

I M P U L S E

LE BULLETIN D'INFORMATION DE L'ASSOCIATION MONTRÉLAISE DE SCIENCE-FICTION ET DE FANTASTIQUE, L'AMonSFF

August / Août 2015 (Vol. 19, No./N° 7)

NEXT CLUB MEETING IS THIS WEEKEND**Sunday, August 23****12:00PM-5:00PM****St-François Room****Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St. Downtown Montreal**

MEETING THEME: Club members are asked to bring in scissors, scotch tape, construction and other coloured papers, crayons or colouring pencils, these supplies to be used in crafting our group project (see below and lead item, center column, for details)!

PROGRAMME**12:00PM** (early-bird programming)**SUNDAY SCI-FI CINEMA MATINÉE—**

END OF THE WORLD EDITION: Early-bird arrivals are privileged to select a vintage sci-fi film from our list for discussion and review.

2:00PM**MID-MEETING BREAK:** raffle**2:15PM-5:00PM****GROUP PROJECT—MAKING A**

STOP-MOTION SHORT: Ongoing during the meeting; we will pool our talents to produce a short paper cut-out stop-motion film (please read lead item, center column, for complete details).

2:30PM**IT CAME FROM THE INTERNET:**

Screenings of and commentary on recent movie trailers, and interesting and cool video clips culled from the Internet.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING:**September 20 (Astronomy)****CREATIVE GROUP PROJECT PLANNED FOR AUGUST CLUB MEETING**

We're changing things up a little as we resume the club's regular meeting schedule with our traditional August "fancraft" meeting this coming Sunday. Rather than the familiar series of hobbyist and crafting workshops we've been hosting for the past several years, this year we're planning a group project. We've come up with the idea of making a short stop-motion film employing paper cut-outs.

Keith Braithwaite has devised the proposed film's simple story: a variety of dinosaurs are grazing in a prehistoric landscape, when suddenly, a meteor streaks from the heavens, dropping onto one of the dinosaurs and crushing the hapless creature. Then another, and another meteor falls, each taking out an individual dinosaur until there are none left. The title of the piece is Theories of Dinosaur Extinction—Number One: The Meteor Theory. The potential for sequels is apparent, should this venture prove successful!

We will create the characters, backgrounds, and other elements from coloured construction paper and such, artistically enhanced using crayons, pastels, or pencils. We may also, perhaps, incorporate parts of photographs culled from magazines or newspapers to further heighten a particular look.

We'll tap the artistic talents of our members to draw, colour, paste, carefully cut-out, and animate the piece. MonSFFen are therefore asked to come prepared: bring in a couple pairs of scissors or a utility knife, a roll or two of scotch tape, and any scraps of coloured construction paper, cardboard, wrapping paper, and such that might be applied to the project. A couple of glue sticks, too, would no doubt come

DOES YOUR NAME APPEAR BELOW? CHECK THIS SPACE TO KNOW IF YOUR ANNUAL MonSFFA MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE

The Annual Membership Fees of the Following Club Members are...

Overdue:

BOOM, Hendrik
DESPLAND, Alexis
DUROCHER, Marc
HECHTMAN, Ken

Due Last Month, July:

BENNETT, Paul

Due This Month, August:

GLOVER, Wayne
NOVO, Alice

Due Next Month, September:

ASPLER, Joseph
BOIES, Marquise
BRAITHWAITE, Erin
BRAITHWAITE, Keith
BRAITHWAITE, Scott
DUROCHER, Dominique
HAMMOCK, Christopher
MOIR, L. E.
WHITELAW, Maureen

Standard membership is only \$25 annually. We offer a family rate of \$40. Add \$10 to either of these to enjoy our premium "Platinum" membership level. Please complete the form below, include payment (cheque or money order made out to "MonSFFA"), and mail to:

MonSFFA c/o
4456 Boul. Ste-Rose
Laval, Québec, Canada
H7R 1Y6

MonSFFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please print legibly. Cut out form and mail as per directions.

AMonSFF FORMULAIRE D'INSCRIPTION

Complétez lisiblement. Découpez le coupon et postez tel qu'indiqué.

NAME/NOM: _____ AGE/ÂGE: _____ TEL./TEL.: _____ - _____ - _____

ADDRESS/ADRESSE: _____

No. & Street/N° et Rue

Apt./App.

City/Ville

Province

Postal Code/Code Postal

E-MAIL/COURRIEL: _____

INTERESTS/INTERETS: _____

in handy. Note that for practical reasons, we'll be working with dry mediums, so no paints, please.

If you have old magazines, posters, or photos that you can contribute to the project, bring these in, as well. Of particular interest would be any organic images of nature—plants, forest or meadow landscapes, etc.—or anything in the green or brown colour ranges that might be cannibalized for the purpose of decorating a prehistoric landscape.

Time allowing, we'll set up an animation stand and shoot the picture at the meeting. We estimate that a 30-second short will require some 720 individual frames. If that proves too ambitious to manage within the few hours available to us, we'll simply complete the project at a subsequent meeting. But we certainly expect to have enough time to design and create all of the elements needed, and at least get some of the animation completed.

So MonSFFen, bring your supplies and drink deep that morning of your creative juices!

June Field Trip to Jurassic World

At the outset of the club's summer break, about a dozen MonSFFen took in a screening of the new Jurassic Park sequel, Jurassic World. The group met at the downtown Cinéma Banque Scotia Montréal shortly before showtime on Sunday afternoon, June 14, where everyone received a souvenir of the outing fashioned for the occasion by Sylvain St-Pierre: a complimentary box of 'raptor kibble!

The premise of Jurassic World is that some twenty years after the disastrous events of the first film in the popular franchise, the dinosaur theme park first envisioned by the late John Hammond is up and running, and bigger and better than he could have imagined. But in order to maintain high public interest in the park, InGen's engineers have begun developing new marquee attractions, namely bigger, scarier monsters. Probably not a good idea, notes 'raptor trainer Owen Grady (Chris Pratt), foreshadowing the horrifyingly deadly sequence of events about to unfold, for the first of these marquee attractions is a hybrid of Tyrannosaurus rex and, among various other creatures, Velociraptor. This particularly nasty, clever, and terrifying super-dinosaur is dubbed Indominus rex.

An after-show nosh at a nearby eatery permitted the group to discuss the movie and offer individual reviews. Half of us rated this installment the best of the four Jurassic Park movies, while the other half placed it in the number-two spot, just behind the original. It was, we all thought, an excellent if sometimes predictable action/monster movie, featuring a number of memorable moments and properly leavened with a sense of humour. Shrewdly, the film never took itself too seriously, even poking sly fun at some of the action tropes it embraces, like the female lead's ability to run around the jungle in high-heels, outpacing even charging dinosaurs

without missing a step! While many of us had qualms going in about the idea of trained 'Raptors, everyone allowed that the notion was handled well by scriptwriters and these prehistoric predators, so terrifyingly brought to life by Steven Spielberg in the original Jurassic Park, pretty much regain their menace in this latest film.

It was a most enjoyable afternoon at the movies and we thank club VP Keith Braithwaite for coordinating the outing, and Sylvain St-Pierre for supplying all who attended with those amusing souvenirs.

2015 MonSFFA Barbecue

Postponed a week due to forecasts of thunderstorms that, ultimately, never materialized, MonSFFA's summer Barbecue-in-the-Park this year unfolded on Sunday, July 26, at our usual Parc Angrignon locale in Lasalle.

It was a warm day and skies were partly cloudy, but the rain stayed away, allowing all MonSFFen and friends present a most pleasant afternoon in the park.

The club's brand new tabletop grill was broken in and provided the group with a selection of delectable barbecued meats. Refreshing drinks and a variety of tasty snacks completed the afternoon's menu.

Conversation both profound and rather less so flowed liberally under the shade of several large trees under which we had established ourselves.

It is perhaps clichéd but nevertheless entirely accurate to say that a good time was had by all.

We thank club VP Keith Braithwaite for securing us a cooking grill, with accompanying accoutrements, and tip the hat, too, to those who brought food and drink to share.

Wayne Glover reports that his annual backyard barbecue and pool party, which took place on Saturday, July 11, also went very well.

Briefly:

► Sasquan, this year's WorldCon (Spokane, Washington), reports that a record-breaking 5950 valid ballots were cast in Hugo voting this year, surpassing considerably the previous high-water mark of 3587 set by Loncon last year. Perhaps because of the polarizing nominations controversy surrounding the Hugos this year, more than 57 percent of eligible voters participated, the highest level in a decade. Believing the slates of nominees advanced by "right-wing" individuals to have been successfully placed on the final ballot unfairly by means of bloc voting, some fans have encouraged voters to deny these so-called "Rabid/Sad Puppies" any award by choosing to hand out "No Award". For their part, the Puppies argue that "left-leaning" elements have systematically boosted a liberal agenda for years and shut out conservative writers. Should either side's strategy prove successful, the venerable Hugos will surely be tarnished for this and possibly years to come! The Hugos will be presented at the convention on Saturday, August 22, and the ceremony live-streamed at: www.ustream.tv/hugo_awards

► Last issue (June-July 2015) we stated here that Warp 92 had been released at the May 31 MonSFFA meeting. In fact, the fanzine released at that meeting was Warp 91, marking the passing of Terry Pratchett. We apologize for the error. Warp 92, the most recent edition of MonSFFA's fanzine, will be officially released at this upcoming August 23 club meeting. We remind MonSFFen that the 'zine is available to all club members online, and that they may also pick up a printed copy at club meetings, if they so desire. Members who wish to have a printed copy mailed to them are asked to please contact club VP Keith Braithwaite with their requests: keith1958@live.ca

Summertime, and the Livin' is Easy...

Please remember that MonSFFA moves to a more relaxed beat throughout the summer as those who run the club are often on vacation or away on weekends during these months and are thus unavailable for club commitments. But rest assured that the club still gets things done, just at a more leisurely pace than usual.

We thank MonSFFen for their understanding and wish everyone a pleasant rest of the summer.

Visit MonSFFA on the Web / Visitez l'AMonSFF sur internet: www.MonSFFA.ca

Impulse is put together monthly by Keith Braithwaite of behalf of MonSFFA and is available on MonSFFA's Web site courtesy Cathy Palmer-Lister. Contact Keith in regards to this publication by any of the following means: In person at a MonSFFA meeting • E-mail: keith1958@live.ca • Voice mail: 450-692-8831 • Via the club's mailing address, to the attention of "Impulse": MonSFFA c/o 4456 Boul. Ste-Rose, Laval, Québec, Canada, H7R 1Y6

Impulse est préparée une fois par mois par Keith Braithwaite au nom de l'AMonSFF. Il est disponible sur le site internet du club grâce à Cathy Palmer-Lister. Pour toutes questions concernant cette publication, contactez Keith soit: En personne à une réunion du club • Courriel: keith1958@live.ca • Boîte vocal: 450-692-8831 • Par la poste à l'adresse du club, à l'attention de "Impulse": AMonSFF a/s de 4456 Boul. Ste-Rose, Laval, Québec, Canada, H7R 1Y6