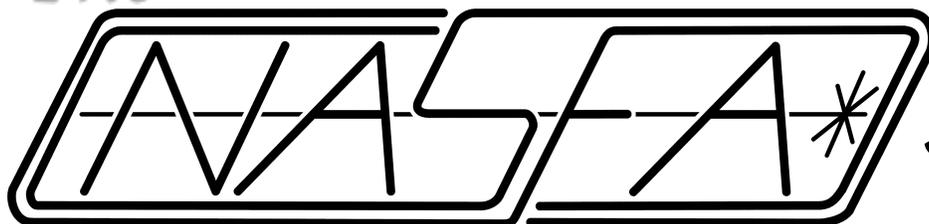


The



Shuttle
October 2008

The Next NASFA Meeting will be 25 October 2008, at the Regular Time and Location

Note that this is one week later than usual

¡ Oyez, Oyez ¡

The next **NASFA Meeting** has been delayed to the fourth Saturday due to Con†Stellation. It will be Saturday **25 October 2008** at the **regular time** (6P) and the **regular location**. Meetings are at BookMark, 11220-J South Memorial Parkway — at the corner of the Parkway and Meadowbrook Drive.

This issue of the *Shuttle* is being put to bed early to get it out of the way before Con†Stellation. When it will actually go to press and be mailed out, though, is a bit up in the air.

PROGRAM

The October program will be a Postmortem discussion of Con†Stellation.

ATMM

When this issue was put to bed, the After-The-Meeting Meeting location for October was TBD. If you want to volunteer, you're urged to step up to the plate well before the club meeting so the news can be disseminated by email and other means.

We have volunteers in place for both the November (Mike Kennedy) and December (Sue Thorn and Eva Walding) ATMMs, and also for New Year's Eve (Nancy Cucci and Ray Pietruszka). We can use ATMM volunteers for January and forward.

FINAL CONCOM MEETING

This issue may or may not actually reach local fans before Con†Stellation. If it does, remember that there is a final working meeting at the hotel the Thursday before the con. We'll have a lot of last-minute work to do; including unloading and setting up the Art Show, moving tables and other equipment, and many other details.

The pre-con group dinner will also be that day, at 6P, at Tai Pan Palace on the Parkway just south of Governor's Drive.

SHUTTLE TRANSITION PLANS

The transition of *Shuttle* production to different (newer) hardware and software is still ongoing. Changes are generally getting smaller and it is hoped that all significant tweaks will be complete by or before the end of the year. In the meanwhile the fit and finish of the *Shuttle* may suffer a bit. We continue to ask your forbearance during the transition.

September Minutes

by Ali Scanland, subbing for Steve Sloan

Mary L. opened the meeting at 6:12:13P. The first order business, immediately following the sounding of the crickets, was to appoint Ali S. to the post of temporary secretary AKA the fake Steve S.

OLD BUSINESS

Doug scanned the minutes from the last meeting and noted there was nothing left unfinished to be discussed this meeting.

A round of introductions ensued as Liv and friends were there to present "It's a Kind of Magic" the LARP game for this year's Con.

NEW BUSINESS

Sam was happy to inform the crowd that in the mass spam-mish emails there was some real stuff to be read. Eric Smith, an assistant Professor at the English department of UAH, has invited the club to participate in a Graduate Student Conference (entitled In Other Worlds: Estrangement, Cognition, and the SF

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Deadline for the November issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 31 October 2008

Imagination) April 3–4, 2009. It was suggested that publicity may like to host a panel. [Evening keynote speakers are open to the public. Daytime sessions (paper presentations) are primarily for the presenters. -ED]

The Alabama Rebel Alliance brought to our attention that they will be hosting a con in Birmingham AL. Ikthalion Press sent a press release for a couple hundred books, the list was made available for any who cared to read it. Kristen Campbell of the Pajama Program invites us to help collect PJs and books to be given to underprivileged children in the community. Doug moves to take the rest as read, without having read them, Sue seconded. Mike C required a vote, the motion carried.

CON BUSINESS

There were 50 bounces to the mass mailing.

Gene asked the start times of the con. Registration is to be at 12 noon on Friday and the convention will run constantly the whole weekend.

The Art Show load in was discussed, Doug stepped out to call Howard and confirm, 1P at his house Sunday afternoon October 12th.

Chaos ensued.

Mary called the crowd back to order.

Mike S. announced that preregistration is at 109 and presented the badge template for approval, which he received.

Anita has ordered the T-shirts 80 total with 6 sweat shirts. She asked if she should order more because registration is up. The committee deferred to her judgment. The T-shirts should be in by Friday October 3rd, she will be picking them up October 8th to sort and fold them that weekend. If anyone would care to pick their T-shirt before the con, they are free to go by Ruth's Nutrition (Anita's work) Monday–Friday 9:30A–5:30P, and Saturday 9:30A–2:30P. She asks that we call a day in advance: 883-4127. She will have them ready for pick up Monday October 13th.

Randy C. asked what charity we have chosen to support this year. The answer was the American Heart Association.

A note came in from Uncle Timmy who is running the Spades Tournament. He needs: 1) to add a Mark Paulk rule — that a round may start as soon as all players are at the table and ready to go, 2) to add a Time rule — a player 10 minutes late will be replaced, and 3) to have someone to print the score cards for him. Randy moved that we skip the reading of all players participating, it was seconded and carried.

Liv was asked about the LARP game. She has 54 characters and the game will be free of charge in a tribute to Pat McAdams, though donations will be accepted. More information was made available during her portion of the program.

Gene mentioned an article about a clock that doesn't accurately keep time, as the chaos started to take over the meeting was closed at 6:40:13P.

NASFA Calendar

OCTOBER

- 02 Con†Stellation Concom Meeting — 7:30P at Doug and Mary's house.
- 02 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Startide Rising*, David Brin; 6P.
- 03–05 Archon 32 — Collinsville IL (St. Louis MO area).
- 09 Yom Kippur.
- 10–12 Necronomicon '08 — St. Petersburg (Tampa area) FL.
- 10–12 Classic Movie Monster Con — Kingsport TN.
- 10–13 Gaylaxicon 2008 — Bethesda MD (Washington DC area).

- 12 Columbus Day (Traditional).
- 13 Columbus Day (Observed).
- 15 BD: Robert Buelow.
- 16 Con†Stellation Concom Meeting — at the hotel.
- 17–19 Con†Stellation XXVII — Huntsville AL.
- 25* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at BookMark. Program: Con†Stellation Postmortem. ATMM: TBD. **NOTE:** Date changed due to Con†Stellation.
- 23–26 Atlanta HorrorFest — Atlanta GA.
- 24–26 HallowCon '08 — Chattanooga TN.
- 24–26 Wicked Harvest 2008 — Norcross (Atlanta area) GA.
- 24 United Nations Day.
- 25 BD: Marie McCormack.
- 30–02 World Fantasy Con 2008 — Calgary AB.
- 31 Halloween.

NOVEMBER

- 02 Daylight Saving Time ends.
- 02 Atlanta Comic Convention — Atlanta GA.
- 04 Election Day.
- 06 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Land of Laughs*, Jonathan Carroll; 6P.
- 11 Veterans' Day.
- 15* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at BookMark. Program: More-or-less Annual NASFA Auction. ATMM: Mike Kennedy's house.
- 22 BD: Nancy Renee Peters.
- 23 BD: Mike Kennedy.
- 27 Thanksgiving Day.
- 29 BD: Howard Camp.
- 30 BD: Joshua Kennedy.
- 30 BD: Richard Gilliam.

DECEMBER

- 04 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Swords and Deviltry*, Fritz Leiber; 6P.
- 05–07 SMOFcon 26 — Columbus OH.
- 05–07 CatchupCon — Norcross (Atlanta area) GA.
- 09 BD: Maria West-Grim.
- 12 BD: Toni Weisskopf.
- 15 Bill of Rights Day.
- 17 BD: Robin Ray.
- 19 BD: Yvonne Penney.
- 20* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at BookMark. Program: Random Gift Exchange. ATMM: Christmas Party at Eva Walding and Sue Thorn's house.
- 20 BD: Aaron Kennedy.
- 21 First Day of Winter.
- 21–29 Hanukkah.
- 22 BD: Wolf (Wolfie) Freeman.
- 25 Christmas Day.
- 26 BD: Michael R. Stone.
- 31 New Year's Eve Party — Ray Pietruszka and Nancy Cucci's house.

JANUARY 2009

- 01 New Year's Day.
- 03 BD: Jim Kennedy.
- 03 BD: Karen Hopkins.
- 06 BD: Rich Garber.
- 07 BD: Douglas E. Lampert.
- 08 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Book of Lost Things*, John Connolly; 6P.
- 09–10 Shadowcon XIII — Memphis TN.

will compete on an economic basis with any remaining forms of public transportation. Since flying car technologies will be available to busses, trains, and aircraft, the economic advantage of scale will be leveled out. The passenger will be able to choose among transportation modes and select his conveyance based on factors like speed, comfort, privacy, or community. Third, the WRL will cease to be the premier media racing venue. Like NASCAR today, the fan base needs to be able to relate his/her own daily experience to that of the racer. Once the common man has a flying car, the WRL will have to change its format to retain a mass audience.

THE EDGE OF SPEED

The WRL racing format is a loose extension of (Formula 1 or FIA Grand Touring) wheel-driven, non-aero, racing cars that are operated by humans. The futurists working for Tatsunoko Productions in the 1960's recognized that the limit to this form of racing would be the human element rather than automotive technology. (See for instance the episode "The Fastest Car on Earth.") Watching the recent movie and playing the co-released video game provides insight into how challenging the "stadium tracks" are in terms of human concentration and reaction times. The dished surfaces and twisting banks appear to enable driving at a virtual 300 mph but the player is extremely challenged to maintain the highest speeds even without the distraction of live and virtual opponents. The game player is certainly aware that his piloting skills are enhanced by driving aides that make up for most of his weaknesses. The player also doesn't have to experience the physical environment inside cars at such speeds. Belts, padded cockpits, and a "G" suit would probably be a minimal precaution. If some racing organization could create stadium tracks and car builders adapted current technology, it is perfectly plausible that racing could approach those speeds. However, the drivers would be working around the edges of their physiological limits like fighter pilots in aerial combat.

Modern racing has already encountered the limitations of manned racing. Today's racing organizations have struggled for decades to limit car speed and outlaw electronic driving aids through their rules. The organizations tend to emphasize other aspects of racing like driver personalities, racing strategies, and team performance rather than speed. Skillful promotion, marketing, and media packaging enhances the spectacle of racing to maximize viewer interest. Creating stadium tracks could enhance the spectacle and encourage viewership but higher speed is actively discouraged.

FASTER!

Higher speeds than those shown in Speed Racer's WRL universe could be achieved using down-thrust (wings, thrusters, magnetic fields, etc.) to hold the cars more tightly to the track to achieve higher G-forces and higher top speed. Unfortunately, the cars would be un-drivable. Flying cars and supersonic WRL cars will require control beyond the limits of what a human driver/pilot can achieve. Going faster would probably entail accepting human engineering (drugs/bio-enhancement) or some level of driving automation. Neither of these remedies would be particularly palatable in a racing format that idealizes the value of a man's driving skills in a one-on-one contest. "That," as they say, "isn't racing."

READY OR NOT...

The key to higher speeds in racing as well as creating reliable and safe flying cars lies in the area of automated controls. The Speed Racer universe and our own are locked out of the spectacle of supersonic surface racing and the introduction of practical flying cars simply because mankind isn't ready to accept the concept that vehicles can be driven more safely by a machine than by a human. This attitude will eventually vanish as

the current generation of video game playing drivers look around and ask why real cars don't have the embedded driving aides they find in the virtual world. The promise of Speed Racer is not the limit of the automotive experience.

Awards Roundup

EMMY AWARDS

The Creative Arts and Primetime Emmy Awards (for the 2007-8 television season) were announced 13 and 21 September 2008 respectively. Genre shows did poorly in the latter (copping only one statue) but pretty well in the former. Genre (and related) winners include:

Primetime Emmy Awards

Pushing Daisies, "Pie-Lette" (ABC) — Outstanding Direction for a Comedy Series

Creative Arts Emmy Awards

Pushing Daisies, "Pie-Lette" (ABC) — Outstanding Picture Editing for a Comedy Series (Single or Multi-Camera)

Pushing Daisies, "Pigeon" (ABC) — Outstanding Music Composition for a Series (Original Dramatic Score)

Battlestar Galactica, "He That Believeth In Me" (Sci Fi Channel) — Outstanding Special Visual Effects for a Series

Battlestar Galactica, "Razor Featurette #4" (Sci Fi Channel; <www.scifi.com>) Outstanding Special Class — Short-Format Live-Action Entertainment Programs

Creature Comforts America, "Self Image, Winging It, Art" (CBS) — Outstanding Individual Achievement in Animation

Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends, "Mondo Coco" (Cartoon Network) — Outstanding Individual Achievement in Animation

Heroes, The Heroes Digital Experience (NBC; <www.nbc.com>) — Outstanding Interactive Media Programming

Lost, "Meet Kevin Johnson" (ABC) — Outstanding Sound Mixing for a Comedy or Drama Series (One-Hour)

The Simpsons, "Eternal Moonshine of the Simpson Mind" (FOX) — Outstanding Animated Program (For Programming Less Than One Hour)

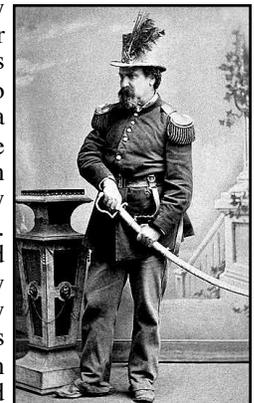
Smallville, "Bizarro" (CW) — Outstanding Sound Editing for a Series

South Park, "Imaginationland" (Comedy Central) — Outstanding Animated Program (For Programming One Hour or More)

Tin Man (Sci Fi Channel) — Outstanding Makeup for a Mini-series or a Movie (Non-Prosthetic)

NORTON AWARDS

This year's Emperor Norton Awards (for sf/f/h efforts in the San Francisco Bay area), were recently announced. The award is named after Norton I, Emperor of the United States of America and Protector of Mexico (née Joshua Abraham Norton) — a famous San Fran character from the 1800's. The awards were given in conjunction with the 13th anniversary party for Tachyon Publications <www.tachyonpublications.com>. The juried awards are given for "extraordinary invention and creativity unhindered by the constraints of paltry reason." Jurors were Richard Lupoff (author), Alan Beatts (book store proprietor), and



Jacob Weisman (editor/publisher). Winners in the two categories are:

Author/Work.....**Cory Doctorow** for *Little Brother*
Other services to SF&F. **Jeck Rems**, Dark Carnival bookstore
SUNBURST AWARDS

The Sunburst Awards <www.sunburstaward.org> for Canadian Literature of the Fantastic are for Canadian writers with an English-language speculative fiction novel or book-length collection of speculative fiction published any time during the previous calendar year. These juried awards are named after the first novel by Phyllis Gotlieb, one of the first published authors of contemporary Canadian science fiction. Winners receive CDN\$1,000 and a medallion with a specially designed “Sunburst” logo. This is the first year for the YA category; the winners are:

Novel.....*The New Moon’s Arms*,
Nalo Hopkinson (Warner Books)
Young Adult.....*Anthem of a Reluctant Prophet*,
Joanne Proulx (Viking Canada)

BRITISH FANTASY AWARDS

The British Fantasy Society <www.britishfantasysociety.org> announced the winners of the 2008 British Fantasy Awards at the FantasyCon <www.fantasycon.org.uk>, held 19–21 September 2008. The winners are:

The Sydney J. Bounds

Best Newcomer Award.....**Scott Lynch**
BFS Special Award,

“The Karl Edward Wagner Award”.....**Ray Harryhausen**
Best Nonfiction.....*Whispers of Wickedness Website Reviews*,
Peter Tennant (Whispers of Wickedness)

Best Artist.....**Vincent Chong**
Best Small Press.....**Peter Crowther**, PS Publishing
Best Anthology.....*The Mammoth Book*
of Best New Horror 18, Stephen Jones (Robinson)

Best Collection.....*Old Devil Moon*,
Christopher Fowler (Serpents Tail)

Best Short Fiction.....**“My Stone Desire,”**
Joel Lane (*Black Static #1*, TTA Press)

Best Novella.....*The Scalding Rooms*,
Conrad Williams (PS Publishing)

Best Novel, “The August Derleth Fantasy Award”.....*The*
Grin of The Dark, Ramsey Campbell (PS Publishing)

The Óin Ring to Find Them

No Need for a Ring — Chapter 25

by PieEyedDragon

[Editor’s Note: This is the ninth chapter in the second part of the NNFAR trilogy — *The Two Hairy Towers* — and is thus numbered as Chapter 9 in some places. The *Shuttle* is serializing the entire tale and chooses to use the alternate sequential chapter numbering system.]

I follow the Sirannon until it joins Mitheithel at the ruins of Ost-in-Edhil and becomes Glanduin. I attach the Óin ring to a forked stick of suitable size and species. Balancing on my tail, I stumble among the stones on my hind legs, holding my dowsing rod loosely with my foreclaws. Digging wherever the rod gives a twitch, I consume several small but usable bits of Mithril fragments and dust before deciding that this mine is worked out. I had no use for the occasional fragment of gem or gold that I came across, and left them there.

Days later I start back upriver. It is midmorning and partly cloudy — the beginning of a hot and muggy July day.

— O — O — O —

[Meanwhile]

Orophin is unable to open the little box. He kneels beside the large, dark crystal and gazes into the flickering depth. Wondering what the dragon had been looking at, he soon sees an elven-smith working on a ring. He follows the most recent images back: a wagon, Dwarves and Elves at an open gate, several images of dwarves and rings and hammers, a dwarf beside a pool being snatched underwater by loathsome tentacles, the shoulder and ear of an elf watching a dragon who stares into a crystal...

With a start, Orophin realizes he is seeing himself! The dragon *knew* he was here! Time now to be elsewhere! Orophin starts to get up, pushing at the crystal under his hands. His hands remain firmly stuck to the surface! *Trapped!* Orophin tries, and tries again to reach his knife with his teeth. Perhaps he could cut free of his hands, or stab himself. He cannot get to the knife. He composes himself, humming a little tune. He waits for the dragon to return and take back the life it had given him as a birthday present. To pass the time he tries to see what else the crystal will reveal. He sees himself from the side, an image from the smaller crystal. He gets the impression, but no image, of the presence of a third crystal. He searches north toward Rivendell; seeking his brothers. Haldir and Rúmil look well but extremely hurried; talking to Erester, the chief counselor, while Lindir the minstrel listened and took notes. Celebrn was not there.

— O — O — O —

After a few days in the summer heat, without water, the elf heard the sounds that he had originally dreaded to hear. Now, he almost welcomed the sounds of the returning creature. It would end his suffering.

The beast looks down at the stricken elf and asks, “Why are you still sticking around? Do you not know your life may be forfeit? I gave you that life as a gift. Curiosity killed a cat!”

Orophin: Give me water, or death; or both!

PED: This is poor return for my generosity! I have never killed an elf. If I kill you now, I shall never be rid of you!

Orophin: Water... water!

PED: “Sweet Onion,” your wish is granted.

The beast opens its jaws over the captive elf. From them pours forth a torrent of... pure water! The elf, expecting fire, jerks from the sudden cold of the water. Then, he lifts his head and begins drinking.

— O — O — O —

[Later]

PED: Do you feel better, now?

Orophin: Yes, thank you. Why did you call me “Sweet Onion”? That was a pet name that Lady Galadriel had for me. How did you know it?

PED: There you go, asking more questions. You are perhaps mistaken about the name. Thirst can do that, I am told.

Orophin: Are you going to kill me now?

PED: Your life... is a gift I gave. A free gift. I do not take back such a gift.

Orophin: I am stuck. If I stay here I shall die, anyway.

PED: When I leave, I shall take these items with me. I can dissolve the adhesive, but that would destroy your hands. Can you move even a finger?

Orophin: No. I have tried for days.

[The dragon carefully licks at a spot on the crystal away from the hands; and looks at the result. She tries to grasp a finger with her claws but they are already too big and very sharp. She pauses in thought.]

PED: This is a problem. But, I accept the challenge! Now,

how did that spell go?

[The dragon moves off a little way and starts crooning arcane words that begin louder and grow quieter. She begins a turning dance to the left; faster and faster. Her image seems to blur and begins to shrink. Smaller and smaller she becomes. Finally she stops. She is now only half the size of a pony. Delicately, she returns to the elf and reaches forth with her claws. Grasping the left hand by the little finger; she lightly tugs it upward as part of her tongue brushes over the surface of the crystal — not quite touching the finger. Eventually, that finger pulls free of the crystal. The other fingers are treated in a like fashion, and then the palm of that hand. After an hour, Orophin lifts his freed left arm up to stretch and scratch his back. The right hand undergoes the same treatment. Finally, Orophin leans back and, with many groans, straightens his legs.]

Orophin: I never expected such a situation, but; thank you, thank you!

PED: You were in my way. I had to remove you from my path without killing you. Do not make a habit of it! I feel very irritable just now.

Orophin: I think you have been in a fight.

PED: Not lately. Why do you say that?

Orophin: Because you are bleeding!

PED: (looking herself over) Yes, I am bleeding. You are a disgrace to all Wood Elves if you cannot think of any other reason for it than battle!

Orophin: (with shocked understanding) Well, ah, I've never been this close to any dragon before. Certainly not one who was... in estrus. How often does this happen, yearly?

PED: This is an answer that only *time* will reveal to me. I have never done this before. Would you care to repay some of my efforts? I've had my fill of meat for a while but I am a trifle hungry.

Orophin: What do you want? My stores are rather small.

PED: There is food in the world, such as a Wood Elf can easily find. Bring me edible leaves, grains, and fruits; roots and tubers, and stems that join them. Whatever is reasonably close at hand.

Orophin: If I go away, I might not return.

PED: If you accept the task, your own honor will bring you back again. I see this much in you, and more.

[With that, the tiny dragon stalks away; mutters a few words, and begins expanding back to her current normal size. A breeze from the west begins drying the bloody trail — carrying the new scents along to far distant places eastward... the first tentative shots in a dragon war!]

[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?)]

Letter of Comment

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

Lloyd Penney
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27 September 2008

Just got the notification about the September *Shuttle* being available, so it's downloaded, and a loc should commence from here...

A big issue this time, but it's because of the Denver Worldcon. I had heard through the fannish grapevine that it was smaller than expected, and many people didn't or couldn't go at the last minute. Wonder why... getting tougher to afford to go, or we're more easily distracted from going? Not as important an event as it used to be for some? To be honest, Denver didn't really attract us, and Montréal is so close by.

I must get a copy of *The Yiddish Policeman's Union*... any book that can win the Hugo, Nebula, and Sidewise Awards in one year must be a great book. This is also the time of the year where tons of awards are handed out. At Worldcon in Montréal next year, we'll also have the Aurora Awards to list and discuss.

The local... Sheryl Birkhead noticed that in the list of Aurora winners from last year, there was indeed no winner in the category of Fan Achievement (Fanzine). There was only one nominee, *Opuntia* by Dale Speirs, but the majority of voters voted No Award. Fan publications in Canada have got to pick it up, and get some new names on the ballot.

My loc... I indeed got the job at Southern Graphic Systems, and I am now a packaging proofreader for several of their biggest clients' products. The money is great, it's 9-to-5, and yes, the head office of SGS is in Louisville, Kentucky. The commute from home to first job to second job to home actually isn't bad. Monthly passes are sold by the local transit company, so I sure get my money's worth each month.

I wasn't a member of the Japanese Worldcon either, so I heard little about their finances. I'd need to do some exchange rate research to find out exactly ¥3.6 million translates to in US or Canadian dollars. I think it's a few thousand dollars.

Congratulations to Grant Kruger on his engagement! I hadn't heard that he was affianced. I believe he lives in Portland, Oregon now, last I heard.

It's good to see that in spite of our calendars climbing further up in SFnal years, there are still lots of Worldcon bids out there, and lots of people to staff those bids and bring some of them to reality. Yvonne has some interest in going to Reno, and I am doing a little work on the side with the Seattle bid.

I've been to enough of the bitch panels at any convention, and some people are a little too strident with their critiques. It's almost as if they are angry because you somehow ruined their weekend with your best, but not good enough, efforts. It's not like this weekend was the rehearsal, and we'll do it for real next weekend... I don't envy René Walling the job of Chairman, but I am glad he's willing to do it.

We've already started our preps and saving for Anticipation. It should be a lot of fun, and everyone should enjoy the city of Montréal. It is possible that with the next *Shuttle*, Yvonne and I will be at Con*Cept in Montréal, and we can check out the Palais de Congres in advance.

I think I'm done for right now... It's been a warm fall right now, and we are going to a big literary festival near the provincial parliament buildings downtown on Sunday. It's called Word on the Street, and it should be a lot of fun. Take care, Mike, and let me know when the next *Shuttle* launches.

[The conversion from JPY to USD has been around 100-to-1 for quite a while, seldom much more than 10% away from that. So, a multi-million Yen loss equates to multi-tens-of-thousands of dollars. While that's not enough to be a *major* financial disaster, it is certainly non-trivial. Con*Cept is actually the same weekend as Con†Stellation this year. I've sometimes wondered if cooperative programming could be arranged in such cases — swapping phone interviews with guests from the other con, for instance. Well, one of these days maybe I'll get around to trying to implement that. (By the way, unless Con*Cept changes

dates next year we won't be trying this with them as
Con†Stellation is moving to September starting in 2009.) -ED]

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

We also heard from Mike Glicksohn, who dropped us a nice
note with thanks for sending the *Shuttle*. (Well, the note was
dated in June, but I just got it recently.) You're welcome, Mike
— and thanks for the money you sent!



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