

Events

Megacon

March 12-14

Orange County Convention Center

3-Day-\$52.19(pre) \$55(at door) ,

1-Day \$22.37 (pre) \$24 (at door)

Guests: Stan Morrison (OASIS artist),

Paul Vincenti(OASIS artist),

Richard C. Livingston (OASIS artist),

George Perez (comic artist),

Dick Giordano (comic artist),

Darwyn Cooke (comic artist)

Nichelle Nichols (Uhura, *Star Trek*)

Nicholas Courtney (*Doctor Who*)

Billie Dee Williams (Lando, *Star Wars*)

Peter Mayhew (Chewbacca, *Star Wars*)

Brent Spiner (Data, *ST:The Next Gen*)

Levar Burton (LaForge, *ST:The Next Gen*)

Robert Picardo(EMH, *ST:Voyager*)

Lea Thompson(*Back to the Future*)

Kevin Sorbo (*Hercules*)

and many more

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

ICFA 31 (professional conference)

March 17-21

Orlando Airport Marriott, Orlando, Florida

Guest of Honor: Nalo Hopkinson

Guest of Honor: Laurence Yep

Guest Scholar: Takayuki Tatsumi

Special Guest Emeritus : Brain Aldiss

[www.iafa.org](http://www.iafa.org)

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

March is opening like lion this year with Megacon. I hope to have a con report next month report.

A sad note, local fan and OASIS 22 volunteer Elizabeth Tarantino passed away last month. She is daughter of Sandy Shriver who also helped out at previous OASIS. A memorial service will be held at Community of Christ Church (1006 Clay Street Orlando, FL )on March 21 at 2PM.

OASFIS February meeting minutes 2/14/10

Meeting called to order at 1:35 PM by the President.

In Attendance: Patricia Wheeler, Michael Pilletere, Juan Sanmiguel, Ed Anothny, Kim Darin, Tony Digiacoimo, Arthur Dykeman , Marine Fourier, Hector Hoglin, Ruth Houglin, David Ratti, Jim Riley, Bob Yazel

Officer Reports:

Treasurer (Michael Pilletere):

Total Funds \$6146.32

Funds are up from where they were at the same time last year. Michael received several memberships and one dealers table payment. Michael is preparing the website for online payments.

New Business:

The January 31 trip to Ablin Polasek Museum was well attended. More members attended on February 13 since that day was free.

The "Out of this World" exhibit has started at Orange County Regional Historical Center. Some members attended on February 13. Tickets are \$12. There will be other events related to the exhibit including a fashion show on March 6. There will also be an event tied to the Enzian's presentation of *The Creature of the Black Lagoon*.

International Conference of the Fantastic Arts (ICFA) wants

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### March OASFiS Calendar

#### OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, March 14, 1:30 PM, , 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 Road** by Cormac McCarthy

#### SciFi Light

Saturday March 21, 6 PM, Willow Tree Café (201 E. 1st Street Sanford, FL). Come join us and discuss **Sabriel** by Garth Nix. For more info contact Steve Grant

To contact for more info:  
OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

people to help to staff, work convention registration and move stuff. The days where volunteers will be need most on March 14 (set up) and March 21 (tear down). More will be needed on the 21<sup>st</sup> since they only have a day for tear down. Volunteering will be reward is access to the conference.

The Science Fiction writers of America (SFWA) are holding the Nebula Award weekend in Cocoa Beach on May 14-16. They are looking for help with the hospitality suite. Volunteers would received a free membership to the vent and the Nebula Awards ceremony. This year grandmaster is Florida writer and OASIS' first guest of honor Joe Haldeman.

#### Old Business:

The picnic will be on March 28. We need to discuss who will bring what.

Bob Yazell discussed the first "Geek Night Out" held for the premiere of the last season of **Lost**.

The nest SF Lite will be held on February 27 at Anatolia. The book will be **The Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins.

Café Scientifique is being held at Taste restaurant every first Wednesday of the month. It monthly discussion of a science topic each month.

#### Con Business:

The former hotel has been rebranded as a Sonesta. Juan thanked the Executive Board for suggesting looking for new hotels thereby avoiding problems this year.

Juan is going to contact the hotel to set up a meeting to plan out the convention layout. It will be have to beheld during the week in the later afternoon.

Juan has contacted several of the guests. Many have replied back positively including Rick Wilbur, Mike Conrad, Ben Bova.

### OASFiS People

Steve Cole	407-275-5211 stevepcole@hotmail.com
Susan Cole	407-275-5211 sacole@mindspring.com
Arthur Dykeman	407-328-9565 adykeman@bellsouth.net
Steve Grant	352 241 0670 stevegrant@embarqmail.com
Mike Pilletere	mike-sf@webbedfeet.com
David Ratti	407-282-2468 dratti@eudoramail.com
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.

Juan will update the website soon

Juan has sent a second email to Jim Butcher's publicist. He will contact Dealer Glennis LeBlanc for more information on this.

Juan will contact Rob Balder to work on his travel arrangements.

Juan discussed his idea of planning out themed tracks to aid in programming planning. A programming meeting will be scheduled at the end of March or beginning of April.

Juan discussed current advertizing plans. Juan announced the convention in John Scalzi's blog. An ad has been taken out in the Megacon program book. Flyers were left at Albin Polacek Museum. Michael added the convention to a convention listing website.

Michael sent out a bunch of emails for the artshow. Many addresses were bad so notices will be sent via snail mail.

Three dealers table were sold. A quarter of the dealers room tables are committed.

Juan needs to look into hold a con committee meeting.

Jim said they should look into seeing putting bookmarkers in Orange County Public Library. Jim said this was done in Houston. Juan will look into this.

Jim also announced that Elizabeth Tarantino, who ran sales to members at OASIS 22, died unexpectedly.

#### Book Discussion:

The short works of Roger Zelazny were discussed. Patricia

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introduced Zelazny. Juan discussed "24 Views of Fuji by Houksai", "Home is the Hangman" and "Unicorn Variation". Juan explained that Zelazny heard about three anthologies coming out. One was an anthology on chess stories, another was on bar room stories and the other focused on unicorn stories. Zelazny wrote a story with a unicorn playing chess in a bar and sold it to all three anthologies. Bob and Marine discussed the Amber novels. Patricia and Tony discussed Zelazny's influence on *The Matrix* films. Juan mentioned that Zelazny in "24 Views of Fuji by Houksai" and another story (which he could remember) discussed the idea of virtual people ie people who is essence is digitized.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm and the majority of the attendees went to the Brick and Fire for an early dinner.

The 2009 [Nebula Awards](#) nominees

#### Novel:

- *The Windup Girl*, Paolo Bacigalupi (Night Shade)
- *The Love We Share Without Knowing*, Christopher Barzak (Bantam)
- *Flesh and Fire*, Laura Anne Gilman (Pocket)
- *The City & The City*, China Miéville (Del Rey; Macmillan UK)
- *Boneshaker*, Cherie Priest (Tor)
- *Finch*, Jeff VanderMeer (Underland)

#### Novella

- *The Women of Nell Gwynne's*, Kage Baker (Subterranean)
- "Arkfall", Carolyn Ives Gilman (*F&SF* 9/08)
- "Act One", Nancy Kress (*Asimov's* 3/09)
- *Shambling Towards Hiroshima*, James Morrow (Tachyon)
- "Sublimation Angels", Jason Sanford (*Interzone* 9-10/09)
- *The God Engines*, John Scalzi (Subterranean)

#### Novelette

- "The Gambler", Paolo Bacigalupi (*Fast Forward 2*)
- "Vinegar Peace, or, the Wrong-Way Used-Adult Orphanage", Michael Bishop (*Asimov's* 7/08)
- "I Needs Must Part, the Policeman Said", Richard Bowes (*F&SF* 12/09)
- "Sinner, Baker, Fabulist, Priest; Red Mask, Black Mask, Gentleman, Beast", Eugie Foster (*Interzone* 2/09)
- "Divining Light", Ted Kosmatka (*Asimov's* 8/08)
- "A Memory of Wind", Rachel Swirsky ([Tor.com](#) 11/09)

#### Short Story

- "Hooves and the Hovel of Abdel Jameela", Saladin Ahmed (*Clockwork Phoenix 2*)
- "I Remember the Future", Michael A. Burstein (*I Remember the Future*)
- "Non-Zero Probabilities", N.K. Jemisin (*Clarkesworld* 9/09)
- "Spar", Kij Johnson (*Clarkesworld* 10/09)
- "Going Deep", James Patrick Kelly (*Asimov's* 6/09)
- "Bridesicle", Will McIntosh (*Asimov's* 1/09)

#### Ray Bradbury Award

- *Star Trek*, J.J. Abrams (Paramount)
- *District 9*, Neill Blomkamp and Terri Tatchell (Tri-Star)
- *Avatar*, James Cameron (Fox)
- *Moon*, Duncan Jones and Nathan Parker (Sony)
- *Up*, Bob Peterson and Pete Docter (Disney/Pixar)
- *Coraline*, Henry Selick (Laika/Focus)

#### Andre Norton Award

- *Hotel Under the Sand*, Kage Baker (Tachyon)
- *Ice*, Sarah Beth Durst (McElderry)
- *Ash*, Malinda Lo (Little, Brown)
- *Eyes Like Stars*, Lisa Mantchev (Feiweil & Friends)
- *Zoe's Tale*, John Scalzi (Tor)
- *When You Reach Me*, Rebecca Stead (Wendy Lamb)
- *The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making*, Catherynne M. Valente ([www.catherynnemvalente.com](http://www.catherynnemvalente.com))
- *Leviathan*, Scott Westerfeld (Simon Pulse; Simon & Schuster UK)

Final ballots are due March 30, 2010 (only active [SFWA](#) members are eligible to vote). Winners will be announced at the [2010 SFWA Nebula Awards Weekend](#), to be held May 13-16, 2010 in Cocoa Beach, FL.

The 2009 [Stoker Awards](#) Final Ballot

#### Superior Achievement in a Novel

- *Audrey's Door*, Sarah Langan (Harper)
- *Patient Zero*, Jonathan Maberry (St. Martin's Griffin)
- *Quarantined*, Joe McKinney (Lachesis)
- *Cursed*, Jeremy Shipp (Raw Dog Screaming Press)

#### Superior Achievement in a First Novel

- *Breathers*, S. G. Browne (Broadway Books)
- *Solomon's Grave*, Daniel G. Keohane (Dragon Moon Press)
- *Damnably*, Hank Schwaeble (Jove)
- *The Little Sleep*, Paul Tremblay (Henry Holt)

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### Superior Achievement in Long Fiction

- *Dreaming Robot Monster*, Mort Castle (**Mighty Unclean**)
- *The Hunger of Empty Vessels*, Scott Edelman (Bad Moon)
- *The Lucid Dreaming*, Lisa Morton (Bad Moon)
- *Doc Good's Traveling Show*, Gene O'Neill (Bad Moon)

### Superior Achievement in Short Fiction

- "Keeping Watch", Nate Kenyon (*Monstrous: 20 Tales of Giant Creature Terror*)
- "The Crossing of Aldo Ray", Weston Ochse (*The Dead That Walk*)
- "In the Porches of My Ears", Norman Prentiss (*Postscripts 18*)
- "The Night Nurse", Harry Shannon (*Horror Drive-In 7/09*)

### Superior Achievement in an Anthology

- *He Is Legend: An Anthology Celebrating Richard Matheson*, Christopher Conlon, ed. (Gauntlet)
- *Lovecraft Unbound*, Ellen Datlow, ed. (Dark Horse)
- *Poe*, Ellen Datlow, ed. (Solaris)
- *Midnight Walk*, Lisa Morton, ed. (Dark House)
- *Superior Achievement in a Fiction Collection Martyrs and Monsters*, Robert Dunbar (DarkHart)
- *Got to Kill Them All and Other Stories*, Dennis Etchison (Cemetery Dance)
- *A Taste of Tenderloin*, Gene O'Neill (Apex)
- *In the Closet, Under the Bed*, Lee Thomas (Dark Scribe)

### Superior Achievement in Non-fiction

- *Writers Workshop of Horror*, Michael Knost (Woodland)
- *Cinema Knife Fight*, L.L. Soares & Michael Arruda (Fearzone)
- *The Stephen King Illustrated Companion*, Bev Vincent (Fall River)
- *Stephen King: The Non-Fiction*, Rocky Wood & Justin Brook (Cemetery Dance)

### Superior Achievement in a Poetry Collection

- *Double Visions*, Bruce Boston (Dark Regions)
- *North Left of Earth*, Bruce Boston (Sam's Dot)
- *Barfodder*, Rain Graves (Cemetery Dance)
- *Chimeric Machines*, Lucy A. Snyder (Creative Guy)

[Horror Writers Association](#) members will vote to determine winners. Winning titles will be announced at the [World Horror Convention](#), March 25-28 2010, in Brighton, England.

### *Justice League: Crisis on Two Earths*

This is the seventh direct-to-DVD in DC Universe Animated Movie series. The film was written by *Justice League* and *Justice League Unlimited* veteran Dwayne McDuffie.

Lauren Montgomery (*Wonder Woman* and *Green Lantern: First Flight*) and Sam Liu directed this film. Andrea Romano was the voice director.

In an alternate universe, Lex Luthor (Chris Noth) and the Jester (James Patrick Stuart, this universe's version of Joker) are trying to steal something from a secured facility. The Jester sacrifices himself to give Luthor time to escape. Luthor escapes to another universe, the one with the Justice League. He explains to the suspicious Justice League that in his universe most superhumans are corrupt and make up the Crime Syndicate. The Crime Syndicate has almost subverted the government in his world. Luthor asks for the Justice League's help to fight the Crime Syndicate. All the members agree, except Batman (William Baldwin). Superman (Mark Harmon), Wonder Woman (Vanessa Marshall), Flash (Wally West version, Josh Keaton), Green Lantern (Hal Jordan version, Nolan North) and J'onn J'onzz (Jonathan Adams) go with Luthor to his world. There they will meet Ultraman (Superman's counterpart, Brian Bloom), Owlman (Batman, James Woods), Superwoman (Wonder Woman, Gina Torres), Johnny Quick (Flash, James Stuart Patrick), Power Ring (Green Lantern) and their minions (counterparts of other DC Universe superheroes). While both sides face conflicts from without and within, Owlman is formulating his own plan which will endanger the whole of creation.

The story is great. The threat is the right scope to require the Justice League and each member is used well in the story. There is a lot of action, but there are also some nice character moments in the film. Writer Dwayne McDuffie and the voice actors do a good job of making each of the Crime Syndicate unique and not a carbon copy of the hero counterparts. Ultraman is played as a criminal boss with superpowers. Superwoman is seductive and destructive at the same time. Johnny Quick is allowed to have a noble moment in the midst of his arrogance. Power Ring is the only member of the Crime Syndicate who does not have a great moment.

This film has a distinct art style and does not resemble past DC animated projects. The character with the biggest change is J'onn J'onzz. He has never looked more alien. This is interesting, since this film gives him some nice human scenes. J'onzz gets to have relationship with Rose Wilson, the daughter of the US President and outspoken opponent of the Crime Syndicate. It is nice to see the typically-distant Martian get close to someone for a change.

Owlman is one of the most interesting emembers of the Crime Syndicate. He is Batman without any hope. Owlman's understanding of the universe makes him feel powerless, since he sees that none of his actions matter. Owlman wants to make a choice that will matter, unfortunately it will end everything. James Woods does a good job of making Owlman distinct from Batman. He is dark and brooding as Batman but Woods conveys a nihilistic quality that Batman does not have.

There some nice fanboy moments in the film. One gets to see camoes of corrupt versions of some DC characters. The team at Warner Brothers/DC Animated know how to write a great superhero story. Its a great balance of action and character moments.

***Steal Across the Sky***

by  
Nancy Kress

**WARNING-POTENTIAL SPOILIERS**

An alien race contacts Earth in the year 2020. They called themselves the Atoners. They setup a base on the Moon and send a request for volunteers. These volunteers will be sent to other planets to witness the crime they are atoning for. The aliens select 21 witnesses. These people come from all over the world, have nothing in common, and have no special skills. Teams of three are sent to seven double-planetary systems. One member goes to each planet while the third stays onboard the ship and provides support. One team is composed of Cam O'Kane, Lucca Maduro, and Soledad Arelleno. They are sent to the Kular system. Lucca goes to Kular A and Cam goes to Kular B. Kular A has a primitive peaceful human society and helps out an injured Lucca, whose shuttle crashed on the planet. Cam's shuttle is attacked almost on landing. She is able to protect herself with the Atoners technology. Cam bonds with Aveo, a scholar who has fallen out favor with the local king. On Kular A, Lucca experiences a loss in senses. One day he loses his sense of smell then sight. Both are incidents temporary. On Kular A the inhabitants seem to be able to contact the recently dead. The recently dead are on what the inhabitants of Kular A call the second road. Later on the dead transition to what the inhabitants call the third road which makes the dead invisible to them. Cam brings a dying Aveo to Kular A and the locals can perceive him after his death. The Atoners destroyed the genes that allowed humans to perceive their dead. Lucca's loss of senses confirm the Atoner's ability control genes. The seven planetary systems were experiments the Atoners conducted to see how humans react to the removal of the genes. Upon the witnesses' return to Earth, there is an uproar over the discovery. The Atoners cut off all communication with Earth. Cam becomes a public speaker explaining the ability to see the recently dead. Lucca and Soledad and the rest of witnesses are keeping low profiles. Frank Olenik, one of other the witnesses, may have a piece of information which could change the situation.

This novel has an interesting idea. What would happen if you could prove the existence of the afterlife? On Earth in the novel, some people try to take advantage of the situation by claiming to have the genes needed to see the dead. Others see this as an affront to their religion. Some people commit suicide to enjoy the fruits of the afterlife. A politician demands retribution from Atoners. Humanity is not the same after the Atoners' secret comes out.

The main characters represent the spectrum of reaction to the discovery. Lucca steadfastly believes that whatever happened is not tied to the afterlife. Cam is determined to promote the existence of the second road. Soledad wants to move on with her life but finds it difficult due to her connection with the Atoners. It is interesting that the Atoners chose average people to be their witnesses, and not astronauts, scientists or soldiers. Cam goes through the most development. She comes off as uneducated, vulgar, and, when she returns to Earth, opportunistic. On Kular B, Cam is trying to deal with a very hostile situation. She encounters a society which has slaves and treats its enemies brutally. Cam has to kill several people in

order protect herself and Aveo and she deals with that for the rest of the book. Her promotion of the discovery is a result of this.

Kress does good job creating this world. The use of news clippings, web site excerpts, and government and television show transcripts help explain this world. We are seeing for the most part a world shaken to its roots from the bottom up. One sees how the new knowledge affects human society.

***The Wolfman***

***The Wolfman*** was written by Andrew Kevin Walker and David Self and was based on a screenplay Curt Siodmak. It was directed by Joe Johnston. The casts consists of Emily Blunt, Geraldine Chaplin, Anthony Hopkins, Benecio del Toro, and Hugo Weaving.

Shakespearean actor Laurence Talbot (Benecio Del Toro) returns to his family estate in Blackmoor, England (1891), at the request of brother's fiancé, Gwen (Emily Blunt). Talbot's brother Ben has disappeared. By the time Talbot arrives, his brother's body is found, it was mauled by an animal or a lunatic. Talbot stays at his father's (Anthony Hopkins) estate to find what killed his brother. The answer seems to be at the gypsy camp near the estate. Despite his father's warning, Talbot goes out on the night of the full moon. The creature attacks the gypsy camp. Talbot is severely wounded and is treated by the Gypsy Malerva (Geraldine Chaplin). After the attack the locals and Inspector Aberline (Hugo Weaving) become suspicious of Talbot. What will happen during the next full moon.

The film never comes together. I never saw the original 1941 film. I read the plot summary online. What the screen writers did was use the concept and the characters and rearrange the plot. The changes they made were odd. The romance seems awkward, since Talbot is trying to court his brother's fiancé. In the original, Talbot meets Emily at a local shop. When Talbot is sent to an asylum he is put through some very overly-complicated devices which serve more to torture than help the patient. One would think that Talbot's fame and family connection would get him some better treatment. It is not made clear when during the night of the full moon the change occurs. Is it at moon rise, midnight or when the moon is at its peak?

There are some very good scenes. One humorous scene is when a wolfman transforms in front of auditorium of skeptics. It is good that we do not see the monster early on. We see what the creature can do. The violence sometimes goes over the top. There should be moratorium with decapitations. Just because now you can make it convincing does mean you should.

Del Toro looks uncomfortable a lot of the time, which makes sense given the traumatic reason Talbot left his family home. Hopkins dominates any scene he is in. Weaving does a good job establishing himself as man to be reckoned with.

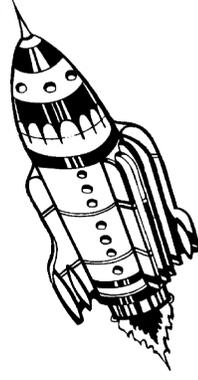
Academy Award winner and creature creator extraordinaire Rick Baker campaign to use make-up instead of CGI for the transformations. It was a good call. The metamorphosis feel realistic and raw. CGI can come off making the change look easy. The wolfmen look scary and powerful and can take full advantage of their wolf skills.

The film is not breaking any new ground but not a waste of time.

SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION  
IN ORLANDO

# OASIS 23

May 28-30, 2010



Writer Guests of Honor  
Sharon Lee and Steve Miller

*Liaden series*  
*Balance of Trade, Fledgling,*  
*Carousel Tides*

Artist Guest of Honor  
Richard C Livingston  
Conceptual Artist and Designer  
*Battlestar Galactica (2003)*  
*Mulan, Tarzan(1999), Lilo and Stitch*

Fan Guest of Honor  
Michael Hinman  
Creator & Site Coordinator of *Airlock Alpha.com,*  
*Rabid Doll.com, Inside Blip.com*

Filk Guest of Honor  
Rob Balder  
*Rich Fantasy Lives,*  
*For Amusement Only,*  
"Always a Goth Chick",  
"Sympathy for George Lucas",  
*PartiallyClips, Erfworld.*

Gaming info will be at  
[www.warhorn.org/OASIS23/](http://www.warhorn.org/OASIS23/)

Author Signings, Costume Contest,  
Live Music and Comedy,  
Anime and Video Programs,  
Art Show and Auction,  
Informative Panel Talks,  
Artist Demos Books,  
Cool Stuff for Sale,  
Fun and Games  
Charity Auction

## Hotel Information

\$89/night, single-quad  
through 4/30/10  
Mention OASIS for rate

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

Weekend Memberships:  
\$30 until 1/1/10,  
\$35 until 4/30/10,  
\$40 at the door.

Make checks payable to:  
OASFIS  
PO Box 323  
Goldenrod, FL 32733-0323

More info at  
[www.oasfis.org](http://www.oasfis.org)

Joe Fan  
123 Sesame Street  
Orlando, FL 32805

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

