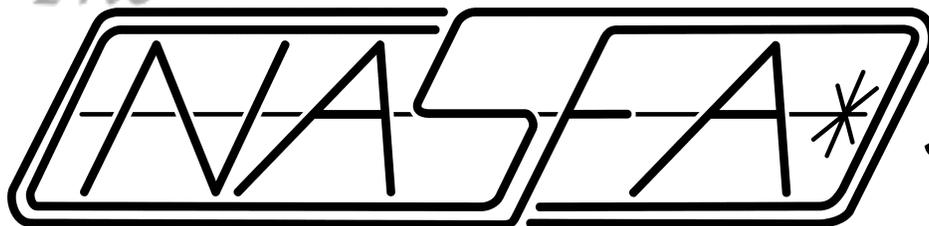


The



Shuttle

October 2013

The NASFA Meeting was Saturday 19 October 2013 at the Regular Location

¡ Oyez, Oyez ¡

Your editor apologizes for this issue not getting out before the October meeting. As many of you know I was in the hospital over the extended weekend of Con†Stellation XXXII (during which I had planned to produce an abbreviated issue of the *Shuttle*). The plan now is to publish this ultra-abbreviated issue electronically only (though if the next ish is short enough to keep the total under 1 oz., it may see print in a combo mailing).

The October NASFA Meeting was **Saturday 19 October 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).

OCTOBER PROGRAM

The October program was a Post-Mortem discussion of Con†Stellation XXXII.

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:
- 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 have tentative arrangements that will be definitized at the November NASFA meeting).

We need ATMM volunteers for all months in 2013. 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. However, the December meeting will start early (2P) and will likely be at the site of the Holiday Party rather than at the church.

Three 2014 NASFA meetings have been moved off the normal 3rd Saturday—8 February (resolving a conflict with getting the church space), 8 March (resolving a conflict with Tennessee Game Days), and 24 May (resolving a conflict with DSC 52/Contraails <contraails.eventbrite.com>).

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.

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>.

September Minutes

by Steve Sloan

The September meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, September 21, 2013 in the Madison satellite location of Willowbrook Bap-

Continuing Our 33rd Year of Publication

Inside this issue...

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Deadline for the November 2013 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Monday 28 October 2013

tist Church at 6:19:02P by President Mary Lampert. The crickets have new batteries, so they are “fixed.” Per the following discussion, would you need a tiny veterinarian and a tiny stool to “fix” a cricket?

OLD BUSINESS

Steve read the new business from the previous month’s minutes: “Diddly.”

NEW BUSINESS

According to Sam, this month’s new business is “Squat.”

Sunn called attention to a thank you letter from SNAP (the Spay/Neuter Action Project <www.snalabama.org>), the charity for [the 2011] Con†Stellation.

CON BUSINESS

According to co-Con-Chair Doug, there was a concom (convention committee meeting) earlier that day. He also said, “there will probably be a con” this year. (“co-Con-Chair” means that Doug and Mary are sharing the office of Con†Stellation convention committee chairman.)

Mary had information for Randy, which she had left on his answering machine earlier. Doug reported that the Art Auction is scheduled for 8P to 10P in Lobby II.

Doug and Sam both moved to adjourn at 6:23:48P.

The September program was the more-or-less Annual NASFA Auction. The After-the-Meeting Meeting was held at the meeting location at Willowbrook Madison.

Letters of Comment

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

Robin, writing for PED
<email address withheld>

7 September 2013

Lady Sheryl, deep down inside, I am (and was) a theoretically-impossible combination of Elemental forces: Earth, Wind, and Fire and Water. Protons repel one another, until something pushes them *very* close together—then they stick. I do not suffer by staying under water. I can, after all, “breathe” vacuum when in space.

As for underwater armadillos, ever hear Native American tales of the Underwater Panthers? Armadillos are built rather like diving bells or submarines. It was before my time, of course; but whales were once land-dwellers.

[This email, sent on PieEyedDragon’s behalf, fell in the digital cracks and was overlooked for the September issue, for which we apologize. -ED]

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

Sheryl Birkhead
<sherylsfanart@yahoo.com>

21 September 2013

Hi Mike (at least if I have the address right). First I hope I did the right—haven’t been in the email for months!

Just got the *Shuttle* and had to send something—now.

About the Mac—my artwork is all in FreeHand which cannot function beyond Snow Leopard. For several years I have been trying to locate software to replace it and so far have come up empty-handed. I finally decided I would stick with SL as long as possible and I have. Here is what you may find interesting. This is my desktop and is running SL—but I am contacting you with Mountain Lion. I argued with Apple about this

as a possibility for at least a year and a half. If you go into the archives at Apple you will find users giving directions on how to do it. Easy—ML is on an external hard drive. SL is on the main hard drive since that is the OS I usually use. I must admit that ML is obviously geared to the internet—it works soooo much faster etc.—but I have some glitches with it not worth researching since I don’t use it much. Anyway, when I want ML I just go to restart and hold down the option key until the icons for the hard drives show up and I switch over. Easy as can be and I have the best of both possibly worlds *on the desktop*. The only cost was an external hard drive and Mountain Lion.

Now, the laptop is different. I cannot figure out a way to do the same thing unless I have gobs of money lying around. I’d have to tote an external hard drive etc... I cannot afford even the oldest of MacBook Pros (yet?) hey—the envelope marked MacBook actually has about \$8 in it—they have the internal battery and I *think* I have learned my lesson. So, want to go to a newer portable Mac (for the loc writing and I can get away from the desk) that will also work with FreeHand art files. I have found a partial workaround for even that—since both SL and ML will work with my Pages files—if my artwork is a good enough copy to reformat (some won’t make the trip—I tried) I have used both pdf and jpeg then imported the created illo+ letterhead into Pages, and can use that. All this still (now that I have fouled things up!) won’t get around the magnetic connector issue—it falls off at every little move. If I use duct tape to make it stay put, then I can’t put it in its case to go anywhere else—I am a klutz (well duh, ya think!!) and worry about even hauling it downstairs without dropping it! I am not using it as an Internet tool—at least not much—if I am writing and need to check something right then I do so and it is not a hardship.

In a nutshell- desktop can access both SL and ML—portable Mac *cannot*—but for its main use in locking, SL is more important. I checked prices on eBay and looked at Mac specs—I can only use those Macs that were factory released with SL or earlier (even if I could afford the newer ones!) that makes it (if I remember aright) the MacBook Pro (to go to the internal battery—but that has its own problems; the user is not supposed to change it; need to have Apple do it—and for how many more years are they going actually...) which means about late 2011 is the safest bet. The models I have been following on eBay are 2010 and no way... Ah well, one can dream. To nitpick—I love my MacBook and I specifically chose the Santa Rosa since it was the newest I could afford that was black. Sigh—looks like no replacement would be black. Drat...

Okay- ran on a lot more than I expected to. so I hope this is the right address and that it is going where I hope it goes!

[I wasn’t sure if this was intended to be a LoC, or a personal missive, but since it came to the *Shuttle* email address I decided to print it. One thing you may not have considered is to partition the internal drive on your laptop and install each OS version on its own partition. That assumes you have a way to back up all your data before the partitions are made (since the disk will be effectively erased) and that the disk is large enough to make two partitions each with sufficient space. -ED]

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

Toni Weisskopf
<email address withheld>

26 September 2013

Thanks, as usual, for sending me the *Shuttle*; I always read it,

even if I loc but intermittently. I very much appreciated your detailed Worldcon reportage. You have the fortitude to attend the Business Meetings, and I don't, so it's nice to get a bird's eye view of those without having to sit through them. This Worldcon I had not the energy even to attend very many parties—my own and one literally around the corner from my room were the only two I hit. The answer, by the way, to the question at my party, “Where's Toni?” was: on the bed, in the back room. I had plopped myself down there at 9:30P when we officially opened the doors, and I didn't leave until about 3:30A, when Tish and I started the process of breakdown. And yes, we did uphold the Southern fannish traditions; we were the last party standing on our night. I do want to thank the Huntsville folks and Gary and Timmy for helping shop and doing the hard work of setting up the party. For me, that's one of the most fun parts of having a party, and I always enjoy working with them. Or watching them work, whatever.

Sending good thoughts Sheryl's way for her computer, and to Lloyd for his job search.

[Oh thanks, Toni—now I'm envisioning you reclining on your fainting couch and surrounded by courtiers *as well as* the supplicants I already knew about. -ED]

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

Lloyd Penney
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 Etobicoke ON
 Canada M9C 2B2

1 October 2013

Thank you for the September *Shuttle*, and now that Worldcon's done for another year, and the summer is over (boo), lots to talk about, and I'll bet it's getting close to awards season again. Time for comments...

We are looking forward to any Wizarding World movies that Rowling and Warner produce. Wonder how many more movies in this universe can be created?

Yup, awards season... I've asked elsewhere is there is somewhere a list of SF and fannish blogs and podcasts, but I haven't gotten an answer. Anyone know? I keep hearing I should check out some of the blogs and podcasts, but I don't know where to look. They are little needles in a very big Internet haystack.

I need to find work soon... not only do we want to go to London for next year's Worldcon, but Smofcon is in Toronto this December, DetCon 1 in Detroit is next year, and Costume-Con is in Toronto in 2014. We'd hate to miss it all, but it's beginning to look like we will. Hope I come across a winning lottery ticket soon! I gather the Montreal in 2017 bid launched at LSC3, and Yvonne and I are already a pre-supporter. Hope they get a website up soon.

I usually use the big desktop computer we have in the back room, but there are times I will use Yvonne's laptop, especially when the desktop is in the shop. I have an older laptop that is as heavy as a slab of lead, but it won't boot. My letter, I said I was going for a job interview... nope, didn't get it.

I have read a few trip reports, and seen some other results of various awards, but I realize that I am simply torturing myself by going through them, and knowing that I couldn't be there to take part. I was pleased to see Stanley Schmidt finally recognized by vote with a Hugo, and by Chairman's Special Award. Long overdue, and much deserved. Great to see David Kopaska-Merkel listed, an old friend who used to live up here

for a while. I won't comment on the Fan Hugos, except to say that those who think that fanzines, and those who produce them, should still be winning the rockets may have aged out of the winners' demographic. Fanzines are the past, and blogs and podcasts are the present. In this case, I still prefer the past, but recognize the present rules.

I am done, and just about filling the page, so off this goes, and I get to relax a little bit. Take care, and see you with the October *Shuttle*.

[It's too bad about the job falling through, Lloyd. As for lists of sf/f/whatever blogs and podcasts—yes, Mr. Google is happy to spit out dozens of links to lists compiled by various people, each with their own slant. Were I inclined to look for such (which I confess I'm generally not) I'd probably start with the full list of nominees from the last few Hugo cycles. That's the *full* list, not just the ones that made the final list of nominees. -ED]

NASFA Calendar

OCTOBER

- <most of the month—through the meeting date—is snipped>
- 24–27 Game Fest South—Chattanooga TN.
- 25–27 HallowCon—Dalton GA.
- 26–27 Sukoshi Con—Athens GA.
- 25 BD: Marie McCormack.
- 31 Halloween.

NOVEMBER

- 01–03 Eyecon: Vampire Diaries—Atlanta GA.
- 01–03 Fangcon—Nashville TN.
- 01–03 Geek Media Expo—Nashville TN.
- 02 Día de Muertos.
- 03 Comic Book & Anime Con—Marietta GA.
- 03 Daylight Savings Time Ends.
- 07 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *At the Mountains of Madness*, H.P. Lovecraft.
- 08–10 Anime Blast—Chattanooga TN.
- 09 Hamacon Minicon—Huntsville AL.
- 11 Veteran's Day.
- 11 Remembrance Day (Canada).
- 15–16 Nerdacon v8—Columbus GA.
- 15–17 Comic Convention—Memphis TN.
- 16* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: Highlights of the Hubble development and its remarkable pictures, Max Rosenthal.. ATMM: Mike Kennedy will host at the church.
- 18 Día festivo en conmemoración de la Revolución Mexicana.
- 20 National Child Day (Canada).
- 20 Revolución Mexicana.
- 22 BD: Nancy Renee Peters.
- 23 BD: Mike Kennedy.
- 27 Hanukkah (sundown).
- 28 Thanksgiving Day.
- 29 BD: Howard Camp.
- 30 Atlanta Anime Day—Atlanta GA.
- 30 BD: Joshua Kennedy.
- 30 BD: Richard Gilliam.

DECEMBER

- 01 Comic Con—Columbus GA.
- 05 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *The Golden Compass*, Phillip Pullman.

(continued on back cover)



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(continued from page 3)

- 05 Hanukkah ends.
- 06–08 SMOFCon 31—Toronto ON.
- 06–08 Yama-Con 2—Pigeon Forge TN.
- 07 SukoshiCon Prime—Birmingham AL.
- 08 Atlanta Comic Convention—Atlanta GA.
- 09 BD: Maria Grim.
- 12 BD: Toni Weisskopf,
- 12 Virgen de Guadalupe.
- 17 BD: Robin Ray.
- 19 BD: Yvonne Penney.
- 20 BD: Aaron Kennedy.
- 21 Winter Solstice.
- 21* NASFA Meeting—2P Business, 3P Program, probably at the Holiday Party host’s house. Program/ATMM: Holiday Party (volunteer host(s) needed).
- 24 Christmas Eve.
- 25 Christmas Day.
- 26 BD: Michael R. Stone.
- 26 Boxing Day/Lendemain de Noël (Canada).
- 27–29 Gamecon Memphis—Memphis TN.

31 New Year’s Eve.
JANUARY 2014

- 01 New Year’s Day.
- 03 BD: Jim Kennedy.
- 03 BD: Karen Hopkins.
- 03–04 Shadowcon—Memphis TN.
- 06 BD: Rich Garber.
- 06 Día de Reyes.
- 07 BD: Douglas E. Lampert.
- 10–12 GaFilk—Atlanta GA.
- 11–12 Brick Fair—Birmingham AL.
- 16 BD: Bruce Butler.
- 17–19 Siege of Augusta—Augusta GA.
- 18* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Wil- lowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
- 18 Anime Blues Remix—Memphis TN.
- 20 BD: Larry Montgomery.
- 20 BD: Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 24–26 Chattacon 39—Chattanooga TN.
- 30–02 Game Fest 23—Atlanta GA.
- 31 Chinese New Year.