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The first thing is wow. Just wow. Gail Carriger and Co. really upped the ante. The room party she had at World Fantasy was beyond amazing. The folks, many of whom I recognized from Steam-Powered last year, pulled out all the stops, including amazing food like Scotch eggs and delightful pastry-wrapped thingees, and there were amazing alcoholic beverages and folks in costumes of a Victorian nature, and people hanging around and chatting and there was tea. I couldn’t imagine a better room party that I’ve attended. It even… I can’t believe I’m about to say this… it even topped The League of Evil Geniuses. I know, I know, but it was fan-bloody-tastic!

Also, World Fantasy was pretty darn great.

WindyCon is done by now, which will have been my first Fan Guest of Honorship and I’m sure it was an amazing con that will be spoken
of in hushed, reverent tones from this day forward. I probably got into at least one fistfight, might have thrown the wildest party ever, and I am probably still snowed in at O'Hare. Details in future issues.

Is anyone else really digging the new version of \(V\)? I am thoroughly enjoying it. I mean really enjoying it, and not just because it’s got Elizabeth Mitchell (the naked girl from HBO’s *Gia*) and Alan Tudyk (Steve the Pirate from *Dodgeball*) in it.

It’s been good to hear from Mean Mike Glyer that Joe Haldeman’s health is improving. Always good to hear that people we love are getting better.

I’m still reeling from the death of Captain Lou Albano.

eFanzines? Why yes, it’s an active site. You’ll notice that there are a bunch of zines with my name on them up. It’s the first of the month, and that’s when *Exhibition Hall* comes out and this one included some great stuff from some good people. I think it’s worthwhile for the fine look at *The Clockwork Caliphate*. There’s also the Train issue of *The Drink Tank* that James Bacon and I put together. It’s the first time I’ve got Tony Keen in an issue of *The Drink Tank*, plus there’s James Shields, John Purcell, Beth Zuckerman, Howeird, James, and me. I love it and think it’s one of the better zines I’ve ever managed to put out. I don’t know how these things happen, but I’m always glad when they do.

*Alexiad* 47 is up on eFanzines. It’s a pretty good one too. Joe Major has a really good Shirmeister art piece which makes me happy. I love Shirm’s stuff! *Alexiad* is also the source for all the news on the few remaining WWI vets, as Joe keeps up on all those remaining on the Earth. He also gave a slightly better than middling review to *Soulless*, which reading his other reviews, I can totally understand as the view is completely consistent.

Felicity Walker’s *BCSFazine* #438 is up too, along with Bob Sabella’s *Visions of Paradise* #146 and Peter Sullivan’s *Virtual Tucker Hotel* #25. Those are all good folks, and sadly, I haven’t had a chance to read any of them. I think *VoP* is a highly underrated zine.

One that I did get to read was Warren Buff’s *Southern Fandom Confederation Update* #11, which has some good reviews, including one of mine on *Soulless*. Warren’s got a good group of people writing for him.

And remember: you should be looking into going to NASFiC. I love NASFiCs, having been to a few, and I’m looking forward to this one as it’s the first one in the South since the one that was combined with Dragon*Con a decade and a half ago. It’ll be awesome.

By the way, I found a copy of *Spaceways* #1, the legendary zine from Harry Warner Jr. from September of 1938. An original. I was amazed to find it in the Dealer’s Room at World Fantasy. There were a bunch of zines at the various tables, including copies of *Fantasy Collector, Amra* and so on. It was not expected.

A big shout out to Jay Lake, who it was good to see two weeks in a row.

Even now, this far into this article, I’m still thinking about the Scotch eggs from Gail’s party!
Lloyd Penney writes:

Just one more day until Halloween, and I am sure there’s something to do that evening in the Bay Area. Yvonne and I are actually going to a wedding… in costume. Now that that’s out of the bag, I will now make some comments on issue 96 of SF/SF.

Jean Martin responds: Hope you had a great Halloween. Chris, España and I had a blast at World Fantasy Con. Oh, and costumed weddings are fun!

Good to hear that SiliCon was a good time, and the Fanzine Lounge as the party area is no surprise to me. I am very interested to hear how Steamcon went. Lots of pictures, Chris, and I want to see lots of costumes. Another great list of fanzines; I just got my regular fanzine column off to John Purcell for the next Askance.

I didn’t get to go to Steamcon and Chris won’t be writing a piece. But España should be writing a review. I want to hear all about it myself!

Hi, Jean… both of the fan funds sound great, and someone who is single with few financial commitments is probably the best person to run for either of them. I’ve got a job interview on Monday, and I hope to hear from the good interview I had about a week and a half ago.

Good luck with the job interviews! Hope you find a job soon.

The newest issue of Midfanzine is now available from Anne Murphy’s midfan.org and eFanzines.com, and I’ve already had a close look at it. Letter to come!

Howeird’s got an interesting article here… comments on the launch of the Ares 1-X rocket, first prototype rocket lifting from a NASA pad in 30 years or so. Seems to be a success, in spite of some damage to the mechanisms inside. Now to see if there is the money and will to make the new rocket work.

It all comes down to economics, unfortunately. I read that NASA may be running into funding issues. Which would be too bad because if they do, other space organizations will take up the slack. And the U.S., which has been a leading pioneer in the Space Age so far, will be left behind. I’ve been watching the fantastic documentary, When We Left Earth, and it gave me chills to see footage from several missions from the Mercury Program through the Space Station, with the Apollo 11 moon landing as the focal point. We now take for granted that we can travel in space but the early episodes show how much hard work, technological advancement and rare courage it took for mankind to go to the moon. I hope space exploration continues. I’m sure it will in some way or another… we humans are naturally curious and always want to expand our horizons.

Congratulations to BASFA on 1,000 meetings, and to Kevin Standlee for attending them. Or most of them, anyway. You going to buy out the Melbourne club? As long as they don’t mind, and you continue to issue Ethel the Aardvark, the club zine, no problem on my part. Do they know? Enjoy the World Fantasy Con (on now!), and Bouchercon when it arrives. And, please do say hello to one of my oldest friends, Michael Wallis, who helped get me into apas and fanzines more than 25 years ago. I liked what the Letterman show
did… when the Earth slammed a couple of probes into the moon, the moon retaliated with a Death Star-style blast, and destroyed the Earth. Mwa-ha-ha-ha!

Yes, congratulations to BASFA! I'll make it to one sometime I hope!

Hey, Kevin Roche, what’s Yipe #0, and can I see a copy? I write letters, one of them can be yours, hmmm? The Victorian Steampunk Ball… now, there’s an event I’d like to go to. I am working on a second Steampunk costume, definitely nothing fancy, but should have the usual gears and goggles and such. I’m thinking Victorian labourer or coal miner.

Yipe is really good. You should check it out. I have some ideas for an article or two and Jason Schachat liked them. So I’ll be working on these soon.

Going to fold it up and fire it off. Have a great time this weekend, everybody!

John Purcell writes:

Hey you two kids.

Another fine ish. It will be interesting to read Chris’s reports on both Steamcon and his Fan GoHship up in Chicago for Windycon. Now that it’s officially November and that con is Real Soon Now, I really hope Chris remembers to bring some warm clothing. Chicago in November is not something to trifle with. You Have Been Warned.

Jean responds: Brrr… I’d like to go to Chicago someday, maybe even for a con, but not in November!

You can’t believe the N3F had you as its president? Neither could the rest of us. As a matter of fact, I’m a bit frightened at what you might do while hosting Corflu in 2011. I am definitely planning on being there — Val, too — come hell or high water, which we have had plenty of recently. Our yard is still saturated from the monsoon season we just finished — two weeks of literally non-stop rainfall, some of it came down very heavy — so I’m not using this metaphor lightly. Still, you as Corflu con chair is a bit unsettling. Don’t know why, but it is. It should be a fun time.

Oh my, 2011 will be really busy with Corflu, Westercon and Worldcon all in my general area. But I’ll take advantage of the opportunity to go to all of them since they’re around here. Looking forward to finally meeting you at Corflu!

There have been a lot of really good zines on efanzines in the last few weeks. I just locced Steve Green’s new one, Fortnightly Fix, and have the latest el and Home Kookin’ coming up next; it’s all part of my pseudo-plan to catch up a bit on loccing. My work schedule has been very hectic this semester because everyone is teaching an overload class, fall semester enrollment went up so much. The paycheck is nice, but oh, the drain on my spare time. So much grading to do. That’s life in the big city, to coin a phrase.

Having a regular paycheck to afford our fandom activities is definitely important! I wish sometimes we all just lived in fandom so we didn’t have to worry about work and we could all get to see each other more often.

As a college English professor, I would love to see that Steampunk production of Hamlet. That sounds completely awesome. You will definitely have to write it up and take lots of pictures. I mean it, roomie. This reminds me of a book I have in my office at Blinn College: The Klingon Hamlet. I kid you not. Produced by the Klingon Institute in Pennsylvania, it has an introduction and glossary, with a few illustrations, since (as they said) the play has been translated back into its original language. The page layout is delightful: the left side pages are in English with the right side being the Klingon equivalent. The only fault with the text is that it does not provide a pronunciation guide. *fout!* Still, the
next time I teach *Hamlet* (maybe next semester) my plan is to wear my Renaissance Fair costume in class while carrying a skull and wearing a Klingon mask, then recite Prince Hamlet’s famous “to be or not to be” soliloquy in Klingon. I really wonder how my students will react to such tomfoolery. Only one way to find out, you know.

That’s what’s fun about being a teacher it seems like… that you can be creative and do things like costuming and reading *Shakespeare*. Klingon *Hamlet* sounds awesome! I wish I could have seen that. Not sure if *Hamlet* suits the Steampunk ethos. I would think more along the lines of *Tempest* or even *Richard III*.

Lloyd Penney’s loc reminds me of my possible DUFF candidacy. My wife is really beginning to warm up to the idea — Australia is one of the places we have always wanted to visit — so I’m getting close to making my final decision. I still need a couple more folks to be nominators, thus I need to seriously think about this. Stay tuned.

**Good luck running for DUFF!**

Excellent article about the samurai by Cary W. Tucker. *The Last Samurai* is one of the few Tom Cruise movies that I actually like, which says a lot about the movie, not about Cruise. Wonderful illustrations accompanying the article, too. Many thanks for a fine article. Can a loc from John Hertz be far behind? My guess would be yes since John doesn’t read online zines. You really should send a printed copy of *SF/SF* #96 to him; he would probably add a pile more information in response.

**I’ll have to have Chris or España print a copy to give John at Loscon.**

The LCROSS article by Howeird was also quite interesting. I followed that lunar crash with interest, and kind of chuckled when the expected plume didn’t materialize. Still, the technology the lads at JPL had at their beck and call made it possible to detect minute amounts of sub-lunar surface ice crystals. So it appears that water may be processable to aid lunar colonization, or at least a long-term lunar scientific station where astronauts could rotate shifts. What with the mostly successful Ares 1 launch this past week, things are looking up for the future of space exploration. Once this recession begins an upswing in a couple year’s time (my personal prediction), NASA might very well find itself the recipient of more $$ to fund future manned flights. We can certainly dream for this to become reality.

**I wanted to go to that event but had prior plans. Sounds like I didn’t really miss much.**

With that, I sign off. Again, many thanks for the issue, and I hope Chris comes back from his convention travels with fun and interesting tales to tell. Now it’s back to some more work on the November issue of *Askance*. One week from today is my self-imposed due date: November 8th. Let’s see if I can do it.

**Hope you met your deadline!**

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**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
By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

Some things aren’t so different. I was a bit worried that I really wouldn’t fit in at World Fantasy, that it would be a convention of people who really weren’t interested in talking with me because I’m not important. It’s happened before, and I kinda understand why, but still, it’s not a scene I’m usually likely to enjoy.

It turned out to be one of the better cons I’ve been to in ages.

The thing is, and this is a bit sad perhaps, I’m a fan of fans. I go to cons to hang out with friends, to meet folks I’ve not met before, to party. I don’t go to cons for pros. I can’t think of any professional that’s drawn me in to a con. I’m not really one of those “More Fannish than Thou” types, but I will admit that given the choice between fans and pros, I’ll always take fans.

Now, the big reason for all the fun: the Con Suite. Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley put together what I will call the best Con Suite I’ve ever seen. There was fantastic food, sliced meats, cheese, chocolate and spreadable sausage, and there was a cake in the shape of a hot air balloon. The theme was that the Con Suite was the departure lounge for the Mason & Holland Aeroscaphe line that was the focus of an Edgar Allen Poe hoax. Since the con was celebrating Poe’s 200th Birthday, it was a great theme and the boys went all out. And it was the greatest Lounge of all time. I mean it puts anything I’ve done to shame. There was food and folks and fun in every dimension.
The Fairmont, where Further Confusion will be held in just a couple of months, had a brilliant hospitality suite on the 20th floor, affording a huge view. The folks who came in were exactly like every group that hangs out in a lounge. They were chatty, they swarmed around the food, and they had a great time. There were a few moments when people began to shill for their work, which you can’t avoid when you’ve got a group of writers who want to sell books, but it was mostly just fun conversation and the enjoyment of food.

Oh, the food.

You see, you can’t deny that folks are folks, and it’s always good when you can get together with like-minded folks. Yeah, there were a few folks who literally wouldn’t give you the time of day unless you were an editor or publisher or someone who could help their career, but they were certainly in the minority. There was one writer in particular who was absolutely dismissive of my existence after mistaking me for someone important and then discovering that I was a nobody, but that happens. I had so much fun hanging out with good people, holding court on the comfy couch in the Con Suite, and the one panel I attended, Why Steampunk Now, was fantastic.

Now’s the part where I go off in a different direction, only to wrap it all together in the end.

Hollywood makes me smile. I’ve been watching the various movies that are coming out, waiting anxiously for *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*, based on the Tim Powers novel, and hoping there’s a way to make sure that there’s a sequel to *Jennifer’s Body*. The last couple of years have seen a lot of SF/Fantasy and Horror, by my count about 23% higher in 2008 and 27% higher in 2009. That’s not to say that there is much renewed interest in SF and Fantasy films — that happened about 25 years ago — but there are more small films coming out and there’s the idea that SF and Fantasy flicks can be cheaper and make a lot of money. Also, films like *The Men Who Stare at Goats* are SF films that may not realize they’re SF films. It’s a nice touch, in fact.

The place you see this the most is at film festivals. How many pictures have I seen at Cinequest that were subtle SF or fantasy? Films like *Able Edwards*, a sci-fi retelling of *Citizen Kane* with Walt Disney in the place of William Randolph Hearst, are rarer than those like *Genius & Madness*, where it’s the subtle science fiction story and not the overt. They’re all impressive, even the terrible ones like the film last year where a guy could stop time and made the most of it. Science fiction and fantasy have even come into that world where people expect the highest of falutin’.

Of course, there’s the problem of going to the festival and discovering that so many of the filmmakers are the kind who are there to sell scripts, to meet the press, to press the flesh and make those connections to start their careers. Sometimes it’s hard, you’d like to get to hang out with some cool film folk, and they’re busy trying to score interviews and the like. It happens all the time…

…Except in the filmmaker’s lounge, where folks come and talk and snack on Rouge et Noir Brie from Marin French Cheese Company and other delightful snackies. It’s the great equalizer, just as it was at World Fantasy.

You see, I found a way to wrap it all together!
By Jean Martin
Editor

I’ve been going to Renaissance Faires since I moved to the U.S. in 1987. I never get tired of immersing myself in Elizabethan England, one of my favorite time periods. While most of the booths are the same, which I enjoy browsing over and over nonetheless, there’s always something new to experience.

One of the more recent changes with the Northern California Renaissance Faire is that it is now in Hollister. Most people, including myself, still say Blackpoint Forest in Novato was the best location ever, but the one in Hollister, on the Casa de Fruta grounds, is excellent as well. You really feel like you’ve stepped into another world when you walk in through the front entrance. The variety and scale of the buildings, wares, food and entertainment is quite staggering.

I missed going last year, but I remember the year before seemed overwhelming in size and number of activities to do. This time, when I went on October 17th, it didn’t seem as big. Maybe that was because I went with friends — John and Eva — who’d already been and knew what to expect.
Last time I was with someone whom I had to show around.

The theme for the closing weekend was fantasy and frivolity. And I saw several fairies in attendance. There was even one in an awesome unicorn costume. I was dressed in just regular peasant garb. My friends Jade, Deborah and Ant were similarly attired; same with Radar, Gail, Robin, Alex, Thad, Cordelia and Glenn. Ralph was different and looked great in a Japanese medieval outfit. Angie, Breanna and Mary Ellen decided to come in regular clothing…perhaps because it was too hot, or maybe just as a break from too much costuming.

At Ren Faires, I mostly just enjoy browsing the shops and eating food. This time was no different. I finally found leather belts that I liked, which I have been needing for a while, from Oberon Design. I got a black leather belt for my pirate outfit and a brown one to replace the one I bought two years ago that I don’t like. It’s one of those that has a ring you tie the belt around…it just doesn’t stay on me. I prefer the ones with the buckles. I also got a black chemise from Heart’s Delight that looks almost modern and could be dressed up with a corset for various occasions.

One of my favorite fantasy artists has a booth at this Faire. I’ve been admiring Nancy Chien-Eriksen’s work for decades. I still haven’t bought anything from her, but perhaps I should.

As for food, I started my day at the Faire in the food court. There I met up with several friends and ate every time someone new came over to meet me and wanted to eat. I had steamed artichoke, Scottish pie, pineapple ice (in a mini pineapple) and chocolate fondue (with strawberries, bananas, cream puffs and pineapples). I was well-fed and ready to make my journey around the “village” of Willington after all that.

What was different for me this time was that I was able to hang out with lots of friends at various points throughout the day. Last time I went, I didn’t know anyone except my friend Kitty (with the Criers of St. Blaise guild) and her
friends. I guess some pre-planning and just sheer coincidence helped. I was able to spend time with ten different groups of friends. It was funny, though, because I was going in a counterclockwise loop and would run into people going the other way. I would walk back with them for a bit and then head in my direction. Each time, I would go farther but I was backtracking a lot. Later in the afternoon, I just decided that I would complete my loop by myself and not stop to chat with anyone.

After successfully going around the Faire, I made a point to visit my friend Pat who was working at the Crown and Griffin selling garlands. She was wearing her autumn wood nymph costume. I also visited Amy Rene briefly at Heart’s Delight before she went off on her break. I ran into Kitty at the Coughing Sheepe pub and we sat and listened to the Merry Wives of Windsor singing beautiful harmonies. I traded some pleasant words with Jesse and admired Heidi’s colorful veils when I saw them while they were on their breaks from working their particular duties.

As usual, I missed all the shows, just barely seeing them as I walked by. I attended the joust last time and wasn’t really interested in seeing it again because it seemed too choreographed and not as exciting as others I’ve seen in the past. The only show I made a point to see was the Human Chess Match toward the end of the day, which featured Kitty as the White Queen.

I had half an hour to spare before the Human Chess Match, so I went and got a tarot card reading from one of the three women there. I usually get a reading at Ren Faire and Dickens Faire.
I picked the reader I hadn’t been to yet. Interestingly, what she said was exactly the same as what the other two women have said before. So for a year now, I’ve been told that a career change is coming and that I should either go back to school or do some sort of internship. There was nothing about romance or health, two things that have been on my mind this past year. Some food for thought, I’m sure.

I made it to Kitty’s show a little bit late but I got the gist of the plot pretty quickly. Basically, there was a life-size chess board with all the pieces represented by different actors. It was hard to hear, even though they used wireless microphones. Still, it was quite entertaining. The humor was irreverent and sometimes risqué. There were a lot of anachronistic jokes, some of which involved Star Wars and Bill Clinton-Monica Lewinsky. Pieces were beaten one by one, with Kitty as the White Queen among the last to go. She looked regal in her gold Renaissance gown. The ending was a surprise so I’m not going to give spoilers here in case they repeat this show next year.

Even though I didn’t make a point of seeing the other shows, there was a lot of entertainment that I encountered as I walked around. In the food court, I got to see Josh and the Siamsa Le Cheile celtic dancers. Dancing men in kilts is always a sight to see. Something new that I hadn’t seen before at a Ren Faire was the group Suspended Reality, also in the food court. They did aerial and ground acrobatics with the theme of A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Titania, Oberon and their fairies and satyrs used hula hoops, silks and just their bare muscles to do Cirque du Soleil-style numbers with music.

Danse Macabre sauntered by the food court as well. For some reason, I never miss this group even though I’m not too fond of them. I guess it’s because they’re loud and they’re dressed all in black and so they’re quite visible. On the lighter side, Queen Elizabeth I’s entourage passed by me while I was in one of the booths. She was carried around in a sedan chair and waved to everyone. It’s always great to see the Queen and her court.

This year, the Faire started offering concerts after hours. That night it was Tempest, but I’d seen them several times in the past, most recently at BayCon last May, so I didn’t need to see them again. Besides, we were all tired and so John, Eva and I went home instead. It was great to see this Faire again and I’m already looking forward to next year!

For more information, visit: norcalrenfaire.org/index.html
By Jean Martin

I love how I have intellectual friends who are passionate about art, literature, history, dance, costuming and music. Added to that, I belong to groups that indulge in these areas of interest. I had the pleasure of experiencing all of these at the Bay Area English Regency Society’s (BAER’s) Goyesqua: The Duchess of Alba Ball last October 10th.

The event was held at the Arlington Community Church in Kensington, a scenic town high in the hills above Berkeley.

To prepare for the ball, which was based on the portraits the Spanish artist Francisco Goya painted of the Duchess of Alba (a.k.a. Maria del Pilar Teresa Cayetana de Silva Alvarez de Toledo), I rented the movie *Goya’s Ghosts* from Netflix. It was fairly disappointing, especially as it was directed by Milos Forman, who was responsible for one of my favorite movies, *Amadeus*. The movie didn’t make good use of talented actors such as Stellan Skarsgård, Javier Bardem and Natalie Portman. It didn’t really focus on Goya at all, and I didn’t learn anything new about the painter from the movie.

Still, the movie didn’t dampen my enthusiasm for the ball. To get to
Kensington, I carpooled with my friends John, Eva and Stannie, all long-time Regency dance enthusiasts like myself. Jolie, who originated the ball’s theme, was also the organizer. She always does a great job with the food and décor. I was a little worried about the turnout beforehand because Kensington is quite far away from the Peninsula venues for the monthly BAERS dances (Palo Alto) and occasional balls (San Mateo). We were all surprised that a lot of people showed up. The theme was more popular than we’d expected; either that or people really just wanted to come to a Regency dance especially since we didn’t have a ball in the Summer. Lots of people came in period-appropriate (late 18th century-early 19th century) costumes, and several even dressed in traditional Spanish attire.

During the planning stages (I’m one of the BAERS organizers), Jolie asked me if wanted to be the Duchess of Alba for the ball. I was so honored! Especially as I’m part Spanish. Also, it affirmed to me that Jolie had liked my portrayal of Countess Natasha Rostova at last year’s War and Peace ball, which she also hosted. I had a reproduction made of Audrey Hepburn’s ball gown from the 1950s movie version of War and Peace for last year’s event. This time, I could do no less considering I was getting a “promotion” from Countess to Duchess.

Jolie recommended the “White Duchess” portrait, which she said would be relatively easy to do. I searched for it on the Internet and saw that it was a beautiful white gown with a red sash and red ribbon accents. I knew it would suit me just fine so I had Ute, an expert Regency seamstress, make it for me. The later “Black Duchess” portrait would have been too overwhelming on my small frame and it also represented the Duchess in mourning. There was also the option of coming as the “Clothed Maja,” which Jolie used for the promotional flyer (which I dropped off wherever I could). “The Naked Maja” would have been easier still, but...
completely inappropriate, not to mention
drafty.

Besides, the Duchess had denied
being the model for these paintings
despite rumors to the contrary. There
was also talk that she was not only
Goya’s patroness, but his lover as well.

The specifics being re-enacted for the
ball were that the Duchess was holding a
lavish party to celebrate the unveiling of
one of Goya’s latest portraits of her.

Unfortunately, we couldn’t find
someone to play the role of Goya, but
Jolie placed a portrait of him at one of
the tables. Jolie and her helpers also
provided savory dishes in elegant
arrangements that looked like still life
paintings during one break, and sweet
dishes for the later break.

I didn’t dance during the first set
because I was busy taking photos of the
wonderful costumes and decor, greeting
friends, and making new acquaintances.
I also just wanted to enjoy listening to
the music, courtesy of the Divertimento
Dance Orchestra, and watch the dancing.
It was also fun to roleplay the Duchess
of Alba for half an hour or so.

At the start of the second set, dance
master Alan Winston (the caller for the
evening and BAERS jefe) introduced me
as the Duchess, and he and I led the
Grand March. The dance involves
couples lining up in promenade position
and parading around the ballroom doing
various figures.

The dancing was Spanish-themed
with some regular Regency dances. Alan
also taught a Spanish-influenced
handkerchief dance that looked like a lot
of fun. I couldn’t find a partner in time
for it but I did enjoy just taking photos,
as it was a colorful display of
handkerchiefs and costumes. It was
elegant and lively at the same time.

My friends and I had a long drive
home, but it was worth it to spend a
great evening at such a unique event set
in Regency-era Spain.

For more info, visit: www.baers.org
The Music and Magic of Star Wars

By Jean Martin
Editor

The *Star Wars* main theme song is probably one of the most recognizable tunes in movie history. It is also, at least to my mind, the best.

When *Star Wars* came out, I immediately fell in love with the song, and promptly asked my piano teacher to help me learn it. She probably rarely got asked for anything outside of classical music and show tunes. But you can tell I was a geek in training even from an early age. I also went gaga over “The Imperial March (Darth Vader’s Theme)” when *The Empire Strikes Back* came out, and chose the discofied Meco version for a dance routine my classmates and I choreographed for P.E. class.

But when my friend Scott asked if anyone wanted to go see the *Star Wars* concert with him at the HP Pavilion in San Jose on October 11th, I was hesitant. I love going to the Symphony, and I like to listen to soundtracks when I’m working, but two full hours of *Star Wars* music seemed a bit much. Added to that, in 2006, some friends of mine and I had gone to the *Lord of the Rings* Symphony at Davies Hall in San Francisco and I didn’t like it as much as I had expected. I love Howard Shore’s score for the three movies and I appreciate Alan Lee’s artwork, but the show just didn’t come alive for me. I thought I wrote a review of it for *SF/SF*, but I can’t seem to find it in any of our back issues around that
time. I guess I didn’t think it was worth writing about.

The *Star Wars* concert, on the other hand, is not just worth writing about, it’s worth proclaiming to anyone who would listen how great it was! I just went along with Scott and some of our other dance friends. We even got the least expensive seats, which were literally to the side of the stage and in the very last row. I carpooled with my friend Pat and her husband Anton, who had seats on the floor close to the stage. Right before the show began, I jokingly told my seatmates — Scott, Dawn, Helena and Mohammed — that I didn’t care where we sat because there wasn’t going to be anyone famous showing up anyway. Little did I know…

When the house lights were turned off and the black curtains surrounding the stage fell, the music started and I was enthralled. There was a conductor, a full orchestra and two rows of choir singers with a huge movie screen behind them. Flanking the screen were panels of LEDs that showed live images of the musicians. I’ve never seen anything like it. Concert technology has really advanced since I used to go more often decades ago. And it truly was a complete concert experience with lights, lasers, fog and even fire.

They, of course, opened with the *Star Wars* main theme, and they showed footage from all the movies — even the most recent three that I always say don’t exist. The songs they performed were combined into themes in roughly chronological order from the prequels to the original trilogy. So it was actually nice to see the story progress in the timeline in which it was supposed to have happened.

Old (original trilogy) and new (prequel trilogy) scenes were blended together. I didn’t mind the old mixed in with new, but I didn’t like the new mixed in with old. Especially when Jar Jar Binks was shown during the Ewok segment. Still, it was a great idea to show the parallels between the
old and the new, like when the asteroid field scene from *Star Wars* (a.k.a Episode IV) was interwoven with the pod racing scene from *The Phantom Menace* (Episode I).

My problem with Episode I is that Anakin just seemed too young especially seeing how Padme was already almost an adult. Age differences are okay when people are older but showing a potential romance when one character is still a child just seems wrong. Anakin also seemed too whiny and just too modern. I can go on and on about my issues with the prequels but I’ll stop there, and instead go back to praising the concert.

One thing that I did like that evening was that the love story between Anakin and Padme was made to resemble a music video or a Bollywood music number. Most of the cheesy dialogue was cut out and all that was left was a romantic montage and beautiful scenery.

In general, I noticed that the music for the action sequences was just regular, score-type music. Not remarkable in and of itself but it did the job of amping up the adrenaline factor at the moment. The themes for each character, though, were more memorable with either haunting melodies or rousing marches.

The segments I enjoyed the most during the first half were “A Hero Rises,” “Droids,” “A Fateful Love” and “A Hero Falls.” Speaking of droids, the host for the concert was none other than C-3PO, Anthony Daniels. If I had known he was going to be there, I would have gotten better seats! Luckily, the big screen did show closeups of him, but I couldn’t get any good photos of him up close. I was glad Pat was closer so she was able to get better shots.

Anthony Daniels, who looked handsome and seems to have aged very well, was the perfect narrator. His voice was soothing and his British accent pleasant. He was very entertaining... a great storyteller. He was alternately funny and serious. The two hours went by quickly as his narration was moving and kept the continuing dramatic story fast-paced. Anthony did the voice of C-3PO only once, but to the delight of everyone in the audience.

The second half after the intermission was comprised mostly of the original trilogy, three of my favorite movies of all time. The numbers I liked the most were “A Hero Emerges,” “An Unlikely
Alliance,” “A Jedi is Trained,” “A Life Redeemed” and “A New Day Dawns.”

The finale showed videos of the musicians during their scoring sessions. For the encore, Anthony joked that we, the audience, wanted to turn to the “dark side,” and so the orchestra reprised the “Imperial March.” It gave me chills when they showed live footage of the musicians section by section. Even the soloists were highlighted as they played their portions.

The concert was a multimedia treat with great sound and incredible visuals. It was also amazing to realize that I’ve now experienced live the music from my top two favorite franchises: Lord of the Rings and Star Wars. Now if someone would just organize a Star Trek symphony and bring the Doctor Who concert to the U.S. (the 2006 one in Cardiff with David Tennant was spectacular even on DVD!), I’d be even more ecstatic.

After the show, I went to see the exhibit in the hallway. I had seen a few items before the concert but the area was packed with people so I didn’t see too many. I’m glad I stayed to see the rest. The highlights were Darth Vader, Yoda, Han Solo in carbonite, and of course, C-3PO. There were some members of the Rebel Legion in costume roaming the halls to entertain the attendees. I suppose if I’d gotten organized enough beforehand, I could have coordinated with them to wear my Medal Ceremony Princess Leia costume and, I assume, get in free. I’ve been an approved member of the Rebel Legion since last year. My friend Pat wore her amazing Callista Ming (from the Children of the Jedi novel by Barbara Hambly) costume, which I’m sure will get her into the Rebel Legion.

I also browsed through the numerous souvenir booths scattered throughout the entire circular hallway surrounding the arena. There were several items that caught my eye but they were all, not surprisingly, very expensive. I had enough great memories, and even photos, from the concert, so that’s all I needed. I was glad I went and am thankful that Scott suggested the idea and organized our group’s outing into the Star Wars universe.

For more information, visit www.starwarsinconcert.com
By Stephanie Brucker  
*Contributing Writer*

The 2009 World Fantasy Convention (WFC) in San Jose had all that and more for fannish types who enjoy the more stationary pastimes of reading and writing speculative fiction. Gamers, Sci Fi/Fantasy film and TV lovers, costumers, re-enactors, and dancers of any sort are better served by other types of cons. Naturally, I like most of the above.

At WFC, I restricted my costuming hobby to Halloween only. Instead, I indulged my fantasy reader and occasional fan fiction writer tastes by attending the top notch panels WFC offered. (Did I say the evening parties were terrific?)

A traditional highlight of WFC is four full days of writers reading excerpts from their works. Each day the schedule featured a different writer every half hour to an hour. Writers exhibited their oral interpretation skills by presenting their works to eager listeners. Some of the well-known writers I did not hear speaking included Irene Radford, Tim Pratt, Garth Nix, Michael Swanwick and Peter Straub.

I made myself go to Guy Gavriel Kay’s reading on Friday, having enjoyed his *The Lions of El-Rassan* and
I feared the very ambience of a “reading” would encourage a snooze fest, but I was pleasantly surprised. Kay treated the big group to the first few chapters of his upcoming novel centered in alternate Tang Dynasty China (around 700 AD). He was an excellent interpreter of his work, giving fine vocal drama to characters and settings that captured my attention. By the end, I gave a fannish squee. Now I was ready for more readings.

My friends Shayne and Ancilla recommended the writer Patricia McKillip, so off I went to her Saturday reading. McKillip is not the dramatic interpreter that Kay is. Nevertheless, I enjoyed her gentle presentation from her upcoming novel, no doubt because I was captivated by its traditional Medieval Europe fantasy setting and her musician character.

Panels are quite a different animal than readings. WFC panels featured hopefully engaging topics, a writer as moderator, and four other writers as commentators. Because most of the commentary came from the panel itself, the audience was invited to participate only in the final 10-15 minutes. I indulged myself in panel after panel, ignoring the lovely Fairmont Hotel pool and my normal inclination to get a lot of exercise. As a fan fiction writer-dabbler, I chose panels that might possibly help me improve my humble romps in Tolkien’s playhouse. I also selected panels that discussed subgenres that tickled my curiosity.

My first panel was “Writing Human Characters, Whether or Not They’re Human.” As I had hoped, the writers discussed how they developed non-human characters from the regulation troops of vampires, zombies, and dragons to some pretty bizarre lizard, lizard/human combos, and other alien types. I went to this talk to hear panelist Kate Elliott, whose writings had been recommended to me. She was an impressive participant, but I wound up purchasing a book by a more reserved panelist, Shauna Roberts. This lively panel was just what I was after, useful tips for amateur fiction writers like myself.

“Invention vs. Tradition,” on the other hand, was more like a Current Trends in Fantasy Lit class, though I found it entertaining. Literary publishers as well as writers were on this panel, where a favorite topic was the dark fantasy trend versus genre backbone works by Tolkien and even Mervyn Peake, author of Gormenghast. My favorite takeaway was one panel member’s labeling traditional medieval fantasy “horses and castles,” and then declaring it passé. The young woman next to me and I thought we heard him say “horses and tassels.” So naturally I adopted “horses and tassels” as my new favorite term for classic high fantasy.

“Non-Conciliatory Fantasy” was the most heated panel that I attended. I was particularly interested in the views of
David Drake, having recently read his *Lord of the Isles*. The panelists defined non-conciliatory fiction as works that end on a somber, fatalistic note, intentionally devoid of a hopeful ending. Drake, a Vietnam Vet, provided very thought-provoking commentary. He asserted that Ambrose Bierce’s and Tolkien’s experiences in the Civil War and World War I, respectively, influenced the dark resolutions of their fiction. After a chorus of non-conciliatory fantasy recommendations from the panel, little me offered up the question, “Why is it that apparently few women write non-conciliatory fiction? Women in the U.S. and Europe have not traditionally served in armies, but they still are the victims of war and atrocities like the Holocaust.” Dead silence from the esteemed panel as they chewed on my question. Fortunately, they managed to list a few female writers in this genre. Where was my pen then?

For something completely different, I started Saturday with the panel “Why Steampunk Now?” It was basically a friendly chat fest, covering the development of the Steampunk movement and its relevance as literary genre and fashion statement. I loved how Michael Swanwick, playing the somewhat detached Baby Boomer, mentioned how the Steampunk style is mostly adopted by the young. Steampunk lecturer and advocate Liz Gorinsky happily informed him that Steampunk conventions are attended by people of all ages, races, etc. Good to hear, because my 50-something friends had hauled their Steampunk costumes to WFC for Halloween.

“Coarse Dialogue and Graceful Description: The Balancing Act” was one of those hot tips for aspiring writers panels that I had so hoped to find. Both writers and editors discussed how dialogue styles in fantasy fiction change over the decades. I was inspired, got lots of wonderful ideas, and had no paper nor pen. Pffft. My crush on Guy Gavriel Kay grew to even greater proportions, as the man from Canada proved in this panel to be the English professor I wish I had. Patricia McKillip contributed some great comments as well. Additionally, NPR radio commenter
Ellen Kushner offered pithy comments for struggling writers. Kushner later complimented me on my pirate costume. I wish I had had the nerve to tell her how much I enjoyed her commentary in this panel.

By the time I got to my final Saturday panel, “What Makes a Good Monster,” I was ready to collapse. Unfortunately, I mostly remember how the panelists went off topic, leaving me still wondering what makes a good monster after all.

By Sunday morning, I was truly collapsing as I dragged myself to the last panels of WFC. I had too many adventures the previous night at the wildly successful Steampunk tea and other parties that my roommate, the estimable Jean Martin, will no doubt cover in a future issue.

Cup of coffee in hand, I settled down to enjoy “Contemporary Rural Fantasy.” First, props to moderator Lawrence C. Connolly. He did the best job of sticking to topic and getting panelist responses of all the panels I attended. The goal was to define rural fantasy, determine if such a subgenre exists, and elicit recommendations from all involved. Drat it, I forgot my writing implements again. I do remember that Alice Henderson gave a shout out to her new book Voracious as a rural fantasy example. It involves a hiker and a shape-shifter in Glacier National Park. (I’ve hiked there.) I recommended The Haunted Mesa, set in the parklands of contemporary Southern Utah. It was Western writer Louis Lamour’s last novel.

With the Inner Mountain West still on my mind, I went to my last panel and my favorite of the con: “Weird, Weird West.” The kiddie TV I remember was not the Jetsons or Buck Rogers. It was Roy Rogers, the Lone Ranger, and Tonto (whom I adored at age 5). The Western novel is so old and out-of-date that you just know that in about five years from now it will be the next big thing! Especially when combined with that fantastical element. The panelists discussed examples of weird westerns (no one mentioned the film El Topo) and touted their own works. I was especially impressed with writers James Van Pelt and Jane Lindskold, whose novels my friends are gaga about.

To wrap it up: too many books, too little time, especially because I now own a tote bag full of at least 15 fantasy books, courtesy of the World Fantasy Convention.

For more coverage of panels at the World Fantasy Convention, check out Gary Singh’s review at: [www.metroactive.com/metro/11.11.09/alleys-0945.html](http://www.metroactive.com/metro/11.11.09/alleys-0945.html)

Gary is a Staff Writer for the Metro Newspapers. He can be contacted at: gsingh@metronews.com
Ma Vie en Reno

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

Another in a series of reminiscences leading up to the 2011 Worldcon in Reno, Nevada

Sometimes, it’s good to go traveling. It’s one of the things I enjoy about conventions. There are things I love more than anything that I seldom get to see. One of the things I absolutely loved about staying at the Hotel Deca in Seattle for Corflu was that our room looked out over the Neptune Theatre and its lovely old-style marquee. So seldom do I get to see any of the historic theaters. I was in Baltimore and never saw the Senator. I was in Seattle and didn’t make it to the Cinerama. I’ve never been to the Rialto, or the Paramount (which was showing Dial M For Murder last night!) and only once have I seen a flick at the Castro. Yeah, the Stanford, the California, the old Towne and various others knew me by sight because I was there so often, but when I’m traveling, well, I seldom get to see the old houses.

Except when the trip is made specifically to go to an old movie theater.

My buddy Mike and I were Juniors, he’d just got his license and I was the guy who had his ear to the ground. I think it was at BayCon where I heard that they were showing Buckaroo Banzai in Reno with W.D. Richter, the director of that classic, showing up. It was showing at the Syufy Theatre, which was the company that ran my favorite theaters in the BArea: the Century 21 and 22. I would later work at those magic theaters. I convinced Mike to drive up.

We made our way up on a Friday. I totally remember getting caught up in traffic because we left at exactly the right moment. I think I told my Mom we were going to Santa Cruz. We actually stopped at some cheap motel along the way and slept. I think it took us something like five hours to get there. I remember we were in a room that looked out on the screens of a drive-in, which I think was showing Terminator 2. I love that movie. I watched it about a dozen times when it was in theaters, but I remember being annoyed about the movies shining in on us in the room.

We woke up and ran up to Tahoe in less than two hours. It must have been Sacramento where we stayed. We stopped in South Lake Tahoe which has always been one of my favorite cities in the world. We ate at Heidi’s, the great pancake house where you can get just about every kind of pancake you’d like and they’re all brilliant! We headed up to Reno right after that, immediately getting lost, which was nice since we found a comic book shop where I found Jonni Thunder comics, which was a great miniseries from DC which failed at reviving a classic character as a woman of the 1980s. I think I annoyed Mike while we were trying to find the theater by reading them and not looking out the window. We finally got there, I think totally by luck.

And why by luck? Because it happened to be a giant dome.

The Syufy Theatre (or it might have been called the Century 21 at the time, the CinemaTreasures site doesn’t seem to say and I’m not 100% sure) was almost exactly like the theaters I loved in San Jose, giant domes. The Syufy chain would later become Century Theatres before they were bought by the Cinemark, and the original Century 21, 22 and 23 Theatres were not included and became the Winchester Theaters. The Century Theatres used the domed theater as their logo, and there were dozens of them around the country, but the best were those in San Jose.

The dome in Reno had been hacked from one big screen and had stuff added making it into several screens. We got there and saw the marquee. Buffy the Vampire Slayer was there and a couple of others, but there was no notice of Buckaroo. I was worried.

I went up to the box office and asked.

They hadn’t heard about it.

I walked around and saw no one waiting, as should have been happening. I mean, it was less than three hours before the movie and there should have been a crowd surrounding us, dressed in Blue Blaze Irregular outfits. There
should have been fat guys arguing about the ties between Buckaroo and Jack Burton, the hero of *Big Trouble in Little China*. It wasn’t to be, and I was concerned. The manager walked out, a guy with a giant red birthmark splashed Pollack-style across his face.

“You lookin’ for the *Banzai* thing?” he said.

“Yeah. The flyer said it was here.” I said.

“It was. They had to move it because corporate said we couldn’t do it. It’s at the Old Granada.”

He told us the directions and we jetted off. We got there and it looked like an old movie theater. It was a pretty impressive theater, though not nearly as old as I thought it would be as the manager had said it was the “Old Granada.” Movie time is much faster than regular time, I imagine. There was a nice big marquee. I always think that the worst part of the multi-plex era is that there aren’t huge signs that tell you which movies are in there.

And there still weren’t any geeks waiting outside.

The sidewalk was clear, nearly empty save for people walking into the beauty parlor next door. There was no hullabaloo, no nothin’! I was concerned that the others, the obvious teeming masses that would be descending to see *Buckaroo Banzai Across the 8th Dimension*, were all descending on the Syufy to see it and might not make it in time. I was worried until I went up to the box office.

“One for Buckaroo Banzai,” I said.

I handed the wide redhead my money. She looked at it, then at me, gave me some sort of smile and then handed me a ticket.

Mike paid right after me. We walked in, the carpet seeming a bit more worn than you’d expect, and we went right into the theater, where the crowd that we’d be enjoying the film with had already gathered.

All six of them.

I grabbed a seat in the center in the third row, and the others in front turned around and introduced themselves as the Blue Blaze Irregulars for the area. This was still two plus hours before the film started. There were six of them: an older guy, a black fellow who was dressed in his Blue Blaze outfit, a girl who was probably 16 with long white-blonde hair and, as Mike would describe her later, “an ass like damn,” a tall and thin girl dressed like New Jersey, and a pair of guys the kind you’d expect to find at a special screening of a decade-old sci-fi flick. We started talking and Mike made his way to the front to chat up the young lady.

It was a great crew, and I enjoyed talking about the movie and all sorts of other stuff. The older guy was really funny and he talked about all sorts of stuff, like opera and old movies and Hollywood politics. It’s always good to talk to that sort of guy. It wasn’t until showtime came around that it was discovered that this was, in fact, W.D. Richter. He must have noticed there were so few folks and just decided to chat with everyone. It was cool, and he was really nice. I understand now that he hadn’t done many of these kinds of events, and it kinda showed because you can always tell the folks who do this stuff all the time.

We watched the movie, and even though there were only eight of us, including the Guest of Honor, they still did the drawing in which Mike won a signed copy of the original movie poster. Mike also won the heart of that lovely young lady, which was cool because that meant we’d go back a few times that summer.

The thing that struck me most was simple: It was a fan community, small, but there. They were having a great time, they loved the movie and everyone, and I mean everyone, whistled along with the ending. I told folks about the BayCon screening in 1986 or so, where the extended version of the film was screened on the in-house movie network and it made history, because it was those rooms that had VCRs that got the tapes and folks made a fortune because there were so many folks clamoring for them.

So we headed back, after going with the entire crew to some diner around the way, and I will always remember the conversation we had. The thin girl dressed as Jeff Goldblum’s character was talking about wrestling and I asked her how much wrestling she watched.

“Every time Shawn Michaels is on the screen,” She said.

We argued about Michaels and Flair, which one was cooler, for at least an hour. Sadly, I’ve only run into her once since, at a wrestling convention, where, for some reason, she remembered me as the tall blonde guy named Mike.

I’m always playing second fiddle.
Meeting 1005

November 2, 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-ish - with pumpkin pie.
We established a party jar.
19 people attended.
Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 1004 were accepted as ‘World Fantasy Con is still sold out’.
There was no Treasurer.
There was no VP.
The President welcomed back Lamont, visiting in the area for WFC and we said ‘hi’ to Rick Kovalcik, visiting us from Boston.

Announcements
Dave C announced that Connie Willis has a new book coming out that Bantam is splitting into 2 parts to be released 6 months apart - so it’s not HER fault.

Lisa announced that cons are coming up around Thanksgiving - LosCon and SorcererCon.
Ed announced that grants are being given out for the arts and can be applied for - check out the website at www.artscouncil.org.

Reviews
WFC was reviewed = Adrienne rather enjoyed it, recommended it, thought the staff were marvelous; Fred thought that Registration was perfect and Con Suite was beyond excellent; Ed really enjoyed it and also praised Con Suite; Dave C thought running Dealer’s Room was an experience, that the broken pipe caused no significant damage to their stock and that sales were satisfying; the Edgar Allen Poe balloon cake was multiply praised and marveled over; Lisa got to go to panels and meet people and her feet are still sore and she had a great time; Mo said she spent a lot of time in Con Suite, regretted missing the panels and thought it worth full price and Lamont enjoyed Bob Dylan singing U2 songs with the Queen of England.

Julie reviewed the first few episodes of this season of the ‘Sarah Jane Adventures’ as a children’s show but well worth watching.
Lisa reviewed some dyed wool as superb and recommends www.damselflyyarns.com & reviewed ‘Amelia’ as a wonderful fun film, definitely worth full price.
Adrienne reviewed ‘This is It’ as interesting to watch and it impressed her, it was fun and she enjoyed it - worth full price - and she recommends the Hallowe’en ‘Medium’ episode.
Stellan reviewed trick-or-treating with kids in Berkeley as there were hordes of kids there and he had a lot of fun & he reviewed the ‘Other Change of Hobbit’ as everyone there had gone to WFC and he couldn’t get a copy of ‘Analog’.
Eric reviewed the Hallowe’en episode of ‘Castle’ fun and amusing and well worth seeing.

We did auctions: cupcakes for $1.50, cookies for $1.25, a sampler book for $0.25, more cookies for $1.00, and a 2009 calendar for $0.25.

We adjourned at = 9:12.
And the rumor of the week was: “Kevin and Andy’s next dessert will be a baked Alaska called the Hindenburg”.

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Meeting 1006

November 9, 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-ish - with talk of sparkle-pires and Chris’ secret powers.
We established a party jar.
The Vice President was schooled by Mo.
19 people attended.
Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 1005 were accepted as “Next World Fantasy Con is not yet sold out” ... and I made change.
There was no Treasurer.
The Vice President reported that there’s a new Drink Tank out and a new Exhibition Hall is out, too - and he’ll be the Fan GoH at WindyCon next week.
The President welcomed Elizabeth and we said “hi” [didn’t scare her off]; she’s a math student and science fiction fan who biked here from Stanford.
The Party Committee reported that Ed wants to step down as BASFA party maven after Westercon 2011, so make plans to supplant him.
“It’s not yet Ed time.” [various tumult]
“Now it’s Ed time.”

Announcements

Ed announced that he needs help with the BASFA party at SorcererCon, to be held on Friday night - and that he has 2 free con memberships for those who help him; Mo follow-on’d that if you book a room at the Doubletree that you’ll get 2 free SorcererCon memberships for doing so - and that Bill Blair is a media GoH and Beth Gilligan is writer GoH.

Adrienne announced that Bay Area Ghost Hunters will have a meet and greet on Nov 14, noon, at the St Francis hotel in the Oak room & another meet and greet on December 13 in San Jose at Trial’s Pub & that Bill Murray is on Letterman tonight.

Chris announced that WindyCon is next week in Chicago and he’s the fan GoH there & announced that he’s doing a London issue for Journey Planet and needs contributions for it & announced that New Moon comes out in 8 days.

Stellan announced that he wants someone to go with him to see the Star Trek Exhibition <<BASFA OUTING, anyone?>> and announced that 330’ long is the new world record for a California roll.

Ken announced that the new version of the Prisoner airs on AMC this Sunday, 8pm.

Diana Koivunen announced that she’s looking for work as a tech writer [& Lynn Gold said she was good at it].

Reviews

Ed reviewed the cover for Dick Lupoff’s book with cover art by our own Michael McLaughlin.

Adrienne reviewed going to Dave and Busters as fun - and reviewed Zombieland as endearing and worth full price.

Dave C reviewed checking out blogs and noting that editors really enjoyed WFC’s con suite.

Chris reviewed SteamCon as awesome and wonderful and the hotel was gorgeous - worth full price, he enjoyed WFC’s con suite & reviewed The Men who Stare at Goats as a difficult film, worth seeing on video & reviewed watching short films as he got bored, then saw the Vampire’s Assistant and thought it was mediocre.

Mo reviewed Chris’ reviews as they made her tired and then reviewed Wrestling Women vs the Aztec Ape as funny stuff.

Ken reviewed seeing John Cleese in his 1 woman show as he “found John Cleese to be very tall” and recommended it, definitely worth full price.

We did auctions: videos for $0.25, books for $1.75, $1.00, $0.50, $0.50, $0.25, $0.25, $3.00, $0.25, $0.25, $0.50, $0.50, $0.25, a book of stickers for $0.10 & books and a plushie for $0.25.

We adjourned at = 9:30 in memory of the fall of the Berlin wall.
And the rumor of the week was: “Mr. Garcia, tear down this beard!”
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.

New: Follow the calendar on Twitter: @sfsfcalendar

**Thursdays & Fridays, through November 20**

**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.

**Friday, November 20**

**Author: Brandon Sanderson**
Bay Book Company
80 North Cabrillo Hwy, Suite F, Half Moon Bay
www.baybookcompany.com
Sanderson signs *The Gathering Storm*, the first of a trilogy which will conclude Robert Jordan’s *The Wheel of Time* series. 7 p.m.

**Saturday, November 21**

**Author: Brandon Sanderson**
Clayton Books
5433 D Clayton Road, Clayton
www.claytonbookshop.com
Sanderson signs *The Gathering Storm*, the first of a trilogy which will conclude Robert Jordan’s *The Wheel of Time* series. 11 a.m.

**Monday, November 23**

**Dir en grey**
The Fillmore
1805 Geary Boulevard, San Francisco
www.direngrey.co.jp
“All Visible Things” tour promoting the band’s seventh album *UROBOROS*. All ages show. 8 p.m.

**Friday-Sunday, November 27-29**

**LosCon**
LAX Marriott
5855 West Century Blvd, Los Angeles
www.loscon.org
GOHs Steven Barnes, Tananarive Due, Tim Rickard and Christian Maguire. $40

**Friday-Sunday, November 27-29**

**SorcererCon**
Doubltree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place, San Jose
www.sorcerercon.com
Fantasy convention. Details TBA. $40
Friday, November 27-Sunday, December 20

The Great Dickens Fair
Cow Palace Exhibition Halls
2600 Geneva Ave, San Francisco
www.dickensfair.com
A holiday adventure into Victorian London.

Saturday, December 5
Holiday Anime Fair
Fremont Teen Center in Central Park
39770 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont
www.holidayanimefaire.com
All-ages day of arts, crafts, music, culture, and celebrating the holiday season.
10 a.m. $8

Saturday, December 5
The Phenomenauts
Homestead Lanes
20990 Homestead Rd, Cupertino
www.grandfanali.com
With The Action Design and The Atom Age.
All Ages show.
7 p.m $10

Saturday, December 5
Time Tunnel Super Toy, Comic and Record Show
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
344 Tully Road, San Jose
www.timetunneltoys.com
240 tables of vintage to modern toys and collectibles.
11 a.m $5

Wednesday, December 9
Leonardo Art Science Evening Rendezvous (LASER)
SETI Institute
Palo Alto
www.leonardo.info/isast/events.html
LASER is a monthly series of lectures and presentations organized by Piero Scaruffi on behalf of Leonardo/ISAS. This event is FREE but space is limited. Please RSVP to p@scaruffi.com.
6:30 p.m. Free

Saturday, December 12
Writers With Drinks
The Make-Out Room
225 22nd. St., San Francisco
www.writerswithdrinks.com
Dan Fante, Joshua Mohr, Mark Coggins, Seanan Maguire and Cat Grant. All proceeds benefit the Center for Sex and Culture.
7 p.m. $3-$5 Sliding scale.

Sunday, December 13
SACCON
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6

Saturday, January 2, 2010

Victorian 12th Night Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
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. $15 (till December 26)

Friday-Sunday, January 8-10, 2010

West Kingdom 12th Night
Hilton Concord Hotel
1970 Diamond Blvd, Concord
www.westcooks.org/12thnight2010
SCA event, we ask that everyone who is attending make an attempt at pre-17th Century clothing. 12th Night serves as the Coronation for the incoming King and Queen, and there are a host of other things to do too.
$25

Friday-Sunday, January 8-10, 2010

SacAnime
Radisson Hotel
500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento
www.sacanime.com
Anime convention
$35
Friday-Sunday, January 8-10, 2010
Anime Los Angeles
LAX Marriott
5855 West Century Blvd, Los Angeles
www.animelosangeles.org
Anime convention. GOHs: Kyle Hebert, Jessica Gaona, The Spooky Bards and Bekka the Alice. Tostmaster: Tadao Tomomastu
Friday-Saturday, January 22-23, 2010
Jonathan Coulton, Paul & Storm
Great American Music Hall
859 OFarrell St, San Francisco
www.gamhtickets.com/events/58344/Jonathan-Coulton--fri-
9 p.m. $25
Saturday-Sunday, January 23-24, 2010
Creation Salute to Star Trek
Westin St. Francis Hotel
335 Powell Street, San Francisco
www.creationent.com/cal/stsan.htm
William Shatner, Patrick Stewart, Armin Shimerman, Jeffrey Coombs, and more.
Saturday-Sunday, January 30-31, 2010
Animation on Display
Hotel Kabuki
1625 Post St., San Francisco
www.aodsf.org
Animation on Display (AOD) is a convention that features Japanese animation, (relatively recent) cartoons, and their related interests.
$25 (till December 31)

Saturday, February 6, 2010
Le Mardi Gras des Vampires
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
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

Saturday, February 13, 2010
Writers With Drinks
The Make-Out Room
225 22nd. St., San Francisco
www.writerswithdrinks.com
Reading by Vikram Chandra (Sacred Games), Cherie Priest (Boneshaker) James Rollins (The Doomsday Key) and Andrew Porter (The Theory Of Light And Matter)
7 p.m. $3-$5 Sliding scale.
**Friday-Sunday, February 26-28, 2010**

**Gallifrey One**
LAX Marriott
5855 West Century Blvd, Los Angeles
gallifreyone.com
Doctor Who convention. GOH Sarah Sutton, Georgia Moffet and many more. Original GOH Peter Davison canceled due to scheduling conflict.

$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)

**Sunday, March 7, 2010**

**SACCON**
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentoconvention.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show. 10 a.m. $6

**Sonora Celtic Faire**
Mother Lode Fairgrounds
220 Southgate Dr., Sonora
sonoracelticfaire.com
Celebrating the cultures of Ireland, Scotland, Cornwall and Wales.

$50

**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.

**April, 2010**

**The Great Pan-Kinetic Exposition**
www.pankineticexpo.com
Details TBA

$15 (till March 27th)

**Friday-Sunday, April 2-4, 2010**

**WonderCon**
Moscone Center South
747 Howard Street, San Francisco
www.comic-con.org/wc
Comics convention
Details TBA

**Friday-Sunday, April 23-25, 2010**

**Robogames**
San Mateo County Fairgrounds
2495 S Delaware St, San Mateo
robogames.net
RoboGames invites the best minds from around the world to compete in over 70 events. Combat robots, walking humanoids, soccer bots, sumo bots, and even androids that do kung-fu.

$20

**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 conventional mid-to-late Victorian evening dress (1850s – 1900) or Victorian Steampunk attire. Costumes, as always, are admired, not required 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)
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. Masks, either worn or handheld, are strongly recommended. While wings are very welcome on our Faerie creatures, be sure to wear wings you can dance in. 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)

Saturday-Monday, May 28-31, 2010

Fanime
San Jose McEnery Convention Center
150 W. San Carlos St., San Jose
www.fanime.com
Details TBA $45

Saturday, June 5, 2010
The Golden Anniversary Victorian Ball
PEERS Event, www.peers.org
Masonic Lodge of San Mateo
100 N Ellsworth Ave, San Mateo
Please join us in celebrating the 50th birthday of Mr. Fezziwig, the most gracious party host in all of Dickens’ London. Live music by Bangers & Mash. Late Georgian Regency, Victorian, or modern evening dress is admired but not required. Punch, cake and a light Old English buffet will be served (Potluck contributions to Mrs. Fezziwig’s kitchen would be most welcome).
7 p.m. $15 (till May 29)

Sunday, June 6 2010

SACCON
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentoconics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6

Saturday-Monday, May 28-31, 2010

Baycon
The Hyatt Regency Santa Clara
5101 Great America Parkway, Santa Clara
www.baycon.org
GOH Peter Beagle, Colleen and Steve Savitzky, Toastmasher Tadao Tomomatsu.
Special Guests: Mercedes Lackey & Larry Dixon
$55 (till December 1st)

Friday-Monday, 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 hardworking 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 hardworking musicians will be gratefully accepted, however, both before and during the event.
11 a.m. Free
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)

Saturday-Sunday, September 24-25, 2010
From the Land Beyond 3
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.fromthelandbeyond.com
Horror & Sci-Fi con. Details TBA.

Sunday, June 5 2011
SACCON
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6

Sunday, December 11 2011
SACCON
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6

Sunday, December 12th 2010
SACCON
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6

Sunday, March 6 2011
SACCON
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street, Sacramento
www.sacramentocomics.com/html/index2.html
Sacramento’s Toys, Comics and Anime show.
10 a.m. $6
<table>
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<th><strong>ongoing</strong></th>
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| **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 |
| **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 |
| **mondays** |
| **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. |
| **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 board games such as Settlers of Catan; also multi-player Avalon Hill-style, historical war games, and others.  
6:30 p.m. $2 |
| **Tuesdays** |
| **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](http://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](http://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
[www.hanford.org/dk/games](http://www.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](http://www.hauntedhaight.com)
Reservations required.
7 p.m. - 9 p.m. $20

**Fridays and Saturdays**

**Vampire Walking Tour**

Meets corner of California and Taylor, San Francisco
[www.sfvampiretour.com](http://www.sfvampiretour.com)
Led by Mina Harker. Tour is canceled if there is heavy rain.
8 p.m. $20

**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.

**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.
**Monthly**

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

**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.

**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.

**The Gay Men’s Book Club**
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

**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.

**Micro Gods, Inc.**
Berkeley Public Library, West Branch
1125 University Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com
www.mgiscai.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.

**No-Name Anime**
Saratoga Library
13650 Saratoga Avenue
Saratoga
www.mnanime.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.

**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.

**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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club</strong></th>
<th><strong>USS Augusta Ada</strong></th>
<th><strong>USS Northern Lights</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borderlands Books</td>
<td>Round Table Pizza</td>
<td>Contact <a href="mailto:firstjedi2000@yahoo.com">firstjedi2000@yahoo.com</a> for specifics.</td>
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<td>866 Valencia, San Francisco</td>
<td>3567 Geary Blvd, San Francisco</td>
<td>sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.borderlands-books.com">www.borderlands-books.com</a></td>
<td>trek.starshine.org</td>
<td>'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.</td>
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<td>The book for November is <em>The Demolished Man</em> by Alfred Bester. Please contact Jude at <a href="mailto:jfeldman@borderlands-books.com">jfeldman@borderlands-books.com</a> for more information.</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>November 21st the St. George Holiday Open House, and December 19th a festive potluck at the Hooverarium</td>
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<td>6 p.m. Free</td>
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<td><strong>SF Browncoats</strong></td>
<td><strong>USS Defiance</strong></td>
<td><strong>Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE</strong></td>
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<td>Round Table Pizza</td>
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<td>1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco</td>
<td>5026 Don Julio Blvd, Sacramento</td>
<td>4403 Elkhorn Blvd, Sacramento</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.sfbrowncoats.com">www.sfbrowncoats.com</a></td>
<td>1566 Howe Ave, Sacramento</td>
<td>916-338-2300</td>
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<td>SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month.</td>
<td>Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month.</td>
<td>Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.</td>
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<td>Noon Free</td>
<td>7 p.m. Free</td>
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<tr>
<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>November 21st the St. George Holiday Open House, and December 19th a festive potluck at the Hooverarium</td>
<td>November 21st the St. George Holiday Open House, and December 19th a festive potluck at the Hooverarium</td>
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<td>1 p.m. Free</td>
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Poppy

by Lucy Hunsinger
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