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By España Sheriff

Editor

By the time this issue is out, the winter holiday season will pretty much be over, with nothing left on the horizon except New Year’s Eve (well, and Epiphany, for those of you still waiting for Melchior, Gaspar and Balthasar to drop off you presents) and then the clean slate of 2012 rolling out in front of us after that. Technically, from my vantage point, we are right in the middle of the holiday madness, the malls are full of last minute shoppers and the ads are getting increasingly shrill and desperate. But, honestly, between the absolutely gorgeous weather we’ve been having, and the fact that my big Xmas plans involved John Coxon’s two-week visit, which ended this past Sunday, I sort of feel like 2011 has already ended and the next two weeks are a bit of an afterthought. An appendix hanging on rather embarrassingly after the party’s over, if you’ll pardon the mixed (and visually kind of gross) metaphor.

It’s not like I don’t have plenty to do in the interval; overdue fanac is piling up around my ears, and the recent demise of my old PC means I have a shiny new iMac to learn to use, by which of course I mean overdose on watching movies on its slick monitor. I also have a brand new Bamboo tablet I need to start playing with; hopefully you’ll see some of the results of that in future issues of this zine as well as other publications such as the rather intriguing new venture by Steven H. Silver and Chris Garcia, entitled “Pen, Paint and Pixel,” which aims to showcase fan artists. Presumably there are some other real life social and family obligations I should attend to as well; but those mostly involve pie, so I’m pretty set in that department as well.

One nice thing about the year being over is starting to see the “best of 2011” lists start popping up, with recommendations for good things to read, watch and listen to that you might have missed as they whizzed past during the year. This also means that the Hugo recommendations can start in earnest, and as always I do encourage everyone to participate even if you cannot nominate or vote. Being part of the conversation ensures that your voice is part of the process that eventually leads to the shortlist and subsequent awards. Everyone I know who votes reads lists and reviews online to find items they missed or enjoyed but forgot. The LJ group hugo-recommend is one of the better places to share and find these sort of recommendations.

For my own part, well as usual I have far too much catching up to do in new fiction, although I did pick up a couple of recent releases when the local Borders store closed. However, I fully expect The Magician King will make my nominations list for Best Novel, and I have Rule 34 on order from the local library, so that’s a start. The big and small screens have been pretty solid this year, though, and I don’t think I’ll have any trouble there. Some of the highlights that
may end up on my list include: *Attack the Block*, *Hugo*, *The Walking Dead*, *Game of Thrones*, *Fringe* and *Doctor Who*.

Meanwhile, I’ve been delving into fanzines more than ever before, and have some ideas for fan writers and artists I would like to see on the ballot this year, especially a few new names, which I think are deserving. Not to mention that I still dearly want to see John Picacio pick up a Hugo.

But Chicago is ages away, so for now we can just enjoy looking back on the year and selecting the best parts to enjoy and relive. So, what were the highlights of 2011 for you?
By Christopher Erickson

Staff Writer

I again made my annual trek to the Great Dickens Christmas Fair. The season was upon us again to make merry and celebrate the holidays in the streets of old London in high Victorian fashion.

A number of changes took place this year. One of the most notable changes was the “snow” that falls on London every day. In previous years, the floor of the building was covered in straw. Being that it was rather ubiquitous, it caused problems for both the patrons and the performers. One of the biggest ones was the allergy problems that affected both the actors and the public. The other was the constant cleaning that was needed as the hay would be dragged into the stalls by the traffic and needed constant sweeping, not to mention the hay that would get caught in clothing. With the switch to a non-allergenic foam from natural sources, the ‘snow” now made it easier for people to breathe and required much less cleaning. It also allowed the Fair to create snowfall upon entry into the fair during the early part of the day and upon exiting during the closing of the day.

Another new change was the expansion of Tavistock House, the mockup of the home of the Dickens family during Mr. Charles Dickens’ career. The expansion featured a window into the kitchen to see the servants preparing meals and taking their breaks as well as their interactions with each other. The servants were portrayed by four historical recreation experts brought over from England and included two cooks, a butler and a cleaner also known as a charwoman.

As for the layout, the most notable changes were the relocation of Legion Fantastique and the Bohemian Bar. Legion was moved to Cratchit Yard along with the Safari Carousel opposite the Odyssey Theater. The addition of an African Expedition display next to Legion Fantastique helped promote the ideas of exploration and learning that are part of
the core mission of the Legion. The Squid Feeding was also updated to include maps and charts presented via magic lantern projection to enhance the educational qualities of the show.

The relocation of the Absinthe-selling Bohemian Bar back to their original area near Mad Sal’s seemed to help bring in more customers. The previous location near the London Docks was tucked away to the side. They had a more prominent position on the corner opposite Mad Sal’s Ale Stand. The new area was more visible and had considerably more foot traffic.

Of course, one of the major reasons to go to the Dickens Fair is for the food and the shopping. The cuisine that I savored this year was the traditional fish and chips, Scottish meat pie (one of my standard Fair purchases), and the always tasty sweet roasted almonds. One of the things that I decided to try this year was something from Tipping Toad, located in Cratchit’s Yard near the Acropolis Greek food booth and the fish and chips. Tipping Toad offered a rather nice menu including a full meal of duck with vegetables, turkey, chicken and a few vegetarian options. I chose the combination plate of...
rice pilaf and the vegetable mix (onions, peppers and yellow zucchini). It was a rather nice treat and a good alternative to the more meat-heavy dishes.

I also partook of several of the ale stands’ offerings. I had two different kinds of Absinthe at the Bohemian, a warm eggnog and brandy, a red draft ale, a chocolate eggnog and several glasses of soda. The Dickens Fair is continuing its tradition of featuring products that are not made by conglomerates (most of the beers are from smaller breweries) by selling Royal Crown Cola, also known simply as RC Cola. This is a hard-to-find drink since it is not usually stocked on the shelves of most of the stores that I go to or even in the convenience stores and gas stations. The choice is a nice one in that it does not have the overpowering sugary flavor of Coca-Cola and is not as strong as Pepsi. I think the name is also appropriate since the Dickens Fair features Queen Victoria and Prince Albert as celebrities you can meet.

The celebrities were out in full force again this year. Besides wandering the streets, you could find them at the Adventurer’s Club giving lectures and demonstrations. One of the demonstrations that I watched was the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show. It featured Buffalo Bill (William Cody) leading songs such as “Home on the Range,” Annie Oakley showing a young girl how to do a trick shot and Chief Sitting Bull.
Another demonstration was the Pre-Raphaelite Club showcasing live model drawing accompanied by music, singing and poetry reading. Members of the Pre-Raphaelite Club on hand to help out included John Everett Millais and William Morris.

Another show featuring celebrities was the Royal English Opera Gala featuring Jenny Lind and others. The show was a nice mix of English and Italian opera featuring several songs and a few costume changes.

The entertainment on both the stage and the street were also wonderfully delightful. After having missed it for the past couple of seasons, I finally saw the pantomime “Aladdin and Cinderella Meet the Monkey King.” A pantomime is a musical-comedy play featuring fairy tale and mythological characters. This one had Aladdin wishing for a princess who turned out to be Cinderella with the genie as Pan. The villains were the Big Bad Wolf and the Ugly Stepsisters who tried to steal the lamp so that the Wolf could rule fairy land. Aladdin called on the help of the Monkey King to defeat the Wolf. The pantomime combined music and dancing from India and the Arabic countries as well as traditional vaudeville-style singing and dancing.
Two of the shows I always try to catch are the belly dancing by the Silk Road Caravan and the “Saucy French Postcard Tableaux Revue.” The belly dancing was only held on the last weekend but was wonderful as they featured several dancers individually and together. The Postcard show was amazing as always. This year’s theme revolved around a sailor’s adventures in exotic ports of call and adventures on the high seas.

One of the other wonderful things is the street entertainment you will find. There is always staging of scenes from different works of Dickens including “Great Expectations,” “David Copperfield,” “Oliver Twist” and “Nicholas Nickleby.” I managed to see the mob scene where people went to catch Bill Sykes from “Oliver Twist” as well as Pip escorting Miss Havisham and Estella from “Great Expectations.” As usual, Mr. Scrooge was out learning the true meaning of Christmas with the Ghosts of Christmas.

Another form of street entertainment that was new this year was an “impromptu” boxing match. The match featured two pugilists in a makeshift ring held up by four people before it was broken up by the bobbies.

Legion Fantastique was in full presentation mode as well. I finally managed to catch the self-defense demonstration that they have put on for the past few seasons. It demonstrated how to use a walking stick to defend against attacks by knife and stick/sword as well as a demonstration on how to use a parasol for the females. Afterwards, a lecture on the history of firearms was presented by one of the members.

Dancing is always recommended and Fezziwig’s is the place where most of it was happening. I was able to dance during my multiple trips so I could continue to improve my waltzing. I was able to dance Sir Roger De Coverley a few times as well as do a few polkas. Fezziwig’s is the best way to
for me to wrap up the day at Dickens Fair since I can dance and then participate in the Hallelujah Chorus afterwards. There is always more dancing to be watched with the Morris and Irish dancers. The fun continues with the parlor games. I participated in a spirited game of “Wink” that involved a form of musical chairs where a gentleman would wink to a lady to get her to come to the empty seat. If the gentleman standing behind the lady who was winked at was able to touch her shoulder before she got way, he received a kiss on the cheek. If the woman did get away, she had to give a kiss to the gentleman who winked at her. Afterwards, the men switched places with the women and it got to the point where there were multiple gentlemen getting up at once, especially the Second Doctor clownishly moving around.

There were plenty of patrons dressed as characters as well. There were several Doctors besides myself (I did the First and Second Doctors on different occasions), a TARDIS, a Burtonesque “Alice In Wonderland” group, the Phantom of the Opera, Mr. Hyde, “Gotham By Gaslight” Batman, Baron Von Münchhausen and a Victorian Bruce Wayne, Dick Grayson and Pamela Isley group. One of the big character groups was the invasion by the Steampunkers. The unofficial Steampunk day brought out members of the Steam Federation and the A.E.T.H.E.R. Brigade for a meetup and high tea at Cuthbert’s Tea Shoppe.

The Dickens Fair was entertaining and put several revelers into the Christmas spirit. The whole Fair did not disappoint to make spirits bright. It was truly a Victorian holiday card come to life.
The girls today of fine signature
Go for children’s literature,
So to win their hearts one can cite a fairy
From a story by Grimm or Barrie.

One must know or else have a good excuse
For never reciting from Seuss.
Unless you know Lewis and Sendak and Carroll,
The ladies will find you quite sterile.

But the author of them all
With such passionate supporters
Is the writer people call
The Bard of Nine-and-Three-Quarters!

Brush up your Potter.
Quote Rowling now.
Brush up your Potter,
And the women you will wow.

Just declaim a few lines from “Azkaban,”
And you’re a serious, wonderful man.
If your blonde still insists that your shallow,
Tell her the tale of a Deathly Hallow.
And if she argues with “you said” and “I said,”
Say you see her in the Mirror of Erised.
With the wife of the British ambassador,
Try a few words of wisdom from Dumbledore.
If she says that you make her defensive,
Make her drown all such thoughts in her Pensieve.
If she says you behave like a centaur,
Tell her better than that than a Dementor.

Brush up your Potter,
And they’ll all kow-tow.
Brush up your Potter.
Quote Rowling now.
Brush up your Potter,
And the women you will wow.

If your date really goes from bad to worse,
Offer to break her Imperius Curse.
Just produce an occasional Charm spell,
And your evening with her will go so well.
When your baby is pleading for pleasure,
Let her see how fast you can Transfigure.

Brush up your Potter,
And they’ll all kow-tow – Lumos!
And they’ll all kow-tow – Accio!
And they’ll all kow-tow.
Brush up your Potter.
Quote Rowling now.
Brush up your Potter,
And the women you will wow.

Better mention “The Chamber of Secrets,”
When your sweet writing she misinterprets.
If she claims that your past is sepulchral,
Just remind her you can see a thestral.
And if still she won’t give you a bonus,
Ask her not to summon her Patronus.

Brush up your Potter,
And they’ll all kow-tow – Portus!
And they’ll all kow-tow – Orchideus!
And they’ll all kow-tow.
Brush up your Potter.
Quote Rowling now.
Brush up your Potter,
And the women you will wow.

If a Kensington dame you desire,
Treat the lady to “Goblet of Fire.”
If your snogging attempts she does forestall,
Then quickly ask her out to the Yule Ball.
If she hears of your ex and threatens to revolt,
Reply, “She was my Nimbus. You’re my Firebolt!”

Brush up your Potter,
And they’ll all kow-tow – Lumos!
And they’ll all kow-tow – Portus!
And they’ll all kow-tow – Nox!
And they’ll all kow-tow.
By Jean Martin
Editor-in-Chief

Having missed the annual Le Bal Des Vampires last year due to my trip to Florida to try and see one of the last space shuttle launches (which I unfortunately didn’t wind up seeing) and to go to several theme parks, I made it a point to attend the Vampire Ball this year. The Period Events and Entertainments Re-creation Society (PEERS) organizes monthly (except for July and December) fabulous themed balls that range from historical and literary to fantasy and scifi. The Vampire Ball, though, is its most popular and biggest one of the year and rightly so. It is also the highlight of the Halloween season where costumes and dancers can celebrate in their most creative and fanciful attire. This is one ball where all time periods and genres collide into one colorful, lively and exhilarating event.

The Vampire Ball is held at the beautiful Alameda Elks Lodge and occupies three floors. On the uppermost floor is an elegant ballroom of wood and velvet where dancers twirl around to vintage dance music provided by Bangers and Mash and singing by Sarah, Susanne, Cathleen and Charles. There is also a stage where the celebrated Theatre of the Vampires performs its yearly mini-play. The mezzanine level houses the tarot card readers (there were three this year) and an intimate circle of chairs where patrons could watch the Bella Donna courtesans perform their historical repertoire. I’d only ever seen them at Renaissance Faires and it was interesting to see...
them wearing clothing from different eras.

The basement or Ratskellar is where Goth and Industrial music is played. DJ Dark Moon and Persephone took turns providing music for more freewheeling dancers all evening. The Ratskellar used to have a dungeon-type feel and a huge Victorian-style bar that was perfect for creating a darker and more otherworldly atmosphere. However, it looked like it has been renovated recently and, while it looked much nicer, it took away some of the gothic ambience I liked and associated with the Ratskellar.

I spent my time going up and down to visit each level to say hello to people and take photos of the amazing costumes. I didn’t get to dance until much later, until after the Theatre of the Vampires performed.

This year, for the first time, I was actually a part of the performance! I’ve always wanted to participate in it but I didn’t have the time for rehearsals. Fortuitously, artistic director Cathleen Myers needed some extras and I was able to
wing it with just attending the final rehearsal that day. Christopher was roped in as well. The story, written by Cathleen, and based on the TV show *True Blood* was a hilarious talk show debate between the vampires and their proponents against a Reverend and his wife and other right-wing conservatives. Sookie Stackhouse was portrayed by Ariyana, Charles was Eric Northman, and Gregory was Bill Compton. Reverend Newlin and Mrs. Newlin were played by Arthur and Kathy. These main characters and the entire cast really shone during the performance. Being onstage, I felt the electricity in the air as the skit came to life and as we all connected with the audience. It truly was a lot of fun and I’m glad I was able to be in it. I was one of the goth girls fawning over Eric while Chris held up a sign that supported the Reverend’s cause.

Even though I didn’t get to dance much, I was at least able to do the Congress of Vienna with my Sweetie. I was also able to dance the Bohemian National Polka, which is rarely done at most dances I go to.

All in all, this year’s Vampire Ball was a fantastic and memorable night of dancing, acting, admiring costumes, watching performances and socializing with friends.
By España Sheriff

I’ve written about Varnish Gallery before, they’re a small gallery located in the SOMA/FiDi area which primarily focuses on sculpture and kinetic art. They’re the place where I first encountered the work of Nemo Gould, back when I used to visit them at their old location during the nights when they would screen *Firefly* episodes.

Alas, their old building on Natoma Street was demolished to make way for the construction of the new, sorely needed, Transbay terminal. They soldiered on and relocated to temporary office space the Hobart Building (which, as you may recall is also the location of SFinSF) for a year while looking for gallery space. And finally, a few months ago, they found just such a spot over on Jessie Street, between 1st and 2nd, and reopened to the public with a group show that runs until January 7.

I had been wanting to visit their new digs, so when John expressed interest in seeing the Houdini exhibition at the Contemporary Jewish Museum, I figured that would be the perfect time to check them out.

The current exhibition is a group show called Relaunch and features 20 artists both new and returning from previous exhibitions. Standouts for me were the ornately macabre Jessica Joslin hybrids, and a glowing green piece of atomic nostalgia by Michael Sturtz, which had a turbine in its liquid filled interior that the staff kindly turned on for us to ooh and aah over. Also weirdly compelling was a piece by Joe Rut...
composed of a badly weathered, softly glowing door which was less flashy than most of the other big pieces but still oddly mesmerizing.

Like the old one, the new location is off an alley, but much easier to find—accessible from Market Street from the unimaginatively named Market Street Plaza or through Ecker Place from Mission. The disadvantages are that the new space is much smaller and is strictly a gallery. Over on Natoma, the two story warehousey space had a bar that served beer, wine and sake cocktails, plenty of seating and the staff allowed you to bring food in from outside. All of which combined to make it my favorite gallery of all-time and a stealthy way to sneak folks into some art appreciation under the guise of debauchery. However, the new space has large windows so you can also see in from the outside, so hopefully that will get them a bit of foot traffic.

Still, Varnish is a nice, casual gallery that made us feel welcome despite the obvious fact neither of us were about to drop a couple of thou on any of the artworks on display. But they do have a small art book section, so you can still take something home with you if you like what you see.

So, if you find yourself in the area sometime, during your lunch break or after work (they close at 6:00 p.m.), you cold do worse that spending part of that time taking a gander at whatever their current exhibition is. There’s always something interesting on display.

varnishfineart.com/
facebook.com/varnishfineart
michaelsturtz.com
jessicajoslin.com/
Letters of Comment

John Purcell writes:

I have to tell you that it is always good to see all the costume pictures you publish in your snappy clubzine. Oh, that’s right; this really isn’t a “clubzine” in the traditional sense, but in the sense that it contains writings and other contributions from area science fiction fans, and covers sf related activities in the Bay Area. SF2 essentially acts like a clubzine. No matter what we call it, there is definitely a very active group of fans in the San Francisco-Oakland region. That makes for a lot of fun among friends.

Jean Martin responds:

Hi John! That's a cool abbreviation you have for us. SF2 sounds very modern. Everyone calls us something different from SFinSF to SF/SF. I personally prefer SF/SF but you can call us anything you want. It's just good to hear from you! It does seem like the different fandom communities combine to form one big “club” and that's how I see it anyway as there are a lot of the same people that do several of the same activities. It is quite busy and lively around here almost year round.

Like I said, the photos of the costumed revelers at the Space Cowboys Ball, the Renaissance Faire, and Legion Fantastique were really cool. I have never been one to make or wear costumes—the only time I do is at the Texas Renaissance Fair, which we didn’t attend this year— but I most certainly appreciate all the time, effort and money that goes into the creation of these gorgeous gowns and all. My wife Valerie is concocting a Steampunk outfit for me, which hopefully will be ready for Aggiecon 43 in March 2012. If it comes together, a picture will definitely be worth a thousand words. Or at least, a few dozen.

Have fun with your new Steampunk costume and definitely send us a photo!

Christopher Erickson’s brief article about the Star Trek vs. Star Wars debate does a decent job of encapsulating both sides, but I’m with him: I like them both, perhaps the Original Star Trek series more than the ensuing ST series. Star Wars is fun, too, but I have to be in the mood to watch it again; it’s been on Spike TV channel so often that my wife and I call Spike the weekend Star Wars channel. As for Star Trek: the Next Generation, Star Trek Enterprise, Star Trek Voyager and Deep Space Nine, they’re all good, but once again, I don’t drop everything to watch these shows or movie versions if they’re on one of the dozens of cable channels available. It all boils down to personal taste. There is something simply quaint and endearing about the original series, though, that most fans prefer. It must be because it was the first and reminds us old farts of when we were young and full of that “gosh-wow sensawondah” the show filled us with. Yeah, that’s my personal fave of all these shows.

I’m a big fan of both Star Trek and Star Wars and I grew up with both of the original versions of both. So, yes, they do hold a sense of wonder and nostalgia. I’ve liked all the various spinoffs of Star Trek as well to varying degrees (ST:NG being almost as good as the original to me) and even
liked the new reimagined Star Trek movie. On the other hand, I’m sorry to say that the Star Wars franchise has lost some of its appeal to me due to the substandard (at least in my eyes) prequel movies. Still, I loved the original trilogy enough to keep Star Wars as one of my enduring interests. In any case, I had no idea that there was this divide between Star Wars and Star Trek fans. Most people I know in fandom love both. The first time I became aware of this schism was in the movie Fanboys, which was a great movie even though it made fun of both sides of the fence. It is unfortunate that two big names like William Shatner and Carrie Fisher have carried on this debate. I guess we can just sit back and laugh at how silly they’re being and know while this may be true for some people, most scifi fans do love both. What I’ve noticed somewhat, though, is that Star Trek fans generally also like Star Wars. But the reverse is more often than not the case. It’s almost as if Star Wars is more accepted by the mainstream but Star Trek has more of a geek/nerd stigma attached to it. Well, if loving a show that is intelligent, embraces diversity and celebrates honor and courage is being a geek/nerd, then I gladly admit to being one.

Man, Lloyd and Yvonne Penney must have really had a blast at Renovation if they’re still yammering about it. Val and I felt that way about Fencon VIII/DeepSouthCon 49 at the end of September. A very good time was had by all, and we’re looking forward to next year’s Fencon IX when C.J. Cherryh will be the Guest of Honor.

That’s great that you had a great time at the convention you went to.

Now, let me close by wishing you a hearty congratulations on your engagement, España! Now that’s what I call exciting news! Mazel tov, and best wishes for a long, happy life together. Who’s the lucky fellow?

To clarify, it’s me that got engaged to Christopher Erickson. And it’s España who has a new beau, John Coxon. So love is definitely in the air here at SF/SF this year!

And with that, I am done. Take care, and have a great holiday season filled with fun and good food/booze.

Happy holidays to you too and best wishes in the New Year!

Lloyd Penney writes:

Thank you for issue 123 of SF/SF. Christmas is a couple of days away, and like you, we’re probably going to have a green Christmas. You’re going to be a little warmer, but then I gather Long Beach had snow recently. We may be having one of our warmest winters ever…oh, yeah, fanzine comments, here goes…

Jean Martin responds:

The weather has been great around here too! Cold but sunny for the most part.

Jean, you’ve certainly had a wonderful year. My own year has been half and half, I guess. I just had a one-month assignment end after five days because my client’s client got cold feet about the job I was doing, namely doing some data cleansing and migrating documents from an old website to a new one. I wish I could tell you I have a full-time job; I’m sure you’re tired of hearing about my employment status, and I’m tired of writing about it. May 2012 allow me full employment and something new to write about. Don’t all cheer at once now…

Well, it’s been an up and down year for me as well. But, yes, for the most part, it’s been a good one. I hope 2012 will
turn up for you career-wise and I wish the best for everyone in the New Year as well. There seems to be a lot of folks going through health and financial challenges right now. Including people near and dear to my heart. Fingers crossed and holding positive thoughts for a better year for all of us.

TAFF has come and gone, and Jacq Monahan is the TAFF winner for 2012. Should be interesting what happens, and what she does and who she meets. We are still thinking of running for TAFF in 2014.

Good luck if you run for TAFF! That should be a lot of fun if you won.

I think we have lost all remnants of Renaissance Faires in the Toronto area. There was one fellow running a small Ren Faire and a pirate village, but I haven’t heard anything from him lately. His flyers might surface come the spring when the convention season starts up again, but right now, I am more concerned about our friends who are running the annual Ren Faire in the Vancouver area. They seem to have more than the usual number of obstacles in front of them, and many of us are afraid they will be put out of business. Some events in Toronto have absorbed some Steampunk, but I would like to go back to a Steampunk con again. The Canadian National Steampunk Exhibition was a great time, but it turned out to be only a one-shot.

Ren Faires are a huge endeavor and it’s amazing to me how they get produced every year. The ones around here seem to have it down and keep succeeding. I’m glad as I like going to these at least once a year. Steampunk cons are a lot of fun. I hope you get to go to one again soon.

Bacon syrup, bacon marmalade… I’ve finally sampled chocolate-covered bacon, and I have to admit… it’s delicious. The bacon syrup is probably great on waffles, and the bacon marmalade is probably great on toast… I can feel a sugar reaction coming on.

Not a big fan of bacon so I don’t get the bacon craze but it is fun to see what kind of concoctions people come up with. I do like soy bacon so I guess I’m a little bit strange that way.

We put the word out elsewhere, but officially, Yvonne and I will be the FanGoHs at Loscon 39 at the Marriott LAX (I think) U.S. Thanksgiving of 2012. We will be guesting alongside Vernor Vinge and Alan White, and I hope there’ll be plenty of BAreefolks coming down to the con.

I was excited when I heard about you and Yvonne being picked for Loscon 39. I’ve never been and I may just make an effort to go just to finally check it out and to get to see you both again. I’m sure there’ll be a Bay Area contingent going down for that one.

I made the page, and it is time to go. Many thanks for all these great zines, and Yvonne and I wish you all the best Christmas and New Year ever. See you next year!

Thanks so much! And Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you too!

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
Meeting 1113

November 28, 2011

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

Began 8pm — with talk of Morlocks.
28 people attended.

We established a party jar.
The minutes for meeting 1112 were accepted as “needless to say, the meeting broke”.
The Treasurer reported that last week we took in $13.00 in the regular jar & 2.75 in the party jar.
The VP reported there is no new issue of Drink Tank — but there IS a new Journey Planet out on efanzines.com & he’s watching lots of versions of Bladerunner and that Frank Wu is here tonight → and then Frank bought a BASFA membership for Spacekat/Briana Wu.
The President welcomed Briana & reminded Adrienne to write to Craig Ferguson.

And THEN Briana called for a new election for VP. The ballot ended up with Briana and Chris as candidates — and after a stirring round of speeches and votes — Chris Garcia was re-elected as BASFA’s VP.
Announcements

Ken announced that this Dec 3, Saturday there will be a Psychotronic Film Festival at Foothill college — at 7:30 in room 5015, $5 at the door and $2 for parking & he also announced that he’s hosting 4 hours of songs from the Psychotronic Film Festival on KFJC this Thursday from 10am till 2pm & also announced that Ken Russell died.

Dann announced that he has been hired as a contractor for some income but he is still looking for more work.

Adrienne announced that Bay Area Ghost Hunters has meet-n-greets coming up on Dec 1 at the San Mateo County Recorder’s office at 2:30pm & on Dec 8 at 5pm at Trials Pub.

Andy announced there are a few hours more till midnight — while ChiCon is having an extended Black Friday sale of Worldcon memberships for $15 off & announced that Photoflex is having a factory sale on Dec 4 [see www.photoflex.com/img/phfx/mail/2010_11_30_html/index.html] & announced that on Dec 1 Westercon 66 membership rates go up to $65.00.

Josh announced that Chez Panisse is sponsoring a lecture track at Berkeley called “Edible Education” at Berkeley’s Wheeler hall — and there are webcasts of these lecture. [see www.chezpanissefoundation.org/news-events].

Reviews

Chris reviewed Hugo — as clockwork, not steampunk and the best movie he’s seen this year — and there were uniformly positive comments following this; and he also reviewed The Descendants as shockingly good, worth full price & then reviewed The Muppets as very funny and “Oh crap” — with other comments having varied responses & then he reviewed different DVDs of Bladerunner as being of varied quality — but the 1992 director’s cut is the best and the 1st theatrical release was also good.

Bill reviewed the drive to Loscon as not worth full price, that Loscon seemed sparsely populated and the drive back was better.

Briana espoused heresy in her review of Skyrim as being confusing, boring and she didn’t like the art and Frank followed that it was a muddled medieval mess.

Adrienne reviewed seasons 2 and 3 of The Big Bang Theory as the show is quite excellent fun and she bought them for wonderfully low prices.

Dann reviewed Pirate Radio as very good — very worth watching & highly recommended & Mo followed that it was a lot of fun to watch.

We then did birthday and regular auctions.
We adjourned at 9:32 pm.
Rumor of the Week: “Lemme hear you say Wu!”
Meeting 1114

December 5, 2011

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

Began 8pm — without pitchers.
28 people attended.
We established a party jar.
The minutes for meeting 1113 were accepted as “editorially commented”.
The Treasurer reported that last week we took in $57.15 in the regular jar & 16.75 in the party jar.
The VP reported there is a new issue of Drink Tank out, issue #299 & the exploding Death Star gives him a headache, but not Ben Kenobi & that this year he will celebrate RepliChristmas & there’s still time to send him content for Journey Planet but the deadline was yesterday.
The President had nothing fannish to report and “you only have yourselves to blame”.
BASFA’s official mailing address is POBox 61363, Sunnyvale 94088.
The website maintenance committee is delayed in his website cleanup.

And Jo then wished to state his appreciation for organizations naming themselves something that Bill the Cat would like.

Announcements

Andy announced that this Wednesday night, 6pm the Tech Museum will have a Tinker Drinker demonstration night — about robotics and drinking, check the Tech’s website for details and costs.

Dave C announced that Cargo Cult books offers help for anyone wanting to buy books from Other Change of Hobbit & announced that beginning Jan 4th Green 960 will change format to right wing radio and boot off all their old hosts; Adrienne followed noting that KGO has just had a drastic format change as well.

Chris announced that Darrell Sweet passed away.

Ric [no ‘K’] announced that the Other Change of Hobbit is accepting donations.

Art announced that he has a mysterious device he would like identified & announced that he has some VHS tapes out in his vehicle that he’d like to offload.

Fred announced that there will be a comics, anime, gaming minicon in Sacramento Dec 11, SacCon, at the Scottish Rite Center, check www.sac-con.com for more details.

Mo announced that she would like to do a Dickensian Tarot deck but realizes it will be a lot of work and would like help.

Tom announced that Potlatch 21 has their hotel contract now & to check http://potlatch-sf.org for more details.

Jo announced that he made an offer on a house today.
Reviews

Ed reviewed LosCon as the drive down was scenic, he helped with set-up, the con was a little slow & small & angry, but he had fun, there were various follow-ons mentioning hotel fail, fall colors and tule fog.

Randy reviewed *My Weekend with Marilyn* as a bit of a touching view of her.

“Bob” reviewed *Hugo* — as a movie he enjoyed immensely — not a lot of action — but so very appropriate for a BASFA crowd.

Chris joshed Jo & then reviewed *Psych* as a TV series basically about him & that the episode with Shatner makes it worth having cable for & reviewed *Into the Barn* by Piers Anthony as it proved his eyes could vomit [Dave C commented “When your eyes bleed, it doesn’t count as vomit”].

Ric reviewed the *Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick as a thick book with lots of intricate interior art & incredibly recommended & he reviewed a nest building thermostat as very geeky and expensive but that he’s currently testing his out.

Jo reviewed the *Love Potion* as a talent contest/play, done incredibly well — it may be back in April, worth full price.

Dave C reviewed Kim Newman’s book *Professor Moriarty* as a “historical document”, lots of fun and full of rip-roaring yarns.

[evil] Kevin reviewed a sale at Evil Mad Scientists Laboratory as a blast, he highly recommends their products, check their website www.evilmadscientist.com.

Andy reviewed the Photoflex sale as it was a good thing they got there before the doors opened because the good stuff went really quickly.

Tom reviewed Recardiacs Fly as an awesome “cover band for an obscure band you never heard of” and worth hearing.

We then did birthday and regular auctions.

We adjourned at 10:05 pm.

Rumor of the Week: “Jo has plans to host Potlatch 25”.

Meeting 1115

December 12, 2011

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

Began 8pm — with thoughts of Mittens.
25 people attended.
We established a party jar.
The minutes for meeting 1114 were accepted as “snow ninjas”.
The Treasurer reported that last week we took in $28.75 in the regular jar & 13.50 in the party jar.
The VP reported there is a new issue of *Drink Tank* written & also things and ... stuff.
The President had nothing fannish to report.
The website maintenance committee has made the requested changes on the website.

Announcements
[tall] Kevin announced that he’s likely to be gone around Gift-mas & January so that the 3 weeks of BASFA Hugo nominations will be done the 1st 3 weekends of February.
Ken announced that 2 formerly lost episodes of Dr Why have been recovered & they are now down to 106 lost episodes.
Ed announced that May 4-6 2012 will be a Star Wars con called “May the Fourth be with you” — check their website maythefourthbewithyou.us & he announced that ebooks Mike Ward can be embarrassed by mention of a bad fanfic.
Mo announced that she has a studio in 199 Martha St & there will be a gallery showing at the building — the SJ Arts Citadel starting 8pm Dec 16 from 8pm till midnight.
Chris announced that the TAFF race has ended & Jacqueline Moynahan won.
Chuck announced that Jerry Robinson has died last week.
Dave C announced that David Clark or Clarke — is a rash upon TV & also announced that ... never mind.
Lisa announced that her son is taking finals this week & asked for a moment of silence for all the students in similar straits.
I suggested that everyone go buy Skyrim.

Reviews
I reviewed Ryk Spoor’s book — Grand Central Arena as an immensely good read, with entertaining and well-drawn characters that I liked; go buy this book ... and buy Skyrim too ^_^
Adrienne reviewed China Stix on Scott & ElCamino as having very good food and they also do dim sum; she likes that they let you make orders off the menu; it was worth full price and recommended.
Ed reviewed Thai Bodia as recommended, they serve both Thai and Cambodian fare, he also reviewed Real Steel as a movie with crappy science but good human interest and still found it fun, worth matinee & he reviewed Weber’s latest book in the Armageddon Reef series as worth paperback.
Mo reviewed an audio book of The Story of Edgar Sawtelle by David Wroblewski as it had promise but disappointed her overall; she has also seen 2 movies recently which were gorgeous to look at, but lacking in story or decent plot to the point that she felt abused — the 2 films being Immortals & The 3 Musketeers [tho it was phrased as “The 3 bad-done Steampunk Musketeers”] — Dann followed that he was also disappointed by these movies — there were good bits but more than 70% of each movie was poorly done & neither were worth matinee.
[evil] Kevin reviewed braving the dragons & tasting wine at ConCannon winery and highly recommends it as worth full price.
Chris reviewed a Locus party as they had the best and creepiest award ever there — the World Fantasy award — he enjoyed cheese there & he reviewed Saturine as the best masked wrestler idea ever.
Diana reviewed a book as techno-geek stuff that she enjoyed.
Sandra reviewed a trailer for MIB 3 as nice eye candy.
Dave C reviewed *Hugo* as worth going out to see — “it will make you better people” & reviewed the OC Discovery Science TacoBell center as not worth the $25 he paid for it & reviewed *Cartoon Dump* in Hollywood as the worst possible cartoon ideas & worth full price.

Andy reviewed Burrito Bison as a really good bad video game — worth having the internet to get access to it.

Eric reviewed the Kindle Fire & Nook as difficult to use with normal fingers.

We then did birthday and regular auctions.

We adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Rumor of the Week: “Chris Garcia will be named the new chief of the Fanboy Investigators”.

**Meeting 1116**

December 19, 2011

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 8ish — with kitty food.
28 people attended.
We established a party jar.

The minutes for meeting 1114 were accepted as “Skyrim, Skyrim, Skyrim, Skyrim, Skyrim, Skyrim”.

There was no Treasurer’s report.
There was no VP report, but there was a rumor that he butt-dialled.

The President reported that as of 7pm the lights returned to Candlestick.

Adrienne reported that she sent her letter off to Craig Ferguson.

**Announcements**

Ken announced that the Christmas holidays necessitated there by one one Legion of Rasselon meeting this month — on Dec 30, 7:30pm at 1st & Trimble & he has been awarded a regular slot on KFJC from 10am to 2pm Thursdays.

Lisa announced “Happy Hanukah” & announced that Bon Jovi is still not dead.

Dave C announced that SF Sketchfest “in their own words” [celebrity autobiographies] will be read on Feb 3-4 2012 at the Marine memorial theatre, check www.sfsketchfest.com.

I announced that Trey & I will not be at the Dec 26 BASFA meeting.

**Reviews**

I reviewed *Game of Shadows* as a rousing good romp & fun film, worth full price [other comments followed, mostly positive] and I also reviewed *Snuff* by Terry Pratchett as marvellous, I enjoyed it greatly — that it had a wonderful take on poo & worth full hardback price.
Andy reviewed something he didn’t remember as definitely not worth full price but he is recovering & he rode the bike home.

[evil] Kevin reviewed the Aerostitch Roadcrafter 2-piece suit and the Shoei RF900 helmet as definitely worth full price.

Chuck reviewed an autobiography of Joe Simon as a good history of the comic industry now passed.

Jan reviewed a Japanese-Thai-Fusion place in Belmont called Me.N.U as really interesting and worth full price.

Fred reviewed the Rodin exhibit in Stanford as free and worth seeing.

Bradford reviewed the original Topper movie as wonderful and worth seeking out & reviewed the 10th season of Smallville as they went all out & it’s enjoyable and worth buying on DVD.

Dave C reviewed The Bookman as worth paperback — an alternative history fantasy steampunky kind of book & reviewed Young Adult as a fun nervous kind of stalkery movie, worth matinee.

Mo reviewed the book Amazonia as not worth reading & don’t bother.

Dann reviewed Darby O’Gill and the Little People as a true gem — an outstanding visual treat & he would pay twice normal cinema prices to see it in the theatre.

Carol reviewed SMOFcon in Amsterdam as a good con — they also visited friends and had a wonderful time; Bill followed that he got some useful information from the panels and was on one as well, that he had fun, KLM was worth full price & the Kiev airport is like SJ’s Terminal C.

We then did auctions.

We adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Unofficial Rumor of the Week: “Spam, spam, spam, spam, sausage & Skyrim”.

Trans-Atlantic Fan Fun(d)

In a close contest, Jacqueline Monahan has won the 2012 TAFF race and will be attending Olympus, the 2012 Eastercon. To follow Jacqueline on her trip, and to stay up to date on the latest TAFF news:

Follow @TAFFnews,
Friend facebook.com/TAFFnews or
Join the TAFFnews.livejournal.com community

For a fabulous archive of TAFF history maintained by David Langford, please visit taff.org.uk.
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.

Friday, January 6
Mythbusters Behind the Myths
Gallo Center for the Arts
1000 I Street, San Jose
www.mythbusterstour.com
“MythBusters Behind the Myths” brings you face to face with the curious world of Jamie and Adam as the duo matches wits on stage with each other and members of the audience.
8 p.m. Check website for prices

Saturday, January 7
Mythbusters Behind the Myths
Wells Fargo Center for the Arts
50 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa
www.mythbusterstour.com
8 p.m. Check website for prices

Sunday, January 8
Mythbusters Behind the Myths
Golden Gate Theatre
1 Taylor Street, San Francisco
www.mythbusterstour.com
7 p.m. Check website for prices

Monday, January 9
Mythbusters Behind the Myths
Community Center Theatre
1301 L Street, Sacramento
www.mythbusterstour.com
8 p.m. Check website for prices

Thursday-Saturday, January 11-14 and 18-21
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 Suprynnowicz.
45-65

Thursday-Monday, January 12-16
Further Confusion
San Jose Marriott
301 South Market Street, San Jose
www.furtherconfusion.org
Anthropomorphic convention. GOH: E.E. Knight
$45 (till December 30)

Friday, January 13-February 12
Little Brother
Custom Made Theatre Company
1620 Gough Street, San Francisco
www.custommade.org
Adaptation of Cory Doctorow’s novel of the same title. Adapted and directed by Josh Costello
Check website for tickets and showtimes
Friday, January 20
**The Edwardian World’s Faire**
The Regency Ballroom
1300 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco
edwardianball.com
A little more rambunctious and endlessly colorful, Friday night’s World’s Faire presents an interactive night of Barbary Coast themed **Midway Games**, bicycle powered **Carnival Rides** by Cyclecide, Steam-powered machinery, circus sideshows, burlesque, and this year, a foray into “Chap Hop” with headliner Professor Elemental direct from the UK! Also featuring Delachaux, Sour Mash Hug Band, Flynn Creek Circus, Vau de Vire Society, DJ Fact.50, Cyclecide, KSW, and the Vendor Bazaar & Piano Saloon featuring the John Brothers Piano Company.
7:30 p.m. $29

Saturday, January 21
**Afternoon Tea With Professor Elemental**
The Regency Ballroom
1300 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco
edwardianball.com
In addition to Professor Elemental’s Friday stage appearance, we are pleased to announce a special Saturday afternoon event, “Afternoon Tea with The Professor,” wherein a limited number of guests may purchase tickets for “proper tea” with our esteemed guest inside the “Museum of Wonders.” While guests enjoy their tea and pastries, The Professor will entertain each table and offer a ‘menu’ of rap subjects, the selection will then be accommodated by a unique, acapella performance, followed by a bit of whimsical chat and capricious banter.
3 p.m. $30

Saturday, January 21
**The 12th Annual Edwardian Ball**
The Regency Ballroom
1300 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco
edwardianball.com
Ballroom dance, roaming performances, and the tales and characters of Edward Gorey brought to life on stage and throughout. Each year, in the depths of the night, Edwardian Ball founders Rosin Coven & their co-hosts Vau de Vire Society bring a featured Gorey story to life onstage with original music, choreography, narration, circus acts, and many surprises. This year’s feature is “The Iron Tonic”. The Vendor Bazaar is of course open this night as well, saunter down and peruse the delights, enjoy a hand of cards at the Gaming Parlour, sip an absinthe cocktail, and dance the night away 8 p.m. $39

Monday, January 23
**Forbidden Thrills Movie Night**
Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
1304 Lincoln, Alameda
www.thrillville.net
7:30 p.m. Free

Friday-Monday, February 17-20
**Pantheacon**
Doubletree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place, San Jose
www.pantheacon.com
Pagan convention.
$65 til January 15

Saturday-Sunday, February 18-19
**Animation on Display**
Kabuki Hotel
1625 Post Street, San Francisco
www.aodsfsf.org
Celebration of Japanese animation, video games, recent American cartoons, and related interests.
$25 till January 15
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 20: Martians Attack! Invaders From Mars (1953) Plus! The Angry Red Planet (1959)
7:30 p.m. Free

Potlatch 21
Best Western Executive Inn
Seattle
potlatch-sf.org
Literary SF convention. Alternates between SF Bay Area and Seattle.

FOGCon
Walnut Creet Marriott,
2355 North Main Street, Walnut Creek
fogcon.org
Honored guests: Nalo Hopkinson, Shelley Jackson. Honored Ghost; Mary Shelley.

Consonance
Hilton Newark/Fremont
39900 Balentine Drive, Newark
www.consonance.org
Filk convention. GOH: Brenda Sinclair Sutton, Teresa Powell, Mary Crowell and Gwen Knighton. Interfilk Guest; Partners in K'Rhyne, W. Randy Hoffman and Kira Heston
Toastmistress: Seanan McGuire, International Guest: Brook Lunderville
$45 (till December 31)

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 19: Subversive Sub-cinema! The Atomic Submarine (1960) Plus! Destination Inner Space (1966)
7:30 p.m. Free

Monday, March 19
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 19: Subversive Sub-cinema! The Atomic Submarine (1960) Plus! Destination Inner Space (1966)
7:30 p.m. Free

Forbidden Thrills Movie Night
Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
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7:30 p.m. Free

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 21: Shatfest! Kingdom of the Spiders (1977) Plus! The Devil's Rain (1975)
7:30 p.m. Free

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. June 18: Tiki Drive-In Beach Party! In Forbidden Island’s parking lot, from the archives of Sci-Fi Bob Ekman: catch a 16mm wave of trailers, cartoons, shorts and the classic creature feature The Horror of Party Beach (1964)
7:30 p.m. Free

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. June 18: Tiki Drive-In Beach Party! In Forbidden Island’s parking lot, from the archives of Sci-Fi Bob Ekman: catch a 16mm wave of trailers, cartoons, shorts and the classic creature feature The Horror of Party Beach (1964)
7:30 p.m. Free
Monday, July 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. July 23: Shazam Summer Jam! All 12 chapters of the greatest serial of all time! The Adventures of Captain Marvel (1941) 7:30 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, August 3-6

Mythcon 43
Clark Kerr Conference Center
2601 Warring St, Berkeley
www.mythsoc.org
The annual conference of the Mythopoeic Society. GOH: Grace Lin, G. Ronald Murphy.

Sundays

Bad Movie Night
The Dark Room Theater
2263 Mission Street, San Francisco
www.darkroomsf.com
Featuring bad movies old and new. 8 p.m. $5

Sakuramento Anime Society
Rancho Cordova Library
9845 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova
www.saclibrary.org
Meets every Sunday to watch old and new anime and anime music videos, play collectible card games, practice artwork and make AMVs. 3-6 p.m.

SF Games
Zephyr Cafe
3643 Balboa 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. 2 p.m. Free
### Mondays

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

### Tuesdays

**MG1 Boffers & Outdoor Games**  
Codornices Park  
1201 Euclid Ave, Berkeley  
mgisciaf.angelfire.com  
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

**Principality of Mists Fighter Practice**  
Twin Creeks Sports Complex  
969 Caribbean Drive, Sunnyvale  
www.westkingdom.org/node/343  
SCA event. Non-members must remember to fill out a waiver form. In case of rain, call from 3pm on to determine if the facility will be closed that day. 408-534-1169.  
7 p.m. - 10:30 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.  
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

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 Jude Livingston at sfscifi@yahoo.com for more information.

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

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
foothill.anime.net
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. Usually takes place the first Sunday (San Mateo) and second Monday (San Francisco) of the month, please check Facebook or website for details.
7:30 p.m. Free

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.

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

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

Foothill Anime
Building 5015, Foothill College
Los Altos Hills
foothill.anime.net
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. Usually takes place the first Sunday (San Mateo) and second Monday (San Francisco) of the month, please check Facebook or website for details.
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Noon - 2 p.m. Free
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>East Bay Star Wars Club</strong></th>
<th><strong>Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club</strong></th>
<th><strong>USS Northern Lights</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Perk</td>
<td>Borderlands Books</td>
<td>sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights</td>
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<tr>
<td>10086 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito</td>
<td>866 Valencia, San Francisco</td>
<td>Contact <a href="mailto:firstjedi2000@yahoo.com">firstjedi2000@yahoo.com</a> for specifics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>510-558-7375</td>
<td><a href="http://www.borderlands-books.com">www.borderlands-books.com</a></td>
<td>The ‘Lights is a chapter of Starfleet International and a swell group of science fiction fans. We do more than Trek. Usually meets the third Friday of the month, with social event TBD.</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.ebstarwars.com">www.ebstarwars.com</a></td>
<td>Meets the third Sunday of the month. Please contact Jude at <a href="mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com">jfeldman@borderlands-books.com</a> for more information.</td>
<td>7 p.m. Free</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td><strong>Fantastic Frontiers</strong></td>
<td><strong>USS Defiance</strong></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/">www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/</a></td>
<td>5026 Don Julio Blvd, Sacramento</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social club for Sacramento County sci fi/fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times and locations.</td>
<td>1566 Howe Ave, Sacramento</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.myspace.com/d2121978">www.myspace.com/d2121978</a></td>
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<td>Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month.</td>
<td>7 p.m. Free</td>
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<td><strong>No-Name Anime</strong></td>
<td><strong>Micro Gods, Inc.</strong></td>
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<td>Saratoga Library</td>
<td>Berkeley Public Library, West Branch</td>
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<tr>
<td>13650 Saratoga Avenue</td>
<td>1125 University Ave, Berkeley</td>
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<td>Saratoga</td>
<td>mgisciaf.angelfire.com</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.nnanime.com">www.nnanime.com</a></td>
<td>groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyClub/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.myspace.com/d2121978">www.myspace.com/d2121978</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Family Club for fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Movie, Anime &amp; Manga. Meets every 3rd Saturday, please check Yahoo group for updates.</td>
<td>2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free</td>
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<td><strong>SF Browncoats</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sci-Fi Book Group with Kym</strong></td>
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<td>Cafe Murano</td>
<td>Barnes &amp; Noble</td>
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<td>1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco</td>
<td>El Cerrito Plaza, 6050 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.sfbrowncoats.com">www.sfbrowncoats.com</a></td>
<td>store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/3110722-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month.</td>
<td>3110722-6</td>
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<td>Noon</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Meets the fourth Friday of the month.</td>
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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
Welcome to the Mother Ship
by Lucy Huntzinger
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<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bad Movie Night</td>
<td>BASFA SV Boardgamers</td>
<td>MGI Boffers Fighter Practice</td>
<td>BA Role-Playing Soc E.Bay Strategy Games</td>
<td>CAS: NightLife</td>
<td>SF Games Haunted Haight Vampire Walking</td>
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<td>Sakuramento Anime</td>
<td>SF Games</td>
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<td>Fanboy Planet Podcast SV Boardgamers</td>
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<td>Foothill Anime</td>
<td>Geeks Vs. Geeks (SM)</td>
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<td>Spec Fic Book Club</td>
<td>Geeks Vs. Geeks (SF)</td>
<td>Machine: A Fire Opera (thru Sat)</td>
<td>Further Confusion (thru Mon)</td>
<td>SF&amp;F Writers’ Group</td>
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<td>Little Brother (thru Feb 12)</td>
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<td>East Bay Star Wars</td>
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<td>Machine: A Fire Opera (thru Sat)</td>
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<td>The Edwardian World’s Faire</td>
<td>The 12th Annual Edwardian Ball</td>
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<td>USS Defiance</td>
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<td>Religion &amp; SF</td>
<td>Forbidden Thrills Movie Night</td>
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<td>Other Realms</td>
<td>SF&amp;F Writers’ Group</td>
<td>Legion of Rassilon Sci-Fi Book Group</td>
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<td>USS Augusta Ada</td>
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<td>Veritech Fighter Cmd 13</td>
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**Science Fiction/San Francisco #124 – December 28, 2011 – SF/SF is the monthly news zine for the San Francisco Bay Area – www.efanzines.com.**