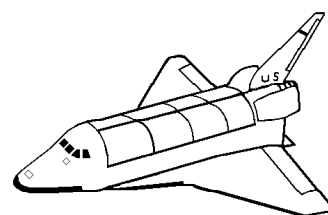


The



# NASFA\* SHUTTLE November 2007

*The Next NASFA Meeting will be 17 November 2007 at the Regular Time and Location*

*The Program is the More-or-Less Annual NASFA Auction — Bring Out Yer Stuff*

## 🔔 Oyez, Oyez 🔔

The next **NASFA meeting** will be Saturday **17 November 2007** at the **regular time** (6P) and the **new regular location**. Meetings are at BookMark, 11220-J South Memorial Parkway. That's at the corner of the Parkway and Meadowbrook Drive, about 2 miles south of their old location.

The **program** will be the more-or-less annual **NASFA Auction**. Please bring **donations of stuff to auction** (unwanted books and movies are always good, but just about anything might find a buyer). You also need to bring along **a bit of cash** so you too can bid on everyone's **white elephants**, er, stuff. (Though... we'll take a check or even the promise of ~~your firstborn~~ that you'll pay later if it comes to that.)

The **After-The-Meeting Meeting** will be at Mike Kennedy's house, in celebration of various November birthdays. There will be cake :-)

## Obituaries

The week straddling the end of October and the beginning of November was a hard one for many fans in the Southeast, as two of our number passed away. Julius Henry "Hank" Reinhardt died 30 October 2007; Sandra Lynn "Sandy" McDade died 4 November 2007.

*(continued on page 3, column 1)*

## Announcements and Info

### OMEGACON

OmegaCon has sent several entreaties for an announcement in the *Shuttle* — not exactly our charter but here goes. OmegaCon, the first of a proposed annual event, will be held 14–16 March 2008 in Birmingham AL, at the Sheraton Birmingham near the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex and the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame. (That's just north of I-20/59 on Birmingham's northside, on Richard Arrington Jr. Boulevard, at what was the intersection of 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 21<sup>st</sup> Street North before streets were rerouted and large parts of both those streets were renamed after the former Birmingham mayor.) Memberships are \$30 until February 15, \$40 thereafter. The hotel rate is \$119 plus tax; reservations must be made by 13 February to guarantee that rate.

Full details of OmegaCon (including how to buy memberships by mail or online and discounts for fan group orders) are available on their web site <[www.omegacon.us](http://www.omegacon.us)>. They list a large guest slate in various categories (Media, Literary, Artist, Bands, Hard Sciences, and Production). Highlighted tracks of programming are Paranormal, Celtic, Star Wars, Gaming, Art Exhibit/Contest, Hard Sciences, and Bands & Music.

### WORLDCON UPDATES

Denvention 3 <[www.denvention3.org](http://www.denvention3.org)>, the upcoming Worldcon (Denver, 6–10 August 2008) has announced that their basic membership rate will increase from \$175 to \$200 on

*(continued on page 3, column 2)*

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**Deadline for the December 2007 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 30 November 2007.**

# NASFA Calendar

## NOVEMBER

- 01 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Stardust*, Neil Gaiman; 6P.  
01–04 World Fantasy Convention 2007 — Saratoga NY.  
02–04 Wicked Harvest Atlanta — Norcross GA.  
03 Zine-A-Polooza '07 — Atlanta GA.  
04 Daylight Saving Time ends.  
06 Election Day.  
09–10 Nerdacon — Columbus GA.  
09–11 DarkCon of Nashville — Nashville TN.  
11 Veterans' Day (Traditional).  
11 Atlantic Comic Convention — Atlanta GA.  
12 Veterans' Day (Observed).  
17\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at BookMark. Program: Auction. ATMM: Mike Kennedy's house.  
22 BD: Nancy Renee Peters.  
22 Thanksgiving Day.  
23 BD: Mike Kennedy.  
29 BD: Howard Camp.  
29–02 CatchupCon — Atlanta GA.  
30 BD: Joshua Kennedy.  
30 BD: Richard Gilliam.  
30–02 East Meets South — Oxford AL.

## DECEMBER

- 01 Games Day Atlanta — Atlanta GA.  
05 Chanukah begins.  
06 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Time and Again*, Jack Finney; 6P.  
07 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.  
07–09 SMOFcon 25 — Boston MA.  
09 BD: Maria West-Grim.  
12 BD: Toni Weisskopf.  
14–16 Year End — Alcoa TN.  
15\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at BookMark. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD (Christmas party anyone?).  
15 Bill of Rights Day.  
17 BD: Robin Ray.  
19 BD: Yvonne Penney.  
20 BD: Aaron Kennedy.  
22 Winter begins.  
22 BD: Wolf (Wolfie) Freeman.  
25 Christmas Day.  
26 Kwanzaa begins.  
26 BD: Michael R. Stone.  
31 New Year's Eve — party anyone?

## JANUARY 2008

- 01 New Year's Day.  
03 BD: Jim Kennedy.  
03 BD: Karen Hopkins.  
04–05 ShadowCon XXI — Memphis TN.  
05 Alabama Comic Weekend — Huntsville AL.  
06 BD: Rich Garber.  
06 Alabama Comic Weekend — Birmingham AL.  
07 BD: Douglas E. Lampert.  
10 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *The Time Machine*, H. G. Wells; 6P.  
11–13 GaFilk 10 — Atlanta GA.

- 16 BD: Bruce Butler.  
18–20 Atlanta Game Fest 13 — Atlanta GA.  
19\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at BookMark. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.  
20 BD: Larry Montgomery.  
21 BD: Martin Luther King, Jr.  
25–27 Chattacon XXXIII — Chattanooga TN.

## FEBRUARY

- 01 National Freedom Day.  
02 Groundhog Day.  
07 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Pigs Don't Fly*, Mary Brown; 6P.  
08 BD: Lin Cochran.  
08–10 Atlanta Comics Expo — Atlanta GA.  
09 BD: Jack Lundy.  
10 BD: Marcia Illingworth.  
11 BD: Jeanna Woosley.  
12 BD: Abraham Lincoln.  
14 Valentine's Day.  
15–17 Furry Weekend Atlanta 2008 — Atlanta GA.  
16\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at BookMark. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.  
17 BD: Nancy A. Cucci.  
18 President's Day.  
21 BD: Susan Stockell.  
22–24 ConNooga — Chattanooga TN.  
22 BD: George Washington.

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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 often move the meeting to the second or fourth weekend.) The **NEW** regular meeting location is the meeting room at *BookMark's* new location on South Memorial Parkway. The Executive Committee meeting (if scheduled) is at 5P. The business meeting is at 6P. The program is 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.

## October Minutes

by Steve Sloan, Secretary and  
Owner of a Palm PDA Cricket

The October meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, October 20, 2007 in the BookMark meeting room at 6:20:15P by Vice President Mike Kennedy.

### OLD BUSINESS

None.

### NEW BUSINESS

Mike Cothran suggested that we make a concerted effort to find out who the influential people are in town, and make sure they get on the club list to receive the *Shuttle* and other club mailings, particularly influential people in government and the news media. Some people were nervous about the government knowing too much about us. Mike Kennedy pointed out that there's not much the government can do to us, since we already have to buy a business license, and pay them sales tax, and they probably wouldn't force us to buy insurance.

Adam asked if there's a way we could be classified as a charitable organization. Anita gave her short answer to Adam's question: we could, but it would entail more paperwork than any of us want to do, and probably get a lawyer involved. According to Mike K., there is a huge world of difference between a charitable organization, which we would never be, and a nonprofit education/literary organization as defined by the IRS. We can contribute to charitable things, but that doesn't make us a charitable organization ourselves. There was no motion on Mike C.'s suggestion, and for the moment, discussion pattered to a stop.

Con†Stellation got a mention in the *Huntsville Times' Go* magazine the day before the con, and Mike C. and Marie were interviewed. The *Times* got the registration fee wrong, and thought BookMark was behind the con, rather than NASFA. NASFA was mentioned, and the paper said "you might not know they exist."

Mike C. moved that we add persons of influence in the local community to our mailing list for things like the *Shuttle*. He didn't have a list of names or specific positions in mind to add to our mailing list. Mike K. mentioned that there are hundreds of people involved in both the local newspapers, and the local government. He pointed out that it has historically been in the *Shuttle* editor's purview to add anyone specific to our list of recipients without a club vote. So, the motion was dropped. The chair would entertain a motion to create a committee of one to come up with a proposed list. Who would be on that committee? Mike C. didn't want to do it.

Sam brought a new round of spammish emails. Artie Knapp informed us that Buster Douglas (whoever that is) is making his film debut in a movie called *Pluto's Plight*, which is available on DVD. Paige Smith from OmegaCon wrote asking for their con to be announced in an upcoming issue of the *Shuttle*. "It's in the calendar." Mike K. asked Sam to forward him that email, so he can write a quick one-paragraph blurb about OmegaCon, to be added to "What's Happening" on the front page of the *Shuttle*. Shelby Vick announced a new issue of his online pulp-style magazine, *PlanetaryStories.com*. Pez Hazy announced that sci-fi audio action adventure comedy *Alien Adventure the Adventure* is available through *audible.com* and *iTunes*. Australian fantasy and Celtic artist Steven Bowerman is releasing a 2008 calendar, and the publisher would like to send us a sample copy. Theresa Kennedy posted a link to a *Star Trek: The Next Generation* 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary tribute video on YouTube. *Goingtomeet.com* featured Con†Stellation XXVI on their site, and they would like us to become their media partner. *Roddenberry.com* invited us to participate in their *StarTrek.com* Scavenger Hunt, and announced that "The Menagerie" in high-def will debut in select theaters. No, nothing to do with Tennessee Williams.

The sound of Steve's PDA chirping filled in for the crickets.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alabama won the game, and gave Tennessee the business.

#### CONVENTION BUSINESS

Sam has checks for reimbursement.

Mike K. adjourned the meeting at 6:33:55P.

The program was a Con†Stellation Post-Mortem. The After-the-Meeting Meeting was held at Steve's house.

#### (Obituaries — continued from page 1)

Hank Reinhardt was a legendary figure in Southern Fandom. Just try googling his name in the Southern Fandom

Confederation's archives <[smithuel.net](http://smithuel.net)> and you'll find him on 30 separate pages, split almost equally between the historical *SFC Handbook* and the contemporary *SFC Bulletin*. Hank was known to many contemporary fans as the husband of Baen Publisher (and Huntsville expat) Toni Weisskopf. He was certainly a presence accompanying Toni at conventions, Baen parties, and more; but Toni would be the first to tell you that Hank cast his own shadow. Among other recognitions, Hank received the Rebel Award in 1973 and was the first recipient of Dragon\*Con's Georgia Fandom Award in 1990.

In addition to his activities in fandom and the SCA (helping found early sf clubs in both Atlanta and Birmingham plus several SCA units for instance), Hank was a well known expert (though he preferred the term "serious student") in armor and edged arms. In recent years he wowed many a new fan demonstrating the use of weapons on targets varying from hams to watermelons. Hank co-founded Museum Replicas, Ltd. — a major supplier of Medieval weapons, Renaissance clothing, swords, etc. to museums, movie studios, and reenactors — over two decades ago, and continued as a consultant to that company until his death. He also wrote articles on swords and knives, and had released two videos on the sword with Paladin Press. He will appear in the *Reclaiming the Blade* documentary due for release in 2008.

Hank was 73 at the time of his death, which was from complications of heart surgery (a hospital-acquired staph infection per some sources). He was predeceased by his first wife Janet. He is survived by Toni; by two daughters, Dana Gallagher and Cathy Reinhardt; by two grandchildren, Hannah and Owen Gallagher; and by a huge array of friends both in and out of fandom.

Sandy McDade was certainly well known to attendees of Chattanooga's LibertyCon where she was mistress of the Con Suite for many years, keeping all the fans happily well fed. She was beloved by many con committees for many miles around — including Con†Stellation — for her services as travel agent. (Sandy retired from Apollo Travel Agency several years ago.) She was also known as one of the smiling faces in the dealers room as she ran dealers tables for a number of years with Phronsie and Bucky — though she had retired from that, too, in the last year or two. For her service to Con†Stellation, Sandy was selected as Fan Guest of Honor for 2002's Con†Stellation XXI: Pavo.

Sandy was 59 at the time of her death. She was predeceased by her parents, Oscar and Tink McDade. She is survived by her son Derek Spraker (husband of Tim Bolgeo's daughter Brandy); by two grandchildren, Alexander and Elizabeth Spraker; by a sister, Phronsie McDade; by two brothers, George "Bucky" McDade and Ron McDade; by several nieces and nephews; and by a host of friends. The family requests that any memorial gifts be made as donations to the Arthritis Foundation, 1330 West Peachtree Street, Suite 100, Atlanta GA 30309.

#### (Announcements and Info — continued from page 1)

1 January 2008. Various discounts apply for those who voted in site selection, were Denvention presupporters, are eligible for the child rate, or who want only a supporting membership. The \$200 rate will be good through 10 July 2008. Expect the rate to increase at that time and/or at the door.

Denvention has also opened up their online Program Participant Survey <<https://www.denvention3.org/wcdb/partsurvey.php>>. You can use this form to pass along that great

idea for a Worldcon program or make your bid to be a program participant.

### POLL OF POLLS

The Science Fiction Awards Watch web site is conducting a poll <[www.sfawardswatch.com/?cat=96](http://www.sfawardswatch.com/?cat=96)> asking which of the various novels that have won major genre-related Best Novel awards is *really* the Best Novel of the year. Well, of the year 2006 per most of the individual awards' rules. An exact closing date for the poll has not been announced but they say the results will be announced "some time over Thanksgiving Weekend" so you should have time to go online and register your opinion.

## Con†Stellation Mini Review

by David K. Robinson

I recently attended Con†Stellation which was held in Huntsville on October 12–14, 2007. I was a bit let down when I found out at the very last minute that the con was going to be a RelaxiCon. Overall I was real disappointed when I found that out. But I still went anyway.

I did buy a purple sweatshirt for 20 dollars. And I found the dealers room a bit sparse on books. I did renew my membership in The L5 Society and I plan to renew my membership in The National Space Society. I met a few people I know — Adrian Washburn, Sue Thorn, and Jim "German" McClelland, all three of whom I have known for over 20 years.

Overall it was a fair con — good but not great. I do hope they have Con†Stellation next year. I still plan to attend. Grade C+

[Note that the *Shuttle* disputes that Con†Stellation was planned or executed as a realxicon. The only decision of the committee that comes to mind that seems likely to be interpreted as a step in that direction was one less invited guest than in some years. Some other aspects that David mentions (like the dealers room) vary from year to year depending on decisions of persons outside the committee's control. In any case, David, you can rest assured that NASFA is definitely planning to hold Con†Stellation again in 2008. -ED]

## Books to Movies?

The web site AV Club has published a list of 21 "good books that need to be great films" <[www.avclub.com/content/feature/if\\_you\\_film\\_it\\_133\\_21\\_good](http://www.avclub.com/content/feature/if_you_film_it_133_21_good)>. Many, perhaps most, of the selected books are outright genre works or have strong genre elements. Any such list is subjective and arguable, so perusal of list is likely to provoke disagreement among our readers — who should feel free to voice that to the *Shuttle*.

*The Long Walk*, Richard Bachman (Stephen King)

*Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell*, Susanna Clarke

*The Time Traveler's Wife*, Audrey Niffenegger

*The Dogs Of Babel*, Carolyn Parkhurst

*The Road*, Cormac McCarthy

*Jernigan*, David Gates

*A Confederacy Of Dunces*, John Kennedy Toole

*Ubik*, Philip K. Dick

*The March*, E. L. Doctorow

*The Life And Times Of Scrooge McDuck*, Don Rosa

*"The Moosepath League Chronicles,"* Van Reid

*The Bonehunters' Revenge*, David Rains Wallace

*Mister Sandman*, Barbara Gowdy

*Oh Pure And Radiant Heart*, Lydia Millet

*Cloud Atlas*, David Mitchell

*A Heartbreaking Work Of Staggering Genius*, Dave Eggers

*King Dork*, Frank Portman

*Middlesex*, Jeffrey Eugenides

*World War Z*, Max Brooks

*The Moviegoer*, Walker Percy

*The Hobbit*, J. R. R. Tolkien

## Awards at WFC

### WORLD FANTASY AWARDS

Winners of the 2007 World Fantasy Awards (for calendar year 2006) were announced during the 2007 World Fantasy Convention <[www.lastsfa.org/wfc2007](http://www.lastsfa.org/wfc2007)>, which was held 1–4 November 2007 in Saratoga Springs NY. The awards <[www.worldfantasy.org](http://www.worldfantasy.org)> are sponsored by World Fantasy Con and are nominated by a combination of members of the current and two past conventions plus a slate of judges chosen by the World Fantasy Awards Administration. Winners are chosen by the judges. This year's judges were Gavin Grant, Ed Greenwood, Jeremy Lassen, Jeff Mariotte, and Carsten Polzin. The award winners are:

**Special Award, Nonprofessional** ..... **Gary K. Wolfe**  
(for reviews and criticism in *Locus* and elsewhere)

**Special Award, Professional** ..... **Ellen Asher**  
(for work at SFBC)

**Artist** ..... **Shaun Tan**

**Collection** ..... *Map of Dreams*,  
M. Rickert (Golden Gryphon)

**Anthology** ..... *Salon Fantastique*,  
Ellen Datlow and Terri Windling, eds. (Thunder's Mouth)

**Short Fiction** ..... **"Journey Into the Kingdom,"**  
M. Rickert (*F&SF* May 2006)

**Novella** ..... **"Botch Town,"** Jeffrey Ford  
(*The Empire of Ice Cream*, Golden Gryphon)

**Novel** ..... *Soldier of Sidon*, Gene Wolfe (Tor)

**Life Achievement Awards** (previously announced) .... **Betty Ballantine** and **Diana Wynne Jones**

### IHG AWARDS

The International Horror Guild Awards <[www.horroraward.org](http://www.horroraward.org)> were also given out during the 2007 World Fantasy Con. The awards recognize outstanding achievements in the field of Horror and Dark Fantasy. The awards are juried, but based on public recommendations. Current judges are Edward Bryant, Stefan R. Dziemianowicz, Ann Kennedy, and Hank Wagner; Paula Guran is the award administrator. The awards are sponsored by the nonprofit corporation, The Mirabundus Project, Inc. <[mirabundus.org](http://mirabundus.org)>.

**Artwork** (tie) ..... *Exhibits from the Imaginary Museum*,  
Aeron Alfrey <[www.ligotti.net/gallery/alfrey.html](http://www.ligotti.net/gallery/alfrey.html)>  
and *Cover Story: The Art of John Picacio*,  
John Picacio (MonkeyBrain)

**Illustrated Narrative** ..... **A.L.I.E.E.N.**,  
Lewis Trondheim (Firstsecond Books, 2006)

**Nonfiction** ..... *Icons of Horror and the Supernatural*,  
S. T. Joshi, ed. (Greenwood Press)

**Periodical** ..... *Subterranean*, Bill Schafer, ed.

**Anthology** ..... *Lords of the Razor*, William Sheehan and Bill Schafer, eds. (Subterranean Press)  
**Collection (tie)** ..... *Basic Black*, Terry Dowling (CD Publications) and *American Morons*, Glen Hirshberg (Earthling)  
**Short Fiction** ..... **"The Box,"** Stephen Gallagher (*Retro-Pulp Tales*)  
**Mid-Length Fiction** ..... **"The Old North Road,"** Paul Finch (*Alone on the Darkside*)  
**Long Fiction** ..... *Dark Harvest*, Norman Partridge (CD Publications)  
**Novel** ..... *The Unblemished*, Conrad Williams (Earthling)  
**Living Legend** (previously announced) . **Ramsey Campbell**  
**WFC ART SHOW AWARDS**

A number of awards were presented in the World Fantasy Con Art Show:

**Overall Winners**

**Best in Show** ..... **Donato Giancola**, "The Golden Rose"  
**Directors' Choice** ..... **Omar Rayyan**, "Pets Peeved"  
**Exceptional Merit** ..... Special Exhibit of **Jeffrey Jones**

**Judges Choice Awards**

**Mike Dringenberg**, body of work  
**Les Edwards**, "Valley of the Carven God"  
**Bob Eggleton**, "Teddy and the Martian"  
**Stephen Hickman**, "The Harp of Galadriel"  
**Tom Kidd**, "Majestrum"  
**Todd Lockwood**, "Tangled Webs"  
**John Picacio**, "Elric — The Stealer of Souls" (series of 4)  
**Omar Rayyan**, "Dragon Lights"  
**Ruth Sanderson**, "Enchantment"  
**Richard Sardinha**, "City of Brass"  
**Shaun Tan**, body of work  
**Vincent Villafranca**, body of work

**Certificates of Merit**

**Derek Ford**, "Ganesh"  
**Moebius**, body of work

## Spike TV Scream Winners

Cable channel Spike TV has announced their 2007 Scream Award winners in a stupefyingly-long list of categories. The awards cover movies, television, and comics in the horror, sf, and fantasy genres. Several special awards for work not necessarily limited to the prior year were also given. The **Hero Award** was given to **Harrison Ford**, honoring his work in several genre and related films. Other special honorees included **Neil Gaiman**, **Alice Cooper**, and *Star Trek: The Wrath of Khan* (on the occasion of its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary). Per various online sources, the "regular" category winners are:

**The Ultimate Scream** ..... **300**  
**Best Horror Movie** ..... *28 Weeks Later*  
**Best Fantasy Movie** ..... *Pan's Labyrinth*  
**Best Science Fiction Movie** ..... *Transformers*  
**Best TV Show** ..... *Heroes*  
**Best Comic Book** ..... *30 Days of Night*  
**Scream Queen** ..... **Kate Beckinsale**, *Vacancy*  
**Scream King** ..... **Shia LaBeouf**, *Disturbia*  
**Best Superhero** ..... **Tobey Maguire** as Spider-Man, *Spider-Man 3*  
**Sexiest Superhero** ..... **Jessica Alba**, *Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer*  
**Fantasy Fox** ..... **Jessica Biel**, *The Illusionist*

**Fantasy Hero** ..... **Johnny Depp**, *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End*  
**Sci-Fi Siren** ..... **Megan Fox**, *Transformers*  
**Sci-Fi Star** ..... **Shia LaBeouf**, *Transformers*  
**Best Cameo** ..... **Keith Richards**, *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End*  
**Breakout Performance** ..... **Hayden Panettiere**, *Heroes*  
**Most Vile Villain** ..... **Ralph Fiennes**, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*  
**Most Memorable Mutilation** ..... **Dismembered** in car crash, *Grindhouse*  
**Best Comic-to-Screen Adaptation** ..... **300**  
**Best Sequel** ..... *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*  
**"Jump-From-Your-Seat" Scene of the Year** ..... **Final Battle: Megatron vs. Optimus Prime**, *Transformers*  
**Best Director** ..... **Quentin Tarantino** and **Robert Rodriguez**, *Grindhouse*  
**Best Scream-Play** ..... *Grindhouse*, written by Robert Rodriguez, Quentin Tarantino, Jeff Rendell, Eli Roth, Edgar Wright, and Rob Zombie  
**Best F/X** ..... *Transformers*  
**Best Foreign Movie** ..... *Pan's Labyrinth*  
**Best Comic Book Writer** ..... **Frank Miller**, *All Star Batman and Robin, The Boy Wonder* and *Frank Miller's Robocop*  
**Best Comic Book Artist** ..... **John Cassady**, *Astonishing X-Men*  
**Best Screen-to-Comic Adaptation** ..... *28 Days Later: The Aftermath*  
**Most Shocking Comic Book Twist** ..... **Captain America dies**, *Captain America*

## Awards Roundup

### GEFFEN AWARDS

The 2007 Geffen Awards were announced during iCon (28 September–4 October) in Israel. The Best Original Hebrew Short Story and Book categories (listed at <[www.icon.org.il/promo07/eng/](http://www.icon.org.il/promo07/eng/)>) are fairly inaccessible to the large majority our readers (until they are translated) but the Translated Book categories started life in English. Those winners are:

**Best Translated Science Fiction Book** ..... *Old Man's War*, John Scalzi (translated by Raz Greenberg, Yanshuf Publishing)  
**Best Translated Fantasy Book** ..... *Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell*, Susanna Clarke (translated by Vered Tochtermann, Yanshuf Publishing)

### WSFA SMALL PRESS AWARD

Capclave <[www.capclave.org](http://www.capclave.org)> recently announced the winner of the inaugural Washington Science Fiction Association Small Press Award <[wsfasmallpressaward.org](http://wsfasmallpressaward.org)> — for short fiction (up to 20,000 words) published by small presses. The winner was **"El Regalo,"** by **Peter S. Beagle** (from his collection *The Line Between*, Tachyon Publications). Other finalists included "Ivy and Thorn," Stephanie Burgis (*Grendelsong*); "Moon Does Run," Edd Vick (*Electric Velocipede*); "A Penny a Word," Rick Klaw and Paul Miles (*Cross Plains Universe: Texans Celebrate Robert E. Howard*, Monkey Brain Books); "Port Custodial Blues," Vera Nazarian (*Helix*); "Queen of Stars," Bryn Sparks (*Apex Science Fiction and Horror Digest*); "Through the Cooking Glass," Vylar Kaftan (*Raven Electrick*); and "Tonino and the Incubus," Peg

Robinson (*Helix*).

#### GAYLACTIC SPECTRUM AWARDS

The winner of the 2007 Gaylactic Spectrum Award for Best Novel was announced at the 2007 Galaxicon <www.gaylaxicon2007.org>, held 5–8 October 2007 in Atlanta GA. Winners in the other two categories (Short Fiction and Other Work) are scheduled to be announced before the end of 2007.

The awards are intended to honor outstanding works of science fiction, fantasy, and horror which include significant positive explorations of gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered characters, themes, or issues. The complete list of nominees for all three categories is available online at <www.spectrumawards.org/2007.htm>. The winner of the Best Novel category is *Vellum*, by **Hal Duncan** (Del Rey).

#### PRIX AURORA AWARDS

The annual Prix Aurora Awards <www.sentex.net/~dmullin/aurora>, sponsored by the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association, honor work and works by Canadian sf/fantasy fans and pros. The awards are presented annually at Convention, the Canadian National Science Fiction Convention. This year Convention 27 was held in conjunction with VCON 32 <www.vcon.ca>, 19–21 October 2007 at the Radisson President Hotel in Richmond BC. The winners are:

- Long-Form Work, English** ..... *Children of Chaos*,  
Dave Duncan (Tor Books)
- Long-Form Work, French** ..... *Reine  
de Memoire 4. La Princesse de Vengeance*,  
Elisabeth Vonarburg (Alire)
- Short-Form Work, English** ..... **“Biding Time,”**  
Robert J. Sawyer (*Slipstreams*, Martin H. Greenberg  
and John Helfers, eds., DAW)
- Short-Form Work, French** ..... **«Le regard du  
trilobite»**, Mario Tessier (*Solaris* 159)
- Other Work, English** ..... *Neo-opsis  
Science Fiction Magazine*, Karl Johanson, ed.
- Other Work, French** ..... **«Aux origines des petits  
hommes verts»**, Jean-Louis Trudel (*Solaris* 160)
- Artistic Achievement** ..... **Martin Springett**
- Fan Achievement, Publication** ..... *Brins d’Iterniti*,  
réd. Guillaume Voisine
- Fan Achievement, Organizational** ..... **Cathy  
Palmer-Lister** (Con\*Cept)
- Fan Achievement, Other** ..... *Fractale-Framboise*,  
Eric Gauthier, Christian Sauve, et Laurine Spehner

#### PEGASUS AWARDS

The Pegasus Awards <www.ovff.org/pegasus/winners/index.html>, for excellence in filking, are given annually at the Ohio Valley Filk Fest <www.ovff.org>. The latest set of awards was announced at OVFF 23, 26–28 October 2007, in Dublin OH. Awards are given in six categories, but two of them are topical categories that vary from year to year. The fixed categories are Best Song, Best Classic Filk Song, Best Performer, and Best Writer/Composer. The winners are:

- Filk Song** ..... *Rich Fantasy Lives*,  
Rob Balder and Tom Smith
- Classic Filk Song** ..... *Falling Down on New Jersey*,  
Mitchell Burnside-Clapp
- Performer (tie)** ..... **Dr. Mary Crowell and  
Seanan McGuire**
- Writer/Composer** ..... **Talis Kimberley**
- Dorsai Song** ..... **Shai!**, Steve Simmons and Steve Macdonald
- Song of Home** ..... *Emerald Green*,  
Michelle Dockrey and Tony Fabris

## A Bird In Hand Is Worth...

### No Need for a Ring — Chapter 17

by PieEyedDragon

[Editor’s Note: This chapter begins the second part of the NNFAF trilogy — *The Two Hairy Towers* — and is thus numbered as Chapter 1 in some places. Because the *Shuttle* is serializing the entire tale, we choose to use the alternate sequential chapter numbering system, following Chapter 16 of *The Fellow’s Ship and the Thing* which was published in the July 2007 issue of the *Shuttle*. You may recall that PieEyedDragon was badly injured in a fight with another dragon, Hishaukah, in that chapter.]

Windle Kevin had been walking for two hours when he stopped to rest. He did all his traveling at night. He relieved himself now by making a yellow puddle on the frozen ground. He adjusted his basket and started again. He had gone only a few steps when he saw something... odd... in a ditch beside his path. It was strange, and yet strangely familiar.

His thinking processes were not the swiftest, but he did all right. The thing looked back at him. It was birdlike; but had no more feathers than did Kevin himself.

Birds did not crawl on the ground at night; or... did they?

It was a long time ago. He had been climbing in the hills with his big brother, John. On a shelf they had come across a pile of sticks. There was something else in those sticks... something that looked sort-of like this thing!

What had John called it? He called it a... a...

Kevin: *Birdie!*

Kevin smiled, finally remembering. The creature in the sticks had had no feathers. John said it was a...

Kevin: *Baybie birdie!*

This one did not hiss at Kevin; and no feathered mother came screeching, to beat at Kevin’s head and bite and scratch his ears. The naked wings looked a little twisted, too. That did not look quite right. Kevin frowned, struggling to think.

Kevin: *Baybie birdie... broken?*

Being more-or-less decent; Kevin did not know what to do. He could not stay here for very long. He needed to keep on walking toward the mountains. John had been gone for so long. Kevin was lonely. Maybe....

Kevin took a fish out of his basket, and held it close to the birdie.

Kevin: *Baybie birdie like fishie?*

The birdie looked at the fish, and ate it up in two bites. It made a gentle noise; looking at Kevin. Kevin carefully reached under the birdie, picked it up and settled it onto his left forearm; facing forward. The birdie wiggled a bit before settling into a balanced position; with one wing hanging down beside Kevin’s arm on each side, and it’s long tail wrapped around Kevin’s elbow.

Kevin did not immediately notice anything odd about this latter.

Kevin straightened carefully up to his full height; adjusted the position of his windle-basket on his back, and started walking northwest. He could see shadows of the Blue Mountains on the horizon. He would reach shelter in good time before sunrise. His pace was slow; but he moved faster than many running Mans. He could run, but he couldn’t see all that well just now. He was concentrating on the shapes and smells of the land, and memories of past journeys.

*Thump Ump Ump ump ump... Thump Ump Ump ump  
ump... Thump Ump Ump ump ump...*

Leagues went past, behind his echoing steps. His foot-prints on the ground were never closer together than twenty-one feet.

Yes, Windle Kevin was a more or less decent... Giant!

At fifty-two feet; he was less than half the size of a fully-grown Elm tree. Not that there were any Elm trees this far north, nor ever had been.

— O — O — O —

My current mode of transport was a large improvement over the previous. I'm even beginning to warm up a little. Riding this large fellow's arm is not yet as smooth as floating down a river. I cannot begin to work on my injuries until we stop, somewhere.

We keep going toward the mountains. As the sky behind us begins to show faint signs of light, we reach the foothills and wind among the watercourses and valleys. We pass near a field of small, scattered, broken rocks that look suspiciously like the debris from another mining operation. The sky is gray when the giant slows down at the north side of a medium hill; with a thin covering of snow. A large, flat stone has slid down from a higher place. He sets me down, along with his bundles, and begins grappling with the stone. Frozen to the ground, it finally comes loose with a great tearing noise. It moves aside to reveal a dark opening. He carries me in to an out-of-the-way corner of a none-too-roomy cave home, brings in the rest of the baggage; and returns to set the "door" back in place. That done, he takes a drink from a small half-full pool near the back. Some angular crevices higher on the north side let in traces of indirect early morning light and some air. There are already some other rough furnishings in this place. The giant obviously knew

where he was going. It would have been suicidal, otherwise, (for such a one to whom the touch of direct sunlight means death by petrification) to have made a long journey. He could not have come all the way from the Misty Mountains in one night, so must have had a safe stopover, somewhere. He gives me another fish and eats several, himself. He takes a single, rough sandal from a niche near the roof, looks at it a moment, and puts it back. It was a little smaller than the ones he was wearing. He then stretched out on the ground and began to snore.

Time to work on things. I creep over to the pool and take a drink. My wing, ribs, chin, and forelegs all hurt. I have a slight problem about straightening my bones. With both forelegs broken, I cannot use one to squeeze the other. To use a hind foot for the process would require more flexing of the broken ribs. My tail cannot perform such detailed work, either. That leaves only my mouth.

I find a place near the pool to jam my left "wrist," and start gently pulling. I bite down on the injured place and so force the bone back together. I whisper a preliminary healing spell over that leg and perform the same tasks on the other. I will have to wait now at least a day before working on the ribs and wing. I take another drink and settle down into a healing sleep.

— O — O — O —

"I must see if I can't find a more or less decent giant to block it up again," Gandalf said, "or soon there will be no getting over the mountains at all." — *The Hobbit*

[Some of the above beings and situations have been suggested by the works of J. R. R. Tolkien. (But you already knew that, didn't you?)]



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