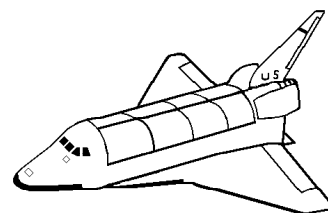


The



SHUTTLE
October 1999

*The Next NASFA Meeting will be 16 October
1999 at the Regular Time and Location
Concom Meeting 14 October at Sam Smith's Place*

Be Sure to Check Out the Convention Gossip on Page 3!

Oyez, Oyez

The next NASFA meeting will be **16 October 1999** at the **regular time** (6P) and the **regular location** (room 130 of the Madison City Municipal Building). That is, it will be at the regular time *if* the employees at the Municipal Building can find a key.

The October after-the-meeting meeting will be at Sam Smith's place

Pick up of the Con†Stellation Art Show material at Howard Camp's is scheduled for 2P Sunday 24 October. Remember, many hands make light work, so show up if you possibly can.

Convention Upon Us, Two Concom Meetings Remain

The last two concom meetings for this year will be 14 October, and 28 October. The latter of these will be at the hotel before and after Thursday dinner with the guests.

The 14 October meeting will be at Sam Smith's place. It will be an "eating meeting" with the food theme being (what else?) "Werewolves" — dinner begins at 6:30P with the meeting proper following. Convention T-shirts will ready for purchase at this meeting.

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Deadline for the November 1999 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 5 November 1999.

September Minutes

by, Jim Kennedy as (involuntary) acting recording secretary

The meeting was called to (relative) order at 18:30, Anita Eisenberg presiding. Barney & Baby Bop were gaveled (bopped) in the continued absence of any Ewoks. Crickets and munching were heard.

Doug reports that Sam being alive is irrelevant.

OLD BUSINESS

None and no crickets.

Interjection: There will not be a special election for the vacant office of Program Director, by executive fiat.

NEW BUSINESS

The latest available website statistics are for the month of July. These are reported as last month's stats, being the month that would have been reported in August if the meeting had not been skipped in favor of the picnic. In July, there were 387 hits on the home page, 132 on the flier, 51 on the NASFA page, 45 on the Fannish Family Feud page and a decreasing number on other pages. More information can be obtained from Mike Kennedy, who is standing in for Sam Smith in capacities other than that of recording secretary.

Mike Kennedy will only handle art when there is less grease on his hands than that coming from a Checkers burger and fries.

There is an interview with Peter Woodward (our Special Guest — schedule permitting) in the September issue of *Starlog*.

Mike Stone reports an upcoming Scooby Doo parody of *The Blair Witch Project*. The parody is to air on the Cartoon Network in the month of October.

Randy Cleary reports that Bob Eggleton won the Chesley for Best Cover Illustration this year for the cover of the May 1998 *F&SF*. (Bob was the AGoH at last year's Con†Stellation.) A copy of said magazine issue was passed around the table. Randy (very) briefly displayed the original, which he purchased at last year's Con†Stellation. [See what good art is available (and so cheaply!) at the Con†Stellation Art Show. (Shameless Plug) -ActSec] Much envy was displayed also.

The Florence Renaissance Faire will be the fourth weekend in October. (In Florence, one presumes.) Note that this does not conflict with Con†Stellation, only with all the preparation for it.

CONVENTION BUSINESS

Some tables were paid for. Some T-shirt orders were received.

No one knows when the Art Show pick up (loading) will be. Mike Cothran is providing transportation for the materials. [Since the meeting, 2P Sunday October 24 has been set as the time. -ED]

Anita will be placing a preliminary order for T-shirts soon (probably 21 September). T-shirts will be available in black, purple, royal blue, California blue, jade, maroon, and hunter green. There will be only a small number of 3XL and 4XL ordered, so get with Anita soon if you want one. Sweatshirts will be ordered in L, XL and 2XL only, and only in black, jade, and purple.

Anita will be traveling to Memphis in anticipation of a mattress contest next month. (Okay, so it was more interesting when she told us about it.)

Anita is seeking information on ads on Comcast for the convention and for the club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If all stayed on schedule, Sam was waiting at the airport to depart Oz for NZ while we were waiting in the lobby for the arrival of Madison's finest.

Membership in ChiCon 1900 goes up from \$135 to (unknown) on 1 October. (Why am I telling you this? By the time you read it, it will be too late.) [Er, I'm guessing that's a Y2K joke. -ED]

NASFA donated \$50 in memory of Mike Ray to Huntsville MedFlight and gave an additional \$50 to the Mike Ray/Mike Brookshire Family assistance fund. (This money was in addition to money that was given directly by private citizens who do not particularly wish to remain anonymous, but since I can't remember all the names, I won't put in any.)

The local Fox affiliate (channel 54) will be picking up some WB shows.

Channel 15 (Florence) is building a new transmitter. They will be a UPN affiliate when this is completed. Comcast is considering adding them to their basic package. The rumor mill indicates that Cable Alabama has decided to do the same but has not announced it.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:06. Barney & Baby Bop were again bopped.

NASFA Calendar

OCTOBER

- 02 BD: Jann Melton.
- 08 BD: Jessica Brown.
- 08–11 Gaylaxicon 1999 — Washington DC.
- 08–11 Necronomicon 1999 — Tampa FL.
- 11 Columbus Day.
- 14 Con†Stellation concom meeting — Sam Smith's place, food theme "Werewolves."
- 15 BD: Robert Buelow.
- 16* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM at Sam Smith's place.
- 24 Pick up Art Show material — 2P at Howard Camp's house.
- 25 BD: Marie McCormack.
- 27 BD: Gabrielle Mitchell.
- 28 Final Con†Stellation concom meeting — at the hotel before & after dinner with the guests.
- 29–31 Con†Stellation XVIII — Huntsville AL.
- 31 Halloween.

NOVEMBER

- 04–07 World Fantasy Convention 1999 — Providence RI.
- 11 Veteran's Day.
- 19–21 Exoticon 2 — Metairie LA.
- 20* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM TBD.
- 22 BD: Nancy Renee Peters
- 23 BD: Michael D. Kennedy.
- 23 BD: Wilson "Bob" Tucker.
- 25 Thanksgiving Day.
- 26–28 ConCat 11 — Knoxville TN.
- 29 BD: Howard Camp.
- 30 BD: Patricia Brooks.
- 30 BD: Richard Gilliam.

DECEMBER

- 04 Hanukkah.
 10–12 SMOFcon 17 — New Orleans LA.
 12 BD: Toni Weisskopf.
 17 BD: Robin Ray.
 18* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM TBD.
 19 BD: Harry Warner, Jr.
 25 Christmas Day.
 26 BD: Michael R. Stone.
 31 New Year's Eve party, anyone?

JANUARY 2000

- 01 New Year's Day.
 05 BD: Debbie Mitchell.
 06 BD: Rich Garber.
 07 BD: Douglas E. Lampert.
 14–16 Chattacon XXV — Chattanooga TN.
 15* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM TBD.
 NOTE: Could be moved to accommodate Chattacon.
 20 BD: Larry Montgomery.

OoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOo

The North Alabama Science Fiction Association meets on the third Saturday of each month. (Unless there is a large nearby convention being held that weekend — in which case we usually hold the meeting on the second or fourth weekend.) The regular meeting location is room 130 of the Madison City Municipal Building. The Executive Committee meeting (if scheduled) is held at 5P. The business meeting is held at 6P. The program begins at 7P. Anyone is welcome to attend any of the meetings. There is usually an after-the-meeting meeting with directions available at the program.

Information from ConJosé Progress Report 0

ConJosé, the 60th World Science Fiction Convention will be held in San José California from Thursday 29 August through Monday 2 September 2002. The main facilities used will be the San José McEnery Convention Center, the Fairmont Hotel, The San José Hilton, the Park Center Crowne Plaza, and the Hyatt Sainte Claire.

ConJosé's Guests of Honor will be Vernor Vinge, David Cherry, Bjo and John Trimble, and Ferdinand Feghoot. Their Toastmaster will be Tad Williams.

Attending Memberships are \$100 until 31 May 2000. Discounts apply if you voted in the 2002 Site Selection election or pre-supported the bid.

CONTACT ADDRESSES

Web: < <http://www.sfsfc.org/worldcon/> >

Main Address (US): ConJosé, P. O. Box 61363, Sunnyvale CA 94088-1363 < ConJose@sfsfc.org >

Australia: Terry Frost, 5 Temple Street, West Brunswick VIC 3055 < Hlector@netspace.net.au >

Canada: John Mansfield, 333 Lipton Street, Winnipeg MB R2G 2H2 < Pgh@mail.pangea.ca >

Europe: Vince Docherty, Brugstraat 17B, Groningen 9712AA Netherlands < VJD@compuserve.com >

UK: Steve Davies and Giulia de Cesare, 52 Westbourne Terrace, Reading BERKS RG30 2RP < Steve@vraidex.demon.co.uk >

Chesley Awards

The 14th annual Chesley Awards (for sf artwork appearing in 1998) were presented by the Association of Science Fiction Artists (ASFA) at this year's Worldcon in Melbourne Australia. Additional information, including thumbnail photographs of the winners, is available at < <http://www.asfa-art.org/Chesleys/1999/winners.html> >. Here, in no particular order, are the winners.

Best Cover Illustration: Hardback Book*Song for the Basilisk* by Kinuko Y. Craft

Best Cover Illustration: Magazine*The Magazine of F&SF* (May 1998) by Bob Eggleton

Best Monochrome Work: Unpublished*Bottom & Titania* by Beryl Bush

Best Color Work: Unpublished*Salvation* by Marc Fishman

Best Product*Archangel* (Magic card package art) by Donato Giancola

Best Art Director Arnie and Cathy Fenner of Spectrum Design and Underwood Books

Best Cover Illustration: Paperback Book*Tales of the Cthulhu Mythos* by John Jude Palencar

Best Interior Illustration*Good Fairies/Bad Fairies* by Brian Froud

Best Three-Dimensional Art*Short Trip to October* by Lisa Snellings

Award for Artistic Achievement Bob Eggleton

Best Gaming Product Dragonlance Classics 15th Annual Game Module by Todd Lockwood

Award for Contribution to ASFA Jeff Watson for creation and maintenance of the ASFA website

Gossip, Gossip

**MOSTLY CONVENTION GOSSIP,
BUT A LITTLE MORE BESIDES**

by Mike Kennedy

Lots of bits and pieces have accumulated in my (virtual) In Box — mostly, but not quite all, about the convention — so I thought I'd dispose of them all in one fell swoop.

First, a non-convention item. There will be a *Babylon 5* collectable card game demonstration by Tom Kanik at noon Saturday 23 October at BookMark.

Now to the con. Co-chairs Pat Brooks and Marie McCormack want to emphasize that — what with the con being on Halloween weekend — costumes are strongly encouraged, both for the staff and attendees. They are especially encouraged on Saturday. If nothing else, bring a mask for the Saturday night dance.

Speaking of dances, there will be a rather, er, eclectic mix of music this year. Lots of your favorite novelty songs will show up — all guaranteed to be danceable. And you'll also be entertained by Toxic Spleen — complete with a spooky fog machine.

And speaking of masks, the convention will have some on

hand for those who just can't scratch up one on their own. A mask-decorating workshop is planned for Saturday afternoon so you can jazz things up for the evening.

This year you *really* need to show up for Opening Ceremonies to watch the con committee embarrass themselves as Men In Black. Black tights, that is. And Marie promises that she will

flash everyone, assuming her equipment works.

Also look out for our, um, pets scattered around the con. At the very least you'll find a miniature howling wolf, an oversized rubber rat, and a full-sized lounge-wolf in the con suite. (Of course, we're not responsible if you run into live wolves of the two-legged variety.)

Letters of Comment

LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC

Carlo R. DeShouten
1434 Goehler
Cullman AL 35055

12 September 1999

I'm sorry to hear about Mike Ray. I just found out today [...]. I was told that I was going to hear about it earlier but someone forgot I didn't have email. (He's being chided right now.)

Anyway it's a bit shocking to hear about it. And I sorry to hear what happened to him. I know he was a great guy. And a good costumer. Especially when he beat me at the masquerade contest. And I'm going to miss him very much. And tell Robin she has my deepest sympathies and condolences. I would've gone to the memorial service but like I said I just found out today. And I'm a little upset but I'm all right.

I sent a photo of Mike at Con†Stellation while he was in his Mad Scientist outfit. And I don't know if it means much but you can put in in the *NASFA Shuttle* if you like.

And again, my deepest sympathies and condolences.

[It's a great photo, Carlo, and I'll be sure to pass it along to Robin — unfortunately I don't have a scanner available to use it in the *Shuttle*. (Most of the photos we run are made with a digital camera or filched from other digital sources.) I'm sorry we didn't get word to you earlier. It's easier, of course, for those on email but lots of phone calls were made, too. The number of people we each touch in our lives is remarkable and Mike Ray was no exception in that regard. He was exceptional, though, in how positive the vast majority of those contacts were. -ED]

LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC

Harry Warner, Jr.
423 Summit Avenue
Hagerstown MD 21740

1 October 1999

All the information and statistics on the recent worldcon in the September *Shuttle* are very welcome. I don't suppose the comparatively small attendance at the event is a significant clue to future worldcon turnouts, since Australia is so far from North American and even European fandom and air fare is so expensive. But an attendee should have had at least a fighting chance of finding the people he wanted to see in Melbourne, a procedure that is much more difficult when there are six or seven thousand persons at a convention.

I found the data on Hugo voting below the nominations as interesting as the returns on those who were actually on the ballot. It's a shame Sheryl missed a nomination by only two votes after one of the nominees for fan artist was obviously the beneficiary of bloc voting. And I feel rather out of it when I

realize I've never heard of two of the first fifteen for fan writers.

I'm not sure I understand the change in site selection. If it means what I think it does, that 500-mile exclusion provision will make it very difficult for some Eastern cities to win a site contest in certain years, and this might prove to be a handicap if the number of cities with hotels large enough to host a worldcon and willing to accept one continues to dwindle.

The news about Mike Ray is very saddening and I hope Doc Brookshire pulls through his own injuries. You don't give Mike's age but I gather that he was comparatively young or not more than middle-aged, at least, and that continues the awful trend of fans who die before they've reached something approximating today's life expectancy.

Sheryl might be able to use new ribbons in her typewriters if the problem is finding spools that will fit the mechanism rather than the width of the ribbons required. If spools were in the typewriters when she acquired them and they are meant for ribbons of the width that was more or less standard for non-electric typewriters in the first half of the century, it's possible to rewind a new ribbon intended for some other type of typewriter onto the old spools. I may need to do this when the evil day comes that renders this ribbon too faint to be readable, although I still haven't visited a shop in nearby Pennsylvania that carries several varieties of ribbons for non-electric machines. It's supposed to be a tedious task that leaves the hands smeared darkly for several days.

[No, I wouldn't read anything into the Aussiecon attendance either, Harry. Since you ask, Mike Ray was in his mid-30's. His death was tragic and his relative youth, of course, makes it even more so. On another topic, I'm surprized that only one person (so far) has complained to me about the tiny type in the two statistical listings last issue. When I had a lot less to print than my typical Worldcon issue, I became *determined* to keep the issue to 5 sheets so it could go on one stamp. There are a few more Worldcon-related items in this issue that (had they been in the previous issue) would have forced me to go over the one ounce postage rate. I haven't spent a lot of time analyzing the voting, but there are always a few surprises — if you look closely. Like how well “last-place” nominations did in the longer fiction categories (second place in novels, winning in novellas). Or how nominees can do quite well against the eventual first place winners but still wind only fourth or fifth place (see, for instance, Dramatic Presentation and Professional Artist). -ED]

EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC

Wilson “Bob” Tucker
btucker@davesworld.net

4 October 1999

Cheers Mike. Let Sheryl and Harry be of good cheer, there *are* ribbons still being made for manual typewriters. The tricky

manufacturers sell them under another name for another product. Look for a ribbon called "Okidata Microline 80/82." I buy mine at office supply stores and the box comes with two spools and the standard size ribbon, 1/2 inch by 10 yards. The spools even have the proper holes to fit on our typewriters. I don't know what an Okidata Microline might be but I suppose it is

an adding machine.

[Between Harry's advice above and your comments let's hope Sheryl can track down a suitable ribbon for her typewriter — not that it will affect me much, you understand, since she mostly sends hand-written post cards. -ED]



P. O. Box 4857
Huntsville AL 35815-4857

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Comments, inquiries, and contributions of writing by email to: mike.kennedy@pobox.tbe.com — EDITORIAL ADDRESS (EMAIL)

Comments, inquiries, and contributions of writing by snailmail to: Mike Kennedy, 7907 Charlotte Drive SW,
Huntsville AL 35802-2841 — EDITORIAL ADDRESS (SNAILMAIL)

Dues (\$), subscriptions (\$), and Official Mail to: NASFA, Inc., P. O. Box 4857,
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Con†Stellation XVIII: Lupus

29–31 October 1999 Huntsville AL

MCDavid Weber
GoHAllen Steele
AGoHCharles Keegan
FGoHTom & Anita Feller
Special Guest ..Peter Woodward*

Come enjoy the SF Dating Game!
Membership Rates:
\$30 through 6 October
\$35 thereafter & at the door
Children's Rates Available

*Professional commitments permitting. For more information write **Con†Stellation XVIII, P. O. Box 4857, Huntsville AL** or check us out at our new web address < <http://www.con-stellation.org> >.