



Volume 29 Number 3 Issue 345

August 2016

### A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

I just finished working and doing panels at Anime Festival Orlando. I am getting ready Worldcon in Kansas City. Hope to see some of you there.

There was a lot going on last month.

Florida Supercon happened on 4th of July weekend in Miami Beach. I could only attend on Friday but that turned out to be a good thing for personal reasons.

We all had a great time at my place for the 4th of July.

I had a nice day at Southern Media Con enjoying the company of the Stone Hill group.

Next month I will do a report on Anime Festival Orlando 17 and announce the Hugo winners.

### Events

#### Megaplex

August 5-7

Hampton Inn & Suites Orlando-South Lake Buena Vista

4971 Calypso Cay Way,  
Kissimmee, Florida, 34746

Guests: Cosmic Wuffy (fursuit Guest of Honor)  
Kenket (artist Guest of Honor)

\$50 at the door, \$30 per day at the door  
megaplexcon.org

#### Tampa Bay Comic Con

August 5-7

Tampa Convention Center

333 S. Franklin St

Tampa, Florida 33602

Guests: Norman Reedus (Daryl, *The Walking Dead*)

Jenna Coleman (Clara, *Doctor Who*)

Ian McDiarmid (Palpatine, *Star Wars*)

Charlie Cox (Matt Murdock, *Daredevil*)

Jon Bernthal (Frank Castle, *Daredevil*)

Peter David (OASIS Writer GOH)

Neal Adams (comic writer)

and others

\$60 for 3 Days precon, \$100 at the door  
tampabaycomiccon.com

#### The Grand Pony Gala

August 12-14

Sheraton Tampa East Hotel

10221 Princess Palm Avenue

Tampa, Florida, 33610

Guests: Jayson Thiessen (animator/director)

Nicole Oliver (voice actor)

Peter New (voice actor)

Kelly Sheridan (voice actor)

Hilary Shepard (actor)

\$55 for all three days pre-con

www.grandgallopingbronygalacon.com

#### Comic Book Connection

August 13-14

Comfort Suites

1202 Avenida Central

Lady Lake/Villages, FL 32159

\$5 at the door

thecomicbookconnection.com

#### Mizucon

August 19-22

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Miami Airport &  
Convention Center

711 N.W. 72nd Avenue,

Miami, Florida, 33126,

Guest: Greg Ayers (voice actor)

and others

\$40 3 days precon

mizucon.com

#### Fan Lexicon

August 20-21

Lexington Hotel & Conference Center

1515 Prudential Drive

Jacksonville, FL

Guests: Samantha Newark (Jem, *Jem and the Holograms*)

George Lowe (voice actor)

\$30 2 days precon

www.fanlexicon.com

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## August OASFiS Calendar

### OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, August 13, Jean Rhein Central Branch Library (Downtown Orlando, 215 N. Oxford Casselberry Fl 32707 407-665-1500). join us as we discuss *Written in Red* by Anne Bishop.

To contact for more info: 407-823-8715

### SciFi Light TBD

For more info contact Steve Grant

### OASFiS Meeting 7/10/2016

Officers: Tom Reed, Juan Sanmiguel  
Members: Arthur Dykeman, Hector Hoghli, David Lussier  
Guests: Sarah Fisk

Tom called the meeting to order. Peggy was out of town this weekend.

Tom discussed Dave Ratti's condition. Right now he is recovering and getting treatment.

We had to cancel the June due to the Pulse shooting. Juan saw Orange Avenue on the Sunday after the incident while trying to donate blood. Police cut off the Brick and Fire was from traffic.

Juan said that the club could get the library meeting room free if we opened with the book discussion. The library will make it into an event and promote through there publications.

On June 18, Orange County Library held the Orlando Book Fair. OASFiS had a table. Juan handed out flyers and newsletters. SF Writer Chuck Wendig gave the keynote speech.

Juan discussed American Library Association (ALA) Conference. On Saturday, there was a panel with Katherine Addison, Charlie Jane Anders, Brian Stavelly, and Catherynne Valente. The Science Fiction Writers of America, Horror Writers of America, Viz and Tor had tables at the exhibit hall.

Juan talked about hotel booking. He heard about a website that could help. He will forward to Peggy.

Tom reminded us about doing Do It Yourself panels. Tom explained how he made a cloak for a costume and how he could do a panel on it.

Megacon is weaker on programming. Juan and Arthur talked about the brevity of the panel descriptions in the Megacon program book. Programming at Florida Supercon was stronger and their program book had complete descriptions.

Juan had a Fourth of July party. It was small but fun was had by

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## OASFiS People

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Juan Sanmiguel	407-823-8715 sanmiguel@earthlink.net
Patricia Wheeler	407-832-1428 pwheeler11@cfl.rr.com

Any of these people can give readers information about the club and its functions. To be included in the list call Juan

(Continued from page 1)

### Pensacola Comic Con

August 20-21

Pensacola Interstate Fair (Expo Hall & Conference Hall)

6655 Mobile Hwy

Pensacola Florida 32526

Guests: Adrain Paul (actor)

And many more

\$30 precon, \$40 at the door

[www.pensacolacomicon.com/](http://www.pensacolacomicon.com/)

### SakuraNatsu

August 27

Gainesville Garden Club

1350 NW 75th St

Gainesville, FL 32605

Free

[sakuranatsu.webs.com](http://sakuranatsu.webs.com)

### Infinity Toy and Comic Com

August 27

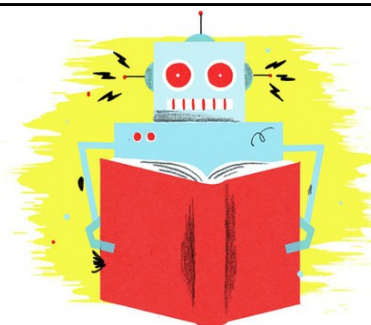
Holiday Inn

1724 Alafaya Trail

Orlando, FL 32826

\$8 at the door

[www.infinitytoyandcomiccon.com](http://www.infinitytoyandcomiccon.com)



## Award News

The World Fantasy Awards finalists are:  
(source *Locus* website)

## Novels

- ***The Buried Giant***, Kazuo Ishiguro (Knopf; Faber & Faber)
- ***The Fifth Season***, N.K. Jemisin (Orbit US; Orbit UK)
- ***Uprooted***, Naomi Novik (Del Rey; Macmillan UK)
- ***Savages***, K.J. Parker (Subterranean)
- ***The Chimes***, Anna Smaill (Sceptre)
- ***A Head Full of Ghosts***, Paul Tremblay (Morrow)

## Long Fiction

- ***The Unlicensed Magician***, Kelly Barnhill (PS)
- “The Pauper Prince and the Eucalyptus Jinn”, Usman T. Malik (Tor.com 4/22/15)
- “Guignol”, Kim Newman (*Horrorology*)
- “Waters of Versailles”, Kelly Robson (Tor.com 6/10/15)
- “Farewell Blues”, Bud Webster (*F&SF* 1-2/15)

## Short Fiction

- “The Neurastheniac”, Selena Chambers (*Cassilda's Song*)
- “Pockets”, Amal El-Mohtar (*Uncanny* 1-2/15)
- “The Heat of Us: Notes Toward an Oral History”, Sam J. Miller (*Uncanny* 1-2/15)
- “The Deepwater Bride”, Tamsyn Muir (*F&SF* 7-8/15)
- “Hungry Daughters of Starving Mothers”, Alyssa Wong (*Nightmare* 10/15)

## Anthology

- ***The Doll Collection***, Ellen Datlow, ed. (Tor)
- ***Black Wings IV***, S.T. Joshi, ed. (PS)
- ***She Walks in Shadows***, Silvia Moreno-Garcia & Paula R. Stiles, eds. (Innsmouth Free Press)
- ***Cassilda's Song***, Joseph S. Pulver, Sr., ed. (Chaosium)
- ***Aickman's Heirs***, Simon Strantzas, ed. (Undertow)

## Collection

- ***Bone Swans***, C.S.E. Cooney (Mythic Delirium)
- ***Leena Krohn: Collected Fiction***, Leena Krohn (Cheeky Frawg)
- ***Skein and Bone***, V.H. Leslie (Undertow)
- ***Get in Trouble***, Kelly Link (Random House)
- ***Reality by Other Means: The Best Short Fiction of James Morrow***, James Morrow (Wesleyan)
- ***You Have Never Been Here***, Mary Rickert (Small Beer)

## Artist

- Richard Anderson
- Galen Dara
- Julie Dillon
- Kathleen Jennings
- Thomas S. Kuebler

## Special Award, Professional

- Neil Gaiman, Dave Stewart, & J.H. Williams III, for ***The Sandman: Overture*** (Vertigo)
- Stephen Jones, for ***The Art of Horror*** (Applause Theatre & Cinema)
- Robert Jordan, Harriet McDougal, Alan Romanczuk, & Maria Simons, for ***The Wheel of Time Companion*** (Tor)
- Joe Monti, for contributions to the genre
- Heather J. Wood, for ***Gods, Memes and Monsters: A 21st Century Bestiary*** (Stone Skin)

## Special Award, Nonprofessional

- Scott H. Andrews, for *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*
- Jedediah Berry & Eben Kling, for ***The Family Arcana: A Story in Cards*** (Ninepin)
- John O'Neill, for *Black Gate*
- Alexandra Pierce & Alisa Krasnostein, for ***Letters to Tiptree*** (Twelfth Planet)
- Lynne M. Thomas & Michael Damian Thomas, for *Uncanny*
- Helen Young, for Tales After Tolkien Society

The awards will be presented during the World Fantasy Convention, October 27-30, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus OH . -



(Continued from page 2)  
all.

### Culture Consumed

Tom got a flash drive with all of **Red Dwarf**. He also talked about **Mystery Science Theater 3000** reruns on Retro TV/Me.

Juan talked about SF plays at the Orlando Fringe Festival. Tom saw **Toiley C. Paper**, a puppet show at the Fringe.

Juan binge watched the **Gotham** and **Legends of Tomorrow**. He watched **Joker Game**, an anime about Japanese spies in the late 1930s and early 1940s.

Arthur talked about how the next season of **The Flash** will adapt the Flashpoint story arc and the adaptation of the comic **The Killing Joke** (featuring Batman and the Joker) will have a one-day release in the theaters.

Juan and Tom talked about the upcoming **Suicide Squad** film.

Juan did his Hugo talk. He explained Rabid Puppies, and explained how the awards worked. Juan discussed the finalists from the novel, novella, novelette, short story, professional artist, fan artist, dramatic presentation long and short form.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45PM.

read some roles, and we are going to see if we can participate that way. It's in early August.

Big pro-run conventions...no descriptions of panels in a programme book? This shows me that many of these corporations who stage these big cons have no real understanding of what fans like. Sometimes, I think they think we are fans of EVERYTHING they offer, and so we will be at every panel, so who needs descriptions? This is just one reason I don't go to the big cons here. However, many do, and those big cons thrive.

*These cons maybe hitting their limits. I have been sending this article to friends who share similar concerns. It is an interesting read: Google "As the 2016 Con Season Begins, Seams are Starting to Show"*

It sounds like Bill Shatner has improved his opinions about going to conventions...as he said, he needs to eat, and going to conventions affords him extensive travel. Around here, the big fuss this past year was Shatner playing Mark Twain in **Murdoch Mysteries**, one of the more popular police procedural shows.

*He knows how to entertain an audience. He wrote a book about conventions called **Get a Life!: William Shatner**. I read parts of it and it was good insight to cons from an actor's point of view.*

Time to go; it was definitely a fast loc, and I hope has some decent content in it. Take care, and see you with the next issue.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

### Letter of Comment

1706-24 Eva Rd.  
Etobicoke, ON  
CANADA M9C 2B2  
July 15, 2016

Dear OASFiSians:

I have issue 344 of the Event Horizon, and a fast letter will follow. I can't wait for this weekend to arrive, so I hope this is a good zine, and can put it together quickly.

My condolences to all of you about the shooting at Pulse. Terrible news, and now comes the deaths in Nice, France. I hate to say that is a terrible world we've created for ourselves, and no wonder so many escape into much more positive fictional futures, needing a break from such harsh realities.

My letter...just after saying we don't get any SF plays here, there will be a reading performance of **Harry Potter and the Cursed Child** in the downtown area. They not only want people to come, but they also want people to come from the audience to





*All the Birds in the Sky*

by

Charlie Jane Anders

Are science and nature adversaries? Do the aims of the two come into conflict? Certain people want to think so to influence public policy. Could this be a false premise? These are the questions Charlie Jane Anders is asking in *All the Birds in the Sky*.

The heart of the novel is the friendship of Patricia Delfine and Laurence Armstead. Patricia is an empathetic girl who discovers she is magically sensitive. Laurence Armstead loves science and tinkering with machines. Both discovered their abilities at a very young age and come from unsupportive families who would prefer they expressed more mainstream interests. Patricia and Laurence meet as teenagers and help each other get through school. A rift develops in their friendship when Patricia demonstrates magic to Laurence. At the same time, a mysterious school counselor, promises Patricia magical training if she kills Laurence. She refuses and Laurence's parents send him to a harsh military school. A more reputable person offers Patricia magical training. She accepts as long she can rescue Laurence from the school. With the help of an AI Laurence has created, Patricia rescues him. They both get to go to schools that match their interests.

Ten years later, Laurence and Patricia meet in San Francisco. Laurence is working with a group of scientists. Patricia is waitressing and helping people with her magic. They renew their friendship. Laurence's team and Patricia's magically community are concerned of possible catastrophic disaster. They fear combination of social and environmental crisis could wreck the world. Both groups are working on a plans to deal with the

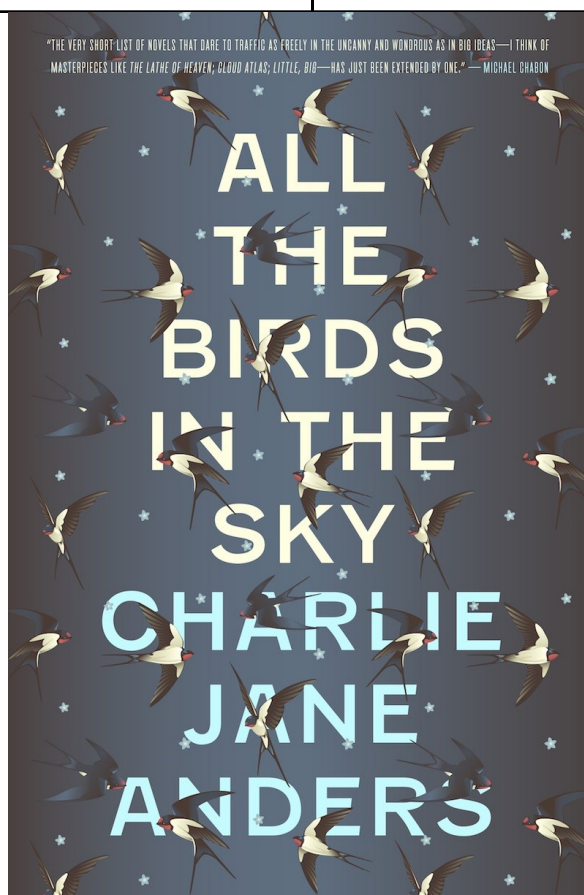
problem. Unfortunately, these plans come into conflict. Can Patricia and Laurence figure out a way were both sides could work together?

Patricia cares a lot about people. She always wants to help others. She refuses to abandon Laurence when he is in trouble. She keeps an open mind about the possibilities technology has to offer. Patricia is impressed by what Laurence can build and understands his point of view.

Laurence also has an open mind. He does not dismiss Patricia claims about magic. Laurence does get scared when he sees proof of her power and regrets avoiding Patricia afterward. When one of Laurence's experiments endangers a colleague, he goes to Patricia for help. He is prepared to accept the consequences of dealing with the magical world.

The world is a few years in the future. The most notable change is the use of Caddys, a hand held computer interface. It changes the way people interact with each other in stronger way that smart phones do today. There is a major environmental incident. It causes a social upheaval but does not lay civilization to waste. Laurence, Patricia, and their respective friends react to it as best they can.

The central idea about this book is friendship and communication. When Patricia and Laurence are cut from each other things do not go well. They care about each other and listen to the other's point of view. It is because of their friendship that a possible long term solution can be found. They realize that science and nature are not opposed to each other but part of a larger whole. In understanding both, the problems that face the world today can be solved.



### *The Killing Joke*

In the 1980s, everyone read three Batman books: *The Dark Knight Returns*, *Batman: Year One*, and *The Killing Joke*. The first was Batman at the end of his career. The second was Batman at the beginning of his career. The last was the ultimate fight between Batman and the Joker. The books attracted the interest outside the comic community. DC has made animated features for the first two books and now they complete series with an adaptation of *The Killing Joke*.

The story opens with Batman and Batgirl trying to stop Paris Franz from taking over his uncle's criminal empire. Franz takes a liking to Batgirl and taunts her. She eventually confronts him and almost kills Franz. Barbara Gordon decides to give up being Batgirl. Batman decides to visit the Joker at the Arkham Asylum. Batman fears that he or the Joker will die if they cannot end their conflict. He discovers that the Joker has escaped from Arkham. The Joker cripples Barbara and kidnaps Commissioner Gordon. The Joker tortures Gordon at an amusement park. While executing his plan the Joker looks back to his past life before the accident that scarred him forever. Can Batman rescue Gordon in time? Is death the only solution the Batman/Joker conflict?

The original comic story was too short for a feature adaptation. The producers of the film decided to extend the story with the material about Barbara Gordon and Franz. The story was already problematic with Barbara's maiming. This is part of the long history of killing or hurting women characters in order to motivate the hero. The added material makes it worse since Barbara gives up being Batgirl. Batman has been in the same situation before but instead of learning from it and moving on Barbara quits. Joe Straczynski wrote a story about Barbara just

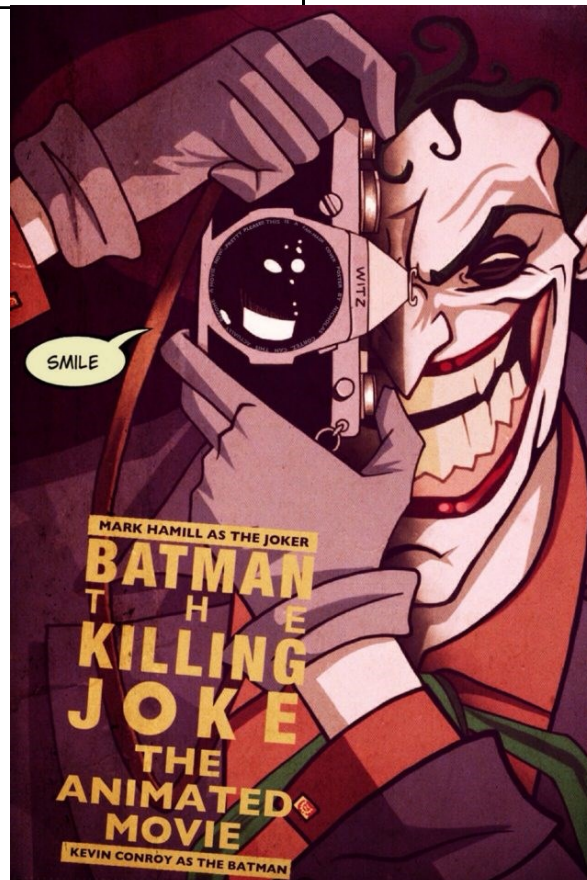
before *The Killing Joke*. There she was still an effective and well-adjusted hero having a night on the town with Wonder Woman and Zatanna. The screenwriter should have looked to that story for inspiration or have Gail Simone, who has written stories about Barbara Gordon for years, write that part of the film.

Mark Hamill does an outstanding performance as the Joker. He returns to the role that he took in *Batman: The Animated Series*. Hamill can perform the immense range needed for this story. He conveys the level of the Joker's viciousness in the story. At the same time, we feel sympathy for the man the Joker was before the accident that drove him mad. Hamill expresses the character's anxiety of being a failure as husband and father and desire to make people laugh. He also does a flawless delivery of the Joker's final line, a joke that makes the Batman laugh.

The story based on the original book is well adapted. The art style is not the same as the book but it serves the film. The filmmakers also had the same level of intensity in the original in terms of violence. A few years ago, writer Grant Morrison offered a mind-blowing theory about the ending of the story. The screenwriter and director kept the ending's ambiguity intact and Morrison's interpretation still valid.

*The Killing Joke* is a film worth seeing. The film has problematic elements about Barbara Gordon, but at least the film's creative team put some thought in the story and did not focus on spectacle. It is much better than recent DC live action films.

The film shows Barbara starting her role as Oracle, hacker extraordinaire in the DC Universe. Let us hope that DC Animation will do a Birds of Prey film and show us Barbara lead a team women superheroes.



### *Star Trek Beyond*

CBS/Paramount has always been good to Trek fans for the big anniversaries. *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home* came out for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary gave us *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*. *Star Trek: Deepspace Nine* had a crossover with the classic original series in the episode “Trials and Tribble-ations” for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. CBS/Paramount remastered the original series with new special effects for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary gives the fans *Star Trek Beyond* the third film set in the alternate timeline.

The *Enterprise* is in the third year of its five-year mission. Kirk is soon going to be older than his father was at the time of his death and is questioning his place in the world. While at *Yorktown* station, Spock gets bad news from New Vulcan. A distress call comes to *Yorktown* and Starfleet sends the *Enterprise* to investigate. When the *Enterprise* arrives at the planet Altamid, forces under the command of an alien named Krall attack the ship. The crew of the *Enterprise* find themselves stranded on Altamid. Can Kirk and the crew with the help of a local outcast Jaylah, escape and find out what Krall’s ultimate plan?

They make good use of the characters in this film. All of them contribute to solving the problem. Scotty uses his engineering knowledge to get them off the planet. Uhura tries to learn more about Krall. Chekov helps Kirk find the rest of the rest of the crew. Sulu piloting skills are essential to get them off Altamid. Spock and McCoy hack the enemy systems.

Jaylah is a great character. She has been surviving on

her own for years and is rebuilding a wrecked starship. She helps Kirk distract Krall’s forces while Scotty and Chekov rescue the rest of the crew. If it were not for her, the *Enterprise* crew would not have escaped Altamid and stop Krall.

There were excellent action sequences. The motorcycle run in the enemy camp was great since they used Jaylah’s tech to increase the confusion with Krall’s forces. Director Justin Lin is able to make the ride in three dimensions and convince the viewer it would work. There was also the final fight between Krall and Kirk, which was in a micro gravity environment and had a similar 3D effect. These were ambitious scenes.

The design of the *Yorktown* was innovative. The designers not only went big, but also were creative in the use of space. The layout of *Yorktown* uses all three dimensions and seems like an Escher painting that works logically. It looks and feels like a large city out in space.

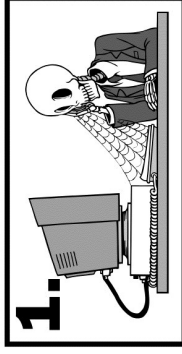
There are many tributes to the entire Trek universe in the film. One of the biggest ones is to *Star Trek: Enterprise*. A good part of the story deals with that era of the universe’s history. This was a surprise given that *Enterprise* was not a popular show.

Of the alternate timeline films, this feels most like *Star Trek*. The previous films felt awkward since they were dealing with origins or trying to modernize a previous story. *Star Trek Beyond* is about “exploring strange new worlds.” It is also questioning the ideas of political alliances. This is a wonderful 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary gift.

The adventure continues.



# There are two ways to be a science fiction and fantasy fan in Florida.



**1.**

Read about the exciting fan activities *other* people are doing.

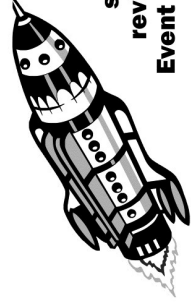


**2.**

Start doing exciting things yourself, and meet new friends "in the flesh" with OASFiS!



We're OASFiS - the Orlando Area Science Fiction Society. We enjoy and promote science fiction, fantasy, horror, books, movies, TV series, costuming, gaming - every part of the most imaginative hobby in existence. Of all the conventions in Central Florida, only our **OASiS conventions** are operated *by* fans, *for* fans, and not for profit...bringing affordable fun that speaks to *your* interests. Bring your unique fan interests to life and share them with Florida's fan community. We work with other fan organizations to bring our mutual passions to life. Visit our monthly meetings...and help shape fandom's future by joining OASFiS. Individual and family memberships are available. If you're tired of just sitting, you're welcome at OASFiS...no bones about it!



Besides monthly meetings and our OASiS conventions, read about our special events and activities on our web site! Members can contribute articles, reviews and original fiction to our magazine Event Horizon. We want to hear from you!

**OASFiS: The Orlando Area Science Fiction Society**  
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