



**A WORD FROM THE EDITOR**

This is the 300th of the *Event Horizon*. Wow. I wish to thank my predecessors especially Ray Herz, Jen Stuteman, and Leslie Hammes. I would also thank the contributors and readers.

Busy month with Away Mission Orlando and Necronomicon. This month is the Worldcon report. I like the connection of the 70th Worldcon covered in the 300th issue of *Event Horizon*

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

Welcome to my Worldcon report. Enjoy! Note Panel titles are bold and underlined. Here is the break down:

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**Events**

**Hurricane Who Category 3**  
 November 2-4  
 Doubletree by Hilton Orlando at Sea  
 10100 International Dr.  
 Orlando, FL 32821  
 \$80 for the weekend, \$50for Saturday,  
 \$40 for Fri or Sun  
 Guests: Peter Davison (5th Doctor, ***Doctor Who***)  
 Frazier Hines (Jamie, ***Doctor Who***)  
 Caitlin Blackwood (Amelia, ***Doctor Who***)  
 Ankli Mohindra (Rani, ***Sarah Jane Adv.***)  
 www.hurricanewho.com

**Birthdays**

**Dave Ratti- Nov. 24**



**North Florida Comic Show**  
 November 11  
 Ramada Inn  
 3130 Hartley Road  
 Jacksonville, FL 32257  
 \$2 for admission  
 Guests: Sonny Strait (voice actor)  
 Micah Solusod (voice actor)  
 www.nfcomicsshow.com

**Chibi-Pa: Future**  
 November 16-18  
 Hilton Deerfield Beach  
 100 Fairway Dr.  
 Deerfield Beach, FL 33441  
 \$35 for the weekend, \$25 for Saturday,  
 \$15 for Fri or Sun  
 Guests: Spike Spencer (voice actor)  
 Paul St. Peter (voice actor)  
 www.chibapa.com

**ShadoCon**  
 November 16-18  
 Hyatt Regency  
 211 North Tampa Street  
 Tampa, FL33602  
 \$45 at the door  
 Guests: Scott Mc Neill (voice actor)  
 Sean Schimmel (voice actor)  
 www.shadocon.com

**Geek Fest**  
 November 18  
 Grand Palm Room at Florida Atlantic University  
 777 Glades Road  
 Boca Raton, FL 33431  
 Guests: Greg Horn (comic artist)  
 Greg Kirkpatrick (comic artist)  
 \$5 for admission, FAU students free  
 www.geekfestflorida.com

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## November OASFiS Calendar

### OASFiS Business Meeting

Sunday, November 11, 1:30 PM, Brick and Fire Pasta and Pizza Parlor (Downtown Orlando, 1621 South Orange Ave Orlando, Florida 32806). Come join us as we discuss **The Hobbit** by J.R.R. Tolkien we have read.

### Sci Fi Light

Saturday November 17, 6:00 PM, Viet Gardens (1237 E. Colonial Drive Orlando, FL 32803). Come join us and discuss **The Princess Bride** by William Goldman.

To contact for more info:

OASFiS Business Meeting 407-823-8715

## OASFiS People

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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.

bidders would be a good thing for a future issue.

Coming up this November... in Toronto is SFContario 3, with multi-award winning author Jo Walton and Fan Writer Hugo winner Chris Garcia as guests, and two weeks afterwards is Loscon 39 at LAX... Yvonne and I are Fan GoHs there, and we are thrilled to be there to have some fun.

I think I have made all the comments I can... I look forward to what you do with the 300<sup>th</sup> issue. See you then!

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

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Miami Book Fair

November 16-18 (street fair November 18-20)

Membership rates varies, check website

Notable Guests: Steven Barnes

Junot Diaz

Tananarive Due

Marjorie Liu

R.L Stine

www.miamibookfair.com

Letters:

706-24 Eva Rd.

Etobicoke, ON

CANADA M9C 2B2

October 13, 2012

Dear Juan and OASFiS members:

Many thanks for issue 299 of Event Horizon. I didn't get to Chicon 7, so I have been living vicariously through any convention report from the Worldcon, and I look forward to the 300<sup>th</sup> issue. But now, it's time to tell you about the 299<sup>th</sup>...

Away Mission: Orlando had a great guest list. Avery Brooks doesn't go to many Trek cons, and I remember Robert Duncan McNeil from an episode of The Twilight Zone, as well as Voyager.

All right, there's Sy Snootles and Max Rebo! Those are some of my own favorite Star Wars characters, especially those from the first movie all those years ago. I still have a crocheted Max Rebo at home, a gift from many years ago.

I've never been to it, but I think Dragoncon would be too much for me. Too busy, too crowded. I like cons, but Worldcon is probably as big a convention as I could take. I know there's an Orlando bid for a future Worldcon; perhaps an interview with the

## Chicon 7

Chicon 7, the 70<sup>th</sup> World Science Fiction, was held on August 29 – September 3, 2012, in Chicago, Illinois. The entire convention was in the Hyatt Regency hotel. The guests of honor (GOH) were Mike Resnick (writer), Rowena Morrill (artist), Jane Frank (agent), Peggy Rae Sapienza (fan), and Story Musgrave (astronaut). Sy Liebergot was a special guest. John Scalzi was the toastmaster. Rowena Morrill could not come to the convention due to illness, but she was represented by her art, her sister, and her business partner. Dave McCarty was the convention chair.

Opening ceremonies were done as a talk show with Toastmaster John Scalzi interviewing the guests of honor. Scalzi had a desk and there were several couches for the guests. Scalzi was blown away by being introduced by a band. He wore a jacket and described his look as “Paul Ryan casual”. He promised that would be the only political joke for the ceremony. Scalzi’s first Worldcon was Torcon in 2003. He was delayed arriving at Torcon because he had forgotten his passport. He made it in time for his first panel, which he was moderating. Scalzi would later go to the Tor party. He saw an older gentleman by himself at the party. Scalzi went to talk to the man for awhile. He found out that he was talking to Robert Silverberg. Scalzi attended the University of Chicago (UC). He found out he had a Californian accent while there. He thought that con chair Dave McCarty was high when he asked Scalzi to be the toastmaster. Scalzi thanked McCarty’s dealer. Scalzi’s first guest was Erle Korshack, co-Chair of Chicon (the second Worldcon ever held in 1940). Scalzi asked why they put on the convention. Korshack said that his friend and convention co-chair Mike Reinsberg thought they would do the Worldcon annually and do it across the country going from New York, Chicago, Denver and Los Angeles. Scalzi and Korshack discussed the Exclusion Act, which banned the group known as the Futurians, whose members included Isaac Asimov and Donald Wollheim, from the first Worldcon. The Chicon organizers decided not get involved with the Exclusion Act. Korshack attended the first 15 Worldcons and dropped out of fandom for awhile. Mike Resnick was the next guest. He was born in Chicago and also attended UC. It was refreshing for Resnick to see so many new buildings at UC, since nothing new is built in Cincinnati (his home city). Everything there is refurbished. Resnick was a fencer at UC. None of the fencers ever got mugged. Scalzi and Resnick were both nominees for the short story Hugo. Scalzi would be happy to lose to Resnick. Resnick said he would be happy to win. Scalzi’s next guest was Kathy Morrill. She said her sister Rowena was feeling better, but she was not ready to travel to the convention. Rowena’s father was a military chaplain, so the family moved every year. This included a stay in Japan. The family would entertain themselves by singing and performing plays. Rowena originally studied to be a classical pianist, but started drawing in her 20s. Jane Frank was next and explained the H. Rider Haggard room. It is a room in her house with paintings by inspired by the works by Haggard, and is made up as a Victorian sitting room. This room was recreated at the convention. Peggy Rae Sapienza was next and talked about her work on the Nebula Award Weekend. She has done all the Nebula Weekends during John Scalzi’s term as the Science Fiction Writers of America (SFWA) President. She had

taken over a year earlier, with six weeks to go before the event. That first Nebula weekend was in Cocoa Beach, FL and the date coincided with a Shuttle launch. Scalzi gave her a free hand to run the Nebula weekend. Sapienza feels loved and cherished by the community. She is a second-generation fan. Her father, Jack McKnight, built the first Hugos for Philcon II chair Milton Rothman. The original manufacturer of the Hugos fell through, and McKnight only had 10 days to build the Hugos. NASA flight controller Sy Liebergot was next. Liebergot briefly discussed the recent loss of Neil Armstrong. Ninety-two flight controllers have died. Scalzi asked Liebergot how we got to the moon. Liebergot said it was done by a bunch of smart guys who could think straight. Scalzi had the idea of playing the arcade game Lunar Lander with Liebergot guiding him, but unfortunately that arcade game was not available at the con. Liebergot said that their NASA training prepared him to deal with the Apollo 13 crisis. He had encountered a similar problem during a simulation of the Apollo 10 mission. The 2012 Hugo was unveiled. The designer, Deb Kosiba described the Hugo base. Her inspirations for the design included the architect Louis Sullivan, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe (glass), and Pablo Picasso (cubist form). Kosiba designed the packaging and the Hugos for 2005 & 2006. The last guest was con chair Dave McCarty. He explained the Flying Monkee squad. He wanted an experienced team to help him as vice chairs. He called them the Flying Monkeys, but he spelled it Monkees (like the 60’s TV pop group) in correspondence. Each member took the name of a member of the Monkees: Dave McCarty (Davy Jones), Helen Montgomery (Michael Nesmith), Bobbi Armbruster (Micky Dolenz) and Steven Silver (Peter Tork). McCarty named all the previous Chicon chairs: Erle Korshack, Mike Reinsberg, Julian May, Earl Kemp, Ross Palvac (deceased), Larry Propp (deceased), Kathleen Meyer, and Tom Veal. The surviving con chairs were on a panel at the con. McCarty liked being part of something that came before him. Scalzi thanked the con staff for insulating the guests from the chaos. Story Musgrave was unable to attend opening ceremonies, but was at the con on Saturday and Sunday. The guests of honor were presented with Chicon 7 flight jackets.

Kathy Morrill did a presentation on Rowena’s work. Rowena went to art school in the 1970s and was very successful early in her career. She has done 400 book covers. She prefers to read or skim the manuscript before doing the art. Water, glass, and satin are featured regularly in her work. Rowena also likes to contrast between light and darkness. She usually uses models for her work. She studied dance and this helps her to provide a sense of motion in her art. Rowena works mostly in oils, and does not use a single brushstroke. Kathy explained that the Rowena pictures found in Saddam Hussien’s palace were all forgeries. The portraits that Rowena did of Isaac Asimov were done using pictures since Asimov did not wish to pose. Many of the pictures presented were displayed in the art show, and prints and books were available in the Dealer’s Room.

Robert Silverberg and Connie Willis were the stars of **The Bob and Connie Show**. This was Silverberg’s 59<sup>th</sup> Worldcon. A lot of his friends have passed on, so he hangs out with the youngsters like Connie Willis, George R.R. Martin, and John Kessel. Willis feels she is more fun than Silverberg. Silverberg agreed. He is not jolly, but can be funny. To show

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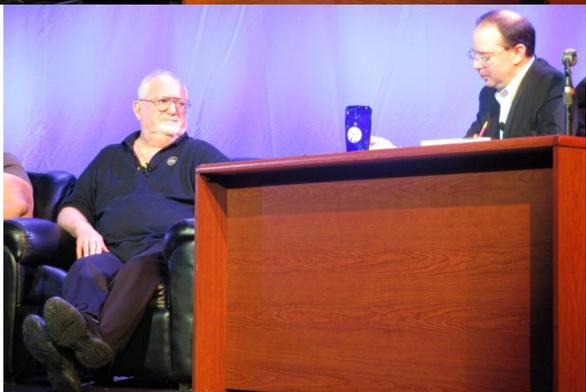
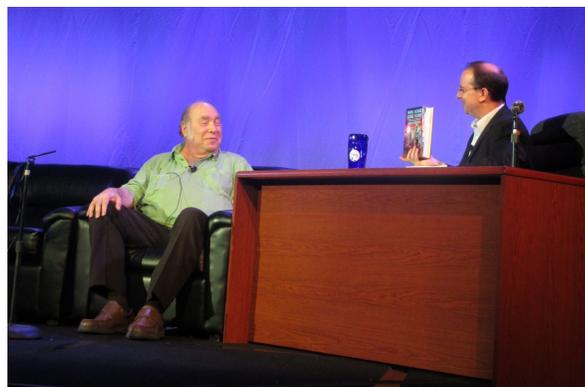
his prowess at humor, Silverberg read the biography from Willis' website. According to that, Willis has been writing since 1932, won 27 Hugos, studied transcendental meditation, married 3 times, sold stories to Hugo Gernsback, lives on Pike's Peak, raises jaguars, and wrote many classic novels like *The Great Gatsby*. Willis first saw Silverberg at the 1980 Worldcon on a panel with Frederik Pohl, Isaac Asimov, and Harlan Ellison. She was a fan of his short fiction. Her favorite Silverberg story is "When We Went to See the End of the World". They discussed the Hugos. Both had lost to George R.R. Martin. Once Martin was not present for one of his wins. Willis suggested that one must be present at the ceremony to win a Hugo. Silverberg lost the most Hugos while guest of honor at the Worldcon in Germany. Willis feels that she can never be as cool or suave as Silverberg. She then recounted a story of a talk Ernest Hemingway and F. Scott Fitzgerald had about being the best writer in the world. Every writer should strive to be the best in the world. Writers with careers as long as Silverberg and Willis do it for love. Early in Silverberg's career, he wrote very trashy stories for high fees. Editor Lester Del Rey told Silverberg that he was doing very well financially, but explained no one will ever reprint those works, and they will be forgotten. If one writes quality material, the work will be reprinted, and earn the writer more money. What Del Rey did not anticipate was that the Internet would allow the cheap reprinting of those inferior works, and allow Silverberg to profit from them again. Willis did a panel on writing advice. She was the only one to discuss writing; the other panelists discussed marketing. Good marketing may get you one sale, but good writing will get readers to come back for more. Willis recommended that neither of them should Tweet because of their sharp tongues. A spur-of-the-moment Tweet could end their careers. Silverberg leaves blogging and Tweeting to younger writers. They discussed the fact that George R. R. Martin has a staff of 3. Willis suggested that she and Silverberg treat their spouses as staff. Willis praised her husband Courtney and Silverberg's wife Karen as great spouses/staff. Silverberg admitted that Karen helps out with the mail and depositing his checks. Silverberg, while waiting at a Michigan Avenue restaurant, saw a letter in a Starbucks sign obscured. When he completed the sign it read "Starducks". He envisions a story where alien ducks invade Earth via coffee shops. Silverberg has gotten a lot of story ideas from misreading. Willis is reading Proust. She finds it easy to read but dense. She is writing notes on Proust while she reads. Despite what people say, Proust does have a plot. Silverberg wants to re-read Gibbons' *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, but is currently reading William D. Howell. Willis discussed Harriet Beecher Stowe. She was a good person, Willis says, but feels prose is not good. Willis was impressed that Stowe was a neighbor and good friend to Mark Twain. Once Stowe was leaving for a trip and Twain went to say goodbye early in the morning, before he was properly dressed. Twain's wife was mortified that he went out improperly-attired, and insisted he go back again properly dressed. Instead Twain sent his suit for Stowe to say goodbye to. An audience member asked what Willis' and Silverberg's most underappreciated work was. For Willis, it was "Jack", a story about a vampire in World War II. Silverberg's was *Lord of Darkness*, a novel about an

Elizabethan sailor stranded in Angola. The novel was shelved with the historical novels in the bookstore, and his fans missed it. Silverberg recently re-read the book. He was impressed by how good it was. Willis says it is strange to re-read your own work after so many years. She had similar experience with her novel *Lincoln's Dream*. Silverberg discussed having a problem with a novel and he abandoned it. Years later, Alvino Zino-Amaro helped him fix it and now it will be coming out soon. Willis struggles with neuroses when she works on a story. Silverberg works with one word at a time. Once he got stuck and got some advice from Barry Malzberg. Malzberg recommended to improvise with the section to get over the hump. It worked, and Silverberg later removed the fill-in writing he used to overcome the block. Willis skips around in her work. If she is stuck on a section, she will work on another and come back to the problem area later. She never reads reviews, but her friends like to send her bad reviews so she will not miss them. Silverberg had two reviewers give opposite reviews to the same book. Willis usually works from an outline. Silverberg needs a title and know the beginning, ending, and the characters. Willis is working on romantic comedy involving telepathy, and is intimidated by Silverberg's *Dying Inside* due to the fact it was a classic novel about telepathy. Silverberg has written in most genres with the exception of true confessions. Now he likes to find excuses not to write. Willis feels that science fiction has a very wide reach. She feels she can write any type of story in science fiction. Silverberg sees himself as a science fiction writer who writes other things. The issue of editorial change came up. Willis edits with dismay. She tries to pick her battles. Sometimes the writer is too close to the story and cannot see the flaws. Silverberg usually got his own way. Once Alice Turner, his editor at *Playboy*, told him he had picked the wrong narrator for a story. He scheduled a meeting with her and planned to give the check back if she insisted on the change. She explained to him why he should change the narrator, and he realized she had a point and rewrote the story. She later told him that if he had stood fast, she would have printed it his way. The same editor later reprinted one of his stories for a *Playboy* anniversary issue. She told Silverberg it had to be shortened for space reasons. She cut out a character from the story and it did not affect the work significantly. Willis and Silverberg both talked about the great dinners they have had with colleagues. Silverberg explained to Willis how to get an invite to the Hugo reception when one is not a nominee or presenter, just tell the con staff you have not received your invitation. Willis expressed her admiration of Andrew Lee Potts from the *Primeval* television series. Silverberg asked if this was an end to her Travolta phase. Willis said she never liked Travolta, it was Harrison Ford. She is not over Ford, but can express her fascination for other actors. An audience member asked about Willis' Roswell novel. She stated that is on hold for the time being.

John Scalzi did a reading of his Hugo-nominated short story, "Shadow War of the Night Dragons: Book One: The Dead City: Prologue", and of his blog entry "An Incomplete Guide to Not Creeping", which was written in response to recent harassment/stalking incidents at conventions. Scalzi then answered some questions. He talked about DJing a dance at a con. He was at a con's 80s dance a few years ago. The DJ was

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# Chicon 7 Opening Ceremonies



Pictures clockwise starting upper left:  
John Scalzi was the host of the Opening Ceremonies:  
Earl Korshack. Mike Resnick, Kathy Morrill, Peggy Rae Sapienza,  
Sy Liebergot, Deb Kosiba, Dave McCarty

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19, and played the songs no one from the 80s wanted to hear. Scalzi said he could do a better job, and was roped into doing the next convention dance. He DJed the dance and it was a success. Scalzi learned how to dance years ago, and met his wife at a dance. He does not expect "Shadow War .." to win the Hugo. The story was an April Fool's joke, done as the beginning of a badly written book. It was actually hard to write so badly. He is glad for the notice, because the story is a hard sale in science fiction. With the success of "Shadow War .." and his novel *Redshirts*, humor might be welcomed in the field. Scalzi then explained *Redshirts*. The novel was at 50,000 words, which is short for a major release. Scalzi was able to add 3 codas to tie up some loose ends in the main narrative. He liked this because the field is now very open to experimenting with the format. Scalzi's next book will be released in segments in ebook format the first part coming out in December. He is still working out how the complete book will be marketed. There is some interest in a "Shadow War..." film. Scalzi finds this amusing, since the story was a big joke. *Old Man's War* is still under development. The film and TV rights are tied together, so a film will likely come first. The film rights to *Fuzzy Nation* are tied to the original H. Beam Piper novel, and there are some legal problems there. Scalzi was asked what he was like at 10 years old. Scalzi was a precocious child, and let everyone know it. At 13, he hit puberty and it all changed. When his daughter Athena was 11, she showed him a sample of her writing for a critique. He reviewed her work and was amazed at her raw talent. She was strong in character and dialogue. He was happy for his daughter, but envious, since he was not this talented at 11. His daughter asked why her 13-year-old male peers were idiots. Scalzi told his daughter this behavior is typical for boys and lasts for about 10 years. Someone asked about buying an illegal copy of his works. Scalzi thought it was bit silly, since his books are cheaply available as ebooks, and you only have to pay for them once (some ebook systems require multiple payments for additional copies). If you get a free copy of his book, it could be a computer virus. Someone asked about what it is like to have as jerky a lead character as the one in Scalzi's novel *Fuzzy Nation*. Scalzi felt he was a lovable jerk who will do the right thing in the end. Someone else asked if he outlined his books. He does not outline fiction but outlines non-fiction. It works for him, but other writers may find outlines useful. Writers need to find a process that works for them.

Toni Bogolub, James Kahn, Daniel Kimmel (moderator), Michael Lee, and Jason Schachat celebrated *Star Wars at 35*. Kimmel's first topic was the original trilogy. Bogolub and Kimmel explained that the original trilogy changed how films were marketed. Big films are now released from early spring till late summer. Kahn said the trilogy also changed the depiction of the spaceship. The technology in the films looked realistic. It looked used rather than brand new, which had never been seen before in film. Schachat said the films were a mix of several things: science fiction, fantasy, fairy tale, dog fights, and dueling. He went on to say that the *Millennium Falcon* is simply a modified flying saucer. Kimmel was angry that one cannot see the first film as it was released in 1977. George Lucas claims that the original negative was cut in a way that makes it impossible to restore the first film to its original form. An

audience member told about going to a Famous Monsters convention before the release of the first film. Peter Cushing was the guest of honor and Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, and Carrie Fisher came to the same convention to support Cushing, and promoted this film. The audience member did not get any of their signatures at the time. Schachat said those actors were able to make Lucas' dialogue sound believable. Bogolub said that the novelization of the first film, allegedly written by George Lucas, had a lot of complex dialogue and exposition. Lee and an audience member agreed that a lot of the success associated with the first two films is tied to the editing done by Lucas's first wife, Marcia. Kimmel's next topic was the role of the prequels. Kimmel said *The Phantom Menace* was one of the most hyped films of all time. Schachat described the anticipation of *The Phantom Menace* at the first *Star Wars* Celebration. Kahn said the films could not live up to the high expectations, and that the stories were good, but the film fell flat in other ways. No one could say no to Lucas during the production of the prequels. Kimmel liked the last part of *Revenge of the Sith*, since it sets up the first film. Bogolub feels that Lucas respects the ideas and technology rather than the characters. This shows in the acting in the prequels. An audience member stated that in the prequels and most movies now, the effects overshadow the story. Kimmel's next topic was what order the films should be seen in. Schachat recommends seeing them in the numerical order. In that way, the story is strong in the middle, but has a weak ending. Lee said the viewing order affects the mystery in the films. If one sees it in numeric order, Palpatine's duplicity is the mystery. Seeing the films in release order, Vader's identity is the mystery. Kimmel said that the original films were about Luke Skywalker finding his place in the world. The series as a whole is now about Anakin Skywalker/Darth Vader. An audience member said that the prequel films stories were interrupted by random battles. Another audience member said that kids are now used to the quick cuts in present in the prequels and in most films. The nature of the lightsaber duels are different in the original and prequel trilogies. In the original trilogy, one wonders if Luke will survive the duel. The prequel duels dazzle the audience with the fighter's martial arts prowess, and lack a sense of jeopardy. Schachat described the staging of the *Empire Strikes Back* duel. An audience member pointed out that the kids like the prequels and can identify with Anakin. Adults can appreciate the original trilogy. Kimmel's last topic was what would have happened had there been no *Star Wars*. Kimmel postulated that *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* would have been the biggest film of 1977. He went on to say that Steven Spielberg's career may have ended after the film *1941*, which was a critical and financial failure. There would have been no *Raiders of the Lost Ark* without Lucas producing. There may not have been *Star Trek* as we know it, since the film series was Paramount's response to *Star Wars*. An audience member suggested that with no Industrial Light and Magic (Lucas' special effect company), there would be no WETA, the New Zealand special effects company which did the effects for *Lord of the Rings* and other films. Lee went further by saying there would be no Pixar and as a result Steve Jobs would not have returned to Apple to develop the iPhone. Kimmel and an audience member pointed out that science fiction became big business for the film industry because

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# Chicon 7 Panels

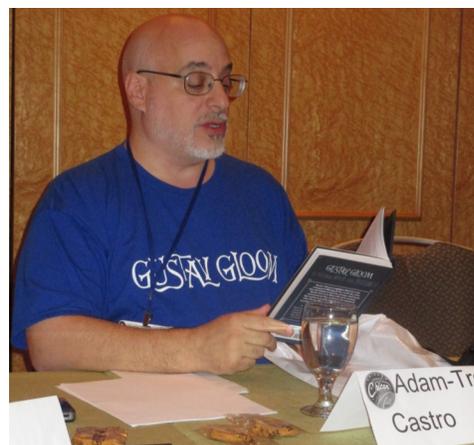


Pictures clockwise starting upper left  
(left to right) Connie Willis and Robert Silverberg from **The Bob and Connie Show**,

John Scalzi at his reading,

Adam Troy Castro at his reading,

(left to right) Gardner Dozois, George R.R. Martin, Mike Resnick, Joe Haldeman, Robert Silverberg revealing **The Secret History of Science Fiction**



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of *Star Wars*. Another audience member said that the films' merchandizing line changed China's economy since that is where the toys were made. Lee pointed out that *Star Wars* inspired people to work in the film industry. Schachat agreed that many people went into the special effects industry as a result of *Star Wars*. The release of the prequels in digital film also changed the industry. An audience member said that *Star Wars* was an anti-cynical film made in a cynical time. Another audience member suggested that new fans are being brought in by the prequels and *Clone Wars* television show. Lee was curious to see what will happen when Lucas retires from direct control of the films.

Mike Resnick decided to improvise his Guest of Honor speech. He got some suggestions for his speech from the Science Fiction Writers of America (SFWA) suite. Some of the suggestions were: Is Gardner Dozois George R.R. Martin's son (or vice versa), Eric Flint as an international sex symbol, the Cincinnati Bengals' offense, and Nancy Kress' continual denial of her overwhelming love for Resnick. He was born less than 10 miles from the convention hotel. Birth made Resnick an agnostic. His bris made him an atheist. Resnick's father was a communist. Had his father been in New York, he would have been in the Futurians (a famous New York science fiction club of the 1930s and 40s). All of Resnick's baby-sitters were Slavic women who played chess and read *Das Kapital*. He went to the University of Chicago (UC) and did not attend class often. Resnick's Humanities professor claimed the students' education would be useful at parties. There they could tell people there is no such thing as a Gothic Baptist Church. Resnick has described several churches as Gothic Baptist in his writing and no one has ever called him on it. He met his wife Carol at UC. They had a quick courtship, and married. Resnick saw an ad for *ERB-dom*, a fanzine dedicated to the works of Edgar Rice Burroughs. After getting a copy, he wrote several articles for *ERB-dom* and become its assistant editor. He was planning to go the 1962 Worldcon in Chicago, but the plan was derailed when his daughter Laura was born a week before the convention. Years later, he accepted his daughter's John W. Campbell award. When asked for a comment on his daughter winning an award for best new writer, Resnick said his "stud fee should be tripled." Resnick found out that a local Chicago fan group met across the street from his apartment. In 1963, Resnick and his wife went to their first Worldcon in Washington DC. They met an older gentleman who took them around the convention. They found out the old man was E.E. "Doc" Smith, writer of the classic *Lensman* series. They later went to a room party that Lester Del Rey, Isaac Asimov, James Blish, Leigh Brackett, Edmond Hamilton, and Jack Chalker also attended. They spent \$91 from their tax return at that first Worldcon. Resnick got a job editing two tabloid papers which had a circulation of 400,000 copies a week. Some of the stories published were dubious. He remembered one headline, "Woman Raped by Seven Dwarfs". He ghost-wrote columns for Jayne Mansfield and Mamie Van Doran. He also rewrote Sydney Omar's horoscopes. He helped Omar by saying, under Omar's byline, that the 1968 Republican Presidential nominee would have "R" as an initial. This helped make Omar famous, but people forgot that Rockefeller, Reagan, and Romney were contenders for the nomination. He met Anton

Levay, the founder of the Church of Satan. Levay had a black house, a hearse in front of the house, a lion on a chain, and coffin necklace. Resnick witnessed a Satanic mass and found it dull. He noticed that Levay had a collection of old pulps like *Weird Tales*. Resnick recommended that Levay use some elements from the pulps to spice up the mass, which he did. He had Levay do a column for the tabloid. Once Resnick told Levay on the phone that he really needed to leave early to avoid being caught in a blizzard. Levay said he would make it happen. After talking to Levay, the power went out and everyone was sent home. Resnick doubts Levay did that, but never asked for a favor again for fear of who he might be beholden to. Resnick edited 3 mens' magazines. He published his first science fiction stories in those magazines under an assumed name. He also worked in the adult book industry, as many science fiction writers did at that time. There was good money in that industry if you could write well and fast. He wrote films for Herschel Gordon Lewis, the worst film director after Ed Wood. There he learned the basics of low budget films work: no kids or dogs (cost more), use public domain music, use suburban home as a setting (usually it would be the director's house), use a lot of two-shots (the films would be filmed silent and be dubbed later; this step allowed the lips not to be shone). Resnick wrote scripts for the adult film industry. He did a series of adult films which were parodies of the James Bond films. In 1967, he wrote the script for *Bonefinger* in a day, and used the money to go to the 1968 Worldcon. Twenty-five years later he was tapped to write in a Sherlock Holmes anthology. He used the *Bonefinger* plot in the story and re-cast Bond as Holmes. It was published and never got a bad review. In 1967, he sold his first book. It was a Burroughs pastiche called *The Goddess of Ganymede*. He later wrote a Conan pastiche called *Redbeard*, which he later regretted. He was tired of doing pastiches and decided to leave writing for several years and breed champion collies. The collies were named after science fiction titles and characters. He even bought and ran a successful kennel. He went back to writing and had some success but not much money. He got Eleanor Wood as an agent and he made 3 times more on his next book. Wood also made several overseas sales which also made a lot of money. A Heinlein hero is one who sees a problem and fixes it. A Resnick hero is one who sees a problem and bullies or bribes or tricks a Heinlein hero to solve it for him. He went to see the film *Alice's Restaurant* and hated it. Resnick said he could write something better. His wife took him up on it and they went home and he wrote *Bithright*. He would set 36 stories in that world. He gave up watching television series in 1982. Because of that he wrote 36 books and does not feel deprived. He wanted to write about a myth of the future. His wife Carol showed him the film *Fistful of Dynamite* (aka *Duck You Sucker*). In the film James Coburn's character, a member of Irish Republican Army, makes a speech. Carol wanted Resnick to hear the speech. That became the inspiration for the novel *Santiago*. Resnick's Kirinyaga series started as a part of an anthology about utopias edited by Gardner Dozois. He wrote about the Kenyan myth that a child born feet first was a demon. Initially Korriba, the witch doctor, was a minor character in the story. Carol advised Resnick to make him the major character and the narrator. Resnick would write 8 stories about Korriba. He told how a conversation about a

(Continued on page 10)

# Chicon 7 Guests of Honor



Pictures clockwise starting upper left  
Mike Resnick at his Guest of Honor Speech  
Peggy Rae Sapienza at her Guest of Honor Interview  
Jane Frank giving a docent tour of the Art Show  
John Scalzi interviewing Story Musgrave  
Sy Liebergot after giving a talk



(Continued from page 8)

Teddy Roosevelt story over lunch with Martin Greenberg got him into anthology editing. After lunch, Greenberg sold the anthology *Alternate Presidents* to Tor. Resnick would edit several alternate history anthologies. There were problems at Confrancisco, the 1993 Worldcon. Resnick and friends realized that one of the possible 1993 Worldcon cities was Zagreb, which was in the midst of a war. Resnick came up with the anthology *Alternate Worldcons*. It sold out at Conadian, the 1994 Worldcon. He produced a sequel *Again, Alternate Worldcons* (borrowing the title from Harlan Ellison's anthology *Again, Dangerous Visions*). Resnick said a third volume will come out when *The Last Dangerous Visions* comes out. Resnick has helped a lot of writers get their start with his anthologies. He noticed a lot of good writers get lost in the magazine slush piles. He decided to put some newer writers like Nick DiChario in his anthologies to get them some much-needed notice. He has also collaborated with 25 writers for the same reason. Nine of these writers have won the John W. Campbell Award for best new writer. In 1991, Resnick won his second Hugo. That year the rockets were plastic rather than metal. He said it looked like a rectal thermometer for an elephant. Resnick was sent a metal rocket to replace the plastic one so he would shut up about it. He won a Hugo in 1995 in Glasglow, Scotland, and the Hugo set off alarms of at the British airports. His proudest moment as a science fiction writer was turning down an offer to a *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* trilogy of novels. He does not like working with Hollywood. They make dumb changes. A really-emotional scene was cut from a proposed adaptation of *Santiago* because it prevented the selling of 2 million toys. Resnick had an ad for an upcoming book which 3 times as big as an ad for a Chris Claremont/George Lucas collaboration. Resnick sent a copy of the ad to a producer and they bought his upcoming book because it was 3 times bigger than Lucas. The deal fell through, but Resnick's Hollywood lawyer insisted he charge for the screenplay he never wrote. The lawyer billed the studio and Resnick got a very large payment for not writing a script. He also got a check for revisions he never did. The studio executive asked for a script so Resnick would stop making a monkey out of him when telling the story at conventions. Resnick is in awe of all the professionals in the field he has gotten to know and worked with. The greatest honor for a science fiction writer is to be a Worldcon Guest of Honor. He has no plans to stop, but needs a new goal. Jack Williamson dedicated his last book to Mike Resnick at age 98. At 99, Resnick plans to dedicate a book to someone in the room. He promises it will be a good one.

Fan Guest of Honor Peggy Rae Sapienza was interviewed by a Fuzzy (a puppet performed by Mary Robinette Kowl based on the Fuzzys from H. Beam Piper novel *Little Fuzzy*). Sapeinza discussed her fannish history. It started with con suites. She thought a lot of con suites were not very good and was then tapped to do one. She had learned graciousness from her first husband, Bob Palvat also known as the "The Diplomat". Sapeinza felt the most important trait in a con chair is having no shame. One takes a problem, breaks it up into smaller pieces, and gives to pieces for other people to solve. She became a vice-chair at Confrancisco, the 1993 Worldcon, after the con chair had died. While she was dealing with the problems with the Worldcon in San Francisco, Sapienza found out she was

going to lead the bid for a Worldcon in Baltimore. Bucconeer, the 1998 Wordcon chair by Sapienza, had a good team and did not suffer from the personality problems found at other Worldcons. She reminds her team that the convention running is a leisure time activity and there is no yelling, screaming or crying: they are there to accomplish something and have a good time. To involve young people at the convention, Bucconeer started a science fiction writing contest for students. The contest received 800 entries. The Bucconeer team criteria in judging each work was to ask themselves if they would recommend the entry to 5 friends. This eliminated a third of the entries. They continued this for a few years at other Worldcons. This took up a lot of time and money, but now email would make the contest cheaper to run. The Fuzzy asked where the expression, "I mowed Peggy Rae's lawn" came from. Some of the planning for Noreascon 3, the 1989 Worldcon, took place at Peggy Rae's house. A friend came to the meeting early while Peggy Rae was gardening. The friend wanted to help since she lives in a apartment and does not have a garden. Others came by and joined in the gardening. Fan artist Joe Mayhew saw this and years later told people not to vote for the Baltimore Worldcon bid or you will have to mow Peggy Rae's lawn. Kowal, now relieved of puppeteering duties, asked how Sapienza got to work on the Nebulas. The organization that ran Bucconeer was still around and wanted to do something, though not another Worldcon. The 2009 Nebula Weekend organizer was Christina Valada. Her house burned down a few weeks before the event, so Sapienza was asked to help organize the event. She was assisted by Steven Silver. There were some problems, such as lack of transport van between the Nebula Award venue and the hotel. Afterwards Kowal, who was SFWA secretary at the time, had lunch with Sapeinza, which led her to running the 2010 Nebulas. Kowal noted that Sapeinza likes to solve problems, and tries to connect resources to needs. Cons are like mosaics, and the pieces have to be put together. At Noreascon 3 there was a problem with the hotel. The hotel did not really want to hold the convention but had to due to the contract. The hotel did not want people crowding the lobby. Sapeinza thought about how to get the fans out of the lobby into the drab convention center, which led to the creation of the fan exhibits. The initial idea was to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Worldcon, and the 50<sup>th</sup> convention 3 years later (the desrepeny was due to the hiatus of the Worldcon during World War II). There were exhibits on the history of the Worldcon and bidding, the history of costuming, the history of fanzines, and pictures of the pros and big-name fans. The exhibits became a Worldcon tradition. Sapienza wrote a fanzine called *ETWAS* in the 60s and 70s. She published 2 or 4 issues a year. She got articles from notables like Harry Warner Jr. and Robert Bloch. She did a second fanzine called *Adventures on Earth* and now contributes to the Fantasy Amateur Press Association (FAPA). She once did an index for all contributors to FAPA. She also did a worst of index in categories like: "Worst layout", "Most typos", "Worst grammar". This led to an improvement in the contributions. Sapeinza is "numbers person", not a words person. She was not good with foreign language at school. Despite that, she was the North American agent for Nippon 2007, the 2007 Worldcon in Yokohama, Japan. Once, she got lost on the Tokyo subway. She got her money back and

(Continued on page 12)

# Chicon 7 Hall Costumes



Pictures clockwise starting upper right:  
An Jedi  
A large ghoul  
A dancer,  
A skull,  
Retro classic  
A lady in red



(Continued from page 10)

used it for a cab to get to where she was going. Sapienza will be running the 2014 World Fantasy Convention. Mike Walsh, bookseller and former Worldcon chair, told her that noted author Robert Aiken would have a centennial in 2014. She also found out that Virgil Finlay would also have a centennial that year. This was enough to interest her into chairing another convention. She was ordered not to accept any more con chairs until the next meeting of Baltimore/Washington Worldcon Organization.

Mike Resnick, Joe Haldeman, Robert Silverberg, Gardner Dozois, and George R.R. Martin revealed **The Secret History of Science Fiction**. Mike Resnick talked about the times he judged WindyCon masquerades with Bob Tucker. They came up with the male chauvinist award. The woman with the most scantily clad costume would win and get a drink from Resnick and Tucker. One year the winner was just wrapped in saran wrap and almost got arrested. Martin then recounted the infamous peanut butter story: at a Washington DC convention a costumer decided to go as a human turd. The involved covering himself in peanut butter. It was summer and the convention venue had no air conditioner. The costume soon went rancid, and resulted in the establishment of the no peanut butter rule at Masquerades. Silverberg found hall costumers annoying, since he kept bumping them into them in the convention. This got back to costumers and they confronted Silverberg. Silverberg did not object to costuming, just hall costumers, but was willing to make peace with the costumers. They asked him to be the master of ceremonies at the next Worldcon Masquerade. He wore devil horns, and worked the Masquerade while his friends got to eat at nice restaurants. At his first Worldcon, Haldeman improvised a costume. With a blindfold and an accordion, Haldeman went as the blind singer Rhysling from Heinlein's "The Green Hills of Earth". His future wife Gay was a member of the Anti-sex League from *Brave New World*, a costume which required a button that said "Anti-sex League". They were both finalist in the Masquerade. Resnick remembered a costumer in a Buck Rogers-like costume. The guns could shoot out real flames, which led to a no flame rule at Masquerades. Some costumers had elaborate presentations. One group went as the cast of the Wizard of Oz and did all the songs. These presentations caused Masquerades would go on to until 2AM, which led to the one-minute-presentation rule. The Masquerades later prohibited nudity, or as it is better known, the "no costume is no costume" rule. Martin and Haldeman did not like that rule. Silverberg told about a costume at the 1969 Wordcon which was performed by Karen and Astrid Anderson, the wife and daughter of Poul Anderson. Karen was in all black costume and Astrid was dressed in white. Suddenly bat-like wings sprang behind Karen. Those wings completely enveloped Astrid and when the wings withdrew, Astrid was bitten on the neck. The subject then changed to the Hugos. At the 1973 Hugos, the award rockets had not arrived and the winners were given the bases with the promise of a rocket later. R.A. Lafferty won a Hugo and later got drunk that night. He was found passed out. When Lafferty woke up, he forgot he only got the base and wondered where his Hugo was. Martin told about the time Lester Del Rey was toastmaster at the Ceremony he also was up for the Campbell award. Del Rey did all the presentations himself, but read it in the reverse order. The Campbell, usually

being the first award to be given, was now the last. Resnick and Haldeman vote for the other if they ever compete for an award. Silverberg said in the early days of the award, there were run-off-voting if there were ties. One established writer asked Silverberg to vote for him if there was a tie and in exchange he would vote for Silverberg if there was a tie in his category. Silverberg reluctantly agreed but was spared to follow through since there were no ties in their categories and Silverberg won and the other writer lost. At the 1953 Worldcon, Silverberg saw L. Sprague de Camp, Theodore Sturgeon, James Blish, Willy Ley, and Robert Sheckley (who recent made his literary debut) walking together. He was awed by that. Silverberg does not feel the same awe now, being on a panel with 5 Worldcon guests of honor, two of which were also SFWA grandmasters. Martin explained how the Hugo Losers party got started. In 1976, he lost 2 Hugos. He had an idea for a party for the losers. He did it on Monday and got all of the other parties' left-over liquor. Martin invited all the losers and Dozois was the door guard. Winner could get in if they could explain why they were losers. Alfred Bester got in because his Hugo (the first) was all rusted. Pournelle lost and was invited. He came and said he had won the Campbell award and left. Now the Loser parties are very formal, and are invitation-only. Dozois, who had come late, told a story about Haldeman's brother Jay. They were at a room party, and a man and woman went into the bathroom together. Jay Haldeman had to go to the bathroom, and after an hour could no longer wait. He tried to take care of it outside the window with Dozois and Jack Dann holding his belt but stopped when they noticed live electrical wires below. They left the room knocked on a random hotel room and asked to use the bathroom in the middle of the night. Dozois talked about the time Harlan Ellison ran the Young Writers panel. Ellison ran it like the *Queen for a Day* show, where the writers with the best sob story would win a prize. The writers would try to top each other with outrageous stories of deprivations. Resnick once told people at the Cincinnati Fan Group suite that he saw naked people in the pool in order to clear people out and get a seat to read. Roger Sims came back and said he thought Resnick was kidding. Silverberg said he once saw a pool filled with people (shoulder to shoulder) jumping up and down. This was grotesque to Silverberg. At another convention, the skinny dippers did not know the pool had windows to the hotel restaurant. Dozois once narrated a mundane porn film, whose soundtrack was turned down, in science fiction terms. In the 70s, Silverberg and Dozios drove back from a convention to get caught in a massive traffic jam. Dozois in those days had long hair, and was skinny and dressed in the fashion of the times. He stepped out of the car to stretch his legs. People took his picture, since he looked like a hippie. Once at a party, Dozois grabbed a pretzel and cheese noodle and narrated a fight between them like a wrestling match. As time went on he would change party food. The other party goers were fascinated by this, and soon took bets on the winner. Once, at a Midnight Sex panel, Dozios decided to bring props. He went to a local sex shop and bought a wind-up penis and vagina. At the panel, he wound them up and they starting chasing each other, even after they fell off the table. Resnick explained that at the 1968 Worldcon, the Society for Creative Anachronism decided to hold a duel demonstration outside. While this was going on, the maids open

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# Chicon 7



Pictures clockwise starting upper left  
Going to the Adler Planetarium ,  
Joe and Gay Haldeman at the "Create a Crater" exhibit  
Dr. Edwin S. Strauss aka Filthy Pierre at the piano,  
At the Dance



(Continued from page 12)

all the doors to air the rooms. During the duel, a wasp nest was knocked over and the wasps went into the rooms. As a result, Resnick left the convention earlier than planned. Silverberg was the Hugo toastmaster at the same convention. The Ceremony was 5 hours long. It had started with a long speech by the Guest of Honor, Philip Jose Farmer. Farmer talked for an hour and a half. When he stopped for a drink he got a standing ovation. The audience hoped this would end the speech, which it did. Then dressed as Henry VIII, writer Randall Garrett sang a very long song. Ellison presented an award that Silverberg was up for, and this also drew out the ceremony. When Ellison and Larry Niven was up for an award, they made a bet on who would win. They both got on stage and gave the stake to Silverberg. Ellison won, leaving Niven almost in tears. One of the presenters fell off the dais. After the ceremony, Silverberg desperately tried to get to the bathroom but was stopped by well-meaning convention goers. Dozois remembered the time a speaker at the Nebula Weekend gave a 2-hour speech. As the speech went on, writer Michael Swanwick made a flag of surrender. Silverberg recalled at another Nebula Weekend, there was a bungi site near the venue. A bunch of pros asked Dozois how much money it would take to get him to bungi jump. Dozois said \$1,000 and the pros tried to get the money together, but by the time they were finished, Dozois had left. Dozois got out of another Nebula speech by saying his beeper went off, when he did not have a beeper. Resnick described the 1968 Worldcon Masquerade. There was no stage, so they got tables and set them around the banquet room, so the costumers could walk all around the room and show their costumes. Unfortunately, some of them fell off the tables during the presentation. There were also some rock bands playing at the time, which were too loud for the audience. The con tried to send them home with their fee but they were having such a good time they played for free. Haldeman explained the lime jello story. Years ago a friend told him about a having a fantasy about swimming in lime jello with beautiful women. Somehow, people found out about this and thought this was Haldeman's desire. At a con, they filled Haldeman's hotel room bathtub with lime jello and kept him distracted until it settled. When Haldeman finally saw it, he was confused. Then two nubile naked women showed up and he said "well, now it seems like a good idea". The panelists were asked to end the panel with a story each. Silverberg now understands why he does not feel the same awe now that he had at seeing pros in 1953. Haldeman was stunned at winning his first Hugo, and felt out of place. Resnick told about the time Worldcon shared its hotel with bagpipers and it was the first time fans complained that the mundanes were too loud. Martin said it was interesting when conventions were shared with student nurses and barber-shop quartet conventions. He also explained how he met his future wife Parris. He was at convention where the hotel had a sauna. He and other pros decided to liberate the sauna from gender restrictions. So men and women went to the same sauna. Parris came in and said in her best W.C. Fields imitation, "Ahh, a room of naked pros." Years later they were invited to party where couples had to dress as they were when they first met. Dozois rememberd there was a convention where the hotel was shared with the Scientologists. A Scientologist tried to talk to L.

Sprague de Camp about the church. De Camp said he knew L. Ron Hubbard, Scientology's founder, when he was small-time crook.

Sy Liebergot explored **Ethics in Engineering**. I came late, so I missed the first part of the talk. Liebergot was discussing the *Challenger* accident. The *Challenger's* crew compartment was intact during the explosion. It hit the water at 200 G (1G is one force of gravity). He showed pictures which showed the compartment before impact. There was pressure on NASA to meet launch schedules. Special waivers were used to approve launch status. The contractor who tried to stop the launch was ignored, and went on to tech engineering ethics. A friend of Liebergot said "A spacecraft will talk to you, and when it does you better listen." Liebergot felt people were not listening since there were problems noted in the solid rocket boosters which caused the explosion. Liebergot played some footage from the *Columbia* accident. A piece of insulating foam broke from the external tank during launch. It turned to powder but that powder hit the left wing at 545 miles per hour. No one wanted to check the wing for damage. Some said it was physically impossible. Liebergot said they could have used satellites or used astronauts duct-taped to robot arm as Story Musgrave suggested to inspect the wing. Had they found the damage, they could have conserved resources until a rescue ship arrived, since there was no way of fixing the problem. The engineers suspected there was a problem, but they were shut down by the flight director. Pressure to achieve mission goals superseded safety concerns. When Liebergot was on the safety board for the Spacelab module of the shuttle, he had the Spacelab rewired because it did not meet the safety requirements. NASA needs to put the proper emphasis on safety and not to shut people down when they have serious safety concerns.

There were 27 entries in the Masquerade. It was hosted by Jan Howard Finder, aka Wombat. The presentation judges were John Hertz, Bethany S. Padron and Jon Stopa. Sharon Bass and Ita Vandebrook won Most Humorous, Novice for *Dragon Rider of Pern*. Mark Cloud won Best in Class, Novice for *Folken Fanel*. Michelle Mussoni won Best Re-Creation, Journeyman for *Sakura Hime from Tsubasa*. Margaret Gentile won Best Original, Journey for *Madame M's Marvelous Machine*. Charles, Kendra, and Paul Wayman won for Best in Class, Master for *Leather Sole Air Pirates* (not pictured). Aurora Celeste won Best in Show for both Presentation and Workmanship for *Lady of the Lake*.

Aurora Celeste (moderator), C.D. Covington, publius, and I looked at **Anime: Then and Now**. We discussed our involvement with anime and anime fandom. The panel members covered anime history from the late 70s till now. I have watched anime since the late 70s. Celeste is on staff for an anime convention. Covington stopped going to anime conventions for a while due to the conventions lower demographics. Publius was at A-Kon, the first American anime convention. The gap between traditional fandom and anime fandom was examined. The panel thought it was a combination of old fannish prejudices with media, the perception of anime, the younger crowd at anime conventions and the fact there is not as much science fiction anime coming out these days. The panel was reminded of the bad old days where you had to have friend in Japan to get tapes of new shows. The exchange could take a long time. The panel

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# Chicon 7 Masquerade



Pictures clockwise starting upper left:  
Presentation judge Bethany S. Padron,  
Dragon Rider of Pern,  
Folken Fanel and friends,  
Sakura Hime,  
Mad Madame M's Marvelous Machine,  
Lady in the Lake



(Continued from page 14)

recommended some anime to the audience. I recommended Mamoru Hosada's *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*, and *Summer Wars*.

John Scalzi interviewed Astronaut Guest of Honor Story Musgrave. Scalzi gave a quick biography of Musgrave. Musgrave enlisted in the Marines around the time of the Korean War. He was a plane mechanic. Since then he has piloted 160 types of aircraft, and is a master parachutist. He has 7 graduate degrees, 20 honorary doctorates. He has gone into space 6 times and flown on each of the 5 space shuttle. He operates 3 companies and lives in Orlando, Florida. Musgrave said he had a rough childhood with alcoholism, in the family. There were also a lot of suicides in his family. He learned to rely on himself at an early age. He has no defining moments. Everything that happened to him in the past has brought him to the present: there is no event which stands out. He grew up on a 500 acre farm. Musgrave would go out into the woods for hours. He learned to appreciate nature. In the winter he would go out after his mother bundled him up. He realized his mother knew what she was doing, since he could not go to the bathroom, so he would be back from the woods within an hour and a half. Scalzi asked how astronauts urinate in space. Musgrave says that all space ships are designed with up and down for orientation. The bathrooms use an air flow to simulate gravity. He decided to go and urinate upside down. One has to surrender themselves to zero gravity, and become part of it rather than to fight or conquer it. Scalzi asked about his time in the Marines. Enlisting in the Marines was tough, but Musgrave learned how to be a plane mechanic. He later learned how to fly after his time in the Marines. Scalzi asked what Musgrave's favorite airplanes are. Musgrave likes gliders, the supersonic T-38, and the P-13. He has done 800 free-fall parachute jumps and 100 experimental jumps. After the Marines, he went to college on the GI Bill and a wrestling scholarship. Musgrave used some of his extra money to buy a Corvette. His brother bought a Porsche, and they were soon racing each other. One day they got caught by a police officer. The officer told them in a respectful way that racing was not a good idea and they both stopped. Musgrave has 30 pieces of heavy machinery on his farm. He told the story of how he drove a tractor into a river. He was OK, but the tractor was underwater and out of sight. His father blamed the tractor's disappearance on the farm hands. Musgrave had to figure out a way to show where tractor was while not getting caught. He took a chain and tied the lawn furniture to the tractor so his father could find it. The past prepares one for the future, he thinks. He feels when he sees an opportunity, he puts his foot in the door. His only regret is not being a ski jumper. Musgrave worked on the Hubble for 37 years. He started when it was just an idea and looked after every detail. The one thing he did not anticipate was NASA placing the wrong mirror on the Hubble, but he helped fix that. He was asked about the end of the Shuttle program. Musgrave said it was time but they should have had something to replace it with, since it supports the International Space Station. A good spaceflight is like art. There is a lot of choreography. Musgrave saw this while performing 25 missions at Mission Control in Huston. Musgrave really liked the works of Olaf Stapledon. Scalzi sees a lot of the Heinlein "can-do" attitude in Musgrave. Musgrave was asked about the greatest

achievement in spaceflight. He said the *Voyager* mission was very important and now those probes are leaving the solar system. Landing on the Moon and the recent Mars landing were also important. An audience member asked Musgrave what it was like to return to gravity. Musgrave said it took 3 or 4 days to recover the first time but it was quicker after his other flights.

Mike Glycer, Laurie Mann, and Steven Silver remembered those who had passed on in **Science Fiction in Memoriam**. All three follow the death notices for fanzines and websites. Some of those discussed included: Ray Bradbury, Harry Harrison, Anne McCaffrey, Leo Dillion, Darrel K. Sweet, Joanna Russ, Rusty Haevlin, Ray Beam, Josepha Sherman, Jay Kay Klien, Ralph McQuarrie, Neil Armstrong, Sakyo Komatsu, Sally Ride, Moebius, John Christopher, William Windom, Mary Tamm and Cliff Roberston. I mentioned Noburo Ishiguro, the director of *Space Battleship Yamato*, *Super Dimensional Fortress Macross* and other science fiction anime. Former Orlando Area Science Fiction (OASFiS) member Dick Spelman was remembered. He was a collector, dealer, and served on the board of a few large conventions. He donated his book collection to OASFiS. There was a special "In Memoriam" part of the Hugo Award Ceremony.

The Hugo Ceremony was opened by Hugo Ceremony head Susan DiGuardiola. She talked about going to her first Worldcon in Chicago as a teenager and being in awe at the Hugo Ceremony. That teenager could not have imagined years later that she would be running the ceremony. She introduced John Scalzi, who would be presenting all the Hugos, with the exception of the Short Story Award (Scalzi was a nominee) which was presented by Gardner Dozois. Scalzi welcomed the nominees, the fans, and those watching at Dragoncon in Atlanta. Scalzi described the variety reflected in the nominated works and authors, and mentioned those nominees who had multiple nominations like Chris Garcia, James Bacon, Paul Cornell, Catherynne Valente, and Ken Liu. He mentioned that Seanan McGuire was nominated 17,000 times under the names of Seanan McGuire, Mira Grant, Neil Gaiman, and George R.R. Martin. (McGuire was nominated 4 times, a record, under two names). The Big Heart was then awarded to Juanita Coulson by David Kyle. The In Memoriam film followed, which showed those writers, artists, actors, fans and others who had died this past year. Scalzi then discussed the 5 stages of Hugo:

1. Elation – "Holy crap I am nominated for a Hugo."
2. Intimidation – "Holy crap, look what is also nominated in my category."
3. Bargaining – "God, please let me win this one Hugo."
4. Depression – "I won't win. My story is crap...I am going to eat this tub of frosting."
5. Nervousness – "What if win. What if I don't win. What if the competition turns into a Hunger Games-like contest, and my hands are still sticky from the frosting."

Scalzi told the nominees that they have a right to be here, enjoy the moment, and no matter what happens, the work will stand. The most notable acceptance speech was from Novel-winner Jo

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# Chicon 7 Masquerade



Pictures clockwise starting upper left:  
Sally from a *A Nightmare Before Christmas*  
Sith Inquisitor,  
Prince Zuko of the Fire,  
Great Houses of Westeros  
Pleased to Meet You



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Walton for *Among Others*. The novel is about a teenage girl who deals with the fantastic challenges she faces by reading science fiction and fantasy. Walton was amazed by the response the novel had gotten. A friend pointed out to her that if she wrote a love letter to fandom she should have expected a response. The winners stayed for pictures after the ceremonies.

John Coker, Kent Nebergall, and Gary K. Wolfe held the **Ray Bradbury Memorial**. Nebergall was influenced by Bradbury. He read a blog entry aloud he wrote about Bradbury's death. It discussed he met Bradbury at a talk. It was a very inspiring talk. Nebergall recommended the Bradbury novel, *Let's All Kill Constance*, which was a parody of Bradbury's life in Los Angeles. Bradbury creates a character based on himself in the book referred to as the Martian. Nebergall said Bradbury wanted to be remembered as a magician of ideas. Wolfe talked about the Bradbury literary tribute anthology *Shadow Shines*, which included writers like Neil Gaiman and Margaret Atwood. Wolfe noted that many discovered Bradbury in their teen years. He also note that President Obama made a statement about Bradbury's death. No American President since John F. Kennedy has ever made a statement for a writer's death (Kennedy did one for Ernest Hemingway). Bradbury went to the Chicago World's Fair in 1933 with 4 fans. There, Bradbury got to see a dinosaur at a ride. Bradbury was exuberant and generous. Coker said that this day was the anniversary of young Bradbury meeting Mr. Electrico, a carnival performer. This meeting would affect Bradbury for the rest of his life. Mr. Electrico shocked Bradbury and said "Live Forever". Bradbury would late come back to the carnival on his own and met the rest of Carnival performers. Coker wrote and recited a poem about the incident. Nebergall announced the place where Curiosity landed on Mars was now named Bradbury Landing. Wolfe met Bradbury at the American Bookseller Association (ABA) 20 years ago. He was amazed at his memory. He said Bradbury remembered a letter Wolfe wrote to him while he was in college. Coker said that Bradbury remembered birth. Coker recalled Bradbury's trip to the first Worldcon in 1939. He took buses from Los Angeles to New York. Bradbury took some paintings by Hannes Bok, then unknown, to sell in New York. Julius Schwartz, then a literary agent, sold Bradbury's early work to *Weird Tales*. Schwartz told Bradbury of his first sale in person on a trip to LA. Bradbury got the news on his birthday. Bradbury would make another bus trip to New York, where he would sell *The Martian Chronicles* and *The Illustrated Man*. He had no books to sell, but at the encouragement of an editor, he was able to collect a bunch of short stories around a common idea. Each book sold for \$750 and Bradbury was able to return to Los Angeles on train. Bradbury recommends that one surround oneself with what one loves. Wolfe said most people remembered when they first found Bradbury. An audience member heard a story of Bradbury finding a tin can he buried as child, and there was note inside of it saying "Remember Me." Coker heard a similar story with the can in a tree. Wolfe thought **October Country** to be Bradbury's best book. It was a creepy book which showed Bradbury's dark side. Bradbury was a professional optimist for most of his life. A Chinese writer explained the efforts of translating Bradbury into Chinese. A Japanese fan stated Bradbury was also very popular in his

country. He noted that Gojiro (aka Godzilla) destroyed a lighthouse which may have been a homage to Bradbury's "The Foghorn". Another audience member talked about how Bradbury would show up to the opening night of his own plays. He was very approachable. Coker said Bradbury was a futurist in all senses of the word. Bradbury helped design the American Pavilion at the 1964 World's Fair, and did the narration for the Spaceship Earth ride at EPCOT.

C.D. Covington and I gave a presentation on the anime *Legend of the Galactic Heroes*. We explained the background, plot, characters and themes of the show. *Legend of the Galactic Heroes* is a space opera set in the far future depicting the conflict between the Galactic Empire and the democratic Free Planet Alliance. The main characters for each side are Admirals Reinhard von Lohengramm (Empire) and Weng-Li Yang (Free Planet Alliance). We showed clips which depicted the main characters, and ground and space combat. Neither the show, nor the books the show was based on, are available in English. There is a slim hope that there be releases of each sometime in the future.

A very hoarse Dave McCarty started closing ceremonies with a slide show from pictures from the convention. The background music was Johnny Cash singing "I Want To Be a Flying Monkey", and some jazz tunes. McCarty thanked all the Guests of Honor. He gave toastmaster John Scalzi a giant mallet to be a physical representation of the Mallet of Loving Correction. (this is a term used by Scalzi to keep those who post on his blog using good manners). McCarty thanked Colin Harris for being the head of the committee. Then he had a moment of silence for Ken Hunt, head of logistics, who died before the convention. He then thanked Lisa Hunter and her team, who took over for Hunt. Helen Montgomery announced the party awards, a tradition of the local convention Capricorn. The winners won a shot glass with the Chicon 7 insignia.

Best Food – London in 2014

Best Themed-Commonwealth Party  
Committee Choice-Boston in 2020

Best Overall Party-Barfleet

The children of the Chicon 7 programming gave McCarty a homemade Captain America shield with all their names signed on it. McCarty thanked the Flying Monkees, staff, volunteers and his family. He then closed Chicon 7 with the gavel. The LoneStarCon 3, next year's Worldcon, team made a presentation of the city San Antonio and the convention facilities. They thanked the Chicon 7 team and hope to match their success next year. They hope the see the fans next year in Texas.

There are only two negative things to say about the convention. First, there were some problems with handicap accessibility to elevators. This made it hard to get to some of the smaller panel rooms. The con did apologize for these difficulties on the website after the convention. And people watching the Hugo Ceremonies on UStream were shocked that the feed was cut off during Neil Gaiman's acceptance speech. It turns out when the clips for the Hugo nominees in the dramatic categories were shown, the UStream system thought it was a copyright violation. There was an uproar on the Internet. The president of UStream apologized for the interruption and promised a reshewing for the following week.

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There was a lot going on during the convention. There was a nice reception at the Adler Planetarium. Con goers were bus to and from the planetarium. There was food, and it was great place to meet friends. The planetarium was also near one of the beaches on Lake Michigan. South Florida writer and OASIS guest Adam-Troy Castro did a reading and a book launch for his new series, *Gustav Gloom*, at a local bookstore. There was a dance on Friday night. Catherine Asaro performed part of her rock opera based on her novel, *A Distant Star*. Agent Guest of Honor Jane Frank gave a docent tour of the art show.

As always, there are people who helped make Worldcon a great experience. Special thanks to Patricia Russell for helping me out with editing this report. Thanks to Chris Barkley, Juli

Hanslip, and the rest of the Press Office team for running a great Press Room and letting me do some work in it. Thanks to the members of OASFiS, SFSFS, Stone Hill and WSFA who came. Thanks to the usual suspects, Worldcon attendees who always make the convention fun, which includes Melanie Herz, Michael Taylor, Liz Zitzow and Chris Garcia. Thanks to the Exotics, my 1999 Australian tour group: it is always great to see you guys. Thanks to Michael Hinman, who allowed me to cover the Hugos for his website *Airlock Alpha*. Thanks to the people who read my blog entries on my trip. And thanks always to Dave Plesic. Thanks to my Dad and my cousin Anna for letting me show you a glimpse of our little community. See you all next year in San Antonio.

## Chicon 7



Pictures clockwise starting upper left:  
 Catherine Asaro performing *A Distant Star*  
 Neil Gaiman and George R.R. Martin after the  
 Hugo Ceremony  
 Some goof holding *Locus* Hugo,  
 John Scalzi at Closing Ceremony with his Mallet  
 of Loving Correction





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**Seanan McGuire**

**October Daye and InCryptid series**

Convention Memberships:

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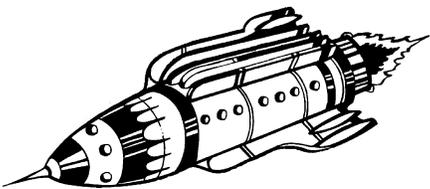
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