



THE

VOL. 2

No. 1

# MANGAVERSE:

NEWS & FAN-TALK

FEBRUARY 2005



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the National Fantasy Fan Federation.

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# Editor's Corner

**First and foremost I apologize for this ish being so late and so thin.** I have been insanely busy and so have my normal contributors. Other unanticipated things have occurred as well. I'll spare you the boredom of what went on during the month of February and the beginning of March. Heh.

WARNING! If you do not want to hear about my 21.5 month old daughter and her fannish doings and upbringing then *read no further*. Now, if you're thinking, "why in hells bells is she always talking about her toddler?" I'll tell you why. I'm currently a Domestic Engineer (a.k.a. stay at home mom). I do stuff for N3F, I'm a wife, and mommy to Hazel, 2 cats, and 3 rats. So, I guess you can say that my life revolves around my family and N3F. So there you go.

I made the mistake of letting Hazel look at manga. This has caused her to want me to read them to her. She would ask, I'd say no, and then one day, I said yes . . . I didn't even think about it for some reason, but what I read to her was Peach Girl vol. 5. I skipped pages and lots of lines of course, but now she has me read it to her ALL THE TIME! She's also started having me read Inu Yasha, Ranma 1/2, and Ah, My Goddess. She often wants me to read a bunch of them one right after the other. This gets very tiring as you can guess. I've had to start telling her to "read them to yourself." She gets upset, but then she does, sort of. She looks at the pictures and responds to them. She says, "Oh no!" to the action bits.

These leads me to tell you about The Incredibles. She wanted to watch something on my box. I had to clean so I put on The Incredibles. During the action bits she would say, "No! Oh no!", squeal and get excited. It was freakin' HILARIOUS!

She's also learned a few more Japanese words besides "baka". Among them are, "nani", and "kawaii" (she says "cat, ka-waii"). Sometimes I think she says a few other words but I don't recognize them. She listens to Japanese everyday, and when Aunt Usagi talks to her on the phone, she talks to her in Japanese. Yes, this is on purpose. I'm looking into learning myself. Afterall, I want to be able to understand what my daughter is saying. :wink:

Here's a picture of Hazel with a load of manga. You can tell she has her daddy's big rectangle feet in this one. Poor girl.

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## Witch Seed CANCELED

I've decided to table Witch Seed. There are quite a few reasons why I am doing this.

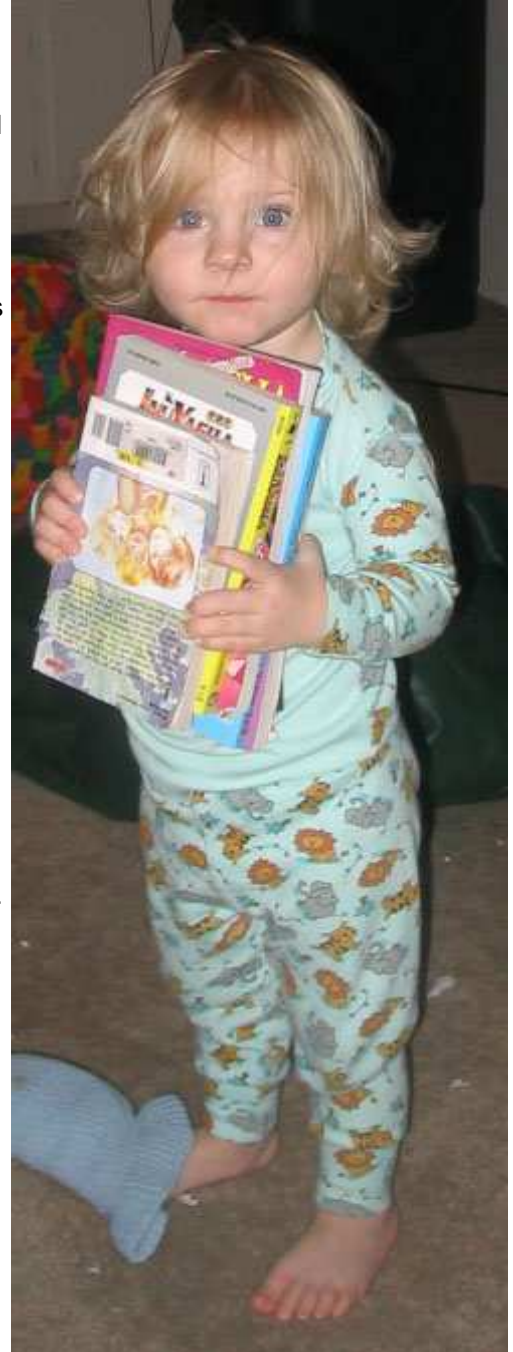
One major reason is time. I don't have the time to create a good comic so I end up creating mediocrity. This is not cool in my opinion. This serves to frustrate me, and consequently the comic has become a burden. This hinders the story, and the art portraying the story. I haven't been overly happy with the last few pages (or the ones you never saw). I feel that I need to practice more with the genre and find more time to commit to its making.

I was speaking with Usagi and she recommended that I do only flash comics. I agree. I tried to do too much too soon.

I do plan on picking it up again, but not for a while.

I apologize.

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# The Foundation of a Holiday

By Jane Pinckard

February 11 is celebrated in Japan as *Kenkoku Kinenbi*, National Foundation Day. On that day in 660 BCE, it's said, the first emperor *Jimmu* descended by heavenly mandate and took his earthly throne on the island.

I suppose it's a bit like July Fourth in that it symbolizes the founding of the country, with some Christmas thrown in because *Jimmu* was a deity and not only the head of state but the center of the Shinto religion. Like all emperors of Japan, he was descended from the sun goddess *Amaterasu*. At least, that's what the early histories tell us – the story is told in the *Nihonshoki* (or *Nihongi*) and the *Kojiki*, texts produced by the Japanese imperial court in the eighth century.

Many scholars now believe these histories to be, like similar narratives in the Bible or the Hebrew Book of Judges, mostly legendary because there isn't enough archeological evidence to support them.

## Meiji Neo-Traditionalism

But as old as this holiday sounds, it wasn't formally established until the late nineteenth century. During the grand period of myth-making in the Meiji Restoration (1868-1912), the government decided to return to those legends to re-establish the glory and power of the imperial throne. The rituals surrounding the divinity of the emperor became formalized as emperor-worship was enfolded into the daily life of Japanese citizens. As part of this effort, in 1872 the Meiji government celebrated the coronation of *Jimmu* as "Empire Day" (*Kigensetsu*).

The savvy oligarchs of the Meiji period were smart marketers. They knew they had to modernize and industrialize, but also to unify the people after a period of civil war and conflict. They decided to use the imperial house as the center of Japanese political and spiritual feelings. They invoked the name of the emperor for all kinds of purposes – for industrialization, modernization, and colonial expansion.

The celebration of *Kigensetsu* was a way to transmit imperial values to the people and invite their participation in the empire through festivals honoring the country and its history. The emperor was rebranded by Meiji officials as the father of the nation, but a *modern* ruler. Even though the aim of Meiji oligarchs was to look back to the past, they re-fashioned it to fit the Western world that Japan wanted to join. That's why scholars term this "neo-traditionalism".

This was the modern beginning of *tennosei*, or the Emperor System.



Jimmu

## Expansion of the Japanese Empire

During the fascist militaristic period of Japan, roughly 1910-1947, *tennosei* reached its height of power and influence. Opposition was silenced through force or intimidation. Anyone who criticized the emperor, or by extension anything done in the name of the emperor, was blacklisted as a traitor.

In the name of the divine moral emperor of Japan, soldiers were sent to conquer China and Korea and the Pacific southwest, starting a devastating conflict that still has repercussions today. The emperor was the embodiment of virtue; as in the philosophy of *jihad*, as long as your heart was in line with the divine you could do no wrong, no matter what atrocities you might commit. This twisted thinking is what led ordinary Japanese men to commit horrific acts of cruelty as for example during the seven-week occupation of Nanjing.

But in the late fifties grassroots organizations from the right began to lobby for re-establishment of the holiday, and in 1966 the LDP, despite strong opposition from citizens claiming that such an action would be unconstitutional, pushed through legislation that declared February 11 once again a national holiday: *Kenkoku Kinenbi*. Interestingly, and not, I think, coincidentally, the first postwar economic boom

1954-57 was christened the “*Jimmu boom*”. There are signs now that the Emperor System is far from dead, especially among certain right-wing groups and conservative societies. But just as certainly, there remain a great deal of people who oppose emperor-worship, and they stage a symbolic protest on February 11.

For schoolchildren and business people, perhaps it's just another day off, a well-earned break from routine; but delving into the history of how *Kenkoku Kinenbi* was established highlights the complex tensions in modern Japanese society and helps shed light on a complicated cultural past that reverberates in many citizens still.

Recommended reading:

For the ancient period: W.G. Aston, translator. *Nihongi: Chronicles of Japan from the Earliest Times to AD 697*.

For the Meiji Era: Carol Gluck, *Japan's Modern Myths*

For the imperial period: W.G. Beasley, *Japanese Imperialism*

For the wartime and postwar eras: John Dower, *Japan in War and Peace*.

For Nanjing: Iris Chang, *The Rape of Nanking*

For modern Japan's social and political problems: Norma Field, *In the Realm of a Dying Emperor* and Gavan McCormack, *The Emptiness of Japanese Affluence*.

For my personal essay on *Kenkoku Kinenbi*, see [http://www.chanpon.org/archives/2003/02/12/kenkoku\\_kinen\\_no\\_hi.html](http://www.chanpon.org/archives/2003/02/12/kenkoku_kinen_no_hi.html)

Bio: Jane Pinckard is editor of GameGirlAdvance and a frequent contributor to Chanpon.org, a nonprofit online journal that examines the mixing of Japanese cultures with others. She majored in East Asian History at UC Berkeley, with an emphasis on premodern Japanese history. Her favorite anime are *Escaflowne* and *Ruroni Kenshin*. You can email her at [jane\[at\]gamegirladvance\[dot\]com](mailto:jane[at]gamegirladvance[dot]com).

NOTE: Jane Pickard is not a member of N3F. Even so, I asked her to write this article since all I could find on the web (except for her personal essay) were very short paragraphs on the subject, with hints that there was something deeper going on.



Meiji

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# Fun with Japanese

## Word List

By Bernadette "Usagi" Glasgow

Please memorize these words, because next lesson is going to have another word list that we are going to put in sentences.

This – Kore

That – Sore

School – Gakkoo ← remember "oo" is elongated "Oh" sound. Refer to lesson one.

Station – Eki

Hospital – Byooin

Office – Kaisha

Park – Kooen

Factory – Koojoo

Restaurant

House – Uchi (and ie)

Bookstore – honya

Supermarket

Car – Kuruma

Train – Densha

Airplane – Hikooki

Bus

Post office – Yuubinkyoku

Bank – Ginkoo

What is this?

Kore wa nan des ka?

This is a hospital.

Kore wa byooin des.

NOTE: To understand this lesson you will need to comprehend the previous lessons. You can go to [www.mangaverse.org](http://www.mangaverse.org) to download back issues so you can read those lessons if you do not have them.

**Ask Usagi a question!** You may ask me questions, or clarifications. Please email me at [twistedusagi@goosemoose.com](mailto:twistedusagi@goosemoose.com).

You may ask anonymously if you prefer.

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# NO POTIONS PLEASE

STORY AND ART BY ERIC GLASGOW



## Fanzine of Doom Schedule

**The MANGAVERSE's Fanzine of DOOM is now scheduled to be released in the summer of 2005.** This zine will make for great summer reading. I also feel that the change in release will help writers give us their best work!

### Publishing Format:

Primarily in .PDF. (URL will be sent to your email address.)

For hard copies a modest fee will apply.

Pricing is based on the zine size. TBA.

### Submissions:

Fan-art and fan-fiction of your favorite anime, manga, or comic.

Original art and comics are acceptable.

Word/Page Limits: NONE. I may be asking for trouble here, but we'll see.

Deadline: Currently **May 1, 2005.**

The deadline is creeping up on us! Only three months left!



## Upcoming Anime/Manga Conventions

By Ruth R. Davidson

### March:

March 4-6, 2005

Anime Overdose, San Francisco, Calif.

<http://www.animeod.com/>

*Guests of honor:*

Musicians: Psycho Le Cemu, Mari Iijima;

Actors:

Yuriko Fuchizaki, Rob Paulsen, Tara Strong,

Debi Derryberry;

Producers: Saki Nimiya, Hirofumi Murasaki;

Writers: Marv Wolfman, Gilles Poitras;

Artist: PMBQ;

Translator: Taka;

Fan: Eileen 'Kaki' Hu:

First 100 registrants (including those already registered) receive special coupons that guarantee admission to the music video contest and the costume contest

March 4-6, 2005

Kunicon, St. Louis, Mo.

<http://stl.kunicon.com/>

March 5, 2005

Kamecon, Manchester, N.H.

<http://www.kamecon.com/>

March 5-6, 2005

Magnifiicon, Krakow, Poland

<http://www.magnifiicon.prv.pl/>

March 11-13, 2005

MinamiCon, Southampton, U.K.

<http://www.minamicon.org.uk/>

March 11-13, 2005

Anime Detour, Bloomington, Minn.

<http://www.animedetour.com/>

*Guests of honor:*

Producer: Jonathan Klein;

Actors: Kyle Hebert, Monica Rial, Carrie Savage;

Writer: Marc Hairston;

Artist: Kristofer "Phade" McCormic

March 17-20, 2005

Comics in Leipzig, Leipzig, Germany

<http://www.comicsinleipzig.de/>

March 19, 2005

RECCA Con, Pittsburg, Calif.

<http://www.reccacon.com/>

March 25-27, 2005

KamiKazeCon, Houston, Texas

<http://www.kamikazecon.com/>

*Guests of honor:*

Artists:

Steve Bennett, Rodney and Ruby Caston, Robert and Emily DeJesus, Jan Scott-Frazier;

Director: Matt Greenfield;

Actors:

Greg Ayres, Tiffany Grant, Samantha Inoue Harte,

George Manley, Mike McFarland, Vic Mignogna,

Chris Patton, Monica Rial, Doug Smith

March 25-27, 2005

Anime Oasis, Boise, Idaho

<http://www.animeoasis.org/>

*Guests of honor:*

Actors: Michael Coleman, Travis Willingham;

Musicians: B! Machine, Voice Industrie;

Cosplayers: Kageshin; Idaho Go Club

March 25-27, 2005

AniZona, Phoenix, Arizona

<http://www.anizona.org/>

*Guests of honor:*



Actors: Colleen Clinkenbeard, Aaron Dismuke;  
Artists: Hide-san, Katie Bair

March 25-27, 2005  
Kunicon, San Diego, Calif.  
<http://san.kunicon.com/>

March 26, 2005  
KosaiKon Easter AniFest, Villanova, Pa.  
<http://www.kosaikon.com/>

March 26-27, 2005  
MomoCon, Atlanta, Ga.  
<http://www.momocon.com/>  
*Guests of honor:*

Artists:  
Fusion Studios, H.M. Ogden, Joshua Baldwin,  
Amanda Francis, Jessica Yesin, Jennie Breeden,  
Hatsuma, Jawaboy and Omi, Angel, Kittyhawk,  
GregC, Boomp, M. Carter, ex-O Studios;  
Producer: Keith Burgess;  
Actor: Amy Howard-Wilson;  
Fan: David G. Wilson, III

April:

March 31-April 3, 2005  
Tokyo International Anime Fair, Tokyo, Japan  
<http://www.taf.metro.tokyo.jp/en/index.html>

April 1-3, 2005  
Middle Tennessee Anime Convention,  
Nashville, Tenn.  
<http://www.mtac.net/>  
*Guest of honor:*  
Musician: Lisa Ray

April 2, 2005  
Animarathon, Bowling Green, Ohio  
<http://www.bgsu.edu/studentlife/organizations/anime/animarathon.html>

April 2, 2005  
Mini-Con, Broken Arrow, Okla.  
<http://www.mini-con.com/>

April 8-10, 2005  
Sakura Con, Seattle, Wash.  
<http://www.sakuracon.org/>

April 8-10, 2005  
Tekkoshon, Monroeville, Pa.  
<http://www.tekkoshon.com/>  
*Guest of honor:*  
Musician: Michael "Piano Squall" Gluck

April 15-17, 2005  
NoBrandCon, Eau Claire, Wisc.  
<http://www.nobrandcon.com/>

*Guests of honor:*

Actors: Chris Patton, Greg Ayres, Monica Rial

April 15-17, 2005  
JACON, Orlando, Fla.  
<http://www.jacon.org/>  
*Guests of honor:*

Actor: George Lowe;  
Artists: Geoff Fink, Gus Sorola

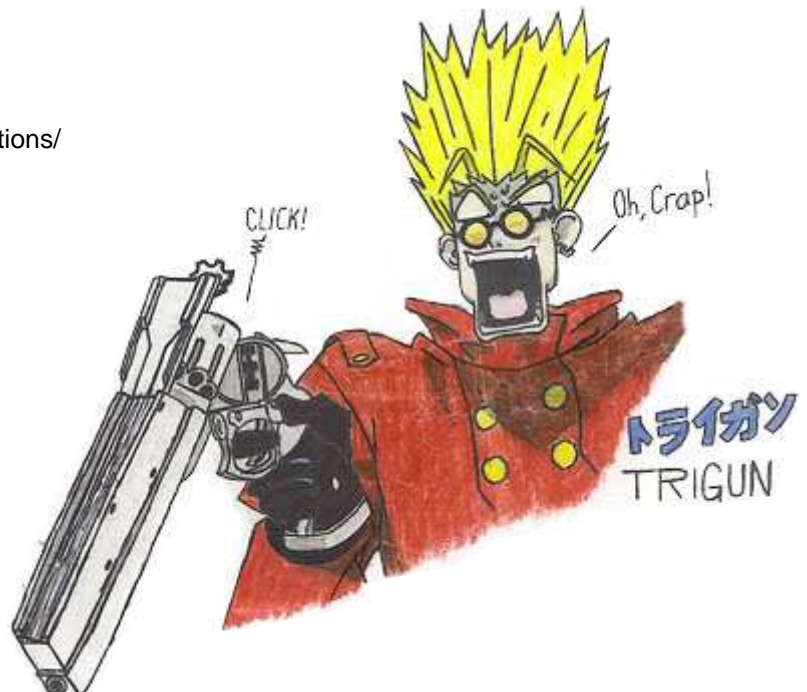
April 22-24, 2005  
Kawaii Kon, Honolulu, Hawaii  
<http://www.kawaii-kon.org/>  
*Guests of honor:*

Actor: Jennifer Sekiguchi;  
Producers: S. Kai Bovaird, David Williams;  
Artist: Robert DeJesus

April 22-24, 2005  
Anime Marathon, Niedersachsen, Germany  
<http://www.tomodachi.de/html/marathon/index.html>

April 29-May 1, 2005  
Anime Boston, Boston, Mass.  
<http://www.animeboston.com/>  
*Guests of honor:*  
Actors: Greg Ayres, David Kaye, Dave Wittenberg

April 29-May 1, 2005  
PersaCon, Madison, Alabama  
<http://www.geocities.com/chibicon2k3>  
*Guests of honor:*  
Artists: Stephanie Chateau, Steve Bennett



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# Upcoming Comics Conventions

By Ruth R. Davidson

## March

March 4-6

Napoli Comicon Napoli - Italy  
<http://www.comicon.it/>

March 5

STAPLE! Austin, TX  
<http://www.staple-austin.org/>

March 5-6

Chicagoland Grand National Comic Book Convention  
St. Charles, IL  
<http://www.zurkoantiquetours.com/product3.htm>

March 12-13

Pop Culture ConPlantation, FL  
[http://www.spookyempire.com/pop\\_culture\\_convention/index.html](http://www.spookyempire.com/pop_culture_convention/index.html)

March 13

Sacramento Comic Book, Toy and Anime Show  
Sacramento, CA  
<http://www.sacramentocomics.com/>

March 13

Saturday's Child Nostalgia Convention  
Cleveland, OH  
<http://www.harpercomics.com/conventions/>

March 13-14

Chicago ComicFest Rosemont, IL  
<http://motorcityconventions.com/>

March 18-20

Wizard World Los Angeles, Long Beach, CA  
<http://www.wizarduniverse.com/conventions/la.cfm>

March 20

Buckeye Comic Con Columbus, OH  
<http://www.harpercomics.com/conventions/>

March 20

Central Texas Comic Book Show, Temple, TX  
<http://www.jmventertainment.com/comicbooks.html>

## April

April 1-3

MidSouthCon 23 Memphis, TN  
<http://www.midsouthcon.org/>

April 2-3

Big Apple Comic Book, Art, and Toy Show  
New York City, NY



<http://www.bigapplecon.com/>

April 8-10

Ad Astra Toronto, ON - Can.  
<http://www.ad-astra.org/>

April 9-10

APE: Alternative Press Expo San Francisco, CA  
<http://www.comic-con.org/>

April 9-10

Supanova Pop Culture Expo 2005  
Brisbane, Queensland - Australia  
<http://www.supanova.com.au/>

April 10

Pop Culture Fest Columbus, OH  
<http://www.popculturefest.com/>

April 16

S.P.A.C.E. Columbus, OH  
<http://www.backporchcomics.com/space.htm>

April 17

Tampa Comic Book & Toy Convention Tampa, FL  
<http://www.comicbookconventions.com/tampaconvention/index.htm>

April 22-24

Windy City Pulp & Paperback Convention Rosemont, IL  
<http://www.windycitypulpandpaper.com/>

April 22-24

Pittsburgh Comicon Monroeville, PA  
<http://www.pittsburghcomicon.com/>

April 29 - May 1

Paradise Comics Toronto Comicon 2005  
Toronto, ON - Can.  
<http://www.torontocomicon.com/>

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## Submission Guidelines

By Ruth R. Davidson

**Publishing Schedule:** *The MANGAVERSE: News & Fan-talk* is currently scheduled to be published bi-monthly, February, April, June, August, October, and December.

*The MANGAVERSE's Fanzine of DOOM* is currently scheduled for publication annually around summer time. This status may change in the future.

**Deadlines:** For *The MANGAVERSE: News & Fan-talk* submissions are due on the 25th day of the month preceding the publication month. As an example, material intended for the August issue should be submitted to me by July 25. *If it doesn't get to me – the Editor – in time, it goes in the next issue.* Watch for updates on this information. I may change the deadline on you. \*wink\*

For *The MANGAVERSE's Fanzine of DOOM* submissions are currently due on May 1st, 2005. Watch for updates since this information is subject to change.

**What's Published:** *The MANGAVERSE: News & Fan-talk* is the official bi-monthly publication of The MANGAVERSE. Art, comics (original serial and one-shots), discussions/articles of your favorite anime/manga/comics (story lines, characters, writers, artists, etc.), con-reports, con-announcements, reviews, and any other fannish material related to anime/manga/comics are accepted publishing material.

*The MANGAVERSE's Fanzine of DOOM* is the official large zine for The MANGAVERSE. This will not only have original comics and stories, but it will be mostly filled with **fan art** and **fan fiction** from your favorite anime/manga/comic.

**Accepted Formats:** Paper copies are always welcome (must be legible) If emailing me attachments, please ask if the format you'd be sending me is acceptable. A few samples of what I can accept are: .doc, .rtf, .txt, .jpg, .png, .pdf, .xls, etc . Unexpected formats will be deleted. I will not accept disks or cds.

**Publishing Formats:** *The MANGAVERSE: News & Fan-talk* is published in .PDF format and sent to you via your email address. Paper printed versions are available upon request and will cost \$5 for one year (6 issues). Please be sure that your N3F membership dues are paid and up to date.

*The MANGAVERSE's Fanzine of DOOM* will be published in .PDF format and sent to you via your email address. Paper printed versions may be available. More info TBA.

**Not Sure What to Send?** Read the "What's Published" section. What's listed there is what you can send in to me for publishing. Any and all fannish material pertaining to anime/manga/comics. *Don't be afraid to send something in!* **The only thing I will not accept is hentai (pornographic) material.** If you are unsure if something is hentai, please feel free to ask me.

If you have any questions email me at [ruthiechan@xarph.net](mailto:ruthiechan@xarph.net) or snail mail me.

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## How to join The MANGAVERSE

By Ruth R. Davidson

Two steps are required when joining The MANGAVERSE.

*Step one: Join The National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F).*

A membership form is available to you on the last page of this issue and on the web at <http://nfff.org>. The MANGAVERSE is run in affiliation with N3F, a science fiction and fantasy club founded in 1941.

*Step two: email me after you complete step one.*

After you email me, I will then confirm with the N3F secretary that you indeed accomplished step one. This is because depending on when you join it may be a while before you see the official publication of the N3F (which is quarterly), and you could miss out on stuff otherwise.

*Step three: join in the fun!*

After step one and two are completed, feel free to join right on in and submit some anime/manga/comic fannish material to me for publication.

Happy reading! \*big smile\*

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# The National Fantasy Fan (N3F) Membership Application

New Member    Reinstatement    Joint Membership    Gift Membership

Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Male: \_\_\_\_\_ Female: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (for the Birthday Bureau): \_\_\_\_\_

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Please check your current SF/F related interests.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> APA's                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Comics/Manga     | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fanzines         | <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewing                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cartooning               | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:           | <input type="checkbox"/> Round Robins (group letters) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers                | <input type="checkbox"/> Editing          | <input type="checkbox"/> Taping                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conventions              | <input type="checkbox"/> Filksinging      | <input type="checkbox"/> Audio                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence (penpals) | <input type="checkbox"/> Games            | <input type="checkbox"/> DVD/Video                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collecting               | <input type="checkbox"/> Movies/T.V.      | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Science Fiction     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artwork                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Online Activites | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Publishing       |   |

- Which would you prefer?:
  - A: *The e-Fan* in .PDF format sent to your email address? \_\_\_\_\_
  - B: *The Fan* printed and mailed to your home address or PO Box? \_\_\_\_\_
- How long have you been interested in Science Fiction and Fantasy?: \_\_\_\_\_
- How long have you been involved in Fandom?: \_\_\_\_\_
- List any other clubs you are or have been a member of: \_\_\_\_\_
- List any conventions you've attended: \_\_\_\_\_
- What Prozines and Fanzines do you read if any?: \_\_\_\_\_
- What is your favorite type of SF/F?: \_\_\_\_\_
- Who are your favorite SF/F Authors: \_\_\_\_\_
- Are you interested in online activities? If yes, what type?: \_\_\_\_\_
- Which (if any) of the following would you be willing to help the Club with?  
 Artwork    Corresponding    Publishing    Recruiting at Conventions    Writing for club publications  
 Organizing Activities    Other(s): \_\_\_\_\_
- Name of Sponsoring Member (if any): \_\_\_\_\_
- How did you hear of us? \_\_\_\_\_

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Dues are \$18 per year (\$22 for Joint Memberships) which includes subscriptions to the club's fanzine as well as other activities and benefits. Make checks or money orders payable to William Center (the treasurer).

All payments must be made in U.S. funds. Mail dues and application to club secretary

Dennis Davis, 25549 Byron St., San Bernadino, CA 92404-6403.

Please allow 8 weeks for your first zine to arrive.

You can also sign up online at <http://nfff.org>

