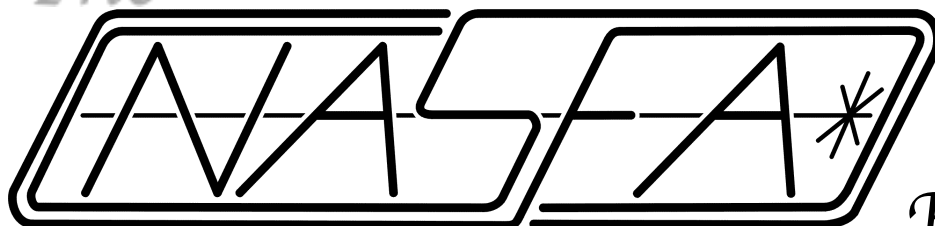


The



Shuttle

February 2015

The Next NASFA Meeting is 6:30P Saturday 21 February 2015 at the Regular Location

Concom: 3P Saturday 21 February, at Judy and Sam's House

▲ Oyez, Oyez ▲

The next **NASFA Meeting** will be **6:30P Saturday 21 February 2015**, at the regular meeting location—the Madison campus of Willowbrook Baptist Church (old Wilson Lumber Company building) at **7105 Highway 72W** (aka University Drive). Please see the map at right if you need help finding it.

PLEASE NOTE that per a vote at the October 2014 meeting, the start of the Business Meeting has changed from 6P to 6:30P. Programs are still scheduled to start at 7P.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

The February program is TBD at press time (though I'm told that "JudySue" have something in work).

FEBRUARY ATMM

The February After-The-Meeting Meeting host is also technically TBD at press time, though Adam and Maria Grim have volunteered to do it at the church. Since they've hosted the ATMM so often, we may switch if someone else steps forward.

In any case, the usual rules will apply—that is, please bring food to share and your favorite drink. Also, please stay to help clean up. We need to be good guests and leave things at least as clean as we found them.

CONCOM MEETING

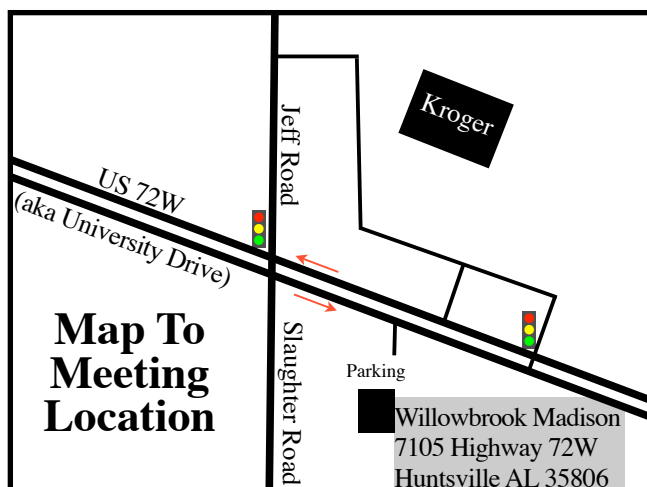
The next Con†Stellation XXXIII Concom Meeting will be at 3P on 21 February 2015—the same day as this month's club meeting. It will not, however, be held at the same place, but instead it'll be at Sam and Judy Smith's house (1501 Slaughter Road in Madison). There will be a dinner break between the

Concom Meeting and the NASFA Business Meeting.

The intent going forward is for the concom to meet on club meeting days, at least until we get close enough to the con to require going to two meetings a month. Stay tuned, though, and consider all meeting dates past February as tentative until confirmed.

CHANGING SHUTTLE DEADLINES

The latest tweak to the *NASFA Shuttle* schedule shifted the *usual* repro date somewhat to the right (roughly the weekend before each meeting) but much of each issue will need to be put to bed as much as two weeks before the monthly meeting.



Continuing Our 35th Year of Publication

Inside this issue...

News & Info	2	Awards Roundup	4
Minutes of the January Meeting	2	Bram Stoker Awards Preliminary Ballot	6
NASFA Calendar	3	Letters of Comment	7
		Art by Mark Fisher	9

Deadline for the March 2015 issue of The NASFA Shuttle is Monday 9 March 2015

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.

FUTURE PROGRAMS AND ATMMs

Future programs for 2015 are TBD at press time. We need ATMM volunteers all remaining months in 2015.

FUTURE CLUB MEETING DATES

All but two 2015 NASFA meeting dates are currently scheduled on the normal 3rd Saturday. The March 2015 meeting has been shifted to the 4th Saturday (28 March) to avoid a conflict with MidSouthCon. The July 2015 meeting has been shifted to the 4th Saturday (25 July) to avoid a conflict with Con Kasterborous.

JOINING THE NASFA EMAIL LIST

All NASFANs who have email are urged to join the NASFA email list, which you can do online at <tinyurl.com/NASFAEmail>. The list is usually low traffic, though the rate is rather variable. Generally the list is limited to announcements about club activities plus the occasional message of general interest to north-Alabama sf/f/h/etc. fans. Non NASFANs are both *encouraged* and *welcomed* to join the list, but please only do so if you're interested in the above restricted topics.

NASFA CALENDAR ONLINE

NASFA has an online calendar on Google. Interested parties can check the calendar online, but you can also subscribe to it and have your Outlook, iCal, BlackBerry, or other calendar automatically updated as events (Club Meetings, Concom Meetings, local sf/f/h/etc. events) are added or changed. You can view the calendar online at <tinyurl.com/NASFACal>.

News & Info

HUGO & CAMPBELL NOM PERIOD

The nomination period for the 2014 Hugo Awards and Campbell Award has opened. It will close at 23:59 Pacific Time 10 March 2015. Anyone who is/was a member of the 2014, 2015, or 2016 Worldcon as of the end of the day 31 January 2015 (Pacific Time) is eligible to nominate. (One ballot per person, no matter how many of the qualifying Worldcons one is/was a member of.)

After the nominating round, members of the 2015 Worldcon (only) will be able to vote on the final ballot. The awards are administered by and will be awarded at the 2015 Worldcon (Sasquan <sasquan.org>, to be held 19–23 August 2015 at the Spokane Convention Center and surrounding hotels in Spokane WA.)

ANOTHER WORLDCON “BID”

A very hoax-like bid for Worldcon has popped up—Night Vale in Eternity <www.nightvaleworldcon.org>. As hoax bids go, this one seems on the odd side. [Personally, I get some of the same vibe as the late great Xerps in 2010 bid—though less manic and possibly less alcohol-fueled. -ED]

LUNACON 2016

After having to cancel the 2015 Lunacon (<lunacon.org>, a function of the New York Science Fiction Society), the 2016 edition is now on. The group has announced that “The official dates for the next Lunacon are planned to be from March 18th to March 20th of 2016. This will allow time to prepare for a more organized and enjoyable convention.”

WORKING CLASS/IMPOVERISHED WRITERS GRANT

The Speculative Literature Foundation <www.speclit.org> has announced a new \$750 Working Class/Impoverished Writers Grant and has opened applications. The juried grant is for

speculative literature writers who “grew up (or are growing up) in homelessness, poverty, or a blue collar/working-class household, or” who “have lived for a significant portion of [their] life in such conditions, especially if [they] had limited access to relatives/friends who could assist” financially.

The application period this first grant closes 28 February 2015 and the “grant recipient will be announced by April 15th, annually”

SFWA ADDS SELF-PUBLISHED & SMALL PRESS

The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfwaw.org> has modified their qualifications accept self-publication and small-press credits for Active and Associate memberships in the organization. This move echoes similar changes in several similar groups over the last several years—as well as on-the-ground changes in the publishing industry. While only about a third of the membership voted, the vote was “over 6 to 1 in favor.”

Note that they have not simply thrown the gates fully open—there is still a minimum income requirement to join this professional organization. SFWA President, Steven Gould is quoted as saying, “Writers write. Professional writers get paid a decent amount for what they write. For the past five years it’s been apparent that there are ways to earn that decent amount that were not being covered by our previous qualification standards. Though these changes took a substantial amount of time, I’m grateful to everyone who worked toward this end.”

1968 HUGO AWARDS CEREMONY TRANSCRIPT FOUND

Tom Whitmore recently unearthed a transcript of the 1968 Hugo Awards ceremony while going through the papers of Alva Rogers (who co-chaired that con, aka BayCon). The ’script was in rough shape, but Whitmore has retyped and edited it to recreate a reasonable facsimile of the event. Both PDF and Microsoft Word versions are linked at TheHugoAwards website near the bottom of <www.thehugoawards.org/hugo-history/1968-hugo-awards>.

FOREVER MAGAZINE STARTED

A new reprint-only digital sf magazine has been started, with the ambitious name of *Forever Magazine* <forever-magazine.com/issues.html>. Each issue will have reprints of one novella and two short stories with possibly other content. (The first issue, for instance, included an editorial, an interview, and a piece of cover art.) Issues are \$2.99, or \$1.99 monthly with an Amazon subscription.

HISTORY OF FILK

Tomorrow’s Songs Today, a book-length history of filk music, is now available as a *free* download in either ePub or PDF format at <www.mcgath.com/tst>. There’s even what appears to be an ongoing list of notes and errata linked from that same page. Interestingly, production of the book was funded at least in part by an IndieGoGo campaign which raised over \$3,000 to help with expenses like copy editing and cover art.

January Minutes

by Steve Sloan

The January meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, January 17, 2015, in the Madison satellite location of Willowbrook Baptist Church at 6:52:29P by Secretary Steve Sloan. The President and Vice President couldn’t make it, so the Secretary filled in per the bylaws. The crickets did not make an appearance.

OLD BUSINESS

2015 NASFA dues are due.

NEW BUSINESS

Judy asked for program suggestions. If you have any, please email Judy or Sue. Gene suggested a program about extraterrestrial intelligence and UFOs.

CON BUSINESS

Sam the Treasurer reported that he renewed the Con†Stellation business license with the state. According to the venue address on the business license, the convention will be held at an empty parking lot, the location of the late, lamented Holiday Inn Express where Con†Stellation was held for several years.

The con chairs are still looking for Guests of Honor.

Con†Stellation 2015 has a flyer almost ready, but it needs new art because we don't have permission to use the current mock-up art.

This year's constellation is Coma Berenices, which translates to Bernice's Hair.

A concom (convention committee meeting) is tentatively scheduled at 3P on the same day as the club meeting (February 21, 2015) at the club meeting location (Willowbrook Madison).

Sam moved to adjourn at 6:58:31P, and Judy seconded.

January's program was Short Attention Span Theater. Adam and Maria Grim hosted the After the Meeting Meeting at the meeting location.

NASFA Calendar

FEBRUARY

- 01 National Freedom Day.
- 01 Atlanta Comic Convention—Atlanta GA.
- 02 Groundhog Day.
- 02 Día de la Constitución.
- 06 National Wear Red Day (women's heart health).
- 06–08 Days of the Dead—Atlanta GA.
- 08 BD: Lin Cochran.
- 09 BD: Jack Lundy.
- 10 BD: Marcia Illingworth.
- 12 BD: Abraham Lincoln.
- 13–15 ConDFW—Addison (Dallas area) TX.
- 14 St. Valentine's Day.
- 15 BD: Susan B. Anthony.
- 16 Presidents' Day.
- 17 BD: Nancy A. Cucci.
- 17 Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras.
- 18 Ash Wednesday.
- 19 Chinese New Year.
- 20–22 Concave—Bowling Green KY.
- 20–22 Purple Bunny Con—Murfreesboro TN.
- 21* ConCon†Stellation XXXIII Concom Meeting—3P, at Judy and Sam Smith's house. There will be a dinner break before the club meeting.
- 21* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD (but see the announcements on page 1).
- 21–22 ETSU-Con—Johnson City TN.
- 22 BD: George Washington.
- 24 Día de la Bandera.
- 27–01 ConNooga—Chattanooga TN.
- 27–01 Kami Con 7—Birmingham AL.
- 27–01 AnachroCon—Atlanta GA.

MARCH

- 02 BD: Ronnie Lajoie.
- 02 Read Across America Day.
- 05 Purim.

- 06–08 Gnome Con 4—Savannah GA.
- 06–08 The Vampire Diaries—Atlanta GA.
- 07 Cardboard*Con—Atlanta GA.
- 07 Athens Anime Academy—Athens GA.
- 08 Día Internacional de la Mujer.
- 08 Daylight Saving Time begins.
- 09 BD: Tracey Kennedy.
- 10 BD: Kerry Gilley.
- 13–15 Con GT—Clarksville TN.
- 13–15 Game Days X—Franklin TN.
- 13–15 JoeLanta—Atlanta GA.
- 13–15 SecretsCon—Atlanta GA.
- 13 BD: Anita Eisenberg.
- 14–15 AthCon—Athens GA.
- 14–15 DC Game Day XVI—Washington DC.
- 16 BD: Benito Juárez (Observed).
- 17 St. Patrick's Day.
- 18–22 36th International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts—Orlando FL.
- 20 Spring Equinox.
- 20–22 CoastCon 38—Biloxi MS.
- 20–22 MidSouthCon 33—Memphis TN.
- 21 BD: Benito Juárez.
- 22 BD: Jayson Woosley.
- 28* Con†Stellation XXXIII Concom Meeting—3P, at Willowbrook Madison. **TENTATIVE.**
- 28* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD. **PLEASE NOTE** that this is a week later than usual, due to a convention conflict.
- 29 Palm Sunday.

APRIL

- 01 April Fools' Day.
- 02 Jueves Santo.
- 02–05 Frolicon—Atlanta GA.
- 03 Good Friday.
- 03–05 Conglomeration—Louisville KY.
- 03–05 MTAC in Love—Nashville TN.
- 03–05 Taiga Con—Atlanta GA.
- 04 First Day of Passover.
- 05 Easter.
- 07 BD: Mary Lampert.
- 07 World Health Day.
- 09–12 Furry Weekend Atlanta—Atlanta GA.
- 10 Orthodox Good Friday.
- 10–12 221B Con—Atlanta GA.
- 11 Last Day of Passover.
- 12 Orthodox Easter.
- 13 BD: Thomas Jefferson.
- 15 BD: "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo.
- 15 BD: Manda Freeman.
- 15 Tax Day.
- 17–19 JordanCon 7—Atlanta GA.
- 17–19 Anime St. Louis—St. Louis MO.
- 17–19 LexiCon—Lexington KY.
- 18* Con†Stellation XXXIII Concom Meeting—3P, at Willowbrook Madison. **TENTATIVE.**
- 18* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
- 21 BD: Randy B. Cleary.
- 21 National Library Workers' Day.
- 21 Queen's Anniversary.
- 22 Administrative Professionals Day.
- 24–26 Tattoo Arts & Horror Fest—Huntsville AL.
- 24–26 Trek Trax—Atlanta GA.

were reportedly two works of genre interest among the winners:

Book: Fixed Format/Enhanced, Adult Fiction.....*The Truth Is a Cave in the Black Mountains: A Tale of Travel and Darkness with Pictures of All Kinds* (Enhanced Multimedia Edition), Neil Gaiman (Morrow)

App: Adult Fiction.....*The Hope We Seek*, Rich Shapero (Too Far Media)

JAMES HERBERT AWARD NOMS

A shortlist for a new award sponsored by publisher Pan Macmillan—the James Herbert Award for Horror Writing—has been announced. The winner, to be proclaimed in March 2015, will receive a commemorative statuette and a cheque for £2000. The shortlist is:

The Girl with All the Gifts, M.R. Carey (Orbit)

The Troop, Nick Cutter (Headline)

Cuckoo Song, Frances Hardinge (Macmillan)

The Loney, Andrew Michael Hurley (Tartarus)

Bird Box, Josh Malerman (Voyager)

An English Ghost Story, Kim Newman (Titan)

LOCUS RECOMMENDED READING LIST & POLL

The 2014 *Locus Magazine* Recommended Reading List was published *Locus*' February 2015 issue and online at <www.locusmag.com/Magazine/2015/02/2014-locus-recommended-reading-list>. The list represents a consensus among *Locus* editors and reviewers with some additional outside input.

The full list covers 12 categories and is too extensive to reprint here. It serves to (among other things) seed the list for the 44th annual *Locus* Awards ballot <www.locusmag.com/Magazine/2015/PollAndSurvey.html>. The deadline for voting in that poll is 15 April 2015.

JIM BAEN MEMORIAL AWARD NOMS

Baen Books has announced finalists for the 2015 Jim Baen Memorial Award (for a short story that demonstrate the positive aspects of space exploration and discovery). The winner will be announced by 15 March 2015 and honored at the 2015 International Space Development Conference <isdc2015.nss.org>, to be held 20–24 May 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Downtown Toronto in Toronto ON. The finalists are:

Robert Dawson

John Eckelkam

Stuart Hardwick

Jamie Lackey

Marina Nelson Lostetter

Stanley Love

Karen Birkedahl Rylander

Angus McIntyre

Shawn Scarber

Martin L. Shoemaker

AUDIE AWARDS NOMS

Finalists for the 2015 Audie Awards <www.audiopub.org/audies-contest.asp>—sponsored by the Audio Publishers Association—have been announced. There are 30 categories, among which several are directly applicable to sf/f/h/whatever. Additionally, there are genre nominees in some of the other categories. The full, very long, list can be seen at <www.audiopub.org/Audies15/2015_Audie_Awards_Release.pdf>.

Some of the categories with genre works include Children's Titles (Ages 8=12), Children's Titles (Up to Age 8), Fantasy, Paranormal, Science Fiction, Short Stories/Collections, Solo Narration (Male), and Thriller/Suspense. [And I've probably missed some. -ED]

Winners will be announced at a ceremony to be held 28 May 2015 at the New York Academy of Medicine in NYC.

YEAR'S BEST MILITARY/ADVENTURE SF?

Baen Books has announced a new award—Year's Best Military and Adventure Science Fiction Story. Actually, it's a fan vote selecting their favorite story from upcoming Baen release *The Year's Best Military SF and Space Opera*, so the pool of eligible entrants has already been selected by Baen. The winner

of this somewhat self-promotional award will be announced at Dragoncon <www.dragoncon.org>, to be held 4–7 September 2015 at Hyatt Regency Atlanta and several other nearby hotels in Atlanta GA. The winning author will receive “an additional \$500 and a nice plaque.”

WSFA SMALL PRESS AWARD WANTS YOUR HELP

Well, they do if you're an sf author, small press publisher, or WSFA member. The Washington (DC) Science Fiction Association is looking for nominees for their Small Press Award for short fiction <www.wsfasmallpressaward.org>. Eligible nominators have until 31 March 2015.

The award will be presented at Capclave 15 <www.capclave.org/capclave/capclave15>, to be held 9–11 October 2015 at the Hilton Washington DC North/Gaithersburg.

BSFA AWARDS NOMS

The “shortlisted nominees” for the 2014 British Science Fiction Association <www.bsfa.co.uk> Awards has been announced. Voting is open to BSFA members and attending members of Eastercon (the British natcon). Winners will be announced at a ceremony at Dysprosium <www.dysprosium.org.uk> (the 66th Eastercon), to be held 3–6 April 2015 at the Park Inn, Heathrow (London area) UK. By category, the nominees are:

BSFA Best Artwork Noms

Cover for Kameron Hurley's *Mirror Empire*, Richard Anderson (Angry Robot)

Cover for Adam Roberts's *Bête*, Blacksheep (Gollancz)

The Wasp Factory (sculpture), Tessa Farmer (after Iain Banks)

Cover for Simon Ings's *Wolves*, Jeffery Alan Love (Gollancz)

Cover for Sophia McDougall's *Mars Evacuees*, Andy Potts (Egmont)

BSFA Best Non-Fiction Noms

Greg Egan, Karen Burnham (University of Illinois Press)

“Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers in the Great War,” Edward James <fantastic-writers-and-the-great-war.com>

Call and Response, Paul Kincaid (Becon Books)

“Deep Forests and Manicured Gardens: A Look at Two New Short Fiction Magazines,” Jonathan McCalmont <ruthlessculture.com>

“The State of British SF and Fantasy: A Symposium,” Niall Harrison, ed. (*Strange Horizons*)

BSFA Best Short Fiction Noms

“The Honey Trap,” Ruth E J, Booth (*La Femme*)

“The Mussel Eater,” Octavia Cade (The Book Smugglers)

Scale Bright, Benjamin Sriduangkaew (Immersion)

BSFA Best Novel Noms

The Race, Nina Allan (Newcon)

Cuckoo Song, Frances Hardinge (Macmillan)

Europe in Autumn, Dave Hutchinson (Solaris)

Wolves, Simon Ings (Gollancz)

Ancillary Sword, Anne Leckie (Orbit)

The First Fifteen Lives of Harry August, Claire North (Orbit)

Lagoon, Nnedi Okorafor (Hodder)

The Moon King, Neil Williamson (Newcon)

KITSCHIES NOMS

Finalists for the 2014 Kitschies <www.thekitschies.com> (for “the year's most progressive, intelligent and entertaining works that contain elements of the speculative or fantastic”) have been announced. Winners will be announced at a ceremony to be held 4 March 2015 with a total of £2,500 in prize money at stake. By category, the finalists are:

Kitschies Red Tentacle (Novel) Noms

The Race, Nina Allen (NewCon)

The Peripheral, William Gibson (Viking)

Lagoon, Nnedi Okorafor (Hodder & Stoughton)

Grasshopper Jungle, Andrew Smith (Egmont)

The Way Inn, Will Wiles (4th Estate)

Kitschies Golden Tentacle (Debut) Noms

The Girl in the Road, Monica Byrne (Blackfriars)

The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet, Becky Chambers (self-published)

Viper Wine, Hermione Eyre (Jonathan Cape)

Memory of Water, Emmi Itäranta (HarperCollins)

The People in the Trees, Hanya Yanagihara (Atlantic)

Kitschies Inky Tentacle (Cover Art) Noms

Through the Woods, Emily Carroll, cover by Emily Carroll and Sonja Chaghatzbanian (Faber and Faber)

The Ghost of the Mary Celeste, Valerie Martin, design by Steve Marking, lettering by Kimberly Glyder (Weidenfeld and Nicolson)

Tigerman, Nick Harkaway, Glenn O'Neill (William Heinemann)

The Book of Strange New Things, Michel Faber, cover by Rafaela Romaya and Yehring Tong (Canongate)

A Man Lies Dreaming, Lavie Tidhar, cover by Ben Summers (Hodder and Stoughton)

Kitschies Invisible Tentacle (Natively Digital Fiction) Noms

Kentucky Route Zero: Act III, Cardboard Computer

80 Days, Meg Jayanth (Inkle Studios)

echovirus12 (Twitter fiction), Jeff Noon, Ed, James Knight, violet sprite, Richard Biddle, Mina Polen, Uel Aramchek, Graham Walsh, Vapour Vox

The Sailor's Dream, Simogo

Phoenix Island, John Dixon (Gallery)

Phoenix Island, Kami Garcia (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

Killer Instinct, S.E. Green (Simon Pulse)

Passionaries, Tonya Hurley (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)

Amity, Micol Ostow (Egmont)

All Those Broken Angels, Peter Adam Salomon (Flux)

Horror High School: Return of the Loving Dead, Sam Swanson and Araminta Star Matthews (Curiosity Quills)

Eleanor: Book 1: The Unseen, Johnny Worthen (Jolly Fish)

STOKER LONG FICTION PRELIM BALLOT

"Dandelion Clocks," Michael Bailey (*Inkblots and Blood Spots*)

"The Infected," Taylor Grant (*Cemetery Dance #71*)

"Dreams of a Little Suicide," Eric J. Guignard (*Hell Comes To Hollywood II*)

Ceremony of Flies, Kate Jonez (DarkFuse)

"Fishing for Dinosaurs," Joe R. Lansdale (*Limbus, Inc., Book II*)

"Three Guys Walk Into a Bar," Jonathan Maberry (*Limbus, Inc., Book II*)

"Lost and Found," Joe McKinney (*Limbus, Inc., Book II*)

"Ridin the Dawg," Gene O'Neill (*Mia Moja*)

"The Long Long Breakdown," John F.D. Taff (*The End in All Beginnings*)

"The Riggle Twins," Gregor Xane (*Bad Apples*)

STOKER SHORT FICTION PRELIM BALLOT

"Sleep Paralysis," Dale Bailey (*Nightmare* April 2014)

"Hot Tub," Hal Bodner (*Hell Comes to Hollywood II*)

"Trigger Warning," Patrick Freivald (*Demonic Visions Book 4*)

"Baby's Breath," Sydney Leigh (*Bugs: Tales That Slither, Creep, and Crawl*)

"The Vaporization Enthalpy of a Peculiar Pakistani Family," Usman T. Malik (*Qualia Nous*)

"Nature's Oddities," Alessandro Manzetti (*The Shaman: And Other Shadows*)

"Ruminations," Rena Mason (*Qualia Nous*)

"Splinterette," John Palisano (*Widowmakers: A Benefit Anthology of Dark Fiction*)

"The Street of Fruiting Bodies," Sayuri Ueda (*Phantasm Japan*)

"A Dweller in Amenty," Genevieve Valentine (*Nightmare* March 2014)

"The Floating Girls: A Documentary," Damien Angelica Walters (Jamais Vu #3)

STOKER ANTHOLOGY PRELIM BALLOT

The End Is Nigh, John Joseph Adams and Hugh Howey, eds. (Broad Reach)

Qualia Nous, Michael Bailey, ed. (Written Backwards)

A Darke Phantastique, Jason Brock, ed. (Cycatrix)

Fearful Symmetries, Ellen Datlow, ed. (ChiZine)

Halloween Tales, Kate Jonez, ed. (Omnium Gatherum)

Hell Comes to Hollywood II, Eric Miller, ed. (Big Time)

Burnt Tongues, Chuck Palahniuk, Richard Thomas, and Dennis Widmyer, eds. (Medallion)

The Dark Rites of Cthulhu, Brian M. Sammons, ed. (April Moon)

Limbus, Inc., Book II, Brett J. Talley, ed. (JournalStone)

Journals of Horror: Found Fiction, Terry M. West (Pleasant Storm)

STOKER COLLECTION PRELIM BALLOT

Inkblots and Blood Spots, Michael Bailey (Villipede)

After the People Lights Have Gone Off, Stephen Graham Jones (Dark House)

Stoker Preliminary Ballot

The preliminary ballot for the 2014 Bram Stoker Awards has been announced by the Horror Writers Association <horror.org>. Active and Lifetime HWA members vote on this list to form the final ballot (aka nominees) to be announced 23 February 2015. By category, the not-yet-nominees are:

STOKER NOVEL PRELIM BALLOT

The Flesh Sutra, Tim Burke (NobleFusion)

The Burning Dark, Adam Christopher (Tor)

This Darkness Light, Michaelbrent Collings (self-published)

Vortex, Lawrence C. Connolly (Fantasist Enterprises)

Suffer the Children, Craig DiLouie (Gallery)

Jade Sky, Patrick Freivald (JournalStone)

Beautiful You, Chuck Palahniuk (Jonathan Cape/Vintage)

The Vines, Christopher Rice (47North)

The Reborn, Brett J. Talley (JournalStone)

Blood Kin, Steve Rasnic Tem (Solaris)

STOKER FIRST NOVEL PRELIM BALLOT

Mr. Wicker, Maria Alexander (Raw Dog Screaming)

Forsaken, J.D. Barker (Hampton Creek)

Predator, Janice Gable Bashman (Month9Books)

Consumed, David Cronenberg (Scribner)

Return of the Mothman, Michael Knost (Woodland)

Hyde, Daniel Levine (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Bird Box, Josh Malerman (HarperCollins)

The Violet Hour, Whitney Miller (Flux)

Angel Manor, Chantal Noordeloos (Horrific Tales)

Predator X, C.J. Waller (Severed)

STOKER YA NOVEL PRELIM BALLOT

Lych Way, Ari Berk (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)

Intentional Haunting, Jake Bible (Permuted)

White Space, Ilsa J. Bick (Egmont)

Little by Little, John R. Little (Bad Moon)
Gifts for the One Who Comes After, Helen Marshall (ChiZine)
Escape Plans, David Sakmyster (Wordfire)
The Madeleine Wheel: Playing with Spiders, Terrence Scott (self-publishing)
Soft Apocalypses, Lucy Snyder (Raw Dog Screaming)
The Untold Tales of Ozman Droom, Robin Spriggs (Anomalous)
The End In All Beginnings, John F.D. Taff (Grey Matter)
Songs for the Lost, Alexander Zelenyj (Eibonvale)

STOKER NON-FICTION PRELIM BALLOT

William Hope Hodgson: Voices from the Borderland, Massimo Berruti, S.T. Joshi, and Sam Gafford (Hippocampus)
Disorders of Magnitude, Jason V Brock (Rowman & Littlefield)
The Art of Neil Gaiman, Hayley Campbell (HarperCollins)
Lovecraft and A World in Transition, S.T. Joshi (Hippocampus)
The New Annotated H.P. Lovecraft, Leslie S. Klinger (Liveright)
Horror 101: The Way Forward, Joe Mynhardt and Emma Audsley (Crystal Lake)
Mrs. Wakeman vs. the Antichrist, Robert Damon Schneck (Tarcher/Penguin)
Shooting Yourself in the Head For Fun and Profit: A Writer's Survival Guide, Lucy Snyder (Post Mortem)
The Creature Chronicles: Exploring the Black Lagoon Trilogy, Tom Weaver, David Schecter, and Steve Kronenberg (McFarland)

STOKER POETRY COLLECTION PRELIM BALLOT

Fearworms: Selected Poems, Robert Payne Cabeen (Fanboy Comics)
Gravedigger's Dance, G.O. Clark (Dark Renaissance)
The Madness of Empty Spaces, David E. Cowen (Weasel)
Venus Intervention, Corrinne De Winter and Alessandro Manzetti (Kipple Officina Libraria)
Dreams from the Black Nebula, Wade German (Hippocampus)
Forgiving Judas, Tom Piccirilli (Crossroad)
The Manufacturer of Sorrow, Michelle Scalise (Eldritch)
Sweet Poison, Marge Simon and Mary Turzillo (Dark Renaissance)
Creepy Little Death Poems, Tiffany Tang (Dreality)
Mourning Jewelry, Stephanie Wytovich (Raw Dog Screaming)

STOKER GRAPHIC NOVEL PRELIM BALLOT

Sugar Skull, Charles Burns (Pantheon)
Through the Woods, Emily Carroll (McElderry)
Kiss Me Satan, Victor Gischler and Juan Ferrerya (Dark Horse)
Locke and Key: Vol. 6: Alpha and Omega, Joe Hill and Gabrielle Rodriguez (IDW)
I Tell You It's Love, Joe R. Lansdale and Daniele Serra (Short, Scary Tales)
Bad Blood, Jonathan Maberry and Tyler Crook (Dark Horse)
The Witcher, Paul Tobin (Dark Horse)

STOKER SCREENPLAY PRELIM BALLOT

American Horror Story: Coven: "The Magical Delights of Stevie Nicks"
The Babadook
Doctor Who: "Listen"

Helix: "Pilot"
Infliction

Penny Dreadful: "Possession"
Penny Dreadful: "Séance"
Sleepy Hollow: "Bad Blood"
The Walking Dead: "The Grove"
Wolf Creek 2



BRAM STOKER AWARDS®

Letters of Comment

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Sheryl Birkhead
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5-6 January 2015

Well, we have now officially entered the new year of Hugo nomination considerations. So—all who are qualified to nominate, start thinking now!

I hope all holiday festivities went well and that the New Year is off to a pleasant start to all.

Only today some of the SPCA volunteers were commenting on how mild the winter has been. Um... er... I intelligently pointed out winter has just begun and the weather forecast happens to say (taking into account the wind chill factor) that the temperature to come later this week are foretold to be in the negative digits. Ah well, to some degree it was bound to happen sooner or later—just wish the spread wasn't going to be quite so wide.

Seeing the mention of the Endeavour Award merely reminds me of the *Inspector Morse* prequel *Endeavour* and reminds me I just saw the lead Shaun Evans in... I think *Ashes to Ashes* (the British female sequel to *Life on Mars*—i.e., a female officer makes the "time jump"). Then I ran into the Weasley patriarch showing up... *Father Brown* and so on. We're everywhere... everywhere!!

Agh, how far out of the mainstream I am now—had not heard who is the Rotsler winner—need to see if I have an email or snail mail address for Sue Mason. Either way, my heartiest of congratulations to her!

Just got a technology rude awakening. Looks as if this operating system is no longer advanced enough to host/support continuing education webinars for me. It was nice as long as it lasted.

Seeing Hagrid addressed as professor was a jolt... oh yeah... Ah I see a lot more crossing of the cast of characters in quite a few more tales. Always fun to see how they can all fit together with the myriad of relationships that have to be explained! Love PED's mitochondrial DNA analysis!

Nice to see Lloyds loc. Even if I wanted to actually attend a Worldcon (any Worldcon) it would not matter how close it is—there is just no free discretionary money to be diverted and with the long term repairs needing to be done over the years, well... let's just say fantasy seems rather appropriate. It might be nice to have another Worldcon in DC, whether I could go or not.

Winter, apparently, has suddenly decided to put in an appearance. The news is full of plans for snow preparation for tomorrow and the longer term forecast is tossing around temperature numbers in the minus digits. Agh, been a while since those temps were here. Ah, but 'tis the season.

I'll finish this up early (I hope) tomorrow. I continue to lengthen out the evening hours to get things done and that ends up shortening the day—just shifting things around when what I continue to need is the 36-48 hour day. Getting late and it is almost tomorrow anyway.

January 6th (once again, late)—so much for that idea. The weatherman pulled his punches and I had to tote the snowblower out. I went out twice to check the mailbox. My last foray out was at 6 p.m. and still nothing so I'll see if it shows up magically overnight.

It would appear that Momonga might be the precursor (or perhaps the descendant?) of Rocky the Flying Squirrel? It

would appear he is holding on for dear life and it looks as if his clutches on the twig have it functioning as a rudder of some sort?

Hope the winter “chill” isn’t all that bhad...

[Now see, I didn’t think “Rocky” so much when I saw the squirrel art I used in December as “steampunk.” Or, rather, steampunk crossed with furry (anthropomorphic) fiction. I watched (half-way) the final season 2 episode of *Endeavour* while working on this. I was distracted enough I’ll need to watch it again to get the nuances. (I’d rather see the original British cut—as I understand it the US version is missing several minutes from each ep. In fact, if anyone know where I can legally see seasons 1 and 2 of *Endeavour* that’d be great.) As I work on the LoCs (running late on finishing the issue) the National Weather Service has lifted their Winter Storm Watch for the Huntsville area but we’re still under an advisory for some amount of sleet/freezing rain/snow in Monday’s wee hours. The temps, though, are predicted to make it well above freezing by Monday afternoon, so I hope we’ll dodge any major travel problems. -ED]

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22 January 2015

Tag, you’re it! You get to be the guinea pig for unearthing this old piece [of art] I just “re-found.” My, how quickly computer aids became *de rigueur*. This is a very old piece that was only archived as a photocopy of the hand done piece and time has not been kind! Ah well, I’ll only know when I print it out if it still holds up or if I need to give it another shot with an even small[er] version—to make the gaps (etc.) appear less obvious.

As I scanned the list of guests for the 2016 DeepSouthCon, I glommed right onto the name of Julia Morgan-Scott. It has been a while since I have seen her name and I am very happy to see her being recognized! Ghreat choice!

My, how time flies—TAFF voting is already open and the FAAN awards are ready for voting. Obvious, but I had forgotten about the Hugo base competition. I have images in my head of a Sasquatch as a part of the base—we’ll see.

Yeow—Loncon 3 seems to have brought in almost a million pounds and (subject to updates) had expenses almost that high. I have not been paying attention to costs in and out over the past few years—but that is (to me at least) one expensive venue. But, as long as the final number is in the black at least there are no “liens” on future Worldcon income. The attendance numbers aren’t too shabby either!

PED—ah Potterday—makes sense to celebrate his birthday. Hmm, so dragons could make a reasonable income by (ahem) putting out—in the literal sense. We always piled manure from the cattle barn up high and let it sit until it was not so hot (again—in the literal sense of the word) so as not to burn the plants. I wonder if any of this lore is in any of the dragon husbandry books?

Nice to see comments from Lloyd—my mother’s birthday was also on Dec. 26th and the same tradition was upheld—always two separate (and if at all possible equivalent!) gifts!

Yesterday saw our second shovelable snowfall of the season—just as the first one had melted. Luckily (knock on the proverbial wood) both were in the 3–5” range. I thought that, because the temperatures had stayed a bit above freezing during the day that perhaps the night would be warm enough that—nope—bright white everywhere except, thankfully, on roads

and driveways. Now I hear another one is due in around Saturday—guess I need to get out now see if there are any large salt bags left... just about used up all I had on hand (bought a big bag that happened to be left over at the end of the season last year—so it was just sitting here in a timely fashion).

Okay—short—but now to print and see how the image appears—hope the snow still isn’t reaching you.

[As I mentioned above, we may get some snow or ice tonight. It’s the Presidents’ Day holiday so I won’t likely be out and about anyway. For readers scratching their heads over Sheryl’s reference to old art, most of her LoCs include a nice piece of art. With no scanner, I’m unable to share them in the *Shuttle*, but given that most have a crease from folding the paper I kind of doubt they’d scan and reproduce well. -ED]

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

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15 February 2015

This is super late, but thanks to Mike, space is reserved, so here comes a loc on the January *Shuttle*. Mike you said you were having mailing problems... I got this issue off your website, so no problems on getting it for response.

First of all, congratulations on 35 years of publication! Not many produce clubzines anymore, but those who do have done them for a long time. Congratulations on being one of the remaining publishers.

Hope everyone had a great Valentine’s Day... I took Yvonne out for lunch rather than dinner, for we wanted to avoid the gigantic Valentine rush. She bought me a new messenger bag, and I bought her some Victorian roses. A very nice, relaxing day.

Good reminders... I must vote on TAFF, and on the FAAN Awards, plus the Aurora Awards deadline is fast approaching, too. Last year, I admit to only voting in the FAANs, but I’ve got to exercise my franchise if I expect anything to happen. And, I now think that awards season is now going all year round.

Greetings to PieEyed, and a great episode, “The Potterday Tea Party Affair.” (Sounds like an episode of *The Man From U.N.C.L.E.*) Dragon droppings may not constitute the greatest story line, but when ya gotta go, ya gotta go. I am looking to see where else this story line will go.

The locol... no, we are not going to Sasquan, or probably any other Worldcon coming up (the exception is Montreal, should they win for 2017). We do have plans to go to London in a few years, and the big save-up is on. This shall not go on the credit card.

My letter... The brand new Toronto International Book Fair was a great time... unfortunately, it was also the last of its kind, an unintentional one-shot. They budgeted wisely, but yet got only half the attendance they needed, only 25,000 paid to come through the doors. They advertised extensively, but... I guess literacy truly is on the wane. I hope I’m wrong.

I wish rush this to you for the February *Shuttle*! Take care, all, see you then.

[Our problems getting the PDF *Shuttle* delivered seem to have been around for a while but getting worse. The biggest part of the problem is that it’s silent—something in the chain between my computer and that of many recipients fails, but does so

silently (without sending a “bounce” message back to me). So far I have not found a solution that doesn’t involve my hand composing and sending about three dozen separate emails *or*

sending only a link to the PDF instead of enclosing the file. I’m not sure what I’ll do this month, but people *may* get several emails as I try more than one method. -ED]



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