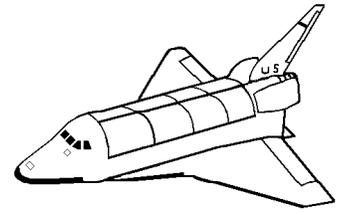


The



SHUTTLE
January 2007

*The Next NASFA Meeting will be
20 January 2007 at the Regular Time
at the NEW BookMark Location*

NASFA Meetings Move

BookMark has moved, and NASFA is moving our meeting location along with them. (Heck, it might be kind of hard to meet at the old location, since it'll presumably be locked.)

The new location is in the Huntington Shopping Center, about 2 miles south of their former location. That's at the southwest corner of Memorial Parkway and Meadowbrook Drive. The actual address is 11220-J South Memorial Parkway SW, Huntsville AL 35803. For a landmark, look for a Taco Bell and an Arby's just before you get to Meadowbrook when heading south.

If you need further directions, BookMark will reportedly be keeping the same phone number (though it is taking some time to get that transferred).



🔔 Oyez, Oyez 🔔

The next NASFA meeting will be **Saturday 20 January 2007** at the **regular time** but a **NEW location**. BookMark has *moved* and the NASFA meeting is moving along with it. See the separate article at left for full information.

The January program will be a review of "The Best of Times and the Worst of Times" — a discussion of past NASFA programs that worked well and those that did *not* — so new program directors Manda and Jeff Freeman can get an idea of what we'd like to see the rest of the year.

The location of the January After-The-Meeting Meeting is TBD at press time.

Huntsville Happenings

MOVIE SERIES AT LIBRARY

The Huntsville-Madison County Library is having a 50's-sf film series in January and February. The series — styled as *(continued on page 2)*

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Deadline for the February 2006 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 2 February 2007.

“Keep Watching the Skies!” — will be shown in the auditorium of the Main Library at 6:00P on various days and will include a discussion time after each showing. Information can be found online at <www.hpl.lib.al.us> or by contacting Head of Reference David Lilly at 256-532-5975 or <gdilly@hpl.lib.al.us>. The web site also has details about a “Flight of Fantasy” series at the Madison Public Library. The “Keep Watching the Skies!” offerings are:

- Thursday 11 January 11 — *Destination Moon* (1950)
- Tuesday 16 January — *The Thing From Another World* (1951)
- Wednesday 24 January — *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (1951)
- Tuesday 30 January — *Them* (1954)
- Thursday 8 February — *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956)
- Tuesday 20 February — *Forbidden Planet* (1956)

SHATNER AT SPACE CAMP

William Shatner has accepted an invitation to be the MC at a Space Camp Hall of Fame induction banquet to be held in Huntsville in June of this year. The event is being held as part of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of Space Camp. It is expected that 10 people, who either attended Space Camp or have been major supporters of the Space Camp and Space Center, will be inducted as part of this inaugural Hall of Fame class. The exact date and location of the banquet seems to be TBD at press time, though one source indicates that the banquet will be on Wednesday 13 June.



December Minutes

by Steve Sloan, Secretary

The December meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, December 16, 2006 in the BookMark upstairs meeting room at 6:21:39P by President Mary Ortwerth and the crickets.

OLD BUSINESS

Steve Sloan read the candidate list from last month’s *nominations*.

- President Mary Lampert
- Vice President Mike Kennedy
- Secretary Steve Sloan
- Treasurer Samuel A. Smith
- Program Director Amanda Freeman and/or Jeff Freeman
- Publicity Director Doug Lampert, Jeff Freeman

Mike Cothran moved to reopen nominations, and Sue Thorn seconded. There were no additional nominations, so Sam Smith moved to close nominations, and Doug Lampert seconded.

OFFICER ELECTIONS

Doug moved that the officers who were running unopposed be accepted by acclamation, and Sam seconded.

Doug gave his campaign speech. If we elect Jeff Freeman, we will actually get Publicity.

There were two contested offices remaining, Program Director and Publicity Director, and they required votes.

There were two candidates for Program Director, which resulted in three choices: Amanda Freeman, Jeff Freeman, or both. Sue voted for both Freemans, so that Doug would get Publicity. There were 7 votes for both Jeff and Amanda, 2 votes for just Jeff, and 1 vote for just Amanda.

There were two candidates for Publicity Director, Doug Lampert and Jeff Freeman. Doug got 10 votes and Jeff got 2.

In summary, this is the *final list* of NASFA officers

for 2007:

- President Mary Lampert
- Vice President Mike Kennedy
- Secretary Steve Sloan
- Treasurer Samuel A. Smith
- Program Directors Jeff and Amanda Freeman
- Publicity Director Doug Lampert

Mary asked if there was any other old business. Sue joked that she was “old business,” but we don’t have to vote on her.

NEW BUSINESS

Sam printed a list of upcoming cons, in case we need to reschedule one or more of the NASFA meetings to avoid conflicts. Mia West would like the March meeting moved for NovaCon. March is the only meeting that someone would be likely to miss if we don’t move it. The meeting is March 17th, so what about the 10th or the 24th? The 24th conflicts with MidSouthCon. Do we want to move our meeting to the earlier weekend to avoid NovaCon? No, because it would push the February and March meetings too close to each other. So, we will not be moving our meeting.

Mike Cothran moved that we assist Mike Kennedy with a speedier recovery from his illness, so we should send a “get well” card, and possibly send frozen yogurt for the beneficial flora. Mia seconded that motion.

CONVENTION BUSINESS

Sam got a spam email from *Games Quarterly* magazine, with a partnership request. If we put their link on our website, they will pay us a commission for everyone who clicks through that link.

According to Sam Smith, the last Con†Stellation is now slated to lose just under \$600, thanks to income from Anita’s T-shirt money.

Mike Cothran said the deal with *Games Quarterly* would be a bad idea, because we don’t promote commercial enterprise, unless they pay us enough. Apparently, they have a link to Con†Stellation on their links page, and that may be where this offer came from. We don’t want to offend them, but we will figure out some way to deal with it.

According to Mike Cothran, we now have Jeff Freeman to head up gaming at the next con.

Doug moved to adjourn, beating Sam to it. The meeting adjourned at 6:40:10P.

Programming was the annual gift exchange. The After-the-Meeting Meeting, which doubled as the Christmas Party, was held at Sue Thorn’s house.

NASFA Calendar

JANUARY

- 01 New Year’s Day.
- 03 BD: Jim Kennedy.
- 03 BD: Karen Hopkins.
- 05–06 Shadowcon XI — Memphis TN.
- 05–07 GAFilk — Atlanta GA.
- 06 BD: Rich Garber.
- 07 BD: Doug Lampert.
- 11 Thursday Movie at the Main Library — *Destination Moon*.
- 15 BD: Martin Luther King (Observed).
- 16 Tuesday Movie at the Main Library — *The Thing From Another World*.
- 16 BD: Bruce Butler.
- 20* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at

at <www.sfwawards.org/awards/2007/NebPrelim2006.html>.

In another honor associated with the Nebula Awards Weekend, David Guy Compton will be participating as Author Emeritus. Writing as D. G. Compton, Guy Compton, or Frances Lynch, he published over 20 SF, romance, and mystery novels from 1965 to 1996, including *The Continuous Katherine Mortenhoe* (filmed as *La mort en direct* (*Deathwatch*)) and *The Steel Crocodile*. The Author Emeritus program a way for SFWA to recognize senior writers who have made significant contributions to the field.

NOVEL

From the Files of the Time Rangers, Richard Bowes (Golden Gryphon Press, September 2005)

Crystal Rain, Tobias Buckell (Tor, February 2006)

The Girl in the Glass, Jeffrey Ford (Dark Alley, August 2005)

The Privilege of the Sword, Ellen Kushner (Bantam Spectra, July 2006)

Counting Heads, David Marusek (Tor, October 2005)

To Crush the Moon, Wil McCarthy (Bantam Spectra, May 2005)

Seeker, Jack McDevitt (Ace, November 2005)

A Princess of Roumania, Paul Park (Tor, August 2005)

Remains, Mark W. Tiedemann (BenBella Books, July 2005)

Spin, Robert Charles Wilson (Tor, March 2005)

NOVELLAS

"Sanctuary," Michael A. Burstein (*Analog*, September 2005)

Burn, James Patrick Kelly (Tachyon Publications, December 2005)

"The Walls of the Universe," Paul Melko (*Asimov's*, April/May 2006)

"Inclination," William Shunn (*Asimov's*, April/May 2006)

NOVELETTES

"The Language of Moths," Chris Barzak (*Realms of Fantasy*, April 2005)

"Two Hearts," Peter S. Beagle (*F&SF*, October/November 2005)

"A Key to the Illuminated Heretic," Alyx M. Dellamonica (*Alternate Generals III*, Harry Turtledove, ed., Baen, April 2005)

"Second Person, Present Tense," Daryl Gregory (*Asimov's*, September 2005)

"Do Neanderthals Know?," Robert J. Howe (*Analog*, December 2005)

"Little Faces," Vonda McIntyre (*SCI FICTION*, 23 February 2005)

"Journey into the Kingdom," M. Rickert (*F&SF*, May 2006)

"Walpurgis Afternoon," Delia Sherman (*F&SF*, December 2005)

SHORT STORIES

"Helen Remembers the Stork Club," Esther M. Friesner (*F&SF*, November 2005)

"Pip and the Fairies," Theodora Goss (*Strange Horizons*, 3 October 2005)

"Echo," Elizabeth Hand (*F&SF*, October/November 2005)

"Mahmoud's Wives," Janis Ian (*Helix: A Speculative Fiction Quarterly* #1, William Sanders and Lawrence Watt Evans, eds., Summer 2006)

"Henry James, This One's For You," Jack McDevitt (*Subterranean* #2, November 2005)

"The Woman in Schrodinger's Wave Equations," Eugene Mirabelli (*F&SF*, August 2005)

"Anyway," M. Rickert (*SCI FICTION*, 23 August 2005)

SCRIPTS

Howl's Moving Castle, Hayao Miyazaki, Cindy Davis Hewitt, and Donald H. Hewitt (Studio Ghibli and Walt Disney

Pictures; based on the novel by Diana Wynne Jones)
The Girl in the Fireplace, Steven Moffat (*Doctor Who*, BBC/The Sci-Fi Channel)

Batman Begins, Christopher Nolan and David S. Goyer (Warner Bros.)

ANDRE NORTON AWARD for

Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy

Midnighters #2: Touching Darkness, Scott Westerfeld (Eos, March 2005)

Magic or Madness, Justine Larbalestier (Penguin Razorbill, May 2005)

Peeps, Scott Westerfeld (Penguin Razorbill, September 2005)

The Andre Norton Award is not technically a Nebula, but is awarded by SFWA using the same process. The Norton Jury may add up to three additional works to the final ballot. In the Nebula Award categories, juries may add one work to the final ballot.

Movie and Television Awards News

It's the time of year for everyone and their brother to announce "best of" nominations (and some final selections) in the film and television industry. Here's a roundup of some of those as they touch on the sf/fantasy/etc. genres.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF FILM CRITICS AWARDS

The U. S. National Society of Film Critics announced their selections for 2006, which included two genre-related films. *Children of Men* took the Cinematography Award. Perhaps more impressively (if a bit less-solidly genre), Spanish-language fantasy film *Pan's Labyrinth* took the Best Picture award. Some people might argue to also include as genre the Experimental Film winner *Inland Empire* for its surrealistic elements. (It's a David Lynch film, so surrealism is pretty much to be expected.)

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

The 33rd Annual People's Choice Awards were presented Tuesday 9 January 2007 during a ceremony televised on CBS. Several genre-related films and one TV show prevailed in various categories, with *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* and *Cars* being the big winners.

Pirates picked up wins for Favorite Movie, Movie Drama, and On-Screen Matchup (for Johnny Depp and Keira Knightly). Both *Cars* and *X-Men: The Last Stand* also scored nominations in the Favorite Movie category, while *X-Men* doubled by also copping a nom for Movie Drama.

The Movie Comedy win went to sort-of-genre *Click*. The aforementioned *Cars* took the Family Movie trophy, with the other two noms in that category going to *Ice Age: The Meltdown* and *Over the Hedge*.

Genre films also took some honors in the music categories — with *Life is a Highway* (from *Cars*) named both Favorite Song from a Movie and Favorite Remake. Another *Cars* song (*Real Gone*) also got a nomination in the Favorite Song from a Movie category.

The only solidly-genre TV show with a win — or indeed even so much as a nomination — was *Heroes*, which took the New TV Drama trophy.

CRITICS' CHOICE AWARDS

The Broadcast Film Critics Association announced their 12th annual Critics' Choice Awards at a ceremony Friday 12 January 2007, at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium. A

delayed broadcast of the event will be shown on the E! Entertainment Television Network later in the month. Genre-related works achieved a number of nominations, but only two wins. In the Best Family Film (live action) category, *Charlotte's Web* took home the trophy, besting (among others) fellow genre nominee *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest*. Selected as Best Animated Feature was *Cars*, though a genre win was guaranteed since all the other nominees (*Flushed Away*, *Happy Feet*, *Monster House*, and *Over The Hedge*) were also sf/fantasy-ish.

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association has announced the nominations for the 64th annual Golden Globe Awards. Winners will be announced at a ceremony at the Beverly Hilton, to be broadcast on NBC TV at 7P (Central) Monday 15 January 2007. Genre-related nominees fared reasonably well, both in movie and TV categories.

In the Best Actor, Motion Picture Comedy or Musical category, Johnny Depp and Will Ferrell were both nominated — for *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* and *Stranger Than Fiction* respectively. In the Animated Feature Film category, *Cars*, *Happy Feet*, and *Monster House* all got nods. Fantasy *Pan's Labyrinth* was among the selections in the Best Foreign Language Film category. Music in genre-related movies also fared well with a Best Original Score nom for *The Fountain* and a Best Original Song nom for *Happy Feet's* "The Song of the Heart."

Over in TV land, *24* was recognized in both the Best Actor (for Kiefer Sutherland) and the TV Series, Drama categories. *Heroes* also walked away with two noms, in the TV Series, Drama and Supporting Actor categories, the latter for Masi Oka. Completing the triple-double, genre-fringe *Lost* got yet another TV Series, Drama nom plus a Best Actress selection (for Evangeline Lilly). Another Best Actress nom went to Patricia Arquette for her work in *Medium*.

PGA NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the 18th annual Producers Guild of America Awards have been released. Winners will be announced Saturday 20 January 2007 in a ceremony at the Century Plaza Hotel. On the Television side, two of the usual suspects (*24* and *Lost*) held up the genre-related banner with nominations in the Episodic Television, Drama category. On the film side of the ledger, all five of the Animated Theatrical Motion Pictures nominees were genre-related: *Cars*, *Flushed Away*, *Happy Feet*, *Ice Age: The Meltdown*, and *Monster House*.

SAG NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the 13th Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards have been announced. The awards will be televised (7P Central) on TNT and TBS on Sunday 28 January 2007.

Three genre-related TV shows managed four nominations among them. William H. Macy received a nom in the Actor in a Television Movie or Miniseries category for his turn in *Nightmares & Dreamscapes*. Patricia Arquette was recognized in the Female Actor in a Drama Series category for *Medium*. Genre-fringe *24* made the cut both for Kiefer Sutherland in the Male Actor in a Drama Series category and for the entire cast in the Ensemble in a Drama Series category.

DIRECTORS GUILD NOMINATIONS

With no critically-acclaimed genre films in 2006, it came as no particular surprise that genre works got skunked in the headline categories (direction of a feature film and of a TV movie), for the 59th annual Directors Guild of America Awards. Fringe-genre work *24* (episode: "7:00am – 8:00am") did pick up a nom in the Dramatic Series Night category. More solidly, *Phil of the Future* (episode: "Not So Great Great Great

Grandpa") got a mention in the Children's Programs category. If one wanted to be excessively charitable, one could even count *The Year Without a Santa Claus* as sort-of-genre, also in the Children's Programs category. Nominations were announced in various categories 9–11 January. Winners will be announced Saturday 3 February 2007 at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles.

WGA NOMINATIONS

The Writer's Guild of America announced nominations for their annual graphic arts, radio, TV, and film awards on Thursday 11 January 2007. A number of genre and related TV shows did make the cut for a nomination. Dramatic Series noms included both *24* and *Lost*, while *Heroes* was recognized in the New Series category. For Episodic Dramas, *Battlestar Galactica* (episode: "Occupation/Precipice"), *Lost* (episode: "Two for the Road"), and *Nightmares & Dreamscapes* (episode: "The End of the Whole Mess") all received nominations. For Animation episodes, *The Life and Times of Juniper Lee* (episode: "Who's Your Daddy?") was recognized. (So were several episodes of *The Simpsons*, but that show is really beyond the edge of genre-related works.) In the Children's Episodic and Specials category, both the "Broadcast Blues" episode of *Phil of the Future* and the "Fur Better or Worse" episode of *That's So Raven* made it on the list.

The 2007 Writers Guild Awards will take place Sunday 11 February 2007 in both Los Angeles (at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza Hotel) and New York (at the Millennium Broadway Hotel).

BAFTA NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Orange British Academy Film Awards (aka the BAFTAs) have been announced. Winners will be announced Sunday 11 February 2007 at the Royal Opera House in London. Genre-related films showed up in many categories. *Pan's Labyrinth* received eight nominations, in the Original Screenplay, Film Not in the English Language, Cinematography, Production Design, Costume Design, Sound, Special Visual Effects, and Makeup/Hair categories. *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* was honored in five categories: Production Design, Costume Design, Sound, Special Visual Effects, and Makeup/Hair. Three categories featured recognition for *Children of Men*: Cinematography, Production Design, and Special Visual Effects. *Happy Feet* copped two noms, in the Film Music and Animated Feature Film categories. The other two Animated Feature Film noms also went to genre-related films, *Cars* and *Flushed Away*. Finally, *Superman Returns* was recognized with a Special Visual Effects nom.

In the it's-not-really-sf-but-a-lot-of-fans-like-it department, the BAFTAs recognized *Casino Royale* with nine nominations, including Outstanding British Film of the Year, Adapted Screenplay, Leading Actor (Daniel Craig), Film Music, Cinematography, Editing, Sound, Production Design, and Special Visual Effects.

Survivors' Guilt

No Need for a Ring — Chapter 11

by PieEyedDragon

I consider the princess. The dominant element for elves is water. This is especially true of the Sindarin elves who (mostly) did not cross the sea; and particularly true of the Eressean Sea-elves and the Laiquendi, or Green-elves. The Laiquendi were adjudged greatest in the lore of woodcraft, plants, and animals.

PED: Why are you alone?

She buries her face in her hands and cries pitifully for a while. Finally, without looking up, she answers.

Princess Mee: Because... I ran. We were much further south; halfway to the mouth of the Sirion, when the Powers finally broke Thangorodrim and Angband — and led Morgoth away in chains. Ossiriand had been shaking. Trees had fallen and rocks split. I was out walking on the river. I can do that. I saw the river starting to run backwards, flooding the lands on either side as the land started sinking and the sea began moving north. My companions tried to keep up with me; but they had to stay on the banks. Mud and fallen trees slowed them down. The river widened as the waters rose. They fell behind — one by one — and... disappeared. The water kept coming, now also from the west as Beleriand was drowned. I kept running northeast, toward these mountains. My feet making only the smallest of splashes as I ran.

I ran for days. It took only a small amount of power to keep my feet from sinking; but I began feeling even lighter. I was getting smaller. I wondered if anything of me would be left once I reached the high ground. You see how much was left. I have diminished, indeed. I'm less than four feet tall. I used to be almost five and one half.

I dance, now, to mourn my people — and forget. I was dancing when the goblins finally tracked me down.

There is nothing more to do (she sighs, emptied).

(I am lost in thought: a memory of a memory. Young Gamera swimming away and looking back; watching as Atlantis tilted, and slowly slid beneath the waves. The creatures from Mu flying around and devouring survivors. Then, our last wizard broke the last *seal* and said the last *word*; and Thera *blew*! The Gyaos were destroyed along with all the remnant and works of Atlantis — except for one: Gamera. I shake myself and return to the present situation.)

PED: Do nothing... Be nothing... Go to sleep, now! Rest in the arms of the *dragon*. Dream!

(She sleeps; for the rest of the day. My three quarreling goblins eventually come to call — to ask about orders. Finding bits of treasure on the floor; they cannot help but pick them up. They argue about shares until they get to where I am. They see the princess, alive. They realize they are standing in a dragon's lair, holding dragon treasure, and said dragon is *looking* at them.)

PED: You're fired! (A blast of dragon-fire from my muzzle punctuates this declaration. The Wall Gut Three are dead before their blasted bodies even hit the ground.)

— O — O — O —

PED: We must leave now, princess. Tonight or tomorrow at the latest. You must have a charmed life. It would be so much easier to eat you. I must take you to a safer place; with trees and water and someone to look after you.

Princess Mee: I've taken care of myself for thousands of years!

PED: And you shall, again. But you need help just now; and I'm the only help available.

Princess Mee: You're not telling me something. Maybe a lot of somethings.

PED: You have no idea! The time is not yet to speak of such things. Two may keep a secret — if *one* is dead. Even *that* does not hold true when Necromancy may be involved. So; comb your hair and stick the loose hairs in the splintery areas of those two support timbers.

Princess Mee: Why do all that?

PED: Since you are officially dead, I am lying to whoever comes here to investigate things. Now, tie the comb to that silver chain and hang it around your neck. I'm going outside to

collect a few things and look at the weather.

— O — O — O —

(I step outside and look around. The moon is not quite at first quarter. There are clouds to the west and a few flakes of snow are already swirling down here. Good, a lucky cover from watching eyes and sniffing noses. Lucky? I look north and see the Sickle, very bright, in rising mode; being covered by the advancing clouds. I think of two people on a very tall mountain far to the west. Two people who can see and hear a very great deal when they try. *He* has power over winds, and stars are the province of Varda, whom the high elves call Elbereth.)

PED: (To the west, quietly) Thank you!

(I get to work. I grab all the goblin camp things and drag them back into the mine. I pick out some lengths of rope and a ragged blanket and cloak that smell none too good. They will just have to do.)

Princess Mee: Now what?

PED: Your clothing is in poor shape and it is cold outside. We are going to fly. You must rig a harness from these ropes and blanket so you don't fall off. You probably would not be able to hold on without them.

Princess Mee: What about your treasure; such as it is?

PED: Necklaces are chains, even if gold and silver. Chains are for binding. Those who surround themselves with such are only creating prisons of gold. Such things cannot hold me. I leave them here to speak of my swift return.

(I sanitize the shaft behind us with a few judicious bursts of flame: burning out most trades of the princess and crisping the stray hairs I had her leave behind. I also burn the rest of the goblin gear. At the mine entrance, I help the princess mount and get secure. Now I gallop toward the drop-off and launch down into the air. Staying very low; I flap eastward for about eleven miles. Half hidden in the growing snow I see a man walking and overfly him closely.)

— O — O — O —

Ranger Walker had observed the approaching storm, and saw his chance to vacate the watch post safely with his vital information. He had not gone a mile when he was staggered by a massive downdraft. He saw great wings passing overhead, and a small elfin face looking down and back at him. Her dragon mount then started climbing sharply and vanished up into the snow and clouds.

Walker sincerely hoped his news would still *be* news; when it got back to the King's northern hall at Annúminas!

[Some of the above beings and situations have been suggested by the works of J. R. R. Tolkien. (But you already knew that, didn't you?)]

Letters of Comment

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

Chris Garcia

15 December 2006

<garcia@computerhistory.org>

First off, I hope everyone's having an excellent set of holidays. I'm preparing to honor both my Jewish and Christian sides by accepting all sorts of presents. It's just the way to celebrate one's heritage!

I must say SFWA has made a wonderful choice with naming James Gunn a Grand Master. I really think that the choices that SFWA has made for their Grand Master list are

exceptional, even better than the Seattle Science Fiction Museum's choices.

I'm very worried about a Bab5 Direct-to-DVD release. No company takes direct to DVD releases seriously. It's a shame that they couldn't convince SciFi to air one special.

Ah, the *Hobbit* controversy. I'm actually tied in to this one because a good friend of mine works for Wetta and has been whining about it for weeks. Basically everyone's screwed everyone in one way or another, with Jackson going public with many allegations and New Line basically being bastards like every film distributor. The amount owed is probably more like \$10 million, though the difference in numbers that need to be considered for royalties differs by about \$100M on either side. An arbiter will probably end up being assigned and that'll settle things.

Wow, y'all got a fierce loaded calendar there! One of the zines I co-edit, *Science Fiction/San Francisco* does a calendar every other week but it's not nearly that packed! You might wanna include a note of CorFlu in Austin, TX in February for next month if you've got Fanzine Fans in your club (it's February 9-11). And what's this I see about Yvonne Penney visiting on the 19th? She's one of my faves along with her husband Lloyd. Good Canadian peoples, they are. And not too tall either!

Wow, you have regular elections. I'm about to embark on year two of the Garcia Vice-Presidency of BASFA! You know, we should work out an exchange, NASFA and BASFA, where we try and overthrow each other's Presidents. Wait, that's fannish treason... forget I said anything...

A shame you didn't get to watch *Call of Cthulhu*. It's a real good time when I got to see it last week.

I'll start to send NASFA the print versions of my zines, but can I mail you the weekly eIssues of *The Drink Tank*? I'm always trying to expand the empire of my readers!

The 100 Greatest TV Quotes reminds me that I'm supposed to do an issue all about the greatest Fannish quotes of all-time. My personal number one is "Dave Kyle says you can't sit here." There should have been more Simpsons quotes on the list of TV Quotes.

Good review of *The Quantum Connection*. I'm a fan of a good SF Action book, so I might have to pick it up.

Thanks for the link to *Last Girlfriend*. Nothing better 'an Zombies!

[I see our calendar isn't as self-explanatory as it should be. All the "BD" notations are birthdays and many of the people noted are either *Shuttle* recipients or fans/pros well known in this area — but many of them live outside the Huntsville area so there's no chance of a celebratory gathering. Of course, it's also true that many locals have either asked for their birthdays not to be listed or — more commonly — simply haven't provided the info to me. Our calendar really isn't nearly as crowded as it might look. The Peter Jackson-New Line feud has taken another twist in the last week or so with New Line cochairman Bob Shaye dissing Jackson during an interview with the Sci Fi Channel news service Sci Fi Wire. Jackson fired back with a statement of his own, expressing sadness that Shaye was making the issue a personal one. Things can change in an instant, of course, but for now it sounds like New Line and Jackson are less likely than ever to kiss and make up. RE the lack of *Simpsons* quotes in last issue's coverage of the 100 Greatest TV Quotes, there was one on the list (Homer Simpson's "D'oh!" came in at number 6) but I've long considered that show as nor really genre-related enough to list when confining myself to sf/fantasy/etc. works. RE *The Drink Tank*, sure, you

can email it to the *Shuttle* at our editorial address <nasfa.shuttle@con-stellation.org>. After many years of doing zine reviews for the *Shuttle*, Randy Cleary's other fannish duties (which are many) have caught up with him, so we currently have no reviewer — but I'm sure I'd still enjoy reading through *The Drink Tank* even if you won't be able to tell by reading the *Shuttle*. -ED]

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

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27 December 2006

I've got the December *Shuttle* here, I've got the computer working okay for a change, I've got a little time... let's see what else I can get out of all this.

I look forward to the B5 *Lost Tales*. I never did see the last B5 movie, mostly because it was, to the best of my knowledge, never shown in Canada. I'm sure there's someone local who's got it on a DVD. I hope there are some more good stories to tell, and isn't just a last attempt to cash in on the B5 name.

There's Yvonne's birthday... we had a good time at a local restaurant, and not much fanfare about the whole thing. I'm getting to be like that with my own birthday, but you know you're getting old when your age and your wife's age add up to 100.

Greetings once again to our old friend PieEyed... if you can change your size with the amount of energy you consume, why didn't your old skin expand? Why did you have to consume it? Should I be asking these questions? And what exactly did you do to Mee, anyway? I thought this was a family fanzine? :-)

My loc... with all the names I list as having passed on, I must now add Dick Eney. Geez, people, stay healthy, willya? The list of departed gets larger all the time, and it gets more depressing. But then, many of us are at the age where our bodies start to betray us... PED mentions eyes, and I will too. Christmas was a great time, but it was shaded, literally, by the fact that a couple of days after writing my previous letter, I had a serious eye operation at a downtown hospital. A complete vitrectomy and partial retinoplasty, or to use terms that won't make you feel all that queasy, I had a detached retina reattached. My sight is still partially affected, but things should be back to normal by the beginning of February, I hope. I want to be binocular again!

About the page, so Happy New Year to everyone, and may 2007 be the year you've always wanted. Hope your Saturnalia was fun, and Happy Year of the Boar to all!

[To some extent, Lloyd, you and Chris seem to be on different sides of the anticipation curve for the *Babylon 5* movie. I don't suppose I hold out the greatest of hope for it — in part because a good portion of what made the original series work so well for me was the way it took advantage of the sheer time available to work out a cohesive story arc. Yes, the background is all there (though no longer as familiar to either the viewers or the cast and crew) but even a long movie has different pacing from the kind of series television that Straczynski shot in Bab5. As for what PED did to Mee, well, I don't want to speculate but I suspect that spelling it out in any detail might indeed go beyond the rating level we usually have. -ED]

(continued on back cover)



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The NASFA Shuttle is the newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, Inc. This is the January 2007 edition (Volume 27, Number 1). NASFA Officers for 2007: President Mary Lampert; Vice President Mike Kennedy; Secretary Steve Sloan; Treasurer Sam Smith; Program Directors Manda and Jeff Freeman; Publicity Director Doug Lampert. *Shuttle* Editor Mike Kennedy.

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Huntsville AL 35815-4857 — OFFICIAL ADDRESS

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NASFA Dues = \$15/year (Family rates available) Subscription only = \$10/year Single copy = \$1.50 each.

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6 January 2007

Ah — so their is at least *one* other way to pub your ish — although I doubt a rock ish would have much circulation.

Aha — a *Babylon 5* movie. I finally remembered to put the series on my Netflix list, but I have yet to actually see any of the episodes. Still can't picture a female Starbuck...

Around here it has been springtime warm and I haven't looked at the weather map to see how far south the unseasonable temperatures extend — hope they are reaching you. Of

course, now the forecast is that winter will indeed be here in another week or two...

I kinda wish TAff had gone on — maybe tied in to another con — but keeping the tradition going (well, it will continue, just after a year's hiatus).

So, hope '07 is a ghoud and fannish year for us all.

[Our weather has been mixed, some seasonal temps (which aren't cold compared to your seasonal norms) but also long warmer-than-normal stretches. Before this issue hits the mail — but after the masters are put to bed — there's a tiny, tiny chance that we could experience the ice storm currently hitting at least the central and lower plains, but the ice will almost certainly stop well away from Huntsville. -ED]