

# Science Fiction/San Francisco

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# News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

I've been bad. I haven't put an issue of *The Drink Tank* out for nearly a month. Why? Well, there's the sudden eruption of my seeming to have a life, and the fact that I'm waiting for a little content. These things happen. I'll get back on track and have The Cocktail Issue and This Were WorldCons soon enough. The last *Drink Tank*, 134, is on eFanzines.com.

If you haven't been to eFanzines.com recently, I think you're missing out. There's a great issue of *Vegas Fandom Weekly* from Arnie Katz where he mentions that his mother recently passed away. I was terribly sorry to hear that. It also said that she was 92 or so, which is a good long life. The rest of the issue was the regular fantastic stuff, including a look at what Arnie considers the best zines ever. Of course, there are many that don't show up, but what are you gonna do? My Australian buddy Bill Wright also has a nice article. Great lettercol finishes off a good issue.

John Coxon's at it again. Issue 2 of *Procrastinations* is out and about and it's good stuff. Highly sexual in parts, it's one of the more interesting zines that I've seen in a while. English Wunderkind Coxon will be a big deal within a few years. We just gotta keep him motivated.

Speaking of the UK, the Year of the Teledu, a con-thingee, happened on the weekend of the 21st. Good things were said by all who

attended.

Another zine that's popped up on eFanzines.com, though only as a link, is Petra Mitchell's *Picofarad*. I first came across it at WorldCon last year and it's a solid zine. There's a new issue up with a lot of Harry Potter theming.

I would also like to say that I read Harry Potter in the week leading up to the release (due to having a good friend with very good connections) and then the audiobook. If you've never heard the Jim Dale audiobooks of the HP series, you must do so. It's just damn good performance. I also had the honor of holding the information of what happens in the book over the head of a number of people. That was fun.

*Prolapse*, Peter Weston's zine dealing largely with UK Fan History, released issue 7. It's another great one. I'm very pleased that he's coming out with them so frequently. I'm getting them as PDFs and I think they're delightful.

Did I say that *Pixel* by Dave Burton deserves serious Hugo nomination consideration? Because if I didn't, I really should have.

New *File 770* is good stuff too. It's got a good picture of me in it.

Yes, I'm running for TAFF and yes, the ballot will be out right about the time you read this and yes, I'll have ribbons at NASFiC this weekend.

I'll have more on the North American Science Fiction Convention in the next issue. I'm excited because I'll get to meet a lot of folks from a part of the country that I've never really

been to. Not a lot of West Coasters on the list that I've seen of folks going. There's also Costume College the same weekend.

Who was at San Diego Comic-Con and wants to write it up?

No word on 2010 Westercon bids. I'm hoping for something soon.

Let me say, on my list of favourite BArea Mega-plexes, number one is the one in Vallco (Cupertino Square I think they're calling it now) and number two is the Century 25 in Union City: It's huge and always packed, but the theaters are big and the screens huge. Number three is the lovely Dublin theatres with the IMAX. I'd never been there until I went on the 15th and had a lovely time. Good screens. None of them touch the Century (now Winchester) 21 and 22 theaters in my heart though.

Anyone going to LosCon? I'll be there and would love to get a BArea dinner experience going!

We'll be debuting the Babbage Difference Engine at the Computer History Museum in September. This is going to be the greatest BArea SteamPunk event in history! I'm being trained to run the thing and the opening will be a sight to be seen. I'll post more as we get closer to the date, but it's looking like it'll be a wonderful time. I'm thinking that we'll have a little gathering at some point just for Fen.

You know, I got food poisoning from a burrito I had at the San Jose Arena while watching The Great American Bash WWE pay-

per-view. It was a good show, but man, did it do a number on me!

BASFA is still looking for a permanent home. Keep an eye on the BASFA.org website for where we'll be meeting next.

I'm really digging Arcade Fire and Amy Winehouse right now. I'm just sayin' is all.

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## Who's on the Ballot?

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

Apparently, Kevin Standlee and I are the perfect combination when it comes to performing. Kevin's certainly got that air of respectability that you need to pull off playing the straight man, and I, you may have noticed, am the ultimate bumbling baffoon. That combination worked for the BunnyFinches, Laurel & Hardy, Martin & Lewis, and especially for Abbott & Costello.

That last one is important. Their bit, "Who's on First?" is likely the only Vaudeville routine that still gets regularly referenced. Cartoons and even an episode of *Eight is Enough* have mentioned it. It's a classic bit. *You* even know how it goes, and both those guys were dead before you were born! (Probably. I'm spitballin' about your age here.)

It's never easy to explain the intricate details of how voting for Westercon site selection works. I've done a little bit of research and I only get about 40% of how these things work for WorldCon. And Westercon is actually a little more difficult. Folks were looking for a good

way to introduce the site selection concept to the masses and be entertaining at the same time.

Enter SMOF and dramatist James Stanley Daugherty. He wrote a skit based around "Who's on First?" that explained how the site selection thingee worked. It was a way of explaining the idea and making little gags along the way. His first thought for folks who would be interested in performing it: Tall Kevin and myself.

Genius casting if you ask me.

The weekend before the con, Kevin and I got together and did a read-through of the piece. As soon as we were done, Kevin said, completely accurately, "Yeah, we got this." We did it for the gathered masses at the final Westercon staff meeting and it got a really good reaction. We were well on our way to giving a legendary performance.

Opening day of Westercon. I read through the bit a couple of times to make sure I got the breaks right. I also had some minor stomach problems, so I was late to do our sound check. We were ready to go, folks filed in and our Guests of Honor took the stage, led by the masterful Toast Lord Jay Lake. He said a few things and then introduced Kevin and me as Mr. Abbott and Mr. Costello. We got up to do the routine.

Once the audience understood what we were doing, they actually gave out a little groan. I totally understand that. There's nothing worse than a retread of an old bit not done right (and there have been a lot of terrible versions of "Who's on First?") so I give them their instincts. We went into the early phases and got a few laughs. We were playing it pretty close to the original, so there was that, but we got a couple

of laughs for the little things. Our timing was pretty much dead-on, which is good. I had been working with the good people at the Charles Grodin Slow Burn Clinic to get my reactions down. Those were getting laughs far more than what I was saying. Kevin, playing straight the whole way, was the perfect set-up.

There was the break where we got into some SMOFish comedy stuff and that was what killed. Kevin delivered lines about how the Business Meeting would *never* do anything to complicate matters with such brilliant sincerity that I almost lost it. That got the perfect laugh, especially from Michael Siladi and Christian McGuire who were sitting right behind us. Kevin also did a long rhyming section and a piece where he explained In and Out of Zone bids that allowed me to do a bit of physical comedy and a pause that I think worked beautifully. I love when that happens.

We finished up with my head figuratively 'plodin' and me running off the stage with Kevin in pursuit, still trying to get me to understand what Site Selection was. It was well done (if I say so myself) and we got a very good reaction. I'd love to do it again sometime, but it's not one of those things you can pull out anytime and do for folks. Maybe next year we'll get a chance.

# Letters Of Comment

**John Purcell** writes:

Well, hello again, young people! Good to see you're still slaving away at this indispensable Bay Area fanzine and not letting post-con depression drag your energy level down the tubes. Keep those fan fires burning, young 'uns!

*Jean Martin responds:*

*It's good to be back! It's nice to know that we're indispensable.*

I really have to debate with Chris over his 2007 Fan Hugo nominee ruminations for next year's WorldCon. And it comes a mere few weeks before we find out who's gonna pull down all the silver rockets at this year's WorldCon. Go figger.

*Good luck to Chris and all the other nominees. I'm sure we'll have the results in the pages of SF/SF as soon as they come out.*

While I really appreciate Chris's kind words about *Askance* being "on the bubble" of Fan Hugo consideration, I am surprised at one zine's non-mention in his listing: *Pixel*. I don't know about you or anybody else, but David Burton's efforts in producing such a top-quality fanzine every month places his zine right up on my personal top five list. At the moment, I am leaning toward sending in supporting membership for Denvention 3 mainly to get the publications and have voting rights in the Fan Hugos.

Chris is most definitely right in that this year has seen some wonderful fanzines; I have no complaints about any of the other ones he mentions, but to not name *Pixel* in that list is a

glaring omission. Of course, maybe he did that deliberately since he's a regular columnist in that zine. That is a possibility. Even so, it is a zine deserving of the honor of being considered a potential best Fanzine Hugo. Quite a group of zines to be in with, too!

*Thanks for all your suggestions. But, hey, what about SF/SF?*

Also, what about Marc Schirmeister for Fan Artist? I totally love his style, and he's produced a lot of good artwork this year already. I would nominate him along with Foster, Erichsen, Steffan and Stiles. That would be one tough category. The Fan Writer Hugo category is likewise wide open, IMHO. Names I would add to this list are James Bacon, Mark Plummer, and Robert Lichtman.

Personally, I would drop Ted White's name from consideration because he is a fealthy pro — or has been. The way I look at it here is that if you have ever sold writing professionally in the science fiction market and are a member of SFWA, then you should not be eligible for Fan Hugo awards. I consider the FAAn Awards much more responsive to just fan-oriented publications with voting among peers; besides, the FAAn Awards probably have much more personal meaning to fanzine fans than the Fan Hugos. But getting back to the names Chris has listed, here is another tough group of candidates to choose from.

*I agree professionals shouldn't be included in a Fan category.*

Other than thanking you folks for the wonderful con and activity reports — plus all of the delightful photographs, of course — I have nothing much to add here except that I enjoyed it all. Thanks for the fun zine, and keep them coming.

*We're working on it!*

**Mike Deckinger** writes:

Dear Chris,

You mentioned Walter Breen "being arrested for sexual abuse." At the time of the Boondoggle, or Breendoggle, he had not served any time, however there were numerous allegations of unsavory activities surrounding him, particularly after his move from New York to California. Convention chairman Bill Donaho felt that permitting Breen's attendance could subject younger members to possible danger, and might create a huge liability headache for the convention committee. (Dick Eney earlier referred to Breen as "Sticky Fan" in outlining a potentially unsettling situation, if he was permitted convention entry).

Shortly beforehand, Breen was blackballed from FAPA. It took a ridiculously small group to accomplish this, something like a dozen or fifteen members at the most. A petition was drafted immediately thereafter to reinstate him, circulated by Redd Boggs and others. (I don't recall who the "others" were; my contact at the time was through Boggs.) I joined the majority of the membership who voted to reverse the

ouster.

Most of the blackballers were from the Maryland contingent. Breen's strongest support was in the New York metropolitan area, where he was known as a congenial individual who frequently popped up at fan gatherings, chatted with wit and intelligence, and contributed mightily to the concentrated fanzine output. No one condoned child molestation, but we all found it desirable to give him the benefit of the doubt, and not entertain the notion that he could be a perpetrator.

It's uncomfortable to stretch back that far. My dealings with him were always of the most refined nature. (He and Marion spent some time in my Newark, NJ apartment once: a pleasurable time was had by all). I saw him shortly before his first imprisonment. He was taking his daughter to dancing school near my San Francisco home. By then he had the graying Father-Time look. This being San Francisco, no one who saw him was jolted. He looked tired and sounded and seemed very resigned to the inevitable unpleasantries that followed.

I question the wisdom of resurrecting the Boondoggle and surrounding events, as it's sure to evoke painful memories.

*Jean Martin responds:*

*Thank you for writing to us with your side of things, Mike. We apologize for any painful memories this might have brought up for you.*

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## SFSFC Continues SMOFCon Scholarships for 2007

San Francisco Science Fiction Conventions, Inc. (SFSFC) has voted to continue up to two scholarships of \$500 to help convention runners in training attend the SMOFCon convention-runners convention in Boston MA this year over the weekend of December 7-9, 2007.

SMOFCon is an annual convention about organizing science fiction conventions. Subject matter ranges from managing small conventions up to the unique challenges of World Science Fiction Conventions. The convention is held in a different city each year. The 2007 SMOFCon will be in Boston MA at the Hilton Boston Logan Airport. More information about this year's SMOFCon is available on their web site.

The SFSFC scholarships are open to anyone involved in running science fiction conventions, regardless of their place of residence; however, applicants must be able to demonstrate that their attendance at SMOFCon will benefit San Francisco Bay Area conventions. Applications will be judged by the scholarship administrators, who for 2007 are the three directors of SFSFC who have chaired Worldcons: David W. Clark, Kevin Standlee, and Tom Whitmore.

An application form is available at SFSFC's web site or by writing to SFSFC at PO Box 61363, Sunnyvale CA 94088-1363. SFSFC must receive (postmark date does not count) applications by October 15, 2007.

This is the fourth year that SFSFC has issued scholarships to allow promising convention runners to attend SMOFCon.

The name "SMOF" stands for "Secret Masters Of Fandom," and is a humorous reference to the people who organize and manage science fiction conventions. Another term sometimes used for such people is "conrunner."

SFSFC was the parent non-profit corporation of ConJosé, the 2002 World Science Fiction Convention, and ConFrancisco, the 1993 Worldcon.

Contacts:

SFSFC: Kevin Standlee [info@sfsfc.org](mailto:info@sfsfc.org)

SMOFCon 25: <http://www.noreascon.org/smofcon/>

# Editorial

**By Christopher J. Garcia**

*Editor*

Hot time, summer in The City. FANAC continues unabated and the world turns closer to WorldCon, where they'll announce that I've lost two Hugos.

I build my calendar around the placement of cons: Summer starts with BayCon and ends with WorldCon. This year, summer also includes NASFiC, Westercon and this thing called Con-X-Treme.

Frank Wu, Hugo-winning Fan Artist and good buddy of mine, has of late become dissatisfied with cons. He wrote that he thinks there may be too many, that the quality of them has dipped, that we're not bringing in enough young folks. I'm not sure I agree with all of that, but I do agree with one thing: we need to make some changes.

I'm not talking about big honkin' changes like redefining what a WorldCon is or what the Hugos do (though Best Fan Writer might need some reworking...), I'm talking about moving things along in new directions. Case in point: The Fanzine Lounge.

Traditionally, the Fanzine Lounge is a place with a bunch of tables, a ton of zines, and a few people sitting around talking, maybe reading. It's almost always the same lot of people at each con. This year at BayCon, we broke that up a little and at Westercon we completely shattered it. There were always people around and the

place was basically a party by 10 each evening. It was the kind of place you'd go to chat, maybe pick up one of the notebooks and draw (after I threatened you into doing so), and basically have a good time. There were regular fanzine fans like myself, young folks like Wendy Newton, non-stop party people, SMoFs, and various others. Everyone seems to have stopped by and had a sit and chatted folks up. It was a melting pot of the best kind.

And that's part of what was so great about this year's Westercon. It was so very different. There was a gaming room that was right next to the Fanzine Lounge and was jumping the entire con (though the Lounge did stay open a little later!). Filking was big on a couple of the nights too. These are not typically the most happenin' places for a con, but Westercon was very different.

And that difference could lead us to the future. I'd love to see us working towards a new idea, a new-ish form where it's no longer about emphasis, but about availability. There's the idea that you need to appeal to the gamers to get admission numbers up, but you could get more folks (over time) by simply putting on a great con. By having a lot of options that are "open" instead of laser-focused, you can get more folks involved in more areas. The gaming didn't feel like Gamers-Only. It felt like a place to sit, play a few games and have a good time (and I gotta give it up to Mike and his crew for

being Awesome!). The Fanzine Lounge wasn't just a place for Fanzine Fans. They were parts of a whole that got traffic and increased the overall impression of a good time.

Looking at SiliCon coming up and LosCon (where I'm taking my Fanzine Lounge Idea on the road) and eventually BayCon, I'm thinking that Fandom's seldom been in this good a position. Frank is right, there probably are too many cons going on at once, thinning the number of people that can attend any one. Many of these are the tightly focused cons that don't see much overlap with the others, but still, if there was only one game in town, you'd see a very different situation. I'd love to see a widening of the net that the General Interest cons throw, and for them to take a look at how everything can be made more generally accessible. Con is about community, and little communities within a con are fine, but imagine if you could get them all talking and partying together?

In other news, it looks like all those science fiction authors were right: we're under attack from the squids.

That's right, the Humboldt Squid, those magnificent underwater beasts that can grow to seven feet long, have been showing up in Northern and Central California waters, eatin' our fish, and breeding. These things eat and kill quite effectively, mostly only stuff that's

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# North Bay Meetup Highlights Busy Month

By Jack Avery  
Staff Writer

## Local Author News

Local Writer Jeff Carlson has a new book out. "Plague Year" is set in post-apocalyptic California where nanotechnology designed to fight cancer has instead evolved into a nanotech plague that kills most life on earth. He is doing a number of signings at area bookstores in August.

San Francisco science fiction author Frank Robinson's short story "Two Weeks in August" was adapted as a radio-style drama and performed by the Pulpcon Players at the recently concluded convention for pulp collectors in Dayton, Ohio.

The Hugo Award-winning author is himself a pulp collector and past guest of honor at the convention, but he was unable to attend this year as he is completing work on his latest novel.

## Passings

Fantasy film actor and long-time San Francisco resident Kerwin Mathews, perhaps best known for his portrayal of Sinbad in *The Seventh Voyage of Sinbad*, passed away July 5 at his home in San Francisco.

Mathews starred in such fantasy films and TV as *Space Patrol*, *The Seventh Voyage of Sinbad*, *Saffo Venere de Lesbo*, *The Three Worlds of Gulliver*, *Jack the Giant Killer*, *Ghostbreakers*,

*Death Takes a Holiday*, *The Boy Who Cried Werewolf* and *Nightmare in Blood*.

Upon retiring from acting in 1978, he became an antiques dealer in San Francisco, occasionally appearing at film conventions.

For further information on his film career: <http://www.meekermuseum.com/kerwin.html>

Other obituaries of the actor: <http://news.independent.co.uk/people/obituaries/article2750478.ece> and <http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2007/07/08/BAGLAQT1D51.DTL>

## Bay Area Fan News

Prominent local artist and fan Frank Wu will be showing his animated film *Guidolon, the Giant Space Chicken* at the next Santa Rosa meetup for *Science Fiction/San Francisco* fans on August 5 at Mysterious Futures Bookstore. Six attended the first meetup.

Wu will also be a guest at the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society in North Hollywood on Thursday, August 9. He'll be showing *Guidolon* with another independent short, *Haunted Planet*.



**Preston, Paul, Liz and Terra, four of the six attendees of the first *Science Fiction/San Francisco* meetup in Santa Rosa.**

Wu's latest project has also attracted the attention of the folks at Boing Boing: [http://www.boingboing.net/2007/07/09/frank\\_wus\\_guidolon\\_t.html](http://www.boingboing.net/2007/07/09/frank_wus_guidolon_t.html)

Sometime Bay Area Fan and BASFA member Cheryl Morgan was guest of honor in July at Finncon, the largest fan convention in Finland. Among her many accomplishments, Morgan won the Hugo Award in 2004 for her much-missed fanzine *Emerald City*.

Yahoo Underground continues to mine last year's World Science Fiction Convention for items; Bay Area Fan Kevin Roche recently was featured: <http://underground.yahoo.com/blogpost/425/aq:WorldCon/>

#### **Club News**

The Bay Area Science Fiction Association, which has been meeting weekly in Campbell for several years, is changing meeting location after the restaurant where the group had been meeting decided to close an hour earlier on Monday nights. The group is meeting at different locations until they find a new permanent home.

#### **Convention News**

July's Sac-Anime has come and gone. The reviews of this gate show are very mixed. I personally thought that the hotel was a poor choice for a convention venue, but I did think the video programing was very up-to-date.

Consplayers.com's Pikmin Link's report can be found at: [http://www.consplayers.com/conventionreports\\_sac%20anime07.htm](http://www.consplayers.com/conventionreports_sac%20anime07.htm) and photos from the Consplayers.com crew are at <http://www.consplayers.com/coppermine/thumbnails.php?album=360>

Anime Los Angeles head Chaz Boston Baden has a trip report on his visit to Sac-Anime

on his blog at: <http://hazelchaz.livejournal.com/94985.html#cutid1>

The fifth Japan Town Anime Faire will not be held in Japan Town following a move to San Francisco's Fort Mason Center this year. The convention will be held on November 10-11. Pre-registration is \$32 until October 31 and will be \$35 at the door. Guests of Honor will be akai SKY, Quarter Circle, Stephanie Yanez, The Shogunate, Eurobeat King and Alex Shen.

Events will include video gaming, an exhibit hall, a video room, costume contest, live performances, panels and anime bingo.

They seem to be having some trouble with their website, but try: <http://www.project760.net/jtaf/forms/> or [www.myspace.com/jtaf](http://www.myspace.com/jtaf)

According to Alan Rosenthal, "the rumors of a Ditto revival are true. We will be combining Ditto with ArtCon this year in order to celebrate Art Widner's 90th birthday in grand style." The event will be held October 26-28 in Gualala. Tickets are \$30 before September 30 or \$40 at the door.

Art Winder is better known to fanzinistas as "R" Twidner. Ditto is a fanzine fan convention.

Checks should be made out to Alan Rosenthal and sent to P.O. Box 75684, Seattle, WA 98175-0684.

Further Confusion has released their July newsletter at: <http://community.livejournal.com/furcon/197370.html#cutid1>

Items include information on the summer picnic and camp out; the news that the Doubletree is sold out the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of the convention but overflow hotel space is still available; and new guest announcements.

Moira Hahn has been announced as guest of honor at this year's convention.

The display board outside of Japan Video in San Francisco's Japantown has been updated with this year's pictures of cosplayers who took part in the Cherry Blossom Festival last spring.

#### **Writer's Group News**

There's a couple of new writers' groups forming for prospective genre fiction authors.

According to a flier that's making the rounds, there's a new science fiction readers and writers group forming. Here's the info:

"Love to read or write science fiction? Want to get published or devour never before seen SF? Meet or correspond with other science fiction writers and readers weekly for constructive criticism sessions and to discuss outlets for publication. Possible annual magazine published.

"Contact: [LaurenAddress@hotmail.com](mailto:LaurenAddress@hotmail.com)  
"Include name, and some science fiction themes you enjoy."

The Creative Writers of Marin met Tuesday, July 24 at the café in Borders Bookstore in San Rafael. The organizer is interested in fantasy, sci fi, poetry and paranormal romance. This group is using [www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com) to organize their events.

#### **Bookstore News**

Kinokuniya Bookstore in San Francisco's Japantown is remodeling some office space downstairs from their existing space to provide a 2,000 square foot display area dedicated to anime, manga and Japanese pop culture goods.

The expansion is expected to open sometime in August after construction to connect the current second floor space with the



new area. Manga and anime now account for up to 15 percent of the Kinokuniya's sales.

The Kamikaze Pop store located in the Santa Rosa Plaza Mall has closed. The kiosk-style store that specialized in anime and manga goods had been open less than a year. The store may reopen in another Bay Area location.

Santa Rosa's Lakeside Books has closed following the death of the store's owner. The store had a small science fiction section.

### **Anime and Manga News**

The July 12-18 issue of the *Nichi Bei Times*, a San Francisco newspaper for the Japanese and Japanese American community, contains a nine-page special section on anime and manga. It includes articles on local artists, the Blast Off! event at the Asian Art Museum, the Yoshitoshi and Tezuka exhibits at the Asian Art Museum, cosplay, the Banzai/Godzilla exhibit at Fort Mason Center, and maid cafes in Japan. It includes reviews of manga as well as a list of anime and manga related stores in San Francisco's Japantown.

The paper is available in Japantown or at the website at [www.nichibeitimes.com](http://www.nichibeitimes.com).

In the supplement, *Nichi Bei Times* announced the winners of its recent manga art contest. First place went to Tony Foti of San Jose, second place: Fionna Tam of San Leandro, third place: Meiko Kikuto of San Francisco with honorable mention going to Tracey MacCorkindale of Arlington, Texas.

Winners will receive versions of e frontier's Manga Studio software.

### **Film Festivals**

The schedule for the 2007 Dead Channels Festival of Fantastic Film is up at [http:](http://www.deadchannels.com/schedule.php)

[//www.deadchannels.com/schedule.php](http://www.deadchannels.com/schedule.php)

Some movies don't have descriptions up yet, but at least we know what's playing. The festival will be held at the Roxie New College Film Center in San Francisco on Friday, August 10 through Thursday August 16

The 4 Star Theater in San Francisco has restarted an ongoing Thursday Night Asian Movie Madness program. Full details at [www.hkinsf.com/4star/comingsoon.html](http://www.hkinsf.com/4star/comingsoon.html)

Films in the program with fantasy content include *The Great Yokai War* which will play August 17 as a double feature with *Ichi The Killer*. The later is based on a manga and has an anime sequel, although it's more of a gore/yakuza film than a fantasy.

There's also going to be a 10th Asian Film Festival in November at the theater, but the schedule is not yet available.

### **Music News**

Sacramento-based *Star Trek* band Warp 11 will open for actor George Takei at an evening Creation Con concert September 28 in Sacramento. The rock band also has a new album out and will be playing a gig at the 12 Galaxies in San Francisco. For more information go to [www.warp11.com](http://www.warp11.com).

### **Theater News**

San Francisco's Black Box Theatre's podcast of their adaptation of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*

is now available on the theater's website for free. The recording was made as part of last year's Free Night of Theater 2006. The recording can be heard at: <http://www.blackboxtheatre.com/>



**Anime Los Angeles Chair Chaz Boston-Baden at Sac-Anime**

Photo by Jack Avery

# SF Theater Festival is Light on S/F

**By Jack Avery**

*Staff Writer*

It seems that every year, the San Francisco Theater Festival has fewer and fewer acts that are speculative fiction.

This year the free event, held July 22 at Yerba Buena Gardens in San Francisco, had almost none, although I couldn't see every act and some sf might have slipped past me.

The most sf of all the acts I saw was the Atmos Theatre's sampling of their upcoming presentation of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Constrained by the half hour limit on performances, the group excerpted a story line with Oberon and Puck causing mischief to the two main romantic couples through the use of magic.

This was well done and well acted, although the actors sometimes did not speak loudly enough to overcome the noise from neighboring plays, passing helicopters and noisy sea gulls.

Atmos Theater is putting on the full version of the play in the middle of a redwood forest in Woodside through September 2. (See the Calendar for details.)

After that, it was off to see "Pirate Tenaya Plunders Europe." And when she says she's after booty, it's not pirate booty that she's after.

What can I say about Tenaya? Earnest, innocent, painfully naive. With lyrics of her own set to songs from popular musicals, she tells the

story of the months she spent traveling Europe on her own, making sure she nails at least one guy from every country she visits.

Somehow music from Disney just

doesn't mesh well with songs about getting stoned in Amsterdam and seeing the Red Light District. Maybe it's just me.

The best performance I saw was "Venus Christ," despite the long, long, interpretive dance sequence in the middle.

I enjoyed the music, a funk-oriented rock blend of various traditional musical styles, and the lead singer was quite talented. I liked her cigar-chomping, bombastic style that borrowed elements from syncretic Caribbean religious rites, the more theatrical of modern Christian traditions and touches of Jim Morrison's stage persona and "Jesus Christ Superstar."

The piece opened up with the lead signer invoking the feminine spirits and all that pseudo-religious Earth Mother mumbo jumbo. This was a pean to hippie-style feminist empowerment raised to a religious fervor,



**Puck and Oberon**

Photo by Jack Avery

**> Festival, Page 30**

# Manga Mini-Con at the Asian Art Museum

By Jack Avery

Staff Writer

It's always fascinating to see a non-traditional, non-fan organization put together a convention. So much of fandom and the way we do fan events is based entirely on tradition. Even if a modern con organizer has never heard of the 1939 Worldcon, they end up following similar templates that have been passed down by fans through the years. Either that or they react against those templates.

Which is why it's so neat to see what people from outside that tradition come up with.

Case in point was the Blast Off! event held July 7 at the Asian Art Museum as part of their ongoing *Tezuka: The Marvel of Manga* special exhibit.

While it contained some elements borrowed from traditional anime conventions, such as a cosplay contest, it also drew from a very different perspective coming from the art and museum community.

The event seemed aimed at a younger, family audience with a general background rather than the hard-core anime and manga fan base.

Instead of panels, for example, they had a series of lectures. There was a series of performances in a large open performance space. There was no dealer's area, but there were lots of hands-on demonstrations and art activities.

And one heck of an art exhibit.

One difference from typical fan-run conventions that I really liked was the registration system. Instead of mucking about with name badges and forms, you paid your money and got a ticket with a little label that you affixed to your clothing to prove you had paid. There were no lines to get in and the system worked well because of its simplicity. Unlike at many cons, the admissions department ran smoothly and had the authority to deal with issues on the spot with a focus on customer service rather than bureaucracy.

Opening ceremonies included a performance by Gen Taiko. Very good, although I don't know much about Taiko. It was very loud and energetic and a good way to start the event.

After enjoying the Taiko performance, I took a quick look around at the manga lounge. This wasn't a fan lounge like at a normal con, it was more of an exhibit space with examples of



Title page for *Wonder 3 (Wanda suri)*, 1966 by Tezuka Osamu (Japanese, 1928–1989). Watercolor. © Tezuka Productions.

Image courtesy Asian Art Museum

manga and anime culture including a platform made up as a “typical” anime fan’s bedroom.

One interesting area was the hands-on demonstrations. These included a gaming and comic book demonstration with Derek Yu and Anthony Wu, a hands-on printmaking demonstration with Hellen Jo and a Dojinshi demonstration with Jing Bentley and Mark Miyake. This area also had large sheets of paper hung up so that attendees could draw their own art. This was also the area where the Manga drawing contest was held.

I stuck my head in the door for Fred Schodt and Gilles Poitras lecture on manga and anime. This was a lecture aimed at a general audience that gave an overview of the history as well as current trends in anime and manga.

Like all cons, there were often too many things happening at the same time, although the various programming tracks were kept mostly separate. There was a lecture track in one of the museum’s education rooms, a performance track held in a large upstairs gallery, and a hands-on art track.

In addition, when attendees didn’t have an event they wanted to see, they could take in both the Tezuka exhibit and the neighboring exhibit, *Yoshitoshi’s Strange Tales: Woodblock Prints from Edo to Meiji*.

In addition to binders with descriptions of Tezuka’s work, there were docent-led tours through the exhibit, including tours led by teens for teens.

There was a break in the activities I wanted to see, so I took in the Tezuka exhibit. It was amazing and well worth seeing. The exhibit contained both enlarged facsimiles of pages

from a number of Tezuka works as well as pages of original comic art and covers. The choices ranged the whole of Tezuka’s lengthy career and covered a number of different genres.

Also amazing was the Yoshitoshi exhibit. These wood block prints are simply stunning.



**Haines & Dolls**

Photo by Jack Avery

The two exhibits really go well together and play off of each other.

The museum wanted to show the history of Japanese art as it transformed from traditional forms into modern manga, according to Rui Sasaki, a member of the curatorial department.

I missed the Natsu Onoda performance of Tezuka’s “Okina Mori no Monogatari” (Story of a Big Forest), which I really wanted to see, because it was scheduled at the same time as an excellent lecture on the history of Japanese pop art from Meiji era woodblocks to manga.

That lecture, by artist Marco Marinucci, really showed the strengths of having a museum backing the event. Marinucci was an excellent lecturer, relating the history of wood block printing, its cultural significance and its relation to later manga publishing.

Much of his lecture used Yoshitoshi’s work and life as a basis for explaining the wood block print industry and the art of traditional Japanese wood block prints. He described how the prints, now viewed as fine art, were originally meant for mass consumption. He did a good job of describing how wood block printing changed with the times and how it related to Japanese culture and history. There was a lot of information on Yoshitoshi that really enhanced the exhibit and brought Yoshitoshi’s time and work to life.

Following that on the lecture track was Kelly Haines cosplay and dollfie lecture. It was weighted more heavily toward the Asian ball-jointed doll side of things, as might be expected for the chair of next year’s Dollectable ABJD convention. I was surprised that there weren’t more cosplayers there, but it was still a good

lecture. She covered quite a range of subjects for dollie cosplay, from Loveless to Slam Dunk, cosplaying with ball jointed dolls and cosplay in general. For the lecture, Haines cosplayed as a character from the anime “Last Exile.”

Overall, I was surprised by the lack of familiar faces and how few cosplayers there were. There were just a couple of hall cosplayers and there were only six contestants in the cosplay contest. In fact, many of the cosplayers



**Black Jackie & Friend**

Photo by Jack Avery

were museum staff.

One such cosplayer was museum store employee Nicole Harvey, who also is a member of an exhibition sub-committee. She came dressed as “Black Jackie,” a female version of Black Jack, one of Tezuka’s famous and long-running manga characters.

Harvey said the two exhibits were bringing in a completely different demographic than the museum usually sees. The Blast Off! event was bringing in a lot of “tweens” while the Yoshitoshi exhibit was drawing the tattoo crowd.

The Tezuka exhibit was brought over from Australia where it originally was shown. Harvey said the museum staff and administration were strongly behind the exhibit. The sub-committee she served on tried to provide a link between the museum and fan culture. One of the projects she worked on was the manga lounge, where people could draw their own manga, see examples of manga and anime, look at character goods, and experience a “typical” manga fan’s bedroom complete with Naruto cosplay jacket tossed casually on the bed.

Mid afternoon was time for the cosplay contest.

The turnout for this was disappointing: there were only three scheduled entries and three walk-ons.

The first contestant was a mother-daughter team that cosplayed as Sailor Moon and Luna. The daughter danced as Mom sang one of the theme songs from the long-running series.

The second entry, Chado from the manga and anime “Bleach,” didn’t have a prepared act, but spurred on by the opening act gave an improvised rendition of “Twinkle, Twinkle,



**Luna & Sailor Moon**

Photo by Jack Avery

Little Star.”

The third and final registered entry played a villain from the “Naruto” series.

Walk-ons included “L finds the Death Note,” a Misa, also from “Death Note,” and a girl who came as a box of Pocky (the signature anime fan snack), reprising her Halloween costume from last year,

All six entries were awarded a prize. Sailor Moon and Luna took first place, Pocky took second, Naruto villain was in third, Chado was fourth, Misa was fifth and L was sixth.

After the contest it was back to finish looking at the Yoshitoshi exhibit. I got so caught up that I missed the first part of Ramen and Rice’s concert.

They were wonderful as usual. Ramen and Rice were the only two cosplayers that I recognized and they were in “civilian” clothes.

The popular violin and cello duo played to an appreciative crowd of more than 100 in the second floor performance area. The duo are quite good musicians and exhibited a range of bow techniques.

They seemed to take the performance more soberly than usual. The duo usually performs at conventions, often busking in the hallways for tips to offset the cost of attending the convention, although lately they have become invited performers drawing a steady audience.

Among the pieces played were a selection of themes from Naruto, Oran Host Club, the opening theme to the Kingdom Hearts game, three pieces from Samurai X, the main theme from Inuyasha and “On That Day” from the “Spirited Away” soundtrack.

Particularly lovely was Ashitaka’s Theme from Mononoke Hime.

Styles ranged from neo-classical to the rock “Ready, Steady, Go” cover from the American version of Full Metal Alchemist. They finished with a medley from classic Nintendo video games.

One area that was similar to that of a regular convention was the game room where Dance Dance Revolution was set up for attendees to play.

After the performance, I sat down to watch one of the two movies on Tezuka that were playing, but it was time for the museum to close and I was shooed out the door. No late-night bull sessions in the con suite here.

That’s one thing I did miss, a con suite. But

it’s unusual for anime cons to have con suites, so it wasn’t really an oversight.

For those who missed the Blast Off! event, there’s still time to take in the Tezuka and Yoshitoshi exhibits, the storytelling scrolls display and the manga lounge and Tezuka films. The museum also offers several other events related to the Tezuka event coming up.

And even those who did attend the event can return to see the second rotation of prints in the Yoshitoshi exhibit that didn’t go on display until the following week.

<http://www.asianart.org>

<http://www.marvelofmanga.org>



**Ramen & Rice**

Photo by Jack Avery

# “Banzai/Godzilla” at Fort Mason Center

**By Jack Avery**  
*Staff Writer*

Japanese pop culture has become trendy in the Western art world, and for good reason: the Japanese are doing some very interesting things with their art.

The *Banzai/Godzilla: Japanese Influences in American Culture Then and Now* exhibition at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art’s Artist Gallery at Fort Mason Center offered an example of this trendiness gone wrong.

The show was supposed to showcase artists that had been influenced by classical Japanese motifs and styles (the “Banzai” part of the exhibit) and those influenced by manga and anime culture (the “Godzilla” part). But this ended up being a showcase of minimalism in the former and an insufficient commitment to the source in the later.

There were some good pieces: Howard Munson’s work is technically well done, visually appealing and actually on-topic. Munson, who creates hand-crafted books as works of art, had two pieces in the show.

The first of these was the most

“manga” of any of the works presented. He built a book that opens to reveal that the pages are a folded scroll of paper that cascades down the piece, evoking traditional Asian storytelling scrolls. Tumbling down the page like a waterfall are little rectangular cutout panels of manga images with similarly-shaped black boxes. This has the sense of movement and linear time inherent in sequential art while separating it from the need to tell a story. He’s taken the physical form of manga, as well as the way it’s packaged, and converted it into pure art.

His second work in the show was also a book, this time a pop-up book that exploded the traditionally two-dimensional form of manga into three dimensions.

Artist Scott Tsuchitani’s work is also clearly connected to Japanese pop culture. He takes wartime photos of Japanese children and superimposes pop culture figures onto them. In one, Astroboy and Ultraman stare forlornly from behind the barbed wire of an internment camp. At least I think it’s a U.S. internment camp; there’s no information as to where the photos derive from.

The sculptures of Tomoko Nakazato strongly echo the work of current Japanese

pop artists who combine psychedelic or bizarre imagery with cute child-like figures.

Another artist, Kathy Aoki, produces sheep drawn from Japanese “Kawaii” or “cute” culture.

But sadly, these were the few standout artists in the show. The remaining parts of the Godzilla half of the show just didn’t seem to have any connection to manga or anime. The Banzai part was just minimalist. One of these sculptures was a wooden post with some junk sitting on it, topped by a plain rock. Hasn’t the art community moved beyond calling a pile of refuse “art?” I suppose not.

Another problem I had with the exhibit was a lack of context and information. It was sometimes unclear where the work of one artist left off and another began, and there was no information or title posted by the artwork. Instead you had to cross reference a number with the exhibit catalog located at the front of the exhibit to find a piece’s title.

The exhibit ended on July 27. If you didn’t make it out there to see it, you didn’t miss a whole lot.

# BASFA Minutes: Meetings 885-886

## Meeting 885

July 18, 2007

Meeting 885 of the Bay Area Science Fiction Association was held in the w/a/l/k-i/n/ f/r/e/e/z/e/r/ meeting room of the Round Table Pizza, Milpitas CA. The meeting was called to order on July 18, 2007 at 8:04 p.m., President Trey Haddad presiding and President Emeritus, etc. Kevin Standlee acting as Secretary. At least 17 people attended. Officers absent: Secretary Barbara Johnson-Haddad.

### Previous minutes:

The minutes of meeting 884 were adopted as "Shaken, not stirred." The minutes of meeting 883 are still pending because Mr. Standlee didn't think to print out a copy.

### Officer Reports

#### Treasurer's report:

Last week the general fund collected \$15.31, bringing the total to \$9,900.81. The Party Fund, bolstered by the AwahneeCon surplus, took in \$115.82, for a total of \$590.81. The Treasurer noted that the Party Fund total does not include any expenses from Westercon.

The notice for the money motion to be voted next week is in the mail.

#### Vice President:

There will be a new issue of The Drink Tank and of SF/SF soon.

#### President:

The president introduced a new member who joined

at Westercon, but whose name the Acting Secretary neglected to record.

### Committees:

The Party Committee reports that it has enough money to be able to hold two nights of parties (Friday, Saturday) at Con-X-Treme.

Chris Garcia reported that the Fanzine Committee is working on the new incarnation of the clubzine - to be titled The BASFA Times - but needs content. Contact him if you can provide some.

Dave Gallaher reported that the Site Selection Committee had secured a site for the Monday, July 30 meeting: Giovanni's Pizza in Sunnyvale. He will post the rest of the test sites and dates soon, probably by next Monday.

### Business:

There was no business.

### Announcements:

David W. Clark announced the recent death of Bay Area "founding fan" Clifton Amsbury.

Mr. Clark announced that he now has a Wikipedia entry, and produced as evidence the listing for David Worth Clark, an Idaho senator who died in 1955.

### Reviews:

Chris Garcia reviewed the new Harry Potter movie as a good place to go when your foot hurts and worth full price. There were numerous follow-ons, including "Read the book first," and "The least accessible of the movies to date."

Chris also reviewed a "preview copy" of the final

Potter novel: "Wow."

Chris reviewed the St. George's Spirits Open House: Food, chocolate, and especially the liquor all great. Worth full price including the bottle he bought.

David W. Clark reviewed an example of the kind of junk mail he gets as a bookseller, specifically material trying to get him to stock The Tomb of the Devils (wretched self-published dreck). Hilarity followed as he provided examples of the book's illiterate and ungrammatical official description on Amazon.com.

Mr. Clark reviewed Buzz Cola (purchased at the Kwik-E-Mart) as "It's nice, but doesn't have the complexity of Coca-Cola or Pepsi. Not as good as Jolt Cola. Flat aftertaste redolent of too much caffeine." Mr. Garcia followed up by saying it was refreshing when chilled to -40 degrees.

David Gallaher reviewed the International Chocolate Salon at Fort Mason this past weekend. More than thirty chocolatiers were at the event. He's still on a sugar high, and it was very much worth the \$20 tickets.

Adrienne Foster reviewed epinions.com's "Community Day," which was a day when lots of the site's members were encouraged to gather at a number of regional events. She said that at least a dozen attended the event in San Francisco, including her, and that it was worth dining out on epinion's money.

Joanie reviewed Elsewhere, a young adult novel as "sort of comforting and pleasant, but a horrible idea. Not worth reading for the sake of your job."



#### Auctions:

A vast pile of books appeared on the table. The Treasurer conducted a "Dutch Auction" for the right to take away lots of ten at a time, the highest bidders getting earliest choice. When the written bids were unsealed, the winners paid  $\$10 + \$3.75 + \$3 + \$2.25 + \$1 + \$0.25 = \$20.25$  and there was only an empty cardboard box left under the table, which Mr. Garcia reclaimed.

#### Rumor of the Week:

The rumor of the week was "It's hard to write when your fingers are frozen."

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20 p.m.

Kevin Standlee  
Acting Secretary

#### Meeting 886

July 25, 2007

Meeting 886 of the Bay Area Science Fiction Association was held in the meeting room of the Round Table Pizza, Milpitas CA. The meeting was called to order on July 25, 2007 at 8:01 p.m., Vice President Chris Garcia presiding and President Emeritus, etc. Kevin Standlee acting as Secretary. More than 20 people attended – the Emergency Holographic Secretary forgot to count. Officers absent: President Trey Haddad, Secretary Barbara Johnson-Haddad.

On a motion by David Clark, a "Bob Wilkins" Jar was established.

On a motion by Evil Kevin, a Party Jar was established.

#### Officer Reports:

#### President:

Trey and Barbara have been called out of town unexpectedly and send their regrets. They will be gone through August 5.

#### Treasurer's report:

Last week the general fund collected \$4.19, bringing the total to \$9,905. The Party Fund took in \$19.75, for a total of \$610.56. The Treasurer noted that the Party Fund total does not include any expenses from Westercon. Of the \$9,900, only about \$800 is readily available for spending; the remainder being tied up in certificates of deposit and in maintaining a minimum balance to avoid service charges.

#### Vice President:

The Vice President, with the consent of the meeting, jumped forward to the two Money Motions.

As the Vice President had to leave the room for a few minutes, Andy Trembley assumed the Chair. The Treasurer read the meeting notice with the money motions. The VP resumed the Chair.

#### Money Motions:

Per BASFA rules, motions to spend the club's money have to be announced in advance with a postcard mailing to all registered members. Only registered BASFA members may vote. BASFA's "Chicago-style" voting is not allowed, nor are proxies. Members may vote only once on each issue. A motion to spend money may be amended to spend less (but not more) than the amount originally proposed in the meeting notice.

#### Money Motion #1: Kaja Foglio

The meeting entertained a motion on behalf of Mr. Haddad, as summarized in the notice of this meeting:

Resolved, That the Bay Area Science Fiction Association grants \$\_\_\_ to Kaja and Phil Foglio

to assist in the payment of extraordinary medical expenses.

It was explained that Kaja went into the hospital with a flare-up of Crohn's disease. There was further discussion of how much liquid cash we have. The Treasurer has discretion on when to actually pay out grants based on when our certificates of deposit are due.

There was discussion of how much money to fill the blank with. This being a motion to spend money, we will start with \$1,000 (the amount in the meeting call, and thus the largest amount we're allowed to spend) and work downward in \$100 increments.

There was explanation of the Foglios' finances and how much perceived need. While the Foglios do have health insurance, they have co-payments and deductibles regarding an expensive hospital stay. Members asked about precedent: BASFA has donated money to furnish individuals with health problems; the Treasurer said that such payments have been in the neighborhood of \$300. Unfortunately, the motion's original maker was unable to attend tonight, and we do not have a lot of information about the specific need.

There was considerable, spirited debate about the club's finances, the Foglios' financial need, and related issues.

Adrienne Foster asked if we could postpone the motion until next week. This would effectively kill the motion because we'd then have to restart the notice procedure from scratch. (She did not move a postponement.)

There was more discussion of how the club's treasury is arranged. The Chair of the Party Committee asked if we could take money from the

Party Fund. The ruling was “No; the Party Fund is dedicated to holding BASFA parties, so we can’t divert it to other purposes.”

There was a concern expressed that the club shouldn’t be jointly making charitable decisions, and that individuals should donate money individually. Other members said that the club can spend money the way the club decides, and that might include spending it on charitable purposes.

After debate, values to fill the blank were considered, starting with the largest amount and working downward in \$100 increments. Eventually the blank was filled with \$500, and the motion with \$500 in the blank passed on a counted show of hands, 16-4.

The Treasurer will pay this out as our cash flow allows. If anyone wants to piggyback additional donations on top of the club’s donation, see the Treasurer.

#### Money Motion #2: Bob Wilkins

Mr. David Clark introduced a resolution, as summarized in the notice of this meeting:

Whereas, Bob Wilkins influenced a vast number of science fiction and fantasy fans in Northern California over a period of more than thirty years; and

Whereas, Bob Wilkins is now suffering from Alzheimer’s disease; and

Whereas, BASFA would like to extend its appreciation to Bob Wilkins for his many years of service to the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Bay Area Science Fiction

Association grants \$300 to the Alzheimer’s Aid Society of Northern California for the care of Bob Wilkins.

Mr. Clark explained the reasoning behind the resolution, and the importance of Bob Wilkins to Bay Area fandom. There are members of BASFA who found fandom thanks to Wilkins putting Jerry Jacks on Creature Features back in the 1970s to talk about an upcoming Westercon. Mr. Clark said that Wilkins was one of the most unifying factors in Bay Area fandom of the 1970s and 1980s. Now that Wilkins is suffering from Alzheimer’s and his family has asked for donations for his care, this would be a good way for us to show our appreciation of what he’s done.

There were again arguments that the club should not be spending club money on acts of private charity.

In response to questions, Mr. Clark reiterated that Wilkins’s family is soliciting donations for his care, and that they’ve asked for the aid to be to the Alzheimer’s Aid Society and specifically for Bob Wilkins’s care. This is not a donation to research on Alzheimer’s, but a specific donation to care for a specific person.

There were several more arguments for and against the motion, including one by proxy that the club should not be spending money on people who aren’t even members of the club.

The question was called (>2/3 vote to close debate). The resolution passed on a vote by show of hands, 17-2. As with the Kaja Foglio motion, any persons wishing to piggyback donations onto the Bob Wilkins donation should see the Treasurer.

On a motion by Mr. Gallaher, a “Kaja Foglio Jar”

was established. There now being four jars in the room, the Treasurer did a little song-and-dance to explain which jar was which and how to donate to them.

#### Previous Minutes:

While a motion to approve the minutes of meeting 885 was under consideration with a pending amendment, Julie Porter moved to suspend the rules and go straight to Auctions. On a >2/3 vote, the rules were suspended and the meeting jumped to Auctions. (The motion to approve the minutes of meeting 885 was implicitly laid on the table by this action.)

#### Auctions:

There was a huge pile of auction material. The Secretary made no effort to attempt to keep track of the specific material. Many auctions were committed.

Julie Porter’s long-delayed birthday auction was finally held; she eventually sold for \$15.

#### Previous Minutes:

As the meeting returned to considering the minutes of meeting 885, there was a motion to adjourn. Before putting the question on adjournment, the Vice President asked the Site Selection Committee to report, because otherwise a lot of members might not realize where we are meeting next week.

#### Committees:

Dave Gallaher reported that the Site Selection Committee had secured sites for the next three meetings:

Monday, July 30 – Giovanni’s Pizzeria, 1127 N. Lawrence Expressway, Sunnyvale

Monday, August 6 – Coco's, 1206 Oakmead  
Parkway (at Lawrence Expressway), Sunnyvale

Monday, August 13 – Round Table Pizza, 5544  
Thornton Avenue, Newark

Adjournment:

On a vote of 11-5, the meeting adjourned at 9:39  
p.m.

Kevin Standlee

Emergency Holographic Secretary

# Join our crew:

We are looking for writers to  
cover local events,  
conventions, fan groups and the  
fannish scene in general.

Contact Jean Martin and Chris Garcia at  
[SFinSF@gmail.com](mailto:SFinSF@gmail.com)

# Bay Area Fannish Calendar

**Life is complicated; putting on an event is even more so. Please check before attending, as events are sometimes cancelled or times and locations changed.**

**New listings are in red.**

**Ongoing events are toward the back.**

## **Wednesday, August 1**

*Prophecy (1979)*

Pacific Film Archive

2575 Bancroft Way

Berkeley

[www.bampfa.berkeley.edu](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.cameracinemas.com)

Midnight

\$7.50

## **Friday-Monday, August 3-6**

*MythCon 38*

Clark Kerr Center

2601 Warring Street

Berkeley

[www.mythsoc.org](http://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**

*The Thrillotronic Film Festival*

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito

[www.cerritospeakeasy.com](http://www.cerritospeakeasy.com)

2 p.m.

\$8

A collection of vintage 16mm sci fi/monster movie trailers, shorts, drive-in snack ads, cartoons and more from the archives of Sci-Fi Bob Ekman and Paul Etcheverry. Hosted by Will the Thrill, Monica Tiki Goddess, *Cinema Insomnia's* Mr. Lobo and the Queen of Trash.

## **Saturday, August 4**

*Pride & Prejudice Picnic*

PEERS Event

Lincoln Park

1450 High Street

Alameda

[www.peers.org](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.cameracinemas.com)

Midnight

\$7.50

**Saturday-Sunday, August 4-5**

*The Animal Masquerade Weekend*

Great American Music Hall

859 O'Farrell Street

San Francisco

[www.animalmasquerade.com](http://www.animalmasquerade.com)

Sat. 8 p.m. \$25

Sun. 8 p.m. \$15

Rosin Coven, Vau de Vire Society, and a collection of burlesque performers, musicians and artists present a costume gala on Saturday evening, followed by an "animal variety show" on Sunday.

**August 4-September 2**

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Theatre in the Woods

2170 Bear Gulch Road

Woodside

[www.atmostheatre.com](http://www.atmostheatre.com)

\$20 general admission

Sat & Sun 1 p.m. (picnic from noon on)

\$20

Atmos Theater offers an opportunity to experience Shakespeare's play as part of a walk through an actual forest.

**Sunday, August 5**

*SF/SF 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 You-tube, see it for the first time in DVD quality. If you haven't seen it on You-tube, 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](http://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](http://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

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

**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*

Barnes and Noble

1149 S. Main Street

Walnut Creek

7:30 p.m.

Free

**Thursday, August 9**

*Firefly Night*

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito

www.cerritospeakeasy.com

9:15 p.m.

\$6

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

**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](http://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

**August 10-31**

*From the Tsars to the Stars:*

*A Journey Through Russian Fantastik Cinema*

Pacific Film Archive

2575 Bancroft Way

Berkeley

Wind demons and crystal palaces... shimmering aquatic gill-men and limitless vistas of outer space: For over eight decades Russian cinema has had an inspired filmmaking tradition that encompasses science fiction, folkloric fantasy, and absurdist humor, producing wildly entertaining movies that are only now being seen by American audiences. Schedule at [www.bampfa.berkeley.edu](http://www.bampfa.berkeley.edu)

**Saturday, August 11**

*Author: Jeff Carlson*

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

1 p.m.  
Free

**Saturday, August 11**

*Other Magazine Presents*

*Writers With Drinks*

The Make Out Room

3225 22nd Street

San Francisco

[www.writerswithdrinks.com](http://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](http://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](http://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, Richard Kadrey*

Preview Room

Variety Children's Charity

582 Market Street

San Francisco

[www.sfinsf.org](http://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](http://www.bampfa.berkeley.edu)

7:30 p.m.

\$8

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

**Thursday, August 16**

*Author: Austin Grossman*

Books Inc.

301 Castro Street

Mountain View

7:30 p.m.

Free

**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](http://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](http://www.ani-jam.com)

\$25, 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](http://www.borderlands-books.com)

3:00 p.m.

Free

More events next page

**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 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, 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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?

**Thursday, September 6**

*Buffy Night*

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito

[www.cerritospeakeasy.com](http://www.cerritospeakeasy.com)

9:15 p.m.

\$6

Three episodes of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* on the big screen.

**Friday, September 7**

*Music of the Spheres*

Lick Observatory

Mt. Hamilton Road

San Jose

[www.ucolick.org/public/music.html](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.siliconventions.com)

\$45

Media-oriented general SF con features art show, dealer's room, panels, masquerade, swap meet, indy 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.bascon.org)

\$75

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](http://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/](http://www.project760.net/jtaf/forms/)

\$35 at the door (\$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.

### **Saturday and Sunday, November 10-11**

*ConStruction 2007*

Holiday Inn

1740 North First Street

San Jose

[www.sfsfc.org/construction.php](http://www.sfsfc.org/construction.php)

\$35 at the door (\$25 through October 31)

A conference about organizing science fiction, fantasy, horror, anime, and related conventions with a focus on Northern California and the SF Bay Area.

### **Tuesday, November 13**

*Author: Rudy Rucker*

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

More Events Next Page

**Sunday, December 9**

*Sac-Con*  
 Scottish Rite Center  
 6151 H Street  
 Sacramento  
[www.sacramentocomics.com](http://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**

*Victorian Twelfth Night Ball*  
 PEERS Event  
[www.peers.org](http://www.peers.org)

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

**January 24-28**

*Further Confusion*  
 Doubletree Hotel  
 2050 Gateway Place  
 San Jose  
[www.furtherconfusion.org](http://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**

*Le Mardi Gras des Vampires*  
 PEERS Event  
[www.peers.org](http://www.peers.org)  
 Details to follow.

**Friday-Sunday, February 15-17**

*DunDraCon*  
 San Ramon Mariott  
 2600 Bishop Drive  
 San Ramon  
[www.dundracon.com](http://www.dundracon.com)  
 Annual gaming convention returns to San Ramon.

**Friday-Sunday, February 22-24**

*WonderCon*  
 Moscone Center South  
 747 Howard Street  
 San Francisco  
[www.comic-con.org/wc/](http://www.comic-con.org/wc/)  
 Comics and media con that seems to get bigger every year. Details to follow.

**Saturday, March 1**

*Pride and Prejudice Ball*  
 PEERS Event  
[www.peers.org](http://www.peers.org)  
 Details to follow.

**Saturday, April 5**

*The Royal Debutante Ball*  
 PEERS Event  
[www.peers.org](http://www.peers.org)  
 Details to follow.

**Friday-Monday, April 25-28**

*CostumeCon 26*  
 Doubletree Hotel  
 2050 Gateway Place  
 San Jose  
[www.cc26.info](http://www.cc26.info)  
 \$85

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

**Saturday, May 3**

*Chicago Speakeasy Ball*  
 PEERS Event  
[www.peers.org](http://www.peers.org)  
 Details to follow.

**Friday-Monday, May 23-26**

*BayCon*  
 Hyatt Regency Santa Clara  
 5101 Great America Parkway  
 Santa Clara  
[www.baycon.org/2008](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:sfscifi@yahoo.com) for more information.

#### **Monthly**

##### *Dorkbot-SF*

Free, donations welcome  
[www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf/](http://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/](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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.ussdefiance.org](http://www.ussdefiance.org)

7 p.m

Free

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

*Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE*

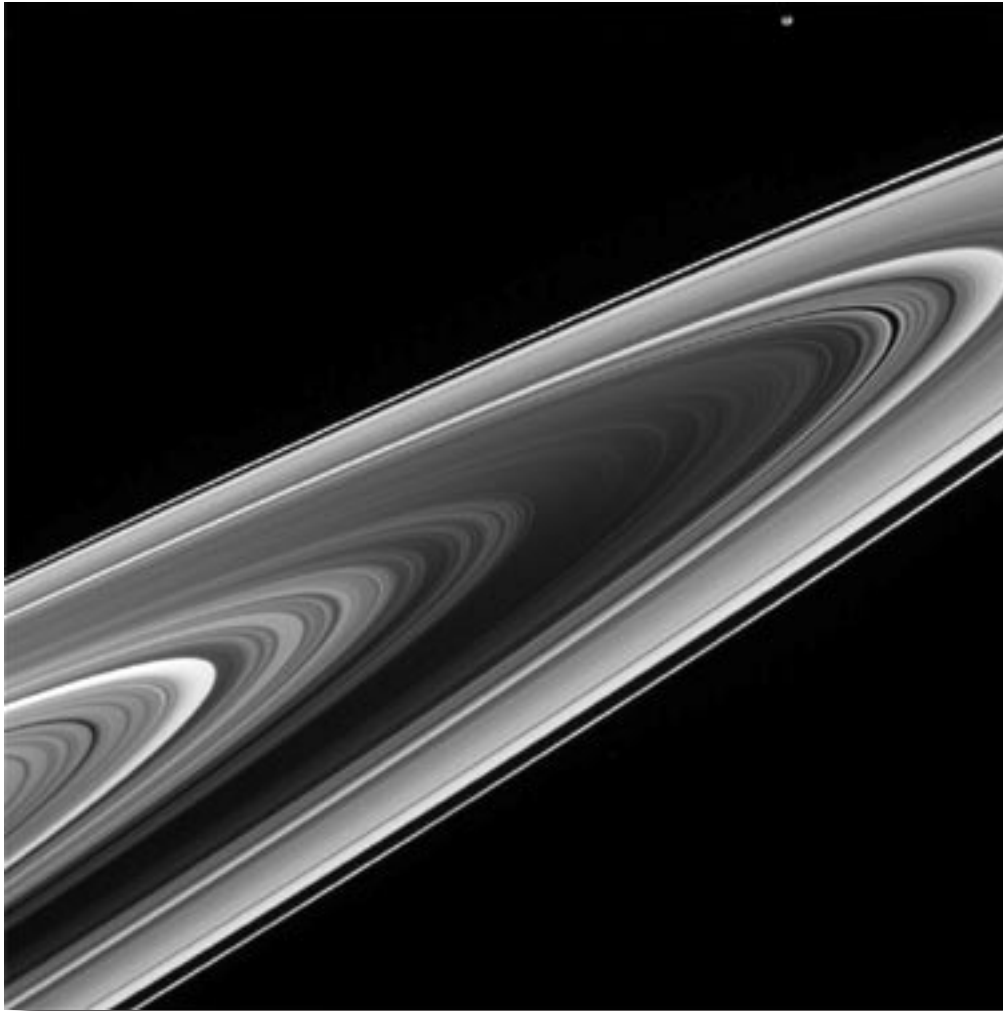
Round Table Pizza

4403 Elkhorn Blvd

Sacramento

916-338-2300

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



NASA Photo

[http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/multimedia/gallery/cassini\\_rings.jpg](http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/multimedia/gallery/cassini_rings.jpg)

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### *Editorial* (from page 6)

smaller than them, but they do have the ability to eat a lot of the stuff that's lower on the food chain and force other creatures out. I only mention this because it's obvious that they're on their way to taking over and we'll need to teach them fannish ways. Sooner or later, a squid will chair a con and we need to make sure it understands how we do things.

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### *Festival* (from page 10)

rather than science fiction.

The program had advertised that this performance was going to invoke female mythological characters, which sounded sf enough to interest me. I was all ready to see Medusa, Lilith, Circe, Boudica, etc. but unless these were invoked by the interpretive dance sequence, I didn't catch them. Aside from the musicians and the lead singer, the stage was occupied by a dancer who played the role of Venus Christ in front of a crucifix and a young girl who performed an empowerment rap.