

Science Fiction/San Francisco

Issue 38

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News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

There's a lot goin' on in this thing we call BArea fandom. Preparations for Westercon and BayCon are in full swing and we've just had Further Confusion go by. Pantheacon is next and then there's Consonance after that. It's a heady time for us convention types!

eFanzines.com has had some good stuff go up. The web version of Prolapse 4 is up there from Peter Weston and it's a fantastic read. There's little better than a view of British fannish history from a guy who's been there himself. Lots of great photos and a solid LetterCol mix in with some great writing.

John Purcell's been busy too. The man's done another And Furthermore and a new In A Prior Lifetime. In A Prior Lifetime is on the verge of adding a new full-time zine reviewer in the person of Mr. Lloyd Penney! It's always good to see stuff from John and these two issues are among his best.

Bob Sabella put out another edition of Visions of Paradise. It's a mostly sercon

edition and it's another one that I'd try and get into. Arnie Katz's Vegas Fandom Weekly, settling nicely into its once a fortnight routine, also dropped another issue and it's a long, mostly Arnie-written issue that features Vegas news, faan fiction and a LetterCol that is one of the biggest in eFandom.

Zines aren't all that eFanzines.com is posting. There's a link to the Rotsler Award, named after legendary fan artist Bill Rotsler, whose cartoons were a standard in fanzines from the 1950s through today, despite his passing in 1997. The Rotsler award is given to a fan artist every year around Loscon time and has been given to greats like Marc Schermeister, Alexis Gilliland, Brad Foster and Harry Bell.

Harry Bell is preparing for the big trip to CorFlu in Austin, Texas next month. The Get Harry Fund is bringing Harry to the largest gathering of fanzine fans. I'll be there, as will SF/SF LetterHack John Purcell, the aforementioned Mr. Peter Weston, eFanzines.com webmaster Bill Burns, and SF/SF favorite Art Widner. Should be a great time.

There's a lot of talk about the Hugos right now. There were problems with the

ballot mailed to LACon IV members and the web has been troublesome from what I understand. BASFA will be doing the annual Hugos SmackDown! the first three Mondays of February. You should also check out the Hugos_recommend community on LJ.

Letters Of Comment

JohnPurcellwrites:

Ah-hah! Now that I've just sent the latest issue of ...*and furthermore* off to Bill Burns for posting, it appears that we're dueling fanzines again. En garde, monsieur le pussychat!

Okay. Swig of bheer, onto loc. (I'm in training for Corflu, can't you tell?)

Dick Eney's death has me puzzled as to his actual age. In assorted obituaries, I have seen it listed as anywhere from 69 to 74. Does anybody know exactly how old he was? Understand, I am not trying to be picky here, but this lack of consistency is bothering me. Hopefully Ted White or Arnie Katz, who both knew Dick very well, will clarify this at Corflu, if not sooner.

Yeah, Chris, it has been a bit busy over at efanzines, and the group of us—you, Dave Burton, Earl Kemp, Arnie Katz, and I—have been trying our best to keep it that way. It is really good to see *Prolapse #4* now posted (I got in the mail, and locced it already), also John Nielsen Hall's *Motorway Dreamer #3* (to be locced later today or tomorrow), and a couple other things of note. I would really like to direct people's attention to two things posted to efanzines:

the 2006 FAAn Ballot and the Rotsler Award page. Download the first one and vote, gang, and enjoy the galleries on the second one. Great work to see in there.

Jean Martin responds: Yup, we're all keeping efanzines busy!

Thank you, España, for the brief overview of Jack London's life and the historical sites that can be visited in the Bay Area that were key parts of his career. I have always enjoyed his writings, and haven't read *The Scarlet Plague* in close to forty years. (Thanks a lot for making me feel so damn OLD, you young whipper-snapper!) Some year when I get a chance to teach a science fiction and/or fantasy course, I definitely will include a sampling of Jack London. He was a fine writer—and photographer, as you noted—who deserves more attention to his other work rather than just focusing on *White Fang* and *Call of the Wild*.

España's column about Jack London was very interesting. She always comes up with original topics that have such a San Francisco flavor to them.

You folks reprinted one of my locs, but that's okay. Over-exposure in print is much better than other kinds of over-

exposure, if you get my drift.

Chris and I have different things to say so if we do respond to a LOC twice, the LOC gets a different treatment the second time around. And, of course, if the LOC is interesting enough to reprint then it gets a second pass.

Chris, if San Jose wins the 2013 WorldCon and you folks start up a fan fund to get me out there, I have the perfect name for it: HAFF = Half-Assed Fan Fund, since it would only be for halfway across the country. Whaddaya think?

HAFF... that's a great idea! And very funny too. That would be awesome if WorldCon comes to San Jose in 2013. We'd be all over that!

Lloyd, thank you for the input about RevelCon; until recently, I have never heard of that convention before—and going by its number, this con has been running for almost two decades now—and I still might run down to take in the Saturday programming to check it out. Right now I am gearing up for Corflu 24 and Aggiecon 38. Also, I am very glad to hear that your recovery is going well. Good news is always welcome.

By the by, Chris mentioned in one of his responses to your loc that his total word count for 2006 was 1,804,024!!! And then he has the balls to call YOU mad! Way to go, roomie. With Chris and I rooming together at Corflu, Ghu only knows how many zines the two of us will spew out by the end of the weekend.

Amazing how many words Chris can publish in a year. We all love words, obviously; here's to another year of words. And maybe Chris can break the 2 million mark this year.

When I was a kid growing up in the frozen wasteland known as Minnesota—not so frozen this winter, it seems at the moment, thanks to global warming, el niño, or polar shifts—I used to marvel at the shifting colors of the northern lights on cold, clear, winter nights. They are beautiful to behold. One night when my brother and I were out playing hockey with our usual gang of friends, I remember looking up at the lights shimmering in the star-filled sky, and then a bright streak split the heavens from northeast to southwest. A meteor. Filled with awe, I stood there, dumbstruck at the vastness and insignificance of our planet compared to the infinity of the universe.

What a lovely and poetic story. I think most of us who are into science and science fiction experience something like this during

childhood. It inspires us to continue to do so all throughout our lives.

Then I got blind-sided with a body-check and fell to the ice.

Boys, what can I say!

So much for a ten-year old's moment of epiphany.

It still is a great story... and captures the essence of your epiphany with a twist of humor at the end.

Thanks again for the zine, and let's do this again, shall we?

We'll keep publishing SF/SF again and again until who knows when.

Lloyd Penney writes:

Got an issue of *SF/SF*, and there seems to be a lull in the steady flow of e-zines coming into eFanzines.com. I will take advantage of that, and will get a loc going on issue 37 right here and now.

Interesting comment as John Purcell just mentioned that it's been busy lately. But I guess after the holidays, folks are taking a breather or maybe still busy with other things, as I have been. Winter to me, and I guess nature in general, is a time to slow down and hibernate. But it seems like since the early 90s, this time of the year has been hectic with work, home and activities. When what I really want to do is to curl up in my warm, dark and cozy bedroom and sleep for days!

Folks like Dick Eney symbolized fandom as it was in the 60s, 70s and 80s. Fandom of that era doesn't recognize fandom of today's interests, and fandom will change radically over the next 20 years, if we even recognize it to be what we might call fandom. The qualifications of a science fiction fan have changed regularly and radically since the beginnings of fandom in the 1930s.

Yes, I'm sure fandom will change as fans change, new fans come on board and new books, movies, etc. are created.

Time for the FAAn Awards!, and the administrator lives a ten-minute drive away from me! Hope you all vote, and remember, Penney takes an EY at the end. I sure wish I was going to Corflu...just having that fanzine lounge at LAcon IV was a great time, and a comfort, especially when you just wanted to scope a cold drink.

I remember thinking years ago, with folks like Bob Tucker and Dave Kyle around, that there had to be something about this fandom thing that kept both these folks around sixty years and more. I kept thinking that I hoped I'd find it eventually, and I think I have. It's the belonging, the participation, and the friends made a world over. We all need a community, and for all its problems, fandom is a comforting place to be.

You've hit the nail on the head and that's why we all are in fandom, I believe.

Tilly the Wonderdog has her own website! Just Google her up, and there she is, hanging out with Those Darned Klingons. (Whoops, that's the title of the next Star Trek series. Guess I let that one out of the bag...)

That's good to know that she has a website. She's quite popular!

You say that Kansas City blew their shot at Smofcon this year? But Smofcon was IN Kansas City ... they didn't do a good job at running the Smofcon? I haven't been to a Smofcon since it was in Toronto in 1989, and I was the chairman that year.

Eyesight is indeed a terrible thing to lose, especially being such a consumer of visual media. The surgery in December was just one step in making sure my eyes last a lot longer. I'll keep everyone posted about whether I have a few laser zaps, or need more surgery.

Eyesight is probably the most important of all the senses in this modern era. Not just entertainment but most of our livelihoods depend on them. My eyesight is so poor nowadays that I can't read novels much anymore. After work, my eyes are so tired! Thank goodness for audiobooks. And they're great for commuting now that I have to drive farther away to get to work and back.

Hi, Jean...I have a friend who lives in Mountain View ... last I looked, Michael Wallis lives there. Former fanzine fan, now happily married, and leading a Christian life. I mentioned Michael in *SF/SF 3*, and haven't seen or heard from him in a long time.

I just realized that, for the first time since I moved to the Bay Area/U.S. in the late 80s, I now live in Silicon Valley! It's quite a thrill as I've always been into science and technology as well as science fiction. And lots of people in the area are into what I'm into. There's a sense of excitement, possibility, and being on the cutting edge here that I'm really enjoying. Not to mention that this area is known throughout the world, and specifically, Mountain View is where Google is located.

Chris, don't conquer BArea fandom! Then, you'd be in charge of it, and what would you do? Okay, conquer it, and then co-opt all fans to do what they were originally doing, anyway. That way, you can sit in our peacock chair on the top of the hill, and glare at the peons below. Maybe you could do the same for LASFS, and once you have all of California fandom at your disposal ...well, I shudder to think what you might do with it. Ahnold should be shaking in his barbarian boots.

I can see Chris ruling Bay Area fandom and us minions doing his bidding. It would

definitely be interesting! And, who knows, instead of the Governorator, we can have the Governeditor.

I'm going to fire it off directly from work, which is where I am, slowly but surely composing a loc for you. I'll stick it on my LJ sometime when I have the chance. Tomorrow, Yvonne and I are going to the 2007 Canadian Students for Space Awareness, or CSSA at the campus of Ryerson University downtown, so off this goes tonight, and we'll have some fun tomorrow. Have a great weekend, everyone!

Editorial

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

It's a good time to be a fan. There are always ups and downs in fandom and we're in one of those periods where it just feels good to be fanning and taking part in all of the fun and frolic. I'm a happy man to be around the good people of fandom.

There are times when that has not been true: Topic A back in the 1980s, the Breendoggle twenty years before that, various feud periods over the years. But now, while we're not free of all strife, we're working on nearly 10 years without a major bummer in BArea fandom. Which is why I'm so worried about Westercon.

We've got the first Westercon to come to the BArea in 20 years and we're seriously understaffed. Yeah, it's only five weeks after BayCon, but still, there are big gaps in the staffing that need to be filled. It's not like the con can't go on if they aren't filled, but if they are it will be so much easier and put out a much better con and keep those who do pick up the slack on a good course. It's a tough situation because there's a lot of

staffing stuff that'll need to happen right quick and a lot of folks needed to do it.

And here's the thing: I'm betting that this Westercon will be one of the better Westercons in recent memory. The hotel is almost the ideal size for a Westercon and the set-up we're lookin' at is great too. There's a lot of great planning going on, there are wonderful guests including my man Jay Lake as Toastmaster. It's going to be a good time for everyone who comes.

If you're interested, drop a note to volunteers@westercon60.org or info@westercon60.org and they'll get you in line.

So, with only slight worry in my heart about Westercon, what do I feel for the year so far? It's gonna be good. I'll be at CorFlu right about the time the next issue hits eFanzines, and then I'll be getting ready for Cinequest and WonderCon right after that. That's the start of the busiest time of the year. Add to that the pressure ramping up on BayCon and Westercon and you've got a tight schedule that'll make it hard to focus on anything, really. But you know we'll be here with *SF/SF* to keep you all in

touch with the fannish happenings!

An Incredibly Limited View of Further Confusion

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

I got to FurCon around 7 p.m. on Saturday, January 20th. I'd been watching Evelyn all day and had to make sure Genevieve got her dinner before I headed over to the Fannish DoubleTree. I got a parking space right by the main entrance and I walked in, completely unsure of what was inside that hotel. I have that experience every time I go into a con I've never been to, and with FurCon, there was even a little more. Still, I made my way to the Registration Desk and walking through the hall, it was exactly like every other con that I've ever been to at the DoubleLion. The same faces, so many of the same costumes. It's all there!

I bought a Sunday membership on Saturday night. I just wanted to save some time since I was planning on going to some early panels, and wanted to make sure I had the badge in hand. I enjoyed fine service and ran into my man Bobby Toland. We talked about folks from high school (Santa Clara, you know!) and then ran into Ed

from BASFA. We chatted, and I didn't have a Saturday badge so I was going to head out, but Ed said that I should come up and hang in his room with folks for awhile. I did just that. I know, totally wrong, ghosting is totally wrong, but this was supposed to be a very limited visit.

I didn't know that Con-X-Treme was having a party in Ed's room. I walked in and there were folks hangin' out. Of course, I didn't know anyone, but I made friends. The Con-X-Treme folks were there, chatting up a storm. Terry, the con chair, had set up a series of computers showing various episodes of Alien Nation and other short pieces of film. It allowed for fast and furious commentary. Lots of laughing.

And then the bass kicked in.

The party next door had set up a speaker system and they liked it LOUD! The room was shaking fiercely. It was so loud that I could feel the food in my belly sloshing. We made jokes out of it as the night went on.

After awhile, the talk turned to matters con-related. It always goes that way. I was very excited to hear about all the

ways Con-X-Treme is going. They've got a great series of concepts that a lot of cons just don't think of. In a few ways, it kind of reminds me of the old Time*Con from the 1980s. It's media, it's science fiction, it's a little bit country, it's a little bit rock 'n roll!

We had a visit from a Klingon who was talking up their party and booze selection down the hall. I wasn't going to go because I wasn't supposed to be at the con, officially, but they sounded like an interesting selection of drinks. I must remember to visit next time I'm at FurCon.

After a few hours, I had to get ready to leave. I walked out and as I was going to the car, I dropped my badge. I had to go back and walk my entire route from the party to the car to try and find it. When the first one failed, I did it again. I found it when I realized that I had tightrope-walked across along the red zone traffic barrier. That's where I found it...after an hour.

I returned on Sunday morning and ate at the Coffee Garden. It was average food. I'm usually identifiable by my puffy hair, but since I'd just gotten out of the bath and my hair was still wet and therefore

straight, no one seemed to recognize me! I ran into Barb and Trey from BASFA and Robert Hole (who will have a full report for the next issue) and I enjoyed my breakfast.

After that, I headed into the Dealers' Room. It was mostly artists, but there were some goods folks who sold a lot of fun stuff. I bought a book from Cargo Cult books like I do at every convention.

After that, I went to the fan table for BayCon and sat there, shilling as I do so well. I managed to sell a membership! I sat there and watched the con go by, which helped me pass the time. Lots of fursuits, including one which was an awesome tiger with button eyes! It was just great.

I had to go and change Genevieve's tire, so I missed the rest of the day, but I'll be back next year, and you'll hear more about the con in the next issue!

By España Sheriff

The Cartoon Art Museum is right in the center of San Francisco's museum district. Located around the corner from Yerba Buena Gardens and the SFMOMA, next door to the shiny new Museum of the African Diaspora and across the street from the venerable California Historical Society, it manages to hold its own pretty nicely. Adding to my personal fondness for its location is the fact that it is located below a Steinway Piano store, the large blue sign hanging ominously and conjuring up images of old Bugs Bunny cartoons to my admittedly suggestible mind.

Founded in 1984, it started as a "museum without walls," exhibiting in other museums and galleries until it found a brick-and-mortar incarnation with the help of an endowment from *Peanuts* creator Charles M. Schultz in 1987. Then in 2001 it moved to its current location, 655 Mission, the former home of the Ansel Adams Center. The museum bookstore, Photo Graphix, still carries books on Adams in addition to a great selection of gorgeous art books related to exhibits both past and present.

Aside from the MoCCA in NY,

it is the only museum of its type in the country and it takes its job seriously, with a permanent collection of 6,000-plus pieces of original art and a comprehensive approach to the medium. Recent exhibitions have covered comic strips, underground comics, political cartooning, animated movies and television and children's illustration. At any given time the work of R. Crumb, Will Eisner, Edward Gorey, Chas Adams, Gahan Wilson, George Herriman and Winsor McCay can be found hanging on the walls alongside local artists.

The venue is unassuming, composed mainly of one long space divided into two rooms by a center wall. But there's plenty to see and it's easy to lose track of time and spend a couple of hours wandering from piece to piece. The space is also very well suited for events which the CAM hosts a half dozen times a year including, in years past at least, one during the WonderCon weekend. It also offers cartooning classes and lectures for adults and children.

www.cartoonart.org

Capcom Unveils Lost Planet: Extreme Condition

By España Sheriff
Staff Writer

The world release of the new Capcom game *Lost Planet: Extreme Condition* took place in the SF Exhibition Concourse in SOMA on January 12th.

Within minutes of receiving my assignment to attend I exhausted the limits of Google, discovering that the game designer, Keiji Inafune, is a bit of a videogame rockstar, having designed *Onimusha* and *Mega Man*. Also, the lead character is modeled on the

likeness of Korean actor Lee Byung Hun. Feeling somewhat enlightened but still out of my depth (the last game I bought was *Civilization II* for the PC), I brought my friend Tomy along as an expert guide. Or if not expert, at least someone who has seen an Xbox up close.

We met up at Café do Brasil on Market and

7th and ate a tasty

but far too filling meal to brace ourselves for the cold trip to the venue. The short walk through the freezing Tenderloin just a few paces behind a man carrying a teddy bear and screaming into (hopefully) his cell phone quickly lowered our expectations to the point where Capcom could have provided a space heater and deck of playing cards and



Photo by Alec Peden



Photo by Alec Peden

we would have been damned grateful. But after getting our wrist stamped (quoth the stamp: “good job!”) we stepped inside the outwardly uninspiring SF Exhibition Concourse East Hall and beheld a pretty fine scene indeed.

The sloping ramp led through billowing fog to a faux-stone Asian-style gateway with a round portal framed with fudogs and terracotta warriors, which opened onto a packed main hall lit with blue and white lights. Columnar ice sculptures dotted the area and closer inspection



Photo by Alec Peden

experiences with tequila I am cautious around it, but I decided to try my luck and was very pleasantly surprised with the results. The featured mixed drink they were making with it was tasty, large and refreshingly hangover-free. As a bonus the actual bars were made entirely of ice—much to the rather childish delight of otherwise sophisticated-appearing San Franciscans, myself included.

After boozing up and snagging some of the tasty snacks from a circulating waiter, I watched Tomy try his hand at the game.

were enough of them to satisfy demand. Also plentiful were the trays of appetizers. Wisely, the bulk of the trays carried little pizza slices, which were good and a safe choice. Unfortunately harder to come by were the little goat cheese on toast and delicious spicy-crispy tuna confections that we found early on and then spent the rest of the night wistfully looking out for.

Unlike the lines at the bars, the line for the custom T-shirts was long and slow. Four silk-screening machines were set up with different designs. The idea was neat and I did enjoy watching them print the shirts, but ultimately it was probably not the best set up. They ran out of smalls early

revealed that they

all had computer parts, circuitry and cables frozen inside. Hanging chains and smashed, hollowed-out car chassis covered with graffiti completed the décor. The cars were lit from the inside with a pulsating green glow and littered with fake snow and more computer bits. The theme was winter apocalypse to match the game and was continued in the side lounge where the bars were located. They were promoting a tequila called Trago, which comes in a snazzy square bottle that fit right in with the rest of the décor. I wouldn't have cared about that except for two lovely little words: open bar.

Having had some traumatic

To someone one who only plays videogames occasionally and hasn't been keeping track of the more recent advances in graphics, it was a revelation: simply beautiful visuals, smooth and realistic movement, and a very tactile world. The design of the monsters was quite impressive, with giant lobster-like dust mite things that roll themselves up in a disk and roll at you like something out of a nightmare.

Dozens of terminals were set up for gameplay, and while they were in constant use there



Photo by Alec Peden

on so I ended up with a medium. That said, the shirt is of nice quality and the “anchor shot” design featuring the silhouette of one of the giant sand-flea/dust-mite monsters from the game is pretty neat.

Shirted and drunk, we wandered the floor watching folks. Although it had been announced that Capcom-related cosplay was encouraged, there were only a small handful of people in costume, a Raccoon City cop and Merchant from *Resident Evil* and a some sort of red ninja dude that we couldn't figure out. The ninja and the cop both tried their luck at the giant rock

climbing set-up, which remained popular throughout the night.

We spent some time admiring the work of Nathan Sawaya, a champion Lego builder (who knew?) who made a four-foot-tall version of the game's mech-like armor as an admiring crowd looked on. Also attracting a crowd were the Xbox live setups where people tried out playing the game against human opponents. Near the autograph table copies of the game signed by Keiji

Inafune and other members of the development team were on sale. The price tag was \$75, which seemed hefty to my non-gamer brain but seems about industry standard.

At the very back of the hall on a raised platform, a whole row of consoles was set up for tournament play, with names drawn from a hat and the winners facing off at the end of the night in an elimination match against the Japanese development team. Grinning and wearing headbands, they looked



Photo by Che Allen



Photo by Che Allen

pretty confident, and from what little I could follow I assumed it would be a bloodbath but apparently the challengers were able to best the Japanese team. However, for the rest of the evening the Japanese team apparently was able to reassert its supremacy over all comers.

Eventually the bars closed and the crowd started to thin out and we realized it was nearly midnight, the time when all Muni riders turn into pumpkins. If by pumpkins you mean frozen angry pedestrians. So we hustled and had good karmic fortune with the trains, and I was soon dozing with visions of exploding dustmites in my head.

BASFA Minutes: meeting 856

December 18, 2006

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began 8:00.

20 people attended.

Note: the Hickory Pit is closed on Christmas, they should be open Jan 1 - and members stated they would be in attendance then. It is likely that you will not see your president or secretary until the Jan 8 meeting.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 855 were accepted as 'grumble grumble grumble.'

We established a party jar.

We took in \$6.50 in the regular jar and \$1.25 in the party jar & the Treasurer was very late, then reported a cautionary tale about parking in SF as a lesson in not using the Hilton's valet service.

The VP's reported the 'Drink Tank' #108 is out, #109 is sitting on his desk at work, as well as the AhwaneeCon PR & there'll be a SF/SF out soon.

The President had nothing fannish to report.

The AhwaneeCon committee reported that they have produced the best opening salvo ever in the bid-zine wars.

Announcements

Joni announced her newsletter 'Plastic Tinsel Joy' is about to come out and she is still looking for content - and gossip - so check www.inflammablecows.net/ptj06.

Dave C announced that he brought Gallifrey flyers - and that it will be at the Marriott in LA in February.

Ken announced that KTEH will be showing 'Dr. Who' this spring - including the 'confidentials' - and that Stanford is doing their holiday films this Thursday till Sunday.

Chris announced that Lloyd Penney had successful eye surgery.

Andy announced that 'Mallard Fillmore's' author/artist was arrested again for drunk driving and had a blood alcohol of .14 [there were many chuckles at this].

Eric announced that Barbera [of Hanna Barbera] had died.

Dave G announced that he and Spring are having a party this Dec 30 - and they had brought flyers.

Reviews:

Chris reviewed the DVD of 'Forbidden Planet' as it's a darned good film, the featurettes are fantastic & is worth full price by far & the transfer is gorgeous & reviewed the 'Incomplete History of the Funerary Violin' as beautifully researched and a marvelous fraud & also well worth full price.

Dave C reviewed 'Sedaris at Carnegie Hall,' specifically '6 to 8 Black Men' & recommends it as worth full price [note: 1st name of Sedaris did not record as pen printed the D and then the rest of the name blanked out]; & he reviewed a CD of the Beatles 'Love' as a mash-up album - and there were many follow-ons about it.

Harold reviewed the SciFi Channel's 'Lost Room' as not well explained - with many odd objects & it looks like they plan to make another series out of it [there were lots of follow-ons about it].

Andy reviewed last week's 'Torchwood' as 'holy mother of god!' and that there really IS a story arc in there somewhere - like Friday the 13th the series goes to Cardiff & is worth stealing twice over.

Adrienne reviewed 'The Holiday' as a cute little chick flick & reviewed 'Stranger than Fiction' as an interesting concept but it didn't grab her the way she hoped and rated it as so-so, maybe worth matinee.

Chris also reviewed a short on You-Tube 'Last Girlfriend' as possibly the greatest thing ever made that he didn't film & recommends it.

We auctioned off a VHS tape & a pb for \$0.25, books for \$4.50, \$1.00, \$0.25 & \$0.75, a DVD for \$1.00, chocolates for \$5.00 & birthday

auctioned off Dave C for \$8.00 to himself.

We adjourned at 9:20 pm.

And the rumor of the week was: 'Personally I don't believe in a woman's thunder.'

BASFA Minutes: meeting 857

January 1, 2007

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Frank (who apparently still can't get on this list) and Bob (who was sitting next to Frank and therefore within striking distance when the former's steak arrived) filling in as acting secretaries. And we've decided any errors and omissions are Chris Garcia's.

Began 8:00 pm - President and Secretary absent. Rob Hole and Frank Wu traded off as acting Secretary. Chris Garcia was acting President, despite not acting presidentially.

Nobody bothered to count the attendees (but "nobody" counted 15 about halfway through the meeting).

Rob Hole moved that the regular pun jar be supplanted by a party jar. This spawned many speeches (chaotic, energetic and simultaneous). Though Mr. Garcia refused to impose martial law, a party jar was eventually established.

No reading of last meeting's minutes.

Treasurer arrived late but brought no numbers.

Vice President and Acting President Chris Garcia reported his Vice President's report. Half of the fanzine "The Drink Tank" issue 111 was available in hard copy. Mr. Garcia also attended a LASFS meeting in L.A. and hinted at an upcoming hoax. Vice President and Acting President Chris Garcia also reported a President's report by proxy that "the President has nothing fannish to report."

No committee reports or action worth writing up.

Announcements

Dave Clark announced that Further Confusion would be at the DoubleTree Hotel, San Jose, Jan 18-22. Jerry Pournelle will be Writer Guest of Honor. Follow-ons: Rob Hole will have 4 panels. There will be a League of Evil Geniuses party, with an Evil Petting Zoo featuring a two-headed flamingo, a dog-headed parrot, a fish with bunny feet and other party animals.

Ken announced that KTEH would be broadcasting a teaser trailer for "Dr. Who" at 8:56 pm, and this was later watched by attendees.

Howeird announced that he had purchased the 2-DVD set of "Torchwood" from amazon.uk, though the price had since increased. Follow-ons on the theory and practice of formatting and pricing UK DVD sets.

Chris Garcia reminded everyone that the year-end issue of "The Drink Tank" would feature any writers who debuted in that fanzine in 2006,

thus excluding Frank, Andy and Ken. Garcia also noted, "It's going to be a very strange year."

Reviews

Evil Kevin reviewed Chris non verbally as "the bird" and the first episode of the "Dr. Who" spin-off entitled "The Sarah Jane Adventures" as a lovely romp with evil soda pop, monsters, and sonic lipstick.

Dave Clark reviewed Chris as "the same" and also reviewed the Del Mar racetrack Festival of Lights, whereat you drive around a track and see an amazing display of 1940's technology. He also reviewed the book "Groucho Marx, King of the Jungle" by Ron Goulart as the greatest thing ever published.

Howeird reviewed parking at Candlestick Park (or whatever it's called now) as NOT worth full-price. He also reviewed "Eragon" as not worth seeing at any price. He reviewed "Rocky Balboa" as believable with good fight scenes, worth bargain matinee. Also, "The Queen" was funny, touching and recommended, with Tony Blair coming off quite well. Helen Mirren deserves an Oscar, and the film rated worth full price.

Andy reviewed the party at Dave and Spring's the previous Saturday as the greatest party known to man, despite or possibly because of the absence of Chris Garcia. Also, last week's "Torchwood" episode was derivative but charming, and the "Dr. Who" Christmas

episode "Runaway Bride" was "Holy mother of God, what just happened?" (in a good way).

Howeird reviewed 'Happy Feet,' a film about a socially ostracized penguin, though Dave Clark noted it contained no actual ostriches. Worth matinee.

Howeird also reviewed Parkfield, California (population: 18). Located at the junction of the Pacific and North American tectonic plates, it is the most active site on the San Andreas Fault, and would make a great location for a hoax convention bid.

Chris Garcia reviewed two fanzines, the "Five Yearly," originally published by Lee Hoffman, with the current ish featuring Harlan Ellison and being printed on fibertone paper. He also reviewed "Prolapse" by Pete Weston as becoming a good British history zine. Mr. Garcia also attended the two December Legion of Rassilon meetings. The second featured the previously-mentioned "Runaway Bride." The first featured two "Torchwood" episodes, "Ghost Machine" and "Cyber Woman." The latter was derivative and lame, Mr. Garcia noted, but sexy robots can do no wrong. Note: Legion of Rassilon usually meets on the fourth Friday of every month at the Carl's Jr. at First St., above Trimble.

Mr. Garcia also reviewed Universal Studios, including the Jurassic Park, Mummy and Terminator rides, but particularly the studio tour. The latter was partially narrated by Whoopi Goldberg and still included the old

King Kong, Earthquake and Jaws attractions. It cost \$61, but he rated it at \$39.50. Follow-on: Dave Clark compared the adjoining CityWalk area as comparable to the lunatic cityscape described by Harlan Ellison and Robert Sheckley in the short story "I See a Man Sitting on a Chair, and the Chair Is Biting His Leg."

Ken reviewed a local house as possibly the best display of sound-synchronized Christmas lights ever. The house is on Harriet between Westmont and "where San Tomas Aquino makes that dip."

Dave Gallaher reviewed the Midnight Christmas service at St. David's in Richmond, led by fandom's own John Blaker, as "worth the price of premium gas in the S2000." He got to sing a hymn in Latin. He also reviewed the Titanic exhibit at the Metreon, noting that there was a full-scale replica of a first-class cabin and the grand staircase.

Follow-ons about the decreasing price (and quality) of first class travel.

Auctions

Two videos were auctioned for 4 dollars and 1 dollar. Three books were auctioned for 2 dollars and 25 cents; 2 dollars; and 25 cents.

The Rumor of the Week, as noted by the Secretary, was: "The January First BASFA meeting had no meeting notes."

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

BASFA Minutes: meeting 858

January 8, 2007

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began 8:00 - with talk of health.

29 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 856 were accepted as 'virtually ignored' & the minutes of meeting 857 were accepted as 'all typos and mispronunciations copyright Chris Garcia, 2007.'

We established a party jar.

The Treasurer reported that this was the 150th anniversary of the Fort Tejon earthquake & he said that we had money.

The VP reported there's a new Drink Tank due out today & a new SF/SF is due out this Wednesday & 'awesome!'

The President welcomed Amber to the club, visiting us for the first time - and then Chris stuck himself with a fork.

Julie moved that we hold auctions tonight before reviews and this passed.

The Party Committee reported that he had a report to turn in to the Treasurer [then did so] & said Con-X-Treme will be sharing space with the BASFA party at FurCon and the same arrangement has been offered for BayCon, plus he's looking for science track panelists for Con-X-Treme.

The AhwaneeCon committee reported that the National Park Service has recommended they use Camp 4 for the con, instead of the Ahwanee Hotel.

It was mentioned that the BASFA mailing list was down.

We auctioned off passes for \$0.50; chocolates for \$10.00; a SMOF bag for \$4.00; books for \$5.00, \$0.50, \$4.00, \$10.00, \$2.00, \$0.25 & \$2.00, magazines for \$1.50, \$0.75, \$0.50 & an 8" floppy wang relic for \$2.00.

Announcements

[tall] Kevin yielded to Cheryl who announced that she leaves this Thursday and may be back in March [then Chris sang a Tom Lehrer song].

Adrienne announced that today more divorces are filed than any other day & announced that www.gather.com is looking for reviews and willing to pay.

Dave C announced that FurCon is Jan 18-22 & that SFSFC is trying to get Harry ['Snaps on a plane'].

Carole announced that there will be a CostumeCon meet-and-greet at her place Feb 10, see her for more info.

Andy announced that CostumeCon 26 will have an Evil Genius Party at FurCon & they're looking for help to staff their fan table at FC '07.

Reviews:

Harold reviewed 'Pursuit of Happyness' as amusing and funny and worth bargain matinee & reviewed 'Letters from Iwo Jima,' subtitled, as too even-handed, well-acted, but worth seeing & worth bargain matinee.

Andy reviewed 'Torchwood' as a whole as kind of disturbing & not very good as a series, but with great individual episodes & definitely worth stealing.

[evil] Kevin reviewed being home sick as it sucks and he's been watching bad movies & reviewed 'Queen of Blood' as coherent & definitely worth watching on the couch when you're sick.

Cheryl reviewed the Bridgewater festival and its pirate theme and passed around a newspaper covering it & she's reading 'The Jennifer Morgue' by Charlie Stross as it's wonderful; Ed follow-on'd that the book was a fun read.

Adrienne reviewed 'Night at the Museum' as

fun & worth full price; I follow-on'd that it was really enjoyable and worth full price, Chris said that the movie inspired him to want to become a night watchman, Julie thought it had the best trailer she's seen this year & Trey follow-on'd that he really enjoyed it, found it delightful and thought it worth matinee; then Adrienne reviewed 'The Queen' as dignified, excellent and respectful - and that Helen Mirren deserved awards for her performance & is well worth

seeing.

Dave C reviewed www.mytrumanshow.com as well worth wasting a few minutes over & is run by a truly unique individual.

Chris reviewed getting drunk after a funeral as he got plastered & seeing the first 'Back to the Future' movie as the best movie to ever see when drunk & that Saturday Night Live was

funny that night - recommended on 3 jiggers of whiskey [there were follow-ons, including '3 jiggers of whiskers' & 'frozen baloney daiquiris'].

We adjourned at 9:41 pm.

And the rumor of the week was 'that Chris has plenty of 8" floppy wangs.'

BASFA Minutes: meeting 859

January 15, 2007

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began 8:04 - with the secretary out of position.

19 people attended.

We established a party jar.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 858 were accepted as '7 seconds delayed.'

No Treasurer, but I bet we have money anyway.

The VP reported, 'Me?', then - there's a new 'Drink Tank' out & a new 'SF/SF' out & the next issue of 'Drink Tank' will be awesome!

Because it's the shill issue - and he went to meetings.

The President claimed he had nothing fannish to report and THEN reminded us Further Confusion is this weekend & that the SciFi channel will show the new Harry Dresden TV series starting Jan 21.

The AhwaneeCon committee reported that PR2 is out announcing the move to Camp 4 & that Phoenix filed.

And allegedly the server with the BASFA mailing list was rebooted and went down again immediately - but there IS a LJ, just in case.

Announcements

[tall] Kevin announced that the Hugo awards ballot sent out should not be used - there are flaws & the website is being ... interesting.

Chris announced that the Fanac awards are being given out this weekend & odds are a Bay area fan will win in a category & he encourages art.

[evil] Kevin announced that the CostumeCon 26 glossy brochure is out now - an important marketing technique - and relayed that BayCon will soon make party decisions & to stop by the evil petting zoo at FurCon & that www.meatini.lj.com is going strong.

Jim announced that Robert Anton Wilson died this last week ['that's what they WANT you to think!'].

Mike proxy announced that Garth & Joni have BayCon memberships they need to sell.

Ed announced that Further Confusion is this weekend & the BASFA party is Friday night & the Con-X-Treme party is Saturday night & he

needs volunteers for both.

Reviews:

Harold reviewed 'Pan's Labyrinth' as a fairy tale that's not for children - good effects, very well done - highly recommended, with nice acting & worth full price.

Chris reviewed 'Dreamgirls' as ... okay & reviewed 'Laser Cats 2' as pure genius beyond what anyone can tell & absolutely brilliant & on YouTube now.

[evil] Kevin reviewed 'Grendel' as the worst CGI - ever! - and 'not even worth wasting the electrons used to warm up the cathode ray tube - and we don't even have one anymore' and also reviewed the Peninsula Wearable Arts Group - PenWAG - as 'my god, what a hoot!' & that he and Andy are the first male members EVER and it was great fun [most folks then declined to talk about Kevin and Andy's members].

Dave C reviewed a CD, the 'Music of David Seville' by David Seville as 'his earlier work' - '37 tracks of youthful indiscretion' that was akin to 'drive-in theatre intermission music' & worth less than he paid for it & he reviewed 'The Apprentice' as it was based on the 'Great Dalmuti' game philosophy that life is not fair.

'Bob' reviewed the DVD for 'Torchwood' as he has it, from Amazon.co.uk, but hasn't seen it yet.

We auctioned off a book for \$2.00 & buttons for \$0.25.

We adjourned at 9:16 pm.

And the rumor of the week was that 'Barbara has several.'

Join our crew:

We are looking for writers to
cover local events,
conventions, fan groups and the
fannish scene in general.

Contact Jean Martin and Chris Garcia
at:

SFinSF@gmail.com

Bay Area Fannish Calendar

While some effort (OK, OK, damn little effort) is made to verify event listings, please check before attending, as events are sometimes cancelled or times and locations changed.

New listings are in **red**.
Ongoing events are toward the back.

Wednesday, January 31

Author: Rudy Rucker
City Lights Bookstore
261 Columbus Avenue
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
www.citylights.com

January 31-February 4

Noir City:
The San Francisco Film Noir Festival
Castro Theatre
429 Castro Street
San Francisco
www.noircity.com
5th annual celebration of film noir, with special guests and 20 films.

Thursday, February 1

She's Such a Geek
Modern Times Bookstore

888 Valencia Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

Readings from the newly-published anthology *She's Such A Geek: Women Write About Science, Technology, and Other Nerdy Stuff*, by women working in tech, science, game design, comic books, and other traditionally male-dominated "geeky" pursuits.

Friday, February 2

Lost Horizon (1937)
Mechanics' Institute
57 Post Street
San Francisco
6:30 p.m.
\$10 donation
www.milibrary.org
Part of the Institute's "Stranger than Fiction" film series.

Saturday, February 3

Gotham City Black and White Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 N. Ellsworth
San Mateo
\$20 at the door
www.peers.org
Bruce Wayne requests the pleasure of your

company. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Thursday, February 8

Author: Cory Doctorow
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
www.borderlands-books.com

Thursday, February 8

Thrillville: King Kong vs. Godzilla (1962)
Cerrito Speakeasy Theater
10070 San Pablo Ave.
El Cerrito
9 p.m.
\$8
www.thrillville.net
Thrillville makes its first appearance at the new Cerrito, featuring the Atomic Lounge Show and Gorilla X.

Friday, February 9

The Day of the Triffids (1963)
Mechanics' Institute
57 Post Street
San Francisco
6:30 p.m.
\$10 donation

www.milibrary.org

Part of the Institute's "Stranger than Fiction"
film series.

Friday-Saturday, February 9-10

ComBots Cup

The Crucible

1260 7th Street

Oakland

Noon-11 p.m.

\$20, discounts for kids and active-duty military

Fighting robots duke it out at the Crucible.

www.combots.net

Friday-Sunday, February 9-11

Renaissance Symposium

Sheraton San Jose

1801 Barber Lane

Milpitas

\$30 in advance, \$35 at the door

www.rensymposium.com

Workshops and discussions for all Ren Faire
fans, including costuming, improv, and working
on your BFA (Basic Faire Accent).

Friday-Sunday, February 9-11

The Shield Conference

Oakland Airport Hilton

1 Hegenberger Road

Oakland

\$20

www.shieldconference.com

Historical gaming con; this year's theme is
"Colonial Warfare 1830-1930."

Saturday, February 10

Infra-Man (1975)

Roxie Cinema

3117 16th Street

San Francisco

9:30 p.m.

\$10

www.sfindie.com

Presented by SF Indiefest.

Saturday, February 10

Author: Rudy Rucker

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Saturday, February 10

Other Magazine Presents

Writers with Drinks

The Make-Out Room

3225 22nd Street

San Francisco

7:30 p.m.

\$3-\$5 sliding scale

www.writerswithdrinks.com

With writers Frank Portman, Eric Spitznagel,
Marta Acosta, Ahn-Hoa Thi Nguyen, Angie
Krass and Joan Price.

Saturday-Sunday, February 10-11

King Kong (1933)

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Ave.

El Cerrito

Sat. 6 p.m., Sun. 5 p.m.

\$6

www.cerritospeakeasy.com

Saturday and Sunday, February 10-11

Love Mission to Mars

Chabot Space Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd.

Oakland

Sat. 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Sun. 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

\$75 per couple

510-336-7311

Chabot invites you to take your sweetheart on
an original romantic adventure flight, "Love
Mission to Mars!" Price includes general
admission, 1 hour space mission, planetarium
show for two, chocolates, beverages and a
souvenir.

Wednesday, February 14

The Otherworldly Erotic Reading

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Donations accepted

www.borderlands-books.com

A Valentine's Day benefit for the Center For
Sex and Culture, with readings by Blake C.
Aarens, M.I. Blue, Patrick Califia, and Midori,
emceed by Carol Queen. Age 18+ please.

Thursday, February 15

Buffy Night

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

9:15 p.m.

\$5

Three episodes of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, including the sing-along episode “Once More with Feeling.”

Thursday, February 15

Seminars About Long-term Thinking: Vernor Vinge

Cowell Theater
Fort Mason Center
1 Marina Blvd.
San Francisco

7 p.m.

\$10 donation

Presented by the Long Now Foundation.

www.longnow.org

Friday, February 16

Jason and the Argonauts (1963)

Mechanics’ Institute
57 Post Street
San Francisco

6:30 p.m.

\$10 donation

www.milibrary.org

Part of the Institute’s “Stranger than Fiction” film series.

February 16-19

Pantheacon

DoubleTree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

\$75

www.ancientways.com/pantheacon

Annual Pagan gathering with workshops, lectures, performances, rituals, drumming,

dancing, costume contests, and crafts.

February 16-19

DunDraCon

San Ramon Marriott
2600 Bishop Drive

San Ramon

\$50 at the door (\$40 until February 1)

www.dundracon.com

Annual gaming con, with RPGs, board and card games, miniatures and more.

Saturday, February 17

Author: Guy Gavriel Kay

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco

4 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Sunday, February 18

Ask a Scientist: String Theory Demystified

The Canvas Gallery
1200 9th Avenue

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

www.askascientistsf.com

With Shamit Kachru, Stanford University physics professor.

Friday, February 23

The Adventures of Baron Munchausen (1989)

Mechanics’ Institute
57 Post Street
San Francisco

6:30 p.m.

\$10 donation

www.milibrary.org

Part of the Institute’s “Stranger than Fiction” film series.

Friday, February 23

Lunar Lounge Express

Chabot Space Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd.

Oakland

8-11 p.m.

\$15

510-336-7373

Party under the stars with music by DJ Justin Credible, Sonic Vision planetarium show, and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Tuesday, February 27

Author: China Mieville

Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

415-863-8688

Friday, March 2

Author: Elizabeth Moon

The Other Change of Hobbit

2020 Shattuck Avenue

Berkeley

6 p.m.

Free

www.otherchangeofhobbit.com

Saturday, March 3

City of Others Zombiefest
Isotope Comics Lounge
326 Fell Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.-midnight
Free
415-621-6543

A special in-store event featuring authors Steve Niles and Bernie Wrightson celebrating their new series *City of Others*; featuring in-house zombification by special effects makeup artist Jared Guenther.

Friday-Sunday, March 2-4

WonderCon
Moscone Center South
747 Howard Street
San Francisco
\$30 in advance, \$40 at the door
www.comic-con.org/wc/
Comic book/media convention with panels, dealers, summer movie previews, anime, costume contest, more.

Friday-Sunday, March 2-4

Consonance
Crowne Plaza Silicon Valley
777 Bellew Drive
Milpitas
\$40 in advance (by February 17), \$45 at the door
www.consonance.org
The annual Bay Area filk convention.

Saturday, March 3

Author: Elizabeth Moon

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

Saturday, March 3

Merry Widow Waltz Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 N. Ellsworth
San Mateo
\$15 in advance (by February 24), \$20 at the door
www.peers.org
Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Sunday, March 4

Author: Nalo Hopkinson
Dark Carnival Books
3086 Claremont Ave.
Berkeley
Time TBD
Free
www.darkcarnival.com

Tuesday, March 6

Author: Nalo Hopkinson
The Booksmith
1644 Haight Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
415-863-8688

Thursday, March 8

Thrillville: Night of the Lepus (1972)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
\$7
www.thrillville.com
With the Diamond Daggers live onstage.

Saturday, March 10

Author: Simon Wood
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
3 p.m.
Free
www.borderlands-books.com

Saturday-Sunday, March 10-11

Calaveras Celtic Faire
Angels Camp
www.calaverascelticfaire.com
California's oldest and largest Celtic faire with music, dancers, archery, jousting, food and drink. Camping available onsite; ticket details to follow.

Sunday, March 11

Sac-Con
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
\$6
Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.

Wednesday, March 14

Pi Day Puzzle Party

The Bazaar Café

5927 California Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

www.askascientistsf.com

Ask a Scientist celebrates Pi Day (3.14) with a friendly competition of math and logic brain twisters, hosted by Puzzle Master Steven Bodovitz.

Friday-Sunday, March 16-18

Rakkasah West

Richmond Auditorium

403 Civic Center Plaza

Richmond

Fri. 7–11 p.m. \$12

Sat. 11 a.m.–11 p.m. \$15

Sun. 11 a.m.–8 p.m. \$15

www.rakkasah.com

Bills itself as the largest bellydance festival and fantasy bazaar in the world.

Thursday, March 22

Author: Kim Stanley Robinson

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

415-863-8688

Saturday, March 24

Bay Area Games Day

Los Altos Public Library

13 S. San Antonio Road

Los Altos

10 a.m.

\$1

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

Saturday, March 24

Author: Kim Harrison

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

1 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Saturday, March 24

Author: Tad Williams

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Friday-Sunday, April 6-8

Tales of Anime

Marriott San Mateo

1770 South Amphlett Blvd.

San Mateo

\$30 in advance (by March 6), \$40 at the door

www.talesofanime.com

Second edition of the con for fans of shoujo (“girl”) anime and manga.

Saturday, April 7

Red Carpet Ball

(1930s Hollywood Academy Award Ball)

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

\$15 in advance (by March 31), \$20 at the door

www.peers.org

Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

(There’s a glamorous calendar available at

www.cafepress.com/peers.75762076)

Thursday, April 12

Thrillville’s 10th Anniversary Show:

Creature From The Black Lagoon (1954)

and *It Came From Outer Space (1953)*

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Ave.

El Cerrito

8 p.m.

\$10

www.thrillville.net

Thrillville celebrates its 10th birthday with a 3-D double feature, your hosts Will the Thrill and Monica-Tiki Goddess, *Cinema Insomnia*’s Mr. Lobo and the Queen of Trash, and Kitten on the Keys.

Saturday-Sunday, April 21-22

APE (Alternative Press Expo)

Concourse Exhibition Center

620 7th Street

San Francisco

www.comic-con.org/ape/
Billed as the nation's largest show devoted to alternative and self-published comics; announced guests include Art Spiegelman (*Maus*).

Saturday, April 21

APE Aftermath
Isotope Comics Lounge
326 Fell Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.-midnight
Free
415-621-6543

The Isotope's annual event coinciding with the Alternative Press Expo features the awarding of the Isotope Award for Excellence in Mini-Comics.

Sunday, April 22

Cherry Blossom Festival Parade
Civic Center to Japan Center
San Francisco
Time TBA
Free
www.nccbf.org/events.html

A cosplay contest traditionally precedes the parade, with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners getting to ride a float to Japan Center.

Saturday, May 5

Sleeping Beauty's Christening Fantasy Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 N. Ellsworth
San Mateo
\$15 in advance (by April 28), \$20 at the door

www.peers.org
Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Thursday, May 10

Thrillville: Barbarella (1967)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
\$7
www.thrillville.com
With the Twilight Vixen Revue live onstage.

Friday-Monday, May 25-28

BayCon
Marriott San Mateo
1770 South Amphlett Blvd.
San Mateo
www.baycon.org
\$75 at the door (\$60 until February 28)
25th Anniversary Edition of the largest annual general SF convention in Northern California, featuring a new location and Guests of Honor Alan Dean Foster, Diana Paxson, and Linda Von Braskat-Crowe and Toastmaster Seanan McGuire. Diverse panels, dealer's room, art show, masquerade, anime room, hall costumes, gaming, much more.

Friday-Monday, May 25-28

FanimeCon
San Jose Convention Center
San Jose
\$50 (until March 31)
www.fanime.com
The Bay Area's largest annual anime convention returns. Dealer's room, panels,

costume contest, J-pop concert, more.

Friday-Monday, May 25-28

KublaCon
Burlingame Hyatt Regency
1333 Bayshore Highway
Burlingame
www.kublacon.com
\$35 (until February 28)
Gaming convention: Dealer's room, game demos, panels, flea market.

Friday-Sunday, June 1-3

Dollectable
Clarion Hotel SFO
401 E. Millbrae Ave.
Millbrae
www.bjdcon.com
\$65 at the door (\$50 until May 1)
A convention for enthusiasts and collectors of Asian-style ball-jointed dolls.

Saturday, June 2

Space Cowboys' Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 N. Ellsworth
San Mateo
\$15 in advance (by May 26), \$20 at the door
www.peers.org
Browncoats, take note. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Saturday-Sunday, June 2-3

Supercon
Oakland Convention Center
Oakland

www.super-con.com

The East Bay's comic book convention is set to return in June. Details to follow.

Saturday-Tuesday, June 30-July 3

Westercon 60: Gnomeward Bound

Marriott San Mateo

1770 South Amphlett Blvd.

San Mateo

\$70 (until March 31)

spfii.org/westercon60/

Guests of Honor: Tad Williams, Theresa

Mather, Christian McGuire

Toastmaster: Jay Lake

Friday-Sunday, July 27-29

Con-X-Treme

DoubleTree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

\$50 at the door (\$35 until March 30)

www.con-x-treme.com

Anime viewing, cosplay, Taiko drumming, martial arts demos, art show, and The Black Hole Bar.

Friday-Monday, August 3-6

MythCon 38

Clark Kerr Center

2601 Warring Street

Berkeley

www.mythsoc.org

\$60, \$50 for Mythopoeic Society members

The annual Mythopoeic Conference returns to Berkeley with Guests of Honor Ellen Kushner and Delia Sherman.

Saturday, August 4

Pride & Prejudice Picnic

PEERS Event

Location TBA

Noon-5 p.m.

www.peers.org

An afternoon picnic and dance set in Jane Austen's England during the late 1790s.

Saturday, September 1

Mikado Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

\$15 in advance (by August 25), \$20 at the door

www.peers.org

A Gilbert and Sullivan cast party. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Friday-Sunday, September 28-30

Creation's Salute to Star Trek

DoubleTree Hotel

2001 Point West Way

Sacramento

A Creation con to celebrate the 20th

Anniversary of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.

Details to follow.

Saturday, October 6

Edwardian Gothic Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

\$15 in advance (by September 29), \$20 at the door

www.peers.org

Edwardian as in macabre illustrator Edward Gorey. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Saturday, November 3

Le Bal des Vampires

PEERS Event

The annual hematophagic gala. Details to follow.

www.peers.org

April 25-28, 2008

CostumeCon 26

DoubleTree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.cc26.info

\$75 (through April 30, 2007)

CostumeCon will be coming to Silicon Valley in 2008. Details to follow.

Ongoing:

Daily

San Francisco Ghost Hunt

Walking Tour

Begins: Queen Anne Hotel

1590 Sutter at Octavia

San Francisco

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

\$20

www.sfgghosthunt.com

Mondays

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org

Mondays

Dukefish

Jake's of Sunnyvale
174 E. Fremont Avenue
Sunnyvale

Gather: 8 p.m, games: 8:30 p.m.

Dukefish is a bunch of people who get together to play board games and, sometimes, bridge every week.

Mondays and Wednesdays

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

Match Play

San Antonio Shopping Center
Mountain View
7 p.m.
\$2

Group meets regularly to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames such as Settlers of Catan; also multiplayer Avalon Hill-style, historical wargames, and others.

Wednesdays

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

Go-Getter's Pizza

1489 Beach Park Boulevard
Foster City
6 p.m-10 p.m.

www.BayRPS.com

Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details email GM@BayRPS.com.

Wednesdays

East Bay Strategy Games Club

EndGame

921 Washington

Oakland

7:30 p.m.-11 p.m.

Free

www.michaeldashow.com/eastbaystrategy/home.html

Fridays

SF Games

Muddy's Coffeehouse

1304 Valencia Street near 24th

San Francisco

7 p.m. to midnight

Free

vax.hanford.org/dk/games

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.

Fridays-Mondays

Haunted Haight Walking Tour

Meets at PlanetWeavers/Genesis Store

1573 Haight Street (at Clayton)

San Francisco

7 p.m.-9 p.m.

\$20

www.hauntedhaight.com

Reservations required.

Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour

Meets corner of California and Taylor

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$20

www.sfvampiretour.com

Led by Mina Harker. Tour is cancelled if there is heavy rain.

Saturdays

Rocky Horror Picture Show

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

Midnight

\$6

www.parkway-speakeasy.com

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

Biweekly

PenSFA Party

The Peninsula Science Fantasy Association meets every two weeks for a party at the home of one of their members. They also host parties at local conventions. Email commander@pensfa.org for information on attending. PenSFA standard party rules: bring something edible or drinkable to share, or pay the host \$2. Don't smoke in the house without checking with the host first. Normal start time is 8 p.m. but may vary depending on the host.

Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers' Group

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

Meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each

month at 6 pm. Contact Jade Livingston at sfscifi@yahoo.com for more information.

Monthly

Dorkbot-SF

Free, donations welcome
www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf/
Dorkbot hosts regular forums for artists, designers, engineers, students, and other people doing strange things with electricity.

Fantastic Frontiers

www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/
Social club for Sacramento County Sci Fi/
Fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times and locations.

Foothill Anime

Building 5015, Foothill College
Los Altos Hills
Free
Monthly event where people can get together to watch anime and meet like minded others. Usually meets the first Sunday of every month at noon.

Legion of Rassilon

Carl's Junior
2551 N. First Street
San Jose
7:30 p.m.
Free
www.legionofrassilon.org
Doctor Who fan group usually meets the fourth Friday of the month: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies, and a raffle.

No-Name Anime

Saratoga Library
13650 Saratoga Avenue
Saratoga
Free
www.nnanime.com
Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month.

SF Browncoats

Cafe Murano
1777 Steiner Street
San Francisco
Noon
Free
www.sfbrowncoats.com
SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month.

Silicon Gulch Browncoats

Various locations (see website for details)
Noon - 2 p.m.
Free
www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org
Silicon Valley fans of Firefly/Serenity meet up on the first Saturday of the month.

USS Defiance Meeting

Round Table Pizza
Howe Ave. (Near Howe and Arden Ave.)
7 p.m.-10 p.m.
Free
Sacramento's oldest science fiction group meets the third Friday of the month. Info at www.usndefiance.org.

Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE

Round Table Pizza

4403 Elkhorn Blvd
Sacramento
916-338-2300
Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.