



LAMBDA SCI-FI



DC Area Gaylaxians

PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #69 - Dec. 1995



NEWSFLASH



December LSF Meeting Moved!!!
(Will Include "Video Madness" Party!)

Everyone had such a good time at the November meeting at Philip & Jeff's place that we decided to take up their offer to host the December meeting, too - AND we'll combine it with a "Video Madness" Party (and potluck pig-out)! But who wants to party on a Sunday night? OK, so we decided to move the meeting/party to **Saturday, Dec. 9th** --- problem solved! Here are the details:

When to Be There:

Saturday, Dec. 9th

The meeting will begin at **5 PM**, and the potluck supper & videos will begin as soon as we get a couple of business items out of the way.

What to Bring:

Bring along your favorite genre videos (science-fiction, fantasy, horror). The attendees will vote on which videos to watch; and there'll be three different "tracks" of programming to choose from, one on each of three screens throughout the house. As usual, the party will include the traditional pot-luck pig-out, so you should **bring along something scrumptious to eat**. Just bring something from one (or more) of the "basic food groups": appetizers (veggies, chips, etc.); a main course item (enough to serve at least 4-5 people); dessert (of course!); non-alcoholic drinks (both diet and regular).

Where It's Happening:

312 Highview Ave.
Silver Spring, MD
(301)495-7765

How to Get There:

DRIVING: Take Colesville Rd. east from Georgia Ave. (downtown Silver Spring); turn right on Franklin; take 3rd right onto Highview Ave.

METRO: Take the Red Line to Silver Spring Station. We'll plan two "shuttle runs" from the Metro station to the meeting (4:30 PM & 4:45 PM). All you have to do is wait at the "kiss & ride" area of the parking lot, and we'll pick you up and take you to the meeting. If you'd rather walk (or if you miss our "shuttles"), you can always walk to the meeting. It's about a 20-min. walk from the Metro station. Just follow directions re: "Driving" shown above.

ΛΨΦ

HAPPY 69, LSF!!!*



*[Issue #69, that is!
-- Ye Olde Editor]

REMINDER:

Annual LSF Book Exchange Scheduled for January Meeting

That's right, gang, the Holiday Season is almost upon us again, and it's time for a short reminder about Lambda Sci-Fi's upcoming *sixth* annual book exchange, which will occur at the Jan. 14th meeting! All LSF members are invited to participate in this "blind book exchange" - visitors, too!

There will be full details on the exchange in the next (January) LSF newsletter.

Briefly, this will be an opportunity for LSFers to exchange copies of their "favorite" science-fiction, fantasy, or horror books and get to know each other a little better. For those of you unfamiliar with the process, you won't be assigned to exchange books with any *particular* member - it's a "blind" exchange, where participants will get their pick from a pile of anonymous wrapped packages.

So, now you've had fair warning. Start looking around for a "favorite" genre book for the exchange - paperback, hardback, or even a whole series (if you're feeling particularly wealthy). And don't forget to save some of that wrapping paper you'll be wading through when the Holidays roll around (Hannukah, Christmas, Kwanza, Yule, whatever) so you can use it to wrap your exchange item!

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WHAT'S INSIDE?

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O Greenest Branch!

Book 1 of Water!

by Gael Baudino

(Roc Books, 1995)

reviewed by Loree Cook-Daniels

Gael is playing with us! Big time!

Some of the themes of her book are quite, quite serious. Both the Righteous States of America and the three African kingdoms of Kaprisha, Kalash, and Khyr are extremely patriarchal, rigid, homophobic, religious nation-states. How does this religiosity affect each nation's men, who seem to have more than even a Kinsey's share of homosexual interest? How did the kingdoms' religion supplant an earlier, matriarchal religion, and how is it used now to deal with a severely class-stratified society coping with a 300-year-old drought? Potentially interesting issues, yes?

Unfortunately, Ms. Baudino's primary interest is not these themes, or even her plots. (One plot involves the Righteous States of America's interest in crossing through the kingdoms and over the mountains that isolate them from the rest of Africa in order to confront Napoleon Bonaparte. Another storyline traces an old woman's search for the religion of her youth. A third storyline traces a transgendered eunuch's evolving gender identity and sexuality, and a fourth follows the Prince and self-described "palace stud" as he tries to find meaningful work. Other readers could probably identify other "plots.")

No, Ms. Baudino's interest here is in playing with form. I've never read a book that attempts so many viewpoints. At least three characters (I'm sure there had to be more) weren't even part of the story. There is a computer-like all-knowing entity that is periodically questioned by someone else about what is actually going on in the book. There is also a nasty, modern-day amusement ride tender/scriptwriter who periodically "writes" pieces of the book. The characters themselves often let us inside their

heads, often literally in tandem: at one point, Baudino had four columns of text, each one representing the thoughts of a character in one scene. Sometimes all we hear is one side of a dialogue. In one memorable chapter, this one-sided "dialogue" involves easily a dozen people -- all strangers who are never identified and never again encountered. Points of view shift constantly, without warning and sometimes without any clues as to who is speaking. Text angles off, flips into and out of italics, breaks into columns.

What Gael has wrought is akin to what would happen if you could meld all of Disney World's rides into one, long, confusing collage. It's breathtakingly weird. The problem is, I'm not sure I'm really up to all of this playfulness. I liked some of the characters and got interested in some of the dilemmas, but I was put off by the constant <squirming> (can somebody please explain this to me? -- PLEASE!!) and shifting. I guess in the end I'm just too literal to really appreciate a book whose last word is "Mrk---". If you're into weird playfulness, consider this wild ride. If you like your stories a little more coherent, though, this bud's not for you.

ΛΨΦ

...The world of readers has become an atomized world.

This can be seen in part as a good thing, or at least the result of a good thing, the opening up of the culture, the emergence of new voices. There is a sense, though, in which literary culture has not grown more egalitarian but simply more specialized. The most multicultural of societies will still have its borders, its shared references and stories. But we seem to be ceding the common ground to television and movies and sports. G.K. Chesterton once wrote, "Literature is a luxury; fiction is a necessity." If novelists can't deliver the goods, Disney can.

excerpted from
"Letterman's Cook's Personal Trainer"
by Richard Todd
Civilization (Nov/Dec 1995)

^2.X1.'95 ΛΨΦ

by Wayne #1

(i.e. the minutes of
the Nov. LSF meeting,
as laboriously deciphered and
occasionally supplemented
by Ye Olde Editor)

This was the first meeting we've ever held in Philip-and-Jeff's new Silver Spring home, and, as a sort of inaugural treat, all three LSF Speakers were in attendance! (In case you couldn't remember, they're - in order - Loree, Carl, and Mike.) There were 19 people total at the meeting, including 4 "newbies."

Carl reported on a couple of conventions coming up this month - Philcon (Nov. 18/19) and Darkovercon (Nov. 24-26). He reminded everyone that LSF will be hosting a room party at the Darkover convention on Saturday night (Nov. 25th).

Mike read us his letter that was printed in the latest issue of *Scarlet Street*. [Ed. note: See article on page 2 of this newsletter.]

Movie news: *Batman 4* is already in the works, probably with Patrick Stewart as Mr. Freeze. *American Werewolf in Paris* has been cancelled. Wes Craven is remaking *The Haunting*. Sigourney Weaver will be starring in *Snow White* (as the Evil Queen) and in *Alien IV*. (*Alien III* was only a dream?) Steven Spielberg has taken up the "Dr. Who" movie project. Universal is going ahead with a remake of *The Legend of King Kong*. Joe reported that *Powder* is excellent (with a review on the way) and that *Vampire in Brooklyn* was too awful even for him. Joe also reported a long list of home video releases. There was also some discussion on the anticipated releases of *Goldeneye*, *Toy Story*, and *Jumanji*. Joe also initiated a discussion on how "lousy" movies can actually be good.

TV talk: The various recent *Star Trek* efforts were generally panned (except for the "lesbian" kiss on *ST:DS9*) - especially Worf's obvious contractual discomfort at being inserted

(continued on page 3)

Can You Tell Me
How to Get,
How to Get to
Scar-ar-let Street...?

Back in the September issue of this newsletter, we reported a fascinating exchange in the letters column of issue #19 of *Scarlet Street: the Magazine of Mystery & Horror*. (Quick refresher: An *SS* reader wrote to complain about various "gay-themed" articles which had been appearing in the magazine. Basically, the *SS* editorial response boiled down to "Live with it.") Michael, our esteemed Speaker (and a devoted *Scarlet Street* reader himself), wrote in a letter of support to the *SS* editorial staff and - lo and behold! - it's been printed in the current issue (issue #20, Fall 1995). Here 'tis (including the editorial response) ----->

I read with great interest the letter in last issue's letters column criticizing the gay slant of some of your articles.

I, for one, love it. Being a gay man who is a rabid mystery and horror fan, I find it more than refreshing that a magazine like *Scarlet Street* is willing to cover the gay angle that is so often overlooked by other magazines. *Scarlet Street* fills a niche in the publishing world, and if people are upset with your coverage, well, perhaps they should find something else to read.

Speculating on the sexuality of a fictional character is hardly what I would call "irresponsible," especially when it concerns characters who have become cultural bywords, like Holmes and Watson. Is it insulting to interpret an artist's work as anything other than what they originally meant? The sex life of public figures is speculated on

constantly, and Sherlock Holmes is as much a public figure as Tom Selleck, in my opinion.

Anyway, let me say that I eagerly consume every issue as soon as it arrives, and so do a lot of friends. (I keep encouraging them to get their own subscriptions, but . . .) I've found out about a lot of good movies and taken a second look at ones I've seen before, because of what I've read in *Scarlet Street*. Keep up the grand work!

Michael Cornett
Takoma Park, MD

If it is irresponsible to speculate, then we're in fine company: it was Nero Wolfe, creator of Rex Stout, who once suggested that Watson was a woman! Thanks for the praise, Michael. Now, about these friends of yours. . . .

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[Minutes]

continued from page 2

into *ST:DS9*. Various pros & cons were discussed about *Babylon 5*. On Saturday mornings, *The Tick* and *Reboot* have been rescheduled on the local stations so that they don't conflict. [Ed. note: Hooray!]. The Sci-Fi Channel is running various marathons - *Time Tunnel*, *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea*, etc. *Space: Above and Beyond* (described as *Space 90210* or *Melrose Space* by various LSF detractors) is doing better than expected. *Nowhere Man* will be finishing up this season; and *Sliders* will return in January '96. Peter shared some InterNet print-outs on upcoming episodes for various sci-fi TV series.

Galactic Network news: Our own Rob Gates has been nominated for the position of publicist for the Network. A fascinating issue of *The Lavender Dragon* (the newsletter of the St. Louis chapter) was passed around. Carl asked about recent issues of the "collected newsletters" from other Network chapters; and Philip reported that he hasn't received any in a while.

(continued on page 5)

When Is a Kiss Not *Just* a Kiss?

reported by Carl Cipra

Well, you've undoubtedly seen it by now - Jadzia Dax's lip-lock with Lenara on *ST:DS9* ("Rejoined," aired Nov. 1, DC's Channel 20). What did you think about it? Here are a couple of interesting comments that appeared in the "Letters" column of the Oct. 28 issue of *TV Guide* (before the episode was aired):

"Star" peck

Re: "Future Shockers" [Oct. 7], executive producer Rick Berman is kidding himself if he thinks *DS9* won't lose fans because of this season's lesbian storyline. (And yes, it is a lesbian storyline if two women kiss---aliens or not.) There are a lot of Christians who watch *Star Trek*.

Jennifer Cvelbar
Columbus, Ohio

Trek aficionados understand the Trills to be gender-free, and appreciate the subtle sexual subtext proffered by these symbionts. Dax's and Lenara's connection is free of any corporeal intonations. Essentially, this is a reunion between once-and-future caring *its*.

Jennifer L. Herbert
Forest Park, Ill.

I must admit that I, for one, was *very* pleased with that particular scene. Ignoring all the typical *ST* obfuscations regarding motivations, identities, alien races, yadda-yadda-yadda, it still boiled down to one helluva woman-to-woman kiss being beamed into homes across America. After all, I was only expecting some chaste little peck on the cheek - or maybe something like the sweet little kiss on the palm that Dr. Crusher got in *ST:TNG*'s "The Host." But, wokka-wokka, what a kiss it turned out to be! To paraphrase some of the comments I've heard since then: "If Terry Farrell was supposedly bothered by kissing another woman, then she's a *much* better actress than I've given her credit for being!"

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How to Obtain Superpowers of Your Very Own

(Method #10)
Being Bequeathed
Your Powers by a
Being of Infinite Wisdom

An excellent method! People are always being bequeathed superpowers by wizened old people who are really Beings of Infinite Wisdom and you could be next...if you just know where to find them!

Paradoxically, no Being of Infinite Wisdom ever hangs out in the obvious places you'd expect anyone with some smarts to choose - like on the beach at Acapulco or in the Dallas Cowboys' locker room - so it's no use looking there (sorry).

Instead, these Beings choose to live in far more unlikely places. We don't mean that they hang out at "New Kids on the Block" concerts or ride the subway after dark (where you're much more likely to find Beings of Infinite Stupidity) or anything so drastic, but Beings of Infinite Wisdom have a predilection for draughty caves half way up K2, temples at the bottom of perilous gorges or "Forbidden Cities" which haven't seen any improvement in sanitation or plumbing technology in over 2,000 years.

Go figure it..

Anyway, you will be able to tell a Being of Infinite Wisdom when you meet one in the following ways -- the typical Being of Infinite Wisdom:

a) will know your name and tell you it's been waiting for you.

b) won't have any novels by Jackie Collins on its bookshelf.

c) will usually be called something like "The Ancient One" or "The Venerated One Who Sees All." (Any Beings of Infinite Wisdom you come across called "Biff" or "Buffy" are probably impostors.)

d) won't be able to skateboard or Moonwalk.

Werewolves (Close Encounters of the Furred Kind) a book review by Joseph Parra

No, I'm not going to start this review by explaining what a werewolf is. If you don't know that by now, oh well. The wonderful thing about *Werewolves*, an anthology of tales about beast people, is that each story does not insult the intelligence of the reader by defining (or re-defining) lycanthropy - either supernaturally or psychologically. Editor Martin H. Greenberg (with the help of various authors) has collected an entirely new set of stories; and they are, on the whole, a nice set. The tales are fairly evenly divided between the half-human/half-beast type of werewolf (my favorite) and the four-legged "big doggies."

"Extinctions in Paradise," by Brian Hodge, offers a wonderful solution to the plight of homeless children in a Latin American country. The story also seems to be inspired by the Argentine death squads of the 1970s, and it counters the police nicely.

In "Bindlestiff," by Peter Crowther, we are told things from an evil werewolf's point of view on his slaughterhouse tour across the country. He learns a lesson from (and teaches one to) a little girl looking for a pet doggie.

e) if asked for a cigarette, will tell you it doesn't smoke.

f) won't know who J.R. Ewing is.

Simply tell the Being of Infinite Wisdom that you've come seeking the power to combat injustice and deprivation (or that "Greg sent me" - either works), and the superpowers you desire will be yours!

excerpted (with slight alterations) from
How to Be a Superhero
by Mark Leigh & Mike Lepine
(NBM Publishing, 1992)

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"Never Moon a Werewolf," by Barbara Paul, examines what life is like for a pack of lycanthropes belonging to a W.A. (Werewolves Anonymous) group - and is hilarious.

Many of the other tales deal with vengeance from a lupine perspective, such as: "Dumpster Diving," by Nina Kikiri Hoffman, about meaningful werewolf adoption; Wendy Lee & Terry Beatty's "Double Identify," about sibling rivalry; "Wolf," by Max A. Collins, in which a ladykiller meets his match; Mike Baker's "Bark at the Moon," which reminds us about the age-old lesson - never talk to strangers; and a great many other tales too numerous to mention.

Other stories in the anthology are absolutely hilarious, the best being "Woofman," by Brenda Crank and Scott Nickell, which tells the story of a man trying to please his horror-film-obsessed girlfriend by becoming a werewolf - and having to settle for something else..

There is also the deeply-moving novelette, "Some Touch of Pity," by Gary A. Braunback. It relates the tale of a werewolf, beginning at childhood, and his relationship with the Native American who both cursed him and taught him how to become an adult at a young age.

All in all, there are 23 tales of terror in *Werewolves*, to delight, tantalize, and occasionally stifle us into believing that, come the full moon, you must beware. Enjoy!!!

RATING: 3 out of a possible 4

ΛΨΦ

I confess that my imagination
refuses to see any sort of
submarine doing anything but
suffocating its crew
and floundering at sea.

--H.G. Wells (1901)

excerpted from
*The People's Almanac Presents
The Complete Idiosyncratic
Compendium of the 20th Century*
by David Wallechinsky
(Little, Brown & Co., 1995)

LSFer Joe Parra will be appearing in a production of *A Christmas Carol* at the Wayside Theatre out near Winchester. He's playing both Mr. Fezziwig and "the evil pawnbroker." The run is Nov. 30 to Dec. 30; and an LSF "field trip" to see the show on Dec. 16th was discussed. [Ed. note: That performance is sold out. Peter & Rob & Jeff & Philip will be discussing alternatives at the December LSF meeting.]

Wayne #1 announced that *Shadow Man*, Melissa Scott's latest novel, has become a selection of the Science Fiction Book Club. Carl highly recommends this book, and he reported that his review of it will appear in the upcoming issue of *Wavelengths*.

Sad note: Bill Watterson will be discontinuing his "Calvin & Hobbes" comic strip as of Dec. 31st of this year. He's apparently fed up with fighting with the syndication powers-that-be.

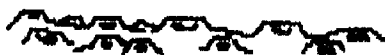
Next meeting: After some discussion, it was agreed that the December LSF meeting will again be held at Jeff-and-Philip's, but that it will be moved to the second *Saturday* (Dec. 9th) and combined with a "Movie Madness" Party. [Ed. note: See article on page 1 of this newsletter.]


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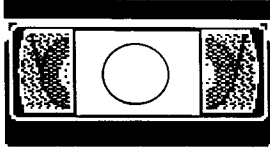
Landing and moving around the moon offers so many serious problems for human beings that it may take science another 200 years to lick them.

--- *Science Digest* ---
(August 1948)

excerpted from
*The People's Almanac Presents
The Complete Idiosyncratic
Compendium of the 20th Century*
by David Wallechinsky
(Little, Brown & Co., 1995)







Classic Horror on Video
- "Transformations" -
by Joseph Parra

Last issue's listing of vampire videos was such a drain that I didn't know if I'd be up to *this* listing of lycanthropes and other changelings! Luckily, as the moon rose, I felt renewed! So I loped on over to the typewriter and set my claws to work. Here they arrrrrrr...

Once again, I've designated the videos with my opinion of whether they're good (G) or bad (B). If you want to check out my decision on any particular film, just prowl around your favorite video store and snap up a copy for yourself!

-
- | | |
|--|--|
| <i>Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein</i> (G) | <i>The Howling</i> |
| <i>The Alligator People</i> (G) | (#1 - G, #2 - B, #3 - B/G, #4 - B, |
| <i>An American Werewolf in London</i> (G) | #5 - G/B, #6 - G/B) |
| <i>The Ape Man</i> (B) | <i>How to Make a Monster</i> (G/B) |
| <i>Assignment: Terror</i> (B/G) | <i>Island of Lost Souls</i> (G) |
| <i>The Bat People</i> (B) | <i>Island of Dr. Moreau</i> (B) |
| <i>The Beast Must Die</i> (G/B) | <i>I Was a Teenage Werewolf</i> (G/B) |
| <i>Beauty & the Beast</i> | <i>Jungle Captive</i> (B) |
| (1946 - G; 1962 - G/B; 1990 - G) | <i>Jungle Woman</i> (B) |
| <i>The Boy Who Cried Werewolf</i> (B) | <i>The Legend of the Werewolf</i> (G) |
| <i>Captive Wild Woman</i> (G) | <i>Legend of the Wolf Woman</i> (Really B) |
| <i>The Cat Creature</i> (B/G) | <i>La Loba (The She-Wolf - G)</i> |
| <i>Cat Girl</i> (B) | <i>The Mad Monster</i> (B) |
| <i>The Catman of Paris</i> (B/G) | <i>Moon of the Wolf</i> (G) |
| <i>Cat People</i> (1942 - G; 1982 - B) | <i>The Monster and the Girl</i> (G) |
| <i>The Company of Wolves</i> (G) | <i>Monster on the Campus</i> (G) |
| <i>The Craving</i> (B) | <i>My Mom's A Werewolf</i> (B) |
| <i>Cry of the Werewolf</i> (G, but different) | <i>Night Breed</i> (G) |
| <i>Cult of the Cobra</i> (G) | <i>Night of the Howling Beast</i> |
| <i>Curse of the Devil</i> (G) | (aka <i>Werewolf & the Yeti</i> , G/B) |
| <i>The Curse of the Werewolf</i> (Super G) | <i>The Reptile</i> (G) |
| <i>Daughter of Dr. Jekyll</i> (Very B) | <i>The Return of the Vampire</i> (G) |
| <i>The Devil's Partner</i> (B/G) | <i>Return of the Ape Man</i> (G/B) |
| <i>Dr. Januskopf</i> (G) | <i>Silver Bullet</i> (G/B) |
| <i>Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde</i> | <i>The Snake Woman</i> (G/B) |
| (1920/1931/1941/1973/1989 - G) | <i>Son of Dr. Jekyll</i> (G/B) |
| <i>Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde</i> | <i>Teen Wolf</i> (B/G, #2 - Really B) |
| (1920, different film - B) | <i>Transformations</i> (B/G) |
| <i>Dr. Jekyll & Sister Hyde</i> (B) | <i>The Undying Monster</i> (G) |
| <i>Dr. Jekyll & the Wolfman</i> (B) | <i>Voodoo Woman</i> (B) |
| <i>Frankenstein Meets the Wolf Man</i> (G) | <i>The Wasp Woman</i> (B) |
| <i>Full Moon High</i> (G) | <i>The Werewolf</i> (G/B) |
| <i>Fury of the Wolfman</i> (B) | <i>Werewolf in a Girls' Dormitory</i> (B) |
| <i>The Gorgon</i> (G) | <i>Werewolf of London</i> (G, albeit odd) |
| <i>House of Dracula</i> (G) | <i>The Werewolf of Washington</i> (B/G) |
| <i>House of Frankenstein</i> (G) | <i>Wolf</i> (G) |
| | <i>The Wolf Man</i> (Super G) |

*** * 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. This month, however, the Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be combined with a "Video Madness" Party, on Saturday, December 9th, starting at 5:00 PM, at Jeff-and-Philip's home: 312 Highview Ave., Silver Spring, MD (about 20 min. walk east of Silver Spring Metro station). 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.



March 30-31, 1996 **NOVACON IV**: Westpark Hotel (Tysons Corner, VA). Guests: Robert ("the Doctor") Picardo, Grace Lee ("Yeoman Rand") Whitney. Cost: \$35 for the weekend (or \$20 for Sat. & \$20 for Sun.); \$5/day additional is purchased at the 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. For additional info, call (703) 280-5373.

April 5-7, 1996 **BALTICON XXX**: Omni International Hotel (Baltimore, MD). GoH: Robert Jordan; Art GoH: Lubov; "Fang" GoH: Marty Gear. Cost: \$30 until 12/31/95; \$35 from 1/1 - 2/28/96; \$40 at the door. Make check payable to "Balticon XXX" and send to: Balticon XXX, PO Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203-0686. E-mail: bsfs@access.digex.net

May 24-27, 1996 **DISCLAVE '96**: Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill (DC). Guests of Honor: Michael Swanwick & Hannah M.G. Shapero. Cost: \$20 until 12/31/95; \$30 from 1/1/96 to 4/30/96; \$40 at the door. Make checks payable to "Disclave '96" and send to: Disclave '96 Registration, PO Box 368, Gaithersburg, MD 20884. Info by e-mail: disclave96@aol.com

July 5-7, 1996 **GAYLAXICON VII**: Burlington Marriot Hotel (Burlington, MA - about 10 mi. NW of Boston). Guests of Honor: "To be Announced." Cost: \$20 until 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.

Aug. 29 - Sept. 1, 1996 **L.A.CON III (the 54th World Science Fiction Convention)**. Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim Hilton & Towers, and Anaheim Marriott (Anaheim, CA). Writer GoH: James White; Media GoH: Roger Corman; Toastmaster: Connie Willis. Cost: \$110 until 12/31/95; "more" after 1/1/96. Make check payable to "L.A.Con III" and send to: L.A. Con III, c/o SCIFI, P.O. Box 8442, Van Nuys, CA 91409.
Email infobot: lacon3-info@netcom.com

Aug. 28 - Sept. 1, 1997 **LONESTARCON 2 (the 55th World Science Fiction Convention)**. Both Marriott Riverwalk Hotels & San Antonio Convention Center (San Antonio, TX). Honored Guests: Algis Budrys & Michael Moorcock; Honored Artist Guest: Don Maitz. Cost: \$95 as of 8/16/95; "more" as time goes on. Make check payable to "LoneStarCon 2" and send to: LoneStarCon 2, P.O. Box 27277, Austin, TX 78755. For info, call: (512) 453-7446.

Aug. 5 - 9, 1998 **BUCCONEER (the 56th World Science Fiction Convention)**. Baltimore Convention Center & various Inner Harbor hotels (Baltimore, MD). Writer GoH: C.J. Cherryh; Artist GoH: Michael Whelan; Toastmaster: Charles Sheffield. Membership: \$80 until 12/31/95; \$98 from 1/1/96 to 9/30/96; and it keeps going up. Make checks payable to "Bucconeer" and send to: Baltimore Worldcon 1998, Inc., P.O. Box 1376, Baltimore, MD 21203.
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