



The National **84** Fantasy Fan **Years**

Fandom's Second Oldest Print Publication
Cras ad Stellas — Tomorrow to the Stars
Volume 84 Number 9 September 2025

Elections

Annual elections are approaching. Any dues-paying or life member may run for President or for the Directorate. You run by nominating yourself or having someone nominate you. Write-ins are allowed. Nominations must be received by the Official Teller, Jon Swartz (judgeswartz@gmail.com) and by the TNFF Editor, George Phillis (phillies@4liberty.net) by October 31. The ballot will be in the November issue of this magazine. Nominated candidates may put a statement, 500 words or less, in the November issue of this magazine; send statements to the Editor.

More Good News from Your President!

Last month we had a Zoom meeting for some of the N3F's active members. We discussed things that could be done to advance the N3F. Some of them happened. Jean-Paul Garnier designed and ordered 2500 N3F bookmarks. Most members with paper-mail addresses were sent several and a cover letter. Our web pages at N3F.org were improved. A dropdown list was created on the top page. If you want to download one of our advertising fliers, the PDFs are right there. One of the rotating banners was defective. It has been removed.

I was asked to send leading figures the URLs and passwords for our social media sites. We actually have a lot of them. Information was circulated to some of the active members.



We discussed new active bureaus that the N3F would benefit by having, in particular a Welcoming Bureau, a Multimedia Bureau, a NefferCon Bureau, a Professional Support Bureau, and a Social Media Bureau. The Welcoming Bureau would target putting the N3F name in front of the fannish public, for example at cons. Indeed, we now have members who attend conventions regularly and have volunteered to take N3F Fliers and bookmarks to the conventions that they attend. The Professional Support Bureau is working on projects. Jason and Mindy Hunt expressed an interest in the Multimedia Bureau.

Director Notes from Kevin Trainor

I don't have much to say this month. Son of Silvercon III was modestly successful, seeing an increase in memberships which also means an increase in N3F members; we'll be doing it again next year. The N3F bookmarks are in your hands, as part of a new recruiting push, and we hope y'all will take them to local bookstores and libraries where they'll do the most good. We're also going to be doing more on social media, especially the more visually-oriented platforms like Instagram and YouTube.

As always, we need volunteers to help us do these things. If you can only do a little bit, that's better than nothing. Write a LoC for one of our many zines. Dash off a short apazine for N'APA. Get together with local Neffers where you live and have a



Art

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Your Volunteer Team

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 Steve Condrey steve.condrey.tnfff@gmail.com
 Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
 Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
 Kevin Trainor wombat.scho@gmail.com (Treasurer)

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 Keeper of the Passwords: Jessi Silver belindabird@gmail.com
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Bureau Heads

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 Birthday Cards:
 Book Review Bureau: G. Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
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Continued Next Column, Middle

meetup, or throw a room party at a local convention. Every little bit helps - and that applies to voting memberships as well. Annual dues for an electronic membership are just \$6 a year, and that helps fund the club's operations in addition to giving you a voice in how things are run around here.

N3F Activists Zoom

We met. Attendance was George Phillies, Jean-Paul Garnier, Mindy Hunt, Jason Hunt, and Patrick Ijima

Your Volunteer Team

Laureate Awards: George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
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 Lady High Proofreader: Jean Lamb
 Membership Recruitment: Kevin Trainor wombat.scho@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
 Welcomittee: Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
 Writers Exchange: Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@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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-Washburn.

If you are prepared to do things for the N3F, or are already doing them, please advise if you would like to be added to the invitation list for the next meeting.

Advertising in various zines was discussed. That's a continuation from the previous meeting. We agreed to place full-page ads in Alternacomics, Crisova, Worlds of If, and Galaxy. There was a desire to have electronic ad files in a format that preserves layers, so that they can be re-arranged to fit different page sizes.

We will try to get table space at SF conventions. Thanks to Cedar Sanderson, we will be represented at PCON. We expect to be represented at EagleCon and LosCon. There was enthusiasm for having representation at BasedCon and LibertyCon. These are smaller conventions where we might be able to get table space.

BookMarks were sent to members having papermail addresses. That's about 200 of our nearly 300 members.

The Laureate Awards were discussed. There was enthusiasm for ensuring that there are more nominations for each award.

We are currently publishing 12 zines. They are: A Gentle Stroll, Eldritch Science, Fan Gazette, Films Fantastic, FrankinZine, Ionisphere, Mangaverse, N'APA, N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono, Origins, The National Fantasy Fan, and Tightbeam.

Members confirmed that they had received the club's URLs and the corresponding password lists. A single email address for our social media pages will be created. Mindy and Jason will investigate Instagram and Tik-Tok accounts.

Once upon a time we had a trifold. I can look for it.

Zoom Activism

Last month Zoom activists agreed to create N3F bookmarks. Jean-Paul Garnier did the beautiful designs. We voted and spent something under \$150 to generate several thousand of them. We also voted up to \$500 for other advertising. Close to 600 bookmarks were distributed to N3F members with papermail addresses. (That's about 200 of our nearly 300 members, including some who appear to have gafiated so we no longer have working email addresses for them.) We have several members who attend conventions. They are being sent packages with several hundred bookmarks. This weekend Cedar Sanderson took them to PCon, where she is their 2025 artist. On her art display, beyond all her beautiful artwork, she has stacks of bookmarks for passersby to take.

With respect to this month's meeting, there has also been action. New ads having the needed dimensions were designed and will be appearing in Worlds of If and Alternacomics. Ads for other locations will be placed soon. The unified social media address was created.

N3F Activities

Welcommittee

Welcome to new member Derek Reeve of Illinois. We hope that his membership will be long and enjoyable.

Welcommittee is for welcoming new members into the N3F, and following up with them. In the past the Welcommittee has welcomed new members with a "welcome" letters. Being on the Welcommittee is a wonderful way to be "on the front lines" of meeting new friends in our club! The Welcommittee is looking for new members. Please contact Judy Carroll blueshadows2012@gmail.com to volunteer.

Short Story Contest

We have a yearly short story contest, open to non-professionals. For details, please contact our pro-

professional writer and judge, Jefferson Swycaffer at abontides@gmail.com or read the description on the penultimate page of this issue.

Treasurer's Report

Yes, doing all this costs money. Some members voluntarily cover part of our costs out of their own pockets. The Treasury must share the remainder of the burden.

Paypal balance \$189.71
In: \$24 for membership (less fees)
Out: \$177 for bookmark printing

NSB balance: \$2538.34
In: \$6 for membership

2 life members +
15 electronic + 12 regular + 1 household = 30 voting members
8 archive members + 276 public members = 284 non-voting members

Voting memberships expiring this month: Dorothy Kurtz and Katrina Templeton,
Thanks to Thera Watson for upgrading to a voting membership!
Welcome to Derek Reeve!

Bookmark mailings bounced for Arthur Palmer, John Polselli, Allan Rosewarne, George Wells, and Arnold Williams. Please e-mail me or George with your current mailing address.

Zines

Our newest zine is A Gentle Stroll, focused more or less entirely on Dungeons and Dragons and other role-playing games. Unlike all other N3F zines, A Gentle Stroll is only available by subscription: you must contact George Phillies (phillies@4liberty.net) and ask to be added to the subscription list. Subscriptions are currently free; at some point toward the end of the year contributors will be asked to join the N3F, which can cost as little as \$5 per year. A Gentle Stroll is one of the two successor zines to Lee Gold's Alarums and Excursions, which recently folded after a fifty-

year run. AGS doesn't have that many contributors yet, but so far we've maintained a warm and friendly tone. AGS will soon be releasing issue #5. All members are welcome to contribute; submissions as pdf files are due by the last day of each month to George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net.

[The National Fantasy Fan](#), now in its 84th year, continues its regular monthly appearance as our primary news-of-the-N3F. The current issue is Volume 84, Number 9. TNFF, also known as 'The Fan', was originally titled 'Bonfire'. Last month we made a moderate change in the contents and appearance of The Fan. We certainly agree that a better organization of our articles would help readers find things, but are not yet quite sure how to do that. Your advice would be most appreciated. George Phillies and Jon Swartz, co-Editors.

[Tightbeam](#), originally Hyperspace Tightbeam, was launched by Marion Zimmer Bradley as our letter-zine. Since then, it has changed titles, merged with TNFF and then unmerged, and is now our all-topic review zine. We try to cover everything from anime to SerCon, but also including books, comics, films, videos, TV shows, poetry, short stories, and would happily cover cosplay if submissions became available. The current issue is #372. Editors George Phillies and Jon Swartz try their best to see that all branches of fandom are covered within its 20-page limit.

[Origins](#), the magazine of the history of science fiction and science fiction fandom, has been revived by Sam Lubell. His first issue, #71, covers among others N3F Founder E.E. Smith.

Our original all-topic APA is [N'APA](#), founded in 1959. The current issue is #278. All dues-paying members are welcome to contribute. Comments on other zines in past issues are traditional and appropriate. To add your own zine to the collation, write it, convert it to a PDF file, and send it to Official Collator Jefferson Swycaffer, abontides@gmail.com. Published bimonthly, N'APA covers all topics of possible interest to fen. Founded in 1959, at different times it has been a letter zine, a center for discussing the future of the N3F, with reviews and fiction also common. Our recent experiment is to encourage

members to publish fan fiction, stories of almost-familiar characters with the serial numbers sanded off.

Mangaverse is the revived magazine of the N3F anime and comics bureau. Kevin Trainor wombat.soch@gmail.com is the BuHead; Patrick Ijima-Washburn patokon.com@gmail.com is the zine editor.

Ionisphere, the ionic sphere that draws together all fen and pros, is the bimonthly zine of the Fan-Pro Activity Coordinating Bureau. The Bureau and its zine exist to increase interactions between readers and writers, publish interviews with writers and fen, promote contact information and web locations, and support convention activities. For the next issue, a listing of active SFFH zines will appear.

Films Fantastic, our fanzine dedicated to science fiction and fantasy films, just published issue 20. Editor Jason Hunt reports that the latest issue of Films Fantastic, issue 20, will be out by the time you read this. If you have any film reviews, please send them to [Jason Hunt jphunt@scifi4me.com](mailto:Jason.Hunt@scifi4me.com).

Eldritch Science is our fiction zine. Its Editor is Steve Condrey <steve.condrey.tnfff@gmail.com>. After years of limited publishing activity, Steve has transformed Eldritch Science into a bimonthly. Issue 16, covering September 2025, has just appeared.. New fiction submissions from members and non-members are welcome.

Bureaus

Professional Support Bureau

Our newest Bureau is the Professional Support Bureau, Kevin Trainor (wombat.soch@gmail.com) being the first Bureau Head. He is in the process of contacting professional writers and editors to see which projects might be most opportune. Lists of pro markets, artists, editors, and proofreaders are in the process of being assembled.

Writer's Exchange Bureau

Members of the Writers' Exchange Bureau read each other's manuscripts and offer friendly suggestions. Right now we have a surplus of readers and a shortage of writers, so feel free to accept criticism without offering any. Contact Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com for more information.

Son of Silvercon

Kevin Trainor runs a science fiction convention in Nevada. It is not an N3F Convention, but we are happy to report on what long-time member Kevin Trainor is doing. The recent convention was moderately successful. There will be a convention next year.

Laureate Awards

The N3F Laureate Awards, first given in 1941, are the oldest awards in SF Fandom. They are given for especially meritorious contributions to science fiction, broadly defined, over the past year, on a wide range of topics, such as best fanzine and best novel. Dues-paying N3F members are entitled to nominate for Laureate Awards; they vote to decide who wins.

Gourmet Bureau

The Gourmet Bureau presents wonderful recipes, in particular recipes inspired by famous authors. Cedar Sanderson does much of the cooking.

Games Bureau

The Games Bureau supports the play of games by N3F Members. Board games, rolegames, miniatures, diplomatic games, live action roleplaying, eurogames, and more are all within our remit. We occasionally publish lists of forthcoming game conventions. We publish *A Gentle Stroll*. Contact George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net.

Franking Service

The Franking Service performs the original purpose of the N3F, redistributing fanzines to our membership at less than the cost of postage. Our work is purely electronic, using the internet to retransmit fanzines. The Service functions by collecting fanzines, compressing all zines received in a given month into a single downloadable file, and placing the file onto the N3F web pages where it is available to download. The downloadable files comprise its publication Frankinzine.

Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau

The Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau exists to promote relations between fan and writers. It publishes Ioni-sphere.

Book Review Bureau

The Book Review Bureau publishes *The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono*, now on a bimonthly schedule. The most recent issue, for August 2025, was 64 pages in length. More book reviews are always welcome.

Artists Bureau

Artists from this Bureau supply much artwork for the club zines. Technique, subject matter, and publication are sometimes discussed. If you have an interest in science fiction/fantasy art, and want to share that interest, this is the bureau for you!! Contact Art Bureau Head Jose Sanchez jose77sanchez@yahoo.

Anime/Comics Bureau

Anime, comics, and manga are a core part of the fantastic literature, providing inspiration for many of the SF motion pictures that dominate the silver screen. The Anime/Comics Bureau supports discussion of all aspects of this branch of our hobby. Contact BuHead Kevin Trainor, wombat.scho@gmail.com for more information.

Social Media

A largely complete list of N3F Social Media sites is:

N3F.org – Our web site.

facebook.com/groups/n3flist/ – Our Facebook group

facebook.com/TheN3F – The Facebook announcement page

Science Fiction – the FaceBook science fiction page, is owned and largely administered by Neffers.

facebook.com/groups/n3flist/ – Our Facebook group

facebook.com/TheN3F – The Facebook announcement page

mewe.com/group/5cd109edfff67f1e08e43120 is NefferCon, our electronic SF convention.

We also have the N3F Mewe Group <https://mewe.com/group/5cd109edfff67f1e08e43120>

Discord – we have a discord group. Contact George Phillis, phillies@4liberty.net to be invited to join.



Tribute to a Fine Film by Jose Sanchez

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 wish to become 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 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, 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!



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Book Review Bureau — Artists Bureau
Anime/Comics Bureau — Social Media

N3F TNFF

c/o George Phillips

48 Hancock Hill Drive