



A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

As always it was a very interesting year. The last couple of months have been busy but I finally finished my Worldcon report. Next month's issue will have some end of the year lists. We will find out what was big in science fiction and fantasy books and films. There might be some reviews. Happy Holidays.

Events

Palm City Beach Comic Con
 December 4-6
 Boardwalk Beach Resort & Convention Center
 9600 South Thomas Drive
 Panama Beach, FL 32408
 \$65 for 3 days General Admission
 \$35 for Saturday, \$30 for Friday and Saturday
 Guests: Michael Shelfer (comic artist)
 Max Texeria (comic artist)
 Richard Epcar (voice actor)
 Ellyn Stern (voice actor)
 Felix Sila (actor)
<http://www.panamacitybeachcomiccon.com>



Comic Book Connection
 December 5-6
 Holiday Inn
 5905 Kirkman Road
 Orlando, FL 32819
 \$10 or less for admission
www.thecomickbookconnection.com

Daytona Comic Convention
 December 6
 Best Western Plus
 2620 W. International Speedway Blvd.
 Daytona Beach, FL 32114
 \$5 for admission
 Guests: Tom Lyle (comic book artist)
 Christian Slade (comic book artist)
 John Beatty (comic artist)
daytonabeachcomicconvention.com/

Vampire Diaries Salute
 December 11-13
 Hilton Walt Disney World Resort
 1751 Hotel Plaza Blvd
 Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830,
 \$100 for 3 days General Admission
 \$50 for Saturday General Admission
 There are other ticket packages at website
 Guests: Ian Somerhalder (Damon, Sunday only)
 Paul Wesley (Stefan, Sunday only)
 Daniel Gilles (Elijah Sat only)
 Michael Trevino (Tyler Lockwood, Sat only)
 Matthew Davis (Alaric, Sun only)
 Zach Roerig (Matt Donovan, Sat only)
 David Alpay (Atticus, Sun only)
 Micah Parker (Adrian)
 Other guest listed on website
creationent.com/cal/tvd_orlando.html

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December OASFiS Calendar

Holiday Party and Elections

Sunday December 13, 2015 12:30PM at Patricia Wheeler's House, 8029 Citron Court Orlando, FL 32819 (email Patricia at pwheeler11@cfl.rr.com for more detailed directions).

Sci Fi Light

Taking Break for the Holidays!!!

To contact for more info:

OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

Holiday Matsuri

December 18-20

Caribe Royale All-Suite Hotel & Convention Center
8101 World Center Dr,
Orlando, FL 32821

\$55 at the door for 3 days

\$45 for Saturday at the door

\$30 for Friday and Sunday at the door

Guests: Grey Delisle (voice actor)

Sean Schemmel (voice actor)

Todd Haberkorn (voice actor)

holidaymatsuri.com

OASIS Meeting

Date: 11-08-2015

Officers: Peggy Stubblefield, Juan Sanmiguel, Kim Darin

Members: Arthur Dykeman, Hector Hoglin, Patricia Wheeler

Guest: Ken Konkol

Michael Pilletere and Donna will be November 9-23. The weekend is out for a get together. November 19 looks like a good day. Peggy will contact them to work out the details.

Patricia will host the Christmas party on December 13.

Culture Consumed

Juan is reading *The Dark Forest* and *Ancillary Mercy*. The later was great ending to a trilogy.

Hector is prepping for a D&D campaign by reading modules.

Arthur saw *The Invention of Lying* (written, directed and starring Ricky Gervais). It is about a world where no one lies and a man discovers lying. He also discussed the latest *Doctor Who* episode "The Zygon Inversion" that has been getting good online reviews.

Patricia highly recommended *The Martian*. She had some minor issues with the ending. She is not inspired by the *Batman v Superman* trailers. She also likes *The Flash* and *The Librarians*. The latter is very funny.

Peggy was impressed *Godzilla 2000*.

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.

Ken has been reading what is for free on the Baen library.

Nominations

Juan nominated himself for con chair. He planned to send a convention agenda to the membership.

Peggy had reservations on doing another term as President. We assured that we would try to avoid the same problems the last year. Patricia nominated and Juan seconded.

Tom was nominated for Vice President. Patricia nominated and Juan second.

Juan was nominated for secretary. Patricia nominated, Peggy seconded

Kim was nominated for Treasurer. Peggy nominated, Patricia seconded. We will talk to Michael about certain aspects with the job.

Nominations will be open until the day of voting.

Other News

Tom explained Dave Ratti's current health status. He will have plastic surgery to close the wounds.

Convention Stuff

Mary Hanson-Roberts is working on the con art.

Juan needs to catch up on some things for the convention. Now that he no longer has a cast he feels better.

He discussed using Necronomicon's methods of putting panels together.

Book Discussion

Peggy summed up the novel, *Z for Zachariah* by Robert C. O'Brien. It was published in the early 70s and dealt with a post apocalyptic world.

Juan compared it to *The Walking Dead* but minus the zombies.

Patricia liked the focus on a young woman trying to survive in post apocalyptic world.

Peggy asked if we thought Loomis was a murderer? Was Edward death self defense? Patricia felt there was some ambiguity there. Juan said if Loomis tried to assault Ann, he is capable of murder. The situation between Loomis and Edward.

Juan and Hector explained why there were not any resources for another radiation suit. Since it was a prototype there may have been limited resources to make more.

Peggy would not have shared the food and resources after Loomis exhibited bad behavior.

Patricia explained that the book was completed by the writer's wife and daughter after the writer's death and this could explain certain aspects of book.

Ann was a realistic character not superhuman like other YA characters.

Patricia said the depiction of radiation was close. Nothing is as clear cut or simple as in the books or film. The affects of radiation poisoning was discussed.

The book was made into a film with limited release this year. It added a third character played by Chris Pine. Chiwetel Ejiofor played Loomis. The movie got good reviews.

The book for January will be *The Man in the High Castle* by Philip K. Dick. It is being made into series on Amazon Prime.

In February Juan will do a presentation on the Best Books of 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 3PM.

Award News

World Fantasy Awards
(source *Locus* website)

The World Fantasy Awards winners were announced at this year's World Fantasy Convention, held November 5-8, 2015 in Saratoga Springs, NY (Lifetime Achievement winners are announced in advance of the event).

The winners are:

Life Achievement:

Ramsey Campbell
Sheri Tepper

Novel:

The Bone Clocks, David Mitchell (Random House; Spectre)

Novella:

We Are All Completely Fine, Daryl Gregory (Tachyon)

Short Story:

"Do You Like to Look at Monsters", Scott Nicolay (Fedogan & Bremer)

Anthology:

Monstrous Affections, Kelly Link & Gavin J. Grant, ed. (Candlewick)

Collection (TIE):

Gifts for the One Who Comes After, Helen Marshall (ChiZine) and *The Bitterwood Bible and Other Recountings*, Angela Slatter (Tartarus)

Artist:

Samuel Araya

Special Award Professional:

Sandra Katsuri & Brett Alexander Savory, for ChiZine Publications

Special Award Non-Professional:

Ray B. Russell & Rosalie Parker, for Tartarus Press

Sasquan

Sasquan, the 73rd World Science Fiction Convention, took place on August 19 – 23, 2015, in Spokane, Washington. The whole convention was in the Spokane Convention Center. The parties were at the New Davenport Hotel. The guests of honor (GOH) were Brad Foster, David Gerrold, Vonda McIntyre, Tom Smith, and Leslie Turek. Dr. Kjell Lindgren, an astronaut onboard the International Space Station (ISS), was a special guest. Sally Woehrle was the convention chair.

Facilities were a challenge this year. There was significant distance between the convention locations. It was a long walk from the Dealers Room and Exhibits area to the panel rooms. The New Davenport was also far from the convention center. The parties were in spacious suites and were close to each other. Sasquan had a reliable shuttle service between the con hotels and the convention center.

The Spokane Convention Center was well located. It was close to many good restaurants. There was also a Federal Express across the street for mailing one's purchases from the Dealers Room or Art Show. There was a bike shop that rented and the city was very bike friendly. The convention center was near the major bike paths in Spokane.

Bobbie DuFault was responsible for bringing the Worldcon to Spokane and was going to be to con's co-chair. Unfortunately, she died shortly after Spokane won the bid at LoneStarCon 3, the 2013 Worldcon. Jerry Gieseke, Gene Armstrong, Marah Searle-Kovacevic, Alex von Thorn, and Sally Woehrle remembered her at the **Bobbie DuFault Memorial**. DuFault was determined to bring Worldcon to Washington State. She travelled all over the world for the bid. DuFault ran the 2005 NASFiC, CascadiaCon, in Seattle. DuFault and her team announced a bid for Seattle in 2011. The bid had to fold due to a hotel issue, but the team ran a Westercon in 2012. DuFault encouraged everyone to vote for site selection, no matter whom they were voting for. She even paid for the voter's fee for some. She really wanted to show off the Pacific Northwest to the world. Sasquan was the culmination of her dreams. DuFault was a great organizer. She could get the right people for the right jobs. She was able to get along with new and veteran con organizers. If you stood too close, DuFault would volunteer you for the convention. She was a great recruiter and helped any con staffer. There were arguments, but they would work the problems out. She brought out the best in people and had a ton of energy. Sally Woerle said DuFault was going to the face of Sasquan. The panel end with a three-volley salute for DuFault with sonic screwdrivers and ray guns.

The Opening Ceremonies started with Native American storyteller Roger Fernandez singing the changes song. He then told three stories to the audience and children on stage. The stories were talking animal tales that taught a morale. Then there was film shown depicting the local area and the convention setup. Con Chair Sally Woehrle introduced the con as the first Worldcon in the area since 1961. The con committee worked on several Westercons. There were two attempted bids in 2000 and 2011. This bid won by only 35 votes. She said that everything is a story, which is why they had a storyteller open the convention. Woehrle introduced her vice-chairs Glenn Glazer (Business), Pierre Pettinger (Front of the House), and Mike Willmoth (Back of House). She then introduced the Guests of Honor. Dr. Kjell Lindgren had a taped message from the ISS. Lindgren had a con

badge and brought a tribble to the station in honor of fellow Guest of Honor David Gerrold (creator of the tribbles). Woehrle introduced this year's Hugo base with its designer, Matthew Dockerty and TAFF Delegate Nina Horvath. Two Sasquatches Toby and his cousin Terrance were walking around the stage during the proceedings. Woerle encouraged people to attend the first night outside.

The First Night was a county fair with a fannish twist. The New England SF Association were giving free ice cream coupons. Some fans were grilling hamburgers and hot dogs. Most of the Wordcon bids were at the event. It was a great place to catch up with friends or find new ones. The dark red sun (caused by the brush fires) gave the event a surreal feel.

Denise Conrell, Deb Geisler, Ana Hoppe, and Tom Whitmore (m) led the **Terry Pratchett Memorial**. The ConJose staff took Pratchett to a steak restaurant. They told the server they were working at a Science Fiction convention. The server then said her favorite writer was Terry Pratchett, but did not recognize him. The group played it cool and let Pratchett decide whether to reveal himself or not. When Pratchett was Guest of Honor at Noreascon 4, the 2004 Worldcon, he took the con chair Deb Geisler for a beer. The con had created the Mended Drum based on a bar in the Pratchett's Discworld. They both got a chance to relax. Pratchett allowed people with disabilities come to front of his signings. The audience told stories about Pratchett. Unfortunately, the sound in the room was not good and this was the only panel I did not have a clear recording.

Two time Worldcon chair Vincent Doherty interviewed Guest of Honor David Gerrold. The fact there is a tribble on space station humbled Gerrold. Standing in the same space as previous Worldcon guest of honor is a powerful experience. When Gerrold moved to California, his parents pointed him in the direction of the library. He discovered **Rocketship Galileo** by Robert A. Heinlein and went through the whole Science Fiction section. Though he read Science Fiction, Gerrold was not a part of fandom. He was always reading, writing, and tried to sell stories to *The Magazine of Science Fiction (F&SF)*. Gerrold studied film and theater in college to understand the mechanics of story. When **Star Trek** came out, Gerrold was very judgmental, but saw potential in the show. He got an agent, sent scripts to the show, and talked with producer Gene Coon. He sold "The Trouble with Tribbles" script. Story editor Dorothy Fontana said the script had whimsy, but felt an experienced writer should write the final script. Gerrold went to the **Star Trek** set, met the actors, and watched the dailies. Months later, Gerrold attended a meeting of Los Angeles Science Fiction Society and found out his episode was a finalist for a Hugo. "The Trouble with Tribbles" was against other **Star Trek** episodes by Theodore Sturgeon, Norman Spinrad, and Harlan Ellison and lost to Ellison. Baycon, the 1968 Worldcon, was his second convention. There he met other Science Fiction pros and joined the SF Writers of America (SFWA) for \$5. Soon after that, he had six books come out in 2 months. **When HARBIE was One**, and **The Man Who Folded Himself** were part of these releases. Harry Harrison bought his first short story and Harlan Ellison for **Again, Dangerous Visions**, bought his second. In the 1980s, Gerrold felt he finally learned how to write and went online through CompuServe. Doherty asked about dealing with trolls online. He feels a writer has to develop a thick skin and listens to

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Hall Costumes



Clockwise and Left to right
A different version of Star Sapphire and Green Lantern,
Victorian, Adventurers, Black Widow, Daredevil and
Deathstroke, Starfleet Officers, Captain Kangaroo, Dream and
friend



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the audience reaction. He listens to feedback from experienced writers like Adam-Troy Castro. He admires many writers and reads *The Magazine of Science Fiction* regularly. Gerrold became politically active after attending a Harvey Milk rally. He also became interested in self-awareness training after he was dragged to an Est meeting by Theodore Sturgeon. He left fandom for a while to deal with self-esteem issues. Working on *Star Trek: The Next Generation* was an unhappy experience for Gerrold and Gene Roddenberry blacklisted him in Hollywood. As a result, he focused on his prose writing. At the same time, Gerrold adopted a child. He saw this as an adventure and this helped speed up the process. He bonded quickly with his future son Sean. This led to his writing the award-winning novelette "The Martian Child" which was based on the adoption of his son. Most SF editors rejected it, but Kristine Kathryn Rush bought it for *F&SF*. One fan who had read every issue of the *F&SF* said the story was the best ever in the magazine. The story's success stunned Gerrold. He took some years off to focus on raising his son. Gerrold worked on self-awareness courses. He wanted to change the courses from being confrontation to invitational. He has finished *A Method for Madness* the fifth book of his Chtorr series. He has written a play *Uncle Daddy Will Not Be Invited* and a vampire novella *Jacob* that focuses on the social aspects of vampirism. More short fiction will be coming out in magazines and collections. He is selling asterisk since this is the year of the asterisk since Sasquan is the biggest Worldcon with most Hugo voters ever. These asterisks can fit over the Hugo trophy and the proceeds will go to Terry Pratchett's orangutan preserve charity.

Randy Henderson, Kameron Hurley (m), Walindah Imarisha, Grá Linnea, and Mary Soon Lee explained how to **Write Diverse Characters**. Research is the key. Look at primary sources and understand who wrote the reference materials you might use. Imarisha felt one could change the word diversity for justice and focus on that. Ask what justice would look like. If you get it wrong, Ursula K. Le Guin advises to listen to the feedback. Henderson understands no one wants negative criticism, but one should try to write diverse characters and learn from the experience. Hurley used feedback to improve on of stories. By not showing certain groups in stories denies these groups to engage fully with the story. First or beta readers can be very helpful. Find people you can trust to give you honest criticism. Connect with others outside your group. Linnea warns of being lazy and writing shallow characters. Writers who get it right includes Ursula K. Le Guin, Octavia Butler, Guy Gavriel Kay, Aliette de Bodard, Nnedi Okorafor, N.K. Jemisin, and Ann Leckie. Hurley made an effort of not making her characters white males, which is the default for a lot of fiction. Physical descriptions are not enough. There is more to a person race than skin color. An audience member asked the panel about publishers who are hesitant in publishing diverse characters. Hurley said to go somewhere else. We need to prove to publishers that there are markets for this type of work. Support writers by publishing reviews online, find communities that care about diversity, and sharing the work.

George R.R. Martin and Robert Silverberg talked about whatever they wanted. They meet in the early 1970s. Silverberg talked about the establishment of the Hugo Award. The ceremony was part of a banquet. The banquet was a separate cost at \$1 (roughly \$25 in 2015 money) and many pros and fans could not

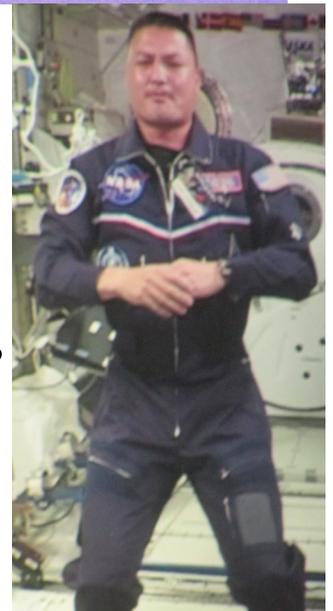
afford it. When Martin was a John W. Campbell Award nominee, he could not afford the banquet. That year editor Lester Del Rey handed out the awards in reverse order starting with Best Novel and ending with the Campbell Award. By the time Del Rey announced the winner, the other nominees had left and Martin was alone with Jerry Pournelle, who won the award. That Hugo Ceremony was also odd since the rockets for the trophy were not ready and winners got empty bases. Now Hugos are mailed to most recipients since they look like weapons and hard to get through airport security. Martin beat Silverberg for a Hugo in his first win. Martin said that was why Silverberg left the field for 5 years. Silverberg has attended all the Hugo Ceremonies. At first, the Hugos were going to be a one-time event at 1953 Worldcon. The 1954 Worldcon did not have the Hugos, but the Worldcon revived them in 1955. The Hugos were originally the SF Achievement Award but Worldcon named them after Hugo Gernsback, the editor of *Amazing Stories* magazine who invented the term science fiction. Silverberg said Gernsback did not care that the Worldcon named the award after him. Silverberg has met most of the important persons in the field. When Martin entered the field in 1970s, most of the major writers were still alive at that time. Robert A. Heinlein complemented Martin on his first Hugo winning story "Sandkings" and was friend of Jack Williamson. Martin said it was interesting being "someone". Martin asked Silverberg if he ever supplied all the stories for an issue of a magazine. Silverberg did write most of the stories of one issue of a magazine under various pseudonyms. Silverberg was a fan of Alexander Blade's works in the pulps. Years later, he would be Alexander Blade since that was house name used by a magazine. Martin asked Silverberg did he have the career he envisioned for himself. Silverberg just wanted to sell stories, but it was nice to become a SFWA Grandmaster. He was the last president of the Hydra Club (New York SF club) and the second president of SFWA. Damon Knight, founder of SFWA, asked Silverberg to succeed him. Silverberg considered the Nebulas a bad idea, but the members instituted them since many felt the wrong works were getting Hugos. Martin and Silverberg discussed previous controversies in the field. The Old Wave versus New Wave discussion was spirited but did not get nasty. Silverberg was on both sides of that argument. Silverberg remembered a pro that got a divorce and many other pros became character witnesses for the custody suit. That did get nasty. Martin believed the Internet magnifies these types of disputes and the argument goes everywhere. Martin said he saw pictures from conventions from the 40s and 50s and he and his wife asked, "Where were the women?" Silverberg said in that time there were few women writers or readers though he saw women at the first Hugo Ceremonies. Leigh Brackett, C.L Moore and Andre Norton were the best know women in the field before the 1960s. At that time, more women came into the field and many became successful writers and editors. Martin explained how Silverberg helped the *Game of Thrones* series. The first novel was a modest success. Silverberg was editing the *Legends* anthology that had short stories that were sequels to existing works. Stephen King, Robert Jordan, and Anne McCaffrey would have stories in the book. Martin submitted a *Game of Thrones* story to the book. It was a very tight deadline but Martin sent it in on time. The story's appearance in *Legends* helped with sales of the second novel and

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Guests of Honor



Clockwise, Left to right
Bard Foster,
David Gerrold and Vince
Doherty,
Dr. Kjell Lindgren,
Nancy Jane More and Vonda
McIntyre, Tom Smith, Leslie
Turek and Guy Consolmango



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it made the bestseller lists. This led to *Legends II* but no more after that. The anthologies edited by Martin and Gardner Dozois are the spiritual successors of *Legends*. Martin and Silverberg talked about editors. Martin got a rejection letter from Campbell, but his successor Ben Bova bought most of his short work for *Analog* and *Omni*. Silverberg fell out of literary rapport with Campbell and stopped sending stories to him. He had to tell him that at a con. This year *Playboy* science fiction editor Alice K. Turner died. Martin never sold to her. Silverberg did though once he considered sending a check back to Turner because she wanted to make a major change in the story he was selling. Turner convinced him the change was the right way to go.

Guy Consolmango interviewed Guest of Honor Leslie Turek. She used to read everything in the field. The first Science Fiction she remembers reading was Clarke's *Sands of Mars* and Asimov's "The Last Question". She prefers Hard Science Fiction. Turek went to Radcliffe in 1964. She considered going to MIT but her father thought Radcliffe would give her a well-rounded education. At the time, Turek was conservative but after finishing school, she became more politically aware. She went into computer sciences and used punch cards to program the computers. She joined the MIT SF Society and wrote a fanzine called *Twilight*. In 1966, Turek went to her first Worldcon in Cleveland. She knew Larry Niven's future wife Fuzzy Pink (named after the sweaters she wore) while at Radcliffe. She saw Fuzzy Pink and Larry Niven met at a con party. Turek would write a story in the programming language FORTRAN that could compile. NESFA started in the late 1960s. There Turek helped with Filthy Pierre's index of Science Fiction magazines at the time. She chaired Noreascon 2, the 1980 Worldcon. She learned how to delegate. Turek made a game of her experience and debuted at SMOF Con 3. She called the game "If I Ran the Con". If people are happy, they stay on your side. Keep the con staff positive and informed. She hoped the game helped con runners. Turek worked at the same computer firm for 20 years. She got into horses for a while and prefers cats, as dogs need more attention. For Noreascon 3 she wrote a bid fanzine *Mad3Party*. The fanzine won the Hugo. She came up with the idea of first night events for Noreascon 4. No hints about a Noreascon 5. She has done most things at a con except Masquerade. Consolmango and Turek discussed what to send to her 1965 self. Items mentioned were a smartphone (would not work in the past), an issue of *Locus*, a list of cons in a year, and a list of SF Academy Award nominees. Consolmango thanked her for her contributions to fandom.

David Gerrold started his Guest of Honor speech by declaring himself as a Science Fiction fan. In 1973, he attended a *Star Trek* convention in New York. He did a panel about Science Fiction with Isaac Asimov and Hal Clement. It hit him who was on the panel and he had doubts if he was worthy of being on such a panel. Someone asked how important scientific accuracy is in a Science Fiction story. Gerrold said it was very important and if he had a question, he would call Asimov and if Asimov did not know the answer Asimov would call Clement. Gerrold stated that being a Science Fiction writer is the best job ever. The SF writer can go anywhere they want to. They are literary Time Lords. Worldcon is the high point of the Science Fiction year. He went to explain the significance of this Worldcon and promoted the selling of the asterisk. The Worldcon

is a self-assembling village that goes from place to place. He thanked the con staff and said that being a Worldcon guest of honor is humbling and overwhelming. He is on the same podium as previous Worldcon Guest of Honor. Gerrold feels he is still a nine-year-old boy who picked up *Rocketship Galileo* with 62 years of experience. It is an honor to part of one of the most remarkable communities on the planet. It helps design the future. The fact a tribble is on the ISS still amazes Gerrold. Science Fiction readers are the toughest audience. They define excellence by the works they buy, the people they honor, and the awards they give out. Books are experiments. Reading changes the reader. It makes us more empathetic. Most human problems stem from the lack of empathy. Empathy is the true path to sentience. Science Fiction examines the big choices before us and leads to transformational thinking. Sometimes we need to be challenged or outraged. This alerts us that something is wrong. Science Fiction is the most ambitious literature ever. It takes us to places we have never been before or existed. What makes a great Science Fiction story? Gerrold mentioned *Dune*, *Ringworld*, *The Ship Who Sang*, *The Stars My Destination*, "Aye and Gomorrah", *The Left Hand of Darkness*, *Starship Troopers*, *More than Human*, *The Man in the High Castle*, *When it Changed*, "Repent Harlequin, Said the Ticktockman", *Rendezvous with Rama* and others. Other may have different lists. You cannot define Science Fiction because it is constantly evolving. Much of great fiction is subversive. Gerrold modified Sturgeon's law, "95% of everything is crap". Ninety-five percent of everything is derivative and this is not bad. The remaining 5% is not necessarily good. All the great Science Fiction defies expectations. It rethinks the possible and inspires us. Science Fiction asks what it is to be human. The challenge is incredible. Gerrold states that is still a joyous adventure and he will meet us at the playground later. We all get to define science fiction. This speech was in the works for 2 years.

There were about 40 entries in this year's Masquerade. Costumer Kevin Roche was the Master of Ceremonies. Tom Smith performed a concert for the time between presentation and awards. Claire Stromberg won Best Novice Recreation and Use of Recycle Materials for *Immortan Joama*. Jason Giddings won for Best Novice in Presentation and Workmanship categories for *WE ARE GROOT*. Carol Hamil and Forrest Nelson won for Best Recreation for *Time Lords*. Lesli Jones won for Best Journeyman Presentation and Workmanship for *Blood Dragon Lord*. Richard Miles won Best Master for *Professor Miles Levell Gentleman Time Traveler*. Jonnalyhn Wolfacat, Melissa Quinn, Alita Quinn, and Anita Taylor won Best in Show Workmanship for *Roll for Initiative*. Kathryn Brandt, Zachary Brandt, Ann Ezell, Ellie Ezell, Mark Ezell, and Barbara Hoffert won Best in Show Presentation for *Victorian Justice League*.

Guest of Honor Brad Foster did a presentation on his art. He showed the process from sketch to finished picture. He did a poster for a Jazz festival. There were animals playing instruments in the poster. Foster researched animals, instruments, and musicians. Then he works on the layouts of the picture, where the figures are and what they are doing. He will redraw the picture several times to get the setup right. Once Foster gets the form right, he goes to the details. Putting the shadows is an important consideration. Here the artist becomes a film director, setting up the light sources and planning where the shadow

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Masquerade



Starting from the upper left and going clockwise.
 Cassandra Friend as San from *Princess Mononoke*, Jason Giddings as WE ARE GROOT, Claire Stromberg as Immortan Joama, Torrey Stenmark as Senator Padme, Lesli Jones Blood Dragon Lord, Jonnalyhn Wolfacat, Melissa Quinn, Alita Quinn, and Anita Taylor for *Roll for Initiative*, Carol Hamill and Forrest Nelson as Two Time Lords



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would be. Then doing the details of the picture are the fun part. Over a hundred hours can go into a drawing. Foster must draw. He showed some art for animation he did for a game company. He does cartoons with weird ideas and sends them to fanzines. Foster avoids repeating himself, and he gets complements on his variety. He was asked if he done a jigsaw puzzle. Foster says no but would like to if he could change the medium. Foster did design playing cards, which he had never done before.

NASA spokesperson Jenny Knotts gave talk about Guest of Honor Dr. Kjell Lindgren. She answered questions about astronaut training and life on board the ISS. The astronauts prefer spicier foods and eat pit bread (does not produce crumbs). Training for an ISS mission takes about 2 years with training in the U.S., Europe, and Japan and is very intense. Knotts showed clips of regular astronaut training that builds teamwork and leadership skills. Flying the T-38 planes teach the astronauts candidates how to make critical decisions. There is also a lot of classroom work. Astronauts lose about 10% of bone mass very six months. They are required to exercise 2 hours a day to combat this problem. Dr. Lindgren launched on July 22, 2015. Knotts showed a video of preparation for the launch. All astronauts on ISS speak English, but Americans know some Russian for operating the Soyuz capsule. It easy to sleep in microgravity since there is no pressure on the body. It is a challenge to readjust to normal gravity. Returning astronauts will drop things and fall out of bed. It takes 4 weeks to readjust to gravity. The astronauts do have some leisure time and have brought musical instruments including a set of bagpipes. Knotts told the story of the second Apollo 11 flag on the moon. The Apollo 11 astronauts brought a flag back from the moon and it was at the Johnson Space Center. The Apollo 17 decided to take that flag with them to the moon and bring it back. They brought back the wrong flag from the moon.

Nancy Jane More interviewed Guest of Honor Vonda McIntyre. Before the interview, the trailer for the film adaptation of McIntyre's *The Moon and the Sun*. McIntyre went Versailles for filming. The moviemakers got special permission to film at Versailles. McIntyre originally started the story as a screenplay, but the producers thought the film would be too expensive. McIntyre the turned the story into a novel that won the Nebula Award. Although there are Fantasy elements in the novel, it is a Science Fiction story. The story is when science and alchemy held equal power. In that time, the women did the research and reports and the men got the credit. She got the idea for the story from something that Avram Davidson said about mermaids. Sailors were not stupid and saw something that made them think of mermaids. McIntyre looked into other extinct marine life. The first Science Fiction she read was Heinlein's *Waldo* and her father's Science Fiction collection. McIntyre could write whatever she wanted in Science Fiction without having to explain herself. She was not interested in recreating the patriarchy that exist in the world and wanted to get beyond existing repressive systems. The women in McIntyre's work have agency and challenge expectations. Science Fiction gives us possibility and a different way of looking at things. She got help with Faster than Light travel from John Kramen, a nuclear scientist who wrote a science for *Analog*. She believes we need to reach the stars. Another alternative for interstellar travel is using hibernation, which McIntyre used in another story. For that story, she wrote

from the point of view of the ship. McIntyre talked about the politics of Louis XIV, the time *The Moon and the Sun* is set. Louis set his to courtiers compete for his attention to prevent a civil war. He had seen a civil war in his youth and wanted to avoid it at all costs. The *Starfarers* series was about academics in space. They decided things by consensus and that seem more realistic to McIntyre. The *Star Trek* novels she worked on were fun. When McIntyre wrote them she had a lot of freedom since the section of Paramount in charge of books was the T-Shirt division. McIntyre did not re-watch the show and based the novel her on memories. She gave Sulu a first name, Hikaru. McIntyre did it because he had a sex scene in her novel *The Entropy Effect* and she could not imagine lovers only using last names. Roddenberry liked it so it stayed in the novel. When McIntyre wrote the novelization of *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan* she had to extrapolate the end by a conversation from a studio executive since she did not have the last 20 pages of the script. She wrote the novelization of *The Bride* based on an early version of the script. The film came out a year later with all the good bits of the story removed. She added diversity to her *Star Wars* novels that bothered a small group of fans. McIntyre started Clarion West writer's workshop in Seattle and ran it for 3 years. A few years later, other writers revived Clarion West and made it a tax-deductible charity. The origin of her multiple award-winning novel *Dreamsnake*, was at the 1972 Clarion West. McIntyre had to pull two words from one cup marked "Pastoral" and another marked "Technical" and write a story from that. She picked out "cow" and "snake". She wrote 12 pages about a grass snake with hallucinogenic properties. One of McIntyre's classmates woke her up by throwing a copy of the manuscript saying, "You made me feel sorry for snakes." A classmate told McIntyre, she could not makes boas venomous even with genetic engineering. *Analog* published the short version of the story and later expanded as a novel. Editors rejected *Dreamsnake* and *The Moon and the Stars* at first.

Tananarive Due and David Gerrold hosted the Hugo Award Ceremonies. To start the ceremony, the figure of Death came out to "*Toccata and Fugue in D Minor*". Tananarive came dressed as a Starfleet Engineer & Services officer (Redshirt) with fellow officers and fought off Death from taking the Hugo. David Gerrold was dressed as an amalgamation of the last three Doctors. He had Tennant's sneakers, Smith's now tie, and Capaldi's coat. They did opening monologue about Science Fiction luminaries in the audience. Con Chair Sally Woehrl and Vice Chair Glenn Glazer gave out a special committee award to Jay Lake and his family accepted the award. Steve and Sue Francis presented the First Fandom awards. First Fandom elected Julian May, writer and chair of 10th Worldcon to First Fandom Hall of Fame. Costumer John Hertz accepted the award for May. First Fandom inducted Margaret Brundage (artist), Bruce Pelz (fan Worldcon Chair and Fan Guest of Honor), and F. Orlin Tremain (editor of *ASTOUNDING STORIES*) into Hall of Fame posthumously. The Sam Moskowitz Archive Award to David Aronvitz. Ben Yalow won the Forrest J. Ackerman Big Heart Award. Jim Wright explained the meaning of the asterisks and how he built them using robots and lasers. Linda Deneroff, Sasquan World Science Fiction Society (WSFS) Division head, explained the history of the Hugos. Robert Silverberg gave the

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Panels



Bobbie DuFault Memorial: Gene Armstrong, Jerry Gieseke, Alex von Thorn, Marah Searle-Kovacevic
 Terry Pratchett Memorial: Denise Cornell, Anne Hoppe, Tom Whitmore, Deb Geisler
 Leonard Nimoy Memorial: Leigh Ann Hildebrand, Ginjer Buchanan, David Gerrold
 Writing Diverse Characters: Kameron Hurley, Mary Soon Lee, Walindah Imarisha, Gra Linnea, Kevin Anderson
 George R. R. Martin and Robert Silverberg
 Colleagues as Friends: Vonda McIntyre, George R.R. Martin, Connie Willis, David Gerrold



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blessing of the Hugos. He reminded the audience of the 1968 Worldcon in Berkley, CA. A local fan blessed that Hugo Ceremonies and called the fog to cool things off, and a fog did show up. He reminded fans of the times. There was a riot at the People's Park in Berkley during the convention. There was a mixture of tear gas of the riot and marijuana from some con members in the air. Silverberg reminded the audience that we were now again in a time of apprehension, tension, and dissension. Silverberg remembered the Hare Krishnas were around in 1968 calming everyone down. Silverberg used the Hare Krishna chant to lower the current apprehension, tension, and dissension. After that, he told the audience it was going to be OK. TAFF Delegate Nina Horvath gave out the Hugo Fan Awards. Fan Writer winner Laura Mixon reminded us "There is no middle ground here where you belong here and no you don't... We must find non-toxic ways to discuss our conflicting points of view". Connie Willis made an appearance of the ceremony where she praised Gerrold and Due as hosts. She then discussed all the things that could go wrong with the Hugo Ceremonies. This included wrong names in the envelope, long acceptance speeches, broken Hugos, tech problems, or combining the ceremony with a crab fest and giving the audience mallets. Willis said that a bat bit her ankle before the Locus Awards at her home. The only side effect was reading and enjoying the *Twilight* series. She also mentioned that spiritualists in Brazil are getting books dictated to them by long dead writers like Victor Hugo. These spiritualists have not channeled any Science Fiction writers. What if they did? If the book won a Hugo, who would get the award? How would we get to award to the winners? Do we send someone to the other side? If so who? Willis finished with giving Due and Gerrold medals for MCing the Hugos. Dalek Rainer and David Gerrold presented the Best Dramatic Presentation Hugos (this clip is on YouTube). Dr. Kjell Lindgren presented the Best Novel Hugo on the ISS. Cixin Liu's *The Three Body Problem* won The Best Novel Award and Ken Liu, his translator, accepted the award. *The Three Body Problem* was the first non-English novel to win. The entire ceremony can be found on Ustream.

Ginjer Buchanan (m), David Gerrold, and Leigh Ann Hildebrand led the Leonard Nimoy Memorial. Gerrold first met Nimoy on the set of *Star Trek* while preparing his script. He talked to other actors but not Nimoy because he did not want to bother him. Nimoy put his hand on his shoulder and asked who was he while in full make up and costume. Gerrold told Nimoy he was writer working on the Tribble script and Nimoy told him he was looking forward to it. Nimoy took time to connect with all of his co-workers. At the Las Vegas *Star Trek* convention, Gerrold was doing a live commentary of "The Trouble with Tribbles" with Nimoy and William Shatner. Shatner and Nimoy were having a fun time talking about all the actors in the episode but not about the episode itself. All the *Star Trek* actors dealt with fame well. Nimoy felt he could not escape Spock so he asked the film production team to write him out in the second *Star Trek* film. They killed Spock in the film. Nimoy had such a pleasant experience making the second movie at the wrap party he asked to participate in the sequel. After that, he owned Spock and all that came with it. This gave Nimoy some great career opportunities. The convention invited *Star Trek* story editor and writer Dorothy Fontana to the panel, but she felt she could get through it. Nimoy was a very positive person and easy to get

along with. Gerrold discussed Nimoy's photography career. Nimoy took pictures of women who were plussized to challenge the mainstream ideas of beauty. It was anti-body shaming. Gerrold was angry that photographers took a picture of Nimoy with an oxygen tank coming off an airplane. Nimoy did use that picture to encourage people to give up smoking. Although Nimoy quit smoking 30 years ago, he was still feeling the effects of it. There is a video online of Shatner discussing his relationship with Nimoy. Buchanan liked *Star Trek's* fully thought out future. The show originally focused on Kirk but it shifted to Spock. Many fan fiction stories involve Spock. What always came through was Spock's humanity. Hildebrand was a student of religion and discussed Nimoy's Jewish background. Gerrold explained the origin of the Vulcan salute. It came from a Jewish blessing. Hildebrand then performed the kaddish, the Jewish mourning prayer. Gerrold quoted *Star Trek* associate producer Bob Justman thanking the fans for supporting the show. *Star Trek* changed how we looked at each at ourselves as a species.

David Gerrold, George R. R. Martin, Vonda McIntyre, and Connie Willis examined Colleagues as Families. Martin opened up with the clubs he belonged to in college. The Science Fiction people are a part of his life. He only sees some of these people at Worldcon and has close friendships despite distance. McIntyre and Gerrold's first Worldcon was Baycon in 1968. McIntyre used the money from her first sale for a party with pros. Willis did not know of fandom when she read Science Fiction. When she meet fellow fans and pros, she discovered people who liked Science Fiction, books and discussed the use of the semicolon. Willis feels like she with family even though Martin beat her for a Hugo. The panel discussed past and current conflicts in fandom. Martin felt that the nature of Internet makes the arguments toxic. Willis said the anonymity of the Internet does not help the situation. Gerrold said not to post something you do not want to see at the *New York Times*. Before people disagreed and did not hate each other. Gerrold said that Jerry Pournelle visited Harlan Ellison in the hospital. They are on the complete opposite ends of the political spectrum. Despite that, they were amicable during the visit and talked about how they almost got court martialled in the Army. Martin mentioned the SFWA Medical Fund and various fan funds to help people go to big cons. Fans and pros helped each other out with medical bills before crowd sourcing became common. People in a community help each other. Gerrold got help with his son's hernia surgery from fan donations (fans got electronic copies of Gerrold's short fiction and parts of novels). Willis got many get-well emails after a bat bit her. Martin started the Hugo Losers party that it was fun and there was no tension. McIntyre said that Anne McCaffrey congratulated her after beating McCaffrey for a Hugo. McCaffrey told Gerrold his son could stay with her in Ireland if the United States ever restarted the draft. When Willis went to the SFWA suite early in her career, she was asked, "If she was somebody?" She replied, "I plan to be." Gerrold discussed how great the job of Science Fiction writer is. Willis and Martin advised new writers "Don't be a jerk". Willis taught this at Clarion. Some people do not notice social cues and the community tolerates this. Writers that come from outside of fandom sometime miss the points of conventions. They see it as promotion than rather as a social opportunity. Worldcon are

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Hugo Awards



Starting from the upper left and going clockwise.
 Big Heart Award winner, John Hertz accepting the FirstFandom Hall of Fame plaque for Julian May, John W. Campbell Award winner Wesley Chu , Best Fan Artist winner Elizabeth Leggett, Best Fan Writer winner Laura J. Mixon, Best Fanzine Winners James Bacon, Alissa McKersie, Helen Montgomery, Colin Harris, for *Journey Planet*, Best Artist Winner Julie Dillion, Best Semi-Prozine Winners Stefan Rudinicki, Joseph John Adams, Rich Horton, Christie Yant, Wendy N. Wagner for *Lightspeed Magazine*, Best Novel Winner Ken Liu (translator) for *The Three Body Problem*



(Continued from page 12)

about building good will and friendships. Willis points out we were all newcomers and she tries to treat new writers as Hal Clement treated her when she started. The Puppy controversy has galvanized fandom and got more people involved with Worldcon and the Hugos. Martin says we should reach out to the moderates of the movement. There is room for all in our community. Everyone on the panel lost a Hugo and it was no big deal. The best direction to go is more communication and be welcoming.

Sally Woerhl hoped the con attendees had a good time when she started Closing Ceremonies. She introduced all the Worldcon Guests of Honor including Dr. Kjell Lindgren on the ISS and TAFF Delegate Nina Horvath. Bobbi DuFault's husband thanked the convention staff and guest for honoring her. Woerhl said they planned for a 3,500-person con and they got over 5,000 attendees. Woerhl gave out awards for various con staff members. This included Chris Barkley who ran the Press Office. She then announced the party awards.

Best Food – Montreal in 2017

Best Food – Helsinki in 2017

Best Décor – Boston in 2020

Best Overall - Helsinki in 2017

Woerhl introduced the MidAmericon II staff. Co-Chair Ruth Lichtwardt thanked the Sasquan team. They introduced their Guests of Honor that were at Sasquan. They showed a video done in old style newsreel footage promoting the con and showing off Kansas City. The ceremony ended with a procession walking out to *Star Wars*' Imperial March.

There were other great activities. Mike Glycer and Laurie Mann held the **Friends Remembered-Memorial** panel where we remember those we loss in Science Fiction community in the last year. The **World Prom** was a dance with a nice mix of music. Kevin Standlee hosted the Worldcon version of the **Match Game**

with Tom Galloway, Scott Edelman, Mur Lafferty, Leigh Ann Hildebrand, Amy Thomson, and Mary Crowell as the celebratory participants. Standlee had the same type of microphone as Gene Rayburn used on the real show. There was a gathering of **Attack on Titan** fans to discuss what we liked about the show and current fan theories. There was a bike ride in honor of fan Danny Lieberman. The **Stroll With the Stars** was a great place to talk to with fellow fans and pros. I used as an opportunity to ask David Gerrold about Est. The convention had a very well stocked con suite. Sasquan had a very successful blood drive.

As always, there are people who helped make Worldcon a great experience. Thanks to Adam Beaton and Crystal Huff who made me a Hugo Attendant. Thanks to my fellow attendants Bridgette Campebell, Guy Consolmango, Joni Dashoff, Kristina K. Hiner, and Pablo Vazquez. Thanks to Chris Barkley and Julie Marr at the Press Office. Thanks to Liz for giving me a job help setting up con suite. Thanks to Filthy Pierre for letting me help with disassembling the flyer racks. Thanks to my fellow volunteers. Thanks to the members of OASFiS, SFSFS, and WSFA who came. To the Masquerade contestants, it was fun helping you. Thanks to the usual suspects, the Worldcon attendees who always make the convention fun. Thanks to the Exotics, my 1999 Australian tour group: it is always great to see you people. Thanks to Michael Hinman, who allowed me to cover the Hugos for his website *Airlock Alpha*. Thanks to Ken Konkol who took my Hugo picture this year. Thanks to the people who read my blog entries on my trip. Thanks to Patty Russell for helping with this report. And thanks always to Dave Plesic.

See you all next year in Kansas City.



Around Worldcon

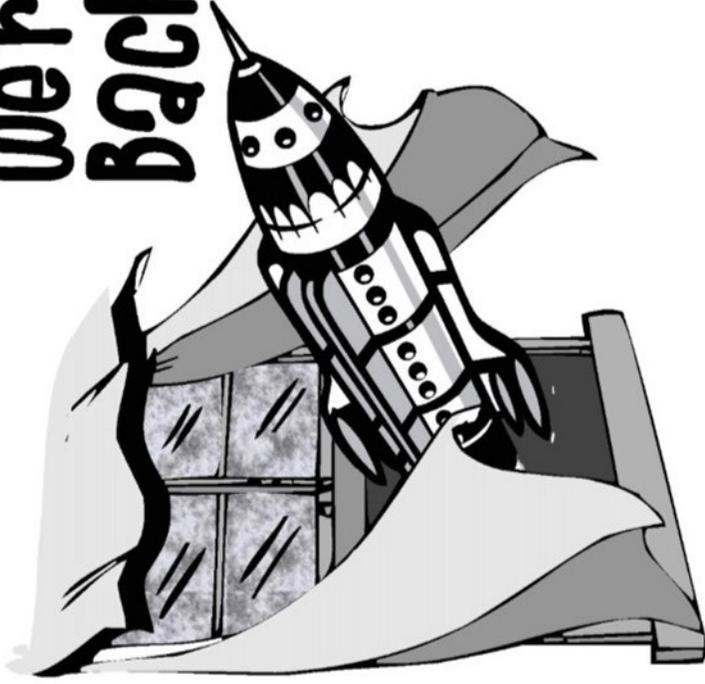


Clockwise and Left to right
Hugo Base designer Matthew Dockerty, TAFF Delegate Nina Horvath, Roger Fernandez telling stories to children at Opening Ceremonies, *The Match Game* Worldcon style, Some goof with the Hugo, The red sun over Spokane, Chris Barkley receiving an award from the con committee, Sally Woehrle Sasquan con chair, World Prom Dance



Check out the OASFiS Table in the Dealers Room
Party on Sat Night (see Necro Bulletin Boards)
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