

Science Fiction/San Francisco

The twice-monthly news zine for the San Francisco Bay Area.

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Editorial

Can you feel that, the tingle in the air that feels slightly more like a metaphysical Van DeGraaf generator than anything else? I can tell you what it is, it's Con Season. That's right, the season of the con has begun with WonderCon this past weekend. Between now and Memorial Day, when BayCon starts the summer con season, the BAarea will host cons as varied as Dundracon and Pantheacon, the World Horror Convention to the filk happening Consonance. It's all in the coming months, and for many I'd imagine their year started with FurCon (which we're lucky to have a review of in this issue), but for me, I gotta wait until WonderCon.

And I had a ball.

Because even though there are indie comics to be bought (and if you don't check out *Journey Into Misery* at journeyintomisery.com you're a dang-blasted fool!) and panels to attend and porn stars to mingle with, really, WonderCon is all about people. I met some great folks up there and had a wonderful time catching up and meeting and greeting. There were some of the folks I run into all the time,

like Kevin Standlee, Mike Miyake and Ken Patterson, as well as folks I seldom see outside of Cinequest. It's a rare event where people of all kinds, comic and SF and movie geeks, can all come together and find wonderful things.

In addition to them, I got some talk time with Mr. Lobo, host of Cinema Insomnia, and Bob Wilkens and John Stanley, the legendary hosts of KTVU's Creature Features. I ran into Chase Masterson, a BayCon favorite who remembered my name! I also talked to people as diverse as filmmakers and comedians Lon Lopez, Sean Becker and Mike Florez all the way through to Loyd Auerback, paranormal investigator and Travel Channel Friday night regular. There were comics people I talked to, like Frank Cho (Liberty Meadows) and Raphael Navarro (Sonambulo), who I had nice little chats with. There were more people there to be enjoyed than anywhere else I've been since my last con experience.

Oh yeah, and the SF/SF crew was there! I had made fifty-plus CDs of SF/SFs and other zines from eFanzines.com to pass out to folks and they all went away. I'd put ten

or so on the table and they'd vanish! I gave some to staff writers like Diane Rooney and my delightful co-editor Jean Martin, who sadly I only got to see very briefly. We were hoping to go for lunch together on Sunday, but sadly Diane and I found each other, but we couldn't find Jean, Dr. Noe or any of the others, so we ended up going to lunch with the always enlightening SF historian Brad Lyau. We had a great talk about science fiction, fandom, pulps, comics, history, religion, Ph.D. programs and so much more around that Metreon food court table. It was a good time, though it would have been really nice if we'd gotten a chance to hang with the rest of the SF/SF crew.

I believe that Dr. Noe and Jean won a prize at the Masquerade as well for their performance of "Running from the Reavers." It was a fine bit of costuming/filk/performance. The Browncoats were

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.

out there all weekend, from showing the documentary *Done The Impossible* to the active booth they had on the main floor. I didn't get a chance to talk to any of them much (including the adorable one with the red hair who I really should have tried to chat with), but I got the distinct impression that they were so busy, idle chit-chat would have been rushed too much.

The events were solid. I enjoyed the panels on the Horror Hosts and I managed to see the Pixar and Superman presentation.

The programming team from Comic-Con International should be very proud, even though Saturday ran behind sched by an hour at times. The Masquerade was strong, especially with my man, Phil Foglio, doing the MC-ing. I enjoyed the entries, especially the Han-in-Carbonite being chased by mini-Boba Fett and Chewbacca. I laughed a lot at that one.

There was so much to the con that I can't even go over it all. I'll say you'll be seeing a lot more of what we all did while

at WonderCon over the next couple of issues, as well as some interviews that were made possible by our being at WonderCon. It was just a great time when we could get out there and talk to Browncoats, film fans, comic fans, indy comic writers, porn stars, artists, writers, SF fans, fantasy fans, toy collectors, anime nuts, and TV lovers... you know, all those people who should be reading (and writing for) Science Fiction/San Francisco!

—Chris Garcia

Richard Paul Russo at Borderlands



Further Confusion 2006

By Adam Riggs (aka Nicodemus)

One convention that I attend every January is Further Confusion out at the San Jose DoubleTree hotel. It's one of the largest gatherings of anthropomorphics fans, attracting just shy of two thousand people this year and filling the hotel to capacity.

Anthropomorphics fandom, usually referred to by the nickname "furry," is focused on animal characters: animals that have human attributes, fantasy combinations of animal and human forms, and mythical creatures such as dragons and gryphons. Furry fans enjoy sharing stories, discussing man's relationship with nature, collecting animal memorabilia, creating representations of characters, and more. Most furies associate themselves with a particular species or even an animal character of their own creation; many create drawings or even full costume representations of these personas.

It's fun just to hang out in the public areas and meet fellow attendees. Artists can usually be found sketching in the oversized

lobby armchairs. Furies pass by, wearing tokens of their favorite animals, ranging from necklaces with tiny silver rabbits to complete mascot-style costumes. Ears and tails are the most common fashion accessories. After a while, bright-colored fuzzy animals walking by become normal, and the occasional mundane businessman in a suit seems odd and misplaced.

Further Confusion has a variety of programming, including both large stage events and smaller discussion panels. I was at FC this year to help out with some of the costuming panels (costume construction being one of my specialties) and also to run one of the stage shows. Though I can't possibly recount everything that happened in such a short space, hopefully I've assembled an interesting sample of some of the highlights of my trip.

After registering, I got to see a bit of the costume animatronics panel the first evening. I'm always amazed by the things that people are building into fursuits these days! People making costumes as a hobby generally like to explore new techniques. This panel showcased some mechanical

animation effects used in heads as well as the computer technology behind them.

While I spent much of my time at costuming track events, there were also panels on art, writing, science, and history. Some of these were lectures while others were structured as workshops. Live animal drawing sessions are among the special art track events. Exotic animals are brought in as live models for the artists to sketch. FC has worked to establish a good relationship with local animal sanctuaries through their charitable fundraising efforts.

Like most conventions, there's a Masquerade event. There were over twenty creative entrants in this year's competition. My wife, the Masquerade Director, was busy organizing all the participants in the backstage area, among the large electric fans and photoshoot backdrops. If you've never worn a mascot costume, you may not realize that all that synthetic fur is hot, so the fans are essential green room equipment! The Masquerade went well, from what I heard. I didn't get to actually see much of it because I was gathering supplies and staffers backstage for the following show,

“Iron Artist.” This is one the events that I run each year, with the help of a number of talented friends.

The premise of the Iron Artist event is similar to the TV show “Iron Chef.” In our version, we pit three artists (the previous year’s winners) against three challengers. The challenging artists are drawn by lot from signup forms submitted earlier. Once all the artists are on-stage, we unveil the “secret ingredient,” some unusual art media which each artist must use in their composition. The six competitors then get thirty minutes to try quickly to assemble artistic masterpieces to impress a panel of judges.

It’s a lot of fun to get artists working in the spotlight under a strict time limit. It pushes their skills and makes it interesting for the audience. We ensure that things get sufficiently silly by providing color commentary, roving cameras, and on-the-spot interviews. I had fun being the lead commentator as well as providing this year’s secret media: dry pasta and glue. I think they were well-received; dried pasta has been suggested by fans almost every year since we did our first show at FC’01. The artists had a good time with it, taking a number of creative approaches; one artist

even used the white glue to draw the lines for the cartoon composition. It’s always fascinating to see the individual style of the artists as they deal with the (deliberately oddball) materials.

Finally, a long day was rounded out by the Improv Workshop. As with most nights of the con, there was also a late-night dance going on in the main ballroom. Being less coordinated, I’d rather flail about where it’ll be recognized as comedy, so some friends and I ran through some informal improv games. The group had more improv novices than usual, which kept us to a selection of basic games. But they were all willing to give new things a try and throw themselves into it, which is the key; the problem is usually encouraging reluctant newbies to take risks in improv. So in the end we all enjoyed some good laughs.

There was the Furry Heraldry panel the next day, as a tribute to this year’s Renaissance theme. The panel had a decent attendance, possibly boosted by the inexplicably high crossover between the SCA and furry fandom. It was an informative panel about animals in the design of crests and shields. Furry isn’t new; people have been using animal representations of themselves for centuries!

That evening was “Furry Night Live,” a vaudeville-style ensemble comedy show. This year’s show was one of the best I’ve seen! An enormous variety of acts and talent, some very good writing, clever use of staging and costumes, and just full-tilt wackiness. One act was an inspired satirical speech; there were several live music performances; another group performed a series of skits based on the Robin Hood tales, to fit in with the con theme.

Finally, at the long, naked, pink and skinny tail-end of the con: The Rodent Panel. There are a series of discussion panels for fans of different animal families. I volunteered to run the Rodent Panel this year since rats are my favorite animals. I brought in some books about rats to recommend, handed out a rodent quiz, and generally had fun talking about plagues and socioeconomic history.

After that, it was time to pack everything up and check out. Costumes went back in boxes, loose pasta was thrown away, and sketchbooks got tossed in cars. We’ll be back next year and I hope to see you there! Until then, happy tails... err, trails.

The official FC website is at www.furtherconfusion.org.

Local Sci-Fi/Horror Author Scott Sigler Creates World's First Podcast Novel

By Diane B. Rooney
Staff Writer

Serialization of novels goes back to Charles Dickens, if not before, so you'd think that novelists would have been onto



podcasting their books from Day One of the technology. But when local author, journalist, and marketing consultant Scott Sigler searched for podcast books last spring, he came up with nothing. That gave him an idea, and so his sci fi/horror thriller *EarthCore* became the world's first podcast-only novel starting in March 2005.

Scott explains, "When I had the idea, I googled for 'podcast novel' and found nothing, which amazed me because it seemed like such a common-sense use of the technology. So, I figured out how to podcast and I put it out."

Not only was it a breakthrough in publishing technology, it was a literary success as well, drawing some 10,000 dedicated listeners. *EarthCore's* strong podcast following generated reviews and buzz about the use of the technology, and led to print publication in November 2005 by Dragon Moon Press.

The *EarthCore* podcast got Scott some pretty good electronic and paper press, both for his use of the technology and for the book itself, from the likes of Business

Week, the Washington Post, and sci fi sites like Solar Flare and Mars Dust.

Another neat thing Scott did to build reader involvement was to create a website for the fictitious mining company at the heart of the novel, at <http://www.earthcore.biz>. The site is still there but the story-related content is gone.

EarthCore had actually been around for a bit. In 2001 it was issued as an eBook, spending six weeks in the #1 spot in Horror and Suspense at Barnes & Noble online. It was scheduled for print publication by the iPublish imprint of Time Warner in 2002, but the unit closed before its publication.

Not familiar yet with podcasting? It's a subscription service, like a magazine, in which you get episodes of a program or other media delivered to you electronically. You can listen on the computer or download to an iPod or similar device. At a lot of podcast sites you can set your own episode delivery schedule.

Preparing the podcast is not that hard but is a bit time consuming. Each episode is recorded and saved as a big MP3 file and

then uploaded to the website. If he makes a serious flub in the reading, Scott will go back and correct it right away, as there isn't really a thorough editing process due to the size of the file. Each episode lasts around 45 minutes and takes 3-4 hours to record.

As a writer, Scott believes in getting it right and sweating the details, often literally. He spent two years writing *EarthCore* and countless hours researching it, including four days exploring the Mammoth Caves of Kentucky. For *Ancestor*, his second podcast book, he went on a solo snowmobiling excursion in the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan's Upper Peninsula area where, after a seven-hour ride, he almost ran out of gas in the dark in sub-zero weather.

In terms of process, Scott writes on a laptop, whenever he has time. He does an outline for the plot structure but then works on characters, usually going through seven or eight drafts before he is satisfied. He aims to "avoid speedbumps" — places where the reader is conscious of reading and no longer fully absorbed in the story. He likes to experiment with cross-genre novels, for example, horror and sci fi with *EarthCore*, and even sci fi and sports in a novel he submitted to ESPN books.

He is inspired by the potential of science to impact lives, for both good and evil, and likes working with regular people who slowly find themselves in extraordinary

situations. They are not living in the far future but in the present or near-present.

EarthCore deals with the efforts of a Detroit-based mining company to reach and develop the world's largest platinum deposit, a solid mass buried three miles below the surface in remote Utah hills. What they actually find, and how people involved in the project are affected, drives the story from there.

Since *EarthCore*, Scott's been positively prolific. He completed the podcast of his latest novel, *Ancestor*, at the end of January. *Ancestor*, a biotech thriller, drew even more listeners. In *Ancestor*, scientists are working on the technology of using animal tissue to replace failing human organs. One approach is to create an animal with human internal organs, or actually, recreate such an animal, the ancestor of all mammals. As to the wisdom of this idea, Scott's website notes: "Extinction isn't always a bad thing."

Podcasting also allows for ongoing interaction with a community of readers. For *Ancestor* there have been contests, a map of where readers are located, an art contest, and someone even made a movie in claymation.

There is even a dark side: On Christmas Day, the *Ancestor* podsite was hacked by someone opposed to the theory of evolution, not to mention mixing human and animal DNA. "You blasphemers are spreading the

false scripture of evolution, trying to make people think its okay to merge human DNA with animal DNA. Humans are not animals... God will punish you. We have destroyed your blog and hopefully your sinful story." The blog recovered but a lot of the listener comments along the way were lost.

Next up is *Infection*, scheduled to start podcasting in March. (It was actually written before *EarthCore*). In this story, the main character is infected by microscopic parasites that he calls triangles, which try to manipulate hormone levels, causing him to experience paranoia, schizophrenia and a tendency toward violence.

Scott is also developing quite a fan base with links to a Café Press store and a Yahoo Group from his site, moving forward toward his goal of writing full-time.

Scott's podcasts are moving to the podcast network Podshow at scottsigler.podshow.com <http://scottsigler.podshow.com/>. *EarthCore* is also at <http://www.podiobooks.com> or <http://www.odeo.com/channel/3292/view>. Get the whole scoop on Scott at <http://www.scottsigler.net>.

Note: There is an *EarthCore* book signing on February 17 at 7:00 p.m. at Spellbinding Tales in Alameda. Call 510/523-1105 or go to www.spellbindingtales.com for directions.

The View From Behind the Table (or A Very Narrow Anime Los Angeles Report)

By **Andy Trembley**
Staff Writer

Anime Los Angeles reviewed in SF/SF? Of course.

Bay Area anime, manga and Japanese pop-culture fans migrated down to Los Angeles like birds flying south for the Winter for the second Anime Los Angeles, January 27-29 at the Airtel Plaza in Van Nuys. Yep, the same Airtel Plaza that hosts Costume College and until this year GallifreyOne (the longest-running North American Dr. Who convention). I only saw some of it, though; I was one of the masquerade directors, hence the limited and meandering report.

Anime Los Angeles is an oasis in the desert of trade-show-style anime conventions, a convention started by SF convention veterans and run like a fannish SF convention. Founder Chaz Boston-Baden is always ready to point out that it has all the fannish amenities one would expect at a general SF convention (including a very nice con suite) and the amenities of a good anime convention

(like a well-stocked video game room and multiple video rooms).

Palo Alto polyfans (no, not polyamory, polymath) Chris “Karisu” Willrich and Richard Man were this year’s Fan Guests of Honor, being celebrated for their contributions to cosplay (think a combination of hall-costuming, masquerade costuming, and unstructured character role-play), the Cosplay.Com online community, and costume photography. Artist GoH was “PMBQ,” the charming author/artist of TeaClub.com. Japanese GoH (their first Japanese GoH)

was anime professional Hiroake Inoue, co-founder of Studio Gainax, now a producer with AIC Studio and also the chairman of Nippon2007, the Yokohama WorldCon.

As I mentioned, my view of the con was very much from the inside. I can’t report on the opening ceremonies as I was sitting



Masquerade Judge Dany Sloane as Robin and her boyfriend as Amon from the anime *Witch Hunter Robin*.
Photo Courtesy of ImageCraft.com



An excellent Captain Komamura Sajin from *Bleach*

Photo Courtesy of ImageCraft.com

behind a desk. I can't report on the Anime Music Video contest, as I was having dinner after spending all day at a desk. I can report on con business, and random things that happened in the lobby, and I can definitely report on the masquerade.

Con business was brisk. Last year's Anime Los Angeles was somewhere under 700 live bodies registered and at the con for the

weekend. This year, at close of registration Friday night, live bodies were more than at last year's con, and total registrations were over 700. By Saturday evening (during the masquerade) the live membership count was at 1,200 and when registration closed mid-day Sunday, registrations were over 1,300, there was no more badge stock, and registration was telling people not to worry, just go enjoy themselves. I just hope this growth curve levels before it kills the con.

The overall membership was very young. Unlike SF conventions who offer "Kid in Tow" badges to parents with small children, Anime Los Angeles offered a "Parent in Tow" membership to any member under 15 who brought a parent or acting guardian along for the weekend. There were a lot of blue badges walking around the con.

Speaking of badges, the badges were gorgeous, colorful and easy to read. Kudos to the designer. With Chaz at the helm, there was no lack of "badge extender" ribbons (the bear likes his ribbons). Folks who had been to ALA 1 got "Perfect Attendance" ribbons, everybody else got screaming orange "My First Time" ribbons. I thought "My First Time" being directly adjacent to my "Staff" ribbon was rather amusing.

The dealers' room was small, but

featured a nice selection of dealers. The Hornsmythe provided a familiar face to LA congoers, in amongst the dealers in anime, manga and other things of interest to Japanophiles. There was little that I couldn't get if I visited the right areas of San Francisco, Santa Clara County or LA, but not everybody knows all the hidden pockets of Japanese shops or has easy access to them, and I've got to give the dealers'



The Bay Area's Raider 3 as the title character from the movie *Porco Rosso*.

Photo Courtesy of ImageCraft.com

room coordinator a great deal of credit for getting dealers with a broad spectrum of products.

The Airtel Lobby was the place for people-watching, so working a masquerade desk there was fun. This was a problem, though; the Airtel Plaza has awful traffic patterns, and doesn't have a large open-plan lobby. It just didn't support dozens of people stopping to take pictures of people in costume. What happens is several cosplayers doing characters from the same series meet up, and start gabbing about the show/manga/costumes. Somebody stops to take their picture. They pose. The cameras multiply like rabbits. All traffic stops.

Bad traffic patterns aside, this was a great con for cosplayers. A well-stocked costume repair station made it easy for cosplayers with problems to fix them. Numerous courtyards and gardens provided excellent backdrops for photo shoots. Cosplayers came out en masse, and wore some really fabulous costumes around the con.

Several people quickly knocked out pirate costumes and accessories out of scraps found in the repair room for Friday night's "Rum" party. I was never quite sure on the rationale of the "Rum" party, but it seemed to satisfy the crowds. After the Anime Music Video contest, a bunch of pirates converted the ballroom into a tavern



A masquerade contestant.
Photo Courtesy of ImageCraft.com

with gaming, "Rum" (where rum=Tejava iced tea), and a slave auction.

Saturday was much of the same. I got the impression that quite a lot of people were doing only one day and commuting the con. This contributed to the feeling that it was still pretty "first day."

The Masquerade? I'm glad you asked. When all was said and done, we had 27

entries registered. Two were groups of 8, the rest were mostly in the 1-3 participant range. The house manager held the doors until 7:05 as they madly shoveled as many chairs as they could find (and fit, without violating fire code) into the ballroom; as I mentioned, the con grew a bit more than anticipated. It started a bit late, but to a packed house. Tadao Tomomatsu (LA fan, actor and raconteur) ably performed the duty of MC (after handing his house manager job over to Katt Thornton), and he, the tech crew, and the very able contestant wranglers got all the entries across the stage by 8:30. A difficult judging session (with Karisu and San Franciscan Dany Slone heading the judging panels) and a few technical difficulties meant that awards didn't start being presented until about 10:00, but all the entrants were still there to collect their certificates when their names were announced.

For a portion of the staff, cosplayers and others behind the scenes, the awards were followed by Karisu and Richard's Lunar New Year's Eve party, where much Chinese take-out was consumed until the wee hours of the morning.

Sunday the convention just kept rolling, but without us. We had to be heading back north, so we didn't see much more of the convention.

BlogWatch: Tribe.net

By Chris Garcia
Editor

Before MySpace (but after Friendster), there was Tribe.net. Tribe is one of the most active social-networking sites and is the one that really made interest groups on those sorts of sites popular. MySpace was certainly influenced by it, and the changes to Friendster over the last couple of years certainly have a Tribe-esque feel to them. The BArea is home to many Tribe members and there are a lot of tribes of interest to BArea fans and fandom.

One of the most active Tribes is the Burning Man Tribe. Burners really latched on to Tribe as a way to get information out and start discussions. In the early days, more than 50% of all Tribe users were part of Burning Man Tribe, but not so much anymore. Still, it's an exciting area to find out about all of the fun and merriment surrounding Burning Man. There are also anti-Burning Man Tribes, including one called Boring Man, that give a different

side to the festivities.

The DIY aesthetic lives on Tribe.net, especially among zinesters and filmmakers. There are several zine-related tribes, including ****all zines, all the time**** and Self-Publishers Unite!. The traffic and discussions on both overlap quite a bit and are usually interesting, even when it's just one person complaining about a specific mag that gives negative reviews. The filmmakers Tribe is huge, with several thousand members, and they've put together several films that were conceived on Tribe. Locally, there's the Bay Area Movie Group and SF Filmmakers.

Writers always seem to flock to these services, and there are a few Tribes that serve a lot of BArea writers. The best of them has to be Writing Fiction, which is a huge Tribe full of folks who regularly write and often post their fiction on the Tribe for critique. Creative Writing is another of the large ones. Bay Area Speculative Fiction Writers is another Tribe that a lot of folks seem to use, though traffic on it isn't as high

as it once was. My personal favorite is Bad Poets' Society, where you can always count on finding poems that are bad enough to be entertaining.

Tribe also has a strong science fiction fan presence. There are Tribes for a lot of different SF authors (Asimov, Heinlein, Cory Doctorow) and there are Tribes for specific sub-genres (Steampunk, Cyberpuck, etc). Some of the more popular SF-related Tribes are ...Kinky SciFi..., dedicated to films and books that feature sex and fun (think Phil Jose Farmer or Barbarella) and The Sci-Fi Nitpickers Club, which is always a hoot.

There's so much on Tribe to recommend, that the ones I listed don't even scratch the surface. The Society For Creative Anachronism has a Tribe, and there's one dedicated to Convention Fandom, one for BayCon, one for just about everything. Even if the recent redesign has annoyed some and made it difficult to access some of the more adult Tribes, I'd say that it's worth looking around, if not actually joining.

BASFA Minutes: meeting 811

February 6, 2006

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

Began 8 p.m. [feverishly].

24 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 810 were accepted as 'they found planet 10'.

Treasurer report was unavailable, as was the Treasurer.

VP report also unavailable, but he left 'Drink Tanks'.

The President reported that he had nothing.

Reminder that next week is week #3 of Hugo nominations & that part 2 of Hugo nominations follows the meeting.

The party committee reported that he's making progress towards the next party, at BayCon.

We established a party jar.

Announcements:

Andy announced that rumors of deceased zombats are untrue, nor have they been renamed 'plan 9 from down under'.

Joanie announced that her middle school library is looking for donations - especially Dragonlance books, or other tomes suitable for the 11-14 year age-span.

Dave C. announced that Gallifrey will be at the LA Marriott in 2 weeks.

Kevin S. announced that he has fan-zines.

Reviews:

Ken reviewed some Brit import TV shows - that 'Life on Mars' was very good, that 'Hyperdrive' was a miss, that 'the IT Crowd' is also pretty good - and also that he had heard this week's 'Medium' is good.

Andy reviewed 'East Coat Seafood' as excellent, very authentic, very popular dim sum - well worth full price [and get there early].

Julie reviewed a book called 'Mirror, Mirror' - as it contains interesting histories [including 2 chapters on John Dee],

philosophy & then went into the realm of science and telescopes; that it was fascinating & she recommends it.

Dave C. reviewed the 'San Francisco International Gift Faire' as it was difficult to gain entrance to & once he was in he found endless amounts of arts and crafts - but nothing he could use & not worth his name being on their mailing lists; then Dave passed on a review of 'Ghost' by Ringo as he was told it was not worth reading & worth selling on Ebay.

Adrienne reviewed a short story collection: "Future Washington" as she liked the kitty cat story & that it's eligible for the Hugo.

Kevin S. reviewed KNBR radio as they let him get on the air & make humorous asides.

Then Mike announced that an March 12 there will be a Q&A with Edward James Olmos at Cinequest.

No auctions.

We adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was 'that Chris Garcia was elected as president in his absence' [and Trey was disappointed it was only a rumor].

BASFA Minutes: meeting 812

February 13, 2006 [with a suggestion for interpretive dance].

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

Began 8:02 p.m. [feverishly].

17 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 811 were accepted as 'croak'.

Last week we took in \$0.75 in the regular jar & \$1.50 in the party jar & the Treasurer was late.

VP report: he has 'Drink Tanks', went to Wondercon & the next 'Drink Tank' will be about inventors & inventions.

The President reported that he had nothing.

Reminder that part 3 of the Hugo nominations follows the meeting.

Announcements:

Julie announced it was the anniversary of the Dresden fire bombing.

Andy announced there'll be an Evil Genius party at Gallifrey on Friday night [and pass the mustard].

Dave C. announced that Gallifrey will be at the L.A. Marriott in 4 days [& Dave G. said 'but jewelry].

Reviews:

Wondercon was reviewed – Chris said he had a wonderful time & the most fun was interviewing Bob Wilkins & John Stanley [many comments were made about restraining orders] and he spent a whole lot of money on comics & it was worth full price & the Browncoat documentary was very good; follow-ons were made about corsets, porn actresses, Raven O'Neill's birthday & Mel's Diner's inability to sit a large party together; that the Masquerade was really quite decent & that the SF Marriott lies [in regards to room parties & costumes] & Kevin S. thought it was worth his \$15 one-day membership to attend.

Andy reviewed Cirque de Solei as it is about the dreams of an old clown about his funeral, is very surreal & the connecting bits were weird & good & kind of hold it together, charming & definitely worth

3rd tier ticket prices – loads of fun; Kevin R. follow-on'd that it drew attention very well & felt intimate in the way it was presented.

Jim reviewed a film seen at an independent film festival 'AKA Tommy Chong' – a documentary – as he knew the story & thought it was well done & interesting & he recommends it as worth full price.

Chris reviewed 'The Lion King' as he was amazed and had expected to hate it – that it was absolutely well done, the singing was wonderful & the music well done – and was worth putting up with his mother.

Kevin R reviewed a costumer's cabal weekend get-together as very pleasant & a reminder that you should spend time with old friends when it's possible.

Trey reviewed 'That darned Squid God' by Polatta as a rollicking good time; that 'Damned Nation' by Polatta was a guilty pleasure; that '700 Sundays' by Billy Crystal just sucks you right into it, is fun & very readable.

No auctions.

We adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was: 'that the BASFA secretary is a Dalek'.

Bay Area Science Fiction Calendar

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

New listings are in red.

Changed or cancelled events are in magenta.

Ongoing through March 12, 2006

Gross, Gruesome and Gothic

Cartoon Art Museum

655 Mission Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: 415/CAR-TOON,

415/227-8666

Hours: Daily 11:00 - 5:00, Closed Monday

Admission Prices:

\$6.00 - Adults

\$4.00 - Students & Seniors

\$2.00 - Children (ages 6 - 12)

FREE - Children (age 5 & below)

The first Tuesday of every calendar month is "Pay What You Wish Day."

From their website:

"From the darkest depths of the cartoon vaults comes the Cartoon Art Museum's latest exhibition, *Gross, Gruesome and Gothic*. This horrifying display features over 50 original cartoons from a wide array of artists and comics, from spine-tinglers to rib-ticklers and everything in between.

"Exhibition highlights include:

"Masters of the Macabre: Edward Gorey, Charles Addams and Basil Wolverton. Three of the most influential humorists of all time present their unique views of the world around us in a selection of comics and illustrations dating back to the 1920s.

"Spotlight on Gahan Wilson: This creator spotlight focuses on Gahan Wilson, one of the most celebrated and respected cartoonists of our time. In the past half-century, Wilson's distinctive cartoons and illustrations have graced the pages of *The New Yorker*, *Nickelodeon*, *Playboy* and *National Lampoon*. In 2005, Wilson received the coveted Milton Caniff Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Cartoonists Society, one of the highest honors that a cartoonist can achieve.

"The Vault of Horror: Graham

"Ghastly" Ingels. From the pages of EC Comics' seminal comic book *The Vault of Horror* comes "Shoe-Button Eyes," a complete seven-page story illustrated by Graham Ingels.

"The Stuff That Dreams Are Made Of: Neil Gaiman's *Sandman*. One of the most popular and acclaimed comic book series of the past 20 years, Neil Gaiman's *Sandman* tales from DC Comics set new standards in excellence for fantasy and horror. Featured artists include Chris Bachalo, Duncan Eagleson, Marc Hempel, Kent Williams and series cover artist Dave McKean.

"Scared Silly! Scary comics don't always take themselves seriously. Bongo Comics' annual *Treehouse of Horror* special features *The Simpsons* as you've never seen them before, as illustrated by Sergio Aragonés, Peter Kuper, Bill Morrison, Scott Shaw and Jill Thompson; *Batton Lash's Supernatural Law* warns us to beware the creatures of the night...and their lawyers; and Charles Schulz's classic comic *Peanuts* asks the burning question, "When will the Great Pumpkin arrive?"

"It came from the Seventies! As the Silver

Age of comics came to an end, the Marvel, DC and Warren publishing companies unleashed a wave of horror comics that pushed the boundaries of comic book art. Alfredo Alcalá, Jim Aparó, Frank Brunner, Gene Colan and Dick Giordano, among others, bring new life to classic characters from Dracula and Frankenstein's monster to anti-heroes including The Spectre, Vampirella and Morbius, The Living Vampire.

"Nothin' But Misery: The Goon by Eric Powell Powell is the Eisner Award-winning creator of Dark Horse Comic series The Goon, a horror comedy that pits the title character and his pal Frankie against killer robots, zombies, Spanish-speaking lizards and other supernatural menaces."

Wednesday, February 15

Ask a Scientist - topic: Synthetic Sight

Bazaar Café

5927 California St. (21st Ave)

San Francisco

www.askascientistsf.com/

7 - 9 p.m.

Free

Last year Dirk Trauner and colleagues at Berkeley did something really interesting: they reengineered a non-photosensitive nerve cell so that it could be turned on or off in response to light. Come find out

how they did it and how their technique could eventually become the basis of a gene therapy for certain kinds of blindness.

About the Series: Ask a Scientist is a new and different kind of lecture series. If you love watching Nova and reading Scientific American at the doctor's office, then this event is for you. Enjoy food, drinks, socializing, and conversation about the universe's most fascinating mysteries!

Wednesday, February 15

Tempura Anime

tempura-anime.us/

Santa Clara University

Santa Clara

6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Free

Thursday, February 16

Cal Animage Alpha "Family Night"

www.ocf.berkeley.edu/~animage/family.php

UC Berkeley's anime club family nights are gatherings of interest groups within the club held every Thursday. See their website for details.

Thursday, February 16

Tsunami Anime

WSQ 109

San Jose State University

San Jose

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Free

Thursday, February 16

Sci-Fi Book Club

Barnes & Noble

Creekside Town Center

1265 Galeria Blvd.

(916) 788-4320

Roseville

Free

Friday, February 17

Scott Sigler

Spellbinding Tales

1910A Encinal Avenue

Alameda

7 p.m.

Free

Appearance by San Francisco science fiction author Scott Sigler.

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:

SFinSF@gmail.com

More Events Next Page

Friday, February 17

Futurist Salon Book Group
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Hillsdale Shopping Center
11 West Hillsdale Blvd.
San Mateo
650-341-5560
7:30 p.m.
Free

Friday, February 17

USS Defiance Meeting
Round Table Pizza
Howe Avenue
Sacramento
7 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Free

Friday and Saturday, February 17 and 18

Raiders of the Lost Ark
Act 1 and 2
2128 Center Street
Berkeley
Midnight

February 17-20

Dundracon
San Ramon Marriott
2600 Bishop Drive
San Ramon
www.dundracon.com
Gaming convention.

February 17-20

PantheaCon
San Jose Doubletree
www.ancientways.com/pantheacon
Pagan convention. Workshops, lectures, performances, rituals, vendors, drumming, dancing, costume contest.

Saturday, February 18

Donald Sidney-Fryer
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia
4 pm:
Donald Sidney-Fryer, presenting Clark Ashton Smith's *The Last Oblivion*, will share his insights on, and his performance of, the poetry of Clark Ashton Smith.

Saturday, February 18

Manga Otaku
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Weberstown Mall
4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319
Stockton, CA 95207
209-472-1885
6 p.m.
Free
Graphic novel book group.

Saturday, February 18

Stanford New Type Anime Club Showing
Room 60-61H
Building 60
Stanford Campus
Palo Alto
No time listed on schedule, but previous movie events have started at 2 p.m.
Free
Saturday movie event.

Saturday, February 18

Rocky Horror Picture Show
www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
\$6
Midnight
Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

More Events Next Page

Saturday, February 19

Fantastic Frontiers Meeting

Sacramento County

Email frellingbored@yahoo.com for directions

groups.yahoo.com/groups/fantasticfrontiers

9:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

\$55 for six people.

The group will celebrate its third anniversary with a glow bowling outing.

In our last issue, we listed the wrong date for this event. SF/SF apologizes for any inconvenience.

Sunday, February 19

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 for more information.

Monday, February 20

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, February 21

Rudy Rucker

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

www.booksmith.com

7 p.m.

Free

Postponed until March 7.

Tuesday, February 21

Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing

Room 60-61H

Building 60

Stanford Campus

Palo Alto

8-10:30 p.m.

Free

Wednesday, February 22

Tempura Anime

tempura-anime.us/

Santa Clara University

Santa Clara

6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Free

Thursday, February 23

Cal Animage Alpha "Family Night"

www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/family.php

UC Berkeley's anime club family nights are gatherings of interest groups within the club held every Thursday. See their website for details.

Friday, February 24

Sci-Fi / Fantasy Book Group

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Weberstown Mall

4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319

Stockton, CA 95207

209-472-1885

6:30 p.m.

Free

More Events Next Page

Friday, February 24

AnimeFX

Superbowl Eyeshield 21 Marathon

HSS 154

San Francisco State University Campus

San Francisco

4 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Free

First meeting of the semester and potluck party and showing of the football-theme anime. And yes, they know they're a bit late to be holding a Superbowl party.

Please note new meeting location for this group.

Saturday, February 25

Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing

Room 60-61H

Building 60

Stanford Campus

Palo Alto

No time listed on schedule, but previous movie events have started at 2 p.m.

Free

Saturday movie event.

Saturday, February 25

Twenty Years Behind the Scenes at

Pixar Animation Studios

Pixar Animation Studios

1200 Park Avenue

Emeryville

415-CARTOON, ext. 300

<http://www.cartoonart.org>

6 p.m. (Gates open at 5:30 p.m.)

\$175 (\$125 for Cartoon Art Museum members)

The Cartoon Art Museum hosts its third annual benefit at Pixar Animation Studios on Saturday, February 25, 2006. From Pixar's inception in 1986 with the premiere of its iconic short film, *Luxo Jr.*, to the studio's latest full-length feature, *Cars*, attendees will get an insiders' perspective on these computer animated creations.

The evening starts with a reception at Pixar's Emeryville campus. Over wine and hors d'oeuvres guests will gain access to a stunning gallery exhibition featuring the pre-production artwork of *The Incredibles*, as well as other fine artwork by Pixar employees. Guests will then be escorted into Pixar's state-of-the-art 240-seat theater to hear stories from artists, gain insight into Pixar's unique movie-making process and catch a glimpse behind the scenes at the productions of *Toy Story*, *Finding Nemo*, and *The Incredibles*.

After the presentation, guests will have an opportunity to converse with the speakers and other Pixar employees. There will also be a glimpse into Pixar's future, as some of the creative team of Pixar's next short film, *One Man Band*, screen and talk about their film.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served during the art exhibition viewing from 6-7 p.m.. The presentation will begin promptly at 7 p.m.. and will be hosted by Dr. Michael B. Johnson, lead, Moving Pictures Group at Pixar, and will include other Pixar employees, including director Mark Andrews and animator Angus MacLane. The presentation will be followed by dessert and coffee, plus the opportunity to mix and mingle with artists in Pixar's atrium from 8:30-9:30 p.m.

This event is expected to sell out quickly and there are only a limited number of seats available. Cartoon Art Museum members can purchase tickets for the reduced rate of \$125, while the non-member rate is \$175. Call 415-227-8666, ext. 300 to purchase tickets. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

More Events Next Page

Saturday, February 25

Art Spiegelman

Osher Marin JCC

www.marinjcc.org

200 North San Pedro Road

San Rafael

8 p.m.

\$36

“The Evolution of Comics” by the Pulitzer prize winning author of *Maus* and *In the Shadow of No Towers*.

Saturday, February 25

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

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

Saturday, February 25

Pee-wee’s Big Adventure

Act 1 and 2

2128 Center Street

Berkeley

Midnight

No, I’m not sure if this counts as a science fiction movie. But what the heck, this one night only event is hosted by Peaches Christ, so it should at least be an out of this world show.

Sunday, February 26

East Bay Skeptics Society

China Village

1335 Solano Avenue

Albany

7 p.m.

Free

This month’s topic: Avian flu.

Sunday, February 26

Art Spiegelman

Bayside Performing Arts Center

www.pjcc.org

2025 Kehoe Avenue

San Mateo

6 p.m.

\$35

“The Evolution of Comics” by the Pulitzer prize winning author of *Maus* and *In the Shadow of No Towers*.

Sunday, February 26

Bad Movie Night

Astro Zombies

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

Changed from *The Mysterians*.

Monday, February 27

Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing

Location TBA

UC Berkeley Campus

Berkeley

www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/

7:30 p.m.

Free

The oldest of the Bay Area’s university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week’s featured show: *Ginban Kaieidoscope*.

More Events Next Page

Monday, February 27

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, February 28

Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing

Room 60-61H

Building 60

Stanford Campus

Palo Alto

8-10:30 p.m.

Free

Friday and Saturday, March 3 and 4

CineQuest Shorts Program

Mindbenders

Camera 12 Cinemas

201 South Second Street

San Jose

11:45 p.m.

\$9

After a year locked in a trunk at the back of the attic, *Mindbenders* returns with tales too bizarre to be put on at any time other than late night. Only then can dark tales of clown on mime violence mingle with the talk of the mean streets and the unnatural

cycles of food growth. There's amputation, mutilation, excrement and even a film for those who are big into anthropomorphic animals in suits or b.b. gun fans. These *Mindbenders* may well be the strangest ever, and it will certainly keep you awake and scratching your head.

—Chris Garcia

Shorts in the program:

A Through M - dir. Heidi Marshall

Chingaso the Clown - dir. Elias Matar

Home Delivery - dir. Elio Quiroga

Keep It Real, Dawg - dir. M Strange

Lucky - dir. Melissa Berman

The Marionette - dir. Holly Paige Joyner

Phone Sex Grandma - dir. Jack Truman

The Second Death - dir. Michael Chick

Slice of Heaven - dir. Christopher Kinsella

Friday and Saturday, March 3 and 4

Tron

Act 1 and 2

2128 Center Street

Berkeley

Midnight

Exactly how did this movie become a "sci-fi classic"? Inquiring minds want to know.

March 3-5

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.

Saturday, March 4

Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing

Room 60-61H

Building 60

Stanford Campus

Palo Alto

No time listed on schedule, but previous movie events have started at 2 p.m.

Free

Saturday movie event.

More Events Next Page

Saturday, March 4

Warp 11

The Blue Lamp

1400 Alhambra Ave.

Sacramento

10 p.m.

The Star Trek-theme band plays a hometown venue. With songs titled “Rage Against the Federation” and “Set Your Phaser for F***” resistance is futile.

Saturday, March 4, 2006

The Phantom of the Opera Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.

Dance lesson: 7:15 p.m.

Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00 in advance (by February 28)

At the door: \$20.00

Don't let those wild rumors of an Opera Ghost keep you from attending the social event of the season, the Opera Ball of the Paris Opera Populaire. This is destined to be the most spectacular of all our masquerade balls and Management assures you that “Everything is under control.”

Our special guests - Monsieur Frank Beau Davis, that American trumpet virtuoso and his brilliant Brassworks Band from San Francisco, will play an evening of

opera and ballet tunes arranged for ballroom dancing and brilliant Viennese Waltzes, polkas, mazurkas, schottisches, reels, and quadrilles. All set dances will be taught or called and there will a pre-ball dance class to help you brush up on your mid-Victorian dance skills. And, of course, they will play those perennial favorites, “The Congress of Vienna Waltz” and “Sir Roger de Coverley” (with a distinctly Wagnerian edge).

Suggested costume for this gala event is Victorian evening or ball dress (circa 1860's-80's), period fancy dress, or modern evening dress. Masks are strongly suggested.

The fashionable young gentlemen of the Jockey Club will be pleased to know that evening's entertainment includes operatic and ballet excerpts by the company, including the premiere of the ballet from the controversial new opera “Sappho,” choreographed by the celebrated Mme. Giry for the Peerless Ballet. Refreshments will be served throughout the evening (Since we lack the catering budget of the Paris Opera Populaire, your potluck contributions will be deeply appreciated).

Saturday, March 4

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

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

Sunday, March 5

CineQuest Shorts Program

The Last Woman in the World

San Jose Rep

101 Paseo de San Antonio

San Jose

2:15 p.m.

\$9

Short subject running as part of the Car Stories shorts program.

More Events Next Page

Monday, March 6

Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing

Location TBA

UC Berkeley Campus

Berkeley

www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/

7:30 p.m.

Free

The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week's featured show: *Shakuyan no Shana*.

Monday, March 6

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Monday and Tuesday, March 6 and 7

CineQuest Shorts Program

Animated Worlds

Camera 12 Cinemas

201 South Second Street

San Jose

Monday: 7 p.m. and Tuesday: 4:45 p.m.

\$9

Animated Worlds returns for another run with some exceptional pieces of film-making. Featuring films from six countries and a local filmmaker's work as well, powerful storytelling is infused with the magic of the animator's art. Stop-motion, computer animation, tradition hand-drawn work as well as paper silhouette animation all meld on a canvas that celebrates the art of film-making. Traditional tales mix it up with the avant-garde, all while telling stories that captivate and entertain. *Animated Worlds* has pieces for the young and old alike, some that will make you think, some that will make you laugh and some that will simply bowl you over in awe.

—Chris Garcia

Program films:

The Mysterious Geographical Explorations of Jasper Morello - dir. Anthony Lucas

The Flooded Playground - dir. Lisa Crafts

The Boy Who Feeds Cats - dir. Craig and Andrea Brookes

Fumi and the Bad Luck Foot - dir. David Chai

Maestro - dir. Geza Toth

Jahn and Michael - dir. Nash Edgerton

Message From the Boss - dir. Victor Bellomo

Legend of The Scarecrow - dir. Marco Besas

Tuesday, March 7

Rudy Rucker

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

www.booksmith.com

7 p.m.

Free

Novelist and scientist Rudy Rucker will read and sign from his new non-fiction book *The Lifebox, the Seashell, and the Soul*. Rescheduled from February 21.

Tuesday, March 7

Justine Larbalestier and Scott Westerfeld

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Justine Larbalestier is the author of the nonfiction *The Battle of the Sexes in Science Fiction*, the two novels *Magic or Madness* and *Magic Lessons*, and the forthcoming *Daughters of Earth*. Scott Westerfeld is the prolific author of *The Risen Empire* and *The Killing of Worlds*, the awesome *Midnighters* series, *Evolution's Darling*, *Pretties*, *Uglies*, and several more.

More Events Next Page

Tuesday, March 7

Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing

Room 60-61H

Building 60

Stanford Campus

Palo Alto

8-10:30 p.m.

Free

Thursday, March 9

Thrillville's Hipster Holocaust Blow-Out

Panic in the Year Zero

www.thrillville.net

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Cinema

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

9:15 p.m.

\$7

It's a hipster holocaust blow-out featuring Ray Milland and Frankie Avalon in a torrid tale of post-nuked LA survival, *Panic in the Year Zero*. With explosive cocktail swingers Johnny and Gin of *The Atomic Lounge Show* live on stage!

Saturday, March 11

Beefbowl Anime Showing

Albany Library

1247 Marin Ave.

Albany

www.beefbowl.org

12:15- 4:15 p.m.

Free

Saturday, March 11

No Name Anime

www.nnanime.com

Saratoga Library

13650 Saratoga Ave.

Saratoga

12:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. or so

Free

Saturday, March 11

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

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

Sunday, March 12

Sac Con

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

10-4 p.m.

\$5

Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.

Sunday, March 12

Speculative Fiction Book Club

Kepler's

1010 El Camino Real

Menlo Park

7:30 p.m.

Free

This month the group will discuss Lian Hearn's *Across the Nightingale Floor*.

Sunday, March 12

Bad Movie Night

20 Million Miles To Earth

The Dark Room Theater

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

More Events Next Page

Monday, March 13

Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing

Location TBA

UC Berkeley Campus

Berkeley

www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/

7:30 p.m.

Free

The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week's featured show: *Ichigo Mashimaro* and *Animal Yokochoa*.

Monday, March 13

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, March 14

Sci-Fi Book Club

Barnes & Noble

3501 McHenry Ave., Suite E

Modesto

Free

Thursday, March 16

Sci-Fi Book Club

Barnes & Noble

Creekside Town Center

1265 Galeria Blvd.

(916) 788-4320

Roseville

Free

Friday, March 17

Futurist Salon Book Group

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Hillsdale Shopping Center

11 West Hillsdale Blvd.

San Mateo

650-341-5560

7:30 p.m.

Free

March 17–April 16

Zorro

Berkeley Repertory Theater

written and performed by Culture Clash

The Roda Theatre

2025 Addison Street

Berkeley

Saturday, March 18

Otaku Bowl 2006

info@project760.com

Classic Bowling Center

900 King Drive

Daly City

1 p.m. -9 p.m

Registration \$20 until February 28, \$25 at door.

Fee includes food, beverages and unlimited bowling. Bowling for prizes, hall cosplay, anime video room, artist alley, exhibitors, game tournament.

Saturday, March 18

Manga Otaku

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Barnes & Noble Booksellers

Weberstown Mall

4950 Pacific Avenue, Space 319

Stockton, CA 95207

209-472-1885

6 p.m.

Free

Graphic novel book group.

More Events Next Page

Saturday, March 18

Rocky Horror Picture Show
www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
\$6
Midnight

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

Sunday, March 19

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 for more information.

Monday, March 20

Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing
Location TBA
UC Berkeley Campus
Berkeley
www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/
7:30 p.m.
Free

The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week's featured show: *Mushishi*.

Monday, March 20

Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org.

Wednesday, March 22

Christopher Moore
Copperfield's Montgomery Village
2316 Montgomery Drive
Santa Rosa
7 p.m.
Free

Monday, March 27

Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org.

Friday-Saturday, March 31 and April 1

A Clockwork Orange
Act 1 and 2
2128 Center Street
Berkeley
Midnight

Local band The Holy Kiss will perform before the Stanley Kubrick classic.

More Events Next Page

Saturday, April 1, 2006

The Toon Town Hop

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

Doors Open: 7 p.m.

Dance lesson: 7:15 p.m.

Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00 in advance (by March 25)

At the door: \$20.00

From their website:

“As any cartoon aficionado can tell you, some of the best film music actually appears in cartoons. In celebration of the classic age of cartoons, we invite you to the Toon Town Hop, a vintage dance ball inspired by the best cartoon music of the 20th century.

“Suggested costume is vintage or modern evening dress (Mouse ears optional!). Guests may also attend as their favorite cartoon character (vintage or modern!).

“The dazzlingly versatile Divertimento Dance Orchestra will play a multi-period program of beautiful and energetic dance music from both classic and modern cartoons. Dance classic waltzes and polkas, ragtime teens and 20’s dances, 30’s and 40’s Swing and fox trot, stirring marches, and a variety of other ballroom and set dances at this wildly varied event. For us diehard dancers, there will be DJ dance music of some truly off-the-wall but extremely

danceable cartoon music during the intermissions.

“There will be a light buffet of T.V. snacks – everything your mother said was bad for you (and she was probably right) and complimentary non-alcoholic drinks. Contributions to the buffet are, as always, very welcome. Intermission entertainment includes vintage dance performances by the Peers Flying CirCUS and a cartoon music sing-along.”

Saturday, April 1

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

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

Sunday, April 2

Bad Movie Night

Mesa of Lost Women

The Dark Room Theater

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

Monday, April 3

Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing

Location TBA

UC Berkeley Campus

Berkeley

www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/

7:30 p.m.

Free

The oldest of the Bay Area’s university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week’s featured show: *Noein*.

Monday, April 3

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick’ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

More Events Next Page

April 6-9

ConQuest Sac

Avalonconventions.com/conquestsac/

Red Lion Hotel

Sacramento

\$35-\$45

Gaming and sf convention.

Saturday-Sunday, April 8-9

Alternative Press Expo

www.comic-con.org/apel/

Concourse Exhibition Center

620 7th Street

San Francisco

Admission fee to be announced

Exposition for alternative and self-published comics.

Saturday, April 8

No Name Anime

www.nnanime.com

Saratoga Library

13650 Saratoga Ave.

Saratoga

12:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. or so

Free

Monday, April 10

Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing

Location TBA

UC Berkeley Campus

Berkeley

www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/

7:30 p.m.

Free

The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week's featured show: *Akazukin Cha Cha*.

Monday, April 10

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Tuesday, April 11

Stanford NewType Anime Club Showing

Room 60-61H

Building 60

Stanford Campus

Palo Alto

8-10:30 p.m.

Free

Thursday, April 13

Thrillville's Ninth Anniversary Show

Forbidden Planet

www.thrillville.net

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Cinema

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

9:15 p.m.

\$7

It's Thrillville's ninth anniversary show featuring the all-time science fiction favorite *Forbidden Planet* and spaced out theremin lounge band Project Pimento live on stage.

Friday, April 14

Yuri's Night Celebration

Chabot Space & Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd

Oakland

www.chabotspace.org

More Events Next Page

Sunday, April 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 *Dark Beyond The Stars* by local author Frank Robinson. Author will visit. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.

Monday, April 17

Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing
 Location TBA
 UC Berkeley Campus
 Berkeley
 www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/
 7:30 p.m.
 Free

The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week's featured show: *Magikano*.

Monday, April 17

Bay Area Science Fiction Association
 The Original Hick'ry Pit
 980 E. Campbell Ave.
 Campbell
 8 p.m.
 Free
 www.basfa.org.

Friday, April 21

Middle Earth Festival
Forum on the Themes of Tolkien
 Downtown Vacaville
 www.middleearthfestival.com
 Free (or at least they don't have an admission fee listed)

The second annual Middle Earth Festival opens in Vacaville with a symposium.

For more events, see April 22-23 listing.

Saturday and Sunday, April 22-23

Middle Earth Festival
 Downtown Vacaville
 www.middleearthfestival.com
 Free

Second annual festival to celebrate Tolkien's work, both the books and the movies adapted from them. Vendors, food booths, staged and walkabout entertainment, games for kids, trivia contest, Gollum Impersonation Contest.

On Saturday will be a Long Expected Party and on Sunday there will be a fun run.

Sunday, April 23

Cherry Blossom Festival
8th Annual Anime Costume Parade
 Sponsored by Japan Video
 1737 Post Street
 San Francisco
 Noon check in for participants
 1 p.m. parade starts in front of City Hall
 Pre-registration deadline April 17
 Free

Costume contest with prizes, contestants and other cosplayers will march in the annual parade ending at San Francisco's Japantown. The Cherry Blossom Festival, which runs this weekend and the previous weekend in San Francisco's Japantown, also hosts many other Japanese cultural events, usually including an anime room.

Costume contest participants need to register in advance at Japan Video, limited slots are available so sign up soon.

More Events Next Page

Monday, April 24

Cal Animage Alpha Meeting and Showing

Location TBA

UC Berkeley Campus

Berkeley

www.ocf.Berkeley.edu/~animage/

7:30 p.m.

Free

The oldest of the Bay Area's university anime clubs hosts a showing every Monday night when school is in session. Every week this semester they are showing episodes of *Paradise Kiss* and *2x2 Shinobuden*, plus this week's featured show which will be announced later.

Monday, April 24

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org.

Saturday, May 6

The Fairy Tale Masquerade Ball

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.

Dance lesson: 7:15 p.m.

Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00 in advance (by April 29, 2006)

At the door: \$20.00

Sunday, May 7

Bad Movie Night

Battlefield Earth

The Dark Room Theater

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

May 11-14

World Horror Con 2006

Gateway Holiday Inn

www.whc2006.org

The world horror con comes to the bay area.

Thursday, May 11

Thrillville's Mad Mexican Monster Mash

Night of the Bloody Apes

www.thrillville.net

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Cinema

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

9:15 p.m.

\$7

It's a mad Mexican Monster Mash featuring the lurid South of the Border clas-sick *Night of the Bloody Apes*, with masked female wrestlers vs a rampaging rapist apeman and his evil mad scientist creator. Live opening act.

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 for more information.

More Events Next Page

May 26-29, 2006

Fanime Con

San Jose Convention Center

San Jose

www.fanime.com

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, 2006

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.

May 26-29 2006

Kublacon

Burlingame Hyatt Regency

1333 Bayshore Highway

Burlingame

Guests: TBA.

Memberships: TBA.

Gaming convention.

Sunday, June 11

Sac Con

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

10-4 p.m.

\$5

Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.

Saturday, July 15

Sac-Anime

Sacramento area

Details to be announced, the previous July shows have been held at the Sunrise Mall.

August 4-6 2006

Anime Overdose 2006

www.animeod.com

San Francisco

\$30 to ?, \$45 at door

Anime convention.

Saturday, September 2

Captain Morgan's Privateers (We Ain't Pirates No More) Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.

Dance Lesson: 7:15 p.m.

Dancing begins: 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$15.00 in advance (by August 26, 2006)

Tickets: \$20.00 at the door

Sunday, September 3

Sac Con

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

10-4 p.m.

\$5

Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.

September 8-10

*Creation Salutes Star Trek:
The 40th Anniversary Celebration*
Doubletree Hotel
Sacramento
2001 Point West Way
Sacramento

Memberships: Gold Weekend Package:
\$399.

Creation brings William Shatner and
Leonard Nimoy to Sacramento. And no,
that's not a typo on the price. Cheaper
packages will be announced later.

October 6-8

SiliCon
www.siliconventions.com
Doubletree Hotel
San Jose
\$35 until August 31

November 4

Le Bal des Vampires
PEERS

Venue: TBD

No information as yet for this vampire-
theme ball event.

Sunday, December 10

Sac Con
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
10-4 p.m.
\$5

Comic, toy and anime show, usually has
an anime costume contest.

July 6-9, 2007

Westercon 60: Gnomeward Bound
DoubleTree Hotel
San Jose