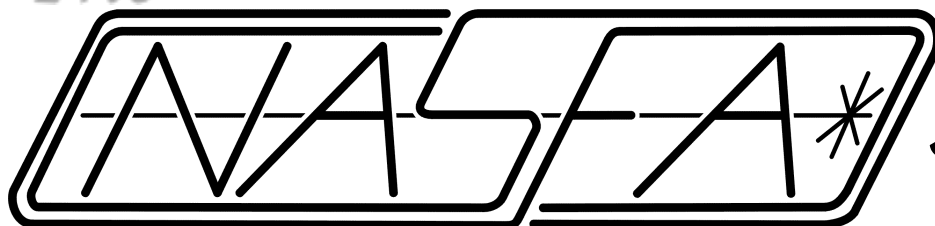


The



Shuttle  
April 2008

The Next NASFA Meeting will be 19 April 2008  
at the Regular Time and Location

There will be a Concom Meeting at Mary &  
Doug's House, 7:30P, Thursday 17 April 2008

## Oyez, Oyez

The next NASFA Meeting will be Saturday 19 April 2008 at the regular time (6P) and the regular location. Meetings are at BookMark, 11220-J South Memorial Parkway — at the corner of the Parkway and Meadowbrook Drive.

### PROGRAM

The April program will be a presentation by new author William H. Drinkard. His novel *Elom* (ISBN 0765317850) was recently published by Tor and has been well received.

### ATMM

The After-The-Meeting Meeting will be at Mike Kennedy's house (7907 Charlotte Drive SW in Huntsville)— subject to another volunteer preempting him. Directions will be available at the meeting.

We still need to act on Russell McNutt's offer to host any or all of the June, July, and August ATMMs at his house (and pool).

### CONCOM MEETING

There will be a concom meeting at Doug and Mary Lampert's house (127 Autumn Glaze Drive in Meridianville) at 7:30P Thursday 17 April 2008. Doug has already sent an email with directions. If you didn't get the email or get lost on the day,

call their home phone (256-829-9195) or Doug's cell (256-527-2879) for directions.

### SHUTTLE PROBLEMS

Due to a computer hardware problem, the *Shuttle* is being produced this month using different software on a different computer. This issue will therefore lack some of the fit-and-finish the *Shuttle* usually has.

More to the point, the mailing list is out of reach on that failed hardware. Depending on how long it takes to diagnose and repair the problem, you may not even see this issue until at or after the club meeting.

## News and Info

### SPACE RANGERS RIDE AGAIN

The current engagement of *Space Rangers and the Viper Menace* (which began 11 April) will wrap up at the Renaissance Theatre <[www.renaissancetheatre.net](http://www.renaissancetheatre.net)> the weekend of 17–19 April 2008. Performances are reported to cost \$14 with the opening curtain on this musical at 8P each night.

The Renaissance Theatre is at 1216B Meridian Street, Huntsville AL 35801. More information can be found at their

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web site or by calling 256-536-3117.

### GOOGLE GOES TO SPACE?

On 1 April Google and the Virgin Group announced a new joint venture, Virgle, Inc., which will be sponsoring Project Virgle <googleblog.blogspot.com/2008/04/announcing-project-virgle.html> to establish a colony on Mars as part of a 100-year plan.

Um, you did notice the date, yes?

### GOOGLE TRAVELS IN TIME?

Not to be outdone, Google Australia announced on 1 April their "gDay" service, powered by artificial intelligence, to allow internet users to search web pages 24 hours before they're created.

### NEVER IN HUNTSVILLE?

Back to *this* reality, and in the "it will never play in Huntsville" category, Sony Pictures has announced *Zombie Strippers* <sonypictures.com/zombiestrippers>. The movie — starring Robert "Freddie Kruger" Englund, Jenna "often nekkid but maybe not in this film" Jameson, and no one else you've ever heard of — will open in select cities on 18 April 2008. The closest it's likely to come to Huntsville — for which one may or may not be grateful — is a limited engagement in Atlanta set to start 25 April.



### MATCH IT FOR PRATCHETT

Terry Pratchett, who has been diagnosed with a rare form of early-onset Alzheimer's, has announced a donation of \$1 million (£500,000) to the Alzheimer's Research Trust. Pat Cadigan has announced a campaign to match this with small donations. See <www.MatchItForPratchett.org> for details.

## March Minutes

by Steve Sloan, Secretary and Impromptu Host

The March meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, March 22, 2008 in the BookMark meeting room at 6:19P by Vice President Mike Kennedy. The crickets were AWOL with Mary and Doug. The president is missing, so has a coup occurred? No, they're just on a plane, on their way back to town.

### OLD BUSINESS

None.

### NEW BUSINESS

None.

### CONVENTION BUSINESS

We've finalized the date. This year's Con+Stellation will be October 17–19, 2008. This choice is based on the 99.9% certain knowledge that the [Alabama] A&M home game will be the week prior. A&M hasn't announced their game officially, so we haven't signed a contract with the hotel yet. Worst case, if that hotel falls through, we should be able to find another in time.

We will be placing flyers with the final date at DeepSouthCon and OmegaCon.

The next ConCom meeting will be either before the end of this month, or early next month. [In the end it was scheduled for Thursday 17 April 2008. -ED]

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

We received an email from Ikthalion Press. (Gesundheit!)

They're publishing new science fiction books, including *Destiny's Forge*, *To Taste the Dragon's Blood*, and *Nagrasanti*. The email appears to be just publicity for them.

For next month's program, newly published author William Drinkard will be here to talk about his new novel, *Elom*, which was published by Tor. The book has had good reviews. He's a local writer from Cullman. He described the book in a panel last Con+Stellation. Anita thinks he's probably a cousin of hers. This led to a digression about Elvis Presley's family tree, and how he may not actually be a Presley.

Yuri's Night, a party event celebrating the first manned spaceflight by Yuri Gagarin, will be held April 12th at 415 East Church Street NW, at a place called Lee Ann's. Unfortunately, it's a smoking bar, so many people who wanted to can't go.

On Friday, April 18th, the fourth season of *Doctor Who* starts on Sci-Fi Channel, just a few days after England gets it.

Sam moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:28P.

The program was a multimedia presentation about how local company Digital Fusion puts together animation work for the space industry. Steve volunteered, at the last possible second, to host the After-the-Meeting Meeting at his house. He got a lot of help from Jennifer and Sunn, getting his house ready in time. Thanks!

## NASFA Calendar

### APRIL

- 01 April Fool's Day.
- 03 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: Storm Front, Jim Butcher; 6P.
- 07 BD: Mary Lampert.
- 11–13 CoastCon 31 — Biloxi MS.
- 13 Atlanta Comic Convention — Atlanta GA.
- 15 Income Taxes Due.
- 15 BD: Manda Freeman.
- 15 BD: "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo.
- 18–20 ConGlomeration — Louisville KY.
- 18–20 PyrateCon 2008 — New Orleans LA.
- 19\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at Book-Mark. Program: William Drinkard. ATMM: Mike Kennedy's house (subject to change).
- 20 Passover Begins.
- 21 BD: Randy B. Cleary.
- 22 Earth Day.
- 23 Administrative Professionals' Day.
- 25 Arbor Day.
- 25–28 Corflu Silver (Fanzine Fandom) — Las Vegas NV.
- 25–27 Middle Tennessee Anime Convention — Nashville TN.
- 25–27 RavenCon 2008 — Richmond VA.
- 26 BD: Chloe Airoldi.
- 30 BD: Mark Maxwell.

### MAY

- 01 BD: Russell McNutt.
- 01 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: Probability Moon, Nancy Kress; 6P.
- 02–04 Starfleet Region 1 Summit — Pigeon Forge TN.
- 02–04 Galaxy of Stars — Jackson MS.
- 03 BD: Martha Knowles.
- 11 Mothers' Day.
- 14 BD: Debbie Hughes.
- 16–18 Mobicon XI — Mobile AL.
- 16 BD: Linda Bolgeo.

17\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at BookMark. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.  
 17 Armed Forces Day.  
 19 BD: David O. Miller.  
 20 BD: Mike Glicksohn.  
 23–26 Timegate: Regenerations — Atlanta GA.  
 23–25 Rocket City FurMeet — Huntsville AL.  
 23–25 Oasis 21 — Orlando FL.  
 23–25 ConQuest 39 — Kansas City MO.  
 26 Memorial Day (Observed).  
 27 BD: Kathy Paulk.  
 30 Memorial Day (Traditional).  
 30–01 ConCarolinas — Charlotte NC.  
 30–01 A-Kon — Dallas TX.

## JUNE

01 BD: Glenn Valentine.  
 01 Comic Fan Appreciation Show — Nashville TN.  
 02 BD: Lloyd Penney.  
 05 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: The Wizard Hunters, Martha Wells; 6P.  
 06–08 OMG!con 2008 — Paducah KY.  
 06–08 Sci Fi Summer Con — Atlanta GA.  
 13 BD: Bill S.  
 14 Flag Day.  
 15 Fathers' Day.  
 17 BD: Jeff Freeman.  
 20 First Day of Summer.  
 20 BD: PieEyedDragon.  
 21\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at BookMark. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD (possibly Russell McNutt's house).  
 27–29 Hypericon 4 — Nashville TN.  
 27–29 PersaCon 2008 — Huntsville AL.  
 27–29 ApolloCon 2008 — Houston TX.

OoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOo

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 regular meeting location is the meeting room at BookMark 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.

# A Stellar DeepSouthCon

a convention review by Mike Kennedy

DeepSouthCon 46/StellarCon 32 was held 14–16 March 2008 at the Downtown Radisson in High Point NC. Headliner guests included Literary GoH Toni Weiskopf, Artist GoH Monte Moore, Gaming GoH Steve Long, and Fan GoH Cheralyn Lambeth. Nine other sf/f luminaries were listed as Special Guests, and almost three dozen more as Guests.

As has become the norm, this year's DeepSouthCon was held in conjunction with an existing convention, in this case the long-standing StellarCon <[www.stellarcon.org](http://www.stellarcon.org)>. This marked the second time ever that DSC was held in North Carolina, the previous one being only two years ago. In part because DSC does not usually represent a large increase in such a con's membership, it is somewhat chancy how well DSC require-

ments, traditions, and interests will be upheld. All in all, the committee and staff did a good job of running a convention that was both a StellarCon and a DeepSouthCon.

The location — in the Piedmont Triad section of north-central North Carolina — was not the most convenient to get to from Huntsville. The Piedmont Triad International Airport (about as International as Huntsville International Airport) does have several airlines in common with HSV, but the schedules were not particularly good and at the time I began my serious travel planning the fares were not very good. So, a road trip it became — especially when it turned out that Sue Thorn and I could coordinate our schedules well enough to travel together and split the driving expenses. Then too, having a car in High Point would prove to be convenient as there were a couple of occasions where local travel was pretty much necessary to accomplish things I wanted.

The trip (about 8 hours of actual driving each way) was long enough that it added a full day both before and after the convention. On the other hand, it was short enough that it was quite possible to make the outbound trip all in one day, which meant I could check in to the convention hotel Thursday night and have quite a few hours Friday morning and afternoon to fit in one of the aforementioned local trips (last-minute shopping for a Con+Stellation room party) before the con really got underway. I probably could have done the inbound trip in one day, but decided to shorten my day Monday by driving about halfway back Sunday night. If I made the same trip again I think I'd make the same travel decisions; it worked out just fine. Sam and Judy, on the other hand, drove all the way to and from High Point on the Friday (starting *early* morning) and Sunday of the con. I think I'm too old for that schedule.

The convention got off to a sort of weird start when I went to pick up my badge and they couldn't find it. I'd preregistered the better part of two years earlier, at the 2006 DSC right after StellarCon won the bid. Fortunately, the person working the registration desk remembered my name, but somehow it slipped off the list of prereg badges to be printed. Hopefully I was the only person — or at least one of very few — this happened to. I did this not long after reg opened, which was probably good because they didn't have at-the-door and prereg pickup separated. That wasn't an issue until later when they got busy, then it led to some extra delay as the same staff tried to handle both. For the size of this con (I'm guessing more than 500 but less than 1000) it was not a particularly good decision. I speculate that inexperience was a factor — though StellarCon has more excuse for inexperience than most cons of their "age." The underlying sponsor is a student group at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Even though they have some older people with many years of convention experience in some key positions, most of the staff — including department heads — are college students; so the staff is perpetually re-learning how to run a con.

The lack of experience may also have played a part in not having a pocket program guide available. The program book (which by the way was *very* nicely produced) was a 50+ page 8.5x11 book and thus not at all convenient to carry around. I'd printed a programming grid from the web site just before the trip, but several people I knew commented on the lack of a pocket program to the reg staff (who generally didn't get the concept — one even suggested tearing the relevant pages from the program book to carry around). The word did eventually make its way up the chain of command, though, and by Saturday convenient reprints of the schedule grid from the program book were available at reg.

# DSC Awards and Meetings

## AWARDS



The DeepSouthCon sponsors two awards, the Rebel and Phoenix for service to Southern Fandom by a fan and pro respectively — often phrased as the persons who have done the most *for* Southern Fandom. Additionally, there is an unofficial Rubble Award (founded by Gary Robe and company) for the fan who has done the most *to* Southern Fandom. The Rubble is usually given in a good-natured spirit.

This year's Rebel Award went to Kelly Lockhart, primarily for his years of service in founding and maintaining the Southern Fandom Resource Guide <[scenic-city.com/sfrg](http://scenic-city.com/sfrg)>. The SFRG provides the most comprehensive listing of Southern conventions and events available. Kelly was presented with a decorative sword and was, for once in his life, speechless. Quite a



feat if you know Kelly.

This year's Phoenix Award went posthumously to Jim Baen. It was presented by John Ringo and accepted by Toni Weisskopf who gave a very touching speech about how much this award would have meant to Jim and how much it does mean both to her personally and to all of Baen Books. She promised that the trophy would have a place of honor at the company.

StellarCon/DeepSouthCon is to be congratulated for picking two very deserving honorees.

Meanwhile, the Rubble Award also went to a deserving honoree. This year's Rubble went to Bob Emblar, of OutsideCon, for attempting to drown the DSC last year by having it outside on the only wet weekend of the entire summer. [When I heard just how miserable the weather was for much of that weekend I was glad I'd decided to skip DSC last year. For the most part I'm not an outside kind of guy and going to an outside con while being rained on would *not* have been my idea of a good time. -ED]

## DSC SITE SELECTION

Most years the only significant business at the annual DSC Business Meeting is Site Selection for the con two years hence. To be listed on the printed ballot, some modest amount of paperwork has to be filed. This year the only bid that did so was for ConCarolinas <[www.concarolinas.org](http://www.concarolinas.org)>, yet another North Carolina con, albeit this one in Charlotte in the southwestern part of the state, near the South Carolina border.

The StellarCon folks running the business meeting were just a tiny bit downcast when the printed ballots (which included space for write-in votes) that they had prepared proved unnecessary — the Business Meeting attendees demanded that ConCarolinas be swept in by acclamation. DeepSouthCon 48 will be held in conjunction with ConCarolinas 2010 on 4–6 June 2010 at the Marriott Executive Park in Charlotte NC. The ConCarolinas folks were just a bit overwhelmed when a number of people [including me -ED] swarmed them to push money in their face immediately after the Business Meeting.

Also during the meeting, a semi-official message was relayed from Dallas TX's FenCon <[www.fencon.org](http://www.fencon.org)> of their intent to bid for the 2011 DeepSouthCon. If they win, they would be the first DSC in Texas. The upcoming FenCon V is scheduled for 3–5 October 2008 and the schedule for their DSC would presumably also be for early October.

## SFC BUSINESS

The Southern Fandom Confederation also has their annual Business Meeting at DSC, though they are not (as many people erroneously believe) directly connected to the DSC. Various reports (including from the Treasurer) were given. Nothing of any *earthshattering* consequence occurred (individual dues remain the same, institutional dues and advertising rates were lowered) except that longtime SFC President Randy Cleary (of Huntsville) finally found someone to take over the mantle. Warren Buff (of Raleigh NC) has picked up that challenge, along with the editorship of the *SFC Bulletin*. [Randy published one final issue of the *Bulletin* which was well under way before the DSC. All is now in Warren's hands. -ED] There was a well-deserved vote of thanks to Randy for the job he's done as President.

Well, actually, a couple of other things of note did happen. Mike Rogers volunteered to take up the challenge of getting material gathered for an update of the irregularly-published *SFC Handbook*. We shall see how that goes since the effort of herding kittens looks *trivial* compared to getting several dozen fans from all over the South to contribute to the *Handbook* in anything like a timely and coordinated fashion. Also, Huntsvillian Bill Savage volunteered to help revamp the DSC web site.

The venue for the convention had both positives and negatives, as almost all venues do. The hotel was an appropriate size as far as function space went — with virtually all the space put to use and none of it overcrowded. (Well, except for the main prefunction hallway outside the ballroom, which was often somewhat packed with people — but never enough that one was terrifically impeded in getting past. And it *did* add to the aura of a lot of "energy" one often sees at cons with so many young people.) It was a bit small in terms of rooms, with the hotel sold out well before the con (in part because of a "little miss" talent contest taking place at a nearby facility). There was a designated overflow hotel, but it was several blocks away (and there wasn't anything closer).

As its name implies, the Radisson is in downtown High

Point, which could have meant parking was an issue. Wonderfully, it wasn't. There's a city-owned parking garage right next to the hotel with free parking for people staying there. Daytrippers (and those staying at the overflow hotel, if they drove down) did have to pay for parking, but it was not particularly expensive. Perhaps the biggest negative of the downtown location was a relative lack of restaurants and a complete lack of other shopping in walking — or even quick driving — distance. I ended up several miles from the hotel to do my Friday room party shopping, for instance. On a positive note, all that was up and down the same main street so there was no chance of getting lost on the way.

Not to pick too many nits, but my personal biggest issue with the hotel was the arrangement of my hotel room. There

was wireless internet access in the lobby area of the hotel but in the rooms the high-speed (good) was via an ethernet box (neutral). Most of the hotel rooms were conventionally arranged, but mine — part of a two-bedroom suite — had no desk. So, I had to trail an ethernet cable across to either the bed or a loveseat, neither of which made for ideal posture (negative). Plus, the only free electrical outlet in the room was on the far side from the ethernet box (negative) so I had to get creative in how I powered my laptop. All in all very not ideal, but I coped.

Being in one bedroom of a suite, however, was great. I'd arranged through the con to split a suite with another group. I had use of the parlor Friday night for the Con†Stellation room party and another party (the 2011 Seattle Worldcon bid) used the parlor Saturday night. Which brings us to the subject of the social scene at DSC.

Parties were pretty scarce on Friday night. Besides ours (which ran from 8:30P to almost 1A), there was a Baen party (hosted by Huntsville ex-pat and publisher at Baen Books, Toni Weiskopf) and the Baen Barfly suite (which technically isn't a room party but was open for most of the con). On Saturday night there were *lots* more parties. I made my way to the aforementioned Seattle Worldcon bid party (*yummy* smoked salmon, plus door prizes), a ConCarolinas DSC bid party (where I had a very good chat with the proposed chair for their 2010 con/bid), a RavenCon/NASFiC 2010 bid party (a full bar but way too crowded/noisy to talk/think), and a Zielke St. Patrick's Day party (wonderfully moist and flavorful corned beef). All of the parties I made it to — and I believe there were several I missed, including one sponsored by the local unit of the 501<sup>st</sup> Stormtroopers — were in suites like the one we used Friday for the Con†Stellation party, except for the RavenCon/NASFiC bid party. I don't know if a suite would have spread out their crowd to where it would have been tolerable, or just allowed more people to crowd in. I regret that I didn't get to talk to them about their NASFiC bid (which is based on the almost-certainly-valid assumption that Australia will win the 2010 Worldcon).

Other than hotel spaces like the lobby, restaurant, and bar (all located on the opposite end of the hotel from the function space) and the always-hopping prefunction hallway, the convention provided two things I'd say fit in the "social scene" classification — the Con Suite and a Meet the Guests event Friday. The Con Suite was on the second floor of the hotel, which would have been very convenient to the function space on the first (ground) floor if there was a reasonably-accessible stairwell serving both. As it was, the two public elevators got quite a workout over the weekend, much of it only between the first and second floors. And, there was ample reason to make that trek. The Con Suite had a variety of food (often including "real" food as well as munchies) and drinks, plus a small but comfortable seating area. Every time I went in there was a good crowd, often in animated conversation either in the seating area or standing around the main serving table (or both).

Unusually, the MtG was scheduled as the first programming event of the con, at 4P Friday. Also unusually, the not-huge room (around 500 ft<sup>2</sup>) was filled up with about five round tables (with chairs). There was no food provided — it might well have been financially ruinous to do so since this was in a function room. The main guests tended to camp out at one of the tables and hold court with fans (and other guests) who circulated from table to table if they desired. Some people did take advantage of the event (Sue, for instance, got some books signed) but the crowd was not heavy for the short time I was

there.

I didn't get to a lot of programming on Friday because of prep time for our room party. As mentioned, I did manage to get to a few minutes of the MtG. I also made it to the Opening Ceremony which had to have been designed by either a Lit or Drama student. Several people from the concom read passages from classic sf/f and talked about how the literature had touched their lives. The headline guests (who sat on a stage bare but for their chairs and a lectern) were introduced, though no one thought to check for other pros in the audience to introduce.

On Saturday I did a bit "better" with programming, making it to some of the too-bloody-early Live Action One-shot (where I managed to escape the laptop but did have a great chat with Toni), a History of Fandom panel, the Guest of Honor Speeches (featuring only Toni and AGoH Monte Moore — who was delightful throughout the con, by the way), a Worst Con Ever panel (where I heard several stories — from other branches of fandom — that I'd never heard before), the Cabaret at the End of the Universe (interrelated skits by staff and volunteers), the Costume Contest (not top shelf, but I enjoyed it and thought a good bit more of the costumes than some other folks did), and the Awards Ceremony (which included Stellar-Con stuff and the DSC awards). I almost got roped into the Hearts Tournament (which, as has been too true at DSCs of late, was limited to a single round) but escaped when they found a fourth.

Being a DeepSouthCon, my Sunday programming events were pretty much limited to the DSC Business Meeting (wherein Site Selection for the 2010 DSC occurred) and the Southern Fandom Confederation Business Meeting (wherein Huntsvillian Randy Cleary gratefully handed off the baton of the SFC Presidency to Warren Buff).

Production values at the different program events varied, with some notable glitches. The skits at the Cabaret didn't come particularly close to filling the hour, but were appropriately silly and kitschy-low-tech (with my favorite possibly being the Cthulhu Carols segment). The GoH Speeches got off to a late start and didn't seem to have anyone assigned to introduce the guests — a young staffer (but then almost all of them were young as I said earlier) finally stepped in. The Costume Contest didn't have anything planned for the judging interval, but one of the filkers attending was rounded up and did an entertaining set (though some of the local references therein went over my head).

Programming used several small rooms, but the main programming room was part of the main ballroom subdivided with air walls. Main programming took a quarter of the ballroom, the Art Show an eighth, and the Dealers Room the rest. I didn't notice any problems with this arrangement (no significant noise issue, for instance) and it allowed them to use a service corridor behind the ballroom for a staging area for things like Costume Contest entrances.

Speaking of the Art Show, it was fairly small. I didn't count the panels but there couldn't have been more than about three dozen. Most of the art on display was prints, but there were originals from both AGoH Moore and Doug Chaffee. I estimated that more than 75% of the show was fantasy; most of the rest was more-or-less sf, plus a small admixture of horror. One three-panel bay was curtained off as an adults-only area. The Art Auction was scheduled for Sunday afternoon; I skipped it (since there wasn't anything I both wanted to and could afford to bid on) in favor of socializing and relaxing before hitting the road that day.

The Dealers Room was obviously a major attraction for the

average StellarCon attendee, though little of the merchandise on offer was to my taste. I saw gaming supplies, weapons, jewelry, costuming supplies, t-shirts, collectables, and more. Several small-press publishers had tables but there were no actual book dealers. The Dealers Room was also used for autograph sessions.

There were lots of other aspects of the con I didn't sample. Gaming looked to be hopping, both in two good-sized function rooms (totaling about 1700 ft<sup>2</sup>) and in things like Dance Dance Revolution (and other interactive video games) in the prefunction hallway. There were also three separate LARP-ish things scheduled, one daytime LARP, one evening/overnight LARP, and a game of Killer. There was an Anime Video Room (and some other Anime events/programming). One room was shared between a kid's programming track (daytime) and filking (evening/wee hours).

I doubt I'll be back to StellarCon (unless they host another DSC) just because of the distance. But, I can recommend it to anyone in that neck of the woods. The glitches listed in this report are generally minor and, face it, all cons have them. If you're interested, StellarCon 33 is scheduled for 13–15 March 2009, back at the same venue.

DeepSouthCon 47 will be held in conjunction with Hypericon 5 <[www.hypericon.info](http://www.hypericon.info)> in June 2009 in Nashville TN. They have not yet posted DSC info on their web site since Hypericon 4 (27–29 June 2008) is still in the pipeline. One of the oddities of DSCs is that they can happen anywhere over a wide time swath. The gap between the 2007 DSC (held in conjunction with OutsideCon in early September) and the one this year was just over 6 months. The gap between this year's DSC and the 2009 event will be over 15 months. I have my membership (though, grumble, grumble, they haven't cashed the check yet!) and I hope I'll see you at DSC 47.

## OmegaCon 2008

a convention review by Steve Sloan

**OmegaCon 2008**, <[omegacon.us](http://omegacon.us)>, 14–16 March 2008, Sheraton Birmingham, Birmingham AL

Between a late start, car trouble, and a church commitment in Hampton Cove, I only got to stay at OmegaCon for a little while Friday night, and most of the day on Saturday. I had a lot of fun, though.

Registration for us was a little unusual, because Jennifer's sister Amy negotiated a \$20 per head group rate, if we could get ten people to sign up. Apparently, only the con head knew about this deal, so we ended up with blank badges that we wrote our names on. At least the registration people believed Amy, and let her have the badges.

This was an unusual con for me, because it was more about hanging out with friends that I mostly know from HAAS, than about going to panels. The group of friends included two budding fantasy authors, a budding comics writer/illustrator, and a comics writer/illustrator who has been published in a few indie comics. So, the panels about writing and plotting were a big hit with them.

The plan for Friday was for Jennifer to come pick me up as soon after 6:30P as possible. She got delayed talking to a student's mom who just wouldn't let her get off the cell phone, so we left somewhat later than planned. When we got to Birmingham, we went by my sister Corie's house first, where I dropped off my suitcase, then we went on to the con. We finally arrived

about 9P. We met Jennifer's sister Amy, and friends Brandy, Todd, Sooz, and Lee in the parking garage, and hung out with everyone else as we waited for Amy to bring her car in, carrying our badges and registration stuff. Amy, Brandy, Jennifer, and I went into the con on our own. We spent our time in four chairs in the lobby until we left for the night. We talked to people who came by, and tried to use the program book to plan out what we wanted to see. I couldn't plan as well, since the book had no listings for the hard science track I was interested in. According to Brandy, the hard science track schedule was posted to the con web site a couple of days before, so I decided to wait to plan until after I got it.

While I was using Corie's computer Saturday morning, I worked hard to try and find that information about the hard science track on the con website, but that branch of the forum was down. I also printed layout maps from the site, because they weren't included in the con book. One online map was essentially unprintable, probably because its true size according to the file info was huge (about 106 inches by 68.75 inches). I had to do some trickery (taking a screen cap of the Acrobat screen) to print it correctly. The maps were very helpful later on, because the con's layout was a bit confusing. I didn't even find the hard science panel room until Saturday night.

The plan for Saturday morning was for Amy to drive Jennifer and Brandy to Corie's to pick me up, then we'd go to the con together. Unfortunately, Amy's car died at Starbucks on their way to me. Amy called AAA, and they waited. Corie took me to the con. Amy stayed with her car, and Jennifer and Brandy took Jennifer's car to meet me at the con a little later.

When I got to the con, the only place I ever found the hard science track's schedule was where they printed and taped it up next to Pre-Reg, so I had to hand-copy it into my program book.

While waiting at the con for Jennifer and Brandy to arrive, I sat in a chair near the entrance to the "Star Wars Universe" panel to look at the schedule. At about 11:30A, I saw Peter Mayhew on his way into the panel. I wish I'd been standing instead of sitting, so I could have gotten a better idea of his height. Despite his need for a cane, he still moved a lot like Chewbacca.

After Jennifer and Brandy arrived, we started going to panels...

12:00N "Reading Like a Editor" [sic] — I wrote "irony" next to that title in the program book. "A Editor"? It was just a typo, and I'm glad I wasn't the only one who noticed it. Anyway, the panel was pretty interesting, and I like that Jennifer and Amy got a lot from the writing panels.

1:30P "Music's Role in Science Fiction and Fantasy" featured Louise Marley and Steven Brust. Louise Marley is a former opera singer turned SF/fantasy author, and Jennifer and Amy are both big fans of her books combining music and magic/psi powers. Brust is a drummer and SF/fantasy author. Brust noted that you learn the most about how people in a profession think by listening to the jokes they tell. This led to a discussion of musician jokes. Jennifer contributed this one, "What's the difference between a trampoline and bagpipes? You take off your shoes to jump on a trampoline." That was a very fun panel. During and after the panel, Jennifer and Amy got to have a really good discussion with Louise.

At 3:30P, we saw some of the performance by Celtic band Coyote Run. Jennifer and Amy were disappointed that most of the Celtic bands advertised to attend dropped out before the con. This was true of a good percentage of the con's scheduled guests, in all tracks.

At 4:30P, I split from the group to go get author signatures in the Dealer's Room. I got Ben Bova to sign a book for me, in the one and only time I saw him at the entire con. I also bought *Elom*, by William H. Drinkard, who is local to North Alabama. Back at the last Con+Stellation, he described the book, and it sounded really interesting. He was in the Books-A-Million area of the Dealer's Room, so I got him to sign the book I bought. After that, I hustled to see the rest of the panel Jennifer, Amy, and Brandy went to...

4:30P "Discussion of Evil" had Bill Snodgrass, a former cop turned writer, a vampire/demon writer chick, and a biker-looking guy on the panel. Most of my friends attended. They got in some pretty good points in the discussion.

After that panel, we all decided to get something to eat. I tried to arrange it so my little sister and her boyfriend could come eat somewhere with us, but that didn't work out. We ended up ordering pizza from Papa John's. Sooz stood watch in the lobby for the pizza guy, and the rest of us went back to the Dealer's Room.

In the Dealer's Room, Jennifer and I bought matching light sabers. I didn't want the dinky little Yoda version, so I bought the last Luke Skywalker one they had — the demo. I'm surprised that it doesn't look scuffed up, with all the abuse it took that weekend. Jennifer also bought a cool calculus t-shirt. If you do the math, the integrals work out to the number 42. The Dealer's Room was large and well-attended. The art show was only about as big as Con+Stellation's, which is surprisingly small for such a large con.

At 7:30P, we went to see Earthwood, Louise Marley's band. After the panel where we saw her, she specifically invited us to come to the concert. I left after a little while, to go to a science panel, and Amy and Brandy left to go to the Star Wars vs Harry Potter panel.

At 8:00P, "Quantum Connection" was the one science panel I managed to see. It had Doc Taylor, a physicist from UAB, and physicist Dr. David Finkelstein. Jennifer joined me for a little while. She especially liked Finkelstein's no-nonsense, show-me-the-experimental-results approach. He's this old physicist who has worked with some well-respected quantum physicists in the past, and he didn't take any mystical BS from anybody. He was really fun to watch. After the quantum panel wound down, I went to find Jennifer at...

8:00P "Star Wars vs Harry Potter" — I got to this panel, to find Amy on the panel! Apparently, several of the scheduled panelists didn't show, so they asked the audience if any of them could talk about the subject. Amy said she could, so she got invited up there. The panel ran about 2 hours, and she seemed to do a really good job. According to Amy, the original discussion topic ran dry a few minutes in, so she kept things going in other directions. By the time I got there, they were having a discussion about the legal status of fan fiction for the two fandoms. By the way, this is evidence that if we let HAAS folks create and host a few panels at Con+Stellation, they'd do a good job, assuming we can get people to volunteer.

We were getting tired after the panel, so we headed to our cars. We sang Weird Al's "The Saga Begins" on the way out. It's so fun to be a geek with people who understand you.

In summary, my friends and I would all love to go again next year, especially if the con runners can work the bugs out. In web comments after the con, Sooz called it the "best con ever," although she has mostly attended anime cons in the past. She really liked the literary panels. Amy had a lot of fun. Everyone who went this time sounds like they'll go next time.

## 2008 Hugo and Campbell Noms Announced

Denvention 3, the 66<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction Convention, has announced the nominees for this year's Hugo Awards (for work in calendar year 2007) and the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Science Fiction Writer (of 2006 or 2007).

The Hugo Awards are for excellence in science fiction and fantasy and are voted on by members (including Supporting Members) of the Worldcon. The Campbell Award is sponsored by Dell Magazine and is voted on in the same way as the Hugo Awards. Links to printable and online ballots are available at <[www.denvention.org/hugos/index.php](http://www.denvention.org/hugos/index.php)>. Links to many of the nominated works of fiction are available at <[www.denvention.org/hugos/08hugonomlist.php](http://www.denvention.org/hugos/08hugonomlist.php)>.

Winners will be announced and awards presented at the Hugo Awards Ceremony, Saturday 9 August 2008 at Denvention 3. The nominees in each category appear below. One writer received enough ballots to appear on the Campbell Award ballot but was determined to be ineligible. One Hugo category and the Campbell Award had ties, resulting in six rather than five nominees. There were 483 valid nominating ballots.

### BEST NOVEL (382 ballots cast)

*The Yiddish Policemen's Union*, Michael Baen (HarperCollins, Fourth Estate)

*Brasyl*, Ian McDonald (Gollancz; Pyr)

*Rollback*, Robert J. Sawyer (Tor; *Analog* October 2006–January/February 2007)

*The Last Colony*, John Scalzi (Tor)

*Halting State*, Charles Stross (Ace; Orbit)

### BEST NOVELLA (220 ballots cast)

"The Fountain of Age," Nancy Kress (*Asimov's* July 2007)

"Recovering Apollo 8," Kristine Kathryn Rusch (*Asimov's* February 2007)

"Stars Seen Through Stone," Lucius Shepard (*F&SF* July 2007)

"All Seated on the Ground," Connie Willis (*Asimov's* December 2007; Subterranean Press)

"Memorare," Gene Wolfe (*F&SF* April 2007)

### BEST NOVELETTE (243 ballots cast)

"The Cambist and Lord Iron: a Fairytale of Economics," Daniel Abraham (*Logorrhea*, John Klima, ed., Bantam)

"The Merchant and the Alchemist's Gate," Ted Chiang (Subterranean Press; *F&SF* September 2007)

"Dark Integers," Greg Egan (*Asimov's* October/November 2007)

"Glory," Greg Egan (*The New Space Opera*, Gardner Dozois and Jonathan Strahan, eds., HarperCollins/Eos)

"Finisterra," David Moles (*F&SF* December 2007)

### BEST SHORT STORY (270 ballots cast)

"Last Contact," Stephen Baxter (*The Solaris Book of New Science Fiction*, George Mann, ed., Solaris Books)

"Tideline," Elizabeth Bear (*Asimov's* June 2007)

"Who's Afraid of Wolf 359?," Ken MacLeod (*The New Space Opera*, Gardner Dozois and Jonathan Strahan, eds., HarperCollins/Eos)

"Distant Replay," Mike Resnick (*Asimov's* April/May 2007)

"A Small Room in Koboldtown," Michael Swanwick (*Asimov's* April/May 2007; *The Dog Said Bow-Wow*, Tachyon Publications)

### BEST RELATED BOOK (173 ballots cast)

*The Company They Keep*: C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien as

*Writers in Community*, Diana Glycer; appendix by David Bratman (Kent State University Press)  
*Breakfast in the Ruins: Science Fiction in the Last Millennium*, Barry Malzberg (Baen)  
*Emshwiller: Infinity x Two*, Luis Ortiz (Nonstop)  
*Brave New Words: the Oxford Dictionary of Science Fiction*, Jeff Prucher (Oxford University Press)  
*The Arrival*, Shaun Tan (Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic)

**BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION, LONG FORM  
(270 ballots cast)**

*Enchanted*, written by Bill Kelly, directed by Kevin Lima (Walt Disney Pictures)  
*The Golden Compass*, written by Chris Weitz, based on the novel by Philip Pullman, directed by Chris Weitz (New Line Cinema)  
*Heroes*, Season 1, created by Tim Kring, written by Tim Kring, Jeph Loeb, Bryan Fuller, Michael Green, Natalie Chaidez, Jesse Alexander, Adam Armus, Aron Eli Coleite, Joe Pokaski, Christopher Zatta, and Chuck Kim, directed by David Semel, Allan Arkush, Greg Beeman, Ernest R. Dickerson, Paul Shapiro, Donna Deitch, Paul A. Edwards, John Badham, Terrence O'Hara, Jeannot Szwarc, Roxann Dawson, Kevin Bray, and Adam Kane (NBC Universal Television and Tailwind Productions)  
*Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, written by Michael Goldenberg, based on the novel by J. K. Rowling, directed by David Yates (Warner Bros. Pictures)  
*Stardust*, written by Jane Goldman and Matthew Vaughn, based on the novel by Neil Gaiman, directed by Matthew Vaughn (Paramount Pictures)

**BEST DRAMATIC PRESENTATION, SHORT FORM  
(259 ballots cast)**

*Battlestar Galactica*, "Razor," written by Michael Taylor, directed by Félix Enríquez Alcalá and Wayne Rose (Sci Fi Channel) (televised version, not DVD)  
*Dr. Who*, "Blink," written by Stephen Moffat, directed by Hettie Macdonald (BBC)  
*Dr. Who*, "Human Nature" and "Family of Blood," written by Paul Cornell, directed by Charles Palmer (BBC)  
*Star Trek New Voyages*, "World Enough and Time," written by Michael Reaves and Marc Scott Zicree, directed by Marc Scott Zicree (Cawley Entertainment Co. and The Magic Time Co.)  
*Torchwood*, "Captain Jack Harkness," written by Catherine Tregenna, directed by Ashley Way (BBC Wales)

**BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR, SHORT FORM  
(257 ballots cast)**

Ellen Datlow (*The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror* (St. Martin's), *Coyote Road* (Viking), *Inferno* (Tor))  
Stanley Schmidt (*Analog*)  
Jonathan Strahan (*The New Space Opera* (Eos/HarperCollins), *The Best Science Fiction and Fantasy of the Year*, Volume 1 (Night Shade), *Eclipse One* (NightShade))  
Gordon Van Gelder (*The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*)  
Sheila Williams (*Asimov's Science Fiction*)

**BEST PROFESSIONAL EDITOR, LONG FORM  
(187 ballots cast)**

Lou Anders (Pyr)  
Ginjer Buchanan (Ace/Roc)  
David G. Hartwell (Tor/Forge)  
Beth Meacham (Tor)  
Patrick Nielsen Hayden (Tor)

**BEST PROFESSIONAL ARTIST (205 ballots cast)**

Bob Eggleton (Covers: *To Outlive Eternity and Other Stories*

(Baen), *Ivory* (Pyr), *The Taint and Other Stories* (Subterranean))

Phil Foglio (Covers: *Robert Asprin's Myth Adventures*, Vol. 2 (Meisha Merlin), *What's New* (*Dragon Magazine* August 2007), *Girl Genius Vol. 6 – Agatha Heterodyne & the Golden Trilobite* (Airship Entertainment))

John Harris (Covers: *Spindrift* (Ace), *Horizons* (Tor), *The Last Colony* (Tor))

Stephan Martiniere (Covers: *Brasyl* (Pyr), *Mainspring* (Tor), *Dragons of Babel* (Tor))

John Picacio (Covers: *Fast Forward 2* (Pyr), *Time's Child* (HarperCollins/Eos), *A Thousand Deaths* (Golden Gryphon))

Shaun Tan (*The Arrival* (Arthur A Levine Books))

**BEST SEMIPROZINE (174 ballots cast)**

*Ansible*, David Langford, ed

*Helix*, William Sanders and Lawrence Watt-Evans, ed.

*Interzone*, Andy Cox, ed.

*Locus*, Charles N. Brown, Kirsten Gong-Wong., and Liza Groen Trombi, eds.

*The New York Review of Science Fiction*., Kathryn Cramer, Kristine Dikeman, David Hartwell, and Kevin J. Maroney, eds.

**BEST FANZINE (157 ballots cast)**

*Argentus*, Steven H Silver, ed.

*Challenger*, Guy Lillian III, ed.

*Drink Tank*, Chris Garcia, ed.

*File 770*, Mike Glycer, ed.

*Plokta*, Alison Scott, Steve Davies, and Mike Scott, eds.

**BEST FAN WRITER (195 ballots cast)**

Chris Garcia

David Langford

Cheryl Morgan

John Scalzi

Steven H Silver

**BEST FAN ARTIST (139 ballots cast)**

Brad Foster

Teddy Harvia

Sue Mason

Steve Stiles

Taral Wayne

**JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD (178 ballots cast)**

Joe Abercrombie (2<sup>nd</sup> year of eligibility)

Jon Armstrong (1<sup>st</sup> year of eligibility)

David Anthony Durham (1<sup>st</sup> year of eligibility)

David Louis Edelman (2<sup>nd</sup> year of eligibility)

Mary Robinette Kowal (2<sup>nd</sup> year of eligibility)

Scott Lynch (2<sup>nd</sup> year of eligibility)

## Stoker Winners Announced

The 2007 Stoker Awards (for Superior Achievement in Horror) were announced and presented on 30 March 2008 at the World Horror Convention <www.whc2008.org> (held at the Radisson Hotel Salt Lake City Downtown, Salt Lake City UT, 27–30 March 2008). The Stokers are sponsored by the Horror Writer's Association <www.horror.org> and voted on by the HWA's membership. The winners are:

**Novel...** *The Missing*, Sarah Langan

**First Novel...** *Heart-Shaped Box*, Joe Hill

**Long Fiction...** *Afterward, There Will Be A Hallway*, Gary Braunbeck

**Short Fiction...** "The Gentle Brush of Wings," David Niall



Wilson  
**Fiction Collection** (tie)... *Proverbs for Monsters*, Michael A. Arnzen and *5 Stories*, Peter Straub  
**Anthology**... *Five Strokes to Midnight*, Gary Braunbeck and Hank Schwaeble, eds.  
**Nonfiction**... *The Cryptopedia: A Dictionary of the Weird, Strange & Downright Bizarre*, Jonathan Maberry and David F. Kramer  
**Poetry Collection** (tie)... *Being Full of Light, Insubstantial*, Linda Addison and *Vectors: A Week in the Death of a Planet*, Charlee Jacob and Marge Simon  
**Lifetime Achievement Award**... John Carpenter and Robert Weinberg  
**Richard Laymon President's Award**... Mark Worthen, Stephen Dorato, and Christopher Fulbright

## Prix Aurora Noms

Nominations have been announced for the 2008 Prix Aurora Awards <[www.prix-aurora-awards.ca](http://www.prix-aurora-awards.ca)> (aka the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Awards). Voters must be either Canadian citizens (though not necessarily resident in Canada) or a permanent Canadian resident. They must also hold at least a voting membership in Canvention 28, the Canadian national science fiction convention. The awards cover calendar year 2007. Nominees in each of the categories are listed below.

Canvention this year occurs in conjunction with KeyCon 25 <[www.keycon.org](http://www.keycon.org)>, to be held 16–19 May 2008 at the Radisson Skyview in Winnipeg MB. The Auroras will be announced and presented at a dinner to be held Sunday 18 May at that con.

### BEST LONG-FORM WORK IN ENGLISH MEILLEUR LIVRE EN ANGLAIS

*As Fate Decrees*, Denysé Bridger (Edge)  
*The New Moon's Arms*, Nalo Hopkinson (Warner)  
*The Moon Under Her Feet*, Derwin Mak (Windstorm Creative)  
*Rollback*, Robert J. Sawyer (Tor/Analog)  
*Cry Wolf*, Edo van Belkom (McClelland & Stewart; Tundra)

### MEILLEUR LIVRE EN FRANÇAIS BEST LONG-FORM WORK IN FRENCH

*Alegracia et les Xayiris*, Dominic Bellavance (Les Six Brumes)  
*La-haut sur la Colline*, Claude Bolduc (*Solaris*, 161 et 164)  
*Cimetière du musée*, Diane Boudreau (du Phoenix)  
*Le Parasite*, Georges LaFontaine (Guy Saint-Jean)  
*Arielle Queen*, Michel J. Lévesque (Les Intouchables)

### BEST SHORT-FORM WORK IN ENGLISH MEILLEUR NOUVELLE EN ANGLAIS

"Falling," David Clink (*On Spec* Fall 2007) (poem)  
 "Saturn in G Minor," Stephen Kotowych (*Writers of the Future XXIII*, Galaxy Press) (short story)  
 "Metamorphoses in Amber," Tony Pi (*Abyss & Apex* #24, Q4/2007) (novelette)  
 "The Dancer at the Red Door," Douglas Smith (*Under Cover of Darkness*, Julie E. Czerneda and Jana Paniccia, eds., DAW) (short story)  
 "Like Water in the Desert," Hayden Trenholm (*Challenging Destiny* #24) (novelette)

### MEILLEUR NOUVELLE EN FRANÇAIS BEST SHORT-FORM WORK IN FRENCH

"Le Luthier," Mathieu Fortin (*Solaris* 162)  
 "Les Lucioles d'Alliante," Michèle Laframboise, (*QUAD9* magazine 5B, CFORP)  
 "L'Ancienne famille," Michel J. Lévesque, (Les Six Brumes)  
 "Le sang noir," Michel J. Lévesque (*Solaris* 161)

"Sur la plage des épaves," Laurent MacAllister (*Solaris* 164)  
**BEST WORK IN ENGLISH (OTHER)**  
**MEILLEUR OUVRAGE EN ANGLAIS (AUTRE)**  
*Polaris: A Celebration of Polar Science*, Julie E. Czerneda, ed., Star Ink Books  
*Under Cover of Darkness*, Julie E. Czerneda & Jana Paniccia, eds., DAW  
*Tesseract Eleven*, Cory Doctorow and Holly Phillips, eds., Edge  
*Neo-opsis* magazine, Karl Johanson, ed., Issues 11, 12, and 13  
*On Spec* magazine, Diane Walton, managing ed.  
**MEILLEUR OUVRAGE EN FRANÇAIS (AUTRE)**  
**BEST WORK IN FRENCH (OTHER)**

No Nominations

### ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENT ACCOMPLISSEMENT ARTISTIQUE

Lar deSouza (*On Spec* Winter 2007, *Parsec* Spring/Summer 2007)

Stephanie Ann Johanson (*Neo-opsis* Issue 11, March 2007, interior illustrations)

Jean-Pierre Normand

Martin Springett

Ronn Sutton (*Elvira, Mistress of the Dark* 165 and 166 January-February 2007, Claypool Comics)

### FAN ACHIEVEMENT (FANZINE) ACCOMPLISSEMENT FANIQUE (FANZINE)

*Opuntia*, Dale Spiers

### FAN ACHIEVEMENT (ORGANIZATIONAL) ACCOMPLISSEMENT FANIQUE (ORGANISATION)

Debbie Hodgins, KAG  
 Penny Lipman, masquerades  
 Roy Miles, IDIC  
 Joan Sherman, IDIC  
 Geoffrey Toop, DWIN

### FAN ACHIEVEMENT (OTHER) ACCOMPLISSEMENT FANIQUE (AUTRE)

Paul Bobbitt, editor, *The Voyageur*  
 Judith Hayman, filk performances  
 Peggy Warner LaLonde, filk performances  
 Martin Springett, filk performances  
 Larry Stewart, master of ceremonies

## Seiun Nominations

The Seiun Awards <[www.sf-fan.gr.jp/awards](http://www.sf-fan.gr.jp/awards)>, sometimes euphemistically called the "Japanese Hugos," are awarded by the Japanese National Convention in both Japanese language and translated categories. Winners are reportedly to be announced at Daicon 7, the 47<sup>th</sup> Japanese Science Fiction Convention, to be held in Kishiwada, Osaka, 23–24 August 2008. Since Worldcon is in early August this year, the two translated categories (nominees listed below) may not be available in time to be presented at Worldcon (as they often are).

### FOREIGN NOVEL

*Olympos*, Dan Simmons (translated by Akinobu Sakai, Hayakawa Publishing)  
*Brightness Falls from the Air*, James Tiptree, Jr. (translated by Hisashi Asakura, Hayakawa Publishing)  
*The Separation*, Christopher Priest (translated by Yoshimichi Furusawa, Hayakawa Publishing)  
*Old Man's War*, John Scalzi (translated by Masayuki Uchida, Hayakawa Publishing)  
*Kiln People*, David Brin (translated by Akinobu Sakai, Hay-

akawa Publishing)  
*Camouflage*, Joe Haldeman (translated by Tsukasa Kaneko, Hayakawa Publishing)  
*Golden Age*, John C. Wright (translated by Masamichi Higurashi, Hayakawa Publishing)  
*Golem 100*, Alfred Bester (translated by Sachie Watanabe, Kokushokankokai)  
*The Atrocity Archives*, Charles Stross (translated by Hiroshi Kaneko, Hayakawa Publishing)

#### FOREIGN SHORT FICTION

"Weather," Alastair Reynolds (translated by Naoya Nakahara, *Galactic North and Other Stories*)  
 "Khochu v Parizh," Mikhail Veller (translated by Norihiko Ohno and Yuki Morita, *Hayakawa S-F Magazine*, June 2007)  
 "The Calorie Man," Paolo Bacigalupi (translated by Naoya Nakahara, *Hayakawa S-F Magazine*, March 2007)  
 "The Concrete Jungle," Charles Stross (translated by Tsukasa Kaneko, *The Atrocity Archives*)  
 "The Djinn's Wife," Ian McDonald (translated by Masaya Shimogusu, *Hayakawa S-F Magazine*, August 2007)  
 "Newsletter," Connie Willis (translated by Nozomi Ohmori, *Hayakawa S-F Magazine*, December 2007)  
 "Impossible Dreams," Tim Pratt (translated by Takashi Ogawa, *Hayakawa S-F Magazine*, July 2007)  
 "Dawn, and Sunset, and the Colours of the Earth," Michael F. Flynn (translated by Kazuko Onoda, *Hayakawa S-F Magazine*, July 2007)

## Gaylactic Spectrum Noms

The Gaylactic Spectrum Awards <[www.spectrumawards.org](http://www.spectrumawards.org)> honor sf/f/h works which "include positive explorations of gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered characters, themes, or issues." The Long List of nominees for the 2008 awards (for calendar year 2007), listed below, has been announced. The Winners and Recommended Short List will be announced at Gaylaxicon 2008 <[www.gaylaxicon2008.org](http://www.gaylaxicon2008.org)> to be held 10–13 October 2008 in Washington DC at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda. Any Hall of Fame winners (for works published before the awards began in 1998) will be announced at the same time.

#### BEST NOVEL NOMINEES

*The Ardennian Boy*, William Maltese and Wayne Gunn (MLR Press)  
*The Book of Dave*, Will Self (Bloomsbury USA)  
*A Companion to Wolves*, Sarah Monette and Elizabeth Bear (Tor)  
*Cry Melusine*, James Buchanan (Phaze)  
*Cursed*, Rhianne Aile (Dreamspinner Press)  
*The Danger Dance*, Caro Soles (Haworth Press)  
*The Dust of Wonderland*, Lee Thomas (Alyson Books)  
*Every Dark Desire*, Fiona Zedde (Kensington Publishing)  
*Face of the Enemy*, Sandra Barret (Regal Crest Enterprises)  
*The H-Bomb Girl*, Stephen Baxter (Faber and Faber)  
*Ha'Penny*, Jo Walton (Tor)  
*Harvest of Changelings*, Warren Rochelle (Golden Gryphon Press)  
*Hero*, Perry Moore (Hyperion)  
*Hex: A Novel of Love Spells*, Darieck Scott (Carroll & Graf)  
*IM*, Rick R. Reed (Regal Crest Enterprises)  
*In the Blood*, Rick R. Reed (Regal Crest Enterprises)  
*Lady Knight*, L-J Baker (Bold Strokes Books)  
*Lord Carabas*, James Buchanan (Phaze)

*A Marriage of Insects*, Bard Bloom (Padwolf Press)  
*The Mirador*, Sarah Monette (Ace)  
*My Sun and Stars*, L. E Bryce (Phaze)  
*One For Sorrow*, Christopher Barzak (Bantam)  
*Spaceman Blues: A Love Song*, Brian Francis Slattery (Tor)  
*To Be Chosen*, Michael Travis Jasper (Wheatmark)  
*Undertow*, J. M. Snyder (Aspen Mountain Press)  
*Vintage*, Steve Berman (Haworth Press)  
*War Torn*, J. M. Snyder (Amber Quill Press)  
*Water Logic*, Laurie Marks (Small Beer Press)  
*When You Were Me*, Robert Rodi (Kensington Publishing)  
*Wicked Gentlemen*, Ginn Hale (Blind Eye Books)

#### BEST SHORT FICTION NOMINEES

*Becoming*, L. E Bryce (Phaze)  
 "Bittersweet," Steve Berman (*Endicott Studio* Summer 2007)  
 "The Bridge," Connie Wilkins (*Best Fantastic Erotica*, Circlet)  
 "Devotion," Jade Falconer (*Phaze Fantasies III*, Phaze)  
*Dominion*, Mychael Black and Shayne Carmichael (Phaze)  
 "Dragon's Fate," Eliza Gayle (*Phaze Fantasies III*, Phaze)  
 "Ever So Much More than Thirty," Joshua Lewis (*So Fey*, Haworth)  
 "For Love or Family," Kyell Gold (*The Prisoner's Release*, Sofawolf)  
*The Healing*, Leigh Ellwood (Phaze)  
*Here There Be Tygers*, Stephen M. Wilson (Sideshow Press)  
 "Home Again," Kyell Gold (*The Prisoner's Release*, Sofawolf)  
 "Inside The Cage," Kyell Gold (*The Prisoner's Release*, Sofawolf)  
*Ki'iri*, L. E Bryce (Phaze)  
 "Leader of the Pack," Catherine Lundoff (*Crave: Tales of Lust, Love and Longing*, Lethé)  
 "Lost," Sarah A. Hoyt (*Chronicle* 10/2005)  
 "Lost Among the Tuna Trees," Shawn MacKenzie (*Southshire Pepper-pot*, Lion's Mark Press)  
 "Mask," James Buchanan (*Phaze Fantasies III*, Phaze)  
 "Medusa's Touch," Catherine Lundoff (*Crave: Tales of Lust, Love and Longing*, Lethé)  
*Persistence of Memory*, J. M. Snyder (Amber Quill Press)  
*The Powers of Love*, J. M. Snyder (Amber Quill Press)  
*Prime Suspect*, K. S. Augustin (Total-E-Bound)  
 "The Red Jungle," James Buchanan (*Men in Uniform II*, Torquere)  
*Redemption*, James Buchanan (Torquere)  
*The Spirit of Giving*, Cat Kane (Phaze)  
*Star-Crossed*, J. M. Snyder (Ruthie's Club)  
 "Thought and Memory," Alette J. Willis (*Edge SciFi and Fantasy*)  
*Time Bikers*, Carol McKenzie (Forbidden Publications)  
*Under a Confederate Moon*, J. M. Snyder (Amber Quill Press)  
 "The Woman in the Window," Jameson Currier (*All Hallows, The Journal of the Ghost Story Society*, Issue #42, Spring 2007)  
*World Enough and Time*, J. M. Snyder (Torquere)

#### BEST OTHER WORK NOMINEES

*Battlestar Galactica*, "Razor," Ronald D. Moore, Michael Taylor, et al. (TV) (Universal/Sci-Fi Channel)  
*Best Fantastic Erotica*, Cecilia Tan, ed. (Anthology) (Circlet)  
*Buffy the Vampire Slayer: Season 8*, Joss Whedon, et al. (Comic) (Dark Horse)  
*Iphigenie en Tauride*, Robert Gluck, Lucas Carsen, and Paul Groves Meachem (Opera) (Lyric Opera of Chicago)  
*A Nice Girl Like You*, Tyree Campbell (Collection) (Bedazzled Ink Publishing)  
*Phaze Fantasies, Vol. III*, Kathryn Lively, ed. (Anthology) (Phaze)

*The Prisoner's Release and Other Stories*, Kyell Gold (Collection) (Sofawolf Press)  
*So Fey: Queer Fairy Fiction*, Steve Berman, ed. (Anthology) (Haworth Press)  
*Stardust*, Jane Goldman and Matthew Vaughn, based on novel by Neil Gaiman and Charles Vess (Film) (Paramount Pictures)  
*Torchwood*, "Captain Jack Harkness," Catherine Tregenna, Russell T. Davies, et al, (TV) (BBC Wales)

## Scribe Award Noms

The International Association of Media Tie-in Writers has announced the nominees for the Second Annual Scribe Awards for "excellence in licensed tie-in writing — novels based on TV shows, movies, and games." Winners will be announced at the San Diego Comic-Con in July (except for the Special Gaming Scribes which will be awarded at Gen Con Indy in August). For a full list of all categories see the IAMTW web site at <[www.iamtw.org](http://www.iamtw.org)>.

Possibly of interest to *Shuttle* readers are the Best Speculative Original and Best Speculative Adapted categories. Those nominees are listed below. Also of interest, Alan Dean Foster (whose novelizations include *Star Trek*, *Alien*, *Star Wars*, and many other genre works) will be honored with IAMTW's Grandmaster Award.

### BEST SPECULATIVE ORIGINAL

*Last Days of Krypton*, Kevin J. Anderson  
*Stargate Atlantis: Casualties of War*, Elizabeth Christiansen  
*Star Trek: Q&A*, Keith R. A. DeCandido

### BEST SPECULATIVE ADAPTED

*52: The Novel*, Greg Cox  
*Resident Evil: Extinction*, Keith R. A. DeCandido  
*30 Days of Night*, Tim Lebbon

## Letter of Comment

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

Lloyd Penney 3 April 2008  
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Thank you for the March *Shuttle*. I'm close to deadline, so this may be quick. I am leaving this afternoon for a voicework audition downtown, so I hope to have some fun, doing a read for some film students. Here goes with a fast loc.

We just had our own local convention, Ad Astra 2008, this past weekend. Had a great time, but it was tempered with the passing of Sir Arthur C. Clarke. We had a book of condolences set up for attendees to sign, and we got over 100 signatures. We will be getting this book to the Clarke family.

Check <[www.prixaurorawards.ca](http://www.prixaurorawards.ca)>... that's where you'll find the ballot for this year's Aurora Awards to be handed out at Keycon 25 in Winnipeg in May. Didn't make the ballot this year, but I want to get the ballot out as far as possible. I think Rob Sawyer was down your way a little while ago, and he is on the Aurora ballot as well as the Hugo ballot.

My favorite SF shows have always been anthology shows,

like *The Twilight Zone*, *The Outer Limits*, and *Night Gallery*. I hope they try those again. I am not a horror reader or viewer, so I probably won't be watching that horror anthology show. I am glad, though, that they are trying this again.

Ah, there I am again on the calendar, and I shall be fighting the reality that I will be turning 49 years of age that day. Perhaps a substantial party that day will help me take my mind off it, who knows, anything is possible... worth a shot...

Diane Duane and Peter Morwood are good guests, but it is expensive to bring them here from Ireland. Two Toronto conventions have done that in the past, and they were always worth the money.

Greetings to PieEyed! I didn't know the elves (or others from Middle-Earth) were such a source of one-liners. So much of the first LotR book had Tom Bombadil in it... I don't recall so much as a mention of Tom in the movies, and to be honest, a visit with Tom would have stalled the line of action in the movies. A shame, though... It is a good thing to let the denizens of Middle-Earth know that dragons are not always destructive. A bad rap, and all that... I would like to see a renfaire group try to stage a hobbit village, complete with hobbits no taller than 5'4", like me...

Off it goes, and so do I to my audition. Take care, and see you next issue.

[Yep, Bombadil was one of the plot threads dropped from the book/s to trim it/them for the movies — and a good decision as far as I'm concerned. Thanks for the pointer to the Auroras, Lloyd. As you will see I've included this year's nominees in this issue. After many decades I still remember certain episodes (and specific scenes of more episodes) from both *The Twilight Zone* and *The Outer Limits* (the original series, that is) with great fondness. That doesn't mean that I'm a particular fan of anthology series, though — they stand or fall on their own merits like any series. Most of them fall... but then most series of any type fall. -ED]



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