# VEGAS FANDOM VV/TETETK/TLSY

## Las Vegas Fandom's Sorta Weekly Newszine

## David Brin Schedules 4/5 Las Vegas Appearance!

Much-honored science fiction author David Brin will make a special appearance in Las Vegas on April 5. The Vegas Science



David Brin is coming to Las Vegas on April 5.

Vegas on April 5. As a speaker, the multiple Hugo and Nebula winner shares unique insights -- serious and humorous -- about ways that changing technology may affect our future lives. Admis-

sion to this event is free and open to the public.

## Las Vegas Fantasy & Science Fiction Day Announces Some of Its Speakers

Steve Brust heads the list of well-known

pro and fan speakers chairman Woody Bernardi has already lined up for the First Annual Las Vegas Fantasy & Science Fiction Day.

Professional SF and Fantasy authors who have committed to the one-day



Steven Brust will keynote LV Fantasy & SF Day.

event (besides Brust) include: Brad Lineaweaver, <u>J. Kent Hastings</u>, J. Neil Schulman, Elizabeth Bear and James Hudnall. The fan

**Vegas Fandom Weekly #18, March 23, 2005**, is written and produced by Arnie Katz (PMB 152, 330 S. Decatur Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89107; Email: crossfire4@cox.net; phone: 702-648-5677).

Special Thanks to Alan White (all photos), Aileen and Joyce Katz (proofreading).

one hour.

Reporters this issue: Bruce Gillespie, Woody Bernardi, Michael Bernstein and Joyce Katz

VFW is free for the asking — and you may get it anyway. It can be downloaded at the SNAFFU and VSFA websites as well as at efanzines.com

Member: fwa. Supporter: AFAL.

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line-up includes <u>Joyce Katz, Ross</u> <u>Chamberlain, David Gordon</u> and me.

Las Vegas Fantasy & Science Fiction Day is jointly sponsored by the city's three major fan clubs, VSFA, SNAFFU and Las Vegrants. The one-day convention will be held at the Clark County Library at 11 E. Flamingo Rd. It is located at the corner of Escondido (1 block East of Maryland Pkwy).

The convention is scheduled for Saturday, April 30. Meeting of both SNAFFU and Las Vegrants will be held in conjunctions with Science Fiction and Fantasy Day, the largest fanrun general convention in Las Vegas since the legendary Silvercons.

#### **SNAPS Gathers Momentum!**

Las Vegas' new monthly amateur press association is gathering some momentum as it moves toward its first distribution at the April 8 Westside SNAFFU meeting.

So far, JoHn Hardin, Teresa Cochran, Lori Forbes, Joyce Katz, Woody Bernardi and I have all declared the intention of appearing in the first distribution. That's excellent participation for a brand new group, but there's one thing that would make it even better: you could give it a try.

It's as easy as writing a one- or

a a

Woody Bernardi is VFW's Actifan of the Month for March 2005. Woody rates the nod in a crowded field for his wide-spectrum support of local fan activities, the first Sunday Social and his work on the forthcoming Las Vegas Fantasy & Science Fiction Day..

His activity is at such a fever pitch that I almost changed the fanzine's slogan to "Las Vegas Fandom's Sorta Woody Newszine." It was only at the last moment that Cooler Heads Prevailed.

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#### <u>A Letter from Australia — Bruce Gillespie</u>

Bruce Gillespie, feted by Vegas Fandom at the Gillespie Gala & Hardin Birthday Bash, sent this letter from the calm and safety of his Australia home.

Hello, everybody:

Thanks to all those who contributed to the BBB Fund and welcomed me to America. But that flight back was a horror (14 hours in a plane without an empty seat) and I was very glad to see Elaine at the gate at Tullamarine this morning at 9.30.

Impossible to summarise any impressions at the moment, except that the whole trip was amazing and satisfying to me. Whether you got your value from the delivered Gillespie bundle is up to you to decide. I put faces to many people who were good friends in print, and swore undying affection to many great friends I thought I knew already.

Thanks in particular for Janice Murray and Alan Rosenthal (and Bob and Bonnie) for putting up with me in Seattle, and similar privileges from Art Widner (and Olivia) in Gualala, Charles Brown in San Francisco, and the Newton family, and Lee and Barry Gold, in Los Angeles -- and to Bob Speray, Marci Malinowycz, and Billy Pettit for driving me through parts of the great North American continent. Thanks also, for many other great road expeditions, to Janice Murray, Alan Rosenthal, Marty Cantor, and Lee and Barry Gold, and others I might have forgotten to mention.

Triumphs include being elected President of the Fan Writers of America 2004, being shown the Sea Ranch Chapel at Gualala (surely the world's most beautiful small building) by Art Widner, crossing the Mojave Desert with Billy Pettit to sit in the same room as Joyce and Arnie Katz, winning \$14 on my only slot machine game at Las Vegas, being introduced to the Japanese Garden at the Huntingdon Museum by Marty Cantor, being allowed to touch choice items in the Robert Lichtman fanzine collection, sampling a good number of America's restaurant cuisines, and being supported way past the call of fannish duty by the great Peter Weston.

It was all Marty Cantor's fault -- or was it Joyce and Arnie Katz's suggestion in the first place (at the 2004 Corflu)? Fannish history is already debating this matter. The kindly presence of Joyce and Arnie hovered over all proceedings, but their efforts for the fund were only made complete when finally we met. Bob Lichtman put in a great effort, both as a friend and the person who made sure sure that I survived America financially. I was always conscious of the mighty effort Bill Wright put into the Fund. Thanks to Bruce Townley for buying a con membership -- I never did get to take you to dinner, Bruce

Thanks to Art Widner for buying my other con membership -- and Art wouldn't let me take him to dinner. Thanks to Irwin for the *Incompleat Bruce Gillespie*, of which I could sell only one copy in America. There are plenty of copies left.

Apologies to all who will only get their thank yous in the Trip Report. I took some crappy photos myself, but I do need contributions of good photos of Corflu and Potlatch, and indeed, any good photos anybody took of any part of the expedition. I don't even have any good photos of Janice and Alan.

Much love from

Bruce Gillespie gandc@mira.net



Continued from page 2 two-page letter to a friend. Use your word processor or borrow a desktop publishing program (Microsoft Publisher offers the best

price/value deal) and then either take it to Kinko's or get it to me by the Wednesday before the meeting and I will run off a two-page (one sheet) for \$2.50. You need to submit 15 copies.

## Woody Skeds Open House At the Wood Shed!

Woody Bernardi and his sister have moved into the house they'll be sharing, which VFW has now christened the Wood Shed. The address — and I am hoping for some choice comments about this — is 6400 Cosmo Lane.

Woody has invited all of Las Vegas Fandom to come to an Open House on Wednesday, March 30. Peter and Joyce Grace, a confan couple from Boston by way of SoCal will be there to meet Vegas fans.

The fun starts at 6:30, because it's midweek. Contact Woody with your RSVP.

#### April Sunday Social to Host Las Vegas Fandom Reunion

Calling all Vegas Fandom pioneers! The theme of the April Sunday Social, scheduled for The Tap House on Sunday, April 17 at 2 PM, is the early days of Las Vegas Fandom.

Besides the eating, drinking and nonstop chatting that made the first Sunday Social so enjoyable, the April event will spotlight many of the fans who helped make Vegas Fandom what it is today. (Attendees may not bring weapons or rotten vegetables.) They'll share amusing and poignant stories about those bygone days of 1990 and reveal lots of spicy secrets about anyone who isn't in the room.

VSFA President Woody Bernardi, who

Continued on page 6



<u>Bill Kunkel</u> (left) and <u>Stan the Inferno</u> will have some wild tales to share at the April Sunday Social on the 17th.

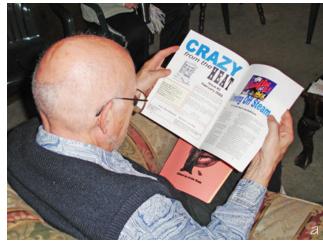
#### Las Vegrants (3/19) Meeting Report — Arnie Katz

The mid-March meeting of Las Vegrants was a Victim of Circumstance — woo–woo, woo-woo, woo-woo — as illness, inclement weather and general laziness kept the gather-

ing a bit smaller than some of the other recent events such as the Gillespie Gala & Hardin Birthday Bash.

The numbers may've been a little small, but the spirit ran high. Besides Joyce and me, attendees were Woody Bernardi, Ross Chamberlain and Alan & DeDee White. The group assembed slightly on the early side and stayed fairly late as verbal hot air kept the Launch Pad's living room toasty despite the wind, rain and cold outside.

Since <u>Woody Bernardi</u> was one of the Few, the Proud and the Brave, the main topics of conversation included the April



Sunday Social and the Las Vegas Fantasy & Science Fiction Day, both of which are mostly his responsibility. The first Sunday Social was a resounding success, both in entertainment value and the size of the turn-out, but Woody was looking for something to do for the second one. After all, they can't salute Joyce every time (though she has some contrary arguments that she feels are very convincing). Woody seemed to like one of my ideas and, if he does elect to carry through on it, I'll have details elsewhere in this issue or next week.

As everyone knows, Woody is also Fandom's most relentless recruiter in Las Vegas. We chatted about one of his recent efforts, which appears to have netted the current president of the National Fantasy Fan Federation, Ruth Davidson.

<u>JoHn Hardin</u>, not present but still a presence, had done some digging at the NFFF web site in preparation for our eventual first meeting with Ruth. He found out many things about the organization, though its official history ignores the club's first half-century.

To supplement several well-wishes to her posted on the VSFA listserv, I sent her a friendly email and am awaiting her response. Perhaps she will adapt as readily to Fandom as has Jan Stinson.

While several fans who'd been expected to attend the meeting didn't make it, one who has been absent a little lately did. <u>DeDee White</u> was a last-minute scratch at the Sunday Social, because she'd had to rush into work for Sunday clients. Work happens even in the best of Fandoms, of course, but it was good to see her at the meeting. DeDee is definitely one of the more charming (and classier) Vegrants.

He husband, and *VFW*'s Pharoah of Photos, <u>Alan White</u> kept his recently acquired digital camera — 7.5 mega-pixels — shooting through the evening and also brought up the intriguing previews for the move *Sin City* now running on TV. He also mentioned that his copies of the Frank Miller comic book are going up on eBay this week to conincide with interest in the intellectual property.

The next Vegrants meetiong won't be till April 2, owing to March's five Saturdays. The weather will be warmer (and dryer) and members will certainly have regrouped from the incredible run of big fan activities in Vegas during the last few weeks. — Arnie

#### Play the Vegas Fandom Trivia Game!

Welcome to the third round of the Las Vegas Fandom Trivia Challenge! All the questions are based on Las Vegas Fandom, so those who know a little about their roots will be able to breeze right through. The rest can check out the correct answer to this issue's question *in two weeks*..

#### The Rules:

- 1. VFW will print one question per issue, with a point value assigned on the basis of difficulty.
- 2. Answers may be submitted in person or by email to <u>Joyce Worley</u> (joyceworley1@cox.net). She will report only correct answers, so please feel free to guess.
- 3. VFW will print the names of all those who get the right answer. In the case of ties, everyone wins the same thing (nothing).
- 4. We'll maintain cumulative standings. At the end of the year, the fan with the greatest number of points will be proclaimed the Vegas Fandom Trivia Champion. The winner will also receive *twice* as much nothing as the weekly winners.

#### Last Week's Trivia Question

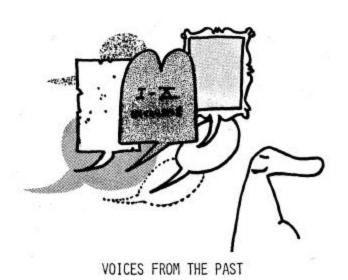
#### What was the name of the first Las Vegas Slan Shack? (One Point)

<u>JoHn Hardin, Ken Forman</u> and <u>Roxanne Gibbs</u> got the correct answer: The Asylym. Four fans went in on a house together, hosted SNAFFU meetings for a while and generally served as a focal point of local activity.

Current standings show a first place tie between <u>JoHn Hardin</u> and <u>Roxanne Gibbs</u> with five points each. <u>Lori Forbes</u> has two points and <u>Ken Forman</u> has three.

#### The Current Trivia Question

#### Who was the Fan Guest of Honor at Silvercon I? (Two Points)



heads the sponsoring group, encourages Vegas fans, both old and new, to come to this free event.

Vegas Fandom Weekly, always first (except when we're second) with the news, will have more details about who'll be there in coming issues.

#### More Stress for Joyce!

Joyce Worley's medical meanderings continue. After seeing a cardiologist, Joyce went for tests. Her EKG wasn't all it could be, so she had a stress test. It, too, disclosed some problems.

That's not a shock, since Joyce has been

treated for a heart condition for several years. Yet it was also cause for concern as Joyce prepares for fusion surgery on her right ankle.

So the doctor, showing commendable caution, has ordered a second, different stress test for March 30. Once we have results from that test, the cardiologist will decide what needs to be done, if anything.

### Chat Back – The VFW Letter Column

Let's lead things off with a letter from one of Vegas Fandom's best friends (and mine, too), the Sage of Glen Ellen...

#### Robert Lichtman/

A fine, fine, super-fine sweet sixteenth issue of *VFW*, Meyer! Ya done outdid yourself and, in the process, whetted my appetite for *The Sweetheart of Fanac* -- will that be posted promptly to efanzines, or what? Your saying that party attendees this coming Sunday will "score a free anthology valued at \$10" makes me wonder.

I enjoyed your memories of encounters with Buz, and found it particularly interesting that it was he who introduced you to Burbee at the 1965 Westercon in Long Beach. I don't recall your being there and I imagine you don't remember my presence, either, because in a way I was barely there. In tow with me was a beautiful young non-fan woman with whom I was quite smitten (who at that time resembled the photo of Grace Slick on the cover of *Surrealistic Pillow*), and most of what I remember about that Westercon was serial making-out.

Good to see the Jay Kinney Get-Well-Joyce card in these pages, but I would complain that the signature pages should have been larger so that all the messages could be read. Perhaps you could remedy this in the next issue?

Arnie: Yes, I imagine the sexual frenzy of that Long Beach Westercon kept a lot of fans from meeting each other. I spent a good deal of my time with Katya Hulan, who looked like a girl



one of those James Bond movies.

One of Seattle's foremost current fans, and the co-editor of Chunga,, had this to say about issue #16.

#### Randy Byers/

Hey, Arnie, I really enjoyed VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS #16. Las Vegas is a foreign land, no doubt, but you make war sound like so much fannish fun! Wish we had someone like you to chronicle the goings on of Seattle fandom. Reminds me of a couple of years ago when Ulrika and Hal O'Brien and Mary Kay and Jordin Kare moved to Seattle, and sud-

denly every fannish gathering seemed to be an Event again, as if new eyes had changed the energy of the chemistry.

What you're doing is the best type of local community building, and it's fun to peek in from afar. It's great to see pictures of people like Teresa Cochran, who has made a splash on Trufen, and Alan White, who splashes his artwork in various zines that cross the doorstep. I might start to feel like I know these folks before I meet them.

I especially appreciated the report in this issue about the party for Bruce Gillespie. I had the chance to hang out with Bruce on his visit to Seattle, and then again at Corflu Titanium in San Francisco.

Actually, I'd first met him in Melbourne when I was there just a couple of months ago with Sharee.

I'm really enjoying getting to know Bruce, and thanks to you and Joyce (and a cast of likeminded heros) for getting him over here. Sounded like a great party you had for him, and I'm glad he had the chance to visit y'all after all. Hope he enjoyed his excursion into the American desert.

Hm, okay, this all sounds like I'm going to be asking for a group hug soon, which isn't Insurgent-like at all. Perils of growing up on the West

Coast -- but wait, so did the Insurgents? What would Laney say?

Must receive correction from Rich Coad soon.

But thanks anyway, and keep up the flow of foreign news. I thought the *Bring Bruce Bayside Bulletin* was one of the best zines last year, so *VFW* must carry on in its place.

Arnie: VFW doesn't have the International Scope of 4B, but then again, I'm not asking fans for money in every other paragraph. Actually, I'd kind of like to offer news of other local fandoms to encourage the trade of activity ideas among them. Volunteers among the non-Vegasites?

He's not only one of Fandom's greaest, but the Florida native is also one of fandom's nicest fans, too.

#### Shelby Vick/

You asked for it, Arnie -

"Even a line or two," you said.

GREAT (and well-deserved!) tribute to Joyce! One thing not emphasized enuf, tho -her kitchen abilities! I know from personal experience how enticing (and enjoyable!) that was!

And now, on a monthly basis, I mail you (well, the apa OED) 15 sheets of my contribution, eh? Mail 'em to you, you can deliver them in person.

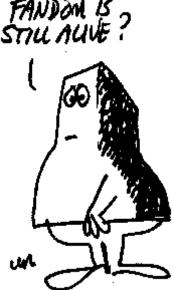
Sorry, I have no contributions to your trivia game. Draw me blank.

But DON'T drop me from the VFW mailing

list! Not quite as good as being there, but certainly a good second-best!

Arnie: We hadn't really thought about out-of-town participation in SNAPS, but it sounds appealing now that you mention it. So be it known that I'll act as agent for any who want to play (as Don Fitch once did for various Fanoclasts when we were all working together to start Apa K.)

The co-editor of the highly entertaining (and highly recommended) fanzine Banana Wings – you'll find it at efan-



zines.com – write from Merrie Olde England...

#### Mark Plummer/ mark@fishlifter.demon.co.uk

I got to the station last night after work and looked up at the indicator boards to check the time of the next train to East Croydon. It seemed it was the seventeen minutes past five, the 17:17. And it was leaving from platform 17. And wasn't it... yes, I checked my watch: the date was the 17th.

OK, this has got to be pretty cosmically significant, I thought. When I got on the train I extracted *The Sweetheart of Fanac Falls* from my bag, freshly printed at work and not yet even stapled. I flicked through to page 17 wherein I was sure I would find Great Wisdom, a personal mantra and life philosophy which would instantly speak to me.

Did I find it?

No.

Don't get me wrong, it's a perfectly good page 17. If nothing else, it serves to prevent an unseemly gap between pages 16 and 18 which is a perfectly good thing in itself, but it made me want to go back (and forward) to earlier (and later) pages. You couldn't really ask for a nicer page 17. But I couldn't see any life-changing guidance, a message planted especially for me and triggered by the coincidence of the seventeens.

Then I noticed the cartoon and its caption, 'skating on thin ice'.

Yes, this was it, my mantra, my guiding light.

Now all I have to do is work out whether it's something I should or shouldn't be doing.

A real shame not to see you guys at Corflu. In fact, sometimes I begin to wonder whether you're even real. I mean, think about it. We came over for the Annapolis and Madison Corflus in 2002 and 2003; we were there but you couldn't make it. The following year we all had memberships for the Vegas Corflu; we couldn't make it, but now you're everywhere, extensive photographic records and documentation to back it up an' everything. So we all have memberships for the San Francisco Corflu; we're there... and you aren't. So what is this? Do you really exist? Is it perhaps that we can't all be in the same room at the same time? Does that mean that we are



you and you are us? Is Rich Coad really Ted White? Have I just been re-reading *A Scanner Darkly*? The bats, the bats...

Arnie: Oh, I think we'll conquer the geography eventually. Now that you and Claire have visited the US without mishap, maybe you can include Vegas in your next overseas itinerary.

Out of the Frozen North comes of one VFW's most regular and valued letter writers with comments on #16 and #17.

#### Lloyd Penny/penneys@allstream.nett

It's catch up time again! I've got two issues of *Vegas Fandom Weekly*, 16 and 17, and just enough time to whip up a loc for both.

16...Sounds like an evening with Bruce Gillespie was a fine time indeed. And if you can get Earl Kemp to come up from metropolitan Kingman, you musta had one helluva party. I probably said in a previous loc about how the fans in Melbourne, Australia, handle their club library... they use the basement of a local church to store said library, and there's lots of room for club meetings and social events. It is difficult for any club to find any space they can call their own without draining the treasury, or leaving the car outside.

I have a .pdf of *Crazy From The Heat 3* on my desktop, and will be getting to it ASAP, or as soon as I can find a little time in the madness of juggling two jobs, and getting ready for our own local convention in Toronto, Ad Astra. This year is the 24th Ad Astra, and I'm also running our own dealers' table. Fandom Can Be A Source of Income, and I'm sure hoping so the weekend of April 8-10.

Ah, thank you for some rare egoboo these days. I have my FAAn Award, as given to me at our last First Thursday pubnight, the Thursday after Corflu.

Great pictures of the Gillespie/Hardin party. Geez, Alan, where did you get that UGLY SHIRT??? (Saith me with a closet full of 'em.) Yvonne's making me one that will have fluorescent orange, green and pink flamingos on it. (Hope you're not reading this around dinner time.)

17...Hi, Joyce! Congrats on having friends willing to honour you to your face. Better praise to your face than otherwise behind your back, hm?

Long ago, when I was in several apas, I would use MS Word to produce my zine. Today, I can still do that, but I also have *QuarkXPress v5.0* to get DTP done. I produce zines, flyers, badges, etc. using it, and it is a lot of fun. Still haven't figured out how to make .pdfs, though.

Ah, the library will be on Cernan Drive? Good...you can access any time you like. Gotta look after it, though...always a hitch in the plan.

Tonight is the Third Monday of the month, and it is the evening of Toronto fandom's second pubnight of the month, held at Orwell's Pub (established 1984) in the west end of town. So, that means it's close to where we live. I plan to leave at 5pm, so I'd best get ready, and fire this off into the ether. I'll be looking at eFanzines. com for future issues. See you then!

Arnie: Funny you should mention the Melbourne library, because there is now a tenuous connection between it and the Vegas Fandom Library. A while back, Joyce received an unsolicited package of pulps from the Melbourne fans, who said something about no Australian fan wanting them. The prozines are now part of our donation to the SNAFFU Library.

You need a copy of Acrobat, not just the Acrobat Reader, to create .pdf files. The program isn't too expensive – and boy is it a memory

saver! A .pdf is sometimes as little as 10% as large as a .pub file. (When I worked for Sendai Pubishing, Steve Harris provided us with a tweaked and jeeked edition of Quark that had many delightful extra. Alas, it worked on the Mac and I am now pretty much exclusively using PC.

Selected as the Best New Fan of 2003, he now steps up to the challenge of writing a letter of comment to VFW.

#### Jack Calvert/

There's been some discussion here and there, from you and others, in fanzines and in the e-lists, about how to get more response to efanzines, now I see that you have hit upon the formula that works: the prospect of getting you to smile uncontrollably is enough to get me to apply electrons to phosphor. (Umh, the possibility of inducing an Arnie Katz Hard Look by not doing so also has a certain effect.)

Anyhow, I appreciate being on the list for VFW, and I enjoy them very much. From out here in the far fringe, you guys appear to be having a fine faannish time down there in LV. It all makes me wish I had settled within commuting distance of Vegas.

Ken Forman handed me a fanzine at Corflu 22, I glanced at the cover and muttered "Ah, Chunga." [Strangely enough, no one said "Gesundheit."] I realized my error after about a millisecond when I saw the line at the bottom revealing its real identity, but I'm glad to hear that some of the editors themselves were fooled.

Arnie: The local scene has picked up noticeably in recent month, so VFW has had no shortage of things to cover. Eric Lindsay commutes to Vegrants meetings from Australia, so living as close as the BArea shouldn't present an impassable barrier to your attendance. And if commuting is too awkward, you might consider a visit. Our spare room is waiting.

**We also Heard from**: Teresa Cochran, Linda Bushyager and Alan White.

#### **Good Night, Meyer...**

It's Wednesday afternoon, about time to draw a line, write "30" — journalist-ese for "the end" — and start thinking about *VFW* #19.

I kept it to 10 pages, even if I had to put

the letter column in slightly smaller type, but there'll be plenty of room for your news and your letter of comment (not to mention your photos and artwork) in the next issue.

<u>Bill Burns</u>, of efanzines.com, is currently in Europe and will not be posting for another week or so. You can get VFW on the CSFA and SNAFFU websites.

Meanwhile, have a great week and keep in touch! — Arnie

#### **Event Calendar**

**SNAFFU** March 25 8:00 PM
This formal SF club meets the second and fourth Friday's of each month. This time, it will be held at Borders bookstore on Sunset.

Woody's Open House March 30 6:30 Woody Bernardi welcomes all fans to see his new home and meet Peter and Joyce Grace, a confan couple.

**Las Vegrants** April 2 7:30 PM The informal, invitational club meets at the home of Arnie and Joyce Katz.

**VSFA** April 4 7:30 PM
This formal club meets at the Clark County Li-

brary on the first Monday of each month.

Las Vegas Futurists April 8 7:00 PM
This discussion group looks to the world of tomorrow on the second Friday of each month at
Borders bookstore (2190 N. Rainbow Blvd.)
This meeting's featured speaker is John Smart.

**Daugherty Open House** April 16 Noon All of Vegas Fandom is invited to the home of Kathryn & James Daughterty.

**Sunday Social** April 17 2 PM VSFA is sponsoring this event, open to all Las Vegas fans, at The Tap House. The theme this time is the pioneers of Las Vegas Fandom

Las Vegas F & SFantasy Day
April 30 10 AM-5:30 PM
A free, one-day convention for all Vegas fans.
Woody Bernardi is chairman.