

# SF/SF Science Fiction/San Francisco

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

Issue Two

email: backnumbers@gmail.com

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Editor: Jack Avery

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## eLOCs

Chris Garcia writes:

Good stuff. Good to have ya back with us in the world of grumpy publishing. You should have held out, because every time I read a new Vegas Fandom Weekly, I got a step closer to doing a BArea Fandom Weekly myself. You've saved me the trouble.

*Faster Pussycat! Kill! Kill!* Is one of

those movies that I've always loved. It's not a great film, but it's fun and sassy and Tura was that one woman whose poster I had on my wall in college. Russ Meyer had a beautiful eye for composition and never really got the credit he deserved in that area. Hell, even his Voluptuous Vixens shoots for Playboy video were well-composed. Sadly, when we lost him last year, we also lost one of the greats in the history of soft core.

There are a lot of great fans in the BArea that I've met over the years. I only started going to BASFA late last year, but it's a fun group. It's interesting that BASFA, a small group, has two Hugo winners sitting at the same table many meetings in Cheryl Morgan and Frank Wu. I'm VP now, along with Nathan Slemmer (or Slurmer, depending on who you believe) and it's a fun gig. I make a lot of worthless motions, some of which can be very entertaining. BASFA is a great place to

send fanzines, though it's pretty much only me and Cheryl who ever have them to pass around.

Good stuff and I can't wait to see another issue.

*Chris:*

*If I'd known that you were thinking of doing this sort of a zine, I'd have left it to you. Pubbing once a week seems an insurmountable task. I don't know how you do it. I have doubts that I'm the right person to do this, I'm not nearly as knowledgeable about San Francisco fandom as I should be. But I guess I'll have to learn pretty quickly.*

*I have thought about getting down to a BASFA meeting for years, but the logistics just aren't doable.*

*Thanks so much for helping to get the zine off to a good start.*

*Jack Avery*

# Editorial Mumblings

With our second issue I'm moving up our publishing schedule to Wednesdays. Hopefully this will allow for the issue to be posted to efanzines.com in time for readers to make any weekend plans.

And in the great fanzine tradition, I'm not going to publish on schedule. Maybe Thursday. I hope.

Starting this issue, I'm using a larger point size for my body copy to ease on-line reading. That's also why I'm doing this zine landscape instead of portrait.

I'm going to keep this train going until I run out of material to publish. That'll be at most two or three more weeks unless I get contributions. My backlog of articles is only so deep.

True to form, Chris Garcia is doing his bit to keep this zine afloat. I have both my first LOC and my first article contribution from him. In his article on Bay Area fandom Chris says what I want to say better than I could say it. Thanks Chris.

Borderlands was kind enough to provide me with event photos by Alan Beatts for the John Varley event on Sunday.

I'm still looking for material to print. I need those meeting reports, con reports, movie reviews, what I did last weekend reports, LOCs, and anything else that would be of interest to fans. I'm particularly looking for articles and information on the social aspects of fandom in the Bay Area.

I also need a wider perspective than I can provide myself. I'm reasonably aware of anime fandom in the bay area, but I don't want this to be just a listing of anime showings and cosplay contests.

I want this zine to cover the full spectrum of fan activity. But I don't have the resources to find out about everything that's going on since I'm not a member of Filk Fandom or Media Fandom or SCA fandom. (Just for example, it's certainly not a complete list.)

I need any information you can give me about events going on in the San Francisco Bay Area for the calendar. I'll do my best to hunt up items of interest, but without help, I'll miss more than I'll find.

If one of you SCA types from the Western Kingdom or the Kingdom of Mist or whatever is appropriate could send me information about local events, I'd appreciate it. I'm just not smart enough to figure out your schedule myself.

Missing in Action: Consonance 2006 filk convention. Anybody have a working url? Or is it just me?

I'm starting a blog-watch feature. If you have a blog, please let me know so that I can list it.

Another new feature-to-be is a resource list, additions are of course needed. Web sites, list-serves, on-line communities, that sort of thing. Send your links along

I also need information on the 60th Westercon Bid. What's up, who's doing it, why should it be in the Bay Area and how's it going?

Thought for the day: Isn't it funny that you only see the most glaring errors and mistakes once your fanzine is posted?

Jack Avery,  
Not Quite So Cranky Editor-In-Chief

# Borderlands John Varley Signing



# A Sorta Neo-Fan's View of BArea Fandom

By Christopher J. Garcia

OK, it may be a stretch to call myself a neo-fan. I was at the first NASFiC and have been attending BayCon off and on since the first one. It really wasn't until the year 2000 that I started regularly coming to cons on my own and it was more than a year later that I could be found touring to cons outside of San Jose. In October 2004, after my break-up with Gen (which didn't take and we're actually happier than ever), I started going to BASFA meetings, and in January 2005, I started putting out fanzines at the rate of one page an hour (ok, that's a slight exaggeration). So, I'm an old-timer who also happens to be a new guy. Go figure.

The first things I caught on my glance around BAarea fandom when I really started looking is that it's so totally different from many other fandoms. Our major club doesn't put on cons like LASFS or NESFA. In

fact, BASFA doesn't do much beyond holding meetings and hosting room parties at cons, but they meet regularly and have a good time with their form of recreational parliamentarianism. There's no clubhouse, just a meeting space at a Campbell restaurant once a week. We're a diffuse group of fans, spread out over 8 counties up to 3 hours away, but mostly BASFA is South Bay and Peninsula types hanging out on Monday nights.

As I got to look around elsewhere, I also noticed that we're an incredibly important area for fandom. There are more SMOFs per square inch than anywhere else on Earth. Big Name Fans like Kevin Standlee, Cheryl Morgan, Frank Wu, Janice Gelb, Michael Saladi, Robert Lichtman, David Bratman, Dave Clark and others all call the BAarea home. I was rather amazed when I started looking through the Fan Gallery that Chaz Baden-Boston runs to discover that there were so many BAarea residents lurking around. And not only are they

important people, but they do important things.

CorFlu, that fanzine fans' con which took place in SF this year, was started in Berkley in the early 1980s. The first organized Filk Cons were Bay Area innovations. I'm led to believe that the first US Anime conventions were held in San Jose years before they began to outdraw even the largest WorldCons. There've been five BAarea WorldCons, three in the distant past and two since 1993. At the 1968 WorldCon, fandom really embraced the Society for Creative Anachronism (another BAarea innovation) for the first time.

Sadly, despite all this 'useless' innovation, the BAarea has something of a dark mark around it. There are personality conflicts with some of the prominent SMOFs in the area and outright feuds in some cases. The fact that it took more than 20 years for San Jose, the third largest city in California, to get a WesterCon, even with several

credible bids over that period, speaks to that fact. The San Jose WorldCon, brilliantly programmed by the Chef Sakai of Programming Kathryn Daugherty, was a very large success, but when I attended Philcon 2002, the first thing someone in the Fannish Year in Review panel said was “Well, against all odds, San Jose somehow managed to put on a fairly decent WorldCon.” Most I’ve spoken to, when they really thought about it, know that ConJose was a far superior con to the Millennium PhilCon, though you’ll be hard-pressed to find East Coast folks who will admit it.

Even with some things fighting against it, there’s still a lot of respect for some of the output of fans from ‘round these parts. Cheryl Morgan’s Emerald City is one of the most widely-read and respected fanzines out there today. She probably has ten times the readers of any other BArea fanzine. Robert Lichtman’s Trap Door is one of the best fanzines ever put to paper and will go down in history as the great non-varietal product of Glen

Ellen, California. eFanzines.com features a couple of BArea fanzines, though the only one that updates very frequently is The Drink Tank, which I write, and now SF/SF, which should give the San Francisco Bay Area the same push that Arnie Katz’s Vegas Fandom Weekly gave to Sin City.

Oddly, we’re so spread out that many fans from my neck of the woods don’t know much about fans from up Sonoma and Napa County way. I run into one or two at BayCon every year, but mostly, I just know the folks who live south of Burlingame and North of Santa Cruz. Everyone attends events in The City, which is the one place where you can see collision between the various geographical fandoms.

But there’s more. There are some great costumers (including folks who have won Master Class awards at Costume Con and other major events) and some of the greatest party-hosts ever (Andy Trembley and Kevin Roche being my two personal favourites), and there are

Anime fans and Smut SF fans and Pulp Fans and Dr. Who Fans and Star Wars Fans and Masked Wrestling Hero Film Fans and Con-going and con-running fans of all stripes. There’s such a broad spectrum that you could be one of the top people in your segment of fandom and not have any clue that the others existed less than a mile away. We’re both distant and close to one another, in ways both geographical and experiential. We’re weird like that, and it’s a good thing that we have something like SF/SF that we can rally around.

So, that’s what BArea fandom looks like to me with the few years under my belt. If you’ve got the time, come down to BASFA on Monday nights at Emil Villa’s The Hic’ry Pit in Campbell. If you can’t, try to make it to Silicon or BayCon or the SF films at Cinequest or Cinema Epicuria or the SF Underground Film Festivals. Or, just read SF/SF and stay in touch, or The Drink Tank to see how I waste my time. Consider this a call to meetin’, brethren.

# A Japanese Ghost Story: Black Hair

By Jack Avery

In Japan, on hot summer days, storytellers turn to tales of ghosts and horror to give their listeners a chill. Brenda Wong Aoki's presentation of a traditional Japanese tale, *Black Hair*,

certainly gave viewers a chill when she performed at the second annual San Francisco Theater Festival on Sunday.

The short work is part of a larger work that will be performed in November, *Mermaid Meat, the Secret to Immortality and Other Japanese Ghost Stories*. (See schedule for details)

With minimal stage dressing and a fantastic improvised Jazz accompaniment by Mark Izu, Aoki used acting skill, voice and gesture to bring to life the story of a self-centered samurai and his devoted wife.

Aoki is a marvelous performer. As she takes on the persona of the characters her entire body takes on the attributes of that character. She uses vocal inflections to bring the characters to life as she acts out the scenes she is describing. While I had trouble hearing actors in another play at the same venue, Aoki projected her

voice and every word she spoke could be heard clearly.

The story was excellent. Aoki sets the stage and spends most of the performance drawing the audience into the world she's created. While the ghost aspect does not come in until the very end, and the



ghostly denouement is telegraphed by the nature of the story, Aoki's performance still provides a horrific impact.

The performance struck me as both very Japanese, very traditional, and yet very accessible to a modern western audience.

Izu's improvisation, on some sort of acoustic wind instrument that I didn't recognize, perfectly matched the mood of the story and helped to sell the emotional impact of the performance.

And yes, even though it was a warm day in San Francisco, at the end of the performance, I felt chills.

Along with *Mermaid Meat* and *Black Hair*, the November show will include *The Bell of Dojoji*, *Dancing in California* and the premier of a new work. Aoki and Izu will be joined by Taiko soloist Janet Koike.

Held at Yerba Buena Gardens, the free festival allowed patrons to sample short works by dozens of performance groups. The weather was excellent, the crowds not too heavy and the performances were for the most part pretty good. Speculative fiction wasn't common, Aoki and Izu's performance was the only one that could be considered genre fiction.

In addition to *Black Hair*, I took in a one act play by Edna St. Vincent Millay,

*Aria da Capo*, by the SF Free Civic Theater. I thought the actors did a fine job, but the play itself wasn't much to my taste. I thought these sort of meta-theater pieces where the characters are aware they are in a play went out of fashion years ago.

I also saw *Sword of Antony*, a musical version of Antony and Cleopatra. This turned out to be an interesting experience; it was sung entirely in Hungarian by the Musical Studio Madach Theater of Budapest. Every once in a while I could make out a word or two: Cleopatra, Pharaoh, Egypt. But for the rest, it were Greek to me. I spend so much time listening to Japanese that I started to think I was hearing Japanese words in there, but I'm sure it was just my imagination. There were only two actors, but both of them were quite good vocally. The actress who played Cleopatra in particular had quite the set of pipes. This was nice, but I can't help but think this would have been much improved by a handy cheat sheet in English to tell me what was going on. One caveat: I didn't see no sword. If you call a play *Sword of Antony*, I expect a

swordfight. Heck, I expect several.

I caught bits of pieces of other plays, I tried to see as much Shakespeare as I could, but it always seemed that I'd just missed a performance. I also only caught the tail end of what looked like a good performance of *Wood & Cave* by the Pangs Theater Ensemble about Memphisto tempting Faust.

It was a fun day, and free.



Wood & Cave performance

# The Bay Area Fanish Calendar

**July 28-30 (Through Aug. 13)**

*Blood Bucket Ballyhoo*

www.hypnodrome.com

At The Hypnodrome

575 10th Street, SF

“A Grand Guignol tripple terror stage show”

8 p.m., 10 p.m.

Tickets \$18-\$69

From their website:

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

Also returning are the Hypnodrome’s notorious “Shock Boxes” - devilishly renovated - in which audience members will actually feel the effects of bizarre mind control, rat catcher’s poisonous gas and Blood Bucket Ballyhoo’s electro-magnetic lights-out finale! (Patrons who book these

private “Shock Box” seats for two are advised to bring someone they enjoy clutching in terror.)”

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

**July 30**

*Zombie Mob*

3:00pm

Email [Mob@eatbrains.com](mailto:Mob@eatbrains.com) to find out location: Not far from BART San Francisco

Free, Bring your own brains

Event description off of Squidlist:

“Next Saturday at 3pm, me and some friends are going to eat brains in downtown SF. You whacky folks are invited to join us.

“If you show up dressed as a zombie, you can probably walk among us without getting eaten. If you show up in regular clothes, expect to be attacked and turned into one of us by our crack zombification teams (we have extra parts). When our hoarde has grown and we’re out of fresh

food in SF, we’re going to bart to Colma for a picnic. BYOBrains.

“Some important points:

“To get info about this event send an email to [mob@eatbrains.com](mailto:mob@eatbrains.com). The location will be revealed a few days in advance. It will be on the [eatbrains.com](http://eatbrains.com) website, too.

“Bring blood, limbs, entrails, tattered clothes, bart fare, and a picnic basket. If you don’t have a costume, just wear clothes we can destroy.

“Invite your friends and family. Yes, family. We’ve got zombies of all ages, from veal to jerkey.”

Ok people. I want pictures of this for the next issue. And a report.

More Events Next Page

If you are a Bay Area fan who has a blog or website, send us the information at: [backnumbers@gmail.com](mailto:backnumbers@gmail.com). for inclusion in our Blogwatch next issue.

### **Saturday July 30**

*Barbarella: Queen of the Galaxy*

Midnight Mass with Peaches Christ

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

At the Bridge Theater

3010 Geary Blvd.

San Francisco

\$10

Hosted by Peaches Christ as part of her summer midnight movie series. This will feature a drag queen roller derby competition. Attendees will have to sign liability waivers. I'd advise buying tickets early, when I went to see *Faster Pussycat! Kill! Kill!* they sold out.

### **July 30-31**

*Sac-Anime 2005*

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

Sunrise Mall

Citrus Heights.

Free/\$10

Yes, I know that this is too far to be considered a bay area event, but a number of local cosplayers usually make it up for these shows. This is being held in the mall, and attendees will have to mingle with the usual weekend shopping crowds at the mall. The upside is that it's free, although for \$10 bucks you get some extras.

You also need to register if you want to be eligible for prizes in the costume contest. There will be anime showings, a costume contest on Saturday afternoon and dealers.

I'll scan the flyer I have and run in this issue. One warning: their directions leave much to be desired. This show is not really in Sacramento, it's in Citrus Heights which is south east of Sacramento. I really recommend looking at a map or printing out directions from mapquest as the last time I used their directions I got seriously lost.

For photos from and coverage of last year's event, see issue two of *Cosplay Magazine* at [www.efanzines.com](http://www.efanzines.com).

### **July 30-31**

*Heart of the Forest Renaissance Faire*

Saturday and Sunday through Aug. 14

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

Stafford Lake

3549 Novato Blvd.

Novato

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

\$17-\$20

### **Monday Aug. 1**

*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

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

### **Tuesday, August 2**

*2001 A Space Odyssey*

Castro Theater

429 Castro St.

San Francisco

5 p.m., 8 p.m.

Showing as part of the 70mm Film Series. Stanley Kubrick's classic science fiction film.

**More Events Next Page**

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:

**[backnumbers@gmail.com](mailto:backnumbers@gmail.com)**

**Aug. 7**

*Foothills Anime Showing*

Room 1500

Foothills College

12345 El Monte Road

Los Altos Hills

foothill.anime.net

12 Noon -

Free

Schedule:

Space Cruiser Yamato #1 (sub)

2X2 = Shinobuden #11 (sub)

My:Hime #15-16 (sub)

Monster #27-28 (sub)

Tsubasa #1-2 (sub)

Hale Nochi Guu Final #9-12 (sub)

Beck #15-16 (sub)

Beat-to-Death Angel Dokuro-chan  
#3-4 (sub)

Ebichu Minds the House  
#3-4(sub)

(Ebichu is not for children. 18+ over only.)

I've enjoyed the showings I've attended here. They are a little hard to find if you're not familiar with the campus. I'd advise printing out a map of the campus before attending.

**Aug. 14**

*Gay Men's Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

Free

This month's book is *Alien Heat* by Michael Moorcock.

For more information email Jason at [jason@ascensionco.com](mailto:jason@ascensionco.com) or call (415) 867-1538.

**Aug. 20**

*No-Name Anime Showing*

Saratoga Library

13650 Saratoga Ave.

Saratoga

www.nnanime.com

Free

12:30 ish -5:30 ish

No schedule available yet, but they usually show *Ghost in the Shell:SAC*, *R.O.D.*, *Giant Robo*, *Mermaid Forest* among other titles.

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

**Aug. 20**

*Further Confusion Annual Summer Picnic/ Campout*

Lake Chabot

Willow Picnic Area

www.furtherconfusion.org

Free

11 a.m. -4 p.m.

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

**Aug. 21**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *American Gods* by Neil Gaiman.

**Aug. 21**

*Legion of Rassilon*

(Dr. Who fan group)

Meets in the south bay.

[groups.yahoo.com/legion\\_of\\_rassilon/](http://groups.yahoo.com/legion_of_rassilon/)

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Send your reviews, reports and notes about Bay Area fans and fan activities to:  
**[backnumbers@gmail.com](mailto:backnumbers@gmail.com)**

**Aug. 26-27**

*Ultraman Festival*

Castro Theater

www.bayareafilmevents.com

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

**Aug. 27**

*Beefbowl Anime Showing*

Albany Library Community Center

1247 Marin Ave.

Albany

www.beefbowl.org

Free

12:15 ish -4:15 ish

Scheduled shows:

Rurouni Kenshin : TV # 46

R.O.D : TV # 22

One Piece : TV # 31

Naruto : TV # 32

Prince Of Tennis : TV # 32

Hikaru No Go : TV # 32

Yakitate Japan : TV # 7

Project D : TV # 9

Fafner In The Azure : TV # 4

While this group revels in a bad-boy reputation, the showings I've attended

have been much the same as those of any other group. The only downside is the regulars sometimes talk about computers in the back while the anime is being shown.

**September 2-5**

*ConquestSF*

SF Airport Marriott

1800 Old Bayshore Hwy.

Burlingame

www.conquestsf.com

\$40 before Aug. 20

Gaming convention.

**September 11**

*Gay Men's Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

Free

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

For more information email Jason at [jason@ascensionco.com](mailto:jason@ascensionco.com) or call (415) 867-1538.

**September 18**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Red Shift* edited by Al Sarantonio.

**September 30-October 5**

*Mirrormask*

www.calfilm.org

Rafael Film Center

1118 Fourth Street

San Rafael

415-454-1222

\$9.25

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

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## Local Fan Notes:

**Chris Garcia** has pubbed issue 36 of *The Drink Tank*. It can be downloaded at [www.efanzines.com](http://www.efanzines.com).

**October 7-9***Silicon 2005*

www.siliconconventions.com

Doubletree Hotel (Is there a fan in the Bay Area who doesn't know where this hotel is?)

San Jose

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

**October 8***5th Annual Metreon Festival of Anime*

Metreon

101 4th Street

San Francisco

11 a.m. -

Free or ?

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

**October 16***Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

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

**October 28-30***Yaoi Con 2005*

An 18+ convention for fans of yaoi.

**Friday and Saturday, November 11-12***Mermaid Meat*

Eugene & Elinor Friend Center for the Arts

Kanbar Hall

Jewish Community Center of San Francisco

3200 California Street

San Francisco

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

Group Discounts: (415) 346-7805

\$25

Brenda Wong Aoki and Mark Izu pres-

ent Mermaid Meat: The Secret to Immortality and other Japanese ghost stories.

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

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

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

**November 20***Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Tamsin* by Peter Beagle. The author will visit.

More Events Next Page

**December 10***Wintershoppingland*

Hayward Centennial Hall

22292 Foothill Blvd.

Hayward

www.wintershoppingland.com

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

\$2 (Free 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

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

**December 17-18***Japantown Anime Faire 3*

Japantown

San Francisco

www.jtaf.com

6 p.m.

\$24 if postmarked by July 31

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

**December 18***Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Cat's Cradle* by Kurt Vonegut.

**January 15, 2006***Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *The Stars My Desination* by Alfred Bester.

**January 19-23, 2006***Further Confusion*

San Jose Doubletree

www.furtherconfusion.org

\$40

Furry convention.

**February 17-20, 2006***Dundracon*

San Ramon Marriott

2600 Bishop Drive

San Ramon

www.dundracon.com

\$?

Gaming convention.

**February 17-20, 2006***PantheaCon*

San Jose Doubletree

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

**February 19, 2006***Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Wonderland* by Joyce Carol Oates.

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**March 19, 2006**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books  
www.borderlands-books.com  
866 Valencia St.  
San Francisco  
6 p.m.  
Free

This month's book is *Declare* by Tim Powers.

**April 16, 2006**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books  
www.borderlands-books.com  
866 Valencia St.  
San Francisco  
6 p.m.  
Free

This month's book is *Dark Beyond The Stars* by local author Frank Robinson. Author will visit.

**May 11-14, 2006**

*World Horror Con 2006*

Gateway Holiday Inn  
www.whc2006.org

The world horror con comes to the bay area.

**May 21, 2006**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books  
www.borderlands-books.com  
866 Valencia St.  
San Francisco  
6 p.m.  
Free

This month's book is the graphic novel *The Watchmen* by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons.

**May 26-29**

*Fanime Con*

San Jose Convention Center  
San Jose  
www.fanime.com  
Price

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

**May 26-29**

*Baycon*

San Jose Doubletree Inn  
San Jose  
www.baycon.org  
\$45 until August 31

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

**Ongoing:**

*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

Mondays at 8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

*Heart of the Forest Renaissance Faire*

Saturday and Sunday through Aug. 14

www.forestfaire.com

Stafford Lake

3549 Novato Blvd.

Novato

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

\$17-\$20

*Blood Bucket Ballyhoo*

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