



A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Sorry for this issue being a bit late .
 Well it's a New Year. Congratulations to the new of-
 ficers and thanks to the previous ones.
 Reminder that memberships are up and dues need to be
 paid at the next meeting or sent to the PO Box.
 Contact me if you need the following:

- to be removed or added to the OASFIS People box
on page 2
- To add a non FL convention to my Convention/
Event listings
- If you want your birthday listed in the EH
See you next month.

OASFIS December Christmas Party 12/11/2011

Attendance: Patricia Wheeler, Susan Cole, Juan Sanmiguel,
 Arthur Dykeman, Roger Sims, Pat Sims, Hector Hoglin, Ruth
 Hoglin, Colleen O'Brien Ed Anthony, David Plesic, Kim
 Darin, Melissa McIntosh, Jim Riley, David Lussier Jr., Patty
 Russell, Sandy Schriver, Judi Bemis and Tony Parker

No official reports due to the Christmas party, which was a
 great deal of fun. Thanks to Patricia for hosting the party.
 Everyone brought excellent food, nice gifts and good
 companionship.

Election results:

President: Patricia Wheeler

Vice-President: Steve Grant

Treasurer: Michael Pilletere

Secretary: Patricia Russell

Convention Chair for 2013: Juan Sanmiguel

Midnight in Paris
****WARNING SPOILERS****

Woody Allen has dabbled in speculative fiction in the
 past. He won a Hugo and a Nebula for *Sleeper*, a film about a
 twentieth-century man thrown into the dystopian future.
 Filmmaker Sandy Bates meets some alien fans in *Stardust
 Memories*. The press follows a human chameleon in *Zelig*. The
 movies literally come to life in *The Purple Rose of Cairo*. There
 are magic herbs in *Alice*. Ghosts are a factor in *Scoop*. Now
 Allen uses time travel in *Midnight in Paris*.

Gil Pender (Owen Wilson) is a Hollywood screenwriter
 working on his first novel in Paris. His fiancée Inez (Rachel
 McAdams) wants him to go back to Malibu and continue his film
 career. Pender sees that as hack work and wants to pursue his
 novel, but is unsure if he can cut it as a novelist. One night
 Pender splits of from Inez and her friends and wanders the streets.
 At midnight a twenties-style taxi picks him up. Pender finds
 himself in 1920s Paris, an era he is fond of. There he meets
 Ernest Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, and F. Scott and Zelda
 Fitzgerald. Later that night, he finds himself back in the present.
 The next night, Pender tries repeat the experience with Inez, but
 she gets bored and leaves before the taxi picks up Pender. He
 goes to Stein's house so he can leave her his manuscript for her to
 critique. At Stein's, he meets Adriana (Marion Cotillard), Pablo
 Picasso's girlfriend. They hit it off, and Pender comes back to
 twenties each night to see Adriana and the rest of Parisian literary
 crowd. Inez and her parents become suspicious of Pender's
 wandering and have a private detective follow him. One night in
 the twenties, Pender and Adriana are taken by carriage to Paris of
 the 1890s, where they meet the celebrities of that era.

The only weaknesses in the film are the antagonists:
 Inez, her parents and Inez's pseudo-intellectual friend. Inez and
 her mother are superficial. Her father is a Tea Party Republican.
 They do not really present a challenge for Pender. They are
 obstacles that are easily circumnavigated. Then again, the
 challenge for him is somewhere else.

The cinematography is great. The film opens with a
 montage of Paris with Sidney Bechet's "Si Tu Vois Ma Mere" as
 the background music. The past eras look very authentic. This is
 a fun film to look at.

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Janaury OASFIS Calendar

OASFIS Business Meeting

Sunday, January 8, 1:30 PM, Brick and Fire Pasta and Pizza Parlor (Downtown Orlando, 1621 South Orange Ave Orlando, Florida 32806 407-426-8922).

Sci Fi Light

Saturday January 21, 6:30 PM, Restaurant and book to be announced (check website). For more info contact Steve Grant

To contact for more info:

OASFIS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

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The film's message is that there is no real Golden Age. Pender discovers this when he and Adriana go to 1890s, which is Adriana's Golden Age. There the intellects of the day argue that the Renaissance was the Golden Age. Pender realizes that no one is completely happy in the time they are in. Others might have shown the illusion of the Golden Age by showing the problems of the era. Allen shows it by having the locals living in Pender's and Adriana's Golden Age searching for better times in the past. Pender discovers that the past is not the solution to his problems, and goes back to the present to face them.

The film shows through time travel that a longing for an ideal past time is a questionable endeavor. Still, if you see an anachronistic vehicle one midnight offering you a ride, take it; you may have an interesting trip.

Best SF/Fantasy Books of 2011

From Amazon.com

Editor's Picks

- 1 *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline
- 2 *The Magician King* by Lev Grossman
- 3 *Inheritance (Inheritance Cycle, Book4)* by Christopher Paoloni
- 4 *A Dance with Dragons: A Song of Ice and Fire: Book 5* by George R.R. Martin
- 5 *Embassytown* by China Miéville
- 6 *Among Others* by Jo Walton
- 7 *Akata Witch* by Nnedi Okorafor
- 8 *Leviathan Wakes (The Expanse)* by James S.A. Corey
- 9 *The Wise Man's Fear (Kingkiller Chronicles, Day 2)* by Patrick Rothfuss
- 10 *Vortex* by Robert Charles Wilson

NOTE: This year Amazon did not show the customers favorites this year. Also it was not clear if this is the correct order since there were no numbers. I simply followed the listed books covers left to right starting from the top.

OASFIS People

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Steve Cole | 407-275-5211
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| David Ratti | 407-282-2468
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| Juan Sanmiguel | 407-823-8715
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| Patricia Wheeler | 407-832-1428
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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.

Best SF/Fantasy Books of 2011

From io9.com

By Annalee Newitz

- 1 *Reamde* by Neal Stephenson
- 2 *After the Apocalypse* by Maureen McHugh
- 3 *Embassytown* by China Miéville
- 4 *Zero One* by Colson Whitehead
- 5 *Zoo City* by Lauren Beukes
- 6 *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline
- 7 *A Dance with Dragons: A Song of Ice and Fire: Book 5* by George R.R. Martin
- 8 *The Collected Stories of Carol Emshwiller* by Carol Emshwiller
- 9 *Rule 34* by Charles Stross
- 10 *The Uncertain Places* by Lisa Goldstein
- 11 *Among Others* by Jo Walton
- 12 *Machine Man* by Max Barry

Ganymede
by
Cherie Priest

The Civil War has been going on for 20 years. Texas is an independent republic and an ally of the Confederate States of America. The airship is a viable form of transportation. There are zombie-like beings roaming in Seattle, New Orleans and oth-

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Top 25 Box Office SF/Fantasy Films for 2010

Source www.boxofficemojo.com

(Includes studio and total box office gross as 12/31/2010)

Studio abbreviations:

BV=Buena Vista

P/DW=Paramount Dream Works

Par=Paramount

Sum=Summit Entertainment

Uni=Universal

Rank	Movie	Studio	Gross
1	<i>Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows Part 2</i>	WB	\$381M
2	<i>Transformers: Dark of the Moon</i>	P/DW	\$352M
3	<i>The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1</i>	Sum	\$273M
5	<i>Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides</i>	BV	\$241M
7	<i>Cars 2</i>	BV	\$191M
8	<i>Thor</i>	Par	\$181M
9	<i>Rise of the Planet of the Apes</i>	Fox	\$176M
10	<i>Captain America: The First Avenger</i>	Par.	\$176M
13	<i>Kung Fu Panda 2</i>	P/DW	\$165M
14	<i>X-Men: First Class</i>	Fox	\$146M
15	<i>Puss in Boots</i>	P/DW	\$143M
16	<i>Rio</i>	Fox	\$143M
17	<i>The Smurfs</i>	Sony	\$142M
18	<i>Super 8</i>	Par.	\$127M
19	<i>Rango</i>	Par.	\$123M
21	<i>Green Lantern</i>	WB	\$116M
22	<i>Sherlock Holmes: Game of Shadows</i>	WB	\$110M
23	<i>Hop</i>	Uni	\$108M
24	<i>Paranormal Activity 3</i>	Par.	\$103M
28	<i>Cowboys and Aliens</i>	Uni.	\$100M
29	<i>Gnomeo and Juliet</i>	BV	\$99M
30	<i>Green Hornet</i>	Sony	\$98M
31	<i>The Lion King (in 3D)</i>	BV	\$94M
33	<i>Real Steel</i>	BV	\$84M
34	<i>Battle: Los Angeles</i>	Sony	\$83M

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er places. This is the world of Cherie Priest's *Clockwork* series.

New Orleans is a city occupied by the Texas Republic. Josephine Early, the madam of a New Orleans brothel, wants to change that. The local resistance movement has acquired the *Ganymede*, an experimental submarine which has killed its previous crews. Josephine wants to get the *Ganymede* into Federal hands, believing it can change the war. She has to find a crew to get it out of New Orleans. Adnan Cly is captain of the airship

Nemah Darling, which is based in Tacoma. He has been a smuggler of sap, a narcotic made from the same gas which turns people into zombies, or "rotters" in Seattle. He wants to settle down in Seattle and set up an air dock. He gets a telegram from Josephine, an old flame, requesting his help. She does not go into details, but Cly is intrigued by her offer which could solve his financial problems. Unfortunately, taking the *Ganymede* will not be easy. There are technical problems in learning how to handle the ship. The Texians go on the offensive after two of their officers are killed by zombies. They use it as an excuse to attack a local pirate haven and put a curfew on New Orleans. A Federal airship can only wait so long in the Gulf of Mexico to receive the *Ganymede*. Can Josephine and Adnan and their friends get *Ganymede* into safe hands in time?

The only thing that bothers me about this series is the alternate world. It is difficult to believe the Civil War has lasted two decades. The Federals would have either brought more resources to bear on the Confederacy or abandoned its efforts to retake rebel territory. The details given in this book and in the first novel in the series *Boneshaker*, do not really support the stalemate. The war is necessary, however to support the plot of the novels.

The story is so good, it makes one want to overlook the plausibility of this world. It is a caper story. There are many obstacles put between the *Ganymede* and the Gulf of Mexico. There is a ticking clock, hostile forces on the march, and zombies. Josephine and Adnan press on and face these challenges. The novel can stand on its own. I did not read the second book in the series, but there was no feeling of missing out on anything.

Josephine is determined to get the *Ganymede* to the Federals. She will not let anything get in her way. She is devoted to her family, her employees, and her city. She is stubborn, and it is difficult to change her mind once it is made up. At one point, she has to decide to help out local forces against the Texians, an act which could endanger the *Ganymede*'s safety. She is able to make the hard choices.

Adnan wants to start a new life. He only needs the resources to do it. He and his airship crew see taking the *Ganymede* as a challenge. Adnan understands the danger, but feels it is a risk worth taking. Adnan was born in Oregon, so he has no real stake in the war though, he would prefer to see a Federal victory. He also goes into this task to make up for the smuggling he did, now that he sees that the sap may have spread the zombie like disease.

Priest does a great job with the characters. There was nice character development surprise with one of the regulars at Josephine's establishment: the character seemed to nothing more than a goofy lush, but we find out he is trying to escape his pain and his back story comes out naturally. There is also a Texas Ranger who needs Josephine help with the zombies. He is a man above the politics of the war, and wants to protect all people from this new threat.

It will be interesting to see where the series will go, now the zombie problem has gone national. If the war ends soon, the combatants will have to face a new threat. Hopefully the inhabitants of this world are up to the challenge.

**SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION
IN ORLANDO**

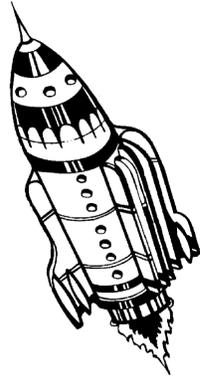
OASIS 25

May 25-27, 2012

Writer Guests of Honor

L.E. Modesitt Jr.

David Weber



Hotel Information

\$79/night, single-quad
through 5/6/12
Mention OASIS for rate

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

Weekend Memberships:

\$30 until 1/1/12,
\$35 until 4/30/12,
\$40 at the door.

Membership registration is
available online or send a
check to:

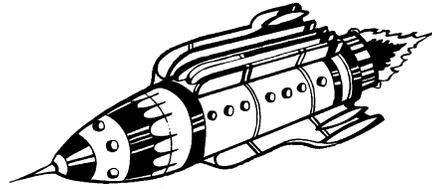
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Artist Guest of Honor

Janny Wurts

Fan Guests of Honor

Pat and Roger Sims

**Author Signings,
Costume Contest,
Live Music and Comedy,
Anime and Video**

Programs,

Art Show,

Informative Panel Talks,

Artist Demos, Books,

Cool Stuff for Sale,

Fun and Games

Charity Auction