



LAMBDA SCI-FI



DC Area Gaylaxians

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

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, we conduct fascinating roundtable discussions of works by significant F&SF authors.

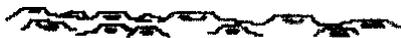
The LSF Book Discussion Group generally meets on the 4th Thursday of every month, starting at 7:00 PM. The next meeting will be Dec. 6 (at Peter & Rob's house, 1425 "S" St., NW -- for directions or more details, call 202-483-6369).

Here's the schedule for the next couple of months:

---**Dec. 6th (combined Nov./Dec. date)** - *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*, by Michael Chabon; facilitator: Mike P. (**Note:** This Pulitzer Prize-winning book is available in trade paperback format.)

— **Jan. 25th** - *Gumshoe Gorilla*, by Keith Hartman; facilitator: TBD. (This is a follow-up novel to Keith's previous novel, *The Gumshoe, the Witch, and the Virtual Corpse*.)

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Reminder: Annual LSF Book Exchange Scheduled for January Meeting

That's right, gang, the Holiday Season is almost upon us again; and it's time for a short reminder about Lambda Sci-Fi's upcoming *twelfth* annual book exchange, which will occur at the January 13th meeting! All LSF members are invited to participate in this "blind book exchange" -- and visitors are invited to join in the fun, too!

Briefly, this will be an opportunity for LSFers to exchange copies of their favorite science-fiction, fantasy, or horror books/videos/etc. and, thus, get to know each other a little better. For those of you unfamiliar with the process, here's how it works: You won't be assigned to exchange books with any *particular* person - it's a "blind" exchange, where participants will get their pick from a pile of anonymous wrapped packages. **There will be full details on the exchange in the next (January) LSF newsletter.**

So, now you've had fair warning. Start looking around for a favorite genre book/video/etc. for the exchange - paperback, hardback, a whole series (if you're feeling particularly wealthy), videotape, etc. And don't forget to save some of that wrapping paper you'll be wading through when the Holidays roll around (Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanza, Yule, Saturnalia, whatever) so you can use it to wrap your exchange item!

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Dec. 9th LSF Meeting

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at James Crutchfield's apartment (1414 17th St., NW, #413) on Sunday, December 9th. The business meeting will begin at 1:30 PM; and the social meeting will begin at 2:00 PM. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can.

See you there!

Remember: Elections will be held at the December meeting; terms of service begin in January, 2002.

We also have the following proposal to vote on: *I propose that we sell the G2K and 1999 T-shirts at the following prices — \$10 for one shirt, \$18 for two T-shirts, \$25 for three T-shirts, plus shipping costs. Shipping costs will be \$4 for one T-shirt, \$5 for two T-shirts, and \$6 for three T-shirts.*



Correction

Editorial Thanks to Wayne Wilkening for the following:

The Boston Worldcon is in 2004, not 2005 as the Newsletter stated...

And, now, if you'll all excuse me, I've got to go change my hotel reservations!

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Zeppelins West (book review - pg. 2); *Minutes of the Nov. 11 LSF Meeting* (pg. 3); *Dark Matter* (book review - pg. 3); *The Ice-Shirt* (book review - pg. 4); *Star Trek: The Next Generation -- Section 31 - Rogue* (book review - pg. 5); *About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians and Con Calendar* (pg. 6)

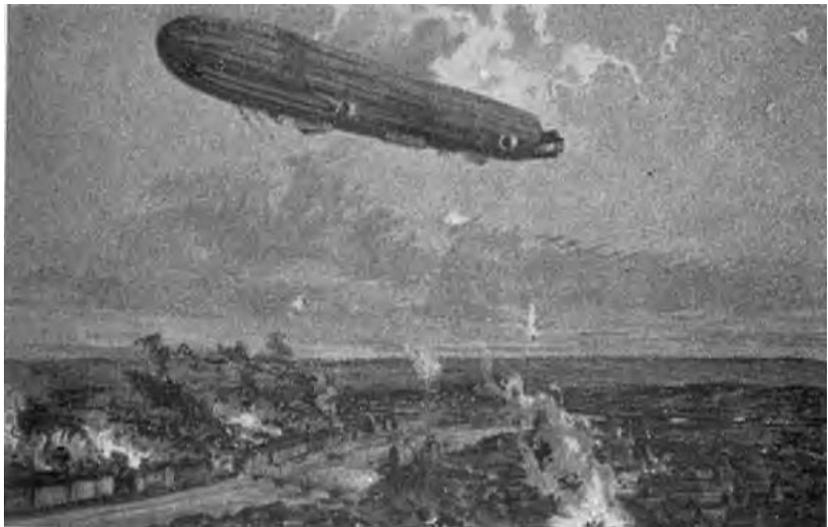
Zeppelins West
by Joe R. Lansdale
(Subterranean Press, 2001)
reviewed by Carl Cipra

A new steampunk novel -- hooray! A novel by Joe Lansdale -- hooray! A new steampunk novel by Joe Lansdale -- *say what?!* But isn't Joe Lansdale the guy who writes those "down home" East Texas, often-funny-often-raunchy-always-witty mysteries (such as *Bad Chili*, *Captains Outrageous*, and *Rumble Tumble*), featuring Hap Collins and his gay pal Leonard Pine? Yep, same guy. He's also written horror/thriller novels like *Dead in the West* (a "zombie Western"). And now he's written a steampunk novel, *Zeppelins West*.

Zeppelins West is one of the big stack o' books I brought back from Millennium Philcon. It's a little pricey (\$40 for a "signed trade edition," \$95 for a "signed limited slipcased edition"); but I *am* a steampunk-junky (the cover -- a portrait of Buffalo Bill beneath soaring, steam-powered zeppelins -- was irresistible), as well as a fan of Joe Lansdale's mystery novels.

Zeppelins West is set during the "steampunk era" (*i.e.* late Nineteenth Century), shortly after the Battle of the Little Bighorn (1876, I presume). As the story opens, Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show is steaming across the Pacific in its fleet of zeppelins, bound for Japan. Cody's entourage (*i.e.* said Wild West Show) includes the *crème de la crème* of American Frontier entertainment: Annie Oakley, Wild Bill Hickock, Ned Buntline, Chief Sitting Bull, and Cetshwayo the Zulu King; and they're heading up a goodwill mission to smooth over the diplomatic disaster of all those samurai who died "under Custer's fool command." (Cody is also supposed to be secretly negotiating the sale to the U.S. of Japan's possessions on the North American continent -- but that's not going to work, since everybody already knows that Mexico has outbid the Yankees.)

But Buffalo Bill has a hidden agenda. You see, he's got a personal problem. Ever since his wife decapitated him (having discovered him in *flagrante*



delicto with the luscious Lillie Langtry), Cody has been living as a disembodied head in a large Mason jar, kept alive by Morse's electrical gadgetry and Maxxon's chemical mixtures (with a little advice from "Chuck Darwin"), often mounted on a steam-powered mechanical body. He's learned that Frankenstein's monster (captured by the Danes and subsequently sold to the Japanese) is being carved up a piece at a time and mixed into an aphrodisiac for the shogun. Cody wants to rescue the monster (before he's all used up), in hopes that scientists Morse and Maxxon can study Dr. Frankenstein's handywork and discover a way to reconnect Cody's head and reanimated body.

But then the story gets really weird!

Zeppelins West becomes a rollicking roller-coaster ride of daring, madcap rescues, shipwrecks, aerial battles, and mishaps. Along the way, Buffalo Bill and friends meet up with a surprising cast of supporting characters: a rogue submarine captain (*à la* Verne), a mad scientist and his animal-men (*à la* Wells), an ancient vampiric nobleman (*à la* Stoker), and a powerful metallic man (*à la* Baum).

And, believe it or not, *Zeppelins West* even contains positive GLBT content! I don't want to give away the surprise; but suffice it to say that two rather unlikely characters become lovers and -- unlike most of the *dramatis personae* -- get to "live happily ever after."

Joe Lansdale's *Zeppelins West* is an absolute hoot-and-a-holler! It's written in that same often-funny-often-raunchy-always-witty style that attracted me to his mystery novels. And if you're a die-hard steampunk fan (like me), it's not to be missed. I'm just sorry *Zeppelins West* is only available with such a hefty pricetag, because that'll undoubtedly keep a lot of other people from reading and enjoying it, too.

ΛΨΦ

The railway and the steamship will be as obsolete as the stagecoach. It will be as common for the citizen to call for his dirigible balloon as it now is for him to call for his buggy or his boots.

**John J. Ingalls,
Kansas politician**

excerpted from
Will Man Fly?
*And Other Strange & Wonderful
Predictions from the 1890s*
compiled by Dave Walter
(American & World Geographic
Publishing, 1993)

Minutes of the
Nov. 11 LSF Meeting
taken by Scott



LSF Business Meeting

2001 LSF elections will occur at next month's meeting. Carl volunteered to run for the position of Speaker; and Jack volunteered to run for the position of Gaylactic Network Liaison. Rob is running for Treasurer; and Peter is running for Membership Coordinator. Scott is running unopposed for Secretary.

Jack (G2K Chair) presented his inventory of Gaylaxicon 2000 (G2K) of items which are being turned over to LSF (in exchange for LSF's donation to close out the G2K books). The inventory is as follows: G2K pencils (300), Styrofoam sandwich containers (50), 12 oz. Styrofoam cups (540), *Farscape* caps (7), Gaylaxicon 1999 convention T-shirts (14 XXL, 2 XL), Gaylaxicon 1999 volunteer T-shirts (3 XXL), G2K convention T-shirts (21 XXXL, 20 XXL, 22 XL, 25 L, 1 M), G2K volunteer T-shirts (1 XXXL, 2 XXL, 5 XL, 3 L, 2 M).

Rob asked what the LSF members would like to do with this inventory of items, stating that sale of some of the items could be used to recoup the \$925 given to G2K. Here are some suggestions he offered: (1) Sell the available T-shirts at \$7.60 each; (2) Sell the available T-shirts at \$10.00 each (2 T-shirts for \$18 and 3 T-shirts for \$25. (Shipping costs would be \$4.30 per T-shirt, using Café Press as the basis – or between \$3.00 and \$4.00, using the US Postal Service as the basis.) As another suggestion, perhaps we could give a T-shirt to new members or to existing members who successfully recruit a new LSF member. There was general consensus not to sell the *Farscape* caps, because they were given to the club as promotional items.

Rob submitted the following proposal: *I propose that we sell the G2K and 1999 T-shirts at the following prices — \$10 for one shirt, \$18 for two T-shirts, \$25 for three T-shirts, plus shipping costs. Shipping costs will be \$4 for one T-shirt, \$5 for two T-shirts, and \$6 for three T-shirts.*

Dark Matter: A Century of Speculative Fiction from the African Diaspora
edited by Sheree R. Thomas
(Warner Books, 2000)
a review by Colleen R. Cahill



Anthologies gather stories with similarities to provide the reader with a glimpse of a body of literature. Sometimes this is based on story theme, literary period or genre type. *Dark Matter* is an anthology that looks at fiction written in English by authors of African descent and a wide range of material is presented. The central theme of the collection is "A century of speculative fiction from the African Diaspora". These stories represent the vision of Black authors from various times, places and with numerous topics.

Although most of the writers are from the United States, the Caribbean and Europe are also represented. The range of dates starts in the last century with the earliest story being "The Goophered Grapevine" by Charles W. Chesnutt, written in 1887. The majority of the titles were written in the year 2000, with a selection of earlier works. Some of the items are short stories and some are selections from novels, such as "Future Christmas", an excerpt from Ishmael Reed's novel *The Terrible Twos*. Luminaries of all levels are included, such as Octavia Butler, Steven Barnes and Samuel Delany. Even by size the works

vary: some are a few pages and others are novella length. All these fit the purpose of the anthology but they also make it so much more.

The stories and their subjects explore a vast territory. The title of the anthology uses the term speculative fiction and quite appropriately. Some are clearly science fiction stories, such as "The Comet" by W.E.B. Du Bois and "The Becoming" by Akua Lezli Hope. Others can be classified as fantasy, like Nisi Shawl's "At the Huts of Ajala". A few could be called horror, as in Nalo Hopkinson's "Greedy Choke Puppy." Not all the selections are fiction: five essays are included at the end of the anthology, written by Samuel Delany, Charles Saunders and others, all addressing the central theme of the collection: Blacks and speculative fiction.

The editor states that one of her goals in *Dark Matter* was to introduce readers to a few of her favorite authors. I was happy to read this collection of works by authors both familiar and new to me which lead me to agree with the editor that there is more to



LSF Social Meeting

After the traditional name circle, a newcomer named Rob proposed an "away mission" next Sunday (11/18/2001 at 1:00 PM) to the Smithsonian.

Jack announced the upcoming Darkover convention in Timonium, MD in two weeks. He happily reported that Diane Duane and her husband Peter Morland may attend if they are in the United States at the time. Katherine Kurtz is scheduled to be in attendance. Jack also mentioned that he is the programming coordinator for Darkover and invited LSF members to attend. Carl advised that he will be MC'ing the masquerade for Darkover and would be additionally hosting a GLBT fandom party in his room on Sat. night (Nov. 24).

Rob distributed newsletters from the Australian group and from the Pittsburgh group. Carl distributed a print-out of the on-line newsletter from the Denver group called "Letter from Outer Fandom."

Everyone seemed delighted over the various trailers shown before *Monsters, Inc.*, including the *For the Birds* animated short subject, which is available at the Pixar website. *Shrek* broke records with its video release. There was a thumbs-up given for Nickelodeon's cartoon show *Butt Ugly Martians*. Fans of *Reboot* should be happy with the 2 two-hour movies, shown on the Cartoon Network in half-hour episodes. And most attendees who have watched *Smallville*

(continued on page 5)

The Ice-Shirt

reviewed by Michael Cornett

To be fair, I must say that William T. Vollman's novel *The Ice-Shirt* is not a light undertaking. It's not beach reading, or a feel-good book. It's a mountain to be scaled, but the scenery is well worth the trip.

The Ice-Shirt is the first of Vollman's "Seven Dreams", a series of novels that chronicle the evolution of European society's interaction with the Native American cultures. This book tells the tale of the Viking settlement of Greenland and the discovery of Vinland in North America.

The first segment, "The Changers", chronicles the early centuries of the Norse culture in Europe, but in very mythic terms. (I've been told that this book is very much in the style of the Icelandic sagas, but having never read any of those, I can't confirm that statement.) The early Norwegian kings, as portrayed in this book, had the power to transform into bears (referred to as "wearing the bear-shirt") and engaged in bloody wars against each other for riches and conquest.

It also chronicles the discovery of Iceland and Greenland and the early days of their settlements there. It spins into the changes brought on northern Europe by the ambitions of Queen Gunhild, wife of King Eric Bloody-Axe, and the degeneration of the Norwegian kings from their werebear past. Meanwhile, it's also interrupted by modern-day observations of Greenland by a researching Vollman. It also introduces us to Eirik the Red, father of the illegitimate Freydis, who will be a major figure later in the book.

The second segment, "Black Hands", begins with the Inuit myth of the creation of their people. According to their mythology, two brothers were wandering the ice until they found Greenland, and then a snow-spirit transformed one of the brothers into a woman so they could found and propagate a race. (The brother, thus transformed, was less than happy, one can be sure.) Another modern-day



diversion occurs with a brief interview with a San Francisco transvestite, giving a little insight into the sex-changed Eskimo. The rest of the short chapter gives a view of Greenlandic culture then and now, with such creatures as trolls and mountain-demons treated with the same realism as icebergs and polar bears.

The third segment, "Vinland", is a whole two pages long and serves little purpose except to introduce the fourth segment, "Freydis Eiriksdottir". Freydis, an unloved child brought up by a resentful mother, grows into an ambitious and fairly sociopathic young woman who makes a deal with a Greenlandic mountain demon to become rich and powerful (thus "wearing the ice-shirt" and robbing herself of normal human sympathy and compassion). Soon she marries and bullies her husband into finding the previously-spotted Markland (North America) and seeing what sort of place it is. While this is going on, there's more modern sidebars about how things are today, as well as supernatural phenomena, including a very grisly scene of walking corpses attempting to spread a plague.

The chronicles of the explorations are made clearer by maps from both the period and from modern times -- and open speculation as to the locations of Markland and Vinland, with speculation ranging from Newfoundland (where a genuine Viking settlement was uncovered at L'Anse-aux-Meadows) to North Carolina. Once there, Freydis indulges in a series of small disputes and a major power struggle with other settlers and eventually scrambles beneath a tree to

(literally) descend into Hell and sell her soul. Meanwhile, relations between the Norsemen and the Native Americans (whom they call Skraelings and Vollman identifies as Micmacs) degrade from friendly to contentious and warlike, eventually leading to an inevitable climax.

While Vollman's sympathies clearly lie with the Native Americans, he pays little attention to them as people, focussing almost exclusively on the Norse settlers and their interpersonal wars. That is one of the book's biggest problems; I would have liked for him to get into the Skraeling's heads more than he did, to see how they thought and saw the people arriving on their shores.

Nevertheless, this book is a remarkable look into a bygone age, told in its own terms with its own points of reference and worldviews, with an absence of irony and distance. It is sometimes hard to keep track of some of the things going on, but Vollman provides several glossaries and timelines at the back of the book, as well as numerous illustrations and maps. This is not an easy book, but fantasy fans who wish to tackle something more substantial will find the trip well worth it.

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Be the still pool.
Let your face reflect
the glory, the wonder.

excerpted from
In a Japanese Garden
by Charmaine Aserappa
(Council Oak Books, 1999)

**Star Trek: The Next
Generation--
Section 31 - Rogue
by Andy Manges &
Michael A. Martin**

reviewed by Peter Knapp



When I heard that an upcoming *Star Trek* novel would feature an established character in a positive gay relationship I was intrigued. The movie *Star Trek First Contact*, introduces the character of Ensign Sean Hawk, navigator of the starship *Enterprise*. Hawk fights with the *Enterprise* crew to thwart the Borg. Unfortunately, Hawk is assimilated by the Borg and is killed trying to stop the heros. The book *Rogue* begins where the movie ends. Captain Picard reflects on the crew he's lost and focuses on Hawk. He thinks about a mission six months ago where Hawk had come to a turning point in his life. The book transitions to that mission of six months ago.

The crew of the *Enterprise* is sent to investigate the disappearance of the starship *Slayton* and to complete the missing starship's mission of trying to convince the people of the planet Chiaros to accept membership in the Federation instead of becoming a member of the Romulan Star Empire. A negotiation with the Chiarosans goes horribly wrong, the Federation ambassador is murdered, and senior members of the *Enterprise* are kidnaped by rebels.

Before the Federation ambassador dies, he tries to convince Ensign Hawk to join a covert intelligence branch of the Federation called Section 31. The organization is so secret, that it works outside the purview of the Federation's star fleet. While Hawk wrestles with whether to join Section 31, Captain Picard tries to get his kidnaped officers back. He also tries to figure out what the Romulans are hiding behind a huge cloaked region of space.

Even though the book is the first of a series of books featuring

Section 31, the covert spy group takes a back seat to the main plots, which is a shame. The bulk of the book deals with rescuing missing crewmen and solving the Romulan mystery. Neither thread is particularly memorable. As the crew members kidnaped are main characters, there is no suspense as to their fate. They will survive and most likely will not grow from their experience. The Romulan plot relies heavily on techno-babble, something *Star Trek* is infamous for. The main characters are put through their paces, but none of the well-know crew from the TV series and movies think or act any differently than what has already been established.

Toward the end of the book, the Section 31 plot is reintroduced. Ensign Hawk has to decide whether to betray his captain and crew. He talks to a spy within Section 31 who tries to convince him that often the ends justifies the means. While Section 31 breaks the covenants of the Federation, it does so because it's in the best interests of Federation. The Federation has to be protected from itself. I wish the authors had spent more of the book exploring these themes instead of just introducing them. A sustained conflict between out heros and Section 31 would have been a much more interesting read than the dry diplomatic and rescue threads that took up most of the book.

In advanced press about "Section 31", a big deal is made about Ensign Hawk's sexuality. Mention of Hawk's sexual orientation is made because very little *Star Trek* has featured gay content. Reading about Hawk and his partner was almost anticlimactic. Being gay had no impact on the story. If Hawk had been straight, the story would not have read any differently. And that's a shame.

In the 24th century of *Star Trek*, have people been so homogenized that cultural differences are non-existent? Captain Picard and his crew come from different ethnic and racial backgrounds, yet they all act the same way. There's no real diversity amongst the crew. Adding a gay character to the mix doesn't change anything.

On a final note, in days of (not so) old, the gay character always had get

his comeuppance in films and TV. Stories rarely ended with the gay hero living happily ever after. Here is another instance of a gay character dying tragically. I'm not suggesting that the book is homophobic, because it's not. But choosing a character that dies in one of the movies, can't help but leave the reader wondering why the gay character had to be a doomed one. I would have been more satisfied if Hawk could have saved the day and lived to tell about it.

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Nov. 11 Minutes

continued from page 3

are pleased.

This Saturday (11/17/2001) is the LSF *Harry Potter* movie outing. Rob reported that tickets are sold out, but people can still join afterwards for dinner.

Joe R. reported that he recently hosted (in full uniform) a *Star Trek* dinner party in Las Vegas.

Lord of the Rings opens on Wednesday, December 19.

Carl announced the upcoming annual LSF blind book and provided a brief explanation of how the exchange works. (See article on page 1.)

Julian kindly volunteered his home in Glover Park for a New Year's Eve video party. Details will be announced at the December LSF meeting.

Episodes of *The Prisoner* are now being shown on the Howard University TV channel. Season one of *The Simpsons* is now out on DVD. Steve, who participates in the "Rogues and Wenches" club, advised that this group would be participating in the "Scottish Days" event in Alexandria on 12/01/2001. Julian advised that the psychology in *K-PAX* isn't all that bad. Carl said that he's looking forward to reading the re-issued *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Holmes* (by Loren Estleman, author of *Sherlock Holmes vs. Dracula*).

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

****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, December 9th**, 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, and Rob



Feb. 15-17, 2002 **KATSUCON 8: THE CLASSICS**. Marriott Waterfront Hotel (Baltimore, MD). Guests include: Mark Rogers. Membership: \$45 11/1/01 to 12/31/01; \$50 at the door (sgl-day rates available). Make checks payable to "Katsucon Entertainment, Inc." and send to: Katsucon Entertainment, Inc., Attn: Pre-registration Dept., PO Box 222691, Chantilly, VA 20153-2691. Anime, cosplay, gaming convention. website: www.katsucon.org

April 5-7, 2002 **JERSEYDEVILCON 2**. Sheraton Edison Hotel, Raritan Center (Edison, NJ). Fantasy GoH: Terry Pratchett. Membership: \$35 (12/1/01 - 3/7/02); \$40 thereafter & at door. Make checks payable to "JerseyDevilCon" and send to: JerseyDevilCon, PO Box 403, Metuchen, NJ 08840. website: <http://JerseyDevilCon.hypermart.net/Homepage.html>

May 24-27, 2002 **BALTICON 36**. Wyndham Inner Harbor Hotel (Baltimore, MD). Author GoH: Mark Rogers; Artist GoHs: Phil & Kaja Foglio; Filk GoH: The Boogie Knights. Hotel rooms: \$119/night + tax (sgl/dbl/tpl/quad). Membership: \$35 until 2002 ("more at the door"). Make checks payable to "Balticon 36" and send to: Balticon 36, PO Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203-0686. website: <http://www.balticon.org>

July 12-14, 2002 **SHORE LEAVE 24**. Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: TBA. Memberships available as of 10/1/2001 and at table at Capclave 2001. website: <http://www.shore-leave.com>

August 2-4, 2002 **DIVERSICON 10**. Hotel TBA (Minneapolis, MN). Guests of Honor: Steven Barnes & Tananarive Due. Membership: \$25 thru 12/31/01; \$30, 1/1-7/4/02; \$45 at the door. Make checks payable to: "Diversicon" and send to: Diversicon, PO Box 8036, Lake Street Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55408. "A gathering of fans, writers, and artists who recognize and appreciate diversity in speculative fiction and media, in the fan community, and in the world around us." For more information on Diversicon: www.sfmnnesota.com

Aug. 29 - Sept. 2, 2002 **CONJOSE (The 60th World Science Fiction Convention)**. McEnery Convention Center & surrounding hotels (San Jose, CA). Author GoH: Vernor Vinge; Artist GoH: David Cherry; Fan GoH: John & Bjo Trimble. Attending membership: \$160 (7/11 - 12/31/2001; will go UP!). Make checks payable to "ConJose" and send to: ConJose, PO Box 61363, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-1363 (or: reg@conjose.org). website: www.conjose.org

