



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #47 - Feb. 1994

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9TH MEETING**

copiously & meticulously compiled by Philip Wright  
mercilessly edited by Carl Cipra

Loree, our First Speaker, was in attendance again, so she opened the meeting and then turned it over to Peter and Carl.

The first item on the agenda was the budgetary discussion, as announced in last month's issue of the newsletter. After discussion, it was decided to raise dues to \$15 per year as of 2/1/94. It was also decided to reduce the page-count on the monthly newsletter to 6 pages (instead of the usual 8 pages); especially as Carl had demonstrated that this could be done with no loss in content or quality or legibility. It was also decided to cut down on the amount of "freebie" copies of the newsletter disseminated through Lambda Rising and Lammas. It appears that these actions will result in the savings that Peter and Wayne III estimated we would need to remain "in the black." It was also suggested that we could solicit "additional gifts" to the club when people join or renew. This option is made more attractive by the "tax-exempt" status that has recently been secured by the Gaylactic Network. (Carl thinks that such a solicitation could easily be added to the membership/renewal form.)

There has not yet been any announcement from the Network Board as to how the various chapters will help pay for the costs of the Network's new "tax-exempt" status.

Jim C. advised us that we had been contacted by a group of bisexual Star Trek fans who are interested in participating at Gaylaxicon V. Carl will be talking with the group's leader in the near future.

The group then participated in a free-for-all brainstorming session to come up with various discussion topics for Gaylaxicon V. This information will be turned over to Will C. (con program chair).

We then discussed how to advertise the convention. Al will put notices on InterNet and GLIB. Barrett suggested that we involve the "gay TV people" in the area---perhaps they would like to film parts of the convention. Keith will contact Karen Brown, who is in charge of gay programming on Fairfax Cable; and Barrett suggested that we explore the possibility of being covered by "In the Life." It was decided that any media coverage should be channeled through Jaime and Sylvia before filming (as well as Jim C., if the art show is involved).

Carl then asked for input on the newsletter (content, quality, changes?, etc.). Several people expressed a desire that the "Gaylactic Gossip" column be expanded. Commentary on the film trivia quizzes was mixed, although several people complained about the complexity or diffi-

(continued on page 2)

**!!! IMPORTANT !!!**  
**!!! ANNOUNCEMENT !!!**

**LSF DIRECTORY UPDATE  
IN THE WORKS!**

reported by Ye Olde Editor

At the January LSF meeting, Peter announced his intention to publish an updated Lambda Sci-Fi membership directory very soon. How does that affect you? Well, if you want to correct or update your entry for inclusion in the new directory, then you'd better get off your launching pad and get the information to Peter *soon, sooner, soonest!* Your update could include name (spelling), address, telephone number, Email #, changes to "interests," or any combination of these.

If you'd like to save yourself a postage stamp, then come to the regular February meeting (Sunday, February 13th, 2:00 PM). Peter will have with him a printout of his directory database; and you can simply make your changes when he passes it around. If you won't be able to attend the February meeting, then *quick like a bunny* [Ed. note: Happy, Peter?] send your update to Peter at either his home address or the club's PO Box.

This has been a (non-paid) political announcement.

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**WHAT'S INSIDE?**

Donation Made to SMYAL in LSF's Name (pg. 2); Return of the Many Faces of "Catchy Lines from the Movies" (trivia quiz - pg. 3); Pagan/Sci-Fi Connection? (pg. 3); Tanya Huff's *Blood Lines* and *Blood Pact* (book review - pg. 4); *Children of the Corn[y]* II (video review - pg. 5); Ye Olde Editor's Corner (pg. 5); Information about Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians (pg. 6); Con Calendar (pg. 6)

## MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9TH MEETING

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culty of the questions. Jaime suggested trying to solicit "guest writers." Philip suggested that we have articles "spot-lighting" members, which would allow everyone to get to know people better. (Peter added that he believes the Southern California chapter does that in their newsletter.) Carl discussed a couple of proposed changes in format which he intends to try out in upcoming issues.

Peter announced that he will shortly be putting out an updated membership directory. The request for updated information from members will be announced in the February newsletter; and Peter plans to have a hard copy of the database that can be updated at the February meeting.

Mike reported on the upcoming new "Action Pack" series from Paramount (and Shatner's involvement in the "Tek War" episodes). We also discussed rumors, hopes, etc. about the premiere of *Babylon V* (the series). There was also discussion of an upcoming series of remakes of Hammer films, including a remake of *The Quatermass Experiment* and several others.

Next, David and Mark regaled us with a report on the recent Star Trek convention they attended. The "big guests" were Jonathan Frakes and Marina Sirtis, both of whom were deemed to be very nice people. From their discussions, it appears that the Worf/Troi plotline is being continued and that Gates McFadden will be directing an upcoming episode. There are also rumors that since *ST:TNG* "began" with "Q," it will also end with "Q." Other pieces of *ST:TNG* gossip included: Troi will be promoted; Wesley Crusher will return; and Worf will be promoted as part of a punishment(?). Peter informed us of a blurb he encountered on InterNet which describes some of the plot twists and gossip about the upcoming *Star Trek: Voyager* series: Sean Connery will be in the pilot episode; Geordi's mother will become the captain; the plot involves renegades stealing a new starship, getting sucked

into a wormhole along with another Federation ship, and joining forces in order to survive in a far-distant portion of the galaxy.

Al announced that *TV Guide* will begin running a regular weekly section dealing with science fiction and fantasy.

Philip announced the Smithsonian's science fiction film festival (Friday nights). The first film shown was *Batman*; which Randy lauded as looking great on the big screen. Other movies will include: *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Meteor Man*, *Rocketman*, and *Buckaroo Banzai*. The cost is \$1.00 per showing. Philip and Randy suggested that the club go as a group.

Finally, at Philip's urging, the annual LSF book exchange got under way. The list of "favorites" exchanged included: *Blind Justice* and *Fire Upon the Deep* (from Jaime), *Running Fiercely Toward a High Thin Sound* (from Loree), *The Crystal Singer* (from Keith), *Moreta* (from Barrett), *Steel Beach* (from Marcelle), *China Mountain Zhang* (from Peter), *Snow Crash* (from Brian), *Lasher and Vampires Anonymous* (from Scott R.), *Transformations* (a video) and *Fallen Woman* and a copy of his screenplay ("un-optioned") *The Doppelganger* (from Philip), *Bimbos of the Death Sun* and *Zombies of the Gene Pool* (from Carl), *Jumper* (from Kendall), *The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress* (from Andrew G.), and *The Breeds of Monkey* (from Jim C.).

The meeting then broke up into general socializing and munchy-crunching.

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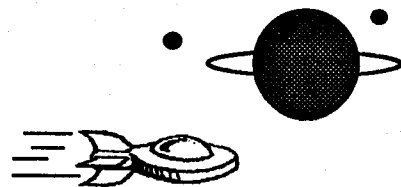
## DONATION MADE TO SMYAL IN LSF'S NAME reported by Carl Cipra

Recently, our own Wayne I showed just how big his heart really is! He donated a full dozen science fiction, fantasy, and mystery books to the youth library of SMYAL (Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League); and he made the donation in the name of Lambda Sci-Fi! Since then, the club has received a very nice "thank you" letter from Carol Gush, their Executive Director. So, the next time you see Wayne I, give him a big hug and a kiss for his kindness (as if you needed an excuse).

Oh, in case you're curious, here's a list of what Wayne donated:

*Shroud of Shadow*  
by Gael Baudino  
*Best Destiny*  
by Diane Carey  
*Quest to Riverworld Anthology*  
edited by Philip Jose Farmer  
*Mona Lisa Overdrive*  
by William Gibson  
*The Difference Engine*  
by Gibson & Sterling  
*The Leiber Chronicles, 50 Years of Fritz Leiber*  
*Interview with the Vampire*  
*The Vampire Lestat*  
by Anne Rice  
*Roman Blood*  
*Arms of Nemesis*  
by Steven Saylor  
*Dreamships*  
by Melissa Scott  
*Aristoi*  
by Walter Jon Williams

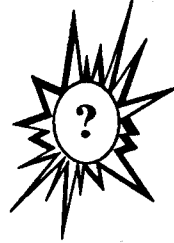
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**RETURN OF THE MANY FACES OF  
"CATCHY LINES FROM THE MOVIES"**

by Joe Parra

OK, let's try that again! But this time, instead of famous *science fiction* films, let's take a look at actors and their roles in well-known and classic *fantasy* films. Below you'll find a list of 20 characters (and the fantasy movies they're in) and a list of the actors or actresses who played those roles. Just match the face to the name. Isn't that *fantastically* simple? Have at thee!



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Dread Pirate Roberts<br>( <i>Princess Bride</i> - Fox, 1987)                                  | 20. Darby O'Gill<br>( <i>Darby O'Gill &amp; the Little People</i> - Buena Vista, 1959) |
| 2. Elvira Gulch<br>( <i>Wizard of Oz</i> - MGM, 1939)  | .....  |
| 3. Sokurah<br>( <i>7th Voyage of Sinbad</i> - Columbia, 1958)                                    | A. Torin Thatcher  |
| 4. Red Queen<br>( <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> - Paramount, 1933)                                  | B. Ray Liotta  |
| 5. Hera<br>( <i>Clash of the Titans</i> - MGM, 1982)   | C. Vincent Price   |
| 6. Clarence<br>( <i>It's a Wonderful Life</i> - RKO, 1947)                                       | D. Rex Ingram  |
| 7. Shoeless Joe Jackson<br>( <i>Field of Dreams</i> - Universal, 1989)                           | E. Albert Sharpe   |
| 8. Oda Mae Brown<br>( <i>Ghost</i> - Paramount, 1990)  | F. Cary Elwes  |
| 9. Ayeesha ( <i>She</i> - Hammer, 1965)  | G. Ursula Andress  |
| 10. Grandpa Joe<br>( <i>Willy Wonka &amp; the Chocolate Factory</i> - Wolper/Warner Bros., 1971) | H. John Phillip Law  |
| 11. Lodac<br>( <i>The Magic Sword</i> - United Artists, 1962)                                    | I. Sam Jaffe   |
| 12. Dr. Craven<br>( <i>The Raven</i> - American Int'l, 1963)                                     | J. Claire Bloom  |
| 13. <i>Le Bete</i><br>( <i>Beauty &amp; the Beast</i> - CCF/United Artists, 1947)                | K. Lionel Barrymore  |
| 14. Sinbad<br>( <i>Golden Voyage of Sinbad</i> - Columbia, 1973)                                 | L. Basil Rathbone  |
| 15. Peter Grimm<br>( <i>The Return of Peter Grimm</i> - RKO, 1935)                               | M. Margaret Hamilton   |
| 16. The Djinn<br>( <i>Thief of Baghdad</i> - United Artists, 1940)                               | N. Judi Meredith   |
| 17. Ebenezer Scrooge<br>( <i>A Christmas Carol</i> - United Artists, 1951)                       | O. Jack Albertson  |
| 18. Grand Lama<br>( <i>Lost Horizon</i> - Columbia, 1957)  | P. Henry Travers   |
| 19. Princess Elaine<br>( <i>Jack the Giant Killer</i> - United Artists, 1961)                    | Q. Jean Marais   |
|  | R. Edna Mae Oliver   |
|  | S. Alistair Sim  |
|  | T. Whoopi Goldberg   |

ANSWERS ON PAGE 5

**PAGAN/SCI-FI CONNECTION?**  
reported by Carl Cipra

A recent arrival in the LSF post office box was the latest issue of another organization's newsletter, *Coming Out Pagan*. According to Magnolia Stuart, its editor, *Coming Out Pagan* is "the magical networking journal for LesBiGay spirit people and nature-based religion of all traditions," with "readers in 30 U.S. states, Canada, and several foreign countries, and plenty of sci-fi fans among our readers."

*Coming Out Pagan* is published quarterly; and each issue has a central theme. The theme for the "Winter, 1993" issue is "Reclaiming Holiday Traditions." It's really quite a nice publication. I'll see about bringing it to the February LSF meeting for everyone to look at.

The upcoming "Spring, 1994" issue will look at different branches of Paganism, and will be subtitled "Pagan Pathways: What's Your Tradition?"

In her enclosed cover letter, the editor says: "I invite your members to send their short manuscript and black/white art submissions. This is a great opportunity for you to tell 900 readers about your group; perhaps you could do a review of great queer characters in sci-fi, such as some of MZB's Free Amazons." The deadline for submissions for the next issue is February 15th.

If you'd like to subscribe to *Coming Out Pagan*, the cost is \$11 per year (four quarterly issues). Make your check payable to "Wordsmith Writing Services" and mail it to:

Wordsmith Writing Services  
PO Box 30811  
Bethesda, MD 20824-0811

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## TANYA HUFF'S *BLOOD LINES* AND *BLOOD PACT*

reviewed by James R. Crutchfield

For fans of the novels of Tanya Huff, 1993 was a year of mixed blessings. In January, *Blood Lines* (book #3 in her "Victory Nelson, Investigator" series) was published. Then, in November, *Blood Pact* (the final book in that series) was published.

These two books continue (and end) the adventures of Vicki Nelson (an ex-cop turned private investigator), Henry Fitzroy (romance writer and vampire), and Mike Celluci (Vicki's former police partner and Henry's rival for Vicki's affections). The series began with *Blood Price*, which introduced Henry Fitzroy, a 450-year-old bisexual vampire who assists Vicki in saving Toronto from a supernatural evil force. *Blood Trail* (book #2) centered around a likeable family of farmers who just happened to be werewolves; and Vicki and Henry must save them from the violent encroachment of "civilization" on their lives.

And just when you think that Ms. Huff can find good in all the monsters of our childhood, she writes *Blood Lines*, introducing a powerful and evil Egyptian mummy whose sole objective is to prepare the world for enslavement by his ancient, evil god. At a panel discussion at a recent convention, I heard it stated that no one writes about mummies because they are nothing more than wrapped cloth and little can be done with them. Fortunately for her readers, Ms. Huff is a creative and imaginative writer, who remembers it is who or what that's wrapped in that cloth that's important. In "Anwar Tawfik" (the mummy in *Blood Lines*), we have a supernatural evil being who shows no mercy, even to a child--an evil that will destroy Henry Fitzroy for his "ka" if Fitzroy cannot be safely neutralized.

In "The Makropoulos Secret," Czech playwright Karel Capek wrote of the loneliness that must be faced by one who lives eternally, as the

people one cares about all pass away over time. As a vampire, this is a loneliness that Henry Fitzroy has faced for hundreds of years; and to Tawfik, this loneliness is a weapon to be used against Fitzroy. In a scene that brings to mind Satan's temptation of Christ, Tawfik meets Fitzroy in a park and tempts Fitzroy by promising an end to the loneliness and a friendship that will continue eternally.

Tawfik's biggest threat, however, is to Vicki; and if Vicki is to be protected, the world saved, and the ancient evil contained, Fitzroy and Cellucci will have to put aside their resentment of each other and work together. How Ms. Huff handles these problems makes for exciting and pleasant reading.

In the final book, *Blood Pact*, Vicki's world falls apart after the death of her mother and the disappearance of the body. Fitzroy and Cellucci find themselves having to work closer together than ever to support Vicki. In the process, their own conflicting relationship is forced to change. Fitzroy finally comes face to face with his own "mortality." Vicki loses control of her future and is finally forced to make decisions about her future that will leave some readers (such as this reviewer) very disappointed at how the series ends. But, then, tomorrow is another day.

In tracking down what happened to her mother, Vicki faces an evil that is less world-threatening than what she's faced in the past; but it is an evil that is somehow more frightening. In her previous books, Ms. Huff has written about unbelievable, powerful Evil. The evil in *Blood Pact*, while less "powerful," is in some ways more threatening--especially when we read in the real world of experiments being performed on unsuspecting citizens of this country without their consent or knowledge. In the end, can there be a worse evil than those self-righteous persons

who believe that anything can be justified in the name of science and progress, even if some individuals are harmed?

In this series of books, Ms. Huff has shown her ability to take the common and make it uncommon. She has advanced the horror genre through the creative development and use of her characters. Ms. Huff has taken supernatural creatures we thought we were familiar with and made them so much *more*. In doing so, she has created a number of likeable characters that (with the end of this series) will be missed.

For Ms. Huff's fans, the end of this series is like losing good friends. This loss can be tempered, however, by the anticipation of new friends to come in Ms. Huff's future books.

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*Laws to suppress tend to strengthen what they would prohibit. This is the fine point on which all the legal professions of history have based their job security.*

-- Bene Gesserit Coda

LAW IS THE ULTIMATE SCIENCE.

-- SIGN ABOVE THE DOOR OF  
EMPEROR SHADDAM IV

Creative anarchy is the path to survival in this universe.

-- Ixian Philosophy

(excerpted from  
*The Notebooks of  
Frank Herbert's Dune*,  
edited by Brian Herbert)

## CHILDREN OF THE CORN[Y] II

a video movie review by Joe Parra



Just in case you missed the first installment, *Children of the Corn*, here's the plot summary: A group of children come under the influence of a demon of some sort that demands the deaths of all the adults in town in exchange for the growth of the corn; the corn is all that matters. The film was based on a short story by Stephen King and was produced in 1984 by the now-defunct New World Pictures (Roger Corman's company). It was a so-so story and a dull movie. Now Dimension, the horror arm of Miramax Films, has purchased the rights to several New World properties, including the "Hellraiser" series and ... *Corn*. Never has a series been so aptly named, as the characters portrayed in it are as hokey as *Hee Haw*.

*Children of the Corn II* picks up where the earlier film left off, with the police from the next town coming to investigate the mass murders of the adults and the non-conforming children. The media is there as well, and one reporter tries to delve into the mystery surrounding the "Moonie-like" children and their devotion to some unseen terror that causes them to kill. The reporter is, naturally, accompanied by his teenage son. The son is (of course) rebellious and runs off into town to meet a teenage girl who is (guess what?) also rebellious and (of course) comes under the influence of the unseen demon.

Inexplicably, the remaining "children of the corn" have been placed in foster homes in a new town, even though they were responsible for the murders in their home town. One boy becomes possessed and assumes the position of leader, shepherding the other children about the countryside killing the adults of this new town. The reporter, meanwhile, finds a local Native American who might be able to help, or at least might be able to explain

the power of the demon. It seems the demon might be the spirit of the land, rebelling at humankind's desecration of the land. Could it also be Mother Nature in revolt? Could it be ... *Satan*? (Thank you, Church Lady.)

There are so many problems with this turkey that I hardly know where to begin. First of all, there are absolutely *no* surprises whatsoever. Every situation is as hackneyed as can be. The performances range from "amateur night in Hicksville" to "Gee, I'm sure glad I took those acting lessons at Miss Jones' dance school when I was a kid!" The demon boy tries hard, but he gets so prissy that he looks like a queen with a bad hair day. The reporter (the lead) plays his part on only one level and reads as phoney as a cheap mask. And, speaking of cheap things, the special effects are as shoddy as (and look like) the earliest examples of computer animation: promise, but no punch. One downright insulting piece of work is the portrayal of the Native American, which tries to ride the fence between "seer" and "buffoon." To make matters worse, the Native American actor is the same one who appears in all the old commercials where the Indian sheds a tear over the state of the environment. He should have shed a tear over the state of *this script*.

The old legend of a crop spirit was well-played in the late Tom Tryon's novel *Harvest Home*, which was turned into an interesting made-for-TV movie (starring the late Bette Davis). Maybe the problem with *this* film is that the people who knew how to carry this concept off have all passed away. The current crew only *seems* like they have.

(Rating: 1 out of a possible 4)

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## YE OLDE EDITOR'S CORNER

by Carl (Ye Olde Editor) Cipra

As you can see from the "What's Inside?" bar on the front page, I'm still tinkering around with the format for the newsletter. Any comments? We discussed a number of items at the January meeting; and I'd love to have input more often! Feel free to continue the discussion at the February meeting.

And, speaking of input, don't forget that I'd *really* appreciate being inundated with book reviews, movie/video reviews, information articles, etc. My thanks to Philip, Joe, and Jim C. for their submissions this month!

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On Rigel VII, being in love means never having to say: "Get your *mril'ti* out of my ear!"



### ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUIZ (from page 3)

- |       |       |
|-------|-------|
| 1. F  | 11. L |
| 2. M  | 12. C |
| 3. A  | 13. Q |
| 4. R  | 14. H |
| 5. J  | 15. K |
| 6. P  | 16. D |
| 7. B  | 17. S |
| 8. T  | 18. I |
| 9. G  | 19. N |
| 10. O | 20. E |

**\*\* INFORMATION ABOUT LAMBDA SCI-FI: DC AREA GAYLAXIANS \*\***

Lambda Sci-Fi is a Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror fan club for Gay people and their friends. Annual membership fees are \$15, for which you will receive this monthly newsletter and a membership directory. Newsletter submissions are always welcome.

Meetings are generally held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at 2:00 PM on **Sunday, February 13th**, at Jim C.'s apartment: 1414 17th St., NW, Apt. 413 (near Dupont Circle). Please bring some munchies or soft drinks if you can. Hope to see you there!

Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians is an affiliate of the Gaylactic Network, an international organization for gay people and their friends who are interested in science-fiction and fantasy.



## Con Calendar

by Carl, Peter, and Jim C.



March 4-6, 1994 **VULKON BALTIMORE**: Sheraton Baltimore North (Towson, MD). Guests: Siddig El Fadil ("Dr. Bashir" from *ST:DS9*), Michael O'Hare ("Cmdr. Sinclair" from *Babylon 5*). Cost: \$30 if postmarked by 2/4/94 (at the door: \$40 for 2-day tickets, \$25 for Sat., \$20 for Sun.). Make checks payable to "Devlin Associates" (& write "Balto" on the check) and send to: Vulkon, c/o Joe Motes, 12237 SW 50th St., Cooper City, Florida 33330.

April 1-3, 1994 **BALTICON 28**: Hyatt Regency at the Inner Harbor (Baltimore, MD). GoH: Mercedes Lackey; Artist GoH: Larry Dixon; Special Guest: Frederik Pohl. Membership: \$30 until 3/1/94 (\$40 at the door). Rooms: \$93 (sgl/dbl) and \$108 (tpl/quad). Make checks payable to "Balticon 28" and send to: Balticon 28, P.O. Box 686, Baltimore, MD 21203-0686.

July 8-10, 1994 **SHORE LEAVE 16**: Marriott Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guest: (so far) Tony ("Commander K'urn") Todd. Membership: \$40 (mail registration closes 5/31/94). Make checks payable to "Shore Leave" and send to: Shore Leave, PO Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285 (include 2 SASE's).

July 15-17, 1994 **GAYLAXICON V**: Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza (Rockville, MD, at Twinbrook Metro stop). Guest of Honor: Jewelle Gomez; Artist Guest of Honor: Tom Howell; Special Guest: Forrest J Ackerman. Cost is \$20 from 1/1/94 to 4/30/94; \$25 from 5/1/94 to 6/30/94; and \$30 after 6/30/94. Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon V" and send to: Gaylaxi-con V, PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044.

July 30-31, 1994 **NOVACON**: The Tysons Westpark Hotel (Tysons Corner, VA). Guests: Colm ("Chief O'Brien") Meaney, Walter ("Chekov") Koenig. Cost: \$35 (general admission) or \$55 (reserved seating) for the weekend (daily rates also available). Make checks payable to "One Trek Mind Productions, Inc." and send to: One Trek Mind Productions, Inc., PO Box 3363, Merrifield, VA 22116.

Sept. 1-5, 1994 **CONADIAN, the 52nd World Science Fiction Convention**: Winnipeg Convention Centre (Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada). GoH: Anne McCaffrey; Artist GoH: George Barr. Attending memberships: \$95 until 12/31/93 (cost will, of course, go up thereafter). Make checks payable to "ConAdian" and send to: CONADIAN, P.O. Box 7111, Fargo, ND 58109, Attn: Membership.

November 18-20, 1994 **PHILCON '94**: The Adam's Mark Hotel (Philadelphia). Principal Speaker: Larry Niven, Artist GoH: Jim Burns. Cost: \$25 until 12/31/93 (will go up some time after that). Make checks payable to "Philcon '94" and send to: Philcon '94, PO Box 8303, Philadelphia, PA 19101.

