

# SF/SF Science Fiction/San Francisco

The nothing special, sorta weekly news zine for the San Francisco Bay Area.

Issue 5

email: SFinSF@gmail.com

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Editor: Jack Avery

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## eLOCs

Peter Sullivan writes from Great Britain:

Dear Jack,

Just a quick note to thank you for the efforts you are putting into SFSF, and to let you know that they are appreciated, even by people (like me) who are unlikely to ever go to San Francisco more than once a lifetime.

I get the impression that the level of Science Fiction activity in the Bay Area is much higher as a ratio (“per 100,000 inhabitants”?) than in most other places. Here of course I’m using the wider definition of SF activity — as in “things of interest to SF fans, no matter how much or little they have to do with SF”.

But since this is pretty much the same definition of SF activity that every SF genzine has ever used, I think that is fair enough.

Do you that this higher level of activity is real, or is it just a perception from my end? If just my perception, I guess that would make it a reflection of your success in rooting out events and whatnot for the listings, so maybe you ought to say yes!

If it really is the case that San Francisco and the Bay Area generally are more “SF-active,” I guess this just reflects the link between Science Fiction and the counter-culture generally. For all that SF has moved away (in the public perception) from being “that crazy Buck Rodgers stuff,” there’s still a sense in which it falls out with the normal (dare one say “mundane”?) range of middle-class, middle-England-approved activities. Or maybe this is just me, with my middle-class, middle-England-approved lifestyle trying to convince myself I’m still a rad

cool dude for as long as I keep reading Philip K. Dick.

Of course, if I were to do a similar listing of SF events for the Sunderland area, it would pretty much be a blank piece of paper. About all I could come up with over the last month would have been the midnight queue for “that book” at the local Ottakers bookshop (renamed “Potterkers” for the night). There may be an SF society at the local university, but even if there is, they will all be on holiday at the moment.

So, to finish where we started, SFSF is worthwhile, even to fen like me who are far away from the Bay Area, in that it allows us to do “vicarious fanac” even if our links to our own local fandoms are non-existent. Keep up the good work!

Best wishes,

*Peter:*

*Thanks for your eLOC. For some reason,*

Continued next page

*my fanzines always attract more letters of comment from outside the U.S. I wonder why. I guess it's a benefit of the international distribution made easy by the internet.*

*I'm not sure that I can say that SF activity is higher here, but it could very well be. I think there is merit to your counter culture/SF connection theory. For example I think a lot of the people who participated in the Zombie Mob would be surprised to find that they took part in a science fiction event. Most of them probably just thought it was a fun idea.*

*On the other hand, I'm trolling a very wide area. San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose are all large enough metropolitan areas by themselves to support a robust fandom base. I'm also cheating by casting my net as far north as Duncan Mills and as far south as Santa Cruz. Not to mention as far east as Sacramento, Citrus Heights and Modesto which are all properly in the Central Valley rather than the Bay Area. Mostly I'm just trying to shame some local folks into action. If Modesto, Stockton and Roseville can have an SF book club or Citrus Heights can have a Japanimation book club, why aren't there any in Oakland, Berkeley, San Francisco, Walnut Creek, or San Rafael? All of those cities have Barnes and Nobles or Borders or both that could be a meeting place, and all of those areas have enough of a population to compete with the town of Roseville.*

*I don't know how large of an area you consider local but the events in the calendar this issue take place in an area 150 miles north to south and 100 miles east to west. That's a pretty big "local" area. Probably bigger than I really should be covering, but I'd rather err on the side of including events.*

*I concentrated on expanding our event schedule this time. I think I ended up adding more than 60 items to the list. So I guess there really are plenty of activities and groups for local fans.*

*I'm hoping that by promoting sf events and groups, that fans will find and support them, making them more successful, leading to more events and groups and a more connected, robust local fan community.*

Lloyd Penney writes from Canada  
1706-24 Eva Rd.  
Etobicoke, ON  
CANADA M9C 2B2

Dear Jack:

I've downloaded issues 3 and 4 of SF/SF, and it's looking pretty good. I'm making notes, believe me...time for some comments, and let's see who can we blame for what this time?

3...Oh, what the heck, Chris Garcia and Arnie Katz are convenient...they're

blamable. They've set a torrid pace that few can match, or would want to match. I've quickly fallen behind in my responses to *Vegas Fandom Weekly* and *The Drink Tank*, so catch up time is coming shortly. I do produce that newsletter for our local pubnight, and I do wonder who's reading it, if anyone. Perhaps I should look for a larger audience. Like I said in my loc, I am thinking of a newsletter, perhaps a focal point for Canadian fandom, and if I upset someone over it, they need not subscribe. Hey, Chris, can't loc every issue!

I fully agree, I would want to include as much as possible in my listings, if I were to do such a newsletter...conventions, special events, ren faires, plays, parties, pubnights, etc., etc. Fans have a lot on their collective plates, and something you may include may pique the interests of the esoteric.

The only convention hotel in Toronto that I might suggest as a truly fannish hotel is closed for renovations right now, the Regal Constellation Hotel. It had an enormous amount of function space, two sectional ballrooms, several other smaller rooms, and dozens of boardrooms and special use rooms that the local mediacon, Toronto Trek, population 3500 at the time, could fill, but with some effort and imagination.

Continued next page

It is under extensive renovation, and will be divided into two hotels, which will share the function space. The Constellation was the only 1-star hotel in town, which meant it was nothing great, but gave you all the function space you could eat, and cheap rooms to store your luggage in the day time, and your weary carcass at night. George Takei is a great guest, and such a friendly man. He used to come to Toronto lots; he has or had an aunt that lived here.

Rule 6 sucks! If the cons I've been to ever enforced Rule 6, I think I would have gaffiated long ago. Some human contact is vital to my weekend, and long, full-body hugs from long-time female friends are something I look forward to. You're not going to stop me from that, and pull my badge. Rule 6 must be the product of someone's maiden aunt somehow getting onto the committee.

4...Chris Garcia, I am putting you on notice...I do plan to put out a newsletter. Only thing is, I am thinking of a Canadian fandom newsletter, not just Toronto, and I think I'd put it out every six to eight weeks, fairly irregularly. I've got to settle on what it would contain, and create a mailing list. I want to see a newsletter that will foster a sense of national community, but I also don't want it to run my life. I've got plenty of other commitments to handle, like

locating fanzines, for instance. Speaking of which, I got all issues of *The Pork Authority*, from Chris and Cheryl Morgan, and I must make commentary on those, too.

Many thanks, all...Yvonne and I have decided we're out to grab something from our favorite burger joint, and go to the lakeshore to cool down. Got to get out of this hot apartment. Many thanks, Jack, for your hard work on this, and as said, I am making notes. I am looking at getting a trial issue of my own fannish newsletter out by the start of 2006. I intend to take my time, find out who my good sources are, and assemble a good product to inflict upon an unsuspecting Canadian fannish public. Some will cry out, others may say well done, better you than me, and most will yawn and ignore it like the usual spam. I will find out for sure if there is still the desire for a fannish newsletter in this country.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

*Lloyd:*

*I hope that you do start up a Canadian zine. An every 6 to 8 week publishing schedule sounds like heaven. I'd like to take a week off just to regroup and tighten the wheels on this operation before they fall off. I'd love a chance to step back and look at the big picture*

*of what I'm doing. I'm committed to doing at least 12 issues on a weekly schedule though, so no vacation for me.*

*And finally, Chris Garcia writes from the south bay:*

Just got around to fully reading SF/SF 4 and it's still damn good. I'm gonna print out a few copies and take them to BASFA, that's how much I love it!

As a film festival guy, I can say I've heard nothing but good things about the Asian Film Festival, but I've never been. There's a lot of overlap between Cinequest (where I do Shorts Selection and all sorts of other fun things) and the Asian Fest. I know that they used to have screenings at the Camera 3 in San Jose and Nathan Louie, a legendary greeter at various theatres, worked for them.

*Arahan* sounds like my type of flick. I loved *Shaolin Soccer* and the series of films about the TV volleyball team. I may have to search it out, though I understand that there's already talk of giving it a release through the CineArts theatres. *R-Point* is a film I know I've heard about and some were speaking of it in the same way they talked about *Ringu* back in the day. I'm hopeful that I'll get to see it. *Kamekaze Girls* has

Continued next page

tons of buzz right now. I've heard more than one person who traditionally hates Japanese film say that they thought it was the best thing they've seen in ages.

*Chinese Ghost Story* is dated and the effects are weak, but it's so much fun, I can over-look both of those facts. I've seen it so many times that I can't even spot the mistakes in the sub-titling anymore. They just seem so natural and right!

I've been told that *Natural City* is the film that I should see if I'm looking for good, imaginative and different SF. It was even recommended to me over *2048* (or whatever that movie by the director of *Chungking Express* is called). It's been called the Korean *Blade Runner*. I heard one critic, who I usually trust and who once in a while writes for *Giant Robot*, describe it as The Last CyberPunk film. That's an interesting take, but I'm hoping that I'll get to see it.

I see that Michael Blumlein read this past weekend. I did a Writers with Drinks reading of my first article that popped up in Other Magazine with Michael. Nice guy, good novelist, but sadly the movie they made from his novel *X,Y* was butchered by a director who didn't know any better.

Again, major props on the calendar. SO many things that I must do and now I no longer have the excuse that I hadn't heard! I'm certainly excited for the Sonoma Book

Fest. I love Sonoma, spend a lot of time there, and I can't quite wait to get up there when books are on the menu. Plus, it gives me an excuse to hit Mary's Pizza Shack for those meatballs that are bigger than a doll's head. I wish they would open a Mary's down these parts.

Great stuff, as usual

Chris

*I'll recommend Natural City as a film worth a look. I'm planning on getting down the city Wednesday night for Arahana and R-Point. One beef I have with the Asian Film Festival is the scheduling of genre movies. It seems that every movie that I really want to see is only playing during the week, often in the afternoon. I really wanted to see some Asian films last weekend, but there was only one playing that looked interesting and that wasn't enough to get me down there. What we need is an Asian fantasy film festival like the one they have in Toronto. This sounds like a project for that Chris Garcia guy. I bet he could put together a wonderful film festival program. May I suggest a U.S. premier of Cashern? Then that list of movies I ran last time that I wished they had shown at the Asian Film Festival. A nice program of classic films would be cool, perhaps a double feature of both of the Zu movies, and a showing of*

*the impossible to find A Terra Cotta Warrior, one of my personal favorites. Let me know when you get it set up.*

*Blumlein is signing again this Sunday at Borderlands and has at least one or two more signings in the near future. Borderlands had a nice display of his books when I stopped in Monday. I hadn't realized he'd written that many books.*

*Personally I'm not that excited about the Sonoma Book Fest. It's not nearly as big as the San Francisco event and it's all new books. I'm a big used book guy, the stuff I want to read is mostly out of print. Also there will only be a couple of genre related booths if that. Borderlands is showing up. But most of the rest will be wine country books and such. Of course if you are interested in that or in new mysteries by local authors (or other books by north bay authors) it may be worth the drive. Ah, Mary's Pizza. Mary's is responsible for at least some of my faanish physique.*

We have a short issue this week, as last weekend was pretty light on fan events. Next issue we should have much more.

***I need coverage of the LOTR showing, the David Drake signing and the Furry picnic. If you attending these or any other fan event, please send me photos and reports. Thanks.***

# BASFA Minutes: meeting 786

Aug 15, 2005

Trey Haddad, President  
Nathan Slerm-r & Chris Garcia, Vice-President  
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer  
Galen Tripp, Sargent at Arms  
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began at 8:00 p.m.

18 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 785 were accepted as 'behind us' & the minutes from Worldcon, dubbed meeting 784.5 were accepted as 'evidence of entropy'.

No Treasurer; but last week we took in \$7.00.

VP reports = pre-eminent VP Nathan was not present; then Chris reported that he actually WAS here this week, that he has fanzines to give away - he passed them out - and that he loves his new T-shirt.

The President [quietly levitated 4 inches above the ground] and reported he had nothing fannish to report.

We said 'hi' to Jack Avery, SF/SF fanzine editor who stopped by to say 'hi' to us. He told us SFSF is available at efanzines.com, is interested in Worldcon reports, con reports

in general, letters to the editor & notices of fan events to come.

Announcements:

I announced that the Further Confusion annual picnic is this Saturday at Lake Chabot at noon - and is open to any fan interested in attending.

Julie announced that on Aug 18 the Presidio Theatre will show all 3 'Lord of the Rings' movies.

Jack announced that David Drake will be signing at Borderlands at 7p.m. Wednesday & there will be a wake for Scotty on Thursday at the Edinburgh Castle.

Chris announced that the short he helped make will be shown at the Basement in SF & that Frank Wu is in the short.

Dave announced that SFSFC will hold a party TBA to court-martial Kevin 'real soon now'

Remember that Kevin is also the NAS-FIC fan-GOH

Reviews:

Worldcon was exhaustively reviewed - Kevin told us that about 4100 attended, that as Captain of the WSFS 'Armadillo' he voluntarily wore a tie, the major events happened on time, where they were supposed to & went well - that he was photographed numerous times but that all pictures he has

seen of himself are blurry - he vamped well when necessary & hopes he never has to work that hard again; Dave C reviewed it that he KNEW it would be successful when he went to the Frank Wu panel on Thursday afternoon and found the room packed; Frank thought it was a lot of fun, well run & felt it was like many other conventions held in other places, except the potato chips are called 'crisps' and come in really weird flavors & that the money was odd [[examples of this were displayed]] & his panels went fabulously well; fun with Scottish money was mentioned & that apparently for some con rooms air conditioning was lacking ['it wasn't the heat, it was the humanity'].

Chris commented that English fanzine writers get it right.

Ed is obsessive about 'Settlers of Catan'.

Dave C reviewed England as it made him feel wistful for real food, mixed drinks, real soda, guide books written in the last decade & stop signs; he saw 2 stage plays = 'Guys & Dolls' as excellent, worth full price & 'Theatre of Blood', a comedy, as worth full price & on his short list for dramatic

See BASFA Minutes, Page 27

# The Bay Area Fanish Calendar

Because of an editorial error last issue, we ran the schedule for the August No Name Anime showing on the September meeting date.

**While some effort is made to verify event listings, please check on events before attending as events are sometimes cancelled or times and locations changed.**

New listings are in red.

**Now through Sept. 11**

*Wicked*

[www.bestofbroadway-sf.com/goldengate](http://www.bestofbroadway-sf.com/goldengate)

Golden Gate Theatre

1 Taylor St.

San Francisco

\$35-\$85

Broadway production based on the novel by Gregory Maguire.

See website for schedule.

**Wednesday, August 17**

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

[www.BayRPS.com](http://www.BayRPS.com)

Go-Getter's Pizza

1489 Beach Park Boulevard

Foster City

6pm to 10pm

Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details send email to: [GM@BayRPS.com](mailto:GM@BayRPS.com). (Not confirmed, check before attending.)

**Wednesday, August 17**

*David Drake appearance*

Borderlands Books

[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

Borderlands is incredibly excited to host science fiction great David Drake! While he is best known for his military science fiction including the much-lauded *Hammer's Slammers* books, Mr. Drake has written everything from humor (*All the Way to the Gallows*) to space opera (*With the Lightnings*) to high fantasy (*Lord of the Isles*), and those are just in the last several

years! David hasn't been out to the Bay Area in about thirty years, so don't miss the rare opportunity to meet this talented and versatile author.

**Thursday, August 18**

*Lord of the Rings:*

*The Fellowship of the Ring*

*The Two Towers*

*The Return of the King*

Presidio Theater

2340 Chestnut Street

San Francisco

415.776.2388

[www.sftrilogy.org](http://www.sftrilogy.org)

11 a.m.-Midnight

\$50 for general seating or \$100 for VIP seating.

All three films back to back to back as a benefit for the non-profit organization Cure Autism Now (C.A.N.).

Raffles, costume contests and door prizes during the event. Costume contest. Costumes encouraged.

The VIP tickets come with an Alan Lee T-shirt designed for this event.

Prizes include Sideshow/WETA donated

Shelob, Elrond and Orcs sculptures, a Master Replicas donated Saurons Gold "One Ring" and Creation Entertainment donated plaques and LOTR ceramic tiles. Other prizes include an autographed copy of Sean Astin's (Sam) book There and Back Again, autographed event T-shirts and photographs from John Rhys Davis (Gimli), a portfolio of photographs of New Zealand film locations, action figures, key rings.

The costume contest will occur between the showings of the second and third movies. There will be four classes in the costume contest: Child ages 0 to 8 years old; Youth ages 9 to 16 years old; Adult Novice 17+ years; Adult Experienced 17+ years. Costumes must relate to the world of The Lord of the Rings.

#### **Thursday, August 18**

*Tribute to Scotty (James Doohan)*

Edinburgh Castle Pub

950 Geary St.

San Francisco

<http://www.castlenews.com/>

8 p.m.

415.885.4074

Open 5pm - 2am, daily

A musical, visual, verbal and whisky soaked tribute to the greatest Scotsman ever.

Space wear costume encouraged. Scotty impersonators contest. Phasers on Stun. Prizes. Romulan Ale on Tap. Fish and chips served 'til 11 p.m.

#### **Friday, August 19**

*Anime Style Drawing and Animation Techniques*

Frank Bette Center for the Arts

[www.frankbettecenter.org/](http://www.frankbettecenter.org/)

1601 Paru Street

Alameda, CA 94501

510-523-6957

4 p.m – 6 p.m.

\$10 teens per session

\$35 adults per session

Professional illustrator and fine artist Ken McGhee helps participants develop the skills they need to draw characters, taking the class on a journey through the process and techniques of manga. Drop-in class, all skill levels welcome. (not verified, check before attending)

#### **Friday, August 19**

*SF Games*

[vax.hanford.org/dk/games](http://vax.hanford.org/dk/games)

Muddy's Coffeehouse

1304 Valencia Street near 24th

San Francisco

7:00 p.m. to midnight

Free

SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Also has a cards night on Tuesdays at Café Macondo, 3159 16th Street between Guerrero and Valencia.

#### **Friday, August 19**

*Futurist Salon Book Group*

Barnes & Noble

Hillsdale Shopping Center

11 West Hillsdale Blvd.

San Mateo

650-341-5560

7:30 p.m.

Free

#### **August 19**

*Brazil*

[www.cameracinemas.com](http://www.cameracinemas.com)

Camera 7 Pruneyard

1875 S. Bascom Avenue

Campbell

Midnight

\$7



**Saturday and Sunday August 20 and 21**

*Pericles*

reservations@sanleandroplayers.org

SanLeandroPlayers.org

Chabot Park

End of Estudillo Ave.

San Leandro

\$5-\$10

4 p.m.

Shakespeare's *Pericles* performed by the San Leandro Players.

**Saturday, August 20**

*No-Name Anime Showing*

Saratoga Library

13650 Saratoga Ave.

Saratoga

www.nnanime.com

Free

12:30 ish -5:30 ish

Schedule:

Master Keaton #18 "Faker's Miscalculation."

Mermaid's Forest #8\* "The Final Face, part 1"

R.O.D. TV #14\* "Paper Leaf Wood"

Mermaid's Forest #9\* "The Final Face, part 2"

Giant Robo #6\* "Crime and Punishment: Everything for Big Fire"

Ghost in the Shell: SAC #11\*

"Pontraitz."

Chrno Crusade #14\*"Prayer"

Dokkoida! #2\*

\*May not be suitable for children.

One of the larger and better organized anime showings in the Bay Area.

**Saturday, August 20**

*SCA Event: The Pitchfork War*

www.phmoms.com/pitchforkwar

Camp Herms Boyscout Camp

El Cerito

9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

\$10.00

Full day of fighting, including missile combat. Scenarios include bridge and castle battles, target archery with prize shoots, A&S classes, family-style BBQ.

Hosted by the Shire of Teufelberg and the Free Company of Gryphons Guard.

**Saturday Aug. 20**

*Satan's Three-Ring Circus of Hell Signing*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

*Satan's Three-Ring Circus of Hell*

(Asylum Press) signing with Robert Steven Rhine (*Satan Gone Wild, Chicken Soup for Satan, Selected Readings From Satan's Powder Room, My Brain Escapes Me*), Frank Forte (*Vampire Verses, Hex of the Wicked Witch, Billy Boy*), Tim Vigil (*Gothic Nights, Faust, Heavy Metal Magazine, Dark Utopia*), Spain Rodriguez (*Zap Comix, Trashman, and Tales of the Leather Nun*), Jim Smith (Co-Creator "Ren & Stimpy," co-founder Spumco, Ripping Friends, The X's), Alex Pardee (*Bunny With, Eyesuck*), Joe Vigil (*Gunfighters in Hell*) and Feo Amante - "It's dark, horrific, freaky and very funny." *The Grin Creeper*, writer Robert Steven Rhine's 270 page, glossy, color, graphic novel, featuring 43 of the top comic book illustrators in the world, is setting up tent! For more information see (<http://3ring.feoamante.net>)

**Saturday August 20**

*PenSFA Meeting/Party*

Redwood City

6:30 p.m. - midnight

Free

The Peninsula Science Fantasy Association will hold a backyard BBQ party/meeting. For location and details, contact PenSFA Commander Rich McAllister at [commander@pensfa.org](mailto:commander@pensfa.org).

More Events Next Page

**Saturday, August 20**

*Manga Otaku Book Group (Graphic novels)*

Barnes & Noble

Weberstown Mall

4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319

Stockton

209-472-1885

6:00 p.m.

Free

**Saturday, August 20**

*Further Confusion Annual Summer*

*Picnic/Campout*

Lake Chabot

Willow Picnic Area

[www.furtherconfusion.org](http://www.furtherconfusion.org)

Free

11 a.m. -4 p.m.

Furry fandom. Overnight camping available Friday and Saturday night. BBQ. Tent for changing into costumes.

**Saturday, August 20**

*Blood Bucket Ballyhoo*

[www.hypnodrome.com](http://www.hypnodrome.com)

At The Hypnodrome

575 10th Street, SF

“A Grand Guignol tripple terror stage show”

8 p.m.

Tickets \$18-\$69

Held over for six more performances,

each Saturday at 8 p.m. through Sept. 24.

From their website:

“The world’s only Grand Guignol triple terror stage show is back! Following the spectacular success of last fall’s wildly popular Welcome to the Hypnodrome (a Halloween treat held over till Christmas!) Thrillpeddlers, veteran purveyors of perverse stage shenanigans, return with an even more elaborate evening of hospitable horror - Blood Bucket Ballyhoo!

Also returning are the Hypnodrome’s notorious “Shock Boxes” - devilishly renovated - in which audience members will actually feel the effects of bizarre mind control, rat catcher’s poisonous gas and Blood Bucket Ballyhoo’s electro-magnetic lights-out finale! (Patrons who book these private “Shock Box” seats for two are advised to bring someone they enjoy clutching in terror.)”

If anybody goes to see this, I’d love a review.

**Saturday, August 20**

*Brazil*

[www.cameracinemas.com](http://www.cameracinemas.com)

Camera 12

201 South Second Street

San Jose

Midnight

\$7

**Sunday, August 21**

*Michael Blumlein signing*

Borderlands Books

[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

2 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

Borderlands is pleased to welcome Michael Blumlein, the author of *The Movement of Mountains*, and *X, Y*, as well as the award-winning story collection *The Brain of Rats*. He has been nominated twice for the World Fantasy Award and twice for the Bram Stoker Award. In addition to writing, Dr. Blumlein practices and teaches medicine at the University of California at San Francisco. Now Blumlein brings his experience as a practicing physician to bear in his novel *The Healer*, which subtly and beautifully examines the ways in which society both reveres and fears members of the medical profession. *The Healer* is a story of human life and death, human rites and rituals, seen through the eyes of an outsider, one who knows humans better, perhaps, than they know themselves. Join us to meet this fascinating author!

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**Sunday, August 21**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *American Gods* by Neil Gaiman. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**Sunday, August 21**

*Bad Movie Night:*

*Killer Clowns From Outer Space*

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission St.

San Francisco

Between 19th and 18th streets, between the pawn shop and the laundromat

415-401-7987

www.darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

With hosts Hal Robbins, Geekboy and Jim Fourniadis.

From their website:

We've taken all the guess work out of the age ole question, "Will this movie suck?"

It will suck.

And we'll have a slew of hosts to point

that out. Every Sunday for a measly 5\$ you can put your feet up, enjoy a crummy movie, scarf down popcorn, listen to the hilarious ravings of our special guests and yes, you too can yell at the movie screen.

We will have rotating hosts chosen from the brilliant comedic flock of freaks circling our fair city. Guaranteed bad movies. Byob. Free popcorn. Feet on the furniture. What more could you ask for of a Sunday night. We promise to have you in bed by 11pm.

**Monday Aug. 22**

*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

**Tuesday, August 23**

*Japanimation Book Group (Graphic novels)*

Barnes & Noble

6111 Sunrise Blvd.

Citrus Heights

916-853-1511

7:00 p.m.

Free

**Wednesday – Thursday, August 24-25**

*Barbarella*

Red Vic Movie House

1727 Haight Street

San Francisco

Who can save the universe? Cosmically-clad Barbarella can! In this kinky tale of a comic book style heroine of the future, she finds herself caught up in all kinds of space-age adventures - sexual and otherwise; a camp classic.

**Friday-Saturday, August 26-27**

*Ultraman Festival*

Castro Theater

www.bayareafilmevents.com

Put on by the folks who did the Godzilla Festival earlier this year. There will be dealers upstairs, a live Ultraman Stunt Show on Saturday, prize drawings, and lots of Ultraman on the screen.

**Friday, August 26**

*Sci-Fi / Fantasy Book Group*

Barnes & Noble

Weberstown Mall

4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319

Stockton

209-472-1885

6:30 p.m.

Free

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**Friday, August 26**

*Legion of Rassilon*  
*Doctor Who fan group*

Carl's Junior  
2551 N. First Street  
San Jose  
7:30 p.m.  
Free

Showing episodes of the new Dr. Who series, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

This week is episodes nine and ten.

Please note: the date is corrected from earlier calendars.

Join the yahoo group at legion\_of\_rassilon for more information.

**Friday, August 26**

*Raiders of the Lost Ark*  
www.cameracinemas.com  
Camera 7 Pruneyard  
1875 S. Bascom Avenue  
Campbell  
Midnight  
\$7

**Saturday, August 27**

*Toy Show*  
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds  
344 Tully Road  
San Jose  
Early Bird 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Admission: \$5.00  
Kids Under 12: \$2.50  
Early Bird: \$15.00

**Saturday, August 27 - Sunday, August 28**

*San Francisco Ren Faire*  
www.sffaire.com

Speedway Meadow  
Golden Gate Park  
San Francisco, CA  
10am-6pm Saturday  
10am-5pm Sunday  
\$15.00 For adults  
\$10.00 for seniors, military, and ages 13-17  
\$5.00 for children 6-12  
under six free.

The account of Queens Jane Gray and Mary Tudor, and of the young Princess Elizabeth, of the struggle for power, for the crown and for the heritage of religion is one of the most fascinating periods of English history. The story is so captivating that it bears telling...

On August 27th and 28th in Golden Gate Park this chapter of history will come to life as premier courts and guilds of California will assemble to re-create this period of English history and lives and times of Jane, Mary and Elizabeth.

Lose yourself in the world of Renaissance

Europe. Come and experience the best of live theater and shows aplenty; jousting, singing, dancing, storytelling, comedy acts, feasts, merchants and re-creations of sword fighting, and battles.

**Saturday, August 27**

*Beefbowl Anime Showing*  
Albany Library Community Center  
1247 Marin Ave.  
Albany  
www.beefbowl.org  
Free

12:15 ish -4:15 ish

Scheduled shows:

Rurouni Kenshin : TV # 46

R.O.D : TV # 22

One Piece : TV # 31

Naruto : TV # 32

Prince Of Tennis : TV # 32

Hikaru No Go : TV # 32

Yakitate Japan : TV # 7

Project D : TV # 9

Fafner In The Azure : TV # 4

While this group revels in a bad-boy reputation, the showings I've attended have been much the same as those of any other group. The only downside is the regulars sometimes talk about computers in the back while the anime is being shown.

**More Events Next Page**

**Saturday, August 27**

*Blood Bucket Ballyhoo*

www.hypnodrome.com

At The Hypnodrome

575 10th Street, SF

“A Grand Guignol tripple terror stage show”

8 p.m.

Tickets \$18-\$69

Held over for six more performances, each Saturday at 8 p.m. through Sept. 24.

**Saturday, August 27**

*Raiders of the Lost Ark*

www.cameracinemas.com

Camera 12

201 South Second Street

San Jose

Midnight

\$7

**Friday-Monday, September 2-5**

*ConquestSF*

SF Airport Marriott

1800 Old Bayshore Hwy.

Burlingame

www.conquestsf.com

\$40 before Aug. 20

Gaming convention. ConQuest features many different kinds of games, including miniatures games, role playing games (RPGs), board games, collectible card

games (CCGs), and live action role playing games (LARPs).

**Saturday, September 3**

*The Three Musketeers Ball*

*A 17th Century Tavern Dance*

*PEERS Event*

www.peers.org

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

Doors Open: 6:15 p.m.

Dance Lesson: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00 in advance (by August 27)

At the door: \$20.00

Advance tickets may be ordered by sending a check or money order to:

PEERS

2144 B Buena Vista Ave

Alameda CA 94501

You may also purchase tickets until August 27 with a credit card using the PayPal system.

From their website:

It's One for All and All for One at this swashbuckling early 17th century ball set at the Musketeers' favorite inn, Le Cerf Agile. Bangers & Mash - the Bay Area's premiere country dance band - plays elegant and dashing English and French country dances and a number of gorgeous, if anachronistic, waltzes.

Don't know anything about 17th

century dance? Never fear. All set and country dances will be briefly taught or called at the ball, and there will be a pre-ball dance class starting at 6:30 p.m. with Mr. Alan Winston, dance master of the Bay Area English Regency Society and a popular caller with the Bay Area English Country Dance Society. At the pre-ball class, Mr. Winston will teach the basic footwork and patterns of early English Country Dance along with several of the dances on the program. You'll be dancing these dances with elegance, grace and confidence in no time!

17th century costume (any class) is admired, but not required, at the ball. Yes, most of your Renaissance Faire garb would also be perfectly appropriate for the ball, and generic swashbuckler costume, peasant attire, or modern evening dress is just fine (Please note that there is no dress code for the ball).

Entertainment includes displays of Baroque courtly and country dance and there will indeed be a no host (cash) bar as well as a light snack buffet. Your potluck contributions to the buffet will, as usual, be welcomed at the kitchen.

Gorgeous Baroque music and dancing, beautiful waltzes, swordplay, tight bodices, and a great bar - what mortal could ask for more?

**Saturday, September 3**

*Blood Bucket Ballyhoo*  
www.hypnodrome.com

At The Hypnodrome  
575 10th Street, SF  
“A Grand Guignol tripple terror stage show”

8 p.m.  
Tickets \$18-\$69

Held over for six more performances, each Saturday at 8 p.m. through Sept. 24.

**Sunday, September 4**

*Sacramento Comic Book Show*  
Scottish Rite Center  
6151 H. Street  
Sacramento

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
\$5 (\$4 with coupon from website)

Comic book convention with anime viewing room, dealers, cosplay contest at 2 p.m. For a report on the February show, see Don't Shake Me at www.efanzines.com.

**Tuesday-Thursday, September 6-8**

*Howl's Castle*  
Red Vic Movie House  
1727 Haight Street  
San Francisco

Miyazaki's (*Spirited Away, My Neighbor Totoro*) latest movie is based on an English fantasy novel by Diana Winn Jones.

**Wednesday, September 7**

*Them*  
*Panic in the Year Zero*  
www.castrotheater.com

Castro Theater  
429 Castro Street  
San Francisco

Double feature as part of the cold war film series.

**September 7- September 18**

*The Werewolf*  
San Francisco Fringe Theater Festival  
EXIT Theater  
156 Eddy Street  
\$9

Denis is the last in a long line of intelligent wolves living unnoticed in woods north of Paris. But when he is bitten by a werewolf he wakes on the day of the next full moon to find that he has become human. How will he survive the world of men? Boris Vian's surreal fairy tale translated and adapted by John Rackham and performed by an international cast.

Schedule:

- Wednesday, Sept. 7, 7 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 10, 10 p.m.
- Sunday, Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Sept 16, 10 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 17, 4 p.m.
- Sunday, Sept. 18, 8:30 p.m.

**Friday- Saturday, September 9-10**

*Brazil*  
Red Vic Movie House  
1727 Haight Street  
San Francisco

**Saturday, September 10**

*Sonoma County Book Festival*  
/www.sonomacountybookfair.org/index.html

Courthouse Square (Mendocino Ave. between Third and Fourth Streets. Take the downtown exit off of 101 and go under the mall.)

Santa Rosa  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Free

Join Borderlands Books and dozens of other vendors in Santa Rosa's Courthouse Square for this sixth annual celebration of the literary arts. There will be author appearances, panels, readings, special events for kids, and much, much more! (Note: this is a general book festival, not genre specific)

More Events Next Page

**September 10 – Oct 16**

**(Saturdays and Sundays)**

*Northern California Ren Faire*

<http://www.norcalrenfaire.org>

Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister

10 am. to 6 p.m.

\$15 in advance

\$20 at gate

**Saturday, September 10**

*Bard of The Mists Competition*

*Society for Creative Anachronism Event*

[santiagosmagic.com/bardic/](http://santiagosmagic.com/bardic/)

Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto

505 East Charleston Road

Palo Alto

11 a.m. – 9:30

\$15

Feast plus a multi-round competition to determine successor as Bard of The Mists. Only 100 seats available.

**Saturday, September 10**

*No Name Anime Showing*

Saratoga Library

13650 Saratoga Ave.

Saratoga

12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. or so

Free

**Saturday, September 10**

*Michael Blumlein appearance*

Cover to Cover

307 Castro Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

Signing by local author Michael Blumlein (*The Healer*).

**Saturday, September 10**

*Blood Bucket Ballyhoo*

[www.hypnodrome.com](http://www.hypnodrome.com)

At The Hypnodrome

575 10th Street, SF

“A Grand Guignol tripple terror stage show”

8 p.m.

Tickets \$18-\$69

Held over for six more performances, each Saturday at 8 p.m. through Sept. 24.

**Sunday, September 11**

*Terry Pratchett appearance*

Kepler's Books

1010 El Camino Real

Menlo Park

Noon

Free

**Sunday, September 11**

*Robin Hobb appearance*

Borderlands Books

[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

Borderlands is delighted to welcome the prolific and talented Robin Hobb, author of the beloved *Farseer* books. *Shaman's Crossing* is the first in a brand-new series, The Soldier Son Trilogy. *Haman's Crossing* is dedicated “To Caffeine and Sugar - my companions through many a long night of writing.” We know you're going to love Robin Hobb! Check out her thoroughly entertaining website here: (<http://www.robinhobb.com/>)

**Sunday, September 11**

*Gay Men's Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

5 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Inversions* by Ian M. Banks.

Please contact the group leader, Christopher Rodriguez, at [cobalt555@earthlink.net](mailto:cobalt555@earthlink.net), for more information.

**Sunday, September 11**

*Speculative Fiction Book Club*

Kepler's Books

1010 El Camino Real

Menlo Park

7 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Solaris* by Stanislaw Lem.

**September 13-14**

*Spirited Away*

Red Vic Movie House

1727 Haight Street

San Francisco

**Tuesday, September 13**

*Sci-Fi Book Club Book Group*

Barnes & Noble

3501 McHenry Avenue, Suite E

Modesto

209-521-1118

7:00 p.m.

Free

**Wednesday, September 14**

*Michael Blumlein appearance*

UC Bookstore

500 Parnassus

San Francisco

Noon

Free

Local author Michael Blumlein (*The Healer*) signing.

**Thursday, September 15, 2005**

Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Group

Barnes & Noble

Creekside Town Center

1256 Galleria Boulevard

Roseville

916-788-4320

7:00 p.m.

Free

**September 16-18**

*Principality of the Mists Fall Coronet*

*Society for Creative Anachronism Event*

[mists.westkingdom.org/2005FallCoronet.html#party](http://mists.westkingdom.org/2005FallCoronet.html#party)

22855 Moscow Road

Duncan Mills

Noon Friday to 4 p.m. Sunday

\$12-\$15

Tourney to determine successor for the Principality of the Mists. Camping event along the Russian River. Equestrian demonstration Saturday morning, arts and sciences competitions, archery and hurley allowed, war practice Sunday, Russian-theme party.

**Saturday, September 17**

*Brian Keene appearance*

*Phil Nutman appearance*

Borderlands Books

[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

4 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

We're pleased to welcome Brian and Phil for a zombie double-header! Brian Keene (*City of the Dead*, *Terminal*) is the charismatic author of THE RISING, and many, many forthcoming books. Philip Nutman (*Wet Work*) is a novelist, short story writer, comic book scriptwriter, and screenwriter. Join us for a whole afternoon of the living dead!

**Saturday, September 17**

*David Morell appearance*

Borderlands Books

[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

Signing in support of his new novel *Creepers*.

More Events Next Page

**Saturday, September 17**

*Manga Otaku Book Group (Graphic Novel)*

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Weberstown Mall

4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319

Stockton

209-472-1885

6 p.m.

Free

**Saturday, September 17**

*Blood Bucket Ballyhoo*

www.hypnodrome.com

At The Hypnodrome

575 10th Street, SF

“A Grand Guignol tripple terror stage show”

8 p.m.

Tickets \$18-\$69

Held over for six more performances, each Saturday at 8 p.m. through Sept. 24.

**Sunday, September 18**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month’s book is *Red Shift* edited by Al Sarantonio. Please contact Jude at

jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.

**Sunday, September 18**

*Bad Movie Night: Battlefield Earth*

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission St.

San Francisco

Between 19th and 18th streets, between the pawn shop and the

laundromat

415-401-7987

www.darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

With Patrick Simms, Stoo Odom and Jim Fourniadis. Pirate cat radio night.

From their website:

We’ve taken all the guess work out of the age ole question, “Will this movie suck?”

It will suck.

And we’ll have a slew of hosts to point that out. Every Sunday for a measly 5\$ you can put your feet up, enjoy a crummy movie, scarf down popcorn, listen to the hilarious ravings of our special guests and yes, you too can yell at the movie screen.

We will have rotating hosts chosen from the brilliant comedic flock of freaks circling our fair city. Guaranteed bad movies. Byob. Free popcorn. Feet on the furniture. What more

could you ask for of a Sunday night. We promise to have you in bed by 11pm.

**Wednesday, September 21**

*Terry Pratchett appearance*

Cody’s

2454 Telegraph Avenue

Berkeley CA, US,

7:30 p.m.

Free

Diskworld creator Terry Pratchett (*Thud*) signing.



**September 22 - September 24**

*The Werewolf*

The Dark Room Theater

8 p.m.

Denis is the last in a long line of intelligent wolves living unnoticed in woods north of Paris. But when he is bitten by a werewolf he wakes on the day of the next full moon to find that he has become human. How will he survive the world of men? Boris Vian’s surreal fairy tale translated and adapted by John Rackham and performed by an international cast.

**Thursday, September 22**

*Terry Pratchett Reading*  
Park Branch Library  
1833 Page Street  
San Francisco  
Booksmith-sponsored event  
7 p.m.

Pratchett will read from his new Discworld novel *Thud*.

**Friday, September 23**

*Legion of Rassilon*  
*Doctor Who fan group*  
Carl's Junior  
2551 N. First Street  
San Jose  
7:30 p.m.  
Free

Showing episodes of the new Dr. Who series, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

**Saturday, September 24**

*Blood Bucket Ballyhoo*  
[www.hypnodrome.com](http://www.hypnodrome.com)  
At The Hypnodrome  
575 10th Street, SF  
“A Grand Guignol tripple terror stage show”  
8 p.m.  
Tickets \$18-\$69

Held over for six more performances, each Saturday at 8 p.m. through Sept. 24.

**Tuesday, September 27**

*Japanimation Book Group (Graphic Novel)*  
Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
6111 Sunrise Blvd.  
Citrus Heights  
916-853-1511  
7 p.m.  
Free

**Wednesday, September 28**

*Neil Gaiman appearance*  
Kepler's Books  
1010 El Camino Real  
Menlo Park  
7:30 p.m.  
Free

At this event, Gaiman will sign as many copies of *Anansi Boys* as are purchased and up to two other items per customer.

**Thursday, September 29**

*Michael Chabon and Neil Gaiman in Conversation*  
Book Passage  
51 Tamal Vista Blvd.  
Corte Madera  
7 p.m.  
Free

**Friday, September 30**

*Sci-Fi / Fantasy Book Group*  
Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Weberstown Mall  
4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319  
Stockton  
209-472-1885  
6:30 p.m.  
Free

**Friday, September 30**

*Neil Gaiman appearance*  
First Congregational Church  
Berkeley  
7 p.m.  
(hosted by Cody's Books; ticketed event)  
Neil Gaiman (*Anansi Boys*) reads and signs.

From the Cody's Books website:  
Tickets are required; they'll be available beginning September 20 with the purchase of *Anansi Boys* at any Cody's location (Berkeley and San Francisco).

**September 30, October 1-2**

*Crown Tournament*  
[Westkingdom.org/calendar/OctCrown2005.php](http://Westkingdom.org/calendar/OctCrown2005.php)  
Sonoma-Marin County Fairgrounds  
Petaluma  
Noon Friday – 4 p.m. Sunday  
\$12-\$15

Tourney to determine successor for the Kingdom of the West.

More Events Next Page

**September 30-October 5**

*Mirrormask*

www.calfilm.org  
Rafael Film Center  
1118 Fourth Street  
San Rafael  
415-454-1222  
\$9.25

Limited engagement run of the new movie by Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean.

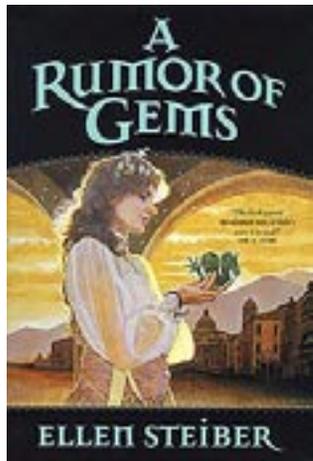
**Saturday, October 1**

*Ellen Steiber reading and signing*

*The Other Change of Hobbit*  
2020 Shattuck Ave.

Berkeley  
5 p.m.  
Free

The author will read from and sign her first adult fantasy novel *A Rumor of Gems*.



**Saturday, October 1**

*Terry Pratchett appearance*

The Booksmith  
1644 Haight Street  
San Francisco  
7 p.m.  
Free

Terry Pratchett (*Thud*) reads and signs.

**October 7-9**

*Silicon 2005*

www.siliconventions.com  
Doubletree Hotel  
San Jose

A small general science fiction convention. Anime track, dealers room, programming track.

**Saturday, October 8**

*Lord of the Rings Feast*

*Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild Event*

GBACG \$39.50  
Non-members \$44.50

Sequoia Lodge, Oakland Hills. Come to the House of Elrond in Rivendell, whether you like food or story-telling or singing or a pleasant mixture of them all. The evening will be filled with the faint scent of trees and flowers, as if summer still lingers in Elrond's gardens. . GBACG members may purchase tickets Aug. 12-31. Tickets go on sale to the General Public September 1.

**October 8**

*5th Annual Metreon Festival of Anime*

Metreon  
101 4th Street  
San Francisco  
11 a.m. -  
Free or ?

This is usually a small, but nice event. The price is free since most of it is held in the public areas of the Metreon, but if you want to watch the anime being shown or be eligible for a prize in the costume contest, you have to buy a membership.

**Sunday, October 9**

*Speculative Fiction Book Club*

Kepler's Books  
1010 El Camino Real  
Menlo Park  
7 p.m.  
Free

This month's book is *Alphabet of Thorn* by Patricia McKillip.

**October 11**

*Sci-Fi Book Club*

Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
3501 McHenry Avenue, Suite E  
Modesto  
209-521-1118  
7 p.m.  
Free

**October 15**

*Manga Otaku Book Group*  
 Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
 Weberstown Mall  
 4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319  
 Stockton  
 209-472-1885  
 6 p.m.  
 Free

**October 16**

*Science Fiction Book Club*  
 Borderlands Books  
 www.borderlands-books.com  
 866 Valencia St.  
 San Francisco  
 6 p.m.  
 Free

This month's book is *Bloodsucking Fiends* by Christopher Moore.

**Wednesday, October 19**

*Gregory Maguire appearance*  
 Books Inc.  
 2275 Market Street  
 San Francisco  
 7:30 p.m.  
 Free

Gregory Maguire, the best selling author of *Wicked*, will introduce his new book, *Son of a Witch*.

**October 20**

*Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Group*  
 Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
 Creekside Town Center  
 1256 Galleria Boulevard  
 Roseville  
 916-788-4320  
 7 p.m.  
 Free

**October 20-26**

*Zombie Honeymoon*  
 Red Vic Movie House  
 1727 Haight Street  
 San Francisco  
 San Francisco premiere of this zombie movie.

**October 21**

*Futurist Salon Book Group*  
 Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
 Hillsdale Shopping Center  
 11 West Hillsdale Blvd.  
 San Mateo  
 650-341-5560  
 7:30 p.m.  
 Free

**October 21**

*Chris Ware appearance*  
 The Booksmith  
 1644 Haight Street

San Francisco  
 Time: TBD  
 Free

**October 22**

*Chris Ware signing*  
 Kepler's Books  
 1010 El Camino Real  
 Menlo Park  
 5 p.m.  
 Free

**October 22**

*Flashlight Tour*  
 Winchester Mystery House  
 www.winchestermysteryhouse.com  
 525 South Winchester Boulevard  
 San Jose  
 6 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
 \$31

**More Events Next Page**

Send your reviews, reports and notes about Bay Area fans and fan activities to:

**SFinSF@gmail.com.**

**October 22-30**

*Monster Movie Marathon*

www.castrotheater.com

Castro Theater  
429 Castro Street  
San Francisco

From the Castro website:

Everybody's favorites: Frankenstein, the Mummy, Wolf Man, Dracula, Night Of The Living Dead spooktacular! and dare I say, Get HAMMERED at the Castro, if you know what I mean, scares, frights, chills and thrills for nine spooky nights.

**Tuesday, October 25**

*The Planets*

*Dava Sobel lecture*

Mechanic's Institute  
Mechanic's Institute Library  
57 Post Street  
San Francisco  
12:30 pm  
Members free; Public \$7



The best-selling author of *Longitude* and *Galileo's Daughter*, presents a luminous exploration of our solar system. Weaving cosmic history with up-to-the-minute science discoveries, Sobel describes the planets as objects of beauty, sources of legends and myths, inspirations for poems, paintings and science fiction, and the cause

of social revolutions.

Dava Sobel is an award-winning former science writer for *The New York Times*. Her work has also appeared in *Audubon*, *Discover*, *Life*, and *The New Yorker*.

**October 25**

*Japanimation Book Group (Graphic Novel)*

Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
6111 Sunrise Blvd.  
Citrus Heights  
916-853-1511  
7 p.m.  
Free

**October 25**

*Clive Barker appearance*

The Booksmith  
1644 Haight Street  
San Francisco  
Time: TBD  
Free

**October 26, 2005**

*Robert Jordan appearance*

Cody's Stockton Street  
2 Stockton Street  
San Francisco  
7:30 p.m.  
Free

**October 27, 2005**

*R. A. Salvatore appearance*

Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
3600 Stevens Creek Blvd  
San Jose  
408-984-3495  
7:00 p.m.  
Free

**October 27, 2005**

*Robert Jordan appearance*

Bay Book Co.  
Strawflower Shopping Center  
80 F. Cabrillo Hwy.  
Half Moon Bay  
7:00 p.m.  
Free

**October 28-30**

*Yaoicon 5*

www.yaoicon.com  
The Westin San Francisco Airport  
1 Old Bayshore Highway  
Millbrae

A celebration of male beauty and passion in anime and manga. Dealers room, programming, cosplay contest, bishi auction. Must be 18 years of age or older to attend.

More Events Next Page

**Oct 28, 2005**

*Sci-Fi / Fantasy Book Group*  
Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
Weberstown Mall  
4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319  
Stockton, CA 95207  
209-472-1885  
6:30 p.m.

**October 28, 2005**

*Robert Jordan appearance*  
Barnes & Noble Booksellers  
3600 Stevens Creek Blvd  
San Jose  
408-984-3495  
7:00 p.m.  
Free

**Friday, October 28**

*R. A. Salvatore Q and A, signing*  
The Other Change of Hobbit  
2020 Shattuck Ave.  
Berkeley  
7 p.m.  
Free

The author will hold a question and answer session and sign his latest forgotten Realms novel *Promise of the Witch-King*.

**Friday, October 28**

*Legion of Rassilon*  
*Doctor Who fan group*  
Carl's Junior  
2551 N. First Street  
San Jose  
7:30 p.m.  
Free

Showing episodes of the new Dr. Who series, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

**October 29, 2005**

*Robert Jordan appearance*  
Borders Books & Music  
1200 Pacific Ave., Suite 100  
Santa Cruz  
4:00 p.m.  
Free

**October 29**

*Ghost Train*  
[www.roaringcamp.com](http://www.roaringcamp.com)  
Roaring Camp  
Felton  
\$20 adults  
\$15 Children

Ride to Bear Mountain through a haunted redwood forest as the Legend of Sleepy Hollow is portrayed. Reservations required. 1-888-25-EVENTS for tickets.

**October 29**

*Flashlight Tour*  
Winchester Mystery House  
[www.winchestermysteryhouse.com](http://www.winchestermysteryhouse.com)  
525 South Winchester Boulevard  
San Jose  
6 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
\$31

**October 31**

*Flashlight Tour*  
Winchester Mystery House  
[www.winchestermysteryhouse.com](http://www.winchestermysteryhouse.com)  
525 South Winchester Boulevard  
San Jose  
6 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
\$31

**November 4-6**

*Bascon*  
Embassy Suites  
250 Gateway Boulevard  
South San Francisco  
Memberships: \$70 to 10/31/05 or until sold out  
Information: BASCon, P.O. Box 282197,  
San Francisco, CA 94128-2197  
Email: [info@BASCon.org](mailto:info@BASCon.org)

The fifth Bay Area Slash Convention. Open to those 18 years or older.

Dealers' room, art show, panels, video show, con suite.

## November 5

### *AnimeDestiny 2005*

[www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~animage/animed/](http://www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~animage/animed/)

University of California Berkeley

Berkeley

\$10 in advance, \$15 at the door

Members of Cal-Animage Alpha get in free.

9 a.m. – 11 p.m.

The second year for this very fun one-day convention sponsored by one of the oldest anime clubs in the U.S.

Anime track, programming, concert by j-rock group Beautiful Losers, cosplay contest, dealers, swap meet.

## Saturday, November 5

### **Le Bal Des Vampires**

**PEERS (The Period Events & Entertainments Re-Creation Society) Event**

[www.peers.org](http://www.peers.org)

The Lake Merritt Dance Center

At The Oakland Veterans' Memorial Hall  
200 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA

Waltz the night away in a romantic ballroom with the San Francisco Bay Area's most glamorous Undead at the 12th Annual Le Bal des Vampires.

The evening will, as usual, feature truly haunting 18th, 19th, and 20th century ballroom dance music by Brazen

Hussey, one of the most exciting dance bands around, equally at home playing classical music, vintage dance music, Celtic fusion, Swing, blues and hard rock. While the program, as usual, has a strong waltz bias, the program includes everything from elegant 18th century country and set dances to Viennese waltzes, polkas and mazurkas, to cool blues fox trot and tango to early Swing and classic Rock at this very eclectic Gathering of Kindred. As usual, all set dances will be taught or called at the ball.

Suggested costume is evening dress or dress uniform from the century and country of your "rebirth," or modern evening dress. While there is no dress code for the ball (and we certainly don't expect Spike to dress up for the occasion!), you will see some of the most gorgeously costumed guests of the social season at this ball.

The ball's half-time show will be another cutting edge performance by Le Theatre des Vampires, the most feared theater company on the West Coast. Not recommended for the faint of heart.

For those wishing to learn or practice the dances before the ball, there will be an optional pre-ball dance workshop (details TBA).

## November 7

### *Lemony Snicket appearance*

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

Time: TBD

Free

## November 11

### *Charles Burns appearance*

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

Time: TBD

Free

## Friday and Saturday, November 11-12

### *Mermaid Meat*

Eugene & Elinor Friend Center for the Arts

Kanbar Hall

Jewish Community Center of San Francisco

3200 California Street

San Francisco

Tickets: (415) 29201233, [www.jccsf.org/arts](http://www.jccsf.org/arts)

Group Discounts: (415) 346-7805  
\$25

Brenda Wong Aoki and Mark Izu present Mermaid Meat: The Secret to Immortality and other Japanese ghost stories.

I can't recommend this highly enough. See my review in issue two of the performance of Black Hair at the SF Theater Festival. In addition to the title story and Black Hair, they will also be performing The Bell of Dojoji, Dancing in California and a new work.

Aoki is a wonderful performer, using her voice and acting skills to bring to life traditional Japanese ghost stories with Izu providing musical accompaniment.

I suspect that Mermaid Meat is based on the same traditional story that Rumiko Takahashi used as the basis for her *Mermaid Forest* manga so anime fans might be particularly interested in this show.

### **Saturday – Sunday, November 12-13**

*Robot Fighting League 2005 National Championship*

[www.botleague.com](http://www.botleague.com)

[combots.net/index](http://combots.net/index)

Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason Center

San Francisco

\$20

Noon – 11 p.m.

### **November 12-13**

*Creation's Salute to Sci-Fi TV*

Wyndham San Jose

1350 N. First Street

San Jose

### **November 13**

*Speculative Fiction Book Club*

Kepler's Books

1010 El Camino Real

Menlo Park

7 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Gun With Occasional Music* by Johnathan Lethem.

### **November 16**

*George R. R. Martin Appearance*

Copperfield's Books

140 Kentucky St.

Petaluma

7 p.m.

Free

### **November 17**

*George R. R. Martin Appearance*

Stacy's Books

581 Market Street

San Francisco

12:30 p.m.

Free

### **November 18**

*George R. R. Martin Appearance*

Kepler's Books

1010 El Camino Real

Menlo Park

Noon

Free

### **November 18**

*George R. R. Martin Appearance*

Bay Book Co.

Half Moon Bay

7:00 p.m.

Free

### **November 20**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Tamsin* by Peter Beagle. The author will visit. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

### **Friday, November 25**

*Legion of Rassilon*

*Doctor Who fan group*

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Showing episodes of the new Dr. Who series, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

**November 29**

*A Zathura Science Spectacular with the Mad Scientists*

Kepler's Books  
1010 El Camino Real  
Menlo Park  
5 p.m.  
Free

Mad Science's Zathura event offers children a spectacular exploration of space science in honor of Chris Van Allsburg's classic book and the November release of the *Zathura* movie! In this 45-minute event, Mad Science's specially trained instructors will present a host of interactive demonstrations designed to introduce young spectators to science.

**December 10**

*Wintershoppingland*  
Hayward Centennial Hall  
22292 Foothill Blvd.  
Hayward  
www.wintershoppingland.com  
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
\$2 (Free 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

This is an anime event organized by the group that puts on Yaoi Con and Tales of Anime. Costume contest, dealers room, programming to be announced.

**December 17-18**

*Japantown Anime Faire 3*  
Japantown  
San Francisco  
www.jtaf.com  
6 p.m.

Fun local anime convention with anime showings, dealer's room, costume contest, panels.

**December 18**

*Science Fiction Book Club*  
Borderlands Books  
www.borderlands-books.com  
866 Valencia St.  
San Francisco  
6 p.m.  
Free

This month's book is *Cat's Cradle* by Kurt Vonegut. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**January 15, 2006**

*Science Fiction Book Club*  
Borderlands Books  
www.borderlands-books.com  
866 Valencia St.  
San Francisco  
6 p.m.  
Free

This month's book is *The Stars My Desti-*

*nation* by Alfred Bester. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**January 19-23, 2006**

*Further Confusion*  
San Jose Doubletree  
www.furtherconfusion.org  
\$40  
Furry convention.

**February 10-12 2006**

*Wondercon*  
The Moscone Center  
San Francisco  
Comic book convention with anime, summer movie previews, panels, dealers, costume contest, more.

**February 17-20, 2006**

*Dundracon*  
San Ramon Marriott  
2600 Bishop Drive  
San Ramon  
www.dundracon.com  
\$?  
Gaming convention.

**More Events Next Page**

**February 17-20, 2006**

*PantheaCon*

San Jose Doubletree

Pagan convention. Workshops, lectures, performances, rituals, vendors, drumming, dancing, costume contest.

**February 19, 2006**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Wonderland* by Joyce Carol Oates. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**March 3-5 2006**

*Consonance 2006*

www.consonance.org/

Crowne Plaza Silicon Valley

777 Bellew Drive

Milpitas

Memberships: \$35 to 10/31/05, \$40 to 2/18/06, \$45 at door

Filk convention. Guests: Bill & Gretchen Roper, Marty Coady Fabish, Puzzlebox, Chris Conway

**Saturday, March 4, 2006**

*The Phantom of the Opera Ball*

**PEERS Event**

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.

Dance lesson: 7:15 p.m.

Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00 in advance (by February 28)

At the door: \$20.00

Don't let those wild rumors of an Opera Ghost keep you from attending the social event of the season, the Opera Ball of the Paris Opera Populaire. This is destined to be the most spectacular of all our masquerade balls and Management assures you that "Everything is under control."

Our special guests - Monsieur Frank Beau Davis, that American trumpet virtuoso and his brilliant Brassworks Band from San Francisco, will play an evening of opera and ballet tunes arranged for ballroom dancing and brilliant Viennese Waltzes, polkas, mazurkas, schottisches, reels, and quadrilles. All set dances will be taught or called and there will a pre-ball dance class to help you brush up on your mid-Victorian dance skills. And, of course, they will play those perennial favorites, "The Congress of Vienna Waltz" and "Sir Roger de Coverley" (with a distinctly Wagnerian edge).

Suggested costume for this gala event is

Victorian evening or ball dress (circa 1860's-80's), period fancy dress, or modern evening dress. Masks are strongly suggested.

The fashionable young gentlemen of the Jockey Club will be pleased to know that evening's entertainment includes operatic and ballet excerpts by the company, including the premiere of the ballet from the controversial new opera "Sappho," choreographed by the celebrated Mme. Giry for the Peerless Ballet.

Refreshments will be served throughout the evening (Since we lack the catering budget of the Paris Opera Populaire, your potluck contributions will be deeply appreciated).

**March 19, 2006**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Declare* by Tim Powers. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**More Events Next Page**

**April 16, 2006***Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Dark Beyond The Stars* by local author Frank Robinson. Author will visit. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**Sunday, April 24, 2006***3DB Con*

www.threedollarbill.com/3DBcon

Three Dollar Bill Cafe 1800 Market Street

San Francisco

10:00 AM-10:00 PM

\$10

Game Convention.

**Saturday, May 6, 2006***The Fairy Tale Masquerade Ball*

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.

Dance lesson: 7:15 p.m.

Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00 in advance (by April 29, 2006)

At the door: \$20.00

**May 11-14, 2006***World Horror Con 2006*

Gateway Holiday Inn

www.whc2006.org

The world horror con comes to the bay area.

**May 21, 2006***Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is the graphic novel *Watchmen* by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**May 26-29***Fanime Con*

San Jose Convention Center

San Jose

www.fanime.com

Price

The largest annual anime convention in the Bay Area. Dealer's room, panels, costume contest, multiple tracks of anime, Asian films, J-pop concert, much more.

**May 26-29***Baycon*

San Jose Doubletree Inn

San Jose

www.baycon.org

\$45 until August 31

The largest annual general SF convention in the Bay area. Dealer's room, panels, costume contest, anime room, much more.

**August 4-6 2006***Anime Overdose 2006*

www.animeod.com

San Francisco

\$30 to ?, \$45 at door

Anime convention.

**Saturday, September 2, 2006**

*Captain Morgan's Privateers (We Ain't Pirates No More) Ball*

**PEERS Event**

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.

Dance Lesson: 7:15 p.m.

Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00 in advance (by August 26, 2006)

Tickets: \$20.00 at the door

**More Events Next Page**

## Ongoing:

*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

Mondays at 8 p.m.

Free

[www.basfa.org](http://www.basfa.org)

*Legion of Rassilon*

*Doctor Who fan group*

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

Meets every fourth Friday at 7:30 p.m.

(No December meeting)

Free

Showing episodes of the new Dr. Who series, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

*Anime Style Drawing and Animation Techniques*

Frank Bette Center for the Arts

[www.frankbettecenter.org/](http://www.frankbettecenter.org/)

1601 Paru Street

Alameda, CA 94501

510-523-6957

Fridays 4 p.m – 6 p.m.

\$10 teens per session

\$35 adults per session

Professional illustrator and fine artist

Ken McGhee helps participants develop the skills they need to draw characters, taking the class on a journey through the process and techniques of manga. Drop-in class, all skill levels welcome.

## Bay Area Role-Playing Society

[www.BayRPS.com](http://www.BayRPS.com)

Go-Getter's Pizza

1489 Beach Park Boulevard

Foster City

Wednesdays from 6pm to 10pm

Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details send email to: [GM@BayRPS.com](mailto:GM@BayRPS.com). (Not confirmed, check before attending.)

*SF Games*

[vax.hanford.org/dk/games](http://vax.hanford.org/dk/games)

Muddy's Coffeehouse

1304 Valencia Street near 24th

San Francisco

7:00 p.m. to midnight

Free

SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Also has a cards night on Tuesdays at Café Macondo, 3159 16th Street between Guerrero and Valencia.

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long presentation.

Kevin reviewed the sleeper car from Glasgow as a hidden treasure - it takes all night - is pricey but you don't have to pay for a hotel room that night.

We auctioned off stuff = a book for \$0.25, a book & a fan for \$0.25, a book for \$1.25, a cardboard C3PO & a fan for \$1.00 & a book for \$2.50.

We adjourned at = 9:42 pm

And the rumor of the week was 'that Frank Wu is the Scary Spice of life'.

## Local Fan Notes:

Chris Garcia has pubbed issue 38 of *The Drink Tank*. It can be downloaded at [www.efanzines.com](http://www.efanzines.com).

Cheryl Morgan and Chris Garcia have pubbed several issues of *The Pork Authority*. They can be downloaded at [www.efanzines.com](http://www.efanzines.com)

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:  
**[SFinSF@gmail.com](mailto:SFinSF@gmail.com)**