

## Progress Report 2



Winter  
2011

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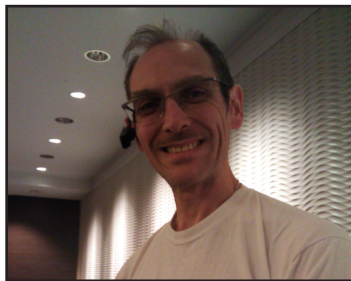
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# BayCon 2012

30th Anniversary Pleasure Cruise  
May 25th - May 28th, 2012 Hyatt Regency Santa Clara, California

## BayCon Ahoy!

Come onboard the BayCon 30th Anniversary Pleasure Cruise! We are working hard to make this quite a trip for you, with many new things to hear and see as well as a lot of your returning favorites. We have an exceptional lineup of Guests of Honor (Writer Brandon Sanderson, Artist Stephan Martiniere, and Fans Cathy & Scott Beckstead), fabulous Toastmasters (Dani Kollin & Eytan Kollin) and we'll be announcing phenomenal new programming tracks soon.



—Cruz Arellanes III  
Chairman, BayCon 2012

*BayCon 2012 Official Charity:*  
**Greater Bay Area  
Make-A-Wish Foundation**  
[www.sfwish.org](http://www.sfwish.org)

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## Art Show

Welcome to the cruise gallery for this year's BayCon!

The BayCon Art Show welcomes both professional and amateur artists. To participate in the BayCon Art Show, you do not need your passport: just read the **art show rules** on the BayCon website [www.baycon.org](http://www.baycon.org), fill out the **art entry form**, and mail it to us by May 1st, 2012.

But beware! Pirates have stolen some of our panels so, this year, we have fewer than before! If you wait until the last day to turn in your paperwork, we may already have filled all of our space! If you are shipping art to the con, you'll need the **mail-in envelope**. It needs to be mailed to us no later than May 20th, 2012. You may also want to download the **bid sheet** and **control sheet** before the con, to save your time and ours at the con. You can also download an **IRS W-9 form** from the IRS site. If you have any questions, please contact [artshow12@baycon.org](mailto:artshow12@baycon.org).

For links to all the paperwork listed above, please visit the main BayCon website and click on the Art Show.

## Dealers Room

Come visit our port of call in the Dealers Room for a delightful array of treasures, souvenirs, and gifts! Our wonderful merchants offer:

- clothing and jewelry
- books and music
- toys and masks
- carvings and sculptures
- collectibles and memorabilia

...all gathered in one place for your purchasing pleasure!

Check the website in January for an up-to-date list of merchants! If you're interested in being a dealer in the room, this year, please contact us at [dealers12@baycon.org](mailto:dealers12@baycon.org). There may still be space available.

## Meet the Fan Guests of Honor

### Cathy Beckstead



Cathy Beckstead's fandom began in the mid 1980s through *Star Trek* and *Doctor Who* conventions. The following decade, she joined the Gallifrey One team (Los Angeles's long-running *Doctor Who* convention), and now she's a member of its Board of Directors.

This really whetted her appetite for running conventions! Now, she's also on the Board of Directors for SCIFI, Inc. (Southern California Institute for Fan Interests, Incorporated) which ran the 2006 Worldcon, L.A. Con IV, and her credits don't end there! She's a division head at Anime Los Angeles, and a perennial staffer at Loscon (usually running Events or Program Operations and assisting with Tech). She was even the Loscon Chair for 2008!

Cathy has worked on a few other Worldcons, most recently in Facilities and Tech at Renovation 2011. Her other hobbies include performing and working tech in local theatre. She is the Vice-President of the Camarillo Skyway Playhouse and is slated to stage manage two productions in 2012: *The Laramie Project* and *The Farnsworth Invention*.

Oh, and she has a day job.

### Scott Beckstead

Scott has been an avid science fiction bibliophile since 1965, when he found and read Robert Heinlein's *Red Planet*. He soon tore through the remaining classics and, after waiting for them to be written, went on to then-contemporary material.

He claims his roots are in literary fandom, that he came to participate in convention fandom only in 1989, and that he didn't even join the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society until 1995. A software engineer by day, he is also involved with the live production tech departments at several local science fiction conventions (namely Loscon, Anime Los Angeles, and Gallifrey One (3 through 22).) He worked as a sound technician for a live radio production of *Star Wars* performed in Los Angeles at Loscon in 2001 and at Con Jose in 2002, both through the Lux Radio Theater Company.

At Anime Los Angeles, a 4000-person convention held every January, he is head of the technical department, with roles including programming tech, sound, lighting, and video presentation. He has been Loscon Chairman in 2006, and co-chaired in 2010.

Scott attended five Worldcons and did volunteer work at all of them. For over twenty years, he has also been involved in live theater at Camarillo Community Theater (now Skyway Playhouse), mostly in set dressing, technical work, and other help around the stage.



## Hold a Party on the Lido Deck!

*The BayCon Cruise Ship's Lido Deck (3rd floor of the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara) is the place to party every night! If you're interested in hosting a party, please email [parties12@baycon.org](mailto:parties12@baycon.org) to get started.*

## All About Gofers!

Ahoy there, all you sea-loving, potential volunteers! Come aboard the SS BayCon 2012 for fun, adventure, and mystery. We're seeking deckhands to help us make this the best cruise ever! Volunteers play a vital part in keeping the cruise on course. We appeal to your sense of adventure — sign on for BayCon's first luxury cruise. Experience the fun! Live the adventure! Install lighting trusses! Set-up art show display flats! Guard doors!

### ABOUT THE TITLE

The word "Gofer" comes from the Latin(ish) phrase "go-fer this" or "go-fer that". The overuse and continuous slurring of the phrase has slowly led to a name association between volunteers and small furry ground creatures who like to dig holes. Given enough time, this affectionate term has stuck, and now we use it gladly and proudly to describe our dedicated volunteers.

### ABOUT THE JOB

Your role on-board this cruise will be comprised of a wide array of deeds that will take you to the four corners of the convention. Gofers assist every department. Gofers greet con-goers, check badges, run errands, work food services, help rig, help raze, help set up, and help tear down, and there's nowhere they don't go. Overall, they help keep the convention's gears greased (but don't dig holes).

### ABOUT THE PERKS

Men and women who go on the account receive great rewards like space to put a cot in the Gofer "Crash rooms,"

meal tickets to the staff buffet to hold their furry little bodies over, all the sci-fi/anime/fandom programming they can stomach, an inside view on how to direct a convention, immunity from being thrown overboard, and the opportunity for advancement in the ranks. Even the newest deckhand has the potential to one day take the helm of the convention.

Most importantly, volunteers who perform at least 18 hours of service during the voyage are entitled to a voucher for next year's amazing adventure at BayCon 2013 or the return of their passage fees for 2012's membership after the convention.

### ABOUT READY?

Come aboard and party on the lido deck of BayCon 2012. Should you choose to join our crew, come see the Gofer Director in the Gofer Hole, which can be found on the second floor of the hotel in the "Central" room. If you have trouble finding it, ask one of the cruise directors (staffers) or find a deckhand (Gofer) roaming the convention. Please step up and volunteer, even if only for a couple hours. Volunteering is really fun, and the volume of returning volunteers is testament to the enjoyment that comes with the experience!

Cast off the mooring lines and retract the gates for a fantastic voyage!

Sign on! The Few. The Proud. The BayCon Gofers!

Contact us at [gofers12@baycon.org](mailto:gofers12@baycon.org) to volunteer.

## Gaming at BayCon

Ladies and Gentlemen, Children of all ages!

The Usual Suspects are happy to announce that the much-loved **Magnolia Room** will serve, once more, as the Gaming room for BayCon 2012! Want to dive down the rabbit hole for a game of croquet with Alice? Does stalking the magical streets of New Orleans as one of Harry Dresden's peers strike your fancy? Do you have the skill and

creativity to write and produce your own game in 24 hours? Do you want to try your luck and skill at traditional games like Poker, Cribbage, and Fluxx? Want to unwind between other functions over a jigsaw puzzle and polite conversation? If the answer to any of these questions is "Yes", then Gaming has got you covered.



*The BayCon Fiction Marketplace Presents...*

# Like Tides Upon the Sea, the Music Never Ends

by K.G. Jewell

Bau's advisor and his girlfriend both told him he was crazy to pass up a post-doc at CERN to work a season with a cruise ship house band, but Bau knew it was the right choice. His dissertation had burned him out, and he needed to recharge. Lazzuli Leaks was the best Electronica Band on the seven seas, and Bau got a charge playing with them.

Besides, as Bau saw it, quantum wave theory and club electronica weren't that different. One strove to put on paper what the other grappled with through instinct: the eternal, beautiful, harmonic truth of the universe.

He might find that truth just as easily in the club as in the lab.

That had been the theory, at least. But by the 101st morning of the six-month season, Bau found the universe's beauty obscured by gunk in his eyes and ringing in his eardrums. The night before, Lazzuli Leaks had been double-billed with a visiting rocksteady-heavy-metal fusion band whose audience had almost unanimously ignored the ship's no-smoking signs. It'd made for a rough night.

The mid-morning sun leaked around the crew cabin's curtains as Bau struggled upright. He wiped his eyes with a cocktail napkin tucked in his pocket by the rocksteady band's organist. It was scrawled with a cabin number—in lipstick.

On cue, his phone vibrated: a missed call from Rosie.

The band's other half, Joe, snored in the upper bunk, still wearing his silver-jumpsuit show duds. Bau pulled on his shoes and stumbled out onto the warm, humid air of the cramped crew deck. They were in port somewhere in Central America. Maybe Belize? Somewhere with a cell signal, apparently.

The crew lounge offered coffee and the common bathrooms. Bau headed over, listening to Rosie's message enroute.

"Hey good-looking! Exciting news from my last test series—the CMB was audible at the photon decoupling, right about 466 and change. That's right, the universe is built on a b-flat! Anyways, I'll be in the lab all day, but I'll call later." Rosie'd taken her CERN Post-Doc, and knew more about Cosmic Microwave Background than just about anyone.

Bau missed the giggle she made when she figured out a difficult equation. He missed the soft touch of her lips. He missed her.

Returning to the crew deck, coffee in hand, Bau saw Joe had woken up. He sat out in a lounge chair on the crew deck, nose in a paperback.

"Do you ever get sick of the tour?" Bau asked.

"Of course I get sick of the tour," Joe said. "But I never get sick of the show, and you can't have one without the other."

"True, that." A show was awesome, but so was Rosie.

Bau contemplated his coffee. A little bitter, it could be better.

Like his life.

"Hey," Joe said. "I got a question for you, Mr. Physics Guy."

"What?" That opening usually led to a conversation about warp drives and light sabers. Joe read too much science fiction.

"Light: Wave or Particle?"

Bau rolled his eyes. "Ha."

"What, you don't have an opinion?"

"That isn't a opinion question. It's both.

"Yeah, that's what this says. I don't get it. Explain it, physics boy."

"Seriously? You want a lecture on wave-particle duality?" Bau sipped his drink.

"Just the cocktail party version, so I can use it to pick up chicks."

Bau snorted coffee out his nose. Ow.

"Short version—experiments show that sometimes light acts like a wave and sometimes like a particle. You remember the double slit experiment in high school physics? Light interfering with itself?"

"I was busy writing mad riffs in high school--the classes are hazy."

"Well, the double slit experiment doesn't support the particle model, because it would require light to be in two

places at once—but it doesn’t quite jibe with the wave model either, because we can measure a photon’s discrete impact. So we say it’s both a wave and a particle at once. This is called the Copenhagen Interpretation, because like tobacco, it tastes funny if you chew on it too hard.”

“Wait, it can’t be a particle because it can’t be in two places at once? Hasn’t anyone seen Star Trek? Kirk meets himself in ‘The Enemy Within.’ He’s in two places at once.”

Bau shook his head. He wished he could be in Europe with Rosie and cruising with the band at the same time.

Something clicked in Bau’s head. A particle being in two places at one time. . . The universe started with a b-flat. . .

“Screw the Copenhagen Interpretation!” Bau grabbed a notebook from the cabin and started filling it with equations and notes.

Joe left to work a solo acoustic set on the VIP deck. By mid-afternoon, Bau’d filled half the notebook. He got a

granola bar from the crew lounge vending machine and fired up his laptop. Using the equations, he composed a masterpiece.

He finished the last line at show time. Lazzuli Leaks had a gig playing the Beckstead’s 30th anniversary party in the private function room, and Joe opened with Lazzuli’s classic “Neutron Sunrise.”

By the third song, Bau was ready. He called for an-all electronic solo, and played the note of the fabric of the universe. The audience roared. He took the note and split it, inverted it, and passed the universe through the slit of the audience’s passion for his music and the hole in his heart left by Rosie’s distance.

The show rocked. Music spoke the truth.

And Bau hugged Rosie as the audience cheered.

*K.G. Jewell lives and writes in Austin, Texas. He read on the internet that the universe started with a B-Flat fifty-two octaves below middle, so it must be true. His website, which is rarely updated, is [lit.kgjewell.com](http://lit.kgjewell.com).*



## At the Captain's Table

### *What Word from the Writer's Workshop?*

Oops, pardon me! I'm so sorry! I didn't spill anything on you, did I? No? Good! Great dinner tonight, isn't it? It's not everyone who gets invited to the Captain's Table. My name is Henry Huntley Haight, of the Haight's. You do know about the Haight's, don't you? I can tell you don't but that's not a problem.

We have a mutual friend, you know. You met her deckside this morning. I have your invitation here. She couldn't come this evening due to a small accident in the three-dim suite. You don't know about the three-dim suite? Well, let me tell you, it's all the rage on these interstellar cruises. Unfortunately she got a little too rambunctious and...let's just say she's going to spend a lot of time in the infirmary. Thank goodness for those physicians from Tralduca – they have the best experience in multi-species treatment.

But enough about her. Here's your invitation to the BayCon Writers' Workshop. Participants must be at least 14 years of age. You will get constructive and meaningful critiques on your work, presented by professionals and other participants.

See our section of the BayCon 2012 website at [www.baycon.org/2012/writers\\_workshop.php](http://www.baycon.org/2012/writers_workshop.php) for contact and submission information. Please feel free to send any questions to [writers12@baycon.org](mailto:writers12@baycon.org).

Well, I'm going back to the buffet table to get some more of these little squirmy things. They are quite the delicacy, aren't they? Would you like me to get you something, too? Oh, look! There's the Captain! I must go say hello! Perhaps I will meet you on the floating dance floor later.

—Wanda Kurtçu  
*Contessa Ville de Cyber*  
 BayCon Writers' Workshop

## The New BCTV

At BayCon, we look not only to past creations for amazement and wonder, but to the future as well. In the spirit of encouraging the new, BCTV will show fan-made programming on the 2012 grid! Submissions of almost any flavor (comedy, drama, horror, action, etc.) are welcome!

We ask that the following guidelines be observed:

- Complete, sign, and fax or mail us a release form. (Release forms are being finalized, and we will provide a link to a document soon).
- Any media (DVDs, digital copy, etc.) provided to BayCon/BCTV becomes our property and will not be returned. It's so simple to burn a disc or make a copy, but sorting and making return arrangements for all that media takes a lot of time that we would rather spend getting your film to the people.
- Please provide a brief synopsis of the film and advise us of the appropriate audience age group. Use the MPAA rating system as a comparative scale.
- Any usage of copyrighted material in your film is your responsibility! (This will be addressed in the release form.) Take the time and give credit where credit is due. The people you work with will thank you for it.
- In terms of content, we ask only that the film be somehow related to the genre that draws our attendees to BayCon year after year; science fiction & fantasy.
- When in doubt, ASK! Please direct your questions to the BCTV/Media department at [media12@baycon.org](mailto:media12@baycon.org).

In the past, we have screened all kinds of amazing, fan-made media, from music videos to short films and even full-length films! Thank you for your creations and for sharing them with us!

## Have Some Pre-BayCon Fun!

Ladies and gentlemen, passengers and crew, welcome to the BayCon 2012 Pleasure Cruise! We know you hunger for adventure through the infinite universes of Science Fiction and the myriad galaxies of Fantasy, transporting deep into the vast seas of knowledge. To satiate your appetite while we

wait for cruise departure, your Head Dabo Girls have a few tantalizing pre-BayCon excursions for your pleasure.

Your itinerary is posted on the BayCon 2012 website at [www.baycon.org/precon](http://www.baycon.org/precon) Enjoy! (A Multi-Pass membership is not needed for excursion passengers.)

# Your BayCon 2012 Crew



## BayCon Registration

Welcome aboard BayCon 2012! The whole crew is looking forward to seeing you all there! If you've already pre-registered, you can stop reading this and relax. If you haven't registered, what are you waiting for? Prices will never be lower than they are right now! You can register online at [www.baycon.org](http://www.baycon.org) (under the Registration tab) or you can fill out and mail in the form handily included in this publication. Youth memberships (ages 8-13) are also

available online and by mail. Kid-In-Tow memberships (ages 4-7) are only available at con, so we can get certain information needed for the badge. Children 3 years and under are free, but need to be with a parent or guardian at all times. Please send any Registration questions to [reg12@baycon.org](mailto:reg12@baycon.org). See you in May!

Karl Thiessen, Admin Div. Head  
Kathleen McDowell, Admin Div. 2nd

## Memberships

Until 11/31/11: \$60 • 12/01/11 – 1/31/12: \$65  
2/1/11 - 4/15/11: \$70 • 4/16/12 – 5/19/12: \$75

At-the-Door \$80 • Youth \$25 • Kid-in-Tow \$5 (at-con only)

*Complete and mail this form with your payment to:*  
**BayCon 2011 • P.O. Box 62108 • Sunnyvale, CA 94088**

*Please type or print neatly:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fan Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E - mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Add me to the BayCon announcements email list.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

*Register online at [www.baycon.org](http://www.baycon.org)*