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Letters of Comment

This round, let's hear from the Great John Purcell!

Hey there, editorial team!

Whow: The *Drink Tank* Light Tower – a beacon to all that is perverse in the Bay Area. Don't you just get verklempt thinking about it?

Chris Garcia replies: *I was pretty shocked. I got it right! That's not supposed to happen at all. I mentioned this on a panel at WorldCon and they all thought I was making it up!*

Your notes about “Fanzines Published” seem a little dated. *Drink Tanks* #93 & #94, beside my own and furthermore #13 & #14 and *In A Prior Lifetime* #14, are now all available on efanazines, and other zines as well. Of course, the fact that I'm emulating my TAFF nominee doesn't help matters much, but I really don't care. Reilly, I don't. I'm just a publishing fiend, dontcha know?

Well, I wrote them a little earlier than usual since I had a lot of WorldCon stuff to prep. There was a lull though during the con itself. Other than an issue of Vegas Fandom Weekly, I couldn't find anything new!

Jean, I have to admit that I am a news

junkie, much like Peter Sullivan admits in his loc. The way I look at it, a democratically minded informed member of the voting public needs to be as informed as possible, which is why I tend to gravitate towards the BBC broadcasts on PBS in addition to what I watch on NBC, CNN, Fox, MSNBC, and ABC. I think CBS is still too conservative, but NBC can be interpreted that way, too. ABC tends to be relatively objective, which is ideal in news reportage, but we are still reminded that the media molds the public perception of what is “currently happening elsewhere in the world,” and that we are all affected by what we see. We mere mortals tend to believe what we see, and not think about what we see. The visual is one filter, hearing another, and the mind still a different filter. Life is just too dang complicated, and that's why we turn to our zines for the *Real News*. I mean, come on; just today, I got the headline info that Victor Gonzales and Tamara Mentee just got married last week! Now *THAT'S* news!

I've always loved ABC news and their entertainment is top notch too. I don't watch as much news as I listen to on NPR, but to be fair, I appeared on both ABC and NPR in the

last month!

Jean, I had no idea you were a relative newcomer to fandom. Your writing indicates wisdom beyond your experience. I am duly impressed, and wish to meet you someday. I think you and I would hit it off discussing things of a fannish nature. You seem to have a solid grasp of the nature of Fandom As We Know It. Better yet, let's make our conversation part of a panel discussion at a con sometime. Howzabout a future Corflu? Seems to me that you're one of the gang, so come on along and enjoy the company!

I'm trying to bring Jean in more and more. Espana's been around a while too and I'm trying to get her more and more into fanzines. It's amazing that Jean's not been around forever, because she really gets it. There are lots of times when even I just miss the point completely!

Comic-Con is truly one of the fannish wonders of the universe. One of my first real comic fan contacts was Barry Short, a comic fan from San Dimas, California, who always went to Comic-Con. He attended the college I first went to, Concordia College way the heck up in

Moorhead, Minnesota. How he got there, I don't know, but thanks to Barry, I learned a lot about comix and its own attendant fandom. He was a cool guy, and I hope to hook up with him again sometime.

I've never been to Comic-Con, but I've seen Comic Book: The Movie a bunch of times. Fun stuff.

Gadzooks, but I always love the pictures you put in this zine! My wife, Valerie, has now kicked into high gear to get our clothing ready for the Texas RenFest coming up in little over a month. We are really looking forward to it. I am hereby going on record right now: I promise to do a write up and supply pictures from the Texas Renaissance Festival for *SF/SF*. This is a definite. I can't predict which weekend we'll go – most likely in October – but this report shall be done.

Strange confession: I've never been to a Ren Faire. Not even when I lived less than a mile from where one was held. My recent flame has indicated that she'd like to take me to the one in Hollister this year and I'm going to finally make it happen! You know we'd love to have your review!

Many thanks for a fine issue, and I look forward to seeing the next one posted on our favorite website, efanzines.com.

All the best,

John Purcell

Always good to hear from a fellow Fanzinista!

Dreams of The City

- a column

By Espana Sheriff

This year I will be attending my fourth Worldcon. I am fortunate that I live in the Bay Area and Worldcon seems to return to California every few years. So I have been able to attend LACon III, ConJose and this year, LACon IV. But the first of these, and my very first convention of any kind, was the 1993 Worldcon: ConFrancisco.

In 1993, I was eighteen years old and had been in the U.S. barely a year. I was living in the fog-enshrouded Outer Sunset, near Ocean Beach, and was just getting acquainted with the city.

I had been reading SF and adventure fiction since I was a kid, my father had old Judith Merrill anthologies and other genre books around, and I haunted used bookstores looking for their slim sftnal pickings. Mostly I would find older books — stuff from the 80s was modern to me. Short story collections were always my favorites. Merrill's *Year's Best SF* were the best, but I also picked up others, including the Hugo and Nebula collections. In the prefaces to these I first read about Fandom.

Asimov and Pohl would talk about meeting other authors and fans at conventions. Tall tales of unlikely events taking place in cities a continent away. Names like Worldcon, Wiscon and Lunacon were as exotic to me as Narnia. When I got to the U.S., I knew I had to find a way into this realm. And as fate would have it, Worldcon was to be held at the newly built, and at the time still unfinished, Moscone Convention Center just a couple of blocks from my job.

As I worried about the cost, fate intervened again and an acquaintance who turned out to be in the SCA told me about volunteering. Thus, on the first day of the convention I was delighted to find myself in the beating heart of the convention... ConOps! I was declared a gofer and while I stood around trying to figure out what that meant and what, if anything, I should be doing, Forry Ackerman walked into the room. My eyes goggled as he chatted briefly with someone and then left. My first BNF! Instantly, I regretted not saying hello to him. I got the chance some years later at BayCon so that worked out. As I stood all aflutter over the glamour of it all,

I was deployed to Sales to Members, where I would spend many of the daytime hours at the convention.

In charge of Sales to Members was Laurie Freeman, who took me under her wing. She would later introduce/indenture me to BayCon and cement my con-going habit. We also became good friends and if you read this column last issue, you saw another bit of evidence of her impact on my impressionable young psyche. She is the one who first lent me *The City, Not Long After*.

During my leisure hours, I roamed the convention halls completely clueless as to what to do and see. I must have spent time in the dealers' room and art show, but I couldn't tell you anything about them. I saw Leslie Fish perform, although I didn't know who she was at the time. I brought a book for Harlan Ellison to sign, and heard rumors flying that he would tear up any used books presented to him for autographing. I laughed but decided not to bother anyway once I saw the huge line snaking away from his table.

In the evenings I was a Rover, assigned to wander the hotels and be a fannish security force of sorts. Since I didn't really know anyone, this was a good excuse to hit the parties. The hotels were a few blocks from the convention center and I

probably would have been oblivious to the existence of con parties if not for roving. And aside from helping one very drunk fellow out of an elevator, it was an easy enough assignment, mostly involving just wandering about.

A lot of the convention was a blur.

I was unfamiliar with panels and so I attended very few. I did sing *ConFrancisco* (to the tune of *San Francisco*) with a few hundred other fen. I got to see footage of the Delta Clipper and a satellite videophone call from Sir Arthur C. Clarke. I watched the Masquerade. Of course, looking back, there were panels I should have gone to, participants I hadn't even heard of yet. J. Michael Straczynski was promoting a new TV show called *Babylon 5*. But that's the joy of Worlcon, there is always more than you can experience. A Worldcon is an unwieldy beast, and I later heard of some

problems with the running of it, but in my blissful first-time congoer ignorance everything was shiny and new. To me it was more than just an event. It was a gateway into a whole other world. I live here still.

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- This year, our theme is genre heroines.
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A Tale of WorldCon

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

Anaheim has seen three WorldCons. There was 1984 which was the largest WorldCon ever, with more than eight thousand attendees. There was 1996 which was slightly smaller but no less impressive, and there was this year's model which proved to be a well-loved, hyper-enjoyable experience.

I got to Anaheim early and decided to take a long walk. I walked several miles around the Disney resort, getting to look at all the behind the scenes stuff that you can see through the fences. I also managed to give myself blisters that would make the rest of the con slightly more painful than I had imagined. Still, it was a fun walk and considering that I had three breakfasts that day, I was glad to have the exercise.

Wandering back to the hotel, I discovered that there were people milling around at 6 in the morning. I figured they must be East Coasters who hadn't adjusted to the time shift yet. I sat down and struck up a couple of conversations. I was slightly shilling "Chris for TAFF" already, but

mostly, I was just talking with people. It was what I did all weekend.

I took breakfast with a few Philly fans and headed up to my first panel: Blogs and eZines. This was a lively discussion and the best-attended fanzine panel I was on all week. James Bacon was on it and I managed to even understand him through his Irish accent. There were others on the panel too, Teresa Neilsen Hayden and Andy Trembley as well. It was a good group and we had a lively discussion. It was also where I first met Lloyd Penney, the reason LetterCols were invented.

I started feeling tired about that time. It had been more than 24 hours since I'd slept, but there was much to do. I had a panel on Preserving Your Collection that included Bob Hole, Joe Siclari and someone from the Eaton collection. It was all pretty typical stuff and we told some stories. Siclari runs FANAC.org and he's got a mighty collection. I'm hoping that I can provide a few things for him to post on the site. I also nearly fell asleep on the panel, not because it was dull, but because I was sitting down and just plain exhausted.

I should have gone back to the room

and taken a nap, but instead I went to the Fanzine Lounge and started chatting with people. Randy Byers (of Chunga) and Murray Moore were there, as was Milt Stevens. I mostly floated around and talked to those who were around. I would make a lot of trips to the Lounge throughout the weekend. I had so much fun just getting to hang around with the other Fanzinistas. I passed out Chris for TAFF and Fanzinista ribbons to all who would have them.

The Hollister in 2008 Party was the highlight of that first night. We got to the room to help set up around 7:30, but Kevin and Andy were still getting ready. We were on the glass door side and on the other side was a group of singing girls. That was weird. They wanted in real bad, and even after Andy let in those of us waiting at the back, we made them wait while things were set up. My job was to get people to sign the Pacheco Progress bound edition that Andy had printed. There were drinks aplenty, lots of Casa de Fruta food, and a ton of talk and mingling. There was also no traffic flow and things got awfully congested. I was standing between the TV cabinet and the wall. If I hadn't had that wall, I'd have been on my



Match Game SF (afternoon edition)

Photo by Bob Hole

ass asleep. It was the only thing keeping me up. After about two hours, I had to go and sleep. I heard the party continued until almost 5 a.m., which is no surprise. The success of the party might actually explain the success of the bid in the final vote.

I slept about six hours and woke up feeling much better... except for my feet. I went out and bought a six-pack of white socks and double-bagged each foot. That wasn't enough as I was still in a good bit of pain with every step. I went back to the Hilton and had breakfast with Randy

Byers, Jerry Kaufman and someone whose name (and accent) I couldn't place. Jerry and I had a panel shortly, so we had a small breakfast and headed up to the room. This was the What's New In Fanzines panel. Milt Stevens, Vanessa Van Wagner, Jerry and myself made up an interesting panel. Milt talked about the old days, which I kinda expected, and I talked about eFanzines and some of the other things that are out there presently. We talked Chunga, Littlebrook, Banana Wings, I think we mentioned Zoo Nation and a few others. It was an OK

panel, lightly attended but fun.

I had lunch. It was expensive and only OK, but what do you expect from a Con Hotel?

Jobs of the Future was an interesting panel. Larry Person, actor J.G. Hertzler and my buddy Justin Lloyd were there with me and we went through all the theories. I mentioned Data Archeology and that got some discussion. Mostly, we told stories. I'd say it was a solid, if slightly scattered panel.

That was followed by The Match Game Afternoon Edition. It was a fun time and we played mostly clean. I was the



Match Game SF (afternoon edition)

Photo by Bob Hole

announcer, so I didn't get to make many cracks, but I did get a couple of good laughs: I made a Mickie-Goofy slash reference that nearly brought the place down.

The traditional I Was Promised Flying Cars panel was OK. Jordin Kare and Steve Lopata are both great for these kinds of panels, and David McMahon proved to be very interesting. I didn't add too much, mostly because I wasn't a Rocket Scientist like the rest of them!

After that, I rested in the Fanzine Lounge and then worked the convention floor. The Dealers' Room was large for a regional con, but a little disappointing for a WorldCon. There were plenty of things to

buy and I bought a lot of stuff. Sadly, the only fanzines for sale in the Dealers' Room were going for far too much. I would have bought a hundred bucks' worth if they were 3 to 5 bucks each, but at ten a piece, no way. Sadly, I think people have inflated concepts of what these things should go for. I even noticed that in the TAFF Auction on Saturday. I also had a strange moment. I was the most visible member of the Hollister bid and I was walking around the bid tables. There was a lively conversation going on at the Denver table. When I came up, it all stopped. Now, I voted for Denver (in fact, I voted Hollister #1, Denver #2 and laid down no other votes), but this was

very weird.

One of the great things was the board where they asked you to sign in the year you entered fandom. I wrote my name in 1975, when my Dad took me to NASFiC. Randy Byers was right next to me in 1976. Bjo Trimble came by while we were admiring our signatures and said "Well, you're both a couple of tikes."

That night was a low-key dinner followed by the Evil Geniuses party. I helped sling drinks and chatted folks up. I wanted to earn my Lab Rat ribbon, so I drank a shot of the Wasabi Vodka (great) and a drip of the Five Wolf Spirit (it burned!) and then I chatted until I had to go. When I came back, my pouring duties were being taken care of and I just wandered around the parties. Jason Schachat and I ran into our faithful columnist Espana Sheriff and had a nice long chat about SF. I wandered off at times to get the good beef sandwiches from the Chicago party. I ended up with feet hurting so bad, I joined up with Espana and Jason's conversation, kicked off my shoes, and sat on top of the garbage can. It was the most comfortable place I'd ever been. We didn't leave until 3:30 or so.

My next panel was supposed to be Fanzines I'd Like To Publish with TAFF delegate Bug Bradshaw, Jerry, Milt and me. It turned out to be cancelled when no



Frank Wu wins Hugo

Photo by Bob Hole

one showed up. That was a shame, as we had some good ideas. We sat around the Fanzine Lounge and chatted more, as we Fanzinistas are wont to do.

The Palos Verdes Room was where many panels ended up cancelled. Most of these were fanzine panels of one sort or another and I hadn't been on one that was well-attended in the room until Fannish Pranks & Hoaxes. This was a fun panel where we talked about the weird things we (or others claiming to be we) had taken part in. Mike Glycer of File 770 was there, as was the inimitable Seth something or another. Roger Sims was there too, but he didn't say much. I talked about my San Jose

Mayorship run and Hollister in 2008. It turned out that this was a great time, and folks got a lot of great laughs. I wish this had been a couple of days later so I could have celebrated Hollister's great victory...

That night, while we wandered from party to party, they announced the results. In a very close election, Denver beat Chicago by 12 votes. I never felt like Chicago had a chance and seeing that it was so close shocked the hell out of me. Columbus did pretty well too, hanging in the race far longer than expected. The real shock? Hollister= 79 votes. There are some who say this may have been the highest

hoax bid total ever, and I'm not 100% sure whether it was or not. There were some famous ones over the years, but we might have taken things to a new level. The party, combined with the fact that Kevin, Andy and I are well-liked enough to get varying types of people to vote for us, probably led to the good numbers.

Why Do People Write For Fanzines led off Saturday and it never happened. I did get to meet Guy Lillian because of it, and he was a really nice guy. I might try and write another article for Challenger at some point just because Guy might have been the most pleasant surprise of the whole con.

The TAFF Auction happened and the prices for things tended to be too high for me to seriously contend. I've always

believed that if you put something up and announce a starting bid that you should sell it no matter what it goes for. There were a few things that were deemed not to have met a suitable bidding level and were withdrawn. I just don't like that. I will say that there were some great things sold and I got a great Rotsler cheese piece.

The Hugos happened and I only watched about 1/3 of them. I saw Frank Wu win his second Best Fan Artist Hugo and it was amazing. I was staying with Frank so I got to sleep in a room with a Hugo. (That's

the closest I'll ever get to winning one.) After that, I left and started to get ready for The Match Game After Dark.

The Match Game After Dark was the grown-up version. Since the original would tape five at a time, they'd take lunch and have a few drinks, leaving the programs at the end of the taping session with a panel that was slightly loaded. We took that to mean we could drink, and we all had a cocktail. The panel was all BArea, save for Len Wein, Mr. Comics. There was Tom Galloway, Kevin Roche, Andy Trembley,

Len, Leigh Ann Hildebrant and me. We were slinging the dirty comedy the whole time and it touched the crowd. We had more people there than any other time I've been at a Match Game. We probably had 50 people in at the start of the show. I got to be filthy and play the role of the lecherous panelist. That was fun.

More parties, though we stuck around the Anticipation party and chatted with Rene Walling for about an hour or so. He's a good guy and I'm hoping Montreal gets the 2009 WorldCon. Nothing against Kansas City, but Montreal would be awesome! We ended the night swinging by the TAFF party where I got to meet Max of Gimmickry. She was shocked when I gave her the traditional Chris hug as a way of introduction. I love it when they flinch!

So, the last day saw my panel with David Brin on Cool New Technology. David took it off course for a while, but we talked about digital cameras and chip technology and cell phones. It was a basic panel and we ended on time and all headed off. After that and a brief visit with Lloyd and Yvonne Penney, I took Jason back to his place in Irvine and then off to San Jose. I had to sleep for a little half-way so I wouldn't fall asleep behind the wheel and kill myself, but after that, it was straight home to write this report.



Anticipation Party

Photo by Kevin Standlee

Interstellar Dreamin'

(More Tales of WorldCon)

By Andy Trembley
Staff Writer

L.A.con IV had some really serious flaws. Somehow, it was still one of the best WorldCons in years.

Kevin and I drove down to Anaheim on Saturday, a full four days before the con started. This was a good thing; it let us relax and take our time. It still meant that we shipped four trunks of supplies and had the car nearly full.

We stopped at Casa de Fruta on the way across Pacheco Pass to shop for the Hollister in 2008 party. Having done this once before, we had a much better idea of what the supplies would cost, and what was popular with the attendees. Somehow we shoehorned in two cases of wine and several bags of snacks amongst the rest of the luggage.

The drive down the Californiabahn was incredibly dull, dull in ways I had hoped to forget. It's been a few years since we've done the southbound drive in the afternoon, and that totally screwed with our sense of time. Three hours of "it feels

like the Grapevine should be just over that next rise" really bites. Take my advice. Leave early in the morning, or leave after work and do the drive in the dark. The unending sameness is somehow more tolerable in either case.

Boredom endured, we reached Los Angeles around 7:00 and in spite of a little traffic made it to the Anaheim Hilton and Towers (I still don't get this Hilton "and Towers" branding; we've got one in San José and it's *only* a tower) before 9:00. Not bad for a Saturday evening in the LA Basin.

There was something strange about the Hilton, and it had nothing to do with the impending WorldCon. It had everything to do with the 2006 Pokémon World Championship Tournament. The Hilton has a large lobby atrium with a reflecting pool and fountains. Above the reflecting pool hung a 20' wide and over 30' long inflatable Pikachu. The hotel was filled with people who kind of looked like WorldCon attendees (with a lot of kids), only their geek-T's were all Pokémon-related.

Sunday we did our pre-con shopping. This was very calculated. There was a

warning that the convention hadn't been able to secure a corkage waiver. Corkage is a fee the hotel charges to people and groups who don't get their event catering through the hotel's catering department, and that includes room parties. We were told that the hotel wouldn't likely enforce the corkage fees as long as we were discreet about bringing in supplies (as only one person in the hotel actually cared). Bringing supplies in on Sunday seemed smart; she wasn't likely to be on-site and there was another convention in the hotel.

Shopping ranged all over Anaheim, Garden Grove and Orange. It's interesting to see how many Anaheim-area towns date their founding to the same year as Disneyland. We were able to find plenty of supplies for our Evil Genius party and Ozeki Sake to fill out the last of the Hollister party order. We brought in three loads of stuff, and had no complaints. We did, however, tip the bellmen well. We also picked up a new camera (the old one having been forgotten at home)

Sunday afternoon we finally started seeing WorldCon folks at the hotel, the

numbers slowly climbing. We did a quick trip up to see friends in Pasadena, and had a fabulous Indian dinner in Old Town.

Monday brought us to Disneyland, but not without first dealing with hotel problems. Our reservation was supposed to be for a pair of connecting rooms checking in on different days, but the room we were in was a single room between a pair of fully-occupied suites. Ben Yallow, hotel negotiator extraordinaire, flagged us down as we were talking to the registration desk and brought us over to the hotel meeting where we could explain to the group sales gal what we needed and why it was a problem. She said she would get it fixed.

That started, we went over to California Adventure. Sure, it has a dumb theme (a fake California in already fake Orange County, only Hollywood would be more suited), but it's a highly underrated park. It's got probably the best and in some cases most unique ride experiences in any Disney park. *Soarin' over California* is a really cool motion-sim ride that combines IMAX-like projection technology and large-scale but gentle moving seating. Try to get section B, row 1 or 2 for the best results. The *Sunwheel* is a strange Ferris wheel with gondolas that slide between the edge and center of the wheel. *California Screamin'* offers retro-style rollercoaster

visuals with smooth tube-tracks and linear motor drives.

Mid-afternoon we headed back to the hotel to move rooms, and found that the new rooms had new and interesting problems. Yes, they were connecting, but they were also smoking rooms. Not good. Move aborted, we called the group sales gal back, and she shuffled a few more rooms to get us into a pair of eminently suitable and well-placed rooms. We even got our move done before our FastPass for *Grizzly River Rapids* expired.

In the evening we were joined at Disneyland by Joe, Blizzard Software server administrator and serious Disneyphile. We did dinner at "Hook's Pointe" (in the Disney Resort Hotel) and then he showed us how to plan the night shows. Get to the circle around 9:00 and find good standing room to watch the fireworks. Go to Port Orleans for *Fantasmic* shortly after the fireworks, and find good standing room. When *Fantasmic* ends, go to *Pirates of the Caribbean* and cruise through the nonexistent line for one of the last boats. Trust me, it works.

Tuesday Kevin's sister Kelly caught up with us and we did another Disney day. This time, Chris (whose partner works for Disney, and gets him a "Silver" pass) joined us. It was a bit more relaxed of a run. Avoiding long lines was the order of the

day. We got on the newly-remodeled *Space Mountain* and had a great ride. I got video of the tea cups from inside. We did a bit of time at California Adventure again, and checked out souvenirs.

In the afternoon we picked up our badges at the green room. Things were a bit crazy there, and they were still assembling participant kits. I wasn't able to get my badge right away, but we were distracted so many times on the way out that they got mine done and I could pick it up.

Tuesday night was "SMOFS night out," pre-convention room parties by people bidding future WorldCons hoping to draw the attention and votes of people who would be too busy later in the convention to attend their main parties. We spent most of our time in the Australia in 2010 (Melbourne) party. The Aussies always throw a good party.

Wednesday brought us to the start of the convention. Kevin spent the morning building the Stargate in the "Spaceport Lounge and Underbelly Bar" area. I spent the morning hanging Hollister in 2008 campaign posters. Here we get to one of the flaws: The sign kiosks were pitiful. There were five easels in the Hilton on the Lanai (deck) Level, each with a 2'x3' piece of foam-core. By the time Denver got two posters up, there was only room for four more on

the easels, and we had 11"x17" posters. I got very creative in hanging posters off the sides and on the legs of the easels, so as to leave room for other parties. Signboards were much better in the convention center, where Filthy Pierre had provided his traditional signboard organization scheme.

The opening ceremonies warmed up with the first episode of *Tom Corbett, Space Cadet* (including the Kellogg's Corn Flakes ads). Vince Docherty and Colin Harris introduced Christian McGuire, LACon IV's chair, got a stack of plaid badge ribbons from him, and led into a simple but nice welcome and introduction of the guests. Well, guest. Connie Willis was there, but James Gurney had flight problems and was late, and of course Howard DeVore and Frankie Thomas died a few months ago. There was a lot of feeling in the room for DeVore's family.

Following Opening Ceremonies I placed the order for our party ice. This was another case of a flaw: Finding the ice order was an ordeal; the early instructions said that ice orders would be taken in operations. Operations directed me to the con office, on a hidden floor of the convention center. The office didn't know anything about ice orders. When I came back after opening ceremonies (right after order deadline), they finally had the order forms and I was

able to place the order, but the delivery information was contradictory.

I had a 2:30 panel on "Blogs & eFanzines" with Chris Garcia, Lisa Deutsch Harrigan, James Bacon (of Britcon "YAFA" fame) and Theresa Nielsen Hayden. We rambled around quite a bit, but did so in a topic-related manner. James pulled out some interesting statistics that showed electronic fanzines have eaten away at the number of print 'zines being published, but have also increased the total number of fanzines being published. It also led to another flaw: Our panelist schedules showed us that we had 60-90 minutes (which realistically translates to 75 minutes, offering a 15 minute break) for panels, but program ops sent in a "stop" order at 60 minutes. Irritating.

We got checked into the party room. The group-sales gal's "no move" order stuck (this wouldn't have been the first time if it hadn't). It only took a short time to decorate for the party (Hollister in 2008 is an easy party to set up), and we included a stack of "Match Game" posters in the decorations. In a fortunate contradiction to posted procedure, Grant and Naomi appeared at our door with a cart of ice, saving us a trip to the loading dock or the pool deck to pick it up. We got a bit of dinner, and came back to open the party.

A party it was. The wine and sake

was nicely iced, and the snacks were out. Chris Garcia got supporters and committee members to sign our special bound edition bidzine. Lisa Harrigan gave out a huge stack of "Casa de What?" ribbons and over 500 fruit stickers for peoples' badges. It was so damned busy it wasn't funny. From 9:00 to midnight it was solid people, and a lull was never less than 25 people. It was a blast, though. We closed at around 5:00 a.m. Oy gevalt.

This isn't going to be one of those "<blank> morning came too early" reports. We got up on Thursday, did a bit of wandering around the convention, ordered ice, and then I went back to tear down Hollister and start building the League of Evil Geniuses party. Fortunately, John and Chris O'Halloran came by to help set up. We were joined by Lance Moore, and after Kevin and I had to go to the first session of Match Game, Carole Parker also came by to decorate.

Match Game SF went fabulously. Bay Area fans (myself, Kevin, Tom Galloway, Lynn Gold, Leigh Ann Hildebrand, host Kevin Standlee, technician Lisa Hayes, announcer Chris Garcia and production assistant Robert Hole Jr.) were joined by comics professional and game-show junky Len Wein. The contestants were great. The panel meshed beautifully. The answers were

great. We were only able to do three games in the allotted time, and that included breaking into the extra 15 minutes past the once-again early “stop” order.

We returned to the party room to find a bit of stress over stick-impaired posters that kept falling down. Quite a bit of time went into solving the stick problem, and Chris “Karisu” Willrich joined us in getting flaky posters re-taped. There was again a bit of confusion on the ice order, but it was sorted out and once again ice was delivered to our room.

League was an even greater mob scene than the Hollister party. We found a gang of teenagers sitting outside the room singing strange songs while they waited for us to open. They came bearing decorations: a mini disco-ball, a mini police-light, a spiky night-light and a giant-disc mod beaded curtain. Kymba took charge of wine service very handily, Kevin and I dispensed experimental substances and Lab Rat ribbons, Carole Parker got people properly “minioned” at one door while I took the other... It was another late night. I can't think of everybody to thank.

Friday was my light day, but not Kevin's. He had a masquerade contestant meeting, a panel and masquerade rehearsal, and that was all just leading up to masquerade. I cleaned up Evil Geniuses

a bit and tried to see some more of the convention. I didn't really succeed, though. There was a lot of late sleeping involved.

One of the things that greatly mitigated the flaws in the convention was the site (silly, I know, since part of the problem was the Hilton contract). The fact that this wasn't a schlep-con made a big difference; the schlep from the hotel to the convention center was only across a small plaza. Another bonus was the Anaheim Convention Center Arena. No, I'm not kidding.

It's a weird space, but it's huge by our standards. I went in less than a half-hour before show time and got a good seat for the masquerade (this may have been helped by common but incorrect expectations that masquerade won't start on time). The stage was a bit odd, but sight lines were good across the hall, and I was able to shoot a bunch of excellent pictures using available light.

The show started on schedule. All entries were of very high quality (except for an “Optimus Prime” who couldn't get on stage and took ten minutes to scratch before they could move on to the next entry). Phil Foglio did an excellent job announcing the show and dealing with unplanned delays. I didn't watch the half-time show. Then there was the big flaw: There was a justified slew controversy about restrictions on the judges

after the awards were announced; nobody disagreed with the entries who got awards, but there was some bafflement about entries that didn't get awards. The aftermath is being discussed by costumers, masquerade directors and judges with an aim to prevent it from ever happening again.

Speaking of awards, Bay Area group “HCC Cosplay” won “Best in Show” with an entry that just knocked everybody's socks off. Kevin's entry, the Mark II version of the Lounge Lizard he first built for Conzilla, won “Most Humorous.” “Best Master” went to Sandy and Pierre Pettinger (Nebraska costumers who were masquerade directors for ConJosé), Tina Connell (of Albany, NY) and El Cerrito fan Fr. John Blaker for a beautiful Stargate/Chinese entry. Prancing Pony Players (the folks who brought us “One Ring Circus”) didn't place, but their Holy Grail/Spamalot medley was priceless.

Word started trickling back between presentations and awards that there was a site-selection winner. It wasn't Hollister in 2008, but Denver, by twelve votes. I went down to the newsletter office to place a concession speech. Since I was a bid chair, I got to see the numbers before they were officially announced, and they were a doozy. Hollister beat the spread between the three major bids in the first count, coming in

with a record-setting (for an ineligible write-in) 79 votes in the first count. After the ineligible write-ins (and “None of the Above,” which we also beat) were reallocated, there was still less than a 100 point spread, and only 16 of those ballots (probably the ten or so NOTA and a few other write-ins) dropped to “No Preference.” We taught our supporters how to vote well. Columbus got knocked out, there was a big drop in the votes with preference (almost half of their ballots, they taught their supporters to vote badly), and Denver eked it out. The hoax newsletter led with “Denver Wins” because it was such a surprise to everybody.

After the masquerade a bunch of costumers came back to our party room to finish off the champagne and wine from the earlier parties. This was a less late night than the last two, as it had been a long day for us all.

Saturday was another day of recovery. Kevin had another panel. Nobody came for my “Why Do People Write for Fanzines?” panel (it was just me, Chris, Guy Lillian and Lenny Bailes, with one of Chris’s friends in the audience). I also spent some time at the “Fan Funds Auction.” Saturday was pretty weak for fanzine programming attendance. There weren’t many people at the auction, so there were some real bargains. Janice Gelb was liquidating a lot of art she was

unable to take with her when she moved to Australia. Fanzine fans had brought in some really classic ‘zines. Conrunners from around the world brought convention souvenirs from days gone by. I picked up an AussieCon3 shirt. There was a Conspiracy shirt (the Brighton WorldCon where Kevin won his first “Best Master” award in the masquerade), but it wasn’t in Kevin’s size so I ignored it. I finished cleaning and packing up the party supplies so “Eric in the Elevator” could move in. We got things turned over for them, and then got a bit of dinner before Match Game.

Rather than watch the Hugos, we had a nice dinner. We missed all the drama.

“Match Game SF After Dark” was an even greater success than the daytime edition. The same cast of characters participated (Lynn Gold exchanging her seat on the panel with Chris Garcia). The room was too small (and packed solid) and we had no tech to support us. Still, we had the audience in stitches for two hours. After three games, we took a short bathroom/drinks break, and lost about half the audience. The rest stayed, though, for the last two games. It’s kind of funny, but we only said “fuck” a few times. It’s different when it’s allowed. Still, the pile of cards on the floor behind the table looked like a naughty fridge magnet poetry set.

And then came the final day. Kevin had his last panel, and we went to the closing ceremonies.

Closing was a quiet affair, except for Connie Willis taking out a contract on Harlan Ellison for grabbing her boob onstage at the Hugo awards. She wasn’t happy. The rest of the convention, though, she was overjoyed with. The Nippon07 committee did a pretty good shtick in support of their convention next year, bringing up a stage full of folks who are helping them. Inoue-san started by shooting Christian with a “Buzz Lightyear” blaster, lip-syncing his translator (on the voice-of-God mike), and then brought his translator on stage to finish with him.

After closing we had a nice dinner with the Pettingers, Fr. John, and one of the Trans-Iowa Canal Company at “Tiffany’s,” a rather reasonable family restaurant that’s the popular after-hours hang-out of Disney park staffers. It was a decent meal and a nice rest before the dead dog party started.

LACcon IV, like Interaction that preceded it, had an excellent dead-dog party facilitated by an excellent con-suite layout on the Sunset deck. Everybody who was anybody was there, chatting and singing and drinking until late at night.

At around midnight, we heard the call of “BASFA Meeting!” and followed

Dave Clark and Dave Gallaher to the “Old Farts Party” (a.k.a. the Past WorldCon Chairs party) room. Silliness well in hand, we appointed Party Maven Grant Kruger (expat South African) as Ambassador to ThirdWorld and comic book writer and artist extraordinaire Eric Shanower as Ambassador to Ancient Greece. I’m not sure what else happened, there was a lot of alcohol flowing.

Monday was a standard post-con day. We packed, we delivered trunks to FedEx, we loaded the car, we had a bit of lunch and chatted with concom members finally free to relax, and planned further mayhem. Seth Breidbart and Sharon Sbarsky gave us some possibly unintended advice on how to extend the Hollister Hoax one more year (no, we’re not bidding 2009!).

Then all there was to do was drive. Somehow we got only light traffic traveling north through LA and out to Ventura on 101. Dinner was found at Pea Soup Andersen’s in Buellton, and then straight on through until home. Gaah, the drive was exhausting and painful, but at least not as boring as the drive down. We hit home just before midnight, got the car unloaded, and crashed hard.

So yeah, a great time.

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

SUMMER RENAISSANCE FAIRE IN GOLDEN GATE PARK

Story and Photos by Eva Kent
Staff Writer

The Third Annual Golden Gate Renaissance Festival took place on the weekend of August 26 and 27 this year at Golden Gate Park's Speedway Meadow. Faire attendance on Sunday seemed just right. It was not too crowded nor was the attendance sparse. Many patrons dressed up in Renaissance garb and there were plenty of vendors selling attire to turn any Bay Areaite into a 15th century peasant.

The whole day was filled with live entertainment. Some of the more exhilarating things to watch or take part in were sport activities. Two groups provided areas where patrons could learn to fence or watch master fencers take each other on in matches. As the fencers hit their foils together the impact of metal on metal provided authentic sounds of battle throughout the meadow. There were also two giant rocking horses at the Faire where patrons could rock back and forth at least ten feet up from the ground. An archery range was set up where patrons could fire



Princess Elizabeth prepares to take the throne



Knight readies for battle



Girls riding “high” horse

away at the side of a castle and try to hit bull’s eyes and pirates.

Of course, the most popular event at the Faire was the tournament of the knights. Three gallant knights challenged each other in a tournament of precision, force and skill to determine a winner. First, the knights took aim at rings held out by their squires and attempted to pick them up on their lances as they rode by on their horses. Then the knights tried to cut a head of cabbage in half as it was perched on the head of a nervous squire.

Next came the exciting jousting portion of the tournament where the knights rode past each other and attempted to dismount their opponents by knocking them from their horses. The lances would shatter at the tip as they impacted the opponent’s shield. With no clear winner, the knights then had to dismount from their horses and use swords. But sword fighting also was not enough to produce a winner, and so the knights had to resort to “hand-to-hand” combat, where finally a winner was declared after a fierce battle of Rochambeau.

The Faire provided continual shows on three stages. A roaming group of pranksters called *Out of Kontrol* did several death-defying tricks. They stood on a teeter-totter and ate fire, and they balanced



Lady with bird



Citizen is punished



Cavalier by John Barrows

on a high beam and ate fire. For their grand finale one of them lay on a bed of nails, had a cinder block put on him, it was lit on fire, and then another member of the group broke the cinder block in half with a sledge hammer. Another performer, called *The Professional Show-Off*, stuffed a three-foot-long balloon down his throat and then chased it with some fire that he also ate. The Show-Off juggled knives and flaming torches to amaze his audience.

More entertainment included a version of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a quartet of ladies dressed in Elizabethan garb singing and dancing on stage, and the *Merrie Pryanksters* doing jolly set dances on stage. *Danse Macabre* danced around the Faire in black clothes and skeleton masks. They carried traditional and non-traditional instruments with them, flutes, washboards, bells and tambourines to create a happy song to accompany their spooky dance.

Court was held at the Faire where Queens Jane Grey and Mary Tudor and Princess Elizabeth each struggled for power over the region. Ladies and gentlemen from the court roamed the Faire enjoying the entertainment. The court was dressed in fine clothes, making them stand out from the rest of the crowd. Princess Elizabeth was crowned Queen and installed in that



Bird Lady by John Barrows www.cre8vision.net



Member of group *Out of Kontrol* about to be hit with sledge hammer



Fencing duel

position during the course of the Faire.

The Faire had plenty to do for families and friends. Attendees enjoyed the shows and willingly participated in the re-enactment portions of the Faire. The vendor

booths that sold clothing and Renaissance-related items were busy. The event itself was a success but the Faire ended on a cold note because of the gray fog that blew in from the ocean over Golden Gate Park.

I recommend this Faire to anyone looking for a Renaissance experience in San Francisco. The Faire is small in scale but entertaining and fun. Look for it when it comes along again next year.

www.sffaire.com



Knights show their accuracy and riding skill



SiliCon 2006: An Interview with Dann Lopez

By Eva Kent
Staff Writer

On August 20th I was invited to a barbecue planning meeting for SiliCon 2006 at the house of Dann Lopez, the owner of the convention, to interview him for SF/SF. I came prepared with a fruit tray, steno pad and ink pen. Shortly after I arrived, Dann asked me if it would be okay if one of his guests, a cameraman with his own cable show on KMVT 15, *John's World*, could tape our interview. I agreed.

Before the interview took place I sat in on the planning meeting, where around twenty staff members of the convention gathered from all over the Bay Area. SiliCon will be at the Doubletree hotel in San Jose October 6-8th. I learned that there will be free parking this year. The rest of the meeting was a time for everyone to check in with each other and figure out staffing needs. The staff had their choice of barbecue hamburgers, sausages, steak, salad, and homemade pie during the discussion.

After the main part of the meeting was over, Dann showed us a short film on Mark Bode, this year's artist guest of honor at SiliCon. Mark is a cartoonist who is famous for his characters and those of his late father, Vaughn Bode, which have been translated into urban graffiti art all over the world. Mark's father created *Cheech Wizard* and *The Lizard of Oz*, bold and linguistical-



ly blunt characters. Mark and Vaughn are also known for their female characters who have very large breasts and pretty faces. Mark has worked on the comic *COBALT-60* and is the creator of *Miami Mice*.

When the film was over, Dann and

I took seats in front of the TV camera on his backyard porch. I had my note pad and pen with me but soon discovered that I was expected to hold a microphone for Dann and me to speak into. This complicated my intentions to write down Dann's answers. I decided to try my best to remember his answers until after the interview and jot them down then. I was excited by the fact that I was going to do a real interview that would be aired on TV!

SiliCon is the only science fiction art-and media-focused convention in the San Francisco Bay Area. The convention focuses heavily on the production and display of artwork. It includes an art auction and show. There is also an Art Colony where artists work on current projects as convention-goers walk through the room and watch the artists at work. The general public can find any type or style of art at the convention. SiliCon is a productive place for artists to show and sell their work and network with people who are interested in their artistic styles.



Eva Kent interviewing Dann Lopez

In addition to Mark Bode as the artist guest of honor, the convention will feature Robert Meyer Burnett as media guest. He runs his own production company, Ludovico Technique, which is responsible for producing special features for films when they are released on DVD. The company has made the special features sections for movies such as *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* and *The Fellowship of the Ring*. Burnett also publishes his own comic book, *Living in Infamy*, through Ludovico.

mainly how they ran when separate groups of people came together to try to create a cohesive experience, and he wanted to bridge those gaps for SiliCon. SiliCon seems to be on the right track because during one of its first years under Dann's ownership, the Mayor of Sunnyvale declared the convention the kick-off event for the city's "Science Fiction Week."

SiliCon is a not-for-profit organization and a large portion of the funds generated from the convention goes to the Diabetes Society of Santa Clara Valley. Dann

Comic book writer Steve Englehart will also be at SiliCon. He is known for creating the modern *Batman* and *Joker* and also writes for *The Avengers*, *The Defenders* and *Captain America*.

Dann told me that he has owned SiliCon for the past five years of its 15-year existence. He saw some of the problems that other conventions had had,

suffers from diabetes himself and wants to help support research that will advance medication, prevent, and eventually find a cure for the disease.

Dann told me about two exciting events happening at SiliCon. There will be an independent film festival this year and entries are still being accepted. SF/SF's very own Chris Garcia will be a panelist for the filmmaker series. Also, Mark Bode will perform his *Cartoon Concert* which features his father's cartoon characters and has delighted many Bode fans all over the world.

For more information on SiliCon 2006: Comics On and Off the Page, please visit www.siliconventions.com.

The television interview I had with Dann should be on KMVT15 within the next few weeks. *John's World* airs Wednesday evenings at 6pm in Cupertino and Los Altos.

BASFA Minutes: meeting 838

August 14, 2006

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

Began 8:12 [with the resolve to read 'Kitchen Confidential'].

24 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 837 were accepted as 'having achieved stalling speed.'

Treasurer's report was that last week we took in \$82.75 in the regular and \$7.85 in the party jar.

We established a party jar.

The VP reported [stalling having succeeded] that if you saw him on TV you were lucky [as he has not seen any segments yet]; that there are new fanzines [including a new 'Drink Tank'] & his sister gave him a papercut on the eye.

The President welcomed 'Bug' [Bridget Bradshaw, from TAFF] & Frank Wu paid for her BASFA membership.

Given a chance to report, Bug chewed her dinner contentedly.

There was a motion to name Bug the Ambassador to TAFFlasia & Cambridge that passed all to Bug [it was commented that while death releases you from LASFS, that BASFA is thinking of establishing a necromantic committee].

There was a motion that shall not be named that was objected to consideration.

The Hollister in '08 bid committee reported that there is a new bidcom member & shopping is being planned & the President thanked the committee for their hard work and partying.

Announcements

Ken announced that the Cinema San Pedro movie for this Wednesday night will be 'Ghostbusters' & that this week on channel 54 will see the Pajama Party Pledge night this Saturday from 10pm to 2am wherein they will show 'Day of the Triffids' and

have the world premiere of 'Guidilon the Giant Space Chicken' with Chris and Frank probably in the studio.

Kevin S announced that there are copies of the antepenultimate issue of Emerald City in the room.

Chris announced there'll be an issue of SF/SF up real soon [which includes an article by Cheryl] & he's desperate for reviews of Worldcon & he wants LOTS of articles for 'Drink Tank' #100.

Dave G announced that he has flyers for Vinticon 4 [Oct 13-15].

Frank announced that some of the props from 'Nacho Libre' are up for sale on EBay right now.

Reviews:

Ken reviewed the Capital Drive-in where he saw 'Pirates 2' as the audio kept slipping, the film didn't fit properly on the screen & folks kept driving thru with their headlights on - that there was a small but annoying crowd there & the experience was not worth attending - stick to normal theatres.

Chris reviewed his little cousins as they are 'sooooo cuuute' and worth full price & reviewed his weekend as very fannish - he sat around and read fanzines & had another date as very enjoyable & worth full price.

Harold reviewed the finest film he has seen in quite a while 'Little Miss Sunshine' as 'you think your family has problems' & very definitely worth matinee.

Then we established a TAFF jar.

Bug announced that she is gathering artwork and the best of it will go in her TAFF report.

[evil] Kevin reviewed 'UFO' as one of the greatest series from England ever made - and 'where's all the cool stuff he's supposed to have by now.'

Fred reviewed 'Galaxy Quest' at Cinema San Pedro as the movie was great [sitting in the street, drinking beer] and worth full price.

Lance reviewed a technology and art festival as some of the art was super cool & he saw a dance performance also worth full price; Fred follow-on'd that one of the art pieces has a message on it in IR that could only be viewed with a digital camera.

Bug reviewed the Survival Research Labs demo as like the end of days with explosions and things that went 'phoom!' and she wants one of the plasma arcs for her garden & then reviewed her trip as she 'didn't see many fans in Boston, she went to Readercon.'

Eric reviewed Pageant of the Masters as

really fantastic to watch.

Mike reviewed 'The Place Promised in our Early Days' as 'O my god it was so strange' and we may be seeing the next Miyazaki in Shinkai.

Dave C reviewed '50 years of Disneyland' at the Oakland Museum as interesting.

We auctioned off stuff, birthday auctioned off Andy to Tom for \$27.00; birthday auctioned off Bug to Dave C for \$17.00; birthday auctioned off Dierdre to Chris for \$7.00; birthday auctioned off Rick to Chris for \$6.00 [so he could have the set]; & auctioned off Raiders stuff for \$4.00.

We adjourned at 9:45 pm.

And the rumor of the week was 'When Ben Yalow dies, he's taking Worldcon with him.'

BASFA Minutes: meeting 839

August 21, 2006

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

Began 8:07 [with many of our members traveling].

11 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 838 were accepted as 'Oooo thank you.'

There was no Treasurer or Treasurer's report.

There was no VP.

The President reported that there's a convention coming up & very soon the SciFi channel will show a series based on the Harry Dresden books.

Given a chance to report, Bug chewed her dinner contentedly.

The Party committee asked when the Hollister party was - and was told Wednesday night & so the Numismatic Responsibility Act poster will go down with Bob [thanks Bob!].

Announcements

Ken announced that the Cinema San Pedro movie for this Wednesday night will be 'North by Northwest' & announced that beginning the 2nd Friday of September at 7pm, channel 54 will show The Twilight Zone & One Step Beyond.

Mike announced that he needs a ride to the Greyhound station Tuesday night [by midnight].

Reviews:

Ken reviewed the Cinema Insomnia PJ party pledge special - as done live & in-studio & had only one major screw-up - as it went very well & that the premiere of 'Guidilon' also went well & was worth staying up till 4am for.

I reviewed 'Cherry Sushi' [at El Camino & Kiely] as it had incredibly good, fresh sushi & greatly recommended; then Ken follow-on'd that 'Sushi-E' [on Pollard &

LaRinconada] is also another new sushi place & serves 'sort of Asian fusion.'

Joanie reviewed Apria as very disorganized with their rentals & they have no concept of time [there were follow-on's].

Mike reviewed 'Snakes on a Plane' as fun & he didn't feel cheated & the Shatner roast on Comedy Central was tons of fun & worthwhile.

Ed reviewed 'Singularity Sky' by Charlie Stross as very impressive & worth full price.

Trey reviewed 'Classic Feynman' as some cool stories & well worth seeking out & the hardcover comes with a CD [there were follow-on's] & Eric recommended 'The Feynman Letters' as worth full price.

We adjourned at 8:45 pm.

And the rumor of the week was: 'Burning Man will.'

BASFA Minutes: meeting 840

August 28, 2006

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

Began 8:06 [with a bit of rap].

18 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 839 were accepted as 'tongue tied.'

There was no Treasurer but we took in \$0.75 last week.

There was no VP.

The President said he had nothing fannish to report

Announcements:

Bob announced that Frank Wu won his 2nd Hugo at Worldcon & [evil] Kevin won an award for best humorous costume & Hollister came in 4th [& in follow-ons it was mentioned that Father John won a

Master's Class costuming award].

At this point, Frank Wu showed up - to thunderous applause - and showed us his awards. [Ooo - shiny!]

Joanie announced that they are looking for a cheap automatic transmission vehicle that can hold a wheelchair in the back and please to get in touch with her.

Ken announced that the Cinema San Pedro movie for this Wednesday night will be 'Office Space' & announced he has a plate of fries up for grabs.

Daniel announced that he & Kelly are officially publishers [Traife Buffet Haute Biblio] & their 1st offering is 'Greetings from Lake Wu' by Jay Lake & Frank Wu.

Reviews:

Harold reviewed the Metreon's 'Titanic' exhibit as a must-see for Titanic fanatics - as very interesting and impressive & it takes about 90 minutes to walk through & the exhibit was worth full price & wear comfy shoes & he reviewed the 20 volumes of the Aubrey-Maturin sea series as the series is worth full price.

John reviewed this last Sunday's 'Monty' comic as it hit on all cylinders for him - and was passed around.

Daniel reviewed Worldcon as he had no fault to find with the Marriott - he got lucky - he had a great time at the con & that the con was so spread out that he felt it never really achieved critical mass - but it was fun & the con drew about 5,000 & the Worldcon 'used car lot' was interesting & the art show draw-off Between Bob Eggelton & Frank Wu raised about \$1,000 for charity; Frank follow-on'd that he got his picture taken in 'the original' Batmobile; other follow-on's mentioned that Andy & [evil] Kevin throw one heckuva party & that a picture of Conrad the Disco Lizard made it into the OC Register.

We auctioned off books for \$1.25.

We adjourned at 8:50 pm.

And the rumor of the week was 'that the Disney company will meet next week to demote Pluto to a pup.'

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, September 6

Author: Robin Hobb
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
www.borderlands-books.com

Wednesday and Thursday, September 6-7

The Great Yokai War (2005)
The Red Vic Movie House
1727 Haight Street
San Francisco
7 and 9:30 p.m.
\$8 (\$6 bargain matinee Wed.@2 p.m.)

September 6-23

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.

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.

Friday and Saturday, September 8-9

Midnight Madness:
The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)
Aquarius Theatre
430 Emerson Street
Palo Alto
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday-Sunday, 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, Eric Spitznagel, and Sparky.

Saturday-Sunday, September 9-10

Bay Area UFO Expo

Hyatt Regency Santa Clara
5101 Great America Parkway
Santa Clara
\$155; one-day and single-workshop passes available
www.thebayareaexpo.com
8th annual gathering devoted to UFOs, alien encounters, crop circles, reptoids, conspiracies, commerce.

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.

Monday, September 11

*Ask a Scientist:
A Cleaner Future for Cars*
The Canvas Gallery
1200 9th Avenue
San Francisco
6:30 p.m.
Free
Speaker: Nancy Garland, Technology Development Manager, U.S. Dept. of Energy.

Tuesday, September 12

Zatoichi (2003)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.

\$7
“Beat” Takeshi’s reinterpretation of the classic blind Samurai story, with tap-dancing. A benefit for Suigetsukan Martial Arts School; with live onstage demonstration.

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

Late Night Picture Show: Repo Man (1984)
Clay Theatre
2261 Fillmore
San Francisco
Midnight
\$9.75
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, September 15-16

*Midnight Special:
The Nightmare Before Christmas (1993)*
Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley

\$8

www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, September 15-16

Midnight Madness:

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)

Aquarius Theatre

430 Emerson Street

Palo Alto

\$8

www.landmarkafterdark.com

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, September 16

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 card games, and historical board wargames.

Saturday, September 16

Why on Earth Do We Study Mars?

Herbst Theater

401 Van Ness

San Francisco

1 p.m.

\$10 suggested donation

925-255-3449

A lecture featuring NASA geologists Diane Evans and Thomas Farr, sponsored by VFW Post 1525.

Saturday-Sunday, September 16-17

4th Annual Japantown Anime Faire

Miyako Hotel

1625 Post Street

San Francisco

Sat 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Sun 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

\$35 at the door, single day passes available

jtaf.project760.com

Screenings, live performances, artist alley, swap meet, gaming, Taiko drums, 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

Twenty Epics

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

3 p.m.

Free

www.borderlands-books.com

Appearance/signing by authors Marcus Ewert, Tim Pratt, and the collection's editor Susan Marie Groppi.

Sunday, September 17

How Berkeley Can You Be Parade

Berkeley

11 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.

Wednesday, September 20

Author: Kelly Link

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.
Free

Thursday, September 21

Serenity (2005)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
\$7
Proving once again that you can't stop the signal.

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 and Saturday, September 22-23

Art at the Dump
SF Recycling & Disposal
503 Tunnel Ave.
San Francisco
Fri. 5-9 p.m., Sat 1-5 p.m.
Free
www.sfrecycling.com/AIR
Exhibit/reception for artists-in-residence Noah Wilson (photography) and Kim Weller (art inspired by visual mass media, such as the *Archie* comics). The Artist in Residence Program offers artists the opportunity to create art using materials gathered from San Francisco's refuse, with 24-hour studio access, a monthly stipend, and an exhibit at the end of

their residences.

Friday and Saturday, September 22-23

Feast (2005)
Aquarius Theatre, Palo Alto
Clay Theatre, San Francisco
Shattuck Cinemas, Berkeley
Midnight
\$8 (\$9.75 at the Clay)
www.landmarkafterdark.com
The *Project Greenlight*-winning Horror pic spatters all three of Landmark's midnight movie screens on the same weekend.

Friday-Sunday, September 22-24

Browncoat Ball
Marines Memorial Club and Hotel
609 Sutter Street
San Francisco
\$150; single-day tickets available
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, September 23

Tachyon Publications Anniversary Party
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
2 p.m.
Free
www.borderlands-books.com

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:
Kingdom of the Spiders (1977)
The Dark Room Theatre
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
8 p.m.
\$5
www.darkroomsf.com
The web site used to say the Bad Movie for 9/24 would be *Incubus (1965)* starring William Shatner, in Esperanto with English subtitles. *Kingdom of the Spiders* has Shatner, too, but one can't help but be disappointed at the missed opportunity to hear him speak Esperanto.

Thursday, September 28

ParaSpheres
City Lights
261 Columbus
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
Book release party for *ParaSpheres: Extending Beyond the Spheres of Literary and Genre Fiction - Fabulist and New Wave Fabulist*

Stories. With editors Ken Keegan and Rusty Morrison, and readings by authors Charlie Anders, Rikki Ducornet, Laura Moriarty, Rudy Rucker, Stephen Shugart, Mark Wallace and William Luvaas.

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 by the Kevin Beadles Band, Sonic Vision planetarium show, and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Friday and Saturday, September 29-30

Late Night Picture Show: Cremaster 3 (2002)

Clay Theatre

2261 Fillmore

San Francisco

Midnight

\$9.75

www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, September 29-30

Midnight Special:

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)

Shattuck Cinemas

2230 Shattuck Ave.

Berkeley

\$8

www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, September 29-30

Midnight Madness: Young Frankenstein (1974)

Aquarius Theatre

430 Emerson Street

Palo Alto

\$8

www.landmarkafterdark.com

Saturday, September 30

EndGame Fifth Anniversary Party

EndGame

921 Washington

Oakland

9 a.m.-7 p.m.

Free

Events include a charity raffle for the chance to play *Settlers of Catan* with Guido Teuber or *True 20* with Chris Pramas from Green Ronin.

www.endgameoakland.com

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 English Regency Society (BAERS). The bawdy, naughty members of the Hellfire Club invite you to enjoy an evening of elegantly transgressive dance and subterranean carousing. Masks, cloaks, and hoods encouraged. Dance in the shadows as a monk or nun, or flaunt your noble standing, if you dare. Women of low birth and reputation also welcome to join the revels.

Saturday, September 30

Warp II: "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.'" With Special Guest TBD.

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.

Monday, October 2

An Evening with Neil Gaiman

Berkeley Repertory Theater

2025 Addison Street

Berkeley

7 p.m.

\$10

Presented by Cody's Books. Tickets available via email at events@codysbooks.com or phone 510-559-9500 or 510-845-9092.

Tuesday, October 3

Author: Neil Gaiman

Kepler's Books

1010 El Camino Real
Menlo Park
7:30 p.m.
Free
650-324-4321
Might be a good idea to arrive early: outdoor reception begins at 6:15.

Wednesday, October 4

Author: Alexandra Sokoloff
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
www.borderlands-books.com

Thursday, October 5

Thrillville's Zombie-Rama:
Children Shouldn't Play With Dead Things
(1972) and *Burial Ground (1981)*
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
7:30 p.m.
\$8
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; live theremin by Robert Silverman.

Friday, October 6

Late Night Picture Show:
Phantom of the Paradise (1974)
Clay Theatre

2261 Fillmore
San Francisco
Midnight
\$9.75
www.landmarkafterdark.com
Brian de Palma's sorta-cult-classic, with a live musical performance by Evolution Rainbow.

Friday and Saturday, October 6-7

Midnight Special: The Goonies (1985)
Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, October 6-7

Midnight Madness:
Plan 9 from Outer Space (1959)
Aquarius Theatre
430 Emerson Street
Palo Alto
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com
Ed Wood's magnum opus, in color!

October 6-29

Young Frankenstein: The Play
The Dark Room Theatre
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
Fri. & Sat. at 7:30 p.m., Sun. at 5 p.m.
\$15
www.darkroomsf.com

Friday-Sunday, October 6-8

SiliCon
DoubleTree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place
San Jose
www.siliconventions.com
\$45 at the door
Guests of Honor: Mark Bode, Robert Meyer Burnett
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

Author: Glen Hirshberg
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
5 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 30), \$20 at the door
www.peers.org
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

Tuesday, October 10

Nosferatu (1922)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.

\$7
Max Schreck as the granddaddy of all movie
vampires, with an original live soundtrack
performed by the Devil Music Ensemble.

Friday, October 13

Winchester Mystery House Flashlight Tour
Winchester Mystery House
525 South Winchester Blvd.
San Jose
408-247-2101
6:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.
\$35
Advance ticket purchase recommended. If
you miss the Friday the 13th tour, they'll be
conducting more around Halloween.

Friday, October 13

Zooming Out in Time
Cowell Theater
Fort Mason Center
San Francisco
7:30 p.m.
\$10 suggested donation
A lecture by mathematician John (not Joan)
Baez, presented by The Long Now Foundation.
www.longnow.org

Friday and Saturday, October 13-14

Late Night Picture Show:
Plan 9 from Outer Space (1959)
Clay Theatre
2261 Fillmore
San Francisco
Midnight
\$9.75
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Ed Wood's magnum opus, in color! Friday the
13th show includes a live appearance by the
Devilettes.

Friday and Saturday, October 13-14

Midnight Special:
Plan 9 from Outer Space (1959)
Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com
Ed Wood's magnum opus, in color!

Friday and Saturday, October 13-14

Midnight Madness: The Goonies (1985)
Aquarius Theatre
430 Emerson Street
Palo Alto
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com

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.

Tuesday, October 17

Gremlins (1984)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
\$7
A benefit for Just Cause Oakland.

Wednesday, October 18

Femspec Magazine
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
7 p.m.
Free
www.borderlands-books.com
Editor Batya Weinbaum and contributor Ardys De Luis discuss *Femspec*, an interdisciplinary feminist journal dedicated to critical and creative works in the realms of SF, fantasy, magical realism, surrealism, myth, folklore, and other supernatural genres. www.femspec.org

Thursday, October 19

*Thrillville's Monster-rama:
The Werewolf vs. The Vampire Women (1971)*
and
Beast Of The Yellow Night (1971)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
7:30 p.m.
\$10
Hosted by Speakeasy Theaters programmer and local lounge lizard Will "the Thrill" Viharo and his lovely wife and stage assistant, Monica, Tiki Goddess. With guest appearances by Son of Ghoul, Cinema Insomnia host Mr. Lobo, and the Devil-ettes.

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.)

Sunday, October 22

3DBCon
Three Dollar Bill Café
LGBT Center
1800 Market Street
San Francisco
10 a.m.-10 p.m.
\$10
www.threedollarbill.com/3DBcon/
One-day gaming convention; gamers need to register by October 13.

Thursday, October 26

Army of Darkness (1993)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
\$5

Friday, October 27

Midnight Movie Spooktacular
Camera 7 Cinema
1875 S. Bascom Avenue
Campbell
\$7
Halloween movie event with guest appearances and free giveaways.

Friday, October 27

*Thrillville's Halloween Spookylau:
The Crawling Eye (1958)*

Copia
500 First Street
Napa
8 p.m.
\$6
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 and Saturday, October 27-28

*Late Night Picture Show:
The Monster Squad (1987)*
Clay Theatre
2261 Fillmore
San Francisco
Midnight
\$9.75
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, October 27-28

Midnight Special: Evil Dead II (1987)
Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, October 27-28

Midnight Madness: The Shining (1980)
Aquarius Theatre
430 Emerson Street
Palo Alto
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Saturday, October 28

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 card games, and historical board wargames.

Saturday, October 28

For Crying Out Loud: A Reading by Lemony Snicket
Capuchino High School
1501 Magnolia Ave.
San Bruno
2 p.m..
650-685-4911
Sponsored by Books, Inc. in Burlingame; with illustrator Brett Helquist and music by The Gothic Archies featuring Lemony Snicket on percussion. (No info yet on obtaining tickets.)

Saturday, October 28

Warp 11: “Halloween Scary Love Fest”
G Street Pub
228 G Street
Davis
10 p.m.
Ages 21+
Sacramento’s Star Trek-themed rock band performs such hits as “Red Alert” and “Rage Against the Federation.” With The Brodys.

Saturday, October 28

Midnight Movie Spooktacular
Camera 12 Cinema
201 South Second Street
San Jose
\$7
Halloween movie event with guest appearances and free giveaways.

Tuesday, October 31

The Monster of Phantom Lake (2006)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
9:15 p.m.
\$5
www.monsterofphantomlake.com
A new indy film pays tribute to the B-horror movies of the 50s.

Friday and Saturday, November 3-4

Late Night Picture Show: Evil Dead II (1987)
Clay Theatre
2261 Fillmore
San Francisco
Midnight
\$9.75
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, November 3-4

Midnight Special: Donnie Darko (2001)
Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley
\$8
www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, November 3-4

Midnight Madness: Alien (1979)

Aquarius Theatre
430 Emerson Street
Palo Alto
\$8

www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday-Sunday, November 3-5

BASCon

Embassy Suites
250 Gateway Boulevard
South San Francisco
\$75

www.bascon.org

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

Ballroom dancing: 7:30 - midnight

Dracula's Daughter Discotheque & Bar: 6:30 - midnight

\$17.50 in advance (by October 28), \$25 at the door

www.peers.org

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

Friday, November 10

Late Night Picture Show:

The Toxic Avenger (1985)
Clay Theatre

2261 Fillmore
San Francisco
Midnight
\$9.75

www.landmarkafterdark.com

Friday and Saturday, November 10-11

Midnight Special:

A Clockwork Orange (1971)

Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley
\$8

www.landmarkafterdark.com

Saturday, November 11

For Crying Out Loud: A Reading by Lemony Snicket

Book Passage
51 Tamal Vista Blvd.
Corte Madera
11 a.m.

415-927-0960

With music by The Gothic Archies featuring Lemony Snicket on percussion. (No info yet on obtaining tickets.)

Saturday, November 11

Vegas in Space (1991)

Clay Theatre
2261 Fillmore
San Francisco
Midnight

\$12

www.landmarkafterdark.com

A midnight screening of the first all-drag-queen Sci-Fi musical ever – with host Peaches Christ

and guests.

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, Madeleine Robins, and Katie Hafner.

Sunday, November 12

For Crying Out Loud: A Reading by Lemony Snicket

First Congregational Church

2345 Channing Way

Berkeley

3 p.m.

510-559-9500

With music by The Gothic Archies featuring Lemony Snicket on percussion. Presented by Cody's Books: Tickets go on sale in Cody's stores (only) on October 13 – no info yet on prices.

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.

Saturday, November 18

Pas D’Armes

Society for Creative Anachronism Event

Elk Glen

Golden Gate Park

San Francisco

Opening ceremonies 11 a.m.

Site fee \$5 (\$10 family), repast \$10, non-members +\$3 (The Hospitallers of St. Bahb the Martyr will subsidize the non-members fee).

www.cloondara.org

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 personae 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

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

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

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

www.peers.org

A.k.a. The Dickens Fair Reunion Ball. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

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

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

\$15 in advance (by January 27), \$20 at the door
www.peers.org
Bruce Wayne requests the pleasure of your company. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

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.

February 16-19, 2007

DunDraCon

San Ramon Marriott
2600 Bishop Drive
San Ramon
www.dundracon.com

Annual gaming con; details to follow.

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 3, 2007

Merry Widow Waltz Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

\$15 in advance (by February 24), \$20 at the door

www.peers.org

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

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

Few details as yet on this con devoted to X-treme anime, science fiction, fantasy, martial arts, and cosplay.

April 7, 2007

Red Carpet Ball

(1930s Hollywood Academy Award Ball)

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

\$15 in advance (by March 31), \$20 at the door

www.peers.org

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

May 5, 2007

Sleeping Beauty's Christening Fantasy Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

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

www.peers.org

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

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

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

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

www.peers.org

Browncoats take note. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

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. www.peers.org**September 1, 2007***Mikado Ball**(A Gilbert and Sullivan Cast Party)*

PEERS Event

No details yet on this dance. www.peers.org**October 6, 2007***Edwardian Gothic Ball*

PEERS Event

Edwardian as in macabre illustrator Edward Gorey. www.peers.org**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. www.peers.org**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 Sci Fi/

Fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times and locations.

Foothill Anime

Building 5015, Foothill College

Los Altos Hills

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

www.legionofrassilon.org

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

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 Firefly/Serenity fans 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 Valley 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.usdefiance.org.