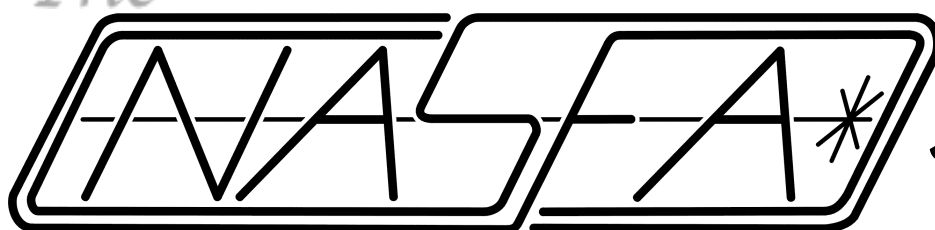


The



Shuttle  
May 2009

# The Next NASFA Meeting, on 16 May 2009, Is the More-Or-Less Annual Picnic/Cookout

## Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting Sunday 17 May 2009, 2P, Mike Kennedy's House

### ! Oyez, Oyez !

#### COOKOUT/PICNIC

The next **NASFA Meeting**, on Saturday **16 May 2009**, is preempted by the More-Or-Less-Annual NASFA Cookout/Picnic to be held that day. It will be at Doug and Mary Lampert's house, starting at 2P and continuing until they kick us out. See the map on this page to get you there. If you get lost on the day, try calling their home number (256-829-9195).

Please bring your preferred drink plus food to share. There will be a grill available for those who want to cook on the spot.

#### MEETING LOCATION

No, we're not changing again. Well, except that we are having the Picnic/Cookout in lieu of a regular meeting this month.

As of April 2009 the *regular* meeting location was changed to the Community Room at the Renasant Bank, 4245 Balmoral Drive in south Huntsville. Exit the Parkway at Airport Road; head east one short block to Balmoral; turn left (north) for less than a block. The bank is on the right, just past Logan's Roadhouse restaurant.

#### PROGRAM

The program for May is preempted by the Cookout/Picnic.

#### ATMMs

The After-The-Meeting Meeting for May is also preempted by the Picnic/Cookout. We *need* ATMM volunteers for June and forward.

#### CONCOM MEETINGS

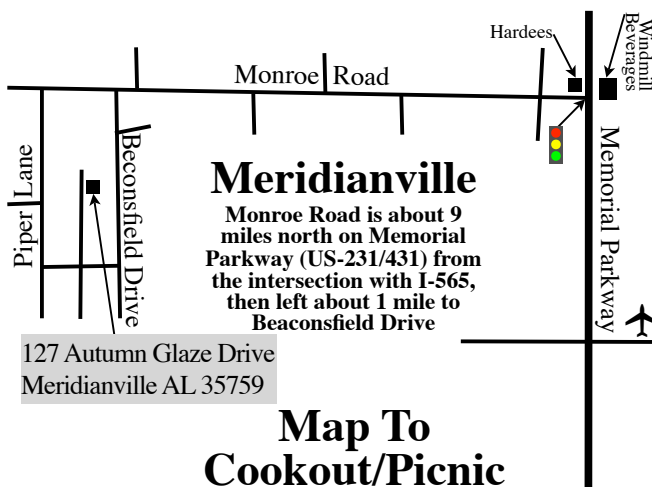
The May Concom Meeting for Con†Stellation XXVIII will

be Sunday 17 May (the day after the Cookout/Picnic) at 2P at Mike Kennedy's house — 7907 Charlotte Drive SW in Huntsville. A full calendar of Concom Meetings for the year is included in the NASFA Calendar.

Please continue to keep in mind that Con†Stellation will be about a month earlier this year than in the recent past.

#### NASFA CALENDAR ONLINE

NASFA has an online calendar on Google. Interested parties can check the calendar online, but you can also subscribe to the calendar and have your Outlook, iCal, BlackBerry, or other calendar automatically updated as events (Club Meetings, Con-



Map To  
Cookout/Picnic

#### Inside this issue...

News and Info.....	2
Minutes of the April Meeting.....	2
NASFA Calendar.....	3

Locus Awards Finalists.....	3
Awards Roundup.....	4
Travelogue: 9689 Miles to Louisville, Part 3 of 3.....	6
Letter of Comment.....	8

**Deadline for the June issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 5 June 2009**

com Meetings, local sf/f events) are added or changed. Contact Bill S. for details.

#### **PED ON HIATUS; STEVE & SUE FINISH UP**

PieEyedDragon's latest tale is on hiatus while the *Shuttle* runs a serial travelogue of Sue and Steve Francis' multi-con, multi-family-visit, multi-multi-state cross-country trip to (among many other things) last year's Worldcon. The third and final installment of that article appears in this issue. Subject to exigent circumstances, PED's tale will resume next month.

## **News and Info**

#### **DUFF DEADLINE IMMINENT**

The deadline for voting for this year's Down Under Fan Fund is upon us — midnight 17 May 2009. DUFF sends an Australasian fan to North America or vice versa in alternate years. (This year it's the former — the winner to visit the Montreal Worldcon among other things.)

The current race is a four-way contest between Alison Barton, the duo of David Cake and Grant Watson, Emma Hawkes, and Chris Nelson-Lee. The North American administrators are Sue and Steve Francis so ballots should be mailed to them at P. O. Box 58009, Louisville KY 40268. Ballots must be signed and accompanied by a donation of at least US\$5 (though larger donations would be gratefully accepted). Steve and Sue can provide you with a ballot or you can email the *Shuttle* <nasfa.shuttle@con-stellation.org> for one; just remember, time is short.

#### **STAR TREK EXPERIENCE TO REOPEN?**

Word dribbled out earlier this year that an updated version of the ride/exhibit known as Star Trek: The Experience would be reopening in Las Vegas, but not all at once and not at the original Vegas Hilton location. A plan had been announced to reopen the first increment (restaurant/tavern and gift shop) at the downtown Vegas Neonopolis development in time for the premier of the new Trek movie in early May — followed by the rides and IMAX theater some time in 2010.

They whiffed.

The whole Neonopolis has had a troubled history so having plans change just days before the movie opening was probably no great surprise. The newly announced plan is to have ST:TE open some time in 2010, and all at once instead of phased. Time will tell if they get this off the ground or not.

#### **IN DOG (AND CAT) WE TRUST**

Celebrity news site <TMZ.com> posted a story that Majel Barrett-Roddenberry's will included a major trust for her pets. The \$4 million is for upkeep of the dogs and cats, but also the house they live in (reported by TMZ to be a multimillion-dollar mansion). Domestic employee Reinelda Estupinian, who cared for the pets for MBR, was also given a sizable bequest — \$1 million and the right to live in that same house. Son Eugene Roddenberry Jr. inherited another mansion plus \$60 million now and additional \$10 million payments at ages 35, 40, and 45.

#### **SOME PEOPLE ARE NEVER HAPPY**

After watching a video at <CollegeHumor.com> taking a satirical look at how some Star Trek fans might complain that the new movie was too entertaining and too accessible to non-

fans, your editor was bemused to find a National Public Radio story with some fans *actually* making such complaints. You can read a printed version or listen to the full audio of the NPR story at <[www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=103824300](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=103824300)>.

## **April Minutes**

by Ali Scanland

NASFA meeting April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Madam President Mary L. opened the meeting at 6.17.13P.

As the crickets were presented they failed to sound. While many in the crowd made joyful noises thinking they had sounded their last at the previous meeting, the president labored to revive them (shaking their box). To the dismay of many present she was able to wake them up, they promptly channeled their cicada cousins and started spazzing out. A digression on cricket mp3 files commenced.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mike C. asked if we have thanked BookMark, pointing out that they have not received a thank you letter. This was on the secretary's to do list from the last meeting, in his absence we were not able to confirm nor deny the thank you note.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

It would seem that Randy C. with his connections in Southern fandom has been rewarded with a presence on the Scientology mailing list, and brought the pamphlet and informational CD that he received in the mail.

Randy also received a hand written request for the addresses of local zines. The envelope included \$2, for postage presumably.

President Mary L turned to treasurer Sam S. and asked "do you have anything for us" to the groans of the crowd. Sam responded "surprisingly no spam today," though we do have a letter from "The Planet of Love" — they are putting together a compilation of music composed for or by fans themed on the planet of love and/or inspiriy, and are asking for original contributions. If interested please contact <planetoflove45@aol.com>.

A couple of Press Releases came announcing upcoming novel releases.

- Sam's Dot Publishing — *Ascendant*
- Antellus — *Destiny's Forge*, *To Taste the Dragons Blood*, *Nargasanti*, *Red Dragon*, *The Queen's Marksman*, *The Black Witch*, and *Virus*

Our programmer Sue T. announced that next months program will be the picnic at Doug and Mary's home on May 16<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found at our website.

Publishing master Bill S. mentioned that he and Sam S. have been discussing changing the hosting site for the website. Doug L. moved quickly that the club to what ever Bill S. wants to do with the website. The discussion continued about which site, Mike C. brought up a suggestion for Bill S. to look into.

Adam suggested we announce our meetings on <meetup.com> noting that it is free and cool. Bill S. said he would look into it.

#### **CONVENTION BUSINESS**

A concom meeting is scheduled at Mike K.'s house the next day.

After a short pause in true business Sam S. motioned to adjourn at 6.34.13P.

The program following was the shooting of the rocket in a suitcase, it was pretty cool.



# NASEFA Calendar

## MAY

- 01 BD: Russell McNutt.  
01 May Day (Traditional).  
01-03 Costume Con 27 — Timonium MD.  
01-03 OutLantaCon — Atlanta GA.  
01-03 Dicehead Siege — Chattanooga TN.  
03 BD: Martha Knowles.  
04 May Day (Observed, UK, et al.).  
04 Star Wars Day (May the Fourth Be With You).  
05 Cinco de Mayo.  
07 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *A Spell for Chameleon*, Piers Anthony; 6P.  
10 Mother's Day.  
14 BD: Debbie Hughes.  
14 BD: Nancy Whittle, née Evans.  
14-17 Star Fleet Region 1 Summit — Pigeon Forge TN.  
15-17 Mobicon — Mobile AL.  
16\* NASA Meeting — Picnic/Cookout at Mary and Doug Lampert's house, 2P. This takes the place of the Business Meeting, Program, and ATMM.  
16 BD: Linda Bolgeo.  
16 Armed Forces Day.  
17 Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P, Mike Kennedy's house. **NOTE:** Moved to this date to avoid conflict with Mother's Day.  
19 BD: David O. Miller.  
20 BD: Mike Glicksohn.  
22-24 Rocket City FurMeet 7 — Huntsville AL.  
22-24 TimeGate — Atlanta GA.  
22-24 Oasis 22 — Orlando FL.  
22-25 Play On Con — Birmingham AL.  
22-25 Balticon 43 — Baltimore MD.  
25 Memorial Day.  
25 BD: Gail Murphree.  
27 BD: Kathy Paulk.  
29-31 ConCarolinas — Charlotte NC.

## JUNE

- 02 BD: Lloyd Penney.  
04 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *The Man in the High Castle*, Philip K. Dick, 6P.  
05-07 DeepSouthCon 47/Hypericon 5 — Nashville TN.  
05-07 WarFair — Chattanooga TN.  
07 Atlanta Comic Convention — Atlanta GA.  
11-14 2009 Science Fiction Research Association Conference — Atlanta GA.  
12-14 Sci Fi Summer Con — Atlanta GA.  
13 BD: Bill S.  
14 **Tentative** Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P, Mike Kennedy's house.  
14 Flag Day.  
17 BD: Jeff Freeman.  
20\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at Renaissance Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.  
21 Father's Day.  
21 Summer Solstice (20 June in Mountain Time Zone and westward).  
21 BD: PieEyedDragon.  
28 Atlanta Anime Day — Atlanta GA.

## JULY

- 01 Canada Day.  
02 BD: Deb Stone.  
02 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Anubis Gates*.

- Tim Powers, 6P.  
 03 Independence Day (Observed).  
 04 Independence Day.  
 05 **Tentative** Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P,  
 Mike Kennedy's house.  
 10–12 LibertyCon 22 — Chattanooga TN.  
 10–12 Shore Leave 31 — Baltimore MD.  
 10–12 JAMPcon — Chattanooga TN.  
 10–12 Creation Two/Tour — Atlanta GA.  
 17–19 BabelCon — Baton Rouge LA.  
 18\* NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at Re-  
 nasant Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.  
 18 Comic Con — Murfreesboro TN.  
 19 **Tentative** Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P,  
 Mike Kennedy's house (*meeting to be held only if needed*).  
 24 BD: Jay Johns.  
 26 Parents' Day.  
 29 BD: Mark Paulk.

## AUGUST

- 02     **Tentative** Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P,  
Mike Kennedy's house.
- 06     Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *1984*, George  
Orwell, 6P.
- 06-09   Starfleet International — Greensboro NC.
- 08     BD: Jim Woosley.
- 12     BD: Sue Thorn.
- 13-16   Game Fest South — Chattanooga TN.
- 14     BD: Edward Kenny.
- 15\*     NASFA Meeting — 6P Business, 7P Program, at Re-  
nascent Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
- 16     **Tentative** Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P,  
Mike Kennedy's house.
- 19     BD: Khen Moore.
- 21     BD: Deborah Denton.
- 22     First day of Ramadan.
- 27-29   Animation Attack! — Atlanta GA.

## FUTURE CONCOM MEETINGS

- [illegible]

## Locus Award Finalists

The Locus Awards (popular awards based on a web survey by *Locus Magazine*) have announced their 2009 “finalists” (for work during 2008). Actually, the winners have already been determined and will be announced in Seattle WA during the Science Fiction Awards Weekend, 26–27 June 2009. The list in each category comprises the top five vote recipients in the on-line poll.

## SCIENCE FICTION NOVEL

*Matter*, Iain M. Banks (Orbit UK)

*City at the End of Time*, Greg Bear (Gollancz, Del Rey)  
*Marsbound*, Joe Haldeman (Ace)  
*Anathem*, Neal Stephenson (Atlantic UK, Morrow)  
*Saturn's Children*, Charles Stross (Orbit, Ace)

#### FANTASY NOVEL

*The Shadow Year*, Jeffrey Ford (Morrow)  
*Lavinia*, Ursula K. Le Guin (Harcourt)  
*The Bell at Sealey Head*, Patricia A. McKillip (Ace)  
*The Dragons of Babel*, Michael Swanwick (Tor)  
*An Evil Guest*, Gene Wolfe (Tor)

#### FIRST NOVEL

*Thunderer*, Felix Gilman (Bantam Spectra)  
*Black Ships*, Jo Graham (Orbit US)  
*Pandemonium*, Daryl Gregory (Ballantine Del Rey)  
*The Gone-Away World*, Nick Harkaway (William Heinemann, Knopf)  
*Singularity's Ring*, Paul Melko (Tor)

#### YOUNG-ADULT NOVEL

*Little Brother*, Cory Doctorow (Tor)  
*The Graveyard Book*, Neil Gaiman (HarperCollins, Bloomsbury)  
*Tender Morsels*, Margo Lanagan (Knopf)  
*Nation*, Terry Pratchett (Doubleday UK, HarperCollins)  
*Zoe's Tale*, John Scalzi (Tor)

#### NOVELLA

"The Erdmann Nexus," Nancy Kress (*Asimov's*, October–November 2008)  
 "Pretty Monsters," Kelly Link (*Pretty Monsters*)  
 "The Tear," Ian McDonald (*Galactic Empires*)  
*Once Upon a Time in the North*, Philip Pullman (Knopf)  
 "True Names," Benjamin Rosenbaum and Cory Doctorow (*Fast Forward 2*)

#### NOVELETTE

"Pump Six," Paolo Bacigalupi (*Pump Six and Other Stories*)  
 "The Ice War," Stephen Baxter (*Asimov's*, September 2008)  
 "Shoggoths in Bloom," Elizabeth Bear (*Asimov's*, March 2008)  
 "The Things that Make Me Weak and Strange Get Engineered Away," Cory Doctorow (<Tor.com>, August 2008)  
 "Pride and Prometheus," John Kessel (*F&SF*, January 2008)

#### SHORT STORY

"King Pelles the Sure," Peter S. Beagle (*Strange Roads*)  
 "Boojum," Elizabeth Bear & Sarah Monette (*Fast Ships, Black Sails*)  
 "Exhalation," Ted Chiang (*Eclipse Two*)  
 "The Kindness of Strangers," Nancy Kress (*Fast Forward 2*)  
 "After the Coup," John Scalzi (<Tor.com>, July 2008)

#### MAGAZINE

*Analog*  
*Asimov's*  
*F&SF*  
*Realms of Fantasy*  
*Subterranean*

#### PUBLISHER

Ace  
 Baen  
 Night Shade Books  
 Subterranean Press  
 Tor

#### ANTHOLOGY

*The Year's Best Fantasy and Horror 2008: 21st Annual Collection*, Ellen Datlow, Kelly Link, and Gavin Grant, eds. (St. Martin's Griffin)  
*Galactic Empires*, Gardner Dozois, ed. (SFBC)  
*The Year's Best Science Fiction: Twenty-Fifth Annual Collection*, Gardner Dozois, ed. (St. Martin's)

*Eclipse Two*, Jonathan Strahan, ed. (Night Shade Books)  
*The Starry Rift*, Jonathan Strahan, ed. (Viking)

#### COLLECTION

*Pump Six and Other Stories*, Paolo Bacigalupi (Night Shade Books)  
*The Drowned Life*, Jeffrey Ford (HarperPerennial)  
*Pretty Monsters*, Kelly Link (Viking)  
*The Best of Lucius Shepard*, Lucius Shepard (Subterranean Press)  
*The Best of Michael Swanwick*, Michael Swanwick (Subterranean Press)

#### EDITOR

Ellen Datlow  
 Gardner Dozois  
 David G. Hartwell  
 Jonathan Strahan  
 Gordon Van Gelder

#### ARTIST

Bob Eggleton  
 John Picacio  
 Shaun Tan  
 Charles Vess  
 Michael Whelan

#### NON-FICTION/ART BOOK

*Spectrum 15: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art*, Cathy Fenner and Arnie Fenner, eds. (Underwood Books)  
*What It Is We Do When We Read Science Fiction*, Paul Kincaid (Becon)  
*Rhetorics of Fantasy*, Farah Mendlesohn (Wesleyan University Press)  
 P. Craig Russell, *Coraline: The Graphic Novel*, Neil Gaiman, adapted and illustrated by P. Craig Russell (HarperCollins)  
 Shaun Tan, *Tales From Outer Suburbia* (Allen & Unwin; Scholastic 2009)

## Awards Roundup

### NEBULA AWARDS

The Nebula Awards (and other related awards) are presented by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfwaworld.org> and are perhaps the premier peer genre awards, at least for English-language sf/f.

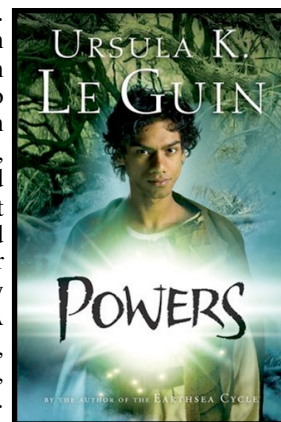
Eligibility is based on publication in the USA only, but the author can be of any nationality. In addition to the Nebulas and the Andre Norton Award (technically not a Nebula), SFWA had already announced winners of the Damon Knight Memorial Grand Master Award (Harry Harrison), SFWA Author Emerita (M. J. Engh), Bradbury Award (Joss Whedon), SFWA Service Award (Victoria Strauss), and Solstice Award (Kate Wilhelm, Martin H. Greenberg, and A. J. Budrys).

**Novel.** *Powers*, Ursula K. Le Guin (Harcourt, September 2007)

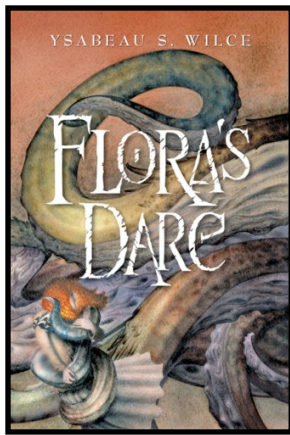
**Novella.....** "The Spacetime Pool," Catherine Asaro (*Analog*, March 2008)

**Novellette.....** "Pride and Prometheus," John Kessel (*F&SF*, January 2008)

**Short Story....** "Trophy Wives," Nina Kiriki Hoffman (*Fellow-*



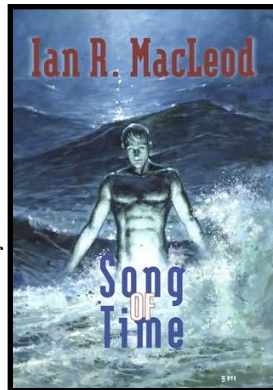




ship *Fantastic*, Greenberg and Hughes, eds., DAW, January 2008)  
**Script**.....*WALL-E*, Screenplay by Andrew Stanton and Jim Reardon, Original story by Andrew Stanton and Pete Docter (Walt Disney, June 2008)  
**Andre Norton Award** (for Young Adult fiction). *Flora's Dare: How a Girl of Spirit Gambles All to Expand Her Vocabulary, Confront a Bouncing Boy Terror, and Try to Save Califa from a Shaky Doom (Despite Being Confined to Her Room)*, Ysabeau S. Wilce (Harcourt, September 2008)

#### CLARKE WINNER ANNOUNCED

The winner of the 2009 Arthur C. Clarke Award <www.clarkeaward.com> was announced 29 April. The juried award is for an sf novel (not fantasy or other speculative fiction) published in the UK during the previous calendar year. The award (which included a prize of £2009) went to **Ian R. MacLeod** for *Song of Time* (PS Publishing).

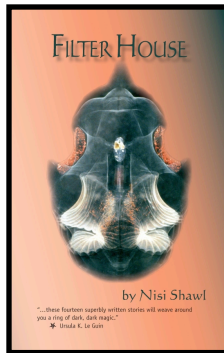


#### TIPTREE AWARD WINNERS

The Tiptree Award <www.tiptree.org> is a juried award, sponsored by the James Tiptree, Jr. Literary Award Council, for a work of science fiction or fantasy



“that expands or explores our understanding of gender.” A list of other recommended stories is announced at the same time as the winner (for this year’s lengthy Honor List see the Tiptree web site or elsewhere online).



For award year 2008 there were two winners, *The Knife of Never Letting Go* (Patrick Ness, Walker, 2008) and *Filter House* (Nisi Shawl, Aqueduct Press, 2008).

#### ASIMOV'S AND ANALOG AWARDS

*Analog Science Fiction and Fact* and *Asimov's Science Fiction* announced their readers' poll award winners.

#### Analog's Analytical Laboratory Awards

**Novella**..... “Tenbrook of Mars,” Dean McLaughlin (July–August)

**Novelette**..... “The Man in the Mirror,” Geoffrey A. Landis (January–February)

**Short Story**..... “Starship Down,” Tracy Canfield (October)

**Fact Article**.... “The World's Simplest Fusion Reactor,” Tom Ligon (January–February)

**Cover**..... **April 2008**, Scott Grimando  
**Asimov's Readers' Awards**

**Novella**... “The Room of Lost Souls,” Kristine Kathryn Rusch (April–May)

**Novelette**.... “The Ray-Gun: A Love Story,” James Alan Gardner (February)

**Short Story**..... “26 Monkeys, Also the Abyss,” Kij Johnson (July)

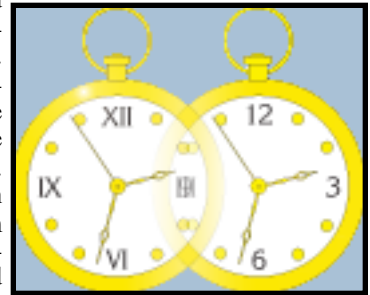
**Poem**.... “Deaths on Other Planets,” Joanne Merriam (April–May)

**Cover Artist** (tie)..... **March 2008**, Tomasz Maronski and **September 2008**, John Picacio

#### SIDEWISE AWARDS NOMS

Nominees for the 2008 Sidewise Awards <www.uchronia.net/sidewise> (adjudicated

awards for alternate history) have been announced. The awards will be presented at Anticipation, the Montreal Worldcon, to be held 6–10 August 2009. The judges are Stephen Baxter, Evelyn Leeper, Jim Rittenhouse, Stuart Shiffman, Kurt Sidaway, and Steven H. Silver.



#### Sidewise Short Form Nominees

Tobias Buckell, “The People’s Machine” (*Sideways in Crime: An Alternate Mystery Anthology*, Lou Anders, ed., BL/Solaris 2008)

Albert E. Cowdrey, “Poison Victory” (*F&SF*, July 2008)

Paul McAuley, “A Brief Guide to Other Histories” (*Postscripts* #15, September 2008)

T. L. Morganfield, “Night Bird Soaring” (*Greatest Uncommon Denominator* #3, Autumn 2008)

Mary Rosenblum, “Sacrifice” (*Sideways in Crime: An Alternate Mystery Anthology*, Lou Anders, ed., BL/Solaris 2008)

Kristine Kathryn Rusch, “G-Men” (*Sideways in Crime: An Alternate Mystery Anthology*, Lou Anders, ed., BL/Solaris 2008)

#### Sidewise Long Form Nominees

George Mann, *The Affinity Bridge*, Snowbooks 2008

Terry Pratchett, *Nation*, HarperCollins/Doubleday UK 2008

Chris Roberson, *The Dragon's Nine Sons*, BL/Solaris 2008

Adam Roberts, *Swiftly*, Gollancz 2008

Jo Walton, *Half a Crown*, Tor 2008

#### SEIUN NOMS

Nominees for the 2009 Seiun Awards <www.sf-fan.gr.jp/awards> have been announced. These Japanese fan-voted awards are for sf/f works in Japanese, but two categories are for works *translated* to that language (nominees listed below). The awards are presented at the Japanese National Convention, with the two translated-works categories often re-presented at Worldcon when that latter con takes place after Japan's natcon.

#### Seiun Foreign Language Novel Noms

*Spin*, Robert Charles Wilson

*The Ghost Brigades*, John Scalzi

*Redemption Ark*, Alastair Reynolds

*Light*, M. John Harrison

*The Urth of the New Sun*, Gene Wolfe

*Sun of Suns*, Karl Schroeder

*Seeker*, Jack McDevitt

#### Seiun Foreign Language Short Story Noms

“The Merchant and the Alchemist's Gate,” Ted Chiang

“The Cambist and Lord Iron: A Fairy Tale of Economics,” Daniel Abraham

“A Billion Eves,” Robert Reed

“All Seated on the Ground,” Connie Willis

"The Summer Isles," Ian R MacLeod  
"Singing My Sister Down," Margo Lanagan

#### **SHIRLEY JACKSON NOMS**

Nominees for the current Shirley Jackson Awards (for work in 2008) have been announced. These juried awards <[www.shirleyjacksonawards.org](http://www.shirleyjacksonawards.org)> are for works appearing for the first time in English during that calendar year that contain elements of psychological suspense, horror, or dark fantasy. The awards will be presented at Readercon 20 <[www.readercon.org](http://www.readercon.org)>, on Sunday 12 July 2009. By category, the nominations are:

#### **SJ Awards Novel Noms**

*Alive in Necropolis*, Doug Dorst  
*The Man on the Ceiling*, Steve Rasnic Tem and Melanie Tem  
*Pandemonium*, Daryl Gregory  
*The Resurrectionist*, Jack O'Connell  
*The Shadow Year*, Jeffrey Ford  
*Tender Morsels*, Margo Lanagan

#### **SJ Awards Novella Noms**

*Disquiet*, Julia Leigh  
"Dormitory," Yoko Ogawa  
*Living With the Dead*, Darrell Schweitzer  
*The Long Trial of Nolan Dugatti*, Stephen Graham Jones  
"N," Stephen King

#### **SJ Awards Novelette Noms**

"Hunger Moon," Deborah Noyes  
"The Lagerstatte," Laird Barron  
"Penguins of the Apocalypse," William Browning Spencer  
"Pride and Prometheus," John Kessel  
*The Situation*, Jeff Vandermeer

#### **SJ Awards Short Story Noms**

"68° 07' 15" N, 31° 36' 44" W," Conrad Williams  
"The Dinner Party," Joshua Ferris  
"Evidence of Love in a Case of Abandonment: One Daughter's Personal Account," M. Rickert  
"The Inner City," Karen Heuler  
"Intertropical Convergence Zone," Nadia Bulkin  
"The Pile," Michael Bishop

#### **SJ Awards Collection Noms**

*A Better Angel*, Chris Adrian  
*Dangerous Laughter*, Steven Millhauser  
*The Diving Pool*, Yoko Ogawa  
*The Girl on the Fridge*, Etgar Keret  
*Just After Sunset*, Stephen King  
*Wild Nights!*, Joyce Carol Oates

#### **SJ Awards Anthology Noms**

*Bound for Evil*, Tom English, ed.  
*Exotic Gothic 2: New Tales of Taboo*, Danel Olson, ed.  
*Fast Ships, Black Sails*, Ann Vandermeer and Jeff Vandermeer, eds.  
*The New Uncanny*, Sarah Eyre and Ra Page, eds.  
*Shades of Darkness*, Barbara Roden and Christopher Roden, eds.

## **9689 Miles to Louisville**

### **Part 3 of 3**

by Steve and Sue Francis

[The Shuttle is pleased to continue the serialization of this travelogue by Steve and Sue Francis detailing their cross-country trip to — among many other things — Denvention 3, last year's Worldcon. This was begun in the March and April issues and concludes this month. -ED]

After checking out of our hotel the next morning we drove

north through Idaho to the west entrance of Yellowstone Park. The little town of West Yellowstone was a typical tourist stop at the edge of the park. The buffalo burgers we had at rustic western restaurant were quite good and reasonably priced. They beat the heck out of McDonald's. There was a good used bookstore on the main street that had a nice selection, but was a little pricey. The National Parks senior pass that we received at the Painted Desert in Arizona came in quite handy at the entrance to Yellowstone Park. The road we took was the one covering the northwest side of the park. It, like all of the roads in the park, was very hilly and windy and had a 45-mile-per-hour speed limit. Several cars we saw were going considerably faster than that, which is quite foolish given the roads.

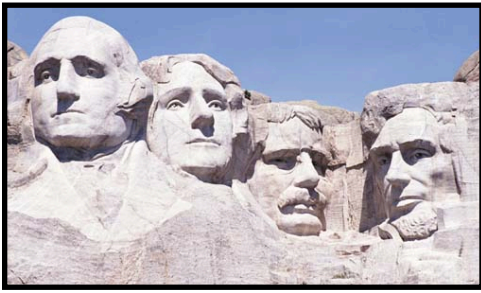
After about 3 hours of some great park scenery, we exited the north side of the park at Gardiner, Montana, and drove 60 miles north of the park to our motel in Livingston, Montana. After settling in we went next door to a restaurant for dinner and ordered our drinks. Immediately after the waitress brought our drinks, we and everyone else in the restaurant were ushered out to the parking lot. It seems that the staff discovered a gas leak in the kitchen and were being cautious about a possible explosion. We waited about 15–20 minutes and decided to try somewhere else. We ended up at an Arby's down the street. So much for a good dinner that evening.

The next day we returned to the park and headed south toward Old Faithful. Along the way we found several interesting sites, including some small geysers and a bubbling sulfur pit. One area had wooden walkways (with the usual warnings not to step off) that led to the bubbling pits and geysers. Judging from the pictures in travel guides, one would not expect the amount of development around the area of Old Faithful. We found our way to a restaurant and had lunch before going to the viewing area. After about a 45-minute wait, and a bit of sunburn, Old Faithful did its stuff. I photographed the geyser in all its glory with the movie setting on the digital camera. While we were in the park the odometer passed 5555.5 miles. We then drove around the southwest side of the park before returning to Livingston and our lodgings.

On our last day at Yellowstone, we drove through the center part of the park. As we progressed, we saw a large number of cars pulled off to one side of the road with people staring up the side of the hill. Using binoculars, we saw several mountain sheep way up in the rocks. As the sheep were the same color as the surrounding rocks, it was a little difficult to find them with the zoom lens on the camera, but find them we did. We again returned to Livingston for the night so we could get an early start the next morning.

Our next travels took us through southern Montana toward Billings. The last time I went to Billings was when my grandmother took me on a bus trip from Oakland, California, to visit my Aunt Lois and Uncle Al. That was 54 years ago. From there we continued on to Rapid City, South Dakota, for a night's rest before going to Mount Rushmore. As we went along our way, we encountered hundreds of people on all kinds of motorcycles heading toward Sturgis for the annual motorcycle rally held there each summer. The bikers we talked to were very nice folks all heading to Sturgis for a week of beer drinking, hell raising, and babe watching.

Mount Rushmore was our next destination, the next morning while it was still relatively cool. This is another place that all Americans should visit at least once in their lifetimes. To put it in a word, it is spectacular, to say the least. I got some very postcard-like photographs of the concourse and the four statues of the presidents. Most pictures of Mount Rushmore show it from a distance, however there is a footpath that passes just



below the rubble cut from the rocky face when the statues were carved. From this vantage point you can literally look right up George Washington's

nose (and the other three noses as well). There are warning signs telling folks how strenuous the path is, and for people with walking problems to take their time.

Upon leaving the park, we headed east toward the Badlands. This is some desolate country that makes the desert of northern Nevada seem like lush parkland. After about an hour's drive, we entered the Badlands from the east side on an unpaved gravel road. I was very leery of turning off the paved highway, but Sue insisted that this was the right way to go. I felt better when we passed the park entrance guard shack, even though it was unattended. The barren landscape was quite impressive and very hot. We left the park on the northwest side and went back to Rapid City, again encountering many more motorcyclists on the way.

Having left Rapid City before all of the motorcyclists arrived in the area, we headed south on old highway US-385 to Interstate 80. Upon entering Sidney, Nebraska, we passed 6666.6 miles. From there we went west through Cheyenne, Wyoming, to I-25, then south through Denver to Colorado Springs. The traffic between Denver and Colorado Springs was bumper to bumper and took us 2 hours to go about 50 miles. We stayed for three days at a Towne Place Suites on the south side of the city. The hotel restaurant was decorated with photos and memorabilia of all kinds of aircraft. Part of the restaurant was set up in the fuselage of a 4-motor Air Force transport plane. There were several tables in the cargo area and you were allowed to sit in the pilot's seat in the cockpit (but not eat there). The following day we drove to Canon City and took the train through the Royal Gorge. The scenery was similar to what we saw in the Katherine Gorge trip in Australia in 1999. We had a very pleasant conversation with the couple that shared our table. Our seats were in a vista dome car and lunch was provided as a part of the package. There is a high bridge over the gorge that is 1053 feet over the river. On the return trip we saw a large number of rafters on the water having the time of their lives.

Manitou City was the starting point of our next excursion. After the obligatory visit to the gift shop, we boarded the Pikes Peak Cog Railway for a very steep ride to the top of the mountain. Again the views were spectacular. We met another friendly couple on the Cog Train and exchanged travel stories with them. At the top of Pikes Peak we learned very quickly not to do any running or taking stairs two at a time. At 14,100 feet the air is quite thin and we had to take a couple of breaks while we were there. Again, another trip through the gift shop and a snack lunch before we boarded the train for the trip back down. While we were in the Colorado Springs area we wandered through an outlet mall that we spotted on our way from Denver.

Now we come to the real reason we traveled all this way while the average price of gasoline was \$4.00 a gallon, the World Science Fiction Convention in Denver. We arrived at the Hilton Garden Inn at about 2PM on Monday, checked in, and unloaded the car. As was prevalent in the downtown Denver area, the hotel parking fees were outrageous. But at least we did have a valet service and in and out privileges. And we knew

that the car would be in a secure garage while at the Hilton. The Hilton cost a little bit more than the other hotels, but we selected it to be with the Cincinnati Fantasy Group contingent. Every year at the Worldcon, the CFG hosts a hospitality suite for all friends and members of the group. This has always been a good place to go to unwind after a day at the convention.

Tuesday morning we went out to the Denver Airport to pick up Dick Spelman and Pat and Roger Sims who flew in from Orlando. This was about a 70 mile round trip as the airport is located more than 30 miles east of downtown. The big advantage to staying in the Hilton Garden Inn was its proximity to the Colorado Convention Center. It took about two minutes to walk to the corner of the CCC and about ten more to get to the convention areas after entering the building. The giant Blue Bear leaning against the 14<sup>th</sup> Street side of the glass wall pointed the way to Denvention 3.

At this point, we will only touch on the highlights of the convention as there have been many convention reports generated since the close of the festivities. During the run of the convention Richard and Lois Wellinghurst helped us (mostly Sue) run a DUFF promotional table in the fan activities area right next to the Aussiecon table. As in past years, I worked part time at the Site Selection table and was involved in the ballot counting session. The three highest vote tallies went first to Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, then Xerps, followed by Peggy Rae's house. A good deal of my time was taken up with the DUFF (Down Under Fan Fund) auction arrangements and talking to potential DUFF candidates for the race for 2010. We all know that we have to get all of this stuff finished before December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 or forget it. After the Site Selection voting was completed, Warren



Buff of the Raleigh NC NASFiC bid took over the Australia bid table and the Australians moved over to the former site selection tables for membership conversions. Several times during the convention, we encountered Glenda Larke, an author who was a guest at Swancon in Perth, Western Australia. We met her while we were attending Swancon as the 2008 DUFF representatives. We were very pleased to see her again in Denver.

Having a car in Denver was very helpful to the Australian party givers by providing them with transportation to the store to pick up the supplies needed for several days of hosting their parties in the Sheraton Hotel. We made several trips to the 16<sup>th</sup> Street shopping mall two blocks up from the hotels and CCC. The free tram that ran back and forth on the mall was a blessing to many sore feet. Needless to say, we saw many old friends that we only encounter at Worldcons and managed to make a few new ones as well. It was especially satisfying to see several of the people we worked with at LoneStarCon 2 in San Antonio in 1997. During one afternoon, we went to Bubba Gump's restaurant for lunch a block away from the CCC. One of the waitresses in the restaurant noticed the Koala Bear clipped to Richard's collar and went gaga over it. When Richard took the bear off and gave it to her we thought she was going to have a fit. The other waitresses were very jealous of her and wanted one too. The next



day we gathered up several of the Koalas and took them over and gave them to the rest of the waitresses. They also were quite pleased and our service was of the highest level you could imagine.

We made the usual rounds of bid and convention parties in the Sheraton and spent some quiet time in the CFG suite in the Hilton. This was very convenient for us as we were on the same floor at the other end of the hall. We attended some programming such as the Fannish Inquisition and made the usual rounds through the dealers room and art show. The highest honor accorded us by the convention was being asked to present the Fan Artist Hugo Award. This allowed us to attend the pre-Hugo nominee/presenter party just before the ceremony.

At the end of the last day of the convention, we attended the Worldcon Chair's party as guests of Pat and Roger Sims. Again we had a chance to talk to friends who were previously busy running the convention. The CFG suite was open Sunday night even though most everything else was shut down. Monday we visited with some of the stay-overs and packed up for our departure. Tuesday morning we drove Pat, Roger, and Dick back to the airport to catch their flight back to Orlando and departed Denver.

We were now on the last two legs of our fannish odyssey. Our next destination was Austin, Texas, with a couple of lay-overs for some rest in Santa Rosa, New Mexico, and Fort Worth. In Tucumcari NM we hit 7777.7 miles traveled to date. We arrived at the Doubletree Hotel in Austin for ArmadilloCon without incident and checked in. We immediately ran into a number of fans in the lobby area and found our way to the concourse used by the convention. The highlight of the convention was talking to several people we worked with on LoneStarCon 2 in 1997. The convention was well run and quite enjoyable. We learned that the potential "Somewhere in Texas" Worldcon bidders would be looking at 2013 and would make their announcement at SMOFcon in Columbus OH in December. The Reno and Seattle 2011 Worldcon-bid people were in evidence and threw bid parties for all to enjoy. The Chicago in 2012 folks were also there.

Before leaving Austin, we made arrangements to meet Cathy Beckworth for lunch in Houston as we passed through. Much fannish talk was the order of conversation at lunch as well as the usual family stuff. Cathy was Sue's second-in-command in the Events Division at LoneStarCon 2. We then left Texas, heading through Louisiana toward central Mississippi. Somewhere on our drive through Louisiana the odometer read 8888.8 miles. That evening we checked into the Brookhaven MS Hampton Inn for a couple of days to spend some time with our daughter, Debbie. She and her family live in a little town called Bude located about half way between I-55 and Natchez on US-84. We have attended regional conventions that had more people than live in Bude; it is a quite little town. It had been some time since we had visited her, and this gave the kids a chance to come over to the hotel for a swim in the hotel pool. They loved it.

The next morning early, we headed north up I-55 through Memphis and on to Nashville. As we passed through Nashville, we had run up 9514 miles and didn't even slow down (except to obey the speed limit in town). Home never looked so good after 7½ weeks, 9687 miles, and four conventions, especially at just under \$4 a gallon for gas. We said that this was a good trip with no mishaps, but that we would not likely be gone so long in the future (maybe two or three weeks at most). Now we begin putting some money aside for Montreal in 2009, and Australia in 2010. And may all of your future travels be safe ones.

## Letter of Comment

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23 April 2008

Thank you for the April *Shuttle*. It's been a long time since I've run a club, so I can imagine having the problems in finding a good place to hold the meetings. Looks like lots of awards news, so let's get to it.

Hmm, Texas in 2013. There's a number of good places where a Worldcon could be held, including Austin, Houston, and Dallas. It will be interesting to see what city they choose. We've presupposed Reno, and will vote this time... we might go to Vegas before the Worldcon for a return visit, and then hop a commuter flight to Reno. We'll see what we can come up with, and what we can afford.

Thank you, Mike, for your good words re my winning the FAAn and being nominated for an Aurora. I hope I did well with the Hugos, too. Yvonne and I nominated candidates for TAFF (successful!) and DUFF, and CUFF, too. It's been a busy year.

I attended the press conference set up by the Constellation Awards committee where the nominees were announced, and the actual ceremony was recorded and loaded onto YouTube. I got to ask a couple of questions of chairman Andrew Gurudata, mostly because I was included in the press e-mailing, and I was the only accredited pressman to actually show up for the conference. In the ceremony, you'll see Liana K. and Ed the Sock, plus Andrew Gurudata and Derwin Mak.

Steve and Sue's trip report continues to entertain, and to offer some ideas for things to do in Reno in a few years. I've been to LA a couple of times, but have never been in the Bay area... hope that can change sometime.

My loc... Ad Astra was a lot of fun, and we offered our services to return to the committee, and we were accepted. I will be the assistant to the dealers' room manager next year, which brings me full circle...I ran the dealers' room for that convention all through the 80s and early 90s. I will also be assisting with flyer distribution.

This past weekend was EerieCon 11 in Niagara Falls, New York, literally a couple of hundred feet from the border. It's a small convention, perhaps 150 in attendance, but there were old friends to see, some interesting stuff in the dealers' room... what else do you need?

All done for now... see you all next month.

[Getting a place to have the NASFA meeting hasn't been all that difficult but you're right that getting a *good* place sometimes has been. We were very fortunate to have BookMark for the many years we did and would still gladly be meeting there had we not somewhat outgrown the meeting room at their current location. The bank Community Room we used in April looks like a good location though we've only had one meeting there so far so problems could still crop up. I attended both LoneStarCon 1 (the 1985 NASFiC in Austin) and LoneStarCon 2 (the 1997 Worldcon in San Antonio) — of the two I think I preferred San Antonio as a city. My experience in Houston is limited to making connections at the airport. Dallas I know a little more about



but that knowledge is extremely out-of-date. Whatever city they choose I'd certainly consider going, though Houston and Dallas/Fort Worth would have the major advantage of

better air connections from my neck of the woods. Reno is also a distinct possibility, especially as I'll miss both Montreal and Melbourne. -ED]



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*The NASFA Shuttle* is the newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, Inc. This is the May 2009 edition (Volume 29, Number 5).  
NASFA Officers for 2009: President Mary Lampert; Vice President Mike Kennedy; Secretary Steve Sloan; Treasurer Sam Smith; Program Director Sue Thorn; Publicity Director Bill Savage. *Shuttle* Editor Mike Kennedy.

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Dues (\$), subscriptions (\$), and Official Mail to: NASFA, Inc., P. O. Box 4857,

Huntsville AL 35815-4857 — OFFICIAL ADDRESS

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NASFA Dues = \$25/year (Family rates available)    Subscription only = \$15/year    Single copy = \$2 each.

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