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Cover Sweet Ride by Lucy Huntzinger

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Here we are at the end of another year, another decade. For us here at the zine there have been some changes; one year ago it was up in the air if we’d even be bringing you another 12 months of issues, but I’m glad to say we did and that 2010 included some of our best-to-date or at the very least some of our prettiest.

In addition to our regular and irregular contributors, I’m also happy to note we also had some new ones such as Pat Yulo and Chris Erickson. I am going to try over the next year to bring in even more new folks, since this will be an extremely busy time for the Bay Area fannish calendar of events and a great opportunity to expand our horizons and coverage.

So what will 2011 bring for Bay Area fandom? Well, the omens are pretty spectacular so far: a lunar eclipse during Winter Solstice, torrential rains and a new Chris Garcia zine pubbed all just in the past 24 hours. But my guess is that 2011 is going to be fantastic for Bay Area fandom, a Worldcon Reno means all the fun and none of the work for most of us and I for one cannot wait.

Speaking of which, the TAFF race is underway. John Coxon seems to be the Bay Area favorite, with the Garcia Machine backing him, and certainly I would be glad to cast my vote his way, even though the deluded fool does hate trains. But there are four other candidates in the running, making this the biggest TAFF race since ’93, so it will be interesting to see how that turns out.

In the meantime, I’m excited to see that BayCon has chosen John Picacio as their Artist GOH. I’m a big fan of his work, and am hoping that Reno is his year to walk away with the Best Artist Hugo, although we will of course have to see who ends up on the ballot.

As for the Hugos, well by the time you read this it will soon be January, with three short months to submit nominations. As always, I encourage anyone who can to participate. Last year was the biggest year for nominations and votes and I think that is fantastic but it was still a fraction of those eligible. There are an increasing number of resources to help those interested in participating: the Live Journal community “hugo_recommend” is a great resource and I hope to transfer the tags used there to Pinboard, on Twitter there was some hashtag activity last year and I’ve already seen some people tagging notes on Facebook in an effort at book-sharing to read as many likely eligible books as they can in time to nominate. I haven’t checked LibraryThing or Goodreads yet, but I would imagine they will come in handy as well.

Of course, between travel and the holidays I have been reading the same book for the past two months, so I am feeling woefully unprepared this time. Funny how that works out. I should have more time than ever to do things but somehow it does have a way of slipping right through your grasp. And before you know it, there’s the sun setting on the shortest day of Winter and a whole new year ahead of you.

Happy Holidays and see you on the other side!
My Year in Conventions

By Jean Martin
Editor-in-Chief

This year was an unusual one for me as far as conventions go. I only usually go to Bay Area conventions and that remained the same this year. However, the timing was such that most of them occurred within the space of a few months earlier in the year. And I thought that would have been it for me for the rest of the year (due to convention burnout as well as the cancelation of SiliCon until next year) until I was encouraged to go to SorcererCon in November.

Since the Nova Albion Steampunk Exhibition, WonderCon and BayCon happened in rapid succession in March, April and May, along with various other professional and personal changes around the same time, I have been unable to report on these until now. So I’ve decided to do one big retrospective on all the conventions I went to in 2010.

Nova Albion Steampunk Exhibition
March 12-14, 2010
Hilton Garden Inn, Emeryville
The convention season started a little bit later than usual due to WonderCon being moved to April for the second year in a row. So the first convention I went to was Nova Albion, which is the second one produced by Ariane Wolfe and company. The first one was around Halloween in 2008 at the Domain Hotel in Sunnyvale. That one was a small con but a lot of fun. This year’s was a lot bigger with more people, panels and activities. The dealer room, which was great the first time around, was even better this time. There were a lot of gorgeous costumes and props as well as books.

What’s great about the whole Steampunk movement is that members really get into costuming. At this con, almost everyone was in costume of various styles and it was a visual treat seeing an array of colors and embellishments. Some people complain that Steampunk is mostly about fashion. But they forget that there’s also the whole D-I-Y component that’s very inspiring because you see a lot of different kinds of creations by very talented people. It’s an artistic, technical and participatory outlet for the common folk that’s rare in this age of assembly line production and commercialized entertainment. Then there’s the interest in Steampunk as an alternate reality complete with its own history, science, art and community. Thus, almost all of the panels were very well attended, which isn’t the case at most conventions. I know because I’ve been a panelist at a few cons and the four I was in at Nova Albion were packed.

I was actually a bit nervous going into the panels because having to do four was a lot and I had to prepare for them. And there was also the fact that I was in panels with well-known experts in the field. I was in costuming and writing panels as well as a general Steampunk panel. I thought I did well in all of them and several people actually came up to me later and complimented me on something I’d said. I’m glad I was in panels as it made me feel like I was part of the convention and
the Steampunk movement, and I also felt like I was able to make a contribution to the community. I got to meet a lot of nice and interesting local folks (Gene Forrer who runs the Bay Area Steampunk Society) as well as some from other parts of the U.S. (Liz Gorinsky, editor at Tor… well, I technically met her at last year’s World Fantasy Convention) and even from other countries (Mike Perschon, the Steampunk Scholar, from Canada).

Chris Garcia was in one of the panels I was in and he was as entertaining as ever. He now edits a Steampunk zine called the Steampunk Empire. But he did publicly say that he still wanted to contribute to SF/SF even though he’s stepped down as Editor.

While panels are work, for fun there were the parties and dances. And the Steampunk community is into both. On Friday night, there was a vintage dance ball where PEERS head honchos Cathleen and James Myers taught and called the dances. It was great to see my vintage dance friends and acquaintances there. And it was even better to see scifi/fantasy people getting into dancing. There was also a performance by Le Can Can Bijou and Brass Farthing who perform at Dickens Fair.

A costume contest was scheduled later in the evening. The theme was Girl Genius. But I couldn’t stay for it even though I was wearing a very good rendition of Agatha Heterodyne. I wore it more in honor of Phil and Kaja Foglio who were guests of honor at the convention.

After the first set, I left the ballroom at the top floor of the hotel with a great view of the Bay from the floor-to-ceiling windows. This was because España and I, whose birthdays fall within a week of each other, decided to hold a joint celebration. When I got back to my hotel room, I was in awe of España’s decorations, which she did while I was at the ball. Our theme was H.G. Wells’ the Time Machine and she had Victorian tablecloths, clocks and other paraphernalia. España
also took care of the drinks. I brought food and our cake, which had a big clock on it.

My hotel roommate Nichoel wore a maidbot costume to complement my Agatha costume and she helped out a lot with preparing for the party as well as serving and entertaining the guests. After she and I had photos together, I changed into an Eloi costume worn by one of the extras in the recent movie version of the *Time Machine*. While I didn’t like this version as much as the classic one, it was a thrill to wear an authentic costume piece from a movie, which I coincidentally was offered to purchase right after España and I decided on the theme.

A lot of my friends showed up and we were the liveliest and best party of the evening. Even the Foglios showed up for a bit. Later in the evening, Nichoel started a limbo contest, which proved to be popular and hilarious.

On Saturday, after two panels on the top floor where the ball was held the night before, I explored the dealer room, which was small but packed with amazing creations for sale. The St. Clair Aeronauts had a booth where they set up a mail delivery system to anyone at the con.

In the evening was the DJ dance. I missed some performances but I did get to see the debut of Dark Garden Corsetry’s Dolly Mop line. This line, created by Kalico De La Fey, looks more Steampunk and fit the spirit of the convention. It was quite an impressive fashion show with lots of models in different outfits moving around with incredible precision to really good music. It was a little too dark to take pictures but less light created more of a mood to match the choreography and costumes.

There were a lot of us gals who danced by ourselves to the goth, industrial and modern music supplied by DJs Anders and Neshamah. One highlight of the dance was when Neshamah played Orbital’s *Doctor Who* song and Christopher, in a fourth Doctor outfit, danced to it. We all just went around him and cheered him on.
During one of the times I took a break from dancing, I explored the party floor and there were some parties but they weren’t as lively as our birthday party. I also took a look at the room next to the ballroom that had several Steampunk creations including a guitar, time machine, weapons and the like.

On Sunday, I had two panels on the top floor again and then it was time to say goodbye to friends. I didn’t want to go home as I had such a great time. It was an incredibly varied and amazing con. But there weren’t that many people left anyway and I still had a long drive home. This was my first convention in the East Bay, which was a great venue, but much farther and a bridge away from where I live.

**WonderCon**
April 2-4, 2010
Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco

I’ve been attending WonderCon for several years now and I always find it too crowded and overwhelming but a lot of fun nevertheless. It’s more of a media con at this point and does not have the same feeling of community that I get from smaller scifi and genre cons. So I go to it having different expectations. It’s more about meeting or seeing celebrities and comic book artists. But I do manage to see friends in the midst of all the chaos.

For the first time at WonderCon, I was asked to be in two panels. Not just be in them, though, but moderating them. I was both excited and honored because they were for panels I was really interested in. Also, this is another con that people actually go to panels and not just the big hall ones with the celebrities. I’ve never actually myself gone to a WonderCon panel and I was quite happy with how the two panels I moderated turned out.

Both panels also coincidentally were in the same room but on different days. One was on Saturday and the other on Sunday. The first one was an interview with guest of honor Sally Norton and her Steampunk Jewelry by Jean Martin.
author, Tim Powers. I met Tim before at BayCon and I found him very friendly. A lot of people I know admire his writing and are big fans of his. I had never read any of his novels and so I amended that oversight quickly. I read the *Anubis Gates*, which has won several awards. It has Egyptian mythology, Regency history, time travel and fantasy—four of my favorite topics and so I enjoyed it very much. I did a lot of research on Tim and his other works. And so I was prepared with some insightful questions. Tim answered my questions well and he went off on funny and entertaining tangents. He’s a great speaker as well as a great writer. He talked about Disney optioning the rights to his novel *On Stranger Tides* for the next *Pirates of the Caribbean* movie. After the panel, lots of people asked for his autograph and I had him sign my *Anubis Gates* book too. He took time to draw one of the main characters in the novel in addition to signing it.

My second panel was a *Firefly* costuming panel, which originally would have featured costume designer Shawna Trpcic. She couldn’t make it at the last minute and so I asked four of my costumer friends to round out the panel. I also asked Ray Hill to bring some of Shawna’s costumes from his collection to add to the one that I bought from her from the episode “Heart of Gold.” The room was packed, which I was surprised at. But then again, I should have expected the Browncoats to rally around something like this. The panel went really well and I had enough good questions to keep it going. Each panelist had a different take on costuming so it made it even more interesting. It was actually a lot of fun. And by happy coincidence, the four costumer friends I picked (Cordelia, Radar, Bryan and Mette) happened to be in the first and second place winning entries at the masquerade competition the night before.
The masquerade on Saturday night was a lot of fun. The last time I was in it was for a Firefly entry in 2006 and we won Best Presentation. I have this trophy at a prominent place at home. This time, our group (led by Cordelia Willis) won Judge’s Choice, which I was told is basically second place. There was no Best Presentation trophy award this time around for some reason. Our entry was based on the Mystery Men movie to the tune of “Score Tonight” from the movie Grease 2 (which was one of my favorite movies when I was in high school). I played the Sphinx and we had lots of bowlers in addition to the main characters. It was a fun dance routine and we enjoyed performing it. Part of the fun of doing something like this, though, is the rehearsing and creating our costumes together beforehand. Winning something is just icing on the cake. I wasn’t sure if we’d win anything as there were a lot of great entries. So I was surprised, and happy, that we won one of the few trophy/main awards. Our friends Mette and Bryan’s Doctor Who group won Best in Show. Their costumes were incredible and their skit was funny and got a lot of audience reaction. Christopher played Doctor Who and España was one of the Vashta Nerada.

After the masquerade, some of us went to party in Mette and Bryan’s hotel room at the Marriott. Radar, one of our bowlers, was my hotel roommate and we were a couple of floors down and so were well-situated to join in on the celebration. We enjoyed the party but went to bed early as I had a panel and we had to check out the next day. This was my first time at the Marriott and it’s a nice hotel. But $25 a day for parking is a bit much!

Other than the masquerade, I didn’t wear any costumes. At a big convention like this, I don’t find it comfortable wearing costumes. Especially if the convention is not at the same place...
as the hotel. I like to be able to roam the halls in regular clothes, which allows me to take photos as well as not be stopped for photos. I think it looks more professional as well in my capacity as a journalist and this time as moderator.

On Saturday, I attended two back-to-back press conferences. The first one was *Prince of Persia* with Jake Gyllenhaal, who looked much better and more charming in person. The second one was the *Sorcerer’s Apprentice* with Nicholas Cage. Jerry Bruckheimer is the producer for both so he was in both press conferences. It was quite a thrill to be sitting across the table from these well-known celebrities. I also enjoyed meeting other journalists from the area and from out-of-town.

I did get to meet some celebrities whose shows and characters I like. There were Brent Spiner (Data) and Marina Sirtis (Counselor Troi) from *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Seems like *Star Trek* was the big one for me this year while it was *Star Wars* last year when I met Mark Hamill and Carrie Fisher. There was also Erin Gray from Buck Rogers in the 25th Century and Aaron Douglas from the new Battlestar Galactica. And last but not the least, Lindsay Wagner, the Bionic Woman. I enjoyed a long talk with her. I walked past her table and wasn’t really going to stop but she smiled and had such a warm, welcoming energy I just had to talk with her. She and I discussed our own personal journeys and spirituality. We had a lot in common to share with each other. She now runs holistic and meditation workshops and seminars.

The dealer hall at WonderCon is pretty huge and quite overwhelming. But as I’m not really into comics much anymore, I just whiz by a lot of the stores and displays. What I like looking at, though, is the artwork. This time I got to meet artist Jason Palmer who does a lot of fine art based on popular
scifi shows such as Firefly. I bought one of his popular Firefly cast paintings and I was admiring one of his Selene (from Underworld) prints and he just gave that one to me for free. I also like greeting friends at the fan tables. The Browncoats and Rebel Legion have booths opposite each other so it makes it convenient for me to visit both at the same time.

This year, there were booths for novelists as well. There was one for the Dune novels, which I don’t think has ever been at Wondercon before. I got to meet the relatives of Frank and Brian Herbert. They were very nice and friendly. I love the Dune universe and have read all the originals as well as the prequels. Reading these novels is like revisiting family and so it was great to meet the real Herbert family. Peter S. Beagle, author of the Last Unicorn, had a really nice booth too. I was surprised that he remembered me from when I met him at BayCon last year. He’s a very nice man. I recently just read the Last Unicorn and liked it very much. I enjoyed it more than the animated version, which I saw a long time ago.

WonderCon this year was the best one I’ve ever been to and was quite memorable with a lot of peak experiences. Now how do I top this one next year?!!?

BayCon
May 28-31, 2010
Hyatt Regency, Santa Clara

After conventions in the East Bay and San Francisco, it was back to the South Bay for BayCon. BayCon was really different for me this year as well. This was the first time I actually worked at this con. I’ve always thought of BayCon as my fun and no work con. It’s the first fandom con I’d ever been to and I’ve always paid to go to it. I was added last minute into a Steampunk costuming panel last year but my name wasn’t in the program book and I didn’t get a comp registration. This year, I was in a couple of panels and ran the Fanzine Lounge as Chris Garcia was busy doing something else.

Another difference was that I was not in the masquerade competition. I’ve been in the BayCon masquerade with my group of friends (led by Cordelia Willis) since 2006 and we’ve always won an award. Our biggest success was in 2007 for our 11 Princess Leias song and dance routine that bagged the Best in Show for both Presentation and Workmanship. There was no true masquerade competition at BayCon this year… it was more of a costume contest. None of my masquerade friends competed or even attended BayCon this time around.

This year, there was also no visible Browncoat presence. I’ve always enjoyed the Browncoat parties and just hanging
out with the Browncoats. It was strange not having them around. Other than Thad and Johnny who threw a *Lost* party one evening, I didn’t see any other Browncoats.

At least my regular con friends were there. And this time, for the first time ever, I attended the con with a significant other. It worked out really well as far as the two of us doing the things we wanted to do together and doing our own individual things. He even went to Fanime during the day, which enabled me to concentrate on running the Fanzine Lounge then.

I was asked last minute to run the Fanzine Lounge and I’ve noticed in the past that the Lounge was much livelier in the evening when it became more of a party room. And so I wanted to run it in pretty much the same way that Chris Garcia had done, which meant having AM and PM shifts. Chris graciously lent me his enormous fanzine collection, which I arranged a little bit differently. I thought of putting the table in the middle of the room so that the fanzines were more of the focal point and I just put them on the table haphazardly to encourage browsing. I made sure to put a sign that the fanzines were for reading only and not for taking. Some of them were collectors’ items. The new layout worked quite well as it also helped direct the flow of traffic around the room. And people actually picked up fanzines to read. The food and drinks were situated at the back end of the room next to the windows so they were out of the way and not near the fanzines as I didn’t want them to get wet or dirty.

España agreed to help run the Lounge with me. She’s more experienced in these matters and so she was invaluable. She even came up with the “Adventures” theme for our Lounge and provided the décor. I asked Pat Yulo to co-sponsor the Lounge as well and she was more than happy to do so in exchange for promoting her Geek Fight (now called Geeks vs. Geeks) quiz show. The three of us provided the food and drinks for the Lounge. Jason Schachat helped out at night with
manning the Lounge while España and I roamed the party floor and checked out the dancing in the ballroom. I arranged times during the day for people to staff the Lounge as well and my friend Stephanie volunteered for a few time slots. It was really quiet during the day though. During the evening, our room was packed with people. We were on the party floor and we were the first room that people see as they enter the hallway. In fact, we pretty much were the last party standing each night. The Klingons got cleaned out of drinks early on Friday and Saturday and so they by midnight on both nights. There were a lot of other parties but nothing stood out to me as too memorable unlike past BayCons.

I just met Pat at BayCon last year and she was relatively new to the convention scene. Now she’s a big part of fandom and even ran Geek Fight at BayCon. I’d only seen Geek Fight once a few weeks beforehand and I helped out with scoring because I’m terrible with trivia games. At BayCon, she had Andre and Jeremy as helpers and so I just watched. The room
was full of people and it was a lot of fun to see the teams compete in several categories. The questions were interesting and some were quite difficult. Pat is an entertaining host and kept the show going at a good pace. Christopher wrote the questions and hosted the *Doctor Who* category and so he did not join any of the teams either. Watching was just as much fun though.

As I mentioned, I was in two panels. One on social networking and another on paranormal romance. The social networking one was fun and interesting with a lot of audience participation. Leigh Ann and Jade were in the panel with me and all the panelists had different philosophies on social networking. Personally, I was on the extreme end of the scale where I think of everyone as a “friend” and include as many people as I can (that I’ve at least met or know of) in my network. I use Facebook to keep in touch with people, catch up with them and invite them to events I think they would be interested in. I also use it to keep tabs on what’s going on and as an event planning tool for myself. I have a lot of online friends who some people in the panel in the audience would consider acquaintances. I know who my friends are in the real world and I am discerning in what I divulge to the public versus the more private things I say to my “real friends.” But in general, I’m a very open person as I like others to be more open with me too. So the panelists were scattered all over the spectrum with someone on the other end having only a handful of Facebook friends who are also his “real friends.”

The panel on paranormal romance was a little bit more serious. I was glad to see my friend Kathe Gust as one of the panelists. Fantasy author ElizaBeth Gilligan was in the panel as well. I’ve had one of her books on my shelf at work for a few years courtesy of Jean Martin.
while but haven’t had time to read it. So meeting her reminded me that I need to read that sometime. I surprisingly had a lot to say because I’ve written short stories like this before and have studied the romance novel market. I still want to write a romance novel someday with some fantasy and/or scifi elements. Talk inevitably turned to *Twilight* and *True Blood*. I’ve read the first book in the *Twilight* series and didn’t like it. But I’ve enjoyed the two movie adaptations. I’ve seen a few episodes of *True Blood* and didn’t like them at all. So I probably won’t read the books.

I didn’t stay at the hotel this time around but I was able to stash costumes in the Fanzine Lounge’s bathroom. So I was able to do several costumes during the entire run of the con. Friday night was an unofficial zombie night at the bar. I didn’t keep my zombie prom costume from last year’s BayCon masquerade, and as I’m really not that into zombies, I came as a vampire instead. There was a BBC show called *Demons*, which wasn’t all that great, but the costumes were. So I adapted one of the costumes worn by the vampire Anika… a Chinese dress with a Steampunk collar, top hat and boots. I heard of a *Kill Bill* photo shoot in Facebook through Cindy Lu and I asked her if their group needed an Oren Ishii as I made one to wear at BayCon a few years ago. They had the Bride, Gogo Yubari and lots of Crazy 88s but no Oren. So they were happy to have me join in. The photo shoot with photographer RJ Johnson was a lot of fun and our big group created quite a commotion. Lots of people walking by snapped photos of us as well. I coordinated costumes with Christopher one night when he did his Rorschach costume and I wore my Silk Spectre/Sally Jupiter getup. Coincidentally, Julie, who ran the Con Suite across the hall from the Fanzine Lounge, was wearing the same costume as myself and so we had to have photos of the two of us taken. I coordinated with Debbie, Stephanie and Johny to do Battlestar Galactica costumes one night and Anders and Vienna joined us because they were
wearing costumes from the show too. There were a lot of great costumes that I took photos of as well. Cindy and her friends always have great coordinated group costumes. They did their usual themed corset parade and another as cross-dressed *League of Extraordinary Gentlemen* characters.

As I said earlier, instead of a masquerade competition, there was a costume contest with no skits or performances. There weren’t that many entries either and so it went really fast. In fact, it was already over by the time I got to the ballroom. Some people liked this new arrangement but I personally prefer the masquerade. I like entertaining in costume with song and dance routines and I like watching these performances too. The one good thing about the costume contest, though, is that it encouraged newbies to join in because they weren’t as intimidated about competing with experienced people who’ve done masquerades before and who put in a lot of time and effort preparing a routine. So this time, it was more about the costumes. It was good to see new blood and a lot of them were very good. I did get to see the awards ceremony and my friend Pat won as Best Novice for her Mina Harker traveling outfit.

Other entertainments at the con were the dance with DJ Neshamah. There weren’t a lot of people late in the evening but it was mostly friends and we had a great time. I got to see a little bit of the band Avalon Rising performing as well. And, of course, I went to the Regency dances on Friday and Sunday nights. Regency dance is what got me to BayCon the first time around and I love this form of dance the best.

One downside during the long holiday weekend, though, was the fire alarms on Saturday night. There were three in a row and we had to evacuate each time. It was annoying as it broke the rhythm of the parties. Everyone also had to stay behind closed doors in the Fanzine Lounge and party room for a medical emergency. While we were all concerned about the
lady involved, we thought quarantining us for a long time was too much as the paramedics didn’t arrive right away anyway.

After one of the fire alarms, I decided to stop by the Klingon Slave Auction as it was on my way up to the party floor. I told Alex, the auctioneer, earlier that I didn’t want to be auctioned as I was busy and I’ve done it once and that was enough for me. But when he saw me, he asked me to model up on the auction block, and I happily obliged.

Monday was basically cleanup time at the Fanzine Lounge. I would consider running the Fanzine Lounge again, if asked. I didn’t get to roam as much as I normally do, but with the help of lots of people, I got to do some of the things I wanted to do. And there were a lot of upsides to running the Lounge too.

All in all, it was a different but good BayCon. I’m wondering what’s in store for me at this con next year.

SorcererCon
November 26-28, 2010
St. Claire Hotel, San Jose

I’d heard about SorcerCon when they had a table at SiliCon a couple of years ago. I spoke to the organizer, Craige Howlett, and I was hoping to check it out when they had their first convention at the San Jose Doubletree last year. Alas, I was busy and unable to do so. People told me afterwards that it was a very small but good con.

This year, it was held the day after Thanksgiving up to Sunday. Again, it was a busy time for me and I was hoping to go to Dickens Fair. But my boyfriend wanted to go at least one day and I was thinking I should probably take a look at this new con in our area. Also, it was about fantasy as opposed to all the other conventions, which focus more on science fiction or comics. I’m a big fantasy fan as well. Lastly, it seemed like (from talking with people at Radar and Sara’s Halloween party) most of the people involved in the con or going to the con were fellow con friends. So we decided to go on Saturday.

Saturday arrived and it was a rainy and cold day. I tend to like to just stay home and hibernate on days such as these but Christopher really wanted to go. We had a really slow start, though, and didn’t get to the hotel until around 5:00 p.m. We still had to pay for the entire day but I guess it was our fault we were late. We both generally like to just hang out and party anyway, and so we figured the rest of the evening was still in store for us. We also got a high-quality program and a free small tote bag.
I’ve seen the St. Clair Hotel before, it’s a beautiful, old-style hotel next to the main plaza in downtown San Jose, but I’ve never been inside it. It was even more gorgeous inside. With the Christmas lights and decoration, it felt warm, cozy and inviting. An Il Fornaio restaurant is on the first floor visible from the sidewalk. As we walked past, we saw Ken and Gerry from the Legion of Rassilon. We went in to say hello. We then ran into Kevin, Andy, Mette, Bryan, JohnO and Chris in the hotel lobby. They were also already on their way out for dinner. We saw some other people we knew but we wanted to check out the dealer room before it closed.

The dealer room was small, just one function room. In the hallway were a couple of autograph tables for the guests of honor. There was one for Bill Blair who played a lot of roles in scifi shows such as *Star Trek*. Unfortunately, none of the guests were at their tables then. So we went around the dealer room, which took all of five minutes. The art show was also in the dealer room.

After browsing, I stopped to chat with Kevin Standlee who was manning the Westercon 64 table. Westercon will be in San Jose next year. I was asked to run Hospitality for that con but I decided that it would just be too much for me because I already have a full plate of activities and events. I would like to check it out though. Kevin also had information on other cons that will be in the general vicinity next year as well such as Corflu (for fanzines; in Sunnyvale) and Renovation (Worldcon in Reno).

I also talked for a bit with Dave who was in his wife’s booth Springtime Creations. Spring has a lot of great jewelry including some *Doctor Who*-themed pieces. I bought a beautiful moonstone poison ring from her. Dave showed me some photos from their recent trip to New Zealand for Au Contraire! They went to Aussiecon (Worldcon in Melbourne) as well but he didn’t have those photos with him. He invited Christopher and me to dinner with them at Il Fornaio at 8:00 p.m. We originally agreed but then found out that the costume show was at the same time. We promised Radar, who was running the show that we were going to be a part of it.

So we went to Il Fornaio and had a delicious Italian dinner at 7:00 p.m. instead. But first, we walked past some panels that were still going. Mo Starkey was in charge of programming and we said hello to her in the dealer room. After dinner, we went to the atrium in the lobby where the costume show would be held. It was a very nice space for a show. There was a small stage at the front and there were
French windows surrounding the room. A lot of people were already sitting on the fancy portable chairs and a tempting spread of desserts, tea and coffee was off to one side.

We saw more people there that we knew and some who looked familiar. Most of the people we knew were from the Legion of Rassilon *Doctor Who* group and others who live in the South Bay. I got to re-introduce myself to Craige and met his wife Corrinne. I also ran into writer, dancer and musician Cliff Winnig who said he was in one of the panels earlier that day. Costumer Carole and her husband Bill were also there.

The costume show was small but a lot of fun. Since there weren’t that many entries, it became a show instead of a contest. There was an Alice in Wonderland and Miss Muffet. Sara and Mary did a Catwoman and Steampunk dog skit. Christopher and I did an impromptu skit involving casting spells. He and I were in Ravenclaw costumes from *Harry Potter*. I did a light spell, which drew cheers and claps, and Christopher did a food disappearing spell, which involved eating a cookie and drew laughter from the audience. And boy, those cookies and cakes from Il Fornaio were wonderful. Mette and Bryan closed the show with their funny skit involving characters from *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou*.

After the costume show, we all went to the party room, which was actually two connecting rooms. One was decorated as a fairy tale castle and the other as an enchanted forest. It was fun party but it was too crowded and there weren’t that many people to talk to after a while. Also, I was tired and just wanted to sleep. So Christopher and I left at midnight. Which I guess is Cinderella time and appropriate for a fantasy convention.

Before we left, though, we ran into Mette and Bryan in the lobby. We took photos of each other in front of the beautiful Christmas tree. Then it was time to leave fantasyland for dreamland.
A picture is worth a thousand words as they say. And so, after writing a long convention retrospective for the entire year, I thought to balance this issue out more with a photo essay (with short introductions) of events during the year that I thought were special and interesting. Most of them would be more appreciated visually anyway as all of them involved costuming. As usual, these balls, fairs, picnics and even a film shoot took me all over the Bay Area. And they range in theme from fantasy to historical to scifi.

**Star Trek Film Shoot**

3/15/10
The Tech Museum, San Jose

I received an email from one of my *Star Trek* friends saying that there would be a promo film shoot at the Tech Museum’s
Star Trek exhibit. So I immediately contacted the producer, Romeo Durscher, and Christopher and I both wound up going. When we got there, we were surprised but happy to see our Klingon friends there as well as Kevin who apparently has a lot of real Star Trek costumes that he was lending out to the actors and extras. There were Hollywood people there including the other producer Mark Johnson, director Tim Hyten and the star of the show Tim Abell. I also met a lot of great people from the area and from L.A. and I’m glad to still be in touch with some of them.

Already tired after three days of the Nova Albion Steampunk convention and a full day of work, I don’t know how I made it through 12 hours of being on the set. I went straight to work the next day too. Most of the time I was waiting, though, as the scene I was going to be in was shot last and lasted only about five minutes. The fun part while waiting, though, was having free run of the exhibit. Normally, photos were not allowed, but during that time, Christopher and I were able to go everywhere and take photos. Robert even took the opportunity to shoot his own film on the bridge of the Enterprise, and he asked me to be one of the people at the controls since I was wearing an Original Series blue uniform.

I was asked by Romeo to change into another outfit for the Next Generation scene I was going to be in, which took place in a hallway straight out of the TV show. Another Kevin brought a costume that Wesley Crusher (Wil Wheaton) wore on the holodeck, a silver lame ski suit that nobody else could fit into except me.
It was an exciting experience and now I’m happy to have been an extra in a scifi film to go along with the Regency one I did a few years ago. I haven’t seen the latter but have high hopes that I’ll get to see this *Star Trek* one someday.

**Steampunk Picnic and Computer History Museum Tour**  
8/27/10  
Rengstorff House and Computer History Museum, Mountain View

Gene Forrer, the leader of the newly formed Bay Area Steampunk Society, organized a Steampunk picnic at Shoreline Lake in Mountain View. We all met up at the park surrounding the lake and everyone was in excellent Steampunk attire. I was surprised to see a lot of members of the Sacramento Steampunk Society there whom I met at the Nova Albion Steampunk Exhibition. Ariane, who ran that exhibition, was at the picnic and so were some of my friends: Thad, Louise and Lisa.

After the recent PEERS Jane Austen picnic in Alameda where I felt like my picnic spread did not come up to scratch with others who brought tables, table cloths, crystal glasses and porcelain teapots, I made more of an effort this time. A
trip to Goodwill yielded jewel-colored drapes and matching throw pillows that we could sit on. I also found some crystal plates and cups to go along with the scones, cucumber sandwiches and tea that I prepared.

After the picnic, my friends and I took photos around the grounds of Rengstorff house, a beautiful white Victorian that I’ve meant to explore for a while now. We couldn’t go inside but the façade of the building made for a good backdrop for photos of our Steampunk costumes.

Then we went to the nearby Computer History Museum (CHM) where we watched a Babbage Engine lecture and demonstration. There were a lot of people there in addition to our group. CHM Curator and former SF/SF editor Chris Garcia was there and he told me that Steve Russell, inventor of the first computer game Spacewar, was the man cranking the Engine. Chris then gave me, Christopher and Lisa a quick tour of his office in the storage room, which used to be an open exhibit. We felt privileged to see the behind the scenes of the CHM, which was being renovated and only a small area was open to the public.
Ardenwood Shakespeare Festival
9/11/10
Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

The former Golden Gate Renaissance Faire in San Francisco, which I loved, moved to Ardenwood last year. I didn’t get to go then, but this year, they changed their theme to the First Annual Shakespeare Festival. The change in location also meant a change of scenery from a foggy, forest-like small area to a sunny, spread-out farm. It was way too hot at times during the day with no shade to speak of other than the trees next to the food vendors. So we spent most of our time there.

Christopher and I met up with my Filipino friends (Pat, PJ, Janine, Stephanie and Nedy) who we hung out with for the most part. But he and I also ran into several of our costuming, scifi and dance friends who were either there to work or just to have fun. We saw Maggie and Amy at the Queen’s tent. Her court was there as were musicians and dancers but the Queen wasn’t there that day, unfortunately. But one of the lords gave our captain Alex a Letter of Marque, legitimizing the Black Fleet Star Pirates Guild from pirates to buccaneers.

The place was grouped by type of entertainment, it seemed, and the guilds were all in one area. There were more guilds at this fair than I’ve seen at others. There were also different roleplayers there such as a Roman legion as well as courtesans with gorgeous outfits. There was also a demonstration of lancers and musketeers attacking in formation. I’ve never seen anything like this before. It was quite impressive. The vendors
were different as well and I found a nice belly dance outfit that I had to have as well as a tapestry bag.

Some friends of my PEERS friends were in Merry Pranksters and so we watched them for a while as they performed some English Country dances. I miss doing this type of dance and hope to do more in the future. We also saw Heidi near the food court and Anglena at the fencing area. Then Christopher and I ended the day riding a train around the farm.

I usually only go to the NorCal Ren Faire once a year because it’s located far away and a full day of faire is already way too exhausting for me. This time, though, I went twice with my boyfriend because he likes to go every weekend. The first time we went this year, we both wore regular Ren Faire garb. To make things more interesting the second time around, and to coordinate with a group of friends on Facebook who were going in more scifi/fantasy attire, Christopher and I went as the 11th Doctor and Amy Pond from Doctor Who.

On September 18th, we walked in as our friends Jade and Erik and their friends were going in as well. We were all dressed in Ren Faire outfits and so we made sure to get our photos taken before we all dispersed. Highlights on that day were being in the right spot as Queen Elizabeth’s parade arrived and went on stage for a show that I’ve never seen before. Shakespeare showed up to present Pyramus and Thisbe for the Queen. I also bought a straw hat with blue
ribbons to compliment what I was wearing that day from the hat lady who sells gorgeous hats. She now makes Steampunk hats too.

On October 3rd, we met up with Christopher’s friends Elena, Jean and Chad before we walked in. Later in the day, I hung out for a little bit with my sister and her son and her boyfriend. Christopher, as the 11th Doctor, introduced me to the Queen while she and some of her court were eating lunch. Of course, Queen Elizabeth and the Doctor know each other. We also got to watch the jousting and the belly dancing shows this time around. Lastly, I splurged on a new, more colorful Ren Faire outfit with the help of my friend Amy and a garland to go along with it from Christopher’s friend Promise.

With so much to do at such a big faire, going twice enabled me to see and do more and hang out with friends as well.
I'm not a big fan of the recent Tim Burton Alice in Wonderland movie but it at least made the story popular again. I do like the book and the Disney version and even had a birthday tea party using the theme almost three years ago. So it was nice to be able to do something like this again. But since I was going to a GBACG event, I had to have a better costume than the store-bought one I used for my party. My friend Pat lent me her White Queen costume and I wound up being the only one as that character at the picnic. Another lady, Camar, came as the Red Queen and we had fun posing together.
Christopher came as the Mad Hatter and there were a few other ones too. There were a lot of White Rabbits but surprisingly only one person came as Alice, Laura, who I was happy to find out is back from the East Coast. A lot of other GBACG friends were there and it seemed like I knew most everyone.

Several people brought their own picnic setups including tables and tents, which they said they used for the Gatsby picnic the weekend before. I brought my picnic stuff from the Babbage picnic and that worked out okay. I didn’t have to bring as much food this time since I knew that was going to be mostly taken care of. Phil and Kathe organized the picnic and they had a nice spread of drinks and food including themed cupcakes.

Phil and Kathe also scheduled readings from the book as well as games with prizes. They even had a croquet set with flamingoes on them. And, of course, we did not forget the GBACG tradition of attempting to get everyone for a group photo. There are always lots of amazing costumes that we need to remember everyone by.
PEERS Evil League of Evil Ball
10/2/10
San Mateo Masonic Lodge, San Mateo

I had no idea how popular Joss Whedon is in the vintage dance universe so I was surprised to see that the PEERS ELE Ball was completely packed. It was nice to see my scifi friends at PEERS and good to know that they enjoy dancing as much as costuming.

Christopher and I, along with Beth, were the official Doctor Horrible groupies for the evening. We wore t-shirts with Dr. Horrible on them. Emily played Penny and she went around asking people to sign a petition that had something to do with cats. And Sherman was the official Dr. Horrible. Emily and Sherman led the Grand March to start the ball and then Bad Horse came out and everyone laughed and cheered. No, Captain Hammer did not dare make an appearance at the ball.

Several other PEERS cast members and all of the abovementioned people did little improv skits and we also led the singalong during one of the intermissions. It proved to be really popular and lots of people knew the songs by heart. Barry Koron was the pianist for the singalong.

The band for the evening was the popular Celtic rock band Avalon Rising. The dancing was eclectic and fun. It was hilarious to see lots of villains dancing in one place. Radar made an impressive Dr. Horrible costume in red and Cristina...
also did a great effort in white. She even came with her own groupies who had her face on their t-shirts. The funniest (or saddest) villain of the evening was Cordelia’s Yoko Ono, the sexiest was a female Dalek, the most impressive were the Batman villains, and the most evil was Dr. Evil and Mini-Me. The official prize given by Kevin and Andy of the League of Evil Geniuses was to someone who led the Macarena during one of the Schottisches. The lucky winner now joins the League, which includes the Master and various other well-known evil geniuses.
By Christopher Erickson  
Staff Writer

When I thought about Halloween when I started costuming back in 2007, I figured it was just another night for people similar to me. We usually spend part of our free time and disposable income on awesome costumes, only for most people to scratch their heads about what some of them are. I took the view that most other people were doing amateur hour stuff such as walking cliché jokes (Barbie dolls and refrigerator magnets make you a “babe magnet”) or the $20 costumes that you could by at Spirit or Walgreen’s. You would see a few costumes that would actually be impressive in either use of material or the idea such as celebrity costumes.

While driving back from one party through downtown San Jose this year, I got to see some people out clubbing and Puss In Boots, Pinocchio and Fiona from Shrek cross right in front of us as well as seeing a Hit Girl from Kick Ass. There were some really cool costumes out that night. There were a large number of people who were actually in costume and the costumes looked amazing. At one of the bars that I went to, a large number of people showed up with some cool costumes including Katy Perry, Lara Croft, a man who did the Iron Man complete with repulsor gauntlets, Sherlock Holmes and Bruce Lee from Enter the Dragon. One of the coolest things that I saw this year was, while getting gas, there was a woman who had handmade her Rogue from X-Men costume and she was just going barhopping in San Francisco.
Looking back over the years that I have actually gone to places where non-costumers have congregated, there were several people that have put together very nice costumes, even if only for one specific night. Some of my favorites have been the costumes that were either parodies of celebrities or interesting costumes that I would never have thought of like dressing up as a sign waver for real estate.

Most of the costumes are still fairly low rent, but a good number of people are starting to spend a good amount of time just preparing to go out for a few beers and maybe sing a half-drunken karaoke version of “Don’t Stop Believing.” I was at Savers this year and there were several people shopping for clothing to make into costumes only three days before Halloween. I have also noticed a lot more use of body paint to create costumes like Medusa or Fiona.

Halloween has become something more than just the normally demure women deciding to wear the short-skirted costumes and act flirtatiously in a bar. A good number of people have been shopping or constructing their costumes to be able to show them off at the bars because that is where people mostly show up. Halloween is definitely a showcase for people to put their skills and thoughts into their costumes.
Thanksgiving at Loscon

By España Sheriff

Editor

Loscon this year felt less like a series of events following one after another in chronological order and more like distinct incidents connected mostly through a coincidence of persons or places. So, roughly in the order in which they happened, I present to you the events of my 2010 Thanksgiving holiday week, from the ride down to the train back.

The Rideshare: Found on Craigslist; one Rasta and his hella mellow companion dog Bella, fresh of a four-month hike off the Pacific Crest Trail. Chickpea sandwiches and a lot of reggae on the stereo.

Santa Monica: Blue skies and a walk on the beach for Thanksgiving Day. Margaritas and AbFab for the evening.

Bridging the Nerd Gap: Arriving in the hotel, I find Leo Schwab on his laptop in the lobby. Independently, Jason Schachat is also on his laptop in the lobby. The two are at different tables about 10 feet apart and have been so for at least an hour without noticing each other, bless their hearts.

The Friday Fan Editors Panel: It didn’t suck. Jason Schachat, Milt Stevens and myself plus an audience of about three or four people, but they’re lively and we get a good conversation going.

The Snuggies: Leigh Ann Hildebrand has procured Snuggies for the Life Day celebrations. Leo, Jason and I wear them down to dinner and get satisfyingly confused reactions from mundanes and fans alike. The moral; there is no activity so weird or nerdy that you can’t make it more so. By Sunday I am wearing the damned thing with no hint of irony and talking up its virtues to the skeptics, I am ashamed yet sincere. I think to myself: “This is how it starts.”

Life Day: Now the traditional way we celebrate the start of Loscon in the Fanzine Lounge PM, Life Day celebrations, start off on a low note, since Leigh Ann is down with food poisoning and therefore not her usual hostessy self. She joins the room for the screening of the Star Wars Holiday Special, we all wear our Snuggies and there is a little riffing and a little drinking of buttered eggnog. At some point I am running an errand and as I walk down the hallway, I pass a couple who has just checked out our room and continued on down the party hall. The woman leans into her companion and I am just in time to overhear her say sotto-voce, “I don’t know, they seemed a little culty?” I feel a weird sense of accomplishment. Finally, thank goodness, high-as-a-kite 1970s Carrie Fisher comes on the screen singing and clutching a Wookie for dear life and then the horrid thing is over.

The Fainting Fan: Friday evening progresses normally for little while after the Special and then a young couple enters the room. They’re chatting away when suddenly the young lady collapses mid-sentence as though a switch has been thrown. It is so sudden that most of us later comment how for a second we thought it was staged. But it quickly becomes apparent it’s for real. She recovers consciousness almost immediately but seems disoriented. The next half hour or so involves finding
someone to take a look at her. By the time that’s done Leigh Ann has retired to bed and I am ready for a wander.

*The Ambush:* I am kindly introduced to someone I have beef with. The subject of my beef is utterly unaware of said beef. Also, the person does not seem to remember meeting me on previous, beef-less, occasions. The whole thing is unintentionally yet hilariously awkward. Realizing the impossibility of addressing any of this I simply squirm and look for a graceful exit until Jason Schachat enters the room, assesses the situation and rather than rescuing me, documents the happy occasion photographically.

*The Incident:* Eternal shame, profuse apology. I am owed a dollar in quarters for not writing this one up.

*The ER:* Sometime around midnight, Leigh Ann realizes she is feeling no better and is in fact running a temperature and has not been able to eat anything in over a day. Her insurance provider tells her to go into the ER and provides a list of preferred hospitals, which includes Beverly Hills. We are confused by how far away the recommendations are and when the concierge writes down the address of the nearest ER, 10 minutes away, we go with that instead. And thus it is that Jason and I spend the next six hours at the Inglewood Centinela Hospital Medical Center waiting room while Leo visits with Leigh Ann as they give her fluids and medicine. The staff is lovely, but the waiting room television is tuned to a *Law & Order* Dead Babies marathon. Should you find yourself in the same situation, I’d say go with Beverly Hills.

*The Saturday SF and Public Perception Panel:* Rowdy. The moderator is far too gentle on us, but does make sure the audience gets to speak. The optimists generally agree we have won and it’s awesome, the pessimists are of the opinion that the increased popularity of the genre has ruined it forever. It gets loud but remains civil, except they all gang up on me an awful lot, and I can’t stop swearing. I blame it on sleep deprivation and caffeine. Also on my now apparently pathological foul-mouthedness.

*The Family Visit:* I spend Thanksgiving with my sister, but two of my brothers also live in the area. One of them, Raul, works just a few blocks from the LAX Marriott and we’ve grabbed lunch in the past while I was at a con. I call him in Thursday and there is some mention of how we should totally hang out. He decides to cut through the usual tedious planning phase this year and as Jason and I try to find some post-panel food I find I have two text messages, one from 1:30 p.m. saying he is on his way over, and one from 2:00 p.m. saying he is at the hotel and where am I? I find him and run off to the Westin to have lunch, since the LAX Marriot’s delightfully eccentric restaurant hours mean the only onsite choice is Champions, which I loathe. When we get back, I give him a tour of the convention space and art show and he spots a piece of dragon art he thinks will make a nice gift for his boss, I explain the bidding process and that I will call him Sunday if his was the winning bid.

*The 1 a.m. Scheme:* There’s always one of these, isn’t there? It could be awesome, but really if it pans out, all I get out of it is more deadlines… and the glory I guess. Which coincidentally, “Glory and Deadlines” is the name of my Rock Bottom Remainders tribute band.

*Second Dawn:* Happy shiny, holly jolly Fanzine Lounge goes well as far as I can tell. However, I am spending most of my time in John Hertz’s excellent party so Leigh Ann is mostly in charge of the Lounge. I eat, I drink, I am merry. I meet the bidder of a Utah Westercon and discuss doing a fanzine panel at Anime LA. Eventually, I see the dawn come
up for a second day in a row but this time I am much happier about it.

The Undead Dog or The Family Visit Continues: On Sunday, I pick up my own remaining art and the dragon picture for my brother. I let him know and he arrives just in time for dinner. We grab a table with Leigh Ann, Leo, Jason and the Fanzine Lounge’s Own Wendy Newton, newly arrived from Japan. As we wrap up our meal, word floats down that there will be no Dead Dog party this year (a first, to my knowledge). So the Lounge is to be the last man standing. I fuss and worry this will mean too many people in our room, but most folks seem to have headed off when they heard about Dead Dog. A few folks wander in for a few minutes before taking off, including Christian Maguire, Joyce Hooper and some other staff; but the evening consists mainly of the Lounge crew, my brother, John Hertz, and two or three other stalwarts. The discussion turns to theology (as it seems to in the Lounge, for some reason) and there is loud but luckily never quite violent, debate and argument till about 3:00 a.m. when we pack it in.

The Train Ride Home: I am mostly unconscious for this.
By Thad Gann
Staff Writer

Many years ago, when computers were first showing up in offices and university desks, one movie brought us inside the mystical world of computers. Deep inside, where the programs themselves lived. *Tron* showed us a glimpse of what life could be at the level of electrons. It changed our perceptions of computers and programs, made them more understandable and alive.

10 years passed, 20, almost 30. Computers became a part of our lives. They are everywhere, homes, cars, telephones, and we created programs that built entire worlds inside computer networks. And yet some still thought back to that first time. Then rumors started surfacing about a remake of this one great movie. Skeptics decried it, admirers spoke of it. And many were curious what it could be.

Then three years ago in San Diego, a germ of an idea was presented at Comic-Con. A year later they were back and showed more. Viral campaigns were forming. Then this last summer it was announced.

*Tron: Legacy* had finished filming and was being edited. It would be released this December. This was not the first announcement of the movie or the release. But this time they came to us and said “It is done. We are editing the final project. The music is written.”

For the past few months I have been watching this process unfold. It was like watching a flower that only blooms once a century. Slowly, inexorably making itself known.

On July 22\(^\text{nd}\) at Comic-Con, I was privileged to attend the press interview panel for the *TRON: Legacy*. Here are excerpts from the interview:

Q: (To the new actors) What was your first exposure to *Tron*?

Olivia Wilde: *Tron* came out two years before I was born. But it was always there... video games and this new retro thing and it was cool. And now we’ve made it cooler.
Garrett Hedlund: A friend sat me down to watch it and decided it was a trip. Especially at that point it was maybe 20 years old and it played so well.

Q: How was it like working to make this movie true to the original with making it look too retro or making the first look inferior. And how was it working in 3D?

Joseph Kosinski: We had a wonderful foundation to work with and I had a great time bringing in people from architecture, from the automotive industry, from outside the film business to put the world together. I didn’t want it to be artificial. I wanted it to feel like we went into a computer and shot it. And as far as 3D goes, the Pace Fusion camera system used in Avatar is a harder process, a more expensive process but the entire movie, including the digital sequences was developed for both eyes.

Q: (For Jeff Bridges) Not common for such a big gap between films in a franchise. What was your reaction when this first came to you that there was going to be a sequel?

Jeff Bridges: There have been rumors of a sequel for 20 years and I kind of gave up on it and then this script showed up. But they just put it on the back burner because they were not satisfied with the script and I’m so happy they did because they got the right script and got the right guy to be at the helm. Joe coming from an architecture background and knowing all the new tools was just great. And also, just like the first one, it tickled the kid in me.

Jumping to October, at a special pre-release party at the Metreon, director Joseph Kosinski gave us a better glimpse and more clues. The grassroots army still knew more that we did, but Sam Flynn’s motivation was hinted at. There were many more questions than he was willing to answer. Not surprisingly for a city in the middle of a World Series, the most often asked question was “What's the score?”

Joseph Kosinski was in town that evening because he had just wrapped the music in London and was doing the final mixing for the movie. Daft Punk, as many have heard, was part of the production from the beginning. They wrote an amazing soundtrack, which has been out for a few weeks now. Joseph was integrating that soundtrack and music by the London Philharmonic at Skywalker Ranch.
The pre-release party was one of the many places I met members of the “Flynn Lives” group. An astounding number of friends were part of the fan base. *Tron: Legacy* is as much about them and their spreading the word as anything else. The games they played kept the *Tron* name, and possibly Flynn himself, alive. Like cyber-coders and white hats, they spread the word of *Tron* and Flynn throughout the Net.

As a special treat, *Tron: Legacy* was shown in San Francisco several days before the opening. Though the Monday night showing was not in IMAX 3D, the people I talked to enjoyed it, and planned to see it again.

So does Flynn live? Will we ever enter the computer as he did? Time will tell. Right now I need to get my Flynn Arcade tokens and try my luck at the game.
The administrators of the TransAtlantic Fan Fund have great pleasure in announcing there are no fewer than four candidates for the 2011 westward TAFF journey, a trip which will include the 69th World Science Fiction Convention in Reno, Nevada, 17-21 August 2011.

The official ballot form is posted on the TAFF web site: taff.org.uk; additional distribution is encouraged, provided the text is reproduced verbatim. The race itself will run until 12 March 2011.

The candidates are:

**Graham Charnock:** “Vote for me. If you know me, you know why you should. If you don't know me visit my website www.cartiledgeworld.co.uk for biographical details and access to other craziness, which should persuade you. If I am elected I promise I will cut a swathe across North America like a rabid shrew released from a trap. I will party until my balls drop off and then glue them back on and party some more, and I will then report home in full widescreen hi-def detail. That is my solemn promise. Hey, it's what you want and it's what I do.” [Nominated by Harry Bell, Sandra Bond, Rich Coad, Mike Meara, Robert Lichtman]

**John Coxon:** “My name is John Coxon, and I got into fandom through being secretary of ZZ9 before editing a fanzine (Procrastinations). As well as winning ‘Best New Fan’ FAAn Award, I edited Eastercon LX’s newsletter, and my experience and enthusiasm will translate into my report and administration. Additionally, I’d like to experiment with other methods of reporting on my adventure. I’d love to show North America what makes British fandom brilliant and I think I’m the right person for the job! (As a bonus, I also promise to staple (hard copies of) my trip report, if someone will lend me a stapler.)” [Nominated by James Bacon, Claire Brialey, Chris Garcia, Dave Langford, Steve Stiles]

**Liam Proven:** “I'm Liam - no badge name. I've been an active fan since Conspiracy '87. I'm not partisan; I'm not a gamer, but I've been known to play. Not a fanzine fan, but pubbed a couple of ishes. Not a costumer, but dress up sometimes. Get on with almost everyone. Do the odd panel, moderate 'em even, and volunteer at cons. I write for a living, so I promise an entertaining and prompt conrep. Finally, since I'm self-employed in a hostile financial climate, this is the only way I'll ever get to an American con - but I can take a long vacation!” [Nominated by Bridget Bradshaw, Lilian Edwards, Nic Farey, Lloyd Penney, James Shields]

**Paul Treadaway:** “I'm probably best known in fandom as a conrunner, due to my work with the two Glasgow Worldcons. The pattern was probably set at my first convention, Conspiracy, where I walked through the door and was instantly recruited to sell raffle tickets for Fans Across the World. In fact, if elected, this will be the first Worldcon since then where I haven't either been on a Worldcon committee or helping to sell a Worldcon bid! I look forward to the chance to meet a wide range of fans, and of course renew my acquaintance with the friends I've already made.” [Nominated by Vincent Docherty, Fran Dowd, Mike Glyer, Tim Illingworth, Maureen Kincaid Speller]

For the record, this is the largest number of candidates fielded for a westward TAFF race since 1993, and we are delighted that, nearly sixty years after the first race was held, the Fund still generates such interest and enthusiasm.

*Steve Green, European administrator  
Anne & Brian Gray, North American administrators*
John Purcell writes:
Hello, España! It has been a long time since I've locket SF2, and as usual, viewing the zine on efanzines was a visual treat. You people always seem to be doing something in the Bay Area, which is always A Good Thing. Just be careful, as the bard says, too much of a good thing can be a bad thing, if you know what I doth mean. Okay, that may not be an accurate paraphrase, but you get what I mean.

Good to hear from you again John! Yes, there’s always something going on in the Bay Area. Other than conventions, España and I do go to different events, which makes for wider coverage. I do like to make SF/SF a visual zine as I’m very visual and love photos. We’d like to have more artwork and are always looking for contributions.

You got laid off? That is way too bad! Having it happen right before the holiday is not good, but it seems as though your attitude is good, and it also sounds like you had some money saved up to get you through the transition period. Having been on the job hunt many a time myself I certainly empathize with you. Good luck on the job hunt; I am positive that you will find something relatively quickly.

It is sad and scary that the two parties can’t work together out of a need to disagree and due to stubborn allegiance to their own parties. It would be great if politicians can focus on the problems and agree on solutions. On the other hand, it’s good to have the freedom to express opposing views. Other parts of the world, only have one party in power and these parties pretty much dictate what they want to the rest of the people.

Anyway, there really isn't much else to add here, so I thank you for the zine. It appears that the frequency is lagging a bit, but that's alright; the production values are still high and the contents enjoyable. Take it easy, and once again, good luck on the job hunt.

Thank you for the compliments! We do like to keep up the quality and make the contents entertaining. We actually started publishing once a month since the beginning of the year since Chris Garcia left. We’ve actually been more on time recently due to the less hectic publishing schedule. And
we get to have a better variety and more consistent amount of articles in each issue as a result as well.

Lloyd Penney writes:
I know I’m cutting it fine, but this isn’t the best time of year to write for fanzines… too much Christmasy stuff to get done, jobhunting, family events… the usual December mess that are the holidays. I hope your own preps aren’t as messy as mine are, and here’s a quick loc on SF/SF 111.

Hope you have a happy holiday season! Yes, it does get hectic around Christmas. I tend to like to hibernate around this time of the year so it becomes difficult for me trying to balance my wanting to stay home where it’s nice and cozy with all the tempting, fun events and parties that I want to go to as well.

I always wanted to see a shuttle launch, and I really never thought that the program would ever be cancelled, but it is, and I haven’t been to Florida since the 1992 Worldcon in Orlando. I wish there was something better following it… the only Ren Faire-style event here was the Casa Loma Renaissance Faire held in July every year… found out that Casa Loma has decided to discontinue it, so we are unfortunately faire-free here. However, local leatherworker and steampunk friend Adam Smith may see the opportunity to fill the gap with a steampunk faire, or something similar. I will let you know what happens.

That’s too bad that you don’t have any Ren Faires in your area. Good luck getting a steampunk faire!

I remember years ago how George Lucas basically shut down Star Wars fandom, its clubs and fanzines, etc., by threatening legal action. Looks like he’s changed, and perhaps realizes as Gene Roddenberry did much earlier that a dedicated fandom is the best advertising you could get.

Lucas likes to keep a tight control on the official fan groups. But at least he’s supporting them and likes to get them involved now. I think the longevity of Star Trek, even during the stretch of time when there were no movies or TV shows, is due to the fans keeping it alive. And well, fan involvement is great for everyone all around, from the creators to the actors to the fans.

That’s too bad that you don’t have any Ren Faires in your area. Good luck getting a steampunk faire!

The locol… I followed the Blue Jays the two years they won the World Series, 1992 and 1993. Great times, especially for those who were still enjoying how new the Blue Jays were, and the reaction of U.S. networks as if we dared to play well and win the big event, how dare we come in and take away the World Series? I am still looking for work, so is Yvonne (she was laid off, and her last day will be on the 31st, but there are some excellent leads for her), but we will have Christmas, come hell, high water or layoff notice.

I remember when the Blue Jays were doing well. I liked them back then! Good luck to you and Yvonne in finding work in the New Year. I hope things turn around for everyone still struggling to find jobs.

Oh, well, Christmas we will have, and the worries will have to wait. I got an early present of an advance reading copy Mike Resnick’s weird West steampunk novel The Buntline Special, and I must read it for a book review for Adam Smith’s Dominion Dispatch. There may be a New Year’s Eve party to
go to, depending on what money we have, and if nothing else, we’ll just celebrate together. Jean and España and Tom, the best of Christmases and New Years to you and all you celebrate with, and we will see you all in the SFnal year of 2011.

So many new (and old) books to read and so little time as the saying goes. I’ve been actually “reading” a lot more lately (audiobooks in my car as I go to and from work and from one event to another). I just finished a collection of Philip K. Dick’s short stories and enjoyed them very much. I’ve also finished the first Richard Sharpe novel I’ve ever read. Considering Bernard Cornwell is one of my favorite authors and I saw the entire TV series with Sean Bean, I don’t know why it took me so long to read one of these.

Cornwell’s historical fiction is just very entertaining and quite an adventure, and this one was no exception. I’m going to “read” the 32-hour audiobook of the Pillars of the Earth by Ken Follett next. I just finished watching the miniseries with Ian McShane and loved it.

Happy new year to you and yours, and to everyone who reads this. May 2011 be a good one for one and all! See you all next year.

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

In Memoriam

Carolyn Kayta (Illig) (Martz) Barrows
July 20, 1949 - November 7, 2010

A remembrance by her friend Carole Parker appears in the November 2010 issue of the Virtual Costumer newsletter. It is available in the public section of the SiW web site at: www.siwcostumers.org/newsletterarchive/VirtCostV8-I4-2010/VirtCostV8-I4-2010_52-remembrance.pdf
Meeting 1060

November 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 pm
26 people attended
We established a Salon Futura jar.

Secretary’s report: the minutes from meeting 1059 were accepted as “congratulations Brian Wilson!”
The Treasurer reported that at meeting 1059 we took in $0 in the regular jar & $5.00 in the Salon Futura jar.
The Vice President was not here
The President had nothing fannish to report

Announcements
[tall] Kevin announced that Cheryl Morgan at Wizard’s Tower Press has published its 1st book – Dark Spires & they are about to launch their 1st award – check www.sfftawards.org – and they are looking for donations.

Dave C announced that Stanford beat Cal & the heavens wept – plus he announced that there are cons coming up = LosCon & SorcererCon.

Glenn announced that the weekend after Thanksgiving is SMOFcon at the St Claire & it will be $65.00 at the door.

Dan & Kat introduced themselves and announced that at 6pm+ on Thursday they will be doing meaty and began delicacies & to see them for details.

Diana announced that she is Josh’s mom & that “a Thought for Food” should have a table at SorcererCon.

Spring announced that she will have a table at SorcererCon – free drink with purchase.

Dave G announced that he & Spring are planning their annual party for Jan 1st & they are looking for feedback – so please go to Spring’s LJ and give suggestions.

Reviews
Andy reviewed District B13 – a very strange, near-future French dystopic film as completely mad & highly recommended & reviewed Mooring at the Dock – a swedish film = Angora En Brygga about docking a sailboat, as an insane comedy.

Adrienne reviewed Harry Potter 7a as she enjoyed the book, the actors did well and the fx were good, but the plot of the movie was hackneyed at times; worth matinee; Lisa follow-on’d that she enjoyed it; Aatheus did not think it was worth seeing in IMAX.
Dave G reviewed the American retread of *Top Gear* as reimagined and diminished – as he wasn’t really impressed; [tall] Kevin follow-on’d that he was not hugely disappointed by the retread & then Dave reviewed *Beyond the Beyond* by Lee Goldberg as fun & he recommends it.

Spring reviewed the Oakland Museum of California for the Pixar exhibit and it was phenomenal – worth full price and museum membership.

Glenn reviewed OryCon as he spent most of his time behind the table but had a pretty good time – [tall] Kevin reviewed the “Match Game” as surprisingly well attended & he had great panelists & there may be a Westercon 66 bid from Portland; Glenn also recommends the web-comic *Sinfest* & hopes *Tron 2* will live up to the trailer he saw.

Fred reviewed *For the Win* by Cory Doctorow as much better than he expected and he recommends it.

Then we did more auctions – books for $3.00; magazines for $1.00; & a bag for $0.25.

We adjourned at = 9:08

The rumor of the week was: “Trey is in favor of ‘Lust in Translation’”

**Meeting 1061**

November 29, 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 pm – with Kuma!
17 people attended.
We established a Salon Futura jar.
Secretary’s report: the minutes from meeting 1060 were accepted as “don’t call me Shirley”
The Treasurer reported that at meeting 1060 we took in $2.50 in the regular jar & $8.75 in the Salon Futura jar.
The Vice President was not here.
The President had nothing fannish to report.
Jo walked on thin ice – then Adrienne commented that the BASFA website needed to be updated.

**Announcements**

[tall] Kevin announced that this Fri/Sat/Sun is SMOFcon at the St Clair & it will be $65.00 at the door. Plus there is a SMOFcon sponsored outing to the St. Georges Spirits that has 10 seats left, $55.00 – leave time 2pm, check smofcon.org to sign up.
Adrienne announced that Leslie Neilsen died & she asked if BASFA folk in fandom were thinking of a 2015 Worldcon bid.
Mo announced that Dann is doing much better & reminded diabetics to watch their blood sugars.

**Reviews**

Andy reviewed SorcererCon as itty bitty – but bigger than last year; that weddings are annoying, the art show was teeny but had good stuff in it & that Dealer’s room was always active – all in all worth full price; Dave G follow-on’d that it
was a nice little convention and that Spring did well – it was very enjoyable; Jo follow-on’d that they had really relevant guests; Ken said “they’re small but they care”; Lisa follow-on’d that the videos shown were all weird but she really enjoyed them so much; Adrienne follow-on’d that the hotel seemed the right size; [tall] Kevin follow-on’d that he was surprised he sold a Westercon membership – he also sold a fair number of T-shirts; Mo follow-on’d that Dann donated the films for the video room and it was a “fun, fun convention” and it was a beautiful gem of a hotel.

I reviewed *Harry Potter 7a* as I enjoyed it, good when there was action on the screen; Jo follow-on’d that it was like *Schindler’s List* without the heartwarming moments; Mo follow-on’d that the films do a good job of showing how the characters matured; Trey follow-on’d that it was a capable job & worth matinee & Kuma asked if there were fish [and told “no” but told that Harry did go fishing].

Ken reviewed travel to Texas as done without either being felt up or irradiated & Texas was warm.

Jo reviewed the *General Theory of Love* as a significant and scientific text and it related well to him & reviewed reading 4 recent Worldcon souvenir books as “Montreal wins”

Then we did auctions – videos for $1.00, $1.00, $0.50, $0.25, $0.25, $0.50, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25; DVDs for $0.05, $0.25; magazines for $0.25 & $1.25; & books for $1.00.

We adjourned at = 9:38

The rumor of the week was: “The internet is for Gorn”
Announcements

Glenn announced numbers.
Kate announced that the Hugo Base Award Design contest only runs for another month.
Adrienne announced that the Bay Area Ghost Hunters will meet on Dec 12, 5pm at the SJ Trials pub & she warned folks about the guy doing Para-cons.
Norman announced that he has 4 bottles to give away.
Dave C announced that Coraline is coming to SF & he also talked about a Land’s End order.
[evil] Kevin announced that the November issue of Yipe! is now out and the December issue is being assembled.
Ken announced that this Saturday, 7pm, will be a Psychotronic Film Festival at Foothill jr college – and to get there early as it fills up fast & he announced that the Retrodome is doing Meshuga Nutcracker and Santastic until Dec 18.

Reviews

I reviewed The Warrior’s Way as having no enough pirates in it, but some of it was gorgeous and there really was no plot, worth matinee, while Trey thought it worth cable; then I reviewed Russ Baker’s book Family of Secrets as the Bush clan is SO insidious that I ended up admiring the bastards, worth hardback.
Mike reviewed the St Georges distillery tour as it was good, except for one moment of terror & he really enjoyed himself; Lisa followed that she enjoyed it & Glenn congratulated [evil] Kevin and Andy.
Howeird reviewed Babes in Toyland as 2 weeks of his life he’ll never get back and 2 weeks spent in Maui as really worth full price.

Dave C reviewed 4 Lions as a very black comedy about idiots wanting to be terrorists, worth full price.
SMOFcon was reviewed = [tall] Kevin said 139 people attended from 4 continents and it went far better than expected; Josh follow-on’d that it was fantastic for him and he learned a lot; Norman agreed; Adriennee follow-on’d that it was very interesting and she loved the con suite; Dave C said he enjoyed the con and enjoyed the panels; Mo follow-on’d that she feels Silicon has benefited from what she’s learned from it; Lisa follow-on’d that she loved the panels and con suite; Andy follow-on’d that the whole con was like a Dead Dog party and he enjoyed the off-site excursions; [tall] Kevin follow-on’d that the next SMOFcon is in Amsterdam & Glenn said he had a good time.

Then we did auctions – birthday auctioned off Kate to Norman for $10.00; birthday auctioned off Howeird to himself for $12.00; birthday auctioned off Sandra to Dave C for $31.00 = then auctioned off books for $2.00 & $8.00; snacks for $3.00; & magazines for $1.50.
We adjourned at = 10pm.
The rumor of the week was: “the minutes of this meeting will be seen on wikileaks”
December 13, 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 8:07 pm – zappingly.
18 people attended.
We established a Salon Futura jar.
Secretary’s report: the minutes from meeting 1062 were accepted as “the Norman conquest”
The Treasurer reported that at meeting 1062 we took in $45.50 in the regular jar & $38.00 in the Salon Futura jar.
The Vice President dud a brief flyby to drop of copies of *Journey Planet* #7, but then fled.
The President had nothing fannish.
[tall] Kevin spoke on Hugo nominations [that open Jan 1st, open until the end of March] & suggests our Hugo nomination discussions be held on Jan 24, 31 & on February – and that BASFAns show restraint in not bringing in auction items on those nights.

**Announcements**
[evil] Kevin announced they have 2 printers looking for a good home, both are Canons – an I9900 & a S450.

Diane announced that she is now a licensed massage therapist.
Ken announced that the Legion of Rasselon will hold its monthly meeting this month on Sunday, December 26 at the usual place.
Dave C announced that the Other Change of Hobbit is open for your holiday shopping & book searches & that he can act as a conduit for them.

**Reviews**
[tall] Kevin & Dave C reviewed the Locus Christmas party as very well-attended.
Ken reviewed *Tangled* as great fun & Diane follow-on’d that it was VERY great fun; then Ken reviewed the Psychotronic Film Festival as fun and rather timely & Dave C follow-on’d that the film short with the greatest audience response included Punch & Judy.

Then we did auctions – birthday auctioned off Dave C to himself for $11.00; - then auctioned off books for $0.25, $0.25 & $0.32; magnets for $0.25; an incense burner for $0.25; & magazines for $1.00

We adjourned at = 8:37 pm
The rumor** of the week was: “even Garcia-free minutes aren’t Garcia-free”
[** comment made = “I never knew Chris Garcia’s bedroom closet was so popular”]
Meeting 1064

December 20, 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.
22 people attended.
We established a Salon Futura jar.
Secretary’s report: the minutes from meeting 1063 were accepted as “free Garcia with every purchase”
The Treasurer reported that at meeting 1062 we took in $24.25 in the regular jar & $12.60 in the Salon Futura jar.
The Vice President said a new Drink Tank is available “the soon” and is the “big ass Reno issue”
The President had nothing fannish to report, but mentioned there was a total lunar eclipse tonight.
REMINDER: [tall] Kevin spoke on Hugo nominations [that open Jan 1st, open until the end of March] & suggests our Hugo nomination discussions be held on Jan 24, 31 & on February – and that BASFAns show restraint in not bringing in auction items on those nights.
Also it was mentioned that the President and secretary will be missing the Dec 27 meeting, so Chris volunteered Dave C to take minutes.

Announcements
Jan ann’d she is looking for help to restore wool blankets and that Oracle is hiring, contact her for more details – jan.parcel@oracle.com
Lisa announced that the lunar eclipse will be from 10:32pm to 2am, the first on a solstice in 392 years.
Art announced that he has a super vga monitor for a good home.
Chris announced that Corflu will be in February in Sunnyvale and the room block closes Jan 18 at the Domain.
Dave C made an announcement about Berkeley book stores.
[evil] Kevin announced thanks for wish lists sent in to Yipe! and any more sent in will be in the LoC section of future issues.
Andy announced that fans of odd games can now get the Humble Indie Bundle #2 at humblebundle.com and you can get codes for Steam there; and there’s a link on the EFF site about this.
Dave G announced that he & Spring will have a party Jan 1 at 7pm and he has directions.

Reviews
Tron was reviewed by many as really quite good and full of shiny things.
Dave C reviewed Coraline the musical as enjoyable but still getting their legs & - when pressed – that it was worth the discount ticket.
I reviewed Voyage of the Dawn Treader as a nice adaptation with good 3D and nice effects, worth full price, Lisa also enjoyed it, Trey was a little disappointed, thought it was too rushed and worth matinee.
Julie reviewed Dickens Faire as she worked it and it was a good year; that her dad got a new 3dTV that she set up, that network TV is worthless, that *Harry Potter 7a* was 9 out of 10 & she hopes Narnia makes it to the *Magician’s Nephew & Pillars of the Earth* from Netflix as a good adaptation but rushed.

Dave C reviewed *Shipwrecked* by Donald Margulies as worth full price if already in New England & reviewed *The Bonzo Dog Doo Dah Band* CD/DVD for “our l’Amour des Chiens” as worth full price.

Chris reviewed *Black Swan* as genius and the girls needed to eat and worth full price, that this Xmas episode for *Communities* as genius & Scot Westerfeld’s *Behemoth* was worth 2/3 full price but *Leviathan* was better.

Fred reviewed the SJ Museum or Art’s special exhibit of Louis Villareal as excellent and go see it, it should be there for only a few more weeks.

Josh reviewed *Abraham Lincoln’s Big Gay Dance Party* as very well done by City Lights.

Aatheus reviewed *Santa Claus vs the Ice Cream Bunny* as hilariously random.

Joni reviewed Happy Hollow as pleasant.

Jan reviewed *Cataclysm* as not worth the collector’s price & reviewed being a grandmom as worth full price.

Then we did auctions – birthday auctioned off Sarah to Josh for $6.00; - then auctioned off a print for $2.00, videos for $0.25 & $0.25; books for $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $2.00, $0.50, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $0.25, $1.25 & $15.00

We adjourned at = 10:05 pm.

The rumor of the week was: “look at me, now look at your rumor – now back to me – I’m wearing a propeller beanie”
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.

Saturday, January 1

**Victorian Twelfth Night Ball**

PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
A 12th Night Ball hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig from Charles Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol*. Bangers and Mash will play a variety of Viennese and rotary waltzes, polkas, mazurka waltzes, schottisches, the Lancers, reels, and other set dances popular in the early and mid-19th century

Suggested costume is evening or day dress from 1837 through 1870. Modern evening dress is, as always, a completely acceptable substitute for period costume, and there is no dress code for the evening.

7 p.m. $20

Friday, January 21

**The Edwardian World’s Faire**
The Regency Ballroom,
1300 Van Ness, San Francisco
www.edwardianball.com/2011
The Annual Edwardian World’s Faire returns to the beautiful Regency Ballroom with the Exposition of Technology, Cabinets of Wonder, Hall of Fine Art, and the Dance Expo presented by Vima. Stage performances by City Circus, Flynn Creek, Dark Garden, DJs Delachaux and Global Ruckus, and much more!

8 p.m. Check website for prices

Saturday, January 22

**The Edwardian Vendor Bazaar**
The Regency Ballroom,
1270 Sutter Street, San Francisco
www.edwardianball.com/2011
FREE, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC Find that perfect outfit, accessory, trick or treat for The Ball, or for anytime! Free daytime shopping hours in between Friday and Saturday nighttime events. Changing rooms available. Full bar for 21+ with ID.
12 p.m. Free

Thursday, January 20

**Jonathan Coulton with Paul & Storm**
The Great American Music Hall
824 O’Farrell Street, San Francisco
www.gamh.com
JoCo and Paul & Storm play acoustic sets.
6:30 p.m. $25

Through January 15

**Coraline**
The SF Playhouse
533 Sutter St, San Francisco
www.sfplayhouse.org
West Coast Premiere of the new musical based on Neil Gaiman’s best selling novel. Book by David Greenspan, books and lyrics by Stephin Merritt, directed by Bill English
Check website for tickets and showtimes

**Victorian Twelfth Night Ball**

PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
A 12th Night Ball hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig from Charles Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol*. Bangers and Mash will play a variety of Viennese and rotary waltzes, polkas, mazurka waltzes, schottisches, the Lancers, reels, and other set dances popular in the early and mid-19th century

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8 p.m. Check website for prices

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The Regency Ballroom,
1270 Sutter Street, San Francisco
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FREE, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC Find that perfect outfit, accessory, trick or treat for The Ball, or for anytime! Free daytime shopping hours in between Friday and Saturday nighttime events. Changing rooms available. Full bar for 21+ with ID.
12 p.m. Free
Saturday, January 22

The Edwardian Ball
The Regency Ballroom,
1300 Van Ness, San Francisco
www.edwardianball.com/2011
The Edwardian Ball returns to the beautiful Regency Ballroom with ballroom dancing, live music and dance, circus arts, sideshows, vendor bazaar, parlour games, portrait studio, and much more. Performances by Rosin Coven, Vau de Vire, Fou Fou Ha, Jill Tracy, Delachaux, Miz Margo, and more!
8 p.m. Check website for prices

Monday, January 24

Forbidden Thrills Movie Night
Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
1304 Lincoln, Alameda
www.thrillville.net
Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. January’s films are Terror from Beneath the Sea and Shockwaves 7:30 p.m. Free

Saturday, January 29

Crosston Dance Ball
St. Mark’s Episcopal Church
1957 Pruneridge Ave, Santa Clara
crosston.westkingdom.org
SCA event; In the afternoon, there will be dance instruction, followed by a delicious potluck, finger food buffet of period dishes, coordinated by Gianetta da Bene. The evening will be completed with several sets of dances to live musicians.
6 p.m. Free

Saturday, February 5

Gotham City Black and White Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Vintage or modern evening dress is admired, not required; black and white attire is optional. Guests may also come as their favorite superhero or heroine in disguise or incognito. Sara and Swingtime plays an evening of elegant vintage ballroom dance music and hot Swing of the 1920’s, 30’s and 40’s in keeping with the Film Noir ambience of the city! Pre-ball dance lesson from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. There will be a no-host (cash) bar, and a light snack buffet, and potluck contributions to the butler’s pantry would be greatly appreciated.
7 p.m. $15 (till January 29)

Friday-Monday, February 18-21

Pantheacon
The Doubletree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place, San Jose
www.pantheacon.com
Pagan convention.
$65 (through January 15)

Saturday, February 19

The Gilded Age Glissade
Palo Alto
www.gbacg.org

Saturday-Sunday, February 19-20

Anime on Display
Hotel Kabuki
1625 Post Street, San Francisco
www.aodsfun.org
Animation convention.
$25 (until February 5)
**Monday, February 21**

*Forbidden Thrills Movie Night*
Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
1304 Lincoln, Alameda
www.thrillville.net
Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. February’s films are *The Magic Sword* and *Hercules in the Haunted World*
7:30 p.m. Free

**Friday-Sunday, March 4-6**

*Consonance*
Hilton Newark/Fremont
39900 Balentine Drive, Newark
www.consonance.org
Filk convention, GOHs; Joe Giacoio & Carla Ulbrich, Interfilk Guest: Denise Gendron, Toastmistress: Lynn Gold, International Guest: Chris Malme
$45 (till February 17)

*Potlatch 20*
The Domain Hotel
1085 East El Camino Real, Sunnyvale
www.potlatch-sf.org
$55

**Saturday, March 5**

*Masque of the Red Death Carnivale Ball*
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Celebrate both Carnival and Mardi Gras at the Masque of the Red Death Carnivale Ball. The band for the evening is Avalon Rising, who will play a variety of dance music from elegant waltzes and tangos to wild polkas and reels, from elegant Renaissance dances to Renaissance rock. Suggested attire is period costume, fantasy Mardi Gras or Carnival costume, or a fanciful version of period costume (Renaissance, 17th, 18th and 19th century costume is especially fashionable for Carnival but any earlier historical period costume works well, too). Modern evening dress is perfectly acceptable and there is no dress code for the ball. To protect your reputation, masks are strongly recommended. There will be a no-host (cash) bar, and a light snack buffet. Potluck contributions to the buffet will be greatly appreciated. 7 p.m. $15 (till February 26)

**Sunday, March 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

**Friday-Sunday, March 11-13**

*FOGCon*
Holiday Inn Golden Gateway Hotel
1500 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco
fogcon.org
Guests of Honor are Pat Murphy and Jeff VanderMeer. The theme for 2011 is “The City in SF”.
$65 (through February 1)

**Friday-Sunday, March 18-20**

*ConQuest Sac VI*
Sacramento Marriott Rancho Cordova
11211 Point East Drive, Rancho Cordova
www.conquestsac.com
Gaming convention
$45

**Monday, March 21**

*Forbidden Thrills Movie Night*
Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
1304 Lincoln, Alameda
www.thrillville.net
Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. March’s films are *Detour* and *Dementia.*
7:30 p.m. Free
**Friday-Sunday, March 25-27**

**Nova Albion Steampunk Exhibition: Wild Wild East**
The Hyatt Regency Santa Clara
5101 Great American Parkway, Santa Clara
steampunkexhibition.com
GOHs; Cherie Priest, Paul Guinan, Anina Bennet
$50

**Friday-Sunday, April 1-3**

**Wondercon**
Moscone Center South, San Francisco
www.comic-con.org/wc
Details TBA

**Saturday, April 2**

**Jane Austen Ball**
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 North Ellsworth Avenue, San Mateo
Live music by Bangers and Mash. There will be a pre-ball workshop in Regency country dance from 7 to 8pm. Regency (1811-1820) costume is admired, but not required, and modern evening dress is a perfectly acceptable alternative. The PEERS Flying CirCUS performers will be re-creating the characters from *Emma*, but our guests are invited to come as their favorite characters from the other Jane Austen novels. Punch and a light snack buffet will be served throughout the evening (potluck contributions to the buffet will be greatly appreciated)
6:45 p.m. $15 (till March 26)

**Monday, April 18**

**Thrillville’s 14th Anniversary Show**
Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
1304 Lincoln, Alameda
www.thrillville.net
Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. Featuring Will the Thrill’s 2 Favorite Horror Movies (It’s a surprise!)
7:30 p.m. Free

**Saturday, May 7**

**Ball of the Gods**
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 North Ellsworth Avenue, San Mateo
Celebrate May Day with us at a rollicking Victorian costume ball with a Greek mythological theme inspired by Jacque Offenbach’s hysterically funny masterpiece “Orpheus in the Underworld,” famous for making the Cancan an international hit. Live music by Avalon Rising.
Suggested attire is Victorian evening dress, costumes inspired by Greek and Roman mythology, or a creative combination of the two! Visitors from other pantheons are more than welcome. There will be a no-host (cash) bar, and a light snack buffet. Potluck contributions to the buffet will be greatly appreciated
6:45 p.m. $15 (till April 30)

**Monday, May 23**

**Forbidden Thrills Movie Night**
Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
1304 Lincoln, Alameda
www.thrillville.net
Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. May is Shatfest! William Shatner stars in *Impulse* and *Incubus* 7:30 p.m. Free

**Thursday-Monday, May 13-30**

**A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court**
The Pear Avenue Theatre
1220 Pear Avenue, Unit K, Mountain View
www.thepear.org
Twain’s wisecracking hero finds himself zapped from 1880 to the Middle Ages, from industrial America to medieval England. Yankee can-do spirit enables this crafty time-traveler to drag a backward culture kicking and screaming into the modern era--but only for a while. Breathtaking, hilarious-- and shockingly relevant to 21st century America. Check website for tickets and showtimes.

**Monday, May 23**

**Baycon**
The Hyatt Regency Santa Clara
5101 Great American Parkway, Santa Clara
www.baycon.org
GOHs: John Picacio, Bobbie DuFault.
Toastmaster: Martin Young
$65 (through January 31)
Saturday, June 4

The Pirates Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 North Ellsworth Avenue, San Mateo
Bangers and Mash will play a full evening of waltzes, polkas, and dashing country dances from the 17th through the 19th century (All country dances will be briefly taught or called). Pirate costume - both period and Hollywood style - is admired, but not required. Come either in your finest 17th, 18th or early 19th century attire or in fantasy pirate costume from any literary universe. There will be piratical musical entertainment, a no-host bar and a light snack buffet. (As usual, potluck contributions to the buffet will be greatly appreciated.)
6:45 p.m. $15 (till May 28)

Sunday, June 5

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

Thursday-Sunday, July 1-4

Westercon 64
The Fairmont
170 South Market Street, San Jose
www.westercon64.org
GOHs: Patricia A. McKillip, Kaja and Phil Folgio, Mike Willmoth
$65 (till January 1)

Saturday, August 6

Suffragists’ Picnic Dance
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Lincoln Park
1450 High Street, Alameda
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) Suggested costume for the event is summer afternoon dress (1990 - 1910), but, as usual, costumes are admired, not required. Ladies who support the Women’s Suffrage and Women’s Right Movement are welcome to wear Rational dress and are more than welcome to wear their cycling bloomer costumes. Live music by Bangers & Mash.
10 a.m. Free

Wednesday-Sunday, August 17-21

Worldcon: Renovation
Reno Sparks Convention Center
4590 South Virginia Avenue, Reno, NV
Reno, Nevada
www.renovationsf.org
The 69th World Science Fiction Convention.
$180 (Till February 28)

Saturday, September 3

The Space Cowboys Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 North Ellsworth Avenue, San Mateo
Western, 19th century or neo-19th century, Civil War or Post-Civil War costume or science fiction/fantasy costume from any universe if admired, but not required, and creative blending of past and future fashions is also encouraged. Just now, Old West, Chinese, and Indian motifs are fashionable and, of course, Browncoats are extremely welcome. There will be a no-host bar and a complimentary light buffet, your potluck contributions to the buffet are appreciated. Live music by Bangers & Mash.
6:45 p.m. $15 (till August 25)

Saturday, October 1

Steampunktoberfest Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Details TBA

Saturday, November 5

Le Bal des Vampires
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Details TBA
Sunday, December 11

**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-Saturday, January 12-15 and 19-22, 2012**

**Machine: A Fire Opera**
The Crucible
1260 7th Street, Oakland
www.thecrucible.org/events/fire-operas-ballets/366
Conceived and staged by Mark Streshinsky specifically for The Crucible’s performance space and capabilities, this original fire opera is based on a sci-fi short story by Derek J. Goodman, with original score by Clark Suprynowicz.
Details TBA

**San Francisco Ghost Hunt Walking Tour**
Begins: Queen Anne Hotel
1590 Sutter at Octavia, San Francisco
www.sfghosthunt.com
Closed Tuesdays.
7-10 p.m. $20

**VIZ Cinema**
1746 Post Street, San Francisco
www.newpeopleworld.com/films
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.

**Sundays**

**Bad Movie Night**
The Dark Room Theater
2263 Mission Street, San Francisco
www.darkroomsf.com
Featuring bad movies old and new. November is Stephen King month, December features holiday movies.
8 p.m. $5

**MGI SF&F/Horror/Speculative fiction Writing Group**
Personal Residence (email for details)
Emeryville
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGISFFWriters
7:30 p.m. Free

**Sakuramento Anime Society**
Rancho Cordova Library
9845 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova
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.

**Bay Area Science Fiction Association**
Coco’s
1206 Oakmead Parkway, Sunnyvale
www.basfa.org
8 p.m. Free

**Dukefish**
Jake’s of Sunnyvale
174 E. Fremont Avenue, Sunnyvale
games.groups.yahoo.com/group/dukefish
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.
8 p.m. Free
Mondays and Wednesdays

Silicon Valley Boardgamers
Mountain View Community Center
201 S. Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View
www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb
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. $2

Tuesdays

MGI Boffers & Outdoor Games
Codornices Park
1201 Euclid Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com/groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyclub
Bad weather: we meet the same time at 33 Revolutions Record Shop & Cafe, El Cerrito for boardgames.
3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free

Wednesdays

Bay Area Role-Playing Society
Go-Getter’s Pizza
1489 Beach Park Boulevard, Foster City
www.BayRPS.com
Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details email GM@BayRPS.com
6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Free

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

Thursdays

CAS: NightLife
The California Academy of Sciences
55 Music Concourse Drive, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
www.calacademy.org
Every Thursday night, the Academy opens its doors for NightLife, a chance for adults to explore the museum in a whole new light.

Dance to some of San Francisco’s most popular DJs, enjoy food and cocktails, and mingle while you delve into the Academy’s world-class exhibits and get up close and personal with aquarium critters.
6 p.m. - 10 p.m. $12 (21+)

Fridays

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 Cafè, 20th and Alabama Streets, Tuesday nights from 6:30-10.
7 p.m. to midnight Free

Fridays-Mondays

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

Biweekly

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

Dorkbot-SF
www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf/
Dorkbot hosts regular forums for artists, designers, engineers, students, and other people doing strange things with electricity.
Free, donations welcome

Foothill Anime
Building 5015, Foothill College
Los Altos Hills
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

Geeks Vs. Geeks
San Francisco / San Mateo
www.facebook.com/geeksvsgeeks
www.geeksvsgeeks.com
Monthly pub trivia quiz. Please check Facebook or website for details. January dates are: Sunday January 9th at Bel Mateo Bowl in San Mateo and Monday January 10th at Lucky 13 in SF.
7:30 p.m. Free

Silicon Gulch Browncoats
Various locations (see website for details)
www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org
Silicon Valley fans of Firefly/Serenity meet up on the first Saturday of the month.
Noon - 2 p.m. Free

Rocky Horror Picture Show
The Clay, 2261 Fillmore Street San Francisco/
The Guild, 949 El Camino Real Menlo Park
www.bawdycaaste.org
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

QSF&F Book Club
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.qsfandf.com
Meets the second Sunday of the month.
5 p.m. Free

East Bay Star Wars Club
Central Perk
10086 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito
510-558-7375
www.ebstarwars.com
Meets the second Friday of every month.
7:30 p.m. Free
**Fantastic Frontiers**  
www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/  
Social club for Sacramento County sci-fi/fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times and locations.

**No-Name Anime**  
Saratoga Library  
13650 Saratoga Avenue  
Saratoga  
www.nnanime.com  
Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month.

**SF Browncoats**  
Cafe Murano  
1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco  
www.sfbrowncoats.com  
SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month. Noon  
Free

**Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club**  
Borderlands Books  
866 Valencia, San Francisco  
www.borderlands-books.com  
Meets the third Sunday of the month. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.  
6 p.m.  
Free

**USS Defiance**  
5026 Don Julio Blvd, Sacramento  
1566 Howe Ave, Sacramento  
www.myspace.com/d2121978  
Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month.  
7 p.m.  
Free

**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 RSSmith2678@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
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