

Science Fiction/San Francisco

Issue 79
January 14, 2009
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San Francisco from the southwest

photo by Lucy Huntzinger

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Art credit:

Pages 2-3, 9 – Genevieve
Page 31 – Kate Kelton

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News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

NPR has started cutting corners and what's one of the areas where they cut? That's right, *News & Notes*, the place where I unconsciously stole the title for this regular column. Go figure. It doesn't help that it was the African-American affairs show and whenever NPR cuts, they always start with the niche shows.

Printed fanzines still exist, even with my continued calls for everyone to go eZining! I talked about the new *File 770* last issue (and it's on File770.com as well) and then a couple of days later, I got *Banana Wings*! Its new smaller size is very handy, and I don't think they much changed the typeface, which is good as some zines end up with very small type when they go A5 instead of A4 (or something like that).

Chunga released a new issue and it's really good too. Stu Shiffman talks Superman, there's a great article from Andy Hooper, and a marvelous letter section. It's one of the better fanzines in the world, at the moment. The cover, an Alison Scott, is a really good one. It got a very long LoC from me.

Joe Major also released another *Alexiad*, which is one of the better zines out there as well. I thought that the Forry tribute was nice from Johnny Carruthers, and his candy bar

reviews are some of the best out there. In many ways, *The Alexiad* and *The Drink Tank* are similar, including a truly diverse set of topics. In *The Drink Tank*, you'll find wrestling, scantily-clad women and discussions of lists, while you'll find World War I survivor stats, horse racing news and candy bar talk in *Alexiad*. You can see that the two are obviously related!

Nic Farey released another *This Here...* It's a really good zine and I think that Nic and I are

very much in the same headspace about a lot of things, not the least of which being our fondness for wrestling. *Beam* was one of the better zines of 2008 as well. Both are up on eFanzines.com.

The *Drink Tanks* put out recently include the Forry tribute issue (191) and 192 which features a Brianna and Frank Wu cover that's freakin' great. I've got great friends. It also features a couple of pieces from Genevieve, a wonderful artist. I got a full binder of her stuff and scanned a ton of it. It's just great!

There's a new CorFlu zine, *AmaZed and CorFluzed*. It's a progress report and a fanzine all in one. I'm going for sure and I'm very excited. It's sad that Earl Kemp probably won't be there, but it should still be too awesome to talk about! The Hotel Deca is a lovely spot for a small con.

eFanzines.com also featured a fine piece of zinery with Bill Wright's *Interstellar Ramjet Scoop*. Bill's a great guy and his zines are among the best out there. I first encountered them from the ANZAPA mailings when I was a member in 2006. It's a great APA, and if mailing wasn't so expensive, I'd still be a member. There's a good con report on Conflux, an Australian convention that happened the same weekend as SiliCon, and a continued bit of reporting on the Chinese milk contamination





have to wait until August 8th when the Hugo will be unveiled at the ceremony in Montreal. I've always wanted to enter the contest, but I think I'll wait until Australia because I've got a killer design concept.

I personally wanna say thanks to everyone who pitched in and helped Vera Nazarian save her house and make the repairs on the plumbing. It was a mitzvah, people, and I'm glad to say we did some good saving. It's moments like these that make me realize how lucky we fans can be when something terrible happens and we need not a helping hand, but a forest of helping hands to get us back on our feet.

I wanna give a shout-out to Mr. Miracle, John Hertz. If you haven't read his stuff on CollectingSF.com yet, you're missing out. It's good stuff and his recent piece on *Infinite Worlds* is really a good read.

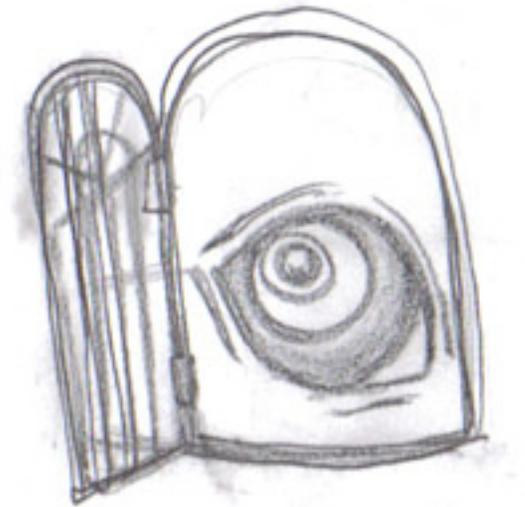
We lost Betty Page, and looking back at the year 2008, this one has been pretty rough when it comes to losing people who meant something to me, even if I didn't know them well. There were fans like Jack Speer and Forry, and we lost Arthur C. Clarke, Michael Crichton, Bob Wilkins and actors like Van Johnson and Heath Ledger. We also lost Vampira, Majel Barrett, and Betty Page. It was a bad year, but we've still got so many wonderful pieces of our history that we can look back on.

Early in the year cons are closer than you think. The first big BArea con is Further Confusion, the fourth weekend in January. I'm working the Creators Lounge and doing one panel on Furry resources on the net. No...I'm

not a furry, but when I ran Science Programming last year, I had to do a lot of research and I came across a lot of stuff that was helpful for furs and for those of us who aren't but want to find out more.

There's Potlatch at the end of February (chaired by our own Tom Becker, I believe!) [*no, thank Roscoe, I'm only doing publications - Tom*] and though I won't be there because of Cinequest, it should be an awesome event at the Domain Hotel in Sunnyvale. I wish I could be there.

It's also the same weekend as Wondercon up in San Francisco. I don't think I'll make that one either due to Cinequest. It's rough, this whole multiple worlds thing.



scandal. It's a good zine that might get overlooked.

Seattle artist Dave Howell won the Hugo Award design contest for the Montreal Worldcon. He gets a free membership and I think he gets to keep a copy for himself. We'll

Letters of Comment

And now, Mr. John Purcell!

Man! It has been a long time since I've locced this zine. That's what happens when life keeps you busy. Fortunately, it is now between semesters, so in the last week I have caught up on all of the paper zines I have received, thus it is now time to catch up on e-zines. Your latest effort is at the top of the list.

Chris Garcia replies: Paper zines take a lot longer for me to LoC, it seems, but I think I caught up last week myself.

I definitely agree with Chris: efanazines.com has been quite busy, and his assessment of *Steam Engine Time #9* is correct: this is indeed a wonderful fanzine. That is one of my next zines to loc and probably even review in an upcoming column in *VFW*. I think a column devoted to current sercon zines would be a nice touch; there aren't too many of those floating around — offhand, I can name *SET*, *Sense of Wonder Stories* (Rich Coad), Matthew Appleton's *Some Fantastic*, Bruce Gillespie's **brg**, and that's about all I can think of right now — so such a column might be a good idea. Naturally, any zine that boasts Ditmar covers on a regular basis gets a huge boost. Then the content of *SET* is consistently excellent and interesting, and I am not fond of sercon zines, which means that such a zine is a good one.

It's been a long time since we had Emerald City in that category too. Or Thought Experiments from Geneva Melzack. I love Ditmar's stuff. I haven't used any of his images

recently because I haven't created any of my issues on the iBook that has the content from the DVD he sent me! I have to fix that.

Well, how about that? You guys just spurred me to write a brief fanzine review for you. Don't get your hopes up for more, kiddies: Arnie Katz has me pegged for these in his zine. At least folks can say they saw it here in *SF/SF* first. Consider yourself lucky.

We managed to trick you into one, we can do it again! Fool you once, shame on me. Fool you twice, and I'll bet it'll work a third time!

Chris, if you ever do make a film about a Worldcon, it will be probably be just as frenetic as you are. I don't know if I could handle watching such a film, either. You would probably employ that hand-held camera technique used in *Blair Witch Project* and *Cloverfield*, two movies that I didn't like for this very reason. I kept wanting to grab the idiot holding the camera and shake him, yelling, "Hold that damn thing STILL!" Very annoying cinematographic technique; it gives me headaches. So this means it's a strong possibility that I wouldn't like a Chris Garcia produced Worldcon movie, which would be a shame. My suggestion: use a Steadicam. Otherwise I just might have to hurt Chris.

Yeah, it'd be a little jumpy, especially since both Mike Figgis and Lars Von Trier are my heroes!

A very nice remembrance and tribute to Forry Ackerman. Like I've written to you before and

others in the past couple weeks, I never met Forry, but his influence on fandom was simply monumental. This nuthouse we call Science Fiction Fandom would really not be possible — or would have assumed a vastly different shape — without him. Thank you for having Philip Gust write this, and have him do some more articles for you. His writing style is very readable.

You missed out on meeting a great guy. You really did. I like having Phil write for us. I need to get more out of him!

That "2008 in Retrospective" article was a good idea with good photos, especially that one labeled "Chris Garcia and Apostles." It actually should have been labeled "The Garcia-ditos, on Tour". Coming to a con near you!

I think Paul Israel, way over on the left hand side, looks the most authentic by far of all of us!

The two Loscon reviews were fun, but I have no real comment to make except that these two different perspectives put the con into, well, different perspectives. Nice touch.

Yeah, well, I always try and go for the left field, you know!

With that, I shall bid adieu and no trump. Have a happy holiday season, and look for the next *Askance* in early January, 2009!

All the best, John Purcell

Thanks, John! I can't wait for your next issue!

Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor

2009... can you believe it? Here we are entering into a new year. When I was a young girl, 2009 seemed to be associated with futuristic science fiction settings. Yes, we've made leaps and bounds in the technology arena. The information revolution brought about by the Internet has changed our lives dramatically. Most of us are now connected to the Web all day and all night. It seems the only time I'm not online is when I'm asleep. I do practically all my shopping on my computer. Even when traveling, I have my laptop in tow and am constantly connected with people via email and social networking sites.

Which makes it more important, I think, to consciously disconnect and go inwards once in a while. It's hard to hear one's inner voice with the cacophony of the outside world always trying to get one's attention. There are so many fun things to do, and I know this is a good problem, but oftentimes I get stressed out trying to decide which events to go to.

I encountered this problem for Boxing Day, December 26th, when both the Legion of Rassilon and the Browncoats scheduled holiday parties. The Legion of Rassilon was going to show the latest *Doctor Who* Christmas special in San Jose while the Browncoats were having a potluck dinner and gift exchange at a Tiki bar in Oakland. Now if San Jose and Oakland were a little closer

geographically, I could have managed to go to both. However, they are not. So I had to choose the Browncoat shindig because I had more friends going to that one and I could watch the *Doctor Who* Christmas special on my own some other time.

Anyway, back to going inward... being an introvert, this is specifically urgent and important to me. It seems like since my divorce four years ago, it's been go, go, go. It's been difficult maintaining my balance and getting grounded, especially juggling two relationships in the intervening years. Well, I've decided to just take care of myself for a while until I feel like I'm in control of my own life again. So it's back to basics starting with eating well, getting enough sleep and exercise, and connecting to my spirituality.

So instead of going to a ball, a show or a sci fi event for New Year's Eve, all of which I have done a lot of and can do more of in the new year, I decided to go on a yoga retreat at Mount Madonna in Watsonville. Most Westerners equate yoga only with the poses and do them for exercise. But yoga is more than that. The retreat promised to include meditation and chanting and eating vegan organic food. What a great way to start the new year, I thought!

Unfortunately, I got felled by a cold at the Browncoat Boxing Day party and I came home feeling terrible. The cold got worse and turned

into a sinus infection pretty quickly. Instead of going on the retreat, I wound up at home in bed. I suppose that also served the purpose of going inward. I didn't venture out of my apartment for over a week except for going to the doctor. But being sick isn't exactly the way I wanted to start the year.

I was hoping to at least do something for New Year's Eve and looked at all the events and invitations I received for that evening. There were several I was interested in but I still wasn't feeling any better so I decided to just stay home alone. As I watched the countdown and the ball drop in Times Square on TV, I felt a little lonely and wished I had someone special to kiss at midnight. However, I reminded myself of the good things in my life that I was grateful for, and even though I was sick and alone, I felt pretty good about myself and where I am in life, and with my decision to just be by myself and take care of me for the foreseeable future. And although that was the first time I've ever been on my own on New Year's Eve in my whole entire life, I felt the strong presence of my own energy as well as my connection to other people and the whole world.

Ironically, that was the feeling I was hoping to get from the expensive retreat I was planning on going to. Other than losing the deposit I put in, staying home accomplished the same thing for free!

Also, what helped me was listening to music that made me feel happy and good. And I watched several movies and television shows on DVD and on the Internet (Hulu, iTunes, Netflix On Demand, etc.). Not surprisingly, most of them were science fiction, historicals and fantasy.

I've been watching a lot of old movies lately and decided to catch up with some science fiction classics I'd never seen. I watched the original *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, *Forbidden Planet* and *Time After Time*. The first was very simple but had a powerful message, the second had groundbreaking special effects and visuals, which still look good today. I prefer science fiction like this that makes you think and that focuses on the story, characters and moral lesson, rather than special effects extravaganzas with weak plots and two-dimensional characters. The latter is one I found on Netflix. It was fun to see that it was filmed in San Francisco and had Steampunk elements. Filmed and set in the 70s, it stars Malcolm McDowell as H.G. Wells and Jack Warner as Jack the Ripper. Jack travels in time using Wells's time machine and Wells follows him to bring him to justice. There were several scenes at the Exploratorium, and coincidentally, I saw a post by one of my PEERS/Facebook friends saying that there was going to be a Victorian/Steampunk photo shoot at the Exploratorium on the afternoon of New Year's Eve. Unfortunately, I was still not feeling well and couldn't make it.

Other movies I saw were the historical high seas adventures *Captain Blood* with Errol Flynn and *Captain Horatio Hornblower; R.N.* with Gregory Peck. I'd never seen an Errol Flynn

movie before and now I see why he's such a screen legend. He shines on the screen and his brave and honorable pirate exploits are exciting and romantic. Gregory Peck is one of my favorite classic actors and he looked great in a British naval uniform. The story begins when Hornblower is older and the captain of his own ship during the Napoleonic Wars. It was nice to see Hornblower's story later in life, after the stories shown in the more recent and critically acclaimed BBC Horatio Hornblower miniseries, which ranks among my favorite shows of all time.

My non-nerd sister, of all people, told me about the *Legend of the Seeker* TV series based on Terry Goodkind's *Sword of Truth* novels. I don't know why no one in fandom has told me about this series. Also, I was missing *Xena* (another one of my all-time favorites) recently and was sad that there isn't anything like that on TV anymore. Well, ask and you shall receive. *Legend of the Seeker* is by the creators of *Xena*: Sam Raimi (who I thought had moved on to big Hollywood blockbusters after the *Spiderman* movies) and Rob Tapert (Lucy Lawless's husband). *Legend* is more serious and not campy at all, but it has the same look and feel of *Hercules* and *Xena*. It's filmed in New Zealand, it's heartwarming and explores human values as the characters move from town to town righting wrongs and fighting evil. The costumes are fun and there are lots of magic and stylized fight scenes. I hope it does well but it's worrying that no one's really heard about it and I'm not hearing any buzz about it at all. I hope it doesn't get canceled mid-season like the modern vampire crime show *Moonlight*, another recent TV series I

liked, and which also featured a good-looking Australian lead actor.

Looking ahead into the early part of 2009, I already see several interesting events on the horizon. There's the PEERS Twelfth Night Ball and the Edwardian Ball weekend in January, and WonderCon and Gallifrey One (the *Doctor Who* convention in Los Angeles) in February.

The first three I've already covered in *SF/SF* in the past, and I'm sure other future 2009 activities have already been featured as well. The fourth anniversary of *SF/SF* is coming up soon, and so we've probably written up the same things several times these past four years.

I'm wondering if readers get tired of reading about the same thing. But then, every media outlet does this. I suppose it's slightly different each time, and if it's exciting for me to participate and cover these events each year — and for others too — then I think it'll be interesting to our readers all over again.

I'll probably cut down on traveling in 2009 to save money, but then again, I very rarely go out of town for cons. I did commit to and am eager to go to Gallifrey One for the first time. It's their 20th anniversary so it should be great. And as of this writing, I'm still planning on going to Anticipation/Worldcon in Montreal. I've never been to that city and am looking forward to checking it out and also going to my first ever Worldcon.

I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday. And I wish everyone the best in the new year. May it be a good one for me and all of fandom.

The First Lady of Trek Boldly Goes

By Jean Martin
Editor

I am sad to report that another sci fi icon has passed away. Majel Barrett Roddenberry, the widow of *Star Trek* creator Gene Roddenberry and a member of the show's cast, died of leukemia December 18th at the age of 76.

She played roles in nearly every *Star Trek* television show and movie, playing Nurse



Nurse Chapel

photo credit Roddenberry Archives

Chapel in the original series and lending her voice to the Enterprise's computer in nearly every incarnation of the franchise. She will also be the voice of the famous starship in the J.J. Abrams-directed *Star Trek* movie due out in May 2009.

After Gene Roddenberry's death in 1991, Majel carried on the legacy of her husband, whom she married in 1969 after the original series was canceled. She appreciated the fans and attended several conventions. She also was the executive producer for two other TV science fiction series created by her husband, *Andromeda* and *Earth: Final Conflict*.

To me, however, she will always be Lwaxana Troi, the flamboyant mother of Deanna Troi on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. I loved her exuberance, defiance of convention, and assertiveness. She was the perfect comic foil with Captain Picard. She was intrusive into her daughter's life and flirted annoyingly with the captain, but she was delightful, captivating and hilarious. She breathed life and color into the normally staid



Majel Barrett Roddenberry and Gene Roddenberry

photo credit Roddenberry Archives

Enterprise. I looked forward to every episode she graced.

Star Trek has always been at the forefront of having women as major characters and portraying them as individuals with their own unique personalities — not just the cookie-cutter stereotypes we normally see in TV and movies. Lwaxana definitely will always be one of the most memorable and I'm certain that Majel herself will never be forgotten.

Bob Wilkins: 1932-2009

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

Bob Wilkins was the legendary Bay Area Horror Host. Taking nothing away from John Stanley, the *Creature Features* host I best remember, Bob Wilkins was the most recognizable face when it came to monster movies in the BArea during the 1970s. In recent years, the rise of Mr. Lobo and *Cinema Insomnia*, along with Bob's appearances at WonderCon and other film events, have led another generation to understanding the wonder that was Bob Wilkins. He also served as the face of Alzheimer's when it came out that he was afflicted with the disease. He served as a rallying point for those who wanted to raise funds to fight that terrible disease.

Bob Wilkins was born in Indiana, but it was after leaving a copywriting job with an advertising firm to come out to Sacramento in 1963 that he started his journey into the hearts of film fans. John landed a job with KCRA, the NBC affiliate in Sacramento, and after impressing station management with a five minute off-the-cuff speech at a co-worker's going-away party, he was offered the chance to host a series of old horror films on late night TV. In 1966, Bob hosted his first horror film on TV: *Attack of the Mushroom People*. He came up with a few bits, including using a *TV Guide* to tell viewers what was on other channels

because this movie was so terrible. It was a classic piece of Wilkins delivery.

He gained a following over the years. He would show films from the KCRA library and shorts that were sent in by amateur filmmakers from all over. Where Bob really shined was in his interviews with guests. Over the years, he had some strange interviews, but also some guests like Vincent Price and Christopher Lee. In 1970, KCRA cancelled his show and Bob moved on to Channel 40, KXTL, where he would do *The Bob Wilkins Horror Show* (also called *Bob Wilkins Double Horror*) until 1981. Just a year or so after he started with Channel 40, KTVU in San Francisco came calling, offering him a spot on Channel 2. He accepted the offer since he was only part-time in Sacramento. He's take a bus down from Sacramento to the Oakland studios of KTVU.

KTVU was something of an independent powerhouse at the time. They had powerful clearance around these parts and had several successful programs that they produced in-house, including roller derby and National All-Star Wrestling which drew big numbers. *Creature Features* debuted in 1971 and quickly became one of the staple shows of the channel. Along with Pat McCarrick, Wilkins became one of the most recognizable faces of KTVU. Bob continued doing *Creature Features* on

KTVU until 1979, when John Stanley took over the reins and continued the show until 1984.

During Bob's time doing *Creature Features*, he interviewed many great people, including Forrest J. Ackerman and one of the final interviews ever done with Boris Karloff. His style was perfect for connecting with an audience that loved the subject matter, which made him a favorite of fans living in the BArea. Many first heard about science fiction fandom through *Creature Features*. One of the reasons there are so many connections between BArea film fandom and BArea SF fandom is that Bob drew them both in with *Creature Features*.

Bob would also host *Captain Cosmic and His Wonder Robot 2T2*. I remember that show vividly from my early years. It was fun stuff and it was my first exposure to any of the Japanese stuff that was coming out this way.

Bob left KTVU and went back into advertising. He left an indelible mark not only on his fans with the hours of joy he brought them, including folks like George Lucas, but also by bringing people in and making them fixtures. John Stanley was the first, but there were many others, including KTVU film critic Bob Shaw.

Bob Wilkins will be missed. I'll always remember the cigar he'd smoke and the rocking chair. These are the images of my youth that I'll always hold on to.

Bob Wilkins's Television History

KCRA Channel 3 Sacramento – *Seven Arts Theater/Bob Wilkins Seven Arts Theater*

- Time slot: Saturday nights starting at 11:00 p.m. and after (1966 – 1970)
- First show date: September 10, 1966 (11:00 p.m.) (Verified from library microfiche)
- Movie: *Attack of the Mushroom People* (Verified from library microfiche)
- Last show date: March 14, 1970 (11:30 p.m.) (Verified from library microfiche)
- Movie: *Dr. Orloff's Monster* (Verified from library microfiche)

KXTL Channel 40 Sacramento - *Bob Wilkins Horror Show/Bob Wilkins Double Horror*

- Time slot: Saturday nights starting at various times 10:00 p.m. and after (1970-1981)
- First show date: 1970 (Moved from KCRA 3) (Month & day needs research)
- Movie: Not known at this time (Needs additional research)
- Last show date: 1981 (Verified from tape of last show)
- Movie: *Dracula: Prince of Darkness* (Verified from tape of last show)

KTVU Channel 2 Oakland/San Francisco - *Creature Features*

- Time slots: Saturday nights starting at various times 8:00 p.m. and after

(1971-1979) , Friday nights at 11:00 p.m. (1976 – 1979)

- First show date: January 9, 1971 (9:30 p.m.) (Verified from library microfiche)
- Movie: *Horror of Party Beach* (Verified from library microfiche)
- Last show date: February 24, 1979 (Verified from tape of last show)
- Movie: *Dr. Jekyll and Sister Hyde* (Verified from tape of last show)

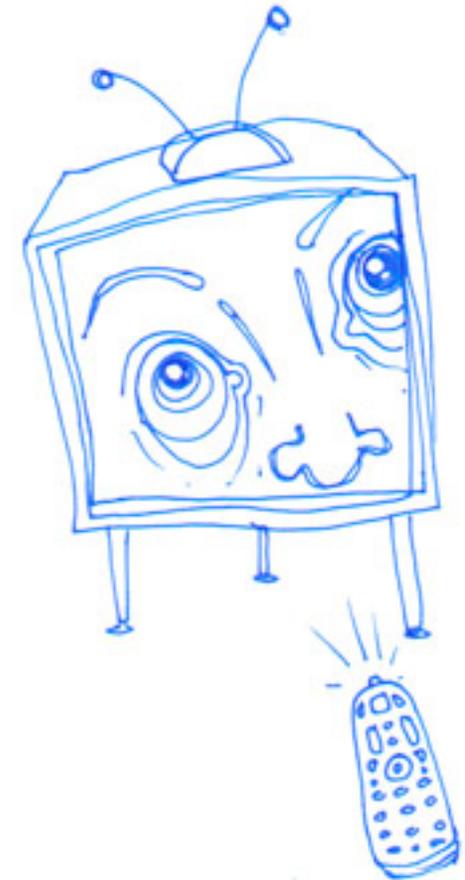
KTVU Channel 2 Oakland/San Francisco - *Captain Cosmic & 2T2*

- Time slots: Monday through Friday 5:00 p.m. (1977 – 1979), Monday through Friday 4:30 p.m. (1979 – 1980)
- First show date: 1977 (Month & day needs research)
- Last show date: January 18, 1980 (Verified from tape of last show)

KTVU Channel 2 Oakland/San Francisco - *Creature Features with John Stanley*

- Time slot: Saturday nights at 11:00 p.m. & 11:30 p.m. (1979 – 1984)
- First show date: March 3, 1979 (Verified from John's files)
- Last show date: September 1, 1984 (Verified from tape of last show)
- Movie: *Lemora, the Lady Dracula* (Verified from tape of last show)

(We'd like to thank John Stanley for very kindly providing all this wonderful information.)



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

Christmas Victorian Style

By Jean Martin

Editor

Over a decade ago, I visited the Great Dickens Christmas Fair for the first time when it was still at San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf. I don't remember much of it other than the labyrinthine and claustrophobic halls. I liked it a lot considering I love Charles Dickens novels and especially *A Christmas Carol*. I was even in a school play portraying the Ghost of Christmas Past a while back.

I also love the Victorian era. My favorite memory of that one time was Fezziwig's Dance Party. Watching the participants in Victorian garb made me feel like Ebenezer Scrooge being shown his past. It felt like I truly stepped back in time with the orange glow of firelight and the dancers spinning around the ballroom. I had some background in waltz before then but I was too shy to try it out. I really would have loved to though.

I didn't get to visit the Fair again until just a few years ago when it relocated to the Cow Palace. And interestingly enough, Fezziwig's again caught my attention. But I enjoyed the new location more with its wider hallways and with so many vendors and entertainment all laid out nicely. I've been coming back every year since. This year, it felt even more spacious even though there were lots of people in attendance.



Jean and Arielle

photo courtesy Jean Martin

I usually only go once a year because I tend not to like doing things again. I have a lot of other things I'm interested in doing and going just once makes things more special; it's something I look forward to every year. Also, I've tended in the past to get sick after Dickens Fair, especially when I've gone in costume. A lot of people in an enclosed area where you have hand-to-hand contact while dancing, right at the start of the cold and flu season, is quite a recipe for disaster.

However, this year, the first two weeks of the Fair were quite warm and sunny. I had so much fun the first day I went, on November 29th, and didn't get around to doing a lot of things, especially dancing, that I wanted to do. So when my friend Maimone gave me a complimentary ticket, I went again on December 6th.

I have a lot of friends who work the Fair, and sometimes I think I would love to work the Fair to make more friends, become closer to people and become part of the community of Dickens Fair folk, but I just don't have the time and energy. Also, I like to just wander around on my own, do what I want to do and not have a set schedule. I like to just enjoy it without having it turn into work.

The first day I went was the day that the Browncoats, the *Firefly* fan group, were planning on going. There were even some L.A. Browncoats who came in for the occasion. It also turned out to be the day when my friends Christina and Jeff, whom I usually go to Dickens Fair with, were going as well. So it felt like I had friends all over the place, participants as well as attendees. I also ran into several Facebook friends whom I've gotten to know more via that social network. I feel like Facebook has made fandom an even more connected community.

That first Saturday was packed but as I mentioned, the hallways seemed wider this year. There were a lot of people at the concession stands but I was determined to have a vegetable pastie with gravy for lunch and so I waited in line.

After that, I checked out the Adventurer's Club where I recognized several of my PEERS (Period Events and Entertainments Re-creation

Society) compatriots as well as the famous band leader Lee Presson who was dressed as Edgar Allan Poe.

The Legion Fantastique room was impressive as always with their Steampunk costumes and outfits based on Jules Verne novels. And the ever-popular Dark Garden window is always a crowd pleaser. I'm always intrigued at how many different themes the

models come up with in their Victorian corsets and undergarments. It's also astounding how they can hold the poses for several minutes at a time!

I then ran into my co-worker Kitty who works at the Fair, as well as several sci fi convention friends. It still amazes me that there's so much overlap within the historical and sci fi realms. Christopher, Bonnie, Thomas, Merv, Judith, Maurine, Stacy and Tracy were all there in wonderful Victorian attire. Dr. Noe was there as well and told me he was working the Fair for the first time this year.

I checked out the vendors who sold everything from Victorian costumes to housewares and decorative items to fanciful wands and accessories. I didn't buy anything because I didn't want to carry anything around and I was wearing full Victorian regalia for the first time at Dickens — a beautiful striped red and blue satin confection complete with hoop skirt that I got a lot of compliments on. So I didn't want to try any clothes on, but I enjoyed browsing. Some of the items you can't find on sale anywhere, other than maybe at Renaissance Faires and eBay, of course. But the way they're presented, like they would have been in Victorian England, is part of the time travel-like experience.

Maimone was doing a Mystery Tour in which he acted out a detective story that hit several attractions at the Fair. Playing the character of Inspector Pierce, he led his audience around following clues and interacting with actors. I caught the third, and final, act of his tour, which involved him rescuing the lady



La Legion Fantastique

photo by Diane Rooney

in distress (Artemisia) and a magical goblet from the evil and elegant mastermind (Quinn) and his henchman (Nathan). It was quite entertaining.

After that, we lined up to get into the Victoria and Albert Music Hall to watch the 18-and-over-only Naughty French Postcards show. I saw this show for the first time last year and I thought it was okay. I thought seeing it once was good enough, but I knew some people in the cast this year and everyone else wanted to see it so I went along. I liked the show better this year because they did a “Panto” based on fairy tales.

Immediately after the show finished, my friends and I tried to catch some dancing before the place closed down. Then it was, sadly, time for singing the Hallelujah Chorus in four-part harmony and caroling as guests were ushered out into the real world again.

Luckily, the evening wasn't over for me as there was a Browncoat cookie party at Nicole's house in the city. We baked lots of multi-colored cookies of different shapes, sizes and flavors, and we painted some of them too. The more creative people decorated cookies like the spaceship *Serenity* and the character Jayne from *Firefly*, a Cylon base star from *Battlestar Galactica*, and a *Doctor Who* “Bad Wolf” sign. Sometime during the evening we even had a short dance class courtesy of Arielle and sang along to the soundtrack of *Doctor Horrible*. You gotta love the Browncoats.

I was excited, but also anxious, when I went back for the second time on December 6th. I had had a great time the weekend before and I

was wondering if I could equal or even top that experience. Well, I did. And I got more dancing in the second time around too.

This time, I went with my Browncoat friend Louise. I wore a pink satin Victorian day dress — again with a hoop skirt. I almost didn't wear a hoop skirt as I had trouble sitting and various other things with one on, but I figured where else can I wear this type of outfit (other than at PEERS and Gaskells), and so I did. It was nice to be part of the costumed throng.

I felt more relaxed because I didn't feel overwhelmed with the urge to see everything and check everything out like I did the first time. I just went to see the shows and attractions I hadn't seen or fully enjoyed previously.

Louise and I walked in just in time to see the Christmas Past scene from *A Christmas Carol* being re-enacted at Fezziwig's with Belle (Ariyana), a young Scrooge, the Ghost of Christmas Past and the older Scrooge. Then I went to a tarot card reader who had a mystical and elaborate tent. She told me that I'm at a crossroads and am at the beginning of something big and good that will make me happy and successful. But she told me that I would need to be true to myself and follow my heart and mind, and to follow my passions. Quite general but good advice nonetheless. And I do feel that that's where I am at the moment in my life anyway.

I grabbed a delicious vegetarian Indian meal at a booth next to the belly dance stage.



Queen Victoria with the GBACG Costume Winners

photo by Jean Martin

After that, I was again just in time to see Inspector Pierce's Mystery Tour Act 2. I seem to watch things in reverse order these days. Act 2 was more involved and included a nice dialogue with the Artful Dodger from *Oliver Twist*, one of my favorite novels.

Then Louise and I stopped to watch some spontaneous polka by Jesse and his partner to the music of some fiddle players who just happened to be playing under one of the street lamps.

I knew the GBACG (Greater Bay Area Costumer's Guild) were having a costume contest but no one seemed to know where it was going to be held. I walked around and luckily found it at the London Docks stage right before they were to announce the winners. It seemed there was a delay for some reason and the Coventry Carolers entertained the crowd with a couple of songs.

And then, Queen Victoria (Laurie), Prince Albert (Gregory) and the Queen's court arrived. That was who we were all waiting for. Her Majesty and her consort went up to the stage and she handed out the awards. There were a lot of beautiful costumes and I'm sure it was hard for the judges to pick the winners. I ran into my friend Diane who's also a GBACG member and who occasionally writes for *SF/SF*.

The highlight of the afternoon was tea at Cuthbert's Tea Parlour. It's nigh impossible to get reservations for afternoon tea at Cuthbert's. We couldn't go the weekend prior because there were no reservations left. Reservations need to be made as soon as the gates open,

which I think favors those who have friends who work the Fair. That's how we got in this time. I had a lovely tea with my Browncoat friends Arielle and Louise. Arielle was working the Fair for the first time this year. It's interesting how she went from being in the sci fi world to the historical dance world, whereas I went in the opposite direction. Arielle was talking to us in her Fair British accent, which encouraged Louise and me to talk similarly but not quite. I have to be less inhibited and just try to do an accent in future. We had delicious

English sandwiches, scones and crumpets... and tea, of course.

Then Louise and I went to Mad Sal's Dockside Alehouse for Mad Sal's Music Hall Extravaganza, which included all the acts who performed at the hall throughout the day. It also featured Le Can Can Bijou. I got to see the Paddy West, the Lady's Oratorical & Recreation Society, Brass Farthing, and various other singers singing bawdy and saucy Victorian tunes. Then came Le Can Can Bijou, which I enjoyed. The Can Can dancers were



Le Can Can Bijou

photo by Jean Martin

wearing colorful costumes and they were very good. I knew that Sam, who's also part of PEERS, was part of the group, but I had not known that quiet and calm Joe Price whom I hang out with at sci fi cons, was in it too. He was very good at twirling the dancers and doing splits himself.

Louise, Maimone and I rushed to Fezziwig's to dance after the Can Can was over. We all wanted to dance before the Fair closed. I got to dance more this time and ran into my dance friend Kim and my sci fi friend Christopher who was dressed as the Fourth Doctor complete with the long scarf and sonic screwdriver. I got to dance with the Doctor and even ended the evening with him for the final waltz.

Then it was again time for the finale of singing the Hallelujah Chorus and the Fezziwigger's (several of whom are PEERS organizers and members) caroling us out into the cold night air.

None of us wanted the evening to end and so some of us went to Palo Alto for Italian food and then to the University Café for hot chocolate. What a wonderful way to spend the Holidays. Food, dancing, music, costuming, history, literature and sci fi... and great friends to share it all with.

For more information, visit: www.dickensfair.com



Jean, the Doctor and Louise

photo courtesy Jean Martin

This Old Fanzine: ODD #15 (1967)

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

Some fanzines are really good. There are some that really turn the corner and make you realize that there was a world of zines that just don't seem to exist anymore and that the role of the fan artist has, in many zines, taken a step towards the back. *ODD* made me realize that.

It opens with a great Jack Gaughan. That guy was awesome and he was all over the place back in the day. I guess that would explain why he won the first Best Fan Artist Hugo.

There's just so much great art in the issue it's impossible to say what's the best of it all. Tony Urie did a brutally appropriate to any time of war cartoon showing a wounded Marine leaning on the knee of another who tells him, "This is gonna be a hulluva way to work your way through college." The fact that the zine came out in 1967, during the height of Vietnam, makes it even more powerful.

Raymond D. Fisher was the co-editor along with Joyce Fisher (today known as Joyce Katz). His

editorial is great and hosts two wonderful Urie cartoons. It's a good thing and I'm hoping that I can read Fisher stuff, which I guess means I gotta read a lot more issues of *ODD*.

M. Rhodes is credited as doing a lovely full page piece of a woman in a coffin-looking enclosure under the sea to accompany Joyce's poem *Atlanteas*. As many who read *The Drink Tank* will know, poetry is something that doesn't often hit me, but this was a good piece and the fine work of art with it is exceptional. It worked so beautifully and the length of the poem certainly played well. It was a wonderful package, the art and poem together.

M. Rhodes also puts out a fine piece to follow the poem which makes an excellent bookend for it. I'd say as a package, the entire piece is an ideal presentation of material.

Paul Willis gives a nice piece as well for page 12, which shows how integral the art was to the issue as a whole. Three of the 5



pages between 8 and 12 were full page artworks. You don't see nearly that dedication to art anymore. In *The Drink Tank*, only the issues dedicated to art or artists give anywhere near this sort of coverage. The Willis piece is certainly of the late 1960s, as it has all the markings of such, including a certain 1940s reference in a crawling machine/monster.

Why has Fan Art fallen from the level that *ODD* seemed to have elevated it to? Hard to say. The changing methods of reproduction might have something to do with it. I've never seen a zine so dedicated to art without it being a solely Fan Art zine (Brad Foster did a great one last year called *LoCs*) and it's odd to think that there are few zines that give this much focus, though it's certainly true that a lot of fan art is still run in zines. There's an importance given to it in *ODD* that seems to elevate it even beyond the writing in the issue, which is still really good.

There's a review of Ivan Yefremov's *Andromeda* that is pretty good, especially as it opens with a mention of one of the most significant science fiction collections of the 1960s, *Soviet Science Fiction* by Isaac Asimov. The review is solid, very insightful, and since I've only read part of the book, I can say that I agree with everything that Lyle Gaulling goes into. Bill Bowers does a nice little fillo that really lights up one of the pages. It's another example of using art as more than just a break. They used a fine Terry Jeeves illustration to

close out the article. It's a marvelous, strong set piece from Terry who is often a little bit looser and less etched into the work than he is here.

Jack Gaughan also appears with another full-page piece that is very good. You really just don't see as much of that today. Maybe page count has become more of a factor as art does eat up pages, but then why hasn't it come back into prominence when cost is less of a matter. Maybe it's that we just forgot how it once was, or maybe *ODD* was just the zine that put the Art at the front of the presentation.

There's a fine little comic book page from Dave Buck. There aren't a lot of those in fandom right now, including Dann Lopez's *Dork Knight* and *Figmo* in *Askance*.

I think Ray Nelson is one of the most unjustly forgotten fan artists in recent years. He's a Rotsler winner, but you seldom see his stuff anymore. In fact, I was bowled over when I saw a piece of his in one of Arnie's zines a few months ago. Here, he has a full page piece as well as a long and interesting story called Little Isadora. It's a slightly different piece, something that would still cause a slight bit of eyebrow raising even today. It's the story of why a young girl ran away from an abusive father, told in a very cold tone that is almost heartbreaking in its plain-faced realism. I've heard this story told once or twice, from friends who ended up on the wrong side of this or that. It's an interesting story that details drugs and art and life. Ray does some great art to go along

with it. This is the section that feels the most like the 1960s I've heard of.

Bob Tucker has a piece in the issue, and there is a very nice full page art piece from Ron Whittington. It's a very stylized sword the likes of which would be a fine LJ icon in these far-off times. There's a good essay on comets from Williams and a fine Bowers illo to go along with it. It's really amazing: even in the form that it's been scanned where pages are separated from one another, you still get a feeling of connection.

The piece from Richard Gordon called "England (Ob)Scene + Observed" is probably my personal fave in the entire issue. There's a certain wisdom in it that's missing from much fan writing. He bounces around, powerfully and well-spotted, and everything just hits with the force of a single piece of hail until you realize that it's a hailstorm and you're stuck out in it.

It finishes cool with a lettercol featuring names like Bloch, Avram Davidson, Harry Warner and Ray Nelson. It's a good one, long and thorough. The issue ends with a fine illustration of Merlin by Gaughan.

I don't think a zine like this would be anything other than a massive success. The concept, a zine where words might take a slight backseat to art, is a good one and one I'd like to see someone work it through. I'm not the guy to do it, but it could happen.

I would like people to cram stuff into my brain. Why is no one working on this issue? – Chris Garcia

Running with the Cosplay Kids at ALA5

By España Sheriff
Staff Writer

The trip to Anime Los Angeles 5 was a bit of a last-minute thing suggested by Leigh Ann Hildebrand shortly after LosCon. For a while the plan teetered on the edge of not happening at all until a few days before the con when things came together thanks in large part to Leo Schwab and Christian Maguire.

With Leigh Ann in the driver's seat we hit the road early Friday afternoon, stopping only

once along the way at Casa de Fruta — which was an exciting first for me. The rest of the drive was uneventful traffic-wise but quite entertaining/traumatizing musically. Since the car stereo didn't like the mp3 disks I had burned and Leigh Ann warned me she had mainly brought Indigo Girls albums, we went through the rest of our regular music first and quickly ran out of standard stuff. As we neared the LA area Leigh Ann put in a rock opera about the Odyssey.

Yeah, you read that right. Describing it is beyond my talents, so I will just let my favorite chorus sit in your brain: “We are Greeks; we will have cheese!”

You're welcome.

After that I was practically begging for the Indigo Girls, and intrigued by their only album Leigh Ann had that I had any idea about, their version of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Honestly, it was really good. It also became sort of the theme to our entire weekend, and probably beyond.

As we were arriving we called to check in with our lounge co-conspirator, Jason Schachat, to assure ourselves he would be making it to the con. He assured us he would and sure enough just about the time we got checked in and unpacked and were ready for dinner, he arrived at the hotel.

On Saturday there was some miscommunication as to the opening time for the Fanzine Lounge, but we got set up reasonably quickly considering how late the previous night's impromptu pajama party had run. (Still, totally worth it to wear my new blue jammies which everyone seemed to appreciate.) Thanks to the prime location the lounge was soon hoppin', particularly once Chaz settled in for a bit. The space was ideally suited for our kind of scene and someone thoughtfully provided a cute yet disturbing little teddy bear-

Photos by Jason Schachat



shaped seat from Ikea which the anime girls especially seemed quite taken with. Leigh Ann soon dubbed it the Training Bear, to the amusement, bafflement or horror of all depending on their age and inclination.

One of the highlights of Saturday was a visit by Rick Foss who entertained the kids with stories. The only downside was the room being a little on the small side and getting a little crowded, but anime kids are apparently quite happy to sit on the floor and don't mind queues, so after we put up a sign a polite line formed rapidly.

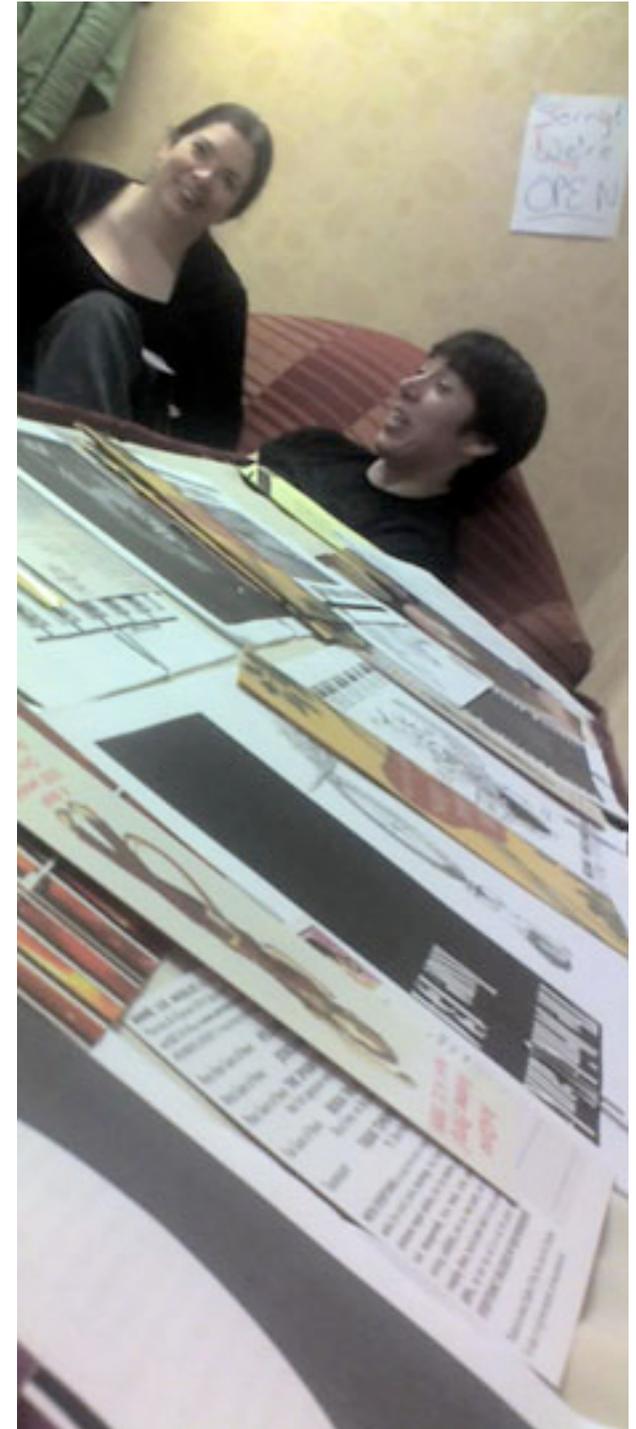
Outside in the rest of the con attendance looked good and to all appearances everything was running like clockwork. The first thing we all noticed was the truly excellent signage the convention had put up. In addition to large photos of cosplayers from previous years there were lots of very cute posters pointing the way to various places of interest and a rather amusing one warning those people wearing capes and cloaks to beware of the escalator. The other thing that stood out was the good energy and enthusiastic vibe of both staff and attendees. The membership is mostly young, high-spirited kids who are having a great time and their mood is definitely infectious. But even beyond that Chaz seems to have made an effort at maintaining a civil and approachable atmosphere for himself and his staff and succeeded at creating one of the most smooth and helpful con experiences I have encountered.

Of course there were tons of great costumes. My favorites, partly because they

were among the few I recognized, were a Raptor Jesus and a certain bear normally found over on 4chan, both internet memes made disturbing reality. I managed to wander the dealer's room and the artist alley a couple of times. Both were interesting and lively but still mysterious uncharted territory for me. The only failure for the day was the schedule at the hotel restaurant, which closed during lunchtime. We found out that the sports bar, Champions, also serves the hotel menu but it's not an ideal compromise since its walls are covered with multiple TV screens, probably twenty or so, often tuned to several different channels.

The big event for Saturday night was the Masquerade. There were twenty-something entries, some clearly very good even to someone almost entirely unfamiliar with the source material. Most of the entries had skits or choreography, and even some singing, which was generally superior to what I'm used to from sci fi convention masquerades. This is probably due to the anime crowd's emphasis on cosplay rather than our traditional costuming. Although I only recognized one person on stage, there were several familiar faces during the proceedings, including Tadao Tomomatsu as MC, Karisu judging and Richard Man handling photography.

After the Masquerade we got changed and settled in for some more lounging while the kids ran happily amok in the hallways and at the dance. Richard and Karisu dropped by when they got done with their masquerade duties and traffic was pretty constant.



At some point while I wasn't paying enough attention there were apparently some "special interest" hijinks. Again. The next day we dutifully added the newly minted rules to our ever expanding "No <insert offense here> in the Fanzine Lounge" list. *Someone* seems to consider these more of a challenge than a rule set, is all I'm saying. You know who you are. Tsk.



Done with all that excitement, we closed up and retired the party to our own room for a few more hours of slightly more grown-up plotting, recriminations and chants of "di di mao!"

On Sunday we decided to venture out to greener pastures for brunch and headed next door to the Sheraton. It was a good idea that will bear remembering for future conventions. Their restaurant was quiet and pleasant and while still a hotel menu with hotel menu prices they do have some interesting alternate choices. Back at the lounge we mostly just hung out, with people coming and going throughout the day including our dear, almost-but-not-quite-drinking-age Fanzine Lounge Fellow Traveler Wendy Newton and her sister Pearl, as well as guest appearances by Chaz, Christian, Tadao,

Joyce Hooper and various other familiar staff faces. As the afternoon wore on, we lingered as the convention was slowly dismantled around us and we were probably the last to go.

Although cell reception in the lobby areas seems to have gotten much better, in the con area below it is still practically non-existent. Since I was waiting for a call from my sister Ashley who was planning on dropping by in the evening, I had kept popping out to check my messages. Each time I did so there were fewer kids about and by the time she arrived it was pretty much all over but for staff and stragglers. She did get to meet Jason and Leigh Ann and it was weird to have my two worlds intersect — crossing the streams, if you will. The fun part was that her boyfriend, Andres, who is a total geek came by to pick her up at the end of the night and I introduced him around and thus managed to convince him to attend Gallifrey next month.



Sadly, Schachat had to leave at about the same time my sister did, so I pretty much called it a night at that point myself, leaving only Leigh Ann to carry on for us both, which she did, judging from her sleep-deprived complaints the next morning/afternoon as we

checked out. We managed to grab some lunch with Christian before hitting the road for the Bay Area.

She had calculated that leaving by 2 p.m. would put us back home right about the time for the Monday BASFA meeting, and as I had never been to one before this sounded like a great idea. Excepting a accidental detour up and back down about ten miles of I-99 we made very good time and pulled into the Coco's parking lot at about 7:45 before the meeting proper started.

I was surprised at how many people were there, although not as surprised as they were that I had finally made a meeting. We did a little show and tell with Garcia and I ordered some reasonably tasty little slider-like thingies before the meeting started. It was longer than I would have expected from reading the minutes, but pretty entertaining. I even overcame my reluctance to speak to a crowd and reviewed both Leo's greatly appreciated help during the trip and the *Jesus Christ Superstar: A Ressurrection* album, although in the end my name didn't make the official minutes so there is no actual evidence that I have ever attended a BASFA meeting. That may be just as well, should I ever decide to enter politics.

BASFA Minutes: Meetings 959-962

Meeting 959

December 15, 2008

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

Began 8:00

24 people attended.

A party jar was established [after a spirited bout of voting].

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 958 were accepted as 'flashy'.

The Treasurer reported that we took in money at last week's meeting and that Spring was involved in a car accident. Thankfully, she is OK, but the Dino-car is not doing so well.

The Vice president's Miko fact is that her true father is Sir Mixalot and there is a new 'Drink Tank' out – volume 1 of the Forrest J Ackerman tribute.

The President had nothing fannish to report – but reminded folks that he and the secretary will miss the meetings on Dec 22 and Dec 29.

Dave C reported that week 1 of the 'Raphael Watch' – that he's still not here.

Announcements

Glenn announced that he'll review 'Anathem' next week.

Lisa announced that Lady Colleen is out of the hospital and announced that the knitting on 'The Scarf' is done.

Ed announced that Further Confusion is in January and he will be on a world building panel.

Harold announced that Betty Page passed away.

Adrienne announced that the next Bay Area Ghost Hunters get together will be on Saturday, Jan 10 at 7pm at John's Grill in SF.

Dave C announced that there's a con coming up in February – Potlatch – which will be in Sunnyvale in the Domain Feb 27-March 1 and he has flyers – and that there is a new Cargo Cult out.

Reviews

Andy reviewed 'Warriors' on cable as the episode he saw on the Tokugawa Shogunate was pretty good and had gorgeous costuming – and worth watching.

Chris reviewed 'Invincible' on DVD as 2 hours, 5 minutes long – the first 20 hours of which were slow and made him long for the days of 'Barry Lyndon' and the TV made a

noose of its aerial; then reviewed the Psychotronic film festival as De Anza is the Miller Light of community colleges but the films were fantastic as always.

Mo reviewed the 'Day the Earth Stood Still' as she wished it had stopped, saw the original and thinks the original had dignity; Adrienne commented that John Cleese is in the remake and very good; I follow-on'd that I saw it and enjoyed it; Trey followed, saying he is the least common denominator of viewer and enjoyed it and Dave C mentioned he carries the original on DVD at Cargo Cult.

Harold reviewed 'Cadillac Records' as well acted and recommended, worth bargain matinee and reviewed 'Ninja Nonsense' as funny as hell and a bit perverse, but recommended on Demand, Anime selects.

Dave C reviewed 'Four Christmases' as funny and a situation comedy movie, worth matinee & reviewed 'Plutonium Blonde' by John Zakour and Lawrence Ganem as a good silly read, worth paperback and available thru Cargo Cult books.

Glenn reviewed Tofu House and Chocolate Sushi – a Korean restaurant – as not expensive and quite nice – 3 stars out of 5.

We then did auctions: birthday auctioned off Dave C for \$11.00 to himself, then auctioned off various samples for \$1.50; a CD holder for \$2.00, a CD for \$1.00, a DVD and

tool kit for \$11.00, plastic figures for \$1.00, games for \$2.50, \$10.25, stuffies for \$3.00, tools for \$8.00, Tick figures for \$6.00, videos for \$3.00, book and photo for \$10.00, and books for \$1.00 and \$1.75.

We adjourned at = 9:33

And the rumor of the week was: ‘Squids in Spaaaaace!’

Meeting 960

BASFA meeting #959 (initially declared to be “3-ish”) was called to order at 081222.1904.

There was no president, secretary or treasurer. The VP became acting president and Glenn Glazer stood in as secretary.

VP reported that the president had nothing fannish to report. As VP, he recommended the new SF in SF for Tom Becker’s layout skills. He announced to the shock, but perhaps not dismay, of many that there was no new Drink Tank, but it would be out tomorrow. He then went on to welcome back our prodigal wanderers, Daniel and Kelly, back from New Zealand where the stills are legal but the books are expensive. This was followed by some out of order New Zealand natter.

Announcements

Harold: Bah humbug.

Glenn announced that he would be reviewing “Anathem” today. Ken announced that there would be a Legion of Rasselon

meeting this Friday at the Carl’s at First and Bjo^H^H Trimble!

Reviews

During reviews, the VP, at his peril, did everything in his power to fail to recognize Dave Clark at every possible turn: follow-ons, his reviews, etc. This would have Consequences.

Ed reviewed Cory Doctorow’s “Little Brother” as worth full price hardcover and “Day the Earth Stood Still” as having terrible plot holes, but good effects. Worth matinee or rental.

Glenn reviewed “Anathem”, to no one’s surprise. He mentioned that the early phases have a monastic feel similar to “Canticle for Leibowitz” or the Deryni books and that it was one of the few works of fiction he’d read that had math proofs in the appendix. Since Stephenson writes fairly long books, he allows the reader to get involved in a particular setting and then when the characters are yanked from their surroundings, the reader feels as overturned as the characters. He finished by mentioned how much he enjoyed Stephenson playing with language in terms like “concent” and “anathem”.

Glenn then reviewed Cinnebar’s 2007 Late Harvest Cabernet Sauvignon as wonderfully balanced.

John O reviewed Dickens Fair as worth full price, even if it is easy to get discounts. The Saturday he went, it was the Fair’s second biggest day ever. There were a number of

follow-ons, including Stellen mentioning that he liked the location for its permanent qualities and Daniel noting that it was not wheelchair accessible^[1].

Dave G. showed up at this point and gave a treasurer’s report: \$101.60 regular, \$32.65 party. Ed mentioned that of the \$800 or so in the party fund, he is owed about \$700, but hasn’t submitted any receipts yet.

Andy reviewed/announced that there is a video of Swinging Eddy on youtube.

Andy reviewed “Lost Treasures of the Grand Canyon” as surprisingly an Aztec ripoff rather than an Egyptian ripoff. Not good, but not bad. There were follow-ons trying to get a comparison between this and other mediocre to awful films.

At this point, the meeting diverged into sources of bad British accents, starting with several films and ending with John O’s remark that there were a lot of them at Dickens Fair and Cheryl saying that the largest source of bad British accents was in Birmingham (England).

Dave C (finally) reviewed “Top Gear” as still enjoyable for occasional SF content like converting a car into a space ship, a James Bond driving test and the Lamborghini Batmobile from “Dark Knight”. There was a discussion of favorite episodes and details of the driving test.

Chris reviewed several things: “Bohemabot” – a robot that steals hands to play the harp, the review was too inchoate to record

¹Puns are fineable for the amount of 25¢ under the BASFA bylaws

and the film apparently was worse. – “Water Pill” – Wynona Ryder method acting as a bipolar pill popper. Cute, ambiguous ending. – “Blackadder Christmas Special” – a fyne, fyne thing. – “Venture Brothers Christmas Special” – very Venture Brothers. – Today’s Miko fact: She was the inspiration for “Convoy” by C.W. McCall, though he got the attribution incorrect.

Henry reviewed the 2008 “hunting season” in which people had strapped their “kills” in all sorts of weird ways to their vehicles. Turns out he was referring to Christmas trees and remarked on the large number of tree farms in the SCruz mountains and the bad driving people do on mountain roads. Glenn followed this with a story about a biker who laid his bike down at (the) 9 and Skyline. Connor suggested that you didn’t need to go hunting deer when you could knock three of them over coming down your driveway. Lisa offered that pumpkin hunting (as opposed to tree hunting) was best done in Half Moon Bay and Stellen followed that with a mention of a youtube video where big cats get ahold of some pumpkins (possibly http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iUq6Ffi12_E).

Evil Kevin reviewed his quarter century party at IBM as nice, with the cake being better than the plaque. Miko reviewed going through the snow on the Grapevine as very pretty.

Fred late announced that Contact would be April 3rd and Yuri’s (NOT yaoi’s) Night April 4th. See <http://www.contact-conference.org/> for details.

There were three birthday auctions: Kelly, Daniel and Miko, followed by auctions of more

tangible stuff. Here, at last, the VP’s perfidy would come home to him as Dave Clark outbid everyone to pay \$21 for a miniature chocolate champagne cake “for Chris to eat in 30 seconds, no hands”. A table was pulled to the front of the room, the VP seated at it, given a napkin at his collar and then given the one, two, three, go! While he did not manage to completely finish the cake in 30 seconds, he put in a very credible effort given that the cake was sticking to the napkin it was sitting on. Several folks captured this on video and it may go up on youtube soon. Note to VP: Don’t Annoy the Dave.

The rumor of the week was “Damn, I forgot what I was going to say.” and we adjourned at a time which is a lacuna in these minutes.

Best,

Glenn

[1] This is Dickens Fair – it only needs to be CRUTCH accessible. --

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.

Meeting 962

January 5, 2009

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sargeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began 8:02 [by my fine Disneyland watch]
31 people attended.

A party jar was established & a TAFF jar was established.

Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 959 were accepted as ‘abbrev’; the minutes of meeting 960 were accepted as ‘the extended director’s cut with additional commentary’ & the minutes of meeting 961 were delayed.

The Treasurer reported that we took in money at last week’s meeting.

We then did auctions: candle holder & book for \$1.25, posters & cupcakes for \$1.00, posters for \$0.25; a DVD, game & shower curtain for \$1.00, videos for \$1.25, books for \$1.25 & \$1.50; comics for \$1.25; cookies for \$0.75, \$0.25, \$1.00, \$0.50, \$1.00, \$1.00, Tshirt for \$0.25, books for \$6.50 & candles for \$1.00.

The Vice president had TAFF ballots & passed them out – and he answered that Steve Green has been in the ‘Drink tank’ – then reported there are 2 new ‘Drink tanks’ are out and a ‘Claims Department’, plus that the ‘Drink Tank’s’ 4th anniversary is at the end of the month, so he’s looking for submissions that deal with ‘4’.

The President reported a rumor from ‘Something Positive’.

Announcements

Dave C announced that since the ‘Chris eating cake’ video was posted to Youtube in

December that it qualified for Hugo nomination [and then there was debate as to whether it would be a 'short' or 'best related work'].

Glenn announced that he'll review his review of 'Anathem' tonight.

Lisa announced that Lady Colleen is back in the hospital – hopefully only briefly.

Andy announced that there's a con coming up – Further Confusion – and that they won't be holding a party there.

[?Matt Who?] Ken announced there's a new Dr Who.

Fred announced that 'Leonardo' has been extended for a few weeks.

Dave G announced that Jan 10 is -the- 'Evil Dead the Musical' outing and they'll be in the 2nd tier.

Dave C announced that this is the day Marilyn Manson turns 40.

Reviews

Chris reviewed 'the Spirit' as 'crap-tarded' – so bad, hideously awful and worth \$1.17 and the rest of his weekend was spent writing 'zines; there were follow-ons for 'The Spirit' – Mo loves the comics and is disappointed, Trey said that Samuel Jackson stole every scene he was in and made those scenes a watchable movie.

Leigh Ann reviewed Anime LA as tasty and delightful and that Casa de Fruta was great & that the bacon chocolate was 'mmmmmm'.

Andy reviewed 'Monster Ark' as like 'Raiders' without the swashbuckling or Harrison Ford – possibly the worst thing he's seen on the SciFi channel.

Bill reviewed Christmas in Wisconsin with his folks as the journey was okay and all worth full price.

Carole reviewed a kimono exhibit as absolutely gorgeous and worth full price.

Harold reviewed 'Valkyrie' as Tom Cruise is in every scene, the historical accuracy is interesting and worth bargain matinee.

Lisa reviewed 'Marley and Me' as done well, worth matinee.

I reviewed 'Tales of Despereaux' as pretty and pleasant and ultimately disappointing, worth matinee & reviewed the deep fried 'lollipop' appetizer at Midori [on El Camino in Sunnyvale] as incredibly delicious.

Adrienne reviewed the 6th Harry Potter book as she is annoyed by reviewers who feel they have to spoil the ending of the books and she found the book imaginative.

Glenn reviewed his review of 'Anathem' as shorter than the book & reviewed 'The Arrival' by Tan as highly recommended [Chris follow-on'd that Tan will be the artist GoH at Aussiecon 4 in 2010], then Glenn reviewed Mike Resnick's 'This is my Funniest' as very enjoyable.

There was a bit of incoherence then and very loud laughter; then cried of 'You killed evil Kevin!' and Leo was praised for his support of fanzine lounges.

Cheryl reviewed Glenn's patience and fortitude as admirable & commented that academic books have a more engrossing plot than 'Anathem' & reviewed the current controversy about the Fan Writing Hugo as

amusing – and there were various pimpings for Hugos that followed.

Dave C reviewed Dame Edna's just closed tour as her usual show, worth full price.

[tall] Kevin reviewed that for the last 2 weeks the state of Oregon was trying to KEEL him! Snow fell, trees fell, a windstorm came and the trees attacked – but he did get a lot of exercise.

Dave G reviewed the Highway patrol's report as that it said the other driver was 100% at fault.

Howeird reviewed having a double hernia surgery as he slept through it & it was worth full price.

We adjourned at = 10:04

And the rumor of the week was: 'Oregon, you failed us for the last time!'

That movie was good, but
you know what it needed?
Giant Mechanical Spider.
– Chris Garcia

Bay Area Fannish Calendar

Life is complicated; putting on an event is even more so. Please check before attending, as events are sometimes canceled or times and locations changed.

New listings are highlighted in red.

Ongoing events are toward the back.

Friday January 9-Saturday February 7

Evil Dead, the Musical

The Campbell Theater

636 Ward Street

www.willowstheatre.com/evildead.htm

EDTM's triumphant return!

Check website for tickets and showtimes.

\$25

Wednesday-Saturday, January 14-17

10th Anniversary Fire Ballet Fundraiser:

Dracul, Prince of Fire *NEW*

The Crucible

1260 7th Street, Oakland

www.thecrucible.org/ballet/dracul.html

The tale of Dracul, the father of Dracula, set during the age of industry. Grand Gala Finale on January 17th.

Check website for tickets and showtimes

Friday, January 16

Future Salon: Transportation Future *NEW*

SAP Labs North America,

Building D, Room Southern Cross

3410 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto

Brad Templeton and Eric Boyd discuss

robocars and the future of transportation.

6 p.m.

Free (RSVP)

Friday, January 16

Authors: Mary Robinette Kowal

and John Scalzi

NEW

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia, San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

'John and Mary Show You Their Shorts'; the authors read humorous short fiction.

7 p.m.

Free

Friday-Saturday, January 16-17

How to Survive the Apocalypse: A Burning

Opera *NEW*

Stage Werx

533 Sutter, San Francisco

www.burningopera.com

After getting kicked off a beach for trying to burn an effigy, a small crew of freaks builds a visionary city in the desert. Three newbies arrive, each with their own baggage of fears and expectations, and make their way through the erotic, psychological, and apocalyptic minefield of the temporary festival. Then the world changes in the blink of an eye.

Check website for showtimes

\$20

Saturday, January 17

Jonathan Coulton

NEW

Great American Music Hall

859 O'Farrell St, San Francisco

With Paul and Storm. All ages show.

9 p.m.

\$25 (Sold out)

Saturday, January 17

SF in SF: Aimee Bender and Sean Stewart

Variety's Preview Room in the Hobart Building

582 Market St., San Francisco

www.varietync.org

6 p.m.

Free

Saturday, January 17

SF in SF Double Feature: Kung Fu Panda and Wall-E

Variety's Preview Room in the Hobart Building

582 Market St.

San Francisco

www.varietync.org

Free movies and popcorn, cash bar proceeds all go to benefit Variety Children's Charity.

6 p.m.

Free

Sunday, January 18

Jonathan Coulton

NEW

Great American Music Hall

859 O'Farrell St, San Francisco

With Paul and Storm. All ages show.

8 p.m.

\$25

Sunday, January 18

Author: P.S. Gifford

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Gifford reads from his short story collection,
Curious Accounts of the Imaginary Friend
1 p.m. Free

Thursday-Monday, January 22-26

Further Confusion 2009: Surf Safari

Doubletree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place, San Jose
www.furtherconfusion.org
GOHs this year are animator Jeff Pidgeon,
puppeteer Anita Coulter and author Clare Bell.
\$40 until December 30th

Friday-Sunday, January 23-25

The Ninth Annual Edwardian Ball Weekend

The Regency Center
1290 Sutter Street, San Francisco
www.edwardianball.com
A Gorey-inspired weekend of Edwardian dance
and performance. \$80

Saturday, January 24

Endgame: January Minicon

SEndgame
921 Washington, Oakland
endgameoakland.com
Gaming minicon, check website for schedule
and details.

Saturday, January 24

The Phenomenauts

Slim's
333 11th Street, San Francisco
9 p.m. \$13

Sunday, January 25

Author: Toby Bishop

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Bishop signs his novel, *Airs of Night and Sea*.
3 p.m. Free

Tuesday, January 27

Wicked

Orpheum Theater
1192 Market Street, San Francisco
www.shnsf.com
Check website for tickets and showtimes.

Tuesday, February 3

Author: John Birmingham

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
The author signs his new military thriller,
Without Warning.
7 p.m. Free

Friday, February 6

Author: Patricia Briggs

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

The author signs her new Mercy Thompson
novel, *Bone Crossed*.

7 p.m. Free

Saturday, February 7

The Scarlet Pimpernel Ball

PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth, San Mateo
www.peers.org
Restoration themed event with live
performance by Bangers and Mash
7 p.m. \$15 (till January 31)

Thursday, February 12

Thrillville's Voodoo Valentine's Show

El Cerrito Speakeasy
10070 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito
www.thrillville.net
Sugar Hill and Her Zombie Hit Men, plus very
special musical guest Kitten on the Keys!
9:15 p.m. \$9

Saturday-Sunday, February 14-15

AOD 2009

Cathedral Hill Hotel
1101 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco
www.aodsf.org
Animation on Display (AOD) is a San
Francisco-based convention that celebrates the
animated arts from around the world in all
mediums
Details TBA \$30 until February 1

Friday-Sunday, February 13-16

DunDraCon

San Ramon Marriott
2600 Bishop Dr., San Ramon
www.dundracon.com
Gaming convention.

\$40

Friday, February 27-Sunday, March 1

Potlatch 18

The Domain Hotel, Sunnyvale
www.potlatch-sf.org
Literary convention, with panel discussions,
writer's workshops, consuite. Books of Honor
for 2009 are *Always Coming Home*, by Ursula
K. Le Guin and *Growing Up Weightless* by
John M. Ford.

\$55 until February 14

Friday, February 27-Sunday, March 1

Wondercon

Moscone Center South, San Francisco
www.comic-con.org/wc

\$40

Saturday, February 28

Author: Kim Harrison

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Harrison signs book 7 of the Hollows series,
White Witch, Black Curse.
7 p.m.

Free

Saturday, March 7

The Sting Swing Ball

PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge

100 North Ellsworth, San Mateo
www.peers.org
1930's, Swing themed event with live
performance by Bangers and Mash
7 p.m. \$15 (till February 28)

Sunday, March 8

Sac-Con

Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacanime.com
10 a.m.

Sunday, March 15

Author: S.G. Browne

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Browne signs *Breathers: A New Romantic
Zombie Comedy*
3 p.m.

Free

Saturday, March 21

Author: Mark von Schlegell

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
The author signs his new novel, *Mercury
Station*
12 p.m.

Free

Saturday, March 28

Author: Ken Scholes

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

Scholes signs his novel, *Lamentation*.
12 p.m. Free

Sunday, March 29

Jay Lake and Ken Scholes Write In-Store.

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Each author writes a story set in each other's
universes.
12 p.m. Free

Friday-Sunday, April 3-5

Contact 25

NASA Ames Research Center, Mountain View
www.contact-conference.com/2009
Interdisciplinary gathering of scientists, artists
and writers.
Details TBA. \$175

Saturday, April 4

The Girl Genius Victorian Mad Science Ball

PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth, San Mateo
www.peers.org
Victorian, Steampunk themed event with live
performance by Avalon Rising.
7 p.m. \$15 (till March 28)

Thursday, April 9

Thrillville's 12th Anniversary Show

El Cerrito Speakeasy
10070 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito
www.thrillville.net

Plan 9 From Outer Space, Re-Animator, plus a live act TBA.
9:15 p.m. \$12

Friday-Sunday, May 1-2

Robogames

Fort Mason Center, San Francisco
Details TBA, dates tentative. \$20

Saturday, May 2

The Unseen University Ball *NEW*

PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth, San Mateo
www.peers.org
Discworld, fantasy themed event with live performance by Avalon Rising.
7 p.m. \$15 (till April 25)

Tuesday, May 22-Sunday, July 5

Spamalot

Golden Gate Theater
1182 Makret Street, San Francisco
www.shnsf.com
Check website for tickets and showtimes.

Friday-Monday, May 22-25

Fanime

San Jose Convention Center, San Jose
www.fanime.com
Bay Area anime convention
\$50

Saturday-Sunday, May 30-31

Maker Faire *NEW*

San Mateo Fairgrounds
2495 South Delaware Street, San Mateo

Maker Faire is a two-day, family-friendly event that celebrates the Do-It-Yourself mindset. It's for creative, resourceful people of all ages and backgrounds who like to tinker and love to make things

Saturday, June 6

The Secret Agent Ball *NEW*

PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth, San Mateo
www.peers.org
Spy themed event with live performance by Sara and Swingtime.
7 p.m. \$15 (till May 30)

Friday-Sunday, Jun 12-14

Robogames *NEW*

Fort Mason Center
San Francisco
Details TBA, dates tentative. \$20

Friday-Tuesday, July 17-21

Azcatraz, A Harry Potter convention

Park 55 Hotel
55 Cyril Magnin Street, San Francisco
www.hp2009.org
\$145 through February 28th.

Saturday, August 1

The River City Picnic Dance *NEW*

PEERS Event
Lincoln Park
1450 High Street, Alameda
www.peers.org

Music Man, Edwardian themed event with live music by Bangers and Mash
1 p.m. Free

Saturday, September 5

The Sweeney Todd Ball *NEW*

PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth, San Mateo
www.peers.org
Victorian themed event with live performance by Bangers and Mash
7 p.m. \$15 (till August 30)

Friday-Saturday, September 25-26

From the Land Beyond

Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com
Details TBA

Saturday, October 3

The Space Cowboys Ball

PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth, San Mateo
www.peers.org
Firefly, Western themed event with live performance by Bangers and Mash
7 p.m. \$15 (till September 27)

Thursday, October 29 - Sunday, November 1

World Fantasy Convention

The Fairmont Hotel
170 South Market Street, San Jose

The World Fantasy Convention is a professional networking event that regularly attracts several hundred of the top authors in the field every year. It is the home of the World Fantasy Awards and this year will be celebrating Edgar Allen Poe's 200th birthday. Garth Nix will be the GOH for 2009.

\$125

Ongoing

Daily

San Francisco Ghost Hunt Walking Tour

Begins: Queen Anne Hotel
1590 Sutter at Octavia, San Francisco
www.sfgghosthunt.com
7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

\$20

Sundays

MGI SF&F/Horror/Speculative fiction Writing Group

Personal Residence (email for details)
Emeryville
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGISFFWriters
7:30pm

Free

Sakramento Anime Society

Rancho Cordova Library
9845 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova
Meets every Sunday to watch old and new anime and anime music videos, play collectible card games, practice artwork and make AMVs.
3-7 p.m.

Mondays

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

Coco's

1206 Oakmead Parkway, Sunnyvale
www.basfa.org
8 p.m.

Free

Mondays

Dukefish

Jake's of Sunnyvale
174 E. Fremont Avenue, Sunnyvale
Group meets weekly to play German-style strategy board games such as Settlers of Catan, Carcasson and other games, plus an occasional game of bridge breaks out. Meet up at 8:00 p.m., figure our who wants to play what, and typically start playing games no later than 8:30 p.m.
8 p.m.

Mondays and Wednesdays

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

Mountain View Community Center
201 S. Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View
www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb/
Group meets regularly to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames such as Settlers of Catan; also multiplayer Avalon Hill-style, historical wargames, and others.
6:30 p.m.

\$2

Tuesdays

MGI Boffers & Outdoor Games

Codornices Park
1201 Euclid Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyclub/

Bad weather we meet the same time at 33
Revolutions Record Shop & Cafe, El Cerrito
for boardgames.
3:00 p.m-5:30 p.m

Free

Wednesdays

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

Go-Getter's Pizza
1489 Beach Park Boulevard, Foster City
www.BayRPS.com
Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details email GM@BayRPS.com.
6 p.m-10 p.m.

Wednesdays

East Bay Strategy Games Club

EndGame
921 Washington, Oakland
www.michaeldashow.com/eastbaystrategy/home.html
7:30 p.m.-11 p.m.

Free

Wednesdays

Fanboy Planet Podcast

Illusive Comics and Games
2725 El Camino Real, Suite 105, Santa Clara
Live from Illusive Comics and Games, it's the Fanboy Planet Podcast with your host, Derek McCaw.
6 p.m.

Free

Wednesdays and Saturdays

Hayward Collectibles Show

22300 Hathaway Ave (rear bldg), Hayward
www.toysandbaseballcards.com
Wed 3 p.m.-8 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Free

Fridays

SF Games

Muddy's Coffeehouse

1304 Valencia Street, San Francisco

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 regular cards night at Atlas Café, 20th and Alabama Streets, Tuesday nights from 6:30-10.

7 p.m. to midnight

Free

Fridays-Mondays

Haunted Haight Walking Tour

Meets at Coffee To The People

1206 Masonic Avenue, San Francisco

www.hauntedhaight.com

Reservations required.

7 p.m.-9 p.m.

\$20

Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour

Meets corner of California and Taylor, San Francisco

www.sfvampiretour.com

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

8 p.m.

\$20

Saturdays

Rocky Horror Picture Show

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd., Oakland

www.parkway-speakeasy.com

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

Midnight

\$7

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.

East Bay Star Wars Club

Central Perk

10086 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito

510-558-7375

www.ebstarwars.com

Meets the second Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

East Bay Steampunk

Various locations (see website for details)

www.steamfaire.com

Steampunk fans meet up on the third Friday of the month

6 p.m.-8 p.m.

Free

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

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.

Free

The Gay Men's Book Club

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia, San Francisco

The book for January 11 will be *Queen of Angels* by Greg Bear. Please contact Chris, the group leader, at cobalt555@earthlink.net for more information.

5:00 p.m. Free
Legion of Rassilon
 Giovanni's Pizza
 1127 N Lawrence Expy, Sunnyvale
 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.
 7:30 p.m. Free
Micro Gods, Inc.
 Berkeley Public Library, West Branch
 1125 University Ave, Berkeley
 mgisciaf.angelfire.com
 groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyClub/
 Family Club for fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Movie, Anime & Manga. Meets every 3rd Saturday, please check Yahoo group for updates.
 2:30 p.m-5:30 p.m Free
No-Name Anime
 Saratoga Library
 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga
 www.nnanime.com
 Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month.
 Free
Other Realms Book Club
 Books, Inc.
 1375 Burlingame Ave., Burlingame
 www.booksinc.net
 Meets the 4th Wednesday of the Month.

The book for January 28th will be *Orcs* by Stan Nicholls
 6:30 p.m. Free
Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club
 Borderlands Books
 866 Valencia, San Francisco
 The book for December will be *Old Man's War* by John Scalzi. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.
 6:00 p.m. Free
SF Browncoats
 Cafe Murano
 1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco
 www.sfbrowncoats.com
 SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month.
 Noon Free
SF/SF Meetup
 Mysterious Future Bookstore
 531 Fifth Street, Santa Rosa
 groups.yahoo.com/group/scifisantarosa/
 Regular meetup for North Bay fans on the second Sunday of the month.
Silicon Gulch Browncoats
 Various locations (see website for details)
 www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org
 Silicon Valley fans of Firefly/Serenity meet up on the first Saturday of the month. The January 3rd meetup is at the Sonoma Chicken Coop in downtown San Jose.
 Noon - 2 p.m. Free

South Bay Steampunk
 Various locations (see website for details)
 www.steamfaire.com
 Steampunk fans meet up on the second Thursday of the month
 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Free
Tangential Conjectures: The Science Fiction Book Club
 Books Inc.
 301 Castro Street, Mountain View
 650-428-1234
 Generally meets the third Thursday of the month.
 7:30 p.m. Free
USS Augusta Ada
 Round Table Pizza
 3567 Geary Blvd., San Francisco
 trek.starshine.org
 Augusta Ada is both a chapter of Starfleet International and a Linux and *BSD user group. Usually meets the fourth Saturday of every month.
 1 p.m. Free
USS Defiance
 Round Table Pizza
 1566 Howe Ave., Sacramento
 www.ussdefiance.org
 7 p.m.
 Free
 Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month.

USS Northern Lights

Contact firstjedi2000@yahoo.com for location.
www.geocities.com/Area51/Cavern/4096/
The 'Lights is a chapter of Starfleet International and a swell group of science fiction fans. We do more than Trek. Usually meets the second Friday of the month, with social event TBD.

7 p.m

Free

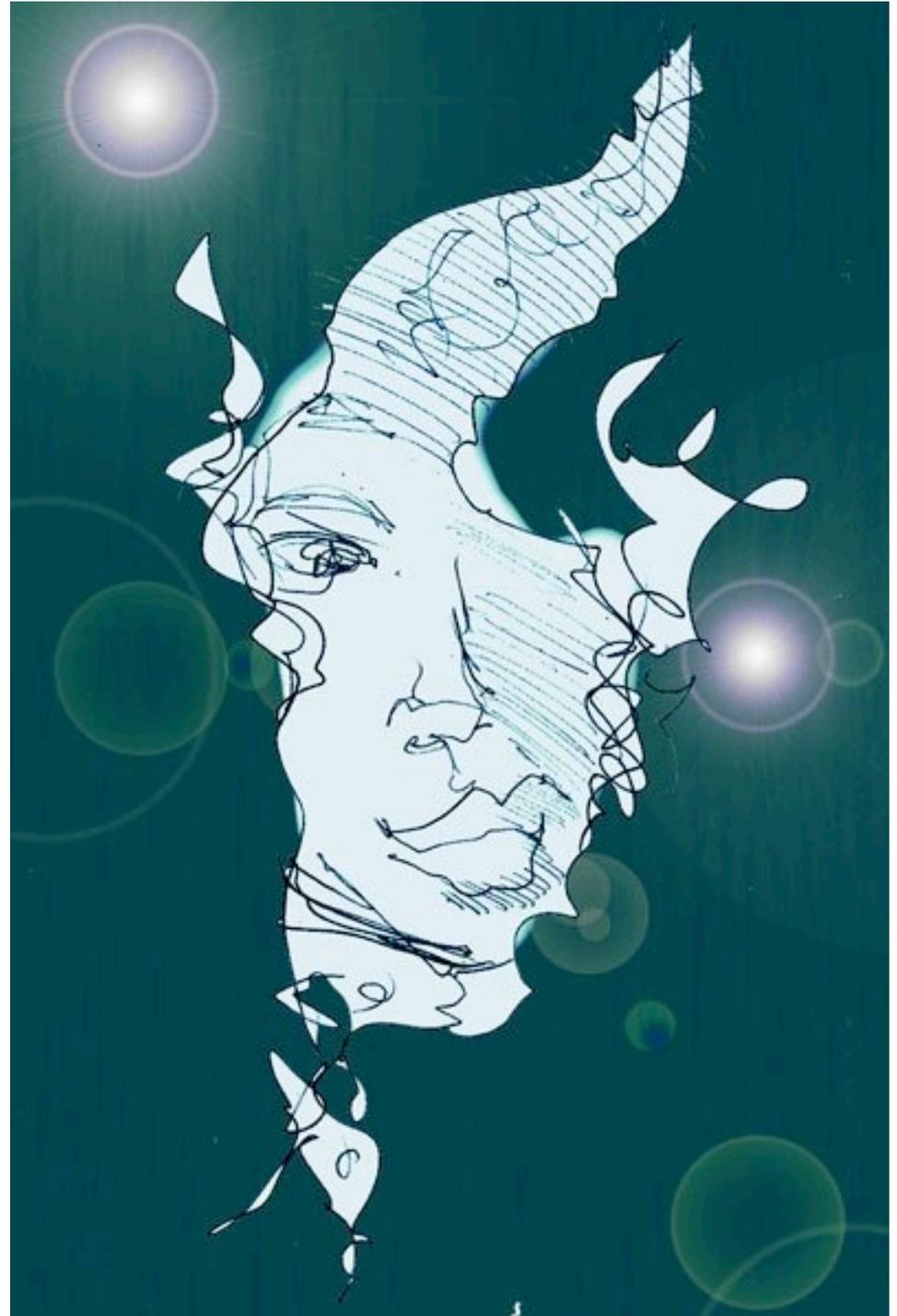
Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE

Round Table Pizza

4403 Elkhorn Blvd, Sacramento

916-338-2300

Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.





Redwood City California Christmas

photo by Lucy Huntzinger

Bay Area Fannish Calendar – January 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MGI SFF/H Writing Sakramento Anime	BASFA Dukefish SV Boardgamers	MGI Boffers	SV Boardgamers BA Role-Playing Soc E.Bay Strategy Games		SF Games	Rocky Horror
				1	2	3 Author: Nisi Shawl Silicon Gulch Browncoats
4 SF/SF Meetup	5	6 MacWorld (thru Fri)	7 Dracul, Prince of Fire (thru Sat)	8 SF&F Writers' Group South Bay Steampunk	9 Evil Dead, the Musical (thru Feb 7) Sac-Anime (thru Sun) USS Northern Lights	10 Author: Scott Sigler No-Name Anime SF Browncoats
11 Author: John Levitt Gay Men's Book Club	12	13	14 Dracul, Prince of Fire (thru Sat)	15 Tangential Conjectures	16 Transportation Future Mary Robinette Kowal, John Scalzi A Burning Opera (thru Sat) USS Defiance	17 SF in SF: Aimee Bender, Sean Stewart Kung Fu Panda, Wall-E Jonathan Coulton Micro Gods, Inc.
18 Jonathan Coulton Author: P.S. Gifford SF/F Book Club	19	20	21	22 Further Confusion: Surf Safari (thru Mon) SF&F Writers' Group	23 Edwardian Ball Weekend (thru Sun) Legion of Rassilon	24 Endgame: Minicon The Phenomenauts USS Augusta Ada
25 Author: Toby Bishop	26	27 Wicked	28 Other Realms	29	30	31 Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE

Bay Area Fannish Calendar – February 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>MGI SFF/H Writing</i> <i>Sakramento Anime</i>	<i>BASFA</i> <i>Dukefish</i> <i>SV Boardgamers</i>	<i>MGI Boffers</i>	<i>SV Boardgamers</i> <i>BA Role-Playing Soc</i> <i>E.Bay Strategy Games</i>		<i>SF Games</i>	<i>Rocky Horror</i>
1 <i>SF/SF Meetup</i>	2	3 <i>Author: John</i> <i>Birmingham</i>	4	5	6 <i>Author: Patricia</i> <i>Briggs</i>	7 <i>Scarlet Pimpernel Ball</i> <i>Silicon Gulch</i> <i>Browncoats</i>
8 <i>Gay Men's Book Club</i>	9	10	11	12 <i>Thrillville's Voodoo</i> <i>Valentine's Show</i> <i>SF&F Writers' Group</i> <i>South Bay Steampunk</i>	13 <i>DunDraCon (thru</i> <i>Sun)</i> <i>USS Northern Lights</i>	14 <i>AOD 2009 (thru Sun</i> <i>No-Name Anime</i> <i>SF Browncoats</i>
15 <i>SF/F Book Club</i>	16	17	18	19 <i>Tangential</i> <i>Conjectures</i>	20 <i>USS Defiance</i>	21 <i>Micro Gods, Inc.</i>
22	23	24	25 <i>Other Realms</i>	26 <i>SF&F Writers' Group</i>	27 <i>Potlatch 18 (thru Sun)</i> <i>Wondercon (thru Sun)</i> <i>Legion of Rassilon</i>	28 <i>Author: Kim Harrison</i> <i>USS Augusta Ada</i> <i>Veritech Fighter</i> <i>Command ONE-THREE</i>

Science Fiction/San Francisco #79 – January 14, 2009

SF/SF is the twice-monthly news zine for the San Francisco Bay Area – www.efanzines.com.

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Vampire Ball, New Orleans Style article and photos by Jean Martin
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My Idol, Carrie Fisher by Cordelia Willis with photos by Kevin Berne and Jean Martin (This is Cordelia's first article in *SF/SF*)
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Issue 62. March 19th, 2008. 28 pages

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A Browncoat Goes to Mars article and photos by Mike Smithwick
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Bay Area Fannish Calendar by España Sheriff
Art by Selina Phanara (This is the first appearance of Mr. Garcia's Favorite Fan Artist, Selina Phanara, in *SF/SF*)

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Where No Spoilers Have Gone Before by Al “Rackstraw” Megas

Dreams of the City by España Sheriff

WonderCon and Other Wonders by Jean

Martin, photos by Jean Martin and Dr. Noe

Journey to a Brendan Fraser Sighting article and photo by Jean Martin

Journey of a TAFF Traveler – Day Five by Chris Garcia (Note: This is a section of Chris Garcia’s TAFF Report, available in full on TAFF.org.uk)

Journey to the Center of Celtic-Arabic-Bellydance-Heavy Metal Star Trek Music by Jean Martin with photos by Jean Martin and Dakron Slaxx (Note: this is the longest and most awesome title in the history of SF/SF)

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Bay Area Fannish Calendar by España Sheriff

Art from Selina Phanara

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Editorial by Chris Garcia

Dreams of the City by España Sheriff

Making the Rounds of the Meetups by Jean Martin

This Old Fanzine: Groggy by Chris Garcia

Piracy for a Good Cause article and photos by Jean Martin

Journey of a TAFF Traveler: On To Wales article and photos by Chris Garcia

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Bay Area Fannish Calendar by España Sheriff

Art from España Sheriff, Lynne H. Goodwin and Adrian Bourne (This is Goodwin and Bourne’s first appearance in SF/SF)

Issue 65, May 7th, 2008. 33 pages.

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Short Take on Sonoma Valley Film Fest by Chris Garcia

This Old Fanzine: The Pacificon Program Book by Chris Garcia

Costume-Con: I Don’t Actually Sew by España Sheriff, photos by Jean Martin

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Radical Space Party at NASA Ames article and photos by Jean Martin

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Art by John Barrows

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This Old Fanzine: Mimosa #30 by Chris Garcia

Craft and Laughs at Maker Faire by Carole Parker, photos by Scott Beale and Laughing Squid

Early Makeup Demo at Costume-Con article and photos by Howeird

Props on a Plane at Costume-Con by Howeird, photo by Jean Martin

Murder and Dancing at Chicago Charity Ball by Jean Martin, photos by Jean Martin and Christina Becher

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The Baycon Fangonquin Lounge Table by Chris Garcia, photos by Jim Bull.

CHM Welcomes Babbage’s Difference Engine by Jean Martin, photos by Jean Martin and Marcin Wichary (This is Mr. Wichary’s SF/SF debut)

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BayCon Checks into New Hotel by Jean Martin, photos by Jean Martin and David Bedno

Smallish Super-Con Has Lots to Offer article and photos by Dr. Noe

From Atlanta to Beyond Thunderdome by Jean Martin, photos by Jean Martin and John Adams (This is John Adams's *SF/SF* debut. We are also fairly certain that this is not the 2nd President of the United States John Adams.)
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Bay Area Fannish Calendar by España Sheriff
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Dreams of the City by España Sheriff
This Old Fanzine: Science Fiction Five Yearly by Chris Garcia
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Fans Cheer St. George's Open House photos by David Moyce
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This Old Fanzine: NYCon Souvenir Book by Chris Garcia
Music, Singing, Blood at 'Evil Dead' Show by España Sheriff
Scurvy Dogs, Scalliwags at Pirate Fest article and photos by Jean Martin

Heat, Smoke, Big Bathtubs at Westercon by España Sheriff, photo by the Lovely and Talented Linda Wenzelburger
Regency Dances, Grass Skirts at Shipwreck Ball article and photos by Jean Martin
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Bay Area Fannish Calendar by España Sheriff
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Issue 71, August 6th, 2008. 29 Pages

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Fire Arts Fest is a Pyromaniac's Dream by Jean Martin, photos by Marcin Wichary
Soulless in Seattle, but Still Worth a Visit article and photos by Marcin Wichary
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Bay Area Fannish Calendar by España Sheriff
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Editorial by Chris Garcia
This Old Fanzine: Ah, Sweet Laney by Chris Garcia
Ordering Waffles at Worldcon by España Sheriff, photo by Howeird
Day of Honor: Klingons Party Like It's 2399 article and photos by Dr. Noe

The Dark Knight: It's Just Not Batman by Al "Rackstraw" Megas.
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Additional Art by Genevieve and Mo Starkey
Additional Photos by The Lovely and Talented Linda Wenzelburger and NASA.

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Editorial by Jean Martin
This Old Fanzine: The Locus 1970 Art Book by Chris Garcia
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Comic-Con: Do I Look Big in These Tights? Article and photos by Dr. Noe
Two Fannish Weddings and a Vacation article and photos by Jean Martin
The OC Finds Serenity article and photos by Dr. Noe.
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Bay Area Fannish Calendar by España Sheriff
Additional photos from Thad Gann and NASA

Issue 74, October 1st, 2008. 26 Pages

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Editorial by Chris Garcia
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This Old Fanzine: Greg Pickersgill's Can't Get Off the Island by Chris Garcia
One Golden Day at the Golden Gate Ren Faire by Jean Martin, photos by Marcin Wichary

Catching Up with the Browncoats article and photos by Jean Martin
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Additional photos from Mike Pecci and NASA

Issue 75, October 15th, 2008. 32 Pages.

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Letters of Comment by Chris Garcia and Jean Martin
Editorial by Jean Martin
This Old Fanzine: Nocturne No. 1 by Chris Garcia
Steampunk Warms SF in SF by España Sheriff
SiliCon Features Salute to Hispanac by España Sheriff, photos by Deborah Kopec (AKA Lazer!)
PEERS Throws Hot Steampunk Ball article and photos by Jean Martin
Cosplayers Come Out for Yaoi-Con photos by Oscar Chang
Farewell to the Star Trek Experience article and photos by Jean Martin (Of the Star Trek Experience, I can only say this: Of all the Vegas attractions I have encountered in my travels, it was the most... human.)
BASFA Minutes for Meeting 948
Bay Area Fannish Calendar by España Sheriff
Additional Art by Mo Starkey
Additional Photos from Howeird, Mike Pecci and NASA

Issue 76, November 12th, 2008. 29 Pages.

News and Notes by Chris Garcia
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Editorial by Chris Garcia

This Old Fanzine: Chanticleer No. 3 by Chris Garcia
A Glorious 'War and Peace' Ball article and photos by Jean Martin
Litquake Gets Steampunked article and photos by Diane B. Rooney
Silliness and Drama at Silicon by Jean Martin, Photos by Jean Martin and Deborah Kopec
Hobbit Picnic is Back Again photos by Ralph Diaz
BASFA Minutes for Meetings 950-952
Bay Area Fannish Calendar by España Sheriff
Additional Art from Bryan Little and España Sheriff (Note: This is Bryan Little's kick-butt debut!)

Issue 77, December 3rd, 2008. 36 Pages.

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This Old Fanzine: 20th Annual San Diego Comic Convention Program Book by Chris Garcia
Dreams of the City by España Sheriff
Haunted Hornet Hosts Halloween Haunt by Stacy Meyn with photos by Steacey and Tracy Newby
Spooky Soiree at Le Bal des Vampires by Stacy Meyn with photos by Stacy Meyn and Vivien Lee
Full Steam Ahead for Steampunk Con by Jean Martin with photos by Thad Gann, Deborah Kopec and Jean Martin
Old is New at Steampunk Con by España Sheriff with photos by Kevin Standlee

Jake Von Slatt's SteamCon Adress by Jake Von Slatt (reprinted from steampunkworkshop.com)
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Additional Art by Russell D. Campbell

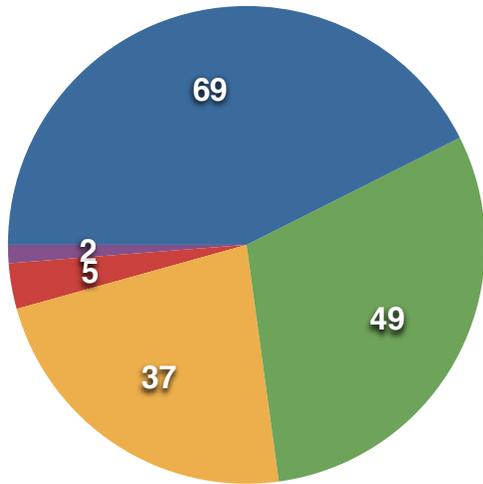
Issue 78, December 17th, 2008. 32 Pages

(This is the debut of Tom Becker as Composer)
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LosCon: The Science Fiction Convention Reviewed as Science Fiction by Chris Garcia, photos by Barney Evans
LosCon Considered as a Sci Fi Toga Party by España Sheriff, photos by Barney Evans and Jason Schachat
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Additional Art from Kate Kelton (This is Kate's first art appearance in SF/SF)

Useless Stats

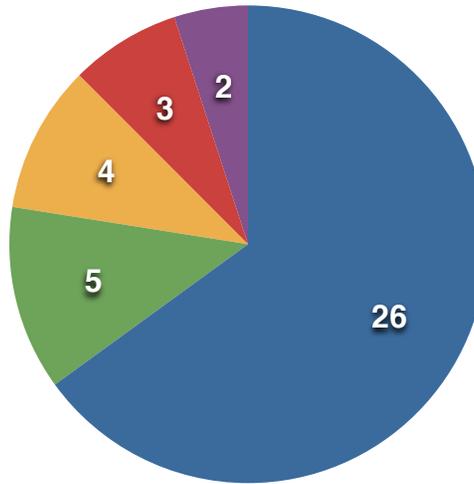
Most Articles

- 69- Chris Garcia
- 49- Jean Martin
- 37- España Sheriff
- 5- Dr. Noe, Al "Rackstraw" Megas
- 2- Howeird, Stacy Meyn, Diane Rooney



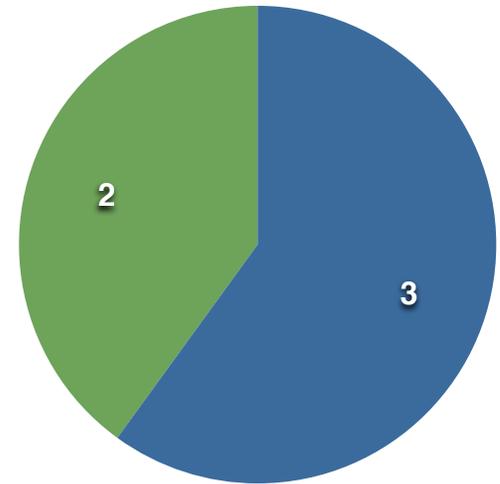
Most Photos

- 26- Jean Martin
- 5- Marcin Wichary
- 4- NASA, Jim Bull
- 3- Howeird, Deb Kopec, Thad Gann, Diane Rooney
- 2- The Lovely and Talented Linda, Mike Pecci, Richard Man, Stacy Meyn, Mike Smithwick



Most Art

- 3- España Sheriff
- 2- Mo Stakey, Miko, Genevieve, Ditmar



LoC Stats

- 14- Lloyd Penney
- 6- John Purcell
- 5- Robert Lichtman
- 3- Steve Green, Mike Deckinger

