

BCSFA Zine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#447

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OKLAHOMA IS SOMETHING KANSAS MADE UP JUST TO BUG TEXAS.

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Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at felicity4711@gmail.com or #209-3851 Francis Road, Richmond, BC, Canada, V7C 1J6. *BCSFAzine* solicits electronic submissions and black-and-white line illustrations in JPG, GIF, BMP, or PSD format, and offers printed contributors' copies as long as the club budget allows.

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This Month in BCSFA

Thursday 12 August @ 7 PM:

August Book Discussion at the Grind gallery & café, 4124 Main Street (near the corner of Main and King Edward), Vancouver. Book to be discussed will be *Dance of Knives* by Donna McMahon.—[Doug Finnerty](#)

Sunday 15 August @ 7 PM:

BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin's, 707 Hamilton (Recreation Room), New Westminster. Call 604-521-0254 for directions.

Friday 27 August:

'BCSFAzine' production.

About BCSFA

The incumbent BCSFA Executive members are:

President & Archivist: R. Graeme Cameron, 604-584-7562

Vice President: TBA

Treasurer: Kathleen Moore, 604-771-0845

Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973

Editor: Felicity Walker, 604-448-8814

Keeper of FRED Book: Ryan Hawe, 604-448-8714

VCon Ambassador for Life: Steve Forty, 604-936-4754

BCSFA's website is at <http://www.bcsfa.net/>. The BCSFA e-mail lists are BC SciFi Assc (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_assc/) and BCSFAnet (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bcsfanet/>).

“You're right, I did lose a million dollars last year. I expect to lose a million dollars this year. I expect to lose a million dollars next year. You know, Mr. Thatcher, at the rate of a million dollars a year, I'll have to close this place in...60 years.”

Letters of Comment

[*Editor's responses in brackets.*]

Taral Wayne
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Wednesday 30 June 2010

[*In my review of To Walk the Moon in BCSFAzine #445, I asked why Taral said that the “Mars Attacks” collectible cards were “...revived in an orgy of bad taste by '80s yuppies.”*]

I don't remember when, exactly, but in the 1980s some company reprinted the old Topps “Mars Attacks” set of cards. You could buy them all at once, in a package, and glory in the gaudy colours, exploding heads, and skeletons flourescing in death rays. I have a set myself. But I find it too gaudy, too reminiscent of 1930s pulp magazine covers. Nor are the events real...thank gawd. The “Civil War New” cards were real, on the other hand, and the paintings much more realistic. However, it was the “Mars Attacks” cards that were revived in the '80s, I suppose because people feel more attraction to the cheezier moments than the good.



Robert Bosshardt
r_bosshardt@yahoo.com

Friday 2 July 2010

<http://ribtainige.tabletwellnessmeds.net/?camp=777>

[?]

Line Noise
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Thursday 8 July 2010

Felicity Walker wrote:

“At the last BCSFA meeting, we realized that we've been spending too much on printing and mailing, and that it's time to trim BCSFAzine down.”

Did we not decide to STOP printing BCSFAzine?

[*No. The idea was proposed, but not everyone agreed.*]

The tail is wagging the dog. I am as much a dead tree fetishist as the next fan but the print-and-mail folks are bleeding the club dry, so either stake those vampires or pump the price of the paper issues up to the true cost.

[*Kneed in the groin by vampire dogs!*]

[*Each month, we print thirty-five copies. We mail out or hand-deliver between twenty and thirty copies. An average of ten copies are sales: four go to paid subscribers, and half a dozen are me paying cover price each time I give a copy away.*]

Five copies go to a local bookstore (see indicia) which sells them on consignment and returns the unsold copies to us.

[As for the rest of the print run, two go to our own archives, eight go to our regular contributors, an average of two per month go to editors who send us hard copies of their zines in trade, two go to Library and Archives Canada (legally required), one goes to a professional writer/friend of the club, one to a local library with a zine section, and one to a local comic shop which displays our zine for its staff and customers to read. This leaves a handful of extra copies of each issue, which I carry with me whenever I go out, in case I can sell them.

[If, in the new year, we raised the cover price by a dollar—or 33%—we'd make ten dollars more per month, if we didn't lose any subscribers. Should we do that? What does everyone think?

[As for "bleeding the club dry," this re-raises the eternal question, "What is the purpose of BCSFA?" We don't run VCON anymore, and local fans have plenty of options for meeting places (see "Calendar"). If we weren't printing BCSFAzine, what would we do with the money?]

Lloyd Penney
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Friday 9 July 2010

Dear Felicity:

I'm now two issues due, and while I've been further behind before, this isn't the kind of thing I like to do. So, it's catch-up time, and here are some comments on *BCSFazine* 445 and 446.

445...More and more, with conflicting formats, more kinds of readers and less to read, and less disposable income being gradually taxed away, authors are tightening their belts, perhaps more than the average over-burdened consumer. It's getting tougher for anyone to make a living.

I did not hear anything about how the steampunk exhibition in Victoria went. Any half-whispered rumours or anything?

[Nothing received yet.]

High tea at the Empress should be enjoyed at least once. I can now tell you that there are plans for the Canadian National Steampunk Exhibition, to be staged somewhere in Toronto April 29 to May 1, 2011. More details as they arrive.

John Purcell's letter...actually, when it came to DUFF, I nominated John Purcell, and Yvonne nominated Jeff Boman. Both approached us at about the same time for a nomination, so rather than choose, we decided to choose both. Thanks to Fruvous, and for praise like that, the cheque's in the mail.

The calendar...today, I finished off my demodisk for potential voicework with a local agency, so with some luck, you may soon be able to list me as a voice actor in the calendar as well. I am hoping for my first pro audition soon.

[If only I still did that part of the calendar! I've been wanting to take voice acting lessons for ages. Any advice—where to start; things to avoid?]

The Secret of NIMH remains one of my favourite animated movies of all time because of the quality of animation, and in many ways put the name Don Bluth above the name Walt Disney in my books. I haven't seen much Bluth animation since, but *NIMH* was great. I don't have it on DVD...perhaps I should fix that. I know there was a terrible, musical sequel that we shall not speak of here...

Yvonne and I also pass along our condolences to Spider Robinson on Jeanne's passing. Spider, you are never alone, you have too many friends for that to ever happen. I hope that can be some comfort.

446...I did read the Calendar in each issue, but as you say, it's a lot of time spent on research. I used to do my quarterly convention lists, but I don't really do that any more. Perhaps less detail, less research, and lots of input from others will reduce your own workload.

[Thank goodness for Keith Lim!]

I have no particular love for BP, but I can't help feel that the constant negative spotlight on BP from the White House, the press and more are making the job that much more difficult. Lay off them, and let them make the repairs they need to make, and the massive clean-up that must come afterwards.

[Unfortunately, corporations have a tendency to only do the right thing when the spotlight is on them. To put it more charitably, the price of a bad public image is the only argument the company's officers have to justify the price of doing the right thing when angry shareholders demand that everything possible be done to maximize profit. Not to single out corporations; politicians are just as bad unless they're kept in the spotlight too. And neither BP nor the White House looked like they were taking the blowout seriously.]

[BP seemed to be taking its time and trying the cheapest solutions first, while President Obama took personal responsibility for the disaster, then promptly dropped the ball. He must have thought the President's job was to reassure the people that their leader was on top of things, and having said so, he could relax. I want him to succeed, but to do that, he has to follow through.]

[As I write this, the well has been stabilized for a week. Meanwhile, eleven people are dead, oil is still floating around underwater, the food chain is contaminated, the ocean floor could explode in a huge storm of methane—and who knows how many more substandard rigs are out there that passed their last ~~Minerals Management Service~~ Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement inspection?

[I'm especially looking forward to reading the reactions of two faneditors to this topic: Opuntia's Dale Speirs, who knows about oil, and Challenger's Guy Lillian, a longtime resident of Louisiana.]

Anybody here get to the Westercon?

[Not as far as I know.]

I've been hearing that there is a move afoot to end the Westercons at № 65 in a couple of years. The original idea behind the Westercons was to have a regular convention in areas that didn't have any cons at all. I imagine the same went for the DeepSouthCons, too. Now, many cities have not just SF cons, but cons for many associated interests. Has Westercon run its course? The western SMOFs may make that decision soon. And today is the first day of Gatecon...perhaps a report in the next issue?

[*Nothing received yet. Active, aren't we?—But seriously, I just haven't heard from anyone. I need to canvass for more reports. Anyone want to help with that? Amos? As for Gatecon, it's an expensive convention—I couldn't afford to go even when it was held here in Richmond. Imagine paying for parking and a room, too!*]

Sunday is the one-day steampunk con, and I definitely want to hear about that.

I think I'm going to call this one done; it's Friday, and I still need to go to work this evening. Sucks to be me...oh, well, at least I am partially employed. Felicity, I wish you a fantastic weekend, try to stay cool (we've just gone through four days of nearly unbearable heat and humidity), and we'll see you again with issue 447.

[*Hey, fancy seeing you here! Thanks again, Lloyd.*]

Yours,

Lloyd Penney

Sheryl Birkhead

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USA

Friday 30 July 2010

Hi,

First let me explain (??). I'm as confused as you may be with this explanation. In my to-respond bag of zines I have two *BCSFazines*—one is December 2009 and one June 2010. Without access to the poor old limping laptop's records—no idea what other LOCs (any?) I've written. There may also be other issues hiding around the house—I admit I'm not organized!

(I also notice that the June '10 feels pretty hefty!)

[*We're working on that.*]

Aww—see Little Lulu—wonder how many readers remember her?!

[*Surprisingly, my first encounter with her was through Harmony Gold's English dub of the 1976 Little Lulu anime. I think it was on the Knowledge Network.*]

Wow—both issues have covers by the prolific Brad Foster—keep 'em coming.

[*Done!*]

I second the appreciation of the calendar *and* fillos—lots of work—lots of thanks!

Congratulations (condolences?) to Keith Lim on his Chairmanship for VCON 36.

Fare-well Jeanne—warm thoughts Spider.

Kthhnd...a C-section??

By the time you get this the Hugo voting deadline will be passed. I hope all readers who were eligible to vote did. I took a deep breath and, once again, coughed up the money for a supporting membership—with the site vote. I also got a chance to read all the short story nominations (and saw most of the dramatic categories nominations)—so I actually voted in several categories beyond the fan categories. It is rare that the outcomes align with my choices but I did my fan-ish “duty” and voted.



The NASFiC will be held in a week or so—wonder how it will fare (with the economy being what it is). Time will tell.

Looks as if computer typing is not going to be happening until I figure out a way...oh well...

Thanks for the issues!

Sheryl

Michael Bertrand
fruvousfox@gmail.com

Wednesday 4 August 2010

Good to see my *Star Trek* Bullshit article in print. I'm always a little embarrassed when I read myself getting all ranty. But those are things that have been bugging me for a long time.

It was interesting reading Taral Wayne (no relation) sharing his thoughts about *The Dark Knight*. I agree that Christian Bale's Batman was not strong in that movie. I don't agree with him that the beginning of *Batman Begins* was a waste of time. I enjoyed everything in that movie up until the last 20 minutes or so, when the whole Ra's al Ghul/Scarecrow plot got going and it turned into a usual action flick.

And I definitely don't agree that Heath Ledger's Joker was not The Joker. Granted, he didn't have a lot of jester- or playing-card-themed toys. But I think the basic core of the Joker was there, the sociopathic genius whose incredible rage against the world drives him to commit horrible, twisted acts that on some level he feels throws society's hypocrisy and corruption back in its face.

He might not have the gadgets, but he has the attitude.

[*What, no Surfing Ability Transferometer?! Where's Joel Schumacher when you need him?*]

I guess that's it for this issue. Sad to see the ol' zine stripped down, but I understand, agree with, and support the decision.

And hey, as long as I'm still in it, I guess everything's OK, right? :-P



Calendar

Note to print readers: underlined events have an associated URL. Links included in the PDF version at <http://www.efanzines.com/BCSFA/>.

Already in Progress

22 May–28 August 2010: Pirates! Blocks 'n' Buccaneers, Tuesday–Friday 9:30 AM–5:30 PM, Saturday 10 AM–5 PM, at Surrey Museum, 17710 56A Avenue, Surrey, BC. Set sail for a swashbuckling adventure of villainy, plunder, buried treas-

ure and swabbing the deck. LEGO creations built by the Vancouver LEGO Club showcase the world of pirates, from their ships, treasures, famous battles and weapons to their dress, possessions, grub and legends. Adults \$5, seniors/students \$3.75, child/youth \$2.50, 5 & under free.—[Keith Lim](#)

6 July–23 December 2010: [From Pong to Pokemon: Video Game Exhibition at the Surrey Museum](#), 17710 56A Avenue, Surrey, BC. Artifacts from history of video games in four hardware categories: arcade (*Computer Space*, *Street Fighter II*), home console (*Super Mario Bros.*), computer (*World of Warcraft*), and handheld (Game & Watch). “Play days” (where visitors can play the games): “The Moderns,” 17 July 2010—Nintendo 64, Playstation 3, etc.; “8- and 16-Bit Era,” 25 September 2010—Nintendo Entertainment System, Sega Genesis, etc.; “Early Days,” 27 November 2010—Atari 2600, Intellivision, ColecoVision, etc. Lecture: “A History of Violence in Video Games,” 14 October 2010. Register at <http://www.surrey.ca/>.—[Julian Castle](#) “Enjoy this look at how video gaming has changed people’s recreation time and opened up new industries and career opportunities. Find out how gaming itself has changed from arcade days and *Pac-Man* to the latest handheld devices and *Pokemon Platinum*. Adults \$5, seniors/students \$3.75, child/youth \$2.50, 5 & under free.”—[Keith Lim](#)

August 2010

1 August 2010: “[The Earth Strikes Back \(Again\)](#)” [Monsterpocalypse Tournament](#), 11:35 AM at Hourglass Comics, 2343 Clarke Street, Port Moody, BC, V3H 1Y9. Monsterpocalypse tournament with prizes. Players participating in this event must bring their own figures, dice, health trackers, and maps required for play. Free entry.—[Keith Lim](#)

3 August 2010: **Chrisscreama Batt**’s birthday.

4 August 2010: [Vampire Lit Writing Group](#), 7 PM at Vancouver Public Library Central Branch, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC, V6B 6B1. Second meeting of our Vampire Lit Writing Group. Challenge: write a story of 500 to 1500 words (something that can be read aloud in less than half an hour) featuring the following words and phrases: “wretched,” “garlic,” and “distorted by the flames.” The group will offer constructive criticism and feedback. If time allows, the group will hear from other works that its writers have come up with, and offer whatever support each writer wishes to get from the group...criticism, brainstorming, etc.—[Keith Lim](#)

4 August 2010: [Cloudscape Workshop](#), 7:30 PM at the Grind Gallery and Coffee House, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver, BC, V5V 3P6.—[Keith Lim](#)

4–7, 10–14, and 17–19 August 2010: [Robin Hood—A Promenade Play](#), 7 PM at Bloedel Conservatory, Queen Elizabeth Park, 4600 Cambie Street (at West 33rd Avenue), Vancouver, BC. After six summers of critically acclaimed sold out productions, ITSAZOO returns to the great outdoors with an irreverent modern adaptation of *Robin Hood*. Performed promenade-style, *Robin Hood* is a social/political satire

inspired and influenced by everything from Bread and Puppet Theatre and Bertolt Brecht to *South Park* and *The Colbert Report*. Tickets \$17 adults, \$13 students/seniors + HST; in person from the Bloedel Conservatory, 9 AM–8 PM Monday–Friday, 10 AM–9 PM Saturday/Sunday.—[Keith Lim](#)

5 August 2010: **Élisabeth Vonarburg** and **Scott Tycholaz**'s birthdays.

5, 12, and 19 August 2010: Thrill the World Dance Rehearsal for Zombiewalk, 6–7 PM at Cambrian Hall, 215 East 17th Avenue, Vancouver, BC. A fast-paced review of how to do the Thriller dance to get the group ready for a performance at the Vancouver Zombiewalk (Saturday 21 August). Intended for either those who have done the dance last year or those who are eager enough to practise a bit at home. (Full rehearsals for total beginners in the fall.) Free. [TTW Vancouver/Facebook](#).—[Keith Lim](#)

6 August 2010: **Christina Carr**'s birthday.

6 August 2010: [Fontana Friday—Role Models](#), 6:30 PM at La Fontana Caffe, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. A “very funny and geeky” movie from 2008. “Danny and Wheeler were just sentenced to 150 hours mentoring kids. Worst idea ever.”—[Keith Lim](#)

6 August 2010: [Mad Max + The Road Warrior](#), 11:59 PM at the Rio Theatre, 1660 East Broadway (at Commercial), Vancouver, BC. *Mad Max + The Road Warrior*—Rio Theatre's Midnight Double Bill Cult Classics, with live hosts and pre-show entertainment. \$10/\$8 in costume.—[Keith Lim](#)

7 August 2010: Sea Serpent Day. Ogopogo is friend to all children!

7 August 2010: [Seafarer's Fair](#), 12–4 PM at Surrey Museum, 17710 56A Avenue, Surrey, BC. Yarr! Celebrate the Museum's LEGO Pirates! Blocks 'n' Buccaneers exhibit as you find out about pirates and other mariners. Come in pirate costume and enjoy nautical-themed crafts and games. Learn about fencing, ships, and pirate treasure, and meet our fearsome Renaissance privateers. All ages, by donation. Entrance to exhibit gallery by admission fee. (Note: confirmed—the Renaissance privateers in question are the crew of the *Jade Dragon*, from the BC Renaissance Festival cast.)—[Keith Lim](#)

7 August 2010: Surrey: Outdoor Movie Night: *The Wizard of Oz*, 9–10:30 PM in North Surrey, BC [location venue TBA]. Open-air movie (e.g. blanket/lawn chair) of *The Wizard of Oz* by Fresh Air Cinema. [Facebook/Fresh Air Cinema](#).—[Keith Lim](#)



7, 14, 21, and 28 August 2010: Movies Under the Stars: *The Wizard of Oz*, 4 PM events, dusk (around 8 PM) movie at Holland Park, King George Highway (at 100 Avenue/Old Yale Road), Surrey, BC. Outdoor movie series by the Surrey BIA. Fun events start at 4 PM; movie begins when the sun goes down. Bring your own lawn chairs, blankets, and umbrellas. Free. (Saturday 7 August: *The Wizard of Oz*, Saturday 14 August: *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, Saturday 21 August: *The Last Song*, Saturday 28 August: *How to Train Your Dragon*). [Facebook #1/Downtown Surrey BIA/Fresh Air Cinema/Facebook #2](#).—[Keith Lim](#)

7–8, 14–15 and 21–22 August 2010: [Washington RenFaire](#) in Buckley, WA. “Feel the ground tremble to the pounding hooves of great war horses charging down the list, carrying armored knights jousting for king, queen, country, or the hand of a fair maiden. Hear the ring of clashing steel shatter the tranquility of our 16th century village. Be a part of the magic at the Washington Renaissance Fantasy Faire in Buckley, Washington at the Maris Farms...just a short drive from Seattle, Tacoma, Bremerton, Olympia and other communities around the Puget Sound area. Enjoy jousting and equestrian events, sword fighting, gypsy dancing, Celtic dancing, wandering minstrels, and story telling. There will be children’s games, medieval musical performances, magicians, puppet shows, caber toss and much more! Also, The First Knight Academy will teach the art of sword fighting to all who wish to learn! Additional entertainment to include face painting, costume rental for all ages, Highland dancers, bag pipers, live chess competition, jesters, audience interaction—and you!” Maris Farms at 24713 Sumner-Buckley Highway, Buckley, WA 98321. For additional information, please call 1-800-587-0172 or info@washingtonrenfaire.com.—[Garth Spencer](#)

8 August 2010: Vancouver Free Outdoor Movie Night: *Back to the Future*, 9 PM at David Lam Park, Pacific Boulevard (at Drake Street), Vancouver, BC. Open-air (e.g. blanket/lawn chair) movie event, preceded by the Roundhouse Community Picnic in the Park, rain or shine. [Yaletown Info/Fresh Air Cinema](#).—[Keith Lim](#)

9 August 2010: Book Lovers’ Day.

9–10 August 2010: [VSteam Postering Brigade](#), 10:30 PM at Gastown Steam Clock, 305 Water Street, Vancouver, BC. Vancouver Steampunks (VSteam) wants volunteers to dress in steampunk attire and help them cover the city with posters and business cards. The plan is to meet up at the steam clock and then roam the city with VSteam posters to put up everywhere that a budding steampunk might look.—[Keith Lim](#)

11 August 2010: [Valinor, A Vancouver J.R.R. Tolkien Monthly Meetup](#), 7 PM. [Location shown only to members of the Meetup group.] Meet several of the organizers of Valinor to learn about continuing events (such as the Reading Group and RPG) and events to come in the future. \$2.—[Keith Lim](#)

11 August 2010: [Cloudscape Workshop](#), 7:30 PM at the Grind Gallery and Coffee House, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver, BC, V5V 3P6.—[Keith Lim](#)

12 August 2010: Delta Free Outdoor Movie Night: *WALL-E*, 8:30 PM at North Delta Community Park, 11245–11375 84th Avenue (at 112th Street), Delta, BC. Open-air (e.g. blanket/lawn chair) movie event.—Keith Lim

13 August 2010: **Alex Curylo**'s birthday. Premiere of film *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World* (comics adaptation/action/comedy/fantasy/romance).

13 August 2010: Unforgettable Costumes' Friday the Thirteenth Sale, 4:30–9 PM at Suite 5, 2741 Skeena Street, Vancouver, BC. New stock from *Alice*, *Riverworld*, and *Hard Ride to Hell* just in time for the Zombie Walk and Burning Man. New contemporary clothing; re-stocking daily. Pay cash and don't pay any tax.—Keith Lim

13 August 2010: Dragon Quest IX (and other portable games) at Anime Evolution, 6 PM at Student Union Building (SUB) Conversation Pit, University of British Columbia (UBC), 6138 Student Union Boulevard, Vancouver, BC, V5K 0A1. Vancouver Portable Gamers are meeting outside of the actual "pass" area on campus. If you want to come, but couldn't get a pass, or aren't even attending AE, you can still meet up. Bring your DSs, your *Dragon Quest IX*, and any other games you'd like to play.—Keith Lim

13 August 2010: VSteam Movie Night—*Atlantis: The Lost Empire*, 8–11:30 PM at Steamhouse, 1207 East 53rd Avenue, Vancouver, BC. Vancouver Steampunks (VSteam) will be showing *Atlantis: The Lost Empire* on a big projector screen with an even bigger sound system. Free snacks, drinks, and a movie. Show up after 7 PM; movie starts at 8 PM.—Keith Lim

13 August 2010: Vancouver Free Outdoor Movie Night: *E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial*, 8:30 PM at Harbour Green Park, 1239–1299 Coal Harbour Seawalk (near West Cordova & Bute Streets), Vancouver, BC. Open-air (e.g. blanket/lawn chair) movie event.—Keith Lim

13 August 2010: Friday the 13th (1980) + The Hills Have Eyes (1977), 11:59 PM at the Rio Theatre, 1660 East Broadway (at Commercial), Vancouver, BC. *Friday the 13th (1980) + The Hills Have Eyes (1977)*—Rio Theatre's Midnight Double Bill Cult Classics, with live hosts and pre-show entertainment. \$10/\$8 in costume.—Keith Lim

13–15 August 2010: Anime Evolution at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC. "Vancouver's premiere Asian popular cultural event where audiences and industry interact directly in an informal setting. The three-day convention brings together art, animation (anime), comic books (manga), video games, film and music in a celebration of Asian popular culture and multimedia. Convention attendees can attend Q&As and workshops with voice actors, directors, artists, animators, comic books publishers and game developers. Video screenings, video game rooms, a cultural festival and live performances by DJs, bands and improv actors are sure to keep guests thoroughly entertained."—Garth Spencer "Anime Evolution is the premier event for anime, manga, gaming, and every kind of related fandom in Vancouver.

Three-day passes: \$55 at the door. One-day & gold passes available. Guests: Lee Tockar, Nina Masumoto, Anthony Kresky, Martin Billany, TeamFourStar. Event within Anime Evolution: Darkest of the Hillside Thickets performance.—Keith Lim

14 August 2010: Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster, BC. Come in anytime on Saturday afternoon until 7:00 and play any of the many open games at the store, located two blocks North East of the New Westminster Skytrain Station, at Columbia and Begbie.—Keith Lim

14 August 2010: Miniatures Games Day: Flames of War & Wings of War, 1–5 PM at Strategies Games and Hobbies, 3878 Main Street (at 23rd Avenue), Vancouver, BC, V5V 3N9. Bring down your fully painted Flames of War forces to battle, or bring down your Wings of War models and rules for a massive aerial dogfight.—Keith Lim

14 August 2010: World of Warcraft Meetup: Something Different & Fun for Dinner, 6 PM at Harambe Ethiopian Restaurant, 2149 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC, V5N 4B3. In Swahili, *harambe* means “working together in unity” or “let’s pull together.” The harambe concept is used throughout Africa to initiate projects that require people to work together and pool their resources. In true African style, harambe is also one big party, uniting the community while working together toward the chosen cause. “[S]eems fitting for our little group & guild & all.” Followed by After Dinner Fun & Drinks, 9 PM.—Keith Lim

14 August 2010: White Rock Free Outdoor Movie Night: Happy Feet, 8:30 PM at Central Plaza, 15164–15176 N. Bluff Rd. (16th Avenue & 152nd Street), White Rock, BC. Open-air (e.g. blanket/lawn chair) movie event.—Keith Lim

14 August 2010: World of Warcraft Meetup: After Dinner Fun & Drinks, 9 PM at Grandview Bowling Lanes, 2195 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC, V5N 4B3. Followup to Something Different & Fun for Dinner, 6 PM. Five-pin bowling, ten-pin bowling, and black light (glow) bowling. Group can walk to the bowling alley after dinner all together.—Keith Lim

15 August 2010: “When Pest Control Fails” Monsterpocalypse Tournament, 11:30 AM at Hourglass Comics, 2343 Clarke Street, Port Moody, BC, V3H 1Y9. Monsterpocalypse tournament with prizes. Players participating in this event must bring their own figures, dice, health trackers, and maps required for play. Series 4 Unit Boosters are to be purchased. Free entry.—Keith Lim

15 August 2010: Labyrinth, 1 PM at Pacific Cinémathèque, 1131 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC. Jim Henson, creator of the Muppets, directed this imaginative fantasy starring a young Jennifer Connelly. She plays teenaged Sarah, whose fairy-tale fancies become nightmares when, forced to baby-sit her screaming stepbrother Toby on yet another Friday night, she wishes him away to the underworld of Goblin King

Jareth (David Bowie). Determined to rescue the boy, Sarah must negotiate a dangerous, ever-changing, Escher-inspired maze known as the Labyrinth. \$9.50.—[Keith Lim](#)

15 August 2010: [Comics Support Group Meeting](#), 3–6 PM at the Wallflower Modern Diner, 2420 Main Street, Vancouver, BC. The Comics Support Group is providing writing and drawing sessions to help up and coming artists refine their talents. Group will be discussing elements of the anthology, and covering issues like character design, story arc, etc. Bring anything comic-related that you'd like to talk about and your preferred mark-making tools for comic jams.—[Keith Lim](#)

18 August 2010: [Cloudscape Workshop](#), 7:30 PM at the Grind Gallery and Coffee House, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver, BC, V5V 3P6.—[Keith Lim](#)

20 August 2010: [Fontana Friday—WALL-E](#), 6:30 PM at La Fontana Caffe, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. “In the distant future, a small waste collecting robot inadvertently embarks on a space journey that will ultimately decide the fate of mankind. After 700 years of doing what he was built for—he'll discover what he's meant for.” (Changed from *Starship Troopers*.)—[Keith Lim](#)

20 August 2010: [IPMS \(International Plastic Modellers Society\) Vancouver meeting](#), 7:30–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, “Arts Room” (second floor), 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby, BC. Door prize draw. Non-members: first meeting free; \$2 drop-in fee thereafter.—[Keith Lim](#)

20 August 2010: [Trumpeter Games Night](#), 7 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex (by Metrotown), 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby. Non-members: first meeting free; \$6 drop-in fee thereafter.—[Keith Lim](#)

20 August 2010: [GVRD Klingon Festival](#) [tentative], 8 PM. [Location not chosen yet.] A great chance for Trekkies to unite...and have a party. (Date still tentative.)—[Keith Lim](#)

20 August 2010: [Dead on Film Zombie Competition & The Return of the Living Dead](#), 11:59 PM at Rio Theatre, 1660 East Broadway (at Commercial), Vancouver, BC. Screening of the 10 best zombie short films & videos, and audience will vote to decide the top three winners. Brain-consuming on-stage performances by Little Miss Risk & Bloody Betty followed by a screening of the 1985 classic *The Return of the Living Dead*. Submission deadline: Friday 13 August 2010, 11:59 PM; submission fee: \$10; maximum length: 5 minutes.—[Keith Lim](#)



20 August 2010: Premiere of film *Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang* (book adaptation/comedy/fantasy).

20–22 August 2010: Customer Appreciation Sale at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond, 604-273-4427, <http://www.imperialhobbies.ca/>.

20–22 August 2010: *Hausu (House)*, [multiple showtimes] at Pacific Cinémathèque, 1131 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC. This gloriously demented, utterly one-of-a-kind freakout was a brain-boiling hit during its premiere run at Pacific Cinémathèque in April. The Cinémathèque is happy to bring it back for a brief return engagement. A hallucinatory head trip about a schoolgirl who travels with six classmates to her ailing aunt's creaky country home, only to come face to face with evil spirits, bloodthirsty pianos, and a demonic housecat. \$9.50. Showtimes: Friday 20 August 9 PM, Saturday 21 August 8:15 PM, Sunday 22 August 7:15 PM.—Keith Lim

21 August 2010: Zombie Brunch, 12 PM at Mermaid Cafe, 3919 Knight Street (at Kingsway), Vancouver, BC. Special deadly event to accompany Vancouver's Zombie Walk. Serving liquor and food, featuring bloody marys, brain food, flesh fruit, and other delicious rotten delights.—Keith Lim

21 August 2010: Vancouver Zombiewalk 2010, 4:30–6:30 PM, downtown Vancouver. Once again, the undead shall shamble through Vancouver. (Note: Thrill the World Vancouver plans to perform the Thriller dance.)—Keith Lim

21 August 2010: Vancouver Zombiehunt 2010, 4:30–6:30 PM, downtown Vancouver. Same time, same place as the Vancouver Zombiewalk.—Keith Lim

21 August 2010: True Blood—Season 3 (Episodes 7 & 8), 7 PM at La Fontana Caffè, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Continuing on with season 3, Before Dawn will be gathering for a screening of episodes 7 and 8 of *True Blood*.—Keith Lim

21 August 2010: Vancouver Comic Jam, 8 PM–1 AM at the Wallflower Modern Diner, 2420 Main Street, Vancouver, BC. A meeting of comic artists to draw and share. No admission fee. Bring your own pencils/pens. Paper is provided. If you're drawing with markers that bleed through paper, be sure to either bring a drawing surface or place extra sheets of paper under the paper you're drawing on.—Keith Lim

21 August 2010: Delta/Tsawwassen Free Outdoor Movie Night: Men in Black, 8 PM at Town Centre Mall, 1299A 56 Street, Delta, BC, V4L 2A6. Open-air (e.g. blanket/lawn chair) movie event.—Keith Lim

21 August 2010: Zombie-a-Go-Go Official Zombiewalk Afterparty, 9 PM–3 AM at Club 23 West, 23 West Cordova Street, Vancouver, BC. Zombie-inspired decorations, burlesque & performances, visuals & movies. Prizes for best and goriest outfits. Musical Guest: Iszoloscope. DJs Pandemonium, Contrasona, & guests. \$8 zombies & victims, \$10 everyone else, free before 10 PM.—Keith Lim

22 August 2010: Stargate Summer Sunday, 3 PM at La Fontana Caffe, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Members who attended Gatecon in July will give a report on the events of that con, to be followed by a viewing of a DVD recorded at Gatecon 2004, when Chris Judge, Michael Shanks, and Amanda Tapping had a panel together.—Keith Lim

22 August 2010: Browncoats: “Quiet Drink in an Alliance Friendly Bar” Fundraiser, 6–9 PM at Murrayville Town Pub, 22070 48th Avenue, Langley, BC, V3A 3R9. Fundraising pub night for the Canadian Cancer Society’s 2010 Cops for Cancer Tour de Valley Ride. Tickets are \$20, and entitle the bearer to a beer (or other beverage) and a burger (including a veggie burger). 50-50 draw, silent auction, maybe a door prize or two. Two of the silent auction items are coupons for a wine tasting at a local winery and a gift certificate for handmade chocolates from a Fort Langley store.—Keith Lim

24 August 2010: **Karen New**, **Joseph Smalec**, and **Matt Saunders**’s birthdays.

25 August 2010: **Ryan K. Johnson**’s birthday.

26 August 2010: **Sarah Stierch**’s birthday.

27 August 2010: Fontana Friday—The Incredibles, 6:30 PM at La Fontana Caffe, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Screening of *The Incredibles* (2004), an animated film about a family of superheroes trying to live the quiet life of a regular suburban family.—Keith Lim

27 August 2010: Legend + Willow, 11:59 PM at Rio Theatre, 1660 East Broadway (at Commercial), Vancouver, BC. *Legend + Willow*—Rio Theatre’s Midnight Double Bill Cult Classics, with live hosts and pre show entertainment. \$10/\$8 in costume.—Keith Lim

27 August 2010: Premiere of film *Piranha 3-D* (remake/action/horror).

27–29 August 2010: Salute to Supernatural Convention, Sheraton Wall Centre, 1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver. “Creation Entertainment returns with its second Vancouver Salute to Supernatural convention, with on-stage appearances, special events, parties, musical performances, autographs, photo ops, costumes, auctions, trivia, and panels. Preferred weekend package \$439. Guests: Jensen Ackles, Jared Padalecki, Misha Collins, Samantha Smith, Richard Speight, Jr.”—Keith Lim

28 August 2010: Dragon Quest IX at GameDeals, 12 PM at GameDeals, 407 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC, V3L 0A2. Canvass for guests, dungeon grinding, maybe even take down a legacy map. You never know, we just might have levelled up enough by then.—Keith Lim

28 August 2010: [Star Trek: Summer Potluck](#), 5 PM. [Location shown only to members of the Meetup group.] A potluck to talk *Trek*. Organizer will make chili. RSVP requested with item being brought.—[Keith Lim](#)

28 August 2010: VSteam Presents: Abney Park's Circus at the End of the World IV, 7–10 PM at the Red Room, 398 Richards Street, Vancouver, BC. One of the world's most renowned steampunk artists is coming up from the United States to give Vancouver a night of music, performance, and general steampunkery that shan't be forgotten. Special guest and opening act: local band Corset. Two sets by Abney Park. Circus performers, steampunk crafters, vendors, and more. 19+. \$16.50. [Facebook/Abney Park](#).—[Keith Lim](#)

29 August 2010: [Vancouver Comicon: Comix & Stories](#), 11 AM–5 PM, Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street (at 15th Avenue), Vancouver. A day of alternative & small press comics, zines, artwork & culture. Special guests: Joey Comeau & Emily Horne (*A Softer World*). Featured artists & publishers: Brandon Graham (*King City, Multiple Warheads*), James Stokoe (*Orc Stain, Sullivan's Sluggers*), Steve Rolston (*Ghost Projekt, Emiko Superstar*), Marley Zarcone (*Forgetless, Madame Xanadu*), Verne Andru (*420*), Ken Boesem (*The Village*), Robin Bougie (*Cinema Sewer*), Ed Brisson (*Acts of Violence, Murder Book*), Jesse Davidge (*Mathemagick & Mystiphsics*), Kelly Everaert (*Trilogy of Terror*), Trevor Frick (*Centuri Way of the Ninja*), Miriam Libicki (*Jobnik!*), Josue Menjivar (*Everyday Things, Way Off Main*), Matthew Ocasio (*The Matter*), Jeremy Sawatski (*Purple Soul*), Sketchrospective (*Cowboys, Robots & Dinosaurs*), Andrea Hooge, Mary Karaplis, Jackie Klobucar, Jenna Sokalski, and many more.—[Keith Lim](#)

29 August 2010: [Vancouver Roleplayers' Collective Monthly Social Gathering](#), 3 PM at the Grind Gallery and Coffee House, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver, BC, V5V 3P6. The purpose of the recurring meetings on the last Saturday of every month is to meet and greet and chill, to share a drink or two with fellow gamers, talk about your common interests and maybe even find yourself a gaming group.—[Keith Lim](#)

30 August 2010: Frankenstein Day.

September 2010

1 September 2010: [Vampire Lit Writing Group](#), 7 PM at Megabites Pizza, 1005 Granville Street (at Nelson), Vancouver, BC, V5K 0A1. This month's writing challenge is "Vampire Dating," whatever you interpret that to be. 500–1000 words is a good chunk to read aloud to the group and get feedback on what works and what could be improved. It isn't necessary to bring something you've written, but the group hopes everyone will participate in the discussion. The group has set a good tone for constructive criticism and providing suggestions in areas of writing an author wishes to improve.—[Keith Lim](#)

2–6 September 2010: Worldcon (AussieCon 4), Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (address not given), Melbourne, Australia. GOH: Kim Stanley Robinson, Shaun Tan, Robin Johnson. Memberships: C\$290. [There; we mentioned it! ☺]

3 September 2010: Fontana Friday—Men in Black, 6:30 PM at La Fontana Caffè, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Screening of *Men in Black* (1997). Head on down to the geek's corner of no and where to watch Agents J and K monitor alien activity on Earth and keep the Earth safe. If the group has time and the energy, it might watch *MIB II* too. There will be Neuralyzers on hand to wipe the memories after.—Keith Lim

4 September 2010: Battlestar/Caprica: End of Summer Picnic on Cloud 9, 6 PM at Cates Park, Dollarton Highway, North Vancouver, BC, V7G 1A1. Potluck at the park to celebrate summer and the fact that *Caprica* is just three months away. There will be a barbecue; organizer will buy burgers and dogs. Please bring a salad, side item, or dessert. RSVP requested with item being brought.—Keith Lim

4–5 September 2010: Fanfair Fest (F3) has been **cancelled** due to an unfortunate loss of a major source of funding.—Keith Lim

5 September 2010: Learn to Knit Your Own Jayne Hat/Hogwarts Scarf/Doctor Who Scarf, 2 PM at La Fontana Caffè, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Do you want a Jayne's hat? Or a Hogwarts scarf to wear to see the new *Harry Potter* movie (December 17th)? Do you want the satisfaction of saying you made it yourself? Bring your sticks and learn how to knit it. Help from experienced knitters appreciated. If you are not interested in knitting, bring your other crafts down to the caffè and let your creativity flow. BC Browncoats Meetup/Dr. Who Meetup.—Keith Lim

8 September 2010: Valinor, A Vancouver J.R.R. Tolkien Monthly Meetup, 7 PM. [Location shown only to members of the Meetup group]. Meet several of the organizers of Valinor to learn about continuing events (such as the Reading Group and RPG) and events to come in the future. \$2.—Keith Lim

8–12 September 2010: Spark Animation 10: Celebrating Innovation and Inspiration in Animation at Scotiabank Theatre Vancouver, 900 Burrard Street (at Smithe), Vancouver, BC (conference) and Vancouver International Film Centre, 1181 Seymour (at Davie), Vancouver, BC (evening screenings). Vancouver ACM SIGGRAPH's third annual celebration of animation. Three full days of speaker sessions, five nights of short and long format films and of course, signature industry mixers and Saturday night party. Members: \$225, non-members: \$275.—Keith Lim

9 September 2010: Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup, 7:30 PM at HR Mac-Millan Space Centre (downstairs auditorium), 1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, BC, V6J 3J9. Royal Astronomical Society of Canada—Vancouver monthly meeting, shared with the general public at no charge.—Keith Lim

10 September 2010: Fontana Friday—Sunshine, 6:30 PM at La Fontana Caffè, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. “Fifty years from now, the sun is dying, and mankind is dying with it. Our last hope: a spaceship and a crew of eight men and women. They carry a device which will breathe new life into the star. But deep into their voyage, out of radio contact with Earth, their mission is starting to unravel. There is an accident, a fatal mistake, and a distress beacon from a spaceship that disappeared seven years earlier. Soon the crew is fighting not only for their lives, but their sanity.”—Keith Lim

12 September 2010: Vancouver Comicon, 11 AM–5 PM at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street (at 15th Avenue), Vancouver. Special guests: Greg Rucka (*Detective Comics*, *Stumptown*, *Action Comics*, *Queen & Country*), Gabriel Hardman (*Agents of Atlas*, *Hulk*), Ken Boesem (*The Village*), Ed Brisson (*Acts of Violence*, *Murder Book*), Kelly Everaert (*Jungle Tales*, *Trilogy of Terror*), Matthew Ocasio (*The Matter*), Andrew Salmon (*Sherlock Holmes*, *Secret Agent X*), Robin Thompson (*Champions of Hell*, *Hemp Island*), Carrie McKay, Molly Nemecek, Jordan Oliwa, Jenna Sokalski, Nick Tay, Sketcherspective, Monster Attack Team Canada. Dealer tables: \$55/centre; \$65/wall. Hourly door prizes! Admission: \$4.00. Kids under 14: free. For more information, please call 604-322-6412.—Leonard Wong, Keith Lim

15 September 2010: Evolve: Vampire Stories of the New Undead, 7–8:30 PM at Alice MacKay Room, Lower Level, Vancouver Public Library Central Branch, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC, V6B 6B1. Kelley Armstrong and Tanya Huff head the roster for the first Canadian vampire anthology, *Evolve*. Listen to some of the 22 Canadian authors featured in this compelling collection as they re-imagine the future of vampires. Free.—Keith Lim

16 September 2010 onwards: Science World: Body Worlds & The Brain at Science World at TELUS World of Science, 1455 Quebec Street, Vancouver, BC, V6A 3Z7. This all-new version of Dr. Gunther von Hagens’ world-famous exhibition looks at the body in a previously unseen way, with over 200 authentic human specimens, and highlights on recent neuroscience findings on brain development, function and disease. (Multiple ticket rates & times; see website.)—Keith Lim

17 September 2010: Fontana Friday—Dark City, 6:30 PM at La Fontana Caffè, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Ranked as the #11 top cerebral sci-fi film of all time by the Film Stage, Alex Proyas’s stylish sci-fi film noir is a mystery wrapped in a mind twist centering on an amnesiac who has awoken in a city without a sun.—Keith Lim

17 September 2010: IPMS (International Plastic Modellers Society) Vancouver meeting, 7:30–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, “Arts Studio” (second floor), 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby, BC. Kit of the Year event. Door prize draw. Non-members: first meeting free, \$2 drop-in fee thereafter.—Keith Lim

17 September 2010: Trumpeter Games Night, 7 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex (by Metrotown), 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby. Non-members: first meeting free, \$6 drop-in fee thereafter.—Keith Lim

24 September 2010: Public Dreams 25th Birthday Bash/Fundraiser, 9 PM–4 AM at W2 Storyeum, 151 West Cordova Street, Vancouver, BC. Public Dreams, best known for its outdoor interactive festivals Illuminares and Parade of Lost Souls, is turning 25 this year. Live music, stilt walkers, roving character performers, art installations (including an indoor labyrinth), appies, drinks, a silent auction, and more. DJ Timothy Wisdom, DJ Gudzy, and others. All proceeds will go towards Public Dreams festivals, workshops, and new events. \$20 (+service charge), with \$10 tax receipt.—Keith Lim

24 September 2010: Premiere of film *Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole* (fantasy/computer animation).

26 September 2010: Vancouver Roleplayers' Collective Monthly Social Gathering, 3 PM at the Grind Gallery and Coffee House, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver, BC, V5V 3P6. The purpose of the recurring meetings on the last Saturday of every month is to meet and greet and chill, to share a drink or two with fellow gamers, talk about your common interests and maybe even find yourself a gaming group.—Keith Lim

30 September 2010: Celebrate Sereni'Versary Five, 6:30 PM at La Fontana Caffè, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. It's been five years since the theatrical release of *Serenity*. BC Browncoats are going to celebrate five years of misbehavin' by watching *Done the Impossible*, the story of the rise and fall and re-birth of the cult TV show *Firefly*, as told from the perspective of the fans who helped save it.—Keith Lim

October 2010

1–3 October 2010: VCON 35 at Vancouver Airport Marriott Hotel, 7571 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC, V6X 1A3. Vancouver's Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention. Theme: Steampunk: From Alchemy to Zeppelins. Author Guest of Honour: Cherie Priest, Artist Guest of Honour: James Beveridge, Music Guest of Honour: Heather Dale. Full weekend membership: \$50 until 1 September 2010, \$60 at the door. Student & child discounted rates & one-day memberships available. <http://www.vcon.ca/>—Keith Lim

News-Like Matter

News/LARP: Police Accused of Displaying Fake G20 Weapons

“Toronto's top police officer misled the public by displaying fake weapons used in a medieval-themed role-playing game to help justify their actions during G20 protests, their owner said Wednesday.

“Brian Barrett...was en route to a west-end park for a role-playing fantasy game called Amtgard...”

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/toronto/story/2010/06/30/g20-weapons.html>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amtgard>

Julian Castle

Wednesday 30 June 2010

SF Information for Your Readers

Hi Felicity,

I'm starting a new series of Internet fiction and thought your SF fans might be interested. Here's the press release:

“*Birth of an Alien Nation*, a sneak preview of Sue Lange's upcoming Internet fiction, *Alien in the Land of Bejesus*, is being made available free of charge at her Singularity Watch blog (<http://suelange.wordpress.com/2010/06/24/birth-of-an-alien-nation/>). *Alien in the Land of Bejesus* is scheduled for publication in the fall, but in the meantime, episodes will be made available for free at the blog.

“The Singularity Watch blog focuses on the convergence of technology and culture. As such it is the perfect venue for the *Alien in the Land of Bejesus* where the alien is consistently caught up in technology. All stories in the series are designed for Internet and mobile reading: short and often humorous.

“Other of Lange's online work can be found at Book View Café. Her ebooks (*Uncategorized* and *We, Robots*) can be found in the Kindle store. Her print novels, *Tricheon Hash* (2003, Metropolis Ink) and *We, Robots* (2007, Aqueduct Press) are available from Amazon. Visit her website at <http://www.suelangetheauthor.com>.”

Cheers,

Sue

Sue Lange

Thursday 1 July 2010

VCON Progress Report #2

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are pleased to present the second progress report for VCON 35, for your information and entertainment. We hope and trust that this will address your questions about our new hotel, and many other subjects such as the art show, fan group tables, and room parties. I remain,

Your humble and obedient servant,

Garth Spencer

[See <http://www.vcon.ca/sites/default/files/VCON35-PR2.pdf> to download.—Felicity]

Garth Spencer

Saturday 10 July 2010

Latest Montreal Science Fiction and Fantasy Association Newsletter On-Line

The latest WARP is now on line:

<http://www.monsffa.com/monsffahtml/warp.html>

Password is

TheWildHunt

Cathy

[See link above, http://www.monsffa.com/WARP/WARP74_HiRez.pdf, or http://www.monsffa.com/WARP/WARP74_LoRez.pdf to download. Password is to open PDF, not to download, so keep it handy.—Felicity]

Cathy Palmer-Lister

Friday 9 July 2010

Notes from July BCSFA Meeting

In attendance were Ray Seredin (host), Kathleen Moore (treasurer), Felicity Walker (editor), Doug Finnerty, Joe Devoy, and Julian Castle.

According to Ray, there is a chance *Doctor Who* (25%) and *Torchwood* (75%) will soon be filmed in Vancouver. The answer will be announced at Comic Con International. John Barrowman (star of *Torchwood*) likes Vancouver, including its skiing.

Also, Ray said that Seattle won the bid for Westercon in 2012. The venue will be the same as Norwescon, the Seatac Doubletree Hotel.

Doug told of an Alberta man with the unusual name Travis Vader, who's wanted for torching old people's motor homes.

For the upcoming *Zombie Walk*, Ray suggested victims dress as *Star Trek* "red-shirts." Felicity said that the *First Contact* Borg were also zombie-like. Joe added that an *Enterprise* episode had zombie Vulcans. This reminded Doug of the *Star Wars* novel *Death Troopers*, which had zombie Stormtroopers on a Star Destroyer.

Ray said that he'd heard from Danielle Stephens that there will be something to honour the memory of Jeanne Robinson at the next VCon.

Felicity noticed that video stores seem to be closing all over town. Kathleen replied that the public library is a good source of videos. There are also rental machines in stores like Safeway.

According to Ray, the Victoria CBC station has chosen to stay an affiliate rather than fully join the network so that it can still play its own programming, such as *Give Us This Day*.

Felicity Walker

Sunday 18 July 2010

Comics News: Howard Chaykin, John Byrne, and Alan Moore

Howard Chaykin: The Hero Initiative issued a [press release](#) Thursday 5 August 2010 to announce that they have appointed Howard Chaykin and Walter Simonson to their Board of Directors to serve as members of the Disbursement Committee. The Hero Initiative is a not-for-profit fund, founded by a group of publishers, that supports in-need comics creators. Veteran writers, pencillers, inkers, colourists, and letterists

who have fallen on hard times due to medical expenses or unemployment can get helped from the industry to which they gave their talents.

From the press release: “ ‘Accepting Hero’s offer to serve was an easy decision, as I believe it’s incumbent upon all of us to do what we can to help those who came before us and laid the groundwork for the comics landscape today,’ Chaykin said. ‘None of us would be able to do what we do in this incredible and vibrant field without the efforts of comics’ elder statesmen, and it’s an honor to be able to do my part and do right by them.’ ”

Chaykin and Simonson are contemporaries who shared a studio, Upstart Associates, from the late 1970s to mid-1980s. According to Hero Initiative President Jim McLaughlin, they’ll be taking over the duties of the late Dick Giordano, who passed away last March.

Meanwhile, of course, Chaykin has also been making comics. I’ve been especially delighted by Chaykin’s artwork in *G.I. Joe: Hearts & Minds*, written by best-selling author Max Brooks (son of Mel Brooks). The series offers an inside look at the motivations and personalities—the hearts and minds—of various Joes and Cobras, one of each per issue, with the Cobra story illustrated by Chaykin. Seeing classic villains like Major Bludd and Firefly drawn by Chaykin has been a treat; I’ve never encountered the third issue’s Cobra—the Interrogator—before, but I won’t be able to forget him after reading his story.

Chaykin’s also providing art for *The Rawhide Kid* (possibly subtitled *The Tombstone Blues*, *The Sensational Seven*, or nothing at all, depending on whether you go by online comic databases, the comic’s cover, or the comic’s indicia), a new four-issue mini-series from Ron Zimmerman, the writer of 2003’s reimagining, *The Rawhide Kid: Slap Leather*. Zimmerman’s Rawhide is in good hands with Chaykin, who’s proven many times in his comics that he can do badass, glamorous, and historical all in one setting. Plus: Ghost Rider came!



John Byrne: Two sizzling items about British-Canadian-American comics creator/writer/artist John Byrne are making the rounds in comics fandom this week.

The first item is for real: publisher IDW has announced that the long-awaited continuation of *John Byrne’s Next Men* is finally happening! A superhero saga that launched as a four-part serial in *Dark Horse Presents* in the summer of 1991, *Next Men* (or *JBNM*, as Byrne preferred to abbreviate it) ran as a regular series for thirty issues before ending on a tantalizing cliffhanger. Byrne said at the time that the market could no longer support creator-owned comics, promised that the story would be continued when the industry recovered, and was next seen as writer/artist for a semi-rebooted *Wonder Woman* at DC.



Throughout the years Byrne had no news about the possibility of more *Next Men*. Lately, Byrne has been working steadily for IDW, producing *Star Trek* comics such as *Romulans* (*Alien Spotlight* and *Hollow Crown*), *Assignment: Earth* (starring Gary Seven), *Crew* (starring Number One), and *Leonard McCoy, Frontier Doctor*. IDW recently published trade paperback collections of the original *Next Men* series, and Editor-in-Chief Chris Ryall made the *Next Men* announcement on Saturday 24 July 2010 at the Comic Con International in San Diego.



The second item is more facetious: on Sunday 1 August 2010, Byrne, who is not a fan of *Watchmen*, Alan Moore, or deconstruction of superheroes in general, commented [in the forums](#) on his website, [Byrne Robotics](#), that he thought Rob Liefeld would be the perfect candidate to write and draw a follow-up to *Watchmen*. Specifically, Byrne said:

“I was watching a few minutes of the *Watchmen* movie on cable last night, and I found myself musing on the notion of a ‘prequel’ or sequel to the original comicbook series.

“In *Watchmen*, Moore inverted—I might say perverted—pretty much everything the superhero genre is all about. He was not the first to do so, but *Watchmen* was the first time we got it all in such a concentrated dose. Largely, this seems to have happened because Moore is very much a one trick pony. The one trick works for him and his fans, so no problem there, I guess. But this got me to thinking about who would be a suitable candidate to produce another round of *Watchmen*.

“The thought began to take shape in my head that any revisiting of those characters should be a continuation of the ‘tradition’ of *Watchmen*. That is, as Moore trashed everything superheroes were all about, the next go-round should do the same with *Watchmen* itself. So the ideal candidate for doing the project should be someone who is equally a one trick pony, but from the opposite end of the spectrum. Immediately, one name sprang to the forefront: Rob Liefeld.

“No, I’m not kidding. Liefeld would be to *Watchmen* what Moore was to superheroes in general. And it would be such fun to watch a whole flock of retailers’ heads exploding, as they tried to serve two entirely different faces of mammon!”

It seems clear to me that, despite the previous paragraph, Byrne *is* kidding, at least in the sense that, while he may sincerely think *Watchmen* deserves Liefeld, he does not actually believe anyone would take his suggestion of a Rob Liefeld *Watchmen* seriously. However, half the comics blogosphere has reacted as if Byrne has completely lost his mind and is actually planning to get Rob Liefeld to write and draw *Watchmen 2*, which would be hilarious.





Maybe Byrne and Liefeld could collaborate on the comic adaptation of the *Watchmen* movie. Then Ty Templeton could draw *Watchmen Adventures*, which would adapt *Saturday Morning Watchmen*.

Alan Moore: On a related note, Alan Moore says that “comics are dead” and has bid “farewell to the comics industry.” In an interview with *Comic Heroes*, Moore said:

“I haven’t read a comic in years but I’ve not been tempted to. It looks like it’s stuck in the late ’80s and early 1990s and it’s just going to be an endless cycle of that material. So I tend to suspect that it was probably only me, and a number of my collaborators, who were actually interested in pushing things forward. I think that the publishers are happier with an unending stasis; I think a lot of the artists and writers are. I tended to

feel that, yes, I received a lot of admiration but I also received a lot of suspicion and antagonism that, frankly, I could do without.”

“So although I’ve had a great love of comics as a medium, I belatedly came to realise that the comics industry does not want progress. In fact, it isn’t capable of it and it doesn’t want it.”

And: “It looks to me as if the comic industry is pretty much already getting out of comics. The individual pamphlets don’t sell as much as the collections. The biggest circulating news I saw coming from DC Warner Brothers last year was that they’d sold the rights to use Superman for some sort of online gambling.

“This is basically the only thing the characters are worth now? They’re so debased that they’re only useful for franchises, that you can knock out a few more Batman films, a few more Superman films...once that dries up, then what will there be?”

After eight Jack Kirby Awards, eight Eagle Awards, seven Comic Buyers’ Guide Fan Awards, seven Harvey Awards, nine Will Eisner Awards, and one Hugo Award, he’s had enough antagonism. Thanks for the great comics, Alan!

Felicity Walker

Sunday 8–Monday 16 August 2010

BCSFA Book Discussion Group Plans

Next meeting of the book discussion group is Thursday September 16 @ 7 PM. Location is the Grind gallery and coffee house, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver. This time, we are discussing two books: *Mass Effect: Ascension* and *Mass Effect: Revelation*, both by Drew Karpysyn. Feel free to read one, the other or even both.

October’s book is *Clan of the Cave Bear* by Jean M. Auel.

November’s book is *A Midsummer Tempest* by Poul Anderson.

More more info, contact Doug Finnerty (604) 526-5621 or darthbuddy2000@yahoo.ca.

Doug Finnerty

Friday 13 August 2010

Dating Game

Taral Wayne



Gadget: “Mystery Date Number...um, Two—if you were to take me to dinner for a Special occasion, where would we go?”

Mystery Date 2: “Gee, I dunno...Maybe to Minkowski’s Deli? They got the bestest knishes. Or maybe Momma could make us some beet soup.”

Gadget: “Uh...I suppose. Number One—where would *you* take a girl to dinner?”

Mystery Date 1: “The same place I’d take you to dinner every night, P...I mean Miss. To a charming little vegetarian bistro, with a sensitive menu at *very* reasonable prices. Over an unpretentious but quality California vintage, tasty low-fat textured vegetable protein filet, and hi-fibre organically grown legumes, we would fill the table-cloth with our romantic calculations, finally diagramming the strategy whereby *I can take over your heart!!!*”

Gadget: “Golly...That sounds...(ugh) romantic. Number Three?”

Mystery Date 3: “How does Mars sound, Toots? We can pick *blueberries*. Or if you’d rather something more glamorous, there’s always Millirays at the End of the Universe. Literally *always*. But even if we stay at my pad, have a couple of Saurian Brandies and order-in Gaggh, it would be glamorous with *you*. Whaddya say, baby?”

Gadget: “You know, I think I’d just as soon eat at home with the guys.” (*To MC*) “Can I *throw* this game, or do I *have* to win one of them?”

Taral Wayne

Sunday 7 March 2010

Movies: The Man Who Wrote ‘Battlefield: Earth’

Michael Bertrand

First of all, let’s talk *Battlefield: Earth*.

No wait, come back! Come on, it’s not so bad! It’s been long enough now, we can talk about it. Time has passed, wounds have had time to heal, the crater left by its meteoric box office crash (it’s the size of Texas, Mister President) has had time to cool from white hot to red.

And don’t worry, I’m going to be really bitchy and sarcastic about it to take the sting out.

See, thanks to the never-ending cornucopia that is Roger Ebert’s awesome Twitter, I recently came across this amazing, amusing, and astounding article by, I kid you not, the man who wrote the script for what is universally considered one of the worst movies in history.

In fact, if you factor in how much it cost to make, it *is* the worst movie in all history in terms of dollars per amount of suck.

Its Metacritic score is 9. Yes, that’s a single digit. Nine percent. In fact, in the list of Metacritic’s all-time low scoring movies, it’s number twenty-one, meaning that in Metacritic terms, there’s only twenty movies in all existence worse than it.

(Worst movie of all time? *Bio-Dome*, with Paulie Shore. Way to go, Paulie! You’re number one!)

So needless to say, the opportunity to read the above-linked article giving the real scoop about how he ended up writing one of history’s biggest flops was irresistible.

Turns out, the article is funny, the screenwriter was not, is not, and has never been a Scientologist, and on the big celebrity cruise ship, they walk about in robes and slippers, drink fine scotch, and smoke Cuban cigars. It’s like a cult invented by Hugh Hefner. Keen.

Oh, and unsurprisingly:

“My script was very, *very* different than what ended up on the screen. My screenplay was darker, grittier and had a very compelling story with rich characters. What my screenplay didn’t have was slow motion at every turn, Dutch tilts, campy dialogue, aliens in KISS boots, and everyone wearing Bob Marley wigs.”

I can only imagine that the first time he saw the finished movie at the premiere must have been a disturbingly surreal experience on a positively David Lynch Meets David Cronenberg and They Both Do a Lot of Bad Drugs Together level.

They fired him when he wouldn’t change the script how they wanted him to, so he’s entirely in the clear as far as responsibility for the resulting disaster is concerned. So he’s free to laugh at it with the rest of us, knowing he got paid a completely insane amount of money for a screenplay that looks nothing like what ended up on screen, and has a whopper of all Hollywood stories to boot.

Not freaking bad, sir.

Michael Bertrand

<http://millionwordyear.com/megaword2010/>

Sunday 28 March 2010

Media File

Cosmic Ray Seredin

'Doctor Who' News for August 2010

OK, if you've seen the *Doctor Who* episode "The Big Bang," please on keep reading. If not, please stop reading this and watch it before you do, because this article has a few spoilers.

OK, this will sound kind of odd to the handful of classic series fans who still don't like the post-2005 series that has the name *Doctor Who*, but here I go. "The Pandorica Opens" and "The Big Bang," to me, are two of the best *Doctor Who* episodes ever made.

What other series would have not one, but three main characters die, and a person from the main character's future—the one and only River Song—holding a book of spoilers that could have saved him a lot of trouble, like getting the TARDIS blown up in order to save the whole of time and the universe? Oh, and all those bizarre cracks in time that we saw throughout series five getting explained, all the series' evil-doers from the last forty-seven years joining together to trap their greatest enemy to use him to destroy time and space, and most of the major guest characters from this series in total panic at the start of this story?

So the Doctor escapes and travels through time via River's vortex manipulator, trying to save his friends and to set everything right. Then it comes down to the Doctor ramming the Pandorica into the exploding TARDIS, thus erasing all the adventures he and his friends had in the run of this series while rebooting the whole of time and space.

Then Amy wakes up from an odd dream to find herself in her family home on the date of her wedding to her long-time boyfriend Rory and even receives a blue book that used to be owned by River Song—then she really knows that someone's missing. So she remembers the Doctor and from nowhere a certain Type 40 TARDIS appears.

Then in the end they all get into that blue box, except for River (who went back to the future via her vortex manipulator), to find more adventures. Now this is *Doctor Who* story-telling at its best.

The other highlight of this series, to me, was "Vincent and the Doctor," one of six *Doctor Who* stories/episodes that made me cry (the others being "Survival," "Girl in the Fireplace," "Doomsday," "Journey's End," and "The Big Bang"). The story dealt with Vincent van Gogh, who painted a work that has a rather forbidding monster in the window of a church. After seeing this painting, the Doctor and Amy travel back to 1890 and befriend van Gogh, who is being blamed for a number of strange deaths around Arles (the town in France where van Gogh did over 300 of his works). Oh, one thing I better tell you now is that this monster can only be seen by van Gogh (though the Doctor can see it through a device he takes from the TARDIS). In the end, the painter saves the life of the Doctor, but is greatly saddened by the death of the beast, a Krafayis, who was abandoned on Earth when its species moved on, and was very lonely, much like van Gogh himself.

This story did something that no other sci-fi series ever did before: taking on bipolar disorder head-on, while nevertheless making it a fun story about this heart-breaking disease. Being a member of the mental health community, I know many people who are bi-polar, with even a few of them who, like van Gogh, took their own lives because of it. The BBC itself even has a link on the *Doctor Who* web-site to answer viewers' questions about the disorder.

The classic series always had a way of bringing the important issues of the times it was made in to a sci-fi setting, and now the new series is doing the same, this time bringing up a mental health issue that *Star Trek* never dealt with in all its reincarnations over the last 44 years.

So let's give a "Hear, hear" to the producers of *Doctor Who*.

As for the rest of the stories, they're the highs ("Time of the Angels"/"Flesh and Stone"), they're the lows ("The Vampires of Venice"), and they're the just plain fun ("The Lodger"). Over-all, another great season of *Doctor Who*.

As for the Eleventh Doctor, Matt Smith is just right for the role of the 907-year-old Time Lord. This regeneration is a little bit nutty, a bit over-cautious with the companions (who never listen to him in the first place), and has a strong liking for bow-ties. What else would we want in this kind of a Doctor? Besides, as we've seen in "The Lodger," the new Doctor is great at playing football (or soccer, as us North Americans call it).

By now you're asking, "Gee, Cosmic Ray, what's going to happen in the next series of *Doctor Who*?" Well, by the time you read this, the filming work on the 2010 Christmas special should be in the can, with production for the 2011 series getting underway in the first week of August. They are keeping a very tight lid on what's going to happen in the new series, but it looks like the Doctor will have two companions at the start, they will run into the mysterious Dr. River Song a few more times as we find out more about the future Doctor, and as you already know, Neil Gaiman is writing one of the episodes. The rest is mostly rumours for now, but if you watched the final episode of this series, you know that the TARDIS exploding reset the whole of time and space, so (pardon the pun) who knows? Maybe the Time Lords are back, maybe the two races of Daleks will be in a civil war with themselves, or maybe some other monster lost in the Time War will return to wage revenge on the Doctor. We just won't know until spring 2011.

The other big news coming from Britain is that the *Doctor Who* spin-off series *Torchwood* is going international. A deal with BBC Worldwide and the US premium cable network Starz will see ten new episodes of the series that will have one storyline that will take the Torchwood team around the world. Both John Barrowman and Eve Myles will return to their roles from the BBC series, but the new member of the team will be Americans (heck, put a Canadian in there and watch the Americans always lose to him or her in the hockey pool). The new series is to go into production in January, with its North American production locations a very closely guarded secret (Please pick Vancouver, please pick Vancouver!).

OK, before I go, what if you were riding on a ferry that was just about to enter Active Pass, when you noticed, out the window, the ferry overtaking a 10-meter-long, rather sturdy, American pleasure craft, with a blue (that looks somewhat close to London police-box blue) hull, with a wooden plate on its bridge bearing the name of a time-and-space-traveling police box belonging to a certain Doctor?



Before you make a note in your head to never watch *Doctor Who* again and purchase a copy of *Little House on the Prairie: The Complete Series* at the nearest Best Buy, I would like to tell you *you are not seeing things*. There's a craft named *TARDIS* based out of out Bellevue, Washington, and every so often she shows up in BC waters. With a name like that, she's almost certainly owned by some well-off series fan.

It's my hope that in 2011, when the real *USS Enterprise* shows up in Seattle, that some series fan who enlisted in the US Navy will get permission for *TARDIS* to come up close to the Big *E* and someone will get some pictures of it. I can see it now—photos on sci-fi sites everywhere on the web, with a caption above her reading "Think you're big? I'm even bigger on the inside."

So, back to watching classic *Doctor Who* episodes until December 26th (or whenever). 'Til then, be seeing you.

Cosmic Ray

Ray Seredin

Saturday 23–Sunday 25 July 2010

Zines Received

'Opuntia' #69.1D (July 2010). Published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Reviewzine issue. "Litera Scripta Manet" (interesting review/recap of *The Disappearance of Writing Systems*, edited by John Baines, John Bennet, and Stephen Houston); "Vapourpunkt" (review of *Steampunk*, edited by Ann and Jeff Vanderneer); "Seen in the Literature" (scientific journal passages noticed by Dale; possible Vancouver-bashing); "Letters to the Editor."

'Ethel the Aardvark' #147 (April–May 2010). Published by the Melbourne Science Fiction Club, P.O. Box 212, World Trade Centre, Melbourne, VIC 8005, ethelaardvark@yahoo.com.au, <http://www.msfc.sf.org.au>. Edited by Murray MacLachlan.

"Zines—The Joy of Text": Review of *BCSFazine*. Natalie MacLachlan liked the coloured paper; she did not like the lack of Australian events in "Calendar," my failure to state what she would get out of joining BCSFA, and worst of all, "Why You Got This," which again did not tell her why she should join. I could stop doing "Why You Got This"; it's hard to write anyway.

Also: "About the Melbourne Science Fiction Club"; "About Ethel the Aardvark"; "Presidentorial"; "Club Calendar"; "Letters"; "More on the Ook!" (capsule reviews of Terry Pratchett books); "Torchwood in Birmingham"; "Avatar Is Fantasy—Quarriers Don't Trample Civil Rights" (a quarrier's perspective); "Continuum 6—Future Tense" (review/photos); "There's a Role for You at Worldcon!"; "Hugo Award Nominations"; "Ed's SF Acrostic"; "The Way the Future Was" (club stuff); book reviews (*Gamer's Quest* by George Ivanoff, *X⁶* by Keith Stevenson; *Science Fiction and Alternate History* and *Essential Reading in Science Fiction* by David K. Scholes, *Johannes Cabal the Necromancer* by Jonathan L. Howard, and *The*

Forest of Hands & Teeth by Carrie Ryan); “Forthcoming Conventions”; “All-Club Mini-Con.”

Art criticism: I love the cover (very well-drawn and cute; who are numbers one, two, and eight?) and the aardvark dingbats in the letter column.

[Also received this month, but saved for review until next month: *Ethel the Aardvark #148 (June–July 2010)* and *The National Fantasy Fan, Vol. 10, No. 2 (June 2010)*.]

E-Zines Received

‘**Fortnightly Fix**’ #14 (5 July 2010). Published by Steve Green, stevegreen@livejournal.com, <http://www.efanzines.com/FFix/FortnightlyFix-14.pdf>. “News from Planet Me”; “Lies, Damned Lies and...”; “Down the Loccol.”

‘**Statement**’ #375 (July 2010). Published by the Ottawa Science Fiction Society, 18 Norice Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K2G 2X5, osfs@ncf.ca, <http://osfs.ncf.ca/>. Edited by Grant Duff.

“Reviews; Movie”: Interesting reviews of *Sunshine* (sounds like a *Truthhorse* sketch from five years ago called “Sun Team Six—Mission: Ignition”), *Diary of the Dead*, and *Inception* by Starwolf, who, like Taral Wayne, says *The Dark Knight* didn’t really have Batman.

Also: “Upcoming Events”; “Conventions and Gatherings”; “Movies Coming to the Mayfair”; “‘Coming Soon’ Movie List”; “The Constellation Awards”; “Obituary of Robert McCall”; “Literary News”; “Science News—Astronomy”; “Letters to the Editor” (Lloyd!).

‘**VCON 35 Progress Report**’ #2 (August 2010). Published by Garth Spencer, publications@vcon.ca, <http://www.vcon.ca/sites/default/files/VCON35-PR2.pdf>. “About the Vancouver Airport Marriott”; “Art Show”; “Dealers’ Room”; “Fan Group Tables”; “Hospitality”; “Costume Masquerade” (rules); “Media” (coverage); “Program Book Advertising”; “Programming”; “Room Party Guidelines”; “Call for Restaurant Reviews” (perfect volunteering idea for us Richmondites); “Attending VCON (Part 2)” (rules); “Volunteers: VCON Is Recruiting!” (needed: volunteers for Fan Groups and Parties Liaison; Fan Groups and Parties Assistant; Film Contest; Games Assistant; Hospitality Assistants; Programming Assistants; Publicity Co-ordinator; Flyer Team; Volunteers Assistant); “Committee”; “Memberships” (prices); “Membership Registration” (form).

‘**WARP**’ #74 (Spring 2010). Published by MonSFFA, % Sylvain St-Pierre, 4456 Boul. Ste-Rose, Laval, Québec, H7R 1Y6, cathypl@sympatico.ca, <http://www.monsffa.com/monsffahtml/warp.html> (password to open PDF: TheWildHunt). Edited by Cathy Palmer-Lister. “You’ve Got Mail!” (Lloyd!); “Upcoming Events”; “Sea Serpents—A Fishy Tale”; “SFF Sighting!” (steampunk Lego!); “Castles of Dreams and Nightmares” (examples illustrated, but needs proofreading); “The Last Mage: The Dragon’s Mouth” (fiction); “For Those Who Would Like to Live in a Medieval, Alternate History, or Low-Tech Society—Part IV: Smallpox and Other

Acts of God”; “Stargate Enterprise” (fanfic); “Awards! Awards! Awards!”; “Obituary: Frank Frazetta”; “Reviews: Big Screen, Smaller Screen, Monitor Screen” [capsule reviews of: video: *The Time Machine* (1960), *Last Woman on Earth*, *The Lost World* (1960), *The Amazing Transparent Man*, *Beyond the Time Barrier*, *The Leech Woman*, *Robin Hood* (2010), *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time*, *The A-Team* (2010), *Toy Story 3*, *The Twilight Saga: Eclipse*, *Robot Chicken Star Wars II*, *Doctor Who: The Infinite Quest* (animated), *The Mysterious Geographic Explorations of Jasper Morello*, *Tales from the Future*, and *Nightmare Worlds* (B-movie compilations—if you can’t find them at a video store, I recommend trying dollar stores); books: *Shadowrise* by Tad Willias, *Under Heaven* by Guy Gavriel Kay, and *Wake and Watch* by Robert Sawyer; events: *The Wild Hunt* film and wrap party, and Robert J. Sawyer at Indigo June 8; “The MonSFFun Page”; “Snakes at a Con” (“Tales from the Convention” by Lloyd Penney).

Layout criticism: PDF zines should be single-column or landscape; otherwise, the reader has to scroll up and down to get from one column to the next.

Art Credits

Sheryl Birkhead.....Masthead
 Brad Foster.....Cover
 Clip art.....Pages 1 (provided by Taral Wayne), 4
 Alan Moore, Dave Gibbons.....Pages 5, 21, 22
 Rio Theatre.....Pages 7, 11
 Max Brooks/Howard Chaykin/Robbie Robbins.....Pages 20 (top), 27
 Ron Zimmerman/Howard Chaykin/Jeff Eckleberry....Page 20 (bottom)
 Taral Wayne.....Page 23

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