

Science Fiction/San Francisco

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email: SFinSF@gmail.com

Editors: Jean Martin, Chris Garcia
Copy Editor: David Moyce
Calendar Editor: España Sheriff
Composer: Tom Becker

Roisin

by Lucy Huntzinger

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Art Credits

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News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia
Editor

Things are happening again! Worldcon seemed to put everything on hold and that's not a bad thing. It's always good to have a little time to catch your breath and take a look at what you got going on for the rest of the year.

And it's going to get busy...



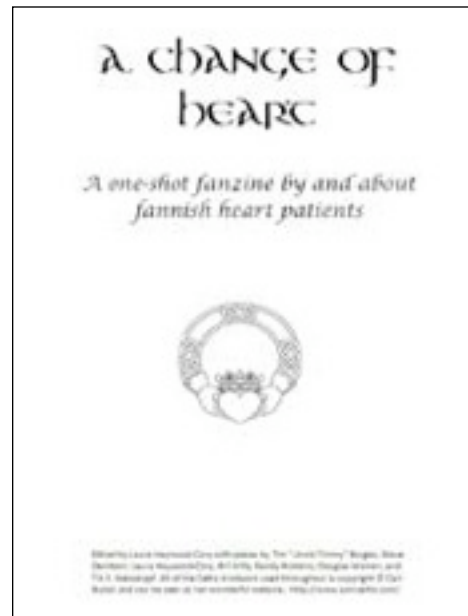
courtesy of eFanzines.com

Let's start with a look at eFanzines.com. There's a new *Drink Tank* out, focused around the matter of Taral not winning the Best Fan Artist Hugo. Frank Wu, Taral and Brianna all weigh in on the subject, and there's a nice little article about a protest. The cover is an abstraction that Steve Stiles did which I think is really cool. I love abstract painting, practically

did my entire minor on the works of Motherwell and Pollack, and Steve's stuff in that vein is fantastic.

A Change of Heart, a one-shot fanzine about fen with heart troubles, was handed out around Worldcon. It's really good and would make a wonderful fundraising item for the American Heart Association or any number of other charities. It's up on eFanzines right now too!

One of the figures who helped found the World Fantasy Convention (one of the worldcons, as good ol' Charles Brown would have put it), Donald M. Grant, passed away last week. He was a specialty publisher, founder or



co-founder of several publishing groups, and a winner of several World Fantasy Awards. I'd expect more on him at the World Fantasy Convention in San Jose this October.

File 770 reports that there's a fan who signed up for the Army and is now blogging because his eight-year signed commitment is up and he's not being released from the armed forces for at least another eight months. Tyler Harris signed up right after 9-11 like so many other folks, and now the Army isn't letting him go even though his pact has been completed. He's taken to blogging and a local newspaperist has taken up his case. It's interesting that we're



Munchkinland! And Jeffrey Bowman's *The Original Universe*, which won the man an Aurora Award at Worldcon this year! Sadly, I haven't had time to read any of them, but I've got them ready to go when I get myself a minute!

Exhibition Hall, the first ever (probably) Steampunk fanzine, has been released! It's a chunky issue which is likely to get slimmer instead of fatter. It's got writing from Mike Perschon, Ariane Wolfe, James Bacon, an interview with the Clockwork Cabaret girls, a bunch of fine art, and overall good stuff. Give it a read and know that there's a new one coming in a month!

There's a wonderful Steampunk event at History San Jose. The Santa Clara Valley Model T Association has been doing Antique Autos in History San Jose for a few years now



now at the point where these things are coming due.

Hey, Arthur Hlavaty has a new *Nice Distinction* out on eFanzines and it's pretty good. Arthur's on the opposite side of the political fence from me, but he has a way with words. His tribute section to those who have died since his last issue is both moving and funny.

The first Annish for *Idle Minds*, Arnie Katz and the Vagrants' eZine, is out and it's called *Why I Am A Fan*. It's a reference to one of the greatest pieces of fanzinery ever, *Why A Fan*, from Earl Kemp. It's got some great writing from an army of people. I have a little piece, as do about 25 of my favorite people in the world. It's good stuff and highly worth taking a glance over.

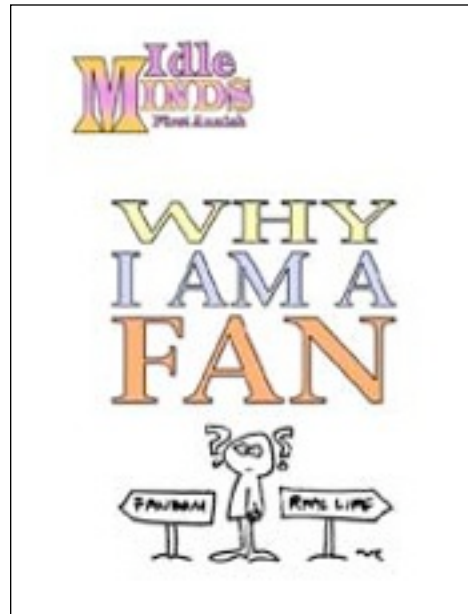
There's a new issue of *So It Goes* on eFanzines too! And a *Mumblings* from

and the Steampunks are coming along for a picnic and fun and frolic. I'm excited, especially since it's a free event, and I'll be covering it for *Exhibition Hall*. Lots of good folks are attending. It's September 13th, starting at noon. Be there!

SiliCon is coming up, as is the 1,000th meeting of BASFA, which was founded at SiliCon in 1989. Weird, huh? So, there's been talk of doing a big BASFA 1000 event at SiliCon, although we're still working out the details. If you're a BASFAn, I'd come to SiliCon just in case the awesomeness starts.

Happy 89th birthday to Ray Bradbury. *File 770* is full of details from folks who were at his party. I like that guy!

If you haven't been checking out the FanboyPlanet Podcast (on fanboyplanet.com), you're missing out on some real entertainment!



The podcasts leading up to San Diego Comic-Con were all really good and the ones since have been, too. Give 'em a listen!

This issue marks the start of *Ma Vie en Reno*, a series of essay-like thingees that'll hopefully show up on the Renovation Worldcon site in a while too. Reno and I have a long relationship, and I'll be taking at least one and probably more trips up there just to set up the fine time we're all gonna have at a Worldcon in the Sierras!

Steve Green's TAFF trip was supposed to include a stop at a BASFA meeting, but alas, the Alaska Plane Ghods were angry that day and he didn't arrive in time. Luckily, I got to spend a little time with him a couple of days later, and I've got TAFF auction materials, including postcards of David Tennant from the Royal Shakespeare Company's *Hamlet*. Keep an eye open! Steve's off to Chicago as I write this. At that same BASFA meeting, the Katster, Kat Templeton, stopped by for her first meeting. She's a big deal right now and one of the Best New Fans in this year's FAAn Awards (along with a certain co-editor who shall remain nameless. Tiny and nameless...).

If you get a chance, find Nick Mamatas's new book which features Cthulhu, Jack Kerouac and William S. Burroughs among others. It's gotta be good.

No new info on *Pride and Predator*. I've been waiting for that one to come out for more than a year.

A quick plug for Illusive Comics & Games on the El Camino in Santa Clara. There's gonna be a reading from one of my favorite singers, Seanan McGuire, on Friday, September 4th at 7pm. She's also bringing her band with her! I'll be there, at least for part of it.

And I can't believe they're doing another *Doom Patrol* book! I loved the *Doom Patrol* of the 1960s, but it may actually be time to let them all die.



Oil on canvas for Baycon art show

Victory Feast

by John Barrows

Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor

It dawned on me the other day, as Bonnie Tyler's song "I Need a Hero" echoed around in my head, that there has been a major resurgence of superhero movies these last few years. I know, I know, it's a cheesy 80s tune, but terribly catchy. At San Diego Comic-Con this past July, several panels were for upcoming "hero" movies... not only based on graphic novels but fantasy, sci fi and history as well.

The *X-Men* franchise seems to have been among the earlier incarnations in this current cycle, and has spawned Hugh Jackman's *Wolverine*. I'm a huge Hugh Jackman fan but I still haven't seen it. I'm waiting for it to come out on DVD. *Batman Begins* resuscitated the Batman legacy. I wasn't as impressed with *The Dark Knight* but I know I'm in the minority who found it over-the-top but without much substance. *Iron Man* with the talented Robert Downey, Jr. was more to my liking. It seemed more true to the heroic archetype but was still fun and modern.

I recently got to see the new animated *Green Lantern: First Flight*, by the same producers as the recent *Wonder Woman*, and the previous *Superman: Doomsday* and anime-inspired *Batman: Gotham Knight*. Green Lantern was my absolute favorite comic book

superhero when I was a child, so I was really looking forward to the movie. It was great to finally see a Green Lantern movie, but I was fairly disappointed. All of these movies seemed superficial and didn't capture the feeling of awe, inspiration, admiration and suspension of disbelief that I got from reading the comic books way back when. I re-watched the first season of the *Superfriends* (the one from the 70s with Wendy, Marvin and Wonder Dog) not too long ago and I liked the storylines in this primitive animation more than the flashy graphics of the current crop of films. I didn't really get to feel the characters and the actors seemed like their voices were detached from the action.

I slightly prefer DC superheroes to Marvel, but it seems like Marvel has been more successful in translating their characters from the page onto the screen. There was an excellent pilot for DC's *Aquaman* that was never shown on TV but was available on iTunes that I really enjoyed. I wish this project had been greenlit as it was different and mysterious but set in modern times. It reminded me of *Man from Atlantis* with Patrick Duffy. On the other hand, Marvel's two versions of *Hulk* didn't interest me and I haven't seen either. For a more satisfying Hulk experience, I recommend the 70s TV series with Bill Bixby

and Lou Ferrigno, whom I met at WonderCon last year.

Watchmen is darker fare than most DC offerings, and I haven't seen it yet but am looking forward to doing so. On the other hand, *Fantastic 4* was lighter than Marvel's usual lineup. That movie wasn't very good and I don't know why it generated a sequel. It was a total waste of one of my favorite actors, Ioan Gruffudd. Another of my favorite thespians is making his foray into superheroes. Shakespeare veteran Kenneth Branagh will be trying his hand directing the upcoming *Thor* movie.

So why are superheroes in vogue these days? And why does Comic-Con grow by leaps and bounds every year past the 100,000 attendees mark? In my humble opinion, I think now more than ever, mankind is yearning for someone, or several someones, to look up to. Especially in this post 9-11 and secular world where moral relativism is the norm, threats from rogue nations with nuclear weapons are increasing, and the US's world dominance is waning, we need something steadfast and extraordinary to uphold the values of truth, justice and the American way (as the old Superman motto went). Superheroes provide the reassurance, albeit fictional, that goodness and strength will prevail over evil. (Or at least

what we perceive as evil. There are two sides to every coin.)

Historically speaking, human beings have always looked to the supernatural for support, guidance and motivation, or just to explain the vagaries of fate and the universe. It is in our nature. It's only the manifestation of it that has morphed over the years. The Greeks and Romans had their pantheon of gods. (Here, again, I'm bringing up that I'm eagerly anticipating the release of *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* next year.) In more contemporary times, World War II inspired the advent of Superman.

However, I do despair at the dearth of female heroes, even in this day and age. Wonder Woman is always the standby example, but there are only a few others. There were some in *X-Men* but Jean Grey turned bad, and Susan Storm from *Fantastic 4* was a wife and not a standalone character. *Electra* I didn't get to see because it doesn't look good. And Catwoman is... well... a villain. (Although I would love to do a Catwoman costume someday... the Lee Meriwether version from the *Batman* TV movie.)

For a good graphic novel female role model, there is the ditzy Agatha Clay/Heterodyne from the *Girl Genius* books. I somewhat relate to the character's scattered personality that occasionally shows flashes of brilliance, as well as her chaotic love life, talent for melodrama, and penchant for traveling. I

wish they'd make a movie out of this web comic series. I just read Volume 8 that came out in August. Hmm... maybe I should start this project up. Anyone interested in helping me out and approaching the Foglios to get the rights to produce this?

Speaking of the Foglios, *Girl Genius* was awarded a Hugo at Worldcon in Montreal last month. I'm glad they won as I think the prize is well-deserved. Neil Gaiman won for his latest novel, *The Graveyard Book*. Neil Gaiman, the rock star of literature, who doesn't like him? He was so awesome at a reading and book signing I went to a few years ago. He signed my books patiently and even drew on one of them. We even had a nice, short conversation. I finally got to read his *Anansi Boys* and enjoyed it very much. He's got the gift of interweaving dark magical elements into modern settings.

Oh, and it was quite gratifying to find out that *SF/SF* once again was nominated for Best Fanzine at the Hugos. We placed 10th so we didn't actually make it to the ballot of the five top nominees, but it was quite an honor to even be mentioned in the same breath as the Hugos — especially considering that we're a Bay Area-centric zine and probably don't have much to interest folks outside of our region.

Another awards ceremony is coming up. This time it's at the World Fantasy Convention, which is happening on Halloween weekend in our own backyard. It will be at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose and I will be working at it.

It's my first time working at a con; I'll be doing PR and helping out in the Press Office on site. Well, I did work for the newsletter at Costume-Con last year but I wasn't involved in any prep work beforehand.

Which brings me back to heroes. It's great to have superheroes on a pedestal but we shouldn't forget our very real, everyday heroes and heroines. Those on the forefront defending and protecting us physically from human and microbial threats as well as so-called "Acts of God." But there are also unsung heroes, which we all could be. Anyone who does anything voluntarily to help, inspire or even entertain others. It's what transforms "human" into "humane," and makes life better for ourselves and everyone. And to quote another song, this time David Bowie's "Heroes:"

*We can be heroes, for ever and ever
What d'you say?*

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

Let us consider the matter of Lloyd Penney!

Dear Jean and Chris and España and David and Tom:

I have fallen behind again...Worldcons will do that to you. Jean and España, I wish you were there. Anticipation was a great time. I have some quick comments on issues 90 and 91 of *SF/SF*.

Chris Garcia replies: Let us get to them!

90...Anticipation certainly marked the passing of Charlie Brown, and the magazine will continue with the *Locus* Trust. I guess Charlie was smart enough to know that in his 70s, his time might come. I wish that *Locus* had kept track of its fannish roots, but in the long run, fannish purchases of science fiction books and magazines make up a very small percentage of all purchases. We don't have the pull we think we do, or perhaps ever did.

I think they sorta paid a little too much attention to Charlie Brown's passing and not enough to Forry's. The Locus Trust, and the Second Foundation, will have their hands full, but honestly, I'm fairly certain Charles had it all about him and got everything in line.

WOOF worked well! I have some more issues here, but I won't be offering them until I know that all contributors have their copies. Chris, you took one for Roger Hill, right?

I did not, actually. I don't think I have one. I'm glad to hear it all went so well!

Yvonne and I attended the opening midnight showing of the newest Harry Potter movie, and had a great time. She made herself some Gryffindor robes, and got compliments for her workmanship, as in, "Where did you buy them?" There were many people there in costume, and I'd say that the average age of those waiting was teen to 20, which meant that we skewed the curve.

Waiting in line for a few hours was a bit of a pain, but there was lots of energy from the others in line, and we had a good time. The movie itself was good, but as several reviews put it, there was so much story in the book that the movie could only give highlights of the best bits of the story. I'm glad Yvonne is enjoying HP, and I have enjoyed the first six books... we've got to go and get the 7th in trade paperback.

There's just something great about opening night lines. I haven't stood in one in ages. I always seem to go to mid-afternoon screenings these days. The last one I did was Angels and Demons.

I suspect that shortly, you'll be meeting traveling TAFF winner Steve Green as he tours the continent. We picked him up in Montreal and drove him to Toronto for a short stay. I

would love to get to a British convention. Tom Becker's article just shows me that I must get to a British convention one of these days. I haven't been, not even to a British Worldcon. Gotta do a BArea con, too... Every time I see something about a convention committee, I remember that you could change the final "e" to a "d", and absolutely nothing would change. John Dowd made a great Dumbledore.

We hung out last Wednesday for a few hours. I like that guy! I really wish I could have made Plokta.con. Those folks are just plain old fashioned fun!

I hope someone at a BASFA meeting will soon review Anticipation. For me, it was great fun, lots of old and new friends, hugs everywhere, Auroras, Hugos, fanzines and lots more, and it got 27 out of five stars.

Oh, there was much talk. I think we probably spent a total of two or three hours discussing it over the two or three meetings where folks have been back from it.

91... We've got to do more steampunk stuff, and I guess you'll be doing it in *Exhibition Hall*. Must get to that to loc. I can provide pictures of me as a conductor on a hobby railway. Like a few pix? I must get our memberships for Reno. We pre-supported and voted, but nowhere at the con did I see PR0. I

downloaded it, and we will be purchasing full attendings soon.

Got your EH LoC and it'll run in issue 2. Glad you're coming to Reno! We're making great plans for it, trust me!

The San Diego Comic-Con is becoming a massive popcult event, and some articles I've read say that the comics are being left behind. Tim Burton and Johnny Depp announcing a new movie? Not a comic con to me, anyway. At our last pubnight, some people said they'd been to the SDCC, and found it a terrible way to spend a weekend, with all the trudging back and forth in slow-moving lines, and standing for hours just to get into a room for a special event. Too big and unwieldy.

I've still never been to a Comic-Con. I've listened to podcasts, seen TV reports, had endless conversations with my FanboyPlanet pals, but I've never made it. Maybe some year.

My loc...Chris, who do you know who went to Polaris? We had a table in the hallway there, so we got to see everyone. I'd know if some BArea fans were there, I think... I am caught up with *Girl Genius*, and it is great!, and very deserving of the Hugo the Profs. Foglio got for their efforts. I wonder what Cheryl's comments on Anticipation are?

Frank Wu was there, in fact. I also think that Jay Crasdan may have attended, though I might be thinking of another con up that way.

I would like to get in touch with the folks who staged Azkatraz... Yvonne is looking into the idea of staging a Harry Potter convention in Toronto, and would need to find out what worked, and what didn't.

I'll see who I can find and put them in touch. Harry Potter cons have been a big deal of late and look to be growing. There was one in Spain, as I understand it, that drew a few thousand people!

Wish I could come and join you for the *SF/SF Picnic!* We'd haul out our steampunk costumes, now resident in our old/new steamer trunk, and have a fine time with you all. Hope the day is sunny and warm for all.

I'm excited for it! I love the Rosicrucian Museum and Steam-y folks will only make it better!

All done, so many more zines to tackle. Many thanks for all your hard work on this project, and are you planning anything special for issue 100? It's not that far away. See you all next time.

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

Do you really think I'd let an Anniversary issue go by without something fun planned?

Ma Vie en Reno

A Traveling Column by Chris Garcia

This is the first of what should be a long series of articles about my times in Reno over the years, which will lead us up to Renovation, the 2011 Worldcon to be held in Reno, Nevada. Each tale will cover one of my many visits.

You can find out more about the Reno Worldcon by going to renovationsf.org.

I don't remember my first ever visit to Reno, but I can tell you exactly the first time I visited after I turned 21. It was May 1996 and I went to The Peppermill, one of the magnificent hotels that Renovation will be using. Now, I say it's magnificent, because I've seen it since the renovation, but back in '96 it was showing its age, gathering dust in the corners. It was rough, but still had its charms. The big deal was that I could legally play Blackjack, and if there was one thing I knew, it was that chicks digged gamblers. I was hanging out with a young woman named Delia, a woman I never stood a chance with as anything more than a gambling partner, so I took her along.

Everyone seems to know how to play Blackjack. You try to get 21 and hope you beat the house. The house advantage isn't that steep, so you can make a run at it. I had a system, a system I still use to this day. Establish a bet, stick to it. Never hit on anything higher than 15. Always split. Always double-down when you can. Pay attention to the dealer's up-card. Do

not continue to play beyond the amount you had set at the beginning. I had played these rules for years in common rooms and at house games, but now, now I could play in Vegas and afford Reno.

Delia was a better Poker player than I was. I could destroy her at 7-card Stud, the game I continue to master, but she was the queen of Texas Hold-'em, 5 Card Draw, High or Low Chicago, and especially Low Ball. The girl could just about beat anyone in Low Ball. She had a good face, but the devil's eyes. She could look through you and then tell you that you were hiding a gut-shot straight when you were really holding a Full House. I think it was the richness of those Libyan-flag green eyes that made you sure she was right, and then you'd fold. She also had a Blackjack system: always take one card. No more, no less unless you've got 19 or better. It's crazy, true, but it's her system.

Let the story begin...

We arrived at Peppermill with a few hundred dollars between us. We had made an agreement: we'd pool our money, split it evenly, then divide it to the percentages that we put in: roughly 70 percent hers and 30 percent mine. It was an interesting idea. We each ended up with something like 250 bucks. I walked over to a Blackjack table, expecting her to head over to the Poker room. Instead, she followed me, walking very smartly in a lovely pant suit. I was

in a Hawaiian shirt. That's right: gambling, in Reno, in a Hawaiian shirt. I am nothing if not cliché. I found a table that had no one at it and a lovely, rather ancient, guy dealing. His name was Logan and he was from Denmark. I sat at the exact right hand of the dealer. I like to be there. It's a place of comfort for me. Delia took the furthest seat from me. It made sense.

The first hand proved to give us hope: I hit Blackjack, Delia was showing 19, the dealer had a 7, which turned out to be 17, and it was win-win. Delia smiled at me across the table. I smiled my James Bond at her. It didn't work as I had hoped.

I rode a series of hits. Delia seemed to be standing on the same money she started with. She managed to push more than she won, and lost a fair bit, but her stack never seemed to reach towards the felt.

After an hour or so, we got a new dealer. It was a young lady, probably about 25 or so, and she was the unluckiest dealer I've seen. She lost the first seven hands by busting. I had at least a half-dozen Blackjacks. My stack grew tall, and then into a third tower, then a fourth. Delia was even luckier. She just hit everything. She made bold moves (hitting 18 when the dealer showed a 7. She pulled a 3!) and she kept winning. She also started betting a big stack.

Oh yeah, and she was winning.

She had a pile much bigger than mine. We

were winning, and that draws a crowd, and we were in a solid crowd by the time the dealer clapped and walked away. She was replaced by what I knew was a Cooler of sorts. It was a dealer who was obviously meant to distract the men (and, if form holds, ten percent of the women) though her looks. The lass was obviously a model. She had amazing hands. I mean, she could have been a hand model. She had amazing eyes. She had cheekbones that you'd murder for. I decided to never look at her. I kept my eyes on Delia. She was staring at the dealer, her name was Heather, and she just kept watching. I lost a little. I was down to three towers, though they were all strong and noble. Delia was on a heater. She grew her pile, staring at Heather the whole time, into a powerful development of cylinders that rose towards Heaven. I was around 750; Delia was at least 2K.

They pulled Heather off early. The pit boss came over.

"You staying in the hotel?"

I smiled.

"No, we're just passing through."

He looked over at Delia, who gave him one of her smiles.

"Here," he said, handing a card across to me. "Have a dinner on the house."

Now, a comp is a thing of magic. You rarely get them if you ask; you are rarely asked if you'd like one. This was the first time I'd ever had anyone just flat out offer me one. Delia looked at me and did her famous eyebrow raise. We both realized what the deal was: he wanted us off the table. Now, you'd think that a pit boss

would want you playing if you've been on a roll, but there's an idea that some folks have that if you break the streak, it won't be back.

"Thanks, we'll go in a bit," I said.

"You shouldn't wait too long," he said. "They close in twenty minutes. We can hold on to your checks for you so you can start right up after you return."

And with that, we headed off.

I always say that the highlight for me about Reno is the series of coffee shops. They have tons of them and they're all fantastic! There's one in the Peppermill that is merely amazing. I mean, it passes forward and backwards through time it's so good. I had a steak. I love steaks. Delia had a steak. She loved steaks.

"So, what're you gonna do with all that money?" Delia said, fluttering her eyelashes in a way that made her eyes glow.

"Best laid plans of mice and men, darling," I said.

"Usually involve cheese," she said, stuffing her face with a plank of the dead cow.

We ate. It was delicious. I cannot say enough about the place so I'll pay it the ultimate compliment: brevity.

We returned to the table. The pit boss saw us walking back and moved a pair of small boxes full of chips in front of us. It was a nice touch that he did a count while we were at dinner. We were up to 780 dollars for myself and 3,350 for Delia. We were back on track.

And we derailed.

I was getting 15s and the dealers were showing Jacks or better every time. Every hit was a face when I needed a little, a duck when I

needed a monkey. It was pain. We saw our piles dry up. I played more conservatively, so I held more of my cash while Delia's stuff turned to dust and blew away.

My pile was bigger than hers within fifteen minutes. Delia was within a few chips of felt in less than an hour. It was not looking good for us, but a dealer change came. It was Heather again.

This made me smile.

Delia decided to flirt. She was chatting up the other players and Heather and everyone else. She was magnetic. We started winning, my pile growing faster, but Delia was pulling in a crowd that was three or four deep. She was laughing loudly, hitting on High Teens, and win or lose, making every one of them and then pulling out a cigarette and a dozen classic lighters flew out of men's pockets. It was like watching Kate Hepburn at her most joyously cavalier. She even did the hair toss. Glorious.

We played all night.

Delia was being chatted up and shooting them all down every time one tried to set a hook. She pulled along a particularly rugged gentleman around 6 a.m. She pulled her chips up, the guy having asked her if she wanted to come and see his room. He was thinking she was pulling up stakes to come away to the Kasbah, but instead she walked to where I was sitting with my pretty solid pile, kissed me full on the mouth, deep and long and smoky and lustful and money and magic and moving and I grabbed my chips and away we went. We ended up splitting a little over two grand.

We didn't count it at the time: we had better things to do.

Trepidation 2009: A Better Con

By Jean Martin
Editor

I was hoping to go to Montreal for Worldcon last August but realized belatedly that my work schedule would not permit it. I've always wanted to visit that city and suppose I'll have to do so on my own someday. But I was also a bit burnt out on conventions this year



España the Space Girl

by Jean Martin

already after Gallifrey One, WonderCon and BayCon. Especially since BayCon this past May didn't offer up the same incredible experience for me as it has consistently in the past.

Leigh Ann Hildebrand and España Sheriff were also planning on going to Worldcon and had to cancel. So they decided to put on their own real-world Bittercon for those who would remain in the San Francisco Bay Area. Born out of their weekly FyDySyFy get-together at the Embarcadero Hyatt Regency, with only two weeks to prepare, Trepidation 2009 was a complete success. The 24 hour con began on Friday, July 31, at 3:00 p.m. and ended on Saturday, August 1, at the same time.

The incredible feat of planning a con last minute was detailed in España's article in our last issue. This review is my take on it from an attendee's perspective. (Even though I was recruited into becoming the Official Photographer when I arrived at the Eclipse Lounge of the hotel, which served as the main location for the con's activities.)



Battlestar Galactica Crew with Wicker Death Star

courtesy of Jean Martin

I was only able to go Friday night because I already had plans for Saturday afternoon. I had previously gone once to FyDySyFy on July 3rd as it was a holiday and I was able to get there in time. It was a nice wide open space to just drink, eat and talk. The "Wicker Death Star" was also very futuristic. I've always liked the Hyatt Embarcadero, which used to have the Equinox revolving restaurant at the top, and the banquet halls used to be the site for the Bay Area Music Awards (Bammies) after party. I have fond memories of partying with rock stars there during my old Heavy Metal days, which

seem to have come back to me this past month, to my utter surprise and complete delight. I just hope it continues as I've missed the music scene and hanging out with musicians in general. But I digress.

Before I got to the con, I checked out the web site for information and was treated to pages of professional but also hilarious information. The text was courtesy of Leigh Ann. There was a writeup on Fan Guest of Honor Jason Schachat, who was coming all the way from L.A. to grace the con with his presence. There was also a list of panels and activities, with fancy titles, just like a regular con would have. I was particularly interested in the Regency Dancing.

I got to the Hyatt around 6:00 p.m., which was later than I had hoped due to having spent the day with my family at the California Academy of Sciences, which I thoroughly enjoyed. I was wearing my *Battlestar Galactica* Boomer/Athena costume, which I wanted to wear because it is comfortable and very sci fi. I had to stash my prop gun into my bag, though, because I didn't want to cause trouble as I walked from where I parked to the hotel. Con security, in the form of Joe Price, teasingly admonished me for brandishing my weapon in public.

Unfortunately, I arrived too late for the Art Show, which was a table at the Eclipse Lounge with the appropriate signage. There was only one entry, a gorgeous Steampunk pin by Dakron Slaxx. Someone purchased it already, but I asked Dakron if I could commission one for me, and he said yes. The Dealer's Room

was still in full swing, which was an adjacent table full of books, videos and sci fi anthology magazines. Registration, which was free, was held between the two tables, with España handing out badges complete with plastic holders and lanyards. It was all just too clever, funny and surreal.

During the Cocktail Hour "panel," which lasted more than an hour, I finally got to meet Jack Avery, the founder of *SF/SF*. It took me four years to actually get to meet him! It was an historic moment and so it had to be captured on film. I asked someone to take a photo of him



Dealer's Room

by Jean Martin

with me and my co-editor, whom we all know and love. España was also included as she's part of the team. It's too bad we didn't have David and Tom there. But then, we have this superstition that if we ever get the whole *SF/SF* team together in one place at one time, the world will explode. No sense tempting fate.

A friend of Jack's brought a portable DVD player and was playing anime on one table. So that table was designated the Anime Room. Someone brought several board games and two tables were put together and made into the Gaming Room.

Opening ceremonies started late due to the fact that the Guests of Honor, Annalee Newitz and Charlie Jane Anders from io9.com, didn't arrive until around 8:00 p.m. Once they were there, Leigh Ann and España pronounced the con as officially open. Meet the Guests consisted of me taking photos of all the guests of honor with the con chairs, España and Leigh Ann.

Then, the "serious" programming started with Jack Avery doing Flavor Tripping. This involved Jack passing around West African Miracle Fruit tablets, which alter the perception of taste, changing bitter and sour flavors to sweet. Several people from the two dozen or more in attendance tried it. There were some friends of mine there, and people I know from conventions. I also met a few new people who are friends of friends. But I didn't try the tablets as I'm on a pretty restricted diet these days and I'm very chemically sensitive. It looked like fun, though, and I was content just taking photos.

Regency Dance was next on the agenda, and Leigh Ann even changed into an elegant, emerald green Regency gown. But there was no sound system, and the panel was scrapped, to my chagrin. It was okay, though, as I have other opportunities to do Regency dancing.

Instead, I had a great time being photographed with Stacy and Tracy who were also wearing *Battlestar Galactica* costumes. I

also took photos of Palle in a Fifth Doctor Who outfit, Radar in her amazing Dr. Horrible ensemble, Mette as Syndrome, and the drop-dead gorgeous Elena as Silk Spectre. España changed out of her Steampunk outfit into a silver space girl costume. It was just like a real con with hall costuming!

The party moved to the Con Suite, which was in España's and Leigh Ann's connected

hotel rooms. The balcony of their rooms overlooked Justin Hermann Plaza, the Ferry Building and the Bay Bridge. San Francisco at night is just so magically beautiful. I always get a tug in my heart every time I see the city views in the evening.

Leigh Ann mixed exotic drinks, and she made me a blackberry soda, which I absolutely loved. We all watched a strange, black-and-white German sci fi TV show on the big flat panel TV. There was even a small TV on the mirror in the bathroom. The suites were pretty high tech.

By this time, everyone was pleasantly sloshed but not overly so. Well, except for me because I don't drink alcohol, but I still get as silly as everyone else. At one point, lemons were passed around and Radar, Elena and myself squeezed ourselves into one chair and had our photos taken with lemons next to our puckered mouths. That made the gentlemen happy.

I left at around 2:00 a.m. because I had to wake up early the next day. So I didn't make it to the end of the evening. And I didn't even make it to the Party Room, which was Bryan and Mette's room. I know Leigh Ann and España et al., they can party till dawn, which is probably when everyone left to go to bed. They all had other panels and events lined up for the next day, which I was also sad to miss. But I'm glad I got a good taste of this Bittercon.



View from the Con Suite Balcony

by Jean Martin

BASFA Minutes: Meetings 994-995

Meeting 994

August 17, 2009

Trey Haddad, President

Chris Garcia, Vice-President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms

Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Held at Coco's, 1206 Oakmead Parkway
(Lawrence Expressway/101 fwy), Sunnyvale

Began 8-ish - with the mention that [tall] Kevin is not a foamer.

We established a TAFF jar; we also established a party jar.

28 people attended.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 993 were accepted as *seconds*, while the minutes of the Montreal meeting were accepted as *in absinthia*.

The Treasurer reported that the club had taken in money.

The VP reported that there is a new *Drink Tank* out, there is also a new *Journey Planet* out - and he has not become a pro-kick boxer.

The President said "hi" to folks visiting us - Kat, a long-time BayCon fan, visiting us from Sacramento - also Alex, an independent Mac contractor who reads - and Michael McGee, a

book editor who is also a writer, has a new book out, does pod-casts that are on Itunes and asks we check out his website www.theaterofthemidnightsun.com ... which is a very pretty site.

The Millennium Bug Committee was formed to help plan a BASFA event for meeting 1000, with Chris as its head.

Announcements

Jo announced something that squirrel then made off with & he announced that he has a new domain, so email him at jo@jorhett.com.

Lynn announced that she is on the job market again as a tech writer and really needs the work, contact her at figmo@bravo.net, plus announced that Warren has spent far too much time in the hospital recently.

Adrienne announced that Bay Area Ghost Hunters now has about 400 members [tho she expects the number to drop now that WorldCon is over] and announced that she sold an article to the SFWA Bulletin [yay!] and it'll be in the next issue.

Lisa announced that the Foglios published their acceptance speech in the Monday *Girl Genius* strip online; check www.girlgeniusonline.com/comic.php.

Dave C announced that wiki has a huge amount of poutine articles & announced that

there's a convention coming up over Labor Day = DiscworldCon.

Chris announced that we get free wifi here at Coco's - via the Marriott hotel - so use their option for "24 hours free".

Glenn announced that World Fantasy Con is Oct 31-Nov 1 and memberships are going fast.

[evil] Kevin relayed a "hi" from [tall] Kevin, who is en route to Oregon.

Reviews

WorldCon was reviewed by many: Glenn sat site selection and missed all the panels, found every meal he ate there to be completely awesome; Chris has the world's smallest hotel room [12' by 10'], shared by 3 fans, he had a great time, even tho it was very expensive and he ate a LOT of noodles; Adrienne was stuck in a purgatory of drunken US 19 year old frat boys at her hotel, but she rated Registration and Con Suite as really well run; the consensus was Dealer's Room sucked; Lynn said the filk track was very good, but it was on the wrong grid and the Con seriously needed shuttle buses; Jo rated the quality of panels as extremely good and the quality of advice he got from Writer's Workshop was fantastic; a comment was that the parties suffered from suppressing fire; Dave G stated that the panels were good but FINDING them was difficult, he survived the

business meetings and had a good time <<Twitter is EVIL>>; Andy thought it was worth full price, the pub crawl was awesome, Registration was smooth and “OMG duck in a can!”, fanzine lounge was fantastic, Masquerade was really, really good & the Hugo awards were excellent; [evil] Kevin said his Liberacicus costume was unveiled and photos are starting to surface [lots of kissing pics]; Dave C saw lots of Neil Gaiman and his favorite restaurants were not those shown in the guide.

I reviewed the *GI Joe* movie as 2009’s version of *Megaforce* - only without the benefit of Barry Bostwick’s acting prowess, or Persis Khambatta’s warmth and humanity ... and ice doesn’t float in their universe - worth being taken out to see it ... once.

Gordan reviewed *District 9* as very good; reviewed Houston Jones as he and his music were excellent; Jo follow-on’d that *District 9* was very good.

Stellan reviewed renting bicycles in Montreal as excellent.

Dave C reviewed *The Colorado Kid* by Stephen King as still too padded.

Lisa reviewed *Julie and Julia* as wonderful and reviewed *Ponyo* as even more wonderful, so beautiful and so much fun.

Glenn reviewed *Solstice One* by Patricia McKillip as he enjoyed it.

We did auctions: birthday auctioned off Lynn Gold for \$5.00 to me; then books for \$0.08, \$5.00, \$0.25; magazines for \$3.00, \$0.25, \$0.25; a toy for \$0.50 and con newsletters for \$0.15.

We adjourned at = 10:15.

And the rumor of the week was: *it’s the beard*

Meeting 995

August 24, 2009

Trey Haddad, President

Chris Garcia, Vice-President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms

Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Held at Coco’s, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 fwy), Sunnyvale

Began 8-ish - with talk of WindyCon.

We established a party jar.

27 people attended.

Secretary’s report: the minutes of meeting 994 were accepted as *can’t sleep, squirrels will get Barbara*.

The Treasurer reported that the club had money.

The VP reported that there should be a new *Drink Tank* out on efanazines.com and Sept 1 should see the debut of *Exhibition Hall* - and he has to pay his rent ... and Steve Green sends his regards.

The President had nothing fannish to report.

New business = [tall] Kevin noted that Cheryl had won a Hugo [there was much applause] and that we should send her congratulations on this prestigious award - and an invitation for her to come visit us with it - say around the end of October.

The Millennium Bug Committee reported some ideas and the sense of the meeting [to use party funds] was *lots in favor & the treasurer against*.

Announcements

Dave C announced that there’s a convention coming up over Labor Day = DiscworldCon in Tempe & the Steampunk con in Seattle will be a con without booksellers.

[evil] Kevin announced group sales for *Spamalot* will allow a few more folks added to his group ticket buy for Sept 15.

Howeird announced that the shuttle may be a weather no-go.

Glenn announced that World Fantasy Con is Oct 31-Nov 1 and memberships are going fast & Patricia McKillip won an award for *Forgotten Beasts of Eld*.

Ken announced that Zombiewalk will be in downtown SJ Wednesday & the SJ outdoor theater movie is *Shaun of the Dead* and the Legion of Rassilon meeting is in the usual place [1st & Trimble] & Saturday at Emperor Norton Field will be *Creature Features* after the Giants game.

Chris announced that ortcat.com is a site for ordering old radio shows - including *Stroke of Fate*.

Mo announced that she’s working SorcererCon at the Doubletree over Thanksgiving and is doing programming and needs panelists.

Reviews

Ken reviewed *Inglourious Basterds* as much better than the original.

Adrienne reviewed books = *San Francisco Ghosts*, by Mark Lyon, had rather unpolished writing and *Haunted Baseball*, by Mickey Bradley and Dan Gordon, lots of fun and well researched. The hotel she stayed at in Montreal -after- the Purgatory hotel as being wonderful, this hotel, the Pierre du Calvert AD 1725 was marvelous and worth staying there.

I reviewed *Ponyo* as wonderful, beautiful and fun, worth full price; Eric follow-on'd that it was very well done & Trey reviewed that it felt a little too juvenile to him.

Chris reviewed a novelization of the TV show *Psych* as possibly the most entertaining book he has read this year & it includes the FCC, he reviewed 7 issues of Wednesday Comics as excellent and he did see *Twilight* this week, between 2 showings of *Watchmen*.

Lisa reviewed *The Time Traveller's Wife* as well done, sweet and worth full price.

Dave C reviewed *Move Under Ground* by Nick Mamatas - a Mythos book - as very surreal and one hell of a ride, highly recommended.

Carole reviewed Quebec as she took lots and lots of pictures.

Mo reviewed *True Blood* as slightly camp and recommended, she reviewed a BBC series called *Bang goes the Theory* as fun & reviewed the podcasts on www.theaterofthemidnightsun.com as very good.

Bill reviewed Worldcon as he spent most of the con working on a demo, reviewed the free wifi on the train to Quebec as not worth what he paid for it [free] & reviewed driving thru a thunderstorm cell as like having bathtubs of water dropped on them, repeatedly.

[tall] Kevin reviewed a thunderstorm cell he & Lisa were caught in while in an open field as "wow!" & recommends checking out travelswithkuma.livejournal.com; plus it was an incredible bargain for him to use airline miles to book sleeper rooms on the trains he took - plus the WSFS business meeting went much better than he had expected it would and all in all it was well worth it - and he reviewed a convenience store - a *conveni* as he wished he could bring a franchise of it to Fremont; Howie'd follow-on'd that taking the train to Reno is beautiful.

?? reviewed Sacramento Bee Keeping Supplies as they sell many kinds of honey and it's great.

Andy reviewed *District 9* as difficult and disturbing and worth full price; [evil] Kevin follow-on'd - agreed - and said it could have left out the Nigerian crime ring; and Andy also reviewed *ito-en oi ocha* - a Japanese bottled green tea - as actually good.

Bob reviewed a lot of things - the Bob Dylan show as worth full price; *Transformers 2* as not worth used paperback, even on the small screen; *Harry Potter 6* as worth matinee if someone else pays; that Border Collies are worth full price, even if one tries to kill you 4 times; the Tut Exhibit as worth full price; the CA Academy of Science free Wednesday as not worth the half mile line to get in; that *CSI Las Vegas* was not a Star Trek con episode and worth full price plus; that being homeless and jobless still sucks and is not worth squat; and a book by Marc Reisner, *A Dangerous Place* was worth paperback and worth reading.

We did auctions: birthday auctioned off Mo for \$10.00 to Ken and Geri; birthday auctioned off Bill for \$1.00 to Carole; then posters for \$1.00, \$1.00; magazines for \$0.50, \$0.25; videos for \$2.50; tape and chocolate for \$5.00 and a book and picture for \$30.00.

We adjourned at = 10:10.

And the rumor of the week was: ‘ ‘

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 highlighted in red.

Ongoing events are toward the back.

Saturday, September 5

The Space Cowboys' Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 North Ellsworth, San Mateo

www.peers.org

Firefly, Western themed event with live performance by Bangers and Mash. Date changed from October due to a scheduling conflict.

7 p.m. \$20

Thursday, September 10

Thrillville: Lucha Beach Party!

Balboa Theatre

3630 Balboa St

www.thrillville.net

Thrillville takes its show on the road and mixes Lucha with beach party mayhem. Mil Mascaras Vs. The Aztec Mummy plus STOMP! SHOUT! SCREAM!

7:30 p.m. \$12

Saturday, September 12

Writers With Drinks

The Make-Out Room

3225 22nd St., San Francisco

www.writerswithdrinks.com

Lev Grossman, Jeremy Adam Smith and John Shirley. All proceeds benefit the Center for Sex and Culture.

7:30 p.m. \$3-\$5 sliding scale.

Thursday, September 17

Thrillville: Lucha Beach Party!

Camera 3 Cinema

288 S. Second St, San Jose

www.thrillville.net

Thrillville takes its show on the road and mixes Lucha with beach party mayhem. Mil Mascaras Vs. The Aztec Mummy plus STOMP! SHOUT! SCREAM! Live surf music by Aardvark and a special appearance by the Rockabilly Models.

7:30 p.m. \$12

Saturday, September 19

The Tomorrowmen

Thee Parkside

1600 17th Street, San Francisco

www.myspace.com/tomorrowmen

All ages happy hour show

5 p.m. Free

Sunday, September 20

The Tomorrowmen

Hotel Utah

500 4th Street, San Francisco

www.myspace.com/tomorrowmen

Surf Sunday with Pollo Del Mar and Secret Samurai from San Diego.

8 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, September 25-27

From the Land Beyond

Scottish Rite Center

6151 H Street, Sacramento

www.sacramentocomics.com

Guests announced so far include Ray Park, Crispin Freeman, Jake Busey and more. Friday night concert by Warp 11.

\$20 (till September 15)

Saturday, September 26

Seelie and Unseelie Fairy Court Gathering

GBACG Event

Alana's Cafe

1020 Main Street, Redwood City

www.gbacg.org

Are you a good fairy or a bad fairy? Pick your side at the gathering of the Seelie & Unseelie Fairy Courts in an end of summer evening garden party! Suggested costume: Fantasy
Details TBA

Sunday, September 27

Handcar Regatta

Railroad Square

Santa Rosa

handcar-regatta.com

The 2nd Annual 2009 Great West End & Railroad Square Handcar Regatta & Exposition of Mechanical & Artistic Wonders. Featuring live music, craft show, vendors and other entertainments. Costumes encouraged.

Free

Friday-Sunday, October 2-4

SiliCon

The Doubletree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place, San Jose

www.siliconventions.com

The theme this year is Heroes and Villains.

GOH are Ken Lally, Christy Marx, Sarah Clemens and Hilary Ayer. Toastmaster is Kevin Roche.

\$55 (till September 15)

Saturday, October 3

The Sweeney Todd Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 North Ellsworth, San Mateo

www.peers.org

Victorian themed event with live performance by Bangers and Mash. (Date changed from September.)

7 p.m.

\$15 (till September 27)

Saturday, October 10

Writers With Drinks

The Make-Out Room

3225 22nd St., San Francisco

www.writerswithdrinks.com

Anthony Sworfford, Roz Savage, Doug Dorst, Rachel Pollack and Linda Watanabe McFerrin.

All proceeds benefit the Center for Sex and Culture.

7:30 p.m.

\$3-\$5 sliding scale.

Saturday, October 17

Dark Shadows Picnic

GBACG Event

www.gbacg.org

Gather for a reunion of all the members of the Collins family (of the *Dark Shadows* TV show) from past, present, future, and parallel time.

Honor the dead and undead alike with a pleasantly vampiric picnic. Suggested costume: 1795, 1840-41, 1897, 1966-71, and 1995 ("the future"), Vampire.

Details TBA

Saturday, October 17-Sunday, October 18

Folsom Renaissance Faire

Folsom City Lions Park

403 Stafford Street, Folsom

folsomfaire.com

Renaissance Faire

\$14

Thursday, October 22

Thrillville: Gorefest

Camera 3 Cinema

288 S. Second St, San Jose

www.thrillville.net

Featuring two brand new B-movie classics from Monogram Releasing and the B Movie Nation: *Poultrygeist* and Kevin Tenney's *Brain Dead*. Live music by Aardvark and Actual Rafiq.

7:30 p.m.

\$12

Thursday, October 22

Thrillville: Gorefest

Balboa Theatre

3630 Balboa St

www.thrillville.net

Featuring two brand new B-movie classics from Monogram Releasing and the B Movie Nation: *Poultrygeist* and Kevin Tenney's *Brain Dead*. Live music by The Deadlies.

7:30 p.m.

\$12

Saturday, October 24-Sunday, October 25

All-Hallows Fantasy Faire

Mother Lode Fairgrounds

220 Southgate Drive, Sonora

sonoracelticfaire.com/hallowsfaire.html

Sonora Celtic Faire presents the first annual All Hallows Fantasy Faire. Details TBA

Wednesday, October 28

City Arts and Lectures: Jonathan Lethem

Herbst Theater

401 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

www.cityarts.net

In conversation with Paul Lancour

8 p.m. \$20

Thursday, October 29-Sunday, November 1

World Fantasy Convention

The Fairmont Hotel

170 South Market Street, San Jose

www.worldfantasy2009.org

The World Fantasy Convention is a professional networking event that regularly attracts several hundred of the top authors in the field every year. It is the home of the World Fantasy Awards and this year will be celebrating Edgar Allen Poe's 200th birthday. Garth Nix will be the GOH.

\$150

Friday, October 30-Sunday, November 1

Yaoi-Con

San Mateo Marriott

1770 South Amphlett Blvd, San Mateo

www.yaoicon.com

A celebration of male beauty and passion in anime and manga. 18+.

\$50 (till Sep 26)

Saturday, November 7

Le Bal des Vampires

PEERS Event

Alameda Elks Lodge

2255 Santa Clara Ave, Santa Clara

www.peers.org

Vampire themed event with live performance by Bangers and Mash.

7 p.m. \$20 (till September 30)

Wednesday, November 9

City Arts and Lectures: Michael Chabon & Adam Gopnick

Herbst Theater

401 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

www.cityarts.net

8 p.m. \$20

Friday, November 27-Sunday, December 20

The Great Dickens Fair

Cow Palace Exhibition Halls

2600 Geneva Ave, San Francisco

www.dickensfair.com

A holiday adventure into Victorian London.

\$22

Saturday, January 2

Victorian 12th Night Ball

PEERS Event

Location TBD

www.peers.org

12th Night Ball hosted by Mr. and Mrs.

Fezziwig, live performance by Bangers and Mash. Suggested costume is evening or day dress from 1837 through 1870, any class.

Modern evening dress is, as always, a completely acceptable substitute for period costume and there is no dress code for the evening

7 p.m. \$15 (till December 26)

Saturday, February 6

Le Mardi Gras des Vampires

PEERS Event

Location TBD

www.peers.org

New Orleans' most amusing hosts, Lestat de Lioncourt and Louis de Pointe du Lac, and their ward, Mlle. Claudia, invite you to a joyous Mardi Gras Ball in true Nineteenth century ante-bellum New Orleans style.

Suggested attire is period costume, fantasy Mardi Gras costume, or a fanciful version of period costume. Modern evening dress is perfectly acceptable and there is no dress code for the ball. To protect your reputation, masks are strongly recommended.

7 p.m. \$15 (till January 30)

Friday-Sunday, March 5-7

Consonance

Hilton Newark/Fremont
39900 Balentine Drive, Fremont
www.consonance.org
Filk Convention. GOH are Tricky Pixie, Chris O’Shea, Ju Honisch & Katy Droege. Toastmistress is Judi Miller.
\$40 (till October 31)

Friday-Sunday, April 2-4

Contact

NASA Ames Research Center
www.contact-conference.com
Details TBA

Ongoing

Daily

Cartoon Art Museum

655 Mission Street, San Francisco
www.cartoonart.com
Once Upon a Dream, The Art of Sleeping Beauty (through January 10, 2010)
Masters of Webcomics (through December 6, 2009)
\$6

San Francisco Ghost Hunt Walking Tour

Begins: Queen Anne Hotel
1590 Sutter at Octavia, San Francisco
www.sfghosthunt.com
7 p.m. – 10 p.m. \$20

VIZ Cinema

1746 Post Street, San Francisco
www.newpeopleworld.com/films
VIZ Cinema is a 143-seat underground cinema inside NEW PEOPLE in San Francisco. Its programming focuses on the latest and hottest films from Japan, as well as classics, favorites, documentaries and anime.
Current and upcoming Schedule: Manga Attack! 20th Century Boys 1, 2 & 3, Bleach the Movie: Diamond Dust Rebellion and Death Note: L, Change the WorLd.
Please check theater for showtimes and tickets.

Sundays

MGI SF&F/Horror/Speculative fiction Writing Group

Personal Residence (email for details)
Emeryville
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGISFFWriters
7:30 p.m. Free

Sakramento Anime Society

Rancho Cordova Library
9845 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova
Meets every Sunday to watch old and new anime and anime music videos, play collectible card games, practice artwork and make AMVs.
3-7 p.m.

Mondays

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

Coco’s
1206 Oakmead Parkway, Sunnyvale
www.basfa.org
8 p.m. Free

Dukefish

Jake’s of Sunnyvale
174 E. Fremont Avenue, Sunnyvale
Group meets weekly to play German-style strategy board games such as Settlers of Catan, Carcasson and other games, plus an occasional game of bridge breaks out. Meet up at 8:00 p.m., figure out who wants to play what, and typically start playing games no later than 8:30 p.m.
8 p.m. Free

Mondays and Wednesdays

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

Mountain View Community Center
201 S. Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View
www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb
Group meets regularly to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames such as Settlers of Catan; also multi-player Avalon Hill-style, historical war games, and others.
6:30 p.m. \$2

Tuesdays

MGI Boffers & Outdoor Games

Codornices Park
1201 Euclid Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyclub
Bad weather: we meet the same time at 33 Revolutions Record Shop & Cafe, El Cerrito for boardgames.
3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free

Wednesdays

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

Go-Getter's Pizza
1489 Beach Park Boulevard, Foster City
www.BayRPS.com
Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details email GM@BayRPS.com
6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Free

East Bay Strategy Games Club

EndGame
921 Washington, Oakland
www.michaeldashow.com/eastbaystrategy/home.html
7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. Free

Fanboy Planet Podcast

Illusive Comics and Games
2725 El Camino Real, Suite 105, Santa Clara
Live from Illusive Comics and Games, it's the Fanboy Planet Podcast with your host, Derek McCaw.
6 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

FyDy SyFy

Eclipse Lounge, Hyatt Regency
5 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco
Casual meetup in the atrium lobby bar.
5:30-7:30

SF Games

Muddy's Coffeehouse
1304 Valencia Street, San Francisco
vax.hanford.org/dk/games
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.
7 p.m. to midnight Free

Fridays-Mondays

Haunted Haight Walking Tour

Meets at Coffee To The People
1206 Masonic Avenue, San Francisco
www.hauntedhaight.com
Reservations required.
7 p.m. - 9 p.m. \$20

Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour

Meets corner of California and Taylor, San Francisco
www.sfvampiretour.com
Led by Mina Harker. Tour is canceled if there is heavy rain.
8 p.m. \$20

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

Clockwork SF

New location TB, tentative return dates in November.

www.myspace.com/clubclockwork

A Steampunk Parlor: Gothic/Darkwave/
Synthpop w/DJ's MzSamantha, Fact 50,

Melting Girl and Greg. 21+

9 p.m. \$5 after 10 p.m.

Dorkbot-SF

www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf/

Dorkbot hosts regular forums for artists, designers, engineers, students, and other people doing strange things with electricity.

Free, donations welcome

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.

7:30 p.m.

Free

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

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.

12 p.m.

Free

The Gay Men's Book Club

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia, San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

Please contact Chris, the group leader, at cobalt555@earthlink.net for more information.

5 p.m.

Free

Legion of Rassilon

Carl's Jr.

2551 N 1st St , San Jose

www.legionofrassilon.org

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

7:30 p.m.

Free

Micro Gods, Inc.

Berkeley Public Library, West Branch

1125 University Ave, Berkeley

mgisciaf.angelfire.com

groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyClub/

Family Club for fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Movie, Anime & Manga. Meets every 3rd Saturday, please check Yahoo group for updates.

2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Free

No-Name Anime

Saratoga Library

13650 Saratoga Avenue

Saratoga

www.nnanime.com

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

Free

Other Realms Book Club

Books, Inc.
1375 Burlingame Ave, Burlingame
www.booksinc.net
Meets the 4th Wednesday of the Month.
6:30 p.m. Free

Religion & SF Book Club

First United Methodist Church
1183 "B" Street, Hayward
Meets the 4th Sunday of the month. Please
contact Rev. Randy Smith at
RSmith2678@aol.com for more information.
7 p.m. Free

Rocky Horror Picture Show

The Clay, 2261 Fillmore Street San Francisco/
The Guild, 949 El Camino Real Menlo Park
www.bawdycaste.org
The Bawdy Caste presents the classic midnight
movie the first Saturday of the month,
alternating between the Clay in San Francisco
and the Guild in Menlo Park.
Midnight

Sci-Fi and Fantasy Book Club

Clayton Books
5433 D Clayton Road, Clayton
www.claytonbookshop.com
The book for September 16th is *Mistborn* by
Brandon Sanderson. Meets the 3rd Wednesday
of the month.
7:30 p.m. Free

Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
The book for September is *Gun, With
Occasional Music* by Jonathan Lethem. Please
contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-
books.com for more information.
6 p.m. Free

SF Browncoats

Cafe Murano
1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco
www.sfbrowncoats.com
SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the
second Saturday of the month.
Noon Free

Silicon Gulch Browncoats

Various locations (see website for details)
www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org
Silicon Valley fans of Firefly/Serenity meet up
on the first Saturday of the month.
Noon - 2 p.m. Free

USS Augusta Ada

Round Table Pizza
3567 Geary Blvd, San Francisco
trek.starshine.org
Augusta Ada is both a chapter of Starfleet
International and a Linux and *BSD user
group. Usually meets the fourth Saturday of
every month.
1 p.m. Free

USS Defiance

5026 Don Julio Blvd, Sacramento
1566 Howe Ave, Sacramento
www.myspace.com/d2121978
Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of
the month.
7 p.m. Free

USS Northern Lights

Contact firstjedi2000@yahoo.com for location.
sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights
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.
7 p.m. Free

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.
6 p.m. Free



Roisin

by Lucy Huntzinger

Bay Area Fannish Calendar – September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>MGI SFF/H Writing</i> <i>Sakramento Anime</i>	<i>BASFA</i> <i>Dukefish</i> <i>SV Boardgamers</i>	<i>MGI Boffers</i>	<i>BA Role-Playing Soc</i> <i>E.Bay Strategy Games</i> <i>Fanboy Planet Podcast</i> <i>SV Boardgamers</i>		<i>FyDy SyFy</i> <i>SF Games</i>	
30	31	1	2	3	4	5 <i>Space Cowboys Ball</i> <i>Silicon Browncoats</i> <i>Rocky Horror</i>
6 <i>Foothill Anime</i>	7	8	9	10 <i>Thrillville: Lucha</i> <i>Beach Party!</i> <i>SF&F Writers' Group</i>	11 <i>East Bay Star Wars</i> <i>USS Northern Lights</i>	12 <i>Writers With Drinks</i> <i>Fantastic Frontiers</i> <i>No-Name Anime</i> <i>SF Browncoats</i>
13 <i>Gay Men's Book Club</i> <i>SF Santa Rosa Meetup</i>	14	15	16 <i>Clayton SFF Book</i> <i>Club</i>	17 <i>Thrillville: Lucha</i> <i>Beach Party!</i> <i>Tangential</i> <i>Conjectures</i>	18 <i>USS Defiance</i>	19 <i>The Tomorrowmen</i> <i>Micro Gods, Inc</i> <i>Clockwork SF</i>
20 <i>The Tomorrowmen</i> <i>SF/F Book Club</i>	21	22	23	24	25 <i>From the Land Beyond</i> <i>(thru Sun)</i> <i>Legion of Rassilon</i>	26 <i>Seelie and Unseelie</i> <i>Fairy Court Gathering</i> <i>USS Augusta Ada</i> <i>Veritech Fighter Cmd 13</i>
27 <i>Handcar Regatta</i> <i>Religion & SF</i>	28	29	30 <i>Other Realms</i>	1	2	3