***Slate & Style***

**A publication of the Writers’ Division of the National Federation of the Blind Summer 2016**

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**Slate and Style Staff:** a team of dedicated members working together.

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**From the Keyboard of the President** by Eve Sanchez

 Everyone enjoys receiving Slate and Style, but sadly, as mentioned previously we cannot have much of an issue if no one submits their work. This is the case and I truly hope that it is for good reason; people have new jobs, family activities, Federation duties that are keeping them busy or just out enjoying life rather than sitting home and writing about it. That is my hope at least.

 As promised though, we will not miss an issue of Slate and Style even if it is a small one. For one thing here is another chance to let you all know about the happenings to occur at National Convention and to remind you of how you can get your work included in future issues of Slate and Style. Guidelines are provided below, but for any questions you may have, please contact the S&S team at s-and-s@nfbnet.org.

 So Let us not be sad about the small size and lack of participation. Let us revel on what it can be in the future.

**On the Slate**

 Our 2016 convention announcement with the bio of our special guest speaker is included in this issue. Let’s get excited and all plan on meeting up next week in Orlando. If for some reason, you cannot make the meeting, please join the writers for breakfast on Saturday morning. The location will be scouted out early in the week and announced via NFBnet. Be sure to read the submission guidelines so that we have an Autumn issue that is bursting full of creativity.

**National Convention and the Writers’ Division**

 **To all Federationists, Writers and Writing enthusiasts,**

**Please plan on attending the Annual Meeting of the Writers’ Division on Saturday from 1:00 - 4:30 pm.**

**It will be in Suwannee 18, Level 2.**

**We will be updating members on division business, announcing the 2016 winners of the youth and adult writing contests, and presenting all of the year’s classes and services. Come ready to learn. And bring cash for a 50/50 raffle between friends. I mean, who does not want to take their friends’ money home with them?**

 **We will have a special guest speaker, Ed Meskys. Ed Meskys is a retired professor of physics and astronomy in a small private college, until it closed in 1974. After that he had various part-time and/or temporary teaching and tutoring jobs.**

 **He became totally blind in 1971 and resumed work after rehab at the Carroll Center. Found and joined the National Federation of the Blind in 1975, and has been on the executive board of the nfb of New Hampshire from 1976 to 2016, and is now an untitled board member.**

 **Ed Meskys has read science fiction since 1950, and entered SF fandom in 1955. He has published various fanzines over the years, and started NIEKAS in 1962. It has been nominated for the Hugo award three times, and received it in 1967. He has never officially closed it, and vaguely hopes to do a couple more issues. Today he does an email only fanzine two or three times a year, ENTROPY, and is currently working on #57. He has occasionally done pieces for other fanzines (fan published magazines). He states that he does not have the mind to write fiction, and confines his writing to articles on SF, reviews, and personal narrative. “I have never sold anything professionally.” Says Meskys. Do not let that fool you though. Ed is a writer who truly knows the craft and world of writing and has a lot to share with all.**

 **Please come and join in the year-long activity with the National Federation of the Blind Writers’ Division.**

 **And for an additional chance to rub elbows with other writers, we will be meeting for breakfast on Saturday at 8:00 am. Everyone is welcome to join us whether you are a member or not, so watch for the coming announcement of where to meet up at.**

**Inside the Dictionary**

 Activism: The doctrine or practice of vigorous action or involvement as means of achieving political or other goals sometimes through protests, demonstrations, etc. Philosophy: a. Theory that the essence of reality is pure activity, especially spiritual activity, or process. b. A theory that the relationship between the mind and the objects of perception depends upon the actions of the mind.

 Now that the meaning of activism is crystal clear we can only be sure of knowing one thing. There is no activism without action. Doing nothing changes nothing.



**Let’s Write the Lives We Want**

Slate & Style is a quarterly publication of the National Federation of the Blind Writers' Division. It is dedicated to writing pursuits such as literary pieces, resources, and information about various writing styles. A majority of Slate & Style's contributors are blind, but we welcome submissions from any contributor. We also accept submissions touching on any subject matter. We encourage submissions from both experienced and beginning writers with our goal being to hone our writing craft and share our thoughts.

Slate & Style accepts short fiction, short creative nonfiction, poetry, articles discussing and providing tips for various writing styles including literary, technical, editing, public relations, and academic, literary criticism, resource information, and book reviews.

Subject matter is not limited but will be up to the editor's discretion to publish.

Slate & Style accepts material from adults and children. We require email submissions.

Below are some of the highlights for submitting. Go to writers.nfb.org/Slate&StylePage for the full submission guidelines.

Include an attached cover letter and a short biography. This should be no more than 150 words. Keep your bio to the key items you feel are important for readers to know.

Multiple submissions per email are fine, but all must be listed in the required cover letter. Use Microsoft Word or RTF. No other formats are accepted. Send all submissions and questions to s-and-s@nfbnet.org.

Please read through all the guidelines carefully. Submissions that do not follow these guidelines may not be considered for Slate & Style.

Though submissions are welcome at all times, if your submission is specifically about a particular season or time of year and you would like your submission to appear in that corresponding issue, please read the dates and submission deadlines in the guidelines.

For the Autumn issue, which will come out on September 22nd, the closing date for acceptance of submissions is September 1st.

**Meet you In Orlando, Florida!** ****