

PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #183 - June 2005
E-MAIL: info@lambdasf.org WEBSITE: <http://www.lambdasf.org/>

**LSF Member's Film Debut
at AFI**
from info passed along
by Will and Peter



At 9:30 PM on Thursday, May 5th, a short hilarious sci-fi film entitled "hOnc" got its first-ever screening at AFI's Silver Theater in Silver Spring, MD. The film was co-written by Stuart Harmon and LSF member Will Bower and directed by Michael Hyde; and it included the cast and crew of Team Anjou.

"hOnc" came into being as part of The 48 Hour Film Project and was written, directed, shot, and edited (in its entirety) during a 48-hour period over the previous weekend. ("From page to screen in 48 hours.") According to the Project's website (www.48hourfilm.com), "the last few minutes before the deadline saw filmmakers, operating on little sleep and lots of adrenaline, rushing to get their films in on time." "hOnc" was screened along with others that were involved in the competition (Group F) and competed against other entries for the Audience Award.

And – besides the identity of one of its writers – "hOnc" had another fascinating LSF connection. On Friday (April 29th), Will and his co-writer and director showed up at the LSF Classic Sci-Fi Film Party to consult with party attendees for ideas for the film.

In a recent e-mail, Will says he believes the screening went well. "Competition was stiffer than I expected it would be, though – there were some pretty professional entries submitted. If I had to guess, I'd say that "hOnc" ranked 4th out of the 12 films in our group." As of this writing, Will had not yet heard the results of the audience awards.

Will believes they will have "hOnc" on DVD in the near future. Maybe we'll be able to get him to show it at an upcoming LSF event? Something to look forward to!

Λ Ψ Φ

LSF Capital Pride Events
announced by Peter

Combined Pre-Pride Video/Gaming Party and June LSF Meeting
Saturday, June 11

LSF Pride Day Booth
Sunday, June 12

Post-Pride Video Party
Sunday, June 19

•••••
LSF Combined Pre-Pride Video/Gaming Party and June LSF Meeting

What? In honor of the 2005 Capital Pride Day celebrations, LSF will host another one of its not-to-be-missed Pre-Pride Video/Gaming Parties (combined with the regular monthly LSF meeting). Bring your favorite science fiction/fantasy/horror movies (DVD or VHS format), board/card/social games, and munchies, finger food, and non-alcoholic beverages to share. As usual, attendees will vote on which movies to watch on one screen. Space for board/card/social games will also be provided.

When? Saturday, June 11, 2005 — 2:00 PM to midnight (doors open at 2:00 PM). (continued on page 5)

Λ Ψ Φ **Next LSF Meeting: Saturday, June 11th** Λ Ψ Φ

It's June; time for Capital Pride Day again! That means that the next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 11th, in conjunction with an LSF Pride Day video/gaming party**. The meeting/party will take place at Peter & Rob's home: 1425 "S" St., NW. (For directions and more details on this double event, see the article elsewhere on this page. Doors will open at 2 PM – and we'll take some time out to go view the DC Pride Parade just down the street. See you there!

Λ Ψ Φ

WHAT'S INSIDE? May 8th LSF Meeting Minutes (pg. 2); The LSF Book Discussion Group (pg. 2); Bram Stoker Award Nominations (pg. 3); The Adventures of ConBoy (a cartoon by Chris Browning, pg. 3); The Donor (book review - pg. 4); Gaylaxicon 2005 (ad - pg. 4); First Annual Forrest J Ackerman Fan Film Awards (pg. 5); About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians & Con Calendar (pg. 6)

**May 8th LSF
Meeting Minutes**
reported by Scott



Business Meeting

Regarding the motion for LSF to have a table at Pride next month at the more expensive rate that allows for sales – the vote was unanimously in support of the motion. Rob advised that in addition to members present at the meeting, all seven absentee ballots were in support of the motion. It was decided that genre books with GLBT content could sold at the LSF booth – \$1 for paperbacks, \$3 for trade paperbacks or hardbacks. (No magazines, videos, CD's or DVD's.) All proceeds will go to the LSF coffers.

Since the DC Pride Day event – at which LSF will have its table – is set for the same “2nd Sunday” as the LSF meeting would have been, it was decided to hold the June LSF meeting on Saturday, June 11th at Peter & Rob's house. The meeting will begin at 2 PM, featuring videos, gaming, and food – with an interlude to stroll over to view the DC Pride Day Parade just down the street – then a stroll back to Peter & Rob's for another round of videos, gaming, and food. There might also be a post-Pride video party on Saturday, June 18. (More details to follow.)

Peter reminded everyone about the *Star Trek: Enterprise* series finale get-together at his & Rob's house on Friday, May 13th. AND there's also the upcoming *Star Wars* video party to be held on Friday, May 20th – again at Peter & Rob's house – to prepare everyone for the LSF outing to see *Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith*.

Rob reminded everyone that the May book discussion will feature *Monstrous Regiment* by Terry Pratchett. The June book is *Dracula* by Bram Stoker, and the July book is *Blood and Fire* by David Gerrold.

PLUS, there was a reminder of the upcoming Independence Day weekend Gaylaxicon 2005 in Boston. Rob reported that both the Tiptree and Spectrum Awards will be presented at Gaylaxicon. The Author Guest of Honor

is Lois McMaster Bujold, who just won the Nebula Award. Members of the fan-based *Star Trek: Hidden Frontiers* film group will also be in attendance as Media Guests. Carl revealed that he will be coordinating the premiere of a Concentration-style game to accompany the usual Gaylactic Jeopardy. Peter is coordinating the Gaylaxicon 2005 T-shirts, while Rob is coordinating the charity auction.

It was also noted that Gaylaxicon 2006 will be held in Toronto, in proximity to Toronto's Pride Day celebrations.

Social Meeting

Some attendees have seen the *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* movie and reported that it was quirky, but quite good. The “Rotten Tomatoes” website only gives it a 50% thumbs-up vote.

Michael M. thought that the *Sin City* movie had too much violence. Carl responded that it didn't seem to have all that much more violence than the *noir* films of the 40's and 50's upon which it is based.

The conversation drifted over to the “Harry Potter” books. It's widely felt that the later books tend to be darker than the earlier books.

Peter passed around assorted items received in the LSF post office box, including two issues of *Sigma*, the newsletter from the Pittsburgh sci-fi group.

The front page of the Sunday *Washington Post* Arts Section included a prominent article on the end of the *Star Trek: Enterprise* TV show. The article indicates that this is the first time in 39 years that there will be no *Star Trek* show on the air.

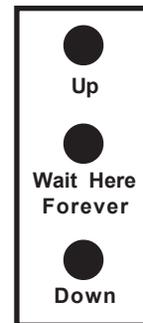
LSF member Brian has apparently succumbed to a new addiction – a new multi-player computer game called *Guild Wars*. There is no monthly fee. Will we find Brian at the line at the soup kitchen in a few months?

Peter confessed that it is possible to view episodes of the BBC's

new *Dr. Who* series on-line. He is enjoying the episodes, which he says are faster-paced than the original series.

And, as a special added treat, at the end of the meeting some meeting attendees [Ed. Note: Josh, Carl, Norman, Barrett, Scott, Fausto] stepped into the elevator on the 4th floor of James' apartment building and discovered that the elevator stopped functioning and that they were trapped. Unfortunately, no one stuck in the elevator possessed any useful superpowers (such as superstrength or teleportation), so the DC Fire Department was called. Some hunky fire-men released the trapped LSF members after about 20 minutes.

Λ Ψ Φ



ED. NOTE:
We apparently pushed
THIS button
in the
elevator!

**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, 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 June 23rd. Here's the schedule for the next couple of meetings:

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

July 28th - *Blood and Fire* by David Gerrold; moderator: Carl.

Λ Ψ Φ

Bram Stoker Award Nominations

info passed along by Kendall



Nominations for this year's Bram Stoker Awards for Superior Achievement in the field of horror writing – presented by the Horror Writers of America – have been announced. Winners will be presented at the HWA Annual Conference and Bram Stoker Awards banquet, to be held in Burbank, California, on June 25.

In addition, the HWA has announced in advance that this year's Lifetime Achievement Award Winner will be Michael Moorcock, and HWA's Specialty Press Award will be given to Delirium Books. Both presentations will be made at the Stoker Awards Banquet.

Here's a listing of some of the nominees:



Novel

The Dark Tower VII: The Dark Tower by Stephen King (Donald M. Grant/Scribner)

Deep in the Darkness by Michael Laimo (Leisure/Flesh & Blood Press)

In the Night Room by Peter Straub (Random House)

The Wind Caller by P. D. Cacek (Leisure)

Long Fiction

"Dead Man's Hand" by Tim Lebbon (Necessary Evil Press)

"Lisey and the Madman" by Stephen King (*McSweeney's Enchanted Chamber of Astonishing Stories*)

"Northwest Passage" by Barbara Roden (*Acquainted with the Night*)

"The Turtle Boy" by Kealan-Patrick Burke (Necessary Evil Press)

"Zora and the Zombie" by Andy Duncan (*Sci Fiction*)

Short Fiction

"Guts" by Chuck Palahniuk (*Playboy*)

"Hunting Meth Zombies in the Great Nebraskan Wasteland" by John Farris (*Elvisland*)

"Just Out of Reach" by Gary Braunbeck (*Cemetery Dance* #50)

"A Madness of Starlings" by Douglas Clegg (*Cemetery Dance* #50)

"Nimitseahpah" by Nancy Etchemendy (*F&SF*)

"Singing My Sister Down" by Margo Lanagan (*Black Juice*)

Screenplay

Dawn of the Dea by, James Gunn (Strike Entertainment)

Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind by Charlie Kaufman, Michel Gondry & Pierre Bismuth (Blue Ruin)

Hellboy by Guillermo Del Toro (Revolution)

Shaun of the Dead by Simon Pegg & Edgar Wright (Canal/Universal)

For more information about the Bram Stoker Awards and a complete list of nominees in all categories, visit the website of the Horror Writers of America: <http://www.horror.org/stokers.htm>

Λ Ψ Φ



"Have a cucumber sandwich?"



The Donor
by Frank M. Robinson
(Forge Books, 2004)
a short review
by Carl Cipra

It was a pleasant surprise getting to meet author Frank M. Robinson at last year's World Science Fiction Convention in Boston. It was also pleasant to find out that he's looking forward to attending Gaylaxicon *this* year in Boston.

As a reminder, Robinson is the author of the SF novel *The Dark Beyond the Stars* (1991; winner of the Lambda Literary Award) and the co-author (with Thomas Scortia) of *The Glass Inferno* (1974; basis for the film *The Towering Inferno*). He's also the author of a couple of SF "thrillers" — *The Power* (1956) and *Waiting* (1999) — and of a couple of lavishly-illustrated coffee table books: *Science Fiction of the 20th Century: An Illustrated History* (1999) and (a particular favorite of mine) *Pulp Culture: The Art of Fiction Magazines* (2001, with Lawrence Davidson).

Robinson's latest novel is *The Donor*. It's definitely a "thriller" — and I think it qualifies as SF, because some of the technology needed by the story doesn't yet exist (to my knowledge).

The main character, Dennis Heller, is a young man with a big problem. OK, so he's an adopted child and his adoptive parents never really had any affection for him — but that's not the problem. While driving in California with his longtime best friend Graham, Dennis is involved in a minor car accident. He wakes up in a small private hospital with no serious injuries; but he subsequently learns that one of his kidneys has been removed. He also learns that the seemingly innocuous "gall bladder operation" he'd had a few years earlier was actually a cover for removing part of his liver. *Here's* the big problem — someone seems to be using Dennis as a living/breathing organ bank! In other words, certain of his internal organs are being "harvested" by powerful and mysterious "person or persons unknown"! Who's *doing* this? Why is this happening to *him*? And, most



For more details, see
Con Calendar on page 6



**Convention Hotel
Hyatt Regency Cambridge**

importantly, can Dennis find out what's going on and stop "them" from harvesting an organ more essential to his continued existence — say, his heart or his lungs? Unfortunately, anyone Dennis turns to for help tends to end up dead; and the body count rises as the action moves from California to Dennis's hometown of Boston, then up to Anchorage, Alaska and back to Boston.

I found *The Donor* to be an enjoyable read. Chapters alternate between two major characters, neither of whom knows about the other. Thus, the reader gets to explore the mystery from two different (and converging) angles. There are definite similarities to a couple of other novels — Norman Spinrad's classic and controversial *Bug Jack Baron* (1969); and Robin Cook's "medical thriller" *Coma* (1977; film version in 1978, starring Genevieve Bujold) — but there's an additional "wrinkle" that these previous novels *didn't* have; and I really can't tell you what it is without spoiling some of the fun. *The Donor* even has some GLBT content — a couple of supporting gay characters in the *dramatis personae*. One of them (Michael) ends up saving Dennis's bacon on more than one occasion.

Λ Ψ Φ

July 1- 4, 2005
Boston, Mass.

**On your mark...
Get set...
Go --to Gaylaxicon!!!**



**Author Guest of Honor
Lois McMaster Bujold
(Hugo & Nebula
Award-Winning Author)**



**Artist Guest of Honor
Phil Jiminez
("The Nicest Man in Comics,"
artist on *New X-Men*
and *Wonder Woman*)**



**Fan Guests of Honor
"Hidden Frontier"**



LSF Capital Pride Events

continued from page 1



Pre-Pride Video/Gaming Party and June LSF Meeting (continued)

The business meeting starts at 2:00 PM; and the party starts as soon as the meeting is over. At 5:30 PM, we'll take a break to go see the Capital Pride Parade and then either go out to dinner or order takeout. Movies and gaming start up again after dinner, lasting until ???

Where? The home of Peter and Rob — 1425 “S” Street NW, Washington, DC, in the 14th and “U” neighborhood, near Dupont Circle and Logan Circle. Closest Metro Stops: “U” Street/African-American Civil War Memorial/Cardozo (Green Line) or Dupont Circle (Red Line).

Parking: Street parking is generally available, though it is harder to find the later it gets. On weekends, there are no extra parking restrictions (*i.e.* the usual laws regarding intersections, hydrants, alleys, etc. apply – safe distances are usually marked).

For more information or directions: Please call Peter and Rob at:
202-483-6369

or e-mail Peter at:

PeterKnapp@wavelengthsonline.com

or e-mail Rob at:

rgates@wavelengthsonline.com



LSF Post-Pride Video Party

What? In honor of the 2005 Capital Pride Day celebrations, LSF will host another one of its not-to-be-missed Post-Pride Video Parties. Bring your favorite science fiction/fantasy/horror movies (DVD or VHS format), munchies, finger food, and non-alcoholic beverages to share. As usual, attendees will vote on which movies to watch in two different rooms.

When? Sunday, June 19, 2005
— 2:30 PM to midnight.

Where? The home of Julian — 2462 Tunlaw Road, NW (Georgetown area), Washington, DC (located off Wisconsin Avenue, just above Georgetown).

Parking: Street parking is generally available, though it is harder to find the later it gets. On weekends, there are no extra parking restrictions — other than the usual laws regarding intersections, hydrants, alleys, etc. (Safe distances are usually marked on the pavement.)

For more information or directions: *Before the day of the party*, please call Peter and Rob at:

202-483-6369

or e-mail Peter at:

PeterKnapp@wavelengthsonline.com

or e-mail Rob at:

rgates@wavelengthsonline.com

On the day of the party, call Julian at:

202-306-1497

Λ Ψ Φ

First Annual Forrest J Ackerman Fan Film Awards

info passed along by Kendall



The First Annual Forrest J Ackerman Fan Film Awards have begun! With the advent of technology, fan can now produce films that rival the big Hollywood film companies; and this Award is intended to honor fannish films and filmmakers. Forry (“Mr. Fandom”) Ackerman graciously agreed that the Award could use his name.

The competition will be open to all amateur filmmakers. The plan is for two divisions – long films (over 45 minutes in length) and short films (under 45 minutes in length) – and eight categories: Science Fiction; Fantasy; Horror; Comic Book Related; Animated (over 75% animated); Fannish (containing elements of fannish activity or history); and Music Video (a piece of music with a fannish spin to it).

The deadline for submissions is September 1, 2005. The “Forry” will be a juried award – and, of course, Forry himself is on the jury. He will also hand out the awards himself at Astronomicon 9 in Rochester, NY.

For more information on the Forrest J Ackerman Fan Film Awards (including rules and regulations), go to the Astronomicon website:

[http://astronomicon.info/
Fanfilmawards.html](http://astronomicon.info/Fanfilmawards.html)

Λ Ψ Φ

Political tags -- such a royalist, communist, democrat, populist, fascist, liberal, conservative, and so forth -- are never basic criteria.

The human race divides politically into those who want people to be controlled and those who have no such desire.

The former are idealists acting from highest motives for the greatest good of the greatest number.

The latter are surly curmudgeons, suspicious and lacking in altruism. But they are more comfortable neighbors than the other sort.

excerpted from *The Notebooks of Lazarus Long*, by Robert Heinlein (G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1973)

**** 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. But the next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held in conjunction with the LSF Pride Day video/gaming party on the **Saturday, June 11th**, at Peter & Rob's home: 1425 "S" St., NW. - doors open at 2:00 PM. (See article beginning on page 1 for directions and details.) 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 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

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: currently \$195 (will go up!). Make checks payable to "Interaction" and send to: Interaction, PO Box 58009, Louisville, KY 40268-0009

Website: www.interaction.worldcon.org.uk Email: 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: \$110 until 8/1/05 (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

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

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: currently \$150 ("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 For more info: info@laconiv.org



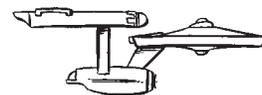
COPYRIGHT © 1993 BY KEVIN BROCKSCHMIDT - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



COPYRIGHT © 1993 BY KEVIN BROCKSCHMIDT - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



COPYRIGHT © 1993 BY KEVIN BROCKSCHMIDT - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED



COPYRIGHT © 1993 BY KEVIN BROCKSCHMIDT - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

