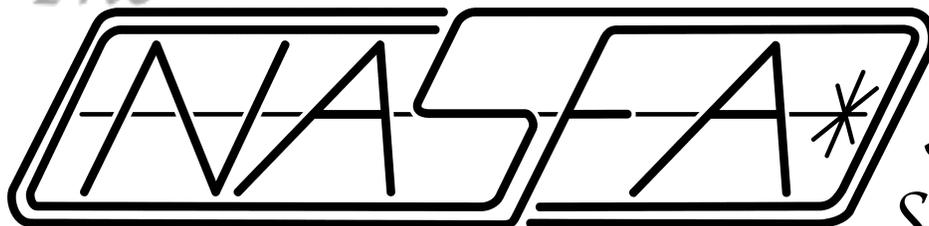


The



Shuttle
September 2011

The NASFA Meeting is 10 September 2011 at the Regular Location (a week earlier than usual)

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

▲ Oyez, Oyez ▲

The next NASFA Meeting will be Saturday 10 September 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.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

The September program will be "Remembrances of Con†Stellations Past." Please come to the meeting with pictures or the like plus your favorite "war" stories.

SEPTEMBER ATMM

The ATMM location for September is TBD at press time. [How about going out for pizza as a group? -ED]

CONCOM MEETINGS

The final two Con†Stellation XXX concom meetings will be 10 and 15 September 2011. The first of these will be 3P at the

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>.

Renasant Bank's Community Room—right before the club meeting that same day. There will be a dinner break between the concom meeting and the club meeting. The final meeting is the setup meeting at the hotel Thursday before the con.

Please stay tuned, though, in case of changes.

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

FUTURE PROGRAMS AND ATMMs

Programs are set for the rest of the year.

- October: "The Fannish Inquisition." A discussion of Con†

Continuing Our 31st Year of Publication

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Deadline for the October 2011 issue of The NASFA Shuttle is Monday 26 September 2011

Stellation XXX.

- November: “What about Bob?” Magic and mayhem with Darryl Osborn.
- December: “An exchange of gifts.” Annual Christmas gift exchange. Stay tuned for further details of how this will work this year.

The October ATMM will be hosted by Wyman Cooke at the bank building. The November ATMM will be at Mike Kennedy’s house. The December ATMM (cum Christmas Party) will be at Sue Thorns house. Expect a non-ATMM on New Year’s Eve at a TBD place.

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

Remaining 2011 NASFA meetings are scheduled to be the usual 3rd Saturday *except* for this month which will be on the 2nd Saturday. The January 2012 meeting has also been moved to the 2nd Saturday.

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

IS HUNTSVILLE GEEKY?

A recent report of the National Science Foundation has placed Huntsville in 4th place among the geekiest cities in the US. For the report, the NSF defined a geek as a worker with a bachelor’s level of knowledge and education in science or engineering-related fields or workers in occupations that require some degree of technical knowledge or training.

Under that broad definition, they found that Huntsville’s workforce is 16.2% geeks. Our fair city was edged out only by Framingham MA (16.6%), Boulder CO (17.4%), and San Jose CA (18.2%).

CHICON RATES TO INCREASE

As of 1 October 2011, some of the membership rates for Chicon 7—the 2012 Worldcon—will increase. The full Attending Membership rate will go from \$175 to \$195. Young Adult and Child Memberships will stay the same, but Family Memberships (which include 2 Adult Attending Memberships plus “unlimited” Child Memberships) will go from \$500 to \$540. Conversions from Supporting to Adult Attending will also rise.

Further information can be found online at the Chicon reg webpage <www.chicon7.org/online-reg.php>.

TAFF WANTS YOU

The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund is looking for candidates for the 2012 trip. This will be an eastbound year and thus send a North American to Europe.

Candidates must be nominated by at least five fans known to the current TAFF administrators (John Coxon, Anne Gray, and Brian Gray). At least three nominators must be resident in North America and at least two resident in Europe. Candidates must also submit a short written platform a good-faith deposit of \$20, and a pledge to take the TAFF trip in 2012 if they win. TAFF will send the winning delegate(s) to attend the 2012

For further details (and there are quite a few), see <www.taff.org.uk>.

SMOFCON SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

CanSMOF Inc. has announced the availability of up to two scholarships of up to \$CAN1000 to be used towards the cost of attending SMOFCon 29 in Amsterdam. One of these is re-

served for a Canadian citizen or resident but the other is apparently more open. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate that their attendance at SMOFCon will benefit their local fandom and Canadian fandom.

The deadline for applications is 1 October 2011. The convention will be held 2–4 December 2011. An application form is available at <tinyurl.com/SMOFship>. The winner(s) will be expected to write a report on their experience.

ANOTHER GENRE THEFT TO WATCH FOR

Two signed scripts from the first season of HBO’s *Game of Thrones* were stolen recently while in the mail on their way from the production company to George R.R. Martin. GRRM had intended to donate them to a charity auction at Worldcon.

Though the envelope arrived it was in one of those plastic baggies with a note from the USPS indicating it was damaged in transit. Martin, though, is convinced that the scripts were stolen based on details of the envelope’s condition. He has asked that fandom be on the lookout in case the scripts (for season one episodes “Baelor” and “Fire and Blood,” autographed by writers David Benioff and D.B. Weiss and director Alan Taylor) show up for sale.

SF/F COLLECTION BEING AUCTIONED

A major collection is being broken up in an auction. The Jerry Weist Collection of Science Fiction & Fantasy Art and Books will be going under the gavel 12–13 September 2011. The sale <<http://tinyurl.com/sffcol>> is being handled by Heritage Auctions of Beverly Hills CA. Minimum bids for the various items range from \$1 to well above \$10,000.

WEIRD TALES SOLD

Storied genre magazine *Weird Tales* is being sold. Owner Wildside Press apparently intends to ink a sale to editor and publisher Marvin Kaye. Previous editor-in-chief (under Wildside) Ann VanderMeer reports that Kaye will assume the mantle of editor and further reports that no members of the current staff will be retained.

NPR POST RESULTS IN SF/F POLL

National Public Radio received nominations from more than 5,000 folks and final-round votes from more than 60,000. (In between, a panel hired by NPR filtered the list to eliminate books that didn’t fit their criteria.)

Drum roll, please...

The NPR Fan Favorite novel/series is J.R.R. Tolkien’s *Lord of the Rings*. Rounding out the top five are *The Hitchhiker’s Guide To The Galaxy* (Douglas Adams), *Ender’s Game* (Orson Scott Card), the *Dune* series (Frank Herbert), and the *Song Of Ice And Fire* series (George R.R. Martin). The full list can be found at <tinyurl.com/NPRsffWins>.

NEW CANADIAN FANZINE AWARDS FOUNDED

A plan for the Canadian Fanzine Fanac Awards (to be nicknamed the “Faneds”) has sprung full-grown from the forehead of R. Graeme Cameron. Though Cameron is a director of the association that runs the Prix Aurora Awards, this is a separate, personal project. He plans to personally select winners for the first set of awards then enlist more input from the fanzine community for future awards—to include formal voting by 2013.

The awards will be presented at VCON <www.vcon.ca> in five categories (Fanzine, Fan Artist, Fan Writer, LocHack, and Hall of Fame).

HARRY NOT THE FAVORITE POTTER CHARACTER

Publisher Bloomsbury recently concluded an online poll to gauge readers’ favorite (or should that be “favourite”?) character from the Harry Potter books. After tallying the more than 70,000 votes, Severus Snape won a clear plurality with “just under 13,000” nods.

The rest of the top five were Hermione Granger, Sirius Black, Harry Potter, and Ron Weasley. The full top 40 can be seen at <tinyurl.com/3ob7rzp>.

DANDELION WINE GOING TO THE BIG SCREEN

Ray Bradbury's semi-autobiographical novel *Dandelion Wine* is being adapted as a movie by producers Mike Medavoy, Doug McKay, Rodion Nahapetov (RGI Productions), and Natasha Shliapnikoff. Nahapetov is writing.

Bradbury is quoted as saying "*Dandelion Wine* is my most deeply personal work and brings back memories of sheer joy as well as terror." Release of the movie is tentatively scheduled for 2013 or 2014.

August Minutes

by Steve Sloan, Secretary

The August meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, August 13, 2011 in the Renasant Bank meeting room at 6:20:40P by President Mary Lampert and the return of the gavel. The crickets were dead that time. ("And there was much rejoicing.") We welcomed and introduced ourselves to visitors named Jenny and Mike, who had seen the website and wanted to attend a NASFA meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike K. responded to the folks at the Bud Foote Science Fiction Collection. He sent the information they had requested about Southern fandom, along with permission to post the *NASFA Shuttle* to their intranet. They hadn't gotten back to him yet, as he had only sent his response two days before.

NEW BUSINESS

Programming Director Wyman announced that he had programs set through early next year. The September meeting will be one week before Con†Stellation, and the program will be entitled "Remembrances of Con†Stellations Past." October will be "The Fannish Inquisition," aka the Con†Stellation post-mortem. November will be a presentation by magician and balloon artist Darryl "Doc" Osborn. December will be the Christmas program and gift exchange. January and February of next year will be Mike Kennedy's *Short Attention Span Theater* for one of the months, and a presentation by one of the "Moon Princesses" planning DeepSouthCon 50 for the other month. For January and February, which month gets which program will depend on scheduling.

If we reschedule the January meeting to avoid Chattacon, Toni Weisskopf or some other "Moon Princess" might be able to make the January meeting. Doug noted that changing the January meeting from January 21 to January 14 wouldn't put us very off-schedule. Anita moved to reschedule the January meeting one week earlier to January 14. Wyman seconded, and the motion carried.

Sue recently spent time shopping for glass dishes that could be engraved and given to Con†Stellation guests. Sue moved that the club buy enough engravable dishes in advance for up to four years of conventions or up to \$200 worth, whichever is less. Doug made a simpler motion: he moved that Sue be authorized to buy up to \$200 worth of engravable glass dishes. Maria seconded, and the motion carried.

Sam wasn't available to present spammish emails. No one missed them (well, the emails at least).

Anita got an email from a hypnotist who performed two shows at FetishCon. The hypnotist would like to do a show at Con†Stellation XXX. Obviously, he took the Roman numerals for this con seriously.

CON BUSINESS

According to Con†Stellation XXX con chair Anita, the con is moving along swimmingly.

Manda found nifty trophies to give Masquerade winners that are cheaper than the medallions she had been awarding. She will find something nicer to award to the Best in Show.

Anita and Marie will get programming fleshed out by Wednesday.

Craig was asked to email the gaming schedule and gaming room layout to Mike C. Craig noted that gaming room layout is not set until the day of the con, so he was asked to send only the gaming schedule.

According to Con†Stellation XXXI con chair Mike K., there has been no change in the status of next year's con. A discussion of available hotels followed. The Country Hearth Inn in Madison is going under, and a wood-frame Holiday Inn Express is being built.

At that point, the crickets started working, then Peggy triggered her iPhone cricket sounds.

Wyman moved to adjourn at 6:36:57P.

The program was the more-or-less annual NASFA Auction. Russell hosted the After-the-Meeting Meeting at his house.

NASFA Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- 01 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Nine Princes in Amber*, Roger Zelazny; 6P.
- 02–05 Dragon*Con—Atlanta GA.
- 02–05 Mephit Furmeet—Memphis TN.
- 03 BD: David K. Robinson.
- 05 Labor Day.
- 09 BD: Mike Cothran.
- 10* Con†Stellation XXX Concom Meeting—3P; at Renasant Bank.
- 10* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant Bank. Program: "Remembrances of Con†Stellations Past." ATMM: TBD.
- 11 BD: Ray Pietruszka.
- 11 Grandparents Day.
- 12 BD: Pat Butler.
- 15* Con†Stellation XXX Concom Meeting—setup day at the hotel.
- 16–18 Con*Stellation XXX—Huntsville AL.
- 17 Citizenship Day.
- 23 First Day of Autumn.
- 23–25 ScareFest—Lexington KY.
- 23–25 DeepSouthCon 49—Addison TX.
- 23–25 National Book Festival—Washington DC.
- 26 BD: Jenna Victoria Stone.
- 29–02 Klingon Feast—Daytona Beach FL.
- 30–01 Handmade & Bound—Nashville TN.
- 30–02 Anime Weekend Atlanta—Atlanta GA.
- 30–02 Archon 35—St. Louis MO.
- 30–02 GameCon V—Memphis TN.

OCTOBER

- 01–02 Comic & Horror Fest—Nashville TN.
- 06 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Feed*, M.T. Anderson; 6P.
- 07–09 SIEGE—Atlanta GA.
- 10 Columbus Day (Observed).
- 10 Thanksgiving Day (Canada).
- 12 Columbus Day (Traditional).

You should have the full Hugo results by now...if not, let me know, and I can get them.

My loc... I meant to write Spokane in 2015; some of the bidders live here. Also, as I wrote that the days of Boston Worldcon bidding were done, there comes a bid, a hoax bid to be honest, but a bid for a Boston Worldcon bid around Christmas of 2020. No, I have no plans to start another Worldcon bid for Toronto. But, there are other fans in Toronto than me, and you never know what might be announced.

I think I am done now. Take care, and see you next time.

[As it turned out, Lloyd, I had a lot of reporting from this year's Worldcon—not that I wouldn't have enjoyed getting a report from you, too. I have Chicago, San Antonio, and London all on my "plan to" list though those plans are subject to change depending on circumstances. (Including financial circumstances.) I'm not in Atlanta for Dragon*Con, though my mother did drive through Atlanta today. (She and a mutual friend were headed to a Florida vacation.) There are always a few NASFAn—and other Huntsvillains—at D*C and I imagine this year is no exception. I know Randy Cleary was planning to take Con†Sellation fliers. As far as chain bookstores go, Huntsville is dominated by regional chain Books-A-Million and Barnes & Noble. There are some local stores (including a couple of reasonably-good used book specialists) but I'd hardly call the book biz booming around here. I've lamented in these pages before the loss of Huntsville's genre-specialty bookstore BookMark. -ED]

Take a Chance on Reno

by Mike Kennedy

Renovation, the 69th World Science Fiction Convention, took place 17–21 August 2011 in Reno NV at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, the adjacent Atlantis Hotel/Casino, and the Peppermill Hotel/Casino. A few additional sleeping rooms were available at the Courtyard by Marriott. Total membership numbers were not available at *Shuttle* press time. Estimates kicking around the web were that the number of warm bodies on site easily broke 4000 and possibly 4100. That would not count most of the 1018 Supporting Memberships (excepting those converted to Attending at the door) or no-show Attending members (of which your editor was one).

The Guests of Honor were Ellen Asher, Charles N. Brown (posthumous), Tim Powers, and Boris Vallejo. Bill Willingham and music group Tricky Pixie were Special Guests. Over 400 pros, fans, musical groups, academic presenters, and others were listed as Also Attending guests.

The *Shuttle* is fortunate this year to have three Worldcon reports and especially fortunate that one of them is Not From One Of The Usual Suspects™. The second report is from James Bell, a friend of NASFAn Jim Kennedy. Mr. Bell is not a convention novice, but neither is he a regular at Worldcon or indeed at any s/f/f con—so his perspective is somewhat different. Also, he calls Reno his second home, and thus has local insights to share.

In addition to these three reports, there are focused articles on the Hugo Awards, other awards at Worldcon, and the results of both Site Selection and the WSFS Business Meeting. Without further ado, it's time for y'all to dig in to Everything You Need To Know™ about the Reno Worldcon.



Renovation Trip Report

by Gary W. Shelton

Renovation, the 2011 World Science Fiction Convention was held in Reno NV August 17–21.

The plan was to do a quick road trip before the con started. We had already toured Reno and much of the area during the San Jose Worldcon a few years back. I flew into Reno the Saturday before the con started. At the airport I met up with "Uncle" Timmy Bolgeo, Tish Groller, and Mike Townsend. Having gathered my fellow traveling companions and the rental car, the 3-day road trip began.

The first part of the trip was a drive through some pretty country, looking at old mine sites. We wound our way to Virginia City and the Comstock Lode mine site. I had wanted to catch the Virginia & Truckee railroad tour. It was an hour long scenic tour of the area and history of Virginia City and the Comstock Lode mine. Afterwards we made our way to Carson City, found a place to crash for the night and some good local Mexican food. Sunday we arose early looking for the free continental breakfast, which turned out to be a mirage. After that disappointment, we headed toward Yosemite National Park. Sunday was spent driving to and thru Yosemite, ending up in Fresno CA for the night.

Monday we drove to and toured Sequoia National Park. Very enjoyable and scenic, even if they were really just big darn trees. My only problem was the lack of an "Oh s##t" grip beside my seat. The road was rather narrow and winding. When you add high elevation road construction, it was quite a thrill ride, let me tell you! After the tour, we began the trek back toward Reno, arriving back in Carson City around midnight.

Tuesday, we had an excellent donut run and some early morning relaxation. We took our time and arrived in Reno about noon. Our reservation was at the party hotel, the Atlantis. The Atlantis is a casino resort hotel adjacent to the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. I was able to talk the front desk into getting us in the room early. I merely pretended to be a desperate gambler ready to get in my room and hit the slots. Not a hard sell at all. Tim dropped off the rental car at the airport while I was getting into the room. I will note that we took the option of buying the tank of gas when we began the rental. That meant all the gas in the tank was ours. Proud to say we did our best to get the car back with nothing but fumes.

Having squared the room away, we trekked toward the convention center. A couple of long air conditioned hallways led us from the hotel to the convention center. We picked up our badges, program book, pocket program, and official souvenir water bottle. Of interest though: no bags, plastic or otherwise. I signed up at the con volunteer desk and headed toward to Dealers Room to help out where needed on the move in process. Later, back in our hotel we all fell into free slot tournaments, casino drawings and some really large food portions at the "Manhattan Deli" restaurant at the hotel. The corned beef and pastrami sandwich beat me.

I woke up a bit early and did a little gambling. Coffee brought to me by cute waitresses in short skirts and a little old lady wheeling a cart of free donuts around the casino floor. I was in heaven. Wednesday was the first day of the convention; we made sure to arrive in time to see the Dealers Room open. I did a quick scan to see how bad it was going to hit my cash reserves. I shall just say that there were many fine book dealers as always. Other fine fan related materials were also to be had. It was a well defined Worldcon Dealers Room. I did pick up a "few" books and a couple of neat t-shirts during the week.

The only panel that interested me Wednesday was the Dr. Demento panel. It was cool to see him in person after listening to him many years in my misspent youth. There was a general singalong with the room to classics like *Fish Heads* and *Dead Puppies*. We headed back toward the hotel afterwards—on the edge of the long corridor from the convention center was the Con Suite. We availed ourselves of cola, snacks, chairs, and a table. An odd thing happened then, a darn Spades game broke out.

Overall the Con Suite was well stocked with water, juice, colas, and snacks. No open bowls of food were allowed due to hotel restrictions, but there was always a nice selection of chips, peanuts, candy, and other fannish snacks. Mmmmm peanut butter M&M's and cornnuts. Due to massive snaking, I held off on 'til the room parties started up. Luckily, I was able to "force" fellow travelers like Sam and Judy Smith to keep us company playing Spades until the parties started.

All parties were in the Atlantis and tended to the top 2–3 floors. Texas was bidding for the 2013 Worldcon and BBQ chicken with fixings was to be had there. The Boston in 2020 Christmas Worldcon party has well themed with girls in naughty Santa outfits and *cookies*. Other parties included Spokane in 2015 and a couple of book launches parties. One more party was thrown by Warren Buff as a thank you from last years NASFiC. They had *cake!*

Thursday started with the hotel buffet and pancakes made by someone who was an obvious perfectionist—excellent pancakes made to order. I made a couple of panels but spent the main part of the day looking at the Art Show and the Khen Moore art retrospective that Naomi Fisher had set up. A group of us made it out of the hotel and had a late lunch at an Irish Pub across the street. More card games were to follow. Thursday night was the Chesley Awards, which included a nice reception before the event. Parties on Thursday night included Texas and a London in 2014 Worldcon bid party. A couple more book release parties were also on tap. In one party you could have a free book if you dared to eat a worm or cricket. Being that the said items were fried, and I am a true southerner—with grease running through my veins—I saw no problem with the fried treats for a free book.

Friday I woke early and headed back to the buffet for those fine pancakes. My first event was walk with the pros. It was an hour long leisurely walk that ended at the convention center in time for the Dealers Room and regular programming to start. I met some new friends and talked with the pros during the walk. The rest of the day I just looked around the con and hotel, meditating. Friday night the masquerade was held at one of the other con hotels. The Peppermill was billed as adjacent, but was a nice little walk down the road. [About a kilometer. -ED] The masquerade was well attended and had approximately 28 entrants. All the costumes were excellent and it was a very good show. The halftime entertainment was a version of a British game show. Making it back to the party hotel, I looked over the room parties and crashed early.

Saturday I was on party detail. Had promised Toni Weisskopf my help to setup and run the Baen party. Soon as the Baen slide show was over we went off on a party supply run. Lots of bheers, wine, and chocolates were obtained. Due to hotel policies, we were met at the car by numerous southern fans with empty suitcases, to better slip food and demon spirits into the official party suite. Saturday was also Larry Correia's birthday, Toni arranged to have a most excellent and large chocolate cake made. She then had Tish Groller draw the official Monster Hunter's logo on the cake. Toni was able to surprise Larry later that night. We didn't really open the party up

'till Toni and Lois Bujold made it back from the Hugo Awards. I started on door detail and wound up as relief bartender as the night wound down. I made it to bed around 4A.

Sunday was the last day of the con and I had a terrible case of the slows. I did get to the con to make sure I converted my vote to an attending membership for the newly-crowned Texas Worldcon in 2013. I also went by the volunteer desk and picked up a couple of free books I had earned for working the con. I had lunch and dinner with friends, and did my best to recover from the previous night's party. We did hang around the Con Suite for a bit of the dead dog. But my dog was tired.

Monday we all broke up to our flights and slowly made it back to the "real" world. Luckily I had made arrangements at work to take Tuesday off as well. That turned out to be a very good idea. I'm sure I remember that I used to do a con and get by with a nap and a shower.

Overall the facilities were very nice. All the panels I was able to make were well attended. Weather was very nice: no rain, temps in the low 90's daytime and 50's at night. There were not a tremendous amount of parties any night; but, all the parties were packed. Attendance was around 4000 warm bodies. Food was good and bad for my diet. Next year, Chicago.

Renovation Trip Report, Too

by James Bell

[This report was sent in a series of three emails. It is presented herein edited only lightly for continuity and to fit the *Shuttle* style sheet. -ED]

THURSDAY 18 AUGUST—NEAR THE BEGINNING

I got out of the Bay Area late yesterday and wandered into Worldcon registration at about 5P. It's quite strange to see the Reno-Sparks Convention Center filled with fans. Well, filled is the wrong word. The RSCC is one of those big but still low-slung buildings that sprawls in the middle of a huge parking lot. It's designed for conventions of house, boat, and RV builders—people with big and imposing displays to show off. Fans, however large they may be on a personal level, just haven't developed that degree of physical infrastructure. The effect is like a bunch of colorful peas in a vast concrete pod.

I only saw a couple of panels. I can verify that David Levine and Sam Scheiner are still funny. Connie Willis, Kathryn Rusch, and several other panelists did a good job of convincing the audience that Nevada was a fine setting for fantasy and science fiction stories. Their argument went along the lines of: Area 51 (weird tech)—Las Vegas (irony free zone, good alien hideout)—nuclear testing—desert environment (still possible to die if you have no water and your car breaks down on 50, or 95, or 375...). All present decried the unfortunate tendency for writers to use Nevada only for post-apocalyptic settings, or to just blow up Las Vegas for the fun of it. Connie Willis says she's going to fight the trend by writing a romantic comedy alien abduction novel set in Nevada (or maybe Roswell). I must say it's darn sweet of Worldcon to put together a panel like this. It's kind of like a rock star shouting out "Hello Reno!" at the start of a concert here. Although if you heard some of the stories from the audience you'd think it was more like a rock star shouting out "Hello Tucson." But the thought still counts.

SUNDAY 21 AUGUST—NEAR THE END

So far the fen are triumphing over the Reno sunshine and the Reno food. My fair city is not, alas, a place where awesome dining experiences can be found around ever corner. The fen have, however, sussed out the Oyster Bar on the Atlantis Sky

Bridge, which is a great experience if, like me, you enjoy swallowing mussels drowned in vodka. This is the Sky Bridge between the Atlantis and its parking lot, not the one between the Atlantis and the convention center.

I hope you'll tolerate my saying a few words about the Atlantis sky bridge to the convention center as well as Reno sky bridges in general. The former is nothing more than an elevated tube of air conditioning which surmounts the parking lots between the hotel and the convention center. I overheard one fan complaining he felt slightly gypped about it. He was an elderly gentleman who had booked a room in the Atlantis on the strength of advice that the sky bridge provided easy access. Not quite because, for revenue enhancement purposes, the bridge entrance is a long walk from the hotel lobby... through the casino. Meanwhile the nearby Peppermill offers slightly cheaper rooms and a regular door-to-door shuttle which makes for a shorter walk.

Now as for Reno sky bridges in general I should begin by noting that they connect casinos to their—typically next door—parking structures. But only a few are simple walkways. They are almost always filled with slot machines and the occasional bar of oyster deliciousness. The reason is that the city taxes casinos on their square footage and the sky bridges are, legally speaking, still only walkways. After several casinos had built their bridges the city woke up to this dodge and demanded a new tax, since the walkways were built over streets which were city property. During the legal battle that ensued the casinos asked the city to produce the deeds and guess what, the city of Reno does not technically own its streets. The railroad barons who received the original land grants had subdivided and sold the city blocks but retained the streets themselves. The streets of Reno, it turned out, were owned by the railroad barons' heirs—a collection of institutions and individuals including Stanford University. Reno did get clear title to its streets in the end. The details of the deal are not widely known except that a price was, quite definitely, paid.

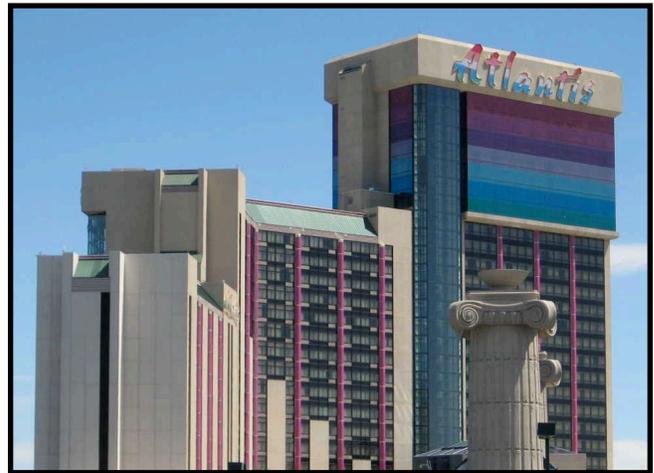
OK that was a lot of non-con stuff. I style myself as an intellectual so all I can really describe is the panels I attended. Oh, and it would help at this point to mention that I am a big Tim Powers fanboy. So you will not be surprised that I was mighty pleased to hear Powers and David Goldman discuss free will for an hour. Powers argued that belief in free will required belief in a soul, a supernatural part, for without it human decision-making would be predictable through knowledge of brain chemistry. David Goldman charmingly disagreed. For me the most poignant moment came when Walter Jon Williams argued against free will because to believe in it meant his friends who had screwed themselves up every day for thirty years had no one but themselves to blame—and that was just too hard to bear. I've always regarded Williams as an iron giant of science fiction and to hear him express such painful sentiments was something of a shock to me.

Powers looks and acts like a bit like William F. Buckley, and really has that professorial thing down pat. His GoH speech was a lovely personal literary manifesto disguised as a series of anecdotes. The tendency of day-to-day existence to support magical thinking in preference to rationalism was illustrated with a story of an abortive front-door debate with a traveling evangelical. When, like Powers, you read with a magnifying glass, and you step into the sunlight to prove to your unwanted visitor—by quoting from his own bible—that despite your Catholicism you are not a Satanist, and you accidentally set his bible on fire, the rational explanation is a very weak sister to the magical one. And so you end up holding a smoking bible in your hands while the missionary makes his hasty farewell. It

would be fun to get Powers together with Neal Stephenson and have them talk about “literary” fiction vs. science fiction and fantasy. They both seem to appreciate the different styles and are able to explain them in clear terms. OK the audience who cares about such things might be pretty small, but hey.

I came away from the parties feeling much more enthusiastic about London in 2014 than Texas in 2013. London had Pimms(!), clever subway signs(!), more eccentric people. Texas, not so much. Perhaps it's cruel to rag on my home state, and further to rag on San Antonio, it's most progressive town. And perhaps it's just that London had much better booze. But I just wasn't getting the super-imaginative vibe out of the Texas bid.

I want to send this off before I get distracted by too much other stuff. Here's a photo of the Atlantis hotel showing some of Reno's classic signage.



SATURDAY 27 AUGUST—POST-CON MUSINGS

I've realized I don't have too much more to say about Worldcon. The remainder of the con was something of a blur, marred by the fact that I spent a considerable amount of time on Saturday and Sunday doing house work as well as preparations for Burning Man. I did take Elizabeth to the Hugo Awards ceremony. Since she doesn't recognize any of the names involved—except for Connie Willis—she was more amused by the Nevada trivia projected on-screen before the show. She liked the description of the Hugo award bases quite a lot. And she didn't understand why *Fuck Me Ray Bradbury* didn't win for Best Short Form Dramatic Presentation. I had to explain that there are a *lot* of Dr. Who fans out there. I for my part was in awe of the long drawn out pageant of cruelty that was Robert Silverberg's award intro. Everyone was tired, we wanted to get to the end, and he kept going on and on about how terrible it was for a presenter to keep going on and on.

After the ceremony we ended up, completely by accident, at the party to honor Lev Grossman for winning the Campbell award. The tiara looks very good on his bald head, and he bowed quite fetchingly at the ceremony. It was quite relaxing, especially after Elizabeth nearly used Steven Moffat's Hugo to prop open a pair of elevator doors. (She expects anything that looks vaguely tool-like to be suitable for heavy duty operations, and she can't imagine Dr. Who fans posing any kind of threat.)

I wish I'd seen and done more, although perhaps for my reputation's sake I should be glad I didn't. Sean McMullen was incredibly polite about answering my questions, especially for a man who clearly had a major need to pee right at that moment. But it really was a major blast and somehow we should arrange for you [meaning Jim Kennedy -ED] and I and Hod

and Tracy and Elizabeth to get together for one someday.

So Elizabeth and I are off to Burning Man tomorrow. We would have been leaving today but for the insane amount of packing that was necessary. We have about a hundred gallons of water and two geodesic domes packed in the truck, as well as a variety of other odds and ends. It should be pretty crazy. I'll shoot you an email when I return. [This last paragraph is mostly a note to Jim, but is left in here for the interesting contrast between Worldcon and Burning Man preparations. -ED]

Renovation Trip Report, Three

Or, Gone to Reno

by Sam Smith

Reno. Worldcon. Yay! These are the highlights (as much as I remember them) of our trip to Reno for Worldcon this year.

Our hotel/casino was the Atlantis, the closest hotel to the convention center where the bulk of the Worldcon was held. It was advertised that our hotel was connected to the convention center via a "Skybridge." Yep, it was. The Skybridge ran out of the hotel on the second floor, over the road, across the parking lot, and finally connected to the convention center. It must have been around a quarter of a mile long. It took eleven minutes to walk from our room to get to a panel. Not quite as convenient as one might hope, but at least we didn't have to go outside.

Outside: "It's a dry heat." To be sure, but it sure does bad things to my sinuses. Rehydration is a *good* thing. Fortunately, the walk to the convention center took us right past the Con Suite. The Con Suite took up three ballroom sections in the Atlantis, and it was very impressive. The rules the convention had to live under were that the stuff in the Con Suite had to be untouched by human hands, so it was all bottled and canned and bagged and wrapped. There were tubs of soda and water and juice drinks, all iced down, lining all of the walls. There were bags and bags of chips and pretzels and Chex mix piled high. There were baskets of candy on every table. And nothing ever ran dry or went empty, even when the zombie canines arrived!

I was also impressed by Registration. There was one line for everybody. There were forms available at the start of the line for at-the-door registrations. When you got to the top of the line, you went to the next available station (out of six). If you were pre-registered, they looked you up via a netbook connected to a central database and printed a label for your badge on the spot. If there was a problem with the label, they destroyed it, fixed it, and printed a new one. Once the label was right, they had a stack of pre-printed, laminated, and punched badges ready to go. Your label was stuck on it, you were given your swag, and that was it. The only problem (as Judy noted) is that there was no bag for your swag, and it was a bit bulky.

Unfortunately, the hotel was not as impressive. We arrived at 11:30 that morning, and did not get into our room until 4:30 that afternoon. I almost missed Dr. Demento! (I was very grumpy between getting up early and being told "one more hour" over and over again at the hotel desk.)

Fortunately, Dr. Demento made up for it. I was much happier coming out of his panel/show. He played a lot of old favorites, plus some music videos. A couple of the FuMP guys [the Funny Music Project <www.thefump.com> -ED] joined him, and near the end we had an impromptu sing-along.

We did laundry Thursday morning, and lots of Spades in the Con Suite Thursday afternoon. That was about it for me for Thursday. Oh, there was another Dr. Demento panel on Thurs-

day on the history of funny science fiction music. The highlight of that panel for me was when he played "Weird Al's" demo tape for *Yoda*. Just Al and his accordion.

Friday I made some Con†Stellation flyers and dropped them off on the freebie table. By the end of the convention eleven were taken. I also finally got to do my first tour of the Art Show and Dealers Room. Not bad.

On the exhibit floor, I ran into a "Tiki Dalek." And then Uncle Timmy and I ran into Dr. Demento. I got to walk up to him and say: "You! You got me addicted to 'Weird Al' Yankovic back in 1978!" Timmy then added that I had gotten *him* addicted, plus all of our kids. The Doctor seemed pleased, and let us take a picture with him, but he's kind of quiet when he's not "on."



I'd been wanting sweet tea for about a week (we spent a few days in Las Vegas before heading to Reno). Friday afternoon we decided to go to a nearby restaurant called Claim Jumper for dinner. I got there early, to get a big table. Everybody was offering me raspberry tea whenever I asked for sweet tea. At CJ's, I got them to bring me a) a glass of unsweet tea, no ice, b) a glass of ice, and c) a cup of hot water. I then dissolved every packet of sugar at the table into the hot water, and made myself some sweet tea!

After dinner, I headed off to a Doctor Who panel, and after that we headed over early to the Peppermill, the nearby hotel/casino where the Masquerade was being held. We were about third in line to get in. I was much less impressed with the organization of the masquerade. Around seven o'clock we were told we didn't need to wait in line, there were plenty of seats. (Are they *all* down front?) Then we were told we were just waiting on the programs to arrive. Then the programs arrived, and were handed out to everyone who was waiting in line. Then finally they let us in. To their credit, after all that they did let us in early, before the official time for opening the doors.

The masquerade was good, but not as impressive as some Worldcon masquerades I've seen. The most impressive costume I saw was a Blue Meanie costume, which as best as I can tell was a perfect recreation of a Blue Meanie from the Beatle's *Yellow Submarine*. It eventually won "Most Nostalgic Workmanship: Best Transformation of Materials," but I think it should have done better.



The masquerade intermission entertainment was Paul Cornell moderating a version of *Just a Minute*, which is a British game show. The idea is that the contestants have one minute to speak on a topic of the moderator's choice without pausing,

repeating themselves, or wandering off topic. The topic is announced about two seconds before the contestant has to begin speaking. The other contestants can “challenge” if they think one of the rules has been broken. Then there is a consensus as to whether the challenge is correct. If it is correct, the challenger gets a point and then has to finish up speaking on the topic for whatever is left of the minute. If the challenge is incorrect, the original contestant gets a point and then has to finish speaking on the topic. Whoever is speaking when the minute is up gets another point. At one point, Seanan McGuire (one of the contestants) was speaking, was challenged, and called her mother on her cell phone to prove that she was, in fact, on topic.

Saturday was panel day in the morning and early afternoon, and then late Saturday afternoon was spent helping Toni Weisskopf set up and run the Baen party. It took four suitcases to sneak in all of the booze for the party! And there was cake!

Early Sunday I went to a panel on humor and sf. Dr. Demento was one of the panelists, and went to the panel in disguise (Dr. Demento in a Hawaiian shirt?). There was a bit of a problem with the panel, since the other two panelists were writers and Dr. Demento specializes in music, but in the end they worked it out.

Closing ceremonies were a bit of a surprise. The con chair announced that, since she had forgotten to gavel the Worldcon on record. Bang! ... Bang! (I immediately heard speculation from nearby fans on whether or not the Worldcon Business Meetings were valid.) She followed up by announcing that next year’s Worldcon would be the longest on record—according to Renovation’s daily ‘zine next year’s Worldcon, Chicon 7, would be held from “August 30 through September 30, 2012.”

She then turned things over to Chicon, for a progress report. They were careful to immediately announce that the dates for next year’s Worldcon are “August 30 through September 3, 2012.” Darn.

The rest of Sunday afternoon was Spades (at our “usual” table in the Con Suite), followed by a buffet for dinner, followed by bed.

Monday morning I wandered down to see how the cleanup was going, but the Skybridge was locked, as was the Con Suite. Nothing to see here, move along. So we left early for the airport, and home!

And that’s what I remember from Worldcon.

Hugo and Campbell Awards

The final round of the 2011 Hugo and Campbell Awards received 2100 valid ballots—2086 electronic and 14 by postal mail. The winners are:

- Novel***Blackout/All Clear*, Connie Willis
- Novella***The Lifecycle of Software Objects*, Ted Chiang
- Novelette**“The Emperor of Mars,” Allen M. Steele
- Short Story**“For Want of a Nail,” Mary Robinette Kowal
- Related Work***Chicks Dig Time Lords: A Celebration of Doctor Who by the Women Who Love It*, Lynne M. Thomas, and Tara O’Shea, eds.
- Graphic Story***Girl Genius, Volume 10: Agatha Heterodyne and the Guardian Muse*, written by Phil and Kaja Foglio, art by Phil Foglio, colors by Cheyenne Wright
- Dramatic Presentation, Long Form***Inception*, written and directed by Christopher Nolan
- Dramatic Presentation, Short Form***Doctor Who:*

- “The Pandorica Opens/The Big Bang,” written by Steven Moffat, directed by Toby Haynes
- Editor, Short Form***Sheila Williams*
- Editor, Long Form***Lou Anders*
- Professional Artist***Shaun Tan*
- Semiprozine***Clarkesworld*, Neil Clarke, Cheryl Morgan, Sean Wallace, eds., podcast directed by Kate Baker
- Best Fanzine***The Drink Tank*, Christopher J. Garcia and James Bacon, eds.
- Best Fan Writer***Claire Brialey*
- Best Fan Artist***Brad W. Foster*
- John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer***Lev Grossman*

Site Selection Results

The unopposed bid for San Antonio TX won their bid to host the 71st World Science Fiction Convention. LoneStar-Con 3 <www.lonestarcon3.org> will be held 29 August–2 September 2013 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center and two nearby hotels (the San Antonio Marriott River Walk and San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter)—all on San Antonio’s famous River Walk.



The Guests of Honor will be author, editor, scholar, and anthropologist James Gunn; author Norman Spinrad; artist Darrell K. Sweet; editor Ellen Datlow; and fan Willie Siros. The Toastmaster will be author Paul Cornell. Two Special Guests, filker Leslie Fish and author Joe R. Lansdale, are also on the slate.

The initial Attending Membership rates are \$160 (Adult), \$110 (Young Adult—age 17–11), and \$75 (Child—age 16 or younger). A Family Membership rate will be available later. Supporting Memberships are \$60. Various discounts apply for voters and pre-supporters. A full set of rates is available at <www.lonestarcon3.org/memberships>.

There were 760 valid ballots cast (plus an additional 14 invalid ballots). Of the valid ballots, 25 were cast for No Preference, leaving 735 ballots with a preference. Of those, 694 went for Texas and 14 for None of the Above. Write-ins (though they can’t win unless they file appropriate paperwork before the vote) are a time-honored Worldcon tradition. Top write-ins were Xerpes (6 votes), Minneapolis in ’73 (5), Denton, the Happiest Place on Earth (4), and Boston 2020 Christmas (3). A longish list of write-ins got one vote each—Antarctica, Babylon 5, BSFS Clubhouse, Chicago, Cincinnati, Fred Duarte’s House, Peggy Rae’s House, Spuzzum, and Unalakleet AK.

Other Awards at Renovation

Awards at Worldcon go far beyond just the Hugos. Some of the other awards presented (or, in some cases, re-presented) at Renovation are listed below.

CHESLEY AWARDS

The Chesley Awards, named for astronomical artist Chesley Bonestell, are awarded by the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists <www.asfa-art.org> to “recognize individual works and achievements during a given year.” The winners are:

Cover Illustration—Hardcover.....Michael Whelan, for *The Way of Kings* by Brandon Sanderson
Cover Illustration—PaperbackJason Chan, for *Geist* by Phillipa Ballantine
Cover Illustration—MagazineNick Greenwood, for *Orson Scott Card's Intergalactic Medicine Show* June 2010
Three-DimensionalMark Newman, "Eel Walker," bronze
Interior IllustrationDonato Giancola, for *Middle Earth: Visions of a Modern Myth* by Donato Giancola
Unpublished ColorJulie Dillon, "Planetary Alignment," digital
Unpublished MonochromeIan Miller, "Triptych," ink
Product IllustrationSam Weber, *Shadow Rising* by Robert Jordan, promo art for Tor ebook, January 2010
Gaming-Related IllustrationLucas Graciano, "Amorphous Drake," Legends of Norrath
Art DirectorJon Schindehette, for *Wizards of the Coast*
Lifetime Artistic AchievementBoris Vallejo

BIG HEART AWARD

The 2011 Forrest J. Ackerman Big Heart Award went to **Gay Haldeman**. Congrats to Gay and come see her at Con†Stellation XXX where she will be Fan GoH.

SEIUN AWARDS

The Seiun Awards are Japanese science fiction awards for the best science fiction published in Japan during the preceding year. The awards, sometimes called the "Japanese Hugos," are voted on by attendees of the annual Japanese Science Fiction Convention. This year's overseas winners are:

Translated Short Form....."Carry the Moon in My Pocket," James Lovegrove
Translated Long Form.....*Eifelheim*, Michael Flynn
Media*District 9*, directed by Neill Blomkamp

SIDEWISE AWARDS

Winners of the 2010 Sidewise Awards <www.uchronia.net/sidewise> for Alternate History are:

Long Form.....*When Angels Wept: A What-If History of the Cuban Missile Crisis*, Eric G. Swedin
Short Form....."A Clash of Eagles," Alan Smale

GOLDEN DUCK AWARDS

The Golden Duck Awards <www.goldenduck.org> are given by Super-Con-Duck-Tivity to recognize "Excellence in Children's Science Fiction." The winners are:

Picture Book Award*Oh No, or How My Science Project Destroyed the World*, Mac Bannett, illustrated by Dan Santat
Eleanor Cameron Middle Grades Award*Alien Encounter*, Pamela Service and Mike Gorman
Hal Clement Young Adult Award *www.Watch*, Robert Sawyer

ART SHOW AWARDS

Judges for the Renovation Art Show Awards were Patty Wells (con chair), Larry Niven, and Tony Lewis. The winners were:

Chair's Choice*Kiss my Hand*, Boris Vallejo
Best Digital*Jet Pack Girls*, Brian Giberson
Best B&W*Ned Stark*, John Picacio
Best Brushed Metal.....*Undiscovered Worlds*, Jeff Sturgeon
Best 3D*Bacchanalian Swing*, Lance Glasser
Best Oil Painting*Dragon's Ring*, Bob Eggleton

MASQUERADE AWARDS

Judges for the Renovation Masquerade were Karen Dick, Lindsay Tallman, John O'Halloran, Toni Lay, and Mary Miller. Phil and Kaja Foglio. served as Masquerade co-MCs.

Best in Show, Original Presentation**Night at the Sci-Fi Museum**, Erik Prill, David Tackett, and Anita Taylor
Best in Show, Re-creation**Jane McMillan, Avatar Driver**, Torrey Stenmark

Best in Show, Workmanship**Intergalactic Dating Game**, Christopher Erickson, Mette Hedin, Elena Herzen, Bryan Little, Jean Martin, and Espana Sherif

Best in Class, Master**Intergalactic Dating Game**

Best in Class, Workmanship, Master**Music of the Spheres**, Pierre Pettinger, Sandy Pettinger, and Randy Smith

Most Elegant Workmanship, Master, Best Dyework.....**The Undine**, Karen McWilliams

Most Nostalgic Workmanship, Master, Best Transformation of Materials**Blue Meanie Blues**, Lance Ikegawa

Worst Internet Meme, Master**Semi-precious**, Julie Zetterberg, Greg Sardo, Nels Satterlund, Lisa Satterlund, Janet Berkowski, Anne Davenport, Jonnalyhn Prill, and Kier Salmon

Honorable Mention. Workmanship, Master**Katamari Damacy**, Sionna Neidengard and MariEllen Cottman

Best in Class, Journeyman**Nothing to Wear**, Vicki Glover

Best in Class, Workmanship, Journeyman....**Wizard of Oz**, Mark Ezell, Ann Ezell, Ellie Ezell, Kathryn Brant, Zachary Brant, Theresa Costanzo, Thor Halbert, Sandi King, and Barbara Hoffert

Best Make-up, Journeyman..**Jane McMillan, Avatar Driver Shiny Eco Award, Workmanship, Journeyman**, Best Accessory**Tabulous**, Sara Weinstein

Blammy Award (Presented by Armed Costumers Guild)

Jane McMillan, Avatar Driver

Best in Class, Workmanship, Novice.....**Phoenix**, Elizabeth Mittmann

Best in Class, Workmanship, Novice, Best Use of Recycled Materials.....**Baby Cyber-shade**, Jean Battiatto

Persistence of Vision, Novice**Phoenix**

Best Steampunk, Novice**The Darling Gang**, Jordan Roland, Dylan Stevens, Lillie Wells, and Zoe Wells

Most Humorous, Novice ..**Princess Pacman**, Courtney Rayle

Best Accessory, Workmanship, Novice.....**Dedicated to The Anubis Gates**, Thea McHugh

Honorable Mention, Workmanship, Novice**Adventures of Seemore T Camel**, Janine Wardale and John Wardale

Best in Class, Young Fan ..**Amy in the Tardis**, Erin Mittmann

Best Re-creation, Young Fan**Young at Heart??**, Attila D. Tang

Best Prop, Young Fan.....**Amy in the Tardis**

Worldcon Business Meeting

The Business Meeting at Worldcon is open to all Attending members. It's here that changes to the World Science Fiction Society Constitution (and other related governance) are made. The WSFS Constitution, in turn, sets the rules for selection of the Worldcon site and the Hugo Awards. Many years only around 100 people go to the Business Meeting sessions. (So, be there... or be disenfranchised.)

This year's meeting at Renovation covered an unusually large amount of business, some of which was rather contentious. Amendments to the Constitution have to pass at two consecutive Worldcons before they take effect. Some other business can be passed at a single convention.

AMENDMENTS FOR RATIFICATION

There were six Amendments that received first passage at last year's Worldcon in Australia, though two of them were "technical" matters cleaning up glitches. All six were ratified and took effect at the end of Renovation.

- An Amendment to clarify the relationship of "No Award"

and “None of the Above” to the “Run-Off Candidate” rule was ratified by unanimous consent.

- An Amendment to add the Hugo Award Logo and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Trophy Rocket to the service marks listed in the Constitution was ratified by unanimous consent.
- An Amendment to raise the limit to the “conversion fee” (for those who vote in Site Selection to upgrade their automatic Supporting Membership to Attending) was ratified by unanimous consent.
- An Amendment to allow (though not *require*) electronic distribution of the WSFS Constitution and Standing Rules (as opposed to requiring printed distribution) was ratified on an uncounted vote by show of hands. The Amendment further stipulates that when electronic distribution of publications is offered it must be on an opt-in (versus opt-out) basis.
- An Amendment to expand eligibility to *nominate* in the Hugo Awards process to include members of the following year’s Worldcon was ratified on an uncounted vote by show of hands. Previously the nominating round was open to the members of the current and prior year’s con. The final voting round is still open only to members of the current con.
- An Amendment to allow (but not *require*) electronic voting in Site Selection (and some other types of voting) was the most contentious of those up for ratification. A motion was made to amend the Amendment to remove all language regarding Site Selection, which would have effectively left the Constitution unchanged—the existing interpretation being that electronic voting is allowed for the Hugos but not for Site Selection. The amend-the-amendment was defeated by an uncounted show of hands. The original proposal was then ratified by an uncounted show of hands.

AMENDMENTS FOR FIRST PASSAGE

A number of Constitutional Amendments were proposed for first passage at Renovation. Those that passed will have to go forward to next year’s Worldcon in Chicago for possible ratification before they could take effect.

Two proposed Amendments were rejected. One of those would have created a new Hugo Award category for Best Children’s/Young Adult’s Book. The other would have restricted members of the WSFS Mark Protection Committee or any of its subcommittees from being eligible for nomination for the Hugo Award. Both were rejected with little or no debate.

Two Amendments did receive first passage, though they came out of a messy set of several overlapping proposals put forward both by individuals and by a committee formed two years ago (and continued at last year’s Worldcon) to examine the Semiprozine Hugo category. The Amendments that received first passage were:

- An Amendment to establish a new Hugo for Best Fancast. The exact wording changed several times during the meeting but the general idea was that nonprofessional audio or video periodicals (e.g., podcasts, vidcasts) would be included. These would be removed from the Fanzine category. The

Amendment includes a sunset clause whereby it would have to be re-ratified in 2016 or be automatically removed. The final vote was 75–11.

- An Amendment to significantly redefine both the Semiprozine and Fanzine Hugo categories. The changes, if ratified, will be quite significant. Many previous Semiprozine nominees, for instance, will be redefined out of the category. A new definition of Professional Publication would be added to the Constitution, but with no corresponding Hugo category. These excluded publications would be defined as either providing at least a quarter the income of any person or being owned or published by any entity did the same. The final vote was 60–4.

The actual sentiment of the Business Meeting was probably not quite as lopsided as the vote tallies—once passage became inevitable (after lengthy debates) some voters on the No side of each issue may not have bothered to cast a vote. In any case, these two items may once again be controversial when they come up for ratification next year.

OTHER BUSINESS

Additional business conducted at the meeting included:

- Adopting a resolution overturning a rule passed by the WSFS Mark Protection Committee affecting the Hugo Award eligibility of members of the MPC and its subcommittees. Note that this is in addition to defeating a proposed Amendment that would have enshrined this policy in the Constitution.
- Renewing the “blanket extension” of Hugo Award eligibility for works originally published outside the USA in a past year and first published in the USA this year. This must be voted on each year per a provision in the Constitution.
- Granting a special extension of Hugo Award eligibility to the English-language translation of *Summer Wars* (anime) due to limited distribution. This is pursuant to a section of the Constitution that allows such an extension.
- Adopting a change to the WSFS Standing Rules to require that reports and proposals be submitted at least two weeks before Worldcon rather than the previous time limit of 18 hours before the first Business Meeting. The intent is to provide more time before the convention for review by interested parties.
- Referring a proposal for further study by the Mark Protection Committee regarding registering prospective future Worldcon web site names (e.g., worldcon20XX.org) in advance.
- Receiving reports from ongoing Business Meeting committees and receiving financial reports from current and future Worldcons as well as past Worldcons that still have surplus funds. These financial reports are required until all surplus funds have been disbursed.
- Filling vacancies on the Mark Protection Committee by electing Linda Deneroff, Dave McCarty, Warren Buff, and Stephen Boucher. Three seats are open each year due to expiring terms. A fourth vacancy had been created by Ruth Sachter’s resignation from the committee.



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 Check the updated website www.con-stellation.org