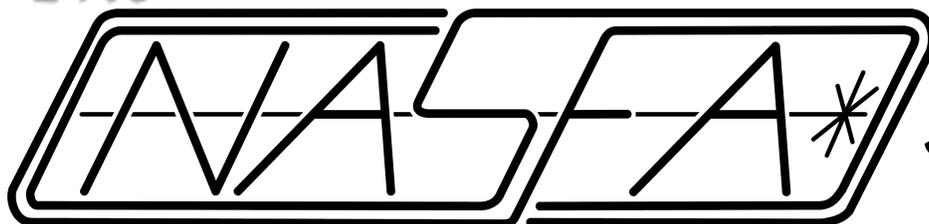


The



Shuttle

April 2009

The Next NASFA Meeting is 18 April 2009, at the Regular Time and New-New Location

Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting Sunday 19 April 2009, 2P, Mike Kennedy's House

¡ Oyez, Oyez ¡

ATTENTION: NEW MEETING LOCATION YES, AGAIN

The next NASFA Meeting is Saturday 18 April 2009 at the regular time (6P). For the second month in a row, we are changing our regular location — this time to the Renasant Bank, 4245 Balmoral Drive in south Huntsville. Exit the Parkway at Airport Road; head east one short block to Balmoral; turn left (north) a short distance. The bank is on the right, just past Logan's Roadhouse. Enter at the front door of the bank (we think); turn right to the end of a short hallway. The Community Room is labeled in large letters above the double doors.

The bank is a bit more central than either BookMark or the Southern Family Markets locations and should be somewhat easier to find than the latter.

PROGRAM

The April program will be David Hewitt of Orion Propulsion, Inc. <www.orionpropulsion.com> talking about and showing off his Rocket in a Suitcase.

ATMMs

The April After-The-Meeting Meeting will be at Gene Chapman's house — 15028 Ashmont Boulevard, in far south Huntsville. There will be directions/map available at the meeting. Ashmont is off the far south end of Bailey Cove Road just as it makes the turn to become Green Cove Road.

The May ATMM will be preempted by the more-or-less-annual NASFA Picnic/Cookout, with Doug and Mary Lampert hosting. That will also take the place of the Business Meeting and Program for that month. Stay tuned for email or other announcements of the start time, etc.

We need ATMM volunteers for June and forward.

CONCOM MEETINGS

The April Concom Meeting for Con†Stellation XXVIII will be Sunday 19 April (the day after the club meeting) at 2P at



Inside this issue...

Table with 2 columns listing contents and page numbers: News and Info (2), Minutes of the March Meeting (2), NASFA Calendar (3), Hugo and Campbell Nominations (4), Prix Aurora Nominations (5), Constellation Awards Nominations (6), Stoker Awards Nominations (6), Awards Roundup (7), Travelogue: 9689 Miles to Louisville, Part 2 of 3 (8), Letter of Comment (10)

Deadline for the April issue of The NASFA Shuttle is Friday, 1 May 2009

Mike Kennedy's house — 7907 Charlotte Drive SW. The May Concom Meeting will be **Sunday 17 May** (moved from the default date to avoid Mothers' Day). A full calendar of Concom Meetings for the year is included in the NASFA Calendar.

### **PED ON HIATUS; STEVE & SUE STEP UP**

PieEyedDragon's latest tale is on hiatus while the *Shuttle* runs a serial travelogue of Sue and Steve Francis' trip to (among other things) last year's Worldcon. The article started in last month's issue, with the second installment running this month. Subject to exigent circumstances, Steve and Sue's tale will conclude next month, with PED's tale resuming in June.

## **News and Info**

### **WORLDCON BID NEWS**

The promised Texas in 2013 Worldcon bid has kicked off their web site at <[www.texasin2013.org](http://www.texasin2013.org)> with basic information. To date they are sticking to their guns about not announcing what city the bid will be for or taking presupposing memberships until this year's Worldcon in Montreal.

Speaking of Anticipation, the vote to be held there for the 2011 Worldcon lost some zing with the withdrawal of the Seattle in 2011 bid — leaving Reno unopposed on the ballot. Fandom has risen to that challenge in the person of Tom Stidman who announced he's chairing a bid to bring the 2011 Worldcon to Maryland's Aberdeen Proving Ground. Taking no chances that his hoax could win, Stidman chose a site that is excluded from eligibility due to proximity to Montreal; plus he has vowed to not file any paperwork. His announced goal in the vote total is to beat None of the Above. More info can be found online at <[community.livejournal.com/apg2011](http://community.livejournal.com/apg2011)>.

### **SAVE THE SEMIPROZINE?**

The WSFS Constitutional amendment to eliminate the semiprozine Hugo category — up for ratification at Anticipation — is seeing some pushback. Specifically, a web site <[www.semiprozine.org](http://www.semiprozine.org)> has been established to showcase publications they class as eligible for the award (as it currently stands) and news about those pubs.

Those interested in how to vote to save — or eliminate — this Hugo category can find details deep in the <[semiprozine.org](http://semiprozine.org)> web site at <[tinyurl.com/ckh547](http://tinyurl.com/ckh547)>.

### **SF HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES**

The Science Fiction Hall of Fame <[www.empsfm.org/exhibitions/index.asp?categoryID=203](http://www.empsfm.org/exhibitions/index.asp?categoryID=203)> has announced their 2009 inductees — writer Connie Willis, artists Michael Whelan and Frank R. Paul, and editor/publisher Edward L. Ferman.

The Hall was founded in 1996 by the Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society in conjunction with the J. Wayne and Elsie M. Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction at the University of Kansas. It is currently housed at the Science Fiction Museum <[www.empsfm.org](http://www.empsfm.org)> in Seattle.

### **HUGO-NOMINATED ARTISTS ON DISPLAY**

Tor's Irene Gallo has posted in her blog some work of the five Hugo-nominated artists (including Con†Stellation Artist GoH John Picacio). The five separate entries are on Tor's web site, but are all linked from Ms Gallo's personal blog at <[igallo.blogspot.com/2009/04/artist-hugo-nominee-spotlights.html](http://igallo.blogspot.com/2009/04/artist-hugo-nominee-spotlights.html)>.

### **AND SPEAKING OF HUGO NOMINATIONS**

You should soon be able to get your hands on lots of Hugo-nominated work for free — *if* you're a member of Anticipation. With the help of John Scalzi, this year's Worldcon will be providing electronic files of at least some of the Hugo-nominated novels and shorter fiction to their members on request. The idea

is both to educate folks eligible to vote in the final Hugo balloting and to provide a very nice perk to that same group.

### **HUGO LOGO CONTEST**

A contest to design a logo for the Hugo Awards was announced on 8 April 2009. While the rocket shape of the award itself is recognized within the field, there has never been an official logo. Several guidelines for the logo (required elements, file formats, etc.) are available online at <[www.thehugoawards.org/logocontest.htm](http://www.thehugoawards.org/logocontest.htm)>.

The winner will receive a \$500 cash prize (courtesy of the Southern California Institute for Fan Interests), a membership to a future Worldcon, and a collection of Hugo Award winning fiction from Neil Gaiman (who is one of the judges).

Entries must be submitted online to <[logocontest@thehugoawards.org](mailto:logocontest@thehugoawards.org)> by 31 May 2009.

### **THIS MONTH'S LIST: 10 WORST SPACE FOODS**

The Discovery Channel website <[dsc.discovery.com](http://dsc.discovery.com)> printed a list from Vickie Kloeris — NASA's Johnson Space Center space food manager — of what she considers the 10 worst menu picks, "some so bad that they never flew at all."

- 10 Freeze-Dried Ice Cream — really nothing like ice cream; it only flew once, on Apollo 7 (1968)
- 9 Graham Crackers — too crumbly, which was solved by using bite-size Teddy Grahams
- 8 Chips — astronauts keep sneaking Pringles in their personal allowance, and regretting the crumbs
- 7 Sliced Bread — dries out quickly and you get crumbs again, tortillas came into vogue courtesy of a Mexican astronaut
- 6 Tube and Cube Foods — Mercury to early Apollo the baby-food-like pap or starch-coated cubes were the only options
- 5 Pizza — Pizza Hut furnished pies for Mir, but it was always soggy or chewy; NASA has never tried it
- 4 Cheesecake — the heat and pressure of "canning" it turns cheesecake brown and gummy
- 3 Carbonated Beverages — no gravity to keep it down yielded "wet burps" — 'nuff said
- 2 Fish Vera Cruz — flown on the Space Station, the odor was nauseating to one astronaut who asked the others to wait until she left to finish it
- 1 Brussels Sprouts — never flown because "Brussels sprouts aren't the most popular vegetable in the world"

## **March Minutes**

by Steve Sloan, Secretary

The March meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, March 21, 2009 in the Bailey Cove Southern Family Market meeting room at 6:15:10P by President Mary Ortwerth. The crickets were resuscitated yet again.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Sue discussed the new club meeting place, Renasant Bank. A club member will have to open an account there for us to use their meeting room. Someone will have to pick up the key Friday afternoon, and leave it in the overnight deposit box when we're done. After the meeting, we will have to clean it and restore it to the way we found it. It's about double the size of the meeting room in the grocery store, and we can control the lights and temperature, unlike the grocery store's meeting room. It's also a little more centrally located. Mia moved that we "try it," and Mike C. seconded.

Ali moved to amend the motion. Ali moved that we move our meeting location to Renasant Bank, because we can control

the light and temperature. Anita seconded. The motion carried, with only Doug opposed.

Mike C. amended the motion, to try the bank location for three months and see where we stand. We had a vote on the motion as amended.

Jim moved that Mike C. be told to open an account at the bank, so we can use their meeting room.

Anita noted that it would be nice to send a thank you note to BookMark, for allowing us to use their meeting room for so long. Anita moved that we send a nice thank you to the folks at BookMark. Jim seconded. The secretary will handle it. The motion carried with only Jim opposed.

Club dues are still due.

There was discussion of giving either Sue or Ali money to use to open an account at Renasant.

#### NEW BUSINESS

None.

#### CON BUSINESS

Does anyone want the minutes of the concon meeting? [If you want to be added to the concon mailing list, Sam Smith is the coordinator of that. -ED]

The last concon meeting established meeting dates for all concons this year. The next one is on the Sunday after the club meeting, due to Easter.

Badge dangles are in. Sue confirms that they're cute.

Gene suggested that at the con, we hold a trivia contest to give away little stuff he has as prizes. However, we already have real money to give — of a sort. We have many bills of Zimbabwean money. [Over \$1 billion! -ED] It's worth orders of magnitude less than the paper it's printed on. We had a digression about hyperinflation.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

For next month's program, it's 90% sure we will have David Hewitt, who will be bringing his "Rocket in a Suitcase." He'll be giving the same presentation at SciQuest the week before.

Doug gave directions to his and Mary's house.

Doug moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:42:48P.

Because Nathan Levan didn't show to give the originally planned program, Phyllis Light stepped in and gave an impromptu talk on herbal medicine. Doug and Mary hosted the After-the-Meeting Meeting at their house.

## NASFA Calendar

### APRIL

- 01 April Fool's Day.
- 02 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Seventh Heaven*, Naguib Mahfouz; 6P.
- 03–04 UAH sf-themed Graduate Student Conference.
- 03–05 MTAC Ninja — Nashville TN.
- 07 BD: Mary Lampert.
- 09 First day of Passover.
- 09–12 Frolicon 2009 — Atlanta GA.
- 12 Easter Sunday.
- 15 BD: Manda Freeman.
- 15 BD: "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo.
- 15 Income Tax Day.
- 17–19 JordanCon — Alpharetta GA.
- 18\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant Bank. Program: David Hewitt of Orion Propulsion, "Rocket in a Suitcase." ATMM: Gene Chapman's house.
- 19 Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P, Mike

Kennedy's house. **NOTE:** Moved to this date to avoid conflict with Easter.

- 21 BD: Randy B. Cleary.
  - 22 Earth Day.
  - 22 Administrative Professionals' Day.
  - 24 Arbor Day.
  - 24–26 RavenCon — Richmond VA.
  - 26 BD: Chloe Airoidi.
  - 30 BD: Mark Maxwell.
- ### MAY
- 01 BD: Russell McNutt.
  - 01 May Day (Traditional).
  - 01–03 Costume Con 27 — Timonium MD.
  - 01–03 OutLantaCon — Atlanta GA.
  - 01–03 Dicehead Siege — Chattanooga TN.
  - 03 BD: Martha Knowles.
  - 04 May Day (Observed, UK, et al.).
  - 05 Cinco de Mayo.
  - 07 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *A Spell for Chameleon*, Piers Anthony; 6P.
  - 10 Mother's Day.
  - 14 BD: Debbie Hughes.
  - 14 BD: Nancy Evans (or is that Whittle — or Evans-Whittle — now?).
  - 14–17 Star Fleet Region 1 Summit — Pigeon Forge TN.
  - 15–17 Mobicon — Mobile AL.
  - 16\* NASFA Meeting — Picnic/Cookout at Mary and Doug Lampert's house; stay tuned for details. This takes the place of the Business Meeting, Program, and ATMM.
  - 16 BD: Linda Bolgeo.
  - 16 Armed Forces Day.
  - 17 **Tentative** Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P, Mike Kennedy's house. **NOTE:** Moved to this date to avoid conflict with Mother's Day.
  - 19 BD: David O. Miller.
  - 20 BD: Mike Glicksohn.
  - 22–24 Rocket City FurMeet 7 — Huntsville AL.
  - 22–24 TimeGate — Atlanta GA.
  - 22–24 Oasis 22 — Orlando FL.
  - 22–25 Play On Con — Birmingham AL.
  - 22–25 Balticon 43 — Baltimore MD.
  - 25 Memorial Day.
  - 25 BD: Gail Murphree.
  - 27 BD: Kathy Paulk.
  - 29–31 ConCarolinas — Charlotte NC.

### JUNE

- 02 BD: Lloyd Penney.
- 04 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *The Man in the High Castle*, Philip K. Dick, 6P.
- 05–07 DeepSouthCon 47/Hypericon 5 — Nashville TN.
- 05–07 WarFair — Chattanooga TN.
- 07 Atlanta Comic Convention — Atlanta GA.
- 11–14 2009 Science Fiction Research Association Conference — Atlanta GA.
- 12–14 Sci Fi Summer Con — Atlanta GA.
- 13 BD: Bill S.
- 14 **Tentative** Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P, Mike Kennedy's house.
- 14 Flag Day.
- 17 BD: Jeff Freeman.
- 20\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
- 21 Father's Day.
- 21 Summer Solstice (20 June in Mountain Time Zone and westward).



Nolan, based on characters created by Bob Kane, directed by Christopher Nolan

*Hellboy II: The Golden Army*, story by Guillermo del Toro and Mike Mignola, screenplay by Guillermo del Toro, based on the comic by Mike Mignola, directed by Guillermo del Toro

*Iron Man*, screenplay by Mark Fergus, Hawk Ostby, Art Marcum, and Matt Holloway, based on characters created by Stan Lee, Don Heck, Larry Lieber, and Jack Kirby, directed by Jon Favreau

*METAtropolis*, edited by John Scalzi, written by Elizabeth Bear, Jay Lake, Tobias Buckell, and Karl Schroeder

*WALL-E*, story by Andrew Stanton and Pete Docter, screenplay by Andrew Stanton and Jim Reardon, directed by Andrew Stanton

**BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION, SHORT FORM  
(336 Ballots Cast)**

“The Constant,” *Lost*, written by Carlton Cuse and Damon Lindelof, directed by Jack Bender

*Doctor Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog*, written by Joss Whedon, Zack Whedon, Jed Whedon, and Maurissa Tancharoen, directed by Joss Whedon

“Revelations,” *Battlestar Galactica*, written by Bradley Thompson and David Weddle, directed by Michael Rymer

“Silence in the Library/Forest of the Dead,” *Doctor Who*, written by Steven Moffat, directed by Euros Lyn

“Turn Left,” *Doctor Who*, written by Russell T. Davies, directed by Graeme Harper

**BEST EDITOR, SHORT FORM (377 Ballots Cast)**

Ellen Datlow Stanley Schmidt Jonathan Strahan  
Gordon Van Gelder Sheila Williams

**BEST EDITOR, LONG FORM (273 Ballots Cast)**

Lou Anders Ginjer Buchanan David G. Hartwell  
Beth Meacham Patrick Nielsen Hayden

**BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST (334 Ballots Cast)**

Daniel Dos Santos Bob Eggleton  
Donato Giancola John Picacio Shaun Tan

**BEST SEMIPROZINE (283 Ballots Cast)**

*Clarkesworld Magazine*, Neil Clarke, Nick Mamatas, and Sean Wallace, eds.

*Interzone*, Andy Cox, ed.

*Locus*, Charles N. Brown, Kirsten Gong-Wong, and Liza Groen Trombi, eds.

*The New York Review of Science Fiction*, Kathryn Cramer, Kris Dikeman, David G. Hartwell, and Kevin J. Maroney, eds.

*Weird Tales*, Ann VanderMeer and Stephen H. Segal, eds.

**BEST FANZINE (257 Ballots Cast)**

*Argentus*, Steven H Silver, ed.

*Banana Wings*, Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer, eds.

*Challenger*, Guy H. Lillian III, ed.

*The Drink Tank*, Chris Garcia, ed.

*Electric Velocipede*, John Klima, ed.

*File 770*, Mike Glycer, ed.

**BEST FAN WRITER (291 Ballots Cast)**

Chris Garcia John Hertz Dave Langford  
Cheryl Morgan Steven H Silver

**BEST FAN ARTIST (187 Ballots Cast)**

Alan F. Beck Brad W. Foster Sue Mason  
Tara Wayne Frank Wu

**JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD (288 Ballots Cast)**

Aliette de Bodard (2<sup>nd</sup> year of eligibility)

David Anthony Durham (2<sup>nd</sup> year of eligibility)

Felix Gilman (1<sup>st</sup> year of eligibility)

Tony Pi (2<sup>nd</sup> year of eligibility)

Gord Sellar (2<sup>nd</sup> year of eligibility)

## Prix Aurora Noms

Nominations for the Prix Aurora Awards <www.prixaurorawards.ca> — for professional and fanish achievement by Canadians — have been announced. The awards are presented each year at Canvention, the Canadian national science fiction convention, to be held this year in conjunction with the Montreal Worldcon 6–10 August 2009. The nominees are:

**LONG-FORM WORK IN ENGLISH**

*After the Fires*, Ursula Pflug

*Identity Theft and Other Stories*, Robert J. Sawyer

*Impossibilia*, Douglas Smith

*Defining Diana*, Hayden Trenholm

*Marseguro*, Edward Willett

**LONG-FORM WORK IN FRENCH**

*Une fêlure au flanc du monde*, Éric Gauthier

*Les vents de Tammerlan*, Michèle Laframboise

**SHORT-FORM WORK IN ENGLISH**

“All In,” Peter Atwood

“Back,” Susan J. Forest

“Ringing in the Changes in Okotoks, Alberta,” Randy McCharles

“A Bouquet of Flowers in a Vase by Van Gogh,” Douglas Smith

“Doorways,” Douglas Smith

**SHORT-FORM WORK IN FRENCH**

«Ballade sur Pallide», Michèle Laframboise

«La révolte des gilets-malins», Michèle Laframboise

«Le Dôme de Saint-Macaire», Jean-Louis Trudel

«Jos Montferrand et le Grand Brigand des routes», Alain Ducharme

**OTHER WORK IN ENGLISH**

*The Gaslight Grimoire*, Jeff Campbell and Charles Prepolec, eds.

*Neo-opsis* magazine, Karl Johanson, ed.

*Tesseract Twelve*, Claude Lalumière, ed.

*Through The Window: A Journey To The Borderlands Of Faerie*, Marcie Lynn Tentchoff

*On Spec* magazine, Diane Walton, Managing Editor

**OTHER WORK IN FRENCH**

*Jean-Louis Trudel*, Sophie Beaulé (Éditions David)

*Solaris*, Joël Champetier (Editing)

**ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENT**

*Looking for Group*, Lar deSouza (Online Comic)

Cover, *Neo-opsis* #14, Stephanie Ann Johanson

*Imagination*, Michèle Laframboise

*Fear Agent* #22, Ronn Sutton

Cover, *JEMMA7729*, David Willicome

**FAN ACHIEVEMENT (FANZINE)**

*The Original Universe*, Jeff Boman, ed.

*Opuntia*, Dale Spiers, ed.

*Clair/Obscur*, François-Bernard Tremblay, ed.

*Brins d'éternité*, Guillaume Voisine, ed.

**FAN ACHIEVEMENT (ORGANIZATIONAL)**

Robyn Herrington Memorial Short Story Contest, Renée Bennett (Administrator)

World Fantasy 2008, Kim Greyson (Guest Liaison)

FilKONtario 19, Judith Hayman and Peggi Warner-Lalonde (Co-chairs)

World Fantasy 2008, Randy McCharles (Chair)

Anime North 2008, David Simmons (Organizer)

**FAN ACHIEVEMENT (OTHER)**

World Fantasy 2008 Podcasts, Kurt Armbruster and Ryah Deines (Producers/Editors/Hosts)

*Impulse*, MonSFFA Newsletter, Keith Braithwaite, ed.

*Through the Keyhole — 25 years of Memories from KeyCon,*  
Jennifer Ennis, ed.  
Fan writing, Lloyd Penney  
Heather Dale Concert, Joan Sherman (Organizer)

## Constellation Awards Noms

The Constellation Awards <constellations.tcon.ca> are annual, media, Canadian fan-voted awards sponsored by the TCON Promotional Society. They also sponsor the Polaris “science fiction event” (formerly known as Toronto Trek).

Canadian citizens and residents plus members/supporters of TCON are eligible to vote in the final selection round — with payment of a small voting fee. The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual CAs will be presented at Polaris 23 <www.tcon.ca/polaris>, to be held 10–12 July 2009 at the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel.

### MALE PERFORMANCE IN AN SF TV EPISODE

Jensen Ackles, *Supernatural*, “In The Beginning”  
Robin Dunne, *Sanctuary*, “Requiem”  
David Hewlett, *Stargate Atlantis*, “The Shrine”  
Michael Hogan, *Battlestar Galactica*, “Revelations”  
John Noble, *Fringe*, “Pilot”  
David Tennant, *Doctor Who*, “Midnight”

### FEMALE PERFORMANCE IN AN SF TV EPISODE

Summer Glau, *Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*,  
“Allison From Palmdale”

Allison Mack, *Smallville*, “Bride”  
Eve Myles, *Torchwood*, “Something Borrowed”  
Amanda Tapping, *Sanctuary*, “Requiem”  
Catherine Tate, *Doctor Who*, “Turn Left”

### SF TV SERIES

*Battlestar Galactica*      *Doctor Who*      *Sanctuary*  
*Stargate Atlantis*      *Supernatural*  
*Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*

### MALE PERFORMANCE IN AN SF FILM, TV MOVIE, OR MINI-SERIES

Richard Dean Anderson, *Stargate Continuum*  
Robert Downey Jr., *Iron Man*  
Neil Patrick Harris, *Dr. Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog*  
Heath Ledger, *The Dark Knight*  
Ron Perlman, *Hellboy 2: The Golden Army*

### FEMALE PERFORMANCE IN AN SF FILM, TV MOVIE, OR MINI-SERIES

Gillian Anderson, *X-Files: I Want To Believe*  
Rachel Bilson, *Jumpers*  
Claudia Black, *Stargate: Continuum*  
Selma Blair, *Hellboy 2: The Golden Army*  
Lina Leandersson, *Let The Right One In*  
Gwyneth Paltrow, *Iron Man*  
Amanda Tapping, *Stargate: Continuum*

### SF FILM, TV MOVIE, OR MINI-SERIES

*The Dark Knight*      *Dr. Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog*  
*Iron Man*      *Let The Right One In*  
*Stargate: Continuum*      *WALL-E*

### TECHNICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT IN AN SF FILM OR TV PRODUCTION

*Doctor Who*, Music      *Sanctuary*, Special Effects  
*Stargate: Continuum*, Special Effects      *WALL-E*, Animation  
*Supernatural*, “Monster Movie,” Cinematography

### SF FILM OR TV SCRIPT

*Doctor Who*, “Silence In The Library,” Steven Moffat  
*Stargate: Continuum*, Brad Wright  
*Supernatural*, “In The Beginning,” Jeremy Carver

*Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*, “Queen’s Gambit,”  
Natalie Chaidez  
*WALL-E*, Andrew Stanton, Jim Reardon, and Pete Docter  
**CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION TO SF FILM OR TV**  
Amanda Tapping, Canadian Actress/Producer  
*Sanctuary*, Canadian Co-Production  
The Stargate Franchise, Canadian Produced Series/Films  
*Supernatural*, Filmed in Canada

## Stoker Noms Released

The Horror Writers Association <www.horror.org> released the final nominations for the 2008 Bram Stoker Awards, their 22<sup>nd</sup> annual version. The Stokers are voted on by HWA members “for superior achievement” in horror and related works. The winners will be announced at the Stoker Awards Weekend, to be held 12–14 June 2009 at the Burbank Airport Marriott Hotel & Convention Center. The nominees are:

### NOVEL

*Coffin Country*, Gary Braunbeck  
*The Reach*, Nate Kenyon      *Duma Key*, Stephen King  
*Johnny Gruesome*, Gregory Lamberson

### FIRST NOVEL

*Midnight on Mourn Street*, Christopher Conlon  
*The Gentling Box*, Lisa Mannetti  
*Monster Behind the Wheel*, Michael McCarty and Mark  
McLaughlin  
*The Suicide Collectors*, David Oppegaard  
*Frozen Blood*, Joel A. Sutherland

### LONG FICTION

*The Shallow End of the Pool*, Adam-Troy Castro  
*Miranda*, John R. Little      *Redemption Roadshow*, Weston Ochse  
*The Confessions of St. Zach*, Gene O’Neill

### SHORT FICTION

“Petrified,” Scott Edelman  
“The Lost,” Sarah Langan  
“The Dude Who Collected Lovecraft,” Nick Mamatas and Tim  
Pratt  
“Evidence of Love in a Case of Abandonment,” M. Rickert  
“Turtle,” Lee Thomas

### ANTHOLOGY

*Like a Chinese Tattoo*, Bill Breedlove, ed.  
*Horror Library, Vol. 3*, R. J. Cavender, ed.  
*Beneath the Surface*, Tim Deal, ed.  
*Unspeakable Horror*, Vince A. Liaguno and Chad Helder, eds.

### COLLECTION

*The Number 121 to Pennsylvania*, Kealan Patrick Burke  
*Mama’s Boy and Other Dark Tales*, Fran Friel  
*Just After Sunset*, Stephen King  
*Mr. Gaunt and Other Uneasy Encounters*, John Langan  
*Gleefully Macabre Tales*, Jeff Strand

### NONFICTION

*Cheap Scares*, Gregory Lamberson  
*Zombie CSU*, Jonathan Maberry  
*A Hallowe’en Anthology*, Lisa Morton  
*The Book of Lists: Horror*, Amy Wallace, Del Howison, and  
Scott Bradley

### POETRY COLLECTION

*The Nightmare Collection*, Bruce Boston  
*The Phantom World*, Gary William Crawford  
*Virgin of the Apocalypse*, Corrine De Winter  
*Attack of the Two-Headed Poetry Monster*, Mark McLaughlin  
and Michael McCarty

# Awards Roundup

## DICK AWARD ANNOUNCED

The results of the 2009 Philip K. Dick Award <www.philipkdickaward.org> (for work in 2008) were announced at Norwescon <www.norwescon.org> on 11 April. The juried award, for “a distinguished original science fiction paperback published for the first time during the award year in the U.S.A.” was a tie this year, going to *Terminal Mind*, David Walton (Meadowhawk Books) and *Emissaries for the Dead*, Adam-Troy Castro (Eos).

## BSFA AWARDS

Winners of the British Science Fiction Association Awards <www.bsfa.co.uk/awards.aspx> were announced 11 April 2009 at Eastercon, the British national science fiction convention (held this year as Eastercon LX <www.lx2009.com> in Bradford, UK). The winners are:

**Novel**.....*The Night Sessions*, Ken MacLeod  
**Short Fiction**.....“*Exhalation*,” Ted Chiang (*Eclipse Two*)  
**Non-Fiction**.....*Rhetorics of Fantasy*, Farah Mendlesohn  
**Artwork**.....*Cover of Subterfuge*, Andy Bigwood

## SFRA AWARDS

On 14 March 2009 the Science Fiction Research Association <www.sfra.org/sfra.html> announced a number of awards in advance of their 40<sup>th</sup> annual SFRA conference, to be held 11–14 June at the Hotel Midtown in Atlanta GA. The **Pilgrim Award** (for lifetime contributions to sf/f scholarship) went to **Brian Attebery**. The **Pioneer Award** (for the best critical essay-length work of the 2008) is for **Neil Easterbrook** for “Giving an Account of Oneself: Ethics, Alterity, Air.” **Hal Hall** was named the winner of the **Clareson Award** (for service to sf/f scholarship). The **Mary Kay Bray Award** (for the an essay, interview, or extended review in the *SFRA Review*) went to **Sandor Klapcsik** for his review of *Rewired*. Finally, **Dave Higgins** was awarded the **Graduate Student Paper Award** (for the best essay presented at the 2008 SFRA conference) for “The Imperial Unconscious: Samuel R. Delany’s *The Fall of the Towers*.”

## RHYSLING NOMS ANNOUNCED

The Science Fiction Poetry Association <www.sfpoetry.com> has announced the 2009 nominees for their annual Rhysling Awards honoring sf/f/h poetry. The list is too long to print in the *Shuttle* but is available at <www.sfpoetry.com/rhyslingarchive/pages/rhyslingnom09.html>. The award is named after the Heinlein character “Noisy” Rhysling, aka the Blind Singer of the Spaceways.

Works are nominated by members of the SFPA in the Short Poem (less than 50 lines — 49 poems this year) and Long Poem (50 or more lines — 33 poems this year) categories from items published in the previous calendar year. The nominees are collected in the annual Rhysling Anthology in part to make it easy for SFPA members to review all the nominees before voting in the final round. Copies of the anthology are also available for sale to the public. The SFPA also publishes a journal, *Star\*Line*, with news and original poetry.

Lest the reader think that genre poetry is an excessively narrow market, note that the 92 poems nominated this year are from 68 different poets and were published in various issues of 41 different magazines, websites, and books.

## LAMBDA LITERARY NOMS

The Lambda Literary Foundation <www.lambdaliterary.org> has announced finalists for their 21<sup>st</sup> annual Lambda Literary Awards. The Lammys are juried awards covering 22 categories of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender literature. Nominees

in the sf/fantasy/horror category are listed below. The full list of all category nominees is available online at <www.lambdaliterary.org/awards/current\_finalists.html>. The longer list of all submitted works is available at <www.lambdaliterary.org/awards/current\_nominees.html>. The awards will be given at a ceremony on 28 May 2009 at the City University of New York’s Proshansky Auditorium. Ticket information is available at the web site.

*The Archer’s Heart*, Astrid Amara

*The Magician and the Fool*, Barth Anderson

*Wilde Stories 2008*, Steve Berman

*Sea, Swallow Me and Other Stories*, Craig Gidney

*Turnskin*, Nicole Kimberling

## COMPTON CROOK NOMS

The Baltimore Science Fiction Society has announced the nominees list for this year’s Compton Crook award <www.bsfs.org/bsfscnu.htm>. The award — given each year at Balticon <www.balticon.org> — is for a first solo sf/f/h novel published in the previous calendar year. There is a further stipulation that the author must not have previously won an award for an English-language novel from any Canadian, UK, British Commonwealth, former British Commonwealth, or US organization regardless of the genre of that work. This year’s nominees are:

*Into the Storm*, Taylor Anderson      *Black Ships*, Jo Graham  
*Singularity’s Ring*, Paul Melko

*The Way of Shadows*, Brent Weeks

## CLARKE AWARD SHORTLIST

The shortlist for the 2009 Arthur C. Clarke Award <www.clarkeaward.com> was released 17 March 2009. The Clarke Award is a juried award for *sf* novels with first UK publication in the previous calendar year. Fantasy and other forms of speculative fiction are explicitly *not* eligible. The winner, who will receive a trophy and a prize of £2009. The nominees are:

*Song of Time*, Ian R. MacLeod      *The Quiet War*, Paul McAuley  
*House of Suns*, Alastair Reynolds      *Anathem*, Neal Stephenson

*The Margarets*, Sheri S. Tepper

*Martin Martin’s on the Other Side*, Mark Wernham

## EISNER AWARDS NOMS

The Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards <www.comic-con.org/cci/cci\_eisners\_main.shtml> nominees for 2009 have been announced. The list (over 25 categories with an average of about 5 nominees per category) is very lengthy, enough so that the *Shuttle* chooses not to print it.

The awards, now in their 21<sup>st</sup> year, will be presented at Comic-Con 2009, to be held 23–26 July at the San Diego Convention Center. CC, formerly know as San Diego Comic-Con, is itself turning 40 this year.

Nominees were chosen by a panel of judges. Final voting will be by selected comics creators, editors, publishers, and retailers.

## BFA LONGLIST RELEASED

The British Fantasy Society <s256537080.websitehome.co.uk> has released their longlist nominations for the 2009 British Fantasy Awards (for work in 2008). The longlist includes all eligible items recommended by BFS and FantasyCon members and is rather, er, long, so the *Shuttle* has opted not to print it (but we do plan to print the shortlist when it becomes available).

Members of the BFS as well as 2008 and 2009 members of FantasyCon are eligible to vote in the next round (deadline 31 May 2009), which will select five items in each category for the final shortlist nominees. A final voting round (deadline 1 August 2009) will select the winners which will be announced at FantasyCon 2009 <www.fantasycon.org.uk>, to be held 18–

20 September at the Britannia Hotel in Nottingham, UK. *Shuttle* readers may be amused to note that this is the same weekend as this year's Con†Stellation.

#### PROMETHEUS AWARDS NOMS

The Libertarian Futurist Society <www.lfs.org> has announced the finalists for the Prometheus Awards. These two awards (along with an occasional Special Award) honor libertarian fiction and carry a prize of a mounted gold coin. The nominees, by category, are:

##### Prometheus Novel Noms

*Matter*, Iain Banks      *Little Brother*, Cory Doctorow  
*The January Dancer*, Michael Flynn  
*Saturn's Children*, Charles Stross

*Opening Atlantis*, Harry Turtledove      *Half a Crown*, Jo Walton

##### Prometheus Hall of Fame Noms

*Falling Free*, Lois McMaster Bujold (1988)  
*Courtship Rite*, Donald M. Kingsbury (1982)  
"As Easy as A.B.C.," Rudyard Kipling (1912)  
*The Lord of the Rings*, J. R. R. Tolkien (1955)  
*The Once and Future King*, T. H. White (1977)  
*The Golden Age*, John C. Wright (2002)

##### URSA MAJOR NOMS

Nominees for the 2008 Annual Anthropomorphic Literature and Arts Award (aka the Ursa Major Awards) have been announced and voting opened on the award's web site <www.ursamajorawards.org/Voting.htm>. The Ursa Majors honor anthropomorphic work, generally in the sf/f genre.

Anyone can vote for the awards via email, but must first register — details are on their web site. Voting runs from 14 March–19 April. The winners will be announced at All Fur Fun <www.allfurfun.org>, 15–17 May 2009 in Spokane WA.

##### Ursa Major Motion Picture Noms

*Bolt*      *Kung Fu Panda*      *Madagascar 2*  
*Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian*      *Wall-E*

##### Ursa Major Dramatic Short Work or Series Noms

*Big Buck Bunny*      *Nine Lives and Counting*  
*Presto*      *There She Is*  
*Wallace & Gromit: A Matter of Loaf and Death*

##### Ursa Major Novel Noms

*Ratha's Courage*, Claire Bell      *Iron Kissed*, Patricia Briggs  
*Thousand Leaves*, Kevin Frane      *Stick and Bones*, Phil Geusz  
*Waterways*, Kyell Gold

##### Ursa Major Short Fiction Noms

"In Between," Kyell Gold  
"It's a Beautiful World," Kyell Gold      "Secrets," Kyell Gold  
"Third Date," Kyell Gold  
"Earth Rise," Ivor W. Hartmann  
"Candy and Music," K. M. Hirotsaki

##### Ursa Major Other Literary Work Noms

*Dog's Days of Summer*, Blotch  
"Behind the Sofa," interview by Phil Geusz  
*ANTHROlogy TWO*, Quentin Long, ed.  
*Alone in the Dark*, Will Sanborn, ed.  
*Sabrina On-Line: The Story*, Chris Yost

##### Ursa Major Comic Book Noms

*Finding Avalon*      *Gargoyles*      *Heathen City*  
*i.s.o.*      *Sandman: The Dream Hunters*

##### Ursa Major Comic Strip Noms

*Lackadaisy*, Tracy J. Butler  
*Faux Pas*, Robert Carspecken and Margaret Carspecken  
*Housepets!*, Rick Griffin  
*Fur-Piled*, Leo Magna and A. Husky      *Freefall*, Mark Stanley

##### Ursa Major Magazine Noms

*ANTHRO*      *Heat*      *New Fables*  
*Softpaw Magazine*      *Tales of the Tai-Pan Universe*

##### Ursa Major Published Illustration Noms

*Suhl*, Blotch (cover of Eurofurence 14 program book)  
"Slumber Party," Heather Bruton (cover of *ANTHRO* #16)  
Centerfold of Eurofurence 14 program book, Dark Natasha  
Cover for *More Terrible Than Chains*, Kacey Miyagami  
Cover for *Waterways*, John Nunnemacher

##### Ursa Major Game Noms

*Kung Fu Panda The Video Game*  
*Mouse Guard* roleplaying game  
*Sonic Chronicles: The Dark Brotherhood*      *Spore*  
*Sonic Unleashed*

## 9689 Miles to Louisville

### Part 2 of 3

by Steve and Sue Francis

[The *Shuttle* is pleased to continue the serialization of this travelogue by Steve and Sue Francis detailing their cross-country trip to — among many other things — Denvention 3, last year's Worldcon. This was begun in the March issue and will conclude next month. -ED]

The next morning we headed south toward the San Francisco Bay Area for our next stop. The hotel we chose was the Inn at Jack London Square in Oakland (my home town) where we stayed for 5 nights. Oakland has changed greatly since we left for Kentucky 39 years ago. There was a good restaurant attached to the hotel and parking for our van was free.

The next morning we rode the ferry across the bay to San Francisco's famous (or infamous) Fisherman's Wharf. This is the most relaxing way to get to San Francisco compared to driving across the bay bridge and putting up with all the traffic in the downtown area. And what is a trip to San Francisco without riding the cable cars? We purchased two 3-day Municipal Railway passes, which allowed us to ride all of the Muni modes of transport. This included the cable cars, diesel and electric busses, and streetcars. We walked a few blocks from the ferry dock to the Fisherman's Wharf end of the Powell Street cable car turn-around. After an hour's wait, we rode the cable car over the hills down to Market Street where we found another very long line of people waiting to go the other way.

As we have with every other visit to San Francisco, we headed up Market Street to the Mary See's candy shop where we bought several boxes of assorted chocolates. We could buy chocolates anywhere, but that would take all the fun out of it. We did a little window shopping on Market Street in the area not far from the Marriott Hotel where we stayed during Con-Francisco in 1993, then headed back to the cable car turn-around at Market and Powell Streets. Upon arriving back at Fisherman's Wharf, we went looking for a restaurant that served clam chowder in a sourdough bread bowl. We found a place where we could find seating and had a very satisfying meal of fish and the aforementioned chowder. We wandered around the wharf for some more window shopping, then caught the ferry back to Oakland. By this time we were ready for a little down time at the hotel.

The morning of day two in Jack London Square was spent at a weekly street fair that is set up by vendors every Saturday. We visited with a couple of ladies running a hand-made jewelry booth and bought a number of items destined to become birthday and Christmas gifts for the grandchildren. Then we caught the ferry again to San Francisco, did more shopping at the wharf, and took the cable car back to Market Street. This time we went to Market and Turk Streets to check out McDonald's

Bookstore. This is the bookstore where I purchased a goodly portion of my pulp magazine collection back in the 1960's. The per-piece price back then was around fifty cents, which to me was a lot of money, considering that I bought four shopping bags of pulp magazines and lugged them back to Oakland on the bus. Those were the days my friend!

The store was in considerable disarray, with books and magazines on the floor and stacked up everywhere. There were no fantastic finds to be had after giving the place a good going through. Sue bought one paperback to read on the ferry back to Oakland. Needless to say, I was disappointed that the store had fallen on such hard times. After we returned to the hotel, Sue said "I can't believe you took me into the Tenderloin of San Francisco just to go in that crummy bookstore." All I could say was "Yep."

That evening we met with Bert, one of my old high school friends that we had seen last year at my 50<sup>th</sup> high school class reunion. He took us to a very nice seafood restaurant in Alameda for a fine dinner and some good conversation about the "good ol' days." We went back to the hotel and continued the catching up until almost dark, when Bert decided it was time to call it a night.

The next day Jack London Square hosted a farmers market featuring all kinds of fresh fruit and vegetables. A number of fruits were purchased and taken back to the hotel for later snacks. Then we went back to the dock to catch the ferry back to San Francisco for some more shopping on Pier 39 (a real tourist trap by any standards). Toward the end of the day, we purchased two tickets for one of the "Duck Tours" that provided a two hour sightseeing expedition around the downtown area of the city. The duck is a World War Two amphibious vehicle (or replica thereof) that can travel on land and in the water. After a drive around the more interesting parts of the city, the driver headed to the Southeast corner of the city, south of the new baseball park. He drove straight down a concrete ramp into San Francisco Bay for the wet part of the tour. We got a good worm's-eye view of the western end of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and a waterside view of the ballpark where the SF Giants now play. The view of the SF skyline from the bay was quite spectacular, even for us who were raised in the Bay Area.

Upon returning to our starting point and exiting the duck, I noted to the driver something about his comments about the Bank of America Buildings in the financial district. He said that both the original Bank of America Building and the Transamerica (pyramid) Building were now both owned by the Bank of America. I asked him if he knew that the original building was a movie star with title billing in a certain disaster movie that came out in 1974. He said "no" and told him that that the building was the *Towering Inferno* and was used for all of the interior lower level and external street-side filming for the movie. He then asked if he could use this little bit of trivia in his next tour, and I told him to go ahead and even embellish the story if he chose to do so.

By the time we returned to Oakland and took a walk through the Borders Bookstore at Jack London Square, we were ready for dinner and a good night's sleep.

Sue has always wanted to go back to Seacliff state beach, which is a little south of Santa Cruz, down the coast from San Francisco. When she was still living with her family, her father would take them to that beach so they could fish off of an old decaying concrete transport boat that was beached there. So, the next morning we drove down state highway 17 from San José to Santa Cruz, parked the car, and wandered around the amusement park. The place has changed greatly since we were

there last in the middle 60's. The most notable change was that the old wooden boardwalk was replaced with concrete and asphalt. This sort of spoiled the original character of the park. Before we left to continue on to Seacliff, I took a photo of the rollercoaster car coming around the first turn and drop. This photo very closely matches one I took of the same rollercoaster about 40 years ago.

Then we went on to Seacliff to find the beach from ancient family history. With a little help from our GPS unit, we went straight to the beach where Sue could relive some old memories. The old concrete boat was still there, but was in very sad shape as the years had taken their toll. It had broken in two and was gated off from the fishing dock. It was considered too dangerous to walk on for fishing by the local parks department. (If you go on Google Maps and zero in on that part of the California coast, you can see the beach and the old boat to this day). After a late lunch from a local beachfront hamburger stand, we headed back to Oakland for a dinner date with our old friend John.

I first met John in 1964 in the San José area before I met Sue. He was quite instrumental, in a roundabout way, in setting up our first date at the Santa Clara County fair in the fall of '64. The way the story goes is that as of our anniversary this year (2008) we have been married 44 years and we have known each other 44 years and 5 weeks. I'm not sure we really knew what we were doing, but it did work out for us. It must have been the Little Chapel of the Bells in Reno, Nevada, that gave us such good luck. Dinner with John was a veritable nostalgia trip going back almost a half a century. We had a great dinner at one of John's favorite Bar-B-Que restaurants in the downtown Oakland area. I could go into the details of our conversation, but that would take several thousand more words, so I will pass.

We checked out of the hotel after five days and headed north through Sacramento toward Reno. The drive up Interstate 80 over Donner Pass takes you through some of the most beautiful areas in the country. We stayed two nights in Sparks, just east of Reno, so we could check out the facilities (the Peppermill and Atlantis) that the Reno in 2011 Worldcon bid is proposing to use. Our first stop was Carson City, where we visited the Nevada State Museum, which had extensive displays of silver-mining history and local art. The most impressive display was a walk-through reproduction of an 1880's silver mine complete with machinery and ore cars and tracks. Our second stop in Carson City was the Nevada Railway Museum. It was full of vintage railroad equipment and beautifully constructed models of 19<sup>th</sup> century locomotives. I recommend this museum to any railroad buffs who might visit the Reno-Carson City area.

The next day we took the long drive all the way around Lake Tahoe and had lunch with a great view of the lake and all of the boaters. The most striking part of the drive is the parking area overlooking Emerald Bay on the west side of the lake. The rest of the afternoon was spent first at the Peppermill Hotel and Casino then at the Atlantis. The inside of the Peppermill is enormous and very posh. Of course, you have to go through the casino area to get to the meeting rooms. One *big* plus is the free parking provided by the hotels in Reno. (This is very refreshing after the parking fees we encountered in Denver).

The Atlantis is about a quarter mile further south along South Virginia Street from the Peppermill. The Atlantis hotel/casino will be connected to their enormous convention center by an overhead enclosed pedway. This will be a blessing for those fans who do not like daytime temperatures that can be in the 90s or higher. We did not go inside the hotel or convention center because of the ongoing construction of the walkway

(which will be long finished before 2011).

South Virginia Street is the main North-South artery through Reno. It's the street that bears the well-known arched sign that reads "Reno — The Biggest Little City in the World" in the downtown hotel/casino area. We found a very good bookstore called The Zephyr, about halfway between downtown and the Peppermill. There are also several good antique malls along the street. Good restaurants can be found everywhere. One block east of South Virginia Street, just south of downtown, the National Automobile Museum can be found. This museum contains several hundred beautifully restored rare automobiles from the earliest days to more recent but scarce cars. Also recommended is a 30-mile side trip up the mountain south of the city to Virginia City. It has been maintained in the style of an 1880's silver mining town (it's nothing like the Virginia City depicted in the old *Bonanza* TV shows). It is also geared for the tourist trade, but well worth seeing. As we have already been to Virginia City a half dozen times over the years, we did not go this time.

Interstate 80 across northern Nevada can best be described as "Miles and miles of nothing but more miles and miles." If you like the desert, this is the place to go. It has its own spectacular beauty like no other, and it's hot and dry. One should be sure that your car is in good shape and the fluids are all topped off before starting out. As we passed through Lovelock, Nevada, the odometer read 4444.4 miles. We reached Layton, Utah, (just north of Salt Lake City) in the early evening, had dinner, and went down for the count.

We went back down to Salt Lake City for the day and a little sightseeing on a bus tour. We visited an old Army base museum and Sue talked to the curator to see if they had any documentation on her father's Army service during World War II. He gave her some leads as to where to look for further information. The most interesting stop on the bus tour was the Heritage Village historical area, which depicted a pioneer village in the style of the 1850's. We boarded the narrow-gauge railroad for a quick trip around the grounds with the usual narration by the conductor. As we came around one of the curves, we passed a lawn sprinkler. Of course, I was sitting on the outside seat and got sprayed full in the face with some very cold water. It actually felt good, as the temperature that day was over 100 degrees. I was all dried off by the time we returned to the little train station.

[End of Part 2 — to be concluded next issue.]

## Letters of Comment

GCOC-GCOC-GCOC-GCOC-GCOC-GCOC-GCOC-GCOC

Sheryl Birkhead  
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12 March 2009

Greetings — best do this the "old fashioned" way or it won't get done. The February *Shuttle* arrived in the PO's body bag. Sigh. That reminds me that rates go up in May so I need to buy a batch of the Forever Stamps. According to the window clerks, right now only the domestic fees and stamps are going up. They were quick to add that there was no guarantee that the international rates wouldn't follow...

I just tried to check out the Anticipation website to see if the nominations were out yet. I tried two browsers — both said the site did not exist... I never *did* get a PR with the nominations ballot.

Still trying to handle the digital [TV] conversion. The newest glitch is... um, interesting. One large roof antenna is wired into three rooms in the house. Suddenly one of these "antenna-ed" TVs dropped three of the stations that have the strongest signals. The other *two* TVs still say the signal is there... hmm. I took the converter box to one of the other TVs and the channels are magically back — so it's *not* the box. *Sigh* — how much will it cost to rewire the room with the antenna. *Heck*, if I'm going to do that I'll have antenna outlets put in other rooms. Whee!

Thank you for the movie list — already added to the Netflix queue!

I need to watch *WALL-E* again — I, chagrin, fell asleep in the middle — *loved* the beginning and end — and the *sound-track* — using everything but actual dialog, essentially. I need to see *Kung Fu Panda* before deciding if the criticism (one versus the other) is (to me at least) [indecipherable].

I'll remember that about moisture setting off the fire alarm. It was all very frustrating trying to convince the thing that all actually was OK.

Most of the Netflix stuff I've been watching recently has been British police/mystery shows or US thrillers. Eventually the list will whittle itself down enough so that SF will be at the top of the list.

Well — need to see if the mail has come yet, so this has a chance of going out today.

[The Anticipation website was offline for a while in recent memory; checking... yep, that was the 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> of March — so you just happened to look for them at the wrong time. The main site was apparent down for less than a day but it took them until about the 17<sup>th</sup> to get online registration working again after the outage. RE their policy on mailing Progress Reports, your luck has been just as bad. Apparently, the con took an "opt in" approach to mailing PRs, at least for some people — that is, if you didn't ask for them by mail it was assumed you'd look for PRs online. That's a bassackwards approach as far as I'm concerned. (There was a brouhaha on this subject in January over on the SMOFS mailing list.) Sorry about the [indecipherable] insertion in your letter, but your handwriting, though normally pretty clear, is sometimes so tiny that any variation in letterforms makes it a bit hard for me to make out. While all smoke/fire alarms should be taken seriously and the cause immediately investigated, false positives do happen so, yeah, it's nice to know why a particular one might have happened to rule out a malfunctioning unit. -ED]

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

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4 April 2008

Many thanks for the March *Shuttle*. We'll make it a quick loc before the end of a very productive day.

I do look forward to Steve and Sue's trip report, but will also welcome PieEyed back when the Francisces have completed their writings.

The monster list is a familiar one... I lived in British Columbia for a while, and while everyone knew about Ogotogo, there were few who had claimed to have seen the monster. At least it was good for tourism. We also heard occasional reports of Bigfoot sightings, not only on the British Columbia mainland,

but also in the Pacific Northwest region of Washington and Oregon.

Lots and lots of awards, and many thanks for including the results of the FAAn Awards. My fellow fanzine fans have been good to me over the years, with this year being my fifth win for Best Letterhack.

Good to see *WALL-E* get some recognition... I think it should have had more trophies before now, but there are still bright, shiny things left to give out. Let's see what happens in Montréal. I think Pixar will be pleased.

The Francis trip report... when we were in Las Vegas, we also took a trip to the Hoover Dam, and we toured the generators as well. Besides their size and power, the housings where the tour took us were decorated in an art deco style that must have been brand new back when it was built, and stands up today. It was a pleasure to see this honoured brand of architecture and design.

My loc... you found a *Globe and Mail* graphic! If you go to <theglobeandmail.com>, and scan down the left side to the link named Appointments, you will find announcements of appointments and promotions within Canadian companies. That's what I do on the website through the week in the evenings. Ad Astra has come and gone, and it was a great time. Ran our dealers' table, had our Saturday evening tea party, wore our steampunk costumes, and Yvonne successfully ran her space and science programme track. So much got done, and we had a great time seeing old friends. Can't wait for it to return next year.

A page is good, and I guess I am done for this month. Keep them coming, and I will keep writing. Hope that's a good deal for all concerned. See you again soon.

[I've had a few productive days recently, too ;-) Before seeing that <livescience.com> list, OgoPogo was unknown to me; though I had heard of all the others, even the Chupacabra. Finding a pic of the *Globe and Mail* was no big deal; Google can be your friend. Congrats on the FAAN Award win (which we snuck into the last issue at the last minute) but also congrats on the Prix Aurora nomination (listed in this issue). -ED]

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

Sheryl Birkhead  
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4 April 2009

Whew — my delusions of getting all the zines read and locced is looking to be unachievable. So, on with the (very tardy) show.

I am going to apologize right now — I *know* the Hugo nominations are out, but I simply have not had the time to track them down and take a look (other than the fanartist one that was called to my attention due to the “new” face in the list). I will have to wait and see what others have to say.

I am totally out of touch with the Worldcon. I managed to send an email (agh, how low have I sunk?) to see about fillos — but aside from being told the query would be sent along, I did not hear anything else.

I forget the year, but I just got (Netflix) to watch *Eagle Eye*. Because sf requires the suspension of disbelief, I simply enjoyed the ride. I've heard others say the movie did not get very good reviews. I have never let a review dictate whether I would like a movie or not if it *seemed* as if I might like it. Personally, I felt it was all too possible that when a myriad of computers communicate with each other, it becomes all too likely that it

would be easy to affect any individual's life by merely influencing the *real* world (as seen in the movie — things such as stoplights being the simplest example). Yeah, I'll admit that this all seems to get carried to the extremes, but one never knows. Again, it is that old disbelief that gets suspended — didn't bother me in the slightest... suspend away.

I'd be tempted to comment on the Oscars, but I am still feuding with the converter boxes and only managed to tape about 1/4 of the start of the show... and I did not read about them at the time. I am usually almost a month behind in watching tapes, but I have the utmost faith that the taping is there. With the taping *adventures* this is not usually the case these days.

As far as the Razzies are concerned, I guess it is a ghooood thing that I have no comment on them.

Whedon's winning the Bradbury Award seems well in keeping with the award's intent. It will be interesting to see if there are any obvious changes when the new [Nebula] nominating/voting procedures go into place.

Steve and Sue — uh, did I miss something? What is a “Firend”? Oh, wait a minute — this was *before* the Australia win, so that is probably Friend (at least that is a lot more likely than *attending*. Ah, reading on on just a bit more it looks as if I am right. The Wigwam Motel looks interesting, but just knowing that they are concrete leads to a whole list of questions. Yeah, I'd like to see what the inside of one looked like, but doubt I want to go much further than that!

Several nights ago was the show finale of *Life on Mars*. I have enjoyed the show. I wonder if I would feel the same way if I had seen the British series. I am sorry that the series has gone to the ghreat cutting room in the sky. I am trying to think of any other shows that seem to be sf — not at all sure what label to attach to *Lost* — and *Heroes* for that matter. I have (as you know) no idea what sf shows are running on cable. I *do* like to know what they are so I can add them to the Netflix list as soon as they become available.

If I can figure out a way to carve out some time to do pleasure reading I just may make a trip to Borders Books and see about picking up a paperback or two. I still have a stack of professional journals to read before I can give *any* thought to spending time any other way. Ah, there is still hope!

I did read some emails about the death of Randy Bathurst — if any of your readers remember his name — a very ghooood fanartist. Somewhere in my file cabinets I even have the coloring book he pubbed... and I saw one of the FAAn Awards he designed on Alexis Gilliland's desk. I tired to find an address for him some years ago, to try to get an article on him as a fanartist — but could not track him down... and the next I hear about is he death. Sigh.

Well, I'll stop here so this can be printed RSN — gotta remember to simply *do it*. I also need to buy some Forever Stamps before there is another price increase in May.

[Yeah, I suspect loccing all zines you get may be unachievable, Sheryl, as it's my impression you get quite a stack. You can see the Hugo/Campbell noms (and other awards news) in this issue, if you haven't seen them elsewhere. *Eagle Eye* was a September 2008 release (yep, I had to look that up). It sounds like a film I might watch if it came on TV but wouldn't seek out. I know that Netflix makes renting movies easy, but I never got in the habit of renting movies so I've never been particularly interested in getting a Netflix subscription for myself. As for “Firend” — yes that's a friend-of-the-bid thing. As I understand what happened, it started as a typo on the first quickie flyer for the then-nascent Australia 2010 bid and they kept it. -ED]



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