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Bottle Shop by Lucy Huntzinger

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I’m writing this from Room 462 at the SeaTac Marriott as I’m taking a brief break from the action of Steamcon. It’s been a remarkably good con, with a few snags that should be worked out by next year, which they’re already starting to work on. The hotel was fantastic, with a beautiful atrium and some lovely programming spaces. It also had a great restaurant where, though you had to pay hotel restaurant prices, everything was really fantastic. The programming was very strong, including a lovely Cabaret where music ran all day on Saturday, and panels featuring some fantastic folks. Sadly, the weakest segment of the con was the Dealer’s Room. No booksellers. That’s a bummer and one that a lot of folks commented about. I love browsing books, but the bigger problem was the smallness of the room where the dealers were. It was tiny and crowded and they had to have a bouncer at the front to control how many folks came in and out during busy periods on Saturday.

The Airship Invasion concert with Unwoman, Vernian Process and Abney Park was a lot of fun. The costumes were, of course, amazing, and I had an absolute blast talking about Those Whacky Victorians, Charles Babbage and Steampunk and Alternate History Literature. I especially had a good time hanging out with my buddy Mike Perschon and his wife and a couple of friends who descended from Canada.

Sadly, I’ve been away from eFanzines.com for too long. It’s another sad consequence of having a massive upswing in the amount of work I’ve got at work, coupled with the fact that Cinequest viewing is getting hot and heavy. Why can’t these things be more spread out... or done by other people! Interestingly, there hasn’t been a lot of activity, but there was a posting of a classic zine called The Grin by Harry Turner. There’s an entire page of Turner’s work that can be found at homepage.ntlworld.com/farrago2/rafsite/het/fanzine.htm. Well worth spending some time at.

It’s interesting to note that both Vernian Process and Unwoman, the openers for Abney Park at Steamcon, were Bay Area acts, yet I’ve never seen either of them in the BArea. I think they should both be asked to play at the Nova Albion Steampunk Exhibition in March. They were both very good.

I know that Further Confusion is further down the line than it was last time. I just sent off a Dining Guide to them, so I’m hoping it’ll end up on their website or even printed and handed out. It’s a little bit like the guide I did for World Fantasy, only more aimed towards comedy. If you get a chance to see it, you’ll understand.

It’s not fannish, but if you get a chance, go and see the Calder exhibit at the San Jose Museum of Art. It’s a real treat and while there is only one piece that would really be considered among his most important (that’s called Big Red), there are a lot of great works, including Gouaches that he did. It’s all from California donors, which is a rarity. Go and see it.
World Fantasy is also come and gone and Jean and I were both there, both working. I was talking to Tim Powers at Steamcon and he was very excited about World Fantasy. Sadly, this’ll be written before and published after the convention. That always seems to be the case.

Morrissey, the greatest singer of all time, collapsed onstage during the first song of his set on the 24th. We here at SF/SF would like to send our best wishes. If you were ever 15 in the last 25 years, and if you were a part of the Goth or Emo communities, you were likely at least once a Morrissey fan.

The current TAFF race is underway, so you should vote! Go to TAFF.org.uk for full details. Yes, you can vote via Paypal! Send to garcia@computerhistory.org with the ranking of who you’d like to vote for in order.

LosCon is coming and I’ll be doing the Fanzine Lounge. They’ve got a great lineup of guests, too. The Writer GoHs are Tananarive Due and Steven Barnes, while the Artist GoH is Tim Rickard, of Brewster Rockit: Space Guy fame. Our pal Christian B. McGuire is the Fan GoH. I also understand that there’s a Steampunk Science Contest scheduled, which I’ve gotta see!

Speaking of Steampunk science, someone had a Steampunk Dalek, complete with Iron Cross, at Steamcon. It were too many awesome.

Win a prize! by Lucy Huntzinger
Let us begin with Robert Lichtman on issue 95!

Hi, Chris,

While of course I’m sad that you’re leaving FAPA, I understand that fanpublishing venues “that require you to print stuff” are out of your reach and sympathize. I enjoyed your article on Michael Waite’s wonderful FAPAzine, Trial & Air, and agree that it’s one of the joys of FAPA membership. At eighty pages, #14 is the largest of the entire run of (so far) eighteen issues — but all have much to recommend them and I’m happy to have the complete set. (You would have the four that followed since they came out during your membership.)

Chris Garcia replies: It was a good run in FAPA, though things just got out of reach. I’m not an APAn, it seems, but who knows, I may well be back.

You conclude your review by writing that “It’s a great little zine, brilliantly produced and well worth reading. Trial & Air is the best of the FAPAzines, in my eyes, and being the best in an Amateur Press Association that’s been around for almost 70 years is a big deal.” Actually FAPA has been around now for 72 years and will continue. And in its long history it’s hosted many other equally wonderful zines such as Terry Carr’s Lighthouse, F. Towner Laney’s Fan-Dango, William Rotsler’s Masque, and….well, the list goes on.

Seventy-two years? For some reason, I thought it started after the War. I’ve seen issues of Lighthouse and Fan-Dango, though I can’t say I’ve ever seen Masque. And there’s also Opuntia and YHOS as two of my other faves.

SF/SF’s readers are welcome to check out FAPA membership if they can deal with having to publish a hard-copy edition of (currently) forty copies. Mailings are sent out quarterly, minimum activity is eight pages a year, and dues are $25/year no matter where you live. I welcome inquiries sent to robertlichtman (at) yahoo.com.

Best wishes,
Robert

I will completely throw my recommendation behind joining FAPA. It’s a longstanding tradition that’s a lot of fun and gives you a look at some of the better writing and zining you’ll find in and around fandom. Join today!

And now… Lloyd Penney!

Dear Jean, Chris and David:

I hope I’m in time…it’s an unplanned Saturday, and what better activity to fill it with than getting lots of writing done. Here’s some comments on SF/SF 95.

Chris replies: We can hold the presses for you anytime, Lloyd!

There’s been lots of zines out lately, which is another impetus to get caught up and get writing. Exhibition Hall is getting better and better, and I hope the word is going all through Steampunk fandom. We all want a full report on Steamcon, Chris!

There are periods of the year when we see zines sprouting like flowers over the septic tank. There’s one right as the year is about to change, there’s the pre-Worldcon bloom, and one right before the Novas are announced. I’ve been pimping Exhibition Hall here at Steamcon (where I’m writing this!) and the reaction has been great. I’ll have a long review of Steamcon for ExHall and a shorter one here with News and Notes. España will probably have a longer report too.

It is a true joy to find not only what you truly love, but a community you can love it with. Fandom can be pretty nasty at its worst, but when it is at its best, you can feel truly accepted, never alone, and not only liked, but loved. That’s why Anticipation was such a good time for me… I felt very much like a part of the community. Lots of old friends, some new friends, a lot of hugs. I know there are people who have been involved in fandom for 50 years and more. As long as I have good friends around me, I am sure I’ll make the 50 years myself. As of December, 27 and counting…
I’m at 34, so I got 16 more, though that’s a bit of a cheat. Fandom has miraculous powers, both positive and negative, but one thing is for sure: you’re never alone when you’re a part of a fandom, and that’s a lovely thing.

“All fandoms are the same when you move away from the subject of them.” So very, very true. I have heard of various books that look clinically at the nature of structure of fandom, and once you peel the interest away, it’s an interesting topic for a sociological study.

The Sweeney Todd Ball... funny, I got my hair cut recently at Sweeney Todd’s. It’s a style shop in uptown Toronto. And who cut my hair? The chairman of Ad Astra, a sweet and huggable lady named Emily. With her behind the chair, my hair’s never looked better. At least, what’s left of it...

I wish I could have gone to the Sweeney Todd Ball. Mike Perschon and Daniel, Autumn Adamme’s boyfriend, had a nice conversation about the movie version of Sweeney and how it compared to the Broadway version of the early 1980s. I need a haircut, but I don’t think I’d go to a place called Sweeney Todd’s. There’s just too much baggage associated with the name.

I’ve done some time in APAs, myself, like TAPA and APAplexy and The Final Frontier. The middle one is still going, but the other two are long gone. I liked being in them, but found that the audience was rather limited. I know many people are in both zines and APAs, but I like the (slightly) larger audience zines provide.

I think that I’ve discovered that I’m just not cut out for APAs, though I must try and get back into ANZAPA because those folks are a blast. Time enough for everything, I guess...

It’s great to find a costume you really like and is comfortable as clothing. I am still enjoying the Steampunk railway conductor costume, but I am looking for another similar costume, and I think I have some ideas. I may have more pictures for Exhibition Hall soon!

Always happy to have anything you send our way. There are a few folks from Canada out here in Seattle for Steamcon, though I think they’re all from Alberta.

Hey, BASFA! Happy 1000th meeting! May you have at least a thousand more! (Now there’s a birthday wish.) So many clubs never get close to that far. Obviously, you’ve got a membership that cares to keep the club going. Treasure and cherish that, and keep it going.

I’m already planning on our 2000th meeting, where I’ll be turning 54 that week. It’ll be fun!

Happy Hallowe’en, everybody, and enjoy the autumn. See you next issue.

Yours, Lloyd Penney

May your harvest festival celebration be merry and bright, Lloyd!

Join our crew!
We are looking for writers to cover local events, conventions, fan groups and the fannish scene in general. Contact Jean Martin and Chris Garcia at SFinSF@gmail.com
Editorial

By Jean Martin
Editor

I’ve never believed in too much of a good thing. Among my personal mottos are “Carpe diem/carpe noctum,” “Life is not a spectator sport,” and “Strangers are just friends I haven’t met yet.” But after six years of constant and accelerating outward expansion in my creativity, friendships, travel and life in general, it seems like I have hit a wall and need to rethink my priorities. I’ve probably mentioned this in past editorials, and if memory serves me right, I go through this self-examination in the Autumn after the whirlwind of activities of Spring and Summer. I suppose it’s a natural rhythm to “harvest” during the Fall and slow down during the Winter. This time, however, I think a major shift needs to take place, and I truly need to take it easy.

I clearly remember someone telling me in 1991 at my first Heavy Metal industry convention, “I’ll sleep when I’m dead.” I’ve gone by that in recent years and have not been good at getting enough sleep on a consistent basis. I’m paying for this now, it seems, especially after I moved at work and at home in September. Life’s too short and I want to make the most of it, but I don’t want to shorten my life either by not taking care of myself.

Well, I got a bit of a health scare for two weeks this past October. During the day of my home move, which was extremely difficult and tiring due to the professional movers not showing up, I started feeling faint and dizzy and my vision would black out once in a while when I stood up. I didn’t think anything of it because I was so busy. But it got worse and worse until it would happen every time. So I went to an optometrist who got nervous when he found out the pressure in my right eye was elevated. He had me rush to an ophthalmologist who diagnosed me with glaucoma, and who in turn had me run to the emergency room to get an MRI. She wanted to rule out a brain tumor or some other problem that could be causing the vision loss and headaches.

The results were negative, but what followed after that day was a two-week ordeal of seeing the eye doctor and other types of doctors as well as getting different types of lab tests. I had appointments practically every day and I still wasn’t getting any answers. I had to take glaucoma medication and couldn’t drive very far for a while. The latter was particularly worrisome because the freedom that driving affords me is incredibly vital. I want to be able to drive anywhere, anytime, to wherever I want and need to go. I also had to work until late at night to meet deadlines that were complicated by issues beyond my control. I literally had a breakdown at work because I was so overwhelmed and stressed out. Talking with co-workers and a friend restored my spirits and I was able to forge on. I was determined to keep strong and hopeful, and to find the right thing to do health-wise and get caught up with my job and my life (including unpacking!).

Exactly two weeks later, I got a second opinion from a neurophtalmologist at Stanford and she said that I don’t have glaucoma, but low blood pressure. So I’m supposed to eat more, be less active, drink less water and have more salt. Which is the complete opposite of what they tell most people!
I’m still on eye medications, but after I get my blood pressure back to normal, I will probably be able to stop using them.

Added to my medical misadventure, I’ve had a couple of car mishaps. During the recent big storm, I unwittingly left my car door open, and came back to see the entire driver’s side soaking wet.

I also hit a pole with my passenger-side mirror while parking for the October PEERS Sweeney Todd Ball as I rushed to San Mateo from SiliCon in San Jose. I had attended SiliCon on Friday night, and while attendance was light, my usual con friends were there and it was difficult to leave (I tried several times to do so). I don’t remember exactly when I left but it was way past 2:00 a.m. When I got back on Saturday afternoon, I had a full schedule with two back-to-back panels that proved to be very different but extremely enjoyable in their own ways. The first was a hands-on costuming panel that Leigh Ann and España spearheaded and Mette and I helped out with. We took audience members and turned them into superheroes or villains. I wore a new Silk Spectre/Sally Jupiter costume for that panel. Then I quickly changed into my Cho Chang outfit for the next panel with Phil and Kathe who were dressed as wizards. Our panel was about the future of the Harry Potter franchise and the young adult and fantasy genres. It was an intellectually stimulating topic with the attendees chiming in with great questions and comments. But I wasn’t done yet. I did a Silk Spectre pinup photo shoot in the lobby of the Doubletree Hotel with my friend Oscar Chang as the photographer. He takes great photos and I’d never done a photo shoot with him before. It was a lot of fun and the pictures turned out great.

So I was running late as I headed to PEERS. I didn’t get to eat dinner either but had a couple of the Doubletree’s delicious chocolate chip cookies. The ball was incredibly fun (my review is in this issue) but I was completely exhausted and for my own health and safety (the mirror was still dangling off the side of my car), I decided to stay home and miss SiliCon and the BASFA 1,000th meeting anniversary that Sunday.

While SiliCon usually marks the end of the con season, last year there
was the Steampunk convention over Halloween weekend. This year, the World Fantasy Convention was on the same weekend. I helped out in the Press Office and was excited to volunteer and be part of this professional convention. It’s a valuable networking opportunity as well as work experience for me, because I would like to eventually move into the publishing and/or entertainment fields.

Opportunities like these and others seem to be coming my way a lot lately. Which is ironic when my plate is not just full but overflowing. I guess it’s because I’ve been around for a few years and people know me more and Facebook has also opened a whole world of networking and keeping tabs on things for me.

Still, I really need to set limits. Although I act young, look young and feel young… I am not. I’m no longer in my 20s and I’m actually doing more now than I did back then! Then as now, I go to events all over the Bay Area, go to cons and rock concerts, publish a zine, and hang out with friends. Except now, I have dancing, costuming and performing on top of it! I’ve always been a dilettante and marched to the beat of my own drummer.

I know saying no to things will be a challenge because for some reason, there are more cons and zines popping up lately. Coming up in the near future are Sorcerercon, Quatrecon and the Nova Albion Steampunk Exhibition as well as the return of the Star Trek convention. Our very own Chris Garcia just recently launched another zine called Exhibition Hall, which is about steampunk. And Jason Schachat, Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley have just published the first issue of their costuming zine called Yipe! I would like to attend these conventions and contribute to these zines if I can. But I’m under doctor’s orders to take it easy for a while.

I will still do things, but maybe not party till dawn and not try to squeeze several events into one day. I have to make choices. I will have to accept that I will miss out on some things but I will still do those that are important to me and make sense in the bigger picture of what I’m trying to accomplish with my life. And I will not be distracted by interesting detours that don’t head in the general direction of my goals (which is often the road less traveled). I’m a communicator and performer… and these are the areas I want to grow and feel fulfilled by.

I wonder if there are more conventions and zines because with the way the economy is going, people need entertainment and creativity as an outlet. The Great Depression and World War II certainly produced a lot of great movies. Arts and entertainment seem like icing on the cake during the best of times but serve as bread and butter during the hard times. It’s not so much about escapism, I think, but more about remembering to celebrate the best of what being human is all about. And connecting to creativity, community and hope for a better future. I am, as always, the eternal optimist and hopeful romantic.
By Dr. Noe

SiliCon Ends Con Season with a Sigh

Staff Writer

For some, the beginning of October signals the start of a costume for Halloween. For others, it is the last convention of the year.

SiliCon (October 2-4) is a great way for most Bay Area con-goers to ease out of the generally hectic and frantic year of attending a multitude of generally jam-packed conventions. It tends to be either the final resting place for costumes that have made the convention circuit throughout the year, or a prelude (for some) of what’s to come the following year. This year’s theme for the convention was Heroes and Villains.

SiliCon has long been considered the little sister of BayCon, and with good reason. Not only do many of the same people work, run, and attend the con, but it also has the same essential elements of BayCon (science fiction, fantasy, comics), only on a much smaller scale. The con still resides at the San Jose Doubletree near the San Jose Airport.

Attendance was low this year, however; either because of the economy, hotel, or some general sense of ennui, this year’s SiliCon seemed to be the smallest yet. Despite the loyalists, attendance was down from previous years, but the enjoyment and entertainment available were still worth the price of admission.

Special guests this year included Ken Lally, media; Christy Marx, writer; Sarah Clemens, artist; Patricia McEwan, science; Shawna Trpcic, costuming; Hilary Ayer, fan; and all was presided over by Toastmaster Kevin Roche.

Although the con was also scaled down by the hotel this year, occupying only the first floor (except for parties), there was still plenty to do and see including round-the-clock Anime, the Dealers Room, and the Art Show.

And what would a convention be without panels? SiliCon has always had a good amount of activities to go around and keep its attendees well-sated for the weekend. Some panels this year included “Birds of a Feather” where fans of such thingies as Star Trek, Lost, Girl Genius, and the Joss Whedon-verse could gather and discuss anything and everything relating to their favorite shows, activities, comics, and more.

Friday’s early afternoon start time (3 p.m.) kicked off with a variety of panels and allowed attendees to accustom themselves to the convention set up and
where they were to find other amenities such as the Dealers Room, Art Show, and the Siskiyou/Donner Pass Ballroom where many of the larger panels, showings, and the all-important masquerade were held. Once fans had meandered the floor for a while, it was time for the “Meet the Guests” reception where everyone got a chance to get up close and personal with the special guests attending this year’s con.

Immediately following “Meet the Guests” was a showing of Joss Whedon’s internet sensation Dr. Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog which included a few costumed attendees in the audience. Shawna Trpcic gave a short introduction to the film, mentioning how low-budget everything was and then it went on to become a smash. Around the time Dr. Horrible ended the party floor began to swing into action with the Klingon Black Hole bar (ironically) being the party that most people tended to gravitate to (both Friday and Saturday nights).

For those who had not exhausted themselves on the party floor the stroke of midnight signaled the start of the Rocky Horror Picture Show with live cast Barely Legal. This year’s performance included a full costumed and fully propped cast that was honored to be asked to perform at this year’s con. Saturday’s panels began with several options for people to choose from, some of which caused conflicts for those who wished to attend panels that unfortunately were scheduled at the same time.

The first I attended Saturday was Shawna Trpcic’s panel which was a fabulous insight into the mind of the woman behind the costume designs for Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Firefly, Angel, Dr. Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog, and several others. Shawna brought along several of the costumes she had created for these shows and had them laid out for panel goers to see, touch, take photos and to ask anything they needed regarding the construction of a particular outfit.

Other panels for Saturday included “Large Costuming Groups”: a sort-of how-to for, well, costuming with a large group. “TSA Transport” covered how to travel with props, weapons, and other accessories that airlines tend to either frown upon or just don’t know what it is. There was a demonstration/advice for the best way to pose for photos to show off your costume; and all led up to the main event for Saturday: The Masquerade.

This year, in seeming tradition with the con, Masquerade only had five entries, but as always, it gave those a chance to show off their work to a larger audience. Entrants this year included “Bryon the Dyslexic Dragon” by Krystal Gordon, which won Workmanship and Presentation awards; “Silk Moth” by Carole Parker (Workmanship: Excellence in Dye Technique); “Ghost
“Waltz” by Krys Taylor (Workmanship: Best Novice and Honorable Mention Over Execution); and “Wizomania!” by Mariellen Cottman who won the Workmanship award for Excellence in Silhouette Recreation and Best in Show.

After the Masquerade it was time to either dance the night away in the Siskiyou/Donner Pass Ballroom, or head up to the party floor again and wait to see what was on the block for the Klingon Slave Auction.

On Sunday, as with most cons, things began to wind down and costumes were fewer. However, there were still plenty of panels and the traditional “Match Game” to keep people around. SiliCon itself concluded with its closing ceremonies followed by the “Hiss & Purr.” When all was said and done several friends bid farewell to one another until the beginning of con season 2010, and some were already scheming and plotting for their next costume conquests. And, although SiliCon was indeed smaller this year, it is still a great convention to end the season and see some great friends, meet new ones, and prepare for the next thing.
A Midsummer Night's Dream Turns to Reality

By Jean Martin

A Midsummer Night’s Dream is one of my favorite Shakespearean plays. I haven’t been too happy with any of the movie and TV versions I’ve seen so far, though. It seems difficult to capture the essence of the fairy world on screen. I got the chance to live the dream at the Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild’s “Seelie and Unseelie Fairy Court Gathering” last September 26 at Alanna’s in Redwood City.

I used to go to the lovely Victorian house and gardens for brunch before it became Alanna’s. It was even more beautiful that evening with the gardens festooned with banners, ribbons and fairy lights and the tables decorated with candles, flowers and glass beads. The organizers of the event truly created a magical atmosphere. The weather cooperated too, because it was a warm night and some of us were able to wear lightweight fairy costumes. It was technically the end of the Summer but the temperature seemed just right to celebrate Midsummer.

The event was held outdoors and there were several tables of food and another one for drinks. There were lots of delicious hors d’oeuvres as well as light and dark desserts to honor the two groups of light (Seelie) and dark (Unseelie) fairies.

A beautiful woman (Maegan) in a stunning white Queen Titania costume presided over the Seelie Court while a stunning lady in black portrayed Queen Mab (Lana). The two sat on cloth-covered benches while several people

Queen Titania and Queen Mab

by Jean Martin
entertained them with poetry and song. Bridget, one of the hosts, was in an Autumn fairy costume and sang an Italian medieval song. She sang another one with George and the Lovely and Talented Linda. Uzza recited a dramatic poem. George was in a striking Sun costume while Uzza wore a red fairy costume. Linda was in an elegant Elven gown.

I was asked to read a poem about Queen Mab by one of my favorite poets, Percy Bysshe Shelley, but I wanted to just relax and take it all in. Someone did remark that the event was different from most others in that it was mellow and we didn’t really have to do anything except eat, mingle and enjoy the peace and tranquility. My friend Pat, whom I came with, got three other women together and they sang and danced a nursery rhyme, which was so perfect as they looked like playful sprites having fun. Pat was wearing her Renaissance Faire wood nymph costume. She had just come from a full day of working at the Casa de Fruta Renaissance Faire. Her costume looked quite Autumn-like so I took a photo of her with Bridget and Rebecca who were also wearing costumes in similar colors and style. Rebecca looked wonderful and her husband Bill looked great too with his mask of leaves.

I was also wearing a light fairy costume, a blue dance outfit with blue wings. Meilin was a dark blue fairy and her wings, which she had made herself, were amazing. Phil and Kathe were dark autumn fairies and they looked spectacular as usual. I talked to them about the Hobbit picnic that they had gone to earlier in the day and I had Sally and Linda by Jean Martin

Deborah by Jean Martin

Autumn Fairies by Jean Martin
missed. Jeannette and Lincoln had also gone to the picnic beforehand, so they were wearing more *Lord of the Rings*-like fantasy/medieval costumes.

I sat at a table with Bud and Deborah, the GBACG events organizer (in a gorgeous blue medieval gown) while we were eating. Also at our table was Gloria (in a black spider costume) and Pat. But being the social butterfly… I mean fairy… that I am, I visited one table after another saying hello and conversing with the attendees. I knew most everyone there and I tried to meet all those I didn’t know yet.

Toward the end of the evening, Sally got us all organized for photos. All the light fairies were first with Queen Titania at the center. We arrayed ourselves at the staircase of the yellow, side Victorian house (not the main house). Then Queen Mab and the dark fairies congregated in a dark alcove for their pictures.

It was truly a special night where we seemed to, for a few hours, venture into the realm of Faerie and feasted with creatures of magic.
The Music Hall Debut of Sweeney Todd

By Jean Martin

I’d never seen the musical Sweeney Todd but I enjoyed Tim Burton’s recent movie version with Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham-Carter. I’m not a huge Tim Burton or Johnny Depp fan but I do love Helena Bonham-Carter. And I love musicals, especially those set in the 18th and 19th centuries. So I was looking forward to the Period Events & Entertainments Re-creation Society’s (PEERS’s) Sweeney Todd Ball held on October 3rd at the San Mateo Masonic Hall.

The only problem was that the ball was right smack in the middle of SiliCon. In the past couple of years when I had a hotel room at the San Jose Doubletree to host SF/SF parties, I didn’t make the drive back to San Mateo for the PEERS balls held that same weekend. This year, though, as I’m trying to save money by not staying at hotels for conventions, and with the PEERS Music Hall providing entertainment during one of the intermissions, I decided to skip Saturday night at SiliCon to go to PEERS instead. I was also intrigued by the theme and wanted to see how it would turn out. The ball would be a light-hearted re-enactment celebrating the new production of the musical play Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street (not to be confused with Sondheim’s later and fancier operatic version).

After a jam-packed afternoon of being on panels at SiliCon and a pinup photo shoot in the lobby of the hotel in my Silk Spectre costume (the Sally Jupiter one) with my friend Oscar Chang, I dashed off to the ball.

I arrived still in my Silk Spectre costume as I didn’t have time to change. And I didn’t want
to wear a Victorian corset driving from San Jose to San Mateo anyway. I also didn’t make it to the rehearsal that afternoon but I practiced the songs (most of which I’d already performed before) to make sure I was ready for the Music Hall. I changed into a new Music Hall costume — a black and red corset with a black lace-trimmed tank and black bloomers. A friend jokingly commented that I seemed to have forgotten to wear a dress, but I decided not to bother wearing a Victorian gown because the weather was quite warm for dancing, and I didn’t want to have to do another costume change.

Lots of other women were there in lovely Victorian attire. Jane was in a Mrs. Lovett-style ensemble. Maggie and Lauren were, as usual, in period-correct and high-quality dresses that they had made themselves. The always smiling and multi-talented Arielle, who did the amazing décor for the evening, was in a blue bustle gown that she sewed herself too. Amy took the same route I did and was already wearing Victorian underwear in black and white. My friend Maimone showed up in an excellent Sherlock Holmes costume with his girlfriend Amy Rene. Holmes had a mystery to solve at the ball with Sweeney Todd the Barber doing dastardly deeds to his customers.

There were some skits during the evening based on the Sweeney Todd story. T. portrayed Sweeney Todd and Susanne was Mrs. Lovett, which was quite appropriate since Susanne is the lady who runs the kitchen at PEERS. One tableau involved Susanne running across the ballroom with knives. That night meat pies were served, of course. There were different kinds (with hilarious nameplates) provided by Susanne, Beth and Joreth. Joreth owns Nona’s Kitchen in Pacifica. A lot of dance friends go there often. I’ve only been there twice, once for weekend brunch and once for dinner. Both times the food was fresh and delicious. I keep meaning to go back and hope to do so soon!

Bangers and Mash were the band for the ball and the music and dancing were great as usual. I danced as much as I could even though I had only had two Doubletree Hotel chocolate chip cookies for dinner. When I dance, I get energized and happy and don’t really feel the need for food. The Lancers Quadrille was one of the highlights. It’s a complicated square dance and only a few people knew it in my set. Even though some of us had done it before, it’s one of those that you really need to commit to
memory and/or do it often to be proficient at it. Or at least have a caller giving out instructions as we dance it, but there wasn’t one. But my dance partner James and I, as well as the rest of our set, had a great time in the ensuing chaos anyway.

Attendance was good but wasn’t like the mad crush of previous balls so far this year where people could barely dance because of the crowd, or got hit by a stray leg or elbow because everyone was packed tight. It was actually quite mellow and more relaxed. A lot of people commented on how they enjoyed the dancing more that night.

During one of the later intermissions when the band took their break, the Peerless Music Hall performed six numbers. The first was “Sweeney Todd the Barber” by T. with us Peerless Beauties singing along behind him during the chorus. The rest were Victorian tunes accompanied by teasing stage talk, hilarious pantomimes and lively choruses. The solo for “Champagne Charlie” was sung by Joshua. Cathleen did “She Was Poor but She Was Honest.” Other songs included “A Rovin’” by Emily (dressed as a man) and Ari, and “Bird in a Gilded Cage” sung by Susanne. The finale was “Tararaboomdeeay” with Emily, Cathleen and Susanne doing the verses and with us Peerless Beauties dancing the Can-Can while singing the chorus. Our Can-Can lineup was pretty strong that evening. We had several new recruits who just fit in really well.

The new gals were those with whom I’ve been going to “afters” recently following Friday Night Waltz in Palo Alto, and sometimes after PEERS as well. But that night, my regular group and these new friends didn’t have any plans to go to Denny’s or Heidi’s Pies after the ball. I was still wired and ecstatic after a wonderful day at SiliCon and an incredible night at PEERS and I didn’t want it all to end just yet. But I suppose it was good because I knew I had to rest after so much activity, with more to follow in October. And the month had just barely started! What a way to begin a new month, with a convention and a ball all in one weekend.
Meeting 1003

October 19, 2009

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

Began 8pm - with otters.
We established a party jar.
23 people attended.

Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 1001 were accepted & the minutes of meeting 1002 were accepted as “finally surpassing Scheherazade”

The Treasurer reported that we have money.
There was no VP.
The President reported that HeroCon is this weekend at the Doubletree.

Announcements
Glenn announced that memberships for World Fantasy Con are STILL sold out - and then listed various future convention times in the farther future.

[evil] Kevin announced that Yipe issue xero is out and they registered yipezine.com; comments or questions can be directed to editors@yipezine.com and he will be at the SJ Improv tomorrow night as a presenter.

Joni announced that her school missed the September issue of Shonen Jump and she would like to buy it for the library.

Dave C announced that the Nimitz is getting repaired and “thank you Congress.”

Lisa announced that Computer Week stated that MySpace has switched to solid state drives and her son works for the company supplying these drives.

Reviews
Glenn reviewed the Raider game as a pigeon flew along with one of the plays [check YouTube] and the Raiders managed to beat the Eagles.

Dave C reviewed The Tooth Fairy by Graham Joyce as dark fantasy, very peculiar & worth paperback price, reviewed Venture Brothers season 4 as strange as usual; & reviewed the SyFy’s retread of Voltron as it gives new meaning to the phrase “limited animation” & avoid it.

Joni reviewed Zombieland as a warm, touching comedy, worth full price; & reviewed Whip It as fun - but the Silicon Valley Roller Girls were even more fun & reviewed Mieville’s City in the City as literary - it could be considered a mystery and is worth reading.

Fred reviewed meeting APE as he went and had a very good time & bought a DVD there called Zombie Christ that was very funny and worth the $10 he paid.

Carole reviewed the Pacific International Quilt Festival as nice but not exciting.

Andy reviewed SyFy’s revision of The Dunwich Horror as “this makes their Flash Gordon look good” - he lost SAN points [and I recommended The Ressurected with Chris Sarandon as a good Cthulhu flick].

Dave G reviewed the weather as “it rained a little bit” and flooded the lobby of his work building.

We did auctions: books for $0.50, $0.50; $0.25, $0.25; videos and CD for $0.25; videos for $3.00, $3.50 & $0.25; mixed media for $0.25 & toys for $0.25.

We adjourned at = 9:18

And the rumor of the week was: “this renaming of the swine flu is brought to you by the Pork Advisory Board”
Meeting 1004

October 26, 2009

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 8:01 - feeling Humbolt but undaunted.

We failed to establish a party jar.
22 people attended.
Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 1003 were accepted as “welcome back Cheryl.”
The Treasurer reported that we have money.
There was no VP.
The President said “hi” to new folks: Diane Osbourne, life-long book addict, who had heard of us via the local SF conventions & Anton Sherwood - who knows people here - and we also greeted Aloysius Squid - here for World Fantasy Con as Cheryl’s escort

Announcements
Cheryl’s back!
Cheryl announced that memberships for World Fantasy Con are STILL sold out - and there’ll be a massive author book-signing at Borderlands Wednesday night/evening/thingy and another Monday night - with about 20-25 authors there.

Dave C announced that Yaoicon is this weekend in SF.

Cheryl reviewed England as cold, wet and miserable - except for last week - so she came here; she reviewed a lovely little con in France as it drew 10,000, that FinnCon only had 7,000 - most in school girl costumes - reviewed the new convention center in Melbourne as very nice & reviewed New Zealand as also very nice.

Lisa reviewed Where the Wild Things Are as delightful, really nice and wonderfully adapted.

[evil] Kevin reviewed his presentation as he came on 3rd, talking about the creation of Conrad T Lizard and it was a good experience and something he’d do again and worth full price; Andy follow-on’d that it is a must see if there’s another and a clever use of technology.

[tall] Kevin reviewed playing “whirlyball” in Chicago in bumper cars as a great deal of fun - but don’t play this if you have back problems.

Fred reviewed Symphony Silicon Valley as good and enjoyable.

Dave G reviewed the Star Trek exhibit at the Tech as very nice and recommends it.

We did auctions: videos for $0.25, a CD ROM for $0.25, books for $0.25, $0.10, $0.50, $0.50; $0.25, a tube of glowies for $6.00, and birthday auctioned me off for $2.00 to Trey.

We adjourned at = 9:26.

And the rumor of the week was: “A night without Glenn makes the Treasurer cry.”
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.

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

Thursdays/Fridays, through November 20th

Shocktoberfest!! 2009: Torture Garden
The Hypnodrome
575 10th Street, San Francisco
thrillpeddlers.com
The Thrillpeddlers are proud to announce their tenth annual pageant of titillating Grand Guignol terror plays and stimulating sex farces, 8 p.m.

Through January 19, 2010

There’s a Mystery There: Sendak on Sendak
The Contemporary Jewish Museum
736 Mission St., San Francisco
www.thecjm.org
The exhibit will feature more than 100 watercolors, drawings and sketches by Sendak — including many that have never before been displayed, along with video footage of interviews with the author and will include a space for young visitors to enjoy Sendak’s work. In addition to several Sendak-themed classes and lectures for adults, there will be a number of events for children, including a Wild Things–inspired costume-making day and a preschool hour on Nov. 8.

Thursday, November 5

Author: Chris Lane
Diesel, A Bookstore
5433 College Ave., Oakland
www.dieselbookstore.com
Local illustrator Chris Lane signs his new book, Zombies: A Record of the Year of Infection
7 p.m. $25

Saturday, November 7

Author: Katherine Kerr
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Kerr signs her latest, the last book in the Silver Wyrm series, The Silver Mage
3 p.m. Free

Saturday, November 7

Le Bal des Vampires
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Ave, Santa Clara
Vampire themed event with live performance by Bangers and Mash.
7 p.m. $30

Wednesday, November 9

City Arts and Lectures: Michael Chabon & Adam Gopnick
Herbst Theater
401 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco
www.cityarts.net
8 p.m. $20

Friday, November 13

Author: Greg Bear
Dark Carnival Bookstore
3086 Claremont Avenue, Oakland
www.darkcarnival.com
Bear signs his latest novel, Mariposa.
5:30 p.m. Free

Saturday, November 14

Author: Greg Bear
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Bear signs his latest novel, Mariposa.
5 p.m. Free

Saturday, November 14

SF in SF: S.G. Browne and Jeff VanderMeer
Variety Preview Room in the Hobart Building
582 Market, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
7 p.m. Free
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Admission</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, November 14</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>First-Ever Last Unicorn Rave</em></td>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>$10</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.nebulam78.com">www.nebulam78.com</a></td>
<td>Limited Presale</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Three rooms of music, chill room and Unicorn room with guest of honor Peter S. Beagle and fantasy art.</td>
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<td><strong>Friday-Sunday, November 27-29</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>LosCon</em></td>
<td>LAX Marriott</td>
<td>$40</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5855 West Century Blvd, Los Angeles</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.loscon.org">www.loscon.org</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>GOHs Steven Barnes, Tananarive Due, Tim Rickard and Christian Maguire.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday-Sunday, November 27-29</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>SorcererCon</em></td>
<td>Doubletree Hotel</td>
<td>$40</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2050 Gateway Place, San Jose</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.sorcerercon.com">www.sorcerercon.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fantasy convention. Details TBA.</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, November 27-Sunday, December 20</strong></td>
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<td><em>The Great Dickens Fair</em></td>
<td>Cow Palace Exhibition Halls</td>
<td>$22</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2600 Geneva Ave, San Francisco</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.dickensfair.com">www.dickensfair.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>A holiday adventure into Victorian London.</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, December 5th</strong></td>
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<td><em>Time Tunnel Super Toy, Comic and Record Show</em></td>
<td>Santa Clara County Fairgrounds</td>
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<td></td>
<td>344 Tully Road, San Jose</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.timetunneltoys.com">www.timetunneltoys.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>240 tables of vintage to modern toys and collectibles.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11 a.m</td>
<td>$5</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, January 2, 2010</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Victorian 12th Night Ball</em></td>
<td>PEERS Event, <a href="http://www.peers.org">www.peers.org</a></td>
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<td>Location TBD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12th Night Ball hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig, live performance by Bangers and Mash. Suggested costume is evening or day dress from 1837 through 1870, any class. Modern evening dress is, as always, a completely acceptable substitute for period costume and there is no dress code for the evening. 7 p.m.</td>
<td>$15 (till December 26)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday-Sunday, January 8-10, 2010</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Anime Los Angeles</em></td>
<td>LAX Marriott</td>
<td>$25</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5855 West Century Blvd, Los Angeles</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.anime">www.anime</a> los angeles. org</td>
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<td>Anime convention. GOHs: Kyle Hebert, Jessica Gaona, The Spooony Bards and Bekka the Alice. Tostmaster: Tadao Tomomastu</td>
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<td><strong>Friday-Sunday, January 8-10, 2010</strong></td>
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<td><em>QuatreCon</em></td>
<td>Solano County Fairgrounds,</td>
<td>$60</td>
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<td></td>
<td>900 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.quatrecon.com">www.quatrecon.com</a></td>
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<td>Science fiction, horror, supernatural, and paranormal film festival and convention.</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday-Sunday, January 23-24, 2010</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Creation Salute to Star Trek</em></td>
<td>Westin St. Francis Hotel</td>
<td>$159</td>
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<td></td>
<td>335 Powell Street, San Francisco</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.creationent.com/cal/stsan.htm">www.creationent.com/cal/stsan.htm</a></td>
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<td>William Shatner, Patrick Stewart, Armin Shimerman, Jeffrey Coombs, and more.</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday-Sunday, January 30-31, 2010</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Animation on Display</em></td>
<td>Hotel Kabuki</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1625 Post St., San Francisco</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Animation on Display (AOD) is a convention that features Japanese animation, (relatively recent) cartoons, and their related interests.</td>
<td>$25</td>
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Le Mardi Gras des Vampires
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Location TBD
New Orleans’ most amusing hosts, Lestat de Lioncourt and Louis de Pointe du Lac, and their ward, Mlle. Claudia, invite you to a joyous Mardi Gras Ball in true Nineteenth century ante-bellum New Orleans style.
Suggested attire is period costume, fantasy Mardi Gras costume, or a fanciful version of period costume. Modern evening dress is perfectly acceptable and there is no dress code for the ball. To protect your reputation, masks are strongly recommended.
7 p.m. $15 (till January 30)

Friday-Sunday, February 12-14, 2010
Creation Official Twilight Convention
Hyatt Regency Airport
1333 Bayshore Highway, Burlingame
www.creationent.com/cal/twilight.htm
$169

Friday-Sunday, February 26-28, 2010
Gallifrey One
LAX Marriott
5855 West Century Blvd, Los Angeles
gallifreyone.com
Doctor Who convention. GOH Peter Davison, Sarah Sutton, Georgia Moffett and many more.
$65 (till December 31)

Friday-Sunday, March 5-7, 2010
Consonance
Hilton Newark/Fremont
39900 Balentine Drive, Fremont
www.consonance.org
Filk Convention. GOH are Tricky Pixie, Chris O’Shea, Ju Honisch & Katy Droege.
Toastmistress is Judi Miller.
$50

Saturday, March 6, 2010
An Evening at Cabaret
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Spend a swinging evening in the most decadent cabaret in 1930’s Berlin. Guest band for the evening is the brilliant and notorious Lee Presson and the Nails. Suggested costume is 1930’s costume or vintage or modern evening dress. Theatrical costume, including showgirl attire, is also welcome. Just about anything goes at Cabaret, as long as it’s acceptable to the local police, who are among Cabaret’s clients, after all!
7 p.m. $15 (till February 27)

Friday-Sunday, March 12-14, 2010
The Nova Albion Steampunk Exhibition
Hilton Garden Inn
1800 Powell Street, Emeryville
www.steampunkexhibition.com
$60

Friday-Sunday, March 26-28, 2010
Contact
NASA Ames Research Center
www.contact-conference.com
Keynote speaker is Dr. Penelope Boston.
Please check website for registration details and pricing.

Saturday, April 3, 2010
La Legion Fantastique: A Victorian Steampunk Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Guests are invited to dress in either conventional mid-to-late Victorian evening dress (1850s – 1900) or Victorian Steampunk attire, complete with goggles and gadgets. (Note: Costumes, as always, are admired, not required, at PEERS balls, and modern evening dress is a perfectly acceptable substitute for period costume). Live music provided by Bangers & Mash. Punch and a light snack buffet will be served. As usual, the Legion appreciates your potluck contributions to the buffet.
7 p.m. $15 (till March 27th)

Friday-Sunday, May 7-10, 2010
WonderCon
Moscone Center South
747 Howard Street, San Francisco
www.comic-con.org/wc
Comics convention.
Details TBA
Saturday, May 1, 2010
The Courts of Faerie Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
The Unseelie King and Queen of the Fae honour May Day and resign their crowns for six months to the blessed Seelie King and Queen. Fantasy, fairy, or fairy tale costume from any tradition is admired, not required. Period costume (authentic or creatively “mixed”), vintage evening dress, or modern evening dress is also welcome, as are perfectly normal mortals. Masks, either worn or hand-held, are strongly recommended. While wings are very welcome on our Faerie creatures, be sure to wear wings you can dance in (this is probably not the best night to sport a giant wingspan!). Live music by Avalon Rising. Intermission entertainment includes dance performances and romantic DJ dance music for the insatiable dancers. Complimentary light refreshments will be served throughout the evening and, as usual, your potluck contributions are very welcome.
7 p.m. $15 (till April 24)

Friday-Sunday, August 6-9, 2010
Costume College
Warner Center Marriot
21850 Oxnard St, Woodland Hills
www.costumecollege.org
A three-day educational conference on all subjects relating to costuming and clothing. Check website for details and registration.

Saturday, August 7, 2010
Jane Austen Picnic Dance
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Lincoln Park
1450 High Street, Alameda (Near the Rose Garden)
Our guests are invited to bring their own period-style picnic lunch and to make their picnic site look as period as possible (Please note that the event is not a potluck. Our hard-working catering staff will be taking a well-deserved holiday!). Suggested costume for the event is late 18th century or Regency summer afternoon dress (1780-1818), but, as usual, costumes are admired, not required. Live music will be provided by Bangers & Mash. This event is a thank you to all of our devoted fans, and we will not be charging a fee for admission. Donations for our brilliant and hard-working musicians will be gratefully accepted, however, both before and during the event.
7 p.m. $15 (till May 29)

Saturday, September 4, 2010
The Gilbert and Sullivan Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Mr. and Mrs. William S. Gilbert request the honour of your presence at a fancy dress ball honouring the musical achievements of their colleague, the recently knighted Sir Arthur Sullivan. Guests are welcome to attend either in “normal” evening dress of the late 19th century (1860-1900) or in costumes inspired by the operas of Gilbert and Sullivan (Costumes are, as usual, admired but not required, at the ball). Live music by Bangers and Mash and intermission entertainment includes a performance of song and dance excerpts from Gilbert and Sullivan’s operettas. As usual, punch and a light snack buffet will be served throughout the evening (Mrs. Gilbert will gratefully welcomes your potluck contributions to the buffet).
7 p.m. $15 (till August 28)

Saturday, October 2, 2010
The Evil League of Evil Villains’ Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Guests are invited to attend as their favorite Evil character – historical, fictional, or original. Live music by Avalon Rising. Costumes may be historical, science fiction/fantasy, modern
evening dress. The event includes musical performances, a no-host (cash) bar, and a light snack buffet. Potluck contributions to the buffet will be greatly appreciated.

7 p.m. $15 (till September 26)

**Ongoing**

**Daily**

**Cartoon Art Museum**
655 Mission Street, San Francisco
www.cartoonart.com
Once Upon a Dream, The Art of Sleeping Beauty (through January 10, 2010). Masters of Webcomics (through December 6, 2009)
$6

**San Francisco Ghost Hunt Walking Tour**
Begins: Queen Anne Hotel
1590 Sutter at Octavia, San Francisco
www.sfghosthunt.com
7 p.m. – 10 p.m. $20

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

**Sundays**

**MGI SF&F/Horror/Speculative fiction Writing Group**
Personal Residence (email for details)
Emeryville
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGISFFWriters
7:30 p.m. Free

**Sakuramento Anime Society**
Rancho Cordova Library
9845 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova
Meets every Sunday to watch old and new anime and anime music videos, play collectible card games, practice artwork and make AMVs.
3-7 p.m.

**Mondays**

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

**Dukefish**
Jake’s of Sunnyvale
174 E. Fremont Avenue, Sunnyvale
Group meets weekly to play German-style strategy board games such as Settlers of Catan, Carcasson and other games, plus an occasional game of bridge breaks out. Meet up at 8:00 p.m., figure out who wants to play what, and typically start playing games no later than 8:30 p.m.
8 p.m. Free

**Mondays and Wednesdays**

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

**Tuesdays**

**MGI Boffers & Outdoor Games**
Codornices Park
1201 Euclid Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyclub
Bad weather: we meet the same time at 33 Revolutions Record Shop & Cafe, El Cerrito for boardgames.
3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free

**Wednesdays**

**Bay Area Role-Playing Society**
Go-Getter’s Pizza
1489 Beach Park Boulevard, Foster City
www.BayRPS.com
Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details email GM@BayRPS.com
6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Free
East Bay Strategy Games Club
EndGame
921 Washington, Oakland
www.michaeldashow.com/eastbaystrategy/home.html
7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. Free

Fanboy Planet Podcast
Illusive Comics and Games
2725 El Camino Real, Suite 105, Santa Clara
Live from Illusive Comics and Games, it’s the Fanboy Planet Podcast with your host, Derek McCaw.
6 p.m. Free

Hayward Collectibles Show
22300 Hathaway Ave (rear bldg), Hayward
www.toysandbaseballcards.com
Wednesdays 3 p.m.-8 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free

FyDy SyFy
Eclipse Lounge, Hyatt Regency
5 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco
Casual meetup in the atrium lobby bar.
5:30-7:30

SF Games
Muddy’s Coffeehouse
1304 Valencia Street, San Francisco
vax.hanford.org/dk/games
SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Also has a regular cards night at Atlas Café, 20th and Alabama Streets, Tuesday nights from 6:30-10.
7 p.m. to midnight Free

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

Vampire Walking Tour
Meets corner of California and Taylor, San Francisco
www.sfvampiretour.com
Led by Mina Harker. Tour is canceled if there is heavy rain.
8 p.m. $20

Fridays-Mondays

Fridays and Saturdays

Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers’ Group
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street, San Francisco
Meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 6 pm. Contact Jade Livingston at sfscifi@yahoo.com for more information.

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.

Dorkbot-SF
www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf/
Dorkbot hosts regular forums for artists, designers, engineers, students, and other people doing strange things with electricity.
Free, donations welcome
**East Bay Star Wars Club**
Central Perk
10086 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito
510-558-7375
www.ebstarwars.com
Meets the second Friday of every month.
7:30 p.m. Free

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

**Foothill Anime**
Building 5015, Foothill College
Los Altos Hills
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

**The Gay Men’s Book Club**
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
Please contact Chris, the group leader, at cobalt555@earthlink.net for more information.
5 p.m. Free

**Legion of Rassilon**
Carl’s Jr.
2551 N 1st St , San Jose
www.legionofrassilon.org
Doctor Who fan group usually meets the fourth Friday of the month: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies, and a raffle.
7:30 p.m. Free

**Micro Gods, Inc.**
Berkeley Public Library, West Branch
1125 University Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyClub/
Family Club for fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Movie, Anime & Manga. Meets every 3rd Saturday, please check Yahoo group for updates.
2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free

**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

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

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

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

**Sci-Fi and Fantasy Book Club**
Clayton Books
5433 D Clayton Road, Clayton
www.claytonbookshop.com
Meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The book for November 18th is *Summon the Keeper* by Tanya Huff.
7:30 p.m. Free

**Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club**
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
The book for November is *The Demolished Man* by Alfred Bester. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.
6 p.m. 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

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

### USS Augusta Ada
Round Table Pizza  
3567 Geary Blvd, San Francisco  
trek.starshine.org  
Augusta Ada is both a chapter of Starfleet International and a Linux and *BSD user group. Usually meets the fourth Saturday of every month.  
1 p.m.  
Free

### 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
Contact firstjedi2000@yahoo.com for specifics.  
sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights  
‘Lights is a chapter of Starfleet International and a swell group of science fiction fans. We do more than Trek. Usually meets the third Saturday of the month, with social event TBD. November 21st the St. George Holiday Open House, and December 19th a festive potluck at the Hooverarium  
7 p.m.  
Free

### Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE
Round Table Pizza  
4403 Elkhorn Blvd, Sacramento  
916-338-2300  
Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.  
6 p.m.  
Free
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*Author: Chris Lane*

*Author: Greg Bear*  
Browne and VanderMeer  
Last Unicorn Rave  
Fantastic Frontiers  
No-Name Anime  
SF Browncoats

*Author: Greg Bear*  
East Bay Star Wars  
USS Northern Lights

MSDF SyFy SF Games