



# LAMBDA SCI-FI



DC Area Gaylaxians

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## 7th Annual "Lammy" Winners Announced

reported by Carl Cipra



This year's winners of the Lambda Literary Awards were announced on June 2nd at a special banquet at the American Booksellers Association convention in Chicago.

I was very pleased to hear that Melissa Scott won the "Lammy" in the "Gay and Lesbian Science Fiction/Fantasy" category for her *fabulous* cybertech novel, *Trouble and Her Friends*. Over the years, Melissa has received nominations for three previous science-fiction novels: *Mighty Good Road*, *Dreamships*, and *Burning Bright*; this is her first "Lammy." Congrats, Melissa!

The "Lammy" for the "Gay Men's Mystery" category went to John Berendt for his murder/suspense novel

*Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*. This book has received rave reviews from several LSF members - as well as from my old boyfriend in California! (One of the other nominees for this category was *Mad Man*, by noted SF writer Samuel Delany.)

As in previous years, several Gaylaxians were once again included among the judges for the Lambda Literary Awards: LSF members Jane Troxell, Loree Cook-Daniels, and Carl Cipra; and Frank Hummel and Noel Welch of the Gaylactic Network. (I don't know exactly for which category each of the others was a judge; but I do know that not all five were judges in the "SF/Fantasy" category.)

ΛΨΦ

## August LSF Special Activities to Look For



Mark your calendars now, gang; there are a couple of interesting dates you'll want to keep in mind:

### Saturday night, August 5th

Per discussions at a couple of recent LSF meetings, arrangements are being made for a joint party with the "Star Trek Support Group" of the BiCentrist Alliance. Robin Margolis (energetic leader of the Alliance) has kept LSF's Second Speaker advised of her ongoing negotiations to secure a venue for this event (possibly the new private partyroom at Tracks). We'll keep you advised as more details become available.

### Sunday afternoon, August 13th

At the regular LSF meeting for August, Carl will be auctioning off some more of his F&SF artwork - posters, paintings, sketches, etc. (This is, we understand, a result of his recent extended binge of "Spring cleaning.") All proceeds of the auction will go the the LSF treasury; so bring your bars of gold-pressed latinum (or whatever other kind of negotiable cash you happen to have handy) and "bid high, bid often!"

ΛΨΦ

## Speaker's Corner

I was originally going to label this as yet another "Ye Olde Editor's Corner," but it turned out that I wanted to say more in my capacity as Speaker than in my usual editorial role. So, here goes...

I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of LSF's activities during the recent "DC Pride" festivities. Thanksto Jeff, Philip, Pe-

ter, and Rob -- and *all* the brave contestants -- for the fun-filled evening of videos and the "LSF Jeopardy" game! (And congrats to Mike C. for his *overwhelming* victory!) Also, thanks to Rob for helping get the Pride Day booth set up and to everyone who showed up to help us have such an enjoyable day!

As Editor, I'd like to thank Randy for the nifty excerpts from *Unnatural Quotations!* (I'll bet you thought I'd *never* get around to using 'em!)

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

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**ST:λ?****Wake Up, Boys!**A Response to the "Garak" Question  
by the Cook-Daniels Clan**ST:λ?***Editorial Forward:*

A couple of months ago, I wrote a newsletter article discussing the possibility that *ST:DS9*'s "plain, simple Garak" just might be the recurring gay character that we've been trying to get out of Paramount for some years now. That article ("What Are They Trying to Tell Us?", May '95 issue) sparked the following response from the First Speaker and "First Spouse." Unfortunately, I got the letter just a tad too late for inclusion in the June newsletter - but, better late than never, I suppose! Read on...

Dear Editor:

Tsk, tsk, tsk. While some of you have been staring at wallpaper and examining the color of balloons to divine the sexuality of a character who has to date shown no sexuality at all, some of the rest of us have been thoroughly enjoying the very blatant homoerotic character who IS on *Deep Space Nine*: Intendant Kira Nerys. Although her first appearance in the alternate universe posited in "Crossover" might have left some doubt about her sexuality in that she was attracted to, in essence, herself (is this lesbianism or narcissism?), the writers left no such confusion in viewers' minds in her latest appearance in "Through a Glass Darkly." There, Intendant Kira is clearly omnisexual, lasciviously enjoying the cleavage of a very attractive female companion and verbally promising further attention. Wake up, boys! We have our Gay character, and boy, is she a hot one!

Sincerely,

/s/ Loree Cook-Daniels  
Marcelle Cook-Daniels*Editorial Response:*

First, let me hasten to explain that I am *not* both visually-impaired and hearing-impaired - which is what I'd *have* to be to have missed the highly revealing actions/words of Intendant Kira Nerys during the *ST:DS9* episode "Through a Glass Darkly." To any save the most dense of heterosexuals, it should be quite obvious that the Intendant revels in the delights of both female and male sex partners.

What I was addressing in the May newsletter article, however, was the long-standing controversy over the inclusion of a gay/lesbian/bisexual as a *regular* on one of the *Star Trek* series (*i.e.* a recurring role, not just a special feature). I just don't think the "evil twin" Kira Nerys in the "*ST Dark Universe*" qualifies in that regard. Besides, delightful as the Intendant is (certain aspects of her, anyway), I'm still *very* uncomfortable about the *only* obviously lesbian/gay/bisexual character being a villain. (You know, the old "alternative sexuality equals evil person" equation.) Although Garak is certainly no "knight in shining armor," he has the virtue of being anything *but* "plain and simple." I admire his complexity and "hidden depths" - sort'a like Quark in that regard. (But please, Dear Ghod, don't let them make *Quark* gay or bisexual!)

I guess I'll just keep watchin' and hopin'. In the meantime, yes, I got a kick out of the Intendant's "in your face" sexuality, too! (And, who knows? She might even turn into a "villain with a heart of gold" in some future episode. After all, it worked for Darth Vader!)

ΛΨΦ

Rep's Report  
by Philip Wright

The deadline for the next GNAPA looms overhead; and, after the positive remarks from last month's LSF meeting, I will be submitting LSF's considered objection to the "censorship article" in the Network Charter. I will try to put that objection in plain terms, so that the other Representatives will understand our anxiety over such a restriction of freedom of expression within the Network. I can only hope this objection will be accepted in the spirit it has been offered.

I also intend to present LSF's concern about the Network apparently losing sight of the "broader picture" with regard to the convoluted charter that has been evolving over the last few years. I will pass along LSF's concerns and any others that LSF members might wish to have brought up before the Board.

If any of you have any further ideas or suggestions, feel free to pass them on to me at our July meeting. Although the deadline for submissions to *this* GNAPA is July 1st, I can always pass on any additional ideas or suggestions with the *following* submission.

A final note, not really related to Network business: I have recently learned that a new Gay magazine, *MW*, is looking for new Gay fiction for their upcoming issue. Submissions (2000 words or less) must be made by July 10th. Novice writers will find this a plum opportunity to reveal their abilities. Send submissions to:

MW Fiction  
724 9th St., NW, Ste. 429  
Washington, DC 20001

(If you want your manuscript returned, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.)



*Slow River*  
by Nicola Griffith  
A Review by Rob



In many ways, the arrival of Nicola Griffith on the sf scene paralleled that of Maureen McHugh. Both won critical success and a Lambda Literary Award for their first novels. While Maureen McHugh's novel added a Hugo nomination to its list of accomplishments, Nicola Griffith's *Ammonite* added a Tiptree Jr. award to its successes. It is a remarkable thing to have one such first novel in a decade, and a fantastic one to have two. But, as with many things, it set up high expectations for each author's second offering. McHugh delivered success with the publication of *Half the Day Is Night* last fall (a book that came close to ending up on the final Hugo ballots) and a number of successful short stories; and we were left to see if Nicola Griffith could follow up her success as well. In *Slow River* (hardcover, Del Rey, July 1995) she shows us that she is up to the challenge.

*Slow River* is about a woman running from her past, her family, and herself. Lore Van Oesterling is a child of privilege. Her family runs the arch-typical cyberpunk megacorp, with a monopoly on genetically engineered biotech ranging from hair coloring bacteria to processes that decontaminate water and waste materials. One night Lore awakens in an alley, naked, bleeding, and without the identity implant that proves to the world who she is. She is rescued by another woman, a loner named Spanner, an expert data pirate who takes her in and helps Lore begin to re-create herself. Lore carries secrets with her that keep her from returning to her life of privilege; and she accepts Spanner's help at first. Slowly, Lore is faced with decision after decision of where to take herself, how to create herself as the person she wants to be. Does she continue down the road on which Spanner leads her - a road filled with growing desperation and degradation; or does she have the courage to strike out on her own?

Lore leaves Spanner and takes on the identity of a dead woman; and through hard work and determination, she creates for herself some semblance of a normal life. But she soon discovers that she must face the past, both the recent past of her life with Spanner and the past of her family and the time of her abduction from the world she once knew. For without facing the past, she cannot hope to make a real future.

In *Ammonite*, Nicola Griffith brought us a world of wonder as seen through the eyes of one woman, a stranger to that world who slowly becomes a part of it. In *Slow River*, we see that process in reverse. As we watch through the eyes of the world around her, we slowly begin to discover what makes Lore who she is. It is a fascinating and often brutal journey through both the underside and the beautiful surface of a not-too-distant future. Griffith seems unafraid to tackle tough questions and sensitive issues, and presents us with a powerful story about the nature of identity, choices, and how they define us. As the book jacket says, *Slow River* poses a question we all hope we never need to answer: Who are you when you have nothing left?

All in all, I think that with *Slow River*, Nicola Griffith has proven that *Ammonite* was no fluke, and that her voice is one we'll be hearing from for a long time.

ΛΨΦ

Certainly, your average straight seems to exhibit a curious horror of homosexuality that makes no sense to me. Is it because of the fear of discovering that one is homosexual? But why fear? Surely in love-making there should be no rules.

--- ALFRED BESTER

(excerpted from *Unnatural Quotations*, by Leigh Rutledge; Alyson Publications)

Did You Know?

*Wavelengths* #3

The 3rd issue of *Wavelengths* is now available. (Copies were on sale at Gaylaxicon VI.) In case you've forgotten, *Wavelengths* is a quarterly review of gay/lesbian/bisexual/"of interest" science fiction and fantasy. This latest issue features reviews of 18 F&SF books and 3 short stories. Among the works reviewed are *Brightness Falls From the Air* by James Tiptree, Jr., *Flowerdust* by Gwyneth Jones, "Cocoon" by Greg Egan, and the "Isis" novels of Jean Stewart. There are also several short editorials, including a retrospective of the works of the late Stan Leventhal.

Individual copies of *Wavelengths* can be purchased at either Lammas Bookstore or Lambda Rising. A subscription to *Wavelengths* runs \$13 per year (4 issues), or \$24 for 2 years (8 issues). Make checks payable to "Wavelengths" and send them to:

Coastline SF Writers Group  
PO Box 6554  
Portsmouth, NH 03802-6554.

"Queer Sci-Fi" Classes

This summer, artist/illustrator Richard Mandraccio is teaching an interesting course at the Harvey Milk Institute in San Francisco. The course is entitled "Queer Sci-Fi: Out of the Closet & Into the Universe;" and he describes it as an "exploration of science fiction, fantasy and the supernatural in terms of homoerotic content."

Richard got his introduction to the Gaylactic Network at the 1994 World Science Fiction Convention (ConFrancisco); and this year he attended his first Gaylaxicon (where he won "Best of Show" in the artshow). Richard is hoping his class at the Harvey Milk Institute will spark enough interest to help establish a Gaylaxian chapter in San Francisco.

ΛΨΦ

**Congo**  
and  
**Batman Forever**  
--Birds of a Feather--  
by Philip Wright



Two films recently hit the theaters: *Congo* and *Batman Forever*. Both are a mixed bag of pleasure and tedium. If you're expecting *Congo* to be like the book, don't go. If you're looking forward to the same dark, brooding style and crisp visual sarcasm that Tim Burton built into the previous episodes of the Batman saga, you'll be very disappointed. However, both films are basically fun and filled with well-designed special effects.

*Congo* is a slick film focusing on the special effects related to grey gorillas, lasers, and the erupting volcano of the finale. Visually, the film is a treat for both the eye and the imagination. However, the meat of the original story by Michael Crichton (a determined woman, an obsessed primatologist, and a language-enhanced gorilla finding a lost city) was sacrificed for a politically-correct story featuring a sensitive woman, a whiny primatologist, and a fantastically-designed mechanical ape. The story in the film is thinner and less interactive than Crichton's; but it comes off effectively on a more commercial level. This film reminds me of a rollercoaster ride full of thrills - it's fun while it lasts. Don't go in expecting a full-blown epic such as Crichton paints in his books. Look for something fun and visually stimulating.

As for *Batman Forever* (also known as *The Riddler Forever*)... The formula that made the previous editions of the Dark Knight's saga has been changed, and not always for the better. This film is also fun to watch, with all those chase scenes, fight scenes, and special visual effects. And Jim Carrey is spectacular as the Riddler. Ah, but *there's* the rub; Carrey's performance completely overwhelms the entire film, making the film more his than it is Val Kilmer's. Most of Carrey's performance is absolutely marvelous -

depicting a zany, gregarious, wild criminal bent on destroying Bruce Wayne and Batman. However, the director failed to control Carrey's performance (a typical complaint of Carrey's acting style); and even before Professor E. Nigma becomes the Riddler, Carrey's portrayal is uproarious and crazy. This lack of a dichotomous portrayal of the Riddler takes some of the fun out of this boisterous madman/criminal. I would have preferred to see the sort of wonderful change-over that we experienced with the Joker and Catwoman in the previous two films. Joker's/Catwoman's previous existences made their criminal selves all the more interesting to watch. Carrey's performance also makes the acting of Kilmer, Kidman, and O'Donnell seem much worse than it already is. Tommy Lee Jones is good as Two Face; but he is also outclassed by the outrageous performance of Carrey.

More problematic is the new choice in artistic design for this film. The dark, brooding quality Tim Burton so skillfully wove into the two previous Batman films has been replaced with a lighter, more fantastical style, littered with art nouveau and art deco visuals. Gotham City has become a shiny, pristine example of the ideal American city; even the slums of Gotham have become a *pretty* place (for a bad part of town).

Gone also is the brooding quality that Burton built into the story itself. Although Batman is having bad dreams about the death of his parents (along with the revenge obsession of Robin for the murder of his parents), this director (whose name escapes me) has focused *Batman Forever* on: Batman's attraction for a psychologist; a weird mind-warping TV device; and Robin taking joyrides in the Batmobile. The film is empty of the depth and tension Burton layered into the two previous films, along with the visual metaphors he is famous for. The action in *Batman Forever* happens with little or no help from the characters or from their decision-making processes.

**LSF June Meeting  
Minutes  
in 100 Words or Less**  
sparsely taken by Rob G.

We had a fairly uneventful meeting. Most of the time was spent planning out our events for the week-end of DC Pride Day: the video party at Philip & Jeff's and the LSF table at the Pride Festival. (Both events went well.) We also finalized plans for a field trip to go see Joe's latest play, *Born Yesterday*, at the Wayside Theatre, somewhere west of Hell. (It was great!) Carl donated a couple of boxes full of books for sale, which raised another \$19 for the club. We agreed to have another auction at the August meeting.

That's all!

ΛΨΦ

...gays are in the vanguard of that final divorce of sex from conventional notions of sin; the divorce of sin from mythology and religion. If we can carry this off -- if we can take sex out of the realm of sin altogether and see it as something else to do with personal relationships and ethics, then we can finally get around to another phase of Christianity which is long overdue. That phase is the one which deals with the question of sin as violence; sin as cruelty; sin as murder, war and starvation.

--- ANNE RICE

(excerpted from *Unnatural Quotations*,  
by Leigh Rutledge; Alyson Publications)

All in all, this portion of the Batman story would have been better if there had been more of the previous films in it. *Batman Forever* is a great film to go see when the "twilight discount prices" are in effect. (Anything else is a violation of the fair-trade laws.)

**Overall Grades:**

*Congo* - B

*Batman Forever* - C

ΛΨΦ

**Snow White and  
the Seven Dwarves**  
a video review by Joseph Parra

One of my earliest movie-going memories is seeing *Snow White & the Seven Dwarves* on the big screen during its 1958 revival. This 1937 super-classic, first-ever full-feature-length cartoon was so alive with its vibrant colors and vivid characters, images, and songs that helped form a life for me (i.e. "Some Day My Prince Will Come") that I truly wondered whether or not it would totally withstand the test of time, let alone the transfer to the small screen via home video. All my concerns were for naught. Not only is the transfer alive and vibrant, it's even lovelier than I remembered, what with the colors having been enhanced by computers. Best of all, the story and characters were not one bit dated or dulled by comparison with the modern Disney feature-length cartoons such as *Aladdin* or *The Lion King*. In fact, it's now quite evident where the inspiration for these films came from -- the genius of Walt Disney.

To go into the plot seems foolish. After all, who hasn't either seen this film or been told the Grimm's fairy tale? Suffice it to say they all live happily ever after!

The Disney Home Video staff have outdone themselves with this monumental release. It is completely restored to its 1937 glory, and perhaps even beyond that. As I said earlier, the magic of computers has brought complete restoration to the wonderful 3-strip Technicolor cells and renderings that make up this necessary addition to any and all video collections. The sound has been subjected to all the technomartels of today's audio magicians and is as crisp and clear as if it were recorded yesterday. It has been said, by no less an authority than Thomas Wolfe, that "you can never go home again" - meaning that it's not possible to recapture one's youth. Don't you believe it!!! ENJOY!!! (Rating: 5 out of 4) [Ed. note: No, that's not a typo.]

ΛΨΦ

**Classic Sci-Fi on Video**  
- "Dinosaurs" -

by Joseph Parra



"Leapin' lizards!" says Little Orphan Annie. Well, in some "dinosaur" movies, they leap, while in others they fly, crawl, slither, swim, run, or even just stand still! Let's see which titles are available for us to view on videos at home.

As with the previous two articles, I've annotated each title with my opinion of whether it's good (G) or bad (B). You can take this handy list with you when you go shopping at your local video store. You can even add any titles I might have missed. Leap to it!

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <i>At the Earth's Core</i> (G/B)   | <i>Land of the Lost</i><br>(TV - even "B" is too good, but nice dinos)           |
| <i>Baby</i> (G)  | <i>The Land That Time Forgot</i> (G/B)   |
| <i>The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms</i> (G)   | <i>The Land Unknown</i> (G)  |
| <i>The Beast of Hollow Mountain</i> (G)  | <i>The Last Dinosaur</i> (B)   |
| <i>The Black Scorpion</i><br>(G - prehistoric insects)                                       | <i>Lost Continent</i> (G/B)  |
| <i>The Crater Lake Monster</i><br>(B/G - cute dino)  | <i>The Lost World</i> (G)  |
| <i>Creature from the Black Lagoon</i> (G)  | <i>Monster on the Campus</i><br>(G - no dinos, but a were-beastie)               |
| <i>The Creature Walks Among Us</i> (G)   | <i>The Monster That Challenged the World</i><br>(G - not dinos, but prehistoric) |
| <i>The Deadly Mantis</i><br>(G - not dinos, but prehistoric)                                 | <i>The Neanderthal Man</i><br>(G - no dinos, but a were-beastie)                 |
| <i>Dinosaurus!</i> (B/G)   | <i>One Million B.C.</i> (G)  |
| <i>Gamera the Invincible</i><br>(so B it's G - there are about 5 other Gamera movies, all B) | <i>Planet of the Dinosaurs</i><br>(G for dinos, very B the rest)                 |
| <i>Ghidran, the 3-Headed Monster</i> (G)   | <i>Prehistoric Women</i> (very B)  |
| <i>The Ghost of Slumber Mountain</i><br>(G - 1st dino film)                                  | <i>Reptilicus</i> (so B it's G)  |
| <i>The Giant Behemoth</i> (G)  | <i>Revenge of the Creature</i> (G)   |
| <i>Godzilla</i><br>(G - too many sequels to mention!)  | <i>Rodan</i> (G)   |
| <i>Gorgo</i> (G)   | <i>Son of Kong</i> (G)   |
| <i>It Came From Beneath the Sea</i> (G)  | <i>Teenage Caveman</i> (VERY B)  |
| <i>Journey to the Center of the Earth</i> (G)  | <i>Unknown Island</i> (B)  |
| <i>The Jungle</i> (G/B)  | <i>The Valley of Gwangi</i> (G)  |
| <i>Jurassic Park</i> (G - instant classic)   | <i>Valley of the Dragons</i> (B)   |
| <i>King Dinosaur</i> (B)   | <i>When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth</i> (G)  |
| <i>King Kong</i> (G)   |  |

ΛΨΦ

Next Month:  
"End of the World/Armageddon"

ΛΨΦ

Obviously, there is life on other planets. But why, when they visit Earth, do they usually land on a farm in Bakersfield and abduct people with two first names? ---ALF

(excerpted from *ALF Sounds Off!*)

**\* \* 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 \$15, for which you will receive this monthly newsletter and a membership directory. Newsletter submissions are always welcome.

Meetings are generally 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, July 9th, 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 Jim C.



July 13-16, 1995 **NASFiC (North American Science Fiction Convention)/DRAGON\*CON 1995**: Atlanta Civic Center & Atlanta Hilton and Towers (Atlanta, GA). Honored Guests: Orson Scott Card, George Alec Effinger, Bjo Trimble, Michael Whelan, Timothy Zahn. Cost: \$55 until 6/15/95 (\$60 at the door). Make checks payable to "NASFiC'95" and send to: NASFiC/Dragon\*Con '95, P.O. Box 47696, Atlanta, GA 30362-0696. For additional information, call the 24-hour Atlanta Convention Info Line at (404) 925-2813.

July 29/30, 1995 **NOVACON III** (The Westpark Hotel, Tysons Corner, VA). Guests: Marina ("Troi") Sirtis, Andrew ("Garak") Robinson. Membership: \$35 for entire weekend (\$65 for reserved seating); daily rates available at door. Make checks payable to "One Trek Mind Productions, Inc." and send to: One Trek Mind Productions, Inc., P.O. Box 3363, Merrifield, VA 22116 (You *must* enclose SASE to receive confirmation.). Novacon Hotline: (703) 280-5373.

Aug. 4-6, 1995 **THE AUGUST PARTY** (Gaithersburg Hilton, MD). A local Star Trek fan-run convention returns after a 10-year hiatus. Membership: [somewhere around \$20 for the weekend]. Address: The August Party, P.O. Box 203, Brentwood, MD 20722-0203. Registration questions via Internet: [tully@access.digex.net](mailto:tully@access.digex.net)

Oct. 6-8, 1995 **FARPOINT '95** (Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn, Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: Robert Picardo ("the Doctor" from *ST:V*), The Boogie Knights. Membership: \$35 (all 3 days), \$22 (Sat. only), \$18 (Sun. only) - ltd. to 1500 per day. Make checks payable to "Farpoint, Inc." and send to: Farpoint, Inc., 7859 Marioak Dr., Elkridge, MD 21227.

Nov. 17-19, 1995 **PHILCON '95**: Adam's Mark Hotel (Philadelphia, PA). Principal Speaker: (to be announced); Guest Artist: Bob Eggleton; Special Guest: Connie Willis. Cost: \$25. Make check payable to "PSFS" and send to: Philcon '95, P.O. Box 8303, Philadelphia, PA 19101; Chairperson: Oz Fontecchio (ph. # 215-342-1672; Internet: [kunga@netaxs.com](mailto:kunga@netaxs.com)).

Nov. 24-26, 1995 **DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL MEETING XVIII**: Holiday Inn Timonium (Timonium, MD). GoH: TBA; Special Guests: Marion Zimmer Bradley, Katherine Kurtz. Hotel: \$62/nite (up to 4 per room). Cost: \$25 until 11/1/95 (\$30 at door). Make check payable to "Armida Council" and send to: Armida Council, PO Box 7203, Silver Spring, MD 20907. A *very* les/bi/gay-friendly convention ; often described as "a mini-Gaylaxicon within a con."

July 5-7, 1996 **GAYLAXICON VII**: Burlington Marriot Hotel (Burlington, MA - about 10 mi. NW of Boston). Guests of Honor: "To be Announced." Cost: \$15 thru 6/30/95 ("Secret bonus for early members!"); \$20 from 7/1 to 12/31/95; \$25 from 1/1/96 to 4/30/96; \$30 from 5/1/96 to 6/15/96; \$35 at the door. Make check payable to "Gaylaxicon VII" and send to: Gaylaxicon VII, P.O. Box 176, Somerville, MA 02143.

