



**A WORD FROM THE EDITOR**

Octavia Butler

As I got back from Megacon, I found out that Octavia Butler died. I met her 10 years ago at a signing/Q&A session in Washington DC. I had not read any of her stuff yet but I knew she was a force in the field. Most of the questions Butler got were about how to become a writer. She was a great speaker. When I went to get my book signed, she asked if I wanted to be writer. Butler was shocked (in a good natured way) when I told her I did not have the talent to write fiction and was thinking of being a critic. From then on I would pick up one of her novels as change of pace. She had a distinct perspective. It was always a treat to read her work. As I write this I cannot wrap my head on the fact she is gone. One of the greats has just left us.

OASFIS February meeting minutes 2/12/06

Meeting called to order at 1:40 pm by the President.

Attendance: Peter Popovich, Patricia Wheeler, Roger Sims, Pat Sims, Gail Sullivan, Colleen O'Brien, Marine Fourrier, Jay Eichelberger, Arthur Dykeman, David Ratti, Mike Taylor, Dick Spelman, Steve Cole, Susan Cole, Juan Sanmiguel, Yvonne Wisdom, Tony Digiacomio, and Jessy Van Divner.

The meeting continues at the Alafaya branch of the public library due to our regular room at the Central Library still being unavailable.

Officer Reports:

President (Peter Popovich): The club web site has been moved to a different server. Peter is covering the \$10 cost. This means that the newsgroups will stop working although they have not been heavily used.

Vice-President (Pat Sims): We will be able to return to having our meetings at the Central Library as of the April meeting. Pat is still taking care of the food for the meetings. She is happy to have help. The funds for the food is running low. Mike Conrad has donated 4 of his prints to be raffled off to help raise money for the fund.

Treasurer (Roger Sims):

- Club funds - \$1084.11
- Previous convention funds - \$3,654.50
- Oasis 19 - \$965.06
- Savings account - \$55.66

The voice mail (costing \$13 a month) has not been used or checked on a consistent basis. It was voted to cancel this service.

Secretary (Patricia Wheeler): The post office box has been paid for the next year and will expire on January 31<sup>st</sup> 2007. One con-

*(Continued on page 2)*

Events

Megaplex

March 17-19  
Sheraton World Resort  
10100 International Drive  
Orlando, FL 32821  
Guest of Honor:: Brian Reynolds (animator and illustrator)  
\$35 for three days  
<http://ppmp.info/mp05/>

ICFA 27 (professional conference)

March 15-19  
Wyndham Fort Lauderdale Airport  
Guest of Honor: Charles Vess  
[www.iafa.org](http://www.iafa.org)  
South Florida SF Society helps with set up and has a meeting at the site.  
For more info on this [www.sfsfs.org/meetingschedule.html](http://www.sfsfs.org/meetingschedule.html) or contact Juan

### March OASFiS Calendar

**OASFiS Business Meeting**

Sunday, March 19, 1:30 PM, Alafaya Library.  
Come join us as we discuss ***Moon is a Harsh Mis-***  
***trees*** by Robert Heinlein

**SciFi Lite**

Friday, March 17, 7:00 PM, The Roadhouse Grill at  
2881 S. Orange Avenue (just South of Michigan Street and  
approx. 1 mile East of I-4) . Come join us as we discuss  
***On Basilisk Station***"by David Weber

**St. Patrick's Day Parade**

Saturday, March 4, 10AM, Float prep.  
Saturday, March 12, 1:00 PM Parade  
More details via email

To contact for more info:  
OASFiS Business Meeting           407-823-8715

Gail Sullivan                           407-381-5636  
SciFi Lite & Social Calendar

Colleen O'Brien                   407-599-2243  
St. Patrick's Day Parade

vention memberships was received.

Standing Committees:

Sci-Fi Lite: We will return to the Roadhouse Grill on Friday Feb-  
ruary 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30-7:00 for dinner and to discuss ***The Amulet of***  
***Samarkand*** by J. Stroud.

Picnic: Susan Cole is working on sending an e-mail to announce  
the picnic and to solicit food, drinks, and monetary support. The  
picnic will be at Downey park on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00pm.

Old Business:

St. Patrick's Day parade: Colleen has sent in our application to  
join the parade. She has found a truck that could be used to pull a  
float. She plans to get into contact with Mike Conrad to discuss  
what thoughts he had about the float. Colleen has contacted Deli  
Planet to see if they would sponsor the float. Deli Planet wanted  
to know if they would be the only sponsors. A vote was taken  
and it was OK'ed that Deli Planet would be the only sponsors for  
us for the parade. How much money will be needed for the float  
depends on what design is decided on for the float. Over 10 peo-  
ple voted to help put the float together the Saturday before the  
parade (March 4th).

We also discussed when to have the business meeting for the  
group in March. It was voted not to have the meeting the same  
day as the parade, instead we will have it the following Sunday  
(March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM). This will be our last meeting at the Ala-  
faya branch.

### OASFiS People

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Bonny Beall    | 407-298-9352<br>strangewitch@yahoo.com  |
| Steve Cole     | 407-275-5211<br>stevepc@hotmai.com      |
| Susan Cole     | 407-275-5211<br>sacole@mindspring.com   |
| Arthur Dykeman | 407-328-9565<br>adykeman@bellsouth.net  |
| Peter Popovich | 407-832-3561<br>peter@popovich.com      |
| David Ratti    | 407-282-2468<br>dratti@eudoramail.com   |
| Juan Sanmiguel | 407-823-8715<br>sanmiguel@earthlink.net |
| Dick Spelman   | 407-363-2781<br>rspelman@cfl.rr.com     |
| Gail Sullivan  | 407-381-5636                            |

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

New Business: No new business

Convention News:

A hotel walk through occurred on Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>. Most of  
the club members were able to attend. The people Peter has been  
working with at the hotel have all changed, but events are still  
proceeding. The Con suite will be separated from much of the  
public convention space. The video room will be next to the con  
suite. Peter has talked to FRAG and they are very interested in  
running gaming. There is a possibility of having a tournament of  
some kind, which would help bring more money in.

It was decided to have a dinner for the guests of honor on the  
Thursday before the convention starts. The dinner will be at Ben-  
nigan's at 8:00pm, hopefully after the majority of the art show  
has been assembled. The dinner will be free for the guests but  
will cost \$20 for everyone else and will included a choice of 3  
entrees, 2 desserts and coffee/tea/soda.

Marine will put together a cookbook including recipes from the  
guests of honor and club members. E-mail her your best recipes.

Gail will staff an information desk at the convention to answer  
questions. She will also sell the cookbooks.

Book Discussion:

***Startide Rising*** by the David Brin was discussed. The majority of  
the attendees had read the book and in general it was well liked.  
Peter was not happy with the format of the book with many short  
chapters. In general though it was thought that Brin had written a  
very interesting book with relevant ethical issues.

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The book for March is *The Moon is a Harsh Mistress* by Robert Heinlein. Anyone who has a book to recommend for future book discussions, please bring your ideas to the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm and the majority of the attendees went to TooJays for an early dinner/late lunch.

### *In the News*

#### Awards

##### Arthur C. Clarke Award

This presented to the best SF novel published in Britain. The shortlist for the award are as follows:

*Never Let Me Go* – Kazuo Ishiguro (Faber)  
*Learning The World* – Ken MacLeod (Orbit)  
*Pushing Ice* – Alastair Reynolds (Gollancz)  
*Air* – Geoff Ryman (Gollancz)  
*Accelerando* – Charles Stross (Orbit)  
*Banner Of Souls* – Liz Williams (Tor)

The award will be presented on April 26, 2006

#### Nebula Awards

2005 Final Nebula Ballot. Awards to be given out May 6,2006.

#### Novels

*Air* - Geoff. Ryman (St. Martin's Press, Sep04)

**Camouflage** - Joe Haldeman (Analog, Mar-May 04, also Ace book Aug 2004>)

*Going Postal* - Terry Pratchett (HarperCollins, Oct04)

*Jonathan Strange and Mr Norrell* - Susanna Clarke (Bloomsbury, Holtzbrinck Publishers, Sep04)

*Polaris* - Jack McDevitt (Ace, Nov04)

*Orphans of Chaos* - John C. Wright (Tor, Nov05)

#### Novellas

"Clay's Pride" - Bud Sparhawk (Analog, Jul/Aug04)

"Identity Theft" - Robert J. Sawyer (Down These Dark Spaceways, Mike Resnick, Ed., Science Fiction Book Club, May05)

"Left of the Dial" - Paul Witcover(SCI FICTION, Sep04)

"Magic for Beginners" - Kelly Link (Magic for Beginners, Small

Beer Press, Jul05)

"The Tribes of Bela" - Albert Cowdrey (F&SF, Aug04)

#### Novelettes

"The Faery Handbag" - Kelly Link (The Faery Reel: Tales From the Twilight Realm, Ellen Datlow and Terri Windling, Ed., Viking Press, Aug04)

"Flat Diane" - Daniel Abraham (F&SF, Oct/Nov04)

"Men are Trouble" - Jim Kelly (Asimov's, Jun04)

"Nirvana High" - Eileen Gunn and Leslie What (Stable Strategies and Others, Tachyon Press, Sep04)

"The People of Sand and Slag" - Paolo Bacigalupi (F&SF, Feb04)

#### Short Stories

"Born-Again" - K.D. Wentworth (F&SF, May05)

"The End of the World as We Know It" - Dale Bailey (F&SF, Oct/Nov04)

"I Live With You" - Carol Emshwiller (F&SF, Mar05)

"My Mother, Dancing" - Nancy Kress (Asimov's, Jun04)

"Singing Down My Sister" - Margo Lanagan, (Black Juice, Eos, Mar05)

"Still Life With Boobs" - Anne Harris (Talebones, Summer05)

"There's a Hole in the City" - Richard Bowes (SCI FICTION, Jun05)

#### Scripts

"Act of Contrition"/"You Can't Go Home Again" - Carla Robinson; Bradley Thompson; and David Weddle. (*Battlestar Galactica*; Jan. 28, '05 / Feb. 4, '05 [two part episode])

*Serenity* - Joss Whedon (Universal Pictures, Sep05)

#### Andre Norton Award

*The Amethyst Road* - Louise Spiegel, (Clarion Books, Sep05)

*Siberia* - Ann Halam (Wendy Lamb Books, Jun05)

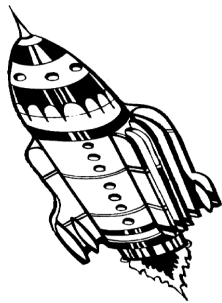
*Stormwitch* - Susan Vaught (Bloomsbury, Jan05)

*Valiant: A Modern Tale of Faerie* - Holly Black (Simon & Schuster, Jun05)

# OASIS 19

May 26 - 28, 2006

Guest of Honor



**Steven Brust**

Artist Guest of Honor

**Ellisa Mitchell**

## Hotel Information

**Robert Koenn**  
**David McDaniel**  
**Jack McDevitt**  
**Jeff Mitchell**  
**Ann Morris**  
**Stanley Morrison**  
**Steve Parady**  
**Paul Vincenti**  
**Ed Wysocki**

Sheraton World Resort  
10100 International Drive  
Orlando, FL 32821  
407-352-1100

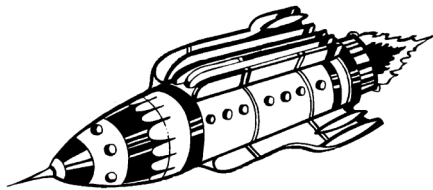
\$85/night, single quad  
Through 5/11/06

Mention OASIS for room rate

### Also Appearing

**Piers Anthony**  
**Ben Bova**  
**Richard Lee Byers**  
**Craig Caldwell**  
**Adam-Troy Castro**  
**Mike Conrad**  
**Vince Courtney**  
**Glenda Finkelstein**  
**Owl Goingback**  
**William Hatfield**  
**Mary Hanson-Roberts**

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



**...and many more!**

Weekend Memberships: \$20 until 1/1/2006, \$25 until 4/30/2006, \$30 at

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_