



LAMBDA SCI-FI

DC Area Gaylaxians

PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #186 - Sept. 2005

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

**September Sci Fi
Friday Night TV Parties**
announced by Peter Knapp

What: Sci Fi Friday Night TV Parties - Summer Finales of *Stargate SG-1*, *Stargate Atlantis*, and *Battlestar Galactica*.

When: Friday nights, September 9, 16, 23. Doors open at 7:30 PM and the shows starts at 8:00 PM..

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).

What To Bring: Some snacks and non-alcoholic drink to share. \$5 if you want to order pizza.

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).

Schedule:
Friday, September 9
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM - *Stargate SG-1* - #181 "Babylon"
9:00 PM - 10:00 PM - *Stargate Atlantis* - #28 "Conversion"
10:00 PM - 11:00 PM - *Battlestar Galactica* - #21 "Final Cut"

**Next LSF Meeting:
Sunday, Sept. 11th**

NOTE: CHANGE OF VENUE!

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at Peter & Rob's home (1425 "S" St., NW – for directions, call 202-483-6369) on Sunday, Sept. 11th. 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! **ΛΨΦ**

Friday, September 16
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM - *Stargate SG-1* - #182 "Prototype"
9:00 PM - 10:00 PM - *Stargate SG-1* - #183 "The Fourth Horseman, Part 1"
10:00 PM - 11:00 PM - *Battlestar Galactica* - #22 "Flight of the Phoenix"
Friday, September 23
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM - *Stargate Atlantis* - #29 "Aurora"
9:00 PM - 10:00 PM - *Stargate Atlantis* - #30 "The Lost Boys"
10:00 PM - 11:00 PM - *Battlestar Galactica* - #23 "Pegasus"

Note: The shows resume broadcasting in January 2006

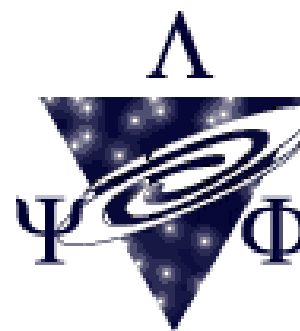
For more information or directions, please call Peter and Rob at: 202-483-6369 or e-mail Peter at: PeterKnapp@wavelengthsonline.com
Directions can be found at: <http://www.lambdasf.org/lsf/club/PeterRob.html> **ΛΨΦ**

**The LSF Book
Discussion
Group**



If you're interested in lively discussions of F&SF books (with an emphasis on elements of interest to the LBGT community), we invite you to join the LSF Book Discussion Group. Each month, we conduct fascinating roundtable discussions of works by significant F&SF authors.

The LSF Book Discussion Group generally meets on the 4th Thursday of every month, starting at 7:00 PM, 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 Sept. 22nd. Here's the schedule for the next several meetings:
Sept. 22nd - *Smoke and Shadows*, by Tanya Huff; moderator: Peter/Rob.
Oct. 27th - *The Curse of Zwilling*, by Don Sakers; moderator: Mike P.
Dec. 1st (*Note: special combined Nov./Dec. meeting*) - *Waiting*, by Frank Robinson; moderator: Bob Angell. **ΛΨΦ**



WHAT'S INSIDE? August Meeting Minutes (pg. 2); A Cartoon by Chris Browning (pg. 2); "Golden Ticket" Turns Brass (satire - pg. 3); Sidewise Awards Announced (pg. 3); Hugos at Worldcon (pg. 5); *Star Trek* Preferences (pg. 5); Mythopoeic Awards Announced (pg. 5); About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians & Con Calendar (pg. 6)

August Meeting Minutes

taken by Scott

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Peter reported that the Friday night *Stargate/Battlestar Galactica* events have been exceptionally successful. He also mentioned that the prior *Doctor Who* Friday night events were well attended – with some new faces.

It was noted that Forey Ackerman was hospitalized in Scotland while attending WorldCon.

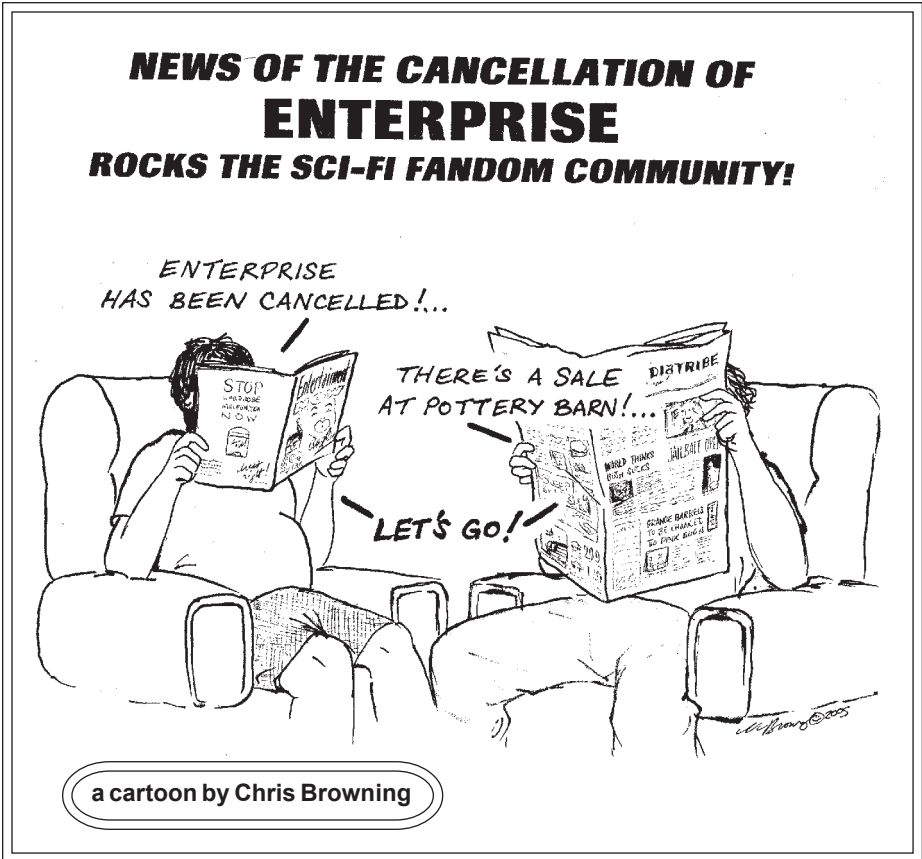
With approval by all of the meeting attendees, Peter shared some spoilers from the latest Harry Potter book (which won't be shared here in the newsletter) – followed by some chatter about the next Harry Potter movie.

Mike Resnick's latest book is entitled *Dragon America*. It's an alternate-history-with-dragons book. (George Washington and Daniel Boone want to train dragons to defeat the British.)

Carl will be attending NASFiC (the North American Science Fiction Convention; held in years when Worldcon is not in North America) in Seattle this year and plans to visit the Science Fiction Hall of Fame there. He mentioned that NASFiC Guest of Honor Fred Saberhagen has been hospitalized and will not be attending the con.

Then there was lively discussion about Richard Arnold. Who is Richard Arnold, you ask? He is the media guest of honour for Gaylaxicon 2006 in Toronto. Rumor has it that author David Gerrold's *Star Trek* script with GLBT characters was turned down by Gene Roddenberry because his attorney at the time – Richard Arnold – advised him to do so. Friend or foe? It was noted that Richard Arnold came out at a recent TorontoCon. Will there be people who will intentionally boycott Gaylaxicon 2006 because of Richard Arnold's status as an invited guest?

Michael remarked that he will be attending MonsterCon next year in Pittsburgh. Rob and Peter will be attending DragonCon in Atlanta in a few



weeks, along with tens of thousands of other people. Peter said that it appears there will be some GLBT programming at DragonCon – and a lot of *Trek* panels, including a social hour panel on “Gay Bears and *Star Trek*.” (Go figure.)

Upcoming move outings – *The Brothers Grimm* in August and *Serenity* in September.

Everyone chuckled over the fact that Nicole Kidman will be playing the role of a psychiatrist in yet another remake of *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, part of which will be filmed here in the DC area. Carl said he liked the new *Sky High* movie (with Kurt Russell and Lynda Carter) – cute with good special effects.

Peter asked about the USA Network's *4400* TV series. Scott bored everyone with a vague summary of the plot line to date. [Ed Note: I didn't write that – Scott did!] Peter then entertained everyone with elaborate details about the plot of the current season of *Battlestar Galactica*. It was noted that the next season of ABC's *Lost* TV series will deal with “the hatch” and the introduction of more cast members –

people from the back half of the crashed Oceania airliner who ended up elsewhere on the island.

Finally, our host James advised that his place will not be available for the September LSF meeting. Rob and Peter valiantly offered their place for the September 11, 2005 meeting. ΛΨΦ

Let your mind be
a floating cloud.
Let your stillness
be as the
wooded glen.

And sit up straight.
You'll never meet
the Buddha with
posture like that.

from: *Zen Judaism*, by David M. Bader
(Harmony Books, NYC, 2002)

**“Golden Ticket”
Turns to Brass**
by Ann Visible



[Ed. Note: Here's an interesting -- and quirky -- take on the recent movie *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Editorial thanks to the mysterious "Ann Visible" for this contribution to the LSF newsletter.]

The much-hyped Golden Ticket promotion by Wonka candies, that promised a dream tour of the famously mysterious factory as well as a chance to meet the reclusive chocolatier, has turned into a nightmare for the corporation, now facing severely slumping sales, a rock-bottom public image, possible legal action by the survivors of the tour, and a recent raid by federal authorities. Analysts now predict that the corporation may have to declare bankruptcy before the year's end.

Everyone remembers the TV coverage six months ago of the “lucky” children exiting the tour to pick up their lifetime supply of chocolate. Augustus Gloop, once quite obese, now rail-thin and dressed in baggy clothes, slumping along and weeping copiously. Violet Beauregard, now completely purple, going into hysterics when she saw the cameras and having to be heavily sedated and taken away in an ambulance. Veruca Salt, covered in garbage and bleeding from numerous cuts. Mike Teevee, abnormally thin, collapsing and being taken away in another ambulance. The last child, Charlie Bucket, was conspicuously absent.

And their lifetime supply of chocolate? None of them has touched it. All immediately disposed of it.

Salt, by her own admission, got off lucky. After being treated for abrasions and blood loss (received when she was dumped down a garbage chute),

Sidewise Awards for Alternate History



Sidewise Awards Announced

info passed along by Carl

Winners for the 2004 Sidewise Awards for Alternate History were announced at Interaction, the 63rd World Science Fiction Convention, in Glasgow on Aug. 5, 2005.

2004 Best Long-Form

Roth, Philip
The Plot Against America
(Houghton Mifflin)

No other finalists were named to the long-form short list.

2004 Best Short-Form

Warren Ellis, Chris Weston,
and Laura DuPuy Martin.
Ministry of Space
(Image Comics 2001/2004;
reprinted 2005)

Other Short-Form Finalists

L. Timmel Duchamp. “The Heloise
Archive” (*Love’s Body, Dancing
in Time*, Aqueduct Press)

Sean Klein. “Five Guys Named Moe”
(posted on-line at SciFiction,
Feb. 23, 2004)

John McDaid. “The Ashbazu Effect”
(*ReVisions*, eds. Czerneda and
Szpindel, DAW Books)

Chris Roberson. “Red Hands, Black
Hands” (*Asimov’s*, Dec. ’04)

Lois Tilton. “The Gladiator’s War: A
Dialogue” (*Asimov’s*, June ’04)

Judges for the Sidewise Awards are currently reading for the 2005 awards, honoring works first published during 2005. To suggest alternate history stories or novels which you think should be added to the reading list – or to comment on the eligibility of a listed item – please contact Steven Silver before March 31, 2006. The short list of finalists for the Sidewise Awards for 2005 will be announced on or about Memorial Day 2006. Winners will be announced at LAcon IV, the 64th World Science Fiction Convention. in Los Angeles (Aug. 23-27, 2006).

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she had her now-famous screaming argument with her parents. “In one respect, the experience was good for me,” she said in a recent interview. “I realized what a spoiled brat I was. But Wonka’s minions kept berating me and acting as if it were all my fault. I knew it was because of my parents, but they kept on me.”

Salt went into hiding for several weeks before going public with her change of heart. With the help of a lawyer, she basically divorced her parents and moved in with a relative, while simultaneously seeking counseling. She sold many of her personal possessions, donated others, and now uses her considerable personal fortune to aid in the treatment of the other children, maimed physically and emotionally by their tour of the Wonka factory. She’s also

offering a reward for information on Wonka’s whereabouts. Her parents are in the process of divorcing, but sources close to the pair say that the experience did not change them. Said one, “They were complete materialistic and greedy freaks, and they programmed their daughter to be just like them. She was their victim for years, and the brutal treatment she received in the Wonka tour helped turn her around. But it’s too late for them.”

Augustus Gloop also reports being humiliated and berated because of his obesity. But Wonka had it all wrong. Hospitalized after being sucked up a pipe, which somehow forced a lot of fat out of his system, doctors discovered that he suffered from a previously

(continued on page 4)

“Golden Ticket”

continued from page 3

undiagnosed glandular condition that caused him to eat gluttonously. Now, with physical therapy and medication, he’s like any normal boy his age. But he’s also turned into an anti-Wonka activist. He gave a press conference with his mother in which both damned the relentless Wonka advertising that encouraged children to eat as much candy as possible. Said Mrs. Gloop, “He told children over and over to eat his candy till it was coming out their ears, but once he saw what it did to Augustus, he wouldn’t take responsibility and said it was all my son’s fault.” She broke into tears. “Now we know that poor Augustus wasn’t to blame, but that never occurred to that fiend.”

“That fiend.” Words now commonly applied to Willy Wonka.

Violet Beauregard is now a resident of a psychiatric hospital in Buffalo and does not give interviews. However, her parents are just as vocal in their criticisms of Wonka. Violet chewed some “experimental” gum that not only turned her purple but bloated her with juice, distending her body to unnaturally round proportions. Wonka’s employees somehow “juiced” her but she did suffer some internal injuries from the experience, as well as severely stretched skin. Medical help (care of Veruca Salt) treated her injuries, but the purple pigmentation remains. Violet herself was catatonic for a week after her experience and still dislikes going outside. At one point, say her parents, she had to be sedated because she tried to tear her own face off with her fingernails. The Beauregards echo the Gloops in their criticisms of Wonka advertising. “He made gum. He advertised it relentlessly, telling kids to chew it all day, every day. Violet was victim to his advertising, and then victim to a dangerous product that should never have been put within reach. He created a monster, and then, like the others, blamed her for it,” said the Beauregards in a statement to the press. But this was before other, darker revelations came forth about the gum.

Mike Teevee was somehow teleported and shrunk to minuscule



proportions, then somehow stretched to the point of being ten feet tall but only a few inches around. Teevee is the most tragic of the Wonka children; the stretching not only broke many of his bones, but also caused massive internal injuries. He remains in a coma in a nearby hospital and is not expected to live. His parents are too distraught to give any statements to the press.

The stories that Gloop and Salt told to TV audiences also caught the attention of federal authorities, initially those in Immigration. Their wild-sounding tales of minuscule creatures called ‘Oompa-Loompas’ that worked the Wonka factory, and claims that Wonka brought them from ‘Loompa-Land,’ caused concern that Wonka was employing illegal aliens. “Wonka was obviously lying about that,” said INS official Ernest Covington, “as there is no such place. And Salt’s tales of how they were all male and all completely identical were difficult to believe; but it also made us wonder. We also became concerned about the possibility of exploitation, because as far as anyone could tell, he wasn’t paying them anything.”

The INS and FBI raid of the Wonka factory last week was headline news worldwide, and the many revelations about Wonka have raised much alarm and fear. Wonka was last seen with Charlie Bucket and his grandfather in some sort of flying cube device, and a later investigation showed that the rest of the Bucket family had disappeared as well. Their whereabouts remain a mys-

tery. But the FBI is very interested.

For one thing, the INS had nothing to worry about; the Oompa-Loompas were not illegal aliens. What they were was far worse. In a laboratory in the factory’s basement, they found equipment and records that proved that Wonka had subjected a group of former employees to genetic experimentation, including radiation therapy, to produce the first Oompa-Loompa, then proceeded to clone the hapless man into an army of mind-controlled workers.

The infamous “full meal gum” was also found. Wonka told the children on the tour that it was experimental, but crates of the stuff were found, ready for shipment. Records found in Wonka’s office were examined, and last night it was announced that Wonka knew of Miss Beauregard’s weakness for gum and deliberately dangled it in front of her, in order to experiment. “He had used his genetically-altered employees as guinea pigs,” said FBI agent Martin London, “but had never observed the process on a normal human being. Papers also suggest that he was going to auction this off to foreign governments and terrorist groups. Had this happened, it could have been shipped to army bases or cities and rendered people helpless, or even killed them. This is terrorism, plain and simple.”

There was also alarm raised about the teleportation machinery; but before officials could get hold of it the apparatus was dismantled by Oompa-Loompas, and plans were destroyed. Animal-rights activists were also horrified by the conditions that the noted nut-sorting squirrels were kept in.

By the time the raid happened, Wonka candy was gathering dust on store shelves, not only because of the negative publicity surrounding the hyped tour but also because of safety concerns. Children became terrified of Wonka candy, fearing they would be turned into blueberries, or somehow stretched. The company’s profits plummeted, and the business was in chaos because of Wonka’s disappearance.

[To be continued
in next month’s issue.]

Hugos at Worldcon
from Kendall
(Our Man on the Scene)

I cribbed this list from SF Site. The order's almost completely opposite (or perhaps IS completely opposite) from the order they were awarded. (Warning: Presenters and winners this year — those who commented — generally did not agree that "novel" was "the big one" or "the most important one.")

The Hugo Award ceremony was awesome! I'd never been. The MCs this year, Paul McAuley & Kim Newman, were very funny. They did a sort of alternate history riff on the history of SF, starting with explaining that the Hugo was named for Victor Hugo (of *Les Misérables* fame).

Anyway, the winners are:

- Best Novel:** *Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell*, by Susanna Clarke
- Best Novella:** "The Concrete Jungle," by Charles Stross
- Best Novelette:** "The Faery Handbag," by Kelly Link
- Best Short Story:** "Travels with My Cats," by Mike Resnick
- Best Related Book:** *The Cambridge Companion to Science Fiction*, edited by Edward James and Farah Mendlesohn
- Best Dramatic Presentation, Long Form:** *The Incredibles*, written & directed by Brad Bird
- Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form:** "33" - *Battlestar Galactica*, written by Ronald D. Moore and directed by Michael Rymer



- Best Professional Editor:** Ellen Datlow
- Best Professional Artist:** Jim Burns
- Best Semiprozine:** *Ansible*, edited by David Langford
- Best Fanzine:** *Plokta*, edited by Alison Scott, Steve Davies and Mike Scott
- Best Fan Writer:** David Langford
- Best Fan Artist:** Sue Mason
- Best Web Site:** SciFiction (www.scifi.com/scifiction), Ellen Datlow (editor) and Craig Engler (general manager)
- John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer** (not a Hugo Award): Elizabeth Bear
- Special Interaction Committee Award** (not a Hugo Award): David Pringle

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Star Trek Preferences

Back in April of this year, *TV Guide* reported the results of their "Trek Poll" — the responses of nearly 20,000 visitors to various *Trek* questions posted on the *TV Guide* website. Here are the results for just *one* question.

Question: Which male or female character would you most like to spend an evening with in the holodeck?

Male Character		Female Character	
James T. Kirk	38%	Seven of Nine	20%
Jean-Luc Picard	15%	Uhura	15%
Will Riker	9%	Jadzia Dax	14%
Julian Bashir	7%	Deanna Troi	11%

[Ed. note: Hmmm... *TV Guide* failed to break out the responses by gender of respondees. I wonder how many GLBT folks were in amongst those 20,000 respondees? And what were *their* responses to this question?]

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**Mythopoeic Awards
Announced**

info passed along by Kendall



The Mythopoeic Awards were announced at the Tolkien 2005 Conference (Mythcon XXXVI) in Birmingham, England. The Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Adult Literature is given to the fantasy novel, multi-volume, or single-author story collection for adults published during the previous year that best exemplifies "the spirit of the Inklings."

You can read more about the Mythopoeic Awards at:

<http://www.mythsoc.org/awards.html>

Here are this year's winners::

Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Adult Literature: Susanna Clarke, *Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell* (Bloomsbury USA) Note: This award comes on the heels of Ms. Clarke's Hugo Award win for Best Novel at Worldcon in Glasgow, Scotland.

Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Children's Literature: Terry Pratchett, *A Hat Full of Sky* (HarperCollins)

Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Inklings Studies: Janet Brennan Croft, *War and the Works of J.R.R. Tolkien* (Praeger Publishers, 2004)

Mythopoeic Scholarship Award in Myth and Fantasy Studies: Stephen Thomas Knight, Robin Hood: *A Mythic Biography* (Cornell University Press, 2003)

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**Aslan Award
(Mythopoeic Society Award)**

**** 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, **September 11th**, at Peter & Rob's home (1425 "S" St., NW) - 1:30 PM for business meeting; 2:00 PM for social meeting. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can. will be held at Peter & Rob's home. (For directions, call 202-483-6369.) 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



Sept. 1-5, 2005 **CASCADIA CON (NASFiC 2005)**. SeaTac Airport Hilton (Seattle, WA). Artist GoH: Liz Danforth; Special Guest: Harry Harrison. Membership: \$110 until 8/15/05 (\$125 at the door). Make checks payable to "Seattle NASFiC" and send to: Seattle NASFiC, Box 1066, Seattle, WA 98111. URL: www.CascadiaCon.org

Sept. 17-18, 2005 **BALTIMORE COMIC-CON**. Baltimore Conv. Center (Baltimore, MD). Guests include: Frank Cho, Howard Chaykin, Mike Kaluta, John Romita, Marv Wolfman. Tickets: 1-day = \$15; 2-day = \$25 (purchase on-line). For info, call: 410-526-7410 or visit: www.comicon.com/baltimore

Oct. 14-16, 2005 **CAPCLAVE 2005**. Hilton Silver Spring (Silver Spring, MD). GOHs: Howard Waldrop, Patrick Nielsen Hayden. Membership: \$40 9/30; \$45 at the door. Make checks payable to "Capclave" and send to: Capclave 2005, 7113 Wayne Drive, Annandale, VA 22003-1734. Website: www.capclave.org Info: info@capclave.org

November 18-20, 2005 **ANIME USA 7**. Sheraton Premiere in Tysons Corner (Vienna, VA). Guests include: Vic Mignogna, Robert Aldrich, Tee Morris, Chisuji. Regular membership: \$30 until Aug. 31; then \$35 (higher prices for "Silver" or "Sponsor" memberships). Register on-line (payment via PayPal); or mail-in registration form available on-line. Website: www.AnimeUSA.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

June 16-18, 2006 **GAYLAXICON 2006**. Best Western Primrose Hotel (Toronto, Ontario, Canada). Guests of Honour: Richard Arnold; Michael Rowe. Membership (currently): US \$40/CAN \$50 (registration form available on-line). Website: <http://gaylaxicon.gaylacticnetwork.org/>

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 thru 09/15/05 ("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

October 4-7, 2007 **GAYLAXICON 2007**. (Atlanta, GA). Their bid was just accepted this year at Gaylaxicon 2005. More details as they become available.