



WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Preparing to go to Necro. This year I will be the going as a dealer. I will be selling used books. This should be interesting. I should be able to checkout the con at night, compete in the Trivia contest, and see Necro's version of *Wait Wait Don't Tell Me*.

Next month I will write a report of Loncon 3, the 72st World Science Fiction Convention. Happy Halloween.



Birthdays

Patricia Wheeler—October 25
Michael Pilletere—October 26

Events

Mizucon

October 3-5
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Miami Airport & Convention Center
711 N.W. 72nd Avenue,
Miami, Florida, 33126,
\$40 for the weekend at the door
www.mizucon.com

Necronomicon

October 3-5
Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay
2900 Bayport Drive
Tampa, Florida, USA, 33607
\$50 for 3 days at the door
Guest of Honor: Eric Flint
www.necronomicon2014.com

Zombiecon

October 18
Downtown Fort Myers Florida
\$5 admission
zombicon.com

Time Lord Fest

October 19
The Event Factory
7565 W Hillsborough Ave
Tampa, FL 33615
\$25 admission
Checkout Facebook page

Spacecon

October 24-26
Crowne Plaza Melbourne Oceanfront
2605 North Highway A1A
Melbourne, FL
gaming
warhorn.net/events/spacecon-2014

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October OASFiS Calendar

OASFiS Meeting

Sunday, October 12, 1:30 PM, , Brick and Fire Pasta and Pizza Parlor (Downtown Orlando, 1621 South Orange Ave Orlando, Florida 32806). Come and join us. As we discuss the work of Stephen King

SciFi Light

Saturday October 25 6:00 PM, Cask and Larder (565 W. Fairbanks Avenue. Winter Park, FL 32789 ,). Discussion our favorite Halloween books. For more info contact Steve Grant

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

OASFiS People

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Juan Sanmiguel	407-823-8715 sanmiguel@earthlink.net
Patricia Wheeler	407-832-1428 pwheeler11@cfl.rr.com

Ultimate Horror Weekend

October 24-26
Doubletree by Hilton at Universal
5780 Major Blvd
Orlando, FL 32819
Guests: David Giuntoli (Nick Burkhardt, *Grimm*)
Bitsie Tulloch (Juliette Silverton, *Grimm*)
Melissa McBride (actor, *The Walking Dead*)
Michael Rooker (actor, *The Walking Dead*)
Chandler Riggs (actor, *The Walking Dead*)
and many more
\$50 for 3 days at the door precon, \$65 at the door
www.spookyempire.com

North Florida Comic Con

October 26
The Ramada Inn,
3130 Hartley Road,
Jacksonville, FL 32257
\$5 admission

Shadocon

October 31-November 1
Innisbrook Resort
36750 US Highway 19 N
Palm Harbor, FL 34683
Guests: Charles Martinet (voice actor)
Trina Nishimura (Mikasa, *Attack on Titan*)
\$45 for the weekend
www.shadocon.com

Hurricane Who Category 5

October 31-November 1
Doubletree by Hilton Orlando at Sea
10100 International Dr.
Orlando, FL 32821
\$80 for the weekend, \$45 for Saturday,
\$35 for Fri or Sun
Guests: Eve Myles (Gwen, *Torchwood*)

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

Kai Owen (Rhys, *Torchwood*)
Rob Shearman (writer, *Doctor Who*)
Andrew Cartmel (writer, *Doctor Who*)
Dominick Glynn (composer, *Doctor Who*)
www.hurricanewho.com

Oafsis Meeting notes

9/14/14
Officers: Peggy Stubblefield, Dave Lussier, Dave Ratti,
Attending Patricia Wheeler, Kim Darin and Arthur Dykeman
Guest: Bob Yazel
Started: 1:32 pm
The meeting began with a discussion of the book, *Wee Free Men*, to accommodate those wanting to attend the Kim Harrison signing event at Barnes and Noble Bookstore. Patricia, in her synopsis, said the story takes place in Discworld, and 9-year-old Tiffany, whose brother was kidnapped by evil queen, is assisted in rescuing him by fairies. As you would expect with author Terry Pratchett, the plot is a lot more complicated than that, and has allusions and spoofs on popular cartoons and government institutions (which aren't so popular). Peggy described the role of the Drones (controlled by the evil queen) to control dreams, and Juan mentioned the Charlie Brown references. Though this book was classified originally as children's fiction, Patricia posited that the dialogue would go over kids' heads. Peggy felt escapist literature can be taken too far. Are we really awake to what is going on around us? Juan replied with a comment about Steve Barnes and his Zen-like theory. Patricia felt

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we can't be awake all the time, but felt the characters' deaths are too dark in this novel for YA or younger readers. A discussion about what constitutes good YA fiction followed. Bob felt what constitutes YA fiction is the age of the main/viewpoint character. Pratchett's Worldcon talk also came up. Next month at the club meeting we will discuss Stephen King's books.

In Convention news, Juan will check the syntax on the hotel agreement, and there will be a Con Committee meeting to focus on programming on September 28th at 1 pm at the Mayfair Clinic (thank you, Peggy!). Juan brought up establishing a Code of Conduct for Oasis. Flyers, registration, and the Dealers' Room also came up. Juan will have a Dealers Room table and a room party at Necronomicon to promote Oasis. The next Oasfis meeting is Sunday, October 12th, at 1:30 pm at Brick and Fire Pizza. See you there!

Detcon 1

Detcon 1, the 2014 North American Science Fiction Convention, was held on July 14-17, 2014 in Detroit, Michigan. The convention was at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, part of the General Motors complex. The Guests of Honor were Steven Barnes (writer), John Picacio (artist), Bill and Brenda Sutton (filk), Helen Greiner (science), Bernadette Bosky (fan), Arthur D. Hlavaty (fan), Kevin J. Maroney (fan), Nnedi Okorafor (Special/Young Adult), Jon Davis (Special/Video Game), Fred Prophet (ConChair Emeritus), and Roger Sims (ConChair Emeritus). Tammy Coxen was the convention chair.

The Detroit Marriott is an interesting facility. The building is ring shaped, which was great for party hopping since you could find all the parties by just walking around. There were twist and turns like in other hotels. The hotel elevators would request, "Please insert your keycard" when going to the con suite despite the fact the floor was unlocked. Con chair Tammy Coxen would had out badge ribbons with "Please insert your keycard" on them to all Detcon attendees who went to Loncon 3.

Opening Ceremonies introduced all the guests of honor with Jim Hines and Tom Smith acting as MCs. Bill and Brenda Sutton sang, "Where's My Flying Car". Con Chair Tammy Coxen read some letters by people who got donated memberships. Many could not get their own memberships due economic circumstances. Detcon 1 also worked with Con or Bust to encourage minority fans to attend cons.

Chuck Von Nordheim (moderator), Anne Harris, John Scalzi, Ellen Denham, and Carrie Patel examined **A Renaissance for Science Fiction**. The inspiration for this panel was a quote from Poul Anderson, from his Guest of Honor speech at Detention 1 (the 1959 Worldcon that was also in Detroit). The quote stated science fiction that was "not merely clever variations on a theme, but stories which are about people and about science and about history and about art and about

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706-24 Eva Rd.
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CANADA M9C 2B2

September 26, 2014

Dear OASFiSians:

Many thanks for issue 322 of the Event Horizon. As always, there many interesting things happening in the Orlando area...time to see what they were, and see what I can say.

Looks like the way to get around and go to conventions is to be a successful voice actor. I have been a voice actor for some student productions, but there doesn't seem to be a way to break into the industry from where I am. I will keep looking. Comments on the new Doctor? I am not a DW fan, but have seen two episodes...meh. I guess you must be a true fan to enjoy them.

*The new Doctor is a little more grumpier and alien this time around. Paul Cornell says being a **Doctor Who** fan is lifestyle choice, so we will be there no matter what. I plan to only nominate only one episode for the Hugo. My other four nominatiосn will go to worthy shows, like **Orphan Black** and **Person of Interest**.*

Wish we'd been in London, but we will go on our own schedule in a couple of years, with definitely other things we'd like to do. I doubt we will be going to future Worldcons; too expensive and too time consuming to prepare properly for them.

Montreal in 2017 seems to be a competitive bid, if it wins I hope to see you there.

Letters from me...the Grand Canadian Steampunk Exposition was a popular success, and I am hoping that it was a financial success. I think it was...the 2015 date has been announced for late September, so things must have worked out. Suburban Steam was a good time, but under-attended. The city of Toronto was in charge of advertising it, and that may be why few showed up.

Cool

Many thanks for this one, and keep 'em coming!

Yours, Lloyd Penney.



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philosophy and about the way a mountain looks at twilight when the stars are just coming forth. That kind of science fiction is entertaining.” The panel look at the difference between the terms amusing and entertainment. The latter type of work is more ambitious. There is nothing wrong with just amusing work though. Scalzi questioned whether engaging work can be also be commercially viable. Harris felt fiction could influence popular opinion on current issues and engage readers emotionally. There is a danger of the message taking over the story. Patel said the field is not as optimistic as it used to be, pointing out the number of dystopia that are being published now. The panel said dystopias show what people are concerned about. During the Cold War, World War III was fought repeatedly in both print and screen. Now the concerns are about disease and bioengineering. Scalzi said more ambitious books stay with the reader after they read the last page. Harris sees fiction as a funhouse mirror that distorts reality and stimulates thought on critical issues.

Pat Sims introduced her husband Roger as he read from his fannish autobiography. Roger talked about going on double date with a fellow fan. They drove out to a Canada casino. On the way over, a police officer stopped the car and found a butcher knife in the car. The driver explained the knife was for his sandwich. Sims later discovered the driver also had a gun in the car that the police did not find. Aside from that incident, the date went well. Sims read a one-act play about the history of fandom. The played featured Sims and fellow fan Howard DeVore discussing the different generations of fandom. Sims then discussed going to Nolacon I, the 1951 Worldcon in New Orleans. At the con was the famous party in Room 770 that Sims hosted. Roger and his fellow party host slept in shifts. It was a very good party and Mike Glycer named his fanzine *File 770* after the party.

Steve Barnes at his Guest of Honor reading read from the sequel to his novel *The Kunaldi Equation*. After the reading, he talked about his work and answered questions. He felt his work as a teacher more important than his writing. Barnes wants to help people find balance in the physical, emotional, and career aspects of their lives. People need to achieve non-dualistic awareness. To explain non-dualistic awareness, Barnes used a quarter. A quarter is not heads or tails, it is a quarter, and that is non-dualistic awareness. Barnes wants to provide people with an opportunity in experience new things in his life coaching.

Helen Grenier gave a slide show of her career for her Guest of Honor presentation. Her interest in robots started with R2-D2. She learned programming from a TRS-80 and went to MIT to get degrees in mechanical engineering and computer science. After college, Grenier and others started iRobot, a robotics firm. Grenier and her colleagues did not have much business experience, but had a passion for building robots. They built an industrial cleaning robot and robots for the entertainment industry. iRobot’s attempt to build a baby doll robot for the toy market was a failure, but Grenier and her colleagues learned a lot about marketing through the experience. Their big success was with the Roomba, an automated cleaning robot. The Roomba got a lot of publicity with stories in *Time* and the *Wall Street Journal*. After the Roombas Christmas release, the sales dropped, but the sales came back up again when Pepsi used a Roomba-like robot in a commercial. iRobot’s robots have explored the pyramids in Egypt, assisted the police and military,

and helped with the Fukushima disaster. The robots iRobot supplied to the military have saved many lives. When iRobot went public, they had a robot to open the NASDAQ. Grenier resigned as Chairman of the Board for iRobot and now runs CyFyWorks. She is looking into unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) or drones. Grenier has been a proponent for delivery drones longer than Amazon. She showed some possible designs and predicted delivery drones will happen in 5 years. Grenier ended the slide show with a picture with her and President Obama when she was recognized as a leading entrepreneur. Grenier thinks future robot development should start with small robots with simple functions and work up to more complex robots. Grenier has not worked directly in space applications, but the wheels of a Mars rover were based on an iRobot design. She did a lot of design work for iRobot early on but then moved on to focus more on the company’s business areas.

Steven Barnes, Tananarive Due, Danielle Mkali (m), and Nnendi Okorafor discussed **Octavia’s Brood: Spec Fic and Social Justice**. *Octavia’s Brood* is an anthology edited by adrienne marie brown and Walidah Imarisha. The book will apply Octavia Butler’s idea of using Science Fiction to advance social justice. The anthology will focus on current social issues and will have stories and essays written by social activists. Originally, the book was going to be funded by an Indegogo campaign. After *Octavia’s Brood* was funded, a publisher bought the book and the funds from Indegogo will be used for promotion. The panel talked about Butler. Due noted Butler’s hyper-empathy and that social injustice angered her. Barnes said Butler was very philosophical. She noted that humans are hierarchical, will put their own group over another, and one discriminated group can discriminate another. Butler researched animal behavior and compared it to human behavior. Okorafor talked to Butler after the 9/11 attacks. Butler was worried about the response to the attacks. The panel was asked how social justice affects their work. Due say it can elevate the work but there is the danger of being heavy handed. Barnes focuses on plot and character and sees them intertwined. Barnes did a lot of researching for his alternate history *Lion’s Blood* in the areas of history, sociology, and anthropology. By creating this alternate world, he addresses current social issues. In the last 150 years thanks to instant communication, humanity has a central nervous system, tearing down myths about the other. Barnes stresses that writers must have a philosophy, or they just discuss what they feel at the moment instead communicating the truth. Okorafor focuses on personal things in her stories. Mkali explained that the anthology’s editors gave the writers a lot of freedom in producing their contributions. They could experiment with style and format in their stories. A young man, who was an African-American, asked for tips on being a Science Fiction writer. Science Fiction expresses his ideas better than other genres. Due and Barnes encouraged him to read as much he could in all genres. They also advised him to find a writers workshop that could help him evaluate his work. Barnes told him to focus on short fiction, write several stories, finish those stories, do not be afraid of writing something bad, and do not give into self-doubt. Okorafor said writer should speak their truth even if it is not popular. Barnes said the writer must write a story they want to read. Barnes avoided writing on ethnicity until a friend advised him to do it. Barnes said it hurt his career but strengthen his

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Detcon 1

All descriptions are from left to right
 Top row: Jim Hines (MC), Tom Smith (MC), Steven Barnes (GOH)
 Second row : Brenda Sutton (GOH), Bill Sutton(GOH), Tammy Coxen (Con Chair), Jon Davis
 Third row: Nnedi Okorafor(GOH), Helen Grenier (GOH), John Picacio (GOH)
 Bottom Row: Arthur D. Hlavaty (GOH), Bernadette Bosky (GOH), Kevin J. Maroney (GOH), Roger Sims (Con Chair Emeritus), Pat Sims



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legacy.

Steven Barnes explained **Lifewriting and Other Personal Development Tools**. Barnes was teaching a writing course when a student gave him reasons why the lessons would not work. Barnes asked the student if he were a character in a story then what would happen. The student found the answers to achieve his goals. Barnes did research and found the classic Hero's Journey explored by Joseph Campbell can be applied to life. Barnes went on to explain the stages in the Hero's Journey. The hero hears the call to action, first refuses, then accepts the call, acquire allies or teachers to help them find their goal, are initially defeated in their quest, but eventually succeed. People are initially defeated when following their goal, but they try again and succeed. Barnes tied the Hero's Journey with other philosophies. He recommended four steps in achieving one's goals: define clear goals, have faith that you can achieve what you want, constant action toward those goals, and sense of gratitude. There is no guarantee for success, but without those steps, failure is guaranteed. Barnes has a website devoted to these ideas at DiamondHour.com.

The Detcon Masquerade had 14 contestants. Tom Smith was the master of ceremonies and the judges were Lisa Deutsch Harrigan, John Hertz, Chris O'Hallaran, and Catherine Schaff-Stump (workmanship). Best in Master Class was "Conflict in the Court of Jewels" by Sandy and Pierre Pettinger and "Starbuck" from *Battlestar Galactica* (2003) by Suzette Mariotti. Best in Show was "A Glamorous Evening of Galactic Domination" by Jennifer Skwarski that featured a dress inspired by the Daleks from *Doctor Who*.

I did four panels at the convention. Unfortunately, I did not record them or take notes so I will summarize them. I did my updated **Science Fiction Anime** panel and it was well received. Keri Bas, Oz Wilson Jr. (m) and Doselle Young and I examined **Minority Characters in Comics**. We talked about recent new characters like Kamala Khan from *Ms. Marvel*, the spotty history of minority character in comics, and the future of diversity in comics. Anne Gray, Mark Oshiro, Isabel Schnechter, Richard F. Dutcher, Pablo V.A. Vazquez III and I explored **What's New in Fandom's Diversity?** The panel looked into some of the problems with diversity in fandom and recommended solutions. I suggested not getting defensive if someone tells you that something you said is offensive, and learning from that experience. Kate Baker, Forrest Hanford (m), Adrain J. Matthews, Mark Oshiro, Lucy A. Snyder, and I discussed **Doctor Who: Wibbley-Whobbley Fanny-Wanny Stuff**. The panel discussed their favorite and least favorite parts of the show. A young fan asked about a continuity contradictions in the classic show. I explained to him that the people who made the show at that time were working under difficult conditions. They could only remember so much of the show's past, they made mistakes, and were doing their best.

There were many other events at Detcon 1. There was a mass signing with the guests Friday evening. Fan Guests of Honor, Honor Bernadette Bosky, Arthur D. Hlavaty, and Kevin J. Maroney talked about their fannish careers and their relationship with each other. John Picacio participated in **Who is the Artist** (guessing an artist by seeing two pieces of their art), **Good, Bad, and Ugly:SF/F Cover Art and Design** with Scott Andrews, Saladin Ahmed, Kate Baker, and Kirbi Fagan, and

talked about his art during his Guest of Honor panel. There was a demonstration of fighting for stage, television and film. There was a challenging *Jeopardy*-like trivia contest. Jon Davis talked about working in the video game industry. There was a panel of scientists to field any questions from the audience. The Dealers Room had a giant Tetris board. John Scalzi DJed an 80s dance on Saturday night. One could see the firework display from Comerica Park, the Detroit Tigers's home field, from the consuite. A local astronomy club set up a telescope that allowed con members to see Saturn. Barfleet threw its party and rave. The convention showed ***Danger Word***, a short film written by Steven Barnes.

Jim Hines and Tom Smith hosted the closing ceremonies. The guests of honor thanked the con. Then the convention gave out awards to the volunteers. Smith thank those who supported the con. Detroit have not had a convention for a long time and there needs to be more. Hines thank the audience for packing the room for closing ceremonies. Party awards were given out:

Best Decoration: Boston in 2020 (Christmas theme)

Best Food: Helsinki in 2017

Best Drink: Detroit Lemonade (inspired from a Martha Stewart recipe) from Peguincon

Best DJ/Dance Party: Pirates party in the Hallway, Barfleet, John Scalzi's 80s Dance Party

Best Party: Kansas City in 2016

Hines and Smith turned the proceedings over to con chair Tammy Coxen. Coxen discussed putting the con together and all the problems staff members faced. There were accidents and health crisis. Some question whether the con was cursed. Coxen realized there was no curse and it was just life. Coxen the showed a slide show of convention highlights done to KISS's "Detroit Rock City". Afterwards, Coxen thanked her Division and Staff Heads and all the convention members. The audience cheered Coxen after she officially closed the con. The ceremony ended with an encore of "Where is My Flying Car" by Bill and Brenda Sutton.

As always, there are people who helped make a big convention like this a great experience. Special thanks to Patricia Russell for getting me to airport. Thanks to the members of OASFiS, and WSFA who came. Thanks to Adam Beaton who offered to help me on my anime panel. Thanks to my fellow panelists, I learned a lot from you. Thanks to Sandy Manning, Masquerade head and to the Masquerade contestants, it was fun helping you. Thanks to the usual suspects, the regular Worldcon attendees who always make conventions fun, Michael Taylor, Chris Barkley, Richard Lynch, and Nicki Lynch. Thanks to the people who read my blog entries on my trip. You all made my first NASFiC a great experience. I will definitely check out the next one.

Detcon 1



All descriptions are left to right
 Top row: "Conflict in the Court of Jewels", Sandy and Pierre Pettinger (Best in class, Master Class), "Glamorous Evening of Galactic Domination" Jennifer Skwarsk (Best in Show), "Russell and Mr. Frederickson: On the Hunt" Grant and Doug Johnson (Best Recreation Film, Young Fan Class)
 Second Row: R2-D2, Helen Grenier at the 80s dance, Hall Costume
 Third Row: Starbuck, Suzette Mariotti (Best in Class, Master Class), No Face, Alida Shears (Best Recreation, Anime), Raven Hall Costume, "All She Saw Was Snow" Liz Decolventuere and Isaac Shelf



Just when you thought the window was closed on affordable Florida fan fun...



It's the convention you can still afford to attend, operated by fans, for fans! Our Guest of Honor Julie Czerneda, celebrated Canadian author and editor, is just the first of many guests in science fiction and fantasy art, literature and media. There's also our famous Art Show and Auction, Gaming, Video and Anime Room, Live Music and Comedy, Charity Auction, Costume Contest, Fandom Panels, Cool Fan Merchandise for sale, and lots of friends! See our growing guest list at our web site, www.oasfis.org/oasis



Pre-Register early and save big!

Registration at the door is \$40 for the weekend. Pre-register before **March 31, 2015** and it's **only \$35**. Pre-register before **January 1, 2015** and it's **only \$30!** Mail checks or money orders to OASFiS, PO Box 323, Goldenrod FL 32733-0323. On-line registration will open in late 2014 at <http://www.oasfis.org/oasis>

After you register, reserve your room at *The International Palms Resort*, 6515 International Drive, Orlando FL 32819. It's close to I-4 and the Beach Line, with nearby restaurants and mini-golf. If you reserve before **April 9, 2015**, it's **only \$80 per night**, single to quad occupancy, rates good 4/28 - 5/6/2015, with *free parking* for all OASIS attendees! Hotel registration starts soon.



**OASIS 27 presented by OASFiS
The Orlando Area Science Fiction Society**

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