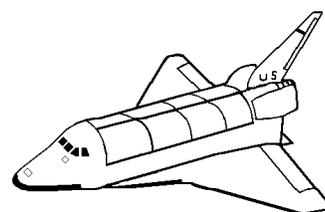


The



Our 20th Year of Publication



*SHUTTLE
July 2000*

*The Next NASFA Meeting is 15 July 2000
at the Regular Time and Location*

Con†Stellation ConCom: 13 July at Mike & Marie’s Place

Oyez, Oyez

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

The July program will be “Unfair Math Problems,” presented by Doug Lampert. Sharpen your wits and your pencils before you get there!

The July after-the-meeting-meeting will be at Russell McNutt’s house — 902 Drake Avenue SE. (Go 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 to get more exact directions.) After the rain out in June, Russell wants to give us all another crack at using his pool, so come prepared.

Start preparing now for the NASFA Auction at the August meeting. Don’t forget to get surplus books to Randy Cleary well before the August meeting so he can turn them into credit at a local used book store. Bring other items to the August meeting on the 12th (a week earlier than the usual date).

July ConCom Meeting Set

The next Con†Stellation XIX: Virgo con committee meeting will be held 13 July 2000 at Mike Cothran and Marie McCormack’s place. This will be an eating meeting with the eating starting at 6:30P and the meeting proper afterwards. The food theme will be, um, let’s see if I can put this delicately, “Food for a Deflowering.” Oh, to heck with it — the theme could more accurately be called “Food to Aid in Losing Your Virginity.” Contact Mike or Marie at 880-8210 for directions and the gate code.

The plan continues to be that future monthly concom meetings will be held on the Thursday immediately preceding each month’s club meeting. Stay tuned, of course, for changes from that schedule.

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Deadline for the August 2000 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 29 July 2000.

A Little Movie News

by Mike Kennedy

Fans of fantasy movies have several things to look forward to over the next few years. Not just one, but two different movie trilogies are in production. First out of the gate (between late 2000 and mid 2001) will be the first *Dungeons & Dragons* movie — currently in post-production. Attendees at the recent Dragon*Con in Atlanta were able to see a trailer for the film which stars Lee Arenberg (Elwood the dwarf), Richard O'Brien (master of the thieves' guild), Jeremy Irons (evil archmage), Marlon Wayans (Snails, the bumbling burglar), Justin Whalin (Ridley the thief), and Thora Birch (a young empress schooled in the mystical arts). Little information has been released about the other two movies projected to complete the trilogy.

Perhaps more eagerly awaited will be the live-action *Lord of the Rings* trilogy. The first movie is still fairly early in the production process, in principal photography the last I heard. The large cast includes Elijah Wood (Frodo), Sean Astin (Samwise), Ian Holm (Bilbo), Ian McKellen (Gandalf), Christopher Lee (Saruman), Billy Boyd (Pippin), Liv Tyler (Arwen Undomiel), Cate Blanchett (Galadriel), Sean Bean (Boromir), and many more. Post-production will be particularly extensive for these movies as the actors are CGed to more closely fit the appearance (relative size, etc.) of the various races they portray. The three movies are scheduled for release around Christmas 2001, 2002, and 2003.

Letters of Comment

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

Sheryl Birkhead
25509 Jonnie Court
Gaithersburg MD 20882

22 June 2000

Joe Mayhew's memorial service was quite — the get-together afterwards was like a small con, but with *so many* suite it was more difficult to tell the fans from the mundanes.

Jekyll Island sounds very pleasant and a relaxing location for a con.

I still haven't located my pens, paper, illos, or reference books — they are probably still in storage. Sigh. Radon needs "remediation," trees fell in the last storm — welcome to the joys of... and no one to palm it off to.

[Ah yes, the joys of home ownership. Always chores to be done — or at least put off. Good luck tracking down all your belongings, especially the stuff you need to create more illos. -ED]

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

Harry Warner, Jr.
423 Summit Avenue
Hagerstown MD 21740

26 June 2000

Jack Lundy's through review of the Ray Bradbury plays and appearance is obviously the major attraction of the June issue of the *Shuttle*. It seems only yesterday when Ray was almost forgotten as a writer who had shot his bolt. So it's very good that he is coming back into prominence in such ways as these two events. Of course, I'm happy to know that his mind and voice are unaffected by his recent health problems. Just reading the summaries of the one-act plays brought back to me the clearest memories of the times I've enjoyed most of the stories on which the dramas were based. Wouldn't it be fine if someone in television land or Hollywood were smart enough to produce a feature-length film with three or four of these story dramatizations just as Ray told them, without changes or additions by contemporary script hacks? One very small correction: Jack writes of Ray becoming a science fiction fan "decades before Forry Ackerman coined the term." But Forry

is several years older than Ray and had already assumed the role of the #1 science fiction fan in the world before Ray became active.

Your review of the latest DeepSouthCon consoles me for the fact that I won't read in SFPA the many accounts of that event that always appear in a summer mailing of the *apa*, now that I've dropped membership in it. The setting seems to have been the kind of locale that might inspire Stephen King to write a 4,576-page horror novel.

Of course, I don't know enough about science to guess how much chance there may be in validity for some of Velikovsk's theories. But just think how much damage would be done to a half-dozen branches of science if just one small aspect of that writer's speculations turned out to be founded on fact. I haven't read his book, but I don't believe he had anything to say about the constellations. The way the ancients saw them and described them and named them has always caused me to wonder if the constellations had many more stars that made it easier to see the shapes they are supposed to portray.

Sheryl's new house seems wonderful because it seems to have so much room for accumulating stuff in. Maybe she could trade cat-sitting for lawn mowing with some of the neighbors to solve the landscaping problem.

[I was very pleased to run Jack's essays on the Bradbury plays and presentation. I missed them myself because I was out of town at DeepSouthCon. Speaking of DSC, I'm sure the fact that I had fun came through in my review last month — sorry you won't get to read other points of view but I suspect they'd all agree with the assertion it was a fun con. Not being a Stephen King reader, I'm not sure what aspect(s) of Jekyll Island triggered the idea of him setting a novel there. I am sure, though, that the island's hotels would gladly put him up for however long he might like if he would actually write such a novel. -ED]

WAHF-WAHF-WAHF-WAHF-WAHF-WAHF-WAHF

We also heard from Carlo DeShouten who sent us a short note with a change of address. And speaking of CoAs, check out the fine print on the back cover for editor Mike Kennedy's new email address.



P. O. Box 4857
Huntsville AL 35815-4857

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Comments, inquiries, and contributions of writing by email to: mike.kennedy@tdytsi.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,
Huntsville AL 35815-4857 — OFFICIAL ADDRESS

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