

BCSFAzine

The Newsletter of the
British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#491

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April 1986



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This issue was created with the new Apple IIgs computer and ImageWriter II printer. The cover illustration fell through a temporal warp from four years in the future.

THIS AND NEXT MONTH IN BCSFA

- Sunday 13 April at 7 PM: April BCSFA meeting--at Ray Seredin's, 707 Hamilton Street (recreation room), New Westminster. Note that this is one week earlier than usual.
- Friday 18 April: Submission deadline for May BCSFAZINE (Ideally).
- Friday 25 April: May BCSFAZINE production (theoretically).
- Sunday 18 May at 7 PM: May BCSFA meeting.
- Friday 23 May: Submission deadline for June BCSFAZINE (Ideally).
- Friday 30 May: June BCSFAZINE production (theoretically).

LETTERS OF COMMENT

[Editor's responses in brackets.]

EDNA GUEST
A Gestetner Machine,
1 Cyclostyle Plaza,
Chuo, Tokyo,
Japan

Wednesday 12 March 1986



Help! I'm stuck inside a Gestetner machine! I don't know how it happened. One minute I was standing there with my stencil in my hand, and the next, I was absorbed by the machine. Please send help! You BCSFAns are my only hope!

P.S. I am almost out of paper. Does anyone know where I can get more?

MICHAEL CITRAK
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Saturday 15 March 2014

Per BCSFA490:

"Stew said something about the latest right-wing outrage--that when Whitney Houston died, President Obama flew the flag at half-mast, but when Shirley Temple Black--an actual ambassador and public servant--died, he didn't."

Read Snopes, it's very interesting:

<http://www.snopes.com/politics/military/shirleytemple.asp>

Also, please recall Justin Bieber back to Canada.
Thanks.

AURELIANA COX
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Sunday 15 March 2014

I must object, in the strongest possible acceptable language, to all the filthy, filthy words in your publication. To think that deviant perverts like you are allowed to spread your disgusting smut all over our nice clean Internet fills me with the urge to spank you all! The following words must never, ever be printed in your dirty little magazine again, or I shall be forced to cancel my subscription indefinitely!



Stroke, fondle, engorge, rear, underwear, behind, bottom, shorts, semprini, pants, seat, cleft, cheeks, buns, and of course, goat.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. Fanny Knockbottom

JOHN PURCELL
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Saturday 15 March 2014

Wow! Eleven more issues to #500 for the zine! Impressive run, and it's good to be around for seeing that milestone reached. Anything special being planned for the 500th issue, Felicity?

I think I shall leap right into a handful of comments, starting with Sheryl Birkhead's LOC in which she addresses me. Yes, winter is supposedly winding down but it is not going away without a last hurrah or two. Or three. Maybe a few more winter storms will rumble across the landscape before all is said and done. No question about it, but this winter has been one for the record books.

Sheryl also mentions that the Hugo nomination period is now open, and I shall be certainly taking part in that. Sadly, I am not as up on the fiction categories as I should be; the long and short form dramatic presentations and the fan categories are my strong suits, yes, but how can anybody read even 10% of all the science fiction and fantasy published in a single year nowadays? There is so much that the Hugo writing categories tend to become voting blocks of one author's fans against another's, which is a tendency that bothers me quite a bit. Unfortunately I cannot see a way out of this, unless the field suddenly collapses in on itself like a black hole, sucking all of the available literature into a tiny, condensed pebble of text. But that would be damned hard to read, so to heck with this analogy.

Dave Haren's LOC is interesting, and I want to thank him for that link to the Campbell ANTHOLOGY. That sounds like a good way to promote new writers, definitely. And Lloyd Penney's LOC details the exploits of the Ford brothers. All I can say is that if both Rob and Doug Ford are no longer publicly elected officials, who are comedians going to make fun of? Oh, that's right: the American Republican party is always good for guffaws, and the Democrats are trying to catch up to them, but not too fast. Politics is always excellent fodder for comedy writers.

As always, the listing of Upcoming Events in your neck of the north woods (northwest woods?) is extensive. You people are going to be busy. Down here we have Aggiecon 45 coming up on April 4-6, 2014, but for the first time since 2006 I won't be attending because I have a professional conference the same weekend out in the Hill Country of Texas (an hour west of Austin, that is). BUMMER, but my wife Valerie will have some of her artwork on display in the Aggiecon art show, so here's hoping she does well again. That con is usually fairly successful for her wares.

With that, I believe I am done here. Many thanks for posting, and I'll keep my eyes open for the next one at efanzines.

All the best,

John Purcell

"Never interrupt your enemy while he is making a mistake."--Napoleon Bonaparte

BRENT FRANCIS
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Sunday 16 March 2014

Hi Ms. Kendall. Thanks again for the newsletter, stellar as always. Coupla comments--

The Canadian film with the scene where a soldier cheats on his wife is CARRY ON SERGEANT (1928). It was never "lost"; in fact it was the biggest budget movie in Canadian silent film history (500,000 clams). Its director, Bruce Bairnsfather, created the most popular comic strip in World War 1 (OL' BILL) and worked on one of the first sound films (1927) and TV broadcasts (1936) in Britain. The lead, Hugh Buckler, was a famous song & dance man who played on Broadway.



It was also one of the biggest flops in Canadian movie history (and that's saying something...).

In fact it's like a template for what can go wrong with big budget movies:

The director also wrote the script, then decided to abandon it & made up the story as he went along. Like many another "auteur" he used his reputation to stop any criticism.

Result: Massive cost overruns due to no one knowing what was going to be filmed. An entire miniature village complete with buildings that exploded in a puff of smoke was built and never used. An extra playing a dead German soldier with his head in a puddle of water had to wait

while people argued until it turned to ice. Etc. etc. etc.

The cheating scene didn't help, but how could anyone watch a movie where the final battle occurs as a flash-back AFTER the war is over?

The "lost" movies you mentioned were a half a million feet of newsreels & bits of US features found in 1978. The pool had been turned into a rink. Kids used to find bits of movies lying on the surface & burn them! (Good thing they didn't know about the stash--it was so explosive a military plane had to carry them back to Ottawa). Similar loads have been found in Siberia and Mongolia, so mammoths aren't the only things up there.



Take care.

(Oh and re: urban rodents. I worked three blocks from the Skydome for 20 odd years in the core of downtown Toronto. There were so many rats due to the garbage from the tourists & restaurants that I nearly PATTED one. I thought it was a kitten till I saw the tail).

TARAL WAYNE
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Sunday 16 March 2014

"Torontocentrism in the media."
Funny you should mention that, since all my life it's seemed the other way around. How many TV shows has the CBC produced that take place in Toronto? The only one of note that I can remember was KING OF KENSINGTON. There was also TUG BOAT ANNIE, the TV series based on the Marjorie Main movies and series of now-forgotten SATURDAY POST stories from the 1930s. In 1957 it was filmed as a series called THE ADVENTURES OF TUGBOAT ANNIE, and shot in Toronto Harbor. I don't think it was meant as Toronto Harbor, however, but as New York Harbor...so perhaps it didn't count.



Curiously, I went to school with a boy whose father played a hand on ANNIE's tugboat.

Other CBC shows that were possibly related to Toronto included CANNONBALL, the story of two truckers who drove Highway 401. But one might as well say it was a show about Windsor, London, Kitchener-Waterloo and Hamilton, Ontario. I've driven the 401 many times myself, *ahem*.



Then there was THE LITTLEST HOBO. The transient canine traveled the entire country, following roads and hopping freights, rescuing hapless humans from fires, bandits, car wrecks, quicksand, zombies and innumerable other hazards. At one time or another, Hobo must

have passed through Toronto, or at least close enough to hear Foster Hewitt shout, "He shoots, he scoooooorrrres!"

In the 1960s I lived in a flat over an animal hospital, where my father worked as an assistant. One of the patients was "Hobo." Actually, there were five German Shepherds; each trained to do different stunts. You didn't think any one dog was smart enough to do all that did you?

But other than that, I draw blank on the subject of Toronto in the CBC.

Instead, it seems to me that the CBC has usually produced shows about tiny hamlets of a few hundred people. Most recently, LITTLE MOSQUE ON THE PRAIRIE and TRAILER PARK BOYS. The epitome of such programs had to be the extremely long-run show about Peggy's Cove, a speck on the map of the BC coast. THE BEACHCOMBERS was one part sitcom and one part soap opera.

I'm sure there were a host of other shows that the CBC made that were set in Medicine Hat, Chibougamau, Gananoque, Red Deer, Peace River, St. Johns and Thunder Bay that most of us have never heard of, much less seen. "Torontocentric"? Not likely. If anything the CBC has proportionately represented the inhabitants of Canada's small towns and rural routes 25 times over the residents of our nation's big cities, including Toronto.

"Torontocentric" makes more sense when speaking of the news, however. But the fact is that an awful lot more does happen in an urban sprawl of 5 million compared to towns of a half-million or less. Even when added together the rest of the country only outnumbers Torontonians by about 6 to 1. There is the urban effect to consider, as well. Lethbridge may have a population of under 100,000 (I just checked that), but it does not stand to reason to expect it to have 1/50 the number of universities, museums, symphony orchestras, auto shows, off-Broadway productions, Ethiopian restaurants or science-fiction bookstores, much less a Caribbean festival, international author's symposium, a gigantic gay pride parade, world class pot symposium and so on. Because of the concentra-

tion of people and money, big cities are more cosmopolitan than mere numbers suggest.

I'd go as far as to say that it is between Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver and Edmonton/Calgary, that virtually all the news in Canada happens. The rest is about ski accidents in Banff, fishing boats that over-turned off the coast of Newfoundland and ketchup-factories closing in Leamington, Ontario.

Then there is Quebec. Gawd knows what the CBC shows in Quebec, but I bet it has little to do with Toronto. And have you noticed how there has never seemed to be a show about Montreal shown in English Canada? Perhaps there was one. I know there was an animated cartoon called JACOB TWO-TWO, based on a series of children's book by Mordecai Richler. That scarcely counts, since it's more about being a Jewish-Canadian kid than French-Canadian. But what about Quebec City? Trois Rivières? Gatineau? Do you ever wonder, what's going on in La Belle Province that they don't want us to know about?

[Each season of KINK (2001-2005) was set in a different Canadian city. Season three was in Montreal. Other cities included Vancouver (first for once!), Toronto, Winnipeg, and Halifax.]

If you must ponder conspiracies, there's one for you!

DAVE HAREN
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Wednesday 19 March 2014

Hi Felicity,

Topics from last time.

The first Marine Chapter unit was Crimson Fists from the ROGUE TRADER manual for 40K.

The second generation unit is the Bluebirds of Happiness whose banner is the smiley face. They were named deliberately to irk the over-serious WARHAMMER types.

My major unit is the Lunar Wolves, famous as heretics who went over to Chaos.

On the other topic, pallid muddlers as the current hero model: check out Graeme's posts on Violet Ray.



Compare her as a heroine to any of the current SF types of male hero.

[I've read Graeme's articles on the Golden Amazon. It looks like the anti-heroes I mentioned last month are not so recent a phenomenon after all!]



Then read some Keith Laumer. I think Baen has some in the free library available as ebooks.

Here's the kind of people the new literature produces.

Quote of the day by Dianne Feinstein...

Dianne Feinstein: "All vets are mentally ill in some way and government should prevent them from owning firearms."

Yep--she really said it on Thursday in a meeting in front of the Senate Judiciary Committee...and the quote below from the LA TIMES is priceless. Sometimes even the LA TIMES gets it right.

Kurt Nimmo: "Senator Feinstein insults all US veterans as she flays about in a vain attempt to save her anti-firearms bill."

[I think he means "flails," but he's right about the insult. I read through [Feinstein's Wikipedia entry](#) looking for something positive, even in the distant past, so I could say "She's changed." Instead I found that she refused to appear in San Francisco's gay pride parade and vetoed domestic partner legislation; angered police by revealing details about the hunt for Richard Ramirez; failed to report campaign contributions; voted for the PATRIOT Act, FISA (warrantless wiretapping), and PIPA; and called Edward Snowden a traitor. She also served on the Trilateral Commission (which believes we have too much democracy) and she has a net worth of \$99 million, which are not necessarily damning in and of themselves, but one wonders if she really sympathizes with the average person.]

Quote of the Day from the LOS ANGELES TIMES:

"Frankly, I don't know what it is about California, but we seem to have a strange urge to elect really obnoxious women to high office. I'm not bragging, you understand, but no other state, including Maine, even comes close. When it comes to sending left-wing dingbats to Washington, we're Number One. There's no getting around the fact that the last time anyone saw the likes of Bar-

bara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, Maxine Waters, and Nancy Pelosi, they were stirring a cauldron when the curtain went up on MACBETH. The four of them are like jackasses who happen to possess the gift of blab. You don't know if you should condemn them for their stupidity or simply marvel at their ability to form words."

--Columnist Burt Prelutsky, LOS ANGELES TIMES



[I don't know their personalities, but based on their records, they don't seem all that bad. Boxer, while wrong on some issues, seems to have done more good than Feinstein. She's for affordable health care, medical research, keeping jobs

in the US, regulating banks, raising the minimum wage, protecting the environment, and a paper trail for electronic voting. She voted against privatizing Social Security, invading Iraq, and recognizing the Taliban as the government of Afghanistan (long before 9/11). Waters did say that "THE LOS ANGELES TIMES has had an inordinate effect on public opinion and has used it to harm the local community in specific instances" and tried to get the FCC to force the paper to sell its TV station, KTLA-TV, so it's no wonder they hate her. She's been corrupt, but she voted against NDAA (indefinite detention of US citizens without trial) and the Iraq war, and for HR 2397 Amendment 100 (restricting the NSA's data-collection). Pelosi has a similarly mixed record. The four of them seem no more or less jackassy than the rest of the government. I wonder what standard Prelutsky is using.]

This looney belongs to a political party who is currently trying to confront a nuclear armed superpower by saber rattling thinking they can scare the Russian bear. Obviously alienating the veterans from wars you voted for will make them eager to back your stupidity. At least she's displaced Toronto Ford from his perch in politics publicity.

I've been dusting my SF armies display cases, so you'll be able to choose a few pictures to use.

I also found a nice steampunk model for a reasonable price. Reviresco has a deluxe version of a land leviathan with crew figures, naval cannon, and machine guns. You'll need some modelling skills for it but you won't see this every day.

<http://www.tin-soldier.com/steamtank.html>

WS-Clave has some interesting SF prints on DeviantArt, done in the style of old vehicle prints of motorcars. These are of the Thunderbirds and others I don't recognize. Taral has decided he is behind in the race as Graeme pulled ahead. Details in BROKEN TOYS.



<http://www.pelgranepress.com/?p=7148>

This is to a site that has some interesting things for the RPG player. I liked Vance's fiction so role play in that milieu should be fun.

If you have sunglasses check out the zine ORPHEUM #6. I think Glitter Gulch has warped another victim.

We need to get the Golden Amazon series made into movies. Not by Disney!!

Now all I have to do is glue on a few pics.
40K Orks this time.

Formatting is totally screwed. I just did an upgrade to LibreOffice and it looks like it changed text defaults.

[Upgrades to LibreOffice will do that! I still can't use to Page Up/Page Down to select more than one page of text at a time.]

Warm regards,
Dave Haren

TARAL WAYNE
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Sunday 19 March 2014

Murkey MURDOCH:

I was unaware of this, but arguably it's about a city in 1900 that is not the city of Toronto today.

MICHAEL BERTRAND
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Tuesday 26 March 2013

Hi there BCSFAns! Can you believe it's already spring-time? Officially, spring started on the 21st of March, but back home on PEI, where it's so backwards they are

even behind on the weather, the official start of spring has always been a rueful joke.

To illustrate my point, right now, today, the 26th of March, my home province is being lambasted by a winter storm so severe, they are comparing it to a hurricane.

You know, just...frozen.



Wow, can you believe it's issue #490 already? That means that next January's issue will be issue #500! That's one heck of a milestone. We are going to have to do something very special for that issue. Maybe print it on extra fancy paper.

Re: CAR WARS: I have played it. It was too technical and complicated for me at the time. I was around fourteen, and I just could not follow what was going on. I could probably handle it now. I have gotten a lot better at turn based strategic thinking since then, thanks to video games like CIVILIZATION and HEROES OF MIGHT AND MAGIC.

Re: The Ukraine: I can't be as calm as Dave Haren about this. Russia has to be stopped. Imperialism has to stay dead. Otherwise, the next century will be filled with war, chaos, and strife as all the players look out for themselves and try to get whatever they can, just like the 1800s.

Re: "The Cold Equations": To me, it is a moral horror story. Like Felicity said, it is purposely set up to create the most cognitive dissonance between our emotional sense of right and wrong and what our intellect tells us is the only acceptable course. I find it quite terrifying, as that is the exact sort of situation I dread. It is a Utilitarian nightmare.

Well, that's enough column inches for this month. Seeya next month, folks!

RANDOM NOSTALGIA

"ARLI\$\$"

Amiga 1000

Nintendo Game & Watch

IBM PC/XT

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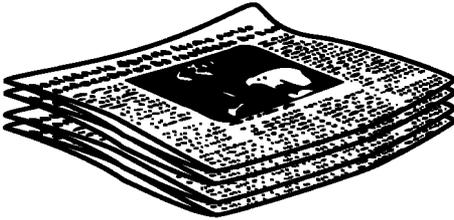
Tuesday 1 April 2014

Dear BCSFAns:

Don't care what it says on the calendar, no April Fool's today! Instead, real and honest comments based on what I read in issue 490 of BCSFAZINE. Really!

When it comes to the Jonathan Ross debacle with Loncon 3, I am not too concerned about it. Memories are short, and the whole thing will be mostly forgotten once the Hugos are handed out, and the usual storm of criticism passes. Wossy may be a good host, even with a chequered past, but I am not sure why they didn't initially go with someone from within the SF community.

Today, I had an interview with a magazine/directory publishing company in the north part of the city, and tomorrow, I start up five days of marking high school literacy tests from the EQAO, the Education Quality Agency of Ontario. At least it's some work, about \$150 a day. I can handle that...



My letter...when I spent the summer on Vancouver Island between my second and final years of journalism studies, I worked at a weekly newspaper up island headquartered in Parksville called THE ARROWSMITH STAR. (I checked...doesn't exist any more.) I reported on sports, entertainment and the courts. Word got out in the villages (at the time) of Parksville and Qualicum Beach that I was there from Toronto, and some people simply wouldn't talk to me, or they spent their time laughing at me because I was from there. There were times I had to go back to my editor, and tell him why I couldn't get a particular story, and he'd send someone else out to get the info, or he'd do it himself. At least a couple of articles of mine were picked up by THE DAILY COLONIST in Victoria, before it amalgamated with THE TIMES.

RANDOM NOSTALGIA

Sega 32X
"ULTRA KLUTZ"

Mention of PRISONERS OF GRAVITY...the TVO archive has all but the first season there, and it was a first-season episode I was on. I suspect that first-season episode is completely gone. I talked with Commander Rick about STAR TREK clubs.

[YouTube user [TedDog3000](#) has it! While watching it at the apartment we were psyched to see you. I should check out the TVO archive for more episodes.]

We're ramping up our own steampunk merchandise table, or at least, the marketing of the products. This coming weekend is Ad Astra, and two weeks after that is a steampunk event in Oshawa, and we will be advertising the fact that we will have tables at CostumeCon in Toronto in April, and at Anime North in May. We are hoping for some financial success this spring.

Made the page! Many thanks for this issue...with the ridiculous postage rates we all must deal with, if sending copies of BCSFAZINE to me becomes a financial hardship, let me know, and just send me .PDFs. Don't mind at all, and certainly understand. See you the next time.

Yours,

Lloyd Penney

JASON BURNETT
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Tuesday 8 April 2014

Hi Felicity,



Re Dave Haren's LOC: I had the pleasure of meeting Aaron Allston at Coastcon 14 (1991). He gave a panel on how to work in the role-playing game industry, then stayed around and chatted with my friends and me for about another hour afterward. We were a group of small-town teenage fanboys, fairly clueless about how the larger world worked, and in that afternoon he gave us a crash course in what the industry was like on the inside. I still remember him for that.

CAR WARS is an awesome game (I've still got my copy down in the basement, somewhere). There's room in it for role-playing, but the combat is really front and cen-

ter. There were enough supplements including vehicle designs that you wouldn't need to design your own vehicle (though it's simple enough to do if you wanted to give it a shot). For a more role-playing oriented experience, there was a CAR WARS themed GURPS book (GURPS: AUTODUEL)--I never owned it, but based on my experience with the rest of the GURPS line, I wouldn't hesitate to recommend it.

Take care,
Jason Burnett

WE ALSO HEARD FROM:

actifans, afterburners, anarchists, animen, anoraks, apters, armekians, a shirt, barbarian invaders, battlechargers, beachcombers, beamriders, bears, beastmasters, beatniks, bioroids, bizarros, blanks, blasters, blockers, boffins, bogans, boosters, bottoms, breakers, bronies, bladerunners, borgs, browncoats, catgirls, cajuns, casuals, cats and dogs living together, chesterfields, chobos, choppers, chuds, chummers, cliffjumpers, clockers, cloudrakers, combattlers, combiners, confans, cosplayers, cosmen, cowtowners, crackers, cryptids, cybercops, cutters, daddies, dancougars, deckers, derelicts, deros, dinosaurs, donairs, doubleheaders, droppers, duke boys, dungeonmasters, eliminators, emos, enforcers, eofans, fabulous freebirds, fakefans, faneds, femfans, filkers, fixers, flatscans, foreign objects, frantics, freejacks, fuggheads, furies, futurians, galaxy rangers, gamers, gauchos, gay robots, gentleman thieves, getters, ghods, ghostriders, ghughuists, goatboys, gobots, goths, grandizers, grapplers, greys, hackers, headbangers, headmasters, heavy metallers, herberts, herculoids, high-fivin' white guys, highlanders, highwaymen, hipsters, holograms, hoofers, hosers, hucksters, huffers, hulkamaniacs, human serviettes, inhumanoids, insurgents, itlans, jabronis, japanders, jobbers, juggalos, junglists, keeners, kickers, klickers, klingons, kogals, landers, leathernecks, lectroids, letterhacks, limp lizards, lobos, loopers, lowbrows, makers, man-animals, mandroids, marks, marysues, mazingers, meddling kids, melvinists, mercers, methnecks, michelists, micromasters, midnight bombers,





mighty morphin power rangers, misfits, mister johnsons, mix-masters, mongos, motormasters, msties, muties, mysterians, nautilators, neos, nerf herders, nice gilmorgans, nephilim, night creepers, night rangers, nitro girls, noted futurists, nudniks, nyborgs, otakus, otherkins, paranoids, parts unknown, pathfinders, pierrots, plugheads, polliclubs, poo guys, postmodernists, preppies, pretenders, progs, psychlos, psychobil-

lies, pumamen, punkers, queen-haters, rasslers, reanimators, reflectors, replicants, reptoids, riggers, ring-rats, rippersnappers, rivetheads, roadbusters, roadhandlers, road warriors, robot jox, rockers, rockman lovers driving lamborghinis, rumblers, scadians, scanners, scary bouncing ugly balls, scavengers, schmenges, scienceers, scrappers, seapunks, sectaurs, seedpeople, seekers, sepos, shadowrunners, sheets, shippers, shogun warriors, shooters, shorties, shuvs, sidehackers, sissies, skants, skaters, skiffers, skullcrunchers, skystrikers, slackers, slags, slors, slugslingers, smarks, smofs, snorks, socks, soultakers, soundblasters, spaceballs, spacers, spark-stalkers, spivs, splatterpunks, springers, squids, stalkers, stardancers, star sheriffs, steampunks, steppers, stimmers, stingers, strokefondlers, submarauders, sunrunners, sunstreakers, superfriends, supertroopers, sweeps, targetmasters, teenage mutant ninja turtles, teros, terters, texas gladiators, thrashers, thundercats, tinas, tops, torgos, torontocentrists, torpedoes, trailbreakers, trancers, tranks, transhumanoids, trekkies, triple-

changers, trufans, turkey doctors, tuskers, twinks, two-fours, uzbeks, vampires, vatican assassin warlocks, vidlots, vipers, voidoids, vombies, waldos, walk-ins, waveriders, whovians, wiggers, wildriders, windchargers, wiseguys, yentas, zeds, zone troopers, zontars, zoomers, zozos, and zuuls.



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 Monday 7 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"x11")." "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: any art or design work inspired by films made in 1984 (such as DUNE, GHOSTBUSTERS, GREMLINS, REVENGE OF THE NERDS, 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. Deadline is Saturday May 31 at 4 PM.--Julian Castle

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

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

2 February, 16 March, 13 April, 4 May, 1 June, 6 July, 10 August, and 7 September 2014: VCON Convention Committee (ConCom) Monthly Meetings, 2-4 PM at Brandywine Bartending [School], 241 Union Street, Vancouver. "If you are on our concom, or interested in becoming involved with VCON 39, we invite you to attend our monthly planning meetings! VCON is Vancouver's premier fantasy and science fiction convention since 1971 and everyone who works to make VCON happen is a volunteer. We are completely non-profit and fan run. 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 of the VCON experience. So if you like sci-fi/fantasy art, writing, craft, film, costuming, or gaming, etc. and want to meet some new fellow geeklings, let us know and come on out! We'd love to have you in on the inner workings of our convention and be front row for the newest happenings in the world of the geektastic! NOTE: The location is all-ages appropriate as it is a bartending SCHOOL with no alcohol on site. Meeting schedule for 2014: Sunday 2 February 2 • Sunday 16 March • Sunday 13 April • Sunday 4 May • Sunday 1 June • Sunday 6 July • Sunday 10 August • Sunday 7 September--last regular meeting before the convention • Sunday 28 September--bag stuffing (time and location to be determined) • Thursday 2 October--evening Guest of Honour/concom reception (exact time and location to be determined) • Friday 3 October--morning Guest of Honour/concom breakfast (exact time and location to be determined) • 3-5 October: VCON! • Sunday 2 November--VCON 39 debrief."--VCON via Jenni Merrifield

8 February-6 April 2014: Keith Langergraber: Theatre of the Exploding Sun at Richmond Art Gallery, in Richmond Cultural Centre, 7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond. "Focuses on a three-part film, TIME TRAVELLER TRILOGY," plus sculptures & drawings. "The work is situated in sci fi culture." Hours: Monday-Wednesday & Friday 10 AM-6 PM, Thursdays 10 AM-9 PM, weekends 10 AM-5 PM. Closed stat holidays. Free admission. Telephone: 604-247-8300."--Julian Castle

APRIL 2014

April is National Humour Month, Card and Letter Writing Month, Extreme Font Month, Stupid Banana Raincoat Wearing Month, and Month or Astromonth?

1 April 2014: DEAN MCGEE and ACTUAL FOOD's birthdays. Take an Insecticon to Lunch Day.

1 April 2014: RUN RUN IT'S HIM Website Launch and 10 Dollar Download! at <http://www.runrunitshim.com/>. "If you're anything like me, scanning the events page of your Facebook wall probably fills you with dread. 'I don't want to go see that person's film, band, reading, art show. What the fuck am I gonna say to them if I hate it?' Imagine a film premiere where you don't have to talk to anyone. Enter the launch of RUN RUN IT'S HIM the website. For a measly \$10 you can have the pleasure of watching and owning a download of my very personal documentary. What's that you say? 'How the hell am I supposed to know what it's all about if I can't read the back of a DVD?' Well here's what it would say: 'Has Matthew been wasting his life? He's 29 years old with four memberships at adult video stores, 55 tapes of compiled porn, and absolutely nothing to show for it: no girlfriend, no ambition, only a big stack of porn. Enter RUN RUN IT'S HIM, an autobiographical documentary exploring in intimate detail how Matthew's addiction to porn has warped his understanding of women and dominated his personal relationships. Shot over the course of seven years, RUN RUN IT'S HIM follows Matthew as he interviews his parents, ex-girlfriends, female acquaintances, and a fellow porn connoisseur, struggling to figure out what went wrong before it's too late.' Now enough talk, come April 1st just download the fuckin' thing!"--Matt Pollack via Robin Bougie

1 April 2014: West Coast Geeks Versus Nerds--Episode 16, 7-9 PM at Fanclub (new location), 1050 Granville Street, Vancouver. The monthly (first Tuesday of each month) comedy showdown of debate about pop culture icons. Aquaman vs. John Carter: who is the most under-rated hero? Bugs Bunny vs. the Hulk: who is the master of destruction? Costumes & fun t-shirts encouraged & potentially rewarded! Door prizes courtesy of sponsors: GameDeals, IRL Events, Golden Age, The Fictionals, The Connection Games & Comics, Metropolis Comics, Magic Stronghold, Toy Traders, Storm Crow Tavern, C & C Cakery, KaruCrafts,

Fortress Geek, EXIT Canada, Giant Monster Games, & North-West Fan Fest. Tickets: \$10 at the door or online; “must be over 19 years of age.”

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 April and 6, 13, 20, and 27 May 2014 (Tuesdays): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5-10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.--Keith Lim

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 April and 6, 13, 20, and 27 May 2014 (Tuesdays): Vancouver Hack Space Open House, 7:30-10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue (new location as of May 2013), Vancouver. Phone: 778-330-1234.--Julian Castle

2 April 2014: COLIN UPTON’s birthday.

2, 9, 16, and 23 April and 7, 14, 21, and 28 May 2014 (Wednesdays): Cloudscape Comics Weekly Meeting, 7:30-11:30 PM at top floor of Memorial South Park’s field-house, located inside the park at 5955 Ross Street (at 41st Avenue), Vancouver.--Keith Lim/Julian Castle

3 April 2014: Think Really Hard About Cabbage Day.--Bert M. Rand

3 and 17 April and 1, 15, and 29 May 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 for details.”--Allan Lowson (on Richmond Writers Network Facebook Group)

3-7, 9-13, 17-21, 23-28, and 30 April and 2 May: From Within: The Films of David Cronenberg (film retrospective) at the Cinémathèque, 1131 Howe Street, Vancouver. 3 April: refreshments and intro: 6:30 PM doors, 7:30 PM VIDEODROME screening introduced by Ernest Mathijs (author of THE CINEMA OF DAVID CRONENBERG). Films (sorted by year of feature): STEREO (1969 sci-fi; Cronenberg’s first feature) preceded by TRANSFER (1966, 7 mins.; David’s first film), CRIMES OF THE FUTURE (1970; post-apocalyptic) preceded by FROM THE DRAIN (1967, 13 mins.; David’s second short), SHIVERS AKA THEY CAME FROM WITHIN (1975 horror/SF; debated in parliament and “the first profitable CFDC-financed feature”), RABID (1977 horror/SF), THE BROOD (1979 horror/SF) preceded by CAMERA (2000,

6 mins.), SCANNERS (1981 sci-fi/horror), VIDEODROME (1983 sci-fi/horror), THE DEAD ZONE (1983 horror/SF), THE FLY (1986 sci-fi/horror) preceded by AT THE SUICIDE OF THE LAST JEW IN THE WORLD AT [or IN] THE LAST CINEMA IN THE WORLD (2007, 4 mins.), NAKED LUNCH (1991 fantasy/drama), EXISTENZ (1999 sci-fi/thriller) and nine other films. \$3 annual Cinémathèque membership required. Adult tickets: \$11 single-bill; \$14 double-bill; \$108 ten double-bill passes. Senior/student tickets: \$9 single-bill; \$12 double-bill; \$88 ten double-bill passes.--Julian Castle

4 April 2014: Premiere of films CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE WINTER SOLDIER (superhero; Samuel L. Jackson, Robert Redford, Stan Lee, Jenny Agutter, Garry Shandling) and SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SERIF! (font/space western; Kees Fett, Geneva Monaco, Ariel Kern).

4, 11, 18, and 25 April and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 May 2014: Magic: The Gathering Friday Night Games, 5:30-9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. "Tonight is the night for Magic: The Gathering here at Imperial Hobbies! Drop by and play in a casual open setting with a group of great people, or learn one on one how to play with one of our staff. Contact: Stephanie."

4-6 April 2014: 41st Annual Trumpeter Tabletop Gaming Society Salute Convention, Banquet Hall, Bonsor Centre, Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby. "Admission: \$30 full weekend--\$10 Friday--\$20 Saturday--\$10 Sunday. Tickets: admission sold at door (no online sales). Three days of gaming! For more information: president@trumpetersociety.com, gamesmaster@trumpetersociety.com."

5 April 2014: Pop Culture Collectibles Fair & Computer Swap Meet, 10 AM-3 PM at Scottish Cultural Centre, 8886 Hudson Street, Vancouver. "Our first event of this year [...] Affordable and fun [...] A great selection of [...] electronics, computer items, printers, monitors, cell phones, memory, and more! [...] Also [...] rare toys, memorabilia, new cards, current and vintage comics (early DC & Marvel), coins, action figures, crafts, Transformers, STAR WARS collectibles, wrestling, boxing, Hot Wheels, eight-track tapes, die-cast models, art, jewelry, movies, video games, records, CDs, DVDs, and all kinds of collectibles! Lots of great deals! Free STAR WARS comic book to the first 100 guests. Turn your extra items into cash \$. Eight-foot dealer tables \$40 each or

two for \$70. Admission: \$3. Children 12 & under free. Free parking. For more info, please visit <http://www.fun-promo.com/>.”--Verne Siebert

5 April 2014: International Tabletop Boardgame Day, 10:30 AM-5:30 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Come on in and participate in some great boardgame demonstrations. This is an open event so come on in sit down and play some great games with fellow boardgame enthusiasts! Contact: Chris.”

5, 12, 19, and 26 April and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 May 2014 (Fridays): Friday Board Game Night--Drexoll Games, 7-11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4th Avenue (½ block west of MacDonald Street), Vancouver.--Keith Lim

5 April 2014: Vancouver Retro Gaming Expo at the Columbia, 530 Columbia Street, New Westminster. Pre-reg (1) from VRGE website or (2) in person from Gamedeals Video Games (open noon-7 PM every day), 407 Columbia Street, New Westminster. Tickets: \$20 each; kids under 8 are free with adult ticket. Group rate for 10+ people (e-mail for info).--Julian Castle

5, 12, 19, and 26 April and 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 May 2014 (Saturdays): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12-7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.--Keith Lim

6 April 2014: APRIL CLARKE’s birthday.

6 April 2014: BA Campaign Day: Scenario 3 (Game Demo), 12-5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “THE ROAD TO WAR--BOLT ACTION ESCALATION SERIES. Starting mid-March, Imperial Hobbies will be hosting an escalation league for the BOLT ACTION 28 mm wargame. Starting at 500 points for the month of March, each month will feature an increase of 250 points to bring players up to the tournament standard (1000 points) in May. Each event date will feature one of the possible scenarios from the rule book. Finally, on May 25th there will be a 1000-point tournament featuring the scenarios used during each of the event Sundays. Contact: Chris.”

6, 13, 20, and 27 April and 4, 11, 18, and 25 May 2014 (Sundays): Kitsilano Board Games: Lazy Sundays, 2-3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295-2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.--Keith Lim

7, 14, 21, and 28 April and 5, 12, 19, and 26 May 2014 (Mondays): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5-9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.--Keith Lim

7, 14, 21, and 28 April and 5, 12, 19, and 26 May 2014 (Mondays): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30-10:30 PM at 270 East 1st 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.--Julian Castle

8 April 2014: FROBISHER CAT's birthday.

8 April and 13 May 2014 (second Tuesday): Monthly Steampunk Coffee Klatch, 7:30-9 PM at Waves Coffee House--Large Private Room, #100-900 Howe Street (@ Smithe), Vancouver.--Keith Lim

9-10 April 2014: Molecon, Vancouver's only Mole Person convention, will be taking place exactly two hundred meters below the VAG. Remember, accursed is the light!--Bert M. Rand

9 and 23 April and 7 and 21 May 2014 (alternate Wednesdays): Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!, 7-8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.--Keith Lim

10 April 2014: DAVID LANGFORD's birthday.

10 April and 8 May 2014 (second Thursday): Fraser Valley Model Club Monthly Meeting, 7:30-9:30 PM at Kariton House Gallery, 2387 Ware Street, Abbotsford.--Keith Lim

10 April and 8 May 2014 (second Thursday): Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup, 7:30-8:30 PM. [No location given.]--Keith Lim

11 April 2014: JENNIFER HAWE, JOHN HERBERT, and EMILY NORRIS's birthdays. Premiere of film RIO 2 (computer animation; Anne Hathaway, Jesse Eisenberg, Jamie Foxx, John Leguizamo, Andy Garcia, Bruno Mars, George Lopez, Tracy Morgan, Will I Am, Janelle Monáe).

12 April 2014: Russian Cosmonaut Day. Pour yourself a cosmo, read a COSMO, and watch COSMOS.

12 April 2014: Heroclix: Avengers vs. X-Men Finale, 12-5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. "This will be a sealed tournament using two boosters of SLOSH. The grand prize for this event will be the Phoenix Cyclops colossal. The event is open to all however only people who have bought into the AVX events are eligible to win the grand prize. Contact: Manny."

12-13 April 2014: Whale of a Book Sale, 9 AM-5 PM (Saturday) and 9 AM-3 PM (Sunday) at Thompson Community Centre--Annex, 5151 Granville Avenue (at Lynas Lane, between Number Two Road and Railway Avenue). "We have over 25,000 books--hardcover and paperback, fiction and non-fiction--for as little as \$1 and up! Art books, classics, Canadiana, home repair and reno, cook books, crafts and hobbies, computers, texts, geography and travel, Chinese and other languages, oodles of children's books, gift books in pristine condition, and so much more! Please bring your own bags. Sponsored by Friends of the Richmond Public Library. All proceeds benefit Richmond libraries."

13 April 2014: MARILYN BLEW's birthday.

14 April 2014: National "No Sarcasm" Day.--Bert M. Rand

14-15 April 2014: Lunar Eclipse, 9:54 PM-3:38 AM PDT (totality from 12:07-1:25 AM; mid-eclipse at 12:47 AM). The moon will pass through the Earth's shadow. NASA will host Q&A and stream the eclipse on their website. [Wikipedia.] [Mr. Eclipse.] [Photo Naturalist.]

16 April 2014: National Librarian Day.

16 April 2014: Draw a Centaur Day. "Draw a Centaur Day is completely arbitrary, nonsensical, purposeless and agenda-free. No prizes will be distributed, no accolades will be given, no charities will be donated towards... This is purely for the sheer fun of drawing a goofy mythological critter."--Julian Castle

16 April 2014: Richmond Writes Out Loud! Presents Open Mic, 7-8:30 PM at Richmond Public Library, Ironwood Branch, Unit 8200, 11688 Steveston Highway, Richmond. "Writers and poets: read your material--out loud! Not a

writer? Doesn't matter! We need good listeners, too. All: drop by this free event. More info: Twitter: [@richmondwrites](#). Facebook: [Richmond Writes Out Loud](#)."

17 April 2014: CAROLYN CLINK's birthday.

17 April 2014: [THE LAST UNICORN Screening Tour](#), 7 PM at SilverCity Victoria Cinemas, 3130 Tillicum Road, Victoria. 250-381-9301. New digital print. Audience Q&A with author Peter S. Beagle. Tickets apparently for sale at Cineplex.com (and probably in person). Tickets: \$9.95 child (3-13); \$14.95 general (14-64). [Cineplex link](#).--[Julian Castle](#)

17-20 April 2014: [Norwescon 37](#) at DoubleTree by Hilton Seattle Airport, 18740 International Boulevard, Seattle, Washington [next to SeaTac International Airport]. DoubleTree sold out. Official overflow hotel [Hilton Seattle Airport & Conference Center](#), 17620 International Boulevard, Seattle, Washington, 98188-4001. Phone: 206-244-4800. Special Norwescon rate: \$123. Use group code "NOR" to book a room via website or call the reservation phone 888-235-4465. Memberships: pre-reg \$70 through 16 March; at door \$75; youth (13-17) \$50. Children 12 & under attend for free, but must have permission slip. To save time at registration, [complete slip](#) and bring to registration.--[Julian Castle](#)

18 April 2014: Premiere of films TRANSCENDENCE (SF; Johnny Depp, Morgan Freeman, Cillian Murphy, Wallace Langham) and A HAUNTED HOUSE 2 (comedy/horror; Jaime Pressly, Marlon Wayans, Cedric the Entertainer, Gabriel Iglesias).

18-20 April 2014: [Fan Expo Vancouver](#) at Vancouver Convention Centre [no address on flyer.] Comic GOH: David Finch. Featured comic guests include Bill Sienkiewicz, Dave Johnson, Pia Guerra, Mark Bagley. Other guests include Ian Bo[ol]thby, Robin Bougie, Rebecca Dart, James Lloyd, Ken Steacy. Media guests include Bruce Campbell, Robert Englund, Ray Park, Jon Heder, Michael Rosenbaum, Bruce Boxleitner. "Attractions: autograph sessions, celebrity photo sessions, celebrity Q&As, workshops & seminars, artist alley, sketching duels, portfolio reviews, "how to" workshops, web series for grownups, costumes! costumes!, huge shopping area, anime game shows, hall cosplay, voice acting 101, and much, much more."

18 April and 16 May 2014 (third Friday): IPMS Vancouver Monthly Meeting, 7-9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, Second Floor "Arts Room," 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby.--Keith Lim

19 April 2014: STEPHANIE JOHANSON's birthday.

19 April 2014: HeroClix: It's Magic!, 12:30-5:30 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. "This will be a showdown to determine the supreme magic user. Build a 600 point mystical team. Prize for this event will be Mordru. Contact: Manny."

19 April and 17 May 2014 (third Saturday): Vancouver Comic Jam, 8-9 PM at the Wallflower Modern Diner, 2404 Main Street, Vancouver.--Keith Lim

20 April 2014: THE LAST UNICORN Screening Tour, 7 PM at Cineplex Odeon International Village Cinemas, 88 West Pender Street, third floor, Vancouver. 604-806-0799. [See description for 17 April 2014.] Cineplex link.--Julian Castle

20 April and 18 May 2014 (third Sunday): Board Game Swap Meetup, 11 AM-1 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.--Keith Lim

20 April 2014: BA Campaign Day: Scenario 4 (Game Demo), 12-5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. [See description for 6 April 2014 BA Campaign Day.]

21 April 2014: Birthday of Melman Shackleburg, the first fan to ever dress up as his favorite Doctor Who at a convention. Sadly, it was a STAR TREK convention, and everyone just thought he really, really liked scarves.--Bert M. Rand

21 April 2014: THE LAST UNICORN Screening Tour, 7 PM at SilverCity Coquitlam and VIP Cinemas, 170 Schoolhouse Street, Coquitlam. 604-523-2911. [See description for 17 April 2014.] Cineplex link.--Julian Castle

22 April 2014: THE LAST UNICORN Screening Tour, 7 PM at Cineplex Odeon Aberdeen Mall Cinemas, 700-1320 West Trans Canada Highway, Kamloops. 250-377-8199. [See description for 17 April 2014.] Cineplex link.--Julian Castle

23 April 2014: GREG CAIRNS's birthday.

25 April 2014: STEVE GREEN's birthday.

25 April 2014: Magic: The Gathering: Journey Into Nyx Midnight Pre-Release, 12-4 AM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. Contact: Stephanie.

25 April and 23 May 2014¹: 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 Facebook page."--Keith Lim

26 April 2014: Magic: The Gathering: Journey Into Nyx Pre-Release, 10 AM-9 PM at Richmond Rod and Gun Club, 7891 Cambie Road, Richmond. "This pre-release will be hosted at the Richmond Rod & Gun Club to make room for up to a 100 players! For more information please contact Stephanie here at the store. Contact: Stephanie."

26 April 2014: Rangers Are Coming!, 12-5:30 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. "The Rangers Are Coming! Rangers will be coming to the store to demonstrate FLAMES OF WAR, the World War II Miniatures game and take you through the first game using the OPEN FIRE! box set. Come on down and learn this great game in an informative demo. Contact: Chris."

26 April and 31 May 2014 (last Saturday): Board Gamers: 12 Hours of Gaming, 12 PM-12 AM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.--Keith Lim

26 April 2014: Remember Swatches? Day.--Bert M. Rand

26 April 2014: Sixth Annual Carded!, 7-11 PM at Hot Art Wet City, 2206 Main Street, Vancouver. "Buy, collect and trade the art of fifty artists reproduced on trading cards." Cards are displayed on the gallery wall and "sold in mixed packs of five random cards for \$5. Want a specific card? Trade with the other people at the party."--Julian Castle

1 Every Friday night, according to Board Game Warriors.

27 April 2014: JOE DEVOY's birthday.

28 April 2014: International Astronomy Day.

29 April 2014: ROBERT J. SAWYER and TREVOR HOFFERT's birthdays.

31 April 2014: Dress Up a Koala in a Tiny Tuxedo and Go Awwwwwww Day.--Bert M. Rand

MAY 2014

2 May 2014: MARTIN HUNGER's birthday. Premiere of film THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN 2 (superhero; Emma Stone, Jamie Foxx, Colm Feore, Paul Giamatti, Sally Field, Martin Sheen, Denis Leary, Stan Lee, Chris Cooper).

2-4 May 2014: Gaylaxicon 21/Outlantacon 2014, in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Annual sci-fi, fantasy & horror convention with focus on LGBT topics.--Julian Castle

3 May 2014: Free Comic Book Day. Sponsored by your friendly neighbourhood comic shop. Comics: ARCHIE COMIC DIGEST (Archie Comics), AVATAR/ITTY BITTY HELLBOY/JUICE SQUEEZERS (Dark Horse Comics), BONGO COMICS FREE-FOR-ALL! (Bongo Comics), DC COMICS--THE NEW 52: FUTURE'S END (DC Comics), GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY (Marvel), HELLO KITTY: SURPRISE! (Perfect Square), KABOOM! SUMMER BLAST 2014 FCBD Edition (Boom! Studios), MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS (Papercutz), RISE OF THE MAGI #0 (Image), SPONGE-BOB FREESTYLE FUNNIES (United Plankton Pictures), TRANSFORMERS VS. G.I. JOE (IDW Publishing), UNCLE SCROOGE: A MATTER OF SOME GRAVITY (Fantagraphics Books).

7 May 2014: CHAD BRYANT's birthday.

8-11, 13-18, 20-25, and 27-31 May and 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-22, 24-29 June 2014 (Tuesdays-Sundays): MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT (musical comedy) at Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, 2750 Granville Street (at 12th Avenue), Vancouver. Tuesdays 7:30 PM. Wednesdays & Saturdays 2 PM & 8 PM. Thursdays & Fridays 8 PM. Sundays 2 PM. 18 May, 2 PM: Sunday Coffee Talk. 21 May, 2 PM: Wednesday High Tea. 27 May, 7:30 PM: Talk Back Tuesday. 1 June, 2 PM: VocalEye Performance (for blind or visually-impaired). Tickets: zone A \$70, zone B \$50, zone C \$29. Student

matinees: \$25 (on 14, 21, 29 May & 4, 11, 18, 25 June).--Julian Castle

11 May 2014: BA Campaign: Scenario 5, 12-5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. [See description for 6 April 2014 BA Campaign Day.]

13 May 2014: MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT--movie musicals (FREE talk), 7-8:30 PM at Vancouver Public Library--Central Library, Alice MacKay Room, Lower Level, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. What distinguishes musicals made for the stage from those made for the cinema? For more info phone VPL at 604-331-3603.--Julian Castle

16 May 2014: Premiere of film GODZILLA (SF/action/kaiju; Bryan Cranston, Juliette Binoche, Ken Watanabe, David Strathairn, Garry Chalk).

18 May 2014: WILLIAM HONEYWILL's birthday.

19 May 2014: MICHAEL "FRUVOUS" BERTRAND's birthday.

19 May 2014: 2nd 3rd! Annual World Rapture Day: Rapture 2: The Raptoring, 6-9 PM, Earth.

20 May 2014: JULIAN CASTLE's birthday.

21 May 2014: GINA LYNN POST's birthday.

21 May 2014: Publication of The Movement Volume 1: Class Warfare TPB (Diamond item code FEB14 0255) written by Gail Simone. Comic book of superheroes & anonymous activist hackers partially based on various recent social movements.--Julian Castle

23 May 2014: Premiere of film X-MEN: DAYS OF FUTURE PAST (comic adaptation; Jennifer Lawrence, Michael Fassbender, Peter Dinklage, Hugh Jackman, Ellen Page, Anna Paquin, Ian McKellen, Halle Berry, Patrick Stewart).

23-25 May 2014: Second Furlandia (furry convention) in Portland, Oregon.--Julian Castle

24 May 2014: Magic: The Gathering: Journey Into Nyx Game Day, 10 AM-5:30 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. "Join us for a game day celebration with the newest magic the gathering set. For more info please contact Stephanie."

24-25 May 2014: Third Vancouver Comic Arts Festival (VanCAF), 10 AM-6 PM (Saturday) & 11 AM-5 PM (Sunday) at the Roundhouse, 181 Roundhouse Mews, Vancouver. "Week-end-long celebration of comics...admission to all events is completely free."--Julian Castle

25 May 2014: Towel Day.

25 May 2014: Bolt Action Campaign Tournament, 12-5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. [See 6 April 2014 BA Campaign description plus event link for rules.]

28 May 2014: LLOYD AND YVONNE PENNEY's anniversary.

30 May 2014: Premiere of film MALEFICENT (fantasy; Angelina Jolie, Elle Fanning, Sharlto Copley, Peter Capaldi, Miranda Richardson, Imelda Staunton).

31 May-1 June 2014: Terminal City Tabletop Convention, 10 AM-12 AM (Saturday) & 10 AM-6 PM (Sunday) at Firefighters' Banquet & Conference Centre (close to Metrotown Skytrain), 6515 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby. Early bird tickets prices end May 1, available via website. Full weekend: at door \$40, early bird \$35 + \$1.87 fee. Saturday only: at door \$25, early bird \$20 + \$1.49 fee. Sunday only: at door \$20, early bird \$15 + \$1.37 fee. Kids 10 & under get in free (must be accompanied by an adult, provide proof of age if asked, maximum two free child admissions per adult).--Julian Castle

31 May-1 June 2014: Terminal City Tabletop Convention, 10 AM-12 AM (Saturday) and 10 AM-6 PM (Sunday) at Firefighters' Banquet & Conference Centre, 6515 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby (at Metrotown Skytrain). [Facebook link.]

NEWS-LIKE MATTER

NOTES FROM MARCH 1986 BCSFA MEETING

In attendance were Graeme Cameron (president), Barb Dwyer (secretary), Felicity Walker (editrix), Kathleen Moore (treasurer), Michael "Fruvous" Bertrand (guy with quotes in his name), Julian Castle (person), the Grim Specter of Death (embodiment), the Concept of Freedom (abstraction), the Fifth Doctor (handsome), Several Mysterious Substances (substances), Future Felicity (timelady), A Fully

Armed and Operational Death Star (planetkiller), Joseph Devoy, and Stewart Smyth.

Club business: after much deliberation, the club voted NOT to join the Klingon Empire, for while the facilities offered were quite spacious, nobody wanted to have to eat gagh.



Someone (Ray?) mentioned how much they missed that classic science fiction sitcom of the sixties, WHOOPS THERE GO MY ATOMS. That reminded Fruvous of armadillos, but he couldn't remember why. Ray said they shot that show in Powell River, and was pretty sure it starred Melissa Gilbert and a diesel locomotive. Graeme mentioned that the creator of that show, Glenn Rubrick, later went on to create such seminal genre shows as THE SIXTH DIMENSION, PROFESSOR CHRONITIS AND THE TIME KIDS, and SPACE ZOMBIES, as well as the memorable flop, LITTLE PINK MEN.

The Grim Specter of Death added that what he misses are those little cars that you rolled forward a bunch of times to build up a charge, then pressed the button on the top to let go. Fruvous said he remembered those, and he thought they were called friction cars, but he couldn't remember why. He then told the hilarious and gripping story of how he had gotten in trouble at his hometown department store by charging one of them and letting it go under the shelving of the aisles. Everyone laughed, and afterwards they all told him how brilliant and funny he was, and added that he was a heck of a guy to boot.

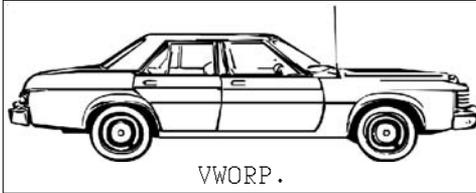
The Concept of Freedom asked if anyone had heard the news about Vladimir Putin. This turned out to be the news that Putin had quit politics to pursue a full time career as a male catalog model. We all wished him the best of luck on his new career, and wondered what this meant for the crisis in the Ukraine.

The Fifth Doctor then said "I would just like to mention how handsome I am," then smiled, said something mysterious, then dashed off very dashingly, trailed by his latest companion, a very tired and frustrated Paulie Shore.

Just then, Future Felicity arrived in her TARDIS disguised



as a big seventies car, and said something like "Was the Fifth Doctor just here? Anyhow, I come from the future to give you all a dire warning: whatever you do, DO NOT TRY the chipotle sriracha avocado chips. They taste funny." Fruvous then tried one, and agreed that they were hilarious.



A Fully Armed and Operational Death Star chimed in with a story about how, as a child, it had not known about death, and so it believed its parents when they

said that all the people of Alderaan were happy playing on a farm upstate, where there were lots of squirrels to chase and Stormtroopers to laugh at.

Barb mention that Several Unidentified Substances had been found in the bathrooms after the previous meeting, and worried that this would get us in trouble with the strata council of Ray's building. The Several Substances told her not to worry, that they were actually residents of the building, and added that they were sure it would be fine with the council, as one of them was president of the local chapter.

We were all relieved, and decided that this was as good a time as any to break up the meeting.

John "Meat Rib" Chandler

Additional writing by Anchorman Herb Diljet

Sunday 16 March 1986

KICKSTARTER FOR DOCUMENTARY ABOUT ONE-MAN FILMMAKER RICHARD RG MILLER

Wandered across this Kickstarter, because featured on Kickstarter mainpage as staff pick--project of the day.

Is a crowd-funding project to complete a documentary about Richard RG Miller, a filmmaker self-publishing movies as "RG Studios."

<http://kck.st/1cVf2LK> ->

<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/justinsuperstar/double-digits-the-story-of-a-neighborhood-movie-st>

Thought you might be interested because

(a) some of Richard's "Internet art movies" have been described as "science-fiction" (have watched a few minutes of his movies and seems reasonable to label some of them as sci-fi).

(b) most of his actors are action figures.

“34% funded, 137 backers, \$8,741 pledged of \$25,000 goal, 23 days to go, \$1 minimum pledge.

“This project will only be funded if at least \$25,000 is pledged by Friday, April 11, 2014, 9:21 PM PDT.”

In the trailer, RG has 79 subscribers on YouTube (he now has 336).

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cheaphomemademoives>

Videos uploaded:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cheaphomemademoives/videos?view=0&flow=grid>

(Not sure why the movies/moives typo in username, perhaps someone already had cheaphomemademovies username.)

Julian Castle

Wednesday 19 March 2014

OBIT: JAMES REBHORN

James Rebhorn (1948-2014): American character actor, died 21 March aged 65, after a lengthy battle with skin cancer. Genre appearances include CAT'S EYE (1985), HEART OF MIDNIGHT (1988), INDEPENDENCE DAY (1996, as the Secretary of Defence), FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON (TV miniseries, 1998), THE ADVENTURES OF PLUTO NASH (2002) and THE BOX (2009).

Steve Green

Monday 24 March 2014

AURORA AWARD NOMINATIONS CLOSE SOON

This is a general email to all current and past CSFFA members. If you have already nominated, thank you. If not, then there is still time to submit nominations for works and activities done in 2013.

You've got under two weeks to submit your nominations for the 2014 Aurora awards. Nominations must be submitted by Midnight Eastern Daylight Time on Saturday evening on 12 April 2014.

There were a lot of great works done in 2013 and we want you to help us to choose Canada's favourites. If you are unsure of what is eligible there are two lists that cover most of what is eligible. Eligible works or activities must have been originally published or done in 2013.

<http://canspecific.com/2013-can-sf/> (Canadian Spec Fic List)

<http://canadiansf.com/node/176> (Canadian SF Works Database)

So, get your nominations in soon. The ballot will be announced in May along with members' access to the voter's package.

Spread the word. Forward or post this to your friends. The awards are open to all Canadians.

This year's Convention and host of the Aurora awards is VCON in Vancouver on the weekend of 3-5 October 2014 (<http://www.vcon.ca/>).

Yours,
Clifford Samuels
Aurora award administrator
<http://www.prixaurorawards.ca/>

Aurora Awards Admin
Monday 31 March 2014

WHO HAVE BEEN THE GREATEST CONTRIBUTORS TO CANADIAN SF&F OVER THE YEARS?

Here's your chance to nominate the greatest Canadian SF writers, publishers, editors, artists, graphic novelists, musicians/filkers, actors, convention organizers, fans, scientists and astronauts to the CSFFA Hall of Fame.

You nominate them not as just for this year's novel, or con-running or whatever but for their long-term contribution to Canadian science fiction and/or fantasy.

Nomination is straight-forward; you need to write out a description of the contributions your nominee has made that would make them eligible for the Hall of Fame.

Then email it to halloffame@prixaurorawards.ca or mail it to CSFFA Hall of Fame c/o 1432 Velvet Road, Gibsons, BC, VON 1V5...before 1 July 2014.

For more info go to <http://www.prixaurorawards.ca/hall-of-fame/>.

Clint Budd
Chair of the CSFFA Hall of Fame Jury

Hall of Fame
Wednesday 2 April 2014

MICKEY ROONEY (1920-2014)

Mickey Rooney: American actor, died 6 April, aged 93. He made his screen debut in 1926 and genre appearances include THE ATOMIC KID (1954), the 1963 TWILIGHT ZONE episode "The Last Night of a Jockey," Rod Serling's NIGHT GALLERY ("Rare Objects," 1972), JOURNEY BACK TO OZ (1974), LITTLE NEMO: ADVENTURES IN SLUMBERLAND (1989, adapted from Windsor McCay's classic newspaper strip), SILENT NIGHT, DEADLY NIGHT 5: THE TOY MAKER (1991), THE MA-

GIC VOYAGE (1992), the 1997 TV series KLEO THE MISFIT UNICORN, SINBAD: THE BATTLE OF THE DARK KNIGHTS and BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (both 1998), THE HAPPY ELF (2005), NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (2006), THE MUPPETS (2011), and THE VOICES FROM BEYOND (2012). He was filming a new version of DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE at the time of his death.

Steve Green

Sunday 6 April 2014

TIME TO MAKE AURORA AWARD NOMINATIONS!

To the friends, fans, and members of VCON:

Show your support for the creative men and women of Western Canada--view our list of Aurora-eligible works from Western Canada and then send in your nominations to help them qualify for the Aurora Awards ballot.

The deadline for nominating works and events for an Aurora Award is JUST DAYS AWAY--11:59:59 PM EDT (8:59:59 PM PDT) on SATURDAY 12 APRIL--and with VCON hosting Convention 34 and the 2014 Aurora Awards Ceremony, we'd really like to see some Western Canadians on the ballot, but for that, we need YOU to get out there and make nominations!

We asked you to let us know about any Western Canadian works and events you knew of that were published or occurred in 2013 and would thus be eligible for a 2014 Aurora Award. We also combed the 2013 Canadian Spec Fic list to find all eligible works and events already listed that could be clearly identified as having an author, editor, publisher, artist or organizer located in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba or the three Canadian territories. The results of this effort have been posted on our website as a list of Aurora-eligible works from Western Canada.

Review our list and then go to the Aurora Award website and submit your nominations before the deadline. Full details about the Aurora Award nomination process can be found on the "How to Nominate" page at the Aurora Awards web site, but here's a basic summary of what you need to know:

To nominate (and later vote) for your choices you must be a member of The Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association.

Eligibility for CSFFA membership: <http://www.prixaurorawards.ca/aurora-awards/eligibility/>

Cost to join the CSFFA: \$10 CDN (you can do it here: <http://www.prixaurorawards.ca/membership/join-csffa/>).

All members will be allowed to download a digital package that includes copies of almost all the works that make it onto the final ballot--a package that is worth far more than the membership fee!

You will only be able to submit the nomination form one (1) time.

Be sure of your choices and make them count!

You are allowed to nominate up to three works for each category.

Any nominated person/work must receive a minimum of five (5) individual nominations by the deadline to be eligible for the voting ballot.

Only categories with at least three (3) eligible nominees will be eligible for the ballot.

Each eligible category on the ballot will only contain the top five (5) nominees!

There may be more than (5) nominees in a category on the final ballot if there are ties.

Once again, we thank you for your *interest*...involvement!

Your friends at VCON 39.

VCON Secretary
Wednesday 9 April 2014

VCON 38 CON REPORT: DAY 3

Michael Bertrand

SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER 2013

8:03 AM: Wake up bright and early on a lovely sunny day. Decide "Meh" and go back to sleep.

9:30 AM: I wake up again. Time to boot up my brain and try Consciousness 2.0. Luckily, this time the software is more stable and I remain awake and start preparing for the day. This time I am up early enough for the breakfast (not brunch!) buffet, but between dithering on whether or not I felt like pulling myself together enough for a meal in public and grazing on the remains of the snacks from last night, the point becomes thoroughly moot. I run out of time and I am no longer hungry anyhow. So I decide to just pack up and chillax at Chez Nous until Joe and Julian show up (they opted to sleep at home) so we can check out of our hotel room at noon.



I always find checking out to be a sad process. Perhaps I am just too sentimental. But it always seems sad to be leaving one's little temporary home just when you were getting used to it and it was starting to feel lived-in. And after you check out, you are essentially homeless until you go home for the convention.

That doesn't sit well with a security-craving homebody like me.

12:15 PM: Joe and Julian showed up just barely in time for us to be out of that room before noon and hence not end up being charged for another day. They had me worried there for a while. But we make it under the wire. They have no interest in going to lunch (reasonable enough, they just GOT here), so I am at loose ends for now. There are no panels I feel like attending until 2 PM, when of course there are three. How do they manage to do it? Schedule all the cool things opposite each other? It must take some kind of mad twisted genius.



1:15 PM: After a bit of aimless meandering (it's easy when you know how), I end up drifting into Fuel, the restaurant's insanely expensive coffee bar. I had just planned on buying an expensive fruit drink of the sort I like (a smoothie, a bubble tea, whatever) but I noticed they had a few forms of real food and my appetite suddenly woke up, and it was cranky. So I end up buying a \$9 turkey club wrap, which comes with a bag of Miss Vickie's chips, plus a Diet Pepsi and some intriguing looking little pastry squares. Sadly, the chocolate in those turned out to be dark chocolate, but after I got over the shock, they were okay.

Grand total was \$13.75, which is a lot for what I got, although still less than the \$20 I had budgeted for brunch anyhow. So I both spent too much and saved money.

And I have to admit, the wrap was really good. Tons of super fresh ingredients, expert construction, very tasty and very filling to boot. I am not sure it was \$9 good, but it was good.

Now, to pick a panel.

2 PM: I decide to go to the one about science and religion, and how they relate to one another. I am tempted to ask the panel if any of them are Americans, because honestly, here in Canada, it is totally not an issue. We don't have religious whackjobs trying to make us not teach evolution in schools. It's just not a thing here.

Regardless, I greatly enjoy the discussion. The subject of faith always fascinates me, being an outsider to it, and I enjoy discussing it with other intelligent folks. And science, of course, is awesome.

Sadly, I end up missing the last fifteen minutes of it because my body decides that I need to take care of an urgent bodily need right now this second. Stupid body!



3 PM: Waiting for the Turkey Readings to start and I am a-tingle with anticipation. They are, quite seriously, the most fun thing I do all year.

The basic idea is that the panelists read aloud from the worst science fiction and fantasy books they can find and the audience has the chance to contribute money to either halt the reading, or continue it.

So one person might say "A dollar to stop!", and that person put a dollar in the kitty. If nobody wants the reading to continue, it stops and the panelist move on to the next book. But if someone wants it to continue, they have to bid higher, like "\$1.25 to continue!", and then put \$1.25 in the kitty.

Usually, the reading continues, with stops and starts, until the combination of the terribleness of the fiction and the price of a bid to continue combine to make it just not worth it. All the money goes to the Canadian Unity Fan Fund, or CUFF, which is a fund used to send one lucky fan from one end of Canada to the other for a convention, thus making a connection between the two places.

While the readings are happening, volunteers from the audience act them out, and volunteer artists (this year, Felicity Walker and Joe Devoy) attempt to illustrate the action.

It is ten tons of fun.



5 PM: The Turkeys are over, and now I am waiting for La Gang to be done watching the Closing Ceremonies. I am still not a ceremonies kind of guy. But I find myself a nice comfy chair (one awesome thing about this hotel: comfy chairs everywhere) and settle in to make notes and read.

6:15 PM: Supper at Ajitaro's, a local sushi place we like. Attending are La Gang plus Amos and our good friend William Graham, alias Spuug. We opt for a la carte instead of all you can eat. I solve the problem of far too much choice on an Asian menu in my usual way: I look for the combo specials and pick one that has nothing I do not like in it. Bonus: this combo comes bento style. I love bento. There is just something about having all the different foods in their own little boxes that appeals to me. It's so pretty!

8 PM: Back at the convention and waiting for the Dead Dog Party to begin. Relax, that's just the convention-ending party in Hospitality. I am proud of myself for not giving in to the urge to just go home that struck me when we were leaving Ajitaro's. That was my social anxiety talking, and I am glad I didn't listen to it because if I had,



Just sleepy!

had, I would have just been depressed at home, thinking how my friends were all having fun.

9 PM: The Dog Is Dead! The doors to the party open. Time to socialize!

1:30 AM: Felicity is kind enough to drive me home, and the convention is officially over for me.

Can't wait for next year!

Michael Bertrand

The Homepage of Michael John Bertrand

Tuesday 15 October 2013

ART CREDITS

Font (Felicity Walker after Susan Kare).....Masthead
Clip art (detourned by Felicity Walker).....Cover
Clip art (Clker.com).....Pages 1-4, 10-11, 13,
.....29 (L), 34-36
Clip art (screenshots).....Pages 5, 12 (R), 29 (R), 37
Felicity Walker (photos).....Pages 6, 12 (L), 14, 38
Dave Haren (photos).....Pages 7-9

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BCSFA's website is at <http://www.bcsfa.net/> (thank you to webmaster Garth Spencer). The BCSFA e-mail list is BC Sci-Fi Assc. (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_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.



GODZILLA (2014) being filmed in Steveston, Richmond.