

BCSFA Zine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#454

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March 2011



"LIGHTNING" DRAGON

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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, PNG, or PSD format, and offers printed contributors' copies as long as the club budget allows.

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This Month in BCSFA

- Sunday 20 March @ 7 PM: **BCSFA meeting**—at Joe, Julian, Fruvous, and Felicity's apartment, #209-8351 Francis Road, Richmond. Near intersection of Number One Road and Francis Road, behind Seafair Mall. Call 604-448-8814 for directions.
- Thursday 24 March @ 7 PM: **March 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 *Boneshaker* by Cherrie Priest.—[Doug Finnerty](#)
- Friday 25 March: **'BCSFAzine' production** (theoretically).

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 Asse (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_asse/) and BCSFAnet (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bcsfanet/>).

Letters of Comment

[*Editor's responses in brackets.*]

Dave Haren

tyrbolo@comcast.net

Tuesday 1 March 2011

Hi Felicity,

First a bit of science I stumbled across:

http://www.archive.org/details/voyager_science_summary

You can find a lot of Betty Boop cartoons on the same site.



It is worth your time to dig around whatever your special interests.

Their live performance music section has the premier assembly for Grateful Dead fans.

Dating myself I also found some great live Frank Zappa and Ian Tyson on YouTube.

The fan who was raised on post apocalyptic world fiction might want to stop by thoughtmaybe.com and watch a few documentaries.

[*Hey, Amos!*]

I happen to like Derrick Jensen myself, but he suffers from the usual problem young people who are passionately engaged have.

[*What's that?*]

One of the reasons I bring this up is that fandom used to be the arena in which social changes were examined, debated, and argued at length, relatively freed from the constraints of vested interest in maintaining social stability. Being spoonfed the official view through controlled media might be OK for the happy prole of 1984, but those who range a universe of possibility are going to have to do some passionate talking to convince me they are supposed to be passive believers in the flawed status quo.

CJ Cherryh has expressed similar views.

I also ran across some revisionist history. It appears from it that the US won the war in Việt Nam twice.

Now that seems very strange since the whole world has been assuming that it was a great military defeat.

So who is this heretical character who dares to question the official story? Võ Nguyễn Giáp, the military commander of North Việt Nam's forces during the wars against the south.

So it turns out that the media (holy icon of truth in the moderne age) seems to have made a teensy mistake.

I think they are spinning themselves first, then trying to infotain you into passivity, without looking far enough ahead to see the consequences.

Today I saw a really cute idea that works in a very interesting way. It turns out that if you coat a specimen with microscopic nanoscale transparent beads, they can

lens the photon waves into enough light to make nanoscale objects visible to an ordinary high powered microscope. Best of all this can be done to living matter. The usual requirements of vacuum and electroplating for electron beam scopes make it hard to examine live stuff without alterations.

The loss of the Brigadier is a sore one for me, he was my favorite *Doctor Who* character in those scenes I remember when the Doctor is mentioned.

Regards,
Dave Haren

Michael Bertrand
fruvousfox@gmail.com

Saturday 19 March 2011

Another month, another LOC. Seems like only yesterday that it was 24 hours ago. It was a simpler and more innocent time back then.

And speaking of simpler and more innocent times, already, even though the Japan quake is not yet two weeks old, re-reading the last *BSCFAzine* from before the quake seems like taking a trip to a safer and simpler world. Amongst many other things, the Japan quake and tsunami has vividly illustrated to us that, despite our human hubris, Mother Nature can still kick our ass any time she wants and all we can do is pick up the pieces afterward. What with Haiti, then Christchurch, and now eastern Japan, I am beginning to get the feeling that this new Greatest Generation's enemy will not be a new Hitler, but Mother Nature herself.

I am not sure I like their chances.

Glad VCon has a hotel and it's even in Richmond again this year. I guess our proximity to the airport gives us an unusually high density of hotels that can do events. The new place sounds pretty cool. Party on, Wayne!

One note: they are letting us have a party floor, but are they letting us put up flyers for parties? That's been the sticking point lately.

Well, enough from me. Now, back over to our lovely weather lady Felicity, with the weekend forecast. Felicity?

[*Thanks, Fru. Let's see what "Mother Nature herself" has for us today.*]



Uh-oh.

Lloyd Penney
1706-24 Eva Rd.,
Etobicoke, On.
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penneys@allstream.net

Wednesday 2 March 2010

Dear Felicity:

Thanks once again for another *BCSFazine*, this time issue 453. I might be tackling this a little early, but just recently more than 25 issues of assorted fanzines were downloaded by me, who should know better, and I must respond to them all. Gotta go fast! Punch it, Chewie...

[*Glarglargo!*!]

My LOC...the eBooks and short stories that I said I would read on my old Palm Tungsten are all on the 1 GB SD card that the Palm takes. If I was to buy a reader, and they all seem to be in the vicinity of \$150 to \$200, I would want one with an SD port in it, at least. I wouldn't mind an adaptor so a USB drive could be connected to it. I have a couple of 16 GB thumbdrives I could fill up.

[*I've accumulated a lot of rare and obscure things on VHS lately and am hoping that a USB VCR comes out, analogous to the USB turntables that digitize records into MP3s.*]

Hey, it's not SF, but *The King's Speech* was a great movie, and now, it has won four little golden guys named Oscar. It won for best movie and best actor, too. Well done! Perhaps it will return to the theatres for another run.

We've nominated for the Auroras, and I hope that the new nominator registration system in place will help to cut back on past abuse. We look forward to the final ballot to see if the changes have taken effect, and see how we do the final vote. Mail-in ballot? Electronic ballot and vote via PayPal? Also, we have also voted on TAFF; we will find out those results in a couple of months, I believe.

I hope everyone will support the BC Renaissance Faire...out here, we've lost both the Ontario and Casa Loma Ren Faires, so help to keep what you've got. Capt. Rackham and crew could use all the help you can give them.

Taral's essay on fandom allows me to look at fandom, not just its width and breadth, but its length, in terms of time. Fandom is now about 80 years old, going back to its beginnings around 1930. The people who were fans at that time certainly wouldn't see us as fans; not even the fans of the 1970s would see us that way. It carried on before us, and it will carry on past us. Will there be a fandom in 20 years? Hard to tell. I hope there will be, but we may not recognize it as such.

All done for the moment. My greetings to the membership, and hope some of you are going to Reno for the Worldcon this fall? Hope I'll be there, too!

Yours,

Lloyd Penney

RANDOM NOSTALGIA

**THE AMC GREMLIN
ATARI-COMPATIBLE JOYSTICK PORTS
HYUNDAI COMPUTERS**

Scott Green
sgreen@grolen.com

Saturday 5 March 2011

Dear Ms. Walker;

I do two blogs that cover paying markets for sf/f/h poetry and flash fic, www.greenrepoetry.blogspot.com and www.examiner.com/poetry-in-manchester/scott-green. Some of your members may find the blogs to be of interest.

Sincerely,
Scott E. Green

We Also Heard From: Steve Green, Joseph Picard, Garth Spencer.

Calendar

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

March 2011

March is Craft Month, Expanding Girls' Horizons in Science and Engineering Month, Humorists Are Artists Month, Irish Heritage Month, March into Literacy Month, and Small Press Month.

1 March and 5 April 2011: Greater Vancouver Boardgames Meetup Group Monthly Meetup, 7 PM [location shown only to members of the Meetup group]. The games played depend on what everyone brings. If there is a game that you would like to play let it be known and we'll see if someone can bring it. Also if you have a great game to share we're always excited to try it out. \$1.—[Keith Lim](#)

3 March 2011: If Pets Had Thumbs Day.

3 March 2011: Klingon Yoga!, 7 PM at Elisa's Yoga Studio, 6170 East Boulevard, Vancouver, BC. "If you're going to wield a batleH or charge on board an enemy battleship you'd better be fit and limber. Learn some vocabulary and command pre-fixes and work your SomrawDu' all in one stop."—[Keith Lim](#)

4 March 2011: Premiere of films *Rango* (animation; Johnny Depp, Timothy Olyphant, Bill Nighy, Alfred Molina, Ned Beatty, Harry Dean Stanton, Stephen Root, Ian Abercrombie), *The Adjustment Bureau* (SF; Matt Damon, Terrence Stamp; from the short story by Philip K. Dick) and *Beastly* (fantasy; Neil Patrick Harris, Mary-Kate Olsen, Lisa Gay Hamilton).

4–6 March 2011: Year-End Sale at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond, 604-273-4427, <http://www.imperialhobbies.ca/>.—[Julian Castle](#)

5 March 2011: Klingon Meetup: lut DJja' ["There's a Targ on the Ship": a storytelling meeting], 6:30 PM at Robyn's place, near 33rd and Knight, Vancouver, BC. "This is a meeting of most benefit to advanced Klingon language speakers, but all are welcome. Write a story, in Klingon, on the topic ('There's a Targ on the Ship') before the meeting and be prepared to read it out loud and listen to others' stories at the meeting. Emphasis is on improving pronunciation, learning shipboard vocabulary, and developing grammar and comprehension skills. No actual storytelling talent is required, but the stories at the February 12th meeting were hilarious. If this meeting is at a poor time or date for you, but you still want to participate, e-mail your story (a couple sentences still counts as a story) to Qov and we'll read it at the meeting. Also tell us a better day/time to schedule the next meeting, so you can come in person."—Keith Lim

6 March 2011: BC Browncoats: Thrilling Dance Rehearsal 3/Are You a Reaver or a Cheerio?, 4–5 PM at La Fontana Caffe, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Rehearsal for Thrill the World 2011 (Sat. 29 Oct. 2011). "This is our third rehearsal. So far we've learned lessons 1 to 3, up to #16 of the instructional videos. This time we will spend one hour and learn lesson 4, which is #17–20 of the instructional videos. If you have not been able to come to our previous rehearsals, check out the video clips online to get caught up and join in now! We'll meet again on Apr. 3, May 1 and May 29 to continue learning the dance, so mark your calendars."—Keith Lim

8 March 2011: *The Walking Dead* season one released on DVD and Blu-Ray.—Julian Castle

9 March 2011: 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

10 March and 14 April 2011: Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup, 7:30 PM at HR MacMillan 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.

11 March 2011: **Cameron Russell's** birthday. Premiere of films *Battle: Los Angeles* (SF/action; Aaron Eckhardt), *Red Riding Hood* (fantasy; Gary Oldman, Virginia Madsen), and *Mars Needs Moms* (animation; Seth Green, Joan Cusack, Breckin Meyer, Billy Dee Williams; Mindy Sterling; from the book by Berkeley Breathed).

13 March 2011: Daylight Saving Time at 2:00 AM—adjust your clock one hour forward.

14 March 2011: Pi Day.

14 March 2011: Pi Day—watch *Waitress* at La Fontana, 6:30 PM at La Fontana Caffè, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. [Details to be announced.]—[Keith Lim](#)

15 March 2011: Ides of March. Season finale of *V*, guest-starring Marc Singer!

16 March 2011: Freedom of Information Day.

17 March 2011: St. Patrick's Day. Premiere of films *Limitless* (thriller; Robert De Niro, Bradley Cooper, Robert John Burke) and *Paul* (SF/comedy; Simon Pegg, Nick Frost, Seth Rogen, Jane Lynch, Kristen Wiig, Jason Bateman, Sigourney Weaver, Blythe Danner, Bill Hader, Jeffrey Tambor, David Koechner).

18 March 2011: [IPMS meeting](#), 7:30–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, 2nd Floor “Arts Room,” 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby.

20 March 2011: International Earth Day/(Festival of) Extraterrestrial Abductions Day.

20 March 2011: Vancouver Comicon, 11:00 AM–5:00 PM at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main St. (near Main & 15th Ave.), 604-322-6412. Admission: \$4.00; kids under 14: free. Dealer tables: \$45/centre; \$55/wall. Featured artists: Steve Rolston (*Ghost Projekt*, *Emiko Superstar*), Ken Boesem (*The Village*), Derek DeLand (*Swell*, *Copyright Infringers*), Kim Glennie (*Emily and Zola*, *Girls' Room*), Matthew Ocasio (*The Matter*), Andrew Salmon (*Sherlock Holmes*, *Secret Agent X*), Craig Wilson (*Jimmy Ricochet*), Jenna Sokalski, Gurukitty Studios, and others! Hourly door prizes! Comics for Classrooms: donate a new or gently-used school-appropriate graphic novel for free admission to this show. Books collected will be donated to Vancouver schools.—Leonard Wong

25 March 2011: Premiere of film *Sucker Punch* (fantasy; Carla Gugino, Jon Hamm).

26 March 2011: Memorial service for Chuck Davis, 2–4 PM at the Hotel Vancouver, Pacific Ballroom.—Fran Skene

27 March 2011: National “Joe” Day.

[27 March](#) and [24 April](#) 2011: [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](#)

29 March 2011: (Festival of) Smoke and Mirrors Day.

31 March 2011: Bunsen Burner Day.

April 2011

1 April 2011: **Dean McGee's** birthday. April Fool's Day. Premiere of films *The Source Code* (SF/action; Jake Gyllenhaal, Jeffrey Wright, Russell Peters, Scott Bakula), *Insidious* (horror/fantasy; Patrick Wilson, Barbara Hershey), *Super* (superhero/comedy; Rainn Wilson, Ellen Page, Liv Tyler, Kevin Bacon, Michael Rooker, Linda Cardellini, Nathan Fillion, Rob Zombie, Lloyd Kaufman, William Katt), *Hop* (computer animation/funny animal; James Marsden, Russell Brand, Hank Azaria, Gary Cole, Elizabeth Perkins, Hugh Laurie, David Hasselhoff, Hugh Hefner), and *Rubber* (horror/comedy; Stephen Spinella, Wings Hauser, Daniel Quinn).

1–3 April 2011: Trumpeter Salute Convention [Venue TBA].—Keith Lim

2 April 2011: **Colin Upton's** birthday.

3 April 2011: BC Browncoats: Thrilling Dance Rehearsal 4, 4–5 PM at La Fontana Caffè, 3701 Hastings (at Boundary), Burnaby, BC, V5C 2H6. Rehearsal for Thrill the World 2011 (Sat, 29 Oct, 2011). “We’ve had three rehearsals so far and have mastered up to and including lesson 4, which is the first 20 of the instructional videos so far. This time we will spend one hour to learn lessons 5 & 6, which is #21–28 of the instructional videos. If you have not been able to come to our previous rehearsals, check out the video clips online to get caught up and join in now! We’ll meet again on May 1 and May 29 to learn the rest of the dance, so mark your calendars.”—Keith Lim

8 April 2011: Premiere of film *Your Highness* (fantasy/comedy; Danny McBride, James Franco, Natalie Portman, Justin Theroux, Zooey Deschanel, Charles Dance, Charles Shaughnessy).

11 April 2011: **Jennifer Hawe's** birthday.

12 April 2011: Russian Cosmonaut Day.

14–17 April 2011: Creation Entertainment's Stargate SG-1/Atlantis Convention at Hilton Metrotown Burnaby, 6083 McKay Avenue, Burnaby, BC. Every year *Stargate* fans from around the world convene in Vancouver for four days and nights of fun. It is like a family reunion (without the bickering). Here we close the Gate on the outside world and celebrate the amazing performers and creators that have given us so much entertainment.—Keith Lim

15 April 2011: Premiere of films *Scream 4* (or “*Scream*”) (horror; Anna Paquin, Neve Campbell, David Arquette, Courteney Cox, Rory Culkin, Heather Graham) and *Rio* (computer animation/funny animal; Jesse Eisenberg, Wanda Sykes, Jane Lynch, Jamie Foxx, Will.i.am, Anne Hathaway, Thomas F. Wilson, George Lopez, Judah Friedlander, Tracy Morgan).

15 April 2011: IPMS meeting, 7:30–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, 2nd Floor “Arts Room,” 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby.

17 April 2011: **Carolyn Clink**’s birthday.

17 April 2011: BC Browncoats: Big Damn TBA [venue to be announced]. “Start working on your ‘Shindig’ costumes. We’re going to have ourselves a fancy-dress affair! Details TBA.”—Keith Lim

23 April 2011: World Laboratory (Animal) Day.

25 April 2011: **Steve Green**’s birthday.

26 April 2011: Richter Scale Day.

29 April 2011: **Robert J. Sawyer** and **Trevor Hoffert**’s birthdays. Royal Wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton. Premiere of films *Dylan Dog: Dead of Night* (horror/mystery; Brandon Routh, Sam Huntington, Peter Stormare, Taye Diggs, Kurt Angle; from the comic by Tiziano Sclavi) and *Hoodwinked Too! Hood vs. Evil* (computer animation/fantasy/comedy; Joan Cusack, Bill Hader, Patrick Warburton, Glenn Close, Amy Poehler, Brad Garrett, Martin Short, Cheech Marin, Phil LaMarr, David Ogden Stiers, Tommy Chong, Andy Dick, David Alan Grier, Tress MacNeille, Debra Wilson).

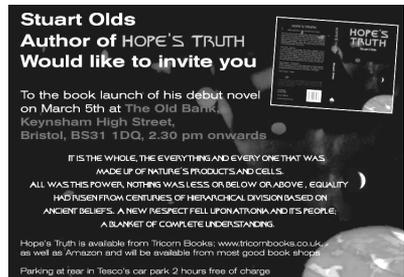
News-Like Matter

‘Hope’s Truth’ Book Launch

Dear Garth and all at BCSFA,

Please find attached an invite to my debut book launch. Click on Tricorn Books to read more about this new sci fi genre, eco sci-fi.

Kind regards,
Stuart Olds
Author



Stuart Olds

Forwarded by Garth Spencer

Thursday 10 February 2011

Cthulhupalooza Photos and the ‘20 Minutes of Oxygen’ Video

Hi folks! Toren from Second Level Wizards/The Darkest of the Hillside Thickets here. If you made it to Cthulhupalooza II and you took photos, we’d love to see them. Please email us at info@secondlevelwizards.com and let us know where we can stare at them! Thanks, and thanks for coming to the show and supporting local weirdos!

If you missed the show, and would like to see what all the fuss is about with the “20 Minutes of Oxygen” video, here’s a link: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Darkest-of-the-Hillside-Thickets/135093247264>.

Toren Atkinson

Saturday 19 February 2011

Notes from February BCSFA Meeting

In attendance were Kathleen Moore (hostess and treasurer), Barb Dryer (secretary), Felicity Walker (editor), Julian Castle, and Ray Seredin.

We talked about places to get *BCSFazine* printed now that Office Depot has gone out of business. Kathleen reminded us that when Garth Spencer was editor, he went to Copies Plus on West Broadway. [*In the end I went to Speedy Copy on Maycrest Way, Richmond, who were closer to me than Copies Plus, and who printed a free sample copy of #453.—Future Felicity*]

I suggested that Wil Wheaton have a brand of crackers called “Wheatons.”

Ray remembered that there used to be a brand of tea called Happy Time that got you high. It was outlawed in the 1970s. Ray added that Washington State is about to legalize marijuana, and that the Partnership for a Drug-Free America is having their convention opposite Norwescon next year.

Ray reported that his ceiling is still “venting” but that we could have the next meeting there, as long as we didn’t mind the smell of gasoline. His building is thinking of taking legal action against the company that installed the new ceiling. [*See “Ray’s Rec Room Ceiling Update.”—Future Felicity*]

Barb said that Ed Hutchings was in the hospital and could be reached via Sidney Trim’s cell phone or the hospital’s mailing address. She gave Felicity a note with detailed directions and contact information. [*Ed has now passed away. See “The Passing of Dr. Lo Fog AKA Ed Hutchings.”—Future Felicity*]

According to Ray, if the US government cuts PBS’s funding, the FCC will say that commercial stations have to air two hours per day of non-commercial programming.

Ray said that the episode of *Fringe* that would normally air on Friday 4 March 2011 will be pre-empted for the 42nd annual NAACP Image Awards. He added that the one show that will never be pre-empted is *America’s Most Wanted*, especially the annual Nazi-hunting episode. Ray thinks he might have lived next door to a Nazi once; also Gitanos (Mexican Gypsies).

Julian said that at the CSIS (Canadian Security Intelligence Service) gift shop (!), agents have been cautioned not to let the public see the logo on the stuff they bought at the shop. Ray replied that the government wants CSIS to lease space in a privately-owned building.

Julian reported that scientists John Matese and Daniel Whitmire of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette think they’ve found another planet in our solar system, a gas giant four times the mass of Jupiter. It would be located in the Oort cloud, its orbit 15,000 times farther away from the Sun than Earth’s. Its name is Tyche. Ray added that Neil deGrasse Tyson hosts *Nova*.

Regarding the inquiry (in *BCSFazine* #450) from Baron Wolfden about the Susan and Michael Walsh’s contact information, Kathleen said that if he hasn’t already tracked them down, she would tell Susan in person the next time she saw

her. Kathleen bought a copy of *BCSFazine* #450 to give the Walshes. Barb also bought a copy of the latest issue.

Felicity Walker
Sunday 20 February 2011

**More Steampunk from Book View Café:
'Shadow Conspiracy II' Includes Story from Philip K. Dick Award Winner**

(National) 23 February 2011—In this follow up anthology to *Shadow Conspiracy I*, Book View Café serves up eleven brand new tales of adventure and intrigue in the age of steam. BVC authors offer eleven different scenarios based on the Ada Lovelace/Charles Babbage premise introduced in the first collection. The soul of a poet who would be king continues to seek immortality. Will it find a home, and if so, will that home be flesh or steel?

Shadow Conspiracy II has all the gadgets, adventure and romance of the steampunk promise with an added bonus: the volume includes a story from the 2010 Philip K. Dick Award-winning C.L. Anderson. Campbell Award nominee Katharine Eliska Kimbriel and World Fantasy Award nominee Judith Tarr have also donated stories.

You can find *Shadow Conspiracy II* in the Kindle store (\$4.99): <http://www.amazon.com/Shadow-Conspiracy-II-ebook/dp/B004OEIMR6/>.

Or in multiple formats at the publisher's website (\$4.99): <http://www.bookviewcafe.com/index.php/The-Shadow-Conspiracy-II-edited-by-Radford-and-Bohnhoff>.

Sue Lange
Wednesday 23 February 2011

EDGE News Update

Hi—if you have the opportunity to share our news, could you do so? Thanks!

Oscar Winner Designs Cover of New Sherlock Holmes Anthology

(Calgary, Alberta) Dave Elsey, this year's Oscar winner with Rick Baker for Best Makeup (for their work on *The Wolfman*), is the cover artist of the new Sherlock Holmes anthology *Gaslight Arcanum: Uncanny Tales of Sherlock Holmes*, edited by Charles Prepolec and J. R. Campbell, scheduled for release by EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing in Fall of 2011.

Janice Shoultz
Marketing and Events Director
EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing
Forwarded by Garth Spencer
Thursday 3 March 2011

BCSFA Book Discussion Group Update

Dear Felicity:

Here's notice on the next book discussion.

Next book discussion will be on Thursday March 24 @ 7 PM. Happening at "The Grind" gallery and coffee house, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver. This time,

we're discussing *Boneshaker* by Cherie Priest. April's book is *The Windup Girl* by Paolo Bacigalupi. May's book is *Solaris* by Stanislaw Lem.

Doug Finnerty

Wednesday 9 March 2011

Ed Hutchings Is Making His Last Trip Home

Ed's ashes left Amherst Cremation Care Services yesterday morning to wing their way home to his nephew Dave's in Pentanguishine, Ontario. Ed will be buried in the Hutchings family plot in Barrie, Ontario (after spring thaw).

Deb (that would be me) is still asking all his friends to look through their photo albums, video libraries, and publications for Ed things to share at a Celebration of Life, to be held sometime in June or July of this year in Vancouver—likely UBC.

It was Ed's wishes that we all get together, reconnect with old friends, make some new ones, and celebrate Dr. Lo Fog and various other incarnations of Ed in BCSFA and Film Soc. as well as his other many and varied interests—mathematics, Linux computers, Volunteer Grandparents, pipe organs, French comic books, obscure and bad Science Fiction books, and oboes. ☺

I have been contacted these last few weeks by many of Ed's friends who were shocked and dismayed at his death. As his executrix (hastily arranged a few days before his passing), it falls to me to clear up his earthly business—file his final taxes, pay his final bills, take care of his final remains—but so much of Ed still lives on!

If you have memories—and memorabilia—please let either myself or Susan Walsh know—we are collecting things to share at the memorial. And please pass the word to others who knew Ed and would want to know of his passing.

Debbie Miyashita—debbiem@sunwave.net

Susan Walsh—mswalsh@shaw.ca

Hope to see you all at his send-off!

Debbie Miyashita

Saturday 12 March 2011

Ray's Rec Room Ceiling Updates

I just found out that it's snowing (i.e. the "new" ceiling is now flaking off) in my building's rec room. So please pass this on to the guys, since we'll likely be holding BCSFA meetings at "Nerdvana" for quite a while to come.

Cosmic Ray

Raymond Seredin

Monday 14 March 2011

Ceiling down!

I got more bad news on the rec room's ceiling. A fairly large part of it fell down about an hour ago. The good news is that a crew is coming within the next few weeks to remove and replace it, but to be on the safe side we should schedule the April BCSFA meeting at Nerdvana.

Cosmic Ray Seredin

Raymond Seredin

Monday 14 March 2011

Michael Gough (1917–2011)

Veteran British actor, died today, aged 95 (although there is some confusion about his year of birth, and he may have been 94).

His numerous genre appearances include *Horrors of the Black Museum* (1959), *Konga* (1961), *The Phantom of the Opera* (1962), *Dr. Terror's House of Horrors* (1965), *Doctor Who* (TV, 1966 & 1983), *They Came from Beyond Space* (1967), *Trog* (1967), *Horror Hospital* (1973), *Satan's Slave* (1976), *Batman* (1989; he reprised the role of Alfred in the three sequels), *Sleepy Hollow* (1999), *Alice In Wonderland* (2010) and *All-Star Superman* (2011).

Steve Green

Thursday 17 March 2011

Minutes of West Coast Science Fiction Association AGM 2011-02-27

A PDF version of the minutes from the West Coast Science Fiction Association (WCSFA) Annual General Meeting of Sunday 27 February 2011 can be obtained from the WCSFA web site at http://www.wcsfa.org/agm_minutes/WCSFA-AGM_2011-02-27.pdf.

The West Coast Science Fiction Association is the parent association for VCON. If you attended VCON 35 or have bought a ticket to VCON 36 you are currently a member of WCSFA. If you did not and have not and do not intend to buy tickets this year you may become a voting member of WCSFA by paying a \$5 membership fee—contact the WCSFA President, Jenni Merrifield, at wcsfa.president@jamm.com if you are interested in this option.

VCON Co-Vice Chair

Friday 18 March 2011

Other Media News

Abraham Lincoln, Vampire Hunter—in 3D!—is written by Seth Grahame-Smith (adapting his novel), directed by Timur Bekmambetov, produced by Tim Burton, and stars Benjamin Walker as Lincoln and Trent Reznor as the vampire who kills Lincoln's mother. The score is also composed by Reznor. Premieres in movie theatres Friday 22 June 2012.

Canadian actor Eric McCormack is filming a new supernatural horror movie in Vancouver. WWE Studios' *Barricade* is about a recently-widowed psychiatrist who takes his children on vacation and is terrorized by unseen forces. McCormack's last genre production in BC was the 1950s B-movie parody *Alien Trespass* in 2009.

Dreamworks has optioned a script by J. Michael Straczynski called *Voices from the Dead*, in which (real-life) friends Harry Houdini and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle team up with a psychic to solve mysteries in 1920s New York. This reminds me of the 1992 William Shatner novel *Believe*, which was about Houdini and Doyle's attitudes towards the supernatural. Meanwhile, Syfy is making *Among the Spirits*, a series about Houdini and Doyle solving bizarre murders and mysteries in 1920s New York. Adapted from the graphic novel by Steve Valentine and Paul Chart, Syfy calls

it “turn-of-the-century *Fringe*.” I need to get around to drawing my “Lovecraftian Scooby Doo” comic.

Felicity Walker

Credits: [Cassie White/The Buzz](#); [TV Week](#); [Crave On-Line](#)

Friday 4–Saturday 26 March 2011

‘Cartoonishly Nasty’: DC Comics vs. Joanne Siegel (R.I.P.), Her Ill Daughter and the Rest of Siegel & Shuster Estates

Spotted in Friday’s *Globe and Mail* (found references in pieces not written on an April Fools Day, so seems legit).

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/arts/movies/liam-lacey/its-a-bird-its-a-plane-its-a-struggling-superman-movie/article1965392/>:

“Liam Lacey: Behind the Screens

“It’s a bird! It’s a plane! It’s a struggling Superman movie!

“LIAM LACEY

“ ...

“Published Friday, Apr. 01, 2011...

“ ...

“Last Sunday, Nikki Fink’s scoop site, Deadline Hollywood, released part of a letter from the recently deceased Joanne Siegel, the widow of Superman co-creator Jerry Siegel (and inspiration for Lois Lane), imploring media giant Time-Warner not to pursue its current legal actions against her and her ill daughter. The lawsuit, which *The Hollywood Reporter* called a ‘cartoonishly nasty’ copyright battle between the company and the estates of Siegel and his Superman co-creator, Canadian-born artist Joe Shuster, was re-launched in November, 2010...”

Deadline Hollywood piece mentioned is at <http://www.deadline.com/2011/03/letter-from-lois-lane-to-time-warner-boss/>:

“...By NIKKI FINKE | Sunday March 27, 2011

“On February 12th, the widow of Superman co-creator Jerome Siegel died of heart failure in a Los Angeles hospital at age 93.

“ ...

“Before her death, Joanne Siegel was preparing the following letter obtained by Deadline:

“December 10, 2010

“Jeffrey L. Bewkes

“Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

“Time Warner Inc.

“Dear Jeff,

“ ...

“On December 1st I turned 93. I am old enough to be your mother. I have grown grandchildren. Unfortunately I am not in the best of health. My cardiologist provided a letter to your attorneys informing them that I suffer from a serious heart condition and that forcing me to go through yet another stressful deposition could put me in danger of a heart attack or stroke. I am also on medications that have side effects which force me to stay close to home and restrooms. Nonetheless your attorneys are

forcing me to endure a second deposition even though I have already undergone a deposition for a full day in this matter. As clearly they would be covering the same ground, their intention is to harass me.

“My dear daughter Laura too has painful medical conditions including multiple sclerosis, arthritis, glaucoma, spine disorders, and fibromyalgia. She has already had her deposition taken twice by your attorneys while in pain. Her doctors have given written statements saying she should not be subjected to a third deposition, yet your attorneys are insisting on re-taking her deposition in an effort to harass her as well.

“So I ask you to please consider—do these mean spirited tactics meet with your approval? Do you really think the families of Superman’s creators should be treated this way?...”

Deadline Hollywood has a second piece that mentions Joanne Siegel.

<http://www.deadline.com/2008/03/federal-judge-rules-against-warners-on-superman-copyright/>:

(“Ruling Against Warner’s on Superman: How Legally Greedy Can Big Media Get?

“By NIKKI FINKE | Friday March 28, 2008”)

Hollywood Reporter article mentioned is at:

<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/blogs/thr-esq/superman-lawsuit-delay-lifted-depositions-46688>:

“EXCLUSIVE: ‘Superman’ Lawsuit Delay Lifted; Depositions of Siegel and Shuster Families to Begin Immediately

“November 17

“...11/17/2010 by Matthew Belloni”

Julian Castle

Sunday 3 April 2011

Media File

Ray Seredin

‘Doctor Who’/‘Torchwood’ Update

Production on the fourth series of *Torchwood* (called *Torchwood: Miracle Day*) is under-way in both Los Angeles and Cardiff as you read this, as the two remaining team members try to rebuild their organization and at the same time save the Earth from a new menace. This time the menace is rather nice for most people, but not for people with Asperger’s Syndrome like myself.

In series four all the people on Earth are made immortal and stay the same age they are when this incident takes place. OK, on the upside I will remain 40-something forever; on the downside all the kids under five years old that drive all us people with Asperger’s round the bend will be still be under five years old ’til the end of the Universe.

Yes, knowing my luck in that Universe I'll still be working for McDonald's (since the thing that caused me to quit will be dealt with by that certain Doctor with that certain blue box) meaning that until the end of the Universe, I'll be dealing with tons of misbehaving under-fives and one day I'll be clearing up after one of those little brats' 39,695th birthdays. Luckily then I'll just beam the post-party mess to the surface of the Sun, enjoy my yearly holidays to Norwescon 39724 (with Media Guest of Honour Nicholas Courtney) and VCON 39726, travel to the Moon, Mars, and other planets, or take a trip back to the Victorian era (since time travel will be a reality by then in that Universe). Still this is *Torchwood* and knowing them by then the Earth will be shit.

OK, back to our Earth: guest casting on *Miracle Day* may include a face familiar to many North American viewers. Wayne Knight, best known as either the bumbling spy Dennis Nedry in the first *Jurassic Park* outing or as Jerry Seinfeld's Lex Luthor, Newman, on the TV series *Seinfeld*, could be cast in the series. However, neither Knight nor the BBC has confirmed it.

Torchwood's creator Russell T. Davies will likely be leaving the series after *Miracle Day*, stating that he feels that he's getting close to losing interest in the science fiction genre. He has gone far as saying "Personally I think I'm coming to the end of it now and I've saved the world and blown up the world too many times." However, he's leaving the franchise in the hands of other genre geniuses such as Jane Espenson and John Shiban, meaning that the show will likely continue as long as it gets the rating it needs to stay on the air.

As for the passing of Nicholas Courtney, he could have made the Brigadier's swansong in the two-part *Sarah Jane Adventures* story "The of Death of the Doctor," where he would have met the Matt Smith Doctor; however, he was too ill from cancer at the time of production and was written out. There is also word that a Big Finish audio play would have had the Brig meet up with the Ninth Doctor and his companion Rose in an adventure; however, once again he was too ill to do it. In my heart and the hearts of many *Doctor Who* viewers around the world, it would have been nice if the Brigadier got to meet all 11 of the Doctors before going to the great UNIT base in the sky. Still, we have many great stories with him for us to watch and for many generations of series viewers to come.

OK, on to present-day *Doctor Who*. Filming on series six (or 32 if you're a long-time viewer of the series) is taking place in and around Cardiff as you read this. The story that was being made as I wrote this has the Doctor and crew traveling to the days of pirates (Yargggghhh!), where Amy gets herself into a sword fight, among many other cool things that always happen when the TARDIS shows up. They also take on Nazis, Sontarans, and evil dolls, but no Daleks, since the series producer has no plans to bring them back in this series. Also returning this season is the Doctor's landlord Craig Owens, from last season episode the "The Lodger," so there may be another football match this season.

It's unclear when the BBC plans to start airing series six of *Doctor Who*. They usually start the series on the Saturday before Easter Sunday, but the Royal Wedding falls on the Friday before that, making it a bank holiday, meaning many viewers could be out of town, or the network could rebroadcast the wedding in its place, so that date could not be the best choice. As you already know series six will air in two parts, with seven episodes going out in the spring, the other six in the fall, so the

BBC could start airing it on 1 May, with the episodes broadcasting 'til 11 June (my birthday—cool!), before taking its summer break. I'm just telling you this because the start of broadcast of *Doctor Who* on BBC 1 will affect the airdate of the series both in North America and the rest of the world.

That's all for now. Be seeing you in April when I hope to know the airdate of *Doctor Who* series six (or 32).

Dedicated to the memory of Nicholas "The Brigadier" Courtney, 1929–2011.

Cosmic Ray Seredin

Ray Seredin

Friday 11–Friday 25 February 2011

The Passing of Dr. Lo Fog AKA Ed Hutchings

Debbie Miyashita

Some of you may remember with fondness Ed Hutchings' character at VCONs in the past, Dr. Lo Fog. He also featured on many panels over the years, including Dead Authors panels, was published numerous times in *BCSFAzine* and other fanzines, and was a fixture at FREDs for many, many years. Ed lost his battle with leukemia on Tuesday evening, February 22nd. He had been losing ground slowly since last October but ended up in VGH around Christmas time and didn't come back out. He had several BCSFA visitors during his stay in hospital and that cheered him up greatly! He wanted to bet Al Betz that he would outlive him—a bet he would have lost. His Hutchings sense of humour and brilliant mind stayed intact right to the end. He was my friend for over 30 years and I thank BCSFA for being the venue where we met and became long-time friends.

Ed had a very interesting life. He started his working life as an electrical engineer, moving on to become an oboist with the Toronto Symphony. Later he moved to Vancouver and attended UBC where he got his PhD in Mathematics and taught for a spell at VCC, UNBC and various other educational institutions. He did computer programming code as well and he was also a glass blower for a short time! ☺

In addition to his connections with BCSFA, Ed was involved with the UBC Film Society and a poster he designed for an SF film festival will be hung in their gallery in a place of honour. He was involved in the SCA for a while with the Walshes too! Among his many interests, Ed had a passion for pipe organs, obscure science fiction and French comic books as well as a knowledge of and a love for gourmet sushi and Japanese dishes! He kept in touch with a few of his BCSFA friends, even after his mobility and his budget didn't allow regular attendance at FREDs.

There will be a memorial/celebration of life for Ed in late June or July—I will post on here when it's decided where and when. I would propose a moment of silence in his memory at the next VCON too.

In the meantime, if any of the people in this group have pictures, video, audio recordings, or print material that Ed produced, we are trying to collect them to produce a slide show and to show at the party. Please contact either Susan Walsh or myself, Debbie (Ferguson) Miyashita. Susan is at 604-732-5188 mwalsh@shaw.ca and

I'm now in Salmon Arm (Canoe actually) at 250-804-2928 or debbiem@sunwave.net.

So hats off to Doctor Lo Fog—he fought the brave fight. He is missed and will be remembered! ☺

Debbie Miyashita

Friday 25 February 2011

BCSFazine Thirty Years Ago!

R. Graeme Cameron

March 1981: #93—The front cover (by editor Vaughn Fraser) imitates *TIME* magazine—though technically, including the small print, the “*TIME*” logo reads “It’s *TIME* again for another *BCSFazine*”—and depicts Stuart Cooper as “Man of the Hour” (because he volunteered to be Club President to replace Jo-Anne McBride who had moved out of town). As some members were unfamiliar with him—though he was at the time a member of “The Surrey Contingent” (including Gay Maddin, Jim Welch, Jim Robinson, Marg Galbraith-Hamilton and others) whose activities were centred on the mysterious “Shadowguard” Slan Shack in Surrey—a brief bio reveals that he is easily railroaded (hence volunteering to be Pres), is “a bugger at chess,” and enjoys playing “strip hearts” (?). A cartoon (by Vaughn again) titled “The Sex Life of Stuart Cooper” shows him lying on his back, naked (in a tasteful fashion), between the colossal twin speakers of his stereo set. Something of a stereo nut, it seems.

BCSFA gossip columnist raises the question: “What clean-cut adult male BCSFA member was seen sitting in the middle of Shadowguard’s livingroom floor fondling a rubber chicken?” No answer given, alas.

An article by Steve Forty reviews RAIN TREE (held in February), the third annual Relaxicon put on by the club to raise money for the 1987 Worldon in Vancouver Bid Committee (there were six RAINs in all—but never a Vancouver WC). \$400 was raised, of which half was donated to the Susan Wood Scholarship Fund in Ottawa. Much of the money came from an art auction, of which the biggest chunk (\$83) was paid by Bruce Waddell for the original of the art gracing the back cover. Created by Warren Oddsson, it depicts Chuckie the Beaver (the RAIN mascot) on an alien planet, wearing a Space Cadet outfit complete with beanie propeller, raygun waving aloft, protecting a brass-bra lass from unseen danger. The title reads: “Chuckie. Will he save the Universe...or ignore it?” Other art pieces from RAIN reside in the BCSFA archives, including an interesting piece titled: “Harlan Ellison Meets Dolly Parton.” (Tiny human figure sinking into massive cleavage...)

RAIN TREE was held at the Rembrandt Hotel and featured Bill Gibson (no intro needed) and Denys Howard, the O.E. of CRAPA and editor of *South of the Moon*. There was a single track of programming, including “The B.S. Panel” where “Our devious panelists attempted to tell the biggest, believable lie they could come up with.” ConCom included: Evelyn Beheshti, Stuart Cooper & Jo-Anne McBride, with help from Donna Markbride, “Blog-Master” Tom Waddell (nothing to do with

modern internet blogs, but rather the infamous fannish alcoholic drink “blog”), Gay Maddin, Georges Giguere & Al Betz. Over 100 people attended.

In some ways, the most interesting art work at RAIN TREE was a flyer (preserved in the BCSFA archives) handed out by Vaughn Fraser. The illustration, with beautiful colouration, depicts a bunch of SF geeks sitting around reading, playing with spaceship models or modelling brass bras. The text reads:

“THIS GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP! The BCSFA is ready for society. Is society ready for it?...These people have been out of it for over ten years. Not because they are retarded or have venereal disease, but because they each suffer from an acute fanaticism for the genre of popular commercial publishing known as Science Fiction...Typically anal retentive at an early age, the ranks of these individuals have swelled yearly until, by the late 1960s, they could no longer be ignored. With the creation of BCSFA, these ‘fans’ (a colloquial abbreviation coined to deride SF fanatics) have languished in their own obnoxious company. Many spend as much as twenty hours a day reading. Among the few outside activities in which these socially stunted people engage are simple fantasy-based games and toy model building... These people are clearly vegetating, and are the product of society’s neglect. Isn’t it about time you did your bit to relate to these people? ISN’T IT ABOUT TIME YOU JOINED BCSFA?”

For some reason this did not go over too well with the BCSFAns attending the Relaxicon. Don’t know why...I find it hilarious.

R. Graeme Cameron
Tuesday 8 March 2011

Upcoming Nifty Film Projects

R. Graeme Cameron

Ronal the Barbarian: is a Danish animation flic (hopefully full length) featuring “babes, balls & muscles in 3D.” All about a young barbarian lad off on a quest to save the world with help from such as “Elric the metrosexual elfin guide.” Looks to be a hoot.

Panzer Chocolate: on the other hand, is a Spanish film about a modern Nazi madman converting young Jewish women into chocolate bars and blood tea, and is apparently meant as a “serious” horror film. In my opinion, morally obscene.

Frankenstein’s Army: is set to film by Dutch director Richard Raaphorst. At the end of the war the Nazis discover the good Dr.’s laboratory and start resurrecting the dead. The trailer has “genuine” newsreel footage that is obviously fake. Just hype so far.

The Last Demon Slayer: is a Danish horror comedy about seven holy warriors in a centuries-long quest to kill a particular demon who—to judge by stills released—always appears in the form of a shapely naked woman. Comedic possibilities?

Summer in the Sun: is a Norwegian sex comedy about two families on summer vacation at the beach. What makes it a little bit different is that their holiday is complicated by the coming of the Apocalypse, but they refuse to let it spoil their fun.

Return of the Moonwalker: features an undead Michael Jackson, some sort of immortal magician with gay midget helpers, and a plot to initiate a zombie revolution. I'm not making this up. A comedy seemingly parodying the famous MJ video "Thriller."

Roid Rage: is a cute title. I was hoping it was about killer droids. In fact it features an arm-sized worm/snake monster that shoots in and out of the main character's ass. Meant to be a "grindhouse" style comedy. Probably not a good "date" film.

The Disco Exorcist: directed by Rex Romanski, perhaps the leading Rhode Island filmmaker, features the world's greatest disco dancer and his "sexy, femme fatale, psychopath under the thrall of a demon" girl friend. And you think *you* have problems.

At the Mountains of Madness: Guillermo del Toro's dream project, based on the H.P. Lovecraft novel, was all "crewed up" and ready to begin production, when Universal Studios backed out at the last moment. I am bitterly disappointed. It's dead.

R. Graeme Cameron
Sunday 13 March 2011

Zines Received

'Opuntia' #70.1E (March 2011). Published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. Reviewzine issue and 20th anniversary issue.

"The \$20 Billion Bet" (reviews *The Greatest Trade Ever* by Gregory Zuckerman); "Zine Listings"; "Letters to the Editor." Good reading, as usual.

E-Zines Received

'Auroran Lights'/'CSFFazine' #2 (February 2011). Published by R. Graeme Cameron, 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."

"Fallacious Fannish History Articles": an appreciation of Garth Spencer, with a biography of Garth's many accomplishments ("Garth Spencer: A Fenaissance Fan"), a retro zine review of Garth's *The World According to Garth* #14, and a reprint of a 1983 article by Garth, "What I've Learned About Fanpubbing." I've known Garth for ten years, and have read every zine he's published in that time plus as much of his output from the preceding decades as I could rescue when he was purging his zine collection, and there were still depths to Garth that I've only just learned from Graeme's profile. Naturally, Graeme has known Garth for three times as long, but still, kudos for organizing all that information and writing it so well.

There was something unique about the people of the late 1970s and early 1980s. I hope Garth has archived at least one copy of everything he's published.

I like Garth's choice of fonts in many of his mastheads over the years. It looks like in the 1980s he used Old English calligraphy (in *The Filthy Rag*, *The Central Ganglion*, and *FTA/Phoenix*) and Helvetica (*The World According to Garth*) or modified Helvetica (the hand-traced or stencilled *Enter the Lists*, and the Coolvetica-

esque *Maple Leaf Rag*). The mid-1990s saw Garth publish *Sercon Popcult Litcrit Fanmag*; I have one issue with the masthead set in San Francisco, a beautiful, bit-map “ransom note” font from the 1980s Macintosh computer, and Graeme shows the cover of *Sercon Popcult Litcrit Fanmag* #6, in which the title is part of an elegant Teddy Harvia illo, with each syllable typed in its own perfectly-drawn speech balloon.

In *Auroran Lights* #2, Garth says that he plans to convert his fanhistory into a wiki. Graeme says that Garth’s fanhistorical work helped him to write the Canadian Fancyclopedia. On joining BCSFA, I in turn found Graeme’s Fancyclopedia website very helpful in learning the meaning of traditional fannish expressions and cultural references. Yes, do put these things on the web; they’re great resources for neofans.

Graeme lists the editors of *BCSFAzine* in chronological order, and then sorted by number of issues published. Garth was editor from #331–#429. For what it’s worth, Garth handed me the file for #430 with a lot of the work already done. Accordingly, I credited both of us as editor when I published that issue.

“Fanactic Fanniche Fanactivity” (BC, Ontario, and Quebec fandom news): Graeme writes “this is a small beginning for what is intended to be a Canada-wide ‘gossip’ column reporting on what Canadian fans are up to on an ongoing basis.” I found this column’s concise items easy reading, and it was reassuring to be connected to the rest of the nation.

“Frenetic Fanzine Reviews”: *Auroran Lights* #1: Graeme addresses the layout criticisms of *his last issue* that I ran in *my last issue*. Thanks for the validation, Graeme! *BCSFAzine* #453: Graeme likes that the letter column is the first thing in *BCSFAzine*, even though it’s traditionally at the end of most zines. I can’t take credit for that—it was like that when I got it from Garth, and I haven’t changed it! Also reviewed: *Opuntia* #69.3, #69.5, #70.1B, and #70.1D; *OSFS Statement* #381.

Also: “CSFFA News & Announcements” (Aurora); “Fabled Fandom News & Notes” (CUFF, TAFF, and FAAn); “Stuttering Stratospheric Static” (letters of comment); “Terribly Important Stuff.”

Font criticism: I like the use of Chiller in all capitals and in smoothly-modulating greens for the masthead, and barbecue-sauce-coloured Trajan for headlines!

‘One Swell Foop’ #2 (February 2011). Published by Garth Spencer, 82 East 40th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V5W 1L4, garthspencer@shaw.ca, [eFanzines](http://www.vcn.bc.ca/~garth/), <http://www.vcn.bc.ca/~garth/>.

“Monkey Mind”: Garth doesn’t enjoy nightclubs. Neither do I. Too loud to talk, too dark to read. Everyone judged on looks. Garth: “When the big earthquake hits and half of Vancouver slides into the sea, I want a house that automatically deploys a dirigible balloon...” I had a history teacher in high school who kept a raft on his roof for just such an emergency. Garth: “‘News’ is defined as whatever (a) fills the spaces between ads and commercials, (b) draws attention, and incidentally draws consumers’ eyes to the ads and commercials.” I like Phil Hendrie’s definition, that “news is the intersection of what is important and what is interesting.”

“Reviews”: Garth writes: “I’m not going to do reviews this issue, because then it would take *forever* to get this fanzine done.” I agree. Reviews take a long time. This issue of *BCSFAzine* is five weeks late (so far, as I type this). At least half of the reason for that is the writer’s block I have to overcome when reviewing zines.

Also: “Original Zombie Jokes”; “Names for Your Character”; “LOCs”; “Brain Damage Is So Sad: My Year In Status”; “The Mullah Kintyre in the Bush”; “How I Got This Way”; “Why You Got This.”

‘**The Fortnightly Fix**’ #18 (18 February 2011). Published by Steve Green, steve.green@livejournal.com, eFanzines.

“The Aisles Are Full of Noises”: The list of movies Steve has watched in the last two years. I liked *Hot Tub Time Machine*, although I had a very bad time at that particular movie theatre.

Also: “News from Planet Me”; “Down the Loccol.”

Art criticism: Brad Foster’s “Tube Sock Cat” illo was cute!

‘**The Fortnightly Fix**’ #19 (28 February 2011). Published by Steve Green, steve.green@livejournal.com, eFanzines.

“Dead Air”: Steve feels “weighed down with the bitter realisation that *The Archers* may no longer hold the same lure, much as I was once forced to admit to myself that merely taking place in the *Star Trek* universe didn’t make *Voyager* any less dull or *Enterprise* other than pointless. It’s often sad when an era comes to an end.” I’ve had this experience with many of my favourite creations, and Steve has articulated it better than I could. Whether it’s a long-running franchise that has “evolved” one too many times, or a “re-imagining” of something from your personal golden age, sooner or later things just stop speaking to you. All you can do is go back. Damn it. Why can’t anything ever just stay good?

“Down the Loccol”: John Purcell says that he likes AMC’s lineup of movies. I find that AMC has too many commercial breaks (one five-minute commercial break per five minutes of movie, it feels like) and too many edits. There’s just not enough content. Steve replies that he finds one good movie per week on TCM. I agree; TCM has no commercial interruptions and sometimes shows obscure 1980s movies like *TerrorVision* (1986), though our cable company can’t seem provide us with an un-gibbled signal of TCM.

Also: “The Light of Other Days” (memoirs).

Font criticism: I dislike Bedini (used for URLs). On the other hand, Trebuchet, while no Helvetica, is a much better webfont than Verdana or Tahoma.

‘**Statement**’ #383 (March 2011). Published by the Ottawa Science Fiction Society, 26076–72 Robertson Road, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K2H 9R6, osfs@ncf.ca, <http://osfs.ncf.ca/>. Edited by Grant Duff. “Coming Attractions”; “Editor’s Blather”; “Movie & Media”; “Art News”; “For Your Viewing Pleasure” (stargazing); “Literary News”; “Science News”; “Astronomy News.” Interesting articles, especially the comics, science, and astronomy coverage.

RANDOM NOSTALGIA

RANDY RIVER
TONGUE OF THE FATMAN
COLOURED FLOPPY DISKS
DIC G.I. JOE

Art Credits

Sheryl Birkhead.....	Masthead
<u>Brad Foster</u>	Cover
Clip art (provided by Dave Haren).....	Page 1
Clip art (modified by Felicity Walker).....	Page 2
Stuart Olds (submitted by Garth Spencer).....	Page 8
Clip art (detourned by Felicity Walker).....	Page 22

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