



The National **80** Fantasy Fan **Years**

Cras ad Stellas— Tomorrow to the Stars
Volume 80 Number 2 February 2021

Kevin Trainor Receives Franson Award

President Phillies writes: The Franson Award was created because past N3F Presidents have wanted to give a show of appreciation to people – even those who may have won the Kaymar Award (which you can only win once). Indeed, the Award was originally called the N3F President's Award. It was renamed in honor of Donald Franson.

It is my privilege and honor to bestow the Franson Award upon our new Treasurer, Kevin Trainor of Tonopah, Nevada. Being N3F Treasurer is a great responsibility. The Treasurer maintains the club financial records without which we would not know who is a member and who has departed. We spent close to a year during which the former Treasurer made clear he wanted to leave, but no member would volunteer to replace him. Can all be grateful to Kevin for volunteering and taking on the Treasurer's role.

Fanzine Awards

The Fanzine Activity Achievement Awards exist to award fanzine publishing activity. They are currently associated with the rotating fanzine convention CorFlu, named after the once-ubiquitous mimeograph correcting fluid. This year's announcement and awards ballot appear as pages 9 and 10 of this zine. If you are interested in fanzines, please consider voting, even if you only vote in a few categories.

Vote on Constitutional Amendment

We have a Constitutional Amendment, to expand the definition of Household membership to include, for example, families with children who are all fen. The text and voting instructions are on page 8.

Neffy Awards

It is time to make nominations for our own Neffy Awards. The N3F has been giving fannish awards longer than any other group; in the 1940s they were known as the Laureate Awards.

Send your nominations to George Phillies, phillies@4lberty.net. We'll have three months for nominations (you can nominate now), discussions ongoing, a month of discussions after nominations close, and then the ballot. If need be, there will be an elimination round on nominations.

For the current year the categories are
Best Novel or Anthology (over 100,000 words)
Best Shorter Work (under 100,000 words)
Best Fan Writer
Best Fan Artist
Best Fan Editor
Best Fan Web Site
Best Non-N3F Fan Publication (electronic publication is allowed)
Best N3F Fanzine
Best Animation (anime/cartoon)
Best Manga/Comic Book/Graphic Novel
Best Book Editor
Best Pro Artist, cover or otherwise
Best Television Show
Best Film or Video
Best Role-Playing-Game Material
Best Literary-Critical or Historical Work

Continued on Page 2, Top Right



Art

7 ... Dragon Rider — Jose Sanchez



Your Volunteer Team

Directors:

Heath Row— kalel@well.com (Chair)
 Judy Carroll - BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
 Jefferson Swycaffer - abontides@gmail.com
 John Thiel - kinethiel@mymetronet.net
 Kevin Trainor wombat.soch@gmail.com

Officers

President George Phillies - phillies@4liberty.net
Treasurer Kevin Trainor wombat.soch@gmail.com

Editors

Editors, TNFF: George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net; Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
 Artists: Jose A. Sanchez, Angela K. Walker, Alan White, Nathan Warner
 N'APA: Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
 Tightbeam: George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net,
 Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
 Ionisphere: John Thiel kinethiel@mymetronet.net
 Eldritch Science: George Phillies
 Mangaverse: Patrick Ijima-Washburn patokon.com@gmail.com
 Films Fantastic: Eric Jamborsky mrsolo1007@gmail.com
 Origin John Thiel kinethiel@mymetronet.net
 The N3F Review of Books: George Phillies
 Keeper of the URLs: George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
 Host of the Web Site: George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net

Bureau Heads

Anime/Comics Kevin Trainor wombat.soch@gmail.com
 Artists Bureau Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@gmail.com
 Birthday Cards R-Laurraine Tutihasi lauraine@mac.com;
 Judy Carroll autumnseas8012@gmail.com
 Book Review Bureau G. Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
 Convention Calendar: Heath Row kalel@well.com
 Club Directory Heath Row kalel@well.com
 Correspondence Bureau Judy Carroll
 BlueShadows2012@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
 FanZine Review Editor Justin Busch jeab@musician.org
 Film Bureau Eric Jamborsky mrsolo1007@gmail.com
 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.net; Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
 Information Technology George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
 Lord High Proofreader Jon Swartz jon_swartz@hotmail.com
 Lady High Proofreader Jean Lamb
 Membership Recruitment Kevin Trainor wombat.soch@gmail.com, John Thiel kinethiel@mymetronet.net
 Neffy Awards Bureau George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net

Continued Next Column, Middle

NeffCon I

We have never before run a convention, so this must be a good time to start. NefferCon will need to be electronic. We will run it someplace electronic.. There will be the things you expect of a con, except you must supply your own con suite.

We do not have a detailed model. See Justin E. A. Busch's Letter of Comment, Page 4, for one approach. For a different approach, see Concillation. I would hope to have a dealer's row, panels, an art show, films and anime are tricky because there are rights issues, a fanzine table, open board gaming, and more. We might require people to join as Public Members in order to post.

Volunteer Wanted

John Thiel has proposed a new volunteer role, if one of our members would volunteer to take it on. We publish several fanzines that include substantial number of book, video, and other reviews. John has proposed that when we review an author's book we should forward the zine containing the review

Your Volunteer Team

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: George Phillies
 Video Bureau: Cathode Ray the anonymous
 Welcommittee: Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
 Writers Exchange: Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

WANTED-WordPress & Web Help

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 Kevin Trainor, PO Box 143, Tonopah NV 89049. Pay online at N3F.org. Our PayPal contact is treasurer@n3f.org Send phillies@4liberty.net your email address for a public membership.

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to the book's author. That's a fine idea, but we need someone to do the forwarding. Please contact the N3F President, George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net.

New Web Pages

You can see the test bed for the new web pages at TNFFF.ORG. We will by and by be redirecting N3F.ORG and our other URLs to this site, but we are still checking that everything has been transferred successfully.

Please take a look at TNFFF.org, see what you think, and report any errors, broken links, etc. to George Phillies, hillies@4liberty.net

News

N3F News Zine

There is positive support from voting members for a news zine, but for the nonce I will simply be expanding the news column here until it gets quite long. The N3F has on occasion published a newszine, so it would not be a new thing for us.

World Con

As some of you will have heard, the forthcoming WorldCon is facing interesting challenges. One of the two convention hotels has reportedly gone bankrupt. WorldCon had invited Baen Books Editor Toni Weiskopf to be Editor Guest of Honor. They have now retracted the invitation.

The removal was a result of an intrusion of the lower plane of mundane politics into the higher plane of the fannish world. The key part of the DisCon statement was "...we have notified Toni Weiskopf we are removing her as a Guest of Honor for DisCon III...In the entire eighty-plus year history of our community, no Worldcon has ever removed someone as a Guest of Honor. To remove a Guest of Honor was an unprecedented decision that needed discussion, consideration, and consensus. ..." You can read the full statement at <http://file770.com/discon-iii-removes-weiskopf-as-a-guest-of-honor/>. As a further result of the intrusion, Baen's Bar, which was the submission route for Grantville Gazette and the Baen.com slush pile, has now been shut down.

Readers will be shocked, truly shocked to learn that as a result there is now a fan-feud of truly historic proportions. For coverage, consider EricFlint.net, File770.com, and MonsterHunterInternational.com.

The Montreal Science Fiction and Fantasy Association (MonSFFA) is currently holding its meetings on Zoom as the province is under a semi-lockdown. We "meet" every month on the second Saturday at 13:00h. Visitors are welcome! We publish a zine, WARP, which is available from our website www.monsffa.ca. There is also a page and a group on Facebook, the page being the "official" organ, the group being a

looser discussion group. --WARP 109 is now on line!
http://www.monsffa.ca/?page_id=6915

BSFS Announces Compton Crook Finalists

One of Six Debut Novels Will Win \$1,000 Award for Best First Novel

Baltimore, MD – The Baltimore Science Fiction Society (BSFS) released the names of the six finalists for its 2021 Compton Crook Award for best first novel in the science fiction, fantasy, and horror genres. The finalists are:

- Architects of Memory by Karen Osbourne
- Axiom's End by Lindsay Ellis
- Bone Shard Daughter by Andrea Stewart
- Docile by K.M Szpara
- Nameless Queen by Rebecca McLaughlin
- The Space Between Worlds by Micaiah Johnson

The award includes a framed award document and, for the novel's author, a check for \$1,000 and an invitation to be the Compton Crook Guest at Balticon (the BSFS annual convention) for two years. Balticon is normally held in Baltimore, but due to Covid-19 will be online this year over May 28-31, 2021 (Memorial Day weekend).

Members of BSFS selected the finalists by reading and rating debut novels published between Nov 1, 2019 and October 31, 2020. The finalist round of reading and rating will close April 9th and the winner will be notified on Sunday, April 11th and announced to the public on Monday, April 12th.

The Baltimore Science Fiction Society (BSFS) has been giving out the Compton Crook Award for best first novel since 1983. Past winners have included Donald Kingsbury, Elizabeth Moon, Michael Flynn, Wen Spencer, Maria Snyder, Naomi Novik, Paolo Bacigalupi, Myke Cole, Charles Gannon, Fran Wilde, Ada Palmer, and R.F. Kuang. Last year's winner was Arkady Martine for *A Memory Called Empire*.

The Award was named in memory of Towson State College Professor of Natural Sciences Compton Crook, who wrote under the name Stephen Tall, and who died in 1981. Professor Crook was active for many years in the Baltimore Science Fiction Society and was a staunch champion of new works in the fields eligible for the award. For more details visit <http://www.bsfs.org/CCA/bsfscnu2014.htm>

BSFS thanks the authors and publishers who sent books for consideration. Reading and rating books for the 2021 award will begin this summer. For more information contact comptoncrook@bsfs.org.

NESFA News

We just concluded Boskone 58, our first (and hopefully last) virtual SF convention. It was very successful. We had 1,393 attendees. Most program items were recorded, with recordings available to members until the end of the month.

In NESFA Press news, we reprinted the Concordance to Cordwainer Smith by Anthony R. Lewis. I'm amazed at the longevity of interest in Cordwainer Smith (1913-1966).

All our social activities are on zoom at the moment. We meet virtually every Wednesday evening for informal discussions, and we still hold our Business Meetings usually every second Sunday of the month. We're playing it safe, but the activity of the club continues unabated. Additional info including our event calendar can be found on our home page: <https://nesfa.org>.

Letters of Comment

Dear George,

I have been reconsidering the various suggestions (including my own) for increasing N3F membership, and I've come to the conclusion that those advocating an on-line convention are correct: done well, that is probably the one thing most likely to attract new members.

There are two vital components to this, and we need to keep them in mind. The first is obvious: the e-mechanics of the convention must be as nearly flawless as possible. There are plenty of virtual conventions; if ours is annoying or difficult to connect with, it will alienate, rather than attract, people. The second, every bit as important, is that the virtual convention must be linked, in its content and operations, to the idea of the value of being an N3F member.

I am no expert on the internet or computers, so I won't presume to make technical comments, except to suggest that the Directorate consider hiring an expert— that is, someone whose job it is to make such things work— to oversee the on-line operations of the convention. Well-meaning volunteers swamped by the time demands of running the technical side of the convention could lead to disaster. This isn't a website, where occasional flaws can be corrected in a leisurely manner; anything that isn't working needs to be fixed immediately if not sooner.

The technical side is, ideally, invisible to con-goers. As to programming, which is what attracts those con-goers, we need to find ways to make the virtual convention stand out among many others. It might be a good idea, for example, to look for a GoH who is less frequently seen at live conventions.

I would argue for approaching someone such as N.K. Jemisin, who has made it clear that, a) she is not opposed to conventions, but, b) she does not enjoy large ones. She could do a GoH speech on-line without it mattering how many people were on the receiving end, and then do a later moderated Q&A; again, she would not have to respond to masses of possible interlocutors, since the moderator would be running interference.

Do on-line cons have hucksters? If so, it would be good if we could make arrangements to get N3F members some sort

of discount. Similarly, the art show could offer N3F members benefits not available to everyone else, such as a preview session with an attached discount.

One serious question has to do with the membership fees. As this will be a first-time convention, we have no way of knowing how many people will sign on, which means that calculating prices so as to avoid a loss will be hard. I'm sure that there are other e-conrunners who would be willing to share their experiences, but each convention is unique, so we need to be thinking about how much money (not much) N3F can afford to lose, if lose it must. Along with this, we should be considering how much of a discount to give to N3F members up front. It seems advisable to give dues-paying members a significant break, public members some sort of break, and non-members no discount at all— unless they join prior to the convention date.

All of this (and doubtlessly much more, a lot of which I'm sure I cannot even imagine) will take time. If we do decide to do an on-line convention, I strongly urge that it not take place any time soon. I would think that April of 2022 might be a good month (in general, April should be the month because it connects with N3F history); it is close enough to remain alive in people's minds, and far enough away to allow for proper planning.

As always, these are merely suggestions intended to help generate thoughtful conversations and, perhaps, effective decisions. About the main point, though, I cannot see any doubt: if we do attempt a virtual convention, it must be virtually perfect if it is to achieve its purpose.

Justin E.A. Busch

George,

[Ed: Email from the Lady High Proofreader, proofreader to the N3F Review of Books, while sending material for an issue.]

I might add, Mr. Patterson's reviews are costing me money, as I go and purchase some of the books. Please tell him, he deserves to chortle.

Jean Lamb

Hi

Yep, typical fan feud! We have survived many such.

My only problem with the phrasing of the statement is the word "help" - it could be misread in a condescending tone of voice, "you poor little helpless thing: us strong people will help you have fun!"

Nothing could be further from the N3F mission as Damon Knight designed it. We are a Federation of small groups scattered in an unimaginative world. The mission is to forge lines of communication among our tiny local groups.

That is why I stole the name Welcommittee and recycled it to forge lines of communication among isolated Star Trek fen.

Communication is our mission and Ideas is our topic. We don't need any help enjoying ideas.

Your notion to spread the Welcommittee concept to social media is spot on, but the unimaginative world has separated themselves into different platforms in order to avoid exchanging ideas (not a new strategy: very unimaginative)

Muggles have always feared us because we are not helpless.
Jacqueline Lichtenberg

SerCon

Og, Son of Fire by Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D. N3F Historian

Og, Son of Fire was originally published as a series of stories by Irving Crump in Boys' Life Magazine, beginning in 1920. It then was published in 1922 as a book written by Crump and illustrated by Charles Livingston Bull. Other books about the character, including Og, Boy of Battle (1925) and Og of the Cave People (1935) followed, both published by Dodd, Mead. The conclusion of Og, Son of Fire, has Og explaining the use of fire to the members of his tribe.

The prehistoric cave boy, Og, then appeared in other media, including a big little book, a comic strip, a comic book, a game, and a radio series.

Characters

The principal character in the various media was Og, originally "a young, hairy cave boy," who lived during an Ice Age. Other main characters in the stories were Nada, a girl in Og's tribe; Ru, Og's friend and fellow warrior; Ak, Nada's father, a flint maker; and Pong, the tribe's "devil doctor." Minor characters included Gog, Og's father; the archer, Big Tooth; Little Wab, a young boy in the tribe who frequently needed to be rescued;



Sud, the hunter; Scar Face, of the Tree People; Big Tooth, of the Flat Heads; and Red Beard, of the Red Beards tribe.

Big Little Book

The story in BLB format, published in 1936, was credited to Crump, with Kevin Royt listed as the interior artist. Jack Murray was credited as the cover artist. This version of Og is generally described as being based on the radio series. This story was later

published in comic strip form and published in The Funnies, an early comic book (see below).

Comic Strip/Comic Books

An Og comic strip appeared in early issues of The Funnies, published by Dell, during 1937. This version of Og was taken from the 1936 BLB, and can be accessed on the Internet even today. Scripts were by Crump, with art by Kevin Royt.

Radio Series

Og, Son of Fire was a 15-minute radio program on CBS, aimed at a juvenile audience, beginning in 1934 and lasting for two years, for a total of 139 episodes. It was sponsored by Libby Foods (mainly Libby's Evaporated Milk) and starred Alfred Brown as Og, Patricia Dunlap as Nada, James Andelin as Ru, and Reg Knorr as Big Tooth. Andelin and Dunlap also acted on Jack Armstrong: The All-American Boy during its long run. Crump was credited as the Og scrip writer.

None of these original radio episodes are available for listening today, although the initial Og book can be heard on the Internet, courtesy of LibriVox Audiobooks.

Premiums

Libby Foods offered painted lead figures of Og, Nada, Ru, Big Tooth, and two prehistoric animals (the pet dinosaur, Three Horn; and Rex, the "Stalking Death"), plus the Libby Adventure map, a color map of the territory in which the radio stories took place. A complete set of these premiums, created for the show by Lincoln Logs, is quite pricey today. Moreover, these premiums are hardly ever for sale.

Adventure Map

The "Adventures of Og, Son of Fire Map" is an intriguing premium by itself, and contains a lot of information.

Og and Nada are pictured in the lower right hand corner, along with a roaring fire and a prehistoric mammoth-like creature. Big Tooth, carrying his bow, is pictured on the left hand corner; Ru is in the upper left; and Red Beard is pictured in the upper right corner.

The map shows Og's three journeys during his adventures, color-coded so they can be easily followed. Areas pictured on the 15-by-20 inch map include large and small glaciers, swamps, deserts, mountains, caves, volcanoes, a land of fog, a fire pit, a pygmy village, a land of dragons, and other features.

Game

There was also an "Og, Son of Fire Board Game" sold during the 1930s by Whitman. The cover read "Based on the Famous Og stories by Irving Crump." It was a spin and move game with the board printed on the bottom of the game box. The spinner and rules of the game were on the inside of the

box top. It was played by 2 to 4 players, and advertised as being for ages eight and older.

Irving Crump

James Irving Crump (1887 - 1979) was editor of Boys' Life for over 25 years, and wrote several series of stories for the magazine in addition to his ones about Og. He also wrote scripts for other radio programs, including "Jack Armstrong, the All-American Boy." In addition, he wrote Mog, the Mound Builder, published in 1931; and Our G-Men, published in 1937 (written with John Newton). Crump also helped with the writing of the Universal movie serial Scouts to the Rescue (1938).

Charles Livingston Bull

Charles Livingston Bull (1874 - 1932) was an American illustrator. He studied taxidermy in Rochester, New York, and is known for his illustrations of wildlife.

Some Concluding Statements

Og and his friends are almost forgotten today. It takes avid radio premium collectors and old-time radio fans to know much about these characters, although they were present in multi-media formats in the 1920s - 1930s. Many old-time radio reference books do not even list the program.

A final Og book was published in 1965, featuring the adventures of Og's son, also named Og.

Crump depicted Og as an inventor, who evolved through the hardcover books: from a young cave boy to a man whose inventions helped form the first human civilization. In addition to making fire with the aid of flint, he invented the first bow to use as a weapon.

There is quite a bit of information about the Og stories on the Internet for those who are interested.

A Cautionary Note

The various statements made in this article come from several different sources: the ones cited, plus some others on the Internet. If a few of the statements seem contradictory, that is because the original articles in Boy's Life, the subsequent books, the radio program, the BLB, the comics, etc. didn't always agree in every detail, which is understandable as they were different media, with different goals, and produced by different creators. As far as possible, I've tried to stay with the statements made by Crump, the creator of the character.

Sources

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Harmon, Jim. Radio & TV Premiums. Iola, WI: Krause, 1997.

Lowery, Lawrence F. The Golden Age of Big Little Books. Danville, CA: Educational Research and Applications LLC, 2007.

Tumbusch, Tom. Illustrated Radio Premium Catalog and Price Guide. Dayton, OH: Tomart, 1989.

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

Club Activities

Correspondence Bureau

Because there have been few responses I have decided to change the setup of the Correspondence Bureau.

If you wish to join you need to do the following:

1. Send me your name and either email address OR postal address,
2. If you wish to correspond with a member already listed with the Correspondence Bureau include their name.
3. If you have a postal address and wish to correspond with someone listed "by email", let me know and I will contact them. I will let you know their reply.

Depending on your preference you will receive an email or postal mail, with the contact information of the person you wish to contact, and they will receive your contact information. The following members are interested in corresponding .

Jeffrey Redmond - by email

John Thiel - by email

Judy Carroll - by email or postal mail.

Send email requests to :

Judy Carroll — BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

Send postal mail requests to: Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Book Review Bureau

We continue to publish reviews in The N3F Review of Books. More Reviews are badly needed.

Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau

The name of our publication is starting to be seen outside of the N3F. This is due to my sending it to reviewers. Of course the intention is to draw attention to the NFFF, but I like people to be aware of our bureau activity as well. The reviewers have



Dragon Rider — Jose Sanchez

done a good job of explaining its significance as a NFFF fanzine. I have started to stimulate interactivity within the bureau by publishing knowledge of our doings in general within Ionisphere.—John Thiel

Games Bureau

Wesley Kawato writes: The Games Bureau is alive and well. I finally got to play the Stellar Horizons Campaign Game. He reports that he did pretty well. North America gets a discount for being the first to buy a technology. In a solitaire game he was always the first to buy a technology. The game begins in 2030 and ends in 2152. Each turn represents a year. North America was the only country that could send manned missions to Mars in 2020. My first goal was to colonize Mars. Then I slowly increased my manned exploration range. Goal #2 was to colonize Ceres. Goal #3 was to colonize Ganymede. Then I began terraforming my colonies. I got Mars fully terraformed and Ceres half-terraformed. I scored 188 VPs, enough for a minor victory That's not bad for a first game

As some of you have heard, I was recently elected President of AHIKS (once the Avalon Hill Intercontinental Kriegspiel Society). They are the board wargaming equivalent of the N3F, with about ten times our regular membership. I redid their web site AHIKS.com. It was great practice for doing our much larger one. If you are interested in board wargaming, AHIKS is a good club to join.

History and Research Bureau

I have begun an effort to formulate the activity existing within this bureau and have printed one of my inter-bureau bulletins in Origin to acquaint readers better with the members of it. The writing by the staff members in the bureau is receiving favorable responses.—John Thiel

Recruitment Bureau

We were despondent about our activity for a couple of months but the recruitment successes are picking up and we are resuming optimum activity to advertise the N3F.—John Thiel

Welcommittee

We would like to offer greetings to the newest member of the N3F, Nathan D. Warner. May you settle down with us and stay for a long time.

Please read the current TNFF for a list of the many activities and bureaus you can join. Being active is the most fulfilling way to enjoy being a member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation.

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 have questions about the club or are interested in helping, please contact Judy Carroll at BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

Welcome to the Writers Exchange!

It's been a long time since we have received any stories from our N3F writers. Part of our service is to read short stories and critique them for any of our members who would like a second opinion. Actually, your work would be critiqued twice, once by me and once by Jefferson Swycaffer. Each of us sees the same story in a different light. If interested, please contact me.

And now our questions: When did you first realize you like to write?

GP — Fourth grade. There was a story in the schoolbook with a real cowboy herding cows in a snowstorm, which I tried to turn into a story about someone closer to my age, with a horse, in a snowstorm. Mind you, I knew nothing about winter survival. There was then a period when I would type bits of a story on the typewriter, an aged Underwood. How aged? 60 years ago, typewriter keys did not have the letters painted on top. They were made by injection molding, so the letter went all the way through the key. The letter part, plastic, was a plug inserted into a metal cylinder that transmitted the force of the fingers to a series of lever arms that eventually created the im-

age of a letter on the paper. The typewriter had been used so much that the e, t, and a keys had holes surrounded by steel, the e hole being quite deep. Of course I kept having to stop to find letters whose location I did not remember, and I kept being amazed that these few keys turned into so many words.

Question for March 2021

When writing, do you have a perfectionist streak? If so how does it manifest itself? I have a perfectionist streak when writing and with most everything else I do.

It started when I was a child. I'm not sure how early, but I do know I had it in elementary school. Probably around eight or nine years old. It was the beginning of summer. Actually, it was Monday, the first official day of summer. I liked to plan things ahead of time so I would know what I was going to do that day, or week or month or the entire summer. So, a few days before school was out I would make out my daily list of things I wanted to do and things I had to do. For instance let's say I decided I would get up at 8:00, get dressed, eat breakfast, and take my turn at washing the dishes. At 9:00 I would be sitting in a comfy chair reading a book. But, if I got up at 8:15, it didn't matter whether I had dressed, ate breakfast, washed dishes and were reading by 9:00, I had already broken my schedule. Not just for the hour, the day, the week, or the month, but for the entire summer.

I'm not that bad anymore. I can berate and console myself if I don't get something done when I planned and tell myself I can do better next time. Except when it comes to writing.

When I am on the computer writing - it doesn't matter what - I cannot stand to have a misspelled word underlined in red or an alternative word suggestion underlined in blue. I find I have to correct the proper spelling and decide whether to take the computer's word suggestion before I can continue writing. This may not seem like a bad thing, but, for me it is.

My mind is rapidly jumping ahead of my eyes seeking the next word to illustrate what I want to say. My ears are listening to the sound of the words - whether they are in harmony or discord. Mind, eyes and ears are working together to hopefully create a meaningful threesome. Then IT happens. A red or blue line interferes with the smooth forward movement. Everything stops! I've tried ignoring them - the red and blue snakes that nip and follow me around - until I have written the words pounding for my immediate attention, but I can't continue on until the red and blue lines are vanquished.

If you are a new writer, a professional writer, or someone who dreams of being a writer - this is the place for you. If you love reading unpublished work and find it exciting to do so, this place is also for you

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. BlueShadows2012@gmail.com OR if you prefer postal mail, Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 8466 or 975 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 84660

Treasurer

PayPal balance \$858.55
Memberships 1/15-now: \$84.48
NSB balance: \$1785.63

Life members: 2
Electronic members: 23
Regular members: 32
Household members: 1
Total voting members: 58
Public members: 198
Total membership: 256

Expiring this month: Alan White & J.I. Rogers

New Members: Electronic: Mackay Chandler, Kia Heavey, Glenn Della-Monica, Erik Hansen, and Dani Zweig; regular member: Kevin Menard; public members: Evelyn Leeper and Nathan Warner.

Upgrades/Renewals:

Public > Electronic: Angela Myers

Public > Regular: Steve & Lynne Taylor Fahnestalk

Constitutional Amendment

The Directorate presents to the members a motion to amend the Constitution, to replace

"3. Joint memberships are available to two persons residing in the same household. A joint membership will include The National Fantasy Fan Federation (TNFF) and all rights such as voting and club activities. The dues shall be more than a single membership but less than a double, to be set by the Directorate."

with

"3. Household memberships are available to several persons living in the same household. Dues for the first member of the household are at the rate set for a single membership. Dues for additional persons living in the same household, these being the 'household members', are set at rates fixed by the Directorate. Household members have all rights of other dues-paying members, such as voting and club activities, but are not sent separate issues of N3F paper mail newsletters."

To vote, vote Yes or No and send your ballot to the Election Teller Jon Swartz. jon_swartz@hotmail.com, 12115 Missel Thrush Court, Austin, TX 78750.





2020 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, 2020.
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.
11. 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. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. Announcements and notifications of winning entries will be made by March 2021. Please take your time and submit your best work. You can resubmit stories previously entered if they did not win previously. All entries will be kept confidential and will be judged fairly and anonymously. The deadline for all entries is Dec. 31, 2021. 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 2021 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and I agree to them.

Signature/Date: _____

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



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SerCon
Og, Son of Fire

Club Activities
Correspondence Bureau — Book Review Bureau — Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau — Games Bureau
History and Research Bureau — Recruitment Bureau — Welcommittee — Writer's Exchange — Treasury

Constitutional Amendment — FAAn Ballot

Short Story Contest

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