



**A WORD FROM THE EDITOR**

If you have not renewed your membership and wish to do so, please contact Micahel Pilletere or myself.

The garage sale was fun if cold. Wind and cold played havoc with some of our displays. (see page 5) We made a tidy little profit. Thanks to everyone who came. I had a fun time hosting. We are looking into having another sale in the near future.

It was a nice surprise to hear that, Shaun Tan, Aussiecon 4 Artist Guest of Honor is nominated for an Academy Award for his short film *The Lost Thing*. (see page 4) He showed a clip of *The lost Thing* at Aussiecon 4 and looked great. If there are any showings in Florida of *The Lost Thing*, I will post it on the Yahoo announces and send out emails.

Next month I hope to do some more reviews and maybe some awards news.

**Vulcan Events**

February 25-27

Doubletree Hotel

4500 West Cypress Street

Tampa, FL 33607

\$40 General Admission pre con, \$55 at the door

There are more levels of membership tied to guest access

Check website for these rates

Guests: J.G. Hertzler (General Martok, *Star Trek: Deepspace Nine*)

Robert O'Reilly (Gowron, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, *Star Trek Deepspace Nine*)

Caspar van Dien (Juan Rico, *Starship Troopers*)

Peter David (writer *Star Trek: New Frontier*)

[www.vulcanevents.com](http://www.vulcanevents.com)

**Events**

Tampa Comic Book and Toy Convention

February 20

Doubletree Hotel

4500 West Cypress Street

Tampa, FL 33607

\$5 admission

Guests: Allen Bellman (artist golden age *Captain America*),

Frank Brunner (artist *Doctor Strange*),

Mike Perkins (artist *Captain America*)

Arthur Suydam (artist *Marvel Zombies*)

Joel Wynkoop (B Movie King),

[www.tampacomiconvention.com/](http://www.tampacomiconvention.com/)

**Wizard World**

February 25-27

Miami Airport Convention Center

711 N.W. 72nd Ave.

Miami, FL 33126

2 Day ticket \$40 pre con, \$45 at the door,

1 Day ticket \$25 pre con, \$30 at the door

There are more levels of membership tied to guest access

Check website for these rates

Guests: Adam West (Batman, *Batman* -1966 series)

Burt Ward (Robin, *Batman* - 1966 series)

Billy Dee Williams (Lando Calrissian, *Star Wars*)

Julie Benz (Stephanie Powell, *No Ordinary Family* and Darla *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *Angel*)

Nicholas Brendon (Xander Harris, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*)

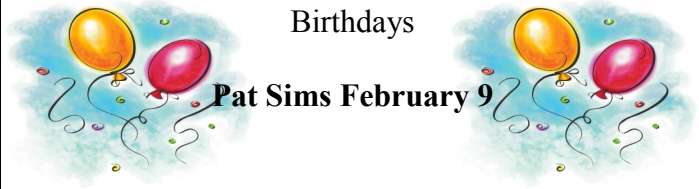
Claudia Christian (Susan Ivanova, *Babylon 5*)

Jim Starlin (award winning comic writer/artist)

Phil Jimenez (artist *Wonder Woman*)

And many more check website

[www.wizardworld.com/home-miami.html](http://www.wizardworld.com/home-miami.html)



**Birthdays**

**Pat Sims February 9**

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## February OASFIS Calendar

### OASFIS Business Meeting

Sunday, February 13, 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 short fiction of ***Carousel Tides*** by Sharon Lee.

### Sci Fi Light

Saturday February 26, 6:30 PM, Mellow Mushroom (2015 Aloma Avenue Winter Park, FL 32792). Come join us and discuss ***The Hunger Games*** trilogy by Suzanne Collins. For more info contact Steve Grant

To contact for more info:

OASFIS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

Philip K. Dick Award  
(source *Locus* website)

The 2010 Philip K. Dick Award nominees have been announced:

- ***Yarn***, Jon Armstrong (Night Shade Books)
- ***Chill***, Elizabeth Bear (Ballantine Spectra)
- ***The Reapers Are the Angels***, Alden Bell (Henry Holt & Co.)
- ***Song of Scarabaeus***, Sara Creasy (Eos)
- ***The Strange Affair of Spring Heeled Jack***, Mark Hodder (Pyr)
- ***Harmony***, Project Itoh, translated by Alexander O. Smith (Haikasoru)
- ***State of Decay***, James Knapp (Roc)

The Awards are presented annually to a distinguished work of science fiction published in paperback original form in the United States. The winner and any special citations will be announced April 22, at [Norwescon 34](#) in SeaTac WA. For more, info see [www.philipkdickaward.org](http://www.philipkdickaward.org).

British Science Fiction Award  
(source *Locus* website)

### Best Novel

***The Windup Girl***, Paolo Bacigalupi (Orbit)  
***Zoo City***, Lauren Beukes (Angry Robot)  
***The Restoration Game***, Ken Macleod (Orbit)  
***The Dervish House***, Ian McDonald (Gollancz)  
***Lightborn***, Tricia Sullivan (Orbit)

### Short Fiction

“Flying in the Face of God”, Nina Allan (*Interzone* #227)  
 “The Shipmaker”, Aliette de Bodard (*Interzone* #231)  
 “The Things”, Peter Watts (*Clarkesworld* 1/10)  
 “Arrhythmia”, Neil Williamson (***Music for Another World***)

## OASFIS People

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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.

### Non-Fiction

“Blogging the Hugos: Decline”, Paul Kincaid (*Big Other*)  
 “With Both Feet in the Clouds”, Abigail Nussbaum (*Asking the Wrong Questions*)  
 “The Wheel of Time” review, Adam Roberts (*Punkadiddle*)  
***Red Plenty***, Francis Spufford (Faber & Faber)  
*Notes from Coode Street Podcast*, Jonathan Strahan & Gary K. Wolfe.

### Artwork

Cover of ***Conflicts***, Andy Bigwood  
 Cover of ***Fun With Rainbows***, Carlie Harbour  
 Cover of ***The Cat's Cradle***, Dominic Harman  
 Cover of ***Zoo City***, Joey Hi-Fi  
 “A Deafened Plea for Peace” (cover of ***Crossed Genres 21***) Ben Greene  
 Cover of ***Finch***, Adam Tredowski

The awards are voted on by members of BSFA and the British Annual Science Fiction Convention (Eastercon). Winners will be announced during ***Illustrious (Eastercon 2011)***, to be held April 22-25, 2011 in Birmingham UK.

World Horror Grandmaster announced  
(source *Locus* website)

Jack Ketchum has been voted by the World Horror Convention as Grandmaster. The convention will take place on April 28-May 1 in Austin, TX.

## Academy Awards

(source Steve Silver at SF Site website)

On January 25, the nominee for the Academy Awards were announced. The Awards will be presented on February. Below is a list of all the Science Fiction and Fantasy nominees. Aussiecon 4 (2010 Worldcon) Artist Guest of Honor Shaun Tan was nominated for his animated short film *The Lost Thing* based on his book.

## Best Picture

- *Inception*
- *Toy Story 3*

## Animated Feature

- *How to Train Your Dragon*
- *The Illusionist*
- *Toy Story 3*

## Adapted Screenplay

- *Toy Story 3*, Screenplay by Michael Arndt. Story by John Lasseter, Andrew Stanton, and Lee Unkrich

## Original Screenplay

- *Inception*, Christopher Nolan

## Art Direction

- *Alice in Wonderland*, Robert Stromberg (Production Design) and Karen O'Hara (Set Decoration)
- *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1*, Stuart Craig (Production Design) and Stephenie McMillan (Set Decoration)
- *Inception*, Guy Hendrix Dyas (Production Design), Larry Dias and Doug Mowat (Set Decoration)

## Achievement in Cinematography

- *Inception*, Wally Pfister

## Achievement in Costume Design

- *Alice in Wonderland*, Colleen Atwood
- *The Tempest*, Sandy Powell

## Achievement in Makeup

- *The Wolfman*, Rick Baker and Dave Elsey

## Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures (Original Score)

- *How to Train Your Dragon*, John Powell
- *Inception*, Hans Zimmer
- 

## Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures (Original Song)

- "I See the Light" from *Tangled*, Music by Alan Menken Lyric by Glenn Slater
- "We Belong Together" from *Toy Story 3*, Music and Lyric by Randy Newman

## Best Animated Short Film

- *Day and Night*, Teddy Newton
- *The Gruffalo*, Jakob Schuh and Max Lang
- *Let's Pollute*, Geefwee Boedoe
- *The Lost Thing*, Shaun Tan and Andrew Ruhemann
- *Madagascar, carnet de voyage (Madagascar, a Journey Diary)*, Bastein DuBois

## Achievement in Sound Editing

- *Inception*, Richard King
- *Toy Story 3*, Tom Myers and Michael Silvers
- *Tron: Legacy*, Gwendolyn Yates Whittle and Addison Teague

## Achievement in Sound Mixing

- *Inception*, Lora Hirschberg, Gary A. Rizzo, and Ed Novick

## Achievement in Visual Effects

- *Alice in Wonderland*, Ken Ralston, David Schaub, Carey Villegas, and Sean Phillips
- *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1*, Tim Burke, John Richardson, Christian Manz, and Nicolas Aithadi
- *Hereafter*, Michael Owens, Bryan Grill, Stephan Trojanski, and Joe Farrell
- *Inception*, Paul Franklin, Chris Corbould, Andrew Lockley, and Peter Bebb
- *Iron Man 2*, Janek Sirrs, Ben Snow, Ged Wright, and Daniel Sudick

### *The Green Hornet*

(WARNING POSSIBLE SPOILERS)

*The Green Hornet* is based on radio show created by George Trendle and Fran Striker in 1936. Since then it has been adapted into two movie serials in the 1940s, a television series in 1966-67, and numerous comics throughout the years. The film was made by Original Film and distributed by Columbia Pictures. The film stars Seth Rogen, Jay Chou, Christoph Waltz and Cameron Diaz. The screenwriters are Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg. The director is Michel Gondry.

Britt Reid (Rogen) is the “party boy” son of the publisher of the Los Angeles newspaper, *The Daily Sentinel*. Reid’s father dies and leaves him the *Sentinel*. Reid meets his father’s mechanic, Kato (Chou), who is a gifted martial artist. Reid and Kato foil a mugging while masked (they were cutting off the head of the statue of Reid’s overbearing father). Reid comes up with the idea that he and Kato should become masked crime fighters. They would pretend to be criminals, which would give them an edge since criminals would not threaten them by using people as hostages. Kato is able to create the equipment they need, such as the *Black Beauty*, a weaponized and a gadgetized car. They also get help from Lenore Chase (Diaz), Reid’s secretary, who has a criminologist degree. She gives Reid and Kato insight into how the underworld works. They eventually confront Chudnofsky (Waltz) the top mob boss in Los Angeles.

The 3D effect was OK but the movie would have worked without it. 3D can be distracting at times. The best 3D effect was *The Green Hornet* television series title sequence (a green hornet buzzing back in forth to sped up version of “Flight of the Bumblebee”).

The only thing that bothered me story-wise was that the film took a character established in the television series (my main source of the Green Hornet) as ally of the Green Hornet and turned the character into a villain. It was not necessary since it could have used a new character to fulfill that role. This change did not keep me from enjoying the film.

The action sequences were good. I know of one person who thought the final chase/fight was over the top. I can see why people would say that, but it looked OK to me. The action was easy to follow. There was no use of the shaky cam and bad edits which hamper other action films.

The biggest deviation from previous Green Hornet adaptations is in the portrayal of Britt Reid. On the television show, Reid was a suave and sophisticated man. Rogen’s Reid is a well meaning goof who is clumsy and an egomaniac. We know that since he was young, Reid wanted to be a hero. He just lacks the knowledge on how to be a hero, and initially resists when Kato is trying to teach it to him. As the movie goes on, Reid learns how to be a hero. By the end of the movie, he is a competent hero (though a bit goofy in good way). On the television show we never got a reason for Reid becoming the Green Hornet. It seemed to be that Reid just went into the family business, since the radio show established that Reid was the great

nephew to the Lone Ranger. (Trendle and Striker also created the Lone Ranger). In the film, Reid is given a motivation to be a crime fighter, and develops into one.

The film also takes issue with Kato’s role on the television series. Although Kato was shown to be a great fighter, we do not really know anything about him. To be fair none of the characters on the show were well-developed, but Kato did little but act as Reid’s servant. In hindsight, this was frustrating, since Bruce Lee played Kato on television show. Lee found worldwide stardom as an actor and martial artist a few years later, so it was hard to take, seeing him drive the Hornet around and get him his tea. Chou’s Kato is shown as the armorer and a good strategist. He is also shown to be extremely charming when it comes to Ms. Case. He is also confronts Reid on his faults. We also find about Kato’s background in China.

The villain Chudnofsky is also well-developed. He is one most powerful criminals in Los Angeles, yet he feels genuinely insecure when younger criminals fail to give him the respect he feel he deserves. This is an interesting take, since most comic book villains rarely doubt themselves. Chudnofsky changes his image midway through the film to try to be more “with it”. Though there is a humorous element to this, it does not come off as silly.

Lenore Case gets the same treatment in the character department. Like Kato her role on the television series was simply to assist in Reid’s plans, and it was implied there may have been romantic feelings between the two. The film’s Case is key in helping Reid and Kato confront Chudnofsky. She understands how criminals think and how to stop their plans. She also does not take any nonsense from Reid or Kato.

The film is fun. It is based on a very pulpy idea. It is good guys versus bad guys, with no moral ambiguity. Reid learns what it takes to be crime fighter and in turn becomes a better person. The film shows respect to the source material. I may have missed some references to prior incarnations of the Green Hornet due the distraction of the 3D effect.

A sequel could be just as fun. I hope the film makers understand that Reid can still be quirky but make him a bit more competent that he was in this film. It would be fun to see more of Rogen, Chou and Diaz.

Lets roll, Kato!

### *Kraken: An Anatomy*

by  
China Miéville

Billy Harrow is a curator at London Natural Museum’s Darwin Centre. He is responsible for the *Architeuthis*, a perfectly preserved giant squid. The squid mysteriously vanishes. No one sees anybody take the 28-ft long (8.62 m) squid and its tank out of the museum. Billy meets a special section of the police force, the Fundamentalist and Sect-Related Crime Unit (FSRC). They tell him there is more to this crime that meets the eye. Billy is then abducted by a father-and-son pair, Goss and Subby. They kill Leon, his best friend, in the process. They take him to their boss, Tattoo, an animated tattoo of a face on a man’s back. Billy is recued by Dane Parnell, a

(Continued on page 5)



guard at the museum. It turns out that Dane is a worshipper of the squid or Kraken, as his fellow worshippers call it. Billy and Dane go out to find who has taken the Kraken. They think that someone may use the Kraken to start an Apocalypse. It also turns out that there are elements of London's magical underside that want the Kraken for their own purposes.

This is an incredible world. In this London, there is a new wonder around every corner. These wonders seem to have some root in the real world. There is Wati, a familiar who can leap into any statue or figurine. He is trying to organize a strike with the other familiars while trying to help Billy and Dane at the same time. There are the Londmancers who can work magic through the city itself. There are magic users who are inspired by science fiction programs. This London is riddled with magic and gods.

Billy Harrow takes this all in. He cannot deny what he sees. He accepts what is happening and tries to help Dane. Despite the weirdness around him, Billy continues undaunted in his quest to find the *Architeuthis*. He is also fannish, which helps him in the story.

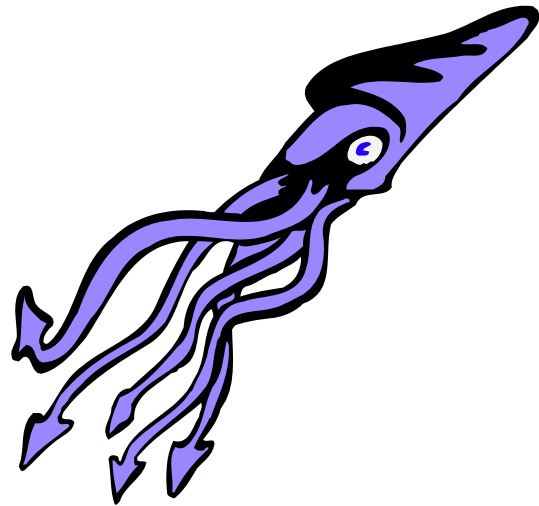
Dane is a good guide. He treats Billy well. They have "each others back". He is just as determined to find his god and to prevent it from being misused. Dane is also shown to be sincere in his beliefs and not a "loon".

The FSRC are also an interesting group. I always like it when, in a fantastic contemporary world, there is a government organization or section of law enforcement to handle the extraordinary. The FSRC is composed of Baron, a detective, Colligswood, a talented but undisciplined witch, and Vardy, a cult profiler. They know all the players in London's magical world. They are also trying to find Billy and the Kraken. They are not perfect but they are striving to protect the public. The

FSRC, like Billy, adapted to the situation rather than blindly following a rule book.

This is a mystery set in a fantastic world. The search for the Kraken drives the plot. The ending has some twists which are great. Some of the twists are set up early in the novel. Just when one thinks the problem is solved, a new one comes up. The reader is on his/her toes until the fate of the Kraken is solved.

Of the five China Miéville novels I have read, this is tied with his previous novel, *The City and the City*, as my favorite. They both have strong plots, strong characters and incredible world-building.



## OASFIS 2011 Spring Garage Sale



Picture taken by Arthur Dykeman

SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION  
IN ORLANDO

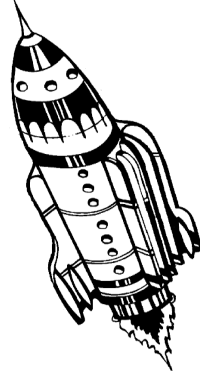
# OASIS 24

May 27-29, 2011

Writer Guest of Honor

**David Drake**

*Hammer's Slammers, Lord of the Isles  
Northworld, Patriots*



Artist Guest of Honor

**Tommy Castillo**

*Dragons, Myths & Mayhem,  
Grimm Fairy Tales Beauty & the Beast,  
Batman, Green Arrow*

Hotel Information

\$79/night, single-quad  
through 5/6/11  
Mention OASIS for rate

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

Filk Guest of Honor

**Carla Ulbrich**

*"Live From Outer Space", Leftovers  
Sick Humor, Professional Smart Aleck*

Gaming info will be at  
[www.warhorn.org](http://www.warhorn.org)

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**Informative Panel Talks,**

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