

Science Fiction/San Francisco

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email: SFinSF@gmail.com

Editors: Jean Martin, Chris Garcia

Copy Editor: David Moyce

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News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

SiliCon prep has hit the streets of BArea fandom and it's nutty! There's a lot planned, including a film festival brought to us by HorrorYearbook.com. It's going to be an awesome show because some of the films I've heard about are really strong.

Sadly, that's on Friday at the same time as the first ever *SF/SF* party! We'll be slingin' booze, chattin' folks up and having a good ole time! Hopefully we'll have ribbons and more to give out. There's also Rocky Horror, a bunch of panels (including one on Podcasting and Blogging featuring Derek McCaw) and a Fan Swap-Meet which should be fun stuff.

Saturday isn't going to be all recovery from my assured hang-over. There are some great panels, including a Horror Writers panel that should be good, more film stuff, and I'll be doing a panel called Superheroes Have Feelings Too where I'm sure to bring up *Young Heroes in Love* and other minor comic hits. If you go to only one panel this year, make it Italian Zombie Makeover where Joe Castro will be turning one lucky participant into an Italian-style Zombie. This should be a load of fun. I'm also doing a panel about Pirates in Film, Fantasy and Story with the wonderful Lillian Csernica, who is always a blast. Yes, I will be talking about The Pirate Movie in great detail. There's also Trailer Park and The Evil Geniuses Party. The

Browncoats are also hosting the Hallow-Whedon ball that night. Big time fun and a packed day.

Sunday is the day I'll be dragging myself out of bed for the 10 a.m. *SF/SF* Panel with Jean Martin. We're hoping that España, David and others will be joining us. I'm gonna try and get the elusive Jack Avery to come down too! That'd be a hoot. We'll talk about everything we've been doing, about what's next and do the traditional SiliCon photo of everyone we can get.

Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley are doing a panel about Stage Presence. I really should try and attend that one since I need a little more of that! It'll be another busy day and I'm thinking that it should be a lot of fun. All in all, an exhausting weekend! Be sure to check back in the next couple of issues for reviews and recovery from the big event.

Hey, Earl Kemp is famous! The Wikipedia "Did You Know?" section on Wednesday the 26th read: "...that Hugo Award-winning science fiction fan and editor Earl Kemp served a year in prison for publishing an illustrated edition of the Presidential Report of the Commission on Obscenity and Pornography?" Good stuff.

Let me say this: Arnie Katz was not at all thrilled about the 2007 Hugo statue. I am on record saying that it's easily the coolest trophy anyone's ever done, but I'm sure there are folks other than Arnie who say that it's the worst ever. My argument is that it's distinctive, Ultraman

has a powerful place in the history of Japanese science fiction, it's AWESOME and it gives a flavor of the host area that most Hugo statues fail to capture.

Last year's statue, the theatre marquee style piece, was also awesome and got rave reviews from most folks. The previous LA WorldCon, 1996, had a nice design incorporating the film canister and Hollywood Hills into the design, and the 1984 LACon design that had rats in it was distinctive too. I thought that 2005 was OK, if a tad dull, and 2004 was just flat out boring. 2003 had a cool Maple Leaf design that I enjoyed and 2002 had a simple wooden base with a nice piece of metal work design by Don Simpson on top of it. I even like the simple 1997 design that had a piece of granite shaped like Texas as its base.

To me, the worst ever was the comically bad 2001 attempt for the Millennium

Correction

The great photos of Comic-Con appearing in Issue 50 of *SF/SF* that were attributed to Jack Avery were actually taken by Kevin Kieta. We regret the error.

Philcon. What the crap was that? It looked like a kids arts & crafts project. If you go to www.thehugoawards.org you can see photos of all the statues.

The next weekend is VintaCon and I'm excited. Gilroy is the headquarters for the premiere fannish wine-tasting event and I'm planning on enjoying the scenery and vino all weekend. Should be a blast.

Anyone who runs a con who might be reading this: I'm thinking of putting together a fannish "Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me" for next year. Anyone interested in using it?

It's been a little quiet on eFanzines.com, and even LiveJournal seems a little more down than usual. Maybe it's the time of year. School's just started, there's a lot of stuff going on and the Ultimate Fighting Championship has come around to being really entertaining! All of these things may mean that there's less posting happening, but Bruce Gillespie's put up two new issues of *Scratch Pad* and the zine Jan Stinson and Bruce do together, *Steam Engine Time*, has issue 7 on eFanzines.com as we speak. They're all three very good issues.

Let's not forget that LosCon is comin' up too! My favorite LA Convention is over Thanksgiving weekend and draws all sorts of fun folks who want to get away from their families after the holiday. Robert J. Sawyer will be their Writer GoH and I'm excited. He's the best hype man Neanderthal Man's ever had!

BayCon Announces Two Guests of Honor

For the 26th BayCon, I was expecting some good guests. Well guess what? We got 'em! The first two announced guests are Writer GoH Tim Powers and Artist Todd Lockwood.

Todd Lockwood is probably best known for his years working as an in-house artist for TSR. His work on the *Dungeon & Dragons* books is remarkable and really wonderful. He's one of the few professional artists whose name I recognized as soon as I saw it! That puts him on par with Donato Giancola and that Whelen guy.

Tim Powers is a great choice. He's a California boy and is one of the finest writers we have to offer. While at Cal State Fullerton, he fell in with James Blaylock and K.W. Jeter, and formed a trio that would eventually help define the Steampunk subgenre. Along with Blaylock, Powers credited the faux poet William Ashbless, who is sort of a Romantic-era version of Kilgore Trout. He came up in the 1970s with books like *The Skies Discrowned* (for Laser Books!), *The Drawing of the Dark* and *An Epitaph in Rust*. His break-out novel was *The Anubis Gates*, a time-travel secret history which presaged *The New Weird* by 15 years! His later books like *Declare*, *Earthquake Weather*, *Expiration Date*, and *Last Call* have been fantastic additions to his bibliography. His latest book, *Three Days to Never*, features Charlie Chaplin and Albert Einstein. He also used to do a lot of fan art, and the pieces he did for Amra are fantastic.

BayCon 26 will be happening May 23-26, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara. www.baycon.org

Letters Of Comment

Let us start off with the Great, and fully-employed, Lloyd Penney!

September 22, 2007

Hi, folks! The Garcia zine machine is in overdrive once again, and here comes another *SF/SF*, full of information and good fannish fun. Here are come comments on issue 51.

Chris Garcia replies: Well, sometimes folks gotta step up and add a little extra, and that issue we needed a bit more from me, and since these kind folks have covered for me more than once, I was glad to provide!

Another excellent pile o' fanzines to enjoy. I must catch up with Joseph Major's *Alexiad*. I've got to catch up with everyone! Now that I've got the new job I told Chris about in a previous LOC to *The Drink Tank*, Editor, Electronic Publications with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, my time for writing will reduced even further. Time management is my friend, as is my PDA, the only way I keep track of my crazy life.

I love the Alexiad. I've gotta LoC Inca and the NASFA Shuttle. All these zines!

The corset edition of *The Drink Tank*? Chris, only you could get away with this. Looking forward to it!

Trust me, it's gonna be fun and the cover will intro the issue nicely. I've got some great stuff ready to go!

I'm magical, hm? I'll take my wand to you, and then you'll be sorry... The folks at *Banana Wings* wanted to know why I and

Murray Moore both put our LOCs on our LJs. For me, it was Rob Sawyer who suggested that I do that, and I guess Murray thought it would be a good idea, too. The job at the CNIB was the one I referred to in my LOC, and also as you know by now, we are going to the Montreal Worldcon, and we are also going to the first post-win organizational meeting in Montreal at their annual convention coming up in October.

I'm so excited for Montreal and can hardly think about waiting the two years! I'm very happy they won and I'm gonna offer up some of my services too. I'm planning on traveling out and staying for a couple of extra days. It's been a while since I've hung around Montreal. I'm sure the Casino will know the color of my money!

Hi, John Purcell...you notice that now that the Geico cavemen have their own TV show, Geico now uses the Flintstones? We get Chris a Flintstone costume, and he'll be hawking car insurance in no time.

I really like the new commercials, though we've got one called Flat Buns out here that's really funny too. "If you've got flat buns, I'll call you your Highness, in anatomy class, you've got a butt minus."

Hoaxes have a stellar fannish past, and we're all far too serious to deal with hoaxes any more. That's our outward face, anyway...and Kevin S. is going to come down on you so hard about another bid...better run fast, me lad. I thought Seth Breidbart was still living in NYC. Is he out with you bunch now?

Nope, though he did show up at Westercon. I've gotta sit down with Seth sometime and get more stories out of him. Kevin just got back from Japan and the first person who throws money at him is gonna give it away. I guess we'll see how many locals really read SF/SF!

Greetings to España! My first contact in the Networld was a BBS called The Reach. Met a few people there, played some games, had a good time. I wondered where the actual computer with The Reach was...I was wearing my Reach BBS t-shirt one day, coming downstairs from my 4th floor apartment when I was stopped by a lady from the basement...she was the sysop, and The Reach was four floors right below me! I find LiveJournal a distant community, one with so many pseudonymous people, it's impossible to truly know anyone. Personal contact will never be beat.

You can't beat being able to reach out and give a hug or a handshake. The Reach was quite well-known too. They were featured on BBS: The Documentary I think.

Chris is growing his beard in expectation of that fateful day when he will get his very own bald spot. Then comes the ultimate combover... Then again, if Chris didn't have all that hair and beard, he'd probably look like a 16-year-old, and he'd never get a date!

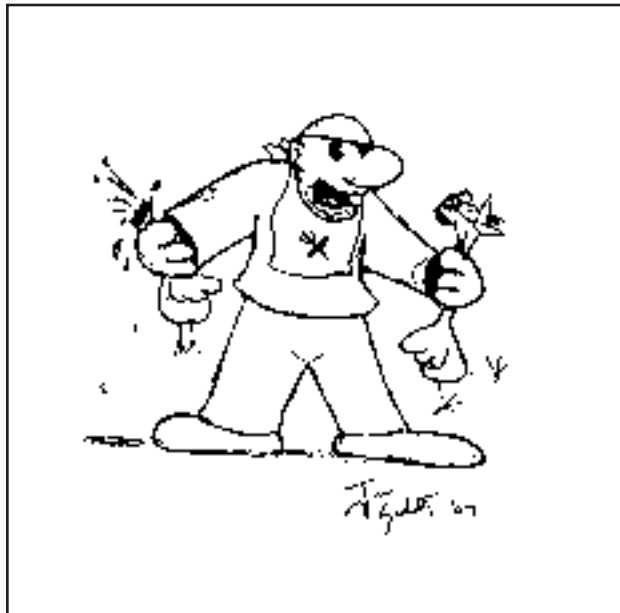
Running a room party just comes naturally to Canadian fans. All you need to do is advertise a Canadian party with Canadian beer, and the fans will beat a path to your door

with expectations of a quick drunk. Of course, we wouldn't have just any beer, but the best microbrews the country can make, and we do make lots of good friends that way. Past Montreal parties went with briskets of smoked meat...mmmm!

Smoked Meat! I am drooling two years in advance!

My beard is not a part of Hair Conservation for a time when there is no hair! I'm growing the beard so that Don Fitch and Rusty Hevelin won't have the longest fannish beards any more!

Bruce Hevelin is now a BASFAn? An article from or interview with Rusty is in order. I hope Bruce can be prevailed upon to write about



SiliCon party room doodle by Jason Schachat.

memories of his father's fine fanac, and Rusty will get the chance to rebut.

Bruce is just sorta jumoing in to fandom. I hope he sticks around because he's a nice guy. I'd love to interview Rusty.

All done, and this one was early, too! Have a grand weekend, and wish me luck as I start my new job on Monday.

Lloyd, it is always our pleasure! I hope you have a good first day!

And now, John Purcell!

Ah, what a nice way to start the day: a little fanac on my zine, a loc here and there, and all before coaching my son's soccer team in their season opener later this morning. It is indeed going to be a good day.

And we're bright-eyed and bushy-tailed for you too!

Many thanks for the kind words about *Askance #4*, Christopher. Have you noticed all of the wonderful zines being pubbed lately? Man, I have no idea which way my vote for the 2007 Best Fanzine FAAn award is going to go. There are so many great zines to choose from that it's silly. Such a difficult choice this is going to be come next March.

I just got around to reading and LoCing Prolapse 8 and the new WCSFzines are really good too. I'm going with Procrastinations, el and Prolapse on my FAAn ballot I think.

In his loc, Lloyd Penney talks about his being a Klingon. I really have this terrifying vision of Lloyd in Klingon garb. His Klingon name is fun, too. This reminds that I have this copy of *Hamlet* in Klingon in my office at Blinn College. This is no joke! The Klingon Institute

(in Pennsylvania) has translated the play back into its original Klingon, and laid it out so that you open the book, the left page is in English and the right side has the corresponding Klingon text. If I get the balls to do it - and I just might - the next time I teach Shakespeare what I could do is wear my Renaissance festival costume, put on Klingon makeup, carry a skull, and do the "to be or not to be" soliloquy in Klingon. That would be fun. And I have to admit, it is very tempting.

My Dad spoke Klingon back in the day. He learned it shortly after it was codified and before they started publishing those books. I never picked it up. I would pay money to see your Klingon Hamlet!

In your editorial, Chris, you muse about why fans fan. Well, then you answered your own question: because it is a fun thing to do. Remember that the term GAFIA originally was meant to indicate getting away from the mundane world; this is how I have been using the term lately, too, since I consider my fanac my release valve from the nuttiness of academia. Fanac definitely keeps me sane - such as that is.

Fanac might not keep me sane, but it does give me a proper outlet for my insanity. I had heard of that version of GAFIA, but I have no idea when the usage changed. The 1960s?

España's article was an interesting bit of background into her pre-fannish past. She is right that those java-networks are much like fandom in that they brought disparate individuals together and that they formed a tight-knit community. The analogy is apt. Fandom is much the same way.

España's always got some interesting stuff to say, even when I think she's crazy for

saying it! The way these things go in the same ways makes me think that there's a common ancestor to all fandoms. I must find it!

The suggestions for creating a fannish party are good, too. My experience is that if a group of fans get together anywhere, it's gonna be a good time. Fans have a way of enjoying each other's company. If you desire to create a themed party, even better. These are good ideas.

Always remember ice. Leigh Ann taught me that!

The ideas that James Bacon has for what will happen to Chris Garcia's beard if he should win TAFF are also good ones. I definitely would like to see numbers 5,6, and 7 happen, especially if there are pictures. Remember to bring a camera with you when you go to England, Chris.

I'm probably going to have to buy a camera (and a laptop!) if I manage to win this thing somehow. But first, I gotta figure out how to win this thing somehow!

Anyway. As usual, this was a good issue. Keep them coming, and now it's on to loccing *VFW #100*, yet another contender for Best Fanzine of 2007. Egads, but I don't know which zine to vote for! A happy dilemma, though, to have.

All the best,
John Purcell

Another great Vegas Fandom Weekly! I stitched mine all together and it's a blockbuster as one issue. As four issues, they're four really good issues. As one issue, it's magnificent. I still think that the 2007 Hugo statue is super-cool, though!



Cartoonist and author Scott McCloud recently visited Comic Relief in Berkeley as part of his nationwide book signing tour.

Photos by Jack Avery

Editorial

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

Hey, it's Fall! That's right, all you people out there are livin' in the Fall now. I hope you're happy. I'm a huge fan of Fall because it's that rare season where you can get anything from hotter-'an-asphalt to colder than my black heart. It's also the time of my birthday (October 21st, I'd like either a building or maybe a nice pair of very warm socks) and of Halloween and Thanksgiving and SiliCon, VintaCon and LosCon. That's a good lineup right there! Should be a time for great fun.

And there's always TAFF, which is weighing on my mind a bit. It's getting closer to the deadline (early November) and there's a surprising lack of buzz. Last year, it was all over the place, largely because I put it out there, but this year it's far more subtle, largely because I'm putting less out there and I haven't heard much from the various candidates. It's weird, because I'd expect with a four-person race everyone would want to get their name out there and make sure folks knew them from the others, especially those with the name Chris. It hasn't seemed to be happening much, but the race still has a ways to go.

If you're interested in TAFF but don't know much about it, lemme give you the rundown. In the 1950s, there was an Irish dude name of Walt Willis. The guy was an awesome writer, some say the best fandom has ever seen,

and a genuinely nice guy. His zine *Hyphen* was amazing and he was ½ of the team that gave us *The Enchanted Duplicator*. Folks wanted him out for the 1952 WorldCon in Chicago. They called it The Willis Fund and it was headed by Shelby Vick, a guy who continues to be a productive member of fandom today. The fund brought him over and a good time was had by all.

That was followed by the creation of TAFF, the TransAtlantic Fan Fund. I'm not sure if it was called TAFF yet when they brought over Vinç Clarke. The fund took off from there, alternating years to bring a European over to the US and send a Yank off to Europe.

The list of TAFF winners reads like a Who's Who of fandom. You've got Dave Langford, ATom, Lee Hoffman, Terry Carr, Peter Weston, The Nielsen Haydens, Robert Lichtman, Steve Stiles, The Moffatts, Greg Pickersgill and a bunch more.

In recent years, Seattle has been the powerhouse location for TAFF North America. The winners to come out of the Pacific Northwest include Victor Gonzales, Randy Byers, Ulrika O'Brien and the current North American administrator, Suzle Tompkins. That's four of the last five! Linda Deneroff is the current Seattle-ite running and Mary Kay Kare, who was the other candidate last year, is also from up in those parts.

TAFF led to the creation of other fan

funds. There's DUFF, the Down Under Fan Fund, which sends folks from North America down to Australia. Janice Gelb won that in 1999, and other winners include Art Widner, Rusty Hevelin and Joe Siclari. DUFF hasn't had a race in a few years, though there's going to be one to send folks from North America down to the 2010 WorldCon in Melbourne. I'm currently supporting John Purcell for that race.

And DUFF was joined by GUFF, the Going Under Fan Fund, that sends folks from Europe to Australia. And there's also funds to send fans from one part of Canada to the other, one between New Zealand and Australia, a Scandinavian one and the more recent trend of funds designed to send a specific person somewhere, like the Bring Bruce Bayside campaign of 2005 that brought Bruce Gillespie over to CorFlu. There's now the CorFlu Fifty, designed to bring one fan to CorFlu every year. It's a great movement.

So, TAFF is still going. You can find a lot of info on the various fan funds at http://fanac.org/fan_funds/fan-funds.html. You can find out more about my TAFF race at ChrisForTaff.org (a site generously provided by Mr. Peter Sullivan), and you can discover what's what on TAFF specifically on <http://taff.org.uk/>, maintained by Dave Langford.

Dreams of the City

A Column by España Sheriff

Imagine that you wake up one day and find you are Death. Literally: you're a grim reaper, or rather a Death Merchant, charged with collecting people's souls after they die. Additionally you are a single parent in San Francisco — which is more problematic, really, given the cost of living in the Bay Area. That is the premise of Christopher Moore's cult classic *A Dirty Job*, whose protagonist finds himself battling the forces of darkness while also trying to raise his infant daughter and run a thrift store in North Beach.

Broad comedy and dark humor abound, as do cameos by city landmarks and personalities, the most prominent of which is Emperor Norton who sort of hovers over the proceedings like a scruffy guardian angel along with his faithful canine companions, Bummer and Lazarus.

Also featured are the cute yet creepy creations of local artist Monique Motil, little creatures made from patched together animal bones, taxidermied bits and pieces and fancy little Victorian outfits of velvet and lace. You can glimpse a few of them for yourself at the equally gorgeous 'n' morbid Paxton Gate store over on Valencia Street.

Moore has written several books set

in the city itself or in his recurring setting, a fictional Bay Area town called Pine Cove. His most popular other San Francisco novels are about vampires, natch —possibly the genre best suited to this metropolis other than noir.

In *Bloodsucking Fiends* and its sequel, *You Suck*, we follow Jody, a young woman whom we first meet walking home from her job at the TransAmerica Pyramid before she is attacked and wakes up feeling a curious aversion to daylight. Hijinks naturally ensue as she figures out her new life and meets up with C. Thomas Flood, a new arrival to the city. Moore shows us glimpses of San Francisco — Chinatown, North Beach, the homeless, the yuppies — through Flood's eyes, and quite fairly pokes fun at its flaws while still displaying a great deal of affection for the city.

Here again, our true patron saint; the Emperor of California and Protector of Mexico, plays a part in protecting our fair city from the supernatural forces.

With stories that manage to involve a slew of colorful and often recurring characters and even scenes, and a gift for memorable turns of phrase, Moore has become my current favorite light reading. And I say "light" not meaning to be dismissive in any way, but because the stories are fun and a fast read. In fact, Moore manages

to touch on love, family, religion and the human condition, especially in *Lamb* and *Coyote Blue*, in thoughtful and touching ways.

On his website he mentions among his influences Kurt Vonnegut, Tom Robbins, and Douglas Adams, and indeed tossing those three into a blender (their styles, that is — yuck) would be a good description of what to expect from a Christopher Moore book: fast-paced, darkly humorous and often in questionable taste (the Teletubby line in *A Dirty Job* made me spit coffee out my nose while simultaneously recoiling in horror) but loads of fun to read.

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

This Old Fanzine

Who Killed Science Fiction? By Earl Kemp

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

Recently, Earl Kemp was the subject of one of the *Did You Know?* pieces on the front page of Wikipedia. That reminded me that I had been meaning to write about one of Earl's greatest triumphs: Who Killed Science Fiction?

In the 1960s, there was a period where folks were thinking that science fiction was starting to die off. In reality it was the death of the old Pulp style of science fiction and the rise of the New Wave and various other movements. It was a period when some said science fiction was on the verge of dying. Some folks thought the the paperback original would kill off the magazines and that quality would suffer.

Or so folks thought.

Earl, one of the most well-connected people in fandom at the time, came up with a questionnaire that featured five great questions:

1) Do you feel that magazine science fiction is dead?

2) Do you feel that any single person, action, incident, etc., is responsible for the present situation?

(with the follow-on:)

2a) If not, what is responsible?

3) What can we do to correct it?

4) Should we look to the original paperback as a point of salvation?

5) What additional remarks, pertinent to the study, would you like to contribute?

That questionnaire was sent out to just about everyone writing in the field at the time. More than seventy people responded with their best thoughts on the topic. Earl did a zine called *Safari* for the Spectator Amateur Press Society, and Who Killed Science Fiction? was his annual for 1960.

The names are amazing. There's Robert Heinlein, whom Earl doesn't think much of, and Robert Silverberg. Phillip Jose Farmer and Alfred Bester. My favorite responses were from legendary artist Hannes Bok and writer James Blish. Ray Bradbury and John Campbell give two very short answers, though Ray's is at least a little enlightening. Kurt Vonnegut's answer is probably the best of all, as he's the villain who says the absolute truth and gets hammered a bit by Earl in the afterword to the 1960 edition. There's also a lot of material

from a never-finished 1980 edition. It's no wonder that Who Killed Science Fiction? won the 1961 Hugo for Best Fanzine.

The art should be mentioned. There's work from Ed Emshwiller and Kelly Freas in the thing. Those two were probably at the top of their respective games at that moment and it's the kind of work that you dream that you'll be able to run if you're an editor of one of these fanzines. I remember the art from when I was a kid looking at my Dad's copy (which he got at a con charity auction in the 1970s) and I read the thing, not understanding the importance of what I was reading.

Earl put Who Killed Science Fiction? on eFanzines.com last year. You can read it at <http://efanzines.com/EK/eI29/index.htm#4> and just wallow in amazement. I read it again and was just blown away at how brilliant it was overall.

You gotta give it to Earl Kemp. He still puts out a zine today and is probably going to be doing one until they pry the keyboard out of his cold dead hands. He's a regular on eFanzines.com and you should give *eI* a read when you get a chance. It's great stuff!

Meetup Welcomes Hugo Winner Wu

By Jack Avery

Staff Writer

The Science Fiction/San Francisco Santa Rosa meetup has been active the last several months, with new members joining and several special events in addition to the regular monthly meetings.

Three-time Hugo-award-winning artist Frank Wu was a guest August 5 at a special meeting held at the group's usual meeting place, Mysterious Future Bookstore in downtown Santa Rosa.

The group invited Wu up from his home in Palo Alto to show the director's cut of his animated film *Guidolon The Giant Space Chicken*.

In addition to showing the film, Frank also talked about making the movie and his hopes for the future of the project.

"We want Trisuron to be the new Hello Kitty," Wu said. He also thinks the characters would do well selling frozen chicken with the slogan, "Don't worry, it's nobody we know."

Eight people showed up for the presentation, including new members Deb, Ron, Mel and Les. They were joined by group organizers Jack and Liz along with guests Patti and Keith. Ed, who was running the bookstore, also sat in on the showing. Several members who attended the group's first meeting were unable to



Artist Frank Wu.

Photo by Jack Avery

attend.

Following the Wu event, the group met August 12 for their regular second Sunday of the month meeting where members relaxed, discussed upcoming plans and chatted about science fiction.

Among the plans discussed was the desire for a movie event, so nine members and guests got together later in August for dinner and a showing of *Stardust* at a local theater.

For the September meeting, the group discussed how we became fans of science fiction. While several regulars couldn't make it because of prior commitments, we welcomed new member John W. Andrews, a long-time fan who just happened to stop by the bookstore before the meeting.

The group is hoping to attend the Casa de Fruta Renaissance Faire on October 13 if group organizer Jack Avery can get off his butt and arrange it.

The next meeting of the group will be on October 14 at Mysterious Future Bookstore. The topic of the meeting has not been decided.

For the November meeting, the group has invited local fantasy author Marian Gibbons, half of the writing team that makes up "Michaela August."

At the October meeting the group will decide whether to discuss *The Golden Compass* at the November meeting or the December meeting and make plans for a group outing to see the movie.

SF/SF (Santa Rosa) meets the second Sunday of the month at Mysterious Future Bookstore in downtown Santa Rosa. Meetings are open to the public and we'd love to have more folks stop by!

SiliCon Entertains Despite Growing Pains

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

The last time I went to the San Jose DoubleTree it was for Con-X-Treme. I enjoyed the parties, but there wasn't much con there. SiliCon was completely different. There was a lot of con packed into three days in a hotel that finally felt like it was the right size for SiliCon. But anytime things get that big you're gonna have problems, and this was no different.

SiliCon this year was doing more than just SF stuff. It had always had a media slant, usually with lots of comics programming, but this year they ramped it up and added a whole horror film feel. There were about 25 or so horror films that showed and had people show up. And there was anime and a Gothic Lolita Fashion Show and cosplay and on and on. As Lon Lopez said, "It's Comic-Con lite-lite."

The Lovely and Talented Linda, Jason Schachat and I got to the con around 1-ish and checked into our room. After a suitable period of making sure the room wasn't crappy, we headed down to check into the con. This led to us getting the program book.

This was the biggest problem for the entire con. The program book looked great, had a wonderful Jim Mahfood cover, and was actually well-proofread. The problem was that the schedule in the book was nearly useless. Of the panels that I'd been put on, only one was at



The DoubleTree's lobby hums once again.

Photo by Howeird

the time and place stated in the book. The other two were even on different days than were listed in the schedule. Now, luckily they put out a one sheet with everything on it in real places and real times, but there were a few problems even after that.

At least twice rooms were double-

booked, and on the first panel I was supposed to be on, they had us in the biggest room although we had no AV needs, while there was another panel that needed the screen and projector.

These things happen. I got the feeling that the programming was a huge task. It must have been because there were more than 150 guests



Media fans mingle in the “Quiet Bar.”

Photo by Howeird

for a 1,200 or so person convention, and they were so heavily programmed that rooms sorta ran short. This also meant that there weren't a lot of attendees at each individual program. Derek McCaw of FanboyPlanet.com noted that. For the *SF/SF* panel, we were only joined by one non-staffer. (Well, that might have been because we were in the Silicon Valley Room away from the

heart of the matter at 10 a.m. on a Sunday.)

One thing that I'll say is that the DoubleTree is a big part of BAarea fandom and coming back home for a real con was a wonderful feeling.

The horror film stuff was really good, even though not all the films were great. I saw *The Cleaner*, which wasn't that good although

it had the incredibly sexy Shannon Lark (of The Living Dead Girlz and I believe also the founder of The Chainsaw Mafia) as well as a cameo by one of *SF/SF*'s earliest writers, Diane Rooney! I Missed *Pocahauntas* and *Slime City*, both of which Linda and I wanted to see, but I did make it to part of Trailer Park.

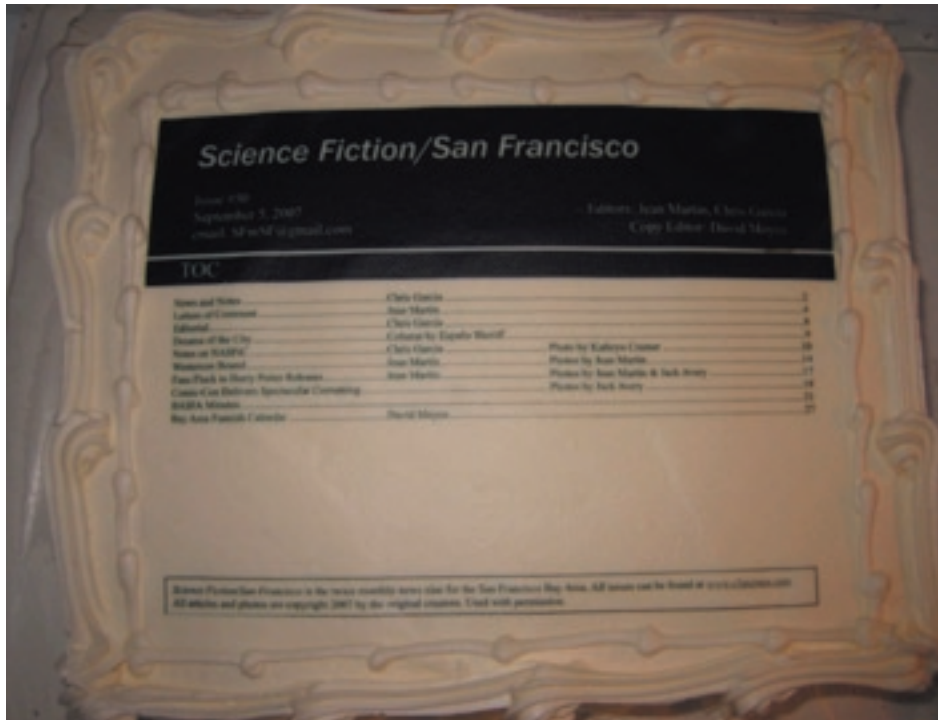
The film festival seems to have gone well, and I'm glad the folks from *horroryearbook.com* did such a great job. I missed *Criticized*, a favorite from Cinequest, but did get to chat with the director again.

When you bring horror people together, you're bound to get a stripper or two, and this con was no exception. There were two massively out-of-proportion ladies wandering around in g-strings on Saturday. It was actually a little bit frightening.

The anime contingent was strong, as it always is at SiliCon. This year, there were about 30 true-to-form cosplayers, and they were really good. There was this one girl who was doing the sexiest Sailor Moon I'd ever seen. She got stopped a lot and was flirting with every guy who had his picture taken with her.

The costumes in general were very good, especially the ones that made their way into the Masquerade. The Dalek and Doctor that wandered the halls were great — the Doctor at Westercon was more dead-on, but that Dalek was awesome. I climbed the stairs to avoid being exterminated and then realized that was no longer a limitation. The Masq featured some very cute costumes — and I seldom enjoy Masquerades much unless there's a Llamatron involved!

I had to accept the Ken Uhland Award for Kevin Standlee who was away for the weekend. I



Issue Number 50 rendered in frosting.

Photo by Jean Martin

gave the little speech he gave me to read and it was quite a nice sentiment. I was considering announcing a WorldCon bid during my time portraying Kevin, but that would have been just too cruel.

The parties have become a focus for my con-going and this year we threw two of them. The first was the first official *SF/SF* party. We had a great room and Jean brought munchies and I brought booze. David and España worked the room and David brought a cake that had the cover of issue 50 printed on it! That was the most awesome part. I poured The Drink Tank, a ginger beer-based cocktail you can read about in *The Drink Tank's* Cocktail Issue, and a new drink called The Jack Avery that featured lemonade and rum and vodka with lime. We had very good traffic and a fair deal of the booze got drunk.

The second night we figured we'd run again and get rid of the rest, and Pancho's Crosstime Cantina which had been a big hit on Friday night gave us the rest of their stuff. This meant we had far more booze to sling

on Saturday than we did on Friday, and we still managed to do a good job of getting rid of the stuff. I guess I was mixing them stronger on the second go-round.

There was another memorable moment Saturday when the elusive Jack Avery himself showed up, said hello and was even sighted by España, which proves I didn't make him up!

The Gothic Lolita Fashion Show had lots of technical problems — the music was too loud to speak over although the host tried her damndest — but the show itself was great. I liked the stuff Miss Carlyfornia put together. Nice stuff indeed.

All in all, I had a great time. And the food at the Coffee Garden was even better than usual!



Garcia whips up another "Drink Tank."

Photo by Howeird

Zombie Makeover at SiliCon

Story & photos by Howieird
Staff Writer

Special Effects artist Joe Castro credits his goat rancher father and schoolteacher mother with feeding his papier-mâché habit, which later evolved into a serious career creating zombies and other horror genre special effects. A glance at his IMDb page <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0145581/> shows 18 special effects and nine makeup credits. He also writes, produces and directs.

Joe took his talents to SiliCon 2007 for a demonstration billed as the “Italian Zombie Makeover.” The idea was to take a fanboy from zero to zombie in 90 minutes. And that’s exactly what he did.

Keeping up a running commentary, Joe laid out tools of the trade, explaining that he had loved Italian zombie pictures as a boy, and with his papier-mâché skills he figured “I can do that” using things he found around the house. After all, growing up on a goat farm meant he



Volunteer receives a coat of latex from Joe Castro.

had to make his own toys, using whatever he could scrounge up. He did not say who his first zombie model was.

He likes to use real life objects in

his craft, or close reproductions. Laid out first were some goat teeth and Sculpy replicas he had made. Lamb ribs from last week’s dinner (dried and cleaned) were going to be either zombie ribs or fingernails. Sheets of torn muslin, a hank of blood red yarn, a latex replica of an animal spine snagged from a movie he worked on, and live worms and maggots were all on the stage to be used later.

By using very thin mixtures of paint and liquid latex, Joe said he can make a zombie that is dry and ready to use almost instantly. “He’s going to be coated from head to toe with latex, so he’ll actually be like a walking condom,” Joe pointed out. “After that it doesn’t really matter what

I put on him, he’ll be protected.”

The zombie-to-be had not yet arrived, and as Castro sent a staff member out to round him up, he said he thought he might have scared him

off. Half an hour late, Wally finally arrived, a tall, slender fellow with two young women in quasi-girl scout costumes following. He said he was, in fact, almost scared off, but here he was.

After having the model wet down his hair, Joe handed Wally a small plastic package, pointed to a changing screen behind the stage, and told him to take everything off and put that on. It was a pair of panty hose.

“Everything?” Wally asked. “Everything,” Joe answered.

While Wally was changing, Joe and a stage hand laid down a tarp as a hotel worker taped a plastic “runway” to the carpet at the base of the stage. Joe also carefully tore the edges, one by one, off a small pile of napkins, handing the job off to an audience volunteer later in the demo.

Coming out wearing just the panty hose, Wally posed for his fans and was seated center stage by Joe, who slipped two nylons onto the model’s head, one after the other, and cut tiny eye slits for him. All through the demonstration, Joe checked on Wally, asking him if he was okay — it was hard to tell once the layers of zombie started piling up.

Joe hunkered down on stage with a plastic container, a bottle of Mrs. Butterworth’s Syrup, and mixed the syrup with white Silica powder until it became a thick paste. “It’s



Applying the spine.

only sugar water and sand,” Joe said. He also added some dull green paint to the maple brown mix. This goop was applied to the model’s face and head using a simple paint mixing stick. The remains of the napkins were layered, one at a time, over this mix, followed by a drizzle of yellow paint and a handful of the red yarn. Brrrrraaaiiiiiinnnns!

Telling us he did not have a green zombie in his portfolio yet, Joe mixed up some blue-green paint with the thinned liquid latex, and used a make-shift sponge to slather it all over Wally’s body. “It’s car seat foam liner,” he said, tearing off another piece.

With the model now green from the waist up, Joe applied layers of napkin to the wet latex, patting it down gently to achieve that patented decomposing skin texture. The same mix was then applied to the rest of the model’s body, except for a section in the center of his back. More on that later.

Napkin tearing done, the audience volunteer was asked to cut electrical tape into 10 strips, and one by one Castro used these to secure lamb ribs

to the zombie's fingers, creating a very Elm Street fingernail effect. The hands and fingernails got a coat of latex as well.

Next, Joe contact-cemented the latex animal spine to a piece of construction paper, and applied the assembly to the blank section on Wally's back, again slathering green latex paint to complete the effect.

Some more syrup and silica mix, this time with black paint, was applied around the eyes and mouth. Those Sculpy goat teeth were pressed into place, some white paint applied over the mouth area, and then a hank of hair was patted onto the side of the zombie's head — the side opposite the red yarn.

Taking a panel of torn muslin from a chair offstage, Castro rubbed it in the puddle of green latex paint which had formed at Wally's feet, and then draped this over the model. Some careful arranging and some artful ripping got the muslin in place, and it was then coated with more paint in various colors, and then the zombie body was sprayed all over with contact cement.

Then came the final touch — the eyes. Two volunteers were asked to take live worms and maggots out of Styrofoam containers and put them onto a paper plate. As they did this, Joe applied more black syrup around the model's eyes, and told Wally to tilt his head back. In a rush of worm-hugger compassion, Castro put the little earth diggers back into their container, grabbed a handful of maggots and gently pressed them into the zombie's eye sockets.

After a couple of finishing touches, including some cotton batting spider webs for under the arms, our Italian Movie Zombie was ready for his close-up. By this time the



zombierazzi had appeared in force, but Wally showed no fear of the flash guns of the mortals, leaving the stage, accompanied by his groupies and Castro, to take a tour of the con halls (in

search of a hall costume ribbon?) and then outside for an informal photo shoot under the trees.

BASFA Minutes: Meetings 894-896

Meeting 894

September 17, 2007

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

Began 8:02, at Coco's.

34 people attended.

We established a party jar.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 893 were accepted as 'in memory of Phil Frank, Robert Jordan, Brett Sommers & Madeline L'engle.'

Treasurer's report is that last week we took in \$35.86.

The VP reported there's a new Drink Tank out & there'll be writing from Frank Wu in it.

The President welcomed visitors - Steven who was just stopping by & Keith who was dragged down here.

The Site Selection Committee reported that we will be meeting at Baker's Square in Los Gatos next week, Sept 24 - located at 165 Los Gatos-Saratoga Ave, at University Ave.

The BASFA Times Committee reported that they still need stuff - and send stuff to garcia@computerhistory.org.

Announcements:

Joni announced that she's organizing an exhibit of obsolete tech at her school and is looking for antiquated tech stuff.

Chris announced that some of his chums are organizing a Hispanic anthology and for further details contact him at garcia@computerhistory.org - there were follow-on's and then Frank Wu gave a visual presentation of the pronunciation of the apostrophe, as 'boing.'

Julie announced that she has something to give away [see her].

Spring announced that you have 11 more days to register for Vinticon - to be held in Gilroy, October 12-14.

[evil] Kevin announced that submissions for CostumeCon 26's Future Fashion Folio are closed and announced that Silicon's panelizer is re-opened.

Adrienne announced that she's going to WindyCon and is looking for suggestions for places to visit while there.

Stellan announced that Kevin Roche was mentioned in an article in the NY Times.

Dave C announced that Phil frank has died.

Harold announced that Wed, Sept 19 is 'Talk Like a Pirate Day' - there were follow-on's, then Chip announced that Sept 8th is 'Talk Like a Time Traveler Day.'

Dierdre announced that she brought galleys as freebies.

Reviews:

Harold reviewed 'Shit Happens' [a book] as worthy of a diatribe - and kind of fun.

Lisa reviewed 'Death at a Funeral' as wonderful black comedy and hysterically funny & reviewed 'Stardust' as she wants the Captain's wardrobe.

Dave C reviewed an average pachinko parlor in Japan as 5 dozen machines - all going off at once - that the noise blends into one metallic clash as the players of said machines all smoke like chimneys and qualifies as a good approximation of the 1st circle of hell; the horror! The horror!

Jin reviewed being on Mount Fuji during the day of the typhoon as 'very wet' - they got totally soaked and it was worth full price.

Carole reviewed that the Japanese smoke and there are very few non-smoking sections & in general the Japanese love Americans & she

bought lots of stuff; that Japan is beautiful and she wants to go back there - as definitely worth full price.

[evil] Kevin reviewed 'the best Buck in the Bay' as he had cowboys for his birthday and this year they had a new vendor that does exquisite wood carvings - it was incredible art and worth full price.

Howeird reviewed the rodeo as a lot of fun and that goat dressing looked invigorating and he'll have pictures from it on his Flickr site and his own website & reviewed 'The Amphora Project' by Kotzwinkle as one of those books a sf fan was meant to read - with an airsickness bag handy - and worth half of the quarter he paid for it.

Chris reviewed the radio station here as the best restaurant music anywhere - and reviewed 'Galaxina' as he made it through an hour before fleeing - it is hideously awful and if you can sit through the whole movie ['You have issues!' was suggested] - but was worth having it loaned to him by [evil] Kevin.

Dave G reviewed Vista as it sucks.

Then we birthday auctioned off [evil] Kevin for \$16.00 to Dave C; plus auctioned off books for \$5.75; \$0.25; \$0.50; \$0.25; \$0.50; \$0.50; \$1.00; \$0.25; \$0.25; \$1.50; DVDs for \$6.00; bag of stuff for \$2.00; videos for \$2.00; book with a video for \$3.25; button with green tea Kitkat for \$7.00 & button with peach Kitkat for \$0.50. We adjourned at 10:00.

And the rumor of the week was that 'That'll teach Jordan to finish the damned series.'

Meeting 895

September 24, 2007

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

Began 8:05, smushed together at Baker's Square.

31 people attended.

We established a party jar.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 894 were accepted as 'let's see him get out of THIS box.'

[No Treasurer] the proxy Treasurer's report is that last week we took in \$37.25 in the regular jar & \$24.00 in the party jar.

The VP reported 'so there I was, hand to god!' [Andy: 'So god, where did the bad fan touch you?'] - there's a new SF/SF out, a new Drink Tank is out & there'll be another new Drink Tank out Wednesday.

The President reported that the VP brought a book in which to scribe pithy sayings in for the BASFA Times & otherwise had nothing fannish

to report.

The proxy Site Selection Committee arranged that we will meet at the Baker's Square in Los Gatos next week, Oct 1 [located at 165 Los Gatos-Saratoga Ave, at University Ave].

The BASFA Times Committee showed us the cover for the BASFA Times & he has had 3 articles turned in for it but they still need stuff - send it to garcia@computerhistory.org.

The Party Committee reported that they should be in room 273 on Friday or Saturday at Silicon.

Announcements:

Dave C announced that the Stupids will play Sunday at the Comedy Festival in Golden Gate Park & announced that the Friends of the SF Public Library book sale will be this week at Fort Mason.

Andy announced that he put Frank Wu's presentation [on apostrophe pronunciation] on the BASFA LJ & it was noticed - appreciated - and there's been a request to do this at Arisia - plus Silicon is in 2 weeks and the Evil Genius party will be Saturday night & they hope to attend the Saturday morning Peninsula Wearable Arts meeting; there were follow-ons that SF/SF will also have a party on Friday night at Silicon, that there'll be an SF/SF panel at 10am on Sunday & they'll do a Saturday podcast.

Ken announced that KTEH is moving Dr Who to 7pm Thursday and 10pm Saturdays - plus the Legion of Rassilon will be meeting this Friday.

[evil] Kevin announced that Heroes is starting up again & announced that the Friday SiliCon party hosted in their room will be Pancho's Crosstime Cantina.

[tall] Kevin announced that SFSFC is offering to pay a scholarship of \$500 to folks who will attend SMOFcon in Boston this December and then write an article about it.

Reviews:

Chris reviewed 'Across the Universe' as it had some problems, was a bit scattershot & heavy handed, it was visually gorgeous, but was fun and definitely worth \$4.00 for the film, \$2.25 for the theatre, \$1.00 for the lemonade & with parking was worth \$8.00.

[tall] Kevin reviewed Nippon 2007 as they did okay, he saw a whole lot of one room while there, the con had a lot of enthusiasm, there were some problems, lots of late event starts, the party floor was terrible [scent and heat wise] - but they did a good job overall [WAY better than TorCon].

Andy reviewed the Little Sheep Mongolian Hot Pot restaurant as the placemats are hysterical & it was very good hot pot with incredible variety & probably worth full price [they still have to settle for the bill with the guys they went with] - but don't go there with a huge mob of

friends - take no more than 10 & he reviewed 'Vin Santo' in Willow Glen, as under new ownership, they have a new menu and the meals are personalized for you - a 4 course meal will cost \$50.00 and the food was great, give them a few weeks and they'll be incredible.

Howeird reviewed Ebay university at the Marriott in Santa Clara as the presenter read the slides too much - and the materials shown were about 2 years old - so the course was worth about \$25.00 and not the \$59 that he had to paid for it.

Ed reviewed that Nathan and Caroline are doing great out in the wilds & reviewed 'The Lost Skeleton of Cadavra' as funny & worth full price & reviewed 'El Diablo' as interesting & worth full price.

Mike reviewed 'Arrival' by Shaun Tan - a story done completely in pictures - as surreal and very good.

[evil] Kevin reviewed his folk's surprise 50th anniversary party as a huge success - worth full price and even driving 500 miles for [and based on some of the off-line description, it sounds like it was incredibly well organized, a lot of fun & the photo shoot was hilarious].

Julie reviewed 'The Smallest Show on Earth' on DVD [with a very young Peter Sellers playing a very old man] as worth full price.

Then we auctioned off books for \$1.00; \$2.50; \$2.50; \$1.00; \$0.25; \$0.50; \$1.25; \$1.00; \$2.00;

\$2.00; \$0.25; a bag o' stuff for \$3.00; and one last thing for \$2.00.

We adjourned at 9:37.

And the rumor of the week was that 'Barbara's touching me!'

Meeting 896

October 1, 2007

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

Began 8:03, at Baker's Square again.

22 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 895 were accepted as 'With love, Miss Money Penny.'

The Treasurer's report is that last week we took in \$35.00 in the regular jar.

No VP report - and no VP.

The President reported that SiliCon is this week and he'll be there working newsletter.

The Site Selection Committee reported that we'll be back at the Coco's 2 weeks from now and that he is still working out where we'll

be NEXT week [so watch the LJ, website and mailing list].

We established a party jar.

Announcements:

Adrienne announced that 'Most Haunted' will be doing a live broadcast from the Winchester Mystery House on Oct 19 for 7 hours [presumably starting at 4 pm California time] for the Travel channel.

[tall] Kevin announced that he'll be in Oregon this weekend and that Chris Garcia will be the designated Kevin Standlee at SiliCon.

Ed & Ken both announced that there'll be parties at SiliCon this weekend - that the BASFA party should be in room 273 and there should be night reg [either where registration usually is or in ConOps].

Reviews:

Adrienne reviewed some of the new TV season - that the new 'Bionic Woman' is more for grown-ups & 'Ghost Whisperer' has not changed much & still has an emphasis on the main gal's [chestal region] & is very simplistic & 'Moonlight' is about a vampire PI with average story -telling and is kind of a dud.

Harold reviewed '3:10 to Yuma' as very well made with superb acting, though a bit over the top in places ['nom nom nom scenery'] & worth seeing & reviewed 'The War' by Ken

Burns as very well done & recommended and worth joining PBS for & reviewed his behavior at Coco's as not worth full price.

I reviewed 'Resident Evil 3' as a lot of good zombie fun with some great visuals and worth full price; then Trey follow-on'd that it was worth matinee but managed not to shoot itself in the foot with its plot.

Dave C reviewed 'The Hellfire Club' by Peter Strauss as a thick book that he bailed on finishing & reviewed the Morrissey concert at the Fillmore as he bought a scalped ticket for the show and it was worth it for a lovely concert.

[tall] Kevin introduced us to a new visitor to the club, Takayuki Karahashi who lives locally in the Bay Area & was one of the Nippon Worldcon organizers; then [tall] Kevin reviewed that 'My Name is Earl' has an LA area sf fan [Ed green] in it this season - and then reviewed Japan as worth full price - and that the rail pass that cost \$800 for 3 weeks was completely worth it - that they went to Kamakura [where the temples are] and got to ride trains and monorails to get there - agreed the giant Buddha statue was really big - and all of it worth full price.

[evil] Kevin reviewed some of the new TV season as that 'Heroes' is off to a good start & that 'Journeyman' shows some promise but didn't hold his interest & that 'Reaper' has every sign of being clever and funny [though Andy says it's on the 'also ran' network] &

[evil] Kevin also thought that the 'Sara Jane Adventures' is worth stealing, with good writing and character development.

Ken reviewed 'La Fondue' as recently relocated and they went there a few days after re-opening & found it more hip, less hippie, with good food, interesting ingredients and worth full price.

Ed reviewed 'Chicken Little' as worth full price and 'smoking science fiction.'

Dave G reviewed 'Californication' as educational and worth paying for Showtime in order to see it.

Then we auctioned off books for \$4.50; \$5.00; \$0.25; \$0.50; \$1.00; \$1.00; \$0.25; \$0.50; \$0.50; \$0.25; & a travel kit for \$2.00.

We adjourned at 9:50.

And the rumor of the week was that: 'Nah, I got nothing.'

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.

Thursday, October 11

The Seventh Victim (1943) and Rosemary's Baby (1968)

Preview Room

Variety Children's Charity

582 Market Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

7 p.m.

Free

Borderlands Books and Variety Children's Charity present a Satanic double feature. Refreshments will be available for purchase, and your purchase supports Variety's efforts to aid disabled, disadvantaged, abused and neglected kids.

Thursday, October 11

Thrillville's Zombie-Rama: The Atom Brain (1955) and Zombies of Mora Tau (1957)

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

www.parkway-speakeasy.com

7:30 p.m.

\$10

With Mr. Lobo and the Queen of Trash, the Twilight Vixen Revue, and Dr. Zombie.

Thursday, October 11

Crazy Rays: Science Fiction and the Avant Garde

Roxie Cinema

3117 16th Street

San Francisco

www.sfcinematheque.org

7 p.m.: Ed and Peter Emshwiller

9:30 p.m.: Max Almy and Roddy Bogawa

Presented by the SF Cinematheque, a series of riffs on the intersection of science fiction and experimental cinema, curated by Ed Halter.

October 11-27

Creepshow Live

Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

www.darkroomsf.com

Thurs, Fri & Sat at 8 p.m.

\$15

Live horror acts, with hosts that include Hal Robins, Mikl Em, Sam Shaw and Liz Gross.

October 11-November 17

Shocktoberfest: Maker of Monsters

The Hypnodrome

575 10th Street

San Francisco

www.thrillpeddlers.com

Thurs, Fri & Sat at 8 p.m.

\$20

A series of shocking one-act plays drawn from or inspired by the Theatre du Grand Guignol.

Friday, October 12

Mapping the Frontier of Knowledge

UCSF Mission Bay Conference Center

1675 Owens Street

San Francisco

www.longnow.org

7:30 p.m.

\$10 donation requested

A talk by author Juan Enriquez, illustrated by his collection of historic maps, about how people image and imagine new discoveries. Presented by The Long Now: Seminars About Long Term Thinking.

Friday, October 12

Launch Party for Manga: The Complete Guide

Comic Relief

2026 Shattuck Avenue

Berkeley

www.comicrelief.net

7-9 p.m.

Free

With author Jason Thompson in person.

Friday-Sunday, October 12-14

Vintacon

Hilton Garden Inn
6070 Monterey Street
Gilroy

<http://community.livejournal.com/vintacon/>

\$75 (designated driver membership \$10)

Alias ReeCon, the fifth Vintacon offers a unique combination of wine tasting and fannish company, and what's better than that?

Saturday, October 13

Victorian Cemetery Stroll and Picnic

Mountain View Cemetery
5000 Piedmont Avenue
Oakland

www.gbacg.org

12:30 p.m.

\$14.50

Join the Greater Bay Area Costumers' Guild for a peaceful Autumn stroll through a picturesque Victorian cemetery.

Saturday, October 13

Grand Opening Celebration

Illusive Comics & Games
2725 El Camino Real, Suite 105
Santa Clara

www.illusivecomics.com

11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday, October 13

Horror Fest

Toy Fusion
3501 Sunrise Blvd.
Rancho Cordova

www.toyfusion.com



October means the return of the popular and spooky Flashlight Tours at the Winchester Mystery House. Tours will be conducted October 20th, 27th and 31st from 6:30 p.m. until late. Reservations are recommended. www.winchestermysteryhouse.com

Photo courtesy Winchester Mystery House, San Jose

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

\$3

One-day bazaar featuring horror toys, DVDs, comics, memorabilia, books, posters, props, etc.

www.borderlands-books.com

7 p.m.

Free

Saturday, October 13

Author: Tim Pratt

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco

Saturday, October 13

LitQuake LitCrawl

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco

www.litquake.org/the-festival/lit-crawl/

7 p.m.
Free
Borderlands will once again be a stop on the annual LitCrawl along Valencia Street, with readings by Marcus Ewert, Austin Grossman, Tim Pratt, and Scott Sigler.

Saturday, October 13

Yorktown Victory Ball
Arlington Community Church Hall
52 Arlington Avenue
Kensington
www.baers.org
8-11:30 p.m.

\$20 at the door, \$15 in advance (by October 11)
A Bay Area English Regency Society event. Early American costumes admired, but not required.

Saturday & Sunday, October 13-14

Northern California Renaissance Faire
Casa de Fruta
100031 Pacheco Pass Highway
Hollister
Weekends, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

\$25/day, \$35/weekend
www.norcalrenfaire.com
Hearty ale, fine foods, crafts, and live performances.

Sunday, October 14

House of Wax (2005)
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.

Tuesday, October 16

Labyrinth (1986)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
www.parkway-speakeasy.com
9:15 p.m.
\$8

Thursday, October 18

Buffy Night
Cerrito Speakeasy Theater
10070 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito
www.cerritospeakeasy.com
9:15 p.m.
\$6
Three more episodes of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* on the big screen.

Thursday, October 18

Tron (1982)
Red Vic Movie House
1727 Haight Street
San Francisco
www.redvicmoviehouse.com
7:15 and 9:20 p.m.
\$8.50

Friday, October 19

The Crow: Purgatory II (2007)
Grand Lake Theater
3200 Grand Avenue

Oakland
www.oiff.org
10:20 p.m.
\$10

Locally produced fantasy film, screening with other short subjects such as *Remnants of the Lost* and *La Guerre* at the Oakland International Film Festival.

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.

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

Saturday, October 20

Bay Area Games Day
Los Altos Public Library
13 S. San Antonio Road
Los Altos
10 a.m.-11 p.m.
\$1

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

Saturday, October 20

Author: Jeff Carlson
The Other Change of Hobbit
2020 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley
www.otherchangeofhobbit.com
1 p.m.
Free

Saturday, October 20

BCM Horror Film Festival
Berkeley Community Media
2239 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way
Berkeley
www.torridproductions.com/betv
8 p.m.
\$15
Fundraising special featuring locally produced horror shorts.

Saturday, October 20

Winchester Mystery House Flashlight Tour
Winchester Mystery House
525 South Winchester Blvd.
San Jose

www.winchestermysteryhouse.com
6:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.
\$39

Flashlight tours are back for the Halloween season. Advance tickets are recommended, as the tours do sell out.

Saturday, October 20

SF in SF: Kage Baker and Eliot Fintushel
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.

Saturday, October 20

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 Nomy Lamm, Matthew Jacobs, Rachelle Chase, David West, Tim Maleeny, and Katayoon Zandvakili.

Saturday-Sunday, October 20-21

Folsom Renaissance Faire
Lions Park
Natoma & Stafford Streets

Folsom
\$12
www.folsomfaire.com
Dancers, bards, puppets, food, more.

Saturday-Sunday, October 20-21

The Mummy (1932)
Cerrito Speakeasy Theater
10070 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito
www.cerritospeakeasy.com
Sat 6 p.m., Sun 7 p.m.
\$6

Sunday, October 21

Bad Movie Night: The Texas Chainsaw Massacre (2003)
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.

Thursday, October 25

Independent Exposure: Halloweird
Red Vic Movie House
1727 Haight Street
San Francisco
www.independentexposure.com
8 and 10 p.m.
\$8.50

Independent Exposure returns with its annual assortment of weird, creepy, gross, and strange short films made by international film artists.

Thursday, October 25

Evil Dead 2 (1987)

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito

www.cerritospeakeasy.com

9:15 p.m.

\$6, 2 for 1 admission with Speakeasy Tribe member printout.

Friday, October 26

Warp 11

G Street Pub

225 G Street

Davis

9:30 pm

Sacramento's *Star Trek*-themed rock band reunites with The Brodys for their fifth annual Halloween haunt. Ages 21+.

Friday, October 26

Lunar Lounge Express Halloween Party

Chabot Space and Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd.

Oakland

www.chabotspace.org

8-11 p.m.

\$15

A costume party under the stars with music by the Daniel Stanton Group, planetarium shows, telescope viewing (weather permitting), food and drink.

Saturday, October 27

It Came from Outer Space (1953)

Pacific Film Archive

2575 Bancroft Way

Berkeley

www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

3 p.m.

\$9.50

In 3-D!

Saturday, October 27

Spook Night

Kepler's Books

1010 El Camino Real

Menlo Park

www.keplers.com

6 p.m.

Free

All ages are welcome and costumes are encouraged. Join us for tricks and treats and a highly entertaining and "ghoularious" presentation from local author Dave Keane.

Saturday, October 27

Winchester Mystery House Flashlight Tour

Winchester Mystery House

525 South Winchester Blvd.

San Jose

www.winchestermysteryhouse.com

6:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

\$39

Flashlight tours are back for the Halloween season. Advance tickets are recommended, as the tours do sell out.

Saturday-Sunday, October 27-28

Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein (1948)

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito

www.cerritospeakeasy.com

Sat 6 p.m., Sun 7 p.m.

\$6

Sunday, October 28

Author: F. Paul Wilson

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

3 p.m.

Free

Sunday, October 28

Bad Movie Night: The Amityville Horror (2005)

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, October 29

Army of Darkness (1992)

Red Vic Movie House

1727 Haight Street

San Francisco

www.redvicmoviehouse.com

7:15 and 9:15 p.m.

\$8.50

Tuesday, October 30

The Creature

Black Box Theatre Company

Magic Theatre

Building D

Fort Mason Center
San Francisco
www.blackboxtheatre.com
8 p.m.
Free

A live recording of Trevor Allen's new play adaptation of Mary Shelly's *Frankenstein*; the performance will be released as a Halloween podcast the following night. Admission is free but reservations are required due to limited seating; call 415-731-4922.

Tuesday, October 30

Ghostbusters (1984)
Cerrito Speakeasy Theater
10070 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito
www.cerritospeakeasy.com
9:15 p.m.
\$8

Tuesday, October 30

Shaun of the Dead (2004)
Red Vic Movie House
1727 Haight Street
San Francisco
www.redvicmoviehouse.com
7:15 and 9:25 p.m.
\$8.50

Wednesday, October 31

A Hallow's Eve Fête
Mechanics' Institute
57 Post Street
San Francisco
www.milibrary.org/events.html
6-8 p.m.

\$10
Share ghoulish tales, stories, poetry and prose from Bronte, Dickens, Shakespeare and Poe. Potions and poisons available.

Wednesday, October 31

Winchester Mystery House Flashlight Tour
Winchester Mystery House
525 South Winchester Blvd.
San Jose
www.winchestermysteryhouse.com
6:30-11:30 p.m.

\$39
Flashlight tours are back for the Halloween season. Advance tickets are recommended, as the tours do sell out.

Wednesday, October 31

The Last Man on Earth (1964)
Pacific Film Archive
2575 Bancroft Way
Berkeley
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu
7:30 p.m.
\$9.50

Wednesday, October 31

The Odd Ball
Veterans Memorial Building
846 Front Street
Santa Cruz
www.theoddball.com
7 p.m.-1 a.m.
\$20
A Halloween costume and fetish extravaganza featuring live local bands and DJs.

**Wednesday-Thursday, October 31-
November 1**

Fido (2006)
Red Vic Movie House
1727 Haight Street
San Francisco
www.redvicmoviehouse.com
2, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m.
\$8.50 (\$6.50 matinee)

Friday-Sunday, November 2-4

BASCon
Embassy Suites SF Airport
150 Anza Blvd.
Burlingame
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
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda
www.peers.org
6:30 p.m.-midnight
\$25
The annual hematophagic gala, featuring vintage ballroom dancing on one floor and Dracula's Daughter Discotheque & Bar on another.

Sunday, November 4

Hayward-Con
Centennial Hall
22292 Foothill Blvd.

Hayward
www.myspace.com/haywardcon
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
\$5
A comic book and fantasy mini-con and bazaar.

Sunday, November 4

Bad Movie Night: Wargames (1983)

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, November 7

Author: Clive Barker

Borders Books

400 Post Street

San Francisco

415-399-1633

7 p.m.

Free

Thursday, November 8

Author: Clive Barker

Book Passage

51 Tamal Vista Blvd.

Corte Madera

415-927-0960

7 p.m.

Free

Thursday, November 8

Crazy Rays: Science Fiction and the Avant

Garde

Roxie Cinema

3117 16th Street

San Francisco

www.sfcinematheque.org

7 p.m.: Anne McGuire

9:30 p.m.: Craig Baldwin and Ximena Cuevas

Presented by the SF Cinematheque, a series of riffs on the intersection of science fiction and experimental cinema, curated by Ed Halter.

Friday-Sunday, November 9-11

Rudy Rucker Exhibition

Live Worms Gallery

1345 Grant Street

San Francisco

www.rudyrucker.com/blog

Free

As part of the launch for his new book, *Postsingular*, Tor Books is helping Rudy Rucker stage a three-day exhibition of his paintings. The opening night party is Friday, November 9th, from 7-11 p.m. Rudy and guest Kage Baker will be doing readings on Saturday from 4-6 p.m.

Saturday, November 10

Author: John Levitt

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

3 p.m.

Free

Saturday, November 10

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

Jessy Randall, Inga Muscio, James Calder, and Ellery Urquhart.

Saturday and Sunday, November 10-11

JTAF 5

Fort Mason Center

Marina & Buchanan Streets

San Francisco

www.project760.net/jtaf/

\$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 Jab, 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

\$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.

Saturday and Sunday, November 10-11

Carnival of Stars

Centennial Hall

22292 Foothill Blvd.

Hayward

www.carnivalofstars.com

\$12

A belly dance and comic book convention, with dance workshops, cartoonists Hal Robins, Mark Bode and others, famous belly dancers, crafts, food.

Tuesday, November 13

Author: Rudy Rucker

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

Wednesday, November 14

Ask a Scientist: Synesthesia

Axis Cafe

1201 8th Street

San Francisco

www.askascientistsf.com

7 p.m.

Free

How does violin music smell? UC Berkeley's Lynn Robertson will tell us about the current research on this intriguing condition.

Saturday, November 17

SF in SF: Karen Joy Fowler and Molly Gloss

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.

November 23-December 23

Dickens Christmas Fair

Exhibition Hall

The Cow Palace

Daly City

www.dickensfair.com

11 a.m.-7 p.m.

\$22

An appallingly exciting experience of no ordinary cleverness. Victorian London opens for business the Friday after Thanksgiving and continues weekends through Dec. 23 with gifts, food, costumes, dance parties, etc.

Saturday, December 1

Super Toy, Comic & Record Show

Santa Clara County Fairgrounds

344 Tully Road

San Jose

www.timetunneltoys.com

11 a.m.-4 p.m.

\$5 (early bird 9 a.m. \$15)

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.

Sunday, December 9

Ask a Scientist's Holiday Puzzle Party

The Bazaar Café

5927 California Street

San Francisco

www.askascientistsf.com

7 p.m.

Free

Start the holiday season with a rollicking math and logic puzzle competition.

Thursday, December 13

Crazy Rays: Science Fiction and the Avant Garde

Roxie Cinema

3117 16th Street

San Francisco

www.sfcinematheque.org

7 p.m.: James Fotopoulos and Leah Gilliam

9:30 p.m.: Victor Faccinto and James June Schneider

Presented by the SF Cinematheque, a series of riffs on the intersection of science fiction and experimental cinema, curated by Ed Halter.

Saturday, January 5

Victorian Twelfth Night Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

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

Friday-Sunday, January 11-13

Sac-Anime

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street

Sacramento

www.sacanime.com

\$20

Anime convention featuring viewing room, manga contest, game tournaments, dealers' room, more.

January 24-28

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

Le Mardi Gras des Vampires

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

Friday-Sunday, February 15-17

DunDraCon

San Ramon Marriott

2600 Bishop Drive

San Ramon

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/

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

Details to follow.

Sunday, March 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, April 5

The Royal Debutante Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

Friday-Monday, April 25-28

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

Chicago Speakeasy Ball

PEERS Event

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

\$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.

Friday-Monday, May 23-26

FanimeCon

San Jose Convention Center

435 South Market Street

San Jose

www.fanime.com

The Bay Area's largest annual anime convention returns. Dealer's room, panels, costume contest, J-pop concert, more.

Saturday, June 7

Gone with the Wind Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

Saturday, July 5

The Emerald City Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org
Details to follow.

Ongoing:

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

Sundays

Sakramento Anime Society
Rancho 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.

Mondays

Bay Area Science Fiction Association
Currently looking for a new regular meeting location. Check the website for details.
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.

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.

SF/SF Meetup

Mysterious Future Bookstore

531 Fifth Street

Santa Rosa

scifi.meetup.com/348/

Regular meetup for North Bay fans on the second Sunday 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.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.