

# I M P U L S E

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

April-May / Avril-Mai 2021 (Vol. 25, No./N° 1)

## NEXT CLUB e-MEETING THIS SATURDAY, MAY 8!

[www.MonSFFA.ca](http://www.MonSFFA.ca)  
1:00PM-5:00PM

***As club members know, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the various government-ordered safety restrictions in place, MonSFFA has suspended all of its in-person meetings and events until the coronavirus crisis has abated... Soon, we all desperately hope!***

We invite MonSFFen and friends-of-the-club to visit our Web site ([www.MonSFFA.ca](http://www.MonSFFA.ca)) regularly for interesting content, and any news as to when we expect a return to face-to-face meetings.

And do join us monthly for our e-meetings, which include a Zoom get-together running in tandem to the fresh, fun, and fascinating content posted on the site throughout the afternoon of each of these online gatherings!

### POSTAL ADDRESS CHANGE:

**IMPORTANT! Please Take Note:**

The club's Boul. Ste-Rose, Laval, postal mailing address is *no longer* operative. As of April 10, 2021, our new address is:

**MonSFFA, c/o  
125 Rue Léonard  
Châteauguay, Québec, Canada  
J6K 1N9**

Henceforth, please mail all correspondence to this new address.

## ANNUAL FEES NOW DUE AFTER YEAR OF FREE MEMBERSHIP!

As of April, 2021, MonSFFA has officially resumed the collection of annual membership fees. Club members are asked to mail their cheques or money orders, made out to "MonSFFA," to our *new* postal mailing address.

Because of the lockdowns and other COVID-19 safety measures imposed by authorities beginning early last year, and continuing still, the club has been unable to hold any of its usual meetings and events. No indoor gatherings in particular, like our monthly meetings, are currently permitted and we estimate that it will be several months yet before things get back to something approaching normal.

So as not to sideline ourselves completely during quarantine, we introduced a series of "DIY, Virtual MonSFFA Meetings," hosted monthly on the club's Web site, the first of these having unfolded on April 4, 2020. To date, we've hosted 13 such online gatherings, which now include a Zoom get-together running in parallel.

With the club unable to offer a full slate of activities, however, MonSFFA's Executive opted to also suspend the collection of annual membership fees. So effectively, during the past approximately 12 months, MonSFFen have enjoyed a fees-free year of club membership!

During that year, the club, of course, collected no revenue whatsoever. Nothing. Nada. Not so much as a nickel! We had to cancel our usually lucrative November sci-fi book sale, and we've been unable to benefit even from the modest income normally generated by small fund-raising raffles and our snack table, staples of the club's regular meetings. While we have not been shelling out for the major expense of renting physical meeting space, we are still incurring costs for fanzine printings, the Web site, postal mailings, and now for a Zoom subscription which allows us to hold our extended video chats as part of each month's e-meeting.

But now, the club must resume the collection of

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

*After a year of fees-free membership in response to the pandemic-prompted shutdown of our meetings and other activities, the club has begun again collecting annual membership dues.*

Standard membership remains 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  
125 Rue Léonard  
Châteauguay, Québec, Canada  
J6K 1N9**

*Thank you for your patronage.*

***Check this list to know in which month are due your annual MonSFFA membership fees:***

**JANUARY 2021:**

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**JANUARY 2022:**

PALMER-LISTER, Cathy

**FEBRUARY 2021:**

RUFIANGE, Yolande

GRAND, Jason

**FEBRUARY 2022:**

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## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

annual membership fees in order to continue operations, and to prepare for a resumption of in-person activities at some date we hope comes soon. *Please remember, it takes bucks to maintain all of this Buck Rogers stuff that we all so enjoy!*

For most of us, our 2020 membership renewal dates became 2021 renewal dates—annual membership fees due in April 2020, for example, became due in April 2021 under this revised schedule. A May 2020 date was bumped ahead a year to May 2021, June 2020 to June 2021, and so on.

We recognize that *some* club members had, in fact, remitted their fees last year, and these folk, having paid said fees, will not miss out on the year of free membership enjoyed by their fellow MonSFFen. The annual fees of these club members will next become due in 2022.

Additionally, we will be pleased to welcome back to the fold any former associates who have let lapse their MonSFFA memberships. And, we'll also enthusiastically welcome to the club any prospective members who may have discovered MonSFFA via our virtual meetings this past year.

To renew your club membership, or to join MonSFFA anew, please follow the directions outlined in the Membership Section, right-side column of page 1, and fill out and mail in the Membership Application, bottom of page 1.

Note that we are looking into setting up a means of receiving online payments—PayPal or some other system—but such is not yet in place. We'll announce this option when it comes into effect.

## **An Unprecedented, Nightmarish Year for Us All!**

Impulse last published over a year ago, in the early weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic that took hold of not only our city, but the entire province, country, and indeed, the whole world, an event unprecedented in any of our lifetimes.

The club had just cancelled all of its upcoming meetings and events as public health authorities imposed lockdowns across Québec and the rest of Canada in an attempt to mitigate the rapid spread of this novel coronavirus, designated SARS-CoV-2 and known colloquially as COVID-19.

MonSFFA, along with much of society, was suddenly rendered inert as the deadly virus proliferated, shuttering schools, disrupting commerce, and overwhelming hospitals. Panic set in among many. We all thought—hoped!—that the summer sun would bring relief, and it did, to a certain degree. But a second wave of infection soon exploded, and earlier this year, a third. For the better part of a year, now, the virus has remained at least one step ahead of the best efforts of medical science. Often, we were our own worst enemy, with government leaders ignoring the experts and making foreseeable, costly errors in the fight against a microscopic foe that was quick to take advantage of any mistake. Only in the past few months have vaccines, developed and tested in record time, been deployed to slay this terrible dragon.

Even now, though, more lethal, mutated variants of

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**MARCH 2021:**  
PERRYON, Leslie  
WALLING, René

**MARCH 2022:**  
MÉNARD, François

**APRIL 2021:**  
NOVO, Fernando  
RATTÉ, Yvon

**APRIL 2022:**  
ADAM, Jed

**APRIL 2023:**  
NADEAU, Marc

**MAY 2021:**  
BROWN, Lindsay  
BURAKOFF, Mark  
REDMOND, Isis  
SICHEL, Danny

**MAY 2022:**  
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**JUNE 2021:**  
SILVERMAN, Barbara  
TOUSIGNANT, Yves

**JUNE 2022:**  
BELLEMARE, Josée

**JULY 2021:**  
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**JULY 2022:**  
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**AUGUST 2021:**  
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**AUGUST 2022:**  
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**SEPTEMBER 2021:**  
BOIES, Marquise  
DUFOUR, Paula  
DUROCHER, Dominique  
GAREAU, Paul  
PELLEY, Lynda

**SEPTEMBER 2022:**  
ASPLER, Joseph  
BRAITHWAITE, Erin  
BRAITHWAITE, Keith  
BRAITHWAITE, Scott  
MOIR, L. E.  
SMYTH, Phyllis

**OCTOBER 2021:**  
PETTIT, William S.

**OCTOBER 2022:**  
BOOM, Hendrik

**NOVEMBER 2021:**  
ANTONOW, Agata  
DESPLAND, Alexis  
FELGATE, Rogan  
HICKEY, Mark  
KENNEY, Daniel P.  
LAWRENCE, Adam  
McCULLOUGH, Brian

**NOVEMBER 2022:**  
KNAPP, Brian K.  
KNAPP, Cathye

**DECEMBER 2021:**  
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**DECEMBER 2022:**  
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With the shutdown of in-person club activities beginning in March of last year, and our decision thereafter to suspend collection of annual membership fees for a time, most MonSFFen thus received what amounted to a fees-free year of membership! But a few *did* pay their annual membership fees in 2020, and so, in order that these folk also benefit from that fees-free year, they will only be required to pay their dues beginning next year, 2022.

We will be pleased to welcome back any former MonSFFen who have let lapse their club memberships, as well as any prospective members who may have discovered MonSFFA during the past year via our online e-meetings!

*If your name has been left off of this list, and you believe that an error has been made, please contact us ASAP so that we may investigate, update the club's membership roll, and make any necessary corrections to our database. Get in touch with us at: [president@monsffa.ca](mailto:president@monsffa.ca)*

the original virus are filling our hospitals again with the afflicted. Humanity finds itself in a critical race to vaccinate a large swath of the global population before these variants can fully wreak their devastation.

MonSFFA, for its small part, has battled the tedium of quarantine by introducing via, the club's Web site, a series of online meetings designed to replicate as best as was possible the structure and feel of our monthly in-person get-togethers. Beginning with our April 4, 2020, virtual meeting, we've hosted 13 of these monthly online gatherings to date, welcoming not only our own club members, but friends in fandom, and former MonSFFen now living in other cities, all of them greatly appreciating the chance to commune with other SF/F devotees.

But after a nightmarish year or more, we find ourselves *still* isolated in our homes, stressed to the max, in some cases, jobless, anxious about the future, and most tragically, having suffered the heartrending loss of family and friends to COVID-19, among these some of our fellow MonSFFen.

**Visit MonSFFA on the Web / Visitez l'AMonSFF sur internet: [www.MonSFFA.ca](http://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](mailto:keith1958@live.ca) • Voice mail: 450-692-8831 • Via the club's mailing address, to the attention of "Impulse": MonSFFA, c/o 125 Rue Léonard, Châteauguay, Québec, Canada, J6K 1N9*

*Impulse est préparée une fois par mois par Keith Braithwaite au nom de l'AMonSFF. Il est disponible sur le site internet du club grâce à Cathy Palmer-Lister. Pour toutes questions concernant cette publication, contactez Keith soit: En personne à une réunion du club • Courriel: [keith1958@live.ca](mailto: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 125 Rue Léonard, Châteauguay, Québec, Canada, J6K 1N9*