

Instant Message

Issue 1007 • March 2024



Instant Message is the newsletter of the New England Science Fiction Association. It is published every month with a meeting, usually 11 issues per year. The NESFA clubhouse is located at 504 Medford St, Somerville MA 02145. Our telephone number is 617-625-2311. Our website is <https://www.nesfa.org>. We can be reached via email at roster@nesfa.org for address changes and other updates to the roster, sales@nesfa.org for questions about NESFA Press, and info@nesfa.org for other questions about NESFA. NESFA® and Boskone® are registered trademarks of the New England Science Fiction Association, Inc. For access to the NESFA/Boskone Discord server: <https://tinyurl.com/BoskoneDiscord>.

President: Rick Kovalcik, FN, 508-259-6819(c), president@nesfa.org, kovalcik@alum.mit.edu
Vice President: Sharon Sbarsky, FN, 781-929-6913(c), vice-president@nesfa.org, sbarsky@gmail.com
Treasurer: Ann Broomhead, FN, 978-952-6666(h), 508-494-1546(c), treasurer@nesfa.org, ann.broomhead@gmail.com
Clerk: Robert Luoma, FN, 617-969-2614(h), 617-549-6691(c), clerk@nesfa.org, malkin8244@pobox.com

IM online: www.nesfa.org/IM, **User name:** March2024 **Password:** OnyebuchiRiot (all case-sensitive).

To receive the *IM* by email, sign up at nesfa.org/lists.html for a PDF (im-pdf) or a message containing a link to a PDF and its password (im-announce). Other NESFA mailing lists are also available. To stop paper *IMs*, email roster@nesfa.org.

NESFA Meeting Attendance List (2024-3-10)@

Albasi, Gloria	Cantor, Dave	Kovalcik, Rick	Olszowka, Peter ^[1]	Seibert, Kristin
Anderson, Dave	Carey, Lis	Lieberman, Paula	Persons, Kelly	Szczesuil, Tim
Bemis, Judy	Dennett, Gay Ellen	London, Ken	Rasnick, Michael	
Brodsky, Wes	Grubbs, Dave	Luoma, Robert	Ross, Joe	
Broomhead, Ann	Kerpan, Mike	Olszowka, Mary ^[1]	Sbarsky, Sharon	

@ This month everyone attended via Zoom

^[1] Zack and Samantha Olszowka were present with their parents

Proxies:

Proxy from Judy Bemis to Dave Anderson.
Proxy from Chip Hitchcock to Tim Szczesuil.

NESFA Business Meeting 2024-3-10

Meeting started at 2:05 pm EDT

Ask the Clerk to enable the recording and transcription function.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 2:05 PM EDT.

(Quorum for a meeting (30% of regular membership): currently 9, or 30% of 27)

NO VOTES BY SECRET BALLOT ARE EXPECTED.

NO CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (RICK KOVALCIK):

Not much to report. A while ago, we voted to share instant messages with the N3F group. This means that we need to be careful about what we say as this could be going out to a fairly large number of people. There are also some old IMs up on fanac.org. If anybody thinks we should do something about this, a motion under new business would be in order.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT (SHARON SBARSKY): No report.

TREASURER'S REPORT (ANN BROOMHEAD):

For some reason we made money during February.

February 2024

Checking \$48,761.52

Boskone 61 \$48,289.54

PayPal \$524.01

Postage \$11.94

Total \$97,587.01

Increase: \$13,363.76

CLERK'S REPORT (ROBERT LUOMA):

The IM was delayed a bit because of Boskone in February. Dues-due notices went out at the beginning of this month.

EBOARD REPORT (RICK KOVALCIK FOR ROBERT LUOMA):

The Eboard met on 2024-02-27 by Zoom with all members present to discuss recent events.

The Eboard voted to move out of committee to permanently ban Rickland Powell from attending Boskone. [If you want to know why, please Google his name (trigger warning for sexual assault); if that is not sufficient, please ask to go into Committee of the Whole at the next Business Meeting.]

Motion to go into Committee of the Whole. Passes 10 to 3.

Motion to come out of the Committee of the Whole with a Recommendation to Accept the Eboard's Action. Passes 16 to 1.

This will come up next month as the Standing Rules specify.

The Eboard voted to move out of committee to add a new Standing Rule:

The Area Heads responsible must obtain full legal names, badge names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for anyone working with children at Boskone in areas where the children's parents might not regularly be present. At this time, those areas would include Anime/Video, Dragonslair, and Gaming. This information should be confirmed by visual inspection of a government-issued ID. This information should be provided to the ConChair or their designee, who will do Sex Offender Registry, Google, and Social Media searches on the person for any red flags. The data will be stored in a secure manner for a period of 7 years.

(Rick Kovalcik picked 7 years because that is how long we are keeping financial records. He is open to discussing other lengths of time.)

After much discussion this passes 16 to 3.

RULES COMMITTEE REPORT (DAVE ANDERSON):

There are 9 updates to the Standing Rules and 2 ByLaws amendments.

Notice of the Standing Rules updates was posted to the nesfa-active mailing list on March 1st so they will be included in the minutes without being read at the meeting. The versions in this report have been stripped down to the minimum required; for more information see that posted notice.

The ByLaws amendments are the result of the motions to change chair[whatever] to chair and to rename Regular Members to Voting Members made at the December 2023 and January 2024 meetings. Each includes a long list of specific changes which was shown in the notice posted to the nesfa-active mailing list on February 23rd.

If there is no objection those details will be included in the minutes but only a summary stating what phrases will be changed to what new phrases will be read at the meeting.

Hearing no objection, the summaries of the ByLaws amendments are:

The motion to change "Chairman" to "Chair" will, in the ByLaws, replace "chairman" with "chair" in 22 places and replace "chairmen" with "chairs" in one place.

Chairman" to Chair and Chairmen to Chairs passes unanimously.

The motion to change "Regular Members" to "Voting Members" will

in the Bylaws,
replace "regular" with "voting" in 39 places.

in the Standing Rules
replace "regular" with "voting" in 26 places.
Based on discussion with the IT Committee it will also replace "Regular Members mailing list" with "Voting Members mailing list" in two places, replace "Regular Members list" with "Voting Members list" in one place, replace "Regular Members' and Active Members' mailing lists" with "Voting Members' and Active Members' mailing lists" in one place, replace "nesfa-regular list" with "nesfa-voting list" in one place, replace "nesfa-regular@lists.nesfa.org" with "nesfa-voting@lists.nesfa.org" in one place, and replace "nesfa-regular" with "nesfa-voting" in three places.

It will also require a lot of changes elsewhere.

Regular to Voting passes 16 to 2.

=====

The 2 ByLaws amendments are:

==== 2023-12-IM1004.4

Moved to change the term “Chairman” to “Chairperson” everywhere it appears in the Bylaws and Standing Rules (Kovalcik, Rasnick).

Amendment to change “Chairperson” to “Chair” (Peter O, Ross).
Passes 8 to 7.

Main motion passes 14 to 2.

The President thanks the Rules Committee for all their work on these amendments.

==>> Discussion:

This motion creates two items, a ByLaws amendment and a Standing Rules amendment. They are independent of each other.

==>> Approved resolution:

Move to amend the ByLaws by
replacing “Chairman” with “Chair” in sections 1.3A once,
1.8(a) once, 1.8(b) once, 2.8 twice, 11.2 thrice, 11.3 once,
11.3A twice, 11.4(b) once, and 11.4(d) once;
replacing “chairman” with “chair” in sections 6.2 once,
6.3 twice, 6.4(b) twice, 6.5A thrice, and 8.1 twice.
replacing “chairmen” with “chairs” in section 6.2 once.

==== 2024-01-IM1005.1

Moved that all references to “Regular Members” in our Standing Rules and Bylaws be changed to “Voting Members” (Cantor, Dennett).

Passed 13 to 4.

==>> Approved resolution:

Move to amend the ByLaws by
replacing “Regular” with “Voting” in sections 1.1(a) once,
1.1(b) once, 1.1(f) once, 1.3(b) once, 1.8(a) twice,
1.8(b) once, 1.8(d) once, 2.3 once, 2.5 twice, 2.6 once,
2.6(a) once, 2.8 once, 2.10 once, 3.2 once, 3.4(b) twice,
3.5 twice, 3.9 once, 5.5(b) once, 5.5(d) thrice,
6.4(a) once, 6.5A once, 7.2 once, 7.3 once, 7.4 twice,
8.3(a) once, 8.5(c) once, 9.6 once, 10.2(c) once,
10.2(j) once, 10.2(q) once, and 11.5(f) twice.

and to amend the Standing Rules by:
replacing “Regular” with “Voting” in sections 1.7(2) once,
1.7(3) once, 1.7(5)V once, 1.7(5)VI thrice, 1.7(5)VI(e) once,
1.7(6) five times, 1.7(10) once, 1.17(4)(a) once,
1.45(10) once, 2.1(1) twice, 2.5(13) once, 3.2(4) once,
3.5(5) once, 3.7(1) thrice, 3.7(4) once, and 5.8(1) once.
replacing “regular” with “voting” in section 1.9(31) once.
replacing “Regular Members mailing list” with “Voting Members
mailing list” in sections 1.14(5) once, and 1.45(10) once.
replacing “Regular Members list” with “Voting Members list”
in section 1.45(10) once.
replacing “Regular Members’ and Active Members’ mailing lists”
with “Voting Members’ and Active Members’ mailing lists”
in section 1.45(10) once.
replacing “nesfa-regular list” with “nesfa-voting list” in
section 1.45(10) once
replacing “nesfa-regular@lists.nesfa.org” with
“nesfa-voting@lists.nesfa.org” in section 1.45(10) once.
replacing “nesfa-regular” with “nesfa-voting” in sections
1.45(11) once, and 5.8(1) twice.

=====

The 9 Standing Rules updates are:

==== 2023-04-IM997.2

Moved to set the default price of e-books to 9.95 unless the Eboard sets a different price.

Passes 21 to 1.

==>> Approved resolution:

add a new section 4.2(22):

Unless it is explicitly set by the EBoard or the Membership,
the price of an ebook shall be \$9.95.

==== 2023-06-IM999.3

Motion to authorize the gaming committee to dispose of excess NESFA owned board games in exchange for a recommended donation scale to be set by the gaming committee (Rasnick, Kerpan).

Hearing no objection - unanimous consent.

==>> Approved resolution:

Replace Standing Rules section 1.40(2) with:

Excess NESFA-owned board games may be disposed of in exchange for a donation. The recommended donations shall be set by the Gaming Coordinator.

==== 2023-03-IM996.2

It is my sense that we should be asking for phone numbers and email addresses as well as USMail addresses for all Boskone attendees. There are several reasons for this. First, it allows us to inform people by email of things like our COVID policy. Second, we need email addresses if people are going to participate in Online parts of the convention. Third, if we have their phone number and they leave their charge card at NESFA Sales or Art Show or a Dealer or anywhere, it makes it easier to get it back to them. And, finally if there is a Code of Conduct issue, including one where they may have been a witness, having both phone and email makes it easier to contact them for follow up. We can't force people to give us real or correct phone numbers or email addresses, just like we can't force them to give us real US Mail addresses, but we should ask. Consider this also to be a Presidential Fiat. Does anyone wish to discuss this or make a motion to handle this otherwise?

==>> Approved resolution:

add a new section 1.9(38)F President:

We should ask (but not require) all Boskone attendees to provide telephone numbers and email addresses in addition to postal mail addresses so that we can contact them if needed.

==== 2023-01-IM994.2 & 2023-02-IM995.1

==== 2023-01-IM994.2

Moved to set a general 20% discount on all physical books whenever we sell in person. (Kovalcik, Anderson)

This does not apply to consignment items unless the consignee approves. ISFiC has already approved discounts on their consignment items. It also does not apply to Ebooks, CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, trinkets etc. It only applies to physical books.

Hearing no objection this is done by UC.

==== 2023-02-IM995.1

Moved to allow the Executive Board to exclude specific books from the 20% in-person or 40% NESFA Member discount policies adopted previously. (Anderson, Wes Brodsky) [1]

Passes 11 to 1.

==>> Approved resolution:

Add new Standing Rules section 4.2(23):

4.2(23) When sold in-person (the buyer carries it away) all physical books (and nothing else) shall be discounted 20% from list price, except that consignment items where the consigner has not explicitly agreed to this discount and specific items designated by the Executive Board are excluded.

Add an ISFiC fiat in section 5.9:

5.9(3)F ISFiC Press: Any or all of the discount policies for NESFA Press books may also be applied to ISFiC Press books at NESFA's sole discretion.

==== 2023-04-IM997.1

Moved that NESFA adopts the form "e-book" when referring to them. The rules committee is directed to fix the Standing Rules to be consistent with that.

Motion to amend to "ebook" (Paula, Kristin).

Amendment is declared to be friendly.

Hearing no objections, the main motion is adopted by unanimous consent

==>> Approved resolution:

Amend the Standing Rules by

Adding a new subsection 5.1(5) with the text "In the Standing Rules and elsewhere, always use the term "ebook" rather than "e-book", "eBook", etc." with the annotation "4/23. At this time a global change of eBook/e-book to ebook was made in the Standing Rules."

replacing "e-book" with "ebook" in section 1.14(9) once.

==== 2023-03-IM996.5

Move to come out of Committee of the Whole with a motion to get rid of Merry Maids with cleaning to be done by the Clubhouse Committee esp Mike Rasnick and to have the Clubhouse Committee report back on what else needs to be done for the upkeep of the Clubhouse.

Passes 17 to 0.

==>> Approved resolution:

Replace SR1.17(8) with:

The Clubhouse Committee shall arrange for the clubhouse to be cleaned at least once per month. It may pay up to \$125 per month for this service.

==== 2023-03-IM996.6 & 2023-06-IM999.5 & 2023-07-IM1000.3 & 2023-11-IM1003.2

==== 2023-03-IM996.6

The sense of the meeting is that weekly game days are fine except during other NESFA events. Rick asks that game days be scheduled two months in advance (up through the end of the month following the month at which the scheduling is done).

==== 2023-06-IM999.5

Moved (Dave A, Raz) that Game Days may be scheduled for any Sunday where there is no other scheduled NESFA event which is likely to involve many members, except that they may not be scheduled for any date later than the second Sunday after the first Business Meeting scheduled for later than the date when the announcement of the Game Day is made.

Passed by unanimous consent.

==== 2023-07-IM1000.3

Motion (Kovalcik, Sbarsky): It is the sense of the membership that Game Days should continue alternating between mask-required and mask-optional and that should be added to the standing rules. This passes 10 to 4.

==== 2023-11-IM1003.2

From the Gaming Coordinator email report:

I plan on running only one masking required Game day event a month starting in December of 2023.

No relevant motion was actually made at this meeting.

==>> Approved resolution:

add new section 1.40(4):

Game Days may be scheduled for any Sunday where there is no other scheduled NESFA event which is likely to involve many members. However, they may not be scheduled too far beyond the date of the first Business Meeting scheduled for later than the date when the announcement of the Game Day is made. "Too far" is defined as after the second Sunday following that meeting or after the end of the calendar month containing it, whichever is later.

==== 2024-02-IM1006.1

Move to amend SR1.9(24)(c) by inserting after "two people" the text " , none of whom may be involved in the complaint,"

==>> Approved resolution:

Do that.

==== 2023-12-IM1004.5

Moved to change the term "Chairman" to "Chairperson" everywhere it appears in the Bylaws and Standing Rules (Kovalcik, Rasnick).

Amendment to change "Chairperson" to "Chair" (Peter O, Ross). Passes 8 to 7.

Main motion passes 14 to 2.

==>> Discussion:

This motion creates two items, a ByLaws amendment and a Standing Rules amendment. They are independent of each other.

==>> Approved resolution:

Amend the Standing Rules by

Adding a new subsection 5.1(4) with the text "In both the ByLaws and the Standing Rules, always use the term "chair" when referring to the chair of a committee, convention, etc." with the annotation "12/23. At this time a global change of chair[whatever] to chair was made in both the ByLaws and the Standing Rules."

replacing "Chairman" with "Chair" in sections 1.9(13)a once, 1.9(16) once, 2.7(1) once, 2.7(2)(a) once, 2.7(4) twice, 2.7(6)(c) once, 2.7(10)(a) once, and 2.7(10)(b) once.

replacing "chairman" with "chair" in sections 1.11(1) twice, 2.2(1) once, and 2.3(1)(a) once.

replacing "Chairman's" with "Chair's" in sections 2.7(6)(a) once, 2.7(6)(c) twice, and 2.7(10)(a) once.

replacing "Chairmen" with "Chairs" in sections 1.9(12) once, and 3.1(2) once.

replacing "chairmen" with "chairs" in section 3.1(2) once. replacing "ConChair" with "Convention Chair" in section 1.9(24)(a) once.

replacing "Chair (man, woman, person)" with "Chair" in section 1.45(11) once.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT (WES BRODSKY):

In the January 2024 report, I neglected to say that Vik Ohstrom had joined as a subscribing member in December 2023.

New members since the previous report

Subscribing:

Talia Franks

DJ Cooper

Tim Baird

Louis Hwang

Honorary:

Theresa Mather

Madison Metricula Roberts

In order to maintain Voting Membership, the following people need to attend the following number of Business meetings in March, or April:

Elisabeth Carey 2

James Boggie 1

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT (TIM SZCZESUIL):

We're up to date with our required financial filings. I've been in communication with our paid bookkeeper. She had a health issue around the beginning of the year and is planning to get our books caught up by April. I am confident that this will be done.

There was a discussion of the Certificate for Solicitation from the AG's office. While we have submitted all the required paperwork, it will be about 3 months before they have caught up to January which is when we submitted the paperwork and they can then hopefully issue the Certificate for Solicitation. We have our Certificate of Good Standing from the Department of Revenue.

BOSKONE 61 REPORT (MICHAEL KERPAN):

It happened. We had our debrief. There will be notes from the debrief accompanying this *IM*. On behalf of our treasurer, who isn't here today, please get in any outstanding expenses ASAP. The videos from Harbor One are available through March 31st, 2024.

BOSKONE 62 REPORT (JONI DASHOFF):

Joni is not here but announced Guests of Honor:

Jasper Fforde -- Guest of Honor

Theresa Mather -- Official Artist

Kelley Armstrong -- Special Guest

Madison Metricula Roberts -- Musical Guest

The current year ahead membership rates through March 31st, 2024 are at <https://reg.boskone.org>.

NESFA PRESS REPORT (DAVE GRUBBS):

News:

- Jim Mann continues to work on converting Tenn3 (*Dancing Naked*) from Pagemaker to InDesign. Like Tenn1 and Tenn2, Tenn3 will be prepared for a potential future reprint. The resulting InDesign files will then be fed into our "InDesign to ebook" process.
- Royalty checks for ebook sales during the second half of 2023 have been mailed out. Nat Segaloff expressed surprise in an email that we (really Tim Szczesuil) had time during Boskone season to deal with this.

Printed Books:

- No printed book projects are in progress or even on the queue. We continue to seek more hardcover projects.
- Rick Kovalcik created, via our laser printing and comb binding at FedEx, a dozen copies of the second edition of *NESFA Hymnal Volume One* based on some old scans we found and a new back cover including a barcode. We will send some copies of *Volume One* to PSSC. It appears that we have released at least three different versions labeled "second" edition. It was proposed that we re-typeset both Hymnals in a modern form, a project Dave Grubbs is interested in taking on in a few months. (This involves an unusual, and therefore interesting, typesetting activity, dealing both with formatting lyrics with chord changes and typesetting passages of music.)
- Unfulfilled requests received [No one has stepped up to be a honcho for any of these.]:
 - * to create a collection of Robert Abernathy's writings.
 - * to bring Ursula Le Guin's *The Language of the Night* back into print. (Amazon sells only used copies. \$86/hardcover, \$54/trade-paper, \$90/mass-paper.)

eBooks:

- The ebook states of both Tenn ebooks are still not available on Amazon, nor are the ebook states of both Fredric Brown books. The issue with the Tenn books revolves around our right to produce Tenn ebooks, while the issue with the Brown books revolves around Amazon's claim that the material is in the public domain.
- Other ebook projects still pending or potential:
 - * John Myers Myers's *Silverlock*
 - * Tony Lewis's *Concordance to Cordwainer Smith*
 - * Chris Kovacs's *Ides of October*
 - * Several other potential projects await permissions and the energy to approach them.

There was a discussion of the NESFA Hymnal project. Help (particularly proofreaders) will be needed.

NESFA SALES REPORT (TIM SZCZESUIL):

I encourage anyone considering producing a book to talk to me or Dave Grubbs. We will be happy to provide advice and support and can provide all the software and other things needed to perform this task. Please talk with us. I am on the Wednesday night Zoom sessions and would happily chat with you about this without commitment. I'm getting ready to deploy a new sales fulfillment application. I'll discuss where to host it with the IT Committee.

We submitted ads to *Uncanny* and *Clarkesworld* Magazines to have ads for one month in each. We have paid for *Clarkesworld* and are waiting for details on how to pay for the ad in *Uncanny*.

E-COMMERCE REPORT (SHARON SBARSKY):

E-commerce continues. We are getting Boskone Memberships through ConTroll (aka the Balticon Reg System) and Square. The next parts of that (Dealer's Tables and Art Show) will need to wait until after Balticon. We are planning on moving to Zettle for sales at Readercon and the Boston Book Festival.

SALES AT CONVENTIONS (READERCON) (GAY ELLEN DENNETT):

Gay Ellen Dennett is signing up for our tables at Readercon as we speak.

BOSTON BOOK FESTIVAL REPORT (GAY ELLEN DENNETT):

Gay Ellen Dennett is also signing up for the Boston Book Festival today.

CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT (RICK KOVALCIK):

We still have a clubhouse. Maybe if we start making enough money we can see about getting the back wall fixed. We should also see if we can replace ALL the floor tiles ourselves. Right-hand bathroom needs a toilet paper holder. We have added one shelf to the bookcases where the Treasurer's desk needs to be. There is more bookcase work to do in the Blue Room.

There is a Zoom meeting at 6 PM on Monday, 18 March, about a proposed Cannabis Dispensary at 500 Medford Street next to the clubhouse. Zoom link is tinyurl.com/Yvxw87eu

IT COMMITTEE REPORT (SHARON SBARSKY):

No report other than Dave Anderson has started looking into what it basically would take to replace the cash register with Zettle.

COMPUTER COMMITTEE REPORT (RICK KOVALCIK):

No report.

WEB COMMITTEE REPORT (DAVE GRUBBS):

We need to be better about updating the News column on the right-hand side of the Website.

SOCIAL MEDIA (SHARON SBARSKY):

No report.

HOTEL COMMITTEE REPORT (GAY ELLEN DENNETT):

We need to send in corrections to the hotel bill. Hopefully, they will accept our corrections and we can get the bill paid. We need to appoint a Hotel Search Committee. Please let Rick Kovalcik know if you are interested. He would like to appoint the Hotel Search Committee next month.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORT (MIKE KERPAN):

Just under 13,400 books have been cataloged so far in our main collection. We are still in the S's. They seem to go on forever. There are various woodworking projects which were talked about in the Clubhouse Committee report. Please come help us catalog.

Gloria asks how long the cataloging work is likely to continue as she would like to help out on a future trip to Boston. Mike responds that at the current rate of progress, there are about 2 more months of work to go on the main collection, plus additional time to handle the special collections (anthologies, graphic novels, nonfiction, art books).

The library committee would like to move to replace standing rule 1.20(26)M with the following text:

The Library Committee shall ensure that at least one copy of each book chosen for discussion by the NESFA Reading Group is available for Members to read before that discussion if it can be obtained at a reasonable cost.

Hearing no objection, this is done by unanimous consent.

The majority of the Library Committee feels that the library stair ladder is unsafe and should be disposed of. Mike Rasnick feels it can be fairly easily repaired by replacing the rubber feet. The Library Committee agrees to wait one month to see if it can be repaired.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (SHARON SBARSKY):

Rick Kovalcik appoints Sharon Sbarsky to head the Nominating Committee again. Please contact Sharon or Rick if you wish to be on the Nominating Committee and help out. Sharon is looking for someone with experience and appropriate software to create fillable pdfs; they do not need to be on the Nominating Committee to help with this task.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT (KRISTIN SEIBERT):

We have started talking with another science fiction group about potentially rehoming some of their collection. Work on our Somerville Open Studios presence continues.

Proxy from Kristin Seibert to Mike Kerpan.

MAIL ROOM REPORT (DAVE CANTOR): Nothing special to report.

PROCUREMENT REPORT (DAVE ANDERSON): Nothing of interest to report.

AWARDS:

Awards were given out at Boskone.

Gaughan:

Judges: Sara Felix, Lauren Panepinto, John Picacio
2024 Alex dos Diaz

Skylark:

2023 John Scalzi
2024 Delia Sherman and Ellen Kushner

Fellowship:

Class of 2023
Jenny Kraus
Paul Kraus

NESFA® Science Fiction & Fantasy Short Story Contest Winners

The 2023-2024 winners were announced at Boskone 61, February 2024, as follows:

- **Winners (tie):** Dragana Matovic of Serbia for the story "Outside the Rain Was Relentlessly Falling" and Dr. Jennifer Grimes of Milford, MA for the story "The Simulation: Subject Ashe Klinn".
- **Runner-up:** Michael Barron of Parkville, MD for the story "The Last Time My Twin Destroyed the World".
- **Honorable Mention:** Jessica Li of Fremont, CA for the story "Wed the Sea Angels".
- **Honorable Mention:** Tyler Robinson of Dexter, MO for the story "Acid Memory Reflux".

Administrator: Steven Lee

First readers: Ann Crimmins, Chip Hitchcock, Liz Patton, Kylie Selkirk, Steven Lee.

Final judges: Brad Lyau (B61 Special Guest) and John Scalzi (B61 NESFA Press Guest).

For the 2023-2024 contest, we received 36 entries by the September 30th deadline.

The positions of the award administrators need to be reappointed after the election of Officers in May.

CLUBHOUSE AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES (WEDNESDAY NIGHTS, READING, WRITING, OTHER):

Clubhouse activities continue. The reading group is really cool but needs a new leader, as Louis Galvez has stepped back officially.

GAMING COORDINATOR REPORT (MIKE RASNICK):

The Game day events continue. Sometimes much later than the scheduled finish time, which almost brings us back to the good old days of gaming under Bill Todd. And the membership has gone back to gaming on Wednesdays as well!

However, unlike pre-COVID pandemic times, NESFAns have cooled on playing Dominion. They have been exploring the new games I have obtained for NESFA, and/or the newest members are bringing in their own unique games that aren't in NESFA's collection.

The clubhouse is getting more use, we've seen an increase in new memberships, and we've had more volunteers for various projects as well. I hope this continues!

I'm not going to try to keep up with all the newest game releases on Board Game Arena, or on STEAM. There are simply too many to keep track of. Go check out those websites yourselves, and have fun!

After our Elections in May (for my position is an appointed one by the President) I might be convinced to continue in this position of Gaming Coordinator for NESFA, and also for Boskone 62 as well.

MEDIA COORDINATOR REPORT (MIKE KERPAN):

Media nights continue. Some of our attendees have asked that we start doing media nights twice per month so that we can finish the TV shows we're watching sometime this century. We did that unofficially in March and will schedule two nights officially for April during times and places.

[Michael Rasnick] As the Dr. Who Socials are concerned, I have had multiple requests to keep doing them, and specifically at the NESFA clubhouse.

NESFA PICNIC (GAY ELLEN DENNETT):

The NESFA Picnic will be on Monday 2 September, from 3 PM to about 7:30 PM at Larz Anderson Park in Brookline.

MCFI LIAISON (RICK KOVALCIK): No report.**WORLDCON LIAISON (SHARON SBARSKY):**

Upcoming Worldcons & NASFiC and bids:

2024:

NASFiC: Buffalo NASFiC 2024, July 18-21, 2024, <https://buffalonasfic2024.org/>

Worldcon: Glasgow 2024, August 8-12, 2024, <https://glasgow2024.org/>

Hotel booking has opened

Hugo Nominations have closed

Membership Rates through 30th June, 2024

chart at <https://glasgow2024.org/for-members/memberships-and-tickets/>

2025:

Worldcon: Seattle Worldcon 2025, August 13-17, 2025, <https://seattlein2025.org/>

first rate hike will be on March 15, 2024

chart at <https://seattlein2025.org/memberships/>

Only filed bid Worldcon for 2026:

2026 Worldcon Bid: LA in 2026, August 27-31, 2026, Anaheim, CA, USA, <https://lain2026.org/>

<https://www.worldcon.org/worldcon-bids/> for more details including Questionnaires from Smofcon, if available.

2027 Worldcon bid: Montreal in 2027, <https://bid.montreal2027.ca/>

posted on discord:

"We are bidding for a return of Worldcon to Montreal after 18 years. We have confirmed our facility and will be running Labour Day (Sept 2-6, 2027) at the Palais des Congrès"

2027 Worldcon Bid: Tel Aviv 2027, Israel (location and dates TBD), <https://worldcon.sf-f.org.il/>

2028 Worldcon Bid: Kampala, Uganda

2029 Worldcon Bid: Dublin, Ireland

2031 Worldcon Bid: Texas, USA

SILENT AND SILLY COMMITTEES:

Paula (virtual holographic cat goddess): At least two of Rick Kovalcik's cats have made appearances on this Zoom.

The rest are all silent.

OLD BUSINESS: None**NEW BUSINESS:**

We may wish to appoint a Science Speaker and NESFA Press Guest.

Dave Cantor expressed concern about Affiliate Clubs receiving IM electronically, making it easier for people to quote us, and proposed a motion that Affiliate Clubs may only receive IM on paper. Motion dies for lack of a second.

Paula suggests that we come up with some formal way of recruiting new members into new jobs. Rick Kovalcik suggests that we have a formal discussion about this on some Wednesday night.

Tim Szczesuil says he'll start a thread on nesfa-active to talk about possible NESFA Press and Science Speaker guests.

RKOV motion to change who can approve events (change clerk to eboard). Seconded by Robert Luoma.

Moved to change:

Standing Rule SR 4.4(5)M

No item should be added to NESFA's Meetup groups, NESFA's Google Calendar, or any other secondary calendar of NESFA's until it has been approved by a Business Meeting or the Clerk and added to the official calendar on the NESFA website. [2/18]

to

Standing Rule SR 4.4(5)M

No item should be added to NESFA's Meetup groups, NESFA's Google Calendar, or any other secondary calendar of NESFA's until it has been approved by a Business Meeting or the Eboard and added to the official calendar on the NESFA website.

Passed by unanimous consent.

Gloria asks if email might be a better way to discuss recruitment for new positions than Wednesday night.

Paula moves (second Gloria) that we post lists of upcoming events and committee lists somewhere in the main room where it is easily located.

Rick Kovalcik speaks against it, saying that we already post in enough places.

Paula points out that having this in more places is very helpful for people who have ADD who can lose focus easily, and that especially having a list of who's on what committee can be very helpful.

This passes 8 to 6.

Michael Rasnick (Games Coordinator) requests permission to reserve a room in the clubhouse for a new member, Louis Hwang, to run a closed D&D game on Wednesday or some other night, pending the ability to find a keyholder.

Rick Kovalcik moves to amend the motion to strike Wednesday and only allow this on nights other than Wednesday or other nights official NESFA events are scheduled.

Sharon Sbarsky points out that we've done these on other days in the past but never on Wednesday and suggests that Game Days might be a good time to do this.

Various people speak for and against.

Motion to postpone until next meeting.

Passes 9 to 2.

Motion to request the last Saturday of every month starting in April for Anime/Animated viewing and social meeting starting at 6 PM. (Rasnick, Peter Olszowka)

Question is called (10 to 0).

Motion passed 8 to 4.

Motion to obtain a new couch for the main room from Habitat for Humanity for up to \$300. (Rasnick) Dies for lack of a second.

TIMES AND PLACES OF FUTURE EVENTS: See In Times To Come.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:: None.

NETWORKING REQUESTS (WHO NEEDS TO TALK TO WHOM AFTER THE MEETING IN BREAKOUT ROOMS)

NESFA Business Meeting Adjourned at 5:52 pm EDT

The Official NESFA Glossary

B99 • Boskone 99

CH • Clubhouse

CotBH • Committee of the Black Hole (a humorous term for Committee of the Whole)

CotW • Committee of the Whole

EBoard • NESFA Executive board (President, VP, Treasurer, Clerk)

FN • Fellow of NESFA

GED • Gay Ellen Dennett

IM • *Instant Message* (this publication)

MCFI • Massachusetts Convention Fandom, Inc.

MCP(U) • Motion from committee passed (unanimously)

MF • Motion failed

MP • Motion passed

MPH • Motion passed and Hartered

MPU • Motion passed unanimously

MSP • Motion seconded and passed

MSPH • Motion seconded, passed, and Hartered

MSPU • Motion seconded and passed unanimously

OM • Other Meeting

PSSC • Publishers' Storage

Raz • Michael Rasnick

RKov • Rick Kovalcik

UC • Unanimous Consent

NESFA
PO Box 809
Framingham, MA 01701-0809
USA
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST-CLASS MAIL



Fanzine Control Number 71-58837-1007

March 10, 2024

Instant Message #1007

Last Page

In Times To Come

(See www.nesfa.org/events for the full schedule)

Mar 23 7pm–whenever • **Media Night**. SF/Fantasy media, anime, and the like. At clubhouse
Mar 24 noon–10pm • **Game Day**. Mask optional. At clubhouse
Mar 29-Apr 1 • **Levitation 2024** at Telford, Shropshire, England and online
Mar 31 noon–10pm • **Game Day**. Mask optional. At clubhouse
Apr 5 7–10pm • **NESFA Reading Group** via Zoom
Book: *Millennium* by John Varley
Apr 6 7pm–whenever • **Media Night**. SF/Fantasy media, anime, and the like. At clubhouse
Apr 7 noon–10pm • **Game Day**. Mask required. At clubhouse
Apr 8 • **Solar Eclipse** (totality in parts of New England)
Apr 20 7pm–whenever • **Media Night**. SF/Fantasy media, anime, and the like. At clubhouse
Apr 21 noon–10pm • **Game Day**. Mask optional. At clubhouse
Apr 14 2pm–whenever • **NESFA Business Meeting**
Apr 21 noon–10pm • **Game Day**. Mask optional. At clubhouse
Apr 27 6pm–whenever • **Anime Social**. At clubhouse
Apr 28 noon–10pm • **Game Day**. Mask optional. At clubhouse
May 3 7–10pm • **NESFA Reading Group** via Zoom
Book: *The World Inside* by Robert Silverberg
May 3-5 • **HELIOsphere** in Piscataway, NJ

Pay your dues by PayPal. Use paypal@nesfa.org

May 12 2pm–whenever • **NESFA Annual Meeting**
May 24-27 • **Balticon 58** in Baltimore, MD
Jun 7 7–10pm • **NESFA Reading Group** via Zoom
Book: *The Spare Man* by Mary Robinette Kowal
Jun 8 noon–whenever • **Boskone Meeting** (Noon) and **NESFA Business Meeting** (no earlier than 2PM)
Jul 5 7–10pm • **NESFA Reading Group** via Zoom
Book: *Critical Mass* by Daniel Suarez
Jul 11-14 • **Readercon 33** Quincy Marriott in Quincy, MA
Jul 18-21 • **Buffalo NASFiC 2024** in Buffalo, NY
Jul 28 noon–whenever • **Boskone Meeting** (Noon) and **NESFA Business Meeting** (no earlier than 2PM)
Aug 8-12 • **Glasgow 2024 Worldcon** in Glasgow, Scotland
Sep 2 • **NESFA Picnic** at The Shelter (a covered area with grills and tables) at Larz Anderson Park in Brookline, MA
Sep 13-15 • **Albacon** in Clifton Park, NY
Sep 27-29 • **Capclave24** in Rockville, MD
Nov 22-24 • **Philcon 2024** in Cherry Hill, NJ
Dec 6-8 • **SMOFcon 41** in Seattle, WA
Feb 14-16, 2025 • **Boskone 62** at the Westin Boston Seaport District, Boston, MA
Aug 13-17, 2025 • **Seattle Worldcon 2025** in Seattle, WA