



Lambda Sci-Fi

DC Area Gaylaxians

(202) 232-3141 - Issue # 302 – May 2015

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Worldcon DC in 2017!!

from Jared Dashoff
(DC17 Bid Committee)

DC is bidding for Worldcon! DC17 (www.dc17.org) is a group of local and non-local fans who have come together in hopes of bringing Worldcon to Washington, DC and the Washington Marriott Wardman Park from August 16-20, 2017. The vote for where Worldcon will be held in 2017 will be conducted by members of this year's Worldcon (Sasquan, this August, Spokane, WA). DC is bidding against: Helsinki, Finland; Montreal, Canada; and Shizuoka, Japan.

Why should you support the DC bid? Worldcon is a community gathering—a big tent for everyone to come under and find their space. It is a place to feel welcome and a part of Fandom. We want to continue that tradition, to help everyone find their place in the tent and make them feel welcome.

Our committee is an awesome and strong combination of con runners from various backgrounds. We have past Worldcon chairs, life-

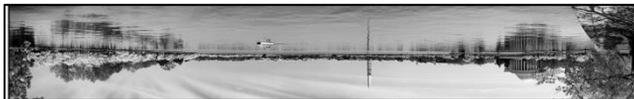


time con runners, and fans young and old with great ideas for what a Worldcon in DC could be. We know how to make Worldcon great, and we want to do so in DC.

Our hotel is, at its essence, a big tent. One big space to host and hold all of Worldcon, with tons of breakout spaces, gathering spaces, and lounges, so that each fan can find a space, a program, an exhibit, another fan or group of fans to call their own.

We want Worldcon to be great, and we think we have some ideas on how to do that, but we also want your ideas. You are a part of our community, and we want you to feel included, so please reach out to us, on-line or at a con, and tell us how we can bring you under our grand tent. And remember to Vote for DC17!

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Movie Outing to See *Avengers: Age of Ultron*

When: Saturday, May 2

Where: Regal Gallery Place Stadium
14, 701 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20001 (844-462-7342)

Time: 3:35 PM. Plan to arrive with ticket in hand at 2:45 PM to get seats.

Dinner: Afterwards in Chinatown

Note: This is not a 3D showing. Since it will be opening weekend, it is recommended that you purchase your tickets in advance.

Host: Teresa Ruby – Let her know you're coming, so she'll know to look for you. She can be contacted at:

TeresaOnSkates@gmail.com
or 202-701-6757.

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<<<<< May 2015 LSF Meeting >>>>>

The next LSF meeting will be held on **Sunday, May 10th**. The meeting will be held at Peter and Rob's home, **1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC**. The business meeting will begin at 1:30 PM and the social meeting at 2:00 PM. The meeting will include a presentation by Jared Dashoff, from the DC17 Bid Committee. Please also bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can. Hope to see you there!

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What's Inside?

Page 2: Stan Freberg (obituary); Minutes of the April LSF Meeting.

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Stan Freberg 1926 – 2015

It's quite possible you've never heard of Stan Freberg – but the odds are good you've heard his voice in cartoons, watched his brilliant TV commercials, or seen him as a character actor in such TV shows as *The Monkees* (1966), *The Girl from U.N.C.L.E.* (1967), or *Roseanne* (1996). Freberg was an author, recording artist, animation voice actor, comedian, radio personality, puppeteer, and advertising

creative director. He began his career(s) back in 1944 and remained active in the entertainment industry into his late 80s.

Stan Freberg is usually credited as being the first person to introduce humor into TV advertising. Many of his advertisements are considered classics. (For example, his 1968 Jenó's Pizza Rolls commercial: a parody of the Lark cigarette commercials. It features the William Tell Overture – “Have a pizz’, have a pizz’, have a pizza roll!” – with Clayton Moore as the Lone Ranger and Jay Silverheels as Tonto.) Freberg won 21 Clio Awards for his commercials.

Starting in 1949, Freberg and Daws Butler were the puppeteers and provided voices for Bob Clampett's puppet series *Time for Beany* (which won three Emmy Awards). At Warner Brothers, Freberg was often teamed with Mel Blanc (Hubie and Bertie the mice; Spike the Bulldog and Chester the Terrier). Freberg also made frequent guest appearances on other variety shows – usually with Orville the



Stan and Orville

Moon Man (his puppet from outer space). He revived the Orville skit at the 1978 Science Fiction Film Awards. (When he asked Orville why there's a hole in the end of the spacecraft, Orville replied: “That's where the swamp gas comes out.”) He was also a guest at the 2012 San Diego Comic Con (on the “Cartoon Voices” panel).

Freberg was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 1995. Film historian Leonard Maltin called Freberg “an American institution”. “Weird” Al Yankovic called him: “A legend, an inspiration, and a friend.”

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Minutes of the April LSF Meeting taken by Scott

Scott reported the distressing news that DC Comics has closed its last office in New York City. There is, however, a superhero supply store in Brooklyn.

Peter attended the International Tabletop Game Day at the Old Naval Hospital (coordinated by Will Wheaton). Peter got a personalized, autographed Flux card from Andy Looney of Looney Labs. He also picked up copies of the games *Choose One* and *Just Desserts*.

It was reported that author Terry Pratchett recently passed away. (See obituary on page 3.)

Carl will be ordering a set of ALA superhero bookmarks for Pride Day.

Media News: The next season of *Game of Thrones* premieres tonight. It is noted that the plot will veer from the novels. Carl

also reported that he's read that George R.R. Martin has created a space opera TV series. (Will he *never* return to the *Game of Thrones* novels?) The NextFlix *Daredevil* episodes are already available to download. (Too gritty?) The Inhumans are gradually being introduced during the current season of *Marvel's Agents of Shield*. The upcoming *DeadPool* movie will be R-rated.

Russell T. Davies is interviewed in the current issue of *Metro Weekly* and talks about two new LBGT-related TV series (*Cucumbers* and *Bananas*). Peter described the play *Potted Potter*: the seven “Harry Potter” movies performed on stage in an hour and a half – coming to a stage in DC soon.

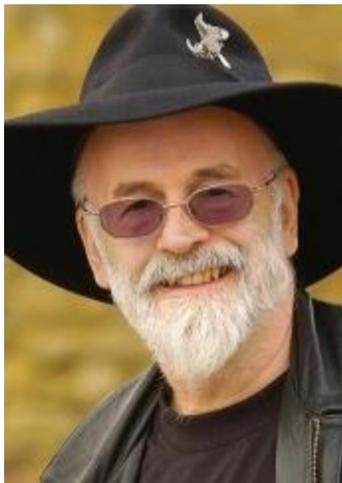
Convention News: The Ashmore twins and John Barrowman will be guests at this year's Shore Leave Convention (Aug. 7-9; Hunt Valley Inn, MD). Peter read off the horrendous prices to obtain autographs of various high-powered media guests at

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this year's Awesome Con in DC. (Both George Takei and William Shatner are making appearances. Will they get along?) There was also a brief discussion of Capital Con, DC's newest convention, premiering this year.

Upcoming LSF Events: Someone suggested a club outing to go see *X-Men: Age of Ultron*. At the May LSF meeting, the club will be visited by a representative from the DC WorldCon 2017 bid. LSF's Pre-Pride event will be held on Saturday, June 13th: a short LSF meeting, followed by a gaming party, interrupted by a short stroll to view the Pride Parade. LSF will host its 25th (!!!) appearance at the DC Pride Festival – all are invited to stop by the table! The LSF Post-Pride event will be a movie outing to see the new film *Jurassic World* (more details to follow).

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Terry Pratchett 1948 – 2015

AT LAST, SIR TERRY, WE MUST WALK TOGETHER. (This is an excerpt from the official Terry Pratchett *Twitter* account, posted by his assistant. The “all caps” format is based upon dialog spoken by Death, in various Pratchett novels.)

Terence David John “Terry” Pratchett is, of course, an extremely popular English author of more than 40 fantasy novels (particularly comical fantasy novels). He is best known for his “Discworld” novels. He has sold more than 85 million books worldwide, in 37 languages, and was Britain’s best-selling author of the 1990s.

Pratchett described himself as a “non-descript student” and credited his education to the Beaconsfield Public Library. His early interests included astronomy – but he lacked the necessary mathematical skills to become an astronomer. He became interested in science fiction and began attending science fiction conventions in about 1963/1964 – although he stopped when he got his first job a few years later. His reading interests included H.G. Wells, Arthur Conan Doyle, and “every book you really ought to read”.

After various jobs in the field of journalism, Pratchett became the press officer for the Central Electricity Generating Board. *The Colour of Magic* (the first “Discworld” novel) was published in hardback in 1983. After finishing *Mort* (“Discworld” # 4) in 1987, he quit working at the CEGB in favor of making his living through writing. On average, he wrote about two books a year. In 2003, Pratchett’s UK sales amounted to 3.4% of the hardback fiction market (and 3.8% by value), putting him second only to J.K. Rowling. UK sales of his books total more than 2.5 million copies a year.

Pratchett was known for wearing large, black fedora hats (as seen on the inside back covers of most of his books).

In 1998, Pratchett was appoin-



Sir Terry's
Coat of
Arms

ted an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (for “services to literature”). On February 18, 2009, *Sir Terry* was knighted by Queen Elizabeth (also “for services to literature”). He later said: “You can’t ask a fantasy writer not to want a knighthood.” He has also been awarded with too many F&SF awards and honorary doctorates to list here – including the World Fantasy Award for Life Achievement (2010).

Pratchett announced in 2007 that he was suffering from early-onset Alzheimer’s disease. He contributed about \$1 million to the Alzheimer Trust and filmed a TV program for the BBC chronicling his experiences. When he lost the ability to write on a computer, he used a dictation system to keep producing his fiction. He completed his final book in the summer of 2014: *The Shepherd’s Crown*, the final “Discworld” novel, to be published later this year. **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 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 *usually* 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 book discussion will be held on May 28, 2015.

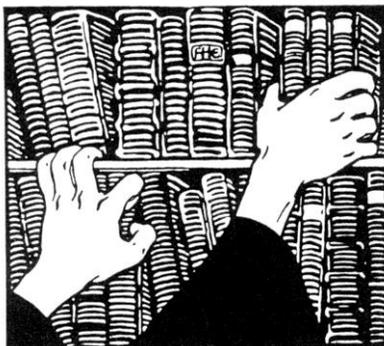
Here are the details for the next several book discussions:

May 28 – *Something More Than Night*, by Ian Tregillis (mod.: Rob).

June 25 – *City of Stairs*, by Robert Jackson Bennett (moderator: Claire).

July 23 – *Ms. Marvel – No Normal* (graphic novel) (moderator: Rob).

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**It is often said that
before you die
your life passes
before your eyes.
It is in fact true.
It’s called living.**



-- Terry Pratchett --

* * 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 copy of 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 Sunday, **May 10th, at Peter and Rob's home, 1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC.** 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



May 22-25, 2015 **BALTICON 49**. Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). GoH: Jo Walton; Artist GoH: Ruth Sanderson. Membership: \$65. On-line registration thru the convention website. Website: <http://www.balticon.org/>

May 29-31, 2015 **AWESOME CON 2015**. Walter E. Washington Convention Center (Washington, DC). Guests include: George Takei ("Mr. Sulu"), James Marsters ("Spike"), Alex Kingston ("River Song"), John Rhys-Davies ("Gimli the Dwarf"), and Sean Astin ("Sam Gamgee"), and many more. Weekend membership: \$79.32 (daily rates & "special admission packages" available). On-line registration thru the convention website.

Website: <http://www.awesome-con.com/washington-dc/>

June 19-21, 2015 **CAPITAL CON DC 2015**. "A new science fiction/fantasy convention for the Washington DC area." Washington Court Hotel on Capitol Hill (Washington DC). Media GoH: Doug Jones ("Abe Sapien" in *Hellboy* and *Hellboy 2*). Author GoH: Sherrilyn Kenyon. Artist GoH: Leanne Hannah. Weekend membership: \$45 until May 15; \$50 until June 18; \$55 at the door (daily rates available). On-line registration thru the convention website.

Website: <http://www.capitalcon.org/>

Oct. 9-11 **CAPCLAVE 2015**. Hilton Washington DC North/Gaithersburg (Gaithersburg MD). Guests include: Gordon Van Gelder (Editor, *F&SF Magazine*); Alastair Reynolds (*Revelation Space*). Membership: \$50 thru May 31st; \$50 until July 31st; \$60 until Sept. 30th; \$65 at the door. On-line registration thru the convention website.

Website: www.capclave.org

Nov. 6-8, 2015 **BENT-CON/GAYLAXICON 2015**. Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel and Convention Center (Burbank, CA). Membership: \$60 weekend rate. More info as it becomes available.

Website: <http://bent-con.org/>

See Progress Report # 1 at the following web address:

<http://www.lambdascifi.org/club/Bentcon-Gaylaxicon-2015-PR1.pdf>

Gaylaxicon

