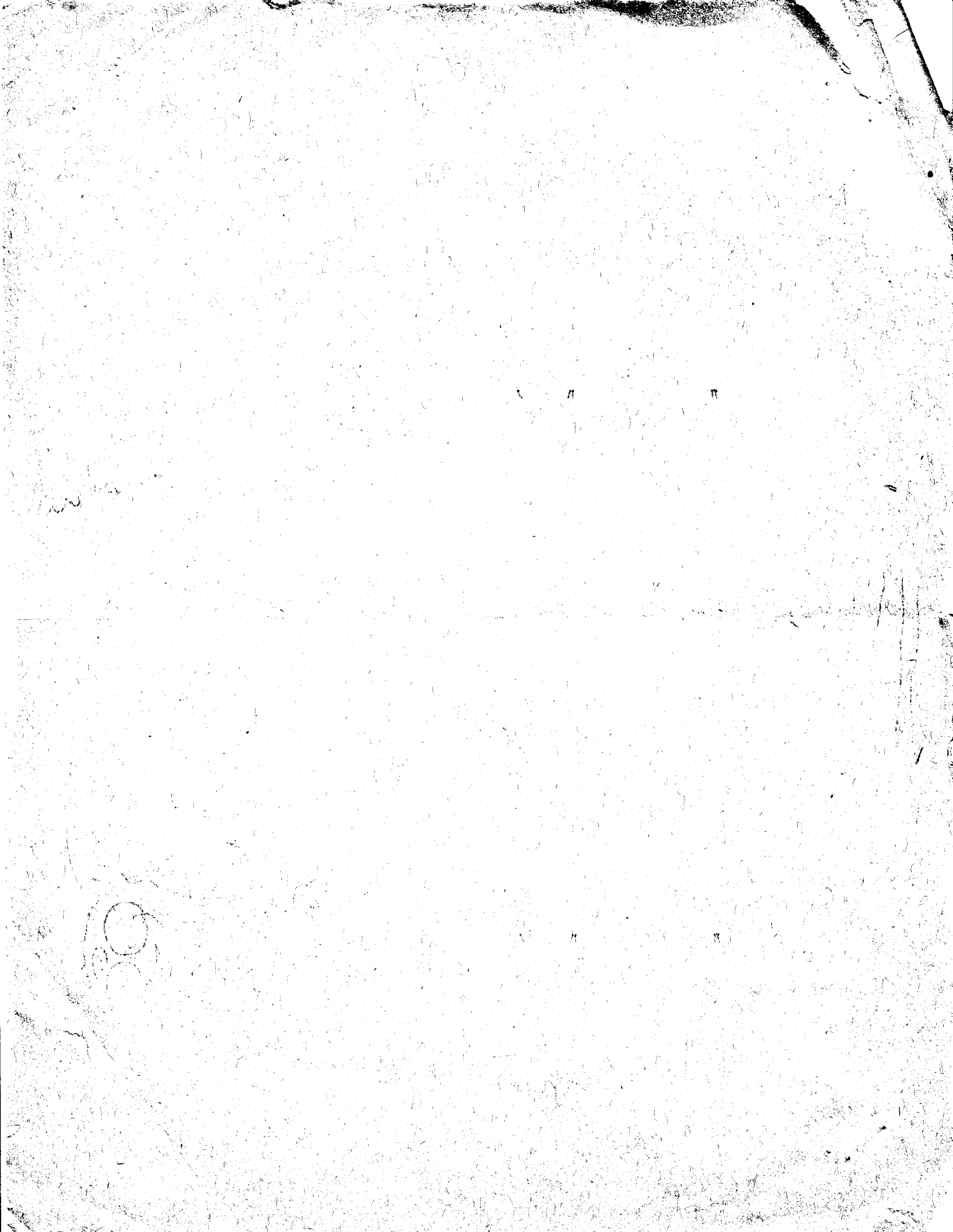




Jan Moran  
4-21-76



# editorial

by Lynne Holdom

Well here it is September again and I have returned. I rather missed doing the July TB and some of you have said you missed me as well. Still I had a nice vacation.

However a few unpleasant things have surfaced recently. There was Irvin's and others' statements in the August TNFF --- sorry that's a bit ungrammatical. However I have gotten letters. One, from new member Alex Garrison, is typical.

"Dear Lynne,

I just got my August copy of TNFF and I am, well, confused. Since you are a Director and all, I thought maybe you could help. Here's my questions:

1. There seems to be a definite amount of friction between Irvin Koch and the Directorate. Can you give me some more info on this.
2. There also seems to be some friction (maybe hatred) between the Directorate itself.
3. The rate increase is probably a very simple matter. Still, whoever wrote the N3F constitution had the lack of foresight to put the dues in the constitution itself. Thus it takes a major effort to change said dues. All in all, I think I read about eight pages on it. What's all this about? "

The August TNFF message from Irvin Koch caught me a bit by surprise too. I have had disagreements with Irvin but nothing that seemed to be that serious. The August message seemed proportionately overblown. Still....

Yes, there has been a great deal of friction between Irvin and the Directorate and it has gotten pretty nasty at times. Some concerns whether or not Irvin is going against the Constitution in using Australian ballot. Well, I just reread the constitution and it just mentions ballots --- supposedly one could use little bits of paper carried by homing pidgeon. I apologize to Irvin on that one. I certainly don't like all the friction. I think Irvin is trying to do his best for the N3F. Unfortunately he isn't always the most tactful person. Neither is Donald Franson who is just as strong willed and also has a vision of what the N3F should be. Unfortunately, their visions are very different and so collisions happen. The other Directors are much the same. Here you just have to decide whose vision of the N3F appeals to you and what you want.

The Directors don't hate each other as far as I know. They do have different opinions. The only one I have had much contact with is Fred Jakobcic. He does not seem to be paranoid or unreasonable to me. Actually I am running for the Directorate along with Joanne Burger. Joanne has been on the Directorate before and is not given to paranoia or feuding. I certainly don't dislike any of the other Directors though I have disagreed with them. A couple are extremely picky over every little comma in the constitution which I am not. No doubt, I appear careless to them.

Raising dues should be simpler. I think that dues should be set by the Directorate subject to the veto power of the membership (Joanne and I disagree here.) Here it takes ages to DO anything. To do that, we would have to change the Constitution. What are your feelings? Do you think this would be abused?

I want to see the N3F grow. I'd like it to mean something. I don't think the growth should be too fast but neither should we be stuck in the past. Think about it.



NEW MEMBERS---

Lee Barnes  
1001 East Linden  
Tucson, AZ 85719

BD: 10-2. Research Analyst.  
Inst writing, corres, colls,  
fanzines. Will do writing  
for club. Likes space opera.

Sydney Davis  
Georgia Tech,  
Box 36160  
Atlanta, GA 30332

BD: 12-31-59. Student. Likes  
fantasy, SF, mysteries. Has  
typer, mimeo; inst writing,  
colls, games. Member ASF.

Adrienne Fein  
26 Oakwood Ave  
White Plains, NY 10605

BD: June 1. Inst colls, cons,  
editing, corres, apas, art.  
Pubs FEINZINE, a feminist zine.

Linda Frankel  
43 Evert St  
Huntington Sta.  
NY 11746

BD: 10-11-55. Writer. Inst  
writing, corres, fanzines,  
cons. Has typer. Inst SF for  
12 years.

Meade Frierson III  
3705 Woodvale Rd  
Birmingham, AL 35223

Reinstatement. BD: 3-14-40  
Inst writing, pubbing, tap  
cons, apas. Favorite  
author: Lovecraft.

Alexander J Garrison  
1618A South 7th St  
Blytheville, AFB,  
AR 72315

BD: 4-1-62. Student. Inst writing, colls, corres. fanzines.  
Has typer, photo copier, cassette. Active 7 years. Reads most  
SF. Member of Friends of Darkover.

Arthur Hlavaty  
250 Coligni Ave  
New Rochelle, NY 10801

BD: 10-6-42. Semi pro writer. Inst writing, reviewing, corres  
fanzines, cons. Has typer. Active fandom 5 years. Edits DIA-  
GONAL RELATIONSHIP. Founder of Illuminatus Nut Cult.

Mark Johnson  
Rte 5, Box 415A  
Nacogdoches, TX 75961

BD: 9-1-62. Inst SF 3 years. Inst writing. Will do club work,  
corres, files. Has typer, varityper. Prefers S&S, planets.  
Likes most writers.

Catherine Keegan  
1025 Yucca Ave  
Las Vegas, NV 89104

BD: 9-14-60. Student. Inst writing, editing, pubbing, reviewing,  
corres, fanzines, cons, D&D. Has typer. Likes most authors and  
reads most zines.

Richard Parks  
1611 11th St SE Apt 210  
Decatur, AL 35601

BD: 6-15-55. Chemist. Inst writing. Will do club work, write  
or corres. Has typer, never active in fandom. Inst fanzines.  
Reads most SF mags and likes most authors.

Diane Potter  
435 Lynn St  
Richardson, TX 75080

BD: 9-22-58. Student. In fandom 7 years. Inst reviewing, cons,  
fanzines, editing. Has typer and access to mimeo. Sponsor Caryl  
Anne Thompson.

David Schorer  
3101 Greenwood Ave W  
Tacoma, WA 98466

BD: 12-11-58. Inst SF 11 years. Inst writing, pubbing, colls,  
comics. Has typer. Inst fandom 5 years. Has been a member of  
several clubs. Reads comics.

Rickey Sheppard  
Morehead Mobile Home Park, Lot 2B  
Rock Field, KY 42274

BD: 11-5-53. Student. Inst writing, fanzines, cons,  
games. Active in fandom 1 year. Member WKU SFS. At-  
tended Rivercon. Inst SF 11 years.

Christina Woesthaus  
9932 Old Lincoln Trail  
Fairview Hts, IL 62208

BD: 4-30-51. Bank teller. Inst pubbing, cons, games, corres, fan-  
zines. Has typer, cassette. Active 6 months. In Friends of Dark-  
over. Helps pub newsletter. Inst SF 9 years. Likes telepathy tales.

Anne Elizabeth Zeek  
P.O. Box 296  
Staten Island, NY 10301

BD: 10-11. Probation officer. Inst writing, corres, editing, pub-  
bing, fanzines, cons. Has typer, mimeo, electrostenciller. Pubs  
TIME WARP and a McCaffrey zine. Wants info on N3F activities.



Frejac

NEW MEMBERS (con't)

~~Eddie Anderson~~  
1962 Gardenstone Ct  
Westlake Village  
CA 91361

BD: 8-26-61. Stock clerk. Inst writing, corres, pubbing, colls, books, mags, Would like to do art corres, writing for zines, Has typer, photo copier, has access to ditto. Inst SF three years. Reads ANALOG, IASFM, SFR. Likes fanzines.

Scott Bauer  
128 Maureen Cr  
Pittsburg, CA 94565

BD: 7-30-57. Film student. Inst colls, films, fantasy, writing, editing pubbing reviewing, corres, fanzines, cons, apas. Has ty-typer, taper, ditto, cassette. Inst SF 9 yrs. Attended con in 75.

Walter Coslet  
Box 6,  
Helena, MT 59601

No known birthday. A reinstatement. Inst local SF clubs, fanzines, sercon discussion of SF and cons.

William Gross  
128B Hamilton Hall  
Wright State U  
Dayton, OH 45435

BD: 6-13-54. Computer Scientist. Collects paperbacks. Inst reviewing, reading tapes. Has taper. Act 2 years Inst SF 5 yrs. Wants to know if we have a directory of members by region. Fav authors---Heinlein, Asimov.

Terie Hafner  
3708 W. Camelback # 127  
Phoenix, AZ 85019

BD: 9-28-60. Student. Inst writing, fanzines. Member Selta SF Club. Inst SF 6 years. Fav author: LeGuin. Wants to know how to sub to fanzines. Wants to write for fanzines.

Lucille Lattanzi  
1110 E 55th St  
Brooklyn, NY 11234

BD: 10-27-50. Elem School teacher. Inst colls, fanzines, bks, mags. May contribute art later. Inst fandom 5 years. Inst SF 18 years. Reads SFR.

Chris Mills  
1102 Catherine Pl.  
Delta, CO 81416

BD: 5-25-61. Student. Inst writing, photo, cons, corres, re-viewing. Has typer, cassette. Never active fandom. Likes authors who write adventure and interstellar stories. Reads Analog.

Ray Nelson  
333 Ramona Ave  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

BD: 10-3-31. Inst writing, art, fanzines, cons. Has typer, mimeo, taper, active in fandom since 47 ...N3F ..SAPS, SFWA, DSFL, MSFS, Likes stories with new imaginary societies.

Warren (Skip) Norris  
Mou. #1, Box 591  
Chesapeake, VA 23322

BD: 2-19-55. US Navy. Inst art, colls, photo, cons, games. Has typer, cassette. Active in fandom 8 years. Inst SF 15 years. Member NESFA. Reads most prozines. Likes Heinlein.

Terry Quinn  
2307 Belleview, Apt 204  
La Junta, CO 81050

BD: 12-5-50. Sales Manager. Inst reviewing, cons, overseas activity, corres, games, music. Inst fandom 4 years. Member DASFA, ConComm Denvention 11. Likes Zelazny, Anderson, Dickson.

Bobbie Smith  
8026 Canary Lane  
Indianapolis, IN 46260

BD: 1-29-47. Retail office manager. Inst writing, corres. Coll books, fanzines. Likes ST. Will work, wants to write for club. Act fandom 6 months. Fav authors: Heinlein, Clark, Anderson Ellison

Paul Stadinger  
239 N. 9th St  
Allentown, PA 18102

BD: 12-21-50. Realtor. Inst writing, fanzines, colls Boy Scout material. Has typer, taper. Never active in fandom. Reads LOCUS. Would like to contact other Allentown area fen.

Tom Staicar  
2288 Hardyke Ct  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

BD: 5-30-46. Library super/writer...pro writer...mostly articles and newspapers, -mags work. Will do writing for club. Inst SF 20 years. Never active. Inst fanzines. Likes Ellison, Leiber.

Stuart Wells  
310 Empire Bldg  
St Paul, MN 55101

BD: 1-31-42. Attorney. Inst, reading, index compiling, Not active in fandom. Has typer, photo copier. Inst SF 25 years, attended some cons. Reads LOCUS, SFR.

Elizabeth Wilson  
38549 Courtland Dr  
Willoughby, OH 44094

BD: 3-6-51. Computer tape librarian. Inst cons. Inst fandom 3 years. Inst SF 15 years. Reads Analog, F&SF, Galaxy, Likes Kurtz, Anderson, Bradley, McCaffrey.

EVEN MORE NEW MEMBERS---(These gave no info)

Michael Mangan  
1260 Notre Dame  
Sudbury, ONT P3A 2T9 Canada

Lee Poleske  
P.O. Box 871  
Seward, AK 99664

Joseph Choate  
101 Commercial Ave  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

JoAnne Hanny  
469 $\frac{1}{2}$  Potrero Ave  
San Francisco, CA 94110

Mark Stanberry  
1429 Mayfair Rd.  
Champaign, IL 61020

Fred Liebl Jr  
227 Water St  
Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Lester Van Epps  
572 Whalley Ave  
New Haven, CT 06511

Darryl Wilkinson  
9800 Gentry  
St Louis, MO 63125

J. J. Csaszar  
2213 S Fountain Ave  
Allentown, PA 18103

Steve Perram  
2920 Meridan St  
Bellingham, WA 98225

David Rorer  
1721 Beacon  
Cincinnati, OH 45230

Philip Muldowney  
28 Moorland View  
Derriford, Plymouth, England

Richard P. Jasinski  
71 535 Szczecin  
Ul. Rynkowa, 6/63 Poland

Richard Jasinski is in charge of relations with English speaking SF clubs and groups for the Polish SF Club which is the largest in Europe.

Bob Barnes  
1708 N. 18th St.  
Boise, ID 83702

John Shiban  
2448 Leaflock Ave  
West Lake Village CA

Tom Walsh  
2014 E. St George Ave  
Linden, NJ 07036

Mike Shupp  
10000 Imperial Hwy, Apt F-119,  
Downey, CA 90242

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Con Report (con't from page 12)

me look like a boy which is very difficult as those who have seen me will testify. Fred looked like someone on an old West "Wanted Dead or Alive" poster, thus keeping with the setting. Considering Irvin's attitude toward the Directorate, maybe this last wasn't an accident.

There was a big mixup about the Hugo presentation. The Concomm finally figured out that there were twice as many attendees as seats in the hall so we had to get tickets. Naturally they didn't tell us this until one day before the Hugos were to be presented. I quick called Dennis Jarog so he wouldn't miss getting one and the whole hotel lobby was jammed with hopefuls. I went a couple of people I would never have met otherwise while in line. I get get to the see the Hugos and see Harlan Ellison ham it up. Apparently he had gotten his really mean and hostile feeling out at the roast which I didn't attend.

Other part were not significant, just pleasant. Milly Brewer and I went to the restaurant at the top of the Hyatt-Regency though Milly didn't like the open view the elevator gave. We had a nice time talking. I also spent some time with Peggy Gemignani, my roommate. She is an avid art collector which I am not. I even watched some TV and saw what Phoenix laughingly calls heavy traffic. Joanne Burger thought this funny too.

Monday night we had a gigantic party outside our hotel room as fen were told to party in the Adams rather than the Hyatt-Regency. The H\_R suffered over \$12,000 worth of damage and the Adams practically none so you can see where the civilized fans stayed. I also played some EMPIRE OF THE PETAL THRONE which proved that Joanne Burger can be sneaky, mean and nasty. Though I did get a character up to third level. Actually I had a room in the suite Joanne had so had to be nice to her. But we had a refrigerator and sink and Milly Brewer made coffee.

All too soon it was time to leave. I was so tired I couldn't even be afraid of flying.

Irvin Koch  
1870 Dresden Dr NE B9  
Atlanta, GA 30319

404-636-1156 'til midnight \*sigh\*..... \*sigh, sigh\*. At least I can start out writing something that's not a correction of someone else's material in TB or TNFF. There was a fairly nice N3F party at RiverCon. I remember Lynne Morse. I think everyone else there was at some con I've already reported on, N3Fers that is. Larry Niven & entourage incl. Sandra Meisel were there for a while. Somewhat later it turned from an N3F party into a session of the SMOFs of the midwest plotting worldcons and such. I have two bags of goodies left. They will go to WindyCon most likely since Dan Caldwell at this same adress is going.

ONE: There never was a "Socialist Bureau" or any "political bureau" in N3F. Certain people as part of a deliberate campaign of misrepresentation and confusion spreading have tried to say there was. Many others have just not read closely. What there was, was one member who ASKED for such a thing. In at least some of his letters that I saw, he asked for such to discuss SF, that's science fiction, in regards socialism. Now it so happens I have as great a disregard for this "ism" as most other members have. In fact, I'm still waiting for someone to suggest a Libertarian Special Interest Group within SF-- I suspect those people complaining about ANY activity having anything to do with politics, philosophy or religion would suddenly find themselves on the other side of the arguement then.

As long as anyone can establish a connection to sf--and by ghod there is both a realworld political party and a realworld religion in part based on works of Robert Heinlein alone-- there should be no reason not to list any proposed activity in TNFF...as a Special Interest Group or some other designation, along with the proposer's name & address. If there's any room to list these, it behooves us to not get in the bussiness of telling people "no, you can't have that in N3F."

It wasn't socialism I was concerned with--it was the Libertarian groups in fandom, the WomensMovement groups, and whatever else may come up in SF fandom and interest any group of N3F members.

So member RM got his listing. Sure, he could have been satisfied--or been forced to be satisfied--with a listing in Correspondence or RoundRobins. But he wanted his own group. OK--he was listed--as his own group. Private Project was even stuck on it as a label the second time to make double sure N3F wasn't counted as endorsing it. But it's not our bussiness to forbid it either. It was much simpler to let it die of lack of interest after two issues of listing.

You see, I already knew, when he first asked, that there was only one other socialist in N3F and that he was of a 180 degrees different brand. Now, when we put the League of Jewish Fan Matchmakers or the Hillbilly Fen Matrimonial Assn on as a Special Interest Group, maybe they will "fix" some of these people who have nothing better to do but quarell. But they can't even be listed while the "powers that be" stand ready to force anything at all being listed in TNFF to first pass their vote.

Now, can, please, please, that be the last of the subject?

TWO: I have reason to believe that some anti-me material was cut from Jul TB by Frank. While it is the right and duty of an editor to edit, I don't want anyone to think anything cut from their letter was my idea. In fact I have previously stated I WANT to see gripes about me--especially if first sent to me to DO something about before going to TNFF or TB.

In a similiar vein, Frank was NOT obligated to print any reviews he thought were poor. He could easily argued they should be forwarded to TNFF, or just edited the hades out of them. The fact that the reviewer in question had been given Official Reviewer status, was not a controlling factor.

I am stepping in here as a matter of clarification only. Koch's first law says "the work that is done is ultimately determined by those who do it." So, even tho I paid for the NeoHead's Guide, it was NOT done as I would have had it. Maybe on the rewrite.....

Ah, another pleasant comment. Don D'Amassa, last ish, could also have noted, as he did at AutoClave, that his own zine has run some hot controversies. Enough, in fact, has it gotten, to put Don on a panel as an expert in such.

THREE: On the question raised by Frank re editors being paid partly in advance--this is a legitimate item for discussion. Maybe, in fact with any luck at all, next year we can get a group of Directors who will set up...oh never mind.

FOUR: Don Franson's letter. I'm getting tierd of this. Every letter the man writes has at least one major lie or a misrepresentation so great it may as well be one. Sometimes several. My answer to him, if done in detail, would take a major part of a fansine...but would bore most of you to not reading it.

This is supposed to be a fan group, not a 1950's version of a fan group either. When all the smoke has cleared, I will have two grocery bags full of soft drinks aimed at a con, a pile of info on Special Interest Groups incl some nice chattery letters with fem fen in same, and maybe a small but growing stack of zines and other activities I gave a little push into existance. Franson will have a pile of poisonpen letters and his little(I hope it's little)group of throwbacks to the fued era.

Let these polititions go into the mundane government. They'll probably try to legisla e you into spelling correctly. We'll see how they can enforce that any more than any of the rest of their bussiness.

FIVE: I regret that the proposal for an immediate and gradually escallating dues increase is indeed Unconstitutional in N3F. If the Directors had not decided to throw out all second and third choice votes, this would not now be the case.

The question re the Oct Constitutional Ammeddment ballot is NOT how much, or if, to increase the dues. It is if or if not the actions of the present four male directors will in effect be ratified. If their ammendment is passed, it has the effect of ammending the Constitution BACK to what it would have been before the last vote--even if the new Directors vote to "set asside the decision to count only first place votes." VOTE AGAINST.

No rules, the N3F Constitution & Bylaws, or your local town charter, have any more power than those operating under them lend them. Joanne Burger, in Aug TNFF, may have had good reason to fear the Director's being given power to raise--or change, or make other rules about--dues. BUT AS IT STANDS NOW, ONLY THEY HAVE THE POWER TO PUT ANY SUCH CHANGE ON THE BALLOT....IN PRACTICE. There wont be that much change. A petition by as few as five percent, about 14 or 15 people as this is written, or 25--if less than 5% members would be able to force a membership vote before any change went into effect nor would they go into effect for 2 months in any case--to give pettioners a chance. And if the directors are inactive--a petition can cause a vote and change as required.

With Joanne herself on the Directorate, she might even talk the Directors into changing the Bylaws which would be created when the previous 2d & 3rd choices are allowed to stand, into specifying all changes must be submitted to membership vote immediately(I hope not.).

The important thing is to get dues out of the Constitution. Then all the rest of what Joanne and others are in favor of, can be done. And--don't worry about sudden \$12 dues just because it goes into the Bylaws and Joanne is a Director and wants them. Judy G. wants \$6 with gradual increases, among other things. I suspect the majority of the new group will too (look at the way the vote went....)

Unfortunately there is something else of equal importance to voting against the ammendment now up and voting in 4 replacements for the present 4 male directors. We now have a Directorate Chairman(and 3 henchpersons) raving that the Bylaws are THEIRS, the Directorates own, and not the N3Fs. This is what I ment and mean by rules being no better than those who work with them or support them.

It's the N3F Bylaws. It's your, members, Bylaws. Furthermore the Constitution says, among other things that ANYTHING WHATSOEVER can be submitted to MEMBERSHIP DECISION. There is no supreme court here nor do we need one. The only thing to stop future evil directors from ignoring this and claiming only they can have anything to do with the bylaws(\*), for all practical purposes, is the knowledge that if they do so--they have less than a year to enjoy their evil rewards. YOU NOT ONLY HAVE TO VOTE THEM OUT, you need to ALL DO SO. There needs to be at least 150 to 200 votes in the comming election NOT for any present male director.

There are more details involved in what and when the new directors have to do, but I'm out of room--write for details.

(\*)It is also possible but not practical to amend the constitution to specify so and so is no longer a director. In addition there is a really nasty bomb I'll let Don find. -oOo-



## THE PREDECESSORS OF THE SAURE'S, THE FORCE AND OTHER CONJECTURES

by

Dennis Jarog

Back Again, folks. Let's go back to the time of phallics and pyramids (and have a round of snickers and sneers). Then I discussed how the Illuminati really subverted the greater good of this space-time continuum by their control of the post office. That branch typified by Yog-Xipkode and his hoary minions. How singularly appropriate that they are threatening a strike during the very week of the worldCon. The Evil One always was a master of timing. This thing has become too big for one man to shoulder; as a result, I have an ally to combat the forces of Darkness as I make this revelation.

Long before the days of the Jedi, the struggle was fought in full force. Long before man even left his tired paranoid place of origin, both the Force and the Illuminated Ones existed. It is natural that we assume that the Primi are the supposed descendants of the Great Ones who fled mighty Atlantis at its fall. They would have knowledge of the Force. After all it is the Force that is the animus of all living things and what did the illoiger dine on but plenty of human souls. To the Mehums, the Force was and is a subject of much mystery surrounded by arcane celebrations and Walpurgesnacht dances.

The Great Old Ones of Atlantis never needed a post office to communicate for their thoughts alone could span continents and they thus had little need of stamps. But in striving for more souls and more dominions, the Evil One brought down mighty Atlantis and forced the many generations who came after to share their thoughts via his medium and thus was born the post office in all its glory. Even in this time when the Evil One finally had to share some of his power via such entities as Mother Bell --- a Personage to whom the mehums send monthly dowers of coinage. Little do they know the truth. In this age of the world, Yog-Xipkode's original creation remains strong and full of vitality and the number of his minions increases daily. Yet the Great One, Yog, has known even better days. There was a time when he ruled over the post office of a far-flung galaxy and wasn't reduced to beginning and maintaining one on a tired and lonely planet. Perhaps he overreached himself and the forces of the supposed righteous, triumphed and the post of that day was freed of his evil influence. Perhaps One superior even to him, cast him beyond the Great Cancellation.

\*\*\*Here followeth the vision vouchsafed to the Prophet Dennis\*\*\*

In a galaxy long ago and far away, long before the Great Time of Atlantis, the Evil One was present, ever lurking in the far flung corners of space. It was the Time of the Republic. The enemies of the Evil One were supported by the Jedi and for a time they were triumphant and held the Evil One in check. The post worked properly. No mail was misdelivered, held up in transit or destroyed. Rates were low. It was the Golden Age of the Fanzine and fandom did rejoice. But the Evil One looked for allies to conspire to achieve once again his ancient beyond time control over the post. He found an able instrument: Darth Vader, a Jedi-in-training who possessed an evil in the depths of his soul hidden to his Jedi masters. One of his teachers, Obi-Wan Kenobi, felt something amiss, but took no action for fear of betraying his own plans. Vader moved slowly at first, undermining the soft core of the Republic and eventually becoming head of Jedi Security for the Post Office. Here he could do real harm and his gifts were great. Mail became erratic. Space trams were given the wrong co-ordinates causing them to emerge parsecs from their destination. Fanzines found their way into Black Holes. Locs were lost in intergalactic space. The missives of the bureaucracy were cast beyond the gravitic forces of the Milky Way and went on an eons long trip through the reaches of intergalactic space toward Andromeda. The Republic began to fray. Taxes were not received. The Jedi never got their commission and duty posting were lost. And how could they recharge their light sabers --- even ConSab refused to honor the Jedi charge card?

Few saw through Vader's ploys. One such was a Jedi named Skywalker. Sadly all his attempts to contact Jedi Central were lost by the post and he ended his life walking the rounds on a post on far Ringworld. His end was suspicious. So the Republic fell. Vader conspired with others and set up the Empire. No one knew his real plans so they awarded him a title of nobility. Darth Vader became Lord Darth Vader.

Year passed. The Empire tried to consolidate its position. At the same time Vader sought to gain more and more control over the imperial post. However there were still a few small outposts with efficient mail service. Whenever Vader thought of them, he became exceedingly wroth and vowed to gain even more efficient control over the post. The Imperial post was now very expensive and it took two gold imperials (and a lack of knowledge of navigation) to make the Knessel Run in twelve parsecs. Vader also had a cancellation machine installed in his mouth to give him a more normal appearance and took to wearing black in order to placate the Evil One. He was now close to his destiny. However he refused to admit that he was not master of his own fate; that the Evil One, Yog, was directing his mad plan to take over the Imperial Post and so become master of all humanity and the myriad other sentient races as well. The one man who might successfully oppose him, Obi-Wan Kenobi, had dropped out of sight so Vader dismissed him as a source of problems. That was his first major mistake.

Not even Vader knew that Kenobi has designs on the post. No one, including this author knew what he planned to do with it. Perhaps he intended to make it more efficient and insist that couriers know space navigation and how to read addresses and have passed galactography. Maybe he hoped to make it unnecessary and thus totally subvert the Will of the Evil One. Kenobi well knew the Evil One and made plans to deal with him but when Vader made his most daring move, he was isolated on the backwater planet of Tatooine. Kenobi knew that on that giant sandlot dwelled the son of Skywalker and this was the only person to whom Kenobi could pass on the power that was his

Several turns later, another of the Primuses of the day (Kenobi and Vader were both such) learned that Kenobi was still alive. Leia wished him to come and advise the post of Alderaan. There Kenobi would learn the methods by which Leia's father had kept the post working so efficiently. Leia was afraid that Vader might also learn these methods and this could spell the end of the Alliance to Preserve the Post and make his conquest and dominion complete. Thus she had to place all the knowledge in a small droid and hope it would manage to make it to Kenobi even though it did not bear the proper postage stamp.

Well the rest of the story is too well known to need repeating here. The droid made it to Kenobi via postman-in-training Luke Skywalker who did not notice the lack of a postage stamp. Together they managed to gain control of the post and restore it to greatness. They banished the Evil One, consigning him to a small backwater planet near the edge of the galaxy that did not have a snowball's chance in hell of developing sentient. Many claim that it still hasn't.

Kenobi achieved Illumination. Vader was sent to the Dead Letter Office. Skywalker became the new head of the post. And Leia took care of his head.

\*\*\*Thus Endith the Vision of the Prophet Dennis\*\*\*

---Dennis Jarog (Prophet of Paranoia)  
---Anji Valenza (Goddess of Negativity)

((Lynne here---This was actually a collaboration between Anji and Dennis which was not apparent when I began typing this. So Anji gets half the credit for this. There is plenty to go around.))

# a con report

(Or What Did You Do At Iggy, Lynne?)

By Lynne Holdom (who just happens to be  
Editor.)

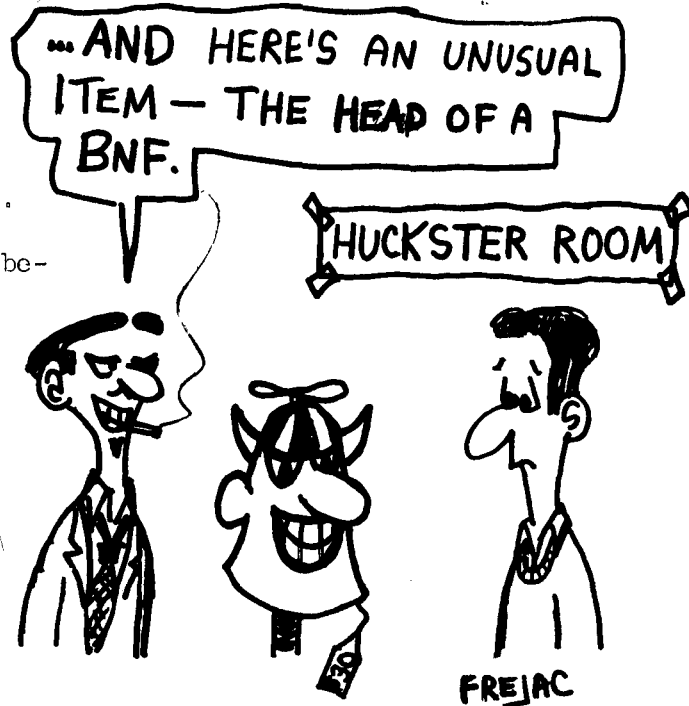
I hadn't originally planned to go to IguanaCon. My plan was to save money and attend SeaCon. I wanted to go back to England. It has a sensible late summer climate. None of this 90+ weather. The very thought of 100+ temperatures was enough to discourage me. I never believed that bit about dry heat versus wet heat anyway and I once lived in Gulf Coast Louisiana.

However a friend convinced me to attend. We got tickets on the airline. We got a room. Unfortunately my friend got the room and got in her name only. We'd planned this back in May but one week before Iggy, she told me we weren't sharing the room. Since it was only in her name, there was nothing I could do about this except stew. It did teach me that I will always make sure any room is in my name as well as any so-called friend. Matters can change. Luckily I had another friend who had some room. It wasn't precisely what I wanted but it was there. It also meant I had quite a different con experience than I would otherwise have had.

My first problem was getting there. I hate to fly. I get nervous on an airplane. My "fear of flying" involves a 727. It's not so much that I'm afraid of going up, but I don't want to come down --- suddenly. I feel queasy on a plane. I don't know how I'd survive on a spaceship. The funny part is that I don't get airsick. The first flight I was ever on, lost two motors between Minneapolis and Milwaukee. We managed to land all right but it was rough. Later (after we'd gotten another plane) we had to circle Detroit in a thunderstorm. I just sat there drinking coke. I find I can always eat on a plane; it gives me something to think about besides crashing. The flight to Phoenix was a total bust as one could not see the ground except for some rare area around New Mexico which looked all dried out. It was even overcast over Phoenix. I had visions of rain in Phoenix. When I was in St. Thomas it rained even though it wasn't the rainy season.

We got there. It was in the 90's. It got up to 106 later on. There was also a three hour difference between Phoenix and New Jersey. So I got tired early. The room I was in had two queen sized beds, unlike the Hyatt-Regency which had smaller rooms.

The next day was spent in sight-seeing. The Phoenix P.O. sells postcards. Honest. I never heard of that before. Also some friends and I went out to dinner. I got registered too, after a hassle with the con committee which claimed I didn't exist.



This brings up something else. Never did I get the idea that the con committee knew what it was doing. I have been to disorganized cons but.... Part of the problem is that the membership on the committee changed so often. I heard Dennis Jarog, who is mild mannered by nature say some angry words about them. Airline fares favored people coming and spending a week but the con comm didn't know this. So there were a lot of people in Phoenix on Tuesday and Wednesday with nothing to do. They got annoyed. They complained. Luckily I had a friend with a car but most didn't and Phoenix shuts down at 4PM. Yup. I couldn't believe it either. In NJ places are always open, even on Sunday.

Wednesday morning I met Catherine Keegan. Quite by accident. She and I were both at breakfast. (Another problem early on was that no one had any way of knowing who anybody was, which is rough if you've only written to someone.) We spent a lot of the day checking things out. I spent time with Peggy Gemignani, my roommate as well. She's been to scads of cons and had lots of useful tips. But these days were spent in drifting. Wednesday night I met F. M. Busby and only wished I'd read his novels as those I was with had. Embarrassment. Later I met William Rotsler and he did a name tag for me only he spelled my name wrong. He corrected it though.

Thursday I met Dennis Jarog who I'd been writing to for over two years. He sounded just like my cousin Jim on the phone but didn't look like him. He's better looking than Jim. When he said he smokes a pipe, he wasn't kidding. It's practically an alter ego. Anji Valenza got over her paranoia about great masses of people to attend Iggy as well. She had the misfortune to be next to the suite for the "Boston in 80" people who had a looonng party every night. So she vanished and was never seen --- well she was seen by some people but not by me.

On Thursday they had a talk on sex, gender and role in SF. MZB was a panallist so it sounded interesting. Dennis and I decided to go. It was going along okay with a few cliched statements but you get them all the time in such panels. Then some boor got up and began insulting everyone and MZB in particular saying that sexism, anti-gay feeling etc was old hat. My immediate reaction was huh? He hadn't been reading the news much. Unfortunately he kept getting more offensive and it turned out he was Norman Spinrad, SF writer. Were it not for that, he'd have been tossed out of the convention.

There were the Darkover events. But they weren't as much as I had expected in advance. MZB read a story about how Lew Alton met Dio Ridenow on Vainwal. I sold a number of copies of JUMEAUX. But I would have liked to talk to other Darkover fen and instead we spent our time as a passive audience. Now I wanted to hear the story as much as anyone but.... I don't know what the answer is. The Darkover parties were duller than the one I was involved with at Boskone. I don't know the answer. Certainly a part of it is that fans come to see MZB (I do also) and when she leaves, the party leaves. At Boskone there was no chance of MZB being there. Also one party was dimmed by MZB having lost the Hugo. I liked GATEWAY but.... As a matter of fact, I more than liked GATEWAY. It was the only other Hugo caliber nominee there.

I liked meeting Katherine Kurtz and Jack Chalker. Very different authors but I like them both. The time I was supposed to be at the LASFAPA party but took a wrong turn and ended in another party. I'm still not sure whose. I met Eve Whitley who is one of the most fascinating people I met at Iggy. Not just because she recognized my name either. It seems she's a friend of Adrienne Fein's. Later she turned on Diana Brown as Nevada had not passed ERA.

Then there was the time Stella Nemeth, Dennis Jarog, Fred Jakobcic, Joanne Burger and I spent two hours talking about N3F and what was right/wrong with it. Very interesting. Irvin Koch came in later and we let him in on a bit also. Then he took pictures of all of us that have to be the worst outside a passport office. He made

# The Grainger Series

by Brian Stableford  
reviewed by Greg Hulls



I discovered Stableford many, many years back, when I was but a sprogging who mooched around in the various school libraries that came my way. (all right. \*snivvle\*, it would be around 1971)... I found a book called CRADLE OF THE SUN. I liked it...a bit. But just then I was in the throes of my Space-Opera period, so I chucked down CoftS (and also Kate Wilhelm's THE KILLING MACHINE...or is that THE KILLING THING?...the memory is a little vague) and settled down to ninety parsecs an hour of Doc Smith.

However, all phases die in the end, and eventually I rediscovered Stableford in 1975 when I read the hardback of HALCYON DRIFT, the first in a series about "Star-pilot Grainger". It struck me as excellent, and in June 76 I was ready and waiting when the Pan paperback arrived in New Zealand. I now have three of the series: HALCYON DRIFT, RHAPSODY IN BLACK, and PROMISED LAND....all these are in Pan. Ghu knows who has them in the USA. ((DAW and there are three others: THE PARADISE GAME, THE FENRIS DEVICE and SWAN SONG. Stableford is now four books into another series --- the Daedelus Mission series.))

Anyway, HD opens with Grainger (he has no other name to his name) stranded on a desolate and inhospitable world in the fringes of the deadly Halcyon Drift --- a dark, dusty nebula with a murderous reputation for any ships that enter it. He has been there alone, his partner killed in the crash that wrecked the ship he now ekes out his life in and has for two years. In that time a sort of "mind parasite" who (or which) Grainger refers to, ironically, as "the Wind" has invaded him and now cohabits his body. This cohabitation is truly mutual and provides the mundane dialogue Stableford needs to bring out Grainger's individualism: Grainger and the Wind can "speak" together inside their common head.

Into the scene comes another ship which hears Grainger's feeble distress signal, and takes

him off the rock. There is some interesting stuff, then it settles down that the company who owned the ship, now have Grainger at their disposal for as long as it may takes him to repay the cost of the rescue. They set him up as the pilot of an experimental ship, the "Hooded Swan", and the stage is set for a long and happy series of adventures as the characters shuttle merrily from world to world according to the whims of the company. First comes the exploration of the Halcyon Drift for a ship that went in long before, and came down in one piece --- but unmanned and its position unknown. Due to freaks of the

electromagnetic distortions in the Drift, its distress signal can be heard all through the drift; but its position is near-impossible to find (many ships have tried, but have been wrecked by those same distortions. The Hooded Swan is unprecedentedly manoeuvrable, however, and so naturally....) Thus the plot of the first book which is excellently written and has my unqualified praise.

RHAPSODY IN BLACK is set on the asteroid world of Rhapsody. The quality of writing here is lower than in HD, and more introverted; but the prime item is the plot. That being so, I had best not describe even a lead in: if I reveal the central idea, then the book will disappoint when read. But, while slow moving at times, the book is excellent and convincing.. Still after RHAPSODY IN BLACK failed to deliver the goods, I was apprehensive about PROMISED LAND. Would it be another book with an idea that was good, but was the only thing it had going for it? Then the book duly arrived and....

It is as good as HALCYON DRIFT in almost every way. It has a solid plot, solid (3-D) characters, and the writing, though prosaic enough, is a joy to read. What if --- a young alien girl leaves a secret "project" and is kidnapped back to her own world for obscure (initially) reasons? Stableford takes it from there. And he does more than just explain the story. He takes up the threads of Grainger's universe; the threads he dropped in RHAPSODY IN BLACK, and enlarges our keyhole view of it. It takes on depth, loses that hastily-pasted-together veneer that too many modern series have. It reaches back and embraces the material brought up in HALCYON DRIFT and RHAPSODY IN BLACK. There is a fascinating alien jungle, a fascinating alien culture (which passes the most rigorous tests: i.e. the deeper you look at it, the stranger it gets, and the more apparently familiar aspects turn out to stem from truly alien ideas. Jack Vance succeeds at this, as does Larry Niven to a lesser extent. Poul Anderson fails and also Philip Jose Farmer.) There is a perfectly natural solution that has nothing of the overdone to it. Stableford gives us the story and does not then wink broadly and say""Look what clever boy I are"...

All in all an excellent series, what I have seen of it.

HALCYON DRIFT

RHAPSODY IN BLACK by Brian Stableford

Pan in the UK and DAW in the USA

PROMISED LAND

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THE PARADISE GAME by Brian Stableford

reviewed by Lynne Holdom

This is the fourth and my personal favorite of the "Hooded Swan" series. The basic plot line is simple. A rival company to the Company that Grainger owes his soul to has plans for making a primitive planet, Pharos, a vacationers paradise. The only problem is that there are natives there; natives who could be badly hurt by this exploitation. Yet when has that ever stopped anyone? Grainger's job is to figure out a way to get the Caradoc company off the planet. But that is easier said than done. Then it begins to seem as if Pharos can protect itself since the crewmen come down with a disease that is often fatal. This is simply the most serious of the planet's many mysteries. Why is there so little variation in the native life. It is as if a planner decided only one of each phylum was needed and so discarded the others. In the end, it proves that Pharos may be the most dangerous threat to the galaxy for all its apparent tranquility.

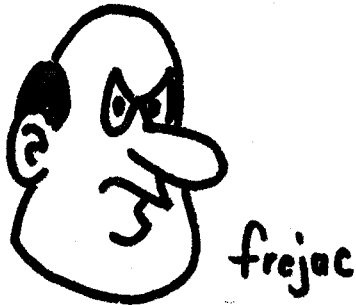
Liek Greg, I found the "Hooded Swan" series worth reading. They are what I would call "cynical space adventure" where there is a puzzle to be solved rather than gung-ho adventure. This tone pervades all of Stableford's work that I have read and Stableford just does not seem to believe in easy answers.

THE PARADISE GAME by Brian Stableford

DAW June 1974 95¢

# LETTERS

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU  
COULDN'T LOC TIGHTBEAM  
BECAUSE YOU WERE BUSY  
WATCHING "GILLIGAN'S  
ISLAND"?



Richard Llewellyn  
P.O. Drawer BP  
Cullowhee, NC 28703

As a neo to TIGHTBEAM  
I have to agree with  
Mary Tyrrell's remarks  
in issue 12 and say that

I do not know what is going on. One feels as though he had entered a crowded room where everyone is talking at once. I only hope that after a while I will be able to add something to the confusion.

The President's Message and the L5 article also provided little for the newcomer to comment on. On the other hand I would like to remark on the book reviews, especially Briggs". Bradbury is an excellent writer even though he is not one of my favorites. One cannot object to his not writing the kinds of stories that one wants him to write if he is really to be respected as an author. Bradbury is respected because he says things that he feels to be important. Therefore his messages to his readers can only be of value so long as he is writing

of what is important to him and not what his fans wish to hear. On the other hand I do agree with his comments on Anderson. It is a pity that he has not yet written the book that he could write. I wish I had a copy of the Martin story to read and analyze. As an amateur theologian, I am always interested in an science fiction writer's approach to religion.

I have not read the particular Swann novel reviewed by Hills but agree with his general comments on Swann's particular kind of story. Your own comments on Clement make me determined to read NEEDLE and its sequel as soon as possible. In general mystery stories and science fiction do not mix well.



John Robinson  
P.O. Box 33  
Schenectady, NY  
12301

This letter is with regard to the N3F's employment of an OFFICIAL ASSASSIN. I see in the ACTIVITIES AND OFFICERS section of the June TNFF that there is listed at the bottom of page two (or so it says) an OFFICIAL ASSASSIN, Dan Caldwell, 1870 Dresden Dr. NE, Atlanta, GA 30319. Does this mean that our president has the official assassin living with him? If so, I'd suggest he be replaced with a Ninja.

A top of the line Ninja will cost you, us, the N3F, only 2,000 gold pieces, according to the latest Dungeons and Dragons addendum in the July 1978 issue of THE DRAGON. There is the additional advantage, to the president, that a Ninja who knows his potential victim, and the president might be ousted in a violent coup as long as there's an official assassin around; a Ninja who knows his victim will avoid doing in that victim. So Irv would be safer with a Ninja around rather than an Official Assassin.

Ninjas are extremely efficient. If the N3F decided to do in one or more of the Secret Masters of Fandom, ((contact Anji Valenza on that)) who are reported to be really powerful 13th level dudes at least, then a 16th level Ninja is the way to go.

Just a suggestion. But with the prospect of dues going up, we should be able to go the 2000 gold pieces and really have a top notch talent.

Herbert Summerlin  
4424 Indian River Rd  
Virginia Beach, VA  
23456

A very enjoyable cover from Argee, very nice. What do you know a guest editorial from Frank. I wonder how much TIGHTBEAM will change with revolving faneds? ((Well I'm doing TB through the end of 1979. Irvin thought I said 1978 which is where all the confusion started.))

The next notable is a letter from Don D'Amassa, or WoW, or as Darrell Schweitzer might say, Who?

I guess I should deny the rumors of my being dropped on the head at birth; it would take such a person to say what I am said to say. I didn't say that the various governments were anything alike, I referred that given enough rope, publicity, they hang themselves. That's, of course, in terms of those factions in the USA, neo Nazis etc. As for actual government performances, who works best, who has the biggest, well that's someone else's bag. I live precisely where I live; Virginia, sub title USA. I have no wish nor means to live anywhere else. In fact, just between the two of us, I'm kind of fond of this place.

I worked at one time in a rather shabby establishment and there I got quite enough of people who like to climb into bottles, pulling the cork in behind them. I can see Joanne's point and can agree on it easily with Don. My ancestors didn't do too well with the firewater either.

I don't think I'm exactly opposed to a Socialist group in the N3F but there is the matter of whether or not enough people would be interested. Such a thing could be formed by those who want to, but it doesn't have to be part of the N3F. It could be a Round Robin or a small closed apa.

The question at this time in the world, what country isn't a Republic? ((The ones that are one party dictatorships.))

Dennis Jarog's article was well written and noteworthy; the same for Perry Glen Moore's.

An interesting letter from Greg Hills. I don't know if Mary Tyrrell's family is sheep-like or not, but she is not. She also performed bravely in a certain production at HarkCon of HaRoSFA, though I believe that the trip to and from NASA relapsed my throat, but it was worth it, quite so.

Anji Valenza's cartoon of page 15 should go down in history as absolutely the best I've seen in a long time, and really true. Whoever wakes Valenza had best give me a boot also.

Some one might be interested to know that Frank Kelly Freas gave a wonderful lecture and slide show to a record crowd at the Kempsville branch of the Virginia Beach Library on the 19th of July and was pro GoH that week at the HarkCon presented by the Hampton Roads SF Association. Fan GoH was D. Gary Grady. Personally I thought the whole thing was rather nice.

Oh yes, in answer to Paula Crunk, I am an unwilling member of the shy, rather drab, unpretty neos and it didn't stop me from going to DisClave and having a very nice time. I got there through the consideration of one Ned Brooks. I haven't read ILLUMINATUS either and I don't know if I think on the N3F wave length. Anderson is a wonderful writer on all levels, but I like STAR WARS too; that's because I listen to Bach and Ritchie Black Moore's "Rainbow". I like the July TIGHTBEAM but I can hardly wait for the next Lynne produced issue.

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Cecilia Cosentini  
34-22 214th Pl  
Bayside, NY 11361

I saw in the last TMTF a half page paragraph about copyrighting fanzines. I think my letter can be called "work for hire: what the kodak ad did not mention." Everything in that "ad" is cor-



rect, however, let me give you the facts about "works for hire".

If you are a free-lance artist or illustrator, do not sign contracts with any clause signifying that you will work for hire (i.e. be employed by the other signer of the contract). The clause means that the employer owns the copyright to a work that YOU made. It used to be that an employer would own the copyright almost automatically. At least now (with the new law), you must sign a contract to lose your copyright.

People with fanzines have nothing to worry about, but I know there are fan artists and almost-pro artists out there who should be warned. ((As far as I am concerned, any artist appearing in TB still "owns" his/her art.))



I have a copyright kit from Uncle Sam and a book: LEGAL GUIDE FOR THE VISUAL ARTIST by T. Crawford. Anyone who has questions about this subject can ask me and we will have a dialogue. I'm no lawyer but I'll do the best I can.

#####

Paula Crunk  
1359 Deanna  
Cottage Hills,  
IL 62018

Mr Frank Malley, you needn't apologize for your editing of the current TIGHTBEAM at all. Besides having the good taste to print my letter, you have produced an actually comprehensible (and very interesting) issue. ((Your letter was part of the issue that I stencilled.))

I am but a poor dumb neo, never before in "active fandom"; and at the rate I'm going, not apt to be in it for long. I fail to understand mysterious references to L-5s, the Directorate (a maverick band of Illuminati, maybe?) ((I'll bet Irvin Koch would like to think so.)) or the Great Dues Question. For the last two issues, I have sworn upon the Sword of Aldones to thoroughly read and arduously seek out the meaning to "The Neohed's Guide". Alas I must have incurred the wrath of that fair god as I can in no way get past the first page of part 1 --- not that I think Irvin hasn't performed a rare a valuable service to all budding Neffers. It's just that I learn VERY SLOWLY when I don't understand what the material is purporting to do in the first place.

The reviews in the current TIGHTBEAM re the Hugo nominees were intelligent and perceptive. I'm not in a position to criticize Moore as you did, frank --- I haven't read many of the stories he reviews. I was well pleased with the literary bent of TB and applaud Jarog's choice of FORBIDDEN TOWER for a Hugo. (LUCIFER'S HAMMER, the most "popular" novel, will probably win; so let's start a STORMQUEEN bandwagon for next year, Okay? ((Actually GATEWAY won both the N3F Hugo poll and the Hugo.))

#####

M.E. Tyrrell  
414 Winterhaven Dr.  
Newport News, VA  
23606

Envoyed TB as always. Robert Briggs sure can pack a lot into relatively brief articles. I might not always agree with all of his thoughts on the three writers he discussed, but even the titles of the pieces were thought-provoking.

Rick Brooks is right. I am an orphan (though only since 1970). I didn't know it showed! Even more to the point, I have no brothers or sisters. This probably accounts for my rather naive comments on fandom as family. For all of you who are used to being growled at --- AARRHHZZ! Happy now?

Although we all have fun attacking the post Awful, and for sure it could stand a great deal of improvement, I'd like to point out that UPS has the advantage of selectivity.

Private contractors might work out very well in some situations, but I'm afraid if we had no Post Office at all, some small and off-the-beaten-track towns might have no mail at all. Shudder. A thought not even worth contemplating.

I'm almost sorry we're going to miss out on Herbert Summerlin's Democratic/Unitarian/Capitalists --- or, as I'm sure we'd soon affectionately call them, DUCs!

Joanne's letter poses something of a dilemma. I experienced a somewhat similar situation at Disclave (not involving Tucker and the ritual, though he was *goh*) and it made me uncomfortable. However, cons are, at least in part, for letting off steam, and for lots of people this includes drinking. I suppose you could even argue that a con would be a safe place to get drunk as long as you sobered up by the time you had to drive home. Still, like Joanne, I'd just as soon not be involved in those type situations.

Peggy: "the bastard sons of Edward IV"? (my emphasis) --- you Tudor wasp! And what do you think of Perkin Warbeck?

Fred: I like your idea of an "awful Post Office stories" contest. I usually don't have much trouble with the P.O. (aside from surly stamp sellers), but twice I've had business reply envelopes with my address on the back "mailed" to me rather than where they were supposed to go. ((I just got Dennis Jarog's copy of JUMEAUX back with "not deliverable" stamped on it. I guess I'll have to hand it to him at WindyCon. I also had a PO clerk tell me there was no such country as Iran.))

Stella: As a service organization, I think N3F can contribute most by "introducing" neos to fandom. As for contacting neos, there are probably two good places to start.

1) cons: While a room or a party is a good idea, it isn't always feasible --- especially at smaller or local cons. However, there is one place which even the rankest neo would be hard put to miss and that's where all the flyers announcing cons, zines, special interest groups and what not are located. Couldn't we have a flyer with a quick outline of what the N3F is and what it offers.

2) zines: We could put out a slightly more detailed (or maybe the same) version of the above to fanzine editors and ask if they would run it as a sort of public service announcement.

As a club, I view the N3F as a way to get to know other fen and especially to find other fen with similar interests. We all kind of jumped on Roy Moore, but at least we do know one of his major interests now and anyone who wants to write to him about it can.

I'm still waiting for biological sketches of members.

All the artwork --- RAH! I must admit to particularly liking Laurel Beckley's unicorn on page 12 and Anji's maniacal "eraser" on page 23. Anji's drawing on the bacover and the slogan GO WITH THE N3F AND GO WITH FRIENDS might make a good eye-catcher for the con flyer.

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R. Laurraine Tutihasi  
1217 Majestic Way  
Webster, NY 14580

Fisrt of all I'd like to tell something about copyright law. The new copyright law requires a deposit of two copies of anything published with the copyright symbol with a press run of over five. In special cases, one copy is acceptable. The copyright office may demand deposit any time after publication. Non-compliance after two months will result in a fine. ((I'm still waiting for the new forms which they promised to send.)) If you need more information, I refer you to Mike Short or better yet to a copyright lawyer.

I'd like to quibble a fine point in Don Franson's letter (TB July 1978). The letter is the property of the recipient. However the copyright of the contents of the letter belongs to the writer.

In response to Mike Rogers's query, I like some mainstream literature. I mostly like the classics but also like writers such as Faulkner and Michener. I have always liked both SF and mainstream, but I have also always been very selective about particular books and authors.

#####

Allan Chen                    I must say, after the letters on socialism, I'm mildly disappointed with the N3F. It seems that the fannish community is more conservative than I thought.  
P.O. Box 4545  
Stanford, CA 94305

I would like to point out that some of the debate over socialism is misguided. The purpose of a governing system is to provide for the needs of its people, whether it be socialism, democracy, or a hybrid. We shouldn't allow ourselves to become subservient to the form of a political system; the form serves the need, and the need is the maintenance of human life. Certainly, as so many people asserted, socialism is not THE answer. Of course it's not. But then neither is capitalism and democracy, and I submit, as my proof, the world today.

Need I remind us affluent (relatively speaking) middle American fans that there is a Third and Fourth World which we, the industrialized nations of the north exploit so thoroughly that fully 40% of the human race is living at minimum subsistence level?

Socialism has some value (maybe) as a development strategy. Then again maybe not. But despite what you may have heard about social problems in China or Cuba, everyone is being fed, and conditions are orders of magnitude better than in our countries when they were existing under foreign (capitalist) exploitation. Complaining about rising crime rates in Cuba seems a pretty flimsy defense of our system, when you look at past history.

I might add that cultural perceptions of rights differ from region to region. Cuban life might be repressive to us, but Cubans are being fed, they are working, and participating in local government, and that is a freedom of sorts. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes this --- the first part reads a little like our Bill of Rights, but the second part establishes the right to be fed, clothed, receive adequate health care, etc.

I felt compelled to defend socialism no so much because I utterly with its precepts (no, I don't take orders directly from the Central Committee of the Soviet Union), but because I felt we should try to live up to our reputation as open-minded thinkers. I am a non-conformist to a limited extent in E.F. Schumacher's SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL philosophy, but feel that the total back-to-nature approach is not desirable. A regionally fitted mix of small scale, intermediate and high technologies is a more preferable strategy. AND, I reject neat answers, like Roy's socialism-as-panacea argument. But the socialism-is-not-the-answer is just as neatly packaged.

May I gently suggest that perhaps none of us really know what IS or IS NOT the answer? That there is more in heaven and earth than are dreamed of in your philosophy, Horatio? That the universe is not only queerer than we suppose, it is queerer than we can suppose. That is no right, there are only maybes? ((Okay, Lynne here. I'm declaring the socialism discussion closed as far as TB is concerned. Write to Allan, or Roy or John.))

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Michael Mangan                    I first heard about N3F in Richard Geis' "Science Fiction Review"  
1260 Notre Dame                    July 1978 issue and decided this was what I was looking for. I  
Sudbury, ONT P3A 2T9                I have been reading SF, fantasy and horror for many years now and  
Canada                                    just in the last two years became aware of fanzines and fandom in  
  general. Your publications seem very interesting and I hope I can  
find a lot of places to write to. I would be interested to know how many Canadian members you have? ((Between 15 and 20)) One of my many hobbies is art print collecting and I hope I can hear from people interested in Whelan, Frazetta, Boris, Freas, Fabian etc. Another interest is SF and fantasy film collecting. I got started in this be-

cause I wanted to be able to understand animation, SPFX etc. The authors I read most are Asimov, Heinlein, Lumley, Lovecraft, Anderson, Van Vogt, Howard and Brackett.

#####

Dennis Brown I am writing this letter as a sort of grand apology for not answering  
4510 Centre Avenue your letters. I have a case of (well, it isn't mafia, but close to  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213 it.) Anyway, what happened was that I started Graduate School in  
Library and Information Science and have had to cut back on letter  
writing --- for a while, at least. (Now don't get panicky. I still answer RR's and will  
send them on their merry way promptly. It is just that I have more work and all answers  
to letters will be delayed. That's all.)

So if you don't hear from me for a while, you know why. Primus Dennis calls this inter-  
ceding with the Great Ones. I'm glad he doesn't hate me! Then I would be in trouble.

Oh, goody! I have another excuse for not answering letters. My typer just broke down com-  
pletely. I borrowed a friend's to finish this letter.

(Uh, Dennis..... I refuse to believe your mind could be on anything "Great and High" Well,  
maybe one thing --- but I won't mention it. This fanzine is rated "G".) ((Actually "PG"  
or "R" but certainly not "X" -- Lynne.)) (And that would be more of "Hard" than "High.")

Just one final word, Dennis. I had an okay from higher-ups to say what I did. How are we  
to recruit with such false information as yours floating around? I was TOLD to write that  
article and CORRECT you; now you dare question and admonish me? ME? Your superior! How  
dare you!

J U S T W A I T !!!!!!!

EWIGE BLUMENKRAFT!

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((Now that the Primal Nut has joined the N3F, we may get some REAL inside information.))

Greg Hills IT SICKENS ME....that any Directorate could act as the current N3F  
331 Featherstone St one did as reported in the August TNFF which I received today.  
Palmerston North  
New Zealand Franson's derivation of the \$8 figure for dues is totally laughable,  
a true example of how figures can be made to do anything. The \$8  
figure has no more real relevance than \$6 or \$9 except in being higher than the former and  
lower than the latter. Maybe the fact that \$8 is not a figure named in Proposal II just  
presented has more relevance and had more influence on Franson's juggling.

Speaking of Proposals --- which did the membership favor, I or II. I could have sworn it  
was Proposal II ((Yes)), especially counting only 1st place votes. So why, I ask, is it  
that the form of Proposal I has been adopted for the new vote with the sole change being  
the change of \$5 to \$8? ((Donald Franson claims the use of Australian ballot is illegal.))  
What can be said of a Directorate that acts so contrary to the stated wish of the member-  
ship it is supposed to represent? Maybe it is significant that the proposal now put for-  
ward by the Directorat is the one previously put forward by it, whereas the one that it  
supplants was put forward by a non-Directorate party. A party with whom the Chairman of  
the Directorate is currently engaged in a feud.

Which is a sorry sight --- the two people to whom the N3F looks are engaged in a childish  
rivalry. I am afraid Franson is being more scathing, personal and vicious....not to men-  
tion unethical. If there was any point to it, I'd work up a petition to have him removed  
from office. But I hope that will happen anyway in the election coming up.

Koch is not being very nice either, but his actions have been in the direction of what I my-  
self see as N3F's best interests. So I can overlook faults. We need a strong President  
now. Indded, that's all that saves N3F from sliding back into the warm, happy dream in  
which it has apparently spent the last decade. The Abyss waits just beyond. So many other  
clubs have fallen in...

Since I dislike Franson as a Director, then it behoves me also to oppose such Directors as support him. Two --- Jakobic and Norris --- do so in their platforms in the August TNFF, explicitly. One --- Andrews --- has supported Franson elsewhere and carefully steps around matters in his platform. ((In fairness to John Andrews, I'd say he is the most independant of the Directors.)) One --- Holdom --- seems to be fairly independent and certainly has opposed many of what I saw as bad moves on the part of the Directorate. So only the latter has any claim on my vote in October. Put simply and plainly, as I note Irvin Koch has done, four Directors --- the male ones --- are maggots in the apple. The only solution is to get rid of them. Franson and Andrews hold good positions in Activities and are doing good jobs there. Fine, but get them out of the Directorate, PLEASE, all four.

I will note here that (a) my grotches are my grotches and purely my opinions; (b) they are not meant personally. I have no designs on running for any position in the elective offices. (i) I am in the wrong country; (ii) I'd be useless at it; (iii) I do not feel like it. (c) I have thought on this carefully; the material in the August TNFF merely crystalized matters. So I haven't leaped blindly in. This is a considered move. (d) I do this on my own as a member in good standing protesting maltreatment of the club. No one put me up to this (and no one could; I can be a stubborn cuse when people try that.)

So I advise you all to look very carefully at the matrix of the election...look at your back issues of TNFF/TB. Think carefully. The people you choose will have to guide N3F through a sticky period of transition. Any faltering, and back we will slide to obscurity. If you like the N3F as it is becoming, if you like having active Activities, publications that do N3F credit, accessible leaders...your choice!

I went to a NASF meet down Wellington way on Sunday. Enjoyed myself thoroughly and met a couple of people that had previously only been names in NOUMENON: Bruce Ferguson and Mervyn Barrett. I also perused the rules for D&D and other games. Plus had my ugly pan snapped by Frank Macskasy. Well here I go --- time to become an ugly frog again. Not that I'm ashamed of myself. Just that I don't get on well with photos. I end up looking like a frog...and where I am nowadays wearing a beard, I look like a hairy frog. ((I just met Dennis Jarog and Joanne Burger in the flesh at Iggy.))

I'm thinking of going out to work next year and taking a rest from study. Twould mean a trifle less time for fanac...and having to get up in the mornings...but there'd be more money to play with: more T's, books, letters...and there'd be a free conscience; I'd not be nagged by that assignment (there always is at least one) due next week and yet unfinished.

It'd set me back a year....but I'm in no hurry. It'd mean more hassle....or would it?

PS: An extra to the diatribe: that may look like I'm kicking them in the teeth after they have been so good at covering me/my stuff in their activities. This aint so--- it is only in the Directorate angle I am screaming about, and I will happily support them in non-Directorate matters, such as NFAS and OverseasAct, where they ain't-a-done me no wrong yet. I note this ("Probably paranoid, Trev") to head off accusations from anywhere, that I have a grudge against the people themselves. I don't. I even forgive them when they don't answer my letters tothem. ("There --- told y' he were paranoid, Trev!")

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Mike Rogers            N3F's most important problem is not how much the dues will be. It's  
233 Barton Ave        this: what kind of organization should N3F be.  
Chattanooga, TN  
37405                    I think it should be a much bigger organization than it is now. How  
                         many fans are Neffers? One percent? Two? There is no way that N3F  
can be an important part of fandom when it's so small.

Think about the good N3F could do with a membership of 4000 or 5000. The New Fanzine Appreciation Society would have 200 members instead of 15-20 it has now. A new fanzine editor would have a ready-made circulation list. Ditto effect for the Correspondence

Activity and the others. We'd have the best damn clearinghouse fandom has ever seen!

But all the current Directors except Lynne act like they want a penny-ante group. Look at the most important example. TNFF and TIGHTBEAM are the only visible effects of N3F membership to the prospect. I joined mainly to get the zines, and I suspect that many of the new members would agree. In any real membership drive, the zines will be our big selling points. And yet the funds set aside for them just barely cover postage. To ask Joanne and Lynne to finance theme zines out-of-pocket is not only ridiculous, it's criminal. ((That's one reason Joanne and I are both running for the Directorate; we live with this problem.)) But the thought of (gasp!) Spending Money horrifies the other Directors. ((Fred Jakobcic is behind quality zines even if it means \*\*\*gasp\*\*\* Spending Money.)) I shudder to think of the reaction to an idea like buying  $\frac{1}{4}$ p. or  $\frac{1}{2}$ p. in ANALOG or ASIMOV'S MAGAZINE. Something that might bring in a lot of members at once.

(While I'm on the subject: Donald, do you really think that poor little N3F can break the inflationary cycle all by itself? Come of it!)

((Okay, Lynne here. I would not like to see N3F grow much larger unless I could get TB done offset. It is simply too much work to run off more than 300 copies of a 24p or larger zine by mimeo. I know, and Irvin Koch knows, that editors don't use mimeo much anymore which is the reason he wants to know way in advance when I am not able to do TB. Of course if the dues were \$8 a year and I could do TB offset, it would give another picture to growth. With 500 members, it would cost N3F \$6 a year to produce a 24 page offset TB, and I think prices have risen since then. That's not counting postage rises either. Of course with 3000 members, things would be very different. But think about it. Here I cannot speak for Joanne but I'm sure the idea of running off 500 or more copies of TNFF does boggle the mind a bit.))

Unfortunately, there's an even bigger problem with these four Directors. They appear to think they're dictators. It takes a lot of chutzpah to throw out a referendum on technical grounds. The whole idea of the referendum was to let the members decide the issue. The Directorate's action thus ignores the will of the membership. I resent it. ((Well at that time I thought the Australian ballot was illegal, but now I know it isn't. I'd take my vote back if I could.))

We need four new Directors --- four persons who will work for a greatly increased membership, and who will not act like dictators. Lynne seems to agree with these goals (at least the second) and should be re-elected. And Irvin Koch should be re-elected President. He has worked very hard to improve N3F. He's pushed the con party idea. He's worked to revive some of the Activities. What have the other Directors actually done? As far as I can see, very little.

Let's get N3F off its ass.

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Janie Lamb  
Rte 2, Box 272  
Heiskill, TN 37754

It's been a long time since I had a letter in N3F's letterzine, but, I feel for the good of N3F I must break my silence. I'm going to do something I've never done, that's ask your support for candidates I feel we need to keep N3F working peacefully.

I joined N3F in 1949, yes, that's before some of you were born. I became secretary around 1952. So, I do know something about N3F. I've worked when we had less than 100 members and far less than \$50 in the treasury. Stan Woolston was working shoulder to shoulder with me at the time. By spending our own money and by hard work, some of us kept N3F alive. It wasn't easu.

Stan Woolston has been president of N3F and under his leadership we've had cooperation and a peaceful atmosphere to work in. Along with others, Stan sweated blood, spent his own money and spent many nights working to keep N3F alive. He knows what makes N3F tick.

Feuds are always harmful to N3F, no matter who is right and who is wrong. No one ever wins.

The wisdom and patience of the Directorate this year has kept feuds from developing. This is no indictment of Irvin Koch; he's an allright guy, but not the type for president of N3F. Neither am I the right type for president of N3F; that's why I've never run for the office. ((Someone tried to get me to run for president but I declined. I'm too opinionated, unorganized and absent-minded to be president.))

Irvin doesn't like N3F as it is; he has some others feeling the same. They would like to change N3F and make something else out of it. I'd like to suggest that Irvin use his talent for organizing (he's good at organizing) to form another club the way he would like to have one. Fandom is wide open for another "Mail Order" club. I believe it could be successful. But N3F doesn't need the changes being proposed.

As the dues rise to \$20 that Irvin wants, the N3F would become an exclusive club. The younger fen and the older fen could not afford this. N3F has always been a club for neo fen to join and enjoy themselves. The dues have been kept down so that more people could afford to join.

This is not the reason the voting for a dues raise was voided. Neither of the proposed raises had a two-thirds majority. The Australian ballot is simply not adaptable to a change of this type. ((The Congress uses Australian ballot for fiscal bills.)) As I understand it, there will be a simple ballot sent out for the dues raise.

Had Irvin not gone over the head of the Directorate and sent out the Australian ballot, the vote would already have been taken. The Directorate was discussing it. This only prolonged the process.

As for the need of bylaws, these do not infringe on the rights of the members. They are there for the Directorate to operate under. The Constitution does not mention a letter-zine but the bylaws allow us to pay for one. I was here before we had bylaws and know how helpful they are. The bylaws help to expedite business, They are not a secret document; they are pubbed in TNFF often.

Neither is the Directorate a Machiavellian hierarchy. They are a group of fen enjoying and helping others to enjoy SF fandom. Without the Directorate to handle the business, you and I would not be enjoying a couple of good zines plus other things. When could operate without a president but not without a Directorate.

I'm not saying Irvin is a bad guy. He is not diplomatic when dealing with officers. I tend to think that when five persons disagree with one person, that one person must be wrong. I was the first fan Irvin met. I took him to the first con he ever attended. I know he has capabilities for work in fandom but not as president of N3F.

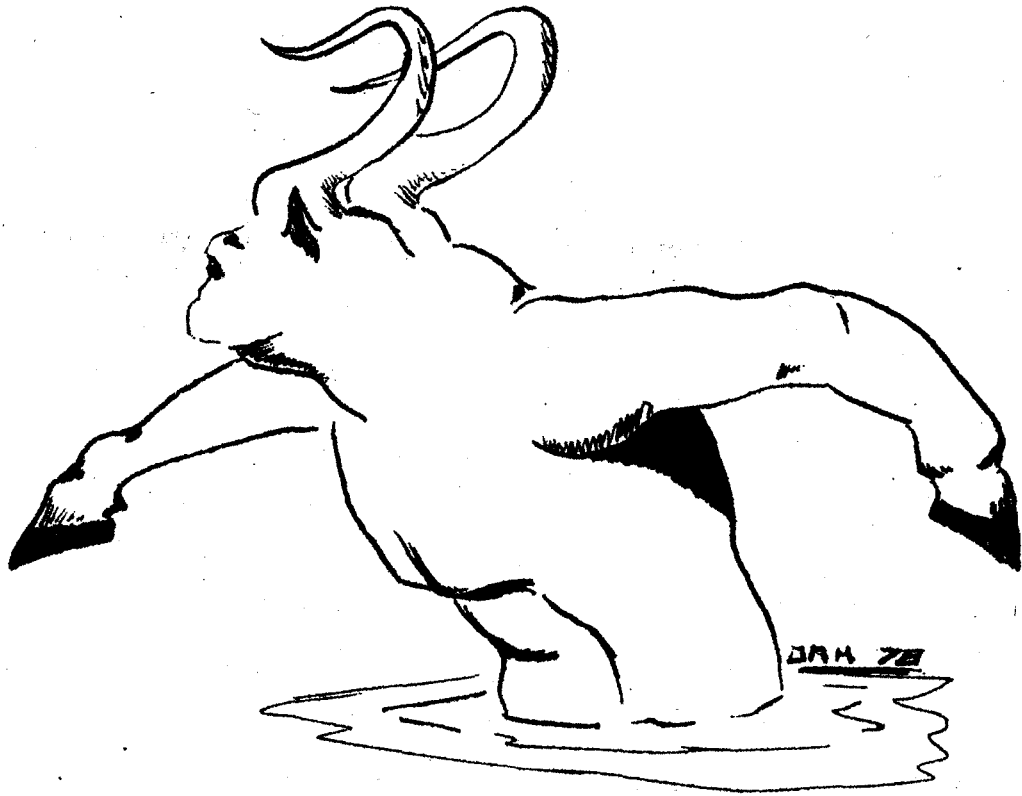
This Directorate we now have is one of the best I have worked with in all the years I've been in N3F. They need a chance to work with a good, co-operative president. Don Fran-son is second to none as Directorate chairman. His knowledge and patience has done wonders in keeping down feuds this year. So for the first time I'm asking you to please vote for Stan Woolston for President, and for all the Directors we now have.

Lets keep the N3F the way it has managed to survive when other clubs fell by the wayside. Change has come gradually in some places; nothing drastic is needed. I know N3F as a grown-up fan. I love N3F or I would not have put in all the hours I have in working for it....so please this time, vote my way.

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((Well that will give everyone something to think about. The October TNFF is the election issue. Please vote. People on both sides of the Koch/Directorate controversy agree that this election is one of the most important. Mostly it is concerned with the sort of organization the N3F will be in the near future.))

An "X" here means that you need to renew to be in on the action in N3F next year.



**Tightbeam  
P.O. Box 5,  
Pompton Lakes,  
N.J. 07442**

