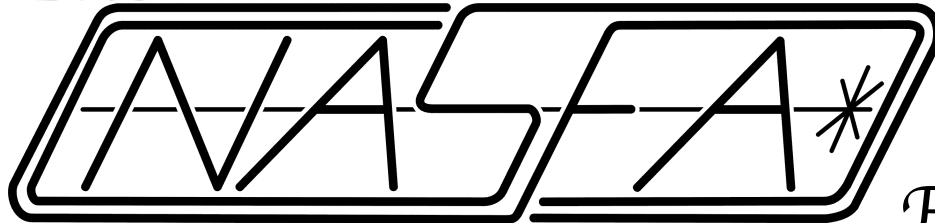


The



Shuttle

February 2016

The Next NASFA Meeting is 6:30P Saturday 20 February 2016 at the Regular Location

Concom Meeting 3P at the Church, 20 February 2016

▲ Oyez, Oyez ▲

The next NASFA Meeting will be **20 February 2016**, at the regular meeting location—the Madison campus of Willowbrook Baptist Church (old Wilson Lumber Company building) at **7105 Highway 72W** (aka University Drive).

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

The February program is TBD at press time, though it is known that JudySue is working on something.

JANUARY ATMM

Mary and Doug Lampert will host the January After-The-Meeting Meeting, at the meeting site. The usual rules 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 first Con†Stellation XXXIV Concom Meeting will be 3P on 20 February 2016—the same day as the club meeting. Going forward, it is expected that concom meetings will continue to be on NASFA meeting days, at least until we get close enough to the con to need to meet twice a month.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

No future programs have been set at press time.

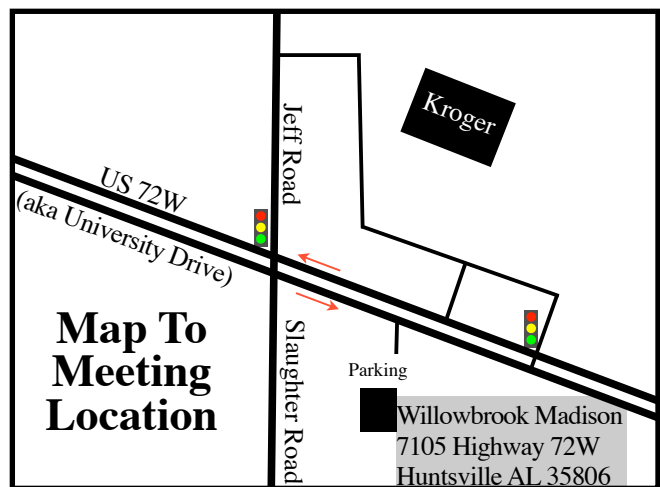
FUTURE ATMMs

We need After-The-Meeting Meeting volunteers for all future months in 2016.

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.



Continuing Our 36th Year of Publication

Inside this issue...		
News & Info	2	Awards Roundup
Minutes of the January Meeting	2	Stoker Awards Preliminary Ballot
NASFA Calendar	3	Letters of Comment
		Art by Sheryl Birkhead
		4
		6
		7
		8

Deadline for the March 2016 issue of *The NASFA Shuttle* is Monday 7 March 2016

CHANGING SHUTTLE DEADLINES

As we start 2016, the monthly *Shuttle* production schedule has been moved to the left a bit (versus recent practice). Though not yet set in concrete, the current intent is to put each issue to bed about 8 days before each month's 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.

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

HUGO/CAMPBELL/RETRO-HUGO NOMS OPEN

The 2016 Worldcon (MidAmericon II, to be held 17–21 August 2016 in Kansas City MO) has opened the nomination round for the 2016 Hugo Awards, the John W. Campbell Award, and the 1941 Retrospective Hugo Awards. In the case of the Hugo and Retro-Hugo Awards, each relevant period is the calendar year preceding the nominal date (2015 & 1940 respectively). In the case of the Campbell Award (for best new writer) the period is the two-year window preceding the nominal date (2014–2015 in this case).

Members of the 2015 (Spokane), 2016 (KC), and 2017 (Helsinki) worldcons *as of 31 January 2015* are each eligible to vote in the nominating round—though one may nominate only once even if you are a member of more than one of these cons. Nominations will close at 23:59 Pacific Time (GMT-7) on 31 March 2016.

Further information about the Hugo Awards process in general (but *not* specific info for this year) can be found at <www.thehugoawards.org>. Info on this year's Hugo two-stage voting process can be found at <midamericon2.org/the-hugo-awards>.

E PLURIBUS HUGO: AN UPDATE

One of the World Science Fiction Society constitutional amendments that received first passage in 2015 (and awaits possible ratification at the 2016 Worldcon) would significantly change the way that Hugo nomination ballots are counted. The stated intents of "E Pluribus Hugo" is to "minimize the effects of slates." [Many *Shuttle* readers will recall the fractious debates over slates in nominating for the Hugos in 2015. -ED]

At Sasquan (the 2015 Worldcon), a resolution was passed by the WSFS Business Meeting requesting that anonymized 2015 Hugo nominating ballots be provided to (among other possible things) test E Pluribus Hugo. This resolution is non binding; indeed there is very little that a WSFS Business Meeting can do that would be binding on a particular Worldcon.

It apparently proved harder than anticipated to fully anonymize the data. For a general discussion on why it is hard

to anonymize data see, e.g., <arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2009/09/your-secrets-live-online-in-databases-of-ruin>.

As a workaround, Sasquan has provided MidAmericon II with partially anonymized data, sealed (as it were) by a non-disclosure agreement. Analysis of that data has begun, comparing the current nominating scheme (as was used by Sasquan and will be used by MAC II) with the scheme that would prevail under EPH.

Using this data, Jameson Quinn and Bruce Schneier are "working on an academic paper about the E Pluribus Hugo (EPH) proposed voting system." Full results of their analysis are not yet available, but are promised well in advance of MAC II. Thus it is hoped that voters at the 2016 WSFS Business Meeting will have info on at least this one set of nominations and how they would differ under the two counting schemes.

DUFF NOMS OPEN

The nomination period for the 2016 Down Under Fan Fund has opened. This is a south-to-north year, so DUFF is seeking to send an Australasian fan to North America to attend MAC II in Kansas City. Nominations will be taken through 1 March 2016. Further details are available at <downunderfanfund.wordpress.com>.

STAR WARS: ENGLISH-TO-CHINESE-TO-ENGLISH

Back in the day, the Chinese government commissioned artist Song Feideng to adapt the original *Star Wars* movie into a Chinese-language comic book to "take the world's advanced science and popularize it in China."

Now that comic has been scanned and translated to English. It is posted for your amusement and edification—see <www.nickstember.com/chinese-star-wars-comic-part-1-6> for the first of six webpages. [Warning: This is a tough slog; I only made it through the first webpage before giving up. -ED]

LOCUS RECOMMENDED READING LIST

LOCUS POLL ONLINE

The 2015 *Locus* Recommended Reading List is now available online at <www.locusmag.com/News/2016/02/2015-locus-recommended-reading-list>. Several hundred works are listed in the following categories: SF Novels, Fantasy Novels, YA Novels, First Novels, Collections, Anthologies (both Original and Reprint/Bests), Non-Fiction, Art Books, Novellas, Novelettes, and Short Stories.

The contents of the above lists are used as starting entrants for the 2016 Locus Poll & Survey Ballot <www.locusmag.com/Magazine/2016/PollAndSurvey.html>. Anyone can vote in this poll, though *Locus* subscriber's votes count double. You are not limited to the Recommended Reading List works—"write in" votes are accepted all categories including many categories that are not in the Reading List (such as Best Magazine, Best Artist, etc.). The deadline for ballots is 15 April 2016.

January Minutes

by Steve Sloan

The January meeting of the North Alabama Science Fiction Association was called to order on Saturday, January 16, 2016, in the Madison satellite location of Willowbrook Baptist Church at 6:39:40P by Secretary Steve Sloan in a brutal coup. There were no crickets other than Judy's sound effects.

OLD BUSINESS

Dues are due.

NEW BUSINESS

Sam had stuff.

Doug asked for a list of current and past club members, which Sam immediately handed to him.

Treasurer Sam announced that the club's net worth is about \$14,800. It was \$18,500 the year before. Sam will be killing all of our CDs this year. Sam somehow managed to embezzle minus \$3000 by loaning the club some money.

Does anyone want to be treasurer of the Southern Fandom Confederation? They're looking for volunteers.

Judy is having a new grandson named George. Possible future Con†Stellation volunteer?

CON BUSINESS

Con†Stellation 2016 co-con chair Doug needs volunteers to do stuff for the con, especially registration.

Maria will be running the Con Suite, and she will get lots of help.

Steve agreed to run ops (Convention Operations) again this year.

Doug read the current list of "also attendings" and guests: Julie Cochrane, Les Johnson, Stephanie and Darrell Osborn, David Drake, Howard Tayler, Jody Lynn Nye, and Bill Fawcett.

Doug will soon print a new run of Con†Stellation 2016 promo cards with the latest list of "also attendings," a previously missing URL, and the hotel's website.

Judy reported that Con†Stellation 2016 made *Our Valley Events'* list of the "Geekiest Events of 2016."

If you know anyone else who wants to be an "also attending," please send them to Doug.

Con†Stellation 2017 co-con chairs Judy and Sue will soon start meeting together to think up guests.

The first 2016 concon (convention committee meeting) will be at 3P at the usual NASFA meeting location on the same day as next month's NASFA meeting.

Con†Stellation 2016 needed someone to coordinate with the hotel for opening meeting rooms and collecting trash, and Judy volunteered.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Doug asked for the list of current and past members earlier so he could meet with Sam and Mike K. to shorten the list of people getting a paper copy of the *Shuttle* every month, but it was pointless without Mike K. there.

Sam has been posting press releases to AL.com for NASFA meetings.

Doug moved to adjourn at 7:02:50P.

For the January program, we made little fairy wings using ribbon fabric, an iron, and a soldering iron. The After the Meeting Meeting was held at the meeting location.

NASFA Calendar

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* Con†Stellation XXXIV Concom Meeting—3P at .Willowbrook Madison.
- 20* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: Doug and Mary Lampert, hosting at the church.
- 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.

MARCH

- 02 Read Across America Day.
- 02 BD: Ronnie Lajoie.
- 04-06 AniBlaze—Atlanta GA.
- 04-06 CoastCon 39—Biloxi MS.
- 04-06 Gnome Con—Savannah GA.
- 04-06 Star Trek Creation—Atlanta GA.
- 04-06 Tennessee Game Days XI—Franklin TN.
- 04-06 Vampire Diaries—Atlanta GA.
- 05 Cardboard*Con—Atlanta GA.
- 08 Día Internacional de la Mujer.
- 09 BD: Tracey Kennedy.
- 10 BD: Kerry Gilley.
- 11-13 AndoCon—Atlanta GA.
- 11-13 JoeLanta—Atlanta GA.
- 11-13 Kami Con 8—Birmingham AL.
- 13 BD: Anita Eisenberg.
- 13 Daylight Saving Time Begins.
- 16-20 International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts 37—Orlando FL.
- 17 St. Patrick's Day.
- 18-20 FantaSciCon—Dalton GA.
- 18-20 MidSouthCon 34—Memphis TN.
- 18-20 Tri City Anime—Johnson City TN.
- 19 Comic & Pop Culture Expo—Huntsville AL.
- 20 Palm Sunday.
- 20 Spring Equinox.
- 21 BD: Benito Juárez.
- 22 BD: Jayson Woosley.
- 24 Purim.
- 25 Good Friday.
- 25-27 Con GT—Clarksville TN.
- 25-27 Full Moon Festival—Nashville TN.
- 25-27 MTAC—Nashville TN.
- 26* TENTATIVE Con†Stellation XXXIV Concom Meeting—3P at .Willowbrook Madison.
- 26* NASFA Meeting—6:30P Business, 7P Program, at Willowbrook Madison. Program: TBD. ATMM: TBD.
NOTE: This is one week later than usual due to a conflict with MidSouthCon.
- 27 Easter Sunday.
- 31-03 Camp Furry Weekend—Atlanta GA.

APRIL

- 01 April Fools' Day.

Bergeron

Walter James Miller Memorial Award (for a student paper in a language other than English).....**Kristy Eager**
ANNIE AWARDS

Winners of the 2016 **Annie Awards** have been announced by the International Animated Film Society, ASIFA-Hollywood <www.asifa-hollywood.org>. The large majority (though not all) of the 3 dozen categories (including several juried awards) are related to genre works. The big winner was *Inside Out*, with 10 wins in categories ranging from Animated Feature to Production Design to Music to Character Animation. The full list is available at <tinyurl.com/2016Annies>.

PHILIP K. DICK AWARD NOMS

Nominees for the 2016 Philip K. Dick Award <www.philipk.dickaward.org> (for “distinguished science fiction published in paperback original form in the United States”) have been announced. The award is sponsored by the Philadelphia SF Society <www.psfs.org> with support from the Philip K. Dick Trust. The winner (and any special citations) will be announced at Norwescon 39 <www.norwescon.org>, to be held 24–27 March 2016 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Seattle Airport in SeaTac (Seattle area) WA. The nominees are:

Edge of Dark, Brenda Cooper, Pyr
After the Saucers Landed, Douglas Lain, Night Shade Books
(R)evolution, PJ Manney, 47North
Apex, Ramez Naam, Angry Robot Books
Windswept, Adam Rakunas, Angry Robot Books
Archangel, Marguerite Reed, Arche Press

PROMETHEUS HOF NOMS

Finalists for the Libertarian Futurist Society <www.lfs.org> 2016 Prometheus Hall of Fame Award (“in recognition of a classic work of science fiction or fantasy with libertarian themes”) have been announced. Nominees were selected by a committee of judges with the final vote by the membership of the LFS. The nominees are:

Manna, Lee Correy, 1984
Courtship Rite, Donald M. Kingsbury, 1982
“As Easy as A.B.C.,” Rudyard Kipling, 1912
The Island Worlds, Eric Kotani and John Maddox Roberts, 1987
A Mirror for Observers, Edgar Pangborn, 1954

KING SHORT STORY CONTEST NOMS

A short story writing contest sponsored by Hodder & Stoughton <www.hodder.co.uk> (Stephen King’s UK publisher) and *The Guardian* <www.theguardian.com> has announced their finalists:

“The Spots,” Paul Bassett Davies
“The Unpicking,” Michael Button
“Wild Swimming,” Elodie Harper
“The Bear Trap,” Neil Hudson
“La Mort De L’Amant,” Stuart Johnstone
“Eau de Eric,” Manuela Saragosa

AUDIES AWARD NOMS

Finalists for the 2016 Audie Awards (for “distinction in audiobooks and spoken word entertainment”) have been announced by the Audio Publishers Association <www.audiopub.org>. Several of the 25 categories (including Fantasy, Paranormal, and Science Fiction) are directly genre related. Others (including Middle Grade YA, and Young Listeners) have multiple genre entries. The full list of nominees can be found in the press release at <www.audiopub.org/Audies2016/Audies_Nominations_Release.pdf>

BSFA AWARDS NOMS

The shortlist for the BSFA Awards has been announced by the British Science Fiction Association <www.bsfa.co.uk>. The

final vote is by BSFA members and members of the British natcon, know as Eastercon. Winners will be announced at the 67th Eastercon—Mancunicon <www.mancunicon.org.uk>—to be held 25–28 March 2016 at the Hilton Deansgate in Manchester UK. By category, the nominees are:

Novel BSFA Noms

Mother of Eden, Chris Beckett, Corvus
The House of Shattered Wings, Alette de Bodard, Gollancz
Europe at Midnight, Dave Hutchinson, Solaris
Luna: New Moon, Ian McDonald, Gollancz
Glorious Angels, Justina Robson, Gollancz

Short Story BSFA Noms

“Three Cups of Grief, by Starlight,” Alette de Bodard, *Clarkesworld* 100
“Witches of Lychford,” Paul Cornell, Tor.com
“No Rez,” Jeff Noon, *Interzone* 260
“Binti,” Nnedi Okorafor, Tor.com
“Ride the Blue Horse,” Gareth L. Powell, *Matter*

Non-Fiction BSFA Noms

“Time Pieces: Doctor Change or Doctor Die,” Nina Allan, *Interzone* 261
Letters to Tipree, Alisa Krasnostein and Alexandra Pierce, Twelfth Planet Press
“What Price Your Critical Agency,” Jonathan McCalmont, *Ruthless Culture*
Rave and Let Die: The SF and Fantasy of 2014, Adam Roberts, Steel Quill Books
“From Annihilation to Acceptance: a writer’s surreal journey,” Jeff Vandermeer, *The Atlantic* January 2015

Artwork BSFA Noms

Cover of *Pelquin’s Comet*, Jim Burns, Newcon Press
Cover of *Jews Versus Zombies*, Sarah Anne Langton, Jurassic London
“Songbird,” Vincent Sammy, *Interzone* 257

ASIMOV’S READERS’ AWARDS NOMS

Asimov’s Science Fiction Magazine <www.asimovs.com> has announced the finalists for their 30th Annual Readers’ Award Poll. Winners will be announced during the 2016 SFWA Nebula conference <www.sfwaweb.org/nebula-awards/2016-nebula-conference>, to be held 12–15 May 2016 at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago IL. By category, the finalists are:

Asimov’s Novellas Noms

“The Four Thousand, The Eight Hundred,” Greg Egan, December 2015
“The New Mother,” Eugene Fischer, April–May 2015
“A Thousand Nights Till Morning,” Will McIntosh, August 2015
“Inhuman Garbage,” Kristine Kathryn Rusch, March 2015
“The Long Wait,” Allen M. Steele, January 2015
“On the Night of the Robo-Bulls and Zombie Dancers,” Nick Wolven, February 2015

Asimov’s Novelettes Noms

“The Great Pan American Airship Mystery, Or, Why I Murdered Robert Benchley,” David Gerrold, July 2015
“The Molenstraat Music Festival,” Sean Monaghan, September 2015
“Our Lady of the Open Road,” Sarah Pinsker, June 2015
“Lock Up Your Chickens and Daughters—H’ard and Andy Are Come to Town!” Michael Swanwick and Gregory Frost, April–May 2015
“The End of War,” Django Wexler, June 2015

Asimov’s Short Stories Noms

“My Time on Earth,” Ian Creasey, October–November 2015
“Calved,” Sam J. Miller, September 2015
“Tuesdays,” Suzanne Palmer, March 2015

“What I Intend,” Robert Reed, April–May 2015
 “The First Step,” Kristine Kathryn Rusch, August 2015
 “Ninety-five Percent Save,” Caroline M. Yoachim, January 2015

Asimov’s Poetry Noms

“1,230 Grams of Einstein,” Robert Frazier, June 2015
 “Basement Refrigerator—after Thomas Lux,” Joshua Gage, April–May 2015
 “Love and the Moon,” Geoffrey A. Landis, June 2015
 “October Leaves,” Suzanne Palmer, October–November 2015
 “The Circulatory Man,” James Valvis, July 2015

Asimov’s Cover Art Noms

January 2015, illustrating “Watergirl” by Rudy Rucker and Marc Laidlaw
 March 2015, illustrating “Tuesdays” by Suzanne Palmer
 April–May 2015, illustrating “The New Mother” by Eugene Fischer
 August 2015, illustrating “A Thousand Nights Till Morning” by Will McIntosh
 October/November 2015, illustrating “The Citadel of Weeping Pearls” by Aliette de Bodard

Stoker Awards Prelims

The preliminary ballot for the 2015 Bram Stoker Awards (styled as for Superior Achievement) was announced on 21 January 2015 by the Horror Writers Association <horror.org>. Finalists (aka Bram Stoker Award nominees) are selected by a vote of HWA members and will be announced on 23 February 2016. Winners will be announced during the first (of a projected annual series) StokerCon <www.stokercon2016.org>, to be held 12–15 May 2016 at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas NV. By category, the preliminary selectees are:

Stoker Novel Preliminary Ballot

The Scarlet Gospels, Clive Barker, St. Martin’s
The Catacombs, Jeremy Bates, Ghillinein
The Fold, Peter Clines, Crown
The Deep, Michaelbrent Collings, self-published
The Cure, JG Faherty, Samhain
Monster, Keith Ferrario, Samhain
Black Tide, Patrick Freivald, JournalStone
Skullcrack City, Jeremy Robert Johnson, Lazy Fascist
Werewolf Cop, Andrew Klavan, Pegasus
The Private Sector, Leigh M. Lane, Eldritch
He Who Walks in Shadow, Brett J. Talley, JournalStone
A Head Full of Ghosts, Paul Tremblay, Morrow

Stoker First Novel Preliminary Ballot

Shutter, Courtney Alameda, Feiwei & Friends
Mr. Suicide, Nicole Cushing, Word Horde
Heaven, Hell, or Houston: A Zombie Thriller, Thom Erb, Severed
The Amazing Mr. Howard, Kenneth W. Harmon, JournalStone
The Library at Mount Char, Scott Hawkins, Crown
Consumption, Heather Herrman, Hydra
We Are Monsters, Brian Kirk, Samhain
Hannahwhere, John McIlveen, Crossroad
The Keeper of the Crows, Kyle Alexander Romines, Sunbury
Riding the Centipede, Jean Claude Smith, Omnium Gatherum

Stoker Young Adult Novel Preliminary Ballot

Never Let Me Sleep, Jennifer Brozek, Permuted
The Suffering, Rin Chupeco, Sourcebooks Fire
The Ridealong, Michaelbrent Collings, self-published
Devil’s Pocket, John Dixon, Simon & Schuster

Department 19: Darkest Night, Will Hill, HarperCollins Children’s
Hallowed, Tonya Hurley, Simon & Schuster
The Shadow Cabinet, Maureen Johnson, Penguin
The Silent End, Samuel Sattin, Ragnarok
Bleed, Dax Varley, Garden Gate
End Times at Ridgmont High, Ian Welke, Omnium Gatherum

Stoker Long Fiction Preliminary Ballot

“Paper Cuts,” Gary A. Braunbeck, *Seize the Night*
Cracked Sky, Ben Eads, Omnium Gatherum
 “Becoming Invisible, Becoming Seen,” Scott Edelman, *Dark Discoveries* January 2015
The Torment of Rachel Ames, Jeff Gunhus, Seven Guns Press
The Box Jumper, Lisa Mannetti, Smart Rhino Publications
 “Resistance,” Seanan McGuire, *The End Has Come*
At the Lazy K, Gene O’Neill, Written Backwards
 “Dia de los Muertos,” Jason Parent, *Bad Apples 2*
 “Special Collections,” Norman Partridge, *The Library of the Dead*

“Little Dead Red,” Mercedes M. Yardley, *Grimm Mistresses*

Stoker Short Fiction Preliminary Ballot

“Snow,” Dale Bailey, *Nightmare* June 2015
 “A Trader on the Border of the Mutant Rain Forest,” Bruce Boston, *Daily Science Fiction* 21 August 2015
 “An American Ghost in Zurich,” Daniel Braum, *Savage Beasts*
 “Choking Hazard,” Michael Paul Gonzalez, *Winter Horror Days*
 “All the Day You’ll Have Good Luck,” Kate Jonez, *Black Static* July–August 2015
 “The Massacre of the Mermaids,” Alessandro Manzetti, *The Massacre of the Mermaids*
The Algernon Effect, Gene O’Neill, White Noise Press
 “Happy Joe’s Rest Stop,” John Palisano, *18 Wheels of Horror*
 “The Cork Won’t Stay,” Nate Southard, *Nightmare* July 2015
 “Sing Me Your Scars,” Damien Angelica Walters, *Sing Me Your Scars*
 “Hungry Daughters of Starving Mothers,” Alyssa Wong, *Nightmare* October 2015

Stoker Anthology Preliminary Ballot

The Library of the Dead, Michael Bailey, ed., Written Backwards
The Doll Collection: Seventeen Brand-New Tales of Dolls, Ellen Datlow, ed., Tor
Beware the Little White Rabbit, Shannon Delany and Judith Graves, eds., Leap
Seize the Night, Christopher Golden, ed., Gallery
Horrorology, Stephen Jones, ed., Quercus
nEvermore!, Nancy Kilpatrick and Caro Soles, eds., Edge Science Fiction and Fantasy
X-Files: Trust No One, Jonathan Maberry, ed., IDW
18 Wheels of Horror, Eric Miller, ed., Big Time
Shadows Over Main Street, Doug Murano and D. Alexander Ward, eds., Hazardous
Midian Unmade, Joseph Nassise and Del Howison, eds., Tor
Shrieks and Shivers from the Horror Zine, Jeani Rector, ed., Post Mortem
Exigencies, Richard Thomas, ed., Dark House

Stoker Fiction Collection Preliminary Ballot

Halfway Down the Stairs, Gary Braunbeck, JournalStone
Apocalypse Girl Dreaming, Jennifer Brozek, Evil Girlfriend Media
The Abandonment of Grace and Everything After, Shane Jiraiya Cummings, Brimstone
The Mirrors, Nicole Cushing, Cycatrix
Sacrificing Virgins, John Everson, Samhain

The Dark at the End of the Tunnel, Taylor Grant, Crystal Lake
New Avalon: Love and Loss in the City of Steam, Neal F. Litherland, James Ward Kirk
The Hitchhiking Effect, Gene O'Neill, Dark Renaissance
While the Black Stars Burn, Lucy A. Snyder, Raw Dog Screaming
Dominoes in Time, Matthew Warner, Cemetery Dance
Stoker Non-Fiction Preliminary Ballot
The Unique Legacy of Weird Tales: The Evolution of Modern Fantasy and Horror, Justin Everett and Jeffrey H. Shanks, eds., Rowman & Littlefield
Monsters and Monstrosity from the Fin de Siècle to the Millennium, Sharla Hutchinson and Rebecca A. Brown, eds., McFarland
The Art of Horror, Stephen Jones, Applause Theatre & Cinema
Author's Guide to Marketing with Teeth, Michael Knost, Seventh Star
Horror 201: The Silver Scream, Joe Mynhardt and Emma Audsley, eds., Crystal Lake
Studies in the Horror Film: Stanley Kubrick's The Shining, Danel Olson, Centipede
Haunted by the Abyss: The Otherworldly Experiences of Paranormal, Sarah Soderlund, Llewellyn
Haunted Plantations of the South, Richard Southall, Llewellyn
Stoker Poetry Collection Preliminary Ballot
Resonance Dark and Light, Bruce Boston, Eldritch
The Madness in our Marrow, Amanda Crum, Amanda Crum
The Robot Scientist's Daughter, Jeannine Hall Gailey, Mayapple
Dark Parchments, Michael H. Hanson, MoonDream
Eden Underground, Alessandro Manzetti, Crystal Lake
The Crimson Tome, K.A. Opperman, Hippocampus
Poetic Allegories, Michael Randolph, Eldritch
Dark Energies, Ann Schwader, P'rea Press
Naughty Ladies, Marge Simon, Eldritch
An Exorcism of Angels, Stephanie M. Wytovich, Raw Dog Screaming
Stoker Graphic Novel Preliminary Ballot
Harrow County, Vol. 1: Countless Haints, Cullen Bunn, Dark Horse
Hellbound, Victor Gischler, Dark Horse
Behemoth, Chris Kipiniak, Monkeybrain
Outcast, Vol. 1: A Darkness Surrounds Him, Robert Kirkman, Image
The Children's Vampire Hunting Brigade, Vol. 2: Age of the Wicked, David Lucarelli, Creator's Edge
Wytches, Vol. 1, Scott Snyder, Image
Colder, Vol. 2: The Bad Seed, Paul Tobin, Dark Horse
Shadow Show: Stories in Celebration of Ray Bradbury, Sam Weller and Mort Castle, eds., IDW
Stoker Screenplay Preliminary Ballot
Bone Tomahawk *Crimson Peak* *Goodnight, Mommy*
Hannibal: "The Wrath of the Lamb" *It Follows*
Penny Dreadful: "And Hell Itself My Only Foe"
Penny Dreadful: "Nightcomers" *Spring*
The Walking Dead: "Here's Not Here"
What We Do in the Shadows

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

Sheryl Birkhead
 25509 Jonnie Court
 Gaithersburg MD 20882

15 January 2016

Ah, once again sitting at the car dealership. Let me reflect... If I remember correctly [blank] things (sshhs—*don't want to give it a name*) are supposed to happen in threes. By my count things are either piggybacking or I am to my second trio. 1) Nov 14—back and two cases of LRS (each case weighing a tad over 30 pounds, so I wisely removed the tape the distributor had applied to make them into one 60+ pounder—I *knew* to avoid...) but it was the lightweight box I tossed on top of the second case as I went to place it beside the first case—as the lightweight box shifted I reacted to keep it from falling and twisted... oops, remember you are carrying a 30 pound—sigh—crack... pain, drive to hospital to be sure that crack was *merely* bones realigning and not breaking—still in substantial pain but nowhere near what it was! 2) Went to look at a backed up copy of a file and saw a funny looking little exclamation box in the circle “about” my Mac Time Capsule—called Apple—3 years old so out of warranty... screen share... *it had never backed up anything*. Fast forward and ignoring the multiple calls for a fix or a work around—which only worked a day or so each. Case gets kicked up to a Supervisor—suggest I buy a new one. Two tearful days later I called back and ordered a refurbished one. Two weeks later the new Time Capsule is broken but it took a lot to get there—including pointing fingers at all the outlets. A week later (about 36 hours too soon) I get a call that the Capsule was indeed dead—told ya so—and the new(or is it refurbished, not feeling too good about that possibility) will be here real soon. 3) Thursday evening of that week (the week in which I pick up the new one Saturday morning) the thumb drive with all my business records (i.e., can we say IRS information?) is dead—tried two different Macs and two different OS(es?)—nope. Called Apple to see if there are any tricks—tried a few—nope, outa luck—need data retrieval. I trade the “new” Time Capsule for the thumb drive—along with a list of files and several ranked—I only *really* need two. 4) I now have two copies of what they pulled off the thumb drive (\$125—they took pity on me)—not much—but there are a bunch of individual files each solely titled by a number (over a thousand) and the name of this software Pages since that is about all it could truly recover, there is another file that are all labeled with numbers and pdf—meaning none of the files give any clue as to what they are. So, I am sitting (gingerly) down every day and moving through them—with my 2012 copy of the “same” drive. So far not one page of that file I really *really* need has shown up—but I am not able to work vey fast. If only that thumb drive had lasted 36 more hours... Sigh.

(Short note—the good news—the new Time Capsule seems to be new and is working as it should—and not one bit the way the other one worked... or rather didn't. I was hoping Apple would offer to replace the one that never worked but...)

5) 2 years ago I sent a registered letter to my neighbor along with photos of one of her trees that is dead and when it comes down will hit my split rail fence, my garage, my house—one or any/all of these since I am slightly down hill from them. The only way to have the owner pay is to have notified them of a deficit and for them to have ignored the information—it them goes from Act of God, tough luck you pay all damages, to negligence. Okay—back hurts—go outside and whaaaa? Turns out part of the tree came *straight* down and did the least amount of damage it could—smacked into the rail fence and took out two

Letters of Comment

PREVIOUS NEWS-PREVIOUS NEWS-PREVIOUS NEWS

[It appears that several Letters of Comment may have gone missing lately, for which the *Shuttle* would like to apologize. -ED]

rails. Oaky, granted it is the principle of the thing, but we all live in the same community. I called my insurance agent (a new one—John had retired) to ask what??? They started in on should have (letter of record with the postal system)... I *did*... and you should you have (photograph... I *did*). Okay—simply repairing the fence is going to be so much below your deductible that you'll have to pay the whole thing if you open a claim. Another Sigh. Guess what folks—at least around here split rails are seasonal. *Fast forward to January 15th.*

I have given up on recovering the business data and simply dragged out all my receipts, etc.—and re-inventing the wheel... well, you know what I mean. I should be able to have things in fairly good shape to actually file my taxes RSN.

Split rails were located and I (very gently and gingerly—chiropractor said no reason not to—but still wants to continue seeing me twice a week until all pain is gone. That will be a neat trick since I have chronic back pain, but I'll try to sort out the chronic from the new...) put them in place. Unfortunately I could not move the downed limb.

Still working on the back-up issues. I thought they were solved, but still not completely... well, just today the Apple specialist (above supervisor level this is so complicated!) said the message asking to delete all the saved back-ups since something had suggested there was a problem (how's that for nebulous?) seemed questionable. He said go ahead—and then we took another look at the desktop (backing up to the same Time Capsule *and* my second operating system on the external HD—also backing...) and found more questionable areas (he pointed out this is not supported by Apple and hence there is no manual to resort to, so he was doing what *ought* to work). Today we patched everything again, ran diagnostics, and made (for the laptop *another* brand new back up) back-ups. I am to call tomorrow and he will do a shared screen walk through and see if things appear “normal” (whatever the heck that is now!).

What this tells me is that belts and suspenders are not going to be enough—I need to find second thumb drives for each of my *must haves* and hope that with the Time Capsule back-up (maybe...) and two different thumbs drives for each—and for some also a desktop folder... I will be able to salvage at least one useable copy.

Trying to get ready for taxes, I looked at the requirements for TurboTax and I'll be damed... they now require the newer/est operating systems for the Mac version. I got help (see mention above about the Apple help) to upgrade on the external hard drive—and oops... The new version on the Apple applications came with it and I *cannot* use even this software (because this laptop uses the old one I *have* to access). I gave up on it and double dipped—so that external HD now has both versions. I'm too tried of all this to argue with it.

Sigh.

Oh yeah—and this *huge* dead tree (you guessed it) fell. The good news is that no one got hurt, it missed my electrified shed, and wiped out the chain-link fence that is not mine. This time it is at the back property line—different neighbor. When I looked at the trees close to fence lines, I only considered the likelihood of any of them falling on *my* fence, the garage, or the house. That far back in the back yard no tree was going to reach that far. But, this also means it is considered we Act of God—so I am responsible for any damage. I was going to call anyone who would move... then realized—hey—I don't have any money. To be honest, I am pretty far in the red. So, why call when I can't pay to have the work done. Every day now I am trying to drag the smaller limbs back into the far *junk* comer. True I can't move the great majority of the tree, but...

Now, where was I with the *Shuttle*? Oh yes... I wasn't.

Okay, that will be fixed right now (back to November and December).

November—

Thank you for mentioning the fanartist site. I had not heard of it until August—from Alan White. So, I cobbled some pieces together and sent them along—maybe to Taral. I have folders on my desktop (computer and real desk) with artwork I like—intending to scan or whatever and send along. I took a look at what is mine on the site—and cringe at some of them. But this is really a step in the right direction. It has been a long time since I have visited over there and I ought to take a while and go over to poke around—yeah RSN Heck, I'll make a (literal-) minute and go scan it right now... be back.

Oh... yeah, need to do my part—I even have several notebooks (being energetic I used to keep one for each year with a copy of each piece—started before computer access—so some are not available except as a photocopy or on the zine itself). I did get as far as leafing through a few of them and parking the ones I liked the most with a scrap of paper—then stacked the notebooks. I keep knocking the stacks over. I need to scan and get them on computer (at least a few items!) so I'll have a copy to send and at least a few to keep I can also use a lot of them to make my letterheads! (If I can find it, I'll include one at the end of this—that I scanned and particularly like even though it is very simple—have it in my folder for covers I like...)

Hey Mike—reading Lloyds letter—congratulations on your retirement. Back to Lloyd—I have not had enough spare time to watch any more of the *Murdoch* episodes, but the site and episode to watch are bookmarked—so another thing for the RSN list. I am guessing you have a legal route to pursue about the dismissal above what you have already started in motion?

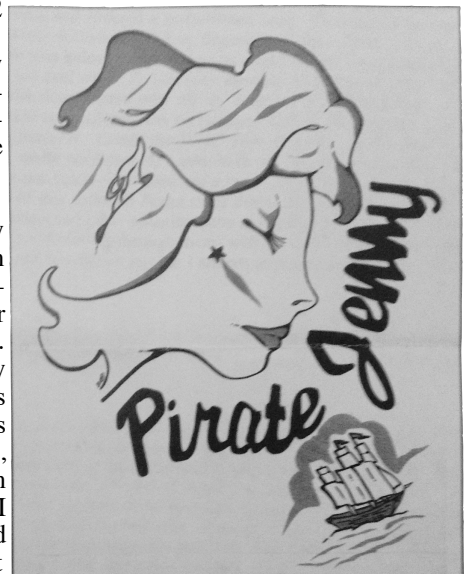
December—

Well, looking forward/back—my informal New Years resolution is to *make* time to sketch and complete—still have stacks of unfinished started stuff since there is never time in a chunk. I have not figured out how to actually do artwork *on* computer so I do it the difficult way and force it (as in trace it from a scanned version) onto the computer. The one I intend to attach is all hand done on vellum (hence no file ever originally created for it and all I have is that original and a photo copy that was in one of those notebooks and jogged my memory to go in search...).

Think I had better stop here and get this in the mail so I am only about 2 months late...

Happy New Year and welcome so retirement—now time will *really* fly!

[So far, I'm happy to say, my time in retirement is neither flying by nor *d r a g g i n g*... though, it's early days yet. It sounds like your life has been busy, Sheryl, albeit mostly in *not-great* ways. I am a bit confused about the first (partial) tree fall



art by Sheryl Birkhead

you mention—if it's considered your neighbor's negligence why does your own insurance company get involved at all? Perhaps I misunderstand the tale. I've tried to reproduce the illo you included in your LoC, though I doubt it will turn out all that well since I had to take a hand-held photo of it. Should you ever decide to send along files of your art, (say, by email or on a CD/DVD) I'd be happy to run some from time to time. -ED]

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

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26 January 2016

Thank you all for the January *Shuttle*. I'll try my best to write something to put in the letter column. It's Monday, so no promises. As I write this, I will be watching the first and second episodes of *The Magicians*.

Aw, no adventures of the PieEyed Dragon? PieEyed, you are missed, and I hope you will be back soon.

TAFF... Wolf von Witting ran a good race last year, so I hope he will win the 2016 TAFF race. He was a spokesman for TAFF, and was just as happy to see the fund go forward as win it. His good work has kept the fund going, and I hope he is rewarded.

I did see *Star Trek: Axanar* some time ago, and thought it quite good. It's a shame Paramount had decided to shut it

down; I guess it simply made too much money for a non-profit, copyrighted effort. Some online said this was the kind of movie Trek fans really wanted, but Paramount doesn't see it that way.

So many awards for so many books and movies... I hate to say it, but probably the only books and movies I have seen that are listed here are the newest *Star Wars* movies, and the *Childhood's End* miniseries. Quite enjoyed them, but I am truly not an informed voter for any of these awards.

The job hunt continues ever onwards. I have a telephone interview tomorrow morning, and I am hoping for the best. Take care all, and see you with the February issue.

[I'll keep my fingers crossed RE your job search, Lloyd. As for PED, I believe she'll be back—but I'm given to understand she's had an interruption in computer and internet access. I suppose it can be tough to keep in touch when you never know what universe you'll end up in next. Once that's been addressed, we hope to resume the tale(s). The TAFF race runs through 29 March, so folks have about six weeks or so to get their vote in. Right on TAFF's heels, DUFF is now calling for nominations. They haven't announced the deadline for voting once the noms are in place—but it probably won't be as much as 3 months from now. (The winner(s) need time to plan their trip, after all.) -ED]

WAHF-WAHF-WAHF-WAHF-WAHF-WAHF-WAHF-WAHF

[We also heard from Gay Haldeman, letting us know that she and Joe will be in Huntsville on 8 April 2016. Joe will do a reading and have a discussion with author Vandana Singh. Further details will be published as they become available. -ED]



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