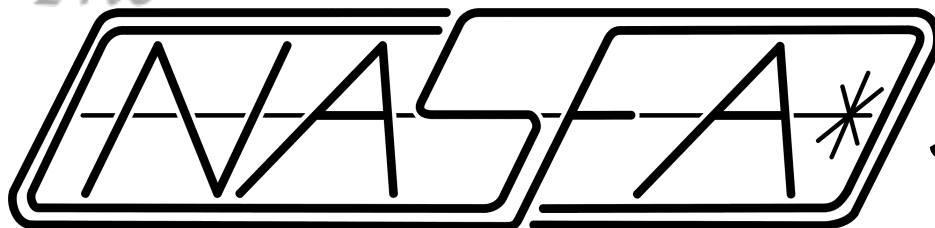


The



Shuttle
March 2011

The Next NASFA Meeting is 19 March 2011 at the Regular Time and Location

Con†Stellation XXX ConCom Meeting 3P, 19 March

! Oyez, Oyez !

The next **NASFA Meeting** will be Saturday **19 March 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.

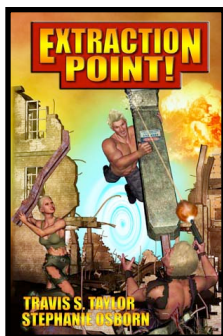
MARCH PROGRAM

NASFA's March program will be "Behind the Science of *Extraction Point*," presented by Stephanie Osborn. *Extraction Point* is Stephanie's latest book, co-authored with Travis S. "Doc" Taylor. It's due to be released in April.

CONCOM MEETINGS

The next Con†Stellation XXX concom meeting will be this month, at 3P on the same day as the club meeting (the 19th). 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.

ATMM

The March After-The-Meeting Meeting will be at Adam and Maria Grim's house—2117 Buckingham Drive SW in Huntsville. See the map below. The usual NASFA rules apply, to wit, please bring your preferred drink plus a food item to share.

Map To ATMM Location

Adam & Maria Grim
2117 Buckingham Drive
Huntsville AL 35803

The turn onto English
Drive is about 4 miles
south of the turn from
Airport Road onto
Memorial Parkway

English Drive

Buckingham
Drive

Picadilly Lane

Memorial Parkway

Continuing Our 31st Year of Publication

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Deadline for the April 2011 issue of The NASFA Shuttle is Friday 1 April 2011

FUTURE PROGRAMS AND ATMMs

ATMM locations have been chosen for April (Doug & Mary Lampert's house) and June (Russell McNutt's house). We are seeking ATMM volunteers for May, July, and most months beyond.

Programs for further months are being developed.

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

2011 NASFA meetings are scheduled 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

RENO WORLDCON GETS (MORE) DEMENTED

Renovation, the 69th World Science Fiction Convention—to be held 17–21 August 2011 in Reno NV—has announced that Dr. Demento will be making a special appearance as part of their opening night celebration, Music Night.

For more information about Dr. Demento and his erstwhile radio (now online) show check online at <www.dremento.com>.

ATLANTA WORLDCON GETS REMEMBERED

ConFederation, Atlanta's one and only Worldcon, is making a minor comeback in the form of a one-day 25th Anniversary Celebration. M. Lee Rogers and Ron Zukowski are organizing the bash to be held Saturday 18 June 2011 at the Embassy Suites Alpharetta (Atlanta area).

Attendance (cost: \$20, with exceptions) is basically limited to folks with some connection to ConFederation, though they accept "references" so pretty much anyone is invited if they make an effort. For more info or to join contact M.L. Rogers, 331 Celestial Lane, Hixson, TN 37343-5810

TEXAS REMEMBERS WORLDCON PAPERWORK

The Texas in 2013 <www.texas2013.org> Worldcon bid has filed the required paperwork to be listed on the Site Selection ballot for that year.



The vote will be administered by this year's Worldcon (Reno). The bid is for San Antonio on the Labor

Day weekend, Thursday 29 August–Monday 2 September 2013.

The voting rules do not allow online voting, but advance voting is normally available by mail. Voting will continue at the Reno con.

RENO SETS DEALERS ROOM RATE

Renovation has set the rate for their Dealers Room at \$250 per table (plus the usual stipulation that dealers/helpers must be convention members). They plan to have about 200 tables in the room. More info is available at <www.renovationsf.org/dealers.php> or by emailing <dealers@renovationsf.org>.

ANALOG GOES DIGITAL

Sf mag *Analog* has started accepting (and preferring) online electronic story submissions. You can find more details at

<analog.magazinesubmissions.com>—among which you'll see that they accept only Word (.doc) files.

ROYAL MAIL GETS MAGICAL

The UK's Royal Mail has released a series of "Magical Realms" stamps <www.tinyurl.com/RMMagic> honoring British magical figures from the fantasy novels of C.S. Lewis, Terry Pratchett, and J.R. Rowling; as well as figures from the Arthurian legend. The set is heavily influenced by recent movies with Sir Michael Gambon and Ralph Fiennes appearing in character as Dumbledore and Voldemort from the *Harry Potter* movies and Tilda Swinton "reprising" her role as Narnia's White Witch. Even the drawing of Aslan seems to be from the recent movie version.

TWITTERER = HUGO NOMINEE?

Would you nominate a Twitter feed for a Hugo? And if so, in what category?

During the recent Chicago mayoral race a tweeter posing as an alternate universe version of then candidate (now mayor) Rahm Emanuel <@mayoremanuel>. Quoting from a blog on the *Publishers Weekly* website "The feed was a non-stop stream of obscenity, Chicago in-jokes, politics, and pure far-out wackiness. His companions included a pet duck (named Quaxelrod after Emanuel staffer David Axelrod) and his adventures involved sleeping in igloos, crowd-surfing up to the stage to give his mayoral acceptance speech, and being taken to the secret celery farm on top of City Hall."

Obviously a fantasy, but whose?

February Minutes

by Steve Sloan, Secretary

The February meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, February 19, 2011 in the Renasant Bank meeting room at 6:18:23P by President Mary Lampert. The crickets live, and their performance was greeted by applause. Sam's co-worker's wife and son were in attendance, so all attendees made their introductions.

OLD BUSINESS

Who hasn't paid dues yet? Sam read a list.

There was no new information from the hotel committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Jack reminded the club that the Bailey Cove Science Fiction Book Club will be discussing *Lud-in-the-Mist* by Hope Mirreles on the first Thursday in March. In April, there will be a discussion of *Burnout* by Stephanie Osborn, which the author will be attending. Stephanie will also be speaking at the NASFA program next month.

Maria and Jack need help with Publicity, especially web stuff. Any volunteers?

Sam gave all vaguely spammish emails to Anita, so we wouldn't be hearing about them that night.

CONVENTION BUSINESS

According to Con†Stellation XXX con chair Anita, "there will be a convention." She still didn't officially know about the hotel. There will be food, T-shirts, and money, as well.

According to Con†Stellation XXXI con chair Mike K., nothing had happened so far on next year's con. He had no list of guests in mind, so he would like club members to email him suggestions. He also had no constellation name in mind, so suggestions are welcome.

Because no one should be in a particular con guest slot more than once, there are no slots left for Toni Weisskopf. She's been every type of guest of honor but Artist at Con†Stellation. [Hey,

Sam moved to adjourn at 6:33:20P.

NASFA Calendar

02 BD: Ronnie Lajoie.
03 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Lud-in-the-Mist*,
Hope Mirrlees; 6P.
04-06 StellarCon 35—High Point, NC.
09 BD: Tracey Kennedy.
10 BD: Kerry Gilley.
11-13 CoastCon—Biloxi MS.
11-13 Game Days 6—Nashville TN.
12-13 MomoCon—Atlanta GA.
13 Daylight Saving Time begins.
13 BD: Anita Eisenberg.
15 BD: Carlo DeShouten.
16-20 International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts
32—Orlando FL.
17 St. Patrick's Day.
19* Con+Stellation XXX Concom Meeting—3P; at Re-
nant Bank.
19* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Re-
nant Bank. Program: "Behind the Science of *Extrac-
tion Point*," Stephanie Osborn. ATMM: Maria and
Adam Grim's house.
20 First day of Spring.
22 BD: Jayson Woosley.
25-27 MidSouthCon 29—Memphis TN.
25-27 AggieCon 42—College Station TX.
25-27 BabelCon—Baton Rouge LA.
27 British Summer Time begins.

29 Arbor Day.
30 BD: Mark Maxwell.

01 BD: Russell McNutt.
01 May Day (traditional).
02 May Day (observed).
03 BD: Martha Knowles.
05 Cinco de Mayo.
TBD Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: TBD; 6P.
08 Mothers' Day.
13-15 Gaylaxicon—Atlanta GA
13-15 Tiger Con—Memphis TN
13-15 Full Moon Horror Festival—Nashville TN
14 BD: Debbie Hughes.
16 BD: Linda Bolgeo.
19 BD: David O. Miller.
19-22 Nebula Awards Weekend—Washington DC.
20 BD: Mike Glicksohn.
20-22 Dicehead SIEGE—Chattanooga TN
20-22 Mobicon—Mobile AL
20-22 ImagiCon—Birmingham AL
21* Tentative Con+Stellation XXX Concom Meeting—3P;
at Renasant Bank.
21* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Renasant
Bank. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
21 Armed Forces Day.
23 Victoria Day (Fête de la Reine) (Canada).
27 BD: Kathy Paulk.
27-29 Rocket City Furmeet 9—Huntsville AL
27-29 Oasis 24—Orlando FL
27-29 TimeGate—Orlando GA
30 Memorial Day.

02 BD: Lloyd Penney.
TBD Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: TBD; 6P.
03-05 ConCarolinas—Charlotte NC.
03-05 HeroesCon—Charlotte NC.
03-05 HamaCon 2—Huntsville AL.
03-05 Seishun-Con—Atlanta GA.
10-12 Sci Fi Summer Con—Atlanta GA
13 BD: Bill S.
14 Flag Day.
14 BD: Ali Scanland.
16-19 Stoker Weekend—Long Island NY.
17 BD: Jeff Freeman.
17-19 Faerie Escape—Atlanta GA.
17-19 Comic & Anime Con—Knoxville TN.
18* Tentative Con+Stellation XXX Concom Meeting—3P,
at Renasant Bank.
18* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Re-
nasant Bank. Program: TBD.,ATMM: Russell McNutt's
house.
19 Fathers' Day.
21 BD: PieEvedDragon.

3

Winners and “Winners” and Berries, Oh My!

THE RAZZIE AWARDS

The 31st Annual Golden Raspberry Awards (“affectionally” called the Razzies) <www.razzies.com> were announced at “satirical ceremonies” held 7:30P (Pacific) Saturday 26 February 2011, at Barnsdall Gallery Theatre in Hollywood. As is the tradition, this was the night before “those other awards”—the Oscars. The Razzies were selected by the 637 voting members of The Golden Raspberry Award Foundation (of which you may become a member by paying dues; just check the web-site).

The Razzies (for the one reader who may not know) “honor” the “Berry Worst Achievements in Film” for the previous year (in this case, 2010). Sf/f/h genre films were reasonably well represented in the nominations this year, though perhaps a bit off the several “high” water marks left by previous crops of “wonderful” genre films.

Razzie categories are a little different from most award shows, including “those other awards.” The biggest difference is that in the people-oriented categories (acting and directing in particular) a person can be “honored” for their work in multiple films in a given year. This makes tallying the “winning” films a bit harder than it might otherwise be. Nonetheless, your editor bravely plunges on to reveal the night’s biggest genre “winners.”

Well, OK, biggest “winner”—singular.

The Last Airbender “won” (or shared the “win”) for Worst Picture, Worst Supporting Actor (Jackson Rathbone), Worst Eye-Gouging Mis-Use of 3-D (a special category for 2010), Worst Director (M. Night Shyamalan), and Worst Screenplay (written by M. Night Shyamalan, based on the TV series created by Michael Dante Dimartino and Brian Konietzko). The 5 (or, if you prefer 4½) “wins” by *TLA* didn’t come close to setting a record, though his 2 did help “repeat offender” M. Night Shyamalan move up a little on the all-time Razzie list.

One of the big Razzie “disappointments” for genre films this year was *Twilight Saga: Eclipse*, which had tied *TLA* with nine nominations. But *TSE* pulled off only a single half-win, for Jackson Rathbone whose Worst Supporting Actor “honors” were split between *TSE* and *TLA*.

And that, thankfully, closes out the list of “winning” genre films in this year’s Razzies.

The second biggest Razzie “winner” was non-genre *Sex & The City 2*, which took home 3 trophies—for Worst Actress (a 4-way tie for the leads), Worst Screen Couple or Ensemble (for the entire cast), and Worst Prequel, Remake, Rip-Off, or Sequel.

THE ACADEMY AWARDS

The Oscars are never as kind (or is that “kind”?) to sf/f/h films as are the Razzies... but genre films managed to walk off with a quite few little golden naked men. The 83rd Academy Awards were announced and presented in a ceremony broadcast from Hollywood’s Kodak Theatre Sunday 27 February 2011.

Inception walked the genre talk by taking top honors in 4 categories—Cinematography (Wally Pfister), Visual Effects (Paul Franklin, Chris Corbould, Andrew Lockley, and Peter



Bebb), Sound Editing (Richard King), and Sound Mixing (Lora Hirschberg, Gary A. Rizzo, and Ed Novick).

Both *Toy Story 3* and *Alice in Wonderland* copped two wins, the former for Animated Feature Film and Original Song (*We Belong Together*, Music and Lyric: Randy Newman) and the latter for Costume Design (Colleen Atwood) and Art Direction (Production Design: Robert Stromberg; Set Decoration: Karen O'Hara).

Three genre films won an Oscar apiece. *The Wolfman* took the Makeup award (Rick Baker and Dave Elsey). The two Short Film honors—Live Action and Animated—went to *God of Love* (Luke Matheny) and *The Lost Thing* (Shaun Tan and Andrew Ruhemann) respectively.

There were 24 Oscars given at the ceremony. Discounting the two Documentary categories that leaves 22 for films involving fiction. Genre films took home 11 Oscars or a cool 50% of the applicable categories. Unfortunately (but not surprisingly) that didn't include any of the 6 headline categories—Best Lead/Supporting Actor/Actress, Best Director, and Best Picture—but it's hard to argue too much with taking half the available trophies.

Nebula (et al.) Awards Noms

The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfwaweb.org> has announced the nominees for the 2010 Nebula Awards and other SFWA awards. These awards are voted on, and presented by, active members of SFWA. The winners will be announced at the Nebula Awards Banquet <www.sfwaweb.org/nebula-weekend/registration> on the Saturday of Nebula Awards Weekend, to be held 19–22 May at the Washington Hilton in Washington DC. By category, the nominees are:

SHORT STORY NEBULA NOMINATIONS

“Arvies,” Adam-Troy Castro (*Lightspeed Magazine* August 2010)

“How Interesting: A Tiny Man,” Harlan Ellison (*Realms of Fantasy* February 2010)

“Ponies,” Kij Johnson (Tor.com 17 January 2010)

“I’m Alive, I Love You, I’ll See You in Reno,” Vylar Kaftan (*Lightspeed Magazine* June 2010)

“The Green Book,” Amal El-Mohtar (*Apex Magazine* 1 November 2010)

“Ghosts of New York,” Jennifer Pelland (*Dark Faith*)

“Conditional Love,” Felicity Shoulders (*Asimov’s Science Fiction Magazine* January 2010)

NOVELETTE NEBULA NOMINATIONS

“Map of Seventeen,” Christopher Barzak (*The Beastly Bride*)

“The Jaguar House, in Shadow,” Aliette de Bodard (*Asimov’s Science Fiction Magazine* July 2010)

“The Fortuitous Meeting of Gerard van Oost and Oludara,” Christopher Kastensmidt (*Realms of Fantasy* April 2010)

“Plus or Minus,” James Patrick Kelly (*Asimov’s Science Fiction Magazine* December 2010)

“Pishaach,” Shweta Narayan (*The Beastly Bride*)

“That Leviathan, Whom Thou Hast Made,” Eric James Stone (*Analog Science Fiction and Fact* September 2010)

“Stone Wall Truth,” Caroline M. Yoachim (*Asimov’s Science Fiction Magazine* February 2010)

NOVELLA NEBULA NOMINATIONS

The Alchemist, Paolo Bacigalupi (Audible; Subterranean)

“Iron Shoes,” J. Kathleen Cheney (*Alembical 2*)

The Lifecycle of Software Objects, Ted Chiang (Subterranean)

- "The Sultan of the Clouds," Geoffrey A. Landis (*Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine* September 2010)
 "Ghosts Doing the Orange Dance," Paul Park (*The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction* January–February 2010)
 "The Lady Who Plucked Red Flowers beneath the Queen's Window," Rachel Swirsky (*Subterranean Magazine* Summer 2010)

NOVEL NEBULA NOMINATIONS

- The Native Star*, M.K. Hobson (Spectra)
The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms, N.K. Jemisin (Orbit UK; Orbit US)
Shades of Milk and Honey, Mary Robinette Kowal (Tor)
Echo, Jack McDevitt (Ace)
Who Fears Death, Nnedi Okorafor (DAW)
Blackout/All Clear, Connie Willis (Spectra)

THE RAY BRADBURY AWARD NOMINATIONS

FOR OUTSTANDING DRAMATIC PRESENTATION

- Despicable Me*, Directed by Pierre Coffin and Chris Renaud, Screenplay by Ken Daurio and Cinco Paul, Story by Sergio Pablos (Illumination Entertainment)
Doctor Who, "Vincent and the Doctor," Written by Richard Curtis, Directed by Jonny Campbell
How to Train Your Dragon, Directed by Dean DeBlois and Chris Sanders, Screenplay by William Davies, Dean DeBlois, and Chris Sanders (DreamWorks Animation)
Inception, Directed by Christopher Nolan, Screenplay by Christopher Nolan (Warner)
Scott Pilgrim vs. the World, Directed by Edgar Wright, Screenplay by Michael Bacall and Edgar Wright (Universal)
Toy Story 3, Directed by Lee Unkrich, Screenplay by Michael Arndt, Story by John Lasseter, Andrew Stanton, and Lee Unkrich (Pixar/Disney)

ANDRE NORTON AWARD NOMINATIONS

FOR YOUNG ADULT SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY

- Ship Breaker*, Paolo Bacigalupi (Little, Brown)
White Cat, Holly Black (McElderry)
Mockingjay, Suzanne Collins (Scholastic Press; Scholastic UK)
Hereville: How Mirka Got Her Sword, Barry Deutsch (Amulet)
The Boy from Ilysies, Pearl North (Tor Teen)
I Shall Wear Midnight, Terry Pratchett (Gollancz; Harper)
A Conspiracy of Kings, Megan Whalen Turner (Greenwillow)
Behemoth, Scott Westerfeld (Simon Pulse; Simon & Schuster UK)

Stoker Nominations

The Horror Writers Association <www.horror.org> has announced the Final Ballot for the 2010 Bram Stoker Awards. Winners (styled as for Superior Achievement) are selected by HWA members and will be announced at the Stoker Weekend <www.stokerweekend2011.org>, to be held 16–19 June 2011 in Long Island NY. By category, the nominees are:

STOKER NOVEL NOMINEES

- Horns*, Joe Hill (William Morrow)
Rot and Ruin, Jonathan Maberry (Simon & Schuster)
Dead Love, Linda Watanabe McFerrin (Stone Bridge Press)
Apocalypse of the Dead, Joe McKinney (Pinnacle)
Dweller, Jeff Strand (Leisure/Dark Regions Press)
A Dark Matter, Peter Straub (DoubleDay)

STOKER FIRST NOVEL NOMINEES

- Black and Orange*, Benjamin Kane Ethridge (Bad Moon Books)
A Book of Tongues, Gemma Files (ChiZine)

- Castle of Los Angeles*, Lisa Morton (Gray Friar)
Spellbent, Lucy Snyder (Del Rey)

STOKER LONG FICTION NOMINEES

- The Painted Darkness*, Brian James Freeman (Cemetery Dance)
 "Dissolution," Lisa Mannetti (*Deathwatch*, Shadowfall Publications)
 "Monsters Among Us," Kirstyn McDermott (*Macabre: A Journey through Australia's Darkest Fears*, Brimstone Press)
The Samhanach, Lisa Morton (Bad Moon Books)
Invisible Fences, Norman Prentiss (Cemetery Dance)

STOKER SHORT FICTION NOMINEES

- "Return to Mariabronn," Gary Braunbeck (*Haunted Legends*, Tor Books)
 "The Folding Man," Joe R. Lansdale (*Haunted Legends*, Tor)
 "1925: A Fall River Halloween," Lisa Mannetti (*Shroud Magazine* #10)
 "In the Middle of Poplar Street," Nate Southard (*Dead Set: A Zombie Anthology*, 23 House)
 "Final Draft," Mark W. Worthen (*Horror Library IV*, Cutting Block Press)

STOKER ANTHOLOGY NOMINEES

- Dark Faith*, Maurice Broaddus and Jerry Gordon, eds. (Apex)
Horror Library IV, R.J. Cavender and Boyd E. Harris, eds. (Cutting Block Press)
Macabre: A Journey Through Australia's Darkest Fears, Angela Challis and Marty Young, eds. (Brimstone Press)
Haunted Legends, Ellen Datlow and Nick Mamatas, eds. (Tor)
The New Dead, Christopher Golden, ed. (St. Martin's Griffin)

STOKER COLLECTION NOMINEES

- Occultation*, Laird Barron (Night Shade Books)
Blood and Gristle, Michael Louis Calvillo (Bad Moon Books)
Full Dark, No Stars, Stephen King (Simon & Schuster)
The Ones That Got Away, Stephen Graham Jones (Prime Books)
A Host of Shadows, Harry Shannon (Dark Regions)

STOKER NON-FICTION NOMINEES

- To Each Their Darkness*, Gary A. Braunbeck (Apex)
The Conspiracy Against the Human Race, Thomas Ligotti (Hippocampus)
Wanted Undead or Alive, Jonathan Maberry & Janice Gable Bashman (Citadel)
Listen to the Echoes: The Ray Bradbury Interviews, Sam Weller (Melville House)

STOKER POETRY COLLECTION NOMINEES

- Dark Matters*, Bruce Boston (Bad Moon Books)
Wild Hunt of the Stars, Ann K. Schwader (Sam's Dot)
Diary of a Gentleman Diabolist, Robin Spriggs (Anomalous Books)
Vicious Romantic, Wrath James White (Needfire Poetry)

Awards Roundup

SPECTRUM AWARD WINNERS

Winners of the 18th annual Spectrum Awards <www.spectrumfantasticart.com> (for excellence in sf/f art) were chosen Saturday 12 March 2011. The adjudicated awards were chosen by Julie Bell, Nathan Fox, Gregory Manchess, Brandon Shiflett, Jarrod Shiflett, Boris Vallejo, and Shena Wolf. By category, the winners (and runners up) are:

Concept Art Gold **Kekai Kotaki**, *Riven Earth*
Concept Art Silver Tomaz Jedruszek, *Legends of Norrath*

Dimensional Gold **David Meng**
 Dimensional Silver Akihito
Comics Gold **Rebecca Guay**, *A Flight of Angels*
 Comics Silver (tie) David Palumbo, *Sleep* and
 Joao Ruass, *Fables* 96
Books Gold **David Palumbo**, *God's War*
 Books Silver Dan Dos Santos, *White Trash Zombie*
Advertising Gold **Ryohei Hase**, *Narco Americano*
 Advertising Silver Sam Weber, *The Fisherman's Wife*
Editorial Gold **Andrew Jones**, *Share One Planet*
 Editorial Silver Brom, *Redd Wing*
Institutional Gold **Richard Anderson**, *Knight March*
 Institutional Silver Donato Giancola, *Mind Machine*
Unpublished Gold **Rebecca Guay**, *Pandora*
 Unpublished Silver (tie) J.S. Rossbach, *White Heat* and
 Scott Brundage, *Tigers Have Striped Skin*

NAACP IMAGE AWARDS

The 42nd NAACP Image Awards <www.naacpimageawards.net/42/home>, (for outstanding achievements and performances of people of color in the arts) include one sf winner. **Denzel Washington** took home the Outstanding Actor In a Motion Picture prize for his work in *The Book of Eli*.

CLARKE AWARD SHORTLIST

The Arthur C. Clarke Award <www.clarkeaward.com> (for the best science fiction novel first published in the UK in the previous year) has announced their shortlist for 2011. Judges for the year are Jon Courtenay Grimwood and Martin Lewis (British Science Fiction Association), Phil Nanson and Liz Williams (Science Fiction Foundation), and Paul Skevington (website <SFCrownsnest.com>). Paul Billinger chairs the judges and represents the award administration. The nominees are:

Zoo City, Lauren Beukes (Angry Robot)
The Dervish House, Ian McDonald (Gollancz)
Monsters of Men, Patrick Ness (Walker Books)
Generosity, Richard Powers (Atlantic Books)
Declare, Tim Powers (Corvus)
Lightborn, Tricia Sullivan (Orbit)

LIBERTARIAN HoF FINALISTS

The Libertarian Futurist Society <www.lfs.org> has announced the finalists in their annual Hall of Fame category. The winner will be chosen by a vote of the LFS membership and will be announced at this year's Worldcon. The nominees are:

"The Machine Stops," E.M. Forster
 "As Easy as A.B.C.," Rudyard Kipling
 Animal Farm, George Orwell
 "Repent Harlequin, Said the Ticktockman," Harlan Ellison
Falling Free, Lois McMaster Bujold

OSCARS TOUCH FANDOM/PRODOM

At least one of this year's Oscar winners has roots in the sf community. *The Lost Thing* was the winner in the Animated Short Film category for filmmaker Shaun Tan (and British producer Andrew Ruehmann). Tan was a Guest of Hono(u)r at this past year's Worldcon in Australia and is a winner of numerous awards in the field including one Hugo, three World Fantasy Awards, and a dozen other awards.

WFA NAMES JUDGES

The World Fantasy Awards <www.worldfantasy.org/awards> administrators have announced the judges for the 2011 awards. The panel is Andrew Hook, Sacha Mamczak, Mark Rich, Sean Wallace, and Kim Wilkins. Books for consideration need to be submitted to each judge and WFA Prez Peter Dennis Pautz, President. See the website for addresses and more details.

DICKS NEED JUDGES TOO

The list of judges for the Philip K. Dick Award <www.philipkdickaward.org> (for distinguished science fiction pub-

lished in paperback original form in the United States) has been updated. Judges for books published in 2011 (award year 2012) will be Scott Baker, Mark Budz, Roby James, Darrell Schweitzer, and Alice K. Turner.

The Dark Essence of Blackroot!

No Need for a Ring—Chapter 35
 by PieEyedDragon

[Editor's Note: This is the eighth chapter in the third part of the NNFAR series—*The Thing Goes South*—and is thus numbered as Chapter 8 in some places. The *Shuttle* is serializing the entire tale and chooses to use the alternate sequential chapter numbering system.]

I notice that Captain Bergil had dropped a large cloth bag near the beacon pile. I cross through the veil and examine it. Opened, it contained a quantity of fine, dry tinder. I shake out the bag and roll it up, tying it around one toe. I may have need of this. I cross back through the Veil and launch myself back out over the western face of the mountain. Three more hours toward the westerling sun brings me back to the Vale of Morthond. I pass over the Stone of Erech, a wilderness in the otherwise fertile and well-populated valley. Few folk lived hereabout because of the lingering memory of the dead oathbreakers, so it was said; I continue north. I follow the River Blackroot (Morthond) until I reach a narrow chasm and land. I am glad to alight. My wing joints and muscles need more practice carrying my increased mass. I continue walking upstream along the remains of the old road until I reach my next destination, the southern gate of the Paths of the Dead. The last few miles, though, still show no signs of permanent habitation. Just a few abandoned huts and fields.

This subterranean realm had been emptied when Aragorn had called the spirits forth to fulfill their oath. Soon after, they had departed this world entirely.

Followers of Morgoth in the First Age; they had readily worshipped Sauron in the Second; details unknown to my "sponsors." Their false oath of fealty to Isildur and the Númenóreans had been their undoing. This Haunted Mountain, Dwimorberg; was officially haunted no longer. Yet, with the setting of the sun I become aware of a trace of dark Power flowing from this gate. The Paths of the Dead are *not* empty! Too, this river had a familiar taint. I shall rest and watch here, tonight, and enter the portal on the morrow.

— O — O — O —

September twenty-third dawns overcast, though I actually see little of the sky because of the narrow ravine I share with the road and the stream. I spend half an hour initiating a spell to permit detection and communication with any strong spirits. No brandy involved, more's the pity. I also extend my new wings up above the clouds, like a deep flower, and funnel a flood of morning light down onto my body, preparing for the dark places. Though I walk in this valley of the shadow of the dead, I shall be the toughest being in the valley! My glow provides some illumination as I begin navigating the broad tunnel. By the signs, this tunnel began as a narrow cave, through which a stream flowed. The rough stonework showed that Dwarves did not widen this passage. I pass through wider caverns, with a few side passages. Ancient traces of men are scattered here and there. No spirits are about, but some dark power lies somewhere ahead.

— O — O — O —

Legolas, Gimli, and the grey company had remembered few details of this dark way, but I have reached one of the exceptions. Scattered human bones, armor, and a broken sword lie here before a closed stone door. The door has a bad feel. Manifesting over the human remains, I perceive, is a lone spirit. A Man, a warrior, faces the door with palms extended, in the stance of one holding something closed! Even as ghosts go, this one looked... very tired. His accoutrements appear to match those scattered among the remains at his... feet? I cannot tell if he is even aware of me. His attention is entirely on the door. I have to know why.

— O — O — O —

PED: Baldor, son of Brego: Why do you tarry here? Your father died of grief at your loss.

Baldor: (Weakly) Oath of Eorl... my grandfather... protect Gondor... from... enemies.

PED: I sense a dark power beyond this door. Does this door restrain an enemy of Gondor?

Baldor: Not the door... me... Tried to... jam sword... gravel... into joint.

PED: What enemy lies beyond?

Baldor: Monster... servant of... the Dark Lords.

PED: You mean, Sauron? He was overthrown more than a century ago.

Baldor: Both... Dark... Lords. Sauron... and... the one... before... *him*!

PED: What! A werewolf?

Baldor: Worse... more... terrible! Fearsome... yet... fair... sometimes.

(The conversation appears to be weakening the spirit.) PED: Faithful warrior, you have held the enemy beyond all reason. Relief has arrived. Let me pass.

Baldor: I... cannot... stop... you... but... beware... of... shadows.

(I reach past the ghost, and press upon the door with increasing force. It gradually begins to grind open. I squeeze through.) [Some of the above beings and situations have been suggested by the works of J.R.R. Tolkien (But you already knew that, didn't you?)]

Letters of Comment

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

Lloyd Penney
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Canada M9C 2B2

25 February 2011

Another *Shuttle* has been downloaded, the February issue, and I will now hereby attempt another letter of comment, degree of difficult 3.5. With a tummy tuck and three-quarter turn, no less...

The FAAn Awards... the full details are at the Corflu website. I finished a distant second to Robert Lichtman for the Warner Award. There's always next year, and next year's Corflu will be in Las Vegas. As far as TAFF goes, I've already voted...

Bankruptcies are unfortunately true here... H.B. Fenn has indeed gone into bankruptcy. The company has dealt a lot with our annual SF convention, Ad Astra, in the past, and we met

Harold Fenn years ago. I am sure lots of people are a little surprised by this, and there must be some who saw it coming, seeing there are now more downloads than books sold. This is probably responsible for Borders going bankrupt, too.

It is certainly award season again... the Auroras won't be handed out until November, though. I don't know if I will be eligible for any award this year, but we will see what happens.

The local... hello, Sheryl! Yes, Borders is now gone. Is it that people don't like books, or they don't like reading at all, or they prefer downloads? There's a lot of moaning and groaning about new Hugo categories, but this year, the Aurora administrators have announced there are three new Aurora categories, all fan oriented. No moaning here. I did get my Hugo certificate and pin, and I am pleased, and hopes are high for Reno.

Corflu was indeed webcast on Ustream, and finally, with high-speed internet, I had some fun, even if I wasn't there.

A short letter, but I think I've covered it all. We are now preparing for two green rooms we're running, one at Ad Astra this year, and the other three weeks afterwards, at the Canadian National Steampunk Exhibition, both in Toronto and area. Should be some fun, I hope. Take care, see you next issue.

[I see from a posting on File 770 <www.file770.com> that next year's Corflu <www.corflu.org/about.html> is to be known as Corflu Glitter. Um, interesting choice of title. Then again, it is in Las Vegas and since it's the fourth one located in that burg perhaps they had to go to "glitter" eventually. The good news in the bankruptcy department is that there apparently haven't been any new publishing-related ones of wide significance in the past month, but that's a pretty weak statement. As for book buying trends, I doubt there are any definitive statistics available. I did chase down one report <tinyurl.com/books0209> from the Association of American Publishers that found a compound *annual* growth rate of 1.1% for sales totals (in dollars, not units) from 2002–2009 in the markets they cover. I'd be more interested in unit sales over that time since that would take out both inflation (about 19% by the usual US definition, CPI-U) and changes in buying habits toward either more expensive forms (e.g., hardbacks) or less expensive forms (e.g., mass market paperbacks). There's also population growth to take into account. Based on this profound lack of analysis, it does seem likely that *per capita* unit sales of books *in the markets they covered* went down somewhat over the period. Does this apply to markets not covered by the AAP? I certainly don't know. -ED]

PCOC-PCOC-PCOC-PCOC-PCOC-PCOC-PCOC -PCOC

Sheryl Birkhead
25509 Jonnie Court
Gaithersburg MD 20882

4 March 2011

Chagrin—I was sure I'd responded to the February ish, but can't find any evidence to that fact.

I'm finishing my Hugo nomination ballot—hoping "you" are the same.

Sofa—well, out of curiosity I looked at the fanzine category notes with this year's ballot—granted I need to double check but it says "published"—has anyone defined that? Yeah—nit-picking. Honest—I can *not* assess how good it was/is because I could not "see" an issue—and I tried. *But* not the first fanzine winner that I couldn't evaluate.

Aha—this *will* get mailed before the March issue arrives.

[It's funny you should ask about the definition of "publish" (as

it applies to Hugo Awards) just now. There has been a kerfuffle on the SMOFS email list recently about just this question, albeit in the context of the Hugo fiction categories (think audio books) rather than the fanzine category. There's no definition of "publish" within the WSFS Constitution—than again there are any number of other words not defined that have caused controversy from time to time. There *is* a Ruling of Continuing Effect from the chair of the 2002 Business Meeting that reads,

in part, "The Chair ruled that... [t]he word 'published' as used in the Hugo Awards definitions should be interpreted in its technical sense under copyright law." See CH-2002-2 in the list of Resolutions [and Rulings] of Continuing Effect linked from <www.wsfs.org/bm>. (I've provided the link to the mother page since the link to the list itself may change—and resolutions & rulings be added or struck off—as minutes from successive Worldcons are incorporated.) The interpretation under copyright law is rather broad, and quite clearly includes recordings (both sound and visual) as "publications." It's notable, though, that the chair who made that ruling, Kevin Standlee, stated "That ruling is still there [...] and has never been explicitly overturned, *but there are individuals who have strenuously disagreed with this interpretation* [emphasis added]." This may be an understatement. So yes, Sheryl, the matter *has* been ruled on but many people do not consider it definitively settled. There is even a possible question about whether the chair of the Business Meeting, which derives its powers from the WSFS Constitution, has standing to make a ruling regarding interpretation of that Constitution. As for your (or anyone's) inability to judge a particular fanzine, I infer from what you said that you recognize that many people over the entire history of the Hugo Awards have nominated (and voted) without the opportunity to evaluate all the potential (or actual) nominees. It's unfortunate that there appears to be some technical barrier preventing you from listening to *StarShipSofa*, but of course there are many reasons someone may not read/see/hear/whatever a zine (or book or movie or whatever). Universal accessibility is not, and realistically cannot be, a prerequisite for Hugo consideration. -ED]



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NASFA, the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, is proud to present

Con†Stellation XXX: Corona Borealis

Hotel Information

We return to the Holiday Inn Express again this year. The hotel is located near the intersection of University Drive and Jordan Lane in Huntsville, at 3808 University Drive. Room rates are \$84, suites are \$120, (plus all applicable taxes) for 1-4 people per night. For reservations, call them at 1-800-345-7720 (which connects directly to this hotel) or the non toll free number 256-721-1000. You need to mention Con†Stellation for the convention hotel rate.

Before making reservations, those planning a room party should write to the general convention address, mark your request **Attention Room Party Coordination**, (please include SASF) so that we can assist in blocking you into the room party area, our room block is off by Mid-August so make your plans now. The closer to the convention dates we get the more we grow to LOVE your email requests.

Children's Information

Children fees, accompanied by paid adult:
Ages 0 to 3 (by 16 Sep 2011) Free
Ages 4 to 12 (by 16 Sep 2011) \$25.00
These rates apply regardless of when the membership is bought. Any child not accompanied by an adult will be charged the adult rate regardless of age, there are no exceptions!

Dealer Room

All dealers (and helpers) must purchase convention memberships.

Table Rate: \$60 for the first 6' table (includes 1 membership), \$40 for each additional 6' table (no membership).

Your requests for further information (please include SASF) and payment for tables should be mailed to the general convention address, marked **Attention Dealers Room** or for faster response, email dealers@con-stellation.org.

We are sorry but we can't hold tables for you without your advance payment.

Art Show and Auction

There is a \$20 hanging fee per 4' by 4' panel, or for each 6' - 3D table in the art show; this fee will be \$15 for attending artists. There is a \$2 fee for each print series and a limit of 10 series for our Print Shop. No commission is charged for sales in the art show or art auction. Sales tax will be collected from the buyer. Request further information or send payments to the address shown below (include SASF), please do not mail art to the convention P.O. Box or the address used in previous years; mail-in art uses the same address:

Con†Stellation Art Show
c/o Randy B. Cleary
8000 Madison Blvd
Ste D102 PMB 173
Madison AL 35758-2003
Email: rbcleary@bellouth.net
Call 256-772-3826 for quicker response.

Convention Policies

Con†Stellation's weapons policy allows the use of weapons as a part of Hall Costumes, in our Masquerade, and as display items in the Dealer Room. All weapons not used in these methods must be wrapped securely and taken by the member directly to her/his room or off hotel property. This is a "Lurk's Not Be Stupid" policy.

Programming

As always, we'll have programming sure to satisfy a wide variety of tastes. Whether it's a Science Panel, an Author Roundtable or Coffee Klatch, the Masquerade or our Art Auction; we hope you will find something to your interest at Con†Stellation. Don't forget our Dance on Friday Night; it's a loud but friendly gathering until late into the night with Adult Swim hours. There's almost always something that's entertaining to do at Con†Stellation! ©

Gaming

We are hoping to have another stellar year for gaming at Con†Stellation, please visit the web site for any details not found in this flyer. There

will be Killer Cut-Throat Spades, Board Games, and open tables for you to bring your own games, so please plan to have fun.

If you want to run a game please write to the general convention address marked **Attention Game Master** or use the Game Master's email gamemaster@con-stellation.org

Masquerade

Among the most popular events at any Con†Stellation is our Masquerade on Saturday evening. Costumes, whether novice or master, share their creations and walk the stage to an appreciative audience.

Our masquerade has a reputation for providing a low-stress, friendly environment for costumed and audience alike. Entries range from skits, recreations of your favorite character (original or from the media), visual puns, or simple walk-on presentations. All entries do require a costume.

How do I Sign Up?

There will be a sign-up sheet and information posted near the con's registration table. There is no entry fee. There will be a costumed "check-in" on Saturday evening in the hotel breakfast area, check your pocket program for the exact time and any last-minute changes will be posted near con registration.

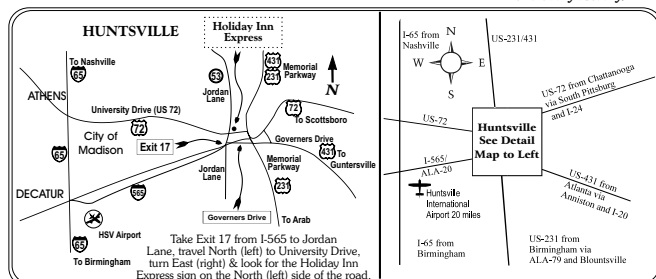
Volunteers

Conventions are run by volunteers and we would like you to join us. People are needed with various levels of convention experience. We're as busy as a hive in summer around here. We want you as a worker bee. Please write or email to the general convention address or you may call Anita Eisenberg at (256) 830-8907, between 2-4pm CT, no collect calls please.

Con Suite Treats

We serve one of the best selections of munchies in Southern fandom. What delicious surprises will next appear on our tables? Bring on the crock pots and learn to make a feast in the Con Prep Suite!

Let's Party Hearty!





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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