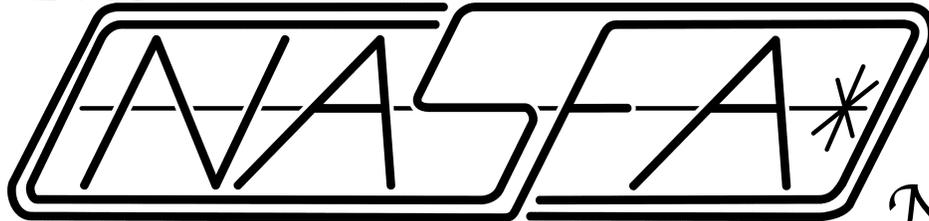


The



Shuttle

November 2015

The Next NASFA Meeting is 6:30P Saturday
21 November 2015 at the Regular Location

Concom Meetings are Expected to Resume in January 2016

▲ Oyez, Oyez ▲

The next **NASFA Meeting** will be **6:30P Saturday 21 October 2015**, 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.

PLEASE NOTE that per a vote at the October 2014 meeting, the start of the Business Meeting has changed from 6P to 6:30P. Programs are still scheduled to start at 7P. As this has now become established practice, this is the last month this notice will appear.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

The November program will be a presentation by Jamie Marchant <www.jamie-marchant.com>, author of *The Goddess's Choice*, *The Soul Stone*, and an upcoming untitled book which will finish her epic fantasy trilogy, *The Kronicles of Korthlundia*. She may also do a reading.

NOVEMBER ATMM

Mike Kennedy will host the November After-The-Meeting Meeting at the meeting site. There will be chocolate cake, but due to the location there won't be any champers this year :-)

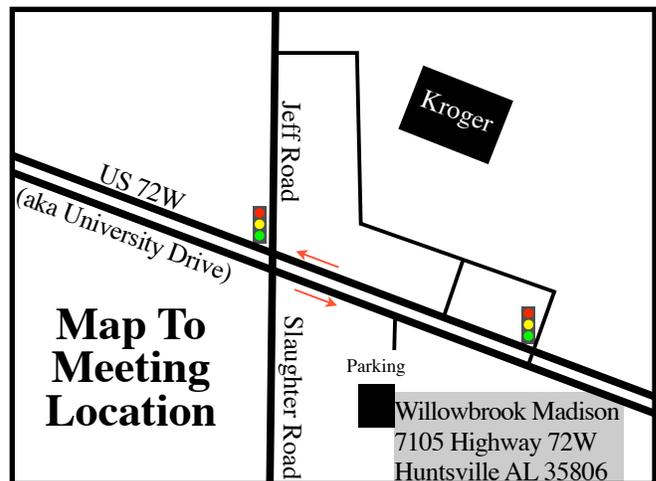
The usual rules will apply—that is, please bring food to share and your favorite drink. Also, please stay to help clean up. We need to be good guests and leave things at least as clean as we found them.

CONCOM MEETINGS

Con†Stellation XXXIV Concom Meeting have not yet been scheduled, though Doug and Mary say they will probably start in January.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

- December—Christmas Party at Sue Thorn's house. The gathering will start at 2P. Please bring food to share and your favorite drink. If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a *single gift* (\$10–15 range).



Continuing Our 35th Year of Publication

Inside this issue...

News & Info	2
NASFA Calendar	2

Minutes (Not Quite) of the October Meeting.....	3
Awards Roundup	3
Letters of Comment.....	4

Deadline for the December 2015 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Friday 27 November 2015

FUTURE ATMMs & PARTIES

In December, the ATMM (indeed the whole meeting) will be subsumed in the Christmas Party.

Stay tuned for possible info on a New Year's Eve party.

We need volunteers for 2016 ATMMs (especially the first few months).

FUTURE CLUB MEETING DATES

All remaining 2015 NASFA meetings are currently scheduled on the normal 3rd Saturday. The December meeting will be incorporated into the Christmas Party at Sue Thorn's house (see above).

CHANGING SHUTTLE DEADLINES

For December 2015, the *Shuttle* will need to be put to bed exceptionally early, with repro almost 2 full weeks before the meeting. Going into 2016, the monthly schedule has not been set but stay tuned as it will certainly be at least a bit different from recent practice.

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.

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 both *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, 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 HUGO BASE CONTEST

Next year's Worldcon (MidAmeriCon II <midamericon2.org>), to be held 17–21 August 2016 at the Kansas City Convention Center [HQ hotel: Kansas City Marriott Downtown] in Kansas City MO) has announced they will follow the current tradition and run a contest for the design for the Hugo Award base. Full rules can be found at <midamericon2.org/hugo-base-contest>—proposals are due by 18 January 2016.

GUFF WINNER CHOSEN

Jukka Halme, who was standing unopposed, has been announced as the winner of the 2016 Get Up-and-over Fan Fund (which sends representatives alternately between Europe and Australia). This is a southbound race, so Jukka will travel to attend Contact <contact2016.com>—that year's Australian natcon—to be held 25–28 March 2015 at the Hotel Jen Brisbane in Brisbane QLD Australia.

TAFF SWITCHES DIRECTION

In an effort to “synchronize” the directionality of the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund to current and possible European Worldcons, the administrators have changed the 2016 TAFF race to be a second consecutive Westbound (Europe-to-North America) year.

Wolf Von Witting, runner up in the 2015 race, has announced he is throwing his in the ring though he has said he “had hoped

for two consecutive Eastbound races instead to tweak the direction for Helsinki in 2017 and possibly Dublin in 2019.” Von Witting is something of a pan-European candidate, having been born in Finland, having worked in Sweden for 25 years, and now living in Italy.

The 2016 TAFF winner would presumably be expected to attend MidAmeriCon II, next year's Worldcon.

THE ZINE ARTISTS

A stellar list of sf/f/h artists have banded together and established a new website <www.thezineartists.com> they've titled “The Zine Artists—A Visual History of Fan Art.” Nearly two dozen artists are represented already (including long-time *Shuttle* LoCer Sheryl Birkhead).

SHORT STORIES SOUGHT FOR CONTEST

Sci-Fest LA, The Los Angeles Science Fiction One-Act Play Festival, is soliciting original sf short stories (*not* plays) eligible for the 2016 Roswell Award. Submission guidelines (including 500–1500 word range and a minimum author age of 18) can be found online at <www.sci-fest.com/#!/the-roswell-award/cif2>. Submissions close 15 January 2015. The winner will receive a \$1000 cash prize.

CROSSED GENRES MAGAZINE TO CLOSE

Crossed Genres Magazine <crossedgenres.com/magazine> has announced they will cease publication after the December 2015 issue. The publisher, Crossed Genre Publications, says they will continue to produce books

AMAZON OPENS OFFLINE BOOKSTORE

Most *Shuttle* readers [but definitely not my nephews -ED] are old enough to remember when Amazon sold *only* books and closely related products. You probably also remember how revolutionary it all seemed to sell books (and then other things, and then just about *everything*) online. Well, now Amazon has an actual physical bookstore <www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=13270229011> where they sell, well, books. How quaint.

NASFA Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 01 Daylight Saving Time ends.
- 02 Día de Muertos.
- 06–07 PhreakNic 19—Nashville TN.
- 06–07 Nerdacon v10—Columbus GA.
- 06–08 Comic Con—Perry GA.
- 11 Veterans Day/Remembrance Day.
- 13–15 Anime Blast—Chattanooga TN.
- 13–15 CONjuration—Atlanta GA.
- 13–15 Superhero & Comic Con—Orlando FL.
- 14 Hamacon Minicon—Huntsville AL.
- 14 YomuCon—Tuscaloosa AL.
- 14–15 Fanaticon—Dothan AL.
- 16 Aniversario de la Revolución Mexicana.
- 20–22 Comic Convention—Memphis TN.
- 21* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: Presentation by Jamie Marchant. ATMM: Mike Kennedy (at the church).
- 22 BD: Nancy Renee Peters.
- 23 BD: Mike Kennedy.
- 26 Thanksgiving Day.
- 27 BD: Abraham Lincoln.
- 28 Atlanta Anime Day—Atlanta GA.
- 29 BD: Howard Camp.
- 30 BD: Richard Gilliam.
- 30 BD: Joshua Kennedy.

ARTHUR C. CLARKE AWARDS

Winners of the 2015 Arthur C. Clarke Awards <www.clarkefoundation.org/about-us/awards> have been announced. The awards were presented 28 October 2015 at the Lockheed Martin Global Vision Center in Alexandria CA. The winners are:
Innovator Award**Greg Wyler** (founder, OneWeb and O3b)
Imagination in Service to Society Award**Margaret Atwood** (poet, novelist, literary critic, essayist, and environmental activist)
Lifetime Achievement Award**Lockheed Martin Advanced Development Programs** <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skunk_Works>

WORLD FANTASY AWARDS

Winners of the 2015 World Fantasy Awards <www.worldfantasy.org/awards> were announced at the World Fantasy Convention 2015 <www.wfc2015.org>, held 5–8 November 2015 at The Saratoga Hilton in Saratoga Springs NY. The winners are:
Life Achievement (announced earlier)**Ramsey Campbell** and **Sheri S. Tepper**
Novel***The Bone Clocks***, David Mitchell (Random House; Sceptre)
Novella***We Are All Completely Fine***, Daryl Gregory (Tachyon)
Short Fiction***Do You Like to Look at Monsters?***, Scott Nicolay (Fedogan & Bremer)
Anthology***Monstrous Affections***, Kelly Link and Gavin J. Grant, ed. (Candlewick)
Collection (tie)***Gifts for the One Who Comes After***, Helen Marshall (ChiZine) and ***The Bitterwood Bible and Other Recountings***, Angela Slatter (Tartarus)
Artist**Samuel Araya**
Special Award, Professional**Sandra Kasturi** and **Brett Alexander Savory**, for ChiZine Publications
Special Award, Nonprofessional**Ray B. Russell** and **Rosalie Parker**, for Tartarus Press

NEFFY AWARDS

The National Fantasy Fan Federation <n3f.org> has announced winners of their 2015 N3F Speculative Fiction Awards (aka Neffy Awards). Quoting N3F, “award categories fluctuate from year-to-year with new categories being added and old ones dropped according to nomination votes.” The winners are:
Best Editor**Toni Weisskopf**, Baen
Heroic Commendation**All of Hugo Fandom**, for reviving the most ancient and honorable of all fannish customs, the all-hobby fan feud
 [One *hopes* that latter award was meant in good humor. In any case, congratulations to Toni! -ED]

PLANETARY SOCIETY COSMOS AWARD

Neil deGrasse Tyson (astrophysicist, science popularizer) has received the Cosmos Award for Outstanding Public Presentation of Science from The Planetary Society <www.planetary.org>.

CANOPUS AWARDS

Winners of the 100 Year Starship Canopus Awards <100yss.org/initiatives/canopusaward> (for “Excellence in Interstellar Writing”) were announced at a 30 October 2015 event at the Santa Clara Marriott in Santa Clara CA. The winners are:
Previously Published Long Fiction (≥40,000 words)
InterstellarNet: Enigma, Edward M. Lerner (FoxAcre)
Previously Published Short Fiction (1,000–40,000 words)
“The Waves,” Ken Liu (Asimov’s December 2012)
Original Fiction (1,000–5,000 words)**“Everett’s Awakening,”** Yelcho
Original Non-Fiction (1,000–5,000 words)**“Finding Earth 2.0 from the Focus of the Solar Gravitational Lens,”** Louis Friedman and Slava Turyshev

GOODREADS CHOICE AWARDS NOMS

Website <goodreads.com> (which call itself “the world’s largest site for readers and book recommendations”) has announced first-round nominees for their Best Books of 2015 <www.goodreads.com/choiceawards/best-books-2015>. By the time this sees print, the semifinal round will be over and the final round underway. Categories of likely interest to sf/f/h fans include Fantasy, Graphic Novels & Comics, Horror, and Science Fiction. Slightly further afield are the Middle Grade & Children’s, Mystery & Thriller, Picture Books, Science & Technology, and YA Fantasy & Science Fiction categories.

Letters of Comment

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

Sheryl Birkhead
 25509 Jonnie Court
 Gaithersburg MD 20882

23 October 2015

(September) Sheesh—fall is... well falling... and so are the temperatures.

Tomorrow the furnace gets its look-over and as soon as the firewood arrives, it will be back to full-out winter mode. (Hmm, it refuses to space the lines properly and I am tired of fighting with the software—so onward.)

Yeeouch—70,000 fans in one venue!! I cannot even imagine a Worldcon with that magnitude of memberships!

I just had it brought to my attention that the 2015 Capclave is this weekend—starting tonight. Ah, so much for not paying attention to the fan happenings locally!

I need to remember/re-educate myself about NASFiC selections. I kinda forgot that the Finland bid put a NASFiC on the table, but I forget how/when a slate of choices is made to allow the chosen site enough time to prep. I am guessing this means the list for voting will be at MidAmeriCon II—but that is not a lot of time to get the ducks all lined up. Then again, that is the same as it is has been for a while so I guess the system works.

Just scanning the list of [WSFS Constitutional] amendments—both passed and failed... Looking at the failed Best Series category, it would appear to be a good thing. When is a series complete? If a series were to win and the author add to the series, would that make it a new series? Just wondered.

Hope to see a DSC report nextish...

I like seeing the Parsec Awards—in that this means podcasts have their own awards. Since it is a narrow(?) field. I presume it means the frenzied ’casters would be gung ho. I could be wrong. Heck, with an audience the size of the one at Dragon Con, I’d think that would be a tremendous draw. Let me go hunt and see if I can find what the award looks like! I found some images, but honestly cannot tell if they are all the same. The design seems the same, but the color appear to vary—but that may be a computer thing.

(October) Thought this would be in the mail before this, but life did its thing. Back at the car dealership again and this time the outlet works so I can access the laptop (well, I could before, but only for a very short time until the battery pooped out). Sitting beneath the on-the-wall flatscreen and listening to the script about today being the anniversary of *Back to the Future*. That reminds me I ought to put it back on the Netflix list and watch it again.

I had heard about Larry Smith and Joni Dashoff’s car accident, but had lost track of the status—I’ll take a look at the fund

when I go online the next time.

I really hope the Cartoon Art Museum finds new digs very quickly. Yeah, outgo continues to go up while income goes in the opposite direction. I wish there was a way to pare my budget of fat, but that was done many years ago. I just got notice that both the drug coverage and health insurances are going up (drug by 20% and health by about 10%—car and house insurances already went up). It will be amusing (or perhaps shocking) when I get to the projected 2016 budget.

I guess turnabout is fair play—I use the Harry Potter (USPS) stamps, so I wonder if any mail I get from the UK will reveal their Star Wars stamps.

I understand the need to reduce paper copies, but feel it makes me more and more removed from fanzines—only more money and access to technology (and of course the time to do it) can change that. I don't see that happening in the foreseeable future, if ever. Of course there is always the lottery but I suspect I have to buy a ticket... I (and all your readers) appreciate all the work you put in each ish!

Just as I take some things as given in my universe (such as the *Shuttle* popping in every month) another of the givens is gone. Each holiday season I looked forward to Jan Howard Finder's pub—*The Wombat*—and Ned Brook's always interesting *It Goes on the Shelf*. Now there are two gaps in the expected arrivals. Sigh. Missed.

I have tried to watch *Game of Thrones* twice. Each time I watched at least 3 episodes. Yes, some attraction, but I just can't get interested. I probably will go back for a third try (as in three strikes and...) at some point.

Ah, so PED is off to find vittles in a different venue—to return next episode!

Nice to hear from Lloyd (twice!). If I remember correctly, I [was] about halfway through season 8 of Murdoch and read that William Shatner will be appearing in season 9 (as Mark Twain!). Sounds as if you are settling into a rhythm with the job and realizing you may not have the ideal job, but it is a job!

This has now sat parked on the thumb drive for far too long—so I intend to print it out today and get it mailed!

[So as not to bury the lede, Sheryl, I'll tell you, to drop down to Lloyd's LoC and read the bad news about his job. He sounds optimistic about getting another one soon, and I know we all hope he's right. The NASFiC site selection rules call for it to be one year in advance and administered by NASFiC (if there is one that year) or Worldcon (if there's no NASFiC). The lead time came about after two semi-related changes to the WSFS Constitution. The first moved the NASFiC selection to one year after the necessitating Worldcon selection (That was at least in part a reaction to the one-day race in '92 when Atlanta/Dragon*Con was selected for the 1995 NASFiC.) The second changed the Worldcon vote lead time from 3 years to 2, which had the knock-on effect of changing the NASFiC election to just a year out. RE the Best Series Hugo proposal, my understanding is the makers' intent was to define a lower bound on both word count and number of volumes before a series became eligible, but to *not* worry about whether it was "finished." There would be similar restrictions on when a continuing series would become eligible *again* if it appears as a Hugo finalist. As you've seen, the October issue carried some DeepSouthCon news (awards, site selection) but no trip report or review. With this year's DSC so close before Con†Stellation, not that many Huntsvillains made the trip and most of the ones who did were very busy in the intervening days getting ready for our local con. As for podcasts, I suspect they may be rather more broadly popular than you think. They don't appeal to me and it would

be easy to believe it's a generational thing, but I've seen indications online that a non-negligible number of older fans listen to them so I doubt it's that simple. The last update I can find on Smith and Dashoff (a late October Facebook post by Marcia Illingworth <tinyurl.com/MKIII151030>) has Larry back out of the hospital and just starting to attend cons again. They were reportedly still looking for a suitable replacement van. -ED]

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

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

3 November 2015

Thank you all for the October *Shuttle*... I am riding the ragged edge of disaster with the deadline, but I am a daring letter writer I am, so here goes.

I hope everyone had a most fun Con†Stellation, and I keep hoping that I can join you at one of them, but I doubt we'll ever make the connection. It's good to live vicariously through the con reports. Also, I am a stamp collector from a long ways back, so I am hopeful I might score one of the Star Wars set of stamps from the Royal Mail.

The Faned Awards... I got my certificate! Graeme Cameron is still working on the trophies for this year, and the previous years, so I may have some interesting trophies to put on my shelf. David Clink did well with the Elgin Chapbook award, coming in third place; he's also from the Toronto area.

Greetings, PieEyed! I am glad that after an awkward start Neville Longbottom got a plum position at Hogwarts. He overcame his awkwardness to excel. Given your adventures in the Wizarding World, I should say that Yvonne and I intend to go to London next year, spend a night or two in the Wizarding Hotel there (the Georgian), and then spend a day at the Harry Potter exhibit in Watford, north of London. We will see so much for ourselves.

My letter... well, bad news, I am unemployed again. After 13 months in a fairly good job, I have been dismissed without cause, which is quite illegal here. I honestly don't know what I did to deserve this, but the dismissal is done, and the job hunt is on, with some interesting results already. My employment insurance is okayed because of this form of dismissal, and the company may have to deal with some penalties because of it. We will find out more soon. I have a representative from a local community college looking for work for me, so something should arise within a few weeks, fingers crossed. The steampunk event in Niagara-on-the-Lake was great fun, and we already plan to return next year.

I have a few places to be tonight, so I will say thank you for this issue, and look forward to the November issue, and I bid you a pleasant good evening.

[Bad news about the job, Lloyd—I hope your search for a new one is very short. I've put in my retirement notice with my last day currently scheduled for 11 December; just under 4 weeks away as I type this. I've been working part time for quite a while now, which I hope will help me ease into full retirement without any undue mental shock. Con†Stellation was indeed fun for me, though it took me far too long to recover from it physically. Was it fun for everyone? Well, I'm sure there was *someone* there who would complain, but I believe the overwhelming majority would say "Yes" if asked whether they enjoyed it. -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 November 2015 edition (Volume 35, Number 11). NASFA Officers for 2015: President Mary Lampert; Vice President Mike Kennedy; Secretary Steve Sloan; Treasurer Sam Smith; Program Director "JudySue Thornsmythe"; Publicity Director Jenna Stone. 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, © 2015. 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.
