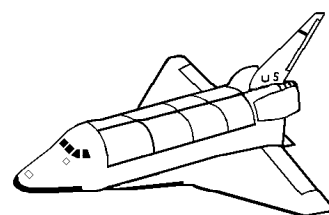


The



SHUTTLE January 1999

*The Next NASFA Meeting is 23 January 1999
at the Regular Time and Location
Note that this is delayed one week from the usual date*

Oyez, Oyez

The next NASFA meeting will be **delayed one week from the usual date** to avoid Chattacon's dates. The meeting will be on **23 January 1999** at the **regular time** (6P) and the **regular location** (room 130 of the Madison City Municipal Building).

The January program is to be determined at press time.

The January after-the-meeting meeting will be at Mike Kennedy's house.

NASFA Calendar

JANUARY

- 01 New Year's Day.
- 05 BD: Debbie Mitchell.
- 06 BD: Rich Garber.
- 07 BD: Douglas E. Lampert.
- 15-17 Chattacon XXIV — Chattanooga TN.
- 16 NASFA Meeting ***NOT*** on this date.

(continued on page 2)

Inside this issue...

Minutes of the December Meeting	2	Book Review	3
NASFA Receivables	3	Letters of Comment	4

Deadline for the February 1999 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 5 February 1999.

(Calendar — continued from page 1)

- 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- 20 BD: Larry Montgomery.
- 23* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. Note that the date was changed to avoid conflict with Chattacon. ATMM at Mike Kennedy’s house.

FEBRUARY

- 02 Groundhog Day.
- 09 BD: Jack Lundy.
- 10 BD: Marcia Illingworth.
- 11 BD: Jeanna Woosley.
- 12 Lincoln’s Birthday.
- 14 St. Valentine’s Day.
- 15 President’s Day.
- 16 BD: Mike Ray.
- 17 BD: Nancy A. Cucci.
- 17 Ash Wednesday.
- 20* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM at Nancy Cucci and Ray Pietruszka’s house.
- 22 Washington’s Birthday.
- 25 BD: Nicholas Mitchell.

MARCH

- 02 BD: Ronnie Lajoie.
- 04-07 World Horror Con 1999 — Atlanta GA.
- 08 BD: Bill Payne.
- 10 BD: Kerry Gilley.
- 13 BD: Anita Eisenberg.
- 15 BD: Carlo DeShouten.
- 17 St. Patrick’s Day.
- 17-21 20th International Conference on the Fantastic — Ft. Lauderdale FL.
- 20* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM TBD.
- 22 BD: Jayson Woosley.
- 26-28 MidSouthCon 17 — Memphis TN.
- 28 Palm Sunday.

APRIL

- 01 Passover.
- 02 Good Friday
- 03 BD: Kevin Ward.
- 04 Easter.
- 14 BD: Gordon Cross.
- 15 BD: “Uncle Timmy” Bolgeo.
- 16-18 Galacticon 1999 — Chattanooga TN.
- 17* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at the Madison City Municipal Building. ATMM TBD.
- 21 BD: Randy B. Cleary.
- 26 BD: Chloe Airoidi.
- 30 BD: Mark Maxwell.
- 30-02 1999 Nebula Weekend — Pittsburgh PA.

Oo

The North Alabama Science Fiction Association meets on the third Saturday of each month. (Unless there is a large nearby convention being held that weekend — in which case we usually hold the meeting on the second or fourth weekend.) The regular meeting location is room 130 of the Madison City Municipal Building. The Executive Committee meeting (if scheduled) is held at 5P. The business meeting is held at 6P.

The program begins at 7P. Anyone is welcome to attend any of the meetings. There is usually an after-the-meeting meeting with directions available at the program.

*If you had the printed version of
the Shuttle, you would see a nice
piece of art here*

art by Ruth Shields

December Minutes

by Samuel A. Smith, Traveller

The December meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, December 19, 1998 in Room 130 in the Madison City Municipal Building at 6:22P by President Anita Eisenberg. Once again, the crickets made their voices heard!

OLD BUSINESS

The Plinth: Jim Woosley delivered a picture of Barney with the following codicil: “Jayson Woosley requests the return of this picture of Barney following the end of its tenure on the plinth. <signed> Jayson Woosley 12/14/98. P. S. The fidelity and sound quality of this Barney plinth sticker was tested 12/14/98 Jayson.”

The Barney picture was attached by Anita and satisfactorily test pounded. We are still awaiting the arrival of an Ewoks picture for the other side.

The comment was made that we need to remind Nancy Cucci to arrange for the room for next year. [*She was so reminded, and the room reserved. -Sec.*]

The issue of conflicting cons was raised again, with new information on conventions that conflict with our usual third Saturday meeting date. It was decided to stay with our original meeting schedule for 1999 current plan therefore is that we will meet on the 4th Saturday of January (January 23rd), and the 3rd Saturday of every month after that through the end of 1999.

NEW BUSINESS

Randy Cleary reminded us that GaFilk is coming! (January 8-10, 1999)

Julie Wall and her husband, uh, Mr. Julie Wall (sorry Elliott, I never can remember your name!) dropped in and told us that an AD&D character sheet for Bill Gates is available at <<http://www.theonion.com/>>. (What about one for Bill Clinton?)

ANY BUSINESS

Randy Cleary asked when the next NASFA auction will be. The answer is: We don’t know! (It’s not calendared yet.)

Mike Cothran noted that <<http://www.igive.com/>> is a web site that benefits non-profit organizations via advertising.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The club/convention got Christmas cards from the Madison Days Inn and the Executive Lodge. (We’re not quite sure why.) [We also received one from Minuteman Press. -ED]

Considerable digression occurred at this point.

The next NASFA meeting is not until the 4th Saturday of January (January 23, 1999)!

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41P. The program was *Why Are Christmas Lights Seasonal?* The After-The-Meeting Meeting was the annual Christmas Party at Nancy Cucci and Ray Pietruszka’s place.

NASFA Receivables

by Randy B. Cleary

Here are the latest couple of rounds of items received by NASFA. Contact me for right of second perusal.

PRINT FANZINES

De Profundis, #318, November 1998; Editor Tim Merrigan, 11513 Burbank Boulevard, North Hollywood CA 91601, USA; 818-760-9234; <http://www.lasfs.org>

Derogatory Reference, #90; Arthur D. Hlavaty, 206 Valentine Street, Yonkers NY 10704-1814; 914-965-4861; hlavaty@panix.com

File-770, Issue 127, Mike Glycer, 705 Valley View Avenue, Monrovia CA 91016; 626-305-1004; MGlycer@compuserve.com

This 20-page issue had a green cover by Brad Foster, all the latest Fan news that's fit to print, and a special discussion of the health of SF fan clubs.

FOSFAX, #193, November 1998; Editor Timothy Lane, P. O. Box 37281, Louisville KY 40233-7281

Memphen, #249, November 1998; Editor Tim Gatewood, 3125 South Mendenhall Road, #353, Memphis TN 38115; memphen@aol.com; <http://members.aol.com/memphen/mphn1.html>

Nova Express, Volume 5, Number 1, Fall/Winter 1998, Lawrence Person, P. O. Box 27231, Austin TX 78755-2231; lawrence@bga.com; <http://www.delphi.com/sflit/novaexpress>

This 40-page issue had a cover by GAK, an interview with Gene Wolfe, reviews, poetry, and more.

OASFiS Event Horizon, Volume 11, #10, Issue 136; Leslie R. Hammes, 4796 East Michigan Street #2, Orlando FL 32812; 407-263-5822; michaelhammes@worldnet.att.net

OASFiS Event Horizon, Volume 11, #11, Issue 137; Leslie R. Hammes, 4796 East Michigan Street #2, Orlando FL 32812; 407-263-5822; michaelhammes@worldnet.att.net

This 10-page issue had fiction by Michael Hammes, club information, and a TropiCon XVIII report.

Scavenger's Newsletter, #176-177, October-November 1998; Editor Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City KS 66523-1329; 785-528-3538; foxscav1@jc.net; <http://www.cza.com/scav/index.html>

Scavenger's Newsletter, #178, December 1998; Editor, Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329; 785-528-3538; foxscav1@jc.net; <http://www.cza.com/scav/index.html>

This 28-page issue had a green cover with a mermaid kissing a nude man (buttock nudity), fiction by Mark Gifford, small press listings and scroungings, and reviews.

SFSFS Shuttle, #136, September/October 1998; Editor Peter Barker, P. O. Box 70143, Fort Lauderdale FL 33307

E-ZINES

Kronos, December 1998, D. A. Hussey, dah2@hotmail.com

This e-zine printed out to about 12 pages and is the newsletter of the Middle Tennessee Science-Fiction Society.

MISCELLANEOUS

MidSouthCon 17 flyers, March 26-28, 1999, Memphis, Tennessee, P. O. Box 11446, Memphis TN 38111

Ads for *Ai! Pedrito!—When Intelligence Goes Wrong* and *Writers of the Future Volume XIV* by Bridge Publications, Inc.

Book Review

by Randy B. Cleary

L. Ron Hubbard Presents Writers of the Future Volume XIV, 1998 Bridge Publications, Paperback, 508 pages, \$6.99, ISBN: 1-57318-154-4

To quote one of the inset pages, this book is “The Year’s 17 Best Tales from the *Writers of the Future*® International Writing Program Illustrated by the Winners in the *Illustrators of the Future*® International Illustration Program With Essays on Writing and Art by L. Ron Hubbard, Anne McCaffrey, Eric Kotani, Vincent Di Fate, and Michael A. Stackpole. Edited by Dave Wolverton.”

I’ve read and enjoyed all the volumes in this series. This volume did not stand out more than any other (which is not a slam by any means). I enjoyed reading it for the wide variety of topics and styles. Many of the writers have had previous publication (just not enough to be disqualified under the rules) and experience. Amateurish efforts are not obvious to the reader. Also, I always enjoy the essays that the professional writers and illustrations offer up to the aspiring writer and/or illustrator.

The use of illustrations for each and every story is a practice that all magazines and books should follow (in my humble opinion). Some of this year’s illustrations seemed a little sub-par but there were others that were very good.

If you want a glimpse of some of the authors and artists that will be making their mark soon, then check out this interesting volume.

If you had the printed version of the Shuttle, you would see a nice piece of art here

art by Randy B. Cleary

Letters of Comment

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

Harry Warner, Jr
423 Summit Avenue
Hagerstown MD 21740

18 December 1998

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year is probably the only coherent thing I'll type in this letter. I'm dizzy from a day-long headache, furious over the number of telemarketing calls, and contorted from attempting to use headphones whose padding has fallen off with [the] resulting danger of being scalped if I am careless with the sharp metal edges against my head.

Congratulations on your victory in the election of NASFA. You and Anita would be wise to keep a suitcase packed just in case either or both of you should be summoned to Washington to take over a government office. The way things are going, there will be a great need for presidents and vice-presidents to serve as replacements.

Jim Woosley makes the Holly Lisle novel seem exciting, an accomplishment partly negated by the dreadful \$12.99 price for a paperback. But I'm one of the minority in science fiction fandom, a person who wasn't particularly enthralled by the Tolkien trilogy, so I might not become enthusiastic about *Diplomacy of Wolves*, either. The problem with Tolkien was probably the fact that I was in early middle age when I finally read it, and this is fiction that should be read when a person is quite young.

Indiana high schools must be different from those in Maryland. One high school in this county went through an entire [football] season a couple of years ago with only 16 players on its roster. The kids played two ways, just as their grandfathers had done back in the era when there was little substituting in football and no thought of separate offensive and defensive teams.

Hagerstown is sufficiently culturally deprived for art books to be scarce in yard sales and even secondhand book sources. I'm not enough of an admirer of great art to feel the loss. I did pick up some months ago one of Dave Kyle's pioneering coffee table-type books about science fiction art in the past, for a dollar at Goodwill Industries. I think he was only the second person to produce such collections of science fiction illustrations. To the best of my knowledge, Franz Rottensteiner did it first even though he's a German.

Again I found some amusement and some embarrassment in the results of the FFFQ game as continued in this December *Shuttle*. The former because some of the low-ranking names and titles were inspired choices, the latter because I could identify so few of those that received a fair number of mentions. You could put together another game by challenging fans to identify as many as possible of the sidekicks listed by story or media series in which they can be found.

Your Christmas party tomorrow will have no difficulty being more festive than my simultaneous birthday recurrence. If I can get through the day without another headache and with not more than one telemarketing call each hour I'll consider it as successful as I hope your celebration will be.

[I hope, after your run-in with the headphones, that your ears

are still properly attached, Harry. I first ran into Tolkien while in college — not, I suspect, what you mean by “quite young.” I was nonetheless thoroughly smitten, spending a good part of each subsequent semester's finals period rereading it. Your comment reminds me that it has been some time since I read the trilogy — I don't think I even own a copy at the moment. I should remedy that. Both the Christmas and the New Year's Eve parties were quite successful, thank you. Nancy and Ray always do a good job. -ED]

POC-POC-POC-POC-POC-POC-POC-POC-POC

Sheryl Birkhead
23629 Woodfield Road
Gaithersburg MD 20882

19 December 1998

On top of the usual holiday doin's, I'm supposed to talk to a builder and see *if* I can afford to have a small Rambler/rancher built — if not, no point in looking for a piece of land, but time to start house hunting and I won't know which until I do — no one wants to build *one* cheap (well, for here) home — a friend said she knew of a builder and I pointed out that this would *not* be a million \$ home. That's okay, she countered, he's built them for as little as \$400,000. Oops — I think we are talking *wrong* budget ranges!! As a consequence, the stack of zines grows, but it means I *always* have things to do!

I enjoyed *Minerva Wakes* — I'll have to look for *Diplomacy of Wolves*.

Ghood to see Tortorici art — a bit different from what I've “usually” seen.

Glad to read that Lan's trip was a success and that other aspects are going along well. Happy Holidays to all.

[I recently re-discovered a packet of Phil Tortorici art he sent in *several* years ago. The address on the letter was apparently out of date, but I used the web to look up an address for what I *think* is the right Phil Tortorici and sent him a copy of the December issue and a note. Hopefully he'll respond. I hope your house building and/or house hunting goes ok. I know that's a stressful time. -ED]

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

Buck Coulson
2677W-500N
Hartford City IN 47348

22 December 1998

I believe the Worldcon rotation system was inaugurated because some parts of the US weren't getting their share of the Worldcons, or thought they weren't. It also allowed other countries to bid, instead of keeping it strictly a US convention. Or that was the announced reason; it isn't borne out by checking a list of Worldcon locations. (Fan politics is no different from the national variety; a few little white or gray lies are acceptable.) I'd rather *not* have a book-length study; though it's too bad that the Clute-Nicholls Encyclopedia didn't include something about it.

Otherwise, winter just arrived here, only a day late by the calendar. Yesterday the temperature was 40° and a light rain falling; this morning it was 8° and clear. If I'd been consulted,

I'd have chosen the rain...

As of now, Juanita is set to attend GaFilk in Atlanta in early January; the dog and I will stay here, neither of us being much use at a singer's convention.

[Winter has arrived in North Alabama, too. I drove to Birmingham on Christmas eve while fighting the lingering effects of a two-day ice storm, and we've had another minor ice and snow

event since then. Today's high was over 60° (just after midnight) but tonight's low is predicted to be under 20°. That's winter in the Tennessee Valley. I have no idea when the Worldcon rotation system went into effect — my tenuous connection with Worldcon politics goes back only a decade and a half or so — but the first non-US Worldcon was in Toronto in 1948 and was the 6th Worldcon. The first non-North American Worldcon was the 15th, in London. -ED]



P. O. Box 4857
Huntsville AL 35815-4857

The NASFA Shuttle is the newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, Inc. This is the January 1999 edition (Volume 19, Number 1). NASFA Officers for 1999: President Anita Eisenberg; Vice President Mike Kennedy; Secretary Sam Smith; Treasurer Ray Pietruszka; Program Director Mike Ray; Publicity Director Ron Lajoie. *Shuttle* Editor Mike Kennedy.

Comments, inquiries, and contributions of writing by email to: mike.kennedy@pobox.tbe.com — EDITORIAL ADDRESS (EMAIL)

Comments, inquiries, and contributions of writing by snailmail to: Mike Kennedy, 7907 Charlotte Drive SW,
Huntsville AL 35802-2841 — EDITORIAL ADDRESS (SNAILMAIL)

Dues (\$), subscriptions (\$), and Official Mail to: NASFA, Inc., P. O. Box 4857,
Huntsville AL 35815-4857 — OFFICIAL ADDRESS

Contents Copyright, © 1999. All rights revert to contributors. All opinions are those of the individual authors and do not reflect club policies other than by coincidence. LoCs subject to edited printing.

NASFA Dues = \$15/year (Family rates available) Subscription only = \$10/year Single copy = \$1.50 each.
