



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #48 - March 1994



FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

by Norman

Our February 13th meeting began with a feeding frenzy! [Ed. note: And, as there were about 30 people in attendance, it was quite a frenzy!] Then we observed a moment of silence for the late Jack Kirby, legendary comics artist and creator of Fantastic 4, X-Men, Spiderman, *et al.* Carl made us all welcome, hyped Gaylaxicon V, hyped the club, and handed around copies of our "Lambda Sci-Fi Recommends" reading list. Then he showed us Loree and Marcel's picture in the Feb. 12th edition of *The Washington Post*. (They were featured in an article on lesbians and gays buying real estate in the D.C. area.) He also passed around copies of the last several *TV Guide* "Sci-Fi pages."

Wayne III then brought us up to speed on the latest news about the Network.

Michael C. brought an entire scroll of information to share with us including:

- Anthony Hopkins will star in *The Van Helsing Chronicles*, combating satanic forces in turn-of-the-century San Francisco and elsewhere.

- *Darkman 2* and *Beetlejuice 2* are in production.

- Joe Dante is directing a remake of *The Mummy*.

- Chris Columbus is possibly doing a remake of *Theatre of Blood*.

- Sean Connery and Julia Roberts are rumored to be the stars in a remake of *The Ghost and Mrs. Muir*.

- Movie versions of *The Avengers*, *Thunderbirds*, *The Prisoner*, and *Secret Agent* are being made.

- Christina Ricci (from *The Addams Family*) will be starring in the movie version of *Casper the Friendly Ghost*.

- There will be a sequel to the movie *The Hideous Sun Demon*---called *The Hideous She Demon*.

- Alec Baldwin and Penelope Ann Miller will star in a movie version of the old radio show *The Shadow*.

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LAMBDA SCI-FI PARTY AT DISCLAVE '94? by Carl Cipra

That's right, gang! It's that time of year again---Disclave '94 is just around the corner and we've got to decide whether or not we want to host another of our (locally) famous Lambda Sci-Fi room parties!

Disclave '94 is scheduled for the Memorial Day Weekend (Friday, May 27th, through Monday, May 30th) at the Sheraton Premier at Tyson's Corner (actually located in Vienna?). For more details, see the Con Calendar on page 6 of this newsletter.

If we follow our practice in previous years, it means we'll be throwing our party for gay/lesbian/bisexual/transsexual/etc. fans on Saturday night (May 28th). But, as you may remember, a successful party requires *planning and participation*.

Therefore, I will be bringing this topic up for discussion at the March 13th meeting. If the club decides to host an LSF party at Disclave this year, I'll pass around a sign-up sheet for "who brings what," etc. Then I'll reserve a room on the "party floor" at the hotel.

OK, gang, the quasar's in your quadrant now (so to speak). Is it "LSF party time" at Disclave '94? You decide at the March 13th meeting!

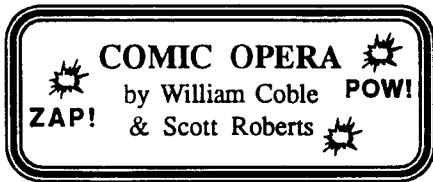
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----NEWSFLASH!!!---- SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!!

UPDATED LAMBDA SCI-FI
DIRECTORIES WILL BE GIVEN OUT
TO ALL MEMBERS
AT THE MARCH 13TH MEETING!
(Help us save postage!
Pick up your copy
at the meeting!)

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Comic Opera (comicbook gossip - pg. 2); Planet of the "Catchy Lines from the Movies" (trivia quiz - pg. 2); Revisiting Classics (book reviews - pg. 3); The Continuing Story... (book reviews - pg. 4); Ye Olde Editor's Corner (pg. 5); Information about Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians (pg. 6); Con Calendar (pg. 6)



FIRST, FROM WILLIAM COBLE:

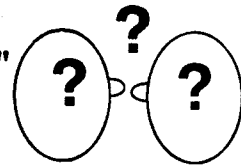
Power of Smells. That fiendishly independent feline, Catwoman, definitely knows how to use her nose. On a recent midnight *rendez-vous* with Batman, she *purr*fectly deduced that *this* Batman is not the same one. Mama says, "Don't mess with a bitch in heat! You get your eyes scratched out!" Score one for the Catwoman and zero for Superman. *He* still doesn't know there has been a change. He just doesn't get it. Well, maybe he should be the one in heat.

Family Ties. Here's a new meaning for the phrase "ties that bind." Terrorist extraordinaire and stunning blue-skinned metamorph Mystique is hanging her family linen out to dry. Ever since the death of her beloved Destiny, Mystique hasn't been playing with a full deck. It has just been learned that, as a young woman, she was married into a royal family in Eastern Europe and gave birth to Nightcrawler, *aka* Kurt Wagner. Of course, the she-devil tossed her new-born babe over the falls to save her own skin. A mother's love is for life. Somewhere along the line, she hooked up with everyone's favorite psychopath, Sabertooth, and produced another child---Creed, leader of the anti-mutant terrorist organization Friends of Humanity. Truly, like mother AND father... While we're at it, let's throw in the fact she raised a southern belle, Rogue, like her very own. Last seen, she was giving her life to save her son Nightcrawler by throwing herself over the falls. My, my, how life comes full circle. Of course, since Nightcrawler survived when this happened to him as a babe, you can bet sweet Joseph and Mary that Mystique survived, too.

AND, NOW, FROM SCOTT ROBERTS:

Expecting. The Robinsons, Major Don West, Dr. Smith, and the

PLANET OF THE
"CATCHY LINES FROM THE MOVIES"
or, The ? from Outer Space
by Joe Parra



Hi, Earthlings! Welcome to the planet Trivia. This month, you get to figure out *what alien* (or what *Earthling*) said *whatever* it was they said **and** *whoever* (or *whatever*) they said it to **and** in *what movie*. OK, OK, just kidding! All you have to do is figure out the name of the movie each of the following quotes comes from! May the *Farce* be with you!

1. "I want you to come meet my wife. She doesn't blink and she has no heart-beat!"
2. "I think I figured out where this thing got in. It must have stowed away in the cargo hold."
3. "People of Earth, attention! People of Earth, attention! This is a voice coming to you from thousands of miles above your planet!"
4. "Well, you can take your picture now, Scotty."
5. "I made you welcome on this world! You turned it into a charnel house!"
6. "Tell Nagah I'll fight him with *this* [holds up a knife] and *this* [holds up an axe]."
7. "No! No! Get back! I deny you! I deny you!"
8. "We came here because our women were infertile. We only want children. Is that so evil, Marge?"
9. "Colonel Fielding! Colonel Fielding!"
10. "Hell, those are biological warfare maps! Stone, you *knew* what this installation was for all along!"
11. "Release the gargon monster!"
12. "Hmph! See how good *you* look when 800 years old *you* are!"
13. [translation] "Well, at last, the mighty C____!" [character name left out because it's a dead give-away]
14. "Oh, the dreams we had of exploring other worlds!"
15. "But your friend, the doctor, is *not* dead. He is now part of me, as you will all be."
16. "We know we can't fight their machines. We've got to fight *them*!"
17. "It was a gift for your president."
18. "We brought the egg back from Venus."
19. [tape recording] "Do not return to Mars! We can and will destroy you! Live out your petty existence, but DO NOT RETURN!"
20. "I'll-be-right-here. Be-good."

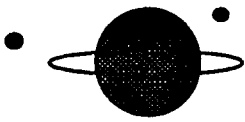
Answers on page 5

Robot have finally landed on Alpha Centauri, which is inhabited by loathsome jellyfish creatures. The translucent slugs try to destroy the crew of the *Jupiter II*, but unknowingly transport them to other dimensions. Don West and Judy Robinson, recently wed, land on an Eden-like planet with no other sentient lifeforms. So, what do they do with no one around? Well, Judy Robinson West (no hyphenated last names here - - this *IS* *Lost in Space*, remember) is expecting. No shower is

planned.

No Wedding Bells. No wedding bells yet for Clark and Lois. Superman may have come back from the dead, but the Daily Planet reporters have not yet set a date to finally tie the knot. However, Smallville residents Lana Lang and Pete Ross should be walking down the aisle soon. Check *Time Magazine* for dates.

(continued on page 5)



REVISITING CLASSICS

by Andrew Garen



Was it Thomas Wolfe who wrote "You can't go home again" - or just someone who has read too many sequels? Whoever came up with it first, it's a pronouncement that many writers should take to heart when they consider follow-ups to past successes.

In *The Gripping Hand* and *The Ugly Little Boy*, collaborators Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle and Isaac Asimov's posthumous writing partner Robert Silverberg, respectively, try to revisit two of science fiction's classics.

The Gripping Hand is Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle's sequel to *The Mote in God's Eye*, a book Robert Heinlein called "possibly the finest science fiction novel I have ever read." I remember that blurb from my first reading of *The Mote in God's Eye*, but I didn't need to, because it is included on the book jacket for *Hand*, along with praise for three other past Niven and Pournelle collaborations. Conspicuously absent were the lauds for *The Gripping Hand*, and the reasons for the omission are quickly apparent.

A little background: *The Mote in God's Eye* concerns humanity's first contact with another intelligent race, nicknamed "the Moties" because their star is a "mote" in the constellation called "The Eye." The Moties are a species with a biological caste system and a huge population problem. I won't go into the details, but this book reveals a full-blown alien society and the benefits and consequences it would pose to our race in the context of an exciting narrative.

The Gripping Hand takes place twenty-some years after that initial contact. Because of the dangers of the Moties, humanity has bottled them up in their own system; but have they escaped? An Arab trader, one of the original passengers on the first mission into Motie space, believes so, and sets out to fix the problem.

This is the first, and the best, section of the book. Unfortunately, Niven and Pournelle either couldn't

make this plot line work, or just grew tired of it. The Moties haven't escaped yet after all, and the clues that led to that conclusion were red herrings. But wait! They're about to escape anyway, and humanity has to rally to push them back.

The rest of the book is little more than a dreary space chase. We revisit the Motie system and meet the cultures that developed in space, since the planet-bound civilization has been destroyed in the most recent cycle of overpopulation. Unfortunately, the fascinating details about Motie evolution, anthropology, and history that enlivened the first book are missing in this one. These could be *any* aliens, or *any* "bad guys" for that matter.

Most of the major human characters from the original book make an appearance, but who cares? In the intervening decades, they have all become less complex and compelling - mere cardboard cut-outs trotted out for no real purpose. I won't give away the details of the ending, except to say that humanity triumphs and all the loose ends are tied up in a kind of inevitable bow.

* * *

If writing sequels to classics is dangerous, then re-telling them must be doubly risky. *The Ugly Little Boy*, by Isaac Asimov and Robert Silverberg, is a novelization of the famous Asimov short story from the Fifties, about a Neanderthal child brought out of the past and the nurse who cares for him for three years.

Since the original is a classic, many fans' first reaction to this novel will be: "Why do this? What's left to say?" Although Silverberg does improve some parts of the story, other changes are bound to leave readers scratching their heads.

Silverberg is most successful when he explores the characters and society in more depth than the original short story allowed. The main character, Miss Fellowes, is elevated from the Fifties "spinster nurse" stereotype,

and her relationship with Timmy the Neanderthal boy is fleshed out appropriately. There is also a more realized social context, thanks to Silverberg's exploration of the roles that child advocacy groups and the media would play if a child actually were plucked from his own time.

However, the book suffers, in my opinion, by Silverberg's addition of a Neanderthal subplot that alternates with the main narrative thread. Many readers might enjoy this speculation about Neanderthal society, but to me it's just recycled filler, equal parts "noble savage" and "dying civilization." Despite his attempt to tie it all together at the end, this secondary plot is really a different book, and its inclusion only serves to highlight the differences between Silverberg's and Asimov's writing styles.

Fortunately, Silverberg hasn't tampered with the main plot. Although Silverberg is a better prose stylist than Asimov was, the true power and poignancy of the denouement still come from Asimov's original.

Maybe writers can't "go home again," but at least we can. If they accomplish nothing else, perhaps these new books will encourage readers to enjoy again - or for the first time - the original stories that inspired them.

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THE ABSENCE OF A THING, THIS CAN BE AS DEADLY AS THE PRESENCE. THE ABSENCE OF AIR, EH? THE ABSENCE OF WATER? THE ABSENCE OF ANYTHING ELSE WE'RE ADDICTED TO.

-- BARON VLADIMIR HARKONNEN

When a thing vanishes, that is as much of a message as when a thing suddenly appears. The empty spaces are always worthy of our study.

-- Leto Atreides II

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



"Recycling" characters from well-known, classic fantasy or science-fiction stories has long been a popular device of modern authors. Philip Jose Farmer has been particularly productive of this type of fiction. Farmer's *The Other Log of Phileas Fogg* (1973) looks at the "true story" behind Verne's *Around the World in 80 Days*; and his *A Barnstormer in Oz* (1982) chronicles the adventures of Dorothy's son.

Unfortunately, some attempts at "continuing" the classics are less successful than Farmer's -- for example, *The Jekyll Legacy*, by Robert Bloch and Andre Norton. When I saw this hardback on a remainder table at a bookstore, I snatched it up immediately. Bloch and Norton! Wow! What a great combination! Granted, I hadn't yet read the original *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*; but -- no problem! I'd wanted to read Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale for some time now, and it was really easy to pick up an inexpensive Bantam paperback copy. So, I read them both non-stop. The results? *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* - yes! *The Jekyll Legacy* - no!

I really enjoyed Stevenson's 1886 novel. I already had a pretty good idea of the plot (who doesn't?); but I was very pleased to find out just how well-written the story is. The book also had a few surprises in store for me. (Suffice it to say that Hollywood's portrayal of Mr. Hyde as a great, hulking brute isn't exactly true to the original.)

A little over a century after Stevenson penned his study of mankind's dual nature, Robert Bloch and Andre Norton teamed up to pick up the story right where Stevenson left off. Some of Stevenson's characters have been carried over into the sequel: Mr. Utterson, solicitor to the "missing and presumed dead" Dr. Henry Jekyll; the gruff and ever-suspicious Inspector Newcomen of Scotland Yard; and Poole, Dr. Jekyll's loyal butler. The central character, however, is new: Canadian-born Miss Hester Lane. Destitute and newly-arrived in London, Hester stubbornly attempts to overcome Victorian sexist prejudices

and become a newspaper reporter. Her first assignment takes her to the slums of London to investigate the newly-formed and "suspicious" Salvation Army. Hester soon learns that she is, in fact, Dr. Jekyll's long-lost niece and only heir -- and, surprisingly, the prime suspect in her uncle's mysterious disappearance. And, despite the fact that Mr. Utterson knows that Jekyll is dead (as does anyone who's read the Stevenson original), there is disturbing evidence that "Hyde" is once again on the loose in London.

Despite my interest in "Victoriana," I was less than delighted with *The Jekyll Legacy*. I was amazed to discover that two great writers like Bloch and Norton could turn out such a disappointing sequel. It just doesn't seem to "go" anywhere -- neither does it spark feelings of psychological wonder or horror, as the 1886 original did so well. I don't recommend *The Jekyll Legacy* to anyone except completists or those interested in an exploration of Victorian societal prejudices.

In contrast, new fantasy writer Jason Henderson has gone back to much older (and even more illustrious) sources for the characters in his novel *The Iron Thane* -- and he has woven them into a very enjoyable tale! The events in Henderson's novel unfold in Scotland during the 11th Century, shortly after the death of the tyrant MacBeth. In fact, many of the characters in this book should be familiar to fans of Shakespeare's "Scottish play": young Malcolm Canmore, the new king; old Seyton, an officer to the late tyrant; the heroic MacDuff, Thane of Fife and killer of MacBeth; and, of course, the Three Witches (although in a very different guise). Another play, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, is the source for two more characters, namely Oberon and Titania, monarchs of the Fairies (here called "the Syth"). Alas, Henderson has not seen fit to include Puck amongst his cast of Shakespearean Supernaturals -- but he has included a dark and deadly presence from a most surprising source. As the villainous "Prince of the Dark

Elves," Henderson has imported the Erl-King directly from a famous 18th-Century German poem. (You say you've never read Goethe's *Erlkönig*? Well, don't worry; Henderson pretty much reprises the action of this dark, sad poem at the end of Chapter 3.) Finally, Henderson has created a number of his own characters -- such as the farmer Abel Galloway and his doomed son Jess, and the fisherwoman Julia and her halfling son Douglas -- to round out the cast.

And Henderson does a masterful job of exploring the motivations and inner natures of this mixed bag of characters -- particularly in the cases of the Erl-King, the Weird Sisters, and MacDuff. (This is especially surprising when you consider that he is working with well-known characters taken from the works of such literary giants as Shakespeare and Goethe.) There's a lot to think about here -- explorations of loyalty, parental love, generational rivalry, world-weariness, heroism, the seduction of power, the internal sources of evil, and the mutual attraction between mortality and immortality. But don't worry, *The Iron Thane* isn't all cerebral! There's plenty of action in this novel -- a Tolkienesque war between the forces of Good and Evil, with children's souls, the Scottish realm, and (ultimately) the fate of the entire world at stake! I found Henderson's depictions of the supernatural elements of the story particularly effective and satisfying.

Perhaps what I find most satisfying about *The Iron Thane*, however, is the fact that it isn't merely a continuation or extension of themes and characters created by earlier authors. Henderson goes beyond that. Yes, he explores "what happens after" *Macbeth*; but to this he adds new complications, new characters, and new juxtapositions of old characters -- and he explores how "what happens after" would be altered and affected by all these factors. The results are both enjoyable and thought-provoking.

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FEBRUARY MINUTES

continued from page 1

- A movie version of *The Green Hornet* is possibly in the works.

- Patrick Stewart is to star as "Daddy Warbucks" in *Annie and the Castle of Terror*.

- Clive Barker's *Thief of Always* is in production as an *animé* feature.

- Kubrick's plot for the feature *A.I.* will include robots ruling the world after an ecological holocaust.

- William Peter Blatty and William Friedkin (*The Exorcist*) are doing a horror film entitled *Elsewhere*.

- Gahan Wilson's art is being made into an *animé* feature.

- Tim Burton is making the movie *Geek Love*.

- ABC will be doing a TV mini-series of Stephen King's *The Stand*, starring Molly Ringwald and Rob Lowe.

- Mel Gibson will be starring in a movie version of *Maverick*, and possibly a movie version of *The Wild, Wild West*, too.

- The "funny pages" feature "The Phantom" is being made into a cartoon series.

- Janet Leigh is writing a behind-the-scenes book about *Psycho*.

Jim W. told us that *Forbidden Planet* is being re-made as a "big budget" motion picture by Stan Winston and that Disney has bought a studio which has the rights to Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*.

Scott S. brought in a draft of a new, fierce design for the Lambda Sci-Fi telephone directory. Thank you, Scott! Attending members meticulously approved and/or corrected and/or amended their entries.

William and Scott R. brought us up to speed in the world of comics. As best as I could write it down, here goes: *Alpha Flight* has bit the dust, but the openly gay North Star is slated to appear in his own 4-part mini-series. *X-Men's* Jean Gray and Cyclops are finally married, and their two children from alternate timelines were in attendance. *Mystique* has seen the light and has come out as a lesbian, though she does have two children, Night Crawler and Creed. A recent issue of *Time* magazine featured a "Milestone" article which included the latest gossip on Jean and Cyclops, Batman, Green Lantern, and Tess and Dick Tracy.

In other news, all 1993 Hugo and Nebula award-winning works have been compiled on a CD-ROM disk from Clair Net. The episode of *Babylon V* that we will see in two weeks will apparently "strip away many plot masks that have been brewing beneath the surface." (I think that the Minbari want to assimilate the humans.)

And, finally, Wayne I modeled his "Star Trek boxer shorts" for us all, complete with a moon and two asteroids... [Ed. note: To great applause and cheers all around.]

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ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUIZ (from page 2)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <i>The Unearthly Stranger</i>
(American Int'l, 1962) | 11. <i>Teenagers from Outer Space</i>
(Warner Bros., 1959) |
| 2. <i>It! The Terror from Beyond Space</i>
(United Artists, 1958) | 12. <i>The Empire Strikes Back</i> (Fox, 1980) |
| 3. <i>Earth Vs. the Flying Saucers</i>
(Columbia, 1956) | 13. <i>Return of the Jedi</i> (Fox, 1983) |
| 4. <i>The Thing</i> (RKO, 1951) | 14. <i>It Came from Outer Space</i>
(Universal, 1953) |
| 5. <i>It Conquered the World</i>
(American Int'l, 1956) | 15. <i>Night of the Blood Beast</i>
(American Int'l, 1958) |
| 6. <i>World Without End</i>
(Allied Artists, 1955) | 16. <i>War of the Worlds</i>
(Paramount, 1953) |
| 7. <i>Forbidden Planet</i> (MGM, 1956) | 17. <i>The Day the Earth Stood Still</i>
(Fox, 1951) |
| 8. <i>I Married a Monster from Outer Space</i>
(Paramount, 1958) | 18. <i>20 Million Miles to Earth</i>
(Columbia, 1957) |
| 9. <i>Invaders from Mars</i> (Fox, 1953) | 19. <i>The Angry Red Planet</i>
(American Int'l, 1960) |
| 10. <i>The Andromeda Strain</i>
(Universal, 1971) | 20. <i>E.T.</i> (Universal, 1982) |

COMIC OPERA

continued from page 2

Lesbians Galore. In *Animal Man*, one of DC's "Vertigo" titles, Buddy and Ellen's daughter went crazy and just died in the snow. (Actually, it was just a *doppelganger* created by the real daughter.) Anyway, some of the avenging lesbians introduced in an earlier issue have been hanging with Animal Man's family and friends out in the woods. Hats off to DC for having supporting lesbian characters who are just regular people. (Well, however "regular" Vertigo-line characters can be!)

Bisexuals, Too. In another DC "Vertigo" title, *Shade, The Changing Man*, Shade's two female companions, Kathy (the bisexual) and Lenny (the lesbian), are falling out of love. Could it be impacted by Kathy's having Shade's baby? Will the loose *menage a trois* survive the madness? Will the art get better or worse? Stay tuned.

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YE OLDE EDITOR'S CORNER

by Carl (Ye Olde Editor) Cipra

When you pick up your copy of the *spiffy* new Lambda Sci-Fi Directory, be sure to compliment our resident "Apple-Wizard" Scott Seller. It's his creation. Scott is now working on an updated version of the LSF membership application; I can hardly wait to see what he comes up with. Keep up the great work, Scott!

And, speaking of great work, a hardy editorial "THANK YOU" to William, Scott R., and Andrew for the fascinating articles they sent in! I hope we'll hear more from all three of you in the coming months!

Final item: I received a last-minute call from Philip Wright regarding the Writer's Foundation 5th Annual Writing Competition for Screenplays & Television Teleplays. Prizes and opportunities - deadline 3/26/94. If you're interested, contact Philip by phone or see him at the meeting.

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

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

Meetings are generally held on the second Sunday of each month at a private residence. The next Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will be held at **2:00 PM on Sunday, March 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.



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.

May 27-30, 1994 **DISCLAVE '94**: Sheraton Premier at Tyson's Corner (Vienna, VA). GoH: Lois McMaster Bujold & Steven Vincent Johnson; Special Guest: Darlene P. Coltrain. Membership: \$30 until 4/30/94 (\$40 after that). Rooms: \$85/night (sgl - quad). Make checks payable to "Disclave '94" and send to: Disclave '94, c/o J.T. Sapienza, PO Box 677, Washington, DC 20044-0677.

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.

