Contents

Editorial ................................................................................................................................. Jean Martin .......................................................... 2
Mystery and Magic – Edwardian Weekend 2013 .............................................................. Diane B. Rooney .... Photos by Diane B. Rooney ................................................................. 4
Free Comic Book Day Report ............................................................................................... Lee Hester .... Photos by Lee Hester .......................................................... 9
The Return of Nova Albion ................................................................................................. Christopher Erickson ......................................................... 11
Wardrobe and Gears: The Expressive Side of Steampunk ................................................ Christopher Erickson .... Photos by Christopher Erickson ................................................... 17
‘Star Trek’ Costuming for the Premiere of the Latest Movie and Beyond .................... Jean Martin .... Photos by Jean Martin ................................................................. 19
Convolution 2012 ............................................................................................................................ 21
Letters of Comment ............................................................................................................... Jean Martin .......................................................... 27
BASFA Meetings 1186-89 ............................................................................................... BASFA .......................................................... 29
Bay Area Fannish Calendar ................................................................................................. Tom Becker .... Photo by Lucy Huntzinger ................................................................. 37

Art Credits
Cover Game console by Lucy Huntzinger

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Finally, six months after Convolution, my con report is in this issue. These past six months have been extremely busy for me and I’m so behind on so many things. But this was a convention that was new and interesting, and I think, worth covering even though my report is late. And, perhaps, six months later is a good way to remind everyone of the convention that is coming up again six months from now.

Since Convolution in November, I’ve only been to Gallifrey One this past February, and I only went to Nova Albion for one day this past May. I’m feeling a bit of con burnout (horrors!) and I think going one day is better than not going at all. So I at least got a good taste of Nova Albion, which was a lot of fun on the Saturday that I went. Although I missed out on Friday night’s entertainment, which was probably more my thing seeing as it was the Victorian evening (with PEERS leading the dancing) and the night that the costume contest was done. On Saturday night the music was more like country music, so I didn’t enjoy that as much as I’m not into that kind of music, but people seemed to like it and Christopher liked it too. Christopher’s coverage of Friday night and Saturday is in this issue. The highlight of Saturday night for me was the Aether Brigade adults-only show, which was a lot of fun. I’ve seen short skits of theirs at their booth at several events, but this is the first time I’ve seen them do an entire show. Captain Lucky was at his entertaining best, but I was surprised to see the rest of the crew step up and showcase their own talents and brand of humor. The show hummed along nicely complete with props and audience participation. We were lucky to get into the conference room for the show as lots of people got turned away. They definitely need a bigger venue next time.

May is always a busy month for conventions and events and I’m going to have to miss several of them. BAERS is doing a Pride and Prejudice Ball in honor of the book’s 200th anniversary. I will have to skip that so that I can cover the Nebula Awards, which will be in San Jose this year. Big Wow! is going to be on the same weekend, and Christopher will be covering that. With WonderCon in L.A. these past two years, Big Wow! has become the biggest comic con in the Bay Area and it’s gotten bigger and more popular. So much so that Stan Lee is going to be one of the guests this year.

I was looking forward to moderating panels at Clockwork Alchemy again this year and enjoying the convention over Memorial Day weekend. I was also hoping to visit BayCon for at least an evening, which I did last year and was a lot of fun. But Christopher and I are going to Germany, which was something unexpected that just got planned a few weeks ago. Christopher is going for work, but I will be checking out the nearby sights. I’ve already made arrangements with the Johannes Kepler Museum to check them out and we will be
staying in Ulm, where Albert Einstein was born. And, of course, we will be touring Mad King Ludwig’s Castle. So there will be definitely be a fannish travel report coming from me in the near future. And we have other people covering these two conventions as well as Fanime.

While I’m excited to be going to Germany, I’m sad to be missing BayCon. This would have been my 10th year of attending it. BayCon holds a special place in my heart as it’s the first fannish con I went to. It is where I discovered all the interests I’m passionate about all in one place and met so many people who are now my friends. I remember going to my first BayCon and feeling like I’ve arrived “home” and thinking that “these are my people.” The good thing about conventions is they come back (at least most of them) every year. So there’s always next year!

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

This year’s Edwardian Weekend, held last January 18 and 19 at San Francisco’s Regency Ballroom, was the fifth consecutive time I attended this amazing, even otherworldly, event. I describe it in terms of mystery and magic. Thanks to Jean, I attended as the representative of SF/SF and worked with the event’s incredible media contact Karin Conn. I was able to bring a “plus one” both nights. Friday night I brought a friend who had never attended before, so I was interested to hear her impressions.

Most readers probably know that this event was started as a celebration of all things concerning artist and writer Edward Gorey, rather than of King Edward VII, but over the years since its beginning in 1999, the two contexts have merged to some extent so that Edward Gorey’s work and worldviews are celebrated with a rather Edwardian, even Steampunkish, sensibility (among others). It’s grown from the Edwardian Ball to “Edwardian Weekend” as it’s grown in attendance and event space, now occupying two nights and three levels of the Regency Ballroom. (There is also a one-night Edwardian Ball in Los Angeles in February.)

Rather like Dante’s “Divine Comedy” with its inferno, purgatory and paradise, the universe of Edwardian Weekend is spread over three locations at the Regency: the lower level, where most of the vendors are located; the main ballroom level, which also has a balcony; and the upper level or lodge, with its quieter and more subdued atmosphere, where time seems to move more slowly or even stand still. Remember, this building started life in 1909 (appropriately enough) as a Masonic Scottish Rite Temple.

Each level has its own distinctive atmosphere. Guests enter up the stairs from the street to the main ballroom level, with its grand chandeliers, 35-foot ceiling, large main stage and
balcony. This room feels elegant; the space is large enough to hold exhibits including the human-powered rides from Cyclecide, Kinetic Steam Works’ industrial displays and the Mystic Midway on Friday night as well as around 1,500 guests, but by late in the evening, especially on Saturday, it can feel claustrophobic. The lower level, the vendors’ area with a small stage, bar and live music, is more brightly lit and has, to me, a livelier, brighter, and more energetic atmosphere. The upper level or lodge has only been open for a few years. To me, it is by far the most mysterious, perhaps because it’s the room used for the initiations when the building was a Masonic Temple. The floors and lower tiers of seating around the walls are carpeted in red. The ceiling is high and the paneling is dark wood. Even when crowded late in the evening, the lodge never feels as frenetic and noisy as the main floor.

Even staying for the full evening (8 p.m. to 2 a.m. on both nights) it’s impossible to experience everything. The main ballroom features a full evening of on-stage musicians, aerialists, actors, dancers, DJs and other performers, as well as a few hours of ballroom dancing on Saturday night and exhibits on Friday night, so seeing all of them would leave no time for the activities in the lodge and the vendor area, the puppeteers, the tarot reading, the antique portrait studio, the curiosities on display, eating and drinking, or just walking around photographing and talking with fellow attendees. And
the walking around takes longer as the evening progresses and the crowds thicken.

As at other events, I like to arrive here as early as possible, experiencing the rooms first while they are empty, and then, during the course of the evenings, layering on repeated visits and walk-arounds for photography and conversation. The environment of the Regency provides the stage, but the 2,000 or so guests are the actors in this improvisational experience. Different people, different costumes, different groupings, different conversations each time I just walk through the building.

My own favorite experiences from Edwardian Weekend 2013 include:

**The Vau de Vire Society:** Vau de Vire Society performed a mimed drama in the Lodge in white costumes and full white makeup and in slow motion.

**Edward Gorey’s “The Doubtful Guest.”** Each year Vau de Vire and Rosin Coven perform one of Gorey’s tales onstage in the main ballroom. This year’s selection was “The Doubtful Guest,” a poem in couplets published in 1957 but set in seemingly Edwardian times. The guest is an unusual and unnamed creature who has taken up residence in the house and stayed for 17 years. The poem chronicles its activities, for example: “It joined them at breakfast and presently ate all the syrup and toast, and a part of a plate.” The performance blends acting, costumes, mime, poetry, acrobatics and music into a unique experience.
Le Cancan Bijou: These amazing dancers, who also appear each weekend of Dickens Faire, give a high-energy performance of the can-can, performed to the music of Jacques Offenbach from the overture to “Orpheus in the Underworld,” that gets everyone moving.

Kinetic Steam Works: Kinetic Steam Works is a regular at Steampunk events as well as Burning Man and Maker Faire. For the Edwardian Weekend, they set up various steam-powered apparatus right in the main ballroom and also operate a tea salon.

The Lodge: Especially in the early evening, before the Lodge gets crowded, time seems to move more slowly here. Perhaps it’s something in the architecture, design and décor and the decades of Masonic initiation rituals with their centuries of tradition. This experience gets even stranger with Vau de Vire’s slow-motion, mimed performance.

The vendor room: The vendor room is lively and fun! It’s more brightly lit, so it’s better for costume photography and for conversations with vendors about their merchandise and with guests about their costumes and makeup. It was even better this year with live music!

The costumes: Despite the amazing array of live entertainment, themed exhibits and other activities, much of the magic and mystery of the Edwardian Weekend are created by the guests themselves, with their fabulous costumes, hairstyles, makeup, tattoos and self presentations. The effect created by some 2,000 guests, few if any in ordinary 2013 street clothes, is of a world populated by Victorians and Edwardians of all classes (and 19th, 20th and 21st century versions), Steampunks, makers, artists and characters and creatures inspired by Edward Gorey poems and stories.

As I mentioned, on Friday night I brought my friend Susan as a guest. She is an avid music and history buff, but is not into costuming, dance, Steampunk or any of the particular performance genres onstage and in the crowd at Edwardian Weekend. She was fascinated by both the environment itself and by the collective effect of all the costumed guests—designs, fabric, makeup and characterizations. She enjoyed the exhibits and curiosities and the range of merchandise in the vendor room. She spoke repeatedly of the creativity seen in so many genres and media. Her only concern or dislike was the effort of moving through the rooms late in the evening when they became very crowded and very noisy. Yes, she is interested in returning in 2014.
When I think of the Edwardian Weekend during its long off-season, the words that come first to mind are “mystery” and “magic.” To me, these words best describe both the environment and the experiences that the guests collectively create. They change throughout each night, they’re different for every person, and they’re unforgettable. Each time, this event is a unique celebratory fusion of creativity and connection, learning and fun, fashion and performance, magic and science, history past and future, to which music, décor, performance, light effects, costumes, makeup, characterizations, interaction, food and drink, photography, memory-making, and the presence of each guest all contribute.

Read and see more at:
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My Flickr album at:
www.flickr.com/photos/dianesf/sets/
Free Comic Book Day Report

By Lee Hester
Owner of Lee’s Comics in Mountain View and San Mateo

Free Comic Book Day just keeps getting bigger and bigger! This year, on May 4, there were 52 titles to choose from, and we vastly increased our orders. The crowds were bigger than ever too! We saw long lines stretching down the street at both stores until after noon. People seemed to love our giveaway of two complete sets of all the free comics, presented in a handsome canvas Lee's Comics tote bag. This is sure to be a treasured annual tradition from now on. Tom Rolinger stopped by at noon and did free drawings for the fans.

The first big title to go was the “Star Wars” offering from Dark Horse. Not a huge surprise since it was also “Star Wars” day. The fourth was with us, though, and most of our other big titles held out at least into the evening. I was handing out comics in front of our Mountain View store along with my friend Mark Arnold. We saw wave upon wave of happy families and their kids coming up to join the fun. There were also many people who just happened by when they saw all the commotion. These were first-time attendees. They all loved the idea of free comics, and many of them told me they were looking forward to attending in future years. We are in a huge shopping center that also has a Costco, Krispy Kreme, Office Max and other attractions so there are always hundreds of people milling about on weekends. Our flags, banner, tent and the huge crowds milling about really caught the eye!
Free Comic Book Day is like a national comic con. It's the time for everyone to let their geek flag fly. People love comics, and they certainly love getting something for free. We give the comics away out front, so people know there's no obligation to go in and shop. The interesting thing is that most people did go in and shop, and we had a record sales day. It's not going to be easy, but we are going to try to top ourselves next year, and we are already working on some top secret plans! Stay tuned.

For more information on Lee’s Comics, go to: www.lcomics.com
The return of Steampunk to the Santa Clara Hyatt, after a year’s absence, was a welcome sight for the Bay Area. The Nova Albion Steampunk Exhibition was held on April 26-28, 2013. The convention featured a number of wonderful items including an expanded dealer room (split into three parts), two evenings of great entertainment and plenty of wonderful costumes.

Power Source
by Christopher Erickson

Steampunk Spacesuit
by Christopher Erickson

Trip To The Moon
by Christopher Erickson
One of the newest touches was noticeable right away when you purchased your badge. The lanyards for the passes were do-it-yourself with a table full of yarn and ribbon to create a unique look.

The dealer room was expanded this year and placed into three separate areas. The first one was tucked into the room near the entrance by the escalators of the hotel. This one featured a lot of bits and bobs for all the accents you would need. The second vendor room was on the second floor right off the escalator. This area featured larger items including backpacks and more artistic pieces. The best part of this room was the tea vendor who had a whole bar set up where he could brew samples and offer tastings. The last dealer area was
outside in the hallway and featured fan tables, smaller vendors and a clothing booth complete with a rocket and a couch for people who wanted to rest. The escalator served to connect all three areas and give it a continuous feel.

The Museum of Curiosities returned as well offering all of the wonderful items made by people including the Time Table. Miss Kalendar’s Tea Room also made its return to give people a nice place to chat and have some tea with others.

The entertainment was also rich and varied this year. Friday night featured a wonderful dance and lots of music and costumes. The festivities were kicked off by an a cappella vocal performance featuring Brass Farthing warbling songs about drink and love (and love of drink). Le Cancan Bijou also gave a rousing dance exhibition with lots of leg kicks and ruffles. Shovelman also provided music for the interim between the costume contest as well as a couple of small sets.
PEERS hosted dance duties throughout the night with accompaniment by Bangers and Mash. There were tea, finger sandwiches, petit fours and biscuits served for the dance as well. The costume contest was well participated with several people showing off their “Steampunks in Space” costumes both individually and in groups. Several entries featured working props, lots of silver, steampunk versions of classic sci-fi characters and Steampunk Viking Prom.

Saturday night had a great soiree as well with a Venusian Swamp Hop and Hootenanny theme featuring a further performance by Shovelman, a dance hoedown featuring the unique sounds of Whiskey and Women (a blend of Cajun two-step, Irish drinking songs, Scottish drinking songs, Welsh drinking songs and honky-tonk music) that had everybody boogieing down, and tales of Venusian adventures regaled by the League of S.T.E.A.M. There was also a special adults-only comedy show by the Aether Brigade.
Steampunk Astronauts
by Christopher Erickson

Steampunk Chell from Portal
by Christopher Erickson

Steampunk Fabulous
by Christopher Erickson
The costumes were amazing. There were a number of space-themed Steampunk costumes featuring jetpacks and helmets similar to the Art Deco version of “Buck Rogers” and “Flash Gordon,” clockwork automatons, a space suit, a version of Georges Méliès “A Trip To The Moon” and Steampunk versions of Commander Riker from “Star Trek: The Next Generation” and Kaylee from “Firefly” as well as regular versions of Kaylee and Simon Tam. There were also Steampunk versions of a “Star Trek” Orion girl, Chell from “Portal” and lots of amazing bustles, corsets, toppers and waistcoats.

With all of the costumes, music and items to buy, there was plenty to keep everyone with a love of gears happy for the weekend.
Wardrobe and Gears: The Expressive Side of Steampunk

By Christopher Erickson
Managing Editor

Steampunk has long been jokingly described as “when Goths discover brown” to explain the movement’s aesthetic look. It is something more than that. Many people have been drawn into Steampunk costuming for the historical aspect as well as the finery. The most expressive part of a Steampunk outfit is the overall look and the details that you can get into your costume.

Since Steampunk does not have a definitive look, there is a wonderful opportunity to not only create a unique look, but also to build a character around it. This opens up the possibilities to shape an outfit around any type of character: mad scientists, airship captains, airship pirates, time travelers, monster hunters, mechanics, explorers, cowboys, and almost anything. The possibilities are almost endless with not only Victorian British fashion and Continental European clothing, but also period fashions from Edo-era Japan (including the last remnants of the samurai), Eastern European wear from the Slavic countries, Indian clothing, African tribal wear, Old West clothing, Middle Eastern garb or even combining them in interesting ways.

The mixing and matching of items from different cultural styles creates a great opportunity to add unique items to the outfit or accessories that you can build an entire ensemble around. Finding the unique bits for an outfit can create a complete look based on a color scheme, prop or a shape or item. If there is a color, shape or item that you are ecstatic about, it can be incorporated into the ensemble. A part as simple as a flower or feather can be made into a theme on the costume. It can make any look stand out.

The great part of making your own outfit is all of the details that you can put into it. With all of the badges, goggle combinations, hats, cloth patterns and accessories that vendors make or you can create on your own, the way to put together a costume can never end. A costumer can always continue to improve the outfit if they want to or can to achieve their perfect look. The look can incorporate props, unique badges and shirt/vest buttons, cloth patterns and additional items such as monocles, cufflinks, rings, necklaces and even gauntlets. These items can than be used to build a unique character.

Steampunk helps provide a great opportunity for people who want to costume to create their own “persona.” Since there are no definitive characters as Steampunk is more of an aesthetic and literary movement and is not a solidly defined genre, an individual can create any look they want and any character that they want. There is no end to the type of characters, backstories, details and character sketches that can be created. The person who invents the persona creates the canon of a character. Therefore, the expert of that character is the creator, making for a rich tapestry of details. It eliminates
the fanboy arguments about what a character does, how the persona acts and what the outfit looks like.

The Steampunk movement also allows for interpretations of characters and iconic images that most other genres do not allow for. A costumer can create a version of a comic book character such as Superman or Green Lantern and make a unique look. There have been a number of Victorian and Edwardian period dresses with a TARDIS theme. The web is littered with fan art and pictures of popular characters from comic books, science fiction shows franchises such as “Star Wars” and “Star Trek” and even video game characters that are given a Steampunk vibe. Even established characters can be entirely lifted and deemed Steampunk such as Jim West from “Wild Wild West,” Brisco County, Jr. from “The Adventures of Brisco County, Jr.,” Doctor Emmett Brown and Marty McFly from “Back to the Future Part III” and Ernest Pratt/Nicodemus Legend from “Legend.” Literary figures from the works of H.G. Wells, Jules Verne, Robert Louis Stevenson and others work well in this regard also. Historical figures like Nikola Tesla and Doc Holliday are also good choices to adapt or do as normal.

As with established characters or real people, other themes can be mixed in, such as cybernetics, robotics or fantasy beings such as fairies, elves, vampires and the like. This creates a whole new possibility for costuming that can really make for interesting outfits. The characters and personas can create even richer stories and adventures.

Since there are so many combinations or ideas that can be created and realized, this lets people express their creativity in putting together their outfit or utilize their creative skills in making props and outfits. Steampunk allows people to come into fandom by creating their own look and character, adjust their outfits and create their own fictional creation. Based on these things, Steampunk becomes an expressive community where people can come together to have fun and form friendships.
By Jean Martin  
*Editor-in-Chief*

A special premiere of “Star Trek: Into Darkness” for Starfleet International ship members, press and lucky promotion winners was held on May 15 at the Century 20 movie theaters in Redwood City, Calif. There were some people who came in costume. Most of them were in “Star Trek: The Original Series” uniforms and a few were in “Star Trek: The Next Generation” attire. In costume or not, everyone seemed to enjoyed the action-packed movie with its complex storyline and there was enthusiastic applause at the end.

With all the different TV and movie incarnations of “Star Trek” since its debut in 1966, costumers have a choice of wearing either retro-Original Series uniforms; the more militaristic cuts of the Next Generation, “Star Trek: Deep Space Nine” or “Star Trek: Voyager” eras; the simpler outfits of the “Star Trek: Enterprise” series; and now the sleeker styles of the new movies. Costumers can also, of course, have numerous aliens to choose from such as the ever-popular Vulcans, the more mysterious Romulans and the fierce Vulcans.

For the new movie, “Star Trek: Into Darkness,” costume designer Michael Kaplan used the Original Series Starfleet uniforms as inspiration but made them look a bit more modern and even more figure-hugging. The result is young, hip and ready to be embraced by a new generation of fans and costumers. He followed the same color scheme for the various uniforms with gold for command (bridge crew), blue for science and medical and red for engineering and security (ship services). The color scheme for the Next Generation, Deep
Space Nine and Voyager is slightly different, with red and gold being switched around. So red became the one for command and gold for engineering and security.

Inexpensive, Halloween-quality “Star Trek” costumes are easier to come by with the renewed popularity of the franchise. You can find them at brick-and-mortar stores as well as in online retailers such as buycostumes.com, thinkgeek.com and, of course, StarTrek.com. For more screen-accurate costumes, Anovos offers costumes from various “Star Trek” incarnations. If you can sew, there are patterns available at xscapesprops.com and startrekmemorabilia.com.

“Star Trek” costuming is as popular as ever and you can wear them to movie premieres, conventions, Halloween and any costume party where you can show your love for the spirit of exploration, adventure, heroism, friendship and equality inherent in the “Star Trek” universe.

Editor’s Note:
This article was previously published in Examiner.com on May 16, 2013 (www.examiner.com/article/star-trek-costuming-for-the-premiere-of-latest-movie-and-beyond).
By Jean Martin  
*Editor-in-Chief*

I found out about Convolution, a new three-day science fiction, fantasy and media convention, through their room parties at BayCon and Clockwork Alchemy in May of last year. Their parties were fun and the people running them were people I knew. I was also very impressed by their beautiful and professional-looking banners, post cards and bookmarks. It looked like this was going to be a serious convention with a lot of organizational backing behind it. The artwork on their literature, which was by Julie Dillon, was also very attractive.

I was intrigued and I definitely wanted to check out the convention. It was also going to be in early November, on November 2-4 to be exact. I miss having a convention in the fall, which sort of closes the convention year on a good note until the next year’s convention season begins again. That is what Silicon was for me and a lot of people, and I miss having Silicon around. So I was hoping that Convolution would fill that void. The location for Convolution was also convenient for me as it was at the Hyatt Regency SFO in Burlingame. We don’t usually have conventions in my neck of the woods and it’s really convenient and less expensive as I don’t have to get a hotel room or drive too far. I also love that hotel, which has a gorgeous atrium. It feels very peaceful and airy. A good atmosphere to have for conventions, which tend to be hectic and crowded.
I asked if there was any way I could be a part of Convolution as a panelist and/or moderator. Everyone on staff that I dealt with beforehand was very friendly and made me feel included. I wound up being on two panels and I enjoyed being on them. I don’t usually go to panels much unless I’m in them or my friends are in them. There are so many things I want to do at a convention and panels are at specific times so I have to plan my days carefully. Thus, going to panels doesn’t usually wind up on my priority list. However, at Convolution, I found so many panels I was actually interested in and so I made special efforts to go to them.

It’s great when there are panels that are actually of interest to me and the panelists are knowledgeable and entertaining. I attended one on podcasting, called Podcasting 101: Starting a Podcast, which included author and veteran podcaster Scott Sigler and Fanboy Planet’s Ric Bretschneider. The other one I went to was, Kickstarter: Not for Beginners, about crowdfunding and I learned a lot about Kickstarter and Indiegogo. Moderated by Christine Doyle, the panel included three of the con’s guests of honor: Steve Jackson, Howard Tayler and Steve Berman. Another panelist was artist Lee Moyer who wrote a white paper on the subject.
The panels I was in were Fairy Tales: They’re Back with a Vengeance, moderated by Jay Hartlove and including Wanda Kurtcu, Valerie Estelle Frankel and Jennifer Brozek, and Shoes for the Costumer, which I moderated and coincidentally had my friends Kathe and Phil Gust in it. Christopher was in a panel on Doctor Who, which I missed as it was at the same time as the crowdfunding panel. He was in another one on The Evolution of Female Characters, which I got to see.

My friends Mette Hedin and Bryan Little did a slideshow presentation (using Christopher’s lightsaber as a pointer) on Makeup SFx based on Mette’s recent trip to the UK for a seven-week hands-on, intensive course at Neill Gorton’s Prosthetics Studio. Mette had detailed and informative slides organized by what she learned each week supplemented by photos. It was very interesting and informative, but looked very advanced for someone like me who’s never done anything like it before.
The name for the inaugural year of the con was The Next Step and the theme was San Cipriano, an urban fantasy land created by con chairman, Jim Sullivan. Guests and attendees were encouraged to explore and play within the genre in any way they chose. Characters roamed the halls and some backdrops and the hospitality suite reflected the early California-influenced setting of the fictional world.

On Saturday I wore my Mina Harker (from the “League of Extraordinary Gentlemen” movie) costume, which was both comfortable and dressy enough for the evening’s entertainment. That evening, there was a “Doctor Who”-inspired burlesque show called “Beyond the Blue Door.” Christopher (who was in a Seventh Doctor costume) and I were able to get seats at the front and so we had a great view
of the TARDIS in the middle of the stage as well as the dancers. The performances ranged from interesting to excellent with some using more of the “Doctor Who” theme than others. A few wore costumes from the show including a Weeping Angel. The 11th Doctor made an appearance during the show. My favorite number was by our friend Bunny Von Tail who had a dance routine incorporated into her act. We couldn’t take photos of the performances but we were able to take photos of all the performers with the TARDIS afterwards.

We also had fun at our Klingon friends’ Black Hole bar. The Klingons always have incredible backdrops and props for their room parties. But for some reason, the room layout was even better and more impressive this time. We ended the night dancing at the Masked Ball in one of the ballrooms. The music was pretty good.
On Sunday, I didn’t have any panels myself. So after going to Mette and Bryan’s panel as well as Christopher’s, he and I just hung out with friends in our Jedi and River Tam costumes. I also finally got to check out the art show and the vendor room. The art on display was very good and I bought one with cats and books in a castle by artist Theresa Mather. The vendor room was quite large and had a good variety including one booth with huge Steampunk gears by Golden Gear and another with colorful hats by Lucrezia’s Delight. I resisted the impulse to buy anything.

The con was well attended on all three days. Christopher went on Friday as well and he said it was fun. For a first time con, it was very organized and well-run. Actually, it was as good as any con that’s been around for a while. A sign of a good convention for me is when I’m sad it’s over and I hang around and don’t want to leave. Christopher and I just sat in the lobby until only the staff was around and it was dark out.

Convolution will be back in November and the theme will be Gates of Horn and Ivory: The Realms of Dream. There is definitely a fantasy element to this as guests include Brian Froud (who’s known for his fairy art), Wendy Froud (who makes fantasy puppets) and Wendy and Richard Pini (who created “Elfquest”). I’m definitely looking forward to going to this convention again!

For more information, go to: convolution.com/2013/.
Lloyd Penney writes:
Thank you for SF/SF 140! Finally, the warm weather has arrived here, and we’ve had our cherry blossoms, too. I have finally wrapped up a short-term work assignment, but had two telephone interviews, so things are finally starting to look up. Jean, you got a clean bill of health, so good news for you, too. Comments on the issue...

Jean Martin responds:
Enjoy the warm weather and good luck with finding a new job.

Hard to keep up? I don’t even try any more. I’ve tried to keep up with the fanzines I get, and with the Steampunk novels I’d like to buy, but while I’m about able to do it with the fanzines, everything else, forget it. “Murdoch Mysteries!” Did you get to see Yvonne in the episode Crime and Punishment? Have you enjoyed the show? Very much a police procedural from the Victorian period, but some great writing on the show.

I’ve seen several episodes of “Murdoch Mysteries” but have not seen the episode Yvonne is in yet. I’m still waiting for it to be available on Netflix.

There’s a few Steampunk events happening here, such as the Steampunk Social at Campbell House downtown, but we can’t get to them! Too many other items we’ve already spoken for, and can’t get out of! Smaller conventions are popular here, too. With the absence of Polaris and Wizard World in Toronto, other small conventions are cropping up in nearby towns, like Guelph, Burlington and Hamilton, for interests such as toys, Transformers, anime and gaming. We took a risk on one small convention in Burlington, and had ourselves a great time. It’s called Art-O-Con, catering to comics, anime and horror. None of that interests us, but we found some familiar dealers there, so we went down the highway, found the hotel it was at, paid our $5 at the door, and found two rooms full of vendors we’d mostly never heard of before, plus fun times, new friends, and watching two huge Daleks freak out the front desk staff. We will be back, and there’s the possibility that we might be able to take a table there, and be a new vendor next year.

That’s great that there are so many conventions of different types there too. Even if something is not one’s interest, there are always nice people to meet and new things to experience. Steampunk seems to be very popular everywhere these days.

My loc … the Canadian Air & Space Museum did indeed try a crowdfunding campaign, and it unfortunately came up far short. The museum will remain in storage for the foreseeable future, but it may have a new home in the future, in a building close to the international airport here, just further up our bus line. Yvonne was very visible as a background actor in the Murdoch episode she was in. We have our tickets for the second Murdoch Experience and a similar event has been set up in Birmingham, England.
Too bad that the Canadian Air & Space Museum didn’t meet its funding goal. Hopefully, they’ll find a new home in the future. I’m happy to report that PEERS has met its funding goal. So the organization’s events through the end of 2004 are safe.

Who’s going to Clockwork Alchemy later this month? Wish I could! Up In The Aether in Michigan and the Steampunk World’s Fair in New Jersey will be here soon, as will the Victoria Steam Exposition in Victoria, British Columbia. We may have plans of our own soon, fingers crossed…

Christopher and I are not going to Clockwork Alchemy. We are going to Germany as I mentioned in the editorial in this issue. All those Steampunk conventions sound very interesting.

Guess I am done as I come to the end of the page. Off it goes, and off I go to bed. Good night, everyone!

See you next month!
Meeting 1186

April 22, 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 8pm with economic privilege & lots of dudes
27 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1185 were accepted as ‘the soul of wit’
the Treasurer reported that last week the regular jar took in $12.50 & the party jar took in $9.04
the Vice President reported there was no new ‘Drink Tank’ & he and Lynda will be at the first of the 5 cons for their doco at Nova Albion
The President had nothing fannish to report
the Sports Committee reported that he is collecting money for the Giants tickets for the May 4th game - $35.50 per ticket & their Star Wars day will be Sunday, Sept 8; then Dude#6 said this Wednesday & Thursday the SJ Giants will do their free tickets/merchant’s day [tickets available at OSH]

Announcements
Dude#5 announced that Mo isn’t here right now but wants a Dell power supply & also announced that he has become a Nevadan
Dude#7 announced that May 11 is National Train day
Dude#8 announced that Roberts Books in SJ is closing
Dude#9 announced that Nerdvana podcast parts 3 & 4 are being posted this and next Wednesday & mentioned other stuff - check www.nerdvanapodcast.com
Dude#10 announced that George Lucas is applying for affordable housing for Grady ranch
Dude#11 announced that there will be a Legion of Rassilon meeting this Friday at 7:30 pm at the Carl’s Jr at 1st & Trimble & ‘come play with us’

Reviews
Dude#10 reviewed the latest Dr Who episode as flawed but still worth stealing
Dude#12 reviewed Robogames as Thinbot came back with the gold - the C3PO medal & it was great fun & Thinbot will next be pouring at the Nebula awards
Dudette #2 reviewed Peter Beagle’s birthday as a good time was had and a digital re-rendered print of ‘The Last Unicorn’ was shown & will now be taken on a world tour
Dude#9 reviewed that one of his daughters helped sing the National anthem at a Friday Sabercats game, did well, but there were lots of really loud pyrotechnics there that were psychologically jarring & then also performed on Saturday and did really well
Dudette#3 reviewed ‘Oblivion’ as ‘purt’ and worth matinee
Dude#2 reviewed ‘stuff’ and ‘things’ as amazing and awesome and may have used human tears, then said Lynda found some fabric right away & then reviewed ‘Mister Badass’ as he is the perfect man

Dude#7 reviewed the SJ Songkran festival as he didn’t get wet enough & it was bright/sunny without shade - which is why he is glowing now; it was free but he would’ve paid for it
Dude#13 reviewed Hodder’s ‘Expedition to the Mountains of the Moon’ as more alternate history steampunk - a fascinating read and worth trade paperback
Dudette #4 reviewed the World Book Night as she is blown away by it and it’s awesome & reviewed ‘The Tender bar by JR Moehringer as she highly recommends the book and the whole process of book donation
Dude#14 reviewed the Eton conference - delivered a paper there that was well-received and he may have been the only historian there & this may be good because he remembers there was a past - and he had fun and met John Landis
then we did auctions
we adjourned at 9:45 pm
and the rumor of the week was: ‘JC is developing a new game - boob bingo’
Meeting 1187

April 29, 2013
Chris Garcia, Acting President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Diane Osborne, Secretary Pro Tem
Held at Coco’s, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 Fwy), Sunnyvale

Meeting started at 8:00 p.m. with ensuing silliness.

26 people attended.
A party jar was established.

With no meeting number on hand, Andy moved to call the meeting “This is the Winter of Our Discombobulation”. Move was approved.

The minutes from last week’s meeting were not read. Dave Clarke moved to call them “We didn’t read these either.” Move was approved.

Treasurer reported the regular jar took in $12.60 and the party jar $7.10 last week.

Vice President announced there is a new “Drink Tank” out, sorta kinda. The issue is The Taral Wayne Finale, posted on Scribd by Reverend Dr. Christopher J. Garcia. www.scribd.com/doc/138505216/The-Drink-Tank-340-The-Taral-Wayne-Finale

The next issue of “Drink Tank” is Handicapping the Hugos, will be posted Thursday.

Sports Committee:
Jerry announced San Jose Giants will have a Star Wars night on May 30, 2013. Start preparing your Giants / Star Wars costume now. Pick up free tickets at your local retailer, i.e. Home Depot, now while they are available.

Dave G. announced he has tickets for the SF Giants game at Pac Bell Park in September. See him for tickets.

Announcements
Brad announced that a friend in Nevada has acquired 20,000+ trading cards with SF themes. They are low value cards, 25 – 50 cents each. He is looking to offload them in bulk. Get contact info from Brad if interested.

Chris announced the TAFF Race is over. Jim Mowatt will be going to Texas 2013. The DUFF Race has begun for Australians. Candidates include Bill Wright and Clare McDonald-Sims. Vote now. taff.org.uk/duff.html

JC announced Nerdvana Podcast Part 4 is coming out Wedn. Nerdvana will be taping live this Saturday, May 4th at SLF Art Boutiki, 44 Race St, San Jose CA.

Josh announced the Berkeley Repertory Theater is bringing Sir Ian McKellen and Sir Patrick Stewart to star in a special presentation of the play No Man’s Land by Harold Pinter, August 3- 31, 2013. Further details available at www.berkeleyrep.org/season/1213/7148.asp.

Reviews
Radar reviewed the Single Barrel as having a menu for custom cocktails, which has cut the wait time from 90 minutes down to 45 minutes. Bartenders will still make anything not on the menu.

Kevin R reviewed Live Journal is purging inactive entries. Pure Gametes of Gore is due to be purged.

A Gentleman whose name I didn’t catch: Reviewed the Steampunk film being produced by KCAT as lots of fun. It is still in production, they are looking for extras and crew.
Adrienne reviewed SFSF on BASFA’s Facebook page as worth visiting daily. If you haven’t already, check it out, vote daily, help show better numbers for the grant.

Ric reviewed a new Kickstarter program for A Study in Emerald, based on the Neil Gaiman story. Fanboy Planet recommends AFAM, a stop motion short film as worth seeing. Fanboy Episode #305 came out last week. A new episode will be recorded at Café Stritch Thursday sometime after 7:00p, featuring two ordinary guys talking about WesterCon 66.

Ken reviewed May is the Month of Mayhem at KFJC. Check out Ken’s show Mondays, 2:00 – 7:00p for something special. Ironman 3 opens May 1st. Ken is looking at the Friday afternoon show at the Saratoga Theatre. Worth full price.

Andy reviewed BBC America. They are playing monthly classic Dr. Who shows. This month’s features: The Pyramids of Mars, which has excellent pre-show interviews; and The Journey to the Center of the Tardis, newer episode; shows aired this past Saturday, April 25th.

Brad reviewed the movie Oblivion. Excellent movie if you are looking to blend stereotypes of SF, i.e. Independence Day + Star Wars. Utterly derivative film.

David C reviewed the book The Rook by Daniel O’Malley is a fun debut novel. Go to Amazon to read the full plot description, which is better than he can do. Short description: Espionage with a dollop of purple slime.

Carol reviewed Nova Albion, its third convention at the Hyatt last weekend. [Prior cons in 2010 and 2011]. It was a little flat, no Burners with their activities, an OK con that didn’t seem to reach critical mass. Follow-ons: Ric went to four perfectly fun, exciting panels with Chris Garcia. The bar was great. Other than the internet brigade in suits who were rude, it was a fun con. Bill reviewed the costumes as there were lots of people in costumes, some very well done. Lots of dealers. ~ a disagreement blossomed about Clockwork Alchemy Artist / Dealers room, which Chris quashed. ~ Dave C. handed out lots of information about WesterCon66 at the table in the Dealer’s room. Chris had an excellent time, went to five panels, four of which he gave. Many dealers were displeased about the split locations. He had fun interviewing people about “5 Cons”. Saw a lot of great costumes, the best being the Brass Steampunk Spaceman. Highly recommends the Tusca Buffet’s white bean ragout, which is 5 lbs. of sausage + 1 can beans. The Hyatt has draconic rules about food and parties, which is a bummer. Worth full price unless you were a dealer.

Adrienne reviewed the book Cat Track by Sofie Kelly as Cozy Mystery’s version of soft core fantasy. The book is part of the Magical Cats Mystery series. It is a cute and the writer is pretty competent. The series trick: two pets with magical powers. Not a real winner.

Mo reviewed playing the game Legend of Rimrock for research as very fun. Same mechanics as Dungeonmaster, better technology. Free to download. Warning: Don’t load it if you have to get any work done.

Ric reviewed playing the Walking Dead card game at Nova Albion. Highly recommends it. Good for 2-6 players. Cost: ~ $15. Also, Mark Mallars has a new comic book out, Jupiter’s Legacy, Kickass and Wanted, worth the low full price of $2.99/issue.

Chris reviewed The Hobbit Game, a team-playing game, says it is much fun.

~ Silliness ensued about a Jewish Dragon named Shmog. ~
Josh: Friday night was pinball box opening, two boxes at a friend’s place: 1. AC/DC Premiere Edition and 2. Augmented sound system with 12” subwoofer and speakers. Awesome game. It can TILT itself. If you like pinball, you can play it at California Extreme convention July 13 – 14.

Chris reviewed the TV show Hannibal on NBC Thursday at 10:00p. Serial killer of the week is interesting but not, outlined by one of those convoluted WTF are these writers. Hulu is now in the business of soap operas, All My Children and One Life to Live.

Andy said this was the last Robogames. He is watching the finals of the TV show Robot Fighting League. It is the absolute worst of reality shows. It is a crapfest for a reality show. From a robotics and animatronics standpoint, it was absolutely awesome. Mark got $200K to build the prototype / skeleton with hydraulics, etc., $100K each for the others. 12 robots = $1.3M.

~ extensive discourse about merits and metaphors happened ~

We did auctions.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37p.

The Rumor of the Week: This week’s Guest Check on Iron Chef: Tony Stark.

Meeting 1188

May 6, 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 8pm with echoes
31 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1187 were accepted as ‘Chris made us eat a bug’
the Treasurer reported that last week the regular jar took in $16.00 & the party jar took in $3.55
the Vice President reported that Lynda says ‘Hi BASFA’ & there is a new ‘Drink Tank’ out, check efanzines.com & that episode 1 of the ‘5 cons’ doco is up on Youtube, Vimeo & the 5 cons website
The President reported that the Nerdvana podcast people would like to record a BASFA meeting - [and his kidney stone had flanges]
Dave G suggested something and it was hijacked that [tall] Kevin be made BASFA’s official ‘ambassador to Amazon land’ - and it passed
the Sports Committee reminded us about the Giants May 10th game; that their Star Wars day will be Sunday, Sept 8 & he & Spring will be in section 318; that the SJ Giants Star Wars day is Thursday, May 30 [box seat tickets $16]
Announcements
[evil] Kevin announced Friday, July 5th there’ll be a Phenomonauts concert at Westercon
Andy announced that there’s a new Fanboy Planet up
JC announced that the latest Nerdvana podcast was recorded successfully & part 1 of it will be up this Wednesday - check www.nerdvanapodcast.com
Mo announced that she’s running the art show at Fanime & after con she will need some help clearing out her studio
Adrienne announced that she wants gnomes - GNOMES she says! - mainly Giants baseball gnomes, but she’s going to the A’s game June 16th to get their gnome, too
Debbie announced that their son is graduating from college this Saturday
Dave G announced that that Nebula award festivities will be happening May 16-19
Ric announced that there’s be a
John O announced that Maker’s Faire is in 11 days, over the weekend of May 18th
Gerry announced that Contact will be next March, 21-22-23 & they can use help - check www.contact-conference.com/
Ken announced that KFJC’s month of mayhem has begun

Reviews
‘Iron Man 3’ was reviewed multiple times and everyone loves it
Lisa reviewed the Sharks playoff game she went to as awesome & a fun game & worth the $100 a ticket
Adrienne reviewed Scalzi’s ‘Redshirts’ as it started off brilliant & hilarious and then copped out, so she rates it a ‘3’ on a 1-5 scale

Josh reviewed the reopening of SLG’s Boutique-y as really good, absolutely recommended; 44 Race St, SJ
Gerry reviewed ‘Deadfall’ by Sarah Stegall as a lot of fun
Dave C reviewed the ‘Prisoner’ music on KFJC as lovely
Diane reviewed ‘A fantasy Medley 2’ as delightful

then we did auctions
we adjourned at 9:52 pm
and the rumor of the week was: ‘Baycon’s going back to the Doubletree’
Meeting 1189

May 13, 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 8:03 pm because of Potlatch details
26 people attended

A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1188 were accepted as ‘the BASFA fraud-cast’

the Treasurer reported that last week the regular jar took in $7.75 & the party jar took in $19.80

the Vice President reported that there is NO new ‘Drink Tank’ out, but that when it -does- come out it’ll have a Mo ['the thrill’] Starkey cover & he has copies of the DUFF ballot
The President had nothing fannish to report

the Sports Committee reported that the Giants May 10th game outing went well

Announcements
Ken announced that KFJC’s month of mayhem is still going on
Andy announced that that Lisa Hayes’ father died so that she & [tall] Kevin will be unavailable for a while, & announced that Westercon 66 is coming up on the July 4th weekend & they’d appreciate us spreading the word about it

[evil] Kevin announced that Unwoman will have a Friday, July 5th teatime concert in the atrium & announced that fans are sponsoring fan activities and helping other fans attend Westercon - and there is a Paypal link on their website for donations

Mo announced that she’s illustrating an on-line fairy/steampunk story & there’s a link to it on her page - also = fairypunkstories.com

JC announced that the latest Nerdvana podcast, episode 12, part 2 will be up this Wednesday - check www.nerdvanapodcast.com - and they’d also like help spreading the word about it & then announced a review about driving & announced that Nerdvana podcast would like to record a BASFA meeting next Monday

Tom announced that SFSF will spread the word about events and the like - just contact them & he announced that Potlatch 23 will be at the Sainte Claire, SJ, $40 until May 31 - for Feb 21-23, 2014

Chris announced a text message & announced that Dr Joyce Brothers died & announced that Conquest is coming up in Missouri & he’s fan GoH there
it was moved that the Yankees suck - and it passed without objection

Adrienne announced that she got her UK Dr Who stamps & she will bring some for donation to BASFA’s auction next week

Carole announced that Costume Con 31 in Denver is coming up this weekend and she’ll be on panels there;
[evil] Kevin announced that his -chaps- will be there, but that he & Andy can’t attend; then Carole announced that
Clockwork Alchemy is coming up over Memorial Day’s weekend & that Kaja Foglio is a GoH

Dave C announced that Big Wild Comic Fest is coming up this weekend at the SJ convention center & announced that Ray Harryhausen died

Lisa announced that the Nebula awards ceremony is this weekend at the SJ Hilton

Josh announced that a pinball convention is this weekend at the Dixon, CA fairgrounds

Fred announced that Maker’s Faire is this weekend at the San Mateo fairgrounds

Geri announced that ‘Star Trek’ opens this weekend & announced that the Retrodome is holding a film series that will be shown at the Camera 7 & 12

then we did auctions

Reviews

Dave C reviewed Scalzi’s ‘Redshirts’ as a good read but with a ‘meh’ plot twist & reviewed a Spanish b/w film of Snow White with bullfights = ‘Blancanieves’ as worth full price & highly recommended

Tom reviewed Corflu 30 as a really very VERY good con with moments of awesome & worth full price & reviewed ‘Man or Astroman’ as lacking props due to a van breakdown, but still excellent and totally awesome

Valerie reviewed NovaAlbion & Gaslight as 2 weekends & 2 cons, both with good costumes & Gaslight needed better air condition

Ken reviewed the latest Dr Who episode as good

I reviewed ‘Iron Man 3’ as I loved it; Trey merely liked it

Bradford reviewed Robinson’s ‘Galileo’s Dream’ as a good novel, recommended - and then said to read ‘2312’ next

we adjourned at 9:36 pm

and the rumor of the week was: ‘Can we have flaming rock and roll theremin as a rumor?’
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.

**Sunday, June 2**

**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

**Monday, June 10**

**My Visit to America**
Studio 250, 965 Mission, Fl. 2, San Francisco
playwrightscentersf.org
In a world of today that is not our world, Eurasia is run by the Mongolian Empire and America is run by indigenous Americans. Jochi, a London bureaucrat, tries to cheat and bully her way into a trade deal between London and Miami. Instead, she encounters an interrogation in America; a test of friendship back home; and the discovery of where she fits in the scheme of race, class and world politics. Chas Belov’s full-length plays Rice Kugel and Hemlock have had staged readings at PCSF. His short plays On the Last Day of the Week in the Seventh Month of the Year in the City of Brotherly Love and Black Box have been produced by PCSF. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild and Theatre Bay Area. Visit his playwriting blog at chasbelov.com.
7:30 p.m. $5-10

**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

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.
**Thursday-Sunday, July 25-28**

**The Princess Bride Quote-Along**

Camera Cinemas 7 & 12
San Jose & Campbell
www.cameracinemas.com/singalong.shtml

Enjoy pre-show costume and trivia contests, a fun pack of props themed for each movie, on-screen lyrics (in case you forgot the words!), and tons of in-movie interaction led by a host. Costumes always welcome! Check website for showtimes and locations.

**Friday-Sunday, July 26-28**

**Kintoki-Con 2013**

Holiday Inn Sacramento
300 J Street, Sacramento
www.kintoki-con.com

Anime con

$40 (till July 1)

**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-Monday, 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

**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-Sunday, October 4-6**

**Bid Bad Con**

Hilton Oakland Airport
One Hegenberger Road, Oakland
www.bigbadcon.com

RPG convention.

$40
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, October 11</strong></td>
<td><strong>SF in SF: Litquake, Super Stories of Heroes &amp; Villains</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Variety Preview Room</td>
<td>582 Market Street, San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td>sfinsf.org</td>
<td>Reading followed by Q&amp;A. Claude Lalumiere and authors TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>$5-10 suggested donation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, October 13</strong></td>
<td><strong>East Bay Mini Maker Faire</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Park Day School</td>
<td>360 42nd St., Oakland</td>
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<tr>
<td>emakerfaire.wordpress.com</td>
<td>Small scale mini Maker Faire.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>$20</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, October 19</strong></td>
<td><strong>BAL-O-Ween</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Historic Bal Theatre</td>
<td>14808 East 14th St, San Leandro</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.balthetre.com">www.balthetre.com</a></td>
<td>Lord Blood Rah hosts the annual BAL-O-WEEN Spooktacular.</td>
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<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>$15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday-Monday, November 1-3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Convolution 2013</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hyatt Regency SFO</td>
<td>500 Leisure Lane, Burlingame</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday-Monday, November 8-10</strong></td>
<td><strong>Conquest Avalon</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacramento Red Lion Hotel Woodlake</td>
<td>500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.conquestssac.com">www.conquestssac.com</a></td>
<td>Tabletop gaming convention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, November 16</strong></td>
<td><strong>SF in SF: Kim Stanley Robinson &amp; Cecelia Holland</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Variety Preview Room</td>
<td>582 Market Street, San Francisco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sfinsf.org</td>
<td>Reading followed by Q&amp;A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>$5-10 suggested donation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday-Sunday, December 28-29</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sac-Con</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scottish Rite Center</td>
<td>6151 H St, Sacramento</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.sac-con.com">www.sac-con.com</a></td>
<td>Comic, toy, and anime show.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>$12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, December 8</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sac-Con</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scottish Rite Center</td>
<td>6151 H St, Sacramento</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday-Sunday, March 28-30 2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>Conquest SAC</strong></td>
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<td>Sacramento Red Lion Hotel Woodlake</td>
<td>500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.conquestssac.com">www.conquestssac.com</a></td>
<td>Tabletop gaming convention.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ongoing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cartoon Art Museum</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>655 Mission Street, San Francisco</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cartoonart.org">www.cartoonart.org</a></td>
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<td>Current exhibitions: Chuck Jones, Drawing on Imagination (till May 5)</td>
<td>11-5 p.m.</td>
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<td>$6 (Closed Mondays)</td>
<td><strong>The Walt Disney Family Museum</strong></td>
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<td>104 Montgomery Street, San Francisco</td>
<td><a href="http://www.waltdisney.org">www.waltdisney.org</a></td>
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<td>Current exhibitions: Alice in Wonderland starts May 1.</td>
<td>10-6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>$20 (Closed Tuesdays)</td>
<td><strong>San Francisco Ghost Hunt Walking Tour</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Begins: Queen Anne Hotel</td>
<td>1590 Sutter at Octavia, San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.sfghosthunt.com">www.sfghosthunt.com</a></td>
<td>Closed Mondays &amp; Tuesdays, and on November 21-22 for Thanksgiving.</td>
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<td>$20</td>
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VIZ Cinema
1746 Post Street, San Francisco
www.newpeopleworld.com/films
VIZ Cinema is a 143-seat underground cinema inside New People in San Francisco. Its programming focuses on the latest and hottest films from Japan, as well as classics, favorites, documentaries and anime. Please check theater for showtimes and tickets.

Sundays

Cloondara Fighter Practice
Golden Gate Park
47th Avenue @ Fulton, San Francisco
www.westkingdom.org
The Shire of Cloondara (San Francisco, CA) holds fighter practice Sundays at 12:00 p.m. (if there are no major SCA events and the weather permits)
12 p.m. Free

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
www.facebook.com/pages/SF-Games/121590681933
SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week.
2 p.m. Free

Mondays

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

Sacramento Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Club
Midtown Crepreville
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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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.

Fridays-Mondays

**Geeks Vs. Geeks**
San Francisco / San Mateo
[www.facebook.com/geeksvsgeeks](http://www.facebook.com/geeksvsgeeks)
[www.geeksvsgeeks.com](http://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.silicongulchbrowncoats.org](http://www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org)
Silicon Valley fans of Firefly/Serenity meet up on the first Saturday of the month.
Noon - 2 p.m. Free

Monthly

**Dorkbot-SF**
[www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf](http://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](http://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
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location/Details</th>
<th>Website/Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Bawdy Caste</strong></td>
<td>Presents the classic midnight movie the first Saturday of the month, alternating between the Clay in San Francisco and the Guild in Menlo Park.</td>
<td>Midnight</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spec Fiction Book Club</strong></td>
<td>Keplers Books 1010 El Camino Real Menlo Park, CA 94025 <a href="http://www.keplers.com">www.keplers.com</a></td>
<td>Meets the second Sunday of every month. 4 p.m.</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td><strong>QSF&amp;F Book Club</strong></td>
<td>Borderlands Books 866 Valencia, San Francisco <a href="http://www.qsfandf.com">www.qsfandf.com</a></td>
<td>Meets the second Sunday of the month. 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td><strong>East Bay Star Wars Club</strong></td>
<td>Central Perk 10086 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito 510-558-7375 <a href="http://www.ebstarwars.com">www.ebstarwars.com</a></td>
<td>Meets the second Friday of every month. 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td><strong>Fantastic Frontiers</strong></td>
<td>Social club for Sacramento County sci fi/fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times and locations.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/">www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>No-Name Anime</strong></td>
<td>Saratoga Library 13650 Saratoga Avenue Saratoga <a href="http://www.nnanime.com">www.nnanime.com</a></td>
<td>Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month.</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td><strong>SF Browncoats</strong></td>
<td>Cafe Murano 1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco <a href="http://www.sfbrowncoats.com">www.sfbrowncoats.com</a></td>
<td>SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month. Noon</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club</strong></td>
<td>Borderlands Books 866 Valencia, San Francisco <a href="http://www.borderlands-books.com">www.borderlands-books.com</a></td>
<td>Meets the third Sunday of the month. Please contact Jude at <a href="mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com">jfeldman@borderlands-books.com</a> for more information.</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>USS Defiance</strong></td>
<td>5026 Don Julio Blvd, Sacramento 1566 Howe Ave, Sacramento <a href="http://www.myspace.com/d2121978">www.myspace.com/d2121978</a></td>
<td>Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month. 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td><strong>USS Northern Lights</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights">sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights</a> Contact <a href="mailto:firstjedi2000@yahoo.com">firstjedi2000@yahoo.com</a> 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.</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td><strong>Micro Gods, Inc.</strong></td>
<td>Berkeley Public Library, West Branch 1125 University Ave, Berkeley <a href="http://mgisciaf.angelfire.com">mgisciaf.angelfire.com</a> <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MEGFamClub">groups.yahoo.com/group/MEGFamClub</a></td>
<td>Family Club for fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Movie, Anime &amp; Manga. Meets every 3rd Saturday, please check Yahoo group for updates. 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<td><strong>Religion &amp; SF Book Club</strong></td>
<td><strong>Legion of Rassilon</strong></td>
<td><strong>Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE</strong></td>
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<td>First United Methodist Church</td>
<td>Carl’s Jr.</td>
<td>Round Table Pizza</td>
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<td>1183 “B” Street, Hayward</td>
<td>2551 N 1st Street, San Jose</td>
<td>4403 Elkhorn Blvd, Sacramento</td>
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<td>Meets the 4th Sunday of the month. Please contact Rev. Randy Smith at <a href="mailto:RSmith2678@aol.com">RSmith2678@aol.com</a> for more information.</td>
<td>Doctor Who fan group usually meets the fourth Friday of the month: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies, and a raffle.</td>
<td>Doctor Who fan group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.</td>
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<td>7 p.m. Free</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. Free</td>
<td>6 p.m. Free</td>
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| **Other Realms Book Club** | **USS Augusta Ada** | 
|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Books, Inc. | Round Table Pizza | Augusta Ada is both a chapter of Starfleet |
| 1375 Burlingame Ave, Burlingame | 3567 Geary Blvd, San Francisco | International and a Linux and *BSD user group. Usually meets the fourth Saturday of every month. |
| [www.booksinc.net/localinterest/291027](http://www.booksinc.net/localinterest/291027) | [trek.starshine.org](http://trek.starshine.org) | 1 p.m. Free |
| Meets the 4th Wednesday of the month. | | |
| 6:30 p.m. Free | | |

| **Sci-Fi Book Group with Kym** | 
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Barnes & Noble | Augusta Ada is both a chapter of Starfleet |
| El Cerrito Plaza, 6050 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito | International and a Linux and *BSD user group. Usually meets the fourth Saturday of every month. |
| [store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/store/2113](http://store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/store/2113) | 1 p.m. Free |
Game console

by Lucy Huntzinger
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<th>Saturday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bad Movie Night</td>
<td>BASFA SV Boardgamers Haunted Haight</td>
<td>MGI Boffers Fighter Practice</td>
<td>BA Role-Playing Soc E.Bay Strategy Games Fanboy Planet Podcast SV Boardgamers</td>
<td>CAS: NightLife</td>
<td>SF Games Haunted Haight Vampire Walking</td>
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<td>Silicon Gulch Browncoats Rocky Horror</td>
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*Science Fiction/San Francisco* is the monthly news zine for the San Francisco Bay Area – [www.efanzines.com](http://www.efanzines.com).