



The National **80** Fantasy Fan **Years**

Fandom's Second Oldest Print Publication
Cras ad Stellas— Tomorrow to the Stars
Volume 80 Number 12

December 2021

Denise Fisk to Lead Birthday Card Bureau

With Justin Busch's enthusiastic agreement, I am appointing Denise Fisk to take over the Birthday Card Bureau.

Membership Recruitment

Wanted: More members willing to take a pro-active role in recruiting for the N3F. We have several fine members already working on recruiting new Neffers, but more are needed.

Neffys

Once again, it is time to make nominations for the 2022 Neffy Awards, for fine stfnal work completed in 2021. The following is the list of topics that we used last year. Now is the time to improve this list! Please suggest new topics. We will then advance to a list of nominees. You are welcome to suggest additions. email phil-lies@4liberty.net

- Best Novel
- Best Shorter Work
- Best Fan Writer
- Best Fan Artist
- Best Fan Website
- Best Fan Editor
- Best Non-N3F Fanzine
- Best N3F fanzine
- Best Comic/Manga/Anime
- Best TV show
- Best Movie
- Best Literary, etc., Stfnal Work
- Best Literary-Critical or Historical Work

The Directors' View By Heath Row

As a member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, one of the primary benefits you receive is the receipt of many clubzines. The N3F currently publishes one print clubzine, The National Fantasy Fan, and no fewer than nine electronic clubzines: Eldritch Science, Fanactivity Gazette, Films Fantastic, Ionisphere, Mangaverse, N'APA, The N3F Review of Books, Origin, and Tightbeam. Each clubzine is edited by a different person—or people—and each focuses on a different aspect of fandom.

The purpose of this installment of “The Director’s View,” a new column penned by members of the Directorate, of which I am currently serving as chair, is to introduce—or reintroduce you, as the case might be—to the wide range of clubzines available to members. They are all available on the N3F’s Web site and are distributed via email. But many Neffers might discover that they are unaware of a select few newer clubzines, or are otherwise infrequent readers of clubzines beyond The Fan. You’re reading The Fan now; it’s in your hands.

Eldritch Science is the N3F’s fiction, poetry, and art zine. The clubzine publishes longer works of fiction—from 7,500 words to complete novels—poems, and related fan art. It does not publish fan fiction as such. Published once or twice a year, the most recent issue, No. 7, was released in May 2021. That issue featured fiction from Neffers such as J. F. Posthumus, L. Jagi Lamplighter, and Ian J. Malone and Chris Kennedy. You can access back issues at <https://tnfff.org/eldritch-science/>.

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We are getting a lot of letters of comment, these days. Keep it up!

However, as TNFF is space limited, some letters may start being passed over to The N3F FanActivity Gazette,.



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Continued Next Column, Middle

Fanactivity Gazette (formerly Nameless News) is the club's brand new newszine, launched just this year! The N3F has published six monthly issues so far in 2021, with the most recent issue (No. 6, naturally) coming out in November. That issue included fanzine reviews by Justin E. A. Busch, Cathode Ray's frenetic TV column "Rabid Ears: Ravings of a TV Fiend," Mindy Hunt's convention calendar, and a Corflu Pangloss Progress Report. You can access back issues at <https://tnfff.org/the-n3f-newszine/>.

Films Fantastic, edited by Neffer Eric Jamborsky, spun out of The Fan in 2018. The clubzine is the official organ of the N3F Film Bureau and explores motion pictures of long ago. Since it launched as a standalone title, Jamborsky has published roughly bimonthly, with no issues so far this year. The most recent issue is No. 13, which came out last November. That edition features reviews of Attack of the Crab Monsters, The Giant Claw,

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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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King Dinosaur, Land Unknown, Teenagers from Outer Space, Fire Maidens of Outer Space, The Story of Mankind, Maniac, and Attack of the Giant Leeches. You can access back issues at <https://tnfff.org/films-fantastic/>.

Ionisphere is a once-defunct N3F clubzine that was revived by its original editor, John Thiel, head of the N3F's Fan-Pro Coordinating Activity Bureau. Since 2017, Thiel has kept a consistent bimonthly schedule, which is impressive. At the time of this writing, the most recent issue was No. 31, which came out in October. Another issue is expected yet this year. No. 31 included an article considering science fiction movie soundtracks and a too-short interview with Garth Spencer, who discusses the history of fandom in Canada. You can access back issues at <https://tnfff.org/12116-2/>.

Mangaverse is the house organ of the N3F's Anime, Comics, and Manga Bureau. Published since 2004, it has been helmed by several editors, most recently Patrick Ijima-Washburn, who published three issues so far in 2021. The most recent issue, No. 5.2, came out in November and is labeled a "Special Demon Issue." Contents of the wonderfully designed clubzine includes an article on horror legend Shinichi Koga, manga reviews, fan memories, and material on the history of manga. If you haven't been reading this recently revived clubzine, you are definitely missing out. You can access back issues at <https://tnfff.org/mangaverse/>.

N'APA, then, is our second-oldest clubzine. First published in 1959, N'APA is our club's apa, or amateur press association. Each participating contributor creates their own fanzine and sends it into the central editor, who compiles them into the apa for redistribution to participants. Jefferson P. Swycaffer has served as central editor since 2018, and the apa published six issues this year. The most recent edition, No. 255, features material by Neffers including Ahrvid Engholm, Samuel Lubell, Will Mayo, George Phillies, Jefferson P. Swycaffer, and John Thiel. You can access back issues at <https://tnfff.org/napa/>.

The N3F Review of Books is another relatively new clubzine, in publication since 2019. The Review publishes reviews of novels, anthologies, literary criticism, and other books—and offers material on the actual writing of science fiction, fantasy, and horror. Nine issues were published this year. The most recent edition, No. 26, features more than 30 book reviews, an article on the role of antagonists in fiction, and a piece on the value of literary criticism. You can access back issues at <https://tnfff.org/the-n3f-review-of-books/>.

Origin is also relatively new. The publication of the N3F's Fandom History and Research Bureau launched in 2018. Published monthly, the clubzine features his-

torical articles and a vigorous letter column. The most recent issue, No. 45, came out in November and features a look at science fiction published by Century Publications and its Merit Books imprint, a consideration of reading sf and fantasy, one contributor's favorite science fiction stories, and an analysis of science fiction books of the 1950s. You can access back issues at <https://tnfff.org/origin/>.

Finally, Tightbeam. Our third oldest clubzine was established in 1960 as Hyperspace Tightbeam. It took only a few issues for the name to be shortened to Tightbeam. So far this year, we've published 11 issues, with the most recent being No. 326. That issue featured fan art; a letter column; anime, comic book, and movie reviews; a bio-bibliography of Philip José Farmer, and even recipes. Delicious! You can access back issues at <https://tnfff.org/12126-2/>.

In addition to being posted on the N3F's Web site, the clubzines are also emailed to members. So be sure to check your inbox and spam or promotions folders for email from N3F President George Phillies. Also consider searching your email for any of the clubzine titles, and they should pop up. If you're not receiving the clubzines via email, contact George, and he'll be sure to smuggle you the essentials.

There are three ways for you to get involved in the clubzines. First of all, the Directorate encourages you to become readers of the zines. If you're not already receiving them or reading them, that would be the best place to start—read them. It is surprising and impressive not just how many zines the N3F publishes, but how new some of the titles are. Secondly, consider writing a letter of comment to a zine once you've read it to let the editors know what you think—and know—about the topics and themes addressed in a given issue. Writing letters is an easy and fun way to contribute to a zine—and to interact and engage with other members and fans. And thirdly, if you are inspired to write an article or otherwise contribute to a clubzine, send your ideas and queries to the editors and see what they think. I bet you dollars to donuts that they will welcome your submissions with enthusiasm. Some editors might even welcome submissions without discussion beforehand. Just make sure something falls within the given title's area of focus.

Regardless of what you choose to do, the thing that struck me most strongly while preparing this installment of "The Director's View" was the extremely wide range of topics our clubzines cover. If you are interested in original science fiction, fantasy, and horror writing; fandom news; movies and television; the publishing industry; anime, comic books, and manga; apas and making your own zine; book reviews; fandom history; or other topics—the N3F is already publishing a zine

for you. There they are, waiting.

Until next time, I'll see you in the pages of our zines!

Letters of Comment

Editor:

I wanted to send off a few brief comments on the November TNFF. It appears that the club newsletter has the best and longest letter column of any of the N3F publications. Seems slightly unusual to me, but it's probably not something that deserves scholarly examination

I am sending along some dues money to treasurer Kevin Trainor. I have not received a renewal notice, but I'm pretty sure my membership is about to expire sometime around now. This \$18 infusion should keep me paid up for another year of thrills & excitement. Well, another year of fanzines and club activities anyway.

Jon Swartz's overview of Tarzan was brief but covered most of the basics. In addition to a long series of stories involving science fiction and fantasy themes, Tarzan is actually a legitimate fantasy character because he can speak with animals, and they speak with him. This is an ability not shared with the dozens of Tarzan knock-offs produced over the past hundred plus years since Tarzan was first introduced to the world.

And if you want more evidence that Tarzan is a fantasy creation, consider the fact that altho he has grown to magnificent manhood in the care of animals, he has no beard. An adult human male who never needs to shave is certainly pure fantasy!

While it is likely that Tarzan as a literary creation will never die, I think he will become much less important and much less widely recognized in the years to come for the simple reason that the environment in which he flourished, the remote jungles of Africa, has simply ceased to exist. It is questionable whether the jungle world that Burroughs created in 1912 ever existed even at that time, since civilization with all the wonders and woes that come with it had been introduced (or encroaching, your choice of adjectives) into the African continent since the mid 19th century. Remote tribes completely isolated and having no contact with the outside world just don't exist any more. There are no lost civilizations, hidden dinosaur infested plateaus, mutated leopard people, or ant sized humans there. The terrain has been explored and penetrated by civilization, with all of Africa long ago carved up into separate nations and all the peoples there are now regulated by many national governments and the peoples therein are now working in recognized economic activities.

Part of the appeal of the Tarzan stories was that lost

in-time concept, a world completely isolated from the realms of modern civilization, a place where any fantastic event or creation could and very well might turn up at any moment, and those extraordinary events did turn up, in every single Tarzan story Burroughs wrote. Those days are done, and the glamour and luster of that alien environment has gone with it. Strange new realms completely divorced from the everyday world as we know it have become the stomping ground and the primary appeal of modern science fiction and fantasy literature.

I suspect that people in the future who read Tarzan will do so with the same mind-set we today read Jason and the Argonauts, or Utopia, or Gulliver's Travels; as quaint outdated visions of science fiction/fantasy.

I should also enhance Jon's info about the various Tarzan radio series. There were three versions of the Tarzan radio show. The first, theoretically based on the actual Tarzan novels, was a syndicated series created by Frederick C. Dahlquist's Gold Seal productions, most heavily sponsored by Signal Oil who obtained a west coast exclusive, and primarily heard on the west coast and some adjoining states where Signal Oil had economic interests. The series did very well in other parts of the country, but Signal was by far the biggest advertiser.

The second series was created and syndicated by ER Burroughs Inc., and ran thru about 1938. It consists of two long running serials, "Tarzan and the Jewels Of Asher" which ran 39 15-minute chapters, was later serialized in Argosy Magazine and then issued in hardback as "Tarzan and the Forbidden City". The radio syndication was spotty and uneven, and lacked the commercial advertising polish the Gold Seal series had enjoyed.

A second 39 chapter serial "Tarzan and the Fires of Tor" ran thru 1938, primarily sponsored in select markets by Domino Cigarettes. It was adapted to the Tarzan daily comic strip, and became a one-shot Dell Tarzan comic about 1948. No novel came out of this series (which is probably good, because that particular radio serial was not well written or very interesting).

For those who care, I wrote a long, detailed article on the subject called "Tarzan On The Radio", which appeared in issue #31 of my fanzine Fadeaway. This can be accessed by going to the efanzines.com web site and typing in the fanzine title: Fadeaway, then scrolling down to issue #31, which is there as a PDF file.

---Bob Jennings
fabficbks@aol.com

Editor:

I did fall behind a little bit...before I could get to responding to the October TNFF, the November issue came along. Time for a two-fer...

V80#10...Democracy reigns, and looks like another successful election is in the books. As I see reaction to various fanzines in the letter column, some say that paper

zines are different than e-zines, and are treated differently. For what I do, I don't really treat them any differently. I try to write a decent letter of column for them. I have noticed lately that some e-zines have become gigantic, as much as 160 pages, and I am not sure if I'd have the time to write a decent loc for them. I have too irons in the fire.

My own letter here... I am continuing to work on trade shows and magazines, and while *Amazing Stories* is on a bit of a hiatus, I have offered my services as an editor/copy editor/proofreader to *DreamForge Magazine*, and I will see what I can do for them. Sometimes, I think I am too busy, but I consider the alternative...

V80#11... Looks like lots of other appreciate the choice in format in receiving N3F zines, paper and electronic. I have far too many paper zines to deal with, so anything electronic is welcome.

I did have some interest in Tarzan when I was much younger, so thanks to Jon Swartz for all his research. It is hard to believe that Tarzan turns 110 next year. I admit that I liked Conan Doyle more than I liked Burroughs.

Sorry I don't have more for you, but I think I am done. Given that this may appear around this time next month, I will take the opportunity to wish all the members of the N3F a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and may we please have a pandemic-free 2022. I think we deserve it.

Yours, Lloyd Penney

Editor:

While tidying up some piles in front of my dresser this weekend, I came across an unread copy of *The Fan* Vol. 80, No. 8 from August. The tidying was inspired by texting my wife Friday for a reminder of the entry code to our storage unit—to which I was taking several boxes of books—and indicating to her that it was on top of a pile in front of my dresser. What I didn't specify was that it was on top of the center pile in front of my dresser because, yes, several had accumulated. Regardless, she texted back that that “shouldn't necessarily be an acceptable organizational bucket,” which was true. So I was inspired to tidy up the piles. So I found the unread issue. And so I write you this evening.

A belated and hearty congratulations to Patsy Williams-King for receiving the Franson Award this year. As a fellow recipient—2010, along with the esteemed R-Laurraine Tutihasi—I can enthusiastically say, “Welcome!” Also, as a long-running but not overly dependable participant in many of the round robins, I can attest to their awesomeness, quality correspondents, and food for thought—as well as fuel for your reading pile, viewing and listening lists. Judy Carroll's appreciative bureau report in this very issue says more than I can in this letter of comment. Congratulations, Patsy. I am honored to still receive your letters in my mailbox!

The Fan's letter column remains one of my favorite parts of *The Fan*, and there are several excellent missives included in this issue. The letters of comment from Nic Farey and John Thiel got me thinking about the very nature of fandom—and why people even get involved as fans in the first place. As sf and fantasy fans, we might think we know what the word “fan” even means. According to Merriam-Webster, the term can be defined as “an enthusiastic devotee (as of a sport or a performing art) usually as a spectator” and “an ardent admirer or enthusiast (as of a celebrity or a pursuit).”

In fact, Merriam-Webster's Web site expands on the definition in a sidebar titled “The Fanatical Origin of Fan”: “Many words, such as fan, do have colorful backstories. Fan is generally—and very likely correctly—believed to be a shortened form of fanatic. The origin of fanatic (which can be traced back to the Latin word *fanum*, meaning ‘sanctuary, temple’) is less often commented on. In English, fan made an early appearance in the late 17th century only to disappear for two centuries, resurfacing in the late 19th century. In this later period of use, it often referred to the devoted observers of, or participants in, a sport. An 1885 article from *The Kansas City Times*, for example, contains the line ‘The base ball “fans” of the police [sic] force and fire department engage in a ball game.’”

Additionally, I think about being a fan on a spectrum of activity. Yes, you can be a passive fan—you enjoy listening to a particular musical group, watching a specific television program, or reading works written by a given author—but you can also be an active fan, and that's where clubs like the N3F come in. Historically, Thiel might be right: Because sf fans became involved in fandom through conventions and fanzines, “any fandom is fanzine fandom”—historically. Now, you can be an active fan in other ways. Some—wearing a T-shirt featuring imagery from your favorite anime—might not be all that active, though you might meet some who choose to comment on your clothing. But with the advent of the Internet and social media, you can also become a more active fan... without ever engaging with another fan. For example, you might read numerous Web sites and blogs on fannish topics. You might even belong to some email discussion lists or Facebook Groups addressing fannish themes. But if you don't post, reply to other people's posts, or befriend other fans—even your activity is somewhat passive.

That is the challenge before us, I think: The new broader spectrum of what active fandom can mean. There's enough room for everyone and all degrees of activity, though how we've historically defined active fandom—going to cons and reading fanzines (which usually necessitated you to write another fan to procure said fanzine)—is now different... because online activity can be more passive and not necessarily lead to engaging

with other fans in a meaningful way. One can merely read, consume, and be entertained by other, more active fans.

Somehow, in a roundabout fashion, that brings me back to other Neffers's comments on Lloyd Penney's remark that—paraphrased—fans don't always get along. Heck, people don't always get along. But we don't need to define "people." We do, however, feel the need to define "fan," and in my case, perhaps unfortunately, active and passive fans. (To remark on whether we get along, sometimes, becoming enthusiastic—perhaps even fanatic—about a given topic can at times lead to lapses in social graces. Passionate people do not always agree, and they do not always disagree gracefully. And fen, while inherently social if they are active fen, can still be somewhat antisocial occasionally.) That, then, has me thinking about drivers of fandom, or what inspires someone to take whatever step they take beyond reading, watching, or listening.

In a BBC article online, "The psychology of stanning," a writer pens, "[Fandoms can help 'support and connect individuals,' often providing a space for long-lasting friendships and even romantic relationships to form. On the other hand however, sharing an opinion that is contrary to what the rest of the community believes could lead to people being 'ostracized or bullied, with all the negative implications of that on mental health.' One reason you might be drawn to a fan community is because as people, we prefer people we see as 'like us'. ... [because of this, entering into a fandom can help us discover who we are..."]

That adequately addresses the social motivations to become an active fan: Meeting other fans. Sharing our passions. In the end, becoming an active fan of any kind, I think, remains grounded in being enthusiastic about something, and wanting to share that enthusiasm with others. So, today, you can be a fan without fanzines—there are other ways to engage and interact. But can you be an active fan if you don't wear that shirt, go to that con, write that letter of comment, or post something to that Facebook group? Liking someone else's post might not be enough.

Penney, meanwhile, asked about the N3F Mini-Con, which we held in July. It went well! We had a small group gather online: myself, George Phillies, Melody Friedenthal (a librarian who runs a science fiction book club at the Worcester Public Library), and the recently departed Tamara Wilhite. We mostly became acquainted, shared stories about how we became fen and got involved in the N3F, and shared tips on recent books, movies, TV shows and other aspects of fandom. It was a well-spent hour, and I'd eagerly agree to host another one. We didn't even need the "non-genda" to guide our discussion. If folks are interested in us holding another one, let me

know. Perhaps we can do so before the end of the year.

And Justin E. A. Busch remarked on The Fan's status as the longest continuously published print fanzine—or "fandom's oldest print publication," as it says on the cover. If that is indeed the case, we cannot—cannot—cede that claim by moving to a soft copy-only approach to The Fan. As I've said in previous letters, I would pay more as a member to receive all of our zines in hard copy—though I understand the need to separate editorial, printing, and mailing duties. Kudos to Busch for not just taking on the editorial reins of Films Fantastic, but intending to print the zine, as well. Mr. Busch, I'd like to contribute toward that effort. How can I send you some money so you don't bear that cost alone? I cannot wait to see my first print edition of Films Fantastic.

Jon D. Swartz's SerCon on Dick Cole, specifically Philip Wylie's *Gladiator*, made me think of Batman and Doc Savage, as well. Have any Neffers read *Gladiator*? I'm intrigued!

Welcome, Jason and Mindy Hunt, as new members of the N3F. I'm glad you've joined us! I look forward to learning more about what you are fans of, why, and how.

Let's see... what else has been going on? Not too long ago, my wife and I went to see *Last Night in Soho*. It's a pretty wonderful movie, though it doesn't hold up too well once it's over. Regardless, a wonderful dark fantasy, almost a horror movie, that involves a form of time travel, ghosts, and other such themes. Very fun to watch.

A friend and I also watched the 1932 pre-Code version of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Starring Fredric March, it is very, very good. Worth looking for, for sure. We followed that up with the Hammer flick *Dr. Jekyll and Sister Hyde*, which wasn't as good but was also enjoyable. And as a family, we're watching the TV show *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, based on the Lemony Snicket books. We watch an episode every Sunday, and tonight if all goes according to plan, we'll watch "The Hostile Hospital: Part 2" from Season 2. And while I've largely been reading men's adventure series books such as *Boston Avenger* (Lone Wolf series), *Miami Manhunt* (Brad Dolan), and *The Interlopers* (Matt Helm), I recently finished Leigh Brackett's *The Long Tomorrow*, also in preparation for Loscon next weekend after the holiday. I have one week remaining to read Mark Twain's *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, and I'll be ready for the book discussions hosted by John Hertz. I should be able to do so handily.

Sincerely,
Heath Row

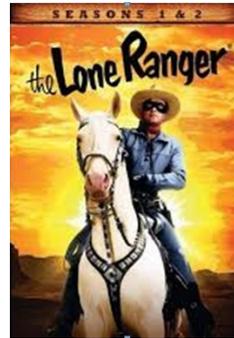
Editor:

I was delighted to hear that Graham J. Darling sold his story, "The Eternity Machine," to a professional publication! The story was a gem when it came to the N3F

SerCon

The Lone Ranger: WXYZ's Most Successful Program

by
Jon D. Swartz, Ph.D.
N3F Historian



The Lone Ranger is a fictional, former Texas Ranger, who fights injustice in America's Old West with his Indian friend Tonto. The character began on the radio in the 1930s. The radio series proved to be a hit and spawned a series of books of all kinds, an equally popular TV show that ran from 1949 to 1957, newspaper daily and Sunday comic strips, comic books, big little books, movie serials and full-length movies, and countless merchandise items.

The Lone Ranger character was originally believed to have been inspired by Texas Ranger Captain John R. Hughes, to whom the book *The Lone Star Ranger* by Zane Grey was dedicated in 1915. Hughes hunted down the outlaw gang who killed Texas Ranger Captain Frank Jones in an ambush.

Radio

The Lone Ranger first appeared in 1933 in a radio show conceived either by WXYZ (Detroit) radio station owner George W. Trendle, or by Fran Striker, the show's principal writer; but probably by both of them with help from other WXYZ staff members.

The title character was played on radio by several actors, most memorably by Brace Beemer. Tonto was played throughout most of the radio run by English actor John Todd. Fred Foy was the best known of the several announcers.

George W. Trendle

During the 1920s George W. Trendle (1884 - 1972) was a Detroit, Michigan, lawyer who had established a reputation as a tough negotiator specializing in movie contracts and leases. Trendle became involved in the Detroit area entertainment business in 1928 when local motion picture theater owner John H. Kunsky offered Trendle 25 percent ownership in exchange for his services. Trendle and Kunsky formed the Kunsky-Trendle Broadcasting Company in 1929 after purchasing Detroit radio station WGHP. The station's call letters were later changed to WXYZ. Trendle was president and Kunsky was vice president of the company. Trendle was active as

Short Story Contest, and it is a true joy when stories from the contest go on to find a professional slot. It was an honor to have it submitted to our contest, and certainly a feather in Graham's cap to find a paying market for it!

Speaking as a Director for the N3F, I can't think of anything meaningful to say. I'm honored to be re-elected, but these days, George Phillies is leading us so well, the Directorate doesn't have a lot it needs to do. Personally, I like being part of a rubber-stamp rump assembly, because it means that, at the moment, we aren't deluged by crises or suffering from issues that desperately need addressing!

A quick shout-out to Judy Carroll and the Writer's Exchange Bureau. I recently had the joy of reading two novels sent to us for the WEB by the same author, the author's first novel and an immediate sequel. There is something wonderful in a first novel, a brand new viewpoint unique in human history, a new voice, a new insight, a new inspiration. We love reading new stuff!

Happy Trails!
Jefferson P. Swycaffer

Editor:

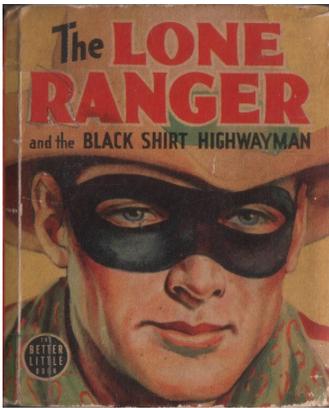
George: I was surprised and glad to see so many long and interesting letters in the letter column of the November issue. Looking at Bob Jennings' comments on the round robins, I recall when they first came into existence, intended to make correspondence more interesting and attract more activity. A lot of members resented it because of what it was called; they did not regard a mailing as a "robin". The explanation given of it wasn't satisfying to them, either, and was a rather frail one, as I recall it. However, they did start out the round robins, and they had some success with it.

Mentioning story round robins, we had a few of those in the Asimov's and Analog forums. I joined them, and some interesting stories came out of it, but there were some fights, too, about how the plots would change with each new writer. But it was very interesting, nonetheless. I think they might attract interest and writers if we tried it out here.

I'd remind Jennings that a paper TNFF would cost at least a dollar to mail, so the treasury would not remain very flush for long—that is, if he meant that every dues-paying member received it. Otherwise, I think the treasury could cover the full-dues paying members.

Speaking of Burroughs fan clubs, I don't know what a one-author fan club would do by way of fan activity.

-John Thiel\



the station manager, but Kunsky is rarely mentioned except as a co-owner.

Fran Striker

Francis Hamilton Striker (1903 - 1962) was a writer for radio and comics, best known for helping to create the programs for WXYZ. Striker was extremely prolific. In addition

to writing 156 *Lone Ranger* scripts a year, he wrote *The Green Hornet* (built around the Lone Ranger's descendant, Britt Reid) and the short-lived series, *Ned Jordan Secret Agent*. He scripted various *Lone Ranger* novels, two movie serials, and *The Lone Ranger* comic strip. He also contributed scripts to *Challenger of the Yukon* (later changed to -- and then adapted for television -- as *Sergeant Preston*). Striker's work as a comic strip writer extended to writing *The Green Hornet* comic books and the 1945 newspaper comic strip *The Sea Wolf*. In addition, he was the author of the several popular boy's adventure novels featuring the character Tom Quest.

Comic Strip

King Features Syndicate distributed a newspaper strip of the Lone Ranger from September, 1938 to December, 1971. Fran Striker was the original script writer, but he was soon replaced by Bob Green -- and later Paul S. Newman and others. Ed Kressy was the original artist, but he was replaced in 1939 by Charles Flanders who drew the scrip until its conclusion.

In 1981, the New York Times Syndicate launched a second Lone Ranger strip, written by Cary Bates with art by Russ Heath. It ran until 1984.

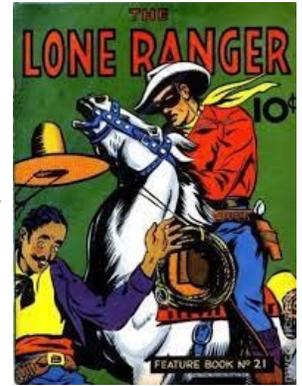
Comic Books

In 1948 Western Publishing, with its partner Dell Comics, launched a comic book series that lasted for 145 issues. The series initially consisted of reprints from the newspaper strip. New stories by writer Paul S. Newman and artist Tom Gill began with the August, 1951 issue. Newman and Gill stayed with the series until its final issue, dated July, 1962.

Tonto got his own spin-off title in 1951, which was published for 31 issues. Even the Lone Ranger's horse, Silver, had a comic book, *The Lone Ranger's Famous Horse Hi-Yo Silver*, starting in 1952; and it ran for 34 issues. In addition, Dell published three over-sized Lone Ranger annuals, as well as an adaptation of the 1956 theatrical film.

Movies

Republic Pictures released two Lone Ranger serials in the late 1930s: *The Lone Ranger* (1938) and *The Lone Ranger Rides Again* (1939). A third serial was planned, but never made. There were three Lone Ranger features films made by Wrather Productions, beginning in 1955, with Clayton Moore starring and Jay Silverheels as Tonto. In 1981 a third feature film, *The Legend of the Lone Ranger*, was released, this time with Klinton Spilsbury and Michael Horse in the starring roles.



More recently, there was the Johnny Depp (as Tonto) 2013 movie that was more spoof than the accepted Lone Ranger origin/legend. Still, Depp was great in the role of an offbeat Tonto, and the movie's special effects were extensive and quite entertaining.

Television

To television viewers, movie serial actor Clayton Moore was the Lone Ranger. Tonto was played in the television series by Jay Silverheels, who was a Mohawk from the Six Nations Indian Reserve in Ontario, Canada.

Silver, Silver, Everywhere

The color (and element) silver played an important role in the legend and adventures of the Lone Ranger. His horse was named Silver, Silver was shod with silver horseshoes, the Lone Ranger used silver bullets, etc. All this silver came from the silver mine that he and his brother Dan had worked before they became Texas Rangers. The mine also supplied any cash he and Tonto needed in their work.

“Kemo Sabe”

The Lone Ranger and Tonto called each other “Kemo Sabe” and heated discussions have taken place among fans over just what the term means. Two answers appear in the “official” Lone Ranger lore: “Trusty Scout” (according to writer Fran Striker), and “Faithful



Friend” according to others. As to where the phrase came from, radio director/producer James Jewell's father-in-law ran a boy's camp in Michigan named Kamp Kee Mo Sah-Bee, later re-named The Lone Ranger Camp – so the origin of the term seems obvious.

Lone Ranger Safety Club

Perhaps the biggest promotion involving the character was his Lone Ranger Safety Club. Introduced on the October 13, 1935, radio broadcast, the purpose of the club was to help reduce the number of automobile accidents in Detroit! The Mayor and Police Commissioner of Detroit, along with the Lone Ranger, spoke on the radio program. Silvercup Bread was the first club sponsor, and only listeners who lived where Silvercup Bread was sold were eligible for membership.

This policy forced other companies that sponsored the Lone Ranger to create clubs of their own, and Lone Ranger Safety Clubs subsequently spread throughout the country, with over twenty different clubs formed. A member received a membership card, a code to use in sending and receiving secret messages, a pledge card, and a badge. There was also a Safety Club Manual that contained the usual information such manuals feature.

The Lone Ranger & Science Fiction

Many today find it difficult to believe that the Lone Ranger had anything to do with science fiction. Yet, his most successful premium, The Atomic Bomb Ring, was the result of his 1947 adventure involving a meteorite from Andromeda that had fallen in California. Scientists of the United States government wanted to study ore from this meteorite, hoping it contained a new element ("The Meteor from Outer Space"). The identifying item worn by the government agent the Lone Ranger was to contact -- when the ore was being transported from California to Missouri -- was a silver bullet that he wore in some manner!

It turned out that he wore a ring made of a silver bullet. Regular listeners knew what that meant: a new premium would be offered soon. The Atomic Bomb Ring became the most popular radio premium in the history of such things, with millions distributed to listeners who sent in a Kix Cereal box top and 15¢ in coin. These rings are available on eBay, even today.

Merchandising

The Lone Ranger became one of the most merchandised characters, both real and fictional, of all time. In addition to his club, there were countless Lone Ranger printed materials published over the years, including Lone Ranger big little books, comic books, short stories, magazines, and paperback and hardcover novels, etc. Of course, there were also countless toys sold related to the Lone Ranger, plus many premiums offered by his radio and television shows.

The Dan Reid Connection

Listeners of the radio program know that the Lone Ranger's older brother was Captain Dan Reid of the



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Texas Rangers. For a time his nephew, Dan Reid, Jr., rode with him and Tonto. Dan's horse was named

Victor (and was a son of Silver), while Tonto rode his paint horse Scout – that at first he had called just Paint. (Tonto originally rode on Silver with the Lone Ranger, then on his own horse White Feller.) The Lone Ranger eventually sent Dan off to school in the East, and he later became a successful publisher. He had a son, Britt Reid, who became the famous crime fighter, The Green Hornet.

The radio programs where this connection was mentioned were favorites of regular listeners. The actor who played the father of Britt Reid on The Green Hornet was John Todd, the English actor who also played Tonto.

Additional Lone Ranger and Tonto Trivia

Outlaw Butch Cavendish and his gang ambushed the six Texas Rangers that rode into Bryant's Gap (led by Captain Dan Reid), killing all the Rangers with the exception of Reid's younger brother, John Reid, who was wounded, then found and nursed back to health by Tonto. John Reid subsequently became The Lone Ranger.

The Lone Ranger and Tonto "served justice" in only seven western states. Early fans of the radio program could name the states. There was even a map of these states for members of The Lone Ranger Safety Club.

The ambush of the Rangers that led to the origin of The Lone Ranger did not come from the people associated with the radio program. Instead, the story of the ambush originated with the 1938 Republic movie serial. After the release of the serial, the radio program began referring to the fatal ambush by the Butch Cavendish gang.

Jack Deeds was the first actor to portray the Lone Ranger, followed by George Stenius, then by WXYZ station manager Brace Beemer for a short period. When Beemer left to open his own advertising agency, Earle Graser assumed the role until he was killed in a car accident in 1941. At that time Brace Beemer was recruited to return to the role, which he played until the program went off the air in 1955.

Before Fran Striker took over the task, writing eight of the big little books, the Lone Ranger BLBs were written by the equally prolific Gaylord Du Bois under his pen name of Buck Wilson, credited with three of the

books. Most of the other BLBs were not credited.

Some Conclusions

The Lone Ranger was, by far, the most successful of the various radio programs created at WXYZ in Detroit, although other shows (The Green Hornet, Challenge of the Yukon/Sergeant Preston) were also very successful.

Although Trendle owned WXYZ and had the idea for a western adventure character, The Lone Ranger was actually named by Harold True, an announcer and studio manager at the radio station. True is also credited with suggesting Striker as the writer for the program.

The question of who really created The Lone Ranger is an ongoing one among fans of the character. Perhaps it is more accurate to say, as one of Striker's sons expressed it, that The Lone Ranger was not created – he evolved.

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Bureaus

Correspondence Bureau

Want to make new friends?

What to discuss the latest book by your favorite author?

What to debate the merits of soft science fiction vs hard science fiction?

Then you have come to the right place.

If you wish to join you need to do the following:

1. Send me your name and either email address OR postal address,

2. If you wish to correspond with a member already listed with the Correspondence Bureau include their name.

3. If you have a postal address and wish to correspond with someone listed "by email" let me know and I will contact them. I will let you know their reply.

Depending on your preference you will receive an email or postal mail with the contact information on the person you wish to contact, and they will receive your

contact information.

The following members are interested in corresponding.

Jeffrey Redmond - by email

John Thiel - by email

Judy Carroll - by email or postal mail.

William Mayo - by email NEW MEMBER

Send email requests to : Judy Carroll, BlueShadows2012@gmail.com or 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Book Review Bureau

The Bureau continues to publish reviews of books in its zine The N3F Review of Books Including Prose Bono. We did recently get an interesting question, referring back to our Neffy Awards (see Page 1) namely how it could be that there was no overlap between our list of nominees, last year, and the list of nominees for the Hugo Award. The answer is simple math. Sometime back, I started publishing an incomplete list of published novels. Without even reaching any of the hardback publishers, I was listing well over a thousand novels a year, and that did not count folks who only published on Amazon. At a guess, there are a couple thousand English-language SF novels published each year. If each of our voting members reads a novel a month — may not be a good number — most novels are never read by one of our members. Unsurprisingly, there is then very little overlap. If you want to see more overlap between nomination lists, ignoring that our readers and Worldcon attendee readers may happen to have different tastes, you need to help us recruit more members.

Fan-Pro Coordinating Bureau

We're shifting over to a more face-the-public format. Next issue of IO we'll add a link to Ansible's news service so that reports on activities may be found, as a substitute for having a news column of our own. -John Thiel

History and Research Bureau

Members need only check out this month's Origin to see how we're coming to terms with our existence as a bureau, and our next step is to achieve greater direct contact with the membership.—John Thiel

Round Robins Bureau

Unfortunately, no members involved in the Round Robins Bureau have come forward and told me which Round Robins are active. Due to this lack of interest the Round Robins Bureau is now considered inactive.

However, if people are interested in a Round Robin on some topic I will be happy to recruit more members. Contact: Judy Carroll , 971 East 120 South Spanish Fork, Utah 84660

Web Site

Melody Friedenthal continues to update our web site N3F.org with new zines so soon as they are published.

Welcommittee

We have one new member this month who has joined the N3F. Welcome, Amy Clark. We hope your time with the N3F is fun and memorable.

Please read the current TNFF for a list of the many activities and bureaus you can join. Being active is the most fulfilling way to enjoy being a member of the National Fantasy Fan Federation.

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.

If you have questions about the N3F or are interested in helping with the Welcommittee please contact:

Judy Carroll at BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
or 975 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 84660
Judy Carroll at BlueShadows2012@gmail.com
or 975 East 120 South, Spanish Fork, Utah 84660

Writers Exchange

Welcome to the Writers Exchange!

Well, it's the end of another year. How have you done with your writing goals for this year?

My goals were active in my mind for about the first three or four months. After that, they slipped down the good intentions slope and struggled to gain my attention. Every once in a while I would look in their direction and give them a hands up. They would excitedly bounce around in my computer while I wrote a poem or a children's story. After the creative urge settled down, my goals once again slid down the good intentions slope.

I would like to know how your writing goals for this year were achieved. Do you have any ideas that would help those of us who have good intentions slopes?

Your comments will appear in the January, 2022 Writers Exchange article.

I hope 2022 is a great year for all our N3F writers.

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, contact: Judy Carroll. BlueShadows2012@gmail.com OR 975 E 120 S Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Treasury

PayPal balance \$897.77

NSB balance: \$1642.63

In: \$6 for membership renewal

2 life members

23 electronic + 19 regular + 1 household members =
43 voting members

7 archive members + 226 public members = 233 non-voting members

Expiring in December: Michael Hegg, William Carroll, Wesley Kawato

Welcome to Laura Montgomery!

Thanks to John Thiel for renewing!

In the interest of improving the fiscal condition of our club, I am looking into having various types of swag done up, primarily T-shirts. These would most likely be black T-shirts with a white N3F logo, white T-shirts with a black N3F logo, or possibly black & white T-shirts with a black and white N3F logo, if the membership doesn't regard that as excessive. Coffee cups and mousepads are also being considered, and I am open to other suggestions. The T-shirts would have to be ordered in advance, since neither I nor the club is in a position to maintain an inventory of T-shirts; prices would most likely be in the vicinity of \$15, possibly lower, and the shirts would be of good quality.

— Kevin Trainor, N3F Treasurer

Short Story Contest

The deadline approaches.

Send your submissions to Jefferson Swycaffer, abontides@gmail.com, as soon as possible.

The contest rules are at N3F.org under 'Short Story Contest'.



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Treasury — Short Story Contest Deadline Approaches

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