



LAMBDA SCI-FI



DC Area Gaylaxians

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"Madness" Before Pride! (How's that again?!)



On the afternoon/evening/night of June 7th (Saturday, the day before DC Pride Day), Lambda Sci-Fi will begin its DC Pride Weekend celebrations with a combination monthly LSF meeting and (in)famous "Video Madness" Party. The meeting/party will be held at Julian's (fka Jaime's) home in Georgetown. The monthly LSF business/social meeting will begin at 3:00 PM, and the pot-luck supper and videos will begin at 5:00 PM. Here are the details:

WHEN TO BE THERE

The Lambda Sci-Fi meeting and the pot-luck dinner will start at 3:00 PM, with the videos to begin at 5:00 PM. If you plan on participating in the pot-luck supper and there's any last-minute fixin' you need to do on your contribution, make sure you get there no later than 4:30 PM.

WHAT TO BRING TO THE PARTY

This will be one of our typical "Video Madness" parties, so bring along your favorite genre videos (science-fiction, fantasy, horror). The attendees will vote on which videos to
(continued on page 2)

LSF Table at Capital Pride Festival

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On Sunday, June 8th, Lambda Sci-Fi will proudly participate *for the seventh year in a row* at the (yet again re-named) Capital Pride Festival! We'll be disseminating information about Lambda Sci-Fi, the Gaylatic Network, Gaylaxicon Lite '97, and science fiction, fantasy, and horror literature/films/etc. with lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgendered/feminist themes. All LSF members are encouraged to drop by the table and help out during the day - or even just to socialize for a while! It's always been a fun day!

Carl will be coordinating the set-up and break-down of the table, as well as probably staffing the table for most of the day. He would *really* appreciate some help during set-up (9 - 11 AM) and break-down (probably about 6 PM). Volunteers should contact Carl directly or talk to him at the "Video Madness" Party on Saturday evening, June 7th. (We'll also make any necessary last-minute arrangements at the party.)

ΛΨΦ

"What's Joe Doing?" answered by Carl Cipra

Ah, that's the \$64 question, isn't it? Well, now it can be revealed. (Well, *some* of it can be revealed - you don't want to know about the rest!)

As you probably know, Joe Parra, LSF's very own resident thespian, is frequently featured in genre-related productions at the Wayside Theatre, 'way out thar in Virginnie. This season, he'll appear in two murder mysteries, to wit:

Aug. 27 - Sept. 13 - *An Inspector Calls*, by J.B. Priestley - the famous murder mystery about a murder/suicide which may *not* be one after all!

Oct. 15 - Nov. 2 - *Sleuth!*, by Anthony Schaeffer - the ultimate "whodunnit", when a famed mystery writer discovers his wife's infidelity and confronts her young lover. (Joe plays the mystery writer, the character portrayed by Sir Lawrence Olivier on the silver screen.)

So it looks like we'll be talking about some upcoming trips out to Ye Olde Wayside Theatre to watch Joe "tread the boards!"

ΛΨΦ

The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on Saturday, June 7th, at Julian's (fka Jaime's) Georgetown home: 1928 37th St., NW. It will be held conjointly with a pre-Pride Day "Video Madness" Party - 3:00 PM for business meeting; 5:00 PM for potluck supper and videos. See article elsewhere on this page for details on the festivities. Hope to see you there!

WHAT'S INSIDE?

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watch; and there'll be different "tracks" of programming shown on each of three screens throughout the house. As usual, the party will include our traditional pot-luck pig-out, so bring along something scrumptious to eat. We're not pre-assigning 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!); non-alcoholic drinks (both diet and regular). **NOTE:** *Julian says he'll set up the barbeque grill so folks can incinerate their favorite munchies (hot dogs, ham-*

burgers, steaks, etc. - BYOM).

HOW TO GET THERE

The party will be held at Julian'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. Julian'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 Julian'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. Julian'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.

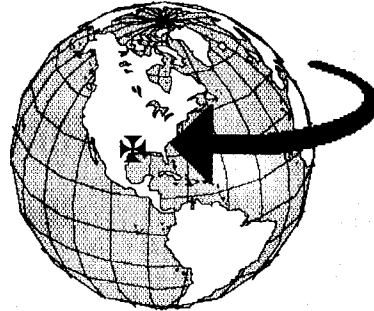
Let the "video madness" begin!! See you there!!

ΛΨΦ

WorldCon Liaison Progress Report by Peter Knapp

As many of you may know, this year's WorldCon is called LoneStarCon2 and will be held August 28 - September 1, 1997, in San Antonio, TX. As WorldCon liaison for the Gaylactic Network, I have reserved a party suite for Thursday, August 28th, and Friday, August 29th. The approximate cost for renting this space (which does not come with adjoining bedrooms) is \$600; and this does not include the cost of food and drink. At the last LSF meeting, I solicited donations from the club and/or individuals to help defray the cost of the room. The club declined to support the party room, but a few individuals stepped forward. [Ed. note: Actually, the club didn't "decline;" it was decided that the club just couldn't afford to make a donation.] For those who didn't make it to the meeting (and for those that did and were tempted to contribute), I am asking that you support the party room at LoneStarCon2 this year, especially if you plan to attend the con. If you would like to contribute toward the cost of the room, please send me a check and I'll add it to the pool.

In the next few weeks, I will be submitting six or seven panel ideas



(with gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender themes) to the LoneStarCon2 programming committee for consideration. With any luck, they will choose three or four. If some of these panel suggestions are chosen, we will need to supply people for the discussion panels. If you will be attending LoneStarCon2 and would like to be on a discussion panel, please send me your name and areas of expertise/interest as soon as possible. I also intend to contact past Gaylaxicon professional guests who are registered for LoneStarCon2 and ask them if they would be interested in sitting on any panels.

With a bit of luck and a lot of generosity (time and financial resources), I believe we can have a more organized presence at this year's WorldCon than we had last year. Please help to achieve this goal!

Thank you.



The Nonexistent Minutes of the May LSF Meeting constructed after the fact by Ye Olde Editor

When the LSF May business meeting finally came to an end, it looked like an Alphonse-and-Gaston act: "Minutes?! *What* minutes?! I thought *you* were taking minutes!" "No, *you* were supposed to take minutes!" "But nobody *told* me I was supposed to take minutes!" And so forth...

So, let's see... what happened? About 20 or so people showed up for the meeting, including 5 or so newcomers. We discussed a whole bunch'a stuff: Gaylaxicon Lite '97, this year's WorldCon in San Antonio, the LSF table at the Capital Pride Festival, the "Video Madness" Party the night before Pride Day, the upcoming LSF-hosted room party at Disclave, new books and movies, yadda, yadda, yadda. (You can read about most of this stuff in other articles in this issue.) Oh, yeah, I almost forgot - just before we adjourned, I believe I was elected Supreme Bifurcating Autocrat, Protector of the Americas, Arbiter of Morality for This and Adjacent Galaxies, and Queen for a Day (or something like that). So watch your step!

ΛΨΦ



Interface Masque

by Shariann Lewitt

(TOR Books, 1997)

reviewed by Carl Cipra

Arthur C. Clarke said that any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic. Shariann Lewitt (aka S.N. Lewitt) has been exploring that concept for years now in her novels and shorter fiction. Her latest novel, *Interface Masque*, allows readers explore the subjective nature of reality in both the "actual" (concrete/everyday/"real") world and the quasi-magical, quasi-surreal "virtual world" of internets. Indeed, she contends that for the fully-integrated "net.walker", the virtual world is every bit as real as the actual world.

Most of the action of *Interface Masque* takes place in and around Venice, Italy, in the (I suppose) not-too-distant future. The Septs (organizations "descended from the working groups who had created the infrastructure of the nets") have gradually developed a near stranglehold over the worldwide flow of information ("the infosea"): over the years, governments and companies have increasingly come to rely on the Septs for their software development, data services, security systems, etc.; the Septs have aggressively co-opted all net.walkers with any talent; and individual access to the infosea has been gradually restricted. Every business entity (the Septs included) also contracts with organizations of professionally-trained singers/musicians ("the Choirs") to create the mental/emotional states needed to achieve their production goals, be they thoughts, ideas, or physical work (very similar to some of the "accelerated learning" theories I've studied, where music is used to affect the learning climate in the classroom).

It's within this general context that several young people find themselves in conflict with the "realities" of their world. Cecilie is an apprentice net.walker at the Sept-Fortune House in Venice. As her test for achieving senior apprentice status, she is assigned to secretly break an "unbreakable"

security code that a client had previously commissioned from Sept-Fortune - an assignment which directly contravenes every moral and ethical precept she has been taught. Lina is a minor singer in the Pietà, the greatest of Venice's seven Choirs. When she is invited to the Café Luna, an underground club that offers clandestine, quasi-illegal jazz concerts, she begins to question whether the world should be increasingly restricted to a steady diet of Mozart, Purcell, Bach, Palestrina, etc. David Gavrilli also sings with the Pietà - he's the heir of a fabulously wealthy merchant family and has been hiding out in Venice for years because his parents had refused to let him develop his natural talents through apprenticeship with either the Septs or the Choirs. When David's friend and underground "patron" is killed, David suddenly discovers he's the new leader of an underground movement working to end Sept domination of the infosea. Between them, these three (and a few others) learn that the upcoming big Sept meeting in Venice would seem to be for the purpose of finalizing the Septs' absolute control of the dataflows and, thus, of all world finance and power - and the heirarchy of Sept-Sorian (for one) is willing to use murder to achieve this end. Meanwhile, there seems to be a disturbing new presence in the infosea... Are there *aliens* in the dataweb? Action, plots-within-plots, and quasi-magical adventures abound.

Webster's Dictionary defines *masque* as "an allegorical dramatic entertainment performed by masked actors." That pretty well describes Lewitt's *Interface Masque*. By means of the characters and action in this novel, she explores several major concepts: the dichotomy of security/order/stagnation vs. change/chaos/innovation; the subjective nature of "reality" (such that I sometimes needed to remind myself whether Cecilie was dealing with the virtual or the "real"

world); and the possible nature of non-human forms of thought/communication. There's much more, of course, but I haven't got enough space to discuss it all here.

Lewitt's descriptions of action in cyberspace are beautifully written - particularly her description of Cecilie's sojourn into the infosea to break the "unbreakable" code and her contacts with "the alien presence" in the net. I also enjoyed her depictions of "the Mall" and "the Library" (two websites) and of dear little Zizi, Cecilie's software-familiar (who would seem to be the subject of the dustjacket illustration). The novel also includes some gay content - it's low-key and decorously handled. (David Gavrilli apparently has had sexual liaisons with both men and women over the years; but, in the course of the novel, he discovers that he is very much in love with Sean, another Pietà singer - a lesser, albeit key, character who seems to be exclusively gay.)

I really enjoyed *Interface Masque* and I highly recommend that you add it to your personal reading list. And, while you're at it, get out there and find some of Lewitt's previous novels - *Songs of Chaos* comes immediately to mind. Shariann Lewitt is an author whose works it'll be worth your while to get acquainted with.

ΛΨΦ

A moral choice in its basic terms
appears to be a choice
that favors survival,
a choice made in favor of life.

-- Ursula K. LeGuin --

To be free, one must first
want to be free;
to want to be free, one must know
what freedom is.

-- Chester Anderson --

excerpted from *Science Fictionisms*,
compiled by William Rotsler
(Gibbs Smith, 1995)

The Fifth Element

movie review
by Peter Knapp



When people asked me if I liked *The Fifth Element*, I told them I didn't dislike it. That's like (diplomatically) saying your Grandmother's pudding is "interesting" - but, surprisingly, you go back for seconds. Which is what I did with this movie.

What was good about the movie? The production design was fabulous. Both Jean "Moebius" Giraud and Claude Mézières envisioned a world that was part *Metropolis*, part *Blade Runner*, part *2001*, and part *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?* (think "Bennie the Cab"), to name a few. Every scene had a different look and feel. Probably one of the reasons I saw the movie a second time was to catch more of the scenery. Digital Domain provided flawless special effects. While there was nothing "new" about the special effects, they were beautiful to watch.

Populating the sets were two wonderful characters: Gary Oldman's Zorg and Ian Holm's Father Cornelius. On one level, both characters are stereotypical examples of an evil corporate megalomaniac and of a clueless hero who somehow bumbles his way through the story. On another level, there's a subtlety to both performances that makes their roles more than the sum of their lines.

What was bad about the movie? Chris Tucker. The French are supposed to love Jerry Lewis; and Tucker's spastic physical *schtick* is reminiscent of Jerry Lewis' work. I found it grating. In addition, he plays his disc-jockey character as a stereotypical effeminate screaming queen. I didn't find the characterization offensive; but I did find a gratuitous sex scene with a female stewardess despicable. If the producers decided to play the DJ character as a screaming queen, they really should have stayed with that stereotype. (Elsewhere in the movie, the Jamaicans smoked weed; the main

stars were white.) Instead, they backed down and established his "masculinity" so the audience wouldn't think he was gay. (And of course he can't be bisexual. They don't exist, right?)

The other offensive part of the movie is its casual treatment of women as sex objects. Almost every woman in this movie is well-endowed and wears a tight-fitting costume to show off her breasts. Other than Leeloo and the Diva, every female character has a subservient role. They are stewardesses or lab assistants. On the other hand, the men are leaders, scientists, pilots, and mercenaries. As with the *Star Wars* (and even *Star Trek*) universe, equal rights have apparently taken a large step backwards from the imperfect reality of the 20th Century.

What didn't do anything for me? Bruce Willis' cabdriver Corben Dalas and Milla Jovovich's Leeloo. Okay, I admit it, I've never been a fan of Bruce Willis. There's nothing wrong with his performance. There's nothing good with it either. It just is. Milla Jovovich plays the "perfect" woman - so perfect that all the men who see her drool, especially when she takes off her clothes (which she does two or three times). Maybe if the sight of a beautiful naked woman excited me, I would have liked her character better. Oh well...

The story is also quite standard and predictable. Unlike *Stargate* (which didn't explain the motivation of the alien intelligence until halfway through the movie), *The Fifth Element* reveals all in the opening sequence. The rest of the movie plays out the plot with very few twists and turns. This is not a thinking person's movie.

From a production-value point of view, I think *The Fifth Element* is one of the most interesting and enjoyable movies to come along in a long time. From a plot, script, and character point of view, this movie is rather shallow. *Star Trek: First Contact* had more depth to it - and there wasn't much depth in *that* movie. I enjoyed it in a mindless, look-at-the-pretty-pictures sort of way; and I think that anyone who enjoys eye candy will enjoy this movie.

ΛΨΦ

Necronomicon (Latest Lovecraft)

a video review by Joseph Parra



To set the record straight, the *Necronomicon* is NOT an ancient tome on reviving the dead or on opening the gate for Yog Sothoth and a host of other "gods", nor is it a portal to another dimension. It *is* a handy invention of Howard Phillips Lovecraft which enabled him to write myriad tales of horror, fantasy, and science fiction - all (or most) with a connection to said book. A host of films have been made from the writings of H.P. Lovecraft; but, to my knowledge, this is the first anthology film based on several of his short stories. Jeffrey Combs, who made a name for himself in a couple of Lovecraft-based films (*The Re-Animator* and *From Beyond*) portrays Lovecraft himself in this outing, which is fictional but poses an interesting (even if nonsensical) hypothesis for Lovecraft's mad tales of the macabre.

All anthology horror movies have what is known as a "wrap-around" segment, which serves as the connecting anchor for what follows. Here's the "wrap-around" for this film: The year is 1932. H.P. Lovecraft has taken a taxicab to a monastery in Boston, where he has been told the *Necronomicon* is secretly being kept. Lovecraft has gone to this monastery before to study other ancient texts but has previously been forbidden to view the *Necronomicon*. Naturally, this time he steals a set of keys which take him to a special cell where the book is kept. However, once inside, the cell deliberately locks behind him. His research then begins...

In tale #1, "The Drowned", we learn of a man who has come to claim an inheritance of a huge castle-

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Necronomicon

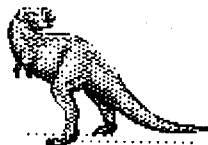
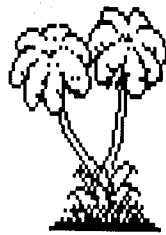
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like home on the Maine coast. The rickety structure is clearly haunted by something other than ghosts. He has a nightmare which tells him where to find the Necronomicon hidden in the house, along with a letter from his ancestor, who committed suicide after accidentally unleashing an ancient evil while trying to revive his late wife and son. The inheritor has had a brush with death himself - and the evil presence in the house knows this. It then makes its presence known...

In "The Cold", the second tale, a smarmy reporter in San Francisco gets a peculiar lead to a series of odd murders in the Bay Area. He comes to call on a woman who has an incredible aversion to the sun and to warmth in general. She tells him a story about her father, a scientist who discovered in the Necronomicon a way to preserve life eternally. The price to pay is to take a human life, for spinal fluid is needed to maintain "life" (after a fashion). Reporters can be so damned nosy...

"Whispers" is the title of the third installment. This tale tells the story of a pregnant policewoman who is lured down to a subterranean chamber of horrors. She and her partner, in their police cruiser, are in pursuit of a mad killer known as "The Butcher". The chase ends in a car wreck, and the policewoman's partner is dragged off by an unknown party, presumably said Butcher. She follows a trail into an abandoned building, where she meets a weird homeless couple who guard an incredible secret...

The interesting aspect common to all three tales (besides the Necronomicon itself) is that, although Lovecraft is reading the tales in 1932, they all take place in the "future" (today). Special effects are quite good - with Screaming Mad George, Thomas Rainone, Magic Media, Rex xfx, Optic Nerve, and Spectral FX all contributing monsters, make-ups, and computer graphics to the proceedings. Performances are to be credited also, with Richard Lynch, Bruce Payne, Dennis



The Lost World: Jurassic Park

movie review
by Peter Knapp



All the reviews I've read, whether applauding *The Lost World* or condemning it, agree on one thing: this movie is a much larger thrill ride than the first one. I agree with the reviewers. I'm not sure if bigger is better, though.

One of the best parts of the original *Jurassic Park* was the sense of discovery at seeing dinosaurs brought to life (courtesy of the magic of Industrial Light and Magic and the Stan Winston Studio). Of course, these wonderful dinosaurs proved deadly in the first movie; and Steven Spielberg did a magnificent job of keeping me on the edge of my seat.

In *The Lost World*, the dinosaurs are back, as is Ian Malcolm, the gloom-and-doom mathematician from the 1993 hit. This time he knows what he's getting into, and so does the audience. There's very little time to sit back and enjoy the dinosaurs before all hell breaks loose and people start dying. After a slow set-up (without dinosaurs), the movie turns into one long, extended chase sequence (with dinosaurs). Once again, the human actors take a back seat to their monstrous creations.

Almost nothing came as a surprise to me. I could predict who was going to die and who was going to make it. If a dinosaur showed up and someone had done something stupid, you knew they were going to get munched. A second-grader could pick out the next victim.

From the tone of this review, you might infer that I didn't like the movie. But I *did* like it. While being a sequel, *The Lost World* didn't copy *Jurassic Park* exactly. Several new dinosaurs were introduced, and some from the first movie didn't re-appear in the second. John Williams wrote a score that only referred to the *Jurassic Park* score briefly. And, without revealing the specifics of the dilemma, let me mention that the tensest part of the movie for me (mostly) didn't involve dinosaurs. When you see the scene, I think you'll know what I'm referring to!

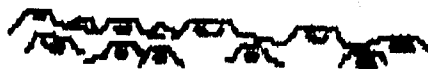
I love roller-coasters, and *The Lost World* is just that. It's a well-crafted thrill ride designed to be bigger than its predecessor. So, if you like screaming, and don't mind people being torn apart by large (and small) carnivores, this is the movie for you!

ΛΨΦ

Christopher, David Warner, Don Calfa, Bess Meyer, Millie Perkins, Obba Babatunde, Signy Coleman, and Jeffrey Combs all giving good performances. Brian Yuzna (director of *The Re-Animator* and many other films) has put together a well-done film. Once again Yog Sothoth and his literary creator have provided us with cinematic fun from a legendary non-existent book. Boy, are we glad Lovecraft wrote it!!! Enjoy!!

Rating: 3 out of a possible 4

ΛΨΦ



OSCAR WILDE SAID:

"An idea that is not dangerous
is unworthy of being
called an idea."

[from "The Critic as Artist"]



"We are all in the gutter,
but some of us are
looking at the stars."

[from *Lady Windermere's Fan*]

*** * 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. For June, however, the Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held on Saturday, June 7th - along with a special pre-Pride Day "Video Madness" party - at Julian's (fka Jamie's) Georgetown home: 1928 37th St., NW - 3:00 PM for business meeting; 5:00 PM for potluck supper and videos. See article in this issue for more details on the festivities. 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, James, and James



June 29, 1997 (10 AM - 5 PM) **GREATER WASHINGTON, DC STAR WARS, STAR TREK, SCI-FI COLLECTIBLES SHOW.** Holiday Inn, 2 Montgomery Village Ave., Gaithersburg, MD (301-948-8900). Admission: \$6. "Featuring: figures, games, toys, posters, models, autographed memorabilia, scripts, T-shirts, jewelry, videotapes, and much, much more." Internet: <http://www.jerseymedia.com/jdproductions>

July 4 - 6, 1997 **GAYLAXICON "LITE" '97.** Boston Marriott Burlington (Burlington, Mass.). Membership: \$15 until 6/15 (\$25 at the door). Make checks payable to "GSFS" or "Gaylaxian Science Fiction Society" and send to: Gaylaxicon Lite '97, c/o Chris Conran, P.O. Box 292, Marlboro, MA 01752. [NOTE: Checks must be accompanied by "Gaylaxicon Lite '97 Registration Form". People under 18 yrs. old must be accompanied by a legal guardian; and the guardian's registration form must accompany the minor's form.]

For more information, check out: www.gaylaxians.org

July 11 - 13, 1997 **SHORE LEAVE 19** (a Fan-Run Trek Convention). Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Confirmed guests: Ethan ("Neelix") Phillips, Peter David. Adult membership: \$45 until 5/31/97 ("higher cost" at the door). Make checks payable to "Shore Leave" and send (with 2 SASEs) to Shore Leave 19, P.O. Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809. For updated info, visit their WWW page: <http://members.aol.com/ShoreLeave>
E-mail: ShoreLeave@aol.com Info line: (410) 821-5563

July 26 - 27, 1997 **NOVACON 7.** Tysons Westpark Hotel (Tysons Corners, VA). Guests: Jason ("Marcus Cole") Carter, Gates ("Dr. Crusher") McFadden; Dave McConnell (*Starlog* editor). General admission: \$20/day or \$35/weekend; reserved admission: \$35/day or \$65/weekend - order through Ticketmaster, or send to: Novacon 97, PO Box 3363, Merrifield, VA 22116. For info, call (703) 280-5373.
E-mail: Novacon@juno.com Web page: <http://members.aol.com/Novacon97/>

Aug. 28 - Sept. 1, 1997 **LONESTARCON 2 (the 55th World Science Fiction Convention).** San Antonio Convention Center & surrounding hotels (San Antonio, TX). Honored Guests: Algis Budrys, Michael Moorcock, Don Maitz. Attending membership: \$135 until 7/31/97. Make checks payable to "LoneStarCon2" and send to: LoneStarCon2, PO Box 27277, Austin, TX 78755-2277.
E-mail: lsc2@io.com voicemail: (512) 435-7446

November 14 - 16, 1997 **PHILCON '97.** The Adam's Mark Hotel (Philadelphia, PA). Principal Speaker: Dan Simmons; Guest Artist: Alan M. Clark; Special Guest: Gardner Dozois. Membership rates: \$32 until 9/10/97; \$35 from 9/10 to 10/20/97; \$40 thereafter. Con address: Philcon 1997, P.O. Box 8303, 30th St. Stn., Philadelphia, PA 19101. PSFS Hotline: (215) 957-4004. Web page: <http://www.netaxs.com/~philcon>