

I M P U L S E

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

August / Août 2026 (Vol. 29, No./N° 7)

**NEXT
CLUB MEETING:
SATURDAY,
AUGUST 15****1:00PM-5:00PM****Le Nouvel Hotel
1740 Boul. René-Lévesque O.
(corner St-Mathieu)****Salle Faubourg
(South "Condo" Tower)****And Simultaneously on ZOOM
at: www.MonSFFA.ca**

MEETING THEME: Genre fans are often avid crafters, and "fancrafting" is a term we've coined to describe the act of a SF/F fan creating a SF/F-themed craft. MonSFFen are encouraged to bring in, for our display table, examples of their own fancraft, completed projects, those in progress, or both! Share your SF/F-themed creative undertakings with the group!

AUGUST'S AGENDA:

- **FANRAFTING WORKSHOPS!**—
The afternoon will be dedicated to several, hands-on, how-to workshops on SF/F-themed craft projects. See how it's done, learn a new craft, and try your hand!

**EVENTS SCHEDULE FOR
THE REMAINDER OF 2026**

September 19 (Club Meeting)
October 17 (Super Sci-Fi Book Sale)
November 14 (Club Meeting)
December 5 (Christmas Dinner/Party)
December 12 (Virtual Holiday
Get-Together on ZOOM)

*All dates are Saturdays; as always,
dates subject to change*

**FIELD TRIP TO
PLANETARIUM!**

On Saturday, June 6, about a dozen MonSFFen embarked on the club's annual field trip, this year to the Montreal Planetarium, which this spring/summer features "Rouge 2100," an interactive experience centered on Mars. (The exhibition runs until September 7.)

Speculating on mankind's proposed colonization of the Red Planet in the not-too-distant future, Rouge 2100 was divided into five rooms, each focused on a particular aspect of the exploration of Mars, and the establishment of a permanent base on the planet, atop Mount Olympus, in the year 2100.

Supported by physical displays and immersive, full-room light-show and video presentations, Rouge 2100 addressed the challenges of living on Mars, such as tapping the planet for sources of energy, spacesuit design, and farming!

The group also took in one of the shows playing in the planetarium's two domed theatres, our choice on the topic of black holes. We enjoyed, too, the various static displays set up around the lobby, including a series of detailed Lego models covering the history of spacecraft.

**ADVANCE SCREENING
OF DISCLOSURE DAY!**

On Monday evening, June 8, a number of MonSFFA club members had opportunity to attend a special, advance screening of Steven Spielberg's latest summer-blockbuster film, marking the superstar director's return to the theme of UFOs.

Disclosure Day, if not a sequel to *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* or *E.T. the Extraterrestrial*, is an evolution of the UFO theme explored by Spielberg in the late-1970s and early-1980s, the natural progression of the overarching story, if you will. Emily Blunt, in a stand-out performance, leads an all-star cast in this sci-fi mystery/thriller replete with all the Spielbergian touches that have entertained audiences for decades.

**HAVE
YOU PAID YOUR
ANNUAL MonSFFA
MEMBERSHIP FEES?****Check Here to See if Your
Annual Membership Fees Are
Due, Overdue, or Soon Due**

(Note: Based on Most Recent Membership List Update; May Not Reflect Very Latest Renewals):

Fees Due Last Month, July:
NONE

Fees Due this Month, August:
NONE

Fees Due Next Month, September:
DUFOUR, Paula
DUROCHER, Dominique
GAREAU, Paul
KENNEY, Daniel P.
MOIR, L.E. and Phyllis
PELLEY, Lynda

Standard membership is only \$35 annually. We offer a family rate of \$50. Add \$10 to either in order 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.

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: _____

AMonSFF FORMULAIRE D'INSCRIPTION

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

The club partnered with online promoters Gofobo to hype the film, which opened wide on June 12. Our thanks to Charlie and his team for including us, and for the complimentary double-passes to the downtown advance screening, as well as the cool *Disclosure Day* merchandise, all of which was distributed to randomly selected club members.

MAY MonSFFA MEETING

The club held its well-attended May downtown meeting on Saturday, the 9th. Things got off to a rocky start, however, when our projector's bulb burned out, necessitating that the afternoon's presentations be viewed on laptops rather than the usual big screen. Fortunately, there were several laptops on hand, all quickly dialing in to the ZOOM-chat of the meeting. Three or four folk then clustered around each of these laptops, so that everyone had a good view.

We began with an open discussion, asking club members to name their most impactful sci-fi movies and television-series episodes, with the fantasy/adventure *7th Voyage of Sinbad*, zombie/horror *Night of the Living Dead*, ahead-of-its-time eco/sci-fi film *Silent Running*, television series *The Good Place*, and several original-series *Star Trek* episodes among the examples cited by the group.

Keith Braithwaite followed with a comprehensive presentation on the unrealized films of celebrated stop-motion master Ray Harryhausen. Known for such genre classics as *The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms*, *Earth vs. the Flying Saucers*, *Jason and the Argonauts*, *Clash of the Titans*, *The Valley of Gwangi*, and his Sinbad fantasy/adventure trilogy, the films that Harryhausen never managed to produce for one reason or another make just as impressive a list!

War Eagles, for example, was first conceived by the original *King Kong*'s production team, which included Harryhausen's mentor, Willis O'Brien. Planned as a full-colour sci-fi/fantasy/adventure to rival *Kong* in scope and excitement, the film would have culminated with an aerial battle over New York City, pitting a fleet of Nazi airships equipped with a superweapon against a heroic aviator leading a lost race of Vikings mounted atop giant eagles!

An adaptation of *War of the Worlds* was another unrealized project, along with such as *The Elementals*, *Baron Munchausen*, *Sinbad Goes to Mars*, *Force of the Trojans*, and a remake of *King Kong*.

Keith showed Harryhausen's design sketches, concept art, key drawings, and test footage as he worked through just some of the fantasy/adventure and sci-fi productions entertained by Harryhausen that were destined never to be due to budgetary restrictions, rights issues, script problems, scheduling conflicts, and even the onset of World War II!

Screening various trailers, the meeting concluded with a look ahead to summer blockbuster season, and the 2026 genre movies and TV series coming soon!

2026 BARBECUE-IN-THE-PARK

The weather could not have been any more perfect for this year's annual club Barbecue-in-the-Park! Following a week of punishing heat and humidity, conditions

moderated somewhat, with sunny skies dotted by just enough cloud cover to help mitigate the development of excessively scorching temperatures. A light breeze helped even further.

This year, the event was held on Sunday, July 12, again in our familiar Parc Maisonneuve locale in the city's East End. We established ourselves under the shade of large trees on the park grounds, overlooking an open patch of field, and just a brief stroll from the park's chalet and washroom facilities.

A few of our regulars were absent, but the small contingent of MonSFFen taking part were joined by a friendly visitor involved with the upcoming 2027 Montreal Worldcon. We all delighted in a relaxing afternoon of fresh air and sunshine, casual conversation, and of course, food and refreshments. In addition to our barbecued delicacies, we enjoyed, too, various snacks contributed by individuals, such as potato chips, cookies, pastries, etc.

The barbecue was fired up at about noon, and while most opted for various sausages or hotdogs, *Warp* editor Danny Sichel elected to grill duck, which proved an interesting exercise. He returned to the grill several times before he was finally satisfied that his meal was sufficiently cooked! There was some question as to the legitimacy of Danny's culinary choice, with the group uncertain as to whether it was duck season or rabbit season.

As usual, we rambled through numerous topics of discussion, SF/F subjects often front and center—the Worldcon, the television series *Supernatural*, Ultraman, recent books read, our upcoming August Fancrafting Workshops, and more.

As the afternoon drew to a close, the group packed up and made for home after a lovely day in the park.

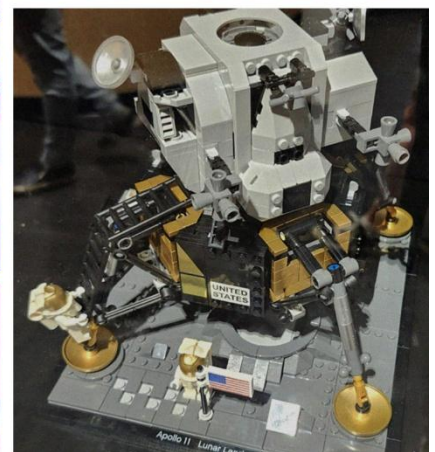
VIRTUAL PICNIC

The club held its 2026 Virtual Picnic on Sunday, July 26. Folk gathered online for a ZOOM-chat, touching base with their MonSFFriends. This event is held annually following the club's barbecue for the benefit of those who were unable to attend the barbecue. Conversation topics were varied, and included further discussion of our imminent Fancrafting Workshops, upcoming book sale, and remaining 2026 meetings.

PRINTING OF WARP DELAYED BY INK SHORTAGE!

Warp 117 was released back in May in the usual digital format, but regrettably, printed hard-copies were unavailable at that time, or subsequently, due to a shortage of printer ink! As of this writing (mid-summer), we continue to await delivery of ink cartridges. The delay is apparently the result of supply chain disruptions. We assume, then, that printer ink is shipped through the Strait of Hormuz!

Clockwise from Top, Left: Martian plant life in an imagined greenhouse, future Martian base, part of the "Rouge 2100" interactive Mars exhibit at the Planetarium; two of the lucky club members who won Disclosure Day merchandise; Apollo 11 lunar lander, one of the Lego spacecraft featured in a Planetarium display; MonSFFen "travelled" to Mars on this year's club field trip! (Photos by Keith Braithwaite)



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 préparée une fois par mois par Keith Braithwaite au nom de l'AMonSFF. Il est disponible sur le site internet du club grâce à Cathy Palmer-Lister. Pour toutes questions concernant cette publication, contactez Keith soit: En personne à une réunion du club • Courriel: Keith1958@live.ca • Boîte vocal: 450-692-8831 • Par la poste à l'adresse de Impulse: 125 Rue Léonard, Châteauguay, Québec, Canada, J6K 1N9