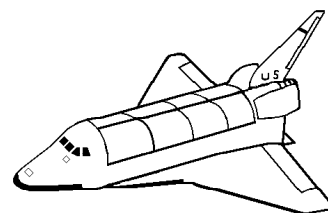


The



SHUTTLE  
March 2003

*The Next NASFA Meeting will be 15 March 2003 at the Regular Time and Location*

*The Next Con+Stellation XXII ConCom Meeting will be 2P Sunday 6 April 2003 at Mike Kennedy's House*

### 🔔 Oyez, Oyez 🔔

The next **NASFA meeting** will be **15 March 2003** at the **regular time** (6P) and the **regular location**. Call BookMark at 256-881-3910 if you need directions.

The **March program** (7P) will be a presentation by Bradley Carlson on "Next Generation Launch Technology: The Blueprint to Tomorrow's Space Program." Mr. Carlson currently works on NASA's Next Generation Launch Technology Program at Marshal. Previous assignments have included the Air Force Research Lab and NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center.

The March **after-the-meeting meeting** will be at Mike Kennedy's house (subject to change if we get another volunteer). We need ATMM volunteers for future months.

This year's Hugo nomination ballots have been mailed. All members of the 2003 Worldcon (Torcon 3 <[www.torcon3.on.ca](http://www.torcon3.on.ca)>) as well as last year's Worldcon (ConJosé) are eligible to cast a nominating ballot. The deadline for casting a nomination ballot is 31 March 2003. Electronic balloting is not available this year, though you may visit Torcon's web site to get a copy of the ballot if you need to. You must be an attending or supporting member of Torcon 3 to vote in the final Hugo selection balloting later this year.

### April ConCom Meeting

The next Con+Stellation XXII con committee meeting will be held 2P Sunday 6 April at Mike Kennedy's house — 7907 Charlotte Drive SW, Huntsville AL. An email announcement with additional information will be sent out closer to the day. Future meetings are all tentatively scheduled for the Sunday after the first Saturday each month. (As always, stay tuned as things can change if circumstances alter.)

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**Deadline for the April 2003 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 4 April 2003.**



## BAFTA Awards Presented

The British Academy Film Awards were presented Sunday 23 February 2003 at the Odeon, Leicester Square. *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* picked up two BAFTA awards (in the categories Costume Design and Achievement in Special Visual Effects), plus the Orange Film of the Year — the only award given out at the ceremony that is voted on by the public. *LotR:TTT* had also received nominations in over a half-dozen additional categories, including best director and best film.

## SF Book Club Top 50

The Science Fiction Book Club <www.sfb.com> has announced a list of what they consider to be “The Most Significant SF & Fantasy Books of the Last 50 Years, 1953–2002.” No doubt there could be some quibbling about the title of the list, since many of the entries are in fact comprised of multiple books. Nevertheless, here’s the full list:

*The Lord of the Rings*, J. R. R. Tolkien  
*The Foundation Trilogy*, Isaac Asimov  
*Dune*, Frank Herbert  
*Stranger in a Strange Land*, Robert A. Heinlein  
*A Wizard of Earthsea*, Ursula K. Le Guin  
*Neuromancer*, William Gibson  
*Childhood’s End*, Arthur C. Clarke  
*Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?*, Philip K. Dick  
*The Mists of Avalon*, Marion Zimmer Bradley  
*Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury  
*The Book of the New Sun*, Gene Wolfe  
*A Canticle for Leibowitz*, Walter M. Miller, Jr.  
*The Caves of Steel*, Isaac Asimov  
*Children of the Atom*, Wilmar Shiras  
*Cities in Flight*, James Blish  
*The Colour of Magic*, Terry Pratchett  
*Dangerous Visions*, edited by Harlan Ellison  
*Deathbird Stories*, Harlan Ellison  
*The Demolished Man*, Alfred Bester  
*Dhalgren*, Samuel R. Delany  
*Dragonflight*, Anne McCaffrey  
*Ender’s Game*, Orson Scott Card  
*The First Chronicles of Thomas Covenant the Unbeliever*, Stephen R. Donaldson  
*The Forever War*, Joe Haldeman  
*Gateway*, Frederik Pohl  
*Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*, J. K. Rowling  
*The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*, Douglas Adams  
*I Am Legend*, Richard Matheson  
*Interview with the Vampire*, Anne Rice  
*The Left Hand of Darkness*, Ursula K. Le Guin  
*Little, Big*, John Crowley  
*Lord of Light*, Roger Zelazny  
*The Man in the High Castle*, Philip K. Dick  
*Mission of Gravity*, Hal Clement  
*More Than Human*, Theodore Sturgeon  
*The Rediscovery of Man*, Cordwainer Smith  
*On the Beach*, Nevil Shute  
*Rendezvous with Rama*, Arthur C. Clarke  
*Ringworld*, Larry Niven  
*Rogue Moon*, Algis Budrys  
*The Silmarillion*, J. R. R. Tolkien

*Slaughterhouse-5*, Kurt Vonnegut  
*Snow Crash*, Neal Stephenson  
*Stand on Zanzibar*, John Brunner  
*The Stars My Destination*, Alfred Bester  
*Starship Troopers*, Robert A. Heinlein  
*Stormbringer*, Michael Moorcock  
*The Sword of Shannara*, Terry Brooks  
*Timescape*, Gregory Benford  
*To Your Scattered Bodies Go*, Philip José Farmer

## Visual Effects Society Awards

The Visual Effects Society <www.visualeffectssociety.com> presented the first set of what is planned to be an annual award on 19 February 2003. The VES Awards were created to honor excellence for visual effects in feature films, television, commercials, and music videos. Perhaps unsurprisingly, genre works did well in the awards. The winners are:

Best Visual Effects in an Effects Driven Motion Picture: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, Jim Rygiel, Joe Letteri, Randall William Cook, Alex Funke  
Best Supporting Visual Effects in a Motion Pictures: *The Sum of all Fears*, Glenn Neufeld, Derek Spears, Dan Malvin, Al Disarro  
Best Visual Effects in a Television Miniseries, Movie, or a Special: *Dinotopia*, Mike McGee, Tim Webber, Alec Knox, Ben Morris  
Best Visual Effects in a Television Series: *Firefly* “Serenity” (pilot), Emile Smith, Rocco Passionino, Loni Peristere, Kristen Branam  
Best Visual Effects in a Commercial: *XBOX Mosquito*, William Bartlett, Andrew Daffy, Jake Mengers, Helen Mackenzie  
Best Visual Effects in a Music Video: *So to Speak*, Andrew Honacker, Steven Wagner, Sean Capone, Talon Nightshade  
Best Character Animation in a Live Action Motion Picture: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, Richard Baneham, Eric Saindon, Ken McGaugh, Bay Raitt  
Best Character Animation in a Live Action Televised Program, Music Video, or Commercial: *Dinotopia*, Michael Eames, Quentin Miles, Dadi Einarsson, Ben White  
Best Character Animation in an Animated Motion Picture: *Stuart Little 2*, Tony Bancroft, David Schaub, Eric Armstrong, Sean Mullen  
Best Special Effects in a Motion Picture: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, Steve Ingram, Blair Foord, Rich Cordobes, Scott Harens  
Best Matte Painting in a Motion Picture: *Star Wars: Episode II Attack of the Clones*, Paul Huston, Yusei Uesugi, Jonathan Harb  
Best Matte Painting in a Televised Program, Music Video, or Commercial: *Dinotopia*, Daren Horley, Jason Horley, Craig Lyn, Martin McRae  
Best Models and Miniatures in a Motion Picture: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, Richard Taylor, Paul Van Ommen, Matt Aitken  
Best Models and Miniatures in a Televised Program, Music Video, or Commercial: *Enterprise* “Dead Stop,” John Teska, Koji Kuramura, Pierre Drolet, Sean Scott  
Best Visual Effects Photography in a Motion Picture: *The Lord*

*of the Rings: The Two Towers*, Alex Funke, Brian Vant Hul, Richard Bluck  
 Best Effects Art Direction in a Motion Picture: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, Alan Lee, Jeremy Bennett, Christian Rivers, Gino Acevedo  
 Best Effects Art Direction in a Televised Program, Music Video, or Commercial: *Adidas* "Mechanical Legs," Eric Barba, Bernd Angerer, Jeff Julian, Feli di Giorgio  
 Best Compositing in a Motion Picture: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, Mark Lewis, G. G. Heitmann Demers, Alex Lemke, Alfred Murrle  
 Best Compositing in a Televised Program, Music Video, or Commercial: *Dinotopia*, Christian Manz, Pedro Sabrosa, Nicolas Cotta, Tor Bjorn  
 Best Performance by an Actor in an Effects Film: *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*, Andy Serkis, Elijah Wood, Sean Astin

## Razzie Awards Noms

SF/Fantasy and related films are, um, well represented in the nominations for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golden Raspberry Awards <www.razzies.com>, aka the Razzies. These awards "honor" the worst achievements in film in the year 2002. In fact, there are so many films that are arguably genre-related in the list that the *Shuttle* will present the entire list of nominations (below) rather than try to sort out genre from non-genre films. The 2003 Razzie ceremony will take place at 11A PST on Saturday 22 March 2003 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Santa Monica CA.

### WORST PICTURE

*The Adventures of Pluto Nash* (Warner Bros.)  
*Crossroads* (Paramount)  
 Roberto Benigni's *Pinocchio* (Miramax)  
*Star Wars: Episode II Attack of the Clones* (Fox/Lucasfilm)  
*Swept Away* (Screen Gems)

### WORST ACTOR

Roberto Benigni/*Pinocchio*  
 Adriano Giannini/*Swept Away*  
 Eddie Murphy/*Adventures of Pluto Nash*, *I Spy*, and *Showtime*  
 Steven Segal/*Half Past Dead*  
 Adam Sandler/*Adam Sandler's 8 Crazy Nights* and *Mr. Deeds*

### WORST ACTRESS

Angelina Jolie/*Life, Or Something Like It*  
 Jennifer Lopez/*Enough* and *Maid In Manhattan*  
 Madonna/*Swept Away*  
 Winona Ryder/*Mr. Deeds*  
 Britney Spears/*Crossroads*

### WORST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Hayden Christensen/*Star Wars: Episode II Yoda-Yoda-Yoda*  
 Tom Green/*Stealing Harvard*  
 Freddie Prinze, Jr./*Scooby Doo*  
 Christopher Walken/*The Country Bears*  
 Robin Williams/*Death To Smoochy*

### WORST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Lara Flynn Boyle/*Men In Black II*  
 Bo Derek/*Master of Disguise*  
 Madonna/*Die Another Day*  
 Natalie Portman/*Star Wars: Episode — Who Cares?*  
 Rebecca Ramijn-Stamos/*Rollerball*

### MOST FLATULENT TEEN-TARGETED MOVIE (New Category)

*Adam Sandler's 8 Crazy Nights* (Sony/Columbia)  
*Crossroads* (Paramount)  
*Jackass: The Movie* (Paramount)  
*Scooby Doo* (Warner Bros.)  
*XXX* (Sony/Revolution)

### WORST SCREEN COUPLE

Adriano Giannini and Madonna/*Swept Away*  
 Roberto Benigni and Nicoletta Braschi/*Pinocchio*  
 Hayden Christensen and Natalie Portman/*Star Wars: Episode II Send in the Clones*  
 Eddie Murphy and either Robert deNiro (*Showtime*), Owen Wilson (*I Spy*), or Himself Cloned (*The Adventures Of Pluto Nash*)  
 Britney Spears and Whatever-His-Name-Was/*Crossroads*

### WORST DIRECTOR

Roberto Benigni/*Pinocchio*  
 Tamra Davis/*Crossroads*  
 George Lucas/*Star Wars: Episode II Attack of the Groans*  
 Guy Ritchie/*Swept Away*  
 Ron Underwood/*The Adventures of Pluto Nash*

### WORST REMAKE OR SEQUEL

*I Spy* (Sony/Columbia)  
*Mr. Deeds* (Columbia/New Line)  
 Roberto Benigni's *Pinocchio* (Miramax)  
*Star Wars: Episode II What-Ever* (Fox/Lucasfilm)  
*Swept Away* (Screen Gems)

### WORST SCREENPLAY

*The Adventures of Pluto Nash*, Written by Neil Cuthbert  
*Crossroads*, Screenplay by Shonda Rhimes  
 Roberto Benigni's *Pinocchio*, Screenplay by Vincenzo Cerami and Roberto Benigni  
*Star Wars: Episode II The Boredom Continues*, Screenplay by George Lucas and Jonathon Hales  
*Swept Away*, Screenplay by Guy Ritchie

### WORST ORIGINAL SONG

*Die Another Day* from *Die Another Day*, written by Madonna and Mirwais Ahmadzai  
*I'm Not a Girl, Not Yet a Woman* from *Crossroads*, Written by Max Martin, Rami, and Dido Armstrong  
*Overprotected* from *Crossroads*, Written by Max Martin and Rami

## Fishing and Wyrms Hunters!

No Need for a Dragon with a Migraine Chapter 2  
 by PieEyedDragon

The local Fairies have something new to gossip about: *me*. They are understandably shy about stopping in for tea, so to speak. They are gradually getting used to me.

I am reminded of the Banshee who foretold my recent death. I've heard they are ghosts of evil elves, but who can say? Perhaps I can summon that one back, to thank her for the warning. How many have thanked these bearers of unpleasant news? I'll be one to do so, and perhaps more.

— O — O — O —

(a month later)

My stomach is settled, and my head feels fine. I think I'll go fishing.

I slither down into the lagoon and, shrinking, enter the underground stream. I follow it for miles through caverns and

drowned tunnels, to emerge into a small stream. I follow this down to a larger stream and then the river. I set-up in a shallow, wide place and let the salmon swim around and over me. The ones who go around, I let take their chances with bear and wolf. Of those who swim over me I catch one in eleven, and swallow whole. After a day of this, I am sated. A disturbance in the force reveals that three witches or warlocks, flying invisibly, are quartering the whole area. Could they be looking for a... dragon?

I return through the underground stream, and reenter the lagoon. I expand to normal and climb out onto the bank; ostensibly to warm myself in the afternoon sun. My various senses confirm that the three stealth-mode witches are still overflying the land. I act like I am unaware of them. If they have the slightest shred of survival instinct, they won't buy that for a minute.

One of the fairies comes near, and I quietly discuss the situation. She(?) agrees that these magic-users are probably from the Salem School. They were likely tipped off by the few fair-folk remaining in those environs. My existence is no secret to them.

The witches fly away, as I expected. No contact *this* time. I dare not sleep yet, even though I am well-fed with excellent salmon. I am not stuffed; to be overfull is to invite disaster. No need for complete invisibility (learned from the kami). I shift scales into *mime* camouflage and look like trees, rocks, bracken, and mud.

During all this, a large black raven has been overflying the lagoon. It circled nine times and then flew straight away north. After a little while, it seemed to wink-out as if it had gone behind a curtain. It is dusk, and the aurora is dimly shining overhead.

[Some of the above beings and situations have been suggested by the works of J. K. Rowling.]

## Overview of a Cold War!

No Need for a Dragon with a Migraine Chapter 3  
by PieEyedDragon

An old man sits, and broods upon the state of the worlds. The wolves beside him do not stir. The Jotun powers were closing in; slowly, like glaciers.

His people stood now all but alone. The realms of the Sidhe were closing; and Alfheim was all but blocked. The Alfar trapped in Midgard were dead, dying, or diminished. The proud Sidhe were unwilling allies at best, and rarely.

Dwarves had made mighty weapons in ages past, but cold metal was unreliable and not the best defense against the creeping cold. The Frost Giants were masters of Cold War.

Wotan made weapons, too: weapons of flesh that were

resilient if unstable; but more effective in the long term. Not that living flesh ever *chose* to be a weapon.

He had contrived for Siegmund to have a son: the man-weapon, Siegfried.

The Jotuns were on guard against the Aesir; and not forgetful of their human warriors. They even guarded against warrior women, for good measure. All Mankind was born of water, and not the best weapon against Ice.

— O — O — O —

The ravens flutter in and deliver news of the worlds. One item was especially interesting. Wotan had paid high prices for his wisdom and powers; to find the loopholes in the enemy preparations. Not even Siegfried had been special enough to hurl against the enemy.

Wotan had needed something truly esoteric: an Immortal, born of no father, and born of fire. (And not the Fire Giant Surtur, for obvious reasons.)

This primordial weapon he had first forged when the ice sheets had last withdrawn, where fires had continued to burn under the ice. It's first form had not been strong enough, so Wotan had broken it and made it anew in even hotter fires.

The weapon was tempered again, now; but could only be tested in combat lest the foe set countermeasures. The battle need not be obvious, and there were plenty of good targets.

One of the toughest of these was so situated that no direct assault was possible. It persisted in wagging a "tongue" at the world. If that "tongue" could be caught, and jerked out; some critical damage was sure to follow.

A distraction was needed. Wotan whispers a message to Huginn the raven, who raises it's black-feathered wings and flies out again. Soon, a red-bearded man presents himself at the throne.

"You sent for me, Father?"

Wotan fixes his single eye upon his son. "Yes, Thor. Prepare your chariot and go to the border of Muspelheim. Take two or three with you, if you like. Raise a thunderstorm, and search among the wet stones. Find a fist-sized, round block of obsidian. Then, fly over Jotunheim and hurl it down at the ice. Return here."

Thor takes his leave and hurries out.

Wotan acts: placing the Hammer marker and the new marker onto his mental war map. "Thor to the Fire Giants: make noise."

The Hammer token starts moving.

"Knight to Ice Castle foundation: prepare an ambush."

The dragon icon coils, and prepares to move.

"So, now I roll the dice. Even if they come up 'snake eyes,' that is still hopeful!"

[Some of the above beings and situations have been suggested by *Clash of the Titans* and the works of Poul Anderson and Lester Del Rey.]



P. O. Box 4857  
Huntsville AL 35815-4857

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Comments, inquiries, and contributions of writing by email to: [nasfa.shuttle@con-stellation.org](mailto:nasfa.shuttle@con-stellation.org) — 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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