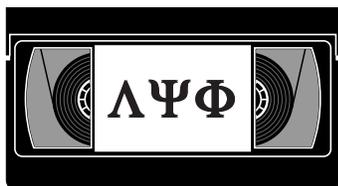


PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #188 - Nov. 2005

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

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, deserts, munchies, finger food, and non-alco-holic 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

Λ Ψ Φ

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 Dec. 1st (a combined Nov./Dec. meeting). Here's the schedule for the next couple of meetings:

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.

Λ Ψ Φ

Harry Potter Video Party and Movie Outing!! announced by Peter Knapp

In anticipation of the fourth installment of the *Harry Potter* film franchise, LSF is throwing a movie party to show the first three movies, followed by a movie outing to see the new film.

What:

Harry Potter Video Party

When:

Saturday, November 19th
12:30 PM – Midnight

(continued on page 2)



Next LSF Meeting: Sunday, Nov. 13th

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at James Crutchfield's apartment (1414 17th St., NW, #413) on Sunday, November 13th. 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? Minutes of the October 9th LSF Meeting (pg. 2); *Big Time Dr. Who* News (pg. 3); A Cartoon by Chris Browning (pg. 3); OUTER Gay and Lesbian SciFi/Fantasy Film Fest (pg. 3); A Little Lost Treasure (book review - pg. 4); *The Devil and Deep Space* (book review - pg. 5); TV Guide Trek Poll (pg. 5); About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians & Con Calendar (pg. 6)

Harry Potter Video Party and Movie Outing!!

continued from page 1

What to bring:

Non-alcoholic drinks and munchies to share while watching the movies.

Where:

The home of Peter and Rob at 1425 "S" Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009. Their home is in the 14th and "U" neighborhood near Dupont Circle and Logan Circle. For directions, see:

<http://lambdasf.org/lsf/club/PeterRob.html>.

Schedule:

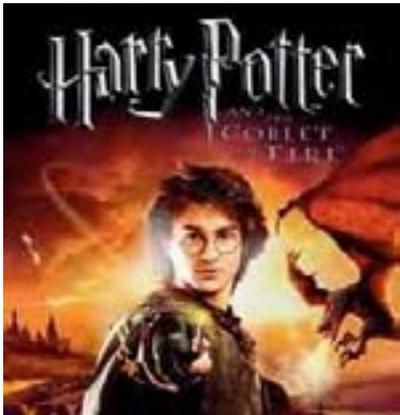
12:30 PM - Doors open

1:00 PM - *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

4:00PM - *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

7:00 PM - Dinner break (We'll go out to eat at a local restaurant.)

9:00 PM - *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*



Movie Outing

What:

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire
Movie Outing

When:

Sunday, November 20th
time TBA
(most likely in the afternoon)

Location: TBA

If you have questions, please e-mail Peter at:

PeterKnapp@wavelengthsonline.com
or call him at 202-483-6369.

We hope to see you there.

Λ Ψ Φ

Minutes of the October 9th LSF Meeting

minutes taken by Scott

LSF Business Meeting

The meeting had three – count ‘em, three! – new attendees. There were also three rounds of attendee introductions.

Michael announced that he would not be running for LSF Speaker for next year. **It was noted that the next LSF officer elections will be held at the January 2006 meeting** – the same meeting as the annual (and well-attended!) LSF blind book exchange.

LSF Social Meeting

Carl mentioned that many cons now enforce the 1-2-3 rule (particularly, said Krista, for gaming rooms): congoers should have at least one (1) shower a day; at least two (2) real meals per day, and at least three (3) hours of sleep a night. Is everyone taking notes here?

Carl enjoyed Joss Whedon's *Serenity* movie, which is based on the short-lived (but critically-acclaimed) Fox TV series *Firefly*. Rumor has it that Joss Whedon is considering developing a movie series from *Serenity*.

A number of meeting attendees had seen *Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit* and enjoyed it. Cute and sustained.

Carl reminded everyone of the two genre films at the Reel Affirmations film festival that LSF has planned movie outings for: *Hard Pill* (at the Landmark E-Street Cinema) and *Scab* (at the Lincoln Theatre). Michael also reminded everyone about the movie outing to see *Der Golem* at the AFI in Silver Spring. Check your LSF newsletter for dates and times!

The next LSF video party is slated for Saturday, November 5th, at Julian's.

Everyone nattered about the new genre TV shows – *Surface*, *Invasion*, *Supernatural*, and *Nightstalker*. *Surface* and *Invasion* were both labeled as “ho hum” or slightly better, while *Supernatural* had some appeal, primarily because of the two hot guys



who star. As far as *Nightstalker* is concerned – the star is bland and the plot is humorless.

On the other end of the spectrum, there seems to be constant buzz about the new season of *Lost*.

Barrett announced that Antonio has had a genre short story published in a magazine in Canada. (He apparently did a reading at Torcon last year.) We look forward to Barrett bringing a copy of Antonio's short story to a future LSF meeting.

According to Carl, author Katherine Kurtz and her author-husband Scott Macmillan are looking into moving from Ireland to Virginia.

It was noted that CapClave will be held next weekend in Silver Spring. Some LSF members indicated that they might be attending (maybe just for a day).

Michael reported on the recent outing by a small group of LSFers to the Maryland Renaissance Festival – they had fun!

Carl reminded everyone of the upcoming Gaylaxicons – June 2006 in Toronto and October 2007 in Atlanta.

Andrew commented that he was currently reading Jeffrey Eugenides' book *Middlesex*, a family narrative centered around a transgendered person.

The musical *Wicked* (based on the Gregory Maguire novel) is coming to the Kennedy Center in January 2006.

Krista plugged the upcoming LSF book discussion group titles – Don Sakers' *The Curse of the Zwilling* in October, Frank Robinson's *Waiting* in early December (a combined Nov/Dec meeting), and Scott Heim's *Mysterious Skin* in January.

Michael mentioned that a movie based on Mary Doria Russell's *The Sparrow* is being developed into a script now. One hopes that the eventual movie will not be horrible.

Λ Ψ Φ

**Big-time *Doctor Who* News
(for Captain Jack Fans)**
from Alan Siler



John Barrowman, the hot gay man who starred in the last 5 episodes of *Doctor Who* 2005 as bisexual freelance soldier (ex-Time Agent) Captain Jack Harkness, was scheduled to return to the show next year for Season Two. That return then became a cameo appearance with a full return in Season Three. Last word was that John would not be appearing at all in Season Two, as he'd taken on another acting job that conflicted with *Doctor Who*'s schedule.

Well, it turns out that that conflicting acting job is as the star of a new *Doctor Who* spin-off series, *Torchwood*.

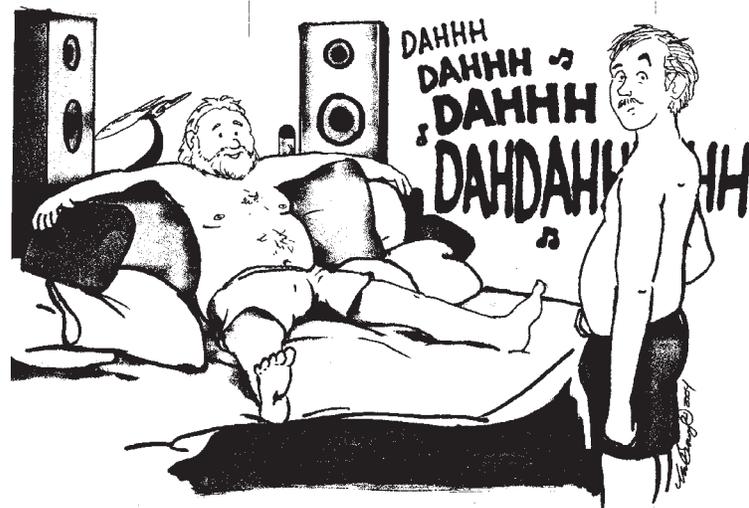
It sounds to be sort of a modern slant on the original series *UNIT*. *Torchwood* is an investigative organization set up by the British government that investigates not only regular-old, run-of-the-mill crime but also alien activity and alien artefacts that have been found on Earth. It's said to be rather *X-Files* in tone. It'll be much darker, grittier, and more "adult" than *Doctor Who*. Which, one assumes, will include Captain Jack sex scenes with every character he comes across.

The full story is here:

[http://news.independent.co.uk/
media/article320110.ece](http://news.independent.co.uk/media/article320110.ece)

ΛΨΦ

A Cartoon by Chris Browning



"Okay -- now I want you to come at me to the theme from '2001'."



**OUTer Gay and Lesbian SciFi/Fantasy Film Fest
Returns for its Second Year**

from Tim Caswell, Program Director

The OUTer Gay and Lesbian SciFi/Fantasy Film Festival announces its second year of Exhibition. This year the festival will on Saturday, November 5th of 2005 – once again in Austin, Texas

Hideout Theatre
617 Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78701

2:30 PM Fantasy/Horror Shorts Program
4:45 PM SciFi Shorts Program
7:00 PM SciFi Feature Program

The OUTer Gay and Lesbian SciFi/Fantasy Film Festival was born out of the desires of many gay and lesbian sci-fi fans to exhibit and promote gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans-gendered films and videos in the genre of Science Fiction and Fantasy. With few Science

Fiction/Fantasy Film Festivals out there and none with the focus of the GLBT community, the need for such a festival is needed. The OUTer Film Festival seeks entries in all categories in the genre of science fiction and fantasy, submissions that prominently feature gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, or intrasexual characters and/or story lines.

Austin has once again been chosen for this festival because of its growing wealth of talent, industry, and support for independent film makers.

For more information about our program or the festival, please visit our website at:

www.outerfilmfest.com

or send email to:

info@outerfilmfest.com

ΛΨΦ

A Little Lost Treasure

a short book review by Carl Cipra



Anyone who's been to a convention with me knows that I spend a fair amount of time wandering around the Dealers' Room sifting through stacks of used books. Every now and then I turn up a little lost treasure. At last year's Philcon, I found *Joyleg*, by Ward Moore and Avram Davidson (Berkley Publishing Corp., 1973).

Avram Davidson is one of my all-time favorite authors; I'm always on the lookout for anything he wrote — so his name caught my eye immediately. And it didn't take me long to realize that the Ward Moore who co-authored this book is the same man who wrote *Bring the Jubilee* (1953), one of the classics of the "alternate history" sub-genre. Sold!!

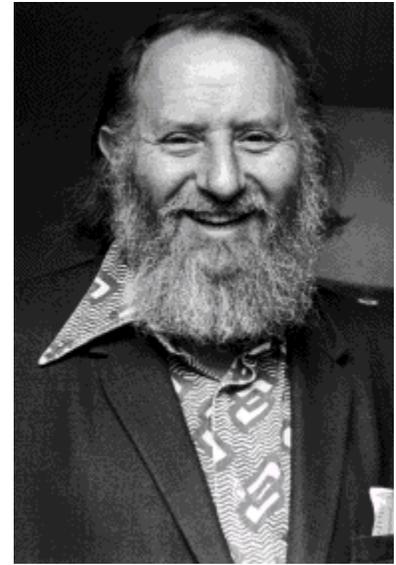
This Berkley Medallion edition of *Joyleg* is a longer version of a story serialized in the March and April 1962 issues of *Fantastic* — and, as it turns out, it really *is* "a little lost treasure." "Little?" — only 191 pages long, and a very fast read. "Lost?" — I'd never heard of it; and the odds are really good that *you* hadn't either. (According to one source I found, the story met with some small acclaim, but quickly faded into obscurity.) "Treasure?" — the blurb on the back refers to it as "one of the first great science fiction collaborations and a recognized classic." (And I certainly enjoyed reading it!)

The story opens innocently enough during a meeting of the U.S. House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, where political opponents, the Honor-

able Lucinda Rose Habersham (R, Tennessee) and the Honorable Tully Weathernox (D, Tennessee), are debating the merits of the minuscule \$11/month pension that Isachar Z. Joyleg (of Rabbit Notch, Tennessee) has been receiving for some time now — in fact, for a *very long* time! (Additional research of War Department files indicates the possibility that this pension has been continuously paid out for about 200 years!) Verbal volleys of "heartless, ungrateful treatment of a veteran" and "obvious fraud" are exchanged, with the result that Lucinda and Tully independently decide to journey down into the all-but-inaccessible back hills of Tennessee to find out just what the heck is going on.

The remainder of the novel then sort'a falls into two sections. The first section follows the adventures of Lucinda and Tully as they gradually make their way down to Rabbit Notch — a *very* out-of-the-way and anachronistic little settlement that doesn't actually seem to politically belong anywhere — and then meet up with Isachar Joyleg himself — a *very* old man indeed! As it turns out (by reason of some very peculiar circumstances), Joyleg is in fact the last surviving veteran of the American Revolution! And he has some very clear — and sometimes irreverent — memories of such historical personages as John Paul Jones, Davy Crockett, Alexander Hamilton, Martha Washington, and Benedict Arnold.

The second section deals with what happens when Joyleg's miraculous existence is revealed to the country and the world at large. (In Tully's hopeful words: "What a thing it would be for our national morale to have a veteran of the Revolution still among us — the Spirit of Seventy-six invigorating us.") Unfortunately, things don't go as planned. (Do they ever?) Joyleg is, of course, only human — and prone to all the errors, foibles, and blemishes consequent thereto. During a Senate cross-examination, some very embarrassing facts are brought out: Joyleg's aforementioned sometimes irreverent memories of the Founding Fathers; his sexual peccadillos with numerous women (both in and out



Avram Davidson

of wedlock); his participation in the Whiskey Rebellion *against* the US Government; charges of piracy connected with his days as a privateer with John Paul Jones; his cavalier attitudes about the permanence of any particular period of military service; and certain suspicious documents in his possession indicating some sort of relationship with Benedict Arnold. And, when national acclaim turns to recrimination and suspicion, there's the international reaction to think about — particularly that of the Soviet Union, whose representatives are all-too-pleased to hail Joyleg as a Hero of the People's Revolution and to offer him their unwavering support against the bourgeois capitalists. And, of course, everybody's interested in getting their hands on whatever-it-is that's been keeping Joyleg alive and vigorous for over two centuries!

As I've been in a particularly iconoclastic/rebellious mood lately, I got a real kick out of seeing the authors take pot-shots at the overblown, rose-colored-glasses view of American history. (Reinforced, I might add by my recent reading of *His Excellency: George Washington*, a marvelous new biography by Joseph Ellis.) And *Joyleg* even has a *Mouse That Roared*-type ending that I found quite satisfying. All in all, I'm very pleased that I stumbled across this particular little lost treasure!

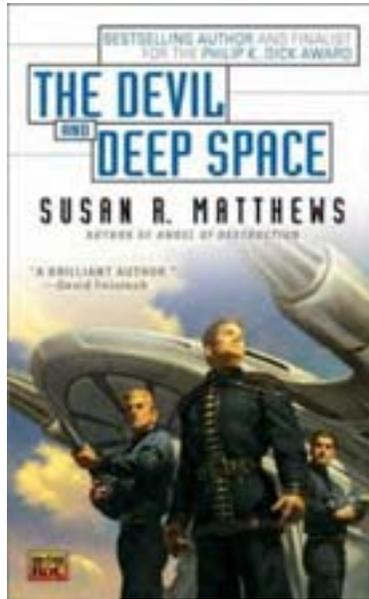
Λ Ψ Φ

The Devil and Deep Space
by Susan R. Matthews
 reviewed by Carl Cipra

This is the first book I've read by Susan R. Matthews. I heard her read an excerpt from it in the Gay Fandom Suite at ConJose in 2002; and it was subsequently nominated in the Best Novel category for the 2004 Gaylactic Spectrum Awards. On the basis of reading this novel alone, Matthews has jumped right onto my list of favorite authors!

The main character, Andrej, is the prodigal, eldest son of the Koscuisko Prince on the planet Azanry. As heir to leadership of the powerful Koscuisko familial corporation, he has a great deal of influence in the interstellar mercantile organization known as the Dolgorukij Combine. In addition, he is also Ship's Surgeon and Chief Medical Officer aboard the experimental space warship *Ragnarok* and a Fleet Inquisitor (*i.e.* official torturer, an enforcer of the status quo and the Rule of Law in Judiciary Space). All these facets of his life make Andrej the nexus of some very powerful competing forces and have earned him a number of bitter enemies over the years.

In this, the latest novel of Matthews' "Judiciary Space" series, Andrej finds himself in enough hot water to sink a battlecruiser! Indeed, the title of the novel reflects just how much trouble he's in — it's clearly an science-fictional update of that age-old conundrum about being caught "between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea." Because of a fatal training accident, some of *Ragnarok's* crew (Andrej's friends and retainers) are in danger of becoming scapegoats for corrupt Fleet officials; and it seems as though one of Andrej's many enemies has been desperate enough to forge a bench warrant for his execution. To top it all off, there's a power struggle going on in the highest political echelons to elect a new first judge in the Judiciary (Fleet Inquisitor Andrej's ultimate superiors). What results is a tightly woven space opera full of grand heroic gestures and characters strong enough to carry all the action.



The Devil and Deep Space is a very complex book, with lots of characters, backgrounds, personal inter-relationships, social constructs, etc. to keep track of. In addition, this is also the fifth book in Ms. Matthews' "Judiciary Space" series. [The previous novels are: *An Exchange of Hostages* (1997), *Prisoner of Conscience* (1998), *Hour of Judgment* (1999), and *Angel of Destruction* (2001).] Since the previous four novels all center around Andrej Koscuisko and his adventures, there's a lot of "history" leading up to the events in *The Devil and Deep Space*. (Note: Although, Andrej only has a "cameo" role in *Angel of Destruction*, the events in that novel immediately precede those in *The Devil and Deep Space*.) On top of this, Matthews is not one of those authors who advocates the use of "expository lumps" — you know, those long paragraphs that bring a story's plot/action to a screaming halt while the author explains certain aspects of the story's history, society, science, etc., etc., etc. With this novel, you need to pay attention to what's going on and "pick it up as you go along." But, fortunately, I'm here to tell you that it is very possible to read and enjoy this novel without having read the previous "Judiciary Space" novels. As I said, this is the first of Matthews' novels that I've read, and it worked just fine for me!

Λ Ψ Φ

TV Guide Trek Poll



Nearly 20,000 visitors to tvguide.com responded to several impertinent questions involving Khan, Kirk, and other *Trek* legends. The results were printed in the April 17, 2005 issue of *TV Guide*. Here are three of those questions.

Character you'd most want by your side on a mission?

Data	32%
Kirk	15%
Picard	12%
Spock	11%
Worf	10%

[What? No one wants to take Julian Bashir on a mission — to, say, Risa?]

Most annoying character?

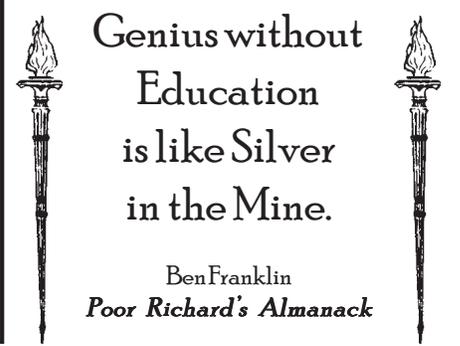
Alexander Rozhenko	17%
Lwaxana Troi	15%
Neelix	13%
Wesley Crusher	11%
The Computer Voice	11%

[Another surprising result. Three characters beat out Wesley?!]

Most fearsome villain?

The Borg	60%
Khan	9%
Romulans	8%
Species 8472	8%

[Well, there certainly seems to be a lot of agreement on this one!] Λ Ψ Φ



**Genius without
 Education
 is like Silver
 in the Mine.**

Ben Franklin
Poor Richard's Almanack

**** 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, **November 13th**, 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



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: Daniel Trout; 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

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/ For more info: 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 For more info: 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.

