

Science Fiction/San Francisco

Issue 27

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News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

48 Hour Film Festival Winners Announced!

The 48 Hour Film Project that took place in late June had their Winners Screening on July 20th in San Francisco. The winners were:

Best Use of Character:

No Bullshido by A Big Gas Production

Best Use of Prop:

The Cure by Lordy Lordy

Best Use of Line of Dialogue:

Hum Pop by Late Again Films

Best Artistic Design:

From The Archives by Montage Productions

Best Soundtrack:

No Bullshido by A Big Gas Production

Best Special Effects:

Somnus by Tied To The Mast

Best Choreography:

No Bullshido by A Big Gas Production

Best Cinematography:

Like Lightning by Trick Knee Productions

Best Editing:

Spare Us Asparagus by Team Sub-Sanity

Best Writing:

Not Just Any Body by Short Timers

Best Acting:

What Goes Up by Missing Piece Productions

Best Directing:

Niedergang by Fish Bowl Fulla Baby Oil

Best Film:

Niedergang by Fish Bowl Fulla Baby Oil, Joe Rivera

Of very much interest to the readers of SF/SF is the Best Writing Award given to *Not Just Any Body* done by The Short Timers. They're the group that made *The Chick Magnet* and *The Last Woman on Earth* (and have Christopher J. Garcia as their Producer)

Congrats to ever'body!

Zines Published

Other than issues of The Drink Tank and PrintZine by Chris Garcia, there was also an added issue of Number One by Mike McInerney. It's an older issue, but it's on eFanzines.com for all to see.

eFanzines.com went through a slow period, only emerging with updates from The Drink Tank and In A Prior Lifetime by John Purcell. Issue 13 of IAPL is a very fun read and John's a big supporter of this zine you're readin' (as well as of Chris for TAFF and Hollister in 2008). He also posted issue 10 of And Furthermore.

After a little more than a week off, Arnie Katz posted issue 81 of Vegas Fandom Weekly after taking some time off to deal with the passing of his close friend rich brown and prepare his tribute issue, which is also out on eFanzines. Issue 81 is great with articles from Chris Garcia and Dick Lupoff among others. It's a whopping 30 pages!

There's another FAPA mailing coming out shortly. FAPA, the Fantasy Amateur Press Association, is the oldest SF-related APA in the world. Local members include legendary local fen like Robert Lichtman and Jack Clavert, the great Robert Silverberg, and even Christopher J. Garcia (like that's a surprise). If you're interested in more info on FAPA, feel free to drop a line to Garcia@computerhistory.org and I'll pass along what I can.

Letters Of Comment

Let us start with Mr. John Purcell!

Many thanks for the zine! The main thing I have to say about the ish is that wonderful dragon by Mo Starkey simply blew me away! Lovely work. Since you included her website with the art, I am most definitely going to visit her site and e-mail her for potential contributions. Very nice bit of work.

Chris Garcia replies: Yeah, isn't it? I'm loving the way our new layouts are coming along.

Congratulations, folks, on the one year anniversary! The 13th issue of my zine, *In a Prior Lifetime*, is its third anniversary. Must be the season for this sort of thing. Here's looking forward to many more years of SF-squared.

I'm still not sure how we've managed to do a full year. We've gone through editors and writers and have come out with a great group who's been doing great stuff. And looking at all the other stuff we've got coming up, I'm really impressed!

I really don't have much else to say about this particular issue since I have only seen *Firefly* and *Serenity* only in passing, and have heard of the Browncoats and such, but

nothing much more than that. Sorry! On the positive side of this, *Firefly* does look interesting, but I don't know the premise of the show. Fill me in, please, and then I will probably become a more regular viewer if I have a bit of a handle on things. Thank you in advance.

It's an interesting show. I watched it first-run and I was impressed. I just wish I'd managed to see more than just the last five minutes of the movie. Now if we could only convince them to make a sequel...

Love those pictures accompanying the Medieval Summer Night article. We have a SCA event coming up in the College Station area this fall - my wife has been in contact with the "leader" of the local group - so we're going to be doing that, besides the big annual Texas RenFest in Oct-Nov (7 consecutive weekends it runs!). I will most likely send you pictures of both events, so you have been warned.

Texas' RenFest is really well-known. I've got a bunch of Cali friends who regularly attend and say that it's a brilliant time.

Thanks for the invite. As usual, I'm pencilling in you folks as a potential vacation area.

Come to San Francisco, home of fannish frivolity!

If we wander out that way, I will definitely let you know in advance.

All the best,

John Purcell

And you'll be attending a BASFA meeting whether you want to or not!

Thanks, John! And now Mr. Lloyd Penney!

Dear Jean, Chris, David and Eva:

Well, I was getting ready to write a loc on issue 25 of SF/SF, and then, the computer went in for repairs, and got a new motherboard, and a second hard drive, and you all know the rest...trying to reconnect everything again is a pain. (And it's a brand new excuse for the excuse file.) And then, 26 came in, so I am behind again. Time for some comments.

Chris replies: You know we love the mass grave theory of LoCs here at SF/SF.

25...With the idea of the Hollister (hoax) bid in mind, I've seen more than a dozen Hollister t-shirts in Toronto. The word's getting out!

And I've seen dozens of them all over

the place. I'm not sure why. I don't think we authorized the printing of so many shirts! We're owed royalties!!!

Yvonne and I did go to the Casa Loma Ren Faire, and had a good time. Some of the participants are getting to know us, so we were able to talk to them about another faire we'd heard rumours about, and they confirmed them. The new area renfaire, with the preliminary name of Renaissance Ontario Faire, will be taking place in 2007 somewhere in Mississauga, just west of Toronto. We dropped off flyers for the faire at Toronto Trek this year, and few flyers were taken, for some reason. We will be doing what we can to let local fans know. Some of them do take part in the renfares as vendors and assistants.

You know, though I'm their target audience and would probably have a blast and a half at one, I've never been to a Ren Faire. I was a former SCA member back in my High School days, but I never made it to any Ren Faires. Mea Culpa.

Speaking of Toronto Trek 20...we did have a very good time this year. We had no commitments other than to ourselves to have a good time, and mission accomplished. We saw folks like Richard Hatch and George Takei from a distance, but we've never been into the personality cult that seems to surround many media SF conventions. We

saw friends we hadn't seen in years, we found a few goodies in the dealers' room, and best of all, Yvonne got the recognition she deserves as the founder of the convention. She was part of the opening ceremonies, and she was interviewed on the Saturday of the convention. The convention negotiated with us, and we received free memberships, one free night at the con hotel, and Yvonne might get a lifetime membership from the con, not sure yet.

Good for Yvonne! I think more cons have to come up with ways to reward their founders/long-timers. BayCon has the Friends of BayCon thingee, and a few other cons do too, but especially cons that are long-running need to figure out something to honor those who stick around.

Anyone from the BArea go to the Tolkien convention in Toronto? We didn't, and I found afterwards that few around here even knew it had happened. I have yet to hear anything about how it went, but one rumour I'd heard, hopefully false, was that they got about half the attendance they needed. Their registration prices were much higher than in 2003, which may have contributed to that. Any word from anyone on a Tolkien website?

I don't know of anyone. I know none of our staff is going (and of course, having said that, one of us will probably end up going). Is

Ed Meskeys still involved?

TT20 also had its share of Klingons as well, although I do notice that their numbers seem to dwindle each year. It's tough to get into costume each year, affix the foreheads with spirit gum, and growl until you're hoarse. Still, I will be listening for the roars of delight in the distance when they celebrate 40 years of Klingons on television in March of next year.

Klingons are everywhere, even on our staff! They've ebbed and flowed over the last decade that I've been watching. They seem to be slightly higher now than they were in 2001.

In the minutes for Meeting 831, Andy Tremblay was right about the Gaylaxicon hotel. The hotel has five elevators, but not more than three were working at any one time, and with the convention scattered between the 2nd and 22nd floors, we all spent a lot of time that weekend waiting for an elevator or traveling in the rare one that would come along.

The worst I've ever experienced was ConJose where they had only one bank of elevators and two were down for the weekend. The lines were very long on Saturday night.

26...Congratulations to all of you on one full year! Fandom in any given city is so difficult to cover because the connections between the fandoms and the interests are

becoming more and more tenuous each year. Publications like SF/SF keep those connections connected.

And we'll keep on doin' it, too!

Las Vegas should be a great place to have a Westercon. How much are the rooms at the JW Marriott, anyway?

US\$159.00 a night. I'm excited, it's beautiful, the rooms are big, but the price is still high for a guy like me.

I remember some years ago, I worked for an engineering company that also produced a magazine called Condominium. There were rolls of gold stickers that had the name of the magazine, and I grabbed one to take to a Worldcon, and I stickered about 30 people at random. Finally, the word got back to me about a mysterious con called Condominium, and did anyone know anything about it? Was it a Worldcon bid? For what city and year? When the fannish grapevine wants to work, it works spectacularly well.

I should try to do that again, just to mess with people's heads. I've been accused of being a Fannish Prankster, what with my participation in Hollister in 2008 and Me for Mayor. I don't get it. I mean, I'm as sercon as the next guy...

Reprints round out the issue... there is always something happening in BArea fandom, and if you're bored, you have only

yourself to blame.

Yeah, we wanted to celebrate our year by looking back on where we started. I kinda liked the BArea intro piece that I did for issue 2.

Chris, you know what I'm doing with my LiveJournal, but for the rest of the masthead... I am trying an experiment. Seeing how many letters I write, some friends wondered aloud where all my letters are, anyway, and they are scattered over hundreds of zines. So, after I send my locs out, I will archive them on my LJ, at lloydpenney.livejournal.com. Come and visit Lloyd's Locs Box, and see how busy I've been.

It's a service to a guy like me who's not 100% sure what other zines are out there for me. I've been going through and I've made one comment so far, but expect more, Lloyd!

Well, the website says it's 31 days to the big event, so I guess I'll see you all in a month! We plan to be there a few days early to relax, and see a few sights, including the gift shop at the L.A. County Coroners' Department. We have got to party together at some point, maybe at the Hollister party? Whatever the occasion, see you there!

Yours, Lloyd Penney

Look for the guy carrying the Chris for TAFF sign. That'll probably be me!

Francis Yun writes:

Hey Jean!

Just wanted to give credit where credit's due . . . while I was working up in the booth, James R. took some of the photos at the Bridge Theater during the Serenity Now screening . . .

I'll let you guess which ;)

P.S. Naw . . . James took the bottom shot on page 12 and the one on page 13.

Jean Martin responds:

Hi Francis. Thanks for the clarification. And thanks for continuing to contribute photos to our ezine. You're a very talented photographer and very reliable!

Announcement

Cheryl Morgan announced on EmCit.com that she's rolling up the carpet on Emerald City, her Hugo winning fanzine that's been a focal point since the early 1990s. Cheryl put out 131 issues, won the Hugo for Best Fanzine in 2004 and has given Dave Langford his strongest competition in the Best Fan Writer category for the last several years.

At press time, we've just heard the initial announcement and will have more(including a statement from Cheryl, hopefully) in our next issue.

Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor

I hope everyone enjoyed our one-year anniversary issue. Now on to our second year! What do we have in store for our readers in this next year? Sky's the limit I suppose. As I mentioned in my last editorial, it all depends on the activities that will be happening and of course the involvement of folks in fandom. We are a fan-based zine and the efforts of the people involved color the tone of our issues. Which is quite exciting really. As people contribute what they're interested in, we get to see different aspects of fandom. Up to now, I still keep finding out about new groups and events that I've never heard of. So I'm looking forward to discovering more as we keep growing.

Not to put a damper on things, but I'm sure a lot of people are anxious about all the recent goings on in the bigger world. What's a little scifi/fantasy ezine matter in the whole scheme of things one might wonder?

I don't watch the news as I've said

before but I keep informed. From my experience, it's hard to explain this to the majority of folks who like to be in tune with every single detail of all the miseries and disasters going on in the U.S. and around the globe. I get accused of living in my own fantasy world. Of enjoying life, my friends and my activities and hobbies that tend to be out of the mainstream. Why should I justify doing things that make me happy?

For instance, on my way to the Regency Picnic recently, which Eva covered for us for this issue, the war between Israel and Lebanon had just started. I feel for what the people in those two countries are going through... the loss of life and home. I grew up in a relatively violent nation and am no stranger to the fear and uncertainty of armed conflict. Am I being selfish in continuing to pursue my dreams, express my talents and experience the good things in life?

I strongly believe that it doesn't serve the world and the people that are suffering for everyone else to join in that suffering. Helping them to relieve that suffering, yes. But be miserable, no. Life is hard enough

as it is and we all carry our own burdens and things happen to all of us that we need to deal with. There is no point in making ourselves unhappy. When we are miserable, we tend to take out our frustrations and anger on other people. This actually happened to me recently. After watching the news involuntarily one night, the next day I was so filled with dread and anxiety that I lost my temper at someone which, although I felt he deserved it, made me feel like I was contributing to the hatred already in the world.

Afterwards, I realized what happened. In my mind, I had to forgive the person and the people around who involved themselves when they shouldn't have. The hardest to forgive was myself. None of us are perfect and we all make mistakes. We just all have to be tolerant with each other and also patient with ourselves.

When there is peace inside one's self, that peace grows and spreads to other people. There is already too much negativity around and the only way to counter negativity is with positivity, the only way to overcome war is with peace, the only way to conquer

the dark is with light.

I have a feeling that people in fandom look at things the same way I do. That's why we're drawn to superheroes, and as Joseph Campbell stated, a hero's journey. We all wish we could defeat the Dark Side and be like Luke Skywalker and have the strong certainty of what is good and evil. Luke was tempted for a little bit, evil is usually close like a father (or neighbor, or co-worker, etc.) sometimes. But he emerged stronger for the experience. Just like the shards of Narsil being reforged into the more solid and beautiful Anduril.

Yes, I live in my own world. It's not perfect either but I'd rather live in a world where people's imagination, creativity and talent are celebrated. A world where people do and make things that radiate happiness into the world and that balance out the not-so-beautiful creations of man. Other people may do more in diplomacy or activism, that's wonderful! But I contribute myself in my own quiet but still, I think, profound way. So, again, to quote Joseph Campbell... follow your bliss!

By Espana Sheriff

I once read a book in which the author put forth the theory that cities can evolve into conscious beings, that there are certain esoteric combinations of population, history and architecture that will reach a tipping point and awaken their spirit, and that San Francisco achieved this state when the Transamerica Pyramid was completed. The whimsy of this idea appeals to me; certainly the idea that a city has its own dreams, ideas and agenda feels right to those who move through it.

This city clearly has a personality of its own. Although what that is may vary depending on whom you ask. Is it lovely and mysterious, but cold and inhospitable... little cat feet tipped with claws? (To its exes, certainly.) Arrogant and irresponsible – and a little smug? (To those who eye it from afar but are afraid to ask for a dance.) Nah, it's just young, fun-loving and idealistic – wearing flowers in its hair. (To those of us think it's our BFF who loves us best of all.)

It's still young, a mere stripling beside comparable cities in Europe or even the East Coast. We can probably discount its claims of being a reincarnated Atlantis, but it does seem to be an old soul, tempered by fire. Maybe that accounts for those mood swings, all sunshine and roses one minute, dark and brooding the next.

Like a lot of us who have come into its orbit I adore this city while knowing it'll never love me back quite as fiercely. Oh, it's friendly enough and always remembers my birthday, but it has so very many other admirers vying for its attention, it's hard to fault it for being fickle.

So I'm going to try to get to know it better. And like any smitten fool I'll do so by projecting my ideals onto it. I'll look at the San Francisco Bay Area through the lens of its association with the SF genre. There is a lot of sftnal history here that I am only vaguely aware of and this will be my excuse to delve into it.

Chesley Bonestell helped design our most famous landmark and a few decades later Ray Harryhausen sent a monster to try and tear it down. Philo T. Farnsworth changed the future from his lab at the foot of Telegraph Hill in 1928, and in 1966 a group of fans in a Berkeley backyard changed the past instead. The area is celebrated in books: Jack London, George R. Stewart and Pat Murphy have all set post-apocalyptic tales in the Bay Area. In film: Jack Burton kicked ass under Chinatown and H.G. Wells chased Jack the Ripper through our streets. On the small screen: The eighth Doctor made a rare foray onto US soil and Starfleet set up its base of operations in the Presidio.

So much to watch, read and learn. I can't wait to start digging.

Romantic Poetry Gathering on the Lake

By Eva Kent

Staff Writer

Photos by Eva Kent and Jean Martin

On Sunday July 16th, the Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild (GBACG) revived their Romantic Poetry Gathering that last took place in 1996. The backdrop for the Regency Era event was Golden Gate Park's Stow Lake.

Unfortunately for my boyfriend John and me, many of the entrances to the park were blocked off because of other events happening there. After spending an hour battling traffic we found an opening to the park and lucked out with finding parking quickly. We were both dressed in



Regency Couple

our period costumes and walked through a steady stream of people. I have been to several costumed ballroom dancing events and have tried to shy away from people not dressed in costume but this time it was impossible to avoid the public eye. We made our way to the boat house where we were to rent a paddle boat to catch up to the group that was already eating their picnic lunches in their boats.

Before we reached our boats an older man called out to us, "What time period is that?"

"Early 1800s," I answered.

"Whew, that's a long time ago. Things have

changed since then," he said.

"They have," I said. "I am amazed."

As John and I cycled the paddle boat towards the group of row boats with parasols poking out at 30 degree angles, I realized that my dress became hiked up as I cycled on my side of the boat. "That's indecent of me!" I thought. We brought our boat a quarter of the way around the circumference of the lake where the gathering was already docked at the side of a small island. We latched our boat up with the rest of the group and were offered fresh fruit and vegetables that were being passed around from boat to boat. There was plenty to eat but John and I only got to eat about half a sandwich each before we had to set off to go back to the boat house. The older man who was interested in what John and I were doing in costume caught up to our group in a row boat and shouted out his hellos to us.

On the way back to the boathouse John and I were in the midst of a group of four rowboats carrying costumed men and women. The men wore top or straw hats; long-sleeved shirts with decorative vests and neck scarves, optional riding jacket, and



Sipping tea on row boats



John and Eva in paddle boat



Picnic on Stow Lake in row boats



Ladies rowing on Stow Lake



Sir John and Lady Eva in front of waterfall

breaches. Men wore either tall boots or high socks and buckled shoes as foot wear.

Ladies wore floor length Empire-waisted dresses with optional train in materials spanning from cotton prints to showy silks. They wore a variety of head coverings such as cloth bonnets and straw hats. Ladies used either shawls or Spencer jackets to keep their arms warm on the sea-side lake.

Once the party arrived back at the boat house they disembarked from their vessels and walked to the pagoda-themed gazebo where the romantic poetry reading

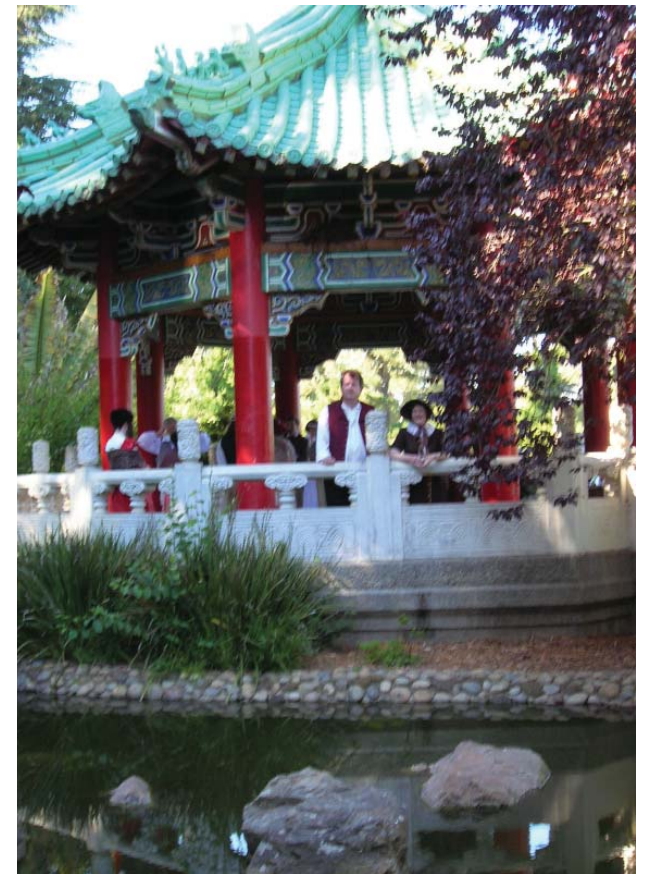
would take place. A female tourist from Taiwan stopped John and me as we were preparing to leave the boat rental area and asked us if there was any place to rent a costume like ours. We told her that there wasn't. She then asked us if we would take a picture with her and we agreed. I kind of thought that people would take an interest in what we

were doing at the park all dressed up and I was glad that we felt natural being there instead of silly. As we walked to the gazebo we passed other people who noted our costumes and an older Asian lady smiled and nodded her head at us as we walked by.

Stow Lake provided many romantic places for the costumers to take pictures. On the way to the gazebo the party passed in front of a waterfall which was very picturesque and of course we stopped to take pictures there. The novelty of being in costume on the water also provided a fun

chance to snap pictures of each other rowing and basking in the sun. Once at the gazebo, costumers took pictures at the stone bridge leading to it and in front of the red painted pillars of the gazebo itself.

After scaring away other park goers who were occupying the gazebo by mentioning that a poetry reading was going to take place, costumers spread out their food to share on the marble picnic table in



Pagoda-style gazebo where poetry reading took place



Lady Rebecca and her gentleman



Lady Jean and Lady Heather



Recitation of Yeats



Performance of Mozart

the middle of the gazebo. The leader of the group asked people to share the poetry that they prepared for the group. Selections from Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Yeats and Byron were all performed for us. Additionally one costumer read a poem that she wrote for her mother that was enjoyed by all. And for our listening pleasure a young lady sang a piece by Mozart for the party.

I was surprised that I felt at ease in the park with a costume on. I found, as I thought I would, that most people had a warm reception for us and enjoyed seeing a group of people dressed up and having a good time rowing on the water and cavorting at the gazebo. As for the event itself, I enjoyed all of the activities. I wish that we could have arrived on time and spent more time on the water socializing, but we were able to spend about an hour in our paddle boat. I was led to believe that the event was co-organized with GBACG and the Bay Area English Regency Society (BAERS) and that musicians would be in attendance, but they were not. I had thought that if musicians were there, there might be some Regency dancing taking place, but there was not. I would be in favor of adding a music and dancing part to the gathering the next time it happens. That way we can amaze even more onlookers!

July 'SF in SF' Readings by Michael Blumlein and Michael Cadnum

By **Espana Sheriff**
Staff Writer

From the Borderlands Books newsletter: *SF in SF* is a monthly science fiction author reading series curated by Adam Cornford, Karen Williams and Terry Bisson.

The theme for July 18th was “genre benders” and featured Michael Blumlein, MD and Michael Cadnum, both local authors (SF and Albany respectively) whose work I was previously unfamiliar with.

We arrived fannishly late and spent another couple of minutes trying to find our way around since no one was at the New College of California’s front desk nor anywhere that we could see. After a couple of forays down empty hallways we found a room with people in it and the sure sign that we’d found it: someone at the door to take our \$4.

About twenty people were milling about, the event running a little late as well. Some of the usual suspects like Jeremy Lassen and Jacob Weisman were there, but sadly the seats were barely a fifth full. The venue seems designed for dance or music performances,

with a large hardwood floor and curtains lining the back wall. Nevertheless it suited our needs well enough and I rather liked it, except some disconcertingly glaring lights hanging from the ceiling. Next time I think I’ll bring a baseball cap. The location is smack dab in the middle of the increasingly interesting stretch of Valencia Street that includes Borderlands and 826 Valencia one block up and is at the heart of LitQuake. In addition there are almost too many good places to eat and drink, including our pit stop for the night, Ramblas.

Michael Cadnum started off the evening with a retelling of the Greek myth of Medusa from his new collection “Can’t Catch Me,” published by local small press Tachyon Publications. His roots as a poet shine through in his prose and I was reminded a little of Peter Beagle, who is of course also a local author with books published by Tachyon. Lovely though it was, the story seemed to fall pretty squarely in the Fantasy genre despite being a “reimagining,” so I’ll have to check out the author’s collection to see if some of his other stories fit the bill more closely.

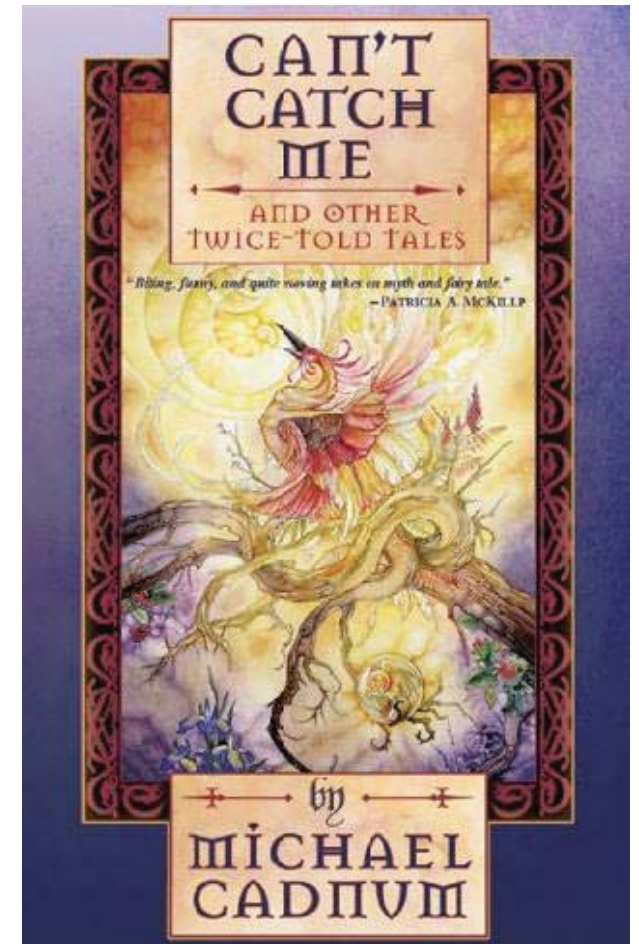


Photo Courtesy of Tachyon Publications

For his own part Blumlein treated us to some excerpts from a decidedly harder to categorize novel “Healer,” published by the much acclaimed new SF imprint Pyr. The

book is set in a society divided into humans and “grotesques.” Within the grotesques there is a subcategory of healers who have a specialized organ in their abdomen that can extract illnesses. Miners and gamblers were featured in the excerpts we heard, lending them a frontier flair; whether that is frontier-planet or frontier-Earth (and which Earth) is the question.

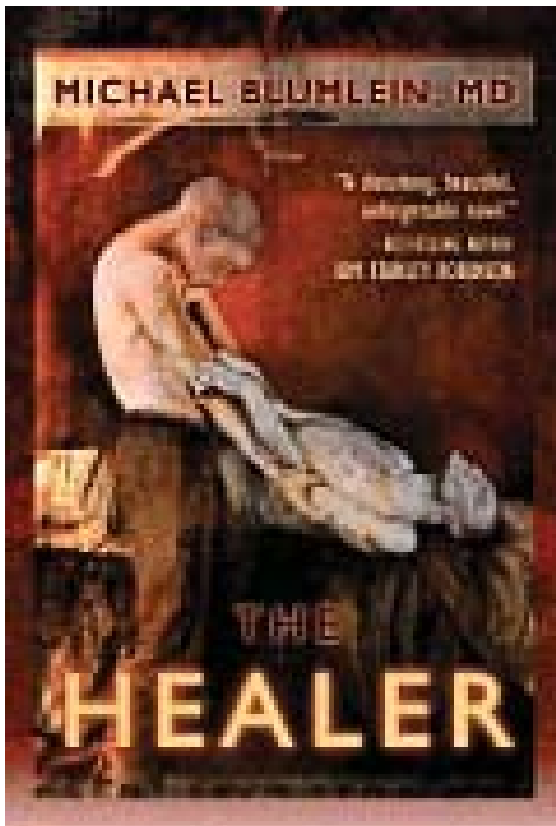


Photo courtesy of Pyr

Terry Bisson, who of course is a worthy local author himself as well as a teacher at the New College, moderated a question-and-answer session after the readings that was as lively and interesting as any convention panel I've been to. Blumlein confessed himself at a loss as to what he was writing (SF/Fantasy/Other) and Cadnum waxed poetic about mythology and writing.

The Q&A started off appropriately with someone saying how Blumlein's set-up description of “a world which humans share with another race called Grotesques” had led him to assume the genre was obvious, to which Bisson of course replied, “Yes, but obviously what?” From there the discussion wandered to theories of writing and elsewhere, at least once careening dangerously close to becoming an iteration on the “what is science fiction” trope fans love to circle back to whenever allowed. Thankfully, the detour was brief.

I will definitely be picking up “Healer” and if I had the money on me, I would probably have purchased it right there from the table oh-so-thoughtfully set up by Borderlands and manned by the erudite and always charming Jude Feldman.

Next in the series should be on August 8 at 7:00 p.m., with Richard Lupoff and Carter Scholz. However, I can't find any information on previous or upcoming SF in

SF readings on the New College website.

<http://www.borderlands-books.com/>

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

<http://www.pyrsf.com/thehealer.html>

Fourth of July Wild West Desert Adventure

Photos and Article by Charm Quark

The Black Rock Desert in Nevada is famous for the Burning Man festival held every Labor Day weekend. But brave souls venture out into the Playa, the ancient lakebed that is now an alkaline desert, year round. One popular (among those in the know at least) time to camp there is during the Fourth of July holiday.

During the Fourth of July weekend in 2005, I went there to camp with a group that put on a musical that I participated in. The camp was small and located several miles north of the Burning Man site. The desert was pristine in that area, and being surrounded by almost empty space was surreal. The sunsets were spectacular, and the stars, especially the very discernable Milky Way, were unforgettable. The hot springs were also quite heavenly.

So I jumped at the chance to go back there this past Fourth of July weekend. Since the fourth was on a Tuesday this time, I had four nights to play with instead of three. Thus, I spent the first night in Reno to break up the long drive to my ultimate

destination. I also didn't want to arrive at the Playa late at night when I wouldn't be able to navigate easily. Conditions in the desert this year are not very favorable, with lots of wet spots. The Burning Man site, I

heard before I left for my trip, was under four inches of water.

Last year, I got stuck in the mud while exploring the Playa. I was out of radio range and didn't have enough water to last



American Flag on the Playa

the night. I also didn't have any tools. So I had to dig my way out, literally with my bare hands.

I arrived at the Reno Hilton past midnight on Friday, or I guess it was

Saturday morning by then! It was nice to stay in a nice hotel before going out to camp in the raw. There is absolutely nothing in the desert except what you bring with you. Last year, there weren't any toilet facilities.

This year, I camped with a much bigger camp closer to the Burning Man site, and they had four porta potties at least!

After a late dinner, a little sleep, breakfast, and loading up with gallons of water, I headed to the desert. I got to the Playa around 5:00 p.m. after stopping by Bruno's Bar in Gerlach, the last town before the desert. I got to meet the famous Bruno, who owns a hotel and restaurant in the area as well. Then I took the 3-mile entrance and approached the camp site via a northeasterly route. Having GPS coordinates helped a lot and I made it to our camp with no problems. Later I heard that a lot of people that used the 8-mile entrance, the usual route to Burning Man, got stuck in

the mud crossing the Playa heading straight east. Several of these stranded folks had to walk eight hours or so to get help! One headed back to Gerlach, the nearest town, and a few stepped onto the nearby train track and stopped a train!

I set up camp, which consisted of a Costco barn, a tent, a table and some chairs. After a few hours, I walked around and met my camp mates. They were all very friendly and nice. Then I watched the beautiful sunset. It was nice to be in the Playa again. It's very serene and otherworldly.

Fireworks, by one of my camp mates, began soon after the sun set. Then an art car by the FKO Camp, who were camped somewhere else, came by to visit. The art car consisted of a truck with a dance floor above it and bar attached to its rear. Loud techno music blared from the speakers. After they left, I explored my camp for nighttime activities. There was a DJ and dance floor in the middle where I saw a couple of people doing fire dancing, and another couple doing partner acrobatics. It was very mellow, though, and people disappeared pretty early. So I went to bed, exhausted after a long drive and setting up camp.

Sunday morning dawned and I was surprised that I woke up late, around 10:00 a.m. It wasn't too cold during the night and



FKO Camp Art Car

it wasn't too hot when I woke up either – unlike last year during Fourth of July and Burning Man when I was so cold I wore so many clothes to bed and woke up early to start taking them off because it was boiling hot! I hung out and relaxed during the daytime and then headed toward Bordello, or Frog Pond, at the eastern edge of the

desert in the afternoon. There are three pools at Bordello. I only went into the hottest one last year, and went to the same one again. It was nice to go into the warm water, with trees hanging over the spring and the mountains to one side and the desert on the other. It was a little disconcerting being in a pool with lots of little fish in it.

Or maybe they were tadpoles? Maybe it's called Frog Pond for that reason. Then I went to Trego hot springs, which is next to the train track and is a long narrow pool of varying temperatures. I'm not very fond of Trego because it is harder to get into and the bottom is very muddy. But it is more remote and one can have more privacy.

The advantage of going to the Playa during that time of year is that the sun sets much later than during Burning Man so you can do a lot more outdoorsy stuff before it gets dark. But the evening time presents a whole different aspect. The night comes alive with neon-colored lights and dance music. My camp didn't have any activities planned for that evening but I heard about a big party and show at a nearby camp. So I hopped in my camp neighbors' van, which had a couch inside it, and was driven to Dismal Camp.

My camp neighbors were from Portland and they had an amazing and comfortable Mongolian-style yurt. They were very friendly and the drive to Dismal Camp was lively and raucous. We were driving in the dark and it was pretty hit-or-miss finding our destination and not having a collision with other vehicles.

The desert is a pretty lawless place, outside of Burning Man, and it really reminded me of the Wild West. Lots of



Trego Hot Springs

people were under the influence of alcohol or other substances (while driving too!), people were walking around naked or semi-naked, and I even witnessed a few people shooting

fireworks at each other. Several people remarked that this was how Burning Man used to be when it was still very small and there weren't a lot of rules and supervision.

There's a sense of freedom and danger that makes one feel really alive. You have to really use your wits to survive the elements and you either cooperate and be smart or face

the consequences of your own actions or inaction. Probably what the Pioneers also experienced going this way toward the promise of wealth in the West.

Speaking of Pioneers, a truck that was converted into a Conestoga wagon, complete with animatronic donkeys, drove into Dismal Camp. It was such a delightful creation, and to top it all off, Western-style music was blaring from the truck's sound system. Since we were waiting for several hours for the entertainment to begin, the music was a welcome substitute



Conestoga Wagon



Jackalope Shooting Gallery

in the meantime. I couldn't resist dancing to a few songs. I did some impromptu English Country dancing with a couple of partners. Then I did a free-form ballet-type dance to a song that reminded me of the science fiction TV show *Firefly*. In fact, I felt like River Tam during the episode *Safe* where she comes across a group of people having a celebration in the desert. It was such an amazing experience! I was probably the only one that got the significance of my dance but people around appreciated it for what it was.

Then the highlight of the evening at Dismal began. When I arrived at the camp, I saw that they had a huge façade of a Western saloon. There was also a big jackalope doll on a red rocket (à la Looney Tunes) and smaller jackalope wood cutouts lined in a row across the front of the saloon. I didn't know what jackalopes were but I surmised that they are an unlikely cross between a jack rabbit and an antelope. Which, I later learned, is exactly what they are but they are mythical, made up creatures.

I also didn't realize what the show was going to be until it started. The spectacle was definitely worth the two-hour wait! I have never seen anything like it in my entire life. There was a wooden structure several feet away from the saloon and a man in a black cape with a bullhorn instructing people

to line up in front of it. It turned out to be a jackalope shooting range! Instead of bullets, the wooden guns had bottle rockets attached to them. Four or five people at a time waited for a woman to light their bottle rockets and all they had to do was aim. They were targeting the row of jackalopes that were now moving rapidly on some sort of track in and out of the saloon.

I kept laughing at the whole delightful absurdity of it all. I'm so amazed how creative and imaginative people are to come up with something like this – and actually construct it and bring it all to the middle of a desert! The bottle rockets were shooting colored lights and sparks toward their target. If a jackalope was hit, fireworks erupted out of it. Yes, those big fireworks you see on Fourth of July. And we were all crowded around close to all of this. It was quite exciting. There were, of course, a couple of people that looked like fire marshals who were ready to put out fires. Then three big jackalopes emerged from the back of the saloon. These were harder to hit and only one of them burst into flames.

Our group didn't stay till the end as everyone wanted to go back home and have dinner. It was already around midnight at that time and most were already bored from waiting. So we headed back, but we saw when we got back to our camp more

fireworks coming from Dismal. We heard the next day that they blew up and burned everything! Too bad I missed that, but at least I got to see some of it from afar.

On Monday morning, I woke up surprised to see that most of my camp had left. It seemed like people were not going to wait until Tuesday for the actual Fourth of July. I wasn't sure whether I should go as well, but luckily, I ran into a new group of people at my camp who had just recently arrived. They were all good friends and were a lot of fun.

I hung out with them that morning until lunch time. One of them taught me how to dance with a hula hoop and do partner acrobatics. She was very strong and held me up while I stretched out my arms and legs and arched my back and head up. I wasn't scared of her dropping me

or me breaking my bones if I fell. I wish someone had taken a photo of us then!

After lunch, I joined their group again to go back to Frog Pond. This time



Burning Phoenix

I went to all three pools. I went into the hottest one first as I was comfortable with that. Then I went to the coldest one, which was actually the largest and surrounded by marshes. The last was the most fun and relaxing as there were a lot of other people there just lounging. It had medium temperature and was also the middle one in size. I relaxed by the bank of the pool for a long time before I went in.

Most of the people in this last pool were from Antlerville Camp. They had a Celtic wedding the night before and I got to see the groom. Most of them were quite nicely dressed for the desert. Almost Burning Man elaborate. I met one of the men the night before and he was there again and said there was a party that evening at their camp.

So the new group I was hanging out with all agreed to go to that party. This group had a kimono theme and a lot of them wore kimonos. It was beautiful seeing kimonos combined with funky clothing in the desert. One of the guys noticed I was admiring their kimonos and gave me a short one to keep! I was so blown away by the generosity of this camp. Earlier, one of the girls gave me a disposable camera and another one gave me a necklace of gold beads.

We arrived at Antlerville and were

impressed at the setup they had. They had a tower made of steel cables and hanging from them were several round neon symbols of religions from all over the world. The dance music playing was really good too. But there was hardly anyone there! We were all disappointed about that. It was too bad because it could have really been a fun dance club-type party.

I danced for a little bit until I found out that the “real” event that evening was at my camp! The popular Flaming Lotus Girls, who had my favorite art installation last year at Burning Man – the big, burning metal Phoenix, were planning a burn at my camp. Interesting how I didn’t hear about it that morning when I was asking what was going on today at our camp. So I rode back just in time to see fireworks coming out of a huge burning Phoenix made of wooden beams. It was quite spectacular! Very Burning Man-like and a wonderful finale for the trip.

Tuesday morning, it was all work as I had to help with breaking down my camp equipment and load everything up. It took several hours and then I was on my way out of the Playa, which I won’t see again until Burning Man. I drove fast through the open desert. It was an exhilarating experience driving with no streets or cops or anything of that sort.

I stopped by Pyramid Lake before reaching Reno. The lake is beautiful and blue. Pyramid-shaped, of course. I took a dunk into the cold water (the water comes from Lake Tahoe) for a few minutes and relaxed on the beach with other holiday makers. It was finally Fourth of July! Quite a celebration of freedom, with all the activities I did.

Back in Reno, I had an enormous lunch at the Victorian Buffet at the Silver Legacy. For \$11, I had three plates of entrees and salads and three plates of desserts. I was famished and felt food-deprived after being in the desert. It was a marvelous feast for the eye and palate.

Then, I hung out at Circus Circus for a little bit. Circus Circus brings back fond memories of when I was young and my parents would be gambling and my sister and I would play games and win lots of prizes. My favorite is the water pistol booth and that is where I won a little leopard stuffed animal.

Quite an adventure from going to probably the most modern and artificial type of city there is in the world to one of the most untouched natural wonders on earth and then back again. I can’t wait to go back to the Playa for Burning Man!

BASFA Minutes

Meeting 834

July 17, 2006

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

Began 8:04 [warmly]

20 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 832 were accepted as 'Catholic boy' & the minutes of meeting 833 were accepted as 'absorbent.'

Treasurer's report was that we took in \$30.41 last week.

There was a vote to change the meeting agenda to hold auctions now that failed.

The VP reported that there are 3 new issues of 'Drink Tank' out, a new TAFF-sine and a new SFinSF.

The President had nothing fannish to report.

Dave C then complimented BASFA's president and presented him with a... present.

We said 'hi' to Nancy and Kurt, visiting us from the East Coast.

The Hollister in '08 bid committee reported that he had numbers and 'our total funds raised will make you plotz.'

Announcements

Ken announced that the Cinema San Pedro movie for this Wednesday night will be 'Double Indemnity.'

Chris announced that both rich brown [of fanzine fame] and Mickey Spillane died this last week.

Adrienne announced that there'll be an ewaste disposal opportunity at SJSU July 21-23.

Frank Wu announced that the animated 'Guidilon' will be premiered at Conestoga in Tulsa and also shown at Worldcon.

[evil] Kevin announced that you have 2 weeks left to vote on the Hugos.

Reviews:

Harold reviewed 'A Scanner Darkly' as quite engrossing, a very good film and definitely worth matinee.

Julie reviewed a collection of Phillip K Dick stories as kind of neat and well worth the library visit on a hot day & reviewed 'Pirates' as good and worth matinee; Dave C follow-on'd that 'Pirates' was a lot of fun and worth at least matinee; Chris reviewed it as 'awesome,'

I follow-on'd that it was wonderful whenever Sparrow was on-screen and worth full price - and the hamster wheel of death was excellent.

Andy reviewed ConStruction as he was only there for half of it, liked what he saw and thought it worth a day membership; Dave C follow-on'd that the Saturday night 'Zoo' game was fun.

Chris reviewed 'The World Series of Pop Culture' as the greatest thing ever and reviewed Evelyn's reaction to 'Pirates' as well worth full price.

I reviewed 'Knott's Berry Farm' as more fun than 'Disneyland' - and the better bargain to visit; Trey follow-on'd that both parks were fun to visit.

Adrienne reviewed 'Murphys Historic Hotel' as don't rent one of their historic rooms during hot weather & reviewed wine shopping as she got a variety of wines; Spring follow-on'd that they visited 10 tasting rooms and the hotel there was dismal.

Kurt reviewed Kepler's bookstore as their science fiction section was abysmal, that he rated it +10 for balls and -3 for selection.

Kurt announced that Nancy was free but that he was starting a job.

We auctioned off stuff, posters for \$1.00; videos

BASFA Minutes

for \$0.25; the 'Hoax' book for \$8.00 for the Hollister bid; other books for \$5.50, \$1.00 & \$0.50; a box of magazines for \$0.25 & a box of movie trailers for \$1.00.

We adjourned at 9:26 pm

And the rumor of the week was 'Coming up, 'Pirates of the Caribbean, Hamster Dance of

Meeting 835

July 24, 2006

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

Began 8:06 [with applause].

24 people attended [and the pecan pie was very good].

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 834 were accepted as 'moist, humid & sultry.'

Treasurer's report was that we took in \$49.50 last week.

We established a party jar.

The VP reported that there's a new issue of 'Drink Tank' out, a new SFinSF & his film 'Not

Just Any Body' won best written short film - plus he has 'Chris for TAFF' stuff available at Cafepress & he likes Murf.

The President had nothing fannish to report.

There was a motion to endorse Sparks for TAFF that failed.

The Hollister in '08 bid committee reported that they now have big obnoxiously shiny fruit stickers for the party.

The Party Committee reported that they are online and on-schedule for SiliCon & FurCon & he modified the party jar & he still needs help.

There was a motion to establish a DUFF beer jar that failed.

Announcements

[evil] Kevin announced that you have 1 week left to vote on the Hugos.

Frank Wu announced that 'Emerald City' is #7 & he is #12 in the Locus poll [both moved up in their respective rankings].

Carole announced that she is now an official member of the Nippon Worldcon staff.

Mike announced that he may be looking for a non-smoking Worldcon room-mate.

Ken announced that the Cinema San Pedro movie for this Wednesday night will be 'The Blues Brothers.'

Reviews:

Harold reviewed 'Monster House' as funny, not for small children and worth bargain matinee & reviewed 'Clerks 2' as the greatest thing in cinema ever - very funny, very profane - worth full price & Mike says stay for the credits.

Carole reviewed the SiliCon website as the hyperlinks all take you to the Guests page & that's a little disconcerting.

Chris reviewed videos of Westerns and says if you're ever going to watch 5 films back to back, make sure it's not a hot weekend and they aren't 3 hours long each. "It was a little bit brain melting." And he reviewed the DVD of 'Natural City' as if you've seen 'Blade Runner' then you've seen it.

Dave C reviewed 'Hustle' on AMC as fun and light and he recommends it and reviewed Kathy Griffin live as he had a wonderful time, worth full price & reviewed the San Diego Comic-Con as 'my, has it changed' & he went without pre-registering [Ewww!] and 'there were more people . . .' <voice trails off in despair> Dave also says that they expected at least 100,000 attendees and probably got it. There were follow-on's: Chris reviewed it without being there; Spring reviewed having worked it before as educational & a bit skanky; Dave G

commented that the G4 live coverage was a bit shaky.

Jim reviewed an 'Opus' comic as a bit humorous.

Ed reviewed Flint's 'Boundary' as very nicely done.

[evil] Kevin reviewed 'Eureka' as now that the Sci Fi Channel has sold its soul to wrestling they can afford writers & that this pilot was entertaining, with good writing.

Art reviewed 'Eureka 7' as an anime that mixes surfing and giant mecha as he hasn't quite figured out the plot yet. View at your own risk.

We auctioned off stuff, DVDs & videos for \$8.00, \$5.25 & \$30.00; nekkid playing cards for \$0.75; a box of books for \$1.50 & a mystery box of books for \$2.00 - & birthday auctioned off Ken for \$11.00 to Frank Wu.

We adjourned at 9:26 pm.

And the rumor of the week was 'What are we buying? A clubhouse! When? Real soon!'

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**

Bay Area Fannish 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.
Ongoing events are toward the back.

Wednesday, August 2

Metropolis (1927)

Humanist Hall

390 27th Street

Oakland

7:30 p.m.

\$5 suggested donation

Fritz Lang's silent Sci Fi classic.

Wednesday, August 2

Interkosmos (2006)

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

701 Mission Street

San Francisco

7:30 p.m.

\$7

A mock documentary about a secret East German plan to establish Communist colonies on the moons of Saturn and Jupiter, including musical numbers and faithful reconstructions of the rigors of space travel. With filmmaker Jim Finn in person.

Wednesday and Thursday, August 2-3

Azumi (2003)

Lumiere Theatre

1572 California Street

San Francisco

415-267-4893

Based on Yu Koyama's manga; directed by Ryuhei Kitamura (*Versus, Godzilla: Final Wars*).

Thursday, August 3

The Call of Cthulhu (2005)

Dreams in the Witch-House (2005)

The Shunned House (2003)

Preview Room

Variety Children's Charity

582 Market Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

Borderlands Books and Variety Children's Charity invite you to an H.P. Lovecraft triple 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.

Friday, August 4

The Capp Street Aeronautical and Lighter Than Air Space Program (Reaching Towards Heaven)
The LAB

2948 16th Street

San Francisco

6 p.m.

\$7-\$15 sliding scale

415-864-8855

Installation opening and demonstration by Kal Spelletich, whose kinetic art-bots are controlled by (or temporarily control) the viewer in innovative ways. Installation continues through August 19 (Wed.-Sat 1-6 p.m.).

Friday, August 4

Music of the Spheres

Lick Observatory

Mt. Hamilton Road

San Jose

www.ucolick.org/public/music.html

8 p.m.

\$40-\$150

Part of the Observatory's Summer concert series, featuring the music of Oscar Reynolds and the Karumanta Ensemble and a talk by astronomer Geoff Marcy, followed by telescope viewing (weather permitting). Doors open at 7:30.

Friday-Sunday, August 4-6

AOD: The San Francisco Animation Convention

Cathedral Hill Hotel

1101 Van Ness

San Francisco
www.aodsf.org

\$40; one-day badges available
Once known as Anime Overdose, this con now celebrates anime as well as American cartoons and other flavors of animation, video games, and comics. Panels, guests, dealer's room, cosplay, art show, more.

Saturday, August 5

Artist: Dave Johnson

Isotope Comic Book Lounge

326 Fell Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

www.isotopecomics.com

Saturday, August 5

Hell's Belles Pinewood Derby

The Shooting Gallery

839 Larkin Street

San Francisco

6 p.m., races start at 8

Free

hellsbellesclub.com/events/p_derby/derby.html

A pinewood derby for artists and people who just want to race little pinewood cars. There will also be a silent art auction with proceeds supporting the Buen Dia Family School.

Saturday, August 5

Music of the Spheres

Lick Observatory

Mt. Hamilton Road

San Jose

www.ucolick.org/public/music.html

8 p.m.

\$40-\$150

Part of the Observatory's Summer concert series, featuring the music of the Kurt Ribak Trio and a talk by astronomer Raja Guhathakurta, followed by telescope viewing (weather permitting). Doors open at 7:30.

Saturday, August 5

Turkish Delight Viennese Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

\$20 at the door

Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8. Strauss waltzes and more.

Saturday, August 5

Warp 11: "Return to the Alpha Quadrant"

Blue Lamp

1400 Alhambra Blvd.

Sacramento

10 p.m.

Ages 21+

Sacramento's Star Trek-themed rock band performs such hits as "Everything I Do I Do With William Shatner" and "She Make It So."

Saturday, August 5

Midnight Mass: Deathrace 2000 (1975)

Bridge Theatre

3010 Geary Blvd.

San Francisco

\$12

www.peacheschrist.com

Hosted by Peaches Christ as part of her summer

midnight movie series. Guest appearance by Mary Woronov.

Saturday, August 5

Bay Area Games Day

Los Altos Public Library

13 S. San Antonio Road

Los Altos

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.

Sunday, August 6

Author: Peter S. Beagle

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

1 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Sunday, August 6

Author: Elaine Isaak

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

August 7-13

ISEA 2006

ZeroOne San Jose

Various venues

San Jose

The 13th International Symposium of Electronic Art (ISEA) will be held August 7-13 in San Jose in conjunction with the inauguration of ZeroOne San Jose: A Global Festival of Art on the Edge, a milestone festival to be held biennially. More info, schedules at isea2006.sjsu.edu.

August 7-18

Creepshow Camp

The Hypnodrome

575 10th Street

San Francisco

415-377-4202

\$350

Ages 13-18

Special teen session of the two-week summer day camp for young devotees of Horror, Suspense and SciFi, featuring a monster make-up lab, special effects shop, hands-on horror theater workshops, film shoots, and a final stage performance for friends and family.

Tuesday, August 8

SF in SF: Richard Lupoff and Carter Scholz

Valencia Theatre

New College

777 Valencia Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

\$4

Send your items for inclusion in our calendar section to:

SFinSF@gmail.com

SF in SF is a monthly series of Sci Fi author readings with discussion and signing after, and a clever name.

Tuesday, August 8

Alien (1979)

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

9:15 p.m.

\$7

A fundraiser for the Chiapas Support Committee Health Care Project.

Tuesday, August 8

The Goonies (1985)

The Lawn at Wente Vineyards

5565 Tesla Road

Livermore

Suggested donation: \$9 adults, \$5 children (925) 456-2400

Outdoor movie night at the vineyard: Café opens at 6:30 p.m., movie starts at twilight.

Wednesday, August 9

The Day the Earth Stood Still (1951)

Humanist Hall

390 27th Street

Oakland

7:30 p.m.

\$5 suggested donation

Klaatu barada nikto!

Thursday-Sunday, August 10-13

Super Vision

California Theater

San Jose

8 pm, Saturday at 3 p.m.

\$32-40

www.artsopolis.com/zeroone/02.htm

The Builders Association and dbox present a multi-media theater piece on a very large scale, exploring life and privacy in the data society.

Friday, August 11

Midnight Movie:

The Corpse Bride (2005)

Camera 7 Cinema

1875 S. Bascom Avenue

Campbell

\$7

Friday, August 11

Survival Research Labs

Behind South Hall

435 South Market Street

San Jose

10 p.m.

\$25

www.artsopolis.com/zeroone/02.htm

SRL brings a newly conceived performance piece to ZeroOne San Jose: Monster machine meets hovercraft, meets huge sculptural creatures, meets fire. Very Big, Very Loud, Very Exciting.

Friday-Saturday, August 11-12

Further Confusion Summer Campout and Picnic

Lake Chabot

Oakland

Picnic: Sat. at 11 a.m.

More Events Next Page

www.furtherconfusion.org/fc2007/camping_picnic.php
Friends of the Bay Area's Furry con hold their annual campout and picnic. \$5 per night to camp, RSVP at camping@furtherconfusion.org.

Saturday, August 12

BeefBowl Anime

Albany Library

1247 Marin Avenue

Albany

12:15ish-4:15 p.m.

Free

See the screening list at beefbowl.org

Saturday, August 12

Author: Mark Budz

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

1 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Saturday, August 12

Author: David Thomas Lord

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Saturday, August 12

Other Magazine Presents

Writers with Drinks

The Make-Out Room

3225 22nd Street

San Francisco

7:30 p.m.

\$3-\$5 sliding scale

With Noria Jablonski and Sage Vivant.

Saturday, August 12

Tangle in Tin World

The Shooting Gallery

839 Larkin Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.-11 p.m.

www.shootinggallerysf.com

Opening of a gallery exhibition by Eric Joyner: images of Rock'em-Sock'em Robots and other tin men at large in the world.

Saturday, August 12

Midnight Movie:

The Corpse Bride (2005)

Camera 12 Cinema

201 South Second Street

San Jose

\$7

Saturday-Sunday, August 12-13

Scottish Renaissance Festival

Buchanan Park

Pittsburg

Free

www.angelfire.com/realm2/hrp/PSRF/home.html

Celtic crafts, swordfights, music, food, more.

Wednesday, August 16

La Jetée (1962)

Humanist Hall

390 27th Street

Oakland

7:30 p.m.

\$5 suggested donation

Chris Marker's avant garde sci fi film composed entirely of still images.

Thursday-Saturday, August 17-19

Super Vision

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts

701 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$30

www.ybca.org

The Builders Association and dbox present a multi-media theater piece on a very large scale, exploring life and privacy in the data society.

Friday, August 18

Midnight Movie:

Snakes on a Plane (2006)

Camera 7 Cinema

1875 S. Bascom Avenue

Campbell

\$7

August 18-September 23

TROG!

Theatre Rhinoceros

2926 16th Street

San Francisco

8 p.m. (Sundays at 3 p.m.)

\$20

www.makeitsoproductions.org

Make It So Productions' parody of the 1970 British B-horror film *Trog*, which starred Joan Crawford in her final role.

Saturday, August 19

Midnight Movie:
Snakes on a Plane (2006)
Camera 12 Cinema
201 South Second Street
San Jose
\$7

Saturday, August 19

San Francisco Underground
Short Film Festival
Bridge Theatre
3010 Geary Blvd.
San Francisco
Midnight
\$10
Details at www.peacheschrist.com.

Sunday, August 20

Let Them Drink Wine
Chateau St. Jean Winery
8555 Sonoma Highway
Kenwood
Noon-4 p.m.
\$24.50
www.gbacg.org
The Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild hosts an 18th Century picnic at the winery, with wine tasting and a decadent dessert contest. 18th Century dress, any class; purchase tickets by August 15.

Sunday, August 20

Shreik
12 Galaxies
2565 Mission Street
San Francisco

3 p.m.
Free
Jeff VanderMeer’s short film based on his novel of the same name, with soundtrack by The Church. Q&A with members of the band.

Sunday, August 20

Ask a Scientist:
Vision and Misperception
The Canvas Gallery
1200 9th Avenue
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
UC Berkeley vision researcher Ariella Popple offers visual illusions and entertaining audience participation experiments.

Sunday, August 20

Bad Movie Night: Lifeforce (1985)
The Dark Room Theatre
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
8 p.m.
\$5

Thursday, August 24

Repo Man (1984)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
\$5

Friday, August 25

Midnight Movie:
Tron (1982)
Camera 7 Cinema

1875 S. Bascom Avenue
Campbell
\$7

Friday, August 25

Lunar Lounge Express
Chabot Space Science Center
10000 Skyline Blvd.
Oakland
8-11 p.m.
\$15, \$10 for students
510-336-7373
Party under the stars with music, food and beverage tastings, Sonic Vision planetarium show, and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Saturday, August 26

Midnight Movie:
Tron (1982)
Camera 12 Cinema
201 South Second Street
San Jose
\$7

Saturday, August 26

Film Night in the Park:
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (2002)
Creek Park
San Anselmo
8 p.m.
Suggested donation: \$5 adults, \$3 children

Saturday-Sunday, 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.

Sunday, August 27

Bad Movie Night: Orca (1977)

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$5

Friday, September 1

Midnight Movie:

Enter the Dragon (1973)

Camera 7 Cinema

1875 S. Bascom Avenue

Campbell

\$7

Friday-Monday, September 1-4

ConQuest SF

San Francisco Airport Marriott

1800 Old Bayshore Hwy.

Burlingame

\$50 at the door (\$45 until August 15), one-day pass \$30

Gaming convention includes role-playing, miniatures, card, classic, board, collectibles, historicals, RPGA.

More Events Next Page

Saturday, September 2

Midnight Movie:

Enter the Dragon (1973)

Camera 12 Cinema

201 South Second Street

San Jose

\$7

Saturday, September 2

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

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

\$15 in advance (by August 26), \$20 at the door

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

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 6-17

San Francisco Fringe Festival

Various Venues

San Francisco

Some promising-sounding plays this year include *The Thrilling Adventures Of Elvis In Space 2* (the continuing exploits of Elvis, his lovable sidekick Stevie, and the Robot Charlie Hodge), and *Yorick & Co.* (struggling theater

company's production of *Hamlet* features its recently-deceased patron in the role of Yorick's skull). Full schedule at www.sffringe.org.

Thursday, September 7

Flash Gordon (1980)

Natural City (2003)

Garuda (2003)

Preview Room

Variety Children's Charity

582 Market Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

Borderlands Books and Variety Children's Charity invite you to an international Sci Fi triple 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.

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
\$399-\$90; one-day passes available from \$50
www.creationent.com/cal/stsac.htm
Creation brings William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy to Sacramento.

Saturday, September 9

Author: Ray Garton
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
3 p.m.
Free
www.borderlands-books.com

Saturday, September 9

*Film Night in the Park:
The Birds (1963)*
Union Square
San Francisco
8 p.m.
Suggested Donation: \$5 adults, \$3 children

Saturday, September 9

*Other Magazine Presents
Writers with Drinks*
The Make-Out Room
3225 22nd Street
San Francisco
7:30 p.m.
\$3-\$5 sliding scale
With Daniel Alarcon, Mark Budz, and Sparky.

Saturday-Sunday, September 9-10

Northern California Renaissance Faire
Casa de Fruta

100031 Pacheco Pass Highway
Hollister
\$22
www.norcalrenfaire.com
Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts, new
Tournament of Horses.

Friday, September 15

Author: Lara Parker
The Booksmith
1644 Haight Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free

Friday, September 15

*Film Night in the Park:
The Addams Family (1991)*
San Geronimo Community Center
San Geronimo
8 p.m.
Suggested donation: \$5 adults, \$3 children

Friday and Saturday, September 15-16

Music of the Spheres
Lick Observatory
Mt. Hamilton Road
San Jose
www.ucolick.org/public/music.html
8 p.m.
\$40-\$150
Part of the Observatory's Summer concert series, featuring the music of guitarists Daniel Roest and Muriel Anderson and a talk by astronomers Geoff Marcy (Friday) and Alex Filippenko (Saturday), followed by telescope viewing (weather permitting). Doors open at 7:30.

Saturday-Sunday, September 16-17

4th Annual Japantown Anime Faire
Japan Center
1581 Webster Street
San Francisco
\$25 (by September 1), \$35 at the door, single day passes available
registration@project760.com
Screenings, live performances, artist alley, swap meet, gaming, cosplay contest.

Saturday-Sunday, September 16-17

Northern California Renaissance Faire
Casa de Fruta
100031 Pacheco Pass Highway
Hollister
\$22
www.norcalrenfaire.com
Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts, new
Tournament of Horses.

Saturday-Sunday, September 16-17

Vintage Fashion Expo
Masonic Center
1111 California Street
San Francisco
Sat. 10:30-6, Sun. 11-5
\$10
www.vintageexpo.com

Sunday, September 17

How Berkeley Can You Be Parade
Berkeley
11 a.m.
Starts at the corner of California and University Avenue.

More Events Next Page

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.

Wednesday, September 20

Author: Kelly Link

The Booksmith
1644 Haight Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free

Friday, September 22

Film Night in the Park: Ghostbusters (1984)

Commons Park
10 Ross Commons
Ross
8 p.m.
Suggested donation: \$5 adults, \$3 children

Friday-Sunday, September 22-24

Browncoat Ball

Marines Memorial Club and Hotel
609 Sutter Street
San Francisco
\$150

www.browncoatball.com

Join the SF Browncoats who are sponsoring this year's Browncoat 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.)

Saturday-Sunday, September 23-24

Northern California Renaissance Faire

Casa de Fruta
100031 Pacheco Pass Highway
Hollister
\$22
www.norcalrenfaire.com
Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts, new Tournament of Horses.

Sunday, September 24

Bad Movie Night: Incubus (1965)

The Dark Room Theatre
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
8 p.m.
\$5
1965 fantasy-horror film starring William Shatner; in Esperanto with English subtitles. Really.

Friday, September 29

Lunar Lounge Express

Chabot Space Science Center
10000 Skyline Blvd.
Oakland
8-11 p.m.

\$15, \$10 for students

510-336-7373

Party under the stars with music, food and beverage tastings, Sonic Vision planetarium show, and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Saturday, September 30

Hellfire Club Ball
Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo
8-11:30 p.m.
\$20 at the door

Presented by the Bay Area Regency Society (BAERS). The membership of the Hellfire Club invites you to their Annual Ball to celebrate women and wine. Dress as a gentleman, a mythological god or goddess, a monk or nun, or a mollie or dollymop.

Saturday-Sunday, September 30-October 1

Northern California Renaissance Faire

Casa de Fruta
100031 Pacheco Pass Highway
Hollister
\$22
www.norcalrenfaire.com
Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts, new Tournament of Horses.

Tuesday, October 3

Author: Neil Gaiman

Kepler's Books
1010 El Camino Real
Menlo Park
650-324-4321
7:30 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, October 6-8

SiliCon

DoubleTree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place
San Jose
www.siliconconventions.com
\$35 (until August 31), \$45 at the door

More Events Next Page

Guest of Honor: Robert Meyer Burnett
Special Guests: Mark Bode, Steve Englehart
Media-oriented general SF con; this year's theme is "Comics On and Off the Page." Art show, dealer's room, panels, costume contest, more.

Saturday, October 7

Author: Kage Baker
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
3 p.m.
Free
www.borderlands-books.com

Saturday, October 7

Dickens Fair Preview Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 N. Ellsworth
San Mateo
\$15 (by September 24), \$20 at the door
Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Saturday, October 7

Film Night in the Park:
Young Frankenstein (1974)
Dolores Park
San Francisco
8 p.m.
Suggested donation: \$5 adults, \$3 children

Saturday-Sunday, October 7-8

Northern California Renaissance Faire
Casa de Fruta
100031 Pacheco Pass Highway

Hollister
\$22
www.norcalrenfaire.com
Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts, new
Tournament of Horses.

Monday, October 9

Author: Spider Robinson
The Booksmith
1644 Haight Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free

Saturday-Sunday, October 14-15

Northern California Renaissance Faire
Casa de Fruta
100031 Pacheco Pass Highway
Hollister
\$22
www.norcalrenfaire.com
Hearty ale, fine foods, handmade crafts, new
Tournament of Horses.

Sunday, October 15

St. Sebastian's Archery Hunt
Society for Creative Anachronism Event
King's Mountain Archery Range
Huddart County Park
Redwood City
10 a.m.-sundown
\$9 (members \$6)
www.thewestermark.org/events.html
A hunt in the forest, to be followed by a
baronial feast.

More Events Next Page

Thursday, October 19

Thrillville Double Feature:
It! The Terror from Beyond Space (1958)
and *Invasion of the Bee Girls (1973)*
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.

Saturday, October 21

Other Magazine Presents
Writers with Drinks
The Make-Out Room
3225 22nd Street
San Francisco
7:30 p.m.
\$3-\$5 sliding scale
With Frank Portman and Lisa Goldstein.

Saturday-Sunday, October 21-22

Folsom Renaissance Faire
Lions Park
Natoma & Stafford Streets
Folsom
\$12
www.folsomfaire.com
Dancers, bards, puppets, food, more.

Friday-Sunday, October 20-22

Yaoi-Con

Westin and Clarion Hotels

San Francisco Airport

www.yaoicon.com

\$50 (by September 20), \$60 at the door

Male/male anime and manga fest with art show, manga reading room, dealer’s room, bishounen auction. (For a definition of *yaoi*, see www.yaoicon.com/whatisyaoi.html or Andy Trembley’s review in SF/SF #11.)

Friday, October 27

Thrillville’s Halloween Spookylau:

The Crawling Eye (1958)

Copia

500 First Street

Napa

8 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-Sunday, 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

Alameda Elks Lodge

2255 Santa Clara Avenue

Alameda

7 p.m.

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

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

Saturday, November 11

Other Magazine Presents

Writers with Drinks

The Make-Out Room

3225 22nd Street

San Francisco

7:30 p.m.

\$3-\$5 sliding scale

Writers: K.E. Silva and Madeleine Robins.

Sunday, November 12

Blind Guardian

The Fillmore

1805 Geary Boulevard

San Francisco

German progressive rock band tours “A Twist in the Myth,” their new album. “They previously did an entire album, ‘Nightside on Middle Earth’ based on Tolkien’s Silmarillion and a song called ‘The Lord of the Rings’ is on an earlier album. Definitely a band heavily influenced by fantasy themes.”– Jack Avery.

November 24-December 23

Dickens Christmas Fair

Exhibition Hall

The Cow Palace

Daly City

11 a.m.-7 p.m.

\$20

www.dickensfair.com

An appallingly exciting experience of no ordinary cleverness. Dickens’ London opens for business the Friday after Thanksgiving and continues weekends through Dec. 23 with gifts, food, costumes, dance parties, & etc. (Free admission during opening weekend for “timeplayers” who have submitted their Victorian names and occupations in advance and arrive in period costume — see website for details.)

Thursday, December 7

Thrillville: The Giant Claw (1957)

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. With the Twilight Vixen Revue live on stage.

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.

Saturday, December 16

Otaku Bowl

Details to follow

Winter edition of the event where bowling, anime and cosplay meet. Video room, costume contest, artist alley/swap meet and random bowling fun.

January 5-7, 2007

Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors

DoubleTree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place
San Jose

This is a Creation Convention. Guests to include Doug Bradley (Pinhead). Further information will be forthcoming.

January 6, 2007

Victorian 12th Night Ball

PEERS Event
Venue: TBA
8 p.m.

January 13, 2007

Sac-Anime

Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
\$5 - \$10

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

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.

February 16-19, 2007

Pantheacon

DoubleTree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place
San Jose

Annual Pagan gathering with workshops, lectures, performances, rituals, drumming, dancing, costume contests, and crafts.

March 2-4, 2007

WonderCon

Moscone Center South
747 Howard Street
San Francisco

www.comic-con.org/wc/

Comic book/media convention with anime, summer movie previews, panels, dealers, costume contest, more.

March 2-4, 2007

Consonance

Venue TBD

\$45 at the door (\$35 until Oct. 31)

www.consonance.org

The annual Bay Area filk convention.

March 11, 2007

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.

Mach 16-18, 2007

Rakkasah West

Richmond Auditorium
403 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond

www.rakkasah.com

Billed as the largest bellydance festival and fantasy bazaar in the world. Details to follow.

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.

May 25-28, 2007

BayCon
Location TBD
www.baycon.org
\$75 (\$45 until Aug. 31)
25th Anniversary of the largest annual general SF convention in Northern California. Diverse panels, dealer's room, art show, masquerade, anime room, hall costumes, gaming, much more.

June 2, 2007

Space Cowboys' Ball
PEERS Event
No details yet on this dance.

June 30-July 3, 2007

Westercon 60: Gnomeward Bound
Marriott San Mateo
1770 South Amphlett Blvd.
San Mateo
spfii.org/westercon60/
Guests of Honor: Tad Williams, Theresa Mather, Christian McGuire
Toastmaster: Jay Lake

August 3-6, 2007

MythCon 38
Clark Kerr Center
2601 Warring Street
Berkeley
www.mythsoc.org
\$60, \$50 Mythopoeic Society members
The annual Mythopoeic Conference returns to Berkeley with Guests of Honor Ellen Kushner and Delia Sherman.

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.

April 25-28, 2008

CostumeCon 26
www.cc26.info
CostumeCon will be coming to Silicon Valley in 2008. Further details to follow.

Ongoing:

Daily

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

Mondays

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

Mondays

Dukefish
Jake's of Sunnyvale
174 E. Fremont Avenue
Sunnyvale
Gather: 8 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.

Mondays and Wednesdays

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

Match Play

San Antonio Shopping Center

Mountain View

7 p.m.

\$2

Group meets regularly to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames such as Settlers of Catan; also multiplayer Avalon Hill-style, historical wargames, and others.

Wednesdays

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

Go-Getter's Pizza

1489 Beach Park Boulevard

Foster City

6 p.m-10 p.m.

www.BayRPS.com

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

Wednesdays

East Bay Strategy Games Club

EndGame

921 Washington

Oakland

7:30 p.m.-11 p.m.

Free

www.michaeldashow.com/eastbaystrategy/home.html

Fridays

SF Games

Muddy's Coffeehouse

1304 Valencia Street near 24th

San Francisco

7 p.m. to midnight

Free

vax.hanford.org/dk/games

SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Also has a cards night on Tuesdays at Café Macondo, 3159 16th Street between Guerrero and Valencia.

Fridays-Mondays

Haunted Haight Walking Tour

Meets at PlanetWeavers/Genesis Store

1573 Haight Street (at Clayton)

San Francisco

7 p.m.-9 p.m.

\$20

www.hauntedhaight.com

Reservations required.

Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour

Meets corner of California and Taylor

San Francisco

8 p.m.

\$20

www.sfvampiretour.com

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

Saturdays

Rocky Horror Picture Show

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

Midnight

\$6

www.picturepubpizza.com

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

Biweekly

PenSFA Party

The Peninsula Science Fantasy Association meets every two weeks for a party at the home of one of their members. They also host parties at local conventions. Email commander@pensfa.org for information on attending. PenSFA standard party rules: bring something edible or drinkable to share, or pay the host \$2. Don't smoke in the house without checking with the host first. Normal start time is 8 p.m. but may vary depending on the host.

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

Free, donations welcome

www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf/

Dorkbot hosts regular forums for artists, designers, engineers, students, and other people doing strange things with electricity.

Fantastic Frontiers

www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/

Social club for Sacramento County SciFi/

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
Free

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.

Legion of Rassilon

Carl's Junior
2551 N. First Street
San Jose
7:30 p.m.

Free
Doctor Who fan group usually meets the fourth Friday of the month: Episodes of Doctor Who, news, discussion of recent movies, and a raffle.

No-Name Anime

Saratoga Library
13650 Saratoga Avenue
Saratoga
Free

www.nnanime.com
Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month.

SF Browncoats

Cafe Murano
1777 Steiner Street
San Francisco
Noon

Free
www.sfbrowncoats.com
SF Fans of Firefly/Serenity usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month.

Silicon Gulch Browncoats

Tied House
954 Villa Street
Mountain View
Noon - 2 p.m.
Free
www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org
Silicon Gulch fans of Firefly/Serenity meet up on the first Saturday of the month.

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 meets the third Friday of the month. Info at www.ussdefiance.org.