



A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Another big month in the state of Florida.

There was 100 Year Starship Study on September 30-October 2. It was sponsored by DARPA. There were discussions examining all aspects involved with creating a starship. Several Science Fiction writers were present to contribute to the talk.

There was Spooky Empire on October 7-9. I spent that at the writing/literary panel room. I got to hear some interesting things about the horror genre.

Necronomicon was on October 21-23. It was a blast as always. I did not get to win at trivia this year but it was still fun. Their trivia team came up with a Science Fiction version of NPR's *Wait Wait ...Don't Tell Me!*, which was great fun. OASFiS had a party Saturday night after Masquerade, which was well attended.

Away Mission Orlando was held on October 28-30. It was well run. There were many panels on art and publishing. There were some great media inspired costumes.

Please remember the next meeting we will be holding officer nominations.

Next month I hope to do some reviews, and have pictures from Hurricane Who.

Events

Chibi-Pa: Moto

November 4-6

Palm Beach Gardens Marriot

400 RCA Blvd

Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

\$35 for the weekend, \$25 for Saturday,

\$15 for Fri and Sun

Guests: Robert Axlerod (Zedd, *Power Rangers*)

Richard Epcar (voice actor)

Julie Maddalena (voice actor)

David Trasko (voice actor)

www.chibapa.com

Hurricane Who

November 4-6

Doubletree by Hilton Orlando at Sea

10100 International Dr.

Orlando, FL 32821

\$65for the weekend, \$40for Saturday,

\$35 for Fri and Sun

Guests: Arthur Darvill (Rory, *Doctor Who*)

Naoko Mori (Tosh, *Torchwood*)

Terry Molloy (Davros, *Doctor Who*)

Jeremy Bulloch (Boba Fett, *Star Wars*)

www.hurricanewho.com

North Florida Collectors Show

November 6

Ramada Inn

3130 Hartley Road

Jacksonville, FL 32257

Free

Collectors show: comics and toys

northfloridacollectorsshow.webs.com

ShadoCon

November 11-13

Crowne Plaza Hotel

10221 Princess Palm Avenue

Tampa, FL 33610

\$40 for three days pre-reg, \$45 at the door

Guests: Travis Willingham (voice actor)

Quinton Flynn (voice actor)

Chris Carson (voice actor)

www.shadocon.com

Fan:dom

November 12-13

University of West Florida

\$5 pre-reg for weekend, \$10 for weekend at the door

Eric Stewart (voice actor)

http://www.wix.com/fandom_con/fandom

Birthdays

Dave Ratti– Nov. 24

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November OASFiS Calendar

OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, November 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 books we have read.

Sci Fi Light

Saturday November 19, 6:00 PM, place to be decided. Come join us and discuss the classic science fiction and fantasy books.

To contact for more info:

OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

(Continued from page 1)

Miami Book Fair

November 13-20 (street fair November 18-20)

Membership rates varies, check website

Notable Guests: Lev Grossman

Nancy Holder

www.miamibookfair.com

World Fantasy Awards 2011

(source *Locus* website)

The World Fantasy Awards winners were announced at this year's [World Fantasy Convention](#), held October 27-30, in San Diego CA. (Lifetime Achievement winners are announced in advance of the event).

Winners are:

Best Novel

- *Who Fears Death*, Nnedi Okorafor (DAW)

Best Novella

- "The Maiden Flight of McCauley's *Bellerophon*", Elizabeth Hand (*Stories: All-New Tales*)

Best Short Fiction

- "Fossil-Figures", Joyce Carol Oates (*Stories: All-New Tales*)

OASFiS People

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Juan Sanmiguel	407-823-8715 sanmiguel@earthlink.net
Patricia Wheeler	pwheeler222@netzero.net

Any of these people can give readers information about the club and its functions. To be included in the list call Juan.

Best Anthology

- *My Mother She Killed Me, My Father He Ate Me*, Kate Bernheimer, ed. (Penguin)

Best Collection

- *What I Didn't See and Other Stories*, Karen Joy Fowler (Small Beer)

Best Artist

- Kinuko Y. Craft

Special Award, Professional

- Marc Gascoigne, for Angry Robot

Special Award, Non-Professional

- Alisa Krasnostein, for Twelfth Planet Press

The World Fantasy Awards Lifetime Achievement Winners for 2011 are Peter S. Beagle and Angélica Gorodischer. The awards are presented annually to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding service to the fantasy field.

One Hundred Year Starship Symposium



Pictures clockwise starting upper right:

The first Science Fiction writers panel (left to right) Gay Haldeman, Stephen Baxter, Robert Sawyer (OASIS 16 GOH), Gregory Benford, Allen Steele (OASIS 17 GOH), Geoffrey Landis

Former OASIS Guest of Honor Joe Haldeman

Special Effects Supervisor Douglas Trumbull

The second Science Fiction writers panel (left to right) Gay Haldeman, G. David Nordley, Joe Haldeman, Charles Stross, Elizabeth Bear, Vernor Vinge



Ready Player One

by
Ernest Cline

One of the things often associated with the 1980s was the ascent of the computer/video game, when they were just becoming accessible to the general public. They were in the arcades, and technology made it possible to bring the games home. The children of that era wanted to be part of it. Looking back it was amazing we were impressed by the limited graphics of the games. After all this time, there is still affection for those games. When Google turned its logo to a functional Pac Man game for the game's 30th anniversary, it was played by millions. There were puzzle games like Zork and The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy that were just as popular. Ernest Cline's *Ready Player One* book is about a worldwide computer game.

James Donovan Halliday created the Ontological Anthropocentric Sensory Immersive Simulation (OASIS). This is a virtual world which is a combination of social networking and Massively Multiplayer Online games. People can literary go into a new world with a new identity with OASIS. By 2040, people can use goggles and other sensory devices and really go into the worlds within OASIS. Any world, real or imagined, can exist in OASIS. Entry into the system is relatively cheap, although one needs money to buy goods and to upgrade their OASIS avatars. OASIS completely dominates the world.

When Halliday dies in 2040, he leaves a message. He tells the world there is an Easter egg hidden somewhere in OASIS. Halliday had set up a three-layer puzzle to find the location of the egg. He leaves a riddle for the first level of the puzzle. Whoever finds the egg first will win Halliday's fortune, which includes ownership of OASIS. This leads into a resurgence of 1980s pop culture, since that was the age in which Halliday grew up, and which he was passionate about. By understanding this era, people hope to find the clues they need to find the egg. Innovative Online Industries (IOI or the Sixers, since their acronym looks the binary number for 6) has a devoted a department to the hunt, with the goal of taking over OASIS. Many OASIS users are against this, since they believe the Sixers would take everything good, like easy access and privacy, out of OASIS. Despite all the resources the Sixers, individual and group egg hunters (or gunters) have poured into the hunt, it takes 5 years for someone to crack the first level.

Wade Watts, whose OASIS username is Parzival, is the first to solve the first puzzle, and appears on the scoreboard Halliday setup for the hunt. Wade grew up near Oklahoma City in the "stacks", which are trailer parks where the trailers are stacked on top of each other, to make the best use of space. He is orphaned at an early age, and practically lives on his own. Wade has a flair for technology. He is able to repair electronic equipment for extra money. Wade is jaded, but he is compassionate. He has done extensive research on Halliday and his era. Wade is able to use the notoriety of being the first to score in the game to escape the stacks.

Wade's interest in the hunt keeps him going, because the outside world is a scary place. The economy is still in the dumps. There are great shortages in resources, and overseas wars are being fought for what is left. Companies can give out

credit, and if people fail to pay, then they can become indentured servants to the company. Some see this as a pleasant alternative to starving. This is the world that many people escape from when they log on to OASIS.

Four others beside Wade also crack the first level of the game. This brings them to the attention of the Sixers. Wade meets with the Sixers to see what they have to offer. He realizes that they will stop at nothing to win the game. They do not care what gets in their way. Wade and the other players have to stay out of the Sixers' radar and solve the game.

Art3mis is a famous blogger, and Wade's competitor and love interest. She is smart, determined, and idealistic. She cares about Wade, but worries their relationship will make them lose sight of the game. She also worries that their relationship will end when the veil of OASIS is lifted.

Aech is Wade's closest friend and fellow gunter. They talk about everything even though Wade has no clue to Aech's true identity. They watch each other's back and maintain a friendly competition in the game.

This is a strange and interesting world Cline has created. It is sad that Wade and his friend's pop culture is a copy of a past culture. It is difficult to design a pop culture in science fiction. There was a panel devoted to it at the 2010 Worldcon where the writers explained the difficulties in creating a future culture. Cline comes up with a plausible resurgence of 80s pop culture and lays it on top of a dystopia. The book celebrates the era which inspired Halliday to create his game.

Cline describes OASIS in great detail. There is some extrapolation needed to explain the computing power and resources to make OASIS possible, but that shows his respect for computer science. Being a virtual world, anything can happen in OASIS. There is a scene where Wade and Art3mis go to a party in OASIS. There they go to a dance where the dancers can dance in three dimensions and can shapeshift their avatars' forms. There are worlds in OASIS which are recreations of the great imagined worlds of science fiction, fantasy, and gaming. People can also create their own private worlds in the system. If you can imagine it, then you can code it to existence in OASIS.

The plot is a typical fantasy quest story. Wade and the others have to solve the game before the Sixers do. Art3mis questions Wade about winning the game. Wade cannot think anything but escaping his life in the stacks. Art3mis wants to use Halliday's fortune to help the world. This makes Wade think about the nature of the quest.

Halliday is a ghost which haunts the book. We learn about him through Wade's research and news stories. Halliday twice reshaped the world: once by creating OASIS, and again by starting the egg hunt. He was had problems dealing with people. He had a hard time communicating his feelings. He wanted everyone to like what he liked. His aims were very altruistic. Halliday wanted to live in a world of dreams and take everyone with him.

For the members of the 13th generation (aka Generation X), this is a nice slice of nostalgia. This reminds one of the fun aspects of the era minus the scary parts: the threat of nuclear war and the onset of the AIDS epidemic. Cline did a good job in researching the era. There are no noticeable errors of fact.

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Spooky Empire 2011



Pictures clockwise starting upper right:
Alien attached to host
A demon
OASIS 24 Costume Contest Winner Aleta Pardalis
A female droog inspired from the film *A Clockwork Orange*



(Continued from page 4)

This is a great science fiction book. It explores a world and ideas with believable characters. Check it out. I'll bring the quarters.

Batman: Year One

Batman: Year One was one of the biggest comic book stories of the 1980s. It was a new addition to Batman's history. It was written by Frank Miller, who had just come from writing ***The Dark Knight Returns***, and it was drawn by David Mazzuchelli, who had collaborated with Miller on ***Daredevil***. This story influenced Batman for years. Elements of ***Batman: Year One*** can be seen in the animated feature ***Batman: Mask of the Phantasm*** and ***Batman Begins***. Now the DC animation team adapts this work to a direct-to-DVD animated film.

Police Lt. James Gordon has relocated to Gotham City. It does not take him long to see the city's corruption. At the same, Bruce Wayne returns to Gotham after being abroad for 13 years. Wayne feels he is ready to wage his war on crime, spurred by his parents' murder. Gordon and Wayne learn that their fight against the depravity of Gotham is not going to be easy. The forces of the city pit them against each other, since Batman is wanted by the police. As time goes on, Gordon sees that this mysterious vigilante has more integrity than his own colleagues. Can Gordon and Wayne work together before the dark side of the city overwhelms them?

This is a very faithful adaptation of the original work. The film follows most of the critical parts of the comic story. The original comic story was 4 issues long, so it is shorter than previous animated comic book adaptations like ***Justice League: New Frontier***, ***Superman/Batman Apocalypse***, and ***All Star Superman***. There was no need to cut out parts of the story to make it fit the time limit. Some scenes were slightly extended and some action sequences were modified, but overall the script by Tab Murphy is pretty much the story Miller and Mazzuchelli presented in 1987.

The story is shared equally by James Gordon and Bruce Wayne. Both come to Gotham at the same time. Both face the evil that permeates the city. Both want to fix the city. Gordon has to fight his corrupt fellow officers. Wayne is trying to figure out what will work in his war on crime. Both men make mistakes. They will learn from these mistakes, and become true protectors of Gotham.

Bryan Cranston and Benjamin McKenzie do the voices for James Gordon and Bruce Wayne respectively. They both have to do long narrations, and they pull it off well. We want to listen to them. The only fault in the voice acting is a scene where Wayne has to play the frivolous playboy for Gordon. It was over-the-top and distracting. Besides that, all the performances were spot on. Voice director Andrea Romano did an excellent job, as always, in putting a cast together.

Directors Sam Liu and Lauren Montgomery successfully duplicated the look of the comic. Mazzuchelli used a lot of shadows and had a rough style. One does not go to Mazzuchelli's work for fine details like high-tech gadgets or newspaper. Mazzuchelli created a dark mood. Liu and Montgomery are able to bring this to life.

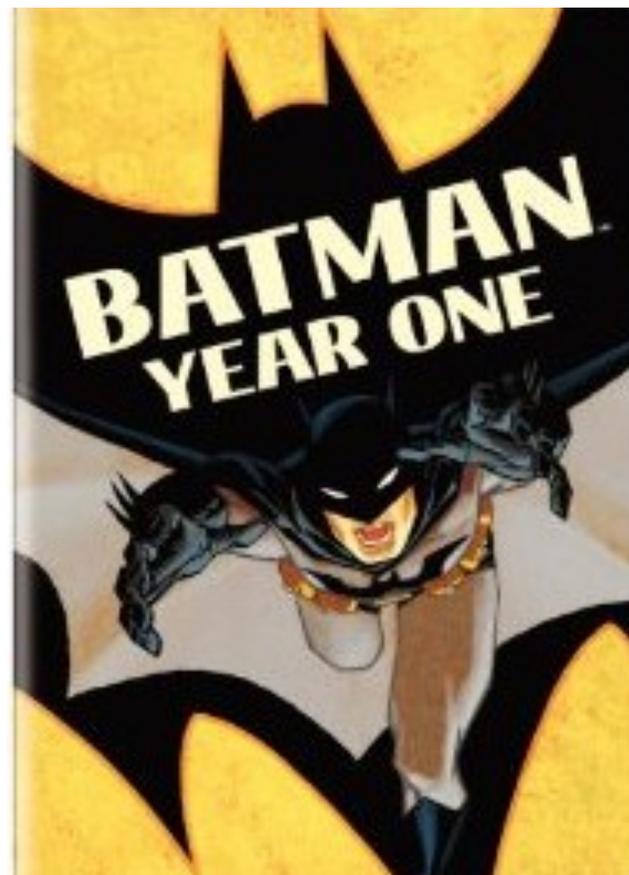
The action sequences were well-staged. There are no

superhumans in the story. The action is brutal and believable. The fights are the length the need to be. The directors avoid the mistake of making the action sequences too long and over-choreographed.

There is a Catwoman short on the DVD. It is written by Paul Dini, writer and producer of ***Batman: The Animated Series*** and directed by Lauren Montgomery. Catwoman is determined to stop the scheme of local criminal Rough Cut. Catwoman is played by Eliza Dushku (Faith, ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer***) and Rough Cut is played by John DiMaggio (Bender, ***Futurama***). It is more action than character, but said action is well-staged and does not let up.

The Blu-Ray contains other extras. There is a commentary track with voice director Andrea Romano, producer Alan Burnett, co-director Sam Liu and comic writer Greg Rucka. There is a documentary on the history of Batman. There is a roundtable discussion on Batman with former Batman writer and editor Denny O'Neill, DC co-publisher Dan Dido, current Batman comic writer Scott Snyder and Michael Uslan, executive producer on the Batman animated and live action films. There is a digital copy of the first issue of ***Batman: Year One***. There are also two episodes from ***Batman: The Animated Series*** selected by producer Bruce Timm.

This is one of the best DC Animated films to come out. The film shows great respect for the original work. It is a film about two men trying to find the right path to accomplish their goals. They figure out that they need each other in order to protect their city.



Necronomicon 2011



Pictures clockwise starting upper right:
Guest of Honor Ben Bova
Necronomicon Staffer Mark Jones
Special Masquerade Award Winners
A recreation of Kaylee's shindig dress from *Firefly*



LETTERS

1706-24 Eva Rd.
Etobicoke, ON
CANADA M9C 2B2

October 15, 2011

Dear Juan:

Many thanks for issue 287 of Event Horizon. It's good to be seeing this clubzine again. Comments do follow...

We had a great time at the Reno Worldcon, and yes, it was spread out. We certainly got our exercise those five days, and we were in the closest hotel, the Atlantis. Not only are we spoiled by Worldcons that are a short walk away from the hotels, but the general membership of the convention seemed to be in their 40s, 50s and older, and that made it a little tougher, too. The variety of fannish activities continues to expand; I am connected with various steampunk groups in our area, and some of those steampunks have no idea of fandom as a whole, they just followed those of us who did know. Steampunk has some connection to fandom, though; I wouldn't say it's entirely spun off, even though there is now a network of steampunks conventions all over the North American continent. I will admit that while the literature is interesting, it is difficult to keep up with, and as a costumer away from SF costuming for more than 20 years, steampunk brought me back to costuming, and I have had a lot of fun with the costumes I've created.

In some ways, if I had my way, all fanzines would still be in a paper format, mostly for collecting purposes. But, I know the costs of producing a fanzine, especially in raw materials like paper, reproduction, envelopes and postage. If fanzine fandom wants the conversation to continue, then we have to change to a more affordable format, the .pdf, and for the most part, we have. It's still pretty good to get a paper fanzine, but it doesn't happen as often as it once did, and I'm good with that.

I don't think anime conventions have to grow up, I think they're fine in what they are doing, catering to an enormous number of fans who will attend a convention in the tens of thousands, and doing that annually. That sounds pretty business-like to me. I think we fail to remember the great fun we had at conventions when we were much younger.

Seemed a lot of the programming we went to that convention concerned fanzines, steampunk or Lev Grossman and his Magicians books. Everyone gets a unique take on their Worldcon, and that's good, although with all the events I wanted to go and see, I probably would have needed another five days.

Thanks for another Event Horizon, and I look forward to the next one.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

Trans Atlantic Fan Fund (TAFF) nominees
The following people were nominated to go to the 2012 Eastercon (the British National Convention) in Heathrow. More information can be found at taff.uk.org

Warren Buff
Nominated by James Bacon, Paul Cornell, Chris Garcia, Tim Illingworth and Lloyd Penney

Kim Kofmel
Nominated by Flick, Brad Foster, Jeanne Gomoll, Alice Lawson, and Pat Vrizi/Mueller

Jacq Monahan
Nominated by Sandra Bond, Nic Farey, Steve Green, Curt Phillips and John Purcell

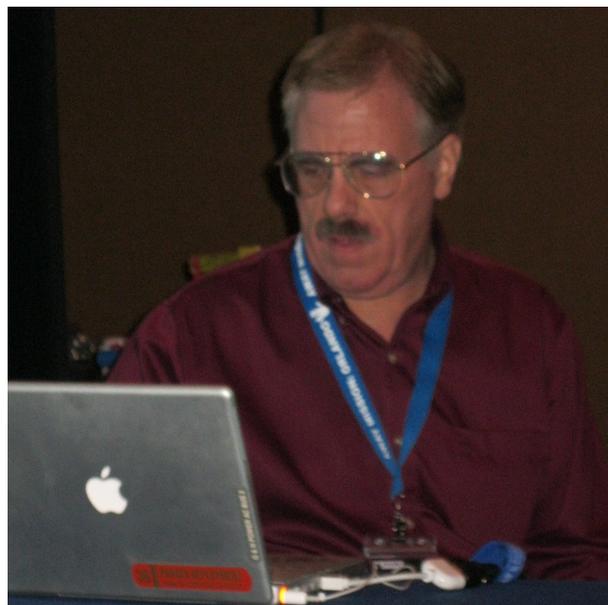
Voting deadline is December 9, 2011 at 2359 GMT. Anyone active in fandom or who donates at least \$3 to the fund.



Away Mission Orlando



Pictures clockwise starting upper right:
An Andorian
Imperial Officers and Lord Vader from the 501st Legion
A Starfleet officer and an Orion Slave Girl
Hugo winning artist Rick Sternbach
Patrick Stewart at his Q&A session



SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION
IN ORLANDO

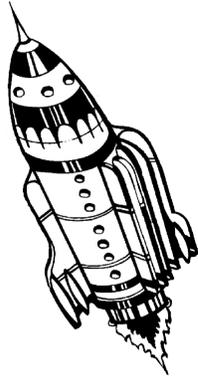
OASIS 25

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:

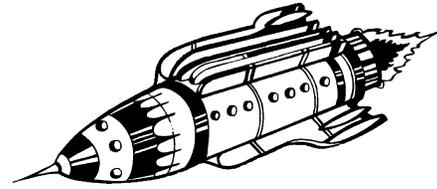
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More info at

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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