

I M P U L S E

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

May-June / Mai-Juin 2018 (Vol. 22, No./N° 5)

NEXT CLUB MEETING IS COMING SOON!

Saturday, May 26

12:00PM-5:00PM

**St-François Room (second floor)
Hôtel Espresso, 1005 Guy St.
Downtown Montreal**

MEETING THEME: This month's theme involves a craft challenge: make a pie-plate flying saucer! We hope to marshal an invasion fleet of UFOs! Bring along, as well, any UFO-related books, toys, etc. for the display table!

PROGRAMME

12:00PM-2:00PM

**SATURDAY SCI-FI CINEMA MATINÉE—
THE FLYING SAUCER EDITION:** Early-birds will be asked to pick for review one of the five UFO movies we'll have on offer!

2:00PM-3:15PM

WATCH THE SKIES! AND THE MOVIES AND TV SHOWS ABOUT WATCHING THE SKIES!: The flying saucers and UFO aliens of popular culture have long been fodder for thrilling sci-fi films and television series! We examine how UFOlogy has influenced screen sci-fi, and vice versa!

3:15PM-3:30PM

MID-MEETING BREAK: Fund-raising raffle, brief discussion of club business and upcoming club field trip

3:30PM-4:30PM

LANGUAGE RECTIFIERS, PROTOCOL DROIDS, AND A FISH IN YOUR EAR:
Translation in SF

**NEXT MONTH:
SATURDAY, JUNE 9**

Field trip to Science and Technology Museum, Ottawa (see center column for details)

UFOs TO LAND AT MAY MonSFFA MEETING!

The principal topic of MonSFFA's May 26 meeting being UFOs (see Events Column, left), we are asking club members to bring in for our display table any UFO books, toys, or other paraphernalia they may possess.

But in addition, we are challenging MonSFFEn to exercise their crafting skills and make a pie-plate flying saucer for the occasion!

Base your design on a UFO described in the pages of Project Blue Book, or on a famous flying saucer from sci-fi film or television! Detail and paint your UFO as simply or elaborately as you wish, include little green men, perhaps, and maybe a display base!

Extra points to all who contribute a flying saucer to our alien invasion fleet!

CLUB FIELD TRIP TO OTTAWA PLANNED FOR JUNE 9

Firstly, please note that by popular request of the club's members, MonSFFA has moved its upcoming field trip to Canada's Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa forward one day, to Saturday, June 9 (the outing was originally scheduled for Sunday, June 10). Please update your calendars.

Car pools are currently being discussed; we'll further arrangements at our May 26 meeting, and final details will be posted on the club's Web site prior to the field trip date. Riders will be expected to pitch in for gas and any parking charges.

Following our museum visit, we anticipate a restaurant meal and, time allowing, a little shopping. Be advised that given the travel time involved, this will be a long day; steel yourself accordingly!

The venerable Science and Technology Museum has for decades been a destination of choice for school field trips or family excursions, as some of our older members may recall. Closed

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
DUROCHER, Marc
GLOVER, Wayne
HAMMOCK, Christopher
HICKEY, Mark
McCULLOGH, Brian
MOIR, L. E.
NOVO, Alice
PICARD, Shawn
RUFIANGE, Yolande
WALLING, Evelyn
WALLING, René

Due This Month, May:

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

Due Next Month, June:

BELLEMARE, Josée
SILVERMAN, Barbara
TOUSIGNANT, Yves

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

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

Thank you for your patronage

MonSFFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

AMonSFF FORMULAIRE D'INSCRIPTION

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

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

ADDRESS/ADRESSE: _____
No. & Street/N° et Rue Apt./App. City/Ville

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

INTERESTS/INTERETS: _____

in recent years for necessary renovations to the building housing the museum's exhibits, the fully refurbished and updated CSTM, today, is again open and welcoming visitors! And the balance- taxing Crazy Kitchen, dating back to the museum's opening in 1967, is still a part of it all!

Featured at the CSTM this summer is The Art of the Brick, a Lego exhibition. Renowned Lego builder/artist Nathan Sawaya's work is on display, here, showcasing original pieces as well as recreations of world famous works of art like Michelangelo's David, Da Vinci's Mona Lisa, and Van Gogh's Starry Night. Also on show is a full-sized Lego T-Rex skeleton, made of over 80,000 bricks! And, the so-called "Block Party" interactive build space allows visitors to test their own creativity with Lego! We imagine club VP Keith Braithwaite is already working on designs for a full-sized Lego Beavra to challenge that T-Rex!



We'll take in this exhibit, adult admission for which is listed at \$22 (includes access to the entire museum). Discounts are available for children and seniors. MonSFFen are responsible for their own admission costs and any other field trip-related expenses.

MonSFFen interested in joining our excursion are asked to please confirm with us as soon as possible, either by e-mail or in person at our May 26 meeting. Spaces may be limited, so don't wait until the last minute!

Riders will be assigned to a car and will be asked to meet their driver at a designated location (likely a Metro station) for pick-up.

Please be on time!

Again, the final details of our carpooling arrangements will be posted on the club's Web site prior to the field trip date.

Information for our carpool drivers:

The Canada Science and Technology Museum is located at 1867 St-Laurent Boulevard, Ottawa (a short jaunt south of Highway 417).

From Montreal, follow Highway 40 West off the island into Vaudreuil-Dorion, bearing right when the road forks at exit 32 towards Ottawa. Continue on Highway 40 (Trans-Canada Highway) until the Quebec-Ontario border; the 40 becomes Highway 417.

Follow the 417 for roughly 110 kilometres into Ottawa. Exit at Innes Road (Exit 112), turning west (left) on Innes and continuing for about 2.5 kilometres to St-Laurent Boulevard. Turn left onto St-Laurent and drive a short distance, past a McDonald's and a Burger King, until the intersection of Lancaster Road. Turn left onto Lancaster and proceed to the CSTM parking lot entrance.

We will meet just outside the museum's main entrance before proceeding inside.

For information on the museum, surf to the CSTM's Web site: cstmuseum.techno-science.ca

April MonSFFA Meeting

April's club meeting got off to an early start with a superhero edition of Saturday Sci-Fi Cinema Matinée, the assembled MonSFFen passed on movies featuring Wonder Woman, Batman and Robin, Captain America, and a Russian superhero team, choosing, rather, to review the 1951 black-and-white adventure Superman and the Mole Men, starring George Reeves. This first ever Superman theatrical feature film was later recut as a two-part episode of Reeves' Adventures of Superman TV series, for which this movie served as a pilot of sorts. The movie was well received by our group, who found it dated, of course, but an entertaining and well made, low-budget effort. The camera trickery employed to give Superman flight and showcase his other super powers were simple but effective, it was noted.

The meeting proper opened with a quick discussion on the popular appeal of the superhero, moderator Keith Braithwaite opining that comic book superheroes are the modern equivalent of the gods of Greek and Roman mythology. Folk chimed in with their own observations, speaking of superheroes as representative of the ideals to which we individually and collectively aspire, as metaphors for our always changing societal values, and as role models for awkward, skinny adolescent boys (and girls!) who wish for the same impossible bravery, strength, and virtue in the face of adversity (read: high school or family crisis or just plain life in general!) as their comic book idols.

A lively and decidedly tongue-in-cheek "debate" pitted Marvel fans Paula Dufour and Marc Durocher against DC fans René Walling and Keith. François Menard moderated, here, testing the debaters with demanding questions on arcane aspects of the Marvel and DC universes, and pitting favourite characters from each against the other to determine who might prevail! It was all in good fun, with the audience commenting on the debaters' arguments and voting on the winners of each round as the debate progressed. In the end, François called it, overall, a tie!

Supported by numerous visuals in illustration of his treatise, Keith remained at the dais to offer a PowerPoint presentation on the evolution of comic book art, specifically through the lens of Golden and Silver Age Superman artists—many of them largely unsung—beginning with co-creator Joe Shuster, who in the mid-1930s with partner Jerry Siegel, laid the foundation for the world's most enduring superhero. Keith explained that the printing processes of the day necessitated a particular stylized approach to comic book art, and spoke, too, of the collaborative effort of many artists—writers, layout artists, pencillers, inkers, letterers, colourists—that is required to create a comic book.

Briefly:

- ▶ This issue of Impulse has been designated our May-June 2018 edition; Impulse will not publish again until mid-July, shortly before, and with details of, our summer barbecue picnic-in-the-park.
- ▶ Given our May meeting's theme, this one bears repeating: the Canadian Mint has released a unique, oval-shaped limited-edition \$20 silver coin that glows in the dark, commemorating a 1967 UFO encounter near Falcon Lake, Manitoba. Historically, Canada has apparently long been a UFO hotspot!
- ▶ And, we again remind book and comics fans that Librairie Astro (1844 Ste-Catherine, just west of Le Faubourg; Guy/Concordia Metro) is, regrettably, closing, a victim of rising rents and the nightmare of ongoing construction in Montreal! The long-running comics and used books store is holding a "Turn Off the Lights Sale" leading up to the shutting of its doors for good at the end of June.
- ▶ Avengers: Infinity War is a runaway blockbuster, chalking up astounding box office numbers that have set numerous industry records. The film is now the highest-grossing superhero movie of all time, the most successful comic book film adaptation ever, and the highest-grossing MCU movie of the bunch! It has surpassed Star Wars: The Force Awakens as the movie to most quickly reach \$1 billion in worldwide receipts, managing the feat in just 11 days! As of this writing, Infinity War has taken in over \$1.6 billion!
- ▶ Genre TV series wrapping up this season or cancelled include: Once Upon a Time, The Crossing, and, not surprisingly, Inhumans on ABC; The Last Man on Earth, The Exorcist, The X-Files, and Lucifer on Fox; and The Originals on The CW. Both late-'90s-early-2000s series Charmed and Roswell (as Roswell, New Mexico) are rebooting on The CW.
- ▶ Finally, we remind MonSFFen that regular cash flow is vital to the continued financing of our activities. We ask that club members not allow their memberships to lapse; *please* pay your annual membership fees *on time*! Our standard membership fee remains set at a very reasonable \$25 yearly. Refer to the Membership Column on the front page of each issue of Impulse to know if your annual MonSFFA membership fees are due. And thank you for your timely membership renewal!

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

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

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