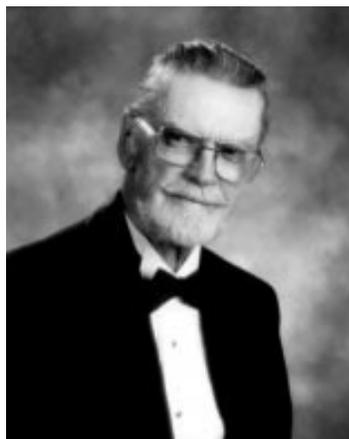


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### L. Sprague de Camp



**1907 - 2000**

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, another of science fiction's Greats passed away.

The works of L. Sprague de Camp are staples in the field of classic science fiction. I know Julian favors the "Viagens Interplanetarias" stories, a series of planetary romances (such as *A Planet Called Krishna*, 1954, and *The Tower of Zanid*, 1958), set in a future where Brazil is the dominant space-faring nation. For me, it's De Camp's short stories that I'll always be fondest of, specifically his F&SF bar stories (collected in *Tales from Gavagan's Bar*, 1953) and his time-traveling big-game-hunter stories (as collected in *A Gun for Dinosaur*, 1963, and *Rivers of Time*, 1996).

### Book Exchange at Jan. 14th LSF Meeting



As promised in last month's newsletter, here's a short reminder about Lambda Sci-Fi's *eleventh* annual book exchange, which will occur at the upcoming Jan. 14th meeting! All LSF members - and visitors, guests, attendees, etc. - are invited to participate in this "blind book exchange."

In case you've never participated in one of these before (or in case you've forgotten), here's how it works:

- (1) Go out and purchase a copy of your "favorite" science fiction, fantasy, or horror book. (Over the years, LSF has expanded the concept of "book" to include comics, videotapes, "books on tape," etc. If you want - or if you're feeling particularly wealthy - you can even make it *several* favorite books or whatever.)
- (2) Insert a piece of paper (or a bookmark) with your name on it. (That's so whoever eventually ends up with the item will know who it's from and will get to know a little more about you — at least to know what one of your "favorites" is.)
- (3) Wrap up the exchange item, but don't put any identifying marks or anything on the wrapped package to say who it's from. (That's to make sure it's a "blind" exchange - *i.e.* no one is supposed to know who it's from at first. And, by the way, all of that leftover Holiday wrapping paper should come in handy here!)
- (4) At the meeting, add your wrapped

### Jan. 14th LSF Meeting

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at James Crutchfield's apartment 1414 17th St., NW, #413, on Sunday, Jan. 14th -- 1:30 PM for business meeting.

The social meeting will begin at 2:00 PM. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks if you can. See you there!

**Remember:** The 11th annual LSF Book Exchange will also be held at this meeting. All attendees (members or non-members) are invited to participate. For details, refer to the article which begins on this page.

exchange item to the pile with all the others; and you'll be assigned a number. (Only one exchange item - *i.e.* one package - per person, please!)

(5) When your number is called, you pick one of the packages from the pile. (And when you open it up, you'll find out who it's from.) See how easy?

And, while we're on the subject, here's what happened in last year's exchange:

Peter received *The Stand* (video) and *The Stone Prince*/Fiona Patton (from Scott). Kendall received *Out for Blood*/John Peyton Cooke (from Peter). Randy received *Far Beyond the Stars*/Steven Barnes and *At the Mountains of Madness*/HP Lovecraft (from Carl). Michael received *Dying Earth* and *Eyes of the Overworld* and *Cugel's Saga*/Jack Vance (from Kendall).

(continued on page 2)

### WHAT'S INSIDE?

The LSF Book Discussion Group (pg.2); *Resurrection Day* (book preview - pg. 2); The Ultimate [annotated] Minutes of the December LSF Meeting (pg. 3); Two Views of an American Dystopia (book reviews - pg. 4); "The World Well Lost" (story review - pg. 5); About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians and Con Calendar (pg. 6)

## The LSF Book Discussion Group



If you're interested in lively discussions of F&SF books (with an emphasis on elements of interest to the LGBT community), we invite you to join the LSF Book Discussion Group. Each month, for over a year now, we've been conducting fascinating round-table discussions of works by significant F&SF authors.

The LSF Book Discussion Group generally meets on the 4th Thursday of every month, starting at 7:00 PM. The next meeting will be held on Jan. 25th, at Peter & Rob's house, 1425 "S" St., NW. (For directions or more details, call 202-483-6369.)

Here's the Discussion Group's schedule for the next several months:

--- **Thurs., Jan. 25** - *Dune*, by Frank Herbert; facilitator: Peter.

--- **Thurs., Feb. 26** - *Anno Dracula*, by Kim Newman; facilitator: Carl.

--- **Thurs., March 22** - *Resurrection Day*, by Brendan DuBois; facilitator: Carl?

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A very special  
"Thank You!"  
to Peter for  
the nifty ballots  
he created for  
LSF's December  
elections --  
no butterflies,  
no chads, no misunder-  
standings!

## *Resurrection Day* a short preview by Carl Cipra

Well, I had originally intended to write a review of this novel; but now it's just gonna have to be a brief preview! You see, the LSF Book Discussion Group recently chose this novel as the subject of our March 22<sup>nd</sup> book discussion; and it hardly seems fair to spoil it all by giving it all away in a book review now.

Suffice it to say that *Resurrection Day* is a murder mystery, a thriller, and an alternate history story all rolled into one. The author, Brendan DuBois, has won the Shamus Award and been nominated for the Edgar Award three times; so you can pretty much figure that this book is well-written, too.

The novel takes place in an alternate United States in the year 1972, almost ten years after the short nuclear war known as "the Cuban War". Cuban War? Yep, you heard me right. In fact, that's where this particular "alternate history" began, since in *our* world the Cuban Missile Crisis never turned into a shooting war. In the world of *Resurrection Day*, it did. However, don't expect some sort of post-apocalyptic sci-fi novel, where the world is filled with mutant monsters, primitive human survivors, etc. Except for a few significant

changes (which I'll let you discover yourself), this world should still appear pretty familiar to you. The action of the story centers around Carl Landry, a reporter for the *Boston Globe*. Landry is investigating what appears, at first, to be a typical East Boston murder; but he starts to turn up hints of something far more sinister, something that could well cost him *his* life, too.

That's all I'll say for now. Read the book for yourself and then come join the March 22<sup>nd</sup> LSF book discussion. *Resurrection Day* has just hit the stands; but the odds are you probably won't find this paperback in your local bookstore's science fiction/fantasy section. You're more likely to run across it in the mystery, action/thriller, general fiction, or new releases sections. Go figure.

And, tell you what, if you're looking for a quick way to brush up on your knowledge of the Cuban Missile Crisis, there's a movie due to be released this January that might fill the bill. It's called *Thirteen Days*. The director is Roger Donaldson (*No Way Out*, *Species*), and the screenplay is by David Self (*The Haunting*). Except for Kevin Costner, I can't say as I recognize any of the actors' names.

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## Book Exchange

Dan received *Trader*/Charles deLint (from Helgi).

Kay received *Red Orc's Rage*/Philip José Farmer (from Randy).

Jack received the "Gap" series/Stephen R Donaldson (from Chris).

Nan received the "Lensman" series/EE "Doc" Smith (from Tim).

Scott received *Mainline*/Deborah Christian (from Rob).

Steve received *A Familiar Dragon*/Daniel Hood (from Jack).

Chris received *Diaspora*/Greg Egan (from Julian).

Rob received 3 cyberpunk videos (from Kay).

Denise received *Kirinyaga*/Mike Resnick (from Barrett).

continued from page 1

Helgi received the "Wraethu" series/Storm Constantine (from Steve).

Carl received *The Merro Tree*/Katie Waitman (from Nan).

Julian received *Kissing the Witch*/Emma Donaghue (from Denise).

Tim received the "Chronicles of Narnia" series/CS Lewis (from Dan).

That's quite an array of titles and authors, isn't it? I can hardly wait to see what shows up *this* year!

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# The Ultimate [annotated] Minutes of the December LSF Meeting

by Rob

Well, in order to fully celebrate the utter joy which is my life in knowing that I can now pass the reins of minute-taking on to a new victim -- er, volunteer -- I have decided to relate my final slate of minutes through a sequence of poorly-written Haiku, mostly in the 5-7-5 format. [Ed. Note: Another "first" for the LSF newsletter! Kudos, Rob!]

The Network exists.<sup>1</sup>  
The PhAGs voted to dissolve.<sup>2</sup>  
They are now kaput.

The mailbox brings fun.  
It is passed around the room.  
Nothing catches eye.

Long live *Akira*,  
action toy still mint on card.  
We all oohed and aahed.<sup>14</sup>

To add a domain,  
a precious thing for the club.  
It was much approved.<sup>3</sup>

Many cons coming;  
Capclave, Smofcon, Fantasy.  
Perhaps we'll help.

*Dune* - Desert Planet,  
Arrakis is a dry place.  
Six hours of okay.<sup>15</sup>

If a leader leaves,  
we offered three plans to deal.  
All plans were approved.<sup>4</sup>

Films have been showing.  
*Dungeons and Dragons* sucks bad.  
*Red Planet* is worse.

Tivo is new toy.  
You can record much on it.  
Rush out and buy one.<sup>16</sup>

What is a meeting?  
On second Sunday occurs  
by vote of members.<sup>5</sup>

*Creepy Susie* rocks<sup>9</sup>,  
*Decadent Traveler*, too<sup>10</sup>.  
Michael has weird books.

*Dexter's Lab* this week.  
Two boys in love, walk away  
arm in arm. We cheer.<sup>17</sup>

Newsletter costs much.  
Should we approve all the funds?  
We say it is so.<sup>6</sup>

Charlie has Angels.  
They kick many bad guys butts.  
They are much admired.<sup>11</sup>

New Year's Eve party.  
Nan and Kay to host event,  
in Rockville much fun.<sup>18</sup>

New leaders we chose.  
Incumbents scored victories.  
Scott Secretary.<sup>7</sup>

Spectrum Awards done.  
The winners danced happy jigs.  
Nominate new faves.<sup>12</sup>

LSF will game,  
last Saturday second month.  
Yes, February.<sup>19</sup>

Committees how to,  
should we discuss process now?  
Table for later.<sup>8</sup>

*Freedom*, what is that?  
Bad show now being cancelled.  
We shrug in ennui.

Carl's Mother knits scarves.  
We auction them to bidders,  
much money raised for club.<sup>20</sup>

Business over.  
There are many joyous cries.  
Names in a circle.

Kay and Nan buttoned.  
Buttons for sale, cool buttons  
support the Network.<sup>13</sup>

Minutes long.  
I fear Carl will scream.  
Now I stop.<sup>21</sup>

Λ Ψ Φ

## FOOTNOTES:

<sup>1</sup> Kay reported on the current status of the Network's reorganization efforts.

<sup>2</sup> She also reported that the Phila. Area Gaylaxians voted at Philcon to disband as an official Network Affiliate but that they will continue as a small social group.

<sup>3</sup> Approved est. \$190 to register 2<sup>nd</sup> domain name for 2 years.

<sup>4</sup> For wording of proposals on resignation, involuntary removal, and immediate removal of Officers, see the Dec. newsletter.

<sup>5</sup> "Regular" = 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month (unless voted otherwise, or in case of emergencies).

<sup>6</sup> Approved budget of \$550 for year 2001.

<sup>7</sup> Kay (Network Rep), Nan (Speaker), Peter (Membership Coord.), and Rob (Treasurer) were re-elected; and Scott was elected to the new post of Secretary.

<sup>8</sup> We agreed *en masse* not to discuss "committees" at this time.

<sup>9/10</sup> Titles of 2 books Michael passed around.

<sup>11</sup> Dan, Michael & others absolutely raved about how wonderful the new *Charlie's Angels* movie is.

<sup>12</sup> Nominations can be made at: [www.lambdasf.org/spectrum](http://www.lambdasf.org/spectrum)

<sup>13</sup> See Nan & Kay to purchase a Network and/or "gay sci-fi" button.

<sup>14</sup> Kay brought in an *Akira* toy.

<sup>15</sup> The recent Sci-Fi Channel mini-series.

<sup>16</sup> Surely you've seen at least *one* of their TV commercials?!

<sup>17</sup> Apparently, Mandark and a young surfer walked off arm-in-arm into the sunset on a recent episode.

<sup>18</sup> You *should* know about this one already!

<sup>19</sup> Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> gaming party at Jack & Kendall's Virginia home.

<sup>20</sup> Raised \$75 for the LSF treasury.

<sup>21</sup> Editorial response:

Soon comes; cold winds blow;  
And Rob sends *haiku* minutes.  
Oh, how my head aches!

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## Two Views of an American Dystopia a dual-review by Carl Cipra

Back in November 1998 (issue #104), I reviewed *Fantastic Tales*, a collection of short F&SF works by Jack London; and I mentioned that I'd be looking for London's two F&SF novels. Well, I did indeed find both of them and eventually set about writing a review of *The Iron Heel* (1907). Funny thing, though -- before I could get around to writing that review, I happened to run across *It Can't Happen Here*, by Sinclair Lewis (1935). Talk about serendipity! Both novels were written by "classic" American writers and both authors wrote about a similar dystopian theme: the establishment of an oppressive dictatorship here in the United States. I couldn't resist comparing/contrasting them in the same article.

\* \* \*

*The Iron Heel* depicts the establishment of a fascist oligarchy in the early-20th-Century United States and recounts the beginnings of the revolutionary struggles of the proletariat during the period 1912-1932. The book purports to be based on "the Everhard Manuscript", a document written by Avis Everhard, fiancé (later wife) of Ernest Everhard, one of the organizers of the revolution. The incomplete Manuscript was apparently lost during the disastrous period following the failure of the First Revolt and was only rediscovered by scholars living in the socialist America of the 27<sup>th</sup> Century. (Cleverly, London abruptly breaks off the narrative in the middle of a sentence in Chapter 25, as Avis describes efforts to organize the Second Revolt. Was she forced to flee a raid by the Oligarchy's Mercenaries? Was she captured or killed after successfully concealing the manuscript? We aren't told.) From the "scholarly additions" to the manuscript (a Forward and footnotes), it is apparent that the events in the novel are followed by three centuries of tyranny under the American Oligarchy (the so-called "Iron Heel"). The American socialist state of the future will only come to fruition after a whole series of unsuccessful, bloody

Revolts. While reading the book, I was reminded of a quote by George Orwell (from *Science Fictionisms*, Wm. Rotsler ed., 1995): "If you want a picture of the future, imagine a boot stamping on the human face -- forever... and remember that it is forever."

*The Iron Heel* is well-written, exciting, and even rather graphic in parts, particularly in London's descriptions of urban warfare during the ruthless suppression of the Chicago Commune. London's style is less preachy than Edward Bellamy's in his Utopian novel *Looking Backward* (1888), and London is somewhat less addicted to great expository lumps of socialist exegesis than Bellamy. Also, London's bold writing style hasn't lost its sting with the passage of time. Jack London is, after all, the man who wrote *Call of the Wild* and *White Fang* and was, by 1906, one of America's most popular and highest-paid authors.

Part of the power of this novel surely derives from London's own life experiences and the fact that he "knew whereof he spoke". He was a child of the agonizing poverty of the slums and a graduate of the back-breaking labor of the canneries and factories, and he converted to socialism after a stint in a New York penitentiary. In 1896, he joined the Socialist Labor Party. In 1902, he traveled to England and lived for six weeks in London's East End ghettos, gathering material for a sociological study of the lowest levels of the social order, *The People of the Abyss*. (It's a very shocking book; and I highly recommend reading it.) The profits of his writing career allowed London to live a very comfortable life; and he may never have resolved this discrepancy between his beliefs and his lifestyle. (He even owned a yacht and an extensive ranch in northern California.) Ironically, in 1916, London resigned from the Socialist Party "because of its lack of fire and fight and its loss of emphasis on the class struggle." (It's believed that London probably intended *The Iron Heel* to be a warning to his American socialist comrades that their strategy -- relying entirely on the ballot box to defeat capitalism -- was doomed to failure.)

My edition (Lawrence Hill Books, 1980; with, significantly, a "Viva Allende" poster on the cover) contains a fascinating Introduction by H. Bruce Franklin of Rutgers University. In his introduction, Franklin demonstrates just how shockingly accurate London's prophecies were -- even here in the U.S. (Think of the heavy-handed suppression of workers' political organizations in January 1920 by the Dept. of Justice's Bureau of Investigation -- the earlier name for the FBI -- in a series of raids organized by a youthful J. Edgar Hoover.)

\* \* \*

Sinclair Lewis' *It Can't Happen Here* was written about 30 years later, during the pre-WWII years. Whereas London's novel *predicts* the rise of the modern fascist state, Lewis' novel merely *reinterprets* a contemporary European phenomenon into an American context. Alarmed by what he saw Hitler and Mussolini and Franco doing in Europe, Lewis wanted to shake up a complacent American public and (in effect) say: "What do you *mean* that it *can't* happen here, too?! I'll *show* you how it *could* happen!"

Through the eyes of Doremus Jessup, editor of a small-town newspaper in Vermont -- and through the eyes of his family and friends and neighbors -- the reader follows the rise of Senator Berzelius ("Buzz") Windrip and his cronies and followers as they lie, cheat, intimidate, and suborn their way into absolute control of the United States. The parallels with Hitler's rise to power are inescapable -- right down to thinly-disguised depictions of the National Socialist "inner circle". The novel is filled with the full panoply of Nazi-esque nightmares you've seen imitated in such SF shows as *V* (the made-for-TV movie) and "Patterns of Force" (the "classic *Star Trek*" episode). There are assassinations, rallies, political and religious pogroms, racism, midnight knocks on the door, thuggism, desperate races for the border, revolutionary undergrounds, and so on and so on. It's like watching a train-wreck: you can't take your eyes away from the disaster you *know* is coming.

(continued on page 4)

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## “The World Well Lost”

(a tale well-told)

a review/appreciation of Theodore Sturgeon’s classic story  
by Joseph Parra

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Imagination -- the essence of science-fiction; the essence of life, perhaps... Years ago, when I first discovered for myself that then-modern science-fiction didn’t have to contain all kinds of technical gobble-de-goop -- and could, thus (in my mind’s eye), be more interesting -- I started reading stories by all the now-classic authors of modern sci-fi: Asimov, Bradbury, Campbell, Clarke, Van Vogt, Finney, Farmer, and Sturgeon. Theodore Sturgeon became one of my favorite authors because he found a way to make the techno-babble accessible; I didn’t need a PhD from MIT to get through an outer space story! When he died in 1985 at the age of 74, I felt like a great uncle that I’d come to know through letters had passed away. I’d come to know of his works through Forry Ackerman and his classic magazines, *Famous Monsters* and *Spacemen*. I remember reading a brief synopsis of “The World Well Lost” in *Spacemen*. Forry said that it was an expertly-told tale of prejudice and tolerance and understanding and love. It was also one of my earliest experiences in dealing with my own sexuality and so holds a very special place in my heart.

“The World Well Lost” tells the tale of two spaceship crew members who are assigned to transport two aliens back to their home world of Dirbanu, where the two aliens are fugitives. The two human crew people are the gritty bigot Rootes and his hulking subordinate, Grunty, who -- while being a very deep thinker -- communicates in a series of grunts, shrugs, and a few monosyllabic and very few polysyllabic words. Grunty also has a big secret... The aliens are known as “loverbirds”. The two aliens came to Earth for no other purpose than to share love with the inhabitants, after the denizens of Dirbanu had gotten wind of the Earthmen’s presence. Because of all the computer activity through transmitters sending radio waves and such, the Dirbanuite (?) authorities contacted

Terra (us, in case you’ve never read any sci-fi-- HAH!), whom they had regarded with (at best) mild disdain and demanded the return of these fugitives.

While thrusting toward Dirbanu, Grunty discovers something about the aliens which he finds terrifying -- they are telepathic. The chemistry between Rootes and Grunty had always been one of Rootes being the cocky, blabby boss and Grunty being the seemingly slower yet efficient stooge. If the aliens could communicate to Rootes the deep thoughts and vast imagery of Grunty’s mind -- well, all Hell would break loose! Rootes would never understand, let alone appreciate, the literal poetry in Grunty’s soul. Grunty thinks in actual poetic terms through the verses of Omar Khayyam, Samuel Ferguson, Coventry Patmore, and the like. What could a closed-minded windbag like Rootes perceive these thoughts to be? Part of a greater secret, perhaps?

Grunty fears the loverbirds deeply, for perhaps (even though they are of an alien race) he shares something in common with them. Perhaps the only solution is to eliminate them. But what would the consequences be in terms of retaliation from the powerful Dirbanu?

When Sturgeon wrote this story, the “secret” was revealed at the end in order to tie things up nicely. At first glance, the ending might seem too tidy to some readers. But a more probing examination would reveal that in the day and time this was written, the “secret” had to remain, in terms of characters and story, just that. Sturgeon once again found a way to make the inaccessible accessible, thus making things balance. Just as he had made technical jargon fairly understandable, so had he (again, for his time) made understanding homosexuality accessible to the general public’s abilities of comprehension. To read the story today, the initial “clues” to the loverbirds and Grunty are obvious;

## American Dystopia

continued from page 4

*It Can’t Happen Here* is written in a deceptively simple narrative style and tells a powerful and engaging story. It’s not surprising that the novel quickly made it to the best-seller list -- Sinclair Lewis had been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize (1926 - he refused it), had won the Nobel Prize for Literature (1930 - the first American so honored), and was the author of such (literally) “Great American Novels” as *Main Street* (1920), *Babbitt* (1922), *Arrowsmith* (1925), and *Elmer Gantry* (1927).

\* \* \*

I highly recommend both *The Iron Heel* and *It Can’t Happen Here*. Both novels were written by well-known, widely-respected classic American authors who aren’t generally known for having written works in the F&SF genre. (Both novels are examples of dystopian fiction; and *The Iron Heel* also qualifies as a work of “alternate history” -- possibly *It Can’t Happen Here* does, too.) I found both novels to be thought-provoking, enjoyable, and well-written; and I think they offer fascinating alternatives to George Orwell’s *1984* (arguably the best-known dystopian novel). Give ‘em a read. See if they don’t make *you* stop and think -- and, just possibly, take a furtive, worried look around, too.

Λ Ψ Φ

*This time, like all times,  
is a very good one,  
if we but know  
what to do with it.*

-- Ralph Waldo Emerson --

quoted in *Zen Soup*  
by Laurence G. Boldt  
(Penguin-Arkana, 1997)

but imagine, if you will, someone reading this tale at either an earlier, less enlightened time or in some sort of sexual adolescence. The possibilities are staggering. Just imagine...

Thanks once again, Mr. Sturgeon. Super-enjoy! Λ Ψ Φ

**\*\*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 usually held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on **Sunday, Jan. 14th**, at James Crutchfield's home: 1414 17th St., NW, #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, Mike and Kendall



Feb. 3, 2001 (6-11 PM) **WINTERFEST IV**. Orchard Beach Fire Hall (Pasadena, MD). An authentic medieval festival and feast & celebration of the Imbolc/Candlemass Ritual; period costumes encouraged. Cost: \$25/person, \$40/couple. Make checks payable to "Winterfest IV" and send to: Winterfest IV, c/o Susan Raleigh, 9001 Horton Rd., Laurel, MD 20708. For info, call Susan Raleigh at 301-497-0212.

May 25-28, 2001 **BALTICON 35**. Wyndham Baltimore (formerly Omni) Inner Harbor Hotel (Baltimore, MD). GoH: Hal Clement; Artist GoH: Helen "Hala" Fleischer. Membership: \$35 until 12/31/00; \$40 until 3/31/01; \$45 at the door. Make checks payable to "Balticon 35" and send to: Balticon 35, PO Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203-0686. e-mail: bsfs@balticon.org website: <http://www.balticon.org>

July 6-8, 2001 **FANEX 15 (Classic Filmfest)**. Hunt Valley Inn (Baltimore, MD). Guests: TBA. Membership: \$40. Make checks payable to "Midnight Marquee" and send to: Midnight Marquee Press, Inc., 9721 Britnay Ln., Baltimore, MD 21234.

Aug. 24-26, 2001 **THE BALTIMORE WEEKEND OF TERROR**. BWI Airport Marriott (Baltimore). Guests: TBA. Horror convention sponsored by Horrorfind.com and Frightvision, in association with the magazines *Scarlet Street*, *Rue Morgue*, and *Haunted Attraction*. Membership: \$20, until 4/1/2001. Make checks payable to "Horrorfind.com" and send to: Horrorfind.com, 9722 Groff's Mill Dr., PMB 109, Owings Mills, MD 21117.

Aug. 30 - Sept. 3, 2001 **THE MILLENNIUM PHILCON (The 59th World Science Fiction Convention)**. The Pennsylvania Convention Ctr. & Philadelphia Marriott Hotel. GoH: Greg Bear; Artist GoH: Stephen Youll. Attending membership: \$160 (at present; will go UP!). Make checks payable to "The Millennium Philcon" and send to: Millennium Philcon, PO Box 310, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006-0310. website: [www.milphil.org](http://www.milphil.org)

Sept. 28-30, 2001 **CAPCLAVE 2001**. Sheraton College Park (Beltsville, MD). "A new convention for the new millennium." GoH: Gardner Dozois. Membership: \$25 until 4/1/01; \$30 after that. Make checks payable to "Capclave 2001" and send to: Capclave Registration, c/o Alexis Gilliland, 4030 8th St., Arlington, VA 22204