

Science Fiction/San Francisco

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

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Letters Of Comment

Lloyd Penney writes:

Dear Jean, Chris and Jack:

So many zines come from the Bay Area now, I can't keep up. If I'm not working on a Bayzine, I'm working on something from Vegas. Here's come comments on issues 16 and 17 of SF/SF.

Chris Garcia replies: But how many of those BArea zines have the Garcia name attached?

16...I never did get to see the Harry Potter movie. Even with its popularity, it didn't stay long in the theatres here. Every convention always needs more people to help it run. As long as most people combine the ideas of running a small business and having a good time, working conventions can be a lot of fun. Yvonne and I have done it for 25 years, but we are going to hang it up at the end of LAcon IV. Sectarian Wave isn't a video project, but an audio one. It will be eventually 12 episodes of 25 minutes each on 2 CDs, just right for broadcasting on public radio or the CBC. Go to <http://www.virtuallyamerican.com/detail.asp?genID=01&ShowID=0055>, and you can download either all or a sample of

Episode 1.

You're retiring from con-running? That's the first step down the road to GAFIA, my friend. First it's no more SMOFing, then it's no more club meetings, and finally it's no more LoCing. Don't Leave Us Lloyd!

I must catch Sectarian Wave.

Hi, Diane...you got it all right about Toronto, plus its GLBT community is about the same size as SanFran. I doubt I'll be going to Toronto Trek, and I certainly cannot afford the Gathering. We're saving up to come and visit you all at LAcon IV! A friend of Yvonne's has loaned us the first two disks of Firefly episodes. We never saw it in its initial run in 2002. In exchange, that friend is now discovering the joys of The Princess Bride. (That fan film I may be involved in...working title is The Bastards of Kirk.)

Ooh! Great title. Toronto was referred to as the San Francisco of Canada in an issue of The Advocate, though they got letters saying that Vancouver really deserved that moniker. You'll be missing Toronto Trek? That's a shame. It's one of the few cons out that way that I'm sorely tempted to attend, along with Ad Astra.

You'll make it out here for WorldCon, which will be all sorts of fun. I'm planning on many strange things to happen and lots of issues of lots of zines.

I've seen programmes on The Discover Channel Canada about speculation on how animals will evolve over the next few thousand years. They are animated, so to see these future animals move is interesting to see.

The ones that weird me out are the ones that look hundreds of millions of years into the future. The one where Squid-things take over is the freakiest, though I like the idea of a squibbon.

Club minutes...if you have no Nathan for 12 weeks, this is probably him telling you something, I might assume. I see Michael Wallis is there at one meeting... you might say hello to him for me. Unleash the beavers? Better watch it, they're not housebroken. Ah, Nathan has been released on his own recognizance, and let's hope his parole office keeps an eye on him. Squid, squid, squid and squid? We're having calamari, lots and lots of calamari, calamari's really neat, calamari's fun to eat,

hurray...for calamari! (To the tune of the Chef Boy-Ar-Dee commercials)

Yeah, that was a silly meeting, even by BASFA standards. I'm missing Nathan. He was a good half-Vice President.

17...No locs in this issue? Hm, I guess I wasn't the only one swamped by everyday life. Well, 18 should change that. It's getting close to convention season in Toronto, too, and Ad Astra 2006, the 25th Ad Astra, will be taking place in about a month. Then comes Eeriecon in Niagara Falls, Corflu, Anime North, Toronto Trek...it's already a crowded season. We'll be at Eeriecon for a day, and I'll be at Corflu by myself.

Wow, sounds like T-Dot Con Season is as busy as the BArea's. I really wish I could make it to CorFlu, but I did already buy a membership. I'm considering giving it to someone on the strict requirement that they pretend to be me at the con.

There's mention of Gallifrey One...a couple of people from Toronto made it to Gallifrey this year, which ended just a day or two ago. There's also mention of an anime convention. Anime North here almost broke 10,000 in attendance, and they are bracing themselves for 12,000 this year. Anime is indeed where youth and their money have gone; literary conventions seem to now represent a past generation.

Fanime here in SJ is the largest of our

cons, but we have seen people drifting from Anime into mainstream fandom, as it were. It's helped out by the fact that almost every con has an Anime room. They'll come to us, in their own way, eventually.

I have to find out if there's a Yuri's Night celebration here. Yvonne and I have run two Yuri's Nights, one in Toronto and one in Niagara Falls. I think one of the local space advocacy groups may take it on this year. Also, just for the record...I won't be doing a newsletter for Canadian fandom. After doing a little market research, it seems no one really wants it. Perhaps they don't need it. There isn't as much tradition for the printed word in Canadian fandom as there is elsewhere.

I was of the impression that there was as much printed tradition in Canada as there was in the States. Now, Bruce Gillespie was a reason to make that claim about Australia. I'll be at Yuri's Night, hopefully. I always say that and end up saying 'Well, next year.'

Wrap it up here I will...take care, folks, and with luck and no major expenditures, I'll see you in Los Angeles in August. Anyone planning a Bay Area fandom party there?

Oh yes, we're planning many BArea parties, including an Evil Geniuses party hosted by Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley, a BASFA party/meeting, a surprise party the

likes of which I can't discuss, and probably Jay Lake's Roast done as a room party.

Yours, Lloyd Penney

Peter Sullivan writes:

Good to hear that some of the SF/SF crew had a chance to get together at Wondercon, even if it was just for a short while. I guess that pretty much any convention ends up as a mixture of competing priorities, and nobody ever gets a chance to do all that they want to. You could say that a weekend is just too short. Although, having been involved in the longest games convention I'm aware of (in 1994, Manorcon as the hosts of World Dip Con opened on the Thursday lunchtime, and didn't shut up shop until the Tuesday evening) I can assure you that, no matter how long the weekend ends up being, it's never long enough!

Yeah, I ran into Jean and Diane and even some folks who were our faithful readers! It's a nice thing to see that we're being read by folks actually in the area we're covering! I thought there was a gaming convention in 1989 that ran as long as the longest game that started on the opening day (it was Monopoly, of course) and it ended up lasting well longer than a week. Yeah, there's never enough of a good con.

Interesting to read about Scott Sigler's

experiments with serializing podcasts. As he says, the biggest surprise is probably that no-one seems to have thought of it before. Of course, hindsight is always 20:20, and something like this is always obvious once someone like Scott has had the original idea.

Yeah, I never would have come up with the idea, but it makes so much sense, doesn't it. Of course, there are people who think that releasing a book that way is "cheating" and that it's not "publishing" at all and shouldn't be eligible for awards and the like, but I love the idea.

I am almost tempted to stop looking at the listings section, as it simply winds me up about all these cool events that I have absolutely no chance of getting to. But Jack does such a good job of work on them that I can't resist taking a peek.

He does a great job. It's right up there with the SF-Lovers site with the con listings by Jan Finder and Sharron Sbarsky for usefulness.

Best wishes to all the SF/SF crew, and keep on truckin'.

Oh we will...as long as there are cons to attend, authors to spotlight, and freebies to be gained, the good people of SF/SF will be there!

John Purcell writes:

Dear collective faneds,

It is a strange and wonderful thing to attend a convention that mingles science fiction, comic books, porn stars, and assorted other sundries. It really makes me wonder at what our little fannish corner of the universe is coming to. WonderCon nonetheless sounds like a fun con to stumble into. So does Furthur Confusion (aka, Furry Con). Lots of stuff going on in the Bay Area, especially over the summer months. I am afraid if I was living out there I would O.D. on cons and stfnal activities. Very dangerous situation. But, at least I'd go out with a smile on my face.

It's odd that you say that. I'm always trying to get to as many pieces of fannish activity as I can and I never make it to more than one or two a month. WonderCon is a really fun little (OK, BIG) con. It's more designed to get everyone there, from film fans to comic fans to a few SF fans, it's really like the African Watering Hole...complete with crocs waitin' to take a chomp out of you (or your wallet).

A Podcast Novel is, well, a novel idea. What an interesting development. I will have to keep an eye - or my electronic ear, I guess - out for Infection. Very intriguing.

It's a good idea, one which will probably only gain acceptance as time goes on. Still, you

have to wonder if they'll allow podcast novels to be considered for Hugo noms and the like.

And an Anime Con report. I am not one for this kind of stuff, but my 10-year old son Daniel is very into Dragonball Z and all its permutations; he and I have our own Yu-gi-oh! decks and occasionally duel each other for practice. Once Aggiecon 37 rolls around next month, he and I are planning on challenging some college punks to duels and whip their academic butts. Myself, I am looking forward to wandering the huckster room and art show. I will probably do a write-up in the April ish of my zine, since Aggiecon will be my first real sf convention I will have attended since Minicon 27 back in 1992. Should be interesting.

Hope you have a good time at Aggiecon (they showed my movie The Chick Magnet last year) and I hope you might try and make a con where I might find myself in the future, if only so I can put a face with the endless LoCs!

Well, good to hear from you super-active fannish types. Have fun out there, and don't overdo it. There is, after all, such a thing as Too Much Fun.

Nah, I don't buy that at all!

All the best,

John Purcell

Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor

I am usually very news averse as most news is usually either depressing or sensationalist in my view. I'd rather think of the world in more positive terms. There's a lot of good that people do but that never makes the news. Even though I don't listen to or watch the news, I keep myself informed in other ways. Most people tell me what's going on, or I read headlines and that pretty much tells me all I need to know. It's ironic that I consider myself a journalist. But I guess I write about the things I'm passionate about... the things that make me and other people happy. As such, I concentrate on arts and entertainment. But not the kind that passes for entertainment news lately. Like who cares if Jessica Simpson's divorce is getting messy! I went through a divorce myself recently and I have a lot of sympathy for what she's going through. The last thing a person going through that experience needs is other people gossiping about it.

So anyway, on a more positive note, I hope everyone had a good Valentine's Day. To me Valentine's Day is not just a day for lovers. It's also a time to just spread the love with family and friends. I love holidays, I must admit, because it marks the passage

of the year... like happy milestones. Something to look forward to before they happen, and something to look back on with fond memories afterwards. With lots of pictures, preferably! Hallmark has made a lot of money from me over the years. This year, it was particularly appropriate as the day was a good opportunity for my masquerade friends to send best wishes and appreciation to each other. Valentine's Day also reminds me of probably the funniest Saturday Night Live skit (other than the one with Sir Ian McKellen portraying Dame Maggie Smith and kissing Jimmy Fallon) ever. The one with Patrick Stewart as the Captain of the *Love Boat: The Next Generation* talking to Data about Valentine's Day, and Data saying that St. Valentine was an early Christian martyr who was put to death or something like that. Sorry, it was funnier on television.

Well, the Winter Olympics are happening right now as well in Turin. Not a big fan of winter sports or winter in general. But I do love the human drama and the celebration of human strength and perseverance. Competition and the whole uncertainty of it all are also quite exciting. And of course, I love the ice skating competitions because ice skating is an art as well as a sport. I haven't watched it as much this time around but

am following it a little bit. The costumes are always colorful and interesting, and the choreography and music are always fun and inspiring. I just found out that the U.S. just medalled in ice dancing for the first time in 30 years! Go team U.S.! What an achievement. The Russians are always the best in that sport, they are usually light years ahead and all seem to be part of the Bolshoi Ballet. Oh, and of course, I love the dancing aspect of ice dancing in particular.

To end on an even happier tone, I just read that Mardi Gras will continue as it has every year in New Orleans despite the recent devastating hurricanes. That is so great to hear that people are rebuilding their lives. What a wonderful display of the flexibility of the human spirit. I guess that's why I love science fiction and fantasy so much. These genres usually reflect these same themes. The triumph of good over evil, the banding together of different people to overcome overwhelming obstacles, and the hope for a better tomorrow. This reminds me why Lord of the Rings and Star Trek (especially the Next Generation) continue to be guiding forces in my life.

Speaking of which, it's two weeks before my tour of the Middle Earth. I should start brushing up on my Elvish! Lîn Mellon, Hiril Eruantale.

A Call to Arms for the "BrownScarves"

By **Andy Trembley**

Staff Writer

Well, there was plenty of brown in Tom Baker's scarf, but that's not the point.

In one of the "Black Scrolls of Rassillon" (the Gallifrey One newsletter), SFTV.org editor and webmaster Lee Whiteside wrote an article about SciFi's acquisition of the new *Doctor Who* series.

For those of you who need to be caught up, SciFi only picked up *Doctor Who* in mid-January. That's months after the season completed its run in Canada, Australia and Great Britain. It's after the Christmas special aired. It's practically after the new season went into production.

That's not what Lee's article was about, though.

Lee got some inside information. SciFi is only planning minimal promotion and marketing for the show. Sure, it's filling the slot that *Battlestar Galactica* will vacate until its next season, and that's a good slot. On the other hand, they haven't budgeted for the heavy promotion that their big in-

house productions (regardless of whether they're good or crappy, personally I think the higher the crap-factor, the more promotion) get. SciFi doesn't even have a *Doctor Who* web page up yet, and they start airing in four weeks.

That's pretty sad for a show that just ate up the awards at this year's (British) National Television Awards. It isn't promising in terms of acquisition of the next season or *Torchwood*.

Doctor Who has to be big if we don't want to spend next season in limbo, waiting for SciFi to exercise their option until they've got dead space to fill. If the Browncoats can muster up enough support to make a movie based on a dead show saleable, surely we can muster enough support to convince SciFi that *Doctor Who* is a hot property that deserves more (like, perhaps, a run concurrent with the UK and Canada) next season.

What can you do?

Watch the show. OK, that one was simple. Pretend you haven't downloaded

it on BitTorrent, or bought foreign release DVDs. It starts Friday nights at 9:00 on March 17.

Record the show. Even if you've seen the episode already. If you've got TiVo or some other DVR, it reports back what you use it for (don't complain about spying, it's good) and this information is valuable ratings data.

Watch your recording. Even if you've seen the episode already. Same as above.

Buy the USA release DVDs. Well, if you haven't bought the UK release or the Canada release. DVD sales are what did it for *Firefly*.

Oh, and the important one. Tell your friends.

It's not like it's impossible to get the episodes by illicit means, but I know I'd rather be watching the show at home in the USA on basic cable at the same time it's airing everywhere else.

Do you want to see *Doctor Who* to get more attention next season? Spread the word.

Browncoats Dominate WonderCon

By **Jean Martin**
Editor

WonderCon, the San Francisco version of San Diego's Comic-Con, was held last February 10 to 12 at the Moscone Center West. WonderCon and Comic-Con are both comic conventions at their core, but

they've become more like broad-based media conventions attracting science fiction, fantasy, horror and anime fans. Moscone West is a new and imposing steel and glass building on Fourth and Howard Streets next to the Metreon and Yerba Buena Gardens. It was a thrill walking into the main entrance and seeing the WonderCon

sign. People have told me that WonderCon is smaller than Comic-Con, and with 100,000 people attending last July's Comic-Con, anything would pale in comparison. Still, WonderCon was a larger event than I expected. The dealer and exhibitor room on the first floor was huge! The second floor was



Browncoats Fan Table at WonderCon

Photo by Jean Martin



An original Cylon

Photo by Jean Martin

where the panels and screenings were held. On the third floor were a big hall and the backstage area for the masquerade.

I arrived at WonderCon on Friday evening and barely just made it in time to register at the Press booth. I ran into my co-editor, Chris Garcia, who was his usual jovial self. Isn't that amazing that the first person I ran into was Chris! I called a couple of friends and found out they were at the Browncoats fan table. When I arrived at the Browncoats table, which was organized by the SF Browncoats and the Sacramento Browncoats, I was greeted with several friendly and familiar faces. The Browncoats truly are like a family that way.

So that night began what turned out to be a Browncoat WonderCon weekend. First on the agenda was the screening of the Browncoat fan documentary entitled *Done the Impossible*. The screening began promptly at 7:30 p.m. Narrated by Adam Baldwin, who portrayed Jayne in the *Firefly* television series and the subsequent *Serenity* movie, it featured interviews with director Joss Whedon, the cast and crew, and fans. Interweaved throughout were performances by musicians who have composed songs based on the show and movie, which were alternately funny and inspiring. *Done the Impossible* basically recounts how *Firefly* fans of all ages and persuasions passionately got

together, not only to create a community of like-minded individuals, but also to undertake an unprecedented guerilla marketing strategy to get the powers-that-be to create a movie from the prematurely canceled TV show. The documentary was very professionally done. The caliber of the movie was surprising when I found out that the people behind it, who did a panel after the screening, have never done anything

like this before! I met one of the producers, Jeremy Neish, the next day and told him how much I enjoyed the film.

After the screening, most of the SF Browncoats went to their usual hangout, Café Murano, to party. I was still suffering from a cold and called it any early night.

Saturday, I got to the convention after lunch as I was still not feeling well. There was a long line to get into the 1st floor area



Th3 501st Legion Fan Table at WonderCon

Photo by Jean Martin



Jedi with General Grievous

Photo by Jean Martin

because of Fire Marshall restrictions. I can't believe how many people came to attend the convention! Fortunately, with my Press badge, I was able to walk in without waiting in line. I roamed around the dealer and exhibitor area and bought the official WonderCon t-shirt with Batman on it, and also a signed Kevin Smith screenplay. I missed Kevin Smith as he was speaking around lunchtime. I missed him at Comic-Con too! Oh, well. Anyway, I ran into Lee Hester, the owner of Lee's Comics in San Mateo and Mountain View. He obligingly posed with his friend Mark with their Master Replicas light sabers, which you can purchase at both his stores. I also saw a table with Jason Palmer's artwork. He created the beautiful official print for *Firefly*.

I also saw several people dressed in costume walking around. I love it when people get into the spirit of things and wear costumes of their favorite characters. On the second floor, I ran into some people I knew in costume. The most impressive was the *Gilgamesh* group. I made it to the third floor in time for rehearsals with the *Firefly/Serenity* masquerade group I was going to perform with Saturday evening. We had the whole stage to ourselves for our rehearsal, which was the first time all seven of us participating were in one place at the same time! Four of us had done the same routine



Gilgamesh (anime) group
Photo by Jean Martin

at Comic-Con (five couldn't join us, one of whom was the creator and choreographer of our song and dance number), but three were new recruits. We got a lukewarm reaction at Comic-Con because the Browncoats attended the final screening with Joss Whedon that was scheduled at the same time as the masquerade. Since the Browncoats would be in the audience this time around, and more people know about *Firefly* because the movie *Serenity* came out late last year, we hoped we'd get a better

response.

After the rehearsal, I rested for a little bit in the Browncoat meet up, which was held all afternoon in one of the convention rooms on the second floor. They showed episodes from *Firefly* and had some panel discussions. Then I went to dinner at the Metreon and changed into my Inara costume at a friend's hotel room at the Marriott. We went to the backstage area on the third floor and waited for our turn to perform. We were placed last of 30 in the

program, which was unfortunate because I really wanted to see the other performers. There were some amazing costumes backstage. A lot of *Star Wars*-inspired ones as there was a company prize by Lucasfilm. There was an elaborate and exact replica of Amidala's royal costume and several Jedi and Storm Trooper entries.

Our group was relatively huge with seven participants, but the *Jem and the Holograms* group was even bigger with ten! I knew most everyone in that group and ran



Empire versus Jedis

Photo by Jean Martin



Mark and Lee from Lee's Comics

Photo by Jean Martin

into other people backstage that I knew as well. It's really nice to see people I know at conventions. Seems like the community is composed of the same folks!

Unlike at Comic-Con, the masquerade went really fast. We were up before an hour went by! Comic-Con, with 60-plus entries and lots of skits and routines, took hours. I wasn't nervous until we were actually waiting next to the stage to go on. But my jitters passed quickly as the audience started cheering and

clapping wildly once we were announced. The hall was filled to capacity with some people even standing at the back area! We couldn't hear the beginning of our song, but luckily, our routine started with us just posing in a line and then we began our choreography at the same time. Our performance consisted of seven of the nine crewmates on *Serenity*, and we lip synced (there are no microphones so lip syncing is perfectly acceptable) and danced to a hilarious version of *Proud Mary* called *Runnin' from the Reavers*. By the end of our short performance, people were singing and clapping along, one of the judges included! As I walked off the stage, I was so excited that we did so well and that the audience appreciated us.

We all went backstage afterwards where a group of photographers took our pictures. We felt like celebrities! Then we waited anxiously to see if we won anything. The company prizes were given out first, followed by the honorable mentions. My friends from *Jem* won an honorable mention for Most Outrageous. We weren't called so as the prizes ran out, I was thinking that perhaps we'd get one of the bigger awards. Or we'd get nothing at all. If it was the latter, it was all a lot of fun anyway and we did our best. And I got to make new friends and became closer with

the friends I had previously performed the routine with. Then one of the assistant coordinators motioned for us to go back onstage and as we waited next to the stage, I was wondering what award we could possibly get. The host, Phil Foglio, said our group's name, Big Damn Heroes, and presented us with the Best Performance trophy! Our group jumped up and down with joy, and we went on stage and made our bows to the delight of the audience. Masquerade coordinator extraordinaire, Martin Jaquish, who's also one of the nicest people you'll ever meet, presented us with a trophy -- which happened to be the wrong one, for Best Workmanship.

Apparently, they got two of that trophy but none for Best Performance. So we took it anyway and had our photos taken again, but with the trophy this time. Martin promised to send us the correct trophy, which I'll proudly keep for our group.

It was quite funny that we got the Best Workmanship trophy by mistake since our costumes were probably the simplest among all of the competitors. Our strength was really in our singing

and dancing (lyrics and choreography courtesy of Cordelia Willis), and so Best Performance was really the most appropriate award we could have gotten. The other major awards were for Best Novice (sorry, I couldn't remember who won that prize), Best Workmanship (Bats), Best Re-creation (Shrek), Judges Choice (Spy vs. Spy), and Best in Show (General Greivous).

When we finally went downstairs, a group of Browncoats applauded us as we descended on the escalator. Yes, it's nice to feel like a star once in a while! We then all changed back at my friend's hotel room, and then most of us went to

the Hotel Utah's bar. The music was great (*Led Zeppelin*, yeah!) and the company was fun. Browncoats sure know how to party! Then we all got hungry and 12 of us went to Mel's Drive In at the Fifth and Mission Garage for a midnight snack. I wished the night wouldn't end but one by one people started getting tired and leaving. My ride, who played an awesome Jayne with us, also had a long trip home so I had to leave early too (around 1:30 a.m.). Well, there was still one more day left!

I got there late again on Sunday due to being tired and ill, but hey, I was making it through the weekend reasonably okay! I ran quickly through the 1st floor, said hello to people, and tried on some corsets. Which was a mistake after eating lunch at the Moscone West's cafeteria. Never try on corsets with a full stomach! The food, by the way, was expensive but excellent. I didn't expect gourmet food at the convention. Too bad I just discovered that on the last day or I would have eaten lunch there on Saturday as well.

I missed the Browncoats raffle drawing,



The main entrance to WonderCon

Photo by Jean Martin

which was a shame as I usually win something at raffles, and they were giving away lots of amazing stuff. I did make it to the silent auction, though, and luckily won a framed photo of the cast of *Firefly/Serenity* signed by all of them! The raffle and silent auction benefited Equality Now and the Wooten Center, two charities supported by Joss Whedon and Ron Glass (Shepherd Book in *Firefly/Serenity*), respectively.

I volunteered with the Browncoats on Sunday afternoon but didn't really get to do much, as Kim Pudliner and Arielle Kesweder, the SF Browncoats organizing the fan table and the *Firefly/Serenity* panels along with the Sacramento Browncoats, seemed to have everything under control, and had several volunteers already helping out. So I just basically hung out (in my

Browncoat WonderCon staff t-shirt), met more Browncoats, and promoted *Science Fiction/San Francisco*. I carried some boxes back to the fan table after the raffles, and bought a Browncoat bracelet, shot glass and t-shirt. Across from the Browncoat table was the 501st Legion (the bad guys from the Star Wars universe) and, ironically, right next to them was Fan Force (the good guys). After the convention ended, the Browncoats worked tirelessly to pack up their things. Then we went to Mel's Drive In for dinner, this time with a different group of people.

Later I went to meet some more Browncoats at "The View" on the top floor of the Marriott Hotel. Yes, the art deco glass and steel fan atop the Marriott happens to be a classy bar with an amazing 360-

degree view of San Francisco. It was quite stunning seeing San Francisco from that height, with all the lights twinkling in the distance, especially from the Bay Bridge. It was quite relaxing as well with the low light and just a few people talking. We were all exhausted but happy. SF Browncoats founder Renee Balmert was there, as well as Arielle and Kim and regular volunteer Mandisa. Ray Hill was the lone male, but he cut a dashing presence dressed in his Mal outfit. He talked about the upcoming Browncoat weekend in September, which he's organizing with a few other people. It will be a huge multi-day event including a dinner and a fancy ball. It looks like there will be more Browncoat events in the future, and I'm so glad that I'm part of this group of fun and friendly people.

But before that weekend are more conventions including BayCon in San Jose in May, and Comic-Con in San Diego in July. Lots more opportunities to costume, masquerade, report and just plain hang out and enjoy myself!

Here are some pertinent links for more information:

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

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

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

<http://www.jasonpalmer.net/>

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



The "Done the Impossible" panel.

Photo by Jean Martin

WonderCon

Second Annual Masquerade

By Diane B. Rooney
Staff Writer

WonderCon's second annual Masquerade took place Saturday night, February 11th, hosted by award-winning cartoonist and comic book author Phil Foglio. The judges were the amazingly talented Peter David, Mark Altman (CFQ and writer/producer of *Free Enterprise*), and costume historian, designer, and teacher Dawn Divine. In addition to masquerade prizes there were five sponsored awards. The masquerade was THE thing to do Saturday night, at least before the *Star Wars* film festival, and was well attended.

Because flash photography wasn't allowed in the masquerade room, members of the press waited for entrants to show their stuff at hallway photo ops immediately after their stage appearances. More photos were taken while waiting for the judges' decisions and after the winners were announced. Twenty-six entries came by to be photographed but there may have been a few that didn't come.



Best Presentation Winners Big Damn Heroes.

Photo by Diane B. Rooney



Best Anime Costume winners Kasumi, Ayane and friend.
Photo by Diane B. Rooney

Some entrants won multiple awards. *Bats*, presented by Chris and Alexis in their first masquerade, took the prize for Best Workmanship and also the Century Guild award for Best Art Nouveau costume. The costume included fun foam ears airbrushed with delicate veins, silicone prosthetic masks, and lots of stretch Lycra.

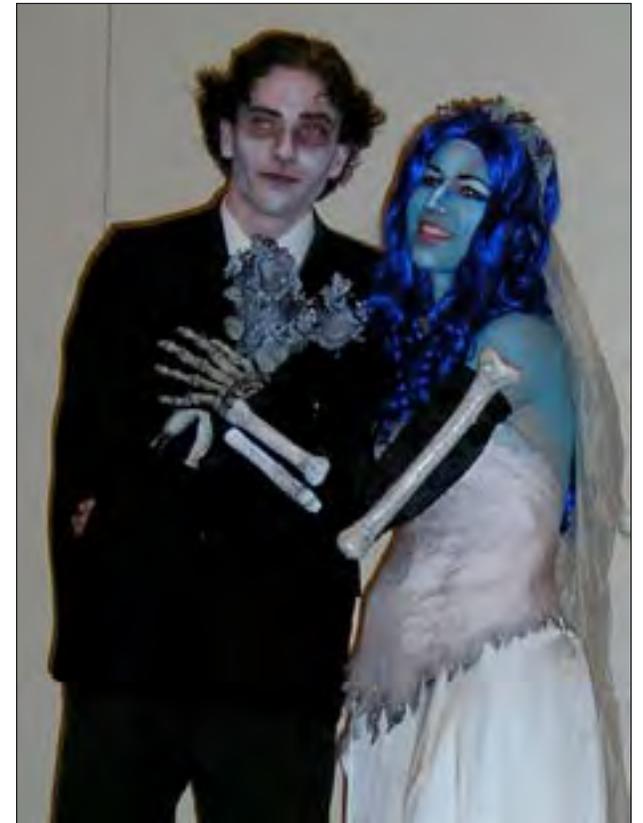
Spy vs Spy, presented by Mette and Bryan of Sunnyvale, won the Judges' Choice prize and also the DC Comics award. The spy heads were made on a wire frame, with a fan inside to keep them cool. Each spy also had a tool kit with an array of iconic weaponry, such as a bomb, dynamite, mallet, and gun.

Runaway Bounty won the CFQ prize and also the Lucasfilm award for Best Kids *Star Wars* costume. This presentation featured

a young Wookiee and bounty hunter with a cast of Han Solo.

The ADV Films best anime costume prize went to Ayane (Lynn) and Kasumi (Rikku) of *Dead or Alive*. The Lucasfilm runner-up prize went to a team presentation of clones on Felucia.

General Grievous and Obi-Wan took Best in Show and also the Lucasfilm prize for Best Adult costume, which was a huge aisle banner of Yoda from Celebration 3.



Victor and Corpse Bride.

Photo by Diane B. Rooney

Other winning costumes were Most Outrageous (*Jem and the Misfits*), Most Beautiful (*Linc and Zelda*), Best Novice (*Nightcrawler*), Best Recreation (*Shrek*), and Best Presentation (*Big Damn Heroes* from *Serenity*, which included our own Jean Martin). Among other interesting costumes in the Masquerade were *Marie Antoinette Anime* and *Victor and Corpse Bride*.



Most Outrageous award winners Jem and the Misfits.

Photo by Diane B. Rooney



Above: Most Beautiful Award winners Zelda and Link. (Of course that's consplayers.com's Pikminlink as Link.)

Left: An anime version of Marie Antoinette.

Photos by Diane B. Rooney



Above and Above Right:
Multiple award winners "Bats".

Right: *Spy vs. Spy*, winner for
best DC comics recreation and
Judges Choice.

Photos by Diane B. Rooney



There's Plenty to Do On a Rainy Weekend (At Least, a Rainy President's Day Weekend at Dundracon 2006)

By **Thomas Rafalski**

Dundracon, the annual gaming convention held at the San Ramon Marriott, runs on President's Day Weekend, one of the few in the Bay Area when almost everyone can agree that staying indoors sounds like a good idea. This year, the weather did not disappoint when cold winds and rain clouds pushed aside warm and sunny days as attendees converged on the Marriott. While the weekend wasn't very conducive to romantic moonlight strolls, it was excellent for defeating hoards of orcs and saving the city from Some Evil Villain.

Many attendees entered the hotel directly through the "side" door of the convention space. This area was filled with several rows of large tables bunched together to allow space for very large board games and miniatures games. This section also contained a large high-ceilinged room with even larger table groupings devoted completely to mini gaming and the anime room. (While I didn't have a chance to watch an entire video in the anime room,

it appeared that every video had English subtitles and original Japanese audio.) The "kid's game" room was across the hallway.

The main board game room was a sizable area and filled from early Friday afternoon to Sunday morning. When a table wasn't being used for an official game, someone would run a pick-up game. The board gaming crowd at Dundracon tended to be somewhat informal and friendly to a new face; there were so many people wheeling around their personal collections in overhead luggage bags that you could have mistaken the place for an airport. Of the several board games I played in the salon, one of my favorites was a demo of a great game called *Monster Island* with one of its creators, Patrick Sweeney. I bought a copy of it in the dealer's room a few hours later and look forward to trying it out with both of my weekly gaming groups.

Role-playing games were the heart and soul of Dundracon. Industry luminaries from all over the country arrived in San Ramon for the weekend. Not only did industry writers and designers give seminars, most of them also played when

their schedule allowed it, and the guy next to you who seemed to know a lot about a game might just be the head of the company that publishes it. Dundracon was the first convention the revived HeroGames attended and it is still a major event on their schedule.

This is one of the few conventions that legitimately lives up to the claim of non-stop gaming. I have yet to see the open gaming space without a virtual hoard of board, card, and role-players. While there are points in the official schedule where the number of official games are sparse compared to the number of attendees, you can always find fun in open gaming. If you love walking around a crowded room looking for some neat, new game that you haven't tried before, you won't be disappointed at Dundracon.

The snack bar had good food and the prices were unbelievably reasonable for a convention site. The staff was friendly and they supplied the crowd with a steady supply of food. You didn't need to choose between starving, going into debt to pay for lunch, or packing your pantry in your

trunk/luggage.

The major snafu that people ran into at Dundracon was parking, or rather, the lack of adequate parking in the hotel parking lot. Parking spaces were often impossible to find and tempers ran very short. The

web site posted alternate ways of getting to the hotel, and it was best to find out about parking solutions and alternate transportation to the hotel ahead of time. The hotels and shops make a lot of money from convention attendees, so they will

have something arranged. However, such things can change from year to year. For next year, ask, before you find that your game starts in five minutes, the hotel lot is full, and you've been driving around the lot for twenty minutes.

Fanzines Published

By Chris Garcia
Editor

We've got a new Emerald City (EmCit.com) from Cheryl Morgan and company that broke on the 26th. Subscribers to Emerald City (at the rock bottom price of twelve dollars a year) are eligible to win fun prizes like books signed by Jeff VanDerMeer (which Chris Garcia won in February).

Chris Garcia's The Drink Tank has had several issues come out, including issue 64 which features 100-word articles from BASFAns Fred Moutton, Julie Porter, Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Mike Swan and Frank Wu. There's also art by Frank Wu and Vegas artist Alan White, among others. Also on eFanzines.com is a new issue of Claims Department (#7).

The Fantasy Amateur Press

Association, or FAPA, had a mailing go out in February and it includes several NorCal fans, including Oakland's Robert Lichtman, Santa Clara's Chris Garcia, Palo Alto's Janice Morningstar and Daly City's Mike McInerney. Another APA, the British-centered The Everlasting Club, has two local members, the ubiquitous Chris Garcia and San Jose's cryptanalzyer Mr. Luther Martin. More information on this ghost story-focused APA can be found at

<http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~pardos/Everlasting.html>

As for BArea writers in other fanzines, there are LoCs by Christopher Garcia and Robert Lichtman in the last four issues of Vegas Fandom Weekly and the latest eI, issue 24. The latest issue of Littlebrook features LoCs from Chris Garcia and SF's Mike Deckinger, as well as a lot of comments on the SF Corflu from last February.

New President for N3F

By Jack Avery
Editor

Mountain View fan (and Science Fiction/San Francisco Editor) Chris Garcia has taken over the duties as president of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, a national

fan group with a history dating back more than 60 years.

The very fannishly active Garcia takes over from outgoing president Ruth R. (Ruthiechan) Davidson. Garcia previously served as editor of the group's newsletter.

Gallifrey One

By **Andy Trembley**
Staff Writer

I don't usually get post-convention depression...

...but this was a gospel revival, not a convention.

Gallifrey One was born in the last days of the Sylvester McCoy era, and didn't actually happen until after *Doctor Who* went off the air. Sure, there were still seasons that hadn't shown in some regions of the US, and KTEH here in San Jose continued to air *Doctor Who* until only a year or two ago, but production had been suspended and nobody expected it to come back anytime soon.

Still.

26 years.

It was enough momentum to get a convention started.

It was enough momentum to allow that convention to recover from the staggering debt incurred in its first year.

It was enough momentum to keep that con going for 16 more years.

That, though, was helped by a

publishing machine (BBC Publishing, Virgin Publishing and Telos) turning out *Doctor Who* novels one after another and fans for whom reading was almost as satisfying as watching television. BBC Radio (and eventually BBC Interactive) kept producing new *Doctor Who* content. Fan media houses like BBV and licensed operations like Big Finish Productions also kept voracious fans in videos and audio plays.

15 years of conventions for a show that was canceled. Sure, there was also a movie in 1996, but it was a bit of a disappointment to many fans.

15 years? Didn't I say 16 more?

Back at "Gallifrey One's Fifteen Minutes of Fame," news of a new series to be produced by Russell T. Davies was the big topic of discussion. I missed "The Sixteen Swashbucklers of Gallifrey One," but I'm sure that was still everybody's favorite subject. The first episode, though, didn't air until 6 weeks after it passed.

This was the first Gallifrey One since the new series started airing in the UK and Canada (CBC was an investor in the

project) and making its way around the world via BitTorrent.

That's a hell of a lot of back-story for a convention report, I suppose. The stage needs to be set, though.

As I said, Kevin and I missed last year's convention. Had the joke about Shaun Lyons getting Davies as a guest come true, I probably would have been inconsolable. As it was, San Francisco's 40th Coronation just left me exhausted, but dead-set on making "Gallifrey One in the Seventeenth (And a Half) Century" this year.

We stuck with tradition and drove down to LA Thursday night after work. The drive was pretty good, but that extra 20 miles that the move from the Airtel Plaza to the LAX Marriot added was kind of painful.

We were pleasantly surprised when we finally got to the hotel. Other people were less pleasantly surprised by hotel difficulties. Our surprise, though, was the scale of the suite that the con's hotel liaison had obtained for us, a large two-bedroom affair opening out onto the pool deck (well, except for the fact that the pool was half-torn-out for renovations). I've been told

that the convention burned one of their room upgrades for us, as they like the League of Evil Geniuses party and what it does for the convention. We got everything moved in and (it being after 3:00 a.m.) crashed.

Friday morning we got our badges at the registration desk and had breakfast with a few friends. After getting in some important visiting, we hauled off to Trader Joe's for a final grocery run (party shopping was one of the things that went chaotic) and then decorated the room.

Somehow we fit in dinner (with Tadao Tomomatsu, whom you should remember from the Anime LA report) and got K dressed and down to judge the Masquerade with Jennifer Kelley and Laura Freas. Yep, the masquerade (a.k.a. the Masque of Mandragora) had been moved to Friday night. We got our Friday night party and got it after the masquerade.

There were, not surprisingly, people wanting to get in when, after presentations but before the judges returned with awards, I went to set out snacks. With a very short masquerade, a very short half-time show, and judges constrained to finish in the allocated time, I had just finished putting out refreshments when K got back with a bunch of others in tow. It was, by my estimation, the most successful party we've

ever thrown at Galli (thanks partially to our absence the previous year), and ran until 4 in the morning.

If you haven't guessed that much of Saturday was a write-off, you're not paying enough attention. K watched some episodes of the new series. They're really fantastic. It's such a contrast to the huge ensemble cast shows that are dominating American SF television these days. I hit the dealers' room and snagged copies of the new Titan Books *Modesty Blaise* collections from Cargo Cult Books. I'm still short *Modesty Blaise: Top Traitor* and *Modesty Blaise: The Black Pearl*. How I ever missed out on this British comic strip I'll never know. It's a real contrast to the very silly 1966 movie. I also snagged a copy of *The Aristocrats* because I've been dying to see it.

We did get out to the LGBT Fan Gathering to catch up with folks we hadn't seen much of to that point. There was one problem, though. It was scheduled against Mary Tamm's autograph slot. Let's see. Room full of boys, or autograph from the gal who wore all those fabulous outfits? This was a difficult decision for some people.

Saturday night was taken up by Sweets, a much more leisurely gathering. Sweets is a tradition started by legendary LA fan Bruce Pelz, and normally takes place at WorldCon or Westercon. Spring & Dave, Dave Clark,

Mark & Chris, Merv & Judith, Mo Starkey and a few others came over and sampled sweet wines. It was actually the weirdest Sweets party ever. We did a mix of non-fortified and fortified wines peppered through with all sorts of exotics. The Bodegas Aguirre "Postre" Merlot was well liked. The Hakusan "Sweet Blossom Sake" was despised; I thought it tasted more of mushrooms than sweet blossoms. A nice trockenbeerenauslese followed, and then an Inniskillin Icewine that got mixed but mostly positive comments. Alas, we weren't out of the woods yet. The fortified wines were yet to come. An Aeppeltreow Pear Dessert Wine was likened to pear seeds soaked in wood alcohol. The Trader Joe's Raspberry Wine turned out to actually be a framboise, and a very thick and syrupy framboise at that. It was still appreciated, though, and blended beautifully with a bit of dry sparkling wine. The Wild West Blackberry Port that followed didn't do so well; it tasted like many things, but blackberry wasn't one of them. Finally, the new Bent Creek Zinfandel Port was very young, pretty flat and very rough, but that may have been bottle-shock. A half hour breathing did wonders for it.

New Rule for Sweets: Bringing something that you haven't actually tasted is a bad, or at least risky, idea. If only we

learned this lesson.

After Sweets we went down to the ballroom level and found the hallway party going strong.

Hallway party?

Gallifrey One is a rather British convention, due to the influence of British writers, actors and fans who would much rather be at a *Doctor Who* convention in LA in February than anywhere else in the world. It's subject to the "pub effect." British conventions don't have room parties (rooms are too small, booze is too expensive and food service regulations are scary), so everybody goes to the pub instead. A good British convention hotel will have several pubs set up and reasonable prices. The LAX Marriott didn't have reasonable prices and the hotel sports bar was ridiculous, but they did have a bar set up on the ballroom level Friday and Saturday nights, so the conference lobby turned into the pub hallway party.

Sunday was a lot easier. We watched a few more episodes of the new series (including *The Christmas Invasion*), gave the dealers' room a last spin (it was a good dealers' room), and watched a bit of the 2005 retrospective tape and the closing ceremonies.

Yep, the con was over Sunday evening. Last year they switched back from four

days (ending Monday) to three days. A lot of folks still stayed over, and the con didn't close until 7:00 on Saturday, but it was a weird shift in the con vibe.

Monday morning we awoke to an unexpected extra hotel bill, but Robbie Bourget and Joyce Hooper got things sorted out with the hotel very quickly. We packed and started heading North. It was kind of a rough run back. Traffic on the 405 to 101 and from 101 to Agoura Hills was pretty ugly even at lunchtime, but did clear once we got to the coast.

I've spent a lot of years militantly proclaiming myself a general fan. Yep, I'm into costuming, filk, anime, yaoi, SCA... the list goes on. I didn't go to a *Doctor Who*

convention until four years ago. But damn. A *Doctor Who* convention. New episodes of *Doctor Who*. Great new episodes of *Doctor Who*.

It's a bit of my childhood I've got back.

We've already got our memberships for "The 18th Amendment of Gallifrey One" next year. Davies, Eccleston and Piper have given the series and the fandom a long-awaited kick. David Tennant is even more amazing in his first outing as the Doctor. The DVDs are shipping in Canada now (I ordered the set from Amazon.ca), and we've got the Eccleston episodes appearing mid-March here in the US on Sci Fi Network. It's going to be a fantastic year for *Doctor Who*.

Wanted:

Contributors to cover

the following groups and activities:

The Gaylaxians, South Bay Star Wars Fan Club, PENSFA,

Northern California Mars Society, Role Playing/LARP

The Society for Creative Anachronism, Star Trek groups

Star Wars groups, Legion of Rassilon

Filk Fandom, Furry Fandom, Fandom in Sacramento

All other Fan Groups and Activities

We want to have regular reports on all Bay Area fan groups and

we want to list your events in our calendar.

Contact Jean Martin and Chris Garcia at SFinSF@gmail.com

Who's Who in Bay Area Fandom

Art Widner

By Chris Garcia

Editor

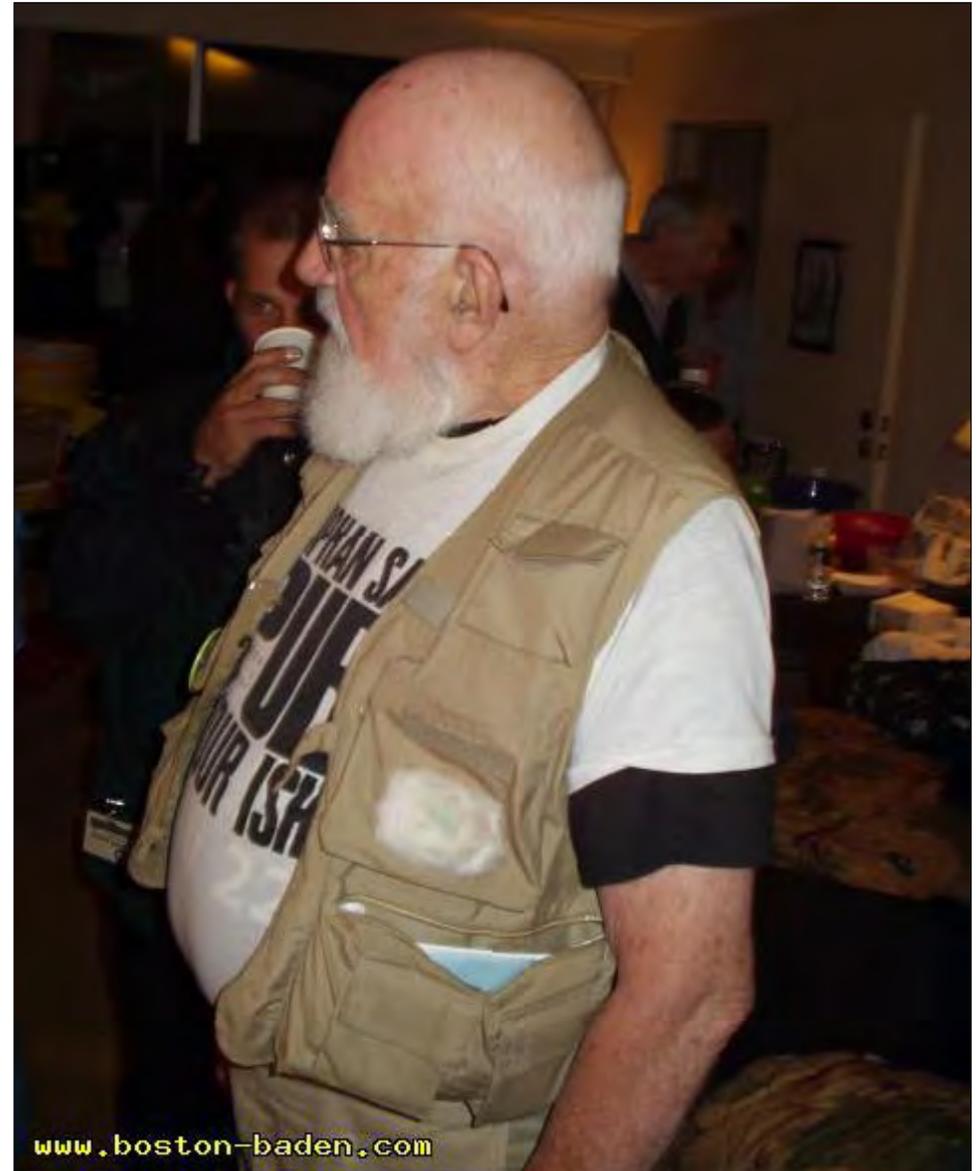
There are a lot of folks from the BArea who are important to the larger world of fandom. There's Kevin Standlee and Dave Clark, both of whom have chaired WorldCons. There's Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley, who have been masters on the party and costume circuits for years. Let's not even mention writers like Robert Silverberg, Terry Bisson or Diana Paxson. There are a bunch of folks who are long-timers that I think folks should know about, and one of them, while from a bit further North than is usually considered the BArea, is very important to the history of fandom.

He's Art Widner!

Art is something like 87 years old. That's right, he's in those years, but he's still active in fandom. How active? Well, I've run into him at cons in San Francisco, LA, and Seattle over the last couple of years, and he's only missed a total of one Corflu since the first one.

On the written side, he's been a part of FAPA for years, publishing his zine Yhos, which remains one of the few remaining places where you can see an example of Ackermanese, a simplified spelling of English words.

How far back does old Art go? Well, to just about the beginning. Art was one of the founders of Boston's early SF fan club The Strangers, and organized the first Boston



SF convention Boskone, which would take a long break before returning in the 1970s. He was a member of FAPA the first time during the 1940s, an era which was considered to be one of the real high water marks in the long history of the APA. One of his fanzines, Fan Fare, published an article by Damon Knight which led to the founding of the long-standing group the N3F.

One of the things he was most famous for was his long drives. He led the first cross-country road trip of fans to get to the Denver WorldCon in 1941. That was a harrowing journey, to hear him tell it. He met with most of the Big Name Fans along the way too. He served in WWII and came back for a while, but then - poof - he disappeared.

That's right, the great and powerful Art Widner left fandom for the better part of thirty years. He came back in the late 1970s/early 1980s and he was one of the real spreaders of good cheer. There had never been a higher profile de-GAFIate in history. No one had been gone so long and come back so strong. He came back and quickly discovered the Corflu set, even playing often in the traditional softball game (and once having a line drive go straight into his knee off the bat of BAreaan Spike Parsons). Remember, this is a guy

who was born in 1918!

You'll still find Art at cons today. There are a number of ways. You can look for the Santa Claus-esque guy in suspenders and a t-shirt with the large white beard, or follow the guy who drives the art car with

the Australian pictoglyphs all around it. Or you can look for the old guy who seems like he's maybe in his 60s but is telling stories about young fans like Forry and Jack Speer. He's a great guy and well worth taking the time to get to know.



Johnathan Post and Art Widner at Conagerie, the 2002 Westercon.

Prior page, Art Widner at CascadiaCon 2005

Photos courtesy of Chaz Bostan Baden and boston-baden.com

BASFA Minutes: meeting 813

February 20, 2006

Trey Haddad, President

Chris Garcia, Vice-President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sargent at Arms

Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary.

Began 8 p.m. [with talk about taxes].

10 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 812 were accepted as 'garbled in translation'.

No Treasurer & last week we took in an unknown amount.

VP report: he has *SF/SFs* & the next *Drink Tank* is due out on Friday & his movie will be shown in less than 2 weeks.

The President reported that he had nothing fannish to report.

We voted down establishing a tablet jar.

Announcements:

Harold announced that in Austria a pro-Nazi writer got a 3-year sentence for denying that the Holocaust happened; Frank Wu follow-on'd, saying 'The Holocaust did happen'.

Chris announced the Olympics have been occurring and that the U.S. men's team has made it into the medal round and will be playing Canada.

Frank Wu announced that Uncle Owen has died again [i.e. the actor from 'episode 4'] and it was commented that the actor who played G'Kar also died last week.

Reviews: Harold reviewed *How Mumbo-Jumbo Conquered the World* as it was a book worth reading.

Chris reviewed 2 CDs of music by Richard Cheese as both are wonderful, worth full price and founding a commune to worship him and reviewed Frank Wu's hand-writing as good and reviewed *Walk the Line* as a solid film, well put together, the screenplay was only OK and that the film did not have a cinematic denouement.

Frank Wu reviewed 'RadCon', where he was Artist GoH as he made a mutant baby space alien that looked just like Bob Brown and it was a lot of fun and again convention attendance there was at an all-time high.

We auctioned off books for \$0.50; \$8.00; \$0.25; \$0.50 & \$0.25.

We adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

And the rumor of the week was: 'that next week's BASFA will be subtitled the never-ending auction 2'.

BASFA Minutes: meeting 814

Meeting 814.

February 27, 2006.

Trey Haddad, President

Chris Garcia, Vice-President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sargent at Arms

Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary.

Began 8:10 [with applause].

18 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 813 were accepted as 'why the hell not'.

The Treasurer reported that last week we took in \$13.40, giving us a total of \$8264.41.

VP report: he has 2 new *Drink Tanks* out & a new *SFinSF* will come out this week & he visited Casa de Fruta.

The President reported that he had only the weather to report on & it's foul.

New business: there is now a BASFA LJ [live journal, named BASFA] & it was proposed that BASFA lend support to the formation of a hoax Worldcon bid for Hollister in 2008 ['Casa de Worldcon'] with Andy & Chris as co-chairs' and the motion passed unanimously.

The Sports Committee suggests we plan an outing to the San Jose Giants & rent their sole luxury box [about \$33 per person if a minimum of 12 go in on the deal] and there WAS interest in this notion.

Announcements:

Kevin R. announced that the 35th anniversary Drag Court Coronation will be held March 10-11 & the theme is 'Down Mexico Way' & that there is a kinky pet show on March 17.

Chris announced that he is now president of N3F & this Sunday afternoon his film shows at Cinequest & on March 11 there will be an auction at the Movieland Wax Museum of all their remaining possessions & that Chris plans to bid on stuff there.

Dave C. announced that Darrin MacGavin & Don Knotts [plus Octavia Butler] all died this last week [as did Julie's

scary aunt] & that the Bonny Dunes tasting tent is closing March 11.

Kevin S. announced that there are new 'Emerald Cities' & March 10 is the deadline for Hugo nominations.

Mike announced that the Browncoats are meeting this Saturday at the TideHouse at noon.

Reviews: Fred reviewed 'Potlatch' in Seattle as very good & the SF Museum in Seattle is also very good & worthwhile to visit & that next year's 'Potlatch' will be in Portland.

Adrienne reviewed a subtitled Russian vampire film, *Nightwatch* as it was very well done, held her interest & was worth full price.

Dave C. reviewed a book *Many of Maybe a Half-Dozen Faces* as it was not very good & he wondered why he was spending the time to read it, it's worth library & he has his used copy for sale.

Andy reviewed Gallifrey as the pool was being remodeled, the drive down wasn't too bad, Dave C. commented that the root of all hotel screw-ups at the LA Marriott is 9-

11; then Andy continued that the Dealer's room was good although the table set-up was bizarre [9-11], that the Evil Genius party was great and ran till 4 a.m. [neep-age happened], closing ceremonies was well-attended, the cricket game was flooded out & the drive back included minor car drama, but overall it was a good time & well worth full price [more neep-ing].

Kevin R. reviewed the 41st Coronation in SF of the Imperial Court as Andy can't count & parts of it were astonishing & it ran long but was over by 11 p.m. & worth full price.

Art announced that the Cartoon Network will be showing a number of Miyazaki films in March.

We auctioned off mostly books for \$0.50; \$0.25; \$1.00; \$0.50; \$0.10 for an eye-opening trio; \$0.25; \$0.25; \$0.25; \$0.25; \$0.25; \$0.25; \$1.00 & \$2.75.

We adjourned at 9:50 m.

And the rumor of the week was that 'THAT Tony Blair has tits'.

Correction

In the last issue, the web address for PMBQ was incorrect.

The correct address is:
tea-club.net

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."

Through March 24

Stephanie Pui-Mun Law exhibit

Variety's Preview Room

The Hobart Building

582 Market Street at Montgomery

San Francisco

Free

Exhibit of artwork by science fiction and fantasy illustrator Stephanie Pui-Mun Law.

More Events Next Page

Thursday, March 2

Battle Royal

Punishment Park

Boarderlands Books/Variety Children's

Charity movie night

Variety's Preview Room

The Hobart Building

582 Market Street at Montgomery

San Francisco

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Seating limited
Free

First of a monthly series of movies sponsored by Borderlands Books. Refreshments are available to purchase in support of the hosting charity.

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.

More Events Next Page

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

Bay Area Games Day

davekohr.best.vwh.net/gamesday

Los Altos Library

Los Altos

Free

Regular event featuring German-style strategy boardgames like *Settlers of Catan*, Avalon Hill-type multiplayer games, lots of cardgames, and historical board wargames.

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.

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.

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

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

Foothills Anime Meeting
Building 1500
Foothills College
12345 El Monte Road
Los Altos Hills
Noon- 6:30 ish
Free

Monthly anime showing. Bring eight quarters for parking.

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.

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 filmmaking. 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 filmmaking. 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.

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

More Events Next Page

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 and Sunday, March 11 and 12

Plan 9 From Outer Space

Ed Wood Film Festival

Castro Theater

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

Plan 9 From Outer Space world color premiere of the newly restored print Saturday at 7 p.m. will include a red carpet affair with celebrity guests including, subject to availability, stars from the movie.

From the Castro website:

“The most extensive restoration to date and in color for the first time, Ed Wood’s unintentionally hilarious cult classic of aliens who attempt to conquer Earth by reanimating the dead has been hailed as the “worst movie ever made.” With string-powered flying saucers, laughable dialogue, shrewd alien logic and “priceless” special effects, the aliens’ invasion plan can’t go wrong. (Hint: It does.)

“In addition to Plan 9 From Outer

Space, the film festival also includes never-before-seen Ed Wood home movies (see Ed model his famous angora sweater and fish-net stockings!), rare Ed Wood commercials and Plans 1-8, narrated by Mystery Science Theater 3000’s Mike Nelson, and much more.”

Also shows Sunday at 2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., and 8 p.m.

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.

More Events Next Page

Sunday, March 12

Fantastic Frontiers Meeting

Email for location

Sacramento

4 p.m.

Free

Group is meeting at organizer’s apartment following the end of the nearby SacCon.

Email frelingbord@yahoo.com to R.S.V.P. or for directions. All are welcome.

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

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

Friday, March 24

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Shows episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

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. Saturday night will have a giveaway hosted by the Space Ape and the Midnight Ninja.

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.

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/ape/

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

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 therein 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

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.

More Events Next Page

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.

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.

Friday, April 28

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Shows episodes of *Doctor Who*, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

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.

More Events Next Page

Sunday, May 14

Bay Area Games Day

davekohr.best.vwh.net/gamesday

Los Altos Library

Los Altos

Free

Regular event featuring German-style strategy boardgames like Settlers of Catan, Avalon Hill-type multiplayer games, lots of cardgames, and historical board wargames.

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.

Friday, May 26

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Shows episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

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.

Friday, June 23

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Shows episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

More Events Next Page

Saturday, July 15

Sac-Anime

Sacramento area

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

Friday, July 28

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Shows episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

August 4-6 2006

Anime Overdose 2006

www.animeod.com

San Francisco

\$30 to ?, \$45 at door

Anime convention.

Friday, August 25

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Shows episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

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.

Friday, September 22

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Shows episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

More Events Next Page

October 6-8

SiliCon

www.siliconventions.com

Doubletree Hotel

San Jose

\$35 until August 31

Friday, October 27

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Shows episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

November 4

Le Bal des Vampires

PEERS

Venue: TBD

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

Friday, November 24

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Shows episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

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

Ongoing:

Daily

San Francisco Ghost Hunt

Walking Tour

www.sfghosthunt.com

Begins: Queen Ann Hotel

1590 Sutter at Octavia

San Francisco

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

\$20

Ongoing Fridays-Mondays

Haunted Haight Walking Tour

www.hauntedhaight.com

Meets at PlanetWeavers Treasure Store

1573 Haight Street (at Clayton)

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Reservations required

\$20

Ongoing Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour

www.sfvampiretour.com

Meets corner of California and Taylor

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$20

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

More Events Next Page

Mondays

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

Mondays at 8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

www.legionofrassilon.org/

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

Meets every fourth Friday at 7:30 p.m.

(No December meeting)

Free

Showing episodes of the new Dr. Who series, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

www.BayRPS.com

Go-Getter's Pizza

1489 Beach Park Boulevard

Foster City

Wednesdays from 6pm to 10pm

Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details send email to: GM@BayRPS.com.

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.