PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (301) 445-5650 - Issue #24 - March 1992

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

("Of Gay Transvestite Streets . . . ")

by Loree Cook-Daniels

The highlight of this meeting was probably its end, when a few of us dissolved in laughter over Scott and Will's renditions of a story line in the comic book "Doom Patrol" (or was it "Sandman" --- my notes are rather weird at this point!). The story line involved "Danny" (a gay transsexual street that communicates through billboards and graffiti), a pregnant lesbian (complete with a newlyminted LSF gesture to describe "lesbian"), and assorted other characters. Those who weren't continued on page 2

Lost at the December "Video Madness" Party at Jaime's: A wooden stool that collapses flat. Jaime says someone volunteered to return it to its rightful owners (Marcelle and Loree); but they haven't yet seen it. If you have it, please call Marcelle or Loree at (301) 445-5650. Thanks!

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER:

Another "Video Madness" Party as reported by Carl Cipra



It was a dark and stormy night . . . (Well, maybe not "stormy" -- but definitely a "rainy" night!) and about twenty hardy souls braved the elements to drive out to Manassas for the latest Lambda Sci-Fi "Video Madness" Party. And the event was well worth it, too!

Our host, Linton Lee, had stocked his "Cosmic Age Bookstore" with free soft drinks and salads and tempted us all with a 10% discount on books. The pot luck dinner was, as always, a huge success! (In fact, all of us were a bit on the "huge" side after that meal!) I think the hit of the dessert table was Wayne #2's deep-dish, killer chocolate mousse pie!

We had the usual bewildering variety of videos to choose from; and our choices were (again, as usual) un-usual! The chosen videos were divided up between three venues: "out front" (in the store proper), "in back" (in the back office), and "upstairs" (in the loft). And here's what we ended up seeing: continued on page 5

LOST & FOUND In This Issue.

an ins issue.
February Meeting Minutes — — — — 1
"Video Madness" Party Report ————————————————————————————————————
Lost & Found ————————————————————————————————————
Child of the Grove (Book Review) ————— 3
EveCon 9: A Review — — — — — 4
Trek Bashing ——————— 6
Lambda Sci-Fi Directory Update — — — — 6
Information about Lambda Sci-Fi —————— 6
Did You Know? 7
The Mapmaker's Daughter (Book Review) ————— 7
Con Calendar — — — — — 8

FEBRUARY MINUTES

continued from page 1

captivated by the story were apparently quite amused by those of us who were. Perhaps you had to be there . . . (I certainly will never forget it!)

NETWORK NEWS

We did, of course, start with business. Lots of Gaylactic Network news:

- the Network now has its own P.O. box;
- Third Coast Gaylaxians of Chicago are now officially part of the Network;
- two new clubs, MAGE (Mid-Atlantic Gaylactic Entitities) in Baltimore and Teserract: Gaylaxians London, have applied for membership in the Network:
- rumor has it that seven more clubs have formed across the country (and in Australia) and may soon be heard from;
- and the Network officers have been installed:

Speaker: Robert B. Gowan (photo pending)

Publicist: Our very own Noel Welch

Newsletter: Bob Peterson **Correspondent**: Frank

Hummel

GNAPA editor: Jed Shumsky Postal clerk: Denise Thornhill Treasurer: Andrew Rosenthal

We also had two Network-related decisions to make (in response to Jed's GNAPA #2). After considerable discussion, we overwhelmingly agreed that the Network should take

over coordination of the "gays on Star Trek" campaign. We also repeated our suggestion that the Network should request the Boston Gaylaxians to sign over the "Gaylaxicon" name to the Network. (As per our previous suggestion, the Network Board would "certify" that clubs that wish to host a Gaylaxicon have the means to carry out the task, and Gaylaxicon members would choose which bid to accept. This process is similar to what is used by some other "floating" cons, like Worldcon.)

LSF NEWS

One of our members, Vicki Yehling, was pictured and named in a Washington Blade "Out in Numbers" article about the Clan of the Blue Feather, a group within the Society for Creative Anachronism that studies medieval gay life.

We decided to send a letter to MAGE, the new Baltimore group, congratulating them on their formation, asking whether they are sponsoring a party at Balticon, and offering our help if they would like it.

We briefly discussed Pride Day; but beyond urging people to begin thinking about what they'd like to do with our booth this year, we postponed any decisions.

We also discussed the upcoming February 15th "Video Madness" party at member Linton Lee's bookstore; and Linton reminded us that he gives LSF members a 10% discount at his store.

GAYLAXICON IV NEWS

Our guest artist, Tristan Alexander, graciously provided us with several designs for name badges for us to choose from. One vote broke a three-way tie, which must mean that we were pleased with what we saw . . .

Tristan also sent us a new design for the T-shirts and program book. A lively discussion ensued about what does and what doesn't constitute "erotica" to Lesbians and Gay men (with the only two Lesbians in the room publicly admitting to the heresy that they are NOT turned on by drawings of orchids), and whether Lesbians will buy products that Gay men think are erotic. (Again, the two lesbians committed yet more heresy by saying that they would.) In the end, however (pun intended), we all decided we'd like to take another look at some of the other designs Tristan has previously sent us. We'll look them over at the Feb. 15th "Video Madness" party.

We also heard that there will be another SF convention in Philadelphia on the same weekend as Gaylaxicon IV. We immediately dubbed it "The straightest Con in history." We unanimously agreed that we ought to extend an invitation to that Con to host a straight party at Gaylaxicon IV.

Jaime announced that he's looking for Go-fers for Gaylaxicon. Other announcements included: the Sunday continued on page 5



A REVIEW OF TANYA HUFF'S CHILD OF THE GROVE

(and of Tolkien, Shakespeare, and the Dead End Kids) by Joseph Parra



Let me start off by saying that I have a general dislike for historical fantasy novels. Tanya Huff's Child of the Grove is a historical fantasy novel. It is, however, quite charming and disarming, owing more than a passing nod to Lord of the Rings, Henry IV and Henry V, and "Angels With Dirty Faces."

This is an epic saga of God (here known as the Mother-Creator) and Her creations. Some of the creations are good (e.g. The Hamaldryad---seven lesser Goddesses, daughters of the Mother); some are essentially indifferent (e.g. Lord Death---who is guess who? and the only son of the Mother); and some are quite evil (wizards).

We enter the action in a Middle Age, after "the Doom." "The Doom" was an all-out war in which the wizards (males and females) were feeling their oats and created dragons out of the earth and their own essences. But, like all good monsters, the dragons turned on their creators and wiped them out to a man (note that phrase!). We then come forward in time to humans preparing for a war. Two kingdoms are about to come to blows; but we are concerned (character-wise) primarily with the inhabitants of the "good" kingdom. They are King Raen, Prince Rael, and the prince's mother, Milthra. Milthra is one of the seven daughters of the Mother (as mentioned earlier);

and though his Mom is an immortal, the prince is only a demi-god. The prince must learn the "art" of war, since he is the heir to the throne. His mother isn't too pleased about this, but knows it's inevitable. She doesn't live with the boy or his Dad; she must remain with her sisters in an area called The Grove. It is, of course, a sacred place. To make a long story short, these folks only occupy a quarter of the novel; but they set the stage for future events.

The remaining threequarters of the novel is occupied by their descendants, in particular a lovely young girl named Crystal. Crystal is a princess and Crystal is also a wizard. But she is a good wizard and has been taught her craft by dwarves and centaurs. She is being prepped for war. (These people are always fighting!) Ah, but this is no ordinary war. Remember the earlier phrase: "to a man." There is another wizard named Kraydak, who is part Machiavelli and part Vincent Price and all nasty and quite murderous. This war is inevitable, since the wizards must fight it out to the death. Therein lies the conflict that forms the basis of the saga.

The basic text is very
Tolkien-like. This is very
enjoyable, since it captures some
of the better moments of that
world without dwelling on them.
The beginning of the book (the

first quarter) is so very reminiscent of Shakespeare's young Prince Hal growing into the fierce yet compassionate warlord Henry V as to be different primarily by their being magical beings. (Prince Rael even has a "Falstaff"---a dwarf Captain of the Guards!)

And now for the comparison to the Dead End Kids. For some unfathomable reason, several characters speak street-English, and pretty Americanized street-English at that. A young squire says: "Hey, you guys! Hey, you okay? [!] Yeah!" Maybe this was for some sort of class-distinction effect; but surely something else could have been placed there besides anachronistic expressions. This, and an occasional wordiness toward the end, are the only faults of what is otherwise a highly entertaining chronicle. A pity there are no Gay or Lesbian characters, but you can't have everything. As I said earlier, this type of tale is not my normal cup of tea. Every now and then, though, a cup of coffee is delicious, too!

ΛΨΦ

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a series of articles reviewing the works of Tanya Huff, Guest of Honor at Gaylaxicon this year. When Joe graciously agreed to write this review, I decided to hold off on my "double" review until next month.

EVECON 9: A REVIEW

by Norman

[Editor's Note: This review was originally scheduled for last month's newsletter; but . . . uh . . . it fell into a timewarp! Yeah, that's it! It fell into a timewarp, see? And it popped out into this month's newsletter!]

It was a dark and stormy night . . . it was actually the afternoon, but it was stormy. Peter, Michael, and I arrived at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza-National Airport. I was psyched! I was really looking forward to this con. EveCon 8 was the first con I had ever attended, and it was MOST festive. I even made Michael join EveCon 9 early because EveCon 8 was SO much fun. The first thing that struck me in the parking lot was the absence of pink triangle bumper stickers as compared to last year.

After we braved the elements and arrived inside, we did the usual sign-in, badge procedure. We met up with Carl, Randy, and Chris and began making plans for the panels that we would attend. We checked our programs and decided to attend the "Costuming to Body Type" panel and then the "Human Touch" panel moderated by the Moyer twins. (NOTE: Peter and I ripped off--oops, I mean "were inspired by"--the Moyers' panel for our "Dating 101" panel at last year's Gaylaxicon.)

The costuming panel certainly had its moments. The moderator was a theater person (dare I say it?--a "straight" theater queen) and basically said to exercise common sense and honesty when you design a costume for yourself. I must note that he took every opportunity to promote his fur-skin booth at the hucksters' row---much to Chris' chagrin.



Speaking of huckster's row, it was a let-down overall; but if you were looking for swords or other weapons, it was great. After the costume panel, we went to the "Human Touch" panel---BIG mistake! This panel was VERY het! The Movers' panel last year was entertaining and informative. This year's panel, however, was moderated by this (I hate to be judgmental, but . . .) DWEEB het male, and the Moyers' only made comments here and there. And in ALL honesty, I feel sorry for straight women because they have to put up with men like him. Chris was an intelligent person and left in the middle of the panel to attend the dating panel that was moderated by the costuming person I talked about earlier.

After the panel we wandered about for a bit, and I saw this cute blonde dressed in "ecclesiastical drag" as a pope. He was wearing white vestments, a miter, and yeti boots. Being the Italian that I am, I immediately asked Peter for a handkerchief (may the Southern belles forgive me for not having one with me!) and I waved it in his direction. He immediately took the cue and came right over to offer us an indulgence, a one-night wedding, or an exorcism from a bad relationship. Since I needed none of these, I was at a loss for what to ask. Fortunately, Randy was a quick thinker, and he asked for a "general indulgence." The pope handed Randy his papal bull, signed "Pope Yeti." (In ALL honesty, this was one of the high points of EveCon 9 for me.)

After this, we regrouped to have dinner, watch ST:TNG, and to

get ready for the Lambda Sci-Fi party. I had left-over fried chicken, greens, and hoppin' John [Ed. note: ?] at home, so I invited Peter, Carl, Michael, and Randy to my house for dinner. We had lost contact with Chris, who had gone off to another panel without us. Michael had out-of-town guests that weekend, so he left us at this point to play host. (Actually, he had had ENOUGH of EveCon 9 as well!)

After dinner, we returned to the hotel to prepare for our party and for the "Bash" that evening. We had also planned a surprise party for Peter's birthday. Noel, Wayne, and Jim arrived with enough food for two armies; and we, of course, already had enough food for another army. At this time we decided to go down to the dance that had been SO much fun last year. However, this year it just wasn't there! We managed to attract the attention of this man in an Airborne T-shirt, they played Madonna's "Vogue", and Thom W. was a fun dance partner---but the mood was just wrong, almost oppressive. We returned to our party upstairs and remained there for most of the evening. Perhaps I had built up EveCon 9 too much by expecting it to be like EveCon 8.

The consensus of opinion is that it was a bad con overall for all of us. However, I do think that we should keep a "presence" there and perhaps at some point consider tapping into their advertising potential. And who knows, maybe at some point Randy can cash in that "general indulgence" from Pope Yeti . . .

ΛΨΦ

FEBRUARY MINUTES

continued from page 2

luncheon will be at 1:30, after the auction. The Guests of Honor speeches will be at 8:00 PM on Saturday.

WIDER WORLD NEWS

We got an update on a new Godzilla movie (complete with a pass-around copy of a front-page *Show* article) and discussed whether Godzilla movies were racist and, if so, against whom. (Answers: "yes" and "everyone.") (Author's aside: This meeting spawned some particularly wild conversations. What WAS in that dip?!?)

Dr. Who is being retelecast FROM THE BEGIN-NING. So, if there are any non-Whovians out there who want to know what all the fuss is about, now's your chance! The episodes are aired Saturdays at 11:30 PM on Maryland Public Television. [Ed. note: That's right after the new season of "Red Dwarf" episodes, which air at 11:00 PM!]

The Sci Fi Channel is

NOT -- contrary to what I
reported here last month -linking up with Paramount.

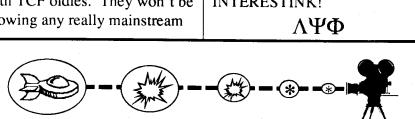
Twentieth-Century Fox has,
however, cut it a very good deal,
so the channel will be saturated
with TCF oldies. They won't be
showing any really mainstream

stuff and hope to be on the air by September. HOWEVER, there's no guarantee the channel will be carried by a cable station near you. The only way to see it is to SIT DOWN AT A DESK and WRITE (yes, WRITE!) a letter to your cable company begging them to put it on the air. Or wire. Or whatever it is they call it. Anyway, YOU, dear cable subscriber, must make it happen. So get writing!

MORE TIDBITS

Another remake of Dracula is on the way. ---"Mystery Science Theatre 3,000" on basic cable's Comedy Central channel is highly recommended by several LSFers. ---Peter Cushing is VERY ill. ---"Kids in the Hall" was also recommended by several LSFers. (Although it has nothing to do with sf/fantasy, it does have recurring gay characters and is quite funny.) --- The comic book "Flash" has now talked about using "protection" during sex; and "Swamp Thing" may have a recurring gay character. (Did I get this right?)

That's it for me for this month! If you don't come to our meetings, you really ought to.
They can be VERRRRRRYYY INTERESTINK!



"VIDEO MADNESS" PARTY

continued from page 1

"Out Front":

- (1) the recent "Quantum Leap" gay episode
- (2) "Shada" (the unfinished/unaired "Dr. Who" episode)
- (3) "Masters of Venus" (an eight-part 1959 British serial)
 "In Back":
- (1) "The Rocky Horror Picture Show"
- (2) "Quatermass and the Pit" (the 1958 BBC version)
- (3) "Killer Clowns from Outer Space"

"Upstairs":

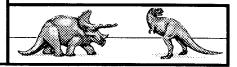
- (1) the "Get A Life" episode with "Spewie the Alien"
- (2) a number of Bugs Bunny cartoons
- (3) "The Princess Bride"
- (4) "Highlander"

(NOTE: The last three "upstairs" selections were shown on Noel's videodisc player.)

What with browsing around the store, stuffing our faces, and watching videos, the time really flew! Before I knew it, it was 3:00 AM Sunday morning, and I decided I'd better hit the road! (And I assure you that I wasn't anywhere near the last one to leave!)

Thanks, Linton, for hosting this great party! And thanks, everyone else, for attending and bringing good food and bringing nifty videos!

ΛΨΦ





TREK BASHING

by Noel Welch



Where to begin? Well, let's see how many people I can annoy by saying that "STVI" is an incredibly boring movie (with the exception of the action sequence near the end). This movie has plot holes a blind person could see. I won't go into detail, except to say that having Spock slap a tracking device that stood out like a sore thumb on Kirk's shoulder go completely unnoticed by anyone, was far worse than watching the sets shake in "STV".

While I'm in a Trekbashing mood (but don't misunderstand me, I'm still a fan!), I now understand why media-SF gets such a bad rap from true fandom. ST:TNG has fallen into the old "formula" rut. It's a rare episode wherein neither the ship nor an entire planet is in some dire peril, only to have either Data or Ensign Crusher save the day. (Prime example: Bringing back Wesley this season for the "Games" episode.) This sort of drivel would gag a tribble!

Maybe a letter-writing campaign should be started to get Paramount to hire some real writers for the show?!

ΛΨΦ

LAMBDA SCI-FI DIRECTORY UPDATE

We're planning to produce an updated LSF membership directory in March. That means we'll need to know whether the information we <u>currently</u> have is correct or not.

Please advise Peter at the March 8th LSF meeting of any necessary changes/updates/etc. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please drop us a note at the club's P.O. Box or leave a recorded message on Peter's answering machine. Thanks.

ΛΨΦ

HA

HAVE YOU MADE PLANS FOR GAYLAXICON IV YET? IF NOT, WHY NOT?

Don't miss out on all the fun! See the "Con Calendar" (page 8 of this newsletter) for details.



* * INFORMATION ABOUT LAMBDA SCI-FI: DC AREA GAYLAXIANS * *

Lambda Sci-Fi is a Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror fan club for Gay people and their friends. Annual membership fees are \$10, for which you will receive this monthly newsletter and a membership directory. Newsletter submissions are always welcome.

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 PM on **Sunday**, **March 8th**, at Jim C.'s apartment: 1414 17th St., NW, Apt. 413 (near Dupont Circle). 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.

DID YOU KNOW?

by Carl Cipra

We're coming up on an anniversary for Lambda Sci-Fi!
That's right---LSF will begin it's third year of existence with our March meeting! Our first meeting was held on March 14, 1990, at Loree & Marcelle's house in Takoma Park. There were nine interested parties in attendance (Barrett, Carl, Loree, Marcelle, Bruce G., Tom H., Peter, Al, and Jim W.). HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!!!!

Wayne N. (in case you're keeping track, that's "Wayne #2", the one whose clothes frequently match Noel's) got bored sitting around the house one day last month; so he collated, stapled, and mailed out the entire February newsletter all by himself! Thanks, Wayne!

The "gays in Star Trek" campaign has received support from a "fascinating" source. It seems that the Los Angeles Times ran an article reporting the rumor that gay characters would be appearing in ST:TNG. In response to that article, Leonard ("Mr. Spock") Nimoy sent in a "letter to the editor" which was printed on 11/6/91 and which said (in part): "... it is entirely fitting that gays and lesbians 'will appear unobtrusively aboard the Enterprise--neither objects of pity nor melodramatic attention." [I took this little tidbit from Frank Hummel's flver "Where None Have Gone Before: Update #2", dated 2/7/92.]

ΛΨΦ

THE MAPMAKER'S DAUGHTER

by M.C. Helldorfer, illustrated by Jonathan Hunt a book review by Carl Cipra

I don't know if any of the rest of you are like me; but I have always had a fondness for illustrated children's books. And The Mapmaker's Daughter is one of the best I've seen in some time! It's certainly a beautiful book; the illustrator obviously did a lot of research into the art, costumes, architecture, and plant life of several Eastern lands (such as Saudia Arabia, India, and ancient Persia). This book is also a special treat in that it contains feminist themes of interest to our club.

This wondrous tale is set "in the days when wild and lonely places lay between kingdoms." Suchen, an only child, is learning her father's mapmaking trade. For years, Suchen's father has been providing travelers, explorers, and knights errant with maps to the place known as Turnings---but no one has ever returned! Rumor has it that a witch has encircled Turnings with a powerful spell and that she keeps all these adventurers imprisoned in her castle.

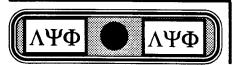
One night, a prince purchases a map from Suchen and sets off in search of Turnings. When the King finds out, he is furious and orders the arrest of both Suchen and her father; but he relents when Suchen volunteers to go off in search of the prince herself. Thus, Suchen begins a magical quest in the fine old fairytale tradition---a quest filled with riddles and wonders galore.

As expected, Suchen eventually confronts the witch in her castle, foils her spells, and rescues the prince. Surprisingly, however, she <u>doesn't</u> marry the prince and live happily ever after. Instead, Suchen <u>does</u> accept the prince's gifts of "a fine horse and red cape . . . which she wore on her next adventure." [End of Story]

The story follows typical fairytale themes, but (except for the witch) not fairytale stereotypes. Suchen is an intelligent, capable young girl learning the non-"feminine" trade of mapmaking; and she becomes an adventurer in her own right. She doesn't just sit around waiting to be rescued, dreaming of her Prince Charming. Her story is a quest for personal growth and achievement. Her very name reinforces this concept, since "suchen" is the German verb meaning "to search" or "to seek."

I highly recommend this beautiful book. In fact, I can hardly wait for the next one so I can find our what Suchen's "next adventure" will be!

ΛΨΦ







Con Calendar

by Carl, Peter, and Noel



March 13-15, 1992 **DEMICON 3**: Holiday Inn Chesapeake House (Aberdeen, MD). This is a convention "designed for people who are into role-playing games and wargames." Cost is \$16 until February 15, 1992 and \$20 at the door. Room rate is \$69 for one occupant and \$10 more for each additional occupant. Make checks payable to "Harford Adventure Society" and send to: Harford Adventure Society, c/o The Strategic Castle, 114 N. Toll Gate Road, Bel Air, MD 21014.

April 10-12, 1992 TECHNICON 9: Donaldson Brown Center (Blacksburg, VA). Guest of Honor: Tom Deitz. Pre-registration cost is \$21 (\$23 at the door, \$13 day-pass). Room rate is \$46 (sgl), \$54 (dbl). For more information (and send checks to): Technicon 9, c/o VTSFFC, PO Box 256, Blacksburg, VA 24063-0256

April 17-19, 1992 BALTICON 26: Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: Donald Kingsbury, Christopher Rowley, David R. Palmer, Shiela Finch, Thomas T. Thomas, Christopher Hinz, Elizabeth Moon, Josepha Sherman, Michael F. Flynn (the past nine Compton Crook Award winners for the "best new novelist of the year"); Featured Artist: Guy Frechette. Cost is \$27.50 until March 15, 1992. Make checks payable to "Balticon 26" and send to: BSFS, Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203. Hotel rooms cost \$74 per nite for up to four people in a room.

May 23-25, 1992 **DISCLAVE 1992**: Washington Hilton, 1919 Conn. Ave. NW (*New Site!*). Guests of Honor: Pat Cadigan and Tom Kidd. Special Guest: Hal Clement. Cost is \$25 until April 30th (\$30 at the door). Rooms are \$85/night (sgl to quad). To register, make checks payable to "Disclave '92" and send to: Dan Hoey, Registration, Box 677, Washington, DC 20044-0677. (Ed. - That's just a few boxes down the row from **our** PO box!)

July 17-19, 1992 **GAYLAXICON IV**: Guest Quarters Hotel (Philadelphia, PA). Guest of Honor: Tanya Huff; Artist Guest of Honor: Tristan Alexander. Cost is \$20 through April 30, 1992, \$25 through June 30, 1992, \$30 at the door. Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon IV" and send to: Gaylaxicon IV, PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044.

August 14-16, 1992 **TREKCON '92**: Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza (Rockville, MD). A Trek/fantasy/sci-fi/media con. Guests: James Doohan ("Scotty"), John deLancie ("Q"), William Campbell ("Trelane"), Robin Curtis ("Saavik"), Marc Okrand (Klingon linguist). Cost: \$32 for weekend pass, \$16 for day pass. Make checks payable to "TrekCon '92" and send to: TrekCon '92, PO Box 211, Burtonville, MD 20866

September 3-7, 1992 MAGICON, the 50th World Science Fiction Convention: Orange County Convention and Civic Center and Peabody, Clarion, and Quality Inn Plaza Hotels (Orlando, FL). Guests of Honor: Jack Vance and Vincent DiFate. Cost (attending) is \$95 until March 31, 1992 and \$110 until July 15, 1992. Make checks payable to "MagiCon" and send to: MagiCon, PO Box 621992, Orlando, FL 32862-1992.

November 13-15, 1992 **PHILCON '92**: The Adam's Mark Hotel (Philadelphia, PA). Principal Speaker: Greg Bear, Guest Artist: Boris Vallejo. Cost is \$20.

September 2-6, 1993 **CONFRANCISCO**, the 51st World Science Fiction Convention: Moscone Convention Center (San Francisco, CA). Guest of Honor: Larry Niven; Artist Guest of Honor: Alicia Austin. Cost (attending) is \$85 after December 31, 1991; and cost will rise appreciably at later dates. Hotels will be announced in upcoming progress reports. Make checks payable to "ConFrancisco" and send to: ConFrancisco Registration, 712 Bancroft Road, Stc. 1993, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.