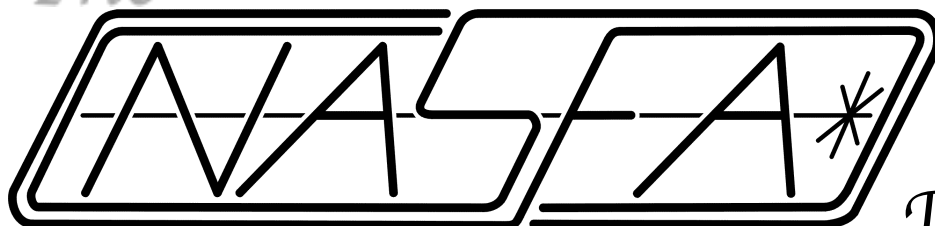


The



Shuttle
December 2015

The Next NASFA Meeting is the Christmas Party, Starting 2P Saturday 19 December 2015 at Judy and Sam's House

Concom Meetings are Expected to Resume in January 2016

▲ Oyez, Oyez ▲

The next NASFA Meeting will be **19 December 2015**, but *not* at the regular time *or* location. In fact, it will not even be at the *previously announced* location—keep reading for details.

DECEMBER MEETING

All parts of the December NASFA meeting (including the Business Meeting, Program, and After-the-Meeting Meeting) will be subsumed in the annual NASFA Christmas Party.

That party will be at **Sam and Judy Smith's house** (see the map on page 2). 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)**.

The Business Meeting will include at least elections for 2016 NASFA officers and possibly the con chair(s) for the 2017 Con†Stellation.

CONCOM MEETINGS

Con†Stellation XXXIV Concom Meeting have not yet been scheduled, though Doug and Mary say they will probably start in January 2016.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

No 2016 programs have been set at press time.

FUTURE ATMMs & PARTIES

All NASFAns are invited to the New Year's Eve party at Nancy Cucci and Ray Pietruszka's house—211 Evalyn Street in Madison. It will operate much like NASFA gatherings; please bring food to share and your favorite drink. If you need further information or directions, contact Ray or Nancy at (256) 772-3587.

We need After-the-Meeting Meeting volunteers for January 2016 and future months.

FUTURE CLUB MEETING DATES

Three 2016 NASFA meetings have been changed off of the normal 3rd Saturday due to convention conflicts:

- The March 2016 meeting will be on the 26th, one week later than usual due to MidSouthCon.
- The August 2016 meeting will be on the 13th, one week earlier than usual due to Worldcon.
- The October 2016 meeting will be on the 22nd, one week later than usual due to Con†Stellation.

CHANGING SHUTTLE DEADLINES

Going into 2016, the monthly *Shuttle* production 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*

Continuing Our 35th Year of Publication

Inside this issue...

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Deadline for the January 2016 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Monday 28 December 2015

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

SASQUAN DONATIONS

Sasquan, the 2015 Worldcon, sent a series of tweets 2 December 2015 listing the organizations to which they have passed along part of their surplus (or will do so, in some cases). They include "passalong funds" to the next three Worldcons (Kansas City, Helsinki, and the to-be-selected 2018 con), the Down Under Fan Fund, the Association of Science Fiction & Fantasy Artists, the WSFS Mark Protection Committee (protects Worldcon service marks), efanazines.com, the KC Worldcon (for purposes of bringing an astronaut to the con and other NASA related costs), the Worldcon Heritage Organization, Con-or-Bust.org (which helps people of color attend sf/f cons), the International Costumers Guild, the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund, FANAC.org, Westercon 69, and Westercon 70.

MST3K REBOOT

Joel Hodgson, creator of *Mystery Science Theater 3000*, is heading a Kickstarter campaign <www.kickstarter.com/projects/mst3k/bringbackmst3k> to make a new season of *MST3K*. When this issue reaches Shuttle subscribers' hands, there will only be a day or two before the campaign deadline. At this writing, the appeal had raised over \$3.8 million from over 31,000 donors—closing in on the 2nd stretch goal (\$4.4M) that would enable 9 episodes. The final stretch goal (\$5.5M) would trigger 12 eps. One of the actors signed on for the project is Huntsville native Felicia Day, who will play Kinga, the new villain and daughter of original mad scientist Dr. Forrester.

BringBackMST3K.com

HUNTSVILLE VS. ZOMBIES

Website TheBlaze.com has ranked Huntsville in their Top 10 US cities that could best survive a zombie apocalypse <tinyurl.com/HuntZombApoc>. They rated various cities in three areas: resources, defense, and demographics. At #6, Huntsville rated high in the latter two categories, but fell down a bit in resources. Columbia MO took the top spot, with an overall rating of 91.9, only slightly higher than Huntsville's 90.0.

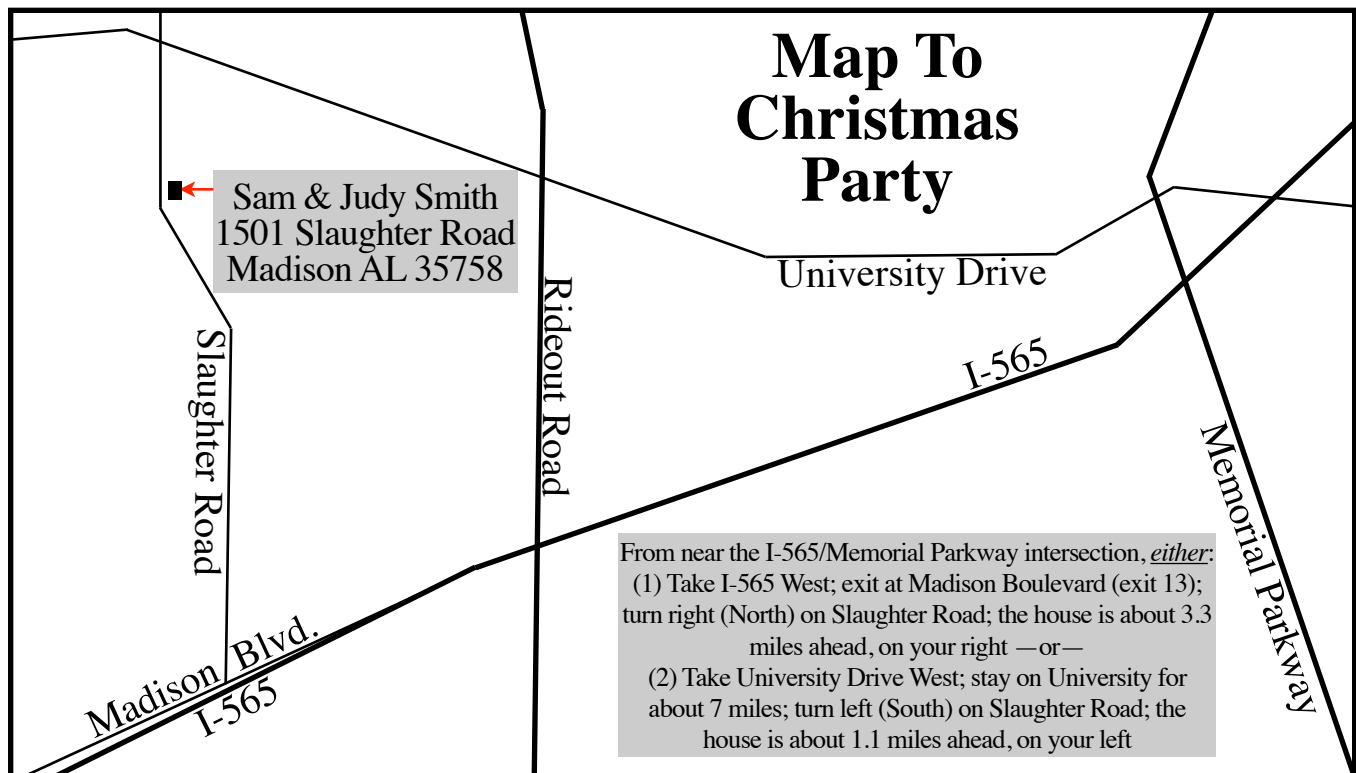
MOVING TO A HIGHER ORBIT

Orbit US <www.orbitbooks.net>, the left-side-of-the-Atlantic sf/f imprint of the Hachette Book Group, has announced it will be increasing the number of titles it publishes by 50% to approximately 90 titles each year—beginning Fall 2016.

It was not immediately known how or whether this would affect the publishing schedules of sister imprints Orbit UK or Orbit Australia.

WORLD FANTASY AWARD TROPHY DESIGN

Some *Shuttle* readers may have been following the controversy around the statue of H.P. Lovecraft used these past several decades for the World Fantasy Awards <worldfantasy.org>. Well, technically the controversy is about Lovecraft himself and his history of racism.



The World Fantasy Convention Board (the ruling body for WFCs and the WFAs) has announced they are seeking submissions for a new design for the trophies. Submissions are open until 2 April 2016. The announcement says, “The ideal design will represent both fantasy and horror, without bearing any physical resemblance to any person, living or dead.” Inquiries should be emailed to <worldfantasyawarddesign@gmail.com>.

CORFLU REDO

The next Corflu <www.corflu.org> (33rd in the series of conventions for fanzine fans) will be Corflu Chiflu, to be held 13–15 May 2016 at the Club Quarters Hotel in Chicago IL. Supporting memberships are \$25/£15. Attending memberships are \$75/£50 through the end of 2015 and \$100/£60 thereafter. Attending memberships include a Sunday lunch banquet.



YET MORE J.R.R.T. FROM THE VAULTS

The Story of Kullervo, an unfinished Tolkien manuscript previously published only in untouched form, will see the light of day again in April 2016 in a new book edited by Verlyn Flieger. This new version will include the manuscript plus Tolkien’s author’s drafts, notes, and essays.

Amazon is already listing it for pre-order (and likely other sellers are too). The list price is \$25 (hardcover). At this writing, Amazon is asking \$17.66 for the paper version and \$11.99 for the Kindle e-book.

THE SOLAR SYSTEM—TO SCALE

Almost all maps of the Solar System—possibly every one you’ve ever seen in person—are distinctly Not To Scale. The distances between the Sun and the various planets are just so, so, so much bigger than the objects themselves that it’s kind of hard to do otherwise in physical form. Fortunately, websites are not limited to, say, the biggest piece of paper you can bind into a book.

Enter Josh Worth and <joshworth.com/dev/pixelspace/pixel_space_solarsystem.html>. Here, the scale is 1 pixel = the diameter of the Moon, and *everything* is to scale (albeit linearized). Scroll right and you’ll quickly see the Sun, about 400 pixels wide. Keep scrolling and there’s a big empty—punctuated by an occasional witty observation—until you get to Mercury, a faint dot a bit over a pixel wide. [And no, I don’t know exactly how they draw something 1.4 pixels wide, though there are ways to closely imitate that by manipulating brightness. -ED] Then there’s a lot more scrolling past another big empty to bring you to 3.5 pixels worth of Venus.

After that, well, you get the idea.

The site titles itself “A Tediously Accurate Map of the Solar System” and it is, in some ways, a bit tedious. Especially after you manage to scroll past Mars. But, it is also a very good way to get an idea just how darn big the Solar System really is.

NASFA Calendar

DECEMBER

- 04–06 Yama-Con—Pigeon Forge TN.
- 07 First Day of Hanukkah.
- 07 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.
- 09 BD: Maria Grim.
- 12 Bash Of The Empire V—Atlanta GA.
- 12 BD: Toni Weisskopf.
- 14 Last Day of Hanukkah.
- 17 BD: Robin Ray.
- 19* NASFA Meeting—Business meeting, program, and ATMM all to be subsumed in Christmas Party at Sam

and Judy Smith’s house (starts at 2P).

- 19 BD: Yvonne Penney.
- 20 BD: Aaron Kennedy.
- 22 Winter Solstice.
- 24 The Prophet’s Birthday.
- 24 Christmas Eve.
- 25 Christmas Day.
- 26 BD: Michael R. Stone.
- 26 First Day of Kwanzaa.
- 31 New Year’s Eve/Nochevieja—NASFAs are invited to a New Year’s Eve party at Ray Pietruszka and Nancy Cucci’s house.

JANUARY 2016

- 01 New Year’s Day/Año Nuevo.
- 03 BD: Jim Kennedy.
- 03 BD: Karen Hopkins.
- 06 BD: Rich Garber.
- 07 Christmas Day (Orthodox).
- 07 BD: Douglas E. Lampert.
- 07 Collectors Con—Atlanta GA.
- 08–09 Shadowcon—Memphis TN.
- 08–10 GaFilk—Atlanta GA.
- 08–10 Wizard World—New Orleans LA.
- 14 New Year (Orthodox).
- 16 BD: Bruce Butler.
- 16* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Wil-lowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
- 16–18 AthCon—Athens GA.
- 17–18 Anime & Comic Con—Murfreesboro TN.
- 18 BD: Martin Luther King (observed).
- 20 BD: Larry Montgomery.
- 22–23 Wizard World—Atlanta GA.
- 29–31 Chattacon 41—Chattanooga TN.
- 30–31 Southern Fried Con—Jackson TN.

FEBRUARY

- 01 National Freedom Day.
- 01 Día de la Constitución.
- 02 Groundhog Day.
- 05 National Wear Red Day.
- 05–07 Days of the Dead—Atlanta GA.
- 05–07 Seishun-Con—Atlanta GA.
- 06 AnniCon—Anniston AL.
- 06–07 Tennessee Comic Con—Memphis TN.
- 08 BD: Lin Cochran.
- 08 Chinese New Year.
- 09 BD: Jack Lundy.
- 09 Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras.
- 10 BD: Marcia Illingworth.
- 10 Ash Wednesday.
- 12 BD: Abraham Lincoln.
- 14 Valentine’s Day.
- 15 Presidents’ Day.
- 15 BD: Susan B Anthony.
- 17 BD: Nancy A. Cucci.
- 19–21 ConNooga—Chattanooga TN.
- 19–21 PurpleBunnyCon—Nashville TN.
- 20* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Wil-lowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
- 20–21 MGA Con—Macon GA.
- 22 BD: George Washington.
- 24 Día de la Bandera.
- 26–28 AnachroCon—Atlanta GA.
- 26–28 Concave 37—Bowling Green KY.
- 26–28 Salute to Supernatural—Nashville TN.
- 27–28 ETSU-Con—Johnson City TN.

they found MidSouthCon 34 in Memphis. Judy moved that we move the meeting to March 26, Shelly seconded, and the motion carried. In August, they found the 74th Worldcon in Kansas City. Sam moved to move the meeting to August 13, Doug seconded, and the motion barely carried because the “pros” weren’t paying attention, and the usual “cons” almost outnumbered them. There was an obvious convention conflict in October, Con†Stellation. Sam moved to move the NASFA meeting to October 22, Mike K. seconded, and the motion carried.

In summary, three NASFA meetings were moved, and the new dates will be March 26, August 13, and October 22, 2016.

CON BUSINESS

Maria volunteered to run the Con Suite for Con†Stellation 2016.

Shelly gave a thank you speech to all of the Con†Stellation 2015 helpers and officers.

Craig agreed to run gaming for Con†Stellation 2016.

Sam had Con†Stellation 2015 con artifacts available for the taking.

Sam reported that Con†Stellation 2015 lost about \$6000. Next year’s hotel costs should be much cheaper. Next year we will only use the downstairs ballroom and upstairs programming rooms.

Judy nominated Chris to run Publicity, especially on Facebook, and Mike K. seconded.

Toni Weisskopf has agreed to be an Also Attending next year.

Doug moved to adjourn at 7:09:16P.

The November program was a presentation and reading by Jamie Marchant, author of *The Goddess’s Choice*, *The Soul Stone*, and an upcoming untitled book in her epic fantasy trilogy, *The Kronicles of Korthlundia*. The After the Meeting Meeting was hosted by Mike K. at the meeting location.

Awards Roundup

PRIX AURORA AWARDS

The 2015 **Prix Aurora Awards** <www.prixaurorawards.ca> (for Canadian literary and fan works) were presented at the Canadian natcon, Convention 35, (hosted by SFContario 6 <sfcontario.ca>) held 20–22 November 2015 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Toronto ON. Voting statistics are available at <tinyurl.com/Aurora2015Stats>. The winners are:

English Novel *A Play of Shadow*, Julie E. Czerneda (DAW Books)

English YA Novel (tie)... *Lockstep*, Karl Schroeder (Tor Books) and *Out of This World*, Charles de Lint (Razorbill Canada)

English Short Fiction “Crimson Sky,” Eric Choi (*Analog* July/August 2015)

English Poem/Song “A Hex, With Bees,” Tony Pi (*Wrestling With Gods: Tesseract Eighteen*, EDGE)

English Graphic Novel *It Never Rains*, Kari Maaren (Webcomic)

English Related Work ... *On Spec*, Copper Pig Writers’ Society

Artist **Dan O’ Driscoll**, covers for Bundoran Press and *On Spec* magazine

Fan Publication *Speculating Canada*, Derek Newman-Stille, ed.

Fan Music **Kari Maaren**, YouTube Channel

Fan Organizational **Sandra Kasturi**, Chair, Chiaroscuro Reading Series: Toronto

Fan Related Work **Derek Newman-Stille**, *Speculating Canada* on Trent Radio 92.7 FM

ISFiC WRITERS CONTEST WINNER

The winner of the 2015 Illinois Science Fiction in Chicago <isfic.org> **ISFiC Writers Contest** (for previously unpublished works of sf/f) was **M. Aruguete** for “**Catamount**.”

Aruguete received a membership to Windycon 42 <www.windycon.org>, held 13–15 November 2015 at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center in Lombard (Chicago area) IL plus hotel accommodations and \$300. Additionally the winning story was included in the con’s program book and will be archived on the ISFiC website.

ENDEAVOUR AWARD

The winner of the 2015 **Endeavour Award** <www.osfci.org/endeavour> (for “a distinguished science or fantasy written by a Pacific Northwest author or authors”) was announced at OryCon 37 <37.orycon.org>, held 20–22 November 2015 at the Waterfront Portland Marriott in Portland OR. The winner was *Last Plane to Heaven*, Jay Lake (Tor Books).

Since the award was posthumous, it was not immediately obvious to the *Shuttle* who received the prize (consisting of \$1000 and an etched glass plaque).

ROTSLER AWARD

The winner of the 2015 **Rotsler Award** <fancylopedia.wikidot.com/rotsler-award> (for “long-time wonder-working with graphic art in amateur publications of the science fiction community”) was announced at Loscon 42 <loscon.org/42a>, held 27–29 November 2015 at the Los Angeles Airport Marriott in Los Angeles CA. The winner was **Teddy Harvia**, who received a \$300 honorarium.

GOODREADS CHOICE AWARDS

The 2015 **Goodreads Choice Awards** <goodreads.com> (for the “best books of 2015”) have been announced. The full list of winners is online at <www.goodreads.com/choiceawards/best-books-2015>. In sf/f/h-related categories, the winners are:

Science Fiction *Golden Son*, Pierce Brown (Del Rey)

Fantasy *Trigger Warning: Short Fictions and Disturbances*, Neil Gaiman (Morrow)

Horror *Saint Odd*, Dean Koontz (Bantam)

Debut Goodreads Author *Red Queen*, Victoria Aveyard (HarperTeen)

YA Fantasy & Science Fiction *Queen of Shadows*, Sarah J. Maas (Bloomsbury Children’s)

Middle Grade & Children’s *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer*, Rick Riordan (Disney Hyperion)

Graphic Novels & Comics *Saga, Volume 4*, Brian K. Vaughan and Fiona Staples (Image)

ANNIE AWARDS NOMS

Nominees for the 43rd Annual Annie Awards (for “the year’s best in the field of animation”) have been announced by the International Animated Film Society/ASIFA-Hollywood <www.asifa-hollywood.org>. The list is extremely long—it would run around 4 pages in the *Shuttle*—and not completely focused on genre animation, so check the award website at <annieawards.org/nominees> to see the full list.



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The NASFA Shuttle is the newsletter of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association, Inc. This is the December 2015 edition (Volume 35, Number 12). 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.

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Huntsville AL 35815-4857 — OFFICIAL ADDRESS

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