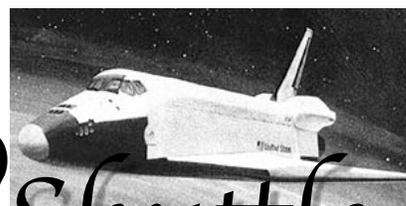
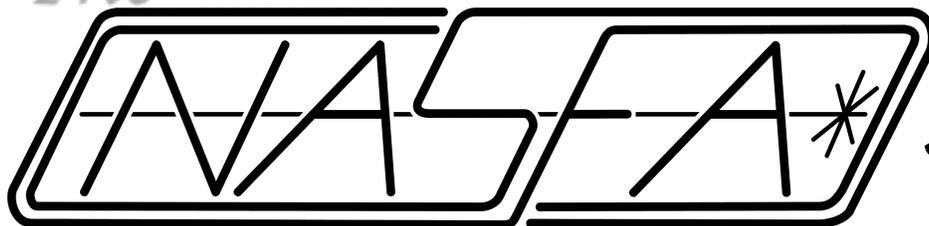


The



Shuttle

August 2011

The NASFA Meeting is 13 August 2011 at the Regular Location (a week earlier than usual)

Con+Stellation XXX ConCom Meetings: 13 August (3P, at the bank), 27 August (3P, at the bank), 10 September (3P, at the bank), and 15 September (all day, at the hotel)

¡ Oyez, Oyez ¡

The next NASFA Meeting will be Saturday 13 August 2011 at the regular time (6P) and the regular location. PLEASE NOTE that the day is the second Saturday, one week earlier than usual.

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.

AUGUST PROGRAM

The August program will be the More-or-Less Annual NASFA Auction. Please bring "stuff" for it—genre books moves, collectables, etc. are always good donations, but general merchandise is also welcomed.

Oh, and bring money, too. :-)

AUGUST ATMM

The After-The-Meeting Meeting for August will be at Russell McNutt's house—902 Drake Avenue SE in Huntsville AL. See the map on page 3.

Get the Shuttle via Electrons

by Mike Kennedy, Editor

With the ongoing changes in production schedule, now's the time to start getting the Shuttle in PDF form and help take the burden off your dead-tree mailbox. All you need to do is notify us by emailing <nasfa.shuttle@con-stellation.org>.

CONCOM MEETINGS

Remaining Con+Stellation concom meetings will be 13 August, 27 August, 10 September, and 15 September 2011. The first three of these will be 3P on the respective Saturdays at the Renasant Bank's Community Room. The final meeting is the setup meeting at the hotel Thursday before the con.

For concom meetings that occur on club meeting days there will be a dinner break between the concom meeting and the club meeting.

Please stay tuned, though, in case any of this has to change.

EARLIER SHUTTLE DEADLINES

The deadline for the NASFA Shuttle will be changing over the next several months. Part of this is that the July–September meetings will be a week earlier than usual and part of it is that

Continuing Our 31st Year of Publication

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Deadline for the September 2011 issue of The NASFA Shuttle is Friday 26 August 2011

the production schedule is changing. After the transition, expect the deadline to shift *at least* a week to the left.

#### FUTURE PROGRAMS AND ATMMs

- Programs are set for the rest of the year.
- September: “Remembrance of Con†Stellations Past.” The week before Con\*Stellation XXX we bring photographs and tell stories about our experiences.
  - October: “You cannot escape the Fannish Inquisition.” A discussion of Con\*Stellation XXX.
  - November: “What about Bob?” Magic and mayhem with Darryl Osborn.
  - December: “An exchange of gifts.” Our annual Christmas program.

We are seeking an ATMM volunteer for September. The October ATMM will be hosted by Wyman Cooke at the bank building. The November ATMM will be at Mike Kennedy’s house. At press time December is still up in the air.

#### FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

Remaining 2011 NASFA meetings are scheduled to be the usual 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday *except* for this month and September. In both of those months the meeting will be moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday to avoid conflicts with various conventions (including Con†Stellation).

#### 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.

## News & Info

#### HUGO AWARDS “LIVECAST” SET

If you can’t be at Worldcon this year, you may want to “tune” in to a “livecast” of the Hugo Awards on CoverItLive. You can link in at <[www.thehugoawards.org/hugo-history/2011-hugo-awards/2011-hugo-awards-live-coverage](http://www.thehugoawards.org/hugo-history/2011-hugo-awards/2011-hugo-awards-live-coverage)>. Coverage will start just before the 8P PDT start of the Hugo ceremony, 20 August 2011.

CoverItLive is basically a web-based text chat room. There will be near realtime info posted as the award ceremony proceeds. You will also have the ability to post your own comments. (Cheers and Jeers, anyone?) Limiting the interaction to text means you should be able to keep up without a high speed internet connection. However, if audio or video streaming coverage is available, the hosts promise to provide a link to it.

#### WORLDCON SCHEDULE ONLINE

On the other hand, if you *are* going to Worldcon, you’re probably interested in the convention schedule. Or schedules.

The full convention schedule is available as a PDF—check at <[www.renovationsf.org/schedule-main.php](http://www.renovationsf.org/schedule-main.php)> for the link. If you’re looking for something more High Concept, there’s a list of the opening and closing hours for nearly 20 different parts of the con, plus a list of each day’s major events on that same web page. You can also see the 30-odd Children’s Program items at <[www.renovationsf.org/program-child.php](http://www.renovationsf.org/program-child.php)>. Too, the program can be searched online at <[www.renovationsf.org/prog-get.php](http://www.renovationsf.org/prog-get.php)>.

Finally, there’s a free schedule app available for the iPhone/iPad/iPod Touch, with an Android version promised to follow soon. Check the “schedule-main” link above. (Some critiques of the current app have appeared, with updates promised.)

#### CRISISCON HAS CRISIS

Huntsville gaming (etc.) con CrisisCon has let it be known that there will be no convention in 2011. A posted announcement at <[tinyurl.com/ccbignews](http://tinyurl.com/ccbignews)> has promised refunds for prepaid memberships.

#### THAT’S BSJ NOT BSG

Big Spring Jam—Huntsville’s fall music festival named after Big Spring, the karst spring in downtown Huntsville—will return in 2011 after skipping 2010. It has been restructured to run only two days and to include an indoor venue to supplement the outdoor stages.

The Jam <[www.bigspringjam.org](http://www.bigspringjam.org)> will be 23–24 September. There will be three outdoor stages plus an indoor stage at the Propst Arena in Von Braun Center. One- and two-day tickets are available, but to see the indoor shows a special (and more-expensive) two-day “InSideOut” ticket must be purchased.

#### KHEN MOORE RIDES AGAIN (POSTHUMOUSLY)

One of the themes of Renovation, this year’s World Science Fiction Convention, is sf/f art. One of the special exhibits supporting that theme will display over 50 works from the collection of Nashville’s late Kenneth A. (Khen) Moore. Khen’s love of art was well known and his collection quite large. Many of the pieces have not been displayed since he bought them.

Artists to be represented are said to include Chesley Bones-tell, Vincent Di Fate, Ed Emshwiller, Paul Lehr, Ron Miller, Richard Powers, John Schoenherr, and Ed Valigursky.

#### BOOKS WITHOUT BORDERS

Borders bookstores will be going the way of the dodo. Objections from key creditors apparently sank the mooted buyout by investor Jaham Najafi, who subsequently withdrew his bid. The current plan seems to be liquidation to be managed by specialist concerns Hilco Consumer Capital and Gordon Brothers Brands. Store closures and employee firings may be completed by September 2011.

#### WORLDCON LIBRARY BOOK DRIVE

In other Worldcon news, this year’s con is sponsoring a book drive to round up books for Reno area libraries. Full info is online at <[www.renovationsf.org/book-drive.php](http://www.renovationsf.org/book-drive.php)>. Several genre publishers, including Angry Robot, Baen Books, and Tor Books, are sending donations.



#### SLF OFFERS GRANT

Writer? Researching a book? The Speculative Literature Foundation <[www.speculativeliterature.org](http://www.speculativeliterature.org)> has opened applications for their Gulliver Travel Research Grant. Proposals will be accepted through 30 September 2011.

The \$800 grant is open to writers of speculative fiction (poetry, drama, creative nonfiction) who need to travel for their research. Academic research is not included. Eligible expenses include airfare, lodging, and similar travel expenses.

Proposals need to include a writing sample, a bibliography (yes, you must already be published), and a short description of the proposed project. Further details, including submission formats and email address, are available on the website. A short report will be required after the travel.

#### STOLEN ART SOUGHT

Following Comic-Con, almost 200 pages of original drawings, along with other belongings, were stolen from a car <[www.tinyurl.com/BAArtStolen](http://www.tinyurl.com/BAArtStolen)> belonging to comic book artist Brent Anderson <[www.brentandersonart.com](http://www.brentandersonart.com)>. Since other art in the car was not stolen, Mr. Anderson speculates that it was a random smash-and-grab as opposed to someone spe-

cifically targeting the art. Nonetheless, some of the art may be sold by the thief, so collectors would be wise to be on the lookout.

### DOCTOROW'S LITTLE BROTHER TO STAGE AGAIN

Director Josh Costello has adapted Cory Doctorow's *Little Brother* and plans to mount a production of the stage show January–February 2012 at The Custom Made Theatre Co. <[www.custommade.org](http://www.custommade.org)> in San Francisco CA.

The novel had previously been adapted in an unrelated production that ran in Chicago in 2009. Development of the *current* production will be documented in a blog at <[littlebrotherlive.wordpress.com](http://littlebrotherlive.wordpress.com)>.

### TO FAN FUND OR NOT TO FAN FUND?

A new travel fund—the World SF Travel Fund <[www.worldsftravelfund.com](http://www.worldsftravelfund.com)>—has been announced. It seems to have similar goals as traditional fan funds, but has backing from genre professionals as well as fans. Their goal is to help a member of the sf/f/h community to travel internationally to a major genre event.

Details of functioning seem to be somewhat different from traditional fan funds. For one thing, the first recipient has already been selected: Charles Tan, an activist and blogger <[charles-tan.blogspot.com](http://charles-tan.blogspot.com)>. Also, fundraising seems to be limited to online efforts. The fund has set a goal to raise \$6,000 to enable it to run for two years.

### 2012 FAAN AWARDS CATEGORIES SET

Categories for the Fan Activity Achievement Awards (FAAN Awards) <[www.corflu.org/history/faan.html](http://www.corflu.org/history/faan.html)> are being modified prior to the 2012 Corflu, at which they will be awarded.

The new categories will be Best Genzine, Best Perzine, Best Fan Writer, Best Fan Artist, Best Fan Website, Best Letterhack (Harry Warner, Jr. Memorial Award), and Best Anthology or Single Issue. Additionally, a Number One Fan Face award will be determined by point totals in the other seven categories.

### UFO GETS HISTORICAL MARKER

Various weird-news websites are reporting that the state of New Hampshire has posted a roadside historic marker commemorating a 1961 UFO abduction. Supposedly the “Betty and Barney Hill Incident” was the first such event reported in the US.



### NPR LOOKING FOR SF/F FAVES

National Public Radio has posted a list of “nominated” titles for the best sf/f ever written, and is soliciting public votes to pick the winners. Participants get to vote for their top 10 favorites. Some of the work compiling the list was by a panel consisting of John Clute, Farah Mendelsohn, and Gary K. Wolfe.

### ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SF TO BE ONLINE

Plans have been announced to publish the third edition of the *Encyclopedia of Science Fiction*, with the text available for free. News of this project can be found online at <[www.sf-encyclopedia.com](http://www.sf-encyclopedia.com)> or on Facebook at <[www.facebook.com/pages/Sf-Encyclopedia/138995776178949](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sf-Encyclopedia/138995776178949)>. The two earlier editions were widely acclaimed as definitive reference work in the field, including Hugo wins for each.

### COST OF HIGHER (WIZARDLY) ED

So, what would it cost to send your budding wizard to Hogwarts? Website Centives recently calculated <[www.tinyurl.com/HiWizEd](http://www.tinyurl.com/HiWizEd)> the annual cost based on the assumptions that (1) tuition would be similar to other high-end UK-based boarding schools (of a more muggle nature) and (2) that the list of required equipment in *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* could be procured on Amazon.co.uk.

That latter bit included a number of substitutions, sad to say.

For some reason, Amazon seems to be a bit light on actual magical items.

The tuition alone comes to £25,800 by Centives' calculation. The cost of the other items (robes, wands, cauldrons, phials, and the like) raises the total to £26,816 for the first year, or \$43,683 at the exchange rate in effect when this article was written. And that doesn't count text books, much less incidentals or extracurricular activities. One wonders what interest rate Harry was able to get on his student loan.

## July Minutes

by Steve Sloan, Secretary

The July meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, July 7, 2011 in the Renasant Bank meeting room at 6:21:50P by Vice President Mike Kennedy.

### OLD BUSINESS

Mike K. hasn't responded to the folks at the Bud Foote Science Fiction Collection.

### NEW BUSINESS

Programming Director Wyman announced that he would be showing time travel related videos for that evening's program, particularly “Somewhere in Time” and the Doctor Who episode “Blink.” August's program will be an auction, September's program will be a remembrance of Con†Stellations past, and October will be a presentation by Darryl “Doc” Osborne.

Jack announced that the Bailey Cove Library's science fiction book club will be reading *Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins for August's meeting.

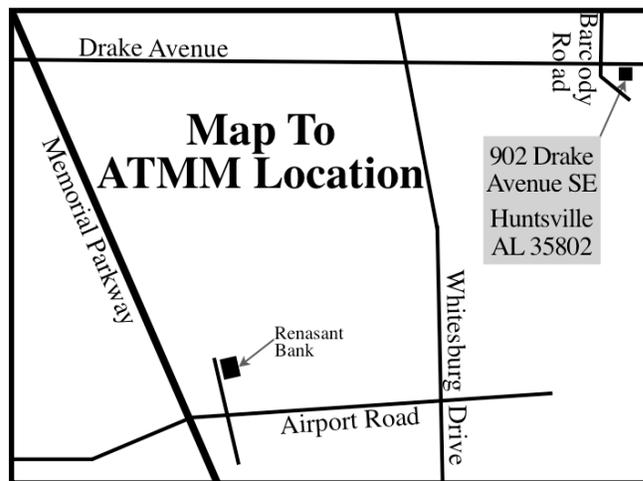
### CON BUSINESS

According to Con†Stellation XXX con chair Anita, everything is on schedule. Lubov's travel arrangements are done. We've had responses to the questionnaire from all guests except the Haldemans.

Next month's concom (convention committee meeting) should be at the usual meeting place, but it could meet at the back of Anita's store if necessary.

Anita noted that things are moving right along.

Con†Stellation XXXI con chair Mike K. discussed next year's convention. He looked at another hotel last weekend, the Holiday Inn in Madison near the airport. It's potentially doable but the space would be tight, so we would have to be creative to fit things in, especially gaming. Mike K. still has other hotels on his list to look at.





### BEST NOVELLA

- Bone and Jewel Creatures*, Elizabeth Bear (Subterranean)  
*The Broken Man*, Michael Byers (PS)  
 “The Maiden Flight of McCauley’s Bellerophon,” Elizabeth Hand (*Stories: All-New Tales*)  
*The Thief of Broken Toys*, Tim Lebbon (ChiZine Publications)  
 “The Mystery Knight,” George R.R. Martin (*Warriors*)  
 “The Lady Who Plucked Red Flowers beneath the Queen’s Window,” Rachel Swirsky (*Subterranean*, Summer 2010)

### BEST SHORT FICTION

- “Beautiful Men,” Christopher Fowler (*Visitants: Stories of Fallen Angels and Heavenly Hosts*)  
 “Booth’s Ghost,” Karen Joy Fowler (*What I Didn’t See and Other Stories*)  
 “Ponies,” Kij Johnson (Tor.com, 17 November 2010)  
 “Fossil-Figures,” Joyce Carol Oates (*Stories: All-New Tales*)  
 “Tu Sufrimiento Shall Protect Us,” Mercurio D. Rivera (*Black Static*, August–September 2010)

### BEST ANTHOLOGY

- The Way of the Wizard*, John Joseph Adams, ed. (Prime)  
*My Mother She Killed Me, My Father He Ate Me*, Kate Bernheimer, ed. (Penguin)  
*Haunted Legends*, Ellen Datlow and Nick Mamatas, eds. (Tor)  
*Stories: All-New Tales*, Neil Gaiman and Al Sarrantonio, eds. (Morrow; Headline Review)  
*Black Wings: New Tales of Lovecraftian Horror*, S.T. Joshi, ed. (PS)  
*Swords & Dark Magic*, Jonathan Strahan and Lou Anders, eds. (Eos)

### BEST COLLECTION

- What I Didn’t See and Other Stories*, Karen Joy Fowler (Small Beer)  
*The Ammonite Violin & Others*, Caitlín R. Kiernan (Subterranean)  
*Holiday*, M. Rickert (Golden Gryphon)  
*Sourdough and Other Stories*, Angela Slatter (Tartarus)  
*The Third Bear*, Jeff VanderMeer (Tachyon)

### BEST ARTIST

- Vincent Chong Kinuko Y. Craft  
 Richard A. Kirk John Picacio Shaun Tan

### SPECIAL AWARD, PROFESSIONAL

- John Joseph Adams, for editing and anthologies  
 Lou Anders, for editing at Pyr  
 Marc Gascoigne, for Angry Robot  
 Stéphane Marsan and Alain Névant, for Bragelonne  
 Brett Alexander Savory and Sandra Kasturi, for ChiZine Publications

### SPECIAL AWARD, NON-PROFESSIONAL

- Stephen Jones, Michael Marshall Smith, and Amanda Foubister, for *Brighton Shock!: The Souvenir Book Of The World Horror Convention 2010*  
 Alisa Krasnostein, for Twelfth Planet Press  
 Matthew Kressel, for *Sybil’s Garage* and Senses Five Press  
 Charles Tan, for *Bibliophile Stalker* (blog)  
 Lavie Tidhar, for *The World SF Blog*

## Awards Roundup

### CAMPBELL & STURGEON WINNERS

Winners of the John W. Campbell Memorial Award and the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award were announced at the annual Campbell Conference <[www2.ku.edu/~sfcenter/](http://www2.ku.edu/~sfcenter/)

[campbell-conference.htm](http://campbell-conference.htm)>, held 7–10 July 2011 at the University of Kansas, Lawrence KS.

The Campbell, for best science fiction novel published in 2010, went to Ian McDonald’s *The Dervish House* (Gollancz/Pyr). The Sturgeon, for best short fiction of 2010, went to Geoffrey A. Landis’s novella “The Sultan of the Clouds” (*Asimov’s*, September 2010).

### MYTHOPOEIC AWARD WINNERS

Winners of the 2011 Mythopoeic Awards <[www.mythsoc.org/awards](http://www.mythsoc.org/awards)> were announced at Mythcon 42 <[www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/42](http://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/42)> in Albuquerque NM on 17 July 2011. The winners are:

**Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Adult Literature** .....**Karen Lord**, *Redemption in Indigo* (Small Beer Press)

**Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Children’s Literature** .....**Megan Whalen Turner**, The Queen’s Thief series, consisting of *The Thief*, *The Queen of Attolia*, *The King of Attolia*, and *A Conspiracy of Kings* (Greenwillow Books)

**Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies** .....**Michael Ward**, *Planet Narnia: The Seven Heavens in the Imagination of C.S. Lewis* (Oxford Univ. Press, 2008)

**Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Myth and Fantasy Studies** .....**Caroline Sumpter**, *The Victorian Press and the Fairy Tale* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008)

### CORDWAINER SMITH REDISCOVERY WINNER

The winner of the 2011 **Cordwainer Smith Rediscovery Award** <[www.cordwainer-smith.com/award.htm](http://www.cordwainer-smith.com/award.htm)> was announced at Readercon 23 <[www.readercon.org](http://www.readercon.org)>, held 12–15 July 2011 in Burlington MA. The award is to bring attention to lesser-known sf/f authors. This year’s winner is **Katherine MacLean**, perhaps best known for her Nebula Award winning novella, “The Missing Man.”

### RHYSLING AWARDS

The Science Fiction Poetry Association announced the winners and runners-up of this year’s Rhysling Awards <[www.sfpoetry.com/ra/pages/11rhysling.html](http://www.sfpoetry.com/ra/pages/11rhysling.html)> during Readercon 23. The Rhyslins honor, well, science fiction poetry. Some of the winners and runners-up were corrected from the original announcement, due to eligibility issues.

#### Rhysling Short Form

**Winner** .....“**Peach-Creamed Honey**,” Amal El-Mohtar  
**Second Place** .....“Binary Creation Myth,” Karen A. Romanko  
**Third Place** .....“Dogstar Men,” C.S.E. Cooney

#### Rhysling Long Form

**Winner** .....“**The Sea King’s Second Bride**,” C. S. E. Cooney  
**Second Place** .....“Dark Rains Here and There,” Bruce Boston  
**Third Place** .....“Wreck-Diving the Starship,” Robert Frazier

### MILLION WRITERS AWARD

The winner and runners-up of the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Million Writers Award <[www.storystouth.com/millionwriters.html](http://www.storystouth.com/millionwriters.html)> were announced 9 July 2011. The prizes for this year’s award were \$600 plus a \$100 gift certificate from ThinkGeek.com for first place, \$200 for runner-up, and \$100 for honorable mention.

The award is for a fictional story over 1,000 words in length first published in an online magazine. Nominations for the award were open to all interested readers, writers, and editors through the storySouth website. Selections for the award’s shortlist were adjudicated by D. Antwan Stewart and Jason Sanford. Winners were chosen by popular vote. The winner and runners up are:

**First Place** .....“**Arvies**,” Adam-Troy Castro (Lightspeed)  
**Runner-up** .....“The Incorrupt Body of Carlo Busso,” Eric Maroney (Eclectica)

**Honorable Mention** .....“The Green Book,” Amal El-Mohtar (Apex)

## SHIRLEY JACKSON AWARD WINNERS

Winners of the 2010 Shirley Jackson Awards <www.shirleyjacksonawards.org> were announced at a ceremony at Readercon 22 <www.readercon.org> in Burlington MA on Sunday 18 July 2011. The awards are for outstanding achievement in horror, psychological suspense, and dark fantasy fiction. In addition to the category awards, a Board of Directors **Special Award to Joyce Carol Oates** was also announced. The category winners are:

**Novel** .....*Mr. Shivers*, Robert Jackson Bennett (Orbit)  
**Novella** .....“**Mysterium Tremendum**,”  
Laird Barron (Occultation)  
**Novelette** .....“**The Truth Is a Cave in the Black Mountains**,”  
Neil Gaiman (*Stories*)  
**Short Story** .....“**The Things**,” Peter Watts (*Clarkesworld*,  
January 2010)  
**Single-Author Collection** .....*Occultation*, Laird Barron  
(Night Shade)  
**Edited Anthology** .....*Stories*, Neil Gaiman and  
Al Sarrantonio, eds. (Morrow)

## CONSTELLATION AWARD WINNERS

The Constellation Awards <constellations.tcon.ca>, Canada’s media sf awards, were presented at a ceremony in Toronto on Saturday 16 July 2011. The winners are:

**Film** .....*Inception*  
**Film Script** .....*Inception*  
**Male Performance** (film) **Johnny Depp**, *Alice in Wonderland*  
**Female Performance** (film) ...**Chloe Grace Moretz**, *Kick-Ass*  
**TV Series** .....*Stargate Universe*  
**Male Performance** (TV) .....**Adam Baldwin**, *Chuck*  
**Female Performance** (TV) .....**Anna Torv**, *Fringe*  
**Technical Accomplishment** .....**Murray Gold**  
for music on *Doctor Who*

## Outstanding Canadian Contribution to Science Fiction

**Film and Television** .....**Teddy Wilson** and **Ajay Fry**  
for *InnerSPACE* <www.spacecast.com/InnerSPACE.aspx>

## EISNER AWARDS

Winners of the 2011 Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards <www.comic-con.org/cc/cci\_eisners\_main.php> were announced 22 July 2011 at Comic-Con International in San Diego CA. With almost 3 dozen categories (some only marginally related to sf/f/h), the list is a bit long for the *Shuttle*. See the link above for the full list.

## MAN BOOKER PRIZE LONGLIST

The longlist for the Man Booker Prize for Fiction <www.themanbookerprize.com>, UK’s premier literature prize, seldom (if indeed ever) includes any sf/f/h genre works. This year there is a partial exception. Two items that are at least sort-of-genre are included: *Jamrach’s Menagerie*, Carol Birch (Canongate; Doubleday) and *The Testament of Jessie Lamb*, Jane Rogers (Sandstone Press).

The shortlist will be announced Tuesday 6 September. The winner will be announced on Tuesday 18 October at a dinner at London’s Guildhall, which will be broadcast on the BBC.

## ENDEAVOUR AWARD FINALISTS

Nominees for the 13<sup>th</sup> Endeavour Award <www.osfci.org/endeavour> have been announced. The award is for a genre novel or single-author collection written by a Pacific Northwest author and includes an honorarium of \$1,000. Judges for this year are editor John Joseph Adams and writers Bud Sparhawk and Jo Walton. The winner will be announced 11 November 2011 at OryCon 33 <www.orycon.org/orycon33>, to be held at the Doubletree Hotel Portland in Portland OR. The nominees are

*Silver Borne*, Patricia Briggs (Ace)

*The Bards of Bone Plain*, Patricia McKillip (Ace)  
*A Cup of Normal*, Devon Monk (Fairwood)  
*Dreadnought*, Cherie Priest (Tor)  
*Black Prism*, Brent Weeks (Orbit US)

## PARSEC AWARDS NOMINEES

Finalists for the 2011 Parsec Awards <www.parsecawards.com>, for speculative fiction podcasting, have been announced. The full list of nominees, covering 15 categories, is quite long and can be seen online at <www.tinyurl.com/Par2011Fin>. Winners will be announced at a ceremony 3 September 2011 during DragonCon in Atlanta GA.

# Letters of Comment

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

Lloyd Penney  
<penneys@bell.net>  
1706-24 Eva Road  
Etobicoke ON  
Canada M9C 2B2

21 July 2011

I am trying to get caught up on things, seeing we worked long and hard to get merchandise ready for a big local convention this past weekend. Good sales, had a good time, and now, I’m ready to start writing again. Besides, I am so far behind, I’d better get with it. Here are comments on the July *Shuttle*.

It’s just as well I am not passing information on to you re the Worldcon... I probably wouldn’t have the time. You need a reliable reporter. Yvonne and I now have our onsite schedules. She’s on five panels, I’m on two, and there are other events we have been invited to. We might have time to eat and sleep, but nothing is guaranteed. We’re at the Atlantis, which connects directly to the Reno Sparks Convention Center. Worldcons are no longer events we can go to on a whim. Looks like we’ve saved enough money to go, but things will be tight when we return.

Borders didn’t get bought out, so I’ve heard it is liquidating itself. There must be whole megamalls full of empty stores once occupied by companies that have gone out of business. Our grandchildren may ask us what books were...

Hello to PieEyed! You are true to your word and deed and promise. I expect that the dragonslayers may have been surprised to hold talk with a dragon; with luck, their attitudes may change, especially as one of their own has been brought home for a decent burial.

My loc... Worldcon bids... sounds like there is finally some competition. To go with the Seattle bid for 2015, there may now be a bid from Orlando. I have also been told that the Worldcon bidding days of Boston fandom are over, but never say never.

Within the next few months, I may be able to make a big announcement, but in the meantime, I’ll just continue to hint about it... really looking forward to it.

And with that, I will fold it up. I have to start thinking about going in to work, anyway. We are having our hottest day of the summer so far... 37C, which is about 100F. We rarely get that kind of temperature, but today, we have it. Add in the heat index, and we have 48C, or about 120F. That’s dangerous. Take care all, and see you next issue.

[That’s actually a Worldcon bid for Spokane <www.spokanein2015.org>, not for Seattle—though it *is* Seattle fan-

dom that's the main driving force behind it. And yes, the Orlando bid <[www.orlandoin2015.org](http://www.orlandoin2015.org)> has promised to officially launch at Reno and set up a contested year. What I've heard about Boston and Worldcons is that there's not anyone at present willing to head a bid, much less (should they win) a Worldcon—but I wouldn't bet that condition will last forever. I expect one day we'll hear of a nascent bid from that quarter, though it might take the emergence of a new generation of leaders for that to come to pass. As for the tease in your penultimate paragraph, you better be careful or someone will start a rumor that *you* are heading a Worldcon bid for Toronto. Or even for Boston. Meanwhile, regarding empty malls, there's no reason to have to imagine them... there are plenty of derelict malls around, albeit perhaps very few of the mega variety. -ED]

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Sheryl Birkhead  
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29 July 2011

Well, this is as close to [writing obscured by postmark] I have. I *plan* on voting in the next day or so. I've already decided on the fan categories, art, and [most] of the "shorter" categories. I kept holding off in case I find time to read the longer fiction—I haven't. I was really disappointed by the cost for a supporting membership for '12. I may actually have to stop joining.

As soon as I get a chance (i.e., *soon*) I want to check out the remaining Borders Books. I have 2 professional books (i.e., vet med)—one is pre-pub—that I "bought" through Borders.com (no charge until publication). Gonna be interesting (sad, but interesting).

Pie-Eyed certainly is ethical, and now has seen the promise through.

Lloyd—maybe the hotel has computers accessible, or perhaps fen would let you send along results.

No, the health deductible is just that, not an HSA. I can't afford the premium *and* anything since I pay it all.

Um, more later—the Squirrels did it!

[Hopefully you got your Hugo ballot off. I cast mine on the last day, with about 2–3 hours to spare before the drop-dead time. Their online process included an email receipt showing how I voted in each category, so I have fairly good confidence that the votes will actually be registered. Meanwhile, the mail-in deadline for voting in Worldcon Site Selection has slipped past so I'm going to have to prevail on friends to hand-carry my ballot to Reno. (Sam and Judy, if you're reading this expect a favor to be asked Real Soon Now. :-) An amendment to the WSFS Constitution to allow online voting in Site Selection received first passage last year at Aussiecon 4, but won't be in effect unless and until it is ratified in Reno. Having this in place would have been very handy for me this year. Next year it may be a moot point for me since I hope to make Chicago. -ED]



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