

The



Shuttle
January 2011

The Next NASFA Meeting is 15 January 2011 at the Regular Time and Location

Con†Stellation XXX ConCom Meeting 3P, 15 January

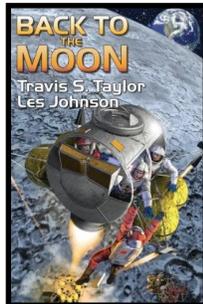
! Oyez, Oyez !

The next NASFA Meeting will be Saturday **15 January 2011** 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 the light at 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.

JANUARY PROGRAM

NASFA's January program will be "Behind the Scenes with *Back To The Moon*." NASA physicist Les Johnson will be reading from and talking about his most recent book, coauthored with Travis Taylor.



CONCOM MEETINGS

The next Con†Stellation XXX concom meeting will be this month, at 3P on the same day as the club meeting (the 15th). The meeting will be at the Renasant Bank's Community Room—the same room used for the club meeting. There will be a dinner break between the concom meeting and the club meeting.

The likely plan going forward will be to continue to have concom meetings the same day as club meetings. As we near

the con and need to go to more than one concom meeting a month, the concom schedule will have to adjust.

ATMMs

The January After-The-Meeting Meeting will be at Peggy Patrick's house—120 Darlington Road NE in Huntsville. See below for a map. The usual NASFA rules apply, to wit, please bring your preferred drink plus a food item to share.

We are seeking ATMM volunteers for most months in 2011.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

The February program will be "Converging on a Space Pro-

120 Darlington Road NE
Huntsville AL 35801

Bankhead Pkwy

Toll Gate Rd

Pratt Ave

**Map To
ATMM
Location**

Exit Memorial Parkway at University Drive; head East on University, which turns into Pratt Avenue; continue through 5-Points on Pratt, which turns into Bankhead Parkway as it starts up Monte Sano; Toll Gate Road merges with Bankhead from the right; take the next left after the merge, onto Darlington Road; continue to 120 Darlington, on your right

Beginning Our 31st Year of Publication

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Deadline for the February 2011 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday 4 February 2011

gram for the 21st Century” presented by Paul Wieland—the author of *Crossing the Threshold: Advancing into Space to Benefit the Earth*.

Programs for further months are being developed.

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

The 2011 schedule for NASFA meetings is for them to be the usual 3rd Saturday *except* for July, August, and September. In each of those months the meeting will be moved to the 2nd Saturday to avoid conflicts with various conventions (including Con+Stellation).

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 & Info

HUGO NOMS OPEN

Renovation <www.renovationsf.org>, the 69th World Science Fiction Convention, has announced that the 2011 Hugo Nominations (for works in 2010) and the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer opened 1 January.

Nominating ballots may be submitted online at <www.renovationsf.org/hugo/nominations.php> or by mail. One must be an attending or supporting member of Renovation members by 31 January—or have been an attending or supporting member of Aussiecon 4, in 2010—to nominate. The deadline for nominations is Saturday 26 March 2011, 23:59 PDT.

WORLDCON HOTEL BLOCK OPENS RSN

Hotel booking for Renovation will open 08:00 PDT 17 January 2011. See their hotel page online at <www.renovationsf.org/hotels.php> for details.

TAFF ACCEPTS PAYPAL

The Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund <taff.org.uk> is now accepting voting fees and other donations via PayPal. Both TAFF administrator’s e-mail addresses will work—Europe: Steve Green <stevegreen@livejournal.com>; North America: Anne and Brian Gray <akg.netmouse@gmail.com>.

If sending the minimum voting fee (£2 or \$3), the administrators request that voters “add a little—50p or 50¢, say—to cover PayPal charges.”

And that news brings us to:

FOUR STAND FOR TAFF

The nominations are in for the 2011 Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund race and are said to comprise “the largest field of candidates in a westbound race since 1993.” The nominees are Graham Charnock, John Coxon, Liam Proven, and Paul Treadway.

Voting is open and will remain so through 12 March 2011. The winner will travel from Europe and attend the 2011 Worldcon, Renovation, to be held in Reno 17–21 August and will likely make it to several other North American fannish gatherings while on this side of the pond.

CUFF NOMS OPEN

Nominations for the 2011 Canadian Unity Fan Fund <www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=6119342503> have opened. They are looking for a fan or fans from western Canada to send to CanVention, the Canadian natcon, to be held in conjunction with SFContario 2 <www.sfcontario.ca> in Toronto 18–20 November 2011.

Potential CUFF nominees must apply by 31 March 2011 to <d.lacey@gmail.com>. The application should contain a self-

description plus a statement about why selection as the CUFF delegate would be beneficial for the fan and his/her community. It must also include at least three references from people in eastern and western Canada. Voting will run 5 April–31 May.

BAEN LAUNCHES REDESIGNED WEBSITE

Baen Books <www.baen.com> has updated its website with new features and more free fiction. The press release promises new free fiction, and nonfiction, will be available each month. The first free fiction is Patrick Lundrigan’s short story “Space Hero” <www.baen.com/space-hero.asp>—winner of the 2010 Jim Baen Memorial Short Story Contest (cosponsored by Baen Books and the National Space Society).

The press release also notes that “Free tools for teachers, librarians, and book groups also are available, to help them use Baen fiction to reach YA readers. There are author interviews, all-new teacher’s study guides and reading group discussion question topics.” The first offering here is Dr. Felecia McDuffie’s guide to Heinlein’s *The Rolling Stones*.

DOCTOR WHO TO MARRY OWN DAUGHTER

This being a sfnal zine, you might expect the headline to have a twist—and you’d be wrong, there are two twists.

David Tennant, who played the most recently deceased incarnation of Doctor Who had become betrothed to Georgia Moffett. Tennant 39, met Moffett, 26, when she had a guest role in an episode of the show in 2008, playing his daughter, Jenny. To add to the oddity, Ms Moffett is the real-life daughter of Peter Davison who played the 5th Doctor Who in 1981–1984.

The wedding is said to be set for New Year’s Day 2012.

BORDERS IN TROUBLE?

It’s a rough time for booksellers.

Borders, the #2 US bookstore chain, recently announced that it has delayed payments to some vendors <tinyurl.com/BrokenBorders> due to a cash shortfall. This may (or may not) be the beginning of the end for Borders.

STAN LEE GETS HOLLYWOOD STAR

Marvel Comics (and POW! Entertainment) great Stan Lee was recently seen at the unveiling of his Walk of Fame star.

Lee, now 88, received the 2,428th sidewalk star awarded. His is located in front of the Live Nation Building on Hollywood Boulevard.



NASFA Calendar

JANUARY

- 01 New Year’s Day.
- 03 BD: Jim Kennedy.
- 03 BD: Karen Hopkins.
- 06 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Neverwhere*, Neil Gaiman; 6P.
- 06 BD: Rich Garber.
- 07 BD: Doug Lampert.
- 07–08 ShadowCon XV—Memphis TN.
- 07–09 GAFilk 13—Atlanta GA.
- 14–16 MarsCon—Williamsburg VA.
- 15* Con+Stellation XXX Concom Meeting—3P; at Renasant Bank.
- 15* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant Bank. Program: “Behind the Scenes with *Back To The Moon*,” Les Johnson. ATMM: Peggy Patrick’s house.

tion. The motion carried many-to-Doug.

Next came the vote for Publicity Director. There were 6 votes for Jack, and 7 for Maria, so Maria will be the 2011 Publicity Director. Someone quipped, "Congratulations, Jack." By the way, Jack's vote for Maria was the deciding vote.

Mary opened nominations for Con†Stellation 2012 con chair. Doug had already been nominated previously. Doug nominated Mike K., and Anita seconded.

Sue moved we close con chair nominations, and Steve seconded. The motion carried many-to-Doug.

Doug and Mike K. each gave speeches. To summarize, Doug will downsize the convention, and Mike K. won't.

Mary rolled a die to see which nominee would be voted for first. There was 1 vote for Doug, and the rest of the votes went to Mike K. Sam voted to oppose both.

Mike K. won, so he will be Con†Stellation 2011 con chair. Sam noted that was an "interesting definition of 'win'."

With officer and con chair nominations and elections complete, Mary asked if we would need to move any NASFA meetings in 2011 to avoid scheduling meetings against conventions NASFA members would be likely to attend.

Randy had con flyers to look through. LibertyCon will conflict in July. Worldcon in Nevada [Reno. -ED] will conflict in August. Con†Stellation will conflict in September. Texas DeepSouthCon will be held the weekend after Con†Stellation. Members were polled to see who would be attending any of those conventions. All four turned out to be issues.

Mike K. moved that the July, August, and September NASFA meetings be moved to the second Saturday of their respective months. Anita seconded, and the motion passed many-to-Doug.

Sam read one spammish email, about a new, free, holiday-themed, paranormal thriller ebook.

CONVENTION BUSINESS

Con†Stellation XXX con-chair Anita reported that the first concom (convention committee meeting) was held earlier that day. She also reported that Joe Haldeman had been upgraded to Special Guest.

Jack announced that the Bailey Cove Library Science Fiction Book Club will be discussing Joe Haldeman's novel *Forever War* in February.

Sam moved to adjourn at 6:53:38P.

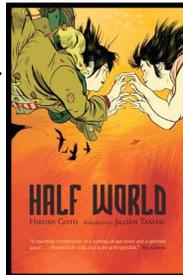
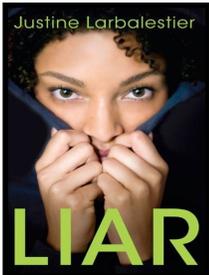
The program was the NASFA gift exchange. Sam and Judy hosted the Christmas Party/After-the-Meeting Meeting at their house.

Awards Roundup

2009 BRANDON AWARDS ANNOUNCED

The Carl Brandon Society <www.carlbrandon.org> has announced the winners of the 2009 Parallax and Kindred Awards. The **Carl Brandon Parallax Award** (for works of speculative

fiction created by a self-identified person of color) went to **Hiroshi Goto** for *Half World*. The **Carl Brandon Kindred Award** (for speculative fiction dealing with issues of race and ethnicity) went to **Justine Larbalestier** for *Liar*.



The winners will receive a \$1000 cash prize. The awards will be presented 16 January 2011 at Arisia <2011.arisia.org>, to be held at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel, 14–17 January 2011.

Nominations are currently open for the 2010 Brandon Awards; they will close 28 February 2011.

NEW HUGO CATEGORIES TO BE PROPOSED?

Word had been flying around the net of two amendments to the WSFS that may be proposed at Renovation, this year's Worldcon. (Any attending member of the con can put forth such a proposal, as long as they can find someone to second the motion.)

One of the possible proposals would modify the Semiprozine and Fanzine categories to specifically disallow audio and video material and add a Fan Audio or Video Production category. The other possible proposal would add a category for Children's/Young Adult Book. (Note the word "book"—the intent is to be for a single work of any word count.) Discussion seems to be ongoing whether the proposed award will be YA-only or will include children's literature.

Both proposals have generated perhaps more heat than light to date. There could be an "interesting" set of Business Meetings at Reno

SF&F TRANSLATION AWARDS GET FUNDING

A pledge of \$250 annually has been made by the Speculative Literature Foundation <www.speculativeliterature.org> to help fund the SF&F Translation Awards <www.sfftawards.org>. The awards are for "works of speculative fiction translated into English from other languages" and are also said to promote the fiction of non English-speaking authors.

The first award is to be given for the first time to work published in 2010. The presentation is expected to be at the Eaton Conference <eaton-collection.ucr.edu/TheEatonConference.htm>. There are two award categories, long form (≥40,000 words) and short form. The winning translator and author will both receive a trophy and cash prize.

CLARKE AWARD LOSES FUNDING

The Arthur C. Clarke Award <www.clarkeaward.com> (for the best science fiction novel whose UK first edition was published in the previous calendar year) will present its 25th prize later this year, but has reached somewhat of a critical point.

Director Tom Hunter has written an open letter <tinyurl.com/ClarkeBucks> to "all fans of Science Fiction" discussing issues with the award's "vulnerability" to change at various points in its history, especially in terms of its reliance on volunteer governance and its historic lack of core financial stability in terms of assets, revenue generation or its ability to capitalise on far reaching fundraising or partnership opportunities."

What does that mean? It boils down in part to losing funding for the cash prize, formerly provided by Rocket Publishing. That company will be ceasing operation subsequent to the 2008 death of its principal Sir Arthur Clarke.

Hunter says that some steps have been taken to assure continuity of the Clarke Award in 2012 and beyond but is also calling for input on the future of the award. He can be contacted by email <ClarkeAward@gmail.com>, or via LinkedIn <www.linkedin.com/in/tihunter>, or on Twitter <www.twitter.com/clarkeaward>.

Letter of Comment

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

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Canada M9C 2B2

26 December 2010

Christmas has come and gone, and it was great this year... everything we wanted and needed and more. It's been tough with reduced hours and a layoff, but we're usually pretty good this time of year, so we're getting by. Hope you all got what you wanted. There's a little time today to get some writing done, and get something ready for the December *Shuttle* just before the deadline.

Every time I see the letters ATMM, I think of cash machines... that's just me, and some fatigue to go with it.

The 30th ISDC is back in Huntsville? I've only been to one, the one a few years ago in Dallas, and it was a fun time. I think Yvonne's not as interested in the ISDCs as she used to be... they are quite political, and non-Americans seemed to be a

curiosity. Something to celebrate Confederation? If it's in Reno, I'd like to be there. We were more involved with masquerades back then, and instead of competing, we worked the stage. We enjoyed ourselves, and wish Worldcon could return to Atlanta without running into DragonCon.

Hello, PieEyed! Quite the mental conversation here. Not only does it explain a lot, but fills a few holes, and advances the plot along quite nicely. Distrust of a dragon seems quite regular in everyday life in Middle-Earth, but that may only be because of rumour and legend. And a Tolkien book or two.

To Sheryl... Yvonne and I did receive our Aurora pins at SFCon-tario in November. The pins are meant as an honour and catch-up for all past nominees in the 30-year history of the Aurora Awards. The pin we did receive was silver, and in that shape on page 7, but the word AURORA was not engraved on it. We confirmed that a single pin will go to all past nomi-

nees, no matter how many times you've been nominated. I've been nominated for an Aurora 18 times, and have won twice. From now on, any nominees will receive a nomination pin, like the Hugos give out, but it will be a different design, and I think a little smaller. The silver pins we got are one-of-a-kind, and will not be reissued. Sheryl, you mentioned your Hugo pin... I am told that my Hugo pin and certificate are still on the way to me. I had hoped to get it for Christmas.

Speaking of which, I hope all had a wonderful time this Christmas, and that we can all face the new year with some satisfaction and hope. Take care everyone, and let's all have that prosperous 2011 we're all hoping for.

[NASFAns have been affected by the Great Recession just about in proportion to the populace as a whole so, yep, a better 2011 would be good. I too, was a little surprised to hear of the ISDC in Huntsville—not, I hasten to add, because it's an odd idea; only because it was less than 6 months out when I heard of it. So you were working the Masquerade at Confederation? Thanks for helping put on a good show. That was the one program event I blocked off as a Must Attend and just about the only one I got to... co-head of at-con Reg pretty much ate my con. I did get to a few parties after those long days on my feet, but I was just a *bit* younger then and had more stamina. -ED]



Feed your kids the Arts. Studies have shown that involvement in the arts helps kids increase test scores and promotes academic achievement. For 10 Simple Ways to get more art into your child's life, visit AmericansForTheArts.org.





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 The NASFA Shuttle is the newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, Inc. This is the January 2011 edition (Volume 31, Number 1). NASFA Officers for 2011: President Mary Lampert; Vice President Mike Kennedy; Secretary Steve Sloan; Treasurer Sam Smith; Program Director Wyman Cooke; Publicity Director Maria Grim. Shuttle Editor Mike Kennedy.
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ConStellation XXX: Corona Borealis
16–18 September 2011
Holiday Inn Express, Huntsville AL
Check the updated website www.con-stellation.org