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Art Credits
Cover Badlands by Lucy Huntzinger
Page 4 Lucy Huntzinger
I can’t believe it’s Spring already. This year is going by really fast. All the events I mentioned in my January editorial have already come to pass. The only thing that’s left is WonderCon on Easter weekend.

My new job has been going alright. It’s a lot of complicated new stuff and I’m having to train myself by asking questions from several people and working with more people in the company. Not just locally but all over the world, which has been hard due to the time difference. But overall, I’m liking what I’m doing and it’s exciting being more on the forefront of what’s going on and meeting new people.

But all this, plus actual events, has left me little time to write. And coupled with both my personal laptops being infected by viruses, I haven’t had time to process photos either. My two laptops have been in and out of repair shops for almost two months. Both are back home and in working order now. I just need to catch up.

However, after three days of the amazing Nova Albion Steampunk Exhibition (SteamX) and an overnight film shoot as an extra for a Star Trek Exhibit promo film, I am once again sick with some type of cold or flu. I’ve barely been functioning so most of my energy has gone toward doing my work at home.

So, for this issue, I won’t have any articles to share again. I am hoping that after WonderCon I’ll be able to get all my articles written. I don’t have any commitments after that con and I intend to take a break and catch up on sleep, rest, exercise and, of course doing my stories and photos. I will definitely write more about SteamX including the amazing birthday party España and I threw on the first night of the con and how I survived doing four panels. I also have a lot to say about my last-minute gig as an extra for a promo film that was shot at the Star Trek Exhibit at the Tech Museum in San Jose that started at 6:00pm and ended at 6:00am the next day… this was the day after SteamX ended. So yes, my poor body just couldn’t cope and fell ill.

This year, so far though, has been unusually full (well, even more so than normal!) of opportunities to perform, be in panels, organize activities, and cover events. Not to mention I’m being invited to more parties and dinners. The Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild fashion show I was in went really well. That was my first time attending and I got to hang out with friends and meet new people. The fashion show itself, organized by Sally Norton, was quite amazing with different time periods and various skits and choreography. The Bay Area English Regency Society Cyprians Ball over Valentine’s weekend that I co-organized was a smashing success. The turnout, food, décor, music and dancing were great. The Greco-Roman theme went over well, and people were raving about the ball for days on Facebook.

I did actually try to take it easy and skipped some events I wanted to go to
these past three months. I didn’t go to Connie Willis’s talk in San Francisco about her new novel *Blackout*, the *Star Trek* convention at the St. Francis Hotel, the Edwardian Ball and the Tim Burton-inspired Wonderland ball with Abney Park. I’m glad I was able to find people to cover all of these. And I was very gratified to have several people submit articles without my prompting. So we still have a good variety of articles and packed issues.

The last time that I was sick, I did get to catch up on SFF TV shows, ones that I’ve been meaning to talk about. I finally got to check out *Leverage*, which someone told me has some *Doctor Who* references in some episodes. I found the series original, exciting and intelligent but somehow didn’t really leave any lasting impression. Same with *Chuck*. I got to see the second season of *Being Human* and found the emotional drama as gripping as the first season. This show is one of the best out there right now and I’m wondering why it isn’t as well known as it should be. I could really feel the daily struggles of the vampire, werewolf and ghost characters as they try to fit into society.

I’m also enjoying *Caprica* very much because of the different human themes being explored as well as its originality. I began watching the second season of *Legend of the Seeker* but haven’t gotten very far. It’s good but not as amazing as the first season. As for new shows, I started watching *Spartacus*, which has Lucy Lawless and produced by Sam Raimi and Rob Tapert. I’ve been looking forward to this as I adored *Xena* and I love this time period. It’s stylistically a lot like *300* but it just feels flat and uninteresting. There’s also too much gratuitous sex and violence. I’ll give it a few more episodes to see if it gets any better. *Demons* on BBC has an interesting premise about the descendant of Van Helsing but it’s pretty cheesy. Philip Glenister with a fake American accent also annoyed me. He was great in *Life on Mars* and *Ashes to Ashes* but this one you can skip. I loved the women’s costumes though.

This time, while I’ve been down for the count with the flu, I’ve been watching later seasons of *MI-5* (*Spooks* to you Brits reading this). I never saw the first couple of seasons but I got interested in it when Richard Armitage (*BBC’s North and South* and *Robin Hood*) joined in the seventh season. Espionage thrillers are not usually my cup of tea but this show is intelligent and the characters and situations are very real. And Rupert Penry-Jones (husband of Dervla Kirwan, Miss Hartigan in the *Doctor Who* episode “The Next Doctor”) has never really impressed me in the past until his portrayal of Adam Carter in *MI-5*. So I’ve been watching earlier seasons with him in it. Rupert was Captain Wentworth in the recent adaptation of Jane Austen’s *Persuasion*, and while he looked incredibly handsome in Regency attire, he was just so wrong for the part. He would have made a better Mr. Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice* instead of his *MI-5* co-star Matthew MacFadyen, who would have been more suited as Captain Wentworth. Anyway, he seems to be best in cop and spy shows as I also just saw him in the *39 Steps* (remake of an Alfred Hitchcock movie) and *Whitechapel* (about a Jack the Ripper copycat) and he was great in both of these. By the way, there is a cool *Lord of the Rings* reference in Season 3 of *MI-5*. And Gollum himself, Andy Serkis does a great turn as a rock star in the episode “Celebrity” in that same season.

Anyway, after WonderCon, I only have a month or so to catch my breath before BayCon rolls around. At least I don’t have any concrete plans for
BayCon at the moment. I’m just glad that the con is still on because I’ve already prepaid. And despite the last couple of years not being the best BayCon experiences, I still (for now) consider BayCon to be my favorite con.

I would like to go on a real vacation sometime this year though. Last year, I didn’t go anywhere due to the recession. I was hoping to go to the Czech Republic to attend Vintage Dance Week with Richard Powers from Stanford. The week starts with a ball in Marienbad (a famous spa town outside of Prague) and ends with a Steampunk ball in Prague. But alas, I can’t go on vacation in July due to my work. I’m still thinking of going to Australia for Worldcon or see the last Space Shuttle launch or I may go to the Jane Austen Festival in Bath… all of these are in September. Or, just for a change, I may just go to Hawaii and leave all of fandom behind for a little while and just lie on the beach.

Join our crew!
We are looking for writers to cover local events, conventions, fan groups and the fannish scene in general. Contact Jean Martin at SFinSF@gmail.com

Green reflection
by Lucy Huntzinger
I've been trying to convince my roommate Palle to attend Gallifrey One for years but he had remained unconvinced, primarily because his previous experience with conventions was mainly WonderCon. When they announced Peter Davison as the 2010 Doctor guest he said he was in, and when Davison regretfully had to cancel I was sure he would back out, but to my amazement he didn't.

Bless his heart, once he agreed he in all seriousness asked me “Which costume should I wear?” (all of them, Katie, all of them). We headed out Thursday evening, stopping once at BevMo for supplies which I explained fell under the “survival” rather than “luxury” category and one last time at In “N” Out because, well; In “N” Out! We zoomed down I-5 listening to a BBC radio sitcom called Old Harry's Game to get in the mood and made excellent time, arriving around 1:00am, tired but excited. As we pulled up to the entrance I spotted Mette Hedin's familiar mohawk hanging with the smokers and hollered over to her. She didn't hear me but within a second Bryan Little loped over, not to say hi but-because he thought Palle's car looked neat. He spotted the Danish flag on the sunroof and was surprised to find Palle and myself in the vehicle when he
ducked his head down. It was a good omen and almost immediately put to rest any nerves I had about dragging a poor innocent newbie into his first proper convention.

The Brits and hardcore fans had been arriving since Wednesday or even earlier, so the low floors were already full and we ended up at the very end of the hall on the 9th floor. Knowing the stamina required for this con we unpacked right away and hit the sack. I woke up early enough for breakfast for a change and got my badge and program book. There was no pocket program so I removed the centerfold one in the program book and started marking the things I wanted to see which were plentiful. The Dealer's Room and Art Show were scheduled to open at noon so

I decided to hang my art and be ready for some mad consumerism when the doors opened.

Alas, it didn't quite work out that way, when I poked my head in to the Art Show around 10:30 am there was one person there and nothing at all set up yet, I figured I might as well start my paperwork but neither the computer or printer were ready either. I said I'd check back later and hung around in the hallway chatting and checking back in every so often until finally the flats were up. Sad to say, the hanging process went awry almost immediately and eventually I realized that it was 12:30pm, I wasn't even half-way done, and I was distinctly Not Enjoying the process. I decided to call it a loss and skip the art show for this year.

Free of that commitment, I joined my friends in the Dealers Room and dropped some cash at the Big Finish table right away to get it out of my system. Springtime Creations had some wonderful new pieces including a very tempting “Blink” necklace, but my budget was limited so I regretfully moved on. I ran into Kevin Roche and we discussed Yipe! for a bit and then I found Palle, who was loaded down with
a giant pile of Doctor Who books he had just purchased and grinning like a maniac.

About this time Jason Schachat arrived at the hotel so we met up, got his stuff and our purchases up to the room and I made introductions all around. Within a few minutes he and Palle were dropping *MST3K* references back and forth and I was utterly lost.

My first panel for the con was the Fraser Hines and Deborah Watling talk. Hines was a hoot at last year’s Gally, but I had not been terribly familiar with his companion or with the Troughton years in general at the time. I made up for that over the intervening year, however; Jamie has quickly become one of my favorite companions and Two — previously the Doctor I was least familiar with — is likewise in the running for favorite. The panel did not disappoint, and it was especially interesting because I had very recently watched *Tomb of the Cybermen,* which is the only full surviving serial with Watling as Victoria Waterfield. It was thought lost until the early nineties, and is a very good episode with some surprisingly creepy Cybermen scenes.

I got in a nap before opening ceremonies and then dressed for the Friday night party. Merv and Judith were throwing their traditional party, with help from Kevin and Andy. The party theme this year was “Voyage of the Damned” so I had thrown together a vaguely Titanic-era outfit and we headed down a little after 10ish. The party was going well although clearly a lot of folks
were still at the casino and karaoke. I tried the drink specials of White Star Line, Gin and Titonic and Banana Kaffa Latta, which were all very tasty, although I mainly stuck with the White Star Line for the evening.

I was sad to realize I had missed the band, Tanuki Suit Riot, since one of the things I appreciate about Gally is that they seem to make an effort to provide a different special one-off event each year. Most recently I greatly enjoyed Offstage’s *The Ten Doctors* and Toby Hadoke's one-man show. But as the Masquerade has grown so much and taken Saturday night over, the event is now up against the Friday night party — which is good in a way given how many more people are attending Gally now.

Still, I figured I would check out the casino and karaoke so Palle and I popped down to the convention floor. I could hear singing all the way from the escalator and sure enough the karaoke was still going, with Mr. Tony Lee belting out a Sinatra tune, “New York, New York,” if I recall correctly. The room was packed so we moved on. On the other hand, the casino next door was practically empty and looked like it might be over, so we headed back upstairs for the rest of the night. The party decor was brilliant as ever, Kevin had made a Help screen, there were portholes, and Andy had figured out at the last minute that a quick shave would render him capable of an uncanny Max Capricorn impression.

Leigh Ann Hildebrand and Leo Schwab made it down at the last minute and for a while it was a Bay Area Fanzine Lounge flashback as we sat around shooting the shit. After a few more White Star Lines and a Gin and Titonic I decided to bring my bottle of Sweet Tea Vodka down so as not to drink Merv and Judith out of house and home, alas I put it down on the
bathroom counter while primping and knocked it down with my purse strap bathing the bathroom in the heady but tragic smell of spilled sweet tea vodka. For a wonder I didn't spill a drop on myself though, so I counted my blessings and brought the Tito's vodka instead.

The rest of the evening was spent in conversation, and I got a look at Mo Starkey's sketchbook containing some wonderful Who and Tiki images. Eventually it was about 2:30am and the doors were closed, there was a bit of lingering but I was still tired from the trip and called it a night.

On Saturday, although I didn't make it down in time for breakfast, I did discover that one can still order bacon and eggs even though the “eggs any style” dish is no longer on the menu; I call it a bacon omelette without the omelette. I had missed the Directors panel and was considering the Louise Page talk but it was up against the John Levene one, so I decided to join Palle at that and it was very entertaining — almost a little one-man show. Afterwards we wandered about soaking in the sights for a bit before the Barry Letts tribute, followed by the traditional food and nap to prepare for the evening.

I had volunteered to help Bryan and Mette in the pre-Masquerade green room this year, which was a fascinating glimpse into the process, and a confirmation that no matter how much I get into costuming I'll probably never submit an entry. Still, I got to see a lot of wonderful costumes up close and the rehearsals of the Brigadier “The Unsung Hero” sketch. My main job, aside from seeing-eye for the limited-visibility Ood costumes, was being a stage ninja by retrieving a prop once they left the stage. Unfortunately the stage entrance was blocked by their exit and the folks getting ready to go on stage so I failed. I was a little surprised, honestly, that the convention didn't have proper ninjas who would have been able to enter from the other side. Despite my failure it was clear their entry had gotten a very good crowd reaction, so all's well that ends well. I joined them in the back of the hall and watched the end of the entries before getting changed for the night.

When I got back downstairs I ran into Wendy Newton and we both went to check the dance, which had started but was a little sparse still. We spent the rest of the evening alternating between the lobby and the dance. I misplaced my purse at some point (turns out I left it in the room on a refill trip), found someone's dropped badge, got quite a bit of dancing in (Youtube'd for posterity, to my horror) and generally got a lot drunker a lot faster than planned apparently (damned Tito's) but still managed to wake up entirely hangover-free the next morning (bless Tito's).

After a late breakfast I returned the badge to Reg and made it to the “Chicks Dig Time Lords” launch panel which was very interesting, and extra fun since Johanna Mead is a contributor. I spent some time hanging with Leigh Ann, Leo and Jason before it was time for closing ceremonies where the final attendance number was announced at 1,595. For
those who had missed it, they showed
the special messages from Moffet and
Davison.

I took a pre-lobbycon nap, and the
roommates woke me up around 8:00pm.
While I pondered whether or not to
shower I heard someone in the hallway
shouting “Fire!” There was no alarm
going, so it seemed odd... since one
would expect folks to pull the alarm first
and run around yelling second, but I
poked my head out the door and indeed,
the doorway two rooms down and across
was on fire. Hmm. I told the boys and as
I put pants on over my jammies, Palle
grabbed the beer and Jason pulled the
fire alarm, finally, and got some photos
for the ‘zine (our man on the scene!)
then we trooped down the stairwell to
the lobby. The panicked lady who had
been shouting started down the stairs a
good minute or so after we did but
hustled fast enough that she was nipping
our heels by the time we exited.

There was no alarm sounding in the
lobby, so we went over to reception to
let them know that the fire was indeed
real and not the traditional false alarm.
And then we drank beer and waited for
the hotel to announce it was safe to go
back up. Lobbycon had already started
so we hung out with Wendy, Kevin and
Andy and some other folks for about 45
minutes. The firemen came and went so
fast that I missed them entirely, alas, but
eventually we checked in with reception
and they told us they were moving
everyone from the 9th floor down to the
3rd. They provided a luggage cart and
up we went to get our stuff. The fire had
been small, really, as the light fixture
beside the door had apparently
spontaneously combusted, but the whole
hall smelled bad and god knows what
chemicals were in the air.

The new room was the same except
with a balcony over the pool and of
course, closer to the action. Being the
last night we didn’t bother unpacking
but I changed into something more
respectable and we returned to the lobby
for the rest of the night. It was a smaller
showing than previous years —
apparently several regulars were absent
from the con this year, but Kevin and
Andy were still there and Bryan and
Mette and their friend Maron joined in
later. There was a table of podcasters
and various other folks. Louise Page and
Fraser Hines were there until the wee
hours, and the tables piled up with the
remaining alcohol from various folks
long after the bar closed. Eventually I
staggered off to bed around 5:00am after
calling in for a late check out.

There were still stragglers in the
lobby as we got breakfast, said our
goodbyes and loaded the car up. It’s
always tempting to linger, and even
though we managed to leave the
convention space the #gally hashtag
lingers on over on Twitter with folks
posting links and gossip and counting
down the days till next year (333 and
counting).
Potlatch 19 Report

By Tom Becker
SF/SF Compositor

Potlatch is a small literary SF convention that travels around the West Coast, and it was started in Seattle to help raise money for scholarships to the Clarion West writers workshop. This year it was back in Seattle. The Seattle committee chose *Lord of Light*, by Roger Zelazny as a book of honor. It is one of my all-time favorites and thus, I was especially looking forward to the con.

Because my work is insanely busy (or busily insane), I couldn’t really take any time off. I worked late for a few nights during the week, then took off early on Friday afternoon and caught a flight to Seattle. There was a splendid view of Mt. St. Helens in the golden light of the late afternoon sun. It turned out David Bratman was on the same flight, so we shared a cab to the hotel. I had a fun time listening to him chat with the cabbie about Seattle and science fiction. The weather was glorious and we had some great views of Mt. Rainier, something you rarely get to see in Seattle. The cab was a Prius and I don’t know if it was really going very fast but...
it sure felt like it. In no time we were at the Hotel Deca, an old hotel that has been fixed up in Art Deco period style. It is in the University District, with plenty of good restaurants and shops within walking distance.

Potlatch always has excellent programming. I decided to skip the first panel anyway, because I needed coffee and some dinner. Also, the topic, “Writing the Other,” was one I’d seen discussed a lot at other cons and online. While I was having dinner I imagined how the panel was going . . . “You can’t write about other cultures it’s appropriation.” “Science fiction is all about otherness. If you can’t write about the other, how can you do aliens?” “Yes, but you have to get it right. If you can only write about middle class white guys, how can you do aliens?” “That’s easy. My alien is based on this really hot black chick I know, only I made her blue.” And so on. But I was wrong. The Potlatch program description for the panel included a link to Nisi Shawl’s article “Transracial Writing For The Sincere.” It comes across like Nisi — smart, thoughtful and just plain nice. Also on the panel with her were Ellen Klages, David Levine, Eddy Smith and Natasha Oliver. I don’t know Eddy and Natasha, but Ellen and David are some of the funniest people I know, as well as darn good writers. It’s a good thing I’m not a writer and don’t need the advice, or I’d be kicking myself for missing the panel.

Friday night there was a party in the consuite, hosted by Ruth Sachter on behalf of Renovation. In the evening the consuite is the focus of Potlatch. It’s a small con, and everyone likes to hang out together. The consuite was in a penthouse on the top floor of the hotel. Outside there was a wide patio that went around the whole building, with stunning panoramic views of the Cascades, the Olympics, and downtown Seattle. The unseasonably warm weather meant there was a good crowd outside. Okay, they were bundled up, but they were outside, which was a miracle. Another miracle was seeing Jane Hawkins. She was one of the people who started Potlatch, and was a mainstay of it for many years. Her consuites are legendary for the quantity, variety, quality, and mind-boggling intensity of chocolate. Jane is an engineer and when she applied her skills to chocolate supply the results were impressive. But then Jane went through some tough times and gafiated for a couple of years, so it was nice to see her back smiling and looking like her old self. Another person I was glad to see was Bryan Barrett, a long-time Bay Area and Seattle fan. Unfortunately, due to complications from diabetes he recently had to have a foot amputated; he was still in rehab, but they let him out to go to Potlatch. He was in a wheelchair but in good spirits. I had a good long talk with him as did several other fans in the consuite. I hope he keeps getting better and that we can see a lot more of him.

Saturday morning started off with the “Make a List” panel led by Debbie Notkin. Everyone in the audience suggested titles of science fiction and fantasy works that dealt with religion. and Debbie wrote them down on giant sticky notes. There were many titles, as religion is a common theme in science fiction. It was agreed that the giant sticky notes were the most science fictional thing in the whole convention. After lunch there was a panel on E-Publishing. I wasn’t there, but I had fun chatting with Timmi and Tom Duchamp at the Aqueduct Press table in the Dealers Room, and I drained my inbox of spam, which I guess was important.

Finally, there was the panel we’d all been waiting for, the Book of Honor
panel on *Lord of Light*, organized by Eileen Gunn. Also on the panel were JT Stewart, Harold Taw, Lyn Coffin, and Jack William Bell, and Anil Menon participated remotely via Skype. Vandana Singh, Priya Sarukkai Chabria, and Jayaprakash Sathyamurthy were not able to join the panel because it was in the middle of the night in India, but they sent statements.

Eileen started out by reading some of the statements from India. JT explained how the relative lack of strong female characters and the cultural appropriation issues made it so she really could not like the book, even though she liked much of the writing. Harold talked about he was brought up as a Buddhist, and one of the common themes in Buddhist scripture is how a messenger can be imperfect, unreliable, and have entirely the wrong motives but still bring enlightenment to others.

Lyn talked about how the structure of the book is similar to Buddhist and Hindu myths. Even though it was written as a novel, it reads like a collection of tales with different styles and perspectives. Jack analyzed the plot and addressed the cultural appropriation issue. The crew of a colony starship consciously and deliberately appropriate Hindu culture in order to set themselves up as gods over the colonists. They are shown as flawed and quarreling and far from benevolent. Sam, another crew member, decides to introduce Buddhist culture in order to overthrow the gods. The book does not so much practice cultural appropriation as critique it.

Anil talked about how the book had characters as Hindu gods, but was actually lacking most of the Hindu religion. The ritual practices that are omnipresent in India were missing in the book. Then, in my favorite comment of the panel, he compared *Lord of Light* to *The Mikado*. Even though *The Mikado* was set in Japan it really was about the
foibles of contemporary British society. Similarly, *Lord of Light* used Hindu and Buddhist culture to criticize a high-technology colonial elite that was really Western.

Overall it was a blockbuster panel, and an amazing technical and organizational achievement. The one thing I wished was that JT’s discomfort over the cultural appropriation had been fully addressed. I could see how that, as an African American woman whose culture has been appropriated over and over again, for her it could be an issue that is not easily dismissed. That also had me thinking there could have been some good connections with the “Writing the Other” panel and yeah, I really should have gone to it.

The next panel was “The Steam-Driven Life: Isambard Kingdom Brunel, Brass Goggles & the Literature of the Steampunk.” The moderator was Stu Shiffman, Hugo-award winning fan artist, TAFF delegate, and alternate historian. (There are some splendid examples of his recent fan writing in Chunga issues #13 and #15.) Stu was nattily attired in a silk vest with his medals on it and his mustache was neatly trimmed. Also on the panel were Andy Hooper, Bill Humphries, and Cherie Priest. Andy, of course, is a fanzine giant, and also has a comprehensive knowledge of personalities and events from the present time going back to the Hittites and maybe earlier. Bill is a fan of all things including Steampunk, and his top hat and goggles are to die for. Cherie is the author of several Steampunk stories and a Nebula nominated Steampunk novel, *Boneshaker*. The panel went off track almost immediately and was about to blow the whole room to smithereens, but Andy quickly shunted it back onto the original topic and shoveled plenty of coal into the boiler to get the discussion moving quickly. Cherie had a delightful insider’s perspective on the Steampunk movement that was very down-to-earth. There is the sentimental nostalgia for steam power, but there also is the punk movement’s radical vision of a society
without oppression and where people do things for themselves.

The Clarion West Benefit Auction raises funds scholarships for students who would not otherwise be able to attend the Clarion West Writers’ Workshop. With auctioneers like Ellen Klages and Tom Whitmore, this is also the comedy event of the con. There were some nifty items for sale including books (of course), rare and signed posters, and the ever amazing sea creatures created by Vonda McIntyre. I missed seeing Jay Lake, who is very good at making me vastly overpay for copies of his books. But he was off at the Rainforest Writers’ Workshop. He’s also going through chemo; in solidarity for Jay, Ellen Klages auctioned off her hair for Clarion West. The high bidder got to pay big bucks, while the losers had to make do with putting as much as they could in the hat.

The shaving happened up in the consuite where Foolscap was hosting a “Vanguard at Potlatch” party. (Vanguard is a regular Seattle fannish party.) Dave Howell, one of the founders of Foolscap, was there, and he brought along one of the wonderful Hugo Award bases he made last year for Montreal’s WorldCon. We had a fun time chatting about possible advances in culinary technology. The promised bad weather kept failing to appear, and in desperation the Seattle fans brought out the Scotch and had a whisky tasting.

Sunday morning started with readings in the lobby by Vy Kaftan and Eileen Gunn. They got a good turnout. Then there was a banquet brunch, which I missed because I went out for dim sum with some fannish friends from Madison. The dim sum options in Seattle are not as great as in the Bay Area, but we went to a place that had a good selection, much better than anything you can get in Madison, and we had a fun time. We made it back just in time to catch David Levine’s Mars talk after the banquet. David and his sweetie Kate publish Bento, a very fine small format fanzine. He’s also been making a name for himself as a science fiction writer, winning a Hugo award in one of those non-fanzine categories and a really nifty-looking Endeavour Award. This winter he got a chance to spend two weeks at the Mars Desert Research Station. David is an excellent speaker and his presentation was both funny and fascinating, with lots of cool pictures. If you ever have a chance to see it, do whatever it takes (within generally accepted legal and moral codes), or check out his Mars Journal on the internet.

Sadly, all things must come to an end, so we said our goodbyes and headed back to the airport. But there will be another Potlatch. I know because, um, I’m working on it. Potlatch 20 will be March 4-6, 2011 in Sunnyvale. Hope to see you there!
By Diane B. Rooney
Contributing Editor

Well, well, here I am back again after a very, very long absence from SF/SF. (Suffice to say that absence was caused by a period of profound unhappiness and depression which included divorce, home sale, move, job search, and probably other stress factors I’m not even remembering. While all this was going on though, I did manage to get more involved in cosplay, vintage costuming, waltz and swing lessons, and Steampunk.)

I’ve been taking lessons at Swing Goth at the El Rio and more recently at the Blue Macaw, so SG’s Tim Burton Ball was the perfect chance to carry over the energy from Edwardian Ball, see SG and EB friends, and, best of all see Abney Park for a third time. I saw them last spring in SF at Slim’s and again in September at DragonCon in Atlanta. Their 1:00am show at the Atlanta Marriott was so incredible I lost my wand as I staggered back to my hotel at 3:00am and had to buy another for the Yule Ball on Sunday!

I have lots of diverse interests and a complicated life, so I didn’t get to the DNA Lounge for Wonderland until almost 11:00pm. I was over on Van Ness Avenue at the Herbst Theater attending the Humanities West lectures on Alexander the Great until around 10:00pm. Then I changed from my mundane clothes into my Steampunk outfit in the ladies’ room and walked down to the DNA Lounge on 11th Street.

I had purchased my ticket online so getting in was quick and hassle-free. I elbowed my way through the crowd and up the stairs to the balcony to check my stuff – I mean, who wants to carry a canvas tote back with street clothes at a Tim Burton Ball? Then I was free to get a drink and check out the crowd. Wow! Lots of great looking people in black and white stripes, black, more black, some red, and of course, top hats and goggles. Seriously, I think Steampunk attire makes both men and women, all ages, all body types look elegant, sophisticated, sexy and very hip in a Victorian kind of way.

The three-sided balcony overlooking the main floor at DNA provides great views of the action down on the main floor. And, for those dancing on the main floor it’s like having an audience. The balcony also had a photographer.
Since I arrived around 11:00pm, I missed Vagabondage and also the Swing Goth dance lessons. When I came in, the DJs were playing great music for dancing. I was amazed to see some of the Abney Park band members out on the floor dancing with fans and just enjoying themselves even with a long live set coming up. Someone kindly took my picture with Nathaniel!

Puppeteers Shadow Circus were up next. Their puppets include a cockroach, a velociraptor and some very dragony creatures. I liked the look of the puppets but thought the routine was a little rough for a supposedly all-ages show, featuring skits about drugs and prostitution and a heavy dose of R-rated language. It was nice to see some young Victorians in the audience describe it as unnecessarily coarse.

Abney Park played for an hour or so and, not surprisingly, they were terrific. Kristina danced, Nathaniel played his violin assisted onstage by a child dressed like Alice, and Captain Robert scowled (some), sang and drummed. The crowd danced, screamed, photographed and shot video. It was all over way too soon. After their set, the band stayed at their table, talking with fans and selling and autographing CDs, I talked to Captain Robert a little and had my picture taken with him.

Fortunately, the DJs returned and played until 3:00am. (This is now officially a trend – the last two times I have stayed out until 3:00am it has been to hear Abney Park.) I went home, slept
for about four hours, got up, drank a lot of coffee and went back to the Herbst Theater for the Saturday program of Alexander the Great lectures starting at 10:00am.

See more:

Abney Park: www.abneypark.com
Swing Goth: www.swinggoth.com/sf

Wonderland Ball:
www.sfweekly.com/slideshow/view/29258327 (Photos)
www.dnalounge.com/gallery/2010/02-05 (Photos)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=nwE-Wu3VcOM&feature=related (Video)

Abney Park Videos from Wonderland:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVRgviIEONs
www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVp2WG9VKzo
www.youtube.com/watch?v=mvsNuYT7GhM&feature=related
www.mefeedia.com/watch/28632070

Steampunk Swing Dancers
by Christopher Erickson
“What? You’ve gone to BayCon and SiliCon and WorldCon and WonderCon and World Fantasy, etc., etc. but never to a Star Trek convention?” My friend Debbie has chided me any number of times for any number of years. Star Trek cons are the easily the best-known and among the longest-running of all the genre conventions. Nevertheless, they did not pique my interest enough to travel to whatever city might be hosting a Creation Star Trek Con.

To be sure, I do have a love of things Trek. However, that love reached its apex in the 1970s with the syndication of the original series, and later, with the 1980s theatrical films. I’ve viewed episodes of Next Generation and Deep Space Nine occasionally, but remember few characters beside Captain Picard, Deanna Troi, and the Ferengis. Sorry, folks.

My friend Debbie, on the other hand, has been a Star Trek fan for as long as there has been some version of Star Trek. She often brings out her lovely, professionally-made Nurse Chappell uniform for the huge, annual Creation Star Trek cons in Las Vegas. Those cons always sounded so exciting. Nevertheless, to me Vegas meant gambling.

Then, for the first time in many years, Creation Entertainment brought their Star Trek extravaganza to my home town of San Francisco. I had to go.

Was it the convenience that convinced me? Certainly J. J. Abrams’ Star Trek reboot rekindled my enthusiasm for the characters I loved in the original series? Or did my blue-skinned Andorran persona, created for Bay Area Klingon parties, slowly insist that I return to Gene Roddenbury’s world?

Nah, it was Creation’s promise of a one-on-one chat with William Shatner and Patrick Stewart at the St. Francis Hotel. I was sooooo there.

Day One: A Day to Be Blue — Literally

So there I was on a cloudy January 23rd, in blue makeup and antennae, all set for masquerade day at the Con. Debbie accompanied me in her Nurse Chappell uniform. We crossed Union Square in our costumes and short blonde wigs. People on the street, mostly tourists, asked for our pictures. I wonder if they think San Franciscans typically
spend Saturday afternoon parading around like *Star Trek* extras?

The St. Francis is easily my favorite of the luxe hotels in the city. At 2:00pm there was no wait at registration. Debbie commented on how empty the place was in comparison to the Las Vegas cons.

We saw relatively few costumed people mingling outside the Main Ballroom. The masquerade at this particular con is more of a costume parade. It is an informal affair featuring cash prizes for the winners and “thank you” gifts for all contestants. With our eyes on possible thank you gifts, Debbie and I signed up for the event.

We quickly headed to the main ballroom, where events had been going on since noon. We missed the talk by Armin Shimerman and Max Grodenchik, who played the Ferengis Quark and Rom on *Deep Space Nine*. We walked in on the talk by Casey Biggs, another DS9 alumnus. He was an engaging speaker, but I was totally unfamiliar with his character. Biggs was joined by Vaughn Armstrong. Armstrong played the first Klingon character in *Next Generation* after Worf, and then went on to become the actor who has played the most roles in the *Star Trek*-verse. Biggs and Armstrong are renowned in *Star Trek* fandom for their guitar and ukulele filk antics. They treated the audience with a plinking encouragement to do the hula with Uhura at the lu’au, which warmed my hula student heart.

We took a short break to view the dealers room, where we met up with Raven, the third person in our entourage. She wore an original series-style red mini-dress uniform, and boldly faced the possibility of her upcoming demise in good spirits. By mid-afternoon, more costumed people were roaming the con floor. We befriended Bill and Pam Lyons from Sacramento, who were beautifully costumed in original series Andorran uniforms. Also in attendance were Federation troopers, male and female, most in red shirts. We ran into Klingon buddies Mitchell Johnson, Karen Katich and their friends, looking quite fetching in their duds.

Klingon fever was especially high, for this was the first appearance in the Bay Area of J.G. Hertzler and Robert O’Reilly. In full costume as their *Next Generation* characters Martok and Gowron, the two treated the audience to a high spirited round of Klingon shenanigans. Though I do not have a Klingon persona, I adore the mighty lugs and their, um, assertive female compatriots. Hertzler and O’Reilly did a round of Klingon opera and other schtick. They encouraged Klingons in the audience to get on stage, which was enough for Mitchell. Hertzler and O’Reilly singled him out for teasing and admiration of his excellent costume.

After a quick stop at the St. Francis combo bar and coffee house, we returned to see Chase Masterson present...
her session. I’ve seen Chase at BayCon a number of times. She is a fine singer and lively persona. However, I was most impressed that what floats her boat most is her charitable work for the UN World Food Bank.

Debbie and I made a quick trip to the Ladies for a make up and wig adjustment. Then we joined a line up of at least 30 costumed characters to wait for our moment to parade in front of the audience. Unlike BayCon and other fan con Masquerades, audience applause determines who wins this event.

The majority of contestants wore original series or Next Generation federation uniforms. One man wore a well-appreciated original series Klingon costume. Two couples did excellently reproduced DS9-era Klingon uniforms. I recall seeing an original series Romulan. One woman wowed the crowd with her completely handmade reproduction of T’Pring, Spock’s betrothed, from the episode “Amok Time.”

Our Andorran friends wound up in second place. First place went to three folks with an excellent recreation of the Troi family from Next Generation. It was now past 7:00pm. Debbie and I graciously accepted our participation prizes—copies of Star Trek magazine—and headed off with Raven for dinner at Lefty O’Doul’s hofbrau.

Day Two: Time to meet Pat & Bill

No preparation time needed today, I told myself as I hauled out of bed before 8:00am Sunday morning. I just have to get to the St. Francis as early as I can. The Shatner/Stewart love fest was scheduled to begin at 11:30am. I pulled on boot-cut leggings and my Klingon

Stephanie as an Andorran
courtesy of Debbie Esters

Andorran and Nurse Chapel
courtesy of Debbie Esters
hockey shirt as my tip-of-the-hat to *Star Trek* fandom.

Based on Saturday’s attendance, I assumed that I would have little trouble getting a good seat an hour before the big show was to begin. What a mistake! As I climbed the stairs to the mezzanine, I was greeted by a huge queue, waiting simply to buy autographs and photo sessions with Shatner and Stewart.

The line for admissions was also huge, but my two-day pass got me into the Main Ballroom without a wait. I expected I would have to sit in the back. I did not expect practically all the seats in the Ballroom to be taken by 10:45am. I found an unoccupied seat near the wall about six rows from the back, which I abandoned to lean against the wall when the panels began.

By the time Creation Con founder Adam Bailey got up to speak, every seat was taken, and standing room in the back was many people deep. I’m guessing there were close to a thousand people present. Bailey began his opening words by exhorting the crowd that the rest of society has finally caught up to “us SciFi dweebs.” I sleepily nodded my head, content with my unblocked view of the stage.

Then on came Patrick Stewart.

I am more familiar with his post-Trek characters than Captain Picard, so I expected him to be slightly stuffy and Shakespearian. Surprise, surprise. Stewart was quite relaxed and funny. He is an exceptionally handsome older man, for all that his baldpate presence initially reminded me of Terry O’Quinn (Locke on “Lost”).
Stewart gave the audience a rundown of his current activities. For example, the previous evening he had given a spoken word performance of “A Soldier’s Tale,” accompanied by the San Francisco Symphony. This morning, the symphony conductor Michael Tilson Thomas sat somewhere in the audience with the rest of us dweebs. Judging from the conspicuous television cameras and somewhat less conspicuous news reporters, this panel was the place to be in San Francisco.

Right about then a camerawoman from the San Jose NBC TV affiliate parked herself by my right shoulder. She rolled video while Stewart told us that he decided some time ago to focus his career on his great love, Shakespearian drama. (No more Professor X.) He told the crowd of his participation in the Royal Shakespeare Company’s presentation of the entire Shakespearian canon. He was featured in *Hamlet*, where David Tennant knocked the socks off London theatergoers in the title role. Stewart was not specific about his role, so I assumed he played Claudius, *Hamlet’s* bad stepdad. Happily the BBC filmed a performance, which will be airing in April on PBS. That should make Stewart’s — and Tennant’s — many fans happy. Stewart then appeared in the title role in the RSC’s *Macbeth*, also filmed and scheduled to air on PBS next fall. (Oh goodie, Shakespeare-lover me cheered silently.)

Microphones opened for the obligatory Q & A session. Aspiring actors asked for advice. Then one intrepid audience member asked Stewart what it was like to be a knight of the British Empire.

Stewart told us that though it is appropriate to call him Sir Pat, the official knighting ceremony was yet to happen. The powers that be were waiting for an ultimate power (Princess Anne, Prince Charles, or possibly her majesty Queen Elizabeth) to clear their schedules for the event. The mostly American audience was quite impressed.

Unexpected and unannounced, William Shatner raced onto the stage and knelt at Stewart’s feet. “Can you put in a good word for me?” he pleaded. Thus Shatner’s segment began without ceremony. The two ribbed each other; Stewart has a title, Shatner has two recent Emmys, that sort of bantering, and the audience ate it up. Then Sir Pat left the stage to give Bill his due.

Shatner looks quite good. He lost some weight since his *Boston Legal* days but not his sense of humor. He was most interested in promoting his Biography Channel talk show, *Raw Nerve*, teasing us with the prospect of a talk with himself and George Takei, moderated by Howard Stern. He delivered pithy anecdotes about *Boston Legal* costar James Spader and quipped that the difference between him and Stewart is, “He’s starring with the Royal Shakespeare Company and I have three series on cable.”

As has been well-publicized, Shatner has not seen the new *Star Trek*. J.J. Abrams had asked him to help with publicity for the film, but Shatner turned him down because he did not want to face the inevitable rounds of reporters and paparazzi. Recently though, Abrams has invited Shatner and his family to a special screening of the new *Star Trek*, and this time Shatner says he will go.

Predictably, in the Q & A session someone asked which character Shatner preferred, Captain Kirk or Danny Crane. “There was much joy in both,” was the gracious response.

The final questioner asked Shatner to discuss the moment of Spock’s death in the film *Wrath of Khan* and Kirk’s
eventual death under a pile of rocks in *Generations*.

“When *Khan* was shot, no one knew if Nimoy would return,” Shatner said. “So I felt it was the end of an era.” In regard to Kirk’s death, he said he based his portrayal on a riding accident he was in. Then he commented, “Kirk faced his death with awe and wonder.”

This decidedly downbeat moment was broken up by the reappearance of Patrick Stewart. Shatner promptly asked him how *Next Generation* wrapped the series’ finale.

“We didn’t know we were being cancelled,” Stewart recalled. “In *Nemesis*, Picard congratulates Ryker on being promoted.” Then he offered to lend his DVD of the new *Star Trek* to Shatner.

The two started up their banter in a very buddy-buddy fashion. Shatner said that Stewart was “an elite actor who knows everything about everybody, except horses.” Shatner is an accomplished equestrian whose horses were used for the Picard/Kirk riding scene in *Star Trek: Generations*. Shatner teased Stewart about this scene, where Stewart wound up wearing women’s support hose to ease muscle pains from so much riding.

An audience member asked the two if either would appear on the new Conan O’Brien show. Shatner quipped, “Only if Sarah Palin is on it.” A few weeks previously Shatner appeared on Conan’s old TV show, doing a dramatic reading of Palin’s recent bestselling biography. Totally unannounced, Sarah Palin then came on Conan’s stage and gave a dramatic reading of Shatner’s biography.

The audience was thoroughly delighted by all the joshing around and the relaxed, approachable attitude of the two actors. Unfortunately, the 1.5 hour session came to a close. I met up with my friends, quite thrilled with my experience. This summer they might have an easier time hauling me to Vegas for the big *Star Trek* Con.
Consonance 2010: A Fremont Invasion

By Carole Parker
Contributing Writer

An invasion happened in Fremont when Consonance, an annual San Francisco Bay Area filk convention, took place during the weekend of March 5th through the 7th. It started with a German scout, Ju Honisch, coming in first. Then further German air support came in Thursday, commanded by Katy Droge, Steve MacDonald, and Sib Machat. Canadian invasion troops were lead by “Decadent” Dave Clement, with English support coming from Chris O’Shea, and American ground troops lead by Tricky Pixie squad leaders SJ (aka Sooj) Tucker, Betsy Tinney, Alexander James Adams, and semaphore signer Judi Miller.

The Consonance forces marshaled together a smooth-running operation with no supply line problems, entertainment was able to reach the troops, and the result was a successful campaign.

Friday’s campaign started off with a concert from Alabama operations center specialist, Mary Crowell, whose southern warmth and humor had everyone settling into their seats. Ohio operations sent toastmistress Judi Miller to continue the campaign with songs that moved audience members, and she “signed” songs by numerous field marshals. Civilians have to understand that the signing that Miller does is no ordinary signing for the deaf. Her interpretations not only inform to get the idea across, but they’re funny, too. Many performers have been broken up by Miller’s signing of their song to the point where they cannot look at her and perform at the same time. They’ve found that it doesn’t work, but they hear people laughing at Miller’s signing, even though the majority of people do not know ASL.

Saturday, the invasion got started by German Sib Machat asking why the English language was so contradictory and difficult. Canadian Brooke Lunderville came in with a pincer move that was unorthodox but effective. An English spy was identified as Interfilk guest Chris O’Shea doing a bad American accent. Money was exchanged for goods at the black market Interfilk
auction which raised $2,141 so that Interfilk can bring more foreigners to locations to infiltrate and assimilate customs and songs of other countries. Local resistance fighter Howeird had a CD of his recording sold to help raise funds for this worthwhile cause.

This reporter was able to share an Indian dinner with Jeff and Maya Bohnhoff, Carolyn Kayta Barrows, Bill Laubenheimer, and Miller to get additional reconnaissance information. Reconnaissance shows that the Bohnhoffs will be releasing their next CD at FilkOntario.

After dinner, the German invasion continued with Ju Honisch and Katy Droege performing songs that plucked at your heart and moved people greatly. The invasion took a mischievous turn when the pixies arrived. Yes, pixies. Whereas the other invaders were wearing t-shirts and jeans, the Tricky Pixies dressed up and had unusual instruments to play. It was a visual as well as audio feast.

Cellist Betsy Tinney was dressed in a Victorian-style corset, a bustle skirt with the front cut short to help show her slender legs, and a tall top hat. Leader Sooj was dressed in a corset coat with swallow tail tails, miniskirt, and top hat playing acoustic drum and guitar. Fiddler Alexander James Adams was dressed in a formal black velvet tailcoat, black and gold vest, pants, and top hat. Auxiliary support was provided by songstress Vixy Dockrey, who was dressed in a halter-style corset, paired with a miniskirt with lace overlay and black pleated netting at the hem, plus a top hat. The pixie takeover was peaceful and had the troops wanting more.

Sunday, the battle went back and forth with the invaders seeming to have
the day’s battle, but the Americans came back with a strong finish at the end of the day. The first volley was thrown by American educator Timothy Griffin. Unfortunately, I was still out in the field when Griffin performed. Then the Germans threw another volley with American-now-living-in-Germany-because-of-love Steve Macdonald performing songs of humor and thoughtfulness. This reporter’s favorite song was “Dragon for Sale,” with support from Mr. Dragon, Bill Roper. This is a performance that needs to be seen to be believed.

Then the tide turned in favour of the Canadian performance group, Stone Dragons. After their recent wins in the Vancouver games, the Canadians were confident in their singing and provided the Canadian folk perspective. Then the Canadian perspective continued with Clement providing work and sea songs.

The tide then turned in favour of the Americans, with an infamous rock jam lead by resistance cell leader Paul Kwinn. Troops from all nations were marshaled and included nine acoustic guitars, one electric guitar, a “bandolin” (banjo neck and mandolin body), drum, bodhran, dulcimer, recorder, flute, fiddle, cello, and a
Brooke Lunderville and fans give dance lessons

Stone Dragons and Dave Clement

Kristoph Klover sets up mikes for Blind Lemming Chiffon

Tempered Glass: Naomi Rivkis, Callie Hills and Steve Savitzky
ukulele. Now, you would think that to get all these disparate instruments to sound good, it would take a strong field marshal. However, the multinational forces were able to work together with occasional chord prompting when a new song started. The strength of the music was one to be reckoned with.

Local author Diana Paxson was seen to enjoy the music, and was seen to do a little bit of dancing. After working up an appetite at the rock jam, the troops convoyed over to the Sweet Tomato for grub and conversation. Then, it was back to headquarters for informal music until it was time for taps.

For more information, visit www.consonance.org

Judi Miller signs for Lynn Gold’s Hawaiian breeze number by Howeird
Writers Appear in "Hard Boiled" Saga

Kathe Gust
Contributing Writer

“No, Effie, I didn't kill him. And if I had knocked him off that wall, it wouldn't have been for a dame. And if I had done it for a dame, it wouldn't have been her!” — Sam Spud, on the demise of his partner Dumpty

Marta Randall, Peter Beagle and Richard Lupoff, three Bay area SFF authors, got together with some mystery writer colleagues and other friends to perform the radio drama The Maltese Omelette at M is for Mystery Bookstore in San Mateo, on Saturday, February 27th. The half-hour “radio” drama had live music by Linda Robertson, live sound effects provided by Cara Black, and was sponsored by Majestic Oil — “Cars purr for Majestic!”

The play, set in San Francisco, was written by local mystery author Michael Kurland in the style of Dashiell Hammett, but instead of the usual sleuths, bad guys and dishy dolls, the characters in this drama are all out of nursery rhymes.

Marta Randall was the announcer, and performed all the commercial breaks for the show. (She can say Majestic backwards!) Richard Lupoff portrayed the gravel-voiced Sidney Greenstreet-esque character, Wee Willy Winkie, the man who is searching for the legendary Maltese Goose. Peter Beagle had the dual roles of SFPD officer Jack Sprat — who has a domestic difference of opinion with his wife regarding diet—and Winkie's henchman, Georgie Porgie. Georgie gave Peter a chance to channel his inner Peter Lorre while smoking Creme de Menthe cigarettes and carrying a loaded lemon cream pie. Other members of the cast included Gregory Tiede, Michael Kurland, Pat Lupoff, Angela Beske, Lori Leigh Geilighem and a flock of invisible sheep.

It was worth attending just to see Peter in a necktie! Needless to say there were also lots and lots of fedoras in every size and color. Photos were taken, but the camera went fzzt and lost them, so you’ll have to use the montage sketch to visualize the experience.

According to Peter, “If all goes well, this won't be the last performance. There are plans to take The Maltese Omelette on the road to Book Passage in Corte Madera, and Copperfield's Bookstore in Petaluma.” Also, SF in SF (www.sfinsf.org) anticipates offering it for their Litquake program in mid-October. So if you missed it in San Mateo, you may still have a few chances to see a live performance!
Letters of Comment

John Purcell writes:
Well, well! Nice words about the DUFF candidates for this year. I agree that this is a definitely a bunch of good people, even though I only know two others (John Hertz and Jeff Boman) even reasonably well When you read the platform statements, all are qualified and would make fine delegates to Aussiecon IV. I know who I’m voting for, but I’m not saying.

Jean Martin responds: I’m still thinking about going to Aussiecon IV. With my new job, I don’t know if I can. Good to see John Hertz on the ballot. I met him at Westercon when it was in the Bay Area in 2007. I’m still amazed that the creator of my favorite dance, the “Congress of Vienna,” is also a fanzine editor. It’s nice to know there are vintage dancers like myself who are also into scifi and fanzines!

Like ESPN says in her editorial, I am likewise glad that Jean Martin decided to keep the fanzine going. It has certainly grown in size and quality over the years, and is very indicative of the energy of the local SF fan scene. Enjoy it, folks. Those of us in the far-flung regions of the world live vicariously through your reports in this zine. Keep active, and keep on writing.

I’m glad other people are glad that we’ve continued publishing SF/SF. It’s also gratifying that people outside the Bay Area are actually interested in what goes on in our own little world!

Since it is likely I will attend Renovation next year, the Young Adult rates and programming are a good idea. This is an idea that has been developing for many years, and I am glad it has come this far. My son is 14 now, and so if he comes along for the 2011 worldcon the YA track will definitely come in handy. This trend is one worth watching, and I will likewise keep my eyes open for the discussion. It sounds like a great idea, and I hope the Reno folks do a good job with it.

I will definitely be at Renovation next year. I hope to finally meet you there!

Yes, indeed, there are a lot of good fanzines coming out of the BArea right now. Besides the Garcia Publishing Empire, Rich Coad and Robert Lichtman are putting out splendid zines, too: respectively, Sense of Wonder Stories and Trap Door. I love them both, and still have to loc the latter (behind schedule again, drat it all). I know Chris is aware of the Bay Area’s fannish heritage, so what’s coming out right now is building on a wonderful fannish tradition. Keep those fan pubbing fires burning, folks, and the rest of us shall enjoy the results.

Chris certainly has carried on the torch for fanzine and fandom tradition. “The Garcia Publishing Empire”… that is too true and a clever moniker. I feel privileged to have worked with him doing SF/SF for several years. And I am very happy to be a part of and live in an area with such talented and creative writers who are actively publishing and putting out good stuff that the rest of the world enjoys.
I shall finish off with a quick correction: I did not write the loc that begins on the bottom of the last column of page 8. It actually sounds like it came from Lloyd Penney. I get the two of us confused all the time, too.

_Sorry about that! That was supposed to be Lloyd Penney referring to one of your previous LOCs. It got lost in translation during the proofreading and layout process and I didn’t catch it in the final proof._

Anyway, thanks for the issue, and I look forward to the next issue. All the best.

Lloyd Penney (not John Purcell) writes:

Greetings to the editorial team, and many thanks for _SF/SF_ 102. There’s been a lot of fannish publishing lately, and it’s been keeping me very busy, just the way I like it. Comment on the contents to follow . . .

If you don’t read the intros, forewords, table of contents, and anything else that comes before the meat of the publication, you may miss a lot, including some explanation of what you’re about to read. By all means, España, do what you want with this, as increasing coverage of gaming in the area will add a new colour to the palette, but do only what you enjoy doing. No commitments you might not want to keep. I heard good things about Gallifrey One, and I’d like nothing better than to join you and Jean at Nova Albion. Fandom can be a full-time job, but there’s lots and lots of fringe benefits.

_Jean Martin responds: I only cover what I’m interested in but I do try to go to a variety of events. For those that I think would be good for the zine but don’t have enough of an interest to cover myself, I try to find someone who is passionate about the subject to write about it. I’m always constantly talking to people to find out about what they like, not only because I’m genuinely interested in getting to know them and learning about different things, but also because I’m looking out for stories. I always have my editor hat on!_ I saw that press release, too, and a Worldcon is finally addressing where the next generation of attendees is coming from, and how we might draw them in to keep Worldcon going. Well done, Patty, and if we can keep this going with the 2012 Worldcons and further, we’ll still have reason to hold that Worldcon in the future. As long as SF stays relevant in the future it’s always tried to describe and highlight, Worldcon will have a reason to be. We just need people to go to it. Ghosting a Worldcon is a risky business, Chris... we saved like crazy to go to our own Worldcon in 2003, and we just had enough. And Chris, you don’t complain about the high cost of fandom nearly as much as I do.

_Conventions are expensive. Sometimes not so much the membership fees in and of themselves. It’s the travel, hotel and food expenses (food is generally more expensive at hotels)... and for me (and lots of other people), costuming costs. I have been buying and/or making costumes in my first five years in fandom. Now, I’m trying to recycle what I have and remake them or reassemble them into something else. For Nova Albion, I was actually able to put together five new costumes from pieces I already have. I guess that’s what I’ll talk about at the Steampunk on a Budget panel that I’ll be part of at the con._

DUFF... Yvonne and I have nominated, and we have voted, and with such a wide-ranging selection of potential delegates, the results will be
interesting. *Steam Engine Time* is always a challenge to respond to, but that is a good thing, as I do try to rise to that challenge. My loc was very long, and Bruce had misplaced my loc on issue 10. When issue 13 arrives, a good portion of the locol will be mine, I hope.

**Good luck with DUFF! I’m still thinking about Aussiecon. More on this in my editorial in this issue.**

The locol . . . the willingness of volunteers to step up to make this fanzine and other fannish projects happen reflects their importance to the community you’re serving. I think if *SF/ SF* wasn’t around to inform Bay Area fandom, some of those projects would wither and die, and others couldn’t get the word out about themselves. Volunteerism makes fandom happen, and we have just enough people who realize it, and do something about it.

As I’ve said in the past, it’s so amazing to me that so many people volunteer to do things in fandom. And everyone has their own part to play depending on their interest and talents. It’s what makes fandom work but it’s also what makes fandom fun. I can’t imagine just sitting on the sidelines as a spectator. That’s one of the main reasons I decided to keep *SF/ SF* going.

**I think I’d feel lost going to cons without something to do!**

Jean Martin is the female Chris Garcia... a sister! Your thoughts betray you once again. As long as you don’t singe your beard while cooking, Jean, we’re all good here. As long as you pursue your involvement to your own speed and capacity, everyone benefits. The letter from John Purcell... well, I wrote that one, too.

I’m hoping to keep up what I’ve been doing these past six years or so. But my new job looks like it’s going to consume more time than my previous job. I’m still new at it so perhaps it’ll get easier and I’ll get faster in time. Right now, though, I still don’t quite know how it will all shake out.

**Sorry about that. John wrote in about this and my explanation for this mistake is in my reply to his LOC.**

I must read all of Al Megas’ article on the Bay Area furry con. We’ve just had one here ourselves called Furnal Equinox. This is the first time Toronto’s had a furry con, and while it’s not to my taste, I can’t argue with any group of fannish types getting together and enjoying themselves. I was there to drop off *Ad Astra* flyers, and there were some friends there, too. I did see a couple of fursuits, but mostly people with tails hanging from the back beltloop, and I was also a little surprised to see how many young ladies were there. The Cats-style makeup job at the end was most impressive. Furnal Equinox is the first of three new furrycons coming up, with the others in London and Montreal.

It boggles my mind that people want to dress up completely covered in fursuits. I’d be claustrophobic in one. But it’s so great that there are so many areas of fandom for people to do what they love no matter what it is. Their costumes do look amazing and a lot of them are very cute.

Filking . . . again, I am not a filker, but we have worked with the local filkers in the past. FilKONtario 20 is taking place, unfortunately, at the same time as *Ad Astra*. Yvonne and I ran their con suite for 10 years, and literally, we’ve heard it all. There are wonderful singers and songwriters and lyricists, and then there are those who couldn’t hold a on-key notes if their lives depended on it. They all find a home in an accommodating and forgiving filk community, which is what we have in Toronto (even though most of the organizers live in Hamilton, just down the highway). Many of those organizers
are nominated for their work on this year’s Aurora Awards ballot.

More filking in this issue. This time it’s a local con.

The company that makes Jolt Cola has gone bankrupt? Say it isn’t so! I don’t buy Jolt very often, and I don’t like the fact it’s been turned into some kind of energy drink, but Jolt has gotten me through busy weekend cons in the past, and I have crashed and burned to pay for it.

A lot of venerable brands have gone bankrupt and that’s too bad. Some of them have been bought out by bigger companies. So who knows this one may yet survive.

I will wrap this up by saying that the calendar once again makes me envious, and should give many other fans ideas about what they could do themselves. (There are fans in Hamilton who might like to stage a Steampunk convention, and possibly a grand ball... I referred them to the PEERS website, and I hope they learned something.) I wish you all the grandest time at Nova Albion this coming weekend, and many thanks for another stellar issue. See you next time.
Meeting 1020

Minutes of BASFA meeting #1020 on 22-Feb-2010
Meeting was called to order at 8:04pm by Chris. 19 people attended.
We established a party jar. The treasurer underhandedly attached a rider to the party jar motion, making Stellan acting secretary.
Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 1019 were accepted as “Failed for lack of a second”.
Treasurer’s report: Last week we took in $8.50 in the regular jar, for a total of $11537.21, and $1.25 in the party jar for a total of $1086.05. Dave is still adapting to working from home, and this goes double for the cat.
There was no president present to present a president’s report.
VP’s report: There is a new Drink Tank out with a cover by Mo, and a new Journey Planet with stuff about alternate history by amongst others John Scalzi, Chris and Barbara.

Announcements
Glenn announced that Bill Humphries has 2 full tickets for this year’s Worldcon in Melbourne for $75 each.

Mo announced that the Silicon BoD is meeting tomorrow (Tuesday the 23rd) at 7:30pm in the Denny’s at 3715 El Camino Real, Santa Clara.
Upcoming conventions were announced:
(Ken?) Gallifrey is this upcoming weekend in the LAX Marriott. It is large, 1100 ppl having preregistered and the Titanic party is Friday night.
At the same time in San Diego is Condor, at the Handlery Hotel, GoH CJ Cherryh.
(Mo) Contact is March 26-28, at NASA Ames.
(Dave) Norwescon is April 1-4th at the Airport Doubletree in Seattle.
(Adrienne) 2010 California Ghost Hunters con is May 21-23 at the La Quinta Inn in Hayward; tickets are $150, and includes two haunted houses and a cemetery.
(Lisa) Consonance 2010 is March 5-7 at the Hilton in Newark.
 Howeird announced that technology, religion and tradition has come together; the Dalai Lama is on Twitter.

Reviews
Glenn reviewed books by Patricia McKillip: He reread the Riddle Master sequence [1976-79], but it did not age well; she got better later. Od Magic [2006] was better and interesting.
Andy reviewed the 3rd qualifying round [Gothenburg] of “Melodifestivalen” [Swedish Eurovision Song Contest] as the worst yet; one of the winners was a real downer of a song [Darin “You’re Out Of My Life”] about a girlfriend leaving. Worth download.
Stellan reviewed 1635: The Dreeson Incident by Eric Flint and Virginia DeMarce as the dullest yet in the Ring of Fire shared universe. Worth borrowing. Maybe.
Dave Reviewed the NBC coverage of the Olympics as The Wrong Stuff, and that he understood the deliberations of the German curling team better than the British, who were mostly Scots.
Mo followed on by noting that the figure skating costumes were spectacular and could have belonged in Blades of Glory, and those were just the men’s...
Chris reviewed the movie Adams Apples as typical Danish comedy, full of pain and sorrow; funny and very, very dark.
Adrienne reviewed the movie Fanboys as one character reminded her of Chris. She has now seen all the Academy Award nominees,
and *Hurt Locker* was a really good war movie, directed by a woman [Kathryn Bigelow].

Howeird reviewed the restroom doors at Netflix, where he now works, as they are labeled solely with movie star posters, and on his floor they are from Planet of the Apes, so it’s hard to tell which is the men’s room.

We auctioned off a book for $.50.

The rumor of the week was “Olympic cake using gold medal flour”

We adjourned at 8:45pm

**Meeting 1021**

March 1, 2010

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary
Held at Coco’s, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 fwy), Sunnyvale.

Began 8pm - with references to the Masochism Tango.

We established a party jar.
19 people attended.

Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 1020 were accepted as “Adrienne objects to Stellan objecting.”

No Treasurer report.
No Vice President report.

The President had nothing fannish to report.

**Announcements**

[evil] Kevin announced that there’ll be a Steampunk Exhibition in 2 weeks at the Hilton Garden in Emeryville; that the same week, there will be a Penswag meeting; then the weekend of March 20 will have the Coronation Ball at 938 the Alameda.

Radar announced that Wondercon will be April 2-4 at Moscone Center South in SF, $40 for the whole weekend and also announced that there will be no Silicon 2010, but there will be fund raisers for Silicon in 2011.

Howeird announced that this weekend will have Consonance at the Fremont Hilton, Fremont.

Adrienne announced that Bay Area Ghost Hunters will have 2 meet and greets - at March 10 in SJ at 5:30pm - and at March 21 in Berkeley at Blakes on Telegraph - check their website.

Tom announced that Potlatch 19 will be this weekend in Seattle at the Hotel Deca and that Potlatch 20 will be in SJ - check their website.

Glenn announced that Norwescon will be held the 1st weekend in April.

Stellan announced that the Tech Shop is opening a new location in SF.

**Reviews**

Glenn reviewed Patricia McKillip’s book *The Belle of Seelie Isle* as very fantasy lite but extremely well written and he really enjoyed it; he also reviewed Condor as 540 attended, it broke records and he sold a lot of Westercon memberships there.

Dave C reviewed *Never the Bride* by Paul Magrs as setting up for a series, he found it distressing and worth library [even tho he could sell it to you].

Radar reviewed Gallifrey as she had an amazing time there, the Masquerade was excellent and filled with “Ooooo!” costumes and that “lobby con” started Thursday night and it never really ended.

Adrienne reviewed *Inglorious Basterds* as she enjoyed it, despite its being a Tarentino film; reviewed *Precious* as engrossing, disturbing and depressing - worth DVD rental; & reviewed *The Blind Side* as she really enjoyed it - she also reviewed the TV remake of *Survivors* as she enjoys it and recommends it.

We did auctions: auctioned off a poster and magazine for $0.25, cupcakes for $1.75; toys for $0.50; cookies and a water bottle for $1.50; snickerdoodles for $0.50 & a book for $3.00.

We adjourned at = 9:07

And the rumor of the week was: “At Gallifrey the smoker’s area is called the Black Lung of Rassilon.”

**Meeting 1023**

15 March 2010

Called to order at 8:01 PM PDT – 20 people attending
Vice President Chris Garcia presiding.
The minutes of meeting 1022 were adopted as “Cultured Cargo.”
The minutes of meeting 1021 were adopted as “Who Cares Anymore.”
Evil Kevin moved that we establish the legitimacy of the party jar – adopted.
Treasurer’s Report: Meeting 1022 took in $3.50; the party jar took in $1.25.
VP reported that a new issue of The Drink Tank was out.

**Announcements**

Dave Clark Xanadu Las Vegas, a Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror, Fetish & Bondage Convention, will be held March 27 and 28 at the Suncoast Hotel and Casino; this is a 21 and over event.

Ken announced that Wondercon will be in San Francisco April 2 to 4, and that the BBC will be showing “11th Hour” on Saturday, April 3 there.

Ken announced that the Marylebone Cricket Club will be playing the NW Region U. S. Cricket Association at the W. A. Wilson Adult Education Center in Santa Clara this coming weekend.

Al announced that at the last Baycon staff meeting, several staff members returned. Artistic Solutions now has a Certificate of Reviver now active with the Secretary of State.

Tall Kevin announced that Cheryl was not here, she was denied entry to the U. S. under the Visa Waiver Program.

Howeird announced that Peter Graves has passed away.


Glenn announced that lots of Bay Area conventions are upcoming – next March, there will be three on consecutive weekends.

Tall Kevin announced that Match Game SF will be at Norwescon. It is now self contained, needing virtually no technical assistance from the host convention. Kevin also hates cable.

Chris announced that Corey Haim died last week.

**Reviews**

Ken reviewed *Shout*, playing at the Retrodome, as Go See It.

Andy reviewed *Nova Albion* from this past weekend with a mixed review on repeating history. The hotel was too small; there was much fun after finding parking. It was one step beyond worth full price. Many follow ons: Glenn thought the program book was beautiful but non-functional and the con was worth half price; Chris held court.

Andy reviewed *Eurovision* as the Swedes and Norwegians duelled to the song, Anna Bergendahl played a pixie, and the finals are during Baycon.

Al reviewed *The Fourth Kind* as similar to *The Blair Witch Project* but on UFO’s. Poor directional and editing choices. Every one is encouraged to see it on DVD.

Chris reviewed the Cinequest movies as available online:

*Ducked and Covered* – Post Apocalypse movie set in Australia

*Her Morning Elegance* – Stop Motion


**Announcements Revisited**

Tall Kevin announced that Hugo Nominations have closed and that a record number of nominating ballots were submitted. The final ballot will be announced on Sunday, April 4, at 7:00 PM BST.

Dave Clark announced that *Lesbian Vampire Killers* is coming to DVD; this will not be carried by Cargo Cult Books.

The Rumor of the Week was “Orange”. We adjourned at 9:32 PM PDT.

**Meeting 1024**

March 22, 2010

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary
Held at Coco’s, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 fwy), Sunnyvale.
Began at 8:02 pm.
We established a party jar.
24 people attended.
Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 1023 were accepted as “squirrel.”
The Treasurer reported that last week we took in $5.35 in the regular jar [and there were no other jars].
The Vice President reported that there were 2 new Drink Tanks out, that he’s running for mayor of San Francisco, that he’s been awarded this next year’s Corflu [Feb 11-13 2011, in Sunnyvale] and he saw an alpaca today.
The President had nothing fannish to report.

Announcements
Spike announced that the membership rates for the Reno Worldcon will be going up on May 1st - so buy now.
Tom announced that Potlatch 20 is back at the Domain, March 4-6.
[tall] Kevin announced that Kuma Bear is chairing the Tonopah Westercon bid - and he has THE flyer for it with him - and the 'fridge magnet, too - rates are $10 to support, $20 to oppose & $50 to “go nuclear” ["Tonopah - 1 flyer and a dream"] - and also announced that Firesign Theatre will be touring this summer and that Radio Free Oz is back on the air - check www.firesigntheatre.com.
Dave G announced that there are coupons for Starbucks giving away a pastry with most of their beverages & Glenn follow-on’d that Ben & Jerry’s was doing something similar - both offers run thru tomorrow.
Adrienne announced that she has made reservations for Aussiecon and asked who else was going & [tall] Kevin follow-on’d that he’ll be going there 1st class.
Dave C announced that the Other Change of Hobbit is going to be moving to Oakland.
Stellan announced that he’ll be in Sweden for the next 3 meetings.
Ken announced that this Friday is the Legion of Rassilon meeting - 1st and Trimble, 7:30pm - at the Carls Jr - and there’s a Psychotronic Film Festival this Saturday.
Bob #27 announced that this TechnoCon is likely to be the last one.
Fred announced that this weekend is Contact at Ames - and suggests that everyone planning to go to the Reno Worldcon get a membership at the Peppermill because they give good comps.
Chris announced that Alan Moore will be doing a signing in London this week.

Reviews
Glenn reviewed Patricia McKillip’s book Harrowing the Dragon as he enjoyed it and some of it is really well done and also reviewed Phantom of the Paradise as parts of it are SO dates, but parts of it are still brilliant.
Chris reviewed The Runaways as a horrid mess & dull - there was then social commentary; then he reviewed a documentary, The State of Aloha as well done.
Dave C commented that his walls were full of dead squirrel miasma & reviewed satellite radio Little Steven’s Underground Garage as it plays kinda sorta everything.
Adrienne reviewed the TV remake of Survivors as she’s still watching it & enjoys it and they are changing its night to Tuesdays.
Andy reviewed Coronation weekend as a fun time was had Friday & Saturday - and pictures are up on Facebook and it was worth doing, then they did nothing on Sunday.
Ken reviewed MCC playing cricket as the US won by 7 wickets and it was fun.
Tom reviewed a con review he just read as it was written quickly - 9 pages of review for a con this last weekend - and seemed accurate, you can check it out at www.cartiledgeworld.co.uk/winchester.html.
We did auctions: birthday auctioned off Spike for $5.00 to Tom; then auctioned off a CD for $0.25, pointy things for $2.00; a poster for $0.10; and books for $0.50 & $2.00.
We adjourned at = 9:23.
And the rumor of the week was: “squirrel - the new green insulation.”
Bay Area Fannish Calendar

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

Follow the calendar on Twitter: @sfsfcalendar

New listings are highlighted in red.
Ongoing events are toward the back.

Through June 6

**Wicked**
Orpheum Theater
1192 Market Street, San Francisco
www.shnsf.com/shows/wicked

Long before Dorothy drops in, two other girls meet in the land of Oz. One, born with emerald-green skin, is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. Wicked tells the story of their remarkable odyssey, how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch. Based on the novel by Gregory Maguire

Check website for tickets and showtimes

Friday, April 2

**The Ball of Justice: A Pulp Fiction Dance Party**
DNA Lounge
375 Eleventh Street, San Francisco

To celebrate Wondercon weekend Swing Goth presents surf-rockin’ Luchadores, intrepid space explorers, superheros and superhero burlesque. Live music by The Phenomenauts, Los Straightjackets. Burlesque by Comic Strip. DJs: Molly (Death Guild and 1984) Skip (New Wave City) Shatter (Bondage-a-Go-Go) MzSamantha (Clockwork). Hosted by MC Kingfish (Hubba Hubba Revue)
7 p.m. $20

Friday-Sunday, April 2-4

**The Last Unicorn Uncensored 35mm**
Victoria Theatre
2961 16th Street, San Francisco
tinyurl.com/yfctbpu

Join Peter S. Beagle for your choice of 3 evening showings of the uncensored original version of The Last Unicorn. This will be the first time since 1982 that a 35mm print of this film has been shown in the Bay Area. Q&A session beforehand and an author signing afterward. See website for times.

Saturday, April 3

**La Legion Fantastique: A Victorian Steampunk Ball**
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
www.peers.org/legion.html

Guests are invited to dress in conventional mid-to-late Victorian evening dress (1850s – 1900) or Victorian Steampunk attire. Costumes, as always, are admired, not required and modern evening dress is a perfectly acceptable substitute for period costume. Live music provided by Bangers & Mash. Punch and a light snack buffet will be served. As usual, the Legion appreciates your potluck contributions to the buffet.

7 p.m. $20
Friday, April 9

**Dan Wells Salon**
Borderlands Cafe
870 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Chat with Wells and hear him read excerpts from his book, *I Am Not a Serial Killer*
7 p.m.  Free

Friday, April 9

**SF in SF: Rudy Rucker**
Variety Preview Room in the Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
www.sfinsf.org
Join artist and author Rudy Rucker for a reception in honor of his art show, up at the Variety Preview Room through the end of May. Donations and bar proceeds benefit Variety Children's Charity.
6 p.m.  Free

Wednesday, April 14

**SF in SF Double Feature: Charles Beaumont**
Variety Preview Room in the Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
www.sfinsf.org
Also featuring a book launch party for the horror anthology, *The Bleeding Edge*. Donations and bar proceeds benefit Variety Children’s Charity.
7 p.m.  Free

Thursday, April 15

**Thrillville**
Camera 3 Cinema
288 S. 2nd St., San Jose
www.thrillville.net
13th anniversary party! *The Brain that Wouldn’t Die* and *Attack of the Giant Leeches*.
Special guest Mr. Lobo and Actual Rafiq live!
7:30 p.m.  $10

Saturday, April 17

**SF in SF: Gail Carriger and Blake Charlton**
Variety Preview Room in the Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
www.sfinsf.org
Followed by Q & A moderated by Terry Bisson. Signing in the lounge afterwards. Donations and bar proceeds benefit Variety Children’s Charity.
6 p.m.  Free

Friday-Sunday, April 23-25

**Robogames**
San Mateo County Fairgrounds
2495 S Delaware St, San Mateo
robogames.net
RoboGames invites the best minds from around the world to compete in over 70 events. Combat robots, walking humanoids, soccer bots, sumo bots, and even androids that do kung-fu.
Check website for tickets and showtimes

Saturday, April 24

**Peter Beagle's 71st Birthday Party**
Lake Merritt Park, Oakland
www.facebook.com/petersbeagle
Come celebrate Peter’s 71st birthday and the completion of his 52/50 Project
Free

Sunday, April 25

**Aqua Teen Hunger Force Live!**
The Regency Ballroom
1290 Sutter Street, San Francisco
aquateenlive.com
8 p.m.  $33.75

April 27-July 29

**Peter Pan**
ThreeSixtyTheater
Embarcadero Plaza, San Francisco
peterpantheshow.com
Direct from London, a spectacular new stage production of J.M. Barrie’s classic story performed in a state-of-the-art 1350-seat theatre pavilion
Check website for tickets and showtimes
**Wednesday, April 28**

*One Book One Marin VIP Reception*

Dominican University of California  
50 Acacia Avenue, San Rafael  
www.onebookonemarin.org  
5 PM VIP reception at San Marco Art Gallery, Alemany Library followed by 7PM lecture in Angelico Hall. Book is *Yiddish Policemen’s Union* by Michael Chabon.  
5 p.m.

**Saturday, May 1**

*The Courts of Faerie Ball*

PEERS Event, www.peers.org  
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo  
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo  
The Unseelie King and Queen of the Fae honour May Day and resign their crowns for six months to the blessed Seelie King and Queen. Fantasy, fairy, or fairy tale costume from any tradition is admired, not required. Period costume (authentic or creatively “mixed”), vintage evening dress, or modern evening dress is also welcome. Masks, either worn or hand-held, are strongly recommended. While wings are very welcome on our Faerie creatures, be sure to wear wings you can dance in. Live music by Avalon Rising. Intermission entertainment includes dance performances and romantic DJ dance music for the insatiable dancers. Complimentary light refreshments will be served throughout the evening and, as usual, your potluck contributions are very welcome.  
7 p.m.  
$15 (till April 24)

**Wednesday, May 12**

*SF in SF Double Feature: The Fantastic Mr. Fox and 9*

Variety Preview Room in the Hobart Building  
582 Market Street, San Francisco  
www.sfinsf.org  
Donations and bar proceeds benefit Variety Children’s Charity.  
7 p.m.  
Free

**Thursday, May 13**

*Thrillville*

Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge  
1304 Lincoln, Alameda  
www.thrillville.net  
Thrillville presents Comic Book Superhero Nite! Featuring movies, prizes, costume contests and live surf music by The Deadlies  
8 p.m.  
Free

**Thursday, May 20**

*Thrillville*

Vine Cinema  
1722 1st St., Livermore  
www.thrillville.net  
7:30 p.m.  
$10

**Saturday-Sunday, May 22-23**

*Maker Faire 2010*

San Mateo County Event Center  
1346 Saratoga Drive, San Mateo  
makerfaire.com  
Maker Faire is a two-day, family-friendly event that celebrates the DIY mindset. It’s for creative, resourceful people of all ages and backgrounds who like to tinker and love to make things.  
$25

**Saturday-Monday, May 28-31**

*Kublacon*

The Hyatt Regency Burlingame  
1333 Bayshore Highway, Burlingame  
www.kublacon.com  
Gaming convention  
$40 (till April 15)

**Saturday-Monday, May 28-31**

*Baycon*

The Hyatt Regency Santa Clara  
5101 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara  
www.baycon.org  
GOH Peter Beagle, Colleen and Steve Savitzky, Toastmaster Tadao Tomomatsu. Special Guests: Mercedes Lackey & Larry Dixon  
$65 (till May 8)
**Saturday-Monday, May 28-31**

**Fanime**
San Jose McEnery Convention Center
150 W. San Carlos St., San Jose
www.fanime.com
$60

**Saturday, June 5**

**The Golden Anniversary Victorian Ball**
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Please join us in celebrating the 50th birthday of Mr. Fezziwig, the most gracious party host in all of Dickens’ London. Live music by Bangers & Mash. Late Georgian Regency, Victorian, or modern evening dress is admired but not required. Punch, cake and a light Old English buffet will be served (Potluck contributions to Mrs. Fezziwig’s kitchen would be most welcome).
7 p.m. $15 (till May 29)

**Sunday, June 6**

**SACCON**
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6

**June 30-July 25**

**Young Frankenstein**
Curran Theater
455 Geary Street, San Francisco
www.shnsf.com/shows/youngfrankenstien
Based on the 1974 Mel Brooks film, *Young Frankenstein* is a re-imagining of the Mary Shelley classic. When Frederick Frankenstein, an esteemed New York brain surgeon and professor, inherits a castle and laboratory in Transylvania from his grandfather, deranged genius Victor Von Frankenstein, he faces a dilemma. Does he continue to run from his family’s tortured past or does he stay in Transylvania to carry on his grandfather’s mad experiments?
Check website for tickets and showtimes

**Thursday-Sunday, July 1-4**

**Westercon 63: Confirmation**
Pasadena Hilton
168 S. Los Robles Avenue,
Pasadena 91101
www.westercon.org
This year Westercon is combining with ConChord 23, the Southern California filk convention. Your membership gets you both conventions.
Westercon GOH: Rudy Rucker, John D. Berry, Mark Schirmeister,
$60 (till May 31)

**Wednesday, July 14**

**Thrillville**
Camera 3 Cinema
288 S. 2nd Street, San Jose
www.thrillville.net
Thrillville’s Tribute to Bob Wilkins! A complete Bob Wilkins”Creature Features” show reassembled by Tom Wyrsch, first broadcast on July 14, 1974, featuring Bob’s interview with Forrest J. Ackerman, original 70s commercials, and the feature film *The Creature Walks Among Us* (1956). With special guest, “Creature Features” host/author John Stanley.
8 p.m. $10

**Thursday-Friday, July 15-16**

**San Francisco Symphony: Music from Final Fantasy**
Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco
www.sfsymphony.org
Award-winning conductor Arnie Roth returns to the San Francisco Symphony for two concerts of music from the video game Final Fantasy, including the North American premiere of *Final Fantasy IX: Prima Vista* and music from the upcoming CD *Distant Worlds II*.
8 p.m. $30-$105
Thursday-Sunday, July 22-25
San Diego Comic-Con
San Diego Convention Center
www.comic-con.org
Preview night July 21. Weekend passes sold out, see website for pre-reg.

Saturday, July 31-Sunday, August 1
The Great Pan-Kinetic Exposition
Vallejo Waterfront
www.pankineticexpo.com
The Great Pan-Kinetic Exposition is a historical re-creation of the famous World Fairs that once thrilled the nations of the globe, in which science, art, theater and history meet under one roof!
$12

Friday-Monday, August 6-9
Costume College
Warner Center Marriott
21850 Oxnard St, Woodland Hills
www.costumecollege.org
A three-day educational conference on all subjects relating to costuming and clothing. Check website for details and registration.

Saturday, August 7
Jane Austen Picnic Dance
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Lincoln Park
1450 High Street, Alameda (Near the Rose Garden)
Our guests are invited to bring their own period-style picnic lunch and to make their picnic site look as period as possible (Please note that the event is not a potluck. Our hard-working catering staff will be taking a well-deserved holiday!). Suggested costume for the event is late 18th century or Regency summer afternoon dress (1780-1818), but, as usual, costumes are admired, not required. Live music will be provided by Bangers & Mash. This event is a thank you to all of our devoted fans, and we will not be charging a fee for admission. Donations for our brilliant and hard-working musicians will be gratefully accepted, however, both before and during the event. 11 a.m. Free

Saturday, September 4
The Gilbert and Sullivan Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Mr. and Mrs. William S. Gilbert request the honour of your presence at a fancy dress ball honouring the musical achievements of their colleague, the recently knighted Sir Arthur Sullivan. Guests are welcome to attend either in “normal” evening dress of the late 19th century (1860-1900) or in costumes inspired by the operas of Gilbert and Sullivan (Costumes are, as usual, admired but not required, at the ball). Live music by Bangers and Mash and intermission entertainment includes a performance of song and dance excerpts from Gilbert and Sullivan’s operettas. As usual, punch and a light snack buffet will be served throughout the evening (Mrs. Gilbert will gratefully welcomes your potluck contributions to the buffet).
7 p.m. $15 (till August 28)

Saturday-Sunday, September 24-25
From the Land Beyond 3
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.fromthelandbeyond.com
Horror & Sci-Fi con.
Saturday, September 26
**The Handcar Regatta**
Railroad Square, Santa Rosa
handcar-regatta.com
Erasmus P. Kitty Presents: The 2nd Annual 2009 Great West End & Railroad Square Handcar Regatta & Exposition of Mechanical & Artistic Wonders.  

**Saturday, October 2**
**The Evil League of Evil Villains’ Ball**
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Guests are invited to attend as their favorite Evil character – historical, fictional, or original. Live music by Avalon Rising. Costumes may be historical, science fiction/fantasy, modern evening dress. The event includes musical performances, a no-host (cash) bar, and a light snack buffet. Potluck contributions to the buffet will be greatly appreciated.
7 p.m. $15 (till September 26)

**Friday-Sunday, March 4-6, 2011**
**Potlatch 20**
The Domain Hotel
1085 East El Camino Real, Sunnyvale
www.potlatch-sf.org
$45 (through April 30)

**Sunday, March 6, 2011**
**SACCON**
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6

**Sunday, June 5, 2011**
**SACCON**
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6

**Sunday, December 11, 2011**
**SACCON**
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6

Wednesday-Sunday, August 17-21, 2011
**Worldcon: Renovation**
Reno Sparks Convention Center
4590 South Virginia Avenue, Reno, NV
Reno, Nevada
www.renovationsf.org
The 69th World Science Fiction Convention. GOH: Tim Powers, Ellen Asher, Boris Vallejo, Charles N. Brown. $140 (till April 30)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ongoing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cartoon Art Museum</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>655 Mission Street, San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.cartoonart.org">www.cartoonart.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>11-5pm $6 (Closed Mondays)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>San Francisco Ghost Hunt Walking Tour</strong></td>
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<td>Begins: Queen Anne Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>1590 Sutter at Octavia, San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.sfghosthunt.com">www.sfghosthunt.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Closed Tuesdays. 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. $20</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>VIZ Cinema</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1746 Post Street, San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.newpeopleworld.com/films">www.newpeopleworld.com/films</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>VIZ Cinema is a 143-seat underground cinema inside NEW PEOPLE in San Francisco. Its programming focuses on the latest and hottest films from Japan, as well as classics, favorites, documentaries and anime. Please check theater for showtimes and tickets.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sundays</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MGI SF&amp;F/Horror/Speculative fiction Writing Group</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Residence (email for details) Emeryville</td>
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<tr>
<td>groups.yahoo.com/group/MGISFFWriters</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m. Free</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mondays</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sakuramento Anime Society</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rancho Cordova Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>9845 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meets every Sunday to watch old and new anime and anime music videos, play collectible card games, practice artwork and make AMVs. 3-7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bay Area Science Fiction Association</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coco’s</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1206 Oakmead Parkway, Sunnyvale</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.basfa.org">www.basfa.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesdays</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dukefish</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jake’s of Sunnyvale</td>
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<tr>
<td>174 E. Fremont Avenue, Sunnyvale games.groups.yahoo.com/group/dukefish</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Group meets weekly to play German-style strategy board games such as Settlers of Catan, Carcasson and other games, plus an occasional game of bridge breaks out. Meet up at 8:00 p.m., figure out who wants to play what, and typically start playing games no later than 8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 p.m. Free</td>
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<tr>
<th>Wednesdays</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bay Area Role-Playing Society</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Go-Getter’s Pizza</td>
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<tr>
<td>1489 Beach Park Boulevard, Foster City <a href="http://www.BayRPS.com">www.BayRPS.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details email <a href="mailto:GM@BayRPS.com">GM@BayRPS.com</a></td>
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<td>6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Free</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mondays and Wednesdays</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Silicon Valley Boardgamers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mountain View Community Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>201 S. Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View <a href="http://www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb">www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group meets regularly to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames such as Settlers of Catan; also multi-player Avalon Hill-style, historical war games, and others. 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MGI Boffers &amp; Outdoor Games</strong></td>
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<td>Codornices Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>1201 Euclid Ave, Berkeley mgisciaf.angelfire.com groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyclub</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bad weather: we meet the same time at 33 Revolutions Record Shop &amp; Cafe, El Cerrito for boardgames.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
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<td>groups.yahoo.com/group/MGISFFWriters</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m. Free</td>
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</table>
East Bay Strategy Games Club
EndGame
921 Washington, Oakland
www.michaeldashow.com/eastbaystrategy/home.html
7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. Free

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

Wednesdays and Saturdays
Hayward Collectibles Show
22300 Hathaway Ave (rear bldg), Hayward
www.toysandbaseballcards.com
Wednesdays 3 p.m.-8 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free

FyDy SyFy
Eclipse Lounge, Hyatt Regency
5 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco
Casual meetup in the atrium lobby bar.
5:30-7:30

SF Games
Muddy’s Coffeehouse
1304 Valencia Street, San Francisco
vax.hanford.org/dk/games
SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Also has a regular cards night at Atlas Café, 20th and Alabama Streets, Tuesday nights from 6:30-10.
7 p.m. to midnight
Fridays-Mondays Free

Haunted Haight Walking Tour
Meets at Coffee To The People
1206 Masonic Avenue, San Francisco
www.hauntedhaight.com
Reservations required.
7 p.m. - 9 p.m. $20
Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour
Meets corner of California and Taylor, San Francisco
www.sfvampiretour.com
Led by Mina Harker. Tour is canceled if there is heavy rain.
8 p.m. $20

PenSFA Party
The Peninsula Science Fantasy Association meets every two weeks for a party at the home of one of their members. They also host parties at local conventions. Email commander@pensfa.org for information on attending. PenSFA standard party rules: bring something edible or drinkable to share, or pay the host $2. Don’t smoke in the house without checking with the host first. Normal start time is 8 p.m. but may vary depending on the host.

Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers’ Group
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street, San Francisco
Meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 6 pm. Contact Jade Livingston at sfscifi@yahoo.com for more information.
### Monthly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dorkbot-SF</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf/">www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf/</a></td>
<td>Dorkbot hosts regular forums for artists, designers, engineers, students, and other people doing strange things with electricity. Free, donations welcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foothill Anime</strong></td>
<td>Building 5015, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills</td>
<td>Monthly event where people can get together to watch anime and meet like minded others. Usually meets the first Sunday of every month at noon. 12 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Silicon Gulch Browncoats</strong></td>
<td>Various locations (see website for details) <a href="http://www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org">www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org</a></td>
<td>Silicon Valley fans of Firefly/Serenity meet up on the first Saturday of the month. Noon - 2 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rocky Horror Picture Show</strong></td>
<td>The Clay, 2261 Fillmore Street San Francisco/ The Guild, 949 El Camino Real Menlo Park <a href="http://www.bawdycaste.org">www.bawdycaste.org</a></td>
<td>The Bawdy Caste presents the classic midnight movie the first Saturday of the month, alternating between the Clay in San Francisco and the Guild in Menlo Park. Midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>QSF&amp;F Book Club</strong></td>
<td>Borderlands Books, 866 Valencia, San Francisco <a href="http://www.qsfandf.com">www.qsfandf.com</a></td>
<td>Meets the second Sunday of the month. 5 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>East Bay Star Wars Club</strong></td>
<td>Central Perk, 10086 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito 510-558-7375 <a href="http://www.ebstarwars.com">www.ebstarwars.com</a></td>
<td>Meets the second Friday of every month. 7:30 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fantastic Frontiers</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/">www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/</a></td>
<td>Social club for Sacramento County sci fi/fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times and locations. Midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No-Name Anime</strong></td>
<td>Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue Saratoga <a href="http://www.nnanime.com">www.nnanime.com</a></td>
<td>Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SF Browncoats</strong></td>
<td>Cafe Murano, 1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco <a href="http://www.sfbrowncoats.com">www.sfbrowncoats.com</a></td>
<td>SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month. Noon Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club</strong></td>
<td>Borderlands Books, 866 Valencia, San Francisco <a href="http://www.borderlands-books.com">www.borderlands-books.com</a></td>
<td>Meets the third Sunday of the month. Please contact Jude at <a href="mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com">jfeldman@borderlands-books.com</a> for more information. 6 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sci-Fi and Fantasy Book Club</strong></td>
<td>Clayton Books, 5433 D Clayton Road, Clayton <a href="http://www.claytonbookshop.com">www.claytonbookshop.com</a></td>
<td>Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month. 7:30 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USS Defiance</strong></td>
<td>5026 Don Julio Blvd, Sacramento 1566 Howe Ave, Sacramento <a href="http://www.myspace.com/d2121978">www.myspace.com/d2121978</a></td>
<td>Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month. 7 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Micro Gods, Inc.
Berkeley Public Library, West Branch
1125 University Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyClub/
Family Club for fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Movie, Anime & Manga. Meets every 3rd Saturday, please check Yahoo group for updates.
2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free

### USS Northern Lights
Contact firstjedi2000@yahoo.com for specifics.
sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights
'Lights is a chapter of Starfleet International and a swell group of science fiction fans. We do more than Trek. Usually meets the third Saturday of the month, with social event TBD.
7 p.m. Free

### Religion & SF Book Club
First United Methodist Church
1183 “B” Street, Hayward
Meets the 4th Sunday of the month. Please contact Rev. Randy Smith at RSmith2678@aol.com for more information.
7 p.m. Free

### Other Realms Book Club
Books, Inc.
1375 Burlingame Ave, Burlingame
www.booksinc.net/localinterest/291027
Meets the 4th Wednesday of the Month.
6:30 p.m. Free

### Legion of Rassilon
Carl’s Jr.
2551 N 1st St, San Jose
www.legionofrassilon.org
Doctor Who fan group usually meets the fourth Friday of the month: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies, and a raffle.
7:30 p.m. Free

### USS Augusta Ada
Round Table Pizza
3567 Geary Blvd, San Francisco
trek.starshine.org
Augusta Ada is both a chapter of Starfleet International and a Linux and *BSD user group. Usually meets the fourth Saturday of every month.
1 p.m. Free

### Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE
Round Table Pizza
4403 Elkhorn Blvd, Sacramento
916-338-2300
Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.
6 p.m. Free
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MGI SFF/H Writing</td>
<td>BASFA Dukefish</td>
<td>MGI Boffers</td>
<td>BA Role-Playing Soc E.Bay Strategy Games Fanboy Planet Podcast SV Boardgamers</td>
<td>FyDy SyFy SF Games</td>
<td>Ball of Justice: Pulp Fiction Dance Party WonderCon (thru Sun) The Last Unicorn Uncensored (thru Sun)</td>
<td>La Legion Fantastique: Steampunk Ball Silicon Browncoats Rocky Horror</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sakuramento Anime</td>
<td>SV Boardgamers</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>SF&amp;F Writers’ Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foothill Anime</td>
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<td>Fantastic Frontiers No-Name Anime SF Browncoats</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>Thrillville</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>SF&amp;F Writers’ Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>SF/F Book Club</td>
<td>Clayton SF&amp;F Book Club</td>
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<td>Robogames (thru Sun) Legion of Rassilon</td>
<td>Peter Beagle’s 71st Birthday Party USS Augusta Ada Veritech Fighter Cmd 13</td>
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<td>24</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>One Book One Marin VIP Reception Other Realms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aqua Teen Hunger Force Live! Religion &amp; SF</td>
<td>Peter Pan (thru July 29)</td>
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<td>The Courts of Faerie Ball</td>
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