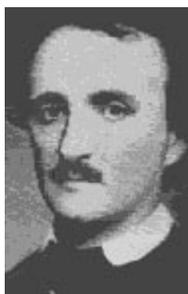


PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #142 - Jan. 2002

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

A Very Special Birthday

by Mike Cornett



It's that time of year again... 2002 marks Edgar Allan Poe's 193rd birthday, and as usual, the good folks in Baltimore are throwing a proper wingding.

This year's celebration is marked by a special performance by actor John Astin, currently touring in a one-man show about Poe called "Edgar Allan Poe: Once Upon a Midnight". He won't be performing that, but a new Poe program specially written for this event.

Also on line for this year:

The Great Radio Broadcast of "The Cask of Amontillado". (Actor Tony Tsendeas and company will perform a radio-style version of the classic story, complete with sound effects. Tsendeas impressed the audience last year with his monologue versions of "The Black Cat" and "The Telltale Heart".)

A Musical Tribute to Poe (musical adaptations of Poe's poetry, including "Annabel Lee").

The Bagpipe Tribute to Poe.

(continued on page 2)

Book Exchange at Jan. 13th LSF Meeting

As promised in last month's newsletter, here's a short reminder about Lambda Sci-Fi's *tenth* annual book exchange, which will occur at the upcoming Jan. 13th 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 exchange item to the pile with all

Jan. 13th LSF Meeting

The next LambdaSci-Fi meeting will be held at James Crutchfield's apartment (1414 17th St., NW, #413) on Sunday, January 13th. 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!

Upcoming LSF Events

Dec. 31st - New Year's Eve Party at Julian's (starts 5 PM).

Jan. 13th - monthly LSF meeting (featuring annual LSF Book Exchange).

Jan. 31st - LSF Book Discussion Group (*Gumshoe Gorilla*, by Keith Hartman).

Feb. 10th - monthly LSF meeting.

Feb. 16th - Mid-Winter "Video Madness" Party at Peter/Rob's (starts 3 PM).

Feb. 28th - LSF Book Discussion Group (*Aftermath*, by Charles Sheffield).

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?

I can hardly wait to see what shows up *this* year!

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WHAT'S INSIDE?

LSF Mid-Winter "Video Madness" Party (pg. 2); The LSF Book Discussion Group (pg. 2); Minutes of the Dec. 9th LSF Meeting (pg. 3); A Little Holiday Reading (book reviews - pg. 4); About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians and Con Calendar (pg. 6)

LSF Mid-Winter "Video Madness" Party



When: February 16, 2002, 3:00 PM

Where: 1425 S Street NW, Washington, DC

What to Bring: As with all of the LSF "Video Madness" parties, attendees should bring food to share (main dish, side dish, dessert, etc.) and/or drinks (non-alcoholic) to share and (of course) their favorite genre films. Attendees will vote on what to watch on a couple of screens. There will also be a "quiet talk" and/or "gaming" room. (So if you want to play cards or something, make sure to bring that along, too.)

Metro Directions:

Closest Metro Stop: Take Metro to the "U" Street-Cardozo stop (Green Line). Exit Metro on the 13th Street side of station. When you come up the escalator, you'll be on "U" Street, facing 13th Street. There will be a Rite Aid drug store in front of you. Cross 13th Street toward the Rite Aid. Follow "U" Street to 14th Street. There will be a McDonald's at 14th Street. Cross 14th Street toward the McDonald's. Turn left in front of the McDonald's. Follow 14th Street for two full blocks. When you cross "T" Street, you'll pass a church which looks like a warehouse. When you cross Swann Street (which is between "T" and "S" Streets) you'll pass a 24-hour laundry. At S Street hang a right. (If you cross "S" Street and pass a small used car lot, you've gone too far.) You'll pass the Whitman Walker Clinic and then an alley. We're the seventh row house after the alley, 1425 "S" Street, NW. If you get lost, give us a call at 202-483-6369.

Alternative Metro Stop: Take Metro to the Dupont Circle stop (Red Line). Exit the Metro on the "Q" Street side of the station. At the top of the escalator, hang a right on "Q" Street.

Follow "Q" Street and pass a liquor store on your right and a Wrap Works sandwich shop on your left. Travel five blocks, passing the Raku Asian restaurant at 19th Street, a couple of large apartment buildings at 18th Street (you'll also cross New Hampshire at a diagonal), a Trios Pizza restaurant at 17th Street, the Jewish Community Center at 16th Street, and row houses at 15th Street. Cross 15th Street and hang a left. Travel two blocks on 15th Street to "S" Street. Cross "S" Street and hang a right. We're two-thirds of the way down the Street at 1425 "S" Street, NW. If you get lost, give us a call at 202-483-6369.

For More Information:

Call 202-483-6369 or e-mail:

Peter:

PeterKnapp@wavelengthsonline.com

or Rob:

rgates@wavelengthsonline.com

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DC AREA
GAYLAXIANS

Poe's Birthday

continued from page 1

The Birthday Toast to Poe (with apple cider and around Poe's grave, which is on the grounds of the hall where the celebration is held).

I went to last year's Poe celebration; and it was truly remarkable - real high-caliber performances and memorable interpretations. And a real bargain as well!

The dates for the celebration are January 18th and 19th at 8:00pm and January 20th at 3:30pm, doors opening an hour before each performance. It's held at Westminster Hall, at the corner of Fayette and Greene Streets in downtown Baltimore. Tickets are \$22 in advance, \$25 at the door, but ordering in advance

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 LBGT 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. But the next meeting will be Jan. 31 (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:

--- **Jan. 31st** (NOTE: date changed from Jan. 25th) - *Gumshoe Gorilla*, by Keith Hartman; facilitator: Mike M. (This is a follow-up novel to Keith's previous novel, *The Gumshoe, the Witch, and the Virtual Corpse*.)

--- **Feb. 28th** - *Aftermath*, by Charles Sheffield; facilitator: Bob A.

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is highly recommended, as they expect to sell out this year. (Astin performed before, at another celebration, to sellout crowds.)

Further information can be had by calling 410-396-7932, by emailing eapoe@baltimorecity.gov, or by going to <http://poecelebration.tripod.com> (though beware, I just checked this site and they still have last year's information up). I'm planning to go to the performance on the 19th (Saturday); if anyone wants to join me, please feel free to email me.

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**Minutes of the Dec. 9th
LSF Meeting**
taken by Scott



Two votes were taken during the business portion of the meeting.

The **election of officers** for 2002 was held. None of the positions was contested. A total of four absentee ballots was received and included in the vote. The results of the election: Carl Cipra – Speaker; Jack Frost – Network Representative; Rob Gates – Treasurer; Peter Knapp – Membership Coordinator; Scott Roberts – Secretary.

Rob's **T-shirt proposal** (from last month's meeting) was passed unanimously, including three absentee ballots.

Jack advised that: (a) the Gaylactic Network has received money from Arisia (the grant we applied for), and (b) there will be a Gaylactic Network advertisement in the Arisia program guide thanking them for the grant. It was noted that Carl, Nan, and Kay would be attending the Arisia convention in Boston. There was discussion about Alan's potential Gaylaxicon bid for 2004 that would be held in San Diego, CA.

Rob and Peter may attend Diversicon in Minneapolis next year.

The social portion of the meeting commenced with a traditional "name circle" in which attendees introduced themselves. Carl then reminded everyone that the **annual book exchange** event would occur at the January 2002 LSF meeting. [Ed. Note: For details, see article on page 1 of this newsletter.]



The **annual LSF New Year's Eve video party** was announced, to be held at the Glover Park home of LSF member Julian. The video party, to be advertised in *The Blade*, will begin at 5:00 PM and end shortly before midnight, after which a private party shall commence. Everyone already in attendance is invited to attend the private party. ;)

Michael C. announced that the *Lord of the Rings* movie opens on December 19, 2001. He will send an e-mail to the

LSF listserv with info about a possible LSF movie outing. In addition, Rob is collecting the "light-up" *Lord of the Rings* goblets (for sale at Burger King - 4 goblets in all!).

Carl passed around a true "find" – a Poke-thulu book, which is a creative combination of Pokemon and Chtulhu. Also, a recent *Advocate* magazine article included a reference to the Gaylactic Network website.

There was discussion about the expensive mystery-con (Malice Domestic) to be held in Crystal City, which will feature 175 mystery authors - a prime opportunity to meet and chat with authors!

Helgi reported that he attended the Midwest furry convention in Chicago in November, where he met Chris Browning, who is the occasional cartoonist for the LSF newsletter. Helgi passed around the con program guide.

Michael C. is now an addict of the *Weekly World News* and its outrageous headlines. Perhaps there is a 12-step support group to help unfortunate victims like Michael...

Rob distributed *Parsec*, the newsletter from a Pittsburgh science fiction group. Also, Youth Pride forwarded information for its event next year.

Some miscellaneous items of discussion: the *Buffy The Vampire Slayer* episode called "Hush" (half of which is silent) is being shown this week. The first season of *Twin Peaks* is being released on video. A new *Babylon 5* special on the Sci Fi Channel is coming out in January 2002, based upon the Rangers. It could spur a new series. The new *24 Hours* TV show, which has no genre content, does have some GLBT content.

Rob and Peter announced **another LSF video party** at their house - to be held on Saturday, February 16, 2002.

Peter, the **membership directory** coordinator, will be distributing an updated LSF directory in January 2002. He asked to be advised about any changes that should be made. It was noted that the

membership directory will include the LSF operating procedures.

More news: Carl just finished reading Walter Mosely's cyberpunkish *Futureland* and said it's quite good. The *Monsters, Inc.* movie is being re-released with cute "outtakes" and "bloopers". The science fiction movie *Imposteris* coming out on Christmas day. The *Futurama* fall season premier is tonight. Another *Rollerball* movie is coming? (Do we need another one?) The *Spy Games* movie – not to be confused with *Spy Kids* – comes highly recommended. *Buckaroo Banzai* is coming out on video, and the original novel has been re-released. *A Feast Unknown*, a Doc Savage/Tarzan pastiche by Philip Jose Farmer, is being re-released. And there's a new *Smallville* episode this week!

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**NEVER MAKE A RAVEN MAD --
HIS TEMPER IS EXTREMELY BAD.
HE ALSO CAN -- AND THIS
IS WORSE --
ZAP YOU WITH A NASTY CURSE.
PERHAPS YOU THINK THIS
ISN'T SO?
JUST ASK THE GUY WHO CALLED
HIM 'CROW.'
THE RAVEN TURNED HIM INTO
STRAW,
THEN FLEW OFF SQUAWKING,
'NEVERMORE.'**

excerpted
(in honor of Mr. Poe's birthday)
from
Mumbo Jumbo: The Creepy ABC
by Michael Roberts
(Callaway, NYC, 2000)

A Little Holiday Reading

short book reviews by Carl Cipra

No, I'm not talking about books that I've read during the *current* Holiday season, which celebrates the turning of the *calendar* year – Christmas, Hanukkah, and New Year's. I'm talking about books that I read several months ago during another Holiday season, a season commemorating a series of *older* Holidays that celebrate the turning of the *seasonal* year – Holidays like the Autumnal Equinox, Samhain, and Halloween. (OK, so I'm a little late with these reviews. But now you can use 'em to plan out *your* reading list for Halloween 2002!)

From the Dust Returned, by Ray Bradbury (William Morrow, 2001)

Welcome to the House, mysterious gathering-place for the Elliotts, the Eternal Family. There's mummified Thousand Times Great Grandmère, "the



no-longer Beautiful One, whose voice was still incredibly lovely." There's Cecy, the Sleeper Who Dreams – she lies unmoving in the dust of the High Attic, yet she travels on the wind

and sees the world through the eyes of others. There's millennia-old Anuba, once the Great Rameses' cat; she's the first one to arrive in the House. And there are Father and Mother ("the Lady of the Fogs and Marshes"), and winged Uncle Einar, and traitorous Uncle John ("the Unjust, the Terrible"), and "the ghastly passenger" who arrives on the Orient Express, and many, many more weird and wonderful beings. And then there's little Timothy, "the sad and different foundling son" – he's the only mortal in the House. It's his duty to gather the Family's story and pass it along to the rest of the world. And what stories they tell!

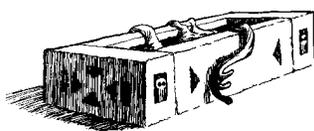
Actually, Bradbury's long-awaited, latest novel contains some of his earliest ideas. You see, it all began

back in 1945, when a very young Bradbury sent "Homecoming" (Chapter Nine in this volume) to *Weird Tales*. It was rejected – but, oddly enough, *Mademoiselle* magazine bought it and designed an entire October issue around it, including a two-page illustration by the great Charles Addams. Over the ensuing decades, "Homecoming" became the nucleus around which Bradbury created a whole series of stories about the Eternal Family. He and Addams even talked about collecting the Family's stories into a single volume, with Addams supplying the illustrations. Alas, Addams died before this dream could be realized; but his 1946 two-page illustration is, indeed, featured on the dust jacket of *From the Dust Returned*.

As with so much of Bradbury's work, the imagery and language and cadence of *From the Dust Returned* are absolutely delightful. It's lyrical prose-poetry. As an example, here's one of the descriptions of the House, from Chapter Seven:

"The House was a puzzle inside an enigma inside a mystery, for it encompassed silences, each one different, and beds, each a different size, some having lids. Some ceilings were high enough to allow flights with rests where shadows might hang upside down. The dining room nested thirteen chairs, each numbered thirteen so no one would feel left out of the distinctions such numbers implied. The chandeliers above were shaped from the tears of souls in torment at sea five hundred years lost, and the basement cellar kept five hundred vintage-year bins and strange names on the wine tucked therein and empty cubbies for future visitors who disliked beds or the high ceiling perches."

I really enjoyed everything about this book; but perhaps my favorite chapter is #18, "Make Haste to Live," a poignant celebration of love and life. If you're a fan of Ray Bradbury, I'm sure you'll enjoy *From the Dust Returned*, too.



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A Fit of Shivers: Tales for Late at Night, by Joan Aiken (Bantam Doubleday Dell, 1995)

This delightful little YA collection of ten spooky stories was my introduction to English author Joan Aiken. Ms. Aiken has been writing works of fantasy, magical-realism, and horror for over forty years; and *A Fit of Shivers* apparently provides just the briefest sample of her skills. It contains a little bit of everything.

Here are a few of my favorites: In "Number Four, Bowstring Lane," Aiken tells what happens when a crass retired TV executive purchases "the only unhaunted cottage in a town otherwise infested by spooks"



– and then hires a spiritualist to get him a ghost. "Earrings" is the story of how the ghost of a demanding child exacts bloody vengeance on her mother's insensitive second husband. "Watkyn, Comma" is a very unusual ghost story indeed – a cute little tale with a happy ending. The final story, "The Legacy," is a moody (almost Lovecraftian) tale – whatever-it-is that's haunting an old Eighteenth-Century mansion never actually appears; but there's lots of weirdness going on and, by the end, there's a dead body in the garden.

I enjoyed the stories in *A Fit of Shivers* so much that I've added a couple of Aiken's longer fantasy novels to my reading list.

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Holmes, by Loren Estleman (ibooks, 2001)

On this novel's title page, the authorship is attributed to "John H. Watson, M.D., as edited by Loren D. Estleman" – and a tongue-in-cheek Forward provides the unlikely details of how Estleman got his hands on a previously-unknown manuscript by the good doctor. However, in the Acknowledgment section at the end of the book,

(continued on page 5)

A Little Holiday Reading

continued from page 4

Estleman lets the cat out of the bag and points out: “If we are to accept the evidence of recent book lists, which fairly shudder beneath the weight of ‘newly discovered’ titles by John H. Watson, M.D., it would appear that the good doctor wrote a great deal more than he published, and was in fact one of the most prolific authors of his or any other time.” Don’t let this mislead you, however; *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Holmes* isn’t some sort of second-rate Holmes parody.



Loren Estleman is a prolific and successful author of Mystery and Western fiction and has won both the Shamus and Golden Spur Awards; but *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Holmes* isn’t one of his more well-known works. Unlike his earlier Holmes pastiche (the more popular *Sherlock Holmes vs. Dracula, or The Adventure of the Sanguinary Count*), *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Holmes* has been out of print for over 20 years. Estleman, however, considers *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Holmes* to be the better of his two Holmes novels; and this 2001 edition includes some corrections and additions that make it (in his words) “the author’s equivalent of a director’s cut.” I’d just like to add that I think he’s done a great job of recreating a “Doyleque” style and rhythm in this novel.

As the title indicates, this novel pits the Great Detective against Robert Louis Stevenson’s famous character with the double-life. In 1884, Holmes is approached by G.J. Utterson (the narrator in Stevenson’s novel). He asks Holmes to investigate the vile and mysterious Edward Hyde, with an eye toward breaking whatever foul influence

Hyde has over Utterson’s old and dear friend, Dr. Henry Jekyll. At first Holmes refuses to take the case; but, when Sir Danvers Carew is brutally murdered and Queen Victoria herself requests that Holmes investigate... well, “the game is afoot!” Lacking any physical evidence to link Jekyll and Hyde, our intrepid investigators must seek enlightenment through Dr. Jekyll’s publications and his former academic connections in Edinburgh. It’s the Master Sleuth at his intellectual best – although Estleman does, in fact, throw in a madcap cab race through the mist-shrouded streets of London just to liven things up.

Estleman’s novel expertly weaves Holmes and Watson into the original Stevenson story. The ending – which manages not to contradict the Stevenson novel – may surprise you; and Estleman even “explains” how Robert Louis Stevenson came to write *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*! On the whole, it’s a very satisfying and enjoyable read.

***Skull Full of Spurs: A Roundup of Weird Westerns*, edited by Jason Bovberg and Kirk Whitham (Dark Highway Press, 2000)**

This book was another of my Millennium Philcon acquisitions, purchased from one of those limited edition, small press dealers. It was an impulse buy – it was sitting right next to *Zeppelins West* and the cover kind’a intrigued me, so I bought it. As it turns out, it was a great choice!

What happens when The Wild West becomes The *Weird West*? What happens when Tall Tales are written for *Weird Tales*? The answer’s right here in *Skull Full of Spurs*. Death Personified stalks the streets of a Western town at High Midnight. Crazy cultists hunt down unsuspecting cowpokes as grisly sacrifices to the Great Old Ones. Native American shape-shifters seek vengeance against the persecuting White Eyes. Oh, and who says you can’t mix in some humor amongst the weirdness? Ever heard the one about the haunted outhouse? Inspired by the likes of Joe Lansdale’s novel *Dead in the West* – not to mention movies like *The Valley of*

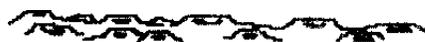
Gwangi, *High Plains Drifter*, and *Jesse James Meets Frankenstein’s Daughter*, or comic books like *Jonah Hex* and *Preacher* – the authors of this collection have successfully mixed elements of the Western and Fantasy/Horror genres in these (naturally) 13 stories.



I can’t say as I’m familiar with all the authors represented here; but I certainly know about a few of ‘em, such as Nancy Collins, Rick Hautala, and Adam-Troy Castro. Regardless, I got a kick out of all of the stories in this all-original anthology. I think my favorites are “Mister Shade” by Richard Lee Byers (sort of a historical-fiction/horror yarn), “The Deviltry of Elemental Valence” by Edward Lee (kind’a like “Lovecraft goes West”), and the final story, “Showdown at Stinking Springs” by Robert Devereaux (a great example of a rollicking, full-out, “unexpurgated” Tall Tale). But, as it says at the end of the blurb on the flyleaf: “It’s time for y’all to git on in there and choose your storyteller. Ya cain’t go wrong with any one of ‘em.”

And there you have it. Now, as I said, I realize that the subject matter in these four books might seem more appropriate for reading on or around October 31st; but, you know, there’s a lot to be said about curling up with one of these volumes on these long, dark winter nights, with the cold wind howling just outside your windows. It could bring a whole new meaning to the words “Jack Frost *nipping* at your toes.” Happy Hallow— ...I mean, Happy Holidays!

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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 usually held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 13th**, 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: \$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 **ANTHROCON 2002**. Adams Mark Hotel (Philadelphia). Guests of Honor: Lianne Norman, Heather Bruton. Hotel rooms: \$99/night + tax (sgl/dbl/tpl/quad). Membership: \$35 until 2/28/02; \$40 until 6/15/02; \$45 at the door. Make checks payable to "Anthrocon" and send to: Anthrocon, Inc., PO Box 270, Devault, PA 19432-0270. website: <http://www.anthrocon.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: \$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.sfminnesota.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