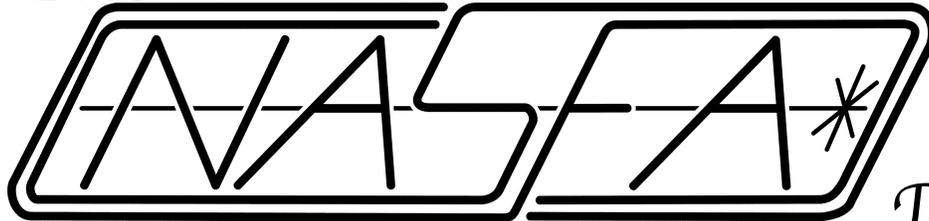


The



Shuttle

December 2016

The Next NASFA Meeting is 3:30P Saturday
17 December 2016 at the Regular Location
NOTE the earlier-than-usual start time
Christmas Party starts after meeting; Gift Exchange 4P sharp

¡ Oyez, Oyez ¡

The next **NASFA Meeting** will be on the regular 3rd Saturday—**17 December 2016**—and at the regular location, but it will not be at the regular time despite .

The December 2016 NASFA meeting will be at the Madison campus of Willowbrook Baptist Church (old Wilson Lumber Company building) at **7105 Highway 72W** (aka University Drive) **starting at 3:30P**. Note that this is 3 hours than announced in the November *Shuttle*.

Please see the map at right if you need help finding the location.

The 2016 NASFA Christmas Party will start immediately after the Business Meeting. The **Gift Exchange** (about which see the Program/ATMM/Party heading below) **will start promptly at 4P**.

DECEMBER PROGRAM/ATMM/PARTY

The December Program and After-The-Meeting Meeting will be subsumed by the annual Christmas Party, to be hosted at the meeting location by Sue Thorn.

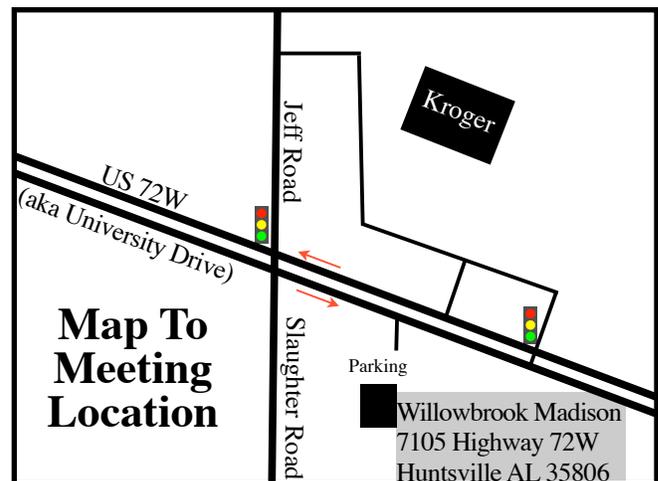
If you wish to participate in the Gift Exchange, please bring a \$10–\$15 gift. The Exchange sill start at 4P sharp, so don't be late!

Other than the Gift Exchange, the usual ATMM rules 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.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Once again, Nancy Cucci and Ray Pietruszka have been gracious enough to invite NASFANS to join them at their annual New Year's Eve party—211 Evalyn Street in Madison AL. Bring food/drinks to share. If you need directions, info on the start time, etc., contact Ray or Nancy at 256-772-3587.



Concluding Our 36th Year of Publication

Inside this issue...

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Minutes of the November Meeting (NOT)	3	Letter of Comment	5
NASFA Calendar	3	Art by Sheryl Birkhead	5

Deadline for the January 2017 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Monday 2 January 2017

CONCOM MEETINGS

The first Con†Stellation XXXV Concom Meetings have not been set yet but will probably start around the beginning of 2017.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

No 2017 have been announced yet.

FUTURE ATMMs

We need volunteers to host ATMMs for all months in 2017.

FUTURE CLUB MEETING DATES

- For this month's NASFA meeting (**December**), the *time* (though not the location or date) of the meeting has been changed—see info above.
- Dates for meetings in 2017 have not yet been set—we will need to review the calendar for possible convention or other 3rd Saturday conflicts.

CHANGING SHUTTLE DEADLINES

In general, the monthly *Shuttle* production schedule has been moved to the left a bit (versus prior practice). Though things are a bit squishy, the current intent is to put each issue to bed as much as 9 days before each month's meeting.

Please check the deadline below the Table of Contents *each month* to submit news, reviews, LoCs, or other material.

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, 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

GUFF, TAFF, AND DUFF FAN FUND UPDATES

Candidates have been announced and voting opened in the 2017 Get Up-and-over Fan Fund <ozfanfunds.com/?page_id=6> (a northbound year, so Australasia to Europe). The candidates are Donna Maree Hanson, Sam Hawke, Belle McQuattie, and Alexandra Pierce plus Alisa Krasnostein. The winner will be expected to attend Worldcon 75 <www.worldcon.fi>, to be held 9–13 August 2017 at the Messukeskus (Helsinki Expo and Convention Centre) in Helsinki Finland. The voting deadline is Saturday 1 April 2017, 23:59 GMT. You can vote online at <ozfanfunds.com/?page_id=61> or mail a printable ballot available at <ozfanfunds.com/guff/GUFF2017ballot.pdf>. A vote must be accompanied by a contribution of at least £6, €7, \$AU10, \$NZ10, or an equivalent amount in other currencies.

The 2017 Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund <taff.org.uk> has also announced candidates and opened voting. The candidates are Sarah Gulde, Alissa McKersie, and John Purcell. This is an eastbound year (North America to Europe) so the winner will be expected to attend Worldcon 75. The voting deadline is Saturday 4 March 2017, midnight EST. You can vote online by following directions at <tafftrip.com/taff-voting-using-paypal> or print and mail the badly formatted ballot at <tafftrip.com>.

Meanwhile the Down Under Fan Fund has published a year-end financial statement at <downunderfanfund.wordpress.com/2016/12/09/year-end-statement-2016>. DUFF's North American balance dropped from \$8,247.27 to \$5,964.27, despite raising \$1,455 in donations. A larger-than-usual expenditure of \$3,738 for the latest delegate's (Clare McDonald-Sim's) US trip was due to accommodations with other fans were often not being available, so more hotel bookings were required.

CRY "HAVOC," AND LET SLIP THE SAD PUPPIES

It appears that Sarah A. Hoyt <sarahahoyt.com> <according tohoyt.com> will be leading the Sad Puppies 5 drive regarding the Hugo Awards. The announcement was made on the Mad Genius Club blog <madgeniusclub.com/2016/11/23/and-be-a-dog>. Since that announcement, Hoyt was hospitalized for a few days <accordingtohoyt.com/2016/12/02/i-am-alive> but has been released and is hopefully well on the mend.

2017 WORLDCON ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worldcon 75 announced in mid November 2016 that their total Membership had reached 5,000. That consisted of 3,182 Attending Members and 1,818 Supporting Members. Of the total, it was known to be the first Worldcon for 386 Members.

A few days later, the con announced co-chair Crystal Huff had resigned due to career and family priorities. In a tweet the 19th of that month she said, "I will still be part of this team, creating a great Worldcon, just in a smaller role." Jukka Halme, who had been co-chairing with Huff, has continued as the chair. It is not clear if an additional co-chair(s) will be announced.

2018 WORLDCON TAKING CONVERSIONS

After some delay, the 2018 Worldcon—Worldcon 76 <www.worldcon76.org>, to be held 16–20 August 2018 at the McEnery Convention Center and nearby hotels in San Jose CA—has announced they are ready to process conversion from presupporting, voting, or other status to Attending or Supporting Memberships.

Please note that people who voted in Site Selection should have received an email asking them to go through the conversion process, even though they have an automatic Supporting Membership from voting. Said email should have included a personalized access code.

BECAUSE SIX IS GOOD ENOUGH?

SF mags *Analog* and *Asimov's* are changing from 10 issues per year (8 regular plus 2 double issue) to a bimonthly schedule beginning January 2017. For *Asimov's*, each of the 6 issues in the new schedule will be 208 pages, a slight increase from the size of the previous double issues. A similar size change is probably in the works for *Analog*, though the *Shuttle* could not immediately confer that. The 'zines are published by Dell Magazines, a subsidiary of Penny Publications.

HARLAN ELLISON BOOKS PRESERVATION PROJECT

A Kickstarter crowd-funded project to "create definitive [digital] versions of all Harlan Ellison's writings, fiction and non-fiction, to preserve [...] for posterity" reached its \$100,000 goal. In addition to the Kickstarter page, the project has a presence on Facebook <www.facebook.com/HarlanEllisonBooks>.

Essentially all of Ellison's work (minus that on Harlan Ellison.com and some oft-reprinted fiction) exists only on paper. The project intends to create "the Edgeworks Abbey Archive" as "[a] digital library of Harlan's entire literary oeuvre created from thousands of papers filed in his home office." Many items that have not been reprinted exist mainly as carbon copies from manual typewriters, some as old as 60 years.

EMP BECOMES MoPOP

Seattle's EMP Museum—home to the Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame <tinyurl.com/SFHoFMoPOP>—has changed its name to the Museum of Pop Culture; aka MoPOP. The

name change was made to “[reflect] who we are today and the future of the museum” per the CEO. This is at least the second name change for the institution; it had originally been called the “Experience Music Project and Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame” before that was shortened to just EMP Museum.

November Minutes

Since the November meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was subsumed by the group trip to the Huntsville Art Museum, there are no Minutes for that month.

NASFA Calendar

DECEMBER

- 02–04 Smofcon 34—Rosemont (Chicago area) IL.
- 02–04 Yama-Con—Pigeon Forge TN.
- 07 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.
- 09 BD: Maria Grim.
- 10 Bash Of The Empire VI—Atlanta GA.
- 12 BD: Toni Weisskopf.
- 12 The Prophet’s Birthday.
- 17 BD: Robin Ray.
- 17* NASFA Meeting—3:30P Business, at Willowbrook Madison. Program/ATMM: NASFA Christmas Party, hosted by Sue Thorn at the church immediately after Business Meeting. Gift Exchange promptly at 4P. **NOTE: The time has changed (3 hours earlier) versus what was announced in the November Shuttle.**
- 19 BD: Yvonne Penney.
- 20 BD: Aaron Kennedy.
- 21 December Solstice.
- 24 Christmas Eve/Nochebuena.
- 25 First Day of Hanukkah.
- 25 Christmas Day/Día de Navidad.
- 26 Christmas Day (observed).
- 26 BD: Michael R. Stone.
- 26 First Day of Kwanzaa.
- 26 Boxing Day.
- 31 New Year’s Eve/Nochevieja—Ray Pietruszka and Nancy Cucci have invited NASFANs to join their annual New Year’s Eve party. See page 1 for more details.

JANUARY 2017

- 01 New Year’s Day.
- 01 Last Day of Hanukkah.
- 01 Last Day of Kwanzaa.
- 02 New Year’s Day (observed).
- 03 BD: Jim Kennedy.
- 03 BD: Karen Hopkins.
- 06 BD: Rich Garber.
- 06–08 GaFilk—Atlanta GA.
- 07 BD: Douglas E. Lampert.
- 07 Orthodox Christmas Day.
- 14 Orthodox New Year’s Day.
- 14 Comics, Horror & Toys Expo—Cartersville GA.
- 14–15 BrickFair—Birmingham AL.
- 16 BD: Bruce Butler.
- 16 BD: Martin Luther King (observed).
- 20 BD: Larry Montgomery.
- 20 Inauguration Day.
- 20–22 Chattacon 42—Chattanooga TN.

- 21* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD. **CAUTION: NASFA meeting dates for 2017 have not been finalized so this is subject to change.**
- 21 Women’s March on Washington.
- 27–29 Kami Con 9—Birmingham AL.
- 27–29 Secret Mission Con—Atlanta GA.
- 27–31 HauntCon—Nashville TN.
- 28 Chinese New Year.
- 28–29 Southern Fried Con—Jackson TN.

FEBRUARY 2017

- 01 National Freedom Day.
- 02 Groundhog Day.
- 02–05 Game-O-Rama—Atlanta GA.
- 03 National Wear Red Day (women’s heart health).
- 03–05 Days of the Dead—Atlanta GA.
- 04 BD: Rosa Parks.
- 06 Día de la Constitución.
- 08 BD: Lin Cochran.
- 09 BD: Jack Lundy.
- 10 BD: Marcia Illingworth.
- 10–12 Seishun-Con—Atlanta GA.
- 12 BD: Abraham Lincoln.
- 14 St. Valentine’s Day.
- 15 BD: Susan B Anthony.
- 17 BD: Nancy A. Cucci.
- 18* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD. **CAUTION: NASFA meeting dates for 2017 have not been finalized so this is subject to change.**
- 20 Presidents’ Day.
- 22 BD: George Washington.
- 24 Día de la Bandera.
- 24–26 ConNooga—Chattanooga TN.
- 24–26 Salute to Supernatural—Nashville TN.
- 24–26 AnachroCon—Atlanta GA.
- 25–26 ETSU-Con—Johnson City TN.
- 25 AnniCon—Anniston AL.
- 26 Comic Book & Toy Show—Columbus GA.
- 28 Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras.

MARCH 2017

- 01 Ash Wednesday.
- 02 BD: Ronnie Lajoie.
- 02 Read Across America Day.
- 03–05 CoastCon 40—Biloxi MS.
- 04–05 Anime & Comic Kon—Murfreesboro TN.
- 08 International Women’s Day/Día Internacional de la Mujer.
- 09 BD: Tracey Kennedy.
- 10–12 JoeLanta—Atlanta GA.
- 11–12 Sci-Fi and Fantasy Expo—Atlanta GA.
- 12 Purim.
- 12 Daylight Saving Time begins.
- 13 BD: Anita Eisenberg.
- 17 St. Patrick’s Day.
- 17–19 EyeCon—Atlanta GA.
- 17–19 Storm King’s Thunder—Atlanta GA.
- 17–19 Tennessee Game Days XII—Franklin TN.
- 18* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD. **CAUTION: NASFA meeting dates for 2017 have not been finalized so this is subject to change.**
- 18 Designer Toy Summit—Memphis TN.
- 18–19 Comic & Pop Culture Expo—Huntsville AL.
- 20 Spring equinox.
- 21 BD: Benito Juárez.

J.K. Rowling, Jack Thorne, and John Tiffany
Science Fiction*Morning Star*, Pierce Brown
Horror*The Fireman*, Joe Hill
Mystery and Thriller*End of Watch*, Stephen King
Graphic Novels and Comics*Adulthood Is a Myth*, Sarah Andersen
YA Fantasy*A Court of Mist and Fury*, Sarah J. Maas
Middle Grade and Children's*The Hidden Oracle*, Rick Riordan
Picture Books*The Thank You Book*, Mo Willems
Historical Fiction*The Underground Railroad*, Colson Whitehead [historical fantasy -ED]
History and Biography*Leonard: My Fifty-Year Friendship with a Remarkable Man*, William Shatner

NATIONAL BOOK AWARD

The fiction category of the 2016 **National Book Award** was won by historical fantasy *Underground Railroad*, Colson Whitehead. The awards are sponsored by the National Book Foundation <nationalbook.org>. Winners in other categories of the awards were not obviously genre related. Some of the other nominated works could be of genre interest—winners, finalists, and long list selectees are at <nationalbook.org/nba2016.html>.

Letter of Comment

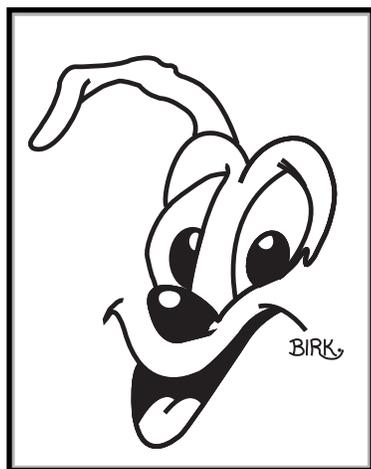
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Sheryl Birkhead
 25509 Jonnie Court
 Gaithersburg MD 20882

(started) 5 December 2016

Well, I finally found the October ish—firmly ensconced in the detritus in the kitchen. Yeah, I know this will go back a few months, but what the heck!

As borne out in the November ish, yeah, seems as if the Trek



Art by Sheryl Birkhead

Fan Film Lawsuit will indeed be drawn out. All I can say is that this may make for free entertainment for those of us not involved in the contentions.

As was also mentioned in the November ish, hope the Con†Stellation can creatively find a solution. I have not been to any con in quite a while, but I have read comments by other attendees at various smaller cons (if memory serves me right—usually relaxacons) that at least a hand-

ful are sliding into obscurity. Most seem to think the clean break is better than the slow slide. I agree with that—even more so to avoid the long drawn out financial issues that follow the drop in attendance, etc. Sad, but a current fact (more or less) of life. Having the 2017 Con†Stellation already known to be the last should help to promote a healthy send off—with a lot of the previous attendees wanting to show up for the farewell.

As an aside, I just watched *Larry Crowne* after searching for Tom Hanks movies. Aha—there is Rami Malek. For some reason I never finished watching the first season of *Mr. Robot*—but can't miss his face. One of these days (yeah RSN) I will go and binge watch the show and see if I can figure out why I stopped watching in the first place. (Sorry—got sidetracked there.)

Wow—look at the lists of awards. Despite my saying (November loc) that the awards season was over... only to start again in the new year. I was really way off the mark from the looks of all the entries listed in the October ish. It is always nice to read and see who is winning what where and there never seems to be any lack of awards hanging around. Thanks for running them!

Another short loc—sorry. If I had found this in time, I could have combined the two. I think I am going to go ahead and try to email this to you. I must admit to one heck of a lot of frustration with the email accounts. As of now, I think I have had problems and changed passwords at least four times. Each time I knew the password but the site refused to accept it. Since I have to remember to change things in three spots each time (two separate Snow Leopards and one El Capitan). What is always fun is when I get two out of the three to accept the (known) password—but the third one won't and I have to change it all again. Right now I think two of the three are accepting the password, and I have yet to get the third one to... I know this is of no interest to just about everyone, but I find it fascinating that the browsers can be "capricious."

Sitting at the car dealership—back is not happy with this after working all day Sunday—meaning standing most of the time—but this is the, current, last big repair that needed to be done. I can hope that buys me a breather!

[Certainly computers can be frustrating (especially since you're dealing with different OS versions) but for me dealing with auto mechanics is a special form of torture. Yeah, awards are a year-round sport. In November and December we get a crop of "best of the year even though it's not over" awards. And, if someone isn't giving out an award, someone else is either announcing their finalists (or semi-finalists) or soliciting entries. RE the Paramount (*et al.*)/Axanar lawsuit, from what I can tell online all rounds of briefs have been filed and the next step will be oral arguments—scheduled for 19 December 2016. Merry Christmas for the lawyers, I suppose. And, yes, you should watch the rest of *Mr. Robot* season 1. However, I'm not sure binge watching the whole thing is advisable. Some of it is a bit intense. Of course, season 2 is quite a bit *more* intense. -ED]



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