



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #70 - Jan. 1996

LSF Booklist Update

a request by Carl Cipra

"Lambda Sci-Fi Recommends," the LSF recommended reading list, has been a pet project of mine for quite a number of years now. It's certainly in line with the Network's avowed intention to promote gay/etc.-themed F&SF and horror literature. We've handed out copies at our Pride Day table and at various conventions (such as Darkovercon); and we've disseminated copies to the other Network Affiliates. Randy has even passed along a copy to a local Borders staffer.

Alas, it's been a couple of years since any new titles have been added to the list. I think it's high time to update it, don't you?

OK, so I hereby make an official request of all LSF members: send in your recommendations. I'll input them (along with my new recommendations) and print up the updated list. Remember, the avowed purpose is to recommend "science fiction, fantasy, and horror books that deal positively with themes of alternative sexuality."

Here's what I'd like you to include: (1) the author's name; (2) the full title; and (3) a short description of the book and/or why you recommend it. Item #3 should only consist of a few sentences - please, no long paragraphs. (If you're not sure how to summarize the plot, try looking at the blurb on the dustjacket or the back cover.)

If at all possible, see if you can get your recommendations to me in

IN MEMORIAM

ERIC GARBER 1954 - 1995

In 1978, Eric helped found the San Francisco Lesbian & Gay History Project. He was also responsible for a number of significant works in the area of les/bi/gay genre literature. He was co-editor of *Worlds Apart* (1986), an anthology of gay & lesbian SF; editor of *Embracing the Dark* (1991), an anthology of gay & lesbian horror stories; and co-author (with Lyn Paleo) of the landmark work *Uranian Worlds: A Guide to Alternative Sexuality in Science Fiction, Fantasy, & Horror* (1983/1990).

Eric passed away in San Francisco on Oct. 8th, two months shy of his 41st birthday. The Gaylaxians have lost a good friend; we'll all miss his presence at future Gaylaxicons.

writing at the January 14th meeting. If you can't make the meeting, feel free to mail it in to me c/o LSF's P.O. Box. (You can find it right above this article, on the newsletter's masthead.) If you'd like to talk about it before you turn something in, please feel free to give me a call.

I'm looking forward to receiving the same kind of really great recommendations that LSFers have sent in before!

ΛΨΦ

LSF Book Exchange at Jan. 14th Meeting!!

Just in case you're getting absent-minded like me, here's a short reminder about Lambda Sci-Fi's *sixth* annual book exchange, which will occur at the upcoming Jan. 14th meeting! All LSF members are invited to participate in this "blind book exchange" - visitors, too!

Briefly, here's how it works: (1) Go out and purchase a copy of your "favorite" science-fiction, fantasy, or horror book. (2) Insert a piece of paper (or a bookmark) with your name on it. (3) Wrap up the exchange item, but don't put any identifying marks or anything on the wrapped package to say who it's from. (4) At the meeting, add your wrapped exchange item to the pile with all the others; and you'll be assigned a number. (5) When your number is called, you pick one of the packages from the pile. See how easy?

I can hardly wait to see what shows up *this year!*

ΛΨΦ



Gaylaxicon VII 10th Anniversary Convention

Don't miss out on all the fun!
It's only half a year away!

Send in for *your* membership now!

(For details, see Con Calendar
on page 6 of this newsletter.)

WHAT'S INSIDE?

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Two by Barker

reviews by Joseph Parra

Lord of Illusion

(a film review)

Harry Houdini, probably the world's greatest magician and illusionist, said that he had spirit guides who propelled him through his marvelous feats of legerdemain. In *Lord of Illusions*, Clive Barker tells us that there are two sorts of magic at play with all really superb illusionists: excellent trickery and deadly reality (*real* magic). The real magic, says Barker, is only granted to a select few; and they are, at best, an unpleasant lot. They are the cold and calculating, the man-turned-monster, and (at the other end of the spectrum) the anti-hero.

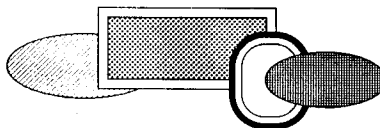
Harry D'Amour is Barker's supernaturally-inclined gumshoe (that's "private detective" to those of you who neither read nor watch detective fiction). Harry is doing a routine observation job when he is suddenly propelled into a nightmare world of black magic and *blacker* magic. His quarry wanders into a fortune teller's parlor in Los Angeles at a most inopportune time - the "fortune teller" is being horribly tortured into revealing the burial place of a great warlock. Exit Harry's mundane case; enter a new terrifying one. His investigations lead him to Swann (a sort of morose David Copperfield) and his wife and man-Friday. Whim leads to fancy; and Harry finds himself drawn to the wife and magician, both of whom are in great danger from the mad killer who had earlier tortured the fortune teller. Swann is about to perform his act at the fabulous Pantages Theatre when the maniac and his horrific toady (who takes sado-masochism to new and disgusting heights) turn up backstage. Swann is killed; but was it the doing of the maniac and his toady, or was it something else? Harry's investigations further recall the film's opening incident, when Swann and four others storm a commune run by Nix, the malevolent warlock (killing Nix and rescu-

ing a waif he was holding hostage). But monsters don't go down so easily, especially if they have pals....

The illusions in the film are quite good. Both the magic tricks and the special effects are up to snuff. In fact, a couple of instances are outstanding: (1) when a ghost or monster attacks our protagonists in geometric proportions in Swann's home; (2) when the warlock walks on air and breathes fire. Now I know these don't *sound* particularly original - indeed, they aren't - but I don't recall them having been done so convincingly ever before. The performances are just alright. Scott Bakula (*Quantum Leap*) plays Harry D'Amour. The impression we're supposed to have of D'Amour is that he and Philip Marlowe could be cousins. Unfortunately, Bakula is just a tad too energetic, which marring what would otherwise be a nice portrayal. Daniel Von Bargaen does a nice job as the evil warlock Nix (in a role Barker must have planned for Donald Pleasance). The other performances are adequate to OK.

The problem with Clive Barker on film (especially as *directed* by Barker) is that proper understanding (even real enjoyment) of his material requires a familiarity similar to that gained from watching a soap opera on a regular basis. You can't tell who's what or what's who without a scorecard. This is really a shame, because if you're in on the tale through prior readings, Barker's narrative and sense of flow as a director works quite well. He gives his film a nice, expensive B-movie feel. I know that sounds like a contradiction in terms; but imagine the sense of tightness of one of your favorite movies (whatever it is), but with a bigger budget. United Artists gave Barker what he wanted, and *vice versa* - a summer shocker, WITH a gay twist that I won't give away in this article! Enjoy!

Rating: 2½ out of a possible 4



Everville

(a book review)

First of all, in order to fully understand this epic novel, one must read other Clive Barker novels and see the film *Lord of Illusions* - and even then sort of wing it and jump right in there. If you've read *The Great and Secret Show*, you've got an introduction to the main protagonists and antagonists: private detective Harry D'Amour, biker Tesla Bombeck, Tommy-Ray the Death Boy, Fletcher the evil warlock, and Kissoon (*the* most malevolent wizard, and Fletcher's boss). To make a long story short, all these personages previously did battle in an attempt to open a way to another world where strange, possibly superior beings live. Hmmm, (song cue): "Seems to me I've heard that song before..."

Well, it seems that some of the gang that was thought to have been wiped out in *The Great and Secret Show* were not; and their quest has taken some very unexpected turns. *Everville* starts out as the saga of Maeve O'Connell (a poor, young Irish immigrant) and her father as they join a wagon train heading into the American West of 1848, to what would become Oregon. Owen Buddenbaum (who, in the course of the tale, is revealed to be quite evil himself, as well as gay) has sent Maeve and her dad on the quest westward to help establish a new realm - a paradise on earth, if you will. The O'Connells meet up with the usual hardships: hostile Indians, impassable snow-covered mountains, and prejudice. Unfortunately for the O'Connells, their beliefs, religiously-speaking, are contrary to those of their fellow travelers. Maeve and her father are labelled witches; and Maeve's father is shot and killed. Suddenly, there is a rustling

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Two by Barker

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in the trees; and a creature comes forward, slays the would-be do-gooders, and saves Maeve, whom it then takes to its world. A dimensional warp on top of a mountain leads to Quiddity, a place humans usually only get to visit in their dreams.

Now we jump to modern times. Everville is a small town about to celebrate its centennial-something birthday. Tesla and company are compelled to come to Everville for both good and bad reasons. Neither side knows the reason for their necessary presences; but they all *must* and *will* come to Everville. Some of them will come in contact with the current residents of Everville; and some will either kill those residents or alter their existences forever...

The primary difficulty with Barker's novel is that if you've only bought this book, there's no indication that this book is actually a sequel. Thus, after the first chapter, it's quite possible to feel that you've *skipped* several chapters. Another difficulty is that the characters that have appeared in previous tales are not given much background in *this* one.

That aside, *Everville* is a good tale once it gets going. The narrative is never dull or silly; and the characters are generally well-drawn. The obvious comparisons with H.P. Lovecraft are welcome ones - Barker's tales are never so much rip-offs as homages (with maybe a touch of Arthur Machen thrown in for insanity's sake). If there is one thing Barker constantly needs, it's a strong editor. Not that there is a lot of junk there; but there's so *much* information that it's more than possible to get lost in the shuffle.

Once more, Mr. Barker has pulled us into his kaleidoscope of magic. If you look too long, you've stayed too long. But if you go at a leisurely pace, you'll not get lost. No matter, after all, as all roads lead to *Everville!* Enjoy!

Rating: 3 out of a possible 4

ΛΨΦ

Minutes of the LSF "Holiday" Meeting (and "Video Madness" Party)

by Peter Knapp (edited by *Guess Who?*)

For a change of pace, the meeting was divided into three components: the business meeting, dinner, and then the videos. This gave people an opportunity to get some dinner and socialize while chowing down, before getting down to the video-watching. This author found the social half hour of eating and gabbing most enjoyable; and he recommends adopting this strategy at future "Video Madness" Parties.

A good crowd of 20 or so new and recurring characters turned out for the "serious" part of the festivities (*i.e.* the business meeting).

Rob reported on the **festivities at Darkover** Grand Council Meeting XVIII over Thanksgiving weekend. Everyone had a good time. LSF hosted a well-attended room party on Saturday night. (We now have photographic evidence that LSF *can* attract women to its events!)

Rob also reported on the **X-Files event at the new Alternate Universe store** in Georgetown. Doug Hutchinson (who played the liver-eating mutant in two *X-Files* episodes) chatted up everyone who wanted his autograph. He liked Peter's ear cuff, and the two swapped piercing stories. Miran Kim (the comics cover artist) and Jim Salicrup (associate publisher and editor-in-chief) were also in attendance. The store personnel blamed the two-hour wait for autographs (in the cold alley behind the store) on the fans who brought multiple copies of comic books for autographs; but if anyone was to blame, it was the rather campy Hutchinson granting an audience to his loyal fans. (Bette Davis, eat your heart -- er, liver -- out.)

In other news, Carl reported that **Eric Garber** (co-author of *Uranian Worlds*, editor of several les/bi/gay genre anthologies) died in October. [Ed. note: I learned it from Denise Thornhill's letter in the latest GNAPA.] Randy also mentioned that **Jack Finney** (author of *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*) had also passed away.

The bulk of the meeting was spent on **Network business**. The discussion centered on deciding on the merits of continuing as an Affiliate of the Network. "Pro" arguments include: the Network acts as a clearing house of information about les/bi/gay fandom; it sponsors Gaylaxicon; it provides legal protection to local Affiliates through its incorporation. "Con" arguments include: some feel the Network has not done anything in the interests of LSF in the past year; a lack of interest in the Network by some members; discouragement over the apparent adversarial relationship between certain members of the Network Board and LSF. The attendees voted to stay with the Network for another year, pending a final vote at the January meeting. (This means that if you have an opinion on this, you'd better attend.)

In other Network news, the only Board position with more than one person running for it is Network Publicist. LSF instructed Phil (our Network Rep) to cast his vote for our very own Rob Gates. The current issue of the GNAPA also calls for volunteers to fill various committee positions. As a result, this writer asked Philip to submit my name as Chairperson for the Worldcon liaison committee. (Wish me luck.)

The last bit of Network business involved discussion of the proposed "**Gaylaxian Awards**," as proposed in the latest GNAPA by Joe Leonard's committee. (Curiously, the proposal came as a surprise to Rob, who is a member of that committee and hadn't been notified of this final proposal being submitted.) Philip was instructed to vote "yes" on the overall concept. When it came to the two nomination/voting proposals, however, there were some reservations - particularly on how to "winnow down" a possibly large number of popular nominations and how the make-up of the

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Q&A Session
passed along by Carl Cipra

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The Dec. 2nd issue of *TV Guide* included an interesting article entitled "The 10 Hottest New Faces of '95." They asked each of these "new faces" an identical set of questions and then reported their answers. Who did they choose? "We've picked TV's freshest faces, sexiest faces, and one rather mousy face. These are the ones who've made '95 come alive." Two personal favorites of mine from amongst the new sci-fi shows were included. Here's how they answered:

RODNEY ROWLAND, who plays Hawks, the smolderingly sexy young "in vitro," on *Space: Above and Beyond*.

TV Guide picked me to be a part of this story because I...am a fresh face!

You may have already seen me in...nothing. I did tons of Off-Broadway and Off-Off-Broadway.

Before I got this job I was busy...auditioning my brains out.

I'm obsessed with...surfing. I have an obsession with the ocean. I guess I was an otter in my past life.

When I get home from work the first thing I do is...check my messages. There are usually none because my number isn't listed and nobody has it now.

When I got my first paycheck I bought...a black Bronco. Fully loaded. It scared me. I'd never really owned a nice car before.

When I was a kid my favorite show was...*Welcome Back, Kotter*. "Drop dead, pizza head." I liked John Travolta. Vinnie Barbarino. He was cool.

If Leno and Letterman each invited me on the same night, I'd probably pick...Stephanie Miller.

If my show doesn't get renewed, I'll...take a big vacation and try again.

THE BRAIN, animated co-star of *Pinky & The Brain*.

TV Guide picked me to be a part of this story because I...proportionately have the largest head of anyone on TV. You may have already seen me in...*Steven Spielberg Presents Animaniacs*. Also, I did a guest spot on *Hee Haw* wearing stilts.

Before I got this job I was busy doing...astronomical equations that confounded Stephen Hawking.

I'm obsessed with...world conquest. And I love the smell of bacon in the morning.

When I get home from work the first thing I do is...soak my feet in salt water and watch CNN. Bernie Shaw cracks me up.

When I got my first paycheck I bought...a scale model of the Betatron Particle Accelerator.

When I was a kid my favorite show was...nothing. I saw a Sid and Marty Krofft show and blew up my TV.

If Leno and Letterman each invited me on the same night, I'd probably pick...Ted Koppel.

If my show doesn't get renewed, I'll...take over the world some other way. A friendly warning.

ΛΨΦ

Minutes

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voting committee would be arranged. Rob will draft LSF's concerns into writing and have Philip submit them to the Network through the next GNAPA.

All this discussion caused people to get really hungry. Michael officially ended the meeting, and a stampede headed for the dining room. Much munching and socializing ensued before people reconvened for the evening's videos.

It was agreed that people could describe their suggested videos - but that no "reviews" or "opinions" (such as personal bias) would be allowed. After the

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Editorial Musings

by Carl Cipra

While reading the current issue of *Training Magazine*, one of my favorite trade journals, I ran across a couple of interesting quotes that struck me as particularly appropos for this newsletter.

What information consumes is rather obvious: it consumes the attention of its recipients. Hence a wealth of information creates a poverty of attention, and a need to allocate that attention efficiently among the overabundance of information sources that might consume it.

---Herbert Simon, Nobel laureate economist, quoted from *Scientific American* (Sept. 1995)

What it's meant for me is that I am less and less a "writer" and more and more an information vortex, a sluice-gate that attempts to control the torrent of available information. A reporter is as much a sieve as anything else. I spend a lot of time acting as a filter, looking for gold amidst the dross.

And that's where we connect, you and I. It's my job to function usefully in this chaotic environment of information overload, while you spend your time doing something more immediately productive than trying to keep up with the latest and greatest.

---Bob Filipczak, staff editor, *Training Magazine* (Nov. 1995)

And that's what I view as the purpose of this newsletter - to help the readers, as well as to inform and to entertain them. Those of us who submit informative articles, film reviews, book reviews, etc. are helping our readers sift through the mass of available genre-related data out there to find "gold amidst the dross." I sincerely hope that, as editor, I've helped, too. Any comments?

ΛΨΦ

Help Save *Babylon 5*

by Peter Knapp



A few weeks ago, I scanned some e-mail saying that local stations have been dropping *Babylon 5*. I didn't pay much attention to the e-mail, as I was having a particularly harried day at work.

Yesterday (11/29), I got e-mail stating that *Babylon 5* has been dropped from XHFOX in Brownsville, TX. The program director wants to put the show back into the line-up, but he needs to convince his bosses that the show is being watched. One way to do that is through letters written to the station.

That's where you come in. What follows is the text of the letter I sent to XHFOX encouraging them to keep *Babylon 5* in the programming schedule. If you want to contribute to the continuation of the show as a whole, please write your own letter today. (If enough stations drop the show, Warner Brothers will stop producing it.) Thank you for your support.

.....

XHFOX

Attn: Program Director
1445 East Adams Street #188
Brownsville, TX 78520

Dear Sir:

I am writing to ask that you not cancel *Babylon 5* in your local market. I know that you would sadden many fans of the show by removing *Babylon 5* from your programming line-up.

As a member of a local science fiction club, Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians, I know how popular the show is among science fiction fans. It is so popular that some viewers feel it surpasses *Star Trek: Deep Space 9* in quality.

I hope this letter helps to convince your station to continue airing *Babylon 5*. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

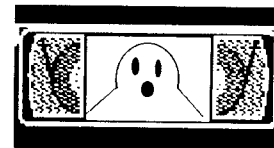
Sincerely,
Peter Knapp

ΛΨΦ

Classic Horror on Video

- Ghosts & Haunted Houses/Castles -

by Joseph Parra



Some days, you just feel like a *shadow* of yourself - and you know, deep down, that you don't stand a *ghost* of a chance to get anything done. On other days, if the *spirit* is willing, things don't seem so *grave*. Which is just my way of saying that this month I'll be looking at "hauntings" on home video.

As always, I've designated each video with my opinion of whether it's good (G) or bad (B). If you want to check out my decision on any particular film, all you have to do is *scare* up a copy at your local video store!

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- | | |
|---|---|
| <i>Back from the Dead</i> (G/B) | <i>The House on Skull Mountain</i> (B) |
| <i>The Bat</i> (1926 - G; 1959 - G) | <i>The Innocents</i> (Super G) |
| <i>The Bat Whispers</i> (G) | <i>Legacy of Blood</i> (B/G) |
| <i>Beetlejuice</i> (G) | <i>The Legend of Hell House</i> (G) |
| <i>The Boogey Man</i> (G) | <i>The Nightcomers</i> (G) |
| <i>Boogeyman 2</i> (B) | <i>Poltergeist</i> (G) |
| <i>The Canterville Ghost</i> | <i>Poltergeist 2</i> (B/G) & <i>3</i> (B) |
| (1944 - G; 1978 - G/B) | <i>The Pit & the Pendulum</i> (G) |
| <i>Casper</i> (G) | <i>Premature Burial</i> (G) |
| <i>The Cat & the Canary</i> | <i>Scared to Death</i> (B/G) |
| (1927, 1939, 1978 - all G) | <i>The Shining</i> (G) |
| <i>Curse of the Cat People</i> (G) | <i>Spellbound</i> (1940 - G) |
| <i>Dead of Night</i> (Super G) | <i>The Spirit Is Willing</i> (G/B) |
| <i>The Evil</i> (G) | <i>Terror in the Haunted House</i> (B/G) |
| <i>The Fog</i> (G) | <i>13 Ghosts</i> (B/G) |
| <i>Fog Island</i> (B/G) | <i>Topper</i> (G) |
| <i>Gaslight</i> (1940 - G; 1944 - very G) | <i>Topper</i> (TV series, |
| <i>The Ghost Breakers</i> (G) | selected shows - G) |
| <i>Ghostbusters</i> (G) | <i>Topper Returns</i> (G) |
| <i>Ghostbusters 2</i> (G) | <i>Topper Takes a Trip</i> (G) |
| <i>The Haunting</i> (Super G) | <i>Tormented</i> (G) |
| <i>The Hearse</i> (G/B) | <i>The Uninvited</i> (Super G) |
| <i>Hold That Ghost</i> (G) | |
| <i>House of Usher</i> (1928 - G/B; | |
| 1948 - G/B; 1960 - G; 1983 - B/G) |with many more phantoms and phan- |
| <i>House on Haunted Hill</i> (G) | tasms out there for your perusal!!!! |

ΛΨΦ

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videos were chosen (two for each of three "screens"), the rest of the evening was rather quiet - *except* for the showing of the *MST3K* version *Santa Claus Conquers the Martians*, which generated much loud, raucous laughter. This writer enjoyed watching quality videos. Hats off to Dan and Tim for lifting the quality of video selection up a few notches. [Ed. note: Here's what was shown: Living room - *The Haunted Palace* and *MST3K's Santa Claus Conquers the Martians*. "Florida Room" - *The Wrong Trousers* (hilarious British claymation!), *The Butter Battle Book* (Dr. Seuss), and *Yamato Takeru* (live action Japanese sword-and-sorcery). Upstairs - *The Tomb of Ligeia* and *The Shadow*.]

On January 14th, the monthly LSF meeting returns to its usual venue at James' Dupont Circle apartment. Don't forget: the meeting will include the annual LSF book exchange!

ΛΨΦ

*** * 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, January 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, 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: \$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: \$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: \$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: "more" [than \$110] 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: \$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.
Internet: baltimore98@access.digex.net Genie: SFRT3, CAT 25, TOP 24