



PSFS News

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The Newsletter of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society
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May 2004

Our Guest This Month: James Morrow

With the recent publication of *The Eternal Footman*, a novel about an existential pestilence, James Morrow offers up his final satiric meditation on the death of God.

The first book of the Godhead Trilogy, *Towing Jehovah*, winner of the World Fantasy Award and the Grand Prix de l'Imaginaire, recounts the efforts of a supertanker captain to entomb the Corpus Dei in an Arctic glacier. The sequel, *Blameless in Abaddon*, a New York Times Notable Book of the Year, tells of a small-town Pennsylvania judge who prosecutes the Corpus Dei before the World Court for crimes against humanity.

Now that he has finished with his Creator, and vice-versa, Morrow is turning his attention to *The Last Witchfinder*, an historical novel about the coming of the Enlightenment and the birth of the scientific worldview. This epic-in-progress centers around a woman whose father hangs witches for a living in Restoration England, and it dramatizes the meeting that almost took place in 1725 between Sir Isaac Newton and the young Benjamin Franklin.

Morrow's other novels include *This Is the Way the World Ends*, a Nebula finalist, and *Only Begotten Daughter*, winner of the World Fantasy Award. Most of his short fiction is collected in Bible Stories for Adults, including the Nebula Award-winning fable, "The Deluge." His 1991 novella, *City of Truth*, also received a Nebula Award.

Born in Philadelphia in 1947, Morrow spent his adolescent years making short 8mm fantasy films with his friends, including adaptations of Samuel Taylor Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" and Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart." His affection for satiric and philosophical fiction comes largely from the novels he studied in his high-school World Literature course.

After receiving a bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1969, then a master's degree from Harvard University in 1971, Morrow worked for several years as an English teacher, a cartoonist, and an independent filmmaker. Between 1977 and 1978 he produced the manuscript of his first novel, *The Wine of Violence*, and shortly afterwards became addicted to writing fiction.

Morrow now lives in State College, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Kathryn, his twelve-year-old son, Christopher, and

two enigmatic dogs: Pooka, a Border collie, and Amtrak, a



stray Doberman that Jim and Kathy rescued from a train station in Orlando, Florida. He devotes his leisure hours to his family, his Lionel toy electric trains, and his video collection of vulgar Biblical spectacles.

About PSFS News

PSFS News is the newsletter and corporate minutes of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society (PSFS), published monthly as a benefit of membership.

Submissions: Anyone wishing to contribute articles (book or movie reviews, discussion group or convention reports, announcements, etc.) is encouraged to do so. Articles can be e-mailed to "secretary@psfs.org" but they may be mailed, if necessary, to the PSFS post office box. Deadline is two weeks before the next general meeting. Artwork, Sketches, Comics, or Photos are also welcome in any graphics format, or we can scan originals if mailed to us. (Originals will not be returned.)

Subscriptions: PSFS News is available free to active and general members of PSFS, and to any science fiction club or organization wishing to trade newsletters. Non-members or inactive members may subscribe at an annual cost of \$15/year.

PSFS News is published by the Secretary of the Philadelphia Science Fiction Society.

General Meeting Minutes

These are the minutes of the General meeting held on April 16, 2004, at the Franklin Inn Club. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:45pm.

Proxies: Lisa Blanco to Tina Finan

Officers' Reports:

President: Tim reported that the new officers are still in a transition period in terms of getting materials transferred over from old officers, the secretary in particular. Tim repeated his request that anyone who wishes to be on

a committee, even those people currently serving on a committee, contact him about it.

Vice President: Suzanne said that since Tim is not dead or dying, she had nothing to report. However, she did take the opportunity to say how much she enjoyed being president, and that she hoped that everyone will treat Tim with the same level of respect she received during her Presidency.

Secretary: Jenna Lynn announced that Nathan had brought newsletters to the meeting and that they could be picked up at the front of the room. She also report that, as secretary, she intends to resume regular publishing and mailing of the newsletter.

Treasurer: Jeff reported that he doesn't have the recent Vanguard numbers, due to the fact that Nathan had not yet turned over the key to the P.O. Box. The totals reported were:

Green Checking: \$5,026.34
Blue Checking: \$1,000
Paypal: \$229.06
Vanguard: \$30,500 (This is only an approximate total, per the statement from September, 2003)
Approximate total, given the available numbers: \$36,700.

Jeff also reported that, in response to the request of several people, he is going to start bringing a printout of current status of each budget line item to General meetings. Anyone interesting in viewing these printed out summaries may see Jeff at upcoming meetings.

Senior Two Year Director (Will): No report.

Junior Two Year Director (Jen): No report.

One Year Director (Diane): Not present during officers' reports.

Committee Reports:

Philcon: Jeff Linder mentioned that he has been very busy with a number of personal matters, including buying a house. He reported that there will be a Philcon meeting shortly and that he is working on getting a date and location set. He is trying to arrange for the meeting to be held at Valley Forge, in order to allow people to get a sense of that facility. Christina Yoder is currently developing a flyer, which should be ready for distribution at the upcoming May conventions. Jeff announced two committee appointments: Rosemarie Freeman will be doing Green Room; and Hank Smith will be doing Science Programming. Jeff is also seeking a volunteer to do at-con registration.

Space Sciences: Hank Smith announced several upcoming events. June 28-30, the 3rd Annual International Space Elevator Conference will be held in Washington, D.C.. Also in Washington, July 11-13, will be the NSS Legislative Conference. Hank also mentioned

several upcoming exhibits of scientific interest at the American Museum of Natural History, in New York City. Please see Hank for details and further information.

Programming: Tony Finan reported for the programming committee. He thanked everyone who has given him suggestions for upcoming guests thus far, and requested that people continue to pass their suggestions along to him. He announced people are still needed to join the programming committee, and that interested parties should contact him. Tony also requested that anyone willing to lend their copies of any Hugo nominated works (both media and literary) for the Hugo panel contact Terry or himself.

During the programming report, Tony made a motion that the July meeting be moved to the 3rd week of the month. Mark Trebbing seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Special Order of Business:

Dues: There were two motions still on the floor from the prior meeting. The primary motion was from the treasurer, who had proposed that dues be raised to \$60 per year, per individual, which could be paid in \$15 installments on a quarterly basis. The second motion was from Gary Feldbaum, who had recommended an amendment to the motion, changing the increase to \$30, per year, per person, with the establishment of a voluntary "sustaining membership" for \$60 per year, per person.

Arthur Tansky moved to substitute the following for Gary's amendment: \$36 per year, per person, with a suggested \$5 donation per meeting for those attendees who do not pay dues.

After much discussion about how the various motions would be handled, Tim moved that only the basic dues amount be determined first, with the question of a couples rate and/or any type of voluntary dues to be handled separately. There were no objections.

The two amounts proposed in the amendments (\$30 vs. \$36) were briefly discussed and a vote was taken to select one of them, which would then be discussed along with the \$60 motion. The vote was many to three, in favor of the \$36 proposal.

Following this, there was a great deal of discussion regarding various opinions on the two remaining proposals (\$36 vs. \$60).

At 9:02pm, Gary moved to extend the business meeting for 10 minutes. The motion was seconded by Hank Smith, and was passed, many to two.

Shelley Handen then moved the previous question and was seconded by Joni Dashoff. Before ending discussion, Tim asked for a show of hands if anyone still wished to speak on either motion. Tina Finan raised her hand, and Tim asked that she be allowed to speak. There were no objections.

After her remarks, a vote was called to choose between the two remaining proposals on the floor. The results were in favor of the motion to raise dues to \$36 over the motion to raise dues to \$60, by a clear majority.

The motion to increase dues to \$36, per year, per person was then called to a vote and was passed, many to one.

Jeff moved that the couples rate be set at \$60 per year and that the family rate be set at \$84 per year; the motion was seconded by Rich Feree. Tim called for any discussion and no one wished to speak about the motion. The motion was then brought to a vote and passed unanimously.

Gary then moved that any remaining subjects regarding dues become a special order of business for the next meeting; Mark Trebbing seconded. Tim suggested that they remain as unfinished business, which was agreed to by unanimous consent. The business portion of the meeting then ended.

After a brief recess, Tim went over the "membership spiel" for newcomers. Following that and several announcements, Oz Fontecchio introduced the guest speaker, Warren Lapine, who spoke at length. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30pm.

Science Fiction for May 2004

by Henry Leon Lazarus

One of the special treats I have, in writing this column, is to discover a really fun read in a book that I that I otherwise might have missed. I read a lot, as you might guess from the number of books in this column, but there are more books printed every month than I can possibly read. Actually I don't know anyone who could actually read them, even if they didn't have to take time to earn a living. So, as the books come in I take a quick guess as to what might be fun and what might be dropped. I love being fooled by a book that looks generic and turns out special.

Lorna Freeman tells of a possible war between the human and magical borderlands kingdom when *Covenants* (paper from ROC) are broken by poachers killing magical people for their body parts (unicorn horns and dragon skins). Rabbit is a farm boy, a run-away apprentice serving as a trooper in the kings army when we meet him. What Ms. Freeman adds later is that his parents had been nobles in the human kingdom until they crossed into the borderlands to farm—making him a member of the nobility, and his apprenticeship was to a mage—and he is just coming into his power. Add in the walking mountain cat, the ambassador from the borderlands, sent to stop the potential war, the captain of Rabbit's troupe who turns into a dragon in Rabbit's presence, the King of the human lands who doesn't seem to age, and the possibility that the lands the humans conquered a generation before are becoming fae. Of course Rabbit grows in power as the tale goes on, and it is exciting and fun—and can't emphasize enough how much fun this was. This is for rereading and woe to the person who tries to get it from me.

Three books this month took the same premise: In the future, when translation gates allow instantaneous jumps between solar systems, people face asexual intelligent beings who cause problems.

Julie E. Czerneda's *Survival (Species Imperative #1)* (hard from DAW) introduces an interesting character, Mackenzie Conner, biologist in the northeast who has never even left Earth and has spent years charting salmon migrations in the northeast US. Stubborn to the point of pigheadedness, she hates the disturbance when the Dhryn, Byrnn visits to ask for her help in some hypotheses he has established about the area of empty worlds called the Chasm. Then Mac's friend is kidnapped in an attack on her research station and Mac finds herself fleeing to the Dhryn home world for safety from the attacking Ro, creatures who steal Dhryn children. Dhryn adults are asexual because only a few survive the transition to the sexual progenitors who lay thousands of eggs to create the next generation. Ms. Czerneda has created a biological puzzle for her heroine to solve—the puzzle of the destroyed civilizations in the Chasm, the puzzle of why the Dhryn find biology indecent, and the puzzle of the Ro who avoid contact with all the other species linked together by the translation gates. It's a lot to pull together, but Ms. Czerneda does. I'm looking forward to the next puzzle that Mac faces.

A Boy and his Tank (paper) won *The War With Earth* (paper) and now Leo Frankowski and David Grossman tell how Mickoloi has to face *Kren of the Mithegai* (hard from Baen). Actually most of the book is spent describing Kren's fun rise to power on his world from a mine slave to that of the ruling duke, mainly by winning athletic contests and proper investments of his bets. The Mithegai not only dominate their world, they fill all the ecological niches in the various stages of their growth, except for the grass that the smallest forms of them eat. Adults constantly drop eggs/sperm and the fertilized ones grow easily on the

grass until they get big enough to eat younger versions of themselves. Adult Mithegai eat and enjoy torturing their children. Not only that but brain cells can migrate to the new body, allowing new bodies for older minds and transfer of talents. The Mithegai are egocentric, but can work together for mutual gain. When new worlds are discovered, it is a simple matter to let more of them reach adulthood to have enough to invade another world, wipe out all life forms, and seed it with the grass that the youngest Mithegai live on. The actual war is in the next book—which probably will be as much fun as this one was.

Peter F. Hamilton tells of a future utopia in which people live for centuries, and which worlds are connected by train lines. The asexual beings on *Pandora's Star* (hard from Del Ray) are locked behind a force field barrier a thousand light years from the human, slow-growing empire and are discovered by an astronomer who sees the field going up. A star ship is constructed and an expedition sent, which somehow causes the barrier field to drop and releases aliens who immediately want to conquer the galaxy. There are also elf-like aliens who have created non-technological gates on forest pathways, a strange resistance group convinced that aliens have taken control of the human government, a three-century old detective who has been hunting for one of the leaders of that resistance for over a century, and other complications. The book ends in the middle with the war just starting.

S. Andrew Swann's *Broken Crescent* (paper from DAW) is a fun new version of an old tale about a computer hacker sent into a world of magic where the magic can be manipulated like computer programs. Nate Black is translated from Earth as part of one God's bet with another—one in which humans used magical to wipe out the language abilities of aliens and use them as slaves. This is a dark, harsh world. Nate not only has to learn the human language, but also the original language of the aliens—the language of magic, before somebody tries to kill him. It doesn't help that there is a revolt going on.

Fun, impossible to put down, and with a nice twist at the end.

Raymond E. Feist has a second tale of *Talon of the Silver Hawk* (paper). This time the spy in the world of Midkemia has to go undercover in the service of the *King of Foxes* (hard from Eos), the Duke of Olasko, who is plotting to becoming the new king and has a magician working for him who is plotting far worse. Then he's discovered, and thrown into an inescapable prison with his arm cut off (thankfully this a fantasy tale where arms can be regrown) and somehow has to escape. I had fun with this exciting tale, and only regret that this seems to be the conclusion of this fun and exciting series.

E. E. Knight's second tale of Earth taken over by the aura-eating Kurians and their vampire-like reapers has Valentine, who had learned the *Way of the Wolf* (paper), facing a court martial for a battle gone bad, and convinced to learn *The Choice of the Cat* (paper from Roc) and become one of the spies of the human resistance. This is a hard, low-population, low-technology future in which most people are slaves, worked till they drop and then milked from their blood and aura. The Kurian enemies, the lifeweavers induce new talents in humans who fight the Kurians for them. This time Valentine gets faster reflexes and night vision. Then it's a trek into Kurian territory to find information about new reaper warriors, the warriors who wear the Nazi cross and their leader, the General. Valentine is still too much of a wolf to just cut and

run, and soon has new allies to fight the new evil. I dare you to try to stop reading this exciting tale of human resistance in the face of impossible odds.

I really loved Caroline Stevermer's tale of *A College of Magics* (paper) for women. I fact I read it twice. Now she tells of the male version of a magical college, this one located in England, and of *A Scholar of Magics* (hard from Tor) who causes complications by refusing his appointment as Ward of the West—opening up magical opportunity for an evil Duke and one of Glasscastle administrators. There's also a secret weapon, a gun which changes people to animals. Our heroes include a visiting sharp-shooter from England hired to help researchers at the college, and a secondary character from the first tale—whose car driving (this is the first decade of the 20th century) adds to the excitement. This is fun, but the resolution came too easy.

I didn't know what to make of Kelley Armstrong's tale of witches, sorcerers, lawyers and *Dime Store Magic* (paper from Bantam spectre). Think of it as a mix of *Gilmore Girls* and *Charmed*. Paige, at twenty-three has inherited her mother's position as head of the coven in a small town near Boston. Savannah, a thirteen-year-old, has been in her charge since the girl's mother died. Enter the evil sorcerer with tons of money who claims Savannah as his daughter, even though Paige is sure that witches and sorcerers can't have children together. The local lawyer easily stops the claim, sans blood test which sorcerers won't give, and then the fun begins. There's a sorcerer lawyer who wants to represent Paige for free and won't go away. Soon Paige has the press accusing her of witchcraft, strange human, want-to-be witches (they can't it's genetic), the local lawyer murdered with magic, and the dead rising. This really grew on me and I look forward to more.

It's always 3 a.m. in the Nightside—a magical part of London where private eye John Taylor, who has a talent for finding things, has to handle the case of a *Nightingale's Lament* (paper from ACE by Simon R. Green), a singer with the ability to cause her fans to suicide. Is it the strange managers with somnambulant body guards who beat up John, or Dead Boy who has to keep patching up his corpse? This is a fun series, light but over-the-top in conception. I just keep waiting for Mr. Green to add more information about John Taylor's infamous mother and why he is prophesied to bring down Nightside.

Harry Turtledove completes his tale of a magical World War as his world comes *Out of the Darkness* (hard from TOR) with a magical power equivalent to an H bomb, and the destruction of years of war to clean up after. The view-point characters, as in the other books, are far more captivating than the war itself—a war in which it is difficult to root for either side to win. My problem is that Mr. Turtledove makes the war too real — a compliment, I guess, to his writing ability. I just wouldn't want to live through such a horrible event.

A young prince takes off on the run, his brother murdered and the usurper's troops hunting him. Mitchell Smith starts his exciting tale in a future America in the next ice age, *Moonrise* (hard from Forge). Boston paid to overthrow Baj's brother and the young man wants revenge against the city that creates human/animal combinations like the half-fox girl and the half-bear soldier who become Baj's companions as they head north to the ice that has buried the city. Aided by a flying woman, Patienté, whose child was stolen by the city, they survive the primitive tribes that pervade the land, then with help from a tribe that lives on the ice, and from a rebel army, they attack Boston by traveling over the ice. Fun and exciting—but I find it hard to believe that civilization could sink so low and not adapt to the ice age.

Victoria Strauss has a tragedy of religious belief taking place in the land of Arsace where they believe that their God was wounded and recovering in *The Burning Land* (hard from Eos) which I had to buy. During a communist-type revolution, some of the religious escaped into the desert and found a new community—allowing those with the talent to shape (very powerful talent) free to help their small community, rather than have their talents controlled by drugs. After the revolution is overthrown, dreamers sense this community and an expedition is sent with a young shaper, priest in charge. Disaster strikes, his medicine lost, Gyalo uses his shaper talents to provide water and food for the few survivors. When he returns to the outside world, his revelations about this small community's heresies has the religious leaders send an army to wipe out the heresy—but one of their powerful shapers survives to bring the war back to them. Intense, Victoria Strause's use of an arbitrary

theology is a parable about all theology and violence which is especially apt for today's world.

Aspect is reprinting early tales of the vampire, Sanct' Germain Ragozy and his travails in the past—historical vampire novels in which the vampire lives off of sexual energy as much as blood and can survive daylight— which I missed. *Blood Games* (paper) tells of Sanct' Germain in Rome during the time of Nero and Vespasian. It is notable for the introduction of Olivia who becomes a vampire in this tale and appears in other tales as well as Rogerian who becomes the vampire's servant in this and later tales. Sanct's Germain has to fight sharks in the Roman Games when politics gets away from him, but mainly it's about surviving during Nero's excessiveness and Vespasian's harsh attempt to harshly restore order.

Inventing Memory (hard from TOR) begins with a slave in Sumeria who can see the Gods and who becomes a priestess because of it. At least until she becomes pregnant and is whipped to death. Then Anne Harris returns to the modern world with a love story about a woman fascinated with female power in the ancient world, and a young man looking for an easy life by stealing identities. It was disappointing to find that the version of Sumeria, which seemed well-researched fantasy with the Gods coming to life, is just a created virtual world that Wendy has been locked into and that Ray has to return to her life to rescue her. Interesting, but I didn't believe the virtual reality technology.

Greg Iles mixes up three themes, usually not mixable, in his thriller *The Footprints of God* (paper from Pocket). We start with the concept of brain-downloading that many science fiction writers use as a future basis of immortality. Dr. David Tennant is an ethicist on the super-secret project. Bad guys think he is trying to shut down the project and start him on his run. It takes a super computer, Trinity, to contain the human brain and, in the later half of the book, this computer tries to use the internet to take over the world (another old theme). Then there is God (yes the one in heaven) who is using David to communicate with humanity the way he did with J.C.—I guess for the Christians in the audience who were getting bored. Silly and, not keepable, but fun to read and great for a boring day.

A young prince of china is born with an outlaw mark, *The Sign of the Qin* (hard from Hyperion), his mother is exiled and finds her way to a tattooed monk (whose moving pictures foretell the future); other outlaws. Children of the Dragon King of the North Sea go off to find the young prince who is aging rapidly to adulthood because he is the prophesied starman. Monkey is assigned to help him by the Master Hand in heaven and soon gets himself in trouble. L. G. Bass's tale of ancient China, the first of a trilogy, ranges from cute to confusing. While it gave me a headache, someone more interested in Chinese fantasy would find it fascinating.

Bill Balwin's *The Helmswan* is available in audio Drama from Timberwolf for those who like to listen to their fun sf. It lasts 10 hours.

The novelization of *Hellboy* (Paper from Pocket by Yvonne Navarro) is out. It's a fun movie with a dumb plot.

Ace has reprinted Ian R. Macleod's *The Light Years*, about victorian magical mines, as a trade paperback.

Collections this month include: *The Dragon Quartet* (hard from Tor and edited by Marvin Kaye) is the one worth keeping with four novelettes by major authors about, of course, dragons; *The New Lovecraft Circle* (trade from Del Rey and edited by Robert M. Price) with new tales based on H. P. Lovecraft's world; Ramsey Campbell is *Alone with the Horrors* (hard from TOR); then there's Dennis McKiernan's *Red Slippers* (hard from Roc) with tales told in a tavern in Mithgar; *Alternate Generals* (paper from Baen and edited by Harry Turtledove) alternate history tales; and *Faerie Tales* (paper from Daw and edited by Martin H. Greenberg and Russell Davis) about the inhabitants of Faerie.

Other older reprints include: Anne McCaffrey and S. M. Stirling's two novels about *The City and the Ship* (hard from Baen); Two novels of David Drakes's *Seas of Venus* (paper from Baen); and James E\H. Schmitz's tales of the *Eternal Frontier* (paper from Baen).

Hugo award nominations for 2003 include: *Paladin of Souls* by Lois McMaster Bujold (Eos); *Humans* by Robert Sawyer (Tor Books); *Ilium* by Dan Simmons (Eos)

Singularity Sky by Charles Stross (Ace Books); and *Blind Lake* by Robert Charles Wilson (Tor Books). As usual they are not the books I would have picked as the best of the year, but they're all good reads.

Contacting the Society

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--|
| President | Timothy Binder | (610) 352-9131 | board@psfs.org |
| Vice President | Suzanne Rosin | (610) 667-5248 | president@psfs.org |
| Secretary | Jenna Lynn Binder | (610) 352-9131 | vp@psfs.org |
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| 2 Year Director | Jen Madden | (215) 742-5771 | wflynn@psfs.org |
| 1 Year Director | Diane Weinstein | (215) 288-4827 | jmadden@psfs.org |
| | | | dweinstein@psfs.org |

COMMITTEES & POSITIONS

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Archivist | (Carol Kabakjian) | |
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| Corporate Attorney | Gary Feldbaum | |
| Dinner at the Franklin Inn | Suzanne Rosin | dinner@psfs.org |
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| Milton Rothman | Jeff Linder | |
| Movie Expeditions | Oz Fontecchio | |
| No Fund | (John Desmond) | |
| Oversight | Todd Dashoff (chair) | |
| Philip K. Dick Award | Gary Feldbaum | |
| Philcon 2004 | Jeff Linder (chair) | |
| Postmaster | Tim Binder | postmaster@psfs.org |
| Programming (April-May) | Oz Fontecchio | |
| Programming Committee | Tony Finan (chair) | programming2004@psfs.org |
| Publicity | Lisa Blanco | |
| Space Sciences | Hank Smith | |
| Student's Writing Contest | (Lew Wolkoff) | |
| Sunshine | (Mattie Brahen) | |
| Webmaster | Nathan Lilly | webmaster@psfs.org |

(Note: Names in parentheses have not yet discussed with the president whether or not they wish to remain in their position.)

PSFS hotline: (877) 656-3914 for PSFS Meeting Information, to leave messages, and to receive last minute meeting cancelations.

Email Lists: To subscribe to one of the lists below, send an email to the subscription address then respond to the confirmation message.

announce-on@psfs.org
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PSFS-related news
 General discussions related to PSFS or science fiction fandom



Philadelphia Science Fiction Society
P.O. Box 8303
Philadelphia, PA 19101-8303



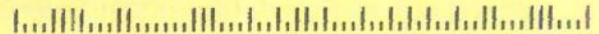
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NYSFS, The Lunarians Inc. [T]
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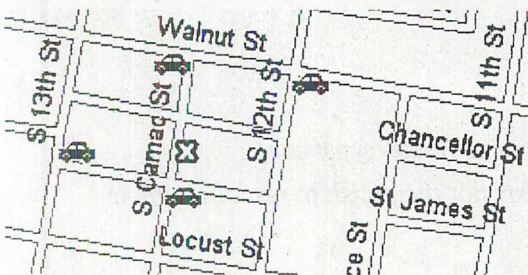
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Meeting Notices

General Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, General Meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of each month at The Franklin Inn Club, located at



205 South Camac Street—the northeast corner of the intersection of Camac and St. James Streets, which is just north

and east of the intersection of Locust and 13th Streets, in Center City Philadelphia. Business meeting starts at 8:00 PM. Program starts at 9 PM. Meeting dates may be changed by the Society when necessary.

Date

June 11, 2004
July 16, 2004

Guest/Agenda

John Passarella
Hugo Panel (third Friday)

Date

Board of Directors

Tues, May 25, 2004,
8 pm

Philcon 2004

Sat, June 5, 2004

Host/Location

Tim & Jenna Lynn Binder,
Upper Darby; (610) 352-9131

TBA

News & Announcements

The Eastern Pennsylvania Gaming Society is sponsoring Game Club Saturday at the Oxford Valley Mall—Community Room (upper level behind Zales), for anyone interested in playing board games, strategy games, military simulations, railroad games, economic games, or family games. For additional information visit www.epgs.org.

PAGE (Philadelphia Area Gaming Enthusiasts) meet every Sunday night at the Ethical Society on Rittenhouse Square. Meetings start at 6 pm and run till 10-10:30. They do role-playing, board gaming, historical (a bit of everything). Everyone's welcome. For more information visit www.philagamers.org.

Philadelphia Fantastic will have Tom Purdom as their guest speaker on Friday, May 25 at 8:00pm. The group meets at Barnes & Noble on 1805 Walnut Street.

Prydonians of Princeton meet once a month at the Mercer County Library, Lawrenceville, NJ. Contact: prydonians@aol.com or visit www.prydonians.org.

Barnes & Noble in Bryn Mawr has a Science Fiction Discussion group that meets the fourth Tuesday of every month, at 7:30pm.

The Franklin Inn Club offers dinner to interested members before the regularly scheduled PSFS meetings at about 6:30, \$15 for appetizer to dessert \$8-\$10 if you just want dinner and dessert. Contact Suzanne Rosin using dinner@psfs.org for details.

Copies of all official PSFS correspondence should be sent to the Secretary for filing in the Society's official records.