

Science Fiction/San Francisco

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News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

Well, the October Convention rush just happened and it was really good. There was Conjecture down in San Diego which sounds like it was a good time despite being small. I had a great time at the first two and I've wanted to go back ever since but timing has made it not possible. The following weekend was SiliCon and you've read about that and you'll probably be reading more over the next issue or two. I had a blast and I'm excited about next year. The final of the set for me was Vintacon. I have a review of that in this issue.

BayCon's starting to get underway with the planning phase and things are looking good. And the run-up to Further Confusion is still going and it should be a great con. The hotel is sold out, so that means no BASFA party, but there will be plenty of other stuff going on for certain!

There's been action on eFanzines.com again and it's been good stuff. *The Drink Tank* has maintained a weekly schedule since the Cocktail Issue and there's been a lot of talk about TAFF and racism and wrestling and the writing of Frank Wu. The latest issue is about Science and features Frank Wu, SaBean MoreL and Robert Hole writing.

If you haven't been reading *Vegas Fandom Weekly*, you're missing out. Issue 101

is out and there's a lot of great discussion and writing from the good people of fandom. There's more talk about the most stylin' Hugo statue of all-time, the 2007 Ultraman edition that Arnie and others seem to hate and I love along with the folks that I tend to hang out with. Taral Wayne does a take-off on it with Astroboy that I think looks really neat!

There's a new *Chunga*, though it hasn't reached my mailbox yet. I'm excited because I think it's been nearly a year since we got one in our hands. *Chunga's* one of the best zines anywhere with some great writing and wonderful art, though I sometimes have trouble LoCing them because it's got such a different sensibility than my FANAC usually allows. It's weird that I can LoC *eI* or *Prolapse* all day long and *Chunga* sometimes stymies me terribly.

There are new *Visions of Paradise* and *Busswabbe* up, too, though I haven't read any of them yet. There's also a new issue of Joe Major's *Alexiad*, which is a fine piece of work. It's the only zine in the world where you'll get monarchy news, SF book reviews, info from the world of horse racing, and candy reviews (from Johnny Caruthers, who happens to be one of Chris Barnes's nominators for TAFF, oh and have I mentioned that I'm running this year and you should vote now and visit taff.org.uk?). Only in one zine will you find all of that!

Local SMoF and buddy of mine Michael Saladi had his hip replaced and came through

with flying colors. Get well soon, big guy!

If you're a tech nut, you should try and make it to the Vintage Computer Festival the 3rd and 4th of November at the Computer History Museum. It's a great event which will feature speakers and demonstrations, and will also give you a chance to see the wonders of the Computer History Museum. I'm running the Film Festival which will feature some great technology films. You should come on down! www.vintage.org.

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

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Letters Of Comment

John Purcell writes:

Well, allow me to input my 2 cents worth to the discussion on the design of the 2007 Hugo Awards. (I'm currently out of sticky quarters, so two Lincoln pennies will have to do.)

Although my reaction to the design was not as vehement as Arnie Katz and others, I didn't care for it, either. My initial reaction was, "Oh! That's different," followed by, "Who's that supposed to be?" Once somebody pointed out to me that it was Ultraman, then I got the reference, but I had first immediately recognized the smaller representation of Mount Fuji. I freely admit to not being an Ultraman fan — have never cared for it, to be honest — and I think the designer's idea to incorporate something Japanese into the base was fine. However, unless you are really into all Japanese sfnal thingies, Ultraman is not as recognizable as Mount Fuji. My personal feeling is that the base design would have been much better if Ultraman had been left off, with that small excellent rendition of Mount Fuji remaining as a symbolic representation of Japan and its culture. The Hugo Award is supposed to be about the award itself — that shiny rocket, which each year's Hugo must have — not about the host country's biggest sfnal contribution. If that was the case, Godzilla would have been a better choice.

Anyway. While I understand the rationale behind the design, I think it was indeed bad form to make Ultraman as big, if not bigger, than the rocket. Each year's base should reflect

the WorldCon's site/host country — sure, that doesn't bother me — but it should not detract from the award itself. In my mind, that's the crux of the matter here, so future WorldCon committees should try to avoid this particular designer's mistake.

Jean Martin responds: I just checked on the Internet to see what the award looks like. Visually, I do like it. But I do agree that Ultraman is not quite recognizable and probably shouldn't have been as prominent. Godzilla is more popular but the designer and group that decided on the design probably didn't want a destructive monster to represent Japan and instead chose a superhero. Quite understandable. Mount Fuji does look quite dwarfed next to Ultraman and the rocket but then that could be based on forced perspective.

Yes, it was distinctive, to be sure, and your listing of what recent Hugo bases have looked like was an excellent illustration of this principle. Oh, well. Live and learn, I guess.

Hey, Lloyd Penney: Already that *Caveman* show is being talked about as being one of the first casualties of the new television season. I haven't seen it yet, so I won't pass judgment. This could be bad news for Chris Garcia's future in commercial television. As for Seth Briedbart, I'm not sure, but I thought he was living up in the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota region. If anybody knows for sure, chime in and

correct us.

I've seen the commercials for this show a lot while watching Dancing with the Stars (my current favorite TV show and the only one I watch religiously). I have to admit that I'm quite puzzled why the Cavemen from the Geico commercials warranted a series of their own. Were they really that popular? I didn't like those commercials at all. I haven't seen the show yet but I did read reviews of it and they haven't been favorable. So it's no surprise that it's not going to last. Not sure about the Chris Garcia connection. I think he looks more like a Hobbit (a rather tall one though) than a caveman and there is word that The Hobbit will finally be made into a movie with none other than Peter Jackson at the helm.

Speaking of new TV shows, I've actually checked out a few this season. I don't usually watch TV but there were several that caught my eye that had some sci fi and fantasy elements to them. Journeyman with Kevin McKidd from Rome is set in San Francisco. Kevin's character travels in time but he doesn't know how and why. It's got an interesting premise but so far it's been plodding and dry. The people he helps aren't all that compelling. It also is obviously not all filmed in San Francisco. He even lives in the Victorian house that was used in the series Charmed, which, as far as I know isn't anywhere near here.

Bionic Woman is a little bit more intriguing but also on the dry side. This incarnation of Jamie Sommers is not very engaging, and not surprisingly, Katee Sackhoff (Starbuck from Battlestar Galactica) steals the show as a rogue bionic woman. Another remake is Flash Gordon. Unfortunately, this one doesn't work at all for me. The show has taken out the mystique and charm of the previous versions. Flash is so bland and there's no exotic menace to Ming. The attempt to modernize this franchise looks like a bad episode of Xena. Not that there were any bad Xena episodes!

One series that has definitely caught my very picky attention is Moonlight. I still don't understand women's fascination for tall, dark and handsome vampires, but I certainly am prone to it. The chemistry between vampire P.I. Mick St. John (Australian Alex O'Loughlin) and news reporter Beth Turner (British Sophia Myles) is so palpable and romantic. The detective stories are interesting enough but it's the relationship between the two I enjoy watching. Oh, and looking at tall, dark and handsome Mick, of course. But, seriously, what brings this series to life is Sophia Myles. She's one of my favorite actresses. She looks a little like Kate Winslet but more vibrant and elegant. She's been in a lot of shows but isn't very well known in the U.S. I'm glad she's gaining some fame across the pond now, though. She was, ironically, a vampire in Underworld. On my way home from the U.K. last Spring, I watched several shows (Virgin Atlantic's On-Demand entertainment system is awesome!) and coincidentally, she was in three of them. She was in the Doctor Who episode "Girl in the Fireplace" (and is rumored to

be David Tennant's girlfriend), in the Marple episode "Sleeping Murder," and in Extras opposite Orlando Bloom (she certainly held my attention as much as Orlando Bloom!). Her other memorable roles were in Tristan + Isolde and Abduction Club (which I saw on Virgin Atlantic in 2002).

Chris, you're going with Procrastinations as one of your choices on the next FAAn ballot? John Coxon's zine certainly has potential, I agree, but I don't think it is of the caliber — yet — of Prolapse, Pixel, Banana Wings, Drink Tank, eI, and Inca. Don't get me wrong; I like John's style, and there will come a time when his fannish star will shine even brighter. He will get there, I am positive of that.

I am not sure exactly when the meaning of GAFIA changed around. My inclination is to say some time during the mid-1950s. Mark Plummer would probably be able to pinpoint this without having to look it up, which is what I have to do. Maybe a check online into the Fancyclopedia — located at www.fanac.org I doth believe — would solve this issue. I would do that right now, but that means I'd have to open another window on the computer, and I'm feeling lazy right now. Maybe if I save this loc under drafts, look it up, then come back to it later I can resolve this question. Then again, maybe not. I dunno. Gotta grade papers today in addition to dumping out stuff from the garage, do some lawn mowing, and so on with the domesticity of married life. *sigh* You can look it up, you young single whipper-snapper. Consider this your homework assignment. Get back to me when you're done, alright?

I'll be sure to pass the assignment on

to Chris and make sure he submits it to you so you can grade it. I do feel like a young whipper-snapper just starting out, and actually feel privileged to be a part of all this and even reporting on it. A little bit intimidated, but honored. It's interesting because I guess to me fandom is my Getting Away From It All. Even when my "real" life gets busy, complicated and downright difficult, being involved in fandom keeps me happy, sane, and connected to people like myself. These last couple of months probably have been the worst for me in a long while, and I have been a little remiss in my duties here at SF/SF (more on this in my current Editorial) and with fan groups I belong to, but I've tried to keep involved and in touch as much as I can.

Your editorial gave a good summation of TAFF's history and what it means. Visiting those websites is where folks can learn even more about TAFF and other fan funds. By the way, Murray Moore is running for DUFF in 2008; I learned this from a loc Mark Plummer sent me a week or so ago. Murray's a fine fellow, and I wish him luck. So, I will be shilling for him in Askance #5 for DUFF 2008 and you for TAFF, natcherly. Don't forget: Melbourne again in 2010!

The preceding was an unpaid, unplanned, and uncalled for fan-political announcement. We now return you to your regularly scheduled loc.

When Earl Kemp posted *Who Killed Science Fiction?* last year, I immediately downloaded it into a permanent file for safe-keeping and have plans to print the whole bugger out eventually and bind it. It is one of

those few essential fanzines ever published that a trufan should have in his or her collection. It so deserved its Best Fanzine Hugo Award. I strongly urge people to not only read this particular zine, but Earl's ongoing bimonthly e-zine, *eI*, which is one of the premier webzines being produced as we speak. Besides, he's also a sweet guy who lives approximately halfway between the Bay Area and College Station, Texas. Let's meet halfway, Chris, and say hello to Earl when we get there.

Sounds interesting. Thanks for the recommendation. I'll check it out.

As for the rest of the zine, I enjoyed it immensely, but I really must get on to grading student essays. Take care of yourself, Chris, Jean, David, and the rest of you BAreans.

Glad you keep enjoying SF/SF. Readers that keep coming back and telling us they appreciate our work really make it all worthwhile.

Ten Types of Chocolate That I Expect Chris to Bring With Him on a TAFF Trip

By James Bacon

Contributing Writer

Chocolate and TAFF auctions and fund raising are somehow interlinked. I don't like chocolate that much, so a more authoritative list may be required, but here for the sake of it is my list:

1. Something that is 100% cocoa, if such a thing exists. Or some Hotel Chocolate.
2. That horrible Hershey stuff that mad people eat. It's always in demand.
3. Those Butterfinger bars, because eating butter wrapped in chocolate is artery hardening.
4. Dylans Candy Bar Hot Chocolate. Anything that looks like you're putting a flake into milk is awesome.
5. Chocolate Covered Pop Rocks chocolate bar, cause that's mad.
6. Chocolate Poppers, as it has a whole different connotation over here.
7. Raspberry M&Ms.
8. Three Musketeers bars.
9. Twix Peanut Butter, because it's a bit ill and shows ye'll have PB with anything.
10. Milk Duds.
- 10b. Snickers, the cool Shrek Version, look like snot fell in during the mixing process but in an industrial accident sort of way.
- 10c. Baby Ruth Bars, cause I absolutely adore them, they are so nice and we have nothing like them, and its one of the few chocolates I would eat.

One Thing I Want to Know: Are there any chicks going to Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE, if so are they all looking like Lisa, do they cosplay, do you have photographic evidence and can I be Rick Hunter please?

Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor

This year, so far, has been very rough for me. I've had many highlights but many low points as well. Most of my highlights have been related to following my bliss (as reported on the pages of this ezine): my trips to Las Vegas and the U.K., winning Best in Show at BayCon, going to balls and conventions, etc.

I'm so blessed to have found so many friends with whom I can share my interests and activities where I can express my creativity. But being a romantic at heart, my main priority has always been, and probably always will be, having and being with a significant other in my life. Unfortunately, I haven't been so lucky with that. And these past 10 months' low points mostly revolved around the relationship I was in.

In March 2005, three months after my divorce from a ten-year marriage, I met a very exciting, intelligent, handsome, successful, capable, fun and dynamic man who totally fulfilled my ideal of a knight in shining armor. He totally swept me off my feet and I fell in love quickly and hard.

However, to spend time with him I had to do his activities, because he would only very rarely do any of mine. He said my interests weren't his kind of thing. The thing was, his activities weren't my kind of thing, either. But I kept going with him, because I loved him. Also, he was often away, for business and pleasure,

so I needed to be flexible and accommodating. Except I only had so much time and energy — so I began cutting down on my own activities, which I mostly did on my own in addition to his activities. I became unhappy, not to mention exhausted, because I wasn't dancing as much and I kept missing events I wanted to go to.

This past January, I moved in with him. I was hoping we'd get closer and that our relationship would move forward and eventually lead to marriage. Well, that's when the beginning of the end commenced. Ironically, we spent less time together when we lived together, because I finally burned out from doing too much, with very little downtime, plus gaining a longer and more tiring commute to work and back. So I couldn't do his activities as much as I used to, and even started missing most of mine. We drifted apart and fought a lot as I began to take care of myself and my needs.

Still, I kept hoping. But in September, we reached the end of the road — and I had to move yet again. Moving is a huge task to begin with, especially since I had just moved earlier this year, but it's quite traumatic and painful when you have to move after a breakup. Things were pretty hectic because I had to find a new apartment immediately, and I had to pack, move, and unpack within a couple of weeks.

I discovered that I had a lot of friends who cared about me and wanted to support me, not only emotionally but also practically. I had nine friends in total show up to help me with my

move. But I was quite stressed, depressed, and preoccupied this past month, and so I have not been able to contribute as much to *SF/SF* as I normally do. But we all have to take care of our real lives once in awhile.

I'm still in a little bit of shock and denial that it's all over, though. I'm finding it hard to let go of a fantasy and a life with someone who was the sun I revolved around for two and a half years. But at the same time it also feels really strange, like it never happened at all. I'm back in Foster City in an apartment and an apartment complex that look so much like the one I left in January. I'm reminded of tales of Faeries, where mortals are lured into their land. Where everything is about fun and frivolity but it doesn't feel real, and you feel like a captive. Then when you can get away and come back to the real world, no has time has passed, and it seems like it's all been a dream. That's what it feels like. Like I've been under a spell and I've escaped a sometimes pleasant and sometimes nightmarish otherworldly experience.

I was actually quite happy and relieved once I moved into my new home. I was busy working and settling in and didn't have much time to dwell on things. Now, however, I'm feeling the sense of loss and I alternate between anger, longing and acceptance. I'm sure things will get easier in time, and I will get over this breakup and be ready to move on.

I know that this editorial, so far, has been very personal, and you're probably

wondering what my point is in revealing so many intimate details about my life. Here it is: It has always been difficult for me to maintain my individuality and pursue my own passions, while trying to be in a relationship and accommodate another person's interests and activities. And of course, there's always the challenge of finding something to do that appeals to both parties. There's only so much time to schedule everything! I've always believed in compromise and give-and-take, but I've realized that compromising and giving too much doesn't work. So I'm wondering how other people in fandom manage to have happy, fulfilling, and lasting relationships. Please feel free to enlighten me on this matter!

Would it be easier and better to be with someone who has the same interests? Fandom is such a hard thing to understand for people who aren't into what we're into. The things we do are not mainstream and I don't particularly enjoy mainstream activities. But I seem to gravitate toward men who aren't into the same things I am. I guess opposites attract. I find it exciting to learn about and do things that are out of the realm of my regular experience. I feel like it adds more dimensions to who I am. Perhaps I could find someone who will accept me and what I'm interested in even if they aren't interested in the same things. I haven't given up hope. But I guess I'm more open now to finding someone in fandom than I was before.

Anyway, I'll probably still be taking it easy and taking care of myself in the next few months as I get over my broken heart and regain my energy. I have more free time now to do more fannish activities, and I am excited to, that I'll be able to do things that I haven't been able to do

in a while. But I'll need some alone time to heal and make myself whole again first.

In the meantime, I will do as much as I can handle, and I already enjoyed attending SiliCon a few weeks ago. It was exactly what I needed: to be with friends and have fun socializing, partying, costuming, and performing. I'm also definitely back to fulfill my role as Co-Editor at this here zine, which is one of the most important things in my life right now.

One big lesson I learned, through both my past marriage and my last relationship, is not to get so preoccupied with being in and fixing a relationship that I neglect my needs and don't do the things I love to do. I also realized that I have to find someone who will respect me and accept me for who I am, and is willing to have an intimate, committed and equal partnership with me. I've come out of these breakups even stronger, and I've learned a lot and grown in the process.

I've decided that from now on, I will listen to my heart and follow my intuition. They've never led me astray and they seem to lead me toward what makes me happy. I'm looking forward to more dancing, costuming and fannish events, with hopefully a loving and accepting life partner by my side in the not too distant future.

A Vine Time at Vintacon

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

There are lots of cons that end up being about going and getting drunk. There is only one con that I know of that brings folks together specifically to enjoy wine, and that's Vintacon. This year's model was held in Gilroy, CA, a city thought of for its garlic. Sadly, there was no garlic wine to be had.

The Lovely and Talented Linda and I arrived in Gilroy in time to get a little breakfast before the 10 a.m. call to Van. A lot of great folks were there. Nancy Cobb was there with Kurt, whom I don't remember ever meeting before. Kevin Roche and Andy Trembley were there, as were Wyatt Lastnameescapesme and Lance who has an LJ. Dave Gallaher and Spring Shoenhuth were the two in charge and we were happy to see Jo and Dave Clarke and Bruce and Shirl and Lisa and Harold and more and more and more. About 22 people in all. It was a good group and I was sure it would be a fine day of wine tasting and all the things us fans do when we're together, even if away from traditionally fannish environs.

Our first stop was a fairly average winery whose name escapes me. The wine ranged from pretty good to really nice. They also had a gift portion of the shop that had a lot of wine area type shirts and some cute jewelry. We drank and enjoyed ourselves before heading on to the next

stop. The Almond Champagne and the regular champagne were both pretty good, but my fave was the pomegranate wine they make for Casa de Fruta.

The next place was a really nice little tasting room. It was a lot like the ones I'm used to in Sonoma. A semi-circular tasting area and wines along the back. They had a bunch of food stuff in the other area including some salsa that I bought. I rather liked that and I bought two jars of the garlic version. At least that was made with Zinfandel so I could almost claim that it was wine-ish.

I think the third place was called Kirigan Cellars and it was one of those wineries that I love, because they showed us all over and even let us taste some of the wine from the barrel. We stopped here and ate the sandwiches we brought. It was raining lightly and we were all under a lattice, which allowed us to stay just dry enough to not complain and just wet enough to remember our place in the universe. The door to the tasting room looked exactly like the entrance to a Hobbit Hole. It was incredible the likeness between the two. The wines were OK, nothing I loved there, but they had an incredible Red Wine Vinegar. I know, I know, I was wine tasting, but the vinegar was so good that I bought two bottles. To put that in perspective, I bought no actual wine the entire weekend.

After that, we went to someplace else that

was a bad choice. Hecker Pass Winery. Now, I'm not a wine genius, I can't rattle off a list of tones to a wine and tell you about the grapes. I'm a big wine sniffer, as it's really more about the smell to me than the taste, and I'm really only a fan of sweet wines (so the dry-heavy tastings weren't great, but there was usually something for me to enjoy) and they had the two best sweets of the day. The problem is everything else they served was nearly undrinkable. I mean, I'd get a taste, scrunch my eyes up and go to pour the rest out just on the outside of the door. It was awful, just terrible until you got to the Cream Sherry and the Marsala which were both pretty damn good and I was impressed. Kevin Roche claimed that even their crackers tasted like wet dog.

Then we went back to the hotel and hung out in the con suite. We ordered Chinese, which I thought was a fine idea. Some stuff went fast and others had lots of leftovers. These things happen. It also took us forever to get things ordered. Too many people trying to get a look at things. We might have taken slightly longer had we gone out, but at 10 dollars a person, it was a good price for a good meal.

The rest of the night was red wine and games playing. A bunch of us played The Great Dalmuti while others were all about Apples to Apples. I called it a night a little earlier than I expected, but I figured I wanted to have energy for the next day.

Woke up early and had breakfast downstairs. Not a bad hotel cafeteria. They did fresh-made omelettes and French Toast. I like French Toast, and since it was a sensible alternative to eggs, I was very happy. We then gathered in the con suite and made our way to our first stop: Clos de Chance. A nice little winery that again reminded me of the ones I hang out at in Sonoma, especially Buena Vista. The wines were pretty good. I liked the Chardonnay, which isn't a frequent thing in my eyes. I like 'em big and buttery, which is exactly the way a lot of folks at the con didn't like them. The place was nice enough and I was glad we went there, but I was hoping for a little more.

We followed that up with Sycamore Creek. This was a nice little place with really good wines. The best part was that the winemaker was there tending to some batches that were in tubs. He was stirring and even let us have some tastes of the grapes that were in mid-ferment. That was awesome. He talked about the process and a little about his philosophy. He was a really nice guy and the wines he put out were really good too. I think this was my favorite regular winery. As we were just finishing, a tour bus came and we left. It was about to get very busy!

The next stop was...Gilroy Gardens! Now, I love Gilroy Gardens, though I had only been there when it was still Bonfante Gardens. We didn't have much time after having had lunch in the picnic area, but we made the most of it. We saw some Circus Trees (I LOVE Circus Trees) and we went into the Monarch Garden and then on one of the roller coasters. It didn't look like it was going to be any fun, but it was

better than we expected. We rode the train a little and then had to leave.

As a strange aside, I ran into my buddy Derek McCaw on Wednesday and he asked if I had been at Gilroy Gardens on Saturday.

"Why, yes I was," I said.

Apparently two of his students were there and heard someone who sounded like the guy who did the podcasts with Derek on FanboyPlanet.com — though they described me and "a tall bald guy in a kilt," which must have been Andy. Strange world...

The next stop was Sarah's Vineyard. I wasn't much of a fan, though Linda lavished attention on the winery cat. The people at Sarah's were really nice. There was a picture of a toddler by the guest book — she had grown up at the winery and was one of our pourers. Nice folks, though I wasn't too impressed with their wines other than their Chardonnay.

That night we went to the Westside Grill and ate a wonderful dinner. We had 22 of us, but they had to seat us at one table of four and one table of 18. We were at the table of four. I had the prime rib, which was very nice, and the boys had the duck, which looked amazing. I was very impressed and the owner of the restaurant was a nice guy and did a bunch to get us served and we had a good experience. He also introduced us to a guy who ran Fernwood Winery and we arranged for a visit out there on Sunday.

That night was the Sweets party. I love sweet wines far more than dry and these seldom disappointed. A couple of them had aged a little oddly, but none of them were bad. I liked the Late Harvest Sauvignon Blanc and the Ice Wines were all very tasty. This was my kind of tasting!

We did fondue, but it didn't quite work out right. It was a good night of drinking, indeed, even if I didn't get to do the fanzine that I had hoped for.

The last day we woke up and got breakfast and packed the room. It was quiet until 10 when we gathered and folks had Mimosas. I'm usually a mimosa nut, but I didn't have one this time. Not entirely sure why, though. I did have a sip of Linda's which she was kind enough to share. We headed out to Fernwood and though it took a while to get out there, we made it.

And I'm glad we did.

Fernwood's wine guy, Matt, set us up and we did our tasting. Even I could appreciate that these were fantastic dry wines, and a few of them I really enjoyed. It's rare that that happens. The place isn't really a regular tasting joint, just a barn with wine-making going on. Matt was really nice and talked to us about the wine process, the land and the grapes, and what I found most interesting, his wine-making philosophy. He gave us a good intro to each wine and talked about his own journey through winemaking. I was most impressed. If I had the money, I'd have joined his Wine Club, but alas, finances allowed it not. Several others joined up, which was a sign of how good things were.

The trip ended with us all helping to pack out and saying goodbye. It was a fine weekend, and one I hope I get to go back to next year!

Garcia's Magical History Tour

Story and Photos by Jean Martin
Editor

Like we didn't have enough articles by the ubiquitous Chris Garcia in this zine, here's an article *with* Chris Garcia in it. Taking advantage of my last few weeks of living in Mountain View, I visited Chris at his day job as the Assistant Curator of the Computer History Museum.

Housed in the former Silicon Graphics building on Shoreline Boulevard right off of 101, the glass and metal architectural masterpiece is a sight in itself. Little did I know that there were more treasures in store inside. I got the rare treat of a private tour by Chris in the middle of the afternoon while the museum was not open to the public.

I'd wanted to visit the museum since Chris told me about it a while back, as I've been interested in computers since I was a child. I remember always wanting to be on the cutting edge of technology, having the latest electronic games and gadgets, which started to become popular and priced-for-the-consumer in the 1970s.

The Seventies doesn't seem so long ago in chronological years but information technology has developed at light speed since then. All our lives have been inexorably altered on so many levels; from how we live and work

to how we relate to other people. This is what the museum hopes to capture in its collection, the world's largest.

Chris greeted me in the lobby with his



Interface Message Processor and Chris

usual impish grin. Well, who wouldn't have a grin working at such a fabulous place and having

such a fantastic job! First, he took me to the "Visible Storage" exhibit. It was a large room on the first floor where there was everything from valuable huge computer prototypes to samples of early scientific calculators. Among the most memorable for me were the Apollo Guidance Computer, a replica of a gear and arm from the Babbage Difference Engine (the forerunner of the modern computer conceived in 1822 by British mathematician and inventor Charles Babbage), an ENIAC (the first large-scale computer), the first Google production computer, an authentic Enigma machine (the German World War II encryption machine), and the Interface Message Processor (first packet router for the ARPANET, the predecessor of today's Internet).

There were some robots around the place, of course, and the one I liked the most was the Omnibot. As far as more practical items, it was funny to see one of the first laser printers, which was as huge as a heavy-duty office copy machine. It was also great to see an Apple 1. That really brings back memories. I realized then that it is quite appropriate to have the museum in Silicon Valley, the birthplace of the computer revolution and still the center of the technology universe. The museum was originally in Boston, where Chris lived at the time, and that was where he was first hired to work at the museum. Fortunately for the Bay Area native and for Bay Area fandom, the museum moved to Mountain



WWII Enigma Machine

View, and Chris was happy to transplant himself back to the area.

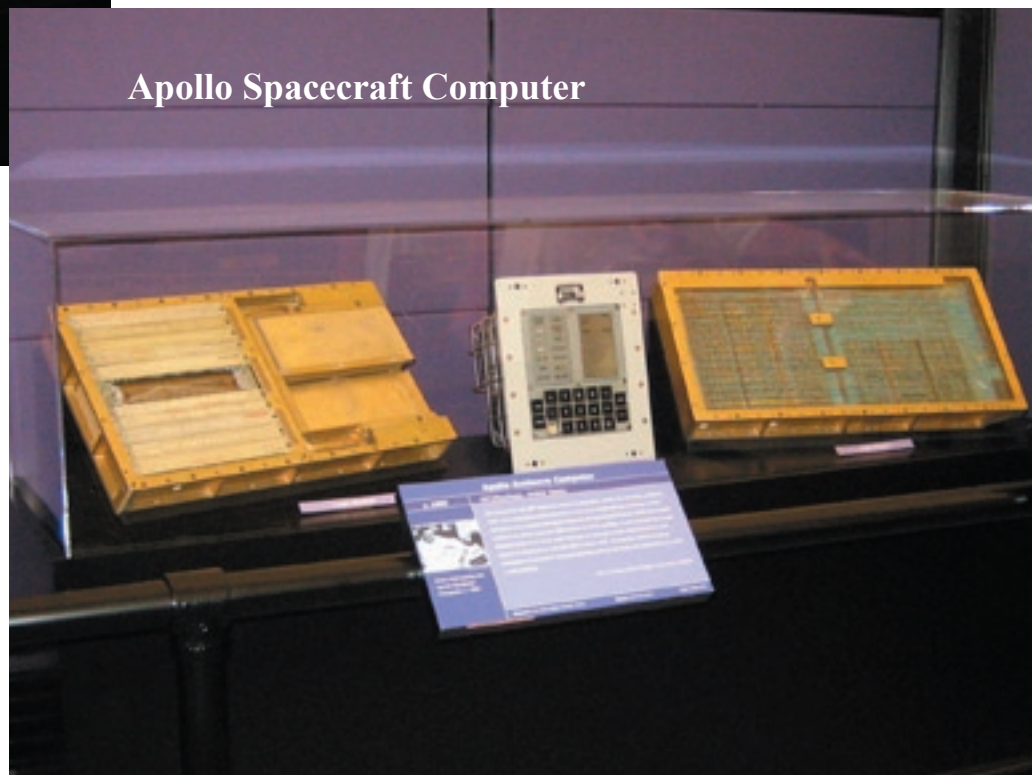
The next exhibit Chris showed me was the current special exhibit, “Mastering the Game: A History of Computer Chess.” That was quite nostalgic for me, too, as I used to love chess when I was a kid, and was quite good at it. I was excited when my dad bought me my first real chess set when I was six. He later bought a computer chess game called *Chess Challenger*, which I was only able to play a few times since he would monopolize it pretty much every evening. It was actually quite nice to still have the chess pieces on a board even though your opponent was electronic. The computer chess games nowadays that are on a screen aren’t as much fun.

I’m not sure if the storage room is open to the public at all, but Chris took me through the rest of the collection that’s not on display. He’s involved in cataloging and collecting so he

knows what’s in the room, which was just as big as the Visible Storage room. The one item I distinctly remember being excited about was a component from the MIR space station. And it was just sitting on a shelf gathering dust! I asked Chris what he looks for when purchasing items for the museum, and he said that he acquires what he things “helps tell the story.”

For the nostalgia factor alone, the museum is definitely a must-see for those who have lived through computers’ short but eventful history. But I also recommend it to the younger folk who may want to pay homage to all the computers that came before, that led to all the technology that we all now take for granted, and that make our lives easier and better.

The museum is open on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m., and on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, check out www.computerhistory.org.



Apollo Spacecraft Computer

SiliCon Fills Out the Doubletree

By España Sheriff
Staff Writer

Each year since its rebirth, SiliCon grows up just a little. Naturally this has resulted in some growing pains, but it also lends the convention an air of newness and excitement that can often be absent from larger and more established conventions.

This year for the first time the convention expanded to fit the entire facilities at the Doubletree Hotel in San Jose, from the ballrooms to the gaming rooms in the back. At first this made it appear that there were fewer people in attendance that there actually were — though in fact the numbers were apparently double last year's.

I arrived pretty late on Friday after work, last minute packing, and whatnot. I arrived at the hotel at around 8 p.m. checked in, and was permitted by the lovely gentleman at reception to use the photocopier to make flyers for the *SF/SF* party, all in a breathless first half hour. Then I got some much needed food, coffee, and a moment to breathe. When I finally made it over to the party room things were in full swing. David Moyce surprised us with a very tasty cake printed with the TOC from issue #50. Jean Martin was there, dressed as a pirate. Chris Garcia was... well, Chris Garcia, bless. And there was a j-rock back on the balcony that sounded pretty good, but was loud enough to make us keep the door closed.

Tons of regular BAarians were already roaming the hallways including Karisu and Richard Man, Erik Anderson, Johanna Mead and the rest of the Pancho's Crosstime Cantina crew and of course, BASFA and the Black Hole crew. There was a surprise guest appearance from LA-

area fan Jason Schachat, and local Fanboy Derek McCaw showed up.

All in all the convention was already off to a swinging start and the parties going pretty well, so after hanging out for a bit feeling a little tired and scruffy from work I went to get changed



Johanna presides at Pancho's Crosstime Cantina.

Photo courtesy conpix.net



Hall costumes were a highlight.

Photo courtesy conpix.net

to get into the spirit of things. I was dismayed to discover I'd managed to pack only one of my boots, somewhat limiting my costume choices to "lamest pirate ever." But fishnets will cure many costume woes and seemed quite appropriate when I learned that Rocky Horror was due to commence. Ophelia and I headed down to see if it had started yet but there was a horror movie

still playing in the dedicated movie room, so I went back up to the parties, briefly checking out the Black Hole Bar, Pancho's, and BASFA before heading back over to the *SF/SF* room. There was drinking and talking until the wee hours at which point there was some reasonably tasty room service pizza and then, finally, sleep.

The next morning getting my art hung

was the first order of business since I had arrived too late to do so the night before. I was pleased to see that Richard Man's panel was directly across from mine, making a little cozy nook. The rest of the art was a pretty good selection of Bay Area folks, and the artist alley/fan table strip also had quite a number of cool folks, with mostly comics artists in the alley. I regret never finding the time to stop for very long there.

Done with the art, food was definitely becoming a priority. Rather than head for the Coffee Garden, we decided to cross over to Denny's where my breakfast was tasty but probably a mistake, leaving me a little lethargic for the rest of the morning. I wandered through the dealer's room, which had quite a good mix of books, movies, comics and accessories, with pretty much all areas covered and a decent balance between favorites and

vendors I hadn't noticed before. In my opinion it was a bit of a shame to have it so far from the art show, but the Donner Pass room, normally the art show room at BayCon, was being used for the various film screenings during the convention. The hallway in front of the dealer's room and the screening room was mostly movie

folks hawking their wares, which ranged from the sleazy to the cheesy but seemed mostly a lot of fun, with horror flicks definitely the prevailing theme.

Following the horror theme, there



were several panels discussing makeup effects and zombification, and a quick Flickr search will turn up some spectacular results from the demonstrations. Saturday's surprise guest appearances included Tadao Tomomatsu up from LA and the elusive Jack Avery who was there

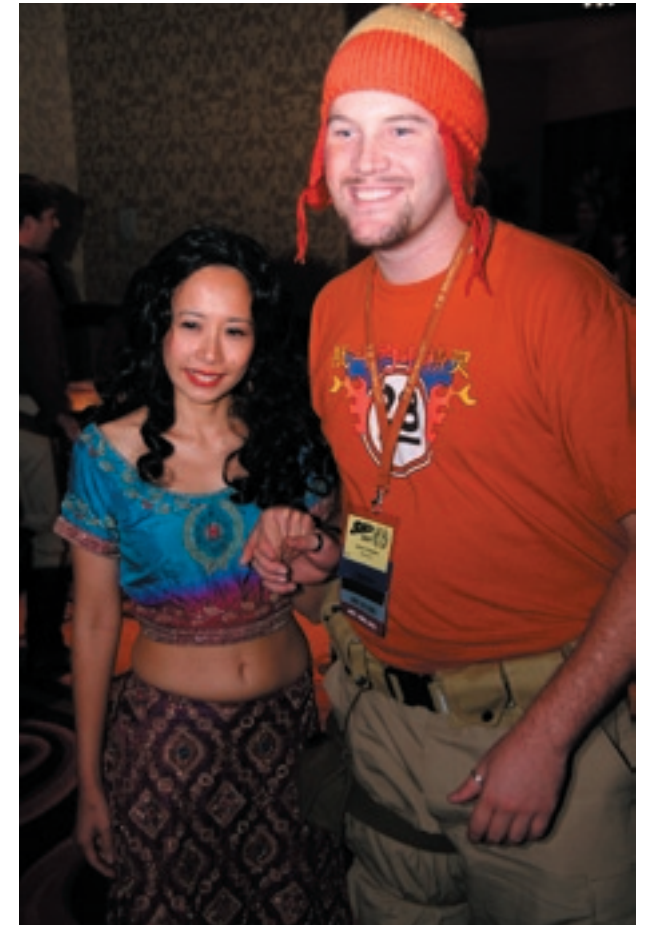
and gone in the blink of an eye — perhaps just a fannish urban legend to scare the children.

Saturday night was all about the Browncoat organized dance, the Hallo-Whedon Hootenanny. I often skip the Masquerade just with one thing and another, but I managed to see plenty of costumes roaming the halls, being photographed and receiving their awards. Our Jean went through several costume changes from the Masquerade Leia which I missed, to a gorgeous authentic screen costume from the Heart of Gold episode of *Firefly*, to finally a “Mirror, Mirror” ST:TOS outfit that was very popular with the Klingons and quite appropriate for the evening.

The *SF/SF* party was usually pretty hoppin’ when I managed to stop in and talk for any amount of time, with Leigh Anne making the surprisingly delicious contribution of pear vodka, which turns into pure hooch heaven when mixed with ginger beer and ain’t too bad with other stuff. Kevin and Andy’s party from Friday had morphed into the LoEG Salon. The Klingons were back in full swing and there appeared to be a BSG and/or Harry Potter party at the end of the hall. There were a handful of other parties including BASFA, Further Confusion and something to do with trees which I never actually made it to, mostly because the SF Browncoats managed to turn the often hit-or-miss Saturday night dance into a roaring success.

With a dance schedule that was split between partnered and free-form dances and consistently interesting music, the dance floor was full of folks from the start right up until the sadly early closing time of 1 a.m. The decorations were fun and thematic, including tombstones

for dearly departed Joss Whedon shows and cardboard cut outs of *Buffy* characters. There were a lot of Whedonesque costumes including many colorful companion-style outfits, a couple of Jaynes, a Buffy and at least one Spike.



Photos courtesy conpix.net

Boozing and carousing continued, and at one point some of us ended up in Leigh Anne’s room hoping to call up some more of that room service pizza. However, when calling room service we were informed that there was no more pizza to be had. Not only that, but there was not



The Browncoats rocked the Saturday Night Shindig.

Photo courtesy conpix.net

much of anything to be had. In fact, “We have a couple of tuna sandwiches, you want one of those?” was apparently the full menu offering. Amused, slightly baffled, but not nearly drunk enough to be enticed by this response we decided another trip to Denny’s was in order and I had a cheezburger that probably saved my life, my liver, or likely both.

Nonetheless Sunday morning I awoke feeling the teeniest bit fragile. Now I normally don’t get out-and-out hangovers, but imbibing Scotch and/or the unwise mixing of different

beverage families can cause a certain amount of damage. Wages of sin, eh wot? I staggered first to the *SF/SF* panel which was fun even if sparsely attended, most likely because it was ensconced in the Silicon Valley Oubliette room, far from prying eyes. Still, fun was had by all of us and hopefully by our one legit audience member. Then it was time to get some packing done. I had called for a late checkout the night before, but was dismayed to discover that the hotel would only extend checkout by a half hour and furthermore claimed to have nevah-evah

been able to extend any further. While this was not my experience from past years and previous conventions, it seemed pointless to argue since I was mostly packed.

Once everything was packed I had some further difficulty with checkout when it was discovered that the hotel had spontaneously decided to split the bill in half, providing one bill to me and one to my roommate, who had arrived before me and used her credit card to check in. Despite the fact that I had showed up an hour later and told them to change the card to mine. I’ve never had this happen before and it took a certain amount of research by the customer service representative to even locate the rest of the bill after I had paid my half. Nor could she suggest why this method of billing would have been used. Odd, but consistent with a certain unfortunate decline in the general quality of the DoubleTree, alas. Although the interactions with staff were consistently pleasant there were a handful of other weird little instances of this nature throughout the weekend.

Done with business, it was time to relax and enjoy the last hours. I picked up the unsold art from the Art Show (I sold a piece!), took a last wander through the dealer’s room and headed over to a Garcia panel to heckle for a bit, only to find that this duty was already covered from both the audience and the panelists’ side. Those last lingering afternoon hours that characterize every good convention followed.

A little sitting by the pool, a lot of coffee, some wandering the halls saying hello and goodbye to folks and it was time to head out into the Sunset. In my case, literally.

A Tale of Two Ren Faires

Story and Photos By Jean Martin
Editor

I love Renaissance Faires and have been going to them since I moved to the Bay Area in 1987. However, I didn't know at the time that Ren Faires were part of fandom, and I used to just go as a mundane and didn't get into the whole costuming and re-enactment aspect of it all. I enjoyed watching the folks in costume, especially the actors and performers, and experiencing the unique shops, dining establishments, and the historical atmosphere.

I never get tired of going to Ren Faires and I look forward to them every Summer. Now that I've discovered fandom, I enjoy them even more as I wear costumes and go with fellow fen, or meet

them there by chance or by design. We're lucky to have two Ren Faires in the Bay Area now. We used to have only one, in Novato, which I still think was the best. But then again, that might



The Criers of St. Blaise stride across Speedway Meadow

just be nostalgia. Still, I do enjoy the two we have now. They are very different from each other, and each is wonderful in its own way.

The Golden Gate Renaissance Faire at Speedway Meadow in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park is relatively new, and is only held one weekend in late August, but it has been growing every year. This year was the fourth one and I liked it just as much if not more than the first time I went last year. I went on Saturday, August 25th.

Golden Gate Park is a perfect setting for a Ren Faire because the fog and trees are so reminiscent of England. It's also easier to get to than some locations, but parking, as is often the case in the City, is difficult. It's a smaller faire but the food stalls are great and most of the good vendors show up. There was the requisite jousting, which was quite rough and realistic. There were also a couple of fencing academies and an archery range for those who wanted to participate and not just be a spectator.



The Royal Joust at Casa de Fruta's Faire



Kitty, Jean and Ken join the revels in Hollister

Since it is a smaller faire and is only for one weekend, I ran into several friends from different fan groups. Debbie from the Black Fleet Star Pirates Guild was there celebrating her birthday with several other Black Fleet members. I ran into fellow Browncoats and PEERS folk as well. My friend Kitty was also there working as the leader of the Criers of St. Blaise. They walk around announcing that the Queen's entourage

is going to pass by. The Queen, in this case, was Mary Queen of Scots. My friend Christina and I had a great time and we stayed longer than we'd expected to. I also bought more than I expected but then again, I do wind up buying costume bits and props at these faires.

The Northern California Renaissance Faire at Casa de Fruta in Hollister is by contrast a much larger and more elaborate faire. It is quite

a trek to get to Hollister, but it's worth the drive. You really feel like you're in an alternate reality when you enter the gates and you're transported into the 1500s. I went on opening weekend on September 9th. There were more attractions, shops, food stalls and actors at this one. I didn't run into anyone I knew except for Kitty whom you could always hear coming as her Guild rang the bells and led the Queen's parade. This time, the Queen was Elizabeth I.

The first attraction I watched was the jousting, which at this faire was more choreographed and stylized. Then I went to get a bite to eat and bought some leather goods for my costume. I tend not to watch a lot of shows when I'm at a faire, but this time I saw not only the jousting, but also a show by the famous MooNiE and BRooN. They're comedians that do juggling and other circus-type tricks. They were quite entertaining. There were other performances that I stopped by for a while, dancers and singers — it's all quite a colorful and lively event.

It's very well organized, and I'm amazed at what it takes to put together the infrastructure and all the people involved to make everything look so real and effortless for the patrons.

The Bay Area Renaissance Faire season is over now. I'm glad to know that the Golden Gate Renaissance Faire will be back next year. There is still no information on whether the Northern California Renaissance Faire will also be around in 2008, but I hope it does come back as I intend to go back to both next year.

For more information, visit:

www.sffaire.com

www.norcalrenfaire.com

BASFA Minutes: Meetings 897-898

Meeting 897

October 8, 2007

Meeting 897 of the Bay Area Science Fiction Association was held at the Round Table Pizza, Newark CA. The meeting started at approximately 8:10 p.m. 14 people attended.

VP Christopher J. Garcia presided, minutes taken by emergency not-so-holographic secretary Linda Wenzelburger.

Officers absent: President Trey Haddad, Secretary Barbara Johnson-Haddad.

Previous minutes: The minutes of meeting 896 were adopted as 'Zombie fun for everyone.'

A party jar was established.

Officer Reports

Treasurer's report:

Dave G reported that we took in \$20.20 last week, giving us a grand total of \$9,246.84. Party fund took in \$10.75, bringing the total party fund to \$795.20, but still need to pay Ed for two parties. Estimate balance will be \$275 after reimbursements are made.

Vice President's report:

There was, or should have been a new Drink Tank out last week. A new SF/SF should be out this week. Should be going bi-weekly. Don't

forget to submit TAFF ballots. They are available online at www.taff.org.uk. Deadline is 11/17/2007 midnight (IN HAND, not postmark).

Committees

Site Selection:

Dave G reports that next week BASFA will meet at the Coco's in Sunnyvale. Coco's is making overtures to wanting our permanent business on Monday nights and is willing to talk to the other group (that is only there one Monday a month) to see if they would give up the room.

A suggestion was made that we could potentially have most of our meetings in the South Bay (Coco's for example) and have one meeting a month at a more northern location (like Newark) to accommodate the North/East Bay members. This will be discussed at later meetings.

Dave is still attempting to contact some other potential locations as well that had been brought up at previous meetings (like, Sonoma Chicken Coop).

Fanzine: Needs photographs and other materials. Contact Chris with content submissions - garcia@computerhistory.org.

Business:

There was no business.

Announcements:

Dave G. - Vintacon is this weekend. Attendees not just from the Bay Area, and soon the WORLD!! Two states will be represented by

actual residents this year.

Dave Clark - New Cargo Cult catalog is out (copies available at meeting) - so full of stuff there was no room for pictures.

Julie - For those not attending Vintacon there is a European band playing at Sutter Creek this coming weekend.

Reviews:

Dave G - 2 weeks ago he and Spring were at the Sacramento Creation Convention. Lots of Star Trek, Star Wars stuff, but they didn't see much of anything cause they were in the dealers room. Worth the hotel cost and the table fee - made money!

Eli - Reviewed new TV show - 'Pushing Daisies' (8 pm Wednesdays on ABC, may be repeating on Friday night at 8pm) about a guy who can bring people back from the dead. The rules: if he touches them once, they come back to life, if he touches them again, they die for good. If he brings someone back and lets them stay alive more than 60 seconds, someone else dies. And in the first episode, he brings back to life his childhood sweetheart and decides to let her live, but he can't ever touch her again. Very surreal, CGI enhanced color heightens that effect. Lots to look at and listen to. Series is by the same guy who did 'Wonder Falls.' Lots of great stage actors in the cast. Worth full price (since it's free) so check it out.

(Chris G?) said it's the best 10 minutes of

television in the last 5 years.

John O follow-on'd that Nielsen will be aggregating for new show reruns that happen within the same week. Also pointed out that the narration is being done by Jim Dale (of 'Harry Potter' audio book fame).

Dave Clark - during SiliCon also went to the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association Trade Show. This is where publishers and distributors try to get Dave to buy their books. Alice Walker, John Dean were there. There were autograph sessions as fundraisers. David Farlane, Mark Ferrari, Brian Sanders all have new books out. Got booty, and posters for Spring. Worth full value, but you've got to know somebody (to get in). One bummer: Sunday afternoon is the 'cookbook buffet' but the only representatives this year were two vegan cookbooks and there was no chocolate.

Group review of Silicon - Julie started us off with : Had a good time. Lacking in programming - lots of gaps. Panels attended were good. Spent nights in the party rooms. Slept during the day. Worth full Price.

(sorry don't have name for this one!!) Furry party was a good party, but the group wasn't so good about cleaning up. 14 unopened bottles were left over - the cleaning crew were not drinkers - so new friendships were forged when the booty was hauled over to ConOps.

Dave C reported that it took 25 minutes to get a badge, and he was the only one in line. Checked out the dealer room. Parties were good.

John O - came in at noon on Friday and registered at the hotel and picked up reg packets

no problems. Friday parties were better than Saturday parties. Browncoats ran two parties each night so not up to their usual energy level since they were spread thin between parties and the masquerade ball. Pancho's Cross Time Cantina - all the investors got their money back (so a good party!). The Klingons were the usual Klingons. BASFA was a quiet party at the end of the haul - not the best placement for a party room. SF/SF was the best fanzine lounge with good walls decorated with pages from the zine. Chris O - worked Costume Competition, she was green room and backstage and photo wrangler (in other words, not enough staff behind the scenes). A ninja broke Cassandra (part of Mette/Bryan's entry) trying to get her onstage, but all was fixed in time. 16 entries in all - which is a lot for SiliCon. Awards were announced at the dance 1/2 hour after they were ready. Most of the contestants had removed their costumes because they didn't know how long the wait was going to be.

Lisa had to endure an endless loop of The Black Dahlia playing at a table near the CC26 table.

Chris G - the SF/SF party was fun. Drinks on the fly worked really well. They got Pancho's leftovers for Saturday night's party and went thru 2/3rds of the bevvies. Had more to start night 2 party than the first night because of all the donations. Friday was a better party. Saturday was lower energy on the party floor because of the Firefly dance. He saw one movie 'The Cleaner' which was terendously bad. (Yes, so bad he had to make up a new word for it). Fashion show was good. The overall schedule for the con was for 2500 people, but only 1200 showed up. The Program book was a great piece

of fiction. Lots of guests listed in the program actually showed up (this is unusual). Oh, and Chris got to be Kevin Standlee on Saturday night and accepted the Ken Uhland award... and he restrained himself from announcing Kevin was bidding a WorldCon to be held at Dave and Spring's place.

Other Business:

Dave C made a motion that Chris should be referred to as Kevin Standlee for the rest of the meeting. Arguments were made for and against the motion, which ultimately failed.

Dave G added a late review of 'The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. T' - a movie with songs and music written by Dr.Seuss. Highly recommends it. Chris G added on that he absolutely hated it. Though both agreed that Hans Conried was really good.

Rumor of the Week is that: 'BASFA endorses Saxon for President.'

Auctions: \$6.00 for an amazingly annoying little pink box that made kissing sounds.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:12.

Meeting 898

October 15, 2007

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

Began 8:00, fannish standard time.
28 people attended.
We established a party jar.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 897 were accepted as 'Chris Garcia makes typos, even when he speaks.'

The Treasurer's report is that last week we took in \$22.00 in the regular jar.

VP reported that he was the designated Kevin Standlee at SiliCon and accepted the Ken Uhland award for him there [we applauded] plus there's a new Drink Tank out and a new Drink Tank is due out maybe tomorrow.

The President reported that he's been slacking off & thanked Raphael - our waiter - who had been thrown to the fans.

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].

The Party Committee reported that there were parties at SiliCon both nights and a good time was had by all - and there won't be a BASFA party at FurCon & he's trying to find a home for the Slurm dispenser.

Announcements:

[tall] Kevin announced that today is the last day to apply for SMOFcon scholarships.

Dave C announced that Cargo Cult is stocking Colbert's 'I am America' [scariest cover EVER] - as well as the audio book.

Carole announced that this Sunday, Oct 21 will be the Jack Wood book fair at her house [of mostly obsolete computer books], starting at 1p.m.

Julie announced that her mentor, John Grass, passed away last week and she spent the afternoon at his funeral.

Reviews:

Chris reviewed going to Vintacon - the first he had ever been to - as he drank wine, ate Chinese food, played 'Great Dalmuti' went to the West Side Grill and had a wonderful time - worth \$79.00 and his travel expenses [there were follow-on's].

[evil] Kevin reviewed their lovely weekend at Vintacon as the low point of the trip was the Hecker Pass Winery, all the wines tasted off and the saltines tasted like wet dog.

Julie reviewed drinking in Sutter Creek as her trip had fannish overtones & she asked if people can SMOF if not involved in science fiction & was told there are many kinds of fandom & found it a very fannish experience & reviewed the 405 as worth eating one of Kevin's cookies.

Adrienne reviewed this year's Ren Faire as she was disappointed by the admission price and food quality and thought it was worth matinee [there were follow-on's] - she also reviewed the Santa

Cruz Fisherman's Wharf 'Original Stagnaro's Restaurant' as interesting but the food was very pedestrian & doesn't plan to return there.

Howeird reviewed 'SuperBad' as super mediocre & except for the 2 leads thought it was not well acted & worth Netflix rental & reviewed Fry's as don't go there for car improvements & reviewed Audio Works in San Jose as fantastic and well-priced.

[tall] Kevin reviewed his trip to Oregon and anniversary as he was taken for a ride by his wife [model railroading at a 1-to-1 scale] & reviewed his experience with Japan's railroad museum [with mini 2-person railcars] as fun and worth the time.

Lisa reviewed 'The Jane Austen Book Club' as a wonderful movie for those who love reading books - delightful - and worth full price.

Joe reviewed 'Fool's Tale' as a first novel and a good read.

Carole reviewed a Wearable Arts festival as it was interesting and amusing and well worth full price.

Then we auctioned off books for \$1.75; \$1.00; \$2.00; \$5.00; \$0.25; \$0.25; \$3.50; CDs for \$1.50; & videos for \$1.00.

We adjourned at 10:03.

And the rumor of the week was that 'Barbara will be scarred for life.'

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 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.

Thursday-Saturday, October 25-27

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 25-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 26

Creepshow (1982) and Pet Sematary (1989)

Castro Theatre

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

www.castrotheatre.com

\$9

Part of the Castro's "Eighties Stephen King weekend."

Friday, October 26

Q: The Winged Serpent (1982) and Eaten Alive (1977)

Alliance Française Screening Room

1345 Bush Street

San Francisco

415-474-4637

7:45 p.m.

Free/donations welcome

The Incredibly Strange Picture Show begins its 4th year of screenings at the Alliance Française with a Halloween double feature. Come early for movie trailers and free candy.

Friday, October 26

Revenge of Thrillville's Halloween Spookylau: The Killer Shrews (1959)

Copia: The American Center For Wine, Food & the Arts

500 First Street

Napa

www.thrillville.net

8 p.m.

\$7

Thrillville's special Halloween hula show hosted by Will the Thrill and Monica, Tiki Goddess, and featuring TV horror hosts Mr. Lobo and The Queen Of Trash and the spooky swaying sounds of the Maikai Gents, starring The Mysterious Miss Mauna Loa.

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.

Friday, October 26

Rocky Horror Picture Show Halloween Special

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito

barelylegal.rhps.org

Midnight

\$7

Barely Legal Productions do "The Time Warp" every weekend at the Parkway, but the Halloween show features stage antics, costume contests and more in addition to the usual midnight madness. 17 and over.

October 26-November 4

Mankind's Last Hope

Rhythmix Cultural Works

2513 Blanding Avenue

Alameda

www.viragotheatre.org



If the warm weather holds, the deck at **Chabot Space and Science Center** in the Oakland Hills should offer a delightful venue for the Halloween costume party under the stars on October 26th.

www.chabotspace.org

Photo: Chabot Space & Science Center

Fri & Sat at 8 p.m., Sun Oct 28 at 1, Sun Nov 4 at 2 p.m.

\$15 in advance, \$17 at the door

Virago Theatre presents the world premiere of Dan Brodnitz's and Jeff Green's "futuristic situation comedy."

Saturday, October 27

BeefBowl Anime

Albany Library

1247 Marin Avenue

Albany

12:15-4:15 p.m.

Free

See the screening list at beefbowl.org.

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 "ghoulish" 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, October 27

The Dead Zone (1983) and Firestarter (1984)

Castro Theatre

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

www.castrotheatre.com

\$9

Part of the Castro's "Eighties Stephen King weekend."

Saturday, October 27

Rocky Horror Picture Show Halloween Special

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

barelylegal.rhps.org

Midnight

\$7

Barely Legal Productions do "The Time Warp" every weekend at the Parkway, but the Halloween show features stage antics, costume contests and more in addition to the usual midnight madness. 17 and over.

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

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

F. Paul Wilson has kindly offered to play bartender at his signing. Since his two newest books are *Bloodline* and *Virgin*, Mr. Wilson will be pouring Bloody Marys and Virgin Marys for the crowd.

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.

Sunday, October 28

Christine (1983) and Cujo (1983)

Castro Theatre

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

www.castrotheatre.com

\$9

Part of the Castro's "Eighties Stephen King weekend."

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

Monday-Tuesday, October 29-30

Eraserhead (1977)

Castro Theatre

429 Castro Street

San Francisco

www.castrotheatre.com

7 and 8:50 p.m.

\$9

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, poetry and prose from Bronte, Dickens, Shakespeare and Poe. Potions and poisons will be 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, October 31

Monster Mosh
12 Galaxies
2565 Mission Street
San Francisco
isotopecomics.com/events.html
8:30 p.m.

\$10

A Halloween party co-sponsored by Ms. Monster, The Onion, Chartreuse, B-Minus Comics, and the Isotope Comics Lounge. 21 and over.

Wednesday, October 31

Halloween with the Phenomenauts
Annie's Social Club
917 Folsom Street
San Francisco
www.anniessocialclub.com
9 p.m.
\$10

The "Rocket Roll" band plays a Halloween show with The Go Going Gone Girls and The Impalers. 21 and over.

**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. (One

suspects that Professor Dumbledore may be on the agenda this year.)

Saturday, November 3

Borderlands 10th Anniversary Sale

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Borderlands celebrates its 10th anniversary with cake, snacks, and drinks and special prices on new and used books. Bags of free books and other goodies for the first 50 customers.

Saturday, November 3

SwapSF Book Swap

CELLspace

2050 Bryant Street

San Francisco

www.swapsf.com

Noon-3 p.m.

\$5 (\$10 without books)

With \$1 beer and wine, free Meth coffee (if you bring your own cup), journalmaking and bookbinding workshops, music, and lots of free books.

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.

Saturday & Sunday, November 3-4

Vintage Computer Festival

Computer History Museum

1401 N. Shoreline Blvd.

Mountain View

www.vintage.org

9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

\$20

A celebration of old computers, featuring guest speakers, exhibits, marketplace, and a film festival.

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.

Tuesday, November 6

Carnival of Cinema

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

www.parkway-speakeasy.com

9:15 p.m.

\$3

A collection of weird, wild and wondrous Bay Area shorts, including *Side Effects May Include*, *Twenty-Five Women*, *Junk Love*, *Birds of the Dark*, and *The Lonely*.

Thursday, November 8

Return of Thrillville's Shatfest: Incubus (1965)

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito

www.thrillville.net

9:15 p.m.

\$8

Thrillville salutes William Shatner with a screening of his 1965 devil-worshipping cult classic in Esperanto. Special appearance by the Devil-ettes.

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

With Kage Baker, Jessy Randall, Inga Muscio, James Calder, Ellery Urquhart, and Samhita

Mukhopadhyay.

Saturday, November 10

Warp 11

Last Day Saloon

120 Fifth Street

Santa Rosa

www.warp11.com

9:30 p.m.

Sacramento's Star Trek-themed rock band performs immediately following the "101.7 FM The Fox" Comedy Night. Ages 21+.

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.

Sunday, November 11

Bad Movie Night: Electric Dreams (1984)

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, November 13

Author: Rudy Rucker

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

Tuesday, November 13

Café Scientifique: Migraine, Stress and Peanut M&Ms

International Building

SRI

Middlefield Road at Ringwood

Menlo Park

6-7:30 p.m.

Free

A discussion with neurologist and geneticist Steve Peroutka.

Tuesday, November 13

Star Trek: The Menagerie

Bay Street 16, Emeryville

Deer Valley Stadium 16, Antioch

Eastridge 15, San Jose

Fairfield Stadium 16, Fairfield

Hacienda Crossings Stadium 20, Dublin

Natomas Marketplace Stadium 16, Sacramento

Saratoga 14, San Jose

[www.fathomevents.com//](http://www.fathomevents.com/details.aspx?eventid=685)

[details.aspx?eventid=685](http://www.fathomevents.com/details.aspx?eventid=685)

7:30 p.m.

A special one-time theatrical screening of the Hugo award-winning episode “The Menagerie,” part of the nationwide promotion for the digitally re-mastered *Star Trek: The Original Series* DVD Collection.

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.

Thursday, November 15

Serenity (2005)

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

www.parkway-speakeasy.com

9:15 p.m.

\$6

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.

Sunday, November 18

Bad Movie Night: Hackers (1995)

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

www.darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

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

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.

Sunday, November 25

Bad Movie Night: The Net (1995)

The Dark Room Theatre

2263 Mission Street

San Francisco

www.darkroomsf.com

8 p.m.

\$5

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

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)

Tue 4 Dec 2007,

Tuesday, December 4

Author: James Gurney

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

7 p.m.

Free

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.

Wednesday, December 12

Ask a Scientist: The Dark Side of the Universe
Axis Cafe
1201 8th Street
San Francisco
www.askascientistsf.com

7 p.m.
Free
Stanford physics professor Patricia Burchat talks about dark matter and dark energy.

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
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth
San Mateo
www.peers.org
\$15 in advance (by December 29), \$20 at the door.
A.k.a. The Dickens Fair Reunion Ball. Dance Lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Thursday, January 10

Thrillville's Bat-Tastic Bat-Show: Batman (1966)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
www.thrillville.net
9:15 p.m.
\$8
The fabulously freaky feature film version of the 60s TV series, starring Adam West and Burt Ward. Special appearance by Kitten on the Keys.

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
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth
San Mateo
www.peers.org
\$15 in advance (by January 26), \$20 at the door.
New Orleans' most amusing host, M. Lestat de Lioncourt, invites you to a joyous Mardi Gras Ball.
Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Thursday, February 14

*Thrillville's Giant Valentine's Show:
Konga (1961) and Reptilicus (1961)*

Cerrito Speakeasy Theater

10070 San Pablo Avenue

El Cerrito

www.thrillville.net

7:30 p.m.

\$10

Featuring Mr. Lobo and the Queen of Trash in person.

Friday-Sunday, February 15-17

DunDraCon

San Ramon Mariott

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.