

Science Fiction/San Francisco

Issue 22

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TOC

Editorial.....	Jean Martin.....	2
Letters of Comment.....		3
PEERS Fairy Tale Masquerade Ball.....	Jean Martin..... Photos by Jean Martin.....	4-6
New Season of Doctor Who.....	Jean Martin..... Photos by Jean Martin.....	7-8
BAERS Thieves' Kitchen Ball.....	Jean Martin..... Photos by Jean Martin.....	9-12
Dance in Firefly.....	Mike Smithwick.....	13-15
World Horror Con.....	Robert Hole Jr.....	16-17
BASFA Meeting Notes.....		18-19
Bay Area Science Fiction Calendar.....	David Moyce.....	20-36

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Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor

It's been a busy couple of weeks for the SF/SF team on the personal front and so we are bringing this issue to you a week late. Well, better late than never! We decided that it's better to come out with an issue and have recent articles than to skip another issue. Other than the delay in publishing, things seem to be going smoothly after our founder, Jack Avery, decided to move on. We're back on track, and as I mentioned in the previous issue, have found someone to do our layout. And our resident proofreader, David Moyce, has bravely stepped forward to become our calendar genie.

We get many compliments and appreciation for our comprehensive calendar of events, so we are very happy to be able to continue this service for the benefit of Bay Area fandom.

In this issue, we have science fiction and fantasy covered as usual. Since I'm very active in the vintage/re-enactment dance community, I'm pleased to be able to cover this area as well. There's a lot of overlap with this community and the scifi/fantasy

world so I believe both are of interest to our readers.

The first ball I've co-organized, the BAERS Thieves' Kitchen Ball, was a success. We had a good turnout and we got lots of compliments from guests who enjoyed the music, the dancing, the food and decorations. I managed to wrangle several people to go to it who either haven't been in a while or who have never been to a BAERS ball before, and they told me how much they enjoyed it and look forward to attending other BAERS events in the future. There are some photos from this event in this issue as well as from the recent PEERS Fairy Tale Masquerade Ball.

I am also pleased to run a feature article by my friend, Mike Smithwick, who is a talented writer and dancer. In preparation for the Browncoat Ball this autumn, several Browncoats have been taking dance classes and have become dance enthusiasts. Mike's article is a good introduction to vintage dance groups in the Bay Area along with an entertaining summary of the importance of

dance in the series *Firefly*.

Lastly, I have an article on the most recent Legion of Rassilon meeting where the first two episodes (if you don't count *The Christmas Invasion*... well, the BBC counts it as the first episode) of the second season of the new *Doctor Who* were shown. It was a lot of fun and I enjoyed it. It's so awesome how we were able to view these so soon after they were shown in the U.K.! Especially since the SciFi Channel is still only airing the first season.

Enjoy the rest of spring, everyone! It's so great that it's finally nice and warm... even summery. I feel alive and happy again and ready to do lots of fun and amazing things inside and outside fandom. See you around!

Have something to say about
Science Fiction/San Francisco?
Or about fandom in general?
Send your letter of comment to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

Letters Of Comment

Letters of Comment

Gary Carlston, Proprietor, Tarras Vineyard, Tarras, New Zealand writes:

Regarding your tour of New Zealand to visit the sites of the filming of LOTR: it's not that we, the owners of Tarras Vineyard, aren't interested in offering access to visitors who would like to see the scene of "the great chase" where Arwen is escaping from the Ringwraiths (Scene 17, first movie). It's that the land was not a vineyard when the movie was filmed. Now that it is, there are logistical problems in receiving tours. No one is in full time residence on the vineyard, employees are often overseas or not on site, there are gates which, if opened and left open, would allow rabbits to destroy the entire vineyard before anybody noticed, and there is the constant toing-and-froing of subcontractors and machinery. I've been a fan of the *Lord of the Rings* ever since 1959, when a certain C.S. Lewis told me at

his home about these stories a friend of his had written which I might enjoy as much as *The Narnia Chronicles*. Hopefully, someday when things are more established, if there's still interest, we can open the vineyard to the public for LOTR tours.

Jean Martin replies: Oh my goodness, as I'm writing this, Aragorn and Arwen's Theme from Fellowship of the Ring started playing on the station I'm listening to on Live 365 (www.live365.com). Talk about coincidence! Anyway, Gary, thank you for your very friendly response and clarification. The information I wrote was from what I thought was a reliable source. I sincerely apologize for publishing incorrect information and any inconvenience this has caused you and your vineyard. I'm printing your email above in its entirety as an errata so that everyone can read your side of things. By the way, I'm very impressed that you knew C.S. Lewis and he was the one that told you about Lord of the Rings! That's quite a story.



Brazen Hussey performing at PEERS Fairy Tale Ball

Note from Editor: We are very sad to report that Leigh Ann Hussey, of the Celtic band Brazen Hussey (that performed at the PEERS Fairy Tale Masquerade Ball) was killed in a motorcycle accident last May 17. We would like to extend our condolences to her family and friends. Her talent will be missed.

Fairy Tale Characters Come Alive

Text and Photos by Jean Martin

Editor

On Saturday, May 6, the Period Events & Entertainments Re-creation Society (PEERS) held the Fairy Tale Masquerade Ball at the San Mateo Masonic Lodge. Guests dressed as their favorite fairy tale characters and danced the night away. Brazen Hussey was the band for the evening and they played a variety of tunes from Celtic rock, Victorian dance, English country and even Latin.

Where else can you see people in colorful costumes dancing the Tango and rock! I personally enjoyed the variety. There were also performances by PEERS regulars Charles and Rene, who portrayed the evil King Jareth and Sarah, respectively, from *Labyrinth*. Charles looked like a dead ringer for David Bowie and did a rousing performance of the song Magic Dance from the movie. We danced a lively Grand March to the tune, in which we went around in circles around him and the baby Toby while Sarah desperately tried to find her little brother.

There was also fairy catcher Lady Cottington, played by Suzanne, another PEERS re-enactor. I wasn't quick enough for her and she caught me (I was dressed as a blue fairy complete with wings) in the pages of her pressed fairy book. It was definitely a memorable evening!

Web link:

<http://www.peers.org/>

Magical Fairies...



Toby and King Jareth

Fly Through the...



Regency Lady and Scottish Laird



Morris Dancer and Blue Fairy



Forest Bunch



Puck



Arabian Nights Couple

Enchanted...

...Night Air

The New Doctor Lives: Second Season

Episodes of Doctor Who

By Jean Martin
Editor

A couple of British friends I made on my recent New Zealand Lord of the Rings tour emailed to tell me that they've already seen new episodes from the second season of the new *Doctor Who*. I was so envious and I started to think of how I could manage to see them as well. The new episodes started airing in April.

I saw the *Children in Need* special that introduced the new Doctor, David Tennant, as well as *The Christmas Invasion*, which was a standalone episode that concentrated more on sidekick Billie Piper's character Rose. Tennant was asleep through most of that episode, regenerating, and just woke up toward the end.

So far, I wasn't impressed. The memory of all 13 amazing episodes of the first season has left me with very high expectations. Christopher Eccleston to me is just the best Doctor Who ever. (I'm not going to gush over him in this article as I already did that in a previous one. So I'll go ahead and get to the topic at hand.)

I was looking forward to seeing the new episodes as the writing still has been fast-paced, modern and original. In that respect, I haven't been disappointed. The special effects and just overall quality of these new incarnations of *Doctor Who* are light years ahead of the old cheap, campy productions. I liked some of the old series, Peter

Davison and Tom Baker were very good. And I just enjoyed the elements of time travel, other worlds, the paranormal, etc. that *Doctor Who* was all about.

As luck would have it, or as proof that the saying that "ask and you shall receive" is true, I got an email a couple of days later from the Legion of Rassilon (LOR) Yahoo! Group that they were going to show the first two episodes of the second season at the next meeting.

So, at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 28, I showed up at the Carl's Jr. in San Jose on North First Street to view the episodes with a full crowd of LOR members. As I mentioned in the first article I wrote about LOR, they have their meetings at a big side room with a huge projection screen.

After we all got something to eat and settled in our seats, Merv Staton started the meeting telling us about news in the scifi and *Doctor Who* universe. He mentioned that

Captain Jack from the first season is going to have his own spinoff called *Torchwood*, which most of us already knew. Then he said that K9 and Sarah Jane from the old series would be showing up in future episodes, to the delight of the group.

Finally, he played the first episode entitled *New Earth*. David Tennant finally came into his own in this episode. I like that he looks completely different from Chris Eccleston. He's charming and



Legion of Rassilon

Photo by Jean Martin

boyish where Eccleston was manly and rugged. He's silly and has the same crazy edge to him that Tom Baker had. Eccleston was more serious and only occasionally showed a bit of madness. And Tennant wears a full suit in shades of brown while Eccleston wore black leather and dressed like a rock star.

Billie Piper is awesome as usual. Her blond hair is shorter and she looks a little older and more mature. I enjoyed her vamping it up and acting all seductive in this episode. The scene for the episode is New New York, far, far in the future on

another planet. They arrive at a hospital run by nuns in habits who are... well... cat women. Very interesting. The last surviving human, Cassandra, shows up again in this episode. She's really a stretch of skin with eyes and a mouth. We get to see her, played by Zoe Wanamaker, as she looked like before she became just a freakish, preserved remnant of her old self. The Doctor and crew stumble upon a mystery in the hospital about how the rich patients, including the Duke of New New York, recover so quickly from fatal diseases. The episode then deals with ethical issues involving the field of

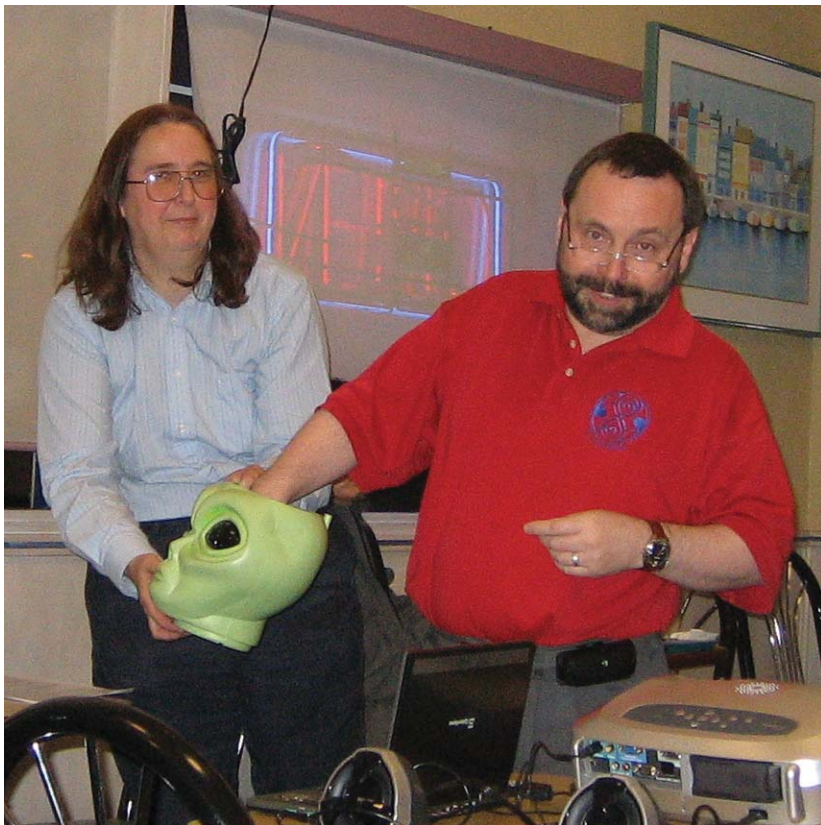
medicine. Quite timely, really. It reminded me of how *Star Trek: The Next Generation* addressed similar current topics. *New Earth* was thought provoking, poignant and downright scary at times, but funny in parts as well. I won't spoil the ending for our readers. Hopefully, the SciFi Channel will pick up the second season as well. They're currently showing the first season, which I highly recommend! I've seen all 13 episodes three times! Okay, back to season two.

After seeing the first episode, we had a short break for a raffle and to socialize a bit. I met some new people and said hello to some people I already knew. Then it was on to the next episode.

The second episode, *Tooth & Claw*, offered a completely different scenario. This time,

the Doctor and Rose wind up in the Victorian era around the Scottish border. There are monks who do kung fu, a werewolf, a lord and lady, and of course, Queen Victoria. It clearly showed how the Victorian age was a time where superstition and the aristocracy still held sway but science and intellectual progress were already beginning to make their mark. This episode, considering it involved one of my favorite time periods and the British monarchy, which I'm quite interested in (yes, I can truthfully claim that I literally bumped elbows with Prince Andrew), didn't quite do it for me. Again, I don't want to write any spoilers, but it seemed like a typical horror-adventure movie. It reminded me of *Van Helsing* quite a bit, a movie that I can admit without shame that I actually enjoyed very much. It also wasn't very scary and some of it didn't make sense. I'm all for suspension of disbelief when watching or reading anything but some of it was a little bit confusing. I did like seeing Pauline Collins, from *Upstairs, Downstairs*, portraying Queen Victoria. I knew she looked familiar but I couldn't place her. She did tend to play Queen Victoria in the Judy Dench (*Mrs. Brown*) style. Even though I felt the episode could have been better, I kept thinking, this is still way better than anything else out there on TV right now.

All in all, it was quite a fun evening. It's great watching shows with fans who are interested in the same thing. Thanks to LOR, I can watch new *Doctor Who* episodes soon after they're aired in the U.K.!



Raffle Drawing

Photo by Jean Martin

The Regency Underworld Invades San Mateo

Text and Photos by Jean Martin
Editor

The Bay Area English Regency Society (BAERS) held its popular Thieves' Kitchen Ball last May 13 at the San Mateo Masonic Lodge. Led by caller and dance master extraordinaire, Alan Winston, the evening re-created a seedy London tavern during the Regency era (circa early 1800s) where crime and vice of every kind flourished. So technically, it wasn't really a formal ball but a rout or gathering.

Other than Alan, though, who portrayed highwayman Smilin' Jack, there weren't that many thieves or ladies of ill repute in attendance. They were mostly lower class tavern folk, a couple of gypsies, a pirate, and some aristocrats slumming for the evening.

I co-organized the ball along with Chris and Christy Bertani. Christy did a wonderful job with

the food and drink. Savory after the first set and sweet after the second set, very period appropriate. The two of them were also responsible for the décor, which was very rustic with checkered table cloths and candles on wine bottles.

The music was beautifully played by the Divertimento Dance Orchestra, a five-piece band conducted by James Langdell. I love Regency

music, which is very lively and energetic. Regency dancing is just as sprightly and flirtatious. I also enjoy how it's a set dance where a whole group of people participate, not just in pairs like partner dancing. It also exercises the brain and not just the muscles as you have to remember patterns and keep time with the music and other people.

The Regency Quadrille class I'm taking this season (for the third time) also got to perform a demo of the Sixdrille (or is it Sexdrille since quad means four and sex means six). This is a Scottish variation of the Quadrille (4 sets of couples) that was developed because there were always more women than men at dances even in those days.

So the Sixdrille has 4 sets of threesomes... two women to each man! It's a lot more complicated so we're glad it went off without too many mistakes. It looked very entertaining to the audience I'm sure!

Web link:
<http://www.baers.org/>



Gypsies



Regency Country Dance Sets





David and Carol Ann



Brad and Theresa



Czarina Christy and Czar Chris



Wally and Cherie

Dance in Firefly

By Mike Smithwick

In the *Big Damned Pilot*, we know the familiar scene. Dear sweet Kaylee has just been shot by accident. With Kaylee stretched out on the ground, her life rapidly being reduced to a whisper, Simon naturally rushes to her side. He gently asks if she can move her feet. Kaylee, always the optimist, whispers weakly as her eyes are fluttering closed, “Are you asking me to dance?”

Dance plays a large part on the ‘verse of *Firefly*. It courses its way through the entire series, from that first episode, to the belly dancer in *The Train Job*, to finding its hold in *Shindig’s* grand ball, to the marriage dance in *Our Mrs. Reynolds*. We even see it in River’s childlike inquiry of her faceless inquisitor in Session 416, as she asks, “Will I still be allowed to dance?”

Although many episodes reference dance, the most important to the Browncoat community obviously is *Shindig*, also one of the episodes usually cited among people’s favorites and frequently used as a conversion tool.

In the 19th century, dance is what people did, before there was television, radio, Pez dispensers, TiVo and *Halo II*. It was a bringing together of the community, of men and women, of life and celebration warmly wrapped up a gentle pastiche of motion, of touch, of concealed sensuality. Young men and women were expected to know



Mal steals dance

© Fox Broadcasting Company

dance, and depending on the social class you were in, you might be out dancing nearly every night. Simply put, it was an important part of day-to-day life. In the ball scene of *Shindig*, true-to-form to the ‘verse, writer Jane Espenson

A version of this article will also appear in the Firefly/Serenity podcasting web site *The Signal* (<http://signal.serenityfirefly.com/>). However, it has been modified to tailor it more to the Bay Area audience of SF/SF.

incorporated two different eras: the waltz from the Victorian era, and a set dance from the Regency period of Jane Austen.

The waltz is usually considered one of the most romantic of dances, and is one of the easiest to learn. Rare is the period film that doesn't have at least one ballroom scene. One wonders how many young women dreamt of being swept off their feet by the likes of Rhett Butler in the famous ball featured in *Gone With the Wind*, for example. While its roots go back to the 18th century, the waltz was considered rather risqué for its day. Respectable men and women would opt for the more stately set dances in which the flirtation came more with the eye's bat, or a finger's touch. In fact *The Times* of London felt it timely to warn her readers in 1816: "The indecent foreign dance called the Waltz was introduced ... at the English Court on Friday last... We feel it a duty to warn every parent against exposing his daughter to so fatal a contagion."

By the 1830s there was a romanticization of the peasants of Eastern Europe in both their music and their dance. Traveling performing groups introduced the Polka to all classes in Europe, making couples dancing acceptable. Finally waltz could come out into the open and away from the wild frenzies of the secretive parties of the young (in effect, 19th-century raves). And 700 years later, Atherton (call him "Ath") and Inara could openly dance it underneath a floating chandelier on Persephone, safely and without ridicule. Until Mal enters, of course.

Historical dance, usually referred to as "vintage" or "antique" dance, encompasses all pre-World War II eras. It can cover the complicated Renaissance figures, English Country dancing,



Society Ball

© Fox Broadcasting Company

minuets, waltzes, redowas, mazurkas, dance games such as the Galop or the "Cushion Dance," and cotillions.

Perhaps the most popular of the vintage waltzes is the Victorian "Rotary" waltz. It is somewhat faster than its modern ballroom counterpart, which you may know from high school, and favors clockwise turns. Being easy to teach and even easier to learn, it is common among the historical recreation groups. Unfortunately, the waltz in *Firefly* seems to have no discernible pedigree of any sort. If anything, it is waltz-in-name only, but Rotary being the Esperanto of waltz will certainly do, and will let you dance at nearly any vintage ball

you might come across.

Both at the very beginning of the ballroom scene, and later on when Mal is talking with Inara, the dancers are doing what could best be described as a variant of a Regency set dance. Set dances were one reason why waltz took so long to initially catch on. The dance masters of the day earned good livings by creating and teaching the elegant, yet complicated patterns, and could have seen their livelihoods drained away if this new and comparatively simple waltz-thing caught on among the kids.

Set dances are characterized by a fixed arrangement of repeated patterns usually danced

in sets of two or more couples. Think of square dancing... but ...well, not necessarily in squares, and without a caller, and with much more genteel music and with better dressed people. The simple Regency dances can be learned typically in only a few minutes even for the complete beginner.

If you have the good fortune of living near a large city, chances are there will be one or more vintage dance groups in the area (just Google “vintage dance” and duck). They will typically have the occasional workshop teaching the basics to beginners and more exotic steps to the old hands, all in preparation for whatever the next ball might be. For those of us with the extremely good fortune of living in the San Francisco Bay Area, there is an

embarrassment of riches. Groups such as Gaskells or PEERS ensure all manner of costumed balls to attend. The Bay Area English Regency Society (BAERS) has several Jane Austen balls a year (in addition to their monthly dance parties) and will be sponsoring two at San Jose’s BayCon on Friday and Sunday nights. There is also the very popular Stanford Waltz Week in July. And of course don’t miss the Browncoat Ball in San Francisco at the far end of September.

With that in mind, see about adding dance to your next shindig. For music recommendations, check out the discography on the Stanford University dance page. And trust me when I say that once you’ve danced your first waltz in costume,

you will be infected. And the contagion that *The Times* mentioned will have claimed yet another victim.

Dance groups and events:

<http://www.vintagedancers.org/>

<http://www.vintagedancers.net>

www.peers.org

www.baers.org

<http://www.gaskellball.com/>

www.fridaynightwaltz.com

<http://www.sfbrowncoats.com/events/browncoatball2006/>

<http://dance.stanford.edu>

Dance history:

<http://www.mixedpickles.org/19cdance.html>

Discography:

<http://dance.stanford.edu/discography.htm>



River Dance

© Fox Broadcasting Company

Oh! The Horror!: World Horror Convention, San Francisco

By Robert Hole, Jr

My name is Bob Hole and I'm a horror fan. I don't always admit that. I sometimes even forget it.

I grew up with Creature Features here in the Bay Area and one of my happiest fanboy memories is of meeting Bob Wilkins and John Stanley a few years ago at WonderCon, and actually getting a few minutes to chat with them during a lull in the autograph line.

When I saw that the World Horror Convention was coming to San Francisco, I was excited and couldn't wait to sign up. I had no idea what to expect, but having been to several WorldCons and being a regular attendee of BayCon for over five years, I had a good idea of what a world class convention could be like.

When con week got here, I had some problems to overcome, though. The flu arrived Tuesday. I recovered enough to attend by Friday (and only had to leave an event due to a coughing fit once!). I wasn't staying in the City and had a two-hour each way commute. This combined to

force me to forgo any evening events, and I attended only the two main programming days - Friday and Saturday. Besides, when I started I had no friends I knew going to the con. I hate going to parties where I don't know anyone.

Overall attendance was apparently around 475, which is also apparently about average for WHC. It is, however, the smallest genre-related convention I've attended. That could have made things feel very intimate but the sprawling, rambling hotel layout made it seem too large for the event, and the main events were seemingly awash in empty seats.

There were two tracks of panels, plus a reading track and a short-film festival. The program book was poorly laid out, which was much talked about. Because of the limited programming I was able to attend, along with my obsession in poring over schedules, I found the design and layout flaws fairly easy to overcome.

I was personally very pleased, but surprised, to see that there was almost no attention paid to slasher movies. Media GoH Bill Moseley is best known for roles

in that type of movie, but he appears to be a true horror fan and understands more than slasher stuff. The overall focus was on literature and art, and the media stuff had nothing that I could see about which twisted slasher could be who.

The dealer's room was a pretty large space with relatively few dealers. The vendors apparently were not allowed to spread out, however. Although at least a third of the tables were empty, people were still jostling elbows in front of the tables when I walked through. The vendors seemed well stocked and somewhat diverse. Interestingly to me, there's more leather and weapons (things that I think of as related to horror fandom) at a regular SF con.

The art show was also hosted in a room too big. There were about two dozen artists. WHC art shows are juried and the quality was almost uniformly extremely good. There were several outstanding pieces, both technically and visually. Even in this crowd Brom's (Artist GoH) work stood out. Art show director Chad Savage did a good job laying out the place with

what he had to work with.

I'm a panel person. I enjoy hearing others talk about "stuff." There were only two tracks of panels at the con.

As I mentioned, Brom was the artist guest of honor. I've enjoyed his work for a long time. He gave a very good presentation on his work and career history, despite the convention not having arranged for a projector for his slide show. He had to borrow his books from fans in the audience to show us stuff. He's an engaging speaker and knows his stuff. I can recommend him both as a panelist and speaker.

Writer GoH Koji Suzuki is a fascinating person. Of course I'm aware of his work (*The Ring*, etc.), though I've not read any of it, nor seen either version of that movie. I will now look up some of his stuff, though. Mr. Suzuki speaks limited English and spoke primarily through a translator. Toastmaster Peter Straub interviewed Suzuki and during the interview waxed poetic about his love of Japanese cinema. He loves the ambiguity in endings that he sees tolerated there, as opposed to American fiction which generally requires an unambiguous ending. Mr. Suzuki's primary response was that he didn't like ambiguity and prefers the American approach.

Straub went on to talk about some of his influences in Japanese literature and his love

for it, asking what Mr. Suzuki's influences were. Faulkner and Joyce, among other American authors. He doesn't like Japanese authors very much.

It was, as Mr. Straub pointed out, a very interesting contrast.

In addition to the panels, there was a fairly large short-film program (and some feature length showings in the evenings). I did not attend enough of the films, but did manage a few. Those I saw were not of the highest quality, the exception being *Hope* by Zachary Rothman. It's worth seeing, having good acting and effects, but even this story had elements that were both disappointing and obvious.

One note to horror movie directors: Please make sure that your lighting level is above the minimum your camera can pick up. If you've gone to the trouble and/or expense of doing make-up, costumes, and getting actors to show up, LIGHT THEM. Dark on dark with nothing but dark in the foreground doesn't help tell your story. And the venue lighting was *not* the problem.

At conventions I normally look over the advertising flier tables, and often pick up more than I'm really interested in. For various reasons this weekend I ended up picking up (I think) one of everything. Having gone through it, I'm glad I did. It gives me an update/refresher on what's

current in the field. I also collected a lot of web addresses to check out.

Food and dining facilities are, to me, an important part of any convention. I ate lunch at the hotel cafe both days. I felt very lonely. The food was good, but I'll never get used to a \$4 cup of coffee or glass of iced tea that does not come with refills. Actually, it may have but the wait staff was not offering them. That's a reason I don't regularly go to the Brand Name coffee houses either, of course.

In all, did I have a good time? Yep. Would I go to a Horror Convention again? You betcha. I met a couple of people there (I even finally met Jay Lake!). My mind is overflowing with art and story ideas. I'm in a rather creative mood.

I'm not sure I can recommend World Horror as something to travel for, but if large conventions intimidate you, and you'd like a chance to get up close and conversational with some of the luminaries of the field, I can recommend attending one.

Next year's World Horror Convention is in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. I won't be going, but if you're a horror fan and live in the area (or want to visit it) you could do worse.

BASFA Minutes: meeting 824

May 8, 2006

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sargent at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began 7:53 [with a new gavel]

22 people attended

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 823 were accepted as 'shark frenzy'.

A Treasurer's report was that last week we took in \$1.25 in the regular jar & \$22.10 in the party jar.

There was no VP.

The President reported that Chris Garcia won best new fan with FAAN.

The Sports Committee indicated 'Go Sharks' & that 4 BASFAns will go to the Giants/Dodgers game Friday; sitting up in the rafters.

Announcements:

Cheryl announced 'There's a convention coming up . . .' & festivities begin Wednesday night & Thursday at 8pm will see an art show & signing at Borderlands.

Dave C announced 'There's a convention

coming up . . .' at the Holiday Inn Golden gate in SF & Friday night will be a mass autograph session.

Mike announced 'There's a convention coming up . . .' & auction items and fanzines to look at.

Reviews:

Harold reviewed Texas State Railroad as if you like steam take it one way, then diesel the other & worth full price; & reviewed the Arkansas crater of diamonds as worth having his dad take him to play in the dirt & reviewed 'Millennium' - a vegan restaurant in SF as the chef's special was \$62.00. . .for a plate of weeds.

Joanie reviewed 'Moon Called' by Patricia Briggs as it suffered from a bad strumpet cover - was paranormal fantasy and definitely worth paperback.

Cheryl reviewed a film adaptation of Bisson's 'They're Made out of Meat' as marvelous.

Ken reviewed a Harry Potter themed shop in Santa Monica called 'Whimsical Alley' as amusing, worth a visit and that he got lots of pictures from Casa de Fruta.

Dave G reviewed OLN as Dish Network carries it & the Sharks are playing on it right now [and were in the lead at that time].

Carole reviewed Lepracon at the embassy Suites in Phoenix [AZ] as about 400 attended

and Bill was filk GoH and she did a panel on fabric painting techniques - and both had a good time.

There was also a reminder about the BIG BASFA auction next week with the 27" TV.

We adjourned at 8:30 pm.

And the rumor of the week was 'That electronic fanzines may actually become respectable'

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

BASFA Minutes: meeting 825

May 15, 2006

Trey Haddad, President
Chris Garcia, Vice-President
Dave Gallaher, Treasurer
Galen Tripp, Sargent at Arms
Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Began 8:07 [after Trey hunted down cutlery]

26 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 824 were accepted as 'what's on the telly?'

A Treasurer's report was that last week we took in \$1.51.

We established a party jar.

The VP reported that there are 2 new issues of 'Drink Tank' out & a memorial issue in honor of his father's passing, plus a new Pacheco progress report is due out soon. In addition, many nominations are out now and that Chris, Trey & Barbara will be running the fanzine lounge at Baycon in room 247.

The President stated he had nothing fannish to report.

The Hollister in '08 bid committee has 'been lazy' but has registration forms at the meeting.

The Sports Committee attended a Giants game

that was so bad 'their hair caught on fire' & he's been procrastinating.

The Party Committee says the Baycon party will be Friday night.

Announcements:

Dave C announced that there are new Cargo Cult flyers.

Cheryl announced there are souvenirs of World Horror Con here [including the worst pocket program - ever].

[evil] Kevin announced he's MC-ing the Masquerade at Gaylexicon in Toronto.

Spring announced progress for choosing a site for Vinticon is going slowly & she would like people's input.

Reviews:

Chris reviewed Regional Medical Center's food as top-notch, but the ICU's reading material was hideously inappropriate [including 'Guns and Ammo'] & he enjoyed reading 'The DaVinci Code' - worth full price.

Andy reviewed the Canon i9900 photo printer as it sucks down ink but is worth full price.

I reviewed the DVD 'Chronicles of Riddick' as surprisingly good, worth the \$20 I paid for it [bundled with 'Pitch Black'] and it was definitely cute guys kind of doing 'MacBeth'.

Dave G reviewed World Horror Con as he 'supposed it was a convention, but it didn't seem to have much of a center to it, although it did have a feel'. It was not his cup of tea. Dave C follow-on'd that he was stuck behind a dealer's table for WHC and 'god it was slow', that the art show was small but interesting [someone else commented about 'dead zombie kittens with wings'] - but that the parties were good; Cheryl follow-on'd that she didn't actually notice a convention going on, but that a lot of her friends were at WHC and that there were a lot of teensy tiny small presses represented in the dealer's room.

Ed reviewed Charlie Stross's 'Singularity Sky' as he really enjoyed it and it was worth full price.

Fred reviewed the Singularity Summit in Stanford as he had a great time there - it was packed [more than 1000 attended] and he saw the hole in Hayward that shows the fault and recommends visiting it before they fill it in.

We auctioned off stuff, birthday auctioned off Dave G to Spring for \$40.00; the 27" TV for \$30.00; then books for \$5.00, \$3.00; then AFTER it was determined that whoever paid less for the next 2 books would get the video of 'Phenomena' [do doo de doo] they went for \$13.50 & \$15.00 [so Chris got the flick].

We adjourned at 9:37 pm.

And the rumor of the week was 'That Dave appears to be worth more than the TV'.

Bay Area Science Fiction Calendar

While some effort (OK, OK, damn little effort) is made to verify event listings, please check before attending, as events are sometimes cancelled or times and locations changed.

New listings are in **red**.

May 24-28

A Number

American Conservatory Theatre

415 Geary Street

San Francisco

\$16-\$76

Mainstream theater company takes rare trip into SciFi territory: A man is confronted by his grown sons when they discover that they are human clones. Audience discussion follows performance.

Thursday, May 25

Author: Simon Wood

Spellbinding Tales Bookstore

1910A Encinal Ave.

Alameda

7 p.m.

www.spellbindingtales.com

Thursday, May 25

Chainsaw Mafia Night of Mayhem:

The Beyond

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

www.picturepubpizza.com

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

9:15 p.m.

\$6

Lucio Fulchi's gory horror film.

Thursday-Saturday, May 25-27

Twilight Zone "The Plays" Season III

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$15

Friday, May 26

Ukey Stardust and the Spiders from Mars

Chabot Space Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd.

Oakland

8 p.m.-midnight

\$15, \$8 for members, \$10 for students

Ziggy played... ukulele. Freak out in a

moon-age daydream with an unusual and unique live musical performance: The Rise and Fall of Ukey Stardust and the Spiders from Mars, presented by Ukulele Apocalypse (Kelly McCubbin) including performances by Megan Lynch, Uni and her Ukulele, Tippy Canoe, 5 Cent Coffee, Henry and the Heymen, and Amy Zing on saw! Bowie glam-style attire recommended. Ticket price includes museum admission, planetarium show, and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Friday, May 26

Legion of Rassilon

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Doctor Who fan group. Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies, and a raffle.

May 26-29*BayCon*

DoubleTree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place
San Jose

www.baycon.org

\$70 at the door; one-day and one-night memberships usually available

Guests of Honor: Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle, Jim Burns, Craig Miller

Toastmaster: James Stanley Daugherty

Special Guest: Stephen Furst

The largest annual general SF convention in Northern California. Diverse panels, dealer's room, art show, masquerade, anime room, gaming, Mara's Bar, Dive-In Movies, much more.

May 26-29*FanimeCon*

San Jose Convention Center
San Jose

www.fanime.com

\$55 at the door; one-day memberships available

The largest annual anime convention in the Bay Area. Dealer's room, panels, costume contest, multiple tracks of anime, Asian films, J-pop concert, much more.

More Events Next Page

May 26-29*KublaCon*

Burlingame Hyatt Regency
1333 Bayshore Highway
Burlingame

www.kublacon.com

\$50; discount offered for first time attendees

Gaming convention: Dealer's room, game demos, panels, flea market.

Saturday, May 27*PenSFA Party at Baycon*

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.

Saturday, May 27*Performing Arts Symposium*

Society for Creative Anachronism Event

Sobrato High School
401 Burnett Avenue

Morgan Hill

Free

A day of classes in the various performing arts - European Dance, Vocal Music, Instrumental Music, and Dramatic Presentation. "A pot luck social in the evening of dancing and performances, where we can all show off

what we've learned and maybe learn a bit more."

Saturday, May 27*Rocky Horror Picture Show*

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Monday, May 29*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Thursday, June 1*Porco Rosso and Jin-Roh: The Wolf Brigade*

Preview Room

Variety Children's Charity

582 Market Street

San Francisco

7:00 p.m.

Anime double feature. Refreshments will be

available for purchase, and your purchase supports Variety's efforts to aid disabled, disadvantaged, abused and neglected kids. Doors open at 6:30.

Saturday, June 3

London Blitz Swing Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

San Mateo

\$15.00 in advance (by May 27), \$20.00 at the door

Dance lesson at 7:00 p.m., dancing begins at 8:00

1940s costume recommended, "and, of course, our brave young men and women in uniform are always welcome."

Saturday, June 3

A Wake for Morbid Curiosity Magazine

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

7:00 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

To celebrate the release of the final issue of

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:
SFinSF@gmail.com

Morbid Curiosity, Automatism Press will host a reading at Borderlands. Morbid Curiosity focuses on TRUE first-person encounters with the unsavory, unwise, unorthodox and unusual: all the dark elements that make life truly worth living.

Saturday, June 3

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

\$6

Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Monday, June 5

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Tuesday, June 6

FESTEVIL: A Celebration of the Date

6/6/06

21 Grand

416 25th St. at Broadway
Oakland

6:06:06 p.m. sharp - 11:00 p.m.

\$6-\$10

Noise festival: Bring a noisemaker of any type for the 6:06:06 p.m. sound-off/kick-off. (Those not attending are invited to participate in a Virtual FESTEVIIL by making loud or evil sounds wherever they happen to be at 6:06:06 p.m.)

Saturday, June 10

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.

Saturday, June 10

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

More Events Next Page

1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
\$6

Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Sunday, June 11

Sac-Con

Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
10-4 p.m.
\$5

Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.

Monday, June 12

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org

Tuesday, June 13

Ask a Scientist:

From Galileo to Einstein -- Classical Physics
101
The Bazaar Cafe

5927 California St.
San Francisco
7:00 p.m.

Free

Speaker: Tucker Hiatt, physics teacher and Director of Wonderfest.

Friday-Sunday, June 16-18

2006 RoboGames

Festival Pavilion

Fort Mason Center

San Francisco

\$20-\$750; free or discounted for active duty military

www.robogames.net

The event formerly known as the International ROBOlympics returns to Fort Mason Center for a weekend of robotic mayhem.

Friday, June 16

USS Defiance Meeting

Round Table Pizza

Howe Ave. (Near Howe and Arden Ave.)

7 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Free

Sacramento's oldest science fiction group holds its monthly meeting.

Saturday, June 17

Bay Area Games Day

Los Altos Library

Los Altos Hills

10 a.m.

\$1

Regular event featuring German-style strategy boardgames like Settlers of Catan, Avalon Hill-type multiplayer games, lots of cardgames, and historical board wargames.

Saturday, June 17

Batlh Jaj

Klingon Day of Honor 10

Presented by the House of Heck'Lher and the IKV Bloodlust

Chabot Space Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd.

Oakland

7-10 p.m.

www.ikvbloodlust.net/DayofHonor10.html

\$45 at the door; \$15 in advance or bring a dish to share with others (RSVP by June 10 to trigaming@yahoo.com; must have approval of Beastmaster HeKor if bringing a dish).

An evening of feasting, singing, and celebrating the first appearance of the Klingons on Star Trek. Some sort of Star Trek uniform or costume is required.

Saturday, June 17

Warp 11: "Starfleet Graduation Bash"

G Street Pub

228 G Street
Davis

10 p.m.
Ages 21+

The Star Trek theme rock band performs such hits as “Boldly Go Down on Me” and “She Make It So.” With Special Guest TBA. So why aren’t these guys playing at Day of Honor? Must be that “Kill, Kill, Kill, Kill the Klingons” song of theirs.

Saturday, June 17

Dragon Slayers Renaissance Festival

100 Aptos Creek Road
Santa Cruz

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
\$12

www.dragonslayersfestival.com

Proceeds benefit Dragon Slayers, an innovative animal therapy program for physically challenged children and adults.

Saturday, June 17

Rocky Horror Picture Show

www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland

\$6
Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No

one under 17 admitted.

Sunday, June 18

Author: Jacqueline Carey

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

2:00 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Sunday, June 18

Science Fiction Book Club

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia St.

San Francisco

6 p.m.

Free

The book for June 18th is *The Atrocity Archives* by Charles Stross. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.

June 19-July 19

Other Worlds, Other Realms

The Mezzanine Gallery

Hotel Triton

342 Grant Avenue

San Francisco

Free art show; venue is open 24/7.

Monday, June 19

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick’ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Friday, June 23

Legion of Rassilon

Carl’s Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Doctor Who fan group: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

Saturday, June 24

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.

Saturday, June 24

Rocky Horror Picture Show
www.picturepubpizza.com
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
\$6

Midnight

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Monday, June 26

Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org

Sunday, July 2

Bad Movie Night: Independence Day
The Dark Room Theatre
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
8 p.m.
\$5
As always, the hosts poke fun at a bad

movie.

Monday, July 3

Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org

Wednesday, July 5

Hyde
Slim's
333 11th Street
San Francisco
9 p.m.
J-Rocker/actor Hyde, formerly of the group L'Arc en Ciel, will appear in an all ages show at the popular music venue Slim's. Hyde has acted in several fantasy movies, including ghost story *Kagen no Tsuki - Last Quarter* and vampire film *Moon Child*. In addition, he did the second opening theme song for the vampire-themed *Blood+* anime currently running in Japan and provided the ending theme for *Kagen no Tsuki*.

Tuesday, July 4

Aptos July 4 Parade with Klingons
Parking lot of the Rancho del Mar Shopping Center

Aptos

Free

Klingons meeting at 9 a.m.

The StarFire Region Klingons will be once again be marching in the annual Aptos Fourth of July parade.

Saturday, July 8

PenSFA Party
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Monday, July 10

Bay Area Science Fiction Association
The Original Hick'ry Pit
980 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell
8 p.m.
Free
www.basfa.org

More Events Next Page

Thursday, July 13

Thrillville: The Incredible Two Headed Transplant

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

9:15 p.m.

\$7

Thrillville is an independently run cult movie cabaret hosted by Speakeasy Theaters programmer and local lounge lizard Will “the Thrill” Viharo and his lovely wife and stage assistant, Monica, Tiki Goddess.

Friday, July 14

Warp 11

Friday Night Concerts in the Park

Cesar Chavez Park

10th and J Street

Sacramento

Free admission, all ages show

The Star Trek theme rock band performs such hits as “Yeah Brother, 3.0” and “She Make It So.” With the Brodys and Smoot Valley High.

July 14-16

Westermark Madness

Society for Creative Anachronism Event

3500 Higgins Canyon Road

Half Moon Bay

www.thewestermark.org/events.html

Heavy weapons and rapier tournaments, archery, brewing, and cooking competitions.

July 15-16

ConStruction

Hilton San Jose

San Jose

\$40-\$55

www.sfsfc.org/construction.php

Sponsored by San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions, ConStruction is “a conference for event planners of science fiction, horror, fantasy and anime conventions.” Panels include “Space Limitations,” “Contracts,” and “Disaster Proofing Your Convention.”

Saturday, July 15

Sac-Anime

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H St.

Sacramento

\$5 - \$10

Anime convention featuring viewing room, art contest, vendor’s room, costume ball, J-pop concert, more.

Sunday, July 16

Bad Movie Night:

Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$5

With hosts Jim Fourniadis, GeekBoy and Sherilyn Connelly.

Monday, July 17

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick’ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Friday, July 21

USS Defiance Meeting

Round Table Pizza

Howe Ave. (Near Howe and Arden Ave.)

7 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Free

Sacramento’s oldest science fiction group holds its monthly meeting.

Saturday, July 22

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

More Events Next Page

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.

Monday, July 24

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Thursday, July 29

Author: Walter H. Hunt

Dark Carnival Books

3086 Claremont Ave.

Berkeley

5:30 p.m.

Free

Friday, July 28

Legion of Rassilon

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Doctor Who fan group: episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

Sunday, July 30

Bad Movie Night:

Escape from New York

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$5

Monday, July 31

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

August 4-6

AOD: The San Francisco Animation Convention

Cathedral Hill Hotel

1101 Van Ness

San Francisco

www.aodsf.org

\$35 until June 1; \$45 at the door

Once known as Anime Overdose, the con now celebrates anime as well as American

cartoons and other flavors of animation. Panels, guests, dealer's room, cosplay, art show, more.

Saturday, August 5

Turkish Delight Viennese Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

San Mateo

\$15.00 in advance (by July 29), \$20.00 at the door

Dance lesson at 7:00 p.m., dancing begins at 8:00

Strauss waltzes and more.

Saturday, August 5

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.

More Events Next Page

Monday, August 7

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Monday, August 14

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Friday, August 18

USS Defiance Meeting

Round Table Pizza

Howe Ave. (Near Howe and Arden Ave.)

7 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Free

Sacramento's oldest science fiction group holds its monthly meeting.

Saturday, August 19

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.

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Monday, August 21

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Friday, August 25

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Doctor Who fan group: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

More Events Next Page

Friday and Saturday, August 26-27

Golden Gate Renaissance Festival

Speedway Meadow

Golden Gate Park

San Francisco

www.sffaire.com

10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday

\$15

Jugglers, food, handcrafted items, jousting, sword fighting demonstrations. Rapier tournament on Saturday.

Monday, August 28

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Saturday, September 2

Captain Morgan's Privateers (We Ain't Pirates No More) Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge of San Mateo

\$15.00 in advance (by August 26, 2006), \$20.00 at the door

Dance lesson at 7:15 p.m., dancing begins at 8:00.

Sunday, September 3*Sac-Con*

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

\$5

Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.

September 1-4*Conquest SF*

San Francisco Airport Marriot

1800 Old Bayshore Hwy.

Burlingame

A gaming and science fiction convention.

Saturday, September 2*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.

Monday, September 4*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

34

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org**September 7-October 1***Woman in Black (A Ghost Play)*

Pacific Rep

Golden Bough Theatre

West side of Monte Verde between 8th and 9th

Carmel-by-the-Sea

www.pacrep.org

Local production of the play that's been running in London for 16 years. Highly recommended by Jack Avery.

September 8-10*Creation Salutes Star Trek:**The 40th Anniversary Celebration*

DoubleTree Hotel

Sacramento

2001 Point West Way

Sacramento

Gold Weekend Package: \$399

www.creationent.com/cal/stsac.htm

Creation brings William Shatner and

Leonard Nimoy to Sacramento. And no, that's not a typo on the price. Cheaper packages will be announced later.

Saturday and Sunday, September 9- 10*Northern California Renaissance Faire*

Casa de Fruita

100031 Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister

\$22

www.norcalrenfaire.com

Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts, new Tournament of Horses.

Monday, September 11*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org**Friday, September 15***USS Defiance Meeting*

Round Table Pizza

Howe Ave. (Near Howe and Arden Ave.)

7 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Free

Sacramento's oldest science fiction group holds its monthly meeting.

Saturday and Sunday, September 16-17

Northern California Renaissance Faire

Casa de Fruita

100031 Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister

\$22

www.norcalrenfaire.com

Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts, new Tournament of Horses.

Saturday, September 16

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.

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Sunday, September 17

How Berkeley Can You Be Parade

Berkeley

11:00 a.m. Starts at the corner of California and University Avenue

A Klingon contingent is again planning to march. Members of the 501st Legion also

usually show up. In addition, there will be a bunch of mundane weirdos there.

Monday, September 18

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Friday-Sunday, September 22-24

Browncoats Ball

Marines Memorial Club and Hotel

609 Sutter Street

San Francisco

Join the SF Browncoats who are sponsoring this year's Browncoats Ball. Two dinner and dance events, a boat tour of the bay and a tour of Chinatown are planned, plus lots of Serenity/Firefly activities. The event is themed around the ball from the Firefly episode "Shindig." (Yes, that's the one with Kaylee's dress in it.)

Friday, September 22

Legion of Rassilon

Doctor Who fan group

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Doctor Who fan group: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

Saturday and Sunday, September 23-24

Northern California Renaissance Faire

Casa de Fruita

100031 Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister

\$22

www.norcalrenfaire.com

Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts, new Tournament of Horses.

Monday, September 25

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Saturday and Sunday, September 30-October 1

Northern California Renaissance Faire

Casa de Fruita

100031 Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister

\$22

www.norcalrenfaire.com

Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts,
new Tournament of Horses.

Saturday, September 30

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.

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Monday, October 2

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

October 6-8

SiliCon

DoubleTree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.siliconventions.com

\$35 until August 31

Guest of Honor: Robert Meyer Burnett

Special Guests: Mark Bode, Steve Englehart

Media-oriented general SF con. Art show, dealer's room, panels, costume contest, more.

Saturday and Sunday, October 7-8

Northern California Renaissance Faire

Casa de Fruita

100031 Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister

\$22

www.norcalrenfaire.com

Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts,
new Tournament of Horses.

Saturday, October 7

Dickens Fair Preview Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

San Mateo

\$15.00 in advance (by Sept. 24), \$20.00 at the door

Dance lesson at 7:00 p.m., dancing begins at 8:00

Monday, October 9

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Saturday, October 14

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.

Saturday and Sunday, October 14-15

Northern California Renaissance Faire

Casa de Fruita

100031 Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister

\$22

www.norcalrenfaire.com

Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts,
new Tournament of Horses.

Monday, October 16

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Thursday, October 19

Thrillville: It! The Terror from Beyond Space and Invasion of the Bee Girls

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

7:30 p.m.

\$10

Thrillville is an independently run cult movie cabaret hosted by Speakeasy Theaters programmer and local lounge lizard Will “the Thrill” Viharo and his lovely wife and stage assistant, Monica, Tiki Goddess. Guest appearance by Cinema Insomnia host Mr. Lobo.

October 20-22

Yaoi-Con

Westin and Clarion Hotels

San Francisco Airport

www.yaoicon.com

\$60; \$40 through May 31

“A celebration of male beauty and passion

in anime and manga.”

Friday, October 20

USS Defiance Meeting

Round Table Pizza

Howe Ave. (Near Howe and Arden Ave.)

7 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Free

Sacramento’s oldest science fiction group holds its monthly meeting.

Monday, October 23

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Friday, October 27

Thrillville’s Halloween Spookylau:

The Crawling Eye

Copia

500 First Street

Napa

8:00 p.m.

\$6

Thrillville is an independently run cult movie cabaret hosted by Speakeasy Theaters programmer and local lounge lizard Will “the Thrill” Viharo and his lovely wife

and stage assistant, Monica, Tiki Goddess. Guest appearance by Cinema Insomnia host Mr. Lobo.

Friday, October 27

Legion of Rassilon

Carl’s Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Doctor Who fan group: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

Saturday, October 28

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.

Monday, October 30*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

November 3-5*BASCON*

Embassy Suites

250 Gateway Boulevard

South San Francisco

The Bay Area Slash Convention returns.

Adults only. For all your Kirk/Spock fanfic needs.

Saturday, November 4*Le Bal des Vampires*

PEERS Event

Venue: TBD

\$15 in advance (by October 28), \$20 at the door

The annual fancy dress ball for the Undead and their admirers.

Monday, November 6*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Saturday, November 11*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.

Monday, November 13*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Friday, November 17*USS Defiance Meeting*

Round Table Pizza

Howe Ave. (Near Howe and Arden Ave.)

7 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Free

Sacramento's oldest science fiction group holds its monthly meeting.

Monday, November 20*Bay Area Science Fiction Association*

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Friday, November 24*Legion of Rassilon*

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

7:30 p.m.

Free

Doctor Who fan group: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies and a raffle.

Saturday, November 25*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.

Monday, November 27

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Saturday, December 9

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.

Monday, December 4

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Sunday, December 10

Sac-Con

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

10 a.m.-4 p.m.

\$5

Comic, toy and anime show, usually has an anime costume contest.

Monday, December 11

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

39

www.basfa.org

Friday, December 15

USS Defiance Meeting

Round Table Pizza

Howe Ave. (Near Howe and Arden Ave.)

7 p.m.- 10 p.m.

Free

Sacramento's oldest science fiction group holds its monthly meeting.

Monday, December 18

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

8 p.m.

Free

www.basfa.org

Saturday, December 23

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.

January 5-7, 2007

Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors

DoubleTree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

This is a Creation Convention. Further information will be forthcoming.

January 6, 2007

Victorian 12th Night Ball

PEERS Event

No details yet on this dance.

January 18-22, 2007

Further Confusion 2007

DoubleTree Hotel

2500 Gateway Place

San Jose

\$40

The Bay Area's major Furry con. Art show, dealer's room, costume contest, more.

February 3, 2007

Gotham City Black and White Ball

PEERS Event

We're not sure if this is Gotham as in Batman or Gotham as in old New York. With PEERS it could go either way.

March 16-18, 2007

Con-X-treme

DoubleTree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.con-x-treme.com

X-treme anime, science fiction, fantasy, martial arts, cosplay, masquerade, belly dancing, workshops, dealers and more.

April 7, 2007

Red Carpet Ball

(1930s Hollywood Academy Award Ball)

PEERS Event

No details yet on this dance.

May 5, 2007

Sleeping Beauty's Christening Fantasy Ball

PEERS Event

No details yet on this dance.

June 2, 2007

Space Cowboys' Ball

PEERS Event

No details yet on this dance.

July 6-9, 2007

Westcon 60: Gnomeward Bound

DoubleTree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

Guests of Honor: Tad Williams, Theresa Mather, Christian McGuire

Toastmaster: Jay Lake

Westcon returns to the con of 1983.

August 4, 2007

Pride & Prejudice Picnic

PEERS Event

No details yet on this event.

September 1, 2007

Mikado Ball

(A Gilbert and Sullivan Cast Party)

PEERS Event

No details yet on this dance.

October 6, 2007

Edwardian Gothic Ball

PEERS Event

Edwardian as in macabre illustrator Edward Gorey.

November 3, 2007

Le Bal des Vampires

PEERS Event

Gotta love a group that plans this far in advance, particularly since they have a good track record of actually holding their events as scheduled. No further details available yet

Ongoing:

Daily

San Francisco Ghost Hunt

Walking Tour

www.sfgghosthunt.com

Begins: Queen Anne Hotel
1590 Sutter at Octavia
San Francisco
7 p.m. – 10 p.m.
\$20

Monday

Dukefish

Jake's of Sunnyvale
174 E. Fremont Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
408-720-8884

Gather: 8:00 p.m.

Games: 8:30 p.m.

Dukefish is a bunch of people who get together to play board games and, sometimes, bridge every week.

Wednesdays

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

www.BayRPS.com

Go-Getter's Pizza

1489 Beach Park Boulevard

Foster City

6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details email GM@BayRPS.com.

Fridays

SF Games

vax.hanford.org/dk/games

Muddy's Coffeehouse
1304 Valencia Street near 24th
San Francisco
7:00 p.m. to midnight
Free

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 cards night on Tuesdays at Café Macondo, 3159 16th Street between Guerrero and Valencia.

Fridays-Mondays

Haunted Haight Walking Tour

www.hauntedhaight.com

Meets at PlanetWeavers/Genesis Store
1573 Haight Street (at Clayton)

San Francisco

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Reservations required

\$20

Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour

www.sfvampiretour.com

Meets corner of California and Taylor
San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$20

Led by Mina Harker. Tour is cancelled if there is heavy rain.