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By Jean Martin

Editor-in-Chief

For the past 10 years, which is pretty much the amount of time I’ve been in fandom, I’ve been very busy doing fannish things and haven’t had time for to read books, watch TV or go see movies. It worked out okay, though, because there weren’t that many of these that interested me anyway. But as I’ve noted in recent editorials, there has recently been a deluge of books, TV shows and movies in the historical, fantasy and scifi genres. It’s exciting to know that the things we like are becoming more accepted and popular. But it’s also been hard to keep up!

I’m almost done watching all three seasons of “Lost Girl.” There’s only one more episode to go that just aired, which I’ll be catching on iTunes. Then I’ll be writing an article about it for Jack Avery’s “From Alien Shores.” I haven’t been this fanatical about a show in a very long time and so I want to write about it! Thanks again to John Purcell for bringing it to my attention in a previous LOC that he wrote to us.

Then there’s “Once Upon a Time,” “Elementary” and “Doctor Who” that have come back to finish the second half of their current seasons. Why do they do this anyway? It really breaks up the momentum of the stories. I really like the Doctor’s new companion but I’m honestly getting tired of Matt Smith. Someone on Facebook commented the other day that Matt Smith is only good when the scripts are good, and I totally agree. Matt Smith is my least favorite Doctor (he mumbles and is a bit boring) but he does shine when the stories are strong, imaginative and thrilling. And when there are supporting characters who make things more interesting and carry their own storylines like River Song.

But if there’s one thing that has gotten better with “Doctor Who” is “Doctor Who” fandom. There are so many more fans, and most of us cosplay, write, draw, etc. There are also now two “Doctor Who” groups in the Bay Area. Legion of Rassilon, which has been around for decades, makes its home in the South Bay. The group still meets every month to view episodes, have raffles and generally just hang out and have fun. It’s a great bunch of folks who you would also see at conventions and other fannish events. The new one is a Meetup group called Doctor Whovian in SF Bay Area that recently started meeting in San Francisco. I’ve only seen one of them at a convention, and she’s the founder of the group. There are some fans who started out with classic “Doctor Who” in this group but most seem to be newer fans. The great thing about “Doctor Who” fans is that they’re very accepting. So it’s okay that people started at different times and most newbies are willing to explore the classic Doctors. In this issue is a review of my first foray into this San Francisco group.

And one thing I want to mention again is the upcoming PEERS The Doctor Dances (“Doctor Who”) ball on June 1. I
can’t wait for this ball! It’ll be a combination of my dancing and scifi interests and it’ll be wonderful to see cosplayers come out to dance and dancers show up in costumes from the “Doctor Who” universe. I was one of the people who put this idea forth so hopefully it’ll be a rousing success. For more information, go to: www.peersdance.org/doctor.html.

Going back to the topic of lots of shows I’m catching up on, I’m done with “Downton Abbey” but now there’s “Mr. Selfridge,” which hasn’t really caught my attention. But I’m watching it nonetheless as the costumes are wonderful. There’s also a British mystery set in the Caribbean called “Death in Paradise” that I’m following that’s fun and has a beautiful tropical backdrop. It’s a cross between “Doc Martin,” which I just finished too, and “Marple,” which I love.

It seems like a lot of the shows I watch are British shows, but I’ve noticed lately that Canadian TV has been becoming more popular as well. Especially with scifi and fantasy. “Lost Girl” is a Canadian show. Same with “Warehouse 13,” “Sanctuary,” “Beauty and the Beast,” “Endgame” and “Murdoch Mysteries.” I haven’t seen “Continuum” but it looks interesting, and there’s a new show called “Defiance” that I may check out as well. So many shows and so little time.

As for British shows, I’m hoping to see “Dirk Gently,” “Ripper Street” and “Copper.” Season three of “Game of Thrones” (which is an HBO production but has a mostly British and Irish cast) just started as well. So many shows and so little time. What I’ve been doing is really just watching the first few episodes of a series, and if I like it I continue, and if I don’t, then I stop. That way I get to at least get a sample of everything that I may be interested in. After all, there are events to go to and events to write about!

On a completely different note, another thing I’ve noticed in fandom lately is the gaining popularity of crowdfunding. I read a recent Time article about it where the writer said that crowdfunding seems to work best for artistic and creative projects. This is a great development for us creative types because everyone can now fund their dream projects and not rely on being hired or commissioned by a big company. The goal is also not as much to make profit as it is to produce something that the creators and its built-in audience would enjoy. This really democratizes the playing field and helps people be free and independent to do what they want. It also helps support existing organizations keep going when traditional sources of funding have dried up in these tough economic times. Even in these difficult times, people seem to be willing to put in their hard-earned money for something they believe in and want to be a part of so that they can feel like they are doing something to contribute to a greater cause.

A great example is last year’s Steamstock, which was a Steampunk music festival that went on to become a great success. So much so that there will be another one this year in July.

Crowdfunding also makes it possible for organizations and businesses that need donations to continue existing and fandom community members to pay their medical bills. An example of an organization that needs donations is PEERS (www.peersdance.org), which I’ve already mentioned has an Indiegogo campaign so that they can continue with their planned events. A web site that I regularly read, Anglotopia.net, was recently hacked and they have asked for donations to cover their legal bills. Fortunately, they were successful in getting their domain name back and it looks like
they’ve been receiving financial help from their readers. Another web site that was hacked around the same time, but is also now back on track, is takebackhalloween.org. Take Back Halloween is a resource guide for imaginative costumes that respect, celebrate and uplift women through characters from history and legend. They did a successful Kickstarter last year so that they can add more costume guides to their web site this year.

Again, so many causes and only so much money. If there’s one thing I am aiming for this year as to better balance my use of time, money and energy. So I’m probably not going to go to as many events as I’ve gone to in the past, but I will still continue to go to as many as I can and write about them. Chris will be covering more, and we’re hoping to find more contributors and maybe even another editor since España will be making her way to the British Isles fairly soon. So if you’d like to contribute in any way, please contact me! We’d love to have more people involved in SF/SF.

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
Once Upon A Faire: San Jose Fantasy Faire

By Christopher Erickson
Managing Editor

The Arena Green section of Guadalupe Park in downtown San Jose was magically transformed again this past April 13 and 14. The park was taken over by pirates, mermaids, fairies, knights, barbarians, wizards, princesses and many other magical and fantastic creatures at the San Jose Fantasy Faire.

The festival was even bigger this year. Seen from the 87 highway, it was actually very impressive, with all of the pavilion tents visible from up above the city. Driving past one of the entrances on West Santa Clara Street you could see people in their costumes luring people into the park.

The setup was bigger this year with more items to entertain people of all ages. There were several new gaming areas, a couple of new encampments and a brand new pirate ship. There were also a number of new vendors as well, plying their trades including a henna tattoo booth, a musician playing his harp for the crowd, several jewelry booth vendors, costume sellers, a sword booth, and several selling wonderful accoutrements. There were also several booths selling original crafts and artwork including one that made wonderful little felted creatures and cottage scenes that could be found in teacups. Another booth sold skirts and dyed-cloth fairy wings. One booth even sold beeswax candles and spinning supplies to create your own wool thread.

There was also a good variety of food vendors. There were vendors selling Italian-style meat sandwiches (of which I had the meatball variety and a nice lemonade to wash it down),

Two Scotsmen
courtesy of Christopher Erickson
caramel-dipped apples and waffles, crepes and coffee, kettle corn, traditional Siamese food, and even the “traditional” turkey leg. The food and beverage offerings were wonderful for such a tiny space, including the sarsaparilla booth, Weasel Inn Sarsaparilla, that was doing steady business all day selling bottles of their custom-made sodas that people could get refilled.

Gaming was also expanded to include a few combat areas where children and adults could be taught how to shoot bow and arrows, fight with padded swords and other forms of combat. Lots of people joined in to battle each other.

There were also plenty of stage entertainment including my perennial favorite belly dancers that also did cane dancing (Double Crown Dancers), storytellers using puppetry (Motion Makers Puppetry), juggling, magic, country dancing and general storytelling merriment from Bard’s Cloak of Tales and the Bella Donna courtesans.

There was also a larger corridor of guilds this year including the Royal Scots Guild who invited people to come play games and spend time with Scottish Royalty, a mermaid tank, Dr. Kerg’s Steampunk wonderments and menagerie, a harem of exotic dancers and princes from Middle Eastern
Motion Makers Puppetry  by Christopher Erickson

Cane Dancing  by Christopher Erickson

Fantasy Dancing  by Christopher Erickson

Combat  by Christopher Erickson
lands, courtesans, fairies, princesses, a pirate den of inequity, “birds” in beautiful gowns and knights of chivalrous duty. All of the encampments were inviting and offered unique experiences such as talking with ogresses and other captured “animals,” hearing stories of derring-do and trying to outwit witches and fairies as well as learning games or sharing the shade with new people.

There was also a table with fantasy authors who were there to sign books and talk about their love of fantasy and the magical. The authors included M. Todd Gallowglas (who also performs Bard’s Cloak of Tales), Renee Murphy, Valerie Estelle Frankel (who publishes a number of Harry Potter parodies and scholarly works about the heroine’s journey through fantasy), A. E. Marling, M. E. Franco and our own Christopher J. Garcia.

There were also a number of people who were in costume and got into the spirit of the faire. There were several pirates who were on land. A hobbit by the name of Trip Bramblebottom was passing out hobbit buttons for infinite good luck. There were also some Scottish warriors in their kilts. A satyress could be found frolicking about. The spirits of the four seasons and Mother Nature were spreading love and
Bella Donna Encampment by Christopher Erickson

Mother Nature and the Four Seasons by Christopher Erickson

Doctor Kergan's Camp by Christopher Erickson

Mermaid Tank by Christopher Erickson
peace throughout the park. A pet dragon was lead around by its handler. Steampunk time travelers came to be there as well to study and possibly capture the magical creatures that lurked. There were plenty of belly dancer and renaissance outfits as well. There were even a couple of Time Lords spotted.

The faire was an amazing time filled with fantastic food, wonderful wares, excellent entertainments and beautiful costumes. The whole park was magic for the time that it was occupied, making a fairy tale land in the middle of Silicon Valley.
Fairy tales have become very popular in recent years with comics (“Grimm Fairy Tales” from Zenescope and Vertigo’s “Fables” are the biggest), books, television series and a number of movies and a few musicals. The popular way to present these is to try to recreate them for the modern era to appeal to the broad demographics and make them meaningful. The real successes have been stories that have not changed the source material but tell prequel, sequel or companion stories.

There have been a number of movies in the last two years that have told stories involving updates to the original fairy tales including two Snow White movies, a Jack and the Beanstalk retelling, as well as the Hansel and Gretel movie. All of these movies have either been outright flops or major disappointments at the box office. The successful movies have been Tim Burton’s sequel story “Alice In Wonderland” and the prequel tale “Oz: The Great and Powerful.” In addition, the two shows featuring fairy tales, “Grimm” and “Once Upon A Time,” are doing well in the ratings while featuring stories that show the characters after their core tales.

Comparing the box office totals for the retelling movies (“Snow White and The Huntsman,” $155 million domestic/$396 million worldwide; “Mirror Mirror,” $65 million domestic/$166 million worldwide; “Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters,” $55 million domestic/$219 million worldwide; and “Jack the Giant Slayer,” $62 million domestic/$179 million worldwide) to the prequel movies (“Alice in Wonderland,” $334 million domestic/$1.02 billion worldwide and “Oz: The Great and Powerful,” $212 million domestic/$453 million worldwide), the movies that tell an updated version of a classic story have not performed as well as the sequel/prequel films.

The question would have to be asked: “Why don’t these movies based on familiar stories with universal appeal do well?” One of the easiest answers is that the films were not good. Arguing artistic merit is difficult as “Mirror Mirror” was a much more fun movie while “Snow White and The Huntsman” was much more serious. “Alice In Wonderland” was not critically acclaimed and it made more money than all of the retelling movies combined.

The answer is more nuanced than simply being good celluloid adventures. The one thing that the retelling movies have in common is that they are retellings. The motion pictures take a familiar story that has been told for generations and make major deviations from the story. While the results might be interesting such as the “Roshomon”-style film “Hoodwinked,” the story becomes something completely
different that audiences become unfamiliar with the story. The familiar elements might be there, but they do not represent what we expect. The original source material (either the more graphic versions or the collected tales from the Brothers Grimm for example) has become so ingrained in the social fabric of our society that they are not just beloved but they are a common language. Since the tales are so familiar, they are held to be almost sacred. Any attempt to radically alter the meaning of the story or the actions of the characters doesn’t seem to make a good story.

Since the stories are the only source material, the tale becomes the familiar element that must be characterized. Unlike a popular character such as Batman or Sherlock Holmes, the story can only be told one way since there is no other material to draw from. Characters that have been depicted in multiple stories create a bigger mythos to draw from such as a superhero’s rogues gallery, the ongoing adventures of a pulp magazine detective or the interactions of a group of interstellar travelers with new races. This sets the expectations that there are character traits rather than a finite tale. When a character is featured in multiple stories, it is much easier to accept multiple variations of a character such as an animated Superman, a motion picture Superman, and a comic book Superman. Since there is only one version of the Red Riding Hood tale (the Grimm Brothers version sanitizes the original darker tale, but does not deviate from it), there cannot be multiple versions of the story.

The only “safe” storytelling is to work around the tale by trying to tell the character’s motivations as to why they became the familiar hero or antagonist in the story, such as “Grendel” by John Gardner or “Wicked” by Gregory Maguire. These stories might mention the familiar source material by featuring the familiar characters in passing (Grendel is shown watching Beowulf and then attacking him with the outcome of the fight as in the epic poem; Dorothy Gale is briefly mentioned in conversation and is then later captured by the Wicked Witch). “Oz: The Great and Powerful” tells how the Wizard came to Oz and rose to prominence in the Emerald City and Tim Burton’s “Alice In Wonderland” shows Alice’s return to Underland (which she called Wonderland). These movies were considered risks by movie industry pundits, but have proven popular since they are stories involving characters we are familiar with, but telling new stories that lead into or out of the original tale. There is more leeway to tell a story since the characters are familiar but are now not in a familiar setting or narrative that has a “definitive” version like Lewis Carroll’s book or the 1939 musical.

The biggest example of defying this trend would seem to be Disney’s “Tangled” ($200 million domestic/$590 million worldwide box office totals). This movie would seem to be a reimaging of the famous Rapunzel story, but it develops a significant backstory for both Rapunzel and the woman who locks her in the tower while still being faithful to the overall original story.

Shows like “Once Upon A Time” and “Grimm” and comics like “Grimm Fairy Tales” and “Fables” bridge the gap between telling a modern reimaging and branching out the characters from the tales into new directions. These versions take the original stories and merge them with the after “happily ever after” part that seems so successful. The original material is
still preserved in spirit if not in actuality while making new stories for the characters while also creating a combined fabric for these stories to become intertwined.

The fairy tale trend will continue to be popular for the next few years as new books, comics and movies continue to retell the tales or take them in new directions. Since trends happen because so many producers of content copy what is popular and lucrative, we should get a steady flow of the pre-“once upon a time” and post-“happily ever after” stories. Hopefully we will also get reimagings of the stories that are so popular so we can have new ways to enjoy them that don’t feel like retreads along with the straight interpretations.
By Christopher Erickson
Managing Editor

Soda fountains became prevalent in drug stores and pharmacies by the 1880s. These parlors were where people came for a morning beverage or a cool and refreshing drink that was often touted for its (supposed) health benefits. Men, women and children would come in to be served mixtures that would be created on the spot by the soda jerk behind the counter, often with proprietary blends meant to create unique flavors. The pharmacists and druggists would often have access to the ingredients since they would make other tinctures and tonics as well, which lead to the creation of two of the most popular drinks, Pepsi-Cola and Coca-Cola. The soda fountain was also an elaborate set up with lots of brass and decorative mirrors, crisp uniforms on the soda jerks and fancy menus. With this as the backdrop, the Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild (GBACG) held their “Steampunk Soda Fountain Adventure” at the Ice Cream Bar at 815 Cole Street in San Francisco on March 23, 2012.

The event gathered together costuming from the 1880s period as well as Steampunk elements. The variations on women’s dresses and men’s fashion ranged from top hats and kilts, snap brim caps, feather, vests, corsets, fedoras, straw boater hats, pith helmets and lots of goggles and clockwork elements. The skirts on the women ranged from simple affairs to bustles and pleated hems. Everyone enjoyed seeing the amazing ensembles and outfits that were put together.
Steampunks at the Ice Cream Bar
courtesy of Jean Martin
The proprietor offered up an amazing menu of specialty drinks designed to showcase the variety of concoctions. All of the mixtures were made fresh and served immediately after being prepared. Eight different beverages were offered including their own Cole Street Cola, Russell’s Sassafras Root Beer, Wild Cherry Phosphate, Tiny Bubbles (made with lime, spices and roasted pineapple ice cream), A Stalk In The Park (with celery seed extract), The Passion Project (made with a chai-tea tincture base), Two Good To Be True (butterscotch syrup and molassess) and The World’s Best Pistachio Milkshake. Everyone enjoyed the various flavors that were offered. The crew also prepared finger sandwiches.

The venue was also amazing. There was a nice mix of time periods represented by the décor. The 1920s and 1930s were exhibited in the stools and counter along with the Art Deco-inspired lettering. The main counter had a 19th century cash register along with a wooden paneling displaying colored cardstock featuring the name of the drinks. Mirrors with shelves showed the various ingredients used in the creation of the drinks. The wait staff wore white aprons and white collared shirts with bow ties and paper hats to complete the nostalgic look.

The Ice Cream Bar also has a small lunch counter-style menu featuring sandwiches and hot dogs, alcoholic drinks including port and sherry, “remedies” with ice cream/hard liquor mixtures, phosphate drinks, traditional ice cream floats, malts, milk shakes and “build-your-own” mixtures. Any type of drink could be found here if you are in the mood for a wonderful sweet drink. The menu also offered ice cream sundaes and cookie sandwiches.
The restaurant is a welcome addition to other little jewels that can be found in the Bay Area that cater to a more unique experience. With the Art Deco atmosphere and wonderful little retro touches, the place creates a feeling of walking into a time out of the past where men wore hats not to be fashionable but because it was the fashion. The Ice Cream Bar hosted a wonderful event and it could also be a great place to go for an after-dinner dessert or a break while spending time in the city.

The website for The Ice Cream Bar is theicecreambarsf.com.
Hidden Gems in the Bay Area

By Christopher Erickson
Managing Editor

With the fragmentation of fandom and the loss of WonderCon for the foreseeable future, smaller conventions have become more popular in the Bay Area. There are also great opportunities for a number of smaller gatherings where people can enjoy themselves for an afternoon in a more relaxed atmosphere.

There are several wonderful candy stores around the Bay Area including Powell’s Sweet Shoppe. I have spent more than a few birthday parties there with friends while in costume. This place is probably the best in that it has a huge variety of candies from all over the world and lots of amazing things to look at including a theater where you can watch the Gene Wilder movie “Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.”

There are also a number of tea shops such as Rue Du Thé in Burlingame, Lovey’s Tea in Pacifica, Lovejoy’s Tea Room in San Francisco, the English Rose in Pleasanton and Tyme for Tea in Fremont just to name a few. Each venue is different in feel, with some being more traditionally British whereas others are more whimsical to evoke the tea party from Alice in Wonderland or another historical time period. Each one is very inviting to large groups in costume that want to spend some time together enjoying each other’s company.

Pubs and bars offer another great place to gather. There are numerous British and Irish pubs around the Bay Area that would be ideal for a gathering of Steampunk, Victorian or British characters ranging from “Blackadder” to “Downton Abbey.” There are also a number of bars with a more noirish feel that lend themselves to a more Art Deco or hardboiled detective fiction flavor. There are also several inns and restaurants that are designed to look like various time periods including the Pelican Inn at Muir Beach.

There are also various restaurants with a bit more exotic feel aiming for Mediterranean, Middle Eastern or Asian. There are also nostalgic places like Lori’s Diner and various diners and ice cream parlors that evoke past periods.

Museums are also wonderful venues for pictures and wonderful cultural activities. The USS Hornet is great for military or military style outfits. The Rosicrucian Museum is another wonderful place for photos with its Egyptian style architecture and Moorish planetarium.

There are also many wonderful little historical venues and parks that can be used for various get-togethers. Kelly Park in San Jose boasts a large historical park recreating turn-of-the-century San Jose (History Park San Jose) with a working street car and Japanese garden area. History Park also holds a number of events throughout the year including their Antique Autos in the Park Day. There is also a Japanese garden in San Mateo’s Central Park as well as in Hayward and Saratoga. There are also a number of historical houses such as the Rengstorff House in Mountain View’s Shoreline Park and the
Fallon House in San Jose. Golden Gate Park also boasts a diverse area for gatherings and picnics with its various areas. There are also several different places like the Niles Canyon Train Ride, Roaring Camp in the Santa Cruz area and Ardenwood in Fremont that offer great areas to take photos and trips through the scenery. The gardens and parks around the bay area also make wonderful backdrops with all of the amazing plants and flowers.

There are also a number of cemeteries open to the public for the more creepy or gothic feel. These are great for moody environments or horror-inspired photo shoots.

There are always the local faires such as the San Jose Renaissance Faire, the Pleasanton Scottish Games and a number of different Celtic Faires.

Even without the major events, there are a great number of places that can be utilized for gatherings and impromptu events that can be done year round.
By Jean Martin
Editor-in-Chief

For several decades, there has been only one “Doctor Who” group in the Bay Area. The Legion of Rassilon has been meeting in the South Bay to view episodes, both old and new, for a very long time and I have enjoyed going to some of these meetups and befriending people there. But San Jose is a bit far for me to go to on a Friday night after work and I haven’t been able to go there for a few years now. I do see some of my friends from that group at other conventions and events, and “Doctor Who” episodes are now much easier to see, so there hasn’t been as much of an impetus to go.

Last year, however, a new group called Doctor Whovians in SF Bay Area (a Meetup.com group) started in San Francisco. Well, San Francisco is almost as far but the advantage is that the meetups are on Saturdays. It’s easier to go somewhere far on the weekends and they actually view the episodes as they are aired.

I’ve been wanting to check out this group for a while, but with conflicting events on the weekend, it was only until last March 30 that I was able to do so. It was a good time go as the episode being aired was the premiere of the second half of season seven of “Doctor Who.” I don’t have BBC America so my motivation to go was a combination of seeing the episode live and meet new people. Seeing “Doctor Who” in a group is always fun as you can feed off of the reactions of other fans.

The location for the meetup is at Ireland’s 32, which is a nice Irish pub on Geary Blvd. in the Inner Richmond. I’ve been there previously with a group of Browncoats after watching a James Bond movie. So it has some fannish ties in my book. I didn’t know they had an upstairs private room and that was where the viewing was held.
It was a pretty big room and there was a big HDTV so everyone was able to see it. By the time the episode started, there were about 40 people in the room. I didn’t know anyone except for the organizer Karly Ngai who I sort of met at Gallifrey One last February. I didn’t technically meet her but she took photos of Chris and I saw her around.

Chris and I got to talk to Karly and a few people beforehand when we ordered food and drinks in the downstairs area. Everyone was very friendly and the food was excellent. Chris and I shared a Shepherd’s Pie and some other people enjoyed the Fish and Chips.
Chris and I wore our TARDIS knitted hats and Christine Keating wore a bow tie and fez. I don’t recall anyone else wearing anything costumey other than the three of us.

But everyone was enthusiastic about the episode and it was an excellent one at that. We finally got to see the new companion Clara in her first contemporary incarnation. The revelation of what the “Bells of Saint John” from the title was funny. And the premise of the plot involving Wi-Fi was brilliant. There was a no talking policy during the show, which was a good rule to have so that there were no distractions. At least from our group. Halfway during the episode, a group of pub crawlers came into the bar downstairs and some of them were very loud. Still, it was a great way to view the episode in a nice room, with a group of fellow fans and enjoying something different in San Francisco on a weekend night.
Lloyd Penney writes:

Our own local convention, Ad Astra 2013, is done for another year, and we can finally file away some of the goodies we brought back from the convention, the con flyers and giveaways. Also, relive some of the good times, hallway chats and laughing jags. You can tell, this year’s Ad Astra was a blast. So now, I can get back to tackling a big stack of zines and e-zines, and SF/SF 139 is right at the top of the heap.

Jean Martin responds:

I’m glad you had fun at your local convention!

We are just now starting to get warm weather in the south part of the province, but there is still plenty of snow further north. This been a cold spring, and the groundhogs had better stay hidden underground, for they have a lot to answer for.

This spring has been as usual warm and then cold. But what has been unusual is the greater than normal amount of pollen. My allergies haven’t been this bad in more than 10 years! I guess it’s because we had a lot of rain this past winter and all the flowering trees have been in bloom.

After all the good stuff PEERS has done over the years, I hope their fundraiser works well. Looks like they have provided more than a decade of fun and frolics for the local fannish and costuming community in the BArea, and I still wish we had something like this in Toronto.

I don’t know what I’d do without PEERS. It’s been to focal point of all my costuming, dancing and writing endeavors for a long time now. And it’s one group I’m active in and always go to their events. I’m hoping their fundraiser will go well too. We’ve all been promoting it as much as we can.

The press has always thought that science fiction writers are trying to predict the future, and then they rake them over the coals because the predictions didn’t come true. I don’t see these writers as prognosticators but speculators, as is something like this might happen. However, many of the little bits of Trek tech, like the diagnostic bed and communicator, are already part of our modern tech, and not quite as SFnal as they used to be. This is a very attempt to try to explain why SF exists, and why we need it if we are going to imagine our way to our future. I only wish more people could and would read it, and take it to heart. There’s too many of us who are overfed and complacent, too much so to care about what future we have to look forward to.

Most people are very short-sighted and only think about what’s good for the moment. I guess it’s human nature. But it’s also only us humans that can imagine and speculate on the future. That’s what makes science fiction writers, and other creators in the business world, academia, research facilities and think tanks, special and important. I agree, science fiction is more speculative than predictive, although it can also be the latter. And it also can be inspiration as we’ve seen with “Star Trek.”
Seattle looks wonderful. I used to live north of Seattle in Victoria, British Columbia, but never really had the chance to go to Seattle. I hope I will have that chance one day. The Museum of Flight looks great … the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton is a great place to go, but right now, the Canadian Air and Space Museum is in storage, looking for a new home. We know the organizers, and we wish we could help them with their fundraising.

Oh, I want to go to Victoria too! I hear it’s lovely there. And that’s too bad that the Canadian Air and Space Museum is in storage. Maybe they need to do a crowdfunding campaign just like I mentioned in my current editorial.

Tonight is the night we might see Yvonne on television, as part of the two-part finale, the season ender of “Murdoch Mysteries.” All of the waiting since last August is almost done. Now to see how visible she is as a background actor.

This has been an excellent season, it’s been renewed for a seventh season, extended to 18 from its usual 13 episodes. And this coming August will see the second Murdoch experience, with a tour of the sets, a meet-and-greet with cast and crew, and a marvelous dinner for about 200 of our closest friends. It was a great time last time, it should be even better this time.

I stopped watching “Murdoch Mysteries” after the first season. But maybe I’ll pick it back up. And I’ll certainly see the episodes Yvonne is in once they’re available. I saw the photos in Facebook and she looks adorable! And that’s wonderful that you’ll get to go visit the sets and people behind the scenes again.

All done, off it goes! Thanks for this one, always look forward to the next. See you then.

Till next time!
Meeting 1182

March 25, 2013
Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary
Held at Coco’s, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 Fwy), Sunnyvale

Began at 8 pm with Andy having hair
27 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1181 were accepted
The Treasurer reported that we took in $38.25 in the regular jar last week & $22.75 in the party jar
The Vice President reported there’s a new “Drink Tank” out on efanzines.com
The President had nothing fannish to report
The Party Committee reported there will be a BASFA party at Westercon on Saturday of con
The Sports Committee reported that the tickets have been ordered for the May 10, Friday game and we can start giving him money

Announcements
Ken announced that instead of a 5th Friday Legion of Rasselon meeting - that there will be a Meta presentation instead - still 7pm, at the Carl’s Jr at 1st & Trimble
JC announced that Nerdvana is bursting with shows
Chris O announced that there is a new Dr Who & Game of Thrones this weekend ... and ... stuff
Adrienne announced that she would like advice about getting rid of stuff [like a light table]
Chris announced ... more stuff - and Lynda says “hi”
Aatheus announced that there will be a gaming event Sat, March 30 from noon till 4pm at the AOL Building, 1st floor, 395 Page Mill Rd, Palo Alto
Lynn announced that Colleen Savitsky is in hospital now & Lynn announced that she, herself, is in a wheelchair now because she broke her ankle
Howeird announced that he is in a new production of “Brigadoon” which will be at the Montgomery Theatre in SJ, opens Apr 6th, plays April 7,11,12,13,14 - is very good, check for more info at www.lyrictheatre.org and a coupon code for $5 off tickets is “foggy”
Dave C announced that SFinSF will be showing “The Bells of St John” at Sat, 5pm on a big screen at the Hobart building, Market & 2nd, SF
[evil] Kevin announced a Westercon meeting Sunday, April 14 at the Hilton Arden West, Sacramento

Reviews
Diane reviewed the Treehouse in Stanford as a very nice eatery & reviewed “The Iron Wyrm Affair” & “A Conspiracy of Alchemists” as very good books
Chris reviewed special exhibits at the deYoung Museum - Girl with the Pearl Earring & Rembrandt Century as excellent & reviewed a Russian restaurant in Walnut Creek, Babuska as it had amazing food & reviewed LaLuna in Concord as “Oh it was SO good!” & Josh says their kitchen is SO very clean -
then Chris reviewed “Othello” as the most singularly confusing play he has ever seen
Adrienne reviewed “Boneshaker” & “Dreadnaught” by Cherie Priest as alternate history steampunk & she enjoyed them both - then reviewed March movies as they all suck - then reviewed “Admissions” as light and entertaining - and Mo agreed
Dave C reviewed “Seduction of the Innocent” by Allan Collins as an alternate history mystery that he suggests you “read for fun” - then Chris recommends ALL the Hardcase Crime books; Dave then reviewed Hilton’s appreciation gift to their Honors program members as underwhelming
Brad reviewed the Youtubed “Justice League of America” as not as bad as he feared it would be & fine for a 6-year old
[evil] Kevin reviewed a showing of “Iron Sky” as just as much fun the 2nd time around, especially when inflicted on an innocent - then Mo opined that it’s hilarious and well done
Then we did auctions
We adjourned at 9:26 pm
And the rumor of the week was: “The new pope will be a failure and Benedict will return as pope classic”
Meeting 1184

April 8, 2013
Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary
Held at Coco’s, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 Fwy), Sunnyvale

Began at 8:02 pm
27 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1183 were accepted as “she typed ’em up”

No Treasurer
No Vice President
The President had nothing fannish to report

Announcements
[evil] Kevin announced a Westercon meeting Sunday, April 14 at the Hilton Arden West, Sacramento & announced that David Gerrold will be the Westercon 66 Toastmaster - and Adrienne warned that pollens are crazy-bad in Sacramento right now; then [evil] Kevin announced that in 2 weeks Thinbot will be defending its title at the Robogames at the San Mateo fairgrounds - check robogames.net

Ken announced that there’ll be a Psychotronic Film Festival on Saturday, April 13 - in room 5015 at Foothill college & announced that in May KFJC will have a lot of specials & he’s on from 2-6pm
Mo suffered a head leak
Hilary announced that she’s looking for volunteers for ‘Clockwork Alchemy’ [held over the Memorial weekend
Then Mo announced that she’s looking for help from local artists for Fanime’s art show
And Marshall announced that he’s looking for volunteers for a Rover Squad at Clockwork Alchemy- see him

Reviews
JC reviewed “GI Joe Retaliation” as very entertaining & recommended - Bruce Willis wasn’t that bad - worth full price
Debbie reviewed the new Dr Who series as excellent; Ric followed that is was less Cthulhu-like than it seemed, Dave C commented that it seemed as though dream logic was in evidence & Andy thought it was a bit weak

Mo reviewed “Dial M for Murder” as a very good movie & a gen to watch, then reviewed “The Devil’s Envoys” and “Hand of the Devil” as excellent fairy tale movies - free on Hulu right now; then Dave C commented that “House” is also free on Hulu right now & Mo opined that nothing is scarier than Japanese horror films
Adrienne reviewed “Hansel & Gretel Witchhunters” as she actually enjoyed it - it was just fun - then reviewed the Almaden Expressway Robertson’s car was as stay the heck away from it

[tall] Kevin reviewed John Picacio’s web blog on how Worldcon’s work as highly recommended = picacio.blogspot.com/2013/04/how-to-change-worldcon.html
Carole reviewed the TV show “Once Upon a Time” as somewhat annoying & Mo commented that she likes the show.

Bill reviewed “Brigadoon” [at the Montgomery Theatre in SJ, plays April 7,11,12,13,14 & has Howeird in it] as very credibly-done community theatre - worth full price; check for more info at www.lyrictheatre.org

Josh reviewed a Rockwell Winery tasting as delicious, worth full price & the staff was very helpful

Then we did auctions

We adjourned at 9:19 pm

And the rumor of the week was: “Boobies”

Meeting 1185

April 15, 2013
Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

held at Coco’s, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 Fwy), Sunnyvale

Began at 8-ish with an emergency holographic JC
26 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1184 were accepted as “the minutes with tribbles”

The Treasurer reported that last week the regular jar took in $9.60 & the party jar took in $10.00

The Vice President reported there was no new “Drink Tank” but there will be one in the future

The President had nothing fannish to report

The Party Committee reported there will be a BASFA party at Convolution - day TBA

Announcements

Mike announced a good source for collectables is www.popbotics.com & announced that the first 3 weekends in May will have Silicon Valley Open Studios - check www.svos.org

Howeird announced that he sold 3 pictures at Boskone & announced that this Sunday from 10am-6pm a Thai Songkran New Year’s water blessing festival will be held at the park on SanSalvador St & South 1st St - for more info check www.singhabeerusa.com/celebrate-the-songkran-thai-new-year-in-san-jose-on-april-21

Beth announced that her daughter Katlyn will be singing the National Anthem with a group at the Sabercats game, 7:30pm Friday & then again at Santa Clara high school Saturday at 7pm

Chris announced that he needs content for the Handicapping the Hugos issue & for “Journey Planet” - the Philip K Dick issue - send it to garcia@computerhistorymuseum.org - and then announced that Frank Wu is safe

Dave C announced that the Other Change of Hobbit is open - at 1600 Kearnet St, suite A, ElCerrito, CA - check otherchangeofhobbit.com

Diane announced that the Harmony Wynelands will have a silent movie night Friday, April 26, 2013: “An evening with
Laurel and Hardy”. Buy tickets by April 20 - contact harmony_wynelands@mail.vresp.com

Josh announced that Thoughts 4 Food will coordinate with Moveable Feasts to visit events

JC announced that the latest Nerdvana podcast will be coming out this Wednesday & they may be vid-casting at Slave Labor Graphics / Art Boutiki Saturday May 4th

Ric announced that he wasn’t quite paying attention & that episode 304 of FanboyPlanet was released Saturday - stuffed with all sorts of information & that CogsCon will be April 27 - check blog.cogswell.edu/tag/cogs-con-2013

Reviews
Ric reviewed “GI Joe Retaliation” as he enjoyed it & reviewed “Jurassic Park in 3D” as he liked the 3D conversion & reviewed “Orphan Black” - a BBC show - as it has a good cast, except he doesn’t much care for the main character - and Adrienne commented she is also watching it

Mo reviewed the Sacramento Westercon meeting as she had a pleasant time & reviewed “42” as really good - & Adrienne thinks it was really well done & Oscar-worthy

Chris reviewed the SJ Fantasy Faire as a wonderful time & he enjoyed his turkey leg - he had fun with moments of awesome & reviewed seeing a blue heron flying over his head as huge & reviewed the Little Chef Counter’s pork chop as “OMG, OMG, OMG it’s so good - OMG!” and worth full price - Josh commented that he drove *past* it and noticed people garbed for the faire

Howeird reviewed the name “little chef counter” as ambiguous & reviewed “Brigadoon” as not Lerner & Loewe’s best musical & the production he was in did not have the best choreography & direction <much snark then occurred> - & it was “the best high school production” he’s been in - worth 1/3 the price charged

Ken reviewed the Psychotronic Film Festival as it had some issues, but was still fun - even with the repetition

Andy reviewed 2 episodes of the latest “Dr Who” as uneven & one felt a little rushed & still worth seeing

Then we did auctions

We adjourned at 9:42 pm

And the rumor of the week was: “gekko has left the building”
Bay Area Fannish Calendar

Are you up-to-speed on a lot of the wonderful fannish events and activities that go on in the Bay Area? If so, we would very much appreciate your help as our new calendar editor for SF/SF. We do have a list of organizations we cover so you won't have to start from scratch. But we would also like to build on this list if you know of more events that we can cover going forward. Contact Jean Martin at SFinSF@gmail.com if you'd like to volunteer or if you have any questions.

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-Saturday, May 3-5
Corflu XXX
Red Lion Hotel
1021 Northeast Grand Avenue Portland, OR
corflu.org
Fanzine fandom convention.

Saturday, May 11
SF in SF: Robin Sloan & Austin Grossman
The Variety Preview Room
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A.
6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

Saturday, May 18
The Pride and Prejudice 200th Anniversary
Alameda Elks Lodge, 3rd Floor
2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda
www.baers.org/pp_2013.html
Bay Area Regency Dance Society event. Caller Alan Winston with the Divertimiento Dance Orchestra, Costumes admired but not required, all dances taught during the ball. No partners required.
8 p.m. $20

Saturday-Sunday, May 18-19
Maker Faire
San Mateo Event Center
2495 S Delaware St, San Mateo
makerfaire.com
A family-friendly festival of invention, creativity and resourcefulness, and a celebration of the Maker movement.
$55

Saturday-Sunday, May 18-19
Big Wow Comicfest
San Jose Convention Center, San Jose
bigwowcomicfest.com
Comics convention.
$30

Friday-Monday, May 24-27
Baycon
Hyatt Regency Santa Clara,
5101 Great America Pakway, Santa Clara
baycon.org
GOH: Lois McMaster Bujold, Chris and John O’Halloran. Toastmaster; Veronica Belmont. Special Music Guests; S.J. Tucker and Betsy Tinney
$70 (till April 15)
**Fanime**
San Jose Convention Center, San Jose
www.fanime.com
Anime convention. In conjunction with Clockwork Alchemy.
$65 (thru mid-May)

**Clockwork Alchemy**
DoubleTree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose
www.clockworkalchemy.com
$65 (thru mid-May)

**Sac-Con**
Scottish Rite Center, 6151 H St, Sacramento
www.sac-con.com
Comic, toy, and anime show, $10 early bird entry at 9 a.m.
10 a.m. $6

**SF in SF: Erin Cashier, Cliff Winnig, and Heather McDougal – Hadley Rille Books Night**
The Variety Preview Room
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A.
6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

**Saturday, June 22**
**Godzilla Night 2**
The Historic Bal Theatre
14808 East 14th St, San Leandro
www.baltheatre.com
Hosted by Balrok from TV20’s Creepy KOFY Movietime, with live music by Big Pimp Jones.
10 a.m. $15

**Thursday-Sunday, July 4-7**
**Awesome! - Westercon 66**
Hilton Arden West
2200 Harvard St, Sacramento
www.westercon66.org
$65

**Saturday, July 20**
**SF in SF: Deborah Ross**
The Variety Preview Room
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A. Second author TBA.
6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

**Saturday-Monday, August 3-4**
**Gaymer X**
Japantown
San Francisco
gaymerconnect.com
Gaymer X is the first gaming and geek lifestyle convention with a focus on LGBTQ culture. At the Hotel Kabuki and Hotel Tomo in Japantown.
$45

**Saturday, August 17**
**SF in SF: Laura Ann Gilman & Chaz Brenchley (aka Daniel Fox)**
The Variety Preview Room
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A.
6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

**Thursday-Monday, August 29-September 2**
**LoneStarCon 3**
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
San Antonio, TX
lonestarcon3.org
$200
Saturday-Monday, August 30-September 1

Sac-Anime
Sacramento Convention Center
1400 J St, Sacramento
www.sac-con.com
Anime show.
$30 (till April 30)

Friday-Monday, August 30-September 2

Celesticon
Fremont Marriott
46100 Landing Parkway, Fremont
www.celesticon.com
Celesticon offers four days of family-friendly gaming in the San Francisco Bay Area. Hundreds of game events, along with exciting special guests, sponsor prizes and gaming, gaming, gaming...
$40 (till June 1)

Saturday, September 28

SF in SF: Nick Mamatas & Michael Marshall Smith
The Variety Preview Room
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A.
6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

Friday, October 11

SF in SF: Litquake, Super Stories of Heroes & Villains
The Variety Preview Room
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A. Claude Lalumiere and authors TBA
6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

Sunday, October 13

East Bay Mini Maker Faire
Park Day School
360 42nd St., Oakland
ebmakerfaire.wordpress.com
Small scale mini Maker Faire.
10 a.m. $20

Saturday, October 19

BAL-O-Ween
The Historic Bal Theatre
14808 East 14th St, San Leandro
www.baltheatre.com
Lord Blood Rah hots the annual BAL-O-WEEN Spooktacular.
10 a.m. $15

Friday-Sunday, November 1-3

Convolution 2013
Hyatt Regency SFO, Burlingame
con-volution.com/2013
$45

Saturday, November 16

SF in SF: Kim Stanley Robinson & Cecelia Holland
The Variety Preview Room
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A.
6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

Saturday-Sunday, December 28-29

Sac-Con
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H St, Sacramento
www.sac-con.com
Comic, toy, and anime show.
10 a.m. $12

Sunday, December 8

Sac-Con
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H St, Sacramento
www.sac-con.com
Comic, toy, and anime show, $10 early bird entry at 9 a.m.
10 a.m. $6
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potlatch 23</td>
<td>Friday-Sunday, February 21-23, 2014</td>
<td>Sainte Claire Hotel, 302 South Market Street, San Jose, California</td>
<td>Literary SF convention supporting Clarion West.</td>
<td>$40</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Walt Disney Family Museum</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>104 Montgomery Street, San Francisco</td>
<td>Current exhibitions: Show White and the Seven Dwarfs (through April 14). Alice in Wonderland starts May 1.</td>
<td>$20 (Closed Tuesdays)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco Ghost Hunt Walking Tour</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Queen Anne Hotel, 1590 Sutter at Octavia, San Francisco</td>
<td>Begins: Queen Anne Hotel</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIZ Cinema</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>1746 Post Street, San Francisco</td>
<td>VIZ Cinema is a 143-seat underground cinema inside New People in San Francisco. Its programming focuses on the latest and hottest films from Japan, as well as classics, favorites, documentaries and anime. Please check theater for showtimes and tickets.</td>
<td>$20 (Closed Tuesdays)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cartoon Art Museum</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>655 Mission Street, San Francisco</td>
<td>Current exhibitions: Chuck Jones, Drawing on Imagination (till May 5)</td>
<td>$6 (Closed Mondays)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bad Movie Night</td>
<td>Sundays</td>
<td>The Dark Room Theater, 2263 Mission Street, San Francisco</td>
<td>Featuring bad movies old and new.</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sakuramento Anime Society</td>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>Rancho Cordova Library, 9845 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova</td>
<td>Meets every Sunday to watch old and new anime and anime music videos, play collectible card games, practice artwork and make AMVs.</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bay Area Science Fiction Association</td>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>Coco’s, 1206 Oakmead Parkway, Sunnyvale</td>
<td>SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Free</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF Games</td>
<td>Mondays</td>
<td>Zephyr Cafe, 3643 Balboa Street, San Francisco</td>
<td>SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Free</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sacramento Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Club
Midtown Crepeville
1730 L Street, Sacramento
www.sacgeeks.com
A laid-back, friendly social club for people to discuss, recommend, share and trade their favorite SF and fantasy books. NOT a book-of-the-month club.
6:30 p.m. Free

Mondays and Wednesdays

Silicon Valley Boardgamers
Mountain View Community Center
201 S. Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View
www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb
Group meets regularly to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames such as Settlers of Catan; also multi-player Avalon Hill-style, historical war games, and others.
6:30 p.m. $2

Tuesdays

Principality of Mists Fighter Practice
Twin Creeks Sports Complex
969 Caribbean Drive, Sunnyvale
www.westkingdom.org/as46/mar/sunnyvale-fighter-practice
SCA event. Non-members must remember to fill out a waiver form. In case of rain, call from 3pm on to determine of the facility will be closed that day. 408-534-1169.
7 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Free

Wednesdays

East Bay Strategy Games Club
EndGame
921 Washington, Oakland
www.endgameoakland.com/event-calendar
6:30 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
www.sfgames.org
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

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 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.
### 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.

**Geeks Vs. Geeks**
San Francisco / San Mateo
www.facebook.com/geeksvsgeeks
www.geeksvsgeeks.com
Monthly pub trivia quiz. On hiatus.

**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.

### 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. Free

### Fantastic Frontiers
www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/
Social club for Sacramento County sci fi/fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times and locations.

### No-Name Anime
Saratoga Library
13650 Saratoga Avenue
Saratoga
www.nnanime.com
Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month. 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.
1 p.m. - 5 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/store/2113
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.
7:00 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
Apple Blossoms

by Lucy Huntzinger
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Sunday</th>
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_Bay Area Fannish Calendar – May 2013_