

**PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #199 - Oct. 2006**  
**E-MAIL: [info@lambdasf.org](mailto:info@lambdasf.org) WEBSITE: <http://www.lambdasf.org/>**

**November LSF Meeting**

**NOTE: Not at  
the Usual Place!!!**

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The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at a new site: **Norman & Arn's place (2039 New Hampshire Ave. # 604)** on Sunday, **November 12th**. For directions or more information, call 202-306-7974. 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!

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**New Website for  
Gaylaxicon 2007**

info passed along by PeterKnapp

For those who are interested in Gaylaxicon 2007 in Atlanta, GA from (October 5-8, 2007), the new URL for the Gaylaxicon 2007 website is:

<http://gaylaxicon2007.org/>

If you want to sign up, you can pay for your membership via Paypal or do it the old-fashioned way by printing out the membership form and sending it in with a check.



**Nov, 2006 - Feb. 2007  
Battlestar Galactica Parties**

from Peter Knapp



Rob and I will be hosting parties to view the next seven episodes of *Battlestar Galactica* and Jonathan will be the host for the following four episodes. Because the holiday season is upon us, the Sci Fi Channel will not be broadcasting the show some weekends. For dates and locations, please see the detailed schedule below.

**Time:** Doors open at 8:30 PM, shows start at 9:00 PM.

**What to bring:** Snack food or soft drinks.

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The following seven episodes of *Battlestar Galactica* will be shown at the home of Peter & Rob, at 1425 "S" Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009. Directions can be found at:

[http://www.lambdasf.org/lsf/club/  
PeterRob.html](http://www.lambdasf.org/lsf/club/PeterRob.html)

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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 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 December 7th. (*Note: There is no book discussion meeting in November.*)

Here are the details on the next several book discussion meetings:

**Dec. 7th** - *Drawing Blood*, by Poppy Z. Brite; moderator: Brian. (*Note: This is a combined Nov./Dec. meeting. It takes place on the first Thursday in December.*)

**Jan. 25th (2007)** - *Set This House in Order*, by Matt Ruff; moderator: Bob A. (*Note: The book discussion group returns to its regular fourth Thursday date.*)

**Feb. 22nd (2007)** - *Anansi Boys*, by Neil Gaiman; moderator: Peter.

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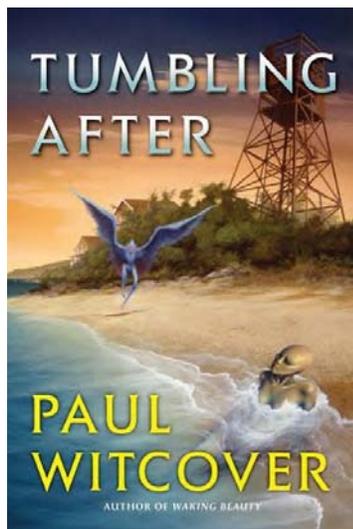


**WHAT'S INSIDE?**

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## Tumbling After by Paul Witcover

reviewed by Craig Laurance Gidney



Jack and Jilly Doone are twelve-year fraternal twins spending the summer of 1977 on the Delaware Shore under the watchful eye of their older sister Ellen and Uncle Jimmy, a game designer from New York City. They spend time exploring the Chesapeake Bay, annoying their older sister, and playing Uncle Jimmy's new *Dungeons and Dragons* knock-off role-playing game, *Mutes and Norms*. The summer promises to be a wonderful one. The kids are free from parental supervision, the soundtrack of Fleetwood Mac's *Rumours* battles with nascent punk rock; Jimmy and Ellen have a lax attitude about pot smoking; and the Bay is full of unexplored islands. All of that changes when Jack has a near-death experience when he and his headstrong sister are playing on the beach during the buildup of a hurricane. This experience leaves Jack questioning the nature of reality, and the summer, for him, takes a sinister turn.

Kestrel of Wafting is a *airie* (a human-bird hybrid mutant) off in the Waste with four other mutants, each of different races, for their Proving – a sort of rite of passage – before they join the endless war against unmutated human – the “norms.” Kestrel discovers that he is no normal *airie*, and he has a secret mission that leads him to question the nature of reality as well.

*Tumbling After* combines these two stories that mirror each other in

## October LSF Meeting Minutes

taken by Scott



### Business Meeting

Carl advised us that George Barr has responded that he cannot commit to being the Artist Guest of Honor at Gaylaxicon 2008. Carl has e-mailed Alicia Austin to see if she will accept the AGoH position. It was also noted that the con hotel search is still underway.

### Social Meeting

Barrett reminded everyone that the movie *Creatures from the Pink Lagoon* (co-sponsored by LSF) will be shown at the Reel Affirmations film festival on Saturday, October 14th at 11:30 PM at the Lincoln Theatre.

TV News: The actor who was slated to play Aquaman in the aborted *Aquaman* TV series is now playing Green Arrow on *Smallville*. (Will Green Arrow convince Clark to join the Justice League?) Carl mentioned that he's been hooked by Showtime's new series *Dexter*, which is about a serial killer who kills serial killers. (It stars Michael C. Hall, the actor who played the gay brother in the series *Six Feet Under*.) Lots of chat about the season premiere of *Lost* – good additional backstory of the “Others.” There is mixed reaction to the new *Heroes* series, about the emergence of a set of super-powered people.

Barrett passed around the current issues of *Cyber Cozen* (a sci-fi newsletter from Israel) and *Probe* (a sci-fi

newsletter from South Africa). James passed around some free passes to *Grudge 2*. Carl highly recommended the recently-released film *The Illusionist*. Perhaps a LSF outing to see *The Prestige* when it comes out...?

Robert Downey Jr. to play Iron Man? Well, perhaps a good fit for Mr. Downey, considering that the character of Tony Stark has had substance abuse problems. Ha!

It was noted that *Starship Troopers II* went straight to DVD.

Apparently Joss Weedon's *Serenity* movie has yet to recoup its costs, even with international distribution. Fears were expressed about the live-action *Transformers* movie. (Sounds valid!)

Michael reported on a book titled *Who Are You People?: A Personal Journey Into the Heart of Fanatical Passion in America* by Shari Caudron. Plot summary: put to rest many of the misconceptions people have about the fanatics around them.

Carl reminded about the upcoming LSF book discussion book titles – Tanya Huff's *Smoke and Mirrors* this month (October); *Set This House in Order* by Matt Ruff (the Nov/Dec selection); and Poppy Brite's *Drawing Blood* (January).

Don't forget the Saturday, October 28th, LSF video party potluck at Julian's home. And also don't forget that next month's LSF meeting (the November meeting) will be held at Arne-and-Norman's place rather than at Jim's.

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Lambda Sci-Fi:  
DC Area Gaylaxians

intriguing and shocking ways. There are only a couple of scenes where it's clearly stated that Jack and Jill are playing the game; Kestrel and his complex world have their unique storyline. Witcover tells each of their stories in alternating sections in a poetic, action-filled present tense voice. His “real” sections capture the wonder and terror of being on the verge of adolescence, the complexities of familial relationships, and Jack's growing paranoia well. The fantasy world

sections are written with a slightly campy vigor that has an undertow of horror. Witcover's worldbuilding is inventive, but it also doesn't take itself too seriously. The resulting novel is a mutant itself – a hybrid of role-playing tie-in book and a coming-of-age novel. *Tumbling After* leaves the reader eager to discover what happens in both realities; the ending, as worlds merge, is breathtaking and worth the journey.

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**Nov, 2006 - Feb. 2007**  
**Battlestar Galactica Parties**

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If you have any questions, please contact Peter at:

PeterKnapp@wavelengthsonline.com  
 Orcall: 202-483-6369

- 11/03/06 - Episode 39 "Torn" [Part 1 of 2]
- 11/10/06 - Episode 40 "A Measure of Salvation" [Part 2 of 2]
- 11/17/06 - Episode 41 "Hero"
- 12/01/06 - Episode 42 "Unfinished Business"
- 12/08/06 - Episode 43 "The Passage"
- 12/15/06 - Episode 44 "Eye of Jupiter" [Part 1 of 2]
- 1/05/07 - Episode 45 "Rapture" [Part 2 of 2]

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The following four episodes of Battlestar Galactica will be shown at the home of Jonathan, at 10901 Amherst Avenue, Apt 121 Silver Spring, MD 20902. Directions can be found at:

<http://www.lambdasf.org/lsf/club/Jonathan.html>

If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan at:

[musicecon@hotmail.com](mailto:musicecon@hotmail.com)

Orcall: 812-219-0449.

- 1/12/07 - Episode 46 "Taking A Break From All Your Worries"
- 1/19/07 - Episode 47 "The Woman King"
- 1/26/07 - Episode 48 "A Day in the Life"
- 2/02/07 - Episode 49 "Maelstrom"

**Directions to Jonathan's Place:**

Jonathan Manning lives at 10901 Amherst Avenue, Apt 121, Silver Spring, MD 20902. His home is near Wheaton Plaza.

**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 Avenue (walking East) through the Metro Park-

**Jewish Study Center Comics Class**

info passed along by Peter Knapp & Barrett Brick

If you're a comic book fan or interested in Jewish history, you may be interested in attending these sessions.

"Since the inception of the comic book industry, Jews have been involved as writers, artists, and visionaries. In fact, many heroes and villains have been based on the Jewish-American experience. We will look at how the relationship between Jews and comic books began, how it has grown, and what we can expect for the future."

Super-Mensch: The Story of Jews and Comic Books  
 Oct. 30 - Nov. 27, 2006 (5 sessions)  
 7:00 - 8:15 PM  
 Members: \$55, non-members: \$65

Legion of Jewish Super-Heroes  
[http://www.adherents.com/lit/comics/comic\\_collage.html](http://www.adherents.com/lit/comics/comic_collage.html)

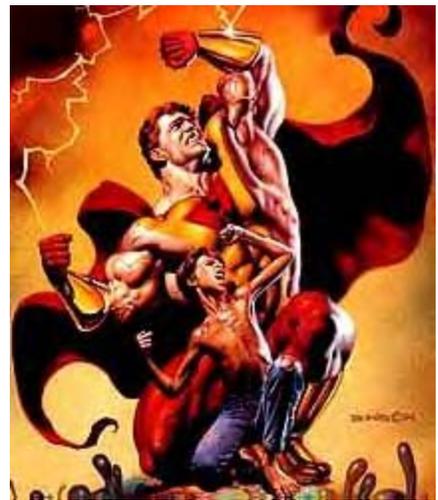
**SITE:** Monday classes at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Dupont Circle, 1830 Connecticut Ave, NW, two blocks north of Dupont Circle's north Metro exit. Street parking is available.

You can pay for classes by writing a check to The Jewish Study

ing Lot. Walk south along Amherst Avenue (to your right) until you reach Wheaton Place Apartments. The number is visible on the building. The apartment is on the ground floor with a patio.

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

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Prime (Malibu Comics)

Center, 1634 "I" St, NW, Suite 700, Washington DC 20006, or by bringing a check or cash to the first night of class. For more details, please call (202) 332-1221.

You can also become a member of the Jewish Study Center for \$36 a year for individuals or \$72 for households and receive discounts on classes year-round.

You may now Register Online for classes:

<http://jewishstudycenter.org/registration/Register.htm>

Or send an email to:

[info@jewishstudycenter.org](mailto:info@jewishstudycenter.org)

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"From any cross-section of ads, the general advertiser's attitude would seem to be: if you are a lousy, smelly, idle, underprivileged and over-sexed status-seeking neurotic moron, give me your money."

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Kenneth Bromfield  
 (British advertising agent)

quoted in *The Cynic's Lexicon*  
 by Jonathon Green  
 (St. Martin's Press, 1984)

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## Greek Mythology Revisited Part 5: The Trojan War in F&SF Literature (cont'd)

by Carl Cipra

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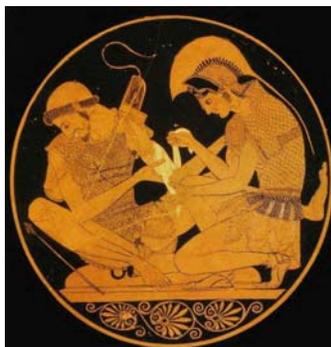
Back in January 2006, when I began this series on Greek Mythology, I talked about Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*; and I cited a couple of Big Screen versions of the story of the Trojan War: *Helen of Troy* (1956) and *Troy* (2004). I am, as I've said, a BIG fan of re-tellings of Greek myth and legend by modern authors – for example Mary Renault's novels based on the myths of Theseus (*The King Must Die*, 1958, and *The Bull From the Sea*, 1962). Last month, I reviewed the first novel in David Gemmel's "Troy" series, *Troy: Lord of the Silver Bow*. Now, here are some other post-Homeric re-tellings of the Trojan War.

*Troilus and Cressida* by William Shakespeare (Washington Square Press, 1966)

Yes, The Bard wrote a play about the Trojan War. It's rather a difficult play to categorize. I've seen it called "history" – and, for Elizabethans, it probably *was* considered such. I've seen it called "comedy." There's lots of satire in it, particularly through the characters of the Greek Thersites and the Trojan Pandarus, Cressida's uncle and matchmaker for Troilus – plus, the only major character who dies is Hector. (But there's no happy ending for the title characters.) According to the play's Preface in the 1609 Quarto, it was never performed on stage; it's definitely not one of the more popular Shakespeare plays nowadays. It's basically a love story set during Trojan War. Troilus, youngest son of Priam, has fallen in love with Cressida, beautiful young daughter of Calchas, a Trojan priest who has sided with the Greeks and is under Agamemnon's protection. The lovers are separ-

ated when Calchas gets Agamemnon to arrange for an exchange of hostages: Antenor (an influential Trojan general captured by the Greeks) in exchange for his daughter Cressida. Their separation is never really resolved – unlike in *Romeo and Juliet*, the tearfully-separated lovers don't die and aren't reunited. The "timing" is pretty much the same as the *Iliad*; when the story opens, Achilles is sulking and stays out of combat, and it ends with the death of Hector.

However, Shakespeare plays pretty fast and free with Homer's *Iliad* as it suits him. Ajax (presumably, the Greater, aka Telamonian Ajax, who fought Hector on a couple of occasions in the *Iliad*) is portrayed as Hector's cousin (son of Priam's sister and a Greek king). Greek myth, however, presents Ajax as *Achilles'* cousin (his mother, Queen Periboea, is in no way related to the Royal House of Troy). According to Shakespeare's version, Hector is not killed in single combat by Achilles. Hector is resting for a bit on battlefield (soon after he's killed Patroclus) with his helmet off and shield set aside, when he's surrounded by Achilles and his Myrmidons. Achilles orders his Myrmidons to kill Hector, then Achilles drags Hector's body around shouting that he's killed Hector. (Not terribly heroic, is he?) And nobody (except Paris) seems to like Helen; and no one (except Paris) seems to consider her worth all the death and destruction she's caused. Upon occasion, Ulysses and some of the other Greek commanders openly call *her* a faithless whore and *Menelaus* a stupid cuckold; the only real reason the Trojan leaders won't give her back is a point of pride.



Patroclus and Achilles  
(Greek red-figure vase)

And, yes, there's definitely GLBT content! To Shakespeare's mind, the nature of the Achilles/Patroclus relationship is pretty clearly homosexual. He even has Thersites call Patroclus (to his face) the "masculine whore" of Achilles.

*Inside the Walls of Troy: A Novel of the Women Who Lived the Trojan War* by Clemence McLaren (Dell Laurel-Leaf Books, 1996)

This is a YA novel. It's told from a unique position, from the non-combatants' point of view and in the historical-fiction mode. The only F&SF elements that appear are Cassandra's pre-cognitive prophecies. None of Greek Gods make an appearance. The book can pretty much be divided into two major parts: "Helen's Story" and "Cassandra's Story."

Helen's Story begins when the 12-year-old Spartan princess is kidnapped for ransom by pirates led by King Theseus of Athens. (Yes, *that* Theseus, the one who killed the Minotaur.) Later comes the story of the oath forced by King Tyndareus (Helen's father) on all her powerful and influential suitors (to keep them from killing each other over her): *whoever* Tyndareus chooses as her husband, the rest must swear to "defend him from any man who envies his good fortune and tries to steal her away. *For the rest of your lives!*" (And you *know* where this will eventually lead!) Then it continues with Helen's early marriage to Menelaus of Mycenae, their rise to King and Queen of Sparta upon the death of Tyndareus, and Helen's seduction by the beautiful Paris, visiting Sparta on an invitation from his old friend Menelaus. (Paris justifies his seduction of Helen by claiming her as his promised reward for his judgment in Aphrodite's favor in the divine beauty contest between Hera, Aphrodite, and Athena. Now *there's* a player's line, if I've ever heard one.)

Cassandra's Story starts with her predictions of the dire consequences of Paris' return from Sparta (with Helen in tow) and ends with the eventual destruction of Troy and the allotment of the

(continued on page 5)

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## The Trojan War in F&SF Literature

continued from page 4

surviving Trojan noblewomen as prizes of war to the various Greek commanders. (Cassandra herself is taken by Agamemnon, the High King.) It's also the story of how Cassandra's fear and hatred of Helen gradually develops into a deep and understanding friendship.

No GLBT content whatsoever.



*Troy* by Adèle Geras (Harcourt, 2000)

Here's another personal favorite! And, frankly, it's no wonder. *Troy* is a multi-award-winning YA novel: American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults; *Publishers Weekly* Best Children's Book of the Year; *Smithsonian Magazine* Notable Book for Children; Carnegie Medal Finalist; Whitbread Award Finalist; *Boston Globe-Horn Book* Honor Book. I found it to be rather "gritty" for a YA book — it includes extramarital sexual encounters, rape, miscarriage, and abortion, not to mention all the bloodshed and other mayhem associated with Bronze Age warfare. (No GLBT content, however.)

As with *The Iliad*, Geras opens her story during the final (10<sup>th</sup>) year of the Trojan War and includes many of the events in Homer's story — up to and including the ransom of Hector's corpse by Priam. But then she continues on past the closing scenes of the *Iliad* to include such events as the death of Achilles, the death of Paris, the Trojan Horse, the destruction of Troy (by war and by earthquake), the capture of the Trojan women (the subject of the play of the same name by Euripides), and the

less-than-warm reunion of Menelaus and Helen.

And, unlike many modern versions of the story of the Trojan War, Geras includes the Gods as characters. There are appearances by Ares, Aphrodite, Poseidon, Hades, Zeus, Hermes, Apollo, Hera, Artemis, Athena, and Hephaestus. As in the Homeric original, the Gods talk and interact in various ways with mortals on both sides of the conflict. They often appear in disguise (such as Zeus flying over the battlefield in the guise of an eagle); and they often intrude into dreams. However, when the Gods reveal their true identities to humans (as they often do — for example, when Hephaestus is discovered using a Trojan forge to create a new set of arms and armor for Achilles) or when they reveal very important upcoming events (such as the Trojan Horse ploy), they somehow cloud the memories of the humans they visit, so that their words — and, indeed, their very presence — are soon forgotten. Nice touch, says I. Ares is particularly frightening. He always appears as a huge dark figure encased in black armor — sometimes referred to as The Black Warrior — with his features hidden by the shadows of his helmet and speaking in "a voice like knives being scraped across stone." (Yikes!)

The primary point-of-view characters are all Trojan teenagers — pretty common practice for a YA novel. Xanthe and Marpessa are orphaned sisters — Xanthe serves Andromache, wife of Hector, and baby-sits their son Astyanax; Marpessa serves Helen. Their friend Polyxena is the granddaughter and primary care-giver of "the Singer," King Priam's aged bard. Finally, there are two Trojan boys: Iason, a partially-crippled stableboy who cares for Hector's horses; and Alastor, a young warrior from a wealthy family, intimidated by his widowed mother. Also, as is to be expected, there are lots of love-lorn complications: Xanthe loves Alastor; Alastor lusts after Marpessa; Marpessa loves/hates Alastor; Iason loves Xanthe; Polyxena loves Iason. (Sounds like we're back to Shakespeare, doesn't it?)

The primary adult characters are Helen (who's discovered that 10

years with Paris hasn't turned out to be quite what she expected), Andromache (filled with *angst* about all kinds of things), and Paris. Ah, Paris — a debauched, slightly-over-the-hill (but still rather attractive) philanderer, on the prowl for any young serving girl or unattached female he can get his hands on (including, at one point, Marpessa) — one of my favorite characterizations in Geras' version of the story. My other favorites are three old Trojan servant women — Halie, Theano, and Danae — collectively referred to as "The Gossips." They function as a sort of Greek dramatic chorus, appearing from time to time throughout the novel to comment on the events of the day and provide a "commoner's-eye view" of the Trojan War.

Like I said, *Troy* by Adèle Geras is a favorite of mine. An interesting note about the author's name: Quoting author/historian Barry Strauss (*The Trojan War: A New History*; Simon & Schuster, 2006): "Each man's share [of the booty grabbed during raids] was known as his *geras*, his 'gift of honor' or 'prize.'" Indeed.

*A closing note:* Just when I thought I'd finished up all my "Trojan War reading," two *more* hardback books hit the stands. I haven't read them, but I thought I'd let you know about them anyway. The first book is entitled *Helen of Troy*, by Margaret George (Viking, 2006). Ms. George is also the author of several popular books about other historic women (*Mary, Called Magdalene*; *Mary Queen of Scotland & The Isles*; *The Memoirs of Cleopatra*), as well as *The Autobiography of Henry VIII: With Notes by His Fool*, Will Somers. The second book is *An Iliad*, by Alessandro Baricco, translated by Ann Goldstein (Knopf, 2006). It's described as a prose version of Homer's epic poem told in a series of short first-person vignettes — with none of the violence left out. I'll undoubtedly get around to reading both of them sooner or later.



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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, November 12th**, at *Norman & Arn's place (2039 New Hampshire Ave. # 604)*. 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. 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

Nov. 17-19, 2006 **PHILCON 2006**. Sheraton Philadelphia Center City Hotel (Phila., PA). More information as it becomes available. Membership: adults \$50 at the door. Website: WWW.PHILCON.ORG e-mail: INFO2006@PHILCON.ORG

Nov. 24-26, 2006 **DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL MEETING XXIX**. Holiday Inn Timonium (Timonium, MD). "A very GLBT-friendly con." Guest of Honor: Jacqueline Carey; Artist GoH: Mary Hason-Roberts; Special Guest: Katherine Kurtz. Membership: \$45 until 11/1/2006; \$50 thereafter & at the door. Make checks payable to "Armida Council" and send to: Armida Council, PO Box 7203, Silver Spring, MD 20907  
Website: <http://www.darkovercon.org>

Feb. 16-18, 2007 **FARPOINT 2007**. Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Special Guest: Summer Glau ("River Tam" from *Firefly/Serenity*). Other Guests: Marc Okrand (Creator of Klingon language); Peter David (author). Membership: \$55 (weekend, pre-registered); daily rates available. Make checks payable to "Farpoint Enterprises" and send to: Farpoint Enterprises, Inc., 11708 Troy Ct., Waldorf, MD 20601 Website: [www.farpointcon.com](http://www.farpointcon.com)

April 20-22, 1007 **RAVENCON 2007**. Doubletree Inn at the Richmond Airport (Richmond, VA). Author Guest of Honor: Robert Sawyer, Artist Guest of Honor: Steve Stiles, Fan Guest of Honor: wombat (jan howard finder). Membership: \$25 until 12/31/06; \$35 from 1/1/07 to 4/19/07; \$40 at the door. Make checks payable to "RavenCon" and send to: RavenCon, 9623 Hollyburgh Terrace, Charlotte, NC 28215 Website: [www.ravencon.com](http://www.ravencon.com) Info at: [mike@nthzine.com](mailto:mike@nthzine.com)

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 5-8, 2007 **GAYLAXICON 2007**. Sheraton Midtown Atlanta at Colony Square (Atlanta, GA). Full membership information will be provided as soon as possible, including purchasing memberships online via PayPal. Guest of Honor details are being worked out with the various parties, and announcements will be made as soon as possible.  
Website: <http://gaylaxicon2007.org/>

October 10-13, 2008 **GAYLAXICON 2008**. Hotel: to be announced (Washington DC area). Membership: \$50 at present (will go up). Guest of Honor: Geoff Ryman. Artist Guest of Honor: Alicia Austin.  
Information at: [gaylaxicon2008.org](http://gaylaxicon2008.org)

