

PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #187 - Oct. 2005

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

**LSF Outings to  
Reel Affirmations 15**  
by Peter Knapp

For 15 years, One in Ten has sponsored Reel Affirmations, Washington DC's International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival. For the last few years LSF has partnered with One in Ten to "sponsor" films as a Community Partner. This year, LSF is a Community Partner for not one but two films. I plan to go to both films and encourage you join me.

**When:**

*Hard Pill* – Tuesday, October 18th, 9:15 PM • Landmark's E-Street Theater ("E" St., between 10th and 11th) • \$6  
*Scab* – Friday, October 21st, 11:15 PM • Lincoln Theatre (1215 "U" St.) • \$9  
 Get in Line a half hour before show time with ticket in hand.

(continued on page 4)

**LSF Game Night**  
by Jonathan Manning

Come join your fellow Sci-Fi Fans for an evening of board games and laughter.

**When:** Saturday, October 22nd from 7 PM to ???

**Where:** My Apartment (see directions below)

**What to Bring:** Drink to Share, \$5 for Pizza (if you want pizza), and any board games you think appropriate for the autumn evening. There may be S'more-making.

(continued on page 2)

**Next LSF Meeting:  
Sunday, Oct. 8th**

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at James Crutchfield's apartment (1414 17th St., NW, #413) on Sunday, October 8th. 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**

**Octavia Butler  
Appearance in DC**  
info passed along  
by James Crutchfield



On **October 27th**, noted F&SF author Octavia Butler will do a reading and signing of her newest novel, *The Fledgling*. This event will take place at 6:30 PM at Bus Boys and Poets (14th and "V" St. NW, Washington DC).

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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 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 Oct. 27th. Here's the schedule for the next couple of meetings:

**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.

**Jan. 26th** - *Mysterious Skin*, by Scott Heim; moderator: Bob Angell.

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**WHAT'S INSIDE?**

A Cartoon by Chris Browning (pg. 2); LSF Video Potluck Party on Nov. 5th (pg. 2); "Golden Ticket" Turns Brass (Part 2) (satire - pg. 3); 9/11/2005 LSF Meeting Minutes (pg. 3); Brock Peters (obituary - pg. 4); Robert Wise (obituary - pg. 5); About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians & Con Calendar (pg. 6)

## LSF Game Night

continued from page 1

**How to Get There:** My address is:  
Jonathan Manning  
10901 Amherst Ave. Apt. 121  
Silver Spring, MD 20902

**By Metro:** Take the Red Line to the Wheaton Metro Stop. After ascending the longest escalator in the Hemisphere, walk towards the Kiss'n'Ride to your right (to the East). Walk forward to Amherst Ave. (walking East) through the Metro Parking Lot. Walk south along Amherst Ave (to your right) until you reach Wheaton Place Apartments. The number is visible on the building. I'm on the ground floor with a patio.

**By Car:** Take I-495 to exit 31A (Georgia Ave.) going North. Travel north on Georgia past Dennis Ave and Plyers Mill Ave to Windham Ave. Turn right (going East) on Windham Ave. Turn left at the next street, going north on Amherst Ave. Turn right into the second Wheaton Place Apartment driveway. Turn right at your first opportunity and park.

Please RSVP if you want me to look out for you. Hope to see you there!

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Nearly 20,000 visitors to [tvguide.com](http://tvguide.com) responded to several impertinent questions involving Khan, Kirk, and other *Trek* legends. Here are the results for one of those questions.

### *Favorite catchphrase?*

"Resistance is futile."	22%
"I'm a doctor, Jim."	19%
"Make it so!"	19%
"Live long and prosper."	12%
"Beam me up!"	8%

[excerpted from  
*TV Guide*, April 17, 2005]



a cartoon by Chris Browning

"I think we're getting serious! Just last week he turned in his Gummi bodysuit for a complete Darth Vader outfit with an attached electronic voice changer, breathing simulator, and blinking lights!"

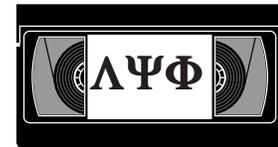
## LSF Video Potluck Party on Nov. 5th

**What?** LSF will host another one of its not-to-be-missed Video Potluck Parties. Bring your favorite science fiction/fantasy/horror movies (DVD or VHS format), main dishes, side dishes, desserts, munchies, finger food, and non-alcoholic beverages to share. As usual, attendees will vote on which movies to watch (in two different rooms) and pig out on too much yummy food!

**When?** Saturday, November 5, 2005 — 3:30 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

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**“Golden Ticket”  
Turns to Brass  
(Part 2)**  
by Ann Visible

[Ed. Note: Here's an interesting -- and quirky -- take on the recent movie *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. It was a little to long to fit completely into last month's newsletter, so it's continued this month. Enjoy!]

A desperate PR campaign by Wonka's advertising agency backfired horribly, as they were accused of white-washing the chocolatier's activities. After last week's raid, they have remained silent. Wonka candy is now seen as fit only for the trashbin.

Other dark stories circulate about Wonka products that could be used as weapons, including a soft drink that somehow caused people to levitate. "I think Wonka was holding back on selling this, as it was easily counteracted by burping. Experimental logs showed his frustration that it was so easily bypassed. He wanted people to be sent to the upper atmosphere to suffocate and freeze," said London.

In fact, Wonka's personal diaries and papers, seized in the raid, paint a very ugly picture of a man once thought of as an elf in human form. Excerpts published in various newspapers show a person obsessed with punishing human foibles, no matter how petty, and who saw nothing wrong with his own inhumane habits. He used drugs and technology to brainwash the Oompa-Loompas and force them to caper around, fulfilling Wonka's fantasies of a perfect world.

The diaries have only raised alarm about the safety of Charlie Bucket and his family. Says London, "We have no idea if they're with him voluntarily or are being held hostage. And when we do find them, we need to prepare for a Stockholm syndrome."

It was revealed that Wonka had thoroughly researched the children who won the golden tickets and had every intention of exploiting their weaknesses in order to get sadistic pleasure in their humiliation. "He has to be in control of everything," says Veruca Salt. "Absolute control."

She also fears for Bucket's safety. "Wonka felt that Charlie was the most virtuous of the group, and perhaps he was," she says wistfully. "But the diaries show he planned to tempt him and his family with the idea of money and power. If any of them gives in...." She began to cry at that point. "Wonka could very easily kill them."

Wonka is wanted on charges ranging from child endangerment to kidnaping to possession of controlled substances to illegal scientific experimentation to terrorism. If Mike Teevee dies, he could very well be charged with murder. Not a very good image for a chocolatier.

When asked about her feelings about Wonka, Salt pulls no punches. "He's a sadist and a maniac. It is absolutely essential that he be apprehended and arrested. I only hope we can find him before it's too late for Charlie." Martin London echoes these sentiments. "He's obviously a brilliant man, but mentally and emotionally warped. We have strong evidence that he's a terrorist and a traitor to his country. We do need to find him before it's too late."

But it's already too late for Wonka Chocolate. Even a drastic image rehab at this point will only prolong the company's collapse, say Wall Street analysts. Without Wonka, sources say, the company can only run for so long. And with the factory shut down, with the Oompa-Loompas inhabiting a federal medical facility in Virginia, and with Wonka products being discarded and destroyed worldwide, bankruptcy seems inevitable, and financial ruin for Wonka assured.



**9/11/2005 LSF Meeting  
Minutes**

taken by Scott

**Business Meeting**

Rob advised that it might be wise to vote on next year's budget *this* year -- he suggested at the LSF New Year's Eve party. He also suggested that LSF officer elections be held during a popular monthly meeting, such as the January book exchange.

Barrett advised us that LSF has been identified as sponsoring two films in the upcoming Reel Affirmations 15 film festival in October [see article elsewhere in this issue]. One film is titled *Hard Pill* (to be shown on 10/18/2005 at the E Street Cinema), and the other film is titled *Scab* (slated for 10/21/2005 at the Lincoln Theater).

**Social Meeting**

Joe reported that there is steampunk artwork at the **Irvine Gallery** (at Connecticut and R, NW).

Carl, who recently attended **NASFiC in Seattle**, reported that the con had a small GLBT presence. He also visited the Science Fiction Hall of Fame in Seattle; it contains a lot of SF artwork, exhibits, and memorabilia. Carl also saw a preview of a new SF TV series titled *Charlie Jade*, which was filmed in South Africa but has not yet been slated for syndication in the US.

Rob mentioned **Philip Roth's new alternate history book** titled *The Plot Against America*, in which Charles Lindbergh is elected as president. The plot involves the careful "re-education" of Jews, including the splitting up of Jewish families.

Barrett attended **WorldCon in Scotland** and reported that it had lots of GLBT programming. While there, he attended a stage production of *A Clockwork Orange*.

Peter and Rob attended their first (and last?) **DragonCon in Atlanta**,

(continued on page 5)



## Brock Peters (1927 - 2005)

info passed along by  
PeterKnapp  
(from Michelle in  
TrekToday.com)



Gregory Peck and Brock Peters  
in *To Kill a Mockingbird*



Brock Peters as Admiral Cartwright (L)  
and Joseph Sisko (R)

Actor Brock Peters died of pancreatic cancer on August 23rd. He was 78 years old. Peters played two major roles in the *Star Trek* universe: the controversial Admiral Cartwright (in *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home* and *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*) and Joseph Sisko, father of Captain Benjamin Sisko (in *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*).

Peters was well known for his performance as Tom Robinson, a black man falsely accused of rape, in the Oscar-winning *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962), which starred Gregory Peck. He was also noted for his appearance in the production of *Porgy and Bess* in 1959,

which starred Sidney Poitier, Dorothy Dandridge, and Sammy Davis Jr. Peters also had a role in the classic science fiction film *Soylent Green*.

In his two *Star Trek* movies, Peters played a Starfleet admiral whose disapproval of a Klingon peace treaty led him to take controversial action. In his episodes of *Deep Space Nine*, he played the father and confidant of Benjamin Sisko and appeared as a 20th century preacher during the episode "Far Beyond the Stars." He also appeared in an

installment of the original *Battlestar Galactica*.

Among Peters' accolades were a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Screen Actors Guild and a Tony Award nomination for a Broadway production of *Lost in the Stars*. Last May, Peters was a guest when Harper Lee, author of *To Kill a Mockingbird*, was honoured by the Los Angeles Public Library. One of Peters' last roles was performing the voice of the character General Mi'Qogh in the game *Star Trek: Starfleet Command III*.

## Reel Affirmations 15

continued from page 1



For more information about Reel Affirmations, including how to buy tickets, visit:

<http://www.reelaffirmations.org/filmfest/index.cfm>

Here are descriptions of the two films from the Reel Affirmations 15 program book:

### **Hard Pill** (East Coast premiere)

It's an insidious but intriguing question: if a pill could make a gay person straight, would it ever be worth taking? John Baumgartner's suspenseful debut feature explores this charged topic, turning in a highly original work of gay science fiction, and sketching a near future that is distressingly not incon-

ceivable. Tim Barrens is a lonely gay man who's sick of dead ends. Doted on by women friends, spurned by other gay guys, and resorting to sex with a straight buddy, he's enlivened by news of clinical trials for a new pill that may change his sexuality, and perhaps (he hopes) improve his life. But can his very personhood survive this test? Baumgartner's taut screenplay and direction, supported by a sterling cast, take on a chilling prospect, drawing provocative conclusions. (93 minutes)

**Scab** (world premiere; cast and crew are scheduled to appear)

Vampires. Lube. Loathing... WeHo: 2:40 a.m. Ajay and a one-night stand swap spit. But instead of using Ajay's hole, the stranger makes bloody new ones of his own. Left with a bug no antibiotic can quell, Ajay slips off the radar and into a quest for food. After several days incommunicado, Teague (the requisite geek who loves Ajay unrequitedly) and Floor (his straight-boy friend), check in on Ajay. Looking like death warmed-over, Ajay uses Teague's sympathy to drag him and

Floor to Las Vegas (and away from an excessively sloppy kill). Harmony Motel: outskirts of Vegas. 4:26 a.m. – three days later. Fueled by lust, hunger, desperation, and repulsion, the situation viciously unfurls. The blood of (slightly) innocent bystanders is let. Faith and beliefs are tested. Bodies lie heaped. Vampire attacks newly spawned vampire. And as the sun rises that fourth morning the old adage rings true: misery does love company. Contains violence and gore... DUH, it's a horror film. [101 minutes.]

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What we need is  
more people  
who specialize  
in the impossible.

— Theodore Roethke —  
American poet (1908 - 1963)



## Robert Wise (1914 - 2005)

info passed along by Peter Knapp  
(based on info from Michelle  
in TrekToday.com)

Robert Wise, director of *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*, died on September 15th at age 91. The Oscar-winning producer and director was best known for the classic musicals *West Side Story* and *The Sound of Music*. He also directed the genre films *The Curse of the Cat People* (1944), *The Body Snatcher* (1945; based on the Robert Louis Stevenson story), and *The Haunting* (1953). His most recent involvement with Star Trek was when he worked on the 2001 Director's Edition of *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*.

Wise left college during the Depression to take a job at RKO. He became a film editor, then a director who ultimately won the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' Irving G. Thalberg Award and the Directors Guild of America's D.W. Griffith Award—both organizations Wise headed at one time.

Wise was a seven-time Oscar nominee, cited for editing Orson Welles' legendary *Citizen Kane* as well as for his directing skills. His movies included the science fiction classics *The Day the Earth Stood Still* and *The Andromeda Strain*, as well as westerns, war stories, and character dramas. He told the Associated Press: "I'd rather do my own thing, which has been to choose projects that take me into all different kinds of genres."

In 2004, Wise participated in a Q&A session with StarTrek.com about the re-release of *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*. "When *Star Trek* came along I felt it was a good opportunity to do a science-fiction film set in space," he recalled. "They wanted an epic feeling for the picture, but it had to be made relatively quickly, so I guess they wanted somebody who could meet that challenge... We were forced to start filming the picture with a script that was still being worked on." He said he welcomed the opportunity to "finally get *Star Trek* finished" when he had the

opportunity to re-cut it for the special edition, because it had been rushed into release before he felt it was complete.

[Editorial Addendum: A Personal Recollection of Robert Wise – Through the influence of Big-Name-Fan Bjo Trimble, dozens of Southern California fen and SCAers had an opportunity to participate as extras in the big crew scene in *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*. This was Paramount's way of showing gratitude for Fandom's loyalty and efforts toward the revitalization of the *Star Trek* franchise. My first lover (Flip) and I were part of that lucky group. We were told to rendezvous early one morning for a "cattle call" at the Paramount lot, where we joined a big line-up from which the extras would be selected. At the very start of the selection process, Flip and I (who weren't even standing next to each other) were pulled out of the line-up by some production staffer, who informed us that we were "too tall to be humans" and asked us: "But would you like to be alien crew members?" You can imagine how we answered! A little later, Flip and I talked about how curious it was that we had been simultaneously chosen; and I idly wondered who had chosen us. Flip said something like: "Oh, I saw the guy who picked us out. It was him, over there." He was pointing directly at Robert Wise. Go figure.]

### 9/11/2005 Minutes

continued from page 3



which drew about 40,000 people. Navigating around in the function space was a bit challenging, they said. Peter enjoyed the *Star Trek* track, including the "Missing Minority" panel. The Atlanta Outlanders group held a GLBT room party. Rob said that costuming is really big at DragonCon. The largest group appeared to be the *Firefly/Serenity* fan base. Rob noted that the dealer's room only had two dealers that were selling books – a Walden-Books-type dealer plus Meisha Merlin. Lots of bootleg DVD's for sale, too.

Last month, Michael attended the **Horrorfind** convention, which serves

as a trade show for the horror movie industry.

Planning for **Gaylaxicon 2006** is well underway. And **Gaylaxicon 2007** in Atlanta is now being planned.

Jonathan is organizing a **Maryland RenFest outing**, which has been promoted via the LSF discussion list. (Here you go, fans of Renaissance festivals! Always lots of fun!)

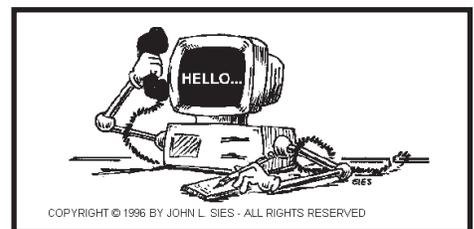
There was some general discussion about **the current flurry of genre TV shows** – *Threshold*, *Supernatural*, *Invasion*, and *Surface*. Lost fans will apparently get to see what's inside "the Hatch" in the first episode of

the Fall 2005 season.

Michael reported that the recent *Brothers Grimm* outing attracted a good crowd. Most attendees found it visually interesting.

Hoorah! Julian has volunteered to host the annual LSF Halloween video party – on November 5th.

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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, **October 8th**, 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. 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



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](http://www.capclave.org) Info: [info@capclave.org](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.darkovercon.com)

Dec. 9-11, 2005 **PHILCON 2005**. Phila. Marriott Downtown (Philadelphia, PA). Principal Speaker: David Weber; Artist GoH: David Mattingly. Membership: \$50 after 9/30 and at the door (daily memberships available). Make checks payable to "Philadelphia Science Fiction Society" and send to: Philcon Registration, PO Box 8303, Philadelphia, PA 19101-8303. (On-line registration also available). Website: [www.philcon.org/](http://www.philcon.org/) For more info: [info2005@philcon.org](mailto:info2005@philcon.org)

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](http://www.laconiv.com) For more info: [info@laconiv.org](mailto:info@laconiv.org)

Aug. 2-5, 2007 **ARCHON 31 (2007 NASFiC)**. (St. Louis, MO). Featured Guest: Barbara Hambly; Artist GoH: Darryl K. Sweet; Media GoH: Mira "Delenn" Furlan. Membership: \$45 (currently). Make checks payable to "Archon 31" and send to: Archon 31/2007 NASFiC, PO Box 8387, St. Louis, MO 63132-8387. Website: <http://www.archonstl.org/31/>

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