

# OASFiS SEVEN HORIZON

Volume 30 Number 6 Issue 359

November 2017

## A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

We ended the month on a bit of downer on the postponement of OASiS 30. I hope this give us a chance to strengthen the con.

Necronomicon was this month. It was fun. My team Yellow is the New Banana won the Trivia Contest. I sold some books, saw some costumes, did some panels. The new location was great! It was a lot of fun!

I spent a day at Spooky Empire. I saw some friends, went to panels, saw a film and checked out the dealers room.

As always I am willing to take any submissions.  
Next month I have my Worldcon report.

## Events

### Rangerstop's Superhero Toy and Comic Con 5

November 3-5

Holiday Inn & Suites at Universal Orlando  
5905 South Kirkman Road  
Orlando, Florida 32819

Guest: Austin St. John (actor)  
David Yost (actor)  
Johnny Yong Bosch (actor)  
Jason Narvy (actor)

And many more, most other Power Rangers  
\$60 for the weekend, \$20 for Fri & Sun, \$25 for Sat  
[www.rangerstop.com](http://www.rangerstop.com)

### Ultracon

November 4-5

Universal Palms Hotel  
4900 Powerline Road,  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 33309

Guest: Larry Hama (writer of 80s *GI Joe* comic)  
\$10 admission  
[ultraconofsouthflorida.com](http://ultraconofsouthflorida.com)

## BIRTHDAYS

Dave Ratti – Nov. 24



### Daytona Comic Con

November 5

Embry-Riddle ICI Center  
601 S. Clyde Morris Blvd.  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Guests: Budd Root (comic writer/artist)  
John Nadeau (*Star Wars* artist)  
Javier Lugo (comic artist)  
John D. Wynkoop (independent film maker)  
and others

\$8 at the door  
[daytonabeachcomicconvention.com](http://daytonabeachcomicconvention.com)

### Nakamacon

November 10-12

Sugar Sands and Suites  
20723 Front Beach Rd.  
Panama City Beach, FL 32413  
Gathering of *One Piece* fans  
Free but donations are encouraged  
[nakamacon.org](http://nakamacon.org)

### The Giving Back Toy and Comic Con

November 11

Lake Ridge Village Club  
10630 Larissa Street  
Orlando, FL 32821  
All ticket sales goes to Kids Beating Cancer  
\$5 admission

### Orlando Nerd Fest

November 4-5

The Geek Easy (at A Comic Shop)  
114 S. Semoran Blvd  
Winter Park, FL 32792  
Guest: Christopher Khayman Lee (actor)  
Sci-Fried (band)  
Marc with a C Trio  
\$10 pre con, \$12 at the door  
[orlandonerdfest.com](http://orlandonerdfest.com)

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## November OASFIS Calendar

### **OASFIS Business Meeting**

Sunday, November 12, 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 **We Are Legion (We Are Bob)** by Dennis E. Taylor

### **Sci Fi Light**

TBD (check website) . .

To contact for more info:

OASFIS Business Meeting      407-376-7359

(Continued from page 1)

#### Steampunk Day

November 5

Disney Springs

1486 Buena Vista Drive

Orlando, FL 32830

[www.steampunkdayorlando.com/disneysprings](http://www.steampunkdayorlando.com/disneysprings)

#### Miami Book Fair

November 12-19 (street fair November 18-20)

Membership rates varies, check website

Notable Guests: Mercedes Lackey

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

#### Free Play Florida

November 17-19

Doubletree Sea World

10100 International Drive

Orlando, FL 32821

Guests: Billy Mitchell (Donkey Kong champion)

Walter Day (SF & arcade historian)

and others

\$60 for the weekend, \$25 for Fri & Sun, 30 for Sat

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

#### Southwest Florida Comic Con

November 18

Holiday Inn—Airport Town Center

9931 Interstate Commerce Dr

Fort Myers, FL 33913

Guests: Fabian Nicieza (comic writer)

Mark Bagley (comic writer)

James O'Barr (comic writer/artist)

And others

\$20 admission

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

#### Clermont Comic Con

November 19

Clermont Performing Arts Center

3700 S. Highway 27

Clermont, FL 34711

Guests: Bob Layton (comic writer/artist)

Rob Hunter (comic artist)

Matt Santorelli (comic artist)

And others

\$12 admission

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

## OASFIS People

Steve Cole

[stevepcole@hotmail.com](mailto:stevepcole@hotmail.com)

Susan Cole

407-275-5211

[sacole@mindspring.com](mailto:sacole@mindspring.com)

407-328-9565

[adykeman@bellsouth.net](mailto:adykeman@bellsouth.net)

352 241 0670

[stevegrant@embarqmail.com](mailto:stevegrant@embarqmail.com)

mike-sf@webbedfeet.com

407-282-2468

[dratti@eudoramail.com](mailto:dratti@eudoramail.com)

407-823-8715

[sanmiguel@earthlink.net](mailto:sanmiguel@earthlink.net)

[pwheeler222@netzero.net](mailto:pwheeler222@netzero.net)

Juan Sanmiguel

Patricia Wheeler

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

Orlando Con

November 24-25

Hilton Orlando Buena Vista Palace

1900 Buena Vista Dr,

Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

Guests: Pearl Mackie (Bill Potts, *Doctor Who*)

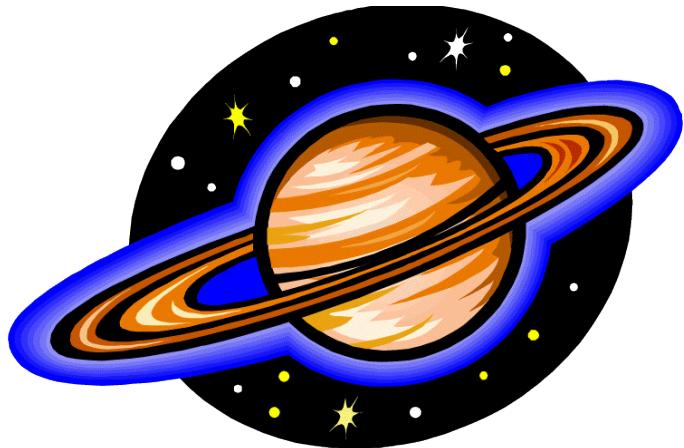
Eve Myles (Gwen Cooper, *Torchwood*)

Gareth David-Lloyd (Ianto Jones, *Torchwood*)

And others

\$62.20 admission for three days

[orlandocon.com](http://orlandocon.com)



## OASFIS Meeting

Date: 10-8-2017

Officers: Patty Russell, Juan Sanmiguel, Peggy Stubblefield  
Members: Steve Cole, Arthur Dykeman,

Everyone in the club got through Irma without major problems. Juan will see Owl Goingback at the Spooky Empire convention this month, and ask him how he weathered it Necronomicon is also happening this month. Juan and several other members will be attending that too. Juan will have an Oasis dealer's table there.

Our treasurer, Peggy, found that, due to possible issues from previous years, the Club will need to skip having a convention in 2018, but plans an even-better convention in 2019. These issues should be resolved in a few months. Juan will prepare a press release to let the fans know no Oasis Convention will happen in 2018, and Michael will email the announcement to the club fanbase. Juan is also looking into a United Arts grant for the convention. Meanwhile, **all ideas for Club fundraisers** are welcome.

Due to popular demand, and at the request of the president, Club meetings will be held back at the Orange County downtown library starting in January, 2018. Juan has found a backer for the \$20/meeting room charge. Free media ads and Facebook posts should help with attendance, and Michael has other publicity ideas. Those present reminisced about when club meetings were held at SciFi City, when it was on Karin Rd, especially about the one that coincided with a cat show.

Officer nominations will be accepted the next Club meeting. Juan offered to hold the Oasfis Christmas Party at his house, in lieu of the December Club meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Peggy also will look into Café Trastevere as a more-central location.

Culture Consumed: Peggy enjoyed the new Spider-Man movie, and Arthur did too, especially Michael Keaton's take on his role. It is good to have a Spider-Man that can lift ½ a building again, and an M.J. who is nosy, as in the original comic books.

Peggy also saw *Blade Runner 2049*. She commented that the director understood the premise of the first film, and that this film was believable. As for the movie *It*, she said it was a popcorn tosser, but didn't cover some of the key plot points Stephen King had in the book, like the magical abilities each of the key kids possessed that allowed them to finally defeat the creature (not being afraid of it wasn't enough, in the book). This movie included scary bits from the book that the miniseries starring Tim Curry didn't have, though.

Lastly, Peggy saw the first episode of the new *Star Trek* incarnation, *Discovery*. The general consensus (as most at the meeting had seen it) is that, since the subject is the Klingon War, and it is a CBS Access show (by subscription only), this will allow it to have more graphic violence than past *Star Trek* franchises, which may appeal to Millennials. The lighting and color palette are different from past *Star Trek* shows as well, and this one is not about "boldly going where no man has gone

before." Since the first two episodes are flashbacks NOT set on the actual ship Discovery, it is hard to tell where the series will go.

Arthur has seen and liked the first episodes of *Orville*, a comedic homage to Star Trek-like by Seth McFarland, *Family Guy* creator (one episode is even directed by Jonathan Frakes). Juan mentioned that Seth had always loved the layout of the Next Generation set. Though the creator isn't afraid to include low-brow humor, much of the comedy is subtle, and thoughtful commentary in thorny issues is evident, too.

Juan summarized several books he enjoyed: *Walkaway* by Cory Doctorow, *House of Binding Thorns* by Aliette de Bodard, *Empire Games* by Charles Stross, *Born* by Jeff VanderMeer, and *New York 2140* by Kim S. Robinson. Steve mentioned *Sparrow* by May Doria Russell as "the opposite of the Sad Puppy books." In it, the SETI project finally yields fruit at Aricibo, Puerto Rico, and the Jesuit priests run the show. Steve continued his recommended reading list with *Arabella of Mars* by David D. Levine, the 2017 Andre Norton prize winner, and on the short list for a Nebula; and *Bedlam Stacks* by Natasha Pulley, which was as good as *Watchmaker*. Arthur recommended the Rick and Morty cartoon show. Steve mentioned the new Inhumans tv series. He had to stream the first episode again to see the 15 minutes missing due to Irma weather alerts, when it was broadcast in September. It is about beings who live on the moon, and has already addressed the Columbus Day controversy. If it is anything like *Agents of SHIELD* or Marvel, he'll like it. Steve also thinks he'll like the *Black Mirror*, an anthology television series, since, whether he likes each episode or not, he finds he has to watch it to the end.

Book Discussion: *Soul Summoner* by Elicia Hyder. Peggy listened to the book on CD, and was compelled by the accent of the voice actor as well as the urban fiction storyline. She felt the inflection of the actor made a difference in the meaning. Sloan Jordan, the principal character, can "read" people, and to some extent, call their souls to her, due to her somewhat divine heritage. Aspects of addiction are dealt with well here. At first, Peggy felt she was no Buffy the Vampire Slayer – just a Southern wimp. But she's heard all 4 books, and enjoyed them. Juan felt the main character is strong, and that this is a page-turner. The book for next month's meeting discussion: *We Are Legion (We Are Bob)* by Dennis E. Taylor.

Meeting adjourned around 3:30PM

## NASFIC 2017

NASFIC 2017, the 12<sup>th</sup> North American Science Fiction Convention, was held on July 6-9, 2017 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The San Juan Sheraton was the convention hotel. Tobias Buckell, Daína Chaviano, Brother Guy Consolmango Society of Jesus (SJ), Javier Grillo-Marxuch, Paula Smith, and George Perez were the Guests of Honor. Perez was not able to attend due to health reasons. Pablo M.A. Vazquez III was the convention chair.

The hotel was great. It was close to drive or even walk to old San Juan and the beach. All the con events were on the same floor. There were no problems with the facilities.

Opening Ceremonies was brief. The local Starfleet chapter did a flag ceremony to start the event. Convention chair Pablo Vazquez introduced the Guests of Honor. George Perez recorded a message for the convention and would do a guest of honor presentation via phone. Vazquez also gave the guest of honor gifts. There was an ice cream social after the ceremony. Vazquez encouraged the members to go enjoy the social and see the sites in San Juan.

Hugo finalist and co-host of the *Skiffy and Fanty Show* (podcast) Shaun Duke interviewed Tobias Buckell. Buckell grew up in Grenada and the U.S. Virgin Islands. His family, particularly his English grandfather, had experience with boats. His mother lived in New Zealand before coming to the Caribbean. Buckell thought he would buy a boat, take out tourists on snorkeling trips, and write in his spare time. Around his senior in high school, Buckell moved to Akron, OH with his step-father. Buckell was apprehensive at first living on the mainland given his experience with tourists. Buckell went to college in Ohio and bought a home there. He joins fellow writers John Scalzi and Kameron Hurley who have made Ohio their home. The cost of living there makes it possible for freelance writers to live there. Buckell always wanted to be a writer and was published at a young age. He starting submitting to publishers in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. He saw a copy of *Writers of the Future* and used the information in the book to submit his work. The book helped him research the market. Buckell interests are how power and politics work. After writing a space opera he wrote an eco-thriller, *Arctic Rising*. It involved discovering a new source of power in the Arctic and the consequences of that. His most personal novel is *Hurricane Fever*. It has a former

Caribbean spy investigating the death of a friend. Buckell went on to write books based on the Halo game. Buckell bought an Xbox to play the game. After hours of game play, he submitted an idea to the editor of the novel range. They liked it and he got the job. Buckell would write 2 Halo novels and they were a great success. Buckell is working on a new novel with Paolo Bacigalupi. It is a fantasy novel where the use of magic results in serious consequences. The collaboration is a new and fun experience. It helped him work out his ideas and made him a better world builder. His approach to deadlines is to figure the amount of work needed for a project and break it down to manageable segments. These segments can be words, pages, or hours. Buckell tends to works in bursts. He tries different methods when working on projects. He works on one thing at a time and tracks his progress on his blog and spreadsheet. Buckell tries to see if there are times of the day when he is more creative. His word count went down due starting a family and dealing with a heart issue. Now that his children are older and the heart problem is fixed, Buckell's production has gone up. He is also writing a story a month for his Patreon supporters.

Brother Guy Consolmagno SJ explained [Life and Work in a Real Monarchy](#). A discussion at the 1995 Worldcon on living in medieval structures inspired this talk. Consolmagno works in a medieval world. The Pope appointed him to lead the Vatican Observatory. Consolmagno showed a film presenting the history of the Vatican Observatory. In 2004, the observatory was in a building built in 1632. Buildings this old are in good shape, but need a lot of maintenance. Consolmagno's office was once above the Papal residence so he could say he was above the Pope. The Pope and several others in Vatican City have noticed Consolmagno's MIT ring. Some think it is a bishop's ring and try to kiss it. When people find out what the ring is they are more impressed since bishops are very common in Rome and Vatican City. Consolmagno made an uncredited appearance in *The DaVinci Code* (novel). While reading the passage he appeared in, Consolmagno showed the actual places described in the novel. He then went to explain the Vatican bureaucracy. There are two chains of command, one for the church and the other for Vatican City state. The Pope is the head of both. The Ambassadors at the Papal Nuncios around the world come from the church side. Consolmagno discussed what he learned from working in this world. Old

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# Necronomicon 2017



left to right starting from the top row:

Brian Downes, Timothy Zahn, Shana Swendson, Thomas Macheski, and Daisy Farnum for *Star Wars* panel.

Necronomicon 2017 Trivia winning team—Yellow is the New Banana: Link, Daisy Farnum, Kevin, Juan Sanmiguel, Masquerade Best in Show: Ghostbuster, Furiosa from *Mad Max: Fury Road*,

Best Group Costume: Steampunk Spy vs. Spy, a group of Villagers from *The Prisoner*



buildings are old, they leak, and need constant repairs. All the modern convivences (electricity, air conditioning, Internet access) all came afterward. The high ceilings in the buildings help with temperature and causes echoes that carries singing better. Because of these building, people learned how to speak to large crowds without a microphone. Books set in fantasy worlds rarely address these issues. They never talk about the logistics of getting water and food to medieval buildings. How the government and economy are setup are important. Italy invented banking and setup a credit system. The reason the Swiss Guard were setup to protect the Pope was because local troops could not be trusted.

Consolmagno explained the Pope's routine. He gets up at 4:00AM. The Pope needs to sign several documents to keep the government running, attend staff meetings, and go to photo opportunities. The Pope is photographed about 100 times a day. Most of the work is done by immediate subordinates and secretaries. The individual Pope's personality can affect the job. John Paul II was an actor and used those skills to interact with people. Benedict was not comfortable with audiences and tended to lecture them. This is not surprising since he was a professor. Though in one on one situations, Benedict demonstrated a wicked sense of humor. Francis is very charismatic and politically sharp. The ability to work with people is important aspect for any leader. Consolmagno thought *The Goblin Emperor* by Katherine Addison explored how power worked in a limited monarchy. The novel showed how important personal connections are to running a government. P.C. Hodgell works also do a good job in this area. Someone asked why the Vatican has an observatory. Consolmagno explained that it shows the Vatican's interest and science and they could not afford a particle accelerator.

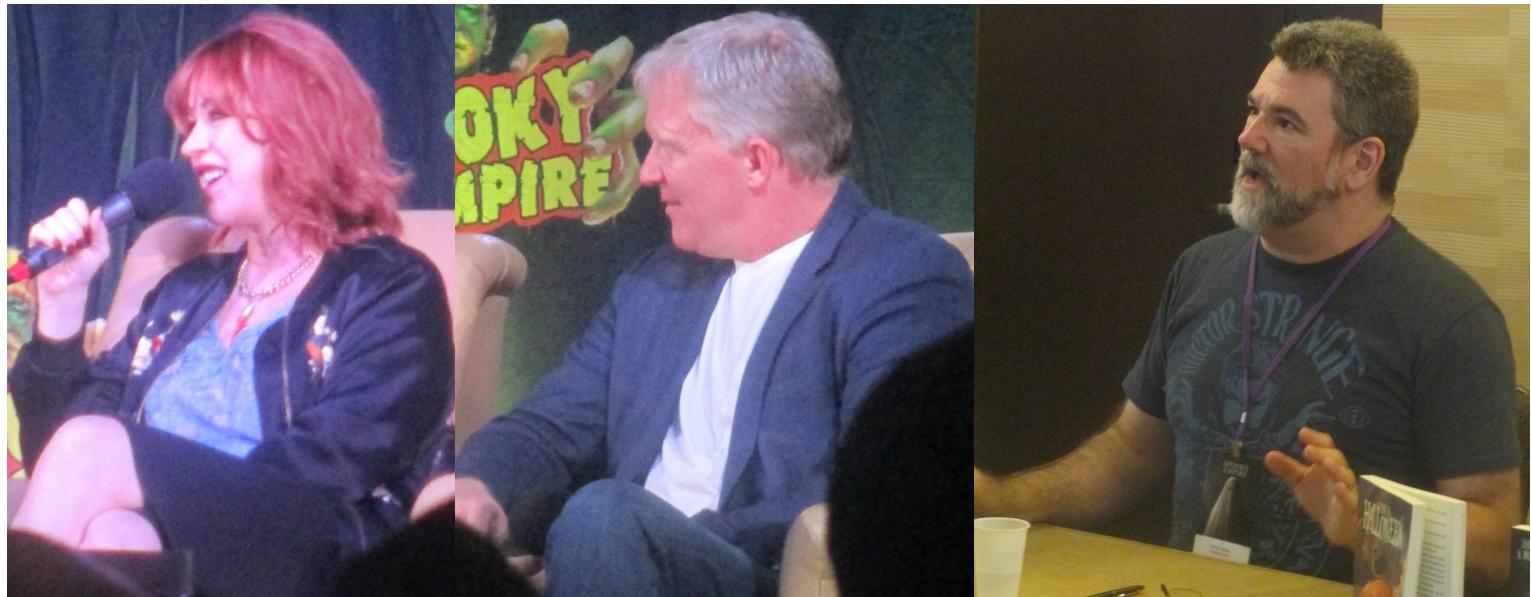
Fanzine Hugo winner James Bacon interviewed Guest of Honor George Perez by phone. Perez read comics since the age of 4 or 5. He likes Batman, Curt Swan's (artist) Superman and the work of Jack Kirby. As a boy, he loved drawing, would sketch on paper bags, and created a character called Rubberbandman. In his teens, Perez went to a convention and got some professional critique of his work. He went to DC and Marvel and they told him he had potential. Perez worked as an assistant to comic artist Rick Buckler. There he learned the business of comics and was noticed by Marvel. He got to do a two-page story for Buckler's character Dethlok. He broke

into the field with no formal training. Perez got to work on the *Fantastic Four*, met Stan Lee, and his career took off. Inkers are very important though Perez admits his early work was not easy to ink. How he penciled caused problems for the inker. Perez pencils were so deep that they left an indentation on the page. He would ink his own work for a while. This gave him an understanding of the inker's job and improved his pencils. In 1981, Perez went to work for DC. He had always wanted to draw the DC characters. He and Marv Wolfman wanted to revive the *Teen Titans*, a comic about a team of younger superheroes. The comic was extremely successful and it showed Perez could sell a comic with his name. He enjoyed working with Wolfman and they are close friends. Their run on the comic is still very popular. Perez and Wolfman would work on the landmark mini-series *Crisis on Infinite Earths*. Perez came up with the title and was determined to draw as many DC characters as possible. He was asked how long did it take to draw the cover of *JLA/Avengers #3* (this cover had every character on the teams). It took Perez three weeks and he pulled a tendon while doing it. Perez had a list of all the characters he wanted to do and checked them off when put them in. It was such a complicated cover Perez did it twice. Bacon reminded him about the credit he got for *Wonder Woman* (film). In the 1980s, *Wonder Woman* was not selling and no one wanted to work on it. Perez had an idea for a story and asked if he could do the book. DC gave Perez the book and the freedom to do what he wanted. He incorporated Greek mythology into the book, created a strong supporting cast, and changed the relationship dynamic between Steve Trevor and Diana. The book was a great success. Perez would meet the granddaughter of William Moulton Marston, the creator of Wonder Woman. She praised his work on the character. Florida fan Judi Bemis asked about his theater work. Perez does the art for the programs of the Moonlight Theater group (based in central Florida). He is a big fan of theater and was impressed by the group. He is currently working on the covers of the trade paperback editions of *Sirens*. Perez wishes he could have attended the convention in person since he likes to meet the fans.

Matthew David Goodwin, editor of *Latino Rising* (an anthology of Latin SF) interviewed Guest of Honor Daína Chaviano. Goodwin said when he was working on his anthology Junot Diaz and Daína Chaviano had to be in the book. Chaviano has had one

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# Spooky Empire 2017



left to right starting from the top row:

Molly Ringwald, Anthony Michael Hall, Christopher Golden

Barnabas Collins from *Dark Shadows*, Gomez, Wednesday, and Morticia Gomez from *The Addams Family* Regency vampires (local fans John Reid and Lyn Adams)



book translated into English, *The Island of Eternal Love*. She started writing at 8 years old. Her parents were both PhDs and were great readers. Chaviano wrote Fairy Tales and Science Fiction during her scholastic career. At 21, her mother encouraged Chaviano to enter a short story contest. She won and the story was published. For her story determines the genre. She is working on a hybrid genre novel. Part of the novel involves the near future with Cuba's first free election. The other part is about the discovery of a 500-year-old manuscript. She is doing a great deal of historical research for this novel. Goodwin asked her about Latin American SF. Chaviano does not consider herself a Latin writer since she does not cover traditional Latin themes. She talked about her novel *The Island of Eternal Love*. It is about a journalist investigating a house in Miami that appears and disappears. This based on story about a house in Coconut Grove, a neighborhood in Miami. The story is also tied to events in 19<sup>th</sup> century in Africa, China, and Spain. The novel structure is clear but complex at the same time. Chaviano uses religion in her work. Her parents were not religious and she received an atheist education in Cuba. She was allowed to go to church but it was difficult. Chaviano did not deal with spirituality until her 20s. She had out of body experience which had euphoric effect. Since then, Chaviano has been exploring spirituality. She wrote a story called "The Annuciator" which is a retelling of Mary meeting Gabriel. Her parents allowed her to read anything except books in a locked cabinet. She secretly read the books in the cabinet. Most of the books were on philosophy, psychology, and sexuality. One of the books she found was *1984*. She found the cover interesting and read it. Chaviano was horrified since the book reflected communist Cuba and realized she was living in a dystopia. She once had a nightmare she was trapped in Cuba. She has written television scripts for children television and some YA. Immigrating to the United States brought new experiences such as using credit cards, ATMs, and supermarkets. She is working on a trilogy and a story on climate change.

Daina Chaviano, Shuan Duke (m), Matthew David Goodwin, and Berto Melendez explored **Latin American SF**. Chaviano explained that Latin American SF is varied due to the different social and political environments of the region. She is impressed with Peruvian Daniel Salvo who mixed Incan culture with SF in his work. Goodwin's Latin American anthology *Latino Rising* has three major sources

Argentina, Cuba, and Mexico. Mexico is vibrant after being stifled by oppressive regimes. Melendez said the Puerto Rican SF is not big and not taught in schools. Chaviano pointed out that SF is not considered literature in the US and not included in mainstream literary awards. In Latin America, Science Fiction is even more marginalized and difficult to publish. Things are changing slowly. Chile is having a SF congress, a first in Latin America. Duke asked about the importance in translation. Chaviano said translation leads to diversity and we learn of mother cultures. Recently translation of Chinese SF has been a huge discovery. Aliette de Bodard, a writer of Vietnamese ancestry, has brought a unique point in view in her work where Asia countries have a powerful role in the future. Melendez agrees but warns one has to be careful meaning is not lost in the translation. Goodwin says SF in the region has the problem of being considered either too lowbrow or highbrow, but has hope that the genre will do well there. Duke asked for recommendations from the panel. Chaviano recommended Daniel Salvo's short story collection *El Primer Peruano en Espacio (The First Peruvian in Space)*. It is available in Spanish for free on Kindle. Melendez met a writer at the Puerto Rico comic con who was working on a SF novel called *Skyracer*. It is about a boy who wants to participate in an air race in Puerto Rico in order to solve his financial problems. Goodwin mentioned Pedro Cadya and Rafael Acevedo from Puerto Rico. Chaviano encourages write SF despite any obstacles. Melendez said that people can use alternate methods like the Internet to get published. The panel also recommended Fabio Fernandez from Brazil.

David Gallaher, David Mafre, Berto Melendez, and Helen Montgomery(m) discussed *A Day in the Life of a Sci-Fi Fan*. Montgomery asked what fannish thing they do every day. Gallaher said he goes on Facebook and interacts with the groups he is interested in. Melendez also uses social media regularly to do research for his podcast. Montgomery does con work regularly through email. Montgomery asked for suggestions for "Must See TV". *The Walking Dead, Kill Joy, Dark Matter, Colony, Orphan Black, Supergirl, The Flash, King of the Nerds, Doctor Who, and Game of Thrones*. Montgomery then asked what the panel was reading. Manfre is a fan of Robert Sawyer. Gallaher was working through the Hugo packet. Melendez just read Chuck Wendig's *Star Wars* novel *Aftermath*. Gallher

(Continued on page 10)

# NASFIC 2017



left to right starting from the top row:

Opening Ceremonies: Daina Chaviano, Paula Smith, Brother Guy Consolmago SJ, Tobias Buckell, Javier Grillo-Marxuch, Pablo Vazquez  
Latin American SF: Shaun Duke, Matthew David Goodwin, Berto Melendez, and Daina Chivano

James Bacon interviewing George Perez, Brother Guy Consolmago SJ explaining Life and Work in a Real Monarchy, Shaun Duke  
Interviewing Tobias Buckell

Lower right corner: The Presenters of the Chesleys. (I do not have notes on all the presenters)



got to see ***Hamilton*** with John W. Campbell finalist Sarah Gailey. He went on to discuss the Bay Area SF Association (BASFA). The group is a good way to keep up with the field. If members are at an out of town con, the nearest body of water is called a bay and a meeting can be held at the con. Several BASFA meetings have been held at Worldcon. BASFA meeting are more social than business meetings. Members having birthdays can be auctioned off to other members. The buying members can make the bought members do anything that the bought members are willing to do. Melendez works on his podcast and likes to play board games after recording. Montgomery works on Capricon and is member of a book club, and participates in a feast. The feast is a group that tries a new restaurant. Popular games among fans are Cards Against Humanity, Dungeons and Dragons and puzzle games. Montgomery asked were fans spend money. Most said cons especially hotel expenses and dealers room buys. Melendez collects SF related vinyl records. Manfre has bought tribbles and skulls of the Alien and Terminator. Montgomery asked what collectibles the panelists are into. Gallaher has a run of *Astounding Science Fiction* from 1947 and a complete set of *Unknown*. He also collects Ace D-series Doubles. Montgomery collects all things Maleficent (from Disney's *Sleeping Beauty*) but only the original not the new version. Audience members collected Yoda figures, Ashoka Tanno merchandise (character from the *Star Wars* animated series), Asimov magazine, autographs, and art. Many fans have more art than wall space. Montgomery ask how do you explain fandom to friends, family, and co-workers. Many people think fans always were costumes. Manfre took his parents to a con and they still did not understand fandom. Melendez has to explain what a podcast is to friends. Montgomery tells her friends it is not a *Star Trek* thing. Some friends get SMOF (Secret Masters of Fandom) and Smurf confused. People do ask her when is George R.R. Martin's next book coming out.

I participated in three panels. Evelyn C. Leeper, Helen Montgomery, Paula Smith and I looked into **FANZINES**. We talked about the history of fanzines and where they are going. I mentioned that Orlando has an active fanzine community and they cover areas beyond Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror. There was **SFF on Television** with Shaun Duke, Emma England, and Javier Grillo-Marxuch. We covered the current state of Science Fiction/ Fantasy on network, cable, and streaming television.

Lee Billings, Tyrell Gephart, Diana Pho, Barb Van Tilburg, and I explored **FIAWOL (Fandom is a Way of Life)**. We looked how fandom affected us and how it has influenced the world.

There was a lot going on. Brother Guy Consolmango took a group of fans on behind the scenes tour of Arecibo. The Golden Ducks, an award for Science Fiction children and teen literature, were presented. As were the Chesleys, the award for fantastic art given by the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists (ASFA). This was a great opportunity to see the great works of art in the field since the works of the finalists were on a slide show during the ceremony. Following the Chesleys was a salsa dance. There was a discussion of the Hugo finalists. Walter Day presented new cards in his Science Fiction Trading cards series. The 1976 Hugo finalist slide show **The Capture** by Robert Aspirin and Phil Foglio was performed. Guest of Honor Paula Smith who acted in the first performance reprised her role. The show depicts SF writers being kidnapped by aliens. After the show there was costume presentation. Con Chair Pablo Vazquez presented gifts to the outstanding con staff members and then there was a dance. There was a tour of Bacardi brewery on Sunday. The convention ended with an afternoon pool party.

As always, there are people who helped make a big convention like this a great experience. Special thanks to Patricia Russell for being my con roommate this year. Thanks to con chair Pablo Vasquez who asked me to handle registration. Thanks to Tammy Coxen, Sharon Sbarsky, and all those who helped me at the registration desk. Thanks to my fellow panelists, I learned a lot from you. To Shaun Duke who was fun dinner companion and great panel moderator. Thanks to team at the con suite who gave me a ride to old San Juan. Thanks to the people who read my blog entries on my trip. Special thanks to the Puerto Ricans I met during this trip, and I hope your all safe and the recovery is fast as it can be. And always thanks to David Plesic.

I hope to see you at the next NASFiC in 2019.



# NASFiC 2017



Top Row: Magneto from Marvel's *X-Men*, Nick Fury and Spider Women from Marvel Comics.

Bottom Row: Cyberpunk type character, a Classic Trek Command Chair and Science Officer



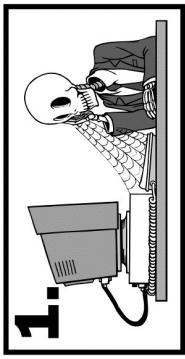
# **There are two ways to be a science fiction and fantasy fan in Florida.**

**Read about the exciting fan activities other people are doing.**



**2.**

**Start doing exciting things yourself, and meet new friends “in the flesh” with OASFIS!**

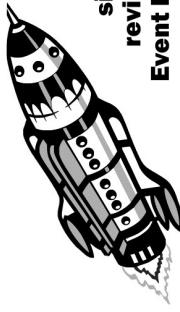


**1.**



We're **OASFIS** - the Orlando Area Science Fiction Society. We enjoy and promote science fiction, fantasy, horror, books, movies, TV series, costuming, gaming - every part of the most imaginative hobby in existence. Of all the conventions in Central Florida, only our **OASIS conventions** are operated *by fans, for fans*, and not for profit...bringing affordable fun that speaks to *your* interests. Bring your unique fan interests to life and share them with Florida's fan community. We work with other fan organizations to bring our mutual passions to life. Visit our monthly meetings...and help shape fandom's future by joining OASFIS. Individual and family memberships are available. If you're tired of just sitting, you're welcome at OASFIS...no bones about it!

**Besides monthly meetings and our OASFIS conventions, read about our special events and activities on our web site! Members can contribute articles, reviews and original fiction to our magazine Event Horizon. We want to hear from you!**



**OASFIS: The Orlando Area Science Fiction Society**  
[www.oasfis.org](http://www.oasfis.org)

OASFIS  
PO Box 323  
Goldenrod, FL 32733-0323

