Mars. You do this by placing green farmland tiles on the game map. You will need to play development cards that give you plants. Eight plants equal one farmland tile.

A second way to increase your terraforming level is by increasing the temperature of Mars. To do this you will need to play development cards that produce energy. At the end of a turn, unused energy gets turned into heat. Eight points of heat become a one-step increase in the temperature of Mars.

The third way to increase your terraforming level is to place ocean tiles on the game map. Certain development cards allow you to do that.

Building cities also scores points. Some development cards also grant victory points. To play development cards you will need the right combination of money, steel, titanium, plants, energy, and heat. Early in the game, play development cards that increase the production capabilities of your Corporation.

The game ends when the oxygen level is maxed out, when the temperature is maxed out, and when the ninth ocean tile is placed on the game map. Play continues until all three things happen. Up to five players can play terraforming Mars. There is also a solitaire scenario. This is one of the best games I've ever reviewed. No two games were alike. That's because each development card is unique. The deck is so large that you will never see all of the development cards come into play during any game.

That's it. Yours truly,

Wesley Kawato

Membership Report

New & Reinstated Members & Info Updates

#127 Ray F Nelson - Reinstated
Expiry June 2018
Regular Voting
BDay: Oct. 3

#217 Lawrence Dagstine - New
Expiry June 2018
Electronic Voting

#218 Joseph P Martino - Reinstated
Expiry: June 2018
Regular Voting
BDay: July 16

#219 Christopher Flatt - Reinstated
Expiry: June 2018
Regular Voting
IRL: Software Developer
Interests: APAs (amateur press associations), Art, Books, Computers and technology, Conventions and clubs, Editing, Fanzines, Online activities, Publishing, Reading and book clubs, Role-playing games, Round robins (group letters), Writing
Fan Since: "Since I was able to read"
Fanac since: On and off for 35 years
Cons: RiverCon
Zines: Dragon+
Genre: Fantasy
Creator: Tolkein
N3F Interests: Artwork, Writing for club publications, Publishing

#220 Angela K Scott - Reinstated
Electronic - Public

#221 Michael Saler - New
Expiry: June 2018
Electronic - Voting
IRL: Historian
Interests: Art, Audio, Books, Collecting, Comic books, Computers and technology, Conventions and clubs, DVDs and videos, Fanzines, Games and video games, Publishing, Reading and book clubs, Reviewing, Role-playing games, Teaching science fiction, Television, Writing
Clubs: NESFA

Renewed:

#4 Diane Blackwood - Regular Voting - Expiry 4/2018
#5 Bob Blackwood - Household Voting - Expiry 4/2018
#159 Steven Roberts - Regular Voting - Expiry 6/2018

Expired/Expiring
Renew Now!!

Expired in May
#182 - Kevin Welch
#183 - Stephanie Souders
#185 - Michael O'Brien

Expiring in June
None! Thank for renewing early.

Other Changes

#7 - David A Kyle - Founding Member - Deceased
#159 - Steven Roberts - From Public to Regular Voting
#191 - John Thiel - KAYMAR Award, 1-year membership extension

-Davodd

Neglected Genre Authors: Thorp McClusky

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

Thorp McClusky (1906-1975) was a free-lance writer and a one-time editor of Motor Magazine. He attended Syracuse University; after college, he played in bands. In the late 1930s he lived in Hartford, Connecticut. In the 1960s, he lived in Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey. It is thought that he died in Eatontown, Monmouth, New Jersey.

In 1938 McClusky wrote the following autobiographical sketch for *Amazing Stories*: "I have been around now for thirty-two years. Received a musical education at Syracuse University, and later took the University Extension courses at Columbia in several courses in which I was interested – astronomy, physics, novel writing, etc. Impracticable, but fun. Am married. No children as yet. Have played piano around and about the country –the old Aeolian Hall, New York; broadcast NBC network; played with the Studebaker Champions from Chicago; have had various orchestras of my own. Have written mostly technical stuff on music – articles in *Musical America*, *Musical Digest*, *Musical Courier*, *The Musician*, *The Sackbut* (London), etc. Have sold a few fiction pieces, but would not classify as an author, as yet. Possibly someday. Like a semblance of plausibility in fiction, even in fantastic or prophetic fiction. Like all of us, hope someday to do a great novel. It's nice to hope. I hope 'Kidnappers of Space' is liked by the readers, and I am going to try something more in the scientifiction line -- Thorp McClusky, Hartford, Conn."

I first became aware of McClusky when, in the 1940s, I read Phil Stong's anthology, *25 Modern Stories of Mystery and Imagination*. McClusky's story, "The Considerate Hosts," led off the book. I still remember today, more than 70 years later, that his name made an impression on me. I thought it quite unique. I didn't know anyone named McClusky, and to me Thorp was a very uncommon given name. I didn't remember the plot of his story, but his name remained in my memory for many years. Recently, I began to notice his name again, first on an issue of *Weird Tales* in a book that reproduced pulp magazine covers, then as the author of a big little book that I acquired, and finally as the author of an article in an old issue of a men's magazine that I saw on eBay. My curiosity was aroused, and I looked him up in my various reference books. To my surprise, I could not find a word about him anywhere. Then I tried the Internet search engines, and discovered that -- about 30 years ago -- Robert Weinberg had published a small book by McClusky, *Loot of the Vampire* (the second publication in Weinberg's *Lost Fantasies Series*). I contacted Weinberg and asked him for any information he had on this elusive writer. He told me that McClusky had been a prominent *Weird Tales* contributor, but that he knew little else about him. Subsequently, I checked *The Collector's Index to Weird Tales*, and found that McClusky had published 16 stories in this venerable

genre pulp magazine.

Thorp McClusky Stories in *Weird Tales*

"Loot of the Vampire" (2-part serial/June, July 1936 issues)
 "The Crawling Horror" (November 1936 issue) [reprinted in *Second Ghost Omnibus*, edited by Kurt Singer]
 "The Woman in Room 607" (January 1937 issue)
 "Black Gold" (April 1937 issue) [reprinted in *100 Ghastly Little Ghost Stories*]
 "The Thing on the Floor" (March 1938 issue)
 "Fothergill's Jar" (November 1938 issue)
 "The Red God Laughed" (April 1939 issue)
 "While Zombies Walked" (September 1939 issue)
 "The Considerate Hosts" (December 1939 issue) [reprinted in *100 Ghastly Little Ghost Stories*, *Stong's 25 Modern Stories of Mystery and Imagination*, and *Famous Ghost Stories*, compiled by Bennett Cerf, 1978/originally published by *Modern Library* in 1944]
 "Slaves of the Gray Mold" (March 1940 issue)
 "The Graveyard Horror" (March 1941 issue)
 "The Music from Infinity" (September 1941 issue)
 "Dark Mummery" (November 1944 issue) [reprinted in *100 Ghastly Little Ghost Stories*]
 "The Ultimate Paradox" (May 1945 issue)
 "The Other Santa" (March 1949 issue) [reprinted in *100 Wild Little Weird Tales*]
 "The Lamia in the Penthouse" (May 1952 issue)

Other Genre Fiction in Magazines

The August 1938 issue of *Amazing Stories* contained McClusky's story, "Kidnappers of Space," and the November 1938 *Amazing* had another of his stories, "Monstrosity of Evolution."

His "The Phantom Sweatshop" was in *Dime Mystery Magazine* (March 1939 issue). I don't know if this story was SF, fantasy, or a mystery, but the title sounds like it was a genre story.

"Little Planet" by McClusky was in *Science Fiction* (October 1939 issue).

Some of his more popular genre short stories -- "The Crawling Horror," "Little Planet," "The Considerate Hosts," "Dark Mummery," "While Zombies Walked," "The Other Santa," "The Red God Laughed," and "The Evocation" -- have been reprinted in anthologies, three of them in anthologies edited by Weinberg and his colleagues. McClusky used the pseudonym of L. MacKay Phelps, and I know of three articles he wrote under this pen name. One was "Did Houdini Have Supernatural Powers?" in the July, 1952 issue of *Man to Man*.

He also used Phelps as the name for some of his fictional characters, including a character in one of his big little books. I don't know the significance of this name for him, but suspect that Phelps may have been a family name.

Non-Fiction Articles

McClusky wrote several non-fiction articles for popular magazines, including *The Saturday Evening Post* (“Is the World Getting Warmer?”), *Argosy* (“The Passing of Big Jim Fisk”), *Adventure* (“The Island Of Lonely Girls”), *Pageant* (“Islands That Change the Map”), Jr., *The Modern Magazine for Boys and Girls* (“Tips for Vacation-Time Protection”), and *Reader’s Digest* (“I Rode a Big Rig”). Some of these articles had SF/fantasy themes, including “Flying Saucers Are Back” in *Sir* (1952), “Are There Other Worlds Watching Us?” in *Adventure Magazine* (1957), and “Sex Plan for the Breeding of Spacemen” in *Real War* (1958).

McClusky is certainly a neglected genre author who deserves to be read today.

McClusky Bibliography

Chuck Malloy, *Railroad Detective on the Streamliner*. Racine, Wisconsin: Whitman, 1938. (Big Little Book)

Calling W-1-X-Y-Z, Jimmy Kean and the Radio Spies. Racine, Wisconsin: Whitman, 1939. (Big Little Book)

Timberland Parish. Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., 1950. (A Missionary Biography)

Your Health and Chiropractic. New York: Milestone Books, 1957.

Loot of the Vampire. Oak Lawn, Illinois: Robert Weinberg, 1975. (Reprinted four stories from *Weird Tales*)

Sources: *Amazing Stories*, ISFDB, SFE, Wikisource, other Internet sites.

N3F Charter Members:

Joseph Gilbert and Harry Jenkins, Jr.

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

Joe Gilbert and Harry Jenkins were Columbia, South Carolina, science fiction (SF) fans active in the 1930s -1940s. They discovered their mutual interest in SF through a letter published in the SF pulp magazine, *Super Science Stories*.

Both belonged to The National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F) in the 1940s. Jenkins edited the 4th issue of our club fanzine, *Bonfire*, and Gilbert served on the club’s first Advisory Board.

They appeared together in a photo on page 172 of Harry Warner's fan history of the 1940s, *All Our Yesterdays* (Advent, 1969). Their group of SF fans in Columbia, SC was known as the Columbia Camp.

Gilbert helped to organize the short-lived Dixie Fantasy Fed-

eration and was its secretary. Other organizers included Erle Barr Hanson, the president; and Jenkins, who was the club’s treasurer.

With Jenkins and others, Gilbert published the fanzine, *The Southern Star*, in the early 1940s.

Gilbert was also responsible for the Type Fifteen Fan. In a graphology article, Gilbert analyzed the chirographies of a number of well-known fans, and left it to the reader to guess which was which. Number 15 on the list was supposed to be a dangerous maniac that you shouldn't allow behind your back, especially in a dark alley. Immediately each fan on the list of those being analyzed, and some others as well, came forward and identified #15 as himself!

Both Gilbert and Jenkins, of course, were charter members of our club, the N3F, in 1941.

Sources: *All Our Yesterdays*; Fanzine Index; SFE; *Fancy-clopedia 3*; ISFDB; and Wikipedia.

Smashwords Novels for May

I list believe all the science fiction, fantasy, and horror novels published by Smashwords. I am defining a novel as a work fo 100,000 words or more. As an expansion on my usual coverage, I am including the price, wordcount and language. These all need reviews. Send your reviews to TightBeam Bob Jennings FabFicBooks@aol.com.

Deadly Eleven by Mark Tufo, Michelle Bryan, David Moody, Lisa Lane, John O'Brien, Shawn Chesser, Bobby Adair, W.J. Lundy, Jaime Johnesee, Nicholas Sansbury Smith, & Heath Stallcup
Price: \$0.99 USD. Words: 708,070. Language: English.

Force Fields from Beyond by Naomi Semeniuk
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 179,070. Language: English.

Meteor Mags: Omnibus Edition by Matthew Howard
Price: \$9.95 USD. Words: 183,400. Language: English.

Shadows of Our Fathers by Rex Jameson
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 116,940. Language: English.

The Kanta Chronicles by Nick Sutcliffe
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 162,170. Language: English.

The Chronicles of Eric Mason Book One by Alex Ince
Price: \$4.00 USD. Words: 118,370. Language: English.

Tandem by Troim Kryzl
Price: \$0.99 USD. Words: 141,000. Language: English.

Witch Hunt by Troim Kryzl
Price: \$0.99 USD. Words: 176,360. Language: English.

Pluggger Site One by Troim Kryzl
Price: \$0.99 USD. Words: 147,730. Language: English. .

Solomander's Iron by James Anderson
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 101,220. Language: English.

Jepaul by Katy Winter
Price: Free! Words: 217,610. Language: English.

The Third Wave: Eidolon by John O'Brien
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 114,650. Language: English. 7.

Colliding Galaxies by Philip Bosshardt
Price: Free! Words: 119,210. Language: English.

Dominion by J. Kowallis
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 111,170. Language: English.

The Poisoned Oasis by Ethan Somerville Price: \$2.99 USD.
Words: 114,980. Language: Australian English.

An Atlas to Time, Space, and Bonfires by Save Sci-Fi
Price: Free! Words: 119,360. Language: English.

The McClane Apocalypse Book Seven by Kate Morris
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 146,830. Language: English.

Future Prometheus II: Revolution, Successions and Resurrections
by J. M. Erickson
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 119,940. Language: English.

The Mars of Malcontents by Kate MacLeod
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 104,630. Language: English.

Impostor by G. Michael Smith
Price: \$0.99 USD. Words: 111,910. Language: English.

Master Fixer by G. Michael Smith
Price: \$0.99 USD. Words: 104,760. Language: English.

Abys: Surviving the Zombie Apocalypse by Shawn Chesser
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 128,640. Language: English.

Gold and Iron. Charges (in Russian) — by Jack Vance
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 104,230. Language: Russian.

Fixer 13 by G. Michael Smith
Price: Free! Words: 105,590. Language: English.

Star Crusades Uprising Complete Series by Michael G. Thomas
Price: \$9.99 USD. Words: 457,610. Language: English. .

The Girl from Avignon: The Arameus Chronicle by Praveen Arla
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 140,420. Language: English.

Deprivations by Lee R Jackson
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 101,160. Language: English.

One World One People by Justin Hebert
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 173,480. Language: English. Pu

War Place Hill - Ultra Secret Protocol by M. R. Marks
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 118,350. Language: English.

Raventower & Merriweather 2: War by Lazette Gifford
. Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 135,520. Language: English.

Dicing with the Universe by Ethan Somerville Price: \$0.99
USD. Words: 112,340. Language: Australian English.

A Vested Interest Omnibus by John Chapman & Shelia Chapman
Price: \$2.50 USD. Words: 353,880. Language: English.

Invasion - The Tymorean Trust Book 6 by Margaret Gregory
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 129,940. Language: English.

Night Ride and Sunrise by Stanley Schmidt Price: \$7.99 USD.
Words: 101,810. Language: American English. .

Paradox: The Alien Genome by H. S. RIVNEY
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 117,700. Language: English.

Darkness Upon the Land by A. E. Branson
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 114,520. Language: English.

Paladin's Trial by Michael Boatman
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 142,320. Language: English.

The Girl in the Mirror by Philip J Gould
Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 111,680. Language: British English.

Earth's Survivors SE 5 by Dell Sweet
Price: \$4.49 USD. Words: 284,280. Language: English.

The Frigate Victory Series Collection by Robert Collins
Price: \$6.99 USD. Words: 160,450. Language: English.

The Secret of Mars by P. R. Garcia
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 138,200. Language: English.

Storm of Empire by Paul Batteiger
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 136,870. Language: English.

One in the Oven by Brennan Barrett Price: \$5.99 USD. Words:
108,480. Language: English.

Light and Shadow by M.R. Cronk
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 150,960. Language: English.

Lightbringers: The Age of Myths and Legends by David Price
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 129,820. Language: English.

Adromenda - Die Königskinder von Adromenda by Fred Kruse
Price: \$3.90 USD. Words: 103,140. Language: German.

The Two Magicians: From Nowhere to Forever - by Zelda Leah
Gatuskin \$8.99 USD. Words: 143,180. Language: English.

The Dread Lords Rising by J. David Phillips
Price: Free! Words: 160,320. Language: English.

The Shifter Shard by L. Darby Gibbs
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 103,310. Language: English.

A Ghost of a Chance Starter Bundle by Dean Wesley Smith
Price: \$7.99 USD. Words: 130,710. Language: English.

Shadows of Our Fathers by Rex Jameson
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 116,940. Language: English

Before the Tide by Christine Malec
Price: Free! Words: 135,160. Language: English.

Death and Relaxation by Devon Monk
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 100,060. Language: English.

Edge of Doom (Amica Saga #8) by Richard S. Tuttle
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 277,980. Language: English.

Exalted (Chronicles of Orian 3 of 3) by Karen Glista
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 208,380. Language: English.

Jepaul by Katy Winter
Price: Free! Words: 217,610. Language: English.

A Goblin's Tale (The Iron Teeth Book 1) by Scott Straughan
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 124,000. Language: English.

A Lying Witch: The Complete Series by Odette C. Bell
Price: \$9.99 USD. Words: 190,450. Language: English.

Guises by Charlee Jacob
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 105,820. Language: English.

The People's Champion by Jenna Lincoln
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 129,730. Language: English.

Darkness of the Hunt by Doug Lewars
Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 205,420. Language: English.

Thy Killer's Keeper by Edita A. Petrick
Price: \$0.99 USD. Words: 104,700. Language: English.

Live & Learn by Vance Pumphrey
\$0.99 USD. Words: 151,720. Language: American English.

Sparks Saga Complete Trilogy: Omnibus Edition by RS McCoy
\$6.99 USD. Words: 245,790. Language: English.

Realms of Beliar: The Sword Myndarit by Andrew Arrowsmith
Price: \$7.99 USD. Words: 159,790. Language: English.

What Has Returned by Tim Mathias
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 104,780. Language: English.

One World One People by Justin Hebert
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 173,480. Language: English.

Towy Bridge Inn: Trilogy by Robert S. Baker
Price: \$5.50 USD. Words: 233,810. Language: British English.

When the Man Comes Around by Xero Reynolds
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 107,390. Language: English.

Raventower & Merriweather 2: War by Lazette Gifford
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 135,520. Language: English.

Airwoman by Zara Quentin Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 103,800.
Language: Australian English.

Ferrian's Winter by Megan Leigh
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 198,270. Language: English.

A Dark Faerie Tale Books 1 & 2 by Alexia Purdy Price: Free! Words:
134,300. Language: English.

The Afterland Chronicles Boxed Set by Karen Wrighton
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 163,680. Language: English.

Now Serving Dragon by David R. Michael
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 120,290. Language: English.

Hunter and Fox by Philippa Ballantine
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 106,830. Language: English.

Prospero Regained by L. Jagi Lamplighter
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 184,200. Language: English.

Magic and Mathematics Book One - Ancient Science by K. J. Hargan
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 143,290. Language: English.

Brenna Morgan and the Iron Key by Katie Masters
Price: \$2.99 USD. Words: 107,610. Language: English.

Frostborn: The Shadow Prison by Jonathan Moeller
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 147,500. Language: English.

Extraordinary Creatures: A Compilation of Short Stories about Re-
markable Beings by Brianna Robertson
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 102,450. Language: English.

Slink by Ashley Abbiss Price: \$1.99 USD. Words: 133,850. Language:
Commonwealth English.

A Poisoned Prayer by Michael Skeet
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 109,030. Language: English.

The Ripper by Carmelo Anaya
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 154,030. Language: Spanish.

Kung Fu Zombies by C M Weller

The Third Wave: Eidolon by John O'Brien
Price: \$5.99 USD. Words: 114,650. Language: English.

Guises by Charlee Jacob
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 105,820. Language: English.

Abyss: Surviving the Zombie Apocalypse by Shawn Chesser
Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 128,640. Language: English.

A Arte do Terror - Volume 4 by Elemental Editoração
Price: Free! Words: 118,730. Language: Portuguese.

Shadowhorn: Age of the Revenant by E Lee Smith
Price: \$7.99 USD. Words: 116,490. Language: English.

Shadowhorn: Age of the Revenant. Paladin's Trial by Michael Boat-
man Price: \$4.99 USD. Words: 142,320. Language: English.

Corruption at the Crossroad by Raymond Benson
Price: \$3.99 USD. Words: 820,660. Language: English.

Earth's Survivors SE 5 by Dell Sweet
Price: \$4.49 USD. Words: 284,280. Language: English.

2017 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest

Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

Now and then, it has been suggested to open the N3F Amateur Short Story Contest to professional writers, writers who have had one or two sales. I've never favored this. It is my opinion that we want new blood. We want to reward the new kids on the block. To be blunt, we want writing that is not that good. We want stories from people who don't know their object from their subject, who don't know where commas go, and who use apostrophes to denote plurals -- but who have a story to tell. I want stories from guys nobody's ever heard of...but in the years ahead, we will. Those who are already successful don't need the encouragement of our little contest. If they were to enter the contest, the danger is that they'd win, every time, and crowd out the promising newcomer.

1. This contest is open to all amateur writers in the field, regardless of whether they're members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. For the purposes of this contest, we define an amateur as someone who has sold no more than two (2) stories to professional science fiction or fantasy publications.
2. Stories entered in the contest must be original, unpublished, not longer than 8,500 words in length—and must be related to the science fiction, fantasy, or similar genres in the opinion of the judge.
3. Email attachments of Word documents are acceptable for submission. Manuscripts on paper should be typed, single sided on 8 1/2"-by- 11" white paper, double spaced, with pages numbered. The name of the author should not appear anywhere on the manuscript to ensure impartial judging. Photocopies are acceptable, if they are of good quality. Computer printouts must be legible.
4. Contestants can enter up to three stories. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) if you would like your story returned at the end of the contest. Stories will not be returned without an SASE. Do not send your only copy in case of accidental loss. We are not responsible for lost manuscripts.
5. Email entries will be accepted. Send to Jefferson P. Swycaffer at abontides@gmail.com. No guarantee can be made of email receipt. Privacy and property rights will be absolutely respected. No one other than the Short Story Judge will ever see the submission.
6. There are no entry fees.
7. Cash prizes totaling \$100 will be awarded as follows: First prize is \$50, second \$30, and third \$20. Honorable mentions and semi-finalists will receive a certificate of award.
8. Send all manuscripts to the contest manager: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373; abontides@gmail.com. Emails with the story attached in word format are preferred. Paper manuscripts are acceptable. All entries must be received or postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2017.
9. The Short Story Judge is a published science fiction professional, and also a loving fan of the sf and fantasy genres. All comments and critiques are solely the Short Story Judge's opinion, but he promises to be constructive and polite.
10. The NSF may want to publish an electronic book including top entries from one or more years of publication. You will not be contacted about this until after the contest is over and prizes have been awarded. If we want to publish your story, you will have to sign over to us first world serial rights. Your willingness to sign over rights cannot affect whether or not you win the contest. Royalties will be divided evenly between all contest writers once publishing costs are covered. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. Announcements and notifications of winning entries will be made by March 2018. Please take your time and submit your best work. You can resubmit stories previously entered. All entries will be kept confidential and will be judged fairly and anonymously. The deadline for all entries is Dec. 31, 2017. Good luck!

Please supply on a separate page the following information as your entry form.

Title of story (for identification):

Author's name and address:

Author's email address:

I have read the above rules for the 2017 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and I agree to them.

Signature:

Date: _____

Mail to: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373 ; or email abontides@gmail.com

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New Electronic Options

Treasurer's Report

Birthday Card Bureau

Round Robins — Recruiting

Directorate Report — Welcommittee

Writer's Exchange Bureau

Games Bureau — Membership Report

Neglected Genre Authors: Thorp McClusky

N3F Charter Members: Joseph Gilbert and Harry Jenkins, Jr.

Smashwords Novels for May

Short Story Contest

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