Contents

Editorial ................................................................. Christopher Erickson ................................................................. 3
Letters of Comment ................................................................. Jean Martin ................................................................. 6
Holy Dancing, Batman!
   PEERS Gotham City Black and White Ball ................................................................. Christopher Erickson, Photos by Christopher Erickson ................................................................. 11
After Hours at The Tech ................................................................. Christopher Erickson, Photos by Christopher Erickson ................................................................. 20
Game of Thrones Benefit Party ................................................................. Michael Boehm, Photos by Cindy Tsai ................................................................. 24
A Month of Letters ................................................................. Yvette Keller, Photos by Yvette Keller ................................................................. 29
The Xena Movie Petition ................................................................. Holly Tidwell, Photo courtesy of Holly Tidwell ................................................................. 35
Kraken Con ................................................................. Robbie Pleasant, Photos by Robbie Pleasant ................................................................. 37
Tales as Old as Time:
   San Jose Fantasy Faire 2014 ................................................................. Christopher Erickson, Photos by Christopher Erickson ................................................................. 41
BASFA Meeting 1235-9 ................................................................. BASFA ................................................................. 50
Bay Area Fannish Calendar ................................................................. Christopher Erickson ................................................................. 56

Art Credits
   Cover
   Page 5
   Juvenile elephant seals by Lucy Huntzinger
   Owl 3 by España Sheriff

Science Fiction/San Francisco is the monthly news zine for the San Francisco Bay Area. All issues can be found at www.efanzines.com. Except as noted, all articles and photos are copyright 2014 by the original creators. Used with permission.
April was my birthday month and there were a lot of things I planned for it. I attended the San Jose Fantasy Faire (you can read coverage of the event in this issue), the PEERS Downton Abbey Servants Ball (which I attended as Harry Gordon Selfridge, real-life owner of Selfridge’s & Co. in London, depicted in “Mr. Selfridge”), and a Star Wars-themed bar in San Jose for my birthday party called 7 Stars Bar and Grill.

Jean and I also went to see the latest Marvel Studios offering, “Captain America: The Winter Soldier.” The film offered a lot of things for long-time comic book fans or those who have watched the animated series “Avengers: Earth’s Mightiest Heroes” with appearances by Armin Zola, Agent 13 (Sharon Carter), the Falcon, Black Widow and the Winter Soldier. The end credits scene is the most interesting with the set up of HYDRA as the new enemy for the upcoming “Avengers: Age of Ultron” movie. With the addition of the Vision, Quicksilver and Scarlet Witch to the Avengers lineup, it shapes up to be an all-star line up from the classic 1970s version of the team.

I am also looking forward to seeing how the events of “The Winter Soldier” will unfold in “Agents of SHEILD” since Agent Coulson and his team are the most active members shown. *spoilers ahead… skip to the next paragraph if you don’t want to read the following plot developments* The show has gotten interesting with the Big Bad being revealed as “The Clairvoyant” who is a rouge member of the organization, as well as the introduction of the cyborg Deathlok and the revelation that one of the team members is a mole.

The other major show that I have been watching is “Once Upon A Time in Wonderland.” The show was cancelled but the original order of 13 episodes was completed and shown. The show is worth watching since it ties together with the parent show, having appearances by Robin Hood (The Knave of Hearts is Will Scarlett in the Enchanted Forest), Maleficent and the Queen of Hearts. The show is further tied together with Alice and her genie boyfriend traveling to Storybrook for part of an episode, Jafar being from Agraba (where the genie who turned into the Man in the Mirror is also from) and the White Rabbit being able to travel across dimensions (and time) similar to Ariel in “Once Upon A Time.” *spoilers ahead… skip to the next paragraph if you don’t want to read the following plot developments* The show picked up towards the end with the introduction of the Jabberwocky and the Knave being turned into a genie himself.

The 75th Anniversary of the first publication of Batman in “Detective Comics” #27 is also this year. (More about the influence of Batman can be read in this issue). I was more of a Superman fan when I was a kid in the 1980s because of the “Superfriends” cartoons and the Christopher Reeve movies, but when the Tim Burton “Batman” movie came out, I got
hooked on the character. I then became a huge fan (and liked Batman more than Superman, but just slightly more) when the Bruce Timm/Paul Dini “Batman: The Animated Series” premiered. My mother got a promotional tape for the first episode, “On Leather Wings” from the wife of a television critic who wrote for the St. Paul Pioneer Press. I was impressed with the show and started watching it religiously after that. The show helped spearhead a move to more mature cartoon shows that were aimed at a pre-teen/teenage audience while still engaging adults such as the other DCAU shows (“Superman: The Animated Series,” “Batman Beyond,” and the “Justice League” shows along with “Static Shock”), Disney’s “Gargoyles,” “Animaniacs,” “Pinky and the Brain,” “X-Men,” “Spider-Man” and numerous shows on cable such as “Samurai Jack” and “Avengers: Earth’s Mightiest Heroes.”

WonderCon was also this past April, and many people are still mourning over the loss of this convention to Southern California. While it would be nice to have a major popular culture convention that is all encompassing, it seems like there is currently not a need for it. Wizard World Sacramento has filled the void currently, but I have noticed that there has been an uptick in smaller conventions. While having a large general interest show is good, it seems that they eventually expand to the point where casual attendees as well as those who have busy schedules with work make it hard for people to attend. The example is San Diego Comic-Con. The convention has an exclusive pre-registration at the convention, making it easy for people who attended the convention (and have the money) to purchase tickets to the next year’s show. The ability to purchase tickets at the show has been gone for several years, making it a lottery system to get a ticket. This can be very frustrating for people who have gone for several years or just want to go one last time and cannot get a ticket when the system crashes. Along with the crowded hallways, it can feel overwhelming and suffocating, even for people who like crowds.

The smaller conventions allow people to interact with the guests in a more personal and intimate manner, the spaces are more open, and the panels are easier to attend. It also allows people the chance to take a break without having to leave the convention space. Even something as large as Fanime allows people the chance to find a nice quiet spot (even if it is just outdoors) for people to catch up with friends, chat with people or just get some air. And the smaller shows also allow for the opportunity to create the feeling of a theme, which the large shows cannot achieve due to the general audience they target.

This also gets into the general observation of having so many shows/events on one weekend such as BayCon, Fanime, KublaCon and Clockwork Alchemy on Memorial Day Weekend. PEERS and the Rocky Horror Picture Show groups also have the same problem and can be counterprogrammed against other festivals and faires. The simple answer (and to me the best) is that there are only so many weekends in the year. Not only do all of these events happen around each other, they also happen around many other shows, conventions, conferences and seminars. Each of these things is seeking to give information or entertainment to a specific audience, so they are all planned independently of one another. The events are also having to work with the limited number of spaces available that can hold them, along with where to hold them if the events continue to grow. It makes it hard for the shows to try to cater to every potential attendee in this manner.
On different news, my 38th trip around the Sun was completed this past month. I celebrated with Jean and some friends at the 7 Stars Bar & Grill at 398 South Bascom Avenue in San Jose. It is a “Star Wars” themed bar with lots of décor including spaceships hanging from the ceiling, posters and toys still in package, and a Jabba the Hut. They also have specialty drinks such as the Lightsaber, Darth Vader, Twi’lek, Stormtrooper and Padawan amongst others. When we went, there were a lot of people who were wearing “Star Wars” related t-shirts and jackets. The bar also offers karaoke on Friday and Saturday nights and a Live Event Trivia every Monday. The food was great and so were the drinks. They will also be hosting a May The Fourth Be With You event. Check out 7starsbar.com or www.facebook.com/7StarsBar for more information.

Hope everyone had a wonderful Easter and enjoy the month of May!
Andy Hooper reviews SF/SF 150 in FLAG #14:

“Since Sf clubs are apparently an endangered species, the SF clubzine is inevitably disappearing as well. Jean Martin, Chris Erickson and Tom Becker should be proud that they have reached the 150-issue milestone. SF/SF is a great window into fascinating things that fans are doing right now, and reading it always refreshes my enthusiasm for fandom.”
Jean Martin responds:

Hi Andy, thanks so much for recognizing our 150th milestone issue and for the compliment. We really appreciate knowing that our reporting on SF fandom in the SF Bay Area affects you so positively.

Milt Stevens writes on SF/SF 150:

The talk about fan history in SF/SF #150 reminded me that the 50th anniversary of The BOONDOGGLE will occur this year. That was the event that fractured Bay Area fandom for decades to come and literally cast all fandom into war. Estimates differ as to how long the war lasted. My own estimate is four years. By the 1968 worldcon, the active conflict had simmered down, although some friendships were never mended. Somehow, a commemorative party to remember this event doesn’t seem like a good idea.
Jean Martin responds:

Hello Milt, I wasn’t aware of the Boondoggle and so I had to look into it. That was an unfortunate issue and it seems like this year’s Worldcon is experiencing something similar before the event. When you get a big group of so many different people together, no matter how much they have in common, disagreements will inevitably come up. But it does give me hope that fandom has survived after the Boondoggle and keeps going on. I’m optimistic that fandom will continue and flourish following the more recent crises.

Milt Stevens writes on SF/SF 151:

In Science Fiction San Francisco #151, Yvette Keller talks about mid-life crisis and NaNoWrimo. In retrospect, mid-life crisis is that period of your life between potty training and when they throw dirt in your face. At least, you usually get rid of acne before you develop arthritis. I remember being 40. I was 40 for two years. When I turned 39 I realized nobody would believe 39, so I said I was 40. Everybody believed that. I worked so well, I probably should have continued it for a few more years. When I reached 69 it was a different matter. By the time you are 69, there isn’t much point in lying about your age. However, 69 is an uncomfortable number. Aside from the association with oral copulation, 69 is just too regular. It’s sort of like the reason the ancients were uncomfortable with guys numbered 666. So I was 70 for two years. Maybe I should have continued that too.
Jean Martin responds:

Numerical age seems to be relative and 40 seemed to be old in the past but no longer seems to be. People in their 30s
nowadays are still acting like they’re in their 20s. It’s probably because longevity has increased. Still, despite the inevitable march of time, people experience aging at different rates. I’ve been reading a lot about the mid-life crisis lately as I seem to be going through this myself. From what I’ve read, after this period, things actually get better and more relaxed and one settles into the rest of one’s life. I lived in a house for almost 20 years that was number 69 so that number actually doesn’t have a negative connotation for me. Coupled with the fact that I’m Piscean and the symbol for that astrological sign looks like 69, I’ve always actually liked that number.

I hadn’t heard that NaNoWrimo was supposed to be therapeutic. The objective is to get rid of your internal editor for a while. That must be the literary equivalent of getting rid of your potty training. I guess it could be liberating, but the results are likely to be messy.

I hadn’t heard it was therapeutic either and so reading Yvette’s article was enlightening. I guess in a way, writing at such a prodigious level would feel cathartic, messy or not, and getting something out of your soul that has wanted to come out for a while probably feels good.

I’ve never attended a Gallifrey, but I know quite a bit about running Gallifreys. I’m sort of like a paleontologist who knows a lot about a skeleton but has never seen the living beast. Gallifrey is run out of LASFS, I hear scuttlebutt about the con. The clubhouse serves as a staging area for the con. That means I miss one Friday card game for the sake of the con. Such is life.

Jean is just noticing the growth in SF and fantasy related fandom. It’s been going on for over 40 years. We were impressed when Worldcons reached an attendance of 2m000 in 1972. Then fandom became horrified at the prospect of Worldcons growing exponentially. Now, there are laments that Worldcon will die if they don’t grow beyond the 4-5,000 level. Some other cons have intentionally downsized. Boskones found that being The Winter Worldcon was too damned much work. Lunacon found they didn’t like the attendees they were attracting, so they moved to New Jersey to get away from “The Subway Crowd.” We can be sure the problems of bigger, smaller, or the same size will continue into the indefinite future.

Cons grow, peak, reach critical mass and decline and then do it all over again if they’re lucky. People get interested in topics and themes based on what’s currently being produced. How well or not well cons are run is also a factor. But in general, it seems like interest in comic books, video games, scifi/fantasy/superhero movies have become mainstream, and that is what I’m referring to as fandom growing exponentially.

Lloyd Penney writes on SF/SF 150 and 151:

Whoops! I let a deadline get past me. Now, I’ve got two issues to comment on, 150 (congrats on that one!) and 151. Gotta move…

150…Good for you on reading the Twilight books, and bypassing whatever assumptions you may have had about them. (I won’t comment on confirming those assumptions…) Crowdfunding movies is becoming quite popular, given the potential Inspector Spacetime movie. I’ve also seen something about a Trek movie with Richard Hatch, Gary Graham, Michael Hogan and J.G. Hertzler in it, and some people have
gotten fairly excited about this prospect. I just hope there’s enough people with deep pockets.

Americans generally have more disposable income and a lot of fandom people work in fields (such as tech) that are generally more lucrative. Coupled with the fact that they’re passionate about their interests, there will be more crowdfunding in the future. I just watched the “Veronica Mars” movie, which was made from crowdfunding. I was curious as to why this franchise is so popular so I actually started watching the series from first through third. I was hooked from the first episode and watch all of them within the space of two weeks. The movie wasn’t as great but it was nice to see all the characters again. I think people in fandom like this show is because Veronica is so smart and resourceful, and she doesn’t care that she’s not one of the “cool” people and is actually one of those on the “outside.” Although she does seem to like to date “cool” guys with lots of money.

The local…again, congratulations on 150 issues. I’m sure Chris Garcia appreciates your comments. And, thank you for your comments on my letters. There are times I feel that what I do is largely ignored by fandom fandom, so it’s always good to get some positive feedback. I decided to look at my loc archives, and I have written 114 letters to SF/SF in the past, so this is the 115th letter on 150 issues.

I’m glad you appreciate our appreciation! You’re part of the SF/SF family.

Speaking of feedback…do you get any kind of feedback on this zine from BArea fandom? There’s so much raw information here that would serve as an excellent guide to fandom at large, and I hope people tell you its value to them.

We do get positive feedback from people but not usually in written form. Most people don’t seem to be into writing comments.

My letter…well, we did watch ALL of *Babylon 5*. The five series, the movies, the attempts at spinoffs, plus all 13 episodes of Crusade. It’s 25 years since this ground-breaking series came out, and it is still fresh and exciting and emotional. Now, we go on to watching all eight Harry Potter movies. The Abney Park appearance is part of a huge event this coming September. The Grand Canadian Steampunk Exposition will take place September 12-14 at Fort George on Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. I pray that we will be able to afford to go.

I tried to watch some of *Babylon 5* but there’s just so much to catch up on that I’ve given up. Especially since I didn’t like the first season and the first captain. I did like Season 2 but have just not had time to keep going. That Grand Canadian Steampunk Exposition sounds like it will be amazing. I love Abney Park!

Also, we are hoping to see *The Grand Budapest Hotel* before it leaves the theatres. All the reviews are good ones. The Artisans of the Metropolis show was a good one, but the weather was quite cold that day. We are going to try their monthly shows in June or July, with better weather, and the local Steampunks might come and visit us then.

The concept for that movie sounds interesting until I found out Wes Anderson directed it. I haven’t been a fan of the few movies of his I’ve seen.

I’ve never had a year where I skipped all conventions...we used to go to as many as a dozen cons in a year, and now, we’re down to three or four, and they are all local. Maybe it's
nice to have a vacation from cons to go to other events, but I’d feel a little deprived, I think.

I still go to a lot of convention, mostly local as well to save time, money and energy, but there are at least one or two conventions a month in the Bay Area nowadays that I just really don’t have the time, money and energy to go to all of them. In May, there are four in one weekend usually! I do have other interests as well and there’s also the need for relaxing.

I remember some of the original Trek conventions in the early 80s in Manhattan. They were fun, especially for someone fairly new to fandom at the time, like me. They were bare-bones (no pun intended), but they were good for someone new. When Creation started staging them, I did not go, having found I enjoyed fan-run cons, but eventually, we decided to see for ourselves, and we attended a Creation convention in Buffalo. We were sadly disappointed with what we were offered for our money, and we’ve never gone back to one. Creation only stages a Supernatural convention in Toronto, and that’s the only thing they stage here, and that’s fine. (Wizard World outright purchased a comic convention here, and rebranded it as Wizard World Toronto. They ran it for two years, failed miserably, and shut it down.)

I’ve actually been enjoying Creation cons more recently. I think just being around like-minded fans as well as costuming and reporting have added elements to it that I didn’t use to have when I didn’t know anyone or did anything in fandom. Also, just seeing the people involved in TV shows I like are fun. I’m curious about Wizard World and am hoping to go to one sometime.

151…Way to go on the flying lessons! It’s not easy to do. I told you through Facebook that Yvonne took flying lessons years ago, but they are not cheap, and neither is the avgas. Some friends of mine are just now returning to Vancouver from a big comic con in Seattle; they are well-known pirates and Steampunks there.

It was a once-in-a-lifetime, bucket list experience. And it was so totally worth it. But I’m not going to pursue it due to the cost in money and time. And it’s not at the top of my priority list. Too many interests and so little time!

The mention of anime cons reminds me to tell you that we’re ramping up our little Steampunk table for the new convention season all set to start. Penney’s Steampunk General Store will have tables at CostumeCon 32 in Toronto in April, and Anime North in Toronto in May. We should have some fun and make some profits soon.

I hope you had fun at CostumeCon! I’d love to hear all about it.

My letter…well, I’ve heard some Abney Park, but not enough to decide if I am a fan or not. Given my own background, what I like most of all about Steampunk is the costuming, so if we get to go to Fort George in Niagara-on-the-Lake for the big steampunk event, I think we’d only be able to go for a day, and we’d need to make sure that whatever we were wearing wasn’t too heavy.

Abney Park is very entertaining not only musically but also visually. They really have the Steampunk aesthetic down and they all have different personalities and styles. So I think you might enjoy that aspect. They’re also very lively and Captain Robert is a blast.
I’d love to go to any event with a *Lord of the Rings* theme to it. All Yvonne and I need are curly wigs and hairy feet, and we’d be two of your local hobbits. I can only imagine the logistics required to stage something of this magnitude…if I was younger and better financed, I’d consider it.

**Probably a smaller get-together of fans would be doable.**

*There are some groups here in the Bay Area that do that. One of them is Bilbo’s birthday party picnic. And my friends and I always go in costume to see the Tolkien movies.*

I’m not a Whofan, but by knowing Robbie Bourget, I certainly know about Gallifrey One. Some of the best costumes I’ve seen in zines and online seem to come from Whocons. Sidney Newman tried to sell Doctor Who as a children’s series to the fledgling Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, but they turned it down because they already had a Canadian version of Howdy Doody. I may have some artwork by Sydney Newman, but I would have to have it authenticated.

**Yeah, Doctor Who fans really get into costuming. And they get creative too with not only the Doctors and Companions but with all the villains and monsters as well. Your Sydney Newman art may be worth a lot of money if you can get them authenticated.**

I have been enjoying *Cosmos* with Neil deGrasse Tyson…the science is basic for me, and very familiar, and I hope others are learning from it, but I keep hearing that religious and right-wing groups are calling it heretical. As has been said before, science is factual and real, whether you believe in it or not. Whether it will have the same impact Sagan’s original will have is yet to be seen. I was a little surprised to see it broadcast on Fox (in Canada, it was shown on Global Television), but not surprised to hear that some southern states tried to censor parts of it, or may not have shown episodes at all.

**I was surprised that Fox did it as well but that has more to do with Seth MacFarlane helping to produce it. The Cosmos reboot has been mostly basic for me as well but there are some updates that are new to me. Also, the graphics and location shots are wonderful. I don’t feel as inspired by Neil deGrasse Tyson as I did with Carl Sagan, but Carl Sagan is a tough act to follow.**

Just past two full pages, and heading in for home. I have an interview tomorrow morning at 9:45 a.m. with a publishing company, and I am hoping that this isn’t my last chance to find work. My suit is freshly pressed thanks to Yvonne, shoes are shiny, and my resumes are ready. Wish me luck! I sure could use it. Thank you, Jean and Chris for this fine zine, and I hope soon to have some good news of my own to report.

**I hope your interview went well and that you’ll have good news to report soon! Thank you so much for your support of SF/SF all these years!**
By Christopher Erickson
Managing Editor

The San Mateo Masonic Lodge turned into Stately Wayne Manor for the Period Events and Entertainments Re-creation Society (PEERS) Gotham City Black and White Ball.

The ball was hosted by Bruce Wayne and featured several members of the Batman Family including Commissioner James Gordon, Barbara Gordon (Batgirl), Dick Grayson (Nightwing), Selina Kyle (Catwoman) and Tim Drake (Robin). There were also several members of the Dark Knight’s Rogues Gallery in attendance including The Joker, Harleen Quinzel (Harley Quinn), Pamela Isley ( Poison Ivy), Jervis Tetch (The Mad Hatter), Oswald Cobblepot (The Penguin), Harvey Dent (Two-Face), Victor Fries (Mr. Freeze) and Talia al Ghul.

Other members of the DC Universe were also in attendance including Diana Prince (Wonder Woman), Zatanna Zatara, Wesley Dodds (the Golden Age Sandman), Nora Fries (the wife of Mr. Freeze), Clark Kent, Louis Lane, Cat Grant, Kara Kent (Supergirl), Karen Starr (Power Girl), Dinah Lance (Black Canary), Siobhan McDougal (Silver Banshee), Judge Catherine Dent, as well as Vic Stone (Cyborg), Donna Troy (Wonder Girl) and Rachel Roth (Raven).

A Daily Planet website was set up to help frame the story of the event and provide character profiles for all of the major party attendees (daily-planet.us). The website featured a news article on the Wayne Prilip Ruby being auctioned off for
charity, which was a fundraiser for Arkham Asylum improvements (which was also a feature story). The article on the fundraiser itself highlighted that several reformed criminals who would be in attendance to show that Arkham Asylum was worth giving money to, but with additional security provided by Commissioner Gordon and the Gotham City Police Department. The website also highlighted Jeromy Jacob (J.J.) Astorbilt V, who was a prominent New York billionaire and founder of Twitface (a fictional social media platform) who would also feature prominently in the evening’s entertainment.

Music was provided by local swing band Sarah and Swingtime. The party goers danced to East Coast swing music of the 1920s-1940s and vintage ballroom dances such as waltzes, foxtrot, tango, blues and more. The Joker (portrayed by fellow musician Lee Presson) provided lead vocals on a couple of songs.

The story of the evening was Bruce Wayne auctioning off a family jewel heirloom to help raise funds for facility upgrades
to Arkham Asylum with “online” bidding for the jewel narrowed down to four finalists: Karen Starr, Wesley Dodds, JJ. Astorbilt and Siobhan McDougal. As the winner was about to be announced, it was found that the jewelry was missing,

Sidebar skits included the Teen Titans figuring out who was the leader between Vic Stone and Tim Drake (with Cyborg singing about his abilities), Wesley Dodds expressing his nightmares about the Penguin having access to credit cards while running a juice and soda bar (with the Penguin point out that Wesley Dodds had a prototype gas gun on him) and the Bruce Wayne date charity auction where The Joker won for
Harley Quinn (and the Joker climbing over Bruce and Harley joining in on the action).

Decorations included a jail lineup perp photo backdrop so that people could take photos while being booked at GCPD, a poster referencing the department store of Max Shreck from “Batman Returns,” tables sponsorships from the Gotham Gazette and GCPD among others, and a presentation board on the charity upgrades to Arkham Asylum.

Many people came in evening wear from the 1940s in keeping with the Art Deco inspiration for the ball drawn from “Batman: The Animated Series.” Other interesting outfits included Loki (based on the business suit costume from the
Marvel’s “The Avengers” film), Ra’s al Ghul, The Shoveler from “Mystery Men,” the “Batman Forever” version of The Riddler, an FBI field agent, and a GCPD patrolman.

The denouement of the jewelry theft found Bruce Wayne playing amateur detective and eliminating all of the known current and former villains in attendance due to various reasons. He eventually fingered J.J. Astorbilt as the culprit since his online company Twitface was about to go public and the coverage of the heist that he was posting with his Twit Glasses would generate users and help drive up the stock price of the IPO. He eventually confessed to swiping the necklace (when prompted by Diana Prince), paid for the jewels and “volunteered” for community service at Arkham Asylum when suggested by Judge Dent.

Afterwards, everyone went back to dancing and had a fun time. All of the party goers had enjoyed the event even though it was disrupted by the supervillains in attendance.
After Hours at The Tech

By Christopher Erickson
Managing Editor
The Tech Museum of Innovation is known for having exhibits focusing on the interaction between technology and humans, but it is also a place for people to hang out and have fun every first Thursday of the month. The Tech runs a program called After Hours where the entire museum is open to adults 21 and over for good times, games, dancing, music, food and adult beverages.

After Hours runs a monthly theme on the first Thursday of every month. April’s theme was The Mad Hatter’s Ball. I got in for free since my birthday is in April. Upon entering, there was a display table set up to look like a tea party hosted by the Mad Hatter and the White Rabbit. Cakes and displays were set up to look like characters from “Alice in Wonderland.”

A number of people came in costume or in funny hats. A costume contest for the patrons was also arranged. There was also a photo booth where you could have your picture taken that would later be uploaded to The Tech Museum After Hours Facebook page.

There were a number of games that people could play as well including oversize versions of Jenga, Connect Four and
chess. The Xbox Kinect game Just Dance was also set up for people to show off their moves. There were a number of people who were enjoying themselves playing the games.

There was a dance floor in the landing area of ground floor with a DJ spinning music. Appetizers were available for purchase and there was a cash bar on each floor for people to enjoy libations. There was a good variety of mixed drinks available including two themed drinks: Mad Hatter’s Tea Thyme and Queen of Hearts Paloma. The drinks were also made to glow in the dark. Customers were allowed to take their beverages into the museum exhibits.

All of the museum exhibits were open for people to enjoy. All three floors were available for people to wander through and experience the exhibits. People could enjoy themselves
without the distractions of groups of children and actually get to interact with some of the exhibits including the current exhibit on electronic music technology, Reboot: Music.

The night was fun and many people were in attendance. The ability to interact with other people and learn new things while having an adult crowd made it easier to enjoy the exhibits.

The Tech Museum After Hours runs every month on the first Thursday from 7:00 p.m. to midnight. Tickets are $10 for the general public and $5 for members. For more information, go to www.thetech.org/programs/after-hours or www.facebook.com/TheTechMuseumAfterHours.
The renaissance in fantasy on the small screen that was heralded by the appearance of the “Game of Thrones” (GoT) show on HBO continues apace with the recent debut of the fourth season. To celebrate the opening night, HackCancer recently held a charity benefit event called Game of Thrones: A Royal Affair at the Armory in San Francisco. Despite the White Walker-esque chill, the apocalyptic length of the line to get in, and the dubious pedigree of the building, spirits were high among the many thousands of GoT enthusiasts who attended.

Costumes were very much in effect that night, with the vast majority of revelers wearing their interpretation of the latest...
Westeros fashions. Every part of the GoT character spectrum was represented, from Daeneryses to Khal Drogos to Ned Starks and to an entire panoply of Black Watchers. Even more exotic were the creatures represented *en vivre*, including dire wolves, dragons and other even more exotic creatures such as tigers and bears (say it with me, “oh my”).

I do not envy the task of the organizers to come up with live entertainment that would both satisfy the carnal instincts of the GoT crowd while still being available and, even more importantly, non-lethal to both participants and spectators alike. This last point is not at all trivial, as most of the entertainments consisted of people either shooting or swinging sharp things at each other. There was a school of professional duelists hosting demonstrations of their martial skill and an archer with the bizarre but fascinating talent to shoot her bow while performing a headstand.

More mundane entertainments were on tap as well, with a DJ spinning songs that would definitely never be heard in Westeros on one stage, and live bands playing on a different stage at the opposite end of the venue. The zone in between was filled with vendors. There were, naturally enough, the classic Ren Faire style vendors of handcrafted jewelry, but also, this being San Francisco, some outfits were offering high-tech distractions such as participatory video shows, or the opportunity to turn a seven-second video of you and your friends into a flipbook cartoon before your eyes.

Refreshments were available from food trucks parked just outside, offering a strangely non-fantastical assortment of burritos and hamburgers. The whole thing was supposedly aligned into groupings of activities and attractions that were
organized according to the various houses – for example, the House Stark area had the official “Game of Thrones” beer, and House Baratheon had the aforementioned Feast Fit for a King. However, in reality the areas were a bit jumbled and tended to blur into each other.

Lastly, there was a VIP area that people who paid almost triple the standard admission cost could access. While good in concept, the VIP area turned out to be little more than a warmed-over lounge with a few mildly BDSM-esque props scattered about.

All in all, the Royal Affair was a feast for the eyes and the ears. Any proper Wildling within 100 miles would enjoy these kinds of events. As the GoT phenomenon continues to grow and the community swells, look for more of these kinds of encounters to appear with the regularity of White Walkers in winter.
I adore all things paper.
I love giving personal gifts.
I was an advocate for personal-storytelling as a scrapbooking consultant for 10 years.
I am actively trying to spend more time writing.

Based on that list, you might think that when a friend told me about a one-month letter writing challenge, my answer would be an enthusiastic “YES!” and my participation a no-brainer.

As always with me, it isn’t that simple. I have to work up to things, so I hesitated. Why did I hesitate? I wasn’t sure I was ready to give up my dragon hoard, my leprechaun pot of gold…my giant collection of cards and papers.

Yes, I admit: I might have a paper hoarding problem.

To me it isn’t a problem. After all, I have a functional guest room. I haven’t been on an actual episode of “Hoarders.” Yet in my mind, my collection is a vast wealth of resources that I feel slightly guilty about. For many years, whenever a birthday or event arises, I have not needed to go card shopping. I simply open the deep bureau drawers and look for the perfect card: I know it is in there. I have already gathered it.

But the challenge of participating in a whole month of writing letters and cards…and sending them…Well, I feared it would make a considerable dent in my precious collection.

So before making the decision to sign up for A Month of Letters, or LetterMo, I looked at all the amazing paper crafts I had made or acquired over the years. The drawer held stationery from trips, museums, national parks, and gift shops. It was full of postcards, papers and greeting cards -- treasures from Hallmark stores, where I had strolled the aisles, stopping to look for one or two messages that made me think of specific people. Was I ready to give some up?

When I decided that I would spend one month with LetterMo, I was admitting to myself that NOW was finally the time to send my collection out to do its job.

LetterMo has more rules than just word count, and more specific intentions:
1. In the month of February, mail at least one item through the post every day it runs.
2. Write back to everyone who writes to you. This can count as one of your mailed items.

The challenge was created by Mary Robinette Kowal. She was a past President of SFWA and...

On the website, Mrs. Kowal introduces LetterMo with her personal experience of taking a vacation from the Internet. For one month she limited contact with the wider world to handwritten letters. No email. No social media. She enjoyed it so much that she invited everyone to share her delight at handwriting, sending, and receiving letters.

Mrs. Kowal points out that the commitment is a mere 23 items of mail. She even provides generous prompts and reminders about all the things that perhaps I should be sending via post all the time, but somehow, never do:

“Write love letters, thank yous, or simply notes to say that you miss an old friend. Send a fabric swatch from your new dress. A feather you picked up while on a walk. Whatever it is, let yourself step away from the urgency of modern life and think about an audience of one. Think of it as sending 23 little gifts. And, who knows, you might enjoy going to the mail box again.”

In addition to encouraging daily physical hand-writing (something we NEVER do anymore, thanks to email), Mrs. Kowal’s challenge unleashes on the world an opportunity to find something besides junk mail in the mailbox after the postman’s visit.

What I didn’t realize when I took on the challenge was how much I would learn by participating in LetterMo. For example, like many native Californians, I have never lived through a snowy winter. In fact I just learned this February why spring-cleaning is a mental and physical necessity for Midwesterners.

How did I learn about this?
I read it in a letter.

A beautiful letter. A letter written by a dear friend in Iowa. Written in pine green ink, on thickly textured, cream colored paper. Paper edged with stylized cranes doing a little fishing within burgundy colored garland medallions. With smudges added by me to ensure anonymity, the letter looks like this:

```
Everything my Iowa friend wrote about her February was shockingly different from February in California. My friend wrote things that were nearly incomprehensible to me:

Today the weather broke 55°. Felt like 100° after such a long winter.

Such a simple sentence beautifully captures the difference between my Iowa friend’s perspective and my own winter “hardships.”

I think my letter expressed my dog’s disappointment about the lack of sand on the beach. “Severe” winter storms had washed it away, leaving bare rocks.

I think I wrote something about that. I don’t remember exactly. That is a part of writing letters. Hand-written letters are personal stories that you willingly give away to someone.
```

---

SF/SF #152

May 2014

30
Unless you photograph, scan or use carbon paper, your carefully chosen words -- the stories that make up your life -- belong to someone else once they are dropped into the mailbox. That really means that hand-written stories are the most intimate of gifts.

The arrival of the first letters showed me that the people closest to me are full of unique perspectives, surprises, and stories that they are willing to share. I can read Fantasy and Science Fiction for unique and entertaining perspectives, or I can try to better understand the people and pen pals around me.

Once LetterMo has begun, and the first pieces of mail go out, there is a new quality of excitement and anticipation to checking the box each day. True, there is also a greater disappointment when no letters come, but it was worth it for me, because I enjoyed spending time wondering who would write back, when, and what delicious, intimate, story-treats I would soon be privy to.

Also, because it is Mrs. Kowal’s brainchild, and the Glamourist Histories are set in Regency England, there is a historical feel to the challenge. The online forums show that many participants share a joy for simpler writing times. Discussion boards are likely to reveal participants who are safely indulging their nostalgic desires for fancy pens, pretty papers, decorative stamps and wax seals. I even found some fellow stationery hoarders to chat with.

Or, for those not in it for the nostalgia angle, but instead firmly rooted in the present, LetterMo uses gamification (the use of game thinking and game mechanics in non-game contexts to engage users in solving problems) to reward participation.

I enjoyed the artistic badges that encouraged me to report successful letter-writing. Oh boy, did I want those intricate stamps for my online profile! Here is an example of a letter I wrote to the young son of some fellow members of the Bay Area English Regency Society.
I made the Regency Illustrated card from an old Jane Austen Society of North America calendar, and wrote five pages of things that seemed appropriate for sending to a precocious grade-schooler at the time.

Folding and sealing it with wax was enough for me to claim my Jane Austen Style Badge:

I was encouraged to spend time writing the small everyday stories about my life, but those run out quickly. Soon I began to also ask all the questions I could think of about the lives of others. As a result, LetterMo gave me the opportunity to connect - or reconnect - with friends.

I even send out extra Valentines to many loved ones.

So how did I begin the journey that led me to understand the true meaning of spring-cleaning in Iowa?

LetterMo provides a handy planning calendar, which I printed out. In late January, I added all of the important birthdays to my February plan. Eschewing mere posts to the timeline of friends on Facebook, I planned to send real birthday cards to everyone I had a snail-mail address for.

I went to my guilty hoard of notes, stationary, and papers, and picked out beautiful cards or papers to write on and send. I did a little planning on how best to tell each person how glad I was that they had been born, and how grateful I was to have each of them in my life.

After that, I went through my address book. Each time I came across the name of someone I felt out of touch with, I put that name on a calendar day. If I had bought multiple cards with someone in mind over the years, I pulled them out and put the person’s name on my calendar more than once.

My last element of preparation was to use a stack of old postcards to prime my pen. I looked at each card and asked
myself, “Who would appreciate this?” When names came to mind, I added them to the calendar and addressed the postcard.

It also happens that my own birthday is in February, so I knew I could count on writing at least a half-dozen thank yous and birthday wish responses.

Even before February began, I had postcards ready to go in the mail, and a plan to write to quite a few people.

As each day and each mail drop passed, I logged onto the LetterMo website and tracked my missives. Sometimes I would take a picture of the writing I had done that day. Some days I merely put the name of the person and generally what I had written them about. I kept my planning calendar as up-to-date as I could, despite travel, visitors, and a lot of February celebrations.
It became fun to look at the badges I had not yet achieved and stretch to reach them all. I realized how many friends I have in the military. I sent long overdue packages overseas. I sent congratulations on new homes, new babies, new engagements.

Needless to say, I achieved ALL THE BADGES (but not all are pictured here)!

It was fun to find out that I was 10th in achievements for the LetterMo Leaderboard. Gamification works for me.

But what worked even better was how much I enjoyed writing my stories and sending them out to connect me with those I love in the world. I thought it would be difficult to send off so many cards and letters. It was liberating. Giving away so many lovely bits of my treasure trove was an early spring-cleaning for me. Physically, I used-up paper resources. Emotionally, I cleared out the cobwebs of questions and the dust of neglect. I felt great when my stationery drawer was lightened and tidied, and I felt bonded with loved ones far away.

For my friend in Iowa, blanketed and buffeted by snowstorms for months, spring cleaning is a welcome relief. The opportunity to open the windows, air out the house, and eject the stale grime through wide open doors is a joyous occasion.

I feel this same joy after both cleaning out my collection and dusting off my relationships. That, more than badges or scores is the true achievement of A Month of Letters.
The Xena Movie Petition

By Holly Tidwell
Contributing Writer

The Xena Movie Petition (www.gopetition.com/petitions/xena-warrior-princess-movie.html) was started in June 2012 as an adjunct to the Xena Movie Campaign. The goal of the petition is to present tangible data to convince NBCUniversal that there is interest in a “Xena” movie and that fans want Lucy Lawless and Renee O’Connor to reprise their roles in it.

This is a second-edition version of the petition because the first one was several years old. Between the two, there are over 40,000 signatures. Utilizing GoPetition as our platform has allowed us to implement a fan-made video trailer, slideshow, and a Google map. The map lets the studio see the hotspots where fans are signing worldwide. It lets us ask optional questions as to what “Xena” merchandise fans have purchased to offer added value to the studio in considering our request. Upon request, we can provide fans an html code to embed a link in their website or blog to let others know about it. While it lives online, we can also print or download the petition as a document to send to our targets, which we do at regular intervals. We have over 7,000 signatures from just word-of-mouth. Printed with comments, the petition is over 750 pages!

It’s truly a collective effort. Each part is been contributed by different fans. The content is rotated periodically to keep it fresh. The slideshow contains a few of Lucy Lawless’ tweets about her willingness to reprise Xena for a movie. She would
like to bring Xena back and help set the franchise up for the
next generation to take over.

Sci-fi/fantasy fans know better than anyone that fans like to
reconnect with the heroes they’ve grown up with and been
inspired by. While there have been an abundance of male
action hero movies, there have been few female action movies
in the last decade. Hollywood has treated women very
differently than men in movies. Men of all ages are allowed to
star in and reprise roles, while women are usually recast. In
addition, there haven’t been many female action movies of
late. Television has done well at representing women in
leading action roles, but movies have digressed. The success
of recent teen genre movies, “The Hunger Games” and
“Divergent” starring female characters is helping break
Hollywood’s decade-long myth that female action movies
cannot do well at the box office. You don’t see movie petitions
for another “Batman,” “Spiderman,” “Superman,” “Hulk,”
“Captain America” and “Ironman” movie or for more Arnold
Schwarzenegger, Sylvester Stallone or Liam Neeson movies
because those movies are being regularly made, sequel upon
sequel.

With the technology available today, it seems time for
studios to acknowledge that talented, fit actresses deserve the
same opportunities that male actors are being given. Women
make up half the population and they need heroes too!
Portraying women in strong, independent roles helps inspire
them and teach society to respect women rather than devalue
them. There is a wide-open audience within the key
demographic of 30-49 year old men and women, who are
hungry to see female action movies and reconnect with their
female heroes. Whether you are a “Xena” fan or not, we ask
that you please consider signing the Xena Movie Petition as a
way to help bring more female action heroes to the movies!

If you’re interested in helping, we welcome you to join us
on Facebook/Twitter at Xena Movie Fans AND Xena Movie
Campaign. Together, we’re working to bring “Xena” back!
And subsequently, setting a precedent for more female action
movies after that. Aiyiyiyiyiyiyiyiyi… Battle On!
By Robbie Pleasant

Staff Writer

Kraken Con, held at the Oakland Convention Center last April 6, was a relatively new event, but one off to a good start. After a quick registration process, one could get in to the convention hall, where everything was organized for an optimal convention experience.

The first sight attendees saw when entering was a pair of statues, one of Batman, the other of an amalgamation between Iron Man, War Machine and Rescue. They made for a welcoming sight as congoers passed them into the main hall. Shortly beyond there were the panel rooms, where guests discussed various topics, ranging from cosplay fitness to living in Japan.

The room was split into several sections, allowing for a video game area featuring console games such as “Just Dance,” followed by a dealer’s hall with a nice assortment of sellers. There, one could find the figures they were looking for at an affordable price, or the DVDs they needed to complete their collections, among many other goods.

Near there was the Artist Alley, where several attendees were selling their handmade art. Not only were there illustrations available, but some artists had things such as hand-knit Pokeballs, pins featuring their favorite characters, cell phone charms and much more.

Of course, Kraken Con is an anime convention, so there was a screening area set aside for that. Although it was
projected onto a screen in the main hall, it was located in a corner that prevented it from interfering with those passing by, and vice-versa.

On the opposite side, there was a Maid Cafe for those who wanted to rest their feet and get a snack, run by volunteers in maid uniforms. For those who wanted to spend a little less, the convention also had maps pointing them to the nearest places to grab a bite to eat, and the convention’s proximity to Oakland’s Chinatown provided plenty of good places to eat at.

Also of note were the guests of honor: Niki Yang (known for voicing BMO and Lady Rainicorn in “Adventure Time”), Patrick Seitz (a voice actor with several popular roles under...
his belt) and Natasha Allegri (creator of “Bee and Puppycat”). They had their own autograph hours, and each of them had a healthy line of guests ready to meet them. Although the autograph policy limited the amount of things they would sign, the first autograph was free.

Although there wasn’t much in the way of events, Kraken Con offered two things that many conventions don’t. The first was a scavenger hunt, where attendees could follow clues around the convention and solve puzzles to win some candy and bragging rights, the second was a set of cards attendees could collect by visiting guests, tables and events. Those added a nice flavor to the convention, giving it an addition to call its own.
Though it was a small and new convention, it was very well run. Kraken Con surprised attendees with its quality and organization, and though there are still small things in need of ironing out, it’s off to a good start, and has plenty of potential to grow.

![Nurse Joy and Officer Jenny from Pokemon](image)

*Nurse Joy and Officer Jenny from Pokemon* by Robbie Pleasant
By Christopher Erickson
Managing Editor

San Jose’s Guadalupe Park was transformed into a playground once again for fantasy characters and creatures from every realm and dimension to frolic in at the 2014 San Jose Fantasy Faire held on April 12 and 13. The faire had a good number of attractions to choose from with new entertainers, new encampments, new characters, authors selling books, several vendors and plenty of food and beverage.

The entertainment was all over the grounds with several encampments that people could wander into and interact with the players. There was a court for the regular royals from Scotland complete with ambassadors from France and games to be taught and learned, the Bella Donna court with a decidedly 1700s Continental flair, a Steampunk zoological hunter with captured creatures in cages (that people could sit in as well), Rapunzel’s tower, a pirate ship, tents for the Silk Road traders and dancers, a brass rubbings area, a tree house where Wendy and the Lost Boys were found, the room of the princesses and the throne room of the Emerald City from Oz complete with a yellow brick road path. There was also a tent where some of the princesses could be found reading from storybooks to little children.

There was also entertainment to be found on stage as there were several new acts to entertain the crowds. One of the favorites was Fowl Tales, where a simple seaman told about...
Fairy
by Christopher Erickson

Elan the Bard and friend
by Christopher Erickson
tales of his life and his parrots and dog, while showing how the birds were helpful performing tasks like raising flags and hauling anchors and telling jokes to the audience. He could also be seen wandering the faire with his birds on a cart pulled by his dog. Another new act was Plank and Plunder, a musical comedy act that told the tale of Captain Plunder and deckhand Plank (with his mop) about their adventures to find treasure.

They found a map from a wizard, defeated a sea monster who lead them to the Island of Giants where they defeated a giant, sang to a rock to make it roll away and reveal the treasure and take it home with them. The last new group was Stark Raven, who told the tale of the Tailor who “killed seven with one blow” and his adventures.
There were plenty of familiar characters with the Four Seasons, Belle, green-skinned ogres, Snow White, Red Riding Hood, a star fairy, Scotsmen and pirates but there were plenty of new characters as well. Princess Anna and Snow Queen Elsa from “Frozen,” Merida from “Brave,” the Wicked Witches of the East and West as well as their mother and the Scarecrow from “Wizard of Oz,” dragons, Wendy and the Lost Boys from “Peter Pan,” Alice and her friends from Wonderland, living dolls (one looked like a cracked china doll, the other one like Raggedy Ann), and Robin Hood.

There were a lot of diversions to be had. I walked into an impromptu game of sheep tossing in front of the Scottish encampment. People were able to shoot at targets at an archery
Spock and Jedi Knight courtesy of Christopher Erickson

Warriors by Christopher Erickson
range. A pirate ship was set up for people to pretend that they were on the high seas in search of treasure. The Bedouins could be seen performing Middle East dancing with live musical accompaniment. There were several people getting hair braiding and face painting done. There was sword fighting -- both learning to fight with wooden swords and fighting with foam swords. The giant wooden rocking horses were also popular. People could play board games and Liar’s Dice at the Brotherhood of the Blackflag Tent set up to look like an alehouse. Alice, The Mad Hatter and her friends were also available to take tea with. There were also a few booths with games including a battle tops game.

The one nice difference was that there were also science fiction and fantasy authors selling their books again this year.
Local authors Davidson L. Haworth, S. L. Gray, M. Todd Galloglas, Renee Murphy, Valerie Estelle Frankel, A.E. Marling and Christopher J. Garcia were all on hand to chat with the customers and welcome everyone.

There food and beverage for people to consume. A beer garden was set up again in the shade where people could have a cold beer or enjoy some wine. Weasel Inn Sasparilly also returned with their homebrewed soft drinks. You could buy a bottle in different sizes and then get a refill for a single dollar. They had root beer, sarsaparilla, birch beer, orange cream and vanilla cream. Another booth was selling crepes. Sandwiches, noodles and more food were also available. I finally partook of a turkey leg and macaroni and cheese.
There were also numerous vendors on site. There was a booth selling weapons. There were also several booths selling costumes for both men and women. (I got a green shirt that I have been wanting to purchase for a while.) Leather work such as belts, pouches and bottle holders were on display. Another booth was selling leather masks. There were a few jewelry booths for sale. Flasks, goblets and tankards could also be purchased along with wizard wands and fairy wands.

Besides the entertainers, there were plenty of costumers to be found. There were two Time Lords (a Tenth and Twelfth Doctor) as well as a Jedi Knight and a Sith Lord. Spock beamed down from the U.S.S. Enterprise to investigate the local culture. There were plenty of Tudor era dresses and

*Found the Golden Goose* by Christopher Erickson

*Follow the Yellow Brick Road* by Christopher Erickson
doublets. Pirates also dropped anchor and pillaged and plundered their way around. There were a few animals to be found including a lion. There was a woman carrying around the golden goose. Maleficent was brooding around the park as well, but she was kept in check by a couple of warriors. Elan the Bard/Dashing Swordsman from the webcomic “Order of the Stick” showed up.

The San Jose Fantasy Faire offered a number of attractions and allowed people to interact with the entertainers and each other as people could enjoy the sights and sounds, pretend to be another person and watch entertainment. The park was transformed for a couple of days into a playground for young and old to enjoy stories from long ago and everyone enjoyed themselves.
Meeting 1235

March 31, 2014

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 - with foolish anticipation
21 people attended
A party plush was established
The minutes of meeting 1234 were accepted as “minutes of the lost raiders”
The Treasurer reported that at meeting 1234 the regular jar took in $5.50 & the party jar took in $5.49
There was no Vice President
The President had nothing fannish to report
The Sports Committee reported that money is being collected for the April 25, PacBell Giants-vs-Cleveland game = $26.00 tickets

Announcements
Bill announced that the Graduate Student Bowl are presenting Gilbert & Sullivan’s “Patience” on May 15-18, with added fannish references
Christine announced that Convolution is looking for staff, so see her - and announced that there is an IRS scam is going around, so be careful

Dave C and Dave G both announced that Hugo nominations close at midnight, then Dave C announced that there is a pamphlet out about teaching your cat gun safety

JC announced Nerdvana episode 26, part 1, will be released this Thursday & announced that on May 3rd, free comic book day, they will be recording Nerdvana podcast at Art Boutiquee from noon till 5pm and announced that he got a job

Ric announced that Fanboy Planet podcast, episode 348 is available now & has some hilarious outtakes on it & that he’s writing a column now

[evil] Kevin announced that Eric Shanower has a Kickstarter running for a revival of the musical stage production of TikTok Man of Oz - check Kickstarter - & announced that this Saturday will be an all-day recognition of Trans Day of Visibility at the Billie D Frank Center & thanked us for our messages of support

Andy announced that he is looking for fans for a project about HR

Reviews

JC reviewed “Raiders of the Lost Ark” and enjoyed it - and there were LOTS of follow-ons - all of them saying essentially the same thing, with Ken adding that he spent a lot of time in a little box & he’s sad it’s closing

Ric reviewed a cable channel “El Rey” that specializes in grindhouse and cop movies and shows, including a “From Dusk till Dawn” show he’s not sure about yet

Ken reviewed having a fun aftershow last night

Dave C reviewed Mark Hodder’s “Secret of Abdu El Yezd” as it has time travel and Sir Richard Burton and was okay

Aatheus reviewed getting party ribbons for BASFA from PCNametag.com as fast, accurate service

Adrienne reviewed a French language film, “Wasabi” as an action movie that she liked and recommended & Trey followed, saying he strongly recommends it

We did auctions

We adjourned at 9:14

And the rumor of the week was: “It ain’t the years, it’s the mileage”

Meeting 1237

April 14, 2014

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 - with our attention taxed
18 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1236 were accepted as “succinct”
The Treasurer was absent
There was no Vice President
The President said “hi” to Ryan, visiting us for the first time, but otherwise had nothing fannish to report.

The Party Committee reported that there will be NO BASFA party at Baycon is no one volunteers to host it & that there WILL be a BASFA party this weekend on Saturday at the BronyCon in the Burlingame Hyatt.

**Announcements**

Beth announced that JC says “hi” and that the last part of the “Geek Wars” Nerdvana podcast will be released this Wednesday & announced that they will be recording Nerdvana podcast at Kepler’s this weekend, interviewing Emily Jiang.

**Reviews**

I reviewed “Captain America - Winter Soldier” and enjoyed the heck out of it - thought it worth full price and that the 3D was nicely done; Trey followed, saying it was well-paced [“on your left” = Chuck].

Adrienne reviewed “Oculus” as mostly enjoyable, albeit creepy and worth seeing.

Bradley reviewed “Divergent” as “Hunger Games light” and worth matinee.

Ken reviewed going to the Computer History Museum as Chris was busy, but it was fun taking out-of-towners thru the museum. And he reviewed Beach Blanket Babylon in SF as really enjoyable and worth seeing again - great fun- and that the North Beach restaurant had really good food.

We did auctions
We adjourned at 8:46
And the rumor of the week was: “I regret nothing”

---

**Meeting 1238**

April 21, 2014

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 - with a Jelly Belly boycott
28 people attended
A party jar was established
The minutes of meeting 1237 were accepted as “spoilers”
The Treasurer was absent - but last week we took in $2.50 in the regular jar and $10.50 in the party jar [Trey: “Treasurer sad”]

There was no Vice President
The President had nothing fannish to report
There should be a Friday, April 25, PacBell Giants-vs-Cleveland game outing = $26.00 tickets - meet Dave Gallaher outside the ballpark for the tickets

**Announcements**

Ken announced that the Legion of Rasselon meeting will be at the IHOP on Steven’s Creek near Lawrence, 7:30 pm this Friday.
Andy announced that he is recruiting 2 positions for the Worldcon 2018 bid - for campaign services and convention services - if interested contact him

Ric announced that Fanboy Planet’s 350th episode will be a live podcast, recorded Sunday, April 27 at 2pm at the 7 Stars Bar & Grill [398 S Bascom, SJ]

Howeird announced that he is in “Little Shop of Horrors” - running through April 27 at the Sunnyvale Theatre, 550 E Remington Dr; Thurs 7:30; Fri/Sat 8pm; Sunday 2:30

JA announced that Beth says “hi” and that the last part of the “Geek Wars” Nerdvana podcast will be released this Wednesday at noon & announced that they will be at SLG Publishing Saturday, May 3rd noon - 5pm on Free Comic Book Day

[tall] Kevin announced that the Hugo nominees have been released into the wild

Lisa announced that Wednesday is Astronaut’s Day - so put hashmarks on your arms

Diane announced that Wednesday is World Book Night & she will help give out free books

[evil] Kevin announced that WooWoo Monroe will be performing at Saturday, April 26 at Renegade’s Bar in SJ at 10pm

Reviews

[tall] Kevin reviewed the Hotel Cabana in Palo Alto as fancy-looking, a remarkably comfortable hotel - but the $12 parking fee was not appreciated & it would be a great place for a SMOFcon

Howeird reviewed “Little Shop of Horrors” as it’s been keeping him busy, makes a great children’s show [“they eat it up”] and he thinks it’s a great show

Diane reviewed books - “Dead Space: Martyr” by BK Evenson as sf/horror and highly recommended - & reviewed “Overkill” and “Undercurrents” - both by Robert Buettner as parts of a series with good world-building and good plots and she plans to buy the whole series, it’s that good

Adrienne reviewed the season premiere of “Orphan Black” as funny and good and tense and Felix remains her favorite character

Ryan reviewed “Transcendence” as really good, if predictable - worth seeing at matinee prices

We did auctions

We adjourned at 9:12

And the rumor of the week was: “the internet is for cats, pron & conspiracies”
Meeting 1239

April 28, 2014

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 - with a cry of “bazinga”
26 people attended
A party recepticle was established
The minutes of meeting 1238 were accepted as “legend, not canon”
The Treasurer reported that last week we took in $3.25 in the regular jar and $10.50 in the party jar
There was no Vice President
The President had nothing fannish to report - but we did say “hi” to Jay, visiting us for the 1st time - although he has always been here
The Party Committee still needs a Baycon party host, otherwise there will be no BASFA party there & he wants to find others to host parties at FurCon, so the room can be used every day of the con, since the party room rules have changed - plus the BASFA party at BronyCon went well - a good time was had by all & many BASFA ribbons were handed out

Announcements

Ken announced that KFJC’s month of Mayhem is upon us & on May the 5th he will be doing his Music of the Cosmos program from 2pm to 6pm on 89.7 FM & he has 5 mailers to hand out if anyone is interested
JC announced that Nerdvana podcast will be at SLG Publishing Saturday, May 3rd noon - 5pm on Free Comic Book Day and that he needs sewing help
Adrienne announced that Paul McCartney will play in Candlestick before they tear the place down and that the date conflicts with Worldcon
Dave C announced that he brought auction items and that Other Change of Hobbit is moving again
Beth announced that Kaitlin’s theatre group is performing “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown” May 31, 7pm & June 1, 3pm [the only dates that matter] at Hoover Theatre, SJ
John O announced that Costume Con 32 happened last weekend & Costume Con 35 had Toronto win the bid & announced that Craig Ferguson will be leaving the Late, Late Show at the end of the year & announced that he is once again employed
Howeird announced that Blind Lemming Chiffon is selling SF collectable books on Ebay under “benefiche” to raise money to go to Worldcon

Reviews

Bradley reviewed the Overstreet Price Guide as it will have a great Batman cover and a crappy Vampirella one
Chris O reviewed trying to get a hotel room at Gallifrey [many moans] as extremely nerve-wracking and she didn’t get to stay at the Marriott; lots of follow ons
John O reviewed “Divergent” as the theatre was packed & it was worth high matinee & reviewed “Juan de la Muerta” as a highly recommended zombie comedy set in Cuba - subtitled - available on HBO go

Adrienne reviewed an evil website - jetpunk.com - as a great time sink & reviewed the 2nd episode of “Orphan Black” as “oh wow!”

Dave G reviewed Norwescon as heavily attended, mostly well-organized and a good time was had by all

Dave C reviewed Norwescon as that he spent most of his time in the Dealer’s room, sales were good & he had a peculiar time and that a pamphlet “How to Talk to your Cat about Gun Safety” was his best seller

JC reviewed “Frozen” as nice, albeit sung-along with by all 3 gals in his house & reviewed “Elysium” as very reminiscent of “District 9” and recommended

Josh reviewed Impact Cinemas in Berkeley as they have “Splatter Cinema” for $6 for really bad horror movies and a very fun event - check = www.impacttheatre.com/splattercinema/index.php

Trey reviewed “Metal Hurlant” on skiffy channel as very “Heavy Metal” inspired and recommended

Diane reviewed sonic.net’s fusion of internet and VOIP as she’s enjoying it

Howeird reviewed “Little Shop of Horrors” as closing out with packed houses

We did auctions

We adjourned at 9:35

And the rumor of the week was: “the pipes, the pipes are calling”
Bay Area Fannish Calendar

Life is complicated; putting on an event is even more so. Please check before attending, as events are sometimes canceled or times and locations changed.

Follow the calendar on Twitter:
@sfsfcalendar

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

Friday-Saturday, May 2-4
Corflu 31
Holiday Inn Koger Conference Center
1021 Koger Center Boulevard, Richmond, VA
corflu.org
Fanzine fandom convention.

$80

Saturday-Sunday, May 3-4
Tulare County Renaissance Faire
Plaza Park,
Plaza Drive and Airport Road, Visalia, CA
stmortimer.org/
25th Annual Renaissance Faire

$10

Saturday, May 3
PsychoTronic Film Show & Horror Hall of Fame

Bal Theater
14808 East 14th Street, San Leandro
www.baltheatre.com/events
Film show celebrating B-movie culture shows from the Bay Area and the Bay Area Horror Hall of Fame Awards
7 p.m. $9.99

Saturday, May 3
Star Wars Celebration: May the Fourth Be With You
7 Stars Bar & Grill
398 S. Bascom Avenue, San Jose
www.facebook.com/events/447360595401601/
Come celebrate Star Wars! Raffel prize drawings for people in Star Wars apparel!
Karaoke!
8 p.m. Free

Saturday, May 3
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)

Sunday, May 4
GBACG Workshop: Happy Hobbit Feet
Hancock Fabrics
898 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Join for fabulous day of workshops. Questions? Email workshops@gbacg.org.
11 a.m. - 4 p.m. $22 (members), $27 (non-members)

Saturday, May 10
30th Annual Art Deco Preservation Ball
Bimbo’s 365 Club
1025 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco
www.artdeкопreservationball.com/
Art Deco ball celebrating the 75th anniversary of the 1939 World’s Fair.
$100 (Members), $125 (Non-members), $150 (at the door)

Saturday-Sunday, May 17-18
Maker Faire Bay Area
San Mateo Event Center
2495 S Delaware Street, SanMate
makerfaire.com/
Faire for hand crafted items and hobbies for display and sale.

$60
Saturday-Sunday, May 17-18

Big Wow! ComicFest
San Jose McEnery Convention Center
150 W. San Carlos Street, San Jose
bigwowcomicfest.com
Comics convention.
$35

Friday-Monday, May 23-26

FanimeCon
San Jose McEnery Convention Center
150 W. San Carlos Street, San Jose
www.fanime.com
General anime convention in conjunction with Clockwork Alchemy.
$75

Clockwork Alchemy
Doubletree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place, San Jose
www.clockworkalchemy.com/#/home
Steampunk convention in conjunction with Fanime.
$75

KublaCon
Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport
1333 Bayshore Highway, Burlingame
www.kublacon.com
West Coast’s largest gaming convention.
$40 ($60 at the door)

Friday-Monday, May 23-26

BayCon
Hyatt Regency Santa Clara
5101 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara
baycon.org/2014
General interest science fiction/fantasy convention.
$65

San Francisco Silent Film Festival
Castro Theater
429 Castro Street, San Francisco
www.silentfilm.org
Four days of silent film programming with live musical accompaniment.
See website for pricing packages

Saturday, May 31

BAERS Mansfield Park Ball
Arlington Community Church
552 Arlington Avenue, Kensington
baers.org
Regency ball celebrating the bicentennial of the publication of the Jane Austen novel.
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)

Saturday-Sunday, May 31-June 1, June 7-8

Valhalla Renaissance Faire
Camp Richardson, 1900 Jameson Beach Road,
South Lake Tahoe, CA
www.valhallafaire.com/
22nd Annual celebration of Magic, Merriment and Mayhem.
10 a.m. - 6 p.m. $18, 5 and under free

Sunday, June 1

Sac-Con
Scottish Rite Temple
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sac-con.com/
Anime convention
10 a.m. $8

GBACG Workshop: Steampunk/Safari
Site TBA
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Join for fabulous day of workshops. Questions? Check website for prices Email workshops@gbacg.org

Saturday, June 7

El Dia de San Juan Festival
History Park, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
Celebration of Puerto Rican culture.
11 a.m. - 7 p.m. $20 (advanced), $30 (at the door), 12 and under free

Saturoday, June 7

PEERS Space Cowboy’s Ball
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda
peersdance.org
Browncoat inspired ball featuring vintage ballroom dance music performed by Bangers and Mash.
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)
Sunday, June 8

GBACG Tea at Pemberley
Darteeing Lounge
470 Third Street, San Francisco
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Join Lizzy Bennet, more properly known as Mrs. Fitzwilliam Darcy, for tea in the newly refurbished neoclassical Palm Court at the dazzling Fairmont Hotel.
12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m $40 (members), $45 (non-members)

Saturday, June 8

GBACG Workshop
Site TBA
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Join for fabulous day of workshops. Questions? Email workshops@gbacg.org.
Check website for prices

Saturday, June 28

Godzilla Night 3
Bal Theater
14808 East 14th Street, San Leandro
www.baltheatre.com/events
Godzilla vs. Biollanten (1989) is the feature film celebrating the King of Kaiju’s 60th anniversary, along with live music from Big Pimp Jones and raffle prizes.
6 p.m. $9.99-$14.99

Thursday-Sunday, July 3-6

Westcon 67/CONduit 24
Marriott City Creek Hotel
75 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah
westercon67.org
General interest science fiction/fantasy convention $50

Saturday-Sunday, July 12-13

California Extreme
Hyatt Regency Santa Clara
5101 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara
caextreme.com
Gaming convention featuring classic coin-operated arcade games and pinball machines.
$60

Friday-Sunday, July 11-13

GaymerX
InterContinental San Francisco Hotel
888 Howard Street, San Francisco
www.gaymerx.com
Gaming convention with LBGTQ focus. $70

Sunday, July 13

Strangers Car Show
History Park, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
Car show of custom cars and hot rods from the 1950s and 1960s.
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. $3, 12 and under free

Saturday, July 19

GBACG Workshop
Site TBA
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Join for fabulous day of workshops. Questions? Email workshops@gbacg.org.
Check website for prices

Saturday, August 2

PEERS Alameda 1902 Picnic Dance
Lincoln Park, 1450 High Street, Alameda
www.peersdance.org
Picnic and dancing to celebrate the year that Alameda officially became an island with music by Bangers and Mash.
11 a.m. Free

Saturday-Sunday, August 2-3

Carnival of the Stars World Dance and Art Festival
Richmond Memorial Auditorium
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond
www.carnivalofstars.com/home.htm
Belly dance performances, comic book artists and costume contest (Saturday only) $15
Saturday-Sunday, August 2-3
San Jose Renaissance Faire
Guadalupe River Park, Downtown San Jose
www.sanjosefaire.com/
Renaissance faire in Downtown San Jose in the shadow of the Shark Tank (SAP Center)

$12

Saturday-Sunday, August 2-3
Bay Area Sherlock Con
Doubletree by Hilton Berkeley Marina
200 Marina Boulevard, Berkeley
www.bayareasherlockcon.com/
The Bay Area’s own convention dedicated to the master detective
$55 (through July 16)

Sunday-Sunday, August 9-10
Stockton-Con
Stockton Arena
248 W Fremont Street, Stockton
stocktoncon.com/
San Joaquin Valley’s only comic and pop-culture convention.
$15 ($20 at the door)

Saturday, August 9
Spirit of ‘45
History Park, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
Salute to veterans with a World War II setting featuring vehicles and swing dancing.
12 p.m. - 5 p.m. $5, under 10 and veterans free

Sunday, August 10
GBACG Costume Salon: 1950s
Site TBA
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Join the GBACG for potluck tea snacks, socializing, and sharing resources. Theme appropriate books, patterns, garments, or projects also welcome. Salons are free and no dress-up is required. If you'd like to attend, email costumesalons@gbacg.org.

Thursday-Monday, August 14-18
Loncon 3
International Conference Centre, ExCel, London Docklands
www.loncon3.org
$210 (until July 13)

Saturday, August 16
Gaskell Midsummer Ball
Scottish Rite Temple
1547 Lakeside Drive, Oakland
gaskellball.com
Vintage ball featuring the music of Franklin Beau Davis and the Brassworks. Formal attire required (19th to 21st century)
7: 30 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, August 22-24
Japan Expo
San Mateo Event Center
2495 S Delaware Street, San Mateo
japan-expo.org/
A celebration of traditional Japanese culture with modern pop sensibilities
Pricing TBA

Saturday, August 23
GBACG Safari at the San Francisco Zoo
San Francisco Zoo
1 Zoo Road, San Francisco
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Come tour the Serengeti with our band of intrepid Steampunk / Victorian / Edwardian explorers. We’ll stalk big game and picnic.
Check website for prices

Sunday, August 24
Viejitos Car Club Juvenile Diabetes Car Show Fundraiser
History Park, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
Car show to help raise funds for fighting juvenile diabetes.
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
$5 per person
CelestiCon
Fremont Marriott
46100 Landing Parkway, Fremont
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.

$35 (before March 1)

SacAnime
Sacramento Convention Center
1400 J St, Sacramento
www.sacconventions.com
Anime and pop culture show

Golden Rush Days
Old Sacramento Historic District
Sacramento
sacramentogoldrushdays.com/
The 14th annual Labor Day weekend event transports you back to the days of Gold and Glory. More than 200 tons of dirt will pave the streets, as Old Sacramento “turns back the clock,” transforming the historic district into a scene straight out of the 1850s. Check website for event schedule.

Friday-Sunday, September 13-14
Northern California Renaissance Faire
Casa de Fruta
10031 Pacheco Pass Highway, Hollister, CA
www.norcalrenfaire.com/
Northern California’s annual Elizabethan festival.

Saturday, September 6
PEERS Casablanca Ball
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda
peersdance.org/
Ball inspired by the all-time classic film featuring swing and vintage ballroom dance music performed by The Brassworks.
8 p.m. $15 (advance), $20 (at the door)

Saturday-Sunday, September 13-14
Much Ado About Sebastopol
Ives Park
7400 Willow Avenue, Sebastopol, CA
www.muchadoaboutsebastopol.com/
Immerse yourself in life of 1578 England in this historically recreated village.
$14 (until September 11), $16 at the door, 10 and under free

Saturdays-Sundays, September 13-October 12
Northern California Renaissance Faire
Casa de Fruta
10031 Pacheco Pass Highway, Hollister, CA
www.norcalrenfaire.com/
Northern California’s annual Elizabethan festival.

$25, 12 and under free

Saturday, September 13
GBACG Workshop
Site TBA
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Join for fabulous day of workshops. Questions?

Email workshops@gbacg.org.

Sunday, September 14
Antique Autos in the Park
History Park, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose
historysanjose.org/wp/events/
200 antique automobiles, fire equipment, bicycles and motorcycles from late 1800s to 1945 on display.
11 a.m. - 4 p.m. History San Jose members and kids 2 and under: free, $5 all others

Gatsby Summer Afternoon
Dunsmuir Helman Historic Estate
2960 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland
artdecosociety.org/gatsby.htm
Afternoon picnic party with dancing, cars and the Deco Belles inspired by “The Great Gatsby”.

Sunday, September 14
GBACG Bilbo’s Birthday Bash
Holbrook Palmer Park
150 Watkins Avenue, Atherton
www.gbacg.org/gbacg-calendar.html
Celebrate Bilbo’s eleventy-first birthday at Hobbiton (Holbrook-Palmer Park). All hobbits, dwarves, elves and humans welcome.

Check website for prices
Friday-Sunday, September 26-28
**Convolution 2014: Halfway Home**
Hyatt Regency SFO Airport
1333 Bayshore Highway, Burlingame
convolution.com/2014/
General science-fiction/fantasy convention
$45 (pre-registration)

Saturday, October 4
**PEERS Girl Genius Europan Oktoberfest Ball**
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda
peersdance.org
Ball inspired by the popular webcomic “Girl Genius” and music by Avalon Rising.
8 p.m. $15 (advance), $20 (at the door)

Saturday-Sunday, October 4-5
**Alternative Press Expo (APE)**
Festival Pavillion, Fort Mason Center
2 Marina Boulevard, San Francisco
comic-con.org/ape
2 days of small-press and independent publishers and artists.
Pricing TBA

Saturday, October 11
**BAERS Regency Ball**
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N. Ellsworth Avenue, San Mateo
baers.org/
Regency ball with English country dancing.
8 p.m. $15 (advanced), $20 (at the door)

Friday-Sunday, October 17-19
**Big Bad Con**
Hilton Airport Oakland
1 Hegenberger Road, Oakland
www.bigbadcon.com
Role-playing game convention
$40

Saturday-Sunday, October 18-19
**Folsom Renaissance Faire and Shakespeare Festival**
Folsom Lion’s Park
403 Stafford Street, Folsom
www.folsomfaire.com/
22nd Annual Faire in beautiful Folsom.
8 p.m. $16, under 6 free

Sunday, October 19
**Sac-Con**
Scottish Rite Temple
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sac-con.com/
Anime convention
10 a.m. $8

Saturday, October 25
**Gaskell October Fancy Dress Ball**
Scottish Rite Temple
1547 Lakeside Drive, Oakland
gaskellball.com
Vintage ball featuring the music of Franklin Beau Davis and the Brassworks. Costumes admired or formal attire required (19th to 21st century)
7: 30 p.m. $20

Saturday, November 1
**PEERS Le Bal des Vampires**
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda
peersdance.org
21st Annual ball of the undead featuring music by Bangers and Mash, halftime show featuring the exploits of Sherlock Holmes and dark dance music at the Nightfall Club.
6: 30 p.m. $20 (until September 1)

Saturdays-Sundays, November 22-December 21
**The Great Dickens Christmas Fair and Victorian Holiday Party**
Historic Cow Palace
2600 Geneva Avenue, Daly City
dickensfair.com/
The annual Victorian Holiday season celebration featuring Victorian London populated by celebrities and Dickensian characters
Weekends 1-3: $25, Weekends 4-5: $30; Children 5-12, $12, under 5 free

The Great Dickens Christmas Fair and Victorian Holiday Party
Historic Cow Palace
2600 Geneva Avenue, Daly City
dickensfair.com/
The annual Victorian Holiday season celebration featuring Victorian London populated by celebrities and Dickensian characters
Weekends 1-3: $25, Weekends 4-5: $30; Children 5-12, $12, under 5 free
**Cartoon Art Museum**
655 Mission Street, San Francisco
www.cartoonart.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

**Nightly Nerd Show**
KCSF Radio, 90.9 FM
nightlynerdshow.tumblr.com/
Radio show covering nerdy topics 5-6 p.m.

**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.

**Golden Gate Knights (Lightsaber Instruction Class)**
Studio Gracia
19 Heron Street, San Francisco
goldengateknights.com
www.facebook.com/groups/goldengatejedi
Instructor-led class on lightsaber stage combat and choreography.
12 p.m. $10

**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

**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 Street, Oakland
www.endgameoakland.com/event-calendar
Various games played throughout the week, check website for times and games.

**Vintage Ballroom Dance Classes sponsored by PEERS**
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda
peersdance.org/dance.html
2 dance classes offered: the first one covering basics for newcomers and those wanting a refresher, the second class offers choreography for experienced dancers and adventurous newcomers. Suggested attire is comfortable clothes and leather-soled shoes that glide easily.
2 p.m. to 4 p.m. $10

**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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 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.  Free |
| Mondays      | Bay Area Science Fiction Association  
Coco’s  
1206 Oakmead Parkway, Sunnyvale  
www.basfa.org  
8 p.m.  Free  
Sacramento Science Fiction/Fantasy Book Club  
Midtown Creperie  
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 |
| 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 3 pm on to determine if 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/  
www.facebook.com/groups/steamfederation/  
General gathering for craftwork, discussions and general fun.  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**

**Friday Night Waltz**
First United Methodist Church
625 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto
www.fridaynightwaltz.com/
High energy dance featuring waltzes and other dances with 2 classes before the dance.
7 p.m. - Midnight  $12 for dance and class, $8 class only

**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

**Niles Film Museum Saturday Movies**
Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum
37417 Niles Boulevard, Fremont
www.nilesfilmmuseum.org
www.nilesfilmmuseum.org/movies.htm
Weekly showing of selection of silent features and short subjects with live musical accompaniment. Check website for movies.
7:30 p.m.  $5

**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.

**Bimonthly**

**Gaslight LARP**
289 8th Street, San Francisco
gaslight.endogaming.net
www.facebook.com/groups/gaslightlarp
www.facebook.com/gaslightlarp
Full immersion Victorian-era World of Darkness Boffer LARP bimonthly weekends in the Santa Cruz Mountains
Time and dates available on website, contact organizers for cost

**Monthly**

**BAERS Second Friday Dance Party**
St. Mark’s Episcopal Church
600 Colorado Avenue, Palo Alto
baers.org /
Learn Regency dances in an informal, supportive atmosphere. Dances led by Alan Winston and guest callers.
Held on second Friday of each month.
8 p.m - 10:30 p.m.  $10

**Vintage Invasion (Vintage Waltz Party)**
Finnish Brotherhood Hall
1970 Chestnut Street, Berkeley
vintagewaltz.com/Invasion.html
Parties held each 4th Friday of the month with lessons in vintage waltz with DJs.
8 p.m - Midnight.  $7

**Dorkbot-SF**
www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf
www.facebook.com/pages/dorkbot-SF/101954222010
Dorkbot hosts regular forums for artists, designers, engineers, students, and other people doing strange things with electricity. Dates vary.
Free, donations welcome
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foothill Anime</strong></td>
<td>Building 5015, Foothill College Los Altos Hills foothill.anime.net</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Silicon Gulch Browncoats</strong></td>
<td>Various locations (see website for details) <a href="http://www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org">www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org</a></td>
<td>Silicon Valley fans of Firefly/Serenity meet up on the first Saturday of the month. Noon - 2 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Barely Legal Presents “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”</strong></td>
<td>Camera 3 Cinema 288 South Second Street, San Jose barelylegal.rhps.org/</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time Warp Cartel Presents “The Rocky Horror Picture Show”</strong></td>
<td>The Vine Cinema 1722 First Street, Livermore, CA <a href="http://www.timewarpcartel.com/">www.timewarpcartel.com/</a></td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>QSF&amp;F Book Club</strong></td>
<td>Borderlands Books 866 Valencia, San Francisco <a href="http://www.borderlands-books.com/about_events.html">www.borderlands-books.com/about_events.html</a></td>
<td>Meets the second Sunday of the month. 5 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>East Bay Star Wars Club</strong></td>
<td>Central Perk 10086 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito 510-558-7375 <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/35116614719/">www.facebook.com/groups/35116614719/</a></td>
<td>Meets the second Friday of every month. 7:30 p.m. Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fantastic Frontiers</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/">www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/</a></td>
<td>Social club for Sacramento County sci fi/fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times and locations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
No-Name Anime
Saratoga Library
13650 Saratoga Avenue
Saratoga
www.nnanime.com
Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month. Free

SF Browncoats
Cafe Murano
1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco
www.sfbrowncoats.com
SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month. Noon Free

Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Meets the third Sunday of the month. Please contact Jude at jfieldman@borderlands-books.com for more information. 6 p.m. Free

Night of the Living Book Club
Books, Inc.- Mountain View
301 Castro Street, Mountain View
www.booksinc.net/night-living-book-club
Monthly book club discusses classic and contemporary selections from suspense, thriller, and horror fiction genres. Meets every third Sunday of each month. 5 pm Free

USS Defiance
5026 Don Julio Blvd, Sacramento
1566 Howe Ave, Sacramento
www.myspace.com/d2121978
Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month. 7 p.m. Free

USS Northern Lights
sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights
Contact firstjedi2000@yahoo.com for specifics.
The ‘Lights is a chapter of Starfleet International and a swell group of science fiction fans. We do more than Trek. Usually meets the third Friday of the month, with social event TBD. 7 p.m. Free

Micro Gods, Inc.
Berkeley Public Library, West Branch
1125 University Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyClub/
Family Club for fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Movie, Anime & Manga. Meets every 3rd Saturday, please check Yahoo group for updates. 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Free

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

Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club
Inklings Books and Things
1855 41st Avenue, Capitola
www.inklingsbooksandthings.com/
Meets every fourth Tuesday of each month. 6 pm Free

Sci-Fi Book Group with Kym
Barnes & Noble
El Cerrito Plaza, 6050 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito
store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/store/2113
Meets the fourth Friday of the month. 7 p.m. Free

Legion of Rassilon
Carl’s Jr.
2551 N 1st St , San Jose
www.legionofrassilon.org
Doctor Who fan group usually meets the fourth Friday of the month: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies, and a raffle. 7:00 p.m. Free
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Website/Links</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Free</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wicked Games</strong></td>
<td>Wicked Grounds Cafe</td>
<td>289 8th Street, San Francisco</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wickedgrounds.com/regular-events.html">www.wickedgrounds.com/regular-events.html</a></td>
<td>Gaming at Wicked Grounds. Meets fourth Saturday of every month.</td>
<td>6 pm to 10 pm</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USS Augusta Ada</strong></td>
<td>Round Table Pizza</td>
<td>3567 Geary Blvd, San Francisco</td>
<td><a href="http://trek.starshine.org">trek.starshine.org</a></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.</td>
<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Queered Science Book Club</strong></td>
<td>Au Coquelet Restaurant</td>
<td>2000 University Avenue, Berkeley</td>
<td><a href="http://queeredscience.weebly.com">queeredscience.weebly.com</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/qsbooks/">www.facebook.com/groups/qsbooks/</a></td>
<td>Monthly book club that focuses on science fiction, fantasy, and magical realism that includes trans*, queer, genderqueer, and strong female protagonists and themes. Meets the last Saturday of each month.</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE</strong></td>
<td>Round Table Pizza</td>
<td>4403 Elkhorn Blvd, Sacramento</td>
<td>916-338-2300</td>
<td>Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For even more events in the Bay Area, check out Bay Area Geek Guide: The San Francisco Bay Area Guide to Geek Events & Nerd Culture: [bayareageekguide.com](http://bayareageekguide.com)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad Movie Night&lt;br&gt;Sakuramento Anime&lt;br&gt;SF Games&lt;br&gt;Golden Gate Knights&lt;br&gt;Cloondara Fighter Practice</td>
<td>BASFA&lt;br&gt;SV Boardgamers&lt;br&gt;Haunted Haight&lt;br&gt;Sacramento SF/F Book Club</td>
<td>MGI Boffers&lt;br&gt;Principality of Mists&lt;br&gt;Fighter Practice</td>
<td>BA Role-Playing Soc&lt;br&gt;E.Bay Strategy Games&lt;br&gt;SV Boardgamers&lt;br&gt;Steam Federation</td>
<td>CAS: NightLife&lt;br&gt;Fanboy Planet Podcast</td>
<td>SF Games&lt;br&gt;Haunted Haight&lt;br&gt;Vampire Walking</td>
<td>Niles Film Museum&lt;br&gt;Saturday Movies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happy Hobbit Feet&lt;br&gt;Doctor Who Perv Society&lt;br&gt;Foothill Anime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSF&amp;F Book Club</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF/F Book Club&lt;br&gt;Night of the Living Book Club</td>
<td>Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion &amp; SF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>San Francisco Silent Film Festival (thru Sun)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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