

SF/SF Science Fiction/San Francisco

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

Issue 9

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TOC

Editorial.....	1
eLOCs	2-3
Metreon Festival of Anime Delay	4
Kepler's Reopening.....	4
San Jose Loses Bid for NASFiC	5
OCOH Charity Auction.....	5
Correction.....	5
Kelly Turner Obituary.....	5-9
Neil Gaiman Signing.....	10-14
Hobbit Picnic.....	15-20
Silicon Preview.....	21
Serenity Opens Big.....	22-28
How Berkeley Can You Be	29-31
Christopher Paolini Signing	32-35
Phil Nutman Signing	36-37
FSFL Book Sale.....	38-43
Blog Watch	44
FIG Meetings Report	45-47
Bay Area Fanzines.....	47
BASFA Minutes	48-50
Calendar	51-95

TOC

Sometimes you just have to dream big. That's what science fiction (and fantasy and horror) are about, right?

This zine was always about dreaming big. When I founded Science Fiction/San Francisco, I wanted to cover every science fiction, fantasy and horror event in the Bay Area. I wanted it to become a central meeting place for local fandom. A place where clubs could promote themselves, fans could meet up with those who shared their interests and a resource to help fans find events and groups.

I figured there couldn't be that many events to cover. Just a con once in a while, and an event or two now and again. I thought a 10 or 12 page issue would be the norm. Was I wrong. This issue our events calendar alone is 45 pages long, and I know I've not found 80 percent of the items that should be listed.

Even with the largest issue yet, and

more contributors this issue than the previous eight combined, we didn't cover half the events we could have.

Faced with this, and the huge amount of work involved in putting out the issue single handed, I burned out. The dream was a far too big for me to dream alone.

But Jean Martin and Chris Garcia wouldn't let me quit. Within a day of closing the zine, they were both volunteering to step forward to take over the editorial reigns. So I've become the editor emeritus, and let more suitable hands take over the big chair duties. I'm still involved, but Jean and Chris are going to be the driving force behind the expansion of the zine.

And expand it will. They've rounded up additional crew and have broadened the zine considerably in just a couple of weeks.

But it's not enough. And that's where you, our readers come in. Join us in this crazy, impossible too-big dream. We're looking for a few good fans to help us out.

So thumb through the issue, take a look at the calendar and then get out there and

be a fan. Write a LOC, go to a play, a show, a convention, a reading, a film festival, join a fan group, have some fun. And then come back here and write about it for us.

eLOCs

From Etobicoke, Canada, Lloyd Penney

Dear Jack:

Many thanks for issue 8 of SF/SF, and my regrets that this is the last issue. Every good fanzine deserves feedback, so here goes.

My letter...it looks like my plan to produce a Canadian national newszine has met with a resounding "Who cares?". Some have asked me what I could do that their clubzines don't already do. There are only three Canadian cities that have a club big enough to trade back and forth with one another, Ottawa, Montreal and Vancouver, so it is felt that a Canadian central zine is a waste of effort. So, I might fall back on Plan B, which is to do a Toronto newszine, and trade with the other cities. I also plan to set up a mailing list to send it to people directly. If they don't want it, they should tell me.

Peter Sullivan should know that when I got that attitude of media fandom not being real fandom, this attitude came from

local fandom of the 1970s and 1980s. In some ways, it has changed; in others, it hasn't changed at all. One of the changes is that media fandom now predominates, and some of them feel that the lit fandom types aren't real fans at all if they don't know all the titles of the second season of *Buffy*, for example. The fanzines I enjoy aren't real fanzines (real fanzines are 600+ pages in size, full of fanfic, but even they are going away...real fanzines are actually real websites). For some, if you're not wearing a costume, you're not a real fan. It's come full circle, and it would be funny if it wasn't truly sad.

Dragon*con is described as a convention for big kids. I've also been told that its dealers' room is the only one to have an X-rated section in it. Yet, it seems a little childish to me for its Star Trek track...give me a Worldcon any day, which seems to me adult, yet a lot of fun. Maybe the difference between Worldcon and Dragon*con is the difference between adults and big kids.

Anyway, that's all for now. I will probably be using your extensive listings as types of events to look for in the Toronto area, and I hope will make a Toronto fandom newsletter wide-ranging. My thanks for these past 8 issues; I hope you've gotten thanks for your efforts from at least someone in the BArea. I'll see you in the

funny zines.

Chris Garcia responds:

As you can see Lloyd, reports of our death were highly exaggerated...even if we were the ones making the reports.

It seems a shame that Canada as a whole doesn't look kindly on a National Newszine. Of the more-or-less national newszine world, there's at least one in Finland and Sweden and one in South Africa, though both of those places have much different fannish make-ups than Canada. Still, A T-Dot newszine would be a nice thing to see.

*Yeah, it's gone full circle in many locations. There are pockets of more or less old skool fandom left all over the place, and they've started cons. CorFlu being the obvious one, but I'd say that Potlatch and even Contact would qualify. I'm a media nut myself, though I dislike things like Comic-con and Dragon*con. There are other cons with adult sections (Wondercon here in the BArea, as an example) but the odd thing about Dragon*con is the fact that it's a little bit of everything. It's a comic con, it's an SF con, it's an anime con, and at times it suffers the same problems as each of them.*

We're back and looking at a long run, Lloyd, so sit back and enjoy the BArea Fandom show!

And from the UK, Peter Sullivan

Dear Jack,

A shame that you've decided to give up SFSF. But, fundamentally, if you're not having fun with it any more, then I'm sure it's the right thing to do. Having said that, I'm now going to witter on for a bit.

I don't think you need to beat yourself up about any perceived lack of promotion - part of the problem with a weekly zeen is that just getting the issue out is such a big commitment that it's unreasonable to expect much else from the main man. People like Chris Garcia seem keener on promotion - I guess we just need to clone a few more of him!

And I'm not sure that I agree that it should have been a website rather than an e-fanzeen. Firstly, I'm becoming more and more keen on a "hub and spoke" theory of fandom, with all the different fandoms linked together via the "original" fandom of fanzeen fandom. So linking the disparate San Fransisco/Bay Area fandoms via a fanzeen has a fundamental "rightness" about it. Plus, you might get people in the "other" fandoms more used to the concept of a fanzeen, and inspire them to look up (or even start) an SCA fanzeen, a Furry Fandom fanzeen, or whatever. That's all a bit existential, but there is a more practical

reason. A website would be updated on an irregular schedule, so people get out of the habit of checking it. A fanzeen has a more structured timeline, with the issuing of an issue (hmm...) acting as an implied "there's new stuff to read" signal.

Would moving to a slower schedule make the whole thing more manageable?

I would guess pretty much any frequency, up to a Lloyd Penney-like 6 to 8 weekly, would still work. As you say, publishing weekly is a killer from the point of view of always having to chase next week's issue, rather than having time to plan ahead.

With a bit of luck, your honest analysis this issue will hopefully motivate people to offer to help out, and keep something running under the SFSF banner, whether with you still involved or not. If it were me, I would insist on them keeping my name on the masthead as "Founding Editor Emeritus (Resting)" in any case!

The practical extent to which I can personally help out is probably limited by geography - about all I could think of is providing technical advice/support if people wanted to take SFSF down the website route. But I would guess the one thing that Bay Area fandom has in spades is computer geeks with strong ideas on how to build a website.

Regardless of what other people like me say, I'm sure that you'll do what you want to do. One of the best features of fandom (and one of its biggest positive divergences from that "real life" thingy people keep going on about) is that no-one can force anyone to do anything that they don't want to.

Chris again takes his turn this issue to respond:

Well Pete, we're still around, thank goodness. It didn't take much to convince Jack that we should start back up, and I'm glad we did it too.

Yeah, weekly is tough. You either have to have a lot of help, a lot of free time, or just be crazy. I am a little of all three, so I manage. Bi-Weekly, which is the format we're going for from this point forward, is probably the best idea. We've been very lucky in that we're starting to get folks from the various local fandoms to gather and use SF/SF as a rallying point. The calendar alone has got people talking.

You be surprised how many truly atrocious websites come out of the minds of BArea web designers. I used to keep a list.

You're right, no one can force anything on anyone in fandom (though I've often been coaxed into doing things with the threat of 'If you don't (blank), you're going to be elected President of BASFA' That always gets me running!

News and Notes

Metreon and Bandai postpone Meteron Festival of Anime: No con this weekend!

The fifth annual Metreon Festival of Anime, scheduled to be held this Saturday in San Francisco, has been indefinitely postponed.

According to sources close to the convention, Bandai has delayed committing support to the event until a future weekend. Bandai is the major sponsor of the event and without prizes, personnel and anime programming provided by the company, the event could not go forward.

The event has not been cancelled, but a new date has yet to be set.

The delay means the event will no longer be in conflict with the much larger, but not anime specific, Silicon being held in San Jose this weekend.

However, there is concern among anime fans that the event could be rescheduled for a date that would conflict with the upcoming YaoiCon at the end of October, or AnimeDestiny or the Japantown Anime Fair, both in November. Since the convention is not fan-run, the scheduling decisions are not taking into account fan interests.

Bandai has a store in the Meteron and

in previous years, has been a major sponsor of the event. Anime programming tracks at the show have consisted entirely of Bandai-licensed titles. In addition, with prizes being awarded for the best Bandai-theme costume in the cosplay contest, many costumers were planning to come as Bandai characters. Bandai also manufactures collectible card games and model kits, so model-building contests, card game tournaments and demonstrations by Bandai were planned.

— Jack Avery

Community Support, Angel Investors Will Reopen Kepler's Books

Venerable Menlo Park bookstore Kepler's will host a rally Saturday, October 8 to celebrate their reopening.

Clark Kepler, Kepler's President, said a successful lease renegotiation with property owner The Tan Group paved the way the bookstore to reopen.

The store's sudden closing last month led to a community effort to save the local institution The Kepler's Patron's Circle, consisting of more than 17 investors, pledged financial and other support to enable the store to reopen.

Following the 11 a.m. rally, the

bookstore will open to the public. At the rally a new membership program will be unveiled, and upcoming benefit author events will be announced. There will also be a raffle for \$500 worth of books.

"I am excited and appreciative beyond words," Kepler said. "I want to thank the Tan Group, the Patron's Circle and Board of Directors, the Menlo Park City Council and other local community leaders, and business people who contributed their expertise.

"My heartfelt thanks go to these people as well as local business professionals who worked pro bono negotiating the necessary contracts and helping us develop a new business plan that will keep the bookstore going long into the future."

Kepler's has been an institution in Menlo Park for 50 years.

As of press time, there was no word on whether previously scheduled author events would be held or whether the science fiction book club would return.

—Jack Avery

More News and Notes on Next Page

Once Again, San Jose Shakes Things Up At NASFiC

Having gone to NASFiC expecting no surprises, imagine my surprise when I, in fact, was surprised. That's right, something actually shocked me, and it had to do with what I thought would be the most stable of activities that would be occurring at CascadiaCon: The Site Selection.

For a long while, there had been two bids for the 2007 NASFiC, St. Louis and Ocean City, MD I believe. At the filing deadline, only St. Louis had filed so officially there wasn't going to be any competition. That meant that St. Louis would ride through with maybe a couple of None of the Aboves and maybe an odd write-in done for comedy. That was the thought, but that didn't quite turn out.

So far as I can tell, here's what happened. Chaz Boston Baden, Web Fandom's Image Guru, approached Michael Siladi and said something like 'Hey, you wanna chair a NASFiC bid?'. Michael's response? 'Sure, I'll get the hotel' and within short order there was a hotel contract of some sort. Now, this was on Friday night, I think, so with one full day before the voting closed, San Jose launched a bid for a RelaxaNASFiC which would be a Relaxacon with little programming and be mostly focused on

the preparing of attendees to head out to WorldCon in Japan. The concept featured two Japanese themed video rooms and a lot of panels to prep people for Japan. Smart. Plus it would have been at the DoubleTree, my favourite hotel in San Jose.

In the end, San Jose got 27 votes, three on Friday and twenty-four on Saturday. The San Jose in 2007 NASFiC bid party on Friday got high marks from reviewers Mimi Noyes and Dana Siegel.

Now, I've been told by some folks that it was a hoax bid, though I was also told by others that it was an obvious reaction to the way that CascadiaCon was being run. The idea of giving NASFiC an identity of something other than being the Rump WorldCon was a great idea. Vegas Fandom is doing the second Toner convention the weekend before LACon IV which is very much a similar idea. It seemed like a very good idea and it would have given an identity to the event that NASFiC has been lacking.

There are members of Southern Fandom who I ran into who were very annoyed with the fact that San Jose put up any sort of bid, which is understandable, and the thought is if San Jose had been on the ballot with some lead time they would have stood a very good chance. I certainly think they would have. If CascadiaCon proved one thing it

was that NASFiC needs a little bit of work to become something really important and not merely a lesser WorldCon for the cash strapped.

I'm saying this right now, someone should bid San Jose for when WorldCon goes Australian. Heck, hitch up with the Australia bid and make it a prep weekend. Learn to tolerate Vegamite and discover what real Australian beer tastes like! It'd be brilliant and San Jose is the only city that could pull it off right!

— Chris Garcia

Other Change of Hobbit Auctions for Charity

An auction of a Terry Pratchett *Thud* baseball cap, autographed by the author, sold on E-bay recently for \$45. The auction was part of Other Change of Hobbit's Hurricane Katrina charity drive.

Proceeds from this and some other auctions by the Berkeley science fiction specialty store are being donated to Habitat for Humanity to aid in hurricane recovery.

— Jack Avery

Correction:

Last issue we misidentified the photographer who took photos of two author events at Borderlands. We apologize to Jude for getting the credit wrong.

Kelly F. Turner, 1961-2005

By Karen Dick

Kelly Turner passed away early in the morning of September 18, 2005 of systemic organ failure after a brief and totally unexpected illness. He was 43.

Kelly was an extremely active fan and costumer for approximately two decades



Kelly Turner in his Scorpio costume.

(early 70's to early 90's). In recent years, he attended fewer science fiction conventions because of his busy work and lecture schedule, but still maintained a healthy interest in the genre.

Kelly started costuming and attending science fiction conventions at an early age. He was a fan of the original *Star Trek* and began attending meetings of S.T.A.R. San Diego late in 1974. (S.T.A.R. was the San Diego chapter of the Star Trek Association for Revival, which later evolved into a general science fiction club.) At 14, Kelly was one of its youngest members. He was also a founding member of Infinity One, a second San Diego-based science fiction club started in 1978. Among his first costumes were a Colonial Warrior uniform from the original *Battlestar Galactica* TV series, and a dress uniform from the Buck Rogers TV series from the same era (late 1970's). Kelly and his mother worked together to draft the patterns and construct these costumes.

By 18, Kelly was part of the fan-based crew that built the "V'Ger Flyby" sets for *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* in 1979 and additional sets and props for the special edition of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. These jobs involved long hours

and low pay, but he loved the work, and made lasting friendships with some of the other crew members, some of whom went on to have long and successful careers in the film industry. Kelly himself chose a computer programming career because the entry-level pay was better. However, Kelly always remained interested in the film industry, and some of the dry-brushing and weathering techniques he learned on these builds were put to good use on his extensive collection of science fiction models. His interest in the film industry also ended up dovetailing into his professional life later in his career.

In the early 1980's, Kelly developed an interest in anime (commonly called "Japanimation" in those days), and became a fan of *Star Blazers* (aka *Space Cruiser Yamato*). This led him to being involved in costumed groups from *Star Blazers*, *Captain Harlock*, *Galaxy Express 999* and *RobotechS* (aka *Macross*). He also was an early member of the Los-Angeles based Cartoon/Fantasy Organization, a club devoted to animation, mostly of Japanese origin. Kelly was often found haunting the Japanese import districts of Los Angeles and San Francisco, searching for just the right sourcebook or

soundtrack album.

Kelly competed in the Master division at science fiction convention masquerades, and his costume credits include *Star Blazers* (Comic-Con 1980), *Captain Harlock* (1980), *The Royal Family of Amber* (Westercon 1980), *Galaxy Express 99* (Equicon 1981), Lord and Lady Valentine (Westercon 1981), *Elfquest* (Comic-Con 1981), *The Egyptian Gods* (Denvention 1981), *Pyrogenesis* (Chicon 1982), *Turn of a Friendly Card* (ConStellation1983), *Night on Bald Mountain* (LAcon 1984), and *Dune* (Westercon 1985, Loscon 1985, Costume-Con 1986). He brought meticulous skills to every group he worked with, including sewing, beading, sculpting, and casting in resin, slush latex, and foam latex.

Beginning in 1983, Kelly began to give back to the fannish community by helping to run conventions or departments within conventions. Kelly was part of the team that launched Costume-Con, which was conceived as a one-shot convention, and now will be celebrating its 24th year in spring 2006. Kelly worked on the committees of Costume-Con 1 and 2, and was the Chairman of Costume-Con 6. He was Masquerade Director for the 1982 and

1983 Baycon in San Jose and the 1986 Westercon in San Diego.

Kelly had considerable desktop publishing skills and used them for the

usual convention PR's and program books, but also took on some projects that were much larger in scope. He was the managing editor of the first nine editions of *The Whole*



Kelly Turner at work in his home office.



Kelly Turner and partner Tom Grissinger.

Costumer's Catalogue, an "annotated yellow pages" type resource book for people into costuming, crafting, fiberarts, art to wear, theater, etc. This book required considerable upkeep because so much of its contents would change from year to year as businesses went out of business, moved, changed phone numbers, etc. He also laid out and published several Future Fashion Folios, a design contest/published folio/fashion show concept started by Bjo Trimble at conventions she was involved with in the 1950s through 1970s, and continued by Costume-Con in the 1980s to present. He also was the first editor of Costumer's Quarterly, a magazine-format

everything in-between. He had a huge collection of LPs and CDs, a high percentage of them movie or TV soundtrack albums. He would readily discuss the musical phrasing in a John Williams score, or how James Horner's style developed directly out of Jerry Goldsmith's. He was self-taught on the piano, and was always looking for interesting sheet music to further stretch his skills. He loved concerts and live musical theater, followed all the Andrew Lloyd Webber musicals in the 80's, had recently seen a production of *Wicked*, and was making plans to see the San Francisco premiere of the Anne Rice *Vampire Lestat*

publication of the International Costumer's Guild.

Kelly had an insatiable appetite for music. His tastes ranged from big band music from the 40s to the Japanese jazz used in some anime soundtracks, and just about

musical this December.

Kelly also had a keen interest in Disney parks and Disneyana. He started going to Disneyland as soon as he was old enough to buy a bus ticket and go by himself (about age 12). He first visited the Epcot theme park in Florida only a couple of months after it opened in 1982, and it was his favorite of all the Disney parks thereafter.

Kelly also collected art. Many pieces were originals by "name" science fiction and fantasy artists, but others were movie one-sheets or limited-edition prints done of Disney parks or by Disney artists. He had a fine sense of color and composition, and purchased things that pleased him and not just things that would accrue value.

Kelly first moved to the Bay Area in 1984, and always maintained ties there even if he was living and working in other parts of the state. Kelly loved playing host, and threw some large and memorable New Year's parties at his San Jose home during his employment with Atari. Starting in the 1990's, he did volunteer work for the Bay Area gay community. Later, he purchased a second home in Palm Springs, and planned to retire there. He co-owned a restaurant in Palm Springs named *Blame It On Midnight*, did some of the work on their web site, and was active in planning some of the special events held there.

Kelly spent his entire professional career working in the computer and video game industry. After a brief stint as a programmer for Gamma Scientific, a company that specialized in precision light-measuring equipment, he started as a programmer at the coin-op division of Atari. Over the last 20 years, he worked in virtually every aspect of development and production at such companies as Atari, P.F. Magic, Virgin Interactive, Rhythm & Hues, The 3DO Company, and Eidos, producing games for the coin-op, PC, Saturn, PSX, PS2, N64, GameCube, and Xbox platforms. Over his decade-long tenure at Atari, he produced, co-programmed, and co-designed such coin-op classics as: *Gremlins* (1985), *Super Sprint* (1986), *Championship Sprint* (1987), *Vindicators* (1988), *Tetris* (1989), *Batman* (1990), *Badlands* (1991), *Cyberstorm* (1992/3), *Atari Classics* (1993), and *Sparkz* (1993). Title highlights from his post-Atari career include executive producer credits on: *Flix* (1994), *Propaganda* (1995-7), *Uprising X* (1998), *Battletanx: Global Assault* (1999), six *Army Men* titles for 3DO (1999-2003), *Gulf War* (1999), *WDL: Thunder Tanks* (2000), *Dragon Rage* (2001), *Godai* (2001), *WDL: Warjetz* (2001), *Cubix Adventure* (2002), *Jacked* (2003), *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse* (2003), *Backyard Wrestling 2* (2004), and *25 to Life* (2005).

Kelly's hobbies and outside interests made him uniquely suited for recognizing good game concepts, or other properties (such as movies) that could make good games. He was well-versed in licensing, marketing, and working with Hollywood



Kelly Turner as Paul from Dune.

talent. He was a speaker at the Game Developers Conference and the Classic Gaming Expo earlier this year, and was scheduled to lecture at the ShowBiz Expo in November. Most recently, he was Executive Producer of external development at Eidos, Inc, and sat on the Board of Governors of the Producer's Guild of America's New Media Council. He was the first game producer to sit on the aforementioned Board of Governors, and was very proud of that accomplishment. He had just started a new job with Point of View and was about to move back to Southern California when he came down with his final illness.

Kelly is survived by his mother, Mrs. Rosetta Turner, older siblings Bobby, Roz, and Margie, his current life partner, Tom Grissinger, and by a wide circle of friends.

If you would like to donate to a charity in Kelly's name, a memorial fund has been set up for him by the Movie Producers Guild:

Kelly Turner Memorial Fund
Producers Guild of America
8530 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 450
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Please make out the check to the "Producers Guild of America" and write "Kelly Turner Memorial Fund" in the memo field.

Neil Gaiman: The Sandman Cometh

By Jean Martin
Editor

I believe I'm one of the few people that discovered Neil Gaiman, not through his wildly popular "Sandman" graphic novels, but through "Neverwhere." "Neverwhere" was a BBC miniseries televised here in the U.S. by my favorite station, KTEH. It is an "Alice in Wonderland" tale of a contemporary Londoner who accidentally gets thrown into an alternate world in the London Underground, and discovers its dangers and allures. Since then I've been a fan and read several of his fantasy novels including "Good Omens," "Stardust" and "American Gods."

I've missed seeing him the few times he's done book tours in the Bay Area and so I was looking forward to attending his lecture and book signing at Kepler's but found out that Kepler's, which is a 20 minute drive from me, closed recently. So I had to drive to Berkeley, an hour away, to see him. It was well worth the trip. I've heard from several friends and even employees at several bookstores, including Cody's in Berkeley

who was hosting the event last September 30th, that Neil is a very entertaining speaker and one of the most generous authors when it comes to his fans.

Dubbed "literature's rock star," Neil was dressed in rock star attire (I know as I used to interview rock stars in my previous life as a rock journalist), black t-shirt, black leather jacket, black jeans and black shoes. The First Congregational Church on 2345 Channing Way near U.C. Berkeley was also packed to the rafters with mostly young, adoring fans. Some of whom were dressed in costumes from his various works. Holding the event in a church seemed a little strange as I sat in the front pew waiting for Neil to arrive. But after he came out and stood behind the ornately gilded pulpit, it all made sense to me. He was our preacher and we were his followers! He was mesmerizing with his soft British accent and gentle demeanor. And yes, he is as handsome in person as he is in his photos! He began his lecture saying, "dearly beloved," and the whole audience burst out in laughter.

Neil talked for about 15 minutes discussing his new novel, "Anansi Boys," and



recounted how the book came about. He explained that although there is a character in it that was in “American Gods,” it is not a sequel. He also mentioned that because his movie, “MirrorMask” (with frequent collaborator, artist Dave McKean) was coming out on the same day as his lecture and also at the same time as “Serenity,” someone told him the day should now be called “National Geek Day.” Then he said, “Happy National Geek Day,” which we all cheered to.

After borrowing a copy of “Anansi Boys” from one of the women in the audience, he proceeded to read from the book for about 15 minutes. Neil is a very good reader and he dramatized the dialogue with different voices and expressions. Most of what he read was somber but with funny lines here and there. We were all enraptured by his storytelling and I, personally, can’t wait to read the novel, which I just picked up before the event.

The rest of the hour was a Q&A session. The questions were quite intelligent and thought provoking, well, we’re dealing with a smart and creative fan base after all, and Neil’s answers were very witty, personal and informative. One interesting question to me, as a writer, was about his writing process. He says with his background as a journalist, he’s used to writing on deadline.

He said there’s such a thing called writer’s block but nothing called journalist’s block. So you “crank out copy and do it.” But now that he’s a full-time author, “I can indulge myself and I do.” So he usually borrows a friend’s house to start a novel, comes back home to do the middle and then goes somewhere else to finish it. Also, with “Stardust,” he discovered the joy of

writing with a fountain pen. Because it’s not real until it gets typed up. He also said that when working on a computer, he gets distracted by emails popping up and going on Google to search for things.

Neil was also asked when he first heard of Anansi, the African spider-god. He revealed that he probably first discovered Anansi at a children’s library when he



Jean Martin, Mr. Darcy, Quinby Frey and Pat Frey waiting to have their books signed.

was about nine. He loved going through the card catalogs and searched for books with themes like magic and space travel. Hmm... this is what I used to do as well when I was a child!!! Someone asked him if he was ever going to write a science fiction short story and he said that he just wrote one for the young adult market on how to talk to girls at parties. He considers that science fiction! On a more serious note, he did say that when he was a teenager, he thought he would grow up to be a science fiction author. Which he looks back to now

with wonder because he really didn't read as much scifi. On the other hand, he does love scifi and has a pretty decent knowledge of the field and so probably would write a real scifi story one day.

He said he's quite proud of his entire Sandman body of work, consisting of 75 comics and 10 graphic novels. When pressed, he picked two stories as his favorites. "Midsummer Night's Dream," which took home the World Fantasy Award for best short story; and "Ramadan," which ten years after its publication put a stop

to criticisms that his stories are devoid of political content with its timeliness in world affairs.

Someone asked him about his future projects. Specifically, if he was going to collaborate with Terry Pratchett, his co-author on "Good Omens." Neil said, in his typically clever way, that it's now complicated because he and Terry are no longer the unknowns they were when they wrote "Good Omens." Now, they need people with briefcases to be around before the two of them can even meet in the same room! But by chance, they ran into each other recently and had a good conversation about the "possibility, of considering, that perhaps one day, discussing writing a 'Good Omens' book. In the meantime, the book will be re-released in March as a hardcover, which has been out of print for a while. There will be two versions, a white cover with his name first, and a black cover with Terry's name first. Which is good he said because the book will be in the G section as well as the P section.

However, Neil did reveal that although he would love to do a sequel to "Neverwhere" involving the Seven Sisters or a "Stardust"-type novel, faced with the choice of doing "something I've done before" versus "something I've never done before," he would "rather make new



mistakes.” Plus, he doesn’t “know what next novel is until I sit down to write it.” Well, just as long as he keeps writing!

He ended his lecture by encouraging everyone to go see “MirrorMask” as he said it’s only showing in a few theatres and if lots of people show up the first week, it will really make a difference. The movie, which of course I will see as soon as I can, is about a circus girl who ventures into a dark fantasyland reminiscent of “Labyrinth.” Well, the Jim Henson Company were involved in creating the puppets, sets and CGI. Apparently, the movie wasn’t supposed to be widely released but audiences loved it after it was screened at Sundance.

We then all lined up to get his autograph. And during the long wait, I got to socialize with several people. Everyone was just so friendly and even though the system of lining up was confusing and chaotic, everyone just followed directions and patiently waited. In the meantime, I ran into six different people from six different parts of my life (vintage dance, the Victorian chorus girl group I perform with, scifi conventions, Firefly fandom, my day job, and even my old heavy metal journalist days)! It is so fascinating to me

Neil Gaiman at the question and answer session.

Photo: Jean Martin



how all my interests and hobbies seem to now be converging. And it has now become clear to me that the people that like historicals, fantasy and scifi, are usually one and the same. For a long time, I thought I was just weird because lots of people said I was! I just wasn't hanging out with kindred spirits! It's nice to know that I now belong to a huge community of geeks... er... fans. Hey, I'm a nerd and I'm proud of it!

So anyway, with butterflies in my stomach I approached Neil at the signing table. I handed my three books and he said my name (sigh!) and he was so gracious and unhurried. Like there wasn't a line of hundreds waiting behind me. I told him I loved "Neverwhere" and what I loved about it, and that I would really enjoy a sequel. And he stopped signing for a second and he said with a smile, and with what seemed to me very genuine emotion (and that to-die-for accent), that that's why he loves doing book tours because he finds out from his fans what to do. Then my heart just stopped when he said that he might just do a sequel of "Neverwhere." Hey, if he does then I get full credit!!! Then I said the show and book inspired me to go to England to explore the London Underground, which I truly did. He replied that the London Tourist Board should give him some sort of recognition for getting people to go there. I said thanks

and left the building in a sort of star struck haze.

After squealing several times in delight as I walked to my car, I sat down in the driver's seat and looked at his autographs. He actually personalized them! He wrote "Mind the Gap" in my old "Neverwhere" paperback (wish I thought of buying a

new hardback for this occasion), he drew a mouse's head in my new "Coraline" hardback, and encircled "This one's for you" in the dedication page of my also new "Anansi Boys" hardback. I think this amazingly talented, intelligent and charming English gent has just won a fan for life!



Gaiman reads from Anansi Boys

Photo: Jean Martin

The Hobbit Picnic 2005

What happens when an orc and a ringwraith and an evil wizard show up at the Hobbit Picnic? Apparently the orcs, hobbits, wizards and other attendees toast marshmallows, tap dance, drink Two Buck Chuck and otherwise have a good time.



Left: Tom Bombadil recites a poem about himself.

Top: A Ringwraith (real name unknown) and Sam (Leah Jakusovszly) share a Mordor marshmallow.

Right: Ashnika the Orc (Nina Kempf) does an advertisement for pumpkin ale. Photos this page by Cordelia Willis

The October 1 event at Pine Lake Park in San Francisco also featured a raffle, a talent show, re-enactments, readings from *The Hobbit*, a trivia contest, and of course, plenty of food. Even the wine was in costume, with Two Buck Chuck disguised as Hobbiton-made fare.





Top Left: Theoden and Gamling (Phil and Kathe Gust) win first place in the Fangorn Follies with their reading of *The Hobbit*. Photo by Cordelia Willis

Top Right: Ashnika the Orc (Nina Kempf) and King Theoden (Phil Gust) share a toast. Photo by Cordelia Willis

Lower Left: Three hobbit lasses (Kelly Bolton, Cordelia Willis and Cathleen Trowbridge). Photo by Leah Jakusovsky



Left: Gamling
(Kathe Gust)

Right: LOTR
couple (real
names unknown).

Photos by Jeannette





Left: Sam (Leah Jakusovszly and Ashnika the Orc (Nina Kempf).

Below: Gandalf and Saruman (real names unknown) have a tap dance contest.

Photos by Jeannette Peters





Left: Two Buck Chuck in costume.

Lower Left: Hey, is this Lembas fresh?

Lower Right: The Prancing Pony Players
(Kelly Bolton, Cordelia Willis, Nina Kempf,
Leah Jakusovszly and Cathleen Trowbridge.

Photos by Jeannette Peters



Most of the attendees.

Photo by Jeannette Peters



Independently SiliCon

By Carole Parker

SiliCon, a media-oriented science fiction and science fantasy convention happens this next weekend, October 7-9 at the San Jose, CA DoubleTree Hotel. So, what's any different from any other convention? Isn't this where the freaks and geeks gather?

What makes SiliCon different this year, is that we are having our first-ever Independent Film Festival on Friday night, October 7 starting at 8 p.m. Some of the films lined up include *Zoom Suit* by Assassination Entertainment and *Bite Me Fanboy!* by Mat Nastos. After these films have been shown, both will be available for auction at our Charity Auction, which supports the Diabetes Society of Santa Clara Valley. All monies raised at the auction go



directly to the Diabetes Society. Not a portion of the proceeds. All of them.

If you are interested in seeing what we have donated for

auction so far, you can go to our website at:

<http://www.siliconventions.com/programming/charity.html>

Plus, a percentage of any profits that SiliCon makes will also go to the Diabetes Society on top of the proceeds from the Charity Auction.

Other film programming includes having a *Rocky Horror Picture Show* live performance troupe to go along with the movie, and the showing of a trailer for *GB 2525* an independent urban action feature that is a mix of *The Warriors* and *The Matrix*. Come see and talk to the people that produced it. To go along with the Independent Film Festival, we also have filmmaking, writing, hard science, gaming, and costuming programming.

Another special event is actually two events: we'll be having two *Magic: The Gathering* tournaments at SiliCon. Come meet one of the original artists for MTG, Christopher Rush. To find out more about the Magic tournaments:

<http://www.siliconventions.com/programming/gaming.html>

For those of you that are more into music, SiliCon is honored to have Peter S. Beagle in concert, along with Jeff and Maya

Bohnhoff, Loren Davidson, and Paul Kwinn. In addition to performing some of his original songs, Mr. Beagle will also be doing a reading from his recently-released book and an autograph signing. For the songwriters, we have a special contest for songs about Einstein:

<http://www.siliconventions.com/programming/filking.html>

Don't forget the Saturday night masquerade where people show us their visions of the future, past, a book, or show using clothing/costumes.

If you're wondering what a convention is, and what it's all about, check out our FAQs:

<http://www.siliconventions.com/faqs/faqs.html>

For more information on SiliCon:

<http://www.siliconventions.com>

Photos of Silicon 2004 courtesy of Warren Harris and Cosplay Magazine.



A Month of *Serenity*

By Jean Martin, Cybele Baker
and Adam Levermore-Rich

One of the most anticipated movies of the Fall season, nay, this year, *Serenity* finally hit theatres nationwide last September 30th.

For those who still haven't heard of *Serenity*, it is based on the short-lived Joss Whedon (*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Angel*) TV series *Firefly* (see issue 6 for my more in-depth article on *Firefly* and the fan campaign to turn the series into a major motion pic-

ture). To celebrate the release of the movie, I am compiling this section, chronicling the myriad events this past month in San Francisco leading up to the big day. I am reporting on the SF Browncoats (the SF *Firefly* fan group) meeting last September 17 and the *Firefly* viewing at Varnish Gallery on September 29. Cybele Baker was lucky enough to see the last press screening at the AMC Van Ness on September 27 and will be recounting her experience. And last but not the least, Adam Levermore-Rich will recap the midnight premiere at the Metreon on September 29, where almost 1,000 fans, some in costume, were in attendance.

** ** *

SF Browncoats Meeting, September 17,
Café Murano by Jean Martin:

As a fan of the TV series *Firefly*, and after portraying Inara, the Companion, in this year's Comic-Con masquerade competition, I consider myself part of the SF Browncoats.

I've been wanting to connect with other fans, and meet up with a couple of friends and acquaintances who are more active with the organization. I got the chance to



SF Browncoats working on Equality Now postcards
Photo by Jean Martin



Adam Levermore-Rich, Jean Martin and Kim Pudliner at SF Browncoats meeting. Photo courtesy of Jean Martin

do so last September 17 when I attended the group's monthly lunch meeting at Café Murano (owned by SF Browncoats' founder Renee Balmert's husband) on 1777 Steiner Street in San Francisco. A charming Italian café with amazing paninis, desserts and hot chocolate (and free Internet access!), Café Murano was a lively but relaxed atmosphere for such a gathering.

I actually had a lot of fun meeting new people and talking about *Firefly*. Several

people who've already seen *Serenity* during the numerous press screenings over the course of this year talked about the movie.

They were gracious enough to tell me to move away so I didn't hear any spoilers by accident.

Around 20 people were there and I was amazed how friendly, intelligent, talented and proactive everyone was.

This is not just a social group, however. One of the topics discussed was the plan for what the SF Browncoats will be doing at the upcoming sci-fi convention, SiliCon, on October 7 through 9 in San Jose. Organizer Arielle Kesweder asked for volunteers to man their booth. The group will also have a panel and a party during the convention as well.

And, of course, they talked about supporting Joss Whedon's favorite charity, Equality Now, a women's rights organization. We all actually worked for a little bit to update promotional postcards with information on Equality Now that were used at Comic-Con with information on SiliCon.

I'm very impressed at how helpful the Browncoats are and how creative!

The postcard was a beautiful, full-color, glossy with pictures of heroines from Joss's various projects.

All in all, it was a fun and productive

way to spend an afternoon in the city by the Bay.

** ** *

Press Screening, September 27, AMC Van Ness by Cybele Baker:

Serenity is the film Joss Whedon made as a companion to his canceled TV series



Arielle Kesweder at the *Serenity* midnight showing that she organized in a Kaylie costume. Photo by Jean Martin



Group shot of costumers at the Metreon Serenity midnight showing.
Photo by Adam Levermore-Rich

Firefly. I had seen several of the episodes when they ran on Fox and was terribly disappointed that the show was canceled so quickly. It had all the best of Joss and, so far, none of the bad. How could Fox cancel such a funny, witty and well-designed show? Of course, today's TV is less about quality as it is about "reality." Instant gratification seems to be the requirement for a show these days. Ah well, someone else believed in Joss and that someone was Universal Pictures who gave him the money and time to turn "Firefly" into a big screen movie.

Last Tuesday, I went to see a press screening of the film full of fans and some critics. The film was a rousing success,

laughter and applause was all around.

The film doesn't disappoint and in many ways enhances the TV show into something even better. I had been lucky enough to see a rougher cut last May and for the most part the final version was the same, cleaned up special effects and music score added which was quite good and not too overpowering.

The tag line for this film has been "Can't Stop the Signal" but as I watched the film for the second time and then a third when I saw it opening night with friends, I caught something I feel was a much more powerful theme; that of belief. I realized while watching the scene when Mal and

Shepherd Book were talking about belief that every single character in this film has a strong belief that was driving them through this story. Even the villain was very strong in

Kim Pudliner, Jo Rhett, Carolyn Staehle, Jean Martin, Dakron Slaxx and Espana Sheriff in *Firefly* costumes at the Varnish Bar.

photo by Johnny Absinthe



Francis Yun and Johnny Absinthe at the Varnish Bar

Photo: Jean Martin

his belief that what he was doing was right. And many of the characters kept using the word belief: Mal, Book, The Operative, Inara etc. And as I was going home on Tuesday, it wasn't just the characters that had such a strong belief; it was Joss himself who was instilling his belief into the film. Belief that the show had been better than Fox believed, belief that he could prove that to them by making a successful big screen film and belief in all of his fans to help him.

His belief has paid off. This film is brilliantly written with clever characters that





Carolyn Staehle as Kaylie, Dakron Slaxx as Wash and a friend as Kaylie waiting for the movie to be shown.

Photo: Jean Martin

are all completely familiar and comfortable with one another you have no trouble believing in them; there's that word again, belief. I believed in Joss too, he has no fear in doing what is best for his story even if it means putting his characters that he obviously loves into severely nasty situations,

which they cannot escape unharmed. That is nothing new, if you've seen *Buffy* and *Angel*, you will see what kind of hell is willing to put his characters through for a better plot.

Joss also managed to do something incredibly difficult, he managed to make a film of a TV show that anyone can watch... even if they haven't seen the show. On Friday, two of my friends who have not seen a single episode of the show yet had

no problems with the film's plot. Joss put a good brief

synopsis at the beginning that fills out some of the info fans already know but helps non-fans understand what is happening. When we left the theatre my friends came out with only one question: "Can I borrow your DVDs?"

** ** *

Firefly Viewing, September 29, Varnish Gallery by Jean Martin:

Well, I was finally on my way to see *Serenity*. I've missed all the press screenings so I thought I needed to see the midnight premiere at the Metreon. I hitched a ride with some new friends I made at the SF Browncoats meeting I went to a few weeks beforehand.

We got to the City early so I was able to attend the last free *Firefly* viewing at Varnish Gallery on 77 Natoma Street... not too far away from the Metreon. The gallery owners had been showing *Firefly* episodes for months in anticipation of the release of "Serenity." But this was the first time I got the chance to go there. They showed the last episode, "Objects in Space," which was appropriate as we were going to see the movie right after. Seeing "Objects in Space" again refreshed my memory of where the series ended and made me look forward to seeing *Serenity*.

We got to Varnish around 9 p.m., which was when they started showing the episode on a big projection screen on one wall of the gallery. Varnish is a spacious contemporary fine art gallery whose current exhibit included the hauntingly beautiful artwork

of Frank Garvey. The gallery has a sophisticated and modern feel to it with its classy wine bar and art library in the mezzanine. We enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and drinks while watching the show. There were around 30 fans there. Several were in costume as everyone was going to the premiere afterwards.

After a short break, they showed the *Serenity* SciFi Channel special, "SciFi Inside: *Serenity*", at around 10 p.m. The special was hosted by Adam Baldwin and featured interviews with Joss Whedon and the cast. Scenes from the movie were also shown.



Jean Martin and Ray Hill as Inara and Mal



Jean Martin with other costumed friends and fans.

Enough to whet my appetite without giving anything away. Then it was back to the Metreon to see *Serenity*!

** ** *

Serenity Midnight Premiere, September 29, Metreon by Adam Levermore-Rich:

Joss Whedon's science fiction thrill ride *Serenity* is a film brought to life by the sheer

will of the fans, and the fans were out in full force to support it as it premiered. At the Metreon in San Francisco, more than 800 people were treated to games, trivia and prizes — not to mention a pretty darn good film — at a midnight screening. Though it was technically a premiere, the capacity crowd — enough to fill two theatres — was evenly split between those seeing the film for the first time and fans who had seen it

three, four, even five times already, thanks to advance screenings.

Fans dressed as characters from the show — “Big Damn Heroes” to those in the know — were out in full force, with more Mals, Kaylees and Jaynes than you could shake a rain stick at. Some arrived as much as six hours early to wait in line and mingle with other fans.

Six hours was nothing compared with how long fans had waited for the movie to finally make it to the big screen. *Serenity* is a continuation of the universe of characters created by Whedon in his ill-fated television series *Firefly*. While the small-screen series was short lived, it had an intense fan following, as evidenced by surprisingly successful DVD sales. That devotion caught the attention of Universal executives, who saw box office potential in the franchise and offered Whedon the chance to bring it back to life on the silver screen.

Whedon himself has credited the fans as an important part of bringing the crew of *Serenity* back to life, as has the cast. In an open letter to the fans in the hours before the premiere, Whedon wrote: “Everyone needs something to keep them going. Mal (Serenity’s captain) has his ship. Zoe (the first officer) has her integrity. Jayne (the ship’s muscle) has Vera. And I’ve got you guys.” The feeling was clearly mutual as a

thunderous cheer went up at the sight of Whedon’s name in the credits.

Once the doors of the theatre were opened, the audience was treated to a trivia contest and a sing-along as they waited for the movie to begin. Fans also had an opportunity to donate money to Whedon’s favorite charity, Equality Now, as part of a raffle for *Serenity*-themed prizes. The whole event was coordinated by members of the SF Browncoats.

While the box office take has been less than hoped for (it debuted at number 2 with \$10 million), the San Francisco premiere certainly showed the passion and love the fans have for *Serenity*.

** ** *

Well, that’s all for *Firefly* and *Serenity*... at least for now. With such a devoted and organized fan base, and mostly good reviews of the movie (and good box office receipts dur-

ing its first weekend), it’s probably only a matter of time till a sequel gets underway. Shiny!

For more information on local Bay Area *Firefly* and *Serenity* fan organizations, go to Yahoo Groups! and search for: sfbrowncoats (www.sfbrowncoats.com) and SiliconGulchBrowncoats (www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org).



Arielle Kesweder and Johnny Absinthe

Photo by Jean Martin

Klingons and 501st Legion on the March At The How Berkeley Can You Be Parade



Photos by Mike Wilson courtesy of the IKV Bloodlust





Photos by Mike Wilson courtesy of the IKV Bloodlust





Photos by Mike Wilson courtesy of the IKV Bloodlust



Young Author Thrills Hundreds

By Jack Avery
Staff Writer

When Christopher Paolini last came to Santa Rosa for a book signing, about 85 people showed up — a quite respectable number for a fantasy author, particularly one touring in support of his first book.

For his second visit 1,500 fans showed up.

The September 16 event, sponsored by Copperfield's Books, had to be held in the gymnasium of a local school to fit in the crowds that lined up for a chance to hear the young author speak and get a book signed. Attendees were required to buy a copy of Paolini's latest hardcover, *Eldest*, or buy an additional ticket for \$10 just to get in the door.

The appearance, one of only three in California, had an even larger turnout than a signing the previous night in Los Angeles that drew about 700 people.

To the raucous cheers of hundreds of fans, Paolini entered escorted by two fans wearing tabards and carrying plastic swords. Following his introductory remarks, he answered questions posed by five young fans who were winners in Copperfield's "Unleash Your Inner Dragon" contest. The

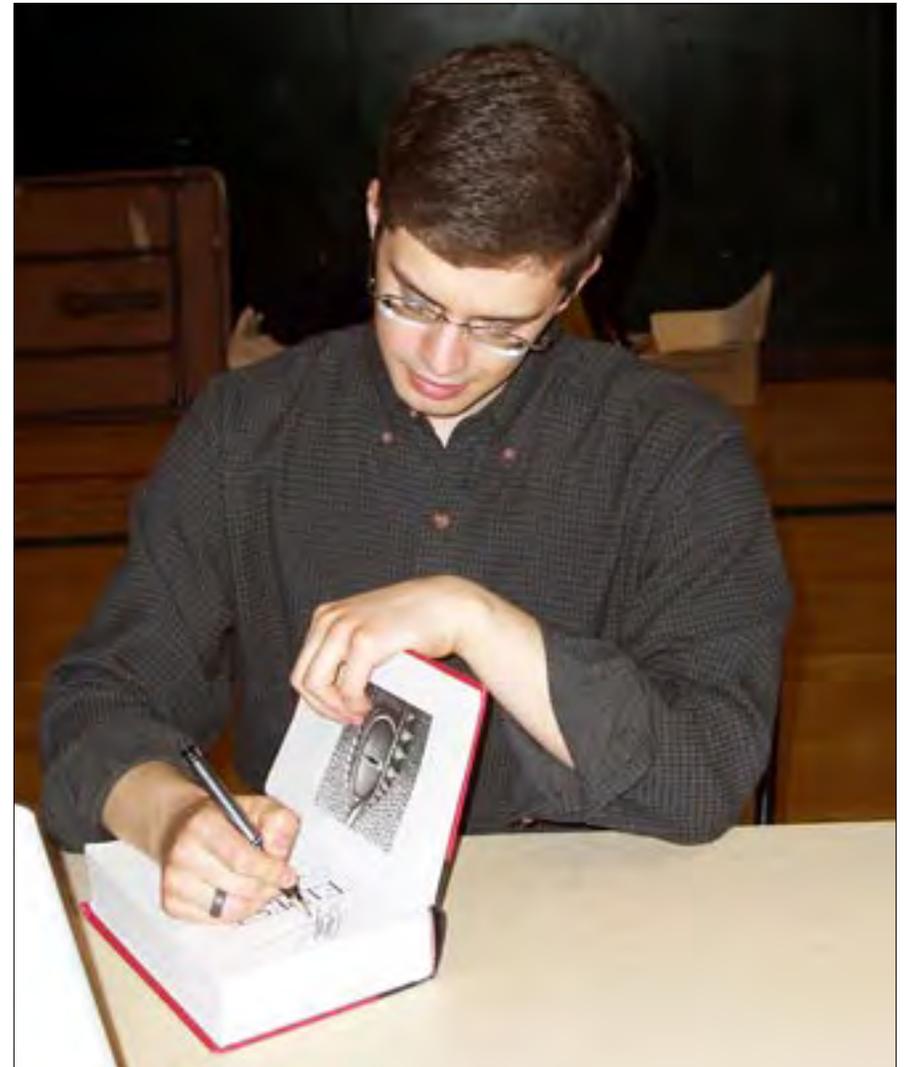
winners, Mario, Grace, Luke, Kevin and Vinnie asked a number of good questions.

Paolini, who began writing his first novel *Eragon* shortly after earning his high school degree at the age of 15, was home-schooled, and said that he never took time off during his schooling, enabling him to graduate early. Feeling that he was too young to start college, he began writing the book to give himself something to do.

"I had to find a way to entertain myself," he said. "I started writing down my daydreams."

Once the book was finished, his family self-published the book. Paolini then began to promote the book, visiting schools and selling 10,000 copies of the book through independent bookstores, grocery stores, anywhere that he could place it. His big break came

when a copy of the book was purchased by Carl Hiassen's son while on vacation to Montana. He was so taken by the book, that his father brought the book to the attention of his editor at Alfred A. Knopf



Books.

The Knopf edition landed on best-seller lists, propelling the now 21-year-old author to the top of the young adult fantasy market.

“I’m amazed at the response it’s gotten,” Paolini said.

Eragon has been such a success that there is already a major movie adaptation being filmed by Fox 2000 in Hungary for release next year. While Paolini said he would have liked to have a cameo in the move as a character who is beheaded, his book tour is going to prevent that from happening.

Once he finishing touring in support of his first book, he turned to writing the second book in the series.

“I actually thought that *Eldest* was going to be shorter than *Eragon*,” He said. “I believed that until I reached the size of *Eragon* and I still had a third of the story left.”

The new book adds new characters to the saga, as well as continuing the adventures of *Eragon*, a young man who befriends a telepathic dragon.

“It was nice to write some characters who were more mature than *Eragon*,” he said.

When asked what gave him the idea for *Eragon*, he said he wanted to write the sort of fantasy novels that he had read

and enjoyed, singling out *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher* by Bruce Coville. He said after he read that book, he asked three questions, what sort of land would a dragon come from, who would find a dragon egg and who else would be interested in finding a dragon egg. Answering these questions gave him the start of his first novel.

“I love to tell stories,” he said. “I want to capture the sense of awe and wonder that I get when I read a good book or see a good movie.

“I really wanted to write the archetypical coming of age story in a fantasy world.”

He had begun novels before, he said, but always stopped after a few pages when he didn’t know where the story should go. So before writing *Eragon*, he said he plotted out the entire trilogy. To keep from getting bored with writing the series, when he knew what would happen, he would reward himself when reaching a target by having his character encounter something he hadn’t planned, something he would have to make up on the spot.

Paolini said he drew inspiration from epic fantasy novels that he has read, but that he wanted to take certain elements farther than he had seen done. Dwarves in particular attracted him. He said he felt that dwarves had not been explored thoroughly in their culture and language



and so he wanted to look at their society and in particular their language. He treated the audience to an impromptu reading of a short passage from *Eldest* – entirely in Dwarvish.

“I told my mom that if I went into Eragon’s world, I’d go live with the dwarves and write dwarvish opera.

Another book that he highly recommended to his fans is Raymond Feist’s *Magician*. And he couldn’t ignore the biggest fantasy best seller of all time.

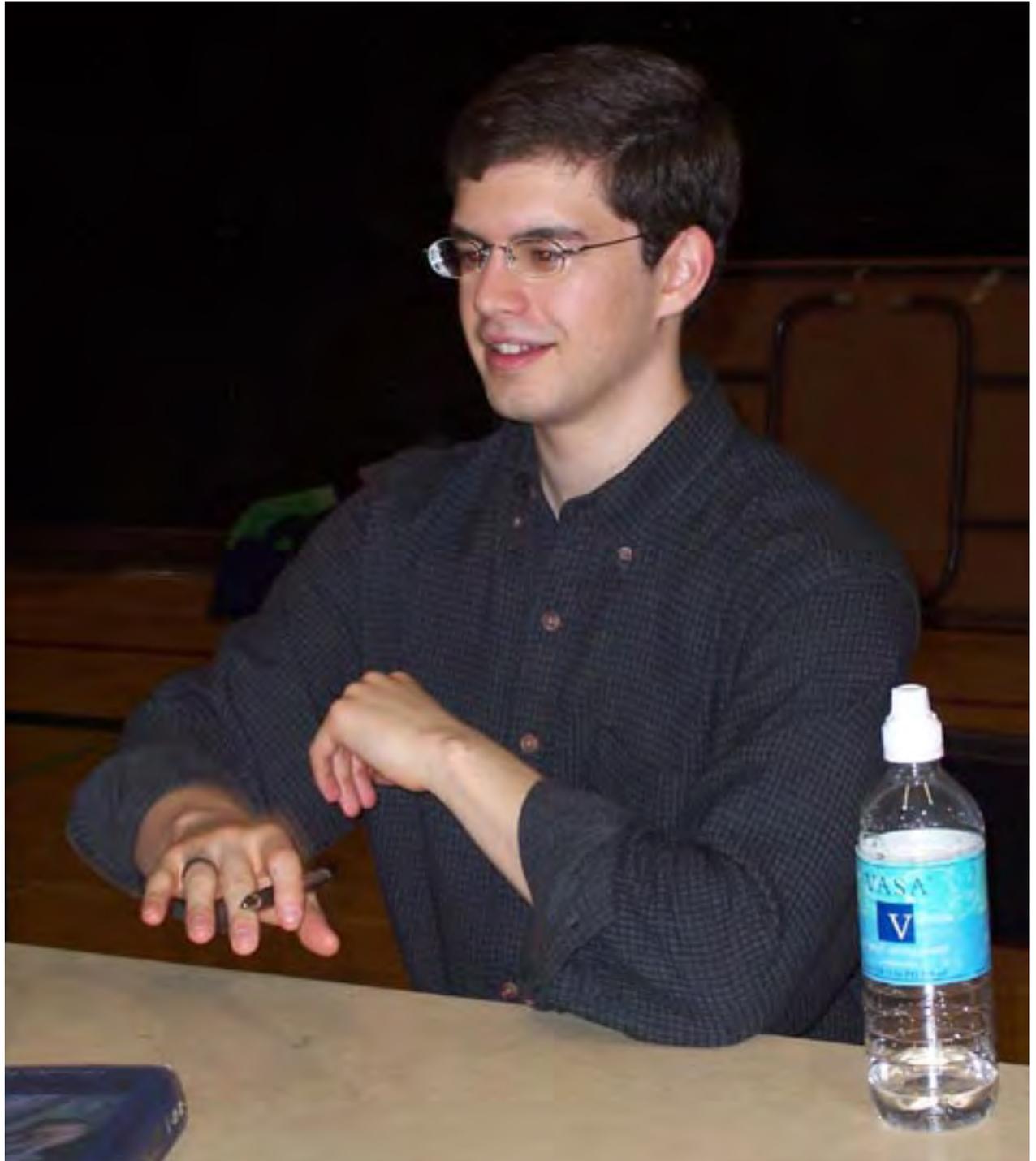
“Of course I love the Lord of the Rings,” he said.

When asked how fame had affected him at such a young age, he said his parents did a good job of keeping things normal. About the only thing that has changed for him is that now he goes on book signing tours. He still lives at the family home that sits near the Yellowstone River in Montana.

In addition to telling stories, he said he is inspired by the landscape surrounding his Montana home, his family and his fans.

“I was really aware of how many people had fallen in love with the story,” he said. “I felt a responsibility as an author.

When asked where he draws his ideas, Paolini gave the example of the puzzle ring that appears in *Eldest*. Paolini is a fan of puzzles and while on tour in Texas to promote the self-published edition of



Eragon, he was given a puzzle ring. He said that he could not solve it, so he “gave” it to Eragon in *Eldest* to let him worry about it..

“The very day Eragon solves his puzzle ring I solved mine,” he said.

He said he has three methods for thinking up names for his characters, the first is to use plays on words. The dragon character, Saphira is a play on the word sapphire, the name of his hero, Eragon is dragon with a letter missing and is also “era gone by.” He also uses both the invented languages he’s come up with as well as drawing from foreign languages to give his characters names a different sound.

When asked if he writes a novel the way he thinks readers would enjoy, as opposed to how the story should run, he said he tries to write the best book he can without worrying about what other people will want.

Paolini had been accepted to Reed College in Portland, but has deferred his college career for now.

“I had put too much work into *Eragon* to give it up,” he said. Now that he is in the middle of a three-book contract, completing the third book in the Inheritance trilogy must come first. He said he listens to taped college lectures to continue his education in the meantime.

As for his future as a writer, he said he has a number of ideas for books he wants to write after he finishes the third book in the trilogy. But he said he may do stand alone novels.

“I’ve decided series are a little too much work,” he said. But then he added that some of the ideas he is considering are for series.

He said he doesn’t know which project he will start next, and declined to reveal what his future projects might be about.

When not writing novels, Paolini makes his own knives, swords and chain mail armor, and he also paints and draws. He provides the interior illustrations for his own novels. And he says, he takes walks and hikes as often as he can, “because the rest of the time I’m sitting in front of a computer.”

Although he revealed that at least some of his computer time is spent playing Jedi Academy instead of writing the next novel.

Speaking of writing the next novel, he said he has started the third book in the series. He has, so far, completed the opening sentence. He plans to return to Montana and finish the rest of the novel once the current book tour is over.

Paolini also signed at San Ramon Valley High School in Danville on September 17 in an appearance sponsored by Rakestraw Books.

Last week, *Eldest* topped the Wall Street Journal’s list of best-selling books, ahead of J.K. Rowling’s *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* at number 3, *Anansi Boys* by Neil Gaiman at number 4 and *Thud* by Terry Pratchett at number 13.

Join our crew:

We are looking for writers to cover local events.

Contact Jean Martin and Chris Garcia at:

SFinSF@gmail.com

Phil Nutman: A Different Zombie Novel

By Jack Avery
Staff Writer

When author Phil Nutman was offered a book contract to expand his zombie short story into a novel, *Wet Work*, he found he had a problem.

“What do you do with a zombie?” he asked. “They’re not the most scintillating characters.”

The solution, Nutman said at an author appearance September 17 at Borderlands Books in San Francisco, was to use zombification as a metaphor and to turn the novel into a political satire.

Expanding the short story into a full novel was not easy, he said, admitting that the original work was more of a vignette.

“I had to figure out what the spine of the book had to be,” he said. “I had to make it about character.”

So he looked into the character of his two main protagonists, he said. One is a rookie police officer who remains human yet is reduced to a murderous response by the events of the book, the other in a government assassin who, emotionally dead as a human, becomes more alive as a zombie.

The British expatriate, in an impressively

loud voodoo-themed shirt, entertained his audience, including store cat Ripley, with a reading of the original short story.

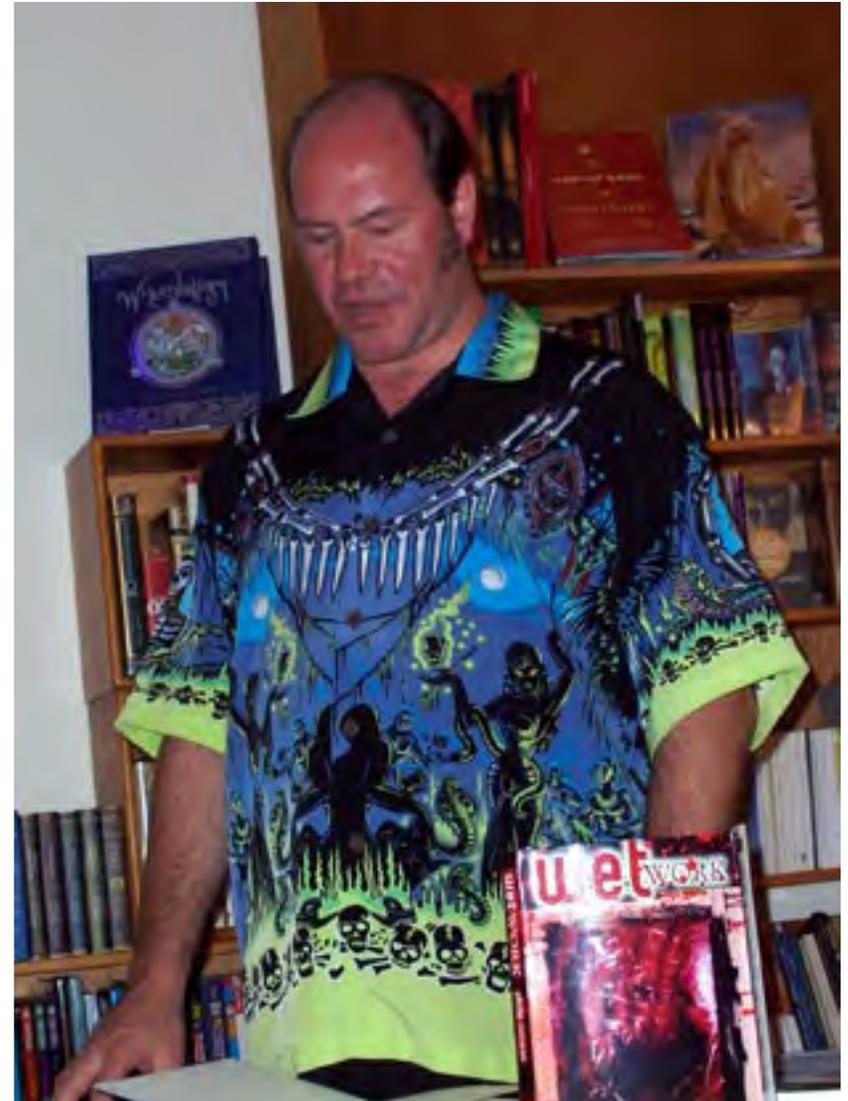
The story was originally commissioned for an anthology based on George A. Romero’s zombie movies. He had written non fiction, including working as a correspondent for Fangoria, and as a production assistant for the BBC. He said he was surprised at the positive response the short story received.

Wet Work was an impressive hit when first released 12 years ago in paperback, thanks in part to his publisher pushing the book and getting it into airport bookstores. While it sold 100,000 copies in few months, it has long since gone out of print and is now a hard to find collector’s item.

“I did not expect the book to become a cult success,” he said. “Everybody who bought the damned thing

kept it.”

The book has now been reprinted in a deluxe hardcover edition that includes the original short story.



“I had nothing to do with the price, that’s my publisher’s doing,” he said. “I think he’s nuts.”

He describes the book as an “apocalyptic-zombie-police procedural-espionage novel. The novel adds several unique twists to the standard zombie trope. Instead of mindless

zombies, Some of the zombies in the novel retain their intelligence and work together to become an even greater threat to the surviving humans.

Nutman has had a successful career as a fiction writer, even though much of the work he has done since *Wet Work* has not

been very visible. He has written a number of short stories, most of which are now out of print, and has written comic book scripts and screenplays that he has been paid for, but have not been produced.

Nutman lists Richard Matthison’s work as an early influence, particularly *I Am Legend*.

“That’s the novel that made me decide I had to be a novelist,” he said.

He has also been influence by the 87th Precinct police procedurals by Ed McBain and the espionage novels of David Morrell.

And then there is the early work of Stephen King. Reading *Carrie* while walking home after buying it, he said he walked into a lamppost not once, but twice.

He said he is not interested in writing a sequel to *Wet Work*, because he has already done his zombie novel.

“I have to write first and foremost to entertain myself,” he said. “I have to come up with an idea that is unique.”

While said he doesn’t see himself fitting into the mold of a standard horror writer, “anything I write is going to come out dark.”

Nutman is currently putting the finishing touches on a collection of his shorter works.



Adventures in Bookhunting

By Jack Avery
Staff Writer

Author's note: The bulk of this article was written on a palm pilot (normally used to store a database of books) while the author was waiting in lines at the event.

There were already several score ahead of me when I got in line for the event. We have nearly an hour and a half to go before

the doors open.

The chatter in line consists of dealer talk about online bookselling sites, chit chat between store owners who rarely get a chance to get away from their businesses and socialize with their fellows, and of carefully laid plans between team members working out last minute strategies.

This is not a group gathered for entertainment. If you are here, at the preview night for the 41st Annual Friends

of the San Francisco Library Book Sale, you are likely a serious book hound. In order to get in for the preview sale on Wednesday, September 28, you either have to be a member of the Friends or you have to have an in. In my case, I have an in, a free ticket thanks to a friendly sponsor who shared an extra ticket with me in return for my saving a place for him in line.

While I dabble as a book scout, I'm hardly a threat to the real competitors



Part of the line a few minutes before the doors opened. The warehouse in the background completely filled with books.



here.

Waiting in line, I spot the owners of Elsewhere Books and Kayo Books, store owners and book buyers from other stores around the Bay Area, some fellow independent scouts and some familiar faces from other sales who I know sell books online. Of course there are many here who are just members of the Friends using their benefits, mostly retired folks who don't have to wait until they get off work to attend. The show will be flooded by these amateurs later in the evening—but most of those in line are people who either didn't have to work today, or for whom the event is their work.

As for me, I'm taking a sick day. I came down with a bad case of book fever. Cough, cough.

I'm not too far back, but the real serious scouts have been here for hours longer in order to get a place at the head of the line. They have their own boxes, some mounted on carts. Some have brought folding chairs to ease the wait.

I'm not quite that serious. I'm here to

Left: This is the paperback science fiction row, with boxes of more paperbacks under the table. The row to the left is hardback sf on top, hardback and paperbacks on the floor. The first of three rows of paperback mysteries are on the right.

add to my personal collection, the books here are mostly too overpriced to buy for trade. I'll hold off until Sunday when I'll hit the Pleasanton sale to replenish my business stock.

My philosophy as a scout is that I don't want to pay more than a dime each for trade stock, preferably, I try to pay a nickel. Any more and I'm better off paying cash for the books that I want, instead of trading for them. There are exceptions, but the truly great finds usually end up in my personal collection.

Last year at this sale, I found a scarce volume for my personal collection with a legendary story by one of my favorite pulp authors. Ordering it online would have set me back \$40, but a slightly battered copy only cost me \$3. I'm hoping to repeat that success this year.

I don't make any money as a book scout, I end up spending money, but I have a good time and I get to grow my collection without going broke. Mostly I just pick up books really cheap, then trade them to area bookstores for credit on books that I want. I exchange stacks of popular new paperbacks for a handful of older, hard-to-find, books by authors I like.

On the way to the sale, for example, I stopped at a bookstore where I had credit banked and walked out the door with a

\$7 copy of an issue of Amra, a Robert E. Howard fanzine. I'd paid about seventy cents for the books I'd traded in. I have credit right now at more than a dozen stores from San Jose to Santa Rosa. At three stores I have more than \$100 in credit waiting to be spent.

Of course, that doesn't into consideration the bridge tolls, gasoline, hours of time spent driving to and at sales and the sweat equity put in to cleaning and removing stickers and hauling heavy boxes of books to and fro.

It's a hobby for a book lover, not a retirement plan.

I'm just lucky I live alone, so I'm the only one tripping over the piles of stock I accumulate.

I filed in when the doors opened, passed up a chance to grab a shopping cart, opting instead for an empty fruit box, and raced for the science fiction section.

A bookstore buyer was there ahead of me, so I positioned myself in front of her. My strategy was to do a quick sweep, skimming the cream off and returning later for a more thorough examination.

Much to my surprise, this sale had an excellent selection of science fiction in good condition and at acceptable prices. Granted, I would have spent far more had the books been properly priced at fifty cents per paperback and a buck for hard covers.

Instead, the idiots who run this show expend massive amounts of volunteer resources to individually price the books.

Wanted:

Information on the following fan groups:

The Gaylaxians

South Bay Star Wars Fan Club

Your fan group

We want to have regular reports on all Bay Area fan groups and we want to list your events in our calendar. Contact Jean Martin and Chris Garcia at

SFinSF@gmail.com

Not only does this reduce the number of books I, and I assume others, will buy, but they have to have dozens of two-person volunteer teams ringing up customers. (As I write this, I'm standing in a huge line, stretching back the entire length of the exhibit hall, caused by the back-up of people checking out. There are dealers with shopping carts filled with hundreds of books that have to have a person individually open the cover of each one and call out the price to the checker. Check out is slow. If they followed the policy of most book sales, they could just count the books and multiply by the standard price.)

In past years, they've priced them about what the books would cost at a regular used bookstore. That's been an irritant to many of the book sale regulars, some of which have crossed this sale off their list in disgust.

This year, however, they seemed to relent, at least on science fiction titles. Science fiction books were mostly in the one to two dollar range with all of the mass market paperbacks that I'm buying costing a buck each. Condition is so good that while I didn't find any real treasures, I'm going to spend \$41, most of that to upgrade copies in my collection. It's above the average for what I'll spend at a good sale.

I spend an hour and a half just going

though the science fiction section. I quickly snatch up a copy of Robert E. Howard *The Return of Skull-face* for much less than what I think it's worth. I also grab a copy of the Grosset and Dunlop *Tower of the Elephant* from the same author for \$3. Both of these will be great trade items.

After skimming the thousands and thousands of science fiction books, I start over, looking carefully at the books and rooting around in the boxes under the table to make sure I see the spine of every book. If you want to find the great stuff, you can't be lazy, the best books are always under the table, in the bottom of a box, beneath two layers of poor condition Terry Brooks novels or Science Fiction Book Club editions.

I then did a quick pass through some of the other areas. Humor to try to find comic strip collections, Serendipity to find odd books that the volunteers didn't know what to make of, a quick tour through the foreign language section to see if they've got any manga there. At a smaller book sale, I'll try to look at most of the books, because volunteers tend to misfile books and you never know when you'll find some odd but interesting item you didn't know to be on the lookout for. But this sale is just too big. It takes up the entire exhibit space. They have so many books that they don't even have them all out on the tables. (If I was

paying for the privilege of seeing the books early, like most people who are here, I'd be mad. I'm still unhappy, I'll have to come back on Saturday to see if they put out any more Robert E. Howard books, and it galls me that a book I need might be put out over the next two days and scooped up by another collector.) I skim the animal and pet section and the poetry section too, but I don't have time for a thorough examination. (Some day I'll find that elusive *The Last Cat Book* by Robert E. Howard. It's a humorous poem about cats by a fantasy author. So it could be filed almost anywhere.)

There are some great books here. Somebody must have had a wonderful collection of 1960s and 1970s era sword and sorcery. I find some Robert E. Howard paperbacks, none on my want list, but these are in such good shape that I'll upgrade some of my existing copies. I'm not going to turn down a chance to upgrade my copy of the Panther *Skull Face Omni Volume One* for a buck. My copy has serious spine fading, but I should be able to get back the dollar I'm going to spend on this beautiful copy I have in my hands by trading in my old copy.

I wonder where are all of the slightly-read copies, where are all of the battered old paperbacks by authors forgotten by everyone but me? Probably in a dumpster

or a landfill somewhere.

Taking a quick break, I decide to see if I can get one of those shopping carts. My box is getting heavy and I haven't even started on the mystery section. But I'm denied, all of the carts are taken. I'm not in favor of the carts, to accommodate them, the aisles have to be wider than normal, taking up room that could be used for more tables of books. And the people with carts block access to the books for the more mobile of us. But after carting around a fruit box full of books for an hour and half, I'm getting tired. So I drop my books off at the hold area.

Now that I have my hands free, I wash the dust and dirt off my hands and grab a bit to eat. The catering here is pretty good. They have these amazing teriyaki meatballs. The vegetarian spring rolls are a bit limp, but are redeemed by the accompanying plum sauce. The wrap sandwiches are tasty, but not spectacular. The meatballs are really awesome. There's a line for the open wine bar, so I pass in favor of returning to combat.

A dealer puts back a \$2 copy of the fourth *Elfquest* collection deciding it isn't worth it to Ebay it. I decide that I wouldn't mind owning it at that price.

I see a lot of dealers here, most of us are using our specialized knowledge to pick

books, but there are a few who use handheld computers with build in IR sensors to scan bar codes and run them through databases. I don't spot any of the cell phone people, the ones who have a person reading off ISBN numbers into a cell phone while a partner at home enters the numbers into a computer to check. I guess the scanner technology has made this method obsolete only a few years after it was invented.

I pass on some interesting books. There's a number of Terry Pratchett novels I need, but I don't want to pay a buck for them. I'll find them at a different show for half that and I already have four or five unread *Diskworld* novels at home.

The funny thing about being a book scout is that I no longer think books have much value. I know if I wait long enough, I can find any recent mass market paperback for not more than fifty cents, if I'm even more patient I can probably get it for less than a dime. I've got somewhere around 1,500 books at home that I haven't read yet, so I can afford to wait, it's not like I'm going to run out of reading material any time soon.

After further examination of the science fiction section (it really is impressive this year, far better than any previous sale here) I turn my attention to the mystery section. It's more than twice as big as the science

fiction section. I'm looking for a handful of books for my personal collection. I spot a couple of Richard Stark novels that get my hopes up, but not the one I need. I check out the prices to see how they compare with the science fiction books and I realize that the organizers must have decided that nobody wants to pay for science fiction books. The mysteries are all \$2 to \$3 for paperbacks. I check a handful of battered Ed McBain novels that I figure should be less than the \$1 science fiction books. Even McBain novels in much worse shape than the pristine science fiction novels are a minimum of \$2. Only the thickest and most recent science fiction novels are more than \$1. I can't find one mystery that's less than \$2. Sometimes the general disdain for "that Buck Rogers stuff" comes in handy. I even manage to pick up a nice copy of *Snow Crash* for a buck.

I don't find so much as a single mystery novel worth the asking price.

I return to the food area and see that the egg rolls and sandwiches are gone, but the meatballs are mysteriously still plentiful. I discover why after loading up a plate. They are out of toothpicks. I improvise.

I then find that they've been hiding jumbo shrimp on a back table. Really good jumbo shrimp. And now that the crowd has cleared from in front of the wine bar, I

notice dispensing margaritas being from a slushy machine.

Warmed by these discoveries, I return to the tables and find a copy of *Dr. Syn on the High Seas*, that is a \$1 upgrade to the book I paid \$10 for a couple of years ago. I spot a Newcastle Forgotten Fantasy edition of a rarely reprinted H. Rider Haggard novel.

I'm getting a bit tired now. It's also getting close to closing and the line for checkout is stretching the length of the warehouse, across the width, and part way back. I decide I need more shrimp. At least a half dozen. And now they've put out fortune cookies. And Ghiradelli chocolate. And they've discovered some more toothpicks for the meatballs. I pass in favor of loading up on the shrimp. Mmm. I love shrimp. But man, those meatballs are tasty. Maybe one more.

Fortified, I check out the box I put into the hold area, and start going through the books in it. I look carefully at the books for condition, and discover that one of my finds, *The Return of Skull-face*, is heavily water damaged. I've managed to get a couple of duplicates, so I pick out of the best and return the lesser copies. I pull out my trusty palm pilot and weed out a couple of anthologies that I already have but didn't remember owning. There are a couple of books I decide I really can do without.

But I'll keep the majority of the books I'd pulled. When you're going toe to toe on the firing line, you need to pick quick and make your final decisions later. I see "civilians" putter around, pause, pick out a book, read the back cover, ponder a while, put it back. Me, I've gone through three or four boxes by that time.

I'm careful to put the books I reject back in the correct section. Not everybody is so nice.

I get into the long line and begin the trek to the checkout counter. I'm paying cash, so that gets me a little ahead, but it still takes ages to get to the front.

Once there, I wince as the volunteer bends back the cover of each of my beautiful new collectible-condition books. She manages not to damage any of them, but she sure isn't gentle. I have to bite my tongue. I've learned that while they won't put out slightly damaged reading copies (copies that I'd like to buy for four bits) they don't seem to understand that I'd like to get the books home in the same condition as when I picked them up off the table.

So for \$41 bucks I picked up a large stack of paperbacks, a couple of oversize paperbacks, some sf reference books and a graphic novel. Not bad for a sale where I've not had much luck in the past.

Now I just need to stop by on Saturday

to see the new stock, and on Sunday for when they drop the prices. Can I get down to the city on Thursday, Friday too? Hmm.

I did return on Saturday, and picked up three more books, including a book on my want list *Requiem for Astounding*, but was generally disappointed. All of the good classic sf was gone.

I asked about the \$1 or less sale on Sunday. Most book sales will let patrons buy a paper shopping bag full of books for \$3 to \$5 at the end of a sale, just to get rid of the unsold books. Not here. They just drop the prices to what they should have been in the first place. Almost. None of the volunteers seemed to know how much the books that were already \$1 were going to be on Sunday, what did "or less" mean. Not much, the one answer I got was that they were still a buck. So there was no reason for me to come back on Sunday after all.

After the sale, I stopped by Kayo Books and traded in the books that I'd upgraded. I picked up for \$25 in trade credit. While trade credit does not equal cash, I still thought I did pretty well. I probably managed to upgrade my collection at no real cost to myself, the \$16 difference probably went to pay for the books that I'm adding to my collection.

Bay Area Fan Blog Watch

By Chris Garcia
Editor

It's not at all odd that the Bay Area's Blogging community tends to be far more political than personal. Fannish Blogs have been around since before the term started really annoying me by being blasted all over the place. There are a few blogs belonging to long-time and positioned BArea fans that are worth a look at (not including my livejournal (johnnyeponymous) which is mostly fanzine reviews).

Kevinstandlee is on LiveJournal and has a friends list that is a good amount of BArea SMOFdom and long distance friends. While his posts were at their best during and immediately following NASFiC, he did mention the going away party for Daniel Specter (lj: danjite) and Kelly Beuhler (lj: khaybee). It sounds like it was a fun little party that gathered a large portion of BArea fandom, especially since Kelly and Dan were two of the most well-known and popular fans around. They've left for Thailand for as long as they care to be there and hopefully will stay up with things via LJ and the like. Kevin's was the only review, or any mention really, that I saw of the party. Any party that takes place at the Center for Sex & Culture should get

better coverage.

Even more impressive than either of those is that Kevin has put up his Guest of Honour Speech from CascadiaCon on his LJ. Look at http://www.livejournal.com/users/kevin_standlee/16976.html#cutid1 to give it a read. It's the 7700 word tale of a guy who has traveled much of the road of Fannish excess. I highly recommend it. It's a good speech, and sadly not a lot of folks were there to hear it in person.

Another BArea fan who has a well-respected LJ is Andy Trembley (lj: bovil). Andy is known as one half of Kevin (lj: kproche) and Andy who were BayCon's Fan Guests of Honor and throw the well-loved League of Evil Geniuses Parties all over the place. In the last couple of weeks, Andy's covered the Gay Rodeo, Fulsom Street Faire (including a look back at 1998) and TeslaCon, the 2005 Vintacon that is a wine tasting con around Livermore. He's always worth a read.

Sliding across the way, there's always Cheryl Morgan's Emcit.com weblog. She pulls things from around the world and puts them into one convenient place where I can click and know I'm getting more than almost anywhere else. It's a sort of Ansible in far more realistic timeframes. She's also

recently enabled comments, which was one thing that people were yelling at her for not doing a year or so ago. Still, there's a lot of great information, and whenever there's a major con, she trolls the Blogosphere and she posts links to the best of them. Some of her commentary is controversial, but it's always interesting.

Neil Zawacki has two blogs. So You've Decided to be a Villain is the best of them and he's a BArea boy from way back. From his Berkley roost, Neil has an excellent LJ under mrpuzuzu. He's always got a funny and personal take on life, usually playing up his evil bent. One of the best ones of late was his look at trying to guess what the connection is between a series of different movies to win a contest for Reel Video. No one managed to come up with anything good, but still, it made for an interesting thread.

Another blog of BArea interest is smofbabe on LJ. She's Janice Gelb, well-known former DUFF winner, who has a great little blog that is worth giving a read now and again. It has the feel of one of those LJs that were around in the 2000 timeframe, before it exploded.

Fannish Imperial Guard

Because of the interruption of our publishing schedule, we're five weeks behind on reporting on the weekly meetings of the Fannish Imperial Guard. The FIGs meet every Sunday for brunch, usually alternating between San Francisco and the East Bay. Locations are chosen for easy access to public transit. Brunch is then followed by excursions, some fannish, some not.

FIG Letter #1 for September 11 by Grand Chancellor Mishalak:

My own participation in a small fannish enterprise proceeds quite well. Last weekend the Fannish Imperial Guard met as planned at La Note in Berkeley. The service was slow, they lost our ticket, and they tried to placate Supreme Commander Kate and myself with free seconds of alcohol. That mostly worked. Ambassador Calvin seemed quite amused at the frivolity that it inspired. He was the wiser party when we arrived at Other Change of Hobbit, he did not stay long in the store and thus avoided spending his food money on books and Kate and I did.

FIG Letter #2 for September 18 by

Grand Chancellor Mishalak:

Due to an excess of celebration the night before we were not joined by Supreme Commander Kate of the Army of Sheeple for brunch at Absinthe Brasserie last Sunday. None the less Ambassador Calvin and Grand Chancellor Mishalak showed up undeterred by low turn outs or high prices at the chosen location (something we hope will be remedied at the next brunch).

Brunch was followed by a large amount of window shopping around Hayes Valley. And some actual shopping with Mishalak finding some jeans on sale that he simply could not live without. Also we encountered a corset shop on Linden Street by the name of Dark Garden. Fascinating the sort of places to shop that can be found in San Francisco. Next week, a little culture SF style.

FIG Letter #3 by Grand Chancellor Mishalak:

To the Citizenry of San Francisco, Oakland, and the Lands Surrounding the Bay :

Hello Honored Sirs and Ladies,

The meetings of the Fannish Imperial Guard have been quiet these past two weeks, though thoroughly enjoyable. Supreme Commander Kate was out of town and unable to attend, but Ambassador Calvin and myself were able to attend the brunches at Blue Muse and the Thai Temple. The former is a comfortable and satisfactory brunch spot on Gough between Ivy and Hayes. The wait staff was friendly and efficient and our food was promptly served. It is as inexpensive as it seemed, though the food is nothing spectacular by the high standards of the city by the bay. Afterwards Folsom Street Fair was just as crowded and uniquely San Francisco as advertised with a fair number of attractive individuals, mostly men, showing off their bodies mixed with a larger amount of "What in the world is that?" and "Well that is pretty outrageous even by SF standards." I took the opportunity to wear science fiction garb going in a *Farscape* Peacekeeper uniform, which barely turned heads given the number of men competing for the "Most Naked Male Award" in this freeform street masquerade. Calvin meanwhile had duties at the Golden Gate Wrestling booth that eventually caused us to part ways as I continued on my random exploration of

the city.

The following weekend, the 2nd of October, found the rump FIG across the bay in Berkeley at an actual Thai Temple, rather than just at a restaurant named that. They host a weekly Sunday Brunch serving inexpensive and tasty food of Thailand at 1911-13 Russell St. between Milivia and Martin Luther King Jr. Streets. Buy a number of tokens, using cash only, and then proceed to one of the many lines offering different kinds of food. Both of us can report that the curry selections are quite spicy, though good. It was a welcome change of pace from the usual selections for Sunday brunch.

Afterwards it was back to the Albany BART station through a weekly flea market in its parking lot. The event only offered a few true bargains so it was quickly on to Castro Street where the annual fair was going on. The familiar place that I look down upon week after week at my place of employment had been transformed into something that was one half art festival and one half outdoor party. The clean up after it closed down after six in the evening was impressive in its speed, though it did not manage the miracle of making the street cleaner than it usually is.

The coming three weeks take the FIG to San Francisco twice with Berkeley

in between, I had thought of going to Treasure Island but unless we wish to do a picnic brunch that does not seem to be a viable option as there are no restaurants on the island. Suggestions for the last weekend in October are still open, though I will be attending Yaoi Con and unable to attend unless the location chosen is not too distant from San Francisco Airport.

Yours,

Grand Chancellor Mishalak, FIG

Upcoming meetings:

Elite Café Sunday, October 9

2049 Fillmore Street between Pine and California San Francisco Free The FIGs meet, as is their habit, for brunch on Sunday following the usual rule of one side of the bay followed by the other puts us in San Francisco. Montgomery BART is the nearest to the restaurant, in terms of bus service if not geographically. If you then go down Market Street slightly and around to the N.W. corner of Sutter St. & Sansome St. you'll be able to catch the #3, the 32nd & Anza, outbound that will take a fourteen minute journey to the corner of Pine and Fillmore starting at approximately 10:32 a.m. with the next one leaving at 10:52 a.m. It is a close to two-mile walk from any of the BART stations along Market Street.

The general thought is to follow brunch with wandering over to the nearby Japan town for sight seeing and other touristy goodness. As ever please RSVP to either mishalak at livejournal.com or aiglet at livejournal.com by noon on Friday so that we might make a reservation for large parties or else call 415-786-4303 before the meeting.

Sunday, October 16 Café Cacao 914 Heinz, north of 7th Berkeley Free The FIGs meet, as is their habit, for brunch on Sunday following the usual rule of one side of the bay followed by the other as such we are meeting in the east bay. Ashby BART is the closest to the eatery, but the distance is just short of a mile and a half (an easy walk for fit individuals). The Café Cacao website at <http://www.cafecacao.biz/> suggests the #9 AC Transit Bus, the Berkley Marina, which departs from the N.E. Corner Of Ashby Av & Martin Luther King Jr at 10:07 a.m. and 10:37 a.m. and takes approximately seven minutes to get to 7th and Heinz. Transit 511 advises that this is not the fastest itinerary from San Francisco, or the least expensive as it costs \$1.75 for the bus plus around \$2.90 for BART (but I think Transit 511 has a bias towards AC Transit for transbay service).

We are advised to have a reservation

if there are more than six of us this week so please RSVP to either mishalak at livejournal.com or aiglet at livejournal.com by midday Friday so that we might make a reservation for the party or else call 415-786-4303 before the meeting.

Afterwards there are no general ideas about where to go or what to attend so members should be prepared for any sort of adventure for the rest of the day (should they so choose).

Sunday, October 23 Crepes on Cole 100 Carl Street, at the corner of Cole Street San Francisco Free Back in San Francisco once again and meeting for brunch midway though October will find us in Haight-Ashbury. Crepes on Cole is located conveniently at the first stop after the N-Judah line comes out of the tunnel under Buena Vista. To arrive on time for brunch take the N-Line that leaves Embarcadero at 10:27 a.m. or the next one at 10:38

a.m. and ride almost to the doorstep of the restaurant.

As always please RSVP to either mishalak at livejournal.com or aiglet at livejournal.com by midday Friday so that we might make a reservation for the party or else call 415-786-4303 before the meeting.

Afterwards thought is that we will explore a bit of the Haight or else go to Treasure Island if the weather is really nice.

Bay Area Fanzines

By Chris Garcia

The BArea, where once reigned at least a dozen mighty fanzines, has shrunk a good deal, but there are still some significant ones being made.

Robert Lichtman's *Trap Door*, a Hugo Nominated and FAAn Award-winning fanzine, last released an issue in 2004. Robert is also a member of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association (FAPA). You can request an issue at LOCs2TrapDoor@yahoo.com

Warren Harris has several fanzines available on eFanzines.com, including

Back Numbers (which folded after issue 15), *Cosplay Magazine* (2-5), and *Don't Shake Me*. Warren's fanzines are known for fantastic photography and layout...kinda like SF/SF.

Christopher J. Garica has 45 issues of *The Drink Tank* on eFanzines.com, plus issue 4 of *Claims Department* up, and several special editions. He also teamed with Cheryl Morgan to produce *The Pork Authority*. In printed matter, *Claims Department* issues 1 through 5 are out there, as is *The Drink Tank Presents The SteamPunk Issue*. All are available by request to Garcia@computerhistory.org.

Cheryl Morgan's *Emerald City* recently

released issue 121, which is her first issue of her second decade. Cheryl also took *Emerald City* out of the world of Fanzinia and announced that she's going semi-pro, much like *Ansible* did a few years back. Her decision was based on economics. She's offering a subscription to *Emerald City*, but is also allowing it to be freely looked at on the EmCit.com website. Subscriptions are 12 dollars a year. She's hoping to get enough subscribers to defray the costs of doing EmCit. While Cheryl's remains the most obvious voice in Emerald City, she's accompanied by several other writers, including Karina Meerman, Mario Guslandi, and Anne KG Murphy.

BASFA Minutes: meeting 791

September 19, 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 8:01 p.m. as we talked like pirates.

19 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 790 were accepted as 'scurvy'.

Treasurer's report was that last week we took in \$20.95.

VP reports = no Nathan [week 4]; preeminent VP Chris reported that a new issue of 'Drink Tank' is out & he will be a visitor at a LasVagrants meeting.

The President had nothing fannish to report.

Announcements:

Carole announced that Silicon preparation has been active, check their website & the 'programming is set in jello'

Mike announced the Legion of Rasselon is meeting this Friday at Trimble and First

and he will be going to a Serenity premiere on Thursday in LA.

Eric announced that Robert Wise died this week.

Dave G. announced for Daniel Spector that Daniel & Kelly's party has the theme of 'Leaving on a Jet Plane' - headed for Thailand, held Friday, Sept 23, 7pm at the 'Center for Sex & Culture' in SF and all are invited [bring refreshments].

DAVE C. announced 'Mirrormask' will soon be released to movie theatres, announced that miscommunications suck & that 'Other Change of Hobbit' is still offering auction items on EBay for Katrina relief - including a signed Terry Pratchett hat.

Reviews:

Chris reviewed 'Red Eye' as fairly good & reviewed 'Just Like Heaven' as a very cute chic flick well worth full price - including paying for his date.

Goat dressing was reviewed as one of the silly and stupid things that happens at gay rodeos and was described as quite silly and delightful.

Dave C. reviewed the NASFIC 'Goth Ball' as dark and deadly and serious - with waltzing - as very lightly attended.

Jim reviewed the Accelerating Change

conference as it had 2 science fiction writers as speakers and was very good - completely sold out and maxed out the convention facilities.

Julie did her review in partial pirate patois and reviewed *The Ghost Belonged to Me* as a book worth re-reading once a year

Kevin [Roche] reviewed *The Brothers Grimm* as too dark to see at a drive-in theatre [but it sounded like they had fun speculating what was occurring on the black on black screen] - and thought the film not worth the price of admission.

We auctioned off stuff = books for \$1.00, \$1.00, \$3.50, \$3.50; an action figure for \$0.25; magazines for \$1.00 & \$1.00 - & birthday auctions off Kevin Roche to Carole Parker for \$18.00.

We adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was 'goats like pink panties'.

Don't see your fan group covered this issue? Write up a report on your latest meeting/party/event and send it in. M.I.A.: The Gaylaxians, PENSFA.

SFinSF@gmail.com

BASFA Minutes: meeting 792

September 26, 2005

Trey Haddad, President

Nathan Sterm-r & Chris Garcia, Vice-President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sargent at Arms

Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began at 8:00 p.m.

17 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 791 were accepted as 'what the heck is that noise'.

Treasurer's report was that last week we took in \$57.85 & our total is footloose & fancy free.

VP reports = no Nathan [week 5]; VP Chris reported that he's still going to Las Vegas to rocket sled across the alkali flats.

The President greeted new faces at the meeting & reminded us that Silicon is October 7-9 at the Doubletree.

We said 'hi' to Ross Parlett & Eric Brown - who were visiting us, referred by Lynn.

Announcements:

Ross announced that he is moving and looking for a home for 13 boxes of sf paperbacks & magazines - that he had in his van outside [and they were great books!]

Kevin Roche announced that Teslacon will be in 3 weeks = 'wine tasting with geeks' - & the registration deadline is this Saturday.

Chris announced that he likes miniature golf.

Andy announced they will be doing an Evil Genius party at Silicon.

Mike announced he interviewed Carole & Craig for Silicon for KFJC & he has passes for a *Serenity* showing at the Saratoga AMC [Tuesday, 7p.m.] to hand out to us - and he suggested we be there by 6 p.m.

Reviews:

Chris reviewed *Charlie & the Chocolate Factory* as he was in hysterics for the whole film & rates it worth more than full price & reviewed *Newton's Cannon* by Keyes as fun but uneven and worth the \$3.75 he paid for it at a BASFA auction.

Dave C. reviewed *The Aristocrats* as bizarre, worth high matinee; Jim follow-on'd with praise for Dave for doing the review so tastefully & Andy reviewed the production website for the movie as

incredible

Dave G. reviewed *Magnificent Desolation* at the Dublin IMAX as 40 minutes long - but worth the full IMAX price.

Kevin reviewed a whole lot of places in the Tenderloin as interesting

Mike reviewed the red carpet premiere for *Serenity* as impressive and everything was free - plus there was an open bar at the party afterwards - he met stars & felt it well worth the plane fare & everything else; Chris follow-on'd that swag is great.

Andy reviewed [part 2 of reviews of drag bars in the Tenderloin] as 'Deco' is a very nice piano bar, a very nice place & the bars in the Tenderloin had very reasonable drink prices.

Art reviewed *The 40-Year Old Virgin* as reasonably charming with rough language - worth full price.

I reviewed *Madagascar* as still delightful and worth seeing, even surrounded by little kids at the \$0.50 10am matinee at the Plaza 4.

We auctioned off stuff; magazines for \$2.00 & \$5.50.

We adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was 'it's lemur-ific!'

BASFA Minutes: meeting 793

October 3, 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-ish p.m.

21 people attended

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 792 were accepted as 'bye bye bye'.

Treasurer's report was that last week we took in \$10.50.

VP reports = no Chris; Nathan was here & reported that he's okay, he's changed his email addy and now having trouble getting the BASFA mailing list to accept this. He suggests we do -something- to fix this. [discussion followed on the subject].

The President managed to avoid reporting.

Ed mentioned that he's holding a party at Silicon & wanted to know if we want a BASFA presence there.

Frank Wu moved to establish a Silicon party fund jar & it passed 'lots to 1'.

Andy moved to name Ed the official BASFA party maven for Silicon.

Announcements:

Carole announced the Silicon website has a lot of new info & much of the convention programming - go look at it.

Kevin announced they will be doing an Evil Genius party at Silicon on Saturday, after the Masquerade.

Reviews:

Serenity was multiply reviewed. Frank reviewed it as comprehensible to non-fans of the TV series, literate, a sci-fi/Western that was very good & he really liked the spaceship graveyard; Nathan reviewed it as great fun, he really enjoyed it & it was worth full price; I reviewed it as truly enjoyable & worth full price; Harold reviewed it as he wonders how they can have a sequel with so many loose ends tied up; Dave C. reviewed the line outside as long & you needed to get your pass numbered; Dave G. reviewed it as 'go see it' & he enjoyed it [& various other comments were made].

Andy reviewed a \$10.00 one-time fee at librarything.com - a simple cataloging tool - as very worthwhile.

Carole announced there will be 'Serenity' & 'Firefly' panels at Silicon

Joanie reviewed *Corpse Bride* as very pretty & Goth-y - but she expected more - but rates it as still worth full price & reviewed the Kaiser pre-jaw surgery menu as 'she laughed, she cried - it was remarkable'.

Dave G reviewed hanging out at the corporate-sponsored tailgate parties before the Cal game as worth his BART fare; reviewed the Sunday Giants game as very short & well worth full price & reviewed *Corpse Bride* as they liked it.

Sue reviewed her trip to Maui as she absolutely loved it - thought the Marriott luau was a waste of time - the whole thing worth full price.

Frank reviewed 'Mirrormask' as the plot was 'weird stuff happens - hooray!'; it's visually stunning, worth matinee.

Nathan reviewed *Hidden Frontiers* as making more sense than much of the various ST series - check out www.hiddenfrontier.com.

We auctioned off stuff = birthday auctioned off Nathan for \$35.00 to Ed; auctioned off a toy football & *Serenity* t-shirt for \$19.00 & a book-bag for \$1.00.

We adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was 'Trey is a leaf on the wind; watch him soar'

The Bay Area Fannish Calendar

While some effort (OK, OK, damn little 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**.
Canceled Events are in **violet**

**Wednesdays-Saturdays
Through October 29**

Fabulandia: Terra Opening Reception

Artists: David Hamill, Carrie Lederer, Philip Ross, James Sansing, Tonya Solley Thornton and Genevieve Quick

The LAB

2948 16th Street

San Francisco

p: 415.864.8855

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Gallery Hours: Wednesdays-Saturdays, 1-6 p.m.

From the website:

“Fabulandia is a two-part exhibition that speculates on the world of the future. A fantastical place, filled with new strains

of plants and odd creatures that inhabit a mysterious landscape barely recognizable as planet Earth. The first in the Fabulandia series, Terra, presents the work of six artists envisioning this futuristic environment - an overloaded world that meshes the natural with the artificial in a landscape filled with sleek urban-scapes, extraordinary gardens and terrains of the impossible. Rather like an analog vision of a digital future, the exhibition ranges from carefully rendered works on paper depicting futuristic plants and structures to post-apocalyptic landscapes made from plumbing supplies and motorized shrubbery. Welcome to a place called Fabulandia, where low-tech and high-tech collide in a hybridized vision of the future.

“Fabulandia: Fauna opens in January 2006 with a look at the drastically altered creatures that populate the terrain of Fabulandia.”

Ongoing through March 12, 2006

Gross, Gruesome and Gothic

Cartoon Art Museum

655 Mission Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: 415/CAR-TOON,
415/227-8666

Hours: Daily 11:00 - 5:00, Closed
Monday

Admission Prices:

\$6.00 - Adults

\$4.00 - Students & Seniors

\$2.00 - Children (ages 6 - 12)

FREE - Children (age 5 & below)

The first Tuesday of every calendar month is “Pay What You Wish Day.”

From their website:

“From the darkest depths of the cartoon vaults comes the Cartoon Art Museum’s latest exhibition, Gross, Gruesome and Gothic. This horrifying display features over 50 original cartoons from a wide array of artists and comics, from spine-tinglers to rib-ticklers and everything in between.

“Exhibition highlights include:

“Masters of the Macabre: Edward Gorey, Charles Addams and Basil Wolverton Three of the most influential humorists of all time present their unique views of the world around us in a selection of comics and illustrations dating back to the 1920s.

“Spotlight on Gahan Wilson: This creator spotlight focuses on Gahan Wilson, one of the most celebrated and respected cartoonists of our time. In the past half-century, Wilson’s distinctive cartoons and illustrations have graced the pages of *The New Yorker*, *Nickelodeon*, *Playboy* and *National Lampoon*. In 2005, Wilson received the coveted Milton Caniff Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Cartoonists Society, one of the highest honors that a cartoonist can achieve.

“The Vault of Horror: Graham “Ghastly” Ingels From the pages of EC Comics’ seminal comic book *The Vault of Horror* comes “Shoe-Button Eyes,” a complete seven-page story illustrated by Graham Ingels.

“The Stuff That Dreams Are Made Of: Neil Gaiman’s *Sandman* One of the most popular and acclaimed comic book series of the past 20 years, Neil Gaiman’s *Sandman* tales from DC Comics set new standards in excellence for fantasy and horror. Featured artists include Chris Bachalo, Duncan Eagleson, Marc Hempel, Kent Williams and series cover artist Dave McKean.

“Scared Silly! Scary comics don’t always take themselves seriously. Bongo Comics’ annual *Treehouse of Horror* special features *The Simpsons* as you’ve never seen them before, as illustrated by Sergio Aragonés,

Peter Kuper, Bill Morrison, Scott Shaw and Jill Thompson; *Batton Lash’s Supernatural Law* warns us to beware the creatures of the night...and their lawyers; and Charles Schulz’s classic comic *Peanuts* asks the burning question, “When will the Great Pumpkin arrive?”

“It came from the Seventies! As the Silver Age of comics came to an end, the Marvel, DC and Warren publishing companies unleashed a wave of horror comics that pushed the boundaries of comic book art. Alfredo Alcalá, Jim Aparo, Frank Brunner, Gene Colan and Dick Giordano, among others, bring new life to classic characters from *Dracula* and *Frankenstein’s monster* to anti-heroes including *The Spectre*, *Vampirella* and *Morbius*, *The Living Vampire*.

“Nothin’ But Misery: *The Goon* by Eric Powell Powell is the Eisner Award-winning creator of *Dark Horse Comic* series *The Goon*, a horror comedy that pits the title character and his pal Frankie against killer robots, zombies, Spanish-speaking lizards and other supernatural menaces.”

Opened Friday September 30

Mirrormask

At the following theaters for a one-week engagement (that means catch them Wednesday or Thursday or they may go away.):

Landmark Act 1 & 2 Cinemas

2128 Center Street (just east of Shattuck)
Berkeley

Landmark Lumiere 3

1572 California Street (at Polk)
San Francisco

Landmark Aquarius Twin Aquarius Theatre

430 Emerson Street
Palo Alto

Ongoing through October 16

Tenders in the Fog

San Jose Stage Company
490 S. First Street

San Jose
\$26-\$40

A shape shifting selkie (seal woman) provides a supernatural element to this tale of fishing economics and generational conflict between father, son and grandson, all crab fishermen. While it appears that the supernatural elements may be a mere literary device, this might have some limited genre interest.

Now through October 23

The Tempest

California Shakespeare Theater

www.calshakes.org

Bruns Memorial Amphitheater

100 Gateway Blvd.

Orinda

\$35-\$55

See website for schedule.

Wednesday, October 5

Robotics Society of America

1600 Holloway

San Francisco State University

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Free

This month's speaker: Roger G. Gilbertson, President, Mondo-tronics Inc., founder and Former CEO, RobotStore.com.

Send in the Robots: What, Why, When and How?

What is it about robots that fascinates us so? What motivates us to create them? Should we fear what we make? Join Roger G. Gilbertson, award winning designer, robot builder, founder of RobotStore.com, and past president of the Robotics Society of America for a fast-paced exploration of the possibilities and perils we may discover on the robotics frontier.

His articles have appeared in Nuts &

Volts, Servo, and others. He has performed in theater, on television and given many public presentation on technology, creativity and the future.

Afterwards there will be time for meeting other robot builders and networking. If you've got a robot, bring it to show off! Got questions, lots of people here to help!

Wednesday, October 5

Anime Showing

Anime Baka

462 Mendocino Ave.

Santa Rosa

7 p.m.

Free

Anime viewing/club hosted by a local anime store. Held first and third Wednesday of each month. First Monday is a potluck dinner.

Wednesday, October 5

Lecture

The Long Now Foundation

Building A Fort Mason Center

San Francisco

7 p.m. coffee

7:30 p.m. lecture

Free (\$10 donation recommended)

Esther Freeman and George Dyson speak on "The Difficulty of Looking Far Ahead."

Wednesday, October 5

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

davekohr.best.vwh.net/svb

Match Play

560 Showers Drive, Suite 4

Mountain View

7 p.m.

Free

A loosely-organized group that meets every Monday and Wednesday to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames and cardgames.

Wednesday, October 5

Diana Gabaldon

Copperfield's Santa Rosa

Montgomery Village

2316 Montgomery Village

Santa Rosa

Free

7 p.m.

The author of *A Breath of Snow and Ashes* signs her latest time travel romance. Those buying a copy of the book in advance will receive an advance seating pass, limit 175.

October 5

Mirrormask

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.

Wednesday, October 5

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

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. (Not confirmed, check before attending.)

Thursday, October 6

The Mad Magician

www.castrotheater.com

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

9 p.m.

Part of the Castro's 3-D film festival. *The Mad Magician* stars Vincent Price as

a murderous magician. Shows with Three Stooges short *Pardon My Backfire*.

October 6-9

Gyro's 3D Festival of Fear

Haunted House

www.3dfearfactory.com/sanfrancisco/

Pier 48

San Francisco

Hours vary

\$24.95

Three haunted house attractions, Rigor Mortis, Eternal Darkness and The Fortress Arcade.

October 6-9

Ruddigore

Lyric Theater of San Jose

Mayer Theatre

Santa Clara University Campus

Lafayette St. at Franklin St. Santa Clara

\$23-\$25

From their website:

“A scary tale of a witch’s curse, with haunted portraits that burst into life, a lovesick madwoman, a foundling who lives by her book of etiquette, and a love triangle of three R’s; Rose, Robin, and Richard... resolved by a little too much heartfelt honesty. Who will wed whom, and will the bad baronet die?”

Thursday, October 6

Stephenie Meyer

Copperfield's Books Sebastopol

138 North Main Street

Sebastopol

7 p.m.

Free

Author Stephenie Meyer signs her first novel *Twilight*.

Thursday, October 6

Diana Gabaldon

Book Passage Corte Madera

51 Tamal Vista Blvd.

Corte Madera

415-927-0960

7:00 p.m.

Free Diana Gabaldon talks about *A Breath of Snow and Ashes*. This book continues the story of 18th-century Scotsman Jamie Fraser and his 20th-century wife, Claire. Gabaldon is the author of five previous *Outlander* novels—*Outlander*, *Dragonfly in Amber*, *Voyager*, *Drums of Autumn*, and *The Fiery Cross*.

Thursday, October 6

Tsunami Anime

San Jose State University

WSQ 109

San Jose

7 p.m.

Free

Schedule:

Full Metal Alchemist 42-43

Jinki-Extend 6

AIR 6

Marimite 6

School Rumble 17

Thursday, October 6

The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Knighthorse Theater

Off-Market Theater

965 Mission Street

Between 5th and 6th streets

San Francisco

An adaptation of the classic story by Robert Louis Stevenson. This may be more psychological than supernatural, but it should still be a good performance.

Final Show.

Weekends October 7-30

Batman!!! The TV Show: The Play

www.darkroomsf.com

The Darkroom

2263 Mission St. (b/t 18 & 19)

San Francisco

Fri. and Sat. 7:30 p.m.

Sun. 3 p.m

\$15.

From their website:

“Impossible productions presents BATMAN!!! The TV Show: The Play, an original episode and campy tribute to Bob Cane’s suave crime fighters and the copas-etic 60’s TV show that made us love them.

“Pandemonium reigns when the theft of a molecular mass divisor signals the first domino to fall in a nefarious crime wave to topple the noble city of Gotham. Who will rescue the fair citizens of this great metropolis?!?! Holy obvious set up, old chum!! It’s none other than that dynamic duo Batman and Robin, the caped crusaders of justice, freedom and tortured aphorisms!

“But will they succeed when arch-super-master-criminals, the Joker, the Riddler, Catwoman and the Penguin-four of Gotham’s most fiendish and fearsome foes-join felonious forces?!?!? And what happens when Aunt Harriet secret shenanigans land her in the middle of their salacious schemes?!?!? Does the Joker’s plot device spell out a tragic ending for the Caped Crusader and Boy Wonder?!?! It will take every ingenious gadget in their utility belts, every spare scrap of spandex and every entry in their thesauruses to thwart these dastardly

evil-doers as they aim to steal the world’s first supercomputer. Will our heroes fare well? Or will it be a Bat-tastrophe?!?!?”

Opens October 7

Mirrormask

www.rialtocinemas.com

Rialto Lakeside

551 Summerfield Road

Santa Rosa

Limited engagement (one week only) run of the new movie by Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean.

October 7-9

Silicon 2005

www.siliconventions.com

Doubletree Hotel

San Jose

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

More Events Next Page

Friday, October 7

Anime Style Drawing and Animation Techniques

Frank Bette Center for the Arts

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

Drop-in class, all skill levels welcome.

(Event is not verified, check before attending)

Friday, October 7

SF Games

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.

More Events Next Page

October 7-9

Gyro’s 3D Fear Factory

Haunted House

www.3dfearfactory.com/sacramento/

Westfield Shoppingtown Downtown Plaza

Sacramento

Hours vary

\$17.95

Two haunted house attractions, Frightmares and Curse of the Pirate’s Tomb. Arcade.

Friday, October 7

Friday The 13th, Part III

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

Midnight

Shown in the original 3-D.

Friday, October 7

The Werewolf Woman

YBCA Screening Room

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

701 Mission St. at Third

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Introduced by Trinie Dalton, editor of Werewolf Express .

From their website:

“Daniela is hell-bent on revenge against all men as the result of a childhood rape that

left her emotionally scarred. Additionally, she’s tormented by her family’s history of trafficking with the Devil. The results? Murder, disembowelment and bloody mayhem. Uncut English language version.”

Presented in conjunction with visual exhibition: The Zine UnBound: Kults, Werewolves, and Sarcastic Hippies

Friday-Saturday, October 7-8

Army of Darkness

Clay Theater

2261 Fillmore Street

San Francisco

Midnight

The Bruce Campbell classic screens as part of their Bigfoot vs. Kittens: 8 Tales in the Late Night Tradition program.

Friday, October 7

Devon Grayson and others

Writers With Drinks featuring Batman,

Ethical Sluts and Gutter Boys

www.writerswithdrinks.com.

The Make Out Room

3225 22nd St. btw. Mission & Valencia

San Francisco

7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m.

\$3 to \$5 sliding scale

The author of Batman: No Man’s Land reads at this “spoken word variety show”.

Others authors include: Will Franken, Dossie Easton, Storm Florez and Alvin Orloff. Here's what they are putting out on the squidlist:

"Writers With Drinks is feeling alienated, and we've decided to share our alienation with you, the literary public! The October Writers With Drinks will be almost incomprehensible to anyone who doesn't share our sense that the world is aiming a molten pitchfork at our progenitor parts. Some of the readings will be in Gregorian chants, only *backwards* -- which takes some practice! Other readers will wear ball gags, while Will Franken plans to pelt the audience with live snails and scream in Russian. This will be a high concept event to suit our low moods. You have been warned!

"Also, October's Writers With Drinks happens on a Friday instead of a Saturday, due to a scheduling mishap which will never be repeated.

"This time, we're featuring:

"Devin Grayson, writer of *Batman: Gotham Nights*. She can touch your forearm with her little finger and leave you paralyzed for hours.

"Dossie Easton, co-author of the *Ethical Slut*. She replaced all the flowers in your garden with aphrodisiac venus fly traps.

"Will Franken, voted best comedian

in San Francisco. He's the person who keeps doing extreme sports on your roof at midnight.

"Alvin Orloff, author of *Gutter Boys*. He can replace his legs with a twenty-foot spring that allows him to soar across the Bay.

"Storm Florez, zinester and musician. He helps small dogs to develop their own disaster plans.

"Writers With Drinks is brought to you by the letter KOOL and the number HELL YEAH. And by other magazine (<http://www.othermag.org>)."

Friday, October 7

AnimeFX

San Francisco State University

HSS Building Room 135

San Francisco

4 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Free

Pani Poni Dash ep. 2

Honey & Clover ep. 2

Gokujou Seitokai ep. 1

Samurai Gun ep. 2

Rozen Maiden ep. 2

Grenadier eps. 2-3

Full Metal Panic: 2nd Raid ep. 1

He is my Master ep. 1

Bokusatsu Tenshi Dokuro-chan ep. 1-2

Eyeshield 21 ep. 2

Friday and Saturday, October 7-8

Dragon's Head Inn

Haunted House

631 West Spain Street

Sonoma

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

\$5-\$25

Charity haunted house with 3 different attractions.

Friday-Saturday, October 7-8

Not the More Lovely: A Circus Sideshow

home.earthlink.net/~kpenley/circus.htm

NOHspace

2840 Mariposa Street

(between Florida and Alabama Streets)

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$12-\$15

From their listing:

"Not the More Lovely is a circus ride through the manic grin of polite society into a subterranean world of ferals, glammers and the insistent mutterings of magic trying to find it's way out. Loosely based on a new telling of the Pandora's Box myth, it is a carnivalesque physical theater show with poetic text, animation by Sean Jones, music by Greg Giles and 20 Minute Loop, Ian Robertson, and Tunnel of Love, and the lovely performance work and

invention of Gary Dailey, Liz Jahren, Karen Penley, Carrie Peters, Janaki Ranpura, Julie Reid and Jeff Wagner.

“The story will be told through a dreamscape of half remembered images dredged up from the sub- and unconscious, small jewels glinting in the dark. It is a land where gargoyles and imps lick up their delicious and the small sad bursts into bloom.”

Friday-Saturday, October 7-8

Brazil

Landmark's Act 1 & 2

2128 Center Street

Berkeley

Midnight

Saturday, October 8

Morbid Curiosity reading

www.charnel.com/morbidcuriosity

www.spellbindingtales.com

Spellbinding Tales

(510) 523-1105

1901A Encinal Avenue

@ Chestnut

Alameda

7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Free

Morbid Curiosity editor Loren Rhoads emcees a group reading by contributors to the Bay Area based magazine which

publishes true stories of encounters with the unsavory, unwise, unorthodox and the unusual. Authors reading include: Claudius Reich, Lilah Wild, Dorian Katz, Chris West, Joe Donohoe, Simon Wood and William Selby.

Saturday, October 8

The Fakir

CineArts @ Sequoia

25 Throckmorton Ave.

Mill Valley

11:30 a.m.

Showing as part of the Children's movie series at the Mill Valley Film Festival. In Danish with English subtitles. Young twins move into a spooky mansion and meet at Spanish magician who has been imprisoned in a pen for 50 years. The three team up to battle a pair of jewel thieves.

Saturday, October 8

No Name Anime

Santa Teresa Library

290 International Circle

San Jose

12:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. or so

Free

Schedule:

Master Keaton #20

Mermaid's Forest #11*

R.O.D. TV #16*

Ginrei Special #1*

Chrno Crusade #16*

InuYasha Movie #3

Dokkoida! #3*

Saturday, October 8

Beef Bowl Anime

Albany Library

1247 Marin Ave.

Albany

12:15 p.m.- 4:15 p.m.ish

Free

Rurouni Kenshin : TV # 49

Fafner In The Azure : TV # 7

R.O.D : TV # 25-26 (last 2 episodes)

One Piece : TV # 34

Naruto : TV # 35

Prince Of Tennis : TV # 35

Hikaru No Go : TV # 35

Yakitate Japan : TV # 10

Saturday, October 8

House of Wax

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.

Showing in the original 3-D, the classic Vincent Price horror movie along with a 3-D Three Stooges short, *Spooks*.

More Events Next Page

Saturday, October 8

Andy Warhol's Frankenstein

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

Midnight

Showing in the original 3-D.

Saturday, October 8

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Saturday and Sunday, October 8-9

Northern California Ren Faire

http://www.norcalrenfaire.org

Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister

10 am. to 6 p.m.

\$15 in advance

\$20 at gate

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

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 Postponed

5th Annual Metreon Festival of Anime

Metreon

101 4th Street

San Francisco

11 a.m. -

Free or \$15

This event has been postponed by the organizers. As of press time, a new date has not been set.

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.

Saturday, October 8

SF Browncoats

sfbrowncoats.com

Cafe Murano

San Francisco

Noon

Free

Serenity/Firefly fan group. Meets every second Saturday of each month.

Join the yahoo group from the link on their website for schedule updates.

Saturday, October 8

Fiona Avery appearance

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

2 p.m.

Free

Author of *The Crown Rose* will sign.

Saturday, October 8

John Ringo appearance

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

4 p.m.

Free

More Events Next Page

Sunday, October 9

The Fannish Imperial Guard's Brunch

Elite Café

2049 Fillmore Street

between Pine and California

San Francisco

11 a.m.

Free

The FIGs meet, as is their habit, for brunch on Sunday following the usual rule of one side of the bay followed by the other puts us in San Francisco. Montgomery BART is the nearest to the restaurant, in terms of bus service if not geographically. If you then go down Market Street slightly and around to the N.W. corner of Sutter St. & Sansome St. you'll be able to catch the #3, the 32nd & Anza, outbound that will take a fourteen minute journey to the corner of Pine and Filmore starting at approximately 10:32 a.m. with the next one leaving at 10:52 a.m. It is a close to two-mile walk from any of the BART stations along Market Street.

The general thought is to follow brunch with wandering over to the nearby Japan town for sight seeing and other touristy goodness. As ever please RSVP to either mishalak at livejournal.com or aiglet at livejournal.com by noon on Friday so that we might make a reservation for large parties or else call 415-786-4303 before the

meeting.

Sunday, October 9

Hoppity Goes To Town

CineArts @ Sequoia

25 Throckmorton Ave.

Mill Valley

11:30 a.m.

\$10

Classic 1941 animated adventure from the Fleischer studio. With a new print.

Sunday, October 9

Such Stuff Dreams are Made on

(The Tempest)

Knighthorse Theater

Off-Market Theater

965 Mission Street

Between 5th and 6th streets

San Francisco

Two person adaptation of Shakespeare's The Tempest.

Final show. Highly recommended.

Sunday, October 9th

Bad Movie Night

Poltergeist

The Dark Room

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$5

Craig T. Nelson, passive aggressive ghosts, and a confusing implausible plot. These are the elements of a great bad movie. Why sit at home where no one can truly appreciate the wise cracks you always seem to be coming up with. Here at Bad Movie Night, you're the host.

But just in case you're feeling a little shy we'll bring some wise-cracking hosts with us and this week you're in for a special treat. It's a Batman cast special with Mikl-Em (the Joker) Sean Owens (the Riddler) and our own Jim Fourniadis (writer and director of Batman)

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 11 p.m.

More Events Next Page

Sunday, October 9

Speculative Fiction Book Club

Kepler's Books

Cancelled. Venue Closed

Monday, October 10

Cal Animage Alpha

100 GPB

Univeristy of California

Berkeley

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free

Schedule:

Loveless

Weekly: Honey & Clover

Monday, October 10

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Monday, October 10

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

davekohr.best.vwh.net/svb

Match Play

560 Showers Drive, Suite 4

Mountain View

7 p.m.

Free

A loosely-organized group that meets every Monday and Wednesday to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames and cardgames.

Tuesday, October 11

Newtype Anime

Room 60-61H

Stanford University

Palo Alto

8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Free

Meeting and anime showing. This event is held weekly while school is in session.

Tuesday, October 11 *John Ringo* Other Change of Hobbit2020 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley 7 p.m. Free Ringo will read from and sign his latest novel, Ghost.

Tuesday, October 11

Jonathan Rinzler

Copperfield's Books Petaluma

140 Kentucky Street

Petaluma

7 p.m.

Free

Lucasfilm insider Jonathan Rinzler will show a Powerpoint presentation on the dozens of Star Wars books he has overseen, including The Making of Star Wars, The Art of Star Wars and The Revenge of the Sith.

Tuesday, October 11

Sci-Fi Book Club

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

3501 McHenry Avenue, Suite E

Modesto

209-521-1118

7 p.m.

Free

Wednesday, October 12

Fabulandia: Terra Artists Talk

7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

\$3-\$10 sliding scale admission

See Friday, September 30 for a description of the show. From the website:

“Come for an informal presentation and discussion with The LAB’s exhibiting artists in the context of their latest work. Meet the members of Fabulandia: Terra, Q & A will follow.”

More Events Next Page

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

Wednesday, October 12

The Fakir

Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center
1118 4th Street
San Rafael
4 p.m.
\$10

Headphones for children with English dub track available at this showing.

Showing as part of the Children’s movie series at the Mill Valley Film Festival. In Danish with English subtitles. Young twins move into a spooky mansion and meet a Spanish magician who has been imprisoned in a pen for 50 years. The three team up to battle a pair of jewel thieves.

Wednesday, October 12

Silicon Valley Boardgamers
davekohr.best.vwh.net/svb
Match Play
560 Showers Drive, Suite 4
Mountain View
7 p.m.
Free

A loosely-organized group that meets every Monday and Wednesday to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames and cardgames.

Wednesday, October 12

Ask a Scientist - Emotion, Lies, and Wizardry

Bazaar Cafe
5927 California St. (21st Ave)
San Francisco
415-831-5620
<http://www.bazaarcave.com>

7 p.m.

Free

Topic: Emotion, Lies, and Wizardry
Speaker: Dr. Maureen O’Sullivan;
Professor of Psychology, USF

Humans are natural-born liars. Evolutionarily speaking, what’s the purpose of this devious skill? And why is it so hard for us to detect deception? If you’re a “truth wizard” (the top 2% of lie-spotters) you’re pretty good at it, but research suggests most of us are not.

Tonight Dr. O’Sullivan will talk to us about the biology of emotion, reading the true feelings of others, and the role of deception in maintaining social relationships, romantic bonds, and even happiness.

About the Series: Ask a Scientist is a new and different kind of lecture series. If you love watching Nova specials and reading Scientific American at the doctor’s office, then this event is for you. Enjoy food,

drinks, socializing, and conversation about the universe’s most fascinating mysteries!
www.askascientistsf.com

October 13-16

Gyro’s 3D Festival of Fear
Haunted House

www.3dfearfactory.com/sanfrancisco/
Pier 48
San Francisco
Hours vary
\$24.95

Three haunted house attractions, Rigor Mortis, Eternal Darkness and The Fortress. Arcade

Thursday, October 13

Devil Music Ensemble

Nosferatu
Balboa Theater
3630 Balboa Street at 37th Ave.
San Francisco
8:45 p.m.
\$15

F.W. Murnau’s classic silent vampire film accompanied by the Devil Music Ensemble.

More Events Next Page

Thursday, October 13

Cal-Animage Alpha

“Family” Night

UC Berkeley

7 p.m.

Free

Family nights are events arranged around anime interest groups, and not designed for, you know, real families. For more information on this event: www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~animage/

October 13 (Previews)

October 15-November 19

Runs Fridays and Saturdays

There Be Monsters!

EXIT Cafe

156 Eddy Street

San Francisco

8:30 p.m.

\$12-\$20

From their website:

“A Forgotten Man and a Gremlin Chorus present a passionate excursion into unseen realms, descending a dark staircase to a land that falls somewhere between a Pre-School Easter Pageant and a Murderous Nightmare!

“Presented somewhat in the manner of a turn-of-the-century Magic Lantern show of worlds within worlds, *There Be Monsters!* with its absurdist multiple-

character monologues, slides, puppets and mechanical creatures (including a monkey astronaut, a sleeping pig, a dead Elvis waiting on the Highway of Eternity, and Jesus, paired with a hallucinatory, evil monkey named Jungle Belle) delves into the logic of dreams and the nature of childhood perceptions regarding the discovery of things unknown.

Thursday, October 13

Thrillville’s Horror Host Palooza 2005!

Dracula vs. Frankenstein

Astro Zombies

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$10

7:30 p.m.

Will the Thrill and Tiki Gossess Monica present a double feature of *Dracula vs. Frankenstein* and *Astro Zombies* with live theremin by Robert Silverman, and guest appearances by horror hosts John Stanley, Doctor Goulfinger, Mr. Lobo, Ms. Monster, Rock ‘n’ Roll Ray and Son of Ghoul.

Friday and Saturday, October 14-15

Shawn of the Dead

www.rialtocinemas.com

Rialto Lakeside

551 Summerfield Road

Santa Rosa

Midnight

October 14-16

Gyro’s 3D Fear Factory

Haunted House

www.3dfearfactory.com/sacramento/

Westfield Shoppingtown Downtown Plaza

Sacramento

Hours vary

\$17.95

Two haunted house attractions, *Frightmares* and *Curse of the Pirate’s Tomb*. Arcade

Friday, October 14

USS Northern Lights

Starfleet Chapter

Great Mall Food Court

Milpitas

7 p.m.

Free

After the meeting, the group plans to attend *The Corpse Bride*. This group is also holding a Halloween party on October 28.

Friday-Saturday, October 14-15

Star Trek II: The Wrath of Kahn

Aquarius Theatre
430 Emerson Street
Palo Alto
Midnight

Running as part of the theater's
Midnight Madness program.

Friday and Saturday, October 14-15

Dragon's Head Inn
Haunted House 631 West
Spain Street Sonoma 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. \$5-
\$25 Charity haunted house with 3
different attractions.

Saturday, October 15

Halloween Magic with David Monroe
Spellbinding Tales Bookstore
1910A Encinal Ave. @ Chestnut
Alameda
510-523-1105
<http://www.spellbindingtales.com>
3 p.m.
Free - Donations welcome

Tricks and treats by a professional
magician for kids and adults alike. Candy,
too!

Send your items for inclusion in our
calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

Saturday, October 15

A Toon for the Misbegotten

Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center
1118 4th Street
San Rafael
4:15 p.m.
\$10

Program of short animated films,
including *Moongirl*.

Oct. 15 - Nov. 12, 2005

Macbeth

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, evenings
8 p.m.
Sundays, October 24 and 30
at 2 p.m.
and November 6
at 7 p.m.
Town Hall Theatre
3535 School Street
Lafayette
(925) 283-1557
Adults - \$19-\$25

Seniors and Youths (18 and under) -
\$18-\$23

The performance on Monday, October
31 is a benefit performance and reception
and tickets are \$50 per person.

From their website:
"Town Hall Theatre Company presents
Shakespeare's *Macbeth* in a unique vision
by acclaimed director, Kevin T. Morales.

The classic tragedy takes a contemporary
turn in time for Halloween with witches,
ghosts, murder, swordplay and betrayal in
Morales's comic book version. Costumer
Melissa Paterson and Acalanes High School
Choir Director Bruce Lenacher also bring
their unique talents to this one-of-a-kind
production."

"Morales' *Macbeth* offers artists in
the community a way to collaborate --
musicians, painters, choirs, dancers and
wonderful professional, community and
teen performers put on a show that captures
the community's imagination and creates a
major theatrical event. Never before will
a Shakespeare show seem so much like a
roller coaster -- and include a rock band
with teen choir, samurai swords decorated
like skate boards, bags of candy and masked
marauders."

Saturday, October 15

LitQuake Litcrawl with Michael Blumlein,
Pat Murphy and Loren Rhoads
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
5:30 p.m.
Free

More Events Next Page

Saturday and Sunday, October 15-16

Northern California Ren Faire

<http://www.norcalrenfaire.org>

Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister

10 am. to 6 p.m.

\$15 in advance

\$20 at gate

Last weekend for this event.

Saturday, October 15

Manga Otaku Book Group

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Weberstown Mall

4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319

Stockton

209-472-1885

6 p.m.

Free

Saturday, October 15

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Sunday, October 16

The Fannish Imperial Guard's Brunch

Café Cacao

914 Heinz

north of 7th

Berkeley

11 a.m.

Free

The FIGs meet, as is their habit, for brunch on Sunday following the usual rule of one side of the bay followed by the other as such we are meeting in the east bay. Ashby BART is the closest to the eatery, but the distance is just short of a mile and a half (an easy walk for fit individuals). The Café Cacao website at <http://www.cafecacao.biz/> suggests the #9 AC Transit Bus, the Berkley Marina, which departs from the N.E. Corner Of Ashby Av & Martin Luther King Jr at 10:07 a.m. and 10:37 a.m. and takes approximately seven minutes to get to 7th and Heinz. Transit 511 advises that this is not the fastest itinerary from San Francisco, or the least expensive as it costs \$1.75 for the bus plus around \$2.90 for BART (but I think Transit 511 has a bias towards AC Transit for transbay service).

We are advised to have a reservation if there are more than six of us this week so please RSVP to either mishalak at livejournal.com or aiglet at livejournal.com by midday Friday so that we might make

a reservation for the party or else call 415-786-4303 before the meeting.

Afterwards there are no general ideas about where to go or what to attend so members should be prepared for any sort of adventure for the rest of the day (should they so choose).

Sunday, 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.

Monday, October 17

Cal Animage Alpha

145 Dwinelle

Univeristy of California

Berkeley

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free

Schedule:

Law of Ueki

Weekly: Honey & Clover

More Events Next Page

Monday, October 17

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Monday, October 17

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

davekohr.best.vwh.net/svb

Match Play

560 Showers Drive, Suite 4

Mountain View

7 p.m.

Free

A loosely-organized group that meets every Monday and Wednesday to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames and cardgames.

Tuesday, October 18

Newtype Anime

Room 60-61H

Stanford University

Palo Alto

8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Free

Meeting and anime showing. This event is held weekly while school is in session.

Tuesday, October 18

Nightmare in Blood

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$5

9:15 p.m.

Director and local horror host legend John Stanley will appear at this showing of a locally-filmed but rarely seen vampire movie.

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*.

Wednesday, October 19

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

davekohr.best.vwh.net/svb

Match Play

560 Showers Drive, Suite 4

Mountain View

7 p.m.

Free

A loosely-organized group that meets every Monday and Wednesday to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames and cardgames.

Wednesday, October 19

Anime Showing

Anime Baka

462 Mendocino Ave.

Santa Rosa

7 p.m.

Free

Anime viewing/club hosted by a local anime store. Held first and third Wednesday of each month.

More Events Next Page

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

October 19-23*A (Balinese) Tempest*

Cowell Theater

Fort Mason Center

San Francisco

Thursday-Saturday, 8 p.m.

Sunday, 2 p.m.

\$20

Running as part of the Gamelan festival, there are traditional shadow plays being performed the week prior to this performance.

From their website:

“For the festival’s second week, ShadowLight, Larry Reed and Gamelan Sekar Jaya team up to offer the world premiere of *A(Balinese)Tempest*, an interpretation of Shakespeare’s well-known play inspired by the mythology and arts of Bali. Integrating the best of ancient shadow theater traditions with 20th-century cinematic and theatrical techniques, this original work will utilize projections on a giant 30’ x 15’ screen, live dancers, and an original “soundtrack” performed by Gamelan Sekar Jaya, composed and arranged by guest music director I Made Terip. The ephemeral magic of shadows is an ideal medium for the evocative images and lyrical text of Shakespeare’s last play.”

Thursday, October 20*Lunch with Gregory Maguire*

Graphiti

101 2nd St.

Petaluma

Noon

Free (Limited to 12 attendees)

The author of *Wicked* and *Son of a Witch* will have lunch with 12 fans. Those interested should write in 50 words or less, why they love Maguire’s novels. Entries should be sent to events@copperfields.net or to Jane Love, Copperfield’s Books, 138 North Main Street, Sebastopol, CA 95472.

October 20-31*Gyro’s 3D Festival of Fear**Haunted House*www.3dfearfactory.com/sanfrancisco/

Pier 48

San Francisco

Hours vary

\$24.95

Three haunted house attractions, Rigor Mortis, Eternal Darkness and The Fortress. Arcade

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

October 20-31*Gyro’s 3D Scream Fest**Haunted House*www.3dfearfactory.com/sanjose/

San Jose Convention Center

San Jose

Hours vary

\$24.95

Three haunted house attractions, Armageddon, Evil Jacks Madhouse and 3D Fear Factory. Arcade

Thursday, October 20*Gregory Maguire*

Cody’s Fourth Street

1730 Fourth Street

Berkeley

7 p.m.

Free

Thursday, October 20*Black Moon*

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

8:15 p.m.

This 1934 voodoo chiller is running as part of the Castro’s Pre-code Hollywood series. With mobster movie *The Guilty Generation* at 6:30 p.m. and 9:35 p.m.

More Events Next Page

Thursday, October 20

Revenge of Monster

Opening Reception

Creativity Explored

3245 16th Street

San Francisco

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Exhibition runs October 20 through

November 25

Monday-Friday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Saturday

1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Free

From their website:

“Back out of the coffin by popular demand - it’s the monster show! Reprising the successful 2003 exhibition that first launched the monster theme at Creativity Explored, studio artists will explore ghouls and goblins from the movies and their imaginations. Writer Michael Bernard Loggins explores what it means to be considered a “monster” by others in his piece.

“Presenting a special Halloween exhibition of artwork by artists with developmental disabilities at San Francisco’s Creativity Explored. The gallery becomes a veritable who’s who of horror with a King Kong diorama, a simulated underwater installation featuring the Creature from the Black Lagoon, and ceramic busts of such favorites as the Bride of Frankenstein, the Wolfman and more.”

October 20

Shocktoberfest 2005

The Thrillpeddlers

The Hypnodrome

www.hypnodrome.com

575 10th Street

San Francisco

Part of an ongoing run, full schedule was not available at press time. Free tickets may be available for this night’s performance, see following listing.

October 20

Free Night of Theater

Various Bay Area Venues

TixBayArea.com Free

(tickets limited)

Theater Bay Area coordinates a free night of theater offering shows from more than 79 Bay Area theater companies. Tickets are limited, and some shows have already sold out. More tickets will be released on October 7.

Participating plays that are of speculative fiction interest include: Macbeth, The Tempest, Gathering of Gamelans, Shocktoberfest 2005, (There Be Monsters Exit) and Tenders in the Fog.

Thursday, October 20

Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Group

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Creekside Town Center

1256 Galleria Boulevard

Roseville

916-788-4320

7 p.m.

Free

Thursday, October 20

The Chainsaw Mafia 2005 Indie Horror Film Festival

www.picturepubpizza.com

www.thechainsawmafia.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

The Chainsaw Mafia is now accepting entries for this festival of short horror films, science fiction and cult films also considered if they have horror elements. Films may include nudity, gore and violence “and, please, lots of it.”

The showing will be hosted by Shannon Lark and her Zombie Dancing Girls.

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

October 20-26

Zombie Honeymoon

Red Vic Movie House

1727 Haight Street

San Francisco

San Francisco premiere of this zombie movie.

Friday and Saturday October 21-22

Dragon's Head Inn

Haunted House

631 West Spain Street

Sonoma

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

\$5-\$25

Charity haunted house with 3 different attractions.

Friday, October 21

William Winckler's Frankenstein vs. The Creature From Blood Cove

www.bayareafilmevents.com

Hyatt Theater

Highway 101 Broadway Overpass

Burlingame

Time: TBA

Cost: TBA

The Northern California premiere of this horror movie tribute to the great horror movies of the past. Filmed in black and white, and featuring not only Frankenstein's monster and the Creature,

but also a werewolf.

This event will be hosted by legendary horror movie host The Ghoul. Cast and crew will also be present. Question and answer session with director William Winckler. Plus horror shorts.

Friday, 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

Friday, October 21

Chris Ware appearance

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

Time: TBD

Free

October 21-31

Gyro's 3D Fear Factory

Haunted House

www.3dfearfactory.com/sacramento/

Westfield Shoppingtown Downtown Plaza

Sacramento

Hours vary

\$17.95

Two haunted house attractions, Frightmares and Curse of the Pirate's Tomb. Arcade.

Friday, October 21

Tippi Hedren appearance

The Birds

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

7:30 p.m.

Free

Stop by the Castro Theater box office for 2 free tickets to this event while supplies last. Hedren, star of *The Birds*, will be interviewed on stage about the making of the film and her other works, followed by a screening of the movie.

Friday-Saturday, October 21-22

The Nightmare Before Christmas

Landmark's Act 1 & 2

2128 Center Street

Berkeley

Midnight

More Events Next Page

Friday, October 21

The Nightmare Before Christmas

Camera 7 Pruneyard
1875 S. Bascom Avenue
Campbell
Midnight

Saturday, October 22

William Winckler's Frankenstein vs. The Creature From Blood Cove

www.bayareafilmevents.com
Auctions by the Bay
Alameda
Time: TBA
Cost: TBA

A second Northern California showing of this horror movie tribute to the great horror movies of the past. Filmed in black and white, and featuring not only Frankenstein's monster and the Creature, but also a werewolf.

This event will be hosted by legendary horror movie host The Ghoul. Cast and crew will also be present. Question and answer session with director William Winckler. Plus horror shorts.

Saturday, October 22

USS Augusta Ada
http://trek.starshine.org
Round Table Pizza
5160 Geary Blvd. San Francisco

1 p.m.
Free

Star Trek group. Meets fourth Saturday of the month.

Saturday, October 22

Donald Sidney-Fryer The Last of the Courtly Poets

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
4 p.m.
Free

Saturday, October 22

Pirate Prom
Roshambo Winery
3000 Westside Road
Healdsburg
www.roshambowinery.com
8:30 p.m. until late
\$10 (Does not include wine)

Benefit for 826 Valencia, a nonprofit writing center that provides free drop-in tutoring, after-school classes and workshops for kids and teens. The writing center shares a space with the infamous Pirate Supply Store, where all proceeds go to support free writing programs.

The party promises DJs, dancing, peg legs and ample opportunity to show off

your favorite eye patch or plumed hat. And of course, the party wouldn't be complete without Roshambo's award-winning wine. A 10% discount will be offered at the Pirate Supply Store for all of your buccaneering needs (with purchase of admission).

San Francisco Pirate Party Bus leaves 826 Valencia at 8 pm and returns at 2 am. Space is very limited so we highly recommend reserving your seat in advance. The cost is \$22.00, which includes admission, round trip transportation and wine for the ride. To reserve your seat, please come into the Pirate Supply Store, or call between 12-6 p.m. any day at (415) 642-5905 ext. 201. ext. 201

Saturday, October 22

Chris Ware signing
Kepler's Books
Cancelled. Venue Closed

More Events Next Page

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

Saturday, October 22

Dragon's Head Hunting Party

631 West Spain Street

Sonoma

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

\$5-\$25

The Ring of Fire Fleet has challenged the town of Sonoma to a competition to see who will give the most blood during the blood drive. There is also an internal competition to see which ship of the fleet gives the most blood. The Klingons attending will be in uniform and will entertain at the associated haunted house. See following entries for more information on this event.

Saturday, October 22

Vampire Blood Drive

631 West Spain Street

Sonoma

7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Donate blood and receive a free ticket to the Dragon's Head Haunted House.

Saturday and Sunday, October 22-23

DragonFaire

631 West Spain Street

Sonoma

10 a.m. -5 p.m. Saturday

11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday

\$5

Animal petting area, arts and crafts, theater productions, merchants booths, storytelling, music, costuming, gaming, dragon joust.

Saturday and Sunday, October 22-23

Dragon's Head Inn Haunted House

Lights On Tour

631 West Spain Street

Sonoma

10 a.m. -5 p.m. Saturday

11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday

\$2

See behind the scenes of the annual haunted house event.

Saturday, October 22

The Hermetic Order of Arcana presents a live radio play

Notebook Found in a Deserted House

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

8 p.m.

Free

Saturday, October 22

Flashlight Tour

Winchester Mystery House

www.winchestermysteryhouse.com

525 South Winchester Boulevard

San Jose

6 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

\$31

Saturday, October 22

Cat People Double Feature

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

Both the 1982 remake and the classic 1942 movie shown back to back.

The original shows at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

“Irena Dubrovna, a beautiful and mysterious Serbian-born fashion artist living in New York City, falls in love with and marries an average Joe. Their marriage suffers though, as Irena believes that she suffers from an ancient curse—whenever emotionally aroused, she will turn into a panther and kill.”

The remake shows at 12:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

“In this highly stylized, erotic remake of the 1942 classic, the locale is New Orleans. A young woman’s sexual awakening brings horror when she discovers her urges transform her into a monstrous black leopard. When smitten with a charming zookeeper, she refuses to embrace her destiny: the curse of the Cat People.”

More Events Next Page

Saturday, October 22

The Nightmare Before Christmas

Camera 12

201 South Second Street

San Jose

Midnight

Saturday, October 22

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

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.

Sunday, October 23

The Fannish Imperial Guard's Brunch

Crepes on Cole

100 Carl Street

at the corner of Cole Street

San Francisco

11 a.m.

Free

Back in San Francisco once again and meeting for brunch midway though October will find us in Haight-Ashbury. Crepes on Cole is located conveniently at the first stop after the N-Judah line comes out of the tunnel under Buena Vista. To arrive on time for brunch take the N-Line that leaves Embarcadero at 10:27 a.m. or the next one at 10:38 a.m. and ride almost to the doorstep of the restaurant.

As always please RSVP to either mishalak at livejournal.com or aiglet at livejournal.com by midday Friday so that we might make a reservation for the party or else call 415-786-4303 before the meeting.

Afterwards thought is that we will explore a bit of the Haight or else go to Treasure Island if the weather is really nice.

More Events Next Page

Sunday, October 23

The Thing From Another World

The Thing

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

Compare Howard Hawks' and John Carpenter's very different interpretations of John W. Campbell's classic short story "Who Goes There."

The classic shows at Noon, 3:45 p.m. and 7 p.m.

"In Howard Hawks' production of the story "Who Goes There?" an arctic expedition discovers a spacecraft buried in the ice. They locate the frozen pilot and return to the base to thaw him out. All hell breaks loose when he's revealed to be a blood-sucking alien!"

Then sit back and enjoy the modern version which shows at 1:45 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m.

"Scientists in the Arctic confront a shape-shifting alien that assumes the appearance of the people it kills. Carpenter re-imagined the 1951 classic as something darker, fiercer and all together more disturbing. Amazing make-up effects by Rob Bottin and indelible music by Ennio Morricone highlight this foreboding examination of paranoia pitted against brawn.

Monday, October 24

Dracula

Dracula's Daughter

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

Dracula (1931) shows at 7 p.m.

“The story of the strangest passion the world has ever known! Count Dracula faces off with Dr. Van Helsing in the film that set the classic vampire standards.”

Dracula's Daughter (1936) is at 8:30 p.m.

“Beginning almost immediately from where Tod Browning's Dracula ends, bloodless corpses start appearing in London again after hypnotic Countess Zaleska steals the body of Count Dracula. Also noteworthy for being the first lesbian vampire movie!

Monday, October 24

Cal Animage Alpha

2050 VLSB

Univeristy of California

Berkeley

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free

Schedule:

Glass Mask (1978 and 2005 versions)

Weekly: Honey & Clover

Monday, October 24

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, October 25

Clive Barker

Stacey's Books

581 Market Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

415-421-4687

Noon

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*.

Tuesday, October 25

Clive Barker

Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

415-863-8688

7 p.m.

Free

Tuesday, October 25

Japanimation Book Group (Graphic Novel)

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

6111 Sunrise Blvd.

Citrus Heights

916-853-1511

7 p.m.

Free

More Events Next Page

Tuesday, October 25

Clive Barker appearance

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

Time: TBD

Free

Tuesday, October 25

Night of the Comet

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

Free

9:15 p.m.

No that's not a typo, this is showing as part of their audience appreciation nights.

Tuesday, October 25

Newtype Anime

Room 60-61H

Stanford University

Palo Alto

8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Free

Meeting and anime showing. This event is held weekly while school is in session.

Tuesday, October 25

Brian Jacques

Cody's Fourth Street

1730 Fourth Street

Berkeley

7 p.m.

Free

Signing limited to two books per person.

Tuesday, October 25

The Mummy

The Wolf Man with Ron Chaney appearance

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

The Mummy with Boris Karloff shows at 7 p.m.:

“In 1921, ancient prince Im-Ho-Tep is raised from the dead by a group of archaeologists unaware of the evil they are unleashing. Ten years later, he attempts to reunite with his long lost love, an ancient princess reincarnated into a beautiful young woman.”

The Wolf Man with Lon Chaney Jr. and Claude Rains will show at 8:30 p.m.

“Ron Chaney (Grandson of Lon Chaney Jr.) will appear in person to introduce the film! Larry Talbot (Chaney Jr.) comes back from America to his ancestral home in Wales where he's attacked by a gypsy

werewolf (Bela Lugosi) and is bitten during the deadly struggle, causing him to transform into a werewolf at each full moon.”

Wednesday-Thursday, October 26-27

Frankenstein

Bride of Frankenstein

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

The Boris Karloff classic shows at 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Wednesday and 7 p.m. on Friday

“Obsessed scientist Dr. Frankenstein assembles a living being from parts of exhumed corpses, but the creature runs amok, quickly becoming the town pariah.”

Director James Whale reunited with Karloff for the 1935 sequel that will be shown at 2:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday and 8:30 p.m. on Thursday. With Elsa Lanchester as the iconic bride.

“When an even madder scientist kidnaps Dr. Frankenstein's wife, he agrees to help create a female companion for the monster Frankenstein.”

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

Robert Jordan appearance

Cody's Stockton Street

2 Stockton Street

San Francisco

7:30 p.m.

Free

Wednesday, October 26

Brian Jacques

Sponsored by Copperfield's Books

Petaluma Community Center

320 North McDowell

Petaluma

7 p.m.

One ticket with purchase of *High Rhulain* from Copperfield's

Additional tickets \$12

Best selling children's fantasy author Brian Jacques appears in support of his recent books *High Rhulain* and *The Redwall Cookbook*.

Thursday, October 27

Opening Reception

Gross, Gruesome and Gothic

Cartoon Art Museum

655 Mission Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: 415/CAR-TOON,

415/227-8666

7 p.m.-9 p.m.

See Ongoing for description of exhibition.

Thursday, October 27, 2005

R. A. Salvatore appearance

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

3600 Stevens Creek Blvd

San Jose

408-984-3495

7:00 p.m.

Free

Thursday, October 27

Independent Exposure - Halloweird Edition 2005

Red Vic Movie House

1727 Haight Street

San Francisco

7:15 p.m. and 9:15 p.m.

\$8

From the Independent Exposure website:

"A collection of 16 weird, creepy, horrific, strange, hallowed, odd, spooky, gross, odd, and intriguing short films and videos celebrating our favorite holiday of the year - Halloween. This program features a few favorites from the Halloweird archives of the past ten years, plus a bunch of great, new films as well."

Program includes:

Honey Pot - Todd Lincoln (USA)

Devil Tour '94 - John Geary (USA)
Millennium Bug - Lee Lanier (USA)
Abusive Parental Guidance Suggested
- Matt Kovalakides (USA)

Rubber Johnny - Tom E. Brown(USA)

Cremains - Chris Ohlson (USA)

Lovey - Paul O'Bryan(USA)

Bowhunting - Niels Post (Netherlands)

Repetition Compulsion - Jeff Louviere
and Vanessa Brown (USA)

Fugue - Trish van Huesen (USA)

Stars in His Eyes - Atomic Elroy (USA)

Inside - Philip Hirsch (Germany)

The Witch - Rafael (Spain)

The Real Adventures of GI Joe - Episode
4: Reinforcement - JD
Lignon (San Francisco)

Memento Mori - Jossie Mals (Spain)

Flush - Alec MacNeill Richardson
(Canada)

Ingrid, Palle, & the Sounds - Lasse
Lindsteen (Denmark)

How to Cope with Death - Ignacio
Ferrerias (United Kingdom)

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Robert Jordan appearance

Bay Book Co.

Strawflower Shopping Center

80 F. Cabrillo Hwy.

Half Moon Bay

7:00 p.m.

Free

Thursday, October 27

Lost Boys

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

9:15 p.m.

Trivia, prizes, contests.

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.

Friday, October 28

On the Beach

Five

PFA Theater

2575 Bancroft @ Bowditch

Berkeley

7 p.m.

\$8

Two post-apocalyptic films.

Friday, October 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.

Friday, October 28, 2005

Robert Jordan appearance

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

3600 Stevens Creek Blvd

San Jose

408-984-3495

7:00 p.m.

Free

Friday-Monday, October 28-31

Dragon's Head Inn Haunted House

631 West Spain Street

Sonoma

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

October 31 until 8 p.m.

\$5-\$25

Charity haunted house with 3 different attractions.

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

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-Sunday, October 28-30

Shock It To Me

Horror Movie Festival

Castro Theater

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

See daily listings for film information.

From their website:

“Dying for a real scary time this Halloween Weekend? Then enter—if you dare—the haunted Castro Theatre for SHOCK IT TO ME!, a three-day spooktacular monster mash featuring a dozen diabolical and rarely-screened fright flicks! Beauteous burlesque girls! Monsters loose in the theatre to grab you! Ghoulish giveaways! And more!

“With the Silver Anniversary of KTVU’s “Creature Features” (1971-1984) upon us, we couldn’t let this All-Hallows-Eve pass

without dedicating a tribute to those glory days of local television, and the hosts who forever became our heroes— Bob Wilkins and John Stanley.

Your live on-stage Horror Hosts, guiding you into this world of the beyond, are no strangers to the bizarre, the horrific, the undead—KETH-54's Mr. Lobo of Cinema Insomnia (www.cinemainsomnia.com), Doktor Goulfinger from the Hip Crypt (www.goulfinger.com), B-Minus Comiks' Ms. Monster of Hel On Ice (www.b-minuscomiks.com) and former ISW star, The Amazing Caltiki.

Film notes from the Castro website by Doktor Goulfinger & August Ragone, henshinonline.com.

Friday, October 28

Hammer Horror Triple Feature

The Creeping Unknown 7 p.m.

The Revenge of Frankenstein 8:45 p.m.

The Vampire Lovers 10:30 p.m.

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

Legendary British horror character Quatermass on the big screen in *The Creeping Unknown*.

"In Hammer's first "Horror" production, Donlevy stars as Professor Quatermass, who must pick up the pieces

after a space flight goes awry. Mysteriously, two of the astronauts are missing from their spacesuits, while the pitiful sole survivor, Carroon, begins to mutate into something...inhuman."

The Revenge of Frankenstein:

"Hammer's direct sequel to their smash hit, *Curse of Frankenstein*. This time, the enterprising Baron Frankenstein runs a medical clinic for the poor, where he mixes charity with amputation as he gathers parts for his new creation."

The Vampire Lovers:

"Hammer spices up their gothic formula with undead lesbians and lots of nudity. In this adaptation of Sheridan LeFranu's classic story, Carmilla has her eyes and fangs set on Smith, and it's up to Peter Cushing to save her from a variety of fates worse than death."

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.

Friday, October 28

Kim Stanley Robinson

Cody's Telegraph Avenue

2454 Telegraph Avenue

Berkeley

7:30 p.m.

Free

Friday-Saturday, October 28-29

The Nightmare Before Christmas

Clay Theater

2261 Fillmore Street

San Francisco

Midnight

The Tim Burton classic screens as part of their Bigfoot vs. Kittens: 8 Tales in the Late Night Tradition program.

Friday-Saturday, October 28-29

The Wizard of Oz

Landmark's Act 1 & 2

2128 Center Street

Berkeley

Midnight

More Events Next Page

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

Friday-Saturday, October 28-29

The Nightmare Before Christmas

Aquarius Theatre
430 Emerson Street
Palo Alto
Midnight

Running as part of the theater's
Midnight Madness program.

Saturday, October 29, 2005

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

Saturday, October 29

Bay Area Games Day
davekohr.best.vwh.net/gamesday
Los Altos Library
Los Altos
Free

Regular event featuring German-style
strategy boardgames like Settlers of Catan,
Avalon Hill-type multiplayer games, lots of
cardgames, and historical board wargames.

Saturday, October 29

Ghost Trackers present "Spellbinding Spooks"
Spellbinding Tales Bookstore
1910A Encinal Ave. @ Chestnut

Alameda
510-523-1105
<http://www.spellbindingtales.com>
Free
7 p.m.

Ghost Trackers, a paranormal
investigation group from Santa
Clara, present "Spellbinding Spooks"
- a presentation outlining their (5)
investigations here at Spellbinding Tales,
Alameda's only haunted bookshop!

Saturday, October 29

*The Rolling Darkness Review with Peter
Atkins, Michael Blumlein and Glen
Hirshberg,*
special guest wrath James White
Dusk 'Til Dawn Scary Story Party
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
From Dusk 'til Dawn
Free

Saturday, October 29

Ghost Train
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.

Saturday, October 29

Spooktacula! Creature Features Matinee
Night of the Living Dead 1 p.m.
Castro Theater
429 Castro Street
San Francisco

From the Castro website:

"An old-time Matinee featuring a claw-
full of vintage Horror Movie trailers and
the 1936 Technicolor Cartoon, "Cobweb
Hotel", a Special Prize Drawing, and the
original... Night of the Living Dead.

"When asked to name his favorite
"Creature Features" movie, Bob Wilkins
chose Night of the Living Dead. Although
nearly four decades old, and the progenitor
of a seemingly endless series of gore-soaked
zombie extravaganzas, Romero's original
creature feature remains a stark, brooding
and unrelenting shocker."

With John Stanley, Host of "Creature
Features" & Fiends
Special Appearance by Bob Wilkins

More Events Next Page

Saturday, October 29

Alan Lee

Book Passage

51 Tamal Vista Blvd.

Corte Madera

415-927-0960

7:00 p.m.

Free

Alan Lee, *Lord of the Rings* illustrator and Academy Award-winning conceptual designer for the film trilogy will discuss his brand-new book, *The Lord of the Rings Sketchbook*.

Lee's events will feature a slide show, a Q&A with fans, and a book signing.

Saturday, October 29

The Horror of Party Beach

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

From the Castro website

“SEE! Monsters from the Surf vs. Surfers from... New Jersey!? Radioactive waste creates an army of googly-eyed monstrosities that terrorize the countryside, while the Del-Aires keep the beat going strong down at the Jersey shore.”

Saturday, October 29

Flashlight Tour

Winchester Mystery House

www.winchestermysteryhouse.com

525 South Winchester Boulevard

San Jose

6 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

\$31

Saturday October 29

Nightmare in Blood

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

9 p.m.

From the Castro website:

“*Creature Features* host, John Stanley, directed and co-wrote this genuinely imaginative cult film. A disparate group of fans at a Horror Convention discover the world's greatest Vampire actor is the genuine article. Packed with more insider humor than you can shake a stake at, and shot in a variety of historic Bay Area locations.”

Saturday, October 29

Late Night Creature Features Picture Show

The Fearless Vampire Killers

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

11:30 p.m.

From the Castro website:

“Horror and hilarity are juxtaposed in this tale of inept vampire hunters. Prof. Abronsius travels to a remote Transylvanian village in search of the Undead with his assistant, Alfred. There, the young vampire killer falls in love with a stunning village girl, Sarah, but the local Nosferatu, Count Krolock, has already set his bloodshot eyes on her...”

Saturday, October 28

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

More Events Next Page

Sunday, Oct. 30,

Scaaaaaary Story time with Vicki Vampyre

Spellbinding Tales Bookstore

1910A Encinal Ave. @ Chestnut

Alameda

510-523-1105

<http://www.spellbindingtales.com>

3 p.m.

Free

The hostess with the mostest of Alameda Cable’s “Monster Island Theater” reads spooky stories for kids. Bring your kids for a hauntingly good time!

Sunday, October 30

Vincent Price Triple Feature

The House of Usher 1:15 p.m.

The Comedy of Terrors 2:50 p.m.

The Abominable Dr. Phibes 4:30 p.m.

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

With performances by Peter Lorre, Boris Karloff, Basil Rathbone and Joseph Cotton.

From the Castro Website:

The House of Usher:

“Phillip Winthrop journeys to a foreboding, mist-enshrouded manor to elope with Madeleine Usher despite the warning of their cursed bloodline by brother Roderick (Price). When Madeleine

succumbs to sudden death, the secret of the Ushers begins to unravel towards its inexorable and horrific crescendo...”

The Comedy of Terrors:

“In this dark comedy, a desperate funeral director, Trumble (Price), begins “cultivating” a new clientele with his bungling assistant Gillie (Lorre). When Trumble’s Shakespeare-quoting Landlord (Rathbone), demands a year’s back-rent, the underhanded undertaker decides to bury his problem... permanently.”

The Abominable Dr. Phibes:

“Price shines in his signature role of Dr. Anton Phibes. Horribly disfigured in an automobile accident, Phibes targets the surgical team who allowed his wife to die. Flamboyantly he knocks off the medicos, baffles Scotland Yard, and celebrates in high art-deco style with his clockwork band.”

Sunday, October 9th

Bad Movie Night

Blackula

The Dark Room

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$5

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 11 p.m.

Sunday, October 30

Supernatural Sunday Screamers

Macabre Masterpiece Double Feature

Curse of the Demon

The Haunting

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

With Host Russ Tamblyn

The uncut U.K. version of Curse of the Demon will be shown at 7 p.m.

From the Castro website:

“M.R. James’ classic short story, “Casting the Runes”, becomes one of the all-time classics of fantasy cinema. Dr. Holden (Andrews), an American psychologist and supernatural debunker, looses his grip on rationality when confronted by Dr. Karswell (MacGinnis), a powerful satanic

cult leader in England.”

Then at 9 p.m is The Haunting.

“The ultimate haunted house movie—accept no remakes. A team of parapsychologists investigates supernatural events at Hill House, and one of them seems to have a special connection to the spirits within. Terrific performances from the cast, with director Wise maintaining a claustrophobic atmosphere of disquiet using suggestion, shadow and sound to jangle nerves.”

Sunday, October 30

Alan Lee

The Booksmith

Event will take place at

Park Branch Library

1833 Page Street

San Francisco

2 p.m.

Free

Alan Lee, *Lord of the Rings* illustrator and Academy Award-winning conceptual designer for the film trilogy will discuss his brand-new book, *The Lord of the Rings Sketchbook*. Lee’s events will feature a slide show, a Q&A with fans, and a book signing.

Sunday, October 30

Ghost Walk at The Palace

2 New Montgomery Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

Kings and presidents died here; romances ended tragically. Perhaps that explains the enduring stories of spectral visions and mysterious occurrences. Join your guide for a tour of the unknown--and the supernatural! Not for the squeamish or faint of heart.

Meet in main lobby, 2 New Montgomery St. (between Market & Mission)

Monday, October 31

Flashlight Tour

Winchester Mystery House

www.winchestermysteryhouse.com

525 South Winchester Boulevard

San Jose

6 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

\$31

Monday, October 31

Cal Animage Alpha

145 Dwinelle

Univeristy of California

Berkeley

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free

Schedule:

Trinity Blood

Weekly: Honey & Clover

Monday, October 31

Ghost Walk at City Hall

City Hall

San Francisco

6:30 p.m.

Free

Disinterred remains, assassinations and other ghostly lore form the focus of this tour! The history and architecture of this beautifully restored building are revealed, plus little-known facts such as the cemetery that once covered Civic Center. Who (or what) else might be walking alongside us? Allow time for security checks.

Enter City Hall through Goodlett Pl. (Polk St.) doors; meet in South Light Court.

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

More Events Next Page

Monday, October 31

Séance

Spellbinding Tales Bookstore
1910A Encinal Ave. @ Chestnut
Alameda
510-523-1105
<http://www.spellbindingtales.com>
8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.
\$20

An old-fashioned turn-of-the-century magician's séance, in search of the spirit of Houdini, the world's most famous magician. It is a tradition to hold a séance on the anniversary of Houdini's death. He has promised to relay a message if there is truly life after death. Conducted by the Oakland Magic Circle, which promises many thrills and chills. Call the store for reservations. First come, first serve for a seat in the circle around the table!

Monday, October 31

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, November 1

Richard K. Morgan

The Booksmith
1644 Haight Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
The author of *Woken Furies* reads and signs.

Tuesday, November 1

Newtype Anime

Room 60-61H
Stanford University
Palo Alto
8 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Free
Meeting and anime showing. This event is held weekly while school is in session.

Wednesday, November 2

The Hunger

Castro Theater
429 Castro Street
San Francisco
3 p.m., 7 p.m.
"Catherine Deneuve is Miriam, a centuries-old vampire preying on urban club goers with her vampire lover John (David Bowie). When John begins aging suddenly, they seek the aid of doctor Sarah (Susan Sarandon) and Miriam casts her

spell upon her. This neo-Gothic exercise in style and atmosphere has achieved cult status for good reason."

Showing with *Repulsion* at 1 p.m., 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Wednesday, November 2

Richard K. Morgan

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
The author of *Woken Furies* reads and signs.

Thursday, November 3

Tamora Pierce

Copperfield's Books Petaluma
140 Kentucky Street
Petaluma
7 p.m.
Free
Fantasy author of *The Will of the Empress* will sign.

More Events Next Page

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

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

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

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

Friday-Saturday, November 4-5

The Wizard of Oz

Aquarius Theatre

430 Emerson Street

Palo Alto

Midnight

Running as part of the theater's Midnight Madness program.

Friday-Saturday, November 4-5

Gremlins

Landmark's Act 1 & 2

2128 Center Street

Berkeley

Midnight

Saturday, November 5

Silicon Gulch Browncoats' Monthly Shindig

Noon - 2:00 p.m.

Tied House Cafe Brewery

54 Villa Street

Mountain View

This event repeats on the first Saturday of every month.

Saturday, November 5

Video Games Live

www.videogameslive.com

San Jose Civic Auditorium

San Jose

8 p.m.

\$20-\$55

A live concert by a full orchestra and choir performing music from popular video games. With an accompanying show that includes video, lasers, fog and live elements. Prior to the concert, there will be a costume contest and a video game history exhibit.

With music from games including Mario, Zelda, Halo, Metal Gear Solid, Warcraft, Myst, Castlevania, Medal of Honor, Sonic, Tron, Tomb Raider, Advent Rising, Headhunter, Beyond Good & Evil, Splinter Cell, Ghost Recon, Rainbow Six, EverQuest II, Kingdom Hearts, God of War and a classic arcade game medley featuring games from Pong to Donkey Kong.

November 5

AnimeDestiny 2005

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

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION!

Pleasanton Senior Center

5353 Sunol Blvd.

Pleasanton

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).

Saturday, November 5

Historias del Desencanto (Stories of Disenchantment)

Castro Theater
429 Castro Street
San Francisco

Showing as part of the Latino Film Festival. In Spanish with English subtitles.

“In a limbo between centuries, the world is devastated by the Disenchantment. In this fantastical context, three characters meet in the labyrinths of their dreams: Ainda, a bat-winged artist; Diego, a filmmaker whose innocence resides in his belly button; and Ximena, an adolescent in full sexual awakening. Together, they experience a post-modern, gender-bending loss of sexual innocence in this mystical love story.”

Sunday, November 6

Foothill Anime
Building 5015
Foothill College
Los Altos Hills
Noon
Free

Meets the first Sunday of the month.

Sunday, November 6

Video Games Live
www.videogameslive.com
Nob Hill Masonic Auditorium
San Francisco
7:30 p.m.
\$20-\$55

A live concert by a full orchestra and choir performing music from popular video games. With an accompanying show that includes video, lasers, fog and live elements. Prior to the concert, there will be a costume contest and a video game history exhibit.

With music from games including Mario, Zelda, Halo, Metal Gear Solid, Warcraft, Myst, Castlevania, Medal of Honor, Sonic, Tron, Tomb Raider, Advent Rising, Headhunter, Beyond Good & Evil, Splinter Cell, Ghost Recon, Rainbow Six, EverQuest II, Kingdom Hearts, God of War and a classic arcade game medley featuring games from Pong to Donkey Kong.

Monday, November 7

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

Monday, November 7

Cal Animage Alpha

Location TBA

University of California

Berkeley

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free

Schedule:

Mar

Weekly: Honey & Clover

Monday, November 7

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, November 8

T.A. Barron

Copperfield's Books Santa Rosa

Montgomery Village

2316 Montgomery Drive

Santa Rosa

Free

7 p.m.

Young adult fantasy author of *Shadows on the Stars* will appear.

Tuesday, November 8

Newtype Anime

Room 60-61H

Stanford University

Palo Alto

8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Free

Meeting and anime showing. This event is held weekly while school is in session.

Wednesday-Thursday, November 9-10

Barbarella

Danger Diabolik

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

Barbarella: Wednesday 3 p.m., 7 p.m.,

Thursday 7 p.m.

Danger: Diabolik: Wednesday 1 p.m., 5 p.m., 9 p.m., Thursday 9 p.m.

A new 35 mm print of *Barbarella*.

“The year is 40,000. Peacefully floating around in zero-gravity, *Barbarella* (Jane Fonda) is suddenly interrupted by a call from the President of Earth. A young scientist, Duran-Duran, is threatening universal peace and *Barbarella* is the chosen one to save the world. During her mission, she never finds herself in a situation where it isn't possible to lose at least part of her already minimal dressing.

In a double feature with *Danger:*

Diabolik, the 1967 movie based on the European comic.

“In psychedelic swinging 60s style, the dreaded thief (and killer) *Diabolik* wreaks havoc on a generic European country for his own financial gain and amusement. With his curvaceous, superficial girlfriend (displaying awesome powers of wig-wearing) they deed dirty. See them face off against bumbling cops and revenge-seeking mafiosos to an indelible score by Ennio Morricone.”

Thursday, November 10

Charles Burns

Diesel, A Bookstore

5433 College Avenue

Oakland

510-653-9965

7:30 p.m.

Free

Friday, November 11

Charles Burns appearance

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

Time: TBD

Free

More Events Next Page

Friday, November 11

The Keep

Castro Theater
429 Castro Street
San Francisco
9:15 p.m.

Based on the novel by Paul Wilson.

“Set in a Romanian village during WWII, invading German soldiers release a supernatural force from a centuries-old fortress. As soldiers are fatally consumed, a mysterious stranger appears to battle the being. Eerie and dreamlike, this horror fable is filled with Michael Mann’s expert use of sound and image.”

Double feature with 1977 action movie Sorcerer at 7 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, November 11-12

The NeverEnding Story

Aquarius Theatre
430 Emerson Street
Palo Alto
Midnight

Running as part of the theater’s Midnight Madness program.

Friday-Saturday, November 11-12

Enter the Dragon

Landmark’s Act 1 & 2
2128 Center Street
Berkeley

Midnight

Saturday, November 12

8th Anniversary Sale

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com

Noon - 8 p.m.

Free

Friday and Saturday, November 11-12

Mermaid Meat

Kanbar Hall
Jewish Community Center
3200 California Street
San Francisco

Tickets: www.jccsf.org/arts

\$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, November 12

No Name Anime

13650 Saratoga Ave.
Saratoga
12:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. or so
Free

Saturday, November 12

Paheli

Castro Theater
429 Castro Street
San Francisco
8:15 p.m.

Showing as part of the 3rd i Film Festival In Hindi with English subtitles.

“Come Celebrate Bollywood at the Castro!!

“With its star-studded cast, (irresistible Shah Rukh Khan and Rani Mukherjee), fantasy sets, endearing musical scores, Paheli is a delightful Bollywood folk tale, wherein a ghost falls in love with a bride.”

Saturday, November 12

SF Browncoats

sfbrowncoats.com

Cafe Murano

San Francisco

Noon

Free

Serenity/Firefly fan group. Meets every second Saturday of each month.

Join the yahoo group from the link on their website for schedule updates.

Saturday, November 12

Steven Erikson

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

3 p.m.

Free

The author of *Memories of Ice* will appear and sign.

Saturday, November 12

No Name Anime Showing

Saratoga Library

13650 Saratoga Ave.

Saratoga

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

Free

Saturday – Sunday, November 12-13

Robot Fighting League 2005 National Championship

www.botleague.com

combots.net/index

Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason Center

San Francisco

\$20

Noon – 11 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, November 12-13

Creation's Salute to Sci-Fi TV

Wyndham San Jose

1350 N. First Street

San Jose

\$35

Special packages available for \$139-249.00

Guests include actors Gigi Edgely, Michael Shanks (Sunday only) and Don Davis (Saturday only).

Sunday, November 13

Speculative Fiction Book Club

Kepler's Books

Cancelled. Venue Closed

Monday, November 14

Cal Animage Alpha

Location TBA

Univeristy of California

Berkeley

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free

Schedule:

Zipang

Weekly: Honey & Clover

Monday, November 14

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, November 15

Newtype Anime

Room 60-61H

Stanford University

Palo Alto

8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Free

Meeting and anime showing. This event is held weekly while school is in session.

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

Wednesday, November 16

George R. R. Martin Appearance

Copperfield's Books

140 Kentucky St.

Petaluma

7 p.m.

Free

The author of *A Feast for Crows* will sign.

Thursday, November 17

George R. R. Martin Appearance

Stacy's Books

581 Market Street

San Francisco

12:30 p.m.

Free

Friday, November 18

George R. R. Martin Appearance

Kepler's Books

Cancelled. Venue Closed

Friday, November 18

George R. R. Martin Appearance

Bay Book Co.

Half Moon Bay

7:00 p.m.

Free

Friday-Saturday, November 18-19

Enter the Dragon

Aquarius Theatre

430 Emerson Street

Palo Alto

Midnight

Running as part of the theater's Midnight Madness program.

Friday-Saturday, November 18-19

The Neverending Story

Landmark's Act 1 & 2

2128 Center Street

Berkeley

Midnight

Saturday, November 19

Amber Benson and Christopher Golden author event

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

The *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* actress will sign copies of *Ghosts of Albion: Accursed*, a book that was co-written with Christopher Golden. **Sunday, November 20** *Mark von Schlegell* Borderlands Books 866 Valencia Street San Francisco www.borderlands-books.com 3 p.m. Free The author of *Venusia* will appear and sign.

Sunday, November 20

Science Fiction Book Club

Borderlands Books

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 for more information.

Monday, November 21

Cal Animage Alpha

Location TBA

Univeristy of California

Berkeley

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free

Schedule:

Sosei no Aquarion

Weekly: Honey & Clover

Monday, November 21

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, November 22

Newtype Anime

Room 60-61H

Stanford University

Palo Alto

8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Free

Meeting and anime showing. This event is held weekly while school is in session.

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.

Saturday, November 26

USS Augusta Ada

<http://trek.starshine.org> Round Table

Pizza 5160 Geary Blvd. San Francisco

1 p.m.

Free

Star Trek group. Meets fourth Saturday of the month.

Saturday, November 26

Roman Dirge appearance

Hobby Monkey

10000 Fairway Drive #140

Roseville

Free

Creator of *Lenore* and *Haunted Man-tion*.

Monday, November 28

Star Wars Book Authors

Copperfield's Petaluma

140 Kentucky Street

Petaluma

7 p.m.

Free

Steven Sansweet, Peter Vilmur and Pablo Hidalgo will sign two new Star Wars-related books, *Star Wars Poster Book* and *Star Wars Chronicles*.

Monday, November 28

Cal Animage Alpha

Location TBA

Univeristy of California

Berkeley

7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free

Schedule:

Initial D: The 4th Stage

Weekly: Honey & Clover

Monday, November 28

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, November 29

A Zathura Science Spectacular with the Mad Scientists

Kepler's Books

Cancelled. Venue Closed

December 2-4

Game and Music Experience

www.experiencegame.com

Moscone Center

San Francisco

\$20 -\$35 (discount if registering before October 31)

Play video games, see live bands, and other stuff. See the website for more details.

More Events Next Page

Saturday, December 3

Bay Area Games Day

davekohr.best.vwh.net/gamesday

Los Altos Library

Los Altos

Free

Regular event featuring German-style strategy boardgames like Settlers of Catan, Avalon Hill-type multiplayer games, lots of cardgames, and historical board wargames.

Monday, December 5

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Saturday, 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.

Friday, December 9

Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

9:40 p.m.

“In this challenging prequel to the TV series, the film begins with the investigation by FBI agents into the murder of waitress Teresa Banks. One year later, the sordid events of Laura Palmer’s double-life are depicted, gradually intensifying into an all-out nightmare. Beyond what the series ever did, the film detaches itself from any connection to reality; the result is Lynch’s most controversial film.”

Double feature with Mullholland Drive.

Saturday, December 10

SF Browncoats

sfbrowncoats.com

Cafe Murano

San Francisco

Noon

Free

Serenity/Firefly fan group. Meets every second Saturday of each month.

Join the yahoo group from the link on their website for schedule updates.

Sunday, December 11

Dune

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

4:20 p.m., 9:20 p.m.

The 1984 David Lynch version,

“The desert planet Arrakis—we enter the year 10191 and the whole universe depends on the spice Melange which exists only on this dry and desolate planet. Its natives await the arrival of their Messiah who will lead them into a holy war against the evil Harkonnen Empire. So sets the stage for Lynch’s bizarre, truly otherworldly vision of Frank Herbert’s saga.”

Double feature with The Elephant Man.

Sunday, December 11

Sacramento Comic, Toy & Anime Show

www.sacramentocomics.com

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

\$5.00

Dealer’s room, anime viewing room, contests, Yugioh & Magic tournaments, cosplay contest at 2 p.m.

Monday, December 12

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Wednesday, December 14

Petaluma Book Club

Dandelion Wine by Ray Bradbury

Copperfield's Petaluma

140 Kentucky Street

Petaluma

6:30 p.m.

Free

This general fiction book group will be reading Dandelion wine this month. Call Mat Brown at (707) 762-0563 or Railey Album at (707) 766-7056 for more information.

Saturday and Sunday, 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 17- January 29, 2006

Lestat

Curran Theater

445 Geary

San Francisco

Tickets on sale October 30. Musical based on Anne Rice's Interview with the Vampire and The Vampire Lestat. Music by Elton John, lyrics by Bernie Taupin.

Sunday, 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 for more information.

Monday, December 19

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

December 23

Mirrormask

Red Vic

1727 Haight

San Francisco

Monday, December 26

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Saturday, January 14, 2006

SacAnime 2006

www.sacramentocomics.com

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

\$5.00

Dealer's room, anime viewing room, contests, Yugioh & Magic tournaments, cosplay contest.

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

Sunday, 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 Destination* by Alfred Bester. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.

January 19-23, 2006

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

Furry convention with an emphasis on art. Dealer's room, programming, anime.

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.

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 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 17–April 16, 2006

Zorro

Berkeley Repertory Theater

written and performed by Culture Clash

The Roda Theatre

2025 Addison Street

Berkeley

From their website:

“California was born from a clash of cultures, and now Culture Clash explodes the romantic myths surrounding its creation. Following their 2002 hit, *Culture Clash in AmeriCCa*, these missionaries of mayhem return to Berkeley Rep with the world premiere of *Zorro*. Employing their usual irreverence, the trio takes on this legend to explore questions of homeland security in the Wild West—when Anglo-Americans struggled with such issues as Mexican immigration, Indian gambling and a governor born on foreign soil. At long last, it’s a Latin look behind the mask of this mainstream icon invented by an Irish American. *Zorro* rides out of the pages of pulp fiction, through the Hollywood image machine and beyond the barriers of class, race and ethnicity to become a hero for the oppressed in every land. Both history and histrionics play a role when *Zorro* is unsheathed!”

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 for more information.

Saturday, April 1, 2006

The Toon Town Hop

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

Doors Open: 7 p.m.

Dance lesson: 7:15 p.m.

Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00 in advance (by March 25)

At the door: \$20.00

From their website:

“As any cartoon aficionado can tell you, some of the best film music actually appears in cartoons. In celebration of the classic age of cartoons, we invite you to the Toon Town Hop, a vintage dance ball inspired by the best cartoon music of the 20th century.

“Suggested costume is vintage or modern evening dress (Mouse ears optional!).

Guests may also attend as their favorite cartoon character (vintage or modern!).

“The dazzlingly versatile Divertimento Dance Orchestra will play a multi-period program of beautiful and energetic dance music from both classic and modern cartoons. Dance classic waltzes and polkas, ragtime teens and 20’s dances, 30’s and 40’s Swing and fox trot, stirring marches, and a variety of other ballroom and set dances at this wildly varied event. For us diehard dancers, there will be DJ dance music of some truly off-the-wall but extremely danceable cartoon music during the intermissions.

“There will be a light buffet of T.V. snacks – everything your mother said was bad for you (and she was probably right) and complimentary non-alcoholic drinks. Contributions to the buffet are, as always, very welcome. Intermission entertainment includes vintage dance performances by the Peers Flying CirCUS and a cartoon music sing-along.”

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

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 for more information.

Sunday, April 24, 2006

3DB Con

www.threedollarbill.com/3DBcon

Three Dollar Bill Cafe 1800 Market Street

San Francisco

10 a.m.-10 p.m.

\$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 for more information.

May 26-29, 2006

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, 2006

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.

May 26-29 2006

Kublacon

Burlingame Hyatt Regency

1333 Bayshore Highway

Burlingame

Guests: TBA.

Memberships: TBA.

Gaming convention.

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

September 8-10, 2006

Creation Salutes Star Trek:

The 40th Anniversary Celebration

Doubletree Hotel

Sacramento

2001 Point West Way

Sacramento

Memberships: Gold Weekend Package: \$399.

Creation brings William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy to Sacramento. And no, that's not a typo on the price. Cheaper packages will be announced later.

November 4, 2006

Le Bal des Vampires

PEERS

Venue: TBD

No information as yet for this just announced vampire-theme ball event.

July 6-9, 2007

Westercon 60: Gnomeward Bound

DoubleTree Hotel

San Jose