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Spectrum Awards

**2003 Spectrum
Award Winners**
announced by Rob Gates

Washington DC: — The Gaylactic Spectrum Awards Foundation is pleased to announce the winners of the 2003 Gaylactic Spectrum Awards. The Gaylactic Spectrum Awards were created in 1999 by The Gaylactic Network, the premiere organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) fans of science fiction, fantasy, and horror (SF/F/H), to honor works in SF/F/H that deal positively with gay characters, themes and issues. The independent Gaylactic Spectrum Awards Foundation was created in 2002 to manage and further the mission of the Awards, which is to educate and raise awareness of GLBT content in SF/F/H. Nominations for the Gaylactic Spectrum Awards are open to everyone, and finalists and winners are selected by a jury.

Regular awards were presented in four categories for works originally released in 2002.

In the Best Novel category, the winner was: *Fire Logic*, by Laurie J. Marks (Tor Books).

In the Best Short Fiction category, the winner was: "Three Letters from the Queen of Elfland", by Sarah Monette (from *Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet #11* - Small Beer Press).



In the Best Comic/Graphic Novel category, the winners were (*two* winners were named!): *The Authority* (issues 28-29), by Mark Millar *et al* (Wildstorm/DC Comics); and *Green Lantern: Hate Crime* (issues 153-155), by Judd Winnick *et al* (DC Comics).

In the Best Other Work category, the winner was: *Queer Fear II*, edited by Michael Rowe (Arsenal Pulp Press).

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**Next LSF Meeting:
New Location - Oct. 9th**

NOTE: The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at Julian's Georgetown home (2462 Tunlaw Road, NW, Washington, DC) on Sunday, October 9th. (For directions, see page 2 of this newsletter.) The business meeting will begin at 1:30 PM - we have a proposal to vote on (*see Sept. minutes on page 2 for details*); and the social meeting will begin at 2:00 PM. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can. See you there!

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**LSF and
Reel Affirmations 13**

Lambda Sci-Fi has again agreed to serve as a Community Partner for one of the films during this year's Reel Affirmations season: *Tout contre Leo* (*Close to Leo*). This film will be screened at 3:00 PM on Sunday, October 19, at the historic Lincoln Theatre (1215 "U" Street NW, across the street from the "U" Street/Cardozo Metro Stop's 13th Street exit, Green Line).

Reel Affirmations, now in its thirteenth year, is the third-largest GLBT film festival in the nation. From its week-long beginnings in 1991, Reel Affirmations now anchors year-round film screenings, a ten-day film festival every October, and also presents a two-day Pride Film Festival in June and the monthly Reel Affirmations Xtra screenings, as well as other special screenings and events. One in Ten, Reel Affirmation's parent organization, also sponsors the One in Ten Museum Project, the Laugh Out Loud Gay and Lesbian Comedy Festival, and many other events affirming arts in the community.

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WHAT'S INSIDE? LSF Meeting Minutes for September 14, 2003 (pg. 2); Directions for October LSF Meeting (pg. 2); Mike Wadley - RIP (pg. 3); The LSF Book Discussion Group (pg. 3); Hugo Awards (pg. 4); "How to" Books for the F&SF Crowd (book reviews - pg. 4); About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians & Con Calendar (pg. 6)

**LSF Meeting Minutes for
September 14, 2003**
taken by Scott & edited by Carl



Business Meeting

The following **proposal** was submitted: *That LSF establish an account with Pay Pal to accept payments and donated electronically. Transaction fees will be absorbed by the club.*

This proposal **will be voted on at the October LSF meeting.**

[Ed. Note: All LSF members are reminded that the LSF charter allows non-attending members to vote on such issues. If you are a member of LSF and you wish to send in your vote, please do so in writing ("snail mail" or e-mail). Include your name, the complete wording of the proposal, and your vote -- then send it to one of the officers *before the meeting*. The officer will bring your vote to the meeting and register your vote.]

Social Meeting

A large crowd assembled today at James' apartment! Michael, the Speaker, initiated a name circle for everyone to introduce himself.

It was announced that the **next LSF meeting** (Sunday, October 12) will be held **at Julian's home** in Glover Park (near Georgetown).

Rob set up a **movie outing** to see *Underworld* (basically, *Romeo and Juliet* with vampires & werewolves) for Sunday, September 28. No one suggested a similar movie outing for *Cabin Fever*.

Rob reminded everyone about **upcoming LSF book discussions**: Sept. 25 - *Swordspoint* by Ellen Kushner (this discussion will be held at Sean's and Brian's home); Oct. 23 - *Queer Fear II*, an anthology edited by Michael Rowe; and Dec. 4: (combined Nov./Dec. discussion) - *Fat White Vampire Blues* by Andrew Fox.

Michael passed around fliers and brochures from the recent Horrorfind convention that he attended. Among the items that Michael passed around

were two small red rubber balls with long rubber hairs, intended to promote the *Jeepers Creepers II* movie. And, yes, there were flyers for upcoming conventions on *Mothman* and *Bigfoot*. (Likely worth the price of admission, eh?)

Many LSF members attended the recent WorldCon -- **TorCon** -- in Toronto over Labor Day weekend. Here is a bulletized **list of comments & observations**:

- **Same-sex weddings!** Tom Atkinson & Don Sakers, Andrew Bertke & Joe Agee, Don Kaiser & Dan Heine, and James Odom & Richard Wix.
- Rob commented that the panel programming was not well organized. Despite the programming snafus, there was **lots of GLBT programming**.
- The **GLBT fan suite** was open for parties on four successive nights.
- **Tanya Huff and Fiona Patton** hosted a party for their GLBT fans one night at the GLBT suite.
- It was noted there did not appear to be any outstanding **money issues regarding the GLBT suite**.
- The **con's masquerade party** ran smoothly.
- The **Hugo Awards** were announced. Robert Sawye's *Hominids*, which the LSF book discussion group had just read, won Best Novel.
- The **Spectrum Awards** were also announced. [Ed. note: **See article on page 1 of this newsletter.**]
- It was also noted that both the **art room and the dealer's room** were very small in comparison to other US-based WorldCons.
- **Attendance** at the con was reported to be less than 4000 people.
- **Next year's WorldCon** will be held in Boston.

There has been some low-profile discussion about potentially having a future WorldCon in the Washington, DC/Baltimore area. (Don't hold your breath!)

TV Stuff: UPN's new genre TV series, *Jake 2.0*, premiered this week.

Meeting attendees projected a lifespan of approximately 10 episodes before being cancelled. WB is considering a new *Flash* series. Not too many people expressed enthusiasm over last week's *Enterprise* episode. Will Captain Archer finally get tough and provide some tension to the episodes?

Michael told attendees about **www.goatmanhollow.com**. Are you familiar with the **symbol for queer horror fans**? It's the standard rainbow flag with drops of blood dripping off the flag's red stripe. (Now you know.)

Michael also commented that the movie *Die Mommy Die* will be opening on Halloween. It's supposed to be funnier than *Psycho Beach Party*.

Peter displayed tons of **LSF and Gaylaxicon items for sale** -- LSF polo shirts, the 1st 12 years of the LSF newsletter on CD-ROM, *Farscape* caps, Gaylaxicon 1999 and 2000 T-shirts.

Finally, **Antonio Ruffin** read his short story called "The Secret", which he has submitted to the 2003 South African Science Fiction Contest. Antonio's story very cleverly features a vampire, a vampire killer, and a GLBT character. (Thanks for the reading, Antonio!)



**Directions to
October LSF Meeting**

Location:

2462 Tunlaw Road, NW
(Georgetown), Washington, DC

Metro Directions:

Take the Pennsylvania Ave. Line (Buses 30, 32, 34, 35, and 36). These busses stop at the following Metro stations: Friendship Heights, Tenleytown/AU, Foggy Bottom/GWU, Farragut West, Archives/Navy Memorial, Eastern Market, Potomac Avenue, Nalor Road, and Southern Avenue.

Get off at the Calvert Street stop (just *before* the Russian Embassy if you're on a *northbound* bus; OR just *after* the Russian Embassy if you're traveling on a

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Mike Wadley
- RIP -

information related
by Peter Knapp

I received notification today [Sept. 6, 2003] from Steven Kluth that Mike Wadley “passed to the great gay beyond” on August 18. For those that don’t know, Mike was the Gaylactic Network Speaker before Carl. He was also very heavily involved in the Niagara Falls Gaylaxicon. Mike continued to act as the Network’s nonprofit agent in Missouri even after he stepped down as Speaker, and he also regularly paid the annual fee as a contribution to the Network.

He will be missed.

Reel Affirmations 13

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Apart from its Executive Director and Business & Development Manager, One in Ten is an all-volunteer organization. Through a program of Community Partners, Reel Affirmations receives support from area organizations, such as Lambda Sci-Fi, that provide outreach efforts to their organizations’ memberships.

Last year LSF was the Community Partner for *Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell*. LSF also partnered with Reel Affirmations that July for the Reel Affirmations Xtra screening of *Attack of the Giant Mous-saka*, a hilarious spoof of genre films from Greece, which included a variety of gay characters.

Further information on Reel Affirmations – including the full festival schedule, ticket and festival pass information, and volunteer opportunities – can be found at the organization’s website:

<http://www.reelaffirmations.org>

Here’s some information about *Close to Leo* from Reel Affirmation’s website:

Close to Leo is about family... namely, Leo’s family. At 21, he’s the eldest of four children; Marcel, age 11, is youngest. With their relatively young

Spectrum Awards

2003 Spectrum Award Winners

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In addition, to honor works released prior to 1998, four works were inducted into the Gaylactic Spectrum Awards Hall of Fame. These were: “The Holdfast Chronicles” (book series), by Suzy McKee Charnas; *The Left Hand of Darkness* (novel), by Ursula K Le Guin; *Shadow Man* (novel), by Melissa Scott; and “The Tale of the Five” (book series), by Diane Duane.

The 2003 Gaylactic Spectrum Awards were presented at the World Science Fiction Convention in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on August 29, 2003. This was the third year that the Awards had been presented at the World Science Fiction Convention.

For more information about the Gaylactic Spectrum Awards, including a complete listing of all nominated works and finalists, you can visit the website at:

<http://www.spectrumawards.org/>

or send email to:

info@spectrumawards.org

Finally, for more information about the Gaylactic Network, you can visit the website at:

<http://www.gaylactic-network.org/>

or send email to:

speaker@gaylactic-network.org

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parents, they’ve always been happy and close-knit. Each is fairly open and accepting of Leo’s homosexuality, but after learning he has AIDS, the family is faced with a situation that will eventually test all bonds. Worried that Marcel is too young to deal with this devastating news, he’s omitted from the family discussions of Leo’s HIV status. But one night after dinner, Marcel overhears talk about Leo’s health, and the news comes as a bombshell. The family continues pretending everything’s fine to Marcel – and perhaps even to itself. Marcel is not duped, however; and he wants the truth to come out. But neither

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 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 October 23rd.

While Peter & Rob’s house is undergoing renovations, the LSF Book Discussion Group will meet at 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 several months:

- **Oct. 23rd** - *Queer Fear II*, anthology edited by Michael Rowe; moderator: Rob.

- **Dec. 4th** (NOTE: special combined Nov.-Dec. discussion) - *Fat White Vampire Blues* by Andrew Fox; moderator: Keith.

- **Jan. 22nd** - *Spin State* by Chris Moriarty; moderator: Rob.

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his parents nor his brothers can bring themselves to speak openly about the situation. Faced with the prospect of beginning an arduous medical regimen, Leo becomes increasingly more frustrated, and he eventually takes matters into his own hands. He also decides that Marcel must hear the truth, and hear it from him. The two brothers finally open up to each other on a trip to Paris, proving that no secret or health threat can undermine their relationship.

Dir. Christophe Honoré, 2001, France, video, 90 min. In French, with English subtitles.

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Hugo Awards

info passed along
by Rob Gates

The 2003 Hugo Awards were presented on Saturday, August 30, at Torcon 3, the 61st World Science Fiction Convention in Toronto. Our most recent book discussion book - *Hominids* - won best Novel, so that makes two years in a row we've read the Hugo winner shortly before the Worldcon. (Last year we read *American Gods* in July and it won the Hugo a month later.)

Best Novel - *Hominids* by Robert J. Sawyer (*Analog* Jan-Apr 2002; Tor)

Best Novella - *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman (HarperCollins)

Best Novelette - "Slow Life" by Michael Swanwick (*Analog* Dec 2002)

Best Short Story - "Falling Onto Mars" by Geoffrey A. Landis (*Analog* Jul/Aug 2002)

Best Related Book - *Better to Have Loved: The Life of Judith Merrill* by Judith Merrill & Emily Pohl-Weary (Between the Lines)

Best Dramatic Presentation, Long Form - *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* (New Line Cinema; directed by Peter Jackson; screenplay by Fran Walsh, Philippa Boyens, Stephen Sinclair & Peter Jackson; based on the novel by J. R. R. Tolkien)

Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form - *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, "Conversations With Dead People" (20th Century Fox Television/Mutant Enemy Inc.; directed by Nick Marck; teleplay by Jane Espenson & Drew Goddard)

Best Professional Editor - Gardner Dozois

Best Professional Artist - Bob Eggleton

Best Semiprozine - *Locus* (Charles N. Brown, Jennifer A. Hall & Kirsten Gong-Wong, eds.)

Best Fanzine - *Mimosa* (Rich & Nicki Lynch)

Best Fan Writer - Dave Langford



Best Fan Artist - Sue Mason
John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer (not a Hugo Award)-
Wen Spencer

Several other awards were presented during Torcon 3, including the Aurora, Golden Duck, Prometheus, Sidewise, and Spectrum awards. The Torcon 3 website does not currently list most of these winners.

Aurora Award winners can be found at: <http://www.sentex.net/~dmullin/aurora/torcon3a.html>

Sidewise Award winners can be found at: <http://www.uchronia.net/sidewise/>

Gaylactic Spectrum Award winners can be found at: <http://www.spectrumawards.org/2003.htm>

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Directions to October LSF Meeting continued from page 2

southbound bus). Travel west on Calvert. Cross 37th Street. Walk one block and turn left at Tunlaw Road. Julian's house is the third house from the corner.

For the bus schedule, call Metro information at 202-637-7000 or visit their website at www.wmata.com. You'll need Adobe Acrobat Reader (a free download at www.adobe.com) to access the bus schedules.

Driving Directions:

If you are driving from the North, drive south on Wisconsin Ave. (from the direction of National Cathedral); turn right on Calvert Street; cross 37th Street; then left at Tunlaw Road. Julian's house is the third house from the corner.

If you are driving from the South, drive north on Wisconsin (from the direction of M Street); turn left on Calvert Street; cross 37th Street; then left at Tunlaw Road. Julian's house is the third house from the corner.

For more information: Call 202-306-1497 on the day of the meeting, or call 202-483-6369 prior to the day of the meeting.

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"How to" Books for the F&SF Crowd reviewed by Carl Cipra

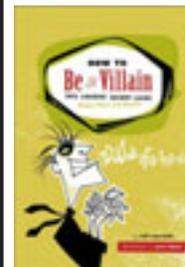
You know, you find the darnedest things when you wander around in bookstores as much as I do. Case in point: the recent flurry of genre-related "How to" books.

I guess it really all started a little over 10 years ago, when I found *How to Be a Superhero*, by Mark Leigh and Mike Lepine (NBM Publishing, 1992). It's a great little book; and I used to frequently quote from it in the LSF Newsletter when I needed a bit of "filler". Just to give you an idea what it's like, here's the guarantee printed on the back of the title page:

"TO THE PURCHASER: *Guarantee:* If you fail to save the Universe, and it is subsequently destroyed, you may claim back the full purchase price of this book at any surviving stocklist on presentation of receipt. Failure to save a parallel and/or anti-matter universe are not grounds for reimbursement."

Like I said: great book! I still browse through it from time to time when I feel in the need of a chuckle.

But what if your ambitions lead in a *different* direction? What if you don't *want* to be a "superhero"? Well, until recently, *How to Be a Superhero* was pretty much all there was out there – at least, it was the only one I'd run across. Then, all of a sudden, a number of attractive alternate titles appeared on the stands.



How to Be a Villain: Evil Laughs, Secret Lairs, Master Plans, and More!!!, by Neil Zuckowski (Chronicle Books, 2003)

Ah *now* we're talkin'! Let's say your proclivities lie more along the lines of... um... the *shadier* side of the Force. No longer are you forced to "read between the lines" in books like *How to be a Superhero* or to deduce what you

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'How to' Books

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can about Dr. Doom's methods from the pages of the latest *Fantastic Four* comicbook! Now there's a book just for you!

As it says on the back cover: "Should I wear black or red? Do I go with winged monkeys or ninja warriors? Just where will I put the evil lair? Questions like these trouble any self-respecting villain. Now, for the first time ever, there is a handy guide to resolving these and other quandries... Whatever your evil background or experience, *How to be a Villain* will help you discover and develop your inner darkness."

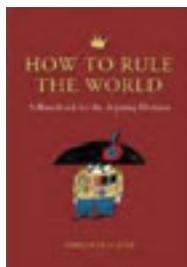
For example, Chapter 1 (Getting Started with the Forces of Darkness) provides guidance in the following areas: "The Concept of Evil", "The Benefits of Being Evil", "Am I Evil?" (a short self-assessment quiz), "Choosing an Evil Name", "Motives", and "The Evil Laugh – A Must-Have".

Here's one of the questions in the self-assessment quiz:

What is your reaction when confronted by a crucifix or holy water?

- A. *Feel the divine light surround your spiritual aura.*
- B. *Contemplate how far civilization has come.*
- C. *Chuckle at their ridiculous superstitious beliefs.*
- D. *Run away while screaming "It burns! It burns!"*

This hilarious little book has it all. It's got advice on virtually every aspect of villainy. There are helpful hints in here for criminal masterminds, Dark Lords, evil geniuses, pirates, would-be world conquerors, necromancers, servants of Darkness, supervillains, demented madmen – every type of villain you can think of. The book is literally packed with references, homages, and tributes to (as well as quotes from) every aspect of the F/SF/H genre – cartoons, films, books, comics, fairy tales, or what have you. I found reading this book to be a laugh-out-loud experience; and I highly recommend it.



How to Rule the World: A Handbook for the Aspiring Dictator, by André de Guillaume (Chicago Review Press, 2003)

This book is a bit more specialized than *How to Be*

a Villain. The author offers advice regarding a more restricted arena of interest: that particular brand of villainy chosen by would-be world-conquerors and aspiring dictators. He offers guidance on everything from "Is it possible to rule the world?" to "Famous last words." ("Don't let it end like this. Tell them I said something." -- Pancho Villa) All the examples and role models presented in this book are drawn from the real world, either historical or present-day. There are all "the usual suspects" – such as Napoleon, Mao, Julius Caesar, Genghis Khan, Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini, Al Capone – and a number of others you might not have thought of – such as Bill Gates, Margaret Thatcher, General Douglas MacArthur, Kemal Atatürk, and Queen Elizabeth I. There are also lots and lots of handy-dandy little quotes on the subject of rulers and dictators from the likes of Dr. Samuel Johnson, Edmund Burke, Machiavelli (of course), Oscar Wilde, George Burns, Henry Kissinger, and Joseph Goebbels. The author claims to know whereof he speaks. According to the short biographical note at the beginning of the book: "Despite the bitter experience of failing to stage a coup of his own in 1973 [in the – apparently fictional – Cashman Islands] André de Guillaume is the embodiment of a dictator in the making."

How to Rule the World isn't as laugh-out-loud funny as either *How to be a Superhero* or *How to be a Villain*; but it *is* filled with urbanely witty remarks and humor. And, even though it isn't specifically SF/F/H in nature, the advice contained in *How to Rule the World* certainly has applications to any number of science-fiction or fantasy scenarios.



The Action Hero's Handbook: How to Catch a Great White Shark, Perform the Vulcan Nerve Pinch, Track a Fugitive, and Dozens of Other TV and Movie Skills, by David Borgenicht

and Joe Borgenicht (Quirk Books, 2002)

Here's the teaser from the back cover: "For everyone who's ever wanted to be as smooth as James Bond, as clever as Captain Kirk, or as tough as Charlie's Angels, *The Action Hero's Handbook* is the ultimate guide to the essential skills every action hero needs to survive and thrive in this dangerous but exciting world."

The book is divided into five chapters, based on five general categories of "action hero skills": Good Guy Skills, Love Skills, Paranormal Skills, Fighting Skills, and Escape Skills. Here are just a few of the skills covered: "How to Secure/Spyproof a Hotel Room"; "How to Take a Bullet"; "How to Turn Sexual Tension into Mad, Passionate Sex"; "How to Perform the Jedi Mind Trick"; "How to Draw and Win a Gunfight"; "How to Make a Clean Getaway"; "How to Climb Down Mount Rushmore".

But, despite the fact that the contents of this book are based on incredible action-hero skills from virtually any movie or TV show you can think of, it's actually a fairly "practical" book. You see, the authors have culled the contents of this book from interviews with over 30 honest-to-goodness experts – law enforcement officers, bodyguards, surgeons, race car drivers, escape artists, and many, many more.

I can't say that *The Action Hero's Handbook* was especially written to be side-splittingly humorous. It is, however, fascinating – and, from time to time, it's witty. Besides, I'm quite sure this little handbook will take you for quite a few pleasurable trips down memory lane. I think it's impossible to read this book without thinking about dozens of the films and TV shows you've enjoyed over the years.



**** 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, October 9th**, at Julian's Georgetown home: **2462 Tunlaw Road, NW, Washington, DC** - 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



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

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 Website: www.capclave.org

Nov. 28-30, 2003 **DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL MEETING XXVI**. Holiday Inn, Timonium (Timonium, MD). Guest of Honor: Diana Paxson; Artist Guest of Honor: Desiree Kern; Special Guest: Katherine Kurtz. Membership: \$40 until 11/1/2003; \$45 after that and at the door. Make checks payable to "Armida Council" and send to: Armida Council, PO Box 7203, Silver Spring, MD 20907. (If you wish membership confirmation, enclose a stamped, self-addressed *postcard*.) For further information: members@darkovercon.com -or- jaille@darkovercon.com -or- at the PO box address

Dec. 12-14, 2003 **PHILCON 2003**. Marriott City Center (Philadelphia). A very GLBT-friendly convention! Guest of Honor: Jack McDevitt; Artist Guests of Honor: Greg & Tim Hildebrandt; Special Guests: Peter David & Harry Harrison. Membership: \$40 until 5/31/2003 (will go up). Go to website to download pdf of registration form. Website: 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

E-mail: Gaylaxicon2004@aol.com

July 1-4, 2005 **GAYLAXICON 2005**. Hyatt Regency Cambridge (Boston, MA). Introductory membership rate: \$35. Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon 2005" and send to: Gaylaxicon 2005, PO Box 1059, Boston, MA 02103. (More information as it becomes available.) Website: www.gaylaxicon.org