



The National Fantasy Fan

Cras ad Stellae — Tomorrow to the Stars

Volume 77 Number 2

February 2018

Neffies

For many years, the N3F has given awards for fantasy materials in all media. We now approach the 2018 Awards. Phase One is choosing Award categories. In years past, some categories have had more interest than others. Perhaps there are categories we are missing. Having said that, I asked last month for suggestions for categories. Current categories, for 2017 work (major rewrites count as new) are

- Best novel (over 100,000 words)
- Best shorter work (under 100,000 words)
- Best book editor
- Best fanzine (electronic publication is allowed)
- Best Blog
- Best TV show
- Best SF movie/video
- Best anime
- Best graphic art publication
- Other

Volunteers Needed

Yes, we can always use more volunteers to support the N3F. Specific need: We need someone knowledgeable in web page creation to assist David Speakman with web page renewal and migration. We need Facebook contributors to trumpet our organization across SF Facebook pages, of which there are several. We need people to write short book reviews for our book review project.

Zines

Eldritch Science

I presently anticipate that the next issue of Eldritch Science will be out in the next four or so weeks. George Phillies, Editor

Tightbeam

The new issue of Tightbeam; #282, is out and has been distributed electronically to all our members. If you have not received this issue yet, please contact President George Phillies and he will email you a copy immediately.

This issue features a generous mixture of new book and movie



This issue is divided between News, Zines, Club Activities, Letters of Comment, Sercon, and Fiction
Art: Page 2-Lisana Gabriella; Page 10—Angela K. Scott.



reviews, as well as a post holiday article by John Scalzi that seeks to clear up some of the misconceptions about Santa Claus and his flying reindeer. We also offer a time-lost classic reprint of science/fantasy originally presented in Black Cat Magazine in 1901. The issue also presents a long review of “Doctor X”, the 1932 First Nation science fiction horror thriller and its strange back story written by Nora Fiora. The issue finishes with our regular department offering reviews of newly released fanzines, and a short letter column

Tightbeam is your fanzine. Its pages are always open to members who want to contribute articles, reviews, and artwork. The letter column is there for members to express their opinions not only about current Tightbeam issues, but also to discuss and comment on any subject involving the club or any part of the fan or science fiction spectrum. It’s an open forum, and I urge members to make full use of it. You can contact me, Ye Editor, Bob Jennings, via email at fabficbks@aol.com.

N’APA

The N3F APA is now approaching its sixtieth year of publication. The submission process is simple. You generate a zine, formatted, as a .doc or .rtf file and send it to me. I convert it to a PDF using my converter (there have been issues elsewhere), assemble the zines into an issue and distribute it to APA contributors. phillies@4liberty.net for contributors.

Ionisphere

We have a five-member group now, with Jeffrey Redmond handling news and publicity for the bureau. Most of our activity centers around IONISPHERE, where you can see it; we’re having great success in contacting the writers, and I’m considering editors for interviews in the April issue. Word of the bureau and its work is getting around. Considering LoCs? I’d be glad to hear from people talking about their own background in science fiction reading and fandom. –John Thiel, bureau chief

TNFF

Our news zine continues its regular monthly publication. We feature News, Publications, Club Activities, Letters of Comment, Sercon, and Fiction.

Your Volunteer Team

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Many New Volunteers are needed: Electronic Publication Support, Convention Hospitality, Outreach, Correspondence, Films.. Support the N3F. Volunteer Now!



Three Space Aliens — Lisana Gabriella

Club Activities Treasury

\$2,842.44 (Dec. 31, 2017)
 + 38.00 PayPal Dues
 + 0.00 Cash Dues
 + 40.00 Check Dues
 + 18.00 Money Order Dues
 - 2.00 PayPal Fees
 - 0.00 Banking Fee
 - 0.00 Postage
 - 100.00 Short Story Contest

 \$2,836.44 (Jan. 31, 2018)

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 National Fantasy Fan Federation.

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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Directorate Report of Activity in January 2018

by David Speakman,
N3F Directorate Chair

I was chosen 2018 N3F Directorate Chair by a vote of my fellow members of the Directorate; I am very honored. I've been on the Directorate many times over the years, but this is my first stint as Chair. I'd like to congratulate John Thiel for his job as Chair last year. Not only was it his first year, he was thrown into the role of Chair in a sink-or-swim fashion. He did an excellent job despite being a newbie.

New Business:

As a matter of Business, the Directorate adopted the previous standing rule that we shall conduct all business via email. We all passed a new motion put forward by me to hopefully make our President's job a little easier. It reads as follows:

Motion: 2018-001

Proposed new standing rule:

“A presidential decision of appointment or expenditure of treasury funds not exceeding \$150 will be deemed approved by unanimous consent of the full Directorate unless at least one member of the directorate calls for a formal review within seven calendar days of being informed of the decision by the President.”

Yea: 4 Carroll, Speakman, Thiel, Tutihasi

Nay: 0

No Vote Recorded: 1

New and Reinstated Members and Updates

New Members:

#236 - Brent Watson - Public
brenwatson@yahoo.com (His application has no t in brent in the email address.) BDay: Jan 10

#237 - Greg Chaffins - Electronic - Expiry 2/28/2019

greg@nerdbeach.com

BDay: Feb 16

Interests: Blogging, Online activities, Writing

Fan Since: Forever, starting in the 70s.

Fanac Since: I've been a fan of Star Trek since the 70s, others since.

Clubs: Right now just Facebook clubs - Science Fiction, Middle Earth, SciFi Blueprint.

Cons: Local Knoxville, TN cons

Genres: Any, really. Lord of the rings, Foundation, Dune, Star Trek - It's hard to pick one.

Faves: Tolkien, Asimov, Banks, Herbert, Keith Laumer, others I am forgetting here.

Online Activity: I have a website - NerdBeach.com. That keeps me fairly busy online.

Sponsor: Jeffrey Redmond

N3F Interests: Writing for club publications , I could do an article about N3F on my website, help spread the word.

Renewed

#9 William Center - Regular - Expiry: 12/31/2018

#10 Michele Nowak Center - Family - Expiry: 12/31/2018

#26 Rikki Winters - Regular - Expiry: 12/31/2018

#27 Kemse Net-Ubasti - Family - Expiry: 12/31/2018

#152 Gary Casey - Regular - Expiry: 12/31/2018

#157 Cedar Sanderson - Electronic - Expiry:11/30/2018

#158 Sanford Bagley - Family - Expiry: 11/30/2018

Expired in December

#12 Ruth Davidson

Expiring in January

#69 Lauren Clough

Expiring in February

#201 Katriena Knights

Returned Mail

Robert Hansen - Undeliverable

Lauren Clough - Undeliverable

Member Status Changes

#154 - Kathy Powe - Electronic to Public - Exp 11/17

#199 - Bill Powe - Family to Public - Exp. 11/17

Writers Exchange

The Writers Exchange is for anyone interested in writing. If you have a story you would like read and commented on, or if you just want the excitement of reading unpublished work, then the Writers Exchange is here for you. Published or unpublished - all are welcome. You may join as a writer, a reader or both.

The Year -2018.

The Place - Your Mind.

The Task - Writing.

The Reason - Because you want to.

The Real Reason - Because you need to.

Last month we had three quotes on starting to write by Louis L'Amour, Stephen King, and Neil Gaiman.

This month we have three sections on quotes from writers.

The Writer

“You should write because you love the shape of stories and sentences and the creation of different words on a page. Writing comes from reading, and reading is the finest teacher of how to write.”

— Annie Proulx

“I write to give myself strength. I write to be the characters that I am not. I write to explore all the things I'm afraid of.”

— Joss Whedon

“Writing is something you do alone. Its a profession for introverts who want to tell you a story but don't want to make

eye contact while doing it."

[Thoughts from Places: The Tour, Nerdfighteria Wiki, January 17, 2012]"

— John Green

The Story

"Write the kind of story you would like to read. People will give you all sorts of advice about writing, but if you are not writing something you like, no one else will like it either."

— Meg Cabot

"Make up a story... For our sake and yours forget your name in the street; tell us what the world has been to you in the dark places and in the light. Don't tell us what to believe, what to fear. Show us belief's wide skirt and the stitch that unravels fear's caul."

— Toni Morrison, The Nobel Lecture In Literature, 1993

"A little talent is a good thing to have if you want to be a writer. But the only real requirement is the ability to remember every scar."

— Stephen King

"The role of a writer is not to say what we can all say, but what we are unable to say."

— Anaïs Nin

"Stories may well be lies, but they are good lies that say true things, and which can sometimes pay the rent."

— Neil Gaiman

"Don't bend; don't water it down; don't try to make it logical; don't edit your own soul according to the fashion. Rather, follow your most intense obsessions mercilessly."

— Franz Kafka

The Words

"The true alchemists do not change lead into gold; they change the world into words."

— William H. Gass, A Temple of Texts

"There is something delicious about writing the first words of a story. You never quite know where they'll take you."

— Beatrix Potter

"A word after a word after a word is power."

— Margaret Atwood

"Words can be like X-rays if you use them properly -- they'll go through anything. You read and you're pierced."

— Aldous Huxley, Brave New World

"All you have to do is write one true sentence. Write the truest sentence that you know."

— Ernest Hemingway

"Tears are words that need to be written."

— Paulo Coelho

"Fill your paper with the breathings of your heart."

— William Wordsworth

"A writer is a person who cares what words mean, what they say, how they say it. Writers know words are their way towards truth and freedom, and so they use them with care, with thought, with fear, with delight. By using words well they strengthen their souls. Story-tellers and poets spend their lives learning that skill and art of using words well. And their words make the souls of their readers stronger, brighter, deeper."

— Ursula K. Le Guin

The Writers Exchange is for anyone who has an interest in writing. If you are looking for someone to read your work, or if you would like to read the work of others, contact Judy Carroll. Autumnseas@yahoo.com

Welcommittee

We have two new club members this month, Brent Watson and Greg Chaffins. Welcome Greg and Brent. May your association with the N3F be long and enjoyable.

The purpose of the Welcommittee is to welcome new members to the club. A letter is sent, by email or postal mail, to new members informing them of club activities they may be interested in joining. Those members with email addresses are also sent attachments to the current TNFF and other publications the N3F has to offer.

If you would like to help welcome new members to this wonderful club please contact

Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Round Robins

Patricia Williams-King asks that Round Robin members be vigorous about answering their round robins and forwarding things on to the next member of the Robin. DO NOT send the material back to her unless she is the next person on the list. The currently active papermail Round Robins are:

#1 Cats in SF F & Folklore

#2 Worldwide Folklore

#3 The Speculative in Films

#6 Star Trek: DS9& TNG.

#6-A Fairy & Folk Tales

#8 Mysticism & Religion in SF &F

#9 Celtic Folklore & Druid Folklore.

#10 Harry Potter Books & Movies

#11 Mercedes Lackey

#12 Mythology

#13 Syfy Channel

#13-B SF &F in Films

#14 Star Trek: Voy & Ent

#15 Star Trek: Classic /TOS

#16-A Star Wars Rogue One & TFA's

#17 TV SF & F

Video Bureau

- #19-A Current Reading
- #20 Firefly/Serenity
- #22 Horror
- #23 Doctor Who
- #28 Torchwood
- #29 Science & Technology in Society
- #30 Thieves World
- #31 Women SF &F Writers
- #32 Darkover/MZB
- #40 High Technology in the Ancient World.
- #41 General SF & Fantasy books , TV, Movies.
- #13-A SYFY Channel
- #21 C.J. Cherryh
- # 24 J.R.R. Tolkien /TLOTR's Books Movies

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.

NOTE: If you wish to join a Postal Round Robin contact - Patricia Williams-King, 755 Glen View Drive, Nashville, TN 37206

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
- Japanese Anime - 1 member
- Fairy Tales and Folklore - 2 members

The following Round Robins have 0 members each.

- The Marvel Universe
- DC Superheroes and Villains
- Cartoons and Cartooning
- Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Video Games
- Comics and Graphic Novels

A Round Robin needs at least 3 members to start rounding. Please help these members by joining one of the above Round Robins. If you see an ERR you would like to join please contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Following is a list of upcoming and recent Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Supernatural horror-themed films planned for release in 2018.

Key:

- AF = Animated Fantasy
- ANI = Animated
- BOT = Robots/Mecha Science Fantasy
- DCU = DC Comics Universe
- F = Fantasy
- H = Horror/Dark Fantasy
- HPU = Harry Potter Universe
- MCU = Marvel Cinematic Universe
- SF = Science Fiction
- SFF = Science Fantasy
- SH = Super Hero
- SPY - Spy-Fi
- VG - Video Game inspired
- XMN - X-Men Universe
- [W] = Wide release
- [L] = Limited release

January

- 05 - Insidious: The Last Key (Universal) - H [W]
- 12 - Paddington 2 (Warner Bros.) - AF [W]
- 26 - Maze Runner: The Death Cure - SF [W]

February

- 02 - Winchester - H [W]
- 02 - Before We Vanish - SF [L]
- 09 - Peter Rabbit - AF [W]
- 16 - Black Panther - SF MCU SH [W]
- 23 - Annihilation - SF [W]
- 23 - Curvature - SF [L]

March

- 02 - Red Sparrow - SPY [W]
- 09 - A Wrinkle in Time - SFF [W]
- 16 - Tomb Raider - F VG [W]
- 23 - Pacific Rim Uprising - SFF BOT [W]
- 23 - Sherlock Gnomes - AF [W]
- 23 - The Endless - SF [L]
- 28 - Ready Player One - SF [W]

April

- 06 - A Quiet Place - H [W]

May

- 04 - Avengers: Infinity War - SH MCU [W]
- 18 - Deadpool 2 - SH XMN [W]
- 25 - Solo: A Star Wars Story - SFF [W]

June

- 15 - The Incredibles 2 - AF SH [W]
- 22 - Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom - SF [W]

July

- 06 - Ant-Man and the Wasp - SH MCU [W]
- 13 - Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation - AF [W]
- 13 - The Nun - H [W]
- 20 - Alita: Battle Angel - SF [W]
- 27 - Teen Titans Go! to the Movies - ANI DCU [W]

August

- 03 - The Predator - SF [W]
- 10 - The Meg - SF [W]
- 17 - Captive State - SF [W]
- 31 - Kin - SF [W]

September

- 14 - The Darkest Minds - SF [W]
- 21 - The House With a Clock in Its Walls - F [W]
- 21 - Robin Hood - F [W]
- 28 - Smallfoot - AF [W]

October

- 05 - Venom - SH MCU [W]
- 19 - Mowgli - F [W]
- 26 - Overlord - H SF [W]

November

- 02 - Dark Phoenix - SH XMN [W]
- 02 - Mulan - F [W]
- 02 - The Nutcracker and the Four Realms - F [W]
- 09 - Dr. Seuss's The Grinch - AF [W]
- 16 - Fantastic Beasts: the Crimes of Grindelwald - F HPU [W]
- 21 - Ralph Breaks the Internet: Wreck-It Ralph 2 - AF [W]

December

- 14 - Mortal Engines - SFF BOT [W]
- 21 - Aquaman - SH DCU [W]
- 21 - Bumblebee - SFF BOT [W]
- 26 - Mary Poppins Returns - F [W]

Recruiting Bureau

You've seen it, or will: there's an increase in new members. We're using some new approaches, and perhaps we'll talk out further recruitment possibilities. We're trying to solve recruitment problems as well. Jeffrey Redmond is using his sites for advertising the N3F, and I'm advertising it in my netzine Surprising Stories. We have ads in the Dell magazines. —John Thiel

I just sent off the check and image for an ad in the Anime Detour Program book, a con with 6000 anticipated attendees. We are also preparing to run an ad in the DragonCon program book. — George Phillies

Games Bureau

Wesley Kawato writes: Venus Next, the second expansion kit for Terraforming Mars, is now available. This expansion adds five new corporations to the game and a new resource called *floaters*. You can now earn money and score victory points by terraforming Venus. Floaters are important if you plan to ter-

raform Venus. Experienced Terraforming Mars players may have mixed feelings about this expansion. One friend said he hates three of the five new corporations, and won't play them if he has a choice. Recently, in a three-player game, I scored a lot of points for terraforming Venus because my two opponents concentrated on terraforming Mars. This Venus First strategy will only work when playing certain corporations. In the end I scored 64 points, which is respectable, but I still finished in last place.

Birthday Bureau

In January 9 birthday cards and 7 renewal notices (including four with two members at same address) were sent out. Laurraine Tutihasi lauraine@mac.com

Bookwyrms

Many years ago, Bookwyrms readers agreed on a list of books they would all read for the year. Then they all discussed them. We tried reviving it, but were not very successful. Perhaps there are just too many books. In any event, the former Buheads are moving on to other fannish activities, there are no signs of replacements or member interest, so this Bureau is for the nonce closing down.

Anime/Comics Bureau

Vox Day, creator of the Rabid Puppies Hugo slates, certainly does seem committed to fighting the culture war on all fronts, doesn't he? It looks like the first release by his Arkhaven comics label is already a success: the first book of the six-issue RIGHT HO, JEEVES P. G. Wodehouse comic, A BINGE AT BRINKLEY, has already sold out its first printing at Amazon, though of course copies are endlessly available for the Kindle, at least in the U.S. Adapted by Chuck Dixon and drawn by Gary Kwapisz (SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN), it sells for \$2.99 and runs 24 pages. Also in the works (currently being colored) is the first of the ALT*HERO comics, CRACK-DOWN, which was previously announced with a publication date of March. It's worth speculating on whether Arkhaven will follow the Japanese manga model of issuing comics on a variety of subjects and doing more comics that don't have anything to do with spandex-clad superheroes.

Speaking of manga, the wildly popular Fate/Grand Order mobile phone game, adapted from the Fate/Stay Night franchise, is currently running an event related to the anime The Garden of Sinners, in which an investigator with a lethal supernatural talent investigates a series of suicides in a half-abandoned apartment building. The anime itself is available free on Amazon Prime, and I think if you enjoyed the dark occult horror episodes of The X-Files, you will probably like The Garden of Sinners, although the protagonist, Shiki, is harder to like than Mulder or Scully.

I'll be attending Anime Detour in Minneapolis on the first weekend in April (the weekend after Easter) and wouldn't mind seeing any N3F members who might happen to be at the convention or in the area of the Hyatt Regency that weekend. Don't we have some N3F badge flags or stickers?—Kevin Trainor

Book Review Bureau

I have started sending short reviews of published novels to Bob Jennings for Tightbeam. I urge the rest of you to join me. If you read a book, consider tossing off a few lines on whether you like it or not, what it was about, quality of production, and all these other good things.

Letters

Dear Neffers:

I have let things slide because I have been very busy with a new job, but I am now finding that this is indeed a part-time job, and I do have some time to catch up on things. So, I have The National Fantasy Fan, Vol. 76, numbers 10, 11 and 12 to comment on, and I shall do that with the next paragraphs.

Vol. 76, No. 10...Indeed, letters of comment, like this one, are always good, but the level of involvement has to rise when it comes to the health of the club. I hope it shall increase, and in spite of this busy pause, I shall do my best to keep up in this new year.

John Thiel is unfortunately correct when it comes to apas. Some of the most hallowed titles in apa fandom are either gone, or are urgently soliciting for members to stay alive. I was in apas before I got into fanzines, so I have my own collection of the original to my apa contribs. I am not in any right now, and I would simply not have the time for them.

Vol. 76, No. 11...I hope the voting turn-out is good. Any group with the population the N3F has should have high participation. The keyword there is 'should'.

Good for you for ditching Wells Fargo. I have dealt with both banks and credit unions in the past, and credit unions are always friendlier and cheaper to deal with.

I have read some of David Keller's books, and found that a couple of other names listed are Keller's pseudonyms, so I have certainly learned something today. It's always good to learn more of the history of our interest.

Vol. 76, No. 12...Hmmm...congratulations to all those who won in the club elections. Thirteen voters? Not nearly enough participation on the part of the potential electorate. Still, the process works, and the annual exercise is done.

I see that I have responded to Tightbeam 281, but I have 282 in my list of zines to respond to. Robert Jennings, a letter of comment is coming RSN, and that's about the only time frame I can put that in. I will try my best soon.

Caught up. This year will be an interesting one for me. I have just celebrated last month 40 years of fandom for me, and our quest for things to interest us continues with more forays into steampunk. 2018 will see our 35th wedding anniversary, and there may be more celebrations coming up. I

hope that 2018 will be a better year for all. Many thanks for these issues, and if I have my way, I will be a more timely correspondent. . .though I wouldn't hold my breath for that promise. Thanks for all these issues, and see you with more.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

RACE: HUMAN TRIBAL OR ETHNIC AFFILIATION: FAN

Michael Lowrey's Fan Guest of Honor speech at ICon 25 (Coralville, IA; 10-14-2000)

I work at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, for a program called "Cultures and Communities." In our class on multiculturalism in America, one of the first things we ask students to do is to write an essay on their ethnic identity.

Now by genetics and upbringing, my ethnic identity is pretty much generic redneck: Scotch-Irish, some Cherokee, undoubtedly some English (I don't often admit to that last). I certainly identify with the Irish part (yes, Scotch-Irish means Ulster Irish, which means by heredity I AM an Orangeman; so sue me!) and the Cherokee part; but it's an intellectual identification. I had no cherished stories told me by elders steeped in the old ways; just tales, however beloved, learned from books.

I guess my youth was pretty standard for a fan: I was the bookworm, the kid who got bored in school and used up the meager resources of the school library, the one with few real peers who could understand what I was talking about. Occasionally I'd find somebody who was as inspired as I was by a Heinlein novel or the latest issue of Fantasy & Science Fiction; but such experiences were few and far between. Then I went to college up North, and found an actual science fiction club. It was informal, based off-campus, and full of wiser, older people, some of them in their late twenties or even older[!]; but they didn't care how old I was, just what kind of a mind I had. Once a week, I was pretty much guaranteed that I could find kindred souls with whom to talk. It was a lifesaver.

I left that college, and returned to my tiny home town. My sole contact with the SF community was the National Fantasy Fan Federation, the good old, much-abused N3F. It reminded me that there was something out there beyond the mundane realities of my roots; and I will always love it for that.

Then I moved to Nashville, where there was a large SF club with monthly meetings, discussion groups, and more; I was among kindred spirits again, and was delighted. At a meeting, somebody talked about going to an actual convention, in faraway Ohio somewhere. I'd heard about these things back in Chicago, and leapt at the chance. I stood there on the curb that Friday morning, my orange trooper hat on my head, my brand-new orange patent leather loafers on my feet, ready for a new experience. I was not disappointed.

It was what they called a small relaxacon, I was to learn (specifically, it was MidwestCon); but to me it was all the wonders of fandom unveiled. There was a dealer's room, and fanzines, and a few panels, and a film room (yes, we were still using film in those days), and pros whose books I'd read and admired (who would actually talk to a goshwowoboy neo like myself). But above all else there were the fans.

I was home. I had discovered my tribe, my people, my identity.

Whatever else I may be - husband, daddy, union steward, Esperantist, wearer of orange garments, Quaker, part-Cherokee, feminist, Irishman, Macintosh user, Wobbly, ex-Tennessean, anarcho-socialist, Wisconsinite, Hordesman - I am a Fan.

That first convention experience was in 1975, a quarter of a century ago; and it was the start of the best thing that ever happened to me. I have loved and married within the tribe, and we (Cicatrice and I, with the help of the rest of fandom) are now raising a wonderful femmefan who knows who her people are. By the time that first weekend was over I knew: forever and eternally, I am a Fan, a natural-born free citizen of the ImagiNation. This is my Way of Life, which I will fight to defend against all comers, regardless of what excuse they may have to attack it.

In the old days, before conventions like this one became commonplace, it was said: It is a Proud and Lonely Thing to be a Fan. Well, it's not so lonely anymore; but for me It is an Extremely Proud Thing to be a Fan. I am honored beyond description to be your Fan Guest of Honor this weekend, and I thank you.

SerCon
Neglected Genre Authors:
Amelia Reynolds Long
 by
Jon D. Swartz, Ph. D.
N3F Historian

Amelia Reynolds Long (1904 - 1978) was an American science fiction (SF) and mystery writer. She is remembered today mainly because one of her stories, "The Thought-Monster," was made into the 1958 MGM horror film *Fiend Without a Face*. She is known to some SF fans because she co-wrote the 1936 novel *Behind the Evidence* with SF personality William L. Crawford (under the combined pseudonym of Peter Reynolds). Long wrote under her full name but also used the bylines of Amelia R. Long, A. R. Long, Adrian Reynolds, Patrick Laing, Mordred Weir, and Kathleen Buddington Coxe (a pseudonym used by Long when she co-authored stories with her friend Edna McHugh).

Long was born in Columbia, Pennsylvania, and moved at the age of six to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She began her writing career with horror stories and SF and began writing mys-

teries in 1939 with a novel, *The Shakespeare Murders*. In the late 1940s she became an editor for college textbooks at Stackpole Books in Harrisburg. After this work she turned to writing poetry. Later in life she was a museum curator. She never married.

Long was involved in SF fandom around the time she was writing short stories for the pulps. Two of her letters to editors appeared in *Astonishing Stories* (October, 1940) and *Startling Stories* (March, 1939). She also wrote letters to "The Eyrie" of *Weird Tales* magazine; and one of them was published in the November, 1931 issue.

A Mystery Novel with Fantastic Elements

Death Has a Will (Phoenix Press, 1944)

"An ingenious puzzler enlivened by a sociable ghost, a doctor with a tiger's eye ring, and a pair of spinster ladies equipped with spy glasses. Stephen Carter, the capable lawyer sleuth familiar to Long's fans, matches wits with his brother Jefferson, the district attorney, as they go on the crime trail."

Checklist of Long's Short SF, Fantasy, and Mystery Fiction
 Below are listed Long's stories in the order in which they were first published. Reprints of some of her stories have also been noted.

"The Twin Soul" in *Weird Tales* (March, 1928)

"The Thought Monster" in *Weird Tales* (March 1930) Reprinted in *Etchings and Odysseys No. 10*, edited by Eric A. Carlson, John J. Koblas & Randy Alain Everts, The Strange Company, 1987; reprinted in *Science Fiction Classics: The Stories that Morphed into Movies*, edited by Forest J Ackerman, TV Books, 1999; reprinted in *Dr. Acula's Thrilling Tales of the Uncanny*, edited by Forrest J Ackerman & Lynne Rock, Sense of Wonder Press, 2004.

"The Magic Maker" in *Weird Tales* (June, 1930)

"The Mystery of the Phantom Shot" in *Amazing Detective Stories* (July, 1930)

"The Mechanical Man" in *The Thought Stealer and The Mechanical Man*, edited by Hugo Gernsback, Stellar Publishing Corporation, 1930 (Long's story appeared in this short booklet along with "The Thought Stealer" by Frank Bourne)

"The Undead" in *Weird Tales* (August, 1931) Reprinted in *Etchings and Odysseys No. 10*, edited by Eric A. Carlson, John J. Koblas & Randy Alain Everts, The Strange Company, 1987.

"Omega" in *Amazing Stories* (July, 1932) Reprinted in *Avon Fantasy Reader No. 10*, edited by Donald A. Wollheim, Avon Novels Inc, 1949; reprinted in *The End of the World*, edited by Wollheim, Ace, 1956; reprinted in *Gosh! Wow! (Sense of Wonder) Fiction*, edited by Forrest J Ackerman, Bantam, 1982; reprinted in *Amazing Science Fiction Anthology: The Wonder Years 1926-1935*, edited by Martin H. Greenberg, TSR, 1987. Note: Long's original title for this story was "The Last Man."

"Scandal in the Fourth Dimension" (as by A. R. Long) in *Astounding Stories* (February, 1934)

"Masters of Matter" in *Marvel Tales* (March-April, 1935)

"Flapping Wings of Death" in *Weird Tales* (June, 1935)



Star Steed and Mage...Angela K.Scott

"A Leak in the Fountain of Youth" (as by A. R. Long) in *Astounding Stories* (August, 1936) Reprinted in *SCI-FI Womanthology*, edited by Forrest J Ackerman & Pamela Keesey, Sense of Wonder Press, 2003.

"The Album" in *Weird Tales* (December, 1936)

"Cosmic Fever" (as by A. R. Long) in *Astounding Stories* (February, 1937)

"Reverse Phylogeny" (as by A. R. Long) in *Astounding Stories* (June, 1937) Reprinted in *Science Fiction Adventures in Dimension*, edited by Groff Conklin, Vanguard, 1953; reprinted in *Adventures in Dimension*, edited by Conklin, Grayson, 1955.

"The Mind Master" in *Astounding Stories* (December, 1937)

"The Dimension Drug" (a two-part serial) in *Spaceways* #1 and #2, edited and published by Harry Warner, 1938.

"Death By Fire" in *Science Fiction* (March, 1939)

"The Box from the Stars" in *Strange Stories* (April, 1939) Reprinted in *Fantasy Book*, Vol.2 #3, August, 1983, edited by Dennis Allonée & Nick Smith, Fantasy Book Enterprises, 1983.

"Bride of the Antarctic" (as by Mordred Weir) in *Strange Stories* (June, 1939). Reprinted in *Yours, Amelia*, edited and published by Chet Williamson, 1978 [special issue of Williamson's *Crumbling Relicks* fanzine -- entire issue dedicated to Long]

"When the Half Gods Go-" (as by Amelia R. Long) in *Astounding Science Fiction* (July, 1939)

"Justice in Time" in *Stardust*, Vol.1, #2 (May, 1940)

"Castaways in Space" in *Science Fiction* (June, 1940)

"Spirit Voice" in *Five Detective Novels* (Fall, 1950)

"Handmade Alibi" in *The Phantom Detective* (Spring, 1951)

"Reverse Alibi" in *Smashing Detective Stories* (June, 1951)

"The Mountain Comes to Mohamed" in *Smashing Detective Stories* (September, 1951)

"Fatal Footsteps" in *Famous Detective* (November, 1951)

"Hot Money" in *G-Men Detective* (Winter, 1951)

"Death Looks Down" (an abridged version of the novel of the same name) in *Triple Detective* (Winter, 1951). [Death Looks Down features "murder most foul" in the American Literature Room of the Philadelphia University library, and involves a

group of Edgar Allan Poe scholars, the theft of what is alleged to be the original manuscript of Poe's "Ulalume," a disappearing corpse, and four gruesome murders. Her series detective Trelawney is on the job, this time with the assistance of another of Long's series characters, female mystery writer Peter Piper] "The Case of the Frightened Child" (as by Patrick Laing) in *Famous Detective* (February, 1952).

Published Newspaper Obituary

"Miss Amelia Long, 74, of 725 S. 25th St., a mystery writer, poet, and museum curator, died Wednesday at her home. She retired in October 1976 after more than 16 years as curator of the William Penn Museum. She continued to volunteer her services to the organization until her death. She was the author of 34 mystery novels, about 25 of which were also published in foreign languages. She also wrote about 100 short stories and between 200 and 300 poems, some of which were published in magazines. She was the winner of numerous state and national poetry society awards. She also wrote a number of prize-winning radio scripts which were broadcast nationally."

Conclusions

Little has been published about this neglected genre author. Indeed, there is almost nothing in the standard SF reference books about her. Sharon Yntema's *More Than 100 Woman Science Fiction Writers* doesn't even mention her! Yet, along with Clare Winger Harris and C. L. Moore, Long was one of the first female SF writers; and it is unfortunate that nobody ever brought out a collection of her SF stories. In addition, she did not receive a single genre award during her lifetime (or posthumously, for that matter). Her one-time literary agent, Forrest J Ackerman, is responsible for keeping some of her work in print. Ackerman wrote in his anthology *Gosh! Wow! Sense of Wonder Science Fiction* (in which he included Long's story "Omega") that he met Ms. Long in her home town of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in the mid-1960s. He described her as "a 50ish librarian type, a kind of André Norton of an earlier era."

One critic wrote that Long's prose style was very direct: "With good dialog and a sense of high speed adventure pervading her stories, it is even more impressive how much of her science fiction and weird fantasy stories still seem fresh today." Reading the stories now, one can't help but marvel at the many intriguing ideas she had. In "Omega" (1932), Long gave the reader "a tour-de-force of creativity in describing, step by step, a possible end of the world." Her "Reverse Phylogeny," one of her finest stories, was a humorous time travel yarn that Groff Conklin included in his 1953 *Science Fiction Adventures in Dimension* anthology. Even with her tale "When the Half Gods Go-," somewhat dated with time, the twist at the end still takes the reader by surprise, and the writing in this story has been described as "nothing short of brilliant."

Around 1940 Long gave up writing SF and focused on mystery novels. Her mystery writing was heavily influenced by Agatha Christie and was very much part of the traditional "whodunit" genre as opposed to the hard-boiled noir school of writing so popular at the time. Her detective stories were well written and "it was her adeptness at drawing interesting, believable characters that made her mystery novels a pleasure to read." At the

start of the 1950s she concentrated her creative energies on editing textbooks and writing poetry.

Bibliography

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 Hubin, Allen J. *The Bibliography of Crime Fiction 1749-1975*. Del Mar, CA: Publishers, Inc., 1979.
 Mallett, Daryl F. & Robert Reginald. *Reginald's Science Fiction and Fantasy Awards, Third Edition*. San Bernardino, CA: The Borgo Press, 1993.
 Tuck, Donald H. *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction and Fantasy, Volume One: Who's Who, A – L*. Chicago, IL: Advent, 1974.
 Yntema, Sharon (ed.). *More Than 100 Woman Science Fiction Writers*. Freedom, CA: The Crossing Press, 1988.

N3F Founding Members:

Lou Goldstone

by

Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.
 N3F Historian

Louis C. Goldstone, Jr. (November 17, 1920 – November 8, 1983) was a San Francisco science fiction (SF) fan, active in the 1930s-1940s. He published the fanzine *Fantasia*, attended the first Staplecon in 1943 (organized by Forrest J Ackerman), and was a member of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society (LASFS).

Fantasia was published for three issues between January, 1941 and July, 1941. Each issue contained three stories, three poems, three articles, and an editorial.

Goldstone was nominated for the 1946 Best Fan Artist Retro Hugo (won by Bill Rotsler) that was presented at LACon III. Other nominees for this retro award were fan artists Alva Rogers, Joe Gibson, and Jack Wiedenbeck.

Goldstone did the cover art for *Death's Deputy* (1948) and *The Cosmic Geoids and One Other* (1949). He also contributed art for the 4th World Science Fiction Convention (1946 Pacificon) Program.

He had letters published in the following prozines: *Amazing Stories* (November, 1938 issue), *Fantastic Adventures* (November, 1939), *Startling Stories* (November, 1939), and *Future Fiction* (July, 1940).

He appears in a group photo (with Forrest J Ackerman, Tigrina, and other SF fans) on page 261 of Harry Warner's history of SF fandom during the 1940s, *All Our Yesterdays* (Advent, 1969).

Of course, Goldstone was also one of the 64 charter members of our club, The National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F), in

1941.

Sources: *All Our Yesterdays*, *Fancylopedia 3*, ISFDB, SFE, and other Internet sites.

Fiction

Company Daughter by Callan Primer

...reviewed by Cedar Sanderson

I picked up *Company Daughter*, in spite of the cover, because I like to cook. Since you don't see a lot of emphasis on cooking in science fiction, I was curious how this book would incorporate that element into the tale. It languished in my TBR pile for a long time, and I finally picked it up and started to read without high expectations (the cover... I do judge a book by the cover, and this one says 'amateur' or maybe 'debut indie' to me. Not a death knell, but makes me hesitate to see a photo on a SF cover.)

I was pleasantly surprised to find that the story itself drew me in and along, making me disinclined to put it down until I was done. Not always easy, given the pace of my life and the level of distractions. I was intrigued by the ogres – bio-engineered troops – and the cooking. The main character I wasn't terribly sympathetic with, but...

Ok, here's the thing. This is a Young Adult novel. Part of me says 'woo-hoo! YA SF!' because you just don't see that very often these days (although, yes, it is starting to happen more) and the other part of me, the Mother-Thing, says 'oh, child...' as I follow Aleta's decisions that lead her deeper and deeper into trouble. But as the story went on, I found I liked her more and she's definitely a plucky, semi-competent (and learning!) child. This is also, in time-honored YA tradition, a romance. Sort of.

Some of the side characters are really well done. Others seem to come and go at the convenience of the plot but that's ok. The story still flows on. The end is well done, satisfyingly enough while still leaving a sequel more than open. In fact, the teaser at the end of the book left me looking for that sequel and disappointed it's not yet available. I followed the author on Amazon, so I'll know when it comes out.

Overall, this is a fun story, aimed for a younger audience but not unreadable for the older set (heh. I'm such an old lady...). I'd recommend it to my readers, with the caveat that it does seem to be a debut novel, and I expect the author to get better. There is a bit of roughness to the writing style and action sequences. However, it is a fun read, and I'm looking forward to the next one!

And I just realized I know the author... Hah! I have far too many books on my Kindle. Well, through my absent-mindedness you get an unbiased review (not that I would have been biased before, but, you know. I did buy the book.) I must remember to ask her for something to do ETWYRT on – maybe noodles!

2018 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, 2018.
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. Stories will also be reviewed by the Editor of the N3F Fiction zine *Eldritch Science*; authors of suitable tales will be invited to submit their tales for publication in our zine. This review and invitation will only occur after contest winners have been announced, so it can have no effect on the contest outcome.

101 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 among 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, 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, 2018. 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 2018 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

In this issue:

Neffies
Volunteers Needed

Zines
Eldritch Science -- Tightbeam -- N'APA-- Ionisphere -- TNFF

Club Activities
Treasury -- New and Reinstated Members and Info Updates -- Writers Exchange
Welcommittee -- Round Robins -- Recruiting Bureau—Games Bureau
Bookwyrms -- Birthday Bureau -- Book Review Bureau—Anime/Comics Bureau

Letters
Lloyd Penney -- Michael Lowrey

Sercon
Neglected Genre Authors: Amelia Reynolds Long; N3F Founding Members: Lou Goldstone

Fiction
Company Daughter by Callan Primer -- Smashwords SF Novels for January 2018
Short Story Contest

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