

TWFF

February 1999 (Vol. 59 No. 1)

Inside: TB #215

Bureau Reports

President's Awards



Officers

NOTE: To save space, the addresses of officers and bureau heads are listed only once. Subsequent occurrences of a person's name will include a reference to where you can find his or her address. If you see a mistake in a bureau head's address, please let me know. Thanks. —Editor

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Renewal Reminders Subcommittee:

OPEN

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YOUTH BUREAU: OPEN

If you would like to join an existing bureau or activity, please write to the bureau head. To take over an open bureau or activity, or to start a new one, please write to Susan VanSchuyver, N3F President.

TNFF

FEBRUARY 1999 (Vol. 59 No. 1)

*The Official Organ of
The National Fantasy Fan Federation
Founded April 1941*

<http://web.getonthe.net/~laura/n3f/>

JOIN THE N3F!

The National Fantasy Fan Federation is your link to science fiction and fantasy fandom. Membership includes our bi-monthly publications, *The National Fantasy Fan* and *Tightbeam*, and puts you in touch with fellow fans across the country and around the world. Dues are \$18 per year (\$22 for joint membership). Fill out the application on the inside back cover and send it (along with a check or money order, payable to "William Center") to: Jennifer Mackay, P.O. Box 66408, Portland, OR 97290-6408. Payment must be in U.S. funds.

The National Fantasy Fan (TNFF) is published six times a year. Deadline is the 15th day of every odd-numbered month. Submissions must be received on or before that date. Send submissions to Craig Boyd, P.O. Box 7554, Little Rock, AR 72217-7554. Send a SASE for submission guidelines.

This issue was completed on March 5, 1999

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: March 15, 1999

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ADDRESS CHANGES and CORRECTIONS and REQUESTS FOR REPLACEMENT ISSUES should be sent to Jennifer Mackay, N3F Secretary, P.O. Box 66408, Portland, OR 97290-6408.

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Art

All art in this issue is by Angela K. Scott. Thanks for all the fresh submissions, Angela!

TNFF would like to publish your cartoons and other artwork. Send your art to Craig Boyd, P.O. Box 7554, Little Rock, AR 72217-7554. Please include a SASE if you want your artwork returned.

President's Message

by Susan VanSchuyver

Welcome to 1999! This is bound to be an interesting year as we approach the millennium and live through Clinton's impeachment trial. (Maybe that will be over by the time you read this column!)

Thanks to everyone who voted in the election. We have an outstanding group of directors with Michele Center back as a director again, as well as Harold Marcum, Jennifer Mackay, Laura Hazelwood, and Dennis Davis. What an awesome group! I look forward to working with them this year. Thanks also to Don Franson who sent out the election ballots and to Howard DeVore for counting them. Did you know that Howard also mails all the zines? Thanks, Howard!

We have a new bureau head this time. Ginny Benson has volunteered to give the Birthday Card Bureau a try, so if you helped to send cards in the past and would like to again, please send Ginny a note so she can get this bureau going again. I am not sure about the records that go with this bureau, so we might have to work on collecting birthdays again, too.

We have several open bureaus: Artists' Workshop, Fan Clubs, Music, N3F Oral History, and Youth. Two subcommittees are also open:

Publicity and Recruiting, and Renewal Reminders. If you would like to take over one of these bureaus or subcommittees or open a new one, please write to me. We need some folks to step forward and help out. Traditionally, N3F has had a large turnover in leadership with most people being active leaders for 3-5 years and then others stepping up to take over. If you have a little time to give to N3F, please contact me. Most positions do not need much time or effort and can be very rewarding.

I am glad that you have given me the opportunity to be your president for another year, and I will try to do all I can to make this a fun club for everyone to belong to. Please write to me with your thoughts, compliments (☺), complaints, or suggestions. My addresses are on the inside front cover.

Secretary's Report

by Jennifer Mackay

Please mark N3F on all correspondence envelopes. This helps me separate mail faster and serve you better. Please send your address corrections as soon as possible. The post office charges me for returning undeliverable copies of the zines.

Rod & Shari Eggleston's zines have been returned twice to me. I never received any change of address from them. If anyone knows their whereabouts, please notify me. Thank you.

New and Returning Members

Mary A. Chandler (New, expires 2/00), 5101 NE 121st St. #80, Vancouver, WA 98682. E-mail: mccavity@uswest.net. Sponsor: Carla Hall Minor.

Stacey Dorchester (Reinstated, expires 1/00), 4684 Kingston Rd. Elbridge NY 13060-9772.

Karen Kling (New, expires 1/00), P.O. Box 22, Lebanon, OH 45036. E-mail: kwan@go-concepts.com. Sponsor: Jennifer Mackay.

Chester S. Mylenek (Reinstated, expires





2/00), 4657 Larkins St., Detroit, MI 48210. Sponsor: Jennifer Mackay.

John Spikes (New, expires 1/00), 1928 Hubbard Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84108. E-mail: spikes@bioscience.utah.edu. Sponsor: Jennifer Mackay.

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Address Changes and Corrections:

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1998 President's Awards

by *Susan VanSchuyver*

This is my second opportunity to honor Neffers for their work in N3F. It is a pleasure to recognize those folks who serve the club so faithfully.

Don Franson: You all know Don. His stable presence in the club has been a tremendous help over the years. I believe he has been a member of the Directorate for as long as I have been in N3F and probably years longer. Also every year he has handled the Short Story Contest as well as sending out the election ballots. I want to thank Don for all the help he has given me while I have been President as well as for his leader-

ship in the Directorate. I look forward to many more years of Don's presence in N3F.

Carla Minor: Carla is the head of the Correspondence Bureau, and she is also an intensely loyal member and promoter of N3F. She even has the phrase "Join N3F" on a set of her return address labels. When I am trying to make a decision about some N3F issue, I often turn to Carla for her ideas and she never lets me down. She is an excellent bureau head, constantly updating her files and encouraging those members who participate in her bureau.

I also have some Honorable Mentions: Craig Boyd and Janine Stenson, the faithful editors of *TNFF* and *Tightbeam*; and Harold Marcum and Ginny Benson, excellent Robin Masters. Thanks, everyone!

WelCommittee

by *A.J. Sobczak*

We finally have some new members to greet! Welcome to Wendy LaChance, Kenneth Anderson, Jon Swartz, David Robinson, and Laura Haywood. I was just about to do a mailing to the WelCommittee when my computer crashed, taking all my N3F records with it. If you're on the WelCommittee, you should have received the mailing in the beginning of January. If you didn't, please let me know. I sent e-mails to everyone for whom I had an e-mail address; if you have one, please let me know. Now's a good time for other Neffers to join the WelCommittee — I'm updating the mailing list anyway! It's great fun to introduce new members to the club, and getting them involved keeps them interested so that membership stays up. Write to me at the address inside the front cover. I hope to hear from lots more of you!

Personal Computers

by *Dennis L. Davis*

This month: Science Fiction Weekly, Y2K,



and Mac advocacy!

Places to get free Y2K tests and patches for PCs (gleaned from Al Macintyre, MacWheel99@aol.com):

www.ontrack.com/vop/op_5.asp

www.righitime.com/

www.safetynet.com/

www.tyler.net/tyr7020/y2kinput.htm

www.y2kpatch.com/

My own advice? Naturally, I am going to take the opportunity to strongly recommend that you all "Think Different" and buy a new or used Mac.

None of the Macs built since 1984 have any problem in the Mac OS ("OS" is operating system) or in the hardware. The suggested retail price for a new iMac is only \$1,199.00 (price reduced \$300!). Apple even has very low cost financing for the iMac at about the cost of a pizza per month (there is an unpaid balance). So check local Apple dealers, CompUSA, BestBuy, The Apple Store online, other online stores, and catalog stores, and shop around for the best price. Good used and factory refurbished Macs can be a bargain. Check in the computer magazines, especially MacAddict, MacHome, or MacWorld for sources for online stores, catalog

dealers, and used and refurbished sources for Macs. Besides the iMac (consumer model), there are the Power Macs (desktop models) and PowerBooks (laptop models) for sale. You will not be sorry if you buy a Mac!

MacAddict

www.macaddict.com

MacHome

www.machome.com

MacWorld

macworld.com

Since I am doing some Mac advocacy here I want to conclude with this. A great Mac advocacy article can be found at the following web address:

www.mrgadget.com/html/imac.html

It's written by national consumer print and television product reviewer "Mr. Gadget."

The following is from Jeff Berkwitz:

Science Fiction Weekly is now up to its 85th issue and includes a new music column called "Sound Space" written by yours truly, who also happens to be a N3F member! Check it out at www.scifiweekly.com.

Online Bureau

by Laura Hazelwood

Hello Neffers! I hope your holidays went



smoothly, that you didn't eat too much or too little, and that you got the gifts you wanted! I've been working with the aid of Robert Miller on the Neffer's Niche. NN is another page added to our N3F page that will highlight the artwork and short poetry of our membership. To date, this page is openly accessible to anyone who finds it. However, I'm considering placing a password on it so that primarily only Neffers will view it. Do you have an opinion on this? Let me know. Its important to realize that any work put up on the web will be viewed by a lot of people, and passwords are easily broken. However, I do feel this is another opportunity for us to share our creativity with one another, in full living color. So send me your stuff. I can scan hard copies and I can accept files in my e-mail.

I haven't heard from the BRR's in a while. So if all the BRM's would e-mail me a short report on how they are doing, I would appreciate it very much. A list of BRR's which are currently active or which are awaiting members follows. If you have a suggestion for a new BRR that you think people would be interested in joining, please let me know. My e-mail and snail mail addresses are on the inside front cover of this zine. Have a good day, and remember to check out the N3F website at web.getonthe.net/~laura/n3f.htm. I've been told by my ISP that this address will be changing soon. I'll keep you posted, and if it changes before I can let you know about it, I'll have pages pointing the way to the new address.

Bouncing Round Robins

André Norton (active)
Babylon 5 (active)
Current Reading (active)
SF/F Magazines (active)
Star Trek. All Series (active)
Vampires (active)
X-Files (active)
Writers' Exchange (active)
Tolkien (needs members)
SF/F in Film (needs members)
SF/F in Children's Lit (needs members)
SciFi Channel (needs members)

Classic SF/F Authors (needs members)
Art in SF/F (needs members)

Correspondence Bureau

by *Carla Hall Minor*

Greetings, everyone! Hope you all had a good holiday season and will have had a happy Valentine's Day by now. The holidays and especially Valentine's Day are great reasons to mail goodies or cards to your pen pals; keep it in mind the next time a special occasion rolls around. I'd be interested to know how many of you sent Christmas cards out this year. If you did, did you send them to everyone in your address book, or only those people you actively correspond with? (I know it gets expensive if you have a long list.) I sent out a lot, and found out that several people had moved, and their cards were returned. If nothing else, it was a good opportunity for me to update my addresses!

Sorry to report that the Bureau has been dormant since last time — same number of participants and no major changes. Once again, I thank all of you for sending in updated information about yourselves. One thing I need to point out is that a few of you have asked that I send you questionnaires via e-mail. It's a good idea, but it really just adds an extra step to my



filing method. I'd appreciate it if we could keep everything on a snail mail basis for the time being, at least until I can upgrade. OK?

I hope you've been trying to reach one person apiece for our membership drive. I have one acquaintance who has asked me for an extra copy of the application, though Jennifer sent him one earlier. I am hoping this means he's interested in joining! So post info about N3F on your web pages, mention it in chat rooms, or pass someone a note in school. You might be surprised how many people will notice. And as always, don't keep your penpals waiting — write them a letter today!

Writers' Exchange

By Joy Beeson

Members of the Writers' Exchange criticize each other's manuscripts. Send me a brief description of yourself — as a critic; we don't care how tall you are. Include a S.A.S.E. with one ounce of postage. (9"x12" if you want the list flat, #10, #11, or 9"x6" if you want it folded). I will add your address to the Writers' Exchange Bulletin mailing list, include your description in the next issue of WEB, and put a copy of the WE membership list into your S.A.S.E.

Choose a reader from the list, then send him your manuscript, a request for help, and an

indication of what sort of feedback you need. (You may also write without reading and read without writing.)

16 January 1999: Writers' Exchange Bulletin #53, The Quasi-Annual Grand Complete Membership List, is still hanging fire, but I just put page-number lines on all eight pages and dated them February 1999. That gives me a deadline. May come out with a good deal of clip art on pages seven and eight.

Computer Gaming

by Harold Marcum

I love to race cars and now there's a great game out that I can relate to: NHRA Drag Racing. The National Hot Rod Association is the world's largest sanctioned group for motor sports and this game puts you in the driver's seat. You can either race Top Fuel or Funny cars against pro drivers or teams. Players have the options to either race one-on-one matches, singles events, or drive an entire season. The main idea is to feed the need for speed! You go very fast for a short length of time, usually around four seconds.

This may sound boring to people used to running on round tracks or road racing, but there's skill and reflexes involved. It's just like the real thing. First, bring your car up to the staging area and do a burnout (to give your tires the maximum amount of traction). Then back up your car in the same tracks that you just laid, pre-stage for the lights, then stage all the way, engage the brake, kick the throttle wide open, and hope for a good light. When the light turns green, release the brake, shift gears, and hang on for the ride of your life. Anything can happen; smoke the tires, blow an engine, flip over, or even crash. First one across the finish line wins.

There's also a lot to do besides driving the car. You must select a crew chief, manage a budget, and keep your sponsors happy. The car has to be tuned before each race, so you have to read the dyno on traction, fuel consumption, throttle action, and over-all performance. You



also have to be aware of the weather conditions; different temperatures as the day progresses call for different adjustments to the car.

You might ask "what's the point?" Well, if there's a teenager lurking in that adult body that remembers the fun of lining up on the street on Saturday nights to see who had the fastest car, then you already know. If there's not then you might want to find out what it's like to go hundreds of miles per hour in a couple of seconds. What a rush! It will test your abilities and reflexes to the max, let you go out and race against the best the sport has to offer, and have fun.

This game is sanctioned by the NHRA and put out by Mind Magic Productions. The requirements are: Windows 95, 133 MHz Pentium or higher, 32MB RAM, 2x CD-ROM and a 3D graphics accelerator. One other thing; a bug prevents steering wheel pedals from being used. Other than that it's a super simulation and very satisfying. Pedal to the metal!

Round Robin Bureau

by Susan VanSchuyver

I greatly appreciate everyone who is a Robin Master for the Round Robins; this time I would like to mention two of the best RM's: Ginny Benson and Harold Marcum. Both Ginny and Harold send in RR reports on their multiple RR's several times a year which really helps me to keep the robins going. They are also responsible RR members: they keep a record of the dates of all RR's they are on, they send post-cards to the other RM's, and they write great letters! I appreciate their efforts as do all the other RR members.

New Round Robin Ideas:

When David Rubin recently sent in the topic idea of **Ally McBeal**, I was excited. I watched **Ally McBeal** for the first time before Christmas and really liked it. The very first episode I saw had a unicorn in it. How appropriate! The characters are intriguing, especially Ally and the



partner played by Peter McNichol. The RR would discuss the characters, plots, themes, music, actors, and more.

Some other new ideas are **Dean Koontz**, **Military SCI FI**, **Mythological Creatures**, **"B" Movies**, and **RPG (SF&F)**.

If you would like to join a RR, have an idea you would like to propose, or would like a RR List, write to me at one of my addresses on the inside front cover.

N'APA Report

by Michael Landis

This is my first official act as new OE of N'APA, the N3F Amateur Press Association. I take over from Barbara Gatewood, who, like her

(Continued on page 8)



TNFF Trader

Buying, selling, or trading? This is the place. TNFF Trader ads are free to N3F members (no third parties). Ads are published on a space-available basis and for one issue only unless you request otherwise. Ads may be edited to fit. Send your ad to Craig Boyd, TNFF Editor, P. O. Box 7554, Little Rock, AR 72217-7554.

THE GAME OF THE FUTURE

Are you ready for the game of the future? A game that takes place in a realm of Dragons and Elves? Are you ready for the fight of your life? Do you want to win great prizes like CDs, fantasy art, and magazine subscriptions? If you're up for the challenge, then send a self-addressed, stamped manila envelope with \$3.00 for paper costs to: BFWA, P.O. Box 503, Ely, Nevada 89013. Make checks or money orders payable to Pauline Rollins.

SCREENPLAYS WANTED

Thayer's Critique wants to help you get your screenplay ready to present to an agent. What do we do? We tell you if your screenplay is in the proper format, give suggestions on how you can improve your story, and help keep you informed of current trends. Our regular price is \$125 per screenplay. Two screenplays sent in at the same time are \$175. For N3F members the price is \$100 for one and \$125 for two. Send your screenplays with a large SASE to Thayer's Critique, 1080 South 450 East, Orem, UT 84097. Make checks or money orders payable to J. M. Carroll/Thayer's Critique.

WRITERS WANTED

Members needed for on-line critiques. Practically instant feedback. If you are an author, or if you would like to help authors get stuff ready to show to

agents and publishers, we have just what you need (if you're connected). If you want to be part of this excellent help group and you love looking for nits to pick, we are the place to be. Tell Joy Beeson you want to be part of the "nit-pickers," formally known as the Writer's Exchange Bouncing Robin —WEBR. E-mail Joy at jbeeson@global2000.net. We have an opening for YOU!

F&SF AND GALAXYBACK ISSUES

Stock clearance sale! Get the classic stuff! Thirty copies of *Fantasy & Science Fiction* or thirty copies of *Galaxy*. All nice, many like new. 1950 to 1980. \$14 plus postage. Currently this would cost you \$90. Write to Howard DeVore, 4705 Weddel St., Dearborn, MI 48125. Hurry, there's only about 3,000 of them available!

SF AND FANTASY BOOKS

Please send SASE for list of SF and Fantasy books for sale. Many fairly recent Baen or Carroll & Graf books. Mysteries list also available. Richard A. "Rick" Brooks, P.O. Box 834, Angola, IN 46703-0834.

husband Tim before her, did one heck of a good job and leaves some sizeable shoes for me to attempt to fill.

As I met with Barbara only yesterday to get all the materials, all I have to report is that I have a box full of stuff in the trunk of my car. I hope to sort it all out in time for the next mailing date of February 15, but here's some general information about N'APA:

Our current membership stands at 11 and has been stable for the last couple of mailings. Mailings are collated on the 15th of February, April, June, August, October, and December and mailed out soon after that. Membership is open to all current members in good standing of N3F. For further information or to receive a sample copy of N'APA, please contact me. My address is on the inside front cover.

National Fantasy Fan Federation

Membership Application

New Member Name (Please Print) _____
 Reinstatement Address _____
 Joint Membership City, State, Zip Code _____
 Gift Membership Phone _____ Birthdate _____
Occupation _____
E-mail Address(es) _____

Please check your current interests in the field of Science Fiction and Fantasy:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> APA's | <input type="checkbox"/> Cartooning | <input type="checkbox"/> Games | <input type="checkbox"/> Round Robins |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Comics | <input type="checkbox"/> Magazines | <input type="checkbox"/> Taping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collecting | <input type="checkbox"/> Computers | <input type="checkbox"/> Movies/TV | <input type="checkbox"/> Audio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artwork | <input type="checkbox"/> Conventions | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Video |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books | <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence | <input type="checkbox"/> Publishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching SF |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fanzines | <input type="checkbox"/> Editing | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Filksinging | <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewing | |

How long have you been interested in Science Fiction? _____
How long have you been involved in Fandom? _____
List any other fan clubs of which you are or have been a member: _____
List any conventions which you have attended: _____
Which pro and fan 'zines do you read? _____
What type of SF or Fantasy do you like? _____
Who are your favorite SF and/or Fantasy authors? _____

Which of the following (if any) would you be willing to help the club with:

<input type="checkbox"/> Writing for club publications	<input type="checkbox"/> Publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Organizing activities
<input type="checkbox"/> Corresponding	<input type="checkbox"/> Recruiting at conventions	<input type="checkbox"/> Artwork

Dues are \$18.00 per year (\$22.00 for joint memberships), and include subscriptions to the club's two fanzines, *The National Fantasy Fan* and *Tightbeam*, as well as other benefits and activities. Dues are necessary to pay expenses. Make your checks or money orders payable to **William Center** (not N3F), and mail to Jennifer Mackay, P.O. Box 66408, Portland, OR 97290-6408. All payments must be in U.S. funds.

Name of sponsoring member (if any): _____

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Stay in touch with fandom all year long! Join the N3F today!

Send all address corrections and undeliverable copies to:

Jennifer Mackay
P.O. Box 66408
Portland, OR 97290-6408

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Permit #1
Dearborn, MI 48120

