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

New Year's Eve Video Party

announced by Peter Knapp



Come celebrate New Year's Eve with Lambda Sci-Fi at Julian's home in DC. This annual event will give us a chance to both recover from the hectic "holiday" season and to party some more in anticipation of the new year. Here are the details on how to join in on the fun!

Date: Sunday, Dec. 31, 2005

Time: The doors will open at 4:00 PM. The potluck dinner and the videos will begin in the 5:30 – 6:30 PM range. At 11:45 PM, the party turns into a private party (everyone invited) and we'll toast in the new year with champagne and sparkling cider (since official LSF events are "dry").

Location: Julian's place—2462 Tunlaw Road, NW (Georgetown)

What to Bring: Bring along your favorite genre videos and DVD's (science fiction, fantasy, horror). Attendees will vote on which movies will be shown at the party. (There'll be different concurrent "tracks" of programming in two different parts of the house.) The party will, of course, include a potluck meal, so bring along something scrump-

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Book (et al) Exchange at Jan. 8th LSF Meeting



As promised in last month's newsletter, here's a short reminder about Lambda Sci-Fi's *sixteenth* annual book (et al) exchange, which will occur at the upcoming Jan. 8th meeting! All LSF members — and visitors, guests, attendees, etc. — are invited to participate in this "blind exchange."

In case you've never participated in one of these before (or in case you've forgotten), here's how it works:

(1) Go out and purchase a copy of your "favorite" science fiction, fantasy, or horror book. (**NOTE:** Over the years, LSF has expanded the concept of "book" to include comics, videotapes, "books on tape," etc. If you want - or if you're feeling particularly wealthy - you can even make it *several* favorite books or whatever.)

(2) Insert a piece of paper (or a bookmark) with your name on it. (That's so whoever eventually ends up with the item will know who it's from and will get to know a little more about you — at least to know what one of your "favorites" is.)

(3) Wrap up the exchange item, but don't put any identifying marks or anything on the wrapped package to say

who it's from. (That's to make sure it's a "blind" exchange - *i.e.* no one is supposed to know who it's from at first. And, by the way, all of that leftover Holiday wrapping paper should come in handy here!)

(4) At the meeting, add your wrapped exchange item to the pile with all the others; and you'll be assigned a number. (Only one exchange item - *i.e.* one package - per person, please!)

(5) When your number is called, you pick one of the packages from the pile. (And when you open it up, you'll find out who it's from.) See how easy?

I can hardly wait to see what shows up *this* year!

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Next LSF Meeting: Sunday, Jan. 8th

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at James Crutchfield's apartment (1414 17th St., NW, #413) on Sunday, January 8th. The business meeting will begin at 1:30 PM; and the social meeting will begin at 2:00 PM. **And, remember, this meeting will feature the Annual LSF Book Exchange.** (For details, see article on this page.) Please bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can. See you there!



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WHAT'S INSIDE?

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New Year's Eve Video Party

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tious to eat. We're not pre-assigning categories of what food to bring, so everyone should just bring something from one (or more) of the following "basic food groups": appetizers (veggies, chips, etc.), a main course item (enough to serve at least 4-5 people), dessert (of course!), and non-alcoholic drinks (both regular and diet).

Metrorail/Bus Directions:

Take the Pennsylvania Avenue Line, Buses 30, 32, 34, 35, and 36. These buses stop at the following Metro stations: Friendship Heights, Tenleytown/AU, Foggy Bottom/GWU, Farragut West, Archives/Navy Memorial, Eastern Market, Potomac Avenue, Nalor Road, and Southern Avenue. Get off at the Calvert Street stop (just before the Russian Embassy if you're on a north-bound bus; just after the Russian Embassy if you're traveling on a south-bound bus). Travel west on Calvert. Cross 37th Street. Walk one block, and turn left at Tunlaw Road. Julian's house is the third house from the corner, #2462, which has a peaked porch roof and red living room walls visible through the windows.

Alternatively, you can take the D2 bus at Dupont Circle. Board the D2 bus at the bus stop at Connecticut and "Q" (right by the "Q" Street exit). You can also board the D2 bus at the first bus shelter on "P" Street west of Dupont Circle (in front of the old public restrooms - now a police substation) or the second bus shelter on "P" Street (across the street from Oasis Deli and Cocoa Restaurant). The bus will go up 37th Street to Tunlaw Road, turn left at Benton Street, and stop in the next block at Observatory Place. Get off and walk north one block to Beecher Street, turn right and walk a block to Tunlaw Road again, turn left, go north on Tunlaw Road to #2462, which has a peaked porch roof and red living room walls visible through the windows.

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 Jan. 26th. Here's the schedule for the next few meetings:

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

Feb. 23rd - *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, by C.S. Lewis, moderator: Peter.

March 23rd - *The James Tiptree Award Anthology 1*; moderator: Carl.

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For the bus schedule, call Metro information at 202-637-7000 or visit their website at www.wmata.com. You'll need Adobe Acrobat Reader (a free download at www.adobe.com) to access the bus schedules.

Driving Directions: If you are driving from the North, drive south on Wisconsin Avenue (from the direction of National Cathedral). Turn right on Calvert Street. Cross 37th Street; then left at Tunlaw Road. Julian's house is the third house from the corner. If you are driving from the South, drive north on Wisconsin (from the direction of "M" Street). Turn left on Calvert Street. Cross 37th Street; then left at Tunlaw Road. Julian's house is the third house from the corner.

For more information call 202-306-1497 on the day of the party. Prior to the day of the party, call 202-483-6369 or send email to:

PeterKnapp@wavelengthsonline.com

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December 2005 LSF Meeting Minutes

taken by Scott

- Business -

Regarding the **annual LSF elections** – Michael reiterated that he no longer wishes to serve as LSF Speaker. Peter, Rob, and Scott indicated that they would like to continue to serve in their current elected positions of (respectively) Membership Coordinator, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Regarding the **LSF budget for next year** – Rob committed to crafting a proposal to pre-approve the LSF budget for expenses such as the Pride Day table registration fee, the post office box rental fee, con room party expenses, etc.

Rob and Peter hauled a set of **T-shirts and polo shirts** from prior Gaylaxicons to the meeting. They offered the T-shirts – from the 1999 and 2000 G'cons – to meeting attendees for free, while the polo shirts were made available for \$25. Additional T-shirts will be brought to the LSF New Year's Eve party. Rob and Peter advised that the remaining T-shirts will eventually be given away to a local clothing charity.

Peter stated that he will be **updating the LSF directory** soon and will be e-mailing current members to remind them about renewing their memberships.

- Social -

Michael began the meeting with the traditional name circle. One attendee hadn't been to a meeting in over 10 years!

Peter mentioned that a **new comic book store** has opened in Tenleytown, where the Best Buy is located. It is called "Fantom Comics." Its website is: www.fantomcomics.com

"*The Chronicles of Narnia* movie is great!" exclaimed Rob.

Buffy reported on the Big Apple Con in New York that she recently attended.

There was a long round of discussion on the new *Harry Potter* movie. Wayne was vexed because much of the book's content was omitted from the movie. Where was the gnome revolution? Rob countered that the

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The Call of Cthulhu
(A Good Lovecraft Film – At Last!)
 a short review by Carl

Well, whaddaya know? Someone finally made a really good film out of a Lovecraft story! Huzzah! I saw this wonder-of-wonders at Philcon – it was used as “halftime entertainment” during the Masquerade.

The Call of Cthulhu is a product of The H.P. Lovecraft Historical Society. I believe they did another Lovecraftian short feature a while ago, but (if I remember correctly) it struck me as only so-so. This, their latest work, is, however, a real gem! Not a big-budget work; no fancy-schmancy CG special effects – I think the film primarily relies on such comparatively low-tech special effects as forced perspective and a few stop-motion scenes – and it uses them quite well. Oh, and did I mention that it’s in black and white – and that it’s a “silent” feature? Maybe the best way to describe it is to quote from their press release/lobby card:

See CTHULHU as it was MEANT to be seen! – Written in 1926, just before the advent of ‘talking’ pictures, The Call of Cthulhu is one of the most famous and influential tales of H.P. Lovecraft, the father of gothic horror. Now the story is brought richly to life in the style of a classic 1920s silent movie, with a haunting original symphonic score. Using the ‘Mythoscope’ process – a mix of modern and vintage techniques – the filmmakers have worked to create the most authentic and faithful screen adaptation of a Lovecraft story yet attempted.

And, trust me, it works! The audience was a typical fannish crowd that’d just watched the first run-through of the Philcon 2005 Masquerade. And, I might add, it was a rather rude and unruly bunch – especially the batch of 5 or 6 young’uns sitting behind me. But during the film’s 47-minute run you could have heard a pin drop – the audience *really* got caught up in the experience. (I was *very* pleased to note that nobody in the audience decided to read the dialogue screens out loud as they were displayed.) The film’s conclusion was met with a storm of applause and cheering (including yours truly).



Poster Art by Lee Moyer

As I said, it all works! They’ve managed to simultaneously capture the “feel” of both a 1920s-style feature and the original Lovecraft story.

Fortunately, if you want to get your own copy of *The Call of Cthulhu*, you can order the DVD directly from The H.P. Lovecraft Historical Society by going to their website: www.cthulhulives.org (I already have!) It’s got all sorts of nifty special features, including intertitles (the dialog screens) translated into 24 languages (Catalan, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Euskera, Finnish, French, Galician, German, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Lithuanian, Luxembourgish, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, and Welsh). Depending upon how much of a Lovecraft fanatic you are, you can even order reproductions of all the newspaper clippings and research documents shown in the film. They also sell reproductions of a couple of the really cool Cthulhu idols that appear in the film – but they’re *very* pricey!

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movie would have been 10 hours long if most of the book’s plotlines were included.

Miscellaneous news bites: An *Aquaman* TV series is in the works. Joss Whedon is ostensibly working on a *Wonder Woman* movie. The role of Wonder Woman has not been cast – and it just can’t be Sandra Bullock, please! Peter Jackson has lost a lot of weight. Thumbs down on the *Aeon Flux* movie. It was visually pretty, but not worth the money. The *X-Men III* movie will be coming out in May 2006. A teaser on the new *Superman* movie is now out. A little off-topic here – Michael cheerfully reported that he saw the new *Producers* film and loved it! He enjoyed the performances of Nathan Lane and Uma Thurman. Barrett passed around the issue of the Canadian *On Spec* magazine that includes a 10-page short story by his partner Antonio Ruffino entitled “A Promised Land.” Great to see LSF members get published – that is, in other than vanity press publications.

Peter reminded everyone of the *King Kong* movie outing at the Uptown Theater slated for January 2nd (2006). He also reminded everyone about the LSF New Year’s Eve video party at Julian’s home. Look for e-mails with details.

Rob mentioned the upcoming LSF Book Discussion Group topics. [See article on page 2 for details.]

While in Johannesburg, Barrett attended two genre-related events. Peter promoted both the Gaylaxicon 2005 and Gaylaxicon 2006 cons. Sign up today! He also advised that the new *Doctor Who* BBC TV series will be available in Canada and the US on Valentine’s Day 2006.

Did you enjoy the Friday night *Stargate* get-togethers at Peter and Rob’s house this year? They will be resuming the *Stargate* Friday nights in January but are soliciting people who will volunteer to serve as hosts.

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Greek Mythology Revisited - Part 1 -

reviews by Carl Cipra

Greek mythology – that’s a pretty big subject; and there are certainly a *lot* of F&SF books out there based on the stories and themes and images of the gods, heroes, and monsters of the ancient Greeks. I’ve been doing a lot of reading in this area recently, and I thought I’d share my thoughts about some of the good ones I’ve read.

***The Iliad and The Odyssey*, translated by Robert Fagles (Penguin Books, 1998 reissue)**

OK, I’ll start with “The Big Two” – pretty much the source documents for all the rest. I’m sure I don’t need to recount any of the details about these two epic poems – odds are, if you haven’t actually read either of them, you’ve undoubtedly seen one of the filmed versions (loosely, *very* loosely) based on them: *Helen of Troy* (1956; starring Jacques Sernas, Rossana Podesta, and Sir Cedric Hardwicke); *Troy* (2004 blockbuster; starring Brad Pitt, Eric Bana, Orlando Bloom, and Peter O’Toole); *The Odyssey* (1997 TV mini-series; starring Armand Assante, Isabella Rossellini, Eric Roberts, and Irene Papas). OK, sure, *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* weren’t originally created as works of F&SF – in fact, in the Greco-Roman world they were viewed in much the same light as Hindus view the Upanishads or the Ramayana and as Jews, Christians, and Muslims view the Old Testament – but they can certainly be read as F&SF by folks in the Twenty-First Century.

Frankly, I don’t think reading *about* either *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* – as retold by the likes of Edith Hamilton, Thomas Bulfinch, or Padraic Colum – gives you any kind of real feel for the power and scope of these epics. And, if you’re like me, then the classic translations by Richard Lattimore, Robert Fitzgerald, or Murray/Wyatt (Loeb Classical Library) didn’t do anything for you. That’s why I was very pleased last year when I first thumbed through a copy of the recent reissue of a very lyrical trans-



lation of *The Iliad* by Robert Fagles. (Penguin Books has reissued Fagles’ translation of both *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* in matching trade paper editions with fine, sturdy covers.) I was enthralled – by the language, the style, the rhythm, the cadence – and picked them both up immediately. As Fagles himself notes in his 1996 Postscript to *The Odyssey*: “‘Homer makes us Hearers,’ [Alexander] Pope has said, ‘and Virgil leaves us Readers.’” Well, true enough, Fagles’ translation actually made me want to recite passages from these epics to myself, rather than simply read them silently.

Incidentally, I held off reading *The Odyssey* until just before Halloween this year. What better way to get into the spirit of the season than by reading about an epic quest, man-eating monsters, powerful and beguiling witches, blood-drinking ghosts, and capricious deities? And, as a special treat, it all climaxes in a bloody multiple homicide!

***Songs on Bronze: The Greek Myths Made Real*, by Nigel Spivey (Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 2005)**

As you read earlier, I’m not exactly enthralled with many of the retellings of the ancient Greek myths, citing the collections of Hamilton and Bulfinch as examples. Well, there are exceptions to every rule; and Spivey’s book is the exception to *that* rule. Spivey doesn’t just provide his readers with a bloodless, lifeless rehash of the ancient myths; he has spun a vibrant and often sensual narrative. He tells rounded and complete stories (in the modern sense), including plenty of action and dialogue. In an opening Author’s Note, he explains his “desire to fashion a single, organic narrative of as much Greek mythology as most people might want or need to know... to convey the marvelous immediacy of these ancient story lines... I accepted the violence and sensuality of the myths, and made little effort to cut or purify them.”

And then, as with Fagles’ version of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, there’s the language. Yes, Spivey writes prose, but it’s quite lyrical prose. Here’s an example from a passage in which he describes the three great Olympian brothers:

Now Hades was not like the others. Zeus was ample and open; for all that his temper could be fierce, he was by nature broad-minded and with a gaze that took in everything. Poseidon was impetuous, easily raised to shake the earth with his sudden fits of pride; but equally, he might send breezes flowing round the torrid earth, and make halcyon days, when even the flashing kingfisher may float with her brood on the surface of the deep. But Hades – Hades kept a single mood: sullen, shadowed, chewing everything over. Hades had no sooner entered the world than he retired from it. He claimed his element down below, in the guts of the earth. He became lord of the land that is not land, ringed by black waters that have no source or end, the coiling River Styx. It is the Underworld – which is where, sooner or later, we all must drop like leaves.

And, as for Spivey’s description of the origins of all things (in the opening chapter, “Out of Chaos”), well, I’ve never read another description quite so moving and sensual – more than a match for the original descriptions in the poems of Pindar and Hesiod. In fact, it’s that opening chapter that immediately sold me on this book.

Spivey admits that *Songs on Bronze* is “a less than comprehensive work. Not every tale of the ancient Greek repertoire has been included here.” True, but this small book does in fact contain most of the “big ticket items” in its five parts: “An Early Childhood of the World” (the origins of all things, and the myths of Prometheus, Pandora, and Demeter and Persephone); “Heroes in the Making” (the stories of Herakles, Theseus, Perseus, and Jason and the Argonauts); “War About Troy” (*The Iliad*); “A Hero’s Coming Home” (*The*

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Greek Mythology

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Odyssey); and “The Stuff of Tragedy” (Mycenae’s “genealogy of doom” – from Tantalos and Pelops through Agamemnon and Clytemestra to Electra and Orestes – and the story of Oedipus).

***Lovers’ Legends: The Gay Greek Myths*, by Andrew Calimach (Haiduk Press, 2002)**



Yes, in anything but the most “sanitized” retellings of the Greek myths, you can’t help but run across references to homosexual relationships (predominantly male-male) between Gods and mortals (such as Zeus and Ganymede) or between men and men (such as Achilles and Patroclus). But as you can no doubt tell from the title, *this* book pretty much zeroes in on that aspect of Greek mythology.

I was pleased to see that the author doesn’t make unwarranted assumptions about the existence of some sort of anachronistic “gay culture” in ancient Greece. He clearly explains the social dynamics and mutual obligations of the *erastes/eromenos* (older “lover”/younger “beloved”) relationship and its context within Greek society as a whole – and then he tells the various stories that provided the Hellenistic (Graeco-Roman) world with literary/mythological support for that relationship. Among the myths related by Calimach are those involving Laius and Chrysippus (“Goldenhorse”), Zeus and Ganymede, Hercules and Hylas, Apollo and Hyacinthus, and Achilles and Patroclus.

Calimach certainly performed an impressive amount of research as the

The Vesuvius Club

by Mark Gatiss

a short review by Carl Cipra

Here’s an unusual work of fiction. When I started reading it, I had no idea that it’d have any F&SF or GLBT content. As it turns out, it has *both*!

The main character is one Lucifer Box. (You just *gotta* love a character with a name like that!) At first blush, he seems to be a dandy, an aesthete, a moderately successful artist living in Edwardian London just after the turn of the 20th century. He lives at #9 Downing Street. (“*Somebody* has to live there.”) And in Chapter 1 (“Mr. Lucifer Box Entertains”) he cold-bloodedly murders a *nouveau riche* industrialist over drinks. As it turns out, Mr. Box is actually a secret agent of His Majesty’s Government – sort of part James Bond and part Oscar Wilde – and the murderee was actually a dangerous anarchist.

Later, Box is contacted by his immediate supervisor – a dwarf named Joshua Reynolds – and given a new assignment. Several prominent, albeit reclusive, scientists have gone missing; and His Majesty’s agent in Naples, who had been investigating the matter, has turned up dead. And now Lucifer Box is on the case! And off we go into a borderline “steam punk” adventure, replete with mad scientists, evil geniuses bent on revenge, grave robbers, and zombies.

basis for this book. He pieced together his retelling of the various myths by researching dozens and dozens of original Greek and Roman source documents – including such “standards” as Homer, Pindar, Euripides, Sophocles, Pausanias, and Ovid and many less-well-known works such as *Erotes e Kaloi* by Phanocles (3rd century BC), *On Believable Tales* by Palaephatos (330 BC), and the *Fables* of Hyginus (1st Century AD) – and it’s all very well cited and footnoted. The stories in the book are also illustrated by an impressive array of black-and-white artwork from the Hellenistic period (paintings, vases, mosaics, statues, etc.).

Perhaps one of the most interesting aspects of this book is the serialized “Different Loves” dialogue

The tone is urbane witty – very “Wilde-ian,” in fact – and the action is non-stop – with occasional salacious interludes. Nothing smutty or pornographic, mind you, just salacious.

Ah, you ask, but where’s the GLBT angle? Well, I was very surprised about halfway through the novel when Mr. Box is revealed (in no uncertain terms) to be bisexual. (There are other GLBT aspects to the story, too; but I want to keep the “spoilers” to a minimum.) I guess a more careful inspection of Mark Gatiss’ dedication might have clued me in (“For Ian – My love, my life”). And then there’s that review by gay actor/author Stephen Fry. (“The most delicious, depraved, inventive, macabre, and hilarious literary debut I can think of...”) Checking out the brief author profile on the back cover also explains the F&SF angle. Gatiss is a writer/actor in the BBC series *The League of Gentlemen* (which apparently has F&SF connections) and “has written episodes for the rejuvenated *Doctor Who* television series.” (Hmmm... “Captain Jack” connections? I wonder...)

At any rate, *The Vesuvius Club* is a romp and I enjoyed it. It first appeared in Great Britain in 2004 – but 2005 is its American premiere through Scribner. I wonder if that means it’s eligible for a Gaylactic Spectrum Award nomination? I’ll give it a try.

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that frames Calimach’s retelling of the various myths. This dialogue – written in Greek sometime “in the early years of our era by someone claiming to be Lucian of Samosata” – is presented as a debate between two young noblemen on the topic of male-male love. It provides a fascinating exploration of pagan Hellenistic thoughts about the subject – both pro and con – as well as the sociological limitations on the acceptance of male-male love.

Lovers’ Legends might not be the best book about Greek mythology that I’ve ever read; but it’s certainly a scholarly, well-researched exploration of an aspect of those myths that is often deliberately either overlooked or ignored.

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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, **January 8th**, at James Crutchfield's apartment: 1414 17th St., NW, #413 (near Dupont Circle) - 1:30 PM for business meeting; 2:00 PM for social meeting. Please bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can. will be held at Peter & Rob's home. (For directions, call 202-483-6369.) Hope to see you there!

Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians is an affiliate of **the Gaylactic Network**, an international organization for gay people and their friends who are interested in science-fiction and fantasy.



Con Calendar

by Carl, Peter, and Rob



May 26-29, 2006 **BALTICON 40**. Marriott's Hunt Valle Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guest of Honor: Neil Gaiman; Artist GoH: Lorraine a'Malena; Special GoH: Gene Wolfe. Membership: \$43 thru Feb. 28, 2006; \$55 after Apr. 30 & at the door (registration form available on-line). Website: WWW.BALTICON.ORG E-mail: balticoninfo@balticon.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/>

July 7-9, 2006 **SHORE LEAVE 28**. Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). "Guests will be announced as soon as they are confirmed." Membership: \$55 until 6/15/2006 (higher at the door). Make checks payable to "Shore Leave" (and enclose two SASE's) and send to: Shore Leave 28, PO Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809. Website: www.shore-leave.com E-mail: information@shore-leave.com

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

Oct. 20-22, 2006 **CAPCLAVE 2006**. Hilton Washington/Silver Spring (Silver Spring, MD). More information as it becomes available. Membership: \$30 thru 5/31/2006; \$40 from 6/1/2006 thru 9/30/2006; \$50 at the door. Make checks payable to "Capclave 2006" and send to: Capclave 2006, 7113 Wayne Dr., Annandale, VA 22003-1734 Website: www.capclave.org E-mail: info@capclave.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.

