



PO Box 656, Washington, DC 20044 - (202) 232-3141 - Issue #51 - June 1994

JUNE LSF MEETING MOVED!

You've all been getting too complacent lately, so it's time to throw a wrench into the machinery!

The June 12th meeting of Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians will be NOT be held at the "usual" place, Jim C's apartment near DuPont Circle. Instead, it will be held at **Jaime's home in Georgetown**, the site of a number of our "Video Madness" Parties. The address is **1928 37th Street, NW**. It's located several blocks west of the "social Safeway" (which is on Wisconsin Avenue, a ways north of "M" Street). It's not really Metro accessible; but Peter and Carl have offered rides for those who need one.

There will be a two-hour meeting of the **Gaylaxicon V Con Committee from Noon to 2 PM**. The regular Lambda Sci-Fi meeting will begin at the regular time, 2 PM.

The July 10th meeting will be held back at Jim C's apartment again.

ΛΨΦ

RULES, RULES, RULES!

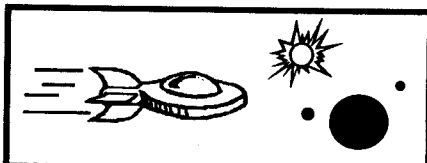
reported by Carl Cipra

It seems that lately you just can't go anywhere without hearing more about the Ferengi Rules of Acquisition! In last month's newsletter, Peter relayed the Rules as reported on InterNet; and I reported the updated information contained in the *ST:DS9*

IT'S A BOY!

Attention, all Gaylaxians, the blessed event we've been waiting for has happened! LSF's "First Couple," Loree & Marcelle, have become parents! On May 1st, Marcelle gave birth to a 5-lb.-10-oz. baby boy. His name is Kai Ian. Mothers and baby are doing fine. Congrats, Loree & Marcelle! Welcome, Kai! Hip, hip, hooray! Live long and prosper! May the Force be with you!

ΛΨΦ



LAMBDA SCI-FI BOOTH AT DC PRIDE DAY

Don't forget, gang, DC Pride Day will be held on **June 5th** this year; and Lambda Sci-Fi will have a booth there. For the past couple of years, we haven't found it necessary to set up any sort of a schedule for "who works the table when" -- just about everybody showed up some time or other to help out. Like last year, Philip and Carl will be setting up the table in the morning. Carl will be providing an ice chest that LSF members can use to drop off edibles, drinks, etc.; and Philip has promised to bake some more of his "killer chocolate chip cookies" again this year!

So, drop by during the day for a chat (and some *great* people-watching); and stick around for a while to smooze with fellow LSFers and to meet-and-greet prospective *new* members. Let's let gay/lesbian/bisexual/transsexual fans know that Lambda Sci-Fi, Gaylaxicon, and the Gaylactic Network are there to satisfy their F&SF needs. See you there!

ΛΨΦ

episode "The Maquis, Part I." Then Adina brought copies of the Rules to the May meeting to pass around. It's my turn again.

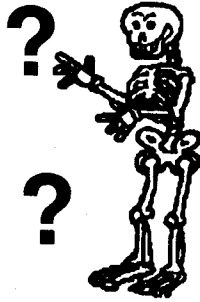
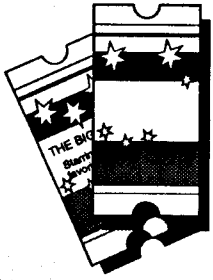
In case you missed it, Quark cited the Third Rule of Acquisition in "The Maquis, Part II." To wit: "Never spend more for an acquisition that you have to." Whoops! That doesn't match Rule #3 as reported on InterNet. ("You

can always buy back a lost reputation.") Looks like we just found out *at least one* of the Rules that was made up by the folks on InterNet! OK, Peter it's time for some *canonical* research in Okuda's *Star Trek Encyclopedia!* (However, didn't Quark recently say on *ST:TNG* [episode title?] that the Rules were being *revised*? Inquiring minds want to know!)

ΛΨΦ

WHAT'S INSIDE?

The Unholy Alliance of "Catchy Lines from the Movies" (trivia quiz - pg. 2); *2084: A Novel* (book review - pg. 2); *The Return of Jafar* (video review - pg. 2); *Brainscan* (movie review - pg. 3); Ye Olde Editor's Corner (pg. 3); Minutes of the May 8th Meeting (pg. 4); Attention, K-Mart Shoppers! (pg. 4); The Science Fiction Horror Movie Pocket Computer (pg. 5); Information about Lambda Sci-Fi: DC Area Gaylaxians (pg. 6); Con Calendar (pg. 6)



THE UNHOLY ALLIANCE OF "CATCHY LINES FROM THE MOVIES"

by Joseph Parra

No quotes this time - just simple matching of characters and movie titles! For each of the characters in the numbered list below, identify the film in which that character appears (from the lettered list). Simple, huh? Good hunting!! (For those of you of a more *literary* mind, please note that each of the titles below can be found in literature as well as in the cinema!)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Montana Wildhack | A. <i>The Reanimator</i> |
| 2. Mr. Utterson | B. <i>A Christmas Carol</i> |
| 3. Lucy Westerna | C. <i>Slaughterhouse 5</i> |
| 4. Dr. Waldman | D. <i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i> |
| 5. Roy Beatty | E. <i>The Howling</i> |
| 6. Randall Flagg | F. <i>King Kong</i> |
| 7. Dr. John Griffin | G. <i>The Phantom of the Opera</i> |
| 8. Oliver Hammond | H. <i>Svengali</i> |
| 9. Mrs. Stapleton | I. <i>The Boys from Brazil</i> |
| 10. Lysander | J. <i>Dracula</i> |
| 11. Ann Darrow | K. <i>The Undying Monster</i> |
| 12. Edmund Gray | L. <i>The Manitou</i> |
| 13. Prince Prospero | M. <i>Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde</i> |
| 14. Trilby | N. <i>Frankenstein</i> |
| 15. Dr. Patrick Corey | O. <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> |
| 16. Dick Wilkins | P. <i>Masque of the Red Death</i> |
| 17. Misquemacus | Q. <i>The Stand</i> |
| 18. Ezra Liebermann | R. <i>The Body Snatcher</i> |
| 19. Dr. Herbert West | S. <i>Donovan's Brain</i> |
| 20. Mme Biancarolli | T. <i>The Invisible Man</i> |

Answers on page 4

THE RETURN OF JAFAR

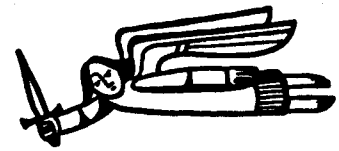
a video review by Peter Knapp



Three words: DON'T BUY IT! This is a shameless attempt by the Walt Disney Compny to cash in on *Aladdin* (which I think is a wonderful film). Not only was *The Return of Jafar* released directly on video; but one wonders how quickly it will be sold to a TV network. (Every 15 minutes, the scene conveniently wraps up for insertion of a commercial.)

And, to add insult to injury, the voice of the Genie in this video is NOT provided by Robin Williams! Enough said. On Joe's scale of "1 to 4," I give *The Return of Jafar* a ½, for Gilbert Godfried's return as Iago. (Some of his ad-libbing was hysterical!)

ΛΨΦ



2084: A NOVEL

by Larry W. Poland, Ph.D.
reviewed by Scott Roberts

Okay, gang, you aren't going to find this book under "science fiction" at B. Dalton's. I bought *2084: A Novel* at a local Christian bookstore. (I can hear some of you sighing.)

Before I can begin outlining the plot, a quick review of the "end times" is necessary, for those of you who may have missed this part in Sunday School. Some believe that we are currently living in the last days of Earth as described in the Bible's books of Daniel and Revelation. The end times, which are intended to herald the return of Jesus Christ to Earth, are characterized by plagues, earthquakes, famine, etc. At the end of the "end times," commonly referred to as the Great Tribulation, Jesus Christ establishes the Millennial Kingdom for all of His believers. The Kingdom of the Millenium, *a.k.a.* Zion, is immeasurably beautiful, full of peace and righteousness, as described in the book of Isaiah. At the end of the 1000 years, God holds the final day of judgment. Are we caught up? Now on to the plot:

Three 33-year old people (non-Christians, of course) from our present are transported to the year 2084, which is *after* the Great Tribulation, during the 1000 years of the perfect Earth. God has instructed a governor of one of Zion's provinces to expose our unsuspecting visitors to life in the Millennial Kingdom -- as well as the Kingdom of Darkness. After a few days, each of the three must decide which kingdom to choose for all eternity. At first, they are not pleased at being removed from their time period or being held against their will. However, as each of them -- a black female mortgage banker, an Irish womanizer, and a science-as-sav-

(continued on page 3)

2084: A NOVEL

continued from page 2

your Korean -- attempts to adjust to a perfect world, they also face spiritual seduction to each of their weaknesses by a general from the World of Imprisoned Spirits. As part of their journey, they also are allowed to witness the final judgment of sinners -- in terror, they watch those people whose names are not written in the Book of Life cast into the Lake of Fire. As a group, they almost unwittingly commit themselves to the Dark World. The trio is saved by an angel and forced to make their choice. But why do they need to make a choice? Why not just return them to their own lives back in our present? They learn that they have all been snatched at the moment just prior to their deaths due to a stray gunshot on the freeway, a laboratory explosion, and a brain aneurysm (a familiar plot twist). So they must choose which kingdom to serve, because they won't have an opportunity once they return. The Irish womanizer reforms and chooses the Cross, as does the black female mortgage banker; the Korean scientist chooses the pentagram and ends up in Hades.

Sorry, there wasn't any gay or lesbian connection here, but *2084: A Novel* readily falls into the "end-of-the-world" category. Since I am an end-of-the-world fan, I couldn't pass it up. The author crafted a clever story while being true to Scripture. Symbolic and archetypal references to the biblical Apocalypse abound in science fiction; *2084: A Novel* is about the *actual* end times and final judgment -- which is welcome, since there are only a few other fictional tales of the "end times" that attempt to be true to Scripture.

ΛΨΦ

One man's meat is
another man's person.

---Lady Sally McGee

(excerpted from
Off the Wall at Callahan's,
by Spider Robinson)

BRAINSCAN (Needs an EEG!)



a movie review
by Joe Parra

Upon initial observation, *Brainscan* would seem like a genre-film-lover/s dream: it's about a teenager's obsession with video games. Unfortunately, things are not what they seem; and what should be magic comes off as a cheap trick.

Edward Furlong (the kid from *Terminator 2*) plays Michael, an emotionally-scarred (and slightly physically-scarred) youngster. He is told by a friend (and an ad in *Fangoria* magazine) about a new, completely different interactive video computer game, *Brainscan*. When Michael contacts the B'scan company, they promise that *Brainscan* is absolutely unique. They prove this by giving him a force shock of energy that sends him reeling. The first disk of a 3-disk set arrives and propels the boy into an interactive game all right -- murder! He is egged on to this bloody task by a materialization of a monster called "Trickster." Trickster is apparently a manifestation of the devil or a demon -- or is completely in the boy's mind.

After the first disk (murder), the second disk is about eliminating the evidence and/or witnesses; and the third is about tidying up everything/every-

one. The boy realizes that this isn't a game -- it's actually happening. What's worse, he is suspected by a wily police lieutenant, who feels the boy is psychotic. After each act of carnage, Trickster sees to it that there is some connection to the boy. The cop is closing in....

The first 20 minutes or so are quite good. After that, this film dies a horrible death quickly: no gradual demise, but sudden and sharp decline into complete predictability and, thusly, boredom. There are some interesting special effects, courtesy of Renee Daalder and Art Durinski, executed by John Allen. The makeup, by Steve Johnson and Andrew Schoenberg, is alright. The three leads - Edward Furlong, Frank Langella, and T. Ryder Smith - try their damndest in the roles of (respectively) Michael, the cop, and Trickster. However, the material and John Flynn's direction are so lackluster that it becomes impossible to overcome them. In fact, one begins to wonder whether there was even a brain in sight to scan. You won't enjoy much!!

Rating:
1 out of 4 stars

ΛΨΦ

YE OLDE EDITOR'S CORNER

by Carl (Ye Olde Editor) Cipra

Oh boy! Saved in the nick of time! (Or something like that.)

As you may have noticed, I've been regularly culling *The Notebooks of Frank Herbert's Dune* (edited by Brian Herbert) for pithy aphorisms and *bon mots* to include as filler for the LSF newsletter. Well, just when I thought I'd run out of appropriate quotes and would have to resort to a dictionary of quotations again -- *Boom!* out comes a

selection of Spider Robinson's "best lines from the Saloon at the far-out edge of Spacetime." The book is called *Off the Wall at Callahan's*.

So, if you're a fan (and/or patron?) of Callahan's Place (*aka* Crosstime Saloon) or Lady Sally's House (*aka...well, you know*), you've got something to look forward to for the next bunch'a months. (Or, you could even go out and buy the book yourself!)

ΛΨΦ

MINUTES OF THE MAY 8TH MEETING

by Norman (interpreted by Carl)



Second Speaker Carl welcomed everyone to the regular monthly LSF meeting and then announced that First Speaker Loree and her spouse Marcelle became the proud parents of a baby boy (Kai Ian) on May 1st. (Cheers all around.) It was announced that the June 12th meeting will be held at Jaime's home in Georgetown; but that the July 10th meeting will be held back at Jim C's DuPont Circle apartment again. Gaylaxicon V Con Chair Peter reminded us that the next two LSF meetings will each be preceded by a 2-hour Gaylaxicon V con-comm meeting (Noon - 2 PM) - the June 12th meeting at Jaime's and the July 10th meeting at Peter's (including a light lunch for committee members).

Members were reminded of the following upcoming LSF events: (1) LSF will host a room party at Disclave on Saturday night, May 28th. Carl is organizing the party. (2) LSF will have a booth at DC Pride Day, June 5th. Carl and Philip will open; members are encouraged to drop by during the day to help out.

Carl described a current exhibit of artwork by 19th Century artist Thomas Cole, until August 7th at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American Art (Gallery Place). The exhibit includes some incredible fantasy-themed multi-painting cycles: "The Course of Empire" and "The Voyage of Life." Carl passed around various TV Guide excerpts, including information on the following: a profile of Babylon 5's Lt. Cmdr. Ivanova; the Fox Network's upcoming TV-movie *Alien Nation: Dark Horizon* (which will supposedly tie up loose ends from the series); David Duchovny ("Fox Mulder" from *The X Files*) played a transvestite FBI agent in *Twin Peaks*; information on the mini-series based on Stephen King's *The Stand* (which starts tonight); some background information on *Time Trax*; and an photo-filled

article on the upcoming *Flinstones* movie (opens May 27th). Carl also passed around the first issue of *Sci-Fi Entertainment* magazine, which is being published by the same company that's publishing *Science Fiction Age*; it includes articles on Jack Nicholson's *Wolf* and Alec Baldwin's *The Shadow*.

Peter passed around the *Star Trek Encyclopedia* and sang its praises as the definitive concordance for the various ST series and movies (although not the ST cartoon series). He also passed around the latest issue of *Dr. Who* magazine, which included an ad for a Dr. Who chess set. (The chess set includes all the Doctors, so you can choose which one you want to use as the king.) It was also reported that Spielberg has bought the rights to make a Dr. Who movie.

The upcoming movie *Star Trek: Generations* was discussed - it's reported that Kirk, Checkov, and Scotty will be the only representatives of the original cast and that the plot is kinda dubious. Various media rumors were discussed: possible live-action movies of *Jonny Quest* and *The X-Men*; the film version of *The Witching Hour* is apparently shelved; *Spiderman* is still in production.

Carl reported that Melissa Scott's new book *Trouble and Her Friends* is now out in hardback. It's about the "closing of the virtual reality frontier." William announced that The Black Orchid (DC Comics) has been revealed as the current incarnation of the Spirit of Mother Earth. An advertisement for X-Men bedsheets was passed around. (Groans all around.)

Philip had been cleaning out closets and sold off a huge box full of F&SF boardgames and role-playing games, with all proceeds donated to the club. (Thanks, Philip!) Finally, Adina had made copies of the Ferengi Rules of Acquisition for anyone who felt they just couldn't live without them.



ATTENTION, K-MART SHOPPERS!

(There's a "blue light" special
at Price Club!)

by Peter Knapp

My friend Cecilia recently took me to the new Price Club at Pentagon City; and, low and behold, I found videotapes of *Doctor Who*, *Red Dwarf*, *Blackadder*, and *Ren & Stimpy*!

I only found three *Doctor Who* tapes: "Mawdryn Undead," "The Keeper of Traken," and "The Mind Robbers." This seemed like a strange mix; but the price was good, so I got one. Back home, I checked the premier issue of *Sci-Fi Entertainment* that Carl loaned me (a surprisingly good publication that I highly recommend) and realized that those three titles are the latest releases. I also realized that the Price Club price was 35% cheaper than the list price of \$19.99.

To add icing to the cake, when you join the Price Club for \$35, you can get a second free card for your spouse or domestic partner. They didn't bat an eyelid when I signed Rob up.

So, if you collect current genre videos, want to get them at a significant discount, and want to frequent a gay-positive establishment (that is also frequented by hunky military types from the nearby Pentagon), I recommend you check out the Price Club. I'm glad I did.

[P.S. I decided to do some price-comparisons on videos. Pace and Sam's had almost the same price. For example: *Ren & Stimpy* tapes are \$9.04 at Price Club and \$8.99 at Sam's.]



ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUIZ

(from page 2)

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

The Science Fiction Horror Movie Pocket Computer

By Gahan Wilson

Have you ever been seized by a certainty, halfway through the second reel of a science fiction horror movie, say, when Dr. Yamamura laughs off the silly native fisherman's legend about a clam the size of Kyoto, that you've seen it all before? Or fallen prey to an overwhelming sense of *déjà vu* when the Zirconium robot starts eyeing the leading lady's boobs and makes lewd short-circuit noises? Or had an odd premonition when Pastor Feebley heads for the grounded saucer with a Bible under his arm, mumbling something about the

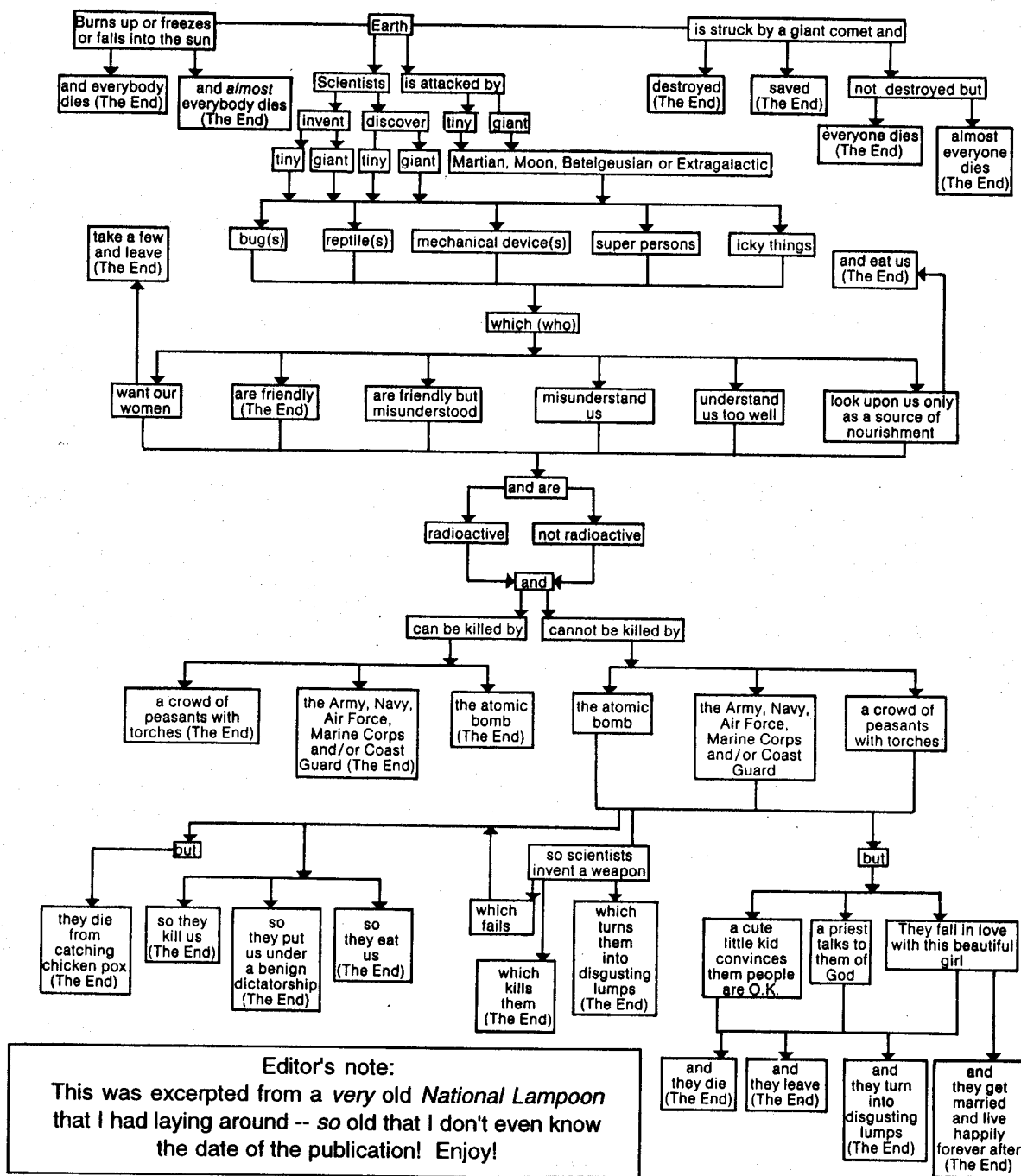
Unity of All Life, and you see a creature that looks a lot like a 500-pound side order of potato salad peer out of a port-hole and tuck a minister bib under its chin?

But if you're the sort of person who ends up watching sci-fi movies in the first place, then chances are that overriding all will be the brute compulsion to sit there, glued to the TV tube or riveted to your seat; a compulsion to stick with it to the bitter end, to find out whether or not the blue rodents from Jupiter's Rings *do* get Monique Van Vooren pregnant or if the Fish Sticks from Formalhaut will succumb to the Electrostatic

Thermonator. Let's face it—you have to see how the damned thing comes out.

Now, however, thanks to me, you can do just that, and without wasting another moment, by employing my remarkable Science Fiction Horror Movie Pocket Computer, a copy of which you will find reproduced on this page. Properly used, the Science Fiction Horror Movie Pocket Computer can save you hours of unhealthy exposure to the dangerous radiations of your home set and cut short your stay in seedy cinemas. How does it work?

Well, take it through a test run and see.



*** * 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, June 12th, at Jaime's Georgetown home (1928 37th St., NW). 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.



May 27-30, 1994 **DISCLAVE '94**: Sheraton Premier at Tysons Corner (Vienna, VA). Guests of Honor: Lois McMaster Bujold, Steven Vincent Johnson. Membership: \$40 at the door. Make checks payable to "Disclave '94" and send to: Disclave '94, c/o John Sapienza, PO Box 677, Washington, DC 20044-0677. **And don't forget the Lambda Sci-Fi party on Saturday night!**

July 8-10, 1994 **SHORE LEAVE 16**: Marriott Hunt Valley Inn (Hunt Valley, MD). Guests: Tony ("Cmdr. K'Urn") Todd, Terry ("Dax") Farrell. Membership: \$40 (mail registration closes 5/31/94). Make checks payable to "Shore Leave" and send to: Shore Leave, PO Box 6809, Towson, MD 21285-6809 (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 \$25 from 5/1/94 to 6/30/94; and \$30 after 6/30/94. Make checks payable to "Gaylaxicon V" and send to: Gaylaxicon 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: presently \$110 in U.S. funds (cost still going up). 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.

July 13-16, 1995 **NASFiC (North American Science Fiction Convention)/DRAGON*CON 1995**: Atlanta Civic Center & Atlanta Hilton and Towers (Atlanta, GA). Honored Guests: Orson Scott Card, George Alec Effinger, Bjo Trimble, Michael Whelan, Timothy Zahn. Cost: \$40 until 6/15/94, \$45 until 9/15/94. Make checks payable to "NASFiC'95" and send to: NASFiC/Dragon*Con '95, P.O. Box 47696, Atlanta, GA 30362-0696.

