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E-MAIL: [info@lambdasf.org](mailto:info@lambdasf.org) WEBSITE: <http://www.lambdasf.org/>

*Spectrum Awards*

**2005 Gaylactic  
Spectrum Awards  
Nominations Open Through  
March 31, 2005**  
announcement from  
Rob Gates, Director



Nominations for the 2005 Gaylactic Spectrum Awards are still open and will remain open through March 31, 2005. Nominations can be made online at: <http://www.spectrumawards.org/nomform.htm>

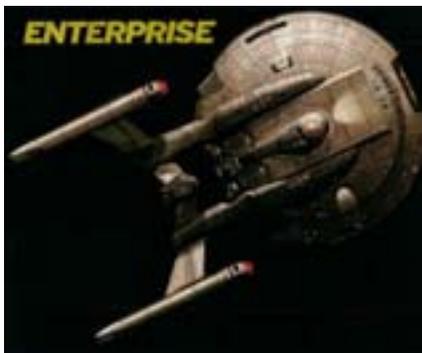
or by paper mail to:

Gaylactic Spectrum Awards  
PO Box 73602

Washington DC 20056-3602

The 2005 Gaylactic Spectrum Awards will honor works in the science fiction, fantasy, and horror genres originally released in English in North America in 2004 in 3 or more categories - Best Novel, Best Short Fiction, and Best Other Work (which may be split into sub-

(continued on page 2)



**Star Trek: Enterprise  
Finale Party**

advanced announcement by Peter

Come mourn (or celebrate) the end of nineteen years of continuous *Star Trek* on TV (*ST: The Next Generation* – 1987-1994; *ST: Deep Space Nine* – 1993-1999; *ST: Voyager* – 1995-2001, and *ST: Enterprise* – 2001-2005). Like it or not, the modern incarnations of *Star Trek* changed the way genre TV has been produced and shown over the last two decades.

On Friday, May 13, 2005, UPN will show the last two episodes of *Enterprise*. Come join the fun at Peter and Rob's home in downtown DC.

More details in next month's newsletter.      **Λ Ψ Φ**

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**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 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, at Peter & Rob's home: 1425 "S" St., NW -- for directions or more details, call 202-483-6369. The next meeting will be held on April 28th. Here's the schedule for the next several meetings:

**April 28th** - *The Salt Roads* by Nalo Hopkinson; moderator: Krista.

**May 19th** (*Note: Discussion for May changed to 3rd Thursday.*) - *Monstrous Regiment* by Terry Pratchett; moderator: Mike P.

**June 23rd** - *Dracula* by Bram Stoker, moderator: Michael M.      **Λ Ψ Φ**

**- Next LSF Meeting -  
April 10th**

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at James Crutchfield's apartment (1414 17th St., NW, #413) on Sunday, April 10th. 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!      **Λ Ψ Φ**

**WHAT'S INSIDE?**    LSF March 13th Meeting Minutes (pg. 2); A Cartoon by Chris Browning (pg. 2); Andre Norton (obituary - pg. 3); *Naked in Death* (book review - pg. 4); Saturn Award Nominees Announced (pg. 4); *The Goose Girl* (book review - pg. 5); About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians & Con Calendar (pg. 6)

## LSF March 13th Meeting Minutes

minutes taken by Scott R.

Regarding the upcoming Pride Day celebration (Sunday, June 12), Rob mentioned that LSF could sign up either for a table that would allow LSF to sell products, including LSF memberships (cost: \$195) or for a table that would not allow the sale of products (cost: \$165). Rob took an informal poll to help determine which membership type was of greater interest. Most attendees preferred the \$195 option, to allow for the sale of club memberships. **This issue will be voted on at the April LSF meeting.**

Michael began the social portion of the meeting with the traditional name circle. Rob then commented that genre author Andre Norton is very ill and receiving home-hospice care.

Peter distributed items received at the LSF P.O. box, including the February 2005 issue of *Sigma*, the newsletter of the Pittsburgh sci-fi group.

It was mentioned that *One in Ten* will be showing the genre superhero-spoof movie *Surge of Power* on Friday, March 18th. However, there is a scheduled LSF event the same evening – Jonathan is coordinating a game night to be held at the home of Peter and Rob. Jonathan mentioned a – ummm – non-genre card game with a politically incorrect name of “Pimp and Ho.”

Rob mentioned that the season finale of the two *Stargate* TV series will be shown this Friday. And he also said that *Battlestar Galactica* is developing worthwhile story arcs and character arcs.

Some attendees of the *Constantine* movie outing remarked that the film was “okay” and that Keanu Reeves didn’t detract from the quality of the movie. What an endorsement!

Regarding Saturday’s LSF movie outing to see *Robots*, Michael thought that the movie might be perceived as taking shot at Disney. (There wasn’t a lot of agreement to that point – but most people said they enjoyed the film.)

Carl said he felt that nearly the entire plot of *Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith* had been revealed in the promo/preview shown just before *Robots*. It was mentioned that the movie will be rated PG-

13 and is not intended for little kids.

There was uniform support for the *Sin City* movie, based upon the Frank Miller comic book.

Is everyone familiar with the *South Park* episode in which Mr. Garrison gets a sex change operation to become Mrs. Garrison?

In-depth analysis from Rob: How could the Sci Fi Channel reject the *Dr. Who* series when it shows movies like the recent *Mansquito*?

Rob reported that Joe Haldeman’s *Camouflage* and Johanna Sinisalo’s *Troll* have been announced as Tiptree Award co-winners. Rob also reminded everyone that the awards will be given out at this July’s Gaylaxicon in Boston.

Speaking of Gaylaxicon – comic artist Phil Jiminez has been identified as the Artist Guest of Honor. He has penciled for *Wonder Woman*, *Teen Titans*, and several other DC and Marvel titles.

Look forward to an announcement e-mail about a *Ring Two* movie outing planned for March 20th.

A Cartoon by  
Chris Browning



“I see she’s into animé...”

Rob mentioned the upcoming book club selections, as outlined elsewhere in this newsletter.

Did you know that LSF has been around for 15 years? Carl acknowledged the event with cake! A few photos were taken of people who joined LSF that first year of existence. Thanks for the anniversary cake, Carl! [Ed. Note: You’re welcome!]

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## 2005 Gaylactic Spectrum Awards

continued from page 1



categories at the discretion of the jury). The Gaylactic Spectrum Awards, first given in 1999, recognize works for significant positive gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender content \*and\* quality genre content and writing. A jury will review and discuss all nominated works, identifying a Winner and a Short List of Recommended Works in each category. Winners receive a physical award and, in Novel and Short Fiction categories, a small cash award. Authors, editors, publishers and fans are all encouraged to nominate worthy works – including their own works. Items need only be nominated once to be considered – and a listing of works for which

nominations have already been received is available on the Gaylactic Spectrum Awards website at: <http://www.spectrumawards.org/2005.htm>

The 2005 Gaylactic Spectrum Awards will be presented during the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend at Gaylaxicon (<http://www.gaylaxians.org/gaylaxicon2005/>) in Boston, Massachusetts.

If you read or saw any genre work in any format (written, comic, media, etc.) with significant positive GLBT from 2004, please submit a nomination. Also, please feel free to redistribute this call for nominations to anyone or any group who may have input.

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## Andre Norton (1912-2005)

Andre Norton, the “Grand Dame of Science Fiction and Fantasy,” died of congestive heart failure in her Murfreesboro, Tennessee home, early morning, March 17th, at the age of 93. She was an author, poet, and editor; and her published works span seven decades.

Andre Norton was born Alice Mary Norton on February 17, 1912, in Cleveland Ohio. She wrote more than 130 novels, nearly one hundred short stories, and edited numerous anthologies in the science-fiction, fantasy, mystery, and western genres. She the first woman to be a SFWA Grand Master and to be inducted in the Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame. She received the Skylark, Balrog, and World Fantasy Awards, and was the first woman to win the Gandalf Grand Master of Fantasy award.

Ms. Norton spent most of her life in Cleveland, where she worked as a librarian in the children’s section from 1932 to 1950, except for a brief stint in the 1940s when she ran her own bookstore in Mount Ranier, Maryland, and worked at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. during WWII.

Her first published novel was *The Prince Commands*, a historical fantasy set in a mythical European kingdom – it tells the story of a young nobleman who returns from exile to stop a communist takeover of his homeland. It was released in 1934, when she was only twenty-two. She began using the name Andre that year, after publishers told her that a masculine name would help sell to her target audience of boys. By 1950, at age 38, she had nine novels to her credit. That year she left the Cleveland Public Library to take a job as a reader at Gnome Press. By the time she left Gnome Press eight years later, she’d had 23 novels and several short stories published.

In 1958 she became a full-time writer; and over the next twenty years she wrote nearly seventy novels, two dozen short stories, and edited several anthologies. One of her most beloved series, “Witch World” — a wondrous planet reachable through metaphysical gateways — started with a single novel in 1963. More than thirty “Witch World” titles followed.

In 1966 Ms. Norton moved to Florida, and later moved to Murfreesboro, Tennessee (about 30 miles from Nashville). In 1999 she opened The High Hallack Genre Writer’s Research and Reference Library, in a converted three-car garage on a quiet residential street. (High Hallack is the name of a country in *Witch World*.) She established High Hallack as a retreat where authors could research ancient religions, weaponry, mythology or history that they need to bring their stories to life. The library included biographies, diaries, histories, science books – almost anything a writer might need to craft a realistic setting on any world in any time. She closed the library in 2004.

Through the years, she edited several anthologies for Martin Greenberg’s Tekno Books company, including the long-running “Cat Fantastic” series, which began in 1989, and *Renaissance Faire*, which was published by DAW Books in early February of 2005.

Her last complete novel, *Three Hands for Scorpio*, is set to be released in early April from Tor Books. It is the last manuscript she penned alone, and she was especially proud of it. *Return to Quag Keep*, a sequel to her *Quag Keep* from 1979, will be released as a collaboration in January, 2006.

Her novels are too numerous to list in full here – a few of the more famous of them are: *Witch World*, *Beast Master*, *Secret of the Lost Race*, *Star Guard*, *Sargasso of Space* (under the name Andrew North), *The Time Traders*, *Catseye*, *Steel Magic*, *Fur Magic*, and *The Solar Queen*.

Many authors and editors collaborated with her, among them: Robert Adams, Alicia Austin, Robert Bloch, Marion Zimmer Bradley, A.C. Crispin, Rosemary Edghill, Martin H. Greenberg, P.M. Griffin, Grace Allen Hogarth, John Kaufman, Mercedes Lackey, Dorothy Madlee, Patricia Matthews, Julian May, Lyn McConchie, Phyllis Miller, Sasha Miller, Jean Rabe, Mary Schaub, Susan Schwartz, Sherwood Smith, and Ingrid Zierhut

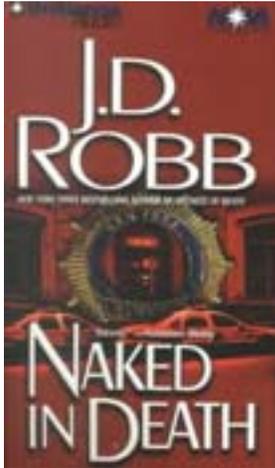
The Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (SFWA) has announced the formation of the Andre Norton Award for young adult novels. (Andre approved this before her death, and suggested several titles for consideration.) The first award will be presented in 2006 and will be announced along with the Nebulas. The award will be selected following the same procedure as the Nebula Awards.

Norton requested before her death that she not have a funeral service, but instead asked to be cremated along with a copy of her first and last novels.

[Ed. Note: Face it, if Andre Norton wasn’t the *first* F&SF author you read, then I’m betting she was probably *one* of the first. My own first experience reading Andre Norton was her novel *Daybreak – 2250 A.D.* I also became a *big* fan of *Witch World* and its sequels.]



***Naked in Death***  
**by J.D. Robb**  
**(aka Nora Roberts)**  
reviewed by Carl



I first heard about this novel at the most recent Darkover convention. I believe it was F&SF author Debra Doyle who sang its praises during a “Guilty Pleasures” discussion panel I moderated. What she said intrigued me enough to give it a read.

*Naked in Death* is one of those cross-genre novels that have been occasionally talked about on the LSF chat list. It’s a Mystery — murder-mystery/cop-story to be precise. It’s a Romance — yes, J.D. Robb, when writing as Nora Roberts, is a big-time Romance novelist. And *Naked in Death* definitely includes some of the Romance trappings — including a few hot-and-heavy (albeit “straight”) love scenes. But I think *Naked in Death* also qualifies as SF — it’s a near-future story (location: New York City in the late 2050s) with a fair amount of socio-historical background, tidbits of which are revealed every now and then; and there are lots of cool gadgets such as hover-cars, personal communicators, and so on. OK, if you really want to be picky, I suppose you could call *Naked in Death* a “Mystery-Romance with SF trappings.” (The blurb on the inside back cover refers to it as “futuristic suspense.”) Whatever. But if Romance and/or Mystery are *your* “guilty pleasures,” then I think you can enjoy *Naked in Death* and still get away with saying: “Naw! I’m readin’ SF!”

**Saturn Award Nominees**  
**Announced**

info passed along by Kendall



The Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror films has released the list of nominees of the 31st Annual Saturn Awards.

The Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror films was founded in 1972 by Dr. Donald A. Reed to recognize the high achievements of genre filmmaking, television, and home entertainment. The Saturn Awards are presented annually to honor and recognize the genres of the fantastic. Serving as President of the organization is Robert Holguin. The third installment in the popular Harry Potter film series, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* leads in the nominations. The popular wizard-in-training film conjured up nine

nominations including Best Picture (Fantasy), Best Director (Alfonso Cuarón) and Best Writer (Steve Kloves). Daniel Radcliffe received a nomination for Best Performance By A Younger Actor. Following closely behind were the films *Kill Bill: Vol. 2* and *Spider-Man 2*, with seven nominations each. *Eternal Sunshine Of The Spotless Mind*, *Sky Captain & The World Of Tomorrow*, and *Van Helsing* each received five nominations. *Collateral* and *House of Flying Daggers* received four nominations each.

Warner Bros. and Sony Pictures lead the pack with a total of 14 nominations each. Paramount is represented with 11 nominations; and Miramax and Universal each received 10 nominations.

Television nominations had *Lost* leading the group with five nominations. Following were *The Librarian: Quest For the Spear*, *Smallville*, and *Stargate: SG-1*, each with four nominations.

Past guests to the annual dinners have included: Steven Spielberg, Nicholas Cage, J.J. Abrams, Whoopi Goldberg, Arnold Schwarzenegger, George Burns, Charlton Heston, Billy Bob Thornton, John Ritter, James Woods, Janet Leigh, Rod Serling, Lon Chaney, Jr, and Boris Karloff.

This year’s 31st Annual Saturn Awards will take place on Tuesday, May 3, at the Universal City Hilton Hotel. Special Award recipients will be voted by the Board of Directors of The Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Films and announced in early March.

<http://www.saturnawards.org>

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*Naked in Death* is Robb’s first “Eve Dallas” novel. The year is 2058, and Lieutenant Eve Dallas, homicide detective, is a hardened, street-wise, and highly-respected 10-year veteran of the NYPSD (New York Police and Security Department). Before she’s completed all the follow-up activity for a tragic domestic violence incident (during which she was forced to kill the drug-crazed perp), Dallas finds herself unexpectedly assigned to a high-profile murder inves-

tigation. The victim was an independent, high-priced call-girl who was ritually slain with — of all things — a valuable classic 20th Century projectile hand weapon (a 38-caliber Smith & Wesson); and the gun is lying next to the spread-eagled corpse, along with a hand-written note: “ONE OF SIX”. To make matters worse, the case is “high-sensitivity” and very “hush-hush”: the victim was known

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## ***Naked in Death***

continued from page 4

to have had an extensive list of newsworthy clientele, and she was the “black sheep” of a powerful political family. (Her grandfather is an influential arch-conservative U.S. Senator, and her sister is a US Congresswoman.) As the body-count starts to rise — other call-girls and prostitutes are ritually slaughtered — Dallas comes under increasing pressure to “find the culprit and get the case solved!” Unfortunately, Dallas is also becoming increasingly infatuated with one of the prime suspects: a handsome, charismatic international multi-billionaire known only as “Roarke.” Dallas is convinced he’s not the murderer, but the evidence seems to have a nasty habit of indicating that Roarke has had means, motive, and opportunity. And, on top of everything else, the murderer seems to *know* that Lt. Eve Dallas has been assigned to the case and is taking particular in taunting her after each additional murder.

I enjoyed *Naked in Death*. It’s a little gruesome at times — but I found it to be a real page-turner, too. If you like murder-mysteries and/or police-procedurals (especially with a futuristic slant and lots of cool gadgetry), then I think you’ll like *Naked in Death*, too. (And, as I said, there are those hot-and-heavy sex scenes thrown in for variety every now and then.) And if you *really* enjoy reading *Naked in Death*, then I’ve got some additional good news for you! By latest count, J.D. Robb has written about 20 *more* “Lt. Dallas” novels! (They’re easy to identify — all of ‘em feature the words *in Death* in the title.) However, *don’t* look for ‘em in the F&SF section of your local bookstore — they’re in the “Mystery” section.

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**For every problem  
there is one solution  
that is  
simple, neat,  
and wrong.**

**— H.L. Mencken**

## ***The Goose Girl* by Shannon Hale**

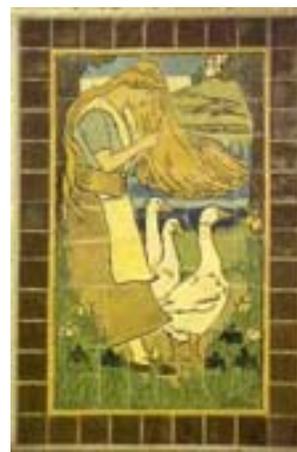
(Bloomsbury, 2003)

a review by Colleen R. Cahill

After reading *Beauty*, Robin McKinley’s retelling of “Beauty and the Beast,” I have sought out other retellings of fairy tales. One I have not seen before was a re-telling of the “Goose Girl,” and with Shannon Hale’s delightful new version of this story, I need look no further.

The basic story is intact (the Princess who becomes a goose girl when a treacherous handmaid takes her place), but it is expanded and made even more magical. The Crown Princess of Kildenree, Aridori-kiladra Talianna Isilee is unusual from the start — after she is born, she does not open her eyes for three days until her Aunt arrives to sing her stories of magpies and pigeons. Ani, as her aunt calls her, is a quick learner (speaking sentences in the first year) and soon shows abilities to learn languages of all sorts, especially of birds. The people of Kildenree are not comfortable with uncommon gifts; and while Ani tries to fit in, she finds only Selia, daughter of the Key Mistress, is willing to be her friend.

Ani is constantly training to be the next Queen Kildenree, so it is a shock when she is sent to marry the Prince of Bayren and learns that her brother would be King of Kildenree. A dutiful daughter, Ani goes and takes Selia along as her Lady-in-Waiting; but it turns out Selia has other plans. During the long trip to Bayren, a plot hatches — Selia and a few of the guards plan to kill Ani and put Selia in her place as the Kildenreen Princess. A misty night allows Ani to escape, but now she has no place to go. Her family has sent her away and she has no proof that she is the Princess Ani. In a strange country, speaking with a funny accent and having no real skills, Ani is lucky to have the assistance of Gilsa, a woman who lives in the woods. Gilsa helps Ani find a position as goose girl to the King.



**The Goose Girl (tile frieze)  
Boston Public Library**

While the ending of the story is the same, the path that the author takes to get there is intriguing. Ani knows Selia still wants her dead, but she is shocked by the discovery that the former servant would start a war between the two kingdoms to keep her new position. Ani has to find the strength to expose this false Princess or many lives, including all of her family, will be lost.

This is a story with a lot of atmosphere and a dark feel that is realistic. The characters are well-drawn; and while Selia is full of deep villainy, she is not over the top, as her motivations and methods are logical, if not admirable. The growth of Ani from shy and retiring to a more forthright person is also plausible, without any sudden suspicious shifts in personality. I sympathize with her plight and cheer on her progress to save herself and her land.

Ms. Hale’s work is a wonderful retelling and addresses the loneliness of being different, be it in speech, manners, or a special gift. While aimed at young adult girls, this book is perfect for anyone who enjoys the work that Terry Windling and Ellen Datlow have done with revised fairy tales.

[Ed. Note: Colleen Cahill describes herself as “Librarian by Profession, Reviewer by Avocation, Reader by Addiction.”]

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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 the Sunday, **April 10th**, at James Crutchfield's apartment: 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



May 27 - 30, 2005 **BALTICON 39**. Wyndham Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel (Baltimore, MD). GoHs: Steven Barnes & Tananarive Due; Artist GoH: Bob Eggleton; Special Guest: E.E. Knight (2004 Compton Crook Award Author). Membership: \$48 from 3/1 until 4/30; \$55 after that & at the door: Make checks payable to "Baltimore Science Fiction Society" and send to: Balticon, PO Box 686, Baltimore MD 21203-0686

Website: [www.balticon.org](http://www.balticon.org) E-mail: [balticoninfo@balticon.org](mailto:balticoninfo@balticon.org)

July 1- 4, 2005 **GAYLAXICON 2005**. Hyatt Regency Cambridge (Boston, MA). Guest of Honor: Lois McMaster Bujold; Artist GoH: Phil Jimenez; Fan GoH: *Star Trek: Hidden Frontier*. Membership: \$50 (more at the door!). 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.gaylaxians.org/gaylaxicon2005](http://www.gaylaxians.org/gaylaxicon2005)

Aug. 4-8, 2005 **INTERACTION (63rd World Science Fiction Convention)**. (Glasgow, Scotland, UK). Guests of Honor: Greg Pickersgill, Christopher Priest, Robert Sheckley, Jane Yolen. Membership: \$195 from 12/1/04 (will go up!). Make checks payable to "Interaction" and send to: Interaction, PO Box 58009, Louisville, KY 40268-0009

Website: [www.interaction.worldon.org.uk](http://www.interaction.worldon.org.uk) Email: [info@interaction.worldcon.org.uk](mailto:info@interaction.worldcon.org.uk)

Sept. 3-6, 2005 **CASCADIA CON (NASFiC 2005)**. SeaTac Airport Hilton (Seattle, WA). Author GoH: Fred Saberhagen; Artist GoH: Liz Danforth; Editor GoH: Toni Weisskopf. Membership: \$85 until 11/30/04 (will go up after that). Make checks payable to "Seattle NASFiC" and send to: Seattle NASFiC, Box 1066, Seattle, WA 98111. URL: [www.CascadiaCon.org](http://www.CascadiaCon.org)

Nov. 25-27, 2005 **DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL MEETING XXVIII**. Holiday Inn, Timonium (Timonium, MD). Guest of Honor: C. S. Friedman; Artist GoH: TBA; Special Guest: Katherine Kurtz; Musical GoH: Clam Chowder. Membership: \$40 until 11/1/2005 (after that & at the door: \$45). Make checks payable to "Armida Council" and send to: Armida Council, PO Box 7203, Silver Spring, MD 20907

Website: [www.darkovercon.com](http://www.darkovercon.com)

Aug. 23-27, 2006 **L.A. CON IV (64th World Science Fiction Convention)**. (Los Angeles, CA). Author GoH: Connie Willis; Artist GoH: James Gurney; Special Guest: Frankie Thomas (*Tom Corbett, Space Cadet*). Membership: \$150 thru 12/31/2004 ("will go up after that"). Make checks payable to "L.A. Con IV" and send to: L.A. Con IV, c/o S.C.I.F.I., Inc., PO Box 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409

Website: [www.laconiv.com](http://www.laconiv.com)

For more info: [info@laconiv.org](mailto:info@laconiv.org)