

Science Fiction/San Francisco

Issue 43

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email: SFinSF@gmail.com

Editors: Jean Martin, Chris Garcia

Copy Editor: David Moyce

Layout Editor: Eva Kent

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News and Notes

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

First off, our good buddy Cyran has been having some health issues lately. You gotta get better, Big Guy. We need you at BayCon or it just wouldn't feel right.

eFanzines.com continues to be a diverse place for all kinds of materials and not just fanzines by John Purcell, Chris Garcia and Arnie Katz. The recent additions include an Ang for GUFF (the Get-Up-and-over Fan Fund/Going Under Fan Fund) publication. It's supporting Ang Rosin, who is standing this year against a very strong field. The Ang anthology, titled *I Knew The Porridge Was Trying To Tell Me Something*, is edited by Mark Plummer and Claire Brialey with help from Max, I believe. It's good stuff. Steve Davies of the *PLOKTA* Cabal, Anna Davour aka Åka (former eAPA member and a great Fan Writer/FanEd), and Johan Anglemark are all also on the ballot. GUFF sends folks from the UK to Australia and vice-versa. Is it just me, or are we getting more and more Swedes, Norwegians and Finns running for Fan Funds? There are actually three different people I'd want to vote for in this grouping!

Contemplation, the 2007 Eastercon, the convention that was born out of the ashes of Convoy which was cancelled (causing the cancellation of the TAFF Race, much to my chagrin) happened over Easter weekend. I've been told it was a good time. There's a filk anthology out called *Clues and Gropes* by Douglas Spencer and Judith Proctor. It's an obscene collection of filk tunes. They're pretty darn good.

The reason for the long pause between eFanzine.com updates was the fact that Bill Burns was at Eastercon, and in even better news, it was announced the Bill and Mary Burns will be Fan Guests of Honor at Eastercon LX. In an odd note, the 60th WorldCon and the 60th Westercon were/will be hosted by San Jose. The 60th Eastercon should have been here too!

After Bill's return, he posted a couple of zines including the long-awaited third issue of *Procrastinations* from John Coxon. John's the young English fan who simply rocks. There's a long piece from James Bacon, a piece from me about Evelyn and a Stuffed Cthulhu, a nigh-on HUGE LoColumn, a piece from Jan Stinson, and some talk from John himself. Now we just have to wait for Issue Two to hit the press. He's a good guy

and I'm glad he's been putting out such a great zine.

Speaking of Eastercon, if you haven't visited Cartledge's (aka Graham Charnock) site on YouTube, you're missing out on some great fun. His current posting, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHz_xSx415U, is a fun look at a bunch of folks who went to the Lyceum pub before the con. It's a funny bit where he calls Bill Burns an American and gently mocks the rest of the people at the pub in the most British way possible.

The Drink Tank...I'm sorry, the Hugo-nominated fanzine *The Drink Tank* has an issue on Handicapping The Hugos out which has caused a few minor splashes. The biggest being the initial misspelling of John Scalzi's name as Joe Scalzi. Well, I'm not even close to perfect, so these things happen. Sorry Jack! Issue 123 makes some corrections to that and mentions the Best Dramatic Presentation change.

Dick Geis has kept himself busy with an issue of *Taboo Opinions*. Issue 96 features some short movie reviews and some general talk about the various political matters surrounding the current trouble with Iran. Issue 97 is a pretty controversial take on an Oregonian article and some chatter about

Hooters and movies. It's good stuff, as always, even if I'm having trouble with his basic premise.

Arthur Hlavaty's *Nice Distinctions* #16 is up on eFanzines.com as well. It's a fun issue and full of the stuff that make Arthur one of the all-time greats. I've enjoyed his stuff since I came back into fandom.

I was at the Sonoma Valley Film Festival this last weekend. It's one of those great fests that you should try and make at least once in your lifetime. Free wine and cheese before each screening? What's better than that?

Thanks to Mike Glycer for the mention on Trufen.net. Good stuff from the highly decorated editor of *File 770*. Note: Mike was the last American to win Best Fan Writer. In fact he was the last guy not named Dave Langford to win the award.

Speaking of the Hugo Award for Best Fan Writing-dominating Mr. Langford, his book, *The End of Harry Potter*, is out and you should buy it before the final book comes out in July. There's already a lot of talk about parties being planned for the release. I'll be putting together a viewing party for folks who want to see *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* on opening day, and there's already a Hogwart's Ball planned for the night before in Campbell.

Does anyone else miss *Emerald City* as much as I do?

Lots of photos from the 1970s and 80s have found their way onto the web. Recently Janice Gelb pointed us in the direction of Jim Freund's collection of photos from the 1970s at <http://picasaweb.google.com/jim.freund/Fannish70s>. There's a great photo of Moshe Feder wearing a Montreal in/en 77 button exactly like the one that's currently on my cube wall at work! Mike Glycer posted a link to the Washington Science Fiction Association's photo archive. Lot's of good stuff at <http://www.wsfa.org/pichist/index.htm>.

BayCon is right around the corner and most if not all of your *SF/SF* favorites will be there. I'll be running the Fanzine Lounge which will also be hosting the Silent Auction for benefit of TAFF. Items will include a Frank Wu picture, a Jayne hat hand-made by Leigh Ann Hildebrand, and signed books and DVDs. It's an interesting bunch of stuff. Plus it'll be the place you can come and check out the Hugo nominated fanzines (we'll have issues of all five) or chat with some of the folks who make this zine possible or come and participate in Fanzine in an Hour or the Con-long issue of *The Drink Tank*. There'll be a lot going on and you should stop by!

Westercon's on the way too, and it

seems to have hammered out many of the staffing problems it was having. I'm proud to say that we'll be running another Fanzine lounge there too. No new info on the Little Men's meeting that we've set up. I'll keep folks posted.

Look for coverage of the Sonoma Valley Film Festival, with the debut of photographer Genevieve Collonge, later in the issue.

The Error of My Ways

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

I've gotta apologize. I messed up. I even knew I messed up and just didn't get to it fast enough. I'm sorry. The Hugo Nomination list that I submitted in our last issue was incorrect. When I wrote it, it was right. When it got published, it was wrong. Let me explain.

On Sunday, April 1st, the Hugo Administrator issued a note saying that there had been a counting issue and one of the nominees, *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest*, was no longer on the list. In its place was *Pan's Labyrinth*, the Guillermo del Toro film that got a ton of Oscar nominations and won a few. This is generally seen as a positive move as a lot of people loved that film. It also caused me to rethink my position in the Handicapping the Hugos issue of *The Drink Tank* where I declared *V for Vendetta* the likely winner. I still think *V* will take it, but it will be much closer, with *Pan* coming in a close second. Now, I'm guessing that *Pan* is now the fifth-highest nomination getter, probably passing *Pirates* by a vote or two. That does seem to play against it a bit. It does have a rabid

base of fans, though.

While it is unusual to hear of a nominee being removed from the list, it's a testament to the fact that they do go over these things and double-check the numbers. It's happened with the FAAn Awards (*Banana Wings* was named the winner in 2006, but that was later overturned giving the win to *Chunga*). It's better to admit the mistake and take whatever slings and arrows might be hurled than to keep it under wraps.

I apologize for not recognizing the email that Jean sent my way a day or two before we went to press. I thought I'd remember to get to it, but things happen. I'm sorry.

Also, it is fair to note, I am still on the list for Best Fan Writer. I was fully expecting that I'd be the next one removed from the list!

Obituary

Kurt Vonnegut: 1922-2007

I first read Kurt Vonnegut in the late 1980s. I had two choices: Vonnegut or Sylvia Plath. I chose Vonnegut. He was a master of cynicism, sarcasm and satire, working with the brilliant safety net of well-rounded comedy. He was an important figure in science fiction and one of the biggest names in literature. His books, like *Cat's Cradle*, *Sirens of Titan*, *Slaughterhouse-5*, *Breakfast of Champions* and *Palm Sunday*, all sold in great numbers, making him one of the biggest selling science fiction authors and a generally-beloved part of the literary community. He passed away at the age of 84 last Wednesday. He had suffered injuries in a fall a few weeks ago.

To me, Kurt Vonnegut will always be that voice in my head that says you should speak up by making people laugh at exactly how brutal the world around them is.

-Chris Garcia

Letters Of Comment

Let's start off with our good buddy Mr. Lloyd Penney!

Dear SF/SF Gang:

It's a Good Friday evening, and I've had a rare lazy day. The fanzines and e-fanzines pile up, and they need some attention. Issues 41 and 42 of SF/SF are here, two issues behind again...

Chris Garcia replies: We're your once a month habit, aren't we Lloyd?

41...my previous loc. Seeing how some of the KC supporters were so negative about Montréal, I might be inclined to support Montréal. However...we're supposed to be not supporting anyone. Old habits die hard. And now, we will be meeting with John Purcell after all. He and his wife Valerie will be making the trip from College Station to Dallas to meet up with us and enjoy some dinner. We're trying to get more good folks at the table, so we're hoping that Brad and Cindy Foster will be able to see us, too. We also talked to David and Diana Thayer, but they will be guesting at a con in Kansas City that weekend. John intends an article and some photos out of this gathering.

Give John-boy and Valerie my best. I've

wanted to meet David Harvia, I mean Teddy Thayer, I mean that guy who does all those drawings. Sadly, I've never met Brad Foster either. No matter who shows, tell 'em I say hello. Oh yeah...Montreal en/in 2009!

Got my good glasses, and my vision is the best it's been in months.

The more we hear about global warming, the more serious it seems to be. So many are worried that it might already be too late.

It's only too late when we stop trying, and despite everything we are trying...not hard enough, but we're working on it.

Hmmm, a Detroit in 2014 Worldcon bid? Tell me more, tell me more...see? Old habits and all...

I wanna hear more too. I was at a con and heard rumormongering about it, but have yet to discover the true nature of this bid.

I agree with John Purcell, *Challenger* is an excellent fanzine. I would like it and Guy to win that Hugo...he's worked hard for that silver rocket, and he should get it, saith I. Some people have invasion fleets of rockets, and I'd like to see those rockets spread around a little, like one in San Jose, perhaps? I got my copy of *Askance*, and not

only did I get a loc in it, but my first fanzine column, and some old fanart I drew way back in 1990 and 1991.

Challenger's a great zine and it would be nice to see it win one (and I'm betting it will before Guy turns out the lights on it). San Jose could use one, or even two! Now that I know you're a fan artist, you're required to draw something for The Drink Tank or SF/SF (or maybe Chris for TAFF...).

Chris, you've got to get Jean to the Vegas CorFlu! I want Yvonne to get to the 2008 ISDC in Washington, and she wants me to come with her. She also said something about me getting to CorFlu...I'd better get some cash laid in, shouldn't I? I had a job interview with a major advertising firm in downtown Toronto a few days ago, so I hope good things will happen there. If I want to travel the way I want to, I'd better get with it and get a decent job.

Jean, Lloyd has suggested, nay DEMANDED, that you attend CorFlu Silver (which I'm torn between referring to as CorVer or SilFlu) next year. Sadly, I might not be there. If it's the last week in April, I'll be at CostumeCon helping The League of Evil Geniuses run the greatest CostumeCon ever

as their Toastmaster-guy. Good luck with the interview. You gotta work so you can support the rest of us in old age!

Hi, Jean! Forty years old? Like you say, just a number. I turn 48 in a couple of months, and no one's gonna make me act my age, so there, nyeahhh! Big hugs. For much of my experiences in fandom, with only a few exceptions, there are no strangers, just friends you haven't met yet. I love to hear stories about how with a quick change in your life, it just gets better and better. (By the way, you don't have a rapidly aging portrait of yourself hanging anywhere, do you? Just curious...)

I'm still a ways away from forty, but the way I flipped out when I was thirty, I'm not looking forward to it!

Wondercon looks like it was lots of fun, especially if you are a costumer. Yvonne and I were costumers more than 20 to 25 years ago, but we've moved on to other things. Large cons can be fun, especially if you have specific interests covered, like the Worldcon, but big cons like the enormous SFX show held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre each August are too nebulous, and without any real direction. We will not be at SFX, nor at Polaris this year. Too big, and too far outside our own interests, which quite frankly seems to be dwindling in the SF field. Sounds like we

have to immerse ourselves in SF again, but for us, that means reading. I keep looking for some good free SF e-books, and we downloaded a bunch of them tonight.

Jean, you said that most of the stars at Wondercon looked like they weren't happy being there, and my own experiences say the same thing. I've met folks like Michael Dorn, Nicole de Boer, Kenny Baker, and other actors who are known for the SF shows/movies they are in, and I've never met any of them who were truly happy to be with their fans; they were away from family, and away from acting gigs. Richard Hatch is a motivational speaker, so perhaps he has his own motivational techniques to stay focused and happy at conventions.

There are some who are always happy to get out and see folks. Roddy Piper at both the wrestling show I saw him at and at the Wondercon he was at, was beaming and excited. Chase Masterson is good at cons. The best is anytime KISS is around. They tend to stay in their booth until they get the urge to wander around and hang with the geeks. It's really quite strange to see Ace walking the convention floor buying comics.

I haven't seen the movie *300*, but I've heard plenty of it. It was shot almost totally bluescreened at a small studio and computer facility in rural Québec, and it cost almost nothing to produce. Whatever

wasn't bluescreened was computer-generated. *300* was top of the box office for a couple of weeks, so it made a few people lots of money.

I haven't seen it either, but one of the interns at the museum has the mini-poster up on the wall of the accessioning room. Rouged nipples are weird...

What kind of press does Wondercon get? It does sound like people in SoCal look at such events as participatory pop culture; up here, the press has become fairly hostile to just about anything that might reflect anything out of the ordinary.

It draws geek-types from all over and gets a lot of coverage from the Geek Media (FanboyPlanet.com, Moronlife.com, Comics Review, The Onion, etc) and little from the mainstream. That's typical of every con around NorCal.

I've never been to a Gallifrey One, but a number of the local Whofen here, and there are a fair number, have been there. In fact, one of the founders is former Canadian fan Robbie Bourget, and Ottawa fan Larry Stewart, who was a guest 1991 to 1994, is listed as being in the Wizard of Speed and Time Division of the College of Cardinals. (Freshly Googled, if you were wondering why I seemed so knowledgeable...)

I've never been either, though I had planned on going both this year and two years

ago. Since I've started attending the Legion of Rassilon, I'm far more interested in going.

Hey, good friend Wayne Brown was in your midst! We go to Rochester for Astronomicon most years, and have a good time there. We even ran A's con suite a few years ago.

Nice guy. I'm going to have to remember the Rochester Fantasy Fans when I'm doing mailings for my next TAFF race.

42...Hey, Jean...how did that Garcia guy pull off two Hugo noms, hm? Must have lots of voting friends in the BArea, hm? Hey, it's well deserved, and he'll get two little rocket lapel pins to wear. I am surprised there are no Japanese fan or pro names listed here, but then, perhaps the Japanese fans have their own awards to vote on. Hey, Chris...if Montréal wins the 2009 Worldcon, get me on their Hugo ballot, okay? Don't tell anyone until then...

I've chalked it up to two things. First, since LACon IV made up a majority of those voting in the nomination process, and since I'm best known among those folks, I stood a strong chance, unlike last year when there were all those British nominators. Next year will be interesting as it will either be all Denver attendees with a drop of Japanese nomination, or the Japanese will realize that they can swing things and vote, vote, vote. I'm hoping for the latter. And yes, if Montreal

wins we'll get you on the ballot. I don't think you'll need much help, actually.

Chris Garcia actually has a weekly fanwriting schedule? Impossible! He must ramble on into a tape recorder, and have it transcribed. If only I had a job where no real work was required... I'd hack away, and write a few articles here and there, too.

Diane: ten fifty-eight a.m. Am writing the responses to LoCs for issue forty-three of SF/SF. Am wondering how many of my readers remember Twin Peaks.

The Groovy Ghoulies. Mighod, I remember those. What horrible little cartoons. See, Jean, now that you're 40, you can remember these things, and feel old. But in fandom, you can remember them and not feel bad at all.

I never saw those as a kid, but I recently came across them as I do love the band. The Phenomenauts are awesome too, but I've never gotten to see them live. I think España did a helluva job with her article.

Enjoy Yuri's Night, folks! There was supposed to be one here, but the organizer crapped out a while ago, and the rest of us were simply too busy to get one going. It would be great to have someone like Anousheh Ansari there.

I wish I could go, but Sonoma Valley Film Festival takes precedence.

It is getting late, and Saturday will

be a busy day for us, so I'm going to tie this up with a pretty bow, and go fall down horizontal for a few hours. Enjoy your Easter, everyone, and I'm two issues of *Drink Tank* behind as well, so I'll probably tackle that this weekend, too. Chris is hereby warned. Take care, see you next issue.

And I can't wait to read them!

Yours, Lloyd Penney.

And now, Local Fan Writing and FAPAN Mike McInerney!

First thing I want to do is say congratulations to Chris Garcia for his Hugo nominations! Wow! Of course he works so frantically (and well) at fanning that I have trouble keeping up from a reading point of view. Like Steven King (one of my favorite writers) he writes faster than I can read. Very deserved nominations and good luck to you.

And I thank you much, Mike! I'll try and keep it up.

In a recent issue Chris mentioned *Focal Point* which is available at efanazines thanks to Robert Lichtman who graciously scanned the issues. And thanks also to Bill Burns too who should get nominated for a Hugo, too.

He's been up there once and should be again! I'm hoping that more WorldCons will have the Best Website Hugo so that Bill can get

his much-deserved award. Heck, I wouldn't even have a fanzine if it weren't for Bill and eFanzines.com.

Chris said he thought I was a Bay Area fan. It depends on how you look at it. Yes I moved to San Francisco in 1969 and yes indeed I am a big fan of the San Francisco Bay Area. I have lived for the last 31 years in Daly City about 50 feet from the San Francisco City limits. But yet I still in my head feel more like a New York Fan transplanted (by choice) to the West Coast.

I believe in the one drop theory of BArealism. If you live here for one day, you're a BAreal. You know, I've only been to Daly City for things at the Cow Palace and once to clear out stuff from the old Schlage Lock Company for the museum.

I wish I were active in BA fan doings, but I'm out of synch with most conventions, fanclubs, or personal meetings with others. I worked for 25 years in retail (Montgomery Wards) and never had a weekend off. Now I work at SFO in an office next to United Baggage Claim #4 (Small Package dispatch) and still work every weekend, every holiday, including Friday nights. When I lived in NYC I attended at least 6 fan club meetings a month. Fanoclasts, FISTFA (which I founded), Lunarians, and ESFA. Out here the only club I attended was the

3rd Saturday meetings at Jim Kennedy's in SF which ended some years back. Back in NYC I published a lot more zines, and attended a lot more conventions. Here in Ca. I do publish an occasional FAPazine and more occasional genzine but don't feel like I'm regionally oriented in the same way that I used to be when I was one of the NYC IN 67 backers.

It's hard without weekends. I briefly worked weekends and I found that my entire fanning life was turned upside-down. My dream has always been to work as a Night Watchman, which would give me a chance to write a lot more fanzines...in theory.

I really enjoy the event listings in SF/SF. Makes me sad that I don't get to any of them and glad that there is such a diversity in the area where I live. Today for example Dick Lupoff was at Borderland Books on Valencia St. in SF doing a reading staged like a radio show of one of his stories. I really wanted to go, but here I am at work instead. Oh Well.

I missed Dick's reading too. I was quite unhappy about it. It's rough since I really can't get up to The City during the week and even weekends are rough.

So I don't know what is a "BArea Fan?" Maybe that would be a good topic to try to discuss in your pages. The diversity is wonderful. Back in the 1960's I was a fan,

comic fan, pulp fan, horror, fantasy, films, old radio, rock n roll, folk music, psychedelic, et cetera...

That's a very good question and something that a theme issue of some zine should look at. I know my thought in brief: a fan that's a little bit of everything.

Sorry this loc is so disorganized but I'm a bit rusty, haven't written many locs recently.

Mike McInerney

Thanks for writin' in. Always good to hear from folks we don't normally get to hear from! FAPA Forever!

And Now...John Purcell!

Well, here we go again. You guys are still cranking out the zines—2 a month, which is a nice steady pace—and maintaining a quality zine at the same time. Way to go, team!

We try our best. We've got a great team put together, and strong ropes to tie them to their computers to get us those articles!

On the zine front, I want to thank Chris for the kind words on my new zine, *Askance*. The second issue is now beginning to take shape, but slowly since the end of the semester is nigh and I have work to do on my dissertation. A loc here and there,

though, might slip out, which won't bother me too much. They don't take very long to produce.

Hey, we're happy to get what we get. Askance is well worth waiting for!

A hearty congratulations to Christopher J. Garcia, Esq., on his Hugo nominations! What a nice surprise! You are in good company, sir. In your 122nd issue of *Drink Tank* you handicapped the Hugo Awards, and I have to admit, these are all tough categories. I dare not venture a guess as to who will win this year. There are favorites of mine that I would like to see win—like John Hertz for Fan Writer, *Challenger* for Fanzine (sorry, Chris, on both counts, but this is how I'm seeing them at the moment), and Steve Stiles for Fan Artist—and that's all I know for certain. All of the remaining categories are complete blanks to me, since I haven't read ANY of the fiction or non-fiction nominees, and have only seen a handful of episodes of both *Battlestar Galactica* and *Dr. Who*. For the Dramatic Presentation, Long Form, I'm going with *Pan's Labyrinth* (which replaced *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* via a recent recount). That was one eye-popping movie. Loved it!

I'd love to see Guy win it for Challenger. This year will be weird, and PLOKTA's a good zine, but to me Banana Wings has got to be

my favorite thing coming out of the UK (well, except for the band Maximo Park). I'm still saying that John Scalzi and Dave Langford are the only two who could possibly win the Best Fan Writer.

If I was a voting member of the WorldCon this year (but I'm not, since I haven't even bought a supporting membership), I would only be voting in the fan categories since those are the only ones that I can honestly say that I know all of the nominees. Of the rest, no vote from me. I refuse to vote in a category when I haven't read or viewed the material. It is that simple.

You know, you should buy a supporting membership. I did, more so I could vote for Montreal in 2009, but I think you should so you can vote (and throw a buddy a bone!)

Sad, isn't it? And me, an admitted science fiction fan. The problem is, I have been far too busy with my doctoral work, and really don't have the time to read much fiction for pleasure. Fanzines are what I enjoy reading and producing in my spare time—which isn't much, believe me. Maybe by the end of 2008 I will be able to really begin to catch up on my leisure reading. Until then, no time left to lose. On my way to better things. I'm gonna buy myself some wings...

If I hadn't decided to do "Handicapping

the Hugos," I never would have read 2/3 of the things that I ended up reading.

Whoops! Slipped into an old Guess Who song there. Sorry about that.

I love the Guess Who.

Hey, Jean, what kind of moisturizer do you use? Maybe I could use some of that wonder cream to eliminate some of the years and mileage out of my aged face.

I'll ask her next time I run into her and let you know, John!

Okay, back to other things in this ish. The new version of *Doctor Who* isn't bad at all. Of the half dozen or so episodes that I've seen, they have impressed me with their production values and story-lines. It is a possibility that I could get more interested in the series, but only if I have time free on that night. With a family to take care of, there's not much free time to spend on luxuries like watching Sci-Fi Channel and baseball games on the tube. Nonetheless, it is good to see a sftnal staple like *Doctor Who* returning to television. We shall see where it shall go from here.

I love the new series, since I love David Tennant and Billie Piper too is just so dreamy. It's a good series and I can't wait for Season Three to show at the Legion of Rasillon.

Chris's little history of Bay Area Fan Hugo nominees was nice, but too brief. Thanks to the fanzine tables at Corflu, I

now have an issue of *Habakkuk*, plus the most recent issue of *Trap Door*, too. Many moons ago I used to get zines, locs, and artwork from Bay Area fans like crazy. There is a lot of fannish history in the Bay Area, and it certainly looks like that tradition has a long future ahead of it with you guys there. Keep up the good work, gang; all of us out here definitely appreciate your efforts. Only time will tell if another Hugo Award will wing its way into the Bay, so to speak.

Well, it's likely that Frank'll bring in at least one more before he's done (I've got him as my number one for this year), and it's not impossible to think that someone around the Bay will win one in a while. Some fanzine from the BArea will hit it someday. I'd love it if someone we brought up ended up winning one or even being nominated.

Ah-hah! So *that's* how that Garcia does it! He literally ignores the full-time job he works at part-time while he blasts away full-time on his hobby interests. What a deal he's got going. Sure wish I could have a gig like that. But I do have a request: when Evelyn finishes that article, I would like to pub it in my ish. I mean, really; any time a kid can start a fan article with a line like "I like fanzines because Chris is a poopbutt" she deserves top billing in *Askance*. This is *exactly* the kind of mentality that I want to promote in my zine. The kid has potential.

I'll tell her. She loved the cover of Askance, so I'm sure she'll be happy to let you have it. And I don't ignore my job...I merely put it off until the red lights of danger are flashing.

Enjoyed the pics, of course, but no real comment about them beyond that. I will keep my eyes and ears open for Phenomenauts, though. Thankyou, España, for the word up on the band. They sound quite entertaining. Maybe I'll promote them to the AggieCon 39 committee as a potential musical GoH next year. Why the heck not? It sure sounds like they'd fit right in.

You should. They're a great band and they are so much fun to watch.

That speech by Peter Denning would have been interesting to attend. I am not a computer geek—love to use them, but don't really understand how in the blue blazes they work, let alone how to fix them myself (call the Geek Squad; that's why we bought the contract)—but Denning's topics certainly sound intriguing. To me, the computer is a marvelous tool, one that can easily be adaptable to almost any situation or need. It is a pretty damned impressive invention, and how mankind can continue to redefine and redirect computers in the future is what I would find the most interesting part of listening to Denning.

You know, I wasn't at the lecture, but

knowing Peter a little, I can say that he's fascinating beyond a reasonable doubt. His books are a little hard to get into, but I've heard that he's working on something with Minsky right now.

Besides, I fully understand what Howieird means by "they still have food left when I get there. The wine and soft drinks. . . never seem to run out." Yes, there are definite perks for working at a place like the Computer History Museum, much like working here at Blinn College. Once in a while a free lunch—or dinner and drinks—does indeed fall your way. It is a nice trade-off.

I may not make a living wage, but I'm certainly enjoying the free food that ends up on our coffee bar.

Many thanks for the fine issue, and I look forward to seeing your next issue sometime in the next week or so.

It'll be out at least an hour before you read this!

All the best,
John Purcell

Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor

As I make preparations to go to Las Vegas this weekend to see the musical *Spamalot* with my friends, I am reminded of how much *The Lord of the Rings* has influenced my life, on and off, since I first read the book 24 years ago. That novel (as opposed to the “trilogy,” since most of us die-hard fans refer to it as a single book) changed my life when I was a teenager and continues to do so to this day. And I’m sure it will influence me in the future as well.

The friends I’m going to Vegas with and I did a routine based on *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* and *Spamalot* last year at BayCon, and won Best in Show. But I knew most of them originally because of *LOTR*, as they were part of the award-winning One Ring Circus performing group.

To back up to the beginning of my *LOTR* saga: I saw a girl reading it at my high school while she and I were rehearsing for our honors student awards ceremony. (Yes, I was a nerd... I mean a very good student.) This moment stands out clearly

in my memory. There was something about the artwork on the book that attracted me. It looked like my kind of book. I’d read fantasy and sci fi before, but only sporadically. I’d heard of *LOTR*, or seen it in the bookstores, but since fantasy and sci fi are not very popular in the Philippines, and there were no boys in my school, I had to find out about these things on my own. Once I started reading *Fellowship of the Ring*, I was hooked. I didn’t put any of the books down at all until I was done. I carried them everywhere. When I was done, I cried because it was all over. So I looked for other novels to satiate my newly found voracious appetite for fantasy and sci fi.

Luckily, that was the summer before I went to college. When I first started my accounting degree (in the Philippines, you jump into your major as soon as you begin), I had fun with my classmates. It was the first time I had met people from the opposite sex who weren’t related to me. So I enjoyed going to parties and meeting new people. But, I found that I didn’t have much in common with them because I really didn’t like accounting (my mom

picked my major for me and sent me to college to get a business degree so I could help with the family business). Soon after, I was hanging out with the engineering guys who had the same interests as myself. I found them because I was elected Business College Freshman president and I hung out in the Student Council office. They were all active in the Student Council and in the various school publications. I wound up working for most of these papers including the official school newspaper.

My new friends were all into *LOTR* and they introduced me to a whole new world of fantasy and sci fi. They recommended authors, and also invited me to play Dungeons and Dragons with them. My mom told me not to play D&D as it was dangerous and evil. But I did anyway. I had a lot of fun and I was treated like I was special because I was the only girl. We also were all into art and writing, mostly inspired by *LOTR* and other works of the genre.

After college, I moved to the US to get my MBA. No one there liked the stuff I like, and most of the Filipino immigrants I

hung out with weren't into it either. I took a side trip into the music scene for several years and hung out with rockers and bands. I worked for a CPA firm to get my Green Card, and those years were very hard for me. I wrote a lot of fan fiction during that time to keep sane and also published a local heavy metal magazine.

I survived that time, only to land in an even more difficult period that was even longer. The dark night of the soul, as they say. But I think that seemingly stagnant time of discovering myself and exploring the world and what life means made me stronger and wiser. I don't think I read as much during this time but around 2001, *LOTR* turned my life around once again.

Peter Jackson's *Fellowship of the Ring* came out. I may have mentioned this before, but I was looking forward to seeing the movie. If I had known about it years before I would have wanted to be a part of making the movie in some capacity. In any case, I was eager to see it but I was worried as well, because if the movie wasn't good, that would be so awful for me but it might also mean the book would never be made into a film again—especially after the mixed successes of the previous movie incarnations. But I was completely blown away, and the rest is history.

I then started playing D&D again

with some friends from work who found out I loved *LOTR* and used to play D&D. Then I discovered, through the *LOTR* fan club magazine, that there would be a *Return of the King* ball in San Mateo sponsored by PEERS. I've written about this before: how I met my *LOTR* friends at that ball as well as my other costuming, dance, fantasy and sci fi friends. I met even more new friends when I went to New Zealand last year to do Red Carpet Tours' Middle Earth tour.

So now I've come full circle and am enjoying all that fandom has to offer here in the Bay Area, including *SF/SF*, because of

LOTR. I guess the book never ends for me, and the adventure continues in my own life.

Speaking of the adventure continuing, a new Tolkien book will be released this week entitled *The Children of Hurin*. This tale was started by J.R.R. Tolkien himself and completed by his son, Christopher Tolkien. We haven't had a new Tolkien book in ages, so I'm really looking forward to reading this!

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

Bay Area Actual Meetups

Photos by Francis Yun

The Bay Area Actual is a new group that meets monthly to watch and discuss *Battlestar Galactica* episodes with fellow fans.

The first meetup was on January 21st at Joan and Richard's place in San Jose, to kick off the second half of season three. The second was on February 18th at Guy's place in San Jose. The third and most recent meetup was on March 25th at Jessica's in San Francisco to watch the season finale.



Second meetup attendees



Joan with her dress



Obi enjoying snacks at the first meetup

Enjoying theater seating



Stephan and Lori at the first meetup

©Francis W. Yun



Battlestar Galactica action hero dolls



Richard (above)



Jessica's house (left)

Sampling the Sonoma Valley Film Festival

By Christopher J. Garcia

Editor

Photos by Genevieve Collonge

When Hollywood types think of BArea film festivals, which is rare, they tend to think of the San Francisco International (which is the oldest film festival in North America) and Mill Valley (which I've only rarely attended). I tend to think of Cinequest and Cinema Epicuria: The Sonoma Valley Film Festival.

Both are alternatives to the big boys. Cinequest is the Maverick film festival to various degrees, while Sonoma is a destination festival. It's not just a film festival. It's not just an excuse to go to Winetown and tour. It's both, and more. It's a place that tries to bring young, on-the-verge filmmakers out to Sonoma and mix them with actual Hollywood stars and film fans. There are no velvet ropes, real or metaphorical, separating patrons from stars. That's the beauty of Sonoma—aside from the natural



The Sebastiani Theatre: Crown Jewel of the Sonoma Valley Film Festival

beauty. It's a wonderful festival for more reasons than I've listed. Over the years, I've mingled with Gavin Newsom, Tiffani Thiessen, Kimberly Williams, Ernie Hudson, Chris Gore and Melissa Joan Hart. And more importantly, I've seen some great films.

The festival was started ten years ago. It has always tried to merge film (or Cinema) with food (or Epicuria), and wine, and relaxation, all in one weekend. I started attending when I was asked to announce *Confessions of a Burning Man* at the Sebastiani Theatre by the filmmakers, and decided it'd be fun to stick around for awhile. My roommate and I had a wonderful time watching films. I watched stuff at the Lounge, a beautifully quirky venue which is one of the real calling cards of the off-beat portion of the Sonoma Valley Film Festival. I enjoyed myself, and let the folks in charge know that I was interested in helping out in 2004.

And so I returned with Genevieve Collonge (the photographer for this article) in 2004 and announced several



Hershey's introduced a new upscale chocolate line with free samples

films, mostly shorts programs, and hung out with filmmakers, and again had a great time. The next year I was assigned to another signature venue: The Barrel Room at the Sebastiani Winery. This was a great space, with the added challenge of weird acoustics due to its being surrounded by giant wine casks. It was also the classiest venue, even with the minor issues. I saw a lot of films there in 2005 and 2006. It was a wonderful place and I'm so happy that I got to be a part of it because it did not return for the 10th Annual edition. I was saddened by this, but all things must change.

Which brings us to this year's festival.

Sadly, due to money and the cost of hotel rooms at my all-time favorite Sonoma hotel (completely non-ironically called "The Sonoma Hotel"), we had to cut back to Friday through Sunday, but that was OK, because it was still a wonderful time. We arrived early on Friday and as is our tradition, we stopped at Mary's Pizza Shack. If you live in the Upper Counties, you've probably heard of the various locations. The one we eat at is on Sonoma Plaza and it's always a good bet. We did an Appetizer Sampling ourselves, and it was so tasty. We ate delicious food and then headed across the plaza to the Welcome Center.



A helpful Volunteer showing off the Festival poster

The Welcome Center was where we got our press credentials, and also where we went about looking for delicious snacks. That's one thing you learn quickly: there's something tasty around every corner. In this case, it was Grey Goose vodka. That was refreshing, but inside there was a wonderful sampling display of the new Cacao Reserve line by Hershey's. That's right, they were giving out free, high-class, "oh-my-ghod-this-is-so-good" milk and dark chocolate. They gave away tons of the stuff, huge bars and small samples, and we gladly took them all. They seemed very eager to get as much of the stuff into the hands of us viewers as



More free food provided at The Lounge

possible. We were glad to help.

Mia's Lounge is better known as The Lounge, which is what it was known as before Mia's Playground came onboard as a sponsor. The Lounge shows various films that might be considered slightly off-key. In the past it has specialized as a venue for science fiction and fantasy, horror, and films that might have a bit of an adult edge. It's a good fit with my tastes in film. The first year I went, I saw five films in one day at The Lounge, which was a blast. This year,

despite not being able to do much at the Lounge due to working other venues, I still managed to see seven different films there, starting with the only real horror-themed film: *Netherbeast Incorporated*.

Arriving at the Lounge, we were greeted with a lot of the wonderful things that the Sonoma Valley Film Festival is known for. There was an excellent sliced beef sandwich with a lovely coleslaw on top with a French-style dressing. The food was served by two kindly volunteers from the high school. It was so darn good. As you got into the theater, you arrived at the Mia's Playground wine pourers. Pretty much everyone agreed that the Old Vine Zinfandel was the best of the four they were pouring. Decent wines, not ones I'd normally choose myself, but they went so well with the cheese sticks that Salem Baking Company provided. These were, without question, the tastiest little bites of the festival. I gorged on everything. Genevieve, my trusty photographer, really loved the spice on the finish of the cheese.



The Cast and Crew of The Roland Brothers film *Netherbeast Incorporated*

But we were there to see a film.

Netherbeast Incorporated started life as a short that was submitted to Cinequest, but sadly didn't make the cut in 2006. It's returned as a feature by the original Ronald Brothers crew that produced the short, but they added Steve from *Blue's Clues*, Darrel Hammond from *SNL*, Dave Foley of *The Kids in the Hall*, and 1980s Teen Heartthrob Judd Nelson. It was a great cast, with Hammond a particular standout, able to make anything sound funny, no matter how mundane. The film dealt with the classic matter of being tied to work



Chris enjoying a free snack and wearing a free hat

with no possibility of release as well as the arcane structure that seems to be a major part of every corporate environment. Good film, and the Q+A was solid afterwards. I hope that it gets a wide release because it's a funny and smart film.

After that, Genevieve headed off to the House of Docs to see something that I wish I could see called *The Damnedest Finest Ruins*. The House of Docs was a great venue for watching documentaries and the wine and food were delicious, according to Gen. The film was about the 1906 Earthquake, and a lot of folks said that it was on the level of the big Ken Burns-style doc that

was on PBS last year.

While Gen was doing her thing, I was at The Lounge, dining on a lovely sausage dish. It was very tasty, though not nearly as good as the later sausage dish. We enjoyed more wine and I started chatting with one of the guys I met in line about the films we'd seen and were planning on seeing. And everyone, once they noticed my Media pass, asked about *Science Fiction!* *San Francisco*,

and I was more than

happy to tell them.

The film I saw, *Mojave Phone Booth*, was classy, though a bit plodding in the middle before wrapping up very quickly. Still, the performances of Annabeth Gish, Steve Guttenberg and David DeLuise were all very good. It was a film about various interlocking lives surrounding a phone booth in the middle of nowhere. I was still thinking

of *Netherbeast* much of the way and how I'd write it up for FanboyPlanet.com.

No time for love, there was another movie to be seen. *The Lather Effect* had the words "1980s soundtrack" in the description, so I was there. I'm so glad I was, because the pork sandwiches they served were wonderful and the cheese sticks were still there. The film was sort of *The Big Chill* but with an 80s soundtrack that just carried the film into majesty. The film starred my man Tate Donovan (*Friends*, *Love Potion #9*), Connie Britton (the incredible hottie from the early seasons of *Spin City*), the dude who plays Ethan on *Lost*, Ione Skye



The Lather Effect's Tate Donovan and the dude who plays Ethan on Lost in front of Mia's Lounge



Director and former member of *The State* David Wain introduces *The Ten*

(*Say Anything*, *Covington Cross*), Peter Facinelli (*Can't Hardly Wait*) and Eric Stoltz from *Mask* (and not the Mobile Armored Strike Kommand version). Wonderful direction combined with an excellent set of performances put this on the top of my list. There was drama and comedy and sadness and brilliance and just plain coolness. Well worth the time and it'll get a release.

Genevieve returned to The Lounge after seeing her film (and picking up

Chicken Parm from Mary's Pizza Shack), and we took in the film that I'd been most interested in seeing. I've been a big fan of *The State* for more than a decade. It was the only thing that MTV produced in the mid-1990s that was worthwhile—one of the best sketch comedy shows going. Several of the castmembers did fine shows such as *Viva Variety*, *Reno 911* and *Stella*. Two of them, David Wain and Ken

Marino, had written a fine film called *The Ten*, which featured Winona Ryder, Paul Rudd, the lovely Famke Janssen, Gretchen Mol, Ron Silver, Liev Schreiber, Rob Corddry and the castmembers of *The State*. The film was actually an anthology of ten short films about The Ten Commandments. There was blasphemy, sexuality and zaniness all around. Wain, who also directed the film, and Marino were both in attendance and answered some questions despite being jetlagged. The audience laughed harder at *The Ten* than at any other film in the festival. It'll get a release in August from



Ken Marino and David Wain of *The State* and *The Ten*

thinkFilm.

That was it for the night. Sleep at the Sonoma Hotel comes easy, despite the rumors that it's haunted. We woke up and got breakfast at La Salette, the best breakfast place in Sonoma. It's Portuguese and wonderful for dinner. It also happens to do the best breakfast ever, especially the French Toast. I'd write it a sonnet if it could read. I absolutely loved it. The little doughnuts that Gen had were almost as good.

After that, it was time to go to the movies and the Lounge Shorts were first. I love shorts, and these ranged from really fun films like *Replica* (made at a Kinko's in



Chris with the statue of Mike from *Monsters Inc.*

Santa Rosa) and *Horny* by San Francisco comic artist and filmmaker Lev, to films that just dragged through various states of quality (like *The Ghost of Sam Peckinpah* and *Walls and Windows*). It was an entertaining time, although not all the films were of the highest quality. Gen then headed off to see films like *Johnny Slade's Greatest Hits* while I spent some time in the Welcome Center (more free chocolate), and then I was off to the Vine Theatre at the VFW. I ran into my former co-volunteers from the Barrel Room, Pat and Bobby. We talked for awhile, and it was nice to see them. They had a lovely venue full of Pixar stuff for us to look at,

including statues of Mike and Scully from *Monsters Inc.*

I headed back to the Plaza for awhile and got a little food (more Mary's Pizza Shack), then headed back to The Lounge. Now, when you go to a film festival for most of the time that it's running, you get to know the good people who are volunteering. More great food (lamb sausage with fig glaze and white bean ragout), and then the film that I was looking forward to: *Park*. Starring folks like Billy Baldwin, Cheri Oteri and Ricki Lake, it was another spiraling-inward film. It was good, not quite as good as *The Lather Effect* or as laugh-inducing as *The Ten*, but



Pat & Bobby Collins with Scully from *Monsters Inc.*

pretty darn good. I enjoyed the lesser-known actors more than the big names, which happens a lot. There was a great subplot about a dog washer and a suicidal young woman that was very entertaining.

After that, it was time for food. There are great places to eat in Sonoma, including The General's Daughter and the girl & the fig, which our hotel room was located directly above, but we went to a more traditional family Mexican restaurant called Amigos. It's good food and not too expensive. You can run through a week's pay at any number of places on the Plaza, but we needed to save some bread and get



Early concept drawings for Pixar's Cars

a lot of food. Genevieve had the Pollo con Crema, which was rad.

After that, it was back to the Plaza and for the first time since I saw *Confessions of a Burning Man* as the first Sonoma Valley Film Festival film I ever saw, I headed to watch a movie at the Sebastiani Theatre. The theater was built in the 1930s and it is beautiful and old and one of the few operating theaters still in more-or-less original condition. The film I watched was *The Black Irish*, which made me very homesick for South Boston. It starred a bunch of TV personalities and Brendan Gleason. It was one of those deep family dramas that I enjoy, and the direction

and especially a stronger program than earlier and I was glad I went.

After that, it was time for the final film: *Voyeur*. This was the only miss for the entire festival. It was a poorly constructed look at reality TV. The acting was weak, the writing was spotty and while much of the concept could have worked under stronger direction, I was most disappointed. This was the only time I didn't stay for the Q+A. By far the best thing about the experience was eating the lovely garlic Tiger Shrimp with White Bean Ragout before the screening with the Mia's Playground Chardonnay. It really took the edge off.

After that, it was time to head home. The rare combination of food, wine, and film works so much in favor of the Sonoma Valley Film Festival that there's no other film festival that can do what it does so well. Even if the indy films shown are the kind that feature big name stars and get distribution through Fox Searchlight, I can't think of a more powerful filmlover's festival.

I returned to the room and watched *Saturday Night Live* while reading Vonnegut's *Jailbird* as my personal tribute to the late genius. I fell asleep and woke up every hour or so because the alarm clock kept doing weird stuff. We checked out and headed to the Vine Theater where we were gonna watch the Shorts Program. There was *Der Ostwind*, one of the best shorts of Cinequest, and an Israeli film called *Miracle* that I thought was so very powerful. There was a film about Las Vegas show people that I was impressed with. I even knew one of the folks who had worked on it. This was

And did I mention the giant bag of free gourmet chocolate that we left town with?

BASFA Minutes: meeting 870

April 2, 2007

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

Began 8:00, with us welcoming Cheryl back.

18 people attended.

We established a party jar.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 869 were accepted as 'not as good as the onion rings.'

The Treasurer reported remotely that last week we took in \$35.10 in the regular jar & \$36.15 in the party jar.

No VP or VP report.

The President had nothing fannish to report.

The Party committee reported he has had problems with the Con-x-treme folks paying their share of party expenses - but other than that there are rooms reserved for BASFA parties at BayCon & Westercon.

There was a motion that failed.

Announcements:

Cheryl announced that there have been some write-in candidates for the SFWA presidency that include herself, Jay Lake and Jeff VanDerMeer.

[tall] Kevin announced that there was a Hugo nominations revision due to a counting error in the dramatic presentation category & that 'Pan's Labyrinth' is in and 'Pirates 2' is out - AND he announced that [evil] Kevin is nominated for a lifetime achievement award from the International Costumer's Guild at CostumeCon 25.

Ken announced that it's 8 days until KTEH starts running the new season of 'Dr Who' & that BBC America landed the US showings of 'Torchwood.'

Adrienne announced that Gerry Perkins died last week of systemic cancer

Reviews:

Eric reviewed 'Meet the Robinsons' as he enjoyed the movie, that it had a manic energy & while the CG animation was not the kind he is fond of the story was fun - and it's definitely worth cashing in movie passes for and even paying full price.

Cheryl reviewed England as still cold and wet, but that Wales beat England in rugby, so all is right with the world; and she reviewed the Cricket World Tournament as about half over

and there have been upsets, including Ireland getting into the 2nd round.

Fred reviewed Charlie Stross's 'Glass House' as he enjoyed it, it was loads of fun & worth reading.

Ken reviewed 'Smith and Jones' [the 1st episode of 'Dr Who'] as it started off the series strongly, the new aliens are more of a nuisance than a threat and definitely worth watching.

I reviewed 'Shin Megami Tensei - Devil Summoner, Raidou Kuzunoha vs the Souless Army' as a wonderful game for the PS2. Great graphics and story - worth full price and telling others about it. I also reviewed the 'Shin Megami Tensei' series of games in general as sharing common elements [like monsters - and all having involving, if unique, plot-lines] and that the prior games 'Shin Megami Tensei - Digital Devil, parts 1 and 2' and 'Shin Megami Tensei - Nocturne' are also well worth buying at full price and playing for a ton of hours.

We auctioned off an audio book for \$1.00; other books for \$0.25, \$0.25, \$1.00, \$0.75, & a collection of Mad Magazine CDs for \$10.00.

We adjourned at 9:27.

And the rumor of the week was 'that Barbara will pass out trying to say the title of the next Shin Megami game in one breath.'

BASFA Minutes: meeting 871

April 9, 2007

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

Began 8:01.

14 people attended.

We established a party jar.

Secretary's report: the minutes of meeting 870 were accepted as 'clams got legs.'

No Treasurer - but last week we took in \$11.75 in the regular jar & \$3.25 in the party jar.

VP reported that he holds in his hand the only DVD copy of the 'Attack of the Giant Brine Shrimp' & there are new copies of 'Half Dome Happenings' and 'Drink Tank' out.

The President had nothing fannish to report.

The Publications committee wants conscripts - and may need volunteers.

Announcements:

[evil] Kevin announced that he got a lifetime achievement award from the International Costumer's Guild at CostumeCon 25 - and brought the plaque for us to ogle & announced that rates for CostumeCon 26 go up May 1st.

Ken announced 'less than 24 hours to go' before KTEH starts running the new season of 'Dr Who.'

Chris announced that the Sonoma Valley Film Festival will be this weekend & will be all over the city.

Art announced that he has a Samsung color laser printer to get rid of, that it's in working order [but not Mac 10.4 compatible].

Reviews:

Harold reviewed 'The Tudors' as history light, that they got Henry's name right and not much beyond that & worth having Showtime for & he reviewed 'I was a Horror TV Host' by John Stanley as it's about horror TV hosts - and reviewed 'Arcade Fire, Neon Bible' as 'get it' - and reviewed Fright Night at PacBell Park as 'god, they're bad this season' and it was cold.

Chris reviewed 'Grindhouse' as a psycho-sexual freakout & he liked the fake trailers and previews & at 3 hours it was a bit long & well worth full price [and there were follow-ons].

Andy reviewed the 2nd episode of 'Dr Who' as 'holy mother of god what a whacked out experience' - an absolute blast - and worth stealing & reviewed the special edition of 'Dr Who'/'Weakest Link' as a decent episode that was -so- wrong & made some comments about 'Dr Who' fan-service; then Andy reviewed CostumeCon 25 as there were some minor

flaws but overall it was a fabulous convention - worth full price.

[evil] Kevin reviewed not doing anything for a weekend as it was mini-series weekend on the SciFi Channel and otherwise lovely and relaxing and he needs more of them & then reviewed the O'Reilly Media Emerging Tech Conference, where he presented Spintronics as he went to one talk and it was ... drivel - and that when he did his presentation [compressing 1 hour into 20 minutes] that it was well received as it actually contained hard science - and the trip was worth full price.

Mike reviewed 'The Reaping' as it just got messier and messier as it goes along and could only rate it as 'fan service' and worth matinee.

Julie reviewed spending part of the weekend converting LPs as time well spent and recommends Spin Doctor.

We adjourned at 9:05.

And the rumor of the week was 'that BASFA is in violation of Logan's Run.'

Bay Area Fannish Calendar

While some effort (OK, OK, damn little effort) is made to verify event listings, please check before attending, as events are sometimes cancelled or times and locations changed.

New listings are in red.
Ongoing events are toward the back.

Thursday, April 19

Taming Gaming in Your Home

Computer History Museum

1401 N. Shoreline Blvd.

Mountain View

www.commonwealthclub.org/sv

6:15 p.m.

\$25

Experts discuss the role of parents in guiding kids' gaming habits. Microsoft's "Xbox Bus" will be open to the public from 3-7 p.m. in the parking lot, and a drawing will be held for an Xbox 360.

Thursday, April 19

Beasties

CELLspace (Crucible Steel Gallery)

2050 Bryant Street

San Francisco

www.cellspace.org

7 p.m.

Free

Opening reception for a show featuring the works of Amy Wing Fong Lee and anyone else who responded to an open invitation to fill the gallery with monsters, crawlies, and beasties. Exhibition runs through May 13.

Thursday, April 19

A Clockwork Orange (1971)

UA Berkeley 7

2274 Shattuck Ave.

Berkeley

510-486-1852

8 p.m.

\$7

Thursday, April 19

Buffy Night Redux

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

www.parkway-speakeasy.com

9:15 p.m.

\$6

More audience-chosen episodes of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* on the Parkway's big screen.

Friday, April 20

Cartoonist Signing

Comix Experience

305 Divisadero

San Francisco

www.comixexperience.com

5 p.m.

Free

With Kevin Huizenga (*Curses*), Hope Larson (*Grey Horses*), Gene Yang (*American Born Chinese*), and Bryan Lee O'Malley (*Scott Pilgrim*), all in town for APE (see below).

Friday and Saturday, April 20-21

Midnight Special:

The Re-animator (1985)

Shattuck Cinemas

2230 Shattuck Ave.

Berkeley

www.landmarkafterdark.com

\$8

Saturday-Sunday, April 21-22

APE (Alternative Press Expo)

Concourse Exhibition Center

620 7th Street

San Francisco

www.comic-con.org/ape/

\$7/day, \$10/weekend

Billed as the nation's largest show devoted to alternative and self-published comics. Announced guests include Art Spiegelman (*Maus*).

Saturday, April 21

APE Aftermath

Isotope Comics Lounge

326 Fell Street

San Francisco

415-621-6543

7 p.m.-midnight

Free

The Isotope's annual event coinciding with the Alternative Press Expo features the awarding of the Isotope Award for Excellence in Mini-Comics.

Saturday, April 21

Author: Scott Sigler

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

1 p.m.

Free

With a new book out, *Ancestor*.

Saturday, April 21

Author: Ray Garton

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

3 p.m.

Free

Author of the new book *Night Life* and its predecessor, *Live Girls*.

Sunday, April 22

Cherry Blossom Festival Parade

Civic Center to Japan Center

San Francisco

www.nccbf.org



Cliff McCormick as Dr. Henry Jekyll is torn between his arcane experiments and the two women in his life, played by Melissa T. O'Keefe and Colette R. Phelps, in *Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical*. Presented by the Palo Alto Players, directed by George Quick (with a cast that includes our own Howeird), the musical opens April 28 at the Lucie Stern Theater, with a preview on the 27th. Tickets: 650-329-0891.

Photo by Joyce Goldschmid

1 p.m.
Free
A cosplay contest traditionally precedes the parade, with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners getting to ride a float to Japan Center.

Sunday, April 22

*Invisible Adversaries (1976) and
Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1956)*

Phyllis Wattis Theater
Museum of Modern Art
151 3rd Street
San Francisco
www.sfmoma.org

2 p.m.
\$7

Part of SFMOMA's series "Fidelity and
Betrayal: Variations on the Remake."

Sunday, April 22

*Maniac (1934)
Preacherman (1971)
Black Gestapo (1975)*

Victoria Theatre
2961 16th Street
San Francisco
www.deadchannels.com

First film at 7 p.m., double feature at 8:30.
Individual films \$8, \$15 for the double feature
and \$20 for all three. Part of the "Sleazy
Sundays" series presented by Dead Channels—
The San Francisco Festival of Fantastic Film.

Tuesday, April 24

Author: John Marks
The Booksmith
1644 Haight Street

San Francisco
www.booksmith.com
7 p.m.
Free
Author of Fangland.

Tuesday, April 24

A Quiet Place in the Country (1969)

Castro Theatre
429 Castro Street
San Francisco
www.thecastrotheatre.com

9:15 p.m.
\$9

An artist (Franco Nero) tries to get away from
it all with his girlfriend (Vanessa Redgrave).
Unfortunately, their country villa may be
haunted. In Italian with subtitles. Preceded
at 7:00 by *Investigation of a Citizen Above
Suspicion (1970)*; both films feature spooky
scores by recent Academy Awards honoree
Ennio Morricone.

Thursday, April 26

Author: John Scalzi
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com

7 p.m.
Free
Reading from *The Last Colony*.

Friday, April 27

Author: Marta Acosta
Cody's Books
1730 Fourth Street

Berkeley
510-559-9500

7 p.m.
Free

*The author of Happy Hour at Casa Dracula and
its new sequel, Midnight Brunch.*

Friday, April 27

Author: John Scalzi
Dark Carnival Books
3086 Claremont Avenue
Berkeley
510-654-7323
5:30 p.m.

Free
Reading from *The Last Colony*.

Friday-Sunday, April 27-29

Sacramento Scottish Games and Festival
Yolo County Fairgrounds
Woodland
www.sacaledonian.org
\$17 (\$15.50 in advance)
Athletic events, highland dancing, crafts, music,
whisky tasting, Bonney Knees contest, more.

Saturday, April 28

Warp 11
Swabbie's
5871 Garden Highway
Sacramento
www.warp11.com
7 p.m.

Sacramento's *Star Trek*-themed rock 'n' roll
band performs such hits as "She Make It So."
All ages welcome.

April 27-May 13

Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical
Lucie Stern Theater
1305 Middlefield Road
Palo Alto
www.paplayers.org
8 p.m. (Sun. 2:30 matinee)
\$26-30 (\$20 preview on April 27)

Saturday, April 28

Author: Ellen Klages
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
3 p.m.
Free
Reading from her new short story collection,
Portable Childhoods.

Saturday, April 28

Sensible Prejudices:
Divergent Jane Austen Ball
Masonic Lodge
100 North Ellsworth
San Mateo
www.baers.org
8 p.m.
A Bay Area English Regency Society dance.

Sunday, April 29

Author: Amy Wachspress
Black Oak Books
1491 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley
www.blackoakbooks.com
6 p.m.

Free

Author of the young readers' fantasy The Call to Shakabaz.

Friday, May 4

Author: Chuck Palahniuk
The Booksmith
1644 Haight Street
San Francisco
www.booksmith.com
7 p.m.
Free

Saturday, May 5

Bay Area Games Day
Los Altos Public Library
13 S. San Antonio Road
Los Altos
davekohr.users.sonic.net/gamesday/
10 a.m.
\$1
Regular event featuring German-style strategy board games like Settlers of Catan, Avalon Hill-type multiplayer games, card games, and historical board wargames.

Saturday, May 5

Sleeping Beauty's Christening Fantasy Ball
PEERS Event
Masonic Lodge
100 N. Ellsworth
San Mateo
www.peers.org
\$15 in advance (by April 28), \$20 at the door
Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Sunday, May 6

8th Annual How Weird Street Faire
Howard Street between 11th & 12th
San Francisco
www.howweird.org
Noon-6 p.m.
Some would call this the most "Burning Man" of SF's (many) summer street fairs.

Sunday, May 6

Iron Giant (1999)
Cerrito Speakeasy Theater
10070 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito
www.cerritospeakeasy.com
2 p.m.
\$8
"Kiddie matinee" to benefit Oakland Children's Hospital.

Tuesday, May 8

Ask a Scientist: Amnesia
Axis Cafe
1201 8th Street
San Francisco
www.askascientistsf.com
7 p.m.
Free
Amnesia: more than just a plot device. With Art Shimamura, Professor of Psychology from UC Berkeley.

Wednesday, May 9

Author: Daniel Handler
Book Passage
51 Tamal Vista
Corte Madera
www.bookpassage.com

7 p.m.
Free
Lemony Snicket's alter ego reads from his new work, *Adverbs*.

Thursday, May 10

*Authors: Holly Black and
Cassandra Clare*
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
7 p.m.
Free

Thursday, May 10

Thrillville: Barbarella (1967)
Parkway Speakeasy Theater
1834 Park Blvd.
Oakland
www.thrillville.com
9:15 p.m.
\$7
With the Twilight Vixen Revue live onstage.

Sunday, May 6

Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971)
Cerrito Speakeasy Theater
10070 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito
www.cerritospeakeasy.com
2 p.m.
\$8
"Kiddie matinee" to benefit Cornell School
PTA.

Saturday, May 12

*Other Magazine Presents
Writers With Drinks*
The Make Out Room
3225 22nd Street
San Francisco
www.writerswithdrinks.com
7:30 p.m.
\$3-\$5 sliding scale
With Jami Attenberg, Stephanie Paul, and Liz
Maverick.

Monday, May 14

Author: Michael Chabon
Book Passage
51 Tamal Vista Blvd.
Corte Madera
www.bookpassage.com
7 p.m.
Free
Author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Amazing
Adventures of Kavalier & Clay* talks about his
new book, *The Yiddish Policemen's Union*.

Thursday, May 17

Last House on the Left (1972)
Cerrito Speakeasy Theater
10070 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito
www.cerritospeakeasy.com
9 p.m.
\$6
Wes Craven's influential grindhouse film, with
star David Hess in person.

Saturday, May 19

Author: Katherine Kerr
Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
3 p.m.
Free

Saturday, May 19

Author: Susan Palwick
Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com
5 p.m.
Free

Saturday-Sunday, May 19-20

Maker Faire
San Mateo County Fairgrounds
2495 S. Delaware Street
San Mateo
www.makerfaire.com
\$20 (\$15 in advance, one-day passes available)
Crafters, tinkerers, artists and geeks converge
for a weekend of science, mechanics, art,
and entertainment for all ages. Events and
demonstrations include Roomba hacking with
Todd Kurt, the one-ton Robotic Giraffe, the
ComBots Cup and more.

Saturday-Sunday, May 19-20

The Princess Bride (1987)
Cerrito Speakeasy Theater
10070 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito
www.cerritospeakeasy.com
Sat Noon and 3 p.m., Sun 2 p.m.
\$4

Sunday, May 20

Little Women Picnic

The Shinn House
1251 Peralta Blvd.
Fremont

www.gbagc.org

Noon-5 p.m.

\$14.50, \$7.50 for GBACG members

A Greater Bay Area Costumers Guild event.

Thursday, May 24

Author: Esther Friesner

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia Street
San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

7 p.m.

Free

Friday-Monday, May 25-28

BayCon

Marriott San Mateo
1770 South Amphlett Blvd.
San Mateo

www.baycon.org

\$75 at the door (\$65 until April 30)

25th Anniversary Edition of the largest annual general SF convention in Northern California, featuring a new location and Guests of Honor Alan Dean Foster, Diana Paxson, Richard Hescox, and Linda Von Braskat-Crowe, Special Guest Ctein, and Toastmaster Seanan McGuire. Diverse panels, dealer's room, art show, masquerade, anime room, hall costumes, gaming, much more.

Friday-Monday, May 25-28

FanimeCon

San Jose Convention Center
435 South Market Street
San Jose
www.fanime.com

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

Friday-Monday, May 25-28

KublaCon

Burlingame Hyatt Regency
1333 Bayshore Highway
Burlingame
www.kublacon.com

\$35

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

Sunday, May 27

RiffTrax Live

Rafael Film Center
1118 Fourth Street
San Rafael

www.calfilm.org

7:30 p.m.

\$25

The stars of Mystery Science Theater 3000, Mike Nelson, Bill Corbett and Kevin Murphy will deconstruct a movie they have handpicked for this occasion, live on stage.

Friday-Sunday, June 1-3

Dollectable

Clarion Hotel SFO
401 E. Millbrae Ave.

Millbrae

www.bjdcon.com

\$65 at the door (\$50 until May 1)

A convention for enthusiasts and collectors of Asian-style ball-jointed dolls.

Saturday, June 2

Space Cowboys' Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

www.peers.org

\$15 in advance (by May 26), \$20 at the door
Browncoats, take note! Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Saturday, June 4

Warp 11

Blue Lamp

400 Alhambra Blvd.

Sacramento

www.warp11.com

9:30 p.m.

Sacramento's *Star Trek*-themed rock 'n' roll band celebrates the release of their new CD, "It's Dead, Jim." With special guests The Hellbusters; ages 21+.

Saturday-Sunday, June 2-3

Super-Con

San Jose Convention Center
435 South Market Street
San Jose

www.super-con.com

\$20 (one-day pass \$15)

Super-Con heads south for 2007. Dealers, guest

artists, cosplay contest, more.

Sunday, June 3

Author: Carol Berg

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

3 p.m.

Free

Saturday, June 9

Other Magazine Presents

Writers With Drinks

The Make Out Room

3225 22nd Street

San Francisco

www.writerswithdrinks.com

7:30 p.m.

\$3-\$5 sliding scale

With Judy Budnitz, Sesshu Foster, Anthony

McCann, and Clifford Chase.

Sunday, June 10

Ardenwood Celtic Festival

Ardenwood Historic Farm

34600 Ardenwood Blvd.

Fremont

www.ardenwood-celtic-festival.com

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

\$10

Celtic music, dancing, living history, ethnic food, more.

Friday-Sunday, June 15-17

RoboGames

Festival Pavilion

Fort Mason Center

San Francisco

www.robogames.net

\$55 (\$20 single-day ticket)

The event formerly known as the ROBOlympics returns to Fort Mason for another weekend of mechanized mayhem.

Saturday-Sunday, June 16-17

Northern California Pirate Festival

Marina Green Park

Vallejo

www.norcalpiratefestival.com

10 a.m.-dusk

Arrr...the launch of what hopes to become an annual event in the Bay Area. Details to follow.

Saturday, June 23

Author: Jacqueline Carey

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

www.borderlands-books.com

3 p.m.

Free

Saturday, June 23

Batlh Jaj: Klingon Day of Honor II

Chabot Space Science Center

10000 Skyline Blvd.

Oakland

www.ikvbloodlust.net/kalendar.htm

7-10 p.m.

An evening of feasting, singing, and celebrating Klingon-style. Details to follow.

Saturday-Tuesday, June 30-July 3

Westercon 60: Gnomeward Bound

Marriott San Mateo

1770 South Amphlett Blvd.

San Mateo

www.westercon60.org

\$75

Guests of Honor: Tad Williams, Theresa Mather, Christian McGuire
Toastmaster: Jay Lake

Friday-Sunday, July 13-15

Sac-Anime

Red Lion Inn

1401 Arden Way

Sacramento

www.sacramentocomics.com

\$30 at the door (\$20 until May 1)

Anime convention featuring viewing room, art contest, vendor's room, costume ball, J-pop bands, more.

Saturday, July 21

Harry Potter Party

The Booksmith

1644 Haight Street

San Francisco

www.booksmith.com

11 p.m.-1 a.m.

Free

Midnight release party for J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*.

Friday-Sunday, July 27-29

Con-X-Treme

DoubleTree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.con-x-treme.com

\$50 at the door (\$45 until June 30)

A promising newcomer on the Bay Area con scene, though details are still a little sketchy. Anime viewing, cosplay, Taiko drumming, martial arts demos, art show, and The Black Hole Bar.

July 29-August 4

The Dickens Universe

Kresge College

UC Santa Cruz

Santa Cruz

dickens.ucsc.edu

\$335, plus accommodations and meals

The Dickens Project hosts a week-long seminar open to the public as well as academics, with sessions focusing on Dickens's *Pickwick Papers*, Victorian genres in poetry, drama, and the novel, afternoon teas and other activities for Victorianists.

Friday-Monday, August 3-6

MythCon 38

Clark Kerr Center

2601 Warring Street

Berkeley

www.mythsoc.org

\$60, \$50 for Mythopoeic Society members

The annual Mythopoeic Conference returns to Berkeley with Guests of Honor Ellen Kushner and Delia Sherman.

Saturday, August 4

Pride & Prejudice Picnic

PEERS Event

Location TBA

www.peers.org

Noon-5 p.m.

An afternoon picnic and dance set in Jane Austen's England during the late 1790s.

August 10-16

Dead Channels—The San Francisco Festival of Fantastic Film

Roxie Cinema

3117 16th Street

San Francisco

www.deadchannels.com

Now accepting entries (through May 31).

Details to follow.

Saturday, September 1

Mikado Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

www.peers.org

\$15 in advance (by August 25), \$20 at the door

A Gilbert and Sullivan cast party. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Friday-Sunday, September 28-30

Creation's Salute to Star Trek

DoubleTree Hotel

2001 Point West Way

Sacramento

www.creationent.com

A Creation con to celebrate the 20th

Anniversary of *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.

Announced guests include Jonathan Frakes,

Marina Sirtis and George Takei. Details to

follow.

Friday-Sunday, October 5-7

SiliCon

DoubleTree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.siliconventions.com

Media-oriented general SF con features art show, dealer's room, panels, masquerade, swap meet, more. Details to follow.

Saturday, October 6

Edwardian Gothic Ball

PEERS Event

Masonic Lodge

100 N. Ellsworth

San Mateo

www.peers.org

\$15 in advance (by September 29), \$20 at the door

Edwardian as in macabre illustrator Edward Gorey. Dance lesson at 7 p.m., dancing begins at 8.

Saturday, November 3

Le Bal des Vampires

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

The annual hematophagic gala. Details to follow.

Saturday, January 5, 2008

Victorian Twelfth Night Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

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

Saturday, February 2, 2008

Le Mardi Gras des Vampires

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

Saturday, March 1, 2008

Pride and Prejudice Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

Saturday, April 5, 2008

The Royal Debutante Ball

PEERS Event

www.peers.org

Details to follow.

April 25-28, 2008

CostumeCon 26

DoubleTree Hotel

2050 Gateway Place

San Jose

www.cc26.info

\$85 (\$75 through April 30, 2007)

CostumeCon will be coming to Silicon Valley in 2008. Details to follow.

Ongoing:

Through June 17

Worlds of Wonder

Cartoon Art Museum

655 Mission Street

San Francisco

www.cartoonart.org

\$6 (Pay What You Wish day every first

Tuesday)

Exhibition of twelve comic-book and comic-strip illustrators and the worlds built from their imaginations.

Daily

San Francisco Ghost Hunt

Walking Tour

Begins: Queen Anne Hotel

1590 Sutter at Octavia

San Francisco

[www.sfgghosthunt.com](http://www.sfg Ghost Hunt.com)

7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

\$20

Mondays

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

The Original Hick'ry Pit

980 E. Campbell Ave.

Campbell

www.basfa.org

8 p.m.

Free

Mondays

Dukefish

Jake's of Sunnyvale

174 E. Fremont Avenue

Sunnyvale

8 p.m.

Dukefish is a bunch of people who get together to play board games and, sometimes, bridge every week.

Mondays and Wednesdays

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

Match Play

San Antonio Shopping Center

Mountain View

www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb/

7 p.m.

\$2

Group meets regularly to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames such as Settlers of Catan; also multiplayer Avalon Hill-style, historical wargames, and others.

Wednesdays

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

Go-Getter's Pizza

1489 Beach Park Boulevard

Foster City

www.BayRPS.com

6 p.m-10 p.m.

Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details email GM@BayRPS.com.

Wednesdays

East Bay Strategy Games Club

EndGame

921 Washington

Oakland

www.michaeldashow.com/eastbaystrategy/home.html

7:30 p.m.-11 p.m.

Free

Fridays

SF Games

Muddy's Coffeehouse

1304 Valencia Street

San Francisco

vax.hanford.org/dk/games

7 p.m. to midnight

Free

SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week. Also has a regular cards night at Atlas Café, 20th and Alabama Streets, Tuesday nights from 6:30-10:00.

Fridays-Mondays

Haunted Haight Walking Tour

Meets at Coffee To The People

1206 Masonic Avenue

San Francisco

www.hauntedhaight.com

7 p.m.-9 p.m.

\$20

Reservations required.

Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour

Meets corner of California and Taylor

San Francisco

www.sfvampiretour.com

8 p.m.

\$20

Led by Mina Harker. Tour is cancelled if there is heavy rain.

Saturdays

Rocky Horror Picture Show

Parkway Speakeasy Theater

1834 Park Blvd.

Oakland

Midnight

\$7

www.parkway-speakeasy.com

Barely Legal Productions presents the classic

midnight movie every Saturday night. No one under 17 admitted.

Biweekly

PenSFA Party

The Peninsula Science Fantasy Association meets every two weeks for a party at the home of one of their members. They also host parties at local conventions. Email commander@pensfa.org for information on attending. PenSFA standard party rules: bring something edible or drinkable to share, or pay the host \$2. Don't smoke in the house without checking with the host first. Normal start time is 8 p.m. but may vary depending on the host.

Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers' Group

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street

San Francisco

Meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 6 pm. Contact Jade Livingston at sfscifi@yahoo.com for more information.

Monthly

Dorkbot-SF

Free, donations welcome

www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf/

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

Fantastic Frontiers

www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/

Social club for Sacramento County Sci Fi/

Fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times

and locations.

Foothill Anime

Building 5015, Foothill College

Los Altos Hills

Free

Monthly event where people can get together to watch anime and meet like minded others. Usually meets the first Sunday of every month at noon.

Legion of Rassilon

Carl's Junior

2551 N. First Street

San Jose

www.legionofrassilon.org

7:30 p.m.

Free

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

No-Name Anime

Saratoga Library

13650 Saratoga Avenue

Saratoga

www.nnanime.com

Free

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

SF Browncoats

Cafe Murano

1777 Steiner Street

San Francisco

www.sfbrowncoats.com

Noon

Free
SF *Firefly/Serenity* fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month.

Silicon Gulch Browncoats

Various locations (see website for details)
www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org
Noon - 2 p.m.

Free
Silicon Valley fans of *Firefly/Serenity* meet up on the first Saturday of the month.

Tangential Conjectures: The Science Fiction Book Club

Books Inc.
301 Castro Street
Mountain View
650-428-1234
7:30 p.m.

Free
Generally meets the third Thursday of the month.

USS Augusta Ada

Round Table Pizza
3567 Geary Blvd.
San Francisco
trek.starshine.org
1 p.m.

Free
Augusta Ada is both a chapter of Starfleet International and a Linux and *BSD user group. Usually meets the fourth Saturday of every month.

USS Defiance

Round Table Pizza

1566 Howe Ave.
Sacramento
www.usdefiance.org
7 p.m.

Free
Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month.

Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE

Round Table Pizza
4403 Elkhorn Blvd
Sacramento
916-338-2300

Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.