

The National Fantasy Fan

Cras ad Stellas — Tomorrow to the Stars

Volume 78 Number 12

December 2019

N3F 2019 Election Results

PRESIDENT: George Phillies -- 10 votes

Write-ins: 0

DIRECTORATE:

Judy Carrol — 10 votes Jefferson Swycaffer – 10 votes John Thiel – 10 votes

R-Lauttaine Tutihasi – 10 votes

Write-ins:

Heath Row -2 votes Jon Swartz -1 vote

Heath Row has accepted his election.

Members Voting:

Judy Carroll

Robert Jennings

Angela Myers

George Phillies

Jeff Redmond

David Speakman

Jon Swartz

John Thiel

R-Laurraine Tutihasi

Matthew Weitendorf

[Editor: One ballot went to the wrong address, an

issue not recognized until too late.]

Respectfully Submitted, Jon D. Swartz Election Teller

2020 Neffies

For many years, the N3F has given awards for speculative fiction materials in all media. We now approach the Awards for 2019. Phase One is choosing Award categories. By popular request, we are adding fan activity categories. In years past, some categories have had more interest than others. After last year, there was agreement that N3F officers should not be eligible for the pro awards, e.g., Best Novel. Bob Jennings made the creative suggestion that we should have a committee present to the members a curated list of nominees for each award. I propose trying this for a few awards (last year, we effectively did this for short fiction) to see how it works out.

Having said that, please send your ideas for categories to our President, George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net.

Best Novel (over 100,000 words) has always done well. For many years, the N3F has given awards for fantasy materials in all media. Proposed categories are

Best novel (over 100,000 words)
Best shorter work (under 100,000 words)
Best book editor
Best TV show
Best SF movie/video
Best anime



Art

3—Baby Owl by Angela K. Scott 4—Visitors—Jose Sanchez 5—Starship—Jose Sanchez 6—Stonehenge, Before Time—Angela K. Scott 7—Dare to Dream—Angela K. Scott 8—Curiosity — Angela K. Scott 10 — N3F Distributable Recruiting Flier — Cedar Sanderson



TNFF

Your Volunteer Team

Directorate:

Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@yahoo.com Judy Carroll - AutumnSeas8012@gmail.com Jefferson Swycaffer - abontides@gmail.com John Thiel - kinethiel@mymetronet.net R-Laurraine Tutihasi - laurraine@ mac.com

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

Editorial Cabal

Editor, TNFF George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Art Editor, TNFF Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@yahoo.com N'APA Collator Jefferrson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com Editors, Tightbeam George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net,

Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com

Editor, Ionisphere John Thiel kinethiel@mymetronet.net

Editor, Eldritch Science George Phillies

Editor, Mangaverse Jessi Silver jessi@s1e1.com

Editor, Films Fantastic Eric Jamborsky mrsolo1@comcast.net

Editor, Origin John Thiel kinethiel@mymetronet.net

Editor, The N3F Review of Books: George Phillies

Keeper of the URLs David Speakman davodd@gmail.com Host of the Web Site David Speakman davodd@gmail.com

Bureau Heads

Anime/Comics Kevin Trainor wombat.socho@gmail.com
Artists Bureau Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@gmail.com
Birthday Cards R-Laurraine Tutihasi laurraine@mac.com;
Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@gmail.com
Book Review Bureau G. Phillies phillies@4liberty.neConvention
Calendar: Heath Row kalel@well.com
Club Directory kalel@well.com
Correspondence Bureau, Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@

Correspondence Bureau Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@ gmail.com

Election Teller Jon Swartz., jon_swartz@hotmail.com Fandom History/Research Bureau John Thiel kinethiel@ mymetronet.net; Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau John Thiel

kinethiel@mymetronet.net

Film Bureau Eric Jamborsky mrsolo1@comcast.net Forwarder Jeffrey Redmond

Franking Service George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Games Bureau George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Gourmet Bureau Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@gmail.com Historian Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com

History and Research Bureau John Thiel

kinethiel@mymetronet.ne

Information Technology David Speakman davodd@gmail Lord High Proofreader Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com Membership Recruitment Kevin Trainor wombat.socho

@gmail.com, John Thiel kinethiel@mymetronet.net, Jeffrey Redmond redmondjeff@hotmail.com

Neffy Awards Bureau George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Pro Bureau George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net

Round Robins Patricia Williams-King, 335 Forrest Park Road, Apt # 75 Madison, TN 37115.

Short Story Contest J. Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
Social Media David Speakman, George Phillies
Video Schedule David Speakman davodd@gmail.com
Welcommittee Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@gmail.com
Writers Exchange Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@gmail.com

Page 2

Best manga/comic

Best cover artist

Best non-N3F fanzine (electronic publication is allowed)

Best N3F fanzine

Best fan artist

Best fan writer

Best fan editor

Other

Memberships

New, Renewed, & Reinstated Members & Info Updates

Renewed:

#21 - Jeffrey B Redmond - Regular Voting, through Dec 2021

#38 - Angela Myers - Electronic Voting, through Nov 2020

#65 - George H Wells - Regular Voting, through Dec 2020

#223 - Dr. Daniel B Rego - Regular Voting, through Nov 2020

#257 - Scott Duncan - Electronic Voting, through Sep 2020

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

The National Fantasy Fan (originally Bonfire), Vol. LXXVIII, Number 12, December 2019, ISSN 2169-3595. Published monthly by The National Fantasy Fan Federation.

Join or Renew

We offer four different memberships. Memberships with TNFF via paper mail are \$18; memberships with TNFF via email are \$6. All other zines are email only. 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. Pay online at N3F.org. Our PayPal contact is treasurer@n3f.org Send phillies@4liberty.net your email address for a public membership.

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

#259 - Erik Martin - Regular Voting, through Sep 2020

New & Reinstated:

#278 - Justin E. A. Busch - Regular Voting through Dec 2022 - New

IRL: Writer, Composer, Teacher

B-Day: April 23

Fan Interests: Books, Collecting, DVDs and videos, Fanzines, Publishing, Reviewing, Teaching science fiction, Writing

Fan since: "about 55 years"

Fanac since: "very intermittently since about 1973"

Cons: Discon 2; a few regional ones; none recently

Zines: None regularly, many irregularly (including plenty of older ones)

Genres: Genuine utopias, and anything which engages me or evokes the sense of wonder. Space opera a la E. E. Smith and sociological SF a la C. J. Cherryh

Fave Creators: H. G. Wells; Jack Vance; Leigh Brackett; James H. Schmitz; Jo Clayton; I could go on. And on....

Online: My internet access is irregular and limited; my computer is very old (circa 2000). Depending on the requirements, I would add 'publishing' below.

N3F Interests: Writing for club publications, My situation will be changing considerably next year. Some of the above may be possible in times to come.

#279 - Owen Wylde - Public, Non-Voting

Expired/Expiring

Expired in October #255 - Scott Lee Spence #250 - Shami Stovall

Expired in November None! Thanks for renewing!

Expiring in December #26 - Rikki Winters #27 - Kemse Net-Ubasi #44 - Wesley B Kawato #153 - Gary Casey Member Status Changes

#111 Eve Pelletier - Public to Dropped - Self Removed from mailing list

#149 John Andrews - Dropped, Expired in July, no email address on file.

#225 David Robinson - Public to Dropped - Self Removed from mailing list

#251 Bob Goolsby - Regular to Public, Expired in September

#256 Bradley Slavik - Regular to Public, Expired in September

#258 Constance Elliott - Regular to Public, Expired in September

Treasurer's Report

\$ 2632.84 (October 21, 2019)

- + 48.00 PayPal Dues
- + 18.00 Cash Dues
- + 18.00 Check Dues
- + 54.00 Money Order Dues
- 2.58 PayPal Fees
- 14.00 Banking Fees
- 86.40 phpList 1-year Subscription
- 18.00 November Printing Costs (CK#5023)
- 18.00 December Printing Costs (CK#5024)
 0.00 Zine Postage Reimbursement

\$ 2703.86 (December 2, 2019)



Baby Owl—Angela K Scott

Directorate Acts

The Directorate voted 4-0 to appropriate up to \$100 to pay for a new PHP mailer server, as the old one failed catastrophically.

Bureaus

Writers Exchange

Welcome to the Writers Exchange!

Do you find writing to be almost unbearable at times? Does the thought of finishing a short story keep you awake at night, or even considering writing a book in the far future give you nightmares? Does this whole business of writing seem more time consuming than you thought it would?

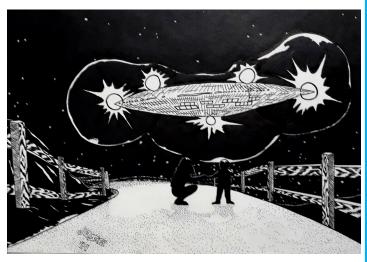
Never Fear. N3F Founding Member Ray Bradbury is here.

We are going to end this year with quotes from Ray Bradbury that are perfect for starting a new year of writing:

You can write a short story in two hours. Two hours a day, you have a novel in a year.

Write a short story every week. It's not possible to write 52 bad stories in a row.

Write a thousand words a day and in three years you will be a writer.



Visitors—Jose Sanchez

I always say to students, give me four pages a day, every day. That's three or four hundred thousand words a year. Most of that will be bilge, but the rest ...? It will save your life!

Read poetry every day of your life. Poetry is good because it flexes muscles you don't use often enough. Poetry expands the senses and keeps them in prime condition. It keeps you aware of your nose, your eye, your ear, your tongue, your hand.

And, above all, poetry is compacted metaphor or simile. Such metaphors, like Japanese paper flowers, may expand outward into gigantic shapes.

Ideas lie everywhere through the poetry books, yet how rarely have I heard short story teachers recommending them for browsing.

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. If interested, please contact: Judy Carroll. AutumnSeas8012@gmail.com

Welcommittee

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.

Anyone willing to help welcome new members to this wonderful club will be greatly appreciated. If interested, please contact Judy Carroll at AutumnSeas8012@gmail.com

Recruiting Bureau

I have one of Redmond's advertisements for the NFFF coming up in my next issue of Surprising Stories, so there's some getting-together there in the matter of recruitment. I'm wondering if Steve Davidson would plug the NFFF in the online Amazing at no expense to us, and will be asking him about that.—John Thiel

Pro Bureau

In support of our professional writers, we continue to publish *The N3F Review of Books, including Prose Bono,* which every month or two publishes quotable reviews of several dozen SF&F novels, reviews of books on literary criticism, and Prose Bono, articles on being a better writer, with contributing editor Robert Runte. For four categories, we covered almost every Dragon Award nominee. Noteworthy literary reviews would include an extended analysis of Rob Watkins' *View from the Cellar*, which is an extended symbolic analysis of Laird Koenig's horror-suspense novel *The Little Girl Who Lives Down the Lane.* Your contributions to *The N3F Review* of reviews of novels would be most welcome.

History and Research Bureau

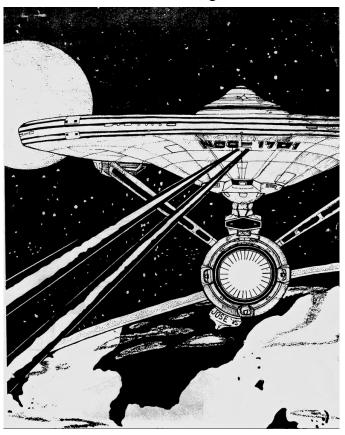
Having a solid foundation in the past of fandom lets us know where we stand now. Presently we in the bureau are concluding an investigation of the origins of fandom. Likely we will be going over this again, but what we have uncovered so far has been compared and leads to a conclusive picture of fandom's origins according to the available writers. Our study covers the first phase of fandom, the period of beginnings. You will find this in the December issue of Origin. Also some aspects of science fiction's history are being looked into, as with Jeffrey Redmond's look at women who have written science fiction, which dates back into the Nineteenth Century. Jon Swartz covers the first year of Astounding Stories, which includes stirrings from fans in the letter column.—John Thiel

Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau

We're getting closer in with our interviews with authors and artists in Ionisphere. Kent Bash discusses the award given to him in the NFFF Awards, and shows off his art to a known audience, David Bartell gives us the intimate facts in his developing writing and shows much of what happened to him behind the scenes, including his television appearances, and we are receiving interviews where the interviewer and the writers are closely involved with one another in what they are doing. We're starting a quest for currently active segments of fandom.—John Thiel

Fanzines

The N3F publishes nine fanzines. The National Fantasy Fan continues its monthly publication. Within its 32 page size limit, our monthly Tightbeam publishes articles on anime, novels, shorter fiction, comics, videos, interviews, letters, and of course food of famous writers. Under the leadership of Jefferson Swycaffer, our amateur press association N'APA is now in its 60th year of publication. Origin continues regular publication of reports on the history of fandom. Ionisphere features interviews with famous writers and fen. The N3F Review of Books remains monthly at 40-50 pages. Films Fantastic continues its occasional coverage of older films of the fantastic. Mangaverse editor Jessi Silver reports that she is involved in an extended but not life-threatening series of medical



Starship—Jose K. Sanchez

TNFF

treatments which are delaying publication of the next issue. *Eldritch Science* has had recent contributions, and is looking for a Spring 2020 issue.

Correspondence Bureau

A new year is about trying new things, exploring the unknown, developing new habits and deleting unproductive old habits. I suggest we explore the unknown by joining the Correspondence Bureau. Finding out about other N3F members can be fun and exciting.

Being a member of the N3F is like living in a small town. We may know the names of our neighbors, say "Hi" and wave to them as we each are getting into our cars headed off for work. But what else do we know about them? All of us, being members in the N3F, already have a common bond, be it science fiction, fantasy, horror. So, why not begin a new adventure and start the coming year by getting to know some of your follow N3F members.

So far, we have two members who are interested in correspondence.

- 1. Jeffry Redmond Choice #2
- 2. John Thiel Choice #2

(Jeffery and John already correspond with one another.).

If you would like to correspond with Jeffery or John you need to do the following:

- 1. Choose Jeffry or John
- 2. Choose Choice #2
- 3. Send an email with your name, the name of the person you have chosen and your email address to: Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@g.mail.com

You will receive an email with the email address of the person you have chosen to correspond with and he will receive an email with your name and email address.

HOW TO JOIN

You have two choices for seeking a pairing:

Choice #1 -You want to be paired with someone of like interest. Send an email to the bureau head with your name and a list of your interests. When someone with similar interest requests a pairing both of

Page 6

you will be notified and given the email of the other member. Contact the other member and the rest is up to you.

Choice #2 - You want to be paired with the next person whose interests are unknown. Send an email to the bureau head telling of your choice. Include your name, and email address. You will be paired with the next person with unknown interests and both of you will be notified and given the email address of the other member. The rest is up to you.

Whichever way you choose will be an adventure.

The Correspondence Bureau is open to all members of the club who have an email address whether they are paying or non-paying members. Members seeking to correspond through the Correspondence Bureau will be asked for permission to publish their name in the Monthly article. If they do not wish to have their name published, only their Choice #1 or #2 will be published. No email addresses will be published in the monthly article, nor given to another member without that member's permission. If you wish to join the Correspondence Bureau or you have any questions, contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@gmail.com

Birthday Card Bureau

Birthday cards sent: 6

Renewal notices: 15 (including 3 by e-mail)

R-Laurraine Tutihasi



Stonehenge, Before Time—Angela K. Scott

SerCon

Some More Comic Book Clubs by Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D. N3F Historian

In addition to the comic book clubs discussed in previous issues of The Fan, I've discovered a few others that were not necessarily patriotic clubs of the 1940s; nor were all of them about superheroes, but some were. They are discussed in this article.



Angela K. Scott

Shock Gibson Volunteers

The superhero Shock Gibson appeared in the first 44 issues of Speed Comics, usually on the cover. He also appeared in other comic books published by Harvey Comics, including All-New, Green Hornet, and various reprint magazines.

In the debut story, "The Human Dynamo," scientist Robert Charles Gibson perfected a formula that allowed people to directly store, generate, and control electricity, and tested this formula on himself. The formula increased his strength, gave him the power to fire bolts of lightning, and also gave him the ability to fly.

His comic book club, the Shock Gibson Volunteers, began early in 1940. Members received one of his "Live Wires" buttons, a letter, and a membership card. A later premium was a Shock Gibson black mask.

The Rang-A-Tang Club

A club without a superhero or a patriotic emphasis was The Rang-A-Tang Club, in honor of Rang-A-Tang, the Wonder Dog and his young owner, Richy, the Amazing Boy, both of whom appeared in Blue Ribbon Mystery Comics. This comic book was published by MLJ, the company that later gave us Archie and his friends. Archie and his club eventually replaced The Shield and his club, as mentioned in an earlier article in The Fan.

Members of the Rang-A-Tang Club received a membership card and a button with a picture of Rang-A-Tang on it, both for 10 cents. Emphasis of the club was on the care and training of dogs rather than patriotic efforts during World War II.

Dell Comics Club

From mid-1950 to Spring 1959, Dell promoted subscriptions to its non-Disney titles with what it called the Dell Comics Club. Membership was automatic with a one-year subscription to a Dell title and came with a certificate of membership plus a group portrait of the non-Disney characters published by Dell. This picture featured cowboy heroes (The Lone Ranger, Gene Autry, and Roy Rogers) and other

TNFF

popular Dell characters such as Porky Pig, Bugs Bunny, Tarzan, and Popeye.

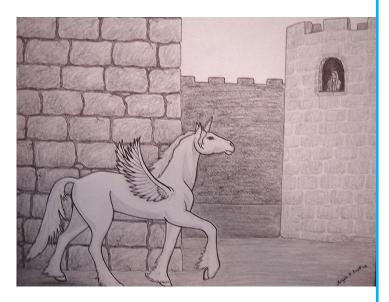
Dell also offered various other subscription premiums during the 1940s and 1950s – in some cases these were reprints of covers or other character artwork, and in one instance a cel from a Warner Brothers cartoon -- in what has been described as "a concerted and aggressive" subscription push.

Merry Marvel Marching Society

The Merry Marvel Marching Society was a fan club for Marvel Comics started by Marvel editor Stan Lee in 1964. Generally abbreviated as the M.M.M.S, the club offered readers a \$1 membership kit that initially included the following:

- welcoming letter
- membership card
- one-sided, 33 1/3 rpm record, "The Voices of Marvel"
- scratch pad
- sticker
- pin back button
- certificate

Lee probably remembered the comic book clubs of the 1940s when he initiated this club. He had been around since the 1930s, working for his relative at Timely/Atlas/Marvel, and may have remembered the popularity of the Captain America Sentinels of Liberty club.



Curiosity—Angela K. Scott

Captain Canuck Club

A still later comic book club was the Captain Canuck Club. Captain Canuck was a Canadian comic book superhero. The original Captain Canuck first appeared in Captain Canuck #1 (July, 1975). The series was the first successful Canadian comic book since the collapse of the nation's comic-book industry following World War II.

Club members received a membership card, a button, and a monthly newsletter, plus discounts on comic books and other items.

Junior Federal Men Club/ International Good Neighbor Club

I recently came into possession of an early DC comic book, New Adventure Comics (the forerunner of Adventure Comics), that was dated June, 1937 (No. 16).

In this issue the comic book character Steve Carson, a federal man, had a full-page ad for the Junior Federal Men Club, created "to help promote Law and Order." For 10 cents in cash or stamps the member received a badge, a certificate, and a JFMC operator's number. Carson and a young boy appeared on the cover of this issue, promoting the club. Federal Men was written and drawn by Jerome Siegel and Joe Shuster, creators of Superman – who didn't appear in a DC comic book until the publication of the first Action Comics in June, 1938.

In a search of the Internet I found that "fictional JFMC members Lonnie and Frank had appeared in a Federal Men story in New Adventure Comics #14," and that the club had been advertised as early as 1936.

In the interior pages of the June, 1937, issue, still another club was described, the International Good Neighbor Club. For 15 cents, a member received a Member Certificate and a button and promised to abide by the club's rule: "To do everything in my power to firmly establish friendly relations between my country and the other countries of the world." This club had been around at least since January, 1937. In hindsight, it's too bad boys and girls from

all over the world didn't sign up and follow the club's rule in the 1930s - 1940s.

Wings of America Club

There was also a Wings of America Comic Book Club, advertised in 1940s issues of Wings Comics, published by Fiction House -- that also published Planet Comics. For a dime, the charter member received the official Club Emblem ("Wings of America" metal badge) and a membership card, but I know little else about this club. Early issues of Wings Comics advertised the club on their covers.

Reg'lar Fellers of America

Finally, a very strange comic book club, if it can be called that, was Reg'lar Fellers of America, an athletic organization founded by Clair F. Bee, the Director of Health Education at Long Island University. Reg'lar Fellers of America was planned to develop summer recreation for 12- to 15-year-olds through competitive sports, and Reg'lar Fellers Heroic Comics promoted the organization beginning in 1940. Reg'lar Fellers remained on the cover of the comic, as part of the title logo, for the first 15 issues, which also displayed a seal with an eagle and a shield along with the words "Reg'lar Fellers of America." Beginning with the initial issue, dated August, 1940, membership – that included a free Decalcomania Emblem (that probably would be called a decal emblem today) -- was free to readers who sent in a pledge of allegiance.

Conclusions

This article completes what I know at this time about early comic book clubs, except for the two Hop Harrigan Clubs to which I belonged as an 11-year-old. I have a lot to say about them, and have even written about them elsewhere. "God willing and the creek don't rise," I'll discuss them in the next issue of The Fan.

Bibliography

Bails, Jerry G. Collector's Guide: The First Heroic Age. Detroit, MI: Jerry Bails, 1969.

Bails, Jerry & Hames Ware (eds.). The Who's Who of American Comic Books, Volumes 1-4. Detroit, MI: Jerry Bails, 1973-1976.

Benton, Mike. The Comic Book in America. Dallas, TX: Taylor, 1989.

Keltner, Howard. Index to Golden Age Comic Books. Detroit, MI: Jerry Bails, 1976.

Overstreet, Robert M. The Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide, Volume 45. NY: Gemstone Publishing, 2015.

Note: In addition to the sources listed above, several Internet sites were consulted

Addendum

Book Review Bureau

Last moment addition: The Book Review Bureau is in fact finding several dozen book reviews a month. They all appear in *The N3F Review of Books*.

Recruit for the N3F

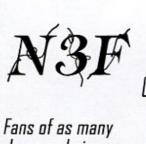
Our Federation has a simple practical limit. We have all sorts of projects we would like to make better. This effort takes activists, members who are willing to do something for our organization. But to have more activists we need more members.

That's where you all come in.

Do you have friends who are active fans, in some sort of fandom? Show them page 10 here!

Why not tell them about the N3F? An electronic membership is only \$6 a year, a little more than a morning coffee and pastry. With that you get nine fanzines, some monthly, club activities for writers and round robins and the correspondence bureau, and more. And note our FaceBook and MeWe.com pages. To join

http://n3f.org/join/



National Fantasy Fan Federation
Covering comics, anime, films, video, science fiction, fantasy, and horror

--serving fandom since 1941

hues and sizes Nine fanzines - free with Public membership as dragons! The National Fantasy Fan - monthly newszine

Tightbeam - letters, reviews, fiction Tonisphere – Fan-Pro interactions N'APA -- Amateur Press Association

Eldritch Science - Fiction

Interest Bureaus Writers' Exchange

Art Games

Round Robins

Gourmet

Short Story Contest

Video Schedule Birthday Cards

Four membership levels Regular -- \$18/year with paper issue of The National Fantasy Fan Electronic -- \$6/year with electronic issue of TNFF Family -- \$4/year (other people at same address; no zines) Public - Free, but non-voting

> To Join: · Check or money order payable to N3F sent to N3F, POB 1925, Mountain View CA 94042. Pay online at N3F.org/join

Public Memberships: Send phillies@4liberty.net your email address.

TNFF Page 11

2019 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, 2019.
- 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 by March 2020. 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, 2019. 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 2019 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and I agree to them.
Signature:
Date:



2019 Election Results
Neffies
Membership Data — Treasurer's Report
Directorate Acts

Bureaus
Writer's Exchange Bureau—WelCommittee—Recruiting Bureau
Pro Bureau—History and Research Bureau—Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau
Fanzines
Correspondence Bureau—Birthday Card Bureau

SerCon Some More Comic Book Clubs Recruit for the N3F

N3F Short Story Contest—Submit Now!