



## November 2009 Newsletter

### Guilty Pleasures

That's Science Fiction

Tuesday, November 3, 2009 – 7p

Hillsdale Public Library

**Our guilty pleasure: *There's Nothing Out There***

Suspense Central

Monday November 9, 2009 – 8p

Panera Bread Restaurant - [www.paneranj.com](http://www.paneranj.com)

165 Route 4 West, Paramus, 201.368.0752

**Guilty Pleasures** by Laurel K. Hamilton

Drawing A Crowd

Wednesday November 11, 2009

New Moon Comics - [www.newmooncomics.com](http://www.newmooncomics.com)

Join moderator Tim Cook as we discuss our guilty pleasure comics.

Whispers From Beyond (7p) & Face the Fiction (8p)

Saturday November 14, 2009

Borders Ramsey (Interstate Shopping Center)

**BookViewCafe Panel:** Sue Lange, Susan Walsh and Laura-Anne Gilman.

Films to Come: 4-Star Movie Discussion

Wednesday November 18, 2009 – 7p

Borders Ramsey (Interstate Shopping Center)

If it deals with entertainment, our Master of

Entertainment Moderator will cover it.

\*Dining follows this event.

Modern Masters

Friday November 20, 2009 – 8p

Borders Ramsey (Interstate Shopping Center)

Mean Streets by Jim Butcher, Simon Green, Kat Richardson, and Tom Sniegowski. A collection of original novellas.

Fantasy Gamers Group

Saturday November 21, 2009

2:30 p - 7:30 p

Todd's/directions available upon request/contact

**Todd**

Join us for terror, monsters, madness and more as we explore the city of Arkham MA with our monthly Call of Cthulu (Chaosium 6th edition) game. Books are available for order at New Moon Comics.

Themes of the Fantastic

Tuesday November 24, 2009 – 8p

Wayne Public Library – [www.waynepubliclibrary.org](http://www.waynepubliclibrary.org)

**Guilty Pleasures**

Infinite Chaos: A Temnia Campaign

Saturday November 28, 2009 – 2p – 10p

Directions available upon request/contact **Todd**

Welcome to the Western Nations of Temnia, a brutal and vicious tyranny ruled by the Immortal Emperor, the illustrious Naram'tzin, your boss. This game explores life in the far West, where powerful Samurai serve demon-worshipping madmen, and expediency and survival are balanced by honor and horror. A new day in the Yenxhai Dominions is dawning, and the peaceful nations of the East should beware!

please visit [www.sfsnnj.com](http://www.sfsnnj.com) for full details

*SFSNNJ Face the Fiction presents*

*BookViewCafe Panel*

*Saturday, November 14, 2009 – 8p*

*Borders Books & Music*

*235 Interstate Shopping Center*

*Ramsey, NJ 07446*

*201.760.1967*

*About Book View Cafe*

*Book View Cafe is a consortium of over twenty professional authors with extensive publishing credits in the print world. Every day, new content available nowhere else will be served up on Book View Cafe: short stories, flash fiction, poetry, episodes of serialized novels, and maybe even a podcast now and then. Book View Cafe is a new approach to publishing made possible by the Internet. Book View authors write in a variety of genres including science fiction, fantasy, romance, horror and mystery. We are pleased to make our work directly available to you. Authors who will be participating in the panel are: Sue Lange, Laura Anne-Gilman, and Susan Wright.*

*Find out more about Book View Cafe at [www.bookviewcafe.com](http://www.bookviewcafe.com).*

## **October Meeting Recaps**

### **That's Science Fiction! – Tuesday – 10/6/09**

We had a double feature at That's Science Fiction! last night (Tuesday, 10/6/09).

We started the evening with George Romero's *Diary of the Dead* (2007). This film, fourth in Romero's zombie films, follows a group of young film students as they run into real-life zombies.

The movie opens with the film students filming a horror movie of their own. As they try to get the footage they need for their mummy movie, all heck is breaking loose around them. Serious mayhem that goes way beyond the standard "dogs and cats living together" mayhem. What adds to the confusion is the 'viral' age - there is so much conflicting information being put out to the web that no one knows what to believe. The students and a few random survivors gather together to try to get to their respective homes. People have no idea if family is alive, should they stay locked in where they are or seek alternate shelter. Chaos reigns.

As the group of students travel back roads they encounter different obstacles. The entire time they are trying to acclimate themselves and come to terms with what is happening around them, one of the students is filming each and every minute detail. He's driving everyone crazy with his self-involved one-track determination to film for posterity. He doesn't help out (even when he sees clear and present danger to a fellow student), he really doesn't care who gets hurt or if they get hurt as long as someone is left alive to be filmed. Nice guy, huh!? He's so vile you cross your fingers the whole time hoping for him to be zombie bait. I think we've all met someone like that. Zombie-bait.

The film had some great 'jump' moments. For those who had seen all three of the prior films, we noticed Romero took a step backwards with his zombies - he went back to his roots from *NOTLD* and had the zombies mindless and slow again (in # 2 & 3, *Dawn of the Dead* & *Land of the Dead* respectively, he had the zombies running, thinking and plotting). It was unanimously agreed that the one thing about the film was its 'preachiness'. Romero was standing on one big soapbox. Leave the politics out and give us zombies.

Overall we enjoyed the film and needed to lighten the night up before we headed out to the parking lot - we showed a *SpongeBob Squarepants* cartoon short - *FrankenDoodle*. This fun episode has *SpongeBob* and his friend *Patrick* finding a 'magic' pencil. Everything they draw comes alive. The real fun starts when *SpongeBob* draws himself to play a trick on neighbor *Squidward* that backfires big time. Very funny.

We needed the laugh before facing the zombie in the parking lot - he was there! Ask Liz and Jo! It was too funny - you had to be there. After the movie we were all standing outside talking about the movie when a library patron came out shuffling in the same exact manner Romero's zombies did. Of course, Liz had to tell me he was waiting near the cars...nice, real nice. The night continued at *Seville Diner*. Much fun. Join us next month for a *guilty pleasure* that finds a bunch of teenagers in the woods...you know that can't be good.

### **Face the Fiction – Saturday – 10/10/09**

#### **Panel Member's-eye-view by Peter J. Gutierrez**

Here's my take on things, not that it's that different from everyone else's. Maybe a bit more behind-the-scenes- ish, if that's interesting to folks.

Mike Schneider, "curator" of *NOTLD:R* (<http://notldr.com/>), showed up with one or two of the animators (a third, a talented comic book artist from New York, <http://jorellrivera.blogspot.com/>, came with his Mom) and his arrival elicited mixed emotions in me... glad to see him, of course, and to screen the movie. But the version he brought with him was completely new... my fellow producer Rob Hauschild and I had never seen it. No one had, in fact, except Mike himself. I wasn't concerned about the quality of the movie but rather about it screening all right -- Mike hadn't been able to burn it to DVD b/c of some technical glitch, so we were showing it directly from a file on his laptop. That made me nervous.

But Todd was matter-of-fact and cool-headed as usual, and the screening went off without a technical hitch. Todd was an especially good sport b/c over the previous ten days I'd been making sure that we shipped him a DVD, that he tried it out on his laptop, etc. -- and then it was all kind of pointless b/c we didn't use that DVD or his laptop

I enjoyed Mike's intro, because I'm used to hearing his ideas about the film and his philosophy of art in general, but I kept wondering if all his remarks about postmodernity were leaving the audience mystified. Maybe that helped make

the movie even more of a surprise for folks, I don't know.

We started a few minutes late and Mike's intro went a little longer than planned, so by the time the movie was over we were definitely behind schedule. In fact, Todd first asked the crowd to take a break before the panel started -- until I pointed out that the Q&A w/ Mike still hadn't taken place. So that was moved until after the break, and somehow that made things run longer, so that the panel didn't start until after 8:30, I think.

Still, everything was going well and people were having fun. I'd hung little signs about the filming (we're releasing a "bootleg" in Dec.) and everyone seemed fine with it. People laughed at all the right places in the movie and seemed to be interested even in the parts that they didn't quite like, if that makes sense. Mike's Q&A went well as he fielded questions about how he organized such a project, with 500 artists responding and about 150 actually contributing to the final film. In short, the audience asked some smart questions -- covering the kind of ground that maybe should be covered in the intro next time. ;-)

Oh, and if anyone is wondering about the differences between the versions of the film, Mike replaced 5+ minutes of barely altered '68 footage w/ new animation. There were still some sections like that that hadn't been replaced -- if you saw the film you know what I'm talking about, the sections where there's a cross-hatched "screen" over the images, or where they appear in negative. The remaining such passages will be gone by the time of third and final version of the film next month.

And before I forget, a big thanks to Stephen and the others who brought such great items for the swap table. I snagged 2 DVDs and a VHS table and contributed nothing at all. However, I'm busy getting together a stack of DVDs and comics for the next time I show up...

#### **Responses to Peter:**

Thanks for the perspective from our guests point-of-view. We had a great time and it's nice to see our guests enjoyed themselves as well.

The movie went off without a problem and was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. The panel meshed so well you would've thought all of you had done this together prior to our Zombie Encounter.

I'm glad you provided a behind the scenes look at things Peter. Much time and prep goes into an event of that size - you and I had many emails and phone calls! We had much organizing to do and it was both a relief and a proud moment when it all came together and was received so well. **(AM)**

You know he's not just saying he had a good time...I think it's great that you end your recap with:

"However, I'm busy getting together a stack of DVDs and comics for the next time I show up... " **(AM)**

What a great recap! It is rare that we get a guest's-eye point of view of the event, and I am glad that you had almost as much fun as I did that evening (in spite of my blundering about). You and the rest of the guests were fantastic, and I have to say that I learned a lot about how to survive the inevitable Zombie apocalypse:) **(Todd E)**

Peter G; The behind the scenes info was quite interesting. As I've stated previously, we all could see how well the speakers were prepared and passionate about the topic. Great job by all.

I just wanted to add to what has already been said that everyone who was at the meeting had a great time. The animation of "Night Of The Living Dead" was interesting. The zombie panel was all well informed and quite passionate about the topic. The insights offered by Peter G. and the rest of the speakers were worthwhile. **(Chris H)**

#### **Additional recaps**

When I arrived at 5:45 pm, folks were setting up for the proceedings. Ann-Marie immediately drafted me into helping out with the popcorn after I put my batch of DVD's on the swap table & chatted with Master Todd for a spell. Shortly after 6:00 p.m Master Todd officially started the program by telling us that we were being filmed this evening and to not say anything that our mothers wouldn't want to hear! Then he introduced Mike Schneider who intro'd his Re-Animated version of the 1968 film Night Of The Living Dead. This version was made up of animated scenes matched with stills from the original picture. The styles of animation used were varied and included claymation, Barbie dolls and even legos!! After the film ended we took a 10-minute break then had a Q and A with Mike before starting our panel discussion with the Zombie Experts (Jon Maberry, Kim Paffenroth, John Joseph Adams, Rob Hauschild & Peter Gutierrez). Guest Moderator David Barr Kirtley introduced the panel then proceeded with his list of questions regarding the zombie experience for all the panelists. There was time for a few questions from the audience before we closed the discussion at 10:45 so folks could buy & get books signed from our experts (and clean-up could begin).

By 11:00 everybody was headed for the Stateline Diner to continue the evening, where a tired Ann-Marie said "We done good", and Todd replied, "We always do". See y'all next month!!!

P.S. Thanks to Gene-O for the ride home! **(Steve Spinosa)**

The "Zombie" night was indeed special. After watching the reanimated version of "Night of the Living Dead" and the question and answer period with filmmaker Mike Schneider, which were quite interesting, we then had the Zombie Panel discuss all things zombie! As mentioned, the speakers were all passionate about the subject, and when prompted by David as to their various feelings on the subject, answered with great knowledge on said subject. They all mentioned their favorite zombie movies (later on I brought up the great "Carnival of Souls" which they all agreed was very influential), what they liked/disliked about where zombies have been/will be taken, even discussing a topic of zombie sex! The whole evening was extremely entertaining because in large part by the panelists knowledge and fervor for the subject. **(Chris Hasselkus)**

### **Suspense Central – Monday – 10/12/09**

Suspense Central met to discuss *Patient Zero* by Jonathan Maberry. This book hits the ground running and does not let up. Apparently, those who attended also hit the ground running and did not let up. Talk about a high-octane meeting...

Moderator Aurelia Long led the discussion in her typical lively manner. *Patient Zero* has it all – fast pace, creepy zombies, crazy mad-scientist lady, greedy entrepreneur, evil side-kick guy, zealots, crab factories, ambushes – and that's just the beginning. Aurelia did a great job of leading us through the various twists and turns.

When you have to kill the same terrorist twice in one week there's either something wrong with your world or something wrong with your skills... and there's nothing wrong with Joe Ledger's skills. Here's how Joe's day goes – one minute he's enjoying a day on the beach, the next minute he's picked up by Feds, brought to 'secured' location, tossed into a locked room with a guy he thought he shot and killed a few days earlier, and gets to fight for his life. Hope he had regular coffee today. Believe it or not, things get worse for Joe.

Joe Ledger is a Baltimore detective who has just been secretly recruited to deal with the problems that Homeland Security can't handle. His first mission: stop a group of terrorists from releasing a bio-weapon that can turn ordinary people into zombies. Oh goody. From one zombie mosh pit to the next, Joe and his crew must try to stop the zombies from annihilating mankind while following the trail to find who is behind this plot. Oh yeah, someone on his team is the enemy. This guy has his hands full.

The story is well written and had great characters. Jonathan Maberry brings the characters off of the page and provides some genuinely scary moments. None of us will ever see a crab factory ever again and not run screaming in the opposite direction. We probably won't ever attend a ceremony for the Liberty Bell either.

Not only was the book a great read, the meeting was as fast-paced as the book. Aurelia was in top form. Everyone had read the book (Barry was still reading the book as we discussed it) so the discussion was lively. The characters/story were so good that they provided plenty of material – who we hated, who we liked, what we found scary (Todd found the concept of the zombie's origin frightening in that prion science is here...can zombies be far behind!!). At one point, Barry indicated that he hadn't gotten to a specific part of the book we were discussing. Todd told him to "pull a Bill and go to the restroom so we could discuss the ending" – (this is a running gag w/ Bill who will never let us forget we told the end of a story he was waiting to hear after he got up and left). Barry felt it should be known that 'he's been using the restroom since long before he met Bill; so Bill doesn't get credit for it'. Thank you for Barry for clearing that up...

It was universally agreed that Amirah was a psycho and we all hated her, but she was a great villain. Kathleen pointed out how cold Amirah was and that it was evident in the way she 'tested' her levels of the Sword of Allah. Todd liked Toys, and we all agreed. Chris liked how lead character Joe Ledger was so fast to react. Liz wasn't sure she wanted to finish the book. She enjoyed the writing and the characters, but did not like the zombie origin. It did not ring true for her. Aurelia led the discussion right up until 10:00.

A group of us continued the evening at Suburban Diner where Aurelia led her cohorts, Barry and Chris, in a grand old time of picking on Remi and me. You may hear some stories, don't believe them. If you hear the words leather, pole, sugar, wine, and any astrological sign – they are clearly making things up ;) Much fun. Join us next month for *Guilty Pleasures* by Laurell K. Hamilton. Can't wait to see what they do with this one. **(AM)**

### Drawing A Crowd – Wednesday – 10/14/09

Zombies were the topic of the month, and zombies within comics were no exception. The discussion was lively and veered into other areas such as movies and television as it so often does. Barry supplied much of the comic comments, while Todd went into the other areas with passion. All in all, all attending had an entertaining and enjoyable time. (Chris Hasselkus)

### Films to Come –Wednesday – 10/21/09

Once again our omniscient and omnipotent moderator led us through an enlightening, entertaining and ebullient meeting. Well, he tried very hard to...

Barry, always striving for ways to shake up the meeting, came up with the very good idea of providing us the lists of movies for his standard three months (previous-current-upcoming), but rather than going through the lists and either reading descriptions about them or discussing them one-at-a-time, he let the group choose what movies we wanted to discuss or find out more about. Yeah, you can see what's coming in the same way you know when you hear certain theme music Jason Voorhees is coming...we took that ball and ran with it much to poor Barry's chagrin.

Imagine the scene. Barry, organized and efficient, brings several books to the table that tie in to the evening's format: *The Vampire Archives*, *The Vertigo Tarot*, *1001 Horror Movies to See Before You Die* (Chris liked it so much he bought it), *The Wild Things* by Dave Eggers and the ubiquitous *Maltin Guide 2010*. He has several handouts: the movie lists, top grossing films list, Stephen King movie list, reviews and more. He enthusiastically explains his plans for the evening, starts the meeting.... and things were seemingly innocuous for a while. We followed direction. OK, we followed direction to the best of our abilities :-)

Barry proceeds to tell us about the *Maltin Guide 2010* finally being available for download - with one catch - you gotta be a MAC user. Do not discuss MAC around Todd. You know those signs that say 'Don't feed the bears'...just sayin'. Undeterred, Barry still eagerly forged forward. He had us take our lists and told us to discuss. Here's where things rapidly devolved for our intrepid moderator. (It was mostly Bill's fault...that's our story and we will staunchly stick to it).

From the September list we covered *Surrogates*, *The Burning Plain*, *Pandorum*, *Whiteout*, *Jennifer's Body* (which Mike declared to be a mannequin). So far so good. The discussion was lively. October we covered *Couples Retreat* (not recommended, Bill called it the worst movie of the year), *Where the Wild Things Are*, *New York, I Love You*, *Zombieland*, *Toy Story*, and *Law Abiding Citizen*. It was about this time that the fates decided things were going too well and things began to spiral.

Bill began relating every movie/actor/director to John Carter of Mars, Tarzan or Edgar Rice Burroughs (ERB) in six degrees fashion. OK, not so bad. Barry, in a bold move, told us we were going to play a game to get things back on track (poor Barry...this was the moment that all heck broke loose).

We start the game. Barry has a list of Stephen King movies complete with ratings and director. He tells us the name and we have to guess the Maltin Guide rating and director. We're off. What followed became increasingly hysterical and a S.W.A.T. team couldn't have reined us in. By the third movie we were taking wild guesses about the rating and got very creative with our directors. Todd was playing nicely - that was the problem. He was getting everything right and racking up all of the points. Couldn't have that. Bill once again used his standard ERB for answers and at one point claimed Betty White to be the director of several King films. Creative yes, correct no. During a guess for the miniseries *It*, Bill, Todd and Mike somehow got into a discussion about grammar. Is it correct to use 's for some words? It was at this point Barry declared the meeting, "worst meeting ever" - we had to quickly dissuade him of that ridiculous notion because we were completely immersed in this game. Ever the quick wit, Barry beat us at our own game. As we provided answers, he was telling us we were correct. What's so wrong about that you ask? Bill would say 3.5 stars, directed by Betty White and Chris would say 1.5 stars directed by DePalma and Barry would respond with "correct".... leaving us to duel. Touché Barry touché.

I must point out however; that I strongly feel the game was rigged. Even using the Maltin Guide, I oddly got no correct answers. Hmmm. Methinks something is afool.

Barry then took back the reins and read off some movies he'd seen and asked for our feedback. Had we seen them and if so, what did we think. Among the films: *Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs*, *The Informant* (Barry felt it



overrated and Bill thought it was too close to home because of the lying aspects. Feel your pain Bill - I despise liars), and *Bright Star* (Barry called it "deadly dull").

We then headed out for food where we continued the merriment. Suffice it to say karaoke + wired us = a rare but hilarious Dancing Queen segment complete with dramatic dance step. Believe me when I tell you "you have no idea". Huge thanks to Barry for such a great meeting (even though the game was rigged) ;) **(AM)**

**Additional comments:** The new format was a welcome addition in that, rather than going through lists one by one, attendees instead could comment on whatever they liked / had seen / was interested in. And the after-meeting feast had to be seen / heard to be believed - I was there and I still don't believe it! **(Chris H)**

### **Modern Masters – Friday – 10/23/09**

Modern Masters met to discuss recent guest Kim Paffenroth and his zombie novel, *Dying to Live: A Novel of Life Among the Undead*.

Chris provided two handouts - one with bio information and one about the book. Todd used the bio info handout to open the meeting.

Kim Paffenroth is a professor of religious studies and an author. One of his favorite movies is *Dawn of the Dead*. He has also written *Gospel of the Living Dead: George Romero's Visions of Hell on Earth*. We're glad he decided to add a zombie novel to his books, because this was a good book. He likes his zombies' classic - shuffling, hungry and popping up when you least expect them. Add in films like *Wizard of Oz*, *Escape from New York* and *Yellow Submarine*, and you start to see how this guy could be capable of writing one scary and twisted tale.

Adding to his eclectic palate, Prof. Paffenroth's musical tastes go from 80s metal like Judas Priest, AC/DC, Queen, Ramones, Johnny Cash, Who, Beatles and Springsteen.

One of his favorite books - Divine Comedy.

After Todd covered the author, he moved to the book for the evening. *Dying to Live* was a fun book - fast read, short (192 pages) and was at times both scary and thought provoking.

The book tells the story of a world where zombies rule and groups of survivors are left trying to piece together some semblance of life. It's a tough existence. We travel through this dark journey with Jonah Caine. He travels alone fighting the living dead hoping to find companionship/humanity. He stumbles upon a group using an old museum as a fortress. He joins the group and together they try to put together a society while trying to stay sane. Trying..

Going out for supplies is a 50/50 risk you take. You may make it back, you may become food. Paffenroth gives some genuine scares. Imagine a small group gathering supplies in what they thought was an empty library only to have zombies coming at them from both exits.

Paffenroth doesn't simply tell a zombie story. He delves into the boundaries of humanity - good and evil and makes you think. He does a great job of showing the different reactions the zombies elicit in the survivors. This zombie novel is both intellectual and terrifying. We all enjoyed it and recommend it.

After wrapping up the meeting, we went over to the cafe. Chris took the opportunity to ask for movie suggestions for That's Science Fiction for early 2010! Not to be outdone, Aurelia whips out a list (typed and by month) for 2010 with her chosen selections for 2010 and also asked for our suggestions, input and books we'd like to read for Suspense Central. We discussed books we'd like to cover (Liz and I both offered *Cemetery Dance* by Preston & Childs. Lincoln Childs was a former guest of ours at Face the Fiction) and gave Chris some movie titles we thought would be fun. We had fun thinking of books and titles. We also had fun telling Liz and Aurelia about Films to Come. Chris is positive his answers were right!

### **Themes of the Fantastic – 10/27/09**

A small group of hardy souls braved the inclement weather to discuss this month's Themes topic, Zombies, at our new location, the Wayne Public Library last night. As usual, we went all over the map bringing up all sorts of references.

Bill started us off by listing three categories of Zombies: Fast or Slow, Smart or Dumb, and Viral or Chemical, which led the group to conclude that in the film 28 Days the zombies were infected hordes that ripped humans apart. We

then defined a Zombie as a resurrected corpse (controlled by a voodoo priest or some other force) that eats human flesh. Numerous examples of zombies were cited including Carnival of Souls (Topher Hasselkus), Curse of the Demon (Barry & Topher), Zombieland (Bill), The Kingston Trio's song Zombie Jamboree (Steve- which got a good chuckle from the others), Shawn of The Dead (which led to a joke by Bill about British Zombies having better teeth than their living counterparts) The Shining, Descent, Night of The Comet, Evil Dead (AM-and we said that they were demons, NOT Zombies), Dead Alive (AM-"Kick The Baby"-which led to Barry coming up with an impromptu nursery rhyme that only I thought was funny),The Hooters song "All you Zombies" (Bill),The English band named The Zombies(Steve & Topher)White Zombie (Topher-and we concluded that that was the first film to feature Zombies),Dying to Live(Dr. Kim Paffenroth's novel-AM)David Wellington's books Monster Island & Monster Nations(AM), Kolchak, MacGyver & The Twilight Zone episode "Mr. Garrity & The Graves"(AM & Steve).

During the last hour of the discussion (in which the inside of the library was gated shut but the doors would stay open until 10:45 when the cleaning crew went home) we touched on I walked with a Zombie, Live And Let Die, Frankenstein (Jo), Monsters Vs. Aliens (Barry) Wizards of Waverly Place's recent storylines (Steve) Scooby-Doo on Zombie Island (AM) Golem (AM- we said was a necromancer not a zombie (and we also concluded that necromancy was NOT necrophilia - having sex with dead people - much to Ann-Marie's relief/indignation at our perversions) . Barry touched on the film "Anti-Christ" directed by Lars Van Jeer (or Cheer) before we wrapped up for the night. See y'all next time!!! **(Steve Spinosa)**

**Additional comments:** It was a fun meeting. Bill did a good job of setting the stage for order - the categories of zombies were a great idea. We even did a fair job of filing zombies from movies/books/TV into those categories - then the sub-categories started happening. We kind of started putting the zombies all over the place after that. What was nice about that though, was we came up with a lot of movies/books/TV from the 20's or 30's all the way up to date. Some of the movies mentioned, I'd never heard of. It's always fun to have new things to look for.

The best thing about the evening was talking about zombies, on a dark and rainy night, in an empty building. We were the only ones in the building after the 9p closing time other than the two janitors (who were safe behind the locked metal pull down gate) - we were zombie fodder!! It certainly added to the ambiance. On the up side, we would've seen who had been paying attention during the zombie panel....

Yes - I was glad the whole necromancy thing got cleared up. Bill and Barry both now know as well - thank goodness. Scary.

Even funnier than the necromancy/necrophilia debate was Barry getting thrown out of theaters nationwide because of kazoo playing during silent movies. Chris is working hard on finding just the right silent film for Medium Screen so we can be entertained by this amazing kazoo interlude <:-0

Good job Bill and Steve. I wonder what will happen next month - Guilty Pleasures!! **(AM)**

## **SFSNNJ Member Movie Reviews**

### **Toy Story/Toy Story 2 – 3D – Chris Hasselkus**

I hadn't seen either one since they came out. The 3D didn't add too much to the experience. Both films were excellent. They were the 1st + 3rd of the Pixar films (A Bug's Life was 2nd). Both grades: A.

### **Love At First Bite – Chris Hasselkus**

I finally got to see "Love At First Bite" - it was mildly amusing, with George Hamilton fun as Count Dracula and Laugh-In's Arte Johnson as bug-eating Renfield.

### **Horror X 2 by Chris Hasselkus**

**Drag Me To Hell:** The Mahwah Library showed the theatrical version (PG-13). The violence was over-the-top in an Evil Dead kind of way.

**The Descent:** When I got home, I played the DVD that AMB had left on the swap table. Even before the creatures started to terrorize the six women, the claustrophobic nature of the film was getting to me. Both films seemed to succeed in what each was trying to accomplish.

Grades for both films: B+



## Upcoming Conventions

### **UberCon XII:**

Edison, NJ

November 6th, 7th, and 8th, 2009!

[UberCon XII Dates!](#)

At long last, we can safely announce our next event's dates and location: November 6-8, 2009, at the Holiday Inn, Edison.

The site does not currently reflect this information, but in the next couple weeks, we will be updating everything, and getting you the latest information.

<http://www.ubercon.com/>

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### **Some 2010 dates:**

**Lunacon 2010**, March 19-21, 2010

New York's Oldest Science Fiction and Fantasy Convention

Author Guest of Honor: Tanya Huff

Artist Guest of Honor: Theresa Mather

Fan Guest of Honor: Dominick Corrado

Hilton Rye Town, Rye Brook NY

Lunacon 2010

PO Box 432

Bronx, NY 10465

[info@lunacon.org](mailto:info@lunacon.org)

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### **I-CON 29**

APRIL 9, 10, & 11, 2010!!!

<http://www.iconsf.org/>

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Parsippany, NJ

Fri., Sat. & Sun.

July 9-11, 2010

Hilton Parsippany Hotel

Creation Entertainment's East Coast - Supernatural Convention