

The National 83 Fantasy Fan Years

Fandom's Second Oldest Print Publication
Cras ad Stellas — Tomorrow to the Stars
Volume 83 Number 12 December 2024

Elections

George Phillies has been re-elected. The new Directorate is Judy Carroll, G. Steve Condrey, Jean-Paul Garnier, Jefferson Swycaffer, and Kevin Trainor. All terms start on January 1. The first task of the Directorate is to choose its Chair.

The Election Teller writes:

There were 12 members who cast legitimate votes. Results were as follows:

For President -- George Phillies 12 votes; Write In votes -- 0

For the Directorate -- Judy Carroll 12 votes

G. Steve Condrey 11 votes Jean-Paul Garnier 11 votes Becky Jones 5 votes Jefferson Swycaffer 11 votes Kevin Trainor 11 votes Write In votes 0

Respectfully submitted, Jon D. Swartz Election Teller

Fix Forwarder

Someplace, a member installed a forward instead of sending us a change of address. The forwarder address is invalid. We cannot tell who it is in order to tell the member to fix it. Please, use no forwarders.

Newly Re-elected Directors Speak!

My thanks to the membership of the N3F for electing me to the slate of Directors. I promise to serve as best I may to maintain and support the good work of the club, the inspired leadership of the President, and the wishes of the membership. Thank you all, and thanks to the Election Teller for the service of counting the votes. May 2025 be a rock'em sock'em success in all ways!

Cheers!

Jefferson Swycaffer

Thanks to the voting members for returning me to the Directorate for another year. I am always available to answer questions, either through e-mail or in meatspace at Son of Silvercon. Hope to see you there.

...Kevin Trainor

Message from the President

For the past decade, we've had considerable success advertising the N3F via social media. That success seems to have wound down. Your volunteer corps will of course experiment with alternative paths for reaching prospective new members and emerging writers for our short story contest. However, I can't promise that alternative paths will be found. It would be a big help if every member viewed advertising the N3F and recruiting new members as something that they personally should do.





THFF

Your Volunteer Team

Directors

Jean-Paul Garnier spacecowboybooks@gmail.com
Becky Jones beckyj47@gmail.com (Chair)
Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
Kevin Trainor wombat.socho@gmail.com (Treasurer)

Officers

President George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
Treasurer Kevin Trainor wombat.socho@gmail.com
Membership Secretary: G Steven Condrey gscondrey@
gmail.com

Editors

Editors, TNFF George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net; Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com Artists Jose A. Sanchez, Angela K. Walker, Alan White, Nathan Warner N'APA Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com Tightbeam George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net, Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com Eldritch Science George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Mangaverse Patrick Ijima-Washburn patokon.com @gmail.com

The N3F Review George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net FanActivity Gazette Mindy Hunt mindyhunt@scifi4me.com Films Fantastic: Jason Hunt <jphunt@scifi4me.com> Keeper of the Passwords Jessi Silver belindabird@gmail Keeper of the URLs George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Host of the Web Site George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net

Bureau Heads

Anime Kevin Trainor wombat.socho@gmail.com Art Bureau Jose Sanchez jose77sanchez@yahoo.com Birthday Cards Book Review Bureau G. Phillies phillies@4liberty.net

Comics

Convention Calendar Mindy Hunt

Club News

Correspondence Bureau Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

Election Teller Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com

Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau

FanZine Review Editor

Film Bureau Jason Hunt <jphunt@scifi4me.com>
Forwarder Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
Franking Service George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
Games Bureau

Gourmet Bureau Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@gmail.com Historian Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com History and Research Bureau Information Technology George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net

Kaymar Award Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com

Continued Next Column, Middle

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And remember: membership clubs that do not renew their membership regularly are looking ad boarding a death spiral: Declining membership-> fewer activities -> weaker membership recruitment. -> declining membership.

Treasurer's Report

Paypal balance \$318.60 In: \$48.00 (less fees) for membership Out: \$86.40 to phpList for website expenses

Your Volunteer Team

Laureate Awards George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Lord High Proofreader Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com Lady High Proofreader Jean Lamb

Membership Recruitment Kevin Trainor wombat.socho @gmail.com Jeffrey Redmond redmondjeff@hotmail.com Outreach Bureau

Pro Bureau George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Round Robins Inactive

Short Story Contest J. Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com Social Media

Video Bureau Heath Row, kalel@well.com Welcommittee Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com Writers Exchange Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

Join or Renew

We offer four different memberships. Memberships with TNFF via paper mail are \$18; memberships with TNFF via email are \$6. All other zines are email only. Additional memberships at the address of a current member are \$4. Public memberships are free. Send payments to Kevin Trainor, PO Box 143, Tonopah NV 89049. Pay online at N3F.org. Our PayPal contact is treasurer@n3f.org Send phillies@4liberty.net your email address for a public membership.

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NSB balance: \$2478.34

2 life members

20 electronic + 11 regular = 33 voting members 8 archive members + 261 public members = 269 non-voting members

Thanks to Wendy Van Camp, Katrina Templeton, Jefferson Swycaffer, & Dave Butler for renewing their voting memberships!

Voting memberships expiring this month: Mick Taylor and Becky Jones.

Neffers are reminded that preregistration for Son of Silvercon III has begun! The \$5 discount for N3F membership is available again.

Attending memberships are \$40 (through June 15), supporting memberships are \$20, vendor tables are \$50, and sponsorships \$100.

Mail checks & money orders to Friends of Fissionchan, PO Box 143, Tonopah NV 89049; PayPal payments go to fission.chan@gmail.com

Letters of Comment

Dear George and Jon:

Thank you for this issue, V83#11.

Good luck to all on a new round of elections. I do appreciate the statements of various candidates, but I do feel we have to work some more on something new, rather than just the tried-and-true. We need to find out what other clubs do, and think about what might work for the N3F.

This loc is right now being written with my tablet and keyboard, aboard an Air Canada Airbus 321-200, zipping through the atmosphere on our way to Loscon 50 in Los Angeles. Years ago, when we were guests there, we vowed to return on our own dime, and this is the time. Any convention that can number itself 50 must have something special lined up for this year, and we wanted to come back to see old friends, and perhaps promote Amazing Stories just a little bit more, so here we are, ready to party, especially in time for Thanksgiving.

Nic Farey's comments on my comments... definitely correct that Alan White is a Rotsler Award winner, but given the quality of his work, I still don't think he's well-known enough. When it comes to that level of talent, I often think of Phil Saunders, an artist in the LA area, great website, and marvelous artwork. Phil is originally from the Toronto area, and it was Yvonne directing him to our local convention's art show that gave him his start towards artist stardom. We hope to see him at Loscon this weekend.

It has gotten decidedly cold in Toronto (can only imagine what it's like outside this jet), so we are dressed warmly, and on our way to someplace much warmer. I will make the attempt to take lots of pictures while we are at the con, and see if we can include any familiar faces while we are there. We will see you with the next issue, I hope. Happy Thanksgiving to all, and Christmas can't be far behind.

Yours, Lloyd Penney

Dear George and Jefferson,

Just wanted to say thank you for all the Tightbeam 'mailouts'. I've been a member for a number of years now and enjoyed the all work you guys put in. I've been lucky in that my stories have occasionally placed in your annual contest, and I always looked forward to submitting an entry each year.

The bad news is, I won't be able to submit any more stories to your contest.

The good news is, I'm no longer considered an amateur writer and thereby don't qualify. And, yes, I'm very excited about this!

My sci/fi series 'Extinction' and 'First Command' will be released in 2025 by Podium Entertainment and Aethon Books respectfully.

After all the book, stories, movies, etc., you've reviewed, I hope they meet your standards!

Best wishes. Mike Simon

Films Fantastic

Reporting a delay, Jason P. Hunt wrote:

Just letting you know that our delay has been caused by the death of a hard drive, and it took me the better part of a week to run recovery software and reconstruct files and save to a new drive. The N3F folder was a victim of said circumstance, so we've been rebuilding. I should have something to you by tomorrow evening.

I should also have a Films Fantastic to you by the end of the week. Between what you sent previous, a couple of things we've run, and one or two from Heath, I think we may have enough for a new issue.

Thanks!
Jason P Hunt



Rocket Ship by Cedar Sanderson

Welcommittee

We have no new members to welcome to the N3F.

If you know anyone you think may be interested in joining the N3F, please talk to them. Tell them how much you enjoy being a member of the N3F and how rewarding it can be to "hang out" with others who have the same interest in the imaginative genres of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror.

Remember - being active is the most fulfilling way to enjoy being a member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. Why not offer this opportunity to others?

If you have questions about the N3F or are interested in helping with the Welcommittee please contact: Judy Carroll at BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

Tightbeam

Once again Tightbeam came out on time, more or less (OK, we were a bit early. Contents of the issue included

Art

Front Cover ... City Shadows By Tiffanie Gray Back Cover ... Brandy Worked by Tiffanie Gray

Letter of Comment 4 ... Lloyd Penney

Anime

4 ... Angomois: Record of Mongol Invasion ... Review by Jessi Silver

Books

7 ... The Insidious Dr. Fu Manchu by Sax Rohmer ... Review by Heath Row

Films

8 ... Horror of Dracula (Hammer Films, 1958) ... Review by Heath Row

8 ... The Mummy (Hammer Films, 1959) ... Review by Heath Row

Magazine Review

9 ... Uncanny Review by Tom Feller

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SerCon

11 ... Don Westlake Bio-Bibliography by Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.

Food of Famous Writers

14 ... Tabbouleh Cooking by Cedar Sanderson

15 ... Apple Brown Betty Cooking by Cedar Sanderson

Correspondence Bureau

WANTED!!!!

N3F members who would like to enhance their membership in the N3F experience.

"In a very real sense, we are all Aliens on a strange planet. We spend most of our lives reaching out and trying to communicate. If during our whole lifetime, we could reach out and really communicate with just two people we are indeed very fortunate."

Gene Roddenberry

Following are the names, interests and contact information of members seeking correspondence:

Jeffery Redmond - by Email - redmondjeff@hotmail.com by Postal Mail 1335 Beechwood St NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505-3830 Interests:

Star Trek - original TV series Fantasy and Science Fiction

Favorite author is me

Hobbies - reading, writing, watching TV, meeting with friends

Books and memorabilia collections

John Thiel - by Email - kinethiel@outlook.com Interests:

Magazines: Reader's Digest, Future Science Fiction, Space Stories, Startling Stories and Thrilling Wonder **Stories**

Television shows: Tales of Tomorrow, The Sid Caesar show, Roy Rogers, Sky King, Masterpiece Theater

Books: mysteries of Mary Roberts Rinehart, Groff Conklin's anthologies, Tales of the Supernatural, the writings of Sigmund Freud, The Big Push by Mickey Spillane, Theodore Sturgeon's work

Television: Leo Margules' anthologies, Peyton Place:

Movies: Voyages of Ulysses, The Life of Omar Khayyam, The House of Wax, Kiss Me Deadly Comics: Dick Tracy, Little Orphan Annie, King Aroo;

Radio Shows: Sky King, Boston Blackie, Marty Fave.

Interesting Places: Venice, California, the Florida Everglades, Valparaiso, Indiana



Tribute to Close Encounters of the Third Kind By Jose Sanchez

Steve Condrey -

By Email - gscondrey@gmail.com

Interests:

Favorite genres: science fiction, fantasy, true crime and historical fiction

Favorite authors: Robert Heinlein, Ray Bradbury, Isaac Asimov, Robert E. Howard, Octavia Butler, Andre Norton, Anne McCaffrey, Frederik Pohl, Harry Turtledove, Larry Niven, Robert Sawyer, David Weber, and S. M. Stirling.

Movies and TV shows: Star Trek, Babylon 5, Star Wars, Doctor Who, Aliens, Blade Runner, Conan the Barbarian (1980).

I do like to write, but haven't worked up the nerve to publish something. Maybe getting more involved here will help me get to that point (I hope!) I am active in my local astronomy club. I edit their

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newsletter and occasionally do outreach activities. I also volunteer at my church. Most of all, my wife, two kids (ages 16 and 12), and a fluctuating menagerie of house pets.

Judy Carroll - By Email BlueShadows2012 @gmail.com OR by Postal Mail: 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660 Interests:

Favorite Genres: Science Fiction and Murder Mysteries. Favorite Authors: Shirley Jackson, Ray Bradbury, Dean Koontz, and Julie E. Czerneda. Likes: Writing short stories and poems, working with young children.

If you would like to join the Correspondence Bureau and have your name and interests listed please contact me:

Send email requests to: Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com OR Send postal mail requests to: Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Films Fantastic

Despite delays, a computer catastrophe, and worse, a new issue of Films Fantastic has been created by Editor Jason P. Hunt. Articles included

From the Editor – 1
Deadpool & Wolverine | James Hunt – 2
Moana 2 | Leon Schwartz – 5
Saturn Award Nominees | Jason P Hunt – 7
Wolfman | Heath Row – 15
Killing Franchises | Jim McCoy – 17
Transformers One | Leon Schwartz – 19

Fan Fiction

Have you ever considered writing SF? Where would you start?

One of our famous-author members provides an answer. She started by writing fan fiction, fiction set in someone else's universe. That's much less work that coming up with universe characters... You can do it too. You can't sell it, you can't distribute it to the public. You are invited to publish it in N'APA for friendly support and assistance. The Universe can be Star Trek, Star Wars, Lost in Space,

Short Story Contest

The 2024 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest now has four entries, which is just barely enough to function. This is a grave departure from the bounty of previous years, and I dare to hope we may recover our strength, popularity, and diversity for 2025. This year's contest is "scaled back" and "lite weight" compared to our usual vitality, but we do have entrants and we do have a contest.

Cheers!
Jefferson Swycaffer

Welcome to the Writers Exchange

Writers Quote for the Month
"There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you." - Maya Angelou

Last month I asked the readers the following questions: Why do you write? When do you write?

Jefferson Swycaffer replied:

You asked, "Why do you write," which is the hard question. It's almost an obsession; I write because I *must*. The more I read, the more I want to write...and I love to read! I have all these ideas, and want to express them. I have all these characters whom I love, and I want to "bring them to life." The words are just all compressed inside, and I need to let them bust out!

"When do you write?" Workdays, when I get home from work, while my dinner (which is usually just some hideous boiled slop) cools for an hour. I put on some Vivaldi, and whip out a few pages. I generally do about four pages a day. And...alas...I don't do this every day. There are slack days when I write nothin'. Bummer!

Thank you, Jefferson. Reader participation always improves the article.

I'm sad to say I haven't written anything in months. Except miles of phone texting. Whoops! Correction. I started a short story in October when I was supposed to be writing the Writers Exchange. It's still

sitting in my computer wondering if I am ever going to visit again.

When I got on the computer today ,I started thinking about writing and not writing.

Following is what I came up with: If I knew what was coming I would have buried myself so deep. And pray that life would end in one quick sweep.

If you have a story you would like read, please contact me, and I will check with our readers to see who is available. I will contact you with the name and email address of your reader.

Please do not contact a reader unless I have assigned that reader to you. Occasionally we get several short stories at the same time and I don't want any of our readers getting "reading overload."

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

The Writers Exchange is for anyone interested in writing. If you have a story you would like read and commented on, or if you just want the excitement of reading unpublished work, then the Writers Exchange is here for you. Published or unpublished - all are welcome. You may join as a writer, a reader or both.

If interested, please contact: Judy Carroll. BlueShadows2012@gmail.com OR if you prefer postal mail, Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660



UFO Cubes by Jose Sanchez

The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono

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- 6 ... Christmas In the Stars by Sarah A. Hoyt ... Review by Pat Patterson
- 7 ... Disgardium Books Two Through Twelve by Dan Sugralinov ... Review by Jim McCoy
- 9 ... Frank Herbert's Dune: The Graphic Novel, Book 1, by Frank Herbert ... Review by Thomas E. Simmons
- 10 ... Horus Rising by Dan Abnett ... Review by Jim McCoy
- 12 ... The Icarus Job by Timothy Zahn ... Review by Caroline Furlong
- 14 ... Life Support by Tess Gerritsen ... Review by Tom Feller
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- 26 ... TIER 1000 by Jason Anspach and Doc Spears ... Review by Graham Bradley
- 28 ... The Unbearable Heaviness of Remembering by L. Jagi Lamplighter ... Review by Declan Finn
- 31 ... Year of the Unicorn by Andre Norton ... Review by Caroline Furlong

Literary Criticism

33 ... Why Aren't Men Reading? Why Are People Reading Less? ... Literary Criticism by Caroline Furlong

2024 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

Now and then, it has been suggested to open the N3F Amateur Short Story Contest to professional writers, writers who have had one or two sales. I've never favored this. It is my opinion that we want new blood. We want to reward the new kids on the block. To be blunt, we want writing that is not that good. We want stories from people who don't know their object from their subject, who don't know where commas go, and who use apostrophes to denote plurals -- but who have a story to tell. I want stories from guys nobody's ever heard of...but in the years ahead, we will. Those who are already successful don't need the encouragement of our little contest. If they were to enter the contest, the danger is that they'd win, every time, and crowd out the promising newcomer.

- 1. This contest is open to all amateur writers in the field, regardless of whether they're members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. For the purposes of this contest, we define an amateur as someone who has sold no more than two (2) stories to professional science fiction or fantasy publications.
- 2. Stories entered in the contest must be original, unpublished, not longer than 8,500 words in length—and related to the science fiction, fantasy, or similar genres in the opinion of the judge.
- 3. Email attachments of Word documents are acceptable for submission. Manuscripts on paper should be typed, single sided on 8 1/2"-by- 11" white paper, double spaced, with pages numbered. The name of the author should not appear anywhere on the manuscript to ensure impartial judging. Photocopies are acceptable, if they are of good quality. Computer printouts must be legible.
- 4. Contestants can enter up to three stories. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) if you would like your story returned at the end of the contest. Stories will not be returned without an SASE. Do not send your only copy in case of accidental loss. We are not responsible for lost manuscripts.
- 5. Email entries will be accepted. Send to Jefferson P. Swycaffer at abontides@gmail.com. No guarantee can be made of email receipt. Privacy and property rights will be absolutely respected. No one other than the Short Story Judge will ever see the submission.
- 6. There are no entry fees.
- 7. Cash prizes totaling \$100 will be awarded as follows: First prize is \$50, second \$30, and third \$20. Honorable mentions and semi-finalists will receive a certificate of award.
- 8. Send all manuscripts to the contest manager: Jefferson Swycaffer, P. O. Box 15373, San Diego, CA 92175-5373; abontides@ gmail.com. Emails with the story attached in word format are preferred. Paper manuscripts are acceptable. All entries must be received or postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2024.
- 9. The Short Story Judge is a published science fiction professional, and also a loving fan of the sf and fantasy genres. All comments and critiques are solely the Short Story Judge's opinion, but he promises to be constructive and polite.
- 10. Stories will also be reviewed by the Editor of the N3F Fiction zine Eldritch Science; authors of suitable tales will be invited to submit their tales for publication in our zine. This review and invitation will only occur after contest winners have been announced, so it can have no effect on the contest outcome.
- 11. The NSF may want to publish an electronic book including top entries from one or more years of publication. You will not be contacted about this until after the contest is over and prizes have been awarded. If we want to publish your story, you will have to sign over to us first world serial rights. Your willingness to sign over rights cannot affect whether or not you win the contest. Winners will be notified as soon as the judging is completed. Announcements and notifications of winning entries will be made by March 2025. Please take your time and submit your best work. You can resubmit stories previously entered if they did not win previously. All entries will be kept confidential and will be judged fairly and anonymously. The deadline for all entries is Dec. 31, 2024. Good luck!

Please supply on a separate page the following information as your entry form.

Title of story (for identification): Author's name and address: Author's email address:

I have read the above rules for the 2024 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest, and I agree to them.

Signature/Date:

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

N3F The National Fantasy Fan Federation

Fans of as many hues and sizes Including books, films, manga, television, anime, comics as dragons!

Nine fanzines emailed to your computer
The National Fantasy Fan -- monthly newszine
Tightbeam -- monthly Reviews
Ionisphere -- Fan-Pro Interactions
Origin -- monthly fan history
Fldritch Science -- Fiction

Mangaverse -- manga and anime N'APA -- amateur press association

Fanactivity Gazette -- monthly Fandom news The N3F Review of Books -- monthly book reviews

Interest Bureaus Short Story Contest Writer's Exchange Art Book Reviews Birthday cards Fannish history Games

Round Robins Fan-Pro Coordination APA Gourmet Bureau

Membership Levels
Electronic -- \$6/year with email of TNFF
Family -- \$4/year (regular/ electronic member at same address)
Public -- free, but non-voting

To Join: https://n3f.org/to-join/ PayPal to pay: treasurer@n3f.org Public Membership: send phillies@4liberty.net your name and email address



Elections — Fix Forwarder — Newly Re-elected Director Speaks! Message from the President — Treasurer's Report — Art

Letters of Comment Lloyd Penney, Mike Simon,

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Correspondence Bureau — Films Fantastic — Fan Fiction

Short Story Contest — Welcome to the Writers Exchange

The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono

2024 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest

Recruit for the N3F