

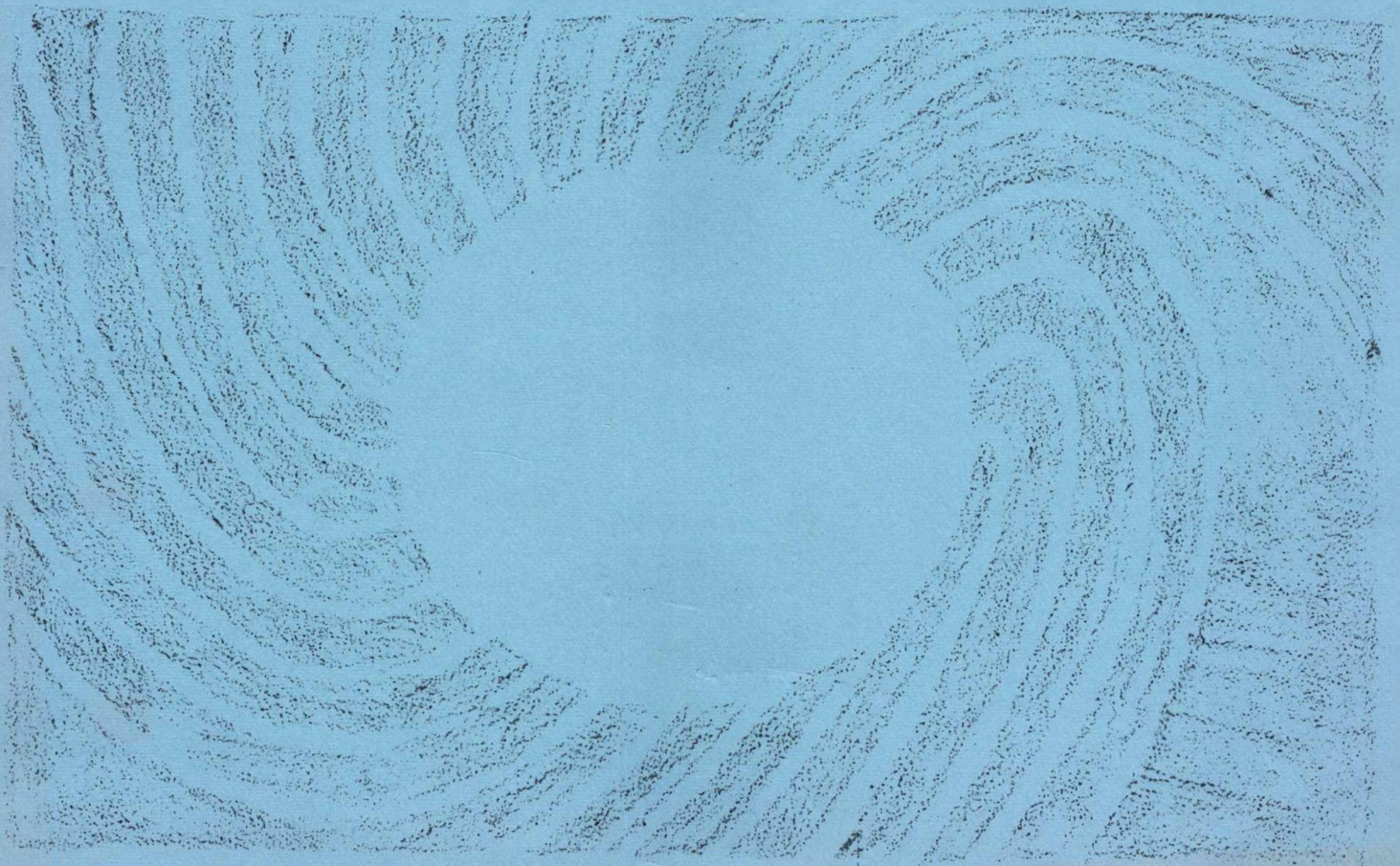
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FEB 1966 ART HAYES

MATACHEWAN ONTARIO CANADA



## THE WRITERS' EXCHANGE.

This is a do-it-ourselves manuscript-criticism and market news service for writers in the field. It is not necessary to be a member of the N3F to swap information through this service. However it is easier to keep posted on developments because its official reports are carried in the Official Organ of the N3F.

There is also a bulletin published irregularly, the third being in preparation as this is written. Its name is the same as that of the department, WRITERS' EXCHANGE. It is not charged for and goes to anyone who asks for it, but we expect to keep hearing from people if they wish to be kept on the mailing list, since of course we prefer it to circulate among people who are actively interested.

We have no rules or bylaws, since we feel that the postal laws and the N3F constitution give us regulations enough in addition to common sense.

People listed on the roster of the Writers' Exchange have shown enough active interest to fill out and mail a brief questionnaire registration card, which carries name, address and any brief remarks plus a regular signoff in the Directors' handwriting: "VOLUNTEER CLUB WORK - NO CHARGES OR OTHER OBLIGATIONS."

Thus anyone can feel free to send any written work to any other Exchanger and expect to be welcome. (At the same time, busy exchangers are just as free to return a Mss. without comment if they so choose. However this is rare, because we all feel an interest, and because it really does not take long to read a mss and comment on a few main points, and furthermore, it's interesting, and finally it makes similar advice available to oneself on a basis of doing as you would be done by.)

So the principles of this project are simple and easy to explain. The Director of it doesn't get overworked either, since its only records are the pack of registration cards and the occasional bulletin. Stf writers, pro or amateur, are really few and far between; those who wish to consult with other writers are fewer, and we don't expect that this operation is ever going to be large. We wish to keep it simple too, since our main interest is writing stf, not talking about it. However, many of us have found that consultation with a straw-poll of readers can be very helpful. So an exchange of market news and other practical ideas.

Here are some practical suggestions for all who wish to try them.

Never send out your only copy. Always make several carbon copies. If you have no carbon paper, then make a second copy -- it'll probably come out better as it gives you a chance to polish again.

Use thinnest possible copy paper - it saves postage. A five-cent stamp will carry about four sheets of bond paper but over a dozen of the thinnest.

Get a postal scale. The cost will soon be paid for in time saved -- mss are always running overweight and few writers live next door to a post office. Enclose a return envelope if you want to see your mss again -- nobody is obligated, remember, to pay its fare back to you. Besides, even well-meaning people might be short of stationery and can mislay delayed replies. In short, do as you would be done by -- it's good management and leads to good fortune, which of course we all wish to one another since business is always best when all are prospering.

ALMA HILL, 463 Park Dr. Apt 11, Boston, Mass. U.S.A. 02215.

CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION (Continued).

ARTICLE III - ELECTIONS

1. The President and five members of the Directorate are to be 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 first. 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.
2. No person may hold two elective offices at the same time.
3. Each member may cast one vote for each of the five candidates of his choice in the election of the Directorate. The five candidates receiving the largest number of votes are elected. Ties are resolved by majority agreement of those elected candidates not included in the tie.
4. Of the candidates for President, the one receiving the largest number of votes is elected. In case of a tie, the elected Directorate chooses a President from the tied candidates.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICIAL ORGAN

1. The association issues a publication of at least bi-monthly schedule which carries, in addition to other material, a quarterly statement of the financial status of the organization, together with a listing of new members and their addresses.

ARTICLE V - PETITIONS AND AMENDMENTS

1. Petitions of whatever purpose, endorsed by five percent of the members or twenty-five members, whichever is less, must, within sixty days after the Directorate receives them, be submitted to the membership for decision unless the Directorate has already taken the indicated action. Petitions looking towards revision, reversion, or setting aside any action of the President or the Directorate must be submitted within two calendar years following such action, or such petition is invalid and without force.
2. Amendments to the Constitution shall require 2/3 of the votes cast to be approved. All other decisions by the membership shall be by a majority of the votes cast.
3. Any alteration or amendment of the Constitution will be presented to the membership for vote exactly as it is to be entered, or the alteration or amendment is invalid and without force.
4. The power to alter or amend the Constitution is invested solely in the membership.

(Copied from the Volume 24, Number 1 issue of THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN)

## BYLAWS OF THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION

(A compilation of regulations passed by N3F Directorates.)

### I. AUTHORITY

Under the authority implied in Article II(3) of the Constitution of the NFFF, the Directorate shall establish certain By-laws to regulate the affairs of the organization, such Bylaws to be effective when approved by a majority vote of the Directorate as set forth in Article II(4) of the Constitution. The Secretary of the NFFF shall keep a permanent record of the Bylaws, and current Bylaws shall be published in the official organ of the NFFF not less often than once a year.

### II. THE PRESIDENT

The following shall be included among the duties of the President:

1. The President will keep himself informed on the activities of all the officers and committees of the NFFF, so that he may bring before the Directorate matters which need their attention.
2. The President will bring to the attention of the Directors all important Constitutional dates.
3. The President will call attention to violations of the Constitution.
4. The President will submit to the incoming Directorate an estimated budget of funds required for the operation of the NFFF during the coming year. Said budget will be submitted to the Directorate no earlier than 15 December and no later than 31 December.

### III THE DIRECTORATE

1. The Chairman of the Directorate shall report to the membership all measures passed by the Directorate.
2. Copies of all official Directorate correspondence shall be sent to the President and the Secretary-Treasurer.
3. Official Directorate correspondence and statements shall be regarded by the Officers of the NFFF as "DNQ". This "DNQ" shall in no way be construed to preclude an officer publicly expressing his own views on any subject whatever.
4. Each Directorate shall adopt standing rules of procedure.
5. The Directorate Representative to N'APA shall have the following duties:
  - (1) To bring before the Directorate any items of business regarding N'APA which need Directorate attention.
  - (2) To act as a trouble-shooter in cases where there has been an actual or alleged dereliction of duty on the part of the Official Editor of N'APA.
6. The number of Life or Honorary memberships created by Directorate vote may not exceed 1% of the total membership of the NFFF. This rule shall not operate to reduce the number of existing Life memberships at any time.

### IV. THE SECRETARY TREASURER

1. The Secretary may bill the Treasury, as needed, for expenses in the discharge of the office, including purchase of supplies for new members, the sum not to exceed \$35. per year.
2. The Secretary will maintain a current membership roster, and will report new memberships, renewals, and changes of address to the President, Official Editor, Chairman of the Welcommittee, and such other officers as the President may direct, not less often than once a month.

### V. ELECTIONS

1. All candidates must, by the filing deadline, have paid their dues for the year in which they will hold office if elected.

Bylaws Of The National Fantasy Fan Federation (Continued).

V. ELECTIONS

2. In addition to the regular candidates listed on the ballot, members may write in the name of any member in good standing as a candidate for any elective office. Any candidate so elected must submit a written statement of his willingness to serve plus dues for the year in which he will serve to reach the Secretary-Treasurer within 14 days of his notification of election. In the event of non-compliance with the foregoing the election will be voided and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes for that office will be declared the winner.

VI. PUBLICATIONS

1. THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN

(1) The Maximum amount that the Treasury will reimburse the publisher of THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN shall be 13¢ per member per issue, except for the election issue, the ceiling for which shall be 15¢ per member. Any unused portion of this allocation may be permitted to accumulate for the purpose of paying for the increased size of the election issue. All unused funds shall revert to the treasury at the end of the year.

(2) The Official Organ shall contain a list of new members and renewals, as reported by the Secretary-Treasurer; annual publication of the Constitution of the NFFF; and annual publication of a roster of the membership.

2. (1) The maximum amount that the Treasury will reimburse the publisher of TIGHT-BEAM shall be 12¢ per member per issue.

(2) If the letterzine does not appear as scheduled -- within the first ten days of the month in which it is due -- the sum allocated for its publication will revert back to the Treasury and not be allowed to accumulate.

(3) The stand-by Editor is to be compensated for any issues of TIGHTBEAM which he publishes, provided that such publication occurs within two months of the originally scheduled date of publication, in a sum not to exceed that which would have been due the originally-scheduled publishers, upon presentation of an itemized bill to the Secretary Treasurer.

3. PUBLICATIONS BUREAU

The duties of the Publications Bureau shall be:

(1) To Publish or to supervise the publication of all NFFF publications not of a recurrent nature.

(2) To distribute publications, for a price and on request, that may be of interest to the membership.

(3) To furnish to the Treasurer, not less than bimonthly, an accounting of all funds received and disbursed by this Bureau, in such form as the Treasurer may specify.

4. GENERAL

(1) Publications issued by subordinate Bureaus of the NFFF, but not generally distributed, to the entire membership, shall be sent to the President and the Directors for purpose of information, and to the Secretary-Treasurer for information and record. In the case of N'APA, this shall be construed to mean the ALLIANCE AMATEUR or other official business publication, and not the entire mailing.

(2) To facilitate an exchange of information, the principal officers of the British Science Fiction Association shall be provided with copies of each of the generally distributed club publications during their term of office, the cost to be borne by the Treasury of the NFFF.

Bylaws Of The National Fantasy Fan Federation (Continued).

VII. RESCISSIONS

Directorate motions in the nature of Bylaws passed prior to the original compilation and compilation of these Bylaws and not included among them, are rescinded.

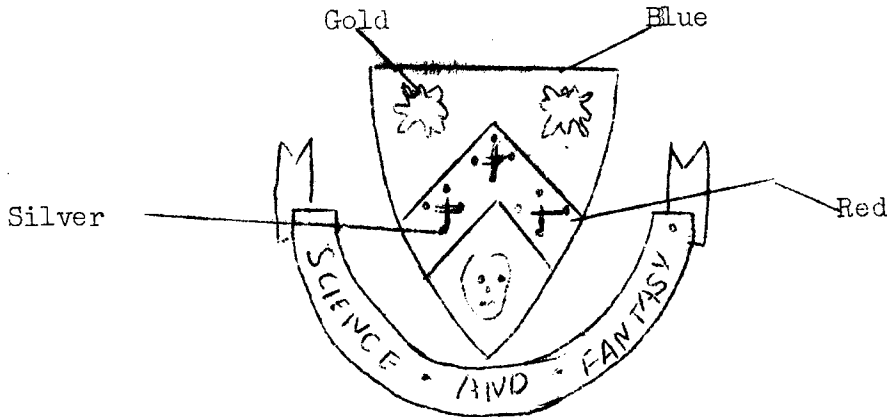
VIII AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these Bylaws may be made with the approval of a majority of the Directorate.

(Copied from Volume 24, Number 1 issue of THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN, Feb. 1965.)

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N F F F E m b l e m



The NFFF emblem was adopted in 1946. Jack Sloan, of Canada, Chairman of the Emblem Committee, explained the meaning of the various parts of the emblem thus:

"Azure, blue, the color of the sky, seemed the most appropriate tincture of all for our field. On a Chevron argent are three crosses bottony gules, a cross symbolizing leadership, which quality has always been thought of as a very definite part of fan character. Here, however, three red crosses "bottony", or budded at the tips, symbolizes both leadership and growth, things proper to both a club and its members. In chief, two estoiles, or golden stars, appealed as the aptest way in which to recognize the scientifiction element in the NFFF. In the base a skull of silver completes the blazon with an easily understable representation of the Fantasts and weirdests belonging to the club."

(reprinted from the 1960 reprint WELCOME FAN, then reprinted by Ralph Holland).

## WHAT IS SCIENCE FICTION FANDOM?

By Al Ashley, Acting President 1942 - 43.

What is Science Fiction Fandom? How, when and where did it begin? Who comprises it?

Frankly, there are nearly as many answers to those questions as there are fans in Fandom, for each one views it in his own particular light.

However, we have tried in this little pamphlet to give you some of the most popular answers to those questions, for we believe you will be interested in them.

Fandom is a peculiar thing in many ways. But to those who are the kind who want to belong to it, it is a very precious thing. And who are these people? They are, as Norman Stanley said: those who have a distinct "sense of fantasy". They are, in the first analysis, people who like to read Science, Fantasy or Weird Fiction. But it goes further than that, for thousands who like to read this type of literature will never become fans.

In the second analysis they are people who, Heinlein said, are "Time Binders" who can see the past, the present, and the future as one continuous scroll; as one picture. They are those with vivid imaginations which enable them to visualize the future of mankind, his lives and his actions, by extrapolating from the past.

To those people Fandom is what E.E. Evans, "The Grand Old Neffer" called: "Not a thing, but a state of mind". They are what Rosenblum of England termed: "Citizens of Tomorrow in the World Of Today".

Fandom is primarily a hobby -- the most satisfying hobby anyone could have.

Probably the greatest fact about Fandom is the chance to so greatly broaden your life and your outlook on life.

Through the fan magazines, personal correspondence, conventions and fan gatherings, and personal visits back and forth, you will make dozens of new splendid friendships -- man's most prized possession.

All these people will bring you new and varied information, concepts, and experiences. They will open up new vistas of thought and imagination. They will contribute greatly to your enjoyment and your cultural background.

Best of all, YOU will be similarly enriching their lives.

Yes, Fandom has many facets, many angles, from which you may choose the one or ones that best suit your own particular fancies.

We hope that you will want to become a fan along with the rest of us.

((Originally printed from NFFF Welcomittee Booklet -- first published 1944 - 1945. This edition copied from WELCOME FAN, by Ralph Holland a few years ago.))

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF FANDOM

By Dn Wolheim, Charter Member of the N.F.F.F.

Essentially, the history of Science Fiction Fandom is the story of the struggle for organization. Although there have been prominent personalities who claim no part in Fan groups, it remains a fact that they owe their every claim to fame and identity to organization. For without some form of organization, no fan would be known to another.

When Hugo Gernsback added a letter column to AMAZING STORIES he was adding an organization, although a simple, elementary one. But because this was not enough the letters in that department all through 1927, 1928 and 1929 began urging the formation of an independent correspondence club.

In November 1929 such a club was organized by Aubrey Clements, Ray Palmer, and Walter Dennis. It was a correspondence club with high dues. It grew with great rapidity. As it grew it changed its name to the International Scientific Assn., and added the first fan-published periodical, its official organ Cosmology. It was a success by the usual standards but somehow failed to satisfy needs. For it directed its aim to the advancement of home study science, and its readers simply didn't follow these aims. Gradually they were turning the club into a forum for science-fiction talks when disaster overtook it in the form of a dictatorship. The membership dropped away, its magazine fizzled out, and the club faded from the scene around 1933.

But parallel with this first national group a number of small local clubs had arisen. The Sciencers of New York, led by Allen Glasser, Julius Schwartz and Mort Weisenger, became the most outstanding of these. Also organized in 1929, it soon published a club organ. But its primary achievement was the publication by Glasser and Schwartz of an independent fantasy fan magazine: The Time Traveller. This started the trend toward fan journalism for purely pleasure purposes, not connected with professional intentions. But a fan magazine alone was not enough for the young Fandom. More was needed.

About the time the I.S.A. was dissolving, another group of fans had started a new correspondence club: The International Cosmos Science Club. The leaders were Edward Gervais, Walter Kubilius, John Michel and William Sykora. About this same time there were stirrings (but not much more) in other parts of the country such as Chicago and San Francisco. In this latter city an energetic young letter writer, Forest J. Ackerman, was rounding up a circle of correspondents.

In 1934 Donald Wolheim and Wilson Shepherd organized another national club; the Terrestrial Fantascience Guild. This soon merged with the I.C.S.C. and in 1935 was facing the first major issue confronting the fan world. That was the formation of a professionally sponsored club, the Science Fiction League, by WONDER STORIES under the Direction of Charles D. Hornig.

The S.F.L. started a spurt of activity by the organization of dozens of tiny chapters throughout the land. But the second International Scientific Association (which was the name finally taken by the combined independents), opposed the new S.F.L. Their stand was that only an independent organization could develop Fandom to maturity and greatness -- that a pro club, by its very nature, must be commercial and would hamper the free flow of criticism. Finally, the greatest evil in science fiction at that time was the bad financial policy of the sponsoring magazine, Wonder Stories, which was alienating writers everywhere.



The I.S.A. undertook to combat this, and thus was born the FanFeud. Although disagreements had been known before, a fan feud is something greater. In a feud the opposing individuals or organizations attempt to drive each other entirely out of the fan Existence. Usually each presents theoretical and ideological grounds to justify the warfare carried on bitterly in fanjournals, letters and club meetings.

The New York ISA fought a two year battle with the SFL's local branches and national supporters. In the course of that battle there were activated dozens of new fans, many new clubs, many new fan magazines, and Fandom acquired a large training in organization diplomacy, editorial writing, gossip trading and quick witted activity. The ISA won its fight when Wonder Stories was sold to the more ethical Standard Magazines, and the SFL became only an inactive register rather than an active organization.

In late 1936, the first fan convention was held when the New Yorkers visited Philadelphia Fandom. This led to the Second Eastern Convention in 1937, in New York, at which some forty readers, writers, and fan notables gathered -- and at which the decision was made to call the First World Science Fiction Convention in 1939 in New York.

The ISF broke up within a few months, due to internal friction. Various other attempted national organizations rose and fell, but none of these attained much strength. Among these were the Phantasy League and the Fantasy Fiction League.

These developments in 1937 made fannish history. The first was the formation of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association, under the leadership of Wolheim and Michel. This was occasioned by the mushroom growth of independent fan magazines. FAPA organized the editors into a mutual exchange group of national scope. It is still one of the most potent forces in Fandom today.

The second was the growth to national importance of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy League. Headed by Ackerman and "Morojo" (Myrtle Douglas), it inspired a host of fan magazines and leading fan personalities such as Bradbury, T.B.Yerke, Paul Freshafer, Walter Daugherty, and others. Its successor, the L.A.S.F.S., is still the largest and probably the most active local club.

The third grew out of a speech made by John Michel at the Philadelphia Eastern Convention, with the backing of a New York group that later became the Futurians. The thesis of the speech was that all Fandom should undertake a crusade against Facism, which was promoting another World War. The movement, known as Michelism, caused an uproar in Fandom, was headed by Sykora, Taurasi and Moskowitz. They had control of the Nycon, and excluded the Futurians. The reaction to this was such that New Fandom soon vanished. The Futurians, seeing that Fandom would not accept Michelism as its prime motivation, ceased its crusading.

By the end of 1939 Fandom was large in number and very active; yet without any national organization (except the specialized FAPA). Fandom developed forms of activity that did without a national organization, though the need was always there. Something was missing -- a permanent stable foundation for activity. But Fans had become somewhat skeptical of national movements after the failures of the preceding years.

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Editorial note in WELCOME FAN (Ralph Holland). "Mr. Wolheim's article is presented without any intention of passing judgement, since the NFFF is always neutral in local feuds."

THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION  
By Ralph M. Holland, President NFFF.

In October 1940, Vol. 1, No. 4 of FANFARE, Official Organ of the Strangers Club of Boston, Mass., carried an article by Damon Knight entitled: "Unite or Die!" In this appeal he asked for the establishment of a national SF fan organization "to supply the fantasy fans of America (and elsewhere, if there should be any left) with those services which they cannot supply for themselves, singly or in groups." It should also publish "for the benefit of new or almost new fans... a handbook of Fandom, explaining all the mysteries which now plague them until they can gradually worm the answers out of other fans piecemeal."

Fans, having grown skeptical due to unsuccessful attempts to organize an effective national club, began to raise objections. To Art Widner's question: "Who will do all the work?", Knight replied: "Perhaps I did not make it plain enough, but I meant that the organization would provide the means of expression for such pet ideas as I mentioned IF the members wanted the same enough to provide all the time and trouble necessary." Widner and the other "strangers" were won over, and the next Fanfare, dated December 1940, published the proposed constitution, and an invitation for all who were interested to join the new organization.

The actual birth of the NFFF took place during the April 1941 meeting of the "Strangers" at the home of Dr. Robert D. Swisher, in suburban Winchester. Nine members of the New York Futurians, and fan notables from nearby states attended and, although the report of the meeting is rather sketchy, it is obvious that all the details were agreed upon here, since the first issue of "Bonfire", official organ of the NFFF, appeared less than two months later with a revised constitution, the first NFFF ballot, and a list of 64 charter members, mainly from the Strangers, the Futurians, the Frontier Society, and FAPA.

The Selective Service Act almost killed the infant club before it really got under way. When the term of first President Chauvenet expired, it was impossible to hold an election to name his successor -- both candidates and publishers were being drafted faster than they could be replaced. Many fan organizations fell by the wayside during this period, but the NFFF was saved when presidential candidate E.E. Evans sent out the ballot and proposed certain emergency measures.

Many feared that the end had really come when Evans himself was called back for war duty, and the club lay dormant from Nov. 1942 until Dec. 1943, at which time acting President Al Ashley set up an emergency constitution "for the duration" in order to break the impasse. In the spring of 1944 President Evans returned to the helm, and the NFFF began to move forward again.

The founding fathers revealed a great fear of entanglement in some of the many local fights which were constantly breaking out, and were unanimous in stating that the NFFF must remain aloof from all such, and from all the mundane things which separate fans as individuals, so that they could unite all fans on the only thing upon which all of them agreed, the advancement of science and fantasy fiction. Art Widner, Jr., in the first issue of Bonfire, said: "Fan feuds and bulldozing by minorities more or less come together. Fan feuds can easily be stopped... by picking the participants up by the scruff of their necks and gently but firmly depositing them outside the NFFF, where they can squabble all they wish."

This sage advice is sometimes difficult to follow. Fans are argumentative by nature, and it is often difficult to decide where legitimate debate leaves off and feuding begins.

My own rule is that so long as the participants continue to confine themselves to issues and policies, it is legitimate argument, no matter how heated it may become. As soon as they bring in personalities -- name calling, attacks on the motives and character of their opponents, etc., it is a feud, and time to land the NFFF "Marines".

1944 also marked the date of the first of the NFFF's many projects to benefit Fandom -- the "Fanclopedia", compiled by Jack Speer as an NFFF project, with the publication being jointly financed by the NFFF and the LASFS. A proposed second edition fell by the wayside when the Korean War resulted in a manpower shortage for all projects, but a revised edition was later brought out under the editorship of Dick Eney, as a personal project.

Other notable NFFF projects were the Richardson Indexes, a monumental index of Science Fiction and Fantasy prozines, plus a listing of the works of various sf authors, compiled by NFFF member Darrell C. Richardson in 1947, and various other indexes and checklists of value to collectors. Other publications included a dictionary of Fan language, lists of fanzines and fan clubs and, perhaps the most ambitious project of all, the publication in 1948 of the American edition of Life member David H. Keller's book: "The Sign Of The Burning Hart".

The first decade of the NFFF's history was relatively free from feuds. Although there were a number of minor clashes, some due to personality conflicts, but most seemingly caused by a feeling of frustration because the club had failed to grow into what its more enthusiastic members thought it could and should be. The most serious of these was in 1946, between President Walter Dunkleberger and Directorate member Francis T. Laney. NFFF reported that "nothing much else was discussed at the World Con in Los Angeles (Pacificon), but the matter was finally resolved without major damage to the club.

Despite these distractions, the club grew steadily until 1951-2, reaching a high point of more than 400 members. Then it began a rapid decline. The reasons given are many -- too much bickering -- failure of promised "benefits" to appear -- lack of contact with officers and other members -- irregular publication of the Official Organ -- etc. In about three years the membership had dropped to 100.

In 1955 the bitterest feud of the club's history broke out between President Don Susan and Directorate Member Orville Mosher. Practically the entire year was devoted to it, and very little club business of any sort was transacted. Late in the summer of 1955, Prexy Susan presented a petition to dissolve the NFFF, and ordered the Treasurer to "freeze" the club funds pending a membership vote on the proposal. The petition lacked sufficient signatures, and legal advice was that an organization such as ours can only be dissolved by unanimous vote, but the vote was held to obtain an expression of membership opinion. It was almost unanimous against dissolving the NFFF, but many members quit in disgust at all the feuding and 1956 saw the club at a new low of 79.

The road back was a long and hard one, made harder by loss of our funds, but loyal members dug down into their own pockets to finance the official organ until the club was solvent again. There was a small flurry in 1957-58 when a crusade was spearheaded against Communism. This was rejected for the same reason that Fandom rejected Michelism in 1937 -- because our purpose is the advancement of science and fantasy fiction and things directly pertaining to them. Any other matters are outside of our domain. They may be very important problems, but they should be dealt with in other forums. In the latter part of 1960, this decision was upheld by a membership vote with only a handful of dissenters, and the matter has now faded out.

The NFFF has not yet attained the glory and prestige of the 1951-52 period, but is definitely once more on the way up to the point where it can be a real service to its membership in helping them attain the maximum enjoyment from their hobby, and, in so doing, strengthen Fandom in general.

## THE LIFE OF THE FAN

By Milton Alpha Rothman.

YOU, who have just joined the NFFF, or are about to join it, may now be wondering what you are going to do about it. You may feel that the old timers and the big shots are doing all the activity, and all you can do is to receive the monthly publications and pay dues. THAT'S not much fun, so we'll have to remedy the situation.

LET'S analyse the activities open to a science fiction fan and see how you can get started in them. First we must understand one thing. We're going to list a large number of activities here; you don't have to do them all at once. In fact, it is better that you don't try to do them all at once, for you'll find yourself burning away your interest in science fiction.

IN BRIEF, the activities are as follows:

1. Reading
2. Collecting
3. Writing Letters
4. Meeting Fans
5. Writing articles for fan magazines.
6. Club activities.
7. Publishing fan magazines.
8. Writing for professional magazines.

THAT seems like a lot, but there are many fans who have done all of these at some time or another. Let's take them up in detail:

1. **READING:** You've already read some magazines; probably the current issues as they come off the newstands. You've also discovered that there are many fantastic books to be had. Whether you are drawn more to science fiction or pure fantasy, the fact is that this type of story is very interesting to you. The ideas of the strange things happening in the future or on other planets or in other spaces and times are more breath-taking to you than they are to other people. That's why you like to read these books and magazines. Keep on reading them: Don't stop reading them, as some fans do, and then claim that you are still a fantasy fan. Don't give up other types of literature either. Thomas Wolfe, Ernest Hemingway, and a few other people write good things too. My only point is that the reading of science fiction and fantasy is the foundation of Fandom.

2. **COLLECTING.** You'll notice that the magazines have been going on for a long time. **AMAZING STORIES** was a fine magazine in 1926 when Hugo Gernsback started it, and **WONDER STORIES** was magnificent under the title of **SCIENCE WONDER STORIES** in 1929. It's nice to have on your shelves a complete set of all the science fiction magazines. It's a hard thing to obtain nowadays, but still it is fun to collect all that you can from whatever source there are. In this way you read the fine science fiction that was written years ago, and you get an idea of the history of this form of literature. I do not suggest collecting just for the sake of collecting, as some people do. Read what you buy, and keep it on your shelves so that someone else can read it later on, or so that you yourself might look at it in the future.

Where can you get old magazines? In the cities there are back-date magazine stores which formerly were a rich source of science fiction magazines. Nowadays they are not so good. A few certain fans make a business of selling old magazines through the mail, and

often other people have advertisements in the fan magazines when they have something to sell. Unfortunately, you need money for them. No more 1928 AMAZINGS for a nickle each. The moral of this activity is that, since you are starting an activity based on a literature, you want to have a nice big stock of this literature on your shelves for pleasure and references. And most of the pleasure comes in shopping around for the stuff.

3. WRITING LETTERS. Before science fiction magazines and clubs became so highly organized, most activity centered around the writing of letters. A person with less than ten correspondents just didn't rate. Some fans, such as those in the army or living in isolated places, have no other kind of fan activity available. I see no reason why this should not still be a large part of any fan's activity.

TNFF periodically runs a membership list with addresses. The obvious thing to do is to pick out some names and write to them. You may find people who live quite close to you. You will find people in all age groups. The next thing is to "meet" these people. In other words, you're setting out deliberately to make a lot of friends in this science fiction world. Most fans are quite pleased to receive letters, and they will answer them even if they have never heard of you. If they are too busy to carry on a correspondence, most of them will politely tell you so.

Then there are the Round Robins, which are sponsored by the club. This is a sort of circulating letter going around and round in a small group. The director of the Round Robin group letters, who is listed in the Official Organ, will get you started in a group if you ask him to do so. That is what he's there for.

What do you write about in these letters? You start out by discussing science fiction -- the stories that came out recently, the books, the movies, the radio and TV programs, the fan activities, collecting adventures and misadventures, magazine trading and so on. Later you probably spread out to other things, like general literature, music, art; and perhaps the mundane things like the best liquor. But you still mention science fiction occasionally. That is Correspondence; conversations in writing between people who have interesting things to tell each other.

(4.) Inevitably you get to meet some of the people you are writing letters to, and this is a good place to mention what I think is the most important thing about science fiction:

Wherever you might be in the country you can call up somebody and say: "Hello Bill, this is Joe". You've never met Bill. Maybe you have been writing to him, or maybe he's just seen your name in a magazine. And that's the same as already being friends. Now this is something where I know what I'm talking about. I've been all over the United States in the past five years, and there were always people wherever I went with whom I was already friends, although many I had never seen before.

Then there are Conventions. Fans will come from all over the nation, and a few from other countries, to meet one another and renew old friendships. It is a lot of fun to meet people that you've never seen before, but with whom you are already intimate in correspondence.

5. Up to now I haven't said much about fan magazines, but you can't be much of a science fiction fan without getting at least a few of them. Some fans try to get them all. That's pretty hard. A good collection of fan magazines is another pleasure. You can get a bundle of all different fan magazines from the Fanzine Clearing House, whose address is listed in the Official Organ, for a small fee to cover mailing costs.

Fan magazines (called Fanzines, or fanmags, or just fmz) are amateur publications without profit by a fan as the creative part of his Science Fiction hobby. You see, when a person does enough reading, it's only a matter of time before he reaches the point where he has to write something. Not everyone can be a professional writer. But everyone can be an amateur, and so the amateur magazine was born.

Usually you start by writing for someone else's fanmag before you publish your own. It may be a letter, a fact article, a story, a controversial article, poetry--- anything goes. You find out what each magazine wants by reading them. There are innumerable fanmags. Some you get by subscription, some you get by being on the preferred mailing lists which are a result of general fan activity, some are free for the asking provided you write a letter of comment after reading it, and others come by belonging to an amateur press association, such as the Fantasy Amateur Press Association, or our own Neffer Amateur Press Alliance (N'APA).

What I wish to emphasize here is that fanzine publishers are always delighted to print good selections by new fans. They will crawl to you on hands and knees if you have something worth publishing. Do not be deceived into thinking that breaking into amateur print is a high and mighty and difficult thing. It is not, as long as you have something worth saying -- and there is always somebody who is looking for it for his next issue. In addition, the NFFF maintains a Manuscript Bureau which helps in getting good writing to the fan publishers who need such. There is little that gives more pleasure than seeing something of your own in a fanmag, and there is no better way to become known, for with correspondence you may have become acquainted with only a few people. By being published in a fanzine you will become known to all of Fandom.

6. Club Activities. The NFFF is the largest club of all. The many activities open in this club can be found in various issues of the Official Organ. There you will find announcements asking for volunteers for some job; to serve on a committee; to help on some project. If you have the time and the means, respond to any of these calls.

That's the way we keep the club running, and that's the way you feel that you are doing something in the organization besides paying dues. Furthermore, when you eventually run for office (as every member is entitled to do) you will have this record of club activity to back up your platform.

If you find friends nearby who also like science fiction, you can form a local club with them. In the past there have been many such, some of which lasted longer than others. What you usually do in a club like this is to hold meetings, talk, publish a club magazine, and help out on the bigger nation-wide projects, such as the annual conventions. Incidentally, a local club is customarily the basis for holding the annual convention. That is, it does the job of finding the convention hall and making all the physical arrangements.

At the present time the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society is the most active local organization, with a club room, much publishing equipment, an extensive cross-index to science fiction, and has staged two world conventions.

Eventually you may feel the urge to put out your own fanzine. To do this you need hectographing, mimeographing or printing equipment, a bit of money, and a lot of ambition. A lot of fans publish, and many keep their magazines going for a long time. Years in some cases. The mags come out at such a rate that it is simply impossible to keep up with them.

8. Writing professionally is the horrid end to which many fans have sunk. The old NFFF Rosters are filled with names of members who have become professional writers and editors, not only of science fiction magazines but of other types. It's pretty hard to make a living at it, so I won't go into the subject, but will simply leave it as a distant pinnacle of success at which you might aim if you feel so inclined.

In conclusion, I want to repeat that it is not necessary to do all of these things to become a science fiction fan. You need do nothing more than read the magazines and write a few letters. Your success in fandom should be measured by the number of friends you make. Your skill as a writer; the beauty of your fanmag; the size of your club; that's all gravy.

Fandom is known as a collection of individuals -- of characters. Each fan is known by the distinctive mark of his activities and personality. If you keep on in Fandom, you will become known to the others in the way you carry. You'll find what you like to do, so I hope you have a good time.

TAPE BUREAU

Ann F. Ashe, Chairman  
R.D. #1, Freeville, NY. U.S.A. 13068.

Phone (607) 898-3537.

Dear Art:-

I think your Activity Brochure is a good idea, but there really isn't too much to say about the Tape Bureau. The purpose of the Bureau is to collect and circulate tapes the members find interesting. It's not an engineering organization. Prerequisites are a well-serviced tape recorder which will accept 7 inch reels, playing at 3 3/4 inches per second. The tape is 1.5 mil mylar. We'll put anything on it that will stick, with convention recordings and fannish music standing high on the list.

Persons interested in taping can communicate with Lee SILVERSTEIN (1229 WOODLAND ST. \* LEBANON, PA. 17042). We're the library. We take a few tentative steps towards maintaining order so that the Tape Bureau isn't completely formless, collect masters, etc; that's about all! So you see not two pages is required but more like one-half.

Oh yess.. Costs. You don't have to be a member. A tape costs \$1.50 of which \$1.00 is deposit and the rest covers handling. This price is too low and will be raised later. Members get our catalog; others should send 25¢ for a copy. We don't have a real catalog yet but it still costs 25¢. Anybody who has questions should write. We'll take it from there.

So, if you can make anything of that for your Brochure, feel free. We're in the process now of adding to our equipment. One recorder was ordered this weekend and we may be getting one or two more this next week. Also lots of blank tape!

Best.

ss. Sept 27/65. Ann.

## THE GAMES BUREAU

The N3F Games Bureau provides an organizational framework through which science-fiction fans and other interested persons may achieve intellectual stimulation and recreation through the playing of games of skill. The only criterion for membership in the Bureau is an interest in games. N3F membership is not a necessity; there are no dues; it is not necessary to play games through the mails in order to join!

The official organ of the Bureau, THE GAMESLETTER, will be published and distributed periodically, at no cost, to all Bureau members. It will contain Bureau news, statements of Bureau policy, announcements of tournaments and matches, games results, and other Bureau business. Instruction sheets covering most of the board games in the Bureau's repertoire will also be distributed free to Bureau members.

The Bureau is currently composed of 5 Divisions - Chess, Jetan, General Games, Go, and Diplomacy - with the last two names still in their infancy stages. The Chess Division is publishing a fanzine devoted exclusively to Chess, available by subscription or contribution. The General Games Division also publishes a fanzine, THE GAMESLIT, which includes information on Jetan, Go and Diplomacy (as these Divisions lack their own fanzines), and features articles on the strategy and tactics of games played within the Bureau, discussions on the pros and cons of games (and variations of same) - via letters from readers - and the like. It, too, is available only by subscription or contribution of an article, artwork, a Letter-of-comment which is published, etc.

Persons wishing to join the Games Bureau should write to the Chairman, Don Miller. Questions concerning the Bureau, requests for Bureau Publications, subscriptions, letters, articles, artwork, donations, etc, should also be sent to the Chairman, and NOT to the publisher(s). Requests for pairings in matches or for information concerning the various Divisions should be sent to the Division Chiefs. Names and address of the Chairman and Division Chiefs follow:

Chairman:- Donald L. Miller, 12315 Judson Road, Glenmont, Wheaton, Md. U.S.A. 20906.

Chess Division Chief:- Nathan A. Bucklin, P. O. Box 4, Dockton, Wash. U.S.A. 98018.

Jetan Division Chief:- James Toren, 7236 Kellogg Rd. Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A. 45230.

General Games Chief: Donald L. Miller. Address above.

GO Division Chief:- OPEN. Write to Donald L. Miller.

DIPLOMACY DIVISION CHIEF:- Open- Write to Donald L. Miller.

)Publisher:- Much may have happened in the make-up and policy of THE GAMES BUREAU since the above was received from Don Miller. On distribution of this, the Activity Brochure, I imagine there will be additional information, and correction or up-dating of information supplied, making it necessary to re-publish a revised version. This will be done.)



DIRECTORATE:

Reprinted from Bullzine of April 1958. From Ralph Hølland, then President of N.F.F.F.

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The Directorate has a double function, As a collective group, and as specified by the constitution, it is the legislative or policy making policy of the club. In this capacity, it is above the President. Actually, in many cases, it is the President who either sets or recommends the policies, but the Directorate has veto power over them any time it wishes to exercise them. Then, as individuals, the Directors act as Administrative assistants to the President, taking charge of a department covering some one phase or activity. Honey (Ed: Graham, then Directorate Chairman) acts as an Executive Vice-President to head up the five departments. Previous chairmen have acted in similar capacity to some degree, but this is the first time that it has been formally recognized. This delegation of power does not relieve the President of any responsibility. He is still held accountable, under the constitution, for "conducting the affairs of the organization". However, it does relieve him of a great deal of detail work, and makes it possible for him to spend more time on other matters.

Every new President naturally has a certain program in mind, and certain things which he wants to accomplish. He must organize the committees and bureaus in such a way that they will all be working together. Usually the results of the election are known by November, and he has about six weeks to work things out before the new officers take their posts. This year, due to the lateness of the election, the officers should have been functioning before the job could even be begun, so things had to be done at a hectic pace. Several of the Officers and committees were so anxious to start that they began functioning before I was able to get the procedures established and turn them over to them to administer. This required many last minute changes in my own plans, in order to work in what they already had done, where possible, and over-ruling, in some cases where they could not be worked in. At times, things were very confusing, and, once in a while, downright frustrating for all, but everyone seems to have lived and the job was finally finished.

Activity: I am, and always have been opposed to any activity requirements for membership, but this does not apply to officers. By running for office, or accepting an appointment, they have already made their voluntary decision on the matter of activity, and have given at least a tacit pledge to perform the duties of that office. So, I can demand activity from them without violating my principles. The WC has been built up by insisting that all members be active or be dropped. I think the same rule could well be applied to all committees and bureaus. There are, of course, several legitimate reasons why a member may not be able to be active for a while, illness, important personal business, etc. But there is seldom any reason why he or she cannot scribble a few lines on a postcard to let the President, or department head, or committee chairman, know what the score is. Then plans could be made accordingly.

So, if any officer or committeeman fails to answer two consecutive official letters within a reasonable time, or anyone who is supposed to have a report in TNFF fails to make two consecutive reports, without notification or reasonable excuse, their position may be declared vacant.

Janie suggested that we conduct a survey of former members in order to find out why they left, what it was the club lacked. And, if possible, what it would take in the line of services or activities, to bring them back in. Paul Rehorst has been asked to conduct this survey. This will be a position outside the regular official set-up, a special assistant to the President for the purpose of finding facts upon which I can base recommendations to the Directorate. The results of the study will be available to all officers and members when completed, of course.

((Editor: This is included to show some of the responsibilities that our elected officials have, and how, in this one case anyhow, these responsibilities were discharge. There is nothing in the above article that is not applicable to-day, to the N.F.F.F.))

## CONSTITUTION OF INTERAPA.

InterApa is an international association of fan editors (that is, fans who have independently published within two years prior to their application for membership at least 12 8" x 10" (or equivalent) of amateur publications) operating under the following rules:

(1) Membership is limited to 30, of whom not more than 20 shall be residents of North America. The eligible candidates shall be admitted in order of their application dates and admitted to membership in that order as vacancies occur, provided they are still eligible at that time.

(2) Each member shall be required to publish annually not less than 12 typewritten pages 8" x 10" (or equivalent), in English. These pages shall be original in content and published specifically for Interapa.

(3) Members' publications (35 copies of each) shall be mailed three times a year (deadlines: March 15, July 15, and November 15) to an Elected Official Editor who shall be responsible for redistributing acceptable publications received to all the members of Interapa. The OE shall be the final judge of acceptability of members' publications. Publications received after the deadline shall be distributed at OE's discretion, provided that those publications containing comments on the most recent mailing shall be included in the following regular mailing.

(4) The pages submitted for a mailing shall not be deemed acceptable unless they have been published in the interval between two months after the mailing for which they are intended and the mailing immediately preceding.

(5) The Official Editor shall be responsible for determining eligibility for membership, maintaining the waiting list, collecting membership dues, administering and regularly reporting on the Apas finances, keeping and publishing regularly records of members' activity, carrying out the necessary disciplinary action, and conducting elections and votes on constitutional amendments. He shall be responsible for publishing the results of any vote in the mailing following the vote. The instrument of official communication between the OE and the members shall be an official Organ to be included in each mailing. The OO shall also be mailed to the candidates on the waiting list. The cost of publishing the OO shall be covered out of membership dues.

(6) The membership dues shall be \$2.50 for residents of North America, and \$1.50 for the overseas members, annually or for a term of three consecutive mailings. The dues must be paid before the third mailing of the term for which they are due.

(7) Members failing to pay their dues before the third mailing of the term shall be dropped from the membership list, but may be reinstated at any time on payment of full terms dues, provided a vacancy exists.

(8) Members failing to publish the minimum required number of acceptable pages during a term of three consecutive mailings shall be allowed one mailing grace to catch up. Members failing to publish the minimums required number of acceptable pages in four consecutive mailings shall be dropped from the membership list, but may be reinstated at any time on publication of pages owed, provided a vacancy exists.

(9) The Official Editor shall be elected annually in November mailing. Any member in good standing may nominate himself or another member as a candidate for OE. Nominations shall be published in the July mailing. Votes must be in before the November mailing. In case of a tie vote, the OE shall choose his successor from among the tied candidates.

(10) The constitution may be amended at any time by a 2/3 majority of votes of members in good standing at the time of the vote. Any member may propose an amendment to the Constitution but a vote shall not be taken unless at least four other members endorse the amendment.

(11) Voting shall not be secret and the names of voting members shall be published along with their votes. (12) In case of any controversy with regard to interpretation of this constitution, the OE's interpretation shall be the binding one.

OE OF INTERAPA: Dwain Kaiser, 1397 No. 2nd Ave., Upland, California.

# CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL FANTASY FAN FEDERATION

## PREAMBLE

The activity that centers around science fiction and fantasy has grown to require organization in order that desirable objectives, beyond the achievement of single individuals, may be attained through united effort. Under this constitution, the National Fantasy Fan Federation is established as an association of persons interested in promoting the progress of science fiction and fantasy, and in furthering its enjoyment by themselves and others.

## ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

1. An individual is a member of the Federation during the period covered by the payment of his dues. Dues are \$2.00 the first year and \$1.75 each succeeding year thereafter. Dues cover the period from January 1st to December 31st, and less than a full year's dues may not be accepted by the Treasurer; however a new member joining after the first quarter of the year and submitting dues for the following year may pay only that proportional part of the current year's dues necessary to adjust the applicant's membership to the first of the year. Members have the right to vote in all elections and referendums and may participate in any benefits created by the organization.
2. An organization may become a member of the NFFF upon payment of dues as defined in Section I and is entitled to all the rights and benefits of members as outlined in this constitution except that said organizations may not vote or hold elective office.

## ARTICLE II - OFFICERS

1. A President conducts the affairs of the organization. His appointments, suspensions and removals from office, whether the office concerned is elective or appointive, are subject to the review and approval of the Directorate, as are also his methods of procedure.
2. If, for any reason, the office of President becomes vacant, the Directorate appoints a President to complete the unexpired term. Any interim administrative duties are performed by the Chairman of the Directorate, during which time he may not vote in his capacity as Director except on motions of appointment.
3. A directorate, composed of five members, regulates the affairs and controls the finances of the organization, and may define the duties of any office or official of the association.
4. Decisions of the Directorate are by majority of its five members except in the following instances: by unanimous vote the Directorate may refuse membership to any person; expel any member by refunding the balance of his dues; and may remove the President from office.
5. Vacancies in the Directorate, whatever the cause, are filled by majority of the remaining Directors. If fewer than three Directors remain, the President shall appoint one or more up to the minimum of three.
6. Any person designated as Treasurer or otherwise empowered to keep or convey the funds of the organization must be over twenty-one years of age.

ROSTER:

Consisting of amendments, changes, additions, etc. to the roster printed in Vol. # 25, issue #1 of T.N.F.F.

ZIP CODES: Don Alderson	91042	John Chambers	95148	Bill Combs	45043
George Fergus	48823	Hugo Gornsback	10011	F. Gottschalk	48823
Cindy Heap	10012	Dr. Koller	18360	Dave Kyle	13679
Richard Loetz	49091	Bruce McAllister	23570	P. Maurer	49058
H.B. Moore	70123	D. Flachta	48204	A. H. Scott	27514
D. Vanderwerf	02138	R. Wannan	63119	R. J. Watts	43228
Bob Whalen	07456	Cecil McGregor	70504	D. Patrick	07012

John Boston	816 S. First St. Mayfield Kyt.	U.S.A.	42066	
Stephen R. Compton	6532 Estates Dr., Oakland, Cal.	U.S.A.		94611
Ronald Eberle	100 Elmhurst Ave., Syracuse, N.Y.	U.S.A.		13207
Else Janda	6808 Dorchester, Chicago, Ill.	U.S.A.		60637
Glen Lord	Box 775, Pasadena, Texas,	U.S.A.		77501
Diane Rabatich	Rm 16, Blomidon, Wolfville, Nova Scotia,	Canada.		
Peter Singleton,	Ward 2, Whittington Hospital, Near Preston,	ENGLAND.		
Art Wilson, Air America Inc.,	APO, San Francisco, Cal.	U.S.A.		96352
Richard Uhr	942 First Court, Brooklyn,	N.Y. U.S.A.		11223
Kenneth W. Fletcher	1501 Breda Ave., St. Paul	Minn. U.S.A.		55108
Nancy B. Dejean	739 Ingleside Dr., Baton Rouge,	La. U.S.A.		70806

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U.S.A. 60614.