

# BCSFA Zine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#488

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**INFINITY IS LIKE ETERNITY**



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**APPLIED PROPORTIONALLY & LATERALLY.**

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Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at [felicity4711@gmail.com](mailto: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 and Next Month in BCSFA

Sunday 17 January at 7 PM:	January BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin's, 707 Hamilton Street (recreation room), New Westminster.
Friday 24 January:	Submission deadline for February <i>BCSFAzine</i> .
Friday 31 January:	February <i>BCSFAzine</i> production.
Sunday 2 February at 2-4 PM:	VCON concom meeting—Brandywine Bartending [ <i>School</i> ], 241 Union Street, Vancouver.
Sunday 16 February:	February BCSFA meeting.
Sunday 23 February at 1:10 PM:	WCSFA AGM—location TBD; probably Mount Pleasant Community Centre at 1 Kingsway, Vancouver, but this is subject to update.

## 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, 778-895-2371

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/bcscifi\\_assc/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bcscifi_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.*]

**Steve Green**  
[ghostwords@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ghostwords@yahoo.co.uk)

Friday 20 December 2013

Hi Felicity,

Might I recommend Dave Haren check out Russell Miller's *Bare-Faced Messiah*, which is both an incisive biography of the paranoid charlatan L. Ron Hubbard and a fascinating history of the birth of the ersatz religion Scientology.

Steve

**Dave Haren**  
[tyrbolo@comcast.net](mailto:tyrbolo@comcast.net)

Sunday 22 December 2013



Hi Felicity,

I have avoided the winter season bug until last week. Then a bunch of people showed up to cough on me and make sure we'd be miserable together. Hope you're feeling better.

[*I seem to be OK now. Thanks!*]

The Cameron Effect is still rippling though the old fates of zinedom, raising echoes and splashes along the shores. Making people who don't care notice is pointless. Making people who don't know aware is where the golden treasures lay.

My experiences lead me to believe that if you are enjoying yourself this activity will draw others into it. Fans who find joy in endless quibbling over who's who in the exalted circle are only going to draw in like-minded types. This is the bane of modern politics, the birds of a feather syndrome, each trying to outdo their own previous lump of duplicity and iniquity for fear of being left out of the history books.

Eben Moglen has done a series of lectures, "Snowden and the Future," which gives a decent overview of why people should care about the current complicity between the NSA and its partners in crime. We need a new word because "Orwellian" has paled into a mere shadow of what now exists. Some of it is because of the clueless, who have hooked up a lot of things onto the Net that shouldn't be there, because it could be easily done. The television that tells LG what you are watching is a prime example. It isn't even encrypted, so everyone can see what you're watching effortlessly.

Google, while busily tracking every mouse click, won't let anyone speak to their yellow-tagged employees at their scan center. Apparently their transparency policy towards you doesn't extend into their meatspace corporate activities. I'm trying to get them to change their motto from "Don't be evil" to "Don't be stupid," so far with no success.

[I listened to some Chris Hedges interviews on YouTube. Refreshingly truthful, if scary.]

CJ Cherryh is struggling with the bane of the moderne world, climate ignorance. Shipments come in frozen or destroyed because it gets cold in Spokane. For those who have lived in cold climates the idea you need to protect things from the cold is a no-brainer...*grin*.

My Christmas decorations are doing nicely. Three orange trees and a grapefruit tree are full of nice round colourful ornaments. This is the season point where you are supposed to see if you have enough left to survive until spring and have a feast to celebrate if you do. I hope everyone makes it to spring again.

For those who hate spam (automatic ads) you'll be pleased to know that it is on the run from bots (automatic snooping machines) who now are the majority of Net message traffic.

Nick Wirth (shamelessly paraphrased) said the more complex a system is the less likely it will be used wisely. IMNSHO we need to start running FO between our house and the neighbors, building our own network which will be free of spies, bots and spamsters; then we can start charging corporations for our time to notice their crap.

[What's FO? I like the idea of charging corporations for our time.]

I run a truly vicious suite of anti-adware, anti-trackware, and corporate avoidance softwares because I got tired of their ugly intrusive behaviors. The worst of the lot were what I found after the grandbabies (little girls) used my computer to visit a child's website. Most sites (webpages) have six or seven trackers. This one had left fifty-six trackers behind. Talk about living in a PK Dick novel.

Coleman<sup>2</sup> has a new book out, *Coding Freedom*. It is an anthropological study of hackers. Reading it is one way to get a leg up on what is effecting everyone's future.

Copy is attached. I think Barnes and Noble will sell you a ruined tree copy too.

I'm glad to see Gustave Doré coming into the public domain. He has done some great illustration work over the years. If I'm not mistaken his work in *Don Quixote* made it even greater as a work of interest.

[We used to have one of his *Don Quixote* illustrations ("Reading Novels of Chivalry") hanging on the wall at the apartment.]



Science marches on. Between Hyakutake,<sup>3</sup> the confirmation of non-locality, comps using sounds to infect and break passwords (Dragos and Shamir),<sup>4</sup> and the latest revelations about consciousness being a result of neural wavefronts, it is getting better every day. The Chinese Moon plot is also proceeding nicely.

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1 Answer below.

2 Enid Gabriella "Biella" Coleman.

3 Yoshifumi Hyakutake of the "universe is a 'hologram'" theory, not Comet Hyakutake.

4 The BadBIOS virus that supposedly can be transmitted through the air gap via sound.

Charlie Stross has gone off on Bitcoin, spawning an endless thread of economics *sans* clue in the comments. As long as I have *One Piece* to keep my perspective on things in the correct frame of reference, I will continue to enjoy the world as it really is.

Warmest regards,  
Dave Haren

Attached is Coleman's book and three Doré drawings.

**Dave Haren**  
[tyrbolo@comcast.net](mailto:tyrbolo@comcast.net)

Sunday 22 December 2013



FO is fibre optical cable used to send light over long distances.

It isn't as easy to put a tap on as wires you have to physically cut into it and it increases the signal losses when you do.

There are some people doing Wi-Fi style neighborhood interconnects but FO is a lot better idea (if the neighbors are not anti-social).

I also like Tenniel (*Alice in Wonderland*).<sup>5</sup>

[archive.org](http://archive.org) has a bunch of Warren Press mags on-line (*Vampirella*, 1984, *Blazing Combat*), all scurrilous comics for adults.

One thing I did forget. Apparently there is now a *My Little Pony* game for multiple players.<sup>6</sup> Boggles the mind but I heard the players don't swear as much as the *Yu Gi Oh* crowd. *Grin*.

**Brent Francis**  
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Wednesday 1 January 2013

Here's to a happy & prosperous 2014 to everybody!

Oh, and I forgot: <http://www.film-tech.com/cgi-bin/ubb/f8/t006927/p1.html>  
Cheers!

**Michael Bertrand**  
[fruvousfox@gmail.com](mailto:fruvousfox@gmail.com)

Wednesday 8 January 2013

Happy New Year, BCSFans! Hope those of us in the ever-lovin' GVRD are enjoying being some of the only people in North America who are *not* experiencing unseasonably and unreasonably cold weather right now. I know I sure am. Although part of me, I will admit, feels a little left out, and sort of guilty.

Like we're getting away with something here.

Oh well, say what you want about gray, dark, depressing weather, but at least it's reliable.

[*I actually prefer gray, dark weather.*]

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<sup>5</sup> Sir John Tenniel, illustrator.

<sup>6</sup> *Legends of Equestria* (above).

Reminds me of an anecdote from my youth. At my high school, if you were late for class, you had to sign the late sheet, and next to your name, you had to say why you were late.

Well, one day I was late on a morning when the temperature was  $-25^{\circ}$  Celsius. So I wrote in “polar bear crossing.”

When unlike most of the other students, you walk to school instead of taking the bus or getting dropped off by your parents, you have a lot of time to build up resentment.

On a more recent note, I continue to edit the novel I wrote in November. It’s very boring and not at all fun. I can’t wait to get back to writing again.

Well that’s enough of me for one month. See you next issue, folks!



**Lloyd Penney**  
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Etobicoke, Ontario  
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Saturday 11 January 2014

Dear BCSFAns:

Happy New Year, and welcome to that science fictional year of 2014. And, thank you for the last *BCSFazine* of 2013, number 487. I will make some comments on this issue, and hope it will get to you for the next.

There are so many of us who wish they were a little more computer literate, but such literacy comes at quite the financial cost. Hmm...I’d like a smartphone, a Kobo e-reader, and a good quality tablet. That’s probably close to mid-four-figures, or more once you’ve got the right software installed. I am not a Luddite, but I do know that old tech is not bad tech, and the tech I do have suits me fine.

For Sheryl...I believe Netflix Canada has all seasons of *Murdoch Mysteries*, and because those early seasons are now being broadcast in the US as *The Artful Detective* on the Ovation Channel, it may be on Netflix US by now. Check that alternate name, and you may find it. I bought Yvonne the season six DVDs for Christmas, and on the CBC, we’re about two-thirds of the way through season seven as I write. The *Murdoch Mysteries* Fan Experience was a lot of fun, and there is already notice that it is being planned for its third year. The appeal of this event is such that we could probably sell thousands of tickets. Maximum attendance was 70 in 2012 and 120 in 2013; the appeal could make it unmanageable if it was to go above 120.

I think a lot of us got razed in our early science fiction reading days to grow up and come back to reality. I don’t know where escapism got its bad rep, unless it was from people who escaped their personal reality and never returned to it. A vacation from reality can be a healthy break, and that break can help you better handle your own reality, no matter how unpleasant it might be. As was said, personal realities can be pretty dystopian these days, so a temporary escape could be a real refreshing break.

I hope Dave Haren saw the *Fifth Estate* episode about how the Canadian government is shutting down a lot of their own scientific researches because the actual facts of environmental science conflict with their own right-wing policies. When it comes to Rob Ford(ick), he was elected by the city's poor who wanted to see city expenses cut back. No one wants waste in spending, and one person's smart spending is another person's waste. Check today's *Toronto Star* website to see how the city's leaders feel about the mayor.



My LOC...ah, if only the new job had lasted longer. My contract with Perennial Design ended Christmas Eve because of a lack of work, and I hope they will call me back to resume working. In the meantime, the job hunt starts again, and I have some good leads.

With some luck, we can still go and see the second *Hobbit* movie. We got passes for Christmas, so we just need to find the time.

Done for now...Yvonne's working on the main computer, so I am pecking away on her laptop. Off to you soon. Hope your weekend is enjoyable, and see you with the next issue.

Yours,  
Lloyd Penney

**We Also Heard From:** Sue Lange, Keith Lim, Kathleen Moore, Cathy Palmer-Lister, and Taral Wayne.

## 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

### Already in Progress

October 2013–11 April 2014: *Call for submissions* for sixth annual Carded! (a one-night show of art on trading cards). Art deadline Friday 11 April at noon. “We are open to all styles of art, photography and design. You can submit art created digitally, provide us with a photo of your work, or give us an original piece to scan (no larger than 8½”×11”).” “We only accept one submission per artist.” More details at <http://hotartcard.com/how-to-submit/>.—Julian Castle

October 2013–31 May 2014: *Call for submissions* for Revenge of the Art Show: art inspired by movies from 1984. Paintings, illustration, sculpture...any art or design work inspired by films made in 1984 (such as *Dune*, *Ghostbusters*, *Gremlins*, *Revenge of the Nerds*, *Splash*, *Star Trek III: The Search for Spock*, *The Terminator*, 2010, etc). Submit a JPG of your submission for consideration (in-progress or final art) to [info@hotartwetcity.com](mailto:info@hotartwetcity.com)...! Deadline is Saturday May 31 at 4 PM.—Julian Castle

## January 2014

January is National Hobby Month and Book Blitz Month.

1 January 2014: **Jens Haeusser** and **Marlon Richmond**'s birthdays.

1, 15, and 29 January and 12 and 26 February 2014 (*alternate Wednesdays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!, 7–8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver. “Wednesday is the new Monday! And by that I mean, we’re switching our every-other-week, weeknight games to Wednesdays, so that I can actually attend! Also popular opinion (i.e. I asked a couple of people) seems to agree—Wednesdays are superior. Some come on down to Cuppa Joy, grab a pint and a samosa, and play some *board games! Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday!!*” —Keith Lim

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 January and 5, 12, 19, and 26 February 2014 (*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 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue), Vancouver. “The Cloudscape Comics Society is a community of comic creators in Vancouver, BC who together publish and distribute quality graphic novel anthologies, as well as host comic workshops and other related events. Here enterprising comic artists come together to network, develop their ideas, and help each other perfect their craft.” “Everyone is welcome to attend” the weekly meeting on Wednesdays. —Keith Lim/Julian Castle

3 January 2014: Premiere of film *Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones* (horror).

3 January and 28 February 2014<sup>7</sup>: Board Gamers: Friday Night Magic, 6:30–9:30 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. Open gaming; seven to eight tables. “For Friday Night Magic we will be running a limited Draft FNM. Cost is three booster packs plus \$2, starting at 6:30 PM. Also feel free to come by for some casual Magic: The Gathering from 6–9 PM. Feel free to use the house decks if you just want to try out the game. Don’t forget to check out our Face-book page.” —Keith Lim

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 January and 7, 14, 21, and 28 February 2014 (*Fridays*): Friday Board Game Night—Drexoll Games, 7–11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue (½ block west of MacDonald Street), Vancouver. “In our stores, it’s *open gaming* any time we’re open, so stop in with a friend and try a game! Both of our locations have 7–8 tables and plenty of seating. Space may be limited during tournaments—scheduled events take precedence over open gaming tables. We have about 100 open board games for playing in the store. Playing is *free* except for some tournaments.” —Keith Lim

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7 Every Friday night, according to Board Game Warriors.



4 January 2014: Trivia Day.

4, 11, 18, and 25 January and 1, 8, 15, and 22 February 2014 (*Saturdays*): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. “Hello. Feel free to come in anytime on Saturday afternoon until 7 PM and play any of the many open games there are here at the store.—Kirby”—Keith Lim

5 January 2014: **Garth Spencer**’s birthday.

5, 12, 19, and 26 January and 2, 9, 16, and 23 February 2014 (*Sundays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Lazy Sundays, 2–3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295–2083 Alma Street, Vancouver. “Sunday afternoons: they are made for relaxing, cups of warming beverage, and most especially board games. Thus, *Sunday board games!* Cuppa Joy’s large tables, usually unoccupied space and laid-back attitude suits this purpose perfectly. Bring board games, friends, and of course your lovely selves! If anyone has any board game requests, feel free to post them in the comments and I will try to accommodate. You can also post less specific requests (e.g. ‘games that take eight players,’ ‘games that don’t involve math,’ ‘games about farming’) and I’ll see what I can do. Happy Sunday!”—Keith Lim

6 January 2014: **Eileen Kernaghan**’s birthday.

6, 13, 20, and 27 January and 3, 10, 17, and 24 February 2014 (*Mondays*): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5–9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. “Hello. Painting miniatures can be fun, challenging, and sometimes even outrageous. Feel free to come by the store to paint, share tips, or maybe even learn a thing or two about the craft, nay artform, that is miniatures painting. There are some paints available to use, and brushes, as well as primer. Warmachine figures will likely be the name of the game for most, but anything is welcome.”—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 January and 3, 10, 17, and 24 February 2014 (*Mondays*): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Vancouver. Phone: 778-330-1234. 2 October, 7:30–11:20 PM: Craft Night: Shoebox Loom-Making. 9 October, 7:30–11 PM: The Craft Element. 16 and 23 October, 7:30–11:30 PM: Craft Night: Halloween Costume Making Night Parts 1 & 2. [*See Vancouver Hack Space Open House for more VHS details.*]—Julian Castle

7 January 2014: West Coast Geeks Versus Nerds: Episode 13: Who’s the Boss?, 7 PM at Vancouver FanClub, 1050 Granville Street, Vancouver.

7, 14, 21, and 28 January and 4, 11, 18, and 25 February 2014 (*Tuesdays*): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5–10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. “Feel free to come by anytime from 5 PM to about 10 PM to play a game or two. There are hundreds of open games for playing, or feel free to bring your own. Parking out front is a buck thirty-five an hour (free

after 6 PM), or there is a parkade a block away (buck an hour), across Columbia and down by the river. We are located two blocks northeast of the New Westminster SkyTrain Station, at Columbia and Begbie. There is a Waves coffee shop in the same building. Go uphill on Begbie to Clarkson, and the store is to the right. Tuesday is also the Buck a Slice special feature at Fresh Slice Pizza just down the street. Have a good day.—Kirby”—[Keith Lim](#)

7, 14, 21, and 28 January and 4, 11, 18, and 25 February 2014 (*Tuesdays*): [Vancouver Hack Space Open House](#), 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue (new location as of May 2013), Vancouver. Phone: 778-330-1234. “Bring your ideas, projects, kits, art, music, robots, etc. down for some good times with good people.” VHS mission is “to provide a common workspace where its members, hackers, makers, crafters and otherwise (technically) creative people could work on projects and find like-minded people, in sharing knowledge and ideas.” “There are stairs down to the space from the back alley and a wheelchair-accessible level loading bay entrance from the street, although someone has to have opened the space through the stairs before the loading bay is available.” Parking is available outside the space. Bikes can be brought inside the front door. No membership required. Admission is by donation.—[Julian Castle](#)

8 January 2014: **Ursula Hitler**’s birthday.

9 January 2014: **Steve Fahnstalk**’s birthday.

9 January, 13 February, 13 March, 10 April, and 8 May 2014: [Teen Manga Advisory Group](#), 4–5 PM at Morris J. Wosk Board Room, Level 7, Vancouver Public Library, Central Branch, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. For teens aged 13–18. “Do you love manga?...Come tell us what the library should have on our shelves and meet other manga enthusiasts!” For more info call Children’s Library: 604-331-3663. Free.—[Julian Castle](#)



9 and 23 January and 6 and 20 February 2014 (*alternate Thursdays*): “Burnaby Sci-Fi Writers’ Group meets alternate Thursdays 7–9 PM at Metrotown Public Library (program room) or Connections lounge. Open to new members, mainly sci-fi/fantasy or what have you. Contact Allan @ (604) 946-2427 or email [lowson@dccnet.com](mailto:lowson@dccnet.com) for details.”—[Allan Lowson](#) (on [Richmond Writers Network Facebook Group](#))

9 January and 14 February 2014 (*second Thursday*): [Fraser Valley Model Club Monthly Meeting](#), 7:30–9:30 PM at Kariton House Gallery, 2387 Ware Street, Abbotsford. “Meetings held second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM from September to June (July & August have no meetings—summer break).”—[Keith Lim](#)

9 January and 13 February 2014 (*second Thursday*): [Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup](#), 7:30–8:30 PM. [No location given.] “Second Thursday of every month. This is the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada—Vancouver monthly meeting

and is shared with the general public at no charge. Please be advised that RASC Vancouver's monthly lectures will be held at different locations. The location of each meeting will be posted in advance, along with details of the speaker and topic. We meet at 7:30 PM on the second Thursday of each month, with astro-coffee, cookies, and juice served after the presentation. Please join us for interesting and informative lectures on all aspects of astronomy and space-science, along with stimulating conversations!"—Keith Lim

9–25 January 2014: "Typo—typography-as-art featuring Bennett Slater, Scott Sueme and Frazer Adams. Opening reception Friday January 10 from 7 PM. Beyond the utilitarian use of letterforms, typography can be beautiful art. This show features typographic-based works from Bennett Slater, Scott Sueme, and Frazer Adams, plus guest artists Ben Knight, James Knight, Erin Gibbs, Brandon Cotter, Ali Bruce, and more TBA."—Julian Castle

10 January 2014: Campfire Stories Opening Reception, 7 PM at Ayden Gallery, #2103–88 West Pender Street. "Featuring artwork by: Sean Karemaker, Alison Woodward, [*and*] Ali Bruce, with guests: Mike Myhre, Sunny Shah, April-Lee Rivera Johnson, Edison Yan, and Ian Forbes. Live music by Elise Hall-Meyer & Ben Everyman. Artists in attendance. Free admission. Steam whistle \$4. Official after party at Fortune Sound Club. Free admission before 1 AM with stamp from Ayden Gallery."

10, 17, 24, and 31 January 2014 (*Fridays*): Magic: The Gathering Friday Night, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. Contact: Stephanie.

11 January 2014: Heroclix: Avengers vs. X-Men: Month 1, 12–5:30 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. Contact: Manny.

11 January 2014: Carousel Theatre's Busytown Comes to the Library, 3–4 PM at Alma VanDusen & Peter Kaye Rooms, Lower Level, Vancouver Public Library—Central Library 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. Interactive presentation with stories from VPL's children's librarians and a sneak peak performance from the Carousel Theatre for Young People's upcoming production of *Busytown*. (Wikipedia: "Busytown is a fictional town inhabited by an assortment of anthropomorphic animals, as depicted in various books by the children's author Richard Scarry.") For children ages 3 and up, accompanied by an adult. Free.—Julian Castle

11 January, 1 February, 1 March, and 12 April 2014: Reader's Choice Speculative Fiction Book Club, 3–4:30 PM at Morris J. Wosk Board Room, Level 7, Vancouver Public Library—Central Library, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. 11 January: classics. 1 February: steampunk. 1 March: high fantasy. 12 April: hard science-fiction. "Join us [for] the worlds of fantasy and science fiction. Bring your favorite speculative fiction from within these sub-genres to discuss. Learn about some good books, enjoy lively discussions, and tell others about the books that interest you." Free (registration required). Register at 604-331-3603.—Julian Castle

12 January 2014: Vancouver Comic Con, 11 AM–5 PM at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street (at 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Vancouver. Special guests: Colin Lorimer (*UBX*, *Harvest*, *Curse*), Donald King, and others! Admission: \$4; kids under 14 free. Dealer tables: \$65 center; \$75 wall. 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. Hourly door prizes! Follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/vancomicon/>. For more information: <http://www.vancouvercomiccon.com/>. 604-322-6412.—Leonard Wong



12 January 2014: VCON 39 Organizational Kickoff, 2 PM at Brandywine Bartending [School], 241 Union Street, Vancouver. “Come to the VCON 39 Organization Kickoff if you’re interested in learning more about the plans for this year and how you can have a direct hand in how this year’s event actually turns out! VCON is a non-profit, fan-run event and everyone who works to make VCON happen is a volunteer. Lots of people volunteer a little of their time, usually at or just before and after the event, but some volunteers—the convention committee (concom)—are involved all year long and do the major lifting of planning and organizing the event. It’s these people that are the heart and soul supporting your VCON experience. When there aren’t a lot of good people on the concom, the amount of work and planning that we can actually do goes way down—every person can only do so much before overloading—and the result is a much poorer VCON experience for everyone. And currently we have several open positions, ranging in importance and responsibility from major to minor and for a wide range of different skillsets and experience levels, for which we need more ‘good people.’ So if you’re ‘good people’ and are even just a little curious about the inner workings of the VCON concom (including teens—we have plenty of assistant roles available where you can learn the ropes!), please come to our kickoff meeting to find out more!”—VCON via Jenni Merrifield

14 January 2014: Steampunk Fundraiser Murder Mystery Thank You Party, 7–8 PM in Langley. *Note: date has changed from date on Facebook page.* “In support of the BC Renaissance Festival the actors of Times Past have agreed to run a few thank-you-for-your-donation parties. With the free use of a small guesthouse in Langley, we are able to create a mini version of our Steampunk Murder Mystery for 10 donors. These are private invite parties as a thank you for a financial donation made to the BCRF GoFundMe Campaign. [...] The space is in Langley. [...] We will be having no more than 5 actors/hosts and 10 guests. The murder mystery will be played out, tea and biscuits (or a treat of some sort) will be served and at the end, the murderer will be revealed after everyone gets a turn at guessing. The winning guess gets a prize. [...] The actual location (address etc.) and fine details will be given to you directly in a personal invitation. These are invite-only parties and therefore additional guests and gate crashers will not be allowed. There is a chance at wine

sampling as well, so you *must be* over 19 years old and have a piece of ID on you in case any of our volunteers need to check. You may dress up or just show in your civvies. [...] How do you become one of the 10 guests? Go to: <http://www.gofundme.com/bcrenfest> and chose the \$25 reward level. Make sure we have your email address (the GoFundMe system should allow you to be able to do that) so we can send you your invitation. Each donation is *one* invitation to *one* person. [...] GoFundMe does take a fee for processing each reward. [...]”—Times Past Entertainment via Christina Carr

14 January and 11 February 2014 (*second Tuesday*): Monthly Steampunk Coffee Klatch, 7:30–9 PM at Waves Coffee House—Large Private Room, #100–900 Howe Street (@ Smithe), Vancouver. “Second Tuesday of every month. In the Victorian tradition of conversation in coffee houses, this casual monthly event is open to everyone who wants to just get together and meet up with other local steampunks. Whether you’re new to steampunk or well-seasoned, young or old, silly or serious, please feel free to drop by. We can discuss whatever folks want, plan nefarious plots, or just relax, hang out, and get to chat with one another. Costumes welcome but not required—dress as you feel comfortable! I will be at least steamily accessorized, since I have to work immediately beforehand. The only requirement for us to have this space is that everyone should purchase something at the coffee house. They offer teas, coffee, hot chocolate, and various cold beverages, as well as some baked goods.”—Keith Lim

15 January 2014: Top Docs Documentary Film Nights—We Steal Secrets: The Story of WikiLeaks [(2013)], 6:30–9 PM at Vancouver Public Library—Mount Pleasant Branch, 1 Kingsway (near Main Street and East Broadway), Vancouver. Free.—Julian Castle

17 January 2014: Premiere of films *Devil’s Due* (horror; Sam Anderson) and *The Nut Job* (computer animation; Will Arnett, Brendan Fraser, Liam Neeson, Stephen Lang, Maya Rudolph, Jeff Dunham, Gabriel Iglesias).

17 January 2014: BC Renfest Game Night, 7–11 PM at 1976 Ashley Grove Court, Burnaby. “In support of the BC Renaissance Festival the actors of Times Past have agreed to run a few thank-you-for-your-donation parties. With the free use of a home on Burnaby Mountain (SFU—easily accessible by transit) we are able to have a games night for 15 donators. Some dedicated gamers (cards, board, and classic) have decided to share their massive collection of games and challenges and are providing space *and* games for us to use for one evening from 6:30 to 11 PM. The winning ‘gamer’ will receive a prize so come with your wit, skills, and determination intact. These are private-invite parties as a thank-you for a financial donation made to the BCRF. This is how it works: a supporter has offered the use of their space for one evening. We provide no more than five actors/hosts for the set maximum numbers of guests the location will allow. Coffee, tea, pop and snacks will be served. You can pick a partner or challenger and set yourself at one table, converse, and play away. We are putting together a gift basket for *the winner*. No gambling is permitted. The actual location (address etc.) and fine details will be given to you directly in a per-

sonal invitation. These are invite-only parties and therefore additional guests and gate crashers will not be allowed. You *must be* over 19 years old and have a piece of ID on you. How do you become one of the 15 guests? Through Paypal: send a payment titled ‘BC Renfest Party’ to: [accounts@timespastent.com](mailto:accounts@timespastent.com). Each donation amount (per person) is a minimum of \$15. Make sure we have your email address and your phone number. Cut-off date for contributing is January 22. If we have to cancel or if all 15 spots are gone, we will send you an email with payment back. You may chose to allow us to keep the donation and put it towards a future party or product. There is no refund for a guest cancellation. If gaming isn’t your ‘thing’ or all 15 have sold out, then please keep an eye on the Times Past Entertainment Event page. We have other themes planned. We are also open to offering use of space for whatever theme you may like to see.”—[BC Renaissance Festival Cast and Crew](#) via [Christina Carr](#)

17 January and 20 February 2014 (*third Friday*): [IPMS Vancouver Monthly Meeting](#), 7–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, Second Floor “Arts Room,” 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby. “Club meetings are held on the third Friday of every month (with very few exceptions such as if the third Friday falls on Good Friday or is too close to Christmas—check schedule). Doors open at 7 PM. Meetings officially run from 7:30–9:30 PM.”—[Keith Lim](#)

18 January 2014: [Gunpla Monthly Meeting](#), 1–5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Drop by for a build and socialize event with a group of local gunpla (Gundam model) hobbyists. 10% off all product to all participants. For details, please check out their Facebook group. Contact: [Wilson](#). Link: [Gunpla Modellers](#).”

18 January and 15 February 2014 (*third Saturday*): [Vancouver Comic Jam](#), 8–9 PM at the [Wallflower Modern Diner](#), 2404 Main Street, Vancouver. “The Vancouver Comic Jam is generally held the third Saturday of the month. In cases of long week-ends or other conflicting dates, the jam may move to the second or third Saturday. For up to date information, [join the VCJ Facebook group](#) or [follow us on Twitter](#). *Who can come?*: Anyone who is of legal drinking age is invited. *How much?*: No admission fee. There is a \$5 minimum purchase per person required by the Wallflower. They provide their full menu to order from and alcohol galore: beer, wine, highballs and shots. *There will be a gratuity of 18–20% added to all bills because we are a large group*. Bring your own pencils/pens. Paper is provided. If you’re drawing with markers that bleed through paper, be sure to either bring a drawing surface or place extra sheets of paper under the paper you’re drawing on.”—[Keith Lim](#)

19 January 2014: **Stewart Smyth**’s birthday.

19 January and 16 February 2014 (*third Sunday*): [Board Game Swap Meetup](#), 11 AM–1 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. “Every third Sunday of the month a swap meet will be held where gamers can sell or trade any board games they would like to get rid of. RSVP for the event and you can list what you are looking to sell, or what you would like in trade. Use the message

board to propose trades or list items for sale. Board Game Warriors can be a neutral site for meeting and doing transactions during store hours.”—[Keith Lim](#)

19 January 2014: [Thunderbowl!!! Bloodbowl Demo Day](#), 12–5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Come on down and get one-on-one training on the football battlefield of Games Workshops’ specialty game Blood Bowl! Contact: [Chris](#).”

20 January 2014: **Rain Rat** and **Nancy Kress**’s birthdays.

21 January 2014: **Emily Sors**’s birthday.

21 January 2014: [Authors in Our Midst](#), 7–9 PM at Richmond Public Library, Brighthouse Branch, Kwok-Chu Lee Living Room, 100–7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond. “Alan Hill and Candice James will read from their poetry books, *The Broken Word* and *Shorelines*. This will be followed by a poetry open mic. Free! Drop-in!”—[Bill Marles](#) to [Richmond Writers’ Network Facebook Group](#)

23 January 2014: National Handwriting Day.

24 January 2014: Premiere of film *I, Frankenstein* (SF/fantasy/action; Bill Nighy, Aaron Eckhart).

24 January 2014: [Steampunk Murder Mystery](#), 7 PM at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 263, 1025 Ridgeway Avenue, Coquitlam. “In support of the BC Renaissance Festival the actors of Times Past have agreed to run a few thank-you-for-your-donation parties. With the use of a section of the Legion Hall in Coquitlam, we are able to create a mini-version of our Steampunk Murder Mystery for 25–35 supporters. These are private parties as a thank-you for a financial donation in order to help the event continue running. This is how it works: a supporter has offered the use of their space for one evening. In this case the space is through a friend of ours in the Legion. Due to the quaint size of the location we will be having six actors/hosts and 25–35 guests. The murder mystery will be played out with the ‘murder’ happening roughly around 8:30. The earlier you come the more pieces of the puzzle you can acquire. Tea and biscuits (or a treat of some sort) will be served and at the end, the murderer will be revealed after everyone gets a turn at guessing. A winner will be determined from the guesses and a gift basket will be rewarded. You may dress up or just show up in your civvies. Either way be prepared to solve a crime and hold your pinky finger high as you drink your tea. Because these are by-contribution-only parties, additional guests and gate crashers will not be allowed. How do you become one of the guests? Through Paypal: send a payment titled ‘Steampunk Murder Mystery’ to: [accounts@timespastent.com](mailto:accounts@timespastent.com). This particular party is a minimum donation of \$25 a person. Cut-off date is January 22. Print out your PayPal payment confirmation. This is your ticket. If you have a last minute interest in attending please call to see if there is space left: [778-926-3378](tel:778-926-3378)/[contact@timespastent.com](mailto:contact@timespastent.com). If we have to cancel or if all spots are gone, we will send you an email with payment back. You may chose to allow us to keep the donation and put it towards a future party or

product. There is no refund for a guest cancellation. If Steampunk isn't your 'thing' or all have sold out, then please keep an eye on the Times Past Entertainment Event page. We have a games night as well as other themes planned. We are also open to offered use of space for whatever theme you may like to see. If you would like to contribute items or gift cards, discount coupons, etc for the winner's gift basket please contact us."—Times Past Entertainment via Christina Carr

25 January 2014: **Isaac Terpstra** and **Ryan Hawe**'s birthdays.

25 January and 22 February 2014 (*last Saturday*): **Board Gamers: 12 Hours of Gaming**, 12 PM–12 AM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. "Hello. Feel free to come by anytime on Saturday from noon until midnight and play any of the many open games there are here at the store. The event is perfect for any of those more epic games we have at the store that you've been wanting to try or for any you might own but can rarely find the time/space/players to accommodate. Besides a couple of local coffee joints, there are a bevy of nearby eating establishments, and we will probably order some supper at around 6 PM. Hope to see you there.—Kirby & Citty"—Keith Lim

26 January 2014: **Paul Carpentier**'s birthday.

28 January 2014: **Teen Pizza & Games Night: George Mackie Library**, 5–7 PM at George Mackie Library, 8440 112<sup>th</sup> Street, Delta. "Imperial Hobbies in Richmond is bringing some of their popular and crazy cool games to the George Mackie Library. Come out during the evening to play Cloud 9, Dominion, Carcassonne, Ultimate Werewolf, and other new and exciting games. Free pizza and refreshments will be provided. This program is for teens 12 to 18 years. Contact: Chris."



29 January 2014: **Langara Lecture Series: Famous Transformations in Literature: Ovid & Kafka**, 12–1 PM at Alma VanDusen & Peter Kaye Rooms, Lower Level, Vancouver Public Library—Central Library, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. Two examples of transformation are Ovid's "Metamorphoses" and Kafka's "The Metamorphosis." Free. Alternate URL.—Julian Castle

## February 2014

1 February 2014: **Magic: The Gathering Prerelease** [by] Imperial Hobbies, 10 AM at Richmond Rod and Gun Club, 7891 Cambie Road, Richmond. Cost: \$32. Registration starting 10 January [at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond, or via Imperial Hobbies website?—*flyer does not say*].

5–9 February 2014: **SPARK [FWD] 2014** (festival, conference, and job fair), at Vancouver International Film Centre, 1181 Seymour Street, Vancouver. Festival: 5–9 February. Conference: 6–8 February. Job fair: 7–8 February. "Vancouver's premi-



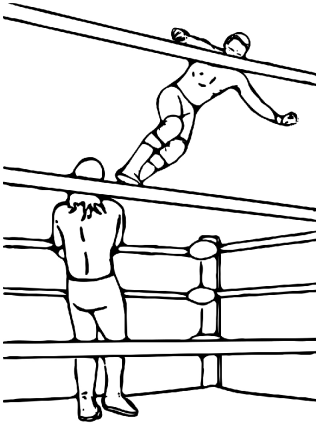
er event on advanced imaging and visual effects.” “SPARK FX and 3D [FWD] are merging into SPARK [FWD] 2014.”—[Julian Castle](#)

6 February 2014: **Bill Marles** and **Lyn Aylward**’s birthdays.

7 February 2014: Premiere of film *The Lego Movie* (computer animation; Channing Tatum, Will Ferrell, Jonah Hill, Liam Neeson, Morgan Freeman, Charlie Day, Will Arnett).

7–9 February 2014: [GottaCon 2014](#), Victoria, BC.—[Julian Castle](#)

8 February 2014: [Heroclix: Avengers vs. X-Men: Month 2](#), 12–5:30 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. Contact: [Manny](#).



8 February 2014: [All-Star Wrestling](#), 7:30–9:30 PM at Fraserview Church Gym (FRIDGE), 11295 Mellis Drive, Richmond. “Cost: front row: \$18; general admission: \$15.” “[All-Star Wrestling](#) brings another evening of action-packed wrestling to Richmond, BC. Stay tuned for more details and info!”

9 February 2014: TV series *The Walking Dead* and *Talking Dead* resume on AMC.—[Julian Castle](#)

10 February 2014: **Kevin King**’s birthday.

14 February 2014: **Potlatch Convention**’s birthday. Premiere of films *RoboCop* (SF/unnecessary remake; Gary Oldman, Michael Keaton, Jackie Earle Haley, Samuel L. Jackson, Miguel Ferrer), *Vampire Academy* (horror/comedy; Gabriel Byrne), and *A New York Winter’s Tale* (fantasy/romance; Jennifer Connelly, Will Smith, Colin Farrell, Russell Crowe, William Hurt, Kevin Corrigan, Graham Greene).

14 February 2014: [Meaty Fontana Live Valentine’s Day Pajama Party](#), 8 PM at Tugboat Annie’s Pub, 6911 Graybar Road, Richmond. “Come on out to dance and win prizes for the best pajamas!”—[Greg Cairns](#)

15 February 2014: **Liana K**’s birthday.

21 February 2014: **Crystal Remedios**’s birthday. Premiere of film *The Wind Rises* (anime/biography; Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Elijah Wood, Stanley Tucci, Mandy Patinkin, Jennifer Grey, Martin Short, William H. Macy, Werner Herzog).

21–23 February 2014: [Fifth Galiano Literary Festival](#) at [Galiano Oceanfront Inn & Spa](#), 134 Madrona Drive, Galiano Island. Register for festival via website or phone Galiano Island Books at (250) 539-3340. Single sessions \$20, half-day \$40, full-day

\$80, full festival pass (not including Friday workshops) \$150. Friday one-hour workshops \$40. Friday four-hour workshop \$80.—Julian Castle

25 February 2014: **Alyx Dellamonica**'s birthday.

27 February 2014: **Sharkbyte LePirate**'s birthday.

27 February–2 March 2014: VancouFur 3 (furry convention)<sup>8</sup> at Executive Hotel & Conference Center Burnaby, 4201 Lougheed Highway (west of Brentwood Town Centre SkyTrain station), Burnaby. Room block at main hotel sold out. Overflow hotel TBD. Pre-reg (until 1 February?): cheques, paypal & eCheques. At-door: cash only. Memberships: regular \$40; sponsor \$80 (with T-shirt & ice cream social ticket); patron \$160 (sponsor benefits + GOH dinner ticket & other goodies); non-attending \$15; under 10 years free. Attendees under age of 16 need to print minor consent form & have parent/guardian sign it and have a copy of parent/guardian's valid ID.—Julian Castle

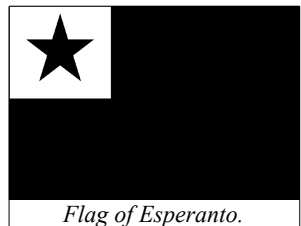
28 February 2014: **Swill VileFen Press**'s birthday. Premiere of film *Welcome to Yesterday* (SF).

## News-Like Matter

### Notes from December 2013 BCSFA Meeting

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

*The December meeting/Christmas party was at ABC Country Restaurant, 3580 Number Three Road, Richmond at 6 PM.*



Graeme asked if anyone else had seen the weird William Shatner movie on TV last night. From his description, Joe and I realized it was *Incubus* (1966), the Esperanto horror movie. Joe has a copy on VHS.

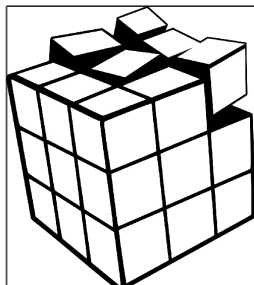
Stew said that we lost “Horshack” a year ago—Ron Palillo, who played Arnold Horshack on *Welcome Back, Kotter* (1975), died in 2012. More recently, Nelson Mandela, Peter O’Toole, and Harold Camping died. Stew had been talking to someone younger and they had never heard of Wayne & Shuster! Stew asked if Frank Shuster was related to Joe (Superman) Shuster.<sup>9</sup>

Julian reported that there’s a Facebook group called “Ayn Rand Was on Social Assistance.” For the last eight years of her life she received Social Security and Medicare benefits.

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8 Main website currently down. WikiFur link: [http://en.wikifur.com/wiki/VancouFur\\_2014](http://en.wikifur.com/wiki/VancouFur_2014).

9 They were cousins.—Future Felicity



*Palillo also voiced the title character in Rubik, The Amazing Cube (1983–1984).*

A waitress reached across the table and knocked the ice and straw from Fru's glass into some poinsettias. We checked to see if they were real or plastic, and they were real.

Fru said that the "Weird Al" Yankovic song "Here's Johnny" was played when Ed McMahon died, which was a little odd, since the lyrics weren't all that flattering to McMahon. Though the song is a parody of "Who's Johnny ('Short Circuit' Theme)" by El DeBarge, it also sounds like a Scritti Politti style parody to me.

Graeme mentioned that the community mailbox at his apartment complex has been broken into a lot.

The notes are shorter than usual because we were enjoying a good dinner.

Felicity Walker

Additional writing by Kathleen Moore

Sunday 19 December 2013

## Marvel Animal Variant Covers

Some Marvel comics in Diamond's January 2014 catalog (items shipping in March) have animal variant covers {item codes in squiggly brackets} (if no image found for species guess, then no guess made below):

*All New Ghost Rider* #1 {JAN14 0663} (Hamster?) [0663 link](#). [Hamster link](#).

*Captain Marvel* #1 (of 6) {JAN14 0671} (Fox?) [Link](#).

*Daredevil* #1 {JAN14 0634} (mouse?) [Link](#).

*Deadpool* #25.NOW {JAN14 0656} (Giraffe?) [0656 link](#). [Giraffe link](#).

*Iron Man* #23.NOW {JAN14 0645} (Boring cover.) [0645 link](#).

*Magneto* #1 {JAN14 0677} (Mouse?) [0677 link](#). [Mouse link](#).

*Moon Knight* #1 {JAN14 0641} (Hippo?) [Link](#).

*Secret Avengers* #1 {JAN14 0681} (Mostly ducks?) [0681 link](#). [Ducks link](#).

*Silver Surfer* #1 {JAN14 0652} (Sloth & frog?) [Link](#).

*Uncanny Avengers* #18.NOW {JAN14 0690} (Platypuses?) [0690 link](#). [Platypuses link](#).

*Uncanny X-Men* #19.NOW {JAN14 0668} [Link](#).

*Wolverine and the X-Men* #1 {JAN14 0684} [Link](#).

[Some more animal covers](#).

Julian Castle

Thursday 9 January 2014

## RANDOM NOSTALGIA

"M.A.S.K."

ATARI JAGUAR

"PRISONERS OF GRAVITY"

EMAHTSKCBLVDT

CURT SWAN

## Alexandra Bastedo (1946–2014)

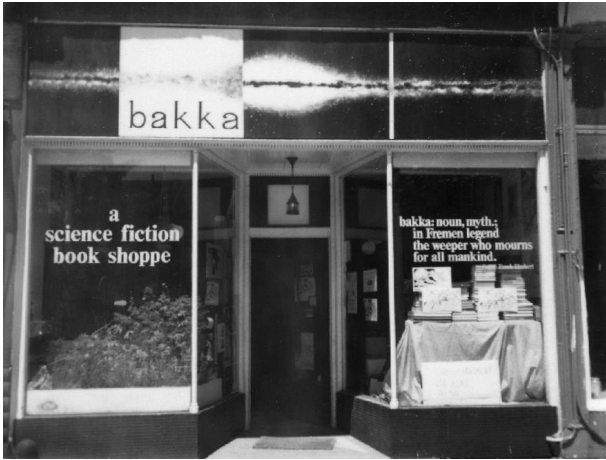
Alexandra Bastedo, English actress, died 12 January aged 67. Most famous for her role as Sharron Macready in the superhero series *The Champions* (1968–69), other genre roles included *Casino Royale* (1967), *The Blood Splattered Bride* (1972), *The Ghoul* (1975) and *Batman Begins* (2005).

Steve Green

Monday 13 January 2014

## Mythbusting Bakka

Taral Wayne & Charlie McKee



According to Charlie McKee, who was the founder of Canada's first specialty SF bookstore, he's read many online stories of Bakka's origin that are full of errors. In a recent post to his Facebook group, he said, "I'd like to state right up front...that unless they come from myself, or from the actual people involved, stories about the store should

be considered outright conjecture, and should be corrected after consulting with either myself or, again, those folks who were actually involved." He was certain a conspiracy was at work, but added that, "Sooner or later all sources will be dealt the sword of truth."

Got a Band-Aid ready?

The first, and seemingly most prevalent, myth that Charlie found on fan sites was that Bakka was founded unintentionally. In the myth, Charlie never wanted to open an SF bookstore at all. Here's the condensed version that Charlie gave:

How it all began: "Judith Merrill did not, repeat, did not suggest I open a mystery bookstore instead of a SF store."

Judith Merrill, a New York-born writer, was living in Toronto in the early 1970s, and befriended a number of people in the local SF community, including Charlie McKee. "Judy met with me in her apartment at the foot of Beverly St. at Queen West, in Toronto, where she lived at the time. This was the Spring of 1971." He explained to Judy his plan to open a science fiction bookstore, and how he got the idea, then asked her what she thought. She must have approved, because she in-

roduced him to Madge Alto, the head of the Spaced Out Library, who would prove a valuable reference in his efforts to start a business.

“Technically the idea came after my first wife, Kathleen Kuklinski, and I were blown away by a showing of *2001: A Space Odyssey* at the huge, new, domed theater at the Toronto Waterfront. Because of my enthusiasm, Kathleen suggested I open a SF bookshop. I began research, and tracked down Judy, hoping the reigning Mom of SF—now residing in Canada—would have some words of advice and encouragement.”

With Judy’s endorsement, Charlie laid his plans, contacted a bank for a necessary business loan and talked with publishers about supplying the store with books. After that, Charlie—who was a carpenter—put in long hours in the empty storefront at 286 Queen Street West, building his own shelves. Finally, in the summer of 1972, Bakka opened its doors for the first time to welcome its first visitor...who probably just looked around, sniffed, quipped, “An SF bookstore, imagine that,” and left. But business picked up in the days to follow. In fact, business became so good that the store expanded from 286 Queen West into the next door properties at 282–284 as well.



“So, in short,” continues Charlie, “never once was it suggested I open a mystery bookstore...even though I was a closet Sherlockian of many years.”

Not in the closet for very long, though. A few years later, Charlie was confident enough with Bakka’s profitability that he opened Bakka II, a specialty mystery store on Yonge Street, a little north of Bloor. Unfortunately for the budding businessman, and for mystery fans in Toronto, the second Bakka was not a success. Some ingredient was missing. Whatever it was, years went by before someone opened a successful mystery bookstore in the east end of town.

By then, Charlie had become a publisher, and printed a lot of red ink before reluctantly stopping the presses. Bakka retreated from the 282 premises to occupy the larger 284–286 store by itself. Finally, Charlie decided to sell the business to his assistant manager, John Rose, and left Toronto for the utopian promises of British Columbia.

Under new management, Bakka has continued to sell books for many more years and has undergone a minor name change (to Bakka-Phoenix) and several moves until arriving at its present location on Harbord Street, near the university. What Charlie McKee did in all this time, during all these changes, however, is a story he has not yet told. Not to me, anyway.

I suppose Charlie was lucky that no one ever tried to explain how he only opened the mystery bookstore because he was talked out of opening one for West-erns.

Myth busted.

Taral Wayne  
Saturday 20 October 2012

## Zines Received

**'Opuntia' #260** (St. Urho's Day 2013). Edited/published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2E7. 8½ × 5½ inches (landscape).



“Non-Fiction Book Reviews”: Reviews autobiography *And Now...Here's Max* by Canadian broadcaster Max Ferguson, and *Insultingly Stupid Movie Physics* by Tom Rogers. Ferguson sounds awesome and makes me wish I were in radio. It's good that Rogers specifies “insultingly.” Everyone has a different threshold for bad science in movies. Your threshold depends on how much science you know and how much you suspend your disbelief. I don't know a tremendous amount about science, so it takes something really egregious like people breathing in space to really pull me out of the movie. Even then, it's possible to get through some stories if you just accept that in the universe of the story, there is breathable air in space. Most of Rogers's examples (such as where does the Hulk's extra mass come from), I could handwave thus.

On the other hand, I suspend disbelief fairly hard, so when a movie breaks its own rules, or tries to make me worry about a character and then saves them through unbelievable means, I do feel cheated. The worst crime is glaring inconsistency. Don't ask us to be concerned about something and then ignore it later.

Also: “Human Evolution: Part 2: We Migrated and Migrated and Migrated”; “Transit Fanning in Calgary: Part 3: Articulata”; “The Past Was Prologue”; “What Is FAPA?”; “Comments on FAPA #302.”

**'The Voyageur' #196** (October 2013). Edited by Georgina Miles and Roy Miles, 26 Doddington Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M8Y 1S4. Published by Infinite Diversity International Corporation, operating as USS *Hudson Bay*, % Lynda L. Ciaschini, 7050 Weston Road, Suite 301, Woodbridge, Ontario, L4L 8G7. “Official Newsletter of the USS *Hudson Bay*.”

“Editorial”; “Birthday Wishes”; “*Sleepy Hollow*,” “*Dracula*,” “*American Horror Story: Coven*,” “*Once Upon a Time in Wonderland*” (summaries); “*Supernatural* Season Nine,” “*Sleepy Hollow* Welcomes *Fringe* Star,” “Nifty News” (media news); “A Riot in the Capital City—Chapter 1” (fiction); “Stratford Festival Legacy Award Gala,” “Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association [*Lifetime Achievement Award*],” “Aurora Award Winners 2013” (awards); “Cons and Events”; “Club Meetings”; “Hailing Frequencies.”

## E-Zines Received

‘**OSFS Statement**’ #394 (February 2012). Edited by Grant Duff, 456 Gladstone Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1R 5N8, [editor@ottawasfs.ca](mailto:editor@ottawasfs.ca). Published by Ottawa Science Fiction Society, 26076–72 Robertson Road, Ottawa, Ontario, K2H 9R6, <http://ottawasfs.ca/>.

“President’s Column”; “Editor’s Blather”; “Events Coöordinator”; “The Sunday Question”; “Literary News”; “Coming Events”; “Bad News Here, Folks”; “Astro-nomy”; “Physics”; “How Time Flies.”

‘**Swill @ 30**’ #12 (February 2012). Edited by Neil Jamieson-Williams, [swill@uldunemedia.ca](mailto:swill@uldunemedia.ca). Published by VileFen Press, a division of Klatha Entertainment, an Uldune Media company, <http://swill.uldunemedia.ca/>. #12 at [Swill website](#).



“Editorial: Goose-Stepping Toward Tomorrow”: A great article, covering the subconscious tendency toward authoritarianism in SF, and trends in authoritarianism or democracy throughout human history including the present. I’d like to read more about this, so I hope Neil finds and publishes his lost essays someday.

“Pissing on a Pile of Old Amazings: ...A Modest Column by Lester Rainsford”: I like the phrase “Ikea-bookshelf-collapsing series.”

“Scribbling on the Bog Wall: Letters of Comment”: Neil uses my review of *Swill @ 30* #9 in *BCSFAzine* #464 as a LOC and takes my suggestion of VTCorona as a more readable dirty-typewriter font. Thanks!

“Endnote: Good Old Days”: I frequently miss the past, but lately it’s more because I miss my own youth, health, and innocence<sup>10</sup> than because I would like to time-travel to an earlier era. When I’m at my most scared/depressed, I believe that I should have died the night after the high school graduation party, thus sparing myself future health problems and failure at life. When I’m at my least scared/depressed, I only wish I’d made fewer mistakes; been nicer; known then what I know now; and archived and documented every person, place, event, object, or medium, including those which I had and lost, those which I could have had but neglected to have, and those which I never knew existed but know now, so I could still enjoy it today.

Also: “Thrashing Trufen: Archival Swill”; “Flogging a Dead Trekkie: Classic Butchery” (review); a vandalized Potlatch 21 flyer, rotated 90° clockwise.

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10 All of which I group under a concept I’m tentatively calling “innocence privilege”: the privilege of being innocent of having personally experienced age, illness, injury, deformity, failure, poverty, the loss of loved ones, and the awareness that the world is a dark place where evil prospers at the expense of good, and people are considered disposable.

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“Dark Tides” (news of pros); “Conceill” (conventions/events); “Infinitely Improbable” (news, including obituaries and the dry wit of “As Others See Us” and “Thog’s Masterclass”); “Geeks’ Corner”; “Endnotes.”

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