

I M P U L S E

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

April / Avril 2025 (Vol. 28, No./N° 3)

NEXT CLUB MEETING: SATURDAY, APRIL 12

1:00PM-5:00PM

Le Nouvel Hotel
1740 Boul. René-Lévesque O
(corner St-Mathieu)

“Salle Faubourg”
(South Tower)

**And Simultaneously on ZOOM
at: www.MonSFFA.ca**

MEETING THEME: Bring in to the meeting for our display table a snake toy, SF/F-themed, if possible!

APRIL'S AGENDA INCLUDES:

- **SSSSSNAKES IN SF&F!**—*We look at snakes, snake-like beings, and all things snake-tonishing in SF&F! And there are an awful lot of these slithering subjects!*
- **YOUR TOP THREE!**—*What are your top three very best SF&F novels, short fiction, films, and/or TV series? The crème-de-la-crème! We're asking MonSFFen for their recommendations: the absolutely must-read/must-watch SF&F, best of the best, desert-island material! The stories in one, two, or all four of the categories we've outlined which you think others must read or watch before they die; the most memorable, thought-provokingly intelligent, important works of superior SF&F, of high entertainment value and overall quality! That stuff! Let's discuss.*

SUMMER EVENTS SCHEDULE

May 10 July 13 (BBQ)
June 14 (Field Trip) August 16

As always, dates may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances

NANCY KILPATRICK, 1946-2025

We were saddened to hear of the passing, on March 31 after a long battle with lung cancer, of horror writer Nancy Kilpatrick. A long-time friend of the club who has graced our meetings on several occasions as a guest-speaker, she was also a frequent guest at ConCept.

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Nancy moved to Canada in 1970 and has resided in Montreal for many years, pursuing a successful career as a writer and editor of, in particular, vampire-themed fiction. She also wrote science fiction, mystery, dark fantasy, as well as gothic and erotic horror, the latter under the pseudonyms Amarantha Knight and Desirée Knight.

Fangoria magazine called her “Canada’s answer to Anne Rice,” and the World Fantasy Convention memorialized her as “the Canadian Queen of Vampires.”

We extend our sincere condolences to her friends and family.

APRIL MEETING MOVED TO FAUBOURG ROOM

Please note: as was the case last month, the hotel has switched this month’s meeting (April) from our usual “Maisonneuve” meeting room to the “Faubourg” room just down the hall.

INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP FEES A POSSIBILITY

Faced with a recent, considerable increase to the cost of renting MonSFFA’s downtown meeting room, the club is obliged to consider raising annual membership fees to help compensate. A standard single-person membership currently costs only \$25 per year, a rate that we have maintained for many, many years! Taking inflation into account, by most calculations, our rate should be closer to \$50.

Rising meeting room rental charges are not the only hit to our budget; to no one’s surprise, production costs related to *Warp*, maintenance of

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR ANNUAL MonSFFA MEMBERSHIP FEES?

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the club’s normal operation for more than three years! During this period, our regular in-person meetings were suspended, and the payment of annual fees were deferred. The club has now returned to collecting those annual membership fees, this in order to insure positive cash flow, and so cover the monthly costs of MonSFFA’s operations.

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
29 Harold
Kirkland, Québec, Canada
H9J 1R7**

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: _____

our Website, and other operating expenses have all gone up!

Having fun costs money, as with any hobby!

It is now more important than ever that MonSFFen renew their commitment to the club and pay their annual membership fees on time, in order that a healthy cash-flow be maintained.

While the club is, at the moment, financially fair, our long-term sustainability will require additional revenue to meet rising expenses.

Note that nothing has been decided as yet; membership fees, as of this writing, remain unchanged.

MARCH MonSFFA MEETING

MonSFFA met on Saturday, March 8, with astronomy and the multiverse on the agenda!

Our resident astronomy buff, Cathy Palmer-Lister, got us started with a look at some of the mythological stories associated with the constellations. Projecting star maps on screen, she traced the various constellations visible in the night sky, pointing out the prominent stars making up each, then spoke of the stories behind those constellations. The Chinese tale of the Weaver and the Cowherd, for example, tells of star-crossed lovers separated by the Milky Way.

Danny Sichel's look at the "Multiverse" in SF/F was extensive, covering not only the most familiar Marvel and DC multiverses, but other such concepts across genre literature, comics, and on the screen, including, too, the scientific thinking on what exactly a multiverse is and how it might work. The best of the many stories Danny cited explored the ramifications of travelling to, and messing with the multiverse.

After the mid-meeting break, Cathy, Danny, Keith Braithwaite, and Joe Aspler tendered, for the benefit of those who might want to take a stab at it, a quick illustrated tutorial on preparing and giving a talk at a club meeting. Pick a SF/F topic about which you are passionate, they advised. The advantages of including visuals when possible, and using PowerPoint or similar software to craft your presentation, plus pointers on public speaking were proffered. The club, of course, hopes to involve as many of its members as possible in sharing with their fellow MonSFFen that which interests them the most in the vast sci-fi universe. Such participation is *always* welcome and encouraged. A more in-depth tutorial is promised in the coming months.

We thank our presenters for their contributions to our programming on this occasion, and acknowledge, as well, all who helped to plan and run this, our April 2025 meeting.

OF INTEREST TO SF/F FANS:

- A reboot of the popular *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* series is in the works, and will include appearances by the original's star, Sarah Michelle Gellar, who played the titular character. Described as "the next chapter in the Buffyverse," the new show will apparently focus on a fresh, young slayer. No release date yet, or further casting news confirmed.
- *Buffy* cast member Michelle Trachtenberg, who played the slayer's little sister, Dawn, sadly, passed away this past February at age 39. She had undergone



R.I.P. Nancy Kilpatrick

a liver transplant a few months prior to her death.

- Reports regarding the BBC's apparent cancellation of *Doctor Who* have been refuted by the British broadcaster. "This story is incorrect," stated a spokesperson. "*Doctor Who* has not been shelved." Ratings have declined, however, with each recent regeneration of the venerable Time Lord.
- Extinct for over 12,500 years, the Dire Wolf is back, courtesy modern science! Biotech company Colossal Biosciences have successfully sourced ancient DNA and employed cloning and gene-editing technology to birth Stark-family dogs, or more precisely, a hybrid of the prehistoric predator and a modern gray wolf. They're also working on Mammoths and the Tasmanian Tiger. Don't know if we should be doing this; seems potentially dire!
- There has been little, if any interest in carrying on with the Canadian Unity Fan Fund (CUFF) of late. Western-Canadian fan Garth Spencer reports that his attempts at simple awareness, let alone promotion of the fund have yielded zip. Zilch. Nada. Crickets from Canadian conventions that might host a CUFF delegate. Same from the vast majority of fans, who might bid on auction items to raise money in support of the fund. Spencer has announced that after years of effort on behalf of CUFF, he's giving up. CUFF was instigated in 1981 to help fund a Canadian fan's expenses when travelling from Western Canada to an Eastern Convention—the country's national SF/F convention—and vice versa.

DISRUPTIONS TO IMPULSE RELEASE/DELIVERY SCHEDULE

We reiterate our regret concerning the recent disruptions to the release/delivery schedule of *Impulse*, in particular regarding the print version of this publication. Some club members *may* have received the March issue late, and perhaps this April issue, too. Delays were initially because of issues related to the Canada-wide postal strike earlier this year, but are now primarily due to the sporadic absence of our editor, who is currently recovering from medical procedures which are keeping him away from his keyboard periodically.

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 *Impulse* mailing address: 125 Rue Léonard, Châteauguay, Québec, Canada, J6K 1N9

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 vocale: 450-692-8831 • Par la poste à l'adresse de *Impulse*: 125 Rue Léonard, Châteauguay, Québec, Canada, J6K 1N9