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Sunday  
Morning

August 21, 2011

The

# High Space Drifter

The Official Newsletter  
of Renovation

*In This Issue: Masquerade Half-Time, Page 2; Interview with Lois McMaster Bujold, Page 3; Party Reviews, Page 4*

## PROGRAMMING CHANGES

**1:00 PM Sunday** - Grania Davis has been dropped from Japanese SF and Pop Culture. Dana Lewis has been added.

## ZOMBIE CANINE JAMBOREE

Come to the old bunker, in the Con Suite, located in the Atlantis **Grand Ballrooms 5-7**, after **5:00 PM** on Sunday. We've received reputable reports of an expected zombie canine uprising beginning at or near that time and continuing until all comestibles have been consumed or 2:00 AM, whichever comes first.

## DOMINION OVER ALL

16 people participated in Friday's Dominion Tournament. Winner of the Experienced bracket was **Christopher Davis**, who won every game in which he played. Winner of a very close final in the Beginners' bracket, by 1 point in the tiebreaker, was **Saul Jaffe**.

## LAST MINUTE DEALERS ROOM RUN

Still have room left in your suitcase for a full steampunk ensemble? Having a difficult time cramming another munchkin game in your carry-on? You're going to mail it home with UPS anyway, right? Either way we hope you take advantage of the Dealer's Room, which will be open from **10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**.

## So Long and Thanks for All the (Swedish) Fish

It's been an exciting few days here in Reno. We, the newsletter staff, have had a great time. We hope that you have had as much fun reading the High Space Drifter as we have had writing it. For many of us on staff this has been our first Worldcon and we had such a great time that we look forward to joining you again.

We would like to take this moment to thank a few people who helped make the last few days easier. First, Howard Tayler for providing excellent original artwork and illustrations. Second, Richard Man, photographer extraordinaire, for providing pictures of the masquerade contestants and other events. To our roving party reporter Diane Lask, more effusive thanks- we could not have covered everything without you!

We also extend our sincere thanks to the many people in the Con Suite who stepped in to help us fold newsletters and Masquerade Programs. Finally, thank you to the many people who submitted hall quotes, restaurant suggestions, panel reviews, and other articles. Even though we did not have space to publish all of your work, we appreciate your contributions.

## The Grand Finale

Don't miss out on Renovation's grand finale at **3:00** in Room **C04**. The Closing Ceremonies will feature a photographic history of the convention as well as final words from our Guests of Honor. With the conclusion of the ceremony the reins will be officially handed over to Chicon 7, the 2012 Worldcon.

## Chicago in 2012

Chicon 7 will be held August 30 through September 30, 2012 in Chicago, IL. Chicago's Hyatt Regency Hotel will play host to Worldcon. It will be located in the Magnificent Mile on the south bank of the Chicago River, near the Lakefront and in the middle of Chicago's downtown attractions. The Hyatt Regency has recently renovated its rooms, and Chicon 7 has negotiated a single price of \$145 for all rooms, single through quad. Reservations will open in January of 2012. Information can be found on their website [www.chicon.org](http://www.chicon.org).

## Hugo Awards Summary

The preeminent awards of science fiction writing, the Hugos, were awarded on Saturday night at the Peppermill Hotel. Jay Lake and Ken Scholes presided over the evening, keeping everybody but the nominees relaxed. Awards were presented in 15 categories. Seven of the categories saw first time winners, including Christopher J. Garcia, who ended a nearly decade long drought when *The Drunk Tank*, edited by Garcia and James Bacon, won in the Best Fanzine category. Garcia's utter joy was palpable and one of the highlights of the ceremony. In addition, the John W. Campbell Award for best new writer was also presented to Lev Grossman. For a complete list of winners, see the special Hugo Award (Issue H) of the High Space Drifter, and to see a list of all the vote rankings, check the [renovationsf.org](http://renovationsf.org) website.



*Chris Garcia and Steven Silverburg. This was before the Hugo Awards - who knows what Chris will do now?*

## Masquerade Half-time: Just a Minute

In addition to great costumes, the Masquerade offered another highlight. While the judges deliberated, Paul Cornell hosted Just A Minute with contestants John Dowd, Lauren Beukes, Bill Willingham, and Seanan McGuire. Each player was given a topic in turn on which he or she must speak without hesitation, repetition, or deviation for one minute. If they broke any of these rules, they were open to challenge from another player. A typical round looked something like this: Bill was given the topic of parallel universe. He was challenged by John, control was then taken by Seanan, went back to John, was immediately taken back by Seanan, who was then challenged by John, resulting in a deadball. Seanan restarted the talk and was successfully challenged by Bill who then turned the ball back over to Seanan who finished off the clock. Each competitor had their own strategy for scoring points: Seanan resorted to extensive lists, John lured opponents into traps and bad challenges, Bill snuck in at the end of the time, and Lauren challenged to fight. After three exciting rounds and a phone call to her mom, Seanan McGuire was crowned the new Worldcon Just a Minute champion.

## Art, Art, and More Art!

For those who are still interested in purchasing a piece of Worldcon to hang on your wall or display on your bookcase, the Art Show Auction begins at **Noon** on the stage in **Hall 2**.

The Special Art Exhibition, of the Ken Moore SF Art Collection, will be open on Sunday from **10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**. Don't miss this opportunity to see the original art for 141 classic science fiction covers and interior illustrations, with paintings by Paul Lehr, Richard Powers, Vincent Di Fate, Chesley Bonestell and many others.

Many of these paintings have not been displayed for decades. There will be a guided tour at **1:00 PM**. Hope to see you there!

## Interview with Lois McMaster Bujold

We sat down with Lois McMaster Bujold prior to the Hugo awards ceremony.

*You're nominated for a Hugo award this year. You've won Hugos in the past. Do you remember how it felt the first time you were called up on the stage?*

Oh my goodness yes. The first major award I ever won was a Nebula Award for *Falling Free* back in 1989 I guess it was. I didn't really expect to win. It was just stunning. I hugged my publisher. He was surprised too, everybody was so glad. I was a young, hungry, desperate writer at that point so it really, really mattered. As far as Hugos go, this is my ninth time to be rolled in the nomination barrel. I have a very different attitude now than I did back then. I'm much more relaxed. People are reading the book and life is good.

*So you are truly at the 'it's a pleasure just to be nominated' point?*

Kind of, yeah. I feel like anything beyond this is double dipping.

*You are nominated with some "young, hungry, authors" this year...*

Some new names would be good...for all the young, hungry, writers out there, I actually lost my first Hugo nomination, which was for *Falling Free*. There are advantages to not winning. You don't have to get up and make a speech, you don't have to get this [Hugo] either through airport security, or find out how to ship it at 8:00 on Sunday morning. After a while you learn it's not personal.

*Have you always known you wanted to be a writer?*

I think I did. I started writing proto-fannish fic back in 8th grade. I was writing up through high school. This was in the late 1960's when the idea of the "geek girl" had not even been invented yet. Then I got married and I kind of lost track of it for about a decade.. I think that's the decade when I would have been writing all the unpublishable stuff. I sort of jumped over that.

*You're best known for the Vorkosigan series. Where did the idea of Miles come from?*

Like other real people he came out of his parents. He came out of his parents situation. The first book I wrote was *Shards of Honor* where his parents meet and hit it off. I knew very early on that they would have a son who would be handicapped in some way. It was sort of inevitable for their future. There's a number of other ideas that fed into him, there was a handicapped hospital pharmacist that I worked with back in my pharmacy technician days that was a bit of a physical model. There was T.E. Lawrence. Lawrence of Arabia was another short, squirrly soldier who was sort of over intellectual for his duties. After he was up and running and published and people knew him they would send me all these other things about interesting short soldiers of history.

For more with Lois McMaster Bujold, check out [www.renovationsf.org/podcast](http://www.renovationsf.org/podcast)



## The Drifter Staff



Art by Howard Tayler

Overheard in the Jackal Lair

“Newsletter- better  
than BED!”

**Quick Draw McGraw:**

Meredith Branstad

**Black Hat:**

Stephen Libbey

**Fast Hands McCoy:**

Matt Branstad

**Bloody Meri:**

Meri Meraz

**Momma Malone:**

Kimmi Allbee

**Woody:**

Stephen Nelson

**Chuckwagon Charlie:**

Charlie Holmberg

**Honky Tonk Sue:**

Karen Anderson

**The Hangman:**

Tom Galloway

**Wile E Coyote:**

Gary Blog

**Text McGraw:**

Michael Nelson

**Rifleman:**

Brian Branstad

**Lone Ranger:**

Jan van't Ent

**Rockin Ranger**

Craig Glassner

**Yellow Rose Madam:**

Karen Meschke

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## One Last Night to Party

Sunday night's post Hugo parties sent Worldcon out on a positive note and a good time was had by all.

-We checked in to the **Two Moons Inn** for a while and celebrated Lev Grossman's John W. Campbell Award win in a room decorated to represent his work. The author was in attendance decked out in the Campbell Tiara and autographing the body parts of his adoring fans.

-Next we visited the **Brotherhood Without Banners**. This Song of Ice and Fire themed party was very well attended, to the point that it was difficult to move through the doorways. Still, it wasn't difficult to get a cold drink and join in conversation.

-A party we did not have listed, called simply the **Lance Party**, promised two things, dancing and something to drink and delivered on both counts. A crowd that was large enough to encourage others to join, yet small enough that there was no trouble entering was grooving to tunes and having the most fun of the night.

-The Texas 2013 Bid party morphed into the **LoneStarCon 3** Thank You party now that Worldcon 2013 has been decided (See you in San Antonio). They had plenty of space to move about and talk to the folks looking forward to hosting us all. Cold drinks were on hand and, believe it or not, the Texas party had fantastic salsa. They were also trying out a variety of different hot sauces, but by this point in the night the jackals had to forego that challenge. We'll live to fight another day.

-Light cannot escape a **Black Hole**, and neither can a jackal in a party mood. The klingon party was a popular destination for many people and we had a great time before being able to escape the gravitational pull of the Hole.

## Check your Hotel Bill - Con Rates

Renovation contracted with three main hotels: the Atlantis, the Peppermill, and the Courtyard by Marriott. Be sure you received the Renovation rate when you check out. For the Atlantis: King or Double Queen rooms were priced at \$151 (Single/Double Occupancy), \$161 (Triple), and \$171 (Quad). For the Peppermill: Montego Bay Wing was priced at \$129, Peppermill Tower \$149, and Tuscany - Tuscany Suite \$189. For the Courtyard by Marriott a standard room rate of \$119 per day was offered.

## Notice to Staff

Please return any unopened supplies or re-usable items to the Convention Office in **A20** so that they may be passed on to future Worldcons.

## That's All Folks!