

# The Pluto Observer

Watchdog to the Solar System  
Earth Edition ◊ October 2005

## FEMA Faux Pas

By blaming it's disastrous response to Hurricane Katrina on cutbacks initiated by the Department of Homeland Security, the director of the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency appears to have come down with a really bad case of "hoof-in-mouth" disease. Considering FEMA's response to Hurricane Rita, the problem looks more like a *Red State vs. Blue State* kind of virus to us. Isn't it embarrassing to get sick in public?

## Global Warming not a Sci-fi Theme

With a twenty-percent loss each year to seasonal refreezing of the arctic ice shelf, it looks as if Earth's only ace-in-the-hole for repairing the damage done by greenhouse gases in the past hundred years is to invoke a nuclear winter. By a three-to-one majority, Plutonians polled by the Observer last month give planet Earth's atmosphere another ten years at the outside before most of that planet's population is either drowned or frozen to death. Either way, it's one hell of a payoff for allowing half the population to enjoy the luxury of personal transportation and warm homes while the rest suck on stones when they're hungry.

## Plutonian Backhand-of-the-Month Award

The second Plutonian Backhand Award can be shared by all traditional publishers in the United States. Another solar year on Earth will soon have gone by and American publishers are still not recognizing the literary merit of hundreds of new authors, many of whom opted to self-publish rather than have their voices go unheard. And shame on the New York publishing "community" for leading this pack of mongrels who will one day be road kill themselves when self-published authors and self-publishing companies finally rule the information highway.

## Good 'Ol Boys Still Rule U.S. Doghouse

As far as the political climate in Earth's most powerful nation goes, nothing really interesting has happened since the Clinton Impeachment. We at the Observer have always disdained plutocratic rule because it invariably leads its rulers to the doghouse, where everyone is equal. Once again, the ruling class in the U.S. has proven us right by insisting that money can be diverted from big friends of Good 'Ol Boys to little friends without anybody catching on. But they never learn that someone is always guarding the gravy train.

## Casher Nominated for Plutolitzer

Self-published science fiction author Michael Casher had been nominated for the 2005 Plutolitzer Prize for Literature. Casher is not only an Earthling and a U.S. citizen but a lifelong resident of the great state of Pennsylvania. Hailed by Plutonians since 2004 as "Earth's brightest new star of sci-fi", the Observer's book review staff unanimously cautions its Earth Edition readers that "sci-fi thrillers by Michael Casher are page-turners for think-a-holics, restless spirits and those seeking comic relief." In other words, you may learn something as you are entertained. Too bad his novels didn't fit the "current list" at some traditional American publishing house. We might have given the senior fiction editor there the Plutonian Observer's Lifetime Achievement Award. Better luck next time.

## In the November issue of The Pluto Observer:

- The alarming Jupiter drug trade: the Europa connection
- UFO etiquette, then and now
- What every Earthling should know about the Martian flu