

I M P U L S E

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

January / Janvier 2015 (Vol. 19, No./N° 1)

**NEXT
CLUB MEETING
IS THIS WEEKEND****Sunday, January 18****1:00PM-5:00PM****St-François Room****Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St.
Downtown Montreal**

MEETING THEME: MonSFFen are encouraged to exercise their right to vote by attending this meeting and participating in the selection of our 2015 Executive Committee, as well as offering input on our 2015 meeting planning.

PROGRAMME**1:00PM****IT CAME FROM THE INTERNET**

(CONTINUED): We screen more creative, interesting, entertaining, and just plain weird sci-fi content culled from the Internet.

2:30PM**MID-MEETING BREAK:**

Fund-raising raffle

2:45PM**BOARD OF ADVISORS****MEETING/PLANNING SESSION:**

All club members are encouraged to contribute ideas as we complete the planning of our 2015 activities, as well as deal with other club-related matters of importance.

Next Month's Meeting:**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15****FAREWELL TO DEPARTING
CLUB PRESIDENT AT 2014
CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY**

MonSFFen got together at the downtown Irish Embassy Pub and Grill on Saturday evening, December 6, for the club's 2014 Christmas Dinner and Party. Arrangements for the event had been made by departing MonSFFA president Berny Reischl, who earlier in the year announced his plans to retire from active fandom at year's end. This celebration of the festive season was Berny's last official club function and his fellow MonSFFen bestowed upon him a modest thank-you gift for some 25 years of service to the club. For 13 of those years Berny led the group as club president, a term more than triple the time in office of any of his predecessors.

On behalf of the club, VP Keith Braithwaite presented Berny with the gift, an anthology of Gold Key Star Trek comics. This particular volume was chosen because Berny remains both an avid Star Trek (original series) and a comics fan. Always a font of knowledge on the topic of comics, especially when speaking of the field's top artists, he joined the club at its inception, when it was called MonSTA, the Montreal Star Trek Association. He will be missed and is most certainly welcome to visit on occasion in future.

Folk enjoyed conversation over a fine meal and later, lingered over drinks. The club's traditional holiday raffle doled out great sacks of sci-fi prizes (books, DVDs, trinkets and collectibles) and one volunteer member of the many was selected by random draw to receive a special reward for their efforts on behalf of the club throughout the year. A bonus draw was also held to acknowledge a lucky one of the handful of members who had renewed their memberships early during the calendar year.

A good time was had by all!

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ARE DUE**

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

Overdue:

BOOM, Hendrik
DESPLAND, Alexis
DUROCHER, Marc
KENNEY, Daniel P.
KNAPP, Brian
KNAPP, Cathye
SILVERMAN, Barbara
WHITELAW, Maureen

Due This Month, January:

PALMER-LISTER, Cathy

Due Next Month, February:

KRIMP, Nick
LUPIEN, Denise
LUPIEN, Leslie
RUFANGE, Yolande

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:

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Thank you for your patronage

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2015 MonSFFA Meeting Dates

The club has received word regarding its requested meeting dates for the coming year. All but the April 19 and May 24 dates have been confirmed; we shall have to submit alternate dates for these two. We'll take a moment to discuss this at our inaugural 2015 meeting on January 18.

And so, the following 2015 meeting dates are now official (all are Sundays): January 18, February 15, March 22, August 16, September 20, October 18, and November 22.

In addition, we have an outing planned for Sunday, June 14 (possibly a group movie junket; Jurassic World opens that weekend), and have scheduled our annual summer barbecue for Sunday, July 19. Our 2015 Christmas Dinner/Party will take place on Saturday evening, December 5.

2015 Club Elections

The first order of business as the club begins a new year is traditionally the election of MonSFFA's Executive Committee for that year. The club's 2015 elections will take place at our first meeting of the new year, scheduled for January 18. All MonSFFA members in good standing are encouraged to participate.

MonSFFA elects annually a president, vice-president(s), and treasurer—who together form the Executive Committee—and charges them with the responsibility of running the club on behalf of the membership. These executives recruit advisors and appoint officers to assist them in carrying out this responsibility.

Our 2014 Executive was as follows: Berny Reischl, president; Keith Braithwaite, vice-president; Lindsay Brown, second vice-president; Sylvain St-Pierre, treasurer.

As club members are aware, Berny has recently announced his retirement from fandom and will not, therefore, be running for re-election. VP Keith Braithwaite, however, has indicated that he will throw his hat into the ring and vie for the VP's job once again. Most recently, Cathy Palmer-Lister, a former MonSFFA president, has stated that she's prepared to tackle the presidency again.

Any MonSFFA member in good standing who is responsibly and reliably able to carry out the duties of office may run for any one of the Executive posts. Candidates may nominate themselves or accept nomination from another member in good standing. Nominations are received by the chief returning officer, or CRO, usually just before the commencement of voting on Election Day.

All MonSFFA members in good standing are eligible to cast a ballot. Members are asked to be present at the designated place and time in order to exercise their right to vote. Proxy voting is not permitted, except under special circumstances and

by approval of the CRO (out-of-town members unable to attend the vote, for example, may have their ballots cast by the CRO in their absence, or make their choices via e-mail or other form of communication outside of the designated voting hour).

Superhero Adventures Modern Myths

The exploits of the ancient gods and warriors of Greece long ago entered into legend, widespread and enduring, and it seems, now, that the superheroes of the modern day are staking a claim. We've had costumed comic-book superhumans for nearly a century, but not until recent decades have they been accorded such serious consideration, mainstream appeal, and venerate regard. Time will tell if their allure and influence will ever become as eternal as that of the ancient Greek protagonists, or if Stan Lee will ever be as revered as Homer, but the film studios that are turning out expansive interconnected stories based on both Marvel and DC stars are certainly thinking in such terms, justified or not! Just look at the release schedule of superhero movies planned through 2020 (premiere dates subject to change):

In just a few months (May 1), Avengers: Age of Ultron unspools, followed by Ant-Man (July 17), and a Fantastic Four reboot (August 7). Next year we'll thrill to Deadpool (February 12; Ryan Reynolds stars), Batman vs Superman: Dawn of Justice (March 25; also featuring Wonder Woman), Captain America: Civil War (May 6; Black Panther to play a pivotal role), X-Men: Apocalypse (May 27), Suicide Squad (August 5), Gambit (October 7; Channing Tatum stars), and Doctor Strange (November 4; Benedict Cumberbatch rumoured to star). 2017 will see the Guardians of the Galaxy return for a second romp (May 5), Wonder Woman fly solo (June 23), Fantastic Four 2 and Thor: Ragnarok released (July 14 and 28, respectively), Black Panther stand alone (November 3), and DC's Justice League launched in the first of a two-parter (November 17). The Flash streaks into theatres in 2018 (March 23) before part one of Avengers: Infinity War screens (May 4), Captain Marvel (Carol Danvers version) and Aquaman (with Jason Momoa) compete for the summer box office (July 6 and 27, respectively), and The Inhumans close out the year (November 2). 2019 will bring us Shazam (April 5; Dwayne Johnson stars), Avengers: Infinity War—Part 2 (May 3), and Justice League: Part 2 (June 14). And a full five years from now, in 2020, DC's Cyborg will debut (April 3) along with a recently greenlighted reboot of Green Lantern (June 19).

And we haven't even mentioned the Spider-Man and Wolverine sequels, among others, planned but not yet firm, or the numerous superhero TV series currently airing!

Briefly:

- Please note that the club's Web site, overseen to date by now-retired MonSFFA president Berny Reischl, will shortly be assigned a new Webmaster. There will be a period of transition and, therefore, delays to updates and other glitches may occur as the new Webmaster familiarizes him- or herself with the site. We shall, of course, make every effort to minimize these but trust that club members will understand and exercise patience. During this interval, VP Keith Braithwaite can be reached by telephone or e-mail regarding any issues or requests for information: 450-692-8831, evenings and weekends; 514-983-7564 (cellular); e-mail, keith1958@live.ca
- We again remind MonSFFen to please fill out the questionnaire published in the November 2014 issue of Impulse and return it to a club executive at the earliest opportunity. All MonSFFen have received this issue electronically as a PDF; it can also be downloaded from the club's Web site. Said document, of course, can be printed out should one prefer to fill out a paper version of the survey and hand that in.

Condolences

The club is pained to again receive sad personal news from VP Keith Braithwaite. Keith's cherished mother passed away on December 31, less than two months following the death of his father in November. MonSFFA extends its sincere condolences to Keith and his family at what unquestionably is a very difficult time.

We are informed that visitation and a funeral service are to take place on Saturday, January 17, at the Alfred Dallaire Groupe Yves Légaré funeral home, 123 Maple Boulevard in Châteauguay, proceedings beginning at 11:00AM.

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

Impulse is put together monthly by Keith Braithwaite of behalf of MonSFFA and is available on MonSFFA's Web site courtesy Kurt Schmidt. 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

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IS THIS WEEKEND****Sunday, February 15****1:00PM-5:00PM****St-François Room****Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St.
Downtown Montreal**

MEETING THEME: In honour of Valentine's Day, club members are asked to sport on their person a decorative holiday heart and/or wear an article of red clothing! Landing party personnel are exempt as whenever they wear red, it does not often end well.

PROGRAMME**1:00PM****ALEX TOTH AT HANNA-BARBERA:**

An appreciation of the animated genre works (i.e.: Space Ghost, Birdman and the Galaxy Trio) created by cartoonist Alexander "Alex" Toth for the Hanna-Barbera studio, circa 1960s-'70s.

2:30PM**MID-MEETING BREAK:**

Brief discussion of club-related business; fund-raising raffle

2:45PM

YOU WISH!: We examine Genies, Leprechauns, and the Monkey's Paw. Note: whether wishing well or ill, maximum three wishes!

Next Month's Meeting:**SUNDAY, MARCH 22****Changes to Club's
Website Underway**

We have begun making changes to our Website, some of which members will have recently noticed upon visiting the site. But ultimately, we will be abandoning our "MonSFFA.com" domain in favour of the more homegrown "MonSFFA.ca". That change hasn't yet taken place but will at the earliest opportunity.

For the moment, we continue to post updates on the existing site while at the same time preparing to launch our new site under the ".ca" suffix. There's a bit of a learning curve involved as we build the new site, so we can't nail down an exact change-over date quite yet.

We are seeking to make the new site easy to navigate, intuitive, straightforward and uncluttered for visitors, and fairly simple to maintain on our end. The software employed to create and oversee the existing site, we have learned, is expensive and of a type unfamiliar to most, if not all of us. We are therefore looking to use a simpler online system and are currently exploring such options.

Also, to avoid becoming reliant on a single Webmaster to regularly update the site, we may assign, perhaps, several people as co-Webmasters. This would permit the workload to be shared, as well.

2015 MonSFFA**Executive Takes Office**

Our January 18 meeting kicked off 2015's MonSFFActivities and saw the election of the club's Executive Committee for the coming year. Long-time club member Josée Bellemare

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MENARD, François
SIMARD, Phil
WALLING, Evelyn
WALLING, René

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acted as Chief Returning Officer, overseeing electoral proceedings.

We can officially announce that veteran committee members Sylvain St-Pierre and Keith Braithwaite were both returned to office as treasurer and vice-president, respectively, while Cathy Palmer-Lister was named president, replacing the departing Berny Reischl, who has retired from organized fandom after some 25 years of involvement, the latter half of that time clocked as MonSFFA's leader. Lindsay Brown opted not to run again as the club's second vice-president (an optional post) and that position will go unfilled in 2015.

We congratulate and wish our 2015 Executive Committee the best as they begin their term of office. And, we thank both Berny and Lindsay for their service while noting our particular appreciation of Berny's many years of dedication to the club. We wish him a most tranquil and pleasant gafiation, and extend to him an open invitation to drop by a meeting or event anytime and visit.

MonSFFA elects annually a president, vice-president(s), and treasurer—who together form the Executive Committee—and charges them with the responsibility of running the club on behalf of the membership. These executives recruit advisors and appoint officers to assist them in carrying out this responsibility.

Cathy Palmer-Lister comes to the job of president with a wealth of fannish organizational experience. She has been involved with MonSFFA for many years and currently sits as editor of the club's fanzine, Warp. She held the position of chair for many years on the concomm of ConCept, the MonSFFA-founded local sci-fi convention that ran for some 20 years. And, she is no stranger to the role of MonSFFA president, having occupied that post before, in the late 1990s, during the Eugenics Wars.

January Meeting

The club opened 2015 with a meeting on January 18 at which the MonSFFen present elected their Executive Committee for the coming year (see "2015 MonSFFA Executive Takes Office" for details) and planned meeting programming for the remainder of 2015. Folk contributed ideas, offered themselves as panelists, and discussed a number of the club's policies and practices with an eye to making improvements. The importance of recruitment was stressed by freshly elected president Cathy Palmer-Lister and ideas so-related were tossed about and debated. A number of folk

volunteered to help with or cover various basic tasks at future meetings.

Keith Braithwaite provided the bulk of the afternoon's programming, screening cool, fascinating, and sometimes just plain weird videos he had culled from the Web at the suggestion of fellow members. Keith had edited these together into a presentation he dubbed *It Came From the Internet*. These particular videos consisted largely of clips he hadn't had time to include in his like presentation back in November. He also treated the group to several trailers for upcoming genre movies.

We thank all who contributed to the planning and running of this, our first meeting of 2015.

Update: 2015 MonSFFA Meeting Dates

Our requested April 19 and May 24 meeting dates being unavailable, we have submitted the following alternate dates to the hotel: April 26 and May 31.

We await confirmation; stay tuned.

Meanwhile, it was suggested during our planning session at January's meeting that our scheduled June 14 excursion constitute a movie outing; *Jurassic World* opens that weekend and so we intend as a group to catch a Sunday afternoon screening at a downtown theatre and afterwards sit down over coffee to discuss the film. (Trained 'raptors! Really? *Come on!* Don't get us started!)

Finally, we erroneously listed our August meeting as scheduled for the 16th. In fact, we've booked the 23rd for our August gathering. Please correct your calendars accordingly.

Sci-Fi Quotations on Love and Romance

Love and joy are incredibly habit-forming; often a single exposure is enough to cause permanent addiction.

STAND ON ZANZIBAR (1968), JOHN BRUNNER

The more difficult it was to love the particular man beside us, the more we believed in Love, abstract and total. We were waiting, always, for the incarnation. That word, made flesh.

THE HANDMAID'S TALE (1986), MARGARET ATWOOD

Among all men—those who value beauty, money, success, prestige—those of us who value love are the most dangerous of all. More than any others, we will compromise morals, ethics, our lives, and the lives of those around us—all for the sake of love.

GRAYHEART (1996), TARA K. HARPER

Love isn't something that one throes off like an old hat.

Love clings to the soul like cockleburs to the hair.

"LOVE'S LAST FAREWELL" (1998), RICHARD A. BAMBURG

Just as men and women sometimes lie when they say they love and will return, so they sometimes lie also when they believe they will not.

"RAPUNZEL" (2000); TANITH LEE

The Klantheid was not built to dislike, or indeed to do anything but love. Love was the deep-rooted instinct of its nature, the inner strength and meaning of its existence. Deeply, passionately, it longed to love, not merely the man and woman, but all things, all humans, all life forms, all planets, all suns, all universes, all time and space.

"THE THREE" (1953); GORDON R. DICKSON

The new worlds were austere, carefully planned, sterile in their perfections. Something had been lost in the dead reaches of space, and only Earth knew love.

"LOVE, INCORPORATED" (1945), ROBERT SHECKLEY

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NEXT CLUB MEETING IS THIS WEEKEND

Sunday, March 22

12:00PM-5:00PM

St-François Room

Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St. Downtown Montreal

MEETING THEME: It's been a long, hard winter, and spring is practically upon us. We are positively tingling with anticipation and feeling as mad as a March hare! To celebrate the turning season, we invite MonSFFers to wear a crazy hat to this month's meeting!

PROGRAMME

12:00PM (Early-bird start-time!)

SUNDAY SCI-FI CINEMA MATINÉE:

We introduce a new semi-regular feature of meeting programming, in which club members choose a classic SF/F film to review and discuss. Relive with us the Golden Age of sci-fi cinema! (see ad, page 2, for details)

2:00PM

ANIMÉ FOR THE SF FAN: Unfamiliar with animé? Access the form by way of your tastes in SF; in other words, if you like that sci-fi movie, you'll probably enjoy this work of animé!

3:00PM

MID-MEETING BREAK:

Brief discussion of club-related business; fund-raising raffle

3:30PM

GOT BOOKS!: Sell the merits of your favourite SF/F book, or the one you're currently reading, to your fellow club members!

R.I.P. LEONARD NIMOY

Leonard Nimoy—Mr. Spock—passed away on February 27 at age 83. He brought to life on television one of science fiction's most unforgettable characters. In Mr. Nimoy's honour, we have rejigged this month's issue of Impulse to serve as our own modest memorial to the beloved Star Trek actor. We'll return to our usual coverage of club news next issue.

Impulse offers a selection of some of Spock's memorable quotes:

EMOTIONS ARE ALIEN TO ME. I'M A SCIENTIST.—to Leila, who sustains an unrequited love for Spock six years after having met him on Earth; *This Side of Paradise*

IT IS NOT LIFE AS WE KNOW OR UNDERSTAND IT.—observation in regards to the dangerous creatures the Enterprise's landing party encounter on the planet Deneva; *Operation—Annihilate!*

I DO NOT TOTALLY UNDERSTAND THE EMOTION, BUT IT OBVIOUSLY EXISTS. THE COMPANION LOVES YOU.—to Zefram Cochrane, regarding the strange energy being that restored an aged, dying Cochrane to youthful vigour and rendered him immortal, but has, at the same time, held him captive, if benignly; *Metamorphosis*

FASCINATING.—expression commonly utilized by Spock to describe the unexpected; *multiple episodes and films*

NO, BUT IT IS...INTERESTING.—reply to Dr. McCoy's plea that Spock refrain from stating that the oddly imperfect performance of the M-5 computer is "fascinating"; *The Ultimate Computer*

WE DISPOSED OF EMOTION, DOCTOR. WHERE THERE IS NO EMOTION, THERE IS NO MOTIVE FOR VIOLENCE.—explaining to McCoy that Vulcan quelled its aggressive instincts by expunging emotion; *Dagger of the Mind*

ON MY PLANET, TO REST IS TO REST, TO CEASE USING ENERGY. TO ME, IT IS QUITE ILLOGICAL TO RUN UP AND DOWN ON GREEN GRASS USING ENERGY INSTEAD OF SAVING IT.—informing

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**MonSFFen
are invited
to attend
our first...**

**Alien
Invaders!**

SUNDAY SCI-FI CINEMÉE MATINÉE

**MonSFFA Meeting
Sunday, March 22
12:00PM, St-François Room
(Regular club meeting follows)**

**We're introducing a NEW EVENT that we think you'll enjoy!
On a semi-regular schedule beginning this month, we'll
review classic sci-fi movies chosen by you, our members!
Show up *early* for our March 22 meeting and vote for your
favourite of five vintage sci-fi films we'll have available!**

**See again that *wonderful* old classic you remember seeing
as a kid! Perhaps you've read the story that inspired the
screenplay but have never actually seen the film! Or maybe
you've watched the modern remake, but not the original!**

**Mutant
Monsters!**

**Strange
Planets!**

**Relive with us the GOLDEN AGE of sci-fi cinema! Embark
on *daring* rocketship flights to other worlds! Experience
exciting adventures on *exotic* planets! Know the *thrilling*
promises and *terrifying* miscalculations of futuristic
science! Encounter *strange* visitors from outer space and
battle *horrifying monstrosities* of unknown origin!**

**Then, DISCUSS AND REVIEW! Learn about the details of
production, how the special effects were achieved in a pre-digital era, and the reasons
the film is considered an exceptional example of the genre, or a masterpiece of sci-fi
cinema!**

**This is your opportunity to experience all
the *fantastic*, pioneering sci-fi movies that
defined our favourite genre!**

**SEE THEM AGAIN, OR FOR THE FIRST TIME!
(And every so often, we'll throw in a few
classic clunkers, just for fun!)**

**Space
Rockets!**

Captain Kirk that he will not be beaming down for rest and rehabilitation with the rest of the crew; *Shore Leave*

I FAIL TO UNDERSTAND WHY I SHOULD CARE TO INDUCE MY MOTHER TO PURCHASE FALSIFIED PATENTS.—to Harry Mudd, who had just employed a colourful colloquialism casting doubt on Spock's ability to convincingly play a part in Kirk's plan to use wild irrationality as a means of undermining a world of utterly logical androids; *I, Mudd*

I HAVE NEVER UNDERSTOOD THE FEMALE CAPACITY TO AVOID A DIRECT ANSWER TO ANY QUESTION.—to an evasive Leila, when asking her to explain how she and her fellow colonists have survived on a planet bathed in deadly radiation; *This Side of Paradise*

LOGICAL. FLAWLESSLY LOGICAL.—in response to his betrothed T'Pol's explanation for invoking her right of kal-if-fee, and choosing not her lover, Stonn, but Captain Kirk to challenge Spock in man-to-man combat; *Amok Time*

AFTER A TIME, YOU MAY FIND THAT HAVING IS NOT SO PLEASING A THING AFTER ALL AS WANTING. IT IS NOT LOGICAL, BUT IT IS OFTEN TRUE.—to Stonn, transferring to him the hand of Spock's now-former consort, T'Pol; *Amok Time*

STRANGE. STEP BY STEP I HAVE MADE THE CORRECT AND LOGICAL DECISIONS...AND YET TWO MEN HAVE DIED.—to his fellow shipwrecked survivors as he puzzles over his failure to effectually protect the people under his command from the primitive menace they face; *The Galileo Seven*

THEY REGARD THEMSELVES AS ALIENS IN THEIR OWN WORLD, A CONDITION WITH WHICH I AM SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR.—offering Captain Kirk his insights on Dr. Sevrin's insubordinate space hippies; *The Way to Eden*

I AM A VULCAN, DOCTOR. PAIN IS A THING OF THE MIND. THE MIND CAN BE CONTROLLED.—explaining that his Vulcan side affords him the ability to overcome the excruciatingly painful duress of a lethal parasitic organism that infiltrates the nervous system and takes over the body of its host; *Operation—Annihilate!*

PAIN!...PAIN!...PAIN!—crying out in empathy with the Horta as he mind-melds with the creature; *The Devil in the Dark*

YOUR MIND TO MY MIND. YOUR THOUGHTS TO MY THOUGHTS.—beginning the first of several mind melds with his human shipmates in order to counter the powerful Melkotian-generated illusion of the Enterprise crewmen being participants in the famous Gunfight at the O. K. Corral, an illusion so convincing that it effectively becomes fatal reality in the minds of the humans; *Spectre of the Gun*

SIR, THERE IS A MULTI-LEGGED CREATURE CRAWLING ON YOUR SHOULDER.—distracting an Eminiaran guard seconds before administering the Vulcan nerve pinch to the hapless fellow; *A Taste of Armageddon*

CAPTAIN...YOU ARE AN EXCELLENT STARSHIP COMMANDER, BUT AS A TAXI DRIVER, YOU LEAVE MUCH TO BE DESIRED.—commenting on his captain's aptitude as a driver after a shaky automobile ride with Kirk at the wheel; *A Piece of the Action*

QUITE A LOVELY ANIMAL, CAPTAIN. I FIND MYSELF STRANGELY DRAWN TO IT.—answering Kirk as to what he makes of Garry Seven's cat, Isis; *Assignment: Earth*

A MOST CURIOUS CREATURE, CAPTAIN. ITS TRILLING SEEMS TO HAVE A TRANQUILIZING EFFECT ON THE HUMAN NERVOUS SYSTEM. FORTUNATELY, OF COURSE, I AM...IMMUNE...TO...ITS...EFFECT.—evaluating a tribble as he gently strokes the little fur-ball and begins, like his human shipmates, to experience its soothing influence; *The Trouble With Tribbles*

ON VULCAN THE TEDDY BEARS ARE ALIVE, AND THEY HAVE SIX-INCH FANGS.—effectively quashing Dr. McCoy's ribbing of Spock for having had a Teddy Bear-like pet sehlat as a child on Vulcan; *Journey to Babel*

CAPTAIN, THE HORTA IS A REMARKABLY INTELLIGENT AND SENSITIVE CREATURE...WITH IMPECCABLE TASTE.—justifying the

Horta's appraisal of pointed ears as the most attractive of humanoid features; *The Devil in the Dark*

CAPTAIN, I SEE NO REASON TO STAND HERE AND BE INSULTED.—to Kirk, who noted Spock's immodesty at the Horta's having found pointed ears a most attractive feature and teasingly suggested that his first officer is behaving increasingly like a human with each passing day; *The Devil in the Dark*

WE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE ONCE AND FOR ALL THAT THE PURPOSE OF DIPLOMACY IS TO PROLONG CRISIS.—editorializing after being stonewalled by Gideon's Ambassador Hodin regarding the whereabouts of Captain Kirk, who beamed down but, according to the ambassador, failed to materialize at the coordinates given; *The Mark of Gideon*

DIPLOMATS AND BUREAUCRATS MAY FUNCTION DIFFERENTLY, BUT THEY ACHIEVE EXACTLY THE SAME RESULTS.—opining after getting the runaround from both Starfleet and the Federation's Department of Planetary Treaties on the matter of the Enterprise's captain having gone missing on Gideon; *The Mark of Gideon*

A VERY...INTERESTING GAME, THIS POKER.—commenting on the success of Captain Kirk's poker-inspired bluff, delivered to the alien commander Balok during a showdown between the Enterprise and the gigantic spaceship Fesarius; *The Corbomite Maneuver*

I HAVE NEVER COMPUTED THEM, CAPTAIN.—reply to Kirk's question as to the odds of someone being dealt a Royal Fizzbin; *A Piece of the Action*

YOU SHOULD MAKE A VERY CONVINCING NAZI.—to Kirk, as the captain dons a pilfered Gestapo officer's uniform in order to pass as a Nazi in a world modelled on the Third Reich; *Patterns of Force*

EARTH BELIEVES THE ROMULANS TO BE WARLIKE, CRUEL, TREACHEROUS. AND ONLY THE ROMULANS KNOW WHAT THEY THINK OF EARTH.—part of an overview delivered to the Enterprise crew of available Federation intelligence on the mysterious Romulans; *Balance of Terror*

VULCAN, LIKE EARTH, HAD ITS AGGRESSIVE, COLONIZING PERIOD—SAVAGE, EVEN BY EARTH STANDARDS. AND IF THE ROMULANS RETAINED THIS MARTIAL PHILOSOPHY, THEN WEAKNESS IS SOMETHING WE DARE NOT SHOW.—making the case to the captain and senior officers for risking interstellar war by attacking a Romulan raiding vessel that has crossed the Neutral Zone into Federation space and destroyed several outposts, given his belief that Romulans and Vulcans share a common, brutally violent ancestry; *Balance of Terror*

MR. SCOTT, THERE WAS NO DEITY INVOLVED. IT WAS MY CROSS-CIRCUITING TO "B" THAT RECOVERED THEM.—in response to Engineer Scott's exclamation thanking the heavens for the safe return of Captain Kirk and Ensign Garrovick during a tricky beam-up; *Obsession*

I PRESUME YOU MEAN THEY VANISHED IN A MANNER NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE USUAL WORKINGS OF THE TRANSPORTER, MR. SCOTT.—seeking clarification from the chief engineer, who reports that Kirk, Uhura, and Chekov abruptly disappeared from the transporter platform; *The Gamesters of Triskelion*

I LOVE YOU. HOWEVER, I HATE YOU.—applying illogic to test the reaction of two identical Alice models of Harry Mudd's highly rational androids; *I, Mudd*

LOGIC IS A LITTLE TWEETING BIRD CHIRPING IN A MEADOW. LOGIC IS A WREATH OF PRETTY FLOWERS WHICH SMELL BAD.—again applying illogic to confuse the controlling Norman android in hopes of overloading his circuitry; *I, Mudd*

I AM ENDEAVOURING, MA'AM, TO CONSTRUCT A MNEMONIC MEMORY CIRCUIT USING STONE KNIVES AND BEARSKINS.—answering Edith Keeler's inquiry, upon her spying the unusual contraption Spock is assembling, as to what he is doing; *The City on the Edge of Forever*

WHILE I MIGHT TRUST THE DOCTOR TO REMOVE A SPLINTER OR

LANCE A BOIL, I DO NOT BELIEVE HE HAS THE KNOWLEDGE TO RESTORE A BRAIN.—as a disembodied voice in response to the notion that Doctor McCoy might be able to put Spock's brain back after it was purloined by alien women for the purposes of connecting it to and having it run the machinery that sustains their underground civilization; *Spock's Brain*

THE FACT THAT MY INTERNAL ARRANGEMENT DIFFERS FROM YOURS, DOCTOR, PLEASES ME NO END.—riposte to McCoy's banter regarding the location of the heart in the Vulcan torso as compared to the human; *Mudd's Women*



THE MOST UNFORTUNATE LACK IN CURRENT COMPUTER PROGRAMMING MEANS THAT THERE IS NOTHING AVAILABLE TO IMMEDIATELY REPLACE THE STARSHIP SURGEON.—slyly, to McCoy, while discussing the merits of replacing starship crew members with more efficient machines; *The Ultimate Computer*

DOCTOR, I AM CHASING THE CAPTAIN, LIEUTENANT UHURA, AND ENSIGN CHEKOV, NOT SOME WILD AQUATIC FOWL.—rejoinder to McCoy, who in his characteristic vernacular, questions the wisdom of Spock's ordering the Enterprise to follow the decidedly flimsy evidence of an ionization trail in an attempt to, hopefully, locate these three missing crewmembers in the wake of their sudden and inexplicable disappearance; *The Gamesters of Triskelion*

I AM SPOCK.—establishing, first, his own identity as he begins a difficult mind meld with an amnesia-stricken Kirk in an attempt to restore the captain's memory; *The Paradise Syndrome*

I AM NOT HERBERT.—to the space hippies, rebuffing this uncomplimentary characterization derived from the name of a minor official and meaning an individual whose thinking is rigid and limited (square), usually bestowed by those who are "one" (hip) upon someone

who is "stiff" (uptight) and does not "reach" (dig) their radical nonconformist viewpoint; *The Way to Eden*

VULCANS NEVER BLUFF.—with appropriate gravitas to an imprudent Commodore Decker, who dismisses as mere gambit Spock's caution that, acting on Captain Kirk's personal authority, he will have the commodore forcibly relieved, if necessary, of his provisional command of the Enterprise; *The Doomsday Machine*

JIM, EDITH KEELER MUST DIE.—Stressing to Kirk that in order to restore to that which it once was the timeline drastically, if inadvertently, altered by a drug-crazed Doctor McCoy, who jumped through a portal into the past and somehow prevented from dying in an automobile accident the prophetic woman with whom the captain has chanced to fall deeply in love back here in the early-20th century, they must keep McCoy from so intervening and allow Miss Keeler to die as history intended; *The City on the Edge of Forever*

HE KNOWS, DOCTOR. HE KNOWS.—in answer to a shocked McCoy's question "Do you know what you just did?", asked of Kirk after the anguished captain deliberately stepped in to stop McCoy saving Edith Keeler from being struck and killed by an oncoming automobile; *The City on the Edge of Forever*

COMPUTERS MAKE EXCELLENT AND EFFICIENT SERVANTS, BUT I HAVE NO WISH TO SERVE UNDER THEM. CAPTAIN, A STARSHIP ALSO RUNS ON LOYALTY...TO ONE MAN, AND NOTHING CAN REPLACE IT, OR HIM.—to an apprehensive Captain Kirk, who worries that his job may be rendered obsolete by the M-5 computer; *The Ultimate Computer*

THE NEEDS OF THE MANY OUTWEIGH THE NEEDS OF THE FEW.—a Vulcan axiom, spoken to Kirk and reflecting the philosophy of sacrifice by the minority in favour of the majority; *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*

I HAVE BEEN, AND ALWAYS SHALL BE, YOUR FRIEND.—Spock's dying words to Kirk after suffering a lethal dose of radiation while heroically repairing the warp drive and saving the Enterprise; *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*

A LIFE IS LIKE A GARDEN. PERFECT MOMENTS CAN BE HAD, BUT NOT PRESERVED, EXCEPT IN MEMORY.—not technically one of Spock's aphorisms, but rather, Leonard Nimoy's final tweet, posted a few days before his death and capped with the acronym "LLAP", which stands for...

LIVE LONG AND PROSPER.—a Vulcan blessing, spoken in concert with the raising of one's hand in a parted-fingers salute devised by Nimoy that somewhat resembles Winston Churchill's famous victory sign and was inspired by a Jewish benediction; *various episodes and films*

HARVE BENNETT, 1930-2015

We have also learned, as we prepared this memorial issue, that another notable member of the Star Trek family has left us. Ailing producer Harve Bennett died at the age of 84 on February 25, two days before Leonard Nimoy's passing.

Bennett is credited by some insiders with having rescued the Star Trek movie franchise from an early and ignominious demise following the luke-warm reception Star Trek: The Motion Picture received. Hired as producer for a sophomore effort, he came up with the film's premise after thoroughly researching the TV series by screening every one of its 79 episodes! He co-developed early drafts of the script, and worked on the final screenplay with director Nicholas Meyer.

Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan was a smashing success, resuscitating the franchise and winning back Trekkers disappointed by The Motion Picture. To this day, Wrath of Khan remains one of the most popular of the Trek films. Bennett went on to produce, as well as write or co-write, the next three films in the series.

Just prior to their collaboration on Star Trek's II through V, he and Nimoy worked together on the biographical TV movie A Woman called Golda, about Israeli prime minister Golda Meir.

Bennett's credentials as a sci-fi television producer include both The Six Million Dollar Man and The Bionic Woman shows in the 1970s, the short-lived Invisible Man and Gemini Man series, and as the decade closed, Salvage 1. In the early '90s, Bennett co-created and produced Time Trax.

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CLUB MEETING
IS THIS WEEKEND****Sunday, April 26****12:00PM-5:00PM****St-François Room****Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St.
Downtown Montreal**

MEETING THEME: April showers require an umbrella; decorate one in keeping with our Sci-Fi Cinema Matinée theme this month, big-bug movies! April, after all, also sees insects re-emerge after a long winter. Umbrellas can be of the cocktail variety, if you wish to keep things small.

PROGRAMME**12:00PM****SUNDAY SCI-FI CINEMA MATINÉE:**

Club members choose from our list a classic SF/F film to review and discuss; this month we feature big-bug movies.

2:00PM**JURASSIC ART—PAINTING THE**

PREHISTORIC PAST: A brief history and appreciation of the amazing art that illustrates, in scientific journals, books, and museums, the Age of Dinosaurs and other prehistoric eras, breathing life, again, into creatures long departed.

3:15PM**MID-MEETING BREAK:**

Club business; fund-raising raffle

3:45PM**SWIMMING WITH CYBER SHARKS—TIPS
ON PROTECTING YOUR COMPUTER**

FROM ATTACK: In a world of everyday Web surfing, the potential for attack from cyber sharks is an ever-present danger. We offer a few simple, easy ways of guarding your computer, and yourself, from cyber attack.

**Club's New Website
Now in Operation**

We began building our new club Website a couple months ago and subsequently launched the site as MonSFFA.ca, and have now transferred files from our old MonSFFA.com site to this new online locale. We will shortly be abandoning our MonSFFA.com domain and today direct members to henceforth consult the new MonSFFA.ca site for all information regarding our activities.

Please take note that MonSFFA.ca is the club's new home online. MonSFFA.com will cease to be active after the end of May.

We thank club president Cathy Palmer-Lister for putting in much of the grunt work setting up our new site, and former president Berny Reischl for his assistance with the transition from the old to the new site.

**MonSFFen Vote to Maintain
Warp as Printed Fanzine**

After an outlining of recent developments regarding our fanzine, Warp, delivered by club president and the 'zine's editor, Cathy Palmer-Lister, MonSFFen discussed at length the future of the club's long-running publication. The increasing costs of printing the 'zine have reached a critical juncture, and in light of our recent loss of access to the bargain-rate printing facilities we have enjoyed for several years, consideration was given to discontinuing the printed Warp, given that the 'zine has been available online in parallel to the printed version for several years, now.

But club members displayed a potent attachment to the printed version and voted to keep it going, albeit as a more affordable, largely black-and-white publication. The

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Overdue:

BOOM, Hendrik
DESPLAND, Alexis
DUROCHER, Marc
KENNEY, Daniel P.
KRIMP, Nick
LUPIEN, Denise
LUPIEN, Leslie

Due This Month, April:

HECHTMAN, Ken
NADEAU, Marc

Due Next Month, May:

BROWN, Lindsay
BURAKOFF, Mark
REDMOND, Isis
SICHEL, Danny

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:

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number of pages per issue will be cut back and fewer “extra” units will be produced so as to help keep costs down.

February and March Club Meetings

MonSFFA’s two most recent meetings took place on the February 17 and March 22. Both well-attended gatherings offered captivating presentations and discussions.

February’s programme featured an overview of the animation art and design of cartoonist Alex Toth, who created such Saturday morning-TV fare as Space Ghost, Shazzan, and Birdman and the Galaxy Trio for Hanna-Barbera in the 1960s and ’70s. Presenter Sylvain St-Pierre showed numerous stills and video clips of Toth’s visually economical yet charming creations as he spoke of and offered details on the various SF/F-flavoured shows that the older club members present recalled with nostalgic fondness.

Danny Sichel followed with a sprightly and thorough examination of Genies and other wish-granting entities, highlighting the unwanted consequences resultant from poorly worded wishes, and the clever strategies by which protagonists circumvented the usual maximum-three-wishes limitation.

Fun stuff all around!

March saw the club introduce what was dubbed Sunday Sci-Fi Cinema Matinée, in which MonSFFen selected a classic sci-fi film for review and discussion. Ray Bradbury provided the story for the 1953 thriller *It Came From Outer Space*, the group’s choice for this first installment of the Matinée, which unfolded in the couple hours or so immediately preceding the start of the afternoon’s regular meeting programming.

That programming began with René Walling’s indispensable guide to science fiction-themed animé. Providing a handout that listed works of animé based on fantasy and science fictional tropes—space opera, time travel, horror, quest adventures, cyberpunk, etc.—René screened sample clips and suggested works to individual MonSFFen based on whether they had enjoyed this or that SF movie, or liked stories involving robots or monsters or whatnot. There is a lot of animé that will appeal to SF/F fans!

Several brief oral book reviews capped the afternoon, with club members outlining themes, plot, and style, and recommending a couple of their favourite authors and novels to their fellow MonSFFen.

We thank our presenters, as well as all who contributed to the planning and running of these two meetings.

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Select Specialty Books:	\$5.00 each
Magazines and Comics:	10¢ each

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Sunday, MAY 31, 2015

1:00PM-4:00PM (in conjunction with regular MonSFFA club meeting)

Hôtel Espresso (2nd Floor, St-François Room)

1005 rue Guy, corner Boul. René-Lévesque

(Metro Guy/Concordia or Lucien L’Allier)

Hosted by MonSFFA, the Montreal Science Fiction and Fantasy Association www.monsffa.ca

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I M P U L S E

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

May / Mai 2015 (Vol. 19, No./N° 5)

**NEXT
CLUB MEETING
IS THIS WEEKEND****Sunday, May 31****12:00PM-5:00PM****St-François Room****Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St.
Downtown Montreal**

MEETING THEME: April showers bring May flowers; MonSFFen are asked to bring in a few decorative flowers, real or artificial, to brighten the room during the meeting. Handcraft your own version of a famous sci-fi plant, if you wish, like Groot, Audrey, or a triffid!

PROGRAMME**10:00AM-12:00PM****SET-UP:** Help needed for book sale set-up!**12:00-4:00PM****SON OF THE SUPER SCI-FI BOOK SALE:**

MonSFFA's third fund-raising book sale will be on-going throughout the afternoon. Bring a friend! And shopping bags!

2:00PM

EARLY FUTURES: We fondly recall futures past, specifically, predictions made years ago of what the future in which we are now actually living would be like. How accurate or wildly off-base were those early prognosticators of the world of tomorrow?

3:15PM**MID-MEETING BREAK:** club business**3:45PM****THE SF WORLDS OF GLEN A. LARSON:**

We discuss the SF oeuvre of television producer Glen A. Larson, who brought us Battlestar: Galactica, Knight Rider, and other flashy sci-fi TV adventures of the 1970s-'80s.

**SON OF THE SUPER
SCI-FI BOOK SALE**

MonSFFA welcomes SF/F booklovers to this third in our on-going series of fund-raising science fiction and fantasy book sales! The sale will take place in conjunction with the club's Sunday, May 31 meeting.

Holding in the MonSFFA's warehouse a sizable inventory of many hundreds of sci-fi novels and anthologies left over from our previous sales, the club is again able to offer these to both its members and the general public at *unbelievable bargains!* And recently, we've added *fresh inventory* to the pile! We welcome any day-of donations of books, as well.

All volumes will be *priced to move* (cash only, please)! The more you buy, the more you save!

In addition, we've invited folk to bring in a few collectibles or other items to be put up for grabs by way of a silent auction (MonSFFA will receive a modest percentage of any such sales).

It is recommended that shoppers bring with them a few large grocery bags so as to carry home the extraordinary deals that will be on offer! (See ad, second page, for details.)

MonSFFA's regular May meeting will unfold in conjunction with the sale and visitors are welcome to take part.

Club members are encouraged to spread the word and bring along a couple of friends!

Proceeds from the sale are to benefit MonSFFA.

**SUMMERTIME, AND THE
LIVIN' IS EASY...**

We remind club members that MonSFFA moves to a more relaxed beat during the summer months as the Executive and many other of the volunteer-members who contribute to the running of the club are, at various times during this period, on vacation

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or away on weekends and therefore unavailable for club commitments. Rest assured that the club still gets done what it has to get done, like membership renewals and Web site updates, but usually at a more leisurely pace than is the norm during the rest of the year.

We thank MonSFFa for their understanding and wish everyone a pleasant summer.

Scheduled club activities during the summer interlude include a downtown movie matinée (Jurassic World, June 14) and our traditional barbecue-in-the-park (Parc Angrignon, July 19).

April Club Meeting

MonSFFA's April gathering took place on the 26th, offering to early-birds our second installment of Sunday Sci-Fi Cinema Matinée, and then the meeting's two presentations, on dinosaur art and cyber security for the home.

From the Matinée's usual list of five films—all of them on this occasion "Big-Bug" monster movies—folk chose the classic Them!, a tale of giant irradiated ants wreaking havoc across the countryside!

The movie received high praise from all in attendance, with many noting that the film held up remarkably well for a movie more than 60 years old. Them! is considered one of, if not *the* best of the Big-Bug flicks of the 1950s.

Keith Braithwaite followed with a detailed slideshow on the history of prehistoric illustration, commonly called dinosaur art or paleo-art. Tracing the ever-changing interpretations of the fossil record from the days of the earliest finds to the present, Keith showcased the works of the world's most celebrated paleo-artists, like sculptor Benjamin Waterhouse Hawkins, who created the famous Crystal Palace Dinosaurs in the mid-1800s, and the influential Charles R. Knight, a giant of the field during the late-19th and early-20th centuries, whose murals grace natural history museums across the U.S., and whose images inspired early fantasy filmmakers like Willis O'Brien and Ray Harryhausen.

More recent masters of paleo-art include Douglas Henderson, John Gurche, John Sibbick, Gregory S. Paul, Mark Hallett, and William Stout.

The afternoon's capper was Steven Janssen's talk on protecting one's home computer from "cyber-sharks". Detailing common oversights that leave our computers vulnerable to malicious attack, Steven offered simple, easy solutions to help mitigate unwanted cyber intrusions, like selecting hard-to-guess passwords and changing them regularly.

Thanks to all who planned and ran this meeting.

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I M P U L S E

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

June-July / Juin-Juillet 2015 (Vol. 19, No./N° 6)

NEXT
CLUB EVENT
IS THIS WEEKEND**Sunday, June 14****12:30PM** (approximately)**Downtown Movie Theatre**
(to be determined; check club's Web site for update)*Sunday afternoon group outing to see Jurassic World; theatre and showtime to be announced*Meet near theatre's ticket box office
30 minutes prior to showtime*Post-movie discussion at nearby eatery***SEE FULL DETAILS, RIGHT**
(please read lead item)**MonSFFA's Summer
Barbecue-in-the-Park****Sunday, July 19, 10:30AM-4:30PM****Parc Angrignon, Lasalle
(Angrignon Metro)***All Club Members, their
Families and Friends Invited!***Bring your Own Food and Drink;
Club will Supply Cooking Grill.***(For details, see item "Join Us for
2015 MonSFFA Barbecue", page 2)***NEXT MEETING: August 23***Fancraft, Collecting***CLUB TO TAKE IN
JURASSIC WORLD
MOVIE MATINÉE**

The new Jurassic Park sequel, Jurassic World, opens on the weekend of June 12-14 and in lieu of a June meeting, MonSFFA has opted for a group outing on Sunday afternoon, June 14, to take in the movie at a downtown theatre. We're considering either the Cinéma Banque Scotia Montréal (977 Ste-Catherine Ouest, corner Metcalfe) or the Cineplex Odeon Forum Cinemas (main entrance at 2313 Ste-Catherine Ouest; this is the old Forum, opposite Place Alexis-Nihon on Avenue Atwater).

As of this writing, of course, showtimes are not yet known; we will post both the theatre and showtime we've chosen on MonSFFA's Web site (www.MonSFFA.ca) as soon as we have that information, probably only on, or shortly before the film's June 12 opening. Our intention is to pick a showtime as close to 1:00PM as possible. Check the club's site to know where and when to join us for what promises to be a thrilling summer blockbuster.

After the screening, we'll stroll to a nearby coffee shop or restaurant for a sip, a nosh, and a discussion of the movie.

MonSFFA are responsible for obtaining their own tickets to the show, and covering the cost of any food and drink they may wish to consume during or after the screening.

Once theatre and showtime are known, we'll meet near the box office ticket booths. To ensure that everyone has time to purchase their tickets, and that we enter the theatre together, we ask that folk arrive no later than 30 minutes before the scheduled showtime. Please arrive a little earlier if you figure on lining up to buy snacks at the concession counter! \$25-30 should be enough to cover your ticket and a snack.

We'll see you at Jurassic World!

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NAME APPEAR BELOW?
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ARE DUE**

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

Overdue:

BOOM, Hendrik
DESPLAND, Alexis
DUROCHER, Marc
HECHTMAN, Ken
KENNEY, Daniel P.
KRIMP, Nick
NADEAU, Marc

Due This Month, June:
Ø**Due Next Month, July:**
BENNETT, Paul

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Thank you for your patronage.

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No. & Street/N° et Rue Apt./App. City/Ville

Province Postal Code/Code Postal E-MAIL/COURRIEL: _____

INTERESTS/INTERETS: _____

Join Us For 2015 MonSFFA Barbecue

MonSFFA has scheduled its summer Barbecue-in-the-Park this year for Sunday, July 19. In the event of rain on that date, we'll bump festivities to the following Sunday, July 26. We take this occasion to extend a most cordial invitation to all MonSFFen, and their families and friends.

We'll convene beginning about 10:30-11:00AM under our usual copse of trees in Parc Angrignon, Lasalle (Angrignon Metro). You'll find us behind the Metro/bus station and just a short walk from the parking lot adjacent the now-shuttered "Farm", or petting zoo (see map, Events Column, page 1).

Bring your own food and drink; the club will supply a cooking grill. We usually commandeer a couple of picnic tables for the day, but you may wish to cart along a folding chair of your own, or a picnic blanket, and perhaps a board game, ball, or Frisbee.

Do join us for a pleasant afternoon of easy conversation, refreshing drink, and tasty food amongst fine company!

May Club Meeting

MonSFFA held its third fund-raising sci-fi book sale in conjunction with the club's May 31 meeting, which featured a presentation on visions outlined many decades ago of the future in which we now find ourselves living, followed by a review and discussion of the sci-fi TV shows of the late Glen A. Larson.

A crew of book-sale worker bees arrived early to help unpack boxes of books, comics, and magazines, and stock our sales tables. We take this opportunity to thank all of those bees so very much; we couldn't have done it without you guys!

Once underway, the book sale carried on through much of the afternoon while the regular MonSFFA meeting unfolded. Our so-called "Big Bulk Bargain"—a banker's box full of books for only \$10!—proved extremely popular, with most shoppers taking full advantage of this astonishing deal.

This sale has added just over \$150 to the club's coffers! In all, then, over the past 12 months or so, our three sales have moved thousands of books and raised a total of about \$850!

By the beginning of the 30th century, foretold astronomer Camille Flammarion (1842-1925), the transmission of sounds and images by "téléphonoscopie" will be perfected, along with the capacity to relay touch and smell! Sylvain St-Pierre opened the afternoon's programming with this and other predictions of the future made throughout human history. Sylvain took his

audience from the forecasts of the Oracle of Delphi and other early prognosticators to the sometimes remarkably prescient speculation of Jules Verne, H. G. Wells, and others, to the predictions offered by Popular Science Magazine in the mid-20th century.

Bullet trains, debit cards, television, and equal rights for women were all foreseen as much as 100 years before they came to be, while erroneous predictions included rocket-propelled mailmen and fully automated barber shops!

Keith Braithwaite moderated our review and discussion of the sci-fi oeuvre of television producer Glen A. Larson, best known to our cohort for the original *Battlestar Galactica*. Larson's shows, it was agreed, are unlikely to ever be ranked among the genre's finest, but the best of them were usually entertaining, if sometimes rather derivative. His worst—Manimal, Automan, *Galactica* 1980—were pure rubbish, however, and mercifully short-lived.

High-quality production design and visual effects served shows like *Battlestar Galactica* and *Buck Rogers* in the 25th Century well, and offered sci-fi fans of the late-1970s and early-'80s something cool to look at, at the very least.

Larson's most successful creation, both in terms of longevity and critical appraisal, was *Night Rider*, a very '80s sci-fi actioner starring a charming David Hasselhoff and a talking sports car! The show spawned several sequels, the most recent of which aired in 2008.

Thanks to our presenters, and to all who planned and ran this meeting.

Briefly:

► We are pleased to hear that club member Alice Novo is out of hospital and home resting and recuperating. Alice has been quite ill and was bedridden for a good long stretch. We wish her well and look forward to seeing her up and about once again. We are also happy to hear that long-time ConCept Green Room hostess Jamie Yip is recently home as well, recovering from her malady. Get well soon, girls!

► The printed version of *Warp 92*, marking the passing of Terry Pratchett, was released at the May 31 MonSFFA 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

► We extend sincere condolences to the family and friends of the late Joël Champetier, a beloved fixture of Québec's SF/F community who passed away in the early hours of May 30, succumbing to acute leukemia. Often referred to as Québec's Stephen King, and deservedly so, he was always a very friendly and approachable fellow. Joël was a talented and prolific author, critic, screenwriter, and long-time editor at *Solaris Magazine*, as well as a founder of *Boréal*, Québec's annual French-language literary SF/F convention. MonSFFen remember him, too, as a marvellous friend of ConCept. A multiple Prix Boréal and Aurora Award-winner, Joël Champetier was taken from us far too soon and will be sorely missed.

► This issue of the club's newsletter has been designated a June-July edition as *Impulse* will not publish this July. The newsletter returns in August and will be released just prior to MonSFFA's scheduled August 23 meeting.

Summertime, and the Livin' is Easy...

We again remind club members that MonSFFA moves to a more relaxed beat during the summer months as the volunteer-members who run the club are, at various times during this period, on vacation or away on weekends, and thus unavailable for club commitments. Rest assured that the club still gets done what it has to get done, only at a more leisurely pace than usual.

We thank MonSFFen for their understanding and wish all a pleasant summer.

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I M P U L S E

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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

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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

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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

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

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September / Septembre 2015 (Vol. 19, No./N° 8)

NEXT CLUB MEETING IS THIS WEEKEND

Sunday, September 20
11:30AM-5:00PM
St-François Room
Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St.
Downtown Montreal

MEETING THEME: Heavens Above! Wear a T-shirt, hat, or something adorned with a star, moon, comet, or anything astronomical!

PROGRAMME

11:30PM (early-bird programming)

DON'T TRUST ANYONE OVER 30 YEARS

OLD!: We review the mid-'70s sci-fi classic Logan's Run, and discuss the film's themes. Does our youth-obsessed culture devalue old age? At what, if any, peril? What can the different generations learn from one another?

2:00PM

WATCH THE SKY!: We talk backyard astronomy, showcase various types of telescopes and binoculars, and marvel at the highly detailed photographs recently taken of distant Pluto!

3:30PM

MID-MEETING BREAK: raffle

3:45PM

GROUP PROJECT: Determined to complete the project, we continue work on our more-challenging-than-we-anticipated stop-motion short film production.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING:

Sunday, October 18
Perry Rhodan, Thunderbirds

CLUB'S STOP-MOTION FILM PROJECT PROVES MORE CHALLENGING THAN ANTICIPATED!

The club's stab at producing a short stop-motion animated film stalled somewhat about halfway into our August "fancraft" meeting as the assembled club members busied themselves with the art of creating paper-craft animation puppets, backgrounds, and various landscape elements required in each of the scenes planned. As we drew and cut and coloured, the five-layer animation stand built for the occasion by Mark Burakoff was set up and tested. We had some difficulty lighting the thing properly, a few stray reflections from the room's ceiling lights and shadows from the stand's supports vexing us. Test footage shot soon revealed that we'll have to further refine our lighting array so as to eliminate ghostly reflections captured on film in the stand's glass sections.

At one point, animation supervisor François Menard, working out the camera positioning and framing, found that the puppets folk were fabricating were going to be too big for our purposes, at least when it came to appearing in proper scale for some of the long shots required. It was back to the drawing board!

But making these puppets at about half or less their original size proved challenging, given the detail involved and the mechanics of building articulated joints out of paper on this smaller scale. A lot of trial and error, here, and lessons learned. The technicalities are currently being reworked in order to arrive at an optimal puppet design that provides for maximum flexibility and ease of movement when animating.

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 BRAITHWAITE, Keith
 BRAITHWAITE, Scott
 DUROCHER, Dominique
 HAMMOCK, Christopher
 MOIR, L. E.
 WHITELAW, Maureen

Due Next Month, October:

PELLEY, Lynda

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As you may have gathered at this point, we did not manage to complete production on our proposed short film during the course of the meeting, as had been, in retrospect, naively hoped! But people enjoyed the experience nonetheless, and the group is determined to see the project through over the coming months. A suggestion has been made that we tackle the various tasks involved in shorter, more manageable workshops as part of the next several meetings, as well as, perhaps, give willing participants specific assignments that could be done at home and brought in completed next time.

But to return to the August meeting for a moment, people were initially inspired by the few seconds of test footage François had prepared as a demonstration, showing a sauropod walking. And Keith Braithwaite's storyboards for the piece, put together as a video, were shown at the outset of the meeting to give folk an idea of what the finished film would look like and provide guidance for those unfamiliar with animation. Keith offered further advice as to artistic technique in rendering visually interesting backgrounds and other elements.

The learning curve turned out to be quite a bit steeper than we anticipated, however! There were also technical limitations that required some last-minute rejigging. And, there were many questions about whether this or that would or would not work. François, being the only of us ever to have actually done this kind of thing before, offered guidance to everyone and explanations of the process, while highlighting the common pitfalls to be avoided, some of which we had already, unfortunately, encountered.

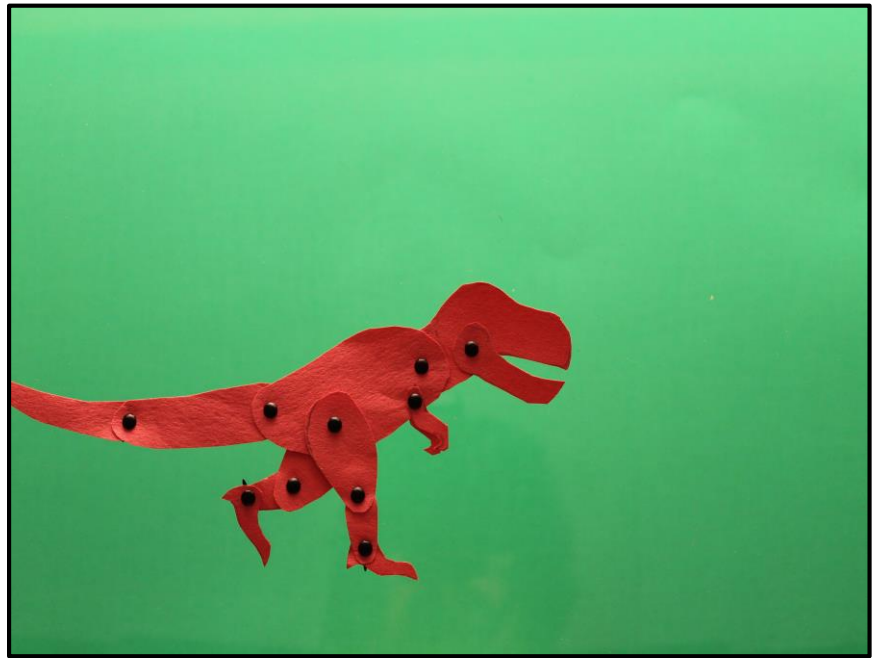
In short, we were not as prepared as we should have been, and we did not expect that the process would be as problematic and quite so time-consuming as we rapidly discovered it was!

Oh, the best laid plans of mice and men!

Allowances, too, for last-minute input on the part of participants in the project were made as folk came up with a few amusing visual gags that might be included. We *do* want to incorporate as many ideas as we possibly can into what is, after all, a group venture.

So, we all learned a little more about the art of animation through practical experience, and trial and error. And, we made a reasonably good, if halting, start of our project. Most importantly, we had fun!

Follow our on-going project's progress in these pages over the coming months.



A paper-craft animation puppet, built to test ease of movement, is filmed against a green screen in this frame from test footage shot at the club's August meeting.

Puppies Shut Out of 2015 Hugos

With "Puppygate" casting its shadow over the Hugo Awards at Sasquan, this year's WorldCon (Spokane, Washington), a record number of voters—some 65 percent more than ever before!—cast ballots for the prestigious sci-fi honour, this in defense of the integrity of the Hugos, suggested writer George R. R. Martin. Writing on his blog prior to the Hugo ceremony at Sasquan, Martin predicted that "This will be the most dramatic Hugo night in WorldCon history."

When the votes were counted, not a single Puppy-sanctioned candidate won an award! In those categories in which all the candidates were affiliated with the Puppies, voters chose the "No Award" option in a categorical rebuke of the Puppies, who many considered to have gamed the system and stacked the deck to advance their own political agenda, even though they broke no rules in putting forth their nominations.

The Puppies have argued that a left-leaning clique of snobbish and exclusionary "social justice warriors" have co-opted the Hugos of late and repeatedly ignore popular books by conservative writers. They opine that sci-fi has become too holier-than-thou preachy and rather less fun. Their critics accuse them of being sexist, homophobic racists.

In the wake of Sasquan's Hugo ceremony, the most ardent Puppies have stated that the vote results prove their point: political correctness is shutting out those authors the elite consider too right-wing, and science fiction has been politicized and corrupted by their radical leftist philosophy. The fact that trophies were not awarded in so many major categories this year in order to deny a Puppy-supported candidate the prize, seems only to have stoked the Puppies' ire and instilled in them a greater determination to carry on the battle.

This "war" may be just beginning, with the prestige of the venerable silver rocket at stake.

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I M P U L S E

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

October / Octobre 2015 (Vol. 19, No./N° 9)

NEXT CLUB MEETING IS THIS WEEKEND**Sunday, October 18****11:00AM-5:00PM****St-François Room****Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St. Downtown Montreal***MEETING THEME: Halloween is almost upon us; dress up for the meeting as your favourite ghoul or goblin!***PROGRAMME****11:00PM** (early-bird programming)**SUNDAY SCI-FI CINEMA MATINÉE—****HALLOWEEN EDITION:** In honour of the upcoming All Hallows' Eve, we offer early-birds a selection of classic gothic and sci-fi/horror films from which to choose.**1:00PM****PERRY RHODAN CONQUERS SCI-FI:**

Primer on the most successful sci-fi book series ever, at some 2800 installments to date! This long-running, influential German space opera follows the exploits of titular astronaut Major Perry Rhodan.

2:00PM**MID-MEETING BREAK:** raffle**2:30PM****50 AND FAB!** We pulled some strings in order to be able to celebrate the 50th anniversary of British sci-fi/adventure series Thunderbirds!**3:30PM****GROUP PROJECT:** We continue work on our more-challenging-than-anticipated stop-motion short film production.**NEXT MONTH'S MEETING:****Sunday, November 22**

- *Crazy Spaceship Designs*
- *Sports in SF*

SEPTEMBER MEETING WELCOMES GUEST SPEAKERS

MonSFFA's September meeting welcomed guest speakers David Shuman and Bill Strople, both of the local branch of the Royal Canadian Astronomical Society, for a talk on telescopes.

David showcased and set up outside on our hotel's front porch his Coronado telescope, specially designed for viewing the sun. Numerous MonSFFen availed themselves of the opportunity to safely gaze at Sol, an uncommon experience, to be sure!

Bill, a collector of vintage telescopes, brought in and set up a number of examples, outlining the technical details of each and in the process giving the group a primer on types of telescopes—Schmidt-Cassegrain (SCT), Newtonian—pointing out the pros and cons of each. One of his pieces was a beautiful, impressively large refractor dating back to the 1950s. He also displayed a sample Dobsonian-mounted reflector not yet on the market, which he had obtained from the manufacturer.

Our own Lindsay Brown, Mark Burakoff, and Wayne Glover brought in their telescopes, as well, and Mark gave a brief "Introduction to Amateur Astronomy" discourse, recommending one's kit include binoculars and star charts. Club president and long-time astronomy buff Cathy Palmer-Lister chimed in, too, offering her savvy on the hobby.

Post-meeting, much of the group convened for supper at a nearby eatery, and afterwards returned to the hotel to observe the moon through Lindsay's telescope.

The closing hour or so of the meeting was devoted to our more-challenging-than-anticipated short stop-motion film project,

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:

BENNETT, Paul
BOOM, Hendrik
BRAITHWAITE, Erin
BRAITHWAITE, Keith
BRAITHWAITE, Scott
DESPLAND, Alexis
DUROCHER, Dominique
HAMMOCK, Christopher
HECHTMAN, Ken
MOIR, L. E.
NOVO, Alice

Due This Month, October:

PELLEY, Lynda

Due Next Month, November:

KNAPP, Brian K.
KNAPP, Mary C.
JANSSEN, Steven

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:

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INTERESTS/INTERETS: _____

which had gotten off to a halting start the previous meeting. We have since collected ourselves and are now carefully proceeding one step at a time, as opposed to the do-the-whole-thing-in-a-single-afternoon approach we initially decided upon, which was, in retrospect, somewhat unrealistic.

On this afternoon, we focused on character design, with folk assigned to come up with a sketch for each of the dinosaurs featured in our story.

The early-morning session was devoted to a screening, critique, and discussion of the themes explored in the mid-'70s sci-fi film *Logan's Run*. Judging by the production design, music, and hedonistic vibe, the film was most definitely a product of the 1970s, several folk commented. Older members of the club who remembered seeing the movie when they were younger—that is, under the 30-year-old maximum lifespan enforced in the film's dystopian future—came away after this viewing with a decidedly different perspective than that of their younger selves! Several people noted a religious/spiritual angle they had not formerly perceived, specifically the human trait of concocting, or believing in, a rewarding afterlife—"Renewal" in the movie—in order to be able to face one's own mortality.

We offer a nod of thanks to our guest speakers, David Shuman and Bill Strople, as well as to those MonSFFen who contributed to the afternoon's programming. Thanks, also, to all who helped plan and run this meeting.

Briefly

► MonSFFA VP Keith Braithwaite found himself north of the city, in the Laurentians, on September 27, night of the Blood Moon! Clear skies augured well for an unobstructed viewing of this lunar eclipse, and inspired by the astronomy panel at the club's September meeting the previous weekend, Keith had packed his camera and tripod with the intention of photographing the celestial event. Visitors to the club's Web site will have seen a sampling of the images he snapped, one of which is reproduced here. The pictures were achieved without any special equipment; Keith used his ordinary telephoto lens to capture the moment. Cool stuff!

► We neglected to mention, in our coverage last issue of August's MonSFFA meeting, that the early-morning session was devoted to another edition of Sunday Sci-Fi Cinema Matinée. End-of-the-World movies were featured on this occasion, offering folks a choice of either *When Worlds*



Moments before the totality of the recent lunar eclipse, a pale orange-burgundy hue is cast across the lunar disc. This image is one of many snapped of the so-called "Blood Moon" event by club VP Keith Braithwaite. We thought it appropriately in theme for this issue of Impulse, published in this, the Halloween month!

Collide (1951), *Day the World Ended* (1955), *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea* (1961), *Day of the Triffids* (1962), or *Crack in the World* (1965). The group picked the British-produced *Day of the Triffids* and found it to be competently made if not particularly outstanding. This is a post-apocalyptic survival story and involves the global spread of a form of carnivorous alien plant-life in the wake of a strange meteor shower that has rendered all but a few people suddenly blind. There are two unconnected narratives running throughout the film but, oddly, at no point do the two storylines converge, as one might expect. A few of us found this peculiar, as if two separate movies were unspooling within one.

► X-Files alumnus Frank Spotnitz is show-runner on an adaptation of Philip K. Dick's classic *The Man in the High Castle*, in which the Allies lost World War II, and Germany and Japan occupy the US. The buzz on this one is exceptionally good! Streams on Amazon November 20, but not, it seems, in Canada. *Curses!*

Please Note: Needed for October Meeting

MonSFFen are asked to bring in a pair of scissors to this weekend's club meeting (October 18), these being required to work on pre-production for our ongoing stop-motion film production.

But no running with said scissors!

We request that anyone having a pliers-type hole-punch bring it in, as well.

Also, those individuals who took on character-design assignments last meeting are asked to bring in their completed sketches.

Finally, unrelated to our animation project but tied, rather, to our two scheduled panels, we invite club members to bring in any Perry Rhodan or Thunderbirds items they may hold in their collections (books, comics, models, toys, etc.) for the display table. We appreciate such participation and thank MonSFFen in advance for taking part.

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I M P U L S E

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

November-December / Novembre-Décembre 2015 (Vol. 19, No./N° 10)

**NEXT
CLUB MEETING
IS THIS WEEKEND****Sunday, November 22****11:00AM-5:00PM****St-François Room****Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St.
Downtown Montreal***MEETING THEME: Come prepared to
participate in the brainstorming of ideas
for next year's programming!***PROGRAMME****11:00AM** (early-bird programming)**SUNDAY SCI-FI CINEMA MATINÉE:**Our last installment of the Matinée this
year, featuring five vintage drive-in
favourites from which to choose!**1:00PM****YOU MEAN IT CAN ACTUALLY FLY!—****CRAZY-COOL SCI-FI SPACESHIPS:**We examine a few of the weirdest,
wackiest, unlikeliest, unsightly and odd-
ball spaceship designs that the genre has
concocted in both books and on the screen.**2:15PM****MID-MEETING BREAK:** raffle**2:30PM****PLANNING FOR 2016:** We begin collecting
ideas for, and slotting panels into next
year's schedule of meeting programming;
your participation is welcome and
encouraged.**3:00PM****STOP-MOTION PROJECT WORKSHOP:**We continue pre-production work on our
on-going short film project.**2015 MonSFFA CHRISTMAS
DINNER/PARTY: DECEMBER 5**See lead item (center column)
for details**CLUB'S 2015 CHRISTMAS
DINNER/PARTY**MonSFFA's annual Christmas Dinner/Party
is scheduled, this year, for Saturday evening,
December 5. We will return again to the very
welcoming Irish Embassy Pub and Grill
downtown.All MonSFFen, their families, and the club's
many friends, are hereby cordially invited to
MonSFFA's 2015 Christmas Dinner/Party!
Do join us in celebrating the festive season!We will gather at 6:00PM on Saturday, the
5th, at the Irish Embassy, 1234 Bishop Street
(near the corner of Ste-Catherine) to enjoy a
fine meal, drinks, good company, and holiday
cheer. Tables will be reserved for our group;
please arrive on time in order to facilitate
prompt seating.Main courses available on the Pub's Holiday
Menu include prime rib, grilled tuna, turkey,
and vegetarian curry. The price of your meal,
including taxes and tip, should come to about
\$35, give or take, a bit less for the vegetarian
option. Drinks are extra.Note that the restaurant *does not accept*
debit cards; payment by cash or credit card
only, please.At our November 22 club meeting this
weekend, we will take a moment to narrow
down the meal choices the Pub has provided
to four options and communicate these
preferences to them in advance of our event,
along with the number of people we expect
will be attending.We will have a number of first-rate prizes
on offer as part of our traditional Christmas
fund-raising raffle, and our special thanks-to-
volunteer-members draw. So bring along a
little extra cash with which to buy raffle
tickets, folks!**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:**BENNETT, Paul
BOIES, Marquise
DUROCHER, Dominique
HAMMOCK, Christopher
HECHTMAN, Ken
MOIR, L. E.
NOVO, Alice
PELLEY, Lynda**Due This Month, November:**KNAPP, Brian K.
KNAPP, Mary C.
JANSSEN, Steven**Due Next Month, December:**

DUROCHER, Marc

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Lastly, with those in our community less fortunate in mind, and in the spirit of the season, we encourage MonSFFen to donate to a local food bank or toy drive.

We take this opportunity to wish all MonSFFA members and friends of the club a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful, Happy New Year!

Proposed MonSFFA Meeting Dates for Next Year

The club proposes the following dates for its meetings in 2016 (all are Sundays): January 24, February 21, March 13, April 17, May 15, August 28, September 18, October 16, and November 20.

These dates will shortly be submitted to the hotel. We await confirmation; stay tuned!

In addition, we have an outing of some sort planned for Sunday, June 26, and have scheduled our annual summer barbecue for Sunday, July 17. Our 2016 Christmas Dinner/Party will take place on either Saturday evening, December 3 or 10, yet to be finalized.

2016 Club Elections

The first order of business as the club begins a new year is traditionally the election of MonSFFA's Executive Committee for that year. The club's 2016 elections will take place at our first meeting of the new year, slated for January 24 (confirmation pending). All MonSFFA members in good standing are encouraged to participate.

MonSFFA elects annually a president, vice-president(s), and treasurer—who together form the Executive Committee—and charges them with the responsibility of running the club on behalf of the membership. These executives recruit advisors and appoint officers to assist them in carrying out this responsibility.

Our sitting Executive is as follows: Cathy Palmer-Lister, president; Keith Braithwaite, vice-president; Sylvain St-Pierre, treasurer.

Any MonSFFA member in good standing who is responsibly and reliably able to carry out the duties of office may run for any one of the Executive posts. Candidates may nominate themselves or accept nomination from another member in good standing. Nominations are received by the chief returning officer, or CRO, usually just before the commencement of voting on Election Day. Long-time club member Josée Bellemare is currently our chief returning officer.

All MonSFFA members in good standing are eligible to cast a ballot. Members are asked to be present at the designated place and time in order to

exercise their right to vote. Proxy voting is not permitted, except under special circumstances and by approval of the CRO (out-of-town members unable to attend the vote, for example, may have their ballots cast by the CRO in their absence, or make their choices via e-mail or other form of communication outside of the designated voting hour).

October 18 Meeting Report

A last-minute switch to an upstairs hotel suite/board room may have derailed a few of our group as attendance on this occasion was light. We heard from a couple folk who, finding the usual meeting venue closed and no familiar faces within sight, assumed the meeting had been cancelled. It had not.

An early-bird installment of Sunday Sci-Fi Cinema Matinée highlighting classic Universal horror films of the 1930s, '40s, and '50s led off. On offer were *Frankenstein*, *Dracula*, *The Wolf Man*, *The Mummy*—starring horror icons Karloff, Lugosi, Rains, and Chaney, Jr.—and the ultimate choice of those present, *The Creature From the Black Lagoon*, which was pronounced by our reviewers an entertaining movie of quality.

Sylvain St-Pierre gave a well-illustrated primer on the prolific, decades-long Perry Rhodan cycle, this being a German space opera and the most successful sci-fi book series ever, boasting some 3000 installments to date.

Sylvain was joined by Keith Braithwaite for the next presentation, a visually detailed overview of the 1960s children's television sci-fi/adventure series *Thunderbirds*, which featured a cast of marionettes and a wealth of cool, futuristic vehicles, machines, and aircraft. The discussion amongst the group covered details of plots and production, and zeroed in on the massive appeal of the show, then and now, 50 years on, which it was put forward, has largely to do with the mechanical marvels depicted and the elaborate, hair-raising rescue operations undertaken by the show's International Rescue organization.

We opted to put off our planned stop-motion short film project workshop until November and instead, to the delight of the group, screened a stop-motion lego movie that club member Paul Bennett had made with his son back in the late 1970s. Fun stuff!

Our thanks are proffered to all those members who helped to plan and stage this meeting.

Briefly

- ▶ Nous sommes tous Parisiens.
- ▶ Issue 93 of *Warp* will be available in print form at our November 22 meeting this Sunday. MonSFFen wishing a copy may pick it up at the meeting. The online version is currently available on the club's Website (MonSFFA.ca).
- ▶ *Impulse* will not publish next month, December. This issue has therefore been designated our November-December 2015 edition. *Impulse* returns in January 2016.
- ▶ We erred in last month's *Impulse*, giving the start-time of October's Sci-Fi Cinema Matinée as 11:00PM when it should have read 11:00AM, of course! We apologize for the misprint and trust that nobody showed up at our meeting venue at 11 o'clock in the evening expecting to watch a movie!

Please Note: Needed for November Meeting

MonSFFen are asked to bring in a pair of scissors to this weekend's club meeting (November 22), these being required to work on pre-production for our ongoing stop-motion film production. We request that anyone having a pliers-type hole-punch bring it in, as well.

Also, those individuals who took on character-design assignments last meeting are asked to bring in their completed sketches.

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