

The National Fantasy Fan

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TNFF Your Volunteer Team

Directorate:

Heath Row Jean Lamb Jefferson Swycaffer Jon Swartz R-Laurraine Tutihasi President: George Phillies Treasurer: David Speakman

Editorial Cabal:

Official Editor: Editor and Publisher, Tightbeam: David Speakman Editor and Publisher, TNFF: George Phillies Keeper of the URLs: Ruth Davidson Host of the Web Site: David Speakman Maintainers of Electronic Publications: vacant

Bureau Heads

Artist's Bureau: Sarah E. Harder Birthday Cards: R-Laurraine Tutihasi Convention Calendar: new volunteer needed Games Bureau: George Phillies Historian: Jon Swartz N'APA: Jean Lamb N3F Bookworms: Heath Row Round Robins: Patricia Williams-King Short Story Contest: Jefferson Swycaffer Video Schedule: David Speakman Welcommittee: Heath Row Writers Exchange Bureau: Joy Beeson

Electronic Publications

Yes, we have a bunch of electronic venues:

We have a web site www.N3F.org Our web site.

We have a Facebook mail list: www.facebook.com/groups/n3flist/ We have a Facebook Group www.facebook.com/TheN3F We have a Yahoo Group/email list groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/n3f We also have a Google group: https:// plus.google.com/u/0/communities/ 104301173814396528446

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From the President

The N3F Needs Volunteers!

Compare what we are now doing with what we did in years past, we are not quite as active as we once were. The only way to fix this is...you! Your time and energy can help support the N3F and build it up to what it once was. We need someone to generate a good list of SF conventions: Date, place, URL. The WelCommittee could use new membership. We need more people doing outreach and recruiting members. We need more convention presence. We have some specific needs, for example, a colorized version of the N3F Shield (p.1)

And now, here's a new project, forwarded to me by Heath Row. The original proposer was Jon Swartz. I have slightly edited the proposal, which has dated in its references to some particular members who are now less active in the Federation.

A New Fan Directory—Proposal

Dear Heath,

While checking old science fiction fan directories, looking for information on the compilers of the 1970 Hannes Bok Illustration Index (my next Historical Vignette), it occurred to me that it's been a long time since a comprehensive fan directory was published. At one time such directories were very common, with one published every five to ten years.

While a comprehensive one (all science fiction fans) would be next to impossible to do, and very timeconsuming, it shouldn't be too hard to put together one for N3F members. [Ed: Club Officers] may have all the information needed at hand right now – if they've kept the Membership Application forms that all of us filled out when we joined. If they haven't, it shouldn't take too much effort to come up with a form that could be sent to all current members – a form that we could even include in an issue of The Fan.

Join or Renew

We offer three different memberships. Memberships with zines via paper mail are \$18; memberships with zines via email are \$6. Joint memberships at one address are \$22. Public memberships are free. Send payments to N3F, POB 1925, Mountain View CA 94042. or pay online at N3F.org

What would be the advantages of such a publication? For one thing, it would include information on club members, information that would be helpful for researchers years from now. Second, it would give all members a club publication with which they could identify. Third, it could be [Ed: like the] the last of the 2010-2011 Fandbooks, coming out late next year, or early the following year – sort of a cap on next year's important anniversary celebration. Finally, [Ed: Club Officers] could be the authors, thereby getting the club's Directorate Chair/Secretary and Treasurer directly involved in the Fandbooks. You, of course, would be editor and – as president – I could do an Introduction. What do you think? Jon

Introduction to the 2011 Membership Directory Jon D. Swartz President, N3F

I hope all the club members will be able to use this new Directory in some fashion. I myself have found such directories to be very helpful reference works in carrying out my activities in fandom. I recently read a statement made by BNF Walt Daugherty (1916-2007) in a directory of fandom that he edited in 1942: "In closing, I would like to say that if each fan who receives this directory takes it down from his fan mag shelf and uses it only once as a reference, it will have served the purpose for which it was intended." Nearly 70 years later, I find that these are also my sentiments.

George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net adds: We are now closing on our 75th anniversary, and a Directory of members or of SF clubs would appear to be a highly worthwhile project. Do people find it of interest?

Bookwyrms

Here is the Bookworms reading list for 2015, good sir!

February 2015: Elric of Melnibone, by Michael Moorcock

March 2015: The Ship Who Sang, by Anne McCaffrey

April 2015: On Basilisk Station, by David Weber

May 2015: The Peripheral, by William Gibson

June 2015: Blackout, by Connie Willis

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July 2015: Everyone in Silico, by Jim Munroe

August 2015: Quag Keep, by Andre Norton

September 2015: Gun, With Occasional Music, by Jonathan Lethem

October 2015: Over the Edge, by Harlan Ellison

November 2015: 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, by Jules Verne

December 2015: Night of the Cooters, by Howard Waldrop

Letters of Comment

Steve Sneyd Huddersfield, U.K. February 20, 2015

The New Issue of Fanzine Fantastique included a brief review of Tightbeam. Brought back memmie from many years back when Catherine Mintz was its editor and used a few of my poems in it.

Anyway, as I have some U.S. currency to hand, encl. \$20 bill for a subscription - hoping it reaches you safely, of course.

Yours sincerely, Steve Sneyd

Editor:

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. And, if they were to enter the contest, the danger is that they'd win, every time, and crowd out the promising newcomer.

...Jefferson Swycaffer

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New Members and Renewals

Profiles of renewing and new members (culled from the member renewal form and David Speakman snooping up on them using Google).

Patricia Ann Williams-King is a veteran member of N3F. She has been a member of and has coordinated the Round Robins bureau for many years. Although she has one of the longest names in the membership list, quite a few of her fannish friends know her simply as Patsy.

Patsy has been a SF/F fan since she was 12. He favorite subgenres are space opera (pew-pew), adventure, and hard SF. Her favorite authors are Jack Chalker, MZB, JK Rowling, CJ Cherryh, Tiptree, and Mercedes Lackey.

Involved in fandom since she attended DeepSouthCon in Atlanta in 1978, since then she says she has been to "too many" cons to mention. Other than N3F, she is involved in the Nashville SF Club and The Friends of Darkover.

Currently, she says she does not "go to too many cons anymore, unfortunately!" But she is very active of Facebook and belongs to quote a few fannish groups there.

June Vigil-Storm says she has been an fan of SF/F for 40 years and involved in fandom for 35 years.

Her fannish interests include cartoons & animation, comic books, computers & technology, movies, and reading. If June had to choose, her favorite sub-genre is hard SF.

If you look at her book collection, you are like to find the works of Ellison, Brin, Clarke and Asimov.

When she is online, you may run into her on social media such as Facebook when she is not playing games.

*Steve Sneyd *is returning to N3F for a look-see after a multi-year absence. He came for a Tightbeam subscription (which comes with a complimentary N3F membership).

In fandom, Steve is known for his enthusiasm for SF/F/ H poetry and is a well-known poetry critic, publisher and bibliographer. He has compiled many lists of genre poetic works that have been used as guides by fans for many years. He also operates Hilltop Press, which is likely not news to you is you are a fan of genre poetry.

According to my sources (sf-encyclopedia.com <http://sf-encyclopedia.com>), his birthday is March 20 (Happy birthday, Steve!).

...David Speakman

N'APA

Jean Lamb reports that the next tissue of N'APA will be out by late March. She reports "I am working on a Discworld fic called "Erasure" which is not yet finished, and which I would really like to go into this issue. And I have found a wonderful illo of Sir Terry and DEATH.

To contact the Round-Robin Bureau, Patricia Williams-King, 755 Glenview Drive, Nashville, TN 37206.

Birthday Bureau

Laurraine Tutihasi (laurraine@mac.com) reports that 16 cards have been sent out in the last two months. Happy birthday to all!

Video Report

Most genre TV in the U.S. is in repeat season as I write this. Below is a list of when SFTV shows return with new eps, as well as a few new shows or new seasons:

MARCH

- 9 The Originals CW
- 10 Powers PSN (NEW)
- 10 The Returned A&E (NEW)
- 12 The Vampire Diaries CW
- 17 The Flash CW
- 18 Arrow CW
- 18 Supernatural CW (New Night)
- 20 Grimm NBC

APRIL

- 2 Olympus SYFY (NEW)
- 4 Outlander STARZ
- 5 Salem WGN
- 10 Marvel's Daredevil Netflix (NEW)
- 12 Game of Thrones HBO
- 13 Gotham FOX

17 - Bitten - SYFY17 - Lost Girl - SYFY17 - The Messengers - CW (NEW)18 - Orphan Black - BBCA

Poem

Of Breaking Waves

Prologue:

Their aims were clear, their goals precise: To set grim bars cross every mind, To freeze each heart in chains of ice, The Universe through fear to bind

So none save them might freedom find.

For Namestone's glorious majesty Endowed their thoughts with virtues great. Its song gave them profundity, Wove brother love from sullen hate, Philosophy from shallow prate.

Event:

Against their might I set my skill With hidden locks and secret walls. My secret plan: to break their will. Through endless nights I dodged their thralls To move unseen and traipse still halls.

At last I had a perfect map From bailiff's cot to central keep. I'd found and solved their every trap. By harvest moon I'd Namestone reap Thus crush their souls in abyss deep.

Bereft of Namestone's tuneless rhymes They'd say they're wise, but still they will Turn seemly odes to bitter mimes, Draw fulsome praise with poisoned quill, Abandon friends to deadly chill.

When moon-notched suns to ashes die, So shadows weep pale crescent tears Beneath soon chill and darkling sky, Through eldritch rites they quell old fears. [Eclipse bodes doom! warned ancient seers.]

As noonday sun in coalsack sank, So dying shadows dripped last light, And stars surged forth in serried rank, Fate bound their thoughts to helpless fright Dark solar portents promised night.

At dark of day seers' glooms proved right. I made my way through crystal tower, From sacred apse stole Namestone bright

While prayers for light mouthed guardians dour Who ought have watched their place of power.

Epilogue:

Across this silver sea of suns I flee on blackened, limping wings. My erstwhile foes are cosmic huns Who fondle gauche bejewelled rings. So long I live, they're would-be kings.

I etch the sky with flaming rule. I dare not turn, nor stand and fight. For I am not a glorious fool Who'd risk his prize against their might, Their shoals of ships, their warriors bright.

Now Namestone's wisdom counsels me: Assemble motley rebel bands, Who'll stand against your enemy, Not risk Stone's loss to Tyrant's hands Yet free their sulking shackled lands.

Eternal flight's my safest course. Bereft of friends, I'll trust to none Who'd Precious steal by guile or force. For Namestone's mine, and fairly won Though not by deed done under sun.

My flesh grows tired, my breath is weak: I've lost my strength from arm and hip My brilliant voice gains infant's squeak 'Neath greying pate and trembling lip. To End of Time they've chased my ship.

Retreat I must o'er light-years black. All worlds are theirs, or'll honor claim: The Namestone's ours - you give It back! Humanity, so weak and lame Obeys from fear they'll rape and maim.

If I could pause and stoop to land Upon some world they've never bound, I'd find myself some lonely strand Whose slopes with slumb'ring pines were crowned, And watch so long as sky went round.

Till setting sun her golden rays Struck tow'ring cloudy casements high Set airy castles all ablaze. Drew firey shades cross twilit sky. Gave burning sign that night crept nigh.

Now calls my heart for fun'ral mound. I yearn to lie twixt sea and land And only hear a single sound: Of breaking waves against the sand. Of breaking waves, against the sand.

...George Phillies

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Bob Peterson].

TNFF

Current Holdings of N3F-Related Materials

Jon D. Swartz, N3F Historian

Back issues of *The National Fantasy Fan* since I became a member in the 1990s, plus a few earlier issues. Also some recent issues of *Tightbeam* and the very first *Bonfire*.

Postwarp, the N3F Letterzine (3 issues, 1950s).

1952 Membership Roster [plus other early SF Fandom Directories, earliest dated 1942].

The N3F Wants You (1965).

NFFF Welcommittee Magazine #14 (1953).

The Neo-Fan's Guide to Science-Fiction Fandom, 6th edition, 1984 [plus a couple of other earlier editions].

1948 Fantasy Annual, published by Forrest J. Ackerman/ edited by Redd Boggs.

Six N3F Fandbooks, 1962-2013.

1950 Fan Directory, edited by Len Moffatt (sponsored by N3F & The Fantasy Foundation)

Geep! The Book of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, edited by Rose Secrest, 1987.

A History of the Hugo, Nebula, and International Fantasy Awards (1978) by Donald Franson and Howard DeVore (both longtime N3F members). [plus two other editions, the latest dated 1998 and solely by DeVore]

A Portfolio of Illustrations by Virgil Finlay, 1946. [published by N3F]

What is Science Fiction Fandom? [published by the N3F Welcoming Committee, mid-1940s]

Science Fiction Title Changes by Michael Viggiano & Donald Franson, 1965. [published by N3F]

The Sign of the Burning Hart by David Keller, 1948. [only hardcover book ever published by N3F]

A Spacewoman Speaks (1960) by Rolf Telano. [Telano was a pseudonym of Ralph Holland, president of N3F from 1958 until his death in 1962, and at one time editor of *The Fan*]

All 11 issues of *The Gorgon* (Stanley Mullen/Denver, CO) [1940s SF/fantasy fanzine donated to N3F by club member

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<u>Note</u>: Several of these publications have been described in detail in my "Historical Vignettes" articles published in *The Fan*.

What Our Bureaus Do

Bureaus are groups within N3F which specialize in particular activities or interests. Bureaus are the primary means through which members share their knowledge and gain information about the club and about particular topics. Bureaus can also be the means through which members share their talents, like art and writing. All members are urged to participate in bureaus or to create new bureaus to fulfill the needs of the membership.

Publications : The core of the N3F is our list of publications.

Tightbeam David Speakman edits our fine zine Tightbeam. Tightbeam is our brag zine. Tightbeam (named by former neffer Marion Zimmer Bradley) will be a Literary zine as well as a letterzine. It will publish creative and special pubs of fan-created content (fiction, reviews, essays, guides, fandbooks, etc.) Tightbeam has published more than 270 issues. Tightbeam will be published occasionally, at least once a year. Its content will include both original fan-made stuff and cherry-picked "best-of" content from TNFF. If you have art, fiction, media reviews, essays, guides, thoughtful pieces of commentary, or other material of general interest, please send it to David Speakman as soon as possible at davodd@ gmail.com

Electronic Publications:

We have a web site www.N3F.org Our web site.

We have a Facebook mail list: www.facebook.com/groups/n3flist/ We have a Facebook Group www.facebook.com/TheN3F

We have a Yahoo Group/email list

groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/n3f We also have a Google group: https://

plus.google.com/u/0/communities/

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TNFF The National Fantasy Fan is our Official Organ, as described in our Bylaws and Constitution. TNFF has existed as long as we have: three quarters of a century. Seventy years ago, back in 1945, EE Evans renamed this magazine. It had been "Official Organ"; it became "The National Fantasy Fan", a name it has kept almost continuously ever since.

The new Editor is George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net. George is desperately short of fannish material of all sorts and will happily accept all manners of contribution, though the good art, essays, etc. should be sent to David Speakman for Tightbeam.

Artist's Bureau: Artists from this bureau supply much of the artwork for the club zine, The Fan. Technique, subject matter, and publication will also be a part of the discussions of this bureau. You will also find a sampling of these artists' works on this web site. If you have an interest in science fiction/fantasy art, and are wanting to share that interest, this is the bureau for you!! Contact Sarah E. Harder, yseult_sg@yahoo.com.

Birthday Cards: Hello! The Birthday Card Bureau is a fun Bureau where you get to wish your fellow neffers a happy birthday. Usually you take on a month or more and everyone with birthdays on that month or months you send cards to those people. It can also be a one time thing. If you only want to do it once and not continually, that's fine. We also send out sympathy cards for people who are ill, have death's in their families, or are going through trials. You are totally in control on how you participate. If all you want to do is send sympathy cards when the time warrants it, that's all right by me. We're very flexible. As a bit of history, this bureau was started by a past disabled neffer who wanted to do something for the club. I thought that was nifty. Head needed!

Games Bureau: The Games Bureau supports the play of games by N3F Members. Board games, rolegames, miniatures, diplomatic games, live action roleplaying,...Our largest service is to

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publish lists of forthcoming game conventions. For more information on the Gaming Bureau contact George Phillies at phillies@4liberty.net

Historian: The N3F was founded in 1941, before almost all living fans were born. We actually have a club historian, Jon Swartz. who is always looking for more material on out past. He can be reached as Jon Swartz <jon_swartz@hotmail.com>

N3F Bookworms: This is a reader's club using yahoogroups. We choose interesting books to read and discuss them.

Neffer Amateur Press Alliance (N'APA): Involved fans publish their own zines, send the required number of published zines to the Bureau Head, who in turn send it to everyone involved with N'APA. Usually the zine only has the writings of the publisher. It is bi-monthly. You can be an amateur, semi-professional, or professional. All is fair game here.

Neffy Awards Bureau: This bureau is dedicated to running and promoting the annual N3F Speculative Fiction Awards. Any current N3F member can apply for membership through the forums or email david@speakman.com. Members of this bureau, their intimate associates or their personal work are not eligible for a Neffy Award.

Round Robins: This bureau is one of the most active and popular in the club. A round robin is a packet of letters written about a subject or author. The letters follow a route headed by a robin master. Most robins have 4 to 6 members. A few of the long running robins are on SF&F Films, Star Trek, Time Travel, Andre Norton, and Anne McCaffrey. New ideas are welcome. It's a great way to discuss science fiction subjects and to make friends. To join, you must be a member of N3F, of course. To become a member of a round robin (or perhaps several) Contact Patricia King at <doofusming@yahoo.com>.

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Short Story Contest: We have a yearly short story contest, open to non-professionals. For details, please contact our professional writer and judge, Jefferson Swycaffer <abontides@gmail.com>

Video Schedule: Long time member David Speakman maintains a schedule of forthcoming video events. It's not a Bureau, but it is done by a fine Neffer, David Speakman fandominion.com/2015/02/sftv-grid-week-35-feb-1-7-2015first-full-week-of-ratings-sweeps/ is a listing of Scripted genre TV programs, week, by week. You can also find the reports on our Facebook Group / n3flist/

Welcommittee: This committee is dedicated to welcoming new members to the N3F. In the past, the Welcommittee has welcomed new members with a welcome letter and new member packet to introduce the new Neffer to the club and its activities. Also, the Welcommittee has historically contacted new members at a later date to see how they -- and the club -- are doing. Serving on the Welcommittee is a wonderful way to be on the front lines of meeting new friends in our club! The Welcommittee is looking for more volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Heath Row <<u>kalel@well.com</u>> to volunteer.

Writer's Exchange:Members of the Writers' Exchange read each other's manuscripts. When you join, you receive a list of members, in which each member describes himself in one or two paragraphs, and make your own arrangements by snail or e-mail. You can also send letters to the sortabimonthly Writers' Exchange Bulletin. For a faster response, join the Writers' Exchange Bouncing Robin, which exchanges mss. and comments by email. Right now we have a surplus of readers and a shortage of writers, so feel free to accept criticism without offering any. This bureau head is very active and excited about her club and bureau activities!

Games Bureau

And here again, courtesy AHIKS (ahiks.com) and Omar DeWitt, the wonderful Editor of the AHIK magazine Kommandeur, is a list of forthcoming game conventions. It is interesting to note that they are about to have their 50th anniversary celebration, just as we are about to have our 75th. Oh, yes: I would love to publish a list of SF conventions, but do not have one to publish at the moment: March 19-22, Portland, OR GAMESTORM http://gamestorm.org/

Mar. 20-22, San Diego, CA HANADOKI CON http://www.hanadokicon.org/

March 27-29, Vancouver, BC Canada TRUMPETER SALUTE http://www.trumpetersalute.com/

Apr. 10-12, Glen Ellyn, IL CODCON XX http://www.codcon.com/

Apr. 10-12, Detroit, MI MIDWEST MEDIA EXPO http://www.midwestmediaexpo.com/

Apr. 17-19, Winchester, VA 1D4CON 2015 http://1d4con.com/

Apr. 17-19, Lexington, KY LEXICON TABLETOP GAMING CONVENTION http://lexicongaming.com/w/

Apr. 24-26, Richmond, VA RAVEN CON http://www.ravencon.com/

April 24-26, St. Charles, IL LITTLE WARS http://www.hmgsmidwest.com/

Good sources for information on all kinds of conventions are the Steve Jackson game site: http://sjgames.com/con and the Columbia Game site: http://columbiagames.com/convention

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

2015 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest

Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

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, 2015.

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 do sign over rights cannot affect whether or not you win the contest. Royalties will be divided evenly between all contest entrants 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 in March 2016. 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, 2015. 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 2015 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:

Your Volunteer Team Electronic Publications

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