

Science Fiction/San Francisco

Issue 39

Date: February 21, 2007

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Science Fiction/San Francisco is the twice monthly newszine for the San Francisco Bay Area. All issues can be found at www.efanzines.com
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News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

In sad news, Fandom lost one of its real stars on February 6th. Lee Hoffman, the founding editor of *Science Fiction Five Yearly*, editor of *Quandry* and later a science fiction and western writer, passed away of a heart attack. She was 74. This news broke on the day before most folks were heading out to CorFlu. She was the only person ever nominated as both Best Fan Writer and Best Fan Artist in the Hugos. Sadly, Geri Sullivan and Randy Byers have also announced that the recent *Science Fiction Five Yearly*, which Hoffman founded in 1951, will be the last.

On a happier note, *Science Fiction/*

San Francisco would like to congratulate the Legion of Rassilon on their 25th Anniversary! Chris Garcia attended the January meeting where they celebrated it and it's interesting to note that the LoR is older than BASFA, BayCon (by a few months), SiliCon, and all the other active clubs and cons in the BArea except for PenSFA, which dates back to the 1960s.

Speaking of non-active clubs, the Elves', Gnomes' and Little Men's Science Fiction, Chowder, and Marching Society hasn't met in years, but is still technically a club. There's been some rumbling (mostly from me) about trying to at least symbolically revive the club with a meeting at Westercon. The Little Men, as they were regularly known, met for decades

starting in the 1940s. Their greatest claims to fame were putting on Westercons and WorldCons, the Tower of Bheer Cans to the Moon, the Carl Brandon hoax, and declaring their ownership of the Moon, which was covered internationally! They met regularly as recently as the late 1990s at Another Change of Hobbit in Berkeley, but haven't met in years. The word is that there'll be a meeting, though details on the date and place during Westercon aren't solid yet.

CorFlu has come and gone and I was there. Look for the review later in the issue.

There's been a little action on eFanzines.com, but not as much as usual. Part of that may have had to do with *The*



Drink Tank taking the better part of three weeks to produce two issues that came out right after one another (Issue 114 about the Montreal Bid for 2009's WorldCon and Issue 115 which was the Second Annual Giant Sized Annual).

And Furthermore from John Purcell and Dave Burton's *Pixel* head the list of new zines available, though after nearly a year Richard Geis has put out a new *Taboo Opinions*. In issue 88 he recounts his current medical state and how he goes about his daily life. I had no idea that he was going to be turning 80 this year. Richard won a lot of Hugos for his zines *The Alein Critic* and *SF Review*, as well as Best Fan Writer.

Arnie Katz put out another *Vegas Fandom Weekly*, issue 92. It's a good read. The same can be said of Oakland's Robert Lichtman's *Trap Door #23* (and the new issue which just hit my mailbox the day before yesterday!).

Speaking of available, the same BArea Fannish Publishing Legend Robert

Lichtman has edited an anthology of the writings of Francis Towner Laney called *Ah! Sweet Laney! The Writings of a Great Big Man*. Laney is best known for his famous work *Ah, Sweet Idiocy*, but was a major figure in the history of fan writing. I've heard him referred to as one of the first Insurgents in fandom. There's a sample article and more information available at <http://efanzines.com/ASL/SampleASL.pdf>. Sales benefit CorFlu, which I'm all about.

BayCon and Westercon keep coming at us, and WonderCon is close at hand as well. There's a group of filmmakers who are grumpy that they have to choose between the first weekend of Cinequest and WonderCon. I'm still not sure what I'm going to do.

The FAAn Awards had no BArea winners, though the name Chris Garcia had a few mentions. You can read more about that in the CorFlu report.

Northern California Mars Society Announcement

The Northern California Mars Society is partnering with NASA's Spaceward Bound project to set up and maintain a teleoperated rover to be used for training and field research in Martian analog environments. The rover will be operated by students and teachers in the Spaceward Bound project, and will be stationed at the Mars Society's Mars Desert Research Station in Utah.

Point of Contact:

John McGowan
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Northern California Mars Society

**Northern California Mars Society
WebSite:**

<http://chapters.marssociety.org/northca/>

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Letters Of Comment

Let's start off with Lloyd Penney!

Dear Chris and Jean:

I just finished catching up with *The Drink Tank*, and now it's time to catch up with *SF/SF*. Here's some smartass remarks on issue 38.

Chris Garcia replies: You know Chris Garcia is attempting to have smartassery in fandom trademarked, don't you?

We were members of LAcon IV, but we have yet to receive anything about voting on the Hugos for the Japanese Worldcon. Perhaps I should make some enquiries. Good luck to everyone with the FAAn Awards, too.

I got mine last month. Already sent my votes off too. I'm interested to see who wins the FAAns this year too. I was just looking at my FAAn Award from last year (it's pinned up behind my desk so I can see it when I come to work).

A San Jose bid for the 2013 Worldcon? Chris Garcia as chairman? (If a chill didn't roll up your spine at that thought, Chris, you're hired.)

I thought you were my friend, Lloyd! Even mentioning that someone should be chair gives the wolves who are constantly circling

enough fodder to make it happen. Look at what happened to Steve Boucher at ConJose! If people start throwing pre-supports at me, there'll be Hell to pay!!!

John, I do think Revelcon is a media fanzine event, but in the interests of learning all about fanzines (even if they may not be ours), check it out, and tell us about it in a zine of your choice. I think we'd all earn something new about an area of zines we don't know about.

I'm getting more and more interested in Media Zinery. I've been editing ZineWiki (ZineWiki.com) and have been reading about a lot of them. You can find out about a lot of different zines there (and help me fill out the SF Zine scene).

The eye is healing nicely, and my ophthalmologist said my left eye doesn't have any visible problems right now, either, so this crisis has passed, and I can finally go and get some new glasses. As soon as jury duty is done (I've been in the Toronto court house all week so far), I'll make the appointment.

Glad to hear it's improving, Big Guy, even if you can't use it as an excuse to get out of Jury Duty.

Jean, please take the time to have your eyes checked. There might be a problem just waiting to be discovered. If you are having any problems, get them checked. They provide the majority of our mental stimuli, so they are so important. Check with your doctor, and see what he recommends. If I hadn't gone when I did, I might be blind in my right eye, so don't take the chance.

I echo those sentiments, Jean! Keep an eye out for problems, if only to keep me from being the sole editor of this ship!

The Canadian Student Summit on Aerospace (that's what CSSA really means in my last loc) was a good time. Not only are there lots of interested aerospace students in Canada, but they have lots of good ideas, and are budding entrepreneurs. We made a number of new contacts, and some of them I passed along to our local SF convention, Ad Astra.

Nice way to catch 'em young, Lloyd. I've hooked a couple of younguns when I was speaking about the Museum; I dropped a few Baycon refs, and ran into one of them at the con!

Speaking of which ... one of the greatest problems Torcon 3 had was staffing.

The senior committee found a way to not only alienate local conrunning fandom, but just about everyone else who might have been interested in helping out. They were not really good at dealing with others. With that in mind, I would recommend that the upcoming Westercon have someone on the committee in charge of outreach and human resources to go to other cons, clubs, gatherings, etc., and chat up the potential committee members out there, just waiting to volunteer.

Good point. Let me also say that if anyone reading this has yet to read Cheryl Morgan's brilliant review of the Torcon fiasco, go to EmCit.com and look for September 2003.

I admit, Chris, I've ghosted at a couple of cons, too. An early Toronto Trek, we had no intention of buying a membership, but we were still hosting a room party. We knew enough about hotel policies and the law to know that the convention could not stop us from walking through the public areas of the convention, and we did, posting party signs, and all the committee could do is glower at us. It was a great party, and we even met some of the convention's guests, which really P.O.ed the committee.

I have ghosted a few others (I was young and stupid), but I am thoroughly disappointed in myself for doin' it again!

Aha! Another secret revealed! Ol' Samson Garcia has no fannish powers without his hair! If it doesn't look frizzy, no one recognizes him! Who wants to be Delilah, and give Chris a short, back and sides?

I've had my share of mullets (you can check Santa Clara High's Yearbooks from 1989 through 1993). I do tend to go slower when I cut my hair...which isn't very often.

I am not a furry, but I do know some of the local furries, some of whom have marvelous whole-body costumes, and some of the webcomics I read from time to time are furry-related ... *A Doemain of Our Own*, *Vinci and Arty*, and *Ozy and Millie*. Funny animal comics can be a lot of fun.

They can be. If you think about it, about ¾ of Disney's cartoons are Furry pieces. I do have a long run of Gallery, a Furry Art APA, in the Archive.

Yes! Thank you, Chris, for announcing my successful eye surgery to the assembled BASFAns. I'm sure the most common question was, "Who?" So many sets of minutes ... they weren't forgotten last issue, so where did they all come from? Chris stuck himself with a fork? Did that mean he was done? I will not ask about floppy wangs, although I suspect Chris dusts them once a month at the Museum.

Actually, a lot of folks had heard of you

since I pass out Drink Tanks once in a while. Plus, folks like Andy Trembley and Kevin Standlee had met you. I don't dust Wangs that often...mostly only after they've had a good byte. I'll put my quarter in the jar later.

Another fun-filled, action-packed day of waiting for jury duty *yawn* is almost done. If they let us go early, I'll zip along home, put this on the big computer, and fire it off to you. Have fun, everyone, and I'll see you next issue.

Yours, Lloyd Penney

*And we'll be here...Harry Warner, Jr.
Best LetterHack Winner Lloyd Penney!*

Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor

Forgive me if I go on a bully pulpit for my editorial this time around but I just recently watched what is probably the most important movie of our time.

I know I'm probably a little behind on this but I very rarely see movies in the theaters anymore. I mostly see them on DVD through Netflix. Which I love, by the way, because of the convenience factor and their catalog's wide variety is perfect for someone like me whose tastes don't run toward the mainstream.

Anyway, I've held you in suspense long enough: the movie I'm talking about is the Al Gore documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*. I really believe that everyone who lives on this planet should see this movie. We all share this Earth we call home and the survival of our species, and other species too, rests in our hands. Future generations will judge us on our stewardship, and it is clear from watching this documentary that the time to act is now. Or it may be too late. This is not science fiction. It is science

fact.

Just last week, an important scientific study was released, the results of which stated, in no uncertain terms, that we humans are the cause of global warming. I just also recently watched a British TV series on DVD called *Eleventh Hour*, starring Patrick Stewart, and one episode dealt with global warming. He said in it that only half of the population (I assume he meant the U.K.) even believes in this phenomenon. Most people here in the U.S. seem to think the same way: that it is just a theory and we are not in any immediate danger from it.

I grew up in the Philippines where environmental awareness and conservation was part of our education. Resources were plentiful but the country was not industrialized enough then (and perhaps even now) to supply power and the like to everyone. Sadly, the country now experiences indiscriminate logging and this has caused flooding and loss of lives. But I digress.

Personally, I think I do my share of conserving but it looks like I, and all of us, have to do more. This documentary is a call

to action. The web site for more information is <http://www.climatecrisis.net>

Unfortunately, I have a feeling that Gore may be preaching to the choir here. His lectures are entertaining, funny, and very understandable. The graphics of his slideshow are quite fantastic. He's warm and seems like he genuinely cares about people and the planet. I had no idea this was such a personal crusade of his that he's felt destined to follow from a young age. The vignettes about his personal life are very poignant. Especially the part about his family of origin, his own family, and his losing the presidency to President George W. Bush.

I've always liked Gore and I think he would have made a great President. But the problem, as he did mention in the movie, is that the people who probably need to hear his message the most, are the same people who will pooh-pooh it. I think that here in California, we are more environmentally conscious in general and we are open to hearing what he has to say. But the science is incontrovertible, and hopefully, people's minds could be changed, one person at a

time. I wish him and all of us luck in this endeavor. We're all in this together. It is gratifying to see in the news that British tycoon (yes, that was what he was referred to as on TV) Richard Branson has put up some money as a prize for scientists to come up with a solution to global warming. Money talks, as usual, but for a good cause in this instance.

On a side note, the news said this challenge by Branson is on par with one made in the 17th century when the challenge was to come up with a way to calculate longitude. There was an excellent novel, *Longitude* (by Dava Sobel) and miniseries (starring Jeremy Irons) on that if anyone is interested.

So yes, we here at SF/SF are just as concerned about science and the natural world as we are about fantasy and our imaginative, creative worlds. The Bay Area, after all, is one of the places in danger of going underwater. We could be known as the second Atlantis if that happens! Hmmm... I sense a sci fi novel in the works along this vein.

One thing that brought a tear to my eye was when Gore mentioned Carl Sagan, a childhood idol of mine who inspired my interest in science, especially astronomy. Sagan was also an environmental advocate. I didn't know that they were friends, though.

It's been ten years since Sagan passed away. Maybe I'll watch the movie *Contact* again. That movie really captured the wonder that Sagan had for the possibilities of life on other worlds as well as the beauty and expansiveness of the human spirit.

Another movie I saw recently was *Who Killed the Electric Car*. If you own an electric car, we would love to feature you and your car in a future issue of *SF/SF*. You can tell us what you like about the car in the hope of getting others interested in them as well. Pictures would be much appreciated. We can all prove to everyone that these cars are not science fiction!

In closing, I'm personally hopeful that we will come up with a solution to this problem. Human beings, after all, are excellent at surviving. We have the brains and hopefully, the moral will to turn this around. In the meantime, let's enjoy our lives as best we can while being caretakers of the future of our planet.

Dreams of the City

- a column

By España Sheriff

Hoaxes are an integral part of fannish culture—our own Chris Garcia has been known to be associated with one or two over the years. Dressing up funny, drinking, and generally behaving in an extremely silly fashion are not unknown within the fannish community either. It's one of the things that makes San Francisco such a fannish city in my mind. (Our politics is the other, but that's for another column.)

Which why I was delighted on a recent lunch break to come across a plaque on a small unassuming building down near the waterfront. I am one of those people who cannot pass a historical marker or other plaque without stopping to read it. This one was unusual.

It was on a blacksmith shop, it mentioned the Emperor Norton Bridge, and it had been dedicated in 2001 or 6006, depending on which calendar you followed. Then the telltale motto at the end cleared it all up: "Credo Quia Absurdum" ... "I believe it because it is absurd." This was no simple historical society; this was the spoor of the Ancient and Honorable Order of E Clampus Vitus, less formally known as the Clampers. Founded in West Virginia and arriving in California during the Gold Rush, its history is gloriously full of apocryphal tales and outright nonsense, its rituals loose and tounge-in-cheek and rowdy, and its central pillars apparently a

combined love of wine, women and California history.

The plaque had been dedicated by the local Clampers chapter, Yerba Buena ECV #1, which is the organization behind the greatest of all Clamper hoaxes: Drake's Plate of Brass.

The Plate of Brass was created in 1933 as a joke on a friend and fellow Clamper who was a historian with a special interest in Sir Francis Drake and the real plaque that historians know Drake was supposed to have left during his San Francisco landing in 1579. The Clampers made up a new plaque fitting the descriptions of the original and wrote ECV in ultraviolet paint on the back. Then they planted it in a spot where the intended victim was likely to find it, and waited.

Unfortunately (or not, for those of us who appreciate that sort of thing) the plaque was found by someone else, who took it and discarded it a few miles away. Three years later it was rediscovered and it quickly aroused interest. Money exchanged hands and at that point its fate was probably sealed. With an investment of \$3,500, no one wanted the plaque to be false. It was declared authentic with little effort to prove otherwise and donated to the Bancroft Library at the University of California in Berkeley. While some historians were skeptical, and suspect aspects of the plate's spelling and manufacture were pointed out, the plate remained "authentic" in the eyes of the California Historical Society.

The Clampers had gotten wind of this and tried to rectify the situation without actually publicly announcing their involvement. After hinting and prodding had no effect, the society published a small press book, *Ye Preposterous Booke of Brasse* detailing all the historical inaccuracies that proved the plaque false and instructing the reader to look on the back for the painted initials. Despite this, the plaque was authenticated at Columbia University and that was that. In fact a copy was apparently presented to Queen Elizabeth II.

Presumably at this point the Clampers decided on the better part of valor and went back to taking care of widders. So it wasn't until 1970, nearly forty years after the hoax was perpetrated, that the plaque was re-tested with modern equipment in preparation for the 400th anniversary of Drake's landing. The plate was finally and conclusively declared modern, although the paint on the back was apparently long gone. The plate is still on display at Bancroft University as a piece of San Francisco history in its own right.

The Clampers remain active and have spread, with a number of chapters in and out of California. The Yerba Buena ECV #1 remains active and is in fact holding a splendiferous extravaganza, the Widders Ball (Clampers seem especially fond of widders) on February 24th according to their gazette:

<http://www.ecvgazette.com/1/>

QuireFlu Report

Or How I Learned to Stop Pubbing and Enjoy the Con

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

Austin, Texas is a city I normally wouldn't visit. There's nothing inherently wrong with it—there's live music and I've got cousins there—but it's also a plane flight away and I'm not much of a flyer. It takes something big, like a CorFlu (the con for fanzine fans) to get me into the coach section of a discount airline.

After getting bumped from flights twice on Friday, I walked into the Austin DoubleTree right around 7 p.m. on Friday night. I checked in and as I was standing at the desk, I heard “Hey, that looks like a Garcia” from across the lobby. I didn't have to turn around. I knew that it was my roommate for the weekend (and *SF/SF* LetterHack) John Purcell. I threw my arms wide like that statue of Jesus in Brazil and greeted my never-before-met friend.

After I finished checking in, we headed up to the ConSuite. CorFlu is 75% ConSuite and Pat Vrizi, the ConChair, had managed to secure us a fine Suite with lots of room for the 60 or so attendees. As soon as I made it upstairs, I was greeted by folks

from around the world who had gathered. There was Peter Weston (whose *Prolapse* is one of the best zines on eFanzines.com) and Bill Burns (maintainer of eFanzines.com) and my good pal/hero Earl Kemp, who had been a part of a comedy where Pat was supposed to pick him up but he somehow ended up arriving at the ConSuite where he answered the phone. Almost immediately I felt like I was at home, surrounded by fanzine fans.

We all went to the opening ceremonies where they said hello and then announced the top five finishers for the FAAn Awards, calling us “nominees.” It was an interesting idea and every nominee got a button designed by Brad W. Foster. I led the Top Five finishes with three, Best New Fan (which is odd since I won the award last year), Best Fan Writer and Best LetterHack. I was quite shocked by that fact. After they'd announced Best LetterHack and Best New Fan (with my name coming first on both of those lists), they read Best Fan Artist and Jerry Kaufman yelled out “Hey, where's Chris Garcia?” Good laugh.

Another 15% of any CorFlu is going out to eat. We headed across the street

from the hotel for dinner at Pappadeaux, a great Cajun/Creole place. It was Johnny Purcell, Spike Parsons, Tom Becker, Hope Leibowitz, Randy Byers (of *Chunga*) and myself. I had the Crawfish Bisque and the Crawfish Étouffée and then finished it off with Banana Pudding. Exceptional, if a tad bit pricey.

We headed back to the ConSuite where folks were chatting happily and loudly. I settled in for a long, and at times strange, conversation with Claire Brialey and Mark Plummer of *Banana Wings* and Lillian Edwards who had won TAFF back in the 1980s. For some reason, Lillian seemed obsessed with Giant Pandas. There was also a lot of talk about Llamas and how Goths and Penguins are very similar. Brits are an entertaining bunch, and Lillian turned out to be one of those very entertaining types.

After all the traveling I'd done, I had to crash early, about 2 a.m. I headed back to my room and unwound by reading a couple of the zines that had been handed to me. I fell asleep about 3 a.m., visions of con reviews dancing in my head.

I woke up around 9 and quickly got myself dressed to head over to the ConSuite.

If fans are not morning people, then fanzine fans are even less so. There were a few folks around, mostly Brits who had the six hour time difference to thank for that, and there was more good conversation. We all headed down to the program space and Ted White started things off by introducing the first panel, which was all about what folks would do if they weren't in fandom. It was Lenny Bailes, John D. Berry, Peter Weston, and Howard Waldrop. They all told various stories, but sadly I'd drunk too much orange juice and Dr. Pepper and had to use the facilities twice, meaning I missed a fair portion.

The second panel was TAFF: What's Up? It was Peter Weston (who won in the 1970s), Lillian Edwards, Randy Byers (who won in 2004) and me being moderated by Bill Burns. We talked a bit about why TAFF still existed and Peter and Lillian got into it over the matter of promotion and so on. I said a few things, made sure I made the Brits feel loved for when I run again, and made a couple of jokes, one of which got over big. It was a lively panel.

That was followed by a LetterHack discussion with John Purcell, Claire, Richmond's own Rich Coad, and Ted White. It was a good discussion about what folks like to see in their zines when they get LoCs. I apparently do it all wrong, but

that's OK, it's all a part of my shtick!

That panel went by pretty fast, and it was followed by a lovely piece of performance of various threads from the In The Bar mailing list. Folks cycled in and out of the seats to make their comments, which was funny as Harry Bell always seemed to be off his mark when he was supposed to be up at the dais. It was a nice little piece.

That was followed by the Auction. I love auctions, especially when there are lots of fanzines and such to be bought. The big bidders were Joyce Scrivner, myself, Craig Smith and Geri Sullivan (who LJed the entire con). The hottest item was a rare copy of Earl Kemp's *Illustrated Report of the Presidential Commission on Pornography*. There were several things that started battles between certain bidders. It seemed like Craig, Geri and I were all going after all the copies of Richard Bergeron's *Warhoon*. I bought one and gave it to Geri, who had been outbid by Craig for every other issue. I managed to win a lot of fan historical stuff, including a 1950s N3F package that included some very rare bookmarks and a London WorldCon membership card and postcard set. I spent a lot of money, but I got a lot of great zines.

That led to dinner. John Purcell and I headed to Fuddrucker's and had a great burger. That led us to the performance of

Graham Charnock. He did a great set of songs, mostly in tribute to the Astral League, a British group. After about five songs, he said "I'm going to do one more because I don't have any more song sheets," which led me to yell out, "Just make it up".

And he did.

For two of the funniest minutes I've ever heard, Graham made up a song about how you just can't make things up and how it's not as easy as I seem to think it is. I can't remember the lyric but it basically said that some folks have artistic integrity, unlike me. That had me howling with laughter. I laughed all the way through. Afterwards, he came by and said "Sorry about that." And I responded, "No, you were right, I have no integrity. Chris for TAFF!" Others around us were amused by that.

More ConSuite. I talked a lot with Ted White, who gave me a complete tour of his pipe, which was a great story. I enjoyed a wonderful chat with Earl Cooley about his days on the SMOF BBS. There was this great mango salsa that Pat put out and I couldn't get enough of. I also got to talk with Jack Speer (the only Founding Member of the Fantasy Amateur Press Association who is still with it) and Art Widner. It was a long night and I called it a little bit later than Friday.

Sunday was the banquet. The

DoubleTree's spread of fajitas, rice, beans and fixin's was fairly good, though not at all breakfasty. I ate a lot of them because it reminded me of my time at my grandmother's.

We started things off with the announcement of the FAAn Awards winners. Best New Fan turned out to be Vegas' Teresa Cochrane (I came in third). She was a very good choice. Best Fan Artist was Dan Steffan, who I've been a big fan of for years. Then came the Best LetterHack. I was fifth, Mark Plummer fourth, John Purcell third, Oakland's Robert Lichtman second, and the master himself, Lloyd Penney, won the thing.

Best Fan Writer had some strange results. Claire Brialey won without question, and I had the second most first place votes, but I was fourth overall behind Claire, Ted White and Arnie Katz. I did manage two more votes than Graham Charnock who was fifth. Best Fanzine was *Banana Wings*. There's no question that it deserved it. *The Drink Tank* ended up sixth.

After that, the Fan Writers of America (America defined as the entire world) elected another Past-President. Pat Vrizi won, which was delightful. That was followed by Vegas Fan James Taylor announcing that we'd be in Vegas in 2008 for CorFlu. Ted also announced that there

are plans for three others. In 2009, the plan is Seattle, 2010 for the UK (Croyden, perhaps!) and 2011...Chris Garcia's BArea CorFlu. If you read the All in the Future issue of *The Drink Tank*, SaBean wrote all about the CorFlu in 2011 before I'd even thought about it. Colin Hinz then gave his Guest of Honor speech, which was largely reading from his zine *NOVOID*, a pile of which he turned over to me at the end of the talk. They also passed out the Program Book from last year's CorFlu, which I had sent an article in for.

After that, we all headed to the ConSuite and more chatting. Good people. I spent a little time reading some of the old zines I bought and I wandered into the back room and started chatting with Michael Moorcock, who I had no idea had shown up. HE was chatting with Peter Weston, Earl Kemp and folks, and I was glad to chat with him and his wife Lisa for a while. It was a great time. I shook his hand as he was leaving and said "Nice to meet you. I'll have to read one of your books now." He recommended one about Hollywood that I am buying on Amazon as we speak.

The Dead Dog was a dinner at The County Line, a BBQ place. We carpooled over and I ended up riding in Randy Byer's car with Craig Smith, Catherine Crockett and Colin Hinz. I got a seat at the table

with Colin, Catherine, Mark and Claire and Spike. We had lovely conversation (with much talk about Llamas) and Bill Bodden (1/2 of the team that gives us *Wabe*) convinced us to do a One-Shot at the dinner table. I did some art (so now I'm eligible for Best Fan Artist!) and gave the zine its title: *Dinner and a One Shot*. It was a little thing done on a napkin. Dinner came and there seemed to be the ribs of some Lovecraftian World Devourer piled on the plate. We ate and had good talk and photos were taken.

Back to the ConSuite and more talk. I was too tired and needed a bit of refreshing, so I went to the room and turned on the TV. *The Simpsons* happened to be on, so I watched two episodes and was refreshed enough to go back for another hour, and then ended up returning to my room for sleep around midnight.

Monday is the roughest day. The con is over, only a few folks are left, and everyone is pretty damn tired. I found Hope Leibowitz and Art Widner and Ian Sorensen and Yvonne Rouse and Spike and we sat in the lobby until the shuttle came and I was whisked off to my flight.

I love CorFlu. I'll be back in 2008 and I'm starting to think of little things that CorFlu 28 in San Jose (or maybe Half Moon Bay...) will feature.

Pirate Ship *Royaliste* Runs Aground

By Claire Britton-Warren
Contributing Writer

On Friday January 26, the tall ship *Royaliste* (a historic gaff-rigged ketch) went aground. She was making an inland waterway voyage from Georgia to her new home with a maritime museum in North Carolina when the accident occurred.



***Royaliste* in San Francisco**

Photo Courtesy Claire Britton-Warren

Prior to this accident, *Royaliste* was a well-known sight on the San Francisco Bay, crewed by fully costumed pirates who delighted in mock battles with other boats and hamming it up for crowds on shore.

On the afternoon of the 26th, the crew was preparing to dock for the night in Little River, South Carolina, at a harbor they had visited before without difficulty.

The charts indicated the harbor had a 10' depth at low tide, so there should have been plenty of clearance for *Royaliste's* 6'-6" draft. But as they made their approach, the depth dropped suddenly, from 14' to 4'. Despite the best efforts of everyone aboard, they went aground in the soft sediment on the bottom.



***Royaliste* Aground**

Photo Courtesy Claire Britton-Warren

Initial attempts to free her failed, and as the tide began to recede, the crew kept her balanced upright on her keel with their own body weight. A vessel came to their aid, hoping to free them, but as a member of the vessel's crew stepped aboard, the weight of that single footstep offset her precarious balance and she fell over on her starboard

side, with all crew aboard.

The situation quickly went from bad to worse. Water flooded the interior of the *Royaliste*, submerging (and consequently damaging) her engines, electrical system and all of the personal possessions of the crew aboard. The crew all escaped safely, including the ship's two parrots and a dog. Not until the following Tuesday were they able to get the *Royaliste* righted and floated to a safe boatyard. Until then, brazen looters were scavenging on her even in broad daylight! The looters got all of her fancy fenders, some of the nicer sheets and an unknown amount of stuff from inside. In addition to the damage from the looters, someone was taking pot shots at her. Bullet holes were found in the hull! Some of the items aboard were washed downstream as well and it's uncertain what may be simply missing or stolen. Luckily all of the antique swords were recovered safely and none of the cannons were taken.

She's had some damage, one of her taff rails (railings with fancy turned spindles) is gone, the mizzen boom (boom at the foot of the back sail) snapped and she's taking on a bit of water, but that's certainly to be expected with all the shifting she's been through. Her bilge pumps were working fine so as she took on water, she was able to pump it out.

One week following the grounding, after being flushed several times, the engine started! That was very good news because it meant they can motor the 40 miles they have to go to haul out rather than being towed. The local haul-out places won't haul wooden boats.

Gary and Kathy Bergman, the owners/captains, lived aboard full-time and have lost nearly everything that was aboard. Gary and Kathy are faced with the tremendous financial burden. In addition to the initial recovery of the ship, they will be faced with haul-out costs, repair and replacement costs, not to mention the costs

of hotel rooms, clothing and personal care items.

The *Royaliste* operates as a non-profit and she desperately needs the assistance of everyone who can make a donation to help with her recovery. Donations can be made through the Privateer Inc. website support page. The PayPal link is up and can be accessed here: <http://www.privateerinc.org/support.cfm>

News of the *Royaliste* is being kept up to date on the Tales of the Seven Seas website forum. Up to the minute information can be viewed here: <http://talesofthesevenseas.com/phpbb/viewtopic.php?p=9911>

You can also visit "Tales of the Seven Seas" on-line and meet our pirate reenactors at: <http://www.talesofthesevenseas.com>

BASFA Minutes: meeting 860

January 22, 2007

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

Began 8:05.

23 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 859 were accepted as 'kinda fuzzy.'

We established a party jar ... after much voting.

The Treasurer reported that last week we took in \$3.75 in the regular jar & \$9.75 in the party jar; plus that at meeting 858 we took in \$31.75 in the regular jar & \$25.75 in the party jar.

The VP reported that no one told him that Jerry Pournelle visited the Computer History Museum at some time in the past & there is no new 'Drink Tank' out yet & Mr. Frank Wu is against the notion of another Canadian Worldcon & there should be a

new SF/SF out Wednesday & he plans to write a very narrow review of FurCon.

The President reported that he was despondent that he did not view or tape the 1st episode of the new 'Harry Dresden' show on the SciFi Network and greeted our visitor, Rick Bretschneider to the club.

[tall] Kevin brought up that BASFA.org's domain needs to be renewed and that Michael Wallis is moving it off Network Solutions to a different registrar.

The AhwaneeCon committee reported that they spent the weekend at FurCon.

Announcements

Adrienne announced that the gather website has a novel contest for a 1st novel with a deadline of March 15.

Reviews:

Further Confusion was multiply reviewed - Chris reviewed it as Con-X-treme had a great room party & FurCon was the same as every other con he went to at the Doubletree - with slightly more tails, that he lost his badge, sat at a fan table, saw Furry Night Live & Conrad live and singing &

thought it worth the \$25 he paid for a 1-day membership; Andy mentioned the 'Drama Llama' & thought the con was quite good despite the [censored] & that Scott's Evil Petting Zoo was popular & the party was a hit and the Masquerade had a fair amount of chaos, but no more than usual & FNL was funny as hell & worth sponsor membership price just to get in the short line; [evil] Kevin reviewed taking part in FNL as great, worth full price but that the food at the Coffee Garden was vile & loathsome & sucked rocks - totally not acceptable & I reviewed FC as I survived, am Co-chair for FC '08 & the theme will be the 'Fur East,' so Orient yourself towards furry fandom & then [evil] Kevin follow-on'd that because of the theme they will have the 'Fiendish Party of Dr. Moo Manchu'; then Lisa reviewed FC as she sat the CostumeCon fan table, that her food wasn't too bad, although the food service was brain dead & her son adored the Gaming room, that the Art Show was good & that both book sellers in the Dealer's Den were darned good. It was mentioned that there were 287 fursuiters in the parade & a membership total of 2064. Then Dave C reviewed FC as he was in Dealers the whole time & got food poisoning from the food & had very good sales - due to

Dr Who, Season 2 having just come out, plus he doubted many hetero males were at-con based on specific sales of items at his table & Trey reviewed FC as that everyone he saw seemed to be having a good time.

Dave G reviewed a Xena CreationCon he and Spring were at as jewelry sales were down, it was about 95% female & it wasn't worth the price of admission.

Harold reviewed the 'Dresden Files' as he enjoyed it & he will watch it again & it inspired him to buy one of the books & he

reviewed 'The Worst People in the World' as a good book & worth full price - with a discount.

Chris reviewed pop cultures associates various Top 5 lists as very nice.

Dave C reviewed the 'Dresden Files' as nice, but not very special & also reviewed a promo ad on KSJC that was full of puns as fun [and he prepaid for the puns].

Howeird reviewed the Playboy Fabulous 40's as it was full of nekkid ladies & he reviewed

a book - 'A Crack at the Edge of the World' by Simon Winchester as stunningly written & worth more than full price.

We auctioned off books for \$15.00; \$2.00, \$2.00, a catalog for \$10.00 & an abomination for \$1.75.

We adjourned at 9:42 pm.

And the rumor of the week was that 'Chris will be wrapped in plastic.'

BASFA Minutes: meeting 861

January 29, 2007

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

Began 8:00 as my 'gather' cantrip failed.

22 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting

860 were accepted as 'illegibly fuzzy.'

We established a party jar.

The Treasurer reported that last week we took in \$58.25 in the regular jar & \$17.75 in the party jar.

The VP reported "Hello!" and there are 2 new issues of 'Drink Tank' out - some copies delivered by his evil clone - & he loves Rachel Ray & a new SF/SF will be out Wednesday & next on the 14th & in May

he plans to start 'Drink Tank' podcasts.

The President had nothing fannish to report.

[evil] Kevin warned us that he plans to propose a new BASFA rule at the next BASFA meeting about establishing party jars.

The Party committee reported that there was a BASFA party Friday night at FurCon that was successful & took in \$11.30 in

donations.

The Harassing Michael Wallis committee reported that he is about to switch the BASFA domain to dreamhost.

The Sports Committee reported that the Giants play the Diamondbacks on the Friday before Westercon, June 29, 7 pm & suggested an outing if there was interest.

Adrienne reported back on exploring the possibility of us meeting at the Chicken Coop and sought input about questions to ask of their management.

Announcements

Joni & Garth have BayCon memberships they need to sell for either \$60 or will hand them over to someone who will buy them pre-registrations for Baycon '08 - contact baycon@inflammablecows.net.

[tall] Kevin announced that next Monday is the 1st of 3 weeks for doing Hugo nominations.

Chris announced that for his Drink Tank issue on hoaxes he is looking for submissions - really & in 2 weeks he will be the only non-archival owner of a DVD for 'Attack of the Brine Shrimp.'

Howeird announced that in some parts of the world Windows Vista has already been released; there were follow-ons, including Chris: "Go Vista!" [not Chris: "really. . .just go."]

Andy announced that next week at Carole's place will be the CostumeCon 26 meet and greet party.

Reviews:

Harold reviewed an IRS bulletin about taxes being due on April 17 this year as it annoys him & reviewed 'Venus' as a May/December 31st romance & worth bargain matinee, but was not worth getting stuck in a BART slowdown for.

Andy reviewed the AirTel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys as a dump, on final approach - going downhill - but that their room didn't leak & the food was better than last year but the service was awful and it was dump-tacular.

[evil] Kevin reviewed Anime LA as he spent most time running the cosplay contest - with 40 entries and 116 bodies - & they had a universally happy batch of attendees and contestants and worth full price but they won't be doing it next year; Andy follow-

on'd that the Dealers room was small and packed solid, if eclectic & they didn't get a chance to see much of the convention & that next year the con will be at the Burbank Marriott the week after New Years.

Chris reviewed the Sarah Jane adventures as very cute and he much enjoyed them & reviewed the A&E documentary about 'did the common cold come to Earth on an asteroid' as the worst ever! And not worth full price.

We auctioned off stuff: books for \$0.25, \$0.75, \$0.75; a book & DVD for \$2.00; a book and a conbook for \$0.50; a book and an apron for \$8.25, a magazine for \$0.75 & videos for \$5.00 & \$1.00.

We adjourned at 9:35 pm.

And the rumor of the week was that 'Someday Barbara will learn to read her own handwriting.'

BASFA Minutes: meeting 862

February 5, 2007

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

Began 8:00.

18 people attended.

We established a party jar.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 859 were accepted as 'kinda fuzzy.'

No Treasurer or treasurer's report.

No VP or VP report.

The President reminded us that this is the first of 3 nights to make Hugo nominations.

[evil] Kevin moved that a new club rule be that the presiding officer of the meeting must pause between calling the meeting to order and calling for officer's reports sufficiently long for a member to introduce a motion - and this passed.

Then Ed warned us that he intends to propose a new rule next week concerning establishing a party jar.

Art mentioned the site and mailing list were down last week and that it's a migration problem.

Announcements

Jim announced that long-time fan Keith Hanson was arrested last week.

Dave C announced that he has flyers for WonderCon, held in SF March 2-4.

[evil] Kevin announced that this Saturday is the CostumeCon 26 meet-and-greet party at Carole Parker's house & announced that on April 28 he and Andy will be table hosts for the GLAAD banquet and would like to sell at least 3 other tickets for \$300 each - and to check his LJ for further details.

Andy announced that 2 of the winners from Anime LA's cosplay were disqualified due to stupidity [one did not have a con membership and the other had purchased her costume].

Ken announced that KTEH wants to hear from the public and will have a public meeting Feb 15, Thursday at KTEH from 6-9 pm.

Reviews:

Harold reviewed 'Conservatives without Conscience' by John Dean as written by a distraught man upset by the current scheme, well-written and worth full price & reviewed watching the arrival of 'Boatzilla' as it's a pretty hotel with a hull & his complaint was that it moved too slowly [and didn't swamp any of the yachts pacing it] and was worth full price [there were follow-ons].

Eric reviewed the Superbowl Cirque du Soleil performance as the CBS coverage was wretched, Dave C commented it was as though the director was winging it & Dave also reviewed the halftime show as Prince totally kicked ass & [boring] Kevin reviewed the halftime as it must have been hazardous to perform in the rain.

I reviewed 'Kronk's New Groove' as a straight to DVD released flick that managed to still be amusing in parts and worth watching - worth maybe \$10-15; Trey also saw it and rated it as there were a few bright parts

but thought it worth \$4 tops and deserved being direct to video.

Andy reviewed staying home all weekend as it was worth full price and reviewed identifont.com as if you have a sample of a font you can usually find either that font or an extremely similar one & rates it as worth full price [free].

We adjourned at 9:05 pm.

And the rumor of the week was that 'Barbara's socks are made out of [evil] Kevin's hair.'

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.

Thursday, February 22

Beauty and the Beast (1946)

Castro Theatre
429 Castro Street
San Francisco
3 and 7 p.m.
\$9

Jean Cocteau's brooding, fascinating fantasy film is a long way from Disney. In French with subtitles; on a double bill with Bergman's *The Seventh Seal (1957)*.

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 CoverGrrlz, Sonic Vision planetarium show, new Comet Collision Mission (reservations required), and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Friday and Saturday, February 23-24

Midnight Special:
Monty Python and the Holy Grail (1975)
Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Saturday, February 24

Queen Elizabeth and the Pirate
Sequoia Lodge
2666 Mountain Boulevard
Oakland
7 p.m.-midnight
\$50.50
www.gbacg.org

The Greater Bay Area Costumers' Guild invites you to an Elizabethan banquet in honor of the infamous female Irish Pirate, Grace O'Malley. Period costume is required.

Sunday, February 25

Author: Scott Rosenberg
The Hillside Club
2286 Cedar Street
Berkeley
5 p.m.
Free
510-652-7914
The author talks about *Dreaming in Code: Two Dozen Programmers, Three Years, 4,732 Bugs, and One Quest for Transcendent Software*.

Sunday, February 25

Bad Movie Night:
Mortal Kombat (1995)
The Dark Room Theatre
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
8 p.m.
\$5
www.darkroomsf.com

Tuesday, February 27

Author: China Mieville
Booksmith
1644 Haight Street

San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
415-863-8688

Tuesday, February 27

Author: Leonard Susskind
Black Oak Books
1491 Shattuck Avenue

Berkeley

7 p.m.

Free

Sometimes called “the father of string theory,” physicist Susskind discusses his book *The Cosmic Landscape: String Theory and the Illusion of Intelligent Design*.

Tuesday, February 27

Flash Gordon (1980)

Castro Theatre

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

\$9

On a double bill with *Maximum Overdrive (1986)*.

Wednesday, February 28

Behind the Scenes of The Simpsons

Jewish Community Center

3200 California Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$18

415-292-1233

A talk by *The Simpsons* writer Joel Cohen.

Friday, March 2

Author: Elizabeth Moon

The Other Change of Hobbit

2020 Shattuck Avenue

Berkeley

6 p.m.

Free

www.otherchangeofhobbit.com

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

\$45

www.consonance.org

The annual Bay Area filk convention.

Friday-Sunday, March 2-4

The Twilight Zone: The Plays

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

Fri-Sat 8 p.m., Sun 3 p.m.

\$15

www.darkroomsf.com

Live stage adaptations of favorite *TZ* episodes return for a fourth season. Opening weekend features “On Thursday We Leave For Home” and “Steel.”

Saturday, March 3

Author: Elizabeth Moon

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Saturday, March 3

Author: Vicki Pettersson

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.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.

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**Sunday, March 4***Bad Movie Night: Jaws 3-D (1983)*

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$5

www.darkroomsf.com**Tuesday, March 6***Author: Nalo Hopkinson*

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

415-863-8688

Thursday, March 8*The Last Man on Earth (1964)*and *The Omega Man (1971)*

Preview Room

Variety Children's Charity

582 Market Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

Borderlands Books and Variety Children's Charity invite you to a double feature: two movies based on Richard Matheson's novel *I Am Legend*. Refreshments will be available for purchase, and your purchase supports Variety's efforts to aid disabled, disadvantaged, abused and neglected kids. Doors open at 6:30.

Thursday, March 8*Thrillville: Night of the Lepus (1972)*

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

9:15 p.m.

\$8

www.thrillville.com

With the Diamond Daggers live onstage.

Friday and Saturday, March 9-10*Midnight Special:**The Princess Bride (1987)*

Shattuck Cinemas

2230 Shattuck Ave.

Berkeley

\$8

www.landmarkafterdark.com**Friday-Sunday, March 9-11***The Twilight Zone: The Plays*

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

Fri-Sat 8 p.m., Sun 3 p.m.

\$15

www.darkroomsf.com

Live stage adaptations of favorite *TZ* episodes return for a fourth season. This weekend features "Button, Button" and "Five Characters In Search..."

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

ticket info at www.calaverascelticfaire.com

California's oldest and largest Celtic faire with music, dancers, archery, jousting, food and drink. Camping available onsite.

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.

Sunday, March 11

Bad Movie Night:

Friday the 13th Part III: 3-D (1982)

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$5

www.darkroomsf.com

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.

Thursday, March 15

Browncoat Night

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

9:15 p.m.

\$6

Three episodes of *Firefly* on the big screen.

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.

Friday-Sunday, March 16-18

The Twilight Zone: The Plays

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

Fri-Sat 8 p.m., Sun 3 p.m.

\$15

www.darkroomsf.com

Live stage adaptations of favorite *TZ* episodes return for a fourth season. This weekend features “Will The Real Martian Please Stand Up?” and “Take My Life...Please.”

Sunday, March 18

Bad Movie Night:

Amityville 3-D (1983)

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$5

www.darkroomsf.com

Thursday, March 22

Author: Kim Stanley Robinson

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

415-863-8688

Thursday, March 22

Thrillville: Creature Features Forever

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito

8 p.m.

\$10

www.thrillville.net

Thrillville’s special tribute to TV horror host Bob Wilkins includes a screening of *Attack of the Mushroom People* (1963) and guests including Bob himself, John Stanley, Mr. Lobo, and others.

Friday-Sunday, March 23-25

The Twilight Zone: The Plays

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

Fri-Sat 8 p.m., Sun 3 p.m.

\$15

www.darkroomsf.com

Live stage adaptations of favorite *TZ* episodes; final weekend features “Nothing in the Dark” and “The Hitchhiker.”

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

Saturday, March 24

Gilroy Bot Gauntlet
Hobby World
6901 Monterey Road
Gilroy
\$20 entry fee
www.calbugs.com
Robo combat in the flea weight, ant weight, and beetle weight classes. Weigh-ins at 10 a.m., fighting starts around noon.

Sunday, March 25

Bad Movie Night:

Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over (2003)
The Dark Room Theatre
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
8 p.m.
\$5
www.darkroomsf.com

Monday, March 26

Ask a Scientist:
The World's Most Fascinating Numbers
The Canvas Gallery
1200 9th Avenue
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
www.askascientistsf.com
Math professor and author Keith Devlin leads a tour of some of his favorite numbers.

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.

Friday and Saturday, April 13-14

Midnight Special:
Scary Movie (2000)
Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Saturday, April 14

Author: Jonathan Lethem
Moe's Books
2476 Telegraph Avenue
Berkeley
Time TBA

Free
www.telegraphbooks.com

Friday and Saturday, April 20-21

Midnight Special:
The Re-Animator (1985)
Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley
\$8

www.landmarkafterdark.com

Saturday-Sunday, April 21-22

APE (Alternative Press Expo)
Concourse Exhibition Center
620 7th Street
San Francisco
www.comic-con.org/apel/
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.com](http://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, Richard Hescoc, 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

Super-con

Oakland Convention Center

Oakland

\$20 (one-day pass \$15)

www.super-con.com

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

Saturday, June 23

Batlh Jaj: Klingon Day of Honor II

Chabot Space Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd.

Oakland

7-10 p.m.

www.ikvbloodlust.net/kalendar.htm

An evening of feasting, singing, and celebrating Klingon-style. 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.sfghosthunt.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.ussdefiance.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.