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It was seven years ago in August 2005 when I wrote my first article for *Science Fiction/San Francisco* after founder Jack Avery just started the zine a few months before. That first article was about the Browncoats who were very active at the time and were partly responsible for the film *Serenity* being made. If anyone wants to read it for nostalgia’s sake, here’s the link: www.efanzines.com/SFSF/SFSF06.pdf.

Since that time, my life has been a whirlwind of creative and meaningful fannish events that have been captured in the pages of *SF/SF*. It has been my pride and joy to have featured the talents and experiences of other Bay Area writers, photographers and artists as well. I hope to continue this tradition for more years to come.

The future of *SF/SF* was uncertain only a few months after it began. Jack Avery decided not to continue publishing it. However, both Chris Garcia and I realized how special *SF/SF* was and we decided to co-edit the zine, and we did this for several years until Chris stepped down as well.

Our roster of staff and contributors has changed over the years as well. I miss each and everyone of those who have left and hope they will decide to come back some day. And a few have. But I’m also hoping for new people to come on board. So if you’re interested, please don’t be shy and contact me!

Our current team is amazing, and I believe we publish a high-quality and entertaining zine month after month. There’s a lot of variety, the writing is good and the visuals, both photos and artwork, are appealing. *SF/SF* is a “well-oiled machine” as Tom said at our year-end meeting last year. It still seems magical to me how things just come together out of nothing by the time España and I gather all the articles and Tom lays everything out. Lucy’s photos also always make for a very enticing cover to each issue. And now we have Chris regularly submitting event coverage oftentimes with interesting, related op-eds.

I think our publishing monthly now works well for all of us as well as for our readers. With so many of us so busy with our every day lives, events and other commitments, I think people don’t have to the time to read what was at the start a weekly zine, which became twice a month, and is now just once month.

When we started, there were very few publications dedicated to covering fandom news and events, and fandom in general. Now, with the explosion of social media and more accessible technology, it seems like everyone has a blog and there are a lot of podcasts, showcasts, web zines, web sites and the like. It’s almost like fanzines in pdf are a quaint artifact of fandom history. However, I still like the fanzine format, probably because I have been a news journalist for around 30 years, and it feels more comfortable for me to read a static finished product that doesn’t change. It is a part of history and
stays that way instead of being constantly updated for the latest and greatest. I think it’s nice to slow down and savor things that are more in-depth and less techy in this day of Twitter and news bites.

So yeah, I think we still have something special to offer. Besides, I believe SF/SF is still the only media outlet that covers all types of fandom events in the Bay Area on a regular basis.

Speaking of fandom events, Comic-Con has just wrapped up and I’ve been reading a few news stories about it. Every year I’m jealous of those who are there and having fun costuming, going to panels and meeting celebrities and other creative folk. But I give myself the same self-talk every year, that the one year I went in 2005 is good enough for me. I just can’t justify the monetary, physical and time expense of going to Comic-Con when it is now so huge and getting bigger every year.

Most people spend several hours in line to see the big and popular panels and that is just too tiring for me. Not to mention dangerous as there was a pen-stabbing altercation a couple of years ago and this year someone died while crossing the street to line up for a panel. The dealer room is just so big and I really don’t want to buy more things. Costuming is not very comfortable as walking the crowded halls in costume, or even taking pictures of others in costume with so many people around, is not my idea of fun. Participating in the masquerade was fun when I went but I remember it eating up my entire day and I was unable to see much of anything that Saturday. And there were I believe 60 entries and it was quite a long show.

I would have dearly loved to see the 10th anniversary reunion of the Firefly cast as well as the Hobbit panel, which had Peter Jackson and several of the main characters. Tolkien’s work has been a very important influence on me since the early 80s and continues to mean something to me to this day. And Firefly was very instrumental in the beginning of my life in fandom as I was in a Firefly-themed masquerade at Comic-Con in 2005, I met España at the Serenity screening that same year, and as I mentioned earlier, my first article for SF/SF was about the Firefly fan group, the Browncoats.

But I did have a special occasion this past June, my and Chris’s wedding, which felt like a fandom convention (in its planning stages and execution). We had a Steampunk time travel theme and we had friends from our overlapping scifi/fantasy, dance and costuming communities in attendance. We had a fairly small wedding (and we couldn’t invite all the people we wanted to) but it was quite a production. We eschewed tradition for a more meaningful and fun affair. The geeky elements were subtle, though, and it was still elegant. Well, it did have a fairly visible Doctor Who influence as Chris and I bonded over that show.

So I guess that was my “convention” for this summer. There are no more conventions for me until Convolutions in November. In between are Renaissance Faires and my honeymoon, which will be a tour of the UK. I’ll be reporting on the fannish highlights of that trip soon afterwards, of course.

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
Join Me!

by José Sánchez
A Festival of Pirates and Mermaids

By Christopher Erickson
Senior Staff Writer

Continuing a Father’s Day Weekend tradition, the 6th Annual Northern California Pirate Festival landed at the Vallejo Waterfront. The event has continued to expand over the six-year period that it has existed. This year was no different from all of the rest in that it added several new things including a big emphasis on mermaids.

I chose to go on Sunday due to my wedding rehearsal on Saturday. The crowds were as large as ever throughout the day.

Parking was already packed even before the event opened. I was able to get a decent spot in the overfill lot for the ferry parking. The weather for the day was on the extremely hot end. It seems to be either warm and sunny or overcast and cool.

The opening ceremony, which I was finally able to witness, consisted of cannon fire from one of the ships to signal that the gates were open. The familiar mast with the sail adorned with the festival logo marked the entrance where pirates welcomed those walking in and singers sang sea shanties.
The people who were there early were in costume and were already enjoying the entertainment stages, posing for photos and shopping for treasure. There were more than enough mermaids this year to match the mermaid theme. Some of the costumes incorporated parasols to look like jellyfish for a nice additional touch (and providing great shade and protection from the sun). There was also a woman dressed as Ariel from Disney’s *The Little Mermaid* to complete the theme.

For the entertainment, there was a lagoon tank with mermaids and selkies (a Scottish word for a type of merman). The mermaids and mermen would swim around the tank and pop up to playfully splash the observers. A ramp surrounded the tank so you could have a good look at them while an announcer lured you in to see the treasures of the sea. There was also an area set up with the opportunity to have a professional photo taken with one of the mermaids, which was printed onsite as a keepsake. The lagoon and mermaids were provided by the Dive Bar in Sacramento ([divebarsacramento.com](http://divebarsacramento.com)). The lagoon never seemed to be short of people forming a line.

The other new mermaid-themed entertainment was the band Mister Mac and the Mermaids, the world’s only pirate-and-mermaid band. The group consists of Mister Mac playing guitar with the mermaids singing. The songs were sea-themed
singalongs for everyone and included a cover of The Beatles’ “Octopus’s Garden.” The mermaids were also posing for pictures with people.

There were plenty of encampments at the festival. One was the Government House, were you could see the Governor of the colony and his staff tending to daily duties, including signing pardons for former pirates who renounced their previous unlawful activities. The Governor even held a public ceremony to show that becoming an honest citizen would be profitable. The local military also paraded through the grounds to show their might.

Another of the encampments was the Pirates of Emerson (piratesofemerson.com). They had a house set up to help advertise their year-round attractions and undead ghost pirates and zombies to scare the unbelievers.

There was also the School of Piracy where potential young scalawags could learn about seamanship and knot tying, and swing across from one ship to another and knock down British sailors like 10-pins. The school was in its second year and was just as popular as ever. The school was led by the notorious pirates “Calico” Jack Rackham and Anne Bonney.

One of the most popular moments throughout the day was the battle between the British soldiers on shore and the pirate
ship roaming the waters of Vallejo. The ship had its full sails up and exchanged fire with the British Naval officers stationed on the waterfront. Clouds of white smoke billowed into the sky and loud reports of shots were fired from both sides. This event drew many onlookers who miraculously were not harmed.

As for the shopping, there were plenty of booths selling jewelry, swords and pistols, and games. One booth had mermaid-, pirate- and nautical-themed artwork for sale. Another sold belly dance scarves and dresses, and there was more than enough pewter to fill a foundry. There were also plenty of libations for everyone, with both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks available as well as plenty of hot food and cool deserts for consumption.

My big adventure was reprising the 11th Doctor this year. I was originally planning on wearing my pirate outfit (a mixture
of Caribbean pirate with touches of Asian and African items) until someone informed me of the mermaids that were going to be at the festival and another person asked me which Doctor I was going to be. At that point, I knew I had to go as the 11th Doctor (complete with the Black Spot). I managed to get photos with a number of sirens and mermaids, several pirates, a couple of Captain Jack Sparrows and even marked a few other people who might be fellow time travelers. The best moment of recognition was from the booth promoting the Robert Louis Stevenson house (www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=963). They recognized me and gave me a black spot.

Despite the heat, everyone seemed to have a good time. The festival was able to add even more touches and a wildly popular new attraction. This year provided even more wonderful entertainment that should continue to draw the crowds in the future.
Pirates and Mermaids in Pop Culture

By Christopher Erickson
Senior Staff Writer

With the Pirates of the Caribbean possibly having another two films made in the series, it would seem that pirates are becoming popular again in the public media. However, there was never a time where there were no pirates in popular media since Victorian fiction.

Pirate fiction was featured in the novels of Robert Louis Stevenson, the Gilbert and Sullivan musical The Pirates of Penzance, and other fiction of the time. With the dawn of the 20th century and the creation of motion pictures, pirates became a popular subject of movies, particularly in the 1940s and 1950s.

It would seem that pirates died out in the 1950s, but the traditional pirate morphed into the “space pirate” idea of the 1960s, especially with the rise of science fiction on television. The Star Trek episode “Mirror Mirror” featured the Enterprise crew in an alternate dimension as space pirates as well as the Orions in several episodes in several Star Trek incarnations. Anime also has a tradition of space pirates going back to Captain Harlock appearing in several different anime including his own series in 1978. Space pirates were also featured in the Doctor Who episodes “The Space Pirates” from 1969 and “The Pirate Planet” from 1978. The space pirate group called the Starjammers was introduced into the pages of Marvel’s The Uncanny X-Men in 1977. Space pirates were also the main antagonist group featured in the video game series Metroid, first introduced in 1986.

Pirates made a huge comeback in the 1980s in movies such as The Princess Bride with the Dread Pirate Roberts, Roman Polanski’s Pirates, and The Goonies; with the launch of the LEGO Pirates toy line; and as pirates were featured heavily in an issue of the Watchmen comics by Allan Moore. Tim Powers also had pirates in his book On Stranger Tides. Captain Morgan Original Spiced Rum was introduced to the United States in 1984. The popular video game Sid Meier’s Pirates! was introduced in 1987 and featured open-ended play in a vast area. Pirates were also used heavily on the cover of romance novels.

Pirates have also become Steampunk mainstays, from the band Abney Park, the airship pirates of the Iron Vulture from Disney’s TaleSpin cartoon, Captain Shakespeare in Neil Gaiman’s Stardust and the antagonist in the Elseworlds Batman comic “Master of the Future” featured in Batman: Gotham by Gaslight.

Pirates have made a major return in the public consciousness through the International Talk Like A Pirate Day, the Pirates of the Caribbean movies, manga and anime shows like One Piece and the popularity of collegiate and professional sports teams with pirate-themed names like the Oakland Raiders, Pittsburgh Pirates and Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Mermaids have also been popular as a part of fiction whether as sirens luring hapless sailors to the sea as in The...
*Odyssey* or in Hans Christen Andersen’s *The Little Mermaid*. Although not many stories have featured mermaids as the main characters other than adaptations of the fairy tale or the Tom Hanks/Daryl Hannah movie *Splash*, there have been a lot of media that have mermaids in them.

One of Superman’s love interests in the comics is Lori Lemaris, a mermaid. Mer-Man from the cartoon series *He-Man and the Masters of the Universe* is one of Skeletor’s minions. Several mangas heavily feature mermaid characters including *Rave Master*, *One Piece*, *Mermaid Saga* and *My Wife is a Mermaid*. In the book and movie *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, one of the contests involve merfolk. Mermaids were also one of the major plot points in the movie *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*. Mermaids have also been featured in television shows like *Charmed* (“Siren’s Song”) and *Doctor Who* (“The Curse of the Black Spot”).

Pirates and mermaids have been around for a long time in multiple formats. So it should come as no surprise that they have both become even more popular in the last few years.
Lee's Comics Celebrates its 30th Anniversary

By Lee Hester

Owner of Lee’s Comics in Mountain View and San Mateo and on eBay

Our 30th Anniversary sale was an absolute smash! The response was overwhelming. So many of you came to extend your well wishes, and to congratulate me and my staff for achieving this milestone of 30 years in Bay Area comics retailing. I must say, I’m the one who’s grateful. Thanks to your amazing support, we have been able to keep Lee’s Comics not only surviving, but thriving over the years. Thank you for being a part of it. For that, I owe you a debt from the bottom of my heart that I can never repay.

I know we were in for a busy day when folks starting ling up two hours before our opening time. We gave away all 30 shirts a half hour beforehand. Most people were nice enough to go along with my request to put them on. So I got a great picture of the “Lee’s Army” all decked out.

At 11 a.m. we had our big drawing where we gave away ten $30 Lee’s Gift Certificates. That was a huge hit.

My friend Mark Arnold gave me an amazing gift. He had a wonderful anniversary cake made up next door at Goldilocks, and surprised me with it. It was a beautiful gesture, and an absolutely perfect gift. I can’t tell you what a kick I got from receiving such a perfect and thoughtful gift. The Goldilocks staff brought it out after the drawing, and cut pieces for all the customers.

www.lcomics.com

Editor’s note: SF/SF congratulates Lee’s Comics on their 30th anniversary and wishes them many more happy and successful decades! Lee’s report below is based on the celebration at his Mountain View store.
Lloyd Penny writes:

Many thanks for issue 130 of SF/SF! (Thanks España, that Jean is busy doing other things right now.) Yvonne and I met through fandom, and our next anniversary will be our 30th. May Jean and Christopher have that many years and more. More comments to follow…

Jean Martin responds:

Wow, 30 years! That’s so awesome. And thanks for the good wishes. It is great to be with someone who shares our fandom interests and we can do fannish activities with.

Just saw that the main hotel for Chicon 7, the Hyatt Regency, is full, and the nearby Sheraton will take the overflow. Chicon already looks like it will be huge. Wish we were going, but I will be keeping an eye out for reports after it happens.

España is going and so we should have a report from Chicon 7. I’m not going either. Chris and I are going on our honeymoon in September so an out-of-town convention around the same time is just not in the cards.

The idea of the local anime con staging the annual Steampunk con sure works in San Jose, and it could probably work here. The local anime con, Anime North, is either the fourth or fifth largest anime con on the continent, and they might be interested. Someone needs to put together a business plan to present to the AN board of directors, and see if this is something they could do. Most conventions have a problem with getting enough support staff and gophers to get the con staged, and I imagine even a Steampunk convention, which can attract a younger audience, will have that problem, too.

The great thing about Fanime and the local Steampunk groups staging Clockwork Alchemy is that Fanime didn’t need to find more people as Steam Federation and the Sacramento Steampunk Society were all very eager and had the requisite skills to put it together. And since it was pretty much a last-minute effort, having the backup of Fanime (as far as insurance, publicity, etc.) was critical in making it happen. So it was indeed a win-win for all concerned, organizers and attendees alike.

With Fanime, Clockwork Alchemy and BayCon all on at the same time, all events must have had some reduction in attendance. Cons all over are making hard decisions about what to do and when to be on … our local big fan-run media SF convention, Polaris (the one Yvonne founded all those years ago), announced after this year’s Polaris 26, last weekend, that Polaris 27 next year will be a relaxicon, and in November, they will stage a big 50th anniversary Doctor Who convention, and then, it is expected, it will shut down operations. Local fans are still wrapping their heads around the idea that Polaris is radically changing, and that the big convention they enjoyed is no more to be staged. The main reasons … increasing costs, decreasing membership revenues, and more and more difficult to find enough people to run and staff the convention. And, it looks like so many of the people who grew up with Polaris will save their money to go to the
big pro-run conventions in town, or even go to Dragon*Con. With luck, they might also support the remaining local fan-run cons.

As I mentioned in my previous editorial, the general fan-run scifi conventions are struggling to keep up with the pro-run conventions and more specific, themed convention. That’s too bad that these long-running cons are shutting down but hopefully other conventions will pick up the slack. There still are several cons in the Bay Area so we’re kept pretty busy. But it does seem like Dragon*Con is the place to go nowadays. We’re hoping to go next year. Comic-Con is not so much a priority for me as I’ve stated in my current editorial.

Love the idea of the dance at Clockwork Alchemy, and Minnie the Moocher. Cab Calloway lives on, and is enjoyed by people far too young to know who Cab Calloway was.

Dancing is a huge part of fandom in the Bay Area and it is so great to see people in costume enjoying the music and dance from previous eras, which I always say are more social and more fun.

For the longest time, there were discussions about what science fiction was. I was so many different things to many different people, and eventually, it came down to the definition of SF being different things to different people, and that SF is what I point to when I discuss SF. We may be forced to do much the same thing when we refer to Steampunk.

Yes, there are the purists about scifi as well and there are those who are more all-encompassing. I discussed this in an editorial a while back. There is a range when trying to label genres, and I always tend to be more toward the side of having a wider definition.

Pirates! There are, or should I say, there be, a Pirate Village event coming up the first weekend in August in nearby Milton. Haven’t decided if we are going yet, money’s tight, and the schedule is even tighter. We are also looking for reports on the British Columbia Ren Faire, with former Toronto fans running that piratical event just outside of Vancouver.

This is one trend that I thought was going to die down and I am happy to say that it is still flourishing. I think this has survived because, just like Steampunk, there are so many ways to be a pirate. There’s the more historical ones, the fantasy ones and the more macabre ones. Now even mermaids are part of the mix. I wish I could have seen the swimming mermaids at Pirate Fest. Maybe next year.

My letter … our table and tent at Steam on Queen was extremely successful. $600 in sales in six hours! The organizer, Adam Smith, was hoping for 1,000 people to come into the grounds of historic Campbell House in downtown Toronto. Final attendance was 4,280. Already, there has been a Steam on Queen 2 announced, and we will be taking a table and tent there, too. The pictures on pages 27 to 29 were all taken by Yvonne Penney.

Congratulations on being part of a successful event and that’s great news that there will be another one next year.

A decent letter of comment this time. Sometimes, I am lucky to make the full page. Thank you, and see you next time.

Looking forward to your next LOC.
Meeting 1143

June 25, 2012

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 8pm, with mad props to Josh!
We established a party jar
32 people attended
The minutes of meeting 1142 were accepted as “who is Kaiser Permanente?”
The Treasurer reported that last week we took in $7.90 in the regular jar and $1.25 in the party jar
The VP reported “Hi Ric, hi Deb, hi BASFA” relayed from Lynda and then he said that the next issue of Drink Tank will have a Mo cover & there should be a new Journey Planet out “soon” & the next issue of Apex will have an article he wrote in it
The President had nothing fannish to report

The AdHoc Cinema Committee says that the Retrodome will have Young Frankenstein there in 2 weeks - show up ... & in costume
The Sports Committee reports that it’s 7-0 Giants vs Dodgers in the 3rd inning and he won’t be at Westercon
Announcements
Ken announced that this Friday he will get a degree from Foothill College
Andy announced that Westercon will be in Seattle in 2 weeks & that they will host parties on Friday & Saturday night - they could use help; [tall] Kevin added that there will be a “thru the wormhole” Tonopah party Friday & will chair the Westercon Business meeting on Friday as well & will be absent from BASFA for the next 2 weeks; Lynn says she’ll be at Westercon & doing a concert Saturday at 7:30; & Bill, Carole & Lisa will all be there too
[evil] Kevin announced that there will be “totally normal” parties Friday & Saturday nights & the secret decoder ring is up on running on their site & Chris announced that Frank Wu is Westercon’s artist GoH
Ric announced that the next Pachakachakachakachakachachacha will be in San Jose & he is now affiliated with SPUR & announced that Janet Higgins says that RVawardsaz.com is not going out of business
Chris then volunteered to be on a club awards committee
Bob announced that on Sunday the A’s won a game
Chris announced that there was a controversy in the world of Steampunk & some of it was really good stuff - check lavietidhar.blogspot.com
<<the secretary checked & said link did not exist in any form - however there IS = lavietidhar.wordpress.com which seems to be what Chris was talking about>>

Reviews
Debbie reviewed a Gail Carriger reading as lovely and Gail had a wonderful hat

Bob reviewed a Borderlands event with 3 authors - David Brin, AM Dellamonica & JA Pitts as a marvelous experience, he had a great time
Lynn reviewed Hawaii as wonderful & she found more kinds of Spam there than you could possibly imagine
Ric reviewed Hawaii as he prefers maui & its moonscape, enjoyed the volcano tour & reviewed Cards against Humanity as helped into existence by Kickstarter & available on Amazon [for $25 & $10 for the expansion] & he recommends both
Dave C reviewed Masked by Lou Anders - a superhero anthology - as worth trade paperback & interesting - and reviewed a “documentary” = Abraham Lincoln, Vampire Hunter as it needed a larger budget & thought the book was better; Ric commented it was more Crouching Lincoln, Hidden Vampire & Dave C then reviewed the Youtube of Gamer Girl, Country Boy as worth checking out
I reviewed Brave as very pretty and fluffy and fun to watch - that I enjoyed the bears and Meridia’s hair - and thought it worth full price; Carole very much enjoyed it [worth matinee]; Bill found it pretty but predictable
Bill reviewed Slabscape as he will be very disappointed if it turns out to be a computer simulation & reviewed the Avengers as there were too many multipurpose devices, but still found it worth full price - and a second viewing; Diane reviewed it as a delightful romp & Brad sees it is now #28 on the all-time list
Carole reviewed the Coast Starlight as a nice train ride, but at 11-12 hours, make sure to bring your own food
Diane reviewed Ian MacDonald’s Cyberabad Days as well-written and very good and she may have another new favorite author
Dave G reviewed SETIcon as generally pleasant & they had a good time [it drew 500-600]; Brad reviewed it as he went and enjoyed the panels on extra-solar planets & got good pictures

We did auctions
We adjourned at 9:41 pm
And the rumor of the week was: “Crouching Lincoln, hidden vampires”

Meeting 1144

July 2, 2012

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 after 8 - with those of us NOT watching Spiderman
We established a party jar
22 people attended
The minutes of meeting 1143 were accepted as “excessively abbreviated”
The Treasurer reported that last week we took in $12.48 in the regular jar and $39.75 in the party jar
The VP tried to see Spiderman but he was one of the 700 turned away - and reported that there’s a new issue of Drink Tank out ... he thinks ... & a new Journey Planet out “soon” because he has the files for it on him now
The President had nothing fannish to report
The AdHoc Cinema Committee’s mouthpiece reports that there’ll be a “quote-a-long” at the Retrodome for Young Frankenstein this weekend ... & costumes are encouraged

Announcements
Howeird announced that on July 4th there’ll be various things at Shoup park in Los Altos - including music provided by Ye Olde Town Band
Dave C announced that Dr Who has a plan to conquer America & that the June 2012 Cargo Cult catalog is now out
Valerie announced that she has published a new book - The Free Guide to Self Publishing & Book Promotion
Mo announced that since the week is ultra-busy there will not be a “Free 1st Friday” in San Jose & reminded us to PAY for our food
Andy announced that the Summer Swedish outdoor season has begun - view on tv4play.se & svtplay.se - it’s fun & wacky & announced that at Westercon their party suite [room #1363 = [evil] Kevin] will have parties Friday & Saturday & announced that he finished Leviathan Wakes so he can do the review for Chris

Reviews
Ken reviewed his graduation as he was under-reported & it was probably still worth full price & the party the next day was fun - Mo agreed
Harold reviewed a fight as 2 judges got it right & reviewed John Scalzi’s Redshirts as a quick & easy read - worth ebook price - with the codas being the best parts of the book & he
also reviewed the Cracked website & its parody of *Game of Thrones* as it got him to see the series & is somewhat seductive.

Chris reviewed *Brave* as a fun movie that he’s “bearish” about - it was pretty, he saw it twice & liked the preview - & was worth the 4 gift certificates he used - then there were neeps about 3D.

We did auctions
We adjourned at 9:06 pm
And the rumor of the week was: “If the moon is cheese, then Jupiter is bacon”

**Meeting 1145**

No Pres, No Sec, No Treas, No Problem! Chris Garcia is officially God Emperor of BASFA for the Weekend.

Motion Made – Passes. Party Jar.
Motion to hold off reading of minutes for Two Weeks passes.
Treasurer is not here, but we have money.
VP Reports there is no new *Drink Tank*. Such is life during wartime...

Cinema committee says that RetroDome is showing *Yellow Submarine* this weekend, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Cinema Committee folks are going to be there on Sunday afternoon. Awesome.
Sing-a-long ensues...
Adrien announces Salt Lake City won the bid for Westercon 2014. Ghosthunters is doing a thing at the Haunted Chuck E. Cheez this Sunday.

Weird website data are on the website according to Kennita.
Ric introduced that pechakucha will be Monday, July 23 at 6pm at the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art. Ric then explained the origin of the name Pechakucha.
Ken reported that changes at Foothill about KFJC and the class requirement for that. It starts this Wednesday. Info at KFJC.org and registering to try and be a DJ like Ken!
Baby was born! Babies are cool!
There is a convention this weekend – Comic Con.
Chuck Reviews *Young Frankenstein* quote-a-long at the RetroDome, which he thinks is a unique entertainment concept. “Apparently, they were back there squirting or something.” People followed on and they had fun.
Adrienne reviewed Westercon! She went to Westercon. It was small-to-midsize, possibly less than 800. She thought it was quiet, not a lot of energy, a quiet con for older fen. Good parties, though not many. Went to the Dr. Who Burlesque, which was kinda scary. Everything seemed a bit late. Ed said that he went as well, the weather was great, the drive was nice, but DAMN, that’s a long drive! He had a good time, good artshow, good dealers room, but he didn’t think it was too small. HE was put on the mining on the moon panels, dealing with economics. Ed likes Westercon. Adrienne likes the hotel. Debbie shilled for Sacramento’s Westercon.
Before Westercon, Adrienne went to New England and drove through 3 different states – Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire. She liked New England!
Ric reviewed *Spiderman*. He thought it was fine, though it was sad they had to re-do it so soon and that they had a few problems, including the characters not looking that much like
the characters from the comic. It made a lot of money. It strikes Ric as incredibly sad that this franchise is owned by Sony. Follow-ons happened, as they often do...

Chris’ computer is running out of battery...

Ric reviewed Homeroom, a Mac ‘n Cheese restaurant that was awesome! She enjoyed the Garlic version, which was the best at the table. After that, the Gaultier exhibit was AWESOME!

Chris loved the conveyor belt and punk stuff.

Kennita went to the After Hours at the Tech. 7 to Midnight, first Thursday of every month, there are booze and stuff. It’s free on your Birthday month. We should do that!

Josh went to the SF Symphony and it was UNBELIEVABLE!!!!! He was one of the youngest people there. The space is excellent.

Mo announced that it was Murphy Anderson’s (Mystery in Space, Strange Adventures) birthday!

Ernest Borgnine died. Andy Griffith is also dead. The Wheel of Time turns again.

Saw Brave and Rock of Ages. Rock of Ages was fun, Brave was good, but not Pixar’s best.

Kennita reviewed Magic Mike. People walked out, but some came. The dancing was done by Stunt Doubles.

Jerry marched in a parade and they won!

Rumor of the Week is “We’re not gonna last 15 minutes”

Meeting 1146

July 16, 2012

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 8pm - with twisty logic
We established a party jar
31 people attended
The minutes of meeting 1145 were accepted as “bacon, bacon minutes”

The Treasurer reported that at meeting 1144 we took in $26.00 in the regular jar and $3.50 in the party jar - and that last week at meeting 1145 we took in $0 in the regular jar and $9.00 in the party jar

The VP reported there’s no new Drink Tank out yet & he was given books by Diane - but the latest issue of Journey Planet is on his laptop now [not yet published] and has a Mo cover & he can’t find his list and will be the Fan GoH for Westercon 67

The President had nothing fannish to report - however [note added after the fact - neither president nor secretary will be at the meeting next Monday night]

The AdHoc Cinema Committee reports that the Retrodome is showing My Fair Lady this weekend ... & Airplane will be
shown the weekend after that [and there will be an OUTING July 28 to see it] - plus it was reported that the *Muppet Movie* is showing at Ohlone Community College this weekend

**Announcements**

[evil] Kevin announced that on July 29 there’ll be an open meeting for Westercon 66 in Sacramento at the Hilton Arden West at 11am

John O announced that Consonance has signed their hotel contract for the Crowne Plaza in Milpitas, for March 1,2,3 2013 - check their site = [consonance.org](http://consonance.org)

Ric announced that the next Pachacachachacha will be held Monday, July 23 in San Jose at the IBC - and check their Facebook page for details & later he announced that *Daredevil* the series won the Eisner award

Carole announced that she had artwork in the Westercon art show and sold 7 pieces

Josh announced that Convolution will be held Nov 2,3,4 at the Hyatt Regency in Burlingame & there are bookmarks for it [pretty!]

Lisa announced that Mythcon is coming up on Aug 3,4,5,6 at UC Berkeley, $95 at the door - & check [www.mythsoc.org](http://www.mythsoc.org)

**Reviews**

Chris reviewed indoor squirrels at Yosemite [awesome] and he had a wonderful time there - worth missing ComicCon for & reviewed cheese at the Oakdale Cheese & Specialty Company as OMG the cheese!

[tall] Kevin reviewed indoor lizard as Fernley was very hot, he saw a coyote & deer grazing with cows - & reviewed Westercon as better than he thought it would be - the Alternate Tonopah party was well received and the Westercon business meeting lasted 7 minutes; there were tons of Westercon follow-ons = Bill didn’t care for the con layout; Carole was on 7 panels & the Masquerade was tiny; Dave was stuck in the Dealer’s room -which was hidden nearly from view- signage was non-existent; Kevin & Andy’s party rocked & Dave learned his *Invader Zim* Tshirt was a drunk chick magnet; Reg badges were truncated and badly spelled; Lisa had an interesting time & found the Dealer’s Room! & had fun

Fred told people to watch for the movie *Play Dead* that’s coming out soon; he saw it unofficially & it’s really good and interesting - he recommends it

Ric reviewed ComicCon as line standing was exhausting, it was REALLY crowded; he took 1040 pictures which are posted at [fanboyplanet.com](http://fanboyplanet.com) & Facebook; he got Gail Carriger swag, saw lots of *Walking Dead* stuff & thought it was worth full price

Diane reviewed *London Eye - Toxic City* by Tim Lebbon as interesting, with good characters, a quick read & fun

Adrienne reviewed *Abraham Lincoln, Vampire Hunter* as she enjoyed it, but was not impressed, worth matinee; John O agreed and opined that it was badly edited & that they mucked with history in ways that were annoying, not clever

Harold reviewed [marinetraffic.com](http://marinetraffic.com) as a wonderful time sink - interesting & kinda fun

Lisa reviewed taking the train to Seattle as they were late to Seattle and on time back - and the beds were rock hard

Josh reviewed *Yellow Submarine* at the Retrodome as a lot of fun [and there were lots of follow-ons]

I reviewed spending time at the Kaiser emergency room with Trey as I’m glad the visit proved productive
Ed reviewed the new Laundry book by Charlie Stross as interesting
Carole reviewed visiting Hurricane Ridge as gorgeous and she got a lot of good photos

We did auctions
We adjourned at 9:54 pm
And the rumor of the week was: “Everything I learned about Robert’s Rules I learned at BASFA”
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-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: Malinda Lo, G. Ronald Murphy.

$85

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Saturday, August 11

**Writers With Drinks**

The Make-Out Room
3225 22nd Street, San Francisco

www.writerswithdrinks.com

Rachel Swirsky (*Through the Drowsy Dark*) and Simon Sheppard (*The Dirty Boys Club*). All proceeds benefit the Center for Sex and Culture.

7:30 p.m. $5-10 sliding scale.

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Saturday-Sunday, August 11-12

**Kin-Yoobi Con**

The Hilton Newark/Fremont Hotel
39900 Balentine Drive, Newark

www.kinyoobicon.com

Kin-Yoobi Con focuses on featuring a diverse array of events, from game shows to fashion shows, from scavenger hunts to fan dubbing, from karaoke contests to video game tournaments! We want not only to cater to the otaku and hardcore gamer but also the average anime fan and game player.

$30 (till July 20)

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Saturday, August 18

**San Jose Super Toy & Comic Show**

Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Road, San Jose

www.timetunnelnews.blogspot.com

240 tables of Vintage to Modern Toys, Comics and Collectibles. Artists, Video games & dolls. Early Bird ($15) 9 AM - 10:59 AM. 9 a.m. $6

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Saturday-Sunday, August 25-26

**J-Pop Summit Festival**

Japantown, San Francisco

www.j-pop.com/2012/

Pop culture-themed street fair that covers the grounds of Post Street from Webster to Laguna and the Peace Plaza of Japantown, San Francisco. This year’s festival was hosted by NEW PEOPLE in cooperation with the Japantown Merchants Association.

Free
Thursday-Monday, August 30-September 3

**Chicon 7**

Hyatt Regency Chicago
151 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL
chicon.org

The 70th World Science Fiction Convention.
GOH: Mike Resnick, Story Musgrave, Rowena Morrill, Jane Frank, Peggy Rae Sapienza.
Special Guest: Sy Liebergot. Toastmaster: John Scalzi.

$215

Friday-Sunday, November 2-4

**Convolution 2012**

Hyatt Regency SFO
1333 Bayshore Highway, Burlingame
www.con-volution.com

Convolution is a new, independent science fiction and fantasy convention in the San Francisco Bay Area. GOH: Steve Jackson, Howard Tayler, Julie Dillon, Steve Berman, Steven Brust

$55

Thursday-Monday, August 29-September 2, 2013

**LoneStarCon 3**

Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
San Antonio, TX
lonestarcon3.org

The 71st World Science Fiction Convention.

$160

Friday-Monday, August 31-September 3

**Pacificon Game Expo**

Santa Clara Marriott
2700 Mission College Boulevard Santa Clara, CA 95054
www.pacificongameexpo.com

For 31 years, Pacificon has been the Bay Area’s Labor Day Gaming Convention where friends come together and make new friends playing games through all hours of the day.

$50

Friday-Saturday, September 28-29

**Miss Misery’s Days of Terror**

The Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.daysofterror.com

Horror hostess Miss Misery brings terror to Sacramento. Two days of guests, a haunted house, make-up/FX section, zombie walk, costume contest, artist asylum, and much more.

$35

Thursday-Sunday, July 4-7, 2013

**Awesome! - Westercon 66**

Hilton Arden West
2200 Harvard St, Sacramento
www.westercon66.org


$65

Thursday-Monday, January 17-21, 2013

**Further Confusion: Forbidden Planet**

San Jose Convention Center, San Jose
www.furtherconfusion.org

Further Confusion is one of the largest international conventions celebrating anthropomorphics in all its guises. With an attendance of over 3,000 and growing, it is one of the premiere events of its kind. Further Confusion includes charitable benefits, educational seminars, art shows, panels and general social activities.

$45 (Till December 30)

Thursday-Monday, August 29-September 2, 2013

**Cartoon Art Museum**

655 Mission Street, San Francisco
www.cartoonart.org

Current exhibitions:
11-5 p.m. $6 (Closed Mondays)

**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.

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

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

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

MGI 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

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

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

**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

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

**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

### Silicon Gulch Browncoats
Various locations (see website for details)
www.silicon gulchbrowncoats.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.bawdycastle.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

### Spec Fiction Book Club
Keplers Books
1010 El Camino Real Menlo Park, CA 94025
www.keplers.com
Meets the second Sunday of every month.
4 p.m. Free

### 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.

### 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.
Free

### 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

USS Northern Lights
sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights
Contact firstjedi2000@yahoo.com for specifics.
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.
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

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

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

Sci-Fi Book Group with Kym
Barnes & Noble
El Cerrito Plaza, 6050 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito
store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/3694215
Meets the fourth Friday of the month.
7 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
Casting

by Lucy Huntzinger
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*Science Fiction/San Francisco* is the monthly news zine for the San Francisco Bay Area – www.efanzines.com.