

Science Fiction/San Francisco

Issue 125
January 31, 2012
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Art Credits

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Editorial

By Jean Martin

Editor-in-Chief

I can't believe January is almost over! This month has passed by in a blur for me as it's the busiest time of the year for me at my job. But I did manage to get in a few fun events—the most notable of which are the PEERS 12th Night (Dickens Reunion) Ball and the Edwardian World's Faire and Ball. You can find more information about both events in my previews for Examiner.com:

www.examiner.com/costume-design-in-san-francisco/dickens-12th-night-ball-san-mateo-saturday-jan-7

www.examiner.com/costume-design-in-san-francisco/the-week-ahead-san-francisco-the-edwardian-ball-and-world-s-faire

2012 is the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Dickens and there are numerous events around the world celebrating his life and work. Here in the Bay Area, other than the 12th Night Ball that has already passed, PEERS is doing a Charles Dickens Bicentennial Ball on Saturday, February 4. More details can be found in the link below:

peers.org/Dickens.html

Internationally, the BBC has begun to broadcast new adaptations of Dickens' novels. Gillian Anderson, who portrayed an amazing Lady Dedlock in *Bleak House* a few years ago, is back as Miss Havisham in *Great Expectations*. I can't wait to see it! *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* has one of my favorite actors, Matthew Rhys, as the main character John

Jasper. I've already seen this one and it is more like a British mystery story than the usual multi-layered, complex plots that usually defines Dickens' stories. Dickens died and so the novel is unfinished but the BBC did a good job with the ending, I think. Both of these shows will be shown in the U.S. via PBS in April:

www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/classic/

Currently on PBS's Masterpiece Classic is Season 2 of *Downton Abbey*. Season 1 just won a Golden Globe award and proved to be very popular. I must confess that while I love the era, the costumes and some of the performances in Season 1, I didn't like some of the characters and plot twists. So I'm a bit lukewarm on this series, but will watch Season 2 at some point nonetheless.

What I've really enjoyed recently is Season 2 of *Sherlock*. It is just as brilliant as the first season, and at three episodes, short and sweet... but again with a cliffhanger (but satisfying) ending. It is such an intelligent show and doesn't dumb itself down to the lowest-common denominator. And as one line in the first episode states: "brainy is the new sexy." Benedict Cumberbatch (Holmes) and Martin Freeman (Watson) have incredible chemistry and it'll be interesting to see them somewhat together again in the upcoming *Hobbit* movies as Smaug the Dragon and Bilbo the Hobbit, respectively. And if you haven't seen the trailer for *The Hobbit* yet, run, don't

walk, to find it on the Internet! The dwarves singing made my heart soar and Gollum and Bilbo together gave me the chills.

I've also been liking *Misfits* (available on Hulu) and *Eternal Law* (by the same creators as *Ashes to Ashes*, and featuring another favorite actor, Samuel West). The Doctor Who Christmas Special (based on C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*) and *Neverland* (Peter Pan prequel on SyFy) were just so-so. Lest anyone think I only watch British shows, there is one American TV show I've been following: *Once Upon a Time*. It's got the right balance of fantasy and reality, with some really good characters and stories. I just don't have the time and patience for the 20+ episodes most U.S. shows have so we'll see if I can make it to the end of the first season.

Since I've been even busier than usual, I haven't seen any movies at all. But I have been "reading" audiobooks in my car while I drive to and from places. I've been re-reading the original *Dune* novels by Brian Herbert, and I only have *Chapterhouse Dune* left. I've also been "re-reading" the

Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien to get me excited about the upcoming movies. I read the *Hobbit* after reading *Lord of the Rings* in College and I didn't like the *Hobbit* that much then because it seemed like less of a masterpiece and more of a children's story than *Lord of the Rings*. But I'm liking it now as I know what to expect and I'm not comparing it. I'm just happy to be reading something by Tolkien. His language is just so magical and beautiful.

Going back to the Edwardian Ball, I believe it is one of the biggest and best events in the Bay Area. It combines related but different artistic and literary communities and does it with in a whimsical and surreal style that typifies San Francisco. In this issue, Diane Rooney covers the Friday night World's Faire, while Thad Gann describes Saturday night at the Ball. I will have my own writeup about Friday night in the next issue. I haven't been to the World's Faire before (although I'd been to the Saturday Ball several times) and I found it enchanting and exciting at the same time. In the meantime, I hope you all enjoy this issue and the rest of the Winter Season!



Banner #2

by Maurine Starkey

Little Brother

By España Sheriff

Editor

This week Custom Made Theatre opens their new show, an adaptation of Cory Doctorow's best-selling Young Adult novel *Little Brother*, at the Gough Street Playhouse in San Francisco. Please note that the following review is of a preview performance.

The story follows Marcus Yallow, a technologically savvy high-school senior in near-future San Francisco, who introduces himself thusly:

"I'm a senior at Cesar Chavez High in San Francisco's sunny Mission district, and that makes me one of the most surveilled people in the world."

After ditching school one day Marcus is swept up in the aftermath of a devastating terrorist attack on the city. The attack kills thousands of people and results in a massive crackdown by the Department of Homeland Security. After being detained and tortured at a secret location as enemy combatants, then subsequently released, Yallow and his friends find themselves in a changed city, which has essentially become a police state. As a sometime hacker and son of previously politically active parents, Yallow decides that he needs to fight back using the tool he knows best: hacking.

Adapted and directed by Josh Costello, the play streamlines the book, dropping several characters and sub-plots while also adding a scene or two. The cuts are entirely necessary given



The X-netters; Pictured: Cory Censoprano, Daniel Petzold, Marissa Kettie
Photo by Jay Yamada. Copyright The Custom Made Theatre Co., Inc.

the time and staging constraints, however it might make the occasional didacticism stand out a bit more than in the novel. However this tone is not entirely unintentional, Doctorow is an activist, and entertaining as the story is, there is no mistaking that it is intended as a call to arms.

Despite the changes, the central message remains strong, and the play stays true to the voices of its young characters, who are a convincing mixture of precocious intelligence, naïve idealism, and adolescent cynicism.

The venue is attached to the rather imposing Trinity Episcopal Church and is a thrust theatre, with seating that surrounds the stage on three sides. The stage itself is at floor level, and the players are never more than a few feet from most audience members. But the staging uses this intimate space well, including a backdrop onto which still images and video are projected to help with the narration. This gives a nice illusion of size during important outdoor scenes, and allows key concepts to be conveyed clearly and efficiently.

The cast is composed of just three actors, who play all the parts in the story. Daniel Petzold plays Marcus Yallow, the protagonist of our story and our narrator. Unlike the other cast members he only portrays one character, also handling the majority of the narration. He plays Marcus with an amiable restless energy, bouncing from place to place and ranging from smartass rebelliousness to frustrated anger at living the life of a teenager in a society which all but criminalizes the very act of being underage.

Marissa Keltie as Ange sparkles with intelligence and serves as a good ego deflating voice of sanity, reminding Marcus that it is “not your story” when he gets carried away with his role in events that directly involved not just his friends and family, but thousands of his fellow citizens.

But Cory Censoprano is the standout, he portrays the most characters and the widest range of emotions, including a wrenching scene near the very end. He also gets the most humorous scenes, the best of which is a brief bit as a Fox News commentator.

The themes of the book were relevant when it was released in 2008, and if anything they feel even more so today. It is impossible to watch the play without thinking about the Occupy and Anonymous movements, SOPA and the National Defense Authorization Act with its controversial indefinite detention provisions which was signed by President Obama just last month.

Performances run Thursdays through Sundays until February 25th at the Gough Street Playhouse, located just two blocks off from Van Ness at 1620 Gough Street (at Bush).

Tickets range from \$25-\$32

For more information: www.custommade.org/little-brother

As published on Examiner.com: www.examiner.com/arts-culture-in-san-francisco/thrilling-adaptation-of-cory-doctorow-s-little-brother-review

NightLife at the Academy

By John Coxon

UK Correspondent

I recently came to the Bay Area and was given a tour of some fascinating places by España, the editor of this fine fanzine. As a result I was asked whether I would write an article on the museums and other centres of culture that I visited. I jumped at the chance to inflict more of my writing on you, and so this article was born. My trip to San Francisco included my introduction to the California Academy of Sciences, the Contemporary Jewish Museum, an art gallery called Varnish and the Computer History Museum – I am going to tackle them in chronological order, and so this article begins with España and me heading to Golden Gate Park. (We'll explore my other visits in future issues!)

Our jaunt to the California Academy of Sciences took place on a Thursday evening, because Thursdays are when NightLife happens, and NightLife is amazing. Imagine the brilliance and fascination contained within the only building in the world to house an aquarium, a planetarium and a rainforest; then imagine that with music, alcohol and a strict 21+ policy and you have the idea perfectly. Each night has a theme around which the events revolve; the night we went it was 'SF Streets' and there were exhibitions of street art and a DJ playing some funky mashups (which was a good foreshadowing to my visit to the DNA Lounge later in the week; but that lies rather beyond the purview of this piece).



by John Coxon



by John Coxon

One thing I must say before I go any further is that the free iPhone app (which, regrettably, is not yet available for Android or WP7 users) offered by the museum is amazing. It does everything I wanted it to do. It lets you check into different areas of the museum (which, handily, also tells you what there is to see) and also offers more information about stuff that might pique your interest. If you're going, I really do advise you download and use the app as you go around; it certainly added to my experience! Another thing that added to the experience was the array of cocktail bars – each bar had a unique (and not badly priced) cocktail as well as a range of spirits and mixers. If you're a completist, like me (or an alcoholic, like España) you can complete the set of the specials!

The entire museum is open, with a couple of caveats; the number of planetarium shows is limited (and there is often more than one show during the night) so if you want to go, make getting a ticket a priority and do it before you do anything else. You'll be able to specify what time you want to see the relevant show, and that lets you plan the rest of your evening around that point. Alongside the planetarium shows is a timetable of other things going on throughout the night (talks and suchlike) – it might be handy to glance at this before tying yourself down to a specific showtime. It's also worth noting that the rainforest closes down at 8pm, so bear that in mind if that looks like something you want to do.

The rainforest is spectacular, although some of the butterflies came a little closer to us than I would necessarily have liked (the big ones are a lot less cute than the little ones!). The birds flying around, the fish and lizards dotted in enclosures throughout, and the water life swimming in the

faux river below you are all sights to behold and the juxtaposition of the three really helps lend the animals you see a context that you often don't quite get at zoos, aquariums or aviaries. This is reinforced by the way in which you progress through the rainforest – you start at the bottom and climb up three levels, with different animals on each according to how high you are. The butterflies go from being things fluttering in the distance above you to being things that are nearly landing on you as they swoop past, and the water creatures go from right there to beautiful swimming shapes seen from above.

Of course, when you reach the top of the rainforest, you have to come back down, but this is handled for you in the form of a lift that takes you from the top reaches of the dome



by John Coxon

you've walked through and takes you down into the aquarium, filled with water and wonder. Some of the creatures down there are amazing – the jellyfish are just one example of that, illuminated in an array of different and bright colours. The aforementioned river is visible from the bottom, when you're on the lower level, via a transparent tunnel and various amazing viewing stations; our favourite animal in there was the turtle and it was amazing to see it swim by, right next to the glass.

There's a huge variety of stuff to see in the aquarium and it took us until our planetarium show to wander around to our hearts' content. However, we didn't want to miss the planetarium so we went to see it. It was an interesting show, that combined the science of how cells are structured with information on the structure of the universe itself: from the very small to the very large. The academy very clearly puts a lot of pride into its productions and they were very well made indeed.

At the mid-point of the show, the hostess took the microphone and talked a little about recent science in the areas being discussed. This was incredibly impressive since she talked about exoplanets and the 700th confirmed discovery of an exoplanet, which had occurred only weeks before the talk – clearly the information in the shows is kept very recent! I've never been in a planetarium show that had a segment for more recent science in that way, and I thought it worked very well indeed – I shall have to tell a friend who works at the UK's National Space Centre, clearly.

For the denouement of the evening, we decided to quickly catch some things we hadn't yet seen in the time we had before the museum closed. This involved getting another

cocktail (naturally) and then climbing the stairs up to the museum's living roof, which is totally interesting in its own right. However, drinking cocktails in the cool night air with the stars all around was incredibly romantic, and for this reason I highly, highly recommend NightLife if you're looking for a slightly quirky and unconventional location for a date. There was a telescope pointed at Jupiter through which the planet and all four Galilean moons were visible, and España and I were thrilled to be able to see them. All in all, it was a completely magical night.

The California Academy of Sciences is open 9:30am – 5pm (11am – 5pm on Sundays) and opens again for NightLife between 6pm and 10pm on Thursdays. Their iOS apps are available through their website at www.calacademy.org and the Pocket Penguins app is also offered on Android. Entry is \$29.95 for adults and subject to a \$5 charge if you go at a peak period (although tickets purchased online are not subject to that charge and can be used at any time). Tickets to NightLife are \$12, which is significantly cheaper, doesn't require taking the day off work, and means you can buy alcohol (no guesses as to which I think is the better deal). You will need ID to prove you are over 21, naturally. The theme for February 2nd is 'Bourbon & Bull', whereas February 9th sees 'Animal Attraction' – see their website for more details.



courtesy of John Coxon

Poster Artwork Is Not Really Artwork (It Is Just Being Lazy Now)

By Christopher Erickson

Staff Writer

Back in the Golden Age of Cinema, there were two ways to get people into the theaters: trailers (the previews would actually follow the movie or “trail” it) and movie posters. Part of the effort of advertising movies would be to have posters of “Coming Soon” movies showing the stars of the movie on them and some kind of blurb about the plot (The man with the plan! The woman of danger!). The artwork would usually involve some depiction of the main situation from the movie in the poster, especially if it was a bit more fantastical. A number of posters would also feature a number of the characters in the poster if they were more integral to the movie or were fairly recognizable stars.

This was especially true of the smaller posters that

would grace the lobby of the theater, which were simply called lobby cards. The artwork would tend to be very simple on the lobby cards due to the limited size and would have to convey a whole idea with just a simple picture. The pictures would usually be from something in the movie where all of the



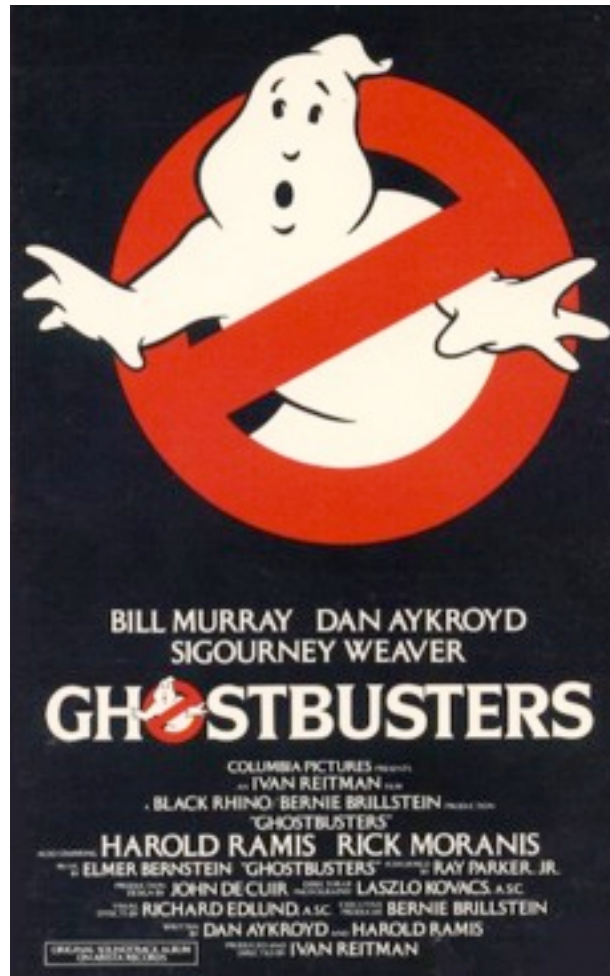
glamour and elegance of the story would be captured in a single image.

After television became widespread, most of the movie advertising went into either the trailers or television

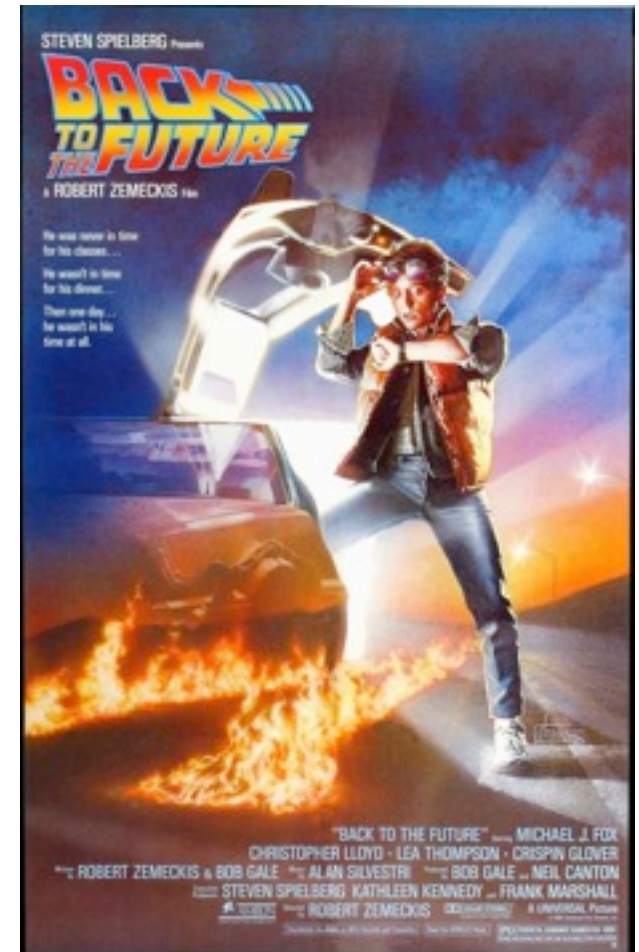


images were very simple and actually enhanced the poster, like *Ghostbusters* or *Back to the Future*, where the simple artwork created interest in the movie (They catch ghosts? What is the light in the car?)

Some movies still had wonderful artwork to go with it, such as *Jaws*, *Star*



commercials (TV spots). The movie poster became something of an afterthought. The posters began to just focus on a picture of the stars that could easily be a photo still taken on set. By the 1980s, the posters became more something to look at than really trying to bring interest to the film. Some of these



Wars and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. These posters were actually designed as part of a full advertising campaign with images evoking the film itself, such as the *Jaws* poster.

The *Star Wars* and *Indiana Jones* posters were perfect examples of evoking the epic scope and grandeur of



the movies. However, they also helped push posters into what I call the “floating head” syndrome. Most movies with several characters and some major evil, especially science fiction and fantasy movies, would use this style time and again. The *Star Wars* prequels would show every important hero character with small heads arranged



around the main evil. *Lord of the Rings* and most of the *Harry Potter* movies were also prime examples of this sort of lazy thinking in movie posters. The worst offender of this group was the *Star Trek* movies. The best examples are *Star Trek: The Wrath of Khan* and *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*. The *Wrath of Khan* poster is just cluttered



with screen shots and the *Undiscovered Country* poster was too overloaded with subtle imagery to really make any sense other than there are some explosions in Space.

What has gotten even worse is the use of digital tools such as Photoshop to create posters that just look like they were thrown together three minutes

before quitting time on a Friday. The most recent example of horrible posters was the *X-Men* franchise. Most of the posters are either uninspired or too full of detail and too dark to really draw attention to it.

With the rise of fan-driven event movies such as *Batman Begins*, *The Hobbit* and the slate of *Marvel* comic book movies, a number of movie posters have brought back the idea of selling the excitement of the movie. The *Spider-Man* movies with Toby Maguire were simple and artistic at the same time, evoking the idea of swinging through the skyscrapers of Manhattan. The *Sin City* and *Watchmen* posters also brought the idea of the characters to the poster, inducing the dark qualities of the movie. *V for Vendetta* suggested the idea of political action in its posters. *The Return*

of the King posters that featured simple shots of the characters with an item associated with them (Frodo and the Ring, Aragorn and his sword) spoke volumes about the character. The best example is the Christopher Nolan *Dark Knight* series. The *Batman Begins* posters simply showed Batman either in action or in pose. Because the character is so well known, you draw attention to the character and create interest in the movie based on the image of the character, rather than overwhelming the visual memory with a jumbled mess.

Hopefully, with the return of movies that are actually made to be good and not just fill seats, the movie posters will have some artistry put back into them rather than just being something to help cover up ugly spots on walls in the lobbies of movie theaters.



Why the Edwardian?

By Thad Gann

Staff Writer

Every January, a sleepy Northern California town hosts a quiet and demure celebration of music and art.

OK, that is a lie. Even for the City that is San Francisco, The Edwardian World's Faire and Ball is a Big Deal. Thousands of people travel hundreds of miles to attend the two nights and a day that is this event. Much is and will be written about the event that is the Edwardian. I go to take pictures but have often wondered in the years I have gone, what is the draw for all those people. Sure the acts are wonderful, the artists amazing. Jill Tracy and Rosin Coven are spectacular, but you can see all this at other places too.

So why the Edwardian? Saturday night I finally realized why everyone else was there. It is the costumes. Not the ones we work on, sometimes for weeks, but the constant swirling magical flow of other people in costume. As much as we appreciate being observed and admired, the opportunity to look at others is the real draw. The constant swirling, flowing sparkling river of costumes provides a spectacle unlike no other.

Although technically a celebration of Edward Gorey, there are no rules regarding costumes and finery. Whimsical, serious, somber, gay—nothing is taboo at the Faire and Ball. The Edwardian World's Faire and Ball is an all ages affair, so while nothing passed the bounds of decency, there were many



Legion Fantastique at the Museum of Wonders

by Thad Gann

costumes new and old, which ranged from G-rated to a couple saucy PG outfits.

This year, feathers adorned several costumes—mostly peacock, pheasant and raven. There were also a few full ravens used as adornment, and possibly pets. I didn't ask.



Dark Garden Model During Fashion Show
by Thad Gann

Steampunk attire was also very prominent during the weekend. Many vendors specialized in Steampunk fashion and jewelry. Moreover, even more vendors supplied wares that were ogled, fondled and purchased by the Steampunk attendees. One ball attendee was heard to quip that the Edwardian should be off limits to anyone but Steampunk. Of course, he was roundly, though humorously, chastised for limiting people's right to choose.

The one event at the Edwardian Ball that I worked my way to the stage to see was the Dark Garden fashion show: "Ghosts of Unfortunate Heiresses." It was a positively amazing presentation. I have been to several Dark Garden fashion shows and each one was better than the one before it. In keeping with the Edward Gorey atmosphere, each outfit was solid black. For many designers, this would be a limiting factor. For the designers of Dark Garden, it was the promise of limitless possibilities.

At a certain point in the evening, I settled in a well-lighted passage way and just waited for people to pass by. Every few moments I would stop someone with a quick "Mind if I take your picture?" Most of the people I asked were more than happy to oblige. Often, pictures lead to conversations, conversations lead to friendships. Saturday night was no different. So many costumes streamed past that I captured only a few. I was able to chat for a while with my friend Brian Gardner, who is the guiding force behind Swing Goth. Every Thursday, he hosts what in his words is "your one-stop shop for Retro Futurism. Musically, we feature the best of Steampunk and Boom Swing, socially we're a weekly costume party, dance night and LARP (live action role playing), all rolled into one."

Several other friends from different communities—Steampunk, burlesque, PEERS and Swing Goth—found me lurking in that passage with my camera. At some point soon I hope to show more of my photos from the evening.

The Edwardian World's Faire Just Gets Better and Better

By Diane Rooney
Contributing Writer

The Edwardian Weekend was on my calendar for a long time before January 20. I looked forward to it for weeks, and my Friday night experience at the World's Faire exceeded my already high expectations. This was my fourth Edwardian Weekend, so I guess I can say I'm pretty much a regular by now, at least for the Friday night World's Faire.

Friday was a rainy day and evening, so after work I showered and dressed, a bit more simply than usual since I was making my way there and back by bus and with a raincoat and umbrella. Instead of a Steampunk topper or my huge Edwardian flowered extravaganza, I worked a black flowered headband, ankle length straight black patterned skirt, black tights and flats, and my black and white striped Steampunk jacket, with lots of mostly black costume jewelry.

I like getting to events early and settling in to the experience. I got to the Regency Ballroom in San Francisco around 7:30 p.m. and was surprised at the short line. I remembered that the last two years the lines were well around the corner by that time. I was early enough to get under the outside canopy for ticket holders and will-call patrons, sheltered from the lessening raindrops and able to appreciate the fashion parade of arrivals. Lines generally turn into line parties, talking with others and trading stories, and this was no exception. Newbies must be educated about Edward Gorey, Steampunk, and the Victorian and Edwardian ages. The

Regency's burly bouncers even participated, donning Metropolitan London police hats.

Organizers came through the line, checking IDs and issuing wristbands for those wishing to consume absinthe or other alcoholic beverages. The doors opened around 8:15 p.m., a bit late, but not as late as some previous years. Getting in was a breeze—I had my pre-printed ticket scanned and headed for the coat check before the hordes got in. After ditching my raincoat and umbrella, I was free to take a deep breath, and plunge into the event with a stroll around the mostly empty main floor ballroom.

I took in the Kinetic Steam Works display and the bicycle-powered carousel from Cyclecide, along with the penny arcade booths. The main stage was already showing silent films and playing music. Just being in the ballroom environment is a powerful experience—the room is so large, with such a high ceiling (35 feet) and wraparound balcony, ornately decorated and dramatically lit.

After watching people arrive for an hour or so, and getting into photographer mode, looking for interesting characters and costumes to photograph, I headed upstairs to the Museum of Wonders—new this year, at least to me. Some of the exhibits of curiosities were interesting and some I pretty much skipped (I'm not into taxidermy at all), but nothing had prepared me for the amazing upstairs version of the ballroom. Somewhat

smaller, but equally ornate and dramatically lit, also with a stage for Vau de Vire, some ornate chairs and carpeted stairs for lounging. This area was much quieter, less crowded at that point in the evening, and had a more intimate feel. The atmosphere was really amazing, people seemed to walk slower, and time seemed to stand still. I was there more than an hour and half without realizing it and could have stayed much longer. Vau de Vire used the stage for their wonderful slow motion tableaux. Professor Elemental, an absolutely wonderful and enthusiastic character, was also in residence there and a delight to talk to.

After the Museum of Wonders, I went back down to the Ballroom, now suitably crowded, and strolled or rather elbowed my way around taking pictures and soaking up the wonderful atmosphere.

It's great to see familiar faces as well, meeting friends from Nova Albion, PEERS and Dickens Fair. I even met a neighbor from my apartment building—he lives almost across the hall from me and I had no idea he was into costuming, Steampunk or events like Edwardian Ball!

Finally, late in the evening, I made it down to the lower level and the vendor bazaar. I met my friends Carlene Cordova and John Welch from Arcane Objects, whose booth featured a vintage dictograph machine, wonderful phrenology heads, and other unique collectibles. Traffic in the vendor room seemed



Upstairs Ballroom at the Regency

by Diane Rooney

good—there was even a bar on the vendors' level to help stimulate impulse purchases. Alas, I am not much of a shopper these days, until times and fortunes improve, but the clothing and accessories I saw from the corner of my eye were fabulous. Best not to even stop and look, so I didn't. The brighter lighting downstairs did, however, make it a good venue for photographing interesting people and costumes, and the staircase landing were perfect for costume and photography scouting.



Diane and Her Neighbor

courtesy of Diane Rooney

What were the best things, in my opinion? At the top of my list would be the environment itself, the incredible ballroom and the upper floor lodge, given their amazing architecture and dramatic lighting. Next would be all the wonderful attendees and their wonderful costumes, accessories and characters. Despite the fabulous entertainment, truly much of the show at Edwardian Weekend is in the audience. I also greatly enjoyed the Can-Can dancers, Vau de Vire, Professor Elemental, Kinetic Steam Works and Cyclecide.

All extraordinary things must come to an end and I left around 12:30 p.m. for home, tired but overwhelmed with images, impressions and memories of the people and environments I had seen. If only the Edwardian Weekend, like Dickens Fair, could take place more than just once a year!

Letters of Comment

Lloyd Penney writes:

Happy New Year! We'll get back into the writing saddle, and whip up some comments on issue 124 of *SF/SF*.

Jean Martin responds:

Happy new year to you too!

Aha, John Coxon snuck back to California for another visit, did he? Can't blame him ... lots of sunny, warm weather there. And, I'm sure the company he kept was also warm. I echo *Magician King* for a Hugo nom for Best Novel, and how about *Hugo* for the Hugo for Best Dramatic Presentation (Long Form)? Nominations are open, but it is very, very early.

This winter has been fairly nice and clear. But the rains have started. We need it here though. I do want to see Hugo since so many people I know like it. I've been so busy with work and writing, though, that I haven't had the chance. I may just have to wait for it to come out on video.

The Dickens Fair is but one of the kinds of events I wish we had up here. However, Adam Smith, one of the leading Steampunks up here, is a fount of interesting ideas, and he has already warned us he's got some ideas hatching. We need more Steampunk events here, and he's the one to get them rolling. We do have English-style pantos here, and this year it's a very silly version of *The Wizard of Oz*.

We are lucky to have the Dickens Fair and I sometimes wonder why there aren't more Dickens Fair-type fairs in other parts of the U.S. and Canada like there are Renaissance Faires. I think Dickens is just such a great way to celebrate the spirit of the holidays.

John Purcell, as soon as Valerie makes you a Steampunk costume, we want to see pictures. I've made several for myself ... I don't sew, but I find that the costumes are mostly the right combination of clothes, with a few purchased goodies here and there. There will be absolutely no one to tell you it's wrong or offer suggestions for improvement ... it's just fine as it. Show it off when you can.

That's what I love about Steampunk costuming too as I don't sew much myself. But now I keep collecting pieces and making up more ensembles. It's addicting!

The BASFA Minutes ... are Frank and Brianna Wu back on the West Coast again? I'm looking forward to another *Men in Black* movie, and I gather another *Ghostbusters* movie is in preps.

I don't have the answer to your question about Frank and Brianna but will try to find out. Wow, there sure are a lot of sequels coming up. Not sure if I want to keep seeing sequels at this point but there are some that I do want to see. I still haven't seen the second Sherlock Holmes movie. I didn't like the first one the first time I saw it but it improved upon second viewing. I guess I'm just in a Sherlock Holmes kick right now after watching the entire Jeremy Brett series as well as the first and second seasons of the modern Sherlock with Jeremy Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman.

Not sure who we'd like to see more, the Mythbusters or Professor Elemental! You've got some interesting things coming up, as always. For us, our next convention isn't until

April! So we've got the time to scrape up some bucks for some fun.

I'm not into Mythbusters, I've tried to watch a few episodes. I didn't think I'd be into Professor Elemental as I'm not into Hip-Hop but he was at the Edwardian Ball a few nights ago and I find him very entertaining, clever and hilarious. The Bay Area 2011 scene was already begun with Furcon and the Edwardian Ball. I can't go to everything and I do need a break every now and then to rest. It's actually turned out to be a good thing that WonderCon is in Southern California this year. I just hope it comes back next year!

I have to start thinking about leaving for the evening job, so I shall bid you all adieu, and may 2012 be a better year for all of us.

I wish you and everyone a fantastic 2012!

John Purcell writes:

Happy end of the year greetings!

I think it is only appropriate to write a loc on the last day of 2011 to get things wrapped up all neatly in a bow. Make sure to use Steampunk wrapping paper, though.

In the editorial, I like the idea that Steven H (no period) Silver and Chris Garcia have in mind. One of things I have planned for *Askance* is to resurrect the fan artist showcase that fanzines used to do way back when. The last time I saw a fanzine do this on a regular basis was in the late 1970s, and I'd like to do that again with modern fan artists, like Mo Starkey, Frank Wu, Brad Foster and Steve Fox. In more recent times, Rob Jackson did a feature on Harry Bell in an issue of *Inca* a few years ago. It is a great idea and may entice artistically inclined fans to create more artwork for fanzines as a way to showcase their work and get their names out to a wider

audience. Art shows at cons are one way, of course, but lately there isn't much cross-over between convention fans and fanzine fans. Maybe if fan editors use their zines like this we can promote artists. Everybody wins this way: the artists, fanzines, fan editors and convention art shows. Yep—I like this idea a lot.

We've always wanted to feature more fan artists in SF/SF but it's a continuous effort to ask for submissions. With España now one of our editors, we're hoping that we'll get more art in and we have been showcasing more art lately. I do agree with you that fan art is an important part of fandom and should be promoted. Art also balances out our very photo-heavy layouts.

Once again, lots of great photos of events in the BArea, but no real comment to make except that you guys certainly keep busy over there. Keep going to these events and taking those pictures for *SF2*.

Even after all this time, I'm still amazed at how many events happen in the Bay Area and how many amazing costumes and activities there are to be photographed. We're lucky and I feel it's my mission to document these events and activities for posterity and also to promote them so ever more people can enjoy them or make them happen in their own locales.

In my loc you mention that you like the *SF2* abbreviation I used. Truth be told, what I was going for was to superscript the 2 so it would read "SF-squared", which works even better. And you're right: we can call the zine and BArea fandom whatever we want since we all know what we mean. And thank you very much for the clarification on who is engaged to whom. It will be interesting to see how a really long-distance relationship like España's and John Coxon's works out.

Google map it and you'll find that these love-birds are separated by 5,462 miles! Granted, the Internet shortens it up in terms of communication, but those two are going to rack up frequent flyer miles like crazy if they see each other even infrequently. Good luck to them, and especially to Jean Martin and Christopher Erickson! Great news!

For some reason, I did read your SF2 as SF². I like them both but do agree that SF² is much better. Yeah, wedding con (as someone called our upcoming wedding) is coming up in a few months. It is like planning a convention!

I think I'll wrap this up with a comment on Lloyd Penney's loc. Sorry to hear about the demise of Renaissance Fairs in the

Toronto area. Here in Texas there are a bunch of them. Check out this website for a listing where the Brobdingnagian Bards will be appearing: www.thebards.net/txrenfares.shtml

Quite the listing, ain't it? Yeah, I guess it's true that everything in Texas is bigger, if not more numerous.

Yes, that is quite a lot of Renaissance Faires. The weather there is probably good for that too. And there's a lot more space for bigger events.

With that, I am done. May the New Year find you and the rest of the Bay fans prosperous and happy.

Thanks for your good wishes and we wish you a wonderful New Year as well!

Join our crew!

We are looking for writers to cover local events, conventions, fan groups and the fannish scene in general.
Contact Jean Martin at SFinSF@gmail.com

BASFA Minutes: Meetings 1118-21

Meeting 1118

January 2, 2012

Trey Haddad, President

Chris Garcia, Vice-President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms

Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Held at Coco's, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 Fwy), Sunnyvale

Began 8ish - with a visit from Trey's mom

31 people attended

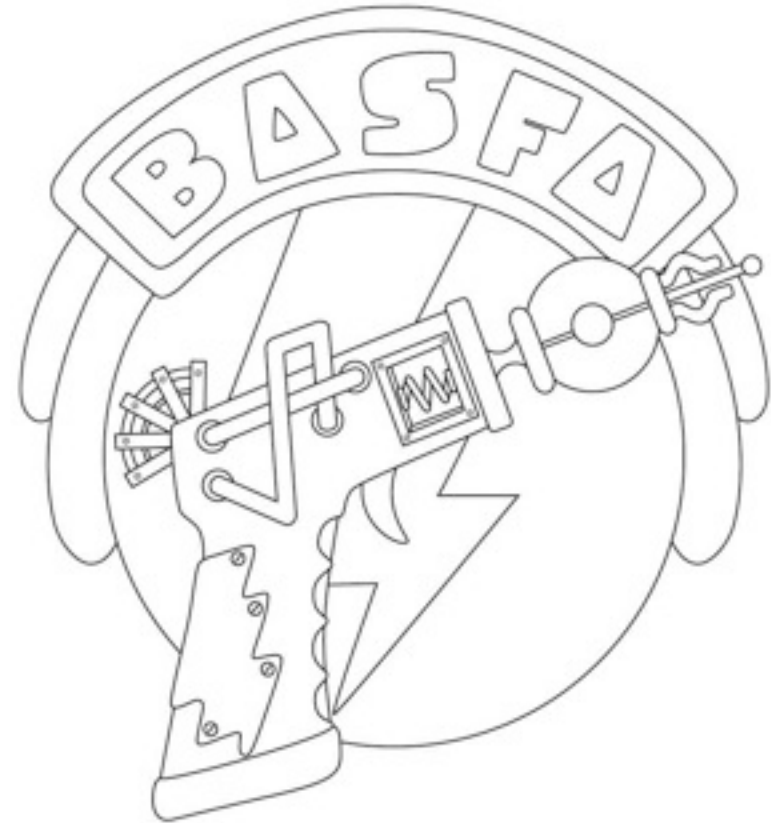
We established a party jar

The minutes for meeting 1117 were accepted as "I feel Dave's pain"

The Treasurer reported that at meeting 1116 we took in \$12.95 in the regular jar & \$14.95 in the party jar; while at meeting 1117 we took in \$9.00 in the regular jar & \$30.67 in the party jar

There was no VP report, but there was a rumor that future *Drink Tanks* will exist

The President introduced his mom, Lois ["Hi Lois!"] and had nothing fannish to report



BASFA logo by Miko Simmons

The Sports Committee reported that he is investigating a Giants outing to Emperor Norton Field in the Mid-May time-frame & was looking for club interest

Announcements

Lisa announced that Jan 3rd is JRR Tolkien's birthday and urged us to do a toast at 9pm [our local time], in his honor: "The Professor"

Josh announced that he is taking a food challenge [with baker's chocolate] after the meeting tonight

Adrienne announced TV rumors & announced that she won her office's overall football pool [impressive!] - & announced that she will be baking next week [MOST impressive!]

Mo announced that she is taking artwork commissions if anyone has some for her

Andy announced that today is "frabjous day" [1-2 12]

Dave C announced that SJ has made plastic bags illegal to hand out in all endeavors [which extend to sf conventions] - and that disposable paper bags now must have a fee charged for them

Reviews

Bill reviewed *Adventures of Tintin* as a fun film, worth matinee - Carole followed that the level of detail in *Tintin* was incredible & then Bill reviewed Stephenson's book *Reamde* as readable

Jo reviewed CJ Cherryh's book *Conspirator* as engaging & better than many of her present books & reviewed seeing *Goblet of Fire* as fun

Dave C reviewed looking for something for Ed as unsuccessful

Ken reviewed the newest episode of *Sherlock* as "wow, he really enjoyed it" & Andy followed that it was fabulous and definitely worth stealing

I reviewed a John Shirley book, *Rapture* as a fast, fun read by an author who evidently liked both "Bioshock" games

Andy reviewed spending too much time at the SJ tech shop & rated the membership cost as more than worth full price; [evil] Kevin followed that he agrees

JC reviewed the new trailers for *Dark Knight* and *MIB* as both worth more than full price

Mo reviewed the new version of *Treasure Island* as she loves the casting, it was luscious to look at - it's been modernized with new plot twists & was a lot of fun to watch

We then did auctions

We adjourned at 9:17 pm

Rumor of the Week: "Ordinarily snowflakes don't catch on fire"

Meeting 1119

January 9, 2012

Trey Haddad, President

Chris Garcia, Vice President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms

Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Held at Coco's, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 Fwy), Sunnyvale

Began promptly at 8:00 p.m., before I had pen and paper handy

President and Secretary mysteriously absent

Vice President presiding

Adrienne Foster, acting minute taker

27 people attended

We established a party jar.

The minutes of meeting 1118 were accepted as “Lily von Schnowflake”

Treasurer reported at meeting 1118 we collected \$15.00 in the regular jar and \$25.18 in the party jar.

The President wasn't there to say he had nothing fannish to report.

The VP reported there's a new *Drink Tank* out, in memory of Rusty Hevelin.

The Sports Committee is considering possible Giants games for a BASFA group outing and was considering Thursday afternoon, May 17, against the St. Louis Cardinals or Sunday, May 20, against the Oakland A's. On May 20, there is a Brian Wilson gnome promotion and the picture of it Dave G. showed us was so darned cute. (For a peek, go to sanfrancisco.giants.mlb.com/schedule/index.jsp?c_id=sf#m=5&y=2012&calendar=DEFAULT and click on the asterisk in the May 20 box.)

Announcements

Dave C. reminded everyone that Further Confusion (aka Furcon) is this weekend. For more details, go to: <http://www.furtherconfusion.org/fc2012/>.

The schedule for SF Sketchfest, the San Francisco Comedy Festival, is up. You can see a taping of the Nerdest podcast there. For more details, go to: <http://sfsketchfest.com/home/>.

The book store, Know Knew Books, located on California Street near El Camino in Palo Alto, is still open. It will be bringing in more books and other merchandise, maybe even telescopes.

Dave recently received his 10,000th rating on eBay, after joining in June of 1998. He's looking forward to receiving his next landmark star in 2030.

Ken said that Region of Rassilon will be celebrating its 30th anniversary on Saturday, January 28. He said there will be no Friday meeting this month.

MO said her phone is not working and her internet access is spotty, but she is still taking art commissions, for anyone who is interested.

Mike Mc says the western swing pocket orchestra, the Saddle Cats, will be playing at Mission City Coffee Roasting Company at 8 p.m. this Saturday, January 14. He says they're a brilliant band and well worth the \$20/\$22 cover fees.

I announced that Bay Area Ghost Hunters has a couple of interesting outings coming up. BAGH will be taking a ghost tour of the Peralta Hacienda in the Oakland Fruitvale district at 4 p.m. on January 21. We're also offering a special ghost tour of the Rosicrucian Museum at noon on February 11 for \$13. For further details, please go to <http://www.meetup.com/bay-area-ghost-hunters>.

Kevin R. says he and Andy are throwing a party at Furcon, for no particular reason other than they want to.

Kevin S. reminded everyone that the Hugo nominating deadline is March 11 this year and that BASFA will have three consecutive meetings taking nominating recommendations for starting January 30.

Reviews

Deirdre saw Sir Paul McCartney's concert in Liverpool. She said the pyrotechnics for “Live and Let Die” were amazing and she felt privileged to see him perform a song that

he's rarely done live since Wings broke up. It was worth full price.

I followed on it's always worth seeing "Live and Let Die" performed live.

Ric saw a live taping of the podcast Jack-o-Cast and said it is worth full price.

Ed read Declare by Tim Powers and is becoming quite a fan. He said this novel is excellent and worth full price.

Lisa H. pointed out that most of Powers's main characters lose body parts.

Mike Mc. said Wayne Ashbless appears in Tim Powers novels.

Dave C. said Powers won't leave Ashbless and Sandy Blaylock alone.

Tom B. received the latest *Chunga*, which had an excellent article on Joanna Russ. He said it is a high quality fanzine that is eligible for Hugo nominating.

Andy said he and Kevin R. went to Twelfth Night. The drive to Concord was awful, the hotel was fair, but Twelfth Night was worth it.

Dave C. read *The Strange Adventures of Rangergirl*, by Tim Pratt. It was worth full price.

Chris saw *The Artist* and said it's a great little movie that's worth full price.

We did auctions.

Rumor of the Week:

"65¢ for Chris."

We adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Meeting 1120

January 16, 2012

Trey Haddad, President

Chris Garcia, Vice President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms

Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Held at Coco's, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 Fwy), Sunnyvale

Began 8:00 pm - with a Fus-Ro-Dah

29 people attended

We established a party jar

The minutes of meeting 1119 were accepted as "I want to see Chris hop on that wagon"

The Treasurer was not present

The VP reported that there is a new *Drink Tank* out - focused on *Scanners* & there's a deadline approaching for the next one

The President had nothing fannish to report

Hugo nomination nights will be Jan30, Feb 6 & Feb 13

The Sports Committee notes the Australian Open is starting

The Party Committee reported that there was a fun party at FurCon & the bar goes better with Cheese

Announcements

Ken announced that the 10 year anniversary party for the Legion of Rassilon will be Jan 28, Saturday at the Carrows from 2-6 pm

Bill announced that he & Carole will be at Conflkt in Seattle in 2 weeks

Carole announced that Clockwork Anime will host a steampunk con over the Memorial day weekend at the Doubletree

Bradford announced that the Computer History museum is impressive

Reviews

I reviewed *Tinker Tailor* as a very good adaptation of the book & worth full price; Trey followed that the movie started at a sedate pace & got slower from there & Gary Oldman was exceptional

Chris reviewed *Nth Zine* as excellent, with reviews and fiction - then reviewed a wiki "list of sandwiches" as the best wiki page ever

Josh reviewed the Fancy Food show in ALL of Moscone Center as delightful - all the free samples you can nom - "A Mecca of food", well worth full price

Ric reviewed *Repo the Genetic Opera* as it has an amazing soundtrack & reviewed *Cat Shit 1* as an amazing anime and worth the \$20 for DVD because of all the extras

Mo reviewed her cold as she hates it & reviewed the collection of *Kolchak* TV shows and the original 2 movies as they still hold up well, worth full price

Fred reviewed a podcast retrospective of Robert Anton Wilson as worthwhile and available thru Boing Boing

Adrienne reviewed *Game of Shadows* as an interesting interpretation but she needed to sleep more before going to the late showing

Dann reviewed *Warhorse* as incredible, beautifully filmed and worth full price

Bob reviewed the Terry Pratchett podcast — 3 parts & on Youtube — as interesting, reviewed spending New Years Eve at an LA mall and the Orange County sf assoc had a nice NY eve party & he reviewed seeing the Rose Parade as it was wonderful, but definitely buy the seating and parking

Lisa reviewed FurCon as great fun with decent parties; Dave commented that the Dealer's Room could not match his dreams of avarice, Mo thought there was a lot of diversity in furs this year & that next year's FC theme will be "Furbidden Planet"

Then we did auctions

We adjourned at 10:03 pm

And the rumor of the week was: "Bay Area fans will have to be careful saying 'Go Giants' this week"

Meeting 1121

January 23, 2012

Trey Haddad, President

Chris Garcia, Vice President

Dave Gallaher, Treasurer

Galen Tripp, Sergeant at Arms

Barbara Johnson-Haddad, Secretary

Held at Coco's, 1206 Oakmead Parkway (Lawrence Expressway/101 Fwy), Sunnyvale

Began at 8:00 p.m., before I had a chance to bring up the minutes

President and Secretary mysteriously absent again

Vice President presiding

Adrienne Foster, acting minute taker

25 people attended

We established a party jar.

The minutes of meeting 1120 were read by the VP, who downloaded the minutes before me, and the following corrections were made:

Kevin S. said he will not be ready for nominations until next week

Dave C. said he was not disappointed with Furcon, but his expectations were not exceeded.

The minutes for 1120 were then accepted as "chameleon".

Treasurer reported at meeting 1119 we collected \$23.75 in the regular jar and \$30.53 in the party jar.

The President wasn't there to say for himself he had nothing fannish to report again.

The VP ordered banana cream pie and says there is no new *Drink Tank* out this week, but the next one will have a cover by MO. Next Wednesday is the deadline for the *Bladerunner* issue of *Journey Planet*.

The Sports Committee said the tix for Brian Wilson gnome day are over \$40, so he asked about other dates for a Giants game outing. We settled on Friday, May 4, which is texting gloves night. It's the Giants vs. the Brewers and game starts at 7:15 p.m.

Next Monday will be the first of three meetings where BASFA will begin collecting its official recommendations for the 2012 Hugo Awards, which will take place after the meeting. There will be no auctions for the next three weeks, so please save your items until February 20.

Announcements

Dave C. told us about two websites: <http://www.fez-orama.com>, where they sell fezes. <http://www.dapperday.com> has the details on Disneyland's Dapper Day on February 5.

I followed on the Disneyland has announced it will be open 24 hours on Leap Day, February 29, this year.

Ed announced that a new steampunk convention, Clockwork Alchemy, will be held over Memorial Day weekend at the Doubletree Hotel in San Jose. It is being produced in partnership with Fanimecon and buying a membership will provide admission for both conventions, which are being held the same weekend. For more details, go to: <http://www.fanime.com/2012/01/06/press-release-fanimecon-announces-a-brand-new-steampunk-addition/>

BayCon 2012 is also the same weekend, but requires another membership fee.

I announced that I recently became one of Epinions's top 1000 writers.

I reminded everyone that Bay Area Ghost Hunters has arranged to do a special ghost tour of the Rosicrucian Museum on February 11. There is a fee of \$13 for this one. Please go to <http://www.meetup.com/Bay-Area-Ghost-Hunters/> for more details.

I also learned that some of the talk show hosts who were terminated by KGO have moved to 910 AM. Len Tillem can now be heard from 3–4 p.m. on weekdays. Gene Burns has a show from 4–7 p.m. weekdays and his Dining Around show continues sometime during the weekends. However, some of his other distinguished colleagues from KGO have been filling in for him while he is being treated for some health problems. Ed Baxter said they have been auditioning.

Mo has a new phone number. Same address, but she has also let go of her PO box too. See her for updates.

She also said the film options for *Elfquest* came to naught, since the producers gave up on the project. Wendy Pini is still pushing to make *Masque of the Red Death* a stage musical.

Dave G. said the Sharks game is tied.

Chris said Dave Langford recently had eye surgery, so until he recovers, he'll have vision problems in addition to his hearing challenges.

Ken said this is the final reminder that Legion of Rassilon will be celebrating its 30th anniversary this Saturday, January 28. Go to <http://www.legionofrassilon.org/> for more details.

Josh has also filed a court case that will probably take 12–24 months to be heard. Because of being treated poorly, his disability has become permanent so he may not be able to work as a chef again.

Reviews

MO said Robert Downey was amazing in *Zodiac*. The movie had some great performances and was very well done.

Chris followed on it was David Finch's best movie and the research was exhaustive.

Krys said that *Alcatraz* was acceptable and the lead character is adorable. The show was enjoyable, but it didn't excel.

She also said that the revamped Star Tours ride at Disneyland is awesome. It has plenty of new details to look out for.

Dave C. read *The Strange Affair of Spring Heeled Jack*, by Mark Hodder. It is a steampunk novel that goes into a lot more detail than usual. It was great fun and won the Philip K. Dick Award.

Eric saw *Pirates of Penzance* at the Savoyards. It was reimagined with *Firefly* characters and settings. It was obviously an amateur production, but he had a great time. There are still a couple of more performances this weekend. Go to <http://www.stanford.edu/group/savoyards/cgi-bin/> for more details.

However, afterward it was a major struggle trying to navigate his way out of the Stanford campus on a rainy night.

Yvette followed on that the theatre company should move its post-show reception back to its rehearsal hall.

Fred saw a play based on the novel *Little Brother*, by Cory Doctorow, and highly recommends it.

I followed on that the impact of this book depends a lot on its timeliness and that time has already passed.

Fred said the director and producer indicated that they had monitored the news to see if there was much that needed to be

changed but there was not much changed due to current events. However there were changes made but those were for length of play, the limited number of actors (just three) and to have a slightly different feel to the end of the play as compared to the end of the novel. The novel and the play are both at least as timely now as when the novel was first published.

Ed read *True Names*, by Vernor Vinge, and says if you haven't done so already, you should rush out and do it immediately. He highly recommends this novel.

Dave G. said something about the Sharks tying.

I reviewed the last BAGH meetup at the Peralta Hacienda in Oakland as a pleasant excursion. The tour focused more on the house's history than its ghosts, but our resident psychic medium, Irma Slage, told us her impressions at dinner afterward. Phyllis Galde, the publisher of Fate magazine, was also a special guest.

Dave announced that *Carrie* is returning as a musical.

We did auctions.

Rumor of the Week: "Thanks to the information obtained through enhanced interrogation, we will find Jack the Ripper".

We adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Bay Area Fannish Calendar

Life is complicated; putting on an event is even more so. Please check before attending, as events are sometimes canceled or times and locations changed.

Follow the calendar on Twitter:
@sfsfcalendar

New listings are highlighted in red.
 Ongoing events are toward the back.

Extended Through February 25

Little Brother

Custom Made Theatre Company
 1620 Gough Street, San Francisco
www.custommade.org

Adaptation of Cory Doctorow's novel of the same title. Adapted and directed by Josh Costello

Check website for tickets and showtimes



Saturday, February 11

SFinSF: KW Jeter, Jay Lake & Rudy Rucker

Hobart Building
 582 Market Street, San Francisco
www.sfinsf.org

Reading, followed by Q&A from the audience moderated by author Terry Bisson.

7 p.m. Free

Friday-Monday, February 17-20

Dundracon

San Ramon Marriott
 2600 Bishop Dr. San Ramon
www.dundracon.com

Gaming convention. \$60

Friday-Monday, February 17-20

Pantheacon

Doubletree Hotel
 2050 Gateway Place, San Jose
www.pantheacon.com

Pagan convention. \$75

Saturday-Sunday, February 18-19

Animation on Display

Kabuki Hotel
 1625 Post Street, San Francisco
www.aodsf.org

Celebration of Japanese animation, video games, recent American cartoons, and related interests. \$30

Monday, February 20

Forbidden Thrills Movie Night

Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
 1304 Lincoln, Alameda
www.thrillville.net

Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. February 20: Martians Attack! *Invaders From Mars* (1953) Plus! *The Angry Red Planet* (1959)

7:30 p.m. Free

Thursday, February 23

Dizzy Heights: Silent Cinema and Life in the Air: A Trip to Mars

2575 Bancroft Way, Berkeley
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu/filmseries/dizzy
Holger-Madsen (Denmark, 1918) *Archival Restoration!* Introduced by Mark Sandberg. Bruce Loeb on piano. Part science fiction and part utopian fantasy, this silent film from Denmark combines the fascination for flight with a WWI-era imagination of a world without war—in this case, perhaps ironically, the planet Mars. (90 mins)

7 p.m. \$9.50

Friday, February 24

Dizzy Heights: Silent Cinema and Life in the Air: High Treason

2575 Bancroft Way, Berkeley
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu/filmseries/dizzy
Maurice Elvey (U.K., 1929) *Archival Print!* Live musical accompaniment by Peter Chapman. In a futuristic London, the Peace League must stage a popular revolt in the air force—and in so doing repair the romance between a pacifist and a soldier. A modernist *Lysistrata*, an English *Metropolis*: *High Treason* is science fiction for the Jazz Age. (75 mins)

7 p.m. \$9.50

Friday-Sunday, February 24-26

Potlatch 21

Best Western Executive Inn, Seattle
potlatch-sf.org
Literary SF convention. Alternates between SF Bay Area and Seattle. Book of Honor: *A Canticle for Leibowitz*.

\$60

Friday-Sunday, February 24-26

Image Expo

Oakland Convention Center
555 10th Street, Oakland
www.imagecomicexpo.com
Celebrating the creative spirit of independence, The Image Comic Expo commemorates the formation of IMAGE COMICS 20 years ago.

\$35

Saturday, February 25

Dizzy Heights: Silent Cinema and Life in the Air

Pacific Film Archive
2575 Bancroft Way, Berkeley
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu/filmseries/dizzy
Julien Duvivier (France, 1927) *Archival Print!* Introduced by Patrick Ellis. Live musical accompaniment by Ken Ueno, Matt Ingals, Hadley MacCarroll. Julien Duvivier's late-silent adventure masterpiece served as an inspiration for the original Tintin comics, and delivers much of the same charm, inventiveness, and visual delight. We are pleased to be screening the only known copy of this rare film. (129 mins)

6 p.m. \$9.50

Sunday, February 26

Dizzy Heights: Silent Cinema and Life in the Air

2575 Bancroft Way, Berkeley
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu/filmseries/dizzy
Introduced by Patrick Ellis. Frederick Hodge on piano. The utter novelty of human flight during most of the silent period is hard for our post-jet-set age to fathom: this program aims to recapture an inkling of this lost sense of wonder. Included are the French comedy *Airplane Gaze*; Edwin S. Porter's *The Dream of a Rarebit Fiend*; Winsor McCay's *The Flying House*; Disney's *Alice's Balloon Race*; Méliès's *A Trip to the Moon*, and the Mack Sennett-produced aviatrix comedy, *Dizzy Heights and Daring Hearts*. (97 mins)

2 p.m. \$9.50

Sunday, February 26

SFinSF: Gail Carriger

Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
www.sfinsf.org
Ticketed event. Details TBA

Friday-Sunday, March 2-4

Consonance

Hilton Newark/Fremont
39900 Balentine Drive, Newark
www.consonance.org

Filk convention. GOH: Brenda Sinclair Sutton, Teresa Powell, Mary Crowell and Gwen Knighton. Interfilk Guest; Partners in K'Rhyme, W. Randy Hoffman and Kira Heston Toastmistress: Seanan McGuire, International Guest: Brook Lunderville

\$45 (till December 31)

Friday-Sunday, March 9-11

Sonora Celtic Faire

Mother Lode Fairgrounds
220 Southgate Drive, Sonora
sonoracelticfaire.com

A Celtic Music Gala with bands, fencing, jugglers, fire eaters, story tellers and dancers.

\$50

Saturday, March 17

SFinSF: Claude LaLumiere

Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
www.sfinsf.org

Reading, followed by Q&A from the audience moderated by author Terry Bisson.

7 p.m. \$5-\$10 suggested donation

Monday, March 19

Forbidden Thrills Movie Night

Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
1304 Lincoln, Alameda
www.thrillville.net

Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. March 19: Subversive Sub-cinema! *The Atomic Submarine* (1960) Plus! *Destination Inner Space* (1966)

7:30 p.m.

Free

Friday-Sunday, March 30-April 1,

FOGCon

Walnut Creet Marriott,
2355 North Main Street, Walnut Creek
fogcon.org

Honored guests; Nalo Hopkinson, Shelley Jackson. Honored Ghost; Mary Shelley.

\$75 (till February 15)

Saturday, April 21

SFinSF: Urban Fantasy Panel

Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
www.sfinsf.org

Bruce McAllister, Steven Boyett, others TBD.
7 p.m.

\$5-\$10 suggested donation

Monday, April 23

Forbidden Thrills Movie Night

Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge
1304 Lincoln, Alameda
www.thrillville.net

Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. April 23: Thrillville's Endless 15th Anniversary Show! *The Day the World Ended* (1955) Plus!

World Withour End (1955)

7:30 p.m.

Free

Saturday, May 19

SFinSF: Ysabeau Wilce, Marie Brennan

Hobart Building
582 Market Street, San Francisco
www.sfinsf.org

Reading, followed by Q&A from the audience moderated by author Terry Bisson.

7 p.m.

\$5-\$10 suggested donation

Saturday-Sunday, May 19-20

Big Wow Comicfest

San Jose Convention Center, Hall 2
150 San Carlos, San Jose
www.bigwowcomicfest.com

Comics convention.

\$30

Monday, May 21

Forbidden Thrills Movie Night

Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge

1304 Lincoln, Alameda

www.thrillville.net

Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. May 21: Shatfest! *Kingdom of the Spiders* (1977) Plus! *The Devil's Rain* (1975)

7:30 p.m.

Free

Monday, June 18

Forbidden Thrills Movie Night

Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge

1304 Lincoln, Alameda

www.thrillville.net

Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. June 18: Tiki Drive-In Beach Party! In Forbidden Island's parking lot, from the archives of Sci-Fi Bob Ekman: catch a 16mm wave of trailers, cartoons, shorts and the classic creature feature *The Horror of Party Beach* (1964)

7:30 p.m.

Free

Monday, July 23

Forbidden Thrills Movie Night

Forbidden Island Tiki Lounge

1304 Lincoln, Alameda

www.thrillville.net

Cult Movies & Cocktails, hosted by Will the Thrill. All shows free, first feature starts @ 7:30 PM, second feature @ 9:15. Free Popcorn and Trivia Prizes. July 23: Shazam Summer Jam! All 12 chapters of the greatest serial of all time! *The Adventures of Captain Marvel* (1941)

7:30 p.m.

Free

Friday-Sunday, August 3-6

Mythcon 43

Clark Kerr Conference Center

2601 Warring St, Berkeley

www.mythsoc.org

The annual conference of the Mythopoeic Society. GOH: Grace Lin, G. Ronald Murphy. \$85

Ongoing

Daily

Cartoon Art Museum

655 Mission Street, San Francisco

www.cartoonart.org

Current exhibitions: The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (through April 15, 2012). Small Press Spotlight on Karen Luk (through December 5). 11-5 p.m. \$6 (Closed Mondays)

San Francisco Ghost Hunt Walking Tour

Begins: Queen Anne Hotel

1590 Sutter at Octavia, San Francisco

www.sfgghosthunt.com

Closed Tuesdays.

7-10 p.m.

\$20

VIZ Cinema

1746 Post Street, San Francisco

www.newpeopleworld.com/films

VIZ Cinema is a 143-seat underground cinema inside New People in San Francisco. Its programming focuses on the latest and hottest films from Japan, as well as classics, favorites, documentaries and anime. Please check theater for showtimes and tickets.

Sundays

Bad Movie Night

The Dark Room Theater

2263 Mission Street, San Francisco

www.darkroomsf.com

Featuring bad movies old and new.

8 p.m.

\$5

Sakramento Anime Society

Rancho Cordova Library

9845 Folsom Boulevard, Rancho Cordova

www.saclibrary.org

Meets every Sunday to watch old and new anime and anime music videos, play collectible card games, practice artwork and make AMVs. 3-6 p.m.

SF Games

Zephyr Cafe
3643 Balboa Street, San Francisco
vax.hanford.org/dk/games

SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week.
2 p.m. Free

Mondays

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

Coco's
1206 Oakmead Parkway, Sunnyvale
www.basfa.org
8 p.m. Free

Mondays and Wednesdays

Silicon Valley Boardgamers

Mountain View Community Center
201 S. Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View
www.davekohr.users.sonic.net/svb
Group meets regularly to play mostly German-style strategy boardgames such as Settlers of Catan; also multi-player Avalon Hill-style, historical war games, and others.
6:30 p.m. \$2

Tuesdays

MGI Boffers & Outdoor Games

Codornices Park
1201 Euclid Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com
Bad weather: we meet the same time at 33 Revolutions Record Shop & Cafe, El Cerrito for boardgames.
3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free

Principality of Mists Fighter Practice

Twin Creeks Sports Complex
969 Caribbean Drive, Sunnyvale
www.westkingdom.org/node/343
SCA event. Non-members must remember to fill out a waiver form. In case of rain, call from 3pm on to determine of the facility will be closed that day. 408-534-1169. .
7 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Free

Wednesdays

Bay Area Role-Playing Society

Go-Getter's Pizza
1489 Beach Park Boulevard, Foster City
www.BayRPS.com
Hosts a weekly game night. For club and game night details email GM@BayRPS.com
6 p.m. - 10 p.m. Free

East Bay Strategy Games Club

EndGame
921 Washington, Oakland
www.michaeldashow.com/eastbaystrategy/home.html
7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. Free

Fanboy Planet Podcast

Illusive Comics and Games
2725 El Camino Real, Suite 105, Santa Clara
www.fanboyplanet.com
Live from Illusive Comics and Games, it's the Fanboy Planet Podcast with your host, Derek McCaw.
6 p.m. Free

Thursdays

CAS: NightLife

The California Academy of Sciences
55 Music Concourse Drive, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
www.calacademy.org
Every Thursday night, the Academy opens its doors for NightLife, a chance for adults to explore the museum in a whole new light. Dance to some of San Francisco's most popular DJs, enjoy food and cocktails, and mingle while you delve into the Academy's world-class exhibits and get up close and personal with aquarium critters.
6 p.m. - 10 p.m. \$12 (21+)

Fridays

SF Games

Muddy's Coffeehouse

1304 Valencia Street, San Francisco

vax.hanford.org/dk/games

SF Games is a collective name for a bunch of people who get together and play board games and card games every week.

7 p.m. to midnight

Free

Fridays-Mondays

Haunted Haight Walking Tour

Meets at Coffee To The People

1206 Masonic Avenue, San Francisco

www.hauntedhaight.com

Reservations required.

7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

\$20

Fridays and Saturdays

Vampire Walking Tour

Meets corner of California and Taylor, San Francisco

www.sfvampiretour.com

Led by Mina Harker. Tour is canceled if there is heavy rain.

8 p.m.

\$20

Biweekly

PenSFA Party

The Peninsula Science Fantasy Association meets every two weeks for a party at the home of one of their members. They also host parties at local conventions. Email

commander@pensfa.org for information on attending. PenSFA standard party rules: bring something edible or drinkable to share, or pay the host \$2. Don't smoke in the house without checking with the host first. Normal start time is 8 p.m. but may vary depending on the host.

Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers' Group

Borderlands Books

866 Valencia Street, San Francisco

Meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 6 pm. Contact Jude Livingston at sfscifi@yahoo.com for more information.

Monthly

Dorkbot-SF

www.dorkbot.org/dorkbotsf

Dorkbot hosts regular forums for artists, designers, engineers, students, and other people doing strange things with electricity.

Free, donations welcome

Foothill Anime

Building 5015, Foothill College

Los Altos Hills

foothill.anime.net

Monthly event where people can get together to watch anime and meet like minded others.

Usually meets the first Sunday of every month at noon.

12 p.m.

Free

Geeks Vs. Geeks

San Francisco / San Mateo

www.facebook.com/geeksvsgeeks

www.geeksvsgeeks.com

Monthly pub trivia quiz. Usually takes place the first Sunday (San Mateo) and second Monday (San Francisco) of the month, please check Facebook or website for details.

7:30 p.m.

Free

Silicon Gulch Browncoats

Various locations (see website for details)

www.silicongulchbrowncoats.org

Silicon Valley fans of Firefly/Serenity meet up on the first Saturday of the month.

Noon - 2 p.m.

Free

Rocky Horror Picture Show

The Clay, 2261 Fillmore Street San Francisco/
The Guild, 949 El Camino Real Menlo Park
www.bawdycaste.org

The Bawdy Caste presents the classic midnight movie the first Saturday of the month, alternating between the Clay in San Francisco and the Guild in Menlo Park.
Midnight

Spec Fiction Book Club

Keplers Books
1010 El Camino Real Menlo Park, CA 94025
www.keplers.com

Meets the second Sunday of every month.
4 p.m. Free

QSF&F Book Club

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.qsfandf.com

Meets the second Sunday of the month.
5 p.m. Free

East Bay Star Wars Club

Central Perk
10086 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito
510-558-7375
www.ebstarwars.com

Meets the second Friday of every month.
7:30 p.m. Free

Fantastic Frontiers

www.freewebs.com/fantasticfrontiers/
Social club for Sacramento County sci fi/fantasy fans usually meets the second Saturday of the month. Check website for meeting times and locations.

No-Name Anime

Saratoga Library
13650 Saratoga Avenue
Saratoga
www.nnanime.com

Anime screenings usually take place on the second Saturday of the month. Free

SF Browncoats

Cafe Murano
1777 Steiner Street, San Francisco
www.sfbrowncoats.com

SF Firefly/Serenity fans usually meet up on the second Saturday of the month.
Noon Free

Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club

Borderlands Books
866 Valencia, San Francisco
www.borderlands-books.com

Meets the third Sunday of the month. Please contact Jude at jfeldman@borderlands-books.com for more information.
6 p.m. Free

USS Defiance

5026 Don Julio Blvd, Sacramento
1566 Howe Ave, Sacramento
www.myspace.com/d2121978
Star Trek fan group meets the third Friday of the month.
7 p.m. Free

Micro Gods, Inc.

Berkeley Public Library, West Branch
1125 University Ave, Berkeley
mgisciaf.angelfire.com
groups.yahoo.com/group/MGIFamilyClub/
Family Club for fans of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Movie, Anime & Manga. Meets every 3rd Saturday, please check Yahoo group for updates.
2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Free

USS Northern Lights

sites.google.com/site/ussnorthernlights
Contact fristjedi2000@yahoo.com for specifics.
The 'Lights is a chapter of Starfleet International and a swell group of science fiction fans. We do more than Trek. Usually meets the third Friday of the month, with social event TBD.
7 p.m. Free

Religion & SF Book Club

First United Methodist Church
1183 "B" Street, Hayward
Meets the 4th Sunday of the month. Please
contact Rev. Randy Smith at
RSmith2678@aol.com for more information.
7 p.m. Free

Other Realms Book Club

Books, Inc.
1375 Burlingame Ave, Burlingame
www.booksinc.net/localinterest/291027
Meets the 4th Wednesday of the Month.
6:30 p.m. Free

Sci-Fi Book Group with Kym

Barnes & Noble
El Cerrito Plaza, 6050 El Cerrito Plaza, El
Cerrito
[store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/
3110722-7](http://store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/3110722-7)
Meets the fourth Friday of the month.
7 p.m. Free

Legion of Rassilon

Carl's Jr.
2551 N 1st St , San Jose
www.legionofrassilon.org
Doctor Who fan group usually meets the fourth
Friday of the month: Episodes of Doctor Who,
news, discussion of recent movies, and a raffle.
7:30 p.m. Free

USS Augusta Ada

Round Table Pizza
3567 Geary Blvd, San Francisco
trek.starshine.org
Augusta Ada is both a chapter of Starfleet
International and a Linux and *BSD user
group. Usually meets the fourth Saturday of
every month.
1 p.m. Free

Veritech Fighter Command ONE-THREE

Round Table Pizza
4403 Elkhorn Blvd, Sacramento
916-338-2300
Anime/cosplay group usually meets the last
Saturday of the month at 1800 hours.
6 p.m. Free



She walks in beauty

by Lucy Huntzinger

Bay Area Fannish Calendar – February 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Bad Movie Night</i> <i>Sakuramento Anime</i> <i>SF Games</i>	<i>BASFA</i> <i>SV Boardgamers</i> <i>Haunted Haight</i>	<i>MGI Boffers</i> <i>Fighter Practice</i>	<i>BA Role-Playing Soc</i> <i>E.Bay Strategy Games</i> <i>Fanboy Planet Podcast</i> <i>SV Boardgamers</i>	<i>CAS: NightLife</i>	<i>SF Games</i> <i>Haunted Haight</i> <i>Vampire Walking</i>	<i>Vampire Walking</i>
29 <i>Little Brother (thru Feb 25)</i>	30	31	1	2	3	4 <i>Silicon Gulch</i> <i>Browncoats</i> <i>Rocky Horror</i>
5 <i>Foothill Anime</i> <i>Geeks Vs. Geeks (SM)</i>	6	7	8	9 <i>SF&F Writers' Group</i>	10 <i>East Bay Star Wars</i>	11 <i>SFinSF: KW Jeter, Jay Lake & Rudy Rucker</i> <i>Fantastic Frontiers</i> <i>No-Name Anime</i> <i>SF Browncoats</i>
12 <i>Spec Fic Book Club</i> <i>QSF&F Book Club</i>	13 <i>Geeks Vs. Geeks (SF)</i>	14	15	16	17 <i>Dundracon (thru Mon)</i> <i>Pantheacon (thru Mon)</i> <i>USS Defiance</i>	18 <i>Animation on Display (thru Sun)</i> <i>Micro Gods, Inc</i> <i>USS Northern Lights</i>
19 <i>SF/F Book Club</i>	20 <i>Forbidden Thrills</i> <i>Movie Night</i>	21	22 <i>Other Realms</i>	23 <i>Dizzy Heights: A Trip to Mars</i> <i>SF&F Writers' Group</i>	24 <i>Dizzy Heights</i> <i>Potlatch 21 (thru Sun)</i> <i>Image Expo (thru Sun)</i> <i>Legion of Rassilon</i> <i>Sci-Fi Book Group</i>	25 <i>Dizzy Heights</i> <i>USS Augusta Ada</i> <i>Veritech Fighter Cmd 13</i>
26 <i>Dizzy Heights</i> <i>SFinSF: Gail Carriger</i> <i>Religion & SF</i>	27	28	29	1	2 <i>Consonance (thru Sun)</i>	3

Science Fiction/San Francisco is the monthly news zine for the San Francisco Bay Area – www.efanzines.com.