

Science Fiction/San Francisco

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email: SFinSF@gmail.com

Editors: Jean Martin, Chris Garcia
Copy Editor: David Moyce
Guest Layout Editor: Chris Garcia

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News and Notes

by Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

You may have noticed that this is not your regular layout. I've been thrown in to fill the gap as we transition to our new lay-out guru. We greatly apologize for the delay and hope you'll forgive us greatly. Much of this issue was written before Westercon, so keep that in mind. The next ish will feature Westercon news and such and be laid-out by our new Layout King...but you'll have to wait 'til August 1st to find out who that is!

Walter 'Doc' Daugherty has passed away. That name probably doesn't mean much to a large percentage of today's fandom, but he's a major figure in the history. He was a charter member of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society and was the one who founded Westercon. He published fanzines and was a major figure for 40 years of fandom. He was also an Egyptologist and a ballroom dancer, and held a 22/100th of a second quick draw, which is pretty damn impressive. He was the 1968 WorldCon Fan Guest of Honor, and he's one guy I could certainly be compared to from First Fandom. I'm sure there'll be tributes to him at the upcoming WorldCon and NASFiC. Walt was 90.

Westercon wrapped up a while back. *SF/SF* sponsored the Fanzine Lounge and a time was had by all. Espana and Leigh Ann Hildebrand, myself and a ton of others whose names you'll be seeing in the pages of *SF/SF* were there having a great time. The best part of the con for me might have been the Says You game show for Half-time of the Masquerade. Jay Lake, Christian McGuire, Jane Mailander, John Hertz, Derek McCaw, Diana

Sherman and emergency reliever Howard Hendrix all did a great job of being on the panel and I'm so pleased with how it turned out! Still no Match Game, but we all can't be Kevin Standlee.

If you wanna see a guy who put out his trip report ultra-fast (in comparison to most American TAFF delegates) check out *American Kindness* from Bruce Gillespie. Bruce was brought over to CorFlatch in 2005 and had a whale of a visit with us. This trip report, the symbolic end to the Bring Bruce Bayside travel fund that was run by Arnie and Joyce Katz with the help of a number of other people, is a wonderful look back. You can find details about buying it at eFanzines.com.

And speaking of eFanzines.com, it's been

active again. There are a few *Drink Tanks* up, as always, but there's also a lovely issue of *eI*. It's one of those issues that features a great old article as its centerpiece. It's from Robert Bloch and it's about the original Pacifcon in SF in 1953. It's a very good read and if you're a long-time BArea fan, give it a look. There's also stuff from Juanita Coulson (the co-editor of the legendary fanzine *Yandro*), Ed Gorman, Graham Charnock, Earl Kemp, Victor Banis, Peter Weston, and a great reprinting of an excellent cocktail issue of a zine called *No Holds Barred*. The wonderful art deserves a mention (Ray Nelson, Steve Stiles, Poul Anderson, Harry Bell, Dean Grennell, and William Rotsler) as well as the great photos of fandom in



The Says You Game Show at Westercon on July 1st



Doug Berry, Kevin Standlee and Others at the Westercon BASFA Party

the 1950s and 60s. It's great stuff.

Add to that several issues of Robert Sabella's *Visions of Paradise* and *Askance 3* from my man, John Purcell. It's a great read and I highly recommend it. There's a wonderful talk with James Halperin that features a minor error that John has issued an apology over.

If you haven't yet, go and read the new *Challenger* from Guy Lillian III. I know I've mentioned it before, but it's that good! Challzine.net, damn you!

The Year 2007 is half over and I'm already worrying about whom I'll nominate for Hugos. This has been a great year for fanzines, with more top-flight zines than any other year since I started reading everything I could get my hands on. The top five fanzines right now, *Prolapse*, *eI*, *Challenger*, *Banana Wings* and *File 770* all deserve

noms, with zines like *PLOKTA*, *Vegas Fandom Weekly* and *Askance* right on the bubble with those.

Fan Artist is even tighter. I've said it many times and I'm going to have to say it again: nominate Kurt Erichsen and Dan Steffan. Those two are great. As far as others, Brad Foster, Frank Wu and Steve Stiles should all be on the ballot, and I'd love to see someone like Bri-chan nominated, but it won't happen. FanArt and Fan Art are two different worlds.

For Fan Writer, well, you gotta have Claire Brialey, and Ted White and Eric Mayer deserve it for their work in *Pixel* alone, and you can't argue that John Hertz isn't deserving. Steven

Silver, Jay Lake (who is a fannish version of John Scalzi!) and the two great Brits, the next Dave Langford Niall Harrison and the pre-Niall Harrison Dave Langford all deserve a spot. I seriously doubt I'll appear on any of those nominations, though with the tiny piece of awful art I used in *The Drink Tank* issue 132, I am eligible in all three categories!

The word on the street is we're going to be seeing some movement on the matter of a BArea WorldCon bid in the next few months. I hope so. I want this to get off to a good start. The Seattle bid is still small and slowly rolling forward, but it's likely to start taking off with the big cons early next year. Their presence at Westercon was situated a bit from the rest of the parties, but they did a good party.

No new word for Westercon 2010, except it ain't going to be me bidding, after all. Costs were just too high for what I was hoping to do.

Speaking of bids, there's going to be the final AhwahneeCon party on Saturday night at Westercon. Should be fun.

There's word that Forry Ackerman is doing somewhat better now.

Hey, you like *Firefly*? Westercon's doing a screening of *Serenity* for Equality Now, Joss Whedon's favorite charity. You should come. It's a good charity and I've got a feeling the Browncoats will be showing up.

Speaking of Browncoats, the "Can't Stop The *Serenity*" screenings have been a rousing success. Good for them! The one at Westercon

By the way, Supercon was attended not only by our own Dr. Noe, but by the folks of FanboyPlanet.com, and the podcast available on www.fanboyplanet.com is well worth your time. Every edition of the podcast is worth listening to, but this one features Raphael Navarro and Jane Weidlen of The Go-Gos. Raphael is a genius and has had his work appear in *From Parts Unknown* and is the creator of Sonambulo. Jane is just nuts, as evidenced by her turn on *The Surreal Life*.

One of the defining moments in the history of BArea fandom was the whole Breendoggle, a matter in the 1960s that featured Walter Breen being arrested for sexual abuse, leading to the WorldCon committee canceling his membership to the 1964 WorldCon, which in turn set off a massive wave

of protest. One of the groups opposed to the exclusion of Breen put out a zine called *The Loyal Opposition*. I'd never managed to find a copy for sale until this week, when I bought a copy from England on eBay. Since it's one of the darkest hours of local fandom, there are a lot of folks who would rather it were never mentioned again, but I want to figure out what was really going on back then. I've decided to gather all the important zines and so on to try and put together a complete PDF of the business that went on. We'll see how it goes.

Motorway Dreamer, the zine from John Neilsen-Hall of the UK, is up on eFanzines.com. It's a good and longer issue. I think it's one of the best UKzines out there. Good lettercol too.

Anyone else gotten a recent *Chunga*? I haven't seen one since the one that was out late last year with Randy's great article about the shooting at the party. I hope I'm not missing it.

And speaking of great zines I haven't seen in a while, where's *Zoo Nation*? Pete Young out of the UK does probably the best zine in the world as far as layout goes and I haven't seen an issue in almost a year! And where's *Littlebrook*?

BASFA's growing and growing and that would be enough to get me thinking about having to relocate, but there's now another reason. The Hick'ry Pit has changed their hours to close at 9 p.m. on weeknights, so there's no way we can reasonably continue meeting there. While it's a great place, close for me and the food's good, relocating will be happening and as soon as folks figure out where we're moving to, we'll let everyone know. Also, we'll be meeting at Westercon on Monday the 2nd at 7 p.m. Check the program book for exact location.

My newest project, researching the history of non-SF or music fanzines, has just started and I'm working on movie zines first. It would appear that the first film fanzines came out in the mid-1920s, though there are probably earlier ones. I'll



Loscon, BayCon, and the Las Vegas/Phoenix Westercon tables at Westercon 60

be spending a week or so in Hollywood working on the project. Universal and a few other places have agreed to let me into their holdings for a while!

Selina Phanara, a wonderful LA-based fan and artist who has had some work appear in *The Drink Tank* and just happens to be one of my top five favorite artists, took part in the annual Pasadena Chalk Festival. It's a charity event and she did a lovely smiling sun. The piece she made for the auction got more than 100 bucks. Good for you, Selina!

Let me say this: Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley are, in fact, Evil Geniuses. I won't spoil the surprise, but it'll show up at Westercon.

Frank Wu's newest version of *Guidolon: The Giant Space Chicken* is available on frankwu.com, on YouTube or through his LJ (user: frankwu). Even though I'm far from impartial, being that I'm the voice of *Guidolon*, I think it's the greatest thing human-kind has ever done.

TAFF is happening and in a few days we'll have the full list. I'm running and at least two others are as well. This might turn into a giant race with as many as five people! I'm hoping so because that would raise a lot of money for the fund, more than anything. I'll be doing ribbons at NASFiC come the first weekend in August.

Letters of Comment

eLoCs

As always, it's time for our good buddy in Texas: John Purcell!

Before I do some grading, I believe I shall dash off a quick letter of comment to you folks on your latest issue.

Chris replies: There is a segment of fandom that always seems to go crazy from grading in May/June and December. Diana Sherman is another of the folks with that same timing.

One of the nice things about your zine is the way that Chris opens each issue with a news recap of what's going on not only locally in the BArea, but also in general fandom. It has been a little quiet recently at eFanzines.com, but the latest issue of *eI* is now up, and as usual, it's a wonderful zine. Earl Kemp puts a lot of effort into his zine, and it shows. I love *eI*, and hope to get it all read by the end of the weekend. Of course, I'm still reading through *Challenger* #26, which I got in the mail a week or two ago. That's another fantastic fanzine that bears mentioning. If you don't get it in the mail, you can access it at www.challzine.net. Go and enjoy.

Yeah, it seems these things come in waves. eFanzines.com should be a part of all fandoms, regardless of location. I reread Challenger this week because I realized that I hadn't sent Guy an LoC. I fixed that.

There is a bit of a correction I do need to make here in Chris's opening, and is also reflected in Lloyd Penney's Lloyd Penney-style loc: James Halperin is NOT writing a book on the history of fanzines. In the interview with him forthcoming in the July issue of *Askance*, he said that Jerry Weist is the gentleman who is thinking of writing the

fanzine history book, and that Jim might be helping out on that. In other words, this is sort of in the works — maybe. I do hope that clears things up. In the meantime, I have finally begun transcribing the taped interview and should have that done by the end of next week. At the moment, my projected completion date for *Askance* #3 is the weekend just after the Fourth of July. Stay tuned to your local www.eFanzines.com or mailbox for the Dead Tree version.

Who do you think you are, Mark Plummer? He's the official Gotta Correct Chris guy! Thanks for the clarification. I hope the book gets written because there's a lot to figure out on how these things evolved. I can't wait for issue #3. The first two were great.

Well, all of you certainly contributed some mighty fine con reports on BayCon 25. It sure sounds like A Good Time Was Had By All. Like I've said before, some year I would like to come out for it and enjoy your company.

We'll get you out here eventually. It's inevitable that every fan must have at least one child that moves to the BArea!

It saddens me in a way that Westercon seems to be slipping slowly out to sea on a receding tide of indifference. This is definitely not good. For ages I have heard of how Westercon has been a mainstay of convention fans, and a gathering ground for fans who rarely are able to meander east of the Rockies for conventions. Like Chris says, maybe an infusion of new blood will rejuvenate the con and the next generation of fans will carry it forward for many more enjoyable years. I know it's being held in Vegas in 2008; which cities are bidding for the 2009 version, or has there been no stated interest yet?

Phoenix has signed up for 2009 and will be voted on at Westercon this year. 2010 was going to have a Tahoe bid, but the hotels were all way to expensive and while I'm holding out for somewhere, the hopes have dimmed considerably. I'd love to see it continue.

Other than these comments, I really have not much to say except that I did enjoy the conreports and all the photographs you've included with them. You BAreaans certainly seem to know how to have A Good Time. Some year, I promise to join you. Here is a photo of your two most devoted letterhacks. There is a lot of wordage hanging in the air in that room, no doubt about that.

A really good bunch of reports this time. I really enjoyed it. It might have been my fave issue of the year!

All the best,
John Purcell
Thanks, John!

Now eMailing from Finland...M Lloyd!

Chris,
I'm not the type to let you know when things are going well, but nice job on the latest *SF/SF*. The BayCon coverage exceeded my expectations, particularly España's writing. I figure you'd be good at Match Game. You were born to be Richard Dawson. That Dr. Noe fellow's good too.

I still say that España's the best discovery we've made here at SF/SF and Dr. Noe's another solid performer. If only we could get more out of them! Perhaps some form of punishment-reward system is in order. I'm sure we can think of something!

Reading *The Drink Tank* and *SF/SF* back to

back brought an idea to mind. Can we give David and Derek medals for making you sound almost competent? You sound like you know how to write in *SF/SF* and in *The Drink Tank* you sound like a noble savage educated on porno movies and Tom Lehrer albums.

I agree. Let us give them Meritorious Service medals! Build them statues that sing their highest praises! All Hail the Mighty Ds!!!

Good issue.

M

Thanks, M!



Editorial

Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor

Fresh off my masquerade group's win at the recent BayCon where we did all eleven incarnations of Princess Leia (my BayCon report is in this issue), I am reminded of what a massive influence *Star Wars* (the original trilogy) has been in my life since the movie came out in 1977. Our group's creative leader, Cordelia, thought up the routine to commemorate *Star Wars*' 30th anniversary. Wow, has it been 30 years already?!

I usually talk about how *Lord of the Rings*

has changed my life since I read the books (or "the book," depending on whom you ask) in 1983, but I guess that's because *LOTR* has touched my life in so many tangible ways and in so many different fields continuously since then. Also, although I love science fiction novels, I slightly prefer fantasy novels over sci fi... ummm... maybe 55% to 45%. I can't even remember if I started reading one before the other but I do remember reading these genres early on, right after I finished all the *Nancy Drew* and *Hardy Boys* books — so we're talking about when I was around 9 or 10. However, it's the

opposite when it comes to movies. I prefer sci fi movies compared to fantasy movies 60% to 40%, and that is largely because of *Star Wars*.

In any case, I recall how crazy I was about *Star Wars* (or *A New Hope* to be precise) when it first came out. It actually didn't reach the Philippines until 1978 (if I remember correctly) since movies took longer to spread internationally in those days. Nowadays, black market DVDs from Asia arrive in the U.S. while the movies are still in the theaters. But that's another story.

So I was a year behind in getting on

the bandwagon. I knew that it was a huge hit beforehand and was really looking forward to seeing it, but my parents had major concerns because it had weird and scary aliens, which they thought of as devils and other evil creatures — understandable because my parents were strict and conservative Catholics. (I wonder why they didn't have a problem with Mr. Spock? But I digress.) They also rarely allowed my sister and me to go to the movies because there were usually unsavory characters in the theaters, and then there were several movie theater bombings in the mid-70s in Manila. But that's another story yet again.

It was, thus, a rare treat to be able to go see *Star Wars*, and like most kids in those days, I was completely blown away by it. I'd never seen anything with so much adventure, excitement (a Jedi craves not these things) and imagination. I was very much drawn to young Luke, getting swept away from a small town into a big, wide galaxy where he finds friends as well as foes, discovers his destiny, and manages to shine and keep his innocence and his belief that good will overcome evil. For an overprotected young girl, I couldn't wait to go on a similar journey and experience the world. I also remember just loving the music and asking my piano teacher if I could use the *Star Wars* theme at our next lesson. And I tried to get my hands on any magazine articles I could find on it. There weren't many, so I had to resort to ordering magazines from the U.S. which took months to arrive, and sometimes never did.

I think that is where my interest in the U.S. started: I realized that that was where all this was happening. Creative minds like George Lucas, actors like Mark Hamill, the musicians, the special effects people, the artists, all had the freedom, and the luxury, of pursuing their dreams and creating something as spectacular as *Star Wars*. Coincidentally, 1978 was the year my family's petition for tourist visas to the U.S. was granted. So

in the summer of 1978, I was able to travel to California and Nevada, and I think, even New York and Hawaii. I got to see Disneyland, Hollywood, San Francisco and Las Vegas for the first time. As far as I was concerned, the U.S. was one big theme park!

I bought a lot of *Star Wars* memorabilia while I was here, including an original *Star Wars* t-shirt and a light saber that had a tube that glowed green. It was a nightmare carrying that home on an airplane! I also got to go to Marine World while it was still in Redwood Shores. That stands out in my memory because they had one of the Bantha costumes on display there. It's also ironic in that I worked decades later at Oracle, which took over that site.

But I really didn't have a strong desire to move to the U.S. at that point. I guess I was too young to make life decisions then. It didn't occur to me that the Philippines would be a dead end for me creatively and professionally until after college. So it would take about another decade before I finally landed on these shores for good.

And, oh boy, has it been good. Well, great, really. As I mentioned in past issues, I am doing things here that I never thought I'd be able to do. I've also had two George Lucas sightings and have been to Skywalker Ranch. I have yet to meet the man, though.

Other than that, however, *Star Wars* faded



into the background for me. I didn't know a lot of people who liked it as much as I did. Also, there were no *Star Wars* conventions like there were *Star Trek* conventions, and I didn't know about BayCon and other fan conventions until 2004. A few years ago, the "special editions" were being shown in

the movie theaters and I got to see *The Empire Strikes Back* on the big screen for the first time. (I can't remember why, but I don't think my parents allowed me to go see that one on the big screen, so I saw a very blurry version of it on Betamax. Still, *Empire* is my all-time favorite *Star Wars* movie.) Then, I was hoping the new trilogy would reignite my passion for *Star Wars*, but I was disappointed in them. I read a few of the *Star Wars* books in the early 1990s but that's about it.

I didn't do anything *Star Wars*-related until I wore a store-bought Princess Leia costume at Comic-Con in 2005. That was ironic: I got the most attention in that costume, when I had been wearing several custom-made, expensive costumes to Comic-Con. I hadn't realized how much of an icon Princess Leia was. I also didn't think about how much she influenced a lot of girls, including

myself, to think that women can be strong, intelligent and courageous as well as beautiful and caring.

So it was a thrill for me to be a part of Project L-11, the masquerade group composed of eleven Princess Leias. And to win the top awards at BayCon was, as they say, icing on the cake. This has finally succeeded in renewing my interest in *Star Wars*. I didn't know that there are a lot of fan movies out there. I've only seen, and enjoyed, *Pink 5*. You can find that on You Tube. Just this week, I got to see the *Robot Chicken: Star Wars* special. That's on Adult Swim if you haven't seen it. Both are hilarious and pay homage to the *Star Wars* myths. (If you're interested in seeing our masquerade group's live video and music video, they are on You Tube as well. Search for Project L-11.)

Star Wars will probably continue to be a big part of my life, and a lot of others' lives I would imagine. In a recent U.K. census, close to 1% of its citizens identified their religion as Jedi. And the same weekend as this past BayCon there was a huge *Star Wars* convention in L.A. called Celebration IV (if anyone has photos and/or would like to submit a review of that convention, please contact me at SFinSF@gmail.com). Also, as a fitting tribute to the enduring legacy of the franchise, the American Film Institute, which just released its list of Top 100 movies, has *Star Wars* in the number 13 slot. That's pretty high. *Fellowship of the Ring* is only number 50 but it's the first time it's been on the list and it was the highest new entrant.

May the Force be with you all!

A Magical BayCon at the Marvelous Marriott

By Jean Martin

Photos by Jean Martin and Jade Falcon

Editor

As I've written in past issues, BayCon is my absolute favorite convention.

Perhaps it's because it is the first con I ever went to. But maybe also because it's the only con with Regency dancing, which is the type of dance I love the most, and it's also not too big and not too small, so I get to see a lot of my friends but not get lost in the shuffle of too many people and activities. What also made BayCon special was that the Doubletree Hotel in San Jose was just perfect for cons. You can walk around the hallways and greet people as you walk past, you can eat at the Coffee Garden and be completely visible to passersby, the food is good (especially the buffets and cookies!), the pool area is a nice place to hang out and go outdoors, there is a good balance of big ballrooms for bigger events and small meeting rooms for smaller



panels. When I've stayed at the Doubletree for all three nights of BayCon, I felt like I was in enclosed in another world, one where all the things I cherish and all the people I like come together for four days, and the outside world doesn't exist.

For the 25th Anniversary of BayCon, and my fourth time attending it, the con was held at the much smaller San Mateo Marriott Hotel over the Memorial Day weekend. Ironically, I used to live in Foster City, until just recently when I moved farther away to Mountain View, so San Mateo would have been just five minutes away and I wouldn't have had to consider paying for a hotel room.

Although staying at the hotel would have been ideal, since that really helps with costume changes, not having to drive home late at night, and really getting the full effect of an alternate reality for a few days, I decided not to get a hotel room this year because I had plans to go to the U.K. a couple of days later and didn't

want to spend more money on hotel rooms, or have to pack for two back-to-back occasions. Luckily, I work in San Mateo, literally a few blocks north of the Marriott.

So Friday evening after work, I went straight to the Marriott, longing for the Doubletree but with no positive or negative expectations about the new location. I tried to keep an open mind and heart and see what would happen.

It was difficult to find parking in the hotel parking lot, but since I know the area well I was able to find parking nearby. As soon as I parked, I ran into two fellow Browncoats, and I knew that things were going to be okay.

As I walked into the Marriott, a beautiful Italian villa-type building, I immediately felt at home. Different, but home. Since it's a smaller hotel, it seemed more cozy and inviting. After a few moments of disorientation about where to go and what to do, I found the registration desk and was handed my badge, which already had two ribbons attached to it. This year, more than in past years, handing out ribbons and collecting them seemed to be quite prevalent. I was giving out one myself for *SF/SF*, which the volunteer at the desk gladly accepted.

I'd been to this hotel twice before for dinner, but I didn't get to see much other than the restaurant off the lobby area. I was quite unprepared to see how beautiful the interior of the hotel was, with decor and furnishings that were modern but still welcoming. I was also perplexed at the layout of the building, which stretched out in different directions like a maze and with corridors that ended abruptly or led somewhere unexpected, like the Winchester Mystery House.

I ran into several friends and acquaintances as soon as I walked into the lobby, some of whom told me that the dealer's room and activity rooms were on the third floor and I had to take the staircase one floor up. Huh? Some of them said I



The Tactical Alcohol Consumption Squad (aka Andy, Johanna and Kevin)

should take the elevator to the second floor. Why?! So I took the flight of stairs up and wound up on the second floor. I found where the ballrooms and meeting rooms were and ran into more people. Then I kept walking and wound up on the third floor and found the party rooms. Somehow, like in Hogwarts or in M.C. Escher's *Relativity* painting (which someone cleverly put up near the elevators as the BayCon 2007 "map"), you could get to another floor just by walking. It was quite fun and surreal and added to the otherworldly aspect of the con. Quite perfect, I thought, until I had to find friends' rooms in the middle of the night and kept

getting lost and winding up in different wings of the hotel.

But before wandering around the hotel, I started the con with a leisurely and pleasant dinner instead of plunging headlong into activities like I've done in the past. Dinner at the restaurant was with Cathleen and James Myers and Hilary Ayer from PEERS. Hilary is also one of the BayCon organizers. At the restaurant were several people from Black Fleet Star Pirates' Guild, some vintage dance regulars, España, some Klingons, a few of my masquerade buddies, and more. I wish we had something like this every weekend!



And, wow, was the food fantastic! I forgot that Marriott Hotels have the best food. My first Heavy Metal convention in L.A. was at a Marriott and I remember the food being good there. Also, I sometimes go to the awesome steakhouse at the Burlingame Marriott (I know, I know, I'm vegan but my parents love the place) and the folks who provide food at the cafeteria at my work are part of Marriott as well.

I was wondering during dinner what the people who work at the hotel thought of us all in our various costumes, from aliens and superheroes to historical and movie attire. They all seemed not to notice, and the staff at the restaurant and

everywhere else during that long weekend was very friendly and accommodating. There was even an outdoor barbecue and food stands in addition to the restaurant and small, informal café. Service was slow at times, but then there were more than 2,000 in attendance at this BayCon. If I'm not mistaken, that's around the same number as last year. With fewer places to eat and less space to hang out in, there seemed to be more people, and more for the hotel to handle — which they did amazingly well.

After dinner and some wandering around, I wound up at the Regency Dance, called by dance master Alan Winston. The room was small, and it got hot and crowded with 50 people or so skipping

around. Carpet is just not the best surface for dancing, but we all managed. Everyone was in high spirits and laughing and enjoying the live music and energetic dancing. I stayed there as long as I could, until a few Black Fleet friends dragged me over to the big ballroom for the Charity Casino and Swing Dance.

At the ballroom there were very few people dancing, and those that did were quite good and didn't show any inclination to dance with other people, so I just watched. Chris Garcia was holding court at a Blackjack table and he jovially invited me and David to hang out. I was a bit reluctant as I've never been one for gambling and I had no clue how a Charity Casino functioned. So I just said hello and took photos of Chris and David as well as my friends who wound up at the roulette wheel.

I found a couple of Browncoats at another Blackjack table and since their table seemed more low key, and one of them encouraged me to join in, I asked how it was done. I purchased chips and played quite well, actually. I'm always nervous that I can't add numbers fast enough in my head. I wound up with around \$20 worth of chips from the initial \$5 I had, and exchanged them for raffle tickets. There were a couple of things I liked at the raffle table and I dropped by tickets in the appropriate canisters. I came back later that evening and won the one I liked the most, a Marvin's gun from *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Chris also gave me a t-shirt he'd won that was too small for him.

Then I went to the party floor and wound up at the Frak Party, a Battlestar Galactica-themed party organized by the Bay Area Actual group, which has practically the same membership as the SF Browncoats and Silicon Gulch Browncoats. I was informed that Saturday night would feature the Browncoat party in the same room. The room was small, smaller than the party rooms at the Doubletree, because it was a suite and only the



living room was available for partying. However, it was quite nice to have a living room with couches and no bed to occupy most of the space, so I think I prefer the setup at the Marriott. The Frak Party had a table for drinks and above it a mirror with the multi-colored concentric circles Starbuck drew in the TV series. Drinks were called “Six on the Beach” (which I had a virgin version of) and “Starbuck-tini” (made with Starbucks coffee liqueur). Fun, modern music played in the background.

Right across the hall was the Klingon party room, the Black Hole, which was similar in size and layout. The Klingon party had a different atmosphere, though: A lot of people were in costume and there was an actual bar with a printed menu of drinks with *Star Trek*-inspired names. The Klingons take their drinks seriously! Klingon-style rock music filled the air and on one wall hung a painting of a Klingon bird of prey. A couple of walls covered with huge sculpted wall art made the room look like the interior of a Klingon ship or dwelling. Quite impressive! Admiral KataH was very hospitable and made everyone feel welcome. Those two parties seemed to be the most popular that Friday night.

Most people went to go see the Rocky Horror Picture Show (RHPS) at midnight. I’ve

seen the show before and I wasn’t really motivated to see it again, but I had a friend, Dr. Noe, in the cast (he plays Brad) so I decided to go for a little bit to support him. His girlfriend was part of a chair dance number during the pre-show. I really enjoyed the number as I love watching (as well as performing) dances of this nature. The introduction part of the pre-show lasted quite a long time, like it usually does. The only thing interesting about it was that my friend, Bon Bon, was one of the RHPS “virgins” (people who have never seen a performance) and she made it through the eliminations (or humiliations) until the end. Then the movie started with the usual partial striptease, which I enjoy watching, but after Dr. Noe was on stage and they sang the first number, I left, as it was late and I still had to drive home. I was exhausted but happy and looked forward to the rest of BayCon, secure in the knowledge that BayCon is (as Chris observed last issue) magical no matter where it’s held.

On to Saturday, the big day. Well, it was supposed to be, until I woke up late and just couldn’t get myself together in time to get to the panels I wanted to attend. I think I’m just burned out from 2 ½ years of constant activity and lots of traveling. Also, I’d been working like crazy on my costume for the masquerade and rehearsing since around March, and that was after I had just moved and changed offices and finished the busiest time of the year for me at work. And I still had a two week trip to the U.K. coming up after BayCon! So I decided to respect what my body was telling me and took it easy. The only thing I really regret missing was the panel on Presentation and Stage Movement. But I guess I learn enough of that from the masquerade group I’m with.

I got to my masquerade friends’ hotel room at around 6:00 p.m., just in time to change and get ready to go to the Green Room (backstage area) for

Workmanship judging and to await the start of the masquerade competition. I got to see the ballroom for the masquerade the night before when they held the Charity Casino and RHPS but I had no idea how they would set it up for the masquerade. We had a big group and we hoped there would be enough room for all of us.

We were in the backstage area for a while before the Workmanship judges arrived. While we were there, we admired each others’ costumes and the costumes of the other competitors. The atmosphere was quite friendly and not competitive. There’s a camaraderie among costumers that’s quite amazing. The couple that did the Star Wars Lego last year that won the Best in Show Workmanship award (if I remember correctly) were there again with impressive Legend of Zelda costumes. There was the balloon sculpture folks again this time with big ships and pirate costumes made completely of balloons. They won a workmanship award last year as well. Last year, our Spamalot group won Best in Show for Presentation-Recreation and Best in Class for Workmanship-Master Class. The other Best in Show for Presentation winner, for an original idea, was not here this year and one of their members actually joined our group. So it was a little bit of a pressure to best our performance from last year. I felt like our routine was special and a crowd pleaser but you never know. It would be great to win, well, we all want to win despite being friendly and mutually supportive. It would be an acknowledgement of our efforts. But if not, it would be fun just to put on a good show and get to perform live with my friends to a big audience. One entry that really got my attention backstage, and several other women’s attention too, was Doctor Who and Madame de Pompadour. The Madame’s gown was spectacular, all blue and gold and looked a lot like the costume that Sophia Myles wore for The Girl in the Fireplace episode



of Doctor Who's second season. But what really drew our admiration, and sighs and dreamy looks, was the Doctor portrayed by Australian Keneally Harder. He looked exactly like David Tennant I actually felt like it was him and stole several glances to make sure I wasn't imagining things. From the hair to the suit to the nose and teeth. And he even smiled and had similar mannerisms as David Tennant's Doctor Who. Really, it was quite eerie and a friend said I was being a fan girl just like I would have been if I met David Tennant for real. Keneally's Australian accent was also very similar to David's toned-down Scottish accent. When we watched the replay of the masquerade later that evening (we were stuck in the Green Room during the entire show), we saw how he walked and squinted and pointed his sonic screwdriver exactly the same way. Their entry won a couple of awards, one of which was Bay Area author Diana Paxson's award for most dramatic entry. Which was well deserved.

We expected to wait several hours for our turn, but amazingly enough, the show started on time and things went quite smoothly. Before I knew it, we were on our way to the stage, which was an entire dance floor but still left enough space in the ballroom for a lot of people in the audience. Our group, Project L_11, which is based on the 11 costumes that Princess Leia wore in the original Star Wars trilogy was a hit. Everyone cheered, clapped and laughed along with our funny Star Wars-inspired lyrics, courtesy of Cordelia Willis, and enjoyed our dancing (including a kick line) to the tune of One from the musical Chorus Line. Our routine was short and sweet and then we quickly left the stage to more applause. I thought it went really well and all that rehearsing paid off. And our costumes all looked spectacular. I, for the first time ever, sewed from scratch Princess Leia's medal ceremony costume from Star Wars: A New Hope. I've always wanted to have that costume so that was my first choice. I do tend to go for the elegant costumes. It was a nightmare sewing those long flowing sleeves, though, and figuring out how to do the beehive braid on top of her head. For a beginner, though, I think I did a good job. It was slow and painstaking work though. At least I had the much-appreciated help of Phil and Kathe Gust who were part of our group. They are experts at creating armor and accessories so they made my necklace, belt and medal. Phil did the Boushh



costume and so no one could tell he was a male until after we collected our awards.

The awards were given out quite promptly and we didn't have to wait several hours like we did last year. The whole masquerade experience was quite pleasant and ran like a well-oiled machine courtesy of this year's masquerade organizers, Andy Trembley and Kevin Roche. Lots of awards were given out and we weren't getting any. It seemed like all were handed out already and I knew our group was thinking that perhaps we were too overconfident and wouldn't get acknowledged after all. But the emcee announced both our awards together at the very end, which consisted of Best in Show for both Performance and Workmanship. It was quite a thrill to win both this time. Our group celebrated by going back to one of our group's rooms where we changed, ordered room service and waited for the masquerade to be shown on BayCon TV. It was nice just hanging out in an intimate setting with my

friends for a change instead of roaming the halls and running into lots of different people but never really staying put for long. I did go to the party floor right afterwards to show off my costume to those who weren't at the masquerade before I changed. That beehive on my head was starting to make my head hurt and those high heels were starting to kill me! I was planning on going to the party floor again later that evening but wound up just chilling out and I decided to stay the night in my friends' hotel room instead of driving home. They were kind enough to offer to share a bed. I was too tired to drive home and I also didn't want to just get lazy and miss out on the activities planned for the next day by arriving late again. I went to my car to get my ever-ready overnight bag but realized I didn't have contact lens solution in it. So I went to the party floor and the ballroom looking for people I knew and asking them if they had any to lend. In the process, I got to see the Browncoats party and the Rock Dance. Both

of which looked interesting but I had a mission and needed sleep. I ran into Espana who, bless her heart, had some and we went to her room (the rooms at the Marriott are quite nice!) and I used some of her contact lens solution. On my way back, I got completely lost on the third floor and my friends were wondering what became of me. After walking back and retracing my steps, I finally found their room. I found out then that one of them actually had contact lens solution, which made my late night search even seem sillier. But at least I got to see the nightlife on Saturday night before I retired for the evening.

Early that next morning, we all got up and ventured to the café for some light breakfast before our second breakfast (did I mention that this is my same Lord of the Rings friends?) with the rest of the group and other friends later that morning. I had some fruit and juice and then I went my separate way to go to the dealer room, finally, until it was time for brunch. At the dealer room, I bought a couple of romantic, renaissance-inspired tops and a pirate hat. The dealer room this year was smaller but the vendors I like were all there. I made it to restaurant to join our big group of friends a little late. Most of us had the breakfast buffet, which was scrumptious. We also celebrated Cathleen's birthday who's such a lucky duck to have her birthday during BayCon every year so she can celebrate her birthday with everyone. Then we all registered for BayCon next year as we threw around ideas for our next masquerade routine. I don't like planning that far in advance because I don't know how things will be for me in a year. But after four years of BayCon being just such a wonderful experience, the highlight of my year really, and looking forward to being involved in another masquerade and going along with the enthusiasm of the group, I signed up at the con for the first time for the following year. After that, most of them left and weren't coming

back on Monday. So we said our goodbyes with reassurances that we'll have get togethers soon. The rest of the afternoon and evening was actually quite busy. Surprising for a Sunday. I checked out the art show and admired a few artists' work but didn't buy anything. I really enjoyed Jade Falcon's fantasy photos of fairies and the like, and Richard Man's scenic photos and calligraphy. Our very own Espana had her artwork for display and for sale as well. Frequent contributor John Barrows had some paintings there too.

I also went to check out the very first BayCon costume Swap Meet in the pool area. It was a beautiful pool in a courtyard in the middle of the hotel surrounded by rooms with windows and balconies. I'm surprised that BayCon has never had a swap meet before as I'm sure people get tired of their costumes and would like new ones without having to spend more money. I had a couple of outfits I traded in that I've never worn. I bought them on eBay and they were too large for me. I couldn't find anything too nice that would fit me but I did grab several that would be perfect for Burning Man.

The only panel I went to this year was the panel on Space Stations by Phil and Kathe Gust. Phil used to work with NASA and was involved in several space exploration missions. He did a slideshow on space stations while Kathe handed out kits of building blocks to make our own space stations. There were lots of kids and adults in attendance. I was quite impressed to see that Kathe and Phil made so many kits! There was enough for everyone and more. I actually had fun creating my space station. Then astronaut Janice Voss arrived and recounted her experience venturing into space. Next was the panel, in the big ballroom, with Hilary Ayer interviewing Diana Paxson. Diana talked about everything from writing to environmental issues to her own life experiences and her famous household called Greyhaven. She



The SF/SF Family: Espana, Eva, Jean, David and a guy whose name I forget.

also talked about the world she created for her books, Westria, which is based on California. Just in time, I found the Con Suite, which was colorfully decorated. I was parched by that time and there were free drinks at the bar. You could choose any flavor of Italian syrup you want to make an Italian soda. There were so many to choose from (some I've never seen or heard of before) I couldn't make up my mind! The bartender recognized me as one of the Leias from the masquerade. I did get recognized and congratulated a lot that day. Maybe because I was wearing my Organa #2 team shirt. We all wore our team shirts

for the brunch earlier. Anyway, I settled for root beer with huckleberry. The root beer drowned out the taste of huckleberry, unfortunately. But I was amazed that this was free in addition to the spread of hors d'oeuvres that was there as well. The gaming room was across the way and I took a quick peek. And as I walked the covered "bridge" that led from one wing of the hotel to another (which I realized belatedly was the mysterious portal from the second floor to the third floor), I looked down into a piazza I've never seen before. From that vantage point, I enjoyed SCA-style medieval knights in combat. It was like being

transported in time with the castle-like turrets surrounding them and a wrought-iron gazebo on one end. That location was where they had belly dancing later on. Quite eclectic, fandom is.

I checked out the Battlestar Galactica discussion in one conference room and then stayed at the Browncoat Bingo for the rest of the afternoon. The Browncoat Bingo, hosted by Adam and Karla Levermore-Rich and Louise DuCray was a lot of fun. The room was packed with Browncoats marking answers to trivia questions on their Bingo cards that were specially made by Adam. Each card had a photo of a Firefly character in the middle surrounded by names and places from the Firefly universe. They also had cool prizes for winners and the money from selling the cards were collected for charity. I'm still amazed how creative, organized and civic-minded the Browncoats are.

David, who was there as well, and I walked to the Chris's Fanzine Lounge where we all met for our SF/SF staff meeting. The lounge was actually a suite with the living room area devoted to people creating fanzines. I got to submit an impromptu, short article sometime during the weekend in Chris's "Fanzine in an Hour" project. The bedroom, with a beautiful curved window that overlooked the pool, was where we wound up and Espana, Eva, John, David, Chris and I talked about the next issue and the transition to our new layout editor. I kept trying to get the meeting onto business topics but a few commented on how we had no alcohol to spice up the meeting like we did last year. As I was getting hungry, it was close to dinner time, and Chris was too, we decided to go to the restaurant and have dinner. We had a good time just joking around and bonding. It's very rare that we have so many of our staff in one place at the same time. Dinner was great and then I was off to the second night of Regency dancing.

The room for this was even smaller than

the one on Friday night. Eva and John went too and all three of us were in appropriate period costume. It was a lot of fun, and made even more interesting by the appearance of "Doctor Who" and his girlfriend who this time was dressed in an adorable, baby blue Regency gown. It was quite a thrill seeing "Doctor Who" doing Regency dance. I kept having to tell myself that he was not really David Tennant! Alan Winston called the dancing again and music provided by James Langdell and friends was again quite beautiful and lively.

After that, I met up with Espana and her friends at the Goth dance. Espana looked amazing in her silver space girl costume. My friends Bud

and Deborah who came from the Regency dance as well and were attired similarly to myself did the hustle to the music. Bud's a dance instructor and they looked so cute doing vintage dance to modern music. Bud asked me to dance and he led me so well that I felt like I was Ginger Rogers to his Fred Astaire albeit to U2's Vertigo. He's probably the best leaders I've ever danced with. He twirled me around expertly and I always knew what to do with just a slight pull or push of his hand with my hand or lower back. I felt like I was an expert too dancing with him.

After several hours of Regency and modern dancing, I was ready to hit the party floor. I didn't



know what to expect as last year, Sunday night was pretty quiet, and the Browncoats and lots of other people already left and didn't mean to return the next day.

But I met up with a new Browncoat friend, Thad, and we wound up at a CD release party with free, yummy cake, and the Seattle WorldCon bid party. But the most fun party we went to was the Evil Geniuses party hosted by Kevin, Andy and Johannah. Chris has raved about this party before at other conventions but it was the first time I've been to it. And was I blown away with the décor and drinks. The walls were covered with pictures of

villains from TV shows and movies including Dr. Evil and Blackadder. And they had these amazing plasma disks that had different colored electric sparks (like a Tesla coil only flat and much smaller) hanging all over like Christmas ornaments. The people that were there too were so much fun! I'm not much of a party person but I enjoyed talking with everyone. I guess that's because I have a lot in common with the people there unlike other parties outside of fandom. I ran into Kathe as well as my dance buddy Jim. Carole Parker was also there as well as the Bertanis with their new baby Matteo. I swear their baby has been to so many fan events

already and he's only a few months old!

The rest of the evening I hung out with Thad and Richard Man and we just laughed and laughed as I got a sugar high from, this time root beer and chocolate syrup from the Con Suite. That was a much better combination. And that was on top of the cake and the fizzy, fruity drink from the Evil Geniuses party. Someone also gave me some powdery sugar substance in a big straw that was too bitter for me but is apparently a big con favorite. As I sat there in the hallway, I realized I didn't even think about home and I really completely felt like I was in my own world, a magical world where I truly belong. I'm glad I got to stay at the hotel Saturday night because that really added to my feeling of being away. Even though San Mateo area was my old stomping grounds for 12 years I felt like I was in fandom Utopia. But, alas, it got late and I had to drive home.

I decided when I got home that it was too late and I didn't want to wake up early the next day and rush to the con for the last day. Because I'd probably get there close to the closing time and I would just be all said last I was last year saying goodbye. So I chose to end on a high note and just relax and rest. And start packing and planning for my trip to the U.K. a couple of days later.

BayCon truly holds a special place in my heart and the heart of Bay Area fandom. I am so blessed to have found it and continue to enjoy it every year. Every year has been different but each one an amazing experience I will remember the rest of my days. Too bad it won't be at the San Mateo Marriott next year but I'm sure the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara will be just as fabulous.



The Fanzine Lounge: Natasha, Chris, Barbara and Jason's Back

Pirate Fest Features Buccaneers, Burgers, Booty



By Howieird

Contributing Writer

On Father's Day weekend, Vallejo hosted the first annual (?) Northern California Pirate Festival. The only reason I knew about it was a "by the way" kind of message from a new BayCon friend, but word got around well: The place was packed when I arrived a little after 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Parking was a challenge. The site is next to the ferry terminal and across the street from the farmers' market. But it was easy to find from the south bay: Just take 680 to 780 until it became the Vallejo waterfront road, follow the "ferry" signs, and look for the black sail with the Jolly Roger. And all the people dressed up in piratical costumes.

I was wearing a pirate T-shirt, but otherwise was incognito. I was in the minority. Most of the fairgoers were in some sort of garb, mostly pirate (I can tell by your hat that you are a pirate, if I had a hat I could be a pirate too) but some in Ren Faire gear and others in whatever they had worn at the last con.

The atmosphere was very much like Ren Faire, only more compact and less strident. The festival took up a strip of grass

paralleling Vallejo's waterfront promenade, about half a mile in length. The single entrance was in the middle, under the Jolly Roger sail, where staff were handing out little programs and a small band was playing chanteys and assorted other pirate-like tunes.

Almost immediately I ran into Jade in an impressive period costume, and her entourage. After a few minutes of shooting photos of various dirty old men fair-goers who insisted on posing with her and her lovely friend Deborah, I moved on towards the north, where a huge stage was tricked out to look like a ship—or maybe a shipwreck, as there were no masts. Speaking of masts, the entrance to the festival was cleverly set up with a mast and rigging on either side of the black sail, at about the right distance and proportion for an imaginary pirate ship.

Some good musical groups graced the stage, and there was always a big crowd sitting on the grass listening. Heading back south, there were a few costume shops with prices which matched the pirate venue. A plain black felt wide-brimmed hat, ready to be made into a tricorne or other period piece, was selling for about \$30. Plain muslin Ren/Pirate shirts were \$55 and up. Double or triple that for anything fancy or velour.

There were some impressive collections of swords, period pistol replicas, leather gear, hats, boots and other swag. Surprising to me, at least, was the crowd around the bead shop. It was bigger than the crowd around the table where a few minor players from one of the *Pirates of the Caribbean* movies were signing autographs.

Continuing south, facing the waterfront was a row of period games straight out of Ren Faire—crossbow and catapult shooting, for example. One game for the kids that I think was unique to this



festival was a fish toss: Cloth fish-like objects were tossed into buckets of water with various obstacles in them—toss a fish into a bucket and win! With their backs to the waterfront were a row of tents for the crew, and just as at Ren Faire the “cast” hung out in and around the tents, just being pirates, which often meant making music. Or swordplay. Or both.

There was also a pub-like section for the illuminati to hang out. All the way at the south end of the festival was the food. “Artichokes?” I asked, “How is that a pirate food?”. The answer was, “Not artichokes, you scurvy dog, you, them’s ARRRRRRRR-tichokes!”

Again, the food selection was Ren-like: Bangers, turkey legs, etc. The longest line, however, was for beef burgers.

The atmosphere was very informal, lots of impressively costumed people came up to chat, the sun was out but being on the water next to Mare Island, there was a brisk breeze, which made it a lot more comfortable for those in heavy brocade than what they’ve had in Hollister lately.

A few of my favorite moments were seeing a group of Coast Guard sailors studying a navigational map with a man in full period regalia,

watching the kids dancing in front of the small music stage as an impressively large pirate played guitar and sang, and “pirate day care”—lock your child into a small cage.

The staff, both costumed and in mundane staff T-shirts, was everywhere. The festival was well-run, at least from this outsider’s point of view. I stayed for about three hours, which was enough to circumnavigate the fair several times, and my cue that I’d Seen It All came when my blood sugar level had dropped low enough to justify a trip to the gelato booth near the main stage, where Ace Miles, in a very good Jack Sparrow outfit, somehow managed to juggle an apple, a machete and a bowling ball, while taking bites out of the apple. This in a 25-knot wind and wearing a full length heavy pirate’s coat.

I’d have paid money to see that, but didn’t need to - the festival was free.

Black Fleet Out in Force for NorCal Pirates Fest

By Alex “Obi-Juan” Diaz

Contributing Writer

On Sunday, June 17, I got back from the first Northern California Pirate Festival that was held in Vallejo, and I was totally exhausted from all that fun.

First off I can say that the sun was shining and warm that glorious day, but thank the Goddess there was a blustery wind to keep us cool. For the Pirate Brethren were out in *force*, strutting their

stuff in all their finery and armed to the teeth. There was an excellent showing of costumed attendees to support this event, some of whom I recognized from BayCon and the Ren Faire. Blimey laddy, we looked so damn *good* promenading about to show off our outfits. To see and be seen in beautiful feathers that adorned hats, also fine leathers that were fashioned into doublets, coats and bodices over delicate lace — and that was just the men.

The ladies were out to entice your money and take your spiced rum right out of your hand. You could consider yourself lucky if you got your tankard back. Such was a day at the Isle of Tortuga, the Pirate stronghold in these waters. There were some very elegantly dressed ladies, in the latest styles. Some of the local tavern wenches were quite alluring. (What am I saying? They all were!) And there were quite a few painted-up strumpets who looked like they’d just slapped Captain Jack

What's on the Ship's Menu...

ACROPOLIS

Picnicks, Athenian Salad, Gyros, Roast Beef Fajitas & Orange Fajitas, Greek Iced Tea, Chicken Pitas, Athenian Pitas, Dolmas, Falafel Pitas, Gyros, Greek Salad, Spinach-pitas, Baklava, Strawberry Shortcakes with or without Vanilla Ice Cream.

BLIND PEW'S GROG SHOPPE

Serving Baccanear Beverages, Fine Wines and Laganias Beer!

JRRRR-T-CHOICES

Artichokes Served with Mayonnaise, Drawn Butter or Hollandaise, Fried Artichokes Stuffed with Goat Cheese and served with Hollandaise, Churns, Creamed Spinach, Herbal Wild Rice, Duck, Spicy Chicken Thighs, Artichoke Soup, Feast of Fowl, Spinach Artichoke Dip, Cheese Hnitz with Raspberry Sauce, Hatson Drinks.

DRAKES BAY

Fresh and wonderful Barbequed Oysters, Oysters on the Half Shell, Oyster Tacos, Oyster Ceviches, Barbequed Shrimp, Barbequed Shrimp Tacos, and Shrimp Ceviches.

GELATO A SIN ON A STICK

Italian Ice Cream & Chocolate Dipped Cheese Cake.

HERITAGE FOODS

Fyne Meat Pies made in the traditional manner. Higgins, Shepherd's Pie made of seasoned ground beef with potatoes, carrots & onions topped with mashed potatoes, Chicken, Steak & Mushroom and Cottage Pies, Steak with potato-carrots & onions. Scottish Meat Pie of seasoned ground beef with oats. Pink Lemonade.

MONKEY TAILS

Fyne Chocolate Dipped Frozen Bananas.

VALLEJO MUSIC THEATRE - ROGUES REEF

Hot Dogs & Fixings, Popcorn.

SCURVY FREE ZONE

Non-alcoholic beverages.

ST. CUT-THROATS

Tea, Hot & Cold, Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Scones, Gourmet Sandwiches (Turkey & Roast Beef) Gourmet Salads, Cookies, Tarts, Truffles, Rum Cakes.

THE BLACK HART FYNE PIRATE GRUB

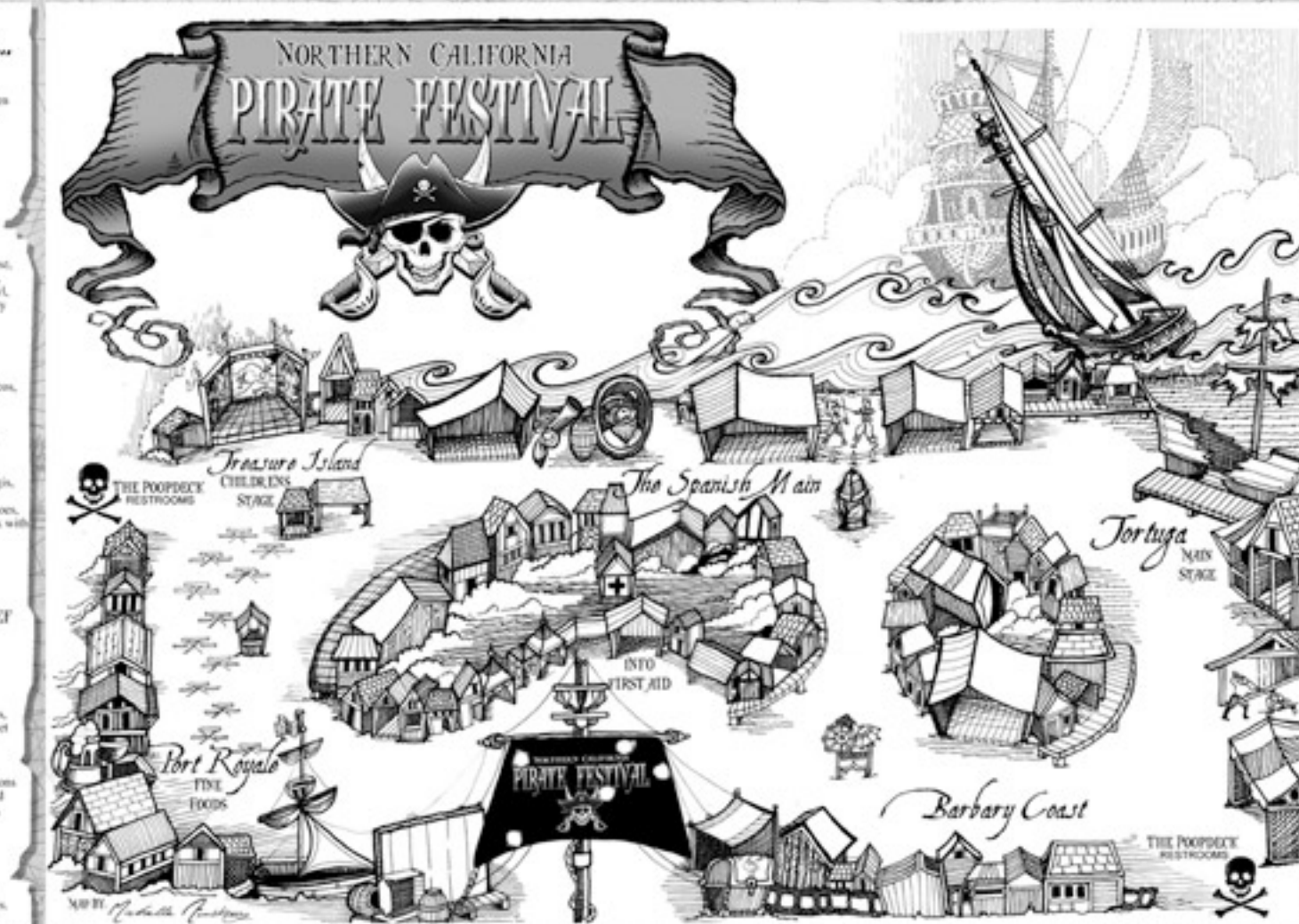
Grilled Hamburgers & Steaks-on-a-stick with Sauteed Onions & Peppers, Steak on a Stick- Fine Beef marinated and grilled, Corn on the Cob, Turkey Legs, Watermelon, Fresh Brewed Coffee.

THE CAPTAIN'S NUTS

Cinnamon Roasted Almonds.

THE PIRATE COV

Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Veggie Burgers, & Fries.



Ship's Restor...

NorCal Pirate Festival - Merchandise, Information, Lost & Found and First Aid - LOCATED AT ENTRY

A Pirate's Delight
Adorn Thy Hair
Ambury's
Blooming Jewelry
C & C Music Trading Co.
Captain Dameron's Hats, Flags & Swords
Capt. Squid's Pirates Hats for Kids
Capitl Rose
Dan Thompson Fine Art
Dark Garden Unique Cosplay
Festival Photo Area
Fish In A Barrel
Guest Stars
Hallowe'en Puppets & Games
Hatters Manor
Henna Mama Body Art
Historical Ships Memorial
Island Games
Long John's Sporting Range
Magical Face Painting
Medieval Fanatics
MK Wars
New String Arms
No Quarter Games
Nomadia
Oboson
One Oak Leather
Outlandish Gypsy
Pale Moon
Stumpy & Scurvy Present PirateMod
Paint Bows
Pirates History
Pirates Cove
Puzzle Rings & Astrolabes
Reverwood Leather
Robin Fish Stringed Instruments
Ross Gallery
Sea Garden
Sea Scouts
Sea Wolf Trading Company
Second Sight
Shuttle Cook
Sage of Tortuga
Single Tree
Swords & Shields
The Cooper
Ambury's The Heart & The Skull
The Maronada Milliner
The Portrait Deck
The Shady Lady - Parasols
The Shrimaker
Tackle Thy Fantasy
Top Top Toffee
Tower of London
Valley-Convention Bureau
War Booty
Wood Stone Leather & Bone

in the face for some inappropriate transgression. Of course he deserved it. You can't trust a pirate, especially when he's well into his cups of rum. Later on I was reading the Twix messages from Trebor who'd been at the Festival all day. Aside from all the swag and plunder, still no booty. Although they did refer to him as "mi'Lord." Sigh... and here all I get is "dirty old man." (But I think that's due to the ladies of the Black Fleet I keep company with. They wink and caress my cheek when they jokingly refer to me as "the dirty old man." I just hope nobody takes them too seriously.)

Did I mention that the costumes looked as if you had walked onto the set of a big budget pirate movie? I ran into a lot of people that I know from all over and every one of them looked dazzling in their resplendent outfits. I was so proud of them taking the time to come down and offer their support. Of course, customers will take any chance to showcase their talents ... including me. For more info, visit:

www.norcalpiratefestival.com

www.blackfleet.org



Google Grant Funds Rover Research

The Northern California Chapter of the Mars Society and NASA Ames Research Center have been awarded \$50,000 by Google Inc. for the “Spaceward Bound Robotic Vehicle Project for Research and Education.”

The project will purchase and configure two robotic rovers for use in “telepresence testing.” Teleoperated robotic rovers will be an important part of any Moon or Mars research base. The project will train students to use this tool as part of a toolkit used in field exploration. The rovers will be remotely operated from the habitat in teleoperation mode communicating through a

wireless mesh network in the outside area. Graduate and undergraduate students are competitively selected to take part in two-week mission simulations at the Mars Desert Research Station site near Hanksville, Utah. The simulated Mars exploration base includes a habitat for human explorers, where research and training for future Mars exploration is conducted. Students learn a set of skills necessary to do field work in extreme environments on Earth and, by extension, on the Moon and Mars.

In addition, the project will conduct outreach to students at schools in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond, utilizing a robotic vehicle to promote science and engineering and inspire the next generation of explorers.

Spaceward Bound is an educational program organized at NASA Ames Research Center in

partnership with The Mars Society, and funded by the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate (ESMD) at NASA Headquarters. The Mars Society is a non-profit international organization of volunteers who encourage, promote and provide outreach and educational opportunities to inspire future explorers and further the goal of the exploration and settlement of Mars.

Additional information is available at these websites:

[Spaceward Bound](http://www.quest.nasa.gov/projects/spacewardbound/) <http://www.quest.nasa.gov/projects/spacewardbound/>

[Mars Society](http://www.marssociety.org) <http://www.marssociety.org>

[Northern California Chapter of the Mars Society](http://chapters.marssociety.org/usa/ca/northca/)

<http://chapters.marssociety.org/usa/ca/northca/>

[Mars Desert Research Station Daily Logs](http://www.marssociety.org/mdrs/fs06/) <http://www.marssociety.org/mdrs/fs06/>

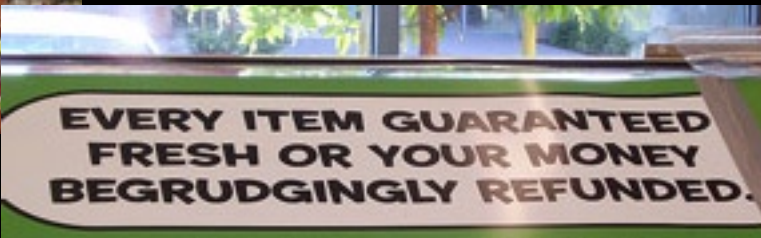


Who Needs the Kwik-E-Mart?

As a part of the promotion to get the Simpsons Movie over with the entire world, twelve 7-11s were turned into Kwik-E-Marts, the convenience store featured on The Simpsons. The only one in Northern California is right across the street from the Computer History Museum on Pear Ave. in Mountain View. It'll be open as a Kwik-E-Mart until July 30th. The Movie opens the 27th. Photos are from Dave Gallaher when several BASFAns came after the July 11 meeting and some are from Howeird when he visited in early July



Howeird's Photos





Dave and Spring with Apu Nahasapeemapetlon



Dave Clark, Geo and Jo with Frostilicus

The Gallaher Photos- 7-11-2007



Linda gives Chris What-For!



Tall Kevin Standlee with Apu Nahasapeemapetlon

BASFA Minutes

Note: BASFA Meeting Photos from the July 11th meeting at the Milpitas Round Table by Mr. Treasurer, David Gallaher.



Meeting 880

June 11, 2007

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

Began 8:05, with food trumping all.

26 people attended.

We established a party jar.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 879 were accepted as 'parliamentary procedures ahead, expect delays.'

Treasurer's report: last week we took in \$21.80 in

the regular jar & \$2.25 in the party jar.

The VP appeared very late and had no report [but he brought my cup, YAY!].

The President reported that it was our 21st anniversary today.

The Party committee reported that at the Baycon party we got another new member and took in \$20.00 in donations & there will be a party at Westercon and Con-X-treme is offering to comp a room night for a BASFA party there.

The Sports committee reported that he needs strong and nigh unto immediate support for a Giants outing, Friday June 29 [on Westercon eve].

The President read a letter sent to BASFA via the restaurant from an author offering us a free copy of his book and we voted 'yes' on that.

[tall] Kevin was asked by the Westercon folk if BASFA wants a function room on Monday for our meeting - instead of using the lobby - and we decided that yes, we would like that at 7:30 [as long as non-badged folk can use the room].

Announcements

Cheryl announced that she will be leaving the country on Wednesday and does not know when she'll be back - plus she will be a GoH at Finncon [in Finland] over the July 15 weekend.

Lynn announced that she's looking for technical writing work.

Mike announced that the Browncoats are holding

a charity showing of 'Serenity' at the Camera 7 on June 17 [and Kevin added there's another showing on June 23 at the Van Ness AMC].

Reviews:

Adrienne reviewed 'Pirates 3' as she got restless during the film & the greatest fantasy book that she has ever read is 'Porn for Women' [a very small, thin book with pictures].

Dave C reviewed Book Expo America as he now has blisters - and there was some sf there but the 'salute to sf' section was 30 aisles for autographs, no waiting [but this was on a Sunday morning] - and he saw many odd things there - including seeing a picture of the 'Vegan-nomicon' [shudders], plus he saw 'Spamalot' and appeared to enjoy it as worth full price & saw 'Wicked' and said it was not as much fun but still worth full price.

Dave C also announced that next Sunday there will be a made for TV movie called 'The Trial of Tony Blair.'

Harold reviewed 'The Rape of Europa' as he fell asleep during it - but the parts he saw were fascinating and it was worth from bargain matinee to full price [depending on sleeping through it or not] - and reviewed 'Paris Je T'aime' as a series of shorts by different directors, starred a lot of French people, had some subtitling and was worth full price.

Julie reviewed a 'Dr Who' episode as fascinating & well worth stealing, and Andy follow-on'd that it was an episode the Doctor hardly appears in [and there were various other follow-ons].

Chris reviewed getting flown to Tahoe as GREAT and they tried to sell him on holding a convention there & it was well worth not paying anything for.

Then we auctioned off CDs for \$3.00; books for \$7.00, magazines for \$0.50, \$1.25 & a card for \$1.00.

We adjourned at 9:50.

And the rumor of the week was that 'Godless Philistines' [with 1 violent abstention].

Meeting 881

June 18, 2007

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

Began 8:00, with talk of Guidolon.

27 people attended.

We established a party jar.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 880 were accepted as 'cosmic avian crusader.'

Treasurer's report: last week we took in \$7.35 in the regular jar & \$40.75 in the party jar - with an additional \$45.00 from Karisu's birthday auction at the special meeting '29 in base I' and accepted as 'very short.'

The VP reported that there are Drink Tanks out on

efanzines.com & there'll be a new SF/SF out next week and he's not bidding for Westercon.

The President said 'hi' to the new folks.

The money motion should be voted on at the July 9 meeting [assuming that Dave G gets the postcards out real soon].

The Party committee reported that there will be a party at Westercon on both Saturday and Sunday nights [yay! BASFA].

Dave C gave a proxy Sports committee report that Kevin will be buying the tickets for the Giants outing, Friday June 29 [Westercon eve] - on Tuesday.

The AhwaneeCon committee's last PR will be handed out at their party at Westercon on Saturday.

Business: Chris began by mentioning that the Hickory Pit will start closing at 9 p.m. starting on July 1 & a new site selection committee was established chaired by Dave G.

Plus the Westercon folk has a room set aside for BASFA from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Monday for our meeting [& Chris suggested that if the meeting runs long that they relocate at 8:30 back to the fanzine lounge].

Announcements

I announced that [tall] Kevin had a '2-fer' today - that he had a letter appear in the Merc's 'Road Show' column - and that he appeared on KPIX's 6 p.m. news and his appearance was superb.

Chris announced that long-time fan Walt Daugherty died this last week at 90.



[evil] Kevin announced that Westercon starts in 2 weeks on Saturday & mentioned an evil plot.

Andy announced that they'll be hosting 5 parties at-con - in order: Vinticon 5, then AhwaneeCon, Further Confusion, Evil Genius & then Dead Dog Night Mythcon [that's what he said!].

Dave C announced that there are new Cargo Cult flyers out.

Then we auctioned off: posters for \$2.00; a T-shirt for \$1.00; books for \$2.50 & \$3.50; magazines for \$5.00 & \$1.50; a DVD & cards for \$5.50, a book & cards for \$6.00; & kewl stuff for \$10.00.

Then we birthday auctioned off Carole to Bill for \$12.00.

Reviews:

Julie reviewed the latest 'Dr Who' episode as 'Wow! Bang!' and Andy follow-on'd that Derek Jacobi chews scenery marvelously & totally worth stealing twice; plus Dave G reviewed 'Blink' as it frightened a small child; then Julie reviewed the Vallejo Pirate Festival as she worked it, it drew at least 10,000, the food was really good - everyone was there - there was wonderful feedback, packed



with people in costumes & a major success; Howieird follow-on'd that it was a Ren Faire for pirates & he got the t-shirt and took pictures & then Frank made a pun that made everyone groan.

Andy reviewed an optical slave camera accessory as definitely worth it.

Chris reviewed fanzines as absolutely wonderful and that they can be found on efanzines.com.

Dave C reviewed robot wars as 'it's back' - full of small robots to big robots that hurt the surroundings - some with flame throwers - and that it was well worth full price; then he reviewed 'Oceans 13' as it suffered from mission creep & worth matinee; then Chris follow-on'd that he enjoyed it and thought it was a lot of fun.

Harold reviewed 3 days of tax seminars in Las Vegas as sparking his annual tirade & said the weather was 110 degrees[!] & it was a 'dry hell' - he also reviewed 'Fantastic 4' as not worth full price, stupid and hokey; then Adrienne follow-on'd that she thought it was worth bargain matinee & was enjoyable & Chris says that Evelyn liked it & Frank was completely disappointed.

[evil] Kevin reviewed the Star Wars special edition of Robot Chicken as possibly being the best piece of TV ever done.

We adjourned at 9:50.

And the rumor of the week was that 'Guidolon tastes practically like chicken.'

Meeting 882

June 25, 2007

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

Began 8:01, with puns

26 people attended

We established a party jar

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 881 were accepted as 'minutes you can trust'

Treasurer's report: last week we took in \$17.50 in the regular jar & \$48.00 in the party ja

The VP reported there will be a Drink Tanks out soon & a new SFinSF out Wednesday & Maureen Starkey will be their new layout editor & the fanzine lounge will be room 3093 and there will be snacks

The President began with a pun and then reported that he and I will be travelling and that the next meeting will be held at Westercon

The postcards for the money motion are ready but may be delayed because of our TBA meeting location problem

The Site Selection committee reported that there was much input [we discussed] then it was moved and passed unanimously that we authorize the site selection committee to make reservations for the remainder of the July meetings at either the Milpitas or Newark Round Tables, as available

The AhwaneeCon committee reported 'party Saturday after Meet the Guests' and that Lisa has done most of the shopping for it and they'll have several 'special guests'

The Sports Committee reported that he purchased 7 tickets and all but 2 have been delivered

Business = reminder that Westercon has a room set aside for BASFA from 7pm until 8:30pm Monday for our meeting [& Chris says that if the meeting runs long they can relocate at 8:30 back to the fanzine lounge]

Announcements

[evil] Kevin announced that Feztercon starts this Friday & they'll be running the Masquerade on Sunday

Adrienne announced that Jim Van Scyoc died today of a stroke

Ken announced that he now affianced to Jeri

Tom announced that Robert Balmanno did a book signing for 'September Snow' this last week

Julie announced that she was elected as VP for ERPS & they are also looking for a new site, plus members

Mike announced that the 'Dresden Files' is likely to be cancelled, while 'Painkiller Jane' has been renewed

[tall] Kevin announced that Rod Beck died yesterday at age 38 & that Sunday night of Westercon is Canada night & that the Montreal in 2009 Worldcon bid party wukk be in room 3007 & that room 3007 will see the Yokohama Worldcon party which should have interesting foods and beverages & he announced that he went through all the \$2 bills he got at the Westercon meeting

Andy announced that on July 14 St George Spirits is doing their open house and that they'll be there in their special forces uniforms

Chris announced that there'll be comedy entertainment at Westercon's Meet the Guests and he's doing 'Sez You' at the Masquerade halftime show and that if you aren't entertained he will personally give you a noogie & he announced that there'll be a Little Man's meeting at Westercon on Tuesday

Ken also announced that there'll be a Legion of Rasselon meeting this Friday

Dave G announced that there'll be a reception for Mark Ferrari in Fremont on Tuesday

Reviews:

Harold reviewed the season finale of Stargate as 'weak!' [and follow-on's agreed]

Chris reviewed the 'Fantastic 4.2' movie as he would rather see 'Daredevil' again [many groans] & reviewed On Demand as they had free Bond movies - saw 'Epic Movie' and was amused, worth \$3.75 - and there were follow-on's

Dave G reviewed JayCon in Oregon as a good time was had by all

Julie reviewed the latest Dr Who episode as 'completely inane and how governments work' and still worth stealing

Andy called the latest Dr Who episode a 'whole lot of middle' and reviewed the Marriott's internet as 'definitely variable' - and then expressed a forlorn hope & then reviewed the Phoenix Leather and Uniform Ball as it has kind of been declining but was mostly worth full price

Dave C reviewed 'The Trial of tony Blair' as a lot more of a farce than you would expect & recommends it

[tall] Kevin reviewed for Cheryl that England is cold, wet, rainy and thus Wimbledon has begun - and she misses us and our weather a great deal



Then we auctioned off: poster for \$4.00 [for Julie!]; magazines for \$0.10; & a JayCon program booklet for \$5.00

We adjourned at = 9:35

And the rumor of the week was that = 'This is not the venue we're looking for'

Meeting 883

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

July 2, 2007

Meeting 883 of the Bay Area Science Fiction Association was held in the Synergy 5 Room (or maybe it was Synergy 4 – there was one sign outside the door and another inside it) of the San Mateo Marriott Hotel, San Mateo, California, during "Gnomeward Bound," by courtesy of Westercon 60. The meeting was called to order on July 2, 2007 at 7:04 PM, Vice President Chris Garcia presiding and President Emeritus, etc. Kevin Standlee acting as Secretary. At least 30 people attended, although not necessarily at the same time. Officers absent: President Trey Haddad; Secretary Barbara Johnson-Haddad. Present after long absence: Galen Tripp

On a motion by Fred Moulton, we established a party jar on a vote by show of hands.

The Vice President explained the BASFA Pun Tax and voting rules.

Previous Minutes: Thanks to the wonders of technology (free wireless internet), the Acting Secretary was able to read the minutes of meeting 882 off of the club's LiveJournal. The minutes of meeting 882 were adopted as "On the Other Second Floor" on a vote by show of hands.

Treasurer's report: Mr. Gallaher had to leave shortly after the meeting was called to order. There was no suspicion of him having absconded with the club's funds, as he left both of the jars on the head table.

VP's report: The Vice President reported that there was a new issue of The Drink Tank on efanazines.com and that a new issue of SF in SF should be out realsoonnow.

Committee reports:

The Party Committee reported that they held two parties during Westercon, both very successful despite the club's suite being down the side passage and therefore not on the main party traverse. The club has acquired nine new members, and provided lots of conversation in a nice peaceful room.

The Awahneecon committee reported that they partied on Saturday night and had a very respectable showing in the election. "We got 30 votes – a higher pct of vote than Casa de Worldcon." Mr. Standlee reported how that actually could have deadlocked if there had they been able to shift another 28 votes away from Phoenix, on account of differences in parliamentary dialect between Westercon and Worldcon bylaws. VP Garcia said, "Remind us not to hoax bid Westercon anymore."

Sports Committee report: "Operation successful,

patient died." (Trip went great; people attending had a good time; got to see a Bonds home run and a "splash hit"; but the Giants lost the game.) Barry Bonds made All Star starting team.

Our Alaskan Ambassador, Sandra Manning (attending her first meeting since the one held in the bar at Interaction) reports that Alaska is still there and is still part of the USA (despite what Amazon.com thinks).

Announcements:

Lynn Gold has got a new (albeit temporary) day job.

SiliConventions is looking for nominations for the Ken Uhland Award for service to Bay Area fandom. Submit nominations to www.siliconventions.org.

SiliConventions is also looking for people to chair the 2009 SiliCon. (And there was a deafening silence.)

There's a party tonight in 3099: League of Evil Geniuses. Tomorrow in 3099: Mythopoeic Society.

Doug Berry: Going to Class A truck driving con and has been recruited to drive in Iraq.

Ed Stokke: There's a con coming up: ConExtreme at the San Jose Doubletree. There will be a BASFA party there.

Party tonight in 3007: Next Stop...Yokohama!

Reviews:

Lynn Gold reviewed Shrek 3 on a Safeway freebie, but said it would have been worth full price.



David Clark reviewed 1408, the Steven King horror movie: A roller-coaster ride; a good, fun movie to watch. Chris Garcia followed on about a gaping logic flaw that took him completely out of the theater.

Howeird reviewed Zerophilia. The secretary would give the premise, but doesn't want the LiveJournal feed to censor it; the movie isn't actually pornographic, but it does have some gratuitous nudity. Second review: Went to Roseville (Roseville Theatre) and saw a high-quality community theatre production of How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying. Good acting, great venue, lots of fun. Worth the trip if you're in the area.

Chris Garcia reviewed a kooky night last night. Due to the lack of alcohol at most of the room parties last night, the boozers descended upon their natural habitat: The Fanzine Lounge. The three craziest parties at the con were Filkers, Fanzines, and Gamers.

Howeird: "Are you saying that the Fanzine Lounge turned into a Drink Tank."

Doug Berry: Alistair Reynolds' Pushing Ice: after reading the first volume of this hard science space opera, he went down and bought all of the other Reynolds books. Saw Ocean's Thirteen: a great improvement; don't let the weakness of the second film. See it before the prints degrade.

David Clark: At Worldcons, the Fanzine Lounge is a dark, quiet place out of the way where Real Fanzine Fans can hide away from the rest of the conventions. Thanks to Mr. Garcia, the Fanzine Lounge here at Westercon is open, inviting, and welcoming to all comers. Doug Berry: It was a great place to sit, chat, and read fanzines.

Kevin Standlee reviewed Montreal in 2009 party and said he was really pleased, and that Lisa Hayes did all of the design and party leadership work.

Auctions:

The Gripping Hand for \$0.75

Birthday auctions:

Randy Smith: \$5 to Ed "The Rat Bastard" Stokke via David W. Clark

Lynn Gold: \$6 to Ed Stokke, this time on his own.

Doug Berry: \$4 to Ed Stokke via Kevin Standlee

Lisa Harrigan: \$5.25 to Ed "Trying to Corner the Market" Stokke.

Rumors:

All of the Below (Adopted 18-16)
It's In the Other Other Elevator
There's a Convention Going On
Ed Stokke is Crewing a Slave Galley



It's On the Other Second Floor

The next three meetings will be on Wednesday Nights, July 11, 18, and 25, at the Milpitas Round Table Pizza, Calaveras Blvd & Park Victoria Drive, Calaveras Drive exit on I-680.

Adjourned 8:04 PM.

Kevin Standlee
Emergency Holographic Secretary

Meeting 884

July 11, 2007

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

Began 8:02, with pizza

31 people attended

We established a party jar

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 883 were postponed

Treasurer's report: last week we took in \$16.00 in the regular jar & \$28.50 in the party jar

The VP reported there was a Drink Tanks out last week about Westercon & a new SFinSF is due out soon & no one died

The President thanked everyone for coming and then said 'hi' to Linda Wendelburg [a costumer and evil genius in training] & 'hi' to Dan Pietrasik [since we are meeting in 'his own back door']

The postcards for the money motion are going to be sent out now and the money motion vote will be July 25 at the Milpitas Round Table pizza place

The AhwaneeCon committee reported that they came in 2nd in the balloting - with 30 votes out of 116 cast & Phoenix won ['Thank god!'] - the party went on all night, even if it had cheese beer ['it was camping beer'] & 'soylent smores is peeps!'; there were follow-on's: 'Never again Westercon!' and Lisa reported she took in \$44.77 in the tip jar that went in the party fund

The Party Committee plans to do 2 nights of BASFA partying at ConExtreme & that the Westercon BASFA party enrolled 11 new members & he had a lot of fun

The Site Selection Committee reported that several new sites to check out have been suggested and that [after discussion] we decided to check out each place, one after the next, with the location for the meetins [starting July 30] will be listed on the website, the mailing list and in our LJ community

Announcements

Howeird announced that today is 7-11 [and those market's 80th anniversary] & that he now has phone service, thanks to Dave G

Tom announced that ArtCon Ditto will be Oct 26-28 at Gualala, Calif & will be small & that 'the dealer's room may be ... the dealer's room

Andy announced that this weekend will be busy, July 14 morning will have the annual Wearable Arts potluck at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Saritoga, the meeting starts at 10am with potluck to follow; then Saturday afternoon sees St George Spirits doing their open house - where they'll be there in their special forces uniforms - then Saturday night the Alameda County Leather Corps will have their annual contest and show at the Hill and Valley in Hayward

Spring announced that Saturday is also the SF International Chocolate Salon

[tall] Kevin announced that FinnCon is this week - in Finland - and that Cheryl Morgan is there as one of their GoHs

Chris announced that he's running for TAFF officially

Lisa announced that Aug 3-5 is Mythcon in Berkeley & mail-in memberships closes July 15 [check www.mythsoc.prg]

Also - a local writer, Jeff Carlson, has a new book out, 'Plague Year' and will be doing signings at the B&N in Roseville on Saturday Aug 4, 2pm, the B&N in Walnut Creek, Thursday, Aug 9 at 7:30pm & at Borderlands, Saturday Aug 11, 1pm

Reviews:

Adrienne reviewed South Dakota as a definite experience with a small town feel, interesting hotel, the fireworks near Mt. Rushmore were incredible and it was an interesting trip

Chris reviewed the 7-11 to Kwikimart conversion in the shop across from where he works [the Computer History Museum] as wonderfully themed, awesome and worth every dime he's spent there [there were comments]; then he reviewed Westercon as it's over and nobody died - it was a brilliant time & the fan lounge was high on lounge and fans but light on fanzines; and there were follow-on's [selections =] Dave C thought the fanzine lounge was a fun place to go and he was trapped again in the Dealer's swamp; Andy said he kind of remembered Westercon [laughter] - the parties sounded like fun and most went until 4am - Joe said something about soup; [evil] Kevin mentioned grilled toast; Spring said the Mark Ferrari party was cool & the baseball outing went well

Julie reviewed the latest Harry Potter movie as rather good & worth the midnite showing to 'get it over with' & reviewed the Dr Who season finale as darkly satisfying, with Andy following with 'Holy mother of hell steal that bastard now!'

Dave C reviewed 'Show Business' a documentary, as fun & worth full price, then proto-reviewed 'Xanadu the Musical' as he read it may be too gay for Broadway

Andy reviewed 'Dr Who the Infinite Quest' - which is part of a kid's show in Britain as a bit too kidded down, but enjoyable & also worth stealing

Fred reviewed the Heinlein convention in Kansas

City as warm, they did a lot of work, it was lots of fun and worth every penny

I reviewed 'The Transformers Movie' as surprisingly good, much better than I anticipated & worth seeing twice; Trey follow-on'd that he was pleased it wasn't really bad and thought it worth matinee

Then we auctioned off Simpson cookies & a Squishie cup for \$10.00

We adjourned at = 9:50

And the rumor of the week was that = 'Westercon 2011 will be held at [tall] Kevin's house'



BASFA will continue to search for a new home for the next month or so. The Milpitas Round Table will be the home for the July 18th and 25th meetings before the show goes on the road around the South and East Bay in search of a home. Watch www.BASFA.org and the BASFA LiveJournal Community, <http://community.livejournal.com/basfa/>, for day, time and location information.

BArea Fandom 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, July 18

SF in SF: Tad Williams & Lisa Goldstein

Preview Room

Variety Children's Charity

582 Market Street

San Francisco

www.sfinsf.org

7 p.m.

Free

SF in SF is a regular series of sci fi author readings with discussion and book signing after, and a clever name. Cash bar opens at 6:30.

Wednesday, July 18

The Wizard of Oz (1939)

The Lawn at Wente Vineyards

5565 Tesla Road

Livermore

www.wentevineyards.com

Suggested donation: \$9 adults, \$5 children

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

Wednesday, July 18

Frogs (1972)

Pacific Film Archive

2575 Bancroft Way

Berkeley

www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

7:30 p.m.

\$8

Part of PFA's eco-disaster film series, *Eco-Amok*.

Thursday, July 19

Author: Mike Carey

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

7 p.m.

Free

Thursday, July 19

Firefly Night

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

www.parkway-speakeasy.com

9:15 p.m.

\$6

Three episodes of Joss Whedon's *Firefly* on the big screen.

Thursday, July 19

Damon Packard's Spacedisco-1

The Dark Room Theater

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

www.darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

Indy film billed as a sequel to both *Logan's Run* and *1984*. The filmmaker will be on hand to showcase a selection of his short films and trailers, some of which are said to be very strange indeed.

Friday, July 20

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

The book releases at midnight! Here is a partial listing of the "release parties" planned around the Bay Area; it's likely that your local bookstore is also jumping on this bandwagon:

Book Passage

51 Tamal Vista Blvd.

Corte Madera

415-927-0960

9 p.m.

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

www.booksmith.com

11 p.m.

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

10 p.m.

Cody's Books

1730 Fourth Street

Berkeley

www.codysbooks.com

10 p.m.

Kepler's Books

1010 El Camino Real

Menlo Park

www.keplers.com

9 p.m.

Moe's Books

2476 Telegraph Avenue

Berkeley

www.telegraphbooks.com
10 p.m.

Friday, July 20

Midnight Movie: The Simpsons Treehouse of Horror Marathon

Camera 7
1875 S. Bascom Avenue
Campbell
www.cameracinemas.com
Midnight
\$7.50

Friday-Sunday, July 20-22

Westermark Madness

Society for Creative Anachronism Event
Ed Levin Park

Milpitas
www.thewestermark.org/madness42.html

Free/donations accepted

The annual SCA summer gathering with a twist: in addition to the traditional activities like sword fighting, archery, singing, and storytelling, they've added a Hawaiian luau theme.

July 20-29

Clue: The Play

The Dark Room Theater
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
www.darkroomsf.com/clue
Fri-Sat 8 p.m., Sun 3 p.m.
\$15

Saturday, July 21

Author: Austin Grossman

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
3 p.m.

Free

Saturday, July 21

Midnight Movie: The Simpsons Treehouse of Horror Marathon

Camera 12
201 South Second Street
San Jose
www.cameracinemas.com
Midnight
\$7.50

July 23-August 3

Creepshow Camp

The Hypnodrome
575 10th Street
San Francisco
www.hypnodrome.com

\$375

Ages 9-14

Two-week summer day camp for young sci fi and horror fans, featuring classes in monster make-up, special effects, stage fighting, sleight of hand, and a final stage performance for friends and family.

Tuesday, July 24

True Mutations Radio Show

City Lights Bookstore
261 Columbus Avenue
San Francisco
www.citylights.com

7 p.m.

Free

Celebrating the release of *True Mutations: Interviews on the Edge of Science, Technology, and Consciousness* by RU Serious, with guests Lynn Hershman, Jamais Cascio, David Pescovitz, and Annalee Newitz.

Wednesday, July 25

Author: Richard K. Morgan

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

Wednesday, July 25

Phase IV (1974)

Pacific Film Archive
2575 Bancroft Way
Berkeley
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

7:30 p.m.

\$8

Part of PFA's eco-disaster film series, Eco-Amok.

Friday, July 27

Midnight Movie: The Simpsons Movie (2007)

Camera 7
1875 S. Bascom Avenue
Campbell
www.cameracinemas.com

Midnight

\$7.50

Friday-Sunday, July 27-29

Con-X-Treme

Doubletree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place
San Jose
www.con-x-treme.com

\$50

Promising newcomer on the Bay Area con scene promotes itself with the tag line "A Gathering of Warriors." Anime viewing, cosplay, Taiko drumming, martial arts demos, art show, and The Black Hole Bar.

Saturday, July 28

Paul Reubens Day V

Location TBA

San Francisco

www.paulreubensday.com

The Drunken Redheaded Sluts will again hold a day-long celebration of the man who brought us Pee-wee Herman, with a Pee-wee costume parade and a screening of clips from the adult film that caused all the fuss.

Saturday, July 28

Midnight Movie: The Simpsons Movie (2007)

Camera 12

201 South Second Street

San Jose

www.cameracinemas.com

Midnight

\$7.50

Saturday, July 28

Who Framed Roger Rabbit (1988)

Castro Theatre

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

www.thecastrotheatre.com

1 p.m.

\$9

Part of the "Fabulous Fashion in Film" series.

Saturday, July 28

Barbarella (1968)

Castro Theatre

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

www.thecastrotheatre.com

Midnight

\$9

Part of the "Fabulous Fashion in Film" series.

Screening will be preceded by the "Ms. Spaced

Out Oddity" contest.

Saturday-Sunday, July 28-29

Berkeley Kite Festival

Berkeley Marina

Berkeley

11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Free

highlinekites.com/Berkeley_Kite_Festival/

Kite team demos, kite-making workshops, giant creature kites, food, music, more.

Sunday, July 29

6th Annual Belly Dance Fantasy Festival

Marina Community Center

15301 Wicks Blvd.

San Leandro

www.tatseena.com

Noon-9 p.m.

\$10

Dancing, live music, bazaar, workshops, Moroccan food.

Sunday, July 29

The Wizard of Oz (1939)

Castro Theatre

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

www.thecastrotheatre.com

1 p.m.

\$12.50

Special screening features a live appearance by Margaret Pellegrini, one of the last surviving Munchkins. Oz costumes encouraged.

July 29-August 4

The Dickens Universe

Kresge College

UC Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz

dickens.ucsc.edu

\$335, plus accommodations and meals

The Dickens Project hosts a week-long seminar open to the public as well as academics, with

sessions focusing on Dickens's *Pickwick Papers*, Victorian genres in poetry, drama, and the novel, afternoon teas and other activities for Victorianists.

Wednesday, August 1

Prophecy (1979)

Pacific Film Archive

2575 Bancroft Way

Berkeley

www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

7:30 p.m.

\$8

Part of PFA's eco-disaster film series, Eco-Amok.

Thursday, August 2

Author: Ellen Klages

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

415-863-8688

7 p.m.

Free

Thursday, August 2

Author: Laura Anne Gilman

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

7 p.m.

Free

Friday, August 3

Music of the Spheres

Lick Observatory

Mt. Hamilton Road

San Jose

www.ucolick.org/public/music.html

7 p.m.

\$30-\$150

Part of the Observatory's Summer concert series,

featuring the music of The Kurt Ribak Trio and a talk by astronomer Raja Guha Thakurta followed by telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Friday, August 3

Midnight Movie: Serenity (2005)

Camera 7
1875 S. Bascom Avenue
Campbell
www.cameracinemas.com
Midnight
\$7.50

Friday-Monday, August 3-6

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

Saturday, August 4

Pride & Prejudice Picnic
PEERS Event
Lincoln Park
1450 High Street
Alameda
www.peers.org
Noon-5 p.m.
Free
An afternoon picnic and dance set in Jane Austen's England during the late 1790s.

Saturday, August 4

Author: Jeff Carlson
Barnes and Noble
1256 Galleria Blvd.
Roseville

2 p.m.
Free

Saturday, August 4

Music of the Spheres
Lick Observatory
Mt. Hamilton Road
San Jose
www.ucolick.org/public/music.html

7 p.m.
\$30-\$150
Part of the Observatory's Summer concert series, featuring the music of Chung-Pei Ma, violinist and UC Berkeley astrophysics professor, followed by a talk by Prof. Ma and astronomer Geoff Marcy and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Saturday, August 4

Midnight Mass: Flash Gordon (1980)
Bridge Theatre
3010 Geary Blvd.
San Francisco
www.peacheschrist.com
11:45 p.m.

\$12
Hosted by Peaches Christ as part of her summer midnight movie series.

Saturday, August 4

Midnight Movie: Serenity (2005)
Camera 12
201 South Second Street
San Jose
www.cameracinemas.com
Midnight
\$7.50

Sunday, August 5

Science Fiction/San Francisco Meetup:
Frank Wu Presents Guidolon
Mysterious Future Bookstore

531 Fifth Street
Santa Rosa
2 p.m.
Free

Frank Wu offers up his director's cut of *Guidolon the Giant Space Chicken*. If you've seen it on YouTube, see it for the first time in DVD quality. If you haven't seen it on YouTube, what are you waiting for?

Sunday, August 5

Bad Movie Night: Catwoman (2004)
The Dark Room Theatre
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
www.darkroomsf.com
8 p.m.
\$5
The Dark Room's resident wits sharpen their claws on another bad flick.

Monday, August 6

Authors: Ellen Kushner and Delia Sherman
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
7 p.m.
Free

August 6-17

Creepshow Camp
The Hypnodrome
575 10th Street
San Francisco
www.hypnodrome.com
\$375
Ages 9-14
Two-week summer day camp for young sci fi and horror fans, featuring classes in monster make-up, special effects, stage fighting, sleight of hand, and a

final stage performance for friends and family.

Thursday, August 7

Ask a Scientist: The Reality of Age Research

Axis Cafe

1201 8th Street

San Francisco

www.askascientistsf.com

7 p.m.

Free

A talk about aging and geroscience with Gordon Lithgow; Associate Professor, The Buck Institute.

Wednesday, August 8

Author: William Gibson

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

415-863-8688

7 p.m.

Free

Wednesday, August 8

The Mutations (1974)

Pacific Film Archive

2575 Bancroft Way

Berkeley

www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

7:30 p.m.

\$8

Part of PFA's eco-disaster film series, Eco-Amok.

Thursday, August 9

Author: Jeff Carlson

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

1 p.m.

Free

Thursday, August 9

Author: Jeff Carlson

Barnes and Noble

1149 S. Main Street

Walnut Creek

7:30 p.m.

Free

August 9-16

Dead Channels

Roxie Cinema

3117 16th Street

and

Castro Theatre

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

San Francisco's "Festival of Fantastic Film" will feature a director's cut of William Kaufman's

The Prodigy (2004), and much more. Schedule at

www.deadchannels.com.

Friday, August 10

Midnight Movie: The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)

Camera 7

1875 S. Bascom Avenue

Campbell

www.cameracinemas.com

Midnight

\$7.50

Saturday, August 11

Other Magazine Presents

Writers With Drinks

The Make Out Room

3225 22nd Street

San Francisco

www.writerswithdrinks.com

7:30 p.m.

\$3-\$5 sliding scale

With Robert Mailer Anderson, Sheng Wang,

Darieck Scott, Austin Grossman and Dom Brassey.

Saturday, August 11

Midnight Movie: The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)

Camera 12

201 South Second Street

San Jose

www.cameracinemas.com

Midnight

\$7.50

Sunday, August 12

Bad Movie Night: Mighty Morphin Power Rangers: The Movie (1995)

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

www.darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

The Dark Room's resident sharp wits skewer another bad flick.

Wednesday, August 15

SF in SF: Kevin Anderson, Brian Herbert, Howard Hendrix

Preview Room

Variety Children's Charity

582 Market Street

San Francisco

www.sfinsf.org

7 p.m.

Free

SF in SF is a regular series of sci fi author readings with discussion and book signing after, and a clever name. Cash bar opens at 6:30.

Wednesday, August 15

Silent Running (1972)

Pacific Film Archive

2575 Bancroft Way

Berkeley
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu
7:30 p.m.
\$8
Part of PFA's eco-disaster film series, Eco-Amok.

Thursday, August 16

Author: Steve Berman
Books Inc.
2275 Market Street
San Francisco
7:30 p.m.
Free

Saturday, August 18

Debardchery
Society for Creative Anachronism Event
Golden Gate Park Archery Range
47th and Fulton
San Francisco
www.cloondara.org/Calendar/546.aspx
Site opens at 10 a.m.
Free/potluck
An event combining archery with a bardic competition and silly games of skill.

Saturday-Sunday, August 18-19

Ani-Jam
Radisson Hotel
2233 Ventura Street
Fresno
www.ani-jam.com
\$20 in advance (by July 31), \$25 at the door, one-day passes available
Central Valley anime convention with a cosplay contest, videogame tournament, guests, more.

Sunday, August 19

Author: Steve Berman
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street

San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
3:00 p.m.
Free

Sunday, August 19

Bad Movie Night: Superman IV: The Quest for Peace (1987)
The Dark Room Theatre
2263 Mission Street
San Francisco
www.darkroomsf.com
8 p.m.
\$5
The Dark Room's resident sharp wits skewer another bad flick.

Monday, August 20

Ask a Scientist's Anniversary Trivia Party
The Bazaar Café
5927 California Street
San Francisco
www.askascientist.com
7 p.m.
Free
With Trivia Mistress Robin Marks of the Exploratorium.

Wednesday, August 22

Meet the Applegates (1991)
Pacific Film Archive
2575 Bancroft Way
Berkeley
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu
7:30 p.m.
\$8
Director Michael Lehmann in person. Part of PFA's eco-disaster film series, Eco-Amok.

Friday, August 24

Midnight Mass: Creature from the Black Lagoon

(1954)
Bridge Theatre
3010 Geary Blvd.
San Francisco
www.peacheschrist.com
\$12
Hosted by Peaches Christ as part of her summer midnight movie series, with guest host Cassandra Peterson (Elvira, Mistress of the Dark).

Saturday, August 25

AOD (Animation on Display)
Cathedral Hill Hotel
1101 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco
www.aodsf.org
\$12 in advance, \$15 at the door
SF's animation convention (once known as Anime Overdose) returns, with seminars and workshops, dealer's room, art show, costume contest, more.

Saturday, August 25

Midnight Mass: Dead Alive (1992)
Bridge Theatre
3010 Geary Blvd.
San Francisco
www.peacheschrist.com
\$12
Hosted by Peaches Christ as part of her summer midnight movie series, with guest host Cassandra Peterson (Elvira, Mistress of the Dark).

Saturday-Sunday, August 25-26

Golden Gate Renaissance Festival
Speedway Meadow
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco
www.sffaire.com
Sat 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
\$15

Jousting, sword fighting, jugglers, magicians, music, crafts and food.

Saturday-Sunday, August 25-26

The Bay Area UFO Expo

Doubletree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.thebayareaufoexpo.com

\$109 in advance (by August 5), \$119 at the door, one-day pass \$69

9th annual gathering devoted to conspiracies, crash retrievals, chem-trails and commerce.

Monday, August 27

Big (1988)

The Lawn at Wentve Vineyards

5565 Tesla Road

Livermore

www.wentvevineyards.com

Suggested donation: \$9 adults, \$5 children

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

Wednesday, August 29

Habitat (1997)

Pacific Film Archive

2575 Bancroft Way

Berkeley

www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

7:30 p.m.

\$8

Director Rene Daalder in person. Part of PFA's eco-disaster film series, Eco-Amok.

Thursday, August 30

Barbarella (1968)

Red Vic Movie House

1727 Haight Street

San Francisco

www.redvicmoviehouse.com

7:15 and 9:25 p.m.

\$8.50

Saturday, September 1

Mikado Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

www.peers.org

\$15 in advance (by August 25), \$20 at the door

A Gilbert and Sullivan cast party. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Sunday, September 2

Sac-Con

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

www.sacramentocomics.com

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

\$6

Regular comic, toy and anime show, featuring game tournaments, cosplay contest, more.

Wednesday, September 5

Ask a Scientist: Exoplanet Update

Axis Cafe

1201 8th Street

San Francisco

www.askascientistsf.com

7 p.m.

Free

Since SF State Prof. Chris McCarthy last spoke at Ask a Scientist, astronomers have found 28 more planets, bringing the total number of known exoplanets to 236. What do we know about them?

Friday, September 7

Music of the Spheres

Lick Observatory

Mt. Hamilton Road

San Jose

www.ucolick.org/public/music.html

7 p.m.

\$30-\$150

Part of the Observatory's Summer concert series, featuring the music of guitarists Daniel Roest & Mark Hanson followed by a talk by astronomer Sandra Faber, and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Saturday, September 8

Music of the Spheres

Lick Observatory

Mt. Hamilton Road

San Jose

www.ucolick.org/public/music.html

7 p.m.

\$30-\$150

Part of the Observatory's Summer concert series, featuring the music of guitarists Daniel Roest & Mimi Fox, followed by a talk by astronomer Adriane Steinacker, and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Friday, September 14

The Historian vs. The Futurist on Human Progress

Herbst Theater

401 Van Ness Avenue

San Francisco

www.longnow.org

7:30 p.m.

Free/donations welcome

Niall Ferguson and Peter Schwartz in conversation; part of The Long Now's Seminars About Long-term Thinking.

Friday-Sunday, September 28-30

Salute to Star Trek, Star Wars, and Battlestar Galactica

Doubletree Hotel

2001 Point West Way

Sacramento

www.creationent.com

\$369 (less costly packages to be announced)

A Creation con. Announced guests include *Trek* stars Jonathan Frakes, Marina Sirtis, George Takei and Robert Duncan McNeill, Jeremy Bullock and Peter Mayhew from *Star Wars*, and *BSG*'s Jamie Bamber; Friday night features a concert by Warp 11.

Wednesday, October 3

The Birds (1963)

The Lawn at Wente Vineyards

5565 Tesla Road

Livermore

www.wentevineyards.com

Suggested donation: \$9 adults, \$5 children

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

Friday-Sunday, October 5-7

SiliCon

Doubletree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.siliconventions.com

\$45

Media-oriented general SF con features art show, dealer's room, panels, masquerade, swap meet, indie film festival, more. The Masquerade Ball will have a Joss Whedon-verse theme.

Saturday, October 6

Edwardian Gothic Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

www.peers.org

\$15 in advance (by September 29), \$20 at the door

Edwardian as in macabre illustrator Edward Gorey.

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

Friday-Saturday, October 19-21

Wrestle Fan Fest

Cow Palace

2600 Geneva Avenue

Daly City

www.wrestlefanfest.com

\$30/day, weekend VIP passes available

Chris assures us that the guest list is stuffed with pro wrestling's superstars. Wrestling matches, vendors, Q&A sessions and photo ops with the stars.

Friday-Saturday, October 19-21

Sacramento Horror Film Festival

The Colonial Theatre

3522 Stockton Blvd

Sacramento

www.sachorrorfilmfest.com

Guests include actors Tony Moran and Tony Todd, and your hosts Mr. Lobo and the Queen of Trash.

Friday-Sunday, November 2-4

BASCon

Embassy Suites SF Airport

150 Anza Blvd.

Burlingame

www.bascon.org

\$75 at the door (\$70 until July 31)

A safe and fun place for fans over 18 to discuss "slash" fanfic, now in its 7th year.

Saturday, November 3

Le Bal des Vampires

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

The annual hematophagic gala. Details to follow.

Saturday and Sunday, November 10-11

JTAF 5

Fort Mason Center

Marina & Buchanan Streets

San Francisco

www.project760.net/jtaf/forms/

\$35 at the door (\$25 until July 31, \$32 until October 31)

The Japan Town Anime Festival relocates from Japan Center to Fort Mason. Guests include akai SKY, Quarter Circle, Stephanie Yanez, The Shogunate, Eurobeat King, Alex Shen.

Sunday, December 9

Sac-Con

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

www.sacramentocomics.com

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

\$6

Regular comic, toy and anime show, featuring game tournaments, cosplay contest, more.

Saturday, January 5, 2008

Victorian Twelfth Night Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

A.k.a. The Dickens Fair Reunion Ball. Details to follow.

January 24-28, 2008

Further Confusion

Doubletree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.furtherconfusion.org

\$40 in advance (through December 30)

10th Anniversary Edition of the Bay Area's major Furry con is themed "The Fur East." Panels, art show, dealer's room, costume contests, more.

Saturday, February 2, 2008

Le Mardi Gras des Vampires

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

Saturday, March 1, 2008

Pride and Prejudice Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

Saturday, April 5, 2008

The Royal Debutante Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

Friday-Monday, April 25-28, 2008

CostumeCon 26

Doubletree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.cc26.info

\$85

CostumeCon will be coming to Silicon Valley in 2008. Details to follow.

Saturday, May 3, 2008

Chicago Speakeasy Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

Friday-Monday, May 23-26, 2008

BayCon

Hyatt Regency Santa Clara

5101 Great America Parkway

Santa Clara

www.baycon.org/2008

\$50 in advance

Northern California's largest annual general SF convention is on the move again. Diverse panels, dealer's room, art show, masquerade, anime room, hall costumes, gaming, much more.

Ongoing:

Through September 9

Tezuka: The Marvel of Manga

Asian Art Museum

200 Larkin Street

San Francisco

www.asianart.org

\$12

Groundbreaking show devoted to Osamu Tezuka (1928-1989), the "God of Manga," whose creations included Mighty Atom (known to U.S. TV audiences as "Astro Boy"), Jungle Emperor ("Kimba the White Lion"), and Princess Knight.

Daily

San Francisco Ghost Hunt

Walking Tour

Begins: Queen Anne Hotel

1590 Sutter at Octavia

San Francisco

www.sfgghosthunt.com

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

\$20

Mondays

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

www.basfa.org

8 p.m.

Free

Mondays

Dukefish

Jake's of Sunnyvale

174 E. Fremont Avenue

Sunnyvale

8 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

www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb/

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

www.BayRPS.com

6 p.m.-10 p.m.

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

www.michaeldashow.com/eastbaystrategy/home.html

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

Free

Fridays

SF Games

Muddy's Coffeehouse

1304 Valencia Street

San Francisco

vax.hanford.org/dk/games

7 p.m. to midnight

Free

SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Also has a regular cards night at Atlas Café, 20th and Alabama Streets, Tuesday nights from 6:30-10:00.

Fridays-Mondays

Haunted Haight Walking Tour

Meets at Coffee To The People

1206 Masonic Avenue

San Francisco

www.hauntedhaight.com

7 p.m.-9 p.m.

\$20

Reservations required.

Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour

Meets corner of California and Taylor

San Francisco

www.sfvampiretour.com

8 p.m.

\$20

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

Saturdays

Rocky Horror Picture Show

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

www.parkway-speakeasy.com

Midnight

\$7

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

www.legionofrassilon.org

7:30 p.m.

Free

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

No-Name Anime

Saratoga Library

13650 Saratoga Avenue

Saratoga

www.nnanime.com

Free

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

Sakramento Anime Society

Ranch Cordova Library

9845 Folsom Boulevard

Rancho Cordova

3-7 p.m.

Meets every Sunday to watch old and new anime and anime music videos, play collectible card games, practice artwork and make AMVs.

SF Browncoats

Cafe Murano

1777 Steiner Street

San Francisco

www.sfbrowncoats.com

Noon

Free

SF *Firefly/Serenity* fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month.

Silicon Gulch Browncoats

Various locations (see website for details)

www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org

Noon - 2 p.m.

Free

Silicon Valley fans of *Firefly/Serenity* meet up on the first Saturday of the month.

Tangential Conjectures: The Science Fiction Book Club

Books Inc.

301 Castro Street

Mountain View

650-428-1234

7:30 p.m.

Free

Generally meets the third Thursday of the month.

USS Augusta Ada

Round Table Pizza

3567 Geary Blvd.

San Francisco

trek.starshine.org

1 p.m.

Free

Augusta Ada is both a chapter of Starfleet International and a Linux and *BSD user group. Usually meets the fourth Saturday of every month.

USS Defiance

Round Table Pizza

1566 Howe Ave.

Sacramento

www.usdefiance.org

7 p.m.

Free

Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month.

Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE

Round Table Pizza

4403 Elkhorn Blvd

Sacramento

916-338-2300

Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.

