



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #121 - April 2000

E-MAIL: info@lambdasf.org WEBSITE: <http://www.lambdasf.org/>

“What’s up with the LSF Book Discussion Group?”



If you’re interested in lively discussions of F&SF books, with an emphasis on elements of interest to our les/bi/gay/transgendered community, then drop in on one of LSF’s monthly book discussions. Each month, for over a year now, we’ve been conducting fascinating round-table discussions of works by significant F&SF authors. Attendees also decide on the books and discussion facilitators for upcoming sessions.

The LSF Book Discussion Group usually meets on the 4th Thursday of every month, starting at 7:00 PM. The next meeting will be held on January 27th, at the home of Rob and Peter, 1425 “S” St., NW, Washington, DC (within walking distance of the “U” St./Cardozo [Green Line] or the Dupont Circle [Red Line] Metro Stations). For detailed directions, contact Rob at: klaatu01@aol.com

Here are the books to be discussed at the next few meetings:

- **Thurs., April 28** - *Accidental Creatures*, by Anne Harris (facilitator: Bob A.)
- **Thurs., May 25** - *Grass*, by Sherri Tepper (facilitator: Scott R.)
- **Thurs., June 22** - *Trader*, by Charles deLint (facilitator: Helgi)

ΛΨΦ

The 10-Year-Old Minutes of the March LSF Meeting

by Rob

Remarkable as it sounds, our March meeting was our tenth anniversary.

In honor of this tremendous milestone, we decided to hold a Business Meeting. (Okay, so we *always* hold a Business Meeting.) After our name circle, we plunged right in. Rob gave a quick report on that day’s meeting of the **LSF Organizational Review team**. The group has made significant progress on the topic of voting procedures and hopes to be able to bring a proposal to the club membership in April. He also reminded everyone that the organizational discussions are open to everyone. Our source of information was not present, so we passed over the issue of LSF participating at the Black Pride event until the April LSF meeting. Jack and Kay reported on Gaylaxicon 2000 proceedings and called for assistance in publicity from anyone attending conventions (or other places where flyers might be distributed). Finally, Kay reported on the ongoing **discussions in the Gaylactic Network** about *Network* reorganization. The club will be voting on proposals regarding some advertising and promotional expenditures soon and may have a slate of small re-organization proposals to vote on in April. In addition, two significant proposals regarding Network reorganization will be voted on at the April meeting. Kay is also looking at

putting together a small group of people to draft an overall LSF proposal for Network reorganization, since no one is happy with any of the existing proposals.

With business out of the way, we moved on to the important part of our gathering - **the social meeting**. We did another name circle; and then Dan filled us in on details for the April 1st Video Party. Peter and Rob shared stuff from the PO Box and reported somewhat favorably on *The Ninth Gate*. Tim reported on some action figure news, including a new Space Ghost figure and impending figures from *Where the Wild Things Are*. He also passed around *G-Fan* (a Godzilla fandom magazine) and a few other mags for people to peruse. Stephen reported on *Mission to Mars* by saying it is “better than *SuperNova*, but

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Next LSF Meeting: April 9th

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on Sunday, April 9th, at James Crutchfield's apartment: 1414 17th St., NW, Apt. 413 (near Dupont Circle) - 1:30 PM for business meeting; 2:00 PM for social meeting. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks if you can. See you there!

WHAT'S INSIDE? *Mission to Mars* (movie review - pg. 2); *The Zero Spring* (book review - pg. 2); **A Cartoon** by Chris Browning (pg. 2); **Peter's 1999 Movie & TV Year-in-Review** (pg. 3); **Ye Olde Editor's Corner** (pg. 3); **How *The Blair Witch Project*...** (video reviews - pg. 4); **Around the Town - Exhibits of Interest** (pg. 5); **About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians & Con Calendar** (pg. 6)

Mission to Mars
reviewed by Stephen Morse

When I came to the March LSF meeting, I gave *Mission to Mars* the quick review of being better than *SuperNova*. Upon reflection I think I was in the position of someone who's kidnapped and begins to sympathize with their kidnapper.

The first big problem that *M2M* has is that it goes from hard science to soft science on a whim. While they did research into how we currently think people would make the trip to Mars, that research took a back seat when something sounded or looked "cool". The most glaring error I saw was the apparent ability to create spinning 3D models of human DNA out of M&M candies in zero gravity. The character says that it's his "perfect woman" - so not only can he make mini-gravity for the candy to circle, he's also able to read DNA like a book. *SuperNova* doesn't suffer from this problem, because they didn't try and say it was a hard science movie: when they say their craft is going to FTL speed, it's just part of the way their science works.

The second big problem with *M2M* is the plot. Everything's neatly

tied up by the end of the movie; and things that *shouldn't* happen are allowed to happen just to make sure the plot moves along. The story is forced along so much that you don't really care who lives and who doesn't. You also don't care when they come up with the dumbest explanation for life on Earth that I have ever heard of. (*SuperNova* has a similar problem.) Pretty quickly you know a lot of people are going to die and there's going to be a big explosion - it's just a matter of how long it is going to take for them to get there.

When I think about how good a movie is, I only have two criteria: will I see it again; and will I buy it? Well, folks, I would see *SuperNova* again, because it is so bad you can talk trash about it; but I can't say the same for *Mission to Mars*. I certainly wouldn't *buy* either one. Strangely enough, *M2M* has been doing really well in the box office because it's not a Science Fiction Fan's movie - it's a movie for the masses, like *Independence Day* and *Jurassic Park*.

With this kind of review, people are going to want to see it just to see how bad it is. My advice? See it for as cheaply as you can.

ΛΨΦ

The Zero Spring
by Stephen Mitchell
a book review by Rob

It's rare that a book comes along that blows me away as much as this one. First-time author Mitchell has put together an action-packed, suspenseful SF masterpiece. Set in a distant future, it relates the story of the evacuation of Earth in the last days before a planetary catastrophe makes the world unlivable. What makes the book even more incredible is the fact that it is jam-packed with gay and lesbian characters.

Mitchell's future science is well-founded in current theory, yet extrapolative to the point of wonder. He walks a fine line between seemingly fantastic devices and an obvious understanding and acceptance of physical reality. Nothing he mentions or uses is impossible, given our understanding of how the universe works, yet each new thing we see truly refreshes the sense of wonder that is the heart of science fiction. Not to be outdone by technology and things, his story is gripping and well-paced. There are obstacles to overcome, political schemes to undo, consequences to actions taken.

What makes the book stand out though is not the action or the science, but the characters. Mitchell's characters, both major and minor, are three-dimensional. There are no cardboard cutouts here; motivations are a tricky morass of mixed morality; character quirks abound; and sometimes there's not much difference between the heroes and villains. And most of the characters we see on stage through his tale are gays and lesbians, with lovers and friends, domestic problems, and worlds to save. He's even thrown in a rather touching love story between one of the last Earth citizens and a man sent to sabotage the rescue mission.

Zero Spring is, without a doubt, one of the finest genre novels I've read in some time. It combines solid hard science with a people-based story, with amazing results. Hunt this book down and revel in it. That way, when it appears on next year's award ballots you'll be ready! Rating: 10 out of 10!!

ΛΨΦ

A Cartoon by Chris Browning



Peter's 1999 Movie & TV Year-In-Review

by Peter Knapp

This summer I will be going to the World Science Fiction convention again after a two-year absence. Membership has its privileges. I not only get to vote for the Hugo Awards but also get to nominate worthy works. Being a "media fan," I most look forward to the Best Dramatic Presentation, for either the best genre feature film or the best single episode of a genre TV show. But what to nominate? My mind initially drew a blank.

Was there anything worthy of a Hugo on TV? *Farscape* was probably the best new genre show of 1999. No particular episode stood out for me, though.

Part of *Deep Space Nine's* seventh (and last) season was telecast in 1999. Highlights included: a lesbian kiss between the Mirror Universe's bisexual Kira and lesbian Ezri Dax in "The Emperor's New Cloak;" an exploration of alternate sexuality between Odo and a fellow Changeling (Laas) in "Chimera;" and the May 29th conclusion to the *Deep Space Nine* Saga, "What You Leave Behind." I really liked their conclusion to seven years of the best *Star Trek* show; but I don't think it stood out on its own. To really appreciate it, you needed to follow the show, especially the last two seasons.

Voyager, which has gotten better since 7-of-9 joined the cast, didn't come close to warranting a Hugo nomination. My two favorite episodes of the year had their faults. "Bride of Chotica" was a hilarious homage to *Flash Gordon*. The episode suffered from the ridiculous "B" plot involving photonic beings being attacked by the *Voyager* equivalent of Ming the Merciless. "Dark Frontier" introduced another Borg Queen, who was almost as chilling as the Borg Queen from *First Contact*. While this two-hour episode boasted production values comparable to a theatrical feature, it lacked originality, as it borrowed heavily from *First Contact* and probably the best *Star Trek*:

The Next Generation episode, "The Best of Both Worlds."

I tried to sample a few episodes of the other genre shows last year; but nothing captured my imagination. 1999 was not a Hugo year for television. What about movies? There must have been something good out there.

According to the February 4, 2000 issue of *Entertainment Weekly*, 41 genre movies (29%) made it into the top 141 grossing movies of 1999. Horror dominated, with 17 movies; Science Fiction came in second, with 13 movies; and Fantasy followed closely, with 11 movies. Genre movies captured the top 6 slots. Of the top 10 movies, 8 were genre. Of the top 20 movies of 1999, 13 fell into the genre category. It was a good year financially for the genre.

So which of the 141 genre movies were my favorite? I plan to nominate the following five movies (from least favorite to most favorite) for Hugo consideration:

Galaxy Quest - I didn't think much of the promos for this movie. I thought it would be stupid. Surprisingly, *Galaxy Quest* captures perfectly what it is like to be a "fan" and what science fiction conventions can be like. It also parodies *Star Trek* brilliantly. If *Galaxy Quest* had only parodied *Star Trek* and its fandom, I would have enjoyed the movie. But the heroes find themselves on a real spaceship with real villains to fight. Take that, Captain Kirk!

The Matrix - According to Rob, this is the first movie (except perhaps *Blade Runner*) that has truly captured the Cyberpunk sub-genre. While Michael might disagree with Rob's assessment, I feel that *The Matrix* provides two hours and fifteen minutes of thrill-ride entertainment. The effects are marvelous, the acting (except for poor Keanu Reeves) is strong, and the story is interesting. I especially enjoyed watching something that wasn't a sequel.

The Mummy - Fifteen minutes into *The Mummy* I turned to Rob and said, "This is a really stupid movie, but it's a lot of fun!" I enjoyed the almost nonstop thrill-ride. In this age of

computer-generated imagery (CGI), it is no longer difficult to make special effects look convincing. It takes true artistry to make them creative, though. *The Mummy* excels at using CGI, from depicting breathtaking landscapes to re-composing bodies.

The Iron Giant - This underrated animated gem didn't last long in theaters. What a shame. Everyone should see this wonderful tale of a boy and his robot in a Cold War America that I can only dream about. This movie is truly marvelous!

Toy Story 2 - *Aliens*, *The Empire Strikes Back*, and *Terminator 2* are rare exceptions to the rule that sequels pale in comparison to their predecessors. *Toy Story 2* should be added to that list. I thoroughly enjoyed *Toy Story* and would have been happy if they hadn't made a sequel. I resisted seeing the sequel, especially after hearing that it was better than *Toy Story*. No way? Yes, way! Pixar has made a truly magical movie with a message that hits home to a lot of us - family is who you want it to be, not what you were born with.

Will *Toy Story 2* win? Who knows? Last year's Hugo for best dramatic presentation went to *The Truman Show*. I would have voted for *Dark City*.

ΛΨΦ

Ye Olde Editor's Corner

Wow! Here's another jam-packed issue of the newsletter with some really great stuff in it! And this one features stuff from more than just "the usual suspects."

Great big wonderful editorial thanks to Stephen Morse for his review of *M2M*. This is Stephen's first article for the LSF newsletter; and I certainly hope we'll hear from him more often!

And it's absolutely *great* to once again feature a cartoon from Chris Brown-ing! (Thank you, Peter, for finally getting that @#%& scanner fixed!)

And, speaking of Peter, there's even an article from *him* in this issue! It's been a long time since his last one! Keep up the good work, Peter! (He's standing right behind me as I type this!)

How *The Blair Witch Project* moved to *South Park* and swam in *Lake Placid* with *The Phantom Menace* while relating the *Tale of the Mummy* at the *End of Days* or "Damn, I forgot to review these flicks!!" [Part the 2nd] video reviews by Joseph Parra



[Ed. note: As you may - or may not - remember, last month Joe had just finished reviewing *The Blair Witch Project*, when I so rudely interrupted him by running out of space in that issue. Well, we return now to our scheduled program, without further commercial interruption.]

South Park

#@^*(++==!!! What an adorable !#%*—?/ cartoon feature *,>//"; film! Like the @\$!^^*/TV show, you either love or hate these little potty mouths; there's no two %&***! ways about it! This time out, Saddam Hussein is the Devil's lover in Hell - but more or less is the "dominant" personality in the relationship. He convinces ol' Nick that they should invade the living world by having a war break out between America and Canada, all stemming from the proposed execution of Canadian TV stars "Terrance & Philip". All the little %^\$^&'s get involved and, quite literally, all Hell breaks loose! To say any more about the plot itself would ruin the film. Suffice it to say that I have really only scratched the surface. It was quite pee-in-your-pants hilarious to finally hear all the swear words that standard cable (via the Comedy Central folks) can't allow coming out of those awful little mouths. As I said, you either love or hate these little)^%\$\$^& weirdly-drawn kids and their friends—me, I \$#@%\$^&^!! love 'em! Enjoy!!
Rating: 3½ out of a possible 4

Lake Placid

Let me start off by saying that, if for no other reason, see this movie to

hear Betty White (Rose on the *Golden Girls* TV show) use 4-letter words that would make a sailor blush! This is the saga of a 40-foot salt water crocodile that has somehow made his way to a Maine lake. No, this isn't the *famous* Lake Placid; *that's* in New York. This lake is called "Placid" because it's anything *but*. Several boaters and swimmers are munched on, so the local law enforcement (realizing that they have a monster on their hands that they are incapable of dealing with) enlist the aid of naturalist Bill Pullman and paleontologist Brigitte Fonda. They also get -- though they don't want -- insane croc specialist Oliver Platt. Normally, salt water crocs don't get quite this big (the record one caught being about 24 feet) and they are *never* up in Maine for any reason. So what has drawn Junior up to Maine; and, more importantly, what keeps him there? Tongues are placed very firmly in cheeks here, something that escaped several critics, oddly enough -- but not all, yours truly included. There are several big monster movie cliches that are played for all they are worth here and a few surprises that are truly surprising and hilarious along the way. If you enjoy monster movie parodies, this is one not to miss — and that's no croc!!! Enjoy!!
Rating: 3 out of a possible 4

The Phantom Menace

This has become quite a controversial episode in the "Star Wars saga". Many fans feel that George Lucas is pandering to his audience, while others feel he is knuckling under to studio pressures. It's also been said that some of the characters are "racial stereotypes" and are offensive to some fans as being politically incorrect. By now the plot is known to everyone, so I'll simply summarize: This takes place during Anakin Skywalker's youth and shows us how he was taken to be a prophetic figure by the Jedi Knights and how the evil Empire had its beginnings. This is an extremely enjoyable film. It

may not be as "deep and meaningful" as its predecessors, but it is just as enjoyable. What many fans do not seem to realize is that, since this is Lucas' dream of an expensive space opera serial, there will be moments, even episodes, which may not be as explosive as others. This is the way serials are built; look at *Flash Gordon* or *Captain Marvel* for cases in point. As to "pressures": no, since Lucas not only produced the film himself but also backed it with his own money, so the only person to pressure him was actually himself. Re:"racial stereotypes"... I watched a wonderful program on the BET cable network specifically dealing with all the hoopla about this being perceived in the movie. Literally every single person in this discussion felt that this was ridiculous and was laughing at how members of one ethnic/racial group were always so concerned about offending others that they find fault where none exists. 'Nuff said. The effects are excellent, as is the stellar cast - which includes Ewan McGregor and Liam Neeson. Hooray, George Lucas — may the Force always be with you!! Enjoy! By the by, the widescreen tape will only be made available via a special set offered by Fox Video and NOT offered in DVD!!

Rating: 3½ out of a possible 4

Tale of the Mummy

What at first might be dismissed as yet another in the many mummy movies that came out in light of the then-impending release of Universal's *The Mummy* is actually quite an original story (although the carry-through is fairly routine) with some spectacular special effects. In this tale, archaeologists once again disturb the ancient Egyptian dead, but this time the monster that comes to life is not an ancient withered body, but the bandages that covered it! While that may sound quite comical (and at times is), this is generally played with straight-laced effect. Christopher Lee appears in the footage before the credits. Mr. Lee's appearance and the marvelous CGI are the main assets that this novel twist of a story has going for it. What it has

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How *The Blair Witch Project* ... etc., etc., etc.

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against it are blah performances and a moronic ending that comes out of nowhere. Enjoy a little!

Rating: 2 out of a possible 4

End of Days

“Arnold Schwarzenegger vs. the Devil” about sums up what has to be one of the most expensive potboilers to ever hit the big screen. With a plot left over from several old *Exorcist* and/or *Omen* movies (that they managed to convey quite well), Satan gets freed from his prison(?) every millennium and gets to try to impregnate some pre-chosen lady and perpetrate his reign on earth, yadayadayada. Gabriel Byrne is fun as Beezezebub; and the CGI effects are quite good; but this B-movie disguised as an A-movie is over 2½ hours long! The only way to not guess this turkey out from under itself is to have never seen ANY supernatural horror movie. Enjoy, if you fast forward—a lot.

Rating: 1½ out of a possible 4

Whew! What a spell to get through all those \$#\$%^^^!! crocs, me’s-a-thinks, without getting wrapped up until the end of days!!! Ciao!!!

ΛΨΦ

The 10-Year-Old Minutes of the March LSF Meeting

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not as good as *Lost in Space*.” That about says it all, doesn’t it?

Michael reported on the play *R&J*, which he had recently seen, as a very well done take on *Romeo and Juliet* at a repressed all boys school. He also mentioned that the mysterious “Pokemon illness” suffered by hundreds of Japanese children during a specific episode of the show has been diagnosed as “photo reactive epilepsy,” which sounds kind of fun. We also heard about a movie called *Incubus*, apparently the first and only film done entirely in Esperanto. And, straight off the success of his *Guide to Pern* book, Anne McCaffrey’s son Todd will actually be doing a novel in the Pern universe.

It was reported that John Kolikos, who had played Balthar on *Battlestar Galactica* and Kor on *Star Trek* had passed away. Carl passed around a copy of *Science Fiction Culture*, a new book by Camille Bacon-Smith that talks about science fiction fandom, including an entire chapter on gay fandom, with interviews of many folks (including Carl). Denise reported on the ongoing saga of a comic called *The Authority*, where two of the male

heroes in the team are apparently lovers. A new writer on the comic is planning to make them much more open about their relationship. The latest GLG newsletter was passed around as well. Rob pleaded with everyone to submit Spectrum nominations and suggested that he will lead a discussion on gay content in genre stuff at the April meeting to encourage submissions. He also mentioned rumors of a *Mists of Avalon* miniseries possibly planned for 2001.

Kay passed around a batch of new action figures, including *Matrix* figures, and mentioned a slate of new and upcoming toys which will include *Akira* figures, more *South Park* toys, an interactive Yoda, and Furby Companions. She also reported that *Buffy* and *Angel* have been renewed and that rumors were circulating about Tim Burton helming the new *Planet of the Apes* remix. An upcoming *X-Files* episode will take place in Hollywood, where Garry Shandling and Tea Leoni will be playing Fox Mulder and Dana Scully in a movie based on the exploits of our heroes. And in other TV news, *Roswell* is moving to Mondays and is planning to add more genre elements. In upcoming video/DVD release news, *Galaxy Quest*, *Being John Malkovich*, and *Sleepy Hollow* will be out in May. And, in rattling off titles of upcoming releases, Kay coined a new movie title which we all decided we want to see: *Stuart Little: End of Days*. Finally, in movie rumor news, the sequel to *Men in Black* is currently titled *Men In Black: Alien Attack*; also, Eddie Murphy is supposedly slated to star in a remake of *The Incredible Shrinking Man*.

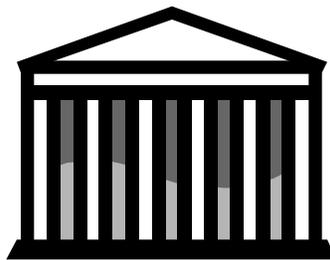
With all of that out of the way, we huddled round as a birthday cake for LSF’s 10th anniversary was brought out. We all ate cake and ice cream, and went home fat and happy!

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Around the Town (Exhibits of Interest)

National Geographic Society

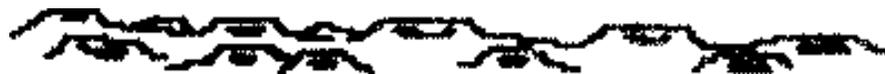
Original illustrations commissioned by and published in *National Geographic Magazine* during the past 100 years are celebrated in an exhibition at the National Geographic Society’s Explorer’s Hall (17th & M Streets; near the Red Line’s Farragut North Metro Station). “The Art of National Geographic - A Century of Illustration” will run **until April 30, 2000**. The exhibit will feature such unphoto-graphable vistas as a view of Saturn from within its rings and scenes of dinosaurs. Explorer’s Hall is open 9-5 (Mon-Sat) and 10-5 (Sun). For more information, call (202) 857-7588.



Library of Congress

The enduring popularity of L. Frank Baum’s *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* is the focus of an upcoming show at the Library of Congress (10 First St., SE). “Oz at 100” will run from **April 24 to Sept. 23, 2000**. For more information, call (202) 707-4604.

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**** INFORMATION ABOUT LAMBDA SCI-FI: DC AREA GAYLAXIANS ****

Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians (LSF) is an organization for gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered (GLBT) people, and their friends who are interested in science fiction, fantasy, horror and related genres in all forms (SF/F/H). LSF's primary goals are to have fun, to provide a community, and to:

- promote SF/F/H, with particular attention to materials of interest to GLBT people and their friends;
- provide forums for GLBT people and their friends to share their interest in SF/F/H;
- promote the presence of GLBT elements within SF/F/H and within fandom; and
- promote SF/F/H within the GLBT community.

Annual membership fees are \$20, for which you will receive this monthly newsletter and a membership directory. Newsletter submissions are always welcome.

Meetings are generally held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held Sunday, April 9th, at James Crutchfield's apartment: 1414 17th St., NW, Apt. 413 (near DuPont Circle) - 1:30 PM for business meeting; 2:00 PM for social meeting. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can. Hope to see you there!

Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians is an affiliate of **the Gaylactic Network**, an international organization for gay people and their friends who are interested in science-fiction and fantasy.



Con Calendar

by Carl, Peter, Rob and James



April 21-23, 2000 **BALTICON 34**. Baltimore Omni Inner Harbor Hotel (Baltimore). GoH: Octavia Butler; Artist GoH: Wendy Pini; Editor GoH: Richard Pini. Membership: \$45 at the door. Hotel rate: \$114/night + tax (sgl - quad). Make checks payable to "Baltimore Science Fiction Society".

E-mail: bsfs@balticon.org Web: <http://www.balticon.org>

May 26-29, 2000 **COSTUMECON 18**. Sheraton Hartford (Hartford, Conn.). The 18th annual volunteer-run convention for costumers and all who love costumes. Membership \$70 thru 4/23/2000; \$80 thereafter & at the door. Make checks payable to "CostumeCon 18" and send to: CostumeCon 18, 11 Winter St., Amesbury, MA 01913-1515. For more information:

e-mail: info@cc2000.org website: www.cc2000.org

July 28-30, 2000 **CLASSIC FILMFEST 2000**. Hyatt Crystal City (Arlington, VA). "We're still Monster Rally -- just better!!!" Guests: Samuel Arkoff, Roger Corman, Janet Leigh, and many more. VIP Membership: \$60. Make checks payable to "Midnight Marquee Press" and send to: Midnight Marquee Press, 9721 Britinay Ln., Baltimore, MD 21234.

For information: www.Midmar.com or call (410) 665-1198

June 30 - July 2, 2000 **ANTHROCON 2000**. Hilton Valley Forge Hotel (251 DeKalb Pike, King of Prussia, PA). The East Coast's largest Anthropomorphics Convention. For hotel reservations: 610-337-1200, or 800-TRY-VFPA. Membership: \$35 until 6/15/00. Make checks payable to "Anthrocon, Inc." and send to: Anthrocon, Inc., PO Box 270, Devault, PA 19432-0270.

Aug. 31 - Sept. 4, 2000 **CHICON 2000 (the 58th World Science Fiction Convention)**. Hyatt Regency & environs (Chicago). GoH: Ben Bova; Artist GoH: Bob Eggleton; Editor GoH: Jim Baen. Membership (as of 10/1/99): \$150 (& going up?). Make checks payable to "Chicon 2000" and send to: Chicon 2000, PO Box 642057, Chicago, IL 60664.

E-mail: chi2000@chicon.org Web site: www.chicon.org

Oct. 6-9, 2000 **GAYLAXICON 2000**. Arlington Hilton & Towers (Arlington, VA). GoH: Fiona Patton; Artist GoH: Nan Fredman. Membership: \$45 until 9/8/2000; \$55 at the door. Hotel rate: \$99/night (sgl/dbl), +\$20 for each add'l guest. Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon 2000" and send to: Gaylaxicon 2000, PO Box 1862, Annandale, VA 22003-9862. Web: <http://www.lambdasf.org/g2k>