



The National **82** Fantasy Fan **Years**

Fandom's Second Oldest Print Publication
Cras ad Stellas — Tomorrow to the Stars
Volume 82 Number 6 June 2023

Vote on Constitution

The Directorate having voted to approve sending the amendment to the membership, we now have a vote on amending the N3F Constitution. The purpose of the amendment is to bring the Constitution into line with current practice, recalling that much of the Constitution and Bylaws were written when the only mail was paper mail, with separate stamps for mail sent cross-country using Airmail, so these documents have somewhat pessimistic assumptions about sending newsletters cross-country.

Vote on Laureate Awards

The N3F Laureate Award ballot will be mailed with this month's issue of The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono, our book and writing magazine. You have two weeks to read the list of nominees, found here-in, and decide on your votes.

Director's View: Becky Jones a.k.a. Professor Ornerly Dragon

Hi everybody, I'm new to N3F and I totally blame George Phillies for pulling me in! All kidding aside, I'm happy to be here and am enjoying meeting (virtually) new people.

I'm new to the group and new to the Directorate as well. I also got talked into assuming the role of Chair of the Directorate (does that sound ominous or what?) Currently, the Directors, at the suggestion of the President, are

working our way through some long-needed by-laws changes to bring them up-to-date and inline with how we are actually doing things. It's nothing drastic, just an alignment with reality.

As for me, I'm a retired/resigned political science professor, with a specialization in democratic transitions and eastern Europe. I spent about twenty years in academia before deciding that faculty politics had lost their allure. Prior to grad school and academia I held a variety of jobs that included building sets for TV shows, managing mobile home parks, and building airplanes for McDonnell Douglas. Currently, I live in north Texas with my husband and two cats. No more snow, and more importantly, no more commuting in snow!

I have always read science-fiction, fantasy, and anything to do with magic. I worked my way through whatever my small-town library had on its shelves. In elementary school I used to regularly get in trouble for reading in class when we were supposed to be doing something else. Reading was my preferred form of entertainment. Yes, I was one of those kids who would read the cereal box if I didn't have anything else at hand. I blame my parents; my mom always had a couple of books on her nightstand, while my dad usually had four or five going at once.

Now I write contemporary fantasy in addition to continuing to read just about anything I can get my hands on. I truly enjoy creating, and fleshing out on paper, worlds that have been in my head for ages. I'm currently working on the fourth book in my series "Academic Magic" and also trying to put together a paranormal cozy mystery series. I have an idea for a space opera, but that is still in



Birthday Card Bureau Reminder

Dues-Paying neffers are reminded that if they want to be on the Birthday Bureau Card list, their birthday (month and day only are needed) need to be on file with the N3F. If you are a dues-paying member, please send your birth date to Denise Fisk (greenrose205@gmail.com) and Kevin Trainor (wombat.soho@gmail.com) for our records.



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 Continued Next Column, Middle

the floaty stage. For that one, I need to sit down and speak with the characters I've met so far and see what's going on.

Again, I'm happy to be here and maybe I'll meet some of you in person at LibertyCon.

Son of Silvercon PR #3

Long-time Neffer Kevin Trainor is launching a science fiction convention. Convention news follows: Well, lots of changes since the last PR appeared in N'APA. Most

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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 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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importantly, we have a venue: the Best Western Plus on Boulder Highway in Henderson. This forced us to move the dates to October 13-15, but fortunately this was not a problem for our guests. The room rates are...not what we would have wished, since NASCAR is in town that weekend, but hey - we have the space we need and that's all that really matters. Finally, we have T-shirts! They're \$20 for sizes S-5X, have some great art from our Guest of Honor Maggie Hogarth, and are eminently suitable for wear even in the light of the Evil Day Star.

Rates are still \$35 for N3F members, \$20 for a supporting membership, and \$100 for a vendor's table if you have books or games you'd like to flog to the masses. Send your checks to Friends of Fission-chan, PO Box 143, Tonopah 89049, or hit us up on PayPal at fission.chan@gmail.com.

Laureate Award Nominations

Best Novel:

The Other Side Of Night by Adam Hamdy
 Ordinary Monsters by J. M. Miro
 Fairy Tale by Stephen King
 The Janus File by David Weber and Jacob Holo
 Lords of Uncreation by Adrian Tchaikovsky
 Ashes of Man by Christopher Ruocchio

Best Shorter Work or Anthology:

Venomous Lumpsucker by Ned Beaman
 Return to Glory by Jack McDevitt
 The Moonday Letters by Emmi Itaranta
 The Best Science Fiction and Fantasy, edited by Rebecca Roanhorse
 Stellar Instinct by Jonathan Nevair

Best anime/comic book/graphic novel:

Monstress by Marjorie Lie & Sana Takeda
 New Think Volume 1.0 an anthology

Best anime

Chainsaw Man

Best manga:

EVOL by Atsushi Kaneko
 Mindset

Best Fan Writer :

John Thiel
 Martin Lock
 Robin Rose Graves, the Book Wormhole

Best fan website:

SciFi4Me from Jason Hunt and Mindy Hunt
 Fanac.org and the Fancyclopedia from Joe Siclari, Edie Stern, and Mark Olson
 efanazines.com from Bill Burns
 Galactic Journey

Best Non-N3F Fanzine:

Portable Storage from William Beeding
 Beam from Nic Farey and Ulrika O'Brien
 Pablo Lennis
 Simultaneous Times Newsletter

Best N3F Fanzine:

Eldritch Science
 Tightbeam
 Ionisphere

Best Fan Artist:

Brad Foster
 Alan White
 Jose Sanchez

Best Book Editor:

Lisa Kaits
 Toni Weisskopf

Best Pro Artist:

Stephen Youll
 Jim Burns
 Austin Arthur Hart

Best Television Show, Film, or Video:

Star Wars : Mandalorian
 Heath Row's productions
 Avenue 5

Best None Of The Above:

Best SF Poet, Michael Butterworth
 Manuscript Press (Rick Norwood) and aruffo.com for reprinting (work in progress) the entire run of the daily comic strip Alley Oop.
 Best Podcast - Simultaneous Times

Laureate Award Endorsements

from Jean-Paul L. Garnier

Butterworth for Best SF Poet

I am thrilled to see that Mr. Butterworth has been nominated for *Best SF Poet*. His work is worthy of this distinction. As someone who has been writing and publishing poetry for over 50 years, he has displayed a remarkable consistency for thoughtful and quality output,

with poetry that has not only been timely, but has remained timeless. His contributions to SF and poetry have not only been as a writer but also as editor, publisher, producer, and bookseller – fulfilling every role in the worlds of books and literature. As a science fiction writer and poet, he has both broken new ground and worked within mainstream convention, excelling regardless of the task at hand. This versatility as a writer makes him an ideal candidate for *Best SF Poet* – the poet’s duty is to extract and reduce our feelings and concerns into a concise form that allows the reader to glean additional meaning and sentiment, compressing the infinitude of time into discreet understandable messages. Butterworth’s poetry does just that, in both worldly and personal ways. Not only has his work documented the times but has forewarned of disaster and at times offered solutions towards a better future.

Not only have I published Mr. Butterworth’s work, but I am also his competitor in the “other” category (best podcast), so I freely admit my bias, but I still stand by my words, and his, and wholeheartedly believe that he is deserving of this award.

<https://michael-butterworth.co.uk/>

Stellar Instinct By Jonathan Nevair for Best Shorter Work

Stellar Instinct is Nevair’s fourth novel, following quickly on the heels of his smashing debut space opera trilogy, *Wind Tide*. In *Stellar Instinct* he brings all of the great worldbuilding and intrigue of space opera to a standalone spy-fi thriller, complete with secret space agents, cool gadgets, and fast paced action. In this book Nevair proves his versatility as a writer of science fiction, including aliens, human hybrids, and dense and diverse cultures amid a galactic empire. Rich characters, multiple planets, and cosmic tycoons populate these pages, and fans of both SF and spy fiction are bound to delight in this fun story.

Art historian by day and SF author by night, Nevair is one of those new powerhouse authors to keep an eye on, and I eagerly await his next novel (rumor has it its in the works). Having also read his short fiction, he proves to be one of those rare writers that can excel at both long and short form tales.

Stellar Instinct even has a splash of cosmic horror, something for everyone really. I highly recommend reading *Stellar Instinct*, and fully support its nomination for the Laureate Award. <https://www.jonathannevair.com/>

Ashes of Man By Christopher Ruocchio for Best Novel

Ruocchio’s *Sun Eater* series is the best example of modern space opera. For a fairly new author his work expresses a maturity rarely found in contemporary SF, putting him in the ranks of Herbert and Banks. Not only are the novels first rate, but the peripheral short stories are also excellent. Now a full-time author, he has also worked as an assistant editor at Baen Books, excelling behind the scenes as well. Epic space opera at its finest, *Ashes of Man* is the latest installment in the *Sun Eater* series. Ruocchio is without a doubt an author to keep an eye on, and I suspect will be producing novels of the highest quality for years to come. <https://www.sollanempire.com/>

Robin Rose Graves and The Book Wormhole for Best Fan Writer

Fans are always finding new ways to interact with books, reading, and each other. Today many have started youtube channels to share their thoughts on about the SF books they’re reading (booktube). Robin Rose Graves is one such fan, who runs the *Book Wormhole*, covering both contemporary SF and SF from the past. It’s always wonderful to see fans interact with books in new ways, and to help support authors in the ever-increasing struggle to gain visibility for their books. The *Book Wormhole* has been running for years and has covered tons of books. Think of it as a video fanzine. It will be interesting to see more of the new ways fans find to interact with, and share their tastes in literature, SF, and otherwise. If you haven’t seen the *Book Wormhole* find it at <https://www.youtube.com/@TheBookWormhole>

Gideon Marcus & Galactic Journey for Best Fan Editor / Fan Website

If you haven’t discovered *Galactic Journey* yet, you’re in for a treat, there’s nothing else quite like it! Edited by Gideon Marcus, *Galactic Journey* covers SF, news, fashion, and more, all from 55 years ago. Multiple time Hugo finalist, this website gives an in-depth history of SF day by day, and offers a unique perspective of days gone by. The experience of *Galactic Journey* is immersive, giving history in context, and they even have a retro award system called *Galactic Stars*. For anyone interested in SF from the past this website is an essential resource and is frequently updated. Learn more about their awesome work at <http://galacticjourney.org/>

Austin Arthur Hart for Best Pro Artist

Mr. Hart is one of those fantastic new SF artists that ex-

cels in both traditional and digital painting. His work has graced the covers of both books and magazines, and we're sure to be seeing more of him. In 2022 his cover of Star*Line magazine won best cover at the Critters Poll. Find more of his work at <http://austinh.art/>
 Simultaneous Times Newsletter for Best Non-N3F Fanzine

Produced by Space Cowboy Bookstore, Simultaneous Times Newsletter ran for three years (2020-2023) as a monthly print fanzine distributed through the mail.

Simultaneous Times Newsletter Year One 2020-21 issues 1 through 12: Interviews with: Mari Collier, David Farland, Christopher Ruocchio, Sarah Waites (Queer Science Fiction; Fantasy Database), Brent A. Harris, Rob Carroll (Dark Matter Magazine), Jason Sizemore (Apex Magazine), Weston Ochse, Marie Vibbert, JW Stebner (Hexagon Magazine) Poetry and writing by: Holly Lyn Walrath, Samuel Butler, Therese Windser, Robin Rose Graves, Jean-Paul Garnier, Kim Martin, Thelma D. Hamm

Simultaneous Times Newsletter Year Two 2021-22 issues 13 through 24: Interviews with: Tom Purdom, A.C. Wise, Cora Buhlert, Charlie Jane Anders, Sean Clancy (Planet Scumm Magazine), Holly Lyn Walrath (Interstellar Flight Press), Christina Sng, Chris Kelso, Akua Lezli Hope, David Schultz (Speculative North Magazine), Jeanne Cavelos (Odyssey Workshop), Kay Allen (Sword & Kettle Press), Poetry and writing by: James Clerk Maxwell, Gareth L. Powell, David Brin, F.J. Bergmann, Arley Sorg, Gabriel Hart, Marie Vibbert, Richard Magahiz

Simultaneous Times Newsletter Year Three 2022-23 issues 25 through 36: Interviews with: Guy Hasson (Geekdom Empowers), Rachel S. Cordasco (SF in Translation), Andy Dibble, Tristan Evarts (Utopia Magazine), Dr. Phoenix Alexander, Justin Sloane (Starship Sloane), Jonathan Nevair, Adrian M. Gibson (SFF Addicts), Michael Butterworth, Todd Sullivan, Poetry and writing by: Renan Bernardo, Jana Bianchi, Rodrigo Assis Mesquita, Pedro Iniguez, Mary Soon Lee, Robin Rose Graves <https://spacecowboybooks.com/free-content/>

From Bob Jennings

The effort by Manuscript Press (Rick Norwood) and aruffo.com (I dunno the company name or the person responsible) for publishing the series of trade paperbacks that are reprinting the entire run of the Alley Oop daily comic strip beginning with the very first V.T. Hamlin strip and running all the way to the end of the 20th centu-

ry. This is a monumental effort, making available a wonderful comic strip that is clearly science fiction/fantasy and has been recognized as one of the most important comics strips ever published. The original Comic Book Achievement Awards created by comic book fandom in the early 1960s were named the Alley Awards, with a pic/statue of Alley Oop as the symbol. Finally, a chance to read everything, the entire run, all shot from the original syndicate stats, published in affordable format. This deserves much wider recognition, and an award or two on its own.

From George Phillis

For None of the Above, items that do not fit any of our other categories, we have three nominations. Each will get a yes or a no vote. All three may win.

Treasurer's Report

PayPal balance \$304.67

In: \$24 for membership renewal (less fees)

NSB balance: \$2388.34

2 life members + 23 electronic + 18 regular + 2 household members = 45 voting members

7 archive members + 228 public members = 235 non-voting members

Expiring this month: Greg Chaffins, Dan Rego, Michael Hegg, Amanda Servello

Welcome to Kimberly Martin & Mark Nelson!

Bureaus

Welcomittee

We have a new member this month, Kim Martin. Kim loves science fiction and fantasy. Trek, Farscape, Doctor Who, etc. and some anime. Welcome, Kim. We hope you have a wonderful experience being a member of the N3F.

Being active is the most fulfilling way to enjoy being a member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. Please read the current TNFF for a list of the many activities and bureaus you can join. If you find a bureau or activity you are interested in, please contact the head of the bureau or activity for more information. The purpose of the Welcomittee 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. When possible, those members with email addresses are also sent attachments to the current TNFF and other publications the N3F has to offer.

If you have questions about the N3F or are interested in helping with the Welcomitee please contact: Judy Carroll at BlueShadows2012@gmail.com or 975 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 84660.

Round Robins Bureau

Welcome one and all. We have two kinds of Round Robins available, Postal Mail and Netflix Streaming.

Postal Mail

Postal Mail is the traditional Round Robin (RR). Members who have chosen the same topic discuss their likes and dislikes. Each RR needs at least three members and a Robin Master (RM). When enough members have signed up the RM will send them a letter explaining how the RR works. (If you want to know more about how a RR works before you join, please let me know and I will give you more information. My email address and postal address are listed at the end of this article.)

We have only one Postal Mail RR at this time. World-wide Folklore RR

If you have any questions about this RR, or wish to join, please contact me by email, if possible, or by postal mail. My email and postal address are at the end of this article.

If anyone is interested in starting a new RR, please contact me. I will put the information in the next TNFF as "seeking members." New RRs Seeking Members:

1 - Heroic Women

NOTE: This Round Robin has a Robin Master that is ready to begin this adventure. GOOD NEWS!!! We have a new member for this RR. All we need are 2 more members and this RR can start rounding.

2 - Dreams

If interested in joining either of the RR above please contact me. My contact information is at the end of this article.

Netflix Streaming Round Robins

The Travelers NSRR is working quite well. With 3 members, counting myself as RM. It's a lot of fun.

We decided to watch 2 episodes a week. When we have watched an episode we email the other two members in a joint email and discuss the episode.

The Travelers RR Not accepting new members.

We have two NSRR waiting for RM and members -
Stranger Things -

Raising Dion -

Robin Masters are needed for each of these RR. Please contact me if you are interested in joining

The Netflix Streaming Round Robins work like this

1 - A member chooses the series he/she wishes to watch. Following are three series to choose from:

Travelers - 3 seasons - series completed (Not accepting new members.)

Stranger Things - 4 seasons - on-going

Raising Dion - 2 seasons -on-going

2 - When they have decided which series they wish to watch they contact me and I will tell them whether there are enough members to begin the RR.

3- When there are 2 members, and the Robin Master, the RR will begin.

4 - The Robin Master (RM) emails the Netflix Streaming Round Robin (NSRR) members with a schedule. Two episodes a week are recommended when starting the RR. However, more episodes a week can be considered if the members choose to do so. ALL members must agree to the number of episodes watched in a week. We want this to be a fun adventure. Not a cumbersome one.

5 - Once the required episodes for that week have been viewed, that member will email each member in that RR with their comments. At the top of the email the episodes viewed should be listed.

6 - Repeat steps 4 & 5 each week until the series ends.

Please Note: No new members can be added to NSRR once the first 4 episodes have been watched by the original members.

Please contact me if you are interested in joining Stranger Things or Raising Dion. If you have a suggestion for a NSRR please contact me.

Contact: Judy Carroll, 971 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 84660 OR Email : blushadows2012@gmail.com

Correspondence Bureau

Want to make new friends? Want to discuss the latest book by your favorite author? Want to debate the merits of soft science fiction vs hard science fiction? Then you have come to the right place.

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

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

I am an old Star Trek of the original television show days. I enjoy both Fantasy and Science Fiction. My favorite author is me with my Chronicles of Erda fantasy fiction books. My hobbies include reading, writing, watching TV, and meeting with friends. I have books and memorabilia collections, and try to keep up with my cat.

John Thiel - by Email - kinethiel@outlook.com

I am interested in things I haven't seen much that have something about them that gives me a feeling of looking for more about them. Magazines which have interested me have been The Readers Digest, Future Science Fiction, Space Stories, Jack and Jill Magazine, Startling Stories and Thrilling Wonder Stories, Arizona Highways and others; Television shows that have interested me have been Tales of Tomorrow, The Sid Caesar show, Roy Rogers, Sky King, Masterpiece Theater; interesting books have been the mysteries of Mary Roberts Rinehart, Groff Conklin's anthologies, Tales of the Supernatural, the writings of Sigmund Freud, the life of Françoise Villon, The Big Push by Mickey Spillane, Theodore Sturgeon's books, Leo Margules' anthologies, Peyton Place; Movies of interest were the Voyages of Ulysses, The Life of Omar Khayyam, The House of Wax, Kiss Me Deadly; comics of interest were Dick Tracy, Little Orphan Annie, King Aroo; radio shows, Sky King, Boston Blackie, Marty Faye. Interesting places, Venice, California, the Florida Everglades, Valparaiso, Indian

Steve Condrey - By Email - gscondrey@gmail.com
Favorite genres: science fiction and fantasy, also some true crime and historical fiction. I particularly enjoy military and post-apocalyptic science fiction (but not of the "retired Navy SEAL who just happens to own a ranch in Montana bugs out amid a rampaging zombie horde that's totally not a proxy for societal undesirables" variety of apocalypse).

Favorite authors: Like many others, I cut my teeth on Robert Heinlein, Ray Bradbury, and Isaac Asimov. I also enjoy Robert E. Howard, Octavia Butler, Andre Norton, Anne McCaffrey, and Frederik Pohl. Among writers who are still alive and active today, I like Harry Turtledove, Larry Niven, Robert Sawyer, David Weber, and S. M. Stirling. Movies and TV shows: Star Trek, Babylon 5, Star Wars, Doctor Who, Aliens, Blade Runner, Conan the Barbarian (1980).

I do like to write, but haven't worked up the nerve to publish something. Maybe getting more involved here will help me get to that point (I hope!) Outside of fandom, I am active in my local astronomy club. I edit their newsletter and occasionally do outreach activities. I also volunteer at my church. Most of all, my wife, two kids (ages 16 and 12), and a fluctuating menagerie of house pets.

Collections: I had a pretty sizable collection of books, games, and memorabilia that unfortunately was a casualty of the 2019 Missouri River flooding. I am currently rebuilding. My home office is heavily inspired by Forry Ackerman's Ackermansion, but at a much smaller scale (for the time being)

Mick Taylor - By Postal Mail - 2945 SE Taylor St Portland, OR 97214-4032

I am a somewhat marginal fan in that although I have been reading Science Fiction and Fantasy all my life, I have never been to a convention and it's been quite a while since I did a zine. I love the old weird pulp writers - H.P. Lovecraft, Clark Ashton Smith, Robert E. Howard and that era. Of the more modern authors I enjoy Tim Powers, James Blaylock, Paolo Bacigalupi, William Gibson. I do like discovering new authors too. Apart from reading, I also like to collect paper stuff - stamps, covers, QSL cards, that sort of thing. For work, I manage an IT department at a teaching hospital in Portland, Oregon.

Judy Carroll - By Email BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
by Postal Mail, 975 E 120 S, Spanish Fork, UT 84660
My favorite genres are Science Fiction and Murder Mysteries. My favorite authors are Shirley Jackson, Ray Bradbury, Dean Koontz, and Julie E. Czerneda. I like to write short stories and poems. I love being around young children. Their laughter, happiness, and excitement are contagious.

If you would like to join the Correspondence Bureau and have your name and interests listed please contact me. Send email requests to : Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com OR Send postal mail requests to: Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Welcome to the Writers Exchange!

I hope all you writers out there are busy writing.

In the May Writers Exchange I asked our readers "... to quote some of their favorite authors." I received no response.

I have only had a few responses to my writing requests this year. I know what problems and successes I have when writing, but I hear from myself every day. I really would like to hear from you.

I know we have published writers in the N3F, and other writers that would like to be heard. It has been months since anyone has asked for their stories to be critiqued. Are there any writers left out there?

Writing Queries for June.

- What do you do when you get writer's block?
- Do you sit staring at the paper in front of you, pen poised waiting for inspiration?
- Do you stare at the blank computer screen hoping the keys will start clattering with a great story?
- Or, do you decide to take a break hoping an idea will come to you?

Quotes from writers on Writers Block

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret of getting started is breaking your complex overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks, and then starting on the first one."—Mark Twain*

"You don't start out writing good stuff. You start out writing crap and thinking it's good stuff, and then gradually you get better at it. That's why I say one of the most valuable traits is persistence."—Octavia Butler*

"I only write when I am inspired. Fortunately I am inspired at 9 o'clock every morning."—William Faulkner*

"There's no such thing as writer's block. That was invented by people in California who couldn't write." — Terry Pratchett**

"The wonderful thing about writing is that there is always a blank page waiting. The terrifying thing about writing is that there is always a blank page waiting." — J.K. Rowling**

"You can't think yourself out of a writing block; you

have to write yourself out of a thinking block." — John Rogers**

"Pretend that you're writing not to your editor or to an audience or to a readership, but to someone close, like your sister, or your mother, or someone that you like." — John Steinbeck**

"I learned to produce whether I wanted to or not. It would be easy to say oh, I have writer's block, oh, I have to wait for my muse. I don't. Chain that muse to your desk and get the job done." — Barbara Kingsolver**

"I deal with writer's block by lowering my expectations. I think the trouble starts when you sit down to write and imagine that you will achieve something magical and magnificent — and when you don't, panic sets in. The solution is never to sit down and imagine that you will achieve something magical and magnificent. I write a little bit, almost every day, and if it results in two or three or (on a good day) four good paragraphs, I consider myself a lucky man. Never try to be the hare. All hail the tortoise." — Malcolm Gladwell**

*5 Inspirational quotes to help you overcome writer's block

Posted on 30th January 2019 by sticklerproofreading

**20 Quotes About Writer's Block

Peter Morscheck - Published in The Writing Cooperative May, 23, 2018

If you have a story you would like read, please contact me, and I will check with our readers to see who is available. I will contact you with the name and email address of your reader. Please do not contact a reader unless I have assigned that reader to you. Occasionally we get several short stories at the same time and I don't want any of our readers getting "reading overload."

If you are a new writer, a professional writer, or someone who dreams of being a writer - this is the place for you. If you love reading unpublished work and find it exciting to do so, this place is also for you. The Writers Exchange is for anyone interested in writing. If you have a story you would like read and commented on, or if you just want the excitement of reading unpublished work, then the Writers Exchange is here for you. Published or unpublished - all are welcome. You may join as a writer, a reader or both.

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

SerCon

Radio Science Fiction:

Exploring Tomorrow

by

Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.
N3F Historian

Exploring Tomorrow was the last radio network science fiction (SF) series, airing on the Mutual Broadcasting System -- from December 4, 1957 through June 13, 1958.

The program was narrated by John W. Campbell Jr. Campbell was the editor of *Astounding Science Fiction* magazine, and then the re-titled *Analog Science Fiction - Science Fact* magazine, for more than three decades. Between the magazines and this old time radio show, he helped many a writer make it in the SF field.



Exploring Tomorrow is considered to be in the same category as *X-Minus One* and *Dimension X*. During each episode of *Exploring Tomorrow*, Campbell made philosophical observations about how the technology in the episode presented could affect mankind.

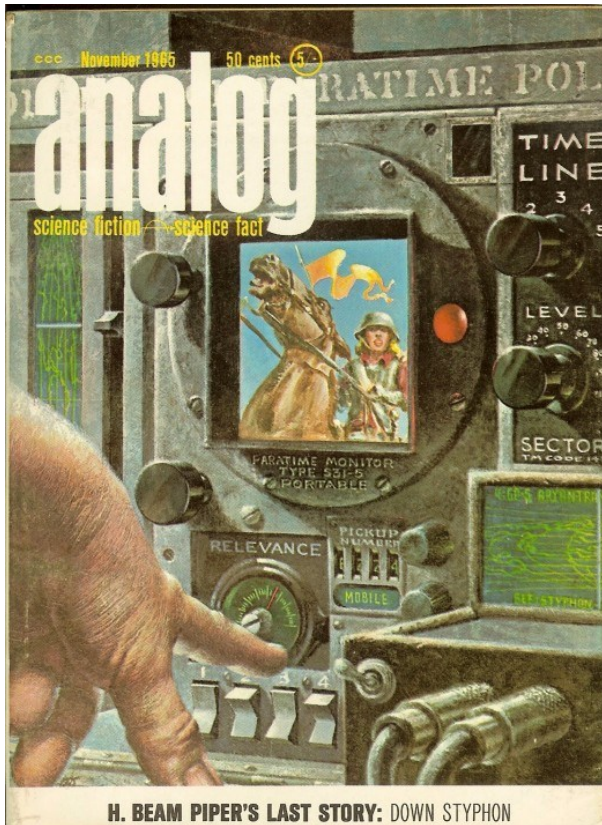
Episodes

The Convict (12/11/57)
Country Boy (12/18/57) [Robert Silverberg]

Desert Object (aka, Alien/12/25/57) [Gordon R. Dickson]
Dreams (01/01/58)
The Escape (01/08/58) [Don A. Stuart/aka John Campbell, Jr.]
First Contact (01/15/58) [Murray Leinster/aka Will F. Jenkins]



First Men on the Moon (aka, The Moon Is New/01/22/58) [Silverberg]
Flashback (aka, The Decision, 01/29/58) [Dickson]
The Gift (aka, The Happiness Effect/02/05/58)
How Big Is A Man (aka, Ethan/02/12/58) [Dickson]
The Last Doctor (02/19/58)
Liar! (02/26/58) [Isaac Asimov]
Look Out! Duck! (03/05/58) [David Gordon/aka Randall Garrett]
Made in Avak (aka, Fair Fight/03/12/58) [Philip K. Dick]
The Mimic (03/19/58) [Silverberg]
The Mutants (03/26/58)
Sound Decision (aka, The Martian Queen/04/02/58) [Garrett]
Overpopulation (aka, No Way Out/04/09/58) [Silverberg]
Planet of Geniuses (aka, Genius/04/16/58) [Poul Anderson]
The Secret That Cannot be Cracked (aka, With All the Trappings/ 04/23/58) [Garrett]
The Stowaway (aka, The Cold Equations, (04/30/58) [Tom Godwin]
Speak No More (aka, Telepathic/05/07/58) [Dickson]
Time Heals (05/14/58) [Poul Anderson]
Time Traveler (aka, Meddler's Moon/05/21/58) [George O. Smith]
Trouble With Robots (05/28/58) [Garrett]



The Diamond Mountain of Venus (aka, Venus' Diamond Mountain/ 06/04/58 [John Fleming]
 The Stranger with Roses (aka The Man From the Past/06/11/58) [John Jakes]
 Space Baby (aka, First Baby in Space/06/18/58) [Garrett]
 The Adventure of the Beauty Queen (06/25/58) [Fleming]

Other episodes about which little is known included Shigo Incident, New Transylvania, and Experimental Planet. The stories broadcast on *Exploring Tomorrow* were written by Campbell, and other well-known SF writers of the time, as listed above.

Multiple titles and lack of dates make a log of this series difficult to compile. The data provided is a consensus of information from different sources.

Producer/Director

Sandford (Sandy) Marshall was producer-director of the series. Campbell said that Marshall liked SF, but wasn't really competent to judge it "for SF values."

Critical Comments

Exploring Tomorrow is considered by many to be one of the great SF series of old-time radio. On the other

hand, media critic Gordon Payton said that the program "had laughable editing and nauseating elevator music during the pointless monologues by the host" but added that "the stories themselves were pretty good."

Sources

Clute, John & Peter Nicholls. *The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*, 1993.

Dunning, John. *On the Air*, 1998.

Roberts, Garyn. *The Prentice Hall Anthology of Science Fiction and Fantasy*, 2003.

Swartz, Jon D. & Robert C. Reinehr. *Handbook of Old-Time Radio*, 1975.

Widner, James F. & Meade Frierson, III. *Science Fiction on Radio*, 1996.

Note: In addition to the above, several Internet sites were consulted, including Fancyclopedia 3, ISFDB, and Wikipedia.

Please Vote on Constitutional Amendment

The proposed Amendment follows.

Please send your vote YES or a NO to Jon Swartz, 12115 Missel Thrush Court, Austin, TX 78750 OR judgeswartz@gmail.com

The current text in our Constitution reads

The President and five members of the Directorate are decided by the membership in an annual election of those officers. Ballots for the election are to be distributed before October 10th and the elected candidates take office on the following January 1st. Any member may seek office by complying with the official requirements which are to be published in the Official Organ at least two months previous to the filing deadline.

The proposed revised text to be placed in our Constitution reads

The President and the five members of the Directorate are elected by vote of the dues-paying members. The President and members of the Directorate serve for a term of one year, beginning on January 1. Ballots for the election are to be distributed by November 20th. Any dues-paying member may seek office by complying with the requirements set forth in the Bylaws.

Story Contest Rules and Entry Blank

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

1. This contest is open to all amateur writers in the field, regardless of whether they're members of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. For the purposes of this contest, we define an amateur as someone who has sold no more than two (2) stories to professional science fiction or fantasy publications.
2. Stories entered in the contest must be original, unpublished, not longer than 8,500 words in length—and must be 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, 2023.
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 2024. 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, 2023. Good luck!

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

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

I have read the above rules for the 2023 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



Vote on Constitution
Vote on Laureate Awards
Director's View: Becky Jones a.k.a. Professor Ornerly Dragon
Son of Silvercon PR #3

Laureate Award Nominations — Laureate Award Endorsements
Jean-Paul L. Garnier — Bob Jennings — George Phillis

Treasurer's Report

Bureaus
Welcommittee — Round Robins Bureau — Correspondence Bureau
Writers Exchange Bureau

SerCon
Radio Science Fiction: Exploring Tomorrow
Please Vote on Constitutional Amendment
2023 N3F Amateur Short Story Contest
Don't forget to vote on the Constitutional Amendment.

N3F TNFF
c/o George Phillis
48 Hancock Hill Drive
Worcester MA 01609