



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #75 - June 1996  
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### Two "Video Madness" Parties in June!!

Good Ghod, preserve us! It appears we're in for a double-dose of that dreaded affliction, the Scourge of LSF - "Video Madness!" That's right, gang, get ready for not one, but two (count 'em *two!*) LSF "Video Madness" Parties this month! Both parties will be preceded by short LSF meetings, to take care of any "business" we need to get out of the way - and then it's on to food'n'films! (Right about now, you should be either licking your lips in anticipation, or quaking in fear - depending on how you view these things.) How did we get ourselves into this mess, you ask? Easy - we wanted to!

The *first* party is set for Saturday, June 8th, starting at 5:00 PM. It's sort of a "night before Pride Day" party. Our hosts will be Philip & Jeff, at their sumptuous Silver Spring manor. (Directions later in this article.)

The *second* party is set for Saturday, June 29th, starting at 2:00 PM. The *raison d'etre* for this party is twofold: (1) it'll give us the earliest possible chance to socialize with any new folks we met at Pride Day; and (2) it's a substitute for the (non-existent) July LSF meeting. This time, our host will be Jaime, at his Georgetown home, the most frequent "home" for LSF video parties. (Directions later in this article.)

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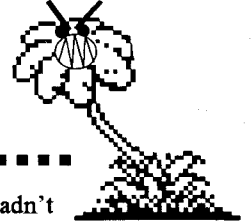
### LSF Table at DC Pride Festival (Sunday, June 9th) reported by Carl Cipra

Once again, Lambda Sci-Fi will have a table at the DC Pride Festival, spreading "the Truth and the Light" about gay F&SF fandom to the Uninitiated in the Metropolitan DC les/bi/gay Community. We'll be handing out copies of the updated "LSF Recommends" booklist and back issues of the newsletter, as well as flyers for Gaylaxicon VII, DarkoverCon, and LSF itself. We'll also be showing off that nifty new tablecloth-and-banner set that Tim M. and Peter K. have been diligently working on! (Thanks, guys!) I even hope to have a more up-to-date version of the LSF club scrapbook/album to show off! (Will wonders never cease!?)

We haven't made any individual arrangements for staffing the table for definite periods of time; but that hasn't been any kind of a problem in the past. It's a great place to hang out and chat and schmooze and "guy-watch" (or "gal-watch," as the case might be). I plan on being there from set-up (approx. 9:00 AM) to take-down (6:00 PM). Feel free to drop by for a while! They tell us it'll be set up similar to last year, with a sunshade to keep us from dying of overexposure.

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### "Looks like plant food to me!"



In case you hadn't guessed it already, that deathless(?) quote is a clue to where LSF's "field trip" is scheduled for June! That's right! We're off to see our own Joe Parra (as "Mr. Mushnik") in a production of *Little Shop of Horrors* (the musical) at The Wayside Theatre!

We've planned on attending the final ("closing night") performance, 8:00 PM, Saturday, June 15th. Tickets cost \$20. You should call the Theatre ASAP and reserve your ticket (1-800-951-1776), because the place fills up fast!

The Wayside Theatre is located 'way out there! It's located on Main Street in Middletown, VA. (Take Rte. 66 West, then Rte. 81 North. On Rte. 81N, take the first exit, then follow the signs to The Wayside Theatre.) It takes about 1½-2 hours to drive there.

Several LSFers are planning on driving; so, if you're interested in a ride, call around to see who's got room. (Plan on leaving by about 6:00 PM - or earlier, if you're making dinner plans in Middletown. And, knowing Joe, we'll probably be invited back to his place after the performance to shoot the breeze for awhile - so plan on possibly making a late night of it.)

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## Earlier Minutes of the May LSF Meeting

by Rob

Due to our ongoing bout with an overflowing pile of "real business," we inaugurated our new policy of starting the "business portion" of the LSF meeting a half-hour earlier than the usual 2:00 PM. A small but eager crowd showed up at this earlier time to deal with the business items for this month.

Our first order of business was decide on the suggestion that LSF make a bid to host Gaylaxicon in 1999. After much laughter at some of the things we could do with a *Space 1999* theme (the "name the emotion" contest with pictures of Barbara Bain was a *big hit!*), we settled down for a vote. The attendees voted unanimously to approve the proposal; and Philip was asked to add it to his next GNAPA submission. The bid will also be made at the Network Board meeting at this year's Gaylaxicon (in Boston). Although the decision to bid for the convention was unanimous, a number of comments, concerns, and suggestions were made - including getting other Gaylactic chapters involved in the planning process (while keeping the admin centers local), making sure to focus on science fiction/fantasy/horror programming (instead of focusing on "gay life" in general), and being sure that our bid is ONLY for the convention in 1999. Although no decisions were made on Con Committee roles, it currently looks like Rob and Jack will co-chair the convention, with Carl repeating his role as Deputy Chair and "Calm Voice of Reason." [Ed. note: ???!]

In other business-related items, an official announcement for the "Lambda Sci-Fi 'Zine Project" (as yet un-named) will be made at Gaylaxicon VII - and flyers will be distributed there, also. (A probable deadline for submissions to the first issue of the 'zine will be October 31, 1996). An auction for raising funds for the 'zine will probably be held at the August LSF meeting; so be on the lookout for more information soon.

Rob (that's me!) also reported on the current status of our World Wide Web site. As of May 12th, our site had received over 800 "hits" (since Feb. 1st). We've recently been getting requests from other sites that want us to link to theirs; and Rob will keep an eye out for "cool sites" to get linked to and places we can ask to link to us. Finally, our suggested Gaylaxicon VII panel/demo on "electronic communication" has gotten a "thumbs up" from the Programming Chair - so we WILL be doing a demonstration of Internet and Web capabilities at Gaylaxicon VII!

With the big business items out of the way, it was time to move on to lighter items. Carl passed around flyers for Gaylaxicon and DarkoverCon, as well as LSF Newsletters and Membership Forms. He also filled us in on the abrupt move of our First-Speaker-Now-In-Exile Loree and the rest of the Cook-Daniels Clan. (Apparently Loree and Marcelle are "suffering through" their new life in a *beautiful* new home in sunny California! Poor them!)

The summer will be big for genre movies and events. Rumor has it that the Sci-Fi Channel will make it to DC sometime in June. (I'm not holding my breath!) Alien Invasion movies seem to be all the rage, with *Independence Day*, *The Arrival*, and *Mars Attacks* all hitting the big screen this summer. Early reviews of *Twister* seem to indicate that the effects are great - but that if you go to see this movie for any other reason, you'll be disappointed. The new Fox made-for-TV movie of Doctor Who premieres on May 14th at 8:00 PM (in fact, already *has*, by the time you read this); and the season finales of *The X-Files*, *Babylon 5*, and *Mystery Science Theater 3000* (which

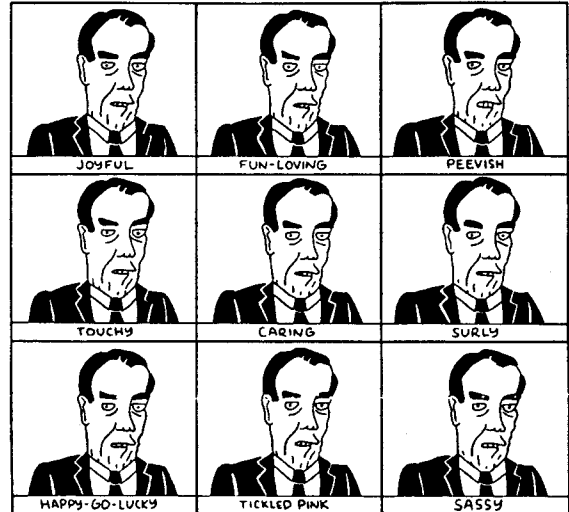
## BOB DOLE MUST TAKE AFTER BARBARA BAIN....

LIFE IN HELL—MATT GROENING

LIFE IN HELL

©1996 BY MATT GROENING

### THE MANY MOODS OF BOB DOLE



[Ed. note: Thanks, Scott, for finding - and annotating - this very appropriate cartoon!]

has not been renewed for next year) will be shown within the second half of May. Peter, Jeff, Michael, Carl, and Rob all commented on the *MST3K* movie, which had some bits that were so funny they were almost painful - though the movie being shown on the "Satellite of Love" (*This Island Earth*) had almost 25% of its footage cut out. Recent TV episodes of *ST:DS9* and *Babylon 5* have been impressing people - particularly *B5*.

James reported on his adventures at a recent *Highlander* convention, which sounded quite entertaining. The people from the show who made appearances at the convention were very friendly and well-behaved, and they were eager to make the fans feel welcome and appreciated. There were apparently quite a few innuendos during a Q&A session with a few of the stars.

Recent mail from the LSF PO Box was passed around, as were copies of the latest issues of *Cinefantastique* and *Sci-Fi Spotlight* (formerly called *Space Time Continuum*). Some new Collectible Card Game cards were also passed around - from a game based on

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**Classic Genre Films on Video  
with Gay Influence or Gay Content**

by Joseph Parra



Hello, dahlings! No, that's not a misprint - it's HOLLYWOOD! Our Community has given so much to the worlds of science fiction, horror, and fantasy that one would think we invented the genres. Well, we didn't; but we came close - what with directors like James Whale practically starting everything off with *Frankenstein!* (In case you didn't know, Whale was the earliest Hollywood director to come out of the closet in the late 1920s.) According to the late gay film critic Vito Russo, without our contributions a big part of the genre might never have happened! So, here's a list of "tres gay" genre films now available on home video. (I've placed the name of the distributor's company next to the film title, to make it easier for you should you decide you want to include it in your video library. I've also annotated each film to let you know why I've included it in this list: A = actor/actress, C = content, D = director, ST = subtext.)

By the way, for more insight about these films (and, indeed, for information about gay influence on and in the film industry in general), I highly recommend Vito Russo's book *The Celluloid Closet*.



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <i>Andy Warhol's Dracula</i> (VCL) - C/D                 | <i>The Hunger</i> (MGM/UA) - C                      |
| <i>Andy Warhol's Frankenstein</i><br>(VCL) - C/D         | <i>The Lady &amp; the Monster</i> (Republic) - C    |
| <i>Blacula</i> (Orion) - C                               | <i>Law of Desire</i> (Cinevista) - C                |
| <i>Blood &amp; Roses</i> (Paramount) - C                 | <i>The Legend of Hell House</i> (Fox) - C           |
| <i>Bride of Frankenstein</i><br>(MCA/Universal) - A/D/ST | <i>Lord of Illusions</i> (MGM/UA) - C/D             |
| <i>Carmilla</i> (WB) - C                                 | <i>The Lost Boys</i> (Warner Bros.) - C             |
| <i>Caveman</i> (MGM/UA) - C                              | <i>Lust for a Vampire</i> (Republic) - C            |
| <i>Darkman</i> (MCA/Universal) - C                       | <i>Mascara</i> (Warner Bros.) - C                   |
| <i>Daughters of Darkness</i> (Republic) - C              | <i>Modesty Blaise</i> (Sinister Cinema) - A/C       |
| <i>Die! Die! My Darling</i><br>(Columbia/Tri-Star) - A/C | <i>Murder</i> (Sinister Cinema) - C                 |
| <i>Donovan's Brain</i> (MGM/UA) - C                      | <i>No Way to Treat a Lady</i><br>(Paramount) - C    |
| <i>Dorian Grey</i> (Republic) - C                        | <i>Picture of Dorian Gray</i> (MGM/UA) - C          |
| <i>Dr. Jekyll &amp; Sister Hyde</i> (Republic) - C       | <i>Plan 9 from Outer Space</i> (Rhino) - A/D        |
| <i>Dracula AD 1972</i> (Warner Bros.) - C/D              | <i>Psycho</i> (MCA/Universal) - A/C                 |
| <i>Dracula's Daughter</i><br>(MCA/Universal) - C         | <i>Rebecca</i> (Fox) - C                            |
| <i>Dracula Sucks</i> (VCL) - C                           | <i>The Rocky Horror Picture Show</i><br>(Fox) - C   |
| <i>Dressed to Kill</i> (Goodtimes) - C                   | <i>Rope</i> (MCA/Universal) - C                     |
| <i>Dune</i> (MCA/Universal) - C                          | <i>The Silence of the Lambs</i> (Orion) - C/D       |
| <i>Ed Wood</i> (Disney) - C                              | <i>Spectre of the Rose</i> (Republic) - C/ST        |
| <i>The Everlasting Secret Family</i><br>(Cinevista) - C  | <i>Strangers on a Train</i> (Warner Bros) - C       |
| <i>The Fan</i> (Paramount) - C                           | <i>Terror in the Crypt</i><br>(Sinister Cinema) - C |
| <i>The Fearless Vampire Killers</i><br>(MGM/UA) - C      | <i>Theatre of Blood</i> (MGM/UA) - C                |
| <i>Flesh Gordon</i> (Video Treasures) - C                | <i>The Uninvited</i> (MCA/Universal) - C            |
| <i>The Fourth Man</i> (Video Treasures) - C              | <i>The Vampire Lovers</i> (Orion) - C               |
| <i>Frankenstein</i><br>(MCA/Universal) - A/D/ST          | <i>Vegas in Space</i> (VCL) - A/C                   |
| <i>The Haunting</i> (MGM/UA) - C                         | <i>The Velvet Vampire</i><br>(New Horizons) - C     |
| <i>Homicidal</i> (Columbia/Tri-Star) - A/C               | <i>Windows</i> (Columbia/Tri-Star) - C              |
| <i>The Howling</i> (New Line) - C                        | <i>2001: A Space Odyssey</i><br>(MGM/UA) - C/D      |
|  | <i>2010</i> (MGM/UA) - C/D                          |

...and there's lots more! Add to the list!!!



**LSF at DC Pride Festival**

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Anyone interested in helping set up should meet me at 9:00 AM at the "Vendor/Exhibitor Check-in Tent" (near 12th & Penn., they tell me). As soon as I get whatever paperwork, etc. they need, I'll be off to set up the table. Festivities officially begin at 11:00 AM. Close-up time is scheduled for 6:00 PM, so we'll need some help packing things up at that time.

Where will the table be located? I have NO idea! (As you may remember, last year we got moved around a couple of times!) Either check for directions at the "Check-in Tent" or wander around looking for the black-and-silver LSF banner (and the incredibly long Dr. Who scarf). That's where we'll be!

See you there!



**May Minutes**

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the Cthulhu Mythos. The cards are pretty cool; and a number of people seemed eager to paw through them. Among the mail was a schedule of performances for *The Little Shop of Horrors* at the Wayside Theatre (featuring performances by our own Joe Parra). After a short discussion, it was decided that LSF would descend *en masse* on June 15th in an "official field trip." (For details, see the announcement on page 1 of this newsletter.)

Finally, Ron volunteered to coordinate an electronic mailing list for announcements, reminders about LSF events, etc. He'll be sending mail to those with e-mail addresses in the Directory; and anyone interested in being added to the list should send e-mail to Ron at: [ronald@his.com](mailto:ronald@his.com)

That's all! The "new meeting format" worked pretty well; and we'll keep using it for a while - though, because our next two meetings are linked with "Video Madness" Parties, we won't have a 1:30 PM start time again until the August LSF meeting! See y'all next month!





**Lammas Needs  
Your Help!**  
reported by Carl Cipra

It was a *helluva* Winter, wasn't it? As bad as it was on a personal level, however, it was even worse for some of the small businesses in the District. The weather was a real "cash-flow killer." Case in point: Lammas Women's Books and More, a 23-year-old institution in the the DC les/bi/gay Community - owned and operated for several years now by Jane Troxell, former member and continuing friend of Lambda Sci-Fi.

With all the storms and pile-up snow, Jane and the Lammas staff watched their customer traffic drop to nil and their losses mount up to the tune of an estimated loss of \$50,000 in sales - but the bills (rent, food, etc.) kept mounting up (as they *always* do). The first casualty of this financial disaster will be the Lammas Bookstore in Baltimore, which Jane opened a couple of years ago (closing on June 30th). Among many other people in our Community, I certainly hope that the DuPont Circle store won't be the second casualty!

Lammas has certainly been beneficial to gay fantasy/science-fiction fans over the years. Lammas has hosted readings by prominent les/bi/gay (and friends) writers at the store - among them Melissa Scott, Jewelle Gomez, and Forry Ackerman. And if you're looking for a nice little selection of les/bi/gay F&SF or spirituality/religion books (particularly those hard-to-find books with a feminist, lesbian, and/or "wimmin's" angle to them), then there's no better place to look for them than Lammas.

"But what can I do about it?" you ask. OK, you probably can't afford to pass along a couple of thousand to keep Jane afloat, neither can I. But we can still help out. How? It's simple!

Drop by the store and *buy* something!! (Shopping? What a concept!) I highly recommend a trip to Lammas for a leisurely little stroll around the bookshelves. For example,

PHILIP: Well, Peter, *Dr. Who* finally made it to FOX. But don't you think that it fell a little short of what it could have been? I mean, didn't you feel that it seemed to pander a lot to American tastes, instead of keeping the British humor and charm that made *Dr. Who* so popular in America in the first place?

PETER: Yes, I did think the movie pandered to what the producers felt were American tastes. I'm not surprised that they did this, as Universal (the production company that made the movie) and FOX (the network that bought it) both wanted to make something that would hopefully be watched by mainstream American audiences.

While always popular in this country, I think that in the past both the commercial and PBS affiliates aimed the original British show to fill a niche. They never showed *Doctor Who* during prime time. FOX, on the other hand, did show their movie at 8:00 PM on a Tuesday night. I think that necessitated changing the flavor of the show to hopefully appeal to a broader American audience, not just those willing to stay up late on a Saturday night to catch the latest episode.

on a recent trip to the store, I found a copy of an out-of-print fantasy novel by Francesca Lia Block (a recent interest of mine), a book I hadn't previously known about! And, guys, if you're worried about going into "a women's bookstore," let me assure you that there's nothing to worry about. You won't run up against some rabid labryswielding feminist who's out to defend "wimmin's space." I've been shopping there for years now and everyone there has been "nice folks!" So, drop on by Lammas - it's located at 1426 21st Street, downstairs at the corner of 21st and "P," a block or so off DuPont Circle. Lammas needs your help!

**The Trial of a Time Lord**  
a movie review of *Doctor Who*  
by Philip Wright & Peter Knapp



PHILIP: But you have to agree that at points they went too far. For example, to have the Doctor become romantically involved with *his* doctor was completely out of character for Doctor Who as a character and as a series - particularly when it was thrown in so haphazardly. When I watch *Doctor Who* I watch it, in part, for the exotic British flavor. I don't want to hear the Doctor use a phrase that is exclusively American, such as "I am the guy..."

I will say that one thing the show did try to do is capture a lot of the really good things about the British original: playing much of the story tongue-in-cheek; showing the actual transition from the seventh Doctor to this new one; and particularly the way in which they played with the story, giving it lots of twists and turns, just like the stories in the original series. By these, I think they accomplished what they set out to do.

PETER: I agree. Disarming a tense cop with a Jelly Baby was classic *Who*. So were the constant references to the show's past. But probably my favorite line occurred late in the movie. The Master has just changed into an outrageous costume and is proclaiming that "...we have no time to waste." The Doctor quips back, "But time to change." To which the Master proclaims, while sashaying down the staircase, "I always dress for the occasion!" This dialog was very reminiscent of the original show - a little campy, a little irreverent, very tongue-in-cheek.

PHILIP: I agree. That sequence was making fun of itself. However, what happens next will be debatable.

PETER: You mean if they do turn the movie into a series, will anyone watch it?

PHILIP: Yes. They have miscalculated, because they want to make absolutely "mainstream" something that is not only "cult" within the general

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## Trial of a Time Lord

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television audience but also within the science fiction community. They're trying to make it into something with a *ST:TNG* kind of appeal; but this is so specialized (because of the very nature of the show: the eccentric characters, the very subtle humor, for example), it's never going to appeal to Mrs. Joe Blow from East Podunk. They need to approach it the same way they've approached *Babylon 5*. *B5* has its own flavor and has gone off on a completely unique direction.

**PETER:** I don't know if I'd go as far as saying that they are trying to mimic *ST:TNG* (though the movie did have great special effects and production designs - two hallmarks of the *Trek* universe); but I do agree that if they

Americanize the show too much, it will look like a cheap *Star Trek* ripoff, which non-Whovians won't watch, and it will alienate Whovians who might feel that it strayed too far from the mold. To draw a parallel, most of my *Trekker* friends have stopped watching *Star Trek: Voyager*.

What were the ratings of *Doctor Who*? The producers were hoping for a Nielsen rating of 17. The overnight shares in 33 markets were 11/10/10/11 (by half hour), which is average for a FOX Tuesday night movie. I found the demographic breakdown interesting: an 8 share among women 18-49, a 12 share for men 18-49, and a 14 share for teens. For a show that hasn't had a new episode in six years, I'm surprised more younger people watched it than adults who may have

grown up on the show. Not that I'm complaining - the more the merrier.

\* \* \*

If you would like to see more of *Doctor Who* on FOX, please write a polite letter of support to:

Tom Thayer  
President, Universal Television  
Building 500  
100 Universal City Plaza  
Universal City, CA 91608

Trevor Walton  
FOX Network/Movies for TV  
10201 West Pico Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90035

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## "Video Madness" Parties

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### WHEN TO BE THERE

The Lambda Sci-Fi meeting and the potluck dinner will start at 5:00 PM on June 8th, and at 2:00 PM on June 29th. The videos will begin as soon as we get the "business" out of the way. So, try to get to each party a little before the scheduled "start time," especially if there's any last-minute fixin' you need to do on your potluck contribution.

### WHAT TO BRING

Both parties will be typical LSF "Video Madness" parties, so bring along your favorite genre videos (science-fiction, fantasy, horror). Attendees will vote on which videos to watch; and there'll be different "tracks" of programming shown on each of three screens throughout the house. As usual, each party will include our traditional pot-luck pig-out, so bring along something scrumptious to eat. We don't pre-assign categories of what food to bring, so everyone should just bring something from one (or more) of the following "basic food groups": appetizers (veggies, chips, etc.); a main course (enough to serve at least 4-5 people); dessert (of course!); or non-alcoholic drinks (both diet and regular).

### HOW TO GET THERE - JUNE 8TH (5:00 PM)

The party will be held at Philip-and-Jeff's home in Silver Spring, MD (site of several "Video Madness" parties). It's located at 312 Highview Ave. - a couple of miles east of "downtown Silver Spring," just south of the intersection of Colesville Rd. and Franklin

Driving: Take Colesville Rd. east from George Ave. ("downtown Silver Spring"). Turn right on Franklin. Take the 3rd right onto Highview Ave. The house is up the street a bit, on your right.

Metro: Take the Red Line to the Silver Spring Metro Station. We'll plan a couple of "shuttle runs" from the Metro station to the party (4:15 PM and 4:30 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 party. (Look for a maroon 1995 Ford Escort station wagon.) If you'd rather walk from the station (or if you miss either of the "shuttles"), it'll take about 30 minutes to walk there. (Just follow the directions re: "Driving" above.)

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### HOW TO GET THERE - JUNE 29TH (2:00 PM)

The party will be held at Jaime's home in Georgetown (site of numerous "Video Madness" parties in the past). It's located at 1928 37th St., NW, several blocks west of Wisconsin Ave.

From the North: Going south on Wisconsin (from the direction of National Cathedral), you'll pass Mass. Ave. Just after Calvert St., 37th St. splits off to the right from Wisconsin (as Wisconsin swerves to the left). In about a half mile, 37th St. passes through Whitehaven Park and intersects White Haven Parkway. Jaime's place is just beyond White Haven Parkway, on your right.

From the South: Going north on Wisconsin (from the direction of "M" St.), you'll need to take a left on some street to get to 37th St. If you turn left on Reservoir Rd. or on "R" St., you'll need to turn right on 37th St., and Jaime's place will be a ways on your left. If you go further up Wisconsin to White Haven Parkway (near the "social Safeway"), you'll turn left on White Haven Pkwy. and then left again on 37th St. Jaime's home will be on your right.

Where to Park: Your best bet for parking is either along White Haven Parkway or along "T" St.

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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 \$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, there will be two combination meetings/video parties: **Saturday, June 8th** (starting at 5:00 PM) at 312 Highview Ave., in Silver Spring, MD; and **Saturday, June 29th** (starting at 2:00 PM) at 1928 37th St., in Georgetown. 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 James



July 5-7, 1996 **GAYLAXICON VII**: Burlington Marriot Hotel (Burlington, MA - about 10 mi. NW of Boston). Guests of Honor: Delia Sherman & Ellen Kushner. Cost: \$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.

July 12-14, 1996 **SHORE LEAVE 18**. Marriott Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: Richard Biggs (*B5's* "Dr. Franklin") & ReneAuberjonois (*DS9's* "Odo"). Cost: \$45 until 5/31/96 (higher thereafter). Make check payable to "Shore Leave" and send (with 2 SASE's) to: Shore Leave 18, P.O. Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809.

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: \$130 until 7/31/96 ("higher" at the door). 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

Oct. 4-6, 1996 **FARPOINT 96**. Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: Tim ("Mr. Tuvok") Russ & Michael ("Kang") Ansara. Cost: \$40 for weekend (1-day memberships available). Make check payable to "Farpoint, Inc." and send to: Farpoint, Inc., 6099 Hunt Club Road, Elkridge, MD 21227.  
Web Page at URL - <http://members.aol.com/farpoin105>

Nov. 8-10, 1996 **SCI-CON 18**. Holiday Inn Executive Center (Virginia Beach, VA). Guests of Honor: Larry Elmore, Charles Sheffield, Melissa Benson. Cost: \$20 thru 10/1; \$30 at the door. Make check payable to "Sci-Con" and send to: Sci-Con, P.O. Box 9434, Hampton, VA 23670. For info: call (804) 865-1407, or...  
E-mail: [scicon@earthlink.net](mailto:scicon@earthlink.net) Web page: [www.earthlink.net/~scicon](http://www.earthlink.net/~scicon)

Nov. 22-24, 1996 **PHILCON 1996 (The 60th Anniversary)**. Adam's Mark Hotel (Philadelphia, PA). Principal Speaker: Fred Pohl; Guest Artist: Tom Kidd. Cost: \$30 until 8/15/96; \$35 from 8/16 - 10/15/96; \$40 thereafter. Make check payable to "Philcon '96" and send to: Philcon '96, P.O. Box 8303, Philadelphia, PA 19101.  
E-Mail: [philcon@netaxs.com](mailto:philcon@netaxs.com) World Wide Web: <http://www.netaxs.com/~philcon>

Nov. 29 - Dec. 1, 1996 **DARKOVER GRAND COUNCIL XIX**. Holiday Inn (Timonium, MD). Guest of Honor: "to be announced"; Special Guest: Marion Zimmer Bradley (health permitting). Hotel rooms: \$62/night (up to 4 in a room). Cost: \$25 until 11/1/96; \$30 after that. (Membership limited to 600.) Make check payable to "Armida Council" and send to: Armida Council, PO Box 7203, Silver Spring, MD 20907. (A very lesbian/gay/bisexual-friendly con!)