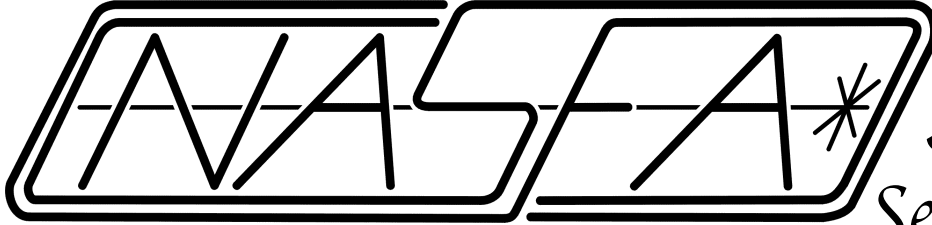


The



Shuttle
September 2010

The Next NASFA Meeting will be
25 September 2010 at the Regular Time
Note That This is a One Week Delay due to Con†Stellation

¡ Oyez, Oyez ¡

The next **NASFA Meeting** is Saturday **25 September 2010** at the **regular time** (6P) and the **regular location**. Note that this is **one week later than usual** due to Con†Stellation.

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 the light at 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.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

NASFA’s September program will be a post-mortem discussion of Con†Stellation XXIX. Come prepared to discuss what went wrong so we can fix it, but also to discuss what went right so we can repeat it.

ATMMs

The September After-The-Meeting Meeting will be at Nancy Cucci and Ray Pietruszka’s house—211 Evalyn Street in Madison. Nancy sends word that the neighbor’s dog has left, er, let’s call them land mines, all over the neighbor’s yard... so your best bet is to stay off the grass.

Other than watching out for the “land mines,” the usual NASFA rules apply—please bring your favorite drink and a food item to share.

We need an ATMM volunteer for October. The November ATMM will be at Mike Kennedy’s house. We need ATMM volunteers for December and all months beyond.

CONCOM MEETINGS

The date for the first Con†Stellation XXX concom meeting is not yet set. Con chair Anita Eisenberg will probably set it around the end of this calendar year or the beginning of the next.

SHUTTLE NEWS

Due both to the Worldcon converge in this issue and the constricted time available to put it together, we’ve asked PieEyed-Dragon to hold on to the next several chapters of *No Need for a Ring* until more time (and possibly space) is available. We hope to continue *NNFAR* in the October issue.

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.

Continuing Our 30th Year of Publication!

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Deadline for the October issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday 1 October 2010

News & Info

RENO RATES RISING

Certain membership rates for the next Worldcon, to be held 17–21 August 2011 in Reno NV, are rising 1 October 2011. The Adult Attending membership will go from \$160 to \$180. Family rates (covering two adults and any number of children) will rise from \$430 to \$460. Details can be found on the Reno website at <www.renovationsf.org>.

2012 WFC SITE ANNOUNCED

The site for the 2012 World Fantasy Convention has been announced as Toronto ON. According to their Facebook page, it will be held 1–4 November of that year. Links to sitting WFC committees can be found at the main WFC website <www.worldfantasy.org> though the 2012 link was not yet in place at the time this article was written.

The committee/site for WFCs is chosen by the World Fantasy Convention Board <board@worldfantasy.org>, currently chaired by David G. Hartwell.

DALEKS THE BEST (OR, UM, WORST?)

Magazine *SFX* <www.sfx.co.uk> has named Daleks from the Dr. Who universe as the “Favourite Monsters, Supernatural Beings & Fantasy Creatures,” based on an online poll.

Actually, the Daleks are only one of ten winners, since the poll covered that double-handful of categories. Winners in other categories were R2-D2 (Robots & Androids), Batman (Superheroes & Comic-Book Characters), Mr. Spock (Alien), Rupert Giles from the Buffyverse (Sages, Mentors And Boffins), The Master, another Dr. Who fave (Villains), Dr. Horrible, of sing-along fame (Anti-Heroes, Accidental Good Guys And Dodgy Do-Gooders), Dracula (Vampires), The Doctor (Hero), and Sarah Connor (Heroine).

The lists at <www.sfx.co.uk/2010/08/18/sfx-200-poll-results> include a Top 20 in each of the categories. Let the arguments begin.

GIVING SKYNET A DIFFERENT MEANING

DARPA wants to throw a net over all the junk that’s cluttering up low Earth orbit.

News reports have surfaced that the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency is investigating a technology called Electrodynamically Debris Eliminator that can grab bits of space garbage with one of a number (reportedly 200) of nets, then set each on a trajectory to either burn up in the atmosphere or splash down in some harmless location like the southern Pacific.

Development of the technology is said to be ongoing, with a first test flight as early as 2013 and the fully developed EDDE ready to go by 2017. One might cast a jaundiced eye over those dates, but *anything* to clean up LEO would bring a concomitant decrease in the riskiness of spaceflight.

August Minutes

by Steve Sloan, Secretary

The August meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, August 21, 2010 in the Renasant Bank meeting room at 6:22:26P by President Mary Lampert. The crickets were working this month, but they were once again threatened with a hammer.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike K. gave Randy Con†Stellation flyers to leave at Dragon*Con.

The promotional bookmarks we ordered to promote Con†Stellation 2010 and 2011 had many errors.

Randy brought flyers he picked up at NASFIC 2010 in Raleigh NC.

Doug brought a bag he called “Sam in absentia,” since it could be used to conduct Treasurer business.

There’s a new convention in New Orleans. Mike C. proclaimed, “Fandom lives!” Doug pantomimed choking.

CONVENTION BUSINESS

As mentioned before, the bookmarks we ordered were misprinted.

As of the meeting, Con†Stellation flyers were almost ready.

If you hadn’t already, after the meeting was a good time to reserve a hotel room for Con†Stellation.

Anita had nothing new to report about Con†Stellation 2011, but reminded everyone that Gene Wolfe will be Guest of Honor.

The new, corrected bookmarks will be printed soon.

Doug moved to adjourn at 6:29:55P.

For the program, we held the more-or-less annual NASFA Auction. Russell McNutt hosted the After-the-Meeting Meeting and pool party at his house.

NASFA Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- 02 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Foundation*, Isaac Asimov; 6P.
- 02–06 Aussiecon 4/68th World Science Fiction Convention—Melbourne, Australia.
- 03 BD: David K. Robinson.
- 03–05 Mephit Furmeet—Memphis TN.
- 03–06 Dragon*Con—Atlanta GA.
- 06 Labor Day.
- 09 BD: Mike Cothran.
- 10–12 OutsideCon 23—Burns TN.
- 11 BD: Ray Pietruszka.
- 11* Con†Stellation concomm meeting—3P, at Renasant Bank.
- 12 BD: Pat Butler.
- 12 Grandparents Day.
- 16* Con†Stellation concomm meeting—all day, at the convention hotel. **NOTE:** This is the setup meeting Thursday before the con. Also, there will be a pre-convention dinner that evening at Lone Star Steakhouse.
- 17–19 Con†Stellation XXIX—Huntsville AL.
- 17 Citizenship Day.
- 22 First day of autumn.
- 25* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant Bank. Program: Convention Postmortem. ATMM: Ray Pietruszka and Nancy Cucci’s house. **NOTE:** Date changed due to Con†Stellation.
- 25–26 Comic Con—Nashville TN.
- 26 BD: Jenna Victoria Stone.
- 30–03 SIEGE—Atlanta GA.

OCTOBER

- 01–03 Archon 34—St. Louis MO.
- 01–03 GameCon—Memphis TN.
- 07 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Replay*, Ken Grimwood; 6P.
- 11 Columbus Day (Observed).
- 12 Columbus Day (Traditional).
- 15 BD: Robert Buelow.
- 16* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Re-

World Fantasy Nominations

Nominees for the World Fantasy Awards have been announced. A separate announcement will be made for any Life Achievement Award(s) to be presented. These nominees are selected by a combination of popular vote and a panel of judges. Winners, who are selected by the judges, will be announced at the 2010 World Fantasy Convention <www.contextsf.org/WFC>, to be held 28–31 October at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Columbus OH. The nominees are:

NOVEL

Blood of Ambrose, James Enge (Pyr)
The Red Tree, Caitlín R. Kiernan (Roc)
The City & The City, China Miéville (Macmillan UK/ Del Rey)
Finch, Jeff VanderMeer (Underland)
In Great Waters, Kit Whitfield (Jonathan Cape UK/Del Rey)

NOVELLA

The Women of Nell Gwynne's, Kage Baker (Subterranean)
 "The Lion's Den," Steven Duffy (*Nemonymous Nine: Cern Zoo*)
The Night Cache, Andy Duncan (PS)
 "Sea-Hearts," Margo Lanagan (*X6*)
 "Everland," Paul Witcover (*Everland and Other Stories*)

SHORT STORY

"I Needs Must Part, the Policeman Said," Richard Bowes (*F&SF* December 2009)
 "The Pelican Bar," Karen Joy Fowler (*Eclipse Three*)
 "A Journal of Certain Events of Scientific Interest from the First Survey Voyage of the Southern Waters by *HMS Ocelot*, As Observed by Professor Thaddeus Boswell, DPhil, MSc, or, A Lullaby," Helen Keeble (*Strange Horizons* June 2009)
 "Singing on a Star," Ellen Klages (*Firebirds Soaring*)
 "The Persistence of Memory, or This Space for Sale," Paul Park (*Postscripts 20/21: Edison's Frankenstein*)
 "In Waiting," R.B. Russell (*Putting the Pieces in Place*)
 "Light on the Water," Genevieve Valentine (*Fantasy* October 2009)

ANTHOLOGY

Poe, Ellen Datlow, ed. (Solaris)
Songs of The Dying Earth: Stories in Honor of Jack Vance, George R.R. Martin and Gardner Dozois, eds. (Subterranean/Voyager)
Exotic Gothic 3: Strange Visitations, Danel Olson, ed. (Ash-Tree)
Eclipse Three, Jonathan Strahan, ed. (Night Shade)
American Fantastic Tales: Terror and the Uncanny: From Poe to the Pulps/From the 1940s to Now, Peter Straub, ed. (Library of America)
The Very Best of Fantasy & Science Fiction: Sixtieth Anniversary Anthology, Gordon Van Gelder, ed. (Tachyon)

COLLECTION

We Never Talk About My Brother, Peter S. Beagle (Tachyon)
Fugue State, Brian Evenson (Coffee House)
There Once Lived a Woman Who Tried To Kill Her Neighbor's Baby: Scary Fairy Tales, Ludmilla Petrushevskaya (Penguin)
Northwest Passages, Barbara Roden (Prime)
Everland and Other Stories, Paul Witcover (PS)
The Very Best of Gene Wolfe/The Best of Gene Wolfe, Gene Wolfe (PS /Tor)

ARTIST

John Jude Palencar
 Charles Vess
 John Picacio
 Jason Zerrillo
 Sam Weber

SPECIAL AWARD—PROFESSIONAL

Peter & Nicky Crowther for PS Publishing
 Ellen Datlow for editing anthologies
 Hayao Miyazaki for *Ponyo*
 Barbara & Christopher Roden for Ash-Tree Press
 Jonathan Strahan for editing anthologies
 Jacob Weisman and Rina Weisman for Tachyon Publications

SPECIAL AWARD—NON-PROFESSIONAL

John Berlyne for *Powers: Secret Histories*
 Neil Clarke, Cheryl Morgan, and Sean Wallace for *Clarkes-world*
 Susan Marie Groppi for *Strange Horizons*
 John Klima for *Electric Velocipede*
 Bob Colby, B. Diane Martin, David Shaw, and Eric M. Van for Readercon
 Ray Russell and Rosalie Parker for Tartarus Press

Awards Roundup

PARSEC AWARDS WINNERS

Winners of the 2010 Parsec Awards <parsecawards.com>, for excellence in speculative fiction podcasting, have been announced:

Speculative Fiction Story (Short Form) "The Tank," Scott Sigler (ScottSigler.com)
Speculative Fiction Story (Novella Form)..... "Personal Effects: Sword of Blood," J.C. Hutchins
Speculative Fiction Story (Long Form)..... *Captain's Share*, Nathan Lowell
Speculative Fiction Audio Drama (Short Form) .. "Whispers in the Wood," Chris Lester (The Metamor City Podcast)
Speculative Fiction Audio Drama (Long Form) *Decoder Ring Theatre*, Gregg Taylor
Speculative Fiction Video Story "GOLD: Season 1," David Nett and Andrew Deutsch
Speculative Fiction Magazine or Anthology Podcast *The Drabblecast*, Norm Sherman, ed.
New Speculative Fiction Podcaster/Team.. *In The Gloaming*, Nathaniel Tapley
Speculative Fiction Fan or News Podcast (Specific) *The Signal*, featuring Kari Haley, Kevin Bachelder, Kara Helgren, Les Howard, Jutta Jordans, Dave Tomasic, Andy King, Nick Edwards, Miranda Thomas, Helen Eaton, Anna Snyder, James Parkinson, and Jill Arroway
Speculative Fiction Fan or News Podcast (General). *Galactic Watercooler*, featuring Audra, Chuck, and Sean
Podcast about Speculative Fiction Content Creation Writing Excuses, featuring Brandon Sanderson, Dan Wells, Eric James Stone, Howard Tayler, and Stacy Whitman
Fact Behind the Fiction Podcast *Skeptoid*, featuring Brian Dunning
Speculative Fiction Comedy/Parody Podcast *Teknikal Diffikulties*, featuring Cayenne Chris Conroy
Speculative Fiction Music Podcast..... *Radio Free Hipster*, featuring Z.

WSFA SMALL PRESS NOMS

The Washington (DC) Science Fiction Association has announced the nominees for their Small Press Award. This shortlist is selected by a committee of WSFA members from nominees by writers, small press publishers, and WSFA members. The winner will be announced at Capclave <capclave.org>, to be held 22–25 October 2010 at the Hilton Washington DC/ Rockville in Rockville MD. The nominees are:

- “each thing i show you is a piece of my death,” Gemma Files and Stephen J. Barringer, *Clockwork Phoenix 2*, Mike Allen ed.
- “Images of Anna,” Nancy Kress, *Fantasy Magazine*, September 2009
- “James and the Dark Grimoire,” Kevin Lauderdale, *Cthulhu Unbound*, Thomas Brannan and John Sunseri eds.
- “Race to the Moon,” Kyell Gold, *New Fables*, Summer 2009
- “Sinner, Baker, Fabulist, Priest; Red Mask, Black Mask, Gentleman, Beast,” Eugie Foster *Interzone*, January 2009 and *Apex Magazine*, August 2009
- “Siren Beat,” Tansy Rayner Roberts, *Twelfth Planet*, Alisa Krasnostein, ed.
- “The Pirate Captain’s Daughter,” Yoon Ha Lee, *Beneath Ceaseless Skies #27*)
- “The Very Difficult Diwali of Sub-Inspector Gurushankar Rajaram,” Jeff Soesbe, *DayBreak Magazine*, October 2009

Letter of Comment

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

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 Etobicoke ON
 Canada M9C 2B2

25 August 2010

Thanks for another *Shuttle*, the August edition this time, and let’s delve right into it, slightly ahead of schedule for a change.

I hope to hear soon about rooms at the Reno Worldcon next year. How many NASFAns are going to Reno? We plan to be there and enjoy the city and Worldcon, and then, I expect our next Worldcon will be in London, if they win for 2014. It will take us three years to save for it, I expect...

NASFiC... I heard that Warren Buff did a fine job chairing ReConStruction, and he was not stressed out with his workload as I thought he might be. From reading the report, it was a fine convention, and I heard through the proverbial grapevine that attendance was between 650 and 800, depending on who I talked to. One of the bidders for Kansas City in 2016 is Diane Lacey of Toronto. It’s good to hear that there are Worldcon bids going as far forward as 2017. I know some people were worried... will there be a year where no one bids, and what will happen then?

Coming up this weekend is the annual big gateshow-style event called Fan eXpo. Ordinarily, this is something we wouldn’t go to, but this is yet another local convention to have a steampunk fashion show, so we will be there just for that. In many ways, it’s just a huge dealer’s room with a little programming thrown in, so I hope to enjoy what little I will see.

A short loc, but it is done. The summer is slowly coming to a close (take your time, summer), and there’s still lots of fun to have during a warm autumn, I hope. Take care, everyone, and see you with the next issue.

[It’s not clear to me if anyone from NASFA other than me is planning on going to the Reno Worldcon, though I hope so. (Well, Gary Shelton is going and we claim as something of an auxiliary member since he has roots in the North Alabama area and usually attends and helps out with Con†Stellation.) I saw Warren several times during the NASiC and while he did seem to be taking everything in stride he also seemed to be having

just a *little* trouble delegating some of the nits that should not taken as much of the con chair’s time. Of course, he can “afford” to do that since his youthful energy let him work more hours a day than would be reasonable for an old fogey like me. -ED]

Worldcon, What a Trip!

The 68th World Science Fiction Convention, Aussiecon 4 <www.aussiecon4.org>, was held 2–6 September 2010 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre in Melbourne Australia. Guests of Hono(u)r were Kim Stanley Robinson (Hugo-winning author), Shaun Tan (award-winning Melbourne artist), and Robin Johnson (noted Australian fan and chair of Aussiecon One). A host of other notable sf pros and fans joined in the program. This was the fourth (duh!) Australian Worldcon, the previous ones having all been held in Melbourne (in 1975, 1985, and 1999).



The *Shuttle*’s reporting on Aussiecon is drawn from a number of sources, among them the con’s own newszine (*Voice of the Echidna*), numerous blogs, various social media, and onsite observations from NASFAn Sam Smith.

Total attendance at the con was reported to be 2034 as of the end of the next-to-last day of the con. This counts 1673 pre-registered members in attendance, 64 full-con walk-in members, and various numbers of people buying one-day memberships. This total may have increased slightly on the final day (Monday the 6th) of the con with additional walk-ins. These numbers also do not count people with supporting memberships and no-show pre-registered attending members.

As is common for Worldcons outside North America, there were hotel rooms scattered over a moderately wide area. Nine hotels were listed as official con hotels. All of them, except a Hilton which was connected to the MCEC, were across the Yarra River from the convention center. The Crowne Plaza was to be the venue for parties. Public transportation, some of it free, eased the trip among the various sites.

Parties turned out to be a problem. At the last minute, the Crowne Plaza decided that they would not allow room parties. Frantic negotiations secured the use of four function



spaces at the hotel for hospitality. The hotel allowed parties to bring in their own food and nonalcoholic drinks, but insisted they be the only source of alcoholic drinks. This apparently led to a few bruised feelings among some fans when they discovered they had to pay for their drink at a hotel-run bar within some party spaces.

With only four sites for parties some groups doubled up—yielding a number of twofer parties. Toni Weisskopf had made tentative plans for a Southern Fandom room party, but eventually canceled it rather than deal with the new logistics. There were rumors that Toni and company planned to decamp to a bar one evening but the *Shuttle* is not aware whether or not that gathering actually happened.

The convention mostly closed down at 6P. There was a single film track, some filking, and various special events (e.g., awards ceremonies and the masquerade) in the evenings. With the “room” parties typically not starting until 9P there was some mild grouching from US fans about there being very little to do in the evenings. This may have been exacerbated by much of the city itself (at least the parts handy to the con) also closing down early.

During prime time, though, there were as many as 16 program events running simultaneously (including readings, but not including autographs). At a quick count, there were something around 450–500 program items (counting films, readings, autograph sessions, and more) filling the 5 days of the con.

Reportedly both the Art Show and Dealers Room were smaller than one would expect at a same-sized general-interest con in the US. The Masquerade was also small, with only 10 entries. The con did not have a place for flyers at the beginning, but came through with one by the second day. However, the convention center staff was wont to clean off that table and throw away all flyers when the space was closed in the evening.

Much more info on the con follows in articles covering the Hugos (and other awards), Site Selection, the Business Meeting, and more.

Hugo and Campbell Awards

The Hugo Awards (aka the Science Fiction Achievement Awards) are given by vote of the membership of WSFS, which is to say the Worldcon. The John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer is sponsored/awarded by Dell Magazines but is administered by WSFS using the same nominating and voting processes as for the Hugos, with the exception that the Campbell covers a rolling 2-calendar-year period rather than just the single prior calendar year of the Hugos.

Full nominating and voting statistics for the Hugos and



Hugo winners showing off

the Campbell have been published by Aussiecon 4 in a 26 (!) page document available online at <www.aussiecon4.org/hugoawards/files/2010HugoVotingReport.pdf>. The winners are:

- Novel** (tie)*The City & The City*, China Miéville (Del Rey; Macmillan UK) and *The Windup Girl*, Paolo Bacigalupi (Night Shade)
- Novella**“*Palimpsest*,” Charles Stross (*Wireless*, Ace, Orbit)
- Novellette**“*The Island*,” Peter Watts (*The New Space Opera 2*, Eos)
- Short Story**“*Bridesicle*,” Will McIntosh (*Asimov’s* January 2009)
- Related Book***This is Me, Jack Vance!* (*Or, More Properly, This is “I”*), Jack Vance (Subterranean)
- Graphic Story***Girl Genius, Volume 9: Agatha Heterodyne and the Heirs of the Storm*, Written by Kaja and Phil Foglio, Art by Phil Foglio, Colors by Cheyenne Wright (Airship Entertainment)
- Dramatic Presentation, Long Form***Moon*, Screenplay by Nathan Parker, Story by Duncan Jones, Directed by Duncan Jones (Liberty Films)
- Dramatic Presentation, Short Form***Doctor Who: “The Waters of Mars*,” Written by Russell T. Davies and Phil Ford, Directed by Graeme Harper (BBC Wales)
- Editor, Long Form**Patrick Nielsen Hayden
- Editor, Short Form**Ellen Datlow
- Professional Artist**Shaun Tan
- Semiprozine***Clarkesworld*, Neil Clarke, Sean Wallace, and Cheryl Morgan, eds.
- Fan Writer**Frederik Pohl
- Fanzine***StarShipSofa*, Tony C. Smith, ed.
- John W. Campbell Award**Seanan McGuire

Worldcon Site Selection

The sites for Worldcons are selected two years in advance. Members of the current con can vote after paying a fee, which buys the voter a Supporting Membership in the winning convention.

To be eligible to win, a bid must file certain paperwork showing the organization of the committee and that a venue has been reserved. Only the Chicago in 2012 bid did so this year in time to be listed on the ballot. Write-ins may still be eligible if they file the paperwork by the end of voting, though none did so. By rule, write-ins are counted in the first round whether they are eligible to win or not. This supports a rich tradition of hoax and joke bids (as well as the occasional obscure protest).

Not surprisingly, Chicago won in the first round of voting. (The second round, had it been necessary, would have eliminated all first-place votes for all ineligible write-ins and promoted the second place votes of those ballot to first place.) The report below is taken from the official one filed by the Site Selection Administrator, and includes what are probably typos caused either by voters misspellings or by transcription errors from the handwritten votes to the final report.



A total of 526 votes were cast, 20 of which selected No Preference. That left 506 votes with a preference, meaning that 254 votes (50+%) were needed to win in the first round. Chicago got 447 first place votes and was thus the winner. There were 25 first place votes for None of the Above. (This is considered an eligible "bid." If NotA should win, the election would be thrown to the Business Meeting.)

The mathematically inclined among our readers will note that leaves 34 first place votes so far unmentioned. These write-in votes were received for assorted (ineligible) hoax/jokes sites including Minneapolis in '73 (8 vote), Peggy Rae's (4), Monkey's Eyebrow (3), Dave McCarty's (2), and Xerps in 2010 (2). Single votes were cast for Antartica [sic], Barnes City IA, Boston in Orlando, Chiculub [sic], Chitzen Atzai [sic], Dave Freer's House, Huntsville AL, Kauai, Mons Olympus, New Zealand 2020, No Dams, Perth Australia, Rottonest [sic] Island, Tenopah [sic] NV, and The Fabulous Bungalow.

There were 189 mail-in ballots and 337 cast on site at Aussiecon 4. Those latter broke down to 129 on Thursday, 108 on Friday and 100 on Saturday.

Huntsvillian Patrick Molloy, who was Deputy Site Selection Administrator, was heard to apologize for the vote for Huntsville and strongly insist that it was not cast by him. NASFAN Sam Smith was heard to say this was a good thing since if Patrick had cast the vote his life would be in danger. From Sam.

Australian Awards

With Worldcon in Australia this year, a number of Aussie awards were given there.

DITMAR AWARD WINNERS

The Australian SF Awards, aka the Ditmars and formerly known as the Australian Science Fiction Achievement Awards, have been given annually since 1969 at the Australian National Science Fiction Convention. Aussiecon 4 served both as the Worldcon and as this year's Australian Natcon. The current set of rules dates from 2000-01. This year's winners were:

- Novel** *Slights*, Kaaron Warren (Angry Robot Books)
- Novella or Novelette** *"Wives,"* Paul Haines (X6, Coeur de Lion)
- Short Story** *"Seventeen,"* Cat Sparks (*Masques*, CSFG)
- Collected Work** *Slice Of Life*, Paul Haines, Geoffrey Maloney, ed. (The Mayne Press)
- Artwork** *Cover art, Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine #42*, Lewis Morley
- Fan Writer** *Robert Hood, Undead Backbrain* <www.roberthood.net/blog>
- Fan Artist** *Dick Jenssen*, body of work
- Fan Publication in Any Medium** *Steam Engine Time*, Bruce Gillespie and Janine Stinson, eds.
- Achievement** *Gillian Polack, et al.*, the Southern Gothic banquet at Conflux
- New Talent** *Peter M. Ball*

OTHER AUSTRALIAN AWARDS

Several additional Australian awards were presented during the Ditmar Award Ceremony.

- A. Bertram Chandler Award** (for Outstanding Achievement in Australian Science Fiction) *Damien Broderick*
- Norma K. Hemming Award** (for excellence in exploring the themes of race, gender, class, and sexuality in speculative fiction) *Maria Quinn, The Gene Thieves* (HarperCollins)
- Peter McNamara Award** (for contribution to the SF community) *Dr. Janine Webb*

William Atheling, Jr. Award for Criticism *Helen Merrick, The Secret Feminist Cabal: a cultural history of science fiction feminisms* (Aqueduct Press)

Best Fannish Cat *Peri Peri Canavan*
SHORT STORY COMPETITION

Aussiecon 4 sponsored a competition for a newly-written piece of short genre fiction that was to be "imaginative, entertaining, and [contain] the words 'make ready' and an Australian landmark." The winner was **"The Perforation"** by **Helen Stubbs**. The runner up was "The Rise & Fall of a Fair Dinkum Superhero" by Aidan Doyle. Prizes were donated by the Australian Science Fiction Association.

Other Awards at Worldcon

The Worldcon is the setting for many awards, some sponsored by the convention itself and some not. When the con is outside North America, some of the awards not sponsored by the con are announced at the NASFiC instead. See last month's *Shuttle* for results of the Chesley Awards, the Golden Duck Awards, and the Sidewise Awards. See elsewhere in this issue for various Australian awards presented at Aussiecon 4.

Forrest Ackerman Big Heart Award *Merv Binns*
First Fandom Hall of Fame (tie) *Terry Jeeves and Joe Martino*

First Fandom Posthumous Hall of Fame *Ray Cummings*
AUSSIECON 4 ART SHOW AWARDS

- Best SF** *Sky Burial #1*, Wayne Haag
- Most Humorous** *Sales Pitch*, Kathleen Jennings
- Most Stylish** *SF Adventure*, Naoyuki Katoh
- Best 3D** *Mask of Odin*, Annette Schneider
- Best Miniature** *T is for Trilobite*, Marilyn Pride
- Special Award For Overall Excellence in a Body of Work** *Shaun Tan*

AUSSIECON 4 MASQUERADE AWARDS

Aussiecon's masquerade apparently had a new crew step in late to pull off the event. The Sunday evening issue of the at-con newsletter included thanks for Sandra Batty (Masquerade Director), Rebecca Tinkham and Jane Tisell (Den Moms), Lori Meltzer and Morris Keesan (Stage Managers), Juan Sanmiguel, Wodja, et al. (Stage Ninjas), Linda van der Pal (Gopher to the Director and the Judges), Suford Lewis (Judges' Clerk), and "others I am sure: we were too busy to take names!" The judges were John Hertz, Lewis Morley, and Marilyn Pride. The winners were:

- Best in Class, Master** *"2010, the Year We Made Contact,"* re-creation, Robert Jan
- Best Macabre, Master** *"Cthulhu,"* original, Sarah O'Keefe (Gilligan)
- Eldest & Most Dangerous, Journeyman** *"Countess de Magpyr,"* original, Megan Dansie
- Best in Class, Novice** *"Oberon & Titania Hit the City,"* original, Angela Coburn and Ian Coburn
- Honourable Mention, Novice** *"Dr Who,"* re-creation, Michael Jordan
- Most Dramatic, Junior** *"Giving Birth to Horror,"* original, Freddie Begelhole
- Best Vigilante, Junior** *"Rorschach,"* re-creation, Miles Burnside Clapp

Meanwhile, there was a minor stir created at the Masquerade such that convention co-chairs Perry Middlemiss and Rose Mitchell felt it necessary to publish an apology in the at-con newszine for "the offensive and distressing material included in the Masquerade commentary." Hmm...

Worldcon Business Meeting

The World Science Fiction Society governs the rules for selection of Worldcon (and NASFiC) sites/committees and for awarding the Hugos. (Individual Worldcons/NASFiCs are run independent of each other by the selected committees.)

The Business Meeting, which is open to all persons attending a given Worldcon, acts on all WSFS business. Key among this is deciding on any changes to the WSFS Constitution, which codifies the above-mentioned rules. The meeting also receives financial reports of the various standing and past Worldcons and NASFiCs, plus reports from various committees appointed to carry on business between conventions.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the constitution take two years to pass. No amendments received first passage at last year's Worldcon (Anticipation, Montreal) so none were brought forward for ratification at Aussiecon 4. Six new amendments were proposed this year. All received first passage, albeit some in highly modified form, and will come up for potential ratification at Renovation, to be held 17–21 August 2011 in Reno NV.

- An amendment was proposed to decouple the site selection voting fee from the initial attending membership price. This proposal was modified to leave the coupling in place but increase the amount that newly-seated Worldcons can charge to convert (from a supporting/voting membership to an attending membership) from the existing 2 times the voting fee to 4 times the voting fee.
- An amendment was proposed to explicitly allow electronic (web-based) voting on the Hugo Awards and Site Selection. This has been common of late on the Hugo Awards but is not permitted for Site Selection. This proposal was modified to permit e-voting on Site Selection, but only if the administering Worldcon and all bids on the ballot agree on the procedure.
- An amendment was proposed to permit electronic distribution of WSFS rules, as opposed to the currently required paper distro. This proposal was modified to require paper distribution on site (that's typically been done in the Souvenir Program Book in the past) but to allow electronic distro of the rules in pre-con publications given certain restrictions. Those are to require that electronic distribution of publications be by "opt-in" (members must positively agree to receive publications electronically) and that such distribution must be "pushed" (the Worldcon must contact its members, not simply post Progress Reports on its web site without informing the members that they have done so).
- The amendment to extend Hugo Award *nominating* eligibility to the members of the subsequent (as well as current and immediate past) Worldcon received first passage without any changes. Voting in the final round will still be restricted to members of the current Worldcon.
- A technical amendment, to clarify certain cross-references regarding run-off voting, received first passage without any changes.
- A technical amendment, to include the Hugo Award logo and rocket designs in the list of service marks of WSFS, received first passage without any changes.

OTHER BUSINESS

- The usual resolution extending Hugo Award eligibility for works originally published outside the US and first published in the US in 2010 was passed.
- The Committee on the Semiprozine Hugo reported that no consensus proposal for changes to the Constitution had been

reached this year, but expressed optimism that such a consensus could be reached soon. The committee was continued for another year.

- Reports were received from other committees, including the Mark Protection Committee. Kevin Standlee, Ben Yalow, and Tim Illingworth were elected to three-year terms on that committee.
- Financial reports (some rather informal) were received from various past and seated Worldcons as well as the immediate past NASFiC.

Video of the three sessions of the Business Meeting can be found online at <www.vimeo.com/user1839925/videos>.

Upcoming Worldcons and Bids

2011 WORLDCON

Renovation, the 69th World Science Fiction Convention, will be held 17–21 August 2011 in Reno NV at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, the Atlantis hotel/casino, and the Peppermill hotel/casino.

Their Guests of Honor will be Ellen Asher, Charles N. Brown (in memoriam), Tim Powers, and Boris Vallejo. Special guests will be Bill Willingham and Tricky Pixie. Current membership rates (valid only through 30 September 2010) are \$160 (Adult Attending), \$100 (Young Adult (17–21) Attending), \$75 (Child (0–16)), and \$50 (Supporting).

More information can be found on their website at <www.renovationsf.org> or by emailing <info@renovationsf.org>. Their snailmail address is Renovation, PO Box 13278, Portland OR 97123-0278. "Overseas" agents are available for Australia (Jean Weber <australia@renovationsf.org>), Canada (Murray Moore <canada@renovationsf.org>), Europe (Vincent Docherty <europe@renovationsf.org>), Japan (Kodumasa Sato <japan@renovationsf.org>), and the UK (Steve Cooper <uk@renovationsf.org>).

2012 WORLDCON

Chicon 7, the 70th World Science Fiction Convention, will be held 30 August–3 September 2012 in Chicago IL at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Their guests will be Author Guest of Honor Mike Resnick, Artist GoH Rowena Morrill, Astronaut GoH Story Musgrave, Fan GoH Peggy Rae Sapienza, Industry GoH Jane Frank, and Toastmaster: John Scalzi. Current membership rates (valid through the end of 2010) are \$155 (Adult Attending), \$100 (Young Adult (17–21) Attending), \$50 (Child (5–16) Admission), \$50 (Supporting), and Free (Kid-in-Tow (0–4)).

More information can be found on their website at <www.chicon.org> or by emailing <info@chicon.org>. Their snailmail address is Chicon7, PO Box 13, Skokie IL 60076.

2013 BIDDING

There is one active and one apparently inactive bid for the 2013 Worldcon. Zagreb had announced a bid but it seems to be defunct or at least very, very quiet. San Antonio TX has an active bid for the Labor Day weekend (29 August–2 September) with plans to use the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center along with 2–3 nearby hotels. This site is on the San Antonio River Walk.

Presupporting "memberships" are available for Texas starting at \$20 and ranging up to \$1000 ("Hero of the Republic"). More information can be found on their website at <www.texasin2013.org> or by emailing <info@texas2013.org>. Their snailmail address is Texas in 2013, PO Box 27277, Austin TX 78755-2277.

2014 BIDDING

There is one bid for the 2014 Worldcon, London, which is bidding for 14–18 August at the ExCeL London exhibition and convention center. There are a number of hotels (for sleeping rooms) on the same London Docklands site.

Presupporting “memberships” are available starting at £12 and ranging up to £60. Payment may also be available in US dollars, euros, Canadian dollars, Australian dollars, and Japanese yen. More information can be found online at <www.londonin2014.org>.

2015 AND BEYOND BIDDING

With the exception of 2020, there are no definite bids attached to definite years for 2015 and beyond, though there is one other definite bid with an indefinite year.

Seattle has formed an exploratory committee for 2015. This was announced at this year’s Worldcon and all further details are uncertain. Well, it is expected that Alex von Thorn—who is heading the exploratory committee—would chair the bid should it come into formal existence.

In a somewhat similar vein, Kansas City MO has announced an exploratory committee for 2016. Their informal motto is “downtown or bust” as they have a specific downtown site they are fixed on using. They are also fixed on the Labor Day week-

end, saying that the combination of weekend and site is the only way for the economics to work. KC has a “parked” website <www.kcin2016.org> and a Facebook page <www.tinyurl.com/KC2016FB>.

An exploratory committee for a possible New York in 2017 bid was announced at the 2009 SMOFCon by “Mr. Shirt” McConnell and Stacey Helton McConnell. Neither the dates nor venues being explored were announced. There is also persistent talk of a Japan in 2017 bid. That one is a definite *bid*, but they are not yet settled on 2017 for sure. They *do* have a “parked” website <www.nippon2017.org> that suggests that 2017 is their preferred date.

The *Shuttle* is not aware of any bids (or indeed exploratory committees) for either 2018 or 2019.

The most recently formed Worldcon bid is the New Zealand in 2020 bid. This sprang into existence during this year’s NZ Natcon, Au Contraire, which occurred the week before Aussiecon 4. This timing was no coincidence; Au Contraire hoped to encourage foreigners to attend their natcon on the way to Worldcon. That backfired, if you will, when “all them furrers” besieged the poor Kiwis with money and urged them to bid for a Worldcon. Before Au Contraire was over, the bid was born and <www.nzin2020.org> was online.





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