



# LAMBDA SCI-FI



DC Area Gaylaxians

PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #160 - July 2003

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

## Movie Outings, Parties, and Other Events

a FAQ by Michael C.



Several people have approached me lately asking questions about LSF movie outings and other events; and it seems that there are some misperceptions out there. So, in an effort to correct this, I'm posting this to the LSF list; and hopefully this will also appear in the newsletter soon. [Ed. note: And, as you can see, it has!]

**Q:** Who can organize a movie outing or other event?

**A:** Any Lambda Sci-Fi member can organize one. Also, non-members who are interested in the club can invite the group to an event they're planning.

**Q:** Do club officers/"the inner circle" have to approve an outing or event?

**A:** Not at all.

**Q:** What sorts of events would the club be interested in?

**A:** Movie outings and video parties are the usual favorites. We've also had game nights, trips to museums, plays, ghost tours, renaissance fairs, amusement parks, and other events. For example, I'm currently contemplating a trip to the Montgomery County Fair this August and to a ghost tour in Rockville in October.

**Q:** Is there a schedule that must be followed? Is there a list of films that we must adhere to?

**A:** While some events happen regularly, like the meetings and book discussion group, there's no set schedule for other events. Movies, plays, etc., can be anything in the science fiction, fantasy, and/or horror genres (and our definitions can be pretty loose!); and anything gay-related is fair game as well. Museums and other trips can be anything that might be of interest to sci-fi/fantasy/horror fans.

**Q:** How do I let people know about what I'm planning?

**A:** The LSF e-mail list is a very popular and effective way of advertising your event. If you plan far enough ahead, and also want the publicity, you can put your event in the club newsletter or even *The Blade*.

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## Next LSF Meeting - July 13th -

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

## The LSF Book Discussion Group



(Note: Change of Venue)

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 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 July 24th.

While Peter & Rob's house is undergoing renovations, the LSF Book Discussion Group will be moving to a new venue: Brian & Sean's condo: 1300 13th St. NW #108 (Solo Piazza Building, on the corner of 13th & "N" Streets). For directions or more details, call 202-968-8737).

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

-- **July 24th** - *Nightmare*, by Steven Harper; moderator: Carl.

-- **Aug. 21st** (date change: **3rd Thurs.**) - *Hominids*, by Robert J. Sawyer; moderator: Carl.

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## WHAT'S INSIDE?

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## Minutes of the June 1st LSF Meeting taken by Scott



### Business Meeting

Michael reminded everyone that **Lambda Sci-Fi will have a table at the annual DC Pride event** next Sunday, June 8th. Peter handed around a draft version of the flier for distribution at the LSF Pride table. Rob also asked for any last-minute updates to the “LSF Recommends” reading list, also to be distributed at the LSF Pride table. On Saturday, June 14, LSF will host a post-Pride video party at Julian’s home in north Georgetown.

Rob reported that the **Spectrum Award finalists** will be announced mid-month. The winner will be announced at TorCon (this year’s World Science Fiction Convention, in Toronto) over the Labor Day weekend.

Jim was wearing a LSF polo shirt with the new LSF logo. Denny then purchased a LSF polo shirt from Peter.

### Social Meeting

There was much discussion about **the changing direction of Enterprise**. Will the addition of Federation Marines, rumored to be similar to *Starship Troopers* characters, add to the *Enterprise* plot?

James provided feedback on **BaltiCon**, which he attended. He was not impressed with the panels.

Rob, who participated on panels at **WisCon**, remarked that he got to meet Ursula LeGuin.

It was mentioned that there is

interest in a **Robert Heinlein stamp**, to commemorate his 100th birthday.

Jim W. will be attending **Shore Leave** (a local *Star Trek* convention). He prefers Shore Leave to Creation Cons, since the guests get to mingle with the con attendees, which is more fun!

Some of the people planning to attend **TorCon** in Toronto in August are reconsidering, in light of the continuing SARS cases in Toronto.

Peter promoted the 1990-2002 collection of LSF newsletters on CD-ROM’s, available for purchase.

Peter passed around mail received from the LSF post office box.

Michael reported that the second attempt to see the *The Matrix Reloaded* in Rockville was successful. Everyone seemed to enjoy the special effects but felt disappointed that there was no real ending – just a lead-in to the third movie to be released this autumn.

There might be an e-mail coming up on the LSF on-line list to announce a movie outing to see *Finding Nemo* on Saturday, June 7th.

Michael reported that the exhibit **“Illegal Art: Freedom of Expression in the Corporate Age”** is showing at the Resource Center for Activism and the Arts, 1611 Connecticut Avenue NW, a few doors down from Lambda Rising. The show closes this Saturday, June 7th. He said that the exhibit centers on art that uses or satirizes corporate images and on art that has often been the subject of

lawsuits and copyright disputes. There are many interesting images (*Sesame Street* characters being hanged; a gas mask shaped like Mickey Mouse; a reworking of the Starbucks logo to read “Consumer Whore”); but the most memorable is a large cartoon by comics legend Wally Wood, depicting a slew of Walt Disney characters having an orgy. Todd Haynes’ infamous film *Superstar: The Karen Carpenter Story*, which chronicles the life of the singing star and her battle with anorexia – but told completely with Barbie dolls – is also being shown.

Jim W. recently picked up some DVD’s of old movies, such as *The Day the Earth Stood Still* and the restored *Metropolis*, both of which he enjoyed.

Michael said that the movie *Wrong Turn* is horrible – West Virginia hillbilly cannibals. Duh.

Rob and Peter said that they recently saw *Spirited Away* (Japanese animé).

Everyone who watched the final episode of *Buffy* liked the battle scene, but the pace was too rushed. The series ran out of steam over the past two years, so ending the series was appropriate.

It was mentioned that plot of the upcoming movie *I, Robot* is quite true to the book’s plot. The cast includes Will Smith.

Rob promoted the **upcoming LSF book discussions**: *Good Omens*, by Gaiman/Pratchett (June); *Nightmare*, by Stephen Harris (July); *Hominids*, by Robert Sawyer (August).

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## FAQ: Movie Outings, Parties, and Other Events

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**Q:** Should I have people RSVP?

**A:** Not a bad idea, especially in cases involving reservations or ticket purchases. I personally like knowing who’s coming, so I can look for them. Generally, we have people purchase tickets for movies, plays, museums, etc., on their own, then gather in front of the building with enough time to find good seats/get in line early/whatever.

**Q:** What about accessibility? Is it required that events be Metro-accessible?

**A:** It is not a requirement that events be Metro-accessible, but it certainly is preferred. Don’t let not being near Metro stop you from organizing something; but if that is the case, it’s appreciated if you provide some info about busses, help to coordinate pickups at a nearby Metro stop, or help connect drivers with those in

need of a ride. Also, parking information for drivers is appreciated, and free parking is also preferred.

**Q:** Can events only be here in the District?

**A:** Movie outings and video parties have taken place in DC and in the Maryland and Virginia suburbs. There have also been trips farther afield, such as outings to plays at the Wayside Theater in Middletown, VA, ghost

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## Two LSF Movie Outings, One Movie Seen

[Ed. Note: These events occurred on May 10th and 11th. The following commentaries and descriptions were taken from e-mails posted on the LSF website immediately following the Sunday outing to see *The Matrix Reloaded*.]

### ***The Matrix Unloaded* A Non-Review from the LSF Movie Outing** by Rob

Well, it may not go down as one of LSF's luckiest of days...

The crowd of 15 attendees eagerly anticipated the start of the movie by waiting in a long, long line in an overheated movie theatre with very poor crowd control. By the time we had arrived, delays had already occurred throughout the theatre; and the 4:00 PM show was already slated to actually begin at 4:30. It seems that a fire alarm had gone off that afternoon. The crowd was restless in the heat, and much shuffling occurred when the 3:30 show was let into the theatre at approximately 3:45-3:50.

We waited... our time was coming. The line for the show was actually *\*past\** the entrance to the specific auditorium in which the 4:00 show was slated to occur, so time and again newcomers who tried to simply walk in were called by the crowd to move on to the end of the line. The theatre staff were virtually invisible. Agitation and sweat began taking their toll. Grumblings and anxiety about finally getting in were all the rage. Half the LSF crowd had braved the line for over an hour at that point and waited only a few dozen people from the front of the line; this first group of LSF'ers was poised to claim seats for the whole group. Then, things got worse... much worse.

A hard-to-hear siren and a bright, flashing light began. The fire alarm had gone off. Again. The crowd remained, undeterred in the face of imminent death. No mere false alarms would keep them from claiming their



hard-earned seats. The alarm continued. A few staff members arrived. Patrons began slowly tromping out of the other auditoriums. Madness began to reign. The staff, when asked questions, or when asked for assistance, were unforthcoming and virtually useless. As the hallway slowly began to clear of all but those who had waited over an hour for the 3:30 show (which had just started) and those still waiting for the 4:00 show of *The Matrix Reloaded*, the staff began to agitatedly direct their attention to the Matrix-ites.

"Everyone has to leave," they said. "What are you going to do to make sure those of us who waited for hours will still get the primo seats we just left in the 3:30 show?" they were asked. "Just leave, we'll figure something out later," said the staff. "What about those of us standing in line here in the front for the 4:00 show who have been here for over an hour?" we asked. "You have to leave," they said. "What about our place in line? How will we get this spot when we're let back in?" "Just leave - do what you've been told." "Could you mark our line place numbers as we leave?" "Just leave." "Will we get refunds?" "You'll have to talk to the manager later; just leave."

Eventually, the crowd dispersed to much grumbling. The whole period, from alarm start to departure, lasted about 10 minutes. One staff member, when approached about helping to clear the doorway so a handicapped person could exit an auditorium, replied in broken English: "It's not my fault." Helpful.

It took almost another ten minutes to get from the bottom of the stairs outside the auditorium to the exit of the theatre and out. The crowds were pressed against the glass on the sidewalk and by the doors, making it hard to exit, because no one from the theatre seemed to be attempting any crowd control and organization. When we finally made it out, the LSF'ers in

attendance were in general agreement that a refund was in order and that *The Matrix Reloaded* could be seen somewhere else.

A smaller group - about 10 of us - headed off in search of food and found a delightful pizza-and-sandwich shop next to the Magruder's across the street from the theatre. Giuseppe's. Highly recommended, for decent hearty fare. We ate, we chatted, we wandered back to the theatre to get our refunds in hopes that the line had slimmed. Our plan had worked; there was virtually no line. The parking lot was empty, and we discovered that the theatre had been closed for the rest of the day and was only letting people in for refunds. We all got our refunds - and a free "re-admission" ticket (which we can hopefully use at another theatre from the chain, since none of us wants to patronize *this* theatre again) from the remaining staff (who seemed, if not surly, at the very least not actively friendly).

Ah well, despite it all, the chatter and company was fine. Hopefully, next time our choice of venues will be better-run....

(And for those who want an *anti*-recommendation for a movie theatre, I highly DIS-recommend the Regal Cinemas in Rockville.)

### **Movie Outings Updates** by Michael C.

Well, we had two outings this weekend. I thought I'd give y'all a quick rundown...

Saturday's outing to see Cocteau's *Beauty and the Beast* at the new AFI Silver was a success despite the dreary weather. I found the film itself to be enchanting and beguiling, with many surreal and comical touches that kept it from being mired in its own artiness. The special effects seem rough, but by 1946 standards they were probably state-of-the-art. Unfortunately, the movie was not showing in the main auditorium, but in one of the two smaller theaters. "Small" is only a relative term, though, because the auditorium we were in was not only very spacious but also

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## Two LSF Movie Outings

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luxurious, with stadium seating and beautiful modern design, the kind of thing you wish you saw more of at the neighborhood multiplexes. Rest assured that I'll try to arrange more outings there when there's something genre playing.

Today's outing to see *The Matrix Reloaded* was... well... quite an experience. The Regal in Rockville, where we assembled, was very crowded. We went downstairs and stood in line to get good seats. Just before 4:00 M, when we should have gone in, the fire alarms started going off! At first, people suspected that some joker had pulled the fire alarm and refused to move, but eventually theater employees came and said that, yes, indeed, there was a fire and that we had to leave. Reluctantly, we filed out and, throwing up our hands in resignation, retreated to a nearby pizza place to have a bite as the fire trucks began to arrive. (Giuseppe's Pizza, near the Regal, a very friendly place that deserves more business.) We returned about an hour later to find the theater was closed but was allowing people to enter for refunds. We got cash refunds and free passes, but the fire situation was so poorly managed (and we heard at the pizza parlor that generally the theater has bad management) that we all expressed reluctance to return there. (Personally, I was also turned off by the fact that the Regal now charges people to park in their lot, a revolting new development.) So don't expect any outings at the Regal any time soon. Anyone want to try another time and theater for the movie?

### Movie Outings Updates (follow-up comments)

**Comment from Randy:** "The Rockville Regal theater, shopping mall and Montgomery office buildings has been built and rebuilt several times since the 70's. Always a financial disaster — the county thought the Metro stop would be a boon, but they were wrong. Regal was preceded by United Artists and by General Cinema; each were located in a different part of the complex."

## FAQ: Movie Outings, etc.

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tours in Ellicott City, MD, shopping trips to used bookstores in Hagerstown and Frederick, and trips to museums in Baltimore. Don't feel restricted by the DC area, but it is preferred to keep things down to a reasonable driving distance.

**Q:** How many people can I expect to come?

**A:** To be honest, it's pretty unpredictable, and can vary with the weather, the day, interest in the event itself, and other factors. I once organized an outing to see *Brotherhood of the Wolf* and only one other person showed up; another trip I organized, to see *A.I.*, resulted in a mob of nearly thirty people. It's difficult to predict.

**Q:** I see that people like to go out to dinner after an outing. What should I keep in mind regarding restaurants?

**A:** When organizing a trip or outing, it's generally a good idea to scout out the area and spot a few nearby restaurants. There are no real requirements about the cuisine or the price factor, but moderately-priced eateries are preferred. It's a good idea to have several places in mind, in case one is too busy or if there's too long a wait for tables.

**Q:** How should I organize a movie outing?

**A:** Movie outings are one of the easiest events. Choose a movie, the theater, a time, and let people know. Best to say where the theater is, what Metro stop is nearest, how to get advanced tickets, and any other pertinent information. Be there yourself ahead of time to watch for people. This also applies for plays and other ticket-required events.

### Reply from Michael C.:

"Hmmm... maybe the ground is cursed! Maybe F. Scott Fitzgerald's ghost haunts the place. Perhaps we should mobilize an exorcism?"

[Ed. Note: Both F. Scott Fitzgerald and Zelda are buried in St. Mary's churchyard, just down the road.]

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**Q:** What about museums?

**A:** Simply announce a time and place to meet. If the museum requires a ticket (like on the recent trip to the Spy Museum), also let people know how to get tickets.

**Q:** What about events in one's home, like video parties or game nights?

**A:** Video parties are a popular event. Members bring favorite DVDs and videotapes; and attendees vote on which will be seen. Most of our parties have several TVs going at once in different rooms, but we've have single-screen parties before, as well. Game nights are usually the same way, with several different games going on in different areas. These parties also usually feature a potluck dinner as well. Video nights usually start early enough to allow time for watching two or three movies.

**Q:** I have other questions. Who can I ask?

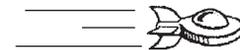
**A:** You can throw questions out to the LSF e-mail list, or you can contact people privately. I'm willing to answer questions or help people plan events; feel free to contact me at [Stenbock@aol.com](mailto:Stenbock@aol.com).

I hope this clears things up. Hope to see folks at upcoming events!

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## Convention Addendum

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Sept. 2-6, 2004 **NOREASCON4 (The 62nd World Science Fiction Convention)**.

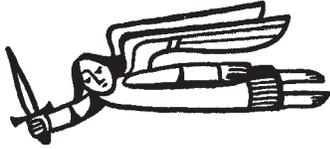
Hynes Convention Center & surrounding hotels (Boston, Mass.). Pro GoHs: Terry Pratchett & William Tenn. Attending membership: until 2/28/03, \$140 for attending adults (will go up!) Membership form on-line; registration also available on-line. Make checks payable to "Noreascon 4" and send to: Noreascon Four/MCFI, PO Box 1010, Framingham, MA 01701-1010.

For general questions: [info@mcfi.org](mailto:info@mcfi.org)

Website: [www.noreascon.org](http://www.noreascon.org)

## **Every Dead Thing** by John Connolly

reviewed by Michael Cornett



*Every Dead Thing*, a 1999 bestseller by John Connolly, has all the hallmarks of the standard cookie-cutter, paperback-bestseller-type of book that I often ignore. But I gave it a closer look and am glad I did.

First off, the author is from Ireland; but you couldn't tell. It's set in the U.S., and he has all the settings and lingo down pat. A creditable feat in and of itself.

The story involves former New York policeman Charlie Parker, called "Bird" by his friends. (Jazz fans, feel free to roll your eyes at this point.) Parker's wife and daughter were murdered and mutilated by a sadistic serial killer known only as the Traveling Man. Their unsolved deaths haunted him to the point where he was fired from the force and had to strike out on his own.

Redemption seems to come when he's hired by a society matron to track down a missing person, a friend who vanished from her work. A series of strange murders connected to the case bothers Parker; but when he follows the trail to a small Virginia town, he comes face to face with long-buried secrets and confronts another sadistic killer. Successfully bringing one killer to justice empowers him to track down the Traveling Man.

Parker's quest to avenge his family's murder is where the novel really takes off into genre territory. Parker is summoned to New Orleans by a blind psychic, who offers some clues. He is visited by the ghosts of his wife and daughter, offering support. One of the Traveling Man's victims is found when her ghost is seen in a bayou, leading Parker and his friends to investigate.

Of note to gay readers are Parker's best-friends-cum-guardian-angels, Angel and Louis. Angel is a young white slacker-type, a former burglar who has reformed. His lover Louis is a tall

## **The Wee Free Men** by Terry Pratchett

(HarperCollins, 2003)

[www.terrypratchettbooks.com](http://www.terrypratchettbooks.com)

a review by Colleen R. Cahill



There have recently been some very good children's books published, such as Neil Gaiman's *Coraline* and Clive Barker's *Abarat*. These have a dark edge to them which is part of their charm. Sometimes, however, I just want a good laugh. *The Wee Free Men* by Terry Pratchett presents fantasy with a lighter touch while still being a great book. Humor is Pratchett's speciality, as readers of his "Discworld" series can tell you; and this stand-alone novel is set in that universe. It is a wonderful addition that can be read without any knowledge of the earlier works, and it is a treat for fantasy fans of all ages.

The book starts on a sheep farm, where nine-year-old Tiffany lives with her family. A quiet, observing child, she also shows ingenuity when faced with a monster in the local stream. She brings intelligence and cunning to the problem, plus a willingness to use her little brother as bait. But she does not just see people as tools: her sense of justice is strong and she strives to learn how to protect those who are helpless. To this end, she has decided to become a witch. This is somewhat daring on her part, as a old woman was shunned by the locals last year because she was believed to be a witch. But Tiffany has the role model of her Grandmother, who

was the best shepherd in the area and who displayed some unusual powers. When the little brother she uses as bait is kidnapped by the Queen of the Elves, Tiffany turns to the Nac Mac Feegle or the Wee Free Men. These six-inch blue-tattooed men, with red hair and dressed in kilts, are fond of "stealin' an' drinkin' an' fightin'." They are incredibly strong and fear nothing... but lawyers. Assisted by this enthusiastic crew and armed with a iron frying pan, Tiffany marches to the rescue of brother, facing dreams and nightmares to get him back.

Pratchett has created a fun work with lots of humor. The Wee Free Men are a wonderful counterpoint to Tiffany: their wildness and live-for-the-moment attitude contrasts well with Tiffany's more sober and pragmatic way of thinking. But this adventure in fairyland also has messages of the responsibility power conveys to helping others and the value of family. It is being marketed as a children's work, but there are several levels; and adults with find delight in these pages, also.

Any "Discworld" fan probably already has this title on order. Anyone else who enjoys a good laugh, be they young or old, should also grab a copy of this book.

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black former hit man, a snappy dresser and staunch Republican. The two are compellingly written and positively portrayed, one of the few couples in the book having a good relationship. They're also damned tough! Parker thinks nothing of having gay friends, and in one scene is offended by an acquaintance's anti-gay jokes. He's not politically correct; it's just that, to him, gayness is nothing unusual. Angel and Louis have appeared in *Every Dead Thing's* three sequels (*Dark Hollow*, *The Killing Kind*, and *The White Road*); and there's talk that Connolly may have them star in an adventure of their own.

*Every Dead Thing* is a gripping

read, but it's not for everyone. The two-part structure might be a little confusing at first to some readers. The crime-scene descriptions are very grisly; don't read this while eating! The language is very raw, but when you're writing about gangsters and murderers it's pretty much a given. There are times when the writing is less than spectacular, and sometimes it drags a little; but that's forgivable in a first novel. All in all, *Every Dead Thing* is a fun read, much more than just a clone of *The Silence of the Lambs*. The positive gay content is a definite plus, and the eerie touches of the supernatural put this in a class by itself.

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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 \$10, for which you will receive an e-mailed this monthly newsletter and a membership directory. (Hard copies of the newsletter cost an additional \$15 per year.) 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, July 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



July 11-13, 2003 **SHORE LEAVE 25**. Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests include: John Rhys Davies (*LoTR's* Gimli, *Indiana Jones's* Sallah); Marina Sirtis (*ST: TNG's* Deanna Troi); Andrea Thompson (*B5's* Talia Winters); Marc Singer (*Beastmaster*). Membership: \$50 until 6/31/03 (higher at the door). Make checks payable to "Shore Leave" and send (with 2 SASE's) to: Shore Leave 25, PO Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809.

E-mail: [information@shore-leave.com](mailto:information@shore-leave.com)

Website: [www.shore-leave.com](http://www.shore-leave.com)

Aug. 28 - Sept. 1, 2003 **TORCON 3 (The 61st World Science Fiction Convention)**. Metro Toronto Convention Centre & surrounding hotels (Toronto, Ontario, Canada). Guests of Honor: George R.R. Martin (author), Frank Kelly Freas (artist), Mike Slyer (fan), Spider Robinson (Toastmaster). Membership: \$185 US for attending adults (valid as of 1/16/2003 -- will go up!). Make checks payable to "Torcon 3" and send to: Torcon 3, PO Box 3, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1A2.

E-mail: [info@torcon3.on.ca](mailto:info@torcon3.on.ca)

Website: [www.torcon3.on.ca](http://www.torcon3.on.ca)

Oct. 30 - Nov. 2, 2003 **THE 29TH ANNUAL WORLD FANTASY CONVENTION**. Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill (Washington, DC). Author GoHs: Brian Lumley & Jack Williamson; Artist GoH: Allen Koszowski. Membership: \$120 until 7/31/03. Make checks payable to "World Fantasy Convention 2003" and send to: WFC 2003 Registration c/o Jerry Crutcher, PO Box 1096, Rockville, MD 20849-1096.

Website: [www.worldfantasy2003.org](http://www.worldfantasy2003.org)

Nov. 21-23, 2003 **CAPCLAVE 2003**. Hilton Silver Spring (Silver Spring, MD). Guest of Honor: William Tenn. Membership: \$30 thru 9/15/2003; \$35 thru 11/1/03; \$40 at the door. Make checks payable to "Capclave" and send to: Capclave 2003 Registration, c/o Cathy Green, 3003 Van Ness St. NW, Apt. W527, Washington, DC 20008.

E-mail: [info@capclave.org](mailto:info@capclave.org)

Website: [www.capclave.org](http://www.capclave.org)

Dec. 12-14, 2003 **PHILCON 2003**. Marriott City Center (Philadelphia). Guest of Honor: Jack McDevitt; Artist Guests of Honor: Greg & Tim Hildebrandt; Special Guest: Peter David. Membership: \$40 until 1/31/2003 (will go up). More details to follow. Website: [www.philcon.org](http://www.philcon.org)

April 8 - 11, 2004 **GAYLAXICON 2004 - SAN DIEGO**. The annual national GLBT science-fiction/fantasy/horror/comics/gaming convention. Red Lion Hanalei Hotel (San Diego, CA). Author Guest of Honor: David Gerrold; Artist Guest of Honor: Joe Phillips. Membership: \$40 until 7/31/2003; then \$45 until 12/21/2003; then \$50 until 2/29/2004; and \$60 at the door. Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon 2004 - San Diego" and send to: Gaylaxicon 2004 - San Diego, 1010 University Ave., PMB #946, San Diego, CA, 92103-3395. Membership forms available on-line.

Information at: [www.gaylaxicon.org/2004](http://www.gaylaxicon.org/2004)

E-mail: [Gaylaxicon2004@aol.com](mailto:Gaylaxicon2004@aol.com)

## A Few More Upcoming Conventions from “the Michaels”

August 1-3, 2003 **FANEX 17**. A media-oriented con, mostly about classic horror films. Days Hotel Timonium (Timonium, MD). Guests: TBA. Admission \$10 per day, \$30 for the weekend. Make checks payable to “Midnight Marquee Press” and mail to: Midnight Marquee, 9721 Britinay Ln, Baltimore, MD 21234. E-mail for more info: MMarquee@aol.com.  
Website: [www.midmar.com/filmfest.html](http://www.midmar.com/filmfest.html)

August 15-17, 2003 **THE HORRORFIND WEEKEND**. Marriott Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests include Traci Lords, David Naughton, Gunnar Hansen, Dee Wallace Stone, and authors Jack Ketchum and F. Paul Wilson. Tickets are \$20 single day, \$30 for the weekend. Make checks payable to “Horrorfind.com LLC” and mail to: Horrorfind.com LLC, 9722 Groffs Mill Dr, Suite 109, Owings Mills, MD 21117 (or can be purchased online at their website). Website: [www.horrorfindweekend.com](http://www.horrorfindweekend.com).

Sept 20-21, 2003 **4TH ANNUAL BALTIMORE COMICON**. Baltimore Convention Center (Baltimore, MD). Guests include: George Perez, Frank Cho, and many more. Not yet able to sign up on-line; and not a lot more information available (“coming soon” says their website). For more information, contact Marc Nathan, [cardcomicscollectibles@yahoo.com](mailto:cardcomicscollectibles@yahoo.com)  
website: [www.comicon.com/baltimore](http://www.comicon.com/baltimore)

Sept. 26-28th, 2003 **MONSTER MANIA**. Clarion Hotel and Conference Center (Cherry Hill, NJ). Guests include: Caroline Munro, Veronica Carlson, Yvonne Monlaur, Debbie Rochon, Vincent DiFate, Richard Valley and Tom Amorosi; also a *Creature from the Black Lagoon* reunion and a special tribute to Peter Cushing. Tickets \$12.50 daily or \$30 for the weekend - available online at: [monstermania.net](http://monstermania.net).

Feb. 13-15, 2004 **FARPOINT 2004**. Marriott’s Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Special Guest: Bill Mummy. Weekend membership: \$50 (daily rates available). Make checks payable to “Farpoint Enterprises” and send to: Farpoint Enterprises, PO Box 164, Woodbine, MD 21797  
Website: [www.farpointcon.com](http://www.farpointcon.com)

July 1-4, 2005 **GAYLAXICON 2005**. Boston, MA. Introductory rate: \$35. Make checks payable to “Gaylaxicon 2005” and send to: Gaylaxicon 2005, PO Box 1059, Boston, MA 02103.  
Website: [www.gaylaxicon.org](http://www.gaylaxicon.org)

[Ed. Note: This information was a last-minute insert to the paper copies of the newsletter, so I decided to add it to the e-version of the newsletter, too.]