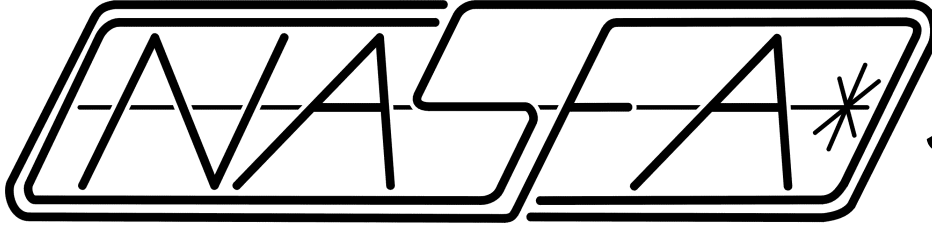


The



Shuttle
August 2013

The Next NASFA Meeting is Saturday 17 August 2013 at the Regular Location

ConCom Meeting 17 August 2013; ConCom Meetings now twice a month; see below or Calendar for details

▲ Oyez, Oyez ▲

The next NASFA Meeting will be **Saturday 17 August 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.

AUGUST PROGRAM

The August program will be “Adding Bling to Your Costume” presented by Angela from Sci-Quest <sci-quest.org>. Expect science (duh, Sci-Quest!) well beyond sequins.

AUGUST ATMM

The August After-The-Meeting Meeting will be hosted by Maria and Adam Grim at the meeting location.

CONCOM MEETINGS

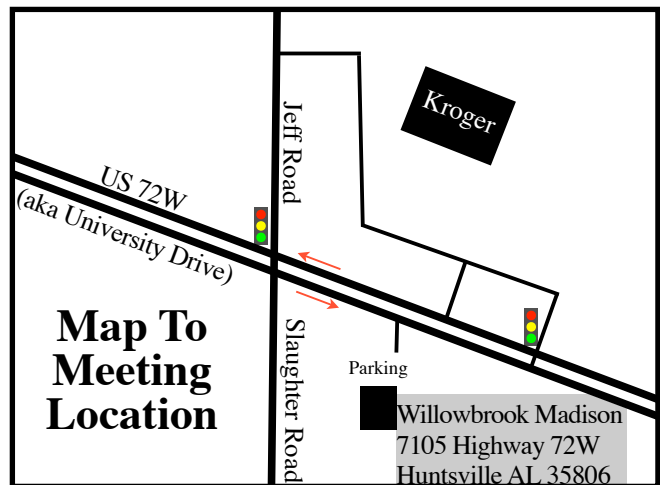
The next Con+Stellation XXXII concom meeting will be 3P Saturday 17 August 2013—the same day as the club meeting at the church. There will be a dinner break between the concom and club meetings.

Future concom meetings will be on a twice-a-month schedule; first and third Saturdays.

First Saturday meetings (7 September and 5 October) will be after dinner. Stay tuned for locations.

Third Saturday meetings (17 August and 21 September) will be at 3P, at the club meeting location.

There will also be the usual working meeting Thursday before the con—10 October 2013, all day, at the hotel and various other spots (e.g., equipment pickup). Information about the pre-con dinner that evening will be available later.



Continuing Our 33rd Year of Publication

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Deadline for the September 2013 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Tuesday 3 September 2013

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.

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:

- 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 September and most future months. (November is tentatively spoken for, but otherwise it's pretty much wide open.) We also need a volunteer for a potential New Year's Eve party.

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 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

LONESTARCON 3 FILM FESTIVAL

Worldcon 71—LoneStarCon 3, to be held 29 August–2 September 2013 in San Antonio TX—has announced the lineup for their LSC 3 Independent Film Festival <www.lonestarcon3.org/film>. The lineup is said to include sf/f/h/comics short features and trailers “from the US, Canada, Israel, Australia, New Zealand, and many countries of Europe.” Info available on the website includes a screening schedule.

LONESTARCON 3 BUSINESS MEETING

Speaking of Worldcon, a number of items of new business are being mooted for the Business Meeting. An up-to-date list of officially submitted items can be found at <www.lonestarcon3.org/wsfs/wsfs-bm-2013.shtml>. Three of the items that promise to be controversial are proposed constitutional amendments:

- One to eliminate three fan Hugo categories,
- A second to put a floor, of sorts, on the cost of any membership class that includes Hugo and Site Selection voting

rights, and

- A third to eliminate the requirement that electronic publications be “opt-in” only.

That last was still being discussed at press time and had not been posted to the LSC 3 website.

TO THE MOON, ~~ALICE~~ HUNTSVILLE

Moon Express <www.moonexpress.com> has opened a Propulsion Development Facility in Huntsville. Moon Express plans to “send a series of robotic spacecraft to the Moon for ongoing exploration and commercial development.” The systems in question are said to be in the 0.1–1000 pound thrust range. Presumably these would be maneuvering and possibly lunar landing/takeoff thrusters.

IS IT EASY BEING GREEN, HUNTSVILLE?

Huntsville lands on a lot of Top 10 lists, though this one was a bit of a surprise to Your Editor. TravelNerd.com placed Our Fair City on their Top 10 List of destinations for green travelers. They cited the Huntsville Botanical Garden and Harmony Park Safari as destinations, and the city's Operation Green Team <www.hsvcity.com/greenteam> in the “green initiatives” category.

TUCKER STORIES WANTED

Former Huntsvillain and current Baen Books publisher Toni Weisskopf *wants you*—wants you to send her stories about Wilson “Bob” Tucker.

Toni notes that she started gathering material in the 1980s but didn't feel up to writing a formal biography at that time. Now she does, and she wants to make sure that “this part of fannish history gets recorded before it's lost.” If you have any Tucker stories, you can send her material at <toni@baen.com>.

LE GUIN FEMINIST SF FELLOWSHIP

The Center for the Study of Women in Society <csws.uoregon.edu>, the University of Oregon Knight Library <library.uoregon.edu/knight/index.html>, and the Robert D. Clark Honors College <honors.uoregon.edu> have established the Le Guin Feminist Science Fiction Fellowship “to encourage research within collections in the area of feminist science fiction.”

The first fellowship (to be announced early November 2013) will be for \$3000. Information on applying for the grant can be found at <csws.uoregon.edu/?p=16615>.

OMNI ~~REDOX~~ REBOOT

Science/sf magazine *OMNI* (1978–1998, in various forms) is being revived as online magazine OMNI Reboot <omnireboot.com>. Editor Claire Evans says she's taking a cue from long-time *OMNI* editor Ben Bova and wants to shape OMNI Reboot as “a magazine about the future.” Art, and possibly other material, from the original magazine is expected to see reuse on the webzine.



NASFA Calendar

AUGUST

- 01 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Left Hand of Darkness*, Ursula K. Le Guin; 6P.
- 03 Con†Stellation XXXII Concom Meeting—after dinner, stay tuned for location.
- 05 Civic Holiday (Canada).
- 08 BD: Jim Woosley.
- 09–11 WhedonFest—Scottsville KY.
- 12 BD: Sue Thorn.

Con+Stellation this year. The head of Sci-Quest would also love to help out with children's programming.

CON BUSINESS

According to co-Con-Chair Doug, "there will probably be a convention" this year. ("Co-Con-Chair" means that Doug and Mary are sharing the office of Con+Stellation convention committee chairman.) Judy reported that there will be food. Ray reported that there will be cheesecakes... And the people rejoiced.

Doug moved to adjourn at 5:42:35P.

For the program, we went to the Von Braun Astronomical Society's planetarium show "Life in the Universe," presented by Gena Crook. The After-the-Meeting Meeting was held at the recently-opened Dunkin' Donuts.

Awards Roundup

SEIUN AWARDS

The winners of the 2013 Seiun (Japanese for "Nebula") Awards were announced 20 July 2013 at the 52nd Japanese natcon. The full list of awards (in both Japanese and English is online at <www.sf-fan.gr.jp/awards/2013result.html>. The awards for fiction translated to Japanese are:

Translated Long Story.....*The Android's Dream*, John Scalzi, translated by Masayuki Uchida (Hayakawa Publishing Corporation)

Translated Short Story....."**Pocketful of Dharma**," Paolo Bacigalupi, translated by Hiroshi Kaneko (Hayakawa Publishing Corporation)

CORDWAINER SMITH REDISCOVERY AWARD

The winner of the 2013 Cordwainer Smith Rediscovery Award <www.cordwainer-smith.com/award.htm> (to "recognize and draw attention to" lesser-known sf/f authors who "deserves renewed attention") was announced at Readercon 24 <www.readercon.org>, held 11-14 July 2013 in Burlington MA. The winner was Wyman Guin (1915-1989).

WILL EISNER AWARDS

The winners of the 2013 Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards were announced 19 July 2013 at Comic-Con in San Diego CA. The full list of almost three dozen winners is too long for the *Shuttle* but can be found online at <www.comic-con.org/awards/eisners-current-info>.

SCRIBE AWARDS

Also at Comic-Con, the International Association of Media Tie-in Writers announced the winners of the 2013 Scribe Awards <iamtw.org/the-scribe-awards> (for "excellence in licensed tie-in writing—novels based on TV shows, movies, and games"). The winners are:

IAMTW Grandmaster Award.....**A.C. Crispin**
Original Novel....*Tannhäuser: Rising Sun, Falling Shadows*, Robert T. Jeschonek (Fantasy Flight Games)

Adapted Novel..*Clockwork Angels*, Kevin J. Anderson (ECW)

Audio.....*Dark Shadows: The Eternal Actress*, Nev Fountain (Big Finish)

PROMETHEUS AWARDS

The Libertarian Futurist Society <www.lfs.org> has announced the winners of the 2013 Prometheus Awards (for libertarian fiction). The awards (which include a gold coin and a plaque) will be presented at a ceremony during LoneStarCon 3.

The winners are:

Best Novel.....*Pirate Cinema*, Cory Doctorow (TOR Books)
Hall of Fame.....*Cryptonomicon*, Neal Stephenson (1999)

MUNSEY AWARD

The winner of the 2013 Munsey Award (for service to the pulp community) was announced 27 July 2013 at Pulpfest 2013 <www.pulpfest.com>. The winner is **Garyn G. Roberts**.

EMMY NOMS ANNOUNCED

The nominations for the 65th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards have been announced. The winners will be announced in a televised ceremony 22 September 2013.

Putting aside the technical categories (editing, cinematography, costuming, and the like) and the animated categories (where it can be hard to tell genre from non-genre) the leader in sf/f/h noms is *Game of Thrones*, with nods for Drama Series; Supporting Actor, Drama (Peter Dinklage); Supporting Actress, Drama (Emilia Clarke); Guest Actress, Drama (Diana Rigg); and Interactive Program.

American Horror Story: Asylum isn't too far behind with honors in Miniseries or Movie; Actress, Miniseries or Movie (Jessica Lange); and Supporting Actor, Miniseries or Movie (James Cromwell).

Two other genre shows got one nomination each—*Bates Motel* (Actress, Drama, Vera Farmiga) and *The Walking Dead* (Interactive Program).

Quite a few shows of geek interest (albeit non-genre) also got noticed. *The Big Bang Theory* got the nod for Comedy Series; Actor, Comedy (Jim Parsons); Supporting Actress, Comedy (Mayim Bialik); and Guest Actor, Comedy (Bob Newhart). An Actor, Miniseries or Movie nom went to Benedict Cumberbatch for *Sherlock: A Scandal in Belgravia*. A Reality Program nom went to *MythBusters*. A Documentary or Nonfiction Series nom went to *Through the Wormhole with Morgan Freeman*.

PARSEC AWARD NOMS

The finalists for the 2013 Parsec Awards <www.parsecawards.com> (for speculative fiction podcasting) have been announced. The award process is a bit complex, involving a fan nomination round and two separate rounds of judges. Winners will be announced at this year's Dragon*Con <www.dragoncon.org>, to be held 30 August-2 September 2013 in Atlanta GA.

The full list of nominees, covering about 15 categories, can be found on the awards website.

SUNBURST AWARD NOMS

The Sunburst Award Society <www.sunburstaward.org> has announced the short-lists for this year's Sunburst Awards (for "Excellence in Canadian Literature of the Fantastic"). The juried awards include a cash award of CAD\$1,000 and a medallion incorporating a specially designed "Sunburst" logo. The nominees are:

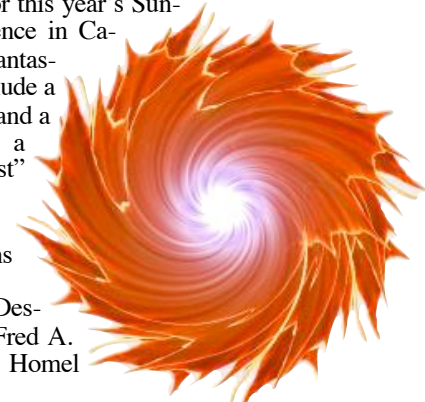
Sunburst Adult Noms

Finton Moon, Gerard Collins (Killick Press)

Maleficium, Martine Desjardins, translated by Fred A. Reed and David Homel (Talonbooks)

Over the Darkened Landscape, Derryl Murphy (Fairwood Press)

The Blondes, Emily Schultz (Doubleday Canada)
Westlake Soul, Rio Youers (ChiZine Publications)



Sunburst YA Noms

The Green Man, Michael Bedard (Tundra Books)

Pirate Cinema, Cory Doctorow (Tor Teen)

Seraphina, Rachel Hartman (Doubleday Canada)

Bright's Light, Susan Juby (HarperCollins)

Rebel Heart, Moira Young (Doubleday Canada)

Waiting Is Ended

No Need for a Questing Beast—Prologue, 2006

by PieEyedDragon

[Editor's Note: PieEyedDragon's adventures in Middle-Earth will resume in these pages later. In the meantime, we take you to another time and location. PED spends less time "on camera" in this adventure, but still plays a part.]

I was "resting" in Iceland; attuned to my ball-of-twine global sensor net. There was always a lot of noise, but "location, location, location" is important.

There are worse volcanoes than Mt Merapi of Java, but Indonesia was part of the old Mu Empire. After weeks of increasing activity, Mt Merapi had erupted May 15. This was followed by Merapi area killer earthquakes May 27 (5,000 dead). I left on June 21, to investigate the Java disturbances.

— O — O — O —

Miss Moran, the eternal adolescent, was bored. It was Midsummer's Day. All the students and almost all of the staff were gone.

She wandered upstairs to the big bathroom. It was too quiet. Even the mermaid in the window was dormant. It gave her an idea, though; of a place that was bound to look dismal and creepy but not still.

Down she went, by long familiar ways; past the kitchen and the upper dungeons. Down and out the main drain and into the dark lake. Further out, and deep, the light grew dim and the tall plants waved slowly like silent banshees. She drifted aimlessly for hours, days, and weeks even; surrounded by ropey plants and tentacled creatures that could not quite grasp her.

— O — O — O —

While I was nosing about, four undersea quakes on July 17 triggered a tsunami that killed more. The sea was full of debris. I examined scavengers and questioned sentient marine creatures to get a full picture.

South of Java, I was patrolling near Christmas Island. That is an Australian territory. It is also the top of an old seamount. It's largely a tropical rain forest with many birds and crabs, surmounted by the mountain peak. To the unfortunate short Jotuns who get assigned there as watchers, it's hell. The last one who got a bad batch of Total Eclipse™ Sun Block SPF 277 got petrified while mountain climbing. I spent two years on that island around 960 AD, and found nothing to worry about.

There are many birds flying all over. One larger one seemed interested in a small boat. As I watched, I saw that it was *much* larger than the boat, and snatching up people in its claws... Not a bird... A *Gyaos*!

For six thousand years, I had been watching for the *Gyaos* monsters of Mu while Mother mostly slept. She had kept watch for millennia since the destruction of Atlantis, but the *Gyaos* delayed their return. She took thought, made transgenic calculations and comparisons, and modified one of her own eggs. Building a nest in a western Iceland lava gorge, at a propitious juncture of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates, she laid her egg, and waited... for twelve years. Then, on a Midsummer Day when the sun barely ever

dipped below the northern horizon at all, I broke out of my shell.

Now, the monsters have decided to make an appearance. In recent years, with help, many dormant nests had already been eliminated. It looks like at least one was missed. I keyed my telepathic channel to Gamera and sent the warning. I see many other young monsters, trying their wings and gradually moving away from the island.

I make myself very small and enter the throat of the nearest. Inside, I give the beast a fatal heartburn. Some of the others drift over, looking suspicious. Some, though, look to be moving away. I *cannot* let them scatter. I have to give them a reason to stay. I have to give them... a visible *enemy* to concentrate upon.

I dive down into the water, expand to full size, and burst upward, bellowing my challenge.

This works. *All* the surviving monsters are heading straight for me. Some of them pull up a bit and open their jaws wide. I am able to avoid the immature sonic cutting beams... for a while. My own breath weapons, fortunately, have a wider field of effect. I am much too busy to call up any major offensive spells. Holographic doppelgängers, mists, and light-bending gas bubbles distract and mislead the monsters for a time. But, there are just too many. Five suicidally brave Merfolk and Kelpies plunge into the fray, distracting a few of the monsters. Their brave efforts helped me. Then they were swatted.

July 20 at 1704 GMT, Gamera blasted up out of Vatnajökull at full burn. She crossed the North Pole and headed south over the Pacific. It was a long, long way to Indonesia.

When Gamera finally arrived, I was down on the beach; along with nineteen of the monsters. The remaining four gave plenty of damage to Gamera before they, too, died. Even immature, their sonic beams can cut through anything.

The Jotun wizard corps finally arrived to do some memory erasures, sanitize the area and pick up the pieces—literally, in my case. Three legs were off and my tail was half-severed along with numerous smaller slices. They got me stabilized and loaded onto Gamera's back for transport back to Iceland.

Surgery was a problem. I have a lot of magic resistance, so they had to stitch. Making holes for sutures was difficult until Gamera started poking them with her claws. I was awake, and formally transferred the Jotun scepter to the Crown Princess despite Atali's advanced pregnancy.

"May you live in interesting times," muttered Puck.

Friday, July 28, 2006, 8:19 PM: I am still alive; healing, immobile, and upset. There was a nest. A relatively *new* nest. Forensic wizardry has set a maximum age to the site of about two years. This is bad news. Either it was moved, had superior shields, or the possibility of the *Gyaos* creatures having a space-going variant just got a boost.

I am surprised to be able to worry about it. I always expected to die in first contact. At least the Cronon/Croniton readings of the site and the carcasses were normal. They did not come in from a different era; neither past nor future.

I concentrate on healing. Full healing will take time that I do not have. I invoke natural and magical regenerative powers and apply them to my internal injuries and outer skin and scales. I seal the stump of my left rear leg and force the fusing of my re-attached forelimbs and half severed tail. The other leg can wait. I have so many scars I look like I had encountered a giant squid armed with ten chain saws.

— O — O — O —

[Some of the above beings and situations have been suggested by the works of J. K. Rowling (But you already knew that, didn't you?)]

Letters of Comment

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

Lloyd Penney
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Etobicoke ON
Canada M9C 2B2

20 July 2013

I've got the July *Shuttle* here, and I think I am way ahead of time for a change. I will make some quick comments on the issue, and get them to you as soon as I can. Looks like you are meeting as I type; hope it's productive and enjoyable.

(I see you mention Five Guys Burgers and Fries... we've got them, too. Reports are not good, however. There are far better gourmet burger places here...)

At the door rates at LoneStarCon 3...ouch! It's about right, unfortunately, for modern Worldcons. Is the future of Worldcon a suitable panel topic? I think it's something every Worldcon supporter should be at least thinking about, and discussing it if possible.

Many fans in Toronto were very pleased to hear that Judith Merrill was inducted posthumously into the Science Fiction Hall of Fame. Ms. Merrill was a fixture on Toronto television in the late 70s as a commentator on the science of *Doctor Who* on the provincial educational broadcaster, TVOntario. She even took on the nickname of The Undoctor. Judith's granddaughter Emily Pohl-Weary lives in Toronto, and she is an author as well. The resemblance is uncanny...

Hello, Pie-Eyed... If there is any archive I'd like to work upon, it's any archive in Middle-Earth. I wouldn't get much work done, but the reading would be amazing. The geography of Middle-Earth seems so complex... I would wonder if there were inhabitants of this fair land who were completely unaware of any events Professor Tolkien details in his books. I do not [mean] to demean any of those amazing events, but if Middle-Earth is the size it is, could it be possible that everyone knew what had happened? I must wonder...

To Sheryl...if you would like to donate funds to CUFF, you could send a cheque to me, and I can process it, and get it to the current administrator, Deb Yeung. The Canadian banking system can handle quite a number of currencies, and US dollars is the easiest foreign currency to deal with.

My loc...just the other night, we had a similar storm that hit Toronto and area... this time it hit other areas, and not as violently. We weren't affected this time, but as I write, thousands of people still have no power throughout the province.

Time to go, nearly at the end of the page. In three weeks is the Murdoch Mysteries Experience, and now in October, another Steam on Queen takes place! We're looking into taking a table there; it will be in a hotel. See you next issue!

[I wouldn't call Five Guy's *gourmet* burgers. They are a little pricier than fast food, but not hugely so. I've enjoyed the few times I ate at one, but don't think they're particularly *special*. The cost of an Attending Membership for Worldcon is unlikely to drop a lot unless the con can grow enough (~double, I'd guess) to better amortize the fixed costs and achieve other economies of scale. Indirectly, the cost of a Supporting Membership promises to be a matter of significant contention at the LSC3 Business Meeting, though it will be (1) Hugo and Site Selection Voting rights and (2) paper versus electronic publications that are going to be on the agenda. RE the geography of

Middle-Earth and other areas (perhaps topography would be a better term) it sometimes seems that the connectivity from one place to another isn't confined to a mere three dimensions. -EDJ]

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

Sheryl Birkhead
25509 Jonnie Court
Gaithersburg MD 20882

1 August 2013

Hmm, since I have no concerns about the Hugo voting this year (and don't get the PRs) I don't seem to be following the Worldcon. It also means, once again, I have not worked up any pastel pieces for TAFF/DUFF based on the Worldcon "theme." I regret that, but obviously not enough to actually *do* anything about it!

Pardon the scrawl, but it is either this *now* or wait until the laptop decides to cooperate.

When I get some time I will see if Vincent Villafranca has pictures of his work online, to see if I can get an idea of his style (if not content) for the Hugo base. I [am] really *really* rotten at this and every year am totally surprised when the design is revealed.

Wow—the DUFF race really was close.

"Lifeboat to the Stars Award"—thought it must be a gift to sf stars (human) in need; boy was I *wrong*.

I have a problem with a sentence on page 5 about the Sidewise Awards. Is Stu Shiffman a nominee or on the jury? (FYI, congrats to Stu and Andi on their engagement!)

PED is getting a lot of aquatic exercise. I was trying to figure out how she breathes since it seems (did I misread?) she can stay submerged for prolonged periods—or maybe it is something like whales, only bigger??

One of the more interesting "facts" about armadillos is they can cross some bodies of water simply walking on the bottom. (PED in disguise?)

I won't be attending the NASFiC next year, either—but will watch the voting for their site closely. I also need to see if the supporting Worldcon membership stays (relatively—to me at least) high, or if I can go back to every year. Ah well, it's only money.

I hope Brad Foster is completely recovered from the detached retina surgery. I'm sorry he can't make LoneStarCon this year, especially since it is close to home.

Want to get this to the mailbox—now.

[Villafranca's website is <www.villafrancasculpture.com>—there are pics of 3–4 dozen different bronzes, some from multiple angles. Two awards he designed (Illie Award (IlluXCon 3) and Ray Bradbury Award) are shown, but since he's designing an award *base* rather than the whole thing I'm not sure these would be much guidance. So, you may be surprised again. I think (but am *not* sure) that San Antonio will continue the recent tradition of unveiling the Hugo base at the Opening Ceremony, so you can start checking for pics of it the first evening of the con. RE the DUFF race; yep, it was close enough that a rule of "majority" versus "majority with preference" would have made a (momentary) difference. Sorry for any ambiguity—or typos—RE the Sidewise Awards last ish. Stu Shiffman *is* listed as being on the jury and is *not* a nominee. Hmm, I'm not sure PieEyedDragon will like being compared to either of those mammals, even the one with vaguely reptilian features. But I'll let her speak for herself. Foster's website says he will be in Oklahoma City over the Worldcon weekend <www.

jabberwockygraphix.com/schedule.html>, though there's no indication of when his schedule was last updated. -ED]





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