

# SF/SF Science Fiction/San Francisco

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

Issue Three

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Editor: Jack Avery

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## eLOCs

Lloyd Penney writes:

Dear Jack:

I've downloaded issues 1 and 2 of SF/SF, and as I do with most of the zines I get from eFanzines.com, I'd send a letter of comment. If you're thinking of the same frequency of pubbing as Arnie Katz and Chris Garcia, I'm going to have a tough time keeping up. But, I will try.

1...It's easy to blame Arnie...you could also blame Chris for the blazing crifanac pace. Arnie also creates much of what he reports on, and as you say, it's happening in his living room. I couldn't do that...our living room is too small. The only folks I know who live in the BArea are Cheryl Morgan, Kevin Standlee, Janice Gelb, Robert Lichtman, Chris Garcia and the recently-gafiated Michael J. Wallis, who used to live up here. If BArea fandom is as disorganized as you say, something like a local newsletter might help organize it a bit. Chris should help out a lot.

The listings that you have here...I do something similar for our monthly pubnight on the First Thursday of each month. I produce a generic newsletter with whatever news I can find. Local clubs, what few there are, are loathe to tell everyone about what's happening, lest someone they don't like show up and

spoil the event.

I did see Faster, Pussycat! Kill, Kill! some years ago...so, there's Tura Satana after all these years, with lots of cleavage and attitude. Parts of my childhood are catching up with me...

2...Jack, if you get fed up with doing this, hand it to Chris. If he's this eager to publish, he might be able to do both weekly zines. Then again, I'm sure we'd find his dead, emaciated body beside his computer, just having sent Drink Tank 372 to eFanzines.com. Save Chris, and keep on with SF/SF. It's looking very good. The tough part, as you've found, is getting people to get off their collective asses and get you information.

Our convention in Toronto, Ad Astra, had John Varley as a guest many years ago. We found him very distant, and unfriendly. He skipped some of his panels, and people were lucky to get autographs in their Varley books. We didn't want to

write him off as a jerk, but I hope his behavior at conventions has improved over the years.

It is difficult to run a club and make people feel they're getting their money's worth out of it. Most clubs offer a newsletter or zine, a club card or pin, and lots of activities. The club in Ottawa offered all that, and they are still around 25 members or less.

I'm going to fold and say that both issues look very good, and this is the kind of newsletter I've been considering for Toronto fandom. I'd even thought of doing it for Canadian fandom as a whole, but I'm sure someone would be upset with me for even trying. East and west, that kind of thing. I'll let the next couple of issues pile up, and I'll send you another letter. See you then.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

Chris Garcia writes:

Really good stuff, and not just because you used my article! You have a great layout which works really nicely. I'm always appreciative of good lay-out.

I'm shocked mine was the only LoC.

I thought there was a law that every zine LoCol had to have a Lloyd Penney LoC in it. And no Eric Mayer either. I feel so alone without the two guys who always seem to be on either side of my LoCs!

Great article on *Black Hair*. There's a long standing rule that anything horror-ish and Japanese has to be good. Just look at *The Ring*. Open air theatre in a very urban setting can be difficult to pull off. It requires an actor with a great singularity of mind and presence to spare. Brenda Aoki is fairly well-known for doing these kinds of plays. I'm not sure if I've seen her in person, but there is a short film of one of her performances that I've seen and it's pretty spectacular. I think much of Japanese traditional and semi-traditional performance is very accessible to American audiences because of the nature of its stream-lined acting and the minimalist approach many use nowadays.

Hungarian musical theatre? I must see it when I get a chance. I know I've heard of *Sword of Anthony* before, but I had no idea it was in Hungarian. I also must find a way to see Wood & Cave. The two of them have such remarkable reputations and the pair of them doing

Faustian work would be just about right.

By far, this is the most complete gathering of Fannish material I've ever seen. The Zombie Mob will likely be the highlight of my pal Steve's life as we were just talking about zombies moments before I forwarded him the info. I think he's taping it too

*Chris:*

*Well, Lloyd Penney sent me an eLOC for this issue, to go before yours, we'll see if we hear from Eric Mayer.*

*I need to sit down and take a good look at my layout. The first issue was designed on the fly and I've just been doing a slow evolution since then. It seems to work OK, but I'm sure there are things I can do to make it easier to read.*

*The listings are far from complete. I know there are a lot of groups and events that I'm missing. Each issue I try to track down more items and add them in. But even with all the research in the world, I won't be able to catch every thing that would be appropriate. I am trying to err on the side of including too much. I figure fans are the sort of folk who are interested in a wide range of activities.*

# Editorial Mumblings

I'd like to thank Jake Appelbaum for letting me reprint his very funny article on the Zombie Mob event that took place last Saturday. I really wanted to have coverage of this event, but nobody I knew went to it. Jake wrote this for a blog and took lots of photos. When I ran across it on line I knew I'd found exactly the article that I wanted to run.

This issue is going to be a bit rough. I'm racing to get this to Bill Burns before he flies off to the Worldcon in Scotland. So forgive the typos.

Yeah, that's right, we got pictures of ass shots of transvestites on roller skates in a cat fight. Let's see Arnie Katz and Vegas fandom top that one.

SF/SF: Bringing you the high culture and refinement that you deserve.

Our next issue is already shaping up. I hope to have some coverage of recent conventions.

I'm still looking for contributions and information for the calendar. So if you're involved in a fan group, let me know

what's up.

Oh, I'm really hoping to get lots of trip reports from bay area fans who are going to the worldcon.

If anybody wants to do a review of the Ren Faire in Novato, that'd be great. I'd really like an article from somebody working the faire. A behind the scenes look at a ren faire would be fun.

Jack Avery,  
Editor-In-Chief

Author Jasper Fforde's novels cross the line between sf and mystery. **Genevieve Collonge** reports on Fforde's recent visit to the Bay Area:

Jasper Fforde is a writer whose Thursday Next series has all the elements it takes to start a long run with readers salivating for each new entry. Jasper came to San Mateo for a reading at M Is For Mystery, a bookstore where readings are held frequently. I dragged Chris, my

boyfriend who hadn't read a single Fforde book, to see Fforde read and even he was rolling once Jasper got started.

He started off just doing stand-up. He made jokes about getting kids to read Shakespeare by having it outlawed. This was a very funny bit, especially since he had an accent that seemed to make every other syllable laughable. He moved on to games he liked to play with the world, like Barcode Roulette (where you add a black line to a UPC and see if you get a discount or mark-up) and sneaking things into other people's shopping carriages. Jasper went over how he and his son share the language of MumbleGrunt and how this has allowed him to enjoy his company even more. He then went on about his actual reading, which was good and his new book, *The Big Over Easy*, seems as funny as all of his previous ones. He closed and folks chatted him up for almost an hour. He also announced that there'll be a FfordeFest in the UK in September.

# Zombie Mob Attacks San Francisco

By Jacob Appelbaum

The zombie mob started at California and Grant. The mob being a bunch of brainless zombies roamed in circles for



at least half an hour. I was able to avoid being bitten by taunting them with my camera. The zombies then proceeded to stream down Grant Street. They were unable to get through the tough metal of oncoming traffic but they weren't giving up. They blocked traffic. They caused

mayhem. They caused tourists to scream. But fear not, they didn't eat the tourists! No BRRRAIIINNNSSSS there!

The mob made it to Market Street where they were able to capture more of the local zombies. During all of this, a live hip hop video about zombies was

being made. They used the zombies as a backdrop while they rapped about eating brains.

By God at this point, we had a ROT of zombies. That's what you call a gathering of shamblers that eat brains. A rot.

The zombies continued their rampage and they made it to the trolley cars of Powell street. At this point, I was separated from a number of the zombies for my own safety. They had attempted to eat me despite my camera blocking their pathetic attempts. I ran for my life and the group split in two. They followed to Union Square where they continued to eat innocent bystanders. I got word from a friend being chased by the other zombies that she was safe for the moment at Powell Street station. I ran to distract the other zombies in hopes they would leave the other poor people alone. When I made it back to the station, I found that I was trapped. My friend had been caught and she was turned. I ran for my life.

I was able to get back to Union Square where I ran into the St. Francis Drake. Apparently the zombies got wind of this because someone mentioned a

labor strike that was broken. Fresh scabs you see. They infested the hotel lobby and I ran through the theater conference in hopes of escaping but I was followed. I was able to evade them again but I ran into their leader at the door to the hotel while running. They again followed me into Union Square where I ran this time towards a different entrance to the local MUNI.



I received word that a local Apple Store was near. I knew that if I went into the store, I would be able to escape. They would see the Genius Bar and be tricked into eating their differently thinking large brains. While this did fool the zombies briefly, it did not last for long. They caught me leaving the store. Only by the brim of my hat was I able to escape as I beat one of them to death with it? What is it when you beat a zombie until it stops twitching? They were so close, I could smell everyone of them. It was horrifying. I was panicking and I was covered in blood.

I ran into the MUNI station and I realized they thought I was one of them. I lead them to the BART station. I explained in a few grunts and motions how to purchase a ticket. They used their money wisely and bought return tickets much to my dismay. I was hoping and wishing that my trick to leave them in Colma would work but I knew I was already foiled. I had to at the very least get them away from the public. I hope that if I could lead them onto the train and bring them to Colma, I could at least escape with my life.

While we waited for the train, the

zombies began to eat children. I said, “think of the children! Stop! Stop! Is nothing scared?!” Clearly the zombies knew that children are the freshest source of blood. I was surprised that Jesus didn’t show up or Lazarus for that matter. What with those two being the first zombies ever. Or were they vampires? I forget.

Where was I?



Oh yes. Then the police came. We were surrounded by the police in the BART station. They had white plastic latex gloves on and were obviously there on some business. The little children zombies were fighting to eat their soon to be undead friends. The police looked to me as if I was responsible. Little did they know how close they were to death. These zombies would eat their brains if they had any. Lucky for the police, when they asked me where the seizure victim was, I knew they had none. It was hard for me to withhold my laughter when they inquired about the seizure victim. Obviously they missed out on the pack of zombies now pounding on a newly arrived BART train directly in front of them. Someone had reported them as if they weren’t purposely eating peoples brains.

When the doors of the next Colma bound BART opened, I ran inside. The zombies followed because I had shouted BRAINS BRAINS BRRRAAIINNS BRRRRRRRAAAAIIIIINNNNSSSSS. Once inside the car, they turned more people into zombies. More innocent lives were lost and I will live forever with this guilt.

When we arrived at Colma, they were confused. They saw no people and they could taste no more fresh brains. When they saw me waiting for the next San Francisco bound train, I knew I was cooked. I was as good as eaten. Luckily for me the train arrived shortly after they began their jaunt down the stairs to eat my brains.

As the train pulled away, I signaled



to a police officer who saw the zombie horde coming directly at me. The doors had closed and he didn't fire a shot to save me. The bastard. I was able to run through the train and avoid them. I tried to warn the other on the train but no one listened. Once they saw the zombies, they screamed. One sleeping man looked as if he would have a heart attack and yet he was entirely silent when he wet his pants.

I continued my run through the train. When I reached the end of the train, I was able to fake being already dead. They surrounded me but all of them began to lounge. They made zombie lounge sounds. Something like "Brraaaainnnsssss."



When I heard this tone of brains being said, I knew their plan. They were going to eat the people in the Mission district. Their plan was to go to Pancho-Brain-Oh. I'm sure this wasn't the correct name but apparently it has vegetarian brains. Vegan zombies!

When they exited the BART, I pretended to be one of them. They were so slow they didn't even know that I wasn't. Amazing.

At this point, many questions came into my mind. Where did they come from and why do they like Mexican food? Why is it that I'm wearing this stupid Panama hat covered in blood?

We made it to Pancho Villa on 16th and Valencia. I explained to my zombie friends how to wait in line. Nearly all of them ate Vegetarian burritos.

Suddenly, I saw something strange, one of them put their face on the table. Then the next and the next and the next. As suddenly as they had come alive, they had dropped dead from lack of tasty flesh in their mouth.

This time, I was able to escape in a leisurely manner and come home to wash all the blood off.

*This article first appeared at [sf.metblogs.com](http://sf.metblogs.com).*

*More photos by Jake Appelbaum of the Zombie Mob can be found at [flickr.com/photos/loerror/sets/685972/](http://flickr.com/photos/loerror/sets/685972/)*

*More coverage can be found at [eatbrains.com](http://eatbrains.com)*



# BASFA Minutes: meetings 783-784

Minutes of Meeting 783 held  
July 25, 2005.

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

Began at 8:00 pm as we said 'hi Galen!' 17 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 782 were accepted as 'do you want fries with that?'

Treasurer's report was that last week we took in \$4.60 in the regular fund & \$11.25 in the party fund.

VP Chris reported that there's a new issue of 'Drink Tank' online & that his team did make the film in 48 hours & that Frank Wu made an appearance therein; then VP Nathan reported that Scotty died last week, that Gary Kurtz is selling off his Star Wars memorabilia on Ebay live auction, that the SF Museum is taking films for consideration through Nov 1 & a Star Wars TV show is allegedly in the works.

The President had nothing to report

We said 'hi' to Harold Tilsdale - a guest visiting us 'cuz he saw our website.

Announcements:

Pam announced that Cathy Garber is a media guest for Silicon.

Carole announced membership prices for Silicon go up Sept 14, so buy now & to check out the Silicon website.

Julie announced that the Novato Ren Faire goes for another 3 weeks

Dave C announced he read that Fred Saberhagen has been diagnosed with metastasized prostate cancer & that it's been really hot.

Chris announced that Captain Jack Avery has started a new ezine called SF/SF [check ezines.com] & that the film he did will be at the Roxy this Wed & Thurs nights at 7 & 9:30 p.m.

Cheryl announced that she leaves for Glasgow this Wednesday

[Trey commented in follow-on that 'my government' equates to 'my gout', but that he can live with his gout.]

Kevin announced that he leaves for Glasgow this Sunday - looking quite

natty in his captain's outfit.

Reviews:

Nathan reviewed the Legion of Rasselon meeting & found it fun & had a good time, well worth checking out and that the '4400' is worth viewing.

Dave C reviewed 'the Knitters' at the Great Old Music Hall - playing traditional American music & heard Phranc [butch lesbian music] as "a great time was had by all".

Julie commented that she was re-learning how to knit

Then Chris said something to trigger my mysophobia [Spitting? Ewwwww!].

Dave C then reviewed 'The Island' as a 'big dumb movie' that he saw for free as his only consolation - that it was tedious & everything about science hurt & that the clones were too stupid to be killed. Dave stated that this movie turned the audience against the idea of seeing films. Avoid this movie.

Dave C then reviewed Ian Banks' 'The Algebraist' as hard going & hoped it was an off-year for the author, worth used in paperback.

Dave G reviewed a 50th wedding anniversary party in San Diego for his aunt & uncle as a fun time & then reviewed ComicCon as big & full of people & a nice little diversion & worth the 1-day membership fee.

Julie wanted it known that she still hasn't seen the movie 'Sideways'.

Dave C mentioned a secret book dealer's trick.

Chris reviewed wearing his shirt inside-out as 'very cooling' & then reviewed buying a Disney treasure on Ebay as good live-action & sucky cartoons.

Cheryl reviewed 'Books by the Bay' as it was hot in SF & she bought some books there.

We birthday-auctioned off Galen for \$5.25 to Chris, who outbid himself

We adjourned at = 9:18 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was 'Galen is back, can Friday be far behind?'

### **Minutes of Meeting 784** held August 1, 2005

Trey Haddad, President  
Nathan Slurm-r & Chris Garcia, Vice-

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

Began at 8:01 p.m. 8 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 783 were accepted as 'Fashionably Late'

Treasurer's report: Treasurer not present.

VP reports = 3D pre-eminent VP, and acting President Nathan reported that the important people were in the room.

The President was not present.

Announcements:

Dave Clark announced that World Con is next weekend.

Galen announced that the Silicon E-mail address is bouncing his E-mail from Comcast.

Reviews:

Dave Clark reviewed that his Comcast lineup included Turner Classic Movie channel and he watched 'The Thin Man' Marathon and found the shows in black and white better than anything in color on other channels.

Galen followed on that 'The Thin Man' is to be released on DVD this Tuesday.

Julie said that she still had not seen the movie 'Sideways'.

There were no auction items.

We adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

The rumor of the week is that 'Next week's meeting will be shorter'.

## **Local Fan Notes:**

Chris Garcia has pubbed issue 37 of *The Drink Tank*. It can be downloaded at [www.efanzines.com](http://www.efanzines.com).

Cherryl Morgan has pubbed the July issue of *Emerald City*. It can be found at [www.emcit.com](http://www.emcit.com)

# The Usual Location

**By Chris Garcia**

There are few hotels in the world of fandom that can say they are truly fan hotels. I've been to a couple, one that hosted a large number of cons in the mid-west and another in Oregon that recently went away. There are very few hotels indeed that can say they've held every edition of a convention that has been running for more than twenty years. The one I can think of is the Doubletree Hotel in San Jose, where every BayCon ever has been held.

The Doubletree started out as the Red Lion Inn at the San Jose Airport in 1981. Not but a year later, BayCon, an up-start con, held its first edition in the hotel. That was the start of a run that continues through to today. I've been looking and I can't find a single hotel that has held as many of a single con as the Double Lion, I mean the Red Tree...whatever, has over the last 23 years.

One of the reasons for the success of the Doubletree as a con venue is the lay-out. There are large ballrooms up top, and one downstairs. It has become so obvious that the upper ballrooms are

best for multi-use activities, as they are more easily configurable than the bottom ballroom. This is where the major events, like the Masquerade and Meet the Guests, have happened for years. Even after my lay-off of several years from BayCon, I still knew exactly where to go and what would be where. The bottom of that ballroom area is the room where the dealers live. I've spent hundreds, and possibly thousands, of dollars in that dealers room over the years.

BayCon isn't the only con that has run at the Doubletree/Red Lion. TimeCon was a regular part of the Red Lion calendar. I worked on the last TimeCon, in the Hospitality lounge, so I got to meet George Takei (we played a game of chess), Brinke Stevens, Sylvester McCoy and others. That was a fun time. The next year, they posted a long list of things that folks could and couldn't do in response to chowderheads who had fouled up BayCon 1991 (I think I was



there briefly). There was a lot of hoopla about it, but one part of the list of Dos and Don'ts caught on. Rule 6. *No physical contact other than holding hands, a quick hug or kiss will be tolerated. Any further actions will result in the subjects being asked to leave the property for the remaining time of the Con.* Over the years, there've been a lot of Rule Six buttons, and I've seen them at BayCons, WorldCons, WesterCon, Norwescon and even at the one PhilCon I went to. It's not unusual to see an I Break Rule 6 button.

The first Anime Expo was held at the Red Lion in 1992. I sorta worked on it, but really I just moved a few things and got a badge out of it. I can remember the in-room channel being the best of any con I've ever been to in my life. I can also remember them debuting *Not Necessarily The Sentinels* that weekend. It was a good time.

Some of the furry movement also comes from the Red Lion days. It was a group that regularly attended BayCon that went on to form Confurance in 1989 and then that split off and spawned others and now there are several furry cons around the world, including *Further Confusion*, which has taken place at the

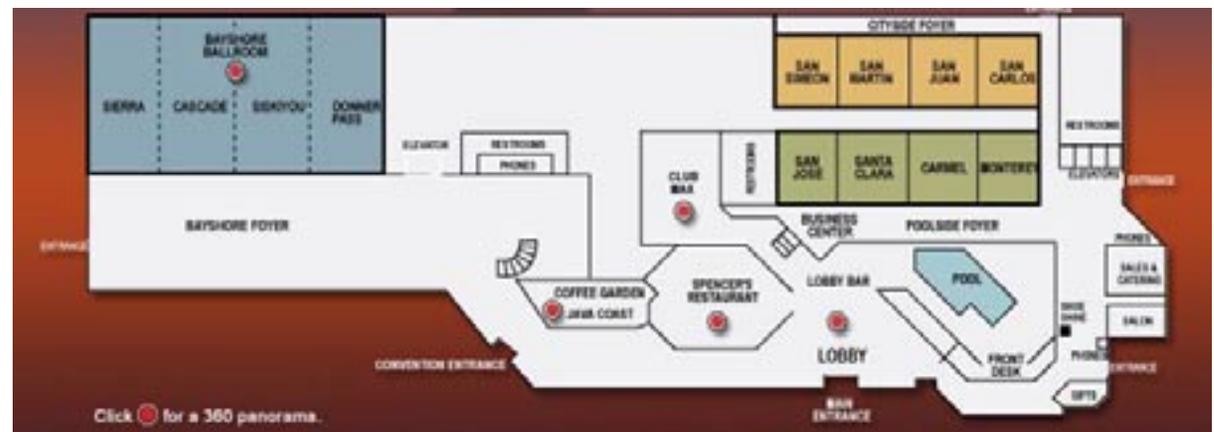
Doubletree the last couple of years.

It would be hard to talk about the Doubletree or the Red Lion without mentioning the legendary coffee shop right in the middle. I've eaten there too often over the years, and the food isn't great, but it's better than I expect for a Con Hotel coffee shop. You always have a safe bet with the burger. In that space, many remarkable things have happened. Just witnessed with my own eyes over the years, there've been fights (my favorite being between a pair of identical twins), a marriage proposal or two (one of which led to a marriage that is still going strong today), I got to meet and have a nice chat with Poul Anderson and later that same afternoon, David Gerrold. I was dumped there. I managed to pick up my first

older woman there (when I was 18 and she was 30!) and I also managed to win a bacon and sausage eating contest among a group of fen. I've also been told that several anthologies and a few novels were conceived there, and if rumours are to be believed, a few young fans as well.

So, the Red Lion/Doubletree is the centre of much fan fun and folly. BayCon will return next year, like the swallows to Capistano. Silicon will be there in October and *Further Confusion* early next year. They've got *CostumeCon* coming in a couple of years, and a *WesterCon*.

The Doubletree will continue to be THE fannish hotel of the Bay Area...at least until I take over some property and make it into the San Jose Fan Hilton!



# Barbarella: Queen of Rollerderby

By Jack Avery

They brought an Orgzmatron... but it wouldn't fit through the door.

Saturday night's Midnight Mass with Peaches Christ at the Bridge theater in San Francisco featured a drag queen roller derby

and one of the three teams competing, the Orgzmatrons, actually build one that was inspired by the device from Barbarella as a prop. Unfortunately the show had to go on without the gizmo.

The show began with Peaches

introducing the guest referees: actual roller derby queens from the Bay Area Derby Girls. The refs didn't do much refereeing though, Drag Queen Roller Derby doesn't seem to have any rules.

Peaches Christ wore an outfit based on one that Jane Fonda wore in the movie. I don't know whether to be disappointed or not that my photos were all dark or out of focus. Members of the audience also provided much good people watching. Some of the wilder outfits were on attendees and not on the performers.

One guy wore a tunic that looked like he was an extra in a 1950's SF tv show. He had

Captain Kirk sideburns. A woman wore a cloak and fuzzy hat with ears. There were a few people there whose outfits quite frankly are indescribable. Sorry, I should have gotten photos, but I was too shy to ask.

All audience members had to sign



a liability waiver before being allowed into the theater. This was because the “track” for the roller derby was actually just the aisles of the movie theater. Drag queens raced up and down the aisles fighting and snatching wigs. The derby had several rounds, but the winners were decided by the last round, the wig snatching round, where the teams all competed to see which team could claim the most wigs within the time limit. One team tried to enter with bike helmets on, but Peaches ruled that that was an unfair advantage.

I had an aisle seat, and there were a couple of good pile ups right in front of



me, so I got a few good action shots.

So after this the film program started. They showed a preview for this Saturday’s movie *Teen Witch*. Now there’s a movie that is a crime against art. I will not list it in the calendar this week because, well, it’s an insult to speculative fiction.

I haven’t seen *Barbarella* since I caught a heavily edited version on TV when I was in junior high. I didn’t remember it being this bad. Amazingly bad. So bad that you wonder what they were thinking when they made this. Wasn’t it obvious that this was going to suck really bad?

It’s so bad that the only saving grace was the heckling from the audience. It’s the only time I’ve seen a movie and wished the other people in the audience would talk more.

Well, it was a fun time, the movie was made bearable by the spectacle nature of the event.



# The Bay Area Fanish Calendar

## August 3, August 10 Bay Area Role-Playing Society

www.BayRPS.com  
Go-Getter's Pizza  
1489 Beach Park Boulevard  
Foster City  
6pm to 10pm

Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details send email to: GM@BayRPS.com. (Not confirmed, check before attending.)

## August 4-9, August 11-14

*Dark Shadows: Episodes 236 and 365*  
website  
SFMOMA  
151 Third Street  
Koret Visitor Education Center  
San Francisco  
3 p.m.

Free with Museum Admission (\$12.50)

Showing as part of the Jerrmy Blake exhibition.

From the SFMOMA website:

Heiress Sarah Winchester and her Winchester Mystery House — the bi-

zarre gothic mansion she built to defend herself from the ghosts of those killed by the rifles that made her family famous — are the inspiration for Jeremy Blake's suite of digital animations, the Winchester trilogy. Employing hand-painted imagery, film footage, vector graphics, and sound in a process the artist calls "time-based painting," Blake's visually opulent works offer an empathetic experience of Winchester's madness. Representational images morph into kinetic inkblots and back again. Traditional modes of storytelling are questioned, as are the relationships between reality and simulation. Shown together for the first time, Winchester (2002), 1906 (2003), and Century 21 (2004) are presented as a triptych in three adjacent projections.

## August 5

*SF Games*  
vax.hanford.org/dk/games  
Muddy's Coffeehouse  
1304 Valencia Street near 24th  
San Francisco  
7:00 p.m. to midnight  
Free

SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Also has a cards night on Tuesdays at Café Macondo, 3159 16th Street between Guerrero and Valencia.

More Events Next Page

If you are a Bay Area fan who has a blog or website, send us the information at: **SFinSF@gmail.com**. for inclusion in our Blogwatch next issue.

## August 5-6 (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.

## August 6

*The South Bay Game Club*

Paradox Playground

starting at 11:00 AM

Meets on the first Saturday of every month, main activity is wargaming with miniatures, also board games or CCGs. Meetings are open to everyone. Only members may run games, and members have first rights at signing up for games.

## Saturday, August 6

*Silicon Gulch Browncoats*

This event repeats on the first Saturday of every month.

Tied House Cafe & Brewery Street:

954 Villa

Mountain View

12:00 pm - 2:00

Free

Firefly/Serenity fan group. To join the Browncoats: go to [browncoats.serenitymovie.com/serenity/?u=Elvis](http://browncoats.serenitymovie.com/serenity/?u=Elvis). Then, click on “Crews” and look for “Elvis Tightpants”.

## Saturday August 6

*PenSFA Meeting/Party*

San Jose

8 p.m. - midnight

Free

The Peninsula Science Fantasy Association will hold a meeting/party. For location and details, contact PenSFA Commander Rich McAllister at [commander@pensfa.org](mailto:commander@pensfa.org).

From their newsletter:

Meetings always are parties in member’s homes. PenSFA used to have “Topic” meetings to discuss Science Fiction but the topics never got discussed, so we gave up. SF is actually rarely discussed at meetings, but any mention of new good books is eagerly welcomed. Science/space news, politics, house prices, jobs, convention SMOFFing, etc. are likely topics. Because of its anarchic nature, PenSFA never does anything like run conventions, pub zines, hold blood drives, or even have speakers at meetings.

More Events Next Page

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

**Saturday and Sunday August 6-7**

*California Extreme 2005*

www.caextreme.org

Parkside Hall

180 Park Avenue

San Jose

11 a.m. - midnight Saturday

11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

\$25-\$50

A convention for those who love coin operated arcade games and pinball machines. All machines will be set to free play. Exhibitors who bring arcade games can get discounted or free admission. There are supposed to be hundreds of different arcade games at the show. Atari Film Festival, panels, pinball tournaments.

**Saturday and Sunday August 6-7**

*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

**Sunday 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.

**Monday Aug. 8**

*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

**August 13**

*Bay Area Games Day XL*

davekohr.best.vwh.net/gamesday/

Los Altos Public Library, Community Room

Los Altos

\$1 donation!

10 a.m. – 11 p.m.

**August 14**

*Michael Blumlein signing*

www.darkcarnival.com

Dark Carnival

3086 Claremont Ave.

Berkeley

2 p.m.

Free

The local author will appear to promote his new book *The Healer*.

More Events Next Page

Send your reviews, reports and notes about Bay Area fans and fan activities to:  
**SFinSF@gmail.com.**

**August 13, 2005**

*The South Bay Game Club*

www.armory.com/~sbgcl/

Scenario Games and Hobbies

Fremont

10:30 a.m.

Meets on the second Saturday of each month.

**Aug. 14**

*Gay Men's Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

5 p.m.

Free

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

Please contact the group leader, Christopher Rodriguez, at cobalt555@earthlink.net, for more information.

**Aug. 17**

*David Drake appearance*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

Borderlands is incredibly excited to host science fiction great David Drake! While he is best known for his military science fiction including the much-lauded *Hammer's Slammers* books, Mr. Drake has written everything from humor (*All the Way to the Gallows*) to space opera (*With the Lightnings*) to high fantasy (*Lord of the Isles*), and those are just in the last several years! David hasn't been out to the Bay Area in about thirty years, so don't miss the rare opportunity to meet this talented and versatile author. (<http://david-drake.com/>)

**Thursday, August 18**

*Tribute to Scotty (James Doohan)*

Edinburgh Castle Pub

950 Geary St.

San Francisco

<http://www.castlenews.com/>

8 p.m.

415.885.4074

Open 5pm - 2am, daily

A musical, visual, verbal and whisky soaked tribute to the greatest Scotsman ever.

Space wear costume encouraged. Scotty impersonators contest. Phasers on Stun. Prizes. Romulan Ale on Tap. Fish and chips served 'til 11 p.m.

**Saturday 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.

**More Events Next Page**

### Saturday August 20

*PenSFA Meeting/Party*

Redwood City

6:30 p.m. - midnight

Free

The Peninsula Science Fantasy Association will hold a backyard BBQ part/meeting. For location and details, contact PenSFA Commander Rich McAllister at [commander@pensfa.org](mailto:commander@pensfa.org).

### Saturday Aug. 20

*Satan's Three-Ring Circus of Hell Signing*

Borderlands Books

[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

*Satan's Three-Ring Circus of Hell* (Asylum Press) signing with Robert Steven Rhine (*Satan Gone Wild*, *Chicken Soup for Satan*, *Selected Readings From Satan's Powder Room*, *My Brain Escapes Me*), Frank Forte (*Vampire Verses*, *Hex of the Wicked Witch*, *Billy Boy*), Tim Vigil (*Gothic Nights*, *Faust*, *Heavy Metal Magazine*, *Dark Utopia*), Spain Rodriguez (*Zap Comix*, *Trashman*, and

*Tales of the Leather Nun*), Jim Smith (Co-Creator "Ren & Stimpy," co-founder Spumco, Ripping Friends, The X's), Alex Pardee (*Bunny With, Eyesuck*), Joe Vigil (*Gunfighters in Hell*) and Feo Amante - "It's dark, horrific, freaky and very funny." *The Grin Creeper*, writer Robert Steven Rhine's 270 page, glossy, color, graphic novel, featuring 43 of the top comic book illustrators in the world, is setting up tent! For more information see (<http://3ring.feoamante.net>)

### Aug. 20

*Further Confusion Annual Summer Picnic/ Campout*

Lake Chabot

Willow Picnic Area

[www.furtherconfusion.org](http://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

*Michael Blumlein signing*

Borderlands Books

[www.borderlands-books.com](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

2 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

Borderlands is pleased to welcome Michael Blumlein, the author of *The Movement of Mountains*, and *X, Y*, as well as the award-winning story collection *The Brain of Rats*. He has been nominated twice for the World Fantasy Award and twice for the Bram Stoker Award. In addition to writing, Dr. Blumlein practices and teaches medicine at the University of California at San Francisco. Now Blumlein brings his experience as a practicing physician to bear in his novel *The Healer*, which subtly and beautifully examines the ways in which society both reveres and fears members of the medical profession. *The Healer* is a story of human life and death, human rites and rituals, seen through the eyes of an outsider, one who knows humans better, perhaps, than they know themselves. Join us to meet this fascinating author!

More Events Next Page

**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. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**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/)

**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. ConQuest features many different kinds of games, including miniatures games, role playing games (RPGs), board games, collectible card games (CCGs), and live action role playing games (LARPs).

**September 4***Sacramento Comic Book Show*

Scottish Rite Center  
 6151 H. Street  
 Sacramento  
 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

\$5 (\$4 with coupon from website)

Comic book convention with anime viewing room, dealers, cosplay contest at 2 p.m. For a report on the February show, see Don't Shake Me at [www.efanzines.com](http://www.efanzines.com).

More Events Next Page

### September 10

*Sonoma County Book Festival*

/www.sonomacountybookfair.org/  
index.html

Courthouse Square (Mendocino Ave.  
between Third and Fourth Streets. Take  
the downtown exit off of 101 and go un-  
der the mall.)

Santa Rosa

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Free

Join Borderlands Books and dozens of  
other vendors in Santa Rosa's Courthouse  
Square for this sixth annual celebration of  
the literary arts. There will be author ap-  
pearances, panels, readings, special events  
for kids, and much, much more! (Note:  
this is a general book festival, not genre  
specific)

### September 11

*Robin Hobb appearance*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

Borderlands is delighted to welcome

the prolific and talented Robin Hobb, au-  
thor of the beloved *Farseer* books. *Shaman's  
Crossing* is the first in a brand-new series,  
The Soldier Son Trilogy. *Shaman's Cross-  
ing* is dedicated "To Caffeine and Sugar  
- my companions through many a long  
night of writing." We know you're going  
to love Robin Hobb! Check out her thor-  
oughly entertaining website here: ([http:  
//www.robinhobb.com/](http://www.robinhobb.com/))

### September 17

*Brian Keene appearance*

*Phil Nutman appearance*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

4 p.m.

Free

From the Borderlands newsletter:

We're pleased to welcome Brian and  
Phil for a zombie double-header! Brian  
Keene (*City of the Dead, Terminal*) is the  
charismatic author of THE RISING, and  
many, many forthcoming books. Philip  
Nutman (*Wet Work*) is a novelist, short  
story writer, comic book scriptwriter, and  
screenwriter. Join us for a whole afternoon  
of the living dead!

### September 11

*Gay Men's Science Fiction Book Club*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

5 p.m.

Free

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

Please contact the group lead-  
er, Christopher Rodriguez, at  
cobalt555@earthlink.net, for more in-  
formation.

### September 17

*David Morell appearance*

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

Signing in support of his new novel  
*Creepers*.

More Events Next Page

**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. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**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.

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

www.siliconventions.com

Doubletree Hotel

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***Yaoicon 5*

www.yaoicon.com

The Westin San Francisco Airport

1 Old Bayshore Highway

Millbrae

A celebration of male beauty and passion in anime and manga. Dealers room, programming, cosplay contest, bishi auction. Must be 18 years of age or older to attend.

**November 4-6***Bascon*

Embassy Suites

250 Gateway Boulevard

South San Francisco

Memberships: \$70 to 10/31/05 or until sold out

Information: BASCon, P.O. Box 282197, San Francisco, CA 94128-2197

Email: [info@BASCon.org](mailto:info@BASCon.org)

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

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

More Events Next Page

**November 5***AnimeDestiny 2005*

www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~animage/  
animed/

University of California Berkeley  
Berkeley

\$10 in advance, \$15 at the door

Members of Cal-Animage Alpha get in  
free.

9 a.m. – 11 p.m.

The second year for this very fun one-  
day convention sponsored by one of the  
oldest anime clubs in the U.S.

Anime track, programming, concert  
by j-rock group Beautiful Losers, cosplay  
contest, dealers, swap meet.

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

Eugene & Elinor Friend Center for the  
Arts

Kanbar Hall

Jewish Community Center of San Fran-  
cisco

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 Immor-  
tality and other Japanese ghost stories.

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

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

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

**November 12-13***Creation's Salute to Sci-Fi TV*

Wyndham San Jose

1350 N. First Street

San Jose

**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 Pe-  
ter Beagle. The author will visit. Please  
contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-  
books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-<br/>books.com) for more information.

**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.

More Events Next Page

**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. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

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

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *The Stars My Destination* by Alfred Bester. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

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

San Jose Doubletree

www.furtherconfusion.org

\$40

Furry convention.

**February 10-12 2006***Wondercon*

The Moscone Center

San Francisco

Comic book convention with anime, summer movie previews, panels, dealers, costume contest, more.

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

San Ramon Marriott

2600 Bishop Drive

San Ramon

www.dundracon.com

\$?

Gaming convention.

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

San Jose Doubletree

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

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

Borderlands Books

www.borderlands-books.com

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Wonderland* by Joyce Carol Oates. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

More Events Next Page

**March 3-5 2006**

*Consonance 2006*

www.consonance.org/  
Crowne Plaza Silicon Valley  
777 Bellew Drive  
Milpitas

Memberships: \$35 to 10/31/05, \$40 to 2/18/06, \$45 at door

Filk convention. Guests: Bill & Gretchen Roper, Marty Coady Fabish, Puzzlebox, Chris Conway

**March 19, 2006**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

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

This month's book is *Declare* by Tim Powers. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**April 16, 2006**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

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

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is *Dark Beyond The Stars* by local author Frank Robinson. Author will visit. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**Sunday, April 24, 2006**

*3DB Con*

www.threedollarbill.com/3DBcon  
Three Dollar Bill Cafe 1800 Market Street  
San Francisco

10:00 AM-10:00 PM

\$10

Game Convention.

**May 11-14, 2006**

*World Horror Con 2006*

Gateway Holiday Inn  
www.whc2006.org

The world horror con comes to the bay area.

**May 21, 2006**

*Science Fiction Book Club*

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

6 p.m.

Free

This month's book is the graphic novel *Watchmen* by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons. Please contact Jude at [jfeldman@borderlands-books.com](mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com) for more information.

**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.

More Events Next Page

**May 26-29**

*Baycon*

San Jose Doubletree Inn

San Jose

[www.baycon.org](http://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.

**August 4-6 2006**

*Anime Overdose 2006*

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

San Francisco

\$30 to ?, \$45 at door

Anime convention.

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

*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

*Blood Bucket Ballyhoo*

Thurs., Fri. and Sat. through Aug. 13

[www.hypnodrome.com](http://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

The \$69 tix are for some sort of special box seating with some kind of gimmick. If anybody goes to see this, I'd love a review.

That's all for this issue folks, see ya next week.