

# The National **84**Fantasy Fan Years

Fandom's Second Oldest Print Publication Cras ad Stellas — Tomorrow to the Stars Volume 84 Number 4 April 2025

# Happy Birthday, N3F!

### Kaymar Award

The N3F was founded, by tradition, in April 1941. In celebration of this event, the N3F Kaymar Award is announced in April.

Jon Swartz writes: As the Kaymar Award election teller, I declare the 2025 Kaymar Award won by Jean-Paul Garnier.

### Director's View

Director Jefferson P. Swycaffer writes:

The new Directorate is quietly avoiding the difficult job of selecting one of our number to be primer inter pares, the Director-in-Chief or some other title or subtitle indicative of prestige and extra work. This is okay, because, at the moment, nothing is hovering over the Directors requiring our urgent attention.

However, there is perhaps an element of a fool's paradise, in that the most urgent thing hovering over the entire club is the low membership count and low rate of participation in our activities and entertain-

ments. There just aren't enough Neffers, and this is something we all bewoe. The Short Story Contest, which I run with the greatest of joy, had fewer entries this year than last, and, for a desperate month or two, it actually looked like I'd have to cancel the contest entire for lack of entries. George Phillies managed a minor miracle of publicity and got the word out, and enough entries came in -- more than a trickle, less than a gush -- to save the contest. I haven't seen any submissions to the Writers' Exchange Bureau. NAPA is hovering at a comfortable level of activity. Most of the other Bureaus and Departments are also getting by, but would love to have more participation.

Living well is said to be the best revenge, and it is also a decent form of marketing. If the world were more aware of how much fun there is available to Neffers, there'd be more people clamoring to join. The single best thing we can do to make the N3F stronger is to have fun, participate, play, write, draw, correspond, comment, and be fannish! Or faannish! Activity in the club is the best salvation for the club. The N3F is a wonderful organization, and we can all make it stronger and more healthy simply by - - - having fun!



N3F Laureate Award Nominees — Page 4

Art
3 ... Snow Warrior by Cedar Sanderson



### Your Volunteer Team

#### **Directors**

Jean-Paul Garnier spacecowboybooks@gmail.com G Steven Condrey gscondrey@gmail.com Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com Kevin Trainor wombat.socho@gmail.com (Treasurer)

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#### Bureau Heads

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Kaymar Award Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com

#### Continued Next Column, Middle

### Letters of Comment

Hi George and Jon,

I was surprised and delighted to receive the National Fantasy Fan 84.3 and see that I've been nominated for the 2025 Kaymar Award. Regardless of whether I am selected or not I am deeply honored.

Thanks! Jean-Paul

### Your Volunteer Team

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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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### THFF

Dear Neffers:

Thank you for two issues of The National Fantasy Fan, Vol. 84, Nos. 2 & 3. Time is short, so I will do what I can.

No. 2... I hope everyone will participate in the Laureate Awards...I haven't yet, and I will see what I can do here. I am not really involved with the N3F other than responding to some fanzines, but if I can nominate in some categories, I will. (I've tried and tried, but this is about all I can say on this issue!)

No. 3... I certainly agree about this year's Kaymar Award nominee, Jean-Paul Garnier. Speculative fiction is an overall term, for the main categories of SF, fantasy and horror, but there are related genres like cyberpunk, steampunk, and other connected genres that will seem similar, yet different.

I don't think there's a better term, but perhaps we can try to make a list of genres, sub-genres, or any other categories we can think of to fill out what speculative fiction is all about.

I've never seen this essay from Damon Knight, neofan at the time, and I can see where his writing roots come from. Even as someone new, his arguments are well-supported, and his idea of handbooks to explain the nuances of fandom to someone new is still a good thing. I have some of those handbooks, and I wish there were more to get.

The only other thing I can add right now is that more and more books are being released under the Amazing Selects brand, and very soon, perhaps in about a month or so, my next book will be Amazing Stories: Best of 2024. As soon as I can release the cover art (I know it's by Bob Eggleton), I will distribute it far and wide.

Thank you for these issues, and I will try my best to write longer letters. Filling the column-inches is important. See you soon.

Yours,

Lloyd Penney

### Treasurer's Report

Paypal balance \$269.93 In: \$78 for membership (less fees) Out: \$50 and 482 kroner for Short Story Contest prizes

NSB balance: 2532.34

2 life members

17 electronic + 10 regular = 29 voting members 8 archive members + 266 public members = 274 non-voting members

Voting memberships expiring this month: Kevin Menard.

Thanks to Jean-Paul Garnier & Heath Row for renewing!



Snow Warrior by Cedar Sanderson

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### Son of Silvercon III

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 Fission-chan, PO Box 143, Tonopah NV 89049; PayPal payments go to fission.chan@gmail.com

... Kevin Trainor

### **Ancient Fanzine**

Courtesy of Mike Williamson, we are sending along the July, 1939 issue of Wilson Tucker's fanzine Le Zombie. Besides describing his attendance at the first World Science Fiction Convention, he mentions a prominent founder of the N3F, one Ray Bradbury.

### **Short Story Contest**

Jefferson Swycaffer reports that we have at present, one contest entry, and one inquiry, which I answered with much enthusiasm!

Cheers!
Jefferson

### N3F Laureate Awards

Nominations for the 2025 N3F Laureate Awards, for activities that occurred during 2024, have now been completed. We now allow a couple of months for discussion. The ballot is currently planned for the June issue of TNFF. The nominees are:

Best Fan Writer: Heath Row

Best Fan Artist: Tiffanie Gray

Best Fan Poet: Pedro Inaguez

Best Fan Editor: George Phillies

Best Fan Web Site: Galactic Journey File 770 eFanzines.com

Best Non-N3F Fan Publication This Here... Lofgeornost

Best N3F Fanzine Tightbeam FanActivity Gazette Eldritch Science

Best Novel
To Turn the Tide by S.M. Stirling
The Neck Romancer by Declan Finn
Cosmic Widow by Jonathan Nevair
City of Dancing Widows by Tara Campbell

Best Shorter Work or Anthology Wave IX (anthology) The Dragonfly Gambit by A.D. Sui

Best Magazine Radon Journal Utopia Science Fiction

Best Book Editor: Toni Weisskopf Eric Fomley Eugen Bacon

Best Pro Artist Alan White Dante Luiz Bob Eggleton

Best Historical Work: The Martians by Emilie Prochazkova, translated by Carlton Bulkin History of the Sam Moskowitz Award from First

Fandom

Best None of the Above: Best Podcast - Simultaneous Times

Multiple Awards may be given for 'Best None of the Above'; this award is voted on as 'Yes' or 'No'.

### Ionisphere

The next issue of Ionisphere is almost finished and should come out soon. This issue features interviews with SF magazine and small press editors, plus a piece about the recent Eaton Conference.

### The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono

The April, 2024 issue of The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono has been proofread and will appear close to the end of the month. Note that The Review will now be published on a bimonthly basis, with the same range of coverage as before, so the following issue will appear close to the end of June.

### Welcommittee

Casey Aimer is our newest member of the N3F. Welcome, Casey. Casey's fannish interests are: Running Semiprozines like Radon Journal, playing MMORPG, Doctor Who, The Expanse, Space Operas. Casey was introduced to the N3F by Jean-Paul L. Garnier.

Casey, we hope you have a wonderful adventure, make new friends and enjoy your time with us. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, and I will do my best to help you.

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

### Web Pages

The N3F.org web pages have been updated so that all of our recent zines can be seen under the N3F Publications dropdown. Edie Stern advises us that, courtesy of Rob Hansen, a substantial number of very old issues of TNFF have recently been added to the files at fanac.org.

We are in the process of updating the N3F.org web pages, parts of which now lag behind the times.

### Tightbeam 367

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### Social Media

Our Social Media groups and pages on Facebook, MeWe, and Discord have of late been somewhat neglected. Our editors of the Facebook N3F Adult art group seems to have disappeared. We are attempting to remedy the difficulty.

### Writers' Exchange Bureau

While going through my books the other day, I ran across a book titled - Illustrated Encounters With Extraordinary Authors by Kate Gavino.

While strolling through the Table of Contents my eyes and mind immediately jumped into Creativity. Following are comments by some of the writers.

E. L. Doctorow - "A writer is someone who finds it hard to write"

Taiye Selasi - "I have spent my whole life looking for things that exist only for me. We are creators, and that is our burden."

Amy Hempel -"Celebrate completion not publication."

Michael Cunningham -"We all want a perfect work of art, but I'm not unhappy with a flawed one, where you can see what the artist was trying for."

Emily St. John Mandel - "We need art and beauty because survival is insufficient."

Philippe Petit -"To create is a rebellious act."

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If you have writers quotes you would like to share, send them to me and they will appear in the May Writers Exchange article. 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

### N'APA 275

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### Correspondence Bureau

There's still plenty of time left in the year for sharing your thoughts about Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror with a member of the Correspondence Bureau.

Corresponding with other members of the N3F can bring many things into your daily life. Such as a new perspective on a movie or book you both like, your favorite TV or movie series, your favorite authors, maybe some of the well known sayings - "Live long and prosper," "Up, Up, and Away," "Welcome to the Human Race," etc.

"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:

Jeffrey Redmond - by Email redmondjeff@hotmail.com
by Postal Mail
1335 Beechwood St NE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49505
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 TV shows: Tales of Tomorrow, The Sid Caesar show, Roy Rogers, Sky King, Masterpiece Theater

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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:

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

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 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 - BlueShadows2012@gmail.com 975 E 120 S, Spanish Fork, UT 84660 Interests: Favorite Genres: Science Fiction and Murder Mysteries.

Favorite Authors: Shirley Jackson, Ray Bradbury, Dean Knootz, 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 at

Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com OR Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

## N3F The National Fantasy Fan Federation

Fans of as many hues and sizes as dragons! Covering all branches of SF: science fiction, fantasy, horror, occult, and more Including books, films, manga, television, anime, comics

Nine fanzines emailed to your computer

The National Fantasy Fan -- monthly newszine
Tightbeam -- monthly Reviews
Ionisphere -- Fan-Pro Interactions
Origin -- monthly fan history
Eldritch 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



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



READ MORE 'ZINES!

Eldritch Science FanActivity Gazette Films Fantastic Ionisphere Mangaverse

N'APA
The National Fantasy Fan
N3F Review of Books
Origin
Tightbeam

National Fantasy Fan Federation - tnfff.org

### 2025 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

To enter a story, on a separate page, please supply the following information, followed by your story:

- 1) Title of story (for identification): Author's name and address: Author's email address:
- 2) Answer DO or DO NOT I do/do not with to became a public (no dues, no vote) member of the N3F and receive for free all N3F magazines.

Testify: I have read the above rules for the 2025 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

We are here to encourage new writers, to reward the new kids on the block. 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. We want stories from guys and gals nobody's ever heard of...but in the years ahead, we will.

- 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 aboutides@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, 2025.
- 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 2026. 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, 2025. Good luck!



### Happy Birthday, N3F!

Kaymar Award — Director's View

Letters of Comment — Jean-Paul Garnier — Lloyd Penney

Treasurer's Report — Son of Silvercon III

**Ancient Fanzine** 

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