

KaCSFFS

Newsletter

September, 2005
Volume XXIX Issue 8

Kansas City Science Fiction & Fantasy Society, PO Box 36212, Kansas City, MO 64111
- www.kcsciencefiction.org - 816-545-4765 -

The Directors Cut

March **KaCSFFS** Meeting
Information

3rd Saturday of the Month,

March 19th, 7 pm

The Writer's Place

3607 Pennsylvania

Kansas City, MO

*Due to unforeseen circumstances
the speaker for September will not
be able to make it. Our own David
Dressler will be the featured
speaker.*

*Bring games and rumors to share
with your fellow club members for
socialization after the meeting.*

*Charles Keller from the H.G. Wells
Society will be our speaker at the
October meeting.*

2005 Hugo Award Winners

After using the Advanced Search function on Google to pull up the above information I found about **101** sites that contained that phrase.

Unless you absolutely have no access to the Net and are dying to find out who won; I don't intend to print this type of information in the newsletter. Call me and I'll print it out for you if necessary,
your editor - n2

Is still in Post-Production and should be ready for viewing about this time next month.

Snacks

If your last name stats with U through Z, please favor us with a sampling of your hosting skills this month. And some folk have been very generous with the snacks this year whether it was their 'designated' month or not. Thank you for your generosity.

Remember, if you'd like something to drink other than coffee or tea, please bring it in yourself.

And alcoholic beverages have been served at private functions at the Writer's Place previously.

Socializing

David Dressler will be speaking on games this month so be sure to bring games with you for entertainment after the business meeting has concluded.

SF At The Crossroads

Link submitted by Keith Stokes via KDL - by n2

If you haven't already been to the SFWA site to read this article 'A Proposal to Advance Science Fiction Literature as Way to Help Teachers, Students, Librarians, Academics, Readers, Museum Visitors and Practitioners of the Art' by David Brin and James Gunn, here's the link again - <http://www.sfw.org/news/crossroads.htm>.

The current KaCSFFS BOD is focusing more on how to make the genres that we're interested in more accessible to the public at large. The ideas in this article are very much in line with what we would like to see KaCSFFS attempt in that area.

Not that we're advocating a paid position within KaCSFFS, only the ideas of getting the SF information out to the public and forums that will 'promote far-seeing discussion of issues and stimulate interest in science fiction' in students, librarians and educators.

If you like the idea of proselytizing SF to the masses; contact your BOD with ideas you may have and the information that you're available as a volunteer.

Heinlein Centennial Celebration update

By n2

KaCSFFS was contacted earlier this year by members of the Heinlein Society that are working on an event that is named the Robert A. Heinlein Centennial Celebration. The discussion at the meeting was to encourage **KaCSFFS** members to attend and potentially help with the organization and work on the event. There would be no monetary requirements from **KaCSFFS** only fans willing to help at an SF event which we've all done at one time or another. Since that initial discussion we hadn't heard anything from the committee.

The latest news on the Centennial Planning Committee is that Alan Koslow will be taking a less prominent role in the organization of the event. Everyone has to gaffiate from the pressure of fannish activities at some time or another and it's Alan's turn this time around. I'm sure that even with his stepping down as director of the Planning Committee he still hopes to attend the event itself. He was very enthusiastic about the idea.

James Gifford is now the driving force on the Centennial Celebration. **KaCSFFS** members who are supporting the event can contact Jim at James.Gifford@HeinleinCentennial.com. Jim has contacted the **KaCSFFS** BOD to let them know about this change in the committee and hopes that the enthusiasm and confidence in the event will remain high. An information note here, just like The World Horror Convention and Midwest Construction even though members of the Heinlein Society are working on the event it is not a Heinlein Society event.

There is some additional information on the Heinlein Centennial Celebration that you may be interested in if you are supporting the event. Please go to <http://www.heinleinentennial.com/>. There you will find an open letter from Mr. Gifford that will remind some of you of events you've witnessed or been a part of in your fannish history. None of our business since this interaction is internal to the Heinlein Society, but you may want to familiarize yourself with the events if you're going to help with the Centennial celebration.

If the Heinlein Centennial Celebration has reawakened your interest in Heinlein's works, the Heinlein Society website is at <http://www.heinleinsociety.org/index.html>. How many of you can say that one of Heinlein's books was the first SF book that you read? Mine was 'Have Spacesuit, Will Travel'.

This information was discussed at the September **KaCSFFS** BOD meeting and it was decided to put this information in the newsletter to ensure that club members were kept current with the situation on the Centennial Celebration. We will continue to post additional information as it is received from Mr. Gifford.

DS9 Actors, Clubs Unite For Hurricane Katrina Fundraiser

September 7, 2005 - 12:45 AM

A group of Star Trek: Deep Space Nine actors and fan clubs have united to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina, which devastated parts of Alabama, Mississippi and New Orleans, the future birthplace of Captain Benjamin Sisko.

The United Federation of Fans, a group endorsed by Rene Auberjonois (Odo), Chase Masterson (Leeta), Andrew Robinson (Garak), Armin Shimerman (Quark) and his wife Kitty Swink (Luanan), Alexander Siddig (Bashir) and Nana Visitor (Kira), is holding an eBay auction of autographed items and memorabilia to raise funds for hurricane survivors. Items include autographed photos of Auberjonois, Masterson and others, a t-shirt from Jeri Ryan (Seven of Nine)'s Men Cry Bullets, an audiobook of Patrick Stewart (Picard)'s reading of A Christmas Carol and several signed trading cards. The site also has links for donations.

Meanwhile, Variety has reported that Scarlett, the new project of former DS9 writers Robert Hewitt Wolfe and Hans Beimler, may be moving to another city despite being set in New Orleans. A spokesman for Lifetime said that the network was "looking at all sorts of options. Things are vague right now."

The pilot concerns a horror writer, said to resemble Interview with the Vampire novelist Anne Rice (a longtime New Orleans resident) who finds her characters coming to life. The magazine reported that shooting could conceivably move to another city.

And William Shatner (Kirk), as well as other performers at the Emmy Awards on September 18th, will wear magnolias in memory of the victims of Hurricane Katrina, noted SFGate. Emmy host Ellen DeGeneres, a Louisiana native, last hosted the Emmys in 2001 in the wake of the 9/11 attacks.

Special Thanks

A bit late but still heartfelt – thank you to Kathleen Enfranca and Tracy Majkol from Movie Nite.

Kathleen wiped down all the desks after we'd munched our way through the movies and

Tracy brought his vacuum sweeper to clean up the floor.

Well done.

Blood Donations

Between the Heinlein article and the Katrina relief article is the perfect place to remind you that donating blood to the American Red Cross at this point in time can help in ways that even money can't fix. The local KC Red Cross chapter can be contacted at - <http://www.kcredcross.org/> which has a page dedicated to where blood drives are being held - <http://www.kcredcross.org/Program/Index.asp?IdS=01C05E-8328210&Reference=BloodDonatDrive&~=> or call (816) 931-8400 ext. 7055

**Remember one pint of blood
can help up to 5 different
people.**

How you can help Hurricane Katrina victims

The Kansas City Star – September 11, 2005

Here's a look at some ways Kansas Citians are reaching out to hurricane victims:

WEDNESDAY

■ **Items such as work gloves**, meal preparation gloves, rubber gloves, batteries, flashlights, paper goods, diapers, baby wipes, baby formula, bottled water, Gatorade, Ensure protein drink, deodorant, shaving cream, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, pull-top canned goods and monetary donations will be collected through Monday on the north side of Ward Parkway Center, 8600 Ward Parkway, Kansas City. Volunteers for collecting are needed. To volunteer, call Kristen Couch at (816) 363-3545.

■ **Congregation B'nai Jehudah** is collecting bottles of water for hurricane victims. Donations can be made at the temple, 12320 Nall Ave., Overland Park. The water will be shipped Wednesday. For more information, call (913) 663-4050.

THURSDAY

■ **The Shawnee Mission West Overland Express and Jazz Lab bands** will perform at Pizza Maker, 8725 Bourgade St., Lenexa, at 7 p.m. A portion of that evening's sales will be donated to the Red Cross.

SATURDAY

■ **Boy Scout Troop 50** will hold an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast. 7 to 11 a.m. Broadway United Methodist Church, 74th Street and Wornall Road. \$4 suggested donation.

■ Financial donations will be collected two hours before the **University of Kansas football game** at Memorial Stadium in Lawrence.

SEPT. 18

■ **Cutting Loose Hair Salon**, 12675 Metcalf Ave., fund-raiser from noon to 5 p.m. All haircuts will be \$30 with 100 percent of proceeds donated to hurricane relief.

SEPT. 24

■ **Auction. Avondale United Methodist Church**, 3101 N.E. Winn Road; preview 10 a.m., auction 11 a.m. (816) 452-3518.

■ **Christ Church Anglican** is having its annual outreach benefit auction, with all proceeds going to the Salvation Army for Hurricane Katrina recovery. The auction will be at the Mill Creek Campus at 11227 Lakeview Ave., Lenexa. Auction donations are needed. Everyone is welcome. Call the church office at (913) 648-2271 for tickets or Susan Meeder at (913) 661-0842 for questions or to make a donation.

ONGOING

■ **Kansas City Power & Light Co.** has launched a campaign to raise up to \$1 million for hurricane victims. The company will process contributions and match all contributions up to \$500,000. Contributions can be made by check or money order, payable to American Red Cross Hurricane Katrina Fund and mailed to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 412844, Kansas City, MO 64141-2844.

■ **Woods Chapel United Methodist Church in Lee's Summit** is accepting supplies and money through Sept. 30 for hurricane victims staying at churches in Arkansas. Requested supplies include diapers, soap, toilet paper, shampoo, deodorant and toothbrushes. Monetary contributions can be sent to the church at 4725 N.E. Lakewood Way, Lee's Summit, MO 64064. For more information, call the church office at (816) 795-8848.

■ **The University of Kansas** has set up donation sites at the Kansas Union, Wescoe Beach and the corner of Sunnyside Drive and Irving Hill Road, next to the Allen Fieldhouse parking garage.

■ **Harvesters** is collecting items at area Price Chopper and Hen House stores through Sept. 18. Items requested: paper goods (plates, cups, diapers, tissue), cleaning supplies (bleach, household cleaning products), water (bottled drinking water — no glass containers), single-serving snacks (Pop Tarts, cereal bars, granola bars), peanut butter, heat-and-eat foods (chili, soup, canned pasta, canned vegetables), other single-serving foods that do not require refrigeration, Meals Ready To Eat.

■ **Platte-Clay Electric Cooperative** is accepting financial contributions for hurricane relief, 1000 W. Highway 92, Kearney, and at 425 E. Main, Platte City. For after-hours contributions, call (816) 628-3121.

■ The women's division of the **Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City** is working with **Heart to Heart International** to collect items for survivor kits. Requested items include: toothbrushes/toothpaste, combs and brushes, shampoo, bar soap, feminine napkins and tampons, shaving cream and deodorant. Items can be dropped off at 5801 W. 115th St., Suite 201, Overland Park, until Sept. 20. Volunteers are needed Sept. 21 to package the items. To volunteer, send e-mail to Bev Jacobson at beverlyja@jewishkc or call her at (913) 327-8108.

SF&F Literati Book Discussion

Border's Book Store 119th & Metcalf

Guardian by Joe Haldeman

July 25, 2005

Reported by Carol Doms

Attendance: 10

Who started the book -8

Who will finish -1

Who didn't -1

Vote by Proxy -

Who finished it - 7

Who liked it - 4

Neutral/Don't know. - 2

Onward to (group) comments: (Some Spoilers below)

I did not like it because I don't like history novels. Well I liked it because it WAS history. It had me looking up the various places mentioned and information on the Yukon Gold Rush. I did like the History part, but not the SF party of the novel. I found it a bit choppy, history, then alternate fantasy, got tired of the Raven and the foreshadowing elements of the book.

It drove me nuts that Rosa (main character) son dies in one time line, only to have her lose him again in the alternative time line. Yes, but she doesn't lose him until World War I. Everyone dies, he just dies a bit later. She also loses her second husband twice too.

I think he (Haldeman) wanted the fantasy element and just shoved it in there. However the historical research was very good. I like the back story on Rosa and found her very believable and well developed. I wish the Raven (fantasy) character was written a bit better. I found that to be very annoying, a constant foreshadowing. It almost reads like he was padding the story.

This is not his (Haldeman's) best work, but I did not feel like he phoned it in, like the last one we read. They all are not going to be the caliber of *'Forever War'*, he does have many other interests. Would we have enjoyed this book if it wasn't a Haldeman book? I selected it because the story line had intrigued me, so yes, if it wasn't a Haldeman, I would have given it a try. (Live and die by the blurb!)

Heroics for Beginners by John Moore

August 22, 2005

Reported by Carol Doms

Attendance: 7

Who started the book - 5

Who will finish - 1

Who didn't

Vote by Proxy -

Who finished it - 3

Who liked it - 4

Neutral/Don't know. - 4

Onward to (group) comments:

This was fluff, definitely fluff. A quick summer read by the pool. I will take the blame for this book. The name John Moore was bugging me, why was it so familiar? Then I realized I hung out with this guy at one of the World Cons a few years back & I firmly believe that the beautiful Evil Assistant was modeled after a friend of mine.

This book reminded me of an Introduction to Anthropology I took several years ago. It was a description of the American culture from an outsider's viewpoint. The description of Ancient Artifact and manufacturer's history with all the mergers, reminded me of AT&T. You got snippets of American culture done tongue in cheek. I appreciated all the puns, but I didn't think it took much talent to create them. This had a juvenile feel.

Bad Addresses

(no Biscuit)

If you have a current e-mail address and would like to have the newsletter on-line please update your e-mail addy with the editor.

Wilson Bob Tucker –
wilsonbob37@earthlink.net

Greg Peugh – gpeugh@juno.com

Tim Keltner –
darkstr0130@mindsping.com

- nwilborn@yahoo.com

- katman@1dir.net

Ted Poovey –
darted@mail.planetk.com – over
the size limit message.

Address Changes

Joe, Inger & Samantha Myers
6365 Stevenson St.
Shawnee, KS 66218
Home # 913-268-0989

Cheryl Peugh – e-mail addy -
cpeugh@kc.rr.com
Charlotte Dressler – e-mail addy –
Shardressler@Yahoo.com

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"Speak when you are angry - and  
you will make the best speech you'll  
ever regret."

- Laurence J. Peter

**Book Talk Selections.***Borders SF&F Literati**119th & Metcalf**4th Monday of the Month**7 pm*

September 26 - *'Reflex'* by

Steven Gould

October 24 - *'Ill Wind'* by

Rachael Caine

November 28 – *'Hunting*

*Party'* by Elizabeth Moon

January 23 – *'The Dark*

*Wing'* by Walter H. Hunt.

## Washington Post's Mensa Invitational

### Birthday Information

#### September

Richard Lipp – 9/9

Bill Tienken – 9/11

Harold McEldery – 9/15

Michael Williams – 9/16

David Edmiston – 9/19

Jeremy Hamilton – 9/20

Tim Carlson – 9/26

#### October

Ruth Sutton – 10/2

Crispin Burnham – 10/4

Joseph Myers – 10/15

Paul Sutor – 10/20

Tucker Johnston – 10/22

James Murray – 10/22

Barbara Walley – 10/23

Jim Satterfield – 10/24

John Taylor – 10/31

22 Jul 2005 @ 01:47, by Raymond Powers

The Washington Post's Mensa Invitational once again asked readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing of one letter, and supply a new definition.

Here are this year's [link] winners:

1. Cashtration (n.): The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period.
2. Ignoranus: A person who's both stupid and an asshole.
3. Intaxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.
4. Reintarnation: Coming back to life as a hillbilly.
5. Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.
6. Foreploy: Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting laid.
7. Giraffiti: Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.
8. Sarchasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.
9. Inoculatte: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.
10. Hipatitis: Terminal coolness.
11. Osteopornosis: A degenerate disease. (This one got extra credit.)
12. Karmageddon: It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.

Continued on page 6 -

The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.

--Mahatma Gandhi

## Cool Links

<http://www.snof.com/> - How many other Secret societies that you know of have a public web site?

<http://www.guesswhichmovie.com/> - Think you're good with movie trivia with short clues? Go to this site to prove it.

<http://www.beastblender.com/> - Always wanted to be a Mad Scientist but weren't sure where to start?

<http://www.batmobilehistory.com/> - Yeah, 'Batman Begins' took us back to the real roots of the Dark Knight, now see where his car's been.

<http://www.sciencemag.org/sciext/125th/> - You know how SF is always predicting things that are now part of everyday life? These scientists are trying to predict what will be resolved in the near future.

Continued from Page 3 - Katrina

- To make an online donation to help veterans and military service members and their families affected by the hurricane, go to the **Veterans of Foreign Wars'** Web site, [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) .
- The **Greater Kansas City Community Foundation** has set up two funds for long-term aid. To make online donations, go to [www.gkccf.org](http://www.gkccf.org) .
- The **Truman Heartland Community Foundation** has established the Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Fund in response to the call to support relief efforts. Contributions can be sent to Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief Fund, c/o Truman Heartland Community Foundation, 300 N. Osage, Independence, MO 64050.
- **Catholic Charities USA** is collecting donations. Send checks to Catholic Charities USA, 2005 Hurricane Relief Fund, P.O. Box 25168, Alexandria, VA 22313-9788. For more information, call (800) 919-9338 or go on the Web to [.cfm](http://www.cfm).

— Debra Skodack/The Star

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By n2

I must not fear. Fear is the mind-killer. Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration. I will face my fear. I will permit it to pass over me and through me. And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to its path. Where the fear has gone there will be nothing. Only I will remain.
--Frank Herbert – 'Dune'

Have you been watching the TV with the images of New Orleans awash in a toxic soup and other towns scoured down to the ground by Katrina? Kinda of impossible not to. We've just witnessed the biggest wreck that the continental US has had to endure in literally decades. You don't want to look but you can't turn away. How you respond to this event will help to determine how the US comes out of this. Whether you realize it or not, you've taken a big psychological hit – one that has shaken us all to the core. So, don't buy into the neurotic and paranoid spewings of the news networks. Pointing fingers about who did what wrong and how terrible the people left behind were acting. Or listen to the fear stories that are blasting out on a continual basis. Civilization is a long, slow advance to being kind. One of the things that supports being kind to others is personal confidence in your abilities; another is the subconscious knowledge that you're enveloped in an invisible cocoon of support that the US infra-structure gives you. The people that were left after Katrina whirled by came face to face with the knowledge that their support structure was gone, first blown away and then washed away by a double whammy. No food, no water and some with not a lot of inner reserves to get them through the situation they found themselves in. This is when who you really are comes to the surface. And this is why the people that weren't in Katrina's path are as scared as they are now, they already know how they would react in such a situation should it happen to them.

How would you respond?

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Continued from page 5 - MENSA

13. Decafalon (n.): The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.
14. Glibido: All talk and no action.
15. Dopeler effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.
16. Arachnoleptic fit (n.): The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web.

## Book Review

No, sorry, I lied. It's a book store review. With the inroads that the Net has made on brick & mortar stores we need to show our support for existing businesses.

Deborah Durbin was kind enough to get this information for us –

KD's Books,  
241 S.E. Main,  
Lee's Summit, MO 64063,  
Phone: (816) 525-1366,  
Email: [kdsbooks1s@aol.com](mailto:kdsbooks1s@aol.com)

The owner's name is Cheryl L. Collier. She was not there when I visited, but the sales staff answered some of my questions.

The bookstore has been in Lee's Summit at its present location for 14 years. It started out with just used books. Now they stock not only used books for children and adults, but new children's books, posters, Thomas The Train, games, toys, garden flags and poles and Christmas items.

They give discounts to teachers and schools.

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Got a book store you want to promote? Send me the info and I'll put it in a future edition of the newsletter.

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Don't ask me who's influenced me. A lion is made up of the lambs he's digested, and I've been reading all my life.  
--Giorgos Seferis, writer,  
diplomat, Nobel laureate  
(1900-1971)

**KaCSFFS Membership Application**

Please print legibly Date completed \_\_\_\_\_

Paid fees include membership in the club, a subscription to the club newsletter, access to club functions, and voting privileges.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date – (Opt) \_\_\_\_\_  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date – (Opt) \_\_\_\_\_  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date – (Opt) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 New \_\_\_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_\_\_ Change \_\_\_\_\_  
 Heard about **KaCSFFS** from \_\_\_\_\_  
 Interests include \_\_\_\_\_

- Do not include my e-mail in the membership directory
- Do not include my phone number in the membership directory
- Do not include my address in the membership directory

Please mail this completed form with your dues check to;

**Kansas City Science Fiction & Fantasy Society**

PO Box 36212

Kansas City, MO 64171-6212

Or bring it to the next **KaCSFFS** meeting to submit to the treasurer in person.

**Board of Directors**

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**Membership Information for KaCSFFS, Inc.**

Annual dues are \$ 15.00 per household with a \$ 12.00 additional fee per extra name listed separately on the club roster at the same address. Paid fees include membership in the club, a subscription to the club newsletter, access to club functions, and voting privileges.

Dues are payable at the Fiscal meeting in March.

Attendees that choose to pay on a monthly basis will be charged \$ 2.00 per meeting.

One newsletter will be mailed to each household on the membership list. Additional copies of the newsletter will be available at the monthly meeting.

Send Payments to:

**KaCSFFS**

PO Box 36212

Kansas City, MO 64171-6212

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 This is the monthly newsletter of the **Kansas City Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, (KaCSFFS)** a Not-For-Profit Corporation. The newsletter will be produced on a regular basis by the editor of **KaCSFFS** and The Warthog Press.

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Nicki & Richard Lynch  
PO Box 3120  
Gaithersburg, MD 20885-3120

Upcoming events of interest

**KC Renaissance Festival**

**Labor Day to October 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Platte County Arts Festival at Zona Rosa  
Midwest Construction**

**September 16-18**

**Archon 29 – St Louis**

**September 28-October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**'Serenity' movie premiere**

**September 30<sup>th</sup>**