



Volume 20 Number 4 Issue 240

September 2007

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Sorry for getting this late. I just returned from Japan and the Worldcon.

Next month hopefully my Worldcon report and maybe some other reviews.

Events

Epic Comic Con

September 9

Radisson Resort Orlando- Celebration2

900 Parkway Blvd.

Kissimmee, Florida 34747

Guests: Donie Dunagan, James O'Barr, Tommy Castillo,

Chris Noel, Cindy Morgan, Bev Bergernon,

Greg "The Hammer" Valentine, Norman "Big Wiggle" Smiley,

Andrea Dean Van Scoyoc, Jefferey Breslauer

www.epiccomiccon.citymax.com/page/page/4798205.htm

\$5 at the door

Orlando Comic Con

September 21-23

Caribe Royale

8101 World Center Drive

Orlando, Florida 32821

Guests: Leinil Francis Yu, Peter David, David Lloyd

\$10 for 1-Day \$20 2-Day, \$20,\$35 at the door

www.orlandocomicbookconvention.com

Klingon Feast

September 28-October 30

Surfside Hotel of Daytona Beach Shores

3209 S. Atlantic Avenue

Daytona Beach Shores, FL

\$35 pre reg, \$40 at the door

<http://groups.msn.com/KlingonFeast/thirdannualklingonfeast.msnw>

Assimilation

September

Radisson Worldgate Resort Orlando

3011 Maingate Lane •

Kissimmee, Florida 34747

Guests: Ethan Phillips(*Star Trek Voyager*),

Tracey Scoggins(*Babylon 5*), Richard Horvitz (*Invader Zim*),

Michael Stackpole, Glenda Finklestein, Paul Vincenti

www.assimilationcon.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

Previous convention funds	\$3,305.08
OASIS 19	\$1,366.27
OASIS 20	\$1,202.53
OASIS 21	\$1,395.00
OASFiS Funds	\$354.29
<hr/>	
Total Funds Club & Con	\$7,823.17
Total Checking Account	\$7,232.56
Total PayPal Account	\$590.61
Total PayPal Account	\$0.00
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Total Bank Funds	\$7,823.17
Savings Account (Scholarship)	\$787.94

Birthdays

Susan Cole - Sept. 3

Colleen O'Brien Sept. 26

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September OASFiS Calendar

OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, September 9 1:30 PM, Orange Public Library (Downtown Orlando, 101 E. Central Blvd., Orlando, FL 32801, 407-835-7323). Come join us as we discuss *Timescape* by Greg Benford

To contact for more info:

OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

Anime Festival Orlando 8

Anime Festival Orlando 8 (AFO 8) was held on August 3-5, 20067 at Wyndham Orlando Resort on International Drive. Guests included Jason David Frank, Colleen Clinkenbeard, Chris Sabat, Christopher Patton, Travis Willingham, Sonny Strait, Doug Smith, writer Marc Handler, artists Jared Hodges and Lindsay Cibos.

This year the con had a unique idea. They decided to have a live action role playing game going on in the background. Con attendees could win experience points by participating in various game shows or solving puzzles placed in the con signage. The story was a typical sword and sorcery fantasy of two brothers, one good and one evil, fighting for control of the kingdom and the woman they both love. During major events of the convention, actors would act out part of the story. I think experience points enabled one to get chances in a raffle for an iPod shuffle. While interesting I decided not get into it. Besides I was not really into getting any type of iTechnology.

The first thing I did at the con was go to the video rooms which had the first two episodes of a learning Japanese video. The video was well done. I wish I heard about this series earlier so I could have used it for my trip to Japan.

I checked out **Gothic and Lolita: An Introduction and Analysis of the Fashion**. There Yanzita Santiago and Erika Trnka explained the Lolita fashion. This fashion uses Victorian style lace. It can have many forms including goth and punk. The ladies presented a slide show describing the various forms and the history of fashion as it began in Japan. They fielded questions from the audience and passed around "bibles" from Japan which had the latest patterns and designs for the fashion. This was a well prepared panel. It was enlightening.

Around the Lolita panel, I went to Joey Snackpant's (aka Ken Nabbe) **Anime that Doesn't Suck** panel. I had seen the panel before at FX. Still it was fun since I like the anime Mr. Snackpants likes. In this presentation, he showed some good scenes from American inspired animation. He showed two scenes from the Booster Gold episode of the ***Justice League Unlimited***. Also shown was a great scene from ***Batman Beyond: Return of the Joker***. According to Snackpants, the unedited version of this film is now legally available in the United States. The panel ended with Optimus Prime's death scene from the 1986 ***Transformers*** animated film.

The **Convention 101** panel talked about what was to be expected at the convention. Pretty well put together, Here I found out that the convention had all of the hotel's convention space. This was a first. Still I advised the panel audience to

OASFiS People

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

resist pulling the chains of any mundanes they may encounter at the hotel.

The opening ceremonies started with a performance by Maturiza, traditional Japanese takio drummers. Then the guests were introduced. We were also introduced to Prince Horus (good) and Prince Hesperus (bad) and Raine (the woman they both want). The first battle between the princes was a living checkers match. This would use some anime characters and when they would try to jump another they characters would battle. In between these battle were silly commercials. This was a good idea and match ups between characters were good but the actual checkers movement was a bit confusing. I left early to watch the Studio Ghibli film ***Gedo Senki: Tales of the Earthsea***.

The next day started with **Saturday Morning Cartoons**. Many attendees came in their pajamas and breakfast cereal was provided. This year there were connecting bits between the clips of the opening of cartoon series. One of those clips was Speed Racer explaining the devices on his car the Mach 5. The shows ranged from 1960s to shows from the last couple of years. The hosts decided to mime out the opening credits of ***Ultra Man***. The presentation ended with the with Optimus Prime's death scene from the 1986 ***Transformers*** animated film.

I went to checkout the Jason David Frank talk for a little bit. He explained how got his role on the ***Mighty Morphin Power Rangers***. He was initially only going to be in a few episodes. However when an opportunity came, he was asked to come back. It seems the kids really liked his character.

I then wandered into the **Big Damn Gameshow** hosted by Wheldon Smiley. Smiley would show a clip from an Adult Swim show. Then he would stop the clip and ask several questions about the show. The answers would be revealed as the clip continued. Shows used included ***Futurama***, ***Astro Boy***, ***Family Guy*** and ***Aqua Teen Hunger Force***. This was pretty well executed. Later in the day Smiley's nemesis Wally Allgood hosted **Evil Jeopardy**. The difference is that in **Evil Jeopardy** all the questions had to be answered in the form of a threat. One

(Continued on page 4)

Hugo Awards Winners

Winners of the 2007 Hugo Awards and the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer were announced at a ceremony this evening at Nippon 2007, the 65th World Science Fiction Convention in Yokohama, Japan.

NOVEL

Rainbows End, Vernor Vinge (Tor)

NOVELLA

"A Billion Eves", Ian McDonald (Asimov's Oct/Nov 2006)

NOVELETTE

"The Djinn's Wife", Ian McDonald (Asimov's Jul 2006)

SHORT STORY

"Impossible Dreams", Tim Pratt (Asimov's Jul 2005)

RELATED BOOK

James Tiptree, Jr: The Double Life of Alice B. Sheldon, Julie Phillips (St. Martin's Press)

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: LONG FORM

Pan's Labyrinth (El Laberinto del Fauno) Written & Directed by Guillermo Del Toro

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: SHORT FORM

Doctor Who: "The Girl in the Fireplace" BBC Wales/BBC1; Directed by James Hawes; Written by Steven Moffat)

PROFESSIONAL EDITOR, LONG FORM

Patrick Nielson Hayden

PROFESSIONAL EDITOR, SHORT FORM

Gordon Van Gelder

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

Donato Giancola

SEMI-PROZINE

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

FANZINE

The Science Fiction Five Yearly Lee Hoffman, Geri Sullivan & Randy Byers, eds.

FAN WRITER

Dave Langford

FAN ARTIST

Frank Wu

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

Naomi Novik

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

Best Novel

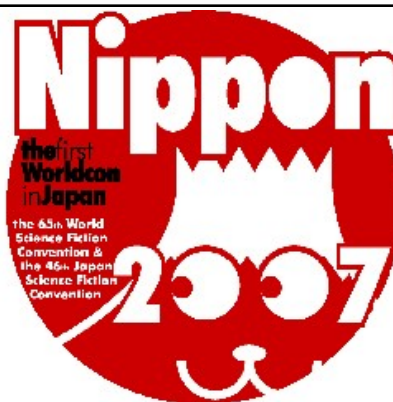
Glasshouse, Charles Stross

Hall of Fame Award

It Can't Happen Here by Sinclair Lewis
"True Names" by Vernor Vinge

Special Awards

V for Vendetta written by the Wachowski and directed by John McTeigue



Winners of the Sidewise Awards for Alternative History were announced at TuckerCon/NASFiC.

Long Form

The Merchant Princes (The Family Trade, The Hidden Family, The Clan Corporate), Charles Stross

Short Form

"Counterfactual" by Gardner Dozois

(Continued from page 2)

of the contestants really got the hang of it. Although interesting the game was a little chaotic at times. It was kind of weird that I was the only to know the answer of a question related to **Space Battleship Yamato** (badly dubbed as **Star Blazers**), a classic anime of 70s. It made me feel old. Also for Final Jeopardy they used the same music as traditional **Jeopardy**. If you are going to **Evil Jeopardy** I think you should have eviled up the music a bit.

I went to the Colleen Clinkenbeard's interview. The interview was conducted by Anime World Order (AWO), a local podcasting group. Ms. Clinkenbeard has had great roles including Lt Hawkeye and Rose in **Full Metal Alchemist** and Sister Esther in **Trinity: Blood**. AWO host Daryl Surat started by asking some odd question about Colleen's car. Colleen discussed her work as an actress and director of anime dubs. She will be taking over the voice of Monkey D. Luffy, the lead role in the popular **One Piece**.

In the afternoon I also checked out the entries to AFO 8 fan film contest. **Chapter 2: The Game Show** used paper bag puppets representing characters from the anime **Deathnote**. The sound was from one of the Jeopardy skits from **Saturday Night Live** (in this skit the contestants were Sean Connery, Martha Stewart and Ozzy Osborn and Connery acts like he wished to kill Trebeck). **Ghost Follies** was a parody of an anime called **Ghost Stories**. A group of ghost hunters are sent to get rid of some ghost from a Florida home. There are some unexpected consequences. **Basketball Defender** was computer generated movie. It dealt with a young girl testing her friend's basketball armor. **The Spooky Movie 2** is the story of a loose cannon cop who is assigned a new partner who likes to wear leather. Together they fight crime. A lot of it was filmed at Skull Kingdom. There were some good 80s tunes to give that **Miami Vice** feel. It unfortunately ends with the overplayed "Vida Loca". **Rent-a-Cops** followed the ups and downs of a security guard. This was like the Fox show **Cops**. The security guard runs over Pikachu from **Pokemon**, finds Kiskue Urahara from **Bleach** peddling hentai, tries to break up a domestic dispute between Asuka and Shinji from **Neon Genesis Evangelion**, and was solicited by Sailor Moon. I think this year had a good batch of films. The award ceremony was smaller than last year but well attended. I hope they keep this going.

I got dressed up for the formal dance. The music consisted of Frank Sinatra and the like. Then formal became the 50s sock hop run by Anime Wasabi. Unfortunately Prince Hesperus had to try and stop the dance. He challenged his brother Horus to game of mercy and lost. The dance went on. The members of Anime Wasabi dressed up as 50s Mouseketeers and called themselves Wasabiteers. The DJ decided to open up with the Big Bopper, Ricky Valens and Buddy Holly. I got coupon for ice cream float for guessing the connection between the three (they all died in the same plane crash). The music was good and fun was had by all.

I started Sunday with **Room 707: The Nana Panel**. **Nana** is an extremely popular anime of two Japanese woman in their twenties trying to achieve their goals. Both of the woman are named Nana and end up sharing an apartment in Tokyo. One Nana wants to prove she can survive on her own and the other wants to pursue a career in music. The panel was fun but reminded me I have to finish watching the series. I was looking at it regularly before other things took precedence.

The next item is one of my favorite regular panels, Larry Furry's **Robotech** Panel. Larry informed us that there will be sequels to **Robotech: The Shadow Chronicles**. Larry discussed the history of the show. I explained the story of the disastrous **Robotech: The Untold Story** movie. When I bought my new Vista computer to test the bit torrent program I downloaded the film and saw that it was a disaster caused by the film's distributors Cannon (who also killed the **Superman** movie franchise for 20 years).

Next was **The Transformers Panel** hosted by Tom Croom and Joey Snackpants. The panel focused entirely on the recent live action adaptation by Michael Bay. Snackpants asked the audience to move to his side of the room if they did not like the film and to Tom's side if they did like it. The majority went to Tom's side. I stayed on Snackpants side and brought up the point that the plot was everywhere. This was my main issue with the film. Croom liked the film a bit more than Snackpants but agreed the plot could have been better. Croom said he and his fiancé now play a game to figure out who directed each scene in the movie (after hearing this I realized that parts of the film were very Spielberg and others were Michael Bay). I also asked Snackpants who would he like to do a Transformers film. He thought it would be good if Marv Wolfman wrote it but had no idea who would be good director. Croom and Snackpants explained that the effects people worked out an equation to determine how big a robot can be based on what it can transform to. Unlike the cartoon show, the movie Transformers cannot change mass. Originally the tape player Decepticon in the movie was to be Soundwave, but when it was realized that Soundwave was one of Megatron (Decepticon leader) top lieutenants it was decided to rename the Decepticon Frenzy. The panel pointed out that some German car companies refused to allow their cars to be used in the film since they did not want their cars associated with war. This was the reason Bumblebee became a camaro in the film rather than his traditional Volkswagen bug form. The new animated series was discussed. It was revealed that on that show the Autobots will be fighting tradition comic book villains rather than Decepticons. At the end of the panel, we all hoped for a better sequel.

The Anime Music Video (AMV) contest was well done this year. All entries that made on screen had bumpers which had all the info for the video (anime, song, band, AMV creator). One creator used several animes and several songs to try to do a country music video. The results were amusing. Someone did a video using footage from **Bleach** and SR-71 "My World". This focused on the relationship between Rukia and Ichigo. The winner of best drama was by Michael Jimenez which used footage from **Akira** and Ayeron's "Day Eight: School". This video focused on Tetsuo's conflict in the film. Aqua Sky Productions won Best Comedy Video for a second year in a row. This year she used the format of some beer commercials which extol some obscure job or institution. For the video, the focus was on Yaoi fans (anime's answer to slash). The Best in Show was won by Joey Figueroa for using footage from the **Animatrix** and the song "The Mission" by 30 Seconds to Mars. Overall all the videos were pretty good.

At closing ceremonies, the iPod shuffle was given away. The final battle between Horus and Hesperus took place. Horus was victorious and took Raine as his bride. The guests said

(Continued on page 5)

goodbye. All in all a very fun AFO this year.

Gedo Senki: Tales of the Earthsea

Generally I do not review anime that has not been released in the United States. Here I make an exception because the reason this film cannot be released is questionable. This film by Studio Ghibli is based on the Earthsea books by Ursula K. Leguin. Several years ago, the SciFi channel made a mini series based on Earthsea. They have the media rights for Earthsea in the US. This film cannot be shown in the US without the SciFi Channel's approval which they have not given. This film may not be license in North America till 2009. Ghibli does have the right to show the film in the UK, so the English dub done by Disney has been finished. The voice cast includes Timothy Dalton (Sparrowhawk), Mariska Hargitay (Tenar), Willem Dafoe (Cob) and Cheech Marin (Hare).

The film begins as a sailing ship's weather worker cannot calm the seas during a storm. In a nearby kingdom, a King is faced with the problem of drought and crop failure. The King is then killed apparently by his son Prince Arren. Arren runs off with his father sword. Arren soon encounters Sparrowhawk, the Archmage who is sent to investigate the strange happenings in the Kingdom. After a run in with slavers they go to the farm of Sparrowhawk's old friend Tenar. With Tenar is Therru, a young girl who escaped an abusive situation. It is soon discovered that the wizard Cob maybe at heart of problem in the land. It seems Cob may be disturbing the balance in nature in order conquer death. How can Cob be stopped? Why did Arren kill his father? What role do Arren and Therru have in returning the balance in Earthsea?

This is the first film of Goro Miyazaki, son of Academy Award winner Hayao Miyazaki. Goro's previous work involved the design the Ghibli Museum in Tokyo. He did some conceptual art for Earthsea. Studio Ghibli producer Toshio Suzuki thought on the basis of that art that Goro Miyazaki should direct the film. There are some great similarities between the two Miyazaki's. The both love to do scenes with great landscapes. There is also great detail in the city scenes. The dragons are very intricate in texture and movement. The only weakness I found in the film was in the storytelling. It was bit confusing to as why Arren killed his father. It gets explained later but it feels like this should have been done earlier.

Le Guin had mixed feeling about the film. I think the main issue is the fact that Cob has been changed to a more common villain and the main conflict is solved in a simplistic manner. It seemed that Cob was turned into Voldemort since Cob also has an intense fear of death and wished to conquer it no matter what the costs. I think the film hopefully will make others curious to read the Earthseas books.

This was a pretty good first film for Goro Miyazaki. Hopefully he will continue and we may see more films from this new director.

Masters of Science Fiction

At the Worldcon last year, I was really excited to hear that there was going to be a new television anthology series which would have stories by Harlan Ellison and Robert Heinlein. I think it was supposed to come out in midseason. That got pushed to the summer and given a time slot of death at 10PM on Saturday. In a time when most of the network schedule is filled with reality shows whose objective is to humiliate people as much as possible, this show was a great joy.

All of the stories used were great. They mostly relied on an intellectual conflict rather than a physical one. They took an idea and explored it.

"A Clean Escape" was very well done. I had not read the story so I did not know what was going to happen. It was great how what happened to the world was slowly revealed in the sessions between Evens and Hovelman. Casting Waterson as Hovelman was inspired. For over ten years Waterson has represented stability and authority on ***Law and Order***, here we get to see that respect slowly taken away as we find out what happened to Hovelman. It was great emotional payoff.

I had read "Jerry was a Man" several years ago. I had always picture the joes to be more apelike. Here they look a bit to human. Still I like how the story was presented for the times. I like how the presented Heinlein's idea of the ideal rich, which I do remember clearly. Malcolm McDowell is as always great particularly as laments over his career. I like how the conflict is settled in the court room and the possible economic consequences of joe freedom is touched upon. Now I want to reread the story.

I do not think I have read the "The Discarded". I have to check in my collection if I have the story. The prosthetics in it were great. This story shows what an individual will do when they see a ray of hope, no matter how thin that hope maybe. It also shows what happens when that same hope is dashed. Great use of John Hurt. If you need someone to handle some exposition, John Hurt has got the voice to hold an audience attention.

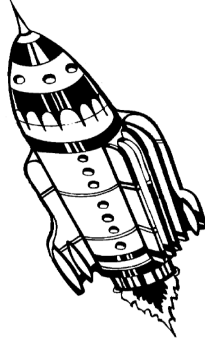
There were two more segments made. They were stories by Water Mosley and Robert Sheckley. Hopefully a DVD will come out with the whole series. It is a shame that the suits at ABC could not figure out this show. Then again maybe someone in another network, maybe cable, will see what this is and we will see more great classics of SF dramatized.

OASIS 21

May 23-25, 2008

Writer

Guest of Honor
David Gerrold



Hotel Information

\$98/night, single-quad
through 4/30/08
Mention OASIS for rate

Sheraton Orlando Downtown
60 South Ivanhoe Blvd
Orlando, FL 32804
407-425-4455

Artist

Guest of Honor
Paul Vincenti

Filk

Guests of Honor
Bill and Brenda
Sutton

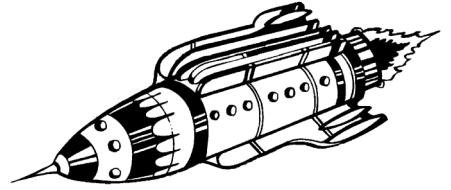
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