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By Jean Martin

Editor-in-chief

Our last issue was a huge one, one of our biggest to date if not the biggest. May is packed with numerous conventions and events, and since Chris and I couldn’t go to most of them because we went to Germany (a story for another issue), we had to find other people to write about them. We luckily found several people who were willing and who had never contributed to SF/SF before. Some of them were professional writers and all of them are very active in the fandom community. So we were very glad to feature them in SF/SF. And as luck would have it, all of them submitted their articles on time! So we were able to include them all in one issue. If you haven’t seen our previous issue, you can find it at: www.efanzines.com/SFSF/SFSF142.pdf.

We didn’t go to Westercon 66 either. There are just so many convention and events to go to and only so much time, energy and money. We were sad to miss this as it was being run by Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley, and they did CostumeCon in San Jose in 2008, and that’s probably one of the best conventions I’ve ever been to. But we have a report of the convention from Jade Falcon who does the excellent Geek Girl Crafts Podcast (geekgirlcraftspodcast.blogspot.com). GGC also has España Sheriff who will continue to be part of it as it has a wider coverage than SF/SF. This is sadly our first issue without España Sheriff who’s having a fantastic time in Spain and the UK.

Also in this issue is a report from Cordelia Willis who recently went to the UK with her parents Connie and Courtney Willis. They visited several Jane Austen-related sites, and with this year being the 200th anniversary of the publication of Austen’s “Pride and Prejudice,” I thought it would be interesting to feature a travelogue about the author’s world. Chris and I were hoping to go on a Jane Austen costume and dance tour in September, but with our last-minute trip to Germany and seeing as we just went to the UK last year, we thought we’d postpone it to next year. Unfortunately, that tour offered by a dance teacher in Australia is only for this year. But there is Loncon 3 next year, which is around the time of the Jane Austen Festival in Bath. I already know several friends who are planning on doing both. I don’t know if Chris and I have enough funds and vacation days to do both and also go to Cardiff to see the Doctor Who Experience and other places I want to visit such as Nottingham, Penzance (where I have a friend), Torquay (Agatha Christie’s hometown), Glastonbury, Brighton, Highclere Castle (aka Downton Abbey), Althorp (Princess Diana’s resting place), etc. Sometimes I wish I lived in the UK so I can tour all these places and more on a regular basis!

Well, we do have a lot of great tourist sites and events in the Bay Area. That’s why I love publishing SF/SF. And sometimes traveling conventions land here just like WesterCon.
did. There was another event that happened recently in San Jose — the prestigious Nebula Awards. I left for Germany soon after that happened and I haven’t had the chance to even think about it since due to work and catching up with other things. But it was an event to remember and I’m reporting on it in this issue.

Right after Chris and I got back from Germany, it was time for the much-anticipated PEERS Doctor Dances Ball. We were involved in the cast and it was a fun and successful event. You can read about it in this issue courtesy of Chris. Chris also writes about the colorful Pirate Festival.

I hope everyone is having a great summer so far. There are a lot more events coming up in the Bay Area and we’re here to report on them. As always, we welcome contributions from writers, photographers and artists. So feel free to contact me!

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 Jade Falcon  
*Contributing Writer*

Westercon is one of the longest running conventions on the West Coast. It started back in the late 40s when Doc Dougherty of the LASFAS (Los Angeles Science Fiction Fantasy Society) proposed the idea of a regional convention for West Coast fans who couldn’t travel to the East Coast every single year. (Read more about the Westercon History: www.westercon.org/organization/history.)

This regional con has traveled up and down the West Coast. And this year, Westercon 66 was held in Sacramento, Calif., and chaired by Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley. Originally, “ZellaCon” was a hoax bid, but somewhere along the way, this hoax went viral and accidentally became a very real convention bid overnight. (Read more about that here on Amazing Stories.com amazingstoriesmag.com/2013/06/the-cautionary-tale-of-zellacon-or-how-to-hoax-and-still-end-up-hosting-a-convention.)

At first, we weren’t sure if we were going to attend Westercon 66, due to scheduling (we had back-to-back conventions, ren faires and a few other events). But, then Kevin and Andy asked on behalf of Kathe and Phil Gust if I would please photograph the masquerade for them!

I had photographed various events for both Kevin and Andy, and Kathe and Phil, including CostumeCon and BayCon masquerades, and I do like working with them. So, after some consideration, I said yes, especially after they offered to transport all of the heavy lighting and backdrop.
equipment as well as cover insurance costs in case of damage. Of course, this now meant that we were committed to going to Westercon 66 and there was no turning back.

So, we made our plans Westercon. Because I was going to be working part of the convention AND because of a heatwave that Northern California was suffering through, we decided that we would go light on the costumes. (I was going to be packing my photography gear so space was going to be a premium in my little MINI Cooper.)

The night before we left, I saw a flurry of Facebook, Twitter and G+ posts — the hotel’s power went out for about an hour, and, boy, was it HOT on certain hotel floors (according to some posts I saw). Despite the auspicious beginnings of the Con, we trekked our way up to Sacramento
on Friday morning.

When we first arrived at the convention, I was slightly taken aback by the layout and size of the hotel. Surely, this small space was perhaps too small? Or maybe I’m just used to much bigger convention layouts? Was this space going to work? Despite my misgivings, I soon realized that the layout of the Sacramento Arden West (albeit old and funky) was pretty much perfect for the size of Westercon.

The layout was pretty straightforward and allowed people to find panel rooms fairly quickly. You always knew where big events (like concerts and the masquerade) were always going to be held (in this case, the Atrium). ConOps, Programming and the Fanzine Lounge overlooked the main Atrium area with large signs in the windows so you could see exactly where you needed to go on the second floor. All the parties were located on the 12th floor so you didn’t have to second guess which floor a party might be located.

This isn’t to say that there weren’t issues with some of the rooms — space was at a premium in the hotel; the room for the fan tables and registration were in the same location and the room could get pretty crowded. But Programming & Hotel did pretty damn well utilizing the space as efficiently as
possible, given the physical constraints of the hotel itself. The hotel lent itself to much more of a community feeling, which was nice.

We arrived on Friday, so we missed the Thursday evening activities, but that didn’t leave us wanting. Friday had a full set of panels, four concerts and an evening of dancing; including the party floor.

During the concerts, there was something for everyone; although, IMNSHO, the Atrium (the main large area) was ill-suited for certain bands. It served well for Unwoman’s one-woman concert, but not so much for the Phenomenauts with all of their instruments and gear. A lot of my friends love this particular band, and I was looking forward to experiencing them myself, especially with their science and geek themes. However, because the Atrium had too low of a ceiling, the acoustics weren’t optimal. I couldn’t hear any lyrics and I couldn’t get a feel for the actual music. All I could hear was the bass line. As a musician, it was a bit of a disappointment for me. (However, I resolved to listen to their music online to see if I liked it any better — which I absolutely did! Give them a listen at www.silversprocket.net/progress.)

Insofar as the panels, everything seemed well attended (at least those I attended). Some panels had standing room only and there seemed to be a lot of interest in the topics, and everyone was pretty respectful of the moderators and each other. I was asked to help on one particular panel at the last minute (Costume Photography & Videography) and found that people were extremely interested in the topic. (Luckily, I’ve given this presentation before and was able to download my
presentation notes from my DropBox account before the panel.)

During the evening, the Party Floor was pretty full, and many were open until the wee hours. Many people were crowded into the hotel rooms, conversing, eating and drinking. It was nice to see the amount of people having a good time in the hallways. (One particular nice touch that I liked — whether by the hotel or by Westercon — non-party floors had signs indicating that these floors were “Quiet Zones” and to please be considerate of other guests. The Party Floor had no such sign.) Party doors closed around 2:30 a.m., but there were many people still inside those rooms conversing and laughing quietly.

The masquerade on Saturday evening had about 12 good quality entries. It was slated to start exactly at 8:00 p.m., but the Masquerade Directors decided to run a tad bit late because they needed to put more chairs out! It seemed like the audience was comprised of a majority of the attendees. Personally, I was backstage taking all of the masquerade photos, which I love, because I get to see many of the costumes up close and personal-like, so I get to do the “costumer handshake” with many of the entrants (“ooh, how’d you do that? that’s a cool costume!,” etc).

Luckily, we managed to finish up the photography portion early enough to see the actual masquerade — a rarity when acting as masquerade photographer. All of the skits were quite enjoyable; and I knew that the presentation judges were going to have a hard time. Phil and Kathe Gust did a remarkable job with running the Masquerade, despite some minor hiccups.
David Gerrold MC'ing the Masquerade

by Tom Becker
Another of the big evening events for Westercon was the SF/F Match Game hosted by Kevin Standlee after the masquerade. This was the “Adult Version” (and I’m guessing the “Family Version” was on Thursday evening, which I did not see.) The room was pretty full to capacity and “celebrity guests” were having a ball, and it was infectious with the crowd. The guest players were trying to be PG in their answers, while many of the celebrity fan guests pulled no punches in their “adult themes.”

Overall, Westercon 66 was a lot of fun to attend. Personally, I got to catch up with a lot of friends I hadn’t seen in 1–2 years, and I enjoyed my time there. I only have a minor criticism with Westercon, and that the average age seems to be
heading upwards into the 50s, 60s and 70s. Yes, there were younger fans in attendance — some as young as two years old. However, they were few in comparison and many of these younger fans were the children or grandchildren of the attendees. My husband, Erik Anderson, mentioned that he felt like a teenager amongst the crowd, and he’s been in fandom for 30+ years (and most likely conceived at a con ... but I digress). I realize that this is an old argument that can be applied to other conventions, but I do believe that Westercon needs to start attracting a younger attendee base so that this tradition can continue strong into the future.

Having said that, Westercon 66 was a blast to attend. Kevin, Andy and the whole crew did an amazing job pulling everything together into a fun and lively convention. I’ve never been to a con chaired by the Kevin and Andy that wasn’t a grand ole time.
Treks and Transportations:  
My 2013 Jane Austen Travels in England

By Cordelia Willis  
Contributing Writer

It's difficult to imagine now, but when Jane Austen died, at the age of 41, she was not well-known. Although the novels she published during her lifetime, including “Sense & Sensibility” and “Pride & Prejudice,” were popular in her day, her name was not upon them, written merely “By a Lady,” and her gravestone did not even mention her literary works. Yet by the 1850s, a verger was overheard to ask, “Pray, Sir, can you tell me whether there was any thing particular about that lady; so many people want to know where she was buried?” Today Jane Austen is regarded as one England’s most revered writers, and this year, in honor of the 200th anniversary of her second novel, my parents and I decided to embark on a “Jane Austen” tour of England.

Jane was born the seventh of eight children at Steventon Rectory in North Hampshire in 1775. Even before she became a teenager, Jane was already writing humorous sketches and
stories to entertain her family, including a parody of Oliver Goldsmith’s “History of England” by a self-proclaimed “partial, prejudiced and ignorant Historian.” She was extremely close to her sister Cassandra, and it is certain that the dear sisterly relationships found in many of her books were based on this lifelong closeness they shared. In fact, Jane incorporated many of her own personal experiences into her stories, which is why it is such fun to visit the places where she lived as it makes the fictional stories seem even more real.

The family’s house in Chawton, where Jane spent the last eight years of her life and wrote many of her works, is now preserved as a Jane Austen museum. Because she was not well-known at the time of her death, the house and its contents were sold when the family moved out, so most of Jane’s personal artifacts are long gone. The museum, therefore, has been mostly redone with furniture from the period, but this actually turned out to be a good thing for me. Jane was known to have loved playing the piano, so the front sitting room now houses a Clementi square pianoforte from the period similar to what she would have owned. As a longtime piano student, I have often played Clementi sonatinas, never knowing that these were published as showpieces for the musician’s own pianos, so I was excited to add this bit of knowledge to my music history. However, even better, because the instrument did not actually belong to Jane (and pianos stay in better tune if they are regularly played), the museum allows visitors to play if requested. This meant that I got to play a Clementi sonatina on a Clementi piano in Jane Austen’s house — definitely a highlight of the trip for me!

The museum has acquired some artifacts owned by Jane
and her family. My father, a quilter, was excited to see a quilt handmade by Jane, her mother and her sister, pieced together from fabric remnants obtained from friends and family. My best friend is a lacemaker, so I was pleased to take photos for her of assorted lace items made by Jane, including a lace collar and a handkerchief she made for her sister. And my mother, science fiction author Connie Willis, was thrilled to see Jane Austen’s actual writing table, although my mom kept insisting that it was way too small as compared to the tables where she writes daily at her local Starbucks! Later in the trip we also got to see Jane’s folding writing desk, with compartments for ink, pens, stamps, paper and sealing wax, on display in the British Library along with a pair of Jane’s reading spectacles, a handwritten copy of “History of...
England,” and one of her letters — it was indeed awe-inspiring to see something written in Jane’s own hand!

And whilst it was wonderful to see where Jane lived, it was even better to visit the places where her stories were set — being in such locations makes you feel the characters themselves might suddenly come alive and pass you on the street. Unfortunately, we did not have such an experience in Lyme Regis. I was looking forward not only to walking the “ammonite highway” (a stretch of beach that is literally covered with ammonite fossils, some up to a meter across!) but also to reenacting the pivotal scene from Jane’s novel “Persuasion,” where Louisa Musgrove jumps off the Cobb and nearly dies. (Don’t worry, I wasn’t planning on actually dying — my plan was to reenact the heroine Anne’s part in the scene, where she takes charge during the catastrophe, thereby helping to secure the heart of Captain Wentworth!).

Unfortunately, Lyme Regis is a VERY old town situated at the bottom of a VERY steep hill, and, as a result, has VERY narrow roads — roads that are far too narrow for the numerous tour buses, half-term tourists and lorries making U-turns that were present at midday when we arrived. After almost an hour of attempting to drive through the crowded town to find a parking place, we had to throw in the towel and go to the next seaside town for our lunch instead. I guess the “nearly dying” reenactment will have to wait till our next trip!

In contrast, Bath, located in Somerset only a few hours’
drive from London, was all I had hoped it would be, made even more special by it being my birthday! The town, where Jane spent many years and where she set large sections of both “Northanger Abbey” and “Persuasion,” is centered upon the Abbey, with its Jacob’s Ladder ascending the outside of the structure, and the Pump Room and adjacent Roman Baths, where the natural hot springs for which the town is named emerge. My mother and I visited here when I was 15, before I had read Jane, so this time I was much better able to appreciate the significance of these locations.

For me, the amazing part about Bath is that everywhere
Almost all the architecture in the town center is Georgian and, were it not for the cars, you could easily imagine Captain Wentworth or Catherine Morland stepping out in front of you, especially as you stroll up Milsom Street or along the Royal Crescent. In fact, No. 1 Royal Crescent was preparing to open as a Georgian museum only a few weeks after we were there, so future visitors will be able to see what life was like for both the wealthy and their servants in 18th century Bath.

During her various times in Bath, Jane lived at the end of Pulteney Street and in Queen’s Square, which are within easy walking distance from each other. In fact, most of the splendor of Bath can be experienced on foot, which adds to the illusion of being in Jane’s time. There is even a Jane Austen Centre...
adjacent to Queen’s Square, which houses displays discussing Jane’s time in the city.

But perhaps the highlight of Bath for me was our visit to the Assembly Rooms. These figure prominently in both “Persuasion” and “Northanger Abbey” as social centers for meetings and dances. The Octagon Room, which boasts four fireplaces, is in the center of the building, and from there you can visit the ballrooms as well as the tea room, where refreshments are served to this day. Standing inside these gorgeous interiors, you can practically hear the music and see the dancers. The basement houses the Fashion Museum, a must for all costuming aficionados! It’s amazing to see the evolution of the corset from the Empire style worn during Jane Austen’s time up through the late Victorian corset, which has
become *de rigueur* for today’s Steampunkers.

The hustle and bustle of Bath was a far cry from the serenity we found in Winchester, where Jane’s short life ended in 1817. Although there is speculation as to what Jane Austen died of — with Addison’s disease, Hodgkin’s lymphoma, and bovine tuberculosis all listed as possibilities — the house she lived in the final days of her life is well-marked, albeit covered in scaffolding when we were there. Of Jane’s burial, her sister Cassandra wrote: “Her dear remains are to be deposited in the cathedral — it is a satisfaction to me to think that they are to lie in a building she admired so much.” And whilst her tombstone does not mention her literary genius, both a brass
Jane Austen Memorial at Winchester Cathedral by Cordelia Willis

British Library, London by Cordelia Willis
plaque erected in 1870 by her nephew and a memorial window paid for by public subscription in 1900 do. We visited the cathedral right before dusk, when the final golden rays of sunlight were streaming in as the choir’s voices echoed through the church — a beautiful setting for Jane’s final resting place.

A marker also bears her name in Poets’ Corner of Westminster Abbey, along with such other great English writers as Geoffrey Chaucer, William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens and the Brontë sisters. I’m sure Jane would be amused to know that, almost 200 years after her death, people are still celebrating her life and her words — knowing Jane, I’m sure she’d have something witty and perceptive to say about it.
By Jean Martin

Editor-in-Chief

I didn’t know the Nebula Awards were going to be in the San Francisco Bay Area this year. In fact, I didn’t even know this was an actual event akin to a convention! So I’m glad the chairman of this year’s Nebulas, Dave Gallaher, asked me if I was going. Of course, I was going to go once I knew it was going to be in San Jose!

The Nebula Awards and the Hugo Awards were mythical appellations to me when I was growing up in the Philippines. I didn’t know who gave these out or how they were bestowed. I just knew that winning these awards was like the Oscars for movies and the Emmys for TV.

Well, I got to attend the Hugos at Renovation in 2011 so I can cross that off my bucket list. That was quite a thrill to be in the same room with legends of the science fiction and fantasy field. It was also an experience to remember as I was one of only three photographers in front of the stage, and I was right there for that electric moment when Chris Garcia and

The Awards by Jean Martin
Toastmaster Robert Silverberg by Jean Martin
James Bacon won their Hugo. It was also wonderful to realize that I knew some other folks who also won awards.

I found out soon after I joined fandom and started writing for SF/SF that the Hugos were voted on by members of the World Science Fiction convention, which travels to different locations around the globe every year. However, I still didn’t know anything about the Nebulas.

I only discovered, after Dave told me about it, that it is voted on by members of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA). Thus, it is an industry group that votes on it as opposed to the Hugos, which are voted on by the larger fandom community.

The difference became apparent to me when I went to the Nebula Awards on Saturday, May 18. Attendees were mostly published writers, and panels were about the craft and business of writing. The Nebulas were actually four days but I only went on the day of the Nebula Awards Banquet.

I was able to secure interviews with four writers during the afternoon before the actual awards. Unfortunately, I wasn’t able to get an interview with Robert Silverberg because he was going to be the Toastmaster of the awards, and he didn’t want to do any interviews that day, which is totally understandable. However, I was ecstatic to be able to schedule interviews with two up-and-coming writers and two established writers.

It was interesting that the order of my interviews scheduled by publicist Jaym Gates was according to how long I’ve known about these writers (from most recent to several years ago). My first interview was with Nick Sagan, the son of Carl Sagan; the second was with Mary Robinette Kowal (who won a best short story Hugo at Renovation); the third was with Connie Willis (who won a best novel Hugo at Renovation); and the fourth was with Diana Paxson (whose work I’ve been reading and enjoying for numerous years). It’s also interesting to note that I’ve already met the three women previously, and Nick is the only one whom I don’t know.

Nick was at the Nebulas to accept an award for his father, but he’s also been involved in the scifi field as a novelist and screenwriter. He’s written episodes for “Star Trek: The Next Generation” and “Star Trek: Voyager.” He’s written a scifi trilogy and I made sure to read the first one, “Idlewild,” before my interview.

I was quite nervous when I went to the press room to meet Nick for my interview. But he put me at ease right away with his soft-spoken and friendly demeanor. My interview went really well. Nick answered my questions thoughtfully, and I learned so much about him and his views on life, writing,
family and the future of humankind. I enjoyed my interview very much and I think Nick did as well. I made sure to ask about him and his work and not just about Carl, who was a major influence on me growing up. In fact, I credit Carl Sagan and his science series “Cosmos” with instilling in me my lifelong love of science, especially astronomy and space exploration, my awe of the beauty of the Universe, and my unwavering optimism and hope about the human race. Nick showed me a photo of his new baby and he was very happy about being a first-time father.

My interview with Nick, as well as with Mary Robinette, Connie and Diana, will be featured one at a time in upcoming issues of SF/SF. I still have to transcribe the recordings, but I look forward to sharing what I learned from these extraordinary people. I felt like I attended a Master Class on writing and life that afternoon, with each writer having their own distinct styles and viewpoints. It was quite an intense but rewarding experience.

Mary Robinette is amazingly multi-talented and a very classy lady. Not only is she an award-winning writer, she’s also a puppeteer. I’ve seen her do a Regency shadow puppet show, and it’s quite wonderful. Mary Robinette talked about how she combined her love of the Regency era with fantasy in her novels about “glamour.” These are genres that are near and dear to my heart and I naturally loved the first in the series entitled “Shades of Milk and Honey.” The novel captures the spirit of Jane Austen with just a subtle, and lovely, hint of magic. I told her that the Bay Area English Regency Society was doing a “Pride and Prejudice” ball that evening in Alameda, which I was going to be missing. She told me she was going to wear a Regency gown for the awards banquet.

Mary Robinette Kowal in her Regency gown by Jean Martin
and would have loved to go to the ball if it were possible. Alas, Alameda was just too far away and the timing would not have worked out.

Next up was Connie, who I finally got to interview after seeing her a few times at conventions and events with her daughter and my friend Cordelia. Connie apparently also loves Jane Austen, and she and Cordelia planned on going to the UK to go to places connected with Austen and her work. (There’s a trip report by Cordelia in this same issue.) But Connie told me that her favorite time period is London during World War II, particularly the time of the London Blitz. I asked her why she likes the era and she said it’s because she’s interested in how normal people coped and showed their courage and compassion during a time of danger and upheaval. I haven’t read her recent Hugo-winning, double novel “Blackout/All Clear” set during that time period yet but I’ve read two of her other award-winning novels, the medieval “The Doomsday Book” and the Victorian “To Say Nothing of the Dog,” and I can see what she’s saying.

Diana I’ve also seen a few times as she’s pretty active in fandom and attends lots of conventions. Diana and her husband Jon de Cles started the Society for Creative Anachronism in the late 1960s. She also is part of the Pagan community and writes about the Pagan religion. As far as her fiction writing, I’ve read some of her individual novels but I mostly know her from her Avalon novels that are based on Marion Zimmer Bradley’s “The Mists of Avalon.” “Mists” is one of my favorite books of all-time and I’ve read all of its prequels and sequels, which Diana has mostly done after Marion passed away. I love the Roman Britain era and the interweaving of history, legends and fantasy is very entrancing to me.
After my interviews, I took a break to walk around, but there really wasn’t much to do as everyone was just waiting for the awards banquet to start. The Nebula Awards was held at the San Jose Hilton, which is connected to the San Jose Convention Center. Coincidentally, the Big Wow! Comicfest was at the convention center and so I was able to walk around the halls for a little bit to see some friends and people in costume. Chris was actually at Big Wow! and he was able to meet me at the Hilton for a few minutes and I was able to introduce Nick to him. I told Nick about Big Wow! as he’s currently working on a graphic novel. Chris’s report on Big Wow! was in our previous issue (www.efanzines.com/SFSF/SFSF142.pdf).

The awards banquet started with a reception outside the actual room. So there was time to meet, mingle and order drinks at the bar. For me, it was a great opportunity to say hello to authors I already know and to meet those whom I’ve previously known only as names on book covers. It was also a good chance for me to take photos of people up close. Most people were dressed to the nines and some very creatively to reflect their work. Mary Robinette looked beautiful in a light green Regency dress she made herself complete with an authentic coral necklace from the period.

The room wasn’t that big, at least compared to the cavernous convention hall that the Hugos in Reno were held at. So it really seemed like an intimate and exclusive group of people in attendance. I wound up assigned to the same table as Nick and he sat next to me on my right. So we were able to converse some more. Vivacious Francesca Myman from Locus Magazine sat to my left. She and I talked about writing, the scifi/fantasy field, fandom events and living in the Bay Area.
The food was delicious, but then I’ve always had good experiences dining at any Hilton. There were other writers at our table, but it was hard to talk to people on the other side. But soon it was time for the actual awards.

I first heard Robert Silverberg do public speaking when he presented the best novel award at Renovation and he was hilarious. I was similarly impressed and entertained by him as Toastmaster at the Nebulas. He was very witty and a lot of his jokes were delivered spontaneously.

Another difference between the Hugos and the Nebulas is that there were very few awards and almost all of them were literary, which I guess makes prefect sense. The trophies were gorgeous and the presentations of the awards, made by different luminaries in the field, were entertaining. The list of winners for 2012 (presented in 2013) is as follows:
Damon Knight Grand Master Award: Gene Wolfe
Novel: “2312” by Kim Stanley Robinson (Orbit US; Orbit UK)
Novella: “After the Fall, Before the Fall, During the Fall” by Nancy Kress (Tachyon)
Novellette: “Close Encounters” by Andy Duncan (The Pottawatomie Giant & Other Stories)
Short Story: “Immersion” by Aliette de Bodard (Clarkesworld 6/12)

Ray Bradbury Award for Outstanding Dramatic Presentation:
“Beasts of the Southern Wild” by Benh Zeitlin (director) and Benh Zeitlin and Lucy Abilar (writers) (Journeyman/Cinereach/Court 13/Fox Searchlight)

Andre Norton Award for Young Adult Science Fiction and Fantasy Book: “Fair Coin” by E.C. Myers (Pyr)

There were also two special awards. The first was the Solstice Award, which according to the SFWA web site is given to someone with “a significant impact on the science fiction or fantasy landscape, and is particularly intended for those who have consistently made a major, positive difference within the speculative fiction field.” The award was given to Carl Sagan and editor Ginjer Buchanan. The other is the Kevin O’Donnell Jr. Service Award, which was awarded to Michael H. Payne, the head coordinator for SFWA’s Circulating Book Plan.

Nick Sagan accepted the posthumous award for his father, which was presented to Nick by his friend and influential author John Scalzi. Nick gave a moving acceptance speech on behalf of Carl. When I told Nick afterwards that he has the same gift for speaking in an inspiring and charming way as his father, he was very happy because he felt like he was carrying Carl’s legacy onward. I also told him, though, that he had a style that was all his own.

I couldn’t stop grinning for hours and days afterwards. The Nebula Awards was quite a heady experience on several levels. The one thing that stayed with me, though, is that I was in some way part of this community of writers, even though right now my writing is mostly financial writing (day job) and

Andre Norton Award nominee Alethea Kontis by Jean Martin
entertainment journalism (hobby jobs). And that these were just regular people who decided and successfully worked toward making writing science fiction and fantasy their livelihood. So it made it real and possible for me to imagine. It reawakened in me my lifelong dream of writing a scifi/fantasy/historical/mystery/adventure/romance novel. Well, maybe someday when I’m not so busy with work as well as attending and writing about events, traveling and all the other creative, enjoyable and educational things that are fulfilling to me right now. Yes, someday I hope to be an attending member of the Nebula Awards.
By Christopher Erickson  
*Managing Editor*

The Period Events & Entertainments Re-Creation Society (PEERS) essentially put a time warp into San Mateo at the Masonic Lodge on June 1, 2013. PEERS hosted The Doctor Dances Ball based on the popular two-part episode “The Empty Child/The Doctor Dances” of “Doctor Who” to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the show.

The premise of the dance was that a “Kiss The Boys Goodbye” soiree was being hosted by Thomas and Tuppence Beresford, two former Torchwood agents (and Agatha Christie characters), with their special guests Clara Oswald (niece to the Beresfords) and Captain Lethbridge-Stewart. At the ball, the Eleventh Doctor interrupts the introductions to announce that multiple timelines and universes were collapsing in on each other but he had managed to contain the trouble to the building. Because of this, the time-lock on the Last Great Time War degraded and Romana made her presence known to announce that all of the regenerations of the Doctor were on trial. The other Doctors present (Nine and Ten) fought to help Eleven identify the source of the problem. A number of skits were presented around this storyline including a hilarious Benny Hill-like running scene with Rose and the three Doctors. This lead to a lot of fanboy moments including Captain Jack Harkness flirting with the Beresfords, Jack meeting his brother Gray, the Ninth Doctor remembering how to dance to “In The Mood” by Glen Miller, and the Tenth Doctor’s manic expressions.
The music was provided by local favorites Lee Presson and the Nails. The band provided excellent musical accompaniment to swing, foxtrot, waltzes, tangos, polkas, the ever-popular Congress of Vienna Waltz and Sir Roger de Coverley. The songs included an amazing waltz arrangement of the “Doctor Who” theme, a swing cover of Van Halen’s “Hot For Teacher,” LPN’s version of the Congress of Vienna and Sir Roger de Coverley, German-style polkas with funny lyrics (to help entertain the troops going to fight the Nazis) and “Sing, Sing, Sing.” The dance floor was packed during all of the numbers. DJ music was played during the band breaks for people to enjoy and dance to including the Ninth Doctor scene.

A dance lesson was held before the actual ball to help teach simple steps for East Coast-style swing (or jive) and foxtrot to
The Eleventh Doctor announces that multiple timelines and universes were collapsing

by Lisa Hansen

Melody Malone aka River Song with the Eleventh Doctor
courtesy of Jean Martin

The Doctors and Companions reading the ballroom rules

by Lisa Hansen

The Eleventh Doctor announces that multiple timelines and universes were collapsing

by Lisa Hansen
Cast members watching the Denouement Unfold  
by Lisa Hansen

Romana and the Time Lords put the Doctors on Trial  
by Lisa Hansen

Rose and the Ninth Doctor Dancing to In the Mood  
by Jean Martin
The Eleventh and Tenth Doctors
by Jean Martin

Weeping Angels
by Jean Martin
help people brush up on their dance moves or learn it from scratch.

Besides the Three Doctors, the Beresfords, Clara and the future Brigadier, there were several other characters at the ball including Captain Jack and his brother Gray, Melody Malone (River Song), Romana and her fellow Time Lord Judge, Wilfred Mott, and of course Rose Tyler.

The attendees at the ball came in an amazing variety of costumes including several different previous versions of the Doctor; different companions such as Clara, Leela, Adric, Amy Pond and Rory Williams; different enemies including Daleks, The Master and Weeping Angels; a number of TARDIS dresses; other 1940s era characters like Captain America, Indiana Jones, Marion Crane and Rosie the Riveter; 1940s military outfits, dresses and suits (including zoot suits); and a doctor from Whoville (making Dr. Suess proud).

The denouement wrapped up the story line with the discovery of a vacuum catastrophe cascade device that required a person to sacrifice their life to defuse it. Clara defused the contraption and the device was used on Jack to provide further energy to it to help bring back Clara after the infernal device was adjusted, bringing a nice tidy end to the story. The universe being saved was celebrated with more dancing.

The ball was packed until the very end with many people even coming late. The live theater performance mixed period entertainment with fan fiction to entertain the crowd and provide everyone with happiness.

The Ninth Doctor with the TARDIS by Jean Martin
By Christopher Erickson

Feather, fins and frills were featured on Father’s Day weekend in Vallejo at the Seventh Annual Northern California Pirate Festival. There were familiar sites like the pirate ships, mermaids, ale and food, but there were a number of changes this year as well.

The biggest change was the weather itself. Instead of being overwhelmingly hot, the temperature throughout the day was warm but bearable with a nice breeze. This helped keep things cooler and more enjoyable this year.

The most easily noticeable change was the layout. The entrance was off to the side of the space that the festival occupies next to the Vallejo Ferry parking lot. This was done so that there was more room to handle the ticket buyers. It actually made the entrance more picturesque with the water in the background and the old wooden stumps with rusty anchor chains lining the parking lot. The ticket booths were conveniently located next to the entrance but far back as to not actually create a bottleneck.

The faire also made it convenient for purchasing tickets with online ticket sales and a line for those with printed tickets. This helped the line move quickly and got everyone in.

The setup inside of the festival was also changed this year. It had an organic feel to it this year where there were dead ends, making the place feel like a market in port town. The new arrangement also connected the walk along the waterfront to the festival with booths set next to the walk instead of away...
from it as in years past. A number of the seller’s booths were next to the entrance and the food stalls were moved toward the opposite end next to the ale stand. The food and beverage stand being grouped together allowed people to enjoy their food and beverages together instead of having to obtain them separately.

When food and drink were purchased, patrons could sit in comfort under the pavilion tent that the festival had obtained with donations from their Kickstarter campaign. The tent allowed people to sit and rest in the shade, enjoy their food and listen to music as well. The main entertainment stage was moved inside the pavilion. There was still an empty space left open for people to gather and dance or sit on the grass while listening to the bands, but having the performers inside reduced the size of the audience since there wasn’t as much space. The lack of space for the audience was balanced by people being able to enjoy food, drink and shade. It was much more fun to listen to the bands and watch the shows when the sun was not directly in your eyes and you could see the entertainments in comfort.

If you were looking for stronger beverages, there was also a nice rum bar tucked away near the water. It had a drink menu
featuring Kraken Rum with rum shots and mixed rum drinks. The rum bar became very popular as the day went on and there were even umbrellas next to barrels for people to enjoy their libations in the shade.

Another nice addition was the House of the Rising Sun. The booth featured Georgian-period entertainment you could find in a house of ill repute in New Orleans. The group provided plenty of distractions like singing, stories of New Orleans, French and Creole tarts, and games of chance. I played the game featuring roulette-style betting on which six different symbols would come up on the dice. I did quite well at the game even as I was relieved of some of my personal effects.

The Pirate Fest also participated in a number of related events that weekend. A whole slate of activities was planned as an “Invasion Weekend.” A treasure hunt was arranged for
Saucy Singers at the House of The Rising Sun
by Christopher Erickson

Gambling at the House of The Rising Sun
by Christopher Erickson

Mermaid Fashion
by Christopher Erickson
the Vallejo Farmer’s market on June 8, an R&B concert featuring the Urban Bushman at the Empress Theater the Friday before the faire, a costume parade featuring Obtainium Works down Georgia Street to the festival on the Saturday of the event, and free entrance to the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum on the Saturday of the faire as well. The main ancillary event was the Buccaneer’s Bash, an adult’s only party on the waterfront that featured music from pirate rock bands The Pirates Charles and The Dread Crew of Oddwood and dance music provided by MC Bilge Munkey.

There were still lots of familiar sites. The most interesting one was the mermaids. The lagoon was featured again with swimming merpeople, but this time there were younger mermaids in the pool. A dive tank was set up for people to watch a mermaid dive and swim similar to an aquarium. There was a rock perch situated next to the tank for another mermaid to sit and interact with the people gathered around and explained about a mermaid’s life under the sea.

There were still many of the usual entertainment around the faire as well. There was a children’s stage where Mister Mac performed (including a wonderful rendition of the sea shanty “Brandy” by Looking Glass), a children’s costume contest and the juggling act of the Kondor Brothers. The main stage featured music by The Pirates Charles, The Mad Maggies, Dogwatch Nautical Band, Skip Henderson and Starboard Watch, The Seadogs, tribal belly dancing by the Serpent Siren Swords and juggling and ventriloquism by Captain Jack
Spareribs. The exchange of gunfire between the Government House and the Schooner Aldebaran drew a large crowd.

The Government House had their customary booth where children could obtain a pardon from the local governor. The tent also had a virginal (a type of harpsichord) and visitors from the military and lands under the British Empire. A group of citizens were handing out fake pardons to all comers as a parody of the Government House.

There were, of course, a large number of pirate costumes. There were a few Steampunk pirates as well. There seemed like there were less mermaids this year on the day that I attended, but the costumes I saw were still impressive. There was also almost no Jack Sparrows to be found. There was a Captain Blackbeard with a burning fuse rope in his head (in the form of LED lights). There were some Asian outfits.
Despite the numerous changes, there were still lots to see and do. There were plenty of pirates, food, beverage and fun to be had. Even though the event charged a ticket price for the first time in its existence, the price was affordable and it did not keep people away. The changes were for the better and helped enhance the experience further.
Why Dramatic License is a Good Thing

By Christopher Erickson
Managing Editor

More than a few people have commented on events such as the Pirate Festival and renaissance faires as being completely anachronistic and almost corrupting of the knowledge of historical facts. My experience is that it has been the complete opposite. These events help open up people to reading and researching the truth about the time periods being portrayed.

We are all familiar with dramatic presentations of history as “based on a true story.” The dramatic license taken by the storytellers is appalling to history buffs and fact nerds, but it does help highlight actual events and stories about the people, places and happenings of what is being portrayed. Being able to see the things that are recreated in real time such as a Queen’s procession, meeting historical people from the age and being able to walk around in a mockup of the time period makes people more likely to explore history through books and do research.

The fun of doing a period event such as the faires, balls and “Turn Back the Clock” city celebrations is that you can try to put together an outfit or event that can highlight elements of times past that becomes interactive and fun. People will learn not only what the fashion was like, but also the culture, customs and technology that was in use at the time since the environment is more immersive and is not confined to words on a page or items kept behind glass.

Including slightly anachronistic or fantasy elements such as the mermaids at Pirate Fest or fairies at renaissance faires is also an important feature. It helps children be creative and inquisitive since they might ask questions about how items work or how fairies or mermaids live, such as was asked by a number of children at the “fish tank” that was on display at this year’s Pirate Fest. They might become more curious about sea life because they see mermaids swimming or how people believed in magic and study science and technology.

With modernized adaptations of fairy tales and popular novels such as “Once Upon A Time” and “Sherlock,” people have become more aware of these familiar characters and have sought out the original source material. This is also true of dramatic movies based on historical events such as the recent “Lincoln” movie. I learned a new fact about a truce initiative to end the Civil War at the time the 13th Amendment was passed. Even if the film did get some of the minor details wrong (or just speculated on others), the film did put an important moment into the public consciousness and encouraged people to learn more about the people, places and events involved in the story.

Many people decry the use of dramatic license or non-accuracy of many of the things we enjoy, but it does help people learn about history, science and literature and fosters curiosity about the world.
Steampunk Movie PRESSURE Wins Awards at Scary Cow Film Festival

By Jean Martin

The Steampunk movie “Pressure” won several awards at the 20th Scary Cow Film Festival held last July 6 at the Castro Theatre in San Francisco. Scary Cow is an indie film co-op whose mission is to build a film community that actively learns to make better films by making films. “Pressure,” a Steampunk movie set in a futuristic San Francisco, was written and directed by Michelle Prevost and produced by Ilene Ferrer. The movie was shot in the SF Bay Area with Cassidy Brown as Cog and Laila Shaker as his daughter Pascal. Costumers from the Bay Area’s Steampunk community were included as extras.

“Pressure” was shown last out of four Phase 2 movies, which are films that were made with help of a budget award from Scary Cow. The movie was an imaginative and thought-provoking story set in a familiar-yet-fantastical setting where workers and the infrastructure are put under so much pressure that it becomes dangerous for society both physically and emotionally. According to Prevost, “in this imaginary world Cog must face all the pressure a contemporary engineer faces in our world.”

After the screening, there was a question-and-answer session with the cast and crew. The extras, who all came in costume, were given a bit of the spotlight as they were able to introduce themselves to the audience. Steampunk costumes gave the movie the right look and atmosphere.
“Pressure” won two budget awards, which come with money for use in creating future Scary Cow movies: a Scary Cow Member’s Award and a General Audience Award. The movie also won the following Discipline Awards, which were determined by tallying votes from members and the general public across all phases, but do not come with budget dollars:

- Best Special/Visual Effects
- Best Original Music Score
- Best Sound
- Best Art Direction
- Outstanding Cinematography
- Outstanding Directing
- Outstanding Writing

With these awards under its belt, Prevost and Ferrer are moving forward into developing the “Pressure” story into a series. According to Ferrer, the creative Steampunk community is integral in their plans. She said that “we’re hoping we can generate a groundswell of support and involvement to make the rest of the episodes.”

Editor’s Note:
This article was previously published in Examiner.com on July 22, 2013 (www.examiner.com/article/steampunk-movie-pressure-wins-awards-at-scary-cow-film-festival) and is a follow-up to my previous article in SF/SF about the filming of the movie (Letting Off Steam: On The Set Of “Pressure” www.efanzines.com/SFSF/SFSF142.pdf).
John Purcell writes:

Hello again, BAarean fans! It has been many a moon since I’ve locked at your fine little zine, so here are a few comments on your latest issue.

First off, in case you haven’t heard yet, I am hosting the fanzine lounge at LoneStarCon 3, this year’s edition of the World Science Fiction Convention. Plans include daily hands-on demonstrations of the various means of producing fanzines over the years: typewriter and carbon, ditto machine, hectograph, mimeograph and desktop publishing.

Christopher Erickson responds:

That sounds like an interesting idea to see how fan commentary has changed over the years and see how to actually produce a fanzine in its myriad forms.

Plus the Fan Fund Auction is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 31, shortly after the mimeo demo is done. As if that wasn’t enough, I am also the OE (Official Editor) of this year’s WOOF collation: that stands for Worldcon Organization Of Faneditors. If anyone is interested in participating in that, the copy count is 71 (to correspond with this being the 71st WorldCon), and the collation is slated for shortly after noon on Sunday the 1st of September.

Wow! You have a full plate for the convention, especially at one of the premiere conventions. Don’t forget to get out and have some fun!

In short, if you will be there, Jean, I look forward to meeting you and your husband, to say nothing of many other fans from the Far West. I don’t get to many conventions outside of Texas, so this is the big event of the year for my wife and I. We are very much looking forward to it.

Unfortunately, Jean and I won’t be getting out that way for the convention. It would be nice to go, but it is even better when it is essentially in your backyard even if you have to travel for a bit and stay at a hotel like when Jean and I went to Renovation.

Speaking of conventions and other events, once again your zine has loads of pictures and write-ups of what’s going on in your neck of the woods. You people certainly keep busy! And I really like the photos.

Thanks for the compliments! We are always trying to find new writers and photographers to try and cover all of the events. Even with some of the conventions leaving (Wondercon) or disappearing (SiliCon and Nova Albion for a year), there is still plenty of things for people to do.

My wife is working on our Steampunk Formal Wear for the Hugo Awards ceremony, and from what I’m seeing already, they’re more than fun. As Chris Garcia would say, “they’re Awesome!” This is Valerie’s first WorldCon, too, so by all means come on up and meet her. She doesn’t bite very hard. 😊

The Hugo Awards were a very fun experience. Jean and I got to witness Chris Garcia’s acceptance speech/psychotic meltdown/Mick “Mankind” Foley impression when he finally won. Dressing up is certainly the norm, but making it a costume occasion brings a whole new level of enjoyment.
Steam Powered Giraffe is one of our favorite bands, and they’re playing at the big Steampunk Gala in Dallas two weeks after LoneStarCon 3. If we have enough fundage left over, that is one event we’d love to attend. It is a two-day event with lots of vendors and musical guests. Here is the link so that you and other readers can see what’s going on there: www.facebook.com/events/146962248789404. As you can see, they’re on Facebook, so “friend” them and get updates. Sure hope we can make this one, too.

The Steampunk Gala sounds like a good time. We have something similar with Steamstock here in Richmond in the East Bay that just started last year. Vernian Process performed there last year. Unwoman has done a number of shows here in the Bay Area so we are very familiar with her work. Steam Powered Giraffe performed at Clockwork Alchemy back in May, but Jean and I missed it since I was in Ulm, Germany, for work and Jean came over as well.

With that, time to sign off. Again, I look forward to seeing you, España, and many others in San Antonio. Won’t be long now...

All the best.

Lloyd Penny writes:

Thank you for SF/SF 142. There’s always something new to say or comment on, so I will get to it. Not long until the weekend!

Maker Faires are always fun … Toronto’s only had one Mini Maker Faire, but a second one is coming up September 21 and 22, and we do plan to go. The best display from the first show was a group of folks from Québec who had connected their Twitter account to an old-fashioned teletype machine. Not only could they have their Twitter messages typed out on the teletype, but you could send messages on Twitter with the teletype keyboard. A nice way to show that old tech can match up with new tech.

Christopher Erickson responds:

There is a Mini Maker Faire coming up on October 20 in Oakland. We have never been to the smaller ones, so I am interested in how different it is.

The twitter/text messages being turned into a telegram was also done by a group out here in the Bay Area. They use the machine at Nova Albion and Clockwork Alchemy and then hand deliver it. The machine is made from an old brass typewriter with the individual keybars.

Did any of the Bay Area crowd get down to San Diego for the giant Comic-Con? So much of it made it into local media, and the guy dressed as Powdered Toast Man is from the Toronto area, but as always the big media presentations with new movies and TV series pushed the creative fans out of the spotlight.

There are more than a few Bay Area people who made it down to Comic-Con. However, most of the people we know have decided to skip it for various reasons.

The Powdered Toast Man is a costume that I would not have the intestinal fortitude to pull of considering it is basically a professional wrestling outfit. I guess it could be done with one of those printed muscle suits or such, but it would be more impressive to have the classic bodybuilder physique.

Conventions seem to have their own life cycle, with birth, success and eventual death. Is Baycon going through that, or can it be saved? I guess it depends on the audience you want to attract, and what their general age is. Many of us have aged right out of the general demographic of current fandom, and
we’re looking for something that interests us. Perhaps that’s what Steampunk conventions like Clockwork Alchemy are about. Two articles detail it, and it sounds like we’d be right at home with it. Wish we could go!

Baycon has always seemed to aim for an older demographic in the time that I have been going to it. I think it is just more about the focus and target demographic that the organizers want to achieve. The convention has been focusing more on the serious aspects of the convention such as the panels and guests rather than on the more glamorous aspects. There have been plenty of commentary on what people think can be done to improve it and what they perceive is wrong with the convention, so I will refrain from commenting, especially since Jean and I didn’t attend this year.

The local event in Toronto, Steam on Queen 2, was a great time, with two more hours of operation, and even more people than last year, estimated at 4,850. Only problem was two thunderstorms blew through, and nearly cut our sales in half. There will be another Steam on Queen at downtown Campbell House in June of next year, but in the meantime, there will be another mini Steam on Queen at a hotel on Queen St. W., and we’ve expressed our interest in being a vendor there.

**Having a Steampunk event in a historic venue is the perfect idea! I bet it was a fun time.**

The Murdoch Mysteries Experience takes place in just two weeks! Also, just found out that a new channel in the US, Ovation, has picked up “Murdoch Mysteries,” but because the series itself has already been going for six seasons, it will be slightly revamped for this American channel, and will be renamed “The Artful Detective.”

**The revamp seems like an unnecessary move. The new title seems misleading like he is a painter who solves mysteries on the side. Ovation is one of the more obscure cable channels and we have the basic package, so it not available to us. “Murdoch Mysteries”is available for rent (DVD only) from Netflix.**

And, I didn’t get the job at Sears Canada, but I have more good jobs I’ve applied to. Something’s got to give; I just hope it isn’t me.

**Don’t worry Lloyd, something good will happen for you. The economy has been picking up as of late and people are being hired. I went through a similar situation about three years ago. Just take each interview as practice for the next one.**

All done for the moment. Have a great weekend, everyone!
Meeting 1197

July 8, 2013

The following are minutes for the BASFA meeting head 2013-07-08 at Coco’s in Sunnyvale. These minutes are neither totally accurate nor totally complete. Anyone who complains can take minutes the next time.

The meeting started at about 8:00PM with Chris Garcia presiding.

Approximately 21 people attended. Other officers not present. Party jar established. Several minutes were spent discussing minutes and by some strange process the taking of minutes fell to me. A standing ovation given to Andy and Kevin. Chris announced a new Drink Tank was in paper form and soon to be online.

No committee reports.
No new business.

Announcements

Andy announced the convention is over.

Various people discussed how long they had been in fandom with some of the starting at a Westercon.

JohnO and ChrisO said it was their 19th anniversary

Mo discussed moving

JC said a new Nerdvana podcast would be going up on Wednesday

Chris said his next episode was rendering and would be up soon

And there were the first three episodes of leaf and let die

Reviews

Reviews by many people about Westercon: KC Speakeasy Party was great and even had people from Kansas City.
Dealers who knew what they were doing did better. Music was good. Awesome fanzine lounge (aka Champagne Lounge). BarBot was great. Nicole and Kelley 25th anniversary. Good writers workshop. Comments about the blackout. Fireworks were good. Lots of fun. Great time at dead dog party. Music was incredible. Volunteers were dragged into minionhood. Phenomenauts were awesome. Parties were awesome. Great masquerade. Match game was great. Beth first con. Mac and cheese with lobster. Two Buck Chuck moderated panel. Panel on page 119 was good.

Other Reviews: Costco the day before a major holiday was insanity. Lone Ranger movie loads of fun. Lone Ranger tie-in merchandise already at half price.

Auction: Stuffed Items auctioned. (All money went into party jar because regular jar was never established. At end of meeting party jar contained $2.25.)

Rumor: “Best Blackout Ever”

Adjourned at about 9:05

Meeting 1198

July 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 8:00 pm - with background podcasting

33 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1197 were accepted as “bork, bork, bork” [“lots to 2”]

The Treasurer reported that last week there was no regular jar & that the party jar took in $2.25 and that at meeting 1196 we took in $25.00 in the regular jar & $5.00 in the party jar

The Vice President reported that there is a new “Drink Tank” out, right there and on paper & also a new “Klaus at Gunpoint” - & that “Leaf and Let Die” was recorded in the room earlier & the next episode of “5 Cons” will be out “soon”

The President said “hi” to folks visiting us for the first time - Shael - aka “Lycanthrophile” - a longtime[ish] fan, who was the knit Klingon at Westercon & also to Erin aka “Eirewolf” who does leather masks & Trey also mentioned he won’t be at the club next week.

Announcements

Ken announced that his birthday, July 27 [Saturday] will be busy for him - the nomadic Retrodome “Princess Bride” quote-a-long at Camera 12, 3pm - and later a Psychotronic Film Festival, 7pm at Foothill college, room 5015 - then a Dennie's dinner afterwards

Mo announced that she is very tired & she is going to have to move this weekend and could use boxes

Adrienne announced that there’ll be a Bay Area Ghost Hunters meet-up this Sunday - seeing “The Conjuring” at the Great Mall, 2:45 showing

JC announced that Nerdvana Podcasts 51 & 52 come out Wednesday & they now have 2-buck Chuck as a co-host
Steven announced that Convolution 2013 will be Nov 1-3 at the Hyatt SFO in Burlingame & they have a Kickstarter for it = www.kickstarter.com/projects/267329666/join-convolution-2013-at-the-goblin-kings-masked-b?ref=home_location

Carole announced that Musecon will be the 1st weekend in August in a suburb of Chicago & that Seanan MacGuire will be GoH & also announced that she [Carole] will be doing panels at Worldcon

Spring announced that she is on facebook - and please “like” her at Springtime Creations

Diana announced that Lynn Gold & Warren say “hi” & that she just finished moving

Roy announced that he has 125 pounds of chocolate he’d like to use in fan-related ways - see him

Howeird announced that South Bay Theatre is rehearsing for “Les Miserables”

Reviews

Dave C reviewed “Sharknado” as “everything you expected and less”, [evil] Kevin commented it will be re-shown Thursday - and many comments about jumping the sharks followed; then Dave reviewed “Pacific Rim” as fun with giant robots fighting giant monsters - the consensus being it was fun & worth paying extra for the 3D - STAY for the Easter egg; then Dave reviewed Robinson’s “2312” as he didn’t like it enough to finish it

Brad reviewed “World War Z” as neither good nor bad, worth matinee

Dave G reviewed Readercon as quite interesting

Rick Moen reviewed Au Contraire in New Zealand as lots of fun

Carole reviewed Garrison Keillor as very much Prairie Home Companion & catered to an older crowd and worth full price

Chris reviewed California Extreme Video & Pinball as it equalled his dreams, worth awesomeness, even if it gave him a headache, JC agreed & then he reviewed a mini-film-festival as fun

Valerie reviewed “Much Ado About Nothing” as it was nice and Whedon-y - worth matinee

Adrienne reviewed “Now you See Me” as glitzy and she “guessed I had fun while I watched it” - as so-so and “the air conditioning was nice.” & Chris reviewed it as worth full price

Lisa reviewed Westercon as the most fun she’s had in a long time & she liked the panels, Carole had a good time, Bill was entertained & the Con Suite was fantastic

I reviewed “The Lone Ranger” as I enjoyed it and thought it was worth full price just for Silver

[evil] Kevin reviewed playing a game of Wizard Sticks as he had fun and won’t need to do it ever again

Then we did auctions

We adjourned at 9:56 pm

And the rumor of the week was: “My cod, it’s full of sharks”
Meeting 1199

July 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 8:00 ish - without Trey
27 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1198 were accepted as “spork”

The Treasurer reported that last week we took in $16.65 in the regular jar & some money in the party jar
The Vice President reported that - as acting as God Emperor of BASFA - aka “the big worm” - that there is a new “Drink Tank” out & a new episode of “5 Cons” is out

The President was in Southern California

Announcements

Howeird announced that there’ll be a free concert in Shoup park at 1:30pm at the last Sunday of the month by Ye Olde Towne Bande

Adrienne announced that there’s a new royal

JC announced that Nerdvana Podcast - man of steel 4 - is out now and that the next podcast will be recorded Sunday, August 4 at noon & 5

Mo announced that she is going to need help moving Wednesday

Tom announced that Potlatch Book of Honor nominations are now open on the website

Ric announced that Fanboy Planet has a LOT of Comic Con coverage - with more to come

Brad announced that the new comic book price guide is out

Dave C announced that the Rocky & Bullwinkle statue is gone from Sunset Blvd - moved by Dreamworks & announced that there is an article out in Slate explaining why all movies are the same

Michael Siladi announced that Baycon charities donated $3200 to Jay Lake & $5200 to California Autism Foundation & announced that Baycon is sponsoring a contest for a new logo- give feedback to baycon.org & Saturday, Aug 3 is at game day at his place in Mountain View
[evil] Kevin announced that there are 9 days left to turn in your Hugo ballot

Ken announced that his birthday, July 27 [Saturday] will be busy for him - the nomadic Retrodome “Princess Bride” quote-a-long at Camera 12, 3pm - and later a Psychotronic Film Festival, 7pm at Foothill college, room 5015 - use parking lot 4 - then a Denney’s dinner afterwards

Reviews

Ric reviewed “Pacific Rim” as entirely what he wanted to see in a movie & Chris agreed, saying it was awesome

Adrienne reviewed “RIPd” as tons of fun & JC opined that it was really entertaining & then she reviewed “The Conjuring” as she enjoyed it but resents its claim to be real life
- JC thought it was cliched but presented well & Chris thought it was a lot of fun

  Brad reviewed the Peninsula SF Museum of Art as free and very good & James Dougherty helped arrange for it & he reviewed “White House Down” as “so many plot holes” and it was a good thing it was free

  Ken reviewed “Macbeth” at Shakespeare in the park as done in modern dress and free, but you pay on the way out

  JC reviewed “Sharknado” as it sucked

  Diane reviewed “Rasputin’s Bastards” by Davic Nickle as pretty good & reviewed the “SWFA European Hall of Fame” as nice

  Howeird reviewed “Becky’s New Car” at the Dragon Theatre in Redwood City on Broadway as it broke all the rules and had good acting, worth full price - but don’t go on Friday because of the crowds

  Andy reviewed wine tasting in Lodi as “not Westercon” & reviewed something Swedish that’s worth seeing - svtplay.se

  [evil] Kevin reviewed good wine as worth full price

  Chris reviewed “The Osiris Curse” by Paul Crilley as “my hand to god” [he got caught] - a lovely book and he liked it

  Dave C reviewed “Monsters University” as a fun show

  [tall] Kevin reviewed the Easy Motel 8 as “only go there if you’re desperate”

Then we did auctions
We adjourned at 9:42 pm
And the rumor of the week was: “Excuse me while I whip this out”

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**Meeting 1200**

July 29, 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 8:08 - because ... reasons
32 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1199 were accepted as “incoherent”

The Treasurer reported that last week we took in $13.63 in the regular jar & $10.70 in the party jar
The Vice President reported that there are 2 episodes of the “leaf and Let Die” podcast out and a new “Drink Tank” out that is very short
The President seeks to engage the fannish network as his time at Lockheed is at an end - so if you need a software engineer, hire him

**Announcements**

Dave G announced that Hugo voting ends Wednesday, July 31 at 9:59 pm, pacific time zone time
Chris announced that there will be visits by DUFF and TAFF folk on Aug 19 to BASFA
Beth announced that she lacks sewing skills and needs to build a Hallowe’en costume, so she needs help.

[tall] Kevin announced that he will only be here one Monday in August & also announced that there is a move to eliminate all Fan Hugos.

Adrienne announced that her car was attacked by a tree and she is upset.

Ric announced that there’s a new Fanboy Planet podcast out.

Mo announced that she has moved out of her studio and that the cats have temporary homes.

Reviews

[evil] Kevin reviewed a new restaurant, Black Bird Tavern as the food was delicious - it’s at the corner of Doom [1st and Paseo de San Antonio] & he recommends it highly.

Adrienne reviewed “RED 2” as she enjoyed it & it was worth full price & she reviewed The Psychotronic Film Festival as she had fun & she reviewed “Cabin in the Woods” as really off the wall.

Chris reviewed Napa as they like wine there & reviewed Morimoto’s as they wouldn’t seat him there but would give him take-out - that was incredibly good.

Howeird reviewed “A Scanner Darkly” by Philip K Dick as it felt like he was reading it for years and only the last paragraph was worthwhile & reviewed the DVD for “Spring Break” as pretty gross and he’s donating his copy to the BASFA auction.

Dave G reviewed Jay Lake’s pre-mortem wake as a good time was had by all.

Ric reviewed “The Wolverine” as very accurate & true to the Frank Miller in Japan story and amazingly blood free, but not compelling & worth matinee.

Fred reviewed Symphony Silicon Valley doing summer medleys as good.

Diane reviewed The Psychotronic Film Festival as better than sleep.

Then we did auctions.

We adjourned at 9:27 pm.

And the rumor of the week was: “Apathy for the win”
Life is complicated; putting on an event is even more so. Please check before attending, as events are sometimes canceled or times and locations changed.

Follow the calendar on Twitter: @sfsfcalendar

New listings are highlighted in red.
Ongoing events are toward the back.

Saturday, August 3
PEERS Pre-Raphaelite Picnic Dance
Lincoln Park
1450 High Street, Alameda
peersdance.org
Free Picnic in the Park with Victorian Era dancing.
11 a.m. Free

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-Sunday, August 3-4
San Jose Renaissance Faire
Guadalupe River Green, Downtown San Jose
www.sanjosefaire.com
Renaissance Faire in Downtown San Jose in the shadow of the Shark Tank (HP Pavillion)
$18

Saturday, August 10
History Park San Jose Keep the Spirit of ’45 Alive
History Park
1661 Senter Road, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
Celebration of the sacrifice of the people during World War II with military parade, singers, dancing, vintage cars and more.
12 p.m. - 5 p.m. $5

Saturday, August 17
SF in SF: Laura Ann Gilman & Chaz Brenchley (aka Daniel Fox)
The Variety Preview Room, 1st Floor, Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A.
6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

Saturday, August 24
GBACG Costumers Bazaar
Location TBD
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Purchase elegant, hard-to-find and useful items to complete your costuming collection or rent a table and sell your gently used or new costume items.
Check website for price
Sunday, August 25
**History Park San Jose Fandango at the Peralta House**
History Park
1661 Senter Road, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
Learn about what life was like for the Spanish settlers and the life of Luis Maria Peralta, one of the first alcades of San Jose. Music, dancings, tours and activities.
11 a.m. - 5 p.m. $8

**Thursday-Monday, August 29-September 2**
**LoneStarCon 3**
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
San Antonio, TX
lonestarcon3.org
The 71st World Science Fiction Convention.
$200

**Saturday-Monday, August 30-September 1**
**Sac-Anime**
Sacramento Convention Center
1400 J St, Sacramento
www.sacconventions.com
Anime show.
$35 (till July 31)

**Friday-Monday, August 30-September 2**
**Pacificon Game Expo 33**
Santa Clara Marriott
2700 Mission College Blvd, Santa Clara
pacificongameexpo.com
Gaming convention.
$45 (till June 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..
$45 (till August 24)

**Saturday, September 7**
**PEERS Empress of India Ball**
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N. Ellsworth Avenue, San Mateo
peersdance.org
Ball celebrating the Empress of India, Queen Victoria with Victorian Era dancing and music by Bangers and Mash.
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)

**Sunday, September 8**
**13th Annual Antique Auto Show at History Park**
History Park
1661 Senter Road, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
Antique automobiles upto 1940s on display as well as jazz music and demonstrations.
11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free

**Saturday, September 14**
**3rd Annual Victorian Steampunk Ball Hosted by High Desert Steam**
Historic Piper’s Opera House
B Street at Union Street, Virginia City, Nevada
www.facebook.com/events/605735366106592/
Steampunk showcase featuring dancing, train rides, gambling, Victorian artifacts and more.
Cost TBA

**Weekends, September 14-October 13**
**Northern California Renaissance Faire**
Casa de Fruta
10031 Pacheco Pass Hwy 152, Hollister, CA
norcalrenfaire.com
The annual Elizabethan faire.
$25
Sunday, September 21

History Park San Jose Firefighter’s 7th Annual Car and Motorcycle Show

History Park
1661 Senter Road, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
Car and motorcycle show featuring vehicles from 1920 to the present day.
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free

Saturday, September 21

BAERS Sandition Ball
Arlington Community Church
52 Arlington Avenue, Kensington
baers.org
Regency Period English dancing ball based on Jane Austen’s last unfinished novel.
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)

Saturday-Sunday, September 21-22

Sci-Fi X Fest Convention
The Bal Theater
14808 East 14th Street, San Leandro
www.baltheatre.com
The Historic BAL Theatre and Bay Area Film Events presents the new annual Sci-fi X Fest Convention. Harken back to the early days of sci-fi Conventions! Where you could enjoy the dealers, films, panels, speakers, celebrity guests and fun in a more intimate environment! Bay Area Film Events and the Historic BAL Theatre bring you a space-age blast.
$30

Saturday, September 28

History Park San Jose Viejito’s Car Show
History Park
1661 Senter Road, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
Classic car show with food, music and vendors sponsored by Viejito’s Car Club Silicon Valley Chapter.
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. $5

Saturday, September 28

SF in SF: Nick Mamatas & Michael Marshall Smith
The Variety Preview Room, 1st Floor, Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinfsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A.
6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

Sunday, September 29

GBACG Starverse Picnic
Middle Harbor Shoreline Park, Oakland
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
The dramatic view from Oakland’s Middle Harbor Shoreline Park provides an inspiring backdrop for Starverse denizens from all walks of life. The massive, otherworldly cranes at the Port of Oakland (which inspired George Lucas’ AT-AT walkers in The Empire Strikes Back) will set the mood beautifully. Costume: Star Wars, Firefly, Fantasy, SciFi or Steampunk.
Check website for price

Friday-Sunday, October 4-6

Bid Bad Con
Hilton Oakland Airport
One Hegenberger Road, Oakland
www.bigbadcon.com
RPG convention.
$40

Saturday, October 5

PEERS Steampunkoktoberfest Ball
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N. Ellsworth Avenue, San Mateo
peersdance.org
Ball celebrating the Oktoberfest and Steampunk science with guests Charles Baggage and Ada Lovelace. Victorian Era dancing and music by Bangers and Mash.
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)
Friday, October 11

SF in SF: Litquake, Super Stories of Heroes & Villains
The Variety Preview Room, 1st Floor, Hobart Building
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

Saturday-Sunday, October 12-13

Alternative Press Expo (APE)
Concourse Exhibition Center
635 8th St., San Francisco
www.comic-con.org/apex
Exposition focusing on independent, alternative and self-published comics and artists.
Check website for price

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

GBACG Tall Ship Adventure on the Lady Washington & Hawaiian Chieftain
Jack London Square, Oakland
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Step back in time as you step from Jack London Square on to the tall ships the Lady Washington and the Hawaiian Chieftan as we tour San Francisco Bay in fine Regency style.
Costume: Regency attire 1795-1820.
Check website for price

Saturday, October 19

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

Friday-Monday, November 1-3

Convolution 2013
Hyatt Regency SFO
500 Leisure Lane, Burlingame
con-ovation.com
$45 6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation

Saturday, November 2

PEERS Le Bal des Vampires
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Ave, Alameda
peersdance.org
The annual vampire-themed event with two floors of dancing featuring Bangers and Mash and Nightfall Club, halftime entertainment skit show and Victorian parlour.
6:30 p.m. $20 (until August 31), $25 (until October 13), $30 (until November 1)

Friday-Monday, November 8-10

Conquest Avalon
Sacramento Red Lion Hotel Woodlake Conference Center
500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento
www.conquestsac.com
Tabletop gaming convention.
$50

Saturday, November 16

SF in SF: Kim Stanley Robinson & Cecelia Holland
The Variety Preview Room, 1st Floor, Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
sfinsf.org
Reading followed by Q&A.
$45 6:30 p.m. $5-10 suggested donation
Saturday, November 16  
**GBACG Prohibition Speakeasy Crawl**  
Various, San Francisco  
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html  
Break out the beaded gowns and rolled down stockings. On this chauffeured joy ride through San Francisco, taste some of Prohibition’s finest forbidden delights. Costume: 1920’s.  
Check website for price

Weekends, November 23-December 22  
**The Great Dickens Christmas Fair and Victorian Holiday Party**  
dickensfair.com  
Cow Palace  
2600 Geneva Avenue, Daly City  
Victorian Christmas Card come to life with Charles Dickens characters come to life in London.  
Tickets on Sale in September, check website for prices

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

Saturday, December 28  
**GBACG Holiday Bustle Tea**  
Palace Hotel  
2 New Montgomery Street, San Francisco  
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html  
Back by popular demand! A holiday bustle tea for the most fashionable of New York Society. Once again at the Garden Court in the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. Costume: 1870-1890.  
Check website for price

Friday-Sunday, January 3-5, 2014  
**Sac-Anime**  
Sacramento Convention Center  
1400 J St, Sacramento  
www.sacconventions.com  
Anime show.  
Check website for ticket prices

Saturday, January 4, 2014  
**PEERS 12th Night Ball**  
Alameda Elks Lodge  
2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda  
peersdance.org  
Ball celebrating the end of the Christmas season with guests from Charles Dickens’s novels, a reading by Charles Dickens and Victorian Era dancing and music by Bangers and Mash.  
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)

Saturday, February 1, 2014  
**PEERS Middle Earth Ball**  
Alameda Elks Lodge  
2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda  
peersdance.org  
Ball inspired by “The Hobbit” and “Lord of the Rings” with music by Celtic-fusion rock band Avalon Rising.  
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)
Saturday, February 8, 2014

GBACG A Venetian Carnival
Location TBD
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Enjoy an evening of appetizers, desserts and dazzling feats of skill in the glittering atmosphere of the Venetian Carnivale. Costume: 18th Century, all classes or 18th Century Fancy Dress. Masks required! Check website for price

Friday-Monday, February 14-17, 2014
DunDraCon
San Ramon Marriott
2600 Bishop Drive, San Ramon
www.dundracon.com
Gaming convention
Check website for price

Friday-Monday, February 14-17, 2014
Pantheacon
San Jose Doubletree
2050 Gateway Place, San Jose
pantheacon.com
Pagan convention. This year’s theme is Networks of Community and Diversity, Pleasure & Service.
$55 (till September 1)

Friday-Sunday, February 21-23, 2014

Potlatch 23
Sainte Claire Hotel
302 South Market Street, San Jose, California
potlatch-sf.org
Literary SF convention supporting Clarion West.
$40 (through July 15th)

Saturday, March 1, 2014

PEERS Gotham City Black and White Ball
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N. Ellsworth Avenue, San Mateo
peersdance.org
Ball held at Stately Wayne Manor with familiar guests in black tie featuring Swing Era dancing and music by Sarah and Swingtime.
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)

Friday-Sunday, March 28-30 2014

Conquest SAC
Sacramento Red Lion Hotel Woodlake Conference Center
500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento
www.conquestsac.com
Tabletop gaming convention.
See website for pricing packages

Saturday, April 5, 2014

PEERS Downton Abbey Ball
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda
peersdance.org
Ball (circa 1910-1920) hosted by the Earl and Countess of Grantham featuring vintage ballroom dance music performed by Bangers and Mash.
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)

Friday-Saturday, May 3-5 2013

Corflu 31
Holiday Inn Koger Conference Center
1021 Koger Center Boulevard, Richmond, VA
corflu.org
Fanzine fandom convention.
$80
Saturday, May 3, 2014
PEERS Once Upon A Time: A Fairy Tale Masquerade Ball
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N. Ellsworth Avenue, San Mateo
peersdance.org/
Fairy tale and fantasy inspired ball featuring vintage ballroom dance music performed by Bangers and Mash.
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)

Saturday-Sunday, May 17-18, 2014
Big Wow Comicfest
San Jose McEnery Convention Center
150 W. San Carlos Street, San Jose
bigwowcomicfest.com
Comics convention. Pricing TBA

Thursday-Monday, August 14-18, 2014
Loncon 3
International Conference Centre, ExCel, London Docklands
www.loncon3.org
$170 (until September 30)

Ongoing

Daily

Cartoon Art Museum
655 Mission Street, San Francisco
www.cartoona.org
Current exhibitions: Chuck Jones, Drawing on Imagination (till May 5)
11-5 p.m. $6 (Closed Mondays)

The Walt Disney Family Museum
104 Montgomery Street, San Francisco
www.waltdisney.org/
Current exhibitions: Alice in Wonderland starts May 1.
10-6 p.m. $20 (Closed Tuesdays)

San Francisco Ghost Hunt Walking Tour
Begins: Queen Anne Hotel
1590 Sutter at Octavia, San Francisco
www.sfghosthunt.com
Closed Mondays & Tuesdays, and on November 21-22 for Thanksgiving.
7-10 p.m. $20

VIZ Cinema
1746 Post Street, San Francisco
www.newpeopleworld.com/films
VIZ Cinema is a 143-seat underground cinema inside New People in San Francisco. Its programming focuses on the latest and hottest films from Japan, as well as classics, favorites, documentaries and anime.
Please check theater for showtimes and tickets.

Sundays

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.

East Bay Strategy Games Club
EndGame
921 Washington, Oakland
www.endgameoakland.com/event-calendar
Various games played throughout the week, check website for times and games.
Free
Fridays and Sundays

**SF Games**
Taqueria San Jose, 2830 Mission Street, San Francisco (Fridays, 7 p.m.)
Zephyr Cafe, 3643 Balboa Street, San Francisco (Sundays, 2 p.m.)
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.

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 Crepervile
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**

**Steam Federation - Bay Area Steampunk Society**
Various - check website or Facebook page for information
steam-federation.com/%20cal2.html
www.facebook.com/groups/steamfederation/
General gathering for craftwork, discussions and general fun
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Free

Thursdays

**CAS: NightLife**
The California Academy of Sciences
55 Music Concourse Drive, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
www.calacademy.org/events/nightlife/
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+)

**Fanboy Planet Podcast**
Cafe Stritch
374 South First Street, San Jose
www.fanboyplanet.com
Live from Cafe Stritch, it’s the Fanboy Planet Podcast with Planeteers, Derek McCaw, Ric Bretschneider and Nate Costa.
7 p.m.
Free

**Fridays-Mondays**

**Haunted Haight Walking Tour**
Meets at Coffee To The People
1206 Masonic Avenue, San Francisco
www.hauntedhaight.com
Reservations required.
7 p.m. - 9 p.m. $20
### 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.

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

**The Bawdy Caste Presents “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”**
The Clay, 2261 Fillmore Street San Francisco/The Guild, 949 El Camino Real Menlo Park
www.bawdycaste.org
The Bawdy Caste presents the classic midnight movie the first Saturday of the month, alternating between the Clay in San Francisco and the Guild in Menlo Park.
Midnight

**Barely Legal Presents “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”**
Camera 3 Cinema
288 South Second Street, San Jose
barelylegal.rhps.org/
Barely Legal provides the shadow cast for the South Bay for the classic midnight movie every first Saturday of the month in Downtown San Jose.
Midnight

### Monthly

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

**Foothill Anime**
Building 5015, Foothill College
Los Altos Hills
foothill.anime.net
Monthly event where people can get together to watch anime and meet like minded others. Usually meets the first Sunday of every month at noon.
12 p.m. Free

**Time Warp Cartel Presents “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”**
The Vine Cinema
1722 First Stree, Livermore, CA
www.timewarpcartel.com/
Time Warp Cartel provides the hijinx for the East Bay and Tri-Valley area of the classic midnight movie every first Saturday of the month in Downtown Livermore.
Midnight

**QSFF Book Club**
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com/about_events.html
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.facebook.com/groups/35116614719/
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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No-Name Anime</td>
<td>Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga</td>
<td>Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF Browncoats</td>
<td>Cafe Murano, 1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco</td>
<td>SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month. Noon</td>
<td></td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club</td>
<td>Borderlands Books, 866 Valencia, San Francisco</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. 6 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USS Northern Lights</td>
<td>sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights</td>
<td>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></td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro Gods, Inc.</td>
<td>Berkeley Public Library, West Branch, 1125 University Ave, Berkeley</td>
<td>mgisciaf.angelfire.com</td>
<td></td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USS Augusta Ada</td>
<td>Round Table Pizza, 3567 Geary Blvd, San Francisco</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religion &amp; SF Book Club</td>
<td>First United Methodist Church, 1183 “B” Street, Hayward</td>
<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. 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sci-Fi Book Group with Kym</td>
<td>Barnes &amp; Noble, El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/store/2113</td>
<td>Meets the fourth Friday of the month. 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion of Rassilon</td>
<td>Carl’s Jr., 2551 N 1st St, San Jose</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. 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>USS Defiance</td>
<td>Round Table Pizza, 4403 Elkhorn Blvd, Sacramento</td>
<td>Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours. 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Free</td>
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### Bay Area Fannish Calendar – August 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad Movie Night</td>
<td>BASFA</td>
<td>MGI Boffers</td>
<td>BA Role-Playing Soc</td>
<td>CAS: NightLife</td>
<td>SF Games</td>
<td>Vampire Walking</td>
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<td>Sakuramento Anime</td>
<td>SV Boardgamers</td>
<td>Fighter Practice</td>
<td>E.Bay Strategy Games</td>
<td>Haunted Haight</td>
<td>Haunted Haight</td>
<td>Pre-Raphaelite Picnic</td>
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<tr>
<td>SF Games</td>
<td>SV Boardgamers</td>
<td>Fanboy Planet Podcast</td>
<td>Vampire Walking</td>
<td>Vampire Walking</td>
<td>Gaymer X (thru Mon)</td>
<td>Rocky Horror (San Jose, Livermore)</td>
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<td>SV Boardgamers</td>
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<td><strong>SJ Renaissance Faire</strong></td>
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<td>Foothill Anime</td>
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<td>East Bay Star Wars</td>
<td>Spirit of ‘45 Alive</td>
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<td>Fantastic Frontiers</td>
<td>No-Name Anime</td>
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<td>SF Browncoats</td>
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<td>Spec Fic Book Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>QSF&amp;F Book Club</td>
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<td>USS Defiance</td>
<td>Laura Ann Gilman &amp; Chaz Brenchley</td>
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<td>USS Northern Lights</td>
<td>Micro Gods, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>SF/F Book Club</td>
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<td>Legion of Rassilon</td>
<td>Costumers Bazaar</td>
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<td>Fandango at the</td>
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<td>Peralta House</td>
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<td>LoneStarCon 3 (thru Mon)</td>
<td>Pacificon Game Expo</td>
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<td>Religion &amp; SF</td>
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SF/SF #143 67 August 2013