

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Still decompressing from May. A lot coming up next month. Will try to shoot for some reviews next month.

Yasumicon

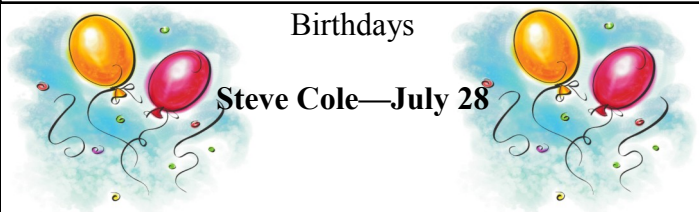
July 11-12
Florida International University
Tamiami Campus, Graham Center
Guests: Aaron Pabon
Arm Cannon (band)
FREE
www.yasumicon.com

Ancient City Con III

July 18-19
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront
Terrance Pavilion 1
225 Easy Coast Line Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Guests: DA Adams, Linda S. Cowen, William Hatfield,
Kevin Pettway, Kimberly Raiser, Kevin Ranson,
Gary S. Roen, Bryan Thompson
\$15 pre-reg for both days,\$20 at the door
ancientcitycon.com

Anime Festival Orlando

July 31- August 2
Wyndham Orlando Resort
8001 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819
Guests: Robert Axelrod, Aaron Dismuke,
Jason David Frank, Reuben Langdon,
Vic Mignogna, Christopher Sabat, Doug Smith,
Sonny Strait
\$45 for all three days
www.animefestivalorlando.com



Birthdays

Steve Cole—July 28

Star Trek

On May 9, 2009 *Star Trek* the eleventh movie about the voyages of the *USS Enterprise*, was released to the general public. This film was came with great expectations and trepidations. This would be the first time that the classic Trek characters would be played officially by actors other than the original cast. It is officially since the fan production *Star Trek: Phase II* (formerly *Star Trek: The New Voyages*), has been casting new actors in classic roles for the last couple of years with great success. The movie was going to show how the original crew came together. J.J. Abrams, of *Alias*, *Lost*, and *Mission: Impossible 3* fame, was set to direct the film. Internet forums were ablaze with discussion. Would this film revive the Trek franchise or sink it?

There were superfluous comedic scenes. . . The flames which erupted on the Internet were not unwarranted. The fans were worried that the film makers would go off in their own direction and miss what made Trek work. This has happened before with other iconic characters like Captain America and The Punisher in bad movies in the early 90s. Some say this had happened on some of the Next Generation-era series and on Enterprise. People do not want to see their favorite works badly treated. These works mean something to them. I can understand since Trek inspired me to look into science fiction literature and go into engineering and computer science.

I tend not to get to worked up, and since I really think hard before I put some commentary on the web. I am a fan of *Alias* and *Lost*, I was looking forward to Abrams involvement, and I felt the film would be on the right track. My only concern was the screenwriters were Roberto Orci and Alex Kurtzman since I was not impressed by their last effort, *Transformers*. *Star Trek* also had the disadvantage of being made during writer's strike, limiting rewriting

Star Trek has become the biggest grossing Trek film of all time (the previous record holder being the first film). The film is also successful critically. *Star Trek* has received 249 positive reviews out of 263 reviews (95%) at the Rotten Tomatoes film website. The film deserves the success it has received. The film works for the following reasons.

- 1) The film makers got the characters right. The characters react they way we expect them to despite the change in timeline.

(Continued on page 2)

July OASFiS Calendar

4th of July Party

330 PM, Patricia Wheeler's House, 8029 Citron Court Orlando, FL (more detailed directions in this issue)

OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, July 12, 1:30 PM, Orange Public Library (Downtown Orlando, 101 E. Central Blvd., Orlando, FL 32801, 407-835-7323). Come join us as we discuss the 2009 Hugo nominees for novelette and short story!

SciFi Light

Saturday July 25, 6 PM, the Sookie Stackhouse series by Charlaine Harris. , A Passage to India, 7625 Turkey Lake Rd , Orlando, FL. For more info contact Steve Grant

To contact for more info:

OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

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

- 2) They have respect for the history of Trek. The film makers did their homework. There are lots of references to Trek's past in big (Kobayashi Maru test) and small (tribble cameo) ways.
- 3) The story is good. Yes there are some plot holes and questionable science but there was always that in the previous series and films. If the story and characters engage the audience, mistakes are overlooked.
- 4) Michael Giacchino has done a good job scoring this film. He ranks up there with James Horner who did the score for *Wrath of Khan* and *Search for Spock*. This is one of three scores he has done this year (*Up* and *Land of the Lost* are two others). Each score is a success, in the case of *Land of the Lost* one of the bright moments of otherwise dismal film. The main introduction theme captures the adventurous feel of Classic Trek.

The only negative aspect is the fact that Paramount chose to make this Trek revival on film. It would have been more fun to have brought Trek back as a new TV series. The problem with films is that you need a big event to drive the film. You could not do *The Trouble with Tribbles*, *Arena*, and *Devil in the Dark* as movies without a lot of rewriting. The stories while good are not big enough for films. Joe Straczynski, creator of *Babylon 5*, actually proposed a redo of the classic series as a television show years ago. Maybe Trek may come back to television as in an animated form like *Star Wars* has recently.

After a few years of no Trek, it is great to have it back. The voyages continue.



Award News:

Stoker Winners -
(source Locus website)

The winners of the 2008 Bram Stoker Awards were announced at a banquet June 13, 2009 during the Stoker Award Weekend at the Burbank Marriott Hotel, near Los Angeles.

Novel: *Duma Key*, Stephen King (Scribner)

First Novel: *The Gentling Box*, Lisa Mannetti (Dark Hart)

Long Fiction: *Miranda*, John R. Little (Bad Moon)

Short Fiction: *The Lost*, Sarah Langan (Cemetery Dance)

Fiction Collection: *Just After Sunset*, Stephen King (Scribner)

Anthology: *Unspeakable Horror*, Vince A. Liaguno & Chad Helder, eds. (Dark Scribe)

Non-Fiction: *A Hallowe'en Anthology*, Lisa Morton, ed. (McFarland)

Poetry: *The Nightmare Collection*, Bruce Boston (Dark Regions) (OASIS Guest)

Other awards presented at the ceremony include the annual Lifetime Achievement Awards for F. Paul Wilson and Chelsea Quinn Yarbro; The Specialty Press Award for Larry Roberts of Blood-letting Press; The Silver Hammer Award, for outstanding service to HWA, for Sephera Giron; and the President's Richard Laymon Service Award for John R. Little

(Continued on page 3)

Locus Award Winners

Winners of the 2009 Locus Awards were announced at a ceremony and banquet June 27, 2009 in Seattle WA during the Science Fiction Awards Weekend. (Source Locus website)

Science Fiction Novel: *Anathem*, Neal Stephenson (Atlantic UK, Morrow)

Fantasy Novel: *Lavinia*, Ursula K. Le Guin (Harcourt)

First Novel: *Singularity's Ring*, Paul Melko (Tor)

Young-Adult Book: *The Graveyard Book*, Neil Gaiman (HarperCollins, Bloomsbury)

Novella: "Pretty Monsters", Kelly Link (*Pretty Monsters*)

Novellette: "Pump Six", Paolo Bacigalupi (*Pump Six and Other Stories*)

Short Story: "Exhalation", Ted Chiang (*Eclipse Two*)

Anthology: *The Year's Best Science Fiction: Twenty-Fifth Annual Collection*, Gardner Dozois, ed. (St. Martin's)

Collection: *Pump Six and Other Stories*, Paolo Bacigalupi (Night Shade Books)

Non-Fiction/Art Book: P. Craig Russell, *Coraline: The Graphic Novel*, Neil Gaiman, adapted and illustrated by P. Craig Russell (HarperCollins)

Editor: Ellen Datlow

Artist: Michael Whelan

Magazine: *F&SF*

Publisher: Tor

Campbell Award Finalists
(source Locus website)

The **John W. Campbell Award** and Sturgeon Award will be presented during the Campbell Conference Awards Banquet at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas, July 9 - 12, 2009,.

Campbell Finalists are:

- *City at the End of Time*, Greg Bear (Del Rey)
 - *Valley of Day-Glo*, Nick Di Chario (Robert J. Sawyer Books)
 - *Little Brother*, Cory Doctorow (Tor)
 - *Song of Time*, Ian MacLeod, (PS Publishing)
 - *The Philosopher's Apprentice*, James Morrow (William Morrow)
- Anathem*, Neal Stephenson (William Morrow)

Sturgeon Award Finalists

"The Gambler", Paolo Bacigalupi (*Fast Forward 2*)

"The Political Prisoner", Charles Coleman Finlay (*F&SF* 8/08)

"True Names", Cory Doctorow & Benjamin Rosenbaum (*Fast Forward 2*)

"The Ray Gun: A Love Story", James Alan Gardner (*Asimov's* 2/08)

"Memory Dog", Kathleen Ann Goonan (*Asimov's* 4-5/08)

"The Tear", Ian McDonald (*Galactic Empires*)

"Special Economics", Maureen McHugh (*The Del Rey Book of Science Fiction and Fantasy*)

"His Master's Voice", Hannu Rajaniemi (*Interzone* #218)

"From Babel's Fall'n Glory We Fled", Michael Swanwick (*Asimov's* 2/08).



FOURTH OF JULY PARTY

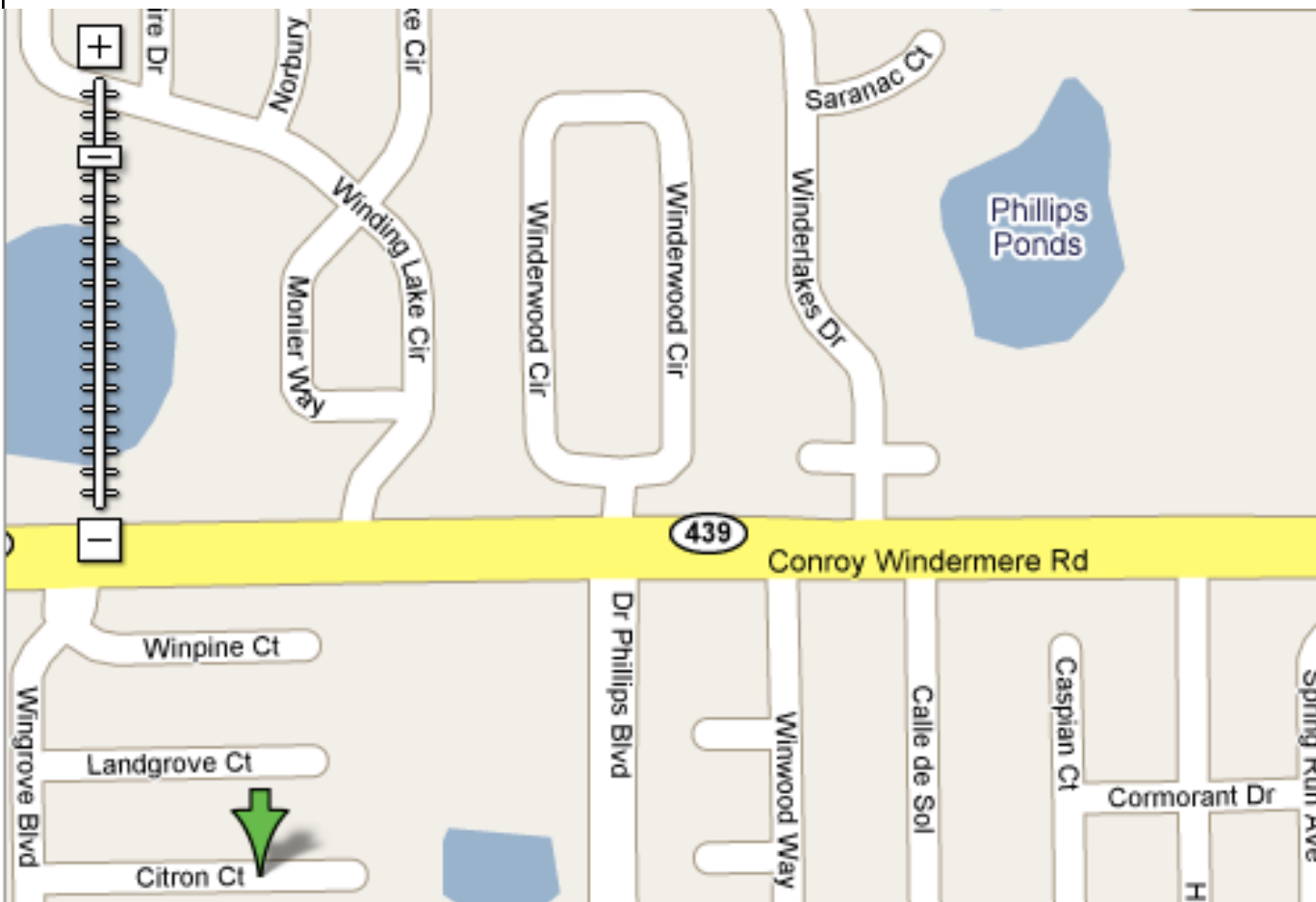
Celebrate the Fourth of July with fried chickens, brats, hot dogs, good company and a pool to cool off in. Food will be provided (main course and soft drinks). If you can, bring a dish (appetizer, salad, baked beans, coleslaw, dessert, etc).

WHY: To have fun, eat too much and play water volleyball. For the swimmers bring your suits and a towel.

The address to Patricia's place is the minutes and the Calendar. You can take I-4 and take the Conroy Road exit going west. You're on Conroy Road for about 3.5 miles. Dr. Phillips is the last light you pass before Wingrove estates. In fact, Wingrove estates is the first sub-division on the left right after Dr. Phillips. Turn left on Wingrove Blvd. Citron Court is the 2nd left turn once you go into Wingrove estates.

If someone is coming from the east-west expressway, they should get off on Hiawassee and go South for about 3.4 miles. Then take a right onto Conroy-Windermere and the next light is Dr. Phillips.

The house is 2/3's of the way down on Citron Court on the left hand side. The house # (8029) is above the garage. Park in the driveway if possible.



Charlie Jane Anders wrote "Science Fiction Books That Launched their own Genres" for the io9 website. In the article Anders discusses 10 books which started a new type of science fiction story. I want to go further and list some of the best books of that genre and comment on the genre itself. I will first comment on the genre and Anders' choice for the book which started it.

1. Military Science Fiction: *Starship Troopers* by Robert A. Heinlein. This is undisputedly the start of the genre. It is also one of the best books of this genre. *Dorsai!* by Gordon Dickson gives another take on military. Heinlein looked at the individual soldier and his society. Dickson looks at a special individual that is born to lead. David Drake said all military SF comes from these two books.
2. Cyberpunk: *Neuromancer* by William Gibson. It is amazing that Gibson wrote this with very little knowledge of the computers at the time. This genre has blossomed in the advent of the Internet. *The Halting State* by Charles Stross looks at the impact of online gaming on society. *Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow examines how much technology the individual has access to and the power this brings the individual. This technology can gum up the works of an oppressive regime.
3. Gothic Science Fiction: *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley. I have always agreed with Brian Aldiss that this is one of the earliest science fiction novels. Anders feels that any science fiction novel which has horrific elements is gothic. I am not really sure. Matheson's *I am Legend* by Anders definition is gothic because it reworks a classic monster. It does not feel gothic. Gothic feels like it is coming from the past. Anders does not give any other examples besides *Frankenstein* as to what qualifies as gothic SF
4. First Contact: *Childhood's End* by Arthur C. Clarke. When I think of *Childhood's End*, I do not think of the first meeting between humanity and the Overlords. I think of the last part where the Overlords take us to a new place. More about that later. *Contact* by Carl Sagan is great first contact story. Sagan created a complex alien and took into account how complex contact could be.
5. Utopian Science Fiction: *The Mummy!: Or a Tale of the Twenty-Second Century* by Joan C. Loudon. This was written in 1827. In Anders' article is the first I heard about the book but it sounds interesting. *Beyond This Horizon* by Robert A. Heinlein is the best modern utopia. We see all sides of this society including the cracks. Heinlein makes this utopia plausible. This is one of his earliest and least know works.
6. Apocalyptic fiction: *On the Beach* by Nevil Schute. The first of the post nuclear war stories. *A Canticle for Leibowitz* by Walter M. Miller Jr. is one of the best apocalyptic novels. What sets it apart for me is that there is always hope. It starts

after a nuclear war and the monks preserve the past sum of human knowledge. Civilization continues through hard work of individuals.

7. Steampunk: *Infernal Devices: A Mad Victorian Fantasy* by K.W. Jeter. I never thought there was a lot of steampunk fiction. I had always wanted to read *The Difference Engine* by William Gibson and Bruce Sterling. Here Anders did provide some examples like *Anubis Gates* by Tim Powers. I always thought steampunk was fun in *The Wild Wild West* (TV series) and *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen* (the comic series not the film).
8. Time Travel: *The Time Machine* by H.G. Wells. There are so many novels, stories and media on the topic. The first book that comes to mind is Connie Willis *Doomsday Book*. Willis goes into great detail Kirvrin's preparation to go into the past. We really care about Kirvrin and the Medieval family she stays with. What strikes me about the novel is the idea of continuing when all hope is lost because it is the right thing to do and it beats giving up.
9. Alternative History: *History of the Universal Monarchy: Napoleon And The Conquest Of The World* by Louis Geoffroy. This book suggests what would have happened had Napoleon Bonaparte defeated Russia. The idea of the Axis winning World War II is a cliché now but it still has it power. *The Man in the High Castle* is the best alternate World War II and one of the best alternate histories. The US is divided by Japan and Germany. A Cold War has developed between the two powers. We see all sections of society from a rich Japanese businessman to a American Jew trying to escape from the clutches of the German authorities. The major characters in this books gets a victory over whatever is oppressing them. They can survive in this scary world which is also on the brink of nuclear war.
10. Posthuman Space Opera: *Consider Phlebas* by Iain M. Banks. When I think of posthuman the first book that comes to mind is *Childhood's End*. I always like the ending that mankind is going somewhere fantastic. It posthuman since humanity takes a big evolutionary step.

The link Anders' original article can be found below:

<http://io9.com/5302367/science-fiction-books-that-launched-their-own-genres>

To be announced

Hotel Info:

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SOON

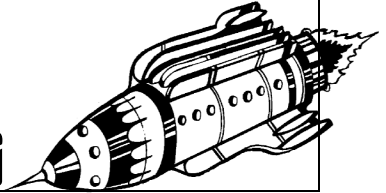
ANNOUNCEMENT

BIG

May 28-30, 2010

OASIS 23

SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION IN ORLANDO



Weekend Memberships:
\$30 until 1/1/10, \$35 until
4/30/10,
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Informative Panel Talks,
Artist Demos Books,
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Joe Fan
123 Sesame Street
Orlando, FL 32805

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P.O. Box 592905
ORLANDO, FL 32859-2905

