

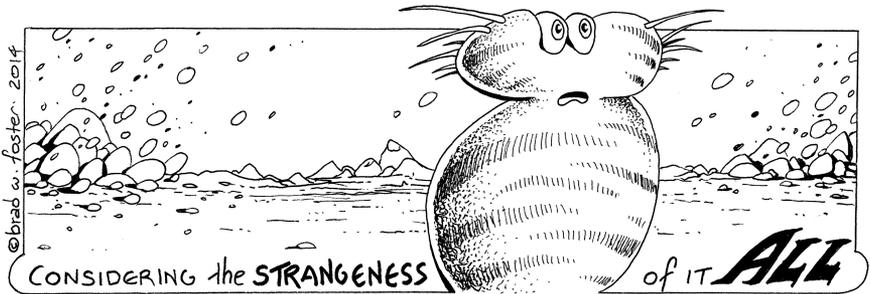
BCSFAzine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#505

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June 2015



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Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at felicity4711@gmail.com or Apartment 601, Manhattan Tower, 6611 Cooney Road, Richmond, BC, Canada, V6Y 4C5 (*new address*).

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This and Next Month in BCSFA

Friday 19 June:	Submission deadline for July <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Sunday 21 June at 7 PM:	June BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin's, 707 Hamilton Street (recreation room), New Westminster.
Friday 26 June:	July <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).
Sunday 19 July at 7 PM:	July BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin's.
Friday 24 July:	Submission deadline for August <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Friday 31 July:	August <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).

About BCSFA

The incumbent BCSFA Executive members are:

WCSFA Social Committee Chairman/Archivist: R. Graeme Cameron, 604-584-7562
Vice President: TBD

Treasurer/Supporting *BCSFAzine* Production Donor: Kathleen Moore, 604-771-0845
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VCON Ambassador for Life: Steve Forty, 604-936-4754

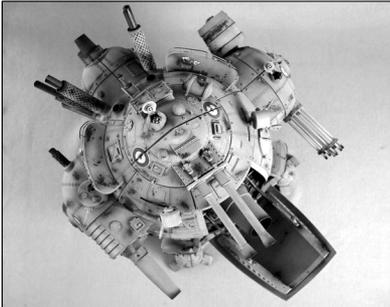
BCSFA's website is at <http://www.bcsfa.net/> (thank you to webmaster [Garth Spencer](#)). The BCSFA e-mail list is BC Sci-Fi Assc. (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_sci_fi_assc/). See <http://bcsfa.net/events.html> for more events. Low-resolution back issues of *BCSFAzine* are also archived at <http://efanzines.com/BCSFA/index.htm> (thank you to webmaster Bill Burns). Contact Felicity for high-resolution copies.

Letters of Comment

[Editor's responses in brackets.]

Dave Haren
tyrbolo@comcast.net

Saturday 20 June 2015



3D printed tank robot.

Hi Felicity,

Well I knew *scrufolous* referred to a skin problem but didn't realize it was caused by tuberculosis infecting the lymph nodes of the neck.

You can do a search for Zappology and locate the scurrilous songs from last time.

[A search for "Zappology" shows that it's the study of Frank Zappa. Were those were the YouTube videos that had been removed?]

I have a lot of odd stuff collected for this time. Since it is too much I'll paste it in and edit it around so not to overwhelm the news.

https://archive.org/details/Insight_070622

[“Insight: Tommy Chong/Grass Roots Summer Tour.”]

<http://disinfo.com/2015/06/consciousness-has-less-control-than-believed-according-to-new-theory/>

[I get what Professor Morsella is saying but he goes too far when he says that free will does not exist. Conscious control must exist somewhere, because we use it. If it's not in “consciousness,” then what does that word mean? We can assign that task to another component if that makes it clearer.]

The New Eleusis.

[A card game where you don't know the rules and have to figure them out by playing. That would be good mental exercise but I would probably also find it depressingly stressful. Too much of life is like that already.]

“The answer is never the answer. What's really interesting is the mystery. If you seek the mystery instead of the answer, you'll always be thinking. I've never seen anybody really find the answer, but they think they have. So they stop thinking. But the job is to seek mystery, evoke mystery, plant a garden in which strange plants and mystery bloom. The need for mystery is greater than the need for an answer.”—Ken Kesey, “The Art of Fiction CXXXVI,” *The Paris Review*, 1994

[I like that. I'd probably still want some answers but I'm fine with continuing to search even after I find an answer.]

“No one knows his place in society, his class position or social status, nor does anyone know his fortune in the distribution of natural assets and abilities, his intelligence, strength, and the like. I shall even assume that the parties do not know their conceptions of the good or their special psychological propensities. The principles of justice are chosen behind a veil of ignorance.”—John Rawls

[In other words, if you wouldn't want it to happen to you, it's not right to do it to others. It sounds like a practical method of determining morality in a morally-relative world.]

I'd say that was a fair assessment of the human condition. The usual claim to self-knowledge is based upon a series of cues we receive (internal and external) but on examination they prove to be a thin web of falsehoods and mis-understandings. Unravelling this web reveals the abyss of mystery, a highly uncomfortable place to begin from.

I'm not advocating releasing one's grip on Maya, just relinquishing the idea that Maya is reality.



Big Al.

[Reality is real, but may not be what it appears to be. I can live with that.]

Krafft-Ebing¹ found a lot of odd behaviors in individuals. The Victorians for example decided that the sight of a naked furniture leg might cause youth to be aroused by sight of a naked limb so they made covers to hide those furniture legs. This is called projection from the isolated on the end of the Bell curve of behavior to imposing a blanket solution on all the rest. Nutty behavior is the concerned individual's problem; projection makes it a culture's problem.

Once you realize that the veil of ignorance is the culture you live in and it was designed to be so, you will be a lot less inclined to apply Draconian solutions to others and call them justice.

[Does that mean that some Victorians assumed that if they were excited by furniture legs that everyone else would be too, and that this is an argument against Rawls' veil of ignorance?]

In USA we now are under a law that forces us to recognize others' right to associate in long term legal terms. The debates over whether this is right or wrong can continue but the debate over whether it is just to deny it is over.

[Marriage equality?]

Why the LEGO Universe project failed: it was the cost of the "penis detection" team of humans costing too much.

That's Megan Fox.²

"...According to Fox, the lack of an automated 'dong detector' was costly for LEGO. Fox said the human moderators hired to fight the battle of the bulge were the largest expense associated with the game, which LEGO shuttered in 2012." These people were willing to let their venture fail rather than relax their paranoia about dick-shaped buildings in their virtual space. Isn't that amazing?

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/blogs-news-from-elsewhere-33381772#sa-ns_mchannel=rss&ns_source=PublicRSS20-sa

Hobbyist with 1:1 scale Panther tank in basement.

[“Germany: WW2 Panther Tank Seized from Pensioner’s Cellar.”]

1 Richard von Krafft-Ebing, psychiatrist and author of *Psychopathia Sexualis* (1886).

2 The developer at Glass Bottom Games, not the *Transformers* (2007) actress.



“If you cannot measure what the proposition describes then you cannot validate the proposition.” Not relevant if from your philosophical perspective the proposition (a “true” each-way velocity that cannot be measured by any means) is meaningless! Meaningless propositions are neither susceptible to validation, nor needful of it.

It is perfectly legitimate to adopt another perspective in which the proposition is meaningful—this leads us to

ether-like interpretations along the lines proposed by Lorentz³ and Poincaré.⁴ If our physical intuitions invoke a pre-quantum world, in which every phenomenon must be explicable in terms of the workings of constituent local mechanisms, and counterfactual definiteness is a given, this approach is very attractive. For example, in this approach there is no such thing as the “twin paradox”—regardless of the twins’ motions, the aging of each twin is controlled at all times simply by his velocity with respect to the ether, and no other factor need be considered at all.

Unfortunately it’s rather clear that we do not in fact live in such a world. In the world we live in, it has been demonstrated that quantities we choose not to measure are not meaningful, even if we could have measured them had we wanted to. For example, when we set up a two slit experiment, “the slit the particle goes through” is something we can measure if we choose, by monitoring one or both slits. But if we don’t choose to monitor that, and we send a large number of particles through, the resulting distribution will be consistent only with the idea that each particle in some sense goes through both slits. Because we did not measure which slit, the question of “which slit” has become meaningless.

[I’ve never understood that experiment no matter how times I’ve read it or seen it explained in documentaries.]

In such a world, the existential status of something that we not only do not measure, but do not know how to measure, is precarious!

From Gerry Quinn on sci.physics.research, a continuing discussion on some fundamental assumptions.

Graeme strikes again. The announcement Tom Cruise is leaving Scientology required a synchronistic explanation via time-looping. Found it on his *Amazing* column.

For instance, FT Laney is quoted from his article “Dianuts & Dianetics” from *The Unspeakable Thing* issue #5, published in April 1952: “Very amusing, too, was the attitude of the students towards Hubbard himself. A majority of them plainly regarded him with awe and worship. They’d sit there and watch him lecture with their mouths open and their eyes shining and their souls sticking out like warts on a toad. I doubt if they heard anything he said—they were just soaking up the great man’s miasma.”

3 Hendrik Lorentz, physicist.

4 Henri Poincaré, mathematician/physicist/engineer/philosopher.

https://archive.org/details/private_sanctuary_podcast_archive-20140218

For Pathfinder RPG fans a podcast treasure trove.

[I'll relay this to Amos Iu and Kathleen Moore.]

<http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2015/07/government-it-official-ran-law-enforcement-data-systems-for-years-with-faked-degrees/>

Hilarious. You'd think the anti-Islam band of nuts would have checked him a lot better.

[With the name "Faisal Ahmed."]

The movie recommends this time are *The Mist*,⁵ a King does HPL type story; *Cyber Girl* in which a young lad gets a birthday surprise from himself; *Looper*⁶ for the consequences of travelling in time, with shootings since Hollywood needs it to feel wanted.

[I wasn't able to find any information about Cyber Girl. There's an Australian TV series for teenagers by that name but that doesn't seem to be the same premise as what you described. My capsule review of *Looper* is in [BCSFAZine #486](#), in the meeting notes.]

Game designers Brian Train and Ian Weir with the new COIN version of *Algeria* on the table. Ian is Red Sash Games. The historical commentaries make getting the print-your-own versions worth getting. Brian is the go-to designer on COIN having done a lot of the subject matter.



"Lifetime memberships only \$12.95." Check out that Apple IIc! I miss the '80s.

Jane Fancher banged up her finger. Carolyn painted a bridge and has a new book off to the publisher (CJ Cherryh).

GamerGate is over. Reddit has folded their PC hand in the game. The Con has made a lot of money off the Hugofuss, but the animosity is not over. Remember Erisians are not allowed to believe anything that is written anywhere.

It turns out our educational system is broken. We had a young lad shoot a bunch of old ladies in Bible study class because they were raping our women. I pay some attention and never noticed that in the crime statistics but apparently the Confederate battle flag was the cause. This looks like a job for Garth since logic has not penetrated into the USA school system.

Warm regards,

Dave

The pics are a random collection of odd stuff from the net. Big AI is a character in the *Ratchet and Clank* game. The wasp is three inches long, lives in the desert of my youth. The ad was a great deal... ☺

The walking tank is 5000 USD.

5 (2007).

6 (2012).

Again, I thank you, Felicity, for sending a copy of *BCSFazine*. It is good to see that clubzines still exist on paper. I get the newsletter *Einblatt* from Minn-STF and the Nashville, Tennessee clubzine online, also the weekly e-zine *MT Void* from Mark and Evelyn Leeper in New Jersey, so this particular brand of fanzine is very much alive and kicking, which is good to see. There are more, as a quick glance on efanzines.com will reveal, so when I want to see what's going on in various regions of the SF-club world, the ability to find out is readily available.

Since you start off the issue with LOCs—which I think is a great idea (it's the first section of any fanzine I go to when I get a zine)—let's start there. Dave Haren mentioned the movie *The Core* (2003), which I have only seen once because that's all that I could stand. Yeah, it is suitably pulp-era-ish in content, which results in some glaring holes in science and logic, and the movie is entertaining on a superficial level—it's pretty to look at—but that's about all it has. Relegate this movie to the files, thank you, very much.

I think Obama Thripswinger Strasberg is a pseudonym and not a real person. Just a hunch, you know.



Pepsis formosa ("tarantula hawk").

All the best,
John Purcell
[Thanks!]

Hi again BCSFans! Hope you had a great Canada Day. It's the one day of the year that Canadians feel comfortable making public displays of patriotism.

The rest of the time, our love for our country is as reserved and private as befits the Canadian character. Anything else would be unseemly. And it would, of course, remind us just a little too much of our highly extroverted neighbours to the south.

Re: Sheryl's car troubles:

Sorry to hear the gremlins got to your car. To my mind, sudden expenses are the worst part of adulthood.

Re: Collating parties:

Sure, they sound like they were a lot of work, but that in no way detracts from them being fun. We have this funny, almost childlike idea in the modern world that work and fun are antonyms. But when you look at it closely, the only thing that separates work from fun is whether or not you want to do it. Lots of people work hard at having fun.



Brian Train and Ian Weir.

Re: Dave Haren's remarks about education:

I agree that the Prussian system we still use is in drastic need of an overhaul, but for its time, it was a very progressive idea. It was designed to produce large numbers of literate workers suited to working in factories, but it ended up creating the modern world by turning out an entirely new kind of citizen.

That said, goddamn it, we could do so much better now. The very idea that you have to force kids to learn is appalling to me. Kids are born wanting to learn. Children are insatiably curious. It takes a severely broken system to punish them into not wanting to learn only to force them to do it anyhow.

Re: Dave Haren's remarks about the Tsarist influence on the Cold War:

Very interesting! To think, it's possible that the entire cold war might have been avoided if a few people had stopped to ask themselves, "Should we be putting so much stock in what these people who hate the current Soviet government with the heat of a thousand suns have to say?" The entire thing has been revealed to be a complete farce, and one wonders what would have happened if the Allied world has simply chosen to ignore the USSR.

Well, those are my lines for this month. I will see all of you nice people again next ish.

Hope you enjoyed the silliness I contributed to the April ish!

Signed,

John the Barnacled Hermit

Lloyd Penney
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Etobicoke, Ontario
M9C 2B2
penneys@bell.net

Monday 10 August 2015

Dear BCSFen:

Hello, Felicity, and thanks for issue 504 of *BCSFazine*. I know I am a little late here, but I will try to write up a fast letter on the issue. Wish me luck, and here goes.

And hello to Sheryl Birkhead. You were able to hear something from Yannick Bisson, and see him in another television programme. He is often in other programmes in Canada, and you might remember him from *Sue Thomas*, *FBEye*. Indeed, I am still fully employed, and I am coming up on a full year where I am now. Still, though, I am looking for newer and better paid employment. Linda Michaels...

there's a name from the past. The last I had heard, Linda Michaels and Joe Maraglino had moved out of New York State and gafiated completely, and as best as I know, started breeding dogs.



Irshad Manji was on CityTV many years ago, but I believe the last time I saw her on television, she was on Vision TV. I should check her out, and see where she's gotten to. I do know she's written at least one book.

John Purcell! How'd I get into that issue of *BCSFazine*? Must be a bug in the system. There I am in the calendar...at the ripe old age of 56.

Animecons are almost too popular. I was a vendor at a couple of cons like this. There were for sale tons of posters of any of more than a thousand anime programmes, plus toys and figurines, and libraries full of manga. I kept hearing songs from

anime series, and if they were sung any higher on the scale, only dogs would be able to hear them.

[I've noticed most anime theme music is very sad and minor-key.]

I am going to say that I am done for the moment, and I hope to have more time available to respond to future issues. So, we will see you then.

Yours,
Lloyd Penney

Brent Francis
b-francis@sympatico.ca

Tuesday 11 August 2015

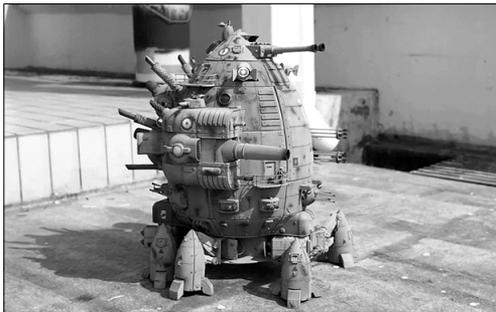
It may not be science fiction (except for what was going on in his head when he came up with the idea), but a legendary (for all the wrong reasons) "lost film" is finally going to get screened.

In 10 years...

Unless he decides to re-shoot...

<http://blogs.indiewire.com/theplaylist/jerry-lewis-the-day-the-clown-cried-added-to-the-library-of-congress-but-with-a-10-year-screening-embargo-20150806>

[See [BCSFAZINE #451](#) for discussion of this movie in the meeting notes.]



Calendar

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

Recurring

7, 14, 21, and 28 June and 5, 12, 19, and 26 July 2015 (*Sundays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Lazy Sundays, 2–3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295–2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 June and 6, 13, 20, and 27 July 2015 (*Mondays*): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5–9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 June and 6, 13, 20, and 27 July 2015 (*Mondays*): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 June and 7, 14, 21, and 28 July 2015 (*Tuesdays*): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5–10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 June and 7, 14, 21, and 28 July 2015 (*Tuesdays*): Vancouver Hack Space Open House, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 June and 7, 14, 21, and 28 July 2015 (*Tuesdays*): Hot Improv Tuesdays at Café Deux Soleils!, 8 PM at Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.—The Fictionals Comedy Co.

3, 10, 17, and 24 June and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 July 2015 (*Wednesdays*): Cloudscape Comics Weekly Meeting, 7:30–11:30 PM at top floor of Memorial South Park's fieldhouse, located inside the park at 5955 Ross Street (at 41st Avenue), Vancouver.—Keith Lim/Julian Castle

4, 11, 18, and 25 June and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 July 2015 (*Thursdays*): Thursday Hobby Build Nights, 6–9 PM at Ages Three and Up Gundam, 226–9855 Austin Road, Burnaby.—A3U Gundam

5, 12, 19, and 26 June and 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 July 2015 (*Fridays*): Magic: The Gathering Friday Night Games, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond.

5, 12, 19, and 26 June and 3, 10, 17, 24 2015 (*Fridays*): Board Gamers: Friday Night Magic, 6:30–9:30 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

5, 12, 19, and 26 June and 3, 10, 17, 24 2015 (*Fridays*): Friday Board Game Night—Drexoll Games, 7–11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 June and 4, 11, 18, and 25 July 2015 (*Saturdays*): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 June and 4, 11, 18, and 25 July 2015 (*Saturdays*): Saturday Jam at the Brownsville Pub, 5:30–9:30 PM at the Brownsville Pub, 11940 Old Yale Road, Surrey.—Greg Cairns

4 June 2015 (*first Thursday*): Drop-In Drawing for Adults: Pick Up a Pencil, 6–9 PM at Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond Cultural Centre, 7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond. (No Drop-In Drawing in July.)

9 June and 14 July 2015 (*second Tuesday*): Meeting of Automotive Model Builders Vancouver, 7 PM at Burnaby Lions Club, 7420 Mulberry Place, Burnaby.

9 June and 14 July 2015 (*second Tuesday*): Monthly Steampunk Coffee Klatch, 7:30–9 PM at Waves Coffee House—Large Private Room, #100–900 Howe Street (@ Smithe), Vancouver.—Keith Lim

3 and 17 June and 1, 15, and 29 July 2015 (*alternate Wednesdays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!, 7–8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

4 and 18 June and 2, 16, and 30 July 2015 (*alternate Thursdays*): Burnaby Sci-Fi Writers' Group, 7–9 PM at Metrotown Public Library, 6100 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, in Program Room or Connections Lounge.—Allan Lowson (on Richmond Writers Network Facebook Group)

11 June and 9 July 2015 (*second Thursday*): Fraser Valley Model Club Monthly Meeting, 7:30–9:30 PM at Kariton House Gallery, 2387 Ware Street, Abbotsford.—Keith Lim

11 June and 9 July 2015 (*second Thursday*): Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup, 7:30–8:30 PM. [No location given.]—Keith Lim

13 June and 11 July 2015 (*second Saturday*): Teen Manga and Anime Group (former name Teen Manga Advisory Group), 3:30–5:30 PM at Harvey Southam Room, Lower Level, Vancouver Public Library Central Branch, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. Free. (No date listed for April.)—Julian Castle

21 June and 19 July 2015 (*third Sunday*): Board Game Swap Meetup, 11 AM–1 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

17 June and 15 July 2015 (*third Wednesday*): Richmond Writes Out Loud Open Mic Night, 7–8:30 PM at Richmond Public Library, Ironwood Branch, #8200–11688 Steveston Highway, Richmond.—Richmond Writes Out Loud

19 June and 17 July 2015 (*third Friday*): IPMS Vancouver Monthly Meeting, 7–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, Second Floor “Arts Room,” 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby.—Keith Lim

20 June and 18 July 2015 (*third Saturday*): Vancouver Comic Jam, 8 PM–late (sometimes ends when Wallflower closes at 1 AM) at the Wallflower Modern Diner, 2420 Main Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

17 June and 15 July 2015 (*third Wednesday*): Richmond BC Writers’ Club Open Mic Night, 7–8:30 PM at Richmond Public Library, Ironwood Branch, Unit 8200, 11688 Steveston Highway, Richmond.

27 June and 25 July 2015 (*last Saturday*): Board Gamers: 12 Hours of Gaming, 12 PM–12 AM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

June 2015

June is National Adopt a Cat Month and Bathroom Reading Month.

2 June 2015: **Lloyd Penney**’s birthday.

3 June 2015: **Karl Johanson**’s birthday.

4 June 2015: Hug Your Cat Day.

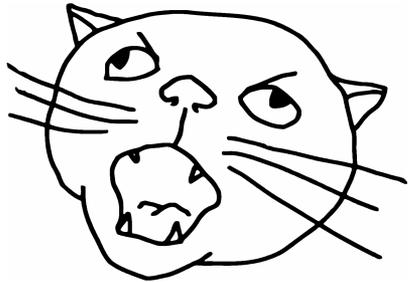
5 June 2015: **Alyssa Foote**’s birthday. Premiere of film *Insidious: Chapter 3* (horror; Dermot Mulroney, Owen the Golden Retriever).

7 June 2015: Vancouver Comic Show, 11 AM–5 PM at Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.

8 June 2015: **Ian Boothby**’s birthday.

11 June 2015: **Ray Seredin** and **Kathleen Moore**’s birthdays.

12 June 2015: Premiere of film *Jurassic World* (SF; Vincent D’Onofrio, BD Wong, Judy Greer, Jimmy Fallon, Brad Bird, Divine Prince Ty Emmecca).



13 June 2015: **Bobbi Schneider**'s birthday.

14 June 2015: Retro and Relevant, 11 AM–3:30 PM at 3102 Main Street, Vancouver.

15 June 2015: **Jay Demetrick**'s birthday.

19 June 2015: Premiere of film *Inside Out* (computer animation; Amy Poehler, Richard Kind, Bill Hader, Lewis Black, Diane Lane, Kyle MacLachlan, Paula Poundstone, Bobby Moynihan, Paula Pell, Frank Oz, Flea, John Ratzenberger, Carlos Alazraqui, Laraine Newman, Jess Harnell).

21 June 2015: Worldwide Party. Toast your fellow zinesters at 21:00.—Dale Speirs

23 June 2015: **Amos Iu**'s birthday.

25 June 2015: **Ed Beauregard**'s birthday.

26 June 2015: **Todd Bussey**'s birthday. Premiere of film *Batkid Begins* (documentary; Miles Scott, Hans Zimmer).

28 June 2015: **Toren Atkinson**'s birthday.

29 June 2015: **Leonard Wong**'s birthday.

30 June 2015: Meteor Watch Day.

July 2015

2 July 2015: **Arnie Katz**'s birthday. World UFO Day.

3 July 2015: Premiere of film *Terminator: Genesys* (SF; Arnold Schwarzenegger, JK Simmons, Courtney B. Vance, Robert “Bigg Sarge” Deon).

5 July 2015: Vancouver Comicon, 11 AM–5 PM at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street, Vancouver. “Special guests: Cary Nord (*Conan, X-O Manowar, Eternal Warrior*), Douglas Wheatley (*Star Wars: Dark Times, King Tiger*), James Stevenson (*WriteLightning*), Alexis Sugden, Beth Wagner. Admission: \$4; kids under 14: free.”

8 July 2015: **Aaron Harrison**'s birthday. Video Games Day.

10 July 2015: Premiere of films *Minions* (computer animation; Sandra Bullock, Jon Hamm, Michael Keaton, Allison Janney, Steve Coogan, Jennifer Saunders, Geoffrey Rush, Steve Carell, Carlos Alazraqui, Jess Harnell, John Kassir, Danny Mann, Laraine Newman, Mindy Sterling, Tara Strong, Jim Ward, Peter Serafinowicz), *The Gallows* (horror), *Self/less* (SF; Ryan Reynolds, Ben Kingsley).

11 July 2015: Vanpla July 2015 Meeting, 1–5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Every month, Vanpla members get together for a build and socialize workshop meet-up. Usual activities include: kits building (bring your own kits and tools), show your proud completed work, technique coaching (feel free to ask), demos and workshops, airbrushing (depending on venue, spray booth may be available, bring your own airbrush/paint/thinner/etc.), access to gunpla graveyard (salvage parts for your project free), group build/event discussion, watching anime, meet new people, chill, and enjoy. We invite everyone to join. See you guys there!”

11–12 July 2015: Videomatica and Zulu Records Sale at Khatahano Street Party, 1974 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver. “Local Vancouver peeps, you’re not going to want to miss this one: [*Saturday and Sunday*] is the Khatahano Street Party, and they’re shutting down the street to traffic in front of Videomatica and Zulu Records. There will be bands playing, and food vendors, and we’re having one of our biggest sales ever, with *boxes and boxes* of DVDs being blown out at three for \$4.99!! Piles of TV season boxsets for that price too! Also, 25% off all new stock, and two for one on all used DVDs over \$4.99.”—Robin Bougie

13 July 2015: Embrace Your Geekness Day.

16 July 2015: **Dennis Kristos**’s birthday.

17 July 2015: Premiere of film *Ant Man* (superhero; Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas, Evangeline Lilly, Judy Greer, John Slattery, Garrett Morris, Stan Lee, Tom Kenny).

17–19 July 2015: Anime Evolution at New Student Union Building, University of British Columbia. “Vancouver’s premier anime convention since 2003 is back next summer in teh brand new Student Union Building!”



17–19 July 2015: Hello Kitty’s Supercute Friendship Festival at Pacific National Exhibition.

20 July 2015: **Julie McGalliard**’s birthday. Moon Day.

22 July 2015: **Evahn Thorsen**’s birthday.

23 July 2015: **Spencer Wilson**’s birthday. Batman Day. Hot Dog Day.

24 July 2015: Premiere of films *Pixels* (SF; Adam Sandler, Kevin James, Peter Dinklage, Josh Gad, Brian Cox, Sean Bean, Dan Aykroyd, Lainie Kazan, Dennis Akiyama, Tim Herlihy, Serena Williams, Robert Smigel, Darryl Hall, John Oates, Matt Frewer) and *The Vatican Tapes* (horror; Djimon Hounsou, Michael Paré, Daniel Bernhardt, Pope Francis, Pope John Paul II).

25 July 2015: **Graeme Cameron**'s birthday.

26 July 2015: *Bolt Action: Barbarossa 1941 Game Demo*, 12–5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Successful in defeating the French and British armies in the west, the might of the German armies turns its eye upon the Russian armies of the east! Multiplayer battle-royale! Bring a 750-point army selected from any theatre 1941 or earlier, and join in to this huge Axis vs. Allies multi-player battle! German and Russian armies selected entirely from the Operation: Barbarossa era theatre selector (1941) gain an additional 250 points to their army list total. Sign up required, eight players maximum. Contact: [Sean Briault](#).”



26 July 2015: *Dude Chilling Picnic Birthday Party and Cinema Sewer Book Launch*, 2 PM at Dude Chilling Park, 2390 Brunswick Street, Vancouver. [*Rescheduled to 9 August 2015 at 3:30 PM.*]—[Robin Bougie](#)

28 July 2015: **Robin Bougie**'s birthday.

31 July 2015: **Felicity Walker**'s birthday. Premiere of film *A LEGO Brickumentary* (documentary; Jason Bateman).

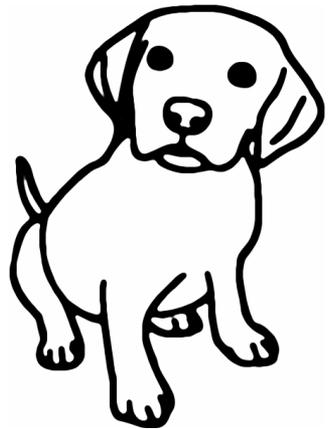
News-Like Matter

Notes from May 2015 BCSFA Meeting

In attendance were Graeme Cameron (chairman/archivist), Barb Dryer (secretary), Kathleen Moore (treasurer), Ray Seredin (host), Felicity Walker (editor), Michael “Fruvous” Bertrand, Julian Castle, Joe Devoy, William Graham, Stewart Smyth, and Sidney Trim.

Kathleen said that Saturday 11 July 2015 is the WCSFA Picnic. (Not VCON-related!) Graeme said that Saturday 23 May 2015 is the CSFFA AGM, 2–4 PM at the Roundhouse (Community Centre). Members may vote in the election and on issues.

Graeme talked about the Sad Puppies. Fru said that up until now SF had managed to avoid the problem that had affected everything else (political polarisation).



Graeme said to Fru, “I ordered a hard copy of your book so I could read it and then I’ll give it to you—every author should have a hard copy of his book so he can admire it on the shelf and say ‘I wrote that!’ ” I would like a hard copy of Fru’s book too.



Ray said that he almost adopted a cat—a kitten he would have named Gizmo. Ray is going to get a job so he can save up money to care for a cat. Ray’s friend Peter Berry was going to move to Vancouver Island but got a job at the airport so is staying here. His neighbours have a Maine coon cat called Mr. Fluffy. In February Mrs. Berry was watching Mr. Fluffy drag home a big mouse. A chihuahua came over and started barking and the next thing she

knew the cat was attacking the dog. The cat won the fight. The dog’s owner came out and got mad at the cat, and the cat just picked up its mouse and walked away. (Thug life!)

Fru saw a list of the most hated comedies on Rotten Tomatoes. The worst of the worst—and you can tell from the title—is *Transylmania*.⁷

I asked Ray for his take on the recent Amtrak accident. Ray’s guess as to why it happened is that the driver was speeding—he forgot there wasn’t a system there yet to sound an alarm or slow the train automatically and he was 21 minutes late and trying to catch up.



This month Stew was dressed like Louis CK.

I didn’t take as many notes this month because the meeting was well-attended and so there were lots of good conversations at once.⁸

Felicity Walker

Additional writing by [Kathleen Moore](#)

Sunday 17 May 2015

2014 Ursa Major Award Winners Announced at Furry Convention in May

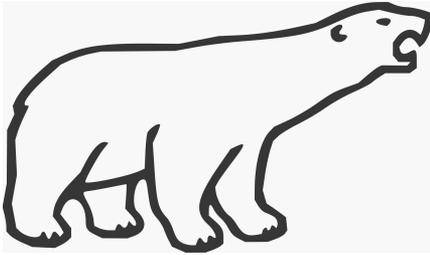
The 2014 Ursa awards, for works of 2014 in eleven categories, were announced at the Morphicon convention in Ohio on 1 May.

The “Ursa Major Awards, are intended to be the furry fandom award for outstanding achievement in anthropomorphic and furry arts, equivalent to the science fiction fandom’s Hugo Awards.” The Ursa Major Awards are a popular-vote award

⁷ (2009). I’ve seen the trailer and it does look terrible.—Future Felicity

⁸ Kathleen adds: “You forgot to mention the refried cheese nobody brought.”—Future Felicity

(anyone may nominate and vote). 2,851 ballots were cast. All voters were required to state what country they were voting from, and about 90 countries were named. Some, such as Care-a-Lot, were obviously fictitious. The most votes came from the United States, followed by Taiwan.



2014 Winners:

(1) Best Motion Picture: *Guardians of the Galaxy*

(2) Best Dramatic Series or Short Work: *Furry Force*, Parts 1 & 2 (College-Humor & Smiley Guy Studios)

(3) Best Novel (40,000 words or more): *Off the Beaten Path*, by Rukis (FurPlanet)

(4) Best Short Fiction (short written works less than 40,000 words): *When a Cat Loves a Dog*, by Mary E. Lowd (in *Five Fortunes*, FurPlanet)

(5) Best Other Literary Work: *Blacksad: Amarillo*, by Juan Díaz Canales & Juanjo Guarnido (graphic novel, English version, Dark Horse)

(6) Best Graphic Story: *My Little Pony: Friendship Is Magic* (#15–26, IDW Publishing)

(7) Best Comic Strip: *Housepets!*, by Rick Griffin (Webcomic)

(8) Best Magazine: *In-Fur-Nation*, edited by Rod O'Riley (Internet)

(9) Best Published Illustration (art for books & such): cover of Midwest FurFest 2014 convention book, by SabretoothedErmine

(10) Best Game: *Pokémon Omega Ruby* and *Alpha Sapphire*

(11) Best Website: FurAffinity (furry art website)

Based on: [Ursa Major Awards](#), [WikiFur](#), and [Flayrah](#).

Julian Castle

Sunday 2 August 2015

We're Heathen Geeks, We Wear No Breeks

Karaj samideanoj,

I decided to get off the pot and arbitrarily declare a meeting. The first Heathen Geeks gathering will be this Saturday at 7:00 at the White Spot on Kingsway near the crossing with King Edward Avenue. Can you come? There is parking.

Yours,

Garth Spencer

Garth (Van) Spencer

Tuesday 4 August 2015

Coleen Gray (1922–2015)

American actress, died 3 August, aged 92. Screen appearances include *The Vampire* (1957), *The Leech Woman* (1960), and *The Phantom Planet* (1961).

Steve Green

Tuesday 4 August 2015

Cool: Save Us, Electron Boy!

Michael Bertrand

This will make your heart happy.

Most little boys (and not a few of us grown men) wish they could be superheroes. But thanks to the Make-a-Wish Foundation in Seattle, for one sick little boy, that dream came true.

Erik Martin, thirteen years old, has liver cancer. His wish was to be a superhero for a day. And hundreds of people in Seattle, including the Seattle Sounders and many other local celebrities, all came together to make that dream come true in a truly epic and amazing way.

I won't try to recap all the awesome things they did here. Read the article.

But during his special day, Erik got to save the Seattle Sounders, rescue some power workers, and defeat the nefarious machinations of Doctor Dark and Blackout Boy.

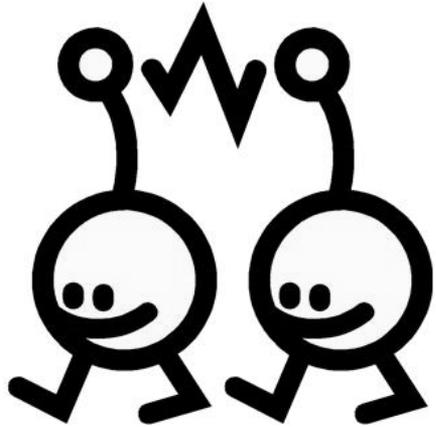
To all the people in Seattle who made this the most amazing and wonderful day in this sick little boy's life, you are all heroes of the highest caliber. Seattle was already one of the coolest cities in the USA, but this takes that coolness up to a level never before considered possible by science.

Excuse me, I have to go rescue Happy Tears Boy from Eye Jail.

Michael Bertrand

The Million Word Year

Friday 30 April 2010



Odd: Spider Man and Two Jedi Knights Thwart 'X-Men' Theft

Michael Bertrand

Heads up, true believers! Because you are about to read about the most spine-tingling, pulse-pounding, action-packed adventure of Spidey and his Jedi pals ever to hit the news wires!

A malignant miscreant thought he'd take advantage of the chaos on last Saturday's "Free Comic Book Day" in an Australian comic book shop to help himself to the display copy of *The X-Men Omnibus*, worth a cool one hundred and fifty simoleans!

Luckily for us lovers of truth, justice, and good things in general, the store's owner, who just happened to be dressed up as everybody's favorite web-slingin' wonder Spider-Man for Free Comic Book Day, witnessed the cut-rate criminal stuff the titanic tome into his bag, so he followed the would-be thief for a little while and

then confronted him, grabbing the dastardly deviant’s bag and opening it to reveal the proof of his nefarious crime!



At the same time, our stalwart Spidey substitute shouted for someone to block the front door, and it just happened that the closest people were two Jedi Knights in full costume, complete with light sabers, who quickly moved to block the scurrilous scalywag’s only avenue of escape!

The authorities were summoned, and the boys in blue took the thwarted thief away to face justice for his crime. And there was much rejoicing.

Crime never sleeps, true believers, but this thief didn’t count on two things:

(1) The ever-vigilant members of the Jedi Order being willing and able to stop him from escaping, and

(2) The timely intervention of your ever-lovin’ friendly neighborhood Spider-Man.

So until the next time evil crawls up from the gutters to threaten the innocent comic shops of the world and once more the forces of good and justice have to emerge from the shadows and do battle with the forces of bad and nasty, *excelsior!*

Michael Bertrand

The Million Word Year

Tuesday 4 May 2010

E-Zines Received

‘Auroran Lights’ #6 (March 2012)—Published by R. Graeme Cameron, Apartment 72G–13315 104 Avenue, Surrey, BC, V3T 1V5, rgraeme@shaw.ca. [eFanzines](#). “The Fannish E-Zine of the Canadian Science Fiction & Fantasy Association—Dedicated to Promoting the Prix Aurora Awards and the History of Canadian Fandom.”

“Editorial”; “CSFFA News & Announcements”; “Fabled Fandom News & Notes” (CUFF; CFFA); “Stuttering Stratospheric Static” (LOC—Lloyd Penney); “Terribly Important Stuff.”

Layout criticism: PDF zines should be single-column or landscape format, so that the reader does not have to scroll up and down a page to follow an article.

‘Space Cadet’ #18 (March 2012)—Published by R. Graeme Cameron, Apartment 72G–13315 104 Avenue, Surrey, BC, V3T 1V5, rgraeme@shaw.ca. [eFanzines](#). “(Or: The Aging Old Fhart Nostalgic Time Waster Gazette.)”

“Loin Ripped Asunder!”/“Loin Obsessing Time”/“Loin Rejoining the Rest of Me”: The loin trilogy! I’m so glad to be reviewing this in the future when I know Graeme is still OK.

“Collector or Hoarder?” Archivist! Curator! Preserver for posterity. My book collection probably won’t be worth much if and when I try to liquidate it, but on the other hand, there are books from as recently as the 1980s that I’d like to collect that are expensive (two to three figures).

“Delirium Time”: Hearing about dreams can be boring, so when I talk about my dreams, I try to summarize them or only tell people about dreams in which they appeared. Graeme’s Godzilla and VCON dreams were awesome and hilarious, though.

Also: “A Pocket Full of Histories: Coin Notes” (Tara Wayne); “Letters of Comment: Ook, Ook, Slobber Drool!”; “Colophon.”

‘Swill’ #13 (Spring 2012)—Published by Neil Jamieson-Williams, swill@uldunemedia.ca, <http://swill.uldunemedia.ca/>.

“Editorial: Well, Some of It Was True...”: My favourite part of this editorial was the history of trends and changes in the genre from the 1940s to 1980s—the rise and fall of various media and subgenres. Neil says “cyberpunk is now dated and passé.” I prefer to think of it as retro, not dead.

“Flogging a Dead Trekkie: Typical Fans”: These definitions work.

“Scribbling on the Bog Wall: Letters of Comment”: Lloyd Penney: I’m glad to hear that traditional fandom and zine fandom will continue to exist as niches. I like Neil’s term “paleodigital era.” The “Upper Paleodigital from 1981–1995” is my favourite of the paleodigital eras listed.

Also: “Thrashing Trufen: A Thorough Tolchocking”; “Pissing on a Pile of Old Amazings: A Modest Column by Lester Rainsford”; “Endnote: Survey Says...”

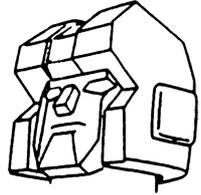
‘The Frenetic Fanac Review’ #1 (April 2012)—Published by R. Graeme Cameron, Apartment 72G–13315 104 Avenue, Surrey, BC, V3T 1V5, rgraeme@shaw.ca. [eFanzines](#). Zine reviews.

“Canadian Fanzines”: “BCSFAzine #466”: Thanks for the nice review! I’ll relay your praise to Michael Bertrand. I also liked “I try not to think of numbers of readers, but of the one person I am writing for. And that person is whom? Have no idea, but I hope he/she has lots of clones.”

“Broken Toys #1”: I will get around to reviewing or LOCing Tara’s zines eventually.

“One Swell Foop #6”: “I had realized as far back as Sunday school that every religion claims to be the ‘true’ religion exclusive of all others, so obviously they can’t ‘all’ be true, and it was more than likely therefore that ‘none’ of them were true.” To quote Mark Knopfler, “Two men say they’re Jesus; one of them must be wrong.”

Out of space! To be continued.



Art Credits

Brad Foster	Cover
Clip art (via Dave Haren).....	Pages 1–7
Clip art.....	Pages 10, 16, 18
Felicity Walker (photos).....	Pages 12, 14 (right)
Clip art (via Robin Bougie).....	Page 13 (left)
Clip art (via Clker.com).....	Pages 13 (right), 14 (left), 15
Clip art [<i>Spider-Man</i> (スパイダーマン) (1978) screenshot].....	Page 17