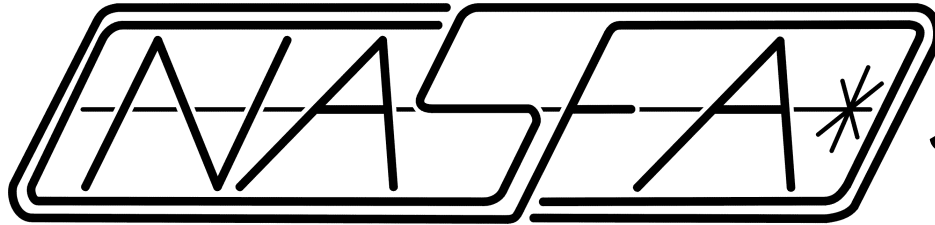


The



Shuttle
October 2009

The Next NASFA Meeting is 17 October 2009 at the Regular Time and Location

à Oyez, Oyez à

The next **NASFA Meeting** is Saturday **17 October 2009** at the **regular time** (6P) and the **new regular location**. Meetings are at the Renasant Bank's Community Room, 4245 Balmoral Drive in south Huntsville. Exit the Parkway at Airport Road; head east one short block to Balmoral Drive; turn left (north) for less than a block. The bank is on the right, just past Logan's Roadhouse restaurant. Enter at the front door of the bank; turn right to the end of a short hallway.

PROGRAM

The October program will be a talk by scientist and author Les Johnson <www.lesjohnsonauthor.com>. His latest book (with Gregory Matloff and C Bangs), *Paradise Regained: The Regreening of Planet Earth*, will be published in December. *Paradise* describes how humanity could use the plentiful resources of space to provide for a prosperous future.

We ask that all attendees be respectful of our presenters by holding their questions and comments until the end of the presentation.

ATMMs

The October After-The-Meeting Meeting will be at Gene Chapman's house — 15028 Ashmont Boulevard, in far south Huntsville. Ashmont is off the far south end of Bailey Cove Road just as it makes the turn to become Green Cove Road — see the Google map at right. If you get lost on the day, try calling Gene at 256-651-7364.

The November ATMM will be at Mike Kennedy's house. The December ATMM (aka Christmas party) will be at Sue Thorn's house. We need ATMM volunteers for all months in 2010.

CONCOM MEETINGS

Con†Stellation XXVIII is over so concom meetings are on hiatus for a while. Next year's chairs, Doug and Mary Lampert, have announced that Con†Stellation XXIX concom meetings

will probably start in early 2010 — but stay tuned for updates.

NASFA CALENDAR ONLINE

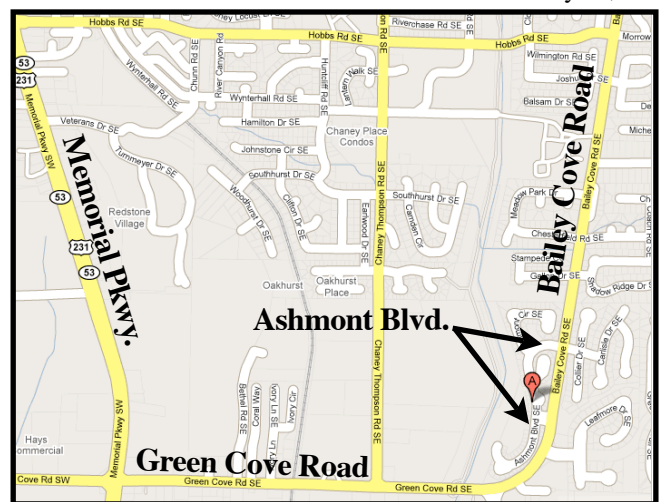
NASFA has an online calendar on Google. Interested parties can check the calendar online, but you can also subscribe to the calendar and have your Outlook, iCal, BlackBerry, or other calendar automatically updated as events (Club Meetings, Concom Meetings, local sf/f events) are added or changed. Contact Bill S. for details.

News and Info

Three major fan funds have made significant announcements since the September issue of the *Shuttle*.

TAFF VOTING OPEN

The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund has announced their candidates for the 2010 TAFF election. This is a west-to-east year; the



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Deadline for the November issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 6 November 2009

winning candidate will travel to this year's Eastercon (Odyssey, to be held 2-5 April 2010 at the Radisson Edwardian Hotel near London) — the UK natcon.

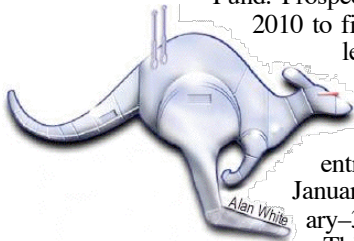
The team of Brian Gray and Anne K.G. Murphy are up against Frank Wu. Any fan active prior to April 2008 may vote in the preferential-ballot election, with a minimum donation of \$3 or £2 (which goes toward travel expenses of the winner). Larger contributions are gratefully accepted. The ballot can be found online at <taff.org.uk/ballots/taff2010.html> and includes mailing addresses (US and UK) for the ballot plus instructions on how to vote via PayPal online. The voting deadline is midnight PST, 22 December 2009 (8A GMT, 23 December 2009).

More info can be found at the (unofficial) TAFF website <taff.org.uk>, or by emailing or writing either administrator:

- Chris Garcia, 962 West Weddell Drive #15, Sunnyvale CA 94089, USA, <garcia@computerhistory.org>
- Steve Green, 33 Scott Road, Solihull, B92 7LQ, UK, <stevegreen@livejournal.com>

DUFF SEEKING NOMS

Nominations are now open for the 2010 Down Under Fan Fund. Prospective candidates have until 31 January 2010 to file the required paperwork, including a letter of intent, five letters of nomination (three from North America; two from Australia/New Zealand, a platform statement of 100 word or less, and an entry fee of \$25. The deadline to file is 31 January 2010. Voting will run 10 February-31 March of that year.



This is a north-to-south year so the winning candidate will travel to Australia to attend Aussiecon 4 <www.aussiecon4.org.au>, the 68th Worldcon, to be held 2-6 September 2010 in Melbourne. Stated duties of the winner are:

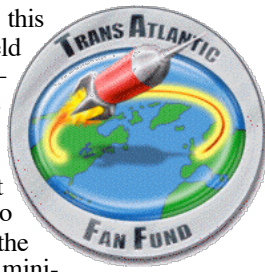
- Visit and get to know as many Australian Science Fiction fans as time will permit.
- Become the DUFF administrator for the term running from Aussiecon 4 thru the 51st Australian natcon to be held in 2012.
- Raise funds and maintain an account to be used by the next southbound delegate(s) in 2012.
- Publish a trip report covering the time of one's travels in Australia and attendance at the convention.

Further information may be sought by mail or email to the current North-American administrators, Steve and Sue Francis, PO Box 58009, Louisville KY 40268-0009, <sjf1138@aol.com>, <sfsue@aol.com>.

GUFF NOMS OPEN, TOO

The Going Under (or Get Up and Over) Fan Fund has also opened nominations. GUFF sends fans from Europe to Australasia (and vice versa) — this year the former. Like DUFF, the winner will attend Aussiecon 4.

Though it's unlikely many European fans are reading the *Shuttle*, parties interested in standing for GUFF should know that nominations are open through 13 November 2009. Candidates will be announced two days later. Voting will run through 5 April 2010, the closing Monday of Eastercon. Further information can be gotten on the web <pcwww.liv.ac.uk/~lister/guff> or by contacting Ang Rosin, 26 Hermitage Grove, Bootle, Merseyside, L20 6DR, UK, <lister@liv.ac.uk>.



September Minutes

by Steve Sloan, Secretary

The September meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, September 12, 2009 in the Renasant Bank meeting room at 6:26:03P by President Mary Ortwerth. The crickets are "mostly dead." [Insert your own Miracle Max jokes here. -SEC]

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ali's nephew is being born. It doesn't get much newer than that.

Jack had an announcement: A record sale is being held at the public radio station on the UAH campus.

Sunn had an idea for a future program. We should discuss The Makers Local, an organization Ali went on to describe. They are a nonprofit group who want to encourage and educate hobbyists, do-it-yourselfers, and tinkerers, and they provide a common space for them to work, along with donated equipment and raw materials. The local chapter's website is <256.makerslocal.org>.

CON BUSINESS

Sue listed also attending guests [for 2009 -ED], including Julie Cochrane, Bill Snodgrass, and William Drinkard.

The Con+Stellation 2010 guest lineup will be:

Guest of Honor.....Wen Spencer
 Artist Guest of Honor.....Vincent Di Fate
 Master of Ceremonies.....Steve Jackson
 Fan Guest of Honor.....Warren Buff

Discussion of next year's con was opened up for questions. According to one of the answers, the preregistration rate will be \$40. [The membership rate for 2010 available at this year's con only was \$30, which bumped up to \$35. Current plans call for the rate to escalate to \$40 some time next year then \$45 for very-late reg plus at-the-door. -ED]

Doug moved to adjourn again at 6:37:13P.

For the program, we held the more-or-less annual auction. Ray Pietruszka and Nancy Cucci hosted the After-the-Meeting Meeting at their house.

NASFA Calendar

OCTOBER

- 01 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Watership Down*, Richard Adams; 6P.
- 02-04 Archon — St. Louis MO.
- 02-04 GMX — Nashville TN.
- 02-04 National Storytelling Festival — Jonesborough TN.
- 02-04 Atlanta HorrorFest — Atlanta GA.
- 09-11 Gaylaxicon 2009 — Minneapolis MN.
- 12 Columbus Day (Traditional & Observed).
- 15 BD: Robert Buelow.
- 16-18 Capclave — Rockville MD (Washington DC area).
- 17* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant Bank. Program: Les Johnson. ATMM: Gene Chapman's house.
- 17-18 Nashville Comic and Horror Festival — Nashville TN.
- 23-25 Necronomicon '09 — St. Petersburg FL.
- 24 United Nations Day.
- 25 BD: Marie McCormack.

SPECTRUM GRAND MASTER

Spectrum <www.spectrumfantasticart.com>, which publishes an annual book of Contemporary Fantastic Art, has announced that **Richard Corben** was selected as their 2009 Spectrum Grand Master. Corben's professional career began with the cover for the September 1967 issue of *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction*.

BSFS ROBERT A. HEINLEIN AWARD

Winners of this award (one of several similarly-named awards authorized by Virginia Heinlein) are selected for "outstanding published works in science fiction and technical writings to inspire the human exploration of Space." The award <www.bsfs.org/bsfsheinlein.htm> is sponsored in part by the Baltimore Science Fiction Society but is supported financially by donations. The winners are selected by a committee of authors (chaired by Dr. Yoji Kondo) whose members were originally approved by Virginia Heinlein.

The award includes a sterling silver medallion depicting Robert A. Heinlein (artist: Arlin Robbins), a lapel pin, and a plaque. Winners of the 2009 BSFS Robert A. Heinlein Award are **Joe Haldeman** and **John Varley**.

LAST DRINK BIRD HEAD NOMS

Nominations for the new, and whimsically-named, Last Drink Bird Head Awards have been announced. Jeff and Ann VanderMeer created the awards <www.jeffvandermeer.com/2009/10/04/the-first-annual-last-drink-bird-head-award-finalists> to honor service to the speculative fiction community. In addition to the categories listed below, there will be a Special Achievement Award to recognize individuals who are proactive behind the scenes but whose efforts often don't receive public recognition. The nominees are:

Gentle Advocacy

for blunt discourse about controversial issues

K. Tempest Bradford
Nick Mamatas
John Scalzi

Tireless Energy

for selfless activities for worthy organizations/causes

Natania Barron (The Outer Alliance)
Leslie Howle (Clarion West and Richard Hugo House)
Rina Weisman (SF in SF and the Variety Children's Charity of Northern California)

Promotion of Reading

for promotion of reading or reading proficiency

Colleen Cahill (Library of Congress, as an advocate for genre fiction and as the library's representative to the ALA)
James Gunn (AboutSF)
Susan Straub (creator and director of the Read to Me program)

Expanding Our Vocabulary

for writers who expose readers to new words/ideas

John Clute
Hal Duncan
Catherynne M. Valente

International Activism

for work to bring writers from other literary traditions/ countries to the attention of readers in North America, the United Kingdom, and Australia

Charles Tan (*Bibliophile Stalker* and various ad hoc efforts)
Lavie Tidhar (internet advocacy and editing *The Apex Book of World SF*)
James and Kathy Morrow (editing *The SFWA European Hall of Fame: Sixteen Contemporary Masterpieces of Science Fiction from the Continent* and continuing advocacy)

Letters of Comment

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

Sheryl Birkhead
25509 Jonnie Court
Gaithersburg MD 20882

3 July 2009

Well, my nonexistent filing system has broken down again — I have no way of easily noting down *handwritten* letters. The file doesn't mention this — so I will bumble my way onward!

If memory is correct, the Hugo voting deadline is looming — hope all who could did! (Ah, I see you have nicely listed it as, electronically, 11:59 pm tonight, so I was right!)

As always, since I am not going to be convention attending, I find it entertaining to read about what others saw and did — thanks for the conreports!

Elphaba — thanks for the PED recap.

Um, maybe I better clarify the Netflix usage. (Not that it really makes any difference...) Most of what I view are *not* movies — instead, most are series that I do not get on non-cable TV — including a whole passel of British TV stuff. Most of the actual movies I watch are quite a few years old, then there is the batch of really new stuff that goes into the saved list until they all come out on DVD. I have only seen one actual movie in two weeks, and it was from 1998. Most of the time I treat the viewing as background. When I feel I must stop the other activities and actually *watch* the DVD, I know I have something I really like. So, not much of what I watch is *new-ish*!

Fingers crossed for Lloyd with the Aurora!

Seems as if things are quiet right now (oops — forget I said that, no wish to jinx the quiet!). Just heard of Ken Moore's passing and presume it will be mentioned in the nextish.

So, hopping all had an enjoyable Fourth — now on to the Worldcon!

[Sorry for the major delay, Sheryl. My nonexistent filing system (for LoCs) failed *me*. (But, at least I did eventually find the letter and print it, even if much of it is a bit OBE.) -ED]

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

Mike Glicksohn
<mglick@interlog.com>

14 September 2009

Thanks for the September *Shuttle* and the first (and likely only) Worldcon report I've seen/will see. While very much shorter than the usual coverage the *Shuttle* offers, this report at least gives me an idea of what the convention was like. (Some locals and friends did send me brief e-mails summarizing their own experiences but this article gives some of the flavour of the gathering.)

It would seem that overall Anticipation was okay if not spectacular. (Rob Sawyer rated it a 6 out of 10 to me.) It's always good to know your own fandom didn't totally screw things up! (I did think the conreport was somewhat more food-oriented than most but Montreal *is* a city famed for its gastro-nomic excellence.)

I note that the current Attending Membership for the next worldcon is exactly 51 times what a Full Attending Membership to Torcon II in 1973 was. That may not be significant but it sure is interesting to us Old Pharts.

Thanks again.

[It's always good to hear from you, Mike. Relatively few people are as verbose as I am, but I was very glad for the 3-plus columns of Gary's Anticipation trip report. With the pics on page 7 last ish and the 4-plus pages in the August issue, that makes around 6.5 pages of total coverage. Yeah, that falls well short of the 19.5 pages I ran on Denver last year; but I expect that latter could be my all-time high water mark. Coverage of next year's con in Australia will probably be a bit sketchy

again, though I hope to partially make up for that with a personal view of the NASFiC in Raleigh. -ED]

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

We also heard from Sunn Hayward who comments on last issue: "re Gary Shelton's comment on the Aberdeen Proving Grounds Worldcon faux bid; having the proving grounds closed for safety reasons merely adds to the allure of the alleged bid, not detracts from it."



P. O. Box 4857
Huntsville AL 35815-4857

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