

PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #182 - May 2005 E-MAIL: info@lambdasf.org WEBSITE: http://www.lambdasf.org/

### National Space Society's 24th International Space Development Conference (May 19-22, 2005) info passed along by Peter Knapp

"Your Ticket to Space" is the theme of the National Space Society's 24th International Space Development Conference (ISDC), May 19-22, 2005. This year it is being held at the Sheraton National Hotel located at 900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA.

Some of the featured speakers are: Rear Adm. Craig E. Steidle, USN (Ret.), NASA's Associate Administrator for Exploration Systems; Burt Rutan, President of Scaled Composites and designer of SpaceShipOne; Dr. Steven Squyres, Principal Investigator, Mars Exploration Rovers; and Dr. Peter Diamandis, Founder and Chairman of the X PRIZE Foundation and Chairman/CEO of Zero Gravity Corporation.

Meet and hear some of the movers and shakers of the space exploration movement. This is a chance to mingle and exchange ideas with space activists from across the U.S. and the world. To learn more and to register for the conference, please go to:

http://isdc.nss.org/2005/

If you've interested in volunteering, you can get your conference fee reduced or waived. When you work one shift, you will receive a refund for that day. You will also be able to attend another day's events for free. If you work two or more shifts, you will have



#### Star Trek: Enterprise Finale Party announced by Peter

Come mourn (or celebrate) the end of nineteen years of continuous *Star Trek* on TV (*ST:The Next Generation* – 1987-1994; *ST:Deep Space Nine* – 1993-1999; *ST:Voyager* – 1995-2001, and *ST:Enterprise* – 2001-2005). Like it or not, the modern incarnations of *Star Trek* changed the way genre TV has been produced and shown over the last two decades.

On Friday, May 13, 2005, UPN will show the last two episodes of *Enterprise*. Come join the fun at Peter and Rob's home in downtown DC. Here are the details.

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your entire conference registration fee refunded (excluding meals and the gala at Udvar-Hazy Center). If you're interested in volunteering, I can send you volunteer application documents.  $\Lambda \Psi \Phi$ 

## 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 May19th – *this month, on the third Thursday*. Here's the schedule for the next couple of meetings:

May 19th - Monstrous Regiment by Terry Pratchett; moderator: Mike P. (Note: Discussion for May changed to 3rd Thursday.)

**June 23rd** - *Dracula* by Bram Stoker, moderator: Michael M. **ΔΨΦ** 

## - Next LSF Meeting -May 8th

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

**WHAT'S INSIDE?** Rather Brief Minutes of the April 10th LSF Meeting (pg. 2); *A Flock of Lawn Flamingos* (book review - pg. 3); New Inductees to Science Fiction Hall of Fame(pg. 3); The Tiptree Awards: Official Announcement of Winners and Short List(pg. 4); About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians & Con Calendar (pg. 6)

## Enterprise Finale Party

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**When:** Friday, May 13, 2005 from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM. The doors will open at 7:30 PM.

**Where:** The home of Peter and Rob at 1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC 20009.

What to Bring: Munchies and nonalcoholic drinks. While dinner will not be served, feel free to bring your own dinner if you don't get a chance to eat before the shows. (There are fast food places on both 14th and "U" Streets, near the "U" Street Metro stop, along Connecticut Avenue near the Dupont Circle Metro stop, and along the 17th Street corridor between "P" and "R" Streets.)

**Directions to Peter and Rob's Place:** Peter and Rob live at 1425 "S" Street NW, Washington, DC 20009. Their home is in the 14th and "U" neighborhood near Dupont Circle and Logan Circle.

Closest Metro Stop: Take Metro to the "U" Street/African-American Civil War Memorial/Cardozo stop (Green Line). Exit Metro on the 13th Street side of station. When you come up the escalator, you'll be on "U" Street, facing 13th Street. There will be a Rite Aid drug store in front of you. Cross 13th Street toward the Rite Aid. Follow "U" Street to 14th Street. There will be a McDonald's at 14th Street. Cross 14th Street toward the McDonald's. Turn left in front of the McDonald's. Follow 14th Street for two full blocks. When you cross "T" Street, you'll pass a church that looks like a warehouse. When you cross Swann Street (which is between "T" and "S" Streets), you'll pass a laundromat. At "S" Street, hang a right. (If you cross "S" Street and pass a small used car lot, you've gone too far.) You'll pass the Whitman Walker Clinic and then an alley. We're the seventh row house after the alley: 1425 "S" Street NW. If you get lost, give us a call at 202-483-6369.

Alternative Metro Stop: Take Metro to the Dupont Circle stop (Red Line). Exit the Metro on the "Q" Street side of the station. At the top of the escalator, hang a right on "Q" Street. Follow "Q" Street and pass a liquor store on your right and a Wrap Works sandwich shop on your left. Travel five blocks, passing the Raku Asian restaurant at 19th Street, a couple of large apartment buildings at 18th Street (crossing New Hampshire Ave. at a diagonal), the Trio Restaurant at 17th Street, the Jewish Community Center at 16th Street, and row houses at 15th Street. Cross 15th Street and hang a left. Travel two blocks on 15th Street to "S" Street. Cross "S" Street and hang a right. We're two-thirds of the way down the Street at 1425 "S" Street NW. If you get lost, give us a call at 202-483-6369.

**Driving Directions:** 1425 "S" Street NW is in the 1400 block of "S" St. (which runs East-West), half-way between 14th and 15th Streets (which run North-South). 14th Street is a two-way street; 15th Street is a one-way street heading North. "S"Street is a two-way street.

From the North: Get onto 16th Street (Exit 31 on the Beltway) or Connecticut Avenue (Exit 33 on the Beltway) heading South. Turn left onto "S" Street and follow "S" Street 1.5 blocks (from 16th) or 6.5 blocks (from Connecticut).

From the South: Get on US Route 1 North in Virginia (via I-95/495, if that's convenient). When you hit Washington, Route 1 becomes 14th Street. Follow 14th Street to "S" Street. Turn left onto "S" Street and go half a block.

Parking: Street parking is generally available, though it is harder to find the later it gets. On weekends, there are no extra parking restrictions (*i.e.* the usual laws regarding intersections, hydrants, alleys, etc. apply — safe distances are usually marked).

For more information, 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.

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## Rather Brief Minutes of the April 10th LSF Meeting

minutes taken by Scott



The meeting didn't last very long today.

#### **Business Meeting**

Unfortunately, there was not a quorum of members present to vote on whether LSF should pay the additional \$30 to have **a table at the upcoming Capitol Pride 2005 event**. However, a straw-poll vote wholeheartedly supported a booth at Pride Day, spending the additional \$30. It was noted that LSF sold Gaylaxicon T-shirt and Newsletter Archive CD's last year. There was also discussion about having LSF members donate F&SF books (with GLBT content?) to sell at the Pride booth.

#### **Social Meeting**

The upcoming feature film version *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* looks promising. It is coming out later this month.

Carl passed around a "picture book" of *Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith.* He found some of the plot is certainly less than satisfying – he had been hoping for some more meaty reason why Anakin turned to the Dark Side.

Michael reported that the *Fantastic Four* movie would be released around Independence Day.

Rob reported that last weekend's LSF cherry blossom outing wasn't much of an outing, since the cherry blossoms weren't in bloom yet. Instead, attendees went to the Freer and Sackler Galleries and stopped by to see the Mickey Mouse exhibit at the Ronald Reagan Building.

The classic genre movie night (coordinated by Jonathan) is coming up. Be sure to read your e-mails!

The Book Discussion Group will be discussing Nalo Hopkinson's *The Salt Roads* later this month.

The final episode of *Star Trek: Enterprise* is coming up. Everyone is reminded that Peter and Rob have

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#### A Flock of Lawn Flamingos by Pat Murphy (Tachyon Publications, 1996) a review by Colleen R. Cahill

Science fiction and fantasy fans are not much into conformity. It might not be visually obvious; but, if only from our reading choices, we are rebels. And it is to this attitude that Pat Murphy speaks in her chapbook *A Flock* of Lawn Flamingos. A rebel — a fairly quiet one — looks to balance the excessive order in her community.

Live Oak Estates is a pleasant townhouse development in California, one that seems at peace and harmony. All this is changed when anthropologist Joan Egypt moves in, complete with a collection of blow guns, darts, and shrunken heads. Nancy Dell, the narrator of the story, realizes after witnessing the meeting of Joan and Pete Hoffer (the president of the Home Owners Association) that the orderly, quiet neighborhood will never be the same. Joan listens to Mr. Hoffer's explanation of the regulations, looks over the lawn ornaments in the area, and decides there is room for some individual expression. The next day there is a flock of flamingos in the front of Joan's house, fifty in total. This is the first shot in a war that would eventually draw in all of Live Oak Estates.

No, there is no violence in this war, but many salvoes. The neighbors

#### April Meeting Minutes continued from page 2

organized an LSF party to watch the series finale (*see article beginning on page 1 of this newsletter*). It was noted that *Battlestar Galactica* has ended its first season "with a bang." Rob reported that the second episode of the new *Dr. Who* series is much better than the first episode.

It seems that only two LSF members will be attending WorldCon this year in Glasgow. Oh well.

Lots of rumors flying around regarding the actor who will play the new James Bond in *Casino Royale*. No one has been confirmed.

And that was it for the meeting!

ΛΨΦ



can hardly ignore the battles, what with talking gnomes, giant flamingos, and more being countered by meetings of the Home Owners Association, which grows from a grim few in attendance to a large group with a party atmosphere. And this is what the story is all about, getting people to voice their opinions, letting variety into their lives, and giving everyone some control. But don't think of this as an us-versus-them (or Joan versus Mr. Hoffer), we-will-conquer scenario. Joan is not trying to defeat Mr. Hoffer, but to achieve balance — her chaos against his order.

This fun book is great for anyone who has lived with a repressive Home Owner Association or just enjoys bucking the system a bit. And since it has no science fiction or fantasy in it, this review has its own bit of rebellion in it, too. So expand your horizons with *A Flock of Flamingos*.

[Ed. Note: "Bit of rebellion," Colleen? Well, Pat Murphy *is* a notable F&SF author... and what about those giant flamingos and talking gnomes?]

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Gaylaxicon 2005 to Be Held in Mayan Temple on the Charles River! Sacred Fire Festival on July 4th! Sybaritic Chocolate Rites!

> (Seriously, though, for details on Gaylaxicon 2005, see page 6 of this newsletter.)

New Inductees to Science Fiction Hall of Fame info passed along by Kendall



[Ed. Note: Here's a little something to look into if you're going to CascadiaCon/ NASFiC in Seattle this year!]

The Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame has named Steven Spielberg, Philip K. Dick, Chesley Bonestell, and Ray Harryhausen as inductees into the Science Fiction Hall of Fame. The "Class of 2005" will be honored during the first-ever induction ceremony at the Hall of Fame's new home, the Science Fiction Museum in Seattle, on May 6, 2005.

The Science Fiction Hall of Fame honors the lives, work, and ongoing legacies of science fiction's greatest creators. Founded in 1996, the Hall of Fame was relocated from the Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction at Kansas University to its permanent home at the Science Fiction Museum in 2004.

The Hall of Fame "Academy," consisting of SFM members, submitted nominations in February. Then, an induction committee (composed of award-winning SF authors, artists, editors, publishers, and masters of special effects) chose the final "Class of 2005" inductees. While only literary creators have been honored previously, beginning this year, nominees were accepted for a broadened range of creative endeavors.

Each year, the Hall of Fame inducts up to four individuals on the basis of their continued excellence and long-time contributions to science fiction. Currently the Hall of Fame honors 36 inductees, including such well-known figures as Ursula K. Le Guin, Edgar Rice

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The Tiptree Awards: Official Announcement of Winners and Short List info passed along by Rob (re-posted from the Wiscon e-mail list, from Jeanne Gomoll)

A gender-bending science fiction award supported by bake sales presented to Joe Haldeman for *Camouflage* and Finnish author Johanna Sinisalo for *Troll: A Love Story*.

The James Tiptree, Jr. Literary Award Council is pleased to announce that the 2004 Tiptree Award has two winners: Joe Haldeman's novel *Camouflage* (Ace Books 2004) and Finnish author Johanna Sinisalo's novel *Troll: A Love Story* (Grove Press 2004).

The award ceremony will be held at Gaylaxicon, in Boston, Massachusetts, July 1-4, 2005. Each winner will receive \$1000 in prize money, an original artwork created specifically for the award, and the signature chocolate that always accompanies the Tiptree Award.

The James Tiptree Jr. Award is presented annually to a work that explores and expands gender roles in science fiction and fantasy. The aim of the award organizers is not to look for work that falls into some narrow definition of political correctness, but rather to seek out work that is thoughtprovoking, imaginative, and perhaps even infuriating. The Tiptree Award is intended to reward those women and men who are bold enough to contemplate shifts and changes in gender roles, a fundamental aspect of any society.

The James Tiptree Jr. Award was created in 1991 to honor Alice Sheldon, who wrote under the pseudonym James Tiptree, Jr. By her chance choice of a masculine pen name, Sheldon helped break down the imaginary barrier between "women's writing" and "men's writing." Her insightful short stories were notable for their thoughtful examination of the roles of men and women in our society.

Each year, a panel of five jurors selects the Tiptree Award winners. The 2004 jurors were Margaret McBride, Judith Clute, Alan DeNiro, Ursula K. Le



James Tiptree, Jr. (Alice Sheldon)

Guin, and Cecilia Tan. In addition to selecting the winners, the jurors compile a "short list," which calls attention to works that they found interesting, relevant to the award, and worthy of note.

This year's winners, according to juror Cecilia Tan, "stand completely opposed in so many ways — you could almost say they define the opposite edges of what is conceivable for the Tiptree. Haldeman, the well-known, Hemingwayesque, male, very American, hard SF writer at one end, and Sinisalo, the European, not-well-known (in the US and within our genre, I mean), female contemporary fantasy writer at the other."

*Camouflage* by Joe Haldeman considers what would happen if a shapeshifting alien predator became, essentially, human. This ageless, sexless entity can take any form. Initially indifferent to gender, the creature faces a gender choice as it grows more human. Ursula K. Le Guin notes: "If gender isn't the central concern of this novel, it's near the center, and the handling of it is skillful, subtle, and finely unpredictable." Haldeman has previously won five Hugo Awards, four Nebula Awards, and the World Fantasy Award.

Johanna Sinisalo's winning novel was published in the United States as *Troll: A Love Story* (Grove Press 2004), in the United Kingdom as *Not Before Sundown* (Peter Owen 2003), and in Finland as *Ennen päiävanlaskua ei voi* (Tammi 2000). The English language translation is by Herbert Lomas. "A deft novel of how human society is ruled by complex territorial relationships," Cecilia Tan writes of this novel. "Sinisalo reveals the life of the human male as closely as zoologists/biologists do chimpanzee social groups, only she does it through a quick-paced story of gay bars, advertising agencies and veterinarians." Sinisalo has previously won the prestigious Finlandia prize, and is known in her home country for her writing for television and comic strips, as well as for her science fiction and fantasy. The winning novel has been translated into six languages.

The 2004 short list is:

- A.S. Byatt, Little Black Book of Stories (Chatto and Windus 2003; Knopf 2004)
  L. Timmel Duchamp, Love 's Body, Dancing in Time (Aqueduct Press 2004)
  Carol Emshwiller, "All of Us Can
- Almost..." (*SciFiction* 11/17/04)

Nancy Farmer, Sea of Trolls (Atheneum 2004)

Eileen Gunn, Stable Strategies and Others (Tachyon Press 2004)

Gwyneth Jones, Life

- (Aqueduct Press 2004)
- Jaye Lawrence, "Kissing Frogs"

(Fantasy & Science Fiction, May 2004)

For more information about the winner and the works on the short list, visit the Tiptree Award Web site at:

www.tiptree.org

You can receive an annotated copy of this list, and lists of fiction honored in previous years, by sending \$3.00 to James Tiptree, Jr. Literary Award Council (address below).

Since its inception, the Tiptree Award has been an award with an attitude. As a political statement, as a means of involving people at the grassroots level, as an excuse to eat cookies, and as an attempt to strike the proper ironic note, the award has been financed through bake sales held at science fiction conventions across the United States, as well as in England and Australia. Fundraising efforts have included auctions conducted by standup comic and writer Ellen Klages, the sale of T-shirts and aprons created by collage artist and silk screener Freddie Baer, and

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## SF Hall of Fame

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Burroughs, Mary Shelley, Sir Arthur C. Clarke, Samuel R. Delany, Jules Verne, Isaac Asimov, and H.G. Wells.

"We are excited to induct this extraordinary line-up of individuals whose contributions have truly shaped the field of science fiction," said Robert Santelli, EMP/SFM Artistic Director and chair of the Hall of Fame executive committee. "And, we are thankful for the enthusiasm and support from our esteemed induction committee and valued members."

SFM's "Class of 2005" will honor the following luminaries who have shaped this genre in the following designated categories:

Film, Television and Media: Steven Spielberg is one of the most artistically celebrated directors of all time. He has won three Oscars, three Emmy Awards, two Golden Globes and Lifetime Achievement Awards from the American Film Institute and Directors Guild. His best-known science fiction films include *E.T. the Extra Terrestrial*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, and *Jurassic Park*.

Literature: Philip K. Dick is considered one of the most important figures in 20th-century American science fiction. Often credited as the forefather of cyberpunk, Dick's novels and stories have inspired some of Hollywood's best science fiction films, including *Blade Runner*, *Total Recall*, and *Minority Report*. Philip K. Dick passed away in 1982 at age 54.

Art: Chesley Bonestell is the most influential creator of photo-realistic astronomical art. During the 1950's, his work often appeared in magazines,

#### **Tiptree Awards**

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the publication of two cookbooks featuring recipes and anecdotes by science fiction writers and fans. *The Bakery Men Don't See*, a collection of recipes for baked goods, and *Her Smoke Rose Up From Supper*, a collection of main dish recipes, are both available from the James Tiptree, Jr. Literary Award Council. The cookbooks are \$10 each (plus \$1 postage in North America; \$3 postage outside North America).

Last year marked the beginning of a new effort for the Tiptree Award. Tachyon Publications published The James Tiptree Award Anthology 1 (Tachyon Publications 2004), edited by Karen Joy Fowler, Pat Murphy, Debbie Notkin, and Jeffrey D. Smith. This anthology gathers short fiction, novel excerpts and essays that were chosen by the Tiptree Award jurors in 2003, and in previous years. In addition, the collection includes essays and commentary by Ursula K. Le Guin, Joanna Russ, Suzy McKee Charnas, and Alice Sheldon. Booklist described the volume as "A superior array of creative and thoughtful writing for both genders." In Fall 2005,

including *Life* and *Collier's Magazine*, inspiring the careers of countless astronomers, scientists and artists. His special-effects matte paintings for films such as *Destination Moon* and *War of the Worlds* inspired the creation of the Chesley Award, which honors achievement in science fiction and fantasy art. Bonestell passed away in 1986 at the age of 98.

Open: Ray Harryhausen is one of the greatest stop-motion animators in film history – his creations were born of metal armatures and synthetic flesh. His work has amazed audiences for five decades, from his early work in *The Beast From 20,000 Fathoms* to his later classics *Jason and the Argonauts* and Tachyon will publish *The James Tiptree Award Anthology 2*, featuring this year's selections.

Reading for the 2005 Tiptree Award will soon begin. As always, the Tiptree Award invites all to recommend works for the award. Please submit recommendations via the Tiptree Award Web site at: www.tiptree.org

In addition to presenting the Tiptree Award annually, the James Tiptree, Jr. Literary Award Council occasionally presents the Fairy Godmother Award, a special award in honor of Angela Carter. Described as a "mini, mini, mini, mini MacArthur award," the Fairy Godmother Award strikes without warning, providing a financial shot in the arm to a deserving writer in need of assistance to continue creating material that matches the goals of the Tiptree Award.

For more information on the Tiptree Award or this press release, contact Pat Murphy at: jaxxx@well.com or write to the James Tiptree, Jr. Literary Award Council at:



Tiptree Award 680 66th St., Oakland, CA 94609 **АЧФ** 

*Clash of the Titans*. In 1992 Harryhausen was presented with an honorary Academy Award for his lifetime achievement.

As part of the induction, a new display featuring personal artifacts and video footage from each inductee will be added to the existing Hall of Fame exhibit. The new inductees will also be featured in laser-etched images on the translucent, glowing Hall of Fame display.

"I'm delighted to receive this award," said Harryhausen upon hearing of his induction. "I'm happy that my work has inspired a number of professionals as well as fans and am grateful for this honor. Thank you!"

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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, **May 8th**, atJames 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. 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



May 27 - 30, 2005 **BALTICON 39**. Wyndham Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel (Baltimore, MD). GoHs: Steven Barnes & Tananarive Due; Artist GoH: Bob Eggleton; Special Guest: E.E. Knight (2004 Compton Crook Award Author). Membership: \$48 from 3/1 until 4/30; \$55 after that & at the door: Make checks payable to "Baltimore Science Fiction Society" and send to: Balticon, PO Box 686, Baltimore MD 21203-0686

Website: www.balticon.org E-mail: balticoninfo@balticon.org

July 1-4, 2005 GAYLAXICON 2005. Hyatt Regency Cambridge (Boston, MA). Guest of Honor: Lois McMaster Bujold; Artist GoH: Phil Jimenez; Fan GoH: *Star Trek: Hidden Frontier*. Membership: \$50 (more at the door!). Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon 2005" and send to: Gaylaxicon 2005, PO Box 1059, Boston, MA 02103. (More information as it becomes available.) Website: www.gaylaxians.org/gaylaxicon2005

Aug. 4-8, 2005 INTERACTION (63rd World Science Fiction Convention).(Glasgow, Scotland, UK). Guests of Honor: GregPickersgill, Christopher Priest, Robert Sheckley, Jane Yolen. Membership: \$195 from 12/1/04 (will go up!). Make checks payableto "Interaction" and send to: Interaction, PO Box 58009, Louisville, KY 40268-0009Website: www.interaction.worldon.org.ukEmail: info@interaction.worldcon.org.uk

Sept. 3-6, 2005**CASCADIA CON (NASFiC 2005)**. SeaTac Airport Hilton (Seattle, WA). Author GoH: Fred Saberhagen; Artist GoH: Liz Danforth; Editor GoH: Toni Weisskopf. Membership: \$85 until 11/30/04 (will go up after that). Make checks payable to "Seattle NASFiC" and send to: Seattle NASFiC, Box 1066, Seattle, WA 98111. URL: www.CascadiaCon.org

Nov. 25-27, 2005**DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL MEETING XXVIII**. Holiday Inn, Timonium (Timonium, MD). Guest of Honor: C.S. Friedman; Artist GoH: TBA; Spcial 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

Aug. 23-27, 2006L.A.CON IV (64th World Science Fiction Convention). (Los Angeles, CA). Author GoH: Connie Willis; ArtistGoH: James Gurney; Special Guest: Frankie Thomas (*Tom Corbett, Space Cadet*). Membership: \$150 thru 12/31/2004 ("will goup 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 91409Website: www.laconiv.comFor more info: info@laconiv.org