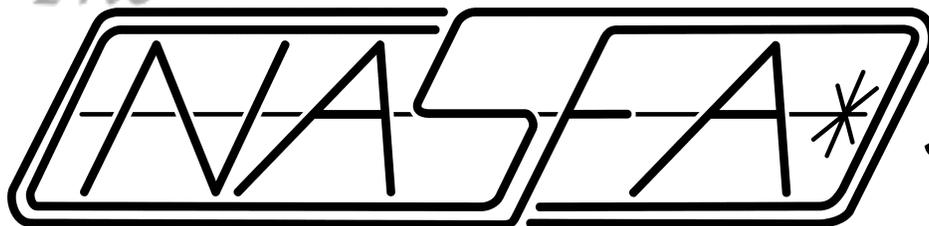


The



Shuttle

June 2012

# The Next NASFA Meeting will be at DeepSouthCon 50, Embassy Suites

*Breaking News—Renasant Bank Meeting Room Closing, New Meeting Location Must Be Found Starting in July*

*ConCom 6P, Thursday 14 June at Mike Kennedy's House*

## ▲ Oyez, Oyez ▲

The next NASFA Meeting will be held at DeepSouthCon 50, on either Saturday 16 June or Sunday 17 June 2012.

This meeting was to be a meeting in a very virtual sense—and may still be—but a key item of urgent business has come up. Renasant Bank has announced that they are remodeling their Community Room and that it will no longer be available to us, effective immediately. So, we are in urgent need of a new meeting room. Club officers have been casting around and should have a possibility or two to present. Your editor recommends that as many of us as possible gather after the closing ceremony at DSC on Sunday afternoon to discuss the meeting location issue. Some folks will be tied up in DSC duties, but we can hopefully reach a conclusion acceptable to all.

### JUNE PROGRAM AND ATMM

There will be no program or After-the-Meeting Meeting—the goings on at DSC should provide adequate substitutes, eh?

### CONCOM MEETINGS

The next Con†Stellation XXXI concom meeting will be

**Thursday 14 June**—the evening *before* the beginning of DeepSouthCon 50. The meeting will be at Mike Kennedy's house, starting at 6P. This will be a dinner meeting, most likely delivery pizza.

The July concom meeting will be **Saturday 14 July**—the same day as that month's club meeting—at 3P. Note that this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday because the club meeting that month was moved to accommodate folks going to LibertyCon the next weekend. Because of the meeting room issue, the location is uncertain. It may be at the new NASFA meeting location (if available) or at Mike Kennedy's house or even at an alternate location depending on circumstances. Stay tuned.

Dates for concom meetings after July are not yet set.

### CHANGING SHUTTLE DEADLINES

The deadline for the *NASFA Shuttle* has been tweaked *yet again*. The likely repro date has shifted somewhat to the right (roughly the weekend before each meeting) but most of each issue will still need to be put to bed as much as two weeks before the monthly meeting.

Please check the deadline below the Table of Contents each month to submit news, reviews, LoCs, or other material. We will generally need to enforce that deadline strictly.

## Continuing Our 32<sup>nd</sup> Year of Publication

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**Deadline for the July 2012 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Monday 25 June 2012**

## FUTURE PROGRAMS AND ATMMs

Future programs include:

- July: Stephanie Osborn, “Walk Toward The Light”—using history in the Displaced Detective series.
- August: Les Johnson speaking on his book *Going Interstellar*.
- October: Probably the Con+Stellation Post-Mortem.
- December: Probably the More-Or-Less-Annual NASFA Gift Exchange.

We have a tentative volunteer for the July ATMM, but it’s somewhat up in the air due to the meeting room issue. We need volunteers for August and almost all months past (though November is spoken for).

## FUTURE CLUB MEETING DATES

All remaining 2012 meetings are currently scheduled for the usual 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday *except* the July meeting, which will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday due to a conflict with LibertyCon.

## 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. You can view the calendar online at <tinyurl.com/NASFACal>.

# News & Info

## RIP RAY BRADBURY

As virtually the whole genre world has heard by now, Ray Bradbury died this month at age 91. There is really nothing the *Shuttle* can add about his life, work, or death. For the few of our readers that may not have heard the story, though, your editor will relate his favorite Bradbury story.

At the 1986 Worldcon, ConFederation in Atlanta, Mr. Bradbury was the pro guest of honor. At the entrance to the dealers room (or was it the art show?) a badge checker stopped him because he wasn’t wearing his badge and the checker didn’t recognize him. Stories vary but apparently Mr. B was able to find his badge and enter the room past the now embarrassed (but *perfectly* justified) checker. So, the saying around the con became “Bradbury, Schmadbury, you still have to show your badge.”

## DUFF TO HOLD OVER FUNDS

As mentioned in the last issue of the *Shuttle*, some furor had arisen over the short timeline for nominations and voting in this year’s Down Under Fan Fund run race. The trip direction was to be North America to Australasia. The timing was such that it would have been impossible to get to the New Zealand natcon after the vote was finalized, and a scramble to get to the Australian one.

In the end, two candidates—Juanita Coulson (USA) and Murray Moore (Canada)—made the ballot. Mr Moore’s position was that a vote for Hold Over Funds was for the best. A win for HOF would result in no representative being sent this year.

The final vote tally (first place votes) was HOF 57 (38 North America, 19 Australasia), Coulson 25 (24, 1), Moore 13 (12, 2). With a first-round majority for HOF, there was no need to go to a second round.

## WORLDCON HOTEL FILLING

The main hotel (in which all functions will take place) for this year’s Worldcon—Chicon 7—is getting full. As this article was being written, they had increased their room block to 1900 rooms and were still 92% full on the peak night (Saturday).

## HUGO VOTER PACKET ONLINE

Are you a member (Supporting or Attending) of this year’s worldcon? If so, hie ye over to the Chicon 7 website <www.chicon.org> to download this year’s voter’s packet. If you don’t already have your Hugo PIN you’ll need to get that from Chicon as that (plus your membership number) is the key to access the download area.

This material covers the large majority of works and persons nominated, including everything in the written fiction categories. Only the Dramatic Presentation (short and long) categories are unrepresented. Even without the DPs, the full package is hefty, around 1 Gbyte compressed, so it’s broken up into categories (and sometimes broken down more than that) for downloading.

While not a required part of the worldcon, this voter’s packet has become traditional over the last several years. It certainly makes for more informed voters, but its existence depends on those voters not abusing the material—that is, not sharing it with ineligible persons. [So please don’t ask me for a copy. -ED]

## 2013 WORLDCON MEMBERSHIP RATE GOING UP

As of the end of June 2012, the membership rates for the 2013 Worldcon, LoneStarCon 3 <www.lonestarcon3.org>, will go up. Adult Attending Membership will bump up \$20 to \$180. Some, but not all, other rates will also increase.

## INSTANT ZOMBIES, JUST ADD, ER, BRAINS?

Zombie Run <howtophil.com/zombierun> is a free (more or less, keep reading) card game you can print yourself. You do have to “pay” for the PDFs by clicking through their site to mention ZR on Facebook or Twitter. Or, follow a different link from their page to buy a professionally printed, boxed set for about \$25 (about \$20 without the box).

If you choose to print it yourself, you’ll need a pile of 3.5”x2” pre-perforated business card stock to print the 130 cards.

## LOVE THE SMELL OF BOOKS?

If you just can’t get enough of the smell of a new book, but are trying to switch over to ebooks—or perhaps your paramour likes that scent—there’s a new perfume just for you. Paper Passion <steidlville.com/books/1312-Paper-Passion.html> by Geza Schoen, Gerhard Steidl, and *Wallpaper\** magazine, with packaging by Karl Lagerfeld and Gerhard Steidl could be just the thing. It’s a steal at only \$115.

## SFWA ELECTION RESULTS

The Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfw.org> recently held their annual election. The winners are:

**President**.....**John Scalzi**  
**Vice President**.....**Rachel Swirsky**  
**Secretary**.....**Ann Leckie**  
**Treasurer**.....**Bud Sparhawk**  
**West Coast Representative**.....**Jim Fiscus**  
**Canadian Representative**.....**Matthew Johnson**

## QUIDDITCH DEMO AT OLYMPICS, SORT OF

The International Quidditch Association <www.internationalquidditch.org> has announced plans to demo Muggle Quidditch during the 2012 London Olympics. Well, no, it’s not an official part of the festivities but I’m sure the IQA is hoping to piggyback a bit on the attention focused on London at that time. The game is (duh!) adapted from Quidditch as described in the Harry



*Quidditch Uniform Details*



# Awards Roundup

## NEBULA WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfwaw.org> announced the winners of the 2011 Nebula Awards during the annual Nebula Awards Weekend, held this year 17–20 May 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington VA. In addition to the other categories, previously announced awards were presented to Connie Willis (Damon Knight Grand Master Award), Octavia Butler (posthumous) and John Clute (Solstice Award), and Bud Webster (SFWA Service Award). In the competitive categories the winners were”

**Novel** ..... *Among Others*, Jo Walton (Tor)  
**Novella** ..... “*The Man Who Bridged the Mist*,”  
Kij Johnson (*Asimov’s* October–November 2011)  
**Novellette** ..... “*What We Found*,” Geoff Ryman  
(*F&SF* September–October 2011)  
**Short Story** ..... “*The Paper Menagerie*,” Ken Liu  
(*F&SF* March–April 2011)

**Ray Bradbury Award for Outstanding Dramatic  
Presentation** ..... *Doctor Who*, “*The Doctor’s Wife*”  
**Andre Norton Award for Young Adult Science Fiction and  
Fantasy Book** ..... *The Freedom Maze*, Delia Sherman  
(Big Mouth House)

## CROOK/TALL AWARD ANNOUNCED

The winner of the 2012 Compton Crook/Stephen Tall Award <www.bsfs.org/bsfscnu.htm> (for single author first sf/f/h novel) is *Germline* (T.C. McCarthy, Orbit). The award is given by the Baltimore Science Fiction Society <www.bsfs.org> and included an award plaque and a \$1,000 honorarium. The award was presented at Balticon 46 <www.balticon.org>, held 25–28 May 2012 at the Marriott Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley (Baltimore area) MD.

## ASIMOV’S AND ANALOG MAGAZINE AWARDS

The results of 2011 readers polls for both *Analog* and *Asimov’s* were recently released. Winners of the *Analog* Analytical Laboratory (AnLab) Awards and *Asimov’s* Readers’ Awards (ARA) are:

**AnLab Novella** ..... “*With Unclean Hands*,”  
Adam-Troy Castro (November 2011)  
**AnLab Novellette** (tie) ..... “*Betty Knox and Dictionary Jones  
in the Mystery of the Missing Teenage Anachronisms*,”  
John G. Hemry (March 2011) and “*Jak and the Bean-  
stalk*,” Richard A. Lovett (July–August 2011)  
**AnLab Short Story** ..... “*Julie is Three*,” Craig DeLancey  
(March 2011)  
**AnLab Fact Article** ..... “*Smart SETI*,” Gregory Benford  
and James Benford (April 2011)  
**AnLab Cover** ..... *Bob Eggleton*, December 2011 (for “*Ray of  
Light*”)  
**ARA Novella** ..... “*The Man Who Bridged the Mist*,”  
Kij Johnson (October–November 2011)  
**ARA Novellette** ..... “*All About Emily*,” Connie Willis  
(December 2011)  
**ARA Short Story** ... “*Movement*,” Nancy Fulda (March 2011)  
**ARA Poem** ..... “*Five Pounds of Sunlight*,”  
Geoffrey A. Landis (January 2011)  
**ARA Cover Artist** ..... *Paul Youll*, October–November 2011  
(for “*The Man Who Bridged the Mist*”)

## SPECTRUM AWARDS GIVEN

The Spectrum 19 Awards, for sf/f/etc. art, were announced 19 May 2012 at the Midland Theater in Kansas City MO. Winning works will be included in *Spectrum 19: The Best In Contemporary Fantastic Art*, to be published by Underwood Books

in November 2012. The winners and runners up are:

**Advertising Gold** ..... *Tyler Jacobson*, *Talon of Umberlee*  
**Advertising Silver** ..... *Android Jones*, *Boom Festival*  
**Book Gold** ..... *Edward Kinsella*, *Wooden Bones*  
**Book Silver** ..... *Jean-Baptiste Monge*, *Ragnarok*  
**Comics Gold** ..... *Alex Alice*, *Sigfried III*  
**Comics Silver** ..... *Jim Murray*, *DOTA 2:  
Tales from the Secret Shop*

**Concept Art Gold** ..... *Justin Sweet*, *Jack the Giant Killer*  
**Concept Art Silver** ..... *Daniel Dociu*, *Hangar*  
**Dimensional Gold** ..... *Virginie Ropars*, *Jack*  
**Dimensional Silver** ..... *Thomas S. Kuebler*, *I am Providence*  
**Editorial Gold** ..... *Jean-Baptiste Monge*, *Mic Mac Cormac*  
**Editorial Silver** ..... *James Gurney*, *Kosmocertatops*  
**Institutional Gold** ..... *Raoul Vitale*, *Turin and the Glaurung*  
**Institutional Silver** ..... *Android Jones*, *Water Dragon 2012*  
**Unpublished Gold** ..... *Michael Whelan*, *CK Unmasked*  
**Unpublished Silver** ..... *Justin Gerard*, *Portrait of a Monster #3*  
**Grand Master** ..... *James Gurney*  
**BOLLINGER EVERYMAN WODEHOUSE PRIZE**

The Wodehouse <www.experiencebollinger.co.uk/literature> Prize is for comic fiction. It is named after P.G. Wodehouse and sponsored and organized by Bollinger (the champagne maker) and Everyman Library (a division of Random House). This year’s winner is *Sir Terry Pratchett* for *Snuff*, a Discworld novel. The award was subsequently presented at the Hay Festival of Literature & Arts where Pratchett received a jerooboam of Bollinger Special Cuvee, a case of Bollinger La Grande Annee, and a set of Everyman’s Wodehouse collection. Part of the prize also included having a local Gloucestershire Old Spot pig named after the novel. Bollinger published a photo by Jeff Morgan of Pratchett posing with part of his prize and the pig.



## LAMBDA LITERARY AWARDS

Winners of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Lambda Literary Awards <www.lambdaliterary.org> (for LGBT literature) were announced on 4 June 2012 at a ceremony held at the CUNY Graduate Center in New York City. The awards include an LGBT SF/Fantasy/Horror category, for which *The German*, Lee Thomas (Lethe Press) took home the prize. A full list of winners can be found online at <tinyurl.com/Lambda24>.

## KIRK DOUGLAS GETS BRADBURY AWARD

The 25<sup>th</sup> annual Ray Bradbury Creativity Award was presented to *Kirk Douglas* on Sunday 20 May 2012 at the Fletcher Jones Foundation Auditorium at Woodbury University in Burbank CA.

## AUDIE AWARDS WINNERS

The Audie Awards <www.theaudies.com> are given by the Audio Publishers Association <www.audiopub.org> for “distinction in audiobooks and spoken word entertainment.” Winners for 2012 have been announced. There is an extensive list of categories, many of which are non-genre. Some of the winners of interest to sf/f/h fans include:

**Fantasy** ..... *Daughter of Smoke and Bone*, Laini Taylor,  
read by Khristine Hvam (Hachette Audio)  
**Fiction** ..... *Alas, Babylon*, Pat Frank,  
read by Will Patton (Audible)  
**Humor** ..... *Shatner Rules: Your Guide to Understanding  
the Shatnerverse and the World at Large*, William Shatner,  
read by William Shatner (Penguin Audio)

**Original Work** .....*METAtropolis: Cascadia*, John Scalzi, ed., read by a full cast (Audible)  
**Paranormal** .....*Hard Magic*, Larry Correia, read by Bronson Pinchot (Audible)  
**Science Fiction** .....*Fuzzy Nation*, John Scalzi, read by Wil Wheaton (Audible)  
**Solo Narration, Female** ....*The Winter Sea*, Susanna Kearsley, read by Rosalyn Landor (Audible)

#### STURGEON AWARD NOMS

Finalists for the 2012 Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award <[www.sfcenter.ku.edu/sturgeon.htm](http://www.sfcenter.ku.edu/sturgeon.htm)> (for best short science fiction of 2011) have been announced. The winner will be announced and the award presented during the Campbell Conference Awards Banquet <[www.sfcenter.ku.edu/campbell-conference.htm](http://www.sfcenter.ku.edu/campbell-conference.htm)>, to be held 5–8 July 2012 at the University of Kansas in Lawrence KS. The nominees are:

“Six Months, Three Days,” Charlie Jane Anders (Tor.com 8 June 2011)  
 “The Copenhagen Interpretation,” Paul Cornell (*Asimov’s* July 2011)  
 “Ghostweight,” Yoon Ha Lee (*Clarkesworld* January 2011)  
 “The Old Equations,” Jake Kerr (*Lightspeed* July 2011)  
 “The Man Who Ended History: A Documentary,” Ken Liu (*Panverse Three*)  
 “The Paper Menagerie,” Ken Liu (*F&SF* March–April 2011)  
 “The Choice,” Paul McAuley (*Asimov’s* February 2011)  
*Silently and Very Fast*, Catherynne M. Valente (WSFA; *Clarkesworld* October 2011)

As a special note, Kij Johnson’s “The Man Who Bridged the Mist,” (*Asimov’s* October–November 2011) was initially set to be a finalist but Johnson, a Sturgeon juror, withdrew it.

#### MYTHOPOEIC AWARDS FINALISTS

Nominees for the 2011 Mythopoeic Awards <[www.mythsoc.org/awards](http://www.mythsoc.org/awards)> (for various activities related to the Inklings) have been announced. The awards are given by the Mythopoeic Society <[www.mythsoc.org](http://www.mythsoc.org)>. Winners will be announced at Mythcon 43 <[www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/43](http://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/43)>, to be held 3–6 August 2012 at UC Berkeley’s Clark Kerr Campus in Berkeley CA. By category, the nominees are:

##### Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Adult Literature

*The Uncertain Places*, Lisa Goldstein (Tachyon)  
*The Night Circus*, Erin Morgenstern (Doubleday)  
*The Heavenly Fox*, Richard Parks (PS)  
*Deathless*, Catherynne M. Valente (Tor)  
*Among Others*, Jo Walton (Tor)

##### Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Children’s Literature

Théâtre Illuminata series: *Eyes Like Stars*, *Perchance to Dream*, and *So Silver Bright*, Lisa Mantchev (Feiwel and Friends)  
 Beka Cooper trilogy: *Terrier*, *Bloodhound*, and *Mastiff*, Tamora Pierce (Random House)

*The Freedom Maze*, Delia Sherman (Big Mouth House)  
*The Scorpio Races*, Maggie Stiefvater (Scholastic)  
*The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making*, Catherynne M. Valente (Feiwel and Friends)

##### Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies

*Tolkien and the Study of His Sources: Critical Essays*, Jason Fisher, ed. (McFarland, 2011)  
*The Art of the Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien, Wayne G. Hammond and Christina Scull (HarperCollins, 2011)  
*Tolkien and Wales: Language, Literature and Identity*, Carl Phepstead (University of Wales, 2011)  
*C.S. Lewis on the Final Frontier: Science and the Supernatural in the Space Trilogy*, Sanford Schwartz (Oxford University, 2009)  
*The Power of Tolkien’s Prose: Middle-earth’s Magical Style*,

Steve Walker (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009)

**Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Myth and Fantasy Studies**  
*Fairy Tales: A New History*, Ruth B. Bottigheimer (SUNY, 2009)

*The Christian Goddess: Archetype and Theology in the Fantasies of George MacDonald*, Bonnie Gaarden (Fairleigh Dickinson University, 2011)

*Cheek by Jowl*, Ursula K. Le Guin (Aqueduct, 2009)

*The Fantastic Horizon: Essays and Reviews*, Darrell Schweitzer (Borgo, 2009)

*The Enchanted Screen: The Unknown History of Fairy-Tale Films*, Jack Zipes (Routledge, 2011)

#### SF&F TRANSLATION AWARD FINALISTS

Nominees for the 2012 Science Fiction and Fantasy Translation Awards <[www.sfftawards.org](http://www.sfftawards.org) (for works of speculative fiction translated into English from other languages) were announced at Åcon 5 <[aconfive.wordpress.com](http://aconfive.wordpress.com)>, held 12–20 May 2012 in Mariehamn, Åland, Finland. Winners will be announced at the 2012 Finncon <[2012.finncon.org](http://2012.finncon.org)>, to be held 21–22 July 2012 at the Scandic Tampere City and the University of Tampere, Tampere, Finland. Each winning author and translator will receive a cash prize of \$350. The jury for the awards is Dale Knickerbocker (Chair), Felice Beneduce, Hiroko Chiba, Stefan Ekman, Abhijit Gupta, Irma Hirsjärvi., Kari Maund, and Ekaterina Sedia. By category, the nominees are:

##### SFT Long Form Noms

*Zero*, Huang Fan, translated from the Chinese by John Balcom (Columbia University)  
*Good Luck Yukikaze*, Chohei Kambayashi, translated from the Japanese by Neil Nadelman (Haikasoru)  
*The Dragon Arcana*, Pierre Pevél, translated from the French by Tom Clegg (Gollancz)  
*Utopia*, Ahmed Khaled Towfik, translated from the Arabic by Chip Rossetti (Bloomsbury Qatar)  
*Midnight Palace*, Carlos Fuiz Zafón, translated from the Spanish by Lucia Graves (Little, Brown)

##### SFT Short Form Noms

“Paradiso,” Georges-Oliver Chateaufrenaud, translated from the French by Edward Gauvin (*Liquid Imagination* Summer 2011)  
*The Boy Who Cast No Shadow*, Thomas Olde Heuvelt, translated from the Dutch by Laura Vroomen (PS)  
 “The Short Arm of History,” Kenneth Krabat, translated from the Danish by Niels Dalgaard (*Sky City: New Science Fiction Stories by Danish Authors*)  
 “Stanlemian,” Wojciech Orlinski, translated from the Polish by Danusia Stok (*Lemistry*)  
 “The Green Jacket,” Gudrun Östergaard, self-translated from the Danish (*Sky City: New Science Fiction Stories by Danish Authors*)  
 “The Fish of Lijiang,” Chen Qiufan, translated from the Chinese by Ken Liu (*Clarkesworld* August 2011)  
 “Spellmaker,” Andrzej Sapkowski, translated from the Polish by Michael Kandel (*A Polish Book of Monsters*)

#### SCRIBE AWARD NOMS

Nominees for the Scribe Awards (for “excellence in licensed tie-in writing—novels based on TV shows, movies, and games”) have been announced. Many, though not all, are adaptations of genre media. The awards are sponsored by the International Association of Media Tie-in Writers <[www.iamtw.org](http://www.iamtw.org)>. **Kevin J. Anderson** has been named the **Grandmaster** winner. Winners in the other categories will be announced at Comic Con International <[www.comic-con.org](http://www.comic-con.org)>, to be held 12–15 July 2012 in San Diego CA. By category the nominees are:

### Scribe General Original Noms

*Mike Hammer: Kiss Her Goodbye*, Max Allan Collins and Mickey Spillane

*Burn Notice: The Bad Beat*, Tod Goldberg

*Royal Pains: First Do No Harm*, D.P. Lyle

### Scribe Speculative Original Noms

*Pirates of the Caribbean: The Price of Freedom*, A.C. Crispin

*Forgotten Realms: Brimstone Angels*, Erin M. Evans

*Supernatural: Coyote's Kiss*, Christa Faust

*Star Wars: Knight Errant*, John Jackson Miller

*Eberron Unlimited: The Shard Axe*, Marsheila Rockwell

### Scribe Adaptation Noms

*Transformers: Dark Side of the Moon*, Peter David

*Conan the Barbarian, Michael Stackpole*

*Cowboys and Aliens*, Joan D. Vinge

*Crysis: Legion*, Peter Watts

### Scribe Young Adult Noms

*The Smurfs*, Stacia Deutsch and Rhody Cohon

*Me & My Monsters: Monster Manners*, Rory Growler

*Thunderbirds: Extreme Hazard*, Joan Marie Verba

## Letter of Comment

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

Sheryl Birkhead  
25509 Jonnie Court  
Gaithersburg MD 20882

11 May 2011

I am going to have to make clearing out the zine sack a priority. I cannot believe how far back some of the unlogged issues got. Bhad fan... bhad fan... or do I spend the time to get the batch of sketches I have not worked up. Ah—so little time!

Ah *Ender's Game* is in production—need to watch for that down the line.

When I went out to Utah for my first/only visit to attend my niece's wedding it was to the Provo-Orem area (mentioned as the #1 optimistic city-area). Granted I only spent about 36 hours there and granted a substantial portion of that was being lost, the manners on the road (heck, when pedestrians just neared a crosswalk the traffic stopped!) were phenomenal. Admittedly motorists, um, er, seemed to take speed limit postings as a suggestion, but the few times I saw a car have to pull over and off the road immediately several other cars pulled over to see if they could be of assistance. There was no waiting to merge—everyone simply saw cars ready to merge and created a space. Not *quite* the same thing—since I was lost and trying to locate the right roads—I took my rental car into a shopping mall and went for grocery foods to eat while driving. I was not paying attention to the cart—since the store was totally new to me and so were quite a few of the items on the shelves. I made an aisle turn and bumped into another cart. The other “driver” profusely kept apologizing for the impact—despite my continually saying it was really all my fault. Interesting.

I just noticed that the *Sherlock* star, Benedict Cumberbatch, (since the second season has started showing around here) is also the “antagonist” (no name in the cast list for the character—just the actor) or the new *Star Trek* movie. Hmm.

I found a site that says it has *Outland* episodes full and free—when I get a chance (ah yes, another time sinkhole!) I will make sure it is there and see if I can watch the first episode.

Well, maybe there is enough time to get this finished and printed—just got a letter for the USPS saying that as of noon on the 19<sup>th</sup> the PO responsible for distributing mail to me will switch from Gaithersburg (which is really Laytonsville—complicated), I suspect the substation is slated to be closed... eventually. In the meantime I am about 8 miles from Laytonsville (13 miles from Gaithersburg) and 2 miles from Damascus. So the PO that will now distribute my mail is Damascus. Oddly enough, the letter did *not* say that my zip code had changed. We shall see. Now to get this mailed, whichever PO it goes to.

[The only time I was through Utah was on a family vacation so many decades ago that I wasn't yet of driving age... and if I had been I doubt my observations of driver's courtesy would have much bearing on the present. Forty plus years is plenty of time for things to change. A lot. The fairly authoritative <imdb.com> has Cumberbatch pegged to play Khan Noonien Singh in the upcoming *Trek* sequel, though they admit that's a rumor. He's also doing a couple of voices (including that of Smaug) in *The Hobbit*. Our Post Office drama around here has to do with the regional distribution center that was scheduled to close and now has a (probably temporary) reprieve. Once (and if) that happens local HSV mail will have to travel 100 miles to Birmingham to be sorted, then travel back 100 miles to go to the POs responsible for delivery. This is expected to make local delivery 2–3 days instead of 1. -ED]

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

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26 May 2012

Many thanks, Mike Kennedy, for the *May Shuttle*. If you need to enforce the deadline strictly from now on, that's no problems for me. Here I am getting caught up on correspondence, anyway.

The fuss about DUFF right now has yet to settle, and it's one fan fund I don't usually take part in, so I'll sit back to see what goes on. The CUFF race worked out well, and Deb Yeung will be heading out to the Convention in Calgary in August. And, for TAFF, Yvonne and I have decided not to run... it will probably be our last overseas trip, and we want to make sure we have the trip we want, and not necessarily the trip the fund requires.

There's my birthday... it's on a Saturday this year, so there's already plenty of plans on the go, and not to worry, I won't ask any of you for the bail... The FAAn Awards... I came a distant second for the Harry Warner Award, but I still did well.

For many years, I kept trying to contact First Fandom about membership, but without luck. As of this coming December, I will be involved in fandom for 35 years, so perhaps I should pester them again, and see if anyone wants to answer my questions.

My letter... not sure how I got the impression that you were getting ready now for Con+Stellation, but yes, it's yet to come. Our anniversary is on the 28<sup>th</sup>, but we will have our dinner on the 27<sup>th</sup>, tomorrow.

The warm weather has come early this year, to the delight of all, so plenty of people are out at the local patios. Local fandom is at our annual huge anime con, Anime North, but we are relaxing at home, and Yvonne is doing some studying for a couple of law clerk exams. Take care all, and see you next issue.

[DUFF has announced that “Hold Over Funds” won this year; not surprising, perhaps, given the mini-furor that arose over the short timeline for the election. I don’t have any insight into how much money fan funds raise but I’ve wondered what percentage of the trip costs they actually pay for—going halfway around the world (as for DUFF or GUFF) is damned expensive. Even a transatlantic trip (as for TAFF) is a pretty penny. (Or should that be Penney?) Huntsville’s convention calendar got very crowded this late spring/early summer. The local furry con (Rocket City FurMeet) was Memorial Day weekend. The first weekend in June saw the annual anime con (Hamacon—there used to be two anime cons in the area). The second weekend; a first-year Dr. Who con (Con Kasterborous). The third weekend; DeepSouthCon 50. DSC will of course be in a different city (and at a different time) next year, but if the Dr. Who con goes annual and if they all stick to the current schedule there could be back-to-back-to-back cons in Huntsville again next year. Of the 4 this year, I’m only going to DSC, but various NASFANs went to various of the other cons. -ED]

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26 May 2011

Well, I shall relay some postal changes (or are they *really*?) around here. First a bit of history. On the farm (in Woodfield) our zip code and street address changed 5 times—ending with the 20882 zip code. This is *technically* Gaithersburg—actually the privately managed substation Laytonsville (and if you put Laytonsville as the city it gets delivered). With the move here, the zip code stayed the same even though I am not now *in* anyplace. The house one lane over has a Damascus zip code. I am 2.5 miles from Damascus, 7 miles from Laytonsville, and 13 miles from Gaithersburg. This all made business deliveries, um, interesting. Based on my technical address the first few deliveries from any new distributors (if the order arrived at all) usually generated a phone call asking where I was. Gaithersburg is pretty big and the companies would put me on that route—nope—won’t get you here. The [Post Office] letter said that as of 12 noon on Saturday April 19, 2012 my mail would be carried and delivered from the Damascus office. If I need to pick up any packages, that is where they will be. I hunted to see if there would be a zip code and city change—nothing listed. I went in and asked. No. They assured me that the only change is that all mail will be delivered from and picked up by the Damascus office. Uh, pardon me, but isn’t that pretty much the definition of... just forget it. We shall see as time goes on. I think this simply allows more part-time and fewer full-time employees along with no mail carriers from the Laytonsville

office. The saga continues.

Old style technology... I just ordered a box (25/book, I think 6 books/box) of checks and choked when the phone rep said \$135... uh—is that one box? No, it is four—how many would you like? One—sorry, by phone the smallest order is two boxes. *But*, I’ll make a special exception in this one case—which do you want, return address labels or checkbook cover? I want one box of checks—that’s it. So, that one box cost \$34.53. Ouch. I may have to give in and just go for the *much* cheaper plain color checks. I refuse to go all electronic. Ever since the two credit card issues online and no way to figure out how the leaks happened, I try to minimize it.

I brought up the check idea because I am thinking about making a donation to DUFF. Not quite sure just yet, but thinking. If I carry through, it will probably be for no one in particular. The logistics sound horrendous to fulfill the spirit of the fund. We’ll see.

If I remember correctly, there have been quite a few issues over the years about payment for the use of Superman, so I was surprised at the check (and of course floored by the selling price of it!). Was the \$400 a token amount or at the time was that a “reasonable” price? Maybe I have it all wrong... or just remember it imperfectly?

Early now but late by the time this is seen—happy anniversary to Lloyd and Yvonne.

My sister and her family (Mormons) are big into emergency preparedness. I *must* send them the CDC link! Thanks!!!

Okay, getting ready for Memorial Day—want to get this out. Thanks—as always a nice job!

[The rights to the Superman character went for \$130; three other characters were in the ~\$400 total, one of which went for more than Supe. There’s more to the story than that; the agreement also included hiring Siegel and Shuster to provide material, which they did for years. You’re correct that S&S—and later their heirs—sued on several occasions to have the 1938 contract nullified (in part or in full) and the copyright returned to them. The messy story is summarized on the Superman Wikipedia page <[tinyurl.com/SupeWikiCopy](http://tinyurl.com/SupeWikiCopy)>. I counted at least four lawsuits but the story is so convoluted I could easily be wrong. S&S *may indeed* have gotten a raw deal given how much money Superman, et al., have earned, but it’s worth noting that Detective Comics (later DC Comics) would very likely not have published a character to which they didn’t own the rights... making the value zero. Your check-ordering saga inspired me to check my stash. I have 172 checks on hand, but I wrote only 14 in the first 5 months of this year. Rounding up to 3/month, I should be good for the next 4–5 years. (Perhaps longer, the number written per month has been dropping for years now and may drop further. It is entirely possible—if not particularly probable—I’ll never need any more.) -ED]



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