

The National 83 Fantasy Fan Years

Fandom's Second Oldest Print Publication Cras ad Stellas — Tomorrow to the Stars Volume 83 Number 8 August 2024

President's Notes

George Phillies, phillies@4liberty.net

Elections are approaching. Please speak up if you want to run for President or for the Directorate. I have been in this office for some time, am not getting any younger (I just turned 77) and would be happy to continue to pass off responsibilities onto other club members. Please consider if you would be willing to do some work for the N3F. I have several projects that are much less work than they look.

It appears (final vote is not in) that we will lower the price of an electronic membership to \$4.99, as an experiment, to see if it improves membership recruiting. To compensate, current electronic members will have their memberships extended by two months.

We have an ad trade with LosCon.

As a new project, we are encouraging fan fiction writers. Write, format, and send your material to Jefferson Swycaffer, abontides@gmail.com for publication in N'APA.

I had an anonymous proposal that we should try producing a zine in a format that is optimized for reading on a smart phone. I am not sure what it what it would cover or how it would be produced. Other ezines? Volunteer need here.

The pro SF club SFWA is reportedly in interesting times. Could we do more to support our pro members? Provide a home for a nonpartisan writer's support group?

Director's View

...from Kevin Trainor

It's a fortunate coincidence that this coming Labor Day marks my 50th anniversary of being involved in fandom, at least to the extent of it being the 50th Anniversary of Discon II, the Worldcon in DC, which was my very first SF convention. Analog magazine had recently added a list of major SF conventions to its inside back cover (edited by Erwin Strauss, better known in fandom as Filthy Pierre) and I was surprised to see that the Worldcon, which I knew mainly from anecdotes by Isaac Asimov and other authors, was going to be right in my back yard! It was quite the eye-opening experience - 4000 fans and authors and publishers and movie makers (one of the events was a showing of A Boy And His Dog, enlivened by Harlan Ellison himself adding commentary during reel changes as one of the projectors broke) and hucksters and bid parties for future Worldcons—and past ones; there was an amazing light show being put on in the Minneapolis in '73 party.

I'm not going to bore everyone with a point-by-point recitation of all the fannish things I've done in the last fifty years, but suffice it to say that by now there are few corners of fandom that I don't have at least a passing familiarity with, for better or worse. The thing that keeps coming up when I think about fandom is that it bears a remarkable resemblance to the beginning of the Book of John: "In the beginning was the Word". When I first encountered fandom in 1974, the word was mostly all there was. There were few movies, Star Trek had come and gone, and SF on the radio was a very niche interest. Gaming was in its infancy and also rooted in the word. When you talked to other fans, you mostly talked about books,



11 ... Art by Jose Sanchez

The September TNFF Submission Deadline is September 15th. The deadline for the 2024 Short Story Contest is December 31. For rules, see our web pages, which announce the 2024 Contest.



Your Volunteer Team

Directors

Jean-Paul Garnier spacecowboybooks@gmail.com
Becky Jones beckyj47@gmail.com (Chair)
Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
Kevin Trainor wombat.socho@gmail.com (Treasurer)

Officers

President George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
Treasurer Kevin Trainor wombat.socho@gmail.com
Membership Secretary: G Steven Condrey gscondrey@
gmail.com

Editors

Editors, TNFF George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net; Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com Artists Jose A. Sanchez, Angela K. Walker, Alan White, Nathan Warner N'APA Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com Tightbeam George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net, Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com Eldritch Science George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Mangaverse Patrick Ijima-Washburn patokon.com @gmail.com

The N3F Review George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net FanActivity Gazette Mindy Hunt mindyhunt@scifi4me.com Films Fantastic: Jason Hunt <jphunt@scifi4me.com> Keeper of the Passwords Jessi Silver belindabird@gmail Keeper of the URLs George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Host of the Web Site George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net

Bureau Heads

Anime Kevin Trainor wombat.socho@gmail.com Art Bureau Jose Sanchez jose77sanchez@yahoo.com Birthday Cards Book Review Bureau G. Phillies phillies@4liberty.net

Comics

Convention Calendar Mindy Hunt

Club News

Correspondence Bureau Judy Carroll

BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

Election Teller Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com

Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau

FanZine Review Editor

Film Bureau Jason Hunt <jphunt@scifi4me.com>
Forwarder Jefferson Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com
Franking Service George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net
Games Bureau

Gourmet Bureau Cedar Sanderson cedarlila@gmail.com

Historian Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com

History and Research Bureau

Information Technology George Phillies

phillies@4liberty.net

Kaymar Award Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com

Continued Next Column, Middle

or the handful of SF magazines that were still around.

Fifty years later, fandom is very different. There are entire fandoms that don't know the old words, and don't suspect that behind their beloved movies, TV series, or video games there's a deep structure of science fiction and fantasy going back to Jules Verne, H.G. Wells, and still older tales of adventure, discovery and heroism. The BNFs of my generation turned their backs on the media fans, barely tolerated the gamers, and we have seen the results in the dwindling attendance of traditional SF conventions while anime and comic conventions attract tens of thousands of attendees. I think the mission of the N3F

Your Volunteer Team

Laureate Awards George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Lord High Proofreader Jon Swartz judgeswartz@gmail.com Lady High Proofreader Jean Lamb

Membership Recruitment Kevin Trainor wombat.socho @gmail.com Jeffrey Redmond redmondjeff@hotmail.com Outreach Bureau

Pro Bureau George Phillies phillies@4liberty.net Round Robins Judy Carroll - BlueShadows2012@gmail.com Short Story Contest J. Swycaffer abontides@gmail.com Social Media

Video Bureau Heath Row, kalel@well.com Welcommittee Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com Writers Exchange Judy Carroll BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

Join or Renew

We offer four different memberships. Memberships with TNFF via paper mail are \$18; memberships with TNFF via email are \$6. All other zines are email only. Additional memberships at the address of a current member are \$4. Public memberships are free. Send payments to Kevin Trainor, PO Box 143, Tonopah NV 89049. Pay online at N3F.org. Our PayPal contact is treasurer@n3f.org Send phillies@4liberty.net your email address for a public membership.

The National Fantasy Fan (originally Bonfire), Vol. LXXXIII Number 8, August 2024, ISSN 2169-3595. Published monthly by The National Fantasy Fan Federation. Send material for this zine as electronic files (txt or rtf preferred, images as jpgs, do not send PDFs) to the Editor: George Phillies, 48 Hancock Hill Drive, Worcester MA 01609, phillies@4liberty.net The submission deadline for each issue is the 15th of the month.

COPYRIGHT NOTICE: All material in this issue, unless expressly noted otherwise, is contributed for one-time use only in this publication in its various print and electronic forms including fair use in electronic archival libraries. All other copyrights are retained by the contributor. Other use of any portion of this publication in any medium requires the express permission of the current (at time reproduction is to be made) President and Directorate of N3F and the original copyright holder.

Page 3

should be to reach out to the new fans and offer a trade - hey, if you like *this*, you might want to take a look at *that* when you get a chance. There are many mansions in the ghetto of SF, and all of them have cool stuff to discover. Let's reach out and find it with our new fans.

Treasurer's Report

Kevin Trainor

PayPal balance \$295.32

In: \$24 (less fees) for membership

NSB balance: \$2466.34 In: \$6 for membership

2 life members + 3 household members + 17 electronic + 12 regular = 34 voting members 8 archive members + 258 public members = 266 non-voting members!

Thanks to Jonathan Nevair and Gary Condrey for renewing their voting memberships!

Thanks to Krystal Rains, and Mark Nelson for upgrading to voting memberships!

Welcome to Alice Dick, Daniel Raffensperger, David Lang, Julie Frost, Fred Wehling, Lindsay Peet, Arthur Palmer, Don Pitchford, Dan Minucci, and John Groth, who joined the N3F as public members at Son of Silvercon II!

Voting memberships expiring this month: None!

Neffers are reminded that preregistration for Son of Silvercon III has begun! The \$5 discount for N3F membership is available again.

Attending memberships are \$40 (through June 15), supporting memberships are \$20, vendor tables are \$50, and sponsorships \$100.

Mail checks & money orders to Friends of Fissionchan, PO Box 143, Tonopah NV 89049; PayPal payments go to fission.chan@gmail.com

Letter of Comment

Dear Neffers:

Just when I thought things were getting caught up, well, the NASFiC in Buffalo came along, and more on that later on. I have two issues of The National Fantasy

Fan, Vol. 83, Nos. 6 and 7, and comments will begin as soon as I escape from this paragraph...

And complete! Vol.83, No. 6...Congratulations to all laureate winners! And, hello to Judy Carroll, I sure understand not getting to everything planned. There usually is sufficient time for it all, but sometimes, all you want to do is watch TV, or get caught up on scrolling your tablet/smartphone, or just have a nap or play another game of Solitaire. You know things must be done, but...and that's probably the best explanation of my complaint in the first paragraph.

We got to know Vonda McIntyre a little bit when she was a guest at our local SF con some years ago. A real presence, and it is still hard to believe she is gone. Thank you for this valuable biography, for friends past.

The NASFiC in Buffalo. We had a great time, mostly because it was a literary science fiction convention, and a lot of us hadn't had one in some years. We partied, we broke bread together, we laughed our heads off, and we reluctantly said our goodbyes at the end. We heard an attendance of only 400, which made it one of the smallest NASFiCs on record, but it was a refreshing return to those older days. We were behind a table in the dealers' room, which was at the Buffalo Convention Centre (the rest of the con was at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo), and we did some great business selling books and back issues of magazines for Amazing Stories. It was easy for us, living in Toronto, to take the highway that goes almost directly to Buffalo, and we will return down that way in October for the World Fantasy Convention in Niagara Falls, New York, and we will have a table there, too. (P.S. I sold 12 copies of my book Amazing Stories Best of 2023, edited by me, and I will have copies of that book at WFC as well. Might even be autographing there, too.)

Vol. 83, No. 7... A quiet Directorate is a good thing, as there are no troubles, or the Directors are getting it all done. That won't keep, so enjoy it while it lasts.

Ah, Carol Emshwiller. Another name from the past, someone I wish I'd had the chance to meet. What few stories of hers I have read, as was said in the article, she wrote in a strange and entertaining fashion, as if each word was carefully chosen.

I have been seeing a lot of discussion about keeping the club going, and raising more funds to make it even more attractive to new potential members. Because we are all of a certain age, we may not have access to a younger viewpoint, and what someone perhaps 20 or more years of age may want to see. I suspect anyone

Page 4

that age might not want to join, but we need to do some research beyond opening up more sites on social media.

Anyway, I think I have done what I can on these two issues, and I have to go and make some dinner for tonight. I wish for nothing but the best for this historic club, and if I can think of anything new and interesting to club could offer, I will send it to George Phillies asap. I look forward to the next issue.

Yours, Lloyd Penney

Con Report

The Tumult & The Shouting Dies After Action Report on Son of Silvercon II

Well, there really wasn't much tumult, and no shouting, for which I was duly thankful. Could have used a little more tumult. Despite reaching out to local fans of the RenFaire and Trek variety, our attendance was lower than last year, perhaps because of the San Diego Comic Con the following week, the Star Trek thing the weekend after that, and Imaginarium the same week... but we can't be moving around the calendar on the off chance that we'll attract fans. We have to make Son of Silvercon the kind of convention that people are skipping these other things to show up for, and I think we're on our way to doing that.

In compliance with ancient tradition, the Bad News comes first. Paid membership was only twenty fans, including a couple of folks who were unable to make it because they didn't fly Southwest (HHO1/2K) and one late supporting member. There were issues with the hotel: problems checking in because the front desk was short-staffed, problems accessing the con suite (we did a workaround where I handed out keys to staff and other people to escort other people up there, but that's not going to work if attendance is higher next year), and we only got one key for the function space, which led to occasional awkwardness. I'll be discussing these things with our hotel guy, and also looking into some other venues, some downtown and some not. Despite these issues, our guests had a good time, most of the membership had a good time, and our vendor sold a lot of books, so we're still winning on that front. The Con suite was even more lavishly stocked than last year, for which we thank our members who contributed to the Intermountain Cookie Conspiracy far in excess of our expectations.

It was suggested that next year we offer some tours for

folks coming in Thursday or early Friday; the Atomic Museum, Mob Museum, and Pinball Museum were all mentioned as possibilities. Also suggested: more programming for fans v. writers.

We're going to put more effort into working with LibertyCon, Confinement, Writers' Cantina, BasedCon, and Dave Butler's IHOPCon; apparently FanX has not replaced Conduit in the hearts of Utah fans, so we're hoping to fill that void. We're also going to get badge ribbons for SoS3 with the website URL and "Ask me about Son of Silvercon!" buttons. Our GoH and vendor were both enthusiastic about helping recruit Utahns to the cause, and we're hoping to see a lot of folks from Salt Lake City, Provo, and points south next year. We're also looking forward to having Maxwell Drake, Sarah Hoyt, Dave Butler, and hopefully Maggie Hogarth as well as Brad and Rand back next year to join our 2025 Guest of Honor Tim Powers.

Suggestions welcome, as are pre-registrations – we already have ten people signed up for next year, half of them as sponsors.

Originally published in a slightly different form on the Friends of Fission-chan blog, 7/28/24

...Kevin Trainor

Bureau Reports

Films Fantastic

If anyone has a movie review to share, I'd like to assemble the next Films Fantastic sooner rather than later. Thanks! ...Jason Hunt jphunt@scifi4me.com>

Welcommittee

Maria Mack is a new member to the N3F. She heard about our club and was trying to find us. Someone was kind enough to give her our website. One of her interests is Zak Bagans "... an American paranormal investigator,... and the principal host of the Travel Channel series Ghost Adventures." (Information from Wikipedia)

We also have the following new members who joined the N3F at Son of Silvercon II: Alice Dick, Daniel Raffensperger, David Lang, Julie Frost, Fred Wehling, Lindsay Peet, Arthur Palmer, Don Pitchford, Dan Minucci and John Groth.

Welcome! We hope you find your stay with the N3F to be a wonderful, long-lasting, experience.

TNFF Page 5

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 Welcommittee is to welcome new members to the club and to help them find an activity or bureau with members that have the same likes and interests

If you have questions about the N3F or are interested in helping with the Welcommittee, please contact: Judy Carroll at BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

FanActivity Gazette

Table of Contents of the August Issue — Now up on N3F.org

From the Editor
Van Vogt's Grand Slan | Bob Jennings
New Movies
September Calendar | Bob Jennings
New Horror Fest Announced | Jason Hunt
Baen Announces Fantasy Finalists | Jason Hunt
Worldcon Word Find
Letters
Aug New Book Releases | Walter Bruce Sinclair
Word Find Key
Convention Corner
Pubnites & Other Events | Lloyd Penney
Sci-Fi Pro & Fan Birthdays | Jason Hunt
September Conventions | Mindy Hunt

Welcome to the Writers Exchange!

The Writers Exchange Bureau is for anyone interested in writing. You don't have to be a published writer, or strive to be a published writer. You don't have to have written a book, a poem, a story, or the lyrics to a song. All you need is an interest in writing.

Writers Quote for the Month Write what disturbs you, what you fear, what you have not been willing to speak about. Be willing to be split open.

Natalee Goldberg

I am going to tell you something that scares me. That really scares me. I have no idea when it started, nor how old I was.

For several years I have not been able to sleep at night when there is no sound. I used to lay in bed listening to barking dogs, loud car radios, trains blowing their whistles and emergency vehicles screaming as they sought out a needy person. When those sounds ceased to work I turned to a radio station I liked. I slept pretty well. After a while the commercials started waking me up. It was getting harder to sleep. Then I put a CD in my player and let it repeat itself until I woke up. These things worked for several years.

At some point, I found myself falling asleep while watching TV. This seemed like the perfect answer. I discovered I had to have a certain kind of show if I was going to stay asleep. Game shows didn't work. There was too much yelling from the contestants. News shows were definitely out of the question. Sleep is impossible when you have heard how a person was brutally murdered. Talk shows were also difficult. They bounced from talking to audience laughter. From music to stand up comedy. From dancing to movie clips. Comedies were out. The laugh track always woke me up. It was easier sleeping through NCIS during the shooting scenes.

Now, I have found channels that don't make much noise. Movies and television shows that do not wake me up every few moments. They hum along at a quiet pace. A rowdy commercial will sometimes wake me up, but going back to sleep isn't too difficult.

So, why do I seek out sounds every night? Why does the soft sound of silence terrify me? Because I'm alone and trapped in the silence. My mind is charging through space. I see where I am going, and I feel the terror of darkness and aloneness and the knowledge that no matter how beautiful the Universe is - I am still alone.

Now that I have shared my terror, I would like to read what terrifies you.

All writing sent will appear in the September Writers Exchange. If you wish to share your terror, but not have it appear in the Writers Exchange, just let me know. I won't publish it. If it's something you would like to discuss with me, we can do that.

Tightbeam

Table of Contents of the August Issue — Now up on N3F.org

Art

Front Cover Futurescape 2 by Jose Sanchez Back Cover Cylon Assault by Jose Sanchez

Letters of Comment ... Lloyd Penney

Anime Aggressive Retsuko (Aggretsuko) ... Review by Jessi Silver

Comics Rock'n Roll Ninja Meyer/Dixon/Bahr ... Review by Graham Bradley

Magazines

Cirsova Magazine of Thrilling Adventure and Daring Suspense ... Review by Caroline Furlong

Movies

DC Comics' The Flash ... Review by Jim McCoy The 7th Voyage of Sinbad ... Review by Caroline Furlong

Novel

Rachel Aaron's Minimum Wage Magic: DFZ Book One ... Review by Jim McCoy

Sercon

Dean Ing Bio-Bibliography by Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.

Round Robins Bureau

Welcome one and all.

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

Netflix Streaming Round Robins (NSRR)

New series - Black Mirror Needs at least one other member to start.

This series has a RM and 1 other member.

We have two NSRR waiting for RM and members - Stranger Things - 4 seasons - Netflix says the 5th and final season will be coming.

Raising Dion - Raising Dion - 2 seasons

Please contact me if you are interested in joining and/or becoming a RM.

If you have a suggestion for a NSRR please contact me.

- 1 A member chooses the series he/she wishes to watch.
- 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.

Page 6

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 a joint email 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.

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 the following Postal Mail RR at this time: Worldwide Folklore RR

Heroic Women.

If you have any questions about either of these 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."

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

Contact: Judy Carroll

971 East 120 South

Spanish Fork, Utah 84660

OR Email: blueshadows2012@gmail.com

N'APA

Table of Contents, now up on N3F.org

Front Cover: Donated by Alan White The Official Organ #271 Mini-Editorial, by Jefferson P. Swycaffer Snow Poster Township #16, by Heath Row - 8 Intermission 143.5, by Ahrvid Engholm - 6 The Murdered Master Mage, by George Phillies - 3

Intermission 144, by Ahrvid Engholm - 16 Archive Midwinter, by Jefferson P. Swycaffer - 4 Ye Murthered Master Mage #271, by George Phillies -3

Brandy Hall Issue 7 July 2024, by Mark Nelson - 8 Fan Fic 2, by George Phillies - 4

Renovation and Innovation Letter, by Adrian Kresnak - 3

Samizdat... Ish #26, July/August 2024, by Samuel Lubell – 8

Brownian Motion #9, by Garth Spencer - 15 Snow Poster Township #17, by Heath Row - 7

The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono July 2024

Now available on N3F.org

Table of Contents Novels

A Lake Most Deep by Rob Howell ... Review by Jim McCoy

The Backbone of Surprise by C.S. Ferguson and Greg Ferguson ... Review by Jim McCoy

Confessions of a D-List Supervillain, by Jim Bernheimer ... Review by Graham Bradley

Ctrl Alt REVOLT! by Nick Cole ... Review by Graham Bradley

The Crack in Space by Philip K. Dick ... Review by Thomas E. Simmons

The Dead Mountaineer's Inn by the Strugatsky Brothers ... Review by Jean-Paul Garnier

Deeper than the Darkness by Gregory Benford ... Review by Jean-Paul Garnier

Destroyer of Worlds by Larry Correia ... Review by Graham Bradley

The Downloaded by Robert J. Sawyer ... Review by Robert Runté

Fanta-Fly Postcards, Edited by C.V. Walter ... Review by Pat Patterson

Gun Runner by Larry Correia and John D. Brown ... Review by Graham Bradley

The Heights of Perdition by C. S. Johnson ... Review by Caroline Furlong

I Have a Question by Macintosh Steele ... Review by Jason P. Hunt

Khyber by Chadwick Ginther & Shared World by Ball, Chomichuk, Gillespie and Ginter ... Review by Robert Runté

The Last Ancestor by Alexander Hellene ... Review by J.E. Tabor

League of Angels by Thomas Tan ... Review by Caroline Furlong

Page 7

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus ... Review by Tom Feller

Lost Cargo by Noah Chinn ... Review by Robert Runté The Lost Expedition by Douglas Smith ... Review by Robert Runté

Lost Planet Homicide by Larry Correia ... Review by Graham Bradley

Lost Souls by Tim Rangnow ... Review by Becky Jones

The Marchioly Project by P.A. Piatt ... Review by JE Tabor

Pinup Noir, Edited by Steve Diamond ... Review by Pat Patterson

Rimworld- Diversions by J.L. Curtis ... Review by Pat Patterson

Shadow Matter by S.W. Mayse ... Review by Robert Runté

Super-Earth Mother by Guy Immega ... Review by Robert Runté

The Supply Closet of Eternal Terror by Roy Griffis ... Review by Michael Gallagher

System Collapse by Martha Wells ... Review by Tom Feller

Tower of Silence by Larry Correia ... Review by Graham Bradley

Warmaster 2: Winter's Peril ... Review by J. R Handley

White Ops #1 by Declan Finn ... Review by J. R. Handley

Year's Best Canadian Fantasy and Science Fiction Vol.1 (2023) Edited by Stephen Kotowych ... Review by Robert Runté

Literary Criticism

Literary Criticism: Prozines by John Thiel Discussing: "Destiny" by Declan Finn

Prose Bono

How to Make a Story: A Recipe by Jim McCoy Batman and Spiderman ... A Thought Experiment by Declan Finn

SerCon

Andre Norton Bio-Bibliography by Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D. & John L. Coker III

Frequently cited as the all-time most popular female science fiction (SF) writer, Andre Norton was born Alice Mary Norton on February 17, 1912, in Cleveland, Ohio. During her career, she wrote more than 130 novels and nearly 100 short stories; and she also edited numerous

Page 8

anthologies in the SF, fantasy, mystery, and western genres.

Awards

She was the first woman to be a SFWA Grand Master and to be inducted into the Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame. She also received Skylark, Balrog, and World Fantasy awards during her career, and was the first woman to win the Gandalf Grand Master of Fantasy Award.

She was inducted into the First Fandom Hall of Fame in 1994.

Her Early Writing/Mundane Work

Her love of books began early, when her mother started reading and reciting poetry to her. While attending Collingwood High School, she edited a fiction page for the school newspaper, The Collingwood Spotlight, and started her first novel, Ralestone Luck, which became her second published book. As a teenager, she read the SF of both Wells and Verne.

She attended the Flora Stone Mather College of Western Reserve University, studying to be a history teacher. Financial pressures forced her to quit after her freshman year, however, because she had to work to help support her family during the Great Depression. Still, she managed to take night courses in English and journalism offered by Cleveland College, and she continued to write.

She held several jobs in the literary field, including working for the Library of Congress during World War II. She also briefly owned a book store. Even more important to her career, she was the children's librarian for 22 years at the Cleveland Public Library, where she worked in all but two of the Library's 47 branches. During this time she wrote her own children's fiction.

First Fantasy Novel/Other Genre Publications

The Prince Commands, a historical fantasy, was her first published novel. It was released in 1934, when she was only twenty-two. She legally changed her name that year, after publishers told her that a masculine name would help sell to her target audience, young boys. By 1950, at age 38, she had nine novels to her credit. That year she left the Cleveland Public Library to take a job as a reader at Gnome Press. By the time she left Gnome Press eight years later, she had had 23 novels and several short stories published.

In 1958 she decided to become a full-time writer. Over the next twenty years she wrote nearly seventy novels, two dozen short stories, and also edited several anthologies. One of her most beloved series, "Witch World" – a wondrous planet reachable through metaphysical gateways – started with a single novel in 1963. More than thirty "Witch World" titles followed.

Pseudonyms

In addition to her birth name, she used the following pen names in her work: Andre Norton (usual name), Andre North, Andrew North, Allen Weston (with Grace Allen), and Enid Cushing (with Enid Louise Cushing).

Research Library

In 1966 she moved to Florida, and then later moved to Murfreesboro, Tennessee, where in 1999 she opened her High Hallack, a working retreat and research library for writers of genre and other popular literature. It was located in the mountains of Putnum, Tennessee, near a university and several national parks. Unfortunately, she had to close the library in 2004. She had applied to "all the writer organizations for tax deductible seed money" but could not obtain the needed long-term support.

Ed- ited



Page 9

Genre Works

Through the years, she edited several anthologies for Martin H. Greenberg's Tekno Books company, including the long-running "Cat Fantastic" series, which began in 1989, and "Renaissance Faire" -- which was published by DAW Books in February, 2005.

Earlier, she edited some unique genre anthologies. One of the finest was one she edited for Dutton on some almost forgotten supernatural tales featuring the young, Small Shadows Creep. Contributors to this unique volume included stories by Wakefield, Benson, James, and Walpole.

Last Novel

Her last complete novel, Three Hands for Scorpio, was released in 2005 from Tor Books. It is the last manuscript she penned alone, and she was especially proud of it. Return to Quag Keep, a sequel to her Quag Keep from 1979, was released as a collaboration in January, 2006.

Love of Books and Cats

She surrounded herself with books and cats, ending each evening reading in bed with a favorite cat curled next to her. She incorporated her love of both in the many "cat anthologies" she edited, and in numerous short stories.

Her short story, "Faire Likeness," in Renaissance Faire, featured a cat she adopted. When her health began to decline in 2004, she parted with a few of her cats. However, she continued to keep the oldest, RT, by her side until the end; and she managed to feed the stray cats that frequently visited her yard.

Other Interests/Hobbies

She was quick to recommend good books to friends, and to offer advice to new authors, helping to pave the way for several people to be published. She also instructed hobbyists in the art of making jewelry.

Crafting necklaces, bracelets, and earrings became a passion in the last two years of her life when she found it increasingly difficult to write at a keyboard. Jewelry she fashioned was featured at her eBay store.

Popular Works

Her books are too numerous to list here. However,



among her most popular novels are Witch World, Beast Master, Secret of the Lost Race, Star Guard, Sargasso of Space (as Andrew North), The Time Traders, Catseye, Steel Magic, Fur Magic, and The Solar Queen.

Collaborators

Other authors/editors collaborated with her. Among them were Robert Adams, Alicia Austin, Robert Bloch, Marion Zimmer Bradley, A. C. Crispin, Rosemary Edghill, Martin H. Greenberg, P. M. Griffin, Grace Allen Hogarth, John Kaufman, Mercedes Lackey, Dorothy Madlee, Patricia Matthews, Julian May, Lyn McConchie, Phyllis Miller, Sasha Miller, Jean Rabe, Mary Schaub, Susan Shwartz, Sherwood Smith, and Ingrid Zierhut.

Meeting Donald Wollheim

Fellow SF author Basil Wells had a farm in Pennsylvania, and on June 8, 1957, he held an all-day party there. Among the guests were Norton, P. Schuyler Miller, Betsy Curtis and her daughter Margaret (later known in SF and comic book fandoms as Maggie Thompson), and Donald Wollheim and his wife. Norton met Wollheim here for the first time, and talked him into reading her Witch World. Wollheim was a very influential SF editor, having worked at Avon, Ace, and his own publishing company, DAW books.

In Her Own Words

In a 1994 interview with John L. Coker III, she made the following statements regarding herself and her work:



"Mother started reading to me when I was two years old."

"Getting published depends a great deal on luck."

"I always try to do my best."

Comments by Others

In his Dream Makers, Volume II, Charles Platt described Norton, the "Grand Dame of

Science Fiction and Fantasy," as follows: "She very seldom gives interviews; she values her privacy, never travels, and never allows photographs, either, because they would conflict with the image she projects in her novels."

Some Conclusions

She died of congestive heart failure in her Murfreesboro, Tennessee home, on Thursday morning, March 17, 2005. At her direction, there was no service. She was survived by her friends and caretakers, Sue and Ollie Stewart, her cat RT, and her many fans throughout the world. Norton requested before her death that she not have a funeral service, but instead asked to be cremated -- along with a copy of her first and last novels.

Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA) created the Andre Norton Award for excellence in young adult novels. She approved this before her death, and suggested several titles for consideration. The awards are announced along with the Nebulas. The first winner was Holly Black. The subsequent awards were selected following the same procedure as the Nebula Awards.

She died at the age of 93. She had never married, and left no descendants.

Her manuscripts are held in the Special Collections Research Center at Syracuse University.

Sources

Ashley, Mike. Who's Who in Horror and Fantasy Fiction, 1978.

Page 10

Currey, L. W. Science Fiction and Fantasy Authors, 1979.

Platt, Charles. Dream Makers, Volume II,1983.

Smith, Curtis C. (ed.). Twentieth Century Science Fiction Writers, 1981.

Swartz, Jon D. Pseudonyms of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Authors, 2010.

Tuck, Donald H. The Encyclopedia of Science Fiction and Fantasy, Volume 2: Who's Who, M- Z, 1978.

Turner, David G. The First Editions of Andre Norton, 1974.

Yntema, Sharon (ed.). More Than 100 Woman Science Fiction Writers, 1988.

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



Correspondence Bureau

People looking for other Neffers with whom they will exchange letters. Following are the names, interests and contact information of members seeking correspondence:

Jeffery Redmond - by Email - redmondjeff@hotmail.com by Postal Mail 1335 Beechwood St NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505-3830

Interests: Star Trek - original TV series
Fantasy and Science Fiction
Favorite author is me
Hobbies - reading, writing, watching TV, meeting with
friends
Books and memorabilia collections
John Thiel - by Email - kinethiel@outlook.com



Alien, by Jose Sanchez

Page 11

Interests: Magazines: Reader's Digest, Future Science Fiction, Space Stories, Startling Stories and Thrilling Wonder Stories

Television shows: Tales of Tomorrow, The Sid Caesar show, Roy Rogers, Sky King, Masterpiece Theater Books: mysteries of Mary Roberts Rinehart, Groff Conklin's anthologies, Tales of the Supernatural, the writings of Sigmund Freud, The Big Push by Mickey Spillane, Theodore Sturgeon's work

Television: Leo Margules' anthologies, Peyton Place; Movies: Voyages of Ulysses, The Life of Omar Khayyam, The House of Wax, Kiss Me Deadly

Comics: Dick Tracy, Little Orphan Annie, King Aroo; Radio Shows: Sky King, Boston Blackie, Marty Faye. Interesting Places: Venice, California, the Florida Everglades, Valparaiso, Indiana

Steve Condrey -By Email - gscondrey@gmail.com

Interests: Favorite genres: science fiction, fantasy, true crime and historical fiction

Favorite authors: Robert Heinlein, Ray Bradbury, Isaac Asimov, Robert E. Howard, Octavia Butler, Andre Norton, Anne McCaffrey, Frederik Pohl, Harry Turtledove, Larry Niven, Robert Sawyer, David Weber, and S. M. Stirling.

Movies and TV shows: Star Trek, Babylon 5, Star Wars, Doctor Who, Aliens, Blade Runner, Conan the Barbarian (1980).

I do like to write, but haven't worked up the nerve to publish something. Maybe getting more involved here will help me get to that point (I hope!)

I am active in my local astronomy club. I edit their newsletter and occasionally do outreach activities. I also volunteer at my church. Most of all, my wife, two kids (ages 16 and 12), and a fluctuating menagerie of housepets.

Judy Carroll - By Email BlueShadows2012@gmail.com by Postal Mail, 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Interests:

Favorite Genres: Science Fiction and Murder Mysteries. Favorite Authors: Shirley Jackson, Ray Bradbury, Dean Knootz, and Julie E. Czerneda.

Likes: Writing short stories and poems, working with young children.

If you would like to join the Correspondence Bureau and have your name and interests listed please contact me at Judy Carroll, BlueShadows2012@gmail.com

Send postal mail requests to: Judy Carroll 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660



President's Notes ... Director's View from Kevin Trainor Treasurer's Report ... Kevin Trainor Letter of Comment ... Lloyd Penney Con Report ... Son of Silvercon II

Bureau Reports
Films Fantastic — Welcommittee
FanActivity Gazette — Welcome to the Writers Exchange!
Tightbeam — Round Robins Bureau — Welcommittee
N'APA — The N3F Review of Books Incorporating Prose Bono

SerCon Andre Norton Bio-Bibliography

Correspondence Bureau Art by Jose Sanchez