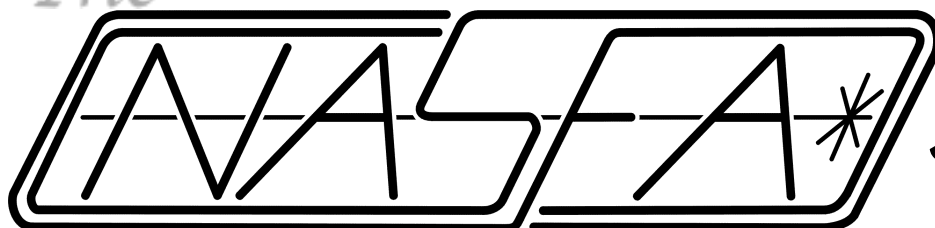


The



Shuttle

June 2013

The Next NASFA Meeting is Saturday 15 June 2013 at the Regular Location

ConCom Meeting 15 June 2013; see below for details

¡ Oyez, Oyez ¡

The next **NASFA Meeting** will be **Saturday 15 June 2013** at the regular meeting location—the Madison campus of Willowbrook Baptist Church (old Wilson Lumber Company building) at **7105 Highway 72W** (aka University Drive). Please see the map at right if you need help finding it.

JUNE PROGRAM

The June program is “Something Crafty This Way Comes.”

JUNE ATMM

The host and location for the June After-the-Meeting Meeting are undetermined at press time, though there’s a good chance it will be at the church. The usual rules apply—that is, please bring food to share and your favorite drink.

Also, assuming the ATMM is at the church, please stay to help clean up. We need to be good guests and leave things at least as clean as we found them.

CONCOM MEETINGS

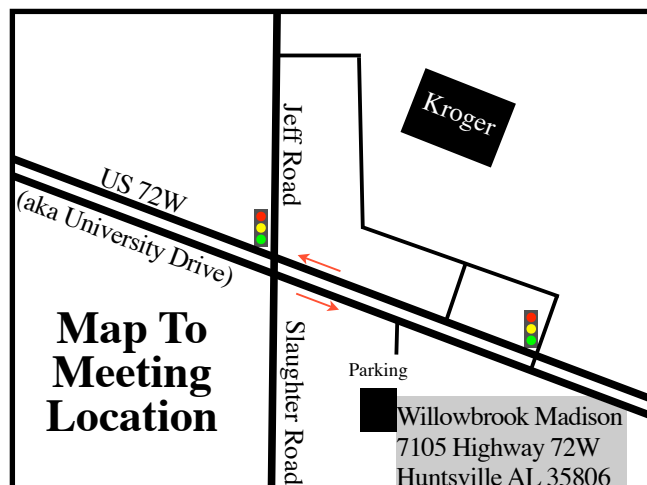
The next Con†Stellation XXXII concom meeting will be 3P Saturday 15 June 2013—the same day as the club meeting. At *Shuttle* press time the plan is to meet at the church. There will be a dinner break between the concom and club meetings.

The general plan going forward will be to have a concom meeting each club meeting Saturday, until we get close enough

to the con to need to accelerate that schedule. Generally these will be at the church when possible.

CHANGING SHUTTLE DEADLINES

The latest tweak to the *NASFA Shuttle* schedule shifted the *usual* repro date somewhat to the right (roughly the weekend before each meeting) but much of each issue will need to be put to bed as much as two weeks before the monthly meeting.



Continuing Our 33rd Year of Publication

Inside this issue...

News & Info	2
Minutes of the May Meeting (Not)	2
NASFA Calendar	2

DeepSouthCon 51/JordanCon 5 Review, by Sam Smith	3
Awards Roundup	5
No Need for a Ring—Chapter 42.....	7
Letters of Comment	7

Deadline for the July 2013 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Monday 1 July 2013

Please check the deadline below the Table of Contents *each month* to submit news, reviews, LoCs, or other material. We will generally need to enforce that deadline strictly.

FUTURE PROGRAMS AND ATMMs

Future programs include:

- July: Field trip to the Von Braun Astronomical Society Planetarium <www.vbas.org/index.php/planetarium> for “Life in the Universe” with Gena Crook. Stay tuned for further details.
- August: “Adding Bling to Your Costume” with Angela from Sci-Quest <sci-quest.org>.
- September: The More-Or-Less Annual NASFA Auction. Please start saving stuff to donate.
- October: Con†Stellation XXXII Post-Mortem.
- November: Max Rosenthal, a former manager on the Hubble program, shares personal stories and highlights of the Hubble development and its remarkable pictures.
- December: Holiday Party (volunteer host(s) needed).

We need ATMM volunteers for July and almost all future months. (November is tentatively spoken for, but otherwise it’s pretty much wide open.)

FUTURE CLUB MEETING DATES

Remaining NASFA meeting dates for 2013 are all scheduled for the normal 3rd Saturday.

JOINING THE NASFA EMAIL LIST

All NASFANs who have email are urged to join the NASFA email list, which you can do online at <tinyurl.com/NASFAEmail>. The list is usually low traffic, though the rate is rather variable. Generally the list is limited to announcements about club activities plus the occasional message of general interest to north-Alabama sf/f/h/etc. fans. Non NASFANs are welcome to join the list, but please only do so if you’re interested in the above restricted topics—posts unrelated to the those purposes are strongly discouraged and could result in you being asked to leave the list.

NASFA CALENDAR ONLINE

NASFA has an online calendar on Google. Interested parties can check the calendar online, but you can also subscribe to it 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. You can view the calendar online at <tinyurl.com/NASFACal>.

News & Info

HUGO VOTING STARTS; SOME STUMBLES

The final round of this year’s Hugo Awards voting is underway, but as *Shuttle* press time neared paper ballots <www.lonestarcon3.org/hugo-awards/final-ballot.pdf> were available. Online voting—promised for the end of May—was not, however, available as of the afternoon of 9 June.

Meanwhile, the now-traditional electronic packet of Hugo-nominated works <www.lonestarcon3.org/hugo-awards/packet.shtml> is available to Worldcon members. Since many people wait until the last minute to vote—the better to absorb the nominated works—the current lack of online voting will likely have little effect. At last report the online system had reached the testing stage within the committee. No matter how you vote the deadline is Wednesday 31 July 2013 at 11:59P CDT.

LONESTARCON 3 SETS DAY RATES

This year’s Worldcon has announced its rates for Day Admissions, Full details can be found at <tinyurl.com/LSC3DayRates>. The headline adult rate varies from \$30 (final

day) to \$50 (first day) to \$75 (3 central days). Child, YA, and Military single-day rates are also available.

These rates do not include voting rights (Hugo or Site Selection) or access to the electronic packet of Hugo nominated works.

SFWA SEXISM BLOWUP

The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfwawriters.org> has been a somewhat unexpected source of controversy recently. Interested readers are urged to check it out for themselves rather than have us perhaps oversimplify here. Just Google “SFWA sexism” to get a few tens of thousands of hits.

The controversy apparently started with a scale-mail bikini cover on the *SFWA Bulletin*, followed by objections to it, followed by some tone-deaf editorials. At *Shuttle* press time the latest development was the resignation of Jean Rabe as editor of the *Bulletin*.

May Minutes

It was a cookout, fer cripes sake... there are no minutes.

NASFA Calendar

JUNE

- 01–02 Lolita Convention—Atlanta GA.
- 02 BD: Lloyd Penney.
- 06 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Some Kind of Fairy Tale*, Graham Joyce; 6P.
- 07–09 Sci Fi Summer Con—Atlanta GA.
- 08–09 Con Kasterborous—Huntsville AL.
- 13 BD: Bill S.
- 13–16 World Horror Convention—New Orleans LA.
- 14–16 Hypericon—Nashville TN.
- 14–16 EyeCon: Zombie Apocalypse—Atlanta GA.
- 14–16 Rocket City FurMeet—Huntsville AL. **NOTE:** Cancelled for 2013; to be rescheduled for 2014.
- 14 Flag Day.
- 14 BD: Ali Scanland.
- 15* Con†Stellation XXXII Concom Meeting—3P, at Willowbrook Madison.
- 15* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: “Something Crafty This Way Comes.” ATMM: TBD.
- 15–16 Comic & Anime Con—Knoxville TN.
- 16 Father’s Day.
- 17 BD: Jeff Freeman.
- 21 Summer Solstice (20 June in Mountain time zone and westward).
- 21 BD: PieEyedDragon.
- 21–23 Anime Blues Con—Memphis TN.
- 24 St. Jean-Baptiste Day (Quebec).
- 28–30 LibertyCon 25—Chattanooga TN.
- 28–30 Seishun-Con—Atlanta GA.
- 29–30 Creation: Star Trek—Nashville TN.
- 29–30 Bayoucon—Lake Charles LA.

JULY

- 01 Canada Day.
- 02 BD: Deb Stone.
- 04 Independence Day.
- 05–08 Discworld Convention—Baltimore MD.
- 09 Nunavut Day.
- 11 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *The Bloody*

12-14 Anime Southeast—Sevierville TN.
12-14 Sweet Apple Con—Nashville TN.
18-21 Play On Con 6—Birmingham AL.
20* Con+Stellation XXXII Concom Meeting—3P, at Wil-
lowbrook Madison. **NOTE:** Location is subject to con-
firmation; please stay tuned to email.
20* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Wil-
lowbrook Madison. Program: VBAS Planetarium, “Life
in the Universe,” Gena Crook. ATMM: TBD.
20 Nashville Anime Day—Murfreesboro TN.
24 BD: Jay Johns.
26-28 Fandomfest—Louisville KY.
26-28 Fright Night Film Fest—Louisville KY.
27 Rob-Con 28—Bristol TN.
29 BD: Mark Paulk.

01 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Left Hand of*
02 *Darkness*, Ursula K. Le Guin; 6P.
03
04 Civic Holiday (Canada).
05
06 BD: Jim Woosley.
07
08 WhedonFest—Scottsville KY.
09
10 BD: Sue Thorn.
11
12 BD: Edward Kenny.
13
14 OnyxCon—Atlanta GA.
15
16 17* Con+Stellation XXXII Concom Meeting—3P. at Wil-
17 lowbrook Madison. **NOTE:** Concom date(s) for this
18 month are not confirmed. **NOTE:** Location is subject to
19 confirmation; please stay tuned to email.
20
21 17* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Wil-
22 lowbrook Madison. Program: “Adding Bling to Your
23 Costume,” Angela (Sci-Quest). ATMM: TBD.
24
25 BD: Deborah Denton.
26
27 29–02 LoneStarCon 3 -- San Antonio TX.
28
29 30–02 Dragon*Con—Atlanta GA.
30
31 31–02 Mephit Furmeet—Memphis TN.

01 Labor Day.
02 Labour Day (Canada).
03 BD: David K. Robinson.
05 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Ringworld*,
Larry Niven; 6P.
05 Rosh Hashanah.
06–08 OutsideCon 26—Burns TN.
07–08 Creation: Star Trek—Nashville TN.
08 Grandparent's Day.
09 BD: Mike Cothran.
11 BD: Ray Pietruszka.
12 BD: Pat Butler.
14 Yom Kippur.
14–15 Nashville Comic Expo—Nashville TN.
21* Con+ Stellation XXXII Concom Meeting—3P, at Wil-
lowbrook Madison. **NOTE:** Concom date(s) for this
month are not confirmed. **NOTE:** Location is subject to
confirmation; please stay tuned to email.
21* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Wil-
lowbrook Madison. Program: More-Or-Less Annual
NASFA Auction—please start saving stuff to donate.
ATMM: TBD.
21–22 JapanFest—Duluth GA.
21–22 National Book Festival—Washington DC.
22 Autumnal Equinox.
26 BD: Jenna Victoria Stone.
27–29 Anime Weekend Atlanta—Atlanta GA.
27–29 GameCon Memphis—Memphis TN.

OoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOoOo

The North Alabama Science Fiction Association meets on the third Saturday of each month. (Unless there is a large nearby convention being held that weekend—in which case we often move the meeting to the second or fourth weekend.) The regular meeting location is the Madison campus of Willowbrook Baptist Church, (old Wilson Lumber Company building)—7105 Highway 72W. The Executive Committee meeting (if scheduled) is at 5P. The business meeting is at 6P. The program is at 7P. Anyone is welcome to attend any of the meetings. There is usually an after-the-meeting meeting with directions available at the program.

Weapons for Artists” Randy warms up early arrivers at combined LibertyCon/Birthday party—DSC photos by Sam Smith

as a possible future panel (in reference to the unrealistic poses you quite often see on book covers and the like). So I wrote the panel idea down just in case we needed to steal it for Con†Stellation some day...

The LibertyCon/Birthday party went very well that night. We got back early enough to help decorate, and found out that the “stars fell on Georgia” <tinyurl.com/StrsFIOnAl> also. (Blue tape does not hold cardboard stars on the walls and ceiling very well.) I bugged out around 10:30 PM, since I had to drive back to my own hotel. (The JordanCon hotel was sold out, and the overflow hotel across the street was also. I was staying a couple of miles away.)

SATURDAY MORNING, 10:00 AM

Actually, it was more like 10:03 AM. (Did I mention Judy earlier?) I went to the panel on “Making Science Fiction feel like Fact.” and learned a few tricks of the trade.

Then I checked out the Art Show/Dealers Room. Yes, I wrote it that way because that’s what it was. The Dealers were along the walls, and the Art Show was in the middle, of one large ballroom. A lot of the art in the Art Show was tiny 3D stuff (like earrings and pins). I hope none of it simply walked away...

I’d been trying off and on to get up a Spades game, with no luck. I finally gave in and entered the Hearts tournament.

I came in third at our table in the first round. Mary somebody-whose-last-name-I-never-got “Shot the Moon” to win and advance to the second round.

Toni came in and got the “one shot” fanzine started, so I wrote a little bit for it. I forgot, however, to mention wondering what super power Mike



DSC Hearts Tourney, first round

Kennedy was going to end up with after his enforced stay in the hospital (which is why I was there on his membership).

Pat Gibbs wandered over to let me know I had advanced to the second round of the Hearts tournament also. Surprise!

OK, so I died in the second round. This is how it happened: Guy Lillian was at 93 points and about to go out. Rachel Little was at 20 points and about to advance to the third and final round. Myself and a guy whose name I have now forgotten were arguing over second place. And then Guy hit me with the Queen of Spades, breaking the near tie and setting me up to come in third and not advance. He then sluffed the Ace of Hearts on my next trick, which gave me the ability to take every remaining trick—for 25 points. Guy had taken a heart on a trick before handing me the Queen of Spades, and I hadn’t noticed. So instead of “Shooting the Moon” I merely took 25 points and came in last instead of third. Oh well, it’s a stupid game anyway...

Rachel Little ending up winning the Hearts tournament. Nobody could ever give her more than 20-something points.

Shortly afterwards was the “DeepSouthCon Awards Ceremony.” Cutting to the chase, here are the results:

Rebel**Regina Kirby and M. Lee Rogers**
Rubble**Pat Gibbs**, for “Bringing new life to the term ‘No Table Talk’”

Phoenix.....**James O. Rigney, Jr.**
 (aka. Robert Jordan), Posthumous
 Robert Jordan’s wife accepted the award for him, and told a

cute little story about dead mules. You should have been there. The awards were all very nice brass analog clocks. (“Look! A Wheel of Time!”)

Afterwards, I went out to dinner with Warren Buff, Tim



Rebel winners Rogers & Kirby

Miller, Pat Molloy, Naomi Fisher, Grace Molloy, Randy Cleary, and Ed whose-last-name-I-can’t-spell and his wife whose-name-I-never-got. We ended up at “Luckyfest,” which was an anniversary celebration Lucky’s Burger and Brew was having. “Lucky’s” was named after the owner’s dog, who was there (OK, so, they both were there). There was also a traveling dog wash, lots of other dogs, a country/blues band, and a really crowded parking lot. And it was cold. And we were seated outside. In the parking lot. At a picnic table. In front of the band. But the burgers were good. It might be nice to go back someday and sit *inside*.

I am a bit concerned—I was not able to follow all of the conversations swirling around me, so I’m not sure if I’m now a member of a bid committee or not. (That’s what I get for going out to dinner with a bunch of SMOFs!)

We got back just as the Dance/Silent Auction was starting, where I found out the total attendance was “over 550.”

There were *two* parties Saturday night. One was for the Kansas City in 2016 Worldcon bid. The other was in the Con Suite (which had closed at 8:00 PM—did I mention “their own way of doing things”?), and was a bid for CONtraflow to host DSC 53.

SUNDAY MORNING, 9:30 AM

Originally, the JordanCon program book schedule showed the SFC Business Meeting at 1:00 PM, and the DSC 53 Site Selection at 2:30 PM. *The Source*, which was the con’s daily newszine, showed the SFC Business Meeting at 10:00 AM, and the DSC 53 Site Selection at 11:30 AM, both in the bar.

The bar, however, was crowded with overflow from breakfast. Both meetings ended up being held in the lobby in front of the fitness center.

Warren Buff announced his retirement as SFC President.

There were two candidates running to replace him—Jennifer Liang (JordanCon Con Chair) and Ed whose-last-name-I-can’t-spell. After



SFC Business Meeting

a fairly close vote, Jennifer came out on top as the new SFC President. Everyone else was re-elected to another term.

SUNDAY MORNING, 11:00 AM

We’ve done the SFC business, and now somebody wants to talk about the SFC T-Shirts. (Warren had some new ones done last year, but they were literally dated.) It looked like the discussion was going to drag out, the meeting was supposed to be over, and I was tired and wanted to go sit down for a while. So I lost my patience and it cost me—literally. I bought every one of the remaining T-Shirts and gave them all away to everybody who was at the meeting. Annoyingly, by the time I had finished writing the check and worked my way through the crowd to present it to the SFC Treasurer, Pat Molloy, all the T-Shirts

were gone, so I didn't get one!

The DSC Site Selection immediately followed. CONtraflow in New Orleans was the only bidder, and won quite handily, so DSC 53 will be held 2-4 October 2015 in conjunction with CONtraflow in New Orleans—Robert Sawyer GoH, John Guidry FGoH, remaining guests TBD.

M. Lee Rogers and Ron Zukowski announced a bid for a stand alone DSC in 2016 for Atlanta. Tim Miller of FenCon announced a DSC in 2017 bid for either Little Rock or Houston.

Afterwards, I went to Toni's "Violence for Writers" panel, and that was that.

JordanCon is a nice little con, attempting to branch out of the niche they started in. Friendly, well run, but if you go, double-check your expectations at the door because, as you might have heard, they "have their own way of doing things."



Regina Kirby's Rebel Award

Awards Roundup

PEABODY WHO?

In late March, the 72nd Annual Peabody Awards <tinyurl.com/PeabodyWho> included a citation for *Doctor Who*. Both BBC America and BBC Cymru Wales received recognition for the 50 year old show.

NEBULA AWARDS

Winners of the 2012 Nebula (and related) Awards were announced 18 May 2013 in a ceremony during the 48th Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfwaworld.org> Nebula Awards Weekend, at the San Jose Hilton in San Jose CA. Along with awards voted on by the full membership, other awards were presented. **Gene Wolfe** received the **Damon Knight Grand Master Award** (for lifetime achievement). **Carl Sagan** and **Ginjer Buchanan** each received **Solstice Awards** (for individuals who have had "a significant impact on the science fiction or fantasy landscape, and is particularly intended for those who have consistently made a major, positive difference within the speculative fiction field"). **Michael H. Payne** received the **Kevin O'Donnell Jr. Service to SFWA**

Award. In the peer vote categories, the winners were"

Novel**2312**, Kim Stanley Robinson (Orbit US; Orbit UK)

Novella***After the Fall, Before the Fall, During the Fall***, Nancy Kress (Tachyon)

Novelette**"Close Encounters,"** Andy Duncan (*The Pottawatomie Giant & Other Stories*, PS Publishing)

Short Story**"Immersion,"** Aliette de Bodard (*Clarkesworld* June 2012)

Ray Bradbury Award for Outstanding Dramatic

Presentation***Beasts of the Southern Wild***

Andre Norton Award for Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy Book***Fair Coin***, E.C. Myers (Pyr)

ASIMOV'S AND ANALOG ANNOUNCE AWARDS

Asimov's and *Analog* magazines announced the winners of their respective 2012 readers polls on 18 May 2013 during the Nebula Awards Weekend. The winners were:

Asimov's Readers' Award, Novella**"Murder Born,"** Robert Reed (February 2012)

Asimov's Readers' Award, Novelette**"The Way of the Needle,"** Derek Künsken (March 2012)

Asimov's Readers' Award, Short Story (tie) ...**"Final Exam,"** Megan Arkenberg (June 2012) and **"Sexy Robot Mom,"** Sandra McDonald (April-May 2012)

Asimov's Readers' Award, Poem**"Future History,"** Joe Haldeman (February 2012)

Asimov's Readers' Award, Cover Artist**Laura Diehl**

AnLab Awards, Novella**"Nightfall on the Peak of Eternal Light,"** Richard A. Lovett and William Gleason (July-August 2012)

AnLab Awards, Novelette**"Ninety Thousand Horses,"** Sean McMullen (January-February 2012)

AnLab Awards, Short Story**"Titanium Soul,"** Catherine Shaffer (June 2012)

AnLab Awards, Fact Article**"Faster Than a Speeding Photon,"** Edward M. Lerner (January-February 2012)

AnLab Awards, Cover**Michael Whelan** for October 2012

COMPTON CROOK AWARD

The winner of the 2013 Compton Crook Award <www.bsfs.org/bsfscw.htm> (for first genre novel by an individual author) was announced during Balticon 47 <www.balticon.org>, held 24-27 May 2013 at the Hunt Valley Inn in Hunt Valley (Baltimore area) MD. **Myke Cole** took home the plaque for *Shadow Ops: Control Point* (Ace).

SPECTRUM ART AWARDS

Winners of the 20th annual Spectrum Awards <www.spectrumfantasticart.com> (for genre art) were announced 18 May 2013 at the Midland Theatre in Kansas City MO. In addition to a Grand Master award, winners and runners up were chosen in eight categories:

Spectrum 2013 Grand Master**Brom**

Advertising Gold**Dan dos Santos, "Dragon Empress"**

Advertising Silver**Android Jones, "Ganesatron"**

Book Gold**Dave Palumbo, "Fed"**

Book Silver**Charles Vess, *Tanglewood*, "I Didn't Know She Was a Bottle Witch"**

Comics Gold**Paolo Rivera, *Daredevil* #10**

Comics Silver**David Petersen, *Mouse Guard: Black Axe* #4, page 19**

Concept Art Gold**Allen Williams, "Tree of Tales"**

Concept Art Silver**Daniel Docu, *Guild Wars 2*, "Norm Lodge"**

Dimensional Gold**Virginie Ropars, "Acanthopis III"**

Dimensional Silver**David Meng, "Sashimi"**

Editorial Gold**Sam Bosma, "Stability"**

Editorial Silver**Sam Weber, "Cancer Monster"**

Institutional Gold**Kekai Kotaki, "Stampede"**

Institutional SilverLucas Graciano, “Dragon Swarm”
 Unpublished GoldCory Godbey, “The Fish Master”
 Unpublished SilverAndrew Mar, “Tell-Tale Heart”

AUDIE AWARDS

The Audio Publishers Association <www.audiopub.org> announced winners of their 2013 Audie Awards (for audio-books and spoken word entertainment) at a 30 May 2013 ceremony held at the New York Historical Society. Besides the explicitly-genre categories (winners listed below), a number of genre and related works can be found among the full list of over two dozen categories at <www.theaudies.com>.

FantasyAnita, Keith Roberts, read by Nicola Barber (Audible)

Paranormal*Spellbound*, Larry Correia, read by Bronson Pinchot (Audible)

Science Fiction*The Age of Miracles*, Karen Thompson Walker, read by Emily Janice Card (Random House Audio)

AURORA/BORÉAL AWARDS

Winners of the 2013 Aurora/Boréal Award (for genre works produced by Canadians in French) and the related Boréal Awards were announced 5 May 2013 during the 30th Boréal convention in Montréal. The prize for the Best Novel category included a \$500CDN stipend. By category the winners were:

Aurora-Boréal for Best Novel*Transtäiga*, Ariane Gélinas
Aurora-Boréal for Best Short Fiction«Le Chasseur», Geneviève Blouin

Aurora-Boréal for Best Related Work*Solaris*, Joël Champetier, ed.

Boréal for Artistic and Audiovisual AchievementÈve Chabot, for illustrations in *Brins d'éternité*

Boréal for Best Fan Publication*Brins d'éternité*

Boréal for One-Hour Writing Contest (Professional)Geneviève Blouin for «Trou noir de mémoire»

Boréal for One-Hour Writing Contest (Rising Author) .Dave Côté for «Brouillard»

AUREALIS AWARDS

Winners of the 2012 Aurealis Awards <www.aurealisawards.com> (for “speculative fiction written by an Australian citizen, or permanent resident” were announced 18 May 2013 at a ceremony at the Independent Theatre in North Sydney NSW, Australia. By category the winners were:

Fantasy Novel ..*Sea Hearts*, Margo Lanagan (Allen & Unwin)

Fantasy Short Story“Bajazzle,” Margo Lanagan (*Cracklescape*, Twelfth Planet Press)

Science Fiction Novel*The Rook*, Daniel O'Malley (Harper Collins)

Science Fiction Short Story“Significant Dust,” Margo Lanagan (*Cracklescape*, Twelfth Planet Press)

Horror Novel*Perfections*, Kirstyn McDermott (Xoum)

Horror Short Story“Sky,” Kaaron Warren (*Through Splintered Walls*, Twelfth Planet Press)

Young Adult Novel (tie)*Dead, Actually*, Kaz Delaney (Allen & Unwin) and *Sea Hearts*, Margo Lanagan (Allen & Unwin)

Young Adult Short Story“The Wisdom of the Ants,” Thoraiya Dyer (*Clarkesworld*)

Children's Fiction (told primarily through words)*Brotherband: The Hunters*, John Flanagan (Random House Australia)

Children's Fiction (told primarily through pictures)*Little Elephants*, Graeme Base (author and illustrator) (Viking Penguin)

Illustrated Book/Graphic Novel*Blue*, Pat Grant (author and illustrator) (Top Shelf Comix)

Anthology*The Best Science Fiction & Fantasy*

of the Year Volume 6, by Jonathan Strahan, ed. (Night Shade Books)

Collection*That Book Your Mad Ancestor Wrote*, K.J. Bishop (self-published)

Peter McNamara Convenors' Award for ExcellenceKate Eltham

Kris Hembury Encouragement AwardLaura Goodin

LAMBDA LITERARY AWARDS

On 3 June 2013 the Lambda Literary Foundation <www.lambdaliterary.org> announced the winners of their 25th Annual Lambda Literary Awards. While most of the categories are not directly genre applicable, the winner in the **LGBT Science Fiction/Fantasy/Horror** category was *Green Thumb*, Tom Cardamone (Lethe). At least two other names of genre interest also won awards, with **Nicola Griffith** and **Trebor Healey** each taking home a **Dr. James Duggins Mid-Career Novelist Prize**.

In addition to the genre prize winners, another name notable in genre circles played a role in the ceremony. Janis Ian performed *At Seventeen* which was reported to result in a standing ovation. Some *Shuttle* reader may recall the version of that song she adapted for the Nebula Awards some few years ago and dubbed *Welcome Home*.

MYTHOPOEIC AWARD FINALISTS

Finalists for the 2013 Mythopoeic Awards (sponsored by the Mythopoeic Society <www.mythsoc.org>) have been announced. Winners will be announced at Mythcon 44 <www.mythsoc.org/mythcon/44>, to be held 12–15 July 2013 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center and other facilities at Michigan State University in East Lansing MI.

Mythopoeic Adult Literature Noms

The Weirdestone trilogy: *The Weirdestone of Brisingamen* (Collins), *The Moon of Gomrath* (Collins), and *Boneland* (Fourth Estate), Alan Garner
The Drowning Girl, Caitlín R. Kiernan (Roc)
Death and Resurrection, R.A. MacAvoy (Prime)
Hide Me Among the Graves, Tim Powers (Morrow)
Digger, volumes 1–6, Ursula Vernon (Sofawolf)

Mythopoeic Children's Literature Noms

Giants Beware!, Jorge Aguirre and Rafael Rosado (First Second)
Vessel, Sarah Beth Durst (Margaret K. McElderry)
The Princess Curse, Merrie Haskell (HarperCollins)
The Hero's Guide to Saving Your Kingdom, Christopher Healy (Walden Pond)
The Spy Princess, Sherwood Smith (Viking Juvenile)

Mythopoeic Scholarship in Inklings Studies Noms

C.S. Lewis and the Middle Ages, Robert Boenig (Kent State University Press)
C.S. Lewis, Poetry, and the Great War 1914–1918, John Bremer (Lexington Books)
Tolkien and the Study of His Sources: Critical Essays, Jason Fisher, ed. (McFarland)

Green Suns and Faërie: Essays on J.R.R. Tolkien, Verlyn Flieger (Kent State University Press)

Exploring J.R.R. Tolkien's The Hobbit, Corey Olsen (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Mythopoeic Scholarship in Myth and Fantasy Studies Noms

Song of the Vikings: Snorri and the Making of Norse Myths, Nancy Marie Brown (Palgrave Macmillan)

Fairy Tale Queens: Representations of Early Modern Queenship, Jo Eldridge Carney (Palgrave Macmillan)

The Christian Goddess: Archetype and Theology in the Fantasies of George MacDonald, Bonnie Gaarden (Fairleigh Dickinson University Press)

More Dialogues With Dwarves

No Need for a Ring—Chapter 42
by PieEyedDragon

[Editor's Note: This is the fifteenth chapter in the third part of the NNFAR series—*The Thing Goes South*—and is thus numbered as Chapter 15 in some places. The *Shuttle* is serializing the entire tale and chooses to use the alternate sequential chapter numbering system.]

Andat: What about Khazad-dûm?

PED: I killed some Orcs and Trolls, filled the place with water, reopened the passage between Durin's Tower and the Endless Stair, destroyed the Watcher, unblocked Westgate, drained the noisome pool, and replanted the ancient Holly trees. You surely know the word that opens Westgate. I divined that the word of closure is the same, only reversed.

Handri: How could you have filled Khazad-dûm with water?

PED: The Lord of Waters gave me command of the Waters under the Earth. I caused them to rise and, at my bidding, not flow out from the Dimrill gate nor the many air shafts and windows. Except that, it would all rise up the Endless Stair and flow out from Durin's Tower; flushing out debris and bits of Goblins and Trolls.

Handri: That would prevent the Dwarves from entering, too.

PED: No, any dwarf of Durin's line need merely go to Dimrill Gate and say: "Let me in, in the name of Palantiri Eä Dae-deloht!" He would also be wise to stand well aside, for much of the water would flow out by that way toward Anduin. This would take many days. The rest would sink back down to its normal levels.

Andat: Would this require a male dwarf?

PED: No. The living blood and voice is the key, Gender is irrelevant, for this.

Andat: (Angrily) For what, then, *is* gender relevant?

PED: Something that Aulë the Smith mentioned. He is pleased with his creations, but sad that their numbers are reduced. He left them as unfinished tools, with the ability to make themselves into... whatever they wished to become.

Andat: Go on.

PED: Historically, secure under-mountain cities were the best places for dwarves to increase. Trading cities, preferably, so their food and bulk raw materials could arrive from elsewhere. Aglarond can be large enough, but is still growing. Away east, cities in the Red Mountains have been sacked or besieged by dragons and orcs. Your holdings in the Blue Mountains are too small. Erebor is marginal, size-wise, but prospers in combination with Dale and Lake-town.

Handri: Erebor was good enough, for Smaug!

PED: And the result, populations died or moved away. There was no tillage, no farming, no herds nor flocks, no dairymen, no woodmen, no fishing... no business. A pile of gold, weighed down by a dragon, is like a big black clot of dead blood, or a stagnant pond. No flow, no growth, no life. It is a dead thing that helps not even flies nor crows.

But *flowing* gold is the life of a town, a nation, or an empire. It stirs up, carries away the old and forms the new; transports

coal and wine... and weapons. Arms and armor can dissuade enemies from poaching upon a region, but can also become targets for capture by such. War is ultimately not good for business. Dead men raise no crops, nor buy toys for their children. A village smith can do much with the proper tools, like dwarf-forged hammers and anvils. He could make do with lesser, and use a large rock; until it splits or casts fragments that blind him. A bag of wheat can be ground and baked into bread, and be gone. Or, it can be spread upon a tilled field; where rain and sun will turn it into many bags. Spend your gold in many places, and it will return to you manyfold. Cultivate men. Strong neighbors make strong defenses, and good customers.

Andat: Much of this is plain sense, and much is harder and bears thought. Or, is this Dragon-charm, and you are trying to confuse us or bore us to sleep?

PED: (sigh) I do get long winded at times. I could do with a barrel of ale. (reaching up to horns and pulling out bits of gold chains) Gold chains are still but chains, binding the unwary. I collected a hoard, for show, and left it behind; except for bits to trade honestly for food and drink. It is better than having to live off the land, all the time.

Andat: You *abandoned* a hoard? Unbelievable! And where did you get it?

PED: From the sea-bottom; scattered along the old dwarf-road were the spoils of Menegroth.

Andat: (recoiling) The cursed treasure!

PED: Formerly, but the Lord of Waters cleansed it, and showed it to me. A mattock can prepare a fallow field for sowing, or strike down a foe. Gold, he said; can be used as a weapon, itself. Lust for gold can bend the minds of men... and others, I see. The Orcs of Shaborc-kun, warned by their toasted fellows, should still leave it alone for some time. Eventually, it will flow once more, by many hands or one. Did not five armies fight at Erebor? But, once divided, that gold began to stir life once more.

— O — O — O —

PED: (turning and calling out) Captain Bergil!

Bergil: (coming over part way) What do you need?

PED: Not *need*, but I *want* to buy a barrel of ale. This is thirsty work.

Andat: We shall retire, then, and take a break ourselves; and take counsel.

PED: And perhaps write down and compare many notes; or not.

(Lofar, the Firebeard, picks up the war-mask and puts it into his bag.)

Bergil: Very well. Another load of maps and scouting reports is just about ready.

[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

LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC-LOC

Sheryl Birkhead
25509 Jonnie Court
Gaithersburg MD 20882

10–31 May 2013

I am embarrassed to tell you that an old issue finally got tired of hiding and came to the surface, but it is so old that there is no point... On to the April ish.

Ah, just looking at the contenders for the 2015 Worldcon and the NASFiC (let alone that the item reminds me I cannot get to London—sigh) makes me stop to think, seriously, about where I would vote if it might be possible to attend. Well, one can wish.

If you know please let me know—how is the financial health of CUFF? Are non-Canadians eligible to donate/vote? Just curious.

After perusing the short lists for the Hugos I look forward, once all is said and done, to seeing the nomination breakdown that becomes public knowledge once the awards are done. I suspect that there may be a broader spectrum of *almost done* in the fan categories, but I may be wrong. If I am right, even if they are all totally unknown to me, it boasts of the health of zine fandom, whether it is the one I prefer or not.

Heard on the news that over 78,000 people are lined up to make the one-way trip to Mars, supposedly to start in 2020. I forget what the price tag is—but if it is only one way I guess you can put you can put your whole savings into it.

Since you mentioned it (after I mention...) *Argo*, I saw it and enjoyed it a lot more than I was expecting to. As to the sf content, that is a bit dicier. Would it be eligible for a Hugo? I suspect so in the strict definition. Do I think it is *is* sf—no (and I would make that a definite no). Would I have been upset if it made the short list—no. Luckily I do not have to make any judgement call.

Seeing the (yes, illegible) thumbnail of the first ish [of the *Shuttle*] reminds me that I have (unless time, mold, [or] varmint has done it in) a copy of *Locus* #1—took it as a gift when I subbed many years ago. How times have changed.

Well, the basement is still dry. The list of other things that need attention is getting longer and longer. Right now I am putting them in order of necessity—then re-doing it in order of cost. Ah well, wouldn't know what to do with a real savings account that was not already "spent."

Of course I have now waited long enough that the May ish is here and if I don't get busy the June ish will also be here. I *really* need those 36–48 hour days—zine pile waay too high and pages of rough sketches are not being handled. About every 10 years I look into physical therapy in case anything has changed in the interval. This go-round massage with ultrasound was added in (wish I could figure out how to keep that going but it is not going to happen). The new exercise plan gets added into the one I have done for years that includes Tai Chi. The catch is that I am supposed to do this 1–3 times daily. It simply is not going to happen since the whole routine is now up to 3 hours. Unfortunately, once the therapy stopped, while I can keep up most of the actual exercising, it appears that the ultrasound, etc., *was* very helpful. Oh well. This time there is a big carrot. The therapist feels that eventually (the original "insult" was in 1989 resulting in non-stop pain since then) with building strength, pain should be greatly diminished if not gone. Believe me that is *one big carrot*. Now, if I can only make it happen. Yeah—but there goes even more time... a *lot* more time. Nope, not gonna happen more than once a day.

I have no idea how I managed to avoid seeing the FAAn Awards for this year. I did make several (half-hearted) attempts to see if items from Corflu were live online, but never found anything. At least all the names are familiar to me! I cannot say the same thing about the Ditmars.

Congratulations to all the nominees around the globe (and a special tip of the hat to Lloyd).

If I get this printed *now* I can make the mail pickup today—so—

[RE the Canadian Unity Fan Fund, as I understand it only Canadian citizens (and possibly non-Canadians who are permanent residents) can nominate, or be nominated, or vote. Donations are another matter. I can't imagine they'd turn down funds or in-kind donations. I've no clue what their financial situation is; perhaps Lloyd has some insight. You may be right that some of the fan Hugo categories have a fairly flat voting distribution in the nominating round. Almost certainly that's the case in the Short Story category—662 nominating ballots and the 5% rule was invoked. Since there's a minimum of three noms even if they don't make the 5% barrier, we won't know until the stats you mentioned are made public if even those three got the required 34 noms. RE the one-way trip to Mars, it appears you're thinking of the Mars One mission <www.mars-one.com>. The first crew (of four) is projected to cost \$6,000,000,000, or \$1.5 billion a head. So, whatever the crew members might contribute would at best be in the rounding error unless Bill Gates or Warren Buffet (that's Buffet, not Buff) decides to go. Mars One projects most of the money to come from sales of media other similar rights. -ED]

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

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

23 May 2013

The May *Shuttle* is here, and many thanks. Time to make a few observations, which in turn may be an observation about how tired I am at this late hour. Let's have a look.

TAFF... there is the possibility that Jim Mowatt, the TAFF winner, may be coming to visit Toronto. I am pleased to say that most TAFF winners coming to North America do that. It should be a pleasant visit and, with luck, we will see him again at next year's London Worldcon.

The calendar... yes, I am there for my birthday on June 2, but on May 28, there's another important date for me. Yvonne and I will celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary that day. The next couple of weeks should be fun.

FAAn Awards... I came in a very distant second for the Harry Warner Award, but I am pleased with my showing. The Auroras... at least I am on the ballot, but I am in [a] tough [...] category; my chances for fan achievement to overcome pros in this category are slim.

My letter... your reasons for your own Worldcon choices have merit. I suspect that the voters could choose any of a dozen good reasons for and against any bid. I am pleased that groups like Helsinki are bidding, but even the Japanese had to bid a few times before they won. Montreal in 2017 is planning to launch themselves at this year's Smofcon to be held in Toronto, but their first parties will be at LoneStarCon 3. I have yet to throw \$20 bills their way, but I will soon.

Time to go, my eyes are starting to cross. I think fanwise, this summer will be relatively event-free, but the local steampunk groups might stage something. There's the Steam on Queen event, and we're in the home stretch of getting ready for it. Many thanks for this issue, and I will keep eyes open for more.

[Hmm, maybe I wasn't clear about my analysis of possible Worldcon and NASFiC voting. Very little (if anything) I said was about *my* preferences but rather was an attempt at divining what the voters as a whole might be thinking. Of course, we'll all know the results in just a few months, and at that point

might be able to figure out why the votes went whichever way they did. Meanwhile, best wishes to you and Yvonne on the occasion of your wedding anniversary. Wikipedia would have it known that the traditional gift for a 30th is pearl while the

modern gift is diamond. So, a pearl necklace with a diamond pendant, perhaps? (But no pressure, eh?) Oh wait, that's said to be the US tradition, so it wouldn't apply to Yvonne and you anyway ;-)-ED]



P. O. Box 4857
Huntsville AL 35815-4857

The NASFA Shuttle is the newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, Inc. This is the June 2013 edition (Volume 33, Number 6). NASFA Officers for 2013: President Mary Lampert; Vice President Mike Kennedy; Secretary Steve Sloan; Treasurer Sam Smith; Program Director "JudySue Thornsmythe"; Publicity Director Dave Watson. *Shuttle* Editor Mike Kennedy.

Comments, inquiries, and contributions of writing by email to: nasfa.shuttle@con-stellation.org—EDITORIAL ADDRESS (EMAIL)

Comments, inquiries, and contributions of writing by snailmail to: Mike Kennedy, 7907 Charlotte Drive SW,

Huntsville AL 35802-2841 —EDITORIAL ADDRESS (SNAILMAIL)

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

Huntsville AL 35815-4857 —OFFICIAL ADDRESS

Contents Copyright, © 2013. All rights revert to contributors. All opinions are those of the individual authors and do not reflect club policies other than by coincidence. LoCs subject to edited printing.

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