



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (301) 445-5650 - Issue #35 - Feb. 1993

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

by Norman

Peter opened the meeting by explaining who we are and what we do. Then (of course) he plugged Gaylaxicon V and pointed out that con membership and club membership forms were available from him. He also issued a plea for volunteers at the con. Carl sent in his regards via Peter. (He was off meditating somewhere with Lambda Light.) Joe P. also sent in his regards via Peter. (He was still performing in The Alchemist. The club, of course, took credit for his stage success, as he was able to draw so many of us to see him at a recent performance! Actually, he really IS a sublime actor.) [Ed. note: For information on his next acting gig, see article elsewhere in this issue.]

NETWORK NEWS

(I heard that groan!)

Noel told us that Carl will be relinquishing his post as LSF's official representative as soon as a replacement is found; and we nominated and acclaimed Wayne #3 for the position. [Ed. note: Actually, I hadn't intended to quit quite so soon; but things worked out great after all!]

(continued on page 5)



GAYLACTIC GOSSIP

by Wayne Wilkening



This hopefully is my first of many submissions to Lambda Sci-Fi's newsletter. As new the Network Representative for the chapter, Carl suggested I keep everyone updated through a periodic column. I'll be here whenever there's any juicy Network tidbits to pass along.

I'd like to extend LSF's appreciation to Carl for an excellent tenure as Network Representative. Carl has decided to pass the reins so he can concentrate on other activities. He is very active with Gaylaxicon V, and you will certainly see the results of his time in Gaylaxicon V's progress reports and program book.

LSF TIDBITS: At our February 14th meeting, Noel Welch talked a bit about what is happening with Gaylaxians Inter-

national. After a bit of discussion, we voted to approve Noel as GI Coordinator. We also voted to grant GI permission to reprint articles from the LSF newsletter. We requested that articles be appropriately credited as to original author and source, and that any editing of an article be minimized or avoided if possible.

After some background on the difficulties GI has had since the Network's reorganization, we voted to approve a 6-month delay in GI's payment of annual dues. Noel said the delay was necessary to determine who was still a member of GI and to work on some internal GI affairs.

After our GI discussions, we talked about the status of Third Coast Gaylaxians. Many mem-

(continued on page 4)

In This Issue:

February Meeting Minutes --- 1
Gaylactic Gossip --- 1
The Fiendish Plot of "Catchy Lines" (trivia quiz) --- 2
Gays & Lesbians in Fantastic Films, Pt. 3 --- 3
Joe vs. The Mysterious Lady! --- 4
Editor's Corner --- 4
1993 Lambda Literary Finalists --- 5
Information about Lambda Sci-Fi --- 6
Con Calendar --- 6

THE FIENDISH PLOT OF "CATCHY LINES"

(Part 1)

or, Into Your Home!

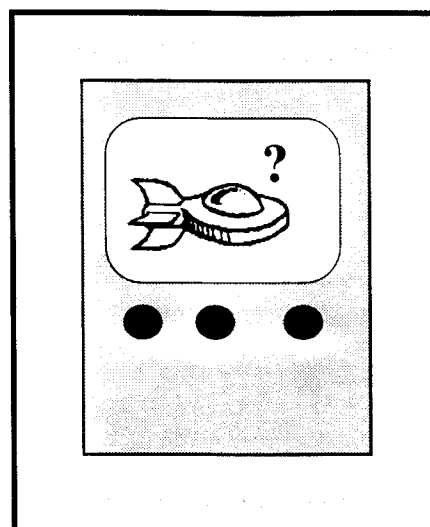
a trivia quiz by Joseph Parra

[Ed. Note: Joe decided it might be time to try something a little different again. So, here goes . . .!]

Isn't it amazing? There was a time when a TV set was an incredible luxury. Now, at least for three-quarters of the population, it's a necessity! Many of us grew up with TV. (I may have been a little different from most of my friends---my hero wasn't Davy Crockett or Napoleon Solo; he was Dr. Smith, or perhaps one of the other villains!)

Let's see just how much you remember about some of the fantasy, horror, or science-fiction series that have appeared on TV. Below are a list of 20 basic plotlines. Your task, should you decide to accept it, is to name the series based on each plot. Good luck!

1. Architect David Vincent takes a turn on a deserted road one night and stumbles upon a flying saucer landing. (ABC)
2. A well-to-do family in Maine is visited, practically daily, by a phenomenal share of the supernatural. (ABC)
3. A weekly series exploring various science fiction plots; it opens with a narrator who explains that your TV set is not malfunctioning. (ABC)
4. A space pilot in the near future is imbued with special powers that enable him to fight various giant monsters. (Syndicated)
5. A family and an enemy agent scientist encounter many adventures all throughout the Universe, but can't seem to get back to Earth. (CBS)
6. Napoleon Solo and Ilya Kuryakin are spies who each week thwart maniacs and madmen from conquering the world. (NBC)
7. An admiral invents a submarine; and he and his crew cruise the Seven Seas, encountering aliens, monsters, crazies, spies, etc. (ABC)
8. A college boy is infected with a horrid malady; and we get to see his cute body in various stages of undress every week. (Fox)
9. An Emmy-award-winning writer hosts this series of weekly tales, involving fantasy, horror, science-fiction, good, and evil. (CBS)
10. A garage mechanic is given pills by a scientist that turn him into a superhero for 30 minutes at a time. (CBS)
11. A spaceship and her crew are on a life-finding mission throughout the Universe. (NBC)
12. A crusading newspaper editor and his faithful chauffeur double as crime-fighters, but are thought of as "hoods" by both the police and the underworld. (ABC)
13. This daily show focuses on a cursed family in the Caribbean (not widely seen). (Syndicated)
14. Hosted by Truman Bradley, this weekly series is one of the first series to be produced in color in its initial season. (Syndicated)
15. A super hero is hen-pecked by his doting parents. (NBC)
16. The world's most inept spy somehow manages to thwart wily foes with the aid of his understanding, numbered assistant. (NBC, later CBS)
17. The Emmy-winning writer from #9 returns with this weekly series which involves works of art. (NBC)
18. A woman and her cousin inherit a curio shop where all the objects have been cursed by the devil. (Syndicated)
19. Two astronauts go up in space each week and encounter various phenomena, but not much life, in this late-'50's show. (CBS)
20. A unorthodox reporter uncovers monsters, mad scientists, madmen, and a doubting editor each week. (ABC)



..... (answers on page 4)

GAYS AND LESBIANS IN FANTASTIC FILMS

Part III: Science-fiction

by Joseph Parra

Isn't the image of Flash Gordon pleasant, guys? Ladies, have you looked longingly at Princess Leia? Have you noticed when watching these characters in films that maybe some of the other characters also look at them in more than a Platonic manner? Maybe yes, maybe no. Let's look at a few films where there is no question about it.

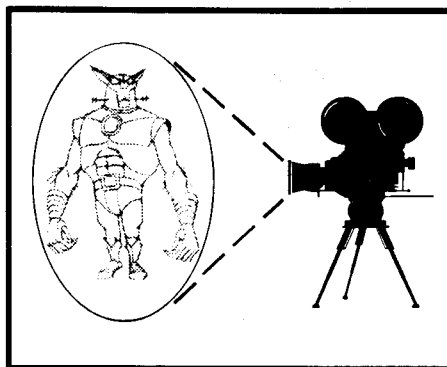
When Jane Fonda took off for the stars in *Barbarella*, she seemed to have sex with anything that moved. One part of the film that was daring for its time (1968) was to have the kinky leather Queen (a woman) very clearly lusts after Barbarella. From her very first statement ("Hello, Pretty-pretty!"--then licking her lips), the indications are clear. The Queen then tries to trap Barbarella into giving up her virtues! (*Hownasty!*) In the film *Dune*, Kenneth McMillan's disgustingly pustulent Baron Harkonnen openly lusts after Paul Atreides (Kyle MacLachlen), not for his essential essences, but for his essentials---period!

These examples would lead one to believe that, as far as outer space goes, gays and lesbians are simply thought of as villains. Luckily, C3PO of *Star Wars* and Prince Precious and his band of Merry Men from *Flesh Gordon* easily counter that thought. Is there anyone out there who did not think of C3PO as "family?" If there was ever a fuss-budgeted old

auntie queen, it's C3PO; and his love-hate relationship with R2D2 is simply too divine! (A bit of trivia here: the first gay robot was seen in Woody Allen's *Sleeper*.) Prince Precious and his band of Merry Men are more than eager to help Flesh and Dr. Flexi Jerkoff (!?) achieve their goals of rescuing Dale Ardor from Wang the Perverted and putting an end to his evil reign. (Wang, incidentally, lusts after anything and everything. At least he has no prejudices!)

With *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, we bridge a couple of gaps. First, though it involves extra-terrestrials, the film takes place here on Earth. Second, we have looked at both good folk and bad folk, but Dr. Frank N. Furter is neither! He's "just a sweet transvestite from transsexual Transylvania" who wants to make his own man in more ways than one. *The Man who Fell to Earth* also involves terrestrials and extraterrestrials. What is most interesting here, though, is that the gay character is a corporate CEO who works for the alien (David Bowie). Buck Henry plays the CEO without any campy stereotypical movements, even when shown at home with his lover. For 1977, this was especially enlightened.

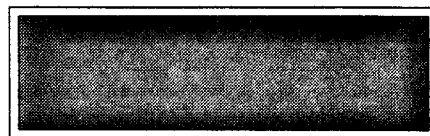
However, when dealing with earthbound science-fiction, we are back to our old homosexuals-as-villains theme. Not that I'm especially knocking it--Hell, any publicity is better than *no* publi-



city, I guess. In *Darkman*, Larry Drake (who plays Benny in *L.A. Law*) is a big-city gangster with a penchant for young men. He runs afoul of the title character, whom he inadvertently helped to create. With *Donovan's Brain* (and its earlier version, *The Lady and the Monster*), the gay character is the brain of a financial genius which takes over the body of a handsome scientist working in the lab instead of taking over a homely scientist who is also working there.

As we've seen, gays and lesbians do appear in fantastic films. Slowly, there has been a trend away from constantly portraying lesbians and gays as villains, which is nice. Soon maybe, our sexuality will be just another facet of our characters on screen. By making our opinions known, we can help to change the old stereotypical images. How do we do that? By buying tickets! We are still one of the biggest ticket-buying groups for horror, fantasy, and science-fiction films in the world. We have a voice. We consume. Or, to put it another way, we are what we eat!

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GAYLACTIC GOSSIP

continued from page 1

bers had strong reservations about Third Coast Gaylaxians "moving" from Chicago to Milwaukee (80+ miles). Some LSF members are concerned with the very bad precedent set when a chapter is allowed to be moved around the country following one or more of its members. Therefore I have requested the Network Board vote to complete the dissociation of Third Coast Gaylaxians, and am encouraging the group in Milwaukee to apply for Network membership as a new affiliate.

I informed the Network Board that LSF has offered to TRY to coordinate advanced housing for people who have difficulty finding housing for the March on Washington, but stressed that an advanced request is absolutely necessary. I also gave a blanket invitation to the Network to attend the April 24th "Video Madness" Party we're hosting to coincide with the March on Washington.

NETBITS: I gleaned these tidbits from the recent GNAPA (Vol 2 #8) and the January '93 issue of *The Lavender Dragon*, (Kindred Spirits newsletter). I'll be getting the all the combined newsletters from Peter soon and will include anything interesting from them in my next installment.

Kindred Spirits is a proud parent. They've recently announced the formation of Kindred Spirits Oklahoma City (Oklahoma). The KS newsletter also has reviews of the second edition rule book for *Shadowrun*, *Lethal Interface* by Mel Odom, *Star Trek:*

Deep Space Nine and *Space Rangers*. Also included is a reading list for the cyberpunk genre. A great newsletter. It, along with all the other newsletters will be available to look over at the next LSF meeting.

Other things found in the GNAPA you might not be aware of include the dissociation and provisional affiliation of Krewe of Gaylaxia (New Orleans). Lo Cal Gaylaxians (Orange County, CA) was made a full affiliate. In addition to their first GNAPA submission, Lo Cal announced their wish to hold Gaylaxicon VI in 1995. Stay tuned!

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ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUIZ

from page 2

1. *The Invaders* (1967-69)
2. *Dark Shadows* (1966-71)
3. *The Outer Limits* (1963-65)
4. *Ultraman* (1969-73)
5. *Lost in Space* (1965-70)
6. *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* (1964-69)
7. *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea* (1964-68)
8. *Werewolf* (1987-89)
9. *The Twilight Zone* (1959-63)
10. *Mr. Terrific* (1965-67)
11. *Star Trek* (1966-68)
12. *The Green Hornet* 1967-69)
13. *Strange Paradise* (1967-69)
14. *Science Fiction Theatre* (1955-58)
15. *Captain Nice* (1965-66)
16. *Get Smart* (1965-70)
17. *Night Gallery* (1970-73)
18. *Friday the 13th: the Series* (194-88)
19. *Men in Space* (1958-60)
20. *The Night Stalker*, or *Kolchak: the Night Stalker* (1973-75)

JOE VERSUS THE MYSTERY LADY!

No, it's *not* championship wrestling! Our own Joe Parra is back onstage again! This time he'll be appearing in *The Makropoulos Secret*, by Czech playwright Karel Capek. (Capek also wrote the play *R.U.R.*, in which he coined the word "robot").

The Makropoulos Secret tells the story of a mystery lady who comes to the office of a lawyer (played by Joe) to solve a 100-year old case. She seems to know too many details about the case; but she's only 37 years old! Is it *deja vu*? Reincarnation? A con game? Or is it something more fantastic than any of these?

This melodrama, with supernatural/science-fiction overtones, is being presented March 10 through April 11 at the Washington Stage Guild, 924 G St., NW, Washington, DC. Tickets are \$15 for weeknight and matinee performances and \$18 for weekend (Friday and Saturday night) performances.

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EDITOR'S CORNER

by Carl Cipra

Well, gang, it looks like this issue of the LSF newsletter ended up a couple of pages shorter than usual.

My heartfelt thanks to Scott Seller for the use of all his nifty computers *et al*, so that we could get this issue out in time. Scott's offer to let Peter and me spend virtually all of a Sunday at his place was a real Ghod-send!!

Ciao until next month, y'all!

FEBRUARY MINUTES

continued from page 1

Noel has sent out the first newsletter for Gaylaxians International (at a MUCH reduced cost, compared to his predecessor); and he plans to run the International as a truly independent chapter. Next, Noel requested permission from LSF to reprint LSF newsletter articles in the International's newsletter. Permission was granted. We also voted in favor of Noel's request (via the GNAPA) that the International be allowed a six-month delay in the payment of its dues to the Network.

Noel reported the dissociation of the Third Coast Gaylaxians (Chicago), with a subsequent re-association in Wisconsin. A discussion ensued whether the Network's officers had followed proper procedures for this. The feeling of those present seemed to be that "due course" was not followed and that it SHOULD be followed. (More on this at a later date, via Wayne #3 and the next submission to the GNAPA.)

OTHER BUSINESS

After the Network business was taken care of, the usual "organized chaos" ensued. Worldcon flyers were passed around, as well as a copy of *The Castle* (local fan newsletter) and a flyer for the next Star Trek convention. Michael C. brought in show-and-tell stuff, including an article on Coppola's upcoming *Frankenstein* (which will star Patrick Burgeon and Randy Quaid), a picture of William "Shat" Shatner in drag (!), and gossip that Daniel Day Lewis

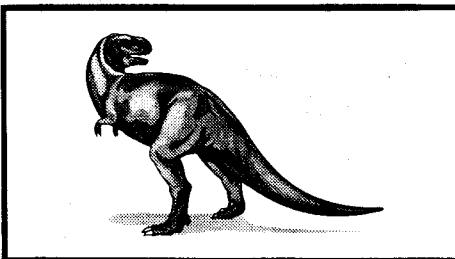
and Brad Pitt are to star in the new movie of Anne Rice's *Interview with the Vampire* (directed by Neil Jordan).

Michael also gave a two-snaps-up to the movies *Matinee* (quasi-genre) and *The Crying Game* (non-genre). (Peter also gave two-snaps-up for *The Crying Game*.) Jim showed us an article in *The Advocate* about the Gaylaxians; he also mentioned the premiere of *Babylon V* on February 27th.

In the world of comics, *Quantum Leap* is doing a story line about the Stonewall Riots and *Ninja High School* is doing a story line with two female protagonists who have a love/hate relationship. And yes, Virginia, there will be a *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle III* movie, without Vanilla Ice.

In other news... *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* home video is now selling for \$19.95; *Death Becomes Her*, *Captain Ron*, and *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me* are out on home video. Design Z is hawking a Deep Space 9 poster, along with another poster of the Enterprise 1701-D that "Q" was hawking on QVC channel. The meeting then degenerated into a slam/praise session of *ST:TNG* and *ST:DS9*. Of note: someone wants to see Madonna as a Ferengi! [*Ed. note: I wonder who?*] Meeting adjourned.

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1993 LAMBDA LITERARY FINALISTS

by Carl Cipra

Just in case you hadn't heard, here's the list of the 1993 finalists for the Science Fiction/Fantasy categories of the Lambda Literary Awards:

GAY MEN'S SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

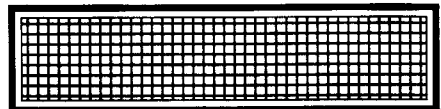
China Mountain Zhang by
Maureen McHugh (Tor)
Lost Souls by Poppy Z. Brite
(Abyss/Delacorte)
The Living One by Lewis Gannett
(Random House)
CryGender by Thomas T. Thomas
(Baen)
Tale of the Body Thief by
Anne Rice (Knopf)

LESBIAN SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

Return to Isis by Jean Stewart
(Rising Tide)
Speaking Dreams by Severna Park
(Firebrand)
Ammonite by Nicola Griffith
(Del Rey)
Dreamships by Melissa Scott (Tor)
*Running Fiercely Toward a High
Thin Sound* by Judith Katz
(Firebrand)

You've got about a month to read these books yourself and make your own choices. Then just sit back and see how your choices match up against the Judges' decisions!

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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, March 14th**, 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, Noel, and Joe



April 9-11, 1993 **BALTICON 27**: Hunt Valley Marriott (Hunt Valley, MD). Guest of Honor: Allen Steele; Artist GoH: Don Maitz; Filk GoH: Leslie Fish. Hotel room rates are \$78 per room for single/double/triple/quad. Con registration is \$25 until March 13, 1993 (\$35 at the door). Make checks payable to "Balticon 27" and send to: Balticon 27, P.O. Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203-0686.

May 27-31, 1993 **DISCLAVE 1993**: Washington Dulles Airport Marriott (Dulles Airport, VA). Guests of Honor: Katherine Kurtz & Patricia Davis. Hotel rate is \$79/night (sgl. to quad). Membership is \$25 until 4/30/93 and \$30 at the door. Make checks payable to "Disclave '93" and send to: Disclave '93, PO Box 677, Washington, DC 20044-677.

May 28-30, 1993 **FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND WORLD CONVENTION, 35TH ANNIVERSARY**: Hyatt Regency Crystal City (Arlington, VA). Advertised guests: Forrest J. Ackerman, Ray Bradbury, Ray Harryhausen, Roger Corman, Rick Baker, Robert Bloch, John Agar, Barbara Steele, "The Ackermuseum." Cost: \$80 (no tickets sold at door). Make checks payable to "Dynacomm" and send to: Dynacomm, Dept. FMCON'93, POB 915, Orange, NJ 07051.

August 20-22, 1993 **NECRONOMICON: THE CTHULHU MYTHOS CONVENTION**: Sheraton Tara Hotel & Resort at Ferncroft Village (near Salem, Mass.). Guest of Honor: Robert Bloch; Artist Guest of Honor: Gahan Wilson. Membership (attending) is \$30 until 5/31/93, and \$40 thereafter (membership limited). Hotel rates are \$80 per night (sgl. & dbl.), 3rd/4th person: \$15 additional per night. Make checks payable to "Necronomicon" and send to: Necronomicon, P.O. Box 1320, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117-1320. (This is a convention "celebrating H.P. Lovecraft and the Cthulhu Mythos in all its forms.")

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.