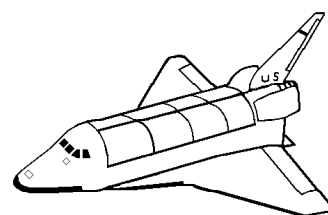


The



SHUTTLE
April 2000

Our 20th Year of Publication

*The Next NASFA Meeting will be 15 April
2000 at the Regular Time and Location*

Oyez, Oyez

The next NASFA meeting will be **15 April 2000** at the **regular time** (6P) and the **regular location** (room 130 of the Madison City Municipal Building).

The April program will be David Pettus speaking on Doc Savage. David is a new NASFA member but has been a fan for many years. He promises visual aids (books and art) at the meeting plus a pointer to a Doc Savage web site.

The April after-the-meeting meeting will be at Russell McNutt's house — 902 Drake Avenue SE. That's east on Drake from the Parkway, past Whitesburg. The house is roughly across from Randolph School and has a circular drive. Call Russell at 650-3195 or show up at the club meeting to get more exact directions.

Bradbury Play in Production

Jack Lundy sends word that a new play based on the work of Ray Bradbury is being produced at the Ritz Theater in Sheffield AL. "The World of Ray Bradbury," a showcase of seven separate Bradbury works he adapted for the stage, is set to run 19–21 May.

Bradbury was quoted in the Florence Times/Daily as saying "I love the immediacy of the theater. It's incredibly rewarding to have flesh-and-blood actors act out characters you've had in your head for years." He also said he hopes to be on hand for the May 21 performance.

First ConCom Meeting in May

Co-chair Mike Cothran has announced that the first Con†Stellation XIX: Virgo con committee meeting will be

held in May at a time and place to be decided. This will not be an eating meeting.

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Deadline for the May 2000 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 28 April 2000.

Tennessee Renaissance Festival

The annual Tennessee Renaissance Festival is coming in May. The festival will be open every Saturday and Sunday in May, plus Memorial Day (29 May) and Friday 5 May for "School Day." Admission is \$12 for adults, \$5 for children 5-12, free for younger children. Season passes are \$40. (Add tax to all prices.)

The festival is located between Franklin and Murfreesboro TN on Highway 96 near Triune. For more information contact Mike Freeman 615-395-9950.



NASFA Calendar

APRIL

- 01 April Fool's Day.
- 03 BD: Kevin Ward.
- 15* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM at Russell McNutt's house (see page 1 for address and directions).
- 15 BD: Uncle Timmy.
- 16 Palm Sunday.
- 20 Passover.
- 21 Good Friday.
- 21 BD: Randy B. Cleary.
- 23 Easter.
- 26 BD: Chloe Airoidi.
- 30 BD: Mark Maxwell.

MAY

- 11-14 World Horror Con 2000 — Denver CO.
- 13* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM TBD.
NOTE: This meeting date was advanced one week due to conflict with DSC.
- 14 BD: Debbie Hughes.
- 14 Mother's Day.
- 16 BD: Linda Bolgeo.
- 19-21 Son of BeachCon/DeepSouthCon 38 — Jeckyll Island GA.
- 19-21 Nebula Awards Weekend — New York NY.
- 19 BD: David O. Miller.
- 20 Armed Forces Day.
- 20 BD: Mike Glicksohn.
- 22 Victoria Day.
- 26-28 LibertyCon 14 — Chattanooga TN.
- 26-28 Oasis 13 — Orlando FL.
- 26-29 TachyCon 11 — Orlando FL.
- 27 BD: Kathy Paulk.
- 29 Memorial Day.

JUNE

- 11 BD: Rhett Mitchell.
- 14 Flag Day.
- 17* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM TBD.
- 18 Father's Day.
- 28-02 SFRA 2000 — Cleveland OH.
- 29-02 Dragon*Con 2000 — Atlanta GA.

JULY

- 01 Canada Day.
- 02 BD: Deb Stone.
- 04 Independence Day.
- 06 BD: Mary Axford.
- 08-09 2000 J. W. Campbell Conference — Lawrence KS.
- 15* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM TBD.
- 24 BD: Jay Johns.
- 28-30 Rivercon XXV — Louisville KY. This is the final Rivercon.
- 29 BD: Mark Paulk.

Oo

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.

March Minutes

by Samuel A. Smith, fluid

The March meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, March 18, 2000 in Room 130 in the Madison City Municipal Building at 6:19P by President Anita Eisenberg. Barney remains the smashee of honor — our sacrificial Ewoks are firmly entrenched in Mike and Marie's home.

OLD BUSINESS

Randy Cleary: Remember to donate for the auction later this year.

Anita Eisenberg: I forgot the crickets! (Chirp!)

At this point, it was noted that we need to hold a (co-)chair election for the 2001 Con†Stellation. After considerable discussion and a truly incredible amount of digression, Marie McCormack was elected to the post as sole chair of Con†Stellation XX, in an 8-4 victory over Mike Kennedy.

NEW BUSINESS

Incoming eggs!

CONVENTION BUSINESS

There was much discussion of possible guests for this year's Con†Stellation. We are still lacking an Artist Guest of Honor, and an MC. (Any volunteers?)

Mike Cothran announced that Con Committee meetings for this year's Con†Stellation would begin in April.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have received our annual "Care" package from

Baen Books (Thanks Toni!), containing: *A Civil Campaign*, *Apocalypse Troll*, *Earthweb*, *Worlds of Honor*, *Change of Command*, *Borderlands of Science*, and *Cradle of Saturn*. Look for reviews in future issues of the *NASFA Shuttle*.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00P. The program was to be on comic books, but the guest speaker didn't show. The substitute program was "How to Draw, the Nancy Cucci Way." The After-The-Meeting Meeting was held at Jim and Tracey Kennedy's home.

NASFA Receivables

by Randy B. Cleary

The following items were received by NASFA over the last few months:

Bridge Publications, Inc. Promotional Material, Bridge Publications, Inc., 4751 Fountain Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90029 — Promotional flyers for the book, *A Very Strange Trip* by Dave Wolverton, the movie *Battlefield Earth*, and the Writers of the Future contest.

De Profundis 327, January 2000, Scott Beckstead, c/o The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society, 11513 Burbank Boulevard, North Hollywood CA 91601 — 16 (digest) pages of club happenings and a reading list.

Fandom Directory 19 Order Flyer, FANDATA Publications, 7614 Cervantes Court, Springfield VA 22153-1608; 1-888-FANDATA; < fd19@fandata.com >.

Kronos March, April, 2000 D. A. Hussey, Middle Tennessee Science Fiction Society, 115 38th Avenue North, Nashville TN 37209; < bemscribe_too@hotmail.com >; < http://www.geocities.com/area51/dimension/4242/ > — These e-zines contained club information, fan news, science news, convention listings, and more.

Memphen 264, February 2000, Greg Bridges, The

Memphis Science Fiction Association, P. O. Box 820534, Memphis TN 38182-0534; 901-664-6730; < msfamemphen@hotmail.com > — 10 pages of club information and book and con reviews. Neat cyborg girl on the cover.

OASFiS Event Horizon 151, February & 152, March 2000, Leslie R. Hammes, The Orlando Area Science-Fiction Society, P. O. Box 940992, Maitland FL 32792-0992; 407-263-5822 — February had 4 pages of club information. March was 6 pages with part one of a short fiction piece by Dean S. Warren.

The Reluctant Famulus 55, Summer 1999, Tom Sadler, 422 West Maple Avenue, Adrian, MI 49221-1627; 517-264-4115; < tomfamulus@dmci.net > — Issue 55 (in memory of George "Lan" Laskowski) had 77 pages of personal essays, lots of art (color covers), book reviews, and many letters of comments. Hugo nomination quality. Check it out.

SFSFS Shuttle 140, Carlos Perez, February/March 2000, South Florida Science Fiction Society, P. O. Box 70143, Fort Lauderdale FL 33307-0143 — 20 pages of essays, reviews, club information, and letters of comments.

Now, Now, Be Civil

by Mike Kennedy

A Civil Campaign by Lois McMaster Bujold, Baen Books, 1999, Hardcover, ISBN 0-671-57827-8, 405pp, \$24.00

Though reviewed in the Shuttle only two months ago (by Jim Woosley) I couldn't resist putting in my two cents worth after I finished the book. The copy I have is one of the books kindly provided by Baen Books in their annual care package. (Of course, they aren't being entirely unselfish since these are books they are promoting for the Hugo Awards.)

Though I have read a number of the books in Bujold's Vorkosigan saga, I haven't read them all nor did I own copies of all I had read. Some time ago I decided to remedy this and ordered all the ones I was missing from BookMark. It happens that I was systematically working my way through that considerable stack when I got this opportunity to read this latest book in the series.

In *A Civil Campaign* Bujold's unlikely hero Miles Vorkosigan has passed his 30th birthday and has found the woman he wants to marry. There is a little problem, however — Ekaterin's abusive husband is recently dead and she wants nothing to do with marriage. Miles is trying to observe her official year of mourning while plotting (so what else is new — this is Miles) to win his way into her good graces. Other men are not so scrupulous, especially since men greatly outnumber women in that generation on the planet Barrayar.

Miles, being Miles, manages to screw up his great campaign to win Ekaterin's heart, alienating her. More used to planning a battle or outwitting a clever political opponent, Miles' strategies aren't exactly suited to the more tender subject of love. But there is plenty else occurring to keep his (and everyone else's) attention. No space battles this time around, but political intrigue abounds in the background while love is front and center. The wedding of Emperor Gregor Vorbarra is approaching and driving everyone to distraction.

Nor are Miles and Gregor the only men in love. Mile clone brother Mark has his own, um, affair going with the daughter of one of the Vorkosigan armsmen. And other love stories come to light throughout the book. All in all *A Civil Campaign* could best be described as an almost Victorian comedy of manners. Or perhaps as Shakespearean. Both no small compliments.

Since Jim told you a lot about *A Civil Campaign* two months ago I won't go into any more details here. Suffice it to say that this is an extremely well-crafted book which I recommend unreservedly. No doubt Baen included it in their care package to try to garner Hugo votes both in the nomination and final voting process. It's too late to influence the nominations now, but I think there's every chance that this book will make the ballot. And certainly deserves consideration in the final voting.

1999 Nebula Awards Final Ballot

The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America has released the final ballot for the 1999 Nebula Awards. Winners will be announced during the Nebula Awards Weekend in New York City, 19–21 May 2000. This year's ballot is the first with the revived category for dramatic presentation, now called "Best Script."

NOVEL

The Cassini Division, Ken MacLeod (Tor, July 1999)
A Clash of Kings, George R. R. Martin (Bantam Spectra, February 1999)
A Deepness in the Sky, Vernor Vinge (Tor, March 1999)
Mission Child, Maureen F. McHugh (Avon Eos, December 1998)
Mockingbird, Sean Stewart (Ace, August 1998)
Parable of the Talents, Octavia E. Butler (Seven Stories Press, November 1998)

NOVELLA

"The Astronaut from Wyoming," Adam-Troy Castro and Jerry Oltion (*Analog*, July/August 1999)
"The Executioners' Guild," Andy Duncan (*Asimov's*, August 1999)
"Living Trust," L. Timmel Duchamp (*Asimov's*, February 1999)
"Reality Check," Michael A. Burstein (*Analog*, November 1999)
"Story of Your Life," Ted Chiang (*Starlight 2*)
"The Wedding Album," David Marusek (*Asimov's*, June 1999)

NOVELETTE

"Five Days in April," Brian A. Hopkins (*Chiaroscuro* [webzine], July 1999)
"Good Intentions," Stanley Schmidt and Jack McDevitt (*F&SF*, June 1998)
"How to Make Unicorn Pie," Esther M. Friesner (*F&SF*,

January 1999)

"The Island in the Lake," Phyllis Eisenstein (*F&SF*, December 1998)

"Mars Is No Place for Children," Mary A. Turzillo (*SF Age*, May 1999)

"Taklamakan," Bruce Sterling (*Asimov's*, October/November 1998)

SHORT STORY

"Ancient Engines," Michael Swanwick (*Asimov's*, February 1999)

"Basil the Dog," Frances Sherwood (*Atlantic Monthly*, September 1999)

"The Cost of Doing Business," Leslie What (*Amazing Stories*, Winter 1999)

"The Dead Boy at Your Window," Bruce Holland Rogers (*The North American Review*, November/December 1998)

"Flower Kiss," Constance Ash (*Realms of Fantasy*, August 1998)

"Radiant Doors," Michael Swanwick (*Asimov's*, September 1998)

SCRIPT

"The Devil's Arithmetic," Robert J. Avrech (based on the novel by Jane Yolen; Showtime Television, 28 March 1999)

"The Iron Giant," Brad Bird and Tim McCanlies (based on the book by Ted Hughes; Warner Bros., August 1999)

"The Matrix," Larry and Andy Wachowski (Warner Bros., March 1999)

"The Sixth Sense," M. Night Shyamalan (Buena Vista, August 1999)

"The Uranus Experiment: Part 2," John Millerman (Private Black Label, June 1999)

Chesley Awards Nominations Announced

The Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists has announced nominations for this year's Chesley Awards, recognizing the best art and artists in science fiction in 1999. The awards will be given out at a ceremony will at the Chicago Worldcon, which starts August 31.

The Chesley Awards, named for astronomical artist Chesley Bonestell, are presented annually. The nominees are:

BEST COVER ILLUSTRATION

Bob Eggleton, *Dragon and Phoenix* by Joanne Bertin
Bob Eggleton, *Rainbow Mars* by Larry Niven
Jody Lee, *The Black Swan* by Mercedes Lackey
Todd Lockwood, *The Spine of the World* by R. A. Salvatore
Michael Whelan, *Otherland: Mountain of Black Glass* by Tad Williams

BEST PAPERBACK COVER ILLUSTRATION

Rowena Morrill, *The Garden of Stone* by Victoria Strauss
John Jude Palencar, *The Terrorists of Irustan* by Louise Marley
Jean Pierre Targete, *Wrapt in Crystal* by Sharon Shinn
James Warhola, *Callahan's Crosstime Saloon* by Spider Robinson
Stephen Youll, *Eberien: Book One – the Company of Glass* by

Valery Leith

BEST COVER ILLUSTRATION, MAGAZINE

Jill Bauman, *Fantasy and Science Fiction Magazine*, June 1999

Alan Clark, *Cemetery Dance*, Fall 1999

Bob Eggleton, *Fantasy and Science Fiction Magazine*, August 1999

Greg Hildebrandt, *Realms of Fantasy*, August 1999

Ron Walotsky, *Fantasy and Science Fiction Magazine*, April 1999

BEST INTERIOR ILLUSTRATION

Vincent di Fate, *Rules of Engagement* by Elizabeth Moon

James Gurney, *Dinotopia: First Flight* by James Gurney

Jael, *The Little Princess* by Francis Hodgson Burnett

Marianne Plumridge, "Rainbow Mothra," *G-Fan*, March/April 1999

Omar Rayyan, "Weighing the Elephant," *Spider Magazine*, March 1999

BEST COLOR WORK, UNPUBLISHED

Bob Eggleton, *Dragonstorm*

Marc Fishman, *Titania*

Stephen Hickman, *At the Entmoot*

Don Maitz, *King Solomon's Mines*

Marianne Plumridge, *Aphrodite Rising*
Michael Whelan, *Peace*

BEST MONOCHROME WORK, UNPUBLISHED

Rick Berry, *Artemis*
Bob Eggleton, *Dragonhenge*
Stanley Morrison, *Asian Wonders*
Sheila Rayyan, *Claire et la Luna*
Sheila Rayyan, *It Followed Me Home, Can I Keep It?*

BEST THREE-DIMENSIONAL WORK

Marian Crane, *Maschera d'Osso* (ivory, fiber)
Halla Fleisher, *Never Say Die* (Sculpey)
Johnna Klukas, *From the Astrologer's Anteroom* (furniture grouping)
Marianne Plumridge, *Heartsong* (bronze)
Lisa Snellings, *Bendyman* (mixed media)

AWARD FOR ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENT

John Berkey Rick Berry David Cherry
Stephen Hickman Ron Walotsky

BEST ART DIRECTION

Jim Baen, Baen Books
Cathy and Arnie Fenner, Spectrum
Irene Gallo, Tor Books
Don Puckey, Warner Books
Ron Spears, Wizards of the Coast

BEST GAMING-RELATED ILLUSTRATION

Brom, *Warriors of Heaven and Guide to Hell*
Donato Giancola, *Magic: The Gathering*
Carol Heyer, *Dune*
Todd Lockwood, *Creatures of the Night: Golems*
R. K. Post, *Magic: The Gathering*

BEST PRODUCT ILLUSTRATION

Richard Bober, Cleopatra plate art for Hamilton Mint
Ian McCaig, character and costume design for *Star Wars: Episode I*
Kinuko Y. Craft, Honey Lemon Ginseng Green Tea
Keith Parkinson, cover art for *Everquest*, 989
Drew Struzan, poster for *Star Wars: Episode I*

Stoker Award Nominations

The Horror Writers Association has announced the final ballot for the Bram Stoker Awards for works published in 1999. The awards will be presented 13 May 2000, at the Stoker Awards Banquet in conjunction with the World Horror Convention in Denver CO.

NOVEL

Darker than Night by Owl Goingback (Signet)
Hannibal by Thomas Harris (Delacorte)
Low Men in Yellow Coats by Stephen King (*Hearts in Atlantis*, Scribner)
Hexes by Tom Piccirilli (Leisure Books)
Mr. X by Peter Straub (Random House)

FIRST NOVEL

Widow's Walk by Steve Beai (Indigo Publishing)
Every Dead Thing by John Connolly (Simon & Schuster)
King Rat by China Miéville (Macmillan UK/Tor)
Wither by J.G. Passarella (Pocket Books)

LONG FICTION

"Five Days in April" by Brian A. Hopkins (*Chiaroscuro: Treatments of Light and Shade in Words*, July)
"Dread in the Beast" by Charlee Jacob (*Dread in the Beast*)
Right to Life by Jack Ketchum (published as a small book by

Cemetery Dance Publications)

"Mad Dog Summer" by Joe R. Lansdale (999: *New Stories of Horror and Suspense*)

SHORT FICTION

"The Grave" by P. D. Cacek (999: *New Stories of Horror and Suspense*)
"The Entertainment" by Ramsey Campbell (999: *New Stories of Horror and Suspense*)
"Halloween Street" by Steve Rasnic Tem (*F&SF*, July)
"After Shock" by F. Paul Wilson (*Realms of Fantasy*, December)

FICTION COLLECTION

Death Drives a Semi by Edo van Belkom (Quarry Press)
The Nightmare Chronicles by Douglas Clegg (Leisure Books)
Hearts in Atlantis by Stephen King (Scribner)
Deep into that Darkness Peering by Tom Piccirilli (Terminal Fright)

ANTHOLOGY

The Year's Best Fantasy & Horror, Twelfth Annual Collection edited by Ellen Datlow and Terri Windling (St. Martin's)
The Mammoth Book of Best New Horror 10 edited by Stephen Jones (Carroll and Graf)
The Last Continent: New Tales of Zothique edited by John Pelan (Shadowlands Press)
999: *New Stories of Horror and Suspense* edited by Al Sarrantonio (Avon)

NONFICTION

Darkecho (all 1999 issues) edited by Paula Guran
The Essential Monster Movie Guide by Stephen Jones (Titan)
Vincent Price: A Daughter's Biography by Victoria Price (St. Martin's)
Hellnotes (all 1999 issues) edited by David B. Silva and Paul F. Olson

ILLUSTRATED NARRATIVE

Sandman: The Dream Hunters by Neil Gaiman (DC/Vertigo)
Jonah Hex: Shadows West #1 by Joe R. Lansdale (DC/Vertigo, February)
Hellboy: Box Full of Evil by Mike Mignola (Dark Horse Comics, September)
Faust: Book of M by David Quinn (Avatar Press)

SCREENPLAY

The Green Mile by Frank Darabont (Castle Rock)
The Blair Witch Project by Daniel Myrick and Eduardo Sanchez (Artisan Entertainment)
Sixth Sense by M. Night Shyamalan (Hollywood Films/Spyglass)
Buffy the Vampire Slayer, "Hush," by Joss Whedon (Fox)

WORK FOR YOUNG READERS

Something Lumber This Way Comes by Joe R. Lansdale (Subterranean Press)
Creepy Susie and 13 Other Tragic Tales for Troubled Children by Angus Oblong (Ballantine Books)
Harry Potter and the Prisoners of Azkaban by J. K. Rowling (Bloomsbury/Scholastic Levine Books)

OTHER MEDIA

I Have No Mouth and I Must Scream (Audio) by Harlan Ellison (Dove)
Masters of Terror (Website) by Andy Fairclough (Andy Fairclough)
Gothic Net (Website) by Seth Lindberg (Darren McKeeman)
Conspiracies (Audio CD of F. Paul Wilson story) by WyrdsisterS ProductionS (WyrdsisterS ProductionS/Gauntlet Press)

More Award News

The shortlist for the 2000 Arthur C. Clarke Award has been announced. This award, for the year's best SF novel published in Great Britain, will be presented at a ceremony at the Science Museum in London on May 17, 2000. The award is an engraved bookend and £1,000. The nominees are:

Manifold 1: Time, Stephen Baxter (Voyager)
The Bones of Time, Kathleen Ann Goonan (Voyager)
Silver Screen, Justina Robson (Macmillan)
Cryptonomicon, Neal Stephenson (Heinemann)
Distraction, Bruce Sterling (Millennium)
A Deepness in the Sky, Vernor Vinge (Millennium)

It has been announced that British writer Brian Aldiss will be named 1999 Grand Master by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America at the Nebula Banquet to be held May 19-21, 2000, in New York City.

The jury for the Sidewise Awards (for Alternate History) is looking for recommendations of alternate history novels and stories first published during 1999, especially any published outside the SF genre press. You can contact them care of Steven Silver <shsilver@sfsite.com>. A checklist of items already recommended may be found at the Sidewise website, <<http://www.uchronia.net/sidewise/>>.

The 1999 Tiptree Award was announced 7 March 2000. The award, for science fiction or fantasy that explores and

expands the roles of women and men, was presented to Suzy McKee Charnas, *The Conqueror's Child* (TOR, 1999). The award is named for Alice B. Sheldon, who wrote under the pseudonym James Tiptree, Jr. A list of all the works considered can be found at <<http://www.tiptree.org/1999/index.html>>.

The Sapphire Award is sponsored by the SF Romance newsletter and recognizes the best science fiction romance of the year. Nominees are chosen and winners selected by readers of the SF Romance newsletter. They may have been published in any genre but both the science fiction and the romance must be intrinsic to the story. The 1999 winners are:

Special Award — Denise Little, Editor of the anthology, *A Dangerous Magic*

Best Science Fiction Romance Novel — First Place, *A Civil Campaign* by Lois McMaster Bujold; Second Place, *The Godmother Sanction* by Patricia White; Third Place, *The Quantum Rose* by Catherine Asaro.

Best Science Fiction Romance Short Fiction — First Place, "Aurora in Four Voices" by Catherine Asaro (*Analog*, November 1998); Second Place, "Dinner Date" by Patricia White (*Millennium SF&F*); Third Place (tie), "Empire Day" by Astrid Cooper (*Stardates: Infinite Celebrations*, Dreams Unlimited) and "A Little Death" by Susan Sizemore (*A Dangerous Magic*, DAW).

Letters of Comment

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

Harry Warner, Jr.
423 Summit Avenue
Hagerstown MD 21740

17 March 2000

The March *Shuttle* is a trifle on the skinny side. But I think I can squeeze out a slightly truncated loc on it anyway. I sympathize with your printer trouble (I assume this refers to a piece of computer equipment rather than a shirt-sleeved laborer in a copy shop) and I find the legibility of this issue to be excellent.

It would have been hard in the old days of the prozines to compile an anthology of science fiction love stories. Thinking back, I can't remember any stories from such fabulous old timers as Jack Williamson, John Russell Fearn, and Dr. E. E. Smith in which love played a major part. Kimball Kinnison got married, to be sure, but it was hardly a determining factor in the Lensman series. Maybe Stanley Weinbaum's *The Black Flame* would qualify as early love-in-science-fiction, but that lady seems to have inspired more lust than romantic love among males. As for the books, references to invisible art, maybe the text was written for a projected hardcover edition which never materialized.

If 23629 Woodfield Road is still standing, it will probably survive until the wrecking ball arrives. Maryland has had so much wind this month that the house must have had its sternest test against nature's threats. There are several pieces of shingle around my house but I'm not certain if they blew off my roof or that of some other building in the area.

The last I heard from Dick Geis, in a letter mailed February 28, he was awaiting the results of an MRI scan, and said one physician had made an initial diagnosis of degenerative arthritis which surgery wouldn't cure. He is using a walker to get around.

[This issue promises to be slim too, though possibly not as tiny as March. Hopefully things will pick up in a few months with more conventions and movies to review. I wouldn't say that all the stories in *Isaac Asimov's Valentines* (reviewed last month) focused on *romantic* love, though that was front and center in many of them. Sheryl catches us up on the status of her house below, though there are several question marks due to a postmark and barcode obscuring some of the words on the postcard. -ED]

POC-POC-POC-POC-POC-POC-POC-POC-POC

Sheryl Birkhead
23629 Woodfield Road
Gaithersburg MD 20882

1 April 2000

Greetings — the house is to be demolished in less than 2–3 [weeks?] and I still have no place to go — can't find the right place to build and no one will rent to me. So — I'm starting to look at used mobile homes — gotta go somewhere.

But — everything is one *huge* mess — boxes everywhere — and no idea *where* stuff is or even if it's in storage in a sealed canister. My three filing cabinets of zines will be stored, so until I find a permanent spot I won't have access... and my

pastels etc. are *all* packed away. In the best scenario I'll be in temporary housing for [four?] months — [?] *gotta* find the piece of land.

[The post office seemed to have it in for anything in your

postcard that referred to timing, with the postmark obscuring things in one place and a barcode in another. I hope I caught the spirit of your text at least. I know you must feel very unsettled. Hopefully you'll at least have found temporary housing by the time this issue reaches you. -ED]



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Huntsville AL 35815-4857

The NASFA Shuttle is the newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, Inc. This is the April 2000 edition (Volume 20, Number 4). NASFA Officers for 2000: President Anita Eisenberg; Vice President Mike Kennedy; Secretary Sam Smith; Treasurer Ray Pietruszka; Program Director Nancy Cucci; Publicity Director Doug Lampert. *Shuttle* Editor Mike Kennedy.

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