

Volume 19 Number 4 Issue 229

September 2006

#### A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

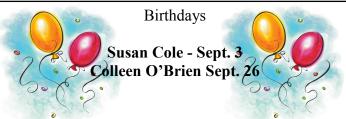
Just got back from Worldcon. Whew! So much to do and all at the same time. My infamous report will hopefully be in next month. For now I will have the awards from the convention.

Events

Klingon Feast

September 29-October 1 Surfside Hotel of Daytona Beach Shores 3209 S. Atlantic Avenue Daytona Beach Shores, FL \$35 at the door http://groups.msn.com/KlingonFeast/thirdannualklingonfeast.msnw





OASFIS August meeting minutes 8/13/06

Meeting called to order at 1:38 pm by the President.

Attendance: Peter Popovich, Patricia Wheeler, David Ratti, Susan Cole, Steve Cole, Juan Sanmiguel, Marine Fourier, Arthur Dykeman, Frank Leblanc, Michael Pilletere, Roger Sims, Pat Sims, and Gail Sullivan.

Officer Reports:

President (Peter Popovich): Nothing new to report.

Vice-President (Pat Sims): Pat and Roger went to Trinicon and had a pleasant time. A panel there involved multiple author guests of honor debating the best decade in SF writing.

Treasurer (Roger Sims): The check book is \$3.60 off:

Oasis funds - \$978.45

Previous convention funds - \$3,305.08

Oasis 19 - \$1,369.87

Oasis 20 - \$1,212.00

Charity account- \$1,639.86

Outstanding checks: 2/6/05: \$18.00 and 5/31/05: \$4.25.

It was recommended that if possible at attempt be made to contact the individuals to whom the checks were made out before removing the checks from our books.

Secretary (Patricia Wheeler): The usual out of state club newsletters were passed around.

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## September OASFiS Calendar

## **OASFIS Business Meeting**

Sunday, September 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 Golden Compass* (aka *The Northern Lights*) by Phillip Pullman

#### SciFi Lite

Friday, September 15, 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 *Furies of Calderon* by Jim Butcher.

To contact for more info:

OASFIS Business Meeting 407-823-8715 Gail Sullivan 407-823-9277

SciFi Lite & Social Calendar

## **OASFiS** People

Bonny Beall 407-298-9352

strangewitch@yahoo.com

Steve Cole 407-275-5211

stevepcole@hotmail.com

Susan Cole 407-275-5211

sacole@mindspring.com

Arthur Dykeman 407-328-9565

advkeman@bellsouth.net

Peter Popovich 407-832-3561

peter@popovich.net
David Ratti 407-282-2468

d.ratti@lycos.com

Juan Sanmiguel 407-823-8715

sanmiguel@earthlink.net

Pat and Roger Sims 407-226-2127

PatandRogerSims@cs.com

Dick Spelman 407-363-2781

rspelman@cfl.rr.com

Gail Sullivan 407-823-9277

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## Standing Committees:

Sci-Fi Lite: The next meeting will be on August 18<sup>th</sup> at the Roadhouse Grill at 7pm. We will discuss *Callahan's Crosstime Saloon* by Spider Robinson. Gail is looking for alternative restaurants to meet at due to recent concerns about Roadhouse. Please bring any suggestions to Friday's dinner.

Old Business: None

New Business: Marine sent out an e-mail reporting on a Titusville space museum who is looking for people in SF costumes to come to an event there over the Labor day weekend. If anyone has interest in this, please contact her.

Convention News: (OASIS 20):

Peter is in the process of making flyers for OASIS 20. Anyone who is going to any convention or get together of SF/fantasy fans, let him know and he will get you some colorful flyers.

Susan and Pat discussed the need to start early convention planning meetings. The decision was made to have such a meeting in early October. Information on exact time and place will be sent out.

There may be a need for an art show coordinator if Terry and Jim are not able to do the job at OASIS 20. Peter will contact them to see if they wish to be involved. If they don't wish to be involved, the possibility of Mike Pilletere and Marine Fourier working together to do the job was discussed.

The possibility of changing the date of the convention was discussed. Peter pointed out that having the con on Memorial day is cheaper for us since we get a deal on the meeting rooms. If anyone has the time to call around to hotels and see what prices would be for a non-Memorial day meeting time, he would be happy to have their help.

Peter is still trying to get in contact with Robert Asprin to invite him to come to OASIS 20. Anyone who has contact info for Asprin, please let Peter know.

Book Discussion: The short story Hugo nominees were read by a good number of attendees. There was a general consensus that the stories in general were not extraordinary and that at least one if not two were really not SF or fantasy.

Discussion for September will be *The Golden Compass* by Phillip Pullman

Discussion for October will be *The Guns of the South* by Harry Turtledove

Meeting was adjourned at 3:06

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### **Hugo Awards Winners**

Winners of the 2006 Hugo Awards and the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer were announced at a ceremony this evening at L.A. Con IV, the 64th World Science Fiction Convention in Anaheim, California.

NOVEL

*Spin*, Robert Charles Wilson (Tor)

NOVELLA

"Inside Job", Connie Willis (Asimov's Jan 2005)

**NOVELETTE** 

"Two Hearts", Peter S. Beagle (F&SF Oct/Nov 2005)

SHORT STORY

"Tk'tk'tk", David D. Levine (Asimov's Mar 2005)

RELATED BOOK

Storyteller: Writing Lessons and More from 27 Years of the Clarion Writers' Workshop, Kate Wilhelm (Small Beer Press)

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: LONG FORM

**Serenity** (Universal Pictures/Mutant Enemy, Inc.; Written & Directed by Joss Whedon)

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: SHORT FORM

**Doctor Who**: "The Empty Child" & "The Doctor Dances" (BBC Wales/BBC1; Directed by James Hawes; Written by Steven Moffat)

PROFESSIONAL EDITOR

David G. Hartwell

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

Donato Giancola

**SEMIPROZINE** 

*Locus*, Charles N. Brown, Kirsten Gong-Wong & Liza Groen Trombi, eds.

**FANZINE** 

Plokta, Alison Scott, Steve Davies & Mike Scott, eds.

FAN WRITER

Dave Langford

**FAN ARTIST** 

Frank Wu

John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer [Not a Hugo]

John Scalzi

Special Awards presented to Betty Ballatine and Harlan Ellison

The EE Evens Big Heart Award will be renamed the Forrest J. Ackerman Big Heart Award

First Fandom Award was presented to Joe Hensley

Winners of Prometheus Awards given by the Libertarian Futurist Society and announced at LA Con IV.

Best Novel

Learning the World, Ken MacLeod

Best Classic Fiction

V for Vendetta by Alan Moore and David Lloyd

Special Awards

Serenity written and directed by Joss Whedon

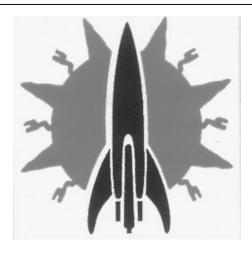
Winners of the Sidewise Awards for Alternative History were announced at LA Con IV.

Long Form

The Summer Isles, Ian MacLeod

Best Classic Fiction

"Pericles the Tyrant" by Lois Tilton



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Chesley Awards

These awards are presented by the Association of Science Fiction Artists for outstanding achievement in SF/Fantasy art. They are given out for work done or first exhibited in 2005. These awards will presented at LA Con IV.

Best Cover Illustration - Hardback Book Stephan Martinere for *Elantris* by Brandon Sanderson (Tor, May)

Best Cover Illustration - Paperback Book

Tom Kidd for *The Enchanter Completed*, ed. by Harry Turtledove, (Baen, May)

Best Cover Illustration - Magazine

Donato Giancola for "Prometheus", Asimov's, September

Best Interior Illustration

Brom for "The Plucker" (Abrams, October)

Best Three-Dimensional Art James Christensen for "Sleeper Lost in Dreams", bronze

Best Color Work - Unpublished

Charles Vess for "Companions to the Moon", colored inks

Best Monochrome Work - Unpublished

Paul Bielaczyc for "Nightmare", charcoal

**Best Product Illustration** 

Justin Sweet, *Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch,* and the Wardrobe, production design, Walt Disney Studios and Walden Entertainment

Best Gaming-Related Illustration

Gabor Szikszai & Zoltan Boros "Blazing Archon", card art for "Magic the Gathering - Ravinica: City of Guilds" (WoTC, October)

Best Art Director

Irene Gallo, Tor Books and the Spectrum exhibit at the Society of Illustrators

Award for Contribution to ASFA

Julie Faith Rigby, for being Mistress of Ceremonies at the 20th Chesley Award Ceremony

Award for Artistic Achievement

John Picacio

#### Anime Festival Orlando 7

Anime Festival Orlando 7 (AFO 7) was held on July 27-30, 2006 at Wyndham Orlando Resort on International Drive. Guests included voice actors Vic Mingnogna, Aaron Dismuke, Chris Sabat, Travis Willingham, Sean Schemmell, Veronica Taylor, Quinton Flynn, Doug Smith, Jeff Nimoy, writer Marc Handler, artists Jared Hodges and Lindsay Cibos.

I attended two events on the Friday of the con. One was the presentation of the nominees for the AFO 7 Fan Film contest. This was a new event for AFO. There were about six or seven films. Three stuck out for me. The Juggernaut Sessions dealt with the Marvel villain getting therapy from Dr. Mofo. *Miami* **Rice** had a young female detective and her overweight sidekick stopping an evil villain from taking over the paki (a Japanese candy) market. The Fall of Sailor Moon describes what happened to the famous heroine when her boyfriend leaves her for a man. The other films were hard to get into due to sound problems. The films would receive awards on the next night at the AFOscars. After that I went to see Jason Sadeghi, Japanese Anime Club of Orlando (JACO) president, give a talk on **The** Best of World of Warcraft. World of Warcraft is an online multiplayer game. Jason showed films made with footage from the game. The most interesting dealt with a raid on a funeral. A player died and her friends wanted to do a memorial in the game. Some people heard about this and decided to raid it. The ensuing battle was recorded. I think Jason did a good job of setting up the films. I never played the game yet I was able to follow what was going on.

I had a nice little romp down Memory Lane at Saturday Morning Cartoons. Scott "Mappy" Lahn showed the openings of several 80s and early 90s American cartoon shows. Most of them looked OK but some were heavily pixlated. When *The* **Real Ghostbusters** opening came on I told a surprised audience that Joe Michael Straczynski was the story editor of that show. I stopped by to observe the *Full Metal Alchemist* trivia contest. The interesting thing was that the stars of the show Vic Mingnogna and Aaron Dismuke participated in the game. Their job was to answer the question if a member of the opposing team could not. They did surprisingly well. Next I went to Creating Voltron. Marc Handler wrote the English scripts for *Voltron*. He explained the difficulties with writing the scripts. At that time, the early 80s, it was necessary to edit the violence and to remove Japanese references from the script. Some of the changes Handler made would not have been necessary if the show was translated today. After that was Larry Furry's **Robotech** panel. He said had gotten to read the script of upcoming Robotech: The Shadow Chronicles. The film will take up where the original series ended. Larry also discussed the reason for the delay of the show's release. Hopefully this direct to DVD production will spawn a new show much like Battlestar Galactica did with its miniseries. After that Tom Croon and Joey Snackpants (aka Ken Nabbe) discussed **Transformers The** Movie & Why it will Suck. During their presentation they had the opening sequence of the Transformers game on the room's movie screen (this game was only released in Japan). Tom and Ken presented all the information available on the film and I have to agree it looks grim. After I that I changed into to my suit for the AFOscars. The AFOscars presented awards for the films

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showed on Friday Night. It was handled well except a prop tree hit the podium (fortunately no one was there at the time) and they could not present clips during the ceremony. I heard from the con chair Karen Trudeau that this was due technical difficulties. I went to the party afterwards (hence the suit). It was well organized. On occasion I would leave the party to checkout Daryl Surat's **Bad Anime with a Vengeance (formerly the Panel of Doom)**. Daryl presents anime that is so bad that I wonder what was going through the writers mind. The anime used was not part of any popular series. Think **Mystery Science Theater 3000** and you will have an idea of the quality of anime. The scary ones had the characters using certain organs in an offensive manner. I went to dance briefly but did not hang around since the 70s was the theme of the night.

Sunday was focused on music. DJ Killer presented some really good goth videos. I was really impressed by the songs by Within Temptation. The anime music video critique panel was delayed since they were using the room for cosplay workmanship judging. During the time I had a pleasant conversation with anime convention reporter Anime Belle and her mother. When the room was available my *Planetes* video was the only one to get critiqued due to difficulties with the computer. I was told to work on my beat synchs. They saw that I was trying to link lyrics to images. The panel said it was an OK effort. What I really liked is that some audience members expressed an interest in watching the show. After that was Anime Music Contest hosted by Eric Wampner. The videos were pretty good. There was no pixilation in any of them. I really like the video using footage from RahXephon done to Madonna's "Beautiful Dreamer". The winner for best comedy was using the song "I Must be Emo" by Adam and Andrew using footage primarily from *Neon Genesis Evangelion*. This song really suited the character Shinji. It was also good since the video made it appear than Shinji's father was watching the video from Shinji LiveJournal account. I really wish I had taken notes since the best in show video used footage from Inuvasha and a song I never heard off. I had hoped the creator would put the video on animemusicvideo.org sadly this has not been the case so

It was a pretty good convention. The fan film contest was well handled. Hopefully it will be back next year. Nice to see a new way for fans to express their creativity.

Some thoughts on Star Trek's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On Trek's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary we are at a lull. Currently there is no show on the air. There is a talk of a film but it is in an early development stage. The novel line continues. Trek is at the same place it was on its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It will not go away. It's a part of our culture. Elements of Trek are seen all over the place. Everybody knows the *Enterprise's* serial number, James Kirk middle name, and what "Beam me up" means.

At this year's Worldcon opening ceremony, the first episode of *Tom Corbett, Space Cadet* was shown. Not only were the sets and effects crude but just the general attitude was too. It seems Earth in the 23<sup>rd</sup> century had eliminated all minorities. Human colonists on Venus thought it would be OK to give their kids cute amusing names like Astro. People in this time used expressions like "By the moons the Jupiter". Trek for it all faults was always better than this. It was always multicultural.

The dialogue was for the most part believable (I never noticed Shatner odd speech pattern until comedians made fun of it). The show was more reflective of science fiction of the 30s, 40s, and 50s. They always took the material seriously. You believed these characters were in space dealing with serious problems.

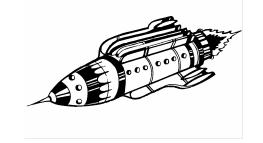
Trek, like *Doctor Who*, is one of the few shows I watched as a kid and still take seriously as an adult. I do not think I do it through a nostalgic gaze. When I rewatch shows like *Buck Rogers in the 25<sup>th</sup> Century* or the original *Battlestar Galactica* I tend to dissect those shows mercilessly. I find the mistakes and inconsistencies I missed when I was younger. I think I overlook Trek's faults is because there were not as many as on other shows and the fact that Trek was usually about something. The shows were about solving a problem and sometimes those solutions were not necessarily the easiest. The characters on Trek had some depth. There was an effort to try to make the science plausible.

The show was responsible for getting me into science fiction. I think a lot of us from the 13th generation (aka generation X) came in the same way. Trek probably had the most science fiction prose writers producing scripts for it. Robert Bloch, Richard Matheson, Harlan Ellison, Norman Spinrad, Larry Niven, Diane Duane, Melinda M. Snodgrass, and Peter Beagle were some of the writers to work on the show in its various incarnations. David Gerrold started his writing career at Trek. As a kid I heard the show won something called the Hugo Award. I got curious and started reading the Hugo anthologies edited by Isaac Asimov. Trek for me was the gateway for the larger and more challenging world of science fiction and fantasy literature. I supported the measure to create the Hugo for Best Dramatic Presentation (short form) to hopefully encourage media fans to find about the Hugo awards and maybe take the same trip into sf literature I did.

Did Trek have its faults? Of course it did. I did not see some of them fleshed out until *Babylon 5* came out. Joe Michael Straczynski went were Roddeneberry and company had not gone before. For personal and professional reasons the Trek creative team did not want to deal with human religion and politics. Earth and Federation were always perfect. This changed during the latter shows and had a mixed result. The last two shows *Voyager* and *Enterprise* I could not get into. There was something missing. *Enterprise* got better when producer Manny Coto was hired. Coto hired Trek novelists Judith and Garfield Reeves-Stevens as story editors. Unfortunately to the powers that be it was too late and pulled the plug on the show.

Do I want to see more? Yes, if it is handled right.

Deepspace 9 and for the most part Next Generation were well handled. I have no problem if Trek got rebooted like Battlestar Galactica. It would be interesting to see a reimagined version of the classic show. This has been proposed by Joe Michael Straczynski (this proposal can be found on the web). A continuation where Next Generation and company left off would be cool too. What is needed is a good creative team. The proposed film will have that covered with J.J. Abrams', creator of Lost, involvement. Although most of the films were good Trek seems better geared for television. There you get a chance to look in depth with character and tell complex stories which can stretch over time. Trek right now is taking a much needed break on television. It is still part of our culture. Sooner or later Trek will come back to television and the voyages will continue.



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

Come and join us for our 20th annual celebration of Science Fiction and Fantasy!

# OV SISYO

Featured
Returning Artists:
Mary Hanson-Roberts
Mike Conrad
Stanley Morrison
Paul Vincenti

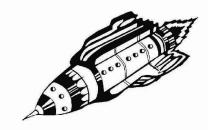
Confirmed Returning Guests of Honor:

Joe Haldeman (OASIS 1)

Kathleen Ann Goonan (OASIS 9)

Larry Niven (OASIS 11)

Jack McDevitt (OASIS 14)



Plus the usual suspects: Jeffrey Breslauer, Richard Lee Byers, Adam-Troy Castro, Loren Damewood, Glenda Finkelstein, William Hatfield, Chris A. Jackson, Ann Morris, Gary Roen, Robert Shuster, Yvonne Wisdom, and many more!

## **DAAT** yd gnime**D**

Keep tuned to www.oasfis.org for more guest announcements.

Hotel Information: \$89\ night, single-quad through 5\10\07. Mention OASIS for room rate. Sheraton World Resort, 10100 International Dr, Orlando, FL 32821, 407-352-1100

Weekend Memberships: \$25 until 1/1/07, \$30 until 4/30/07, \$35 at the door. Make checks payable to: OASFIS, P.O. Box 592905, Orlando, FL 32859