



# Lambda Sci-Fi

## DC Area Gaylaxians

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### Worldcon in DC in 2017

info passed along by Peter



At the May LSF meeting, we were joined by representatives of the DC17 Worldcon bid ([www.dc17.org](http://www.dc17.org)). This group is working to bring the World Science Fiction Convention to Washington, DC in 2017. The proposed convention would be held at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Woodley Park from August 16-20, 2017. They are running against bids from Helsinki, Finland; Japan; and Montreal, Canada.

Worldcon ([www.worldcon.org](http://www.worldcon.org)) is the largest general speculative fiction convention, primarily focused on the written form (but with programming on all forms of science fiction, fantasy, and horror, including comics, Anime, games and video games, movies, costuming, etc.). Worldcon members select the winners of the Hugo Awards, which are handed out at Worldcon. Worldcon is held in a different city each year. The site is chosen from a list of bids presented by independent fan groups, two years before a given convention, by the members of the current Worldcon. As such, the site for 2017 will be selected by the members of the 2015 Worldcon (Sasquan), which will be held in Spokane, WA this August 19-23, 2015 (<http://sasquan.org/>).

To help bring Worldcon to DC, you need to vote for DC17, which means you need to be a member of Sasquan. You need not be an Attending member. If you do not or cannot go to Spokane, you can become a Supporting Member, which gets you all publications, Hugo voting rights, and the ability to submit business to the Business Meeting. Currently, Supporting Memberships cost \$40.

After buying a Sasquan Supporting Membership, you then pay the Advance Supporting Membership Fee for 2017, which can be paid by check (mailed with your ballot), credit card online prior to mailing or emailing in your ballot, or in person at Sasquan if you are an Attending Member. (Sasquan is still working on getting the online payment system up and working.) This fee gets you a Supporting Membership in whichever bid wins, giving you a vested interest in the outcome of the selection. Next, fill out your ballot and send it in via postal mail or email. If you're an Attending Member, you can fill it in at Sasquan.

(continued on page 2)

### 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 July 23, 2015.

Here are the details for the next several book discussions:

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

**Aug. 27** – *Shadowdance*, by Robin Wayne Bailey (moderator: Josh).

**Sept. 24** – *Remembrance of Things I Forgot*, by Bob Smith (mod.: Bob A).

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### <<<<< July 2015 LSF Meeting >>>>>

The next LSF meeting will be held on **Sunday, July 12th**. 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. Please also bring some munchies or soft drinks, if you can. Hope to see you there!



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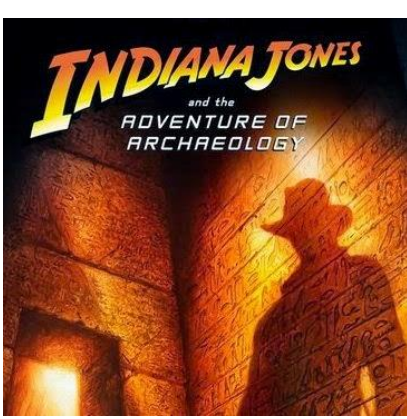
### What's Inside?

Page 2: Indy Rides Again! (exhibition info); Patrick Macnee (obituary).

Page 3: Christopher Lee (obituary).

Page 4: Information About Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians and Con Calendar.





## Indy Rides Again!

info passed along by Carl

If you're a big fan of the four "Indiana Jones" movies, then I think you'll get a kick out of the latest exhibit at the National Geographic Museum (17th and "M" Streets NW): *Indiana Jones™ and the Adventure of Archaeology*.

The exhibition features costumes, props, models, posters, photos, and other artifacts from all four of the "Indiana Jones" films, as well as dozens of video clips. An interactive hand-held device guides you through the "Indy Trail". And there's fact as well as fiction in this exhibition. Indy's adventures are interspersed with genuine historical and cultural artifacts and information from several centuries of archaeological expeditions sponsored by the National Geographic Society. You'll follow in the footsteps of actual explorers and scientists to such places as Macchu Picchu (Peru), Angkor Wat (Cambodia), Sitio Conte (Panama), the Nazca Plains (Peru), Ur of the Chaldees (Iraq), and the Olmec stone heads of Mexico.

It took me almost 2 hours to work my way through all the exhibits and video clips – well worth the \$15 admission for the Museum.

(continued on page 3)



## Patrick Macnee

1922 – 2015

Long-time English-American actor Patrick Macnee passed away on June 25th at his home in Rancho Mirage, California. We all knew him, of course, as John Steed, companion to Mrs. Emma Peel (and others) on the long-running British TV series *The Avengers*.

Daniel Patrick Macnee was born in London in 1922, the son of Daniel Macnee (who trained race horses) and Dorothea Mary Hastings (a descendant of the 12th Earl of Huntingdon). His parents divorced after his mother began to identify herself as a lesbian and began to live with her wealthy partner. "Uncle Evelyn" (as Macnee referred to her) helped to pay for his schooling.

Macnee studied acting; but, before his first scheduled performance (alongside Vivien Leigh), he was called up for the UK Armed Forces. He joined the Royal Navy as an ordinary seaman in 1942 and was commissioned as a sub-lieutenant in 1943. He became a navigator on motor torpedo boats in the English Channel and the North Sea; but he contracted bronchitis just before D-Day. He left the Royal Navy in 1946, with the rank of lieutenant.

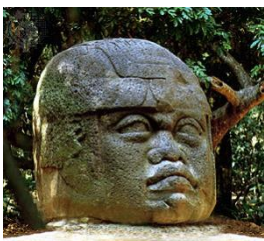
Between occasional movie roles, Macnee spent most of the 1950s

acting in dozens of small parts in American and Canadian TV and theater. He also was one of the London-based producers for *The Valiant Years*, the documentary series based on the WWII memoirs of Winston Churchill.

It was while working on the Churchill series that Macnee was offered a part in *The Avengers* (1961-1969). "John Steed" was originally conceived as the assistant of main character "Dr. David Keel" (portrayed by Ian Hendry); but Macnee became the lead after Hendry left the series at the end of Season One. With designer Pierre Cardin, Macnee adapted the City "suit, umbrella, and bowler" ensemble as "the Steed look". Over the years, Macnee was partnered with a succession of glamorous female partners: Honor Blackman, Diana Rigg, and Linda Thorson. He was later partnered with Joanna Lumley in *The New Avengers* (1976-1977). When asked later which female lead was his favorite, he said: "Well, I'd rather not say. To do so would invite trouble."

Macnee had a long acting career in TV and film after (and outside of) *The Avengers*. He's one of the few actors to have portrayed both Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson on screen. He became part of the James Bond film series in 1985, when he portrayed "Sir Godfrey Tibbett" opposite Roger Moore as Bond in *A View to a Kill*. He appeared in a number of American TV series, such as *The Return of the Man from UNCLE*, *Kung Fu: The Legend Continues*, *Nightman*, *Columbo*, *Magnum PI*, and *Battlestar Galactica*.

Macnee's autobiography is titled *Blind in One Ear: The Avenger Returns* (1988). Macnee's iconic "John Steed" also appeared (as "the Englishman") in Elizabeth Bear's novel *One-Eyed Jack* (2014), featured in a recent LSF Book Discussion. **ΛΨΦ**



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## Worldcon in DC in 2017

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Instructions on all the Worldcon voting procedures can be found at: <http://sasquan.org/site-selection/> An FAQ is located at: <http://sasquan.org/site-selection/faq-for-site-selection/>

You can contact the DC17 bid group with questions via their website, email ([dcin2017@gmail.com](mailto:dcin2017@gmail.com)), or on Facebook (DCin17) or Twitter (@DCin17).

Let's bring Worldcon to DC!

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## Indy Rides Again!

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The National Geographic Museum is open 7 days a week, 10 AM to 6 PM (last tickets sold at 5:15 PM; closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day). *Indiana Jones™ and the Adventure of Archaeology* will continue through January 3, 2016. A second exhibition, *Monster Fish: In Search of the Last River Giants*, continues through October 11, 2015.

For more information, visit:

[www.ngmuseum.org](http://www.ngmuseum.org)

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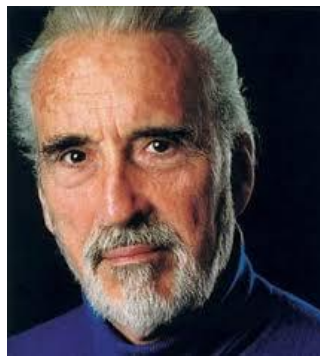


**My conscience hath a  
thousand several tongues,  
And every tongue brings in  
a several tale,  
And every tale condemns me  
for a villain!**

-- Shakespeare –  
*Richard III*, Act V

**Wise men learn much  
from their enemies.**

-- Aristophanes –  
*The Birds* (c. 490 BC)



## Christopher Lee

1922 – 2015

Saruman the White is dead. Count Dooku is dead. Francisco Scaramanga is dead. Dr. Fu Manchu is dead. Lord Summerisle is dead. And Dracula is (un?)dead. I don't suppose any of this comes as a surprise to you. Unfortunately, it also means that the veteran actor who put his own individual stamp on all those roles has also passed away: Sir Christopher Lee died at the age of 93 on June 7th.

Lee was born in London, the son of Lt. Colonel Geoffrey Trollope Lee and Countess Estelle Marie (née Carandini di Sarzano). His maternal ancestors were granted the right to bear a coat of arms in the Twelfth Century by Holy Roman Emperor Frederick Barbarossa. Lee was educated in England and Switzerland. He was a distant relative of Confederate General Robert E. Lee; and his mother's second marriage made him a step-cousin of author Ian Fleming. When WWII broke out, Lee volunteered to fight for the Finnish forces in the Winter War of 1939 and for the RAF in 1941. He retired from the RAF in 1946, with the rank of flight lieutenant. In 1960, he was introduced to Danish painter/model Birgit Krønkke, and they married the following year. They have one daughter.

Lee appeared in minor roles in a number of spectacular films during the late 1940s and early 1950s, including Olivier's *Hamlet* (1948), *Captain Horatio Hornblower* (1951), and *Quo Vadis* (1951). But he felt that his big break came in 1952, when Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. began making films at British National Studios; Lee was cast in various roles in 15 of Fair-

banks's films, as well as in John Huston's *Moulin Rouge* (1952).

Lee was famously known as "the master of horror" for his roles in dozens of Hammer Films. His first Hammer film was *The Curse of Frankenstein* (1957), in which he portrayed the monster and Peter Cushing portrayed the Baron. Lee first starred as Count Dracula for Hammer in 1958 (*Dracula*, or *Horror of Dracula* in the U.S.). Lee has stated that he was virtually "blackmailed" by Hammer into starring in subsequent Dracula films. (Unable – or unwilling – to pay him his going rate, the folks at Hammer are said to have reminded him of how many people would be put out of work if he didn't take the role.) *To the Devil a Daughter* (1976) was Hammer's last horror film and brought to an end Lee's long association with the studio that had such a heavy impact on his career.

A complete listing of his films would take several pages; he had roles in over 200 films and in dozens and dozens of TV shows. He appeared in films about Sherlock Holmes (*The Hound of the Baskervilles*, 1959; and *The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes*, 1970), Fu Manchu (1965-1969), the Three Musketeers (1973, 1974, 1989), James Bond (*The Man with the Golden Gun*, 1974), Middle Earth (*The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, and *The Hobbit*), and "a galaxy far, far away" (2002, 2005). His personal favorite was *The Wicker Man* (1973).

Over the course of his long career, Lee received numerous awards and honorary degrees. In 1997, he was appointed a Commander of the Knights of St. John. In 2001, he was appointed by Queen Elizabeth as a Commander of the Order of the British Empire "for services to drama". In 2009, the Queen made him a Knight Bachelor "for services to drama and to charity"; he was knighted by Prince Charles. Lee was awarded a BAFTA Academy Fellowship in 2011 (which he received from the hands of Tim Burton).

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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 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, **July 12th, 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



Aug. 7-9, 2015 **SHORE LEAVE 37**: A Fan Run Science Fiction Media Convention. Baltimore Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: TBA. Weekend membership: \$90 (higher at the door). Enclose SASE and check payable to "Shore Leave" and send to: Shore Leave 37, PO Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809.

Website: [www.shore-leave.com](http://www.shore-leave.com)

For more information: [information@shore-leave.com](mailto:information@shore-leave.com)

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: \$55 until July 31st; \$60 until Sept. 30th; \$65 at the door. On-line registration thru the convention website. Website: [www.capclave.org](http://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>



Nov. 20-22, 2015 **PHILCON 2015**. Crown Plaza Hotel (Cherry Hill, NJ). Membership: \$40. Make checks payable to "Philadelphia Science Fiction Society" and send to: Philcon Registration, PO Box 8303, Philadelphia, PA 19101-8303.

For on-line registration and additional information: [www.philcon.org](http://www.philcon.org)

Nov. 27-29, 2015 **CHESSIECON 2015** ("Where Traditions Evolve"). Radisson North Baltimore Hotel (Timonium, MD). Author GoH: Seanan McGuire; Artist GoH: Ursula Vernon; Music GoH: Heather Dale; Special Guest: Tamora Pierce. Membership: \$55 until Nov. 15; \$60 at the door. On-line membership available (using PayPal), or print out the membership form and mail it and a check payable to "Thanksgiving Science Fiction Society" to: TSFS, Inc., PO Box 83032, Gaithersburg, MD 20883-2032.

Website: <http://chessiecon.org>

Info at: [info@chessiecon.org](mailto:info@chessiecon.org)

