



A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Wow what a month!. Three conventions. I wrote about that in my blog at sanmiguel71.livejournal.com.

Next month maybe a write up on Vulkon, World Fantasy Awards, and club part and election info.

Events

Florida Fall Fantasy

November 9 - 11

La Quinta Inn-Winter Park

626 Lee Road

Orlando, Florida

\$5 for weekend if FRAG member,

\$15 per day, \$10 per slot, \$20 for non FRAG members.

Discounts available if staying at hotel

www.warhorn.net/floridafallfantasy2008/

Miami Book Fair

November 14-16 (street fair November 17-19)

\$5 for street fair (most other events free)

There will be a panel on the work on comic pioneer Will Eisner on November 12.

There is a comic/magna track On November 14.

For more info: www.miamibookfair.com

JaniCon

November 21-23

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville

225 East Coastline Drive

Jacksonville, FL

\$30 for 3 days pre-reg, \$35 for 3 days at the door

Guests of Honor: Chris Ayers, Amelie Belcher, Steve Bennett

For more info www.janicon.org

MuggleCon

November 22

Ramada Orlando Celebration Resort

6375 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy

Kissimmee, FL

\$11 in advance, \$16 at the door

www.mugglecon.com

Hurricane Party - 45th Anniversary Celebration (*Doctor Who*)

November 22

Cricketers Arms Pub

5250 North International Drive

Orlando, FL

Guest: Terrance Dicks (script editor/writer *Doctor Who*)

\$5 for supporting membership (entitles one to anniversary artwork)

www.hurricanewho.com/HurricaneParty.php

OASFIS October meeting minutes 10/5/08

Meeting called to order at 1:37 pm by Patricia Wheeler.

In attendance: Susan Cole, Steve Cole, Dave Ratti, Juan Sanmiguel, Arthur Dykeman, Patricia Wheeler, Steve Grant, Kim Darin, Ed Anthony and Bob Yazel

Officer Reports:

Vice-President (Colleen O'Brien): Could not attend

Treasurer (Michael Pilletere): Could not attend.

Secretary (Pat Russell): Could not attend.

New Business:

Where will we/the club meet in January? Fashion Square Mall will be charging \$15 per meeting next year. Patricia asked questions about the current budgets. Susan and Bob suggested passing the hat for meeting space. Patricia wants to see how Fashion Square Mall works out. Kim Darin suggested a restaurant. Patricia says we could look into that. A restaurant will need to have a room. Susan examined into the pros and cons

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Birthdays

Dave Ratti - Nov. 24



November OASFiS Calendar

OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, November 9, 1:30 PM, Fashion Square Mall Community Room (3201 East Colonial Drive Orlando, Florida 32803). Come join us as we discuss **Deep Secrets** by Diane Wynn Jones

SciFi Light

Saturday November 22, 5:30 PM, White Wolf Cafe 1829 North Orange Ave Orlando, FL 32804, 407-895-9911). Come join us and discuss **Tigana** by Guy Gavriel Kay. For more info contact Steve Grant

To contact for more info:

OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

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of a restaurant. Steve Grant discussed the casual nature of the Stone Hill (the group which puts on Necronomicon) meeting. Patricia considered changing the format of the meetings in order to draw more people. Patricia brought up the fact we could use Stardust Video as a meeting place. Ideas for recruiting were discussed. The idea of bringing speakers in on a given topic for each meeting was presented. The idea of moving the book discussion to SF Lite exclusively was examined. The idea of discussing authors and themes rather than a specific book was looked into for the book discussion. We will look into speakers for next year.

Officer Nominations:

President: Patricia Wheeler

Vice President: Steve Grant

Treasurer: Michael Pilletere

Secretary: Susan Cole

Con Chair: Juan Sanmiguel

Christmas Party will be on December 14.

Old Business:

-None

Convention

- Guests
 - John Ringo is confirmed as Special Guest Writer
 - Guest travel booking will be looked into by Michael
 - Juan will talk to guests at Necronomicon to see who can come to OASIS 22
- Promotion
 - There will be ads in the Screampfest and Necronomicon program books
 - There will be a party to promote OASIS at Necronomicon. Juan will prepare Dealer Room and Art Show flyers for Necronomicon

OASFiS People

Steve Cole	407-275-5211 stevepcole@hotmail.com
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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 pwheeler222@netzero.net

Any of these people can give readers information about the

- Juan will put out flyers at Screampfest, Necronomicon, and Vulkan. Juan will have a table at Vulkan
- Juan will work on an electronic progress reprot after Necronomicon. This will be sent out in November.
- Juan proposed a con committee meeting on November 15. The date was changed to the 16th. Juan will send an email to all parties to finalize the date and location.

Book Discussion –

The book this month was **Burning Waters** by Mercedes Lackey. Patricia introduced the Diane Tregarde series, of which **Burning Waters** is the first book. She found the books interesting but found an interesting mistake. In a part of the second book set in the 70s, there was difficulty finding transcribers. This was odd since this was in the middle of Watergate scandal. Dave Ratti thought that this was a good intro to Lackey's Serrated Universe which **Burning Waters** is part of. Lackey supposedly stopped writing any more Tregarde novels due to a stalker situation. Some individuals thought she was uncovering a magical conspiracy. Juan said that Wikipedia said that the Tregarde books did not sell well. Susan said that Lackey glossed over the gore that appears in later novels. Susan liked how Lackey incorporated Aztec mythology in the novel. Patricia had a problem with Lackey's later novels. She thought they were too formulaic. Steve Cole felt that Lackey is better when she has a collaborator. Cole felt Lackey put quantity over quality by having several books coming out every year. Lackey may be spreading herself too thin.

Deep Secret by Diane Wynn Jones will be the book for November.

SciFi Lite will meet at White Wolf Café on October 18. The book to be discussed will be **Charmed Life** by Diane Wynn Jones.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:16 pm and the majority of the attendees went to Stardust Video in Winter Park for lunch/dinner.

Marvel 1985

1985 was an interesting year comic book-wise. Marvel had just done *Secret Wars*, one of the biggest superhero-villain match ups of all time. Chris Claremont's *X-Men* dominated the stands. John Byrne was writing the *Fantastic Four*. Peter David started writing for *Spectacular Spider-Man*. DC did a big dustup with *Crisis on Infinite Earths*. Alan Moore was writing *Swamp Thing*. Independent comics like *Love and Rockets* and *Cerebus* were making an impact on the market. Writer Mark Millar and artist Tommy Lee Edwards take us to this time in a six-issue mini-series which has just been completed.

The plot summary: Toby Goodman is enjoying a time when comics allow him to escape from his parents' divorce and his mother's remarriage. He goes with his father, Jerry, to check out an old house, a hang-out during his youth. At the house, Toby thinks he sees the Red Skull. Later, it seems the Marvel villains have arrived in our world. The Mole Man, Doctor Doom, Sandman, Juggernaut, Lizard, Electro, Stilt Man, and Ultron are just some of the villains spotted. With no heroes to stop them, the villains run riot in the small northeastern town where Toby and his family live. Is there any way to stop these villains from taking over the world? What brought these fiends to our world in the first place?

The characterization is dead on. Toby acts like a kid of the era. His love for the Marvel characters feels genuine. He is suspicious about the villain sightings until he sees the undeniable truth. With his Dad's help, he figures out where to go to get help. Jerry is a good guy who is having trouble getting his act together, but he continues to try. When the crisis comes, Jerry rises to the occasion to protect his son and his ex-wife. It turns out, he has the key to the problem. All the other characters seem to react believably in this incredible situation. Two characters of note were the comic shop owner and his worker. The worker is your typical anti-Marvel/DC zombie extolling the glories of independent comics. The owner reminds me of several comic store owners I have known: someone who likes the medium and is trying to make a buck at the same time.

Edwards' art conveys the setting very well with the art. The real world is not in focus. The lines are thicker and the art is not as detailed. That helps convey the rough environment of the woods near Toby's town. Edwards also makes the villains look more scary than usual. The villains have to be more scary in this series. With no opposition, they are unstoppable. When we cross over to the Marvel Universe, the art is more clear. The Marvel Universe seems like a better place to be in. It is a world where wondrous things can happen, and the world we all wanted to be in.

Millar realizes a classic dream, for fans to interact with the Marvel Universe. He makes the interaction between the real world and the Marvel Universe plausible. The story reminds us how dangerous the villains, even the weaker ones, can be. Millar subtly sets up the reason for the merging of both worlds. The story ends in an unexpected but effective way.

Hopefully, this will be collected in one volume. There are times when some storylines, business practices, and hype make us cynical about the classic characters. We need works like *Marvel 1985* to remind us why we fell in love with these characters in the first place.

The Plot:

The Secret History of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion

Will Eisner was one of the pioneers of comic book art and story telling. In 1940, Eisner created one of the most enduring characters: The Spirit (soon to have his own film directed by Frank Miller). In the '70s, Eisner created the graphic novel, and expanded the topics which could be covered in comics. Eisner's last work, *The Plot: The Secret History of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, took twenty years of research. This was a work driven by a passion to expose one of the greatest hoaxes of all times, a hoax which refuses to die.

The book has been translated into several languages. It has been in print in some form since 1905. *The Protocols* have been cited in almost every organized anti-Semitic movement since its publication. The book itself is a fraud. The first time the fraud was exposed was in 1921. Despite all the evidence proving it is a fabrication, this book still remains in print and still serves hostile agendas. It was Eisner's hope that, in telling the history of the book in narrative form rather than as an academic study, he could end or cripple the book's influence.

Eisner tells the story from the beginning. The first third of *The Plot* covers *The Protocols* origin by profiling Joly, Golovisnky and the instigators of the book. Eisner starts his narrative in Paris in 1878, where Maurice Joly, a writer who wrote books against Napoleon III, is found dead in his apartment. One of his books is a political satire: *The Dialouge in Hell Between Machiavelli and Montesquieu*. In 1894, members of the Russian aristocracy are fearful that Tsar Nicholas II will listen to his aide, Witte, who plans to modernize Russia. They feel this modernization will destabilize the country. A plot is formed to convince the tsar that modernization is part of a Jewish plot. Knowing the tsar's hostility towards the Jews, this would discredit Witte and his ideas. A Russian propagandist named Mathieu Golovinski uses Joly's book as a base and creates *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* from it. This is a book which supposedly outlines a Jewish conspiracy to rule the world. The book is published in 1905, and succeeds beyond the plotters' wildest dreams.

The next third deals with *The Protocols*' early history and eventual exposure in 1921. *The Protocols* was cited by Henry Ford, Winston Churchill and Adolph Hitler. In 1921, the *Times* of London exposed *The Protocols* as a fraud, but its influence continued as it was translated into more languages.

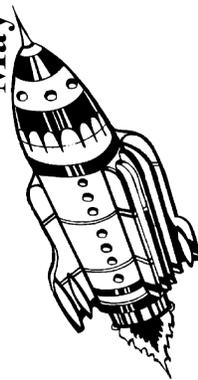
The last part of *The Plot* shows *The Protocols*' tenacity to survive despite repeated exposure of the fraud by the press, courts, and government reports. The part where the narrative slows down is when *Times* correspondent Philip Graves and Mikhail Raslovlev compare *The Protocols* to Joly's *The Dialouge*. For 16 pages, Eisner does a side-by-side comparison of the two works. While it may seem a bit much, Eisner wanted to drive home the fact that *The Protocols* was a fabrication. Eisner words and art compel the reader to find the final outcome. One feels enlightened and saddened at the end, because the hoax is exposed, but Eisner shows that *The Protocols* still have an influence.

Hopefully Eisner's dream to destroy *The Protocols*' power will be realized. It would be poetic justice if the often-marginalized medium of comics helps bring down one of the world's great lies.

SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION
IN ORLANDO

OASIS 22

May 22-24, 2009



Guest of Honor

Peter David

*Sir Apropos of Nothing,
Woad to Wuiin.,*

*Tong Lashing, Darkness of the Light,
Tigerheart, Star Trek: New Frontiers,
The Incredible Hulk*

Hotel Information

\$109/night, single-quad
through 4/30/09
Mention OASIS for rate

Special Guest Writer

John Ringo

*Posleen Series, Cally's War,
Empire of Man, The Council Wars,
Paladin of Shadows,
Voyage of the Space Bubble*

Sheraton Orlando
Downtown
60 South Ivanhoe Blvd
Orlando, FL 32804

Weekend Memberships:
\$30 until 1/1/09,
\$35 until 4/30/09,
\$40 at the door.

Editor Guest of Honor

Toni Weiskopf

Baen Books

Artist Guest of Honor

Johnny Atomic

*Diamond Castle, Stop the Chandelier,
Frank Ng- Hired Gun*

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Gaming by FRAG

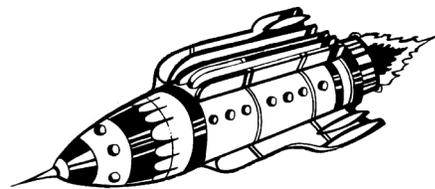
More info at
www.oasfis.org

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