

The National Fantasy Fan

Cras ad Stellae — Tomorrow to the Stars

Volume 77 Number 7

July 2018



Jon Swartz Elected Life Member



Votes having been received and counted, the 2018 National Fantasy Fan Federation Speculative Fiction Award winners are:

Best novel — Holy Princess Aura by Ryk Spoor

Best Shorter Work — And Then There Were (N-One) by Sarah Pinsker

Best Book Editor — Toni Weisskopf

Best Film — Thor Ragnarok

Best Fanzine — Tightbeam

Best Blog — MadGeniusClub

Best TV Show — Supergirl

Best Anime — The Ancient Magus Bride

Best Graphic Art Publication — Jean Grey

We congratulate the winners! By custom, we do not announce vote totals or indicate who finished second.

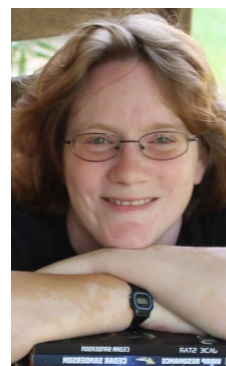
Privacy Issue

As has not been brought up before, to my knowledge, in the first 77 years of our existence, there is a privacy issue. We are a social club, promoting interactions among our members. To do that for new members we publish names, contact information, and STFnal interests in the newsletter, which goes up on our web site and out to archival locations. We now have a member who wishes we had not done this. I am now modifying the “join” page to make clear that if you wish to be anonymous, you should become a Public Member. If you see other such issues, please speak up.

Elections! See Page 12

By vote of the Directorate, N3F Historian Jon Swartz has been elected as a Life Member of the N3F. He joins long-time Life Member Jacqueline Lichtenberg in this role. An appreciation of his fannish life begins on the next page.

Cedar Sanderson Wins Kaymar Award



By vote of prior award winners, Cedar Sanderson has received the 2018 Kaymar Award for work for the benefit of the club and its members. The award, which may only be won once, is a memorial to long-time Neffer K. Martin Carlson [1904-1986] [1904-1986], who originated, maintained, and financed it for 25 years.

Your Volunteer Team

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 Robert J. Hansen <rjh@sixdemonbag.org>
 Writers Exchange : J. Carroll autumnseas8012@yahoo.com

Many New Volunteers are needed: Electronic Publication Support, Convention Hospitality, Outreach, Correspondence, Films... Support the N3F. Volunteer Now!

An Appreciation of Jon Swartz

His Biography as appearing in Fancyclopedia: <http://fancyclopedia.org/jon-d-swartz>

"A member of First Fandom, Jon David Swartz was president of the N3F in 2010 and 2011 and as of 2013 was the N3F Historian and serves on its Directorate. From 2003 until 2011 he was Book Review Editor for The National Fantasy Fan. He also serves (since 2002) as special features editor of First Fandom's publication Scientifiction: The First Fandom Report. He and John L. Coker, III, current president of First Fandom, edited the 2015 and 2016 First Fandom Membership Directories. Swartz edited the expanded 2017 Membership Directory. In addition, he and Coker wrote a series of biographies of original members of First Fandom for Scientifiction and a First Fandom Annual for 2016. First Fandom Annual 2017 currently is in the works.

His fanzine, The Ultraverse, has been longtime a member of the Carboniferous Amateur Press Alliance, (CAPA). His The E-Ultraverse e-zine appeared in the N'APA mailings from 2008 until 2011. When writing on psychological topics, he calls his fanzine Cognitive Dissonance. He was named to the Fan Contact position for the revived fanzine, Ionisphere (edited by John Thiel for N3F), in 2016. In 2018 N3F president George Phillies appointed him to the club's new 3-person Information Technology Committee, along with David Speakman and Jefferson Swycaffer.

His academic and non-fiction publications number more than 500, including 40+ books and monographs. His popular culture publications also number more than 500, giving him 1,000+ signed publications in his career. He has published three books on old-time radio (OTR), and several short stories

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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 N3F, POB 1925, Mountain View CA 94042. 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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featuring OTR characters.

His genre publications include Pseudonyms of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Authors, 2010 (N3F Fandbook No. 5); The Hugo Awards for Best Novel, 2013 (N3F Fandbook No. 6); The Nebula Awards for Best Novel, 2016 (N3F Fandbook No. 7); The Buck Rogers Big Little Books and Other Collectibles, 2013. He is a regular contributor of articles on science fiction and fantasy topics to The Big Little Times and Paperback Parade. He and Jim Harmon co-authored "On the Trail of Professor Proteus," a science fiction story set during World War II, in *It's That Time Again 3* (2006), edited by Harmon. He and Harmon had corresponded since 1964, when both of them were named Charter Members of the Executive Board of the Academy of Comic-Book Fans and Collectors by Jerry Bails. When active in comic book fandom, Jon sometimes used the pseudonyms of A. Reader and David Black.

He has attended many local SF conventions/meetings; and he and his son Eric attended the 1997 Worldcon (LoneStarCon2) in San Antonio, Texas.

Genre Awards: Franson Award, 2004, 2007, 2017; Kaymar Award, 2010; First Fandom Sam Moskowitz Archive Award, 2017.

In addition, he wrote a profile of Sam Moskowitz that was included in the second edition of Hal Hall's bibliography/guide of the work of Moskowitz, published in 2017.

He got his Ph.D. in 1969 from the University of Texas at Austin and was Chief of Psychological Services at Central Counties Center for Mental Health-Mental Retardation until his retirement in 1999. Previously, he was Associate Dean for Libraries and Learning Resources at Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas, where he was also Brown Professor of Psychology and Education.

When he was on the faculty at The University of Texas, he was friends with Chad Oliver, who was on the faculty at the same time. He and Oliver were active at the time in the University's science fiction club, and arranged for science fiction writers such as Walter M. Miller, Jr., and Randall Garrett to speak to club members. Jon wrote an article about Oliver that was published in *Paperback Parade #66* (September 2006 issue). Other articles for *Paperback Parade* have been on the works of such SF authors as Wilson (Bob) Tucker, George O. Smith, E. E. (Doc) Smith, Jim Harmon, Ron Goultart, Rog Phillips, and Neal Barrett, Jr. His most recent article for *Paperback Parade* was "Science Fiction in Dime Novels, Penny Dreadfuls, and Shilling Shockers (August, 2017 issue).

He is currently writing a series of articles on "neglected" genre authors for *The National Fantasy Fan*. Authors remembered so far include E. F. Benson, Robert W. Chambers, Marjorie Bowen, D. K. Broster, Miles J. Breuer, Thorp

McClusky, A. Clark Russell, J. D. Beresford, F. Marion Crawford, Don Wilcox, Amelia Reynolds Long, E. Hoffmann Price, and David H. Keller, M.D. In preparation are articles on Curt Siodmak, Michael Fessier, and Mindret Lord.

A brief biography of Swartz appeared in *Scientifiction* (New Series #53, 3rd Quarter, 2017), which also announced he was recipient of the 2017 Sam Moskowitz Archive Award.

He writes many of the obituaries that appear in *Scientifiction* in his role as STF's Special Features Editor."

Jon's services to the N3F are too numerous to count. He has served on the N3F Directorate. He administers our highest award, the Kaymar Award. He is our Historian, and has edited Fandbooks. He is a BuHead of the Fan History and Research Bureau. He serves as the Lord High Proofreader.

Zines

Tightbeam

[Editor's Aside: Some people have already seen this, and sent comments, which will appear either in *Tightbeam* or here in the next issue. GP]

Tightbeam Editor Bob Jennings writes:

Tightbeam #287 came out several weeks ago and has been distributed to our club membership via email. The issue includes strong articles by Taral Wayne and Jeffrey Redmond, with reviews of books and movies by Tom Feller, Tom McGovern and Gary Robe, plus fanzine reviews and a short piece of fiction by Bob Jennings.

Response from our club membership thus far has been non-existent. In fact, response to previous issues has also been exceptionally low. Lloyd Penney sent a letter of comment about issue #286, but no other comments were received from any member of our club, not even from our club officers.

This lack of response raises the interesting question as to whether the club membership really cares about *Tightbeam*. Traditionally an active letter column is a sure sign that the people who read a fanzine appreciate the efforts the writers, artists and editors are making to turn out each new issue. Non response is also a pretty clear sign that those fans receiving the fanzine have no interest in the material being offered.

Overall response to *Tightbeam* from our club membership has been almost completely lacking. That being the case, I think we need to raise the question of whether the N3F membership cares about *Tightbeam* at all. Is anyone out there even reading it? If no one is reading it, and no one cares enuf to bother writing the occasional LOC, then I would suggest that perhaps the club should not bother publishing *Tightbeam* any more.

The core group of fans who turn out articles and art for

Tightbeam have been enthusiastic and dedicated, and have been unceasingly generous donating their time and efforts to help produce each new issue. I must note that the core group is quite small. Despite almost monthly invitations and requests imploring our club members to get involved with their own art, articles, and reviews for upcoming issues, almost nobody has bothered to do so.

Again, if almost nobody wants to get involved in the creating/art/writing side of the fanzine, and nobody even cares enough about it to bother writing a letter of comment, then why is the club wasting its time and resources producing this fanzine? I suggest that unless some positive counter-points are raised from the club membership that Tightbeam should be cancelled. ...Bob Jennings

Other N3F Zines

N³APA is being collated as I type. You may see the new issue before this issue of TNFF comes out.

Origin and Ionisphere reports are found with their respective Bureau reports. TNFF appears in front of you. We are preparing to warm up to publish another issue of Eldritch Science, probably this Fall.

Club News

Treasury

from Treasurer David Speakman

\$ 3,056.18 (June 7, 2018)
 + 48.00 PayPal Dues
 + 18.00 Cash Dues
 + 24.00 Check Dues
 + 0.00 Money Order Dues
 - 2.94 PayPal Fees
 - 0.00 Banking Fee
 - 18.00 Postage

 \$3,125.24 (July 12, 2018)

Member Report

David Speakman writes:

New, Renewed, & Reinstated Members & Info Updates

Renewed:

#23 - Jefferson Swycaffer - Exp. 2/28/2020
 #32 - Ray F. Nelson - Regular - Exp. 6/30/2019
 #51 - George Phillis - Regular - Exp 4/30/2019
 #191 - John Theil - Electronic - Exp 12/31/2019
 #204 - Michael Simon - Regular - Exp. 3/31/2020

New:

#247 - Mark A Kadey - Electronic - Exp. 8/31/2019
 Email: curve1967@gmail.com

BDay: Dec. 8

Interests: Books, Collecting, Computers and technology, Conventions and clubs, DVDs and videos, Fanzines, Filk singing, Games and video games, Reading and book clubs, Role-playing games, Round robins (group letters), Television, Writing

Fan since: 40 years

Fanac Since: 35 years

Cons: Torcon 3, Timecon, Fan Expo

Genre: Historical Fantasy

Creators: Marion Zimmer Bradley, CJ Cherryh, Anne McCaffrey, J Lichtenberg

#248 - William Eric Jamborsky - Regular - Exp. 8/31/2019

Email: mrsolo1@comcast.net

IRL: Retired

BDay: Dec. 15

Interests: Audio, Books, Collecting, Computers and technology, DVDs and videos, Online activities, Television, Writing

Fan Since: 1955/56

Fanac Since: 1972

Clubs: Nashville Science Fiction, East Tennessee Science Fiction Association

Cons: A founding member of Kubla Khan in Nashville, Director of Harcon in Harriman, TN, Xanadu, Chattacon, Southern-Con (1980), whatever con it was they put on in Knoxville in the late seventies, Atlanta Fantasy Fair (1982), Dragon Con (1990), Hypericon. A few more I can't remember in Rome, GA, Huntsville, AL, Famous Monsters Convention.

Zines: No current. Read and collect pulp magazines so most of my reading is earlier than 1960

Genres: Depends on my mood

Creators: Wilson Tucker, Henry Kuttner, Gordon Dickson, Ray Bradbury, Heinlein, Robert Bloch, Matheson, Mary Elizabeth Counselman, Lovecraft, Sam Merwin, Jr, Allen Steele, Tolkein, Homer (as in the Blind Poet), Algernon Blackwood, August Derleth, Conan Doyle, Poe, A. Merritt, Curt Siodmak, A. E. van Vogt, Stanley G. Weinbaum

#249 - Walt Boyes - Public

Email: wboyes@ix.netcom.com

N3F Club Interests: Writing for club publications , Organizing activities , Publishing

Current Members Updating Info:
 (none this month)

Expired/Expiring
 Renew Now!!

Expired in May
 #216 - Jeff Pritchard

Expired in June
 #217 - Lawrence Dagstine
 #219 - Christopher Flatt
 #218 - Joseph P. Martino
 #159 - Steven Roberts
 #221 - Michael Saler

Expiring in July

#65 - George Wells
 #129 - John W. Andrews

Member Status Changes

#212 - Jay Hardy - Regular to Public (Exp April 2018)
 #213 - Anne Guglik - Electronic to Public (Exp. April 2018)

Round Robin BuHead Patricia Williams-King reports that she and Charlie Williams will, on September 1, have a formal wedding ceremony.

Membership Recruiting

Kevin Trainor and I are getting a better communicative position from being in N³APA together. Jeffrey Redmond continues to advertise the N3F on his sites and elsewhere. I am advertising when and where I can. We do have communication problems. The NFFF ad for Amazing fell through due to broken down communicative contact with Steve Davidson. I haven't been able to retain good contact with him myself. He seems to be getting some blocking and interference. I have seen a lot of complaints at the Facebook sites about blocking, but hope that situation will get rectified.—John Thiel

I have nothing to report this month, not having done anything in my official capacities...Kevin Trainor

We now have 63 Voting Members and 150 public members, which is a recent record.

Anime and Comics Bureau Summer 2018 Anime – What I'm Looking Forward To

Report by Jessi Silver

Another season, another batch of new anime to watch! I always say that there's really no way to truly anticipate what each new season will bring; upcoming series that look great on paper or which have a well-produced trailer might turn out to be less interesting than anticipated, while series that don't immediately speak to me might turn out to be new favorites. But that doesn't stop me from getting excited over unknown quantities every three months. Below is a list of upcoming anime that's caught my eye for one reason or another; I'm using this anime chart as a resource for anime that's coming out this season. Let me know what you're looking forward to watching as this fresh season gets underway!

I was only vaguely aware of the Banana Fish manga when I was really coming into my fandom self in the late nineties and early aughts, and I mostly got the impression that it was BL-flavored and dramatic (I'm not entirely sure how accurate that impression was, but at this point I doubt it matters all that much). In any case, this "bad-boy meets good-guy" tale sounds like just the thing that would have set my heart aflutter in my younger days. As a fangirl grown, however,

what has me more interested in this adaptation is the fact that it's not only a full adaptation of the manga (thank goodness for closure!), but also directed by a woman – Hiroko Utsumi, who directed the first two seasons of Free! Talent, of course, is neither limited nor bolstered by gender, but I do appreciate the fact that a property targeted towards women originally is often served well in its adaptation being in the hands of another woman. And I'm happy to support women in visible positions in the anime industry!

Every human is just a meat sack full of fluids and blood, but perhaps you didn't realize that your blood is made up of different types of cells that all have different jobs they do in order to keep you healthy and functioning. This anime, based on a manga of the same name, takes those cells and personifies them for our viewing pleasure. As someone who thoroughly enjoyed both seasons of Moyashimon, I have the feeling that I'll likely enjoy this very loose interpretation of what occurs inside my guts and tubes. Human bodies are both miraculous and ridiculous, and I think giving all of our little bits and pieces personalities and letting them play against one-another as if they were themselves sentient is quirky and hilarious in a way that I have some difficulty explaining. I'm hoping for a fun series that has more than just one joke.

Streaming TBA (though I have to believe it'll be a Crunchyroll/Funimation shared stream like the other seasons)

I'm still a fan of this original breakout manservice/sports franchise, though I have to say it's a little bittersweet that this season will have a different director (as I've mentioned already, however, Utsumi is busy directing this season's Banana Fish so I'm happy she's still working on something pretty high-profile!). It remains to be seen whether someone else can so adeptly capture the appeal of muscles and moisture that this series is known for. Ultimately, though, Free! is much more than six-packs and Speedos; I love the series for its great characters (Makoto 5-ever!), excellent animation, and spirited sports action, all traits that help bolster its story of young men giving their all and building relationships and friendships.

...deltoids and diving okay I'm done sorry!

I am unabashedly still a fan of Attack on Titan. I didn't get bored waiting for season 2. I don't mind the fact that it's basically "Cliffhanger: The Anime." I like that the second season was a huge departure from the first. While I consider myself pretty opposed to depictions of ultra-violence, as well as emotional manipulation of the type that AoT is known for (by which I mean its ability to reveal enough to string you along while also not answering many of the questions it dangles in front of your face), for some reason it's never really bothered me when it comes to this series. For season 2 it was my tradition to watch the week's new episode as close as possible to the time it was released for streaming; I think there's something really fun about that (and it prevents inadvertent spoilage). In any case, I'm really looking forward to the characters maaaaaybe inching just a little bit closer to Eren's basement (but I'm not going to keep my hopes up too

high).

There's usually at least one series a season that I'm interested in despite some apprehensions, and for Summer season 2018, it's Hanebado. I'm almost always interested when anime tackles an unusual subject; even if the structure is similar to series that have come before, at least the subject matter is unique. And I can say with certainty that I've never seen an anime about badminton before, so I've had my eye on this series for a while. Unfortunately what's giving me reason to question myself is also the aspect of the series that in other circumstances might be worth celebrating – its mostly-female cast. I'm glad for more action-oriented stories about young women, but even glancing at trailers for the show I've seen some focus on the girls' chests in a way that doesn't sit well with me. I'm hoping for more sports and interpersonal drama, and less boob-staring. Especially since the trailer looks really cool!

It tickles me to no end that the JoJo's Bizarre Adventure franchise has gotten so popular, especially with women. I'm hoping that the same sort of fandom attraction to the combination of weird artwork and masculine energy will someday happen to the manga/anime of Nobuyuki Fukumoto. Fukumoto's stories portray the ups and downs of men embroiled in the seedy underbelly of society, usually through life-or-death gambling of some sort.

Tonegawa, the titular character of this series, was originally an adversary in Gambling Apocalypse Kaiji, which I highly recommend if you like seeing a hapless guy suffer and just barely survive some of the most ridiculous betting games ever created. As far as what Tonegawa might have in store for us as a protagonist (anti-hero? Bad guy?), I'm not sure. But I'm curious to find out, especially since the title reeks of office politics and drudgery.

Birthday Card Bureau

Birthday cards sent: 6
Renewal letters sent: 9
...Laurraine Tutihasi

Fan History and Research

Jon Swartz and I are partnering very well and have worked out a good issue of Origin which I hope will expand. The bureau is an interactive one and we hope to get a lot of communication there from the membership. We look for informal talk and questions about our work in history and research and any ideas the membership might have about delving into the past or agencies that might help us out with our efforts, such as the ones I have listed in the issue of Origin accompanying TNFF this month.—John Thiel

Jon Swartz writes: John Thiel has accepted me as a member of the club's new Fan Research Bureau, of which he is the head. I have sent him material for Origin and offered to proof each issue.

Games Bureau

Wesley Kawato writes: In Overlords of Infamy, each player is an Evil Villain out to Conquer the World. This is a worker placement game for 1-5 players. Players recruit lackeys, harvest resources, and explore their realms for more resource sites. Resources are used to complete plots of various levels of complexity. Completed plots score misery points. The goal is to have the most misery points when the game ends. Actions taken by the overlords increase the number of world event points. Each time ten world event points are saved a world event card is drawn; the consequences affect the overlord players. Also, every three world event points triggers a move by a nonplayer character called the adventuring hero. The adventuring hero can kill your lackeys, destroy your resource sites, and steal your resources. The game ends when a certain number of world event cards have been drawn. That number depends on the number of players in the game.

Stronghold Games will soon release the third expansion kit, Prelude, of their popular Terraforming Mars game. Prelude adds five new corporations to the game and seven condition cards. Condition cards are new. They modify the special abilities of the game's 22 corporations.

Fan-Pro Coordinating

Jon Polselli has had some moving problems which have kept him from activity this month, but I think we will be hearing more from him in months to come. Jeffrey Redmond has been coming through better, which I think you will see from his column in the August Ionisphere. My publicizing of this department outside of the N3F has been paying off in the form of greater ease in acquiring interviews, and the bureau is achieving a better form now that we are getting things more formulated. Optimism about this bureau is in good order.—John Thiel, bureau chief

Writers Exchange

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.

I would like to share a poem I recently discovered. It was written by Robert Browning Hamilton

I walked a mile with Pleasure;
She chattered all the way;
But left me none the wiser
For all she had to say.

I walked a mile with Sorrow;
And ne'er a word said she;
But, oh! the things I learned from her,
When sorrow walked with me.

“A writer is a person who cares what words mean, that they say, how they say it. Writers know words are their way towards truth and freedom, and so they use them with care, with thought, with fear, with delight. By using words well they strengthen their souls. Story-tellers and poets spend their lives learning that skill and art of using words well. And their words make the souls of their readers stronger, brighter, deeper.”

— Ursula K. Le Guin

The Writers Exchange is for anyone who has an interest in writing. If you are looking for someone to read your work, or if you would like to read the work of others, contact Judy Carroll Autumnseas@yahoo.com

Welcommittee

The purpose of the Welcommittee is to welcome new members to the club. A letter is sent, by email or postal mail, to new members informing them of club activities they may be interested in joining. Those members with email addresses are also sent attachments to the current TNFF and other publications the N3F has to offer.

We would like to welcome our four newest members to the N3F- Jessi Silver, Mark A Kadey, William Eric Jamborsk and Walt Boyes

Needed: Someone to help send greetings to new members.

If you would like to help welcome new members to this wonderful club please contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Gourmet Bureau

Eat This While You Read That: Michael Z Williamson

foraged meal
Chicken over open fire
Cooking over the coals on bayonets (not really, but it's fun to pretend)

This week's ETWYRT is a little different. It was, for one thing, a meal that had me doing much more contemplation than usual before I embarked on it. When I asked MadMike for a dish, I knew he was busy and wouldn't send a recipe, except... he did. And an unspoken challenge. He knows me well enough to know I was capable of doing it, but I wanted to do it right, so I took my time and thought it through before starting.

Micheal Z Williamson

You see, Mike's latest book, A Long Time Till Now, is a departure from his previous work. It's a hard science fiction novel about a military unit which slides into a different time – the Paleolithic, to be precise. They must survive using only

what they have on hand (very little) and their wits. In preparation for the book, Mike spent a lot of time on research, with much hands-on research into tools, diet, and more. This is what he challenged me with – cooking a meal which would fit into that framework.

I immediately hit a snag. Well, two of them. One was time. While I know my way around cooking over an open fire, and foraging wild edibles, this summer has been chock-full of weddings and activities and... argh. The second snag was space. We have a little back yard and no way of building an open fire. So I compromised. Rather than sticking to foods from the Paleolithic, I went with gathering wild edibles and cooking over a fire built in my little grill. Constrained, but fitting into the challenge.

In the article Mike sent me where he lays out his research, is a recipe for stone age chicken, so I chose to cook chicken with a side of chicory and sauteed mushrooms with tubers.

Chicory grows profusely in my yard. You want to collect the rosette of leaves from a plant that has not yet bloomed, and they closely resemble dandelion which can be cooked in the same way.

Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*) and Dandelion can be prepared in much the same way, and indeed, are cultivated and eaten in Europe, where they originate. It is a rather bitter herb, although if harvested in very early spring can be eaten in a salad. Since it was nearly August when I prepared it, I chose to make it as a potherb, although this is not my preference for eating greens. However, it was once very common cooking method, for various reasons, and now that we know it kills germs, I can't argue too much with my long-gone foremothers.

Once you have enough chicory (and it won't be enough, because boy does this stuff cook down) then you will want to rinse it thoroughly. I found a lovely big spider while I was cleaning my greens... Also, this lets you pull out any mingled grass or leaves you cut along with the rosette. I chopped my chicory leaves into roughly 1" lengths and put them in boiling water for a few moments. This removes much of the bitterness, and you can drain and discard the cooking water before the next step, leaving the leaves in the colander to drain thoroughly. You can see the milky sap oozing from the cut stem-ends. Any plant with milky sap will be bitter, as it likely contains latex.

As you drain the chicory, put fat in the bottom of your pan to heat. I used bacon grease, but if you were truly foraging, the leaf fat found around the kidneys of a rabbit or other animal would work nicely for this purpose. Oils and fats are vital to life and diet when living a very active lifestyle as the foragers would have done in his book. While we may abstain in a modern diet, doing that in a survival situation could kill you.

Fried Chicory

Fried chicory greens, rather greasy, but that's a good thing.

Fry the chicory in the grease, with a little salt, and vinegar if

you have it. Really, this came out well, but I omitted the acid and it would have been better with that.

While you are doing this, heat a cast-iron skillet (in the book, they would have made do with stones, I suppose, or a small metal pot. Once upon a time soldiers carried canteen cups which would be handy, but I suspect those are no longer part of the kit). In the skillet, more fat, then slices of tuber (potato, but jerusalem artichoke, ground nut, or yams would all have worked in a forage situation) and mushrooms.

I'll pause here to mention that collecting and eating wild mushrooms is an endeavour fraught with perils. There are many, many kinds of fungus, and few are edible. Of those that are edible, some can sicken one person, and not another. I used Oyster Mushrooms in this dish, and a close relative to them, Angel Wings, can damage the kidneys of certain people who are genetically susceptible to them. In other words, you would never know, you'd just get sick. Inky Caps, another delectable wild fungus, cannot be eaten in conjunction with alcohol or it will poison you. I cannot stress enough how important it is to be certain of your identification of wild mushrooms before you ingest – or even handle – them.

For the chicken, I chose to cook over hardwood lump charcoal on skewers. Cooking over stones is fine, but the only ones I have available are river rocks and those can be dangerously explosive when heated. Also, skewers can be had from most trees and bushes. In general, you want to avoid making them from any conifer or evergreen, and cherry trees. But willow is a common creekbed denizen, and maple is perfectly fine... Cut and use green skewers, so they don't burn over the fire and drop your meat on the coals. Ashes are not good eats.

Making marinade

Herb, lemon, and oil marinade

Marinading chicken

Marinading the chicken for more flavor. Can also be done in a covered bowl.

Take your chicken and break it down into strips of meat (I was using chicken breast, so that was easy. Foragers would use the whole thing and likely not bother deboning). I made a marinade for the chicken to infuse it with more flavor. This would be possible even in a forage setting, if your forager has access to acid (lemon juice, vinegar, etc.) and oils. I put lemon juice, olive oil, a dollop of stone-ground mustard (a common weed which can readily be harvested for the leaves and seeds to add a lot of flavor), and handfuls of herbs which mimic the flavors of wild herbs, as given below. I also added a dollop of fish sauce. Garum, the distant (squint and you can see the relationship) progenitor of our modern Asian condiment, was an ancient condiment, salt-substitute, and exported over the known world. So fish sauce in an ancient dish would not have been too outre.

Tarragon= wild carrot leaves (Queen Anne's Lace)

Oregano and peppermint = wild mint

Thyme = wild thyme (quite common in Europe and west-

ern Asia where the book is set)

Now, for authenticity you would grind all this in a mortar with pestle, but I used my blender (Time! So little time and foraging can take all day to prepare a big meal). You can marinade as I did in a ziploc bag, or you can do so in a covered bowl. I left it for thirty minutes while I was beginning the other preparation.

I cheated with the grill, having made too much chicken (but leftovers were good!).

If you are in a forage situation, your fire is likely already going, small, almost smokeless, and a tight mound of hot coals in a ring of rocks. I used the hardwood charcoal in a grill. Keep in mind you do not need visible flames – indeed, they are most undesirable – when you are cooking over an open fire. Coals give a more even, reliable heat.

Thread the strips of chicken onto the skewers and place over the fire. You do not want them too close to the coals, and you don't want them to fall into the fire, so keep an eye on them. Turn them a quarter-turn every five minutes, until they are cooked through (about 20-30 minutes) and golden brown in places.

Serve with the chicory and fry-up. I sprinkled allium flowers over the plates before serving, because I could. Also, yummy garnish.

This made a delicious meal. The chicory served under the chicken made a lovely green bed and was very tasty. The chicken was lemony, herby, and very close to souvlaki in flavor profile although I hadn't intentionally engineered that. We all ate our fill and there was leftover chicken which went in the freezer for another day. A very repeatable meal, and although I made a lot of short-cuts, this is entirely conceivable as a foraged meal, with the exception of the chicken. We live too much in town for me to come up with a wild creature as the center of a meal, and I think the First Reader would draw the line at the plump gray squirrel which raids my birdfeeder. Chicken, chicory, and mushrooms

Round Robins

What is a Round Robin?

Round Robins are discussion lists. They are a way of connecting with people who have similar interests. Traditional round robins are sent through the mail. Each round robin consists of a packet of letters from its members - which is mailed from member to member. As each member gets the packet, they read all the letters, then remove their own previous letter, write a new one, and send the packet on to the next member.

The N3F offers two kinds of Round Robins; traditional - where members send letters in the mail, and electronic - where members send letters by email. Both kinds are fun and informative and a good way to meet other members and to discuss topics of mutual interest.

Patricia Williams-King reports that the following Round Robins are active:

- #1 Cats in SF , Fantasy & Folklore members 3.
 - #2 Worldwide Folklore members 3.
 - #3 The speculative in Films members 3.
 - #6 Star Trek: DS9 & TNG members 3.
 - #6-A Fairy and Folk Tales members 3.
 - #8 Mysticism and Religion in SF /Fantasy members 3.
 - #11 Mercedes Lackey members 3.
 - #12 Mythology members 5.
 - #13-A SYFY Channel members 3.
 - #16-A Star Wars : Rogue One & TFA's members 3.
 - #17 TV SF&F members 3.
 - #29 Science & Technology in Society members 4.
 - #40 High Technology in the Ancient World members 3.
- To join a Postal Round Robin contact - Patricia Williams-King,
755 Glen View Drive, Nashville, TN 37206

We need at least 3 members to start an ERR. Following is the list of current ERR and the number of members in each one:

Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror in TV, Movies and Books - 3 members

Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Artists - 2 members - ONLY 1 MORE MEMBER NEEDED

Writers and Their Works - Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror - 1 member

Japanese Anime - 1 member

Fairy Tales and Folklore - 2 members

The following Round Robins have 0 members each.

The Marvel Universe

DC Superheroes and Villains

Cartoons and Cartooning

Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Video Games

Comics and Graphic Novels

A Round Robin needs at least 3 members to start rounding. Please help these members by joining one of the above Round Robins.

If you see an Electronic Round Robin you would like to join please contact Judy Carroll AutumnSeas8012@yahoo.com

Sercon

N3F Founding Members:

Charles Hansen

by

Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.

N3F Historian

Early science fiction (SF) fan Charles Ford Hansen was born in 1915, and died on July 21, 1984.

“Chuck” Hansen was a Denver, Colorado SF fan who discovered fandom through Amazing Stories in the early 1930s. He was a

member of FAPA for which he published his fanzine Damballa, a member of the SCA (under the name Lord Charles Bradford), and also a Sherlockian (and one-time president of the Denver Scion Society, called Dr. Watson's Neglected Patients).

Damballa was published for three issues during 1948 - 1950.

With Roy Hunt and Olon Wiggins, Hansen formed the Denver Triumvirate and published The Alchemist to promote Denver's bid to hold the 1941 Worldcon. He did not attend Denvention, however, having moved to Washington State with his family.

He returned to Denver from Washington State in 1942 and worked for the USDA, retiring there around 1980.

He was a founding member of the Colorado Fantasy Society and remained a member until his death.

In addition, of course, Hansen was one of the sixty-four charter members of our club, The National Fantasy Fan Federation (N3F), in 1941.

Sources: All Our Yesterdays, The 1940 Who's Who in Fandom, Fanzine Index, Fancyclopedia 3, ISFDB, and other websites.

Neglected Genre Authors:

Michael Fessier

by

Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.

N3F Historian

Michael Fessier (1907-1988) began his writing career in the 1930s, writing for magazines, and then became a Hollywood screenwriter. He and Emic Pagano collaborated on several Fred Astaire and Rita Hayworth musicals; and in the 1940s Fessier turned to producing in addition to screen writing. In the 1950s he became a television scriptwriter, writing novels and short stories in between his various television projects. Some of his non-genre books were The Angels Wash Their Faces, Jessica's Story: The Village of Short Creek, Battle of City Hall, and It All Came True.

A few of the motion pictures for which he wrote or co-wrote the screenplays were You'll Never Get Rich (1941), You Were Never Lovelier (1942), The Merry Monahans (1944), That Night With You (1945), The Boy from Oklahoma (1954), and Red Garters (1954). His first major screen credit was Society Doctor in 1935, a film that starred Robert Taylor, Chester Morris, Virginia Bruce, and Billie Burke. Fessier also produced half a dozen movies during the 1940s, including Her Primitive Man, Frontier Gal, and Slave Girl. He was also the screenwriter on these three films.

Fantasy Novels

Fully Dressed and in His Right Mind (Knopf, NY, 1935) Reprinted as a Lion Book paperback in 1954.

A bushy-haired, little old man with an intimidating stare can drive people to insanity and death. Despite being framed for murder, the luckless protagonist of the story resists this strange little man and manages to evade his spell. He is able to accomplish this with the help of a supernatural female, a shapely nymph who loves him. This curious tale has been described as an allegory based upon the message given to Depression-era America by President Roosevelt in his 1933 inaugural address: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Surprisingly, at least to me, the book was reviewed in *The Saturday Evening Post*, *The Saturday Review of Literature*, *The New York Herald Tribune*, and *The London Times*.

Clovis (Dial, NY, 1948) Reprinted as a Turtle Point Press paperback in 2000.

This is a humorous fantasy about the adventures of Clovis, a smart-talking and highly intelligent parrot. Clovis is owned by August, whose family has tried for years to breed the perfect parrot. Now Clovis has outgrown his owner and decides to escape. He wants to educate mankind but becomes frustrated in his efforts to do so. One critic described this fantasy as follows: "This curious novel is about an extremely intelligent parrot named Clovis. Published in 1948, Michael Fessier's tale is really a satire of 20th-century excess. Clovis knows that he's the culmination of generations of breeding experiments and he learns that to use reason with humans is to decrease his chances of survival. Clovis is a poignant, funny and clever parody, an ironic send-up that still rings true today."

Short Fiction

The American Magazine
"Bayou Song" [2/1949]

Collier's

"Pal That I Loathe" [1/8/1949]
"The Blue-Eyed Horse" [6/10/1955]

Cosmopolitan

"The Stinker" [6/1949]

Esquire

"The Man in the Black Hat" [2/1934]
"The Strange Case of the Bottled Wife" [2/1952]
"His Wife's Fiancé" [3/1954]

The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction

"The Blue-Eyed Horse" [7/1958] ("about a gambler's come-uppance")
"Bewitched" [11/58] ("about the 'cat' in every woman")

Saturday Evening Post (SEP)

"The Fascinating Stranger" [5/22/1948]
"Big Man on the Campus" [2/5/1949]
"Roadhouse Killer" [3/26/1949]
"The Menacing Miss Ewing" [8/19/1950]
"The Woman They Almost Lynched" [1/6/1951]
"The Prying Professor" [4/28/1951]
"Affair With a Genius" [8/25/1951]
"Caution – Just Divorced" [10/27/1951]

"Any Man Will Do" [11/24/1951]
"The Sheriff Was Scared" [5/3/1952]
"The Outlaw Who Never Shot First" [12/13/1952]
"Outlaw in Town" [1/23/1960]

Note: Another story by Fessier, "The Lady from Red Gulch," published in an earlier issue of SEP, was reprinted in the May 1974 issue.

Story Magazine

"Dressing Room" [7/1934]

Reprinted Stories

Avon Mystery Story Teller, 1946. [reprinted "The Man in the Black Hat"]

Brandt, E. N. (ed.). *The Saturday Evening Post Reader of Western Stories*, 1960. [reprinted "The Lady from Red Gulch"]

Grayson, Charles (ed.). *Stories for Men*, 1943. [reprinted "That's What Happened to Me"]

Leinster, Murray (ed.). *Great Stories of Science Fiction*, 1951. [reprinted "The Fascinating Stranger"]

Stong, Phil (ed.). *The Other Worlds*, 1941. [reprinted "The Man in the Black Hat"]

TV Writing

Fessier wrote episodes of several popular television programs, including the following:

Alfred Hitchcock Presents
Bonanza
Have Gun, Will Travel
The High Chaparral
Lost in Space
Mister Ed
The Thin Man

Conclusions

Fessier was able to move from magazine writing to Hollywood, where he wrote screenplays -- and finally to television, where he wrote for several successful programs. Unlike many other writers of his time, he lived into his eighties. It has been stated that his short story, "That's What Happened to Me," has been reprinted many times. Nevertheless, I was able to find only the one instance cited above, and I was unable to locate where this story had originally been published.

His son, Michael Fessier, Jr., was also a TV writer. He wrote "My Father, the Writer". At one time this article was available on the Internet.

Selected Bibliography

Metcalf, Norm. *The Index of Science Fiction Magazines, 1951-1965*. El Cerrito, CA: J. Ben Stark, 1968.

Stong, Phil (ed.). *The Other Worlds: 25 Modern Stories of Mystery and Imagination*. Garden City, NY: Garden City Publishing, 1942.

Tuck, Donald H. *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction and Fantasy, Volume 1: Who's Who, A – L*. Chicago, IL: Advent: Publishers, Inc., 1974.

Note: In addition to the above, several Internet websites were consulted.

Fiction

General Practice

...Review by Cedar Sanderson

I have had these books of my shelf for almost two years. You know how kids eat, where they save the best for last? These books have been my mental dessert through moving, and school, and... all sorts of mental and physical upheaval. It's been one year since I came to Ohio, and it has been a good year. My dear First Reader and I are no less in love than the day we got home. My books are unpacked, and added to, and still, I kept looking at these books and thinking "I wish I had time."

This last week I was sick, and finally made time. I pulled the James White books off the shelf, looked at them, determined that while *Alien Emergencies* comes first in the scheme of the omnibus collections I own, I didn't have the first book (yet, has been ordered) so I started with *General Practice*. Two novels in one cover, *Code Blue-Emergency* and *The Genocidal Healer*, this was everything I had hoped for since the impulse purchase at my favorite used book store.

I grew up the daughter of a medic. Dad was one of the first Paramedics in the states, and for thirty years, I knew the radio tones, the mad dash for the truck, and the spray of gravel as he ran to save a life, catch a baby, or whatever had sparked that call. He at times had to be certified to fight fires, and it was during routine certification for ice rescue that they discovered his enlarged heart, and medically retired him. I always wanted to follow in his footsteps, but I waited too long. Emergency medicine is by and large a young person's game, physically challenging. Also, with the prospect of supporting alone four children, I couldn't justify a job with little pay. Reluctantly, I gave it up.

Which has nothing to do with the book, except that medicine in fiction is something I usually enjoy very much... if it is well done. And this is supremely well done. In the first half of the book we are introduced to Cha Thrat, an alien surgeon who took on the risk of saving a badly injured human, a species she had never even seen before, and what happens to her as she comes to Sector General, the vast space-station hospital. As an introduction to that, it is an excellent place to start. Cha Thrat as a character is fascinating, as are the other aliens she comes to know, some of whom appear in the next book as well.

I'm not going to spoil the story. You will cheer on the alien

as she struggles to adjust to being away from home, adjust to various genders or lack thereof (yes, I know this is a sore topic right now, but trust me when I say that White does it well, delicately, and with real purpose to the story, not a message stick up it's arse). The scenarios are interesting, the care is oddly realistic.

The second half of the book, the second novel, is more about the workings of a mind. Not so very alien, here. I can see a human of great honor reacting to the idea that he had been responsible for the wholesale death of a species by his hasty reactions. This book is less about medicine, and more about psychology. It's still excellent, and I really liked the last line.

Need I say more? I highly recommend this book, and the others in the series. I will be tracking down the ones I don't already own.

This, this is what classic Science Fiction ought to be. A sense of wonder, heroes you can root for, great characters, and a whole universe to explore!

Pocketful of Stars by Margaret Ball

Review by Cedar Sanderson

The absolutely fun thing about *Pocketful of Stars* is that it's like a matrouyshka doll. It's got layers. You open up one, and there's another fun face looking at you, and you open that one to see yet another... you know how this goes. I found myself chortling at some of the humor in this wonderful tale by the inimitable Margaret Ball.

It's a story about math. But wait! Not that kind of math and mathematicians. No, these are not boring whatsoever, nor do they do magic. Not at all! What they do, hidden in their doorless secret offices in the research center located on a University campus, is simply applied topology. Even if an objective observer would think that feats like mentally warping space to bring yourself another packet of sugar for your coffee, making it look like it was floating across the room, was magic.

This review is cross-posted from *Fantastic Schools*, and you can find more there...

You won't find this review on Amazon, I'm afraid. I'm responsible for the cover art for the trilogy (third book comes out very soon now! I can't wait...) which means I have a conflict of interest in reviewing these books there, despite my having worked from synopses, and only reading the books when I purchased copies after release. This whole recent controversy over Amazon removing reviews because of connections between authors? Well, if the rules had been read and understood, it wouldn't have happened. But that's another topic. I'll just leave you with this: *Pocketful of Stars*, and the sequel, *An Opening in the Air*, are great fun to read. You should buy them, and then leave a review with the 'Zon because I can't. Hmph.

I'm laughing again!

Elections!

Elections are hereby called for the N3F President and the N3F Directorate.

All dues-paying members are eligible to serve.

To be a nominee, your dues must be paid up through the end of December 2019.

The deadline for nominations is August 15, 2019.

Send nominations to George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net

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Neglected Genre Authors: Michael Fessier

Fiction

General Practice, Pocketful of Stars



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