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LAMBDA SCI-FI

DC Area Bisexual/Gay/Lesbian Science Fiction Association

P.O. Box 10087 * Silver Spring, MD 20914 * (301) 445-5650 Issue #10 - January '91

VIDEO MADNESS

by Peter Knapp

Last month's meeting was a blast. The usual crowd showed up along with a few new faces. Loree was back and we all tried to run the meeting, but no one wanted to talk. I think they all got a whiff of the FEAST Jaime, our host, had prepared for us.

After we adjourned the rather short meeting, we all descended on the dining room and made rather grand pigs of ourselves. The theme was Mexican, and there were so many dishes to sample that one plate was not enough to hold it all. Everyone returned to the scene of the orgy again and again. *(continued on page 2)*

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT! JANUARY MEETING BOOK EXCHANGE

At the January meeting (Jan. 13th), all Lambda Sci-Fi members are invited to participate in a "blind book exchange." What the heck does that mean, you ask? Well, I'll tell you: in a blind book exchange, everyone brings a book as a present for someone else but doesn't know who'll actually receive the book in the exchange.

If you want to participate in the exchange, here's what you have to do: *(continued on page 5)*

PHOTON FOLLIES

by Peter Knapp

Last month a group of about 12 Lambda Sci-Fi members descended on the unsuspecting Photon facility in Silver Spring. The employees took us in stride, but the parents of some fellow Photon players were quite shocked. But I'm getting ahead of myself. Let me backtrack. Photon is a high-tech version of Laser Tag (also known as Flashlight Tag). Players are divided into two teams and given crash helmets, chest packs, guns, and battery belts to wear. After gearing up, *(continued on page 4)*

TARDIS TEASERS

by Noel Welch



I	R	K	O	J	M	D	A	V	I	S	O	N
S	E	A	H	H	T	A	R	D	I	S	P	E
K	I	C	W	A	Z	V	J	T	G	L	K	M
E	D	A	R	R	O	R	R	A	E	F	N	R
L	A	L	D	A	Y	O	C	C	M	G	I	E
A	G	E	P	S	U	S	A	N	U	I	N	B
D	I	E	K	G	A	L	L	I	F	R	E	Y
P	R	W	H	A	R	T	N	E	L	L	F	C
I	B	T	F	L	E	I	S	S	E	B	I	U
J	O	R	E	U	T	I	M	E	L	O	R	D
N	S	E	K	I	S	O	N	T	A	R	A	N
F	L	P	N	B	A	K	E	R	S	U	C	D
A	R	U	R	O	M	A	N	A	J	L	E	R

Tardis
Gallifrey
Daleks
Davros
Brigadier
Sontaran
Hartnell
Troughton
Mccoy
K nine
Jamie
Romana
Ace
Sarah

Time Lord
Master
Cybermen
Dr Who
Unit
Pertwee
Bakers
Davison
Susan
Peri
Bessie
Leela
Jo

VIDEO MADNESS - cont'd from pg 1

We thoroughly gorged ourselves and then split up into two groups. The main group stayed downstairs to watch the new Madonna video. A smaller group went upstairs to watch "Star Trek: The Pepsi Generation" and "Hardware Wars." While one group yawned through "Justify My Love" the other laughed hysterically at the Star Trek parody. A few of us stormed upstairs and demanded that we switch videos, which we did. The downstairs group was much happier after watching Picard ask Wesley if he had ever watched any gladiator movies!

After a few more cartoon shorts, we settled in to watch the main attractions. The upstairs crowd saw "The Five Thousand Fingers of Doctor T", based on a Dr. Seus story, and the larger crowd watched "Superman comics." Both movies were well received.

When the two movies ended, a small hard core group of people stayed to watch "Labyrinth." This was also enjoyed by all.

My only 'complaint' about the whole affair was the incredible amount of leftovers that Jaime and I had to clean up. I've never stuffed so many tupperware containers in my life! (Thanks for the cookies Carol; they were a hit at the office.) Seriously though, I think Jaime deserves a big round of applause for the excellent, abundant food she made for us. The afternoon was a big hit by all accounts, and I hope we do it again in the not-too-distant future.

A FANSPEAK GLOSSARY

From an article by Tom MacLaney (Great Lakes Gaylaxians), as translated and revised for this newsletter by Carl Cipra

There are apparently a large number of Lambda Sci-Fi members who have not immersed themselves---heart, mind, and soul---into the Fandom milieu. That being the case, some of you might someday be faced with the difficult task of attempting to understand some of the specialized jargon or slang that has arisen within Fandom over the decades. Fortunately, Robert

Gowan (Great Lakes Gaylaxians) alerted me to an old article from the GLG newsletter that would be helpful in filling this gaping omission in your education. Thank you, Robert! (Oh, and my thanks and apologies to you, Tom! My thanks for your original article and my apologies for my being a typical Virgo and revising it!)

NOTE: Any comments appearing inside brackets [like this] are my own and did not appear in Tom's article!

apa: Amateur Press Association. A special type of fanzine where fans each put out their own zine and send them to an editor to be collated into one large fanzine. [See "fanzine".]

beanie: the sartorial emblem of fandom. Fans are designated in cartoons, etc. by having propeller beanies clapped on their heads; e.g. put a beanie on a dragon and it becomes a fannish dragon.

con: an SF convention. Gatherings of fans, usually held over a weekend. (If you could stand it, you could probably attend one every week for a year.) They include panels on various SF topics, hucksters' rooms, lots of partying, costumes, and smoffing. The names of most cons either start or end in "con" (e.g. ConFusion, Windycon). See "Worldcon".

egoboo: short for "ego-boost." A good feeling from receiving praise and recognition. Useful when applied in small doses. Be careful, however. [I presume Tom meant: "Don't overdose!"]

fakefan: a fan who does not share the interests that you consider important.

fan [pl. "fen"]: someone who loves SF and is involved with like-minded people. "Fandom" is the mass of fans taken collectively.

fanzine: a fan magazine. These come in many types, from the ridiculous to the sublime. "Zine" can be used for other publications, too, such as "prozine" (e.g. Asimov's).

FIAWOL: [acronym for] "Fandom Is A Way Of Life". The basic philosophy of [some] fandom. To be contrasted with the heretical [to some] FIJAGH---"Fandom Is Just A Goddam Hobby".

A FANSPEAK GLOSSARY - cont'd from pg 2

filksinging (or "filking"): fannish music dealing with SF themes. May or may not be set to original music.

First Fandom: fans who've been around forever! Those fans who either attended, or were excluded from, the first Worldcon in 1939, and those dating from that period.

fringefan: someone marginally interested or involved in fandom. (A gamer who comes to SF cons for the gaming might be considered a "fringefan.")

gafiate [verb]: [acronym for] to "Get Away From It All". Leaving involvement with fandom due to burn-out, mundane pressures, or whatever. Hopefully temporary.

gopher (or "gofer"): someone who volunteers his or her time and services at a con. [Based on the first two words of orders they typically receive: "Go for this . . ." or "Go for that . . ."] A good source for "egoboo."

Huckster: a dealer in fannish goods. Hucksters started out as book dealers, but have branched out to include media paraphernalia, gaming needs, jewelry, and other costume accessories, as well as the ever-popular "Miscellaneous." Can be found in "Hucksters' rooms" at cons.

mundane: A non-SF fan. [Or, more simply perhaps, a non-fan.] All those others out there. "Mundania" is the real world (but we know better . . .) [Or do we? I sometimes wonder.]

SF (or "sf"): Science fiction. The only true literature. May also apply to fantasy, movies, etc. "Sci-fi" often applies to bad examples of the above, or is used by mundanes to refer to it. [I don't know if all of us at Lambda Sci-Fi necessarily agree with that last part.]

Smof: [acronym for] "Secret Master Of Fandom". A person who works behind the scenes to make fandom work (such as working on a con committee). Much dedication may be required to earn this title. The verb "smof" means to pontificate about fandom to anyone who may or

may not be willing to listen (often around the hotel pool or other appropriate locale).

Worldcon: the World SF Convention. The premier event of the fannish world. Held over Labor Day weekend (or equivalent), this con moves from place to place. ["Chicon" is the Worldcon being held in Chicago in 1991. When Worldcon is being held outside the United States, a NASFic (National Association of Science Fiction) convention is held in the U.S. In 1990, since Worldcon was held in The Hague, Netherlands, the NASFic convention "ConDiego" was held in San Diego, California.]

EVECON 8 - A REVIEW

by Lars Colson

Evecon is a combination Gaming and Relaxi-con occurring on or around New Year's Eve. There has always been a presence of Gay Fandom at Evecon and this year was not different. Although no Lambda Sci-Fi party or panel presentation occurred there were several members in attendance. I saw Carl and Norman, along with my host Peter, and we met several Gay fen who were not members of Lambda Sci-Fi.

One of the highlights of the con was the dance party on Saturday night called the Bash. Starting at 10:00 pm it closed at 6:30 Sunday morning. The DJs took requests (and sometimes played them). While I was there, shaking my tootsies, we were presented with two planned and one spontaneous dance performances. Rathmere did a Sword dance and three women performed the Vamp. What took my breath away was the sensual dancing by Lasher, Shawn and Rathmere. The entire floor opened to allow Lasher to solo dance and he was joined by Shawn and finally by Rathmere (Madonna eat your heart out! -ed.). Applause burst out, as the music died and the three men broke their final tableau.

I should make a point of saying how well the expressive dancing went over with the mixed crowd. It is seldom outside of Gay clubs that I see acceptance of same sex dancing. Fortunately much of Fandom is showing this acceptance as we continue to become a visible part of Fandom at large.

MY VISIT WITH THE GREAT LAKES GAYLAXIANS

by Carl Cipra

Well, this roving reporter has really been roving around lately. On my way back from a short business trip to Dallas, I decided to come home by way of Detroit. This gave me a chance to see the sights and visit with Robert Gowan (our guest at an LSF meeting a few months ago). As luck would have it, that coming Sunday (12/16) was also the monthly meeting for Great Lakes Gaylaxians; so I decided to stay over and pay a courtesy call. Ever the gracious host, Robert agreed to let me tag along.

It was about a 40-minute drive to the meeting at Cecil Young's home in Inkster. On the way, we picked up Slawec Wojtowicz. Slawec is a gay fan/artist from Gdansk, Poland, who is presently living in Detroit and has started attending GLG meetings.

When we got to the meeting, we discovered another out-of-town guest in attendance, Roger Gonder. Roger lives in Chicago but has been associated with GLG for some time. He's presently working on establishing a Gaylaxian chapter in his own area and acting as a sort of liaison with the Worldcon/Chicon committee.

Eight regular GLG members attended the meeting, which Robert informs me is pretty much standard. Just as at our meetings, there was a lot of generalized, free-for-all discussion on various SF/fantasy topics; but they held their discussion before the actual meeting began. Cecil (the host) also laid out quite a spread of munchies. The meeting itself was primarily devoted to working out their chapter's Chicon plans (setting up a van-pool, planning for a suite, etc.).

After the meeting, most everyone got down to the serious business of a couple of hotly-contested games of "Cosmic Encounters." (There were also a couple of small discussions going on in other rooms.)

It was really nice visiting with some of the guys I'd met at Gaylaxicon and meeting a few more of the GLG members. My thanks to all the Great

Lakes Gaylaxians for letting this LSF kid sit in on their meeting and for showing me a good time! And especial thanks to Robert Gowan for putting me up (or putting up with me) during my visit and showing me the sights of Mo-town!

PHOTON FOLLIES - cont'd from pg 1

they are let loose in a large dark room and shoot at each other. The master computer keeps track of individual scores along with team totals. After a few minutes of running around shooting, and avoiding getting shot, the lights go on and everyone charges out to see their scores.

We were supposed to start at 12:00pm, but people trickled in for the next hour. While we were waiting, we got to watch little kids shoot each other's lights out, while their parents slowly realized that we were having a 'gay' time. Probably the best line I heard was from one of the little tykes who said, "Mommy, there's Gay people here!"

At about 1:00pm, we began. It took a couple of rounds to get the hang of the equipment and the strategy of the game, but by the third try, I think we really got into it. At this point, the parents had gathered up their children, and gotten the hell out of there. That was okay, because they were replaced by older, parentless kids. This batch wanted very much to play with us, as they had bought an hour of unlimited play (we had bought five games) and wanted to spend as much time as possible on the playing field.

My best friend warned me not to play with munchkins because they would cream us. We did anyway, and didn't do so well in comparison to them. But hey, who was keeping track of the score; we were having fun just playing.

The afternoon was a lot of fun, and I hope we do it again soon. I should point out that I didn't think I'd like the game the first time I tried it (I never played with guns when I was little). But it turned out to be a blast. I strongly recommend that the next time we have a Photon party that you join us if you're even remotely interested. If you don't want to run around on the playing field, you can always shoot at us from the arcade.

TREK TRIVIA TWO

By Peter Knapp

(From a collection of Trek Trivia by Jim Campbell)

1. In the original series what was the episode with the earliest stardate and the episode with the latest stardate?
2. What is Lt. Commander Data's first name and middle initial?
3. "I'm a doctor, not a Bricklayer."
 - " Escalator."
 - " Engineer."
 - " Mechanic."
 - " Magician."
 - " Psychiatrist."
 - " Moon Shuttle Conductor."

Which episodes did McCoy say these famous lines?

4. Which Next Generation actors make the most money, and how much do they make weekly?
5. How old is Sarek in the original series?
6. How old is Sarek in the Next Generation?
7. Kirk's middle name is Tiberius. When was this revealed?
8. Define Trekkie, Trekker, trekker, and Trekologist/Treknician.
9. Where was Kirk born?
10. Who will be the baddies in the season four finally cliffhanger?

UPCOMING LOCAL CONVENTIONS

by Carl Cipra

BALTICON 25: Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD), March 29-31, 1991; room rate is \$74/night for up to four people; Guest of Honor: Nancy Kress; Artist Guest of Honor: Tom Canty; cost is \$25 until Feb. 18th (\$35 at the door) -

checks payable to "Balticon 25" and send to: Balticon 25, P.O. Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203-0686. ("Enclosed return postage would be useful.")

DISCLAVE 1991: Sheraton Greenbelt Hotel (New Carrollton, MD), May 24 - 27, 1991; room rate is \$82/night for up to four people; Guest of Honor: Lew Shiner; Artist Guest of Honor: Alicia Austin; cost is \$25 until Apr. 30th (\$30 at the door) - checks payable to "Disclave '91" and send to: John T. Sapienza, Jr. (Registrar), PO Box 677, Washington, D.C. 20044-0677.

JAN MTG BOOK EXCHG - cont'd from pg 1

First, go out and get a copy of a "favorite" science-fiction or fantasy book. It can either be new or used, your choice. If the book is part of a series, then pick the best one from the series. (Or, if you're really feeling affluent, give the whole series!) I suppose your contribution could even be a hardback; but I suggest that only paperbacks be given.

Next, insert a piece of paper with a note saying who the book is from. This is an important step. That way, whoever gets the book will know whose "favorite" it is; and the giver and receiver will get to know each other a little better.

Finally, wrap up the book. (Since it's just after the Holidays, you should still have plenty of left-over wrapping paper lying around!) But don't put any identifying marks or anything on it. (This is part of the "blind" concept.)

At the meeting, all the wrapped books will be piled together; and everyone who brings a book to exchange will be assigned a number or something. Later, one by one, the participants will pick one of the packages from the pile. TA DA! "Blind book exchange!" (NOTE: I suppose we can also do some unofficial swapping around later if you really aren't interested in the book you chose.)

LSF Book Search

by Chuck Murphy

Have you ever read a really great, gripping story and then misplaced it, only to find that you cannot find a replacement for it anywhere? The new bookstores no longer carry it (out of print!) and the used booksellers have never even heard of it. Well, now there's a solution (but maybe not the cure.)

Introducing LSF Search, a new column in this newsletter. Just jot down all the information you can on your lost, impossible-to-find Sci-Fi and Fantasy literature and we will put this information in the newsletter. With our vast membership, it should be fairly easy to obtain information on nearly any missing, out-of-print SF & F literature in the marketplace.

Here is the first book LSF Search will attempt to find (it is a personal favorite of mine):

Title: Science Fiction A-Z or ABC's of Science Fiction (or some variation)

Plot/Structure: A collection of 25 science fiction stories arranged alphabetically by author.

The first story is by Brian Aldiss and is titled "Let's be Frank." The last author is Zelazny. (The only unrepresented letter is 'X'.)

Editor: Unknown
Publisher: Unknown

If you have any information about this book (and any future Search requests), or to list a "Lost" book, please contact Chuck Murphy, 6219 Capella Avenue, Burke, VA 22015, phone 703-866-9112. Please include your name and phone number with area code so I can people in touch with one another.

Be on the Lookout For Graphics!

I'm looking for good Sci-fi graphics to include in future issues of the newsletter. Pls submit any TIF files on disk to our P.O. Box or BBS.

ODDS AND ENDS

To submit movie/book reviews for our newsletter, please mail your story on 5 1/4" IBM-PC formatted floppy disk (preferably in WordPerfect 5.0 or 5.1 format). You can also download your story onto our BBS. If you have some other IBM PC word processor, please contact AI at 384-6868 to see if we can use your format. Please specify how you want your by-line to read (i.e., do you want your full name credited, or do you prefer first name, last initial?)

This newsletter was edited/produced by AI at GRYPHON Microproducts. Special thanks go to the writers of the articles (especially Carl and Peter who have written enough so far to fill a novel), and to Peter et al for copying, stuffing, and mailing...

Electronic Bulletin Board/Free Dating Service.

Gryphon Microproducts has an electronic bulletin-board. To access it (you need a modem, of course), dial (301)384-7238. You can call in at 1200/2400 baud with settings of N,8,1. To get to the Bi/Gay/Lesbian conference, select J for Join Conferences -- from the main menu, and enter GLIB for the conference name. You may also choose SCI-FI for the Science Fiction Conference. There is also a FREE dating service. To access it, select S for Survey System -- from the main menu, and Choose the Dating Survey.

NEXT MEETING NOTICE

Meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at 2:00 on Sunday January 13th at Jim's apartment, 1414 17th St., N.W., #413 We hope to see everyone there! Please bring some interesting munchies (not all sweets this time pls...)