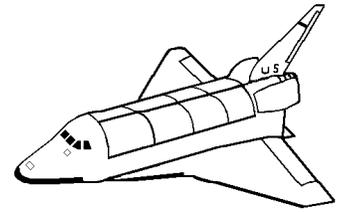


The



SHUTTLE April 2002

*The Next NASFA Meeting will be 13 April 2002
The Next DSC 40 ConCom Meeting will be
18 April 2002 at Sam Smith's Place*

🔔 Oyez, Oyez 🔔

The next **NASFA meeting** will be **13 April 2002**. Note that this is one week earlier than usual. The meeting will be at the **regular time** (6P) and the **regular location**. Call Book-Mark at 256-881-3910 if you need directions.

The **April program** will be a discussion and presentation on Hugo Award winning films. See the article on page 3 for additional details.

The **April after-the-meeting meeting** will be at Mike Kennedy's house — 7907 Charlotte Drive SW in Huntsville. Call him at 256-883-5922 if you need directions. We need volunteers for future ATMMs!

DSC ConCom Meeting

The next DeepSouthCon 40 con committee meeting will be 7P-9P Thursday 18 April 2002 at Sam Smith's place. An agenda will be emailed to concom members before the meeting.

For the dates of future DSC 40 concom meetings see the calendar on page 2.

RIP R. A. Lafferty

Raphael Aloysius (R. A.) Lafferty, age 87, died Monday 18 March 2002 after an extended illness. He had been a resident at the Franciscan Villa Health Care Center in Broken Arrow OK for several years, following a 1994 stroke that had left him pretty well incapacitated.

Lafferty had come to writing somewhat late, starting in his mid-40s. He published until around 1980, stopping only when he had his first stroke. Despite his relatively short career — about 20 years of active writing — Lafferty achieved a great deal of acclaim both from fans and peers, winning one Hugo (for the short story "Eurema's Dam"), a World Fantasy Lifetime Achievement Award, and many other awards. He was also prolific, producing around 200 short stories and 20 novels.

Mr. Lafferty was the winner of the second Phoenix Award ever given, at DeepSouthCon 9 (1971) in New Orleans. He was Guest of Honor at another New Orleans DSC, in 1979. He did attend at least one Huntsville convention, DSC 23 in 1985.

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Deadline for the May 2002 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 3 May 2002.

stellation.org/dsc40>. Each web site has been given a direct link to the other on their respective front pages, Just In Case.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44:57P. The program was "Monster Wars." The After-The-Meeting Meeting was held at Mike Kennedy's place.

April Program

The NASFA Program for 13 April 2002 will be a discussion of following Hugo Award winning films. Various DVD Special Features will be presented from the films marked in bold below. Feel free to bring in your own DVD with Special Features of any of the others.

<i>2001: A Space Odyssey</i> , 1969	<i>Raiders of the Lost Ark</i> , 1982
<i>2010</i> , 1985	<i>Return of the Jedi</i> , 1984
<i>A Boy and His Dog</i> , 1976	<i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i> , 1973
<i>A Clockwork Orange</i> , 1972	<i>Sleeper</i> , 1974
<i>Alien</i>, 1980	<i>Star Wars</i> , 1978
<i>Aliens</i>, 1987	<i>Superman</i> , 1979
<i>Back to the Future</i> , 1986	<i>Terminator 2</i>, 1992
<i>Blade Runner</i>, 1983	<i>The Empire Strikes Back</i> , 1981
<i>Contact</i>, 1998	<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i> , 1946
<i>Edward Scissorhands</i> , 1991	<i>The Princess Bride</i> , 1988
<i>Galaxy Quest</i>, 2000	<i>The Truman Show</i> , 1999
<i>Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade</i> , 1990	<i>Who Framed Roger Rabbit</i> , 1989
<i>Jurassic Park</i> , 1984	<i>Young Frankenstein</i> , 1975

The Frequent Flyer Award to Top All?

US Airways has announced a new award available to frequent fliers: a trip aboard a sub-orbital space ship. You won't be able to go until at least 2004, but it will probably take you that long to save up the required 10 million Dividend Miles.

The new award is a joint venture of US Airways and Space Adventures Ltd., the space tourism firm that helped arrange the commercial space flight of U. S. millionaire Dennis Tito in 2001. "Participants will be able to climb aboard a sub-orbital spacecraft and fly to an altitude of 65 miles, experience several minutes of weightlessness, and see the planet from space," according to a press release. "Upon return to Earth, participants earn their astronaut wings!"

If you want to go without using up your frequent-flier miles, Space Adventures is offering the same trip for \$98,000 according on their web site, <www.spaceadventures.com>.

The sub-orbital flight is one of four space- or aviation-related awards for US Airways' frequent fliers. For 30,000 miles plus \$650 passengers can get a tour of Kennedy Space Center in Florida including a presentation by former astronauts, while 250,000 miles plus \$2,000 gets an airplane flight with some zero-gravity time. A flight on a MiG-25 jet fighter can be had for 275,000 miles plus \$8,000. These compare to a round-trip coach ticket between the continental United States and the Caribbean for 20,000 miles plus \$225. You can get full information on the US Airways web site <www.usairways.com>.

LotR Video Releases Set

The Christmas 2001 release *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* will have not one, but two separate releases on both DVD and VHS.

The theatrical version will be released in a two-DVD set 6 August 2002 for \$29.95. The set will include two hours of bonus material and a sneak preview of the sequel *The Two Towers* (which is set to open in theaters 18 December 2002). There will be a corresponding VHS release though details are sketchier.

Then on 12 November 2002 a "Special Extended Edition" DVD set will hit the stores. The movie will be augmented by about 30 minutes of additional footage. Studio officials are said to expect that the footage may up the new version's rating to R (the theatrical version is PG-13). This will be a four-disk set and will include a mind boggling six hours of additional material, including a behind-the-scenes documentary and director's commentary. Again, a corresponding VHS release is planned.

Additionally, there will be a limited-edition gift set, also available in November, containing the Special Extended Edition, a National Geographic "Beyond the Movie" DVD, artwork by Tolkien illustrator Alan Lee, and special bookends custom made by Sideshow Weta, the group responsible for LotR's special effects.

Director Peter Jackson is quoted as saying "I didn't want to call [the second version] a director's cut, because, essentially, both are director's cuts. That's why we're calling [it] a 'Special Extended Edition'... [The new footage] was always supposed to be in the film. There will be more character moments and more visual-effects shots."

Extra scenes in the extended version are said to include:

- Bilbo's journal, "Concerning Hobbits": A brief introduction to the history of Hobbits, which comes after the introductory prologue about the creation of the ring.
- The introduction of Samwise Gamgee: A scene that had shows him doing his gardening work.
- More footage from the Green Dragon Inn, with Merry and Pippin singing Hobbit songs.
- Sam and Frodo on the road to Bree, during which they see an exodus of elves.
- Aragorn singing an Elvish song foreshadowing his relationship with Arwen.
- Aragorn in Rivendell at the site of his mother's grave.
- An extended scene in which the Fellowship leaves Rivendell.
- New scenes, pre-battle, from the Mines of Moria, which explain the history of the mines.
- Galadriel giving a special gift to each member of the Fellowship before they depart.
- Thirty more seconds of footage from the film's climactic battle scene.

Wins, Losses, Films

Genre Films at the Academy Awards

Genre (which is to say fantasy) films scored some big wins at the 74th Academy Awards Sunday which were held 23 March 2002 — and suffered some big losses also.

The biggest winner among fantasy films was *The Lord of*

the *Rings: Fellowship of the Ring*, which took home the Oscar in four categories. *Lord's* Peter Owen and Richard Taylor copped the trophy for Makeup while Andrew Lesnie walked away with the Cinematography honors. The quartet of Jim Rygiel, Randall William Cook, Richard Taylor, and Mark Stetson topped the Visual Effects category, marking two wins in the same night for Mr. Taylor. Howard Shore also won for his Original Score for *LotR*.

The Original Song category went to Randy Newman for "If I Didn't Have You" from *Monsters, Inc.* This was Newman's sixteenth nomination, but first win. The biggest — and probably least surprising — genre win of the night was *Shrek* in the new Animated Feature category. It was a forgone conclusion that some kind of genre film would be the winner, since the other two nominees (*Monsters, Inc.* and *Jimmy Neutron, Boy Genius*) were fantasy and (arguably) sf respectively.

The night's losses for genre films included both the top two honors (Best Director and Picture) where *LotR* was among the nominees. In fact, *Lord* lost in a total of 9 categories (the record is 11 losses for a single film), but that feat was possible only because of its staggering 13 total nominations, the most ever for any genre film.

Other disappointments included losses in Film Editing, Costume Design (where *two* genre films were nominated), Supporting Actor, Sound, and many more. Nonetheless it was a banner night for fantasy films, having been recognized with a large number of nominations and taking home the prize in six categories.

To date no genre film has ever won the Best Picture or Director Oscars — a tough nut to crack. Perhaps surprisingly, sf does have at least one Best Actor win, for Cliff Robertson in the title role of 1968's *Charly*. With several high-profile sf/fantasy films debuting in 2002, will this be the breakthrough year? Will genre films finally stand a legitimate chance at top honors? Probably not, but stranger things have happened.

Awards News Roundup

BSFA AWARDS

Winners of the British Science Fiction Association Awards for 2001 were announced at this year's Eastercon, Helicon 2, on 31 March 2002. The winners were:

Novel: *Chasm City*, Alastair Reynolds (Gollancz)
 Short Story: "The Children of Winter," Eric Brown (*Interzone* #163 January 2001)
 Artwork: Colin Odell, Cover of *Omegatropic* (by Stephen Baxter; BSFA)
 Nonfiction: *Omegatropic*, Stephen Baxter (BSFA)

PHILIP K. DICK AWARD

The Philip K. Dick Award is given annually for the distinguished original science fiction paperback published for the first time during the previous year in the U. S. This year's winner was Richard Paul Russo's *Ship of Fools* (Ace). The presentation took place Friday 29 March 2002 at Norwescon 25 in SeaTac, Washington. A special citation was given to Ken Wharton's *Divine Intervention* (Ace).

The award is sponsored by the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society. Judges for this award were Constance Ash, Greg Beatty (chair), Jan Lars Jensen, Louise Marley, and Scott Westerfeld. Judges for next year are Shelley Rodrigo Blanchard, Michael Blumlein, Nalo Hopkinson, Donna McMahon,

and Lois Tilton.

SAPPHIRE AWARDS

Winners of the 2001 Sapphire Awards, for science fiction romances, are Linnea Sinclair's *Finders Keepers* (NBI) and Susan Krinard's "Kinsman" (*Out of This World, Jove*).

ICFA AWARDS

Jasper Fforde's *The Eyre Affair* has won the William L. Crawford Fantasy Award (presented by the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts), given to the best first fantasy novel published over the previous 18 months. The award was announced at this year's ICFA in Fort Lauderdale FL.

Other awards presented included the Distinguished Scholarship award to the conference's guest scholar Roderick McGillis, the Isaac Asimov Award for Undergraduate Excellence in Science Fiction and Fantasy Writing to Lena DeTar, and the Robert A. Collins Service Award to both Bill Senior and Chip Sullivan.

AUREALIS AWARDS

The 2001 Aurealis Awards were presented at a ceremony on 22 March 2002.

Novel (Science Fiction): *The Dark Imbalance*, Sean Williams and Shane Dix (HarperCollins Voyager)
 Short Story (Science Fiction): "The Weatherboard Spaceship," Adam Browne (*Aurealis* #27/28 / Chimaera Publications)
 Novel (Fantasy): *The Wounded Hawk*, Sara Douglass (HarperCollins Voyager)
 Short Story (Fantasy): "The Woman of Endor," Sue Isle (Orb #2 / Orb Speculative Fiction)
 Novel (Horror): *Angel of Ruin*, Kim Wilkins (HarperCollins)
 Short Story (Horror): "Sleight of Hand," Simon Haynes (Potato Monkey)
 Novel (Young Adult): *The Other Face of Janus*, Louise Katz (Angus & Robertson)
 Short Story (Young Adult): "Dreamwalker," Isabelle Carmody [illustrations by Steven Wollman] (Lothian Books)
 Long Fiction (Children's): *Candle Iron*, Sally Odgers (Angus & Robertson / HarperCollins)
 Short Fiction (Children's): "Cafe on Callisto," Jackie French (Koala Books)

Convenors' Award for Excellence

Joint Winner: **Emily Rodda** and **Mark McBride** for *The Deltora Quest* series and *The Deltora Book of Monsters* (Scholastic)

Joint Winner: **Peter McNamara** for his outstanding contribution to speculative fiction

PROMETHEUS AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Nominees for this year's Prometheus Awards, presented by the Libertarian Futurist Society, have been announced. Winners will be announced over the Labor Day weekend in San Jose CA, in an awards ceremony at the World Science Fiction Convention. The nominees are:

Novel

The American Zone, L. Neil Smith (Tor)
Enemy Glory, Karen Michalson (Tor)
Falling Stars, Michael Flynn (Tor)
Hosts, F. Paul Wilson (Forge)
Psychohistorical Crisis, Donald Kingsbury (Tor)

Hall of Fame

A Clockwork Orange, Anthony Burgess
It Can't Happen Here, Sinclair Lewis
The Lord of the Rings, J. R. R. Tolkien
The Prisoner, Patrick McGoochan, writer and producer

“**Requiem,**” Robert A. Heinlein

BRAM STOKER AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Final nominations for this year’s Bram Stoker Awards for superior achievement in horror have been announced. Winners will be announced at the Bram Stoker Awards Ceremony on Saturday 8 June 2002 at The New York Helmsley Hotel. Convention members nominate two entries in each category of the final ballot. Judges may add additional nominees; the judges then select the winners. This year’s nominees are:

Novel

American Gods, Neil Gaiman (Morrow)
Black House, Stephen King and Peter Straub (Random House)
From the Dust Returned, Ray Bradbury (Morrow)
The Lost, Jack Ketchum (Leisure)

First Novel

Deadliest of the Species, Michael Oliveri (Vox13)
Phantom Feast, Diana Barron (Barclay)
Riverwatch, Joseph M. Nassise (Barclay)
Skating on the Edge, d. g. k. goldberg (iPublish)

Long Fiction

“**Demolition,**” Nancy Etchemendy (*F&SF* April 2001)
“**Earthworm Gods,**” Brian Keene (*No Rest for the Wicked*)
“**From A to Z, In the Sarsaparilla Alphabet,**” Harlan Ellison (*F&SF* February 2001)
In These Final Days of Sales, Steve Rasnic Tem (Wormhole Books)
Northern Gothic, Nick Mamatas (Soft Skull Press)

Short Fiction

“**The Haunt,**” Jack Ketchum (*Cemetery Dance* #34)
“**I Am Your Need,**” Mort Castle (*Brainbox II: Son of Brainbox*)
“**Reconstructing Amy,**” Tim Lebbon (*As the Sun Goes Down*)
“**Whose Puppets, Best and Worst, Are We?**” David B. Silva (*Cemetery Dance* #35)

Fiction Collection

As the Sun Goes Down, Tim Lebbon (Night Shade Books)
The Dark Fantastic, Ed Gorman (Leisure)
The Man with the Barbed-Wire Fists, Norman Partridge (Night Shade Books)
The Whisperer and Other Voices, Brian Lumley (Tor)

Anthology

The Best of Horrorfind, Brian Keene, ed. (Horrorfind)
Extremes 2: Fantasy and Horror from the Ends of the Earth, Brian A. Hopkins, ed. (Lone Wolf Publications)
Trick or Treat: A Collection of Halloween Novellas, Richard Chizmar, ed. (Cemetery Dance)
The Year’s Best Fantasy and Horror: Fourteenth Annual Collection, Ellen Datlow and Terri Windling, eds. (St. Martin’s Griffin)

Nonfiction

Hellnotes, David B. Silva and Paul F. Olson, eds. (Phantasm Press)
If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor, Bruce Campbell (LA Weekly Books)
Jobs in Hell, Brian Keene, ed. (JIHad Publications)
Personal Demons, Brian A. Hopkins and Garrett Peck, eds. (Lone Wolf Publications)

Illustrated Narrative

“**Desperadoes: Quiet of the Grave,**” Jeff Mariotte (Wild-Storm)
“**The First Adventures of Miss Catterina Poe,**” Caitlin R. Kiernan (*The Dreaming* #56; Vertigo)
“**Freezes Over,**” Brian Azzarello (*Hellblazer* #158–161; Vertigo)

“**Quiver,**” Kevin Smith (*Green Arrow* #1–10; DC Comics)

“**Weird Western Tales,**” Various Authors (Vertigo)

Screenplay

From Hell, Terry Hayes and Rafael Yglesias (based on a graphic novel by Alan Moore and Eddie Campbell; 20th Century Fox)

The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring, Philippa Boyens, Peter Jackson, and Frances Walsh (based on a novel by J. R. R. Tolkien; New Line Cinema)

Memento, Christopher Nolan and Jonathan Nolan (Newmarket)

The Others, Alejandro Amenabar (Miramax)

Work for Younger Readers

Prowlers, Christopher Golden (Pocket Pulse)

The Willow Files 2, Yvonne Navarro (Pocket Books)

Poetry Collection

Consumed, Reduced to Beautiful Grey Ashes, Linda Addison (Space & Time Press)

Taunting the Minotaur, Charlee Jacob (Miniature Sun Press)

What the Cacodaemon Whispered, Chad Hensley (Flesh & Blood Press)

White Space, Bruce Boston (Dark Regions Press)

Alternative Forms

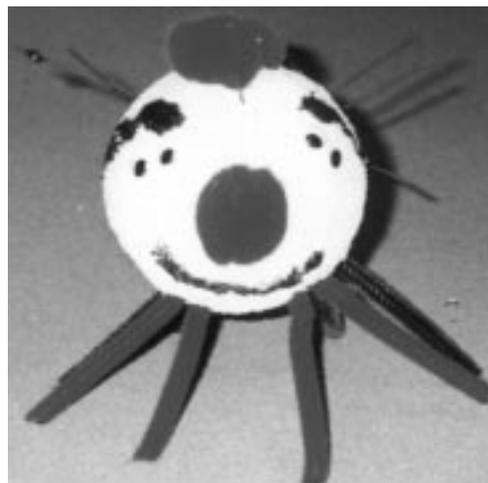
Dark Dreamers: Facing the Masters of Fear, Beth Gwinn and Stanley Wiater (Cemetery Dance)

Gothic.net, Darren McKeeman, editor-in-chief

Horrorfind, Brian Keene and Mike Roden (Horrorfind)

Rue Morgue Magazine, Rod Gudino, editor-in-chief

Unseen Masters, Bruce Ballon (Chaosium)



Photos of all entrants (below) and Marie McCormack’s winning monster from *March Madness*. Photos courtesy of Randy B. Cleary.



No Need For A Turning Wurm!

Part 16 of No Need for a Dragon!
by PieEyedDragon

Bilberry: Well, Silverthorn. This must be our *Lucky Day!*

S: Tell me that, again, when we reach port. After finding some women *our* size!

B: That lizard is just so absurd! Anything is possible.

— O — O — O —

I unwind, and the ship starts moving away, under it's own power once more, and then back closer. They are curious.

— O — O — O —

Meanwhile, Kagato has entered his fortress, and the bait dragonite has been loaded into it's reactors. It moves. Toward me. Building-up energy for a massive blast.

What goes around, comes around, Kagato. I "go around" by grasping my tail and forming a big zero.

"This is just for you, Kagato!"

I begin the spell:

"This gloomy night, obscures my sight.

Molecular clouds need silver lining.

Venom burn bright, in Dragonite!

Oh, spellbound rock! Now cease all your shining!"

The lights dim on the fortress, which loses all thrust. My pet rock will no longer work for my prey.

"Breakfast is late, says empty plate.

I'll Jolly his Roger, with laughter bright!

A poisoned bait, seals pirates' fate.

Oh, Stone of Star Power: *let there be light!*"

Three-thousand six-hundred sixty-six kilograms of solid material dragonite, in the core of the fortress, undergo an instant, and total, conversion to energy.

E=M C squared.

"Happy New Year!" as my seventy-eight thousand megaton "firecracker" ends Kagato's career.

I wrap my wide wings, at full deflection, several times around myself, and the Faerie ship. I pull all down into the wormhole, as the wall of *light* passes.

No more breakfast for me. It got too done. Well, Kagato wanted *power*. I gave him some. He couldn't handle it.

The Coalsack is going to be a lot brighter for a while! The plasma remnants of the pirate vessels, along with all the irradiated nebular particles, form a brightly-shining expanding sphere. I am near the center. Becalmed.

Explosions leave behind a vacuum. So did this one. There are not enough particles for my huge wings to push against to allow me to move about now.

— O — O — O —

Bilberry: Hey, Uncle. You will not *believe* what just happened out there.

Philbert: I've got a surprise for you, too!

B: Why are you wasting magic just to look a few centuries younger.

P: I'm not. Feel of my hand.

B: *Ow!* Let *go* already! What happened to you?

P: I was juicing up this old blower with a little magic, and all of a sudden it was kicking magic back at me like you wouldn't believe. And it sounds like all the mains are back on-line, too. I can't imagine where the power came from.

B: I can. Do you believe in dragons?

P: Never saw one, but Grandpa did a thousand years ago.

B: Then it's your turn, now. Come and see.

— O — O — O —

Flame of Erenn scans me once more, then moves away and enters hyperspace, following their dragon-prow who-knows-where. Nature abhors a vacuum. I open fully the wormhole from the supernova, and let the rush of plasma start re-thickening the local aether. I curl in a double ring around the terminus, grasping my dragonite hoard: two

priceless rocks. I rest in dragon dreams of blood, digesting Kagato.

— O — O — O —

(GNN Network)

The survey cruiser *Flame of Erenn* has docked at the Staurni orbital shipyards in sector 33 with a truly incredible report, backed up by scanner logs and images, and the surviving captive pirate boarding crew. And huge clawed footprints burned into their hull!

They were boarded by pirates and taken to a pirate fleet base in the Coalsack when *it* happened.

It seems the notorious pirate, Kagato, had constructed a massive planet-killer battle station, and was returning with a load of fuel... hotly pursued by a dragon. Forty-seven pirate vessels opened fire on the dragon, as Kagato was docking with the station.

It seemed to take no damage, but started spinning. The pirate vessels were quickly reduced to junk by some apparently unseen weapon.

Captain O'Connor says the dragon inspected the dragon-prow of his ship, and passed him by.

"I had consulted a wise woman before this trip. My clan all laughed when I followed her advice, mounting a dragon-prow. They're not laughing, now. They're *all* doing the same! The dragon even shielded us when Kagato's battle-station blew up. It looked like it was taking a nap as we left."

The scanner logs also indicate that the dragon is holding some very large chunks of dragonite. The Barnum and Fisher transport *City of Baraboo II* has altered course to establish an orbiting carnival within sight of this not-so-mythical beast. Military interests and big-game hunters are reportedly also interested.

(And anyone else with more imagination than good sense.)

— O — O — O —

(Washuu is comparing the scanner data from Absolution with the brief news feed from sector 33, with inconclusive results. She slams her little fist against the keyboard.)

"*Why* won't those guys put those survey logs on-line. "Technical Difficulties" my *eye!* One lousy photo of the lizard and they cut the feed! I smell a cover-up!"

Well! If the data mountain won't come to me! Then I'll go *there!* (powering-up a dimensional tube and tuning it for the area of the sector 33 shipyards. Fine-tuning takes a while, with quick looks thru to verify the locus of the "far end." She changes into nurse whites and tucks her hair into a tight cap: Free-fall medics do *not* have long unbound hair! Doctor Washuu steps through into the vestibule of the local infirmary and presents her credentials.)

— O — O — O —

"I thought we were going clubbing, Bill. 'Get Lucky' you said."

"We are, 'Thorn. I just want to look in on poor old Grady first. The pirate blaggards worked him over sommat fierce for smashing the engine console. Stealth mode, now, softly softly... Here's his room. Heh, heh! There's a wee cute little nurse to help him get all better!... When did medics start carrying sub-space bags? Wonder wot's in 'ere?"

(Sliding thru the interface, followed by Silverthorn, they are met by two redheaded imps in starched whites, scarcely shorter than themselves!)

Chibi Washuu "A": Hello, Sailor!

Chibi Washuu "B": Is that a pipe in your pocket?

(Bilberry and Silverthorn): Helloooooo *nurse!*

Letters of Comment

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

Harry Warner, Jr.
423 Summit Avenue
Hagerstown MD 21740

16 March 2002

It's St. Patrick's Eve, shamrocks are prominent everywhere, so maybe a sham loc from me won't be objectionable. I just can't think of many comments on the otherwise excellent March issue of the *Shuttle*.

It was news to me that those Irwin Allen projects will come back to life. If he had lived, I suspect that he might have been inspired by the financial mess the first worldcon in Baltimore encountered to give fandom its first disaster epic on the screens of the nation.

The information on the various awards ballots gave me more cause for sadness. Once again, the nominees include nobody who came up through fandom to pro status, as far as I can determine. It wasn't too many decades ago that half of the nominations for pro writings went to individuals who had served time writing for fanzines or publishing them before ascending to the heights of prodom. This probably has something to do with the fact that so many of fanzine fandom today consists of individuals whose primary fare in early life was movies and telecasts rather than magazines and books.

PieEyedDragon continues to live an exciting life. I can't quite figure out if the encounter with Philbert is the end of the series. I hope not.

And I'm afraid this is it for this time. There's always hope that I've finally learned not to prattle on for so long in response to fanzines, but more than likely the problem is my very sore back which is worse when I'm at a piano or typewriter keyboard.

[We're always happy to hear from you, Harry, though I'm sorry to hear you're "down in your back." I know what that's like. PED's adventures continue in this issue as you'll see elsewhere. I'm not really sure how many more episodes remain, though we've published a bit more than half of the ones I'm aware of. Your idea of an epic disaster movie set at a Worldcon is interesting, though I don't think the financial disaster of the first Baltimore Worldcon would be a good choice. In almost all other respects it was a pretty good con. -ED]

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

Sheryl Birkhead
25509 Jonnie Court
Gaithersburg MD 20882

19 March 2002

Mike, let me know if you want fillos.

I hadn't seen the Nebula ballot before... any idea why *O Brother, Where Art Thou* was eligible?

Whew — this is the *All Awards* issue.

I don't think (no snide comments, please) I got the *SF Five Yearly* — I hadn't know Terry Hughes had been ill.

Despite what I've advocated, I haven't gotten around to sending in my [Hugo] ballot yet. I intend to try the online form — so I figure I have at least 1–2 more weeks.

Ouch, the Canadian/U. S. conversion rate smarts for the

Canadians — sorry that the Penneys can't make the Worldcon. I doubt I'll be there either.

I'll curiously watch the Academy Awards...

[Art? Yes, I'm always interested in more art for the *Shuttle*, Sheryl. As for *O Brother*, it was based on Homer's "Odyssey." You can find a wrapup of how genre films did in the Oscars elsewhere in this issue. Once again they failed to take top awards. I'll be interested to see how the online Hugo voting goes this year. I voted that way last year, only to later find out that many online votes had been lost. They extended the deadline (by a week) but by the time I found out about the snafu even the extended deadline had passed. I still don't know if my vote counted or not. You'll find yet more awards news in this issue — it's just that time of year, Sheryl. And I suspect the lists of nominations and winners will continue next month. -ED]

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

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22 March 2002

Thanks muchly for the March *Shuttle*. I've now set my PDA to remind me on the 20th of each month to check your website, and print out the latest clubzine. So, I did, and I've got it, and with luck, here are some comments.

I hope the make-your-own monster get-together was fun... did anyone make something resembling those working monsters in *Monsters, Inc.*? Nothing blue and furry, with big purple dots? Green with one giant eyeball?

I admit I'm looking forward to seeing what Fox can do with *The Time Tunnel*. I cut my skiffy eyeteeth on Dr. Asimov's time travel stories, so I always enjoyed the show, even with cheesy plots and props. It's just more proof that everything old is new again, and that perhaps too many old 60s and 70s shows can become modern movies. I say this because MSN.ca reports that there are efforts to make a movie from David Hasselhoff's old show *Knight Rider*...

Lots of awards out there to be won. Julie Czerneda is an old friend, and not only is she a Philip K. Dick Award nominee, but her book *In The Company of Others* has also been nominated for an award for Best SF Romance Book. The nomination forms are now being distributed for Canada's Aurora Awards, which will be handed out at this year's CanVention in Calgary, Alberta in mid-August. As soon as the final ballot is available, I can let you know who the nominees are this year.

Hey, Dragon... do you think it might have been... gremlins?

"Well it wasn't Wendell Wilkie!"

I've been to a couple of Midwestcons in Cincinnati. They are a lot of fun, and Pat and Roger Sims are always genial hosts. I just wish they weren't so far away, and so expensive. The exchange rate is a killer! It's worth it, though. Perhaps we can go again in a few years.

That's all for now. Many thanks for allowing me a look at how NASFA works, and I look forward to the next issue.

[I'm glad you're finding the *Shuttle* online easily, Lloyd. None of the "monsters" last month much resembled anything from *Monsters, Inc.*, which you can see for yourself on page 5 of this
(continued on back cover)]



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(LoCs, continued from page 7)

issue. I recall watching *The Time Tunnel*. many years ago but I can't say I recall *much* about it — not a single plot comes to mind for instance. Given all the awards news I've published just this year, I certainly agree with you that there are a lot of

awards to be won, some would say too many. But if nothing else I figure that the lists of nominees and winners can act as "recommended reading" (and viewing) lists. At the very least they mean *someone* thinks the items are of some significant merit. -ED]