

Science Fiction/San Francisco

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News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

Costume-Con is over and there have been so many things written about it that it's almost impossible to catalog them all! I won't even try to name all the bloggers who have written things, so I'll just say that you should go over and read issues 169 and 170 of *The Drink Tank* for Costume-Con news (and, of course, read about it here in the pages of *SF/SF!*). There's a lot of good stuff from folks like Howeird and Kristina Kopnisky. Kevin Roche has some stuff and there are tons of photos!

Speaking of photos, you should keep an eye on the CC26 website as they are working on getting many of the 20K photos up there. It's a huge job and Chaz, Richard Mann, Howeird, Jade Falcon, Christian McGuire, Kevin Standlee and way too many others have submitted thousands of photos that will make Costume-Con 26 one of the best-documented cons in history.

eFanzines has had a post-CorFlu crush as well. There are new *Drink Tanks*, of course, and many others. The reason eFanzines.com was invented was to give Marty Cantor a place for *No Award* to be posted. And now there's another *No Award* out. I haven't read it all yet, but the last issue was fantastic. I do know that there's a Marc Schermeister cover and you really can't beat that.

Fresh off of Vegas CorFlu is a new *Vegas Fandom Weekly*. I've got an article in there about

my TAFF trip. It's a really good issue and the next one will feature a lot more content from CorFlu Silver.

If you were at Costume-Con, you probably saw Tom Becker's masterful *My Evil Plan*, the daily newszine. It's all on eFanzines.com right now too. You should read it, though sadly it's one of those things that actually is better on paper because of the differing folds and layouts. I hate it when I'm hoisted by my petard.

Peter Sullivan is a seriously hard-working fan out of Sunderland in the UK. He's also the reason I ran for TAFF and a big part of why I managed to win. His new zine, *Virtual Tucker Hotel*, has put out two issues on eFanzines and is well worth dropping an eye on as a way of catching up with folks.

So It Goes, a lovely little zine from Tim Marion, is up. It's got a great cover of Tyra Banks dressed like a Valkyry. Valkyry? Valkyry? A Viking chick...carrying a trident!

One of the more interesting things to come out on eFanzines lately is *Flights From The Iron Moon: Genre Poetry in UK Fanzines & Little Magazines 1980 - 1989*. It's a great little piece of history on a topic that wouldn't be much known without it. I'm not a huge poetry fan, and my zines almost never use any, but these are a lot of fun and I'm glad to see they're collected in one handy place. Give it a read.

Steve Green has started the group FAPA_

Forum on LJ. If you're interested in the Fantasy Amateur Press Association, you should join up and maybe think about sending info for joining. I'm in it (though my zines aren't out every mailing anymore, for which I feel a great deal of shame), and I'd love to be the second-youngest member instead of the first.

I think I should remind everyone that the Fanzine Lounges at Westercon, Baycon and Worldcon are all being run by yours truly. That's a weird number for me to be doing as I've only run four in total before this year!

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

Letters Of Comment

Steve Green writes:

It's a pity you plan to remain within the confines of the M25 during your future visits to these shores, Jean; as Chris will no doubt confirm from his brief tour, there's a lot more to savour in the U.K. than that single city.

Jean Martin responds:

Hi Steve, Chris already responded to your LOC but I thought I should respond too since you addressed some of it to me. Well, I'm actually not even going on the M25 this Summer as I will literally only be in Heathrow on my way to Portugal. London is my favorite city in the whole world, but when I do go to the U.K., I am usually only there for a couple of days before I head out to see the rest of the country. I fully intend to tour more of the U.K. in future visits. I've actually already seen quite a bit of the U.K., more than most Americans, I think. I've traveled all over Southern England several times from Kent (Canterbury) in the East to Cornwall (Land's End) in the West.

Last year, my ex-boyfriend (who's Welsh and grew up in the Cardiff area) and his folks showed me around Southeast Wales, Southwest Wales and a little bit of Northwest Wales. My article about this appeared in SF/SF Issue 49. I would have wanted to see more of North Wales but we didn't have time. It'll probably take me a while to be okay with going back to Wales. It's hard enough that my favorite TV shows are from Wales (Doctor Who, Torchwood, Sarah Jane Adventures) and seeing Cardiff in those shows

brings up bittersweet memories.

In any case, life goes on. On my list of places in the U.K. to see still are Brighton, Norfolk, Nottingham, York, Hadrian's Wall, Edinburgh, the Lake District, Liverpool and Blackpool. And I would like to visit my friend Cat in Penzance one of these days. My ex recently told me that I'm so "British" that I should just move there. I seriously thought about it after he and I broke up late last Summer. But I love the Bay Area, and specifically Bay Area fandom, so much that I doubt I'll ever move away from here.

The "traditional quick meal of Wales" you enjoyed, Chris, was most likely no generic corned-beef pasty, but an "oggie." Curiously, the Original Welsh Oggie Company (www.welshoggie.co.uk) is based over the border in Banbury, Oxfordshire. As for Welsh speakers, you'll find far more of those in Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch (North Wales) than Cardiff (South Wales).

I didn't run across the "oggie" while I was there. But that's probably because I'm vegetarian and so that didn't catch my eye. I did enjoy fresh made Welsh cakes and I tried several from different bakeries and even some from a local Tesco. I have to say, the best one I had was from a bakery in downtown Cardiff near the Queen's Arcade where the BBC filmed the first episode of the first season of the new Doctor Who. My ex's mum also prepared Welsh faggots and peas for my ex's birthday while we

were there. Yes, I'm vegetarian but I just had to try this out! When in Rome, as they say. I actually enjoyed the peas and the gravy. The faggots tasted a little bit like haggis as it's also made of liver.

I actually ran into a lot of Welsh speakers in Southwest Wales (and of course, in Northwest Wales). Most people I overheard talking at pubs and just walking around spoke Welsh. It's quite an interesting language and I did get the hang of being able to pronounce place names correctly. I used to be able to pronounce that long word that you mentioned, which for those who don't know, is the name of a village in North Wales. It is one of the longest place names in the world and visitors who go there usually have their photos taken next to the train station sign.

Lloyd Penney writes:

I'm back to my old habits. I've let things slide, and now I am officially three issues of SF/SF behind. The old catch-up routine should be second nature by now. Here goes with 63 to 65. 63... Welcome back from the U.K., Mr. Garcia, and I expect reports of your escapades will be in to fandom as a whole shortly. Jean, that Montréal in/en '77 button Chris got may have been one of the bag of buttons I purchased from Andrew Porter a couple of years ago at Corflu Toronto. First things I did with the buttons was give them to the Montreal bid. If anyone should have them, and know something about their own history, it's the folks in Montréal.

Chris, if you had been at Corflu Silver in Las Vegas, you'd have a lot of zines to comment on. I was given, over the course of the weekend at the con, 18 assorted zines to read, enjoy and comment on, which means my LOCing workload just got a lot bigger. I figure I'm now about 30 zines behind, e- and paper. Great weekend, met so many people I'd only been corresponding with for decades, and party galore. Also, talked with Art Widner! Ninety years old, and still fanning. And Vegas itself was fun, too, with touring the strip, seeing Fremont Street several times, and touring the Hoover Dam. Next Corflu will be run by Randy Byers in Seattle somewhere, so this might be the opportunity to party with the fanzine masses.

Jean responds:

I hope you all had a great time at Corflu Silver. Las Vegas is such a fun place to have a convention at and just to visit in general.

Before the Internet came along, we mailed letters and checked the answering machine cassette tape for any messages. But that's not important right now. What websites am I usually on? There's all the Canadian job sites I inhabit, but you'd never need them, so I won't tell you their names... there's YouTube, LiveJournal, FaceBook, ICanHasCheezBurger.com, IHasAHotDog.com, I-Am-Bored, eFanzines.com, Cartoon Brew and SF Awards Watch. Plus, there's seven different webcomics I check every day. And I do realize that if it wasn't for all these websites I check, I'd get a lot more done.

Yes, I remember the good old days of publishing before the Internet and before cell phones even! I used to have to take phone

calls at my (boring) day job at a CPA firm from publicists from Atlantic Records, Epic Records, and other big major record labels. And I used to have to drop issues of my heavy metal magazine all over the Bay Area on weekends. That was a lot of driving! I did have help, but still, email communication and online publishing is just so much easier and less costly.

And I know what you mean, I'm on lots of email newsletters and such. I spend a lot of time sorting through email, reading stuff, etc. I probably would get enough sleep on a more regular basis if I didn't have so much to read online.

The *Global Frequency* pilot sounds like it might have been good to see. For me, Michelle Forbes goes back to *TNG*, and that's the reason I'd like to have seen it.

I wasn't very fond of Michelle Forbes in Star Trek:TNG. But I was blown away by her in Battlestar Galactica.

I wish there was something like WonderCon in Toronto. Some might say that the annual fanXpo is it, but this convention has employed different names in the past, and unfortunately, it's just a big dealers' room, and anything you might have wanted to see there is available, at an additional charge. I remember seeing Lou Ferrigno advertised at the fanXpo some years ago.

Whoa, there's Chris Garcia in a photograph! Whoodathunkit? Was this a quick editorial meeting? Chris, I think I've realized your superpower... You said you'd recently gotten a haircut. If you ever needed to disappear completely, you could shave off your beard, and get a brushcut, and no one on the face of the

earth would ever recognize you. Like you, Jean, I am very much looking forward to the second *Narnia* movie. I think it's starting this weekend. Chris, some dead presidents will be on their way RSN for a TAFF report.

I still really wonder what Chris looks like without all the hair. We all probably wouldn't recognize him, as you said. By the way, our "staff meetings" are usually just us hanging out with each other. We rarely get to be together at the same time with our busy schedules and divergent interests. Most of our business is done online. We are all friends, though, and we would like to get together more often if we could.

I'm hoping to see the second Narnia movie in a movie theater. I rarely go to the movies, though. I can't even remember the last movie I saw. A visual blockbuster like this would be great to see on the big screen if I could manage to find the time and friends to go with.

64...I hope the Babbage engine has been set up, and in one piece. Years ago, Ad Astra was the site of a display of original marionettes from the *Thunderbirds* series. The guy who shipped them in found out that several of the marionettes were more fragile than he anticipated; they were not shown, and I have no idea what happened to them afterwards. It was great to see several of the Tracy puppets.

The Babbage Difference Engine No. 2 was a sight to behold. My report on it will be in the next issue.

My loc...I don't have a laptop, but I do use my Palm Tungsten E2 and its accompanying keyboard. Always handy, and sometimes makes for great conversations. I found out I'm not the only Canadian fan that uses this combination;

Montreal fan Sylvain St-Pierre also has this, and he used it to write his trip report when he went to the Japanese Worldcon last year.

I'm hoping laptops will get even smaller and more portable so I can do my writing on the fly like you all do. I saw someone with a Toshiba laptop at the Babbage open house. It was half the size of a regular laptop. I'll probably save up to buy something like that.

Chris, Dian Crayne is now on Trufen, and she has been mentioning the FUNcons from time to time. I wonder if a further interview from Dian, or an article written by her, would be in order. Might be a welcome addition to BArea history. Some years ago, Yvonne tried an experiment in a different convention. It was a one-day event we called Science Fiction Saturday, and it consisted of all the programme items other local conventions said they couldn't possibly do. We had panels on filk, old time radio, pulp magazines (from this panel, the local pulpcon arose...it's on tomorrow!), and the best websites to check out. We had not only a film room, but an audio listening room where our local radio fans played shows like *X-1* and the *CBS Radio Mystery Theatre*. It was a popular success to the few people who went to it; it was held in Brampton, northwest of Toronto, where we lived at the time. We lost some big money, but there was some consolation for Yvonne in the form of an Aurora Award the next year.

That sounds like a lot of fun! That's great that you got an award for all your hard work.

There is an annual pirate village in Toronto, but not at the level of popular piracy there is in the BArea. I have a few pirate items I could wear, but little opportunity to do it.

65...You've got the 2011 CorFlu in San Jose? Let me win the lottery, and I will be there! Cost us megabucks to get to Vegas, but we had the best time. Who awarded you the 2011 Corflu? It was only confirmed at Corflu Silver that Randy Byers would be getting it for 2009.

I'm excited that CorFlu will be in the Bay Area in a few years. And that Chris will be in charge of it. That's probably the only way I'll get to this particular con. I'm hoping to be involved in it when the time comes. Not sure yet what I can contribute, I'm quite good at project management (which I do at my current day job), but I've never actually worked at a con before other than helping out with the Costume-Con newsletter last month.

Chris, one great access point for all things animation, especially for New York and California, is www.cartoonbrew.com. The two guys who run it are big names in the animation industry, and I always see listing for events in LA and elsewhere in SoCal. It would be a good source for España to check out for the listings.

We wanted to go to Yuri's Night in Toronto, but the organizers (never found out who they were) priced it so high, we couldn't afford it! It was to be held at the Ontario Science Centre, which is a great place to hold it, but priced out of our league, and besides, we were saving for Vegas...

That's too bad that it was priced too high. You would think they'd want more people to be able to attend it.

I am so done...I have a rehearsal for a radio play I'm doing for some students at the International Academy of Design and Technology downtown at 2 pm, so off this goes,

and soon, off I go. Take care, folks, and I'm sure I'm behind with *Drink Tanks* already.

Hope to hear from you again soon!

Robert Lichtman writes:

Although I don't read *SF/SF* in total, I do find myself checking out your "This Old Fanzine" column to see what you're on about. In the latest one, you write about the Pacificon Program Book (which I hadn't noticed being online at fanac.org). A couple notes:

That "great iconic cover" is by the late Lou Goldstone, husband of Cynthia Goldstone — an artist herself, and still living in San Francisco in the same flat she (& formerly also Lou, who died in '83) moved into in 1958. Lou did three issues of *FANTASIA* in 1940/41, the covers of which are also pretty neat.

About Paul Freehafer you write that you "believe he was killed in the war." He died during WW2, but not "in the war." Instead, he fell victim while very young (age 27) to what Harry Warner Jr. refers to (page 32 of *All Our Yesterdays*) as a "rheumatic heart" condition. The LASFS clubhouse *is* named after him.

Finally, it's Elmer Perdue, not Purdue.

What do I need to do to get a copy of your TAFF report?

Jean responds:

Hi Robert, good to hear from you, and thanks for all your information.

I'm sure Chris will be happy to send you a copy of his entire TAFF report. Send him an email at garcia@computerhistory.org.

Editorial

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

Baycon comes but once a year, and now it is so near. I've been going to Baycon since the first one, though I missed several right in the middle. The last eight have been my playgrounds. I've had a blast at every one.

I have a huge place in my heart for Baycon. It was the first con I went to when I returned to Fandom, it was the first to let me Toastmaster, it was the first con where I was on staff as something more than a gopher (or glorified gopher), and it's been a huge part of my getting into the whole fandom thing. Without Baycon, I don't know if *The Drink Tank* would exist, if I'd be co-editing this zine, or even if I'd be in fandom at all. It's all down to Baycon, really.

And that got me thinking about other things. I pretty much define my year as a series of things that I do: February through mid-April is Film Festival Season. April through Labor Day is Con Season. The end of the year is Holiday Season, and the section between Con and Holiday seasons happens to be when my work gets busy. It happens every year.

But this year is slightly different: the TAFF trip, Costume-Con, other stuff, all have led to very blurry edges for a series of time-pieces that were pretty ragged to begin with. I guess I'm becoming more fannish, and thus there are more

cons and such for me to do. It makes sense.

I'm worried, though. There is a problem with running around the way I do and waving the flag of fanzines so very far and wide. I get called a Core Fan.

If you've read Andy Trembley's article in *Askance*, or any of the reactions to it in zines ranging from *Vegas Fandom Weekly* to *The Drink Tank* to Lenny Bailes' *Whistlestop*, you'll know that Core Fandom is a matter of controversy. Some say that it's what happened when the mainstream of Big Tent Fandom turned its back on the Fanzine Fans, and as such, they're the only remaining portion of what was once Fandom, and have inherited Fandom's traditions. Others say that the Fanzinistas didn't keep up, turned their backs on the rest of Fandom and have squirreled away the history and traditions of Fandom from the real owners, the Big Tent Fen. I'm of neither of these views, honestly. I'm also not somewhere in between.

Allow me to explain.

I'm a Fanzine Fan, there's no question. I love zines: reading them, LoCing them (though I haven't done enough of that lately), and especially writing them. I've had a place in my heart for zines of all kinds for ages. It's hard for me to say that I don't think those folks who dedicate their lives and FANAC to zining aren't deserving of the right to hold on to the history of Fandom, but I'm not sure that's 100% right.

True, they're the ones who should be recording it, preserving it, and making sure that we debate the Big Deals (more on that later), but Core Fandom shouldn't "own" history. No one should. It should belong to all of us and should be open to debate. Having a group that dedicates itself to keeping the faith is the only way things carry on, but not opening up, and not letting people join in a way they appreciate, is a good way to deforest potential interests.

I'm also a Con-Going Fan. That definition is troubling to some people. Am I a con-runner? I wouldn't go that far. Yeah, I'm on a couple of committees, but mostly, I'm there to make sure that there's some fanzine content. There's always plenty of fannish content, but fanzine-specific stuff can get lost. I've done an OK job making sure there's a thing or two for folks, and I've introduced at least a couple of new folks to zines (including one who's now a member of eAPA!) and that's a good thing.

But I specifically avoid certain things. One such thing is the idea that fanzines are the only part of Fandom that matters. It all matters, and in my mind, cons matter more than many things. Why? Because it's where people can come together and make things happen, where conversations lead to ideas and ideas lead to new cons, new articles, new zines, new people. I can't think of many people who came across a fanzine that led them to Fandom as a whole, but

I know of a lot of people who happened across a convention and that brought them in. Heck, a lot of Fanzine Fans can say that! Cons provide a far more inviting way of entry, and thus they are an easy way in for a lot of folks.

Now, I will not say that Core Fandom is a bad. It's not. Hell, some of my best friends are Core Fen, and there's a lot of great stuff coming out from them. It would be safe to say that eFanzines.com is Core Fandom's Google. It's the greatest gift I can think of that any fan has ever given to Fandom. More folks who had little to no contact with fandom have come across things on eFanzines and that's started the ball rolling. There've been great Fanzine Lounges at various cons and that's helped spread the word as well. And let us not forget the zines themselves. Those are the greatest gift that many members of Core Fandom have given to the Big Tent.

But often those gifts are left unopened.

Yeah, Big Tent Fandom has left fanziners out of their thoughts for a good long while. That's a bad thing. What zines give to Fandom is perspective, a place to gather thoughts in a more permanent way than a post to a mailing list. The zines are what Fandom came from, but too often people think that Fandom arrived, fully formed, at the front door of Caravan Hall in July 1939. These things happen.

So, why am I not a Core Fan? Well, I might be, but I really am of The Big Tent. I love Worldcons, and the bigger the better. My interests are very broad, from fanzines to wrestling, and I love to talk about them. I even like talking about science fiction! That's a shocker. The odd thing is that for most self-identifying Core Fen, the same holds true. Arnie Katz certainly has even broader

interests than I do and he's the one who really pushed the Core Fan concept. Core Fan doesn't mean Only Into Fanzines, which is something that's lost on a lot of folks from the outside. It also doesn't mean Core Fans think that all other fans are inferior, though some folks tend to catch that vibe. The area where I break from what most Core Fannish types believe is that I really love the Big Tent — and for me, Worldcon *is* my Worldcon.

CorFlu 2007 is right up there among my five all-time fave cons...along with the 2006 Worldcon in LA, this year's Eastercon, last year's Westercon, and the 2005 Baycon. The

I come to Fandom to make everything else in my life more entertaining.

2005 CorFlu would probably have been on the list if I had managed to stay longer instead of commuting in. But no matter how great a CorFlu is, there's still something that isn't there that you get at Worldcon: folks who have no clue. And those are the kinds I love, because they don't know what's up.

Some would take advantage of an interaction with someone who is mostly clueless about Fandom in order to teach them; mold them into their own form perhaps. Me, I'd rather figure out what they bring, and see where they can fit in. They're the ones who are the most

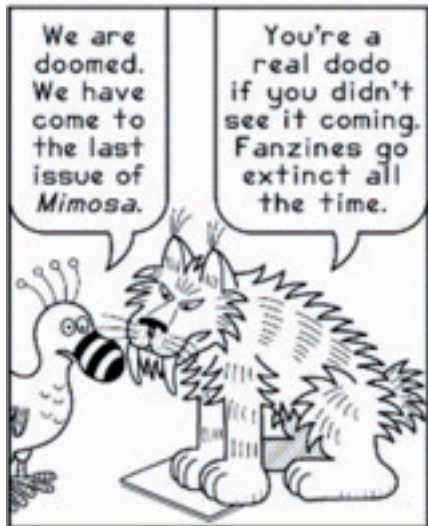
interesting, and you really don't find them in many places besides the big regionals and the traveling major conventions.

Yes, I love chatting with my friends at CorFlu. It's the only time I really get to chat with a lot of the folks I know through zines. But I love meeting that total stranger and getting to know them. Maybe I'm the exception, but I met at least 500 people at Worldcon in LA (that's how many ribbons I gave away and I ran out early Sunday), and there were certainly others as well. I can't think of anything better than being able to meet so many hundreds of people in such a small space of time!

The other thing is the more general thing: why I want to be a part of Fandom. I want to be a part of Fandom because I love it, I love the people there, and I love the stuff we get to do. Many say Fandom is supposed to be a place where fans **HAVE** to go to find others who understand their way of thinking, who want to create things in a non-commercial environment. I'm not on that line. Not that I live my life for commercial success, but I don't come to Fandom to get away from it all. I come to Fandom to make everything else in my life more entertaining. I try to collapse my world to where all the corners are touching, and that's something that many of the Core Fen-types have said is a reason they have turned away from the Big Tent. It's what I love, though, and you can see why that might make me wary of applying the Core Fan tag to myself.

Of course, there's the other problem: what's at the Core of Fandom? That's a huge question, but for me the answer is Fans, any way you slice it.

This Old Fanzine



***Mimosa* No. 30**
by Nikki and Richard Lynch

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

Everybody's got that one. From my baseball card collecting days, it was that Bucky Dent card where he had that huge afro. From my days in comics, it was *Captain Carrot & His Amazing Zoo Crew*. For fanzines, it's *Mimosa*. My all-time favorite zine without question. I've read every issue multiple times, the issues on the web playing a significant role in my return to fandom around 2000, and the few printed copies that I have are well-read. I totally forgot about *Mimosa* until I was looking for the story of the Bheer Can Tower to the Moon and came across

Mimosa. I realized that it had been ages since I read the final issue, Issue 30, from the glorious year of 2003.

Mimosa was one of the most successful zines of the 1980s and 90s, winning six Best Fanzine Hugos with the last of them coming in 2003. *Mimosa* was focused around Fan History, which made it very popular, and it was edited by Nikki and Richard Lynch. They're good folks and I've sadly never had the chance to sit down and chat with either of them. Issue 30 was the final issue, and when I learned that, I was extremely annoyed. How dare they deny Fandom, and by extension me, such great material. At least they left the website up with the old issues so that folks could read them.

The best part of Issue 30 is the cover. Teddy Harvia and Peggy Ransom tag-teamed to produce one of the most magnificent covers you'll ever see. I remember seeing it when it was being passed around at some con I was at and just marveling at it. This was arguably the height of Teddy Harvia's reign in Fan Art and I was so very pleased. (That cartoon of the dodo and the saber-toothed tiger is his, too.)

The opening article is about ConJose and the Lynches' visit. I did a panel with Nikki at ConJose, and briefly met Richard. I'm sure neither of them remember that. Sounds like they had a good time and they mention the long-lost, and still missed, restaurant Des Alpes. I used to go there in the late 1980s with my family and it was the first place in the city where I took a lass

for a date. It disappeared about 1995 or maybe 97. Those years are all a blur to me. Richard and Nikki follow that up with a couple of obituary sections, including one for Bruce Pelz, who was a part of the reason they started *Mimosa*. I only met him briefly, and as a part of a conversation about fannish history, so it would make sense.

The general theme of the issue is Fandom is a Way of Life (FIAWOL) and there are articles from some impressive names. There's Eve Ackerman writing about SMOFing (with great illos from Charlie Williams). Mr. Mike Glicksohn does a fun article about the Old, which just made me smile. The funny thing is that the article mentions names that the mainstream of Fandom has forgotten, yet folks like me still talk about. There's a wonderful article from Peter Weston that features art from Alan Hutchinson, an artist I'm not that familiar with but whose stuff in the issue was really good.

Of interest to you BArea folks is an article from Esther Cole about a road trip from Oakland to New Orleans in the 1950s. I've never met the Coles, but I understand they're major figures in our BArea fannish history. David Williams writes about Claude Degler, a legendary fan figure, for good and for bad, and the article shows that he truly was an important figure of Fandom in the 1940s. The Bedford brothers also have a lovely article about their early years in Fandom from Germany. That's followed with a great article from David Kyle about the chartered flight to England for Worldcon in 1957. I heard the story

of the flight from Forry at some point, and it was good to read it from another point of view.

There's a great interview with, and a reprinted article from, Harry Warner. That's the Hermit of Hagerstown who was the premiere LetterHack (and in my opinion, the single best fan writer) who ever walked the Earth. Harry had passed away the year before and it was still fresh in people's minds. Zines with his LoCs were still showing up pretty regularly (you'll still find zines with long gaps in their production popping out a Warner LoC once in a while) and there was a certain sadness to the article. I really think it was just brought there by my reading, since the article had been written in 1958.

There's a wonderful piece from John Hertz about Fandom's size and scope and in a way, its very meaning. It was sorta like a meta-"As Others See Us" from *Ansible*. It's a very good column with some very good illos from Charlie Williams.

There was a review of the issue from Ted White, who mentioned that there was so much stuff that each individual piece was sorta lost in the shuffle. I could see how that might happen, but the impact of any individual piece is dwarfed by the presentation of them all together.

You can see that they are trying to tie a string around the entire business of their zine with this issue, trying to go out with a bang that brings their years of doing it to a close. They wouldn't win the Hugo in 2003 (that would go to Cheryl Morgan and *Emerald City*), but they would be fondly remembered. You can find the issue at www.jophan.org/mimosa/m30/contents.htm and I suggest you go there right after you finish looking over our Fannish Calendar.

Craft and Laughs at Maker Faire

By Carole Parker
Contributing Writer

When I went to my first Maker Faire, I did not know what to expect. It read interesting, so we took a gamble and went. I was not disappointed.

It's a combination of a science fair for adults, Burning Man, old school carnival, robotics, and a live full-sized Mouse Trap all rolled into one. Don't forget the Swap A Rama Rama, either. The Swap is where you bring in garments that you no longer need for other ones that you want to do something creative with. Or you can purchase what someone else recycled at one of the many vendors available.

I missed the first Swap the first year we went, but I went to last year's where I traded some old clothes for some trim and saw all sorts of stuff happening. Sewing machines and people with expertise about recycling garments were available for people to do stuff on site. This year seemed to have even more space than the previous two years, and it looked like people were busy creating new creations from old castoffs. It's the ultimate form of recycling. Call it Altered Couture, and you're in the right frame of mind.

One of the most fun items is the mechanical giraffe that makes its appearance at Maker Faire. Originally, the giraffe was built for Burning Man, and it turns out that I know some of the people involved with it: two buddies of mine from the furry community, and I had lots of fun visiting with them. The guy who created the giraffe gives rides on it to people who are interested. You can walk much faster than the giraffe can, but it still looks like people are having fun when they're on it.

This year's Maker Faire, which was held last May 3-4 at the San Mateo County Fairgrounds, had a robotics arena where some of the combat robots that you see on television were competing. It's one of those events that seems

**I left with my smile
muscles hurting.
(This is a good thing.)**

more fun live than watching it on television. For me, it's like baseball: I'm bored when watching it on television, but I greatly enjoy it when I'm there and it's live.

Those who create scientific items to meet a personal or commercial need could find other scientific types there doing the same thing. This is partly where the science fair aspect comes in, with people showing products that could have application for you or your business. This year, we came across a woman who had come up with



a system for being able to drink water while you ride your bike, so you don't have to take your hands off the handle bars.

Also from Burning Man, "Neverwas Haul" was at Maker Faire again. Think Victorian house on wheels. Long lines form to tour this masterpiece, so you would want to catch it early in the day when not many people are there yet.

The creators of the online and printed SteamPunk Magazine (www.steampunkmagazine.com) were there, and I was able to talk to one of their editors. I looked at a couple of hard copies of their magazine, and each issue had at least one costuming item in it, plus a serious science article along with some appropriate silliness. It

looks like a good read, and for anyone into steampunk, it's a website that you should check out.

I was only able to go for a few hours on Sunday afternoon this year, but as in previous years, I left with my smile muscles hurting. (This is a good thing.) Yep, I'll be coming back next year. They also have Maker Faires in other parts of the country, so you'll want to tell your friends and family to watch out for one near them. The next Maker Faire will be in Austin in October.

Photos by Scott Beale/Laughing Squid
(www.laughingsquid.com)



The Maker Faire website is at www.makerfaire.com.

Early Makeup Demo at Costume-Con

Story and photos by Howieird

Contributing Writer

There are not many historical references to theater makeup before the 16th century, Tara Maginnis said, because there was no stage lighting to compensate for. For Medieval European and ancient Greek actors, masks were the way to go.

Maginnis was talking to a Saturday afternoon panel at Costume-Con 26, billed as a period Theater Makeup Demonstration, but which began with a slide show tracing the origins of theatrical makeup through the ages. The running theme of the talk was lighting – as the technology of stage lighting changed from candles to kerosene lamps to gaslight, and with the addition of arc lights and lime light for spotlights, the art of stage makeup had to evolve as well.

Formerly a professor with the University of Alaska and author of the costumes.org web site, she is now the costume designer for Diablo Valley College.

After the historical talk, which included illustrations from Victorian theater makeup advertising and pictures of early commercial makeup, Maginnis showed some of her historical makeup collection, and asked for a volunteer. CC26 staffer Paul Sinasohn accepted the challenge.

This was the first demonstration Maginnis had tried to do of theater makeup



Tara Maginnis applies powdered base to volunteer model Paul Sinasohn.

techniques described in an 1874 English booklet which she described as the first real theater makeup manual. It shows how to apply mineral powders and powder/water mixes to do old age makeup strong enough to show up under strongly red-toned gaslight. In all probability, Maginnis said, these techniques were developed from the 1820s-1870s to compensate for gas lighting. The technique faded from use in

the 1870s as commercially made greasepaint became available and preferred.

To learn more on early theatre makeup and kits, see costumes.org/classes/makeupclass/oldkits1.htm

The full photo set can be found here: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/how3ird/sets/72157604785381939/>.



Clockwise from upper left: Lips and cheeks are rouged; thick black eye liner goes on next; Paul holds a period makeup guide for Tara to follow; red light suggests the effect of gas lighting.

Props on a Plane at Costume-Con

By Howieird

Contributing Writer

With years of experience as an airport security officer, and now a trainer of security folks at SFO, you might expect Stacy Meyn to be the anti-fan. Nothing could be further from the truth. In addition to being one of those people we love to hate when we're trying to catch a flight and have completely forgotten that we're still wearing the light saber in our belt, or maybe the leg sheath with 10-inch barbarian hunter knife, Stacy is also an avid costumer and science fiction fan.

For example, she lists as her favorite TV shows *Battlestar Galactica* (new and old school), all Trek (even some *Enterprise* eps), *Stargate* (even some *Atlantis*), the *CSIs*, the *Law and Orders*, *Ghost Hunters* and anything like it, *The X-Files*, *Dexter*, *NCIS*, and *Mythbusters*. Movies? *Blade Runner*, *Star Wars: ANH* (Han shot first, thank you), *TESB*, *Aliens* (and nothing after, no thank you), *True Lies*, *The Fifth Element*, *Serenity*, "and a host of other films I own but invariably get sucked into when they come on TV."

During her Sunday talk at Costume-Con 26 entitled "Props on Planes?" she pointed out that many of the inspectors are fans, both in the passenger screening and checked baggage sections, but she advises not to plan on it.

"Does it look safe?" is the question you

should be asking yourself, both for carry-on and checked baggage. Passengers can ask the airline rep at the check-in desk for a security person to take a look at items before the baggage is checked, or before attempting to go through the security scan.

Key red flags for inspectors, Meyn said, are items which look like they might go "boom." Electronics near a power source is one of those. So is anything that looks like a firearm, especially near anything that looks like ammunition. Laptops always look like they could be bombs, which is why they need to be taken out of their cases and scanned separately.

One suggestion she made was to label your items: Make it easy for someone inspecting your baggage to know that something is a harmless prop that goes with a costume. Include a photo of you wearing the costume and the prop.

And while TSA has a master key to all the TSA-approved locks for checked luggage, most other countries' security units do not – so you may still find a lock chopped off if you are flying across borders, including the one to our north.

Meyn recommended shipping your items ahead of time by surface freight – most con hotels offer shipping and receiving services – to avoid hassles at the airport.



Stacy Meyn shows how your props look to airport security. Photo by Jean Martin

Murder and Dancing at Chicago Charity Ball

By Jean Martin

Editor

The Period Events & Entertainments Re-creation Society (PEERS) held a fabulous bash May 3rd at the San Mateo Masonic Temple. Titled the “Chicago Speakeasy Ball,” the party was loosely based on the movie version of the musical *Chicago*.

Specifically, the concept for the evening was a society charity ball set two years after the events in the movie (1931 to be exact). Hosted by Chicago’s most successful defense lawyer, Mr. Billy Flynn (played by David Cole) and Judge Catherine Marshall (Cathleen Myers), monies raised were slated for the “Billy Flynn Legal Defense Fund for Indigent Women.” “Guests” included the notorious murderesses Velma Kelly (Emily Gladstone Cole) and Roxie Hart (Ariyana Kylstram), who have been released from jail and have become a highly successful double song-and-dance act.

Before the ball began there was a vintage Foxtrot and Swing dance lesson at 7 p.m. taught by



Ariyana and Emily as Roxie and Velma.

Photo by Jean Martin

Persephone and Charles (who also DJed during intermissions). I was gratified to note that there were already at least a hundred people present during the lesson. I would have loved to partake in the lessons as I’m not very proficient with 1920s and 1930s dance styles, though I have enjoyed vintage Foxtrot a little bit in the past. But I arrived at the site early for rehearsals, and I wanted to save my energy for my performance and for the rest of the evening’s festivities. I was part of the half-time floor show with the PEERS Flying Circus... but more on that later.

Officially, the ball began around 8 p.m. with the popular and entertaining Lee Presson and the Nails (LPN) taking to the stage with a 10-piece big band. Lee was a dynamic conductor and singer. It was the band’s first performance at a PEERS event and everyone was bowled over. I certainly was. They played their regular repertoire of cool Blues and hot Swing of the 1920s and early 1930s. But they also performed the usual PEERS fare of elegant vintage ballroom dances such as Waltzes and Polkas. I had a blast dancing the Polka to their rendition of “Ace of Spades” by Motorhead and



Rene Rodgers & Sam Simmons sizzle.

Photo by Christina Becher



Lee Presson & the Nails play hot tunes.

Photo by Jean Martin

the Tango to the tune of Ozzy Osbourne's "Mr. Crowley."

There was a huge turnout for the event, and I saw a lot of new faces. Most attendees were dressed in impressive 1920s-1930s attire. It seemed like LPN's following from the Swing scene had showed up for the ball. Free LPN CDs were handed out at the door and I was happy to get my hands on a copy. Most of the songs on the

CD, *Playing Dirty*, were played that evening.

Lee himself was the M.C., reprising the Taye Diggs role from the movie. His band also served as the backup for some of the musical numbers. Toward the early part of the evening, Emily (as Velma) sang an electrifying version of "All That Jazz." She looked and performed just like Catherine Zeta-Jones in a similar black sequined dance dress. Then Susanne

Vanderhoef (as Matron Mama Morton) was wonderful singing the sassy tune "When You're Good to Mama" while the rest of us PEERS ladies vamped it up in front of the stage. It was Susanne's birthday and so someone gave her a cake and we all sang in celebration.

There was a no-host bar that night, which is not the norm for PEERS events, but was in keeping with the *Chicago* theme. It was still

technically Prohibition in 1931 but the repeal was around the corner. Steve George role-played as Lefty the head bartender and Greg and Ruth Chow also helped run the bar. A complimentary light snack buffet was replenished constantly courtesy of Susanne along with Beth Hanscom (who also sang backup for the musical numbers). Other roles represented that evening were James Myers as District Attorney Harrison and David Batzloff as the announcer.

Soon it was time for the half-time entertainment, which commenced when the voluptuous Ari (as Roxie) performed the song “Roxie” with LPN. Ari shone like a star in a silver sequined dress that matched Emily’s black one. I have to say that Ari and Emily were perfectly cast as

Roxie and Velma. I sang in the chorus for Ari’s song as well as David’s turn as Billy Flynn singing “Razzle Dazzle.” Dan Galpin as Amos Hart followed that up with “Mr. Cellophane.” I enjoyed David’s and Dan’s excellent numbers.

The big finale was the scorching “Cell Block Tango,” in which I portrayed one of the

Six Merry Murderesses of Cook County Jail. I was so excited and felt privileged to have been included in the number, which was a fun but complicated and elaborate routine. The last

the first Merry Murderess Liz (“Pop”) along with her dance partner Lincoln Smith as Bernie. She danced some challenging moves including a standing split and a tango pantomiming her murdering Bernie. Then followed Laura Rubin as Annie (“Six”) who throws her dance partner Christophe (as Ezekiel Young) to the floor and does a sexy split over him while she makes him drink “arsenic.”

Rene Rodgers as June (“Squish”) had a feisty confrontational dance with Sam Simmons as her husband Wilbur. I loved the way Rene said “and he ran into my knife ten times” and pulled out a long red scarf to represent blood.

We all used red scarves, including me as the next Merry Murderess, Kitty Baxter. Played by Lucy Liu in the movie, Kitty is a Hawaiian pineapple

heiress who shoots her lover when she catches him in bed with two other women. Whereas the original woman for the “Uh-Uh” segment of the song, Hunyak, was innocent and held a white scarf, Kitty obviously did the deed so I used a red scarf to denote her guilt. Hunyak had been executed and was no longer around at the time



Merry Murderesses proclaim “He had it comin’!”

Photo by Christina Becher

time I did something like this for PEERS was for “Take Back Your Mink” (from the musical *Guys and Dolls*) at the Havana Swing Ball three years ago.

We had a professional choreographer, Jane Barnes, teach us the dance moves, which were based on the movie choreography. Jane played



“It was temporary sanity.”

Photo by Christina Becher

the ball was supposed to take place, so Kitty replaced her as the fourth Merry Murderess (with new lines courtesy of Cathleen). I also sang the rest of the song, which includes the lyrics “he had it comin’.”

Jeffrey Jenkins portrayed my unfaithful lover, Harry. Jeffrey made me look good as he

assisted me with my ballet moves and delivered his one line that prompted my “shooting” him. Everyone laughed when I said that even though I got off due to a plea of temporary insanity, it was really “temporary sanity” that made me get rid of Harry and his two blond floozies.

Emily then recounted Velma’s tale

(“Cicero”) with Jane and Sam doing double duty as Velma’s adulterous sister Veronica and husband Charlie. At the punchline, “the spread eagle,” Jane did a handstand and a split while in that position as Sam held her up, and the crowd applauded and cheered. Ari and David also did double duty as Mona and her lover Al (“Lipshitz”), the philandering bi-sexual artist.

Oh, yeah, and we had to do all this dancing and role-playing while singing. We rehearsed for a month for this number and I think we sounded great and our choreography was well executed. Several patrons came up to me later and commented on how good we were! Cathleen, PEERS’ artistic director, remarked afterwards that “the half-time show was certainly one of our most entertaining ever. The audience went wild and with good reason. The dancers’ execution of Jane Barnes’ stunning choreography and the really hilarious comic acting was a deadly combination.”

After our performance, I felt more inclined to dance as LPN came back on stage. Ari did a lap dance with one of the LPN band members whose birthday it was. It was a risqué but tasteful sight to behold.

The last song was the very lively and lengthy swing song “Sing, Sing, Sing,” which I danced only halfway through. Everyone demanded an encore and so LPN came back and ended the evening with “Goodbye, Goodbye,” a rousing number, with shedding clothes as he conducted and sang, to the delight of the female audience.

For information on future PEERS events, visit www.peers.org.

BASFA Minutes: Meetings 927-928

Meeting 927

May 5, 2008

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

Began 8:01 - [for pony!]

25 people attended

A party jar was established

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 926 were accepted as 'Kevin's displaying a thought balloon' & the minutes of meeting CC26 were accepted as 'are you caught up, Barbara?'

Treasurer's report was that last week we took in \$1.00 in the regular jar [& \$1.00 in the CC26 meeting jar]

No VP, week 2

The President had nothing fannish to report

The Party Committee reported that there was a BASFA party at Costume-Con - during the Masquerade, it was lightly attended & he had fun. He has had confirmation that there WILL

be a BASFA party at Baycon & he desperately needs volunteers to help with the party

Announcements:

[evil] Kevin announced that Costume-Con 26 has already had more than 20,000 photos submitted for their archives and if you have more to send in, send them to sendphotos@cc26.org

Dave G announced that Spring is looking for African-themed fabrics

Adrienne announced that Denvention is 'partnered' with United Air - and claims to have discounted air-fares - and that the fare from American, leaving SJ is still cheaper

Fred announced that there's a comic convention May 17-18 at the SJ convention center, called Super Con

[Galen made a pun]

Dave C announced that a new Cargo Cult catalog is out - for March/April

Reviews:

Harold reviewed the California wildflowers as spectacular, reviewed 'Forbidden Kingdom' as one of the best martial arts movies he's seen, worth matinee; I follow-on'd that I enjoyed it

and thought it worth high matinee

Fred reviewed 'The Singing Revolution' as excellent, he recommends it highly & thought it was absolutely fascinating

Stellen reviewed the Maker's Faire as it cost \$25 and was well worth it - lots and lots of very odd things

Martin reviewed 'The True Meaning of Smekday' by Adam Rex as fun, worth reading and quite good

[evil] Kevin reviewed CC26 as he was rather active during it; there were 876 attendees - maybe more - and there were adventures; all in all worth the last 7 years of his life; [then there were follow-on's]. Dave C commented that Dealer's Room ran well and the Gilded Bat won for 'best evil merchandise' with their spiked Mongolian gauntlet; Adrienne commented that she heard nothing but good things about the con; Andy recommended the ScharffenBerger Chocolate tour and made the experience seem drool-worthy; Eric follow-on'd that the ScharffenBerger tour is well worth the trip

I reviewed 'Iron Man' as hella fun - with great casting and worth full price, twice; Ed follow-on'd and totally agreed that it was great & worth full price & Trey followed that he very much enjoyed it and rated it as worth high matinee

Joe reviewed the Livermore wine festival as very pleasant & worth doing again

Fred told everyone to go see the Babbage Engine at the Computer History Museum

We then did auctions: magazine & ring for \$0.25; books for Chris for \$0.50; a video for \$0.50; then a box of videos for [tall] Kevin for \$1.07

We adjourned at = 9:32

And the rumor of the week was: 'Happy Dealers come to California'

Meeting 928

May 12, 2008

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

Began 8:02 - [as Chris was given books]

28 people attended

A party jar was established

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 927 were accepted as 'buried by squirrels'

Treasurer's report was that last week we took in \$5.00 in the regular jar & \$2.47 in the party jar

VP report is that there's a new 'Drink Tank' out - mainly filled with articles about Costume-Con 26

The President had nothing fannish to report

The Party Committee reported that there should be 2 BASFA parties at Baycon - Friday & Saturday nights - & they may try to put some 'rumors of the week' up as posters - plus he REALLY needs volunteers to help him out

Announcements:

Ed has boxes out in his van if you'd like some

Adrienne announced that her birthday is Saturday & she's planning an outing to John's Grill in SF at 7 pm & if you'd like to go along please contact her so she can amend her reservation

Harold announced that there will be an Alzheimers benefit 7 pm Thursday at Grand Lake in Oakland

Julie announced that she has very good Roma tomato seeds and a very keen idea for doing a plant-herb-vegetable overstock networking site & those interested, please see her about this

Spring announced that SuperCon in San Jose is this coming weekend, and Wil Wheaton will be there signing - Saturday, May 31 will be Dave G's birthday [observed] & they'll see the SJ Giants on Sunday, June 1, 5pm [if interested in getting together on either day, contact her] - and she won't be at Baycon & she still needs

African-patterned fabric

Reviews:

Glenn reviewed poison oak as worth negative full price & was not a lot of fun; reviewed his new 27" Dell monitor as definitely worth full price [Andy: 'that's the IMAX of monitors!'], then he read to us & reviewed CC26 as he worked it and still had a good time

Dave G reviewed visiting Denver and seeing the venue for Denvention's Events looks excellent and gives him hope - it's very nice and the trip was fun

Julie reviewed the Babbage Engine at the Computer History Museum as it was nice to go there and be able to see it, she was there in costume - as were a number of others & there was a lot of enthusiasm - worth full price and the price of a museum membership - that there were between 1500-1800 people there; Chris follow-on'd that he had a blast; Andy reviewed it as a mob scene & a very nice display

Harold reviewed 'Iron Man' as great - go see it & reviewed 'Speed Racer' as more entertaining than he expected, brilliantly garish, fun & worth bargain matinee; Trey follow-on'd that the Mach 5 knows kung fu

Chris reviewed 'Down with Love' as hilarious, 'Tombstone' as wonderful & reviewed 'Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure' as the best time travel movie 'ever'; Julie follow-on'd - making an analogy between Bill & Ted and Dr Who

[that worked], there were follow-ons about Doc Holiday & Ed said to see all the 'Iron Man' credits for the cookie [??]

Andy said he'd done most of his reviews as follow-ons & made comments about themes in Dr Who & actually reviewed the Penwag Fashion Show last Sunday as it went very well and was sold out [there were follow-ons]

Carole reviewed being a model at the Penwag Fashion Show as fun, it was well-run and there was lots of lovely clothing

We then did auctions: we birthday auctioned off Adrienne for \$5.00 to the secretary; birthday auctioned off Pat for \$15.00 to Eric; birthday auctioned off Dave G to Spring for \$22.50 & auctioned a book for \$3.00; then magazines for \$1.00, \$1.50 ^ \$1.50

We adjourned at = 9:30

And the rumor of the week was: '8 mhz xtal [22 or 33 bypass], surface LED [2], 6 pos dip sw [midi dim]'



Bay Area Fannish Calendar

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

New listings are in red.

Ongoing events are toward the back.

Wednesday, May 21

Luna Philosophie: Open Source at NASA
Yahoo! Brickhouse
500 3rd Street
San Francisco
colab.arc.nasa.gov.luna
6 p.m.

The eighth Luna Philosophie will feature Patrick Hogan, Project Manager and Randy Kim, UI, Data and Graphics Lead for NASA World Wind, an open source 3D interactive world viewer. Together, they will be discussing “Open Source at NASA: 3D Visualization with NASA World Wind”. Space is limited, so please RSVP.

Friday-Monday, May 23-26

Baycon
Hyatt Regency Santa Clara
5101 Great America Parkway
Santa Clara
www.baycon.org/2008
\$80

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
\$55

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

Friday-Monday, May 23-26

KublaCon
Burlingame Hyatt Regency
1333 Bayshore Highway
Burlingame
www.kublacon.com
\$50

Annual gaming convention returns with panels, dealer’s room, game demos, flea market, more.

Friday, June 6

Warp 11
G Street Pub
228 G Street

Davis
www.warp11.com
Star Trek themed band Warp 11 returns to Davis for a special summer Starfleet Academy graduation party at the legendary G Street Pub. Special guests TBA.

Saturday, June 7

Gone with the Wind Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth
San Mateo
www.peers.org
\$15 in advance (until May 31), \$20 at the door. Inspired by the Charity Ball In Atlanta from the first part of *Gone with the Wind*. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8 p.m.

Sunday, June 8

Sac-Con
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
10 a.m.
\$6
Sacramento’s comic, toy and anime show.

Thursday-Sunday, June 12-15

RoboGames
Fort Mason Festival Pavillion

San Francisco
www.robogames.com
\$55

Saturday-Sunday, June 14-15
Northern California Pirate Festival
Vallejo Waterfront
Vallejo
www.norcalpiratefestival.com

10 a.m.
Free
This year the pirate brethren are choosing a new Pirate King! Two days of piratical and nautical entertainment including live music by The Seadogs, Rum Rebellion, Queen Anne's Revenge and others.

Saturday, June 21
The Great Regency Shipwreck Ball
Arlington Community Church
52 Arlington Avenue
Kensington
www.baers.org
8 p.m.
\$15 advance, \$20 at the door

Saturday, July 5
The Emerald City Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth
San Mateo
www.peers.org
\$15 in advance (until June 28), \$20 at the door.
Come join us in honoring the singular courage of Dorothy Gale and her intrepid companions.
Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Saturday, July 12
Mechanicrawl
San Francisco
www.longnow.org/mechanicrawl/
\$15
Spend a summer day exploring the mechanical marvels along San Francisco's North Shore.

Saturday, August 2
The Impressionists Picnic
PEERS Event
Lincoln Park
1450 High Street
Alameda
www.peers.org
Free
Le Salon des Refusés invites painters, models, artistic subjects and interested members of the public to join us for an outdoor picnic, fete and dance. Picnic begins at 11:30 a.m.
Formal dancing 1 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 9
Kin-Yoobi Con
Chabot College
25555 Esperian Blvd
Hayward
www.gzronline.com
9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
\$15

Saturday-Sunday, August 16-17
Golden Gate Renaissance Festival
Speedway Meadow
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco
www.sffaire.com

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday/10am-5pm Sunday
\$15

Friday-Sunday, August 29-31
Sac-Anime
Scottish Rite Center
6151 H Street
Sacramento
www.sacanime.com
Details to follow

Saturday, September 6
Northern California Renaissance Faire
Casa de Fruta
10031 Pacheco Pass Hwy
Hollister
http://www.norcalrenfaire.org/
10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat-Sun
\$25 (starting May)

Saturday, September 6
Space 1889: The Adventure of Le Cirque de Venus
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth
San Mateo
www.peers.org
\$15 in advance (until August 30), \$20 at the door.
Steampunk event: Space 1899 - a Victorian Ball in Space. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Friday, September 19
Book Release Party for Christopher Paolini's
Brisingr

Clayton Books
5433 Clayton Road
Clayton
www.claytonbookshop.com
Midnight party to celebrate the release of
Brisingr, book #3 of the Eragon/Inheritance
series by Christopher Paolini
12 a.m.

Friday-Sunday, September 26-28

Yaoi-Con
San Mateo Marriott
1770 South Amphlett Blvd
San Mateo
www.yaoicon.com
\$40 until May 31st
18+

Friday-Sunday, October 3-5

Silicon 2008: A Salute to FanAc
DoubleTree Hotel
2050 Gateway Place
San Jose
www.siliconventions.com
Details to follow.

Saturday, October 4th

Swingin in the Rain
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth
San Mateo
www.peers.org
\$15 in advance (until September 27), \$20 at the
door.
An evening in 1929 Hollywood at a ball
inspired by that most joyous of musicals! Dance

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

Friday-Sunday, October 10-12

Con-x-Treme
San Mateo Marriott
1770 S. Amphlett Blvd
San Mateo
www.con-x-treme.org
Con-x-Treme returns for a second year. (No,
really.) Details to follow.

Saturday, October 11

The War and Peace Ball
Arlington Community Church
52 Arlington Avenue
Kensington
www.baers.org
\$15 advance, \$20 door
Natasha and Prince Andrei dance at the 1812
ball from Tolstoy's classic. Russian nobility,
Russian military, and civilians and military
from friendly countries (English welcome;
Frenchmen at their own risk.) Set dances and
waltzes led by AlanWinston. 8 p.m.

Saturday, November 1

Le Bal des Vampires
PEERS Event
Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Ave
Alameda
www.peers.org
\$17.50 in advance (until October 25), \$25 at the
door.
Waltz the night away in a beautiful candlelit
ballroom with SF Bay Area's most glamorous
Undead at the 15th Annual Le Bal des

Vampires. Dancing on two separate floors;
Bangers and Mash performing live in the
upstairs ballroom 7:45-Midnight and free-style
dancing downstairs in the Dracula's Daughters
Discotheque 6:30-Midnight.

Saturday-Sunday, November 1-2

Alternative Press Expo
The Concourse
620 7th Street
San Francisco
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
Coco's

1206 Oakmead Parkway
Sunnyvale
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
Mountain View Community Center
201 S. Rengstorff Avenue
Mountain View
www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb/
6:30 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

Wednesdays and Saturdays

Hayward Collectibles Show
22300 Hathaway Ave (rear bldg)
Hayward
www.toysandbaseballcards.com
Wednesdays 3 p.m.-8 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-5 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

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.

East Bay Star Wars Club

Central Perk
10086 San Pablo Ave.
El Cerrito
510-558-7375
www.ebstarwars.com

Meets the second Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

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.

The Gay Men's Book Club
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia
San Francisco

Free
5:00 p.m.
The Book for April 13th is Grey by John Armstrong. Please contact the group leader, Christopher Rodriguez, at cobalt555@earthlink.net, for more information.

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.

Other Realms Book Club
Books, Inc.

1375 Burlingame Ave.
Burlingame
Free

www.booksinc.net
Meets the 4th Wednesday of the Month.

Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club
Borderlands Books

866 Valencia
San Francisco
6:00 p.m.
Free
Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.

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

groups.yahoo.com/group/scifisantarosa/
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.

USS Northern Lights

The Claim Jumper
43330 Pacific Commons Blvd.
Fremont
firstjedi2000@yahoo.com

7 p.m.

Free

The 'Lights is a chapter of Starfleet International and a swell group of science fiction fans. We do more than Trek. Usually meets the second Friday of the month, with social event TBD.

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.