



Volume 24 Number 2 Issue 284

July 2011

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Spent some time working on OASIS 25 and doing my Hugo reading. All the nominees are very good and deserve to be recognized.

Congratulations to OASIS regular Bruce Boston for his Stoker win.

Next month, I plan to checkout both Florida Supercon and Ancient City Con. There should be opportunities for some pictures at both those events. There will be a couple of reviews hopefully.



Birthdays

Steve Cole—July 28

Events

Florida Supercon

June 1-4

The Doubletree Miami Mart

Airport Convention Center

711 NW 72nd Ave

Miami, FL.

\$40 for 3 days at the door

Guests:

Cary Elwes (*The Princess Bride*)

Bruce Boxleitner (*Babylon 5, Tron*)

Cindy Morgan (*Tron*)

Emma Caulfield (*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*)

Richard Horvitz (voice actor, *Invader Zim*)

Dana Snyder (voice actor)

Melissa Fahn (voice actor, *Cowboy Bebop*)

Sheldon Modoff (Golden Age comic artist)

Steve Englehart (comic artist)

Tony Bedard (comic artist)

Charlie Adlard (comic artist)

Jim Cheung (comic artist)

Greg Horn (comic artist)

Paul Gulacy (comic artist)

Tommy Castillo (former OASIS GOH)

www.floridasupercon.com

Ancient City Con V

July 9-10

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront

Terrance Pavilion 1

225 Easy Coast Line Drive

Jacksonville, FL 32202

\$30 at the door for both days, \$20 for Saturday,

\$15 for Sunday

Guests:

Don Perlin (comic artist)

Linda S. Cowen

Kevin Ranson

T.S. Robinson

ancientcitycon.com

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July OASFiS Calendar

4th of July Party

12:30 PM, Patricia Wheeler's House, 8029 Citron Court Orlando, FL (see page 4)

OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, July 10, 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 2011 Hugo nominees.

SciFi Light Summer Film Series

Saturday July 16, 6:00 PM, ***Gil's All Fright Diner*** by by A. Lee Martinez at El Inka Grill (4106 Town Center, 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

Award News

Sturgeon Award Finalists

(source *Locus* website)

- "Mammoths of the Great Plains", Eleanor Arnason (***Mammoths of the Great Plains***)
- "Under the Moons of Venus", Damien Broderick (*Subterranean* Spring '10)
- "The Maiden Flight of McAuley's *Bellerophon*", Elizabeth Hand (***Stories***)
- "The Sultan of the Clouds", Geoffrey A. Landis (*Asimov's* 9/10)
- "Flower, Mercy, Needle, Chain", Yoon Ha Lee (*Lightspeed* 9/10)
- "Ghosts Doing the Orange Dance", Paul Park (*F&SF* 1-2/10)
- "Dead Man's Run", Robert Reed (*F&SF* 11-12/10)
- "Troika", Alastair Reynolds (***Godlike Machines***)
- "A Letter from the Emperor", Steve Rasnic Tem (*Asimov's* 1/10)
- "The Night Train", Lavie Tidhar, (*Strange Horizons* 6/14/10)
- "The Things", Peter Watts (*Clarkesworld* 1/10)

2011 John W. Campbell Memorial Award finalists

(source *Locus* website)

- ***Yarn***, Jon Armstrong (Night Shade)
- ***Hull Zero Three***, Greg Bear (Orbit)
- ***Zero History***, William Gibson, (Putnam)
- ***C***, Tom McCarthy (Knopf)
- ***The Dervish House***, Ian McDonald (Gollancz/Pyr)
- ***New Model Army***, Adam Roberts (Gollancz)
- ***The Quantum Thief***, Hannu Rajaniemi (Gollancz/Tor)
- ***Veteran***, Gavin Smith (Gollancz)
- ***The Waters Rising***, Sheri S. Tepper (Eos)
- ***Aurorarama***, Jean-Christophe Valat (Melville House)
- ***Anthill***, E. O. Wilson (Norton)
- ***Blackout/All Clear***, Connie Willis (Spectra)
- ***How to Live Safely in a Science Fictional Universe***, Charles Yu (Pantheon)

The awards will be presented during the Campbell Conference Awards Banquet, to be held July 7-10, 2011 at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas.

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Locus Award Winners
(source *Locus* website)

The 2011 Locus Awards winners were announced at the annual Science Fiction Awards Weekend, held June 24-26, 2011 in Seattle, WA. .

Best SF Novel: *Blackout/AllClear*, Connie Willis (Spectra)

Best Fantasy Novel: *Kraken*, China Miéville (Del Rey; Macmillan UK)

Best First Novel: *The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms*, N.K. Jemisin (Orbit)

Best Young Adult Book: *Ship Breaker* Paolo Bacigalupi (Little, Brown)

Best Novella: *The Lifecycle of Software Objects*, Ted Chiang (Subterranean)

Best Novelette: “Truth is a Cave in the Black Mountains”, Neil Gaiman (*Stories*)

Best Short Story: “”, Neil Gaiman (*Songs of Love and Death*)

Best Anthology: *Warriors*, George R.R. Martin and Gardner Dozois (Tor)

Best Collection: *Fritz Leiber: Selected Stories*, Fritz Leiber (Night Shade);

Best Non-Fiction Book/Art Book: *Robert A. Heinlein: In Dialogue with His Century: Volume 1: 1907-1948: Learning Curve* by William H. Patterson, Jr. (Tor)

Best Art Book: *Spectrum 17* Cathy and Arnie Fenner, eds (Underwood)

Best Artist: Shaun Tan

Best Editor: Ellen Datlow

Best Magazine: *Asimov's*

Best Book Publisher: Tor

Summer Wars
(サマーウォーズ)

Summer Wars is a Japanese-animated feature film directed by Mamoru Hosoda. Hosoda also directed the Seiu (Japanese equivalent of the Hugo) winning anime feature, *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*. The story of *Summer Wars* was written by Mamoru Hosoda and Satoko Okudera wrote the screenplay. It was produced by Madhouse, distributed by Warner Brothers, and translated into English by Funimation. It won of the 2010 Seiu for Best Media.

OZ is a computer network. It is a combination of Facebook and World of Warcraft. People can shop, do business, and play games in OZ. Most businesses and governments have a presence in OZ. Kenji Koiso is a mathematical genius and a system moderator for OZ, when Natsuki Shinohara, a classmate of Kenji, asks him to come with her to her great-grandmother's home in Ueda. Sakae Jinnouchi, Natsuki's great-grandmother, is about to celebrate her 90th birthday. Natsuki wants Kenji to pose as her fiancé. Kenji meets Natsuki's extended family, which consists of several uncles, aunts and cousins. Then Kenji receives a mysterious message on his email, a code which he cracks, and returns to the sender. The next morning, OZ security has been hacked and it is traced back to Kenji's email. Something is causing worldwide disruption through OZ. It turns out this all being done by Love Machine, an artificial intelligence, which is absorbing OZ accounts and becoming more powerful. Kenji, with the help of Natsuki's family, tries to stop Love Machine.

The Jinnouchi clan drives the film. They come from all walks of life, and have a celebrated history in their prefecture. They may sometimes bicker and fight amongst themselves, but when an external threat comes at them, they close ranks and face it together. They are able to get the resources to help Kenji and Kazuma, Natsuki's second cousin, fight Love Machine. The first attempt fails when it is just Kazuma and Kenji. When the whole family rallies around Natsuki, the results are better.

Kenji is smart, but unsure of himself despite his mathematical genius and envies the closeness of the Jinnouchi clan, since he barely sees his overworked parents. The Jinnouchis help Kenji find the confidence he needs to stop Love Machine.

Natsuki is a smart, fun-loving girl, and devoted to her family. She comes up with the idea of passing Kenji off as her fiancé to please her family, especially to her great-grandmother. She helps heal an old wound in her family, and rallies her family and the world to fight against Love Machine.

The art is pretty realistic. When the characters get emotional, there is over-the-top blushing. The scenes in OZ are rendered with CGI, which gives OZ a very a surreal feel. Most of the avatars are caricature of animals. Kazuma's avatar, King Kazama, is a tall street fighting rabbit. When Love Machine starts absorbing the accounts, his body is formed by the avatars of the accounts he has taken. One can see the individual avatars in Love Machine's expanded form.

This is a smart film about a people facing a cyberthreat. When they pool their talents, they can face the menace.

Hosoda shows that he is a Japanese director to watch out for.

(Continued on page 4)

FOURTH OF JULY PARTY

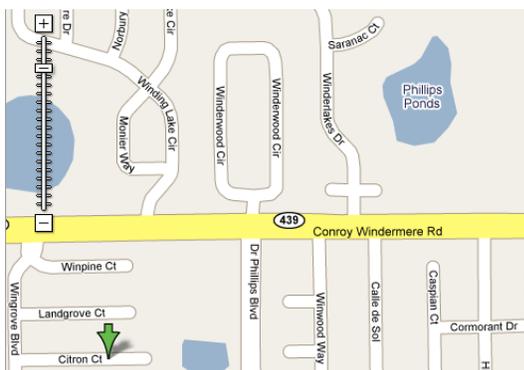
Celebrate the Fourth of July with fried chickens, brats, hot dogs, good company and a pool to cool off in. Food will be provided (main course and soft drinks). If you can, bring a dish (appetizer, salad, baked beans, coleslaw, dessert, etc).

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.



(Continued from page 3)

Stoker Awards

The 2010 Stoker Award winners were announced at the Stoker Weekend on June 17-19 in Long Island, NY.

(source *Locus* website)

Superior Achievement in a Novel

A Dark Matter, Peter Straub (DoubleDay)

Superior Achievement in a First Novel (tie)

Black and Orange, Benjamin Kane Ethridge
(Bad Moon Books)

Castle of Los Angeles, Lisa Morton (Gray Friar)

Superior Achievement Long Fiction

Invisible Fences, Norman Prentiss (Cemetery Dance)

Superior Achievement in Short Fiction

"The Folding Man", Joe R. Lansdale (*Haunted Legends*)

Superior Achievement in an Anthology

Haunted Legends, Ellen Datlow & Nick Mamatas, eds. (Tor)

Superior Achievement in a Collection

Full Dark, No Stars, Stephen King (Simon & Schuster)

Superior Achievement in Non-Fiction

To Each Their Darkness, Gary A. Braunbeck (Apex)

Superior Achievement in a Poetry Collection

Dark Matters, Bruce Boston (Bad Moon Books)

Ellen Datlow and Al Feldstein are the recipients of the Horror Writer's Association Life Achievement Awards. Joe Morey of Dark Regions won the Specialty Press Award, and the Silver Hammer Award, presented for outstanding service to HWA, went to Angel Leigh McCoy. The President's Richard Laymon Service Award was given to Michael Colangelo.

Super 8

WARNING SPOILERS

Super 8 was written and directed by J.J. Abrams, and stars Joel Courtney, Elle Fanning, Kyle Chandler, Ron Eldard, Noah Emmerich, and Riley Griffiths. Steven Spielberg co-produced the film. The film was produced by Bad Robot Productions and Amblin Entertainment. It was distributed by Paramount Pictures.

In 1979, Joe Lamb's (Courtney) mother dies in an accident at the steel mill. His father (Chandler) blames Louis Dainard (Eldard) for his wife's death, since he should have been working that shift. Four months later, Joe is helping his friend Charles (Griffiths) work on his Super 8 movie for a Film Festival. Charles has enlisted the help of Alice (Danning), Drainard's daughter, to drive them to an abandoned train station to film a scene. While filming, Joe and his friends see a massive train derailment. It was caused by their science teacher, Mr. Woodard, driving in front of the train. He warns them not to speak of the accident. The next day, Air Force Colonel Nelec takes command of wreckage, which includes strange cube artifacts. Mysterious things start happening in the town. People start to disappear. Car engines and household appliances start to disappear. Several nearby counties lose power. Despite this, Charles goes on with his film. The tension between Joe and his father is exacerbated by the situation. Then Alice disappears and the town is evacuated onto an Air Force base due to a forest fire, but something is not right.

This is homage to early Spielberg movies. Abrams worked with Spielberg, and one of the jobs he did was to restore Spielberg's Super 8 films. The film specifically draws from ***Jaws***, ***Close Encounters of the Third Kind*** and ***E.T.*** with the following elements: young children on a fantastic adventure and clueless adults (***E.T.***), government officials denying there is a problem (***Jaws***, ***Close Encounters***), a creature that is slowly revealed as the film progresses (all three films), government agencies hostile to the protagonists (***E.T.*** and ***Close Encounters***) and people with father issues (***E.T.***, although this is something that Abrams has dealt with in his other work).

The modern aspect to the film is the alien, which has been held in captivity for 21 years for no apparent reason. One wonders if this is a reference to the issue of indefinite imprisonment that has been around since 9/11. The alien design is also very modern. It is not a traditional biped. Abrams does a good job of building suspense by not showing the alien until almost the end of the film. Before that one sees what it can do, and it is terrifying.

Joe, Charles, Alice and their friends act as believable kids. The boys talk about the goofy things that boys having been talking about for ages. Joe and Alice have to deal with the absence of a parent (Alice's mother left her father). Charles, Joe and their fellow film makers show true passion in making their movie, and take it seriously.

The only problem with the film is the battle sequence at the end. It was not clear if the Army is firing at the alien or the alien is causing the weapons to misfire.

The film is quite an interesting combination of modern and the old.

Feed

by

Mira Grant (Seanan McGuire)

In the year 2014, two viruses combine and the result of this is a disease which causes its victims to resemble zombies. Everyone is infected, including mammals bigger than a small cat. The virus stays dormant until death, or if a person comes into physical contact with the bodily fluids of a zombie. Either of these events causes the virus to amplify, and the person becomes a zombie searching for new victims. About 32% of the world's population is wiped out in the summer of 2014. Thanks to a Center for Disease Control scientist releasing a classified report on his teenage daughter's blog, people are able to find out what was happening, and which saves most of the world's infrastructure. A new world comes into being in that summer. People take several blood tests a day to insure the virus has not amplified, and cannot enter or leave a building without a blood test. Most people do not go outdoors anymore. Several parts of the United States have been abandoned. The failure of the traditional news media in this crisis gives rise to blogs as primary news sources, which are self-regulated to insure for professionalism.

This is the world of adopted brother and sister Georgia and Shaun Mason. Born around 2017, both of them are bloggers. Georgia is a Newsie, a blogger who reports the facts unbiased by opinion. She has a form of the virus which makes her eyes light-sensitive. Shaun is an Irwin, a blogger who goes into the field and observes the zombies close-up. The Masons have been selected to be embedded reporters in Senator Peter Ryman's campaign for the Presidency. Ryman is a Republican candidate for the 2040 election. This allows the Masons and their team to become an independent unit and form the *After the End Times* blogsite. Odd things start happening on the campaign trail. There is a zombie attack after a rally. The Senator's eldest daughter is killed by an amplified horse on their ranch. Someone is targeting Ryman, and does not care who gets in the way.

This is a cyberpunk novel wrapped in a zombie novel. The novel is a criticism of the current state of the news coverage in this country, implying the major news networks are either supporting the narrative of a political view or are lazy or sensationalistic. This is what Georgia and her fellow Newsies reject. They want to bring the facts to the people. It is great seeing a novel taking on one of the biggest issues of the day.

Grant creates a world here, with each chapter begins and ends with a blog entry from Georgia and Shaun or another member of their team. It is a world of fear: people are so afraid of the disease, they are willing to be pricked a dozen or more times a day. The industry which creates the portable blood tests is huge. Most people want to stay home and live vicariously through Irwins like Shaun. Georgia wants to fight against this culture of fear.

There is a big twist in the book, one which is surprising, since it was a clear this is to be part of a series. It means the reader cannot make any assumptions, and cannot get too comfortable.

There is a second book out and another on the way. This is a must-read series.

**SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION
IN ORLANDO**

OASIS 25

May 25-27, 2012

Writer Guests of Honor

L.E. Modesitt Jr.

David Weber

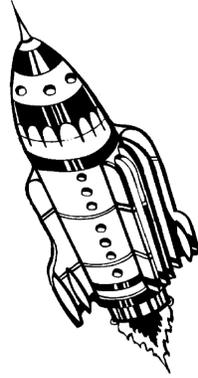
Fan Guests of Honor

Pat and Roger Sims

Gaming info will be at
www.warhorn.org

**Author Signings,
Costume Contest,
Live Music and Comedy,
Anime and Video
Programs,
Art Show,**

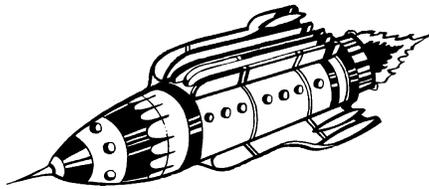
**Informative Panel Talks,
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Fun and Games
Charity Auction**



Hotel Information

\$79/night, single-quad
through 5/6/12
Mention OASIS for rate

Sheraton Orlando Downtown
400 West Livingston St.
Orlando, Florida 32801
407-843-6664
1-800-574-3160



OASIS
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Weekend Memberships:
\$30 until 1/1/12,
\$35 until 4/30/12,
\$40 at the door.

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