



LAMBDA SCI-FI

DC Area Bisexual/Gay/Lesbian Science Fiction Association

P.O. Box 10087 * Silver Spring, MD 20914 * (301) 445-5650
Issue #6 - September 1990

LAST MEETING MINUTES

WOW! Carl's condo was packed on August 12 as 25 science fiction and fantasy fans - nearly three times as many as usual - showed up for our regular monthly meeting. For obvious reasons, I'm no longer going to list everyone who was there.

Of course, we immediately hit all these new people with business. Specifically, we wanted to decide what form our "mother group" - The Gaylactic Network - should take. Luckily, Carl had graciously developed a proposal that included a board of directors consisting of one representative from each local chapter and one (or two, if modified as suggested) at-large representatives for unaffiliated members of the Gaylactic Network. The chair/director of The Network would be elected from this board. Everyone present discussed the proposal, then authorized Carl to present it to the Gaylactic Network as LSF's proposal. Anyone wishing to review this proposal or suggest changes should contact Carl, who is our official delegate to The Gaylactic Network.

Carl also reported on Gaylaxicon, the Lesbian/Gay convention held in Tewksberry, MA. He and Peter Knapp both attended and had a wonderful time. It was decided at Gaylaxicon that another convention would be held next

year, again in Tewksberry, on Bastille Day weekend, July 14, 1991. Carl is one of the people organizing it, so see him if you'd like to get involved.

The last two pieces of business we took care of were to elect Peter Knapp, our treasurer, and to recruit a place for our next two meetings (September 9 and October 14): Jim Crutchfield's apartment, 1414 17 Street, NW, #413. His phone number for directions: (202) 232-3141.

Then, as usual, the meeting became a polite free-for-all. Topics thrown up for discussion: new books; a review of William Shatner's ghost written book TechWar (consensus: don't bother); news about the next Star Trek movie (it's not going to be Star Trek at the academy); the upcoming PBS special "Long Ago And Far Away" (worth seeing); the new collaborative book by Andrea Norton, Julian May, and Marion Zimmer Bradley Black Trillium (no LSFer had read it yet, although the Post's BookWorld didn't like it); the closure of the SF/Mystery bookstore Moonstone; and the possibility that Alien Nation will be a mid-season replacement.

Impromptu seminar topics included a history of Doctor Who; a discussion of comic book series with SF and/or Lesbian and Gay characters; the physics concept of chaos and whether/how it begin showing up as a theme in SF; and sf book series.

We also discussed sponsoring a trip to the movie [which we did do on August 19 with a trip to see Flatliners], and going to the Renaissance Festival together (no firm plans yet). Passed around was a copy of an article from the Smithsonian magazine on Hugo Gernsback, the founder of the term "Science Fiction" and a brochure from NERO, the New England Roll Playing Organization (they can be contacted c/o Gamemaster, 212A Massachusetts Ave, Arlington, MA 02174 617/641-1580).

We decided that at our September meeting people should bring both food and SF/fan magazines to share. Hope to see everyone back again on September 9.

-- Loree Cook-Daniels

THE WITCHES: A REVIEW

Did you ever see the movie Return To Oz? If so, you might remember that it was a very creepy, dark, and not-nice movie. It also was a lot of fun.

The Witches, currently playing at local cinemas, is a very similar movie. The story involves a young boy who discovers a plot to wipe out all children in England. His discovery is of course discovered by the plotters, and ... I'll leave the rest for you to figure out.

As Jim Henson's last movie (he was the executive producer, and of course the special effects wizard) I had a special interest

in seeing it to watch his magic. I was not disappointed. The witches were quite disgusting while the mice were quite cute. The blend of puppetry and live action was well done, and while it was easy to tell the two apart, that didn't deter from the enjoyment.

To top off the Henson magic, the lead witch was played by Anjelica Huston. She portrayed a marvelously evil witch, and if I were a wee bit younger, I could envision have nightmares about her.

For some unknown reason many of the witches were played by men. It seemed that not much effort was put into making them look like women. Maybe some witches are really drag queens in disguise.

This movie was made primary for children, but has much adult humor thrown in to appease the parents dragged to the movie by kids. As I never quite grew up, I enjoyed this movie thoroughly. If there is any child in you, that child will definitely get a kick from this film. I recommend it highly!

-- Peter Knapp

HENRY VIII REVISITED

Maryland's 14th Annual Renaissance Festival is an **enjoyable** day trip to Crownsville. The Festival is open on weekends through October 14.

Upon walking through the archway into the Renaissance Village, visitors are transported back

in time to the 16th Century. The re-creation is replete with entertainers in period costume, merchants of various crafts and all manner of performances both on and off stage. Adventurous attendants are encouraged (but not required) to wear 16th century costume, or you may rent from their handy shop just inside the gates.

The variety of live entertainment ranges from Mud Shows to authentic Celtic Music, along with special events such as Jousting and the Human Chess Game. Other feature performances are slated throughout the festival's run.

Shop-a-holics will delight in the crafts (some made before your eyes) available for purchase. Both fantasy and medieval items, ranging from wax figurines of wizards to all manner of jewelry can be found in shops throughout the village. Of special note: a local glassblower presents demonstrations of his craft near the village entrance.

For more information, a quick call to 202/970-2188 will provide details.

-- Noel Welsh

Game Night I

After the Lambda Sci-Fi meeting, I will be hosting the first of what will hopefully be semi-regular Lambda Sci-Fi gaming sessions. Here are the specifics:

What: Lambda Sci-Fi Gaming Session.

When: Sunday, September 9 (after the regular meeting).

Where: 1525 Q Street, NW #11.

What To Bring: A game you want to play.

Food: If there is sufficient interest we can order pizza from Julios (It's very good!).

Host: Peter Knapp

RSVP: 483-6369, or you can just tell me at the meeting.

I have both Cosmic Encounters and Cosmic Wimpout to play. Won't you join me?

-- Peter Knapp

IN THE BLEACHERS / Steve Moore



The Standardized Athletic Aptitude Test

ODDS AND ENDS

Note: To submit movie/book reviews for our newsletter, please mail your story on 5 1/4" IBM-PC formatted floppy disk (preferably in WordPerfect 5.0 or 5.1 format). You can also download your story onto our BBS (see Electronic Bulletin Board under Services). If you have some other IBM PC word processor, please contact Al at 384-6868 to see if we can use your format.

This newsletter was guest edited/produced by Peter Knapp. Al at GRYPHON Microproducts will hopefully be back at the helm next month.

Services

WANTED: I'm looking for a new roommate, effective November 1, 1990. I live in a quite two bedroom condo near Dupont Circle. My unit has all the usuals - air conditioning, a dishwasher, a garbage disposal - and a few nice touches - a fireplace with a built in working wood burning stove, windows in every room, and very large closets in the bedrooms. The rent is \$525 a month including utilities and a deposit is required. I think I'm pretty easy to get along with. I don't smoke and am allergic to furry animals so smoking cats are not allowed. Other than that, I'm flexible. If you're interested, give me a call at 483-6369. Thanks.

--Peter Knapp



Computer Support Available

Computer specialist with 20 years of experience (both Mainframe and Micro) is looking for consulting work. I can speak techno-babble with the best of them, but prefer dealing with clients in English. If your computers seem to be devices of torture, rather than useful tools, give me a call. I can help your company turn things around, and get the computers working for you -- solving problems, rather than creating them. I can program in SAS, dBASE, C, Basic, and several other languages and am a clear and patient instructor. Contact Al at GRYPHON Microproducts. (301) 384-6868.



Electronic Bulletin Board/Free Dating Service.

Gryphon Microproducts has an electronic bulletin-board. To access it (you need a modem, of course), dial **384-7238**. You can call in at 1200/2400 baud with settings of N,8,1. To get to the Bi/Gay/Lesbian conference, select J for Join Conferences -- from the main menu, and enter GLIB for the conference name. There is also a FREE dating service. To access it, select S for Survey System -- from the main menu, and Choose the Dating Survey.



Creative Interpersonal Problem-Solving Class.

Takoma Park resident with an M.S. in conflict management teaches this 6-week, practical and personal course in win-win conflict resolution. For more information, call Loree Cook-Daniels at (301) 445-5650.

NEXT MEETING NOTICE

Meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. Both the September 9 and October 14 meetings will be held at 2:00pm at Jim Crutchfield's apartment, 1414 17 Street, NW, #413. His phone number for directions: (202) 232-3141.