

The Next NASFA Meeting is 12 September 2009 at the Regular Time and Location

Note that this is one week earlier than usual due to Con†Stellation_ ALSO: Special Meeting 26 September for Convention Postmortem_

Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meetings: Sunday 6 September, 2P, Mike Kennedy's House & Working Meeting Thursday 17 September — Logistics plus Setup at the HoteL

A Oyez, Oyez A

The next NASFA Meeting is Saturday 12 September 2009 at the regular time (6P) and the regular location. Meetings are at the Renasant Bank's Community Room, 4245 Balmoral Drive in south Huntsville. Note that this is one week earlier than the usual weekend, in order to avoid conflict with Con†Stellation. There will also be a Special Meeting at the bank at 6P Saturday 26 September 2009 for a Postmortem discussion of the convention.

To get to Renasant Bank, exit the Parkway at Airport Road; head east one short block to Balmoral Drive; turn left (north) for less than a block. The bank is on the right, just past Logan's Roadhouse restaurant. Enter at the front door of the bank; turn right to the end of a short hallway.

PROGRAM

The September program will be the more-or-less annual NASFA Auction. Everyone should bring donations for the auction; books are always good but just about any surplus item around the house is a candidate. Oh, and bring money, too.

ATMMs

At press time no one had volunteered for the September After-The-Meeting Meeting, but watch your email between now and then. We need ATMM volunteers for most future months, though we have locations for November and December.

CONCOM MEETINGS

The final *regular* Concom Meeting for Con†Stellation XXVIII: Vulpecula will be Sunday 6 September, at 2P at Mike Kennedy's house — 7907 Charlotte Drive SW in Huntsville.

Then there's a working meeting Thursday 17 September which will include logistics (picking up and delivering "stuff") plus setup at the hotel.

There will also be a pre-con dinner that evening at Tai Pan Palace on the Parkway just south of Governor's Drive, at 6:30P.

WORLDCON ISSUE SPLIT

The annual Worldcon issue of the *Shuttle* was split this year. Last month saw all the "just the facts" reports, and this month we're treated to an on-the-spot report from Con†Stellation Fan Guest of Honor Gary Shelton. His report covers the con itself plus the road trip he took to get there with Tim Bolgeo and Kerry Gilley.

SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

The September *Shuttle* is being put to bed extremely early this month to accommodate the busy pre-Con†Stellation work schedule... though the actual mailing schedule may not be advanced nearly as much. Next month we should, at least in theory, be back on the normal schedule.

Deadline for the October issue of The NASFA Shuttle is Friday, 2 October 2009

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

News and Info

AUSSIECON 4 ANNOUNCES NEW RATES

Aussiecon 4, next year's Worldcon to be held 2-6 September 2010 in Melbourne Australia, has released updated member-

ship rates. Payment may be made in cash, via PayPal, by check (US and Australian dollars only), or charged on Visa or MasterCard. Charges will be processed in Australian dollars. These rates were effective as of 1 September 2009, and will likely be raised as the con grows closer.



Adult Attending Memberships are \$225

(US), \$275 (Australian), \$255 (Canadian), £140, €165, or ¥22,500. Other membership rates (Supporting, conversion of Supporting to Attending, Child) will be posted on their website: go to <www.aussiecon4.org.au> and click the "Membership" link. As this was being written, a few days before the new rates took effect, only the old rates were posted.

Aussiecon 4's US mailing address is PO Box 221878, Sacramento CA 95822. They also have addresses in Australia, the UK, the Netherlands (covering Europe), and Japan. General info can be sought via email at <info@aussiecon4.org.au>, while membership questions should be addressed to <membership@aussiecon4.org.au>.

WORLD FANTASY LIFETIME AWARDS

Winners of the 2009 World Fantasy Lifetime Achievement Awards were announced as Jane Yolen and Ellen Asher. These awards will be presented at the Awards Banquet at the 2009 World Fantasy Convention, to be held 29 October-1 November in San Jose CA. The rest of the WFAs will be announced at the same time.

JACK TREVOR STORY MEMORIAL CUP

You many never have heard of Jack Trevor Story [I hadn't -ED]; he was a rather prolific (and profligate) British author of the mid-to-late 20th century. He may be best know for works

like The Trouble with Harry, adapted for the screen by Alfred Hitchcock. The prize is awarded sporadically for humorous writing and went this year to an America for the first time, Howard Waldrop (seen at right). The award includes a \$1000 prize with the conditions that it be spent within 2 weeks and the author have nothing to show for it at the end of that time — celebrating the profligate part of Story's personality.



WŜFA SMALL PRESS SHORTLIST

The shortlist for the Washington Science Fiction Association's Small Press Award for Short Fiction has been announced. The finalists are:

"Silent as Dust," James Maxey, Orson Scott Card's Intergalactic Medicine Show, Hatrack Publishing

"Spider the Artist," Nnedi Okorafor-Mbachu, Seeds of Change, Prime Books

"His Last Arrow," Christopher Sequeira, Gaslight Grimoire:

Fantastic Tales of Sherlock Holmes, Edge Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing

- "The Absence of Stars: Part 1," Greg Siewert, Orson Scott Card's Intergalactic Medicine Show, Hatrack Publishing
- "Hard Rain at the Fortean Café," Lavie Tidhar, Aeon Speculative Fiction Magazine #14
- "The Toy Car," Luisa Maria Garcia Velasco (translated by Ian Watson), Aberrant Dreams, April 2008
- "Drinking Problem," K.D. Wentworth, Seeds of Change, Prime Books

BFA CHANGES

The British Fantasy Society has updated the British Fantasy Awards ruling document to refine the processes for the awards and to add four new categories (film, television, magazine/ periodical, and comic/graphic novel). Some of these changes had reportedly been implemented by last year's awards administrator prior to the official change. Changes include the implementation of tie-breaking processes at two stages of the voting and setting down rules for making future changes.

MAJOR ASTHMA BEQUEST

The late fantasy author David Eddings has bequeathed \$10 million to National Jewish Health hospital, earmarked for "the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of childhood asthma.' Eddings' wife, and coauthor, Leigh - who predeceased him had suffered from asthma most of her life.

August Minutes by Steve Sloan, Secretary

The August meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, August 15, 2009 in the Renasant Bank meeting room at 6:10:35P by Vice President Mike Kennedy. It was an "unpremeditated coup" while President Mary Lampert was visiting her father Marvin in the hospital.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Colonial Bank went out of business, and they have our money! They also have the money for the group bidding on DSC 50. The FDIC foreclosed on Colonial Bank yesterday at 5P, and a company named BB&T bought them. This unfortunately reminded the secretary of a Village People song, which he inflicted on the meeting.

CON BUSINESS

Sue relayed a request from Robin: If you're donating felt for the "make it and take it," bring it to either the next member meeting, or the concom (convention committee meeting) Thursday before the con.

The hotel is still there.

None.

Gary Shelton will be hosting the movie wrap-up panel on Sunday afternoon. We need to make sure Patrick Reumann knows about it, since he hosted the panel last year.

The next concom will be held tomorrow at Mike K.'s house.

According to Anita, there will be t-shirts. She'll be getting the final order out this week. Jim Woosley still needed to get in touch with Anita with money for his t-shirt. Mike K. called about it during the meeting, and took care of it.

Mike S. needs registration volunteers to help with short shifts at the con, so he can occasionally leave his station for... obvious reasons.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next month's program will be the club auction.

Sue booked our regular club meeting room for the Saturday after the con (September 26) so we can have a special con postmortem club meeting. It doesn't have to be an official meeting. As presiding officer, Mike K. must propose a special meeting, and it must pass by a majority vote.

Mike K. proposed that a second September NASFA meeting will be held Saturday, one week after the convention, with a con postmortem as its special order of business. The proposal passed many to one.

In summary, September 12 will be the regular monthly meeting with the auction as the program. September 26 will be the con postmortem.

The 2010 Con†Stellation will be named Leo.

Mike C. moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:32:07P.

During the program, a representative of the Southern Fandom Confederation [Mike Rogers -ED] interviewed NASFA members for an article about the history of fandom in Huntsville, while Robin showed people how to fold origami rocket ships. Adam and Mia hosted the After-the-Meeting Meeting at their house.

NASFA Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- 03 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: The Watchmen, Alan Moore; 6P.
- 03 BD: David K. Robinson.
- 04–07 Dragon*Con Atlanta GA.
- 04-07 Mephit Furmeet Memphis TN.
- 04-07 North American Discworld Convention Tempe AZ.
- Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, 2P, Mike 06 Kennedy's house.
- 07 Labor Day.
- 09 BD: Mike Cothran.
- BD: Ray Pietruszka. 11
- 11–13 OutSideCon Burns TN.
- 12* NASFA Meeting - 6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant Bank. Program: Auction (please bring donations and money). ATMM: TBD. NOTE: Changed from the usual weekend to avoid the conflict with Con†Stellation.
- 12 BD: Pat Butler.
- 13 Grandparents Day.
- 17 Con†Stellation XXVIII Concom Meeting, at the con hotel.
- 17 Citizenship Day.
- 18-20 Con[†]Stellation XXVIII Huntsville AL.
- Talk Like a Pirate Day. 19
- 26* NASFA Special Meeting for Con†Stellation Postmortem -6P at Renasant Bank.
- 25–27 GameCon Memphis Memphis TN.
- BD: Jenna Victoria Stone. 26
- 28 Yom Kippur.

OCTOBER

- Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: Watership 01 Down, Richard Adams; 6P.
- 02-04 Archon St. Louis MO.
- 02-04 GMX Nashville TN.
- 02-04 National Storytelling Festival Jonesborough TN.
- 02-04 Atlanta HorrorFest Atlanta GA.
- 09-11 Gaylaxicon 2009 Minneapolis MN.
- 12 Columbus Day (Traditional & Observed).
- 15 BD: Robert Buelow.

- 16–18 Capclave Rockville MC (Washington DC area).
- NASFA Meeting 6P Business, 7P Program, at Re-17* nasant Bank. Program: Les Johnson. ATMM: TBD.
- 17–18 Nashville Comic and Horror Festival Nashville TN.
- 23-25 Necronomicon '09 St. Petersburg FL.
- 24 United Nations Day.
- 25 BD: Marie McCormack.
- 29–01 World Fantasy Convention 2009 San Jose CA.
- 30-01 HallowCon Chattanooga TN.
- 30-01 Hurricane Who Orlando FL. 31 Halloween.

NOVEMBER

- 01 Daylight Saving Time ends.
- 03 Election Day.
- Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: Sharing Knife, 05 Lois McMaster Bujold; 6P.
- 06-08 MACE High Point NC.
- 07-08 Weekend in the Realms Atlanta GA.
- 11 Veterans' Day.
- OutLantaCon Atlanta GA. 14
- 21* NASFA Meeting - 6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: Mike Kennedy's house.
- BD: Nancy Renee Peters. 22
- $\overline{23}$ BD: Mike Kennedy.
- 26 Thanksgiving Day.
- 27–29 Darkover Grand Council Timonium MD.
- 28 Atlanta Anime Day 1.5 — Atlanta GA.
- 29 BD: Howard Camp.
- 30 BD: Joshua Kennedy.
- BD: Richard Gilliam. 30
 - DECEMBER
- Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: Stolen Child, 03 Keith Donohue, 6P.
- 04–06 CatchupCon Atlanta GA. 05–10 Furry Cruise Miami FL.
- 09 BD: Maria West Grim.
- 11-13 WeddingCon Atlanta GA.
- 11-19 Hanukkah.
- BD: Toni Weisskopf. 12
- 15 Bill of Rights Day.
- BD: Robin Ray. 17
- 18 Islamic New Year.
- 19* NASFA Meeting - 6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: Sue Thorn's house.
- 19 BD: Yvonne Penney.
- 20 BD: Aaron Kennedy.
- 22 BD: Wolf Freeman.
- 25 Christmas Day.
- 26 BD: Michael R. Stone.
- Boxing Day. 26
- 31 New Year's Eve.

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.) As of April 2009, the regular meeting location was changed to the Community Room at the Balmoral branch of Renasant Bank (off Airport Road, near the 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.

2009 Worldcon Trip Report

by Gary Shelton

The 67th World Science Fiction convention was held August 6th-10th in Montreal Canada.

Deciding on a road trip, details were finalized between card games at LibertyCon. Much to my chagrin, I was *forced* into missing two weeks of August Heat and Humidity in the glorious Mississippi Delta. Traveling companions consisted of Tim Bolgeo and Kerry Gilley.

Highlights of the road trip included the Manassas Virginia lasagna Hall of Fame at Rich and Tish Groller's house. The US Army Ordinance Museum at Aberdeen Proving Grounds was unfortunately closed 'till the 10th for safety reasons. If a facility that blows up stuff says they need to close for safety reasons, I tend to believe them. Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty were great stops and well worth the visit. The one Vermont tourist attraction was the Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream tour.

Apparently Canada is a foreign country, so we all made sure we had passports and left the guns at home. We arrived at the Delta Centre-Ville (the party hotel) on Wednesday the 5th. Check-in was no real problem. They originally had us on the party floor but, since I was hanging with party poopers that wanted "some" sleep, we settled for a quite floor. The Delta was nice, and the staff was very friendly, even if they were speaking French. Most folks there would readily speak English if needed. A bad habit arose with all the French speaking going on; bad Monty Python French accents soon became the norm.

We squared our stuff away in the hotel room and decided to walk over to the "Palais des congrès de Montréal" or conven-

tion center as we say in Mississippi. We were warned that badge pick up was already closed at the convention center, but I was sure they would keep it open just for us, and I was correct. We picked up badges and con information, then



headed toward Old Montreal and found a nice Italian restaurant. That night I visited the Reno in 2011 Worldcon bid party. Being the only game in town for that night, the party was just way crowded. They did have good beer; small servings, but good.

Thursday looked like an easy day. We delved into the pocket program. The "pocket" program was a dozen or so pages printed on 11x17 paper. It truly was one of the largest pocket programs I have ever seen. We headed over to the convention center to look around, finding the Holy Grail on the first floor: Tim Horton's!!! What could be better than a coffee and donut shop so close to the con? It may come as a shock to some folks, but I do like my donuts. We picked up donuts and drinks and found a couple of comfy seats close to the main part of the con. We met and chatted with some nice folks while sipping coffee and noshing on donuts. Baen editor Jim Minz came up to say "hey," and we worked out details to help him throw a room party later in the con. I had pondered heading back to the hotel and catching a city tour, but kept running into folks to say hey to and stuff to see.

The convention center had plenty of space and was very clean. The center also had its own mall and food court area

with a number of different restaurants. The walk from the Party hotel was maybe a half mile, and could be accomplished by walking the underground malls or by a quick walk outside. The underground malls got you from the hotel to the convention center without going outside. They had a good many restaurants that mainly catered toward the lunch crowd. My main complaint was that *that* was some of the more uncomfortable concrete I had walked on in some

time. Most parties in the Delta were on

the 28^{th} (top) floor. The 5^{th} floor was the con suite floor as well as an additional party floor. The con suite was spread out over numerous suites.

Taral Wayne's (the FGoH) Birthday was during the con, and they had birthday cake that lasted for days on end. The con suite followed the classic drinks-are-in-the-tub theory and was stocked pretty well the whole



con. The best part of the con suite was the food. They put out a very nice selection of smoked meats. The pastrami, ham, and other meats were of very tasty quality; add to the tray some very nice dark breads, and I was sold. The deli meats were never ending and extremely fresh. For breakfast they had local bagels that went very well with the smoked meats. A local fan schooled me in the terminology. He explained it to me this way "We call it smoked meat; where it *might* be called pastrami in New York City, we aren't barbarians." I had to admit it was real tasty so I was an easy convert to the terminology. I took advantage to the great sandwiches more than one day.

There were about 8 parties on Thursday night. The interesting one was the Aberdeen Proving Ground Worldcon bid. It was a fake bid but they did have some cool mouse pads. Of course it would have been better if we had actually been able to tour the proving grounds before the con. Best party of the night was the Texas in 2013 Worldcon bid. Texas announced that San Antonio would be the bid city. The Texas party had Texas-sized chicken or steak fajitas. They were outstanding to say the least.

Friday was the day I had figured to get a few autographs. Heading to the convention center about 9, we arrived to get tickets for Guest of Honour Neil Gaiman's signing later that day. Neil had two signings; the one Friday was limited to 200 folks and 2 items per person. He did promise to sign for everyone with a ticket. It took a bit of time for him to get the signings done, but he was very gracious and chitchatted with everyone in line. I also obtained autographs from Connie Willis and Robert Silverberg.

The art show was rather small. Not a lot of big names were able to get their art over the border in time or without going through a lot of hassle. There were a "few" nice pieces. They were just not of Worldcon quality or quantity. It didn't take long to look it over at all. I did hear that the art action took about 30 minutes total and that the high bid at the action was \$200. I didn't make it back to the art show the rest of the con.

There were at least 15 parties on Friday night, including the Raleigh NASFiC bid party. No parties really excited me, *but* I did my best by hitting them all up and gracing them with my presence for a bit. The biggest problem on Friday night was that a local TV station did a segment on the con and mentioned that there would be parties and drinking all weekend on the 28th floor. This did tend to cause problems with getting an elevator. There were express elevators to the party floors, but you had to go all the way down and catch a local to get to a regular floor.

Saturday was the day I had set aside for Programming. Most of the panels I had attended so far were last minute thoughts, but Saturday had a good amount of things I wanted to see. The program schedule had gotten off track by the first day, so you had to use the *big* pocket program in addition to the official changes on blue sheets. It seemed like every panel I wanted to go to was all the way at the other end of the convention center. Panels I did attend included John Scalzi on comedy in movies and the 35th anniversary of *Young Frankenstein*. Fighting a rather large crowd, I caught a reading by Neil Gaiman, and absolutely enjoyed that. I did want to see the movie clip panel, but it had started an hour earlier than I had expected.

There were some complaints about not enough science panels. Science panels were there; you just had to find them. The con did have one of the Canadian astronauts and lots of panels with a global warming slant. There were some odd panels to do with needlepoint, and extra yarn was placed on the freebie table to prove that.

I found some adventurous folks and went to a French restaurant. I just ducked my head, pointed, and found God again as I waited for the order. I'm still not exactly sure what I ordered; some kind of seafood (I think).

Saturday night was the Masquerade. [See page 7 for some masquerade, and other, photos. -ED] The Masquerade drew a good crowd with plenty of seats for anyone that wanted to see it. There were about 28 entries. I thought everyone did well, and saw some real good costumes. Julie E. Czerneda was the Master of Ceremonies, and did a wonderful job. She impressed me so much I decided to look for her books the next chance I got. Once again there were plenty of parties; I went in search of good conversation and free beer.

Sunday we had promised to help Jim Minz on setup for the Baen party. Timmy pulled the van out of dry dock and we all went down to Chinatown for some great dim sum. The fried squid was simply marvelous; we kept those little carts busy with lots of stops to our table. A mere hour of gorging, and we headed out looking for beer, liquor, and party treats. Due to poor directions and some oddly placed road signs, we were able to see lots of Montreal and *old* Montreal that we hadn't seen yet. I personally was convinced that Timmy just wanted to save the \$40 that the Grey Line tour was charging.

A couple of new Baen authors, Jim Anderson and Mark Sebanc, came along to help with getting the proper beer. I assigned myself the job of looking for high quality chocolaty substances, settling on a selection of cookies that would stack well and give the party a proper sweet tooth. A major selection of beers and liquors were acquired and loaded into the van. The only real hitch was that the UPS folks hadn't delivered the Baen shipment of books, chocolate, and book covers for the party. We made do with what we had, and still got the party suite looking good. The big vats of beer also helped. Jim and Mark were real nice guys, and it was a shame I wasn't able to pick up one of their books at the party or con. We threw a heck of a party. I took over bartending duties about 1:30 am. The last beer walked away about 2 am and, due to some fine stiff drinks, the hard liquor was out by 3 am. Out of drinks and cookies, I stumbled to bed.

Monday morning the Total Attendance for the con was at 3503 Warm Bodies and 4401 Members. Monday being the last day of the con, our plans were to leave Montreal by early afternoon. My autographing search was finished by getting a couple of first editions signed by John Scalzi. I bought my membership to the Reno in 2011 Worldcon and talked with some of the 2010 Raleigh NASFiC folks before calling it a con.

The dealers room was a bit small for a Worldcon. Many of

the regular dealers just didn't want the hassle of moving stock across the border. There were a good many T-shirt dealers, as well as some nice fannish knickknacks. New book dealers consisted of a couple of French-only dealers and one local chain store that was there with English-language editions. New book prices were rather high and I figured amazon.com to be a better deal. The room did have a couple of rare book dealers, one of whom was a bit expensive. The other one had a nice stock with a few books I eved throughout the con. The dealers room was never swamped, so I wanted 'till the last day of the con to strike for bargains. I used some of my remaining Canadian cash and picked up a nice ex-library Hal Clement that caught my eye. The very last of my foreign currency was used to bargain for and buy a nice Julie E. Czerneda hardback from a desperate dealer. Yes, I did take advantage of the slow economy!

We slowly made our way out of the convention center and hotel. Slipping out of Canada by the back roads, we made our way back to the states. The only real stops on the way back were Cracker Barrel induced. Total miles for my part of the road trip were just over 3000 miles.

Montreal was a real pretty city and the old Montreal area was very nice and an easy walk from where we were staying. Weather was nice, except for the occasional afternoon shower that popped up. All in all, it wasn't a bad con. I have no plans to go to Australia next year, but will do Reno in 2011.

Letters of Comment

EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC

Lloyd Penney <penneys@allstream.net> 1706-24 Eva Road Etobicoke ON Canada M9C 2B2

I did promise a loc as soon as the next *Shuttle* made it in... just didn't get to it as quickly as I wanted, that's all. Comments on the July *Shuttle* commence...

I don't think I'd be able to be the reporter you wanted... since my last letter, a few things have happened, and I am going to be quite busy in Montreal. I hope the committee will be putting their newsletters on their website asap. No matter, you'll get a loc from me anyway. I would recommend SFAwardsWatch.com to see when news about the various awards to be given out in Montréal arrives.

A terrible shame about Khen Moore passing. I shall have a remembrance of Khen, the cover of Warren Buff's *SFC Update* with a picture of Khen, on the wall of the fanzine lounge in Montreal. Yvonne used to chase him around the Worldcon, and she sure will miss that, too.

Great news about the Sturgeon and Campbell Awards... James Alan Gardner lives just down the highway from me, and Cory Doctorow is a former Toronto resident. As far as the Stokers go, Sephera Gíròn lives here, too. Seiuns... Robert Charles Wilson lives here, too. Award-wise, we rock!

Greetings, PieEyed, and welcome back to these pages. Food or fraud, depends on who's talking to you, I suppose. Do not meddle in the affairs of dragons, for you might be good at what you do, and they'll sign you to an ironclad contract. There are secrets upon secrets, levels of language here and there... I look forward to more. Is that bottle of ketchup yours?

25 July 2009

Much of my time these days is spent getting ready for the fanzine lounge. A box of zines, a small box of supplies, a binder full of forms, plans to get things done, no matter what I get told... should be fun, and we leave for Montréal in about 10 days. In the meantime, [I] do what I can here and there, and write the odd letter. I hope this one was sufficiently odd. Take care, all, and see you soon, and I will bring back some news, Mike, if someone doesn't already do that for you.

[My timeline for the last issue was tight, and in the rush I overlooked your email. Sorry about that, Lloyd, but I'll print it this month. Because it's running a month later than it should have, I took the liberty of forwarding it to PED whose reply is below. Well, I *think* it's a reply, despite the date. You're right about <sfawardswatch.com>; I've been haunting it for quite a while. It's one of the sites I fed into a blog aggregator (via RSS) that I watched quite closely during Anticipation. It sounds like you were prepared upon walking into the Fanzine Lounge and I hope it came together successfully. I regret missing Montreal but as it turns out I might not have been able to go even if I had planned to, because of a major work commitment that got scheduled for the three days immediately following the close of Worldcon. I do plan to make the NASFiC next year in Raleigh and the Reno Worldcon in 2011 is very likely. -ED]

EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC-EMOC

| PieEyedDragon | 24 July 2009? |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Somewhere out-of-this world | |

Time's arrow runs strangely here; even sometimes hitting a Copernican epicycle.

I do well enough. I try. The ketchup was an addendum of the editor.

I'm no longer sure how many languages I know.

Recently, I've sung in Middle High Cetacean like the Humpback whales.

[I trust the pic of the ketchup bottle was taken in the good humor in which it was intended. Note that's "good humor" not "Good Humor." I don't think the world is ready for ketchup-flavored ice cream on a stick — especially were it to be chocolate coated. -ED]

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Sheryl Birkhead 25509 Jonnie Court Gaithersburg MD 20882 14 August 2009

Well, another Worldcon has moved into history. I am guessing that there is some information online as to what happened during the con. Since I do not spend much time in cyberspace, I have not had a chance to go looking. The fact that, so far, I have not heard of any big *faux pas* happening, I am going to presume that things went, if not well, at least smoothly. Of course all of this is subject to change at any time — especially if stories start trickling in! Reno after another Aussiecon (I vaguely remember that the name of the con is not just a continuation of the series so far, but am not about to dig in and see if I can find the actual name).

I did see the results from the [Hugo] fan categories and will be politic in saying I did not agree with any of them. I did my part and voted, but... (Heck, I can't resist — hope someone is now aware of at least one loophole and gets it closed RSN.) I also heard (hi Lloyd) that the fanzine lounge was nicely run.

I await your surprise worldcon reporter(s??). I am especially curious about the Hugo itself. I did manage to locate one photo online and was determined to wait until I could open it no matter how long it took. Unfortunately, even after waiting 10 minutes, the image was not all I hoped it would be. So, I am still waiting to see what it looks like.

PED continues!

Lotsa luck with Con†Stellation XXVIII — what is the constellation of choice this year?

I have decided that as soon as I catch up on the zines (ha!), I will find the time to read some actual sf rather than anything audio. Don't hold your breath.

After reviewing the costs to replace the over-the-stove microwave oven and my finances, I have decided to let the current oven be an expensive wall ornament. Actually, while it still works intermittently, I am choosing to not use it at all — and maybe it will work a bit when the weather gets colder... or not.

Locally The Twilight Zone (the more recent series, but the neglected to mention that) is being (re)run. I did not realize the re part since they were advertised as new episodes, so I taped them and am just now getting around to watching them. Nope, not actually new...

Luckily, not much else going on right now, but I still need to whittle this zine stack down!

Eagerly waiting the Worldcon report!

(Another *Shuttle* just arrived today — ah what to do... think I'll print this up on one side and then add on a bit more.)

[We now move to the back side of the letter. -ED]

Okay — jumped the August *Shuttle* to the top of the pile...

I did not pay much attention to the actual sites vying for the NASFiC — because I figured that, while paying for the Worldcon site selection, that didn't cover their site and I was not going to pay for yet a second con I would not attend. I honestly had not realized there was a second site competing. Congratulations to both site winners — now *two* concoms can go nuts!

I had not noticed the guests for the NASFiC – very worth worthies!

Just looking at the [Worldcon] New Business, at the last amendment aimed at insuring a female author was represented in the four written-fiction categories — no way... (except for the problem of bloc voting) — every one needs to make it on merit along! At least that's the way I see it.

I tried to follow activity at the Worldcon, but it just wasn't going to happen. I went to the Anticipation website expecting to be able to locate results and images of the Hugo. Well, just as I could not access the nomination packet because it was too big... I couldn't get at the program listings. I gave up after several failed attempts. Later on I did find out about the fan categories, but not the professional ones.

It will be interesting to see what the supporting member packet will have in it this year. As I have said before, what is in it varies wildly from year to year... some are pretty meager and some have all sorts of goodies included. We'll see.

Nice to see Taral in the list of Worldcon Art Show Awards — although I wonder what the medium/content of *Body Werk* is.

Specific congratulations to Andy Porter and Ben Indick. I (back in the convention days) remember hearing James Gunn speak and his induction into the [First Fandom] Hall of Fame is a nice bit of giving recognition. Congratulations go out to all, but some are a bit more satisfying than others.

Just reading over the masquerade awards doesn't give me a feeling for the costumes. I hope there will be some mention in the conreport(s) you run... either that or I need to make another

library run and see if I can Google pictures from the Masquerade.

Now I sit and wait for the conreports to come rolling out! Thanks for getting the results out so quickly!

I appreciate the thanks. Shervl: now on to address some of your questions and comments. The Taral piece that took one of the Judges' Choice awards in the Anticipation art show apparently ran on the cover of Askance #9. I don't get that zine in the mail, but it's available as a PDF online at <efanzines.com/ Prior/Askance09.pdf>. You can see pics of this year's Hugo trophy — as well as that for many, many prior years — on the official Hugo Awards website <www.thehugoawards.org>. I'll run one here (see at right) but it'll be rendered in grayscale in the printed version of the Shuttle; plus it's hard to take good pictures of shiny things. I don't know what loophole you're talking about, or even what Hugo category (or categories) you have in mind. I will note that as a supporting member you can draft a proposed change to the WSFS Constitution, though you'll need at least one attending member (maybe two depending on how you read the rules) as cosigners to get it on the agenda. Oh, and this year's constellation for Con†Stellation is Vulpecula (the fox). The second NASFiC bidder was serious and filed their paperwork, but from what I understand the vote wasn't at all close. And regarding con reports and photos, if anyone is looking online for leads, I recommend <www. conreporter.com>. -ED]



 (above left) A Public Service Announcement for Video Game Designers, Best in Class, Presentation, Novice
(above right), Wonder Woman of Amazonia, Excellence in Corsetry, Workmanship, Master
(below) Sincerity, Best in Class, Presentation, Master





(above) A Debate that Ends Badly, Best in Show, Workmanship (below right) Hugo Award — Base design by Dave Howell (blue pearl granite shaped to look like an asteroid; maple leaf flame motif in the "blast pit")



(above left) Wanted: One Hero, Best in Class, Workmanship, Novice (below left) GoH Neil Gaiman at the Opening Ceremony (below right) Sabrina Aganier of the Canadian National Circus School, performing at the Opening Ceremony



Worldcon Masquerade and other at-con Anticipation photos by Fordan, via <Flickr.com> Hugo trophy photo from <TheHugoAwards.org>

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