

NASFA Shuttle

May 2019

New Editor

As reported in last month's shuttle, Mike Kennedy has resigned as Shuttle editor and VP of NASFA. Consequently, and as a result of the folly of the voters at the NASFA special election, I (Dr. Douglas E. Lampert) am now the VP of NASFA and the Shuttle editor.

You have no one to blame but yourselves.

If you want to know about nominations and award winners, I can tell you how to subscribe to LOCUS.

Calendar

May 18 at 18:00: NASFA Meeting

May 31-June 2: DSC

June 15 at 18:00: NASFA Meeting (This will probably be preempted by a club picnic.)

June 28-30: LibertyCon

July 20 at 18:00: NASFA Meeting

October 18-20: Not-a-Con

Sad News

Richard Timothy "Uncle Timmy" Bolgeo, age 70, of Hixson, passed away on Sunday, May 12, 2019.

A full obituary along with funeral announcement and arrangements for memorial gifts may be found at:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/hixson-tn/richard-bolgeo-8710397>

Not-a-Con Hotel

Make your reservations at:

<https://tinyurl.com/Not-a-Con-2019>

Amazing Stories Offer

Amazing Stories has launched an Indiegogo campaign to help fund their effort to restart the magazine. They have published four issues in their first year and are entering their second year.

The indiegogo campaign is located at:

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/amazing-stories-special-all-color-issue#/>

They have offered that if we share this with our members and promote this in your newsletter/zine, they will provide every member of our group FREE digital copies of all four issues of our first year! They'll need the following:

A list of all members by name and email who request the free digital editions of our entire first year.

An Email copy of the Shuttle.

They'll need this by July 1st.

(They ask that I "Please tell your club members that we will only use their email to send their magazine issues to them and to correspond with them. We will not sell or share this information with any third party for any purpose whatsoever.")

NASFA Minutes

By Doug Lampert in the absence of Steve Sloan.

Gavel and Crickets: 2019-04-20, 18:05:17 CDT

Some discussion of what time different devices have. Sam's watch is declared the winner by the keeper of the minutes.

Old Business

Mary read the minutes of last month. Items of note:

Doug moves to have Sam call Bryan Jones and enquire about how much of the art show Hypericon wants and for other details of the sale. Judy seconds. Motion fails 1-2.

Jim moves to have Sam call Bryan Jones and enquire about how much of the art show Hypericon wants and for other details of the sale. Sam seconds. This motion which is totally different from any prior motions made in the same meeting carries 5-3.

There is discussion of the upcoming Comedy Club Dr. Who roast.

New Business

Status report on Mike Kennedy's health.

Motion to have a special election for vice president passes 5-1.

Sam and Judy nominate Doug.

Motions to close nominations ignored by the chair. [I told you she was arbitrary and dictatorial before you elected her, but did you listen?]

Doug nominates Jim, nomination dies for lack of a second.

Doug nominates Peggy, Chris seconds.

Sam moves to close nominations, multiple seconds, motion carries 4-2.

2 Votes for Peggy to 5 for Doug.

I threaten the club with an election speech. Possibly serialized in the Shuttle.

Jim admits to not reading shuttle.

A little blue car seems to be lost.

Not-a-Con Business

We have a hotel contract, we need ten room-nights, make your hotel reservations.

Now a black Jeep.

No black helicopters, YET.

No not-a-con food plans, but Ray will bring his stuff.

Meeting Adjourned: 2019-04-20 18:25:55 CDT

Administrivia

The NASFA Shuttle is the newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, Inc. This is the May 2019 edition (Volume 39, Number 5). NASFA Officers for 2019: President Mary Lampert; Vice President Doug Lampert; Secretary Steve Sloan; Treasurer Sam Smith; Program Director "JudySue Thornsmythe"; Publicity Director Sam Smith.

Mail to: NASFA, Inc., P. O. Box 4857, Huntsville AL 35815-4857

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

Additional Administrivia

If you are not interested in continuing to receive this newsletter, either due to the decreased focus on general fanish activities and professional awards and activities or for some other reason. You can inform us at NASFA, Inc., P.O. Box 4857, Huntsville AL 35815-4857 or you can try emailing nasfa.shuttle@constellation.org and hoping that Sam has gotten around to shifting the forwarding to my actual email.

My 2020 Campaign Speech (Part 1 of 8)

I warned you that if elected I might just put my campaign speech into the shuttle. But of course, it's too late to influence the 2019 election, so like most American holders of elective office, I will immediately use my current office as a platform from which to campaign for the next election.

So, I will now begin my vigorous campaign for 2020.

You morons. Do you really want the dyslexic mathematician to be the one writing stuff you'll read every month?

Maybe you don't really care about the quality of the Shuttle. In that case, you've elected as VP the one club member most likely to be absent when the president is.

I mean, VP has two and only two real duties. One is to act in place of an absent president, a role where I am pretty much the least qualified candidate who actually attends a noticeable fraction of the meetings, and the second is to edit a newsletter.

Let me repeat, dyslexic mathematician. I suppose a drunken monkey with a keyboard would be worse, unless it typed the complete works of William Shakespeare, in which case it would be pretty neat.

Speaking of my inability to handle the English language, this means you're basically getting what Microsoft thinks is correct grammar and spelling out of my delusional ravings. Microsoft actually thinks there is a CORRECT spelling of William Shakespeare's name.

Samuel Johnson's dictionary came out in 1755. The very idea that there is a "correct" spelling largely postdates this. William Shakespeare died in 1616. He didn't spell his name consistently, how can there possibly be a correct and incorrect spelling of the man's name when he wrote and signed it multiple different ways and was perfectly correct to do so?

Morons.

But not as bad as you, if you elect me in 2020. Remember, vote for the Not Doug candidate in 2020!

Space Killing Reviews

I need to kill one more column to make this come out vaguely evenly. I could just leave a bunch of white space. I did some of that above, but you're not getting off that easy.

Mary and I go to the movies about twice a year, in the last month we've gone to Captain Marvel (she's never called that in the movie), Shazam (AKA also Captain Marvel, but he's never called that in the movie), and Endgame (AKA another movie with a character named Captain Marvel and never actually called that in the movie). And we still plan to go to Frozen II when it comes out (as far as we know, there is no character named Captain Marvel in this movie, so it will not shock me if someone is called Captain Marvel).

But the reason we only go to a couple of movies most years is that I don't much like movies, and anyway, there's no point in a review as you've all seen them, and if you haven't all seen them, then you may not want them spoiled. So instead, I'll tell you why you should be reading Freefall.

Freefall is a three times a week webcomic.

The current comic is at:

<http://freefall.purrsia.com/>

The first comic is at:

<http://freefall.purrsia.com/ff100/fv00001.htm>

As I write this, there are only 3,277 strips in the archive, so you should be able to catch up in a few weeks of intense reading. This is a worthwhile investment of your time. The comics do improve over time, but the first chapter should give you an idea. (The first chapter is the first 2,835 strips. He's claimed that chapter 2 should not take 18 years.)

Freefall is surprisingly hard SF (for a webcomic about a squid-like alien, an uplifted bipedal wolf, and FTL travel); but the creator tries to get the science right and largely does a good job.

Quite surprisingly, many of the problems are largely solved by people who are alleged to be intelligent adults behaving more or less like intelligent adults.

I find this refreshing.

NASFA
P. O. Box 4857
Huntsville AL 35815-4857

«Name»
«Organization»
«Street_Address»
«City»