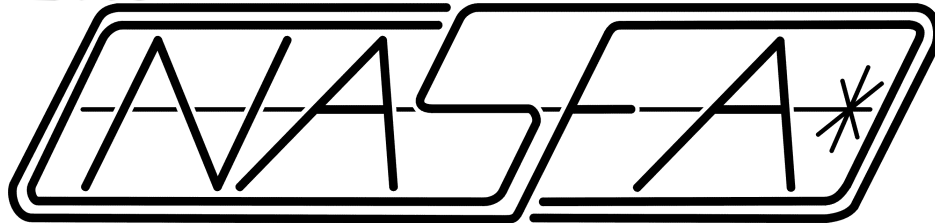


The



Shuttle
March 2014

The Next NASFA Meeting is Saturday 8 March 2014 at the Regular Location This is a week earlier than usual due to a convention conflict

▲ Oyez, Oyez ▲

The next **NASFA Meeting** will be **6P Saturday 8 March 2014** 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.

Note that this is **one week earlier than usual**, to avoid a convention conflict.

MARCH PROGRAM

Stephanie Osborne had planned to present the February program but was sidelined by illness. So, the March program will be a talk by Steph <www.sff.net/people/steph-osborn> on “Wibbly Wobbly Timey Wimey Stuff, or Time Travel in the Real World.”

Book five in Stephanie’s Displaced Detective series—A Case of Spontaneous Combustion—is due out later this year. Books six and seven are said to be in work <shinybookreview.com/2013/11/14/interview-stephanie-osborn>, while the eighth book is finished but won’t be published until after 5–7.

MARCH ATMM

At press time no host for the March After-The-Meeting Meeting was known, though one supposes it’s likely we’ll manage to have an ATMM at the church. The usual rules would apply—that is, please bring food to share and your favorite drink. Also, 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

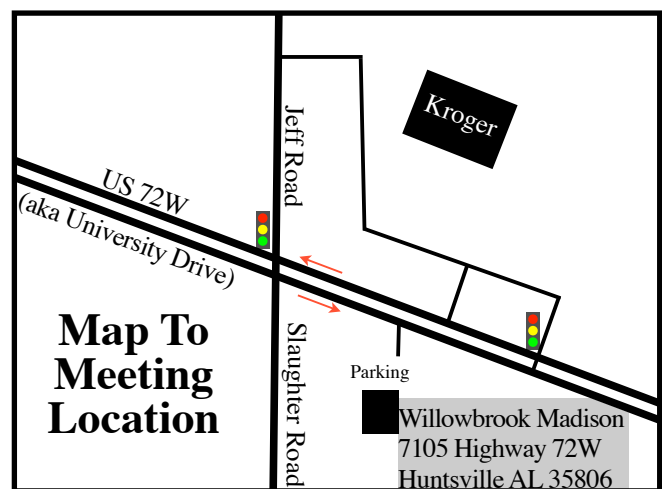
The schedule for future Con†Stellation XXXIII concom

meetings is unknown at press time, but will likely be approximately monthly. Con chair Craig Goodrick has favored Sundays. In any case, stay tuned to email and the grapevine for updates.

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.



Continuing Our 34th Year of Publication

Inside this issue...

News & Info	2
Minutes of the February Meeting	2
NASFA Calendar	3

Awards Roundup	4
Letter of Comment	6
Breaking News	7
<i>No Need for a Questing Beast should return next month</i>	

Deadline for the April 2014 issue of The NASFA Shuttle is Monday 31 March 2014

FUTURE PROGRAMS AND ATMMs

Future programs include:

- April–July: TBD.
- August: Les Johnson mixes science fact and science fiction with Mars Exploration and *Rescue Mode* <tinyurl.com/RMBBLJ>. We need ATMM volunteers for most future months in 2014 except April (the Lamperts) and (possibly) November.

FUTURE CLUB MEETING DATES

- NASFA meeting dates for two still-to-come meetings in 2014 have been shifted away from the normal 3rd Saturday.
- This month (March 2014) the meeting was moved one week earlier to 8 March to avoid Tennessee Game Days.
 - The May 2014 meeting was moved one week later to 24 May to avoid DSC 52.

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 encouraged and welcomed 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/h/etc. events) are added or changed. You can view the calendar online at <tinyurl.com/NASFACal>.

News & Info

2016 WORLDCON BIDS OFFICIAL

The two expected Worldcon bids for 2016 filed their paperwork before the deadline. Both **Beijing** <www.guokr.com/zone/worldcon> and **Kansas City** <http://kcin2016.org> will appear on the ballot for the site selection administered by this year's Worldcon in London.

The filed paperwork can be seen at <www.loncon3.org/2016_bidder_filing.php>. The ballot itself was not available as this article was being prepared. Site selection ballots can be mailed, hand delivered, or cast on site at Loncon 3. Due to constitutional restrictions electronic balloting is difficult to arrange for site selection and the *Shuttle's* understanding is that it will not be used this year.

FAAn AWARDS VOTING OPEN

Voting has begun for the 2014 Fan Activity Achievement Awards; the closing date is 5 April 2014. A PDF ballot is available online at <file770.com/wp-content/uploads/faan_ballot_2014.pdf>. Winners will be announced at Corflu 31 <www.corflu.org> to be held 2–4 May 2014 at the DoubleTree Hotel & Conference Center in Richmond VA.

Awards are presented in eight categories: Genzine, Personal Fanzine, Single Issue, Website, Fanzine Cover, Fan Artist, Fan Writer, and the Harry Warner, Jr. Memorial Award for Best Letterhack. You can rank three choices, which receive 3, 2, and 1 points respectively.

LOCUS POLL & AWARDS

Locus Magazine has made available an online version of their annual Locus Poll and Survey at <www.locusmag.com/Magazine/2014/PollAndSurvey.html>. The Poll is the method of selecting winners of the annual Locus Awards—anyone can

vote but votes from *Locus* subscribers count double. The Survey is probably the longest-standing survey of sf/f/h fandom. The deadline for ballots is 15 April 2014.

STARLOG MAGAZINE ONLINE

The Internet Archive has made available all 224 issues of *Starlog* magazine at <archive.org/details/starlogmagazine> in several formats including PDF, EPUB, and Kindle.

February Minutes

by Steve Sloan

The February meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, February 8, 2014, in the Madison satellite location of Willowbrook Baptist Church at 6:19:07P by President Mary Lampert. The gavel and crickets were both in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS

In January, we had tabled a discussion about electing the con chair (Con†Stellation convention chair) for a two year term. In February, we had Shelley, one of the two elected 2015 co-con chairs, at the meeting for discussion.

Craig retracted his proposal of acting as con chair for two years starting in 2014. He instead volunteered to serve for three years following Shelley and Jenny's 2015 con chair term.

Doug moved that we railroad Craig into serving as con chair for 2015, 2016, and 2017. Craig seconded.

Craig expanded on his stability argument for having two year terms, stating that stability extends from con chair on down. Judy argued that if the club is uncomfortable with something Craig does, then we would be stuck if we nominated him for multiple years. Tracey said that we'd like to see what he does the first year before choosing him for other years. Craig asked what would happen if he couldn't get a guest one year but could get that guest the next year. Sue asked if we could get hotel dates that far in advance. Craig suggested that we might if we signed a multi-year contract. Having dates and a hotel would have stability in itself. Shelley said she would be fine with a previous con chair setting up a multi-year hotel contract.

Sam moved that we table the motion until after this year's con. Sam's motion was seconded and carried many to three.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

CON BUSINESS

Craig hoped to go to hotels to talk about hosting Con†Stellation during the week following this meeting. He had planned to ask about hotels the previous week, but didn't manage it because OSHA decided to visit his work.

Craig gave a brief summary of the previous con-com (Con†Stellation convention committee meeting). He is looking for volunteers to fill convention offices. He already has Steve as guest liaison, Mary as hotel liaison, Randy to run Art Show, and Mike K. as web master. Craig will be looking for more volunteers for one more month, then he will start asking people.

Craig has narrowed his hotel choices to two: Holiday Inn at Madison Square Mall in Huntsville and Country Hearth Inn and Suites in Madison. The Holiday Inn is doable but it is a bit cramped with awkward logistics.

The people who ran the Artemis virtual starship bridge game last year will be back in 2014, hopefully with two starships.

Craig has ideas for "odd things" to do at the con: He plans to hold a Spirited Art class Friday night to allow guests to learn to

paint, then on Saturday we can match the guest with the painting. Craig plans to make the Chairman's Reception and the Guest of Honor speeches into a single event on Saturday afternoon, held roughly 4-6P, followed by the Art Auction. He's not planning to have a Masquerade this year, but he will continue the hall costume contest. He plans to bring back the dance on Saturday night, after providing ballroom dance lessons held by the West Coast Swing group.

Dues are due. Treasurer Sam read a list of the members who had paid their dues so far.

Craig moved to adjourn at 6:46:42P.

The February program was Mike K.'s "Short Attention Span Theater." Maria and Adam Grim hosted the After-the-Meeting Meeting at the meeting location at Willowbrook Madison.

NASFA Calendar

MARCH

- 01 Cardboard*Con—Atlanta GA.
- 01 OnyxCon Sankofa—Atlanta GA.
- 02 Con†Stellation XXXIII Concom Meeting—3:30P at The DeeP <www.deepcomics.com>.
BD: Ronnie Lajoie.
- 03 Read Across America Day.
- 04 Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras.
- 05 Ash Wednesday.
- 06 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Seventh Son*, Orson Scott Card; 6P.
- 07-09 CoastCon 37—Biloxi MS.
- 08* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
NOTE: This is one week earlier than usual to avoid a convention conflict.
- 09 BD: Tracey Kennedy.
- 09 Daylight Savings Time Begins.
- 10 BD: Kerry Gilley.
- 13 BD: Anita Eisenberg.
- 14-16 Game Days IX—Franklin TN.
- 16 Purim.
- 17 St. Patrick's Day.
- 17 BD: Benito Juárez (observed).
- 19-23 International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts 35—Orlando FL.
- 20 Spring Equinox.
- 20-23 Furry Weekend Atlanta—Atlanta GA.
- 21 BD: Benito Juárez.
- 21-23 FantaSciCon—Dalton GA.
- 21-23 MidSouthCon 32—Memphis TN.
- 22 BD: Jayson Woosley.
- 28-30 Secrets Con 1—Atlanta GA.

APRIL

- 01 April Fool's Day.
- 03 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Declare*, Tim Powers; 6P.
- 04-06 221B Con—Atlanta GA.
- 04-06 AggieCon 45—College Station TX.
- 04-06 Wizard World—St. Louis MO.
- 06 Toy & Hobby Show—Gray TN.
- 07 BD: Mary Lampert.
- 11-13 Conglomeration—Louisville KY.
- 11-13 JordanCon 6—Atlanta GA.
- 11-13 Anime St. Louis—St. Louis MO.
- 11-13 EyeCon: Teen Wolf—Atlanta GA.

- 11-13 Gnome Con 3—Savannah GA.
- 11-13 Marble City Comicon—Knoxville TN.
- 13 Palm Sunday.
- 15 Tax Day.
- 15 BD: "Uncle Timmy."
- 15 BD: Manda Freeman.
- 15 First day of Passover.
- 17-20 Frolicon—Atlanta GA.
- 18 Good Friday.
- 18 Orthodox Good Friday.
- 18-20 Gateway FurMeet—St. Louis MO.
- 18-20 MTAC in Love—Nashville TN.
- 18-20 Full Moon Festival—Nashville TN.
- 19* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: Mary and Doug Lampert, at the church.
- 19-20 Awesome Con—Washington DC.
- 19-20 NashiCon—Columbia SC.
- 20 Easter Sunday.
- 20 Orthodox Easter.
- 21 BD: Randy B. Cleary.
- 22 Last day of Passover.
- 22 Earth Day/Fête de la Terre.
- 23 Administrative Professionals Day.
- 25-27 Science Fiction Film Festival—Baton Rouge LA.
- 25-27 Trek Trax—Atlanta GA.
- 25 Arbor Day.
- 26 BD: Chloe Airoldi.
- 26-27 Comic & Anime Con—Knoxville TN.
- 26-27 USA Science & Engineering Festival—Washington DC.
- 28 Yom HaShoah.
- 30 BD: Mark Maxwell.
- 30 Día del Niño.

MAY

- 01 BD: Russell McNutt.
- 01 Bailey Cove Library Book Discussion: *Gate to Women's Country*, Sheri S. Tepper; 6P.
- 01 Día del Trabajo.
- 02-04 Corflu—Richmond VA.
- 02-04 Outlantacon—Atlanta GA.
- 05 Cinco de Mayo.
- 09-11 Anime Southeast—Sevierville TN.
- 10 Día de la Madre.
- 11 Mothers' Day/Fête des Mères.
- 14 BD: Nancy Whittle.
- 16 BD: Linda Bolgeo.
- 17 Armed Forces Day.
- 19 BD: David O. Miller.
- 22-25 NashCon—Franklin TN.
- 22-26 Game-o-Rama—Atlanta GA.
- 23-25 Mobicon XVII—Mobile AL.
- 23-25 Timegate—Atlanta GA.
- 23-25 MomoCon—Atlanta GA.
- 24* NASFA Meeting—6P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
NOTE: This is one week later than usual to avoid a convention conflict.
- 26 Memorial Day.
- 27 BD: Kathy Paulk.
- 29 BD: John F. Kennedy.
- 30-01 ConCarolinas—Charlotte NC.
- 30-01 Phoenix Festival—Birmingham AL.
- 30-01 Fanboy Expo—Knoxville TN.
- 30-01 Wizard World—Atlanta GA.
- 31 JABECon—Lebanon TN.

word entertainment.” In addition to the categories directly related to sf/f/h (for which nominees are listed below) quite a few other items of genre interest can be found in the full list. Winners will be announced at a ceremony 29 May 2014 at the New York Academy of Medicine in NYC.

Audie Fantasy Noms

Wisp of a Thing, Alex Bledsoe, narrated by Stefan Rudnicki (Blackstone)

Kill City Blues, Richard Kadrey, narrated by MacLeod Andrews (HarperAudio)

Swords of Waar, Nathan Long, narrated by Dina Pearlman (Audible Frontiers)

The Republic of Thieves, Scott Lynch, narrated by Michael Page (Tantor)

The Rithmatist, Brandon Sanderson, narrated by Michael Kramer (Macmillan Audio)

Audie Paranormal Noms

Warbound, Larry Correia, narrated by Bronson Pinchot (Brilliance)

Ever After, Kim Harrison, narrated by Marguerite Gavin (Blackstone)

Inferno, Sherrilyn Kenyon, narrated by Holter Graham (Macmillan Audio)

Reviver, Seth Patrick, narrated by Ari Fliakos (Macmillan)

Red Moon, Benjamin Percy, narrated by Benjamin Percy (Grand Central)

Audie Science Fiction Noms

Maddaddam, Margaret Atwood, narrated by Bernadette Dunne, Bob Walter, Robbie Daymond (Random House Audio)

Captain Vorpatril's Alliance, Lois McMaster Bujold, narrated by Grover Gardner (Blackstone)

Extinction Machine, Jonathan Maberry, narrated by Ray Porter (Macmillan Audio)

Shaman, Kim Stanley Robinson, narrated by Graeme Malcolm (AudioGO)

The Martian, Andy Weir, narrated by R.C. Bray (Brilliance)

STOKER AWARDS BALLOT & LA AWARDS

The Horror Writers Association <www.horror.org> has released the final Ballot for the 2013 Bram Stoker Awards. Voting will be by HWA members through 31 March 2014. Winners will be announced at the World Horror Convention <www.worldhorror2014.org>, to be held 8–11 May 2014 at the Portland Doubletree Hotel in Portland OR.

In addition to the categories below, the HWA has announced two Lifetime Achievement Awards winners—**Stephen Jones** and **R.L. Stine**. These will also be presented at the World Horror Convention.

Stoker Novel Noms

Joe Hill, *NOS4A2* (William Morrow)

Stephen King, *Doctor Sleep* (Scribner)

Lisa Morton, *Malediction* (Evil Jester Press)

Sarah Pinborough and F. Paul Wilson, *A Necessary End* (Thunderstorm/Maelstrom Press)

Christopher Rice, *The Heavens Rise* (Gallery Books)

Stoker First Novel Noms

Kate Jonez, *Candy House* (Evil Jester Press)

John Mantoath, *The Year of the Storm* (Berkley Trade)

Rena Mason, *The Evolutionist* (Nightscape Press)

Jonathan Moore, *Redheads* (Samhain Publishing)

Royce Prouty, *Stoker's Manuscript* (G.P. Putnam's Sons)

Stoker Young Adult Novel Noms

Patrick Freivald, *Special Dead* (JournalStone)

Kami Garcia, *Unbreakable* (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

Geoffrey Girard, *Project Cain* (Simon & Schuster Books for

Young Readers)

Joe McKinney, *Dog Days* (JournalStone)

Cat Winters, *In the Shadow of Blackbirds* (Harry N. Abrams)

Stoker Graphic Novel Noms

Ed Brubaker, *Fatale Book Three: West of Hell* (Image Comics)

Caitlin R. Kiernan, *Alabaster: Wolves* (Dark Horse Comics)

Brandon Seifert, *Witch Doctor, Vol. 2: Mal Practice* (Image Comics)

Cameron Stewart, *Sin Titulo* (Dark Horse Comics)

Paul Tobin, *Colder* (Dark Horse Comics)

Stoker Long Fiction Noms

Dale Bailey, “The Bluehole” (*F&SF*, May/June 2013)

Gary Braunbeck, “The Great Pity” (*Chiral Mad 2*, Written Backwards)

Benjamin K. Ethridge, “The Slaughter Man” (*Limbus, Inc.*, JournalStone)

Gregory Frost, “No Others Are Genuine” (*Asimov's*, October/November 2013)

Greg F. Gifune, *House of Rain* (DarkFuse)

Rena Mason, *East End Girls* (JournalStone)

Stoker Short Fiction Noms

Michael Bailey, “Primal Tongue” (*Zippered Flesh 2*, Smart Rhino Publications)

Patrick Freivald, “Snapshot” (*Blood & Roses*, Scarlett River Press)

David Gerrold, “Night Train to Paris” (*F&SF*, January/February 2013)

Lisa Mannetti, “The Hunger Artist” (*Zippered Flesh 2*, Smart Rhino Publications)

John Palisano, “The Geminis” (*Chiral Mad 2*, Written Backwards)

Michael Reaves, “Code 666” (*F&SF*, March/April 2013)

Stoker Screenplay Noms

Fabien Adda and Fabrice Gobert, *The Returned*: “The Horde” (Ramaco Media I, Castelao Pictures)

Brad Falchuk, *American Horror Story: Asylum*: “Spilt Milk” (Brad Falchuk Teley-Vision, Ryan Murphy Productions)

Bryan Fuller, *Hannibal*: “Apéritif” (Dino De Laurentiis Company, Living Dead Guy Productions, AXN: Original X Production, Gaumont International Television)

Daniel Knauf, *Dracula*: “A Whiff of Sulfur” (Flame Ventures, Playground, Universal Television, Carnival Films)

Glen Mazzara, *The Walking Dead*: “Welcome to the Tombs” (AMC TV)

Stoker Anthology Noms

R.J. Cavender and Boyd E. Harris, eds., *Horror Library: Volume 5* (Cutting Block Press)

Eric J. Guignard, ed., *After Death...* (Dark Moon Books)

Michael Knost and Nancy Eden Siegel, eds., *Barbers & Beauties* (Hummingbird House Press)

Joseph S. Pulver, Sr., ed., *The Grimscribe's Puppets* (Miskatonic River Press)

Anthony Rivera and Sharon Lawson, eds., *Dark Visions: A Collection of Modern Horror, Volume One* (Grey Matter Press)

Stoker Fiction Collection Noms

Nathan Ballingrud, *North American Lake Monsters: Stories* (Small Beer Press)

Laird Barron, *The Beautiful Thing That Awaits Us All and Other Stories* (Night Shade Books)

James Dorr, *The Tears of Isis* (Perpetual Motion Machine Publishing)

Caitlin R. Kiernan, *The Ape's Wife and Other Stories* (Subterranean)

Gene O'Neill, *Dance of the Blue Lady* (Bad Moon Books)
S.P. Somtow, *Bible Stories for Secular Humanists* (Diplodocus Press)

Stoker Non-Fiction Noms

Barbara Brodman and James E. Doan, eds., *Images of the Modern Vampire: The Hip and the Atavistic* (Fairleigh Dickinson)
Gary William Crawford, ed., *Ramsey Campbell: Critical Essays on the Modern Master of Horror* (Scarecrow Press)
William F. Nolan, *Nolan on Bradbury: Sixty Years of Writing about the Master of Science Fiction* (Hippocampus Press)
Jarkko Toikkanen, *The Intermedial Experience of Horror: Suspended Failures* (Palgrave Macmillan)
Robert H. Waugh, ed., *Lovecraft and Influence: His Predecessors and Successors* (Scarecrow Press)

Stoker Poetry Collection Noms

Bruce Boston, *Dark Roads: Selected Long Poems 1971–2012* (Dark Renaissance Books)
Helen Marshall, *The Sex Lives of Monsters* (Kelp Queen Press)
Marge Simon and Sandy DeLuca, *Dangerous Dreams* (Elektrik Milk Bath Press)
Marge Simon, Rain Graves, Charlee Jacob, and Linda Addison, *Four Elements* (Bad Moon Books/Evil Jester Press)
Stephanie M. Wytovich, *Hysteria: A Collection of Madness* (Raw Dog Screaming Press)

NEBULA AWARDS NOMS

The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America <www.sfwaw.org> recently announced the nominees for the 2013 Nebula Awards and related SFWA awards. Voting is by SFWA members through 30 March 2014, with winners announced at the Nebula Awards Weekend, to be held 15–18 May 2014 at the San Jose Marriott in San Jose CA. The nominees are:

Nebula Novel Noms

We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves, Karen Joy Fowler (Marian Wood)
The Ocean at the End of the Lane, Neil Gaiman (Morrow; Headline Review)
Fire with Fire, Charles E. Gannon (Baen)
Hild, Nicola Griffith (Farrar, Straus and Giroux)
Ancillary Justice, Ann Leckie (Orbit US; Orbit UK)
The Red: First Light, Linda Nagata (Mythic Island)
A Stranger in Olondria, Sofia Samatar (Small Beer)
The Golem and the Jinni, Helene Wecker (Harper)

Nebula Novella Noms

“Wakulla Springs,” Andy Duncan and Ellen Klages (Tor.com 10/2/2013)
“The Weight of the Sunrise,” Vylar Kaftan (*Asimov's* 2/2013)
“Annabel Lee,” Nancy Kress (*New Under the Sun*)
“Burning Girls,” Veronica Schanoes (Tor.com 6/19/2013)
“Trial of the Century” Lawrence M. Schoen (www.lawrencemschoen.com; *World Jumping*)
Six-Gun Snow White, Catherynne M. Valente (Subterranean)

Nebula Novelette Noms

“Paranormal Romance,” Christopher Barzak (*Lightspeed* 6/2013)
“The Waiting Stars,” Aliette de Bodard (*The Other Half of the Sky*)
“They Shall Salt the Earth with Seeds of Glass,” Alaya Dawn Johnson (*Asimov's* 1/2013)
“Pearl Rehabilitative Colony for Ungrateful Daughters,” Henry Lien (*Asimov's* 12/2013)
“The Litigation Master and the Monkey King,” Ken Liu (*Lightspeed* 8/2013)
“In Joy, Knowing the Abyss Behind,” Sarah Pinsker (*Strange Horizons* 7/1–8/2013)

Nebula Short Story Noms

“The Sounds of Old Earth,” Matthew Kressel (*Lightspeed* 1/2013)
“Selkie Stories Are for Losers,” Sofia Samatar (*Strange Horizons* 1/7/2013)
“Selected Program Notes from the Retrospective Exhibition of Theresa Rosenberg Latimer,” Kenneth Schneyer (*Clockwork Phoenix* 4)
“If You Were a Dinosaur, My Love,” Rachel Swirsky (*Apex* 3/2013)
“Alive, Alive Oh,” Sylvia Spruck Wrigley (*Lightspeed* 6/2013)

Ray Bradbury Award (Dramatic Presentation)

Doctor Who: “The Day of the Doctor” Europa Report
Gravity Her
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire Pacific Rim

Andre Norton Award (YA SF/F Book)

The Coldest Girl in Coldtown, Holly Black (Little, Brown; Indigo)
When We Wake, Karen Healey (Allen & Unwin; Little, Brown)
Sister Mine, Nalo Hopkinson (Grand Central)
The Summer Prince, Alaya Dawn Johnson (Levine)
Hero, Alethea Kontis (Harcourt)
September Girls, Bennett Madison (Harper Teen)
A Corner of White, Jaclyn Moriarty (Levine)

Letter of Comment

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

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16 February 2014

Many thanks for the February issue of the *Shuttle*. I did check the submission deadlines, and sure enough, tomorrow is the day. So, with some luck and inspiration, I will have a letter of comment ready to send to you shortly. Fingers crossed...

It truly is nomination season... I have the Hugos, the Auroras and the FAAns to consider. However, I am out of the loop, and I really do not believe I am an informed voter. I may simply let the nomination period for the Hugos and the Auroras go by, and see what the final ballot looks like. If I don't recognize anyone, I won't vote. As far as the FAAns go, I will vote in the categories I have some knowledge in, send them in, and see what goes. I am not sure about the fan funds...

I can relay some news to you... I learned through Facebook that Robert J. Sawyer is the recipient of this year's Skylark Award from Boskone.

Hello to Pie-Eyed again... and here we are at Hogwarts! All a regular tea reading would tell me that the tea ball didn't do a good job of keeping the tea leaves together; I believe I know at least four people, probably more, who could read the leaves for me, and give me something to think about. Luna Lovegood was an odd character, but when I read how the young actress got the role... good for her. I'd love nothing better than to go and explore Hogwarts with a good Marauder's Map, and a set of spells ready to keep the assorted dangers away.

Next weekend is that artisan's bazaar, Artisans of the Metropolis, at the very steampunky Metropolis Factory in Toronto's west end. We're about ready to go to it, and see how sales are. We'll have another show about three weeks afterwards, so

we may need to spend some of the profits on fresh merchandise.

Wondered if you'd had to deal with some of the cold and show that came far too South for most. With some luck, it should be gone soon. Spring isn't that far away. Take care all, and see you with the next issue.

[Yep, nominations are thick and fast right now for some of the fan awards; though most of the professional group awards (SFWA, HWA, and so forth) seem to have moved past the nomi-

nations and to the final ballot already. I don't know if there's anything to that or whether the tradition of a late summer Worldcon gives cover to a slower (perhaps more deliberative?) process for fan awards other than the Hugos. Yep, I saw the news on Sawyer and have the Skylark in this month's Roundup. You and the Hogwarts staff can keep your tea leaf reading unless the very rare stray leaf in a pitcher of iced tea counts. I never "got" the hot tea thing. Weather here remains odd; there's a chance of freezing rain or even a few snowflakes Monday (3 March) here, but I don't expect any travel problems. -ED]

BAFTA FILM AWARDS

Somewhat late, word has come to the *Shuttle* of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts Film Awards for this year. Far and away the biggest genre winner was *Gravity* with 6 wins; for Original Music, Cinematography, Outstanding British Film, Director, Sound, and Special Visual Effects. Other genre winners include *Frozen* (Animated Film category), *Sleeping With The Fishes* (British Short Animation category), and *Room 8* (British Short Film category).

LONCON 3 HUGO MC KERFUFFLE

by Mike Kennedy, editor

Okay, this one is complicated and, either personally or in my capacity as *Shuttle* editor, I don't pretend to know all the facts. Not even close.

Loncon 3, this year's Worldcon, selected an MC for the Hugo Awards. There was distention within the committee about the person chosen. One division head resigned. Social media blew up over the selection. The MC withdrew. The public part of this took about a day or less—though the preceding internal committee stuff was a good bit longer—happening basically overnight for US fans. That much seems certain.

The (now ex-) MC in question is UK media personality Jonathan Ross; who does have a history of controversy—readers are left to their own devices to research that. Whether Mr. Ross is sexist (or any of several other -ists he's been accused of) is probably not the point. Inviting a controversial figure was likely a poor choice no matter how justified (or un-) that controversy may be. Accusations of sexism and a dozen other -isms have been blowing up with great regularity in and around sf fandom (and prodom) recently. A safe, middle of the road—even boring—choice for MC would probably have been a more prudent choice this year than one who invites more controversy.

One hopes that future Worldcon committees (and bidders) will be paying attention and will think about any implications for them.



P. O. Box 4857
Huntsville AL 35815-4857

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