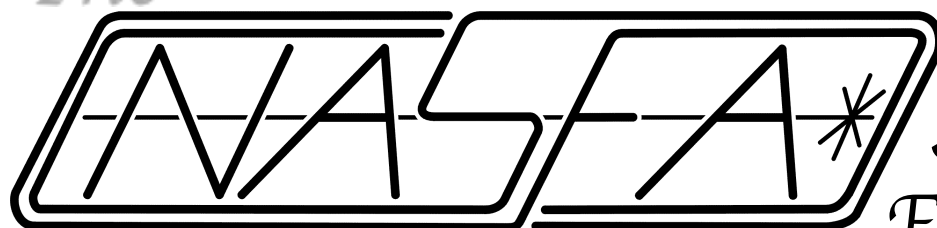


The



Shuttle
February 2010

The Next NASFA Meeting is 20 February 2010 at the Regular Time and Location

Con†Stellation XXIX ConCom Meeting 3P, 20 February 2010 at Renasant Bank (right before the club meeting)

¡ Oyez, Oyez ¡

The next **NASFA Meeting** is Saturday **20 February 2010** at the **regular time** (6P) and the **regular location**. Meetings are at the Renasant Bank's Community Room, 4245 Balmoral Drive in south Huntsville. 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.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

The February program is TBD at press time. Stay tuned to email and other comm links for updates.

As you may recall, sf author Travis S. Taylor had been scheduled to speak, but a professional commitment precluded this. Program director Wyman Cooke will try to reschedule Dr. Taylor for a future month.

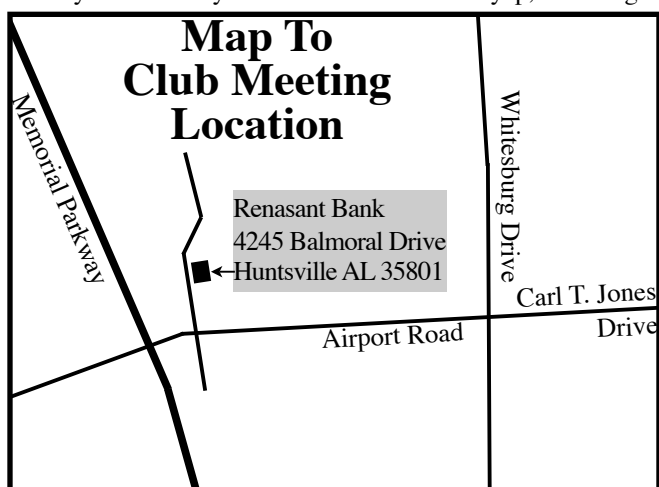
ATMMs

The February After-The-Meeting Meeting will be at Nancy Cucci and Ray Pietruszka's house—211 Evalyn Street, Madison AL 35758. This ATMM is in celebration of various February birthdays.

The March ATMM will be at the bank, right after the club meeting, and will be hosted by Sunn Hayward. We need ATMM volunteers April and beyond.

CONCOM MEETINGS

The next Con†Stellation XXIX concom meeting will be 3P Sunday 20 February at the Renasant Bank—yep, that's right



Continuing Our 30th Year of Publication!

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Deadline for the March issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday, 5 March 2010

before the club meeting. There will be a dinner break between the concom meeting and the club meeting. The plan is for future concom meetings to follow this same pattern until we get to the point of needing to hold them more often than monthly.

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.

News and Info

HUGO NOMS STILL OPEN

Nominations for the 2010 Hugo Awards (for work in 2009) will be open through 13 March 2010. You must have been a member of last year's Worldcon (Anticipation, Montreal) or have joined this year's Worldcon (Aussiecon 4, Melbourne Australia) by the end of January to nominate. Full information, and a link to both printable and online ballots can be found on Aussiecon's website at <www.aussiecon4.org.au/index.php?page=66>

The Hugo Awards are for excellence in the field of science fiction and fantasy. They were first awarded in 1953, and have been awarded every year since 1955. The awards will be presented during Aussiecon 4, the 68th World Science Fiction Convention, to be held 2–6 September 2010. The current categories are: Novel, Novella, Novelette, Short Story, Related Work, Graphic Story, Dramatic Presentation (Long Form), Dramatic Presentation (Short Form), Editor (Short Form), Editor (Long Form), Professional Artist, Semiprozine, Fanzine, Fan Writer, and Fan Artist. The John W. Campbell Award for best new writer is not a Hugo, but is administered by the Worldcon using the Hugo rules.

POTTER-RELATED EXHIBIT ENCHANTS B'HAM

UAB is hosting the traveling exhibit "Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science, Magic and Medicine" 25 January–5 March 2010. It will reside in UAB's Museum of the Health Sciences <www.uab.edu/historical/museum.htm>, on the third floor of the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences, 1700 University Boulevard, Birmingham. The exhibit shows how Rowling delved into the writings of real 15th and 16th century physicians, scholars, and scientists to fashion the basis of magic in the Potter books.

The exhibit is open 9A–6P Monday–Friday during its tenancy at the museum. It will also be open 10A–2P on two Saturdays; 6 and 20 February. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

2011 WORLDCON OFFERS YA RATE

Renovation, the 2011 World Science Fiction Convention, has announced a reduced rate available to young adults ages 17–21. Folks under 17 (as of 17 August 2011, the first day of the convention) are still eligible for the children's rate and us old fogies will still pay the full adult tariff. The targeted group is eligible for full memberships at a reduced rate.

The current YA rate is \$100, compared to the current child rate of \$75 and the current adult rate of \$140. All are subject to increase as the con grows closer. (The Worldcon at-the-door adult rate has been \$200 or more for the last decade and one can guess that Reno will be no exception.)

Members in the YA age range who have already purchased full adult memberships will be issued refunds but they will need to contact the convention. Full details of the YA membership are

available from Renovation's web site <www.renovationsf.org> or by emailing <memberships@renovationsf.org>.

Chair, Patty Wells, is quoted as saying "I strongly believe that we need to do more to attract young people, especially when so many of them are discovering the genre through writers such as J.K. Rowling and Stephenie Meyer. Our YA rate will allow these new fans to be part of the Worldcon experience: meeting and listening to writers; exploring our art show, dealers' room and exhibits; and attending the Hugo Award Ceremony, Masquerade and other special events."

DUFF OPENS VOTING

The Down Under Fan Fund has announced a large field of candidates and opened voting for the 2010 race to send a North American delegate (or delegates) to Aussiecon 4. The candidates are Jeffrey Boman, Terry Fong & Jannie Shea, John Hertz, Melanie Herz, and John Purcell.

Printable PDF ballots are available various places, including <file770.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/2010-duff-ballot.pdf>. It should be mailed to either Steve and Sue Francis, North American administrators (PO Box 58009, Louisville, KY 40268-0009) or Emma Hawkes, Australia/New Zealand administrator. Ballots must be accompanied by a minimum donation of \$5, \$6AUD or \$7NZD. To vote online and pay voting fees (or make donations) via Paypal, head to <wrevenge.com/duff2010>. Voting ends 11:59:59P (EST) 31 March 2010.

CUFF SPINS UP, TOO

Fans north of the border may be interested to know that the Canadian Unity Fan Fund is a contested race this year, reportedly for the first time since 2003. The candidates are Diane Lacey and Rob Uhrig. Voting ends soon (25 February 2010) with the winner scheduled to attend Keycon <keycon.org>, to be held 22–24 May at the Radisson Downtown in Winnipeg MB.

WORLDCON SHORT STORY CONTEST

The 2011 Worldcon is getting a jump on con-related activities by sponsoring a "Make Ready" Short Story Competition. Criteria for entries include: being in English, 1500 words or less (including the title), being an original unpublished story, use of the phrase "make ready," including an Australian landmark or town, and being sf, fantasy, speculative fiction, or horror. The deadline for entry is midnight AEST 30 April 2010—some 16 months before the con begins.

There are cash prizes for first and second place (\$200/\$100AUD). Judging will be by a panel selected by Aussiecon and winners will be notified by 31 May 2010. The winners may be invited to read or have their work read at an Aussiecon 4 event. Submission is to be by email (.txt, .doc, or .rtf format) to <shortstory@aussiecon4.org.au>. Full details can be found online at <www.aussiecon4.org/index.php?page=73>.

LOCUS PUBLISHES RECOMMENDED READING

LIST, OPENS POLL

Locus Magazine has published their 2009 Recommended Reading List, part of an annual series. It's available online at <www.locusmag.com/Magazine/2010/Issue02_RecommendedReadingList.html> and in print as part of their 2009 Year in Review issue (February 2010).

Also, their annual poll has begun; with the results to determine winners of the 40th annual Locus Awards. Deadline for voting is 1 April 2010. *Locus* subscribers votes count double, but the poll is open to all netizens and is available online at <https://secure.locusmag.com/Magazine/2010/Issue02_PollAndSurvey.html>. Items on the 2009 Recommended Reading List are already listed as candidates but there's allowance for write-in votes in each category.

SKIFFY VIDEO GAMES MEET SCIENCE

An assistant professor (Matthew Belmonte) at Cornell University recently received a National Science Foundation award of \$700,000—funded by stimulus dollars—to study the differences in autistic and non-autistic brains. His tools? Magnetic resonance imaging, high-density electroencephalography, and sf-themed video games with embedded experimental scenarios. The kids (both autistic and not) learn the games, then play them and encounter the scenarios while the prof peels back their brains (in a virtual sense) using the other two tools.

January Minutes

by Steve Sloan, Secretary

The January meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, January 16, 2010 in the Renasant Bank meeting room at 6:18:19P by President Mary Orwerth. To quiet people and start the meeting, program guest Stephanie Osborn whacked the crap out of the table with Mjölnir, a.k.a. Mary's large wooden gavel, drowning out the crickets.

OLD BUSINESS

People without room to hold After-the-Meeting Meetings at their own homes might offer to host at the Renasant meeting room.

Maria suggested that NASFA create a scarecrow for the Huntsville Botanical Gardens Scarecrow Trail event this fall. It would have to be done by September. Doug moved that the club ask Maria to investigate what is involved in creating a scarecrow for the Scarecrow Trail. The motion was seconded, and carried many to one.

Doug reminded us that dues are due.

Bruce was wished a happy birthday, but Mary became sorry she mentioned it. Stephanie Osborn sang *Happy Birthday* in Cherokee.

NEW BUSINESS

Jack announced that October 3rd will be the 30th birthday of the movie *Somewhere in Time*, which was adapted from the Richard Matheson novel recently read by the Bailey Cove Library Science Fiction Book Club.

Sam reported that everyone at the meeting had paid dues. The account balance for NASFA is up \$290 [for 2009] before Sue turns in her \$25 expense. The convention account balance is down \$32 [for 2009].

We've been having trouble picking up the key for the meeting room from Renasant Bank lately. They now only want people with accounts at their bank to pick up the key. Sam opened a NASFA account at Renasant Bank with Sam, Mike K., and Doug's names on it, so any of the three can pick up the key.

A lady at Renasant Bank wants a letter on club letterhead listing the current NASFA board of directors. As secretary, it's Steve's responsibility to generate one. Judy moved that we list Mike Kennedy, Sam Smith, and Dr. Douglas Edward Lampert as the NASFA board of directors on club letterhead. Maria seconded. The motion passed many to four, with Jim and the board members against.

Sam read a Merry Christmas email from David O. Miller.

Sam handed his usual list of "spammish emails" to Mary, who fortunately didn't summarize them for the club or the minutes.

CON BUSINESS

The first concom (convention committee) meeting will be held tomorrow at Meteor Buffet at 2P. Future meetings will be

at the Renasant Bank meeting room shortly before NASFA meetings.

Doug asked if there were any volunteers to run Masquerade, so we can have one this year. Sue hid.

The need for volunteers, especially new blood, at Con†Stellation was discussed. Some people who were willing asked what specific areas need help. The departments at the convention were listed in rough order of people needed: Con Suite, Art Show, Programming, T-Shirts, Dealers, Gaming, Ops, Treasurer, and Con Chairs. This year, having at least one person dedicated to each room of programming would help a lot.

Anita will be in charge of Con†Stellation XXX in 2011. ("Triple X"? Be afraid. Be very afraid.) Unfortunately, Anita was not in attendance, so she had no news about her convention.

Sue has gotten inquiries about dealer's room tables, but she has yet to be appointed to run the Dealers' Room. According to Sue, Zane and Edge Books may be here this year, but he'll either be here by himself, or send his wife. Because his dealers table would be run by only one person this year (one less than usual), he will need volunteers to help him set up [and break down].

Stephanie said her books sold well via the Barnes and Noble booth last year. According to others, Zane does much better. Barnes and Noble did sell better for authors who were actually at the con.

Wyman reported on Programming. He plans to bring in Travis Taylor for the program next month. [That appears to be delayed due to a schedule conflict. -ED] Stephanie Osborn is the program this month. Wyman just started as Programming Director at the beginning of the year, but he's hit the ground running. He will possibly bring in David Coe in March. Would we prefer to have the NASFA picnic in April or May? The consensus was for May. Wyman may bring in *Star Wars* people for the April meeting.

Sam moved to adjourn at 6:53:24P, and Doug seconded.

For programming, local SF author Stephanie Osborn spoke about *The Cressperian Series and the Science Behind the Science Fiction, or, How to Make a Disintegrator Ray Work*. There was a good amount of very technical physics discussion. After several "extra crispy" jokes, someone asked about the reference. Steve quipped, "Sure, Hawking radiation we get, but extra crispy?"

Adam and Maria hosted the After-the-Meeting Meeting at their house.

NASFA Calendar

FEBRUARY

- 01 National Freedom Day.
- 02 Groundhog Day.
- 04 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Oryx and Crake*, Margaret Atwood; 6P.
- 05–07 AggieCon 41—College Station TX.
- 07 Atlanta Comic Convention—Atlanta GA.
- 08 BD: Lin Cochran.
- 09 BD: Jack Lundy.
- 10 BD: Marcia Illingworth.
- 11 BD: Jeanna Woosley.
- 12 BD: Abraham Lincoln.
- 14 Valentine's Day.
- 15 President's Day.
- 17 BD: Nancy A. Cucci.

- 19-21 ConNooga—Chattanooga TN.
20 Con†Stellation concom meeting—3P at Renasant Bank.
(Dinner break between concom meeting and club meet-
ing.)
20* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Re-
nasant Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: Ray Pietruszka
and Nancy Cucci's house.
22 BD: George Washington.
26-28 SheVaCon—Roanoke VA.
28 Comic Book Show—Columbus GA.

MARCH

- 02 BD: Ronnie Lajoie.
04 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Tinker*, Wen
Spencer; 6P.
05-07 StellarCon 34—High Point NC.
05-07 CoastCon XXXIII—Biloxi MS.
05-07 Twilight Convention—Atlanta GA.
09 BD: Tracey Kennedy.
10 BD: Kerry Gilley.
12-14 MidSouthCon—Memphis TN.
13 BD: Anita Eisenberg.
14 Daylight Saving Time begins.
17 St. Patrick's Day.
17-21 International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts
31—Orlando FL.
19-21 FantaSciCon—Chattanooga TN.
20 (Tentative) Con†Stellation concomm meeting—3P at Re-
nasant Bank. (Dinner break between concomm meeting
and club meeting.)
20* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Re-
nasant Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: at the bank; host-
ess: Sunn Hayward.
20-21 MomoCon—Atlanta GA.
22 BD: Jayson Woosley.
25-28 Furry Weekend Atlanta—Atlanta GA.
27-28 Joelanta Toy Show—Atlanta GA.

APRIL

- 01 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *A Connecticut*
01 *Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, Mark Twain; 6P.
01-04 April Fool's Day.
01-04 Frolicon—Atlanta GA.
02 Good Friday.
04 Easter Sunday.
07 BD: Mary Lampert.
09-11 Conglomeration—Louisville KY.
10 Atlanta Anime Day 2.0—Atlanta GA.
15 BD: "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo.
15 BD: Manda Freeman.
15 Income Tax Day.
16-18 KampingKon—Calhoun GA.
17 (Tentative) Con+Stellation concom meeting—3P at Re-
nasant Bank. (Dinner break between concom meeting
and club meeting.)
17* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Re-
nasant Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
21 BD: Randy B. Cleary.
21 Administrative Professionals' Day.
22 Earth Day.
23-25 JordanCon—Atlanta GA.
24-25 Kami-Con—Tuscaloosa AL.
24-25 Dicehead Siege—Chattanooga TN.
26 BD: Chloeie Airoidi.
30 BD: Mark Maxwell.
30 Arbor Day.
30 Tennessee Game Days—Nashville TN.

The British Science Fiction Association <www.bsfa.co.uk> has announced the nominee for its annual awards. Voting is by members of BSFA and the British national sf con, Eastercon. Winners will be announced at Odyssey <www.odyssey2010.org>, the 2010 Eastercon, to be held 2–5 April at the Radisson Edwardian Hotel in Heathrow, London. By categories, the nominees are:

NOVEL

SHORT FICTION

"The Beloved Time of Their Lives," Ian Watson and Roberto Quaglia
 "The Assistant," Ian Whates

ARTWORK

Alternate cover art for *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* (art project), Nitzan Klammer
 "Emerald," Stephanie Pui-Mun Law
 Cover of *Desolation Road*, Stephan Martinière, jacket design by Jacqueline Nasso Cooke
 Cover of *Interzone* 220, Adam Tredowski
 Cover of *Interzone* 224, Adam Tredowski
 Cover of *Interzone* 225, Adam Tredowski

NONFICTION

Canary Fever, John Clute
 "I Didn't Dream of Dragons," Deepa D
 "Ethics and Enthusiasm," Hal Duncan [Withdrawn by the author]
 "Mutant Popcorn," Nick Lowe
A Short History of Fantasy, Farah Mendlesohn and Edward James

Stoker Preliminary Ballot

The long list for the 2009 Bram Stoker Awards, presented by the Horror Writers' Association <www.horror.org>, has been announced. Voting is by HWA members in three rounds (long list, short list, and winners). The awards are styled by HWA as "for superior achievement" in the various categories. The awards will be presented at a 27 March 2010 banquet during the World Horror Convention <www.whc2010.org> (25–28 March, Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton, England). The nominees are:

NOVEL

As Fate Would Have It, Michael Louis Calvillo
Sacrifice, John Everson
Eternal Vigilance II: Death of Illusions, Gabrielle Faust
Twisted Ladder, Rhodi Hawk
Voracious, Alice Henderson
The Bone Factory, Nate Kenyon
Audrey's Door, Sarah Langan
Patient Zero, Jonathan Maberry
Quarantined, Joe McKinney
Cursed, Jeremy Shipp

FIRST NOVEL

The Black Act, Louise Bohmer
Breathers, S.G. Browne
Slaughter!, Marcus Griffin
The Dead Path, Stephen M. Irwin
Solomon's Grave, Daniel G. Keohane
Dismember, Daniel Pyle
The Forest of Hands and Teeth, Carrie Ryan
Damnably, Hank Schwaeble
The Little Sleep, Paul Tremblay
Slights, Kaaron Warren



LONG FICTION

Dreaming Robot Monster, Mort Castle
The Hunger of Empty Vessels, Scott Edelman
Rot, Michelle Lee
The Gray Zone, John R. Little
 "Diana and the Goong-Si," Lisa Morton
The Lucid Dreaming, Lisa Morton
Black Butterflies, Kurt Newton
Doc Good's Traveling Show, Gene O'Neill
Little Graveyard on the Prairie, Steven E. Wedel
Mama Fish, Rio Youers

SHORT FICTION

"Nub Hut," Kurt Dinan
 "One More Day," Brian Freeman
 "Where Sunlight Sleeps," Brian Freeman
 "Blanket of White," Amy Grech
 "Keeping Watch," Nate Kenyon
 "Plague Dogs," Joe McKinney
 "The Crossing of Aldo Ray," Weston Ochse
 "The Outlaws of Hill County," John Palisano
 "In the Porches of My Ears," Norman Prentiss
 "The Night Nurse," Harry Shannon

ANTHOLOGY

Harlan County Horrors, Mari Adkins, ed.
He Is Legend: An Anthology Celebrating Richard Matheson, Christopher Conlon, ed.
Mighty Unclean, Bill Breedlove, ed.
Lovecraft Unbound, Ellen Datlow, ed.
Poe, Ellen Datlow, ed.
Dark Delicacies 3: Haunted, Del Howison and Jeff Gelb, eds.
Butcher Shop Quartet 2, Frank J. Hutton, ed.
British Invasion, Chris Golden, Tim Lebbon and James Moore, eds.
Midnight Walk, Lisa Morton, ed.
Grants Pass, Amanda Pillar and Jennifer Brozek, eds.

COLLECTION

Shards, Shane Jiraiya Cummings
Martyrs and Monsters, Robert Dunbar
Dark Entities, David Dunwoody
Got to Kill Them All and Other Stories, Dennis Etchison
Shades of Blood and Shadow, Angeline Hawkes
Unhappy Endings, Brian Keene
You Might Sleep..., Nick Mamatas
A Little Help from my Fiends, Michael McCarty
A Taste of Tenderloin, Gene O'Neill
In the Closet, Under the Bed, Lee Thomas

NONFICTION

Writers Workshop of Horror, Michael Knost
Esoteria-Land, Michael McCarty
Morbid Curiosity Cures the Blues, Loren Rhoads, ed.
Cinema Knife Fight, LL. Soares and Michael Arruda
The Stephen King Illustrated Companion, Bev Vincent
Stephen King: The Non-Fiction, Rocky Wood and Justin Brook

POETRY COLLECTION

Double Visions, Bruce Boston
North Left of Earth, Bruce Boston
Mortician's Tea, G.O. Clark
Starkweather Dreams, Christopher Conlon
Voices from the Dark, Gary William Crawford
Barfodder, Rain Graves
Grave Bits, Todd Hanks
Toward Absolute Zero, Karen L. Newman
Chimeric Machines, Lucy A. Snyder

Movie Awards— Yin and Yang

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences <www.oscars.org> has announced the nominees for the 82nd round of the Oscars. Genre and related (in the case of *Sherlock Holmes* somewhat distantly related) films came away with nominations in most of the categories—including nabbing three of the ten slots in the headliner Best Motion Picture category. Winners will be announced 7 March 2010 at a ceremony broadcast from the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood CA.



The top genre/related nominee was *Avatar* with nine nods—Best Motion Picture, Directing, Editing, Original Score, Cinematography, Art Direction, Sound Editing, Sound Mixing, and Visual Effects. *Up* followed with five honors, for Best Motion Picture, Animated Feature Film, Original Screenplay, Original Score, and Sound Editing.

Two films came away with four nods, *District 9* (Best Motion Picture, Editing, Adapted Screenplay, and Visual Effects) and *Star Trek* (Makeup, Sound Editing, Sound Mixing, and Visual Effects). One film copped three noms—*The Princess and the Frog* got a nod for Animated Feature Film and two nods for Original Song.

Three movies got two nominations apiece—*Fantastic Mr. Fox* (Animated Feature Film and Original Score), *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus* (Art Direction and Costume Design), and *Sherlock Holmes* (Art Direction and Original Score).

Eight films captured one nom—*Coraline* (Animated Feature Film), *Granny O’Grimm’s Sleeping Beauty* (Animated Short), *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (Cinematography), *La Dama y la Muerte* (Animated Short), *The Lovely Bones* (Supporting Actor), *A Matter of Loaf and Death* (Animated Short), *Miracle Fish* (Live Action Short), and *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen* (Sound Mixing).

That last marks an overlap point with our next subject. On the (often well-deserved) hate side of the ledger, there’s the Razzies <www.razzies.com>. The 30th Annual Razzie® Award Nominees include lots of genre nominees, as is usual for the Golden Raspberries. The summary below doesn’t count three special Worst of the Decade categories.

Two films “led” the genre pack with seven dishonors each. *Land of the Lost* received noms for Worst Picture, Worst Director, Worst Actor, Worst Supporting Actor, Worst Screen Couple, Worst Remake, Rip-Off



or Sequel, and Worst Screenplay. *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen* was recognized in the Worst Picture, Worst Director, Worst Actress, Worst Supporting Actress, Worst Screen Couple, Worst Screenplay, and Worst Remake, Rip-Off or Sequel categories.

G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra garnered six nominations—Worst Picture, Worst Director, Worst Supporting Actor, Worst Supporting Actress, Worst Remake, Rip-Off or Sequel, and Worst Screenplay. *Twilight Saga: New Moon* got “only” four nods, for Worst Supporting Actor, Worst Screen Couple, Worst Remake, Rip-Off or Sequel, and Worst Screenplay. The least-worst genre film in the list is *Imagine That* with one nomination for Worst Actor.

Awards Roundup

HWA ANNOUNCES WINNERS

The Horror Writers’ Association <www.horror.org> has announced that the winners of the 2009 **Bram Stoker Award for Lifetime Achievement** (for “substantial influencing the horror genre”) are **Brian Lumley** and **William F. Nolan**. Additionally, the winner of the 2009 **HWA Specialty Press Award** is **Tartarus Press** <freepages.pavilion.net/tartarus/>. This latter award is for “a specialty publisher whose work has contributed substantially to the horror genre, whose publications display general excellence, and whose dealings with writers have been fair and exemplary.”

Both awards will be presented at the World Horror Convention <www.whc2010.org>, to be held 25–28 March 2010 at the Royal Albion Hotel in Brighton, England. Memberships are sold out, but some transfers may be available.

ALA HONORS GENRE WORKS

Among the awards announced at the American Library Association’s <www.ala.org> midwinter conference held in Boston 15–19 January 2010 were some notable genre wins. The **Newbery Medal** (for distinguished contribution to American literature for children) was won



by **Rebecca Stead** for *When You Reach Me*. The **Michael L. Printz Award** (for excellence in young adult literature) went to **Libba Bray** for *Going Bovine*. Both *The Monstrumologist*, Rich Yancey and *Tales from the Madman Underground: An Historical Romance, 1973*, John Barnes were listed as Printz Honor books.

The ALA’s **Alex Awards** are given to ten books written for adults that have special appeal to young adults. Genre winners included *Everything Matters!*, Ron Currie, Jr., *The Magicians*, Lev Grossman, and *Soulless*, Gail Carriger. Also, *Moribito II: Guardian of the Darkness*, Nahoko Uehashi, with illustrations by Yuko Shimizu, translated by Cathy Hirano was a Mildred L. Batchelder Honor book for best translation.

CRAWFORD AWARD WINNER

The **William L. Crawford Award** (for an outstanding new fantasy writer whose first book appeared the previous year) is presented annually at the International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts. This year’s award went to **Jedediah Berry** for *The Manual of Detection*. Other nominees were Deborah Biancotti (*A Book of Endings*), Kari Sperring (*Living with Ghosts*), and Ali Shaw (*The Girl With Glass Feet*). The selec-

tion committee also commended two other authors ineligible for technical reasons—Robert V.S. Redick whose first novel appeared in 2008 and Michal Ajvaz whose novel was translated into English in 2009 after appearing first in Czech in 1993.

GOLDEN GLOBES SHINE ON GENRE

Genre works did fairly well in this year's **Golden Globe Awards** <www.goldenglobes.org>, presented by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. Both *Avatar* and *Up* scored two wins—the former won Director, Motion Picture and Best Motion Picture, Drama while the latter copped Animated Feature Film and Original Score, Motion Picture. A not-really-genre-but-close film, *Sherlock Holmes*, secured the Actor in a Motion Picture, Comedy or Musical trophy for **Robert Downey Jr.** Genre works were, however, shut out in the Globes' TV categories and lost to non-genre films in the movie Screenplay, Supporting Actor, and Original Song categories.



DGAs NOT KIND TO GENRE

Unlike the Golden Globes above, the **Director's Guild of America Awards** <www.dga.org> pretty much passed over genre works. In two movie categories and seven TV categories, only genre elements in some of the TV commercials cited for **Tom Kuntz** (winner, Direction in Commercials) could be claimed as a genre win. Even then, some of the commercials he was credited with were decidedly non-genre.

SAG AWARDS NEARLY A CLEAN MISS

The 2010 **Screen Actors Guild Awards**, presented Saturday 23 January 2010, included no genre winners in the major categories for either movies or TV. The Stunt Ensemble categories did include trophies for *Star Trek* (Outstanding Performance by a Stunt Ensemble in a Motion Picture) and the genre-related **24** (Outstanding Performance by a Stunt Ensemble in Television Series).



DWARF STARS WINNERS

The winner and runners-up for the 2009 **Dwarf Stars Award** <www.sfpoetry.com/dwarfstars.html> have been announced by the Science Fiction Poetry Association. The award is for the best short speculative poems of 10 lines or less published in 2008. The winners are:

First Place.....“Fireflies,” Geoffrey A. Landis
Second Place.....“Leaf Whisperer,” Elizabeth Barrette
Third Place.....“Goodbye Billy Goat Gruff,” Jane Yolen

NEBULA AWARDS WEEKEND ANNOUNCED

The Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfwawards.org> has announced that their annual Nebula Awards Weekend will be 13–16 May 2010 at the Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront Hotel in Cocoa Beach FL, on Cape Canaveral. The 2009 Nebula Awards, the 2009 Damon Knight Memorial Grand Master award (winner: Joe Haldeman), and other SFWA awards will be presented



that weekend.

The press release notes that the dates were chosen to coincide with the scheduled launch of the shuttle *Atlantis* on 14 May, though it doesn't mention that launch dates are notoriously subject to slippage. If the launch does occur on time, it should be visible from the beach outside the hotel. SFWA is also planning special tours of the Kennedy Space Center <www.kennedyspacecenter.com>. Full details of the weekend are online at <www.nebulaawards.com/index.php/nebula-weekend/hotels_and_transportation>.

PKD ANNOUNCES 2009 NOMINEES AND 2010 JUDGES

Nominees for the 2009 Philip K. Dick Award <www.philipkdickaward.org> for “a distinguished work of science fiction published in paperback original form in the United States” have been announced. The winner and any special citations will be announced 2 April 2010 at Norwescon 33 <www.norwescon.org>, to be held 1–4 April at the DoubleTree Hotel Seattle Airport in SeaTac WA. The nominees are:

Bitter Angels, C.L. Anderson
The Prisoner, Carlos J. Cortes
The Repossession Mambo, Eric Garcia
The Devil's Alphabet, Daryl Gregory
Cyberabad Days, Ian McDonald
Centuries Ago and Very Fast, Rebecca Ore
Prophets, S. Andrew Swann

The judges for the 2010 PKD have also been announced: William Barton, Andy Duncan, Bruce McAllister, Melinda M. Snodgrass, and David Walton. Publishers are asked to submit copies of eligible books to all five judges.

RT BOOK AWARDS NOMINEES

A lengthy list of nominees for the RT Book Reviews Awards, sponsored by *RT Book Reviews* magazine, is available online at <www.rtbookreviews.com/temp/RT.09.Nominees.pdf>. Several awards categories are specific to genre works and others include genre nominees. Those categories include SF&F Career Achievement, Urban Fantasy Career Achievement, Paranormal Career Achievement, Urban Fantasy Career Achievement, Science Fiction Novel, Fantasy Novel, Epic Fantasy Novel, Urban Fantasy Novel, Urban Fantasy Protagonist, and a half-dozen fantasy/paranormal romance novel categories.

PROMETHEUS HoF NOMINEES

The Libertarian Futurist Society <lfs.org> has announced the finalists for their 2010 Prometheus Hall of Fame Award, given to a work of “classic libertarian fiction” that “examine[s] the meaning of freedom.” First publication or broadcast must have been more than five years ago. Members of the LFS select the winner. This year's award will be presented in a ceremony at Aussiecon 4. The nominees are:

“As Easy as A.B.C.,” Rudyard Kipling (1912)
Cryptonomicon, Neal Stephenson (1999)
 “No Truce with Kings,” Poul Anderson (1964)
 “‘Repent, Harlequin!’ Said the Ticktockman,” Harlan Ellison (1965)

BAFTAs SHOWIN' THE LOVE

Genre works seemed to be among the faves during the nominations phase of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts <www.bafta.org> Awards. *Avatar* led the way with eight noms, for Best Film, Director, Music, Cinematography, Editing, Production Design, Sound, and Special Visual Effects. *District 9* was close behind, getting seven nods for Director, Adapted Screenplay, Cinematography, Editing, Production Design, Sound, and Special

Visual Effects. *Up* did pretty well, too, capturing four nominations (Original Screenplay, Animated Film, Music, and Sound).

Six different genre-related films were recognized in two categories apiece—*Fantastic Mr. Fox* (Animated Film and Music), *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* (Production Design and Special Visual Effects), *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus* (Production Design and Makeup & Hair), *The Lovely Bones* (Leading Actress and Supporting Actor), *Moon* (Outstanding British Film and Outstanding Debut by a British Writer, Director, or Producer), and *Star Trek* (Sound and Special Visual Effects). Two genre/related works guarded the rear with a single nom each—*Coraline* (Animated Film) and *The Road* (Cinematography).



Letter of Comment

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Sheryl Birkhead
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8–14 January 2010

Welcome to 2010, (I wanted to butter you up before confessing I cannot locate some of the *Shuttles*—they are among all the detritus, but have not surfaced yet.) I do have the November ish here. Being totally unorganized, I decided to go with what is at hand and hope this is not a repeat performance. Oh yeah until (HA!) I get organized, this will probably keep happening—just fair warning (and apologizing).

I finally remembered to go in search of the latest *Harry Potter* movie and found it on sale from Best Buy for \$8.99+tax—so I bought it to go with all the previous movies... and removed it from my Netflix list. At the same time I moved the *Star Trek* movie up to the top and watched it two days later. I enjoyed both but had not realized quite how dark the *HP* move was or how easily this alternate universe/story line might open up *ST* for another whole series of movies. I am sure the *ST* information (about a series, or at least a sequel) is out and about, but I am not—so I will continue to be surprised as information come to light.

I knew Guy Lillian and vehicle had a run-in (or a run-by) with a tornado. Glad to hear the things were relatively controlled.

Nice to have PED back. Yes, swimming is good exercise and might replace the flying if she can figure out how to use her wings specifically as arms. I see she is trying to do some sort of backstroke and that would definitely qualify. Hmm, I can only guess at the wingspan involved in a swimming stroke, if the wings are strong enough not to tear under the weight of water. One can only speculate

what a physical rehab facility for dragons would look like to accommodate exercising!

Lloyd, I *used* to beg and plead for one copy of the various publications (such as *Locus*)—the issue that was published right after the Worldcon so I could have photos to let me know what I missed. I gave up on that a long time ago. It seemed pointless to subscribe to a magazine (even if the money to pay with was available) just to get one ish. You remind me that the sources of the photos are still there.

Oh yeah, a new year, time for new Hugo nominations. We haven't settled any of the , um... er... *discussions* about some of the winners in 2008 and already we can line up more suspects. Because I never actually saw a "copy" of the *e-Velo* I had to base my impression on what I found at the website—paid contributors (and apparently a *de rigeur* contract for each!) and no way to get a look at it without subscribing. For some (many?) this may be acceptable and work well, but I have neither the computer to take advantage of this, nor the funds to do so. For me, personally, it did not meet the spirit of the definitions of fanzine, but for acceptability the criteria are spelled out and, as you know, *e-Velo* apparently met the definition. I saw a, to me, similar situation in the fan artist category—after going to the fan artist's website and reading what was there. This is where both my personal definition and lack of convention attending make me question fan artist status. Once again, the letter of the definition was met and I admit to that, but not *my* spirit of the category. I don't see any way out of this since we do not all agree on the definitions and must resort to objective criteria. As soon as that is done, they must either be respected, or the definitions changed. Fen being fen, we will never all agree. I suppose that puts us squarely in the camp of *we have to agree to disagree*.

As always, I try to nominate and vote so I can feel I have more license to criticize the outcomes. In reality, it just means I have to feel that I did all I could as an individual and accept (albeit sometimes grudgingly) the results from the greater number.

I was channel surfing (as best I can with this digital thing that will be with me until I buy new TVs (i.e., no time soon!) and I stopped to watch the last few minutes of a show about cloning endangered or extinct species. I cheerfully admit that it was the images of the woolly mammoths that caught my attention long enough to stop and listen. It would appear that they are getting really *really* close to being able to do just that. The relatively well preserved frozen juvenile mammoth found last year had cells that were *almost* in a good enough condition to give it a try... so close! The ending commentary speculated on whether doing such *should* be done as opposed to *could* be done.

Tempus is doing its thing. I will stop here and not hunt to locate at least one other ish that I *know* must be here. Now to get this printed and into an envelope before the mail is picked up!

[A *Star Trek* sequel? Paramount says bet on it. They've even scheduled the release date—29 June 2012—a year later than had earlier been mooted. PED's latest adventure will continue, but not in this issue. I'm putting it to bed while on a business trip and am trying to include only material with an expiration date. RE whether a person or work fits the definition of a given Hugo category, I'll note that administrators

have most often deferred to the wishes of the electorate. Making definitions tighter might “help” in some cases but perhaps more often would result in what Kevin Standlee

calls “the toothpaste-tube fallacy” wherein squeezing something more tightly results in less control rather than more. -ED]



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