

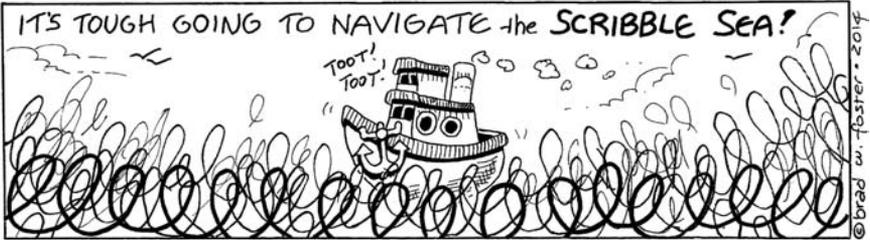
BCSFA Zine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#495

\$3.00/Issue

August 2014



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BCSFAzine © August 2014, Volume 42, #8, Issue #495 is the monthly club newsletter published by the British Columbia Science Fiction Association, a social organization. ISSN 1490-6406.

Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at felicity4711@gmail.com or [TBA], Richmond, BC, Canada. *BCSFAzine* solicits electronic submissions and black-and-white line illustrations in JPG, GIF, BMP, PNG, or PSD format, and offers printed contributors' copies as long as the club budget allows.

BCSFAzine is distributed monthly at White Dwarf Books, 3715 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6R 2G5; telephone 604-228-8223; e-mail whitedwarf@deadwrite.com. Single copies C\$3.00/US\$2.00 each. *Cheques should be made payable to "West Coast Science Fiction Association (WCSFA)."*

This and Next Month in BCSFA

Sunday 17 August at 7 PM:	August BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin's, 707 Hamilton Street (recreation room), New Westminster.
Friday 22 August:	Submission deadline for September <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Friday 29 August:	September <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).
Sunday 21 September at 7 PM:	September BCSFA meeting.
Friday 19 September:	Submission deadline for October <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Friday 26 September:	October <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).

About BCSFA

The incumbent BCSFA Executive members are:

WCSFA Social Committee Chairman/Archivist: R. Graeme Cameron, 604-584-7562

Vice President: TBA

Treasurer/Supporting *BCSFAzine* Production Donor: Kathleen Moore, 604-771-0845

Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973

Editor: Felicity Walker, 604-448-8814

Keeper of FRED Book: Ryan Hawe, 778-895-2371

VCON Ambassador for Life: Steve Forty, 604-936-4754

BCSFA's website is at <http://www.bcsfa.net/> (thank you to webmaster [Garth Spencer](#)). The BCSFA e-mail list is BC Sci-Fi Assc. (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bcscifi_assc/). See <http://bcsfa.net/events.html> for more events. Low-resolution back issues of *BCSFAzine* are also archived at <http://efanzines.com/BCSFA/index.htm> (thank you to webmaster Bill Burns). Contact Felicity for high-resolution copies.

Letters of Comment



[Editor's responses in brackets.]

Alan White
podmogul@cox.net

Saturday 26 July 2014

Seeing the Ford Gyron after fifty some years was a flashback to hours of daydreaming. Thought we'd all be driving one by now.

Dave Haren
tyrbolo@comcast.net

Tuesday 29 July 2014

Hi Felicity,

On the zine front, we have two upbeat signs that better days are here. *Broken Toys* shows Taral in much better circumstances as the clouds of gloom he was suffering lift. The endless stream from Penney's LOC factory may slow as he has found a job. That is real good news. I want everybody who wants a job to get one.

Jim Dunnigan (SPI¹) once described wargamers as overly educated. I've been digging in some fairly horrible material recently and have to try to keep it out of my commentary.

CJ Cherryh has a new pair of shoes which saved her from a fall. She also is closing in on the end of another episode in the Bren Cameron saga. Fancher is playing with dolls and wrestling a broken computer. Someday she may pick up the ends left in a number of her works.

The recommend was for Michael Z. Williamson. Jack Williamson was a writer of the ancient golden age.

Graeme reviewed *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*² in his *Amazing* commentary.³ It is available at archive.org for a free download so you can enjoy it at home.⁴

One of the more interesting podcasts is of spotty quality, has a few weird ideas proposed, and is still worth listening to if you aren't afraid of speculation.

<http://www.theeternities.com/pod/>

Can't Cyborgs Have a Soul?⁵

This one is a prime example of what I mean.



1 [Simulations Publications, Inc.](#), publisher of *Strategy & Tactics*.

2 (1916).

3 [Graeme's review at Amazing Stories](#).

4 [20,000 Leagues Under the Sea \(1916\)](#) at Internet Archive.

5 [The Eternities: "Can't Cyborgs Have a Soul?"](#) at Podbay.fm.

Lake Geneva ezine⁶ has a mention of the TAZ,⁷ an inspiration of Hakim Bey (Peter Lamborn Wilson) and a good source of speculative material—mainly because he distrusts the official narrative while perceiving its most pernicious effects.

My own artworks are a fairly random example of what the TAZ is all about. You can't buy them and you'd be a rare fool to try to steal one.

I'm aware that most think that everyone should be some variety of merchant or swindler, but just like their opinions on gender the truth has far more variety than any fictional cultural narrative.



SuperGee⁸ has his decoding of Slavoj Žižek.⁹ Slavoj is a Hegelian, an ancient variety of Obfuscatory Oracular fountain in service to one of the strangest States (Prussia). He isn't the first to be confused by Hegel and he won't be the last.

Inverting Wilde's take on fox hunts, philosophy is the inedible in pursuit of the unspeakable.

The model is a federation Destroyer used by the Starguard, the tiny original should be next to it. The other graphic shows why those who embrace innovation should be approached with caution.

Warm regards,
Dave Haren

Lloyd Penney
1706–24 Eva Road,
Etobicoke, Ontario
M9C 2B2
penneys@bell.net

Thursday 31 July 2014

Dear Felicity:

Thank you for the newest *BCSFazine*, 494. Getting close to the magic 500 number, any plans? Worry about that later, time for comments about the issue at hand.

The local...didn't go to Detcon 1, but heard it was quite the success. We did attend the annual *Murdoch Mysteries* Experience event in Toronto this past weekend, and had ourselves a great time. We don't need to travel far to have some fun. We will be vending at the upcoming Suburban Steam, and steampunk day at the Historic Zion Schoolhouse in Toronto on August 23. After that is a conrunners' convention called Fan Events Forum, sponsored by Anime North, and held very close to us. We are retired from conrunning,



6 [Lake Geneva](#) at eFanzines.com.

7 [Temporary Autonomous Zone](#).

8 [Arthur D. Hlavaty](#).

9 [LiveJournal](#) entry.

but there is always something new to learn, and we might pick up some valuable tips for future projects.

It may be hot in BC right now, but in Toronto it is chilly cool, and we're lucky to hit 24°C in the day time. This coming weekend may change things, but right now I am still wearing a coat to go to work in. I hope there will some heat for us this summer!



VCON 39 is coming up? Amazing. Wish there was the chance of coming out for it. It will be some time before we can travel the way we'd like to. Best of luck in all its planning.

An idea...I think there are at least two steampunk groups in Vancouver, and I haven't seen anything about them here.

Maybe pester them for an article or two so they can represent themselves within these pages? They get some publicity, and you get an easier time filling the pages.

When this sees print, it may be time for the BC Renaissance Festival. I always hope for the best with this event...I recently met the fellow who used to run the Ontario RenFaire here, and he knows Christina Carr, and wishes her the best of success in this, and so do I. Sometimes, it's pure luck and a roll of the dice to see if you succeed or fail, and Chris doesn't fail at these special events. Please, everyone go out to the BC Ren Festival to make sure it succeeds.

The CBC has always been a punching bag for the federal government, especially Conservative ones, because the CBC is generally neutral, and won't act as the government's voice box, as their promise of performance says. It has to do more with less money, and some drastic things may have to be done. *Republic of Doyle* is on its last season anyway, the eighth season of *Murdoch Mysteries* is in production right now, and a ninth season is fairly likely. Whether a Prime Minister Trudeau or Prime Minister Mulcair will do anything different is yet to be seen.

Time to go, work waits for no one. The new job is still good, and I am two months into my three month probationary period. Maybe there will be some more good news with the next issue, and we will see you then.

Yours,
Lloyd Penney

Michael Bertrand
fruvousfox@gmail.com

Wednesday 6 August 2014

This LOC might be a little short as my tablet is currently the only place I have email right now and typing on a tablet suuuucks.

Anyhow, hi there BCSFAns! As summer slides slowly by, I am happy to announce that my roommates and I have secured new lodgings. We are being forced out of our current digs by a process known as "renoviction" and so for a while now, there has been some tension as we hunted around.

But I am happy to say that we have found a new place in a high rise building just a few blocks from the SkyTrain in a building with a gym and a sauna, so we are definitely upgrading.

I can hardly stand to wait the nine days 'til we can move in!

Well, that is all my column inches for this month. Guess this LOC is a little short on C this time.

Seeya next month, folks!

We Also Heard From: Irma Arkus, Dr. Robin Aaron Bright, Julian Castle, Rick Hoggarth, Cathy Palmer-Lister, Spider Robinson, Garth Spencer.

Calendar

Note to print readers: underlined events have an associated URL. Links are included in the PDF version at <http://www.efanzines.com/BCSFA/>.—Julian Castle



Now imagine you have half as much space.

Already in Progress

Spring–15 September 2014: Call for submissions for Vancouver's eleventh annual Hot One Inch Action, a one-night show of art on one-inch pin-back buttons. Art deadline Monday 15 September at noon. "Only one submission per artist each year...It's free to submit your artwork!...artists selected to be in a show will receive 20 free copies of their button!" Submit via email *or* "by [snail] mail for scanning. E-mail us for mailing or delivery instructions...Please keep your art smaller than letter-sized (8.5×11) so it fits on the scanner." More info at [guidelines webpage](#). (I wrote "Vancouver's eleventh" because HotOneInchAction has done shows in other cities.)—Julian Castle

12 July–2 August 2014: [Chris Woods' Star Wars-Inspired 'Sandstorm' Exhibition](#) at Gallery Jones, 1725 West 3rd Avenue, Vancouver. —Chris Woods

19 July–16 August 2014: [Munsch-ercise](#) at Chemainus Theatre Festival, 9737 Chemainus Road, Chemainus. A play for kids, based on Paper Bag Princess (a dragon and princess tale) and other stories by Robert Munsch. Tuesdays–Thursdays 11 AM. Fridays 2 PM. Saturdays 11 AM. Theatre box office: 250-246-9820 or 1-800-565-7738 Monday–Saturday 9:30 AM–5 PM and four hours before every performance (except stat holidays).—Julian Castle

August 2014

August is National Inventors' Month.

1 August 2014: Premiere of film *Guardians of the Galaxy* (comics/superhero; Zoe Saldana, Bradley Cooper, Vin Diesel, Josh Brolin, Dave Bautista, Djimon Hounsou, Benicio Del Toro, John C. Reilly, Glenn Close, Michael Rooker, Peter Serafinowicz, Gregg Henry, Lloyd Kaufman).

1–10 August 2014: Evolution of Gaming, 9 AM–12 PM, 1–4 PM, and 5–8 PM at Centre for Digital Media (collab between UBC, SFU, Emily Carr University & BCIT), 577 Great Northern Way, Vancouver. Retrospective about the history of video games. Featuring consoles, hands-on exhibits, and more than 40 retro games. Games include *Arkanoid* (1986), *Defender* (1982), *The Legend of Zelda* (1986), and *Super Mario Bros.* (1985). Inferring from image at website that will also have playable *Burger Time*, *Donkey Kong*, *Duck Hunt*, *Final Fantasy*, *Frogger*, *Gauntlet* (1987?), *Joust*, *Marble Madness*, and *Metroid*. Admission is *free*, but visitors are advised to register for a time slot via the website. Georgia Straight: “Some Centre for Digital Media students are building a game experience for Oculus Rift headsets that will be playable at the exhibition.”—Julian Castle

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 August and 5, 12, 19, and 26 September 2014 (*Fridays*): Magic: The Gathering Friday Night Games, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Tonight is the night for *Magic: The Gathering* here at Imperial Hobbies! Drop by and play in a casual open setting with a group of great people, or learn one on one how to play with one of our staff. Contact: Stephanie.”

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 August and 5, 12, 19, and 26 September 2014 (*Fridays*): Friday Board Game Night—Drexoll Games, 7–11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4th Avenue (½ block west of MacDonald Street), Vancouver. “In our stores, it’s *open gaming* any time we’re open, so stop in with a friend and try a game! Both of our locations have 7–8 tables and plenty of seating. Space may be limited during tournaments—scheduled events take precedence over open gaming tables. We have about 100 open board games for playing in the store. Playing is *free* except for some tournaments.”—Keith Lim

2 August 2014: BC Renaissance Festival Sale and Bottle Drive, 2–7 PM in Burnaby. “We are having an afternoon to evening lawn sale and bottle drive in order to gather funds for the cast and crew’s greenroom and behind the scenes, supplies, costume repairs and ‘cooling supplies’ (ice, buckets, fans, canopies, electrolytes, etc.). *All* money raised will go towards the renfest. Address for the sale is Gilmore & Dominion (signs will be up) at the dead end of Dominion Street. For some reason FB won’t let us put a specific address on this event. Come on out and purchase, bring your empties for one of our volunteers to return or donate items to sell. If you are donating items please contact us for drop off times this week. If you are donating items also feel free to list those items here. We know everything won’t be listed but a nice idea would be great!! PS Want to be a performer or vendor and missed the pre-sign-up deadline? Come on by and take advantage of your one last chance. We will have forms ready. Come prepared (vendor fees, photos—digital or printed, etc) and we’ll get you in right on the spot.”—Christina Carr

2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, and 22 August 2014: Shrek the Musical at Malkin Bowl in Stanley Park, Vancouver. Tickets: \$20–\$35 preview night (13 July) or Super Monday (4 August); otherwise \$30–\$45. Tickets & info: 604-696-4295 or at Theatre Under the Stars website.—Julian Castle



THRASHED BY A LADY CYCLIST.

THRASHED BY A LADY CYCLIST.

WHO IS NOTED FOR HER ATHLETIC
POWERS.

[SUBJECT OF ILLUSTRATION.]

An extraordinary scene was witnessed on Saturday morning in Peel Lane, a thoroughfare connecting Little Hulton with Tyldesley, in which the principal participants were a young lady cyclist and a youth of nineteen or twenty. The lady was riding at a good pace, and when in a quiet part of the road the young man, who had apparently been imbibing, stepped into the roadway, and, addressing some insulting remarks to the cyclist, made as if he intended pulling her off the machine. She immediately alighted, caught hold of the astonished youth, and gave him a sound thrashing, using her fists in scientific fashion, to the delight of several colliers who were passing. The young man made off, and the cyclist, who is believed to be a Bolton lady noted for her athletic powers, rode off towards Tyldesley.

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 August and 6, 13, 20, and 27 September 2014 (*Saturdays*): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. “Hello. Feel free to come in anytime on Saturday afternoon until 7 PM and play any of the many open games there are here at the store.—Kirby”—Keith Lim

3 August 2014: Imperial Hobbies and the Fourth Monkey Troop Rangers Present: Flames of War Escalation League, 12–5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Rules: First games will be played with 500 point armies. Any late war force is allowed. You only need to field an HQ and one mandatory combat platoon. You cannot field a vehicle with front armor greater than 9, nor any gun with anti-tank value greater than 13. Air support cannot be used. Next round is played with 700 point armies, with only combat platoon required and no other restrictions. Final round is played with 1000 point armies, requiring both combat platoons. You do not need to play the same company from game to game, however, you must stick to one nation. All games will be played on 4×4 tables, using standard missions from the rulebook. Contact: Bojan.”

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 August and 7, 14, 21, and 28 September 2014 (*Sundays*): Kitsilano Board Games:

Lazy Sundays, 2–3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295–2083 Alma Street, Vancouver. “Sunday afternoons: they are made for relaxing, cups of warming beverage, and most especially board games. Thus, *Sunday board games!* Cuppa Joy’s large tables, usually unoccupied space and laid-back attitude suits this purpose perfectly. Bring board games, friends, and of course your lovely selves! If anyone has any board game requests, feel free to post them in the comments and I will try to accommodate. You can also post less specific requests (e.g. ‘games that take eight players,’ ‘games that don’t involve math,’ ‘games about farming’) and I’ll see what I can do. Happy Sunday!”—Keith Lim

3–5 and 7 August 2014: IMAX version of *Godzilla* (2014; SF/action/kaiju), 8 PM at IMAX Victoria, 675 Belleville Street, Victoria. 877-480-4887.—Julian Castle

4, 11, 18, and 25 August and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 September 2014 (*Mondays*): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5–9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. “Hello. Painting miniatures can be fun, challenging, and sometimes even outrageous. Feel free to come by the store to paint, share tips, or maybe even learn a thing or two about the craft, nay artform, that is miniatures painting. There are

some paints available to use, and brushes, as well as primer. Warmachine figures will likely be the name of the game for most, but anything is welcome.”—Keith Lim

4, 11, 18, and 25 August and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 September 2014 (*Mondays*): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver. Phone: 778-330-1234. 2 October, 7:30–11:20 PM: Craft Night: Shoebox Loom-Making. 9 October, 7:30–11 PM: The Craft Element. 16 and 23 October, 7:30–11:30 PM: Craft Night: Halloween Costume Making Night Parts 1 & 2. [*See Vancouver Hack Space Open House for more VHS details.*]—Julian Castle

5 August 2014: **Scott Tycholaz** and **Élizabeth Vonarburg**’s birthdays.

5, 12, 19, 26 August and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 September 2014 (*Tuesdays*): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5–10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. “Feel free to come by anytime from 5 PM to about 10 PM to play a game or two. There are hundreds of open games for playing, or feel free to bring your own. Parking out front is a buck thirty-five an hour (free after 6 PM), or there is a parkade a block away (buck an hour), across Columbia and down by the river. We are located two blocks northeast of the New Westminster SkyTrain Station, at Columbia and Begbie. There is a Waves coffee shop in the same building. Go uphill on Begbie to Clarkson, and the store is to the right. Tuesday is also the Buck a Slice special feature at Fresh Slice Pizza just down the street. Have a good day.—Kirby”—Keith Lim

5, 12, 19, 26 August and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 September 2014 (*Tuesdays*): Vancouver Hack Space Open House, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue (new location as of May 2013), Vancouver. Phone: 778-330-1234. “Bring your ideas, projects, kits, art, music, robots, etc. down for some good times with good people.” VHS mission is “to provide a common workspace where its members, hackers, makers, crafters and otherwise (technically) creative people could work on projects and find like-minded people, in sharing knowledge and ideas.” “There are stairs down to the space from the back alley and a wheelchair-accessible level loading bay entrance from the street, although someone has to have opened the space through the stairs before the loading bay is available.” Parking is available outside the space. Bikes can be brought inside the front door. No membership required. Admission is by donation.—Julian Castle

5, 12, 19, 26 August and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 September 2014 (*Tuesdays*): Hot Improv Tuesdays at Café Deux Soleils!, 8 PM at Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Drive, Vancouver. “The Fictionals are serving up kickass comedy every Tuesday night at Café Deux Soleils! Everything onstage is made up based on your suggestions, so come down and help us create a hilarious show ‘guaranteed to tickle your funny bone’ (*The Georgia Straight*). Short form classics, long form insanity, special themes and special guests. Remember: only the laughs are real. Home of Vancouver Improv Fight Club! Tickets: \$7 at the door. Doors @ 7:30 PM. Show @ 8 PM. More info at <http://thefictionals.com/>. Twitter: [@TheFictionals](https://twitter.com/TheFictionals). Instagram: [@thefictionals](https://www.instagram.com/thefictionals).”—The Fictionals Comedy Co.

6 August 2014: **Christina Carr's** birthday.

6 August 2014: Movies at the Library (Cambie), 7–8:30 PM at Richmond Public Library, Cambie Branch, Unit 150–11590 Cambie Road, Richmond. “Dance room (CAB). Relax and meet new friends while enjoying a movie at the library! All ages welcome.”



6, 13, 20, and 27 August and 3, 10, 17, and 24 September 2014 (*Wednesdays*): Cloudscape Comics Weekly Meeting, 7:30–11:30 PM at top floor of Memorial South Park's fieldhouse, located inside the park at 5955 Ross Street (at 41st Avenue), Vancouver. “The Cloudscape Comics Society is a community of comic creators in Vancouver, BC who together publish and distribute quality graphic novel anthologies, as well as host comic workshops and other related events. Here enterprising comic artists come together to network, develop their ideas, and help each other perfect their craft.” “Everyone is welcome to attend” the weekly meeting on Wednesdays.—Keith Lim/Julian Castle

7 August 2014: National Put Your Boss Through a Table Day. Hashtag: #BossToss. Twitter: @impactwrestling. Facebook. Instagram. “Share why [your] boss (past or present) deserves to be tossed through a table.” Don't forget to “check the social media policy section in [your] employee handbook” first!—TNA Impact Wrestling

7 August 2014: The Library at the End of the Universe. Teen reading club—online chat with SF authors at teenrc.ca that can be read by going to VPL event or just going to website. July 22 chat with Marissa Meyer: 11 AM–1 PM at Renfrew Meeting Room, VPL—Renfrew Branch, 2969 East 22nd Avenue, Vancouver. August 7 chat with Cristin Terrill: 1–2:30 PM at TSN Meeting Room, Terry Salman Branch, 4575 Clancy Loranger Way, Vancouver. Free. Registration required (RSVP teens@vpl.ca) if going to either VPL event. For more info phone VPL Teen Services: 604-331-3690.—Julian Castle

7 August 2014: Drop-In Drawing for Adults, 6–9 PM at Richmond Art Gallery, 7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond. “This event is free. Draw inspiration from original works of art! This program is a social time for adults to experiment and create artworks in the Gallery. Some instructions are provided, and you are welcome to draw, collage, and sketch whatever you like. All artistic skill levels are welcome! Some materials are provided, but feel free to bring your own collage and drawing materials. Drop-in for a quick sketch, or stay for the whole three hours. For ages 16+. For more information: phone 604-247-8313, fax 604-247-8368, e-mail gallery@richmond.ca.”

7, 14, 21, and 28 August and 4, 11, 18, and 25 September 2014 (*Thursdays*): Thursday Hobby Build Nights, 6–9 PM at A3U Gundam, 226–9855 Austin Road, Burnaby. “Is your backlog looking rather full? Are un-built kits starting to stack up in your room? Bring your kits, tools and Gundam knowledge and come on down for

three hours of quality build time. Share what you're working on, ask for some help or just argue about if Kamille is a really a girl's name (it is). Hobby nights are informal and fun ways to network and learn more about the gunpla community!"—[A3U Gundam](#)

7–11 August 2014: *Je T'aime, Je T'aime* (sci-fi; 1968, 91 minutes), at the Cinémathèque, 1131 Howe Street, Vancouver. 7, 9, and 11 August at 8:20 PM. 8 and 10 August at 6:30 PM. "By French master Alain Resnais...who died earlier this year. We're pleased to present this...film in a beautiful new 35 mm print! After an unsuccessful suicide attempt, a man is persuaded by two scientists to participate in a time-travel experiment. When something goes awry, he finds himself lost within the structure of time itself."—[Julian Castle](#)

8 August 2014: Premiere of film *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* (comics/superhero/unnecessary remake; Will Arnett, William Fichtner, Johnny Knoxville, Whoopi Goldberg, Tony Shalhoub, Danny Woodburn).

9 August 2014: Book Lovers' Day.

9 August 2014: *Magic: The Gathering: M15 Game Day*, 10 AM–5:30 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. "Join us for a game day celebration with the newest Magic: The Gathering set. For more info please contact [Stephanie](#)."

9 August 2014: *Sin City Presents Cyber Sex—A Naughty Neon Sci-Fi Fetish Ball*, 9 PM–2 AM at Club 23, 23 West Cordova Street, Vancouver. "You read that right! Sin City presents its first ever sexy sci-fi themed naughty neon party. While the theme is highly encouraged for as many attendees as possible, *all* outfits of *any* sexy/kinky/pervy fetish kind are always welcome and totally appropriate! More details TBA shortly—make sure and RSVP and stay in the loop because this party is going to BLOW. YOUR. MIND."—[Isaac Terpstra](#)

10 August 2014: *Bolt Action Demo Day!*, 12–5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. "Come on in and try out Bolt Action, the 28 mm WW II miniatures tabletop game from Warlord Games. Play in a one on one classroom style event with our very own Warlord Games representative. Contact: [Chris](#)."

10 and 24 August 2014: *Canadadrome IV & V* (Canadian genre & cult cinema) at Cinémathèque, 1131 Howe Street, Vancouver. 10 August: *Canadadrome IV*, doors at 1 PM, short film fest at 1:15 PM to around 3 PM, *Reversed* feature film at 3 PM. 24 August: *Canadadrome V*, doors at 1 PM, *Strange Brew* (1983 comedy; Dave Thomas, Rick Moranis) at 1:15 PM, *No Pets Allowed* short by local director at 3 PM, Russ Meyer's *Vixen* at 3:15 PM. Presented by Shivers Film Society, the Horror Honeys and Creepy Six Films. Admission: by *donation*. Shivers membership required (18 years or older): \$2 annual, \$1 student.—[Julian Castle](#)

10 August and 7 September 2014: VCON Convention Committee (ConCom) Monthly Meetings, 2–4 PM at Brandywine Bartending [*School*], 241 Union Street, Vancouver. “If you are on our concom, or interested in becoming involved with VCON 39, we invite you to attend our monthly planning meetings! VCON is Vancouver’s premier fantasy and science fiction convention since 1971 and everyone who works to make VCON happen is a volunteer. We are completely non-profit and fan run. Lots of people volunteer a little of their time, usually at or just before and after the event, but some volunteers—the convention committee (concom)—are involved all year long and do the major lifting of planning and organizing the event. It’s these people that are the heart and soul of the VCON experience. So if you like sci-fi/fantasy art, writing, craft, film, costuming, or gaming, etc. and want to meet some new fellow geeklings, let us know and come on out! We’d love to have you in on the inner workings of our convention and be front row for the newest happenings in the world of the geektastic! *Note*: The location is all-ages appropriate as it is a bartending *school* with no alcohol on site. Meeting schedule for 2014: [...] Sunday 10 August • Sunday 7 September—last regular meeting before the convention • Sunday 28 September—bag stuffing (time and location to be determined) • Thursday 2 October—evening Guest of Honour/concom reception (exact time and location to be determined) • Friday 3 October—morning Guest of Honour/concom breakfast (exact time and location to be determined) • 3–5 October: VCON! • Sunday 2 November—VCON 39 debrief.”—VCON via Jenni Merrifield



11–15 August: Writing and Book Camp—A Program for Teens at VPL. Ages 11–16. For more info, check website or contact the Book Camp Coordinator at 604-331-4093 or e-mail bookcamp@vpl.ca. “When: Monday 11 August to Friday 15 August 2014 (Monday–Thursday: 9 AM–3 PM, Friday: 9 AM–6:30 PM. Cost: \$275.00.” One of the 2014 Workshop Leaders is “*Jonathan Dalton* is the writer and artist of two graphic novels so far: *A Mad Tea-Party*, a young adult sci-fi story...”

12 August 2014: **Lynda Ciaschini**’s birthday.

12 August and 9 September 2014 (*second Tuesday*): Meeting of Automotive Model Builders Vancouver, 7 PM at Burnaby Lions Club, 7420 Mulberry Place, Burnaby. “BC’s original model car club since 1982. For more information visit us at <http://vancouvermodelcars.ca/> or call Gerry Chevalier 604-599-8213 or Jim Ervin 604-420-3768.”

12 August and 9 September 2014 (*second Tuesday*): Monthly Steampunk Coffee Klatch, 7:30–9 PM at Waves Coffee House—Large Private Room, #100–900 Howe Street (@ Smithe), Vancouver. “Second Tuesday of every month. In the Victorian tradition of conversation in coffee houses, this casual monthly event is open to everyone who wants to just get together and meet up with other local steampunks.

Whether you're new to steampunk or well-seasoned, young or old, silly or serious, please feel free to drop by. We can discuss whatever folks want, plan nefarious plots, or just relax, hang out, and get to chat with one another. Costumes welcome but not required—dress as you feel comfortable! I will be at least steamily accessorized, since I have to work immediately beforehand. The only requirement for us to have this space is that everyone should purchase something at the coffee house. They offer teas, coffee, hot chocolate, and various cold beverages, as well as some baked goods.”—[Keith Lim](#)

13 August 2014: [Alex Curylo](#)'s birthday. Rocky Horror Picture Show Day.

13 and 27 August and 10 and 24 September 2014 (*alternate Wednesdays*): [Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!](#), 7–8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver. “Wednesday is the new Monday! And by that I mean, we're switching our every-other-week, weeknight games to Wednesdays, so that I can actually attend! Also popular opinion (i.e. I asked a couple of people) seems to agree—Wednesdays are superior. Some come on down to Cuppa Joy, grab a pint and a samosa, and play some *board games!* *Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday!*!”—[Keith Lim](#)

15 August 2014: Premiere of films *The Giver* (drama/SF; Alexander Skarsgård, Meryl Streep, Katie Holmes, Jeff Bridges, Taylor Swift), *As Above, So Below* (horror), and *Life After Beth* (comedy/fantasy/horror; Alia Shawkat, John C. Reilly, Molly Shannon, Paul Reiser).

14 August, 11 September, and 9 October 2014: [Teen Manga Advisory Group](#), 4–5 PM at Harvey Southam Room, Children's Library, Vancouver Public Library Central Branch, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. For teens aged 13–18. “Do you love manga?...Come tell us what the library should have on our shelves and meet other manga enthusiasts!” Free. For more info phone VPL Teen Services: 604-331-3690.—[Julian Castle](#)

14 and 28 August and 11 and 25 September 2014 (*alternate Thursdays*): “Burnaby Sci-Fi Writers' Group meets alternate Thursdays 7–9 PM at Metrotown Public Library (program room) or Connections lounge. Open to new members, mainly sci-fi/fantasy or what have you. Contact Allan @ (604) 946-2427 or email lowson@dccnet.com for details.”—[Allan Lowson](#) (on [Richmond Writers Network Facebook Group](#))

14 August and 11 September 2014 (*second Thursday*): [Fraser Valley Model Club Monthly Meeting](#), 7:30–9:30 PM at Kariton House Gallery, 2387 Ware Street, Abbotsford. “Meetings held second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM from September to June (July & August have no meetings—summer break).”—[Keith Lim](#)

14 August and 11 September 2014 (*second Thursday*): [Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup](#), 7:30–8:30 PM. [*No location given.*] “Second Thursday of every month. This is the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada—Vancouver monthly meeting and is shared with the general public at no charge. Please be advised that

RASC Vancouver's monthly lectures will be held at different locations. The location of each meeting will be posted in advance, along with details of the speaker and topic. We meet at 7:30 PM on the second Thursday of each month, with astro-coffee, cookies, and juice served after the presentation. Please join us for interesting and informative lectures on all aspects of astronomy and space-science, along with stimulating conversations!"—Keith Lim



15–17 August 2014: BC Renaissance Festival at Albion Fairgrounds, 23448 105 Avenue, Maple Ridge. “We have had to change our dates and location in order to continue. Please be aware of these changes and add this invite to as many places as you can. The BC Renfest returns for its eighth year in a new home and a new date. Please see the webpage: <http://www.bcrenfest.com/> for up-to-date information. [...] We have also entered into a supportive relationship with the local food bank. Bring a non perishable food item and get \$2 off either your entry or a BCRF merchandise or BCRF game tokens. Joust: Right now we have an American team able to do these new dates so now it is simply up to the insurance company and whether or not we can afford it. Check the page for those updates as well. If you would like to be a sponsor (or know a company that can) please see: <http://www.bcrenfest.com/home/join-us/sponsorship/>. [...] Because of the change in dates we have lost volunteers, command team, stage performers, cast, and villagers. We will be able to go ahead with or without those folks but we'd prefer with and we know many of you out there couldn't do the original dates but may be able to do these new dates. Please contact us right away if you are able to join in or help out. Please note that the Command Team has decreased and one of the jobs that is now open is volunteer coordinator and entertainment coordinator so replies will come as fast as the two producers can get them to you. Thank you. info@bcrenfest.com.” [Facebook.]—Christina Carr/Martin Hunger

15–17 August 2014: Customer Appreciation Sale at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. Hours: Friday—11 AM–9 PM; Saturday—10 AM–5:30 PM; Sunday—12–5 PM. “Celebrating over 28 years in business, Imperial Hobbies brings to you this amazing weekend! Tons of super deals and incredible discounts! Super discount on limited amount of Osprey and Squadron historical reference books. Come join us and celebrate 28 years of Imperial Hobbies awesomeness!”—Chris

15 August and 19 September 2014¹⁰ (*third Friday*): Board Gamers: Friday Night Magic, 6:30–9:30 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. Open gaming; seven to eight tables. “For Friday Night *Magic* we will be running a limited Draft FNM. Cost is three booster packs plus \$2, starting at 6:30 PM. Also feel free to come by for some casual *Magic: The Gathering* from 6–9 PM. Feel

10 Every Friday night, according to Board Game Warriors.

free to use the house decks if you just want to try out the game. Don't forget to check out [our Facebook page](#).”—[Keith Lim](#)

15 August and 19 September 2014 (*third Friday*): [IPMS Vancouver Monthly Meeting](#), 7–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, Second Floor “Arts Room,” 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby. “Club meetings are held on the third Friday of every month (with very few exceptions such as if the third Friday falls on Good Friday or is too close to Christmas—check schedule). Doors open at 7 PM. Meetings officially run from 7:30–9:30 PM.”—[Keith Lim](#)

16 August 2014: **Thomas Phinney's** birthday.

16 August 2014: [VCON's Annual Picnic BBQ and Games Extravaganza!](#), 4–9:30 PM at Maple Grove Park, 6875 Yew Street (at West 51st Avenue), Vancouver. “Come one, come all! Join us for some pre-VCON action! We provide VCON's board game library, hot dogs, burgers and drinks. You provide snacks and additional games if you wish. Outdoor ones too—Frisbee, badminton, water guns, etc. Bring blankets and camp chairs to sit on. • *We haz a theme*: My Favourite Genre—From Hero to Villain! Come as the one you choose in the genre you choose, whether from the page, the stage, or the screen! Bonus points if he, she or it is obviously on the way to a picnic. • Remember to dress for the weather. It's likely to be hot so water and additional drinks for yourselves would be a good plan. Bring an umbrella or parasol. Wear a hat...You can also bring a towel and bathing suit if you wish—Maple Grove has a heated outdoor pool (entrance fee is \$2.50 for adults, \$1.50 for children/youth ages 3–18 and seniors 65+). Interested in volunteering your time and/or showing off your mad skillz and provide additional entertainment? Contact us to discuss! Event will proceed, rain or shine—pavilion tents will be provided for cover to keep of dry or liquid forms of weather. It's free! It's fun! Come and play with us VCONners!”—[Jenni Merrifield](#)

16 August and 20 September 2014 (*third Saturday*): [Vancouver Comic Jam](#), 8 PM–late (sometimes ends when Wallflower closes at 1 AM) at the [Wallflower Modern Diner](#), 2420 Main Street, Vancouver. “The Vancouver Comic Jam is generally held the third Saturday of the month. In cases of long weekends or other conflicting dates, the jam may move to the second or fourth Saturday. For up to date information, [join the VCJ Facebook group](#) or [follow us on Twitter](#). *Who can come?*: Anyone who is of legal drinking age is invited. *How much?*: No admission fee. There is a \$5 minimum purchase per person required by the Wallflower. They provide their full menu to order from and alcohol galore: beer, wine, highballs and shots. *There will be a gratuity of 18–20% added to all bills because we are a large group*. Bring your own pencils/pens. Paper is provided. If you're drawing with markers that bleed through paper, be sure to either bring a drawing surface or place extra sheets of paper under the paper you're drawing on.”—[Keith Lim](#)

16 August–1 September 2014 (but closed 18 & 25 August): [PNE \(Pacific National Exhibition\)](#) 11AM until late. (A) [Game of Thrones®: The Exhibition](#), daily 11 AM–10 PM in Garden Auditorium. (B) [Get Animated! Interactive Animation Exhibit](#)

daily 11 AM–11 PM in Rollerland. (C) Just for Cats: Internet Cat Video Festival in Celebration Plaza. 16–17 August: *free* gate admission for first responders (police etc.). 19 August, 11 AM–1 PM: *free* gate admission for all guests. 21 August, 11 AM–1 PM: *free* gate admission for seniors 65+. 27 August: \$5 gate admission for Vancity members and a friend. Admission: gate prices free to \$42.75; online prices free to \$49.75; more admission details at website.—Julian Castle

17 August 2014: National Black Cat Awareness Day.

17 August 2014: Vancouver Comic Show, 11 AM–5 PM at Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive, Vancouver. Anime, gaming, and toys. Special guests: Ed Brisson, John Gallagher, Diana Greenhalgh, Simon Roy, Joan Thornborrow Steacy, and Ken Steacy. \$10 gift cards for use at show handed out every hour at door. Cosplay encouraged. Food concession at show. 8×3-foot dealer tables: \$60 centre or \$75 wall. General admission: \$5. Kids under 13: *free*. Contact info: 855-881-9991.—Julian Castle



Black cats are usually aware of things anyway.

17 August and 21 September 2014 (*third Sunday*): Board Game Swap Meetup, 11 AM–1 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.

“Every third Sunday of the month a swap meet will be held where gamers can sell or trade any board games they would like to get rid of. RSVP for the event and you can list what you are looking to sell, or what you would like in trade. Use the message board to propose trades or list items for sale. Board Game Warriors can be a neutral site for meeting and doing transactions during store hours.”—Keith Lim

20 August 2014: Richmond Writes Out Loud Open Mic Night, 7–8:30 PM at Village Books & Coffee House, Suite 130, 12031 First Avenue, Steveston, Richmond. “Open events for creative writers in Richmond.”

22 August 2014: Premiere of film *Sin City: A Dame to Kill For* (comics; Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Jessica Alba, Bruce Willis, Rosario Dawson, Josh Brolin, Mickey Rourke, Christopher Meloni, Christopher Lloyd, Ray Liotta, Dennis Haysbert, Lady Gaga, Jeremy Piven, Stacey Keach, Powers Boothe).

22–24 August 2014: BronyCan 2014 at Executive Airport Plaza Hotel and Conference Centre, 7311 Westminster Highway, Richmond. Registration. Events: charity auction, cosplay contest and photoshoot, children’s events, Equestria Reads (fanfic), collectible card game tournament, ice cream social, VIP dinner, *Legends of Equestria* (with panelists Blue Ink, Liska, and Celebrate). Guests: show staff—“Big” Jim Miller, Jason Thiessen, Daniel Ingram, Steffan Andrews, Stephanie Mahoney, Christopher Leinonen, Rebecca Dart, Nicole Gauss; comic book guests—Georgia Ball, Amy Mebberson.

23 August 2014: VCON 39 Art Gallery Preview Show—Opening Reception, 7–9 PM at Gallery Bistro Port Moody, 2411 Clarke Street, Port Moody. “This is a chance to get a glimpse of some of the amazing art we will have at VCON 39 this year! Artists will include Apis Teicher, Melissa Mary Duncan, Hing Kei, Lynne Taylor Fahnestalk, Nancie Green, Carolyn Bruce, Kevin Chase and Natorra Ferguson. The show itself will run from August 19th—September 14th with show hours from Tuesday–Saturday 11 AM–3:30 PM, Sunday 10 AM–3:30 PM, closed Mondays. This opening reception will feature a Beatles sing-along lead by Steve Fahnestalk and Tam Gordy! Gallery Bistro serves a mean breakfast! We highly recommend their food.”—Jenni Merrifield

24 August 2014: **Karen New** and **Joseph Smalec**’s birthdays.

24 August 2014: Bolt Action: Armoured Assault Event, 12–5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Players will be playing a series of battles revolving around the Armoured Company rules to show case what armoured vehicles and tanks can do! Bring all of your vehicles and some mounted infantry and try to win the day! Contact: Chris.”

24 August and 23 November 2014: Victoria Comic Book Expo, 11 AM–4 PM at Comfort Inn & Conference Centre, 3020 Blanshard Street, Victoria. Dealers: \$35 per 8-foot table (doors open at 9 AM for setup). Free admission. For more info contact Glen at 250-361-6227 or gjcomics@shaw.ca.—Julian Castle

26 August 2014: **Sarah Stierch**’s birthday.

29 August 2014: Premiere of films *Jessabelle* (horror) and *The Congress* (SF/loose adaptation of *The Futurological Congress* by Stanisław Lem; Robin Wright, Harvey Keitel, Jon Hamm, Paul Giamatti, Kevin Thompson).

29 August 2014: Stand Up for Mental Health: Comedy at Gachet, 7 PM at Gallery Gachet, 88 East Cordova Street, Vancouver. “Laugh and support mental health. Admission by donation!!! Founded by award-winning counselor, stand-up comic, and author of the *The Happy Neurotic: How Fear and Angst Can Lead to Happiness and Success* David Granirer, Stand Up for Mental Health teaches stand up comedy to people with mental illness. Come laugh your head off at this show that looks at the lighter side of taking meds, seeing counselors, getting diagnosed and surviving the mental health system.”

30 August 2014: Frankenstein Day (Mary Shelley’s birthday).

30 August and 27 September 2014 (*last Saturday*): Board Gamers: 12 Hours of Gaming, 12 PM–12 AM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster. “Hello. Feel free to come by anytime on Saturday from noon until midnight and play any of the many open games there are here at the store. The event is perfect for any of those more epic games we have at the store that you’ve been wanting to try or for any you might own but can rarely find the time/space/players to accommodate.

Besides a couple of local coffee joints, there are a bevy of nearby eating establishments, and we will probably order some supper at around 6 PM. Hope to see you there.—Kirby & Citty”—[Keith Lim](#)

September 2014

4 September 2014: **Lezli Robyn**'s birthday.

6 September 2014: **Pawsie Earsa Shippo**'s birthday. Read a Book Day.

8 September 2014: International Literacy Day.

10 September 2014: **Bruce Lord**'s birthday.

11 September 2014: **Ziv Kowarsky**'s birthday.

12 September 2014: National Video Games Day.

12–13 September 2014: *The Labyrinth: A Burlesque Re-Imagining* at [the Rio Theatre](#), 1660 East Broadway, Vancouver. [Geekenders](#) present a remount of a “grownup reinvention of a classic film about a young girl who finds herself in a fantastical world for a journey of sexual discovery, eighties glam rockers and sequined goblins.” Doors 7 PM/show 8 PM. 19+ only, with bar service. Bring two pieces of ID. Rio info: 604-878-3456. Tickets: \$22 advance/\$25 door.—[Julian Castle](#)



“I’m rorty-rive!”

13 September 2014: Scooby Doo’s birthday.

13 September 2014: [Comic Book & Movie Poster Appraisal Day](#), 9 AM–1 PM at 1055 Vernon Drive, Vancouver. “Do you have a collection of old comics, vintage movie posters or hockey cards and wonder what they are worth?...Join the staff of Vancouver’s Comic Shop and the professionals at Able Auctions for this one day, of *free* appraisals...a realistic estimate of what your collection is worth...No need for an appointment” just “bring your collectables.” For more info contact tyler@ableauctions.ca or call 604-683-7713.—[Julian Castle](#)

13–14 September 2014: [Small Press Expo AKA SPX](#) in Bethesda, Maryland.—[Julian Castle](#)

14 September 2014: National Pet Memorial Day.

15 September 2014: **Mike Jackson**'s birthday.

16 September 2014: **Melissa Tookey**'s birthday.

16 September 2014: The Gentlemen Hecklers present: Ed Wood's *Plan 9 From Outer Space* (horror/sci-fi) at the Rio Theatre, 1660 East Broadway, Vancouver. Two-year anniversary show. "Hilarious live commentary for the best bad movies." Doors 6:30 PM/show 7 PM. 19+ only, with bar service. Bring two pieces of ID. Rio info: 604-878-3456. \$6 advance/\$9 door. Twitter.—Julian Castle

18 September 2014: Improv Against Humanity at the Rio Theatre, 1660 East Broadway, Vancouver. The Fictionals present an interactive improv show based on... Cards Against Humanity. Contestants will play Cards Against Humanity for prizes. Prize sponsors: Gamedeals, EXP Bar, Starlit Citadel, Toy Traders, Big Pete's, Arcana Comics, Living Myth Magazine, C&C Cakery, etc. Warning: may contain sexual content & mature themes. Doors 7 PM/show 8 PM. 19+ only, with bar service. Bring two pieces of ID. Rio info: 604-878-3456. Tickets: \$7 advance/\$10 door. Online advance sales end 6 PM.

19 September 2014: **Randy Byers'** birthday. International Talk Like a Pirate Day. Premiere of film *The Maze Runner* (SF/action/mystery).—Julian Castle

19 September 2014: The Evil Dead trilogy at the Rio Theatre, 1660 East Broadway, Vancouver. *The Evil Dead* (1981): doors 6:30 PM/film 7:30 PM. *Evil Dead 2* (1987): 9:30 PM. *Army of Darkness* (1992): 11:30 PM. Rio info: 604-878-3456. Tickets: \$6 advance/\$8 door (each). All three for \$13 advance/\$15 door. Online advance sales end 5:30 PM. Rio site says "Dress up in a film-related costume for \$2 off the \$8 ticket price," so presumably this applies to *Evil Dead* screenings.—Julian Castle

20 September 2014: VCON Postering Day!, 1 PM at A&W, #101–1715 East Broadway, Vancouver. "Come and help us plaster the city with the awesomeness that is to be VCON 39/Convention 34! Saturday at 11 AM at Commercial and Broadway. We'll be meeting downstairs from the SkyTrain in front of A&W."—Jenni Merrifield

20 September 2014: All Star Wrestling Midget Time Tour, 7:30 PM at the Fridge, 11295 Mellis Drive, Richmond. Tickets available. "ASW Cruiserweight Title—Featuring Midget Superstar Short Sleeve Sampson vs. The Great Kasaki (Champion)! \$1000 Winner Take All Over the Top Rope Battle Royal! wrestlers must pay \$100 entry fee. Featuring Jason Cage & Flexx with Vixxxxen! ASW Ladies Title—Bambi Hall (Champion) vs. Kaitlin Diamond! Grudge Match—Azeem the Dream vs. Nasty Nate Daniels! Tag Team Action—Johnny Obsession & Don Ciever vs. Matt X Static & Hung Lo! Plus the debut of the Salty Seaman! Tickets are \$15 front row and \$12 general admission. Available in advance at *Core Games* in Landsdowne Mall or All Star Wrestling. Meet the wrestlers after the show at Pioneer's Pub [#200–10111 Number Three Road, Richmond]!"—Verne Siebert

22 September 2014: **Peter Kuper'**s birthday. Season two premiere of *Sleepy Hollow* on Fox. Series premiere of *Scorpion* on CBS (genius nerds recruited by Homeland Security).—Julian Castle

23 September 2014: David Bowie Day.

24 September and 30 October 2014: *The Critical Hit Show: A Live Dungeons & Dragons Comedy Experience*, 8 PM at Rio Theatre, 1660 East Broadway, Vancouver. Usually on a Wednesday, but October show on a Thursday. Tickets: \$6 online; \$9 at door. Doors 7 PM; show 8 PM. 19+ only with bar service; two pieces of ID required. [Twitter](#). [Reference for 30 October](#).—[Julian Castle](#)

25 September 2014: National Comic Book Day.

25–28 September 2014: Eighth annual [RainFurrest](#) (furry convention), Seattle, Washington.—[Julian Castle](#)

26 September 2014: Premiere of film *The Boxtrolls* (computer animation; Simon Pegg, Ben Kingsley, Jared Harris, Nick Frost, Tracey Morgan, Dee Bradley Baker, Maurice LaMarche, Fred Tatasciore, Laraine Newman, James Urbaniak, Pat Fraley).

27 September 2014: **Douglas Mellott**'s birthday.

27 September 2014: Vancouver's eleventh annual [Hot One Inch Action](#), 7–11 PM at Hot Art Wet City, 2206 Main Street (at 6th Avenue), Vancouver. "The tiny work of fifty different artists is reproduced on one inch [pin-back] buttons [and are displayed on the gallery wall]. Buy a mixed bag of five random buttons for \$5. Want a specific button? Trade with other people at the show."—[Julian Castle](#)

News-Like Matter

Notes from July 2014 BCSFA Meeting

In attendance were Graeme Cameron (chairman/archivist), Barb Dryer (secretary), Kathleen Moore (treasurer), Ray Seredin (host), Felicity Walker (editor), Julian Castle, Joe Devoy, William Graham, Stewart Smyth, and Sidney Trim.

Kathleen brought postcard-format VCON flyers for us to distribute.

We talked about ways to beat the heat. Graeme found that eating ice cream worked but because it was so hot last week he's gained a few pounds. Stew said he could put a tray of ice in front of a fan. Barb suggested a misting fan, and Kathleen added *battery-powered* handheld fans with spritzers. I said that I sometimes put my bedsheets in the freezer and take them out when I'm ready to go to bed.

Graeme and I compared notes about finding extra-wide shoes.

Stew asked if we'd seen the test reel for *Flash Gordon* from Fleischer Studios. A fire destroyed most of it. Stew said that the art looks similar to Fleischer's *Superman*, of course.



This reminded me of an article I'd read¹¹ about the movie Sergio Leone had wanted to make about the siege of Leningrad, which would have opened with a very long tracking shot of a musician leaving orchestra rehearsal, going out into the street, jumping onto a moving streetcar, going home, and looking out the window to see 1,500 German tanks. His producer told him there was no way he could frame that many tanks in that shot, even miniatures.



The orchestra reminded Graeme of the SF short story “The General,” in which a long war has damaged civilization and made the world lose technology down to about a World War II level. There’s an orchestra, and they get captured by the enemy. The enemy general plans to execute them but is curious about what music sounds like. This made me think of “The Portable Phonograph,” one of many depressing postapocalyptic stories we were forced to read in school, about people in a cave fighting over the last record player. Sid, Kathleen, and Stew remembered it.

Stew asked, “What would be the record we don’t want the aliens to find?” He added that he wouldn’t want the aliens’ first impression of us to be a TV signal of Lucy from *I Love Lucy* going “Wah!” They might never visit us. Even worse, both I and Sid said, they might pick up Hitler’s 1936 Olympics broadcast. Stew asked if that was true or just something Carl Sagan wrote in *Contact*.

Graeme said that he never liked mouse puppet character Topo Gigio, and when he found out it was originally a fascist, that only confirmed it. Stew said that Ed Sullivan loved Topo Gigio, and added that goober peanuts are not known in Sweden, so over there Charles Schultz’s creation is called “Radishes.”



“Ich sehe nichts. Soll ich etwas sehen? Ich verstehe es nicht.”

Ray reported that he was at the model train club barbeque last weekend and there was a cute dog named Diesel, a chihuahua cross.¹² Diesel is afraid of the neighbours’ cat, a brown tabby named Mr. Fluffy. At first Ray couldn’t believe this, but then he saw the cat. It was huge—22 pounds. It stood on its hind legs on the balcony, tail flicking back and forth, and stared at the dog until the dog ran inside the house to get away from it.

Graeme said that his new cat was a stray that was abandoned twice. He’d always see it sitting under the same tree, at any time of day, so he took it in. It’s a Norwegian forest cat. In Norway they’re called “troll cats” because of their demanding personalities. He thinks it might be insecure about being abandoned. It gets in front of him when he’s reading or using the computer. Graeme doesn’t mind, since a cat that wants attention is more fun than a cat that avoids you.

Stew reminisced about the classic *Twilight Zone* episode “Showdown with Rance McGrew” (1962), where a vain, incompetent actor finds himself back in the

11 “How the Camera Moves Matters Most” at [Death to CGI](#).

12 Chihuabradoodle!—Future Felicity

Old West, facing the real Jesse James, who (along with other Western figures) is not happy about his portrayal in TV Westerns. I said I'd seen that one. I remembered McGrew shouting "Stuntman!" as James was about to hit him.



Relatedly, Stew mentioned "Visit to a Weird Planet," a *Star Trek* fanfic in which the *Trek* characters accidentally beam onto the set of the show in our universe. I was surprised it was fanfic because I thought I'd read it in a professional paperback, but Stew said that that was the sequel, which told the other side of the story, with the actors beaming onto the real *Enterprise*.

Graeme wondered if they ever explained the change in Klingon appearance over the years. The answer was yes. The group of us told Graeme how the question was explicitly raised in the *Deep Space Nine* episode "Trials and Tribble-ations" (1996) when the characters time-travel back to the events of the original series episode "The Trouble with Tribbles" (1967). Worf would only say "We do not discuss it."¹³ The *Enterprise* episodes "Affliction" and "Divergence" (2005) finally settled it. The Klingons tried to use DNA from the Augments (illegal genetically-augmented superhumans) of Dr. Arik Soong (ancestor of Data's creator, Dr. Noonian Soong) to make augmented Klingons. The Augment DNA, which causes Klingons to lose their head ridges, made its way into an airborne flu virus and spread throughout the Klingon population.

I wondered about other inconsistencies in characters' appearances, such as Colonel Green in the original series' "The Savage Curtain" (1969) and on the series *Enterprise* (2005). The explanation there could be that the Excalbians created that Green out of Kirk's thoughts. Joe said that the same explanation applied to "Savage Curtain" Kahless (no forehead ridges), compared to his clone in *The Next Generation* episode "Rightful Heir" (1993). We both, along with Stew, remembered the drastic change in appearance of Zefram Cochrane between the original series episode "Metamorphosis" (1967) and *Star Trek: First Contact* (1996), and figured the rejuvenation and altered facial features were the work of the Companion. Joe said Cochrane's less wholesome looks in *First Contact* could have been because of radiation from the atomic war.



Someone (Joe? Stew?) imagined James Cromwell sarcastically thinking, "Oh, thanks, *that* makes feel attractive."

Graeme asked if anyone has ever published a complete timeline of the *Star Trek* universe. Joe said no. I added that it would be difficult because sometimes *Star Trek* contradicts itself.

Ray said that it's the thirtieth anniversary of the return of the infomercial. He said that there were infomercials in the 1950s (short ones), but they were banned on 1 January 1967. The regulations changed and they returned on 1 July 1984. In the explanation Ray briefly mentioned *Tioga the Giant Man*. I asked him to spell it be-

¹³ Come to think of it, Worf's grandfather, Colonel Worf, had a different forehead from Worf in *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country* (1991).

cause I recently remembered him telling me about it ten years ago, but I have never been able to find any trace of its existence on the Internet.¹⁴ Ray said that it has been intentionally buried because its portrayal of blacks was racist.



Graeme said that he tried to find old 1950s and 1960s comics at the Comic Shop on West 4th Avenue, but they didn't seem to have them. He wondered if it was because all the issues that exist have already been bought by nostalgic Baby Boomers. This surprised me because I did see back issues when I was there a few months ago, but they were packed together so tightly that I couldn't browse through them to look for what I wanted. Julian said that when the Comic Shop moved they got a smaller place, so they may have had to get rid of some of their stock. Julian suggested asking the person behind the counter in case they keep the older back issues separate from the main area, for security. Someone (Graeme?) said that Golden Age Collectibles has classic back issues but they're quite expensive. I suggested the Vancouver Comicons at Heritage Hall for old comics. Depending on how much you can pay, you can either get good-condition vintage comics at a collector's price, or if you don't mind tattered pages, former owners' names written on the covers, and coupons clipped, you can get some quite old comics (as far back as the early 1960s) for only a dollar or two.

Felicity Walker
Sunday 20 July 2014

Details About the 2014 Aurora Awards Ceremony Are Now Available

Details about the 2014 Aurora Awards Ceremony and the Aurora Afternoon Tea (a ticketed, catered event held immediate prior to the ceremony) are now available on the VCON Website.

Click the button below to read about them and purchase tickets for the Afternoon Tea.

Visit the 2014 Aurora Awards Ceremony page:

<http://www.vcon.ca/convention-34/2014-aurora-awards-ceremony>.

Jenni Merrifield
VCON Chair
Thursday 14 August 2014

'Gaming in Color' Gaymer Documentary Update

Follow-up to “ ‘Gaming in Color: Crowd-Funded Documentary About Gaming & LGBT People’ in *BCSFAzine* #481, page 18. The documentary has been finished (1 hour & 1 minute long). The documentary's domain (gamingincolor.com) now forwards to <http://gamingincolor.vhx.tv/> where you can buy a copy of the documentary for \$9.99 or more on a pay-what-you-want basis.

Julian Castle
Thursday 4 September 2014

14 I still can't!—Future Felicity

Art Credits

Sheryl Birkhead.....	Masthead
<u>Brad Foster</u>	Cover
Clip art (via <u>Alan White</u>).....	Page 1 (left)
Clip art (via <u>Dave Haren</u>).....	Pages 1 (right), 2 (right), 6, 8, 10, 12
<u>Dave Haren</u> (photos).....	Pages 2 (left), 3
<u>Felicity Walker</u> (photos).....	Pages 4, 14
<u>Felicity Walker</u>	Pages 16, 22
Clip art.....	Page 18, 22
Clip art (<u>Clker.com</u>).....	Pages 19 (left), 20 (left)
Clip art [Games of the XI Olympiad (1936) screenshot]..	Page 19 (right)
Michael Gaines (font).....	Pages 20 (right), 21



*Nine weeks late,
but we finally did it!
We did it Eli!!*