



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (301) 445-5650 - Issue #30 - Sept. 1992

INVITATION TO A DOUBLE DOSE OF LSF "VIDEO MADNESS"!!!!

by Carl Cipra

Hot diggity dog! It's time to sweep out those padded cells and take the straitjackets out of mothballs! Lambda Sci-Fi is on the road to "Video Madness" again ---and this time it's a double dose!!! That's right! The demand for more "Video Madness" events was overwhelming (dare I say "frenzied?") at the August 9th meeting; so we've scheduled TWO of 'em, one in September and one in October! Here are the details:

SEPTEMBER 19th (Sat.)
(week following Sept. meeting)

The party will take place at LSFer Linton Lee's "Cosmic Bookstore" out in Manassas, VA. (In case you don't remember, we held one there back in February.) The address is 10953 Lute Court, Manassas, and the phone number is (703)330-8573. You should plan to arrive about 5:00 PM; and Linton will close the doors to the public at 6:00 PM. NOTE: It's a **BOOKSTORE**, gang; and Linton offers a 10% discount off his already-bargain-basement prices to all LSF members!!!

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***** SPECIAL GAYLAXICON IV ISSUE *****

AUGUST MEETING MINUTES by Loree Cook-Daniels

We were supposed to have a pre-meeting meeting of the Gaylaxicon VI Con Committee; but it didn't actually start until 1:55 PM, so it wasn't exactly a PRE-meeting meeting...!

All agreed that Gaylaxicon IV went very, very well. Despite that success, however, the VI Con Committee will be all LSF members, so that we can keep better control over everything. The tentative dates are July 15-17, 1994. Noel reported that after talks with a couple Maryland suburb hotels, he had found no obvious choices. He'll keep looking. Lee will check on hotels in D.C., and Linton and Joe volunteered to help check out Crystal City hotels.

Carl recommended that we invite Tom Howell to be our Artist Guest of Honor. He passed around several of Tom's works and talked about his background and artwork, and everyone agreed that Tom would be our first choice.

There was no consensus on the Guest of Honor, and we decided to generate a list of possibilities for people to think about and then prioritize at the September meeting. In alphabetical order, they are: Gael Baudino, Emma Bull, Storm Constantine, A.C. Crispin, Diane Duane, Jewelle Gomez, Rebecca Ore, and Jessica Amanda Salmonson.

Joe suggested we also in-
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"VIDEO MADNESS" INVITATION

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Directions to Linton's Store:

Take your favorite route to I-66 to Prince William County, VA. Take Exit 47 towards Manassas. You're now on Sudeley Road (Rte. 234). Stay in the right lane. At the first light, turn right onto Ballsford Road. Take another right at New Market (first road you come to). Keep going all the way back into the parking lot, until you come up against the fence along I-66. The shop is to your left. (NOTE: If you need a ride or want to car-pool with someone, feel free to call around to other LSFers. You're certain to find someone willing to get you there and back!)

OCTOBER 10th (Sat.)

(the weekend the AIDS Quilt is in D.C. & the day before the Oct. LSF meeting)

The party will take place at the home of LSFer Jaime Innes. (We've had several "Video Madness" parties there, remember?) This one will start at 2:00 PM. Further details and directions in next month's newsletter.

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Each party will probably feature 2 or 3 screens for showing our favorite fantasy, sci-fi, and horror flicks (TV shows, too); so you should bring along any and all videotapes you think we'd get a

AUGUST MINUTES

(continued from page 1)

vite a Media Guest of Honor, and reported that he had had preliminary talks with a couple possibilities. The suggestions were: Forrest J. Ackerman, Christopher Lee, and Dick Sargent

Someone also suggested that we have the Guest of Honor's publisher put together something on her to be included in the packets.

A letter is to be mailed out to survey preferences about film programming. Some of the questions about this programming include whether or not to show serials and/or genre television.



kick out of. (No special themes for either of these events.) As always, the attendees will be voting on which videos will be shown. Remember: these are pot-luck dinner parties, too! Bring along some sort of edibles (salad, fried chicken, casserole, desserts, etc.), enough to feed 4-5 people.

So, there y'are! Mark your calendar now! Tell your friends, Renfield and Mad Meg, that Lambda Sci-Fi is on the road to "Video Madness" again---and again!! See you there!

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We concluded the "pre-meeting meeting" by briefly talking about some problems with IV and suggestions for VI, including: There were complaints about people walking in and out of panels and standing in doorways talking during panels -- could we do something about that? Could we screen panelists to make sure they're appropriate? Could the hospitality room be on the first floor or at least better tied into the rest of the Con? Could we have some panels that are longer? Could we have a moderator training session? And, can we ask Lambda Rising to do a window display on F&SF during the Con? We also decided that the next Con meeting will be at 1:00 PM, just before the next meeting.

We began the REAL meeting with Peter giving a lovely impromptu overview of LSF for visitors and new members. Then, to thank him for co-chairing Gaylaxicon IV, he was presented with a stunning earcuff and our heartfelt thanks.

As usual, we had lots of stuff to pass around: some comics from New York entitled *Tales of the Closet*; a Marvel swimsuit issue with superhero models; *TV Guide* clippings on the Olympics (Tarzan actors who were Olympic competitors); clippings on *Terminator II*; various con flyers; information about a "WorldCon for \$1" raffle; Dr. Who mags; a *Starlog*; a *Cinefantastique*; and the second issue of the Tleilaxu newsletter.

Peter showed off his Star

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GAYLAXICON IV T-SHIRTS

Did you forget to purchase one of those INCREDIBLE Gaylaxicon IV T-shirts at the con? Or, even worse, did you miss out on Gaylaxicon completely this year? Well, don't despair!! You've still got a chance to own your own Gaylaxicon IV T-shirt!

Actually, you've still got 38 chances to own one, because that's how many are left over! Here's the breakdown of what's left: 5 Small, 7 Medium, 9 Large, and 17 Extra-large. (Sorry, all XXL's have been sold.)

All you have to do to get one of your very own (or several of your very own--we don't mind) is give Peter \$9.50 per shirt (the same price you would have paid at the con), or make out a check to "Gaylaxicon" for the appropriate amount and mail it to the club's P.O. Box address. (We'll cover the shipping costs.)

So what are you waiting for? Don't be the only one on your block not to own one!! *Tempus fugit!* [Ed. note: That's Latin for "Get off your butt and send us your money!"]

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LOREE'S NOTES ON GAYLAXICON IV

by Loree Cook-Daniels

How come these conventions always come when I'm physically not at my best? This time I was recovering from hernia surgery and a too-abbreviated recovery period; so I spent lots of time in our room, resting. Oh well . . .

I did make it to a few things (besides, as it goes without saying, every single meal!). One was the Masquerade party, although we made it in too late for the show itself. Marcelle and I were not only trying to dye my hair black (which worked fairly well), but also to darken my skin with dark makeup. That most emphatically did NOT work; so we had to wash it all off after we had painstakingly gotten it on! For those of you who missed us, we went as Cat and Lister from *Red Dwarf*. It turned out that I LOVED it! Marcelle's always said she was a gay man in a former life; and it seems that perhaps I was, too. I certainly enjoyed being all decked out in a shiny black suit with lots of lace and rhinestones. And I thought Marcelle was quite hot as Lister. Too bad I was too damned

tired for any after-party partying!

I also went to a few panels, including the slide show on women cartoonists (wonderful!) and the panels "Changing Social Norms Through Hard SF," "Shock Treatment: Finding Gay Characters in the Strangest Places," and "Sociology of Media Fandom." I moderated the "Feminist Utopias" panel, which was--unfortunately--scheduled opposite the "Gay Spirituality" panel (which I had wanted to go to). I truly must have been tired--during the Utopias panel I managed to equate "conflict" with "violence," a mistake that could have gotten me "disbarred" from my "profession." But we recovered from that; and Jewelle Gomez especially had lots of interesting things to say. Best of all, the panel generated lots of titles of books about utopias; and I hurried over to the Dealers' Room afterwards and found most of them. I've now finished all the easy ones; and I'm waiting until I'm further recovered to tackle the hard ones. I'll keep you posted!

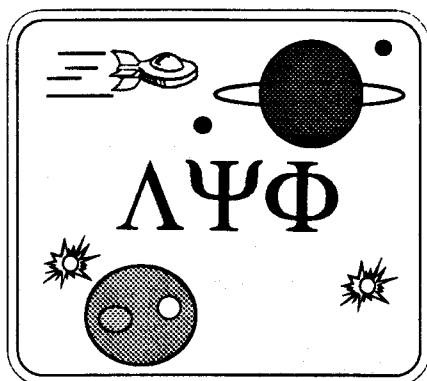
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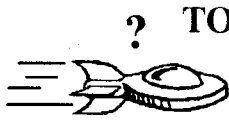
EDITOR'S CORNER by Carl Cipra

Well, I'd have bet you that I wouldn't have been able to fill this issue---and I'd (happily) have lost that bet!!! The response has been overwhelming! In fact, I received more than enough to fill this "Special Gaylaxicon IV Issue!" There's still Norman's article, the second installment of

Peter's *magnum opus*, and con-related book reviews by Loree and me. So, tell ya what I'm gonna do ---look for these items (and more!) in next month's issue of the Lambda Sci-Fi newsletter! Thanks, everybody, for all the nifty articles! Keep up the good work!

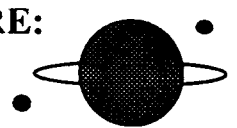
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? TO BOLDLY GO WHERE I'D NEVER GONE BEFORE: GAYLAXICON IV, A FIRST-TIMER'S VIEW

by Joe Parra



As I contemplated the whole experience of the convention I was about to go on, it occurred to me that I had heard so much about it (both pro and con) that I wondered if I would be able to look at things without a jaundiced eye. Here I was, about to room with a total stranger that was an ex-boyfriend of a friend, meet approximately 300 lovers of fantasy *et al* from across the hemisphere, wondering if I'd meet anyone that I would become friendly with (let alone be interested in romantically), and, above all (since LSF was co-hosting the event), wondering if the con would come off without a major hitch---after all, who wanted to hear total strangers bitch?

Well, my worrying was all for naught! If I had to lodge one major complaint, it would be that it was all over so damn quickly that it was a done deal before I could take a second breath. The hotel was absolutely lovely and extremely accomodating. I've heard from others since then about the hotel having to be fought with regarding a breakfast discrepancy; but I must say that none of this was visible to the naked eye. I asked for extra towels and received four extra. (No, I didn't steal them!). My roomie was a charming fellow with a wonderfully wicked sense of humor, and we got on famously. One of the things I was worried about in meeting the others (fellow Gaylaxians) was the "nerd factor." How many geeks and

losers and quoters-of-episode-numbers of *Star Trek* with coke-bottle eyeglasses and pocket-protectors would I encounter? Answer: NONE! While the vast majority of individuals I met were extremely well-informed folk, not one was wearing 200% polyester. But, of course, we are gay, *n'est pas?* (Also, thank God for my dear sister, Norman---a.k.a Clara Edwards of Mayberry, NC---for providing me with so many introductions to the populace.)

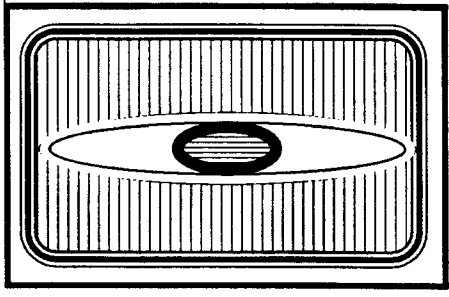
The discussion panels were, on the whole, marvelous. So many of the panelists were well-versed on their particular subjects. It was during the course of the panels that things occurred, however, which I feel must be addressed. In future cons, may I suggest that a policy of "door control" be instituted? By that, I mean that no one should be admitted or encouraged to leave a panel discussion once a discussion has begun---or even 10 minutes into it! No only was it extremely discourteous to the panelists, but the sound of the door opening and closing was really distracting.

As to meeting someone special at the con---for discretion's sake, let's just say I did more than all right. As Mae West said, he had nothin' to do and lots of time to do it . . . As to the con coming off without a hitch, it went as smoothly as an over-ripe peach down a toothless person's throat. I was made aware of "tremen-

dous" problems by the powers-that-be (Peter, Carl, Noel, and Lee); but, my dear lovely gentlefolk, believe me, these problems were inconsequential to the general conventioneer. One thing I would suggest for next time (What? Another complaint?) is some sort of a "screening process" be implemented with regards to "guests" of the con. A few individuals had credits which seemed amateurish. More than this, a few had severe attitudinal problems which unfortunately manifested themselves. One or two could have used a hairbrush across the ass. But enough on that.

Other conventions I'd gone to in the past were rather sterile affairs; but this one had life! love! happiness!! Gaylaxicon IV was without a doubt one of the best weekends I've ever had, bar none! The camaraderie and warmth of the attendees is something which I shall cherish for many a long evening. Kudos to our babies who got this spaceship off the ground, brought this monster to life, coaxed the genie out of the lamp and got her to stay for tea---to boldly go where no con had gone before . . .

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AUGUST MINUTES

(continued from page 2)

Fleet china set, a replica of what was used during the "Peace Dinner" in *ST VI: The Undiscovered Country*.

Peter also discussed some of the interesting ST info that *Cinefantastique* had published. Apparently Gene Roddenberry had wanted to make the Ferengi extremely well-endowed and had to be reminded that ST:TNG is a family show. Also, there was a story about how Roddenberry had been less than honest in his "support" of having a gay script or gay character.

We also discussed *ST: Deep Space Nine* updates. There should be a two-hour pilot in January '93, with the start of the series scheduled for September '93. It will have lots of conflict, and was described by Joe as being "*Gilligan's Island* turned serious, mixed with *Space 1999*." Whatever THAT means?!?!?

Noel announced that at Gaylaxicon IV he was appointed Correspondent for the Network as well as Publicist.

There was a brief thumbs up/thumbs down on current movies. Some of what I caught: *Mom & Dad Save the World*--thumbs up. *Death Becomes Her*--thumbs up. *Buffy the Vampire Killer*--thumbs up AND thumbs down. *Raising Cain*--wait for the video. *Universal Soldier*--nice "scenery."

Montgomery County Cable has announced that it WILL carry the SF Channel.

Carl asked for feedback on the newsletter, and we had an ex-

tended discussion about the con page, finally deciding that it doesn't all need to be in every issue. We were happy with everything else.

We set TWO "Video Madness" dates (see elsewhere in this issue); and we talked about how the Gaylactic Network could participate in choosing the F&SF winners for the Lammies. We'll pursue this one further.

Finally, we reminded everyone that our newsletter policy

is to print the full names of writers unless told otherwise, and that people should tell the minutes-taker if they want their last name withheld from this article.

Which reminds me -- I'm looking to give up being the automatic minute-taker. Is anyone interested in having the opportunity to make monthly, page one comments on our wild goings-on?!?!?

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GAYLAXICON V AND VI!!!

by Carl Cipra

Yes, Virginia there is going to be a Gaylaxicon in 1993! HOO-RAY! In fact, there's going to be a Gaylaxicon in 1994, too! DOUBLE HOORAY!! The happy tidings were announced at Gaylaxicon IV this year; so here are the latest details:

GAYLAXICON V

(July 16-18, 1993)

Site: Howard Johnson's at O'Hare Airport, Chicago, IL (rate: \$55/night - sgl/dbl)

Host: Third Coast Gaylaxians (with the able assistance of Great Lakes Gaylaxians)

Guest of Honor: Mercedes Lackey
Artists Guests of Honor: Larry Dixon, P.J. Alexander

Cost: thru 12/31/92 - \$15

1/1 - 4/30/93 - \$20

5/1 - 6/30/93 - \$25

after 6/30/93 - \$30

Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon V" and send to:

Gaylaxicon V

PO Box 608

Glen Ellyn, IL 60187-0608

GAYLAXICON VI

(July 15-17, 1994)

Site: to be announced (somewhere in the metropolitan D.C. area)

Host: Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians

Guest of Honor: to be announced
Artist Guest of Honor: Tom Howell

Cost: thru the end of Gaylaxicon V - \$12.50

from 7/19/93 thru the end of 1993 - \$15

(will increase thereafter)

Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon VI" and send to:

Gaylaxicon VI

PO Box 656

Washington, DC 20044

So there you have it, gang!
Join up now and join up often!
Don't miss out on all the fun!

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GAYLAXICON IV: A CON IN TWELVE ACTS



by Peter Knapp



ACT ONE: Inspiration (or, Why I Wore a Harness)

Being Co-Chair, Registrar, and Treasurer of Gaylaxicon IV, I realized that I had no time to make a costume for the Masquerade. I decided I could re-use my ST:TNG uniform, but only if it included a "twist." Thus was born the idea for a "Future Imperfect" skit. Since my ST:TNG uniform is very uncomfortable, I needed to have a different one for after the costume parade. Against Noel's warning regarding delays, I ordered a "pirate shirt" from International Male. They sent me a postcard indicating that the shirt was back-ordered. *Drat!*

About four days before the con, I saw a sign posted to a garbage can advertising a weekend "leather event," and the model in the ad was wearing a harness. I had my inspiration!

ACT TWO: Getting There (or, Why You Shouldn't Trust Peter to Navigate)

I knew the weekend was off to a "good" start on Thursday, when I dropped off my car at the shop to get new tires, went to dinner, and forgot to give the mechanics my car keys. They couldn't get started on my car until, thinking I was going to pick up the car, I came back with the keys. *Oops!*

Next, I picked up Norman and Bruce and brought them to my place to pack my bags for me. (Thank you, guys!) The next stop was Al's place. Unfortunately, Norman and Bruce had never been to Al's place, so I was the designated navigator. *Big Mistake.* After many wrong turns, several frantic calls to Al, and realizing there were two Exxon stations near his home (and that we were

circling around the wrong one), we found Al and wisked him away with us.

After an uneventful drive up to Philadelphia, we missed the hotel twice (guess who was navigating) and thankfully got to it on the third try. (If we hadn't, I think my three cohorts would have killed me!)

ACT THREE: Disaster (or, Never Trust Technology -- And I can say that, since I'm a computer specialist!)

After settling in, we got to work getting ready for the big day. Program packets were stuffed, Godzilla was inflated, and I set up my mother's computer to finish the badges and pocket schedules. To my horror, I discovered that the stupid machine would not print anything out. Al, Lester, and Rick spent hours diagnosing the problem---to no avail. (When we got back to DC, Rick conclusively determined that the printer was broken.) I figured: no problem, we'll deal with it tomorrow.

ACT FOUR: Dealing With It (or, Super Gofer Rick to the Rescue)

Jed and Karen led Rick and me to Kinko's on Friday afternoon so we could finish the badges. We ended up plugging in my mother's computer, generating the badges, copying the file to a 3½-inch disk (Lester was the consultant on how to format the disk---a lifesaver!), printing the badges on a Kinko's printer (at \$1.50 per six badges), running next door to xerox the newly-printed white badges onto Tristan's artwork, and cutting the badges apart with a paper cutter (Thanks, Karen!). We then rushed back to the hotel and were only an hour and a half late. The mob of people waiting for their badges was thankfully very understanding!

ACT FIVE: Super Gofer Number Two (or, How Thea Saved Dinner)

After we delivered the badges, registration began in earnest. I was given the task of on-site registration and got to take people's money. Oh, joy! Carl bought me dinner, and I attempted to eat it as I was registering people. Then this wonderful Jewish-mother-type named Thea sat down next to me and slowly took over on-site registration so I could eat my dinner at more than one bite every five minutes. Thank you, Thea!

ACT SIX: Dealing With It, Part II (or, Discussing Catering at 4:00 AM)

After Friday night activities wound down, Rick and I headed back into town to tackle the pocket program schedules. I have to admit that I was a little anal retentive about completing the schedule; but I did have fun and Rick offered a lot of moral support and editorial advice. He also told me to stop correcting things at about 3:00 AM, which was probably a Good Thing. Even though I transposed the *Psi* and the *Phi* in the club name, I think the schedule came out nice.

As we waited for the xeroxing, a fellow customer tried to sell us catering. We politely declined, pointing out that we were from DC.

As an added bonus, I invited Rick to spend the night (or should I say morning?) with me. It was well worth it!

[What will happen next? Will Peter retain his sanity? Will he retain his clothes? Will he have more "Close Encounters of the Bodily Kind?" Stay tuned for the next exciting installment of this article in next month's newsletter!!!! - - - Ye Olde Editor]

GAYLAXICON IV: THE FEELING OF COMMUNITY

by Carl Cipra

Did I enjoy Gaylaxicon IV? The answer is: YES, ABSOLUTELY! What were the highlights for me? Well, that's a little harder to answer, because there was SO much that was wonderful about it! There was Loree's panel on "Feminist Utopias" (fascinating discussion!), the "Vampirism and Homoeroticism" panel I moderated (ditto!), the Canadians (as always!), Tanya & Fiona and Severna & Vicki and Melissa & Lisa (All pairs of really neat women! You know, like our own Loree & Marcelle!), listening to Jewelle Gomez talk about anything, etc., etc., etc. Now, I grant you that I was just the *teensiest* bit stressed out early Friday evening (ahem); but even that couldn't detract from the overall afterglow that I felt (and still feel) about that weekend. Why? Because I spent the weekend doing things with and for a hotel full of Family and Friends, that's why. The feeling of Community and mutual support was overwhelming! And, for me, the weekend was bracketed by two contrasting incidents that served to highlight this feeling.

First, there was Friday, from late afternoon to early evening, when things didn't especially go as planned. That certainly wasn't my favorite part of the convention---but then maybe I'm just too much of a Virgo and an ISTJ for my own good! And yet, those difficult hours were exactly when the sense of Community really started to make itself felt! I choose to think that our special "dual citizenship," both as members of the gay/lesbian/bisexual community and as fen, brought this all about. Despite some last-minute registration and set-up problems and delays, there was no mob of outraged fandom to quell---people "handled" the situation and apparently decided that they weren't

going to let it spoil all the fun! I don't think any convention could have asked for a more understanding and considerate bunch of attendees. But that wasn't all! People seemed to come out of nowhere to help the harried con-comm members "take up the slack" and "fill in the cracks!" I couldn't possibly name them all; but several people come immediately to mind. There was Diane, who was visiting from San Francisco and attending her first con---she gave up the opportunity to schmooz at the "Meet the Pros Party" and instead helped me put together more con packets to cover the unexpected number of at-the-door registrants. There was Steve Z., who likewise missed that party so that the un-strategically-placed "T-shirt table" wouldn't be left unattended. And there was Thea---every time I turned around, there she was, being ultra-competent at whatever she helped with! To everyone of you who helped out during the course of the weekend---lesbian, gay, bisexual, straight, whatever---you have my eternal gratitude for being "part of the Family" and making Gaylaxicon IV a "go!"

The second incident was more poignant. It was very late Sunday afternoon, and Jed and Peter and I were sitting around the registration table, cleaning up the last details. We still had on our con badges and such (with me still wearing "The Red Shorts");

and the conversation was in a temporary lull. Then, I happened to catch sight of a mundane hotel guest staring at us; and, as he walked by, he grabbed his crotch! I'm afraid that I was staring---too dumbstruck to do anything else!---and he must have taken it as some sort of signal. He came back to the table and asked me, in a low voice: "Are you . . .?" The rest of the question remained unspoken, but I guessed at what he was asking; so I said: "Yes, we're gay." Then he said: "May I touch you?" I wasn't shocked into speechlessness, so I said: "No, I don't think so." Then he pointed back and forth between Jed and I and asked: "Are you . . . together?" When I told him no, he asked: "Then may I touch you?" I responded: "No, thank you." And, looking a little nervous (as if he'd made a Very Bad Mistake), he quickly walked away. The contrast between this incident and the rest of the weekend was both shocking and sobering. We three had just spent an entire weekend at the con being very openly and joyously (blatantly?) gay; and here was this poor man clandestinely looking for a "touch." From his appearance (that generalized look once called "Turanian") and his accent (definitely "English-as-a-second-language") and his demeanor, I got the impression that he was visiting from abroad and living a life that's more repressed than I'd like to think about. It made me appreciate all the more the sense of support and sharing I'd felt all weekend at Gaylaxicon IV---and, by extension, it made me realize just how special and precious our Community as a whole is.

Am I looking forward to seeing my Family again next year at Gaylaxicon V in Chicago? Need you ask?

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**** 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, September 13th**, 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.



Con Calendar

by Carl, Peter, and Noel



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.

September 24-27, 1992 **FIRST DISNEYANA CONVENTION**: Walt Disney World Resort.

October 9-11, 1992 **OKTOBERTREK '92**: Marriott Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD).

November 13-15, 1992 **PHILCON '92**: The Adam's Mark Hotel (Philadelphia, PA). Principal Speaker: Greg Bear, Guest Artist: Boris Vallejo. Cost is \$20 thru Sept. 15, then \$25 thru Nov. 1, and \$30 after that. Make checks payable to "Philcon '92" and send to: Philcon '92, PO Box 8303, Philadelphia, PA 19101.

November 27-29, 1992 **DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL MEETING XIV**: Holiday Inn, Timonium (Timonium, MD). Special Guests: Marion Zimmer Bradley (health permitting) and Katherine Kurtz; Artist GoH: Rillan MacDhai. Other Guests: Lisa Barnett, Julia Ecklar, Jacqueline Lichtenberg, Diana Paxson, Don Sakers, Melissa Scott, Hannah Shapero. Room rates are \$59/night (up to 4 people). Registration: \$28. Make checks payable to "Armida Council" and send to: Armida Council, P.O. Bxo 7203, Silver Spring, MD 20907.

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 until 9/30/92, \$95 for 10/1-12/31/92, \$110 for 1/1-3/31/93, and \$125 for 4/1-7/16/93. Hotels will be announced in upcoming progress reports. Make checks payable to "ConFrancisco" and send to: ConFrancisco Registration, 712 Bancroft Road, Ste. 1993, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

September 1-5, 1994 **CONADIAN**, the 52nd World Science Fiction Convention: Winnipeg Convention Centre (Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada). Guest of Honor: Anne McCaffrey; Artist Guest of Honor: George Barr. Cost (attending) is \$75 U.S. and \$85 Canadian until 12/31/92; cost will rise appreciably at later dates. Hotels will be announced in upcoming progress reports. Make checks payable to "Conadian" and send to: Conadian, P.O.B. 2430, Winnipeg, MB, R3C 4A7, Canada.

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NOTE: This is the new abbreviated form of the Con Calendar that we discussed at the August meeting.