



PSFS News

The Newsletter of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society

February 1998

Our February Guest:

Jonathan Lethem

Jonathan Lethem was born in NY in 1964, the same week the Beatles arrived at JFK International Airport. He was raised in Kansas City and Brooklyn, and now resides in Brooklyn again after a ten-year California interlude.

His first novel, *Gun With Occasional Music*, was published by Harcourt Brace in 1994. It was awarded the Locus Best First Novel Award and the Crawford Fantasy Award, and was a finalist for the Nebula Award. It has been translated into German, French, Japanese, Polish, Italian, Russian and Finnish.

His second novel, *Amnesia Moon*, was published in 1995. It has been published or will be published in eight different languages.

His third novel, *As She Climbed Across the Table*, was published in 1997 by Doubleday, and will be published in paperback by Vintage in March this year.

Lethem has also published a collection of stories, called *The Wall of the Y, The Wall of the Eye*, which recently won the World Fantasy Award. Two of the stories in the collection were finalists for the Nebula Award, and one, "The Happy Man", won third place in the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award.

Lethem has taught fiction writing or lectured at a variety of institutions: Brown, Stanford, Cleveland and N. Carolina State Universities, The Naropa Institute, and the Clarion workshops.

In 1997 Newsweek named him as one of the "100 People to Watch in the Next Century".

photo by Mara Lethem/painting by Mark Johnson



Membership Status

Note: Status Changes from inactive to general or general to active become effective after the meeting has adjourned.

First Timers:

Edison Freire, Rik Ivey, Susan White, James Wilson

New Members:

Rik Ivey, Linda M. Kalb, Lisa Richards, Susan White

Members at the January Meeting: 60
(56 active, 5 general, 0 inactive)

Non-members at the January Meeting: 6

Special Order of Business

There will be a special election to fill the remainder of the term of Sr. 2-year Director Avi Freedman, who resigned last month. Due to technical problems with the ballots, the majority of the judges of election, with full consent of the affected parties, have decided that the *run off* elections for the *two-year* and *one-year* director openings will be reheld.

Announcements

Copies of any official PSFS correspondence should be sent to both the Secretary and the One Year Director for filing in the Society's official records.

The Philcon web site is: www.netaxs.com/~philcon

Newsletter Submissions and Announcements can be e-mailed to rak@netaxs.com, mailed to the Society's P.O. Box or the Kabakjian's home address, or given to the Secretary or Rich K. in writing at the meetings.

Dues Reminder - to all Active and General members: Your dues are due every April 1st. If your dues are not paid by July 1st, you automatically become a Suspended member *and you will not be able to vote at any meeting (and especially in January)* until they are. If you are having severe financial difficulties, you can contact any Board member for special consideration. Check your Bylaws. If you need a copy, contact the Secretary by phone, e-mail, or pick one up at the Meeting.

Art Group - meets the fourth Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. for 4 hours. Please help P.S.F.S. by supplying your own materials such as pencils, paper, and other art supplies. You can contact hosts Bridget Boyle or Barb Higgins for the specific supplies you'll need. Call (215) 423-2076 for more information or directions.

Ira Kaplowitz - is looking for Chicago in 2000 S.F. Writer baseball cards to convert a membership. If you have extras you would be willing to trade or sell see Ira or Becky.

Carol Kabakjian - has a collection of Star Trek action figures (all in the original packaging) for sale. Contact her if you're interested.

John Desmond - says a gaming group that meets on Thursdays has been started up at Houston Hall. They also sponsor a Phila. gamers' email list. See John if you're interested.

Prydonians of Princeton - S.F. club hold their meetings in Northern N.J. at the main branch of the Mercer County Library on the first Saturday of each month at 1 pm. They also put out a magazine called "The Renegade".

Dino Fest - 1998 in Philadelphia at the Civic Center from March 27 to April. All the top people in the field of paleontology, dinosaurs, and other things. Our own Bob Walters has been selected as the Art Director for the project.

Babylon 5 - The 5th season, originally promised to be run on 22 consecutive weeks without reruns, will now be briefly interrupted by the NBA playoffs, after episode 512.

Hugo Information - Terry S. S. Graybill reminded everyone that the deadlines for nominating and voting for this year's Hugos will be a month earlier. The Society's Hugo Predictions Panel program will probably be in June 1998.

Alien Resurrection - Tony announced that H. R. Giger didn't get an on-screen credit again this time. You can send your letters of protest to 20th Century Fox at www.fox-world.com

Annual Meeting Minutes

These are the minutes of the Annual PSFS meeting held on January 9th, 1998, at International House. The meeting was called to order at 8:42 pm.

Proxies: Lynn K. Cohen Koehler to Laura Paskman Syms; Jan Berends, Diane Scott, Janis Fontecchio, and Neil Davis (in time for 1 yr. Dir. only) to Oz Fontecchio; Peter Radatti to Tony Finan; Gail Freedman & Avi Freedman to Rich Kabakjian; Ira Donewitz and Lew Wolkoff to Todd Dashoff; Frank Richards to Terry Graybill; Rich Ferree to Lisa Richards; Sandra Tansky to Ronald Tansky (13 total)

Corrections to the Minutes: None. The minutes were approved as printed.

Motion: John Syms moved, many second, to abandon the regular order of business and go to elections interspersed with annual reports. Tony called for discussion - it was brief. Someone called the question, someone else second, passed many to one. Motion passed unanimously. Shelley asked when she should put the donuts out. Tony said to wait until we'd taken the first vote. *(The minutes have been reorganized for the newsletter so as not to drive the editor crazy. CK) (Too late - RK)*

Officers' Reports:

President: Tony announced the appearance of Gardner Dozois. "Hi. I'm coming up on the end of three rather interesting, gut-wrenching, nerve-wracking, migraine causing, rather well medicated years." Tony thanked everyone, especially the non-P.S.F.S. members who worked on/for Philcon 1997. Our reputation is a sum total of all our efforts and something we can be proud of. Tony said we was proud and somewhat humbled that the Society entrusted the running of Philcon 1997 to him. He was even more scared and humbled that we've entrusted Philcon 1998 to him. We've accomplished much this year, but there's still a lot to do and hopefully we'll continue.

Don't schedule anything for the weekend of March 6, 1999. This is when Tina and Tony will be married.

Vice President: Over the course of this year we've managed to hook up three times with bookstores that were featuring guests they thought we'd like to see; Michael Swanwick, James Morrow, and a group of 13 writers who were all talking at one time. *(Those 13 writers must have been hard to understand if they were all talking at the same time. CK)* We switched the Society to a new restaurant this year for our after meeting party and they like us. The location of our after meeting get-together is The New Deck Tavern, at 3408 Sansom St. They have reserved a room for 30 for us and will keep the kitchen open until midnight. They've bought an extra case of Chimay for us as well. Other duties assigned to the VP by the Pres. have included inviting guests for Philcon. Oz is negotiating with H. R. Giger's agents for

Philcon's Artist guest. The folks at TNT are dancing in the aisles at the ratings they got for B5. See Oz for the "three secret substances".

Secretary: It was an interesting year. Reminders to the members: Please sign in the book or it doesn't count toward your membership determination. The book is on the Treasurer's table from before the meeting starts until it's declared closed after the guest speaker is done. The Newsletters have gone out on time. Minutes were taken.

If you've got an announcement, meeting, or special event you want listed in the newsletter please give me the information *in writing*. If I don't receive the information in written form I won't guarantee that your notice will be listed (*accurately if at all*) in the Newsletter or on the Hotline. You can e-mail me at rak@netaxs.com, come to the meeting and give the information to me or to Rich (at the Treasurer's table), or snail mail it to the P.O. Box or my home address (in the Society's Directory).

Treasurer: Gary said he's moderately pleased with what's been happening with our financial affairs this year. The form system he's implemented has helped to keep track of things pretty well. He appreciated the help he's gotten from Tina and Pete. They were a great help. The Society may have to trim back on the frivolous spending next year.

2 Year Director (Tina): said, "thanks for electing me." I promise not to get pregnant in the coming year while I'm in office. Tina said she had a great time and is looking forward to serving more on the Board. She thanked everyone who helped with the convention especially the non-P.S.F.S. members.

2 Year Director (Avi): Not here. Avi has resigned as of the January General Meeting. Nominations will be taken and special election will be held at the February General Meeting to find someone to fill the remainder of his term of office (approx. 14 months).

1 Year Director (Shelley): It was an experience being on the Board. It was her first time being on the Board and working for Philcon. She thanked everyone who helped at Philcon. She said she'd be willing to continue doing publicity for the Society. She also brought the donuts.

Special Business: Three judges were picked; Tasha Kelly, Don Field, and Rick Newswanger. Tony read the list of active members and the ballots were passed out.

P.S.F.S. '98 Board Nominations:

President: *Current Nominees:* Tina Blanco, Oz Fontecchio

New Nominees: Hank Smith (Ira K., John D.)

Winner: Tina Blanco

Vice President: *Current Nominees:* Tim Binder, Hank Smith

New Nominees: Sara Paul (John S., Gene O.)

Winner: Tim Binder

Secretary: *Current Nominees:* Carol Kabakjian

New Nominees: Oz Fontecchio (Rick N., Venus M.), Hank Smith

(declined)

Winner: Carol Kabakjian

Treasurer: *Current Nominees:* Gary Feldbaum

New Nominees: Pam Fernsler (Oz F., Lee W.), Oz Fontecchio (Shelley H., several), David Brill (declined)

Winner: Gary Feldbaum

2 Year Director: *Current Nominees:* Tony Finan, Shelley Handen

New Nominees: Hank Smith (Ira K. several), Oz Fontecchio (declined)

Winner: Shelley Handen (*unofficial pending runoff revote)

1 Year Director: *Current Nominees:* Lew Wolkoff, Becky Jollensten, Shelley Handen

New Nominees: Hank Smith (Ira K., several), Pam Fernsler (Becky J., Alan B.), Oz Fontecchio (Neil D., Don F.), Tony Finan (Gary F., several)

Winner: Oz Fontecchio (*unofficial pending runoff revote)

J moved, several second, to close nominations. Passed.

Here is the List of the PSFS Board of Directors for 1998 so far:

President

Tina Blanco

Vice President

Tim Binder

Secretary

Carol Kabakjian

Treasurer

Gary Feldbaum

2 Year Director

(open)

2 Year Director

Shelley Handen *

1 Year Director

Oz Fontecchio *

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Committee Reports:

Art Group: Bridget announced that the meetings are still being held every month. (See Announcements for details.)

Space Sciences: Hank Smith has a list of events to be held in the near future. Please see him for details.

No Fund: John Prenis has stuff. Take it.

Programming: (See Announcements for details.)

Special Events: Mobie Night: none at this time.

Book Discussion: ~~March's~~ book will be *The Postman* by David Brin, March 8 at 2:00pm at Shelley's. See Meeting Notices for address. Call Oz at (215) 563-7538 for more info.

Media Group: Shelley said there wasn't much interest in it for several months, but if anyone is interested please see her.

Cookbook Committee: The book is still open for donations. This book, if we actually make it, can be sold to other fans to make some money for our Society. Please give us your recipes. They can be in any category and can include foods by you, a relative, or friend. They can be something you've made up or gotten from other cookbooks. We'll even take joke recipes, but let us know if it's a joke.

Old Business: none.

New Business:

Member Elections: Joni Dashoff moved, Todd Dashoff sec-

ond, that we waive the usual three meeting requirement and vote all non-members who are still present at this meeting into membership. Passed.

Motion: Lynn Cohen Koehler moved (in writing through her proxy), Tony Finan second, to reinstate the office of SCAPEGOAT. She wrote, "This was a fun tradition, to pick a nemesis, a scapegoat for PSFS. Often it would be to 'honor' some person or organization that had wronged us. This office was never intended for any purpose other than fun." Half said because of this we should continue to it because it was silly and fun and a tradition. The other half said we should NOT do it because it was silly and ridiculous and a waste of time. Hal Haag moved, several second, to table the motion until next month. Passed.

At this point we went to announcements.

Motion: Bridget Boyle moved, several second, to re-open New Business briefly so we could handle the following motion. Passed.

Motion: Terry Graybill moved, Mark Trebing second, that we authorize \$35 for flowers for Lew Wolkoff who is back in the hospital. Passed.

Meeting adjourned around 10:58 pm.

Board of Directors

President	Tony Finan.....(215) 744-6045
Vice President	Oz Fontecchio.....(215) 563-7538
Secretary	Carol Kabakjian.....(610) 623-1139
Treasurer	Gary Feldbaum.....(215) 673-4044
2 Year Director	Tina Blanco.....(215) 744-6045
2 Year Director	<temporarily vacant>
1 Year Director	Shelley Handen.....(610) 642-6061

Questions? Comments? Contact any Board Member at the above numbers or use the Hotline.

To send e-mail to the board, write to bored@cyber.com

PSFS News

PSFS News is the Newsletter and Corporate Minutes of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society, published monthly as a benefit of membership. It is available free to Active and General Members of the Society, and to any SF club or organization wishing to trade newsletters. Non-members or Inactive Members may subscribe at an annual cost of \$10/year.

PSFS News welcomes submissions, and is seeking to expand. Anyone wishing to contribute articles (book or movie reviews, discussion group or convention reports, announcements, etc.) is encouraged to do so. We prefer that articles be e-mailed (send to rak@netaxs.com), but they may be mailed if necessary to the P.O. Box. Deadline is two weeks before the next general meeting.

PSFS News is produced on a Macintosh using ClarisWorks 4.0, and is printed on a DeskWriter 320. Emailed articles may be either submitted as plain text, or as attached ClarisWorks files (use macbinary or binhex if available). Other file formats may be possible. Artwork or photos are also welcome in any Mac graphics format, or we can scan originals if mailed to us.

PSFS News Editor & Publisher: Rich Kabakjian. Secretary: Carol Kabakjian. Regular contributors: Henry Lazarus, Lee Weinstein. All contents © 1997 by The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society and the individual contributors.

Board Meeting Minutes

These are the minutes of the PSFS Board meeting held on January 6th, 1998, at Oz's home. The meeting was called to order at 9:15 pm.

Board members present: Tony, Oz, Carol, and Tina.

Others present: Rich K.

Officers' Reports

President: has a migraine. Only three months to go. "I think what Boston's doing (moving their worldcon bid to Orlando) really blows."

Vice President: Oz has sent out e-mail messages to our choices for Artist Guest and Principal Speaker for Philcon '98, but neither have responded yet.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Not here.

Two Year Director (Tina): "Hi." No report.

Two Year Director (Avi): Not here.

One Year Director (Shelley): No report.

Committee Reports, Old Business: none

New Business:

Member Status: Jerry Crosson's status was listed General with 3 meetings (July, Sept., Oct). He says he was at at least 5, but keeps forgetting to sign in. Rich reminded us that he spoke about the same problem at last January's General meeting which would have given him the fourth meeting. The Board determined that he did qualify for Active status.

Adjourned at 9:54 pm.

The next Board meeting will be held on February 26th at 8:00 pm at Shelley's (see Meeting Notices for details.)

Special Board Meeting

These are the minutes of the PSFS Board meeting held on January 9th, 1998, at the International House. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 pm.

Board members present: Tony, Oz, Carol, Gary, Tina, and Shelley.

Special Business:

Member Status: The Board met briefly to discuss the member status of Frank Richards and John Ashmead. Both were made Active. Vote results: Frank 4-1-1; John 5-0-1.

Adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Call the PSFS Hotline
(215) 957-4004

PSFS & Philcon Meeting Info
Leave Messages
Last Minute Meeting Cancellation Info

Philcon Meeting Minutes

These are the minutes of the Philcon '97 Debriefing meeting held on February 1st, 1998, at the Kabakjians' home in East Lansdowne. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm.

Committee members present: Rich & Carol, Tony & Tina, Todd & Joni, Ira & Becky K., Bob & Winnie, Bruce & Shelley, John & Laura, Gary, Oz, Tim K., Ed, Hank, Don F., Alex L., Bridget, Tasha, Vicki W., Ric I., David B.

Officers' Reports:

Chairman: Tony thanked everyone for putting in all the effort they did. He was a little amazed that he walked away from Philcon without a horror story. He asked that we don't try to make up for it next year. All in all he's happy with the way it went. We used the Division Head System this year it worked well so we'll use it again next year, but more extensively. We don't expect to have as many large meetings next year.

Vice-Chair: Oz said he spent almost all of his time in Program Operations. He thanked Sharon, Diane, Shelley, Bruce, Rosemarie and everyone else who helped to take care of the pros.

Secretary: Carol had no report as Secretary.

Treasurer: Gary said things didn't go quite as smoothly as he'd hoped, but they went pretty well. He thanked everyone for their cooperation in filling out the forms. Please remember to fill them out completely (specifically dates). Gary thanked his assistants (Tina and Pete) he couldn't have done the job without them. The final numbers aren't available yet, we're still paying bills. Artists have sent us thank-you notes. If you still have unpaid con related bills you must hand them in ASAP.

Department Reports:

Film/Video/Anime: Tony said "film" will disappear next year. We will have video and wide-screen video, but no film. Film has gone the way of 8-tracks. The technology is antiquated and film libraries are disappearing.

Science Programming: Hank said he had a good time and he'd like to do it again. He'd like to see the track expanded. *Program suggestion for next year: The Science Behind Toys.*

Logistics: Bob said thanks to Hank the department went more smoothly than usual. Unfortunately, we still don't have enough volunteers to man the room. Bob asked if we could have more help for the soda run. Carol said she lost 2 or 3 to the storm in the New England area. Bob thanked Masquerade for not needing him to go to north NJ. Hank complained that there was no Staff listed in the Program Book. *(If any department wants their Assistants and Staff to have preprinted badges and be listed in the Program Book they will have to let Registration and Publication know before their deadlines. CK)* Joni requested that we rent the next larger size truck for the Art Show / Con Suite move.

A.V. Coordinator: Tim said everything went fine for the most part. Most requests went to Programming and then to A.V. however a number of people showed up in the Green Room panicking over where their equipment was. Tim said he would have an A.V. schedule posted in the Green Room that the guests could check and update with their requirements. Oz thought programming requests were better off this year than ever before.

Philcon TV: Todd asked what happened to it. Tony said there were problems beyond his control, but he'd work on it for next year. Babysitting and Con Suite personnel would like to see the Masquerade during Philcon if possible.

Publications: Tim said the big thing last year was we asked for more money. We got more money. We had a bigger Program Book. Fans were happy with the bigger book. Coordinating all publications through one department was a good idea. There were some snafus, but now that he knows what the problem spots he'll be able to smooth them out. Tim extended his services to the other department to do forms, etc. Program book ads were better this year, but could still use some improvement. Ad sales last year ago was about \$400 this year it was about \$800. This year our Dealers were contacted and some placed adds. It was suggested that we include something about ads in the Dealers' Mailing for 1998. The Pocket Program looked good and was well received. We need to be able to have someone from Programming (Oz) & Registration (Rich) proofread the program & pocket program books for spelling & content. This could be done through hardcopy or e-mail. Tim said his department could not stop and wait for anyone's approval of copy, but he could supply a copy of material as they receive it. Could we get a Pocket Program that actually fits in the pocket? Various folding styles were looked at. They also looked at cutting down the size of the pages. No matter what size they tried they always seemed to find a pocket it wouldn't fit. Also cutting it down would reduce the amount of information that could be put on a page. It would also increase the costs. *Suggestion: put an extra "pull-out" page in the middle of the Pocket Program that has just the program name, room names, & time which could be folded as small as necessary to fit in any pocket.* Tim said he plans to have all program participants supply their own bios next year.

Programming: Oz said this year, for the first time we went to a division setup to gain an overall view of what the other programming sub-departments were doing and for better coordination. We were able to stay within our deadlines. We increased program by 26 items. Most of the program items were well attended. The pros like us. They really like us. One even sent us a book in thanks. Oz thanked Tasha for all the pre-con work she did. Tasha said it was a hard job. It was the first time she did it. The payoff was seeing everything go so smoothly. Pros and artists enjoyed themselves and fans said it was the best programming they'd at-

tended ever. We have a good reputation for well rounded, cutting edge programming. Oz said we had a TV interview during the weekend. Other cons copy our programming and use our program book "blurbs" word for word. Oz will try to get a copy of the news video. Hank suggested that there be better communication between the different programming sub-departments and the programming coordinator before the con. *Requests: a line for program participant's guest; a line about doing a pre-school or youth orientated program; a check-off box for those who would be willing to sign autographs.* Rich requested that Programming include a line on their response form for the name of the program participant's guest. Tasha's handling of the program database was invaluable. It's the first time we've had one. Rich strongly suggested that programming find someone who could handle it next year since Tasha wouldn't be able to. The e-mail updates were invaluable to Registration. (*I think so too.* CK) Alex asked that programming try to have the correct information for power requirements.

Dealers Room & Dealers Room Security: Mitch thanked Personnel for supplying people to watch the front door. They actually had a full schedule for the entire weekend on Friday. The "Caution" tape on the back doors worked well. Everything went smoothly. Mitch asked if he could be made aware that there would be news crews coming through the Dealers Room before it happened. Devra did a real good job with the Dealers Room. We had three more tables than last year and everyone thought we had more room in the aisles. We should try to have a greater variety of dealers for next year. We have a minimum dealer proportion requirement of 1/3 books, 1/3 sf oriented, and 1/3 misc. Franklin Mint wants to come back.

Hotel Liaison: There was some confusion about which floors were party floors on Friday, but Laura got taken care of with efficiency. Someone requested if we could get extended hours for the pool and hot-tub for committee. *Don't expect Laura to remember when you tell her things verbally. Write it, make sure she writes it down, or e-mail it to her.* All hotel requests **must** be in writing and given to Laura in a timely manner before the convention. If you don't make the request in writing don't come to Ops, the Chair, or the Hotel Liaison and bitch about it. Tony said, "I will tell you where to go and asbestos underwear will help, but only a little bit." Laura thinks it's a courtesy to any department head to not expect them to remember things told them. (*Please make all requests to any department heads in writing. It will make everyone's lives easier.* CK) You will need to fill out a new form for Philcon 1998's Liaison requests. Everyone attending Philcon was to get free parking if they told the front desk they were attending the con. Make sure to ask for the discount if you use the restaurants.

P.F.S.F. Sales: Tony thanked Ric for the great job he did on such short notice. We took a lot of '98 pre-reg's.

Gaming Room: Becky said everything went well. The

gamers liked the cereal and candy.

R.P.G. Liaison: Tony reported for Leslie. The game went on. We got some money back. It went well.

Exhibitions: Ira made an attempt to get the Post Office, but got no response. There were no unusual problems. Ira thanked Lew Wolkoff, Neal Allen, and Ira Donewitz for their help. We will have the Mummies next year, it was just a bad coincidence that they had to move about the same time as our con. Ira had a box with him. He'd saved some of the good stuff for the committee from the freebies and handed them out.

Masquerade Tech.: Alex said things went pretty well this year. The Clams concert went well. Alex asked Tim if he could have more A.V. Coordination next year. We had 29 video cameras in the room for Masquerade. We're going to change the style of lighting. The video feed to Masq. Green Room was well received and we'll do it again. We may do it for the con's Green Room and Ops. Logistics won't have to go to New Jersey next year. Rich requested a list of names of the tech crew so Registration could have badges ready.

Babysitting: Winnie said we had some. It went well. No children were injured. The room wasn't trashed. We played with them. We talked with them. We changed their diapers. Only one threw up. We'd like to expand what we do for childcare. Winnie said she likes the view of the parking lot. It will allow a quick escape with the children in an emergency.

Quartermaster: David said he could have used more help. We didn't lose anything. We should get 2 or 3 magliners (heavy duty hand trucks).

Registration: Rich said we had 1541. (*haven't heard from Green Room so this count may be low*); 1210 paid (about 80 down from last year, but may be from the storm); 275 came in on Friday; 240 came in on Saturday, about half of the Saturdays were "one days". Shelley requested the guest badges be in alpha order not numeric. Gary requested two sets of badges for Treasury staff; one with Department name and one without. Joni said it was nice that the Department name was on her badge as it made it easier talk to the hotel about her department. Rich said the 3-part forms were very well received by everyone. The fans liked the idea of having a receipt and their copies **came in handy** to verify membership for the person who had lost his badge.

Masquerade: Vicky said we had one of the biggest on the East coast last year including the Worldcon. We had 28 entries. She thought the increase in programming spots helped. Joni asked if there was an official video and could she get a copy? They would get her an order form.

Con Suite: Tony thanked Carol for taking over for Ivy at the last minute and thanked Rich for releasing her from Reg. Carol would like to thank the person who sent Clam Chowder (the group) up to the Con Suite. They came up

late Saturday afternoon and serenaded her because they'd heard that she couldn't get to their concerts. They made her weekend. Tony thanked Danny Lieberman for getting more soda for Con Suite. Several departments went home with leftover soda. It was well attended. We had lots of chocolate and other food. If we can unplug the phone and block all pay channels the adjoining room will be used for TV viewing instead of smoking. A sort of children's con suite. Bill Flynn is my new Heir apparent. He's very enthused with working the con suite. The hotel staff was very helpful and prompt in fixing the toilet and phone cord that broke. We need more ice for Saturday. We need a more accurate count of parties and which night(s) they want ice, etc. *If you have any empty copier paper boxes left from the con please return them to Carol for reuse.*

Programming Ops: Tony thanked Shelley and Bruce for all the work they did since they weren't well informed. Shelley has a box of supplies.

Art Show: Joni repeated the thanks from the Artists. The lighting functioned. We had to get the electrician to turn on the electricity. Joni said she needs to get (3 rolls) gaffers tape. Alex volunteered to get it for her. The new lighting took a little longer to set up and they were looking at the wrong floor plan, but the correct set up got done. The reception went well even without the drinks. The computer system worked pretty well and the next stage will go into effect soon. Once they get all the bugs out of the system we'll be using it again. The system takes more manpower, but helped speed things up. Joni said she'd like to have a second phone line if possible. Once the bugs were worked out with the swipe box it worked well. Alex suggested we get a cellular swipe box for next year.

Operations: Todd said Ops happened. It went very well. We had no major problems with damage to the hotel. We had a couple minor sickness cases and Todd thanked the EMT staff who were able to take care of them. Todd thanked all the people who worked for him, especially Sarah Cole who worked the late, late shift. We had the usual minor problems. There was a mix up with sodas for one or two departments, but it was worked out. We don't mind sharing the Ops room with the other departments.

Volunteers: Ed said that three people asked for T-shirts instead of rollovers.

Computer Room: Avi reported in writing. He needed an outside line, but didn't have one. He said he would need an outside line for next year.

Publicity, Advertising, & Press/Public Relations: Lynn Cohen Koehler reported in writing. She thanked everyone who helped her. She thanked everyone who helped at Phil-con. She thanked Hank for all the work he put in pre-con to distribute flyers to bookstores, conventions, etc. She thanked Anne Norton who helped her at con. She thanked Bridget Boyle who put the ads together and got them to the

newspapers. We gave out 5 pairs of tickets. We got about a dozen coupons. We had several reporters and at least one TV station show up. She thinks we should attend more cons and have parties. Tony thanked Bill for the sound equipment he got us. Hank liked working for Publicity almost as he likes working Science Programming. He thinks our membership wasn't down more because of the efforts his department.

Transportation: Tina used a full tank of gas. She spend a lot of time on the road. She would like a beeper for next year. She doesn't mind picking up or dropping off other people if she's at the airport and has room.

Committee Appointments: as of Feb. 1, 1998

A.V. Coordinator, Tim Kahler; **Art Show,** Joni Brill Dashoff; **Babysitting,** Winnie Whyte-Schwier; **Chairman & Video,** Tony Finan; **Chair's Bodyguard,** Keith Frye; **Con Suite & Secretary,** Carol Kabakjian; **Dealers Room,** Devra Langsam; **Dealers Room Security,** Mitch Marmel; **Exhibitions,** Ira Kaplowitz; **Fixed Functions Section Head,** John Syms; **Gaming Room,** Becky Kaplowitz; **Hotel Liaison & Administration Section Head,** Laura Paskman Syms; **Logistics,** ~~Bob Schwier~~; **Masquerade,** Vicki Warren; **Masquerade Tech.,** Alex Latzko; **Operations,** Todd Dashoff; **P.F.S.F. Sales,** Ric Ivey; **Programming & Prog. Section Head,** Oz Fontecchio; **Programming Ops,** Shelley Handen & Bruce Bloom; **Quartermaster,** David Brill; **Science Programming,** Hank Smith; **Publications,** Tim Kahler; **Registration,** Rich Kabakjian; **Transportation,** Tina Blanco; **Treasurer,** Cary Feldbaum; **Volunteers,** Ed Rutkowski.

First Meeting of the 1998 committee: See last page for meeting information.

Adjourned at 4:55 pm.



Philadelphia Science Fiction Society

P.O. Box 8303 PHILA PA 191 18:47 02/06/98 #23 PM

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PO Box 3566

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Meeting Notices

General Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, General Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of each month in the South America Room at International House, 37th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Business meeting starts at 8 pm. Program starts at 9 pm.

The elections of the Board of Directors of P.S.F.S. will be held at the Annual Meeting in January 1998. If the January meeting is canceled, the elections will be held at the first General Meeting in 1998 that takes place.

Date

February 20, 1998 3rd Fri.

March 13, 1998

April 10, 1998 (Good Friday)

May 8, 1998

June 12, 1998

Guest/Agenda

Jonathan Lethem

Stuart Moore

(unscheduled)

(unscheduled)

Annual Hugo Panel

Date

Board of Directors

Thur., Feb. 26, 1998, 8:00 pm

Host/Location

Shelley Handen, 28 Rosedale Rd, Wynnewood; (610) 642-6061

Philcon '98

Sun., March 1, 1998, 1:00 pm

Todd & Joni Dashoff, 830 Barlow St, Philadelphia; (215) 676-4194

About the Society

The Philadelphia Science Fiction Society (PSFS) is a non-profit organization that meets monthly to discuss and promote science fiction and fantasy in literature, the arts, and popular culture. Meetings are held the second Friday of each month at International House, 37th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia. Meetings consist of business proceedings from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., followed by a guest speaker involved in some area of Science Fiction or Fantasy, such as writers, editors, artists, publishers, etc.

In addition, PSFS sponsors an annual science fiction conference, Philcon, and has many special interest subgroups; such as the Book Discussion Group, which meets monthly to discuss a work of science fiction or fantasy; and the Special Events Group, which attends science fiction and fantasy movies and other events.

Membership in the society is open to everyone. Becoming a member is easy. Attend your first meeting; we'll say "Hello." At your second meeting, you can nominate yourself for membership or ask someone else to nominate you. At the next meeting you attend following your nomination, you're eligible to be voted in as a General Member. Our current dues are \$15 for a full year (\$24 for couples), and attendance at 4 meetings each year maintains the status of Active Member.