

BCSFA Zine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#497

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Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at felicity4711@gmail.com or Apartment 601, Manhattan Tower, 6611 Cooney Road, Richmond, BC, Canada, V6Y 4C5 (*new address*). *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.

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This and Next Month in BCSFA

Sunday 19 October at 7 PM:	October BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin's, 707 Hamilton Street (recreation room), New Westminster.
Friday 17 October:	Submission deadline for November <i>BCSFazine</i> (ideally).
Friday 31 October:	November <i>BCSFazine</i> production (theoretically).
Sunday 16 November at 7 PM:	November BCSFA meeting.
Friday 21 November:	Submission deadline for December <i>BCSFazine</i> (ideally).
Friday 27 November:	December <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

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Editor: Felicity Walker, 604-447-3931 (*new number*)

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.*]

Alayne McGregor
alayne@twobikes.ottawa.on.ca

Wednesday 8 October 2014

This sounds fascinating, for anyone interested in archeology or ancient Britain or ancient technologies.

<http://www.cbc.ca/natureofthings/episodes/stonehenge-uncovered?cid=OCT+6>
The Nature of Things, Thursday 9 October 2014 at 8 PM on CBC-TV

“With exclusive access to the work of the Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project, the most extensive archaeological study ever made of the wider area around Britain’s famous monument, *Stonehenge Uncovered* reveals fascinating new information about the surprisingly advanced and sophisticated civilization that built the Stone Circle.”

For the last four years, an international team has surveyed and mapped every monument, both visible and invisible, across 10 square kilometres of the sacred landscape to create a complete digital picture of Stonehenge and the surrounding area through time.

Dave Haren
tyrbolo@comcast.net

Friday 10 October 2014



Hi Felicity,

Nothing like a fan short story to set the tone. Glad to know things are better for Lloyd.

The Lone Ranger has inspired many a bad joke over the years. Jay Silverheels was the best gunslinger in the world but got tagged as Tonto (stupid). He used to teach actors quick draw and gun handling techniques.

“Looks like we’re surrounded by hostile Indians, Tonto!” “What mean we, kemo sabe.”

Canada invented the world’s first self propelled artillery.

I looked for the epic movie Graeme recently reviewed. Still no luck. A SF musical for 1930s drunks sounds like a must see.

Lynch is digging up Laura Palmer again. I hope it is just as weird as the last expose of American small town life.

[*Exciting, isn't it? I hope to see the return of my two favourite characters, Jeremy "Jerry" Horne and Dennis "Denise" Bryson.*]

Someone put up a WiFi site with a terms of service Herod clause. Six people signed up.

Google still needs to change their motto to “Don’t be stupid.” Bentham has worked over their book for your amusement at this link.

<http://ieet.org/index.php/IEET/more/bentham20141010>

I've picked up the pace on reading, but most of it is horrible crap involving current politics. The only bright spot is Henry George on poverty. He points out a lot of fallacious economic theory that underpins the modern system. Blyth pointed out that anyone who is repeating the same theoretical arguments without a change for 300 years is indulging in fantasy.

Internet Archive has 32 *Thunderbirds* episodes on-line. If you're a fan of SF puppetry check it out.

[Fireball XL5 (1962), a related show, used to come on after something I watched on Teletoon many years ago. I loved the instrumental part of the theme and Sylvia Anderson's delivery of the line "OK Steve." It was like "five-minute fandom"¹ for me, but in reverse since I saw only the beginnings of episodes.]



The usual random pics and fond hopes for the coming VCON.

[I had my usual VCON experience—on Friday, scrambled to get the zine done and barely made it there before registration closed; on Saturday, watched TV in the hotel room because I was too tired to go to panels; on Sunday, checked out the dealers' room, participated at the Turkey Readings, and attended the dead dog party, then left, feeling I should have done more.]

Dave

Michael Bertrand
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Tuesday 21 October 2014

Four more issues to go till the big issue #500. I think it would be awesome to have #500 be a double sized issue and put together a retrospective of the zine's entire run. (Not one thing from each ish, of course, that would end up being the size of a phonebook. Remember phonebooks?)

[That sounds like a scary amount of work! But I do have several boxes of old BCSFAzines from Steve Forty that I might be able to scan.]

Re: Dave Haren:

Yup, that is the precise definition of "renoviction." They kicked us out because they want to upsell the place. Richmond's real estate market is booming and that always means bad news for the little guy.

1 A useful term, from a forgotten website, describing the accidental following of the plot of a series by watching the last five minutes of each episode, because it comes on before the show you actually intend to watch, particularly on channels that start your favourite show at odd times like 3:25 AM, so you can't just set the VCR. This was how I (and the long-lost person who coined the term) ended up becoming familiar with random shows such as *Gundam Wing* (1995) and *Walter Melon* (1996), which aired on YTV in the time slot before *Batman: The Animated Series* (1992).



Re: New Zealand's surveillance state:

He passed an illegal law then passed another that made the first one legal? How Emperor Palpatine of him. "I'll *make* it legal."

Doesn't New Zealand have a constitution? That's generally what keeps that kind of thing from happening.

Also, I am kind of surprised of the rise of the surveillance state in a country that has a National Nude Day.

Re: the guy talking about the "mewling thralls" volunteering to be trackable via cell phones, tablets, and whatnot.

There is no chance you are under 60, dude. I am sure you would like to think that the new technology that frightens you because you don't understand it just happens to be inherently evil and everyone who uses it is stupid, but that is just not true. Most people, most of the time, can share everything about their lives and nobody will even care, let alone call down the stormtroopers because they made a snarky remark about the head of state. This new technology is making us more free, not less, because the public's ability to know what government is doing has never been greater, nor has its ability to correlate information and make whole pictures out of the pieces.

The future is going to happen whether you approve of it or not. Get used to it or get out of the way.

Re: nudists on Three Mile Beach in Penticton:

I find it hilarious that people can sincerely believe they are being terrorized by genitals. If the nudists are breaking the law, that is one thing. My own opinions aside, the law is the law. But if they are not...just don't look! It's not like you don't know what you are going to see.

Re: Yvonne Penney's new job:

So glad she traded up. I always tell people considering taking a pay cut for a happier work environment "Just how much money is your happiness worth to you?" Tends to help them clarify whether or not it's worth it.

That's it from me for this month. I will talk to you nice people again next month.

And don't forget, I blog 1000 words a day at <http://michaeljohnbertrand.com/>.

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Thursday 30 October 2014

Dear Felicity:

Thank you for *BCSFazine* 496. I've got a little time to get with it and get a letter to you, in time, I hope. By the time people see it, it will be November, so we hope everyone had a great Hallowe'en, and please, no Christmas ads on television or carols in the stores, please...

[*If only. The Christmas-themed items appear the day after Halloween—sometimes (as in the case of Value Village) on Halloween night.*]

Renovictions are happening here, too, although usually, it's a (illegal) huge jump in rent that kicks people out. We are lucky in that we've been in our building and unit for about 18 years, so our rents creep up a percentage or two every year, or sometimes, not at all. I do not have an implant (smartphone), nor do I really want one. Smartphones seem to be around \$600 or so, not to mention the monthly costs of some software, and that money can go to paying bills. Right now, I am doubting having a cellphone.

My loc...we had ourselves a great time at Genre-con in Guelph. Business at the table was okay, but we ran into old friends, some of whom were connected with Polaris, the big fan-run media SF convention in town, before it shut down from lack of staff a couple of years ago now.

Any reports on the festivities at VCON this year? I never hear anything concrete. Anyone have a good time? Same goes for the ren faire, and anything from Times Past Entertainment. Good luck to Chris and Martin, and break a leg, you two, and the rest of the cast, too.

[*What about Michael Bertrand's VCON reports from the last few years? I don't think he wrote one this year but I still have my notes from the last several VCONs, which I have yet to use. Maybe I'll use this year's notes, though as mentioned above, I didn't attend much of the con.*]

We hope to do a few more shows with our Steampunk General Store, and we've applied to one big local juried show, and hope we are accepted. Doing this has been fun, Yvonne has the opportunity to make small crafts she likes, and I have discovered that I enjoy making jewelry. I have started setting up a Facebook page for Penney's Steampunk General Store, and will let you know when it's done.

I guess I can wrap...take care, see you with the next issue, and everyone, stay warm.

Yours,

Lloyd Penney



We Also Heard From: Brent Francis.

**RANDOM NOSTALGIA
PARENTS' MEDICINE CABINET EDITION**

**BRIT 33 COLOGNE
BRADOSOL LOZENGES
PEARL DROPS TOOTHPASTE
TRIAMINICOL DM COUGH SYRUP
SEA BREEZE ASTRINGENT
CURAD BANDAGES**

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

October 2014

October is Depression Education and Awareness Month, Reading Group Month, Stamp Collecting Month, and Starman Month.

1 October 2014: **Dave Strutt**'s birthday.

1–31 October 2014: 6th annual InkTober. A drawing challenge of doing one ink drawing a day for all of October. Post each drawing online with hashtag #inktober. —Julian Castle

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 October and 5, 12, 19, and 26 November 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

2 October 2014: National Custodial Worker Day.

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 October and 6, 13, 20, and 27 November 2014 (*Thursdays*): Thursday Hobby Build Nights, 6–9 PM at Ages Three and Up 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

3 October 2014: Techies Day. Premiere of films *Annabelle* (horror; Tony Amendola, Alfre Woodard), *Left Behind* (action/SF; Nicolas Cage, Lea Thompson, William Ragsdale), and *The Hero of Color City* (computer animation; Christina Ricci, Sean Astin, Owen Wilson, Rosie Perez, Craig Ferguson, Wayne Brady, Jess Harnell, David Kaye).

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 October and 7, 14, 21, and 28 November 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 Gather-*

ing 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](#).”



3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 October and 7, 14, 21, and 28 November 2014 (*Fridays*): [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 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](#)

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 October and 7, 14, 21, and 28 November 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](#)

3–5 October 2014: [VCON 39](#) at the Sheraton Vancouver Guildford Hotel, 15269 104th Avenue, Surrey. “Theme: Military Might—From Swords & Sorcery to Phasers & Grasers. VCON 39 is also *Convention 34!* Come join us for three days of fannish fun and multi-track programming including: Art Show & Auction • Vendors Hall • Author Readings • 24-Hour Games Rooms • Multi-Author Book Launch • Writers Workshops • Demos • Academie Duello • Artists Alley • Frankenstuffies • Fan Groups • Costume Contest • Panels • Hospitality Suite • Dance • Elrons • Turkey Readings • Workshops. Guests of Honour: Author GOH [David Weber](#) (Honor Harrington Series; Safehold Series, Dahak Series); Artist GOH [David Mattingly](#) (cover illustrator for David Weber’s Honor Harrington Books); Game Design GOH [Bruce Heard](#) (early TSR employee, BECMI version of D&D—Mystara, World of Calidar). Convention 34 Guests of Honour: Convention Guest Author [Tarol Hunt](#); Convention Guest Artist Melissa [Mary Duncan](#).”

4 October 2014: **Barbara Scutt’s** birthday.

4 October 2014: [24 Hour Comics Day](#). Event around the world for people to create a full 24-page comic in 24 consecutive hours.—[Julian Castle](#)

4, 11, 18, and 25 October and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 November 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](#)

4 October 2014: Vanpla 2014 October Workshop, 1–5 PM at Metropolis Comics and Toys, 4735 Kingsway, Burnaby. “Every month, Vanpla members get together for a build and socialize workshop meetup. Usual activities include: kits building (bring your own kits and tools), show your proud completed work, technique coaching (feel free to ask), demos and workshops, airbrushing (depending on venue, spray booth may be available, bring your own airbrush/paint/thinner, etc.), access to gunpla graveyard (salvage parts for your project free), group build/event discussion, watching anime, meet new people, chill, and enjoy. We invite everyone to join. See you guys there!”

4–5 October 2014: Friends of the Richmond Library Whale of a Book Sale, 9 AM–5 PM (Saturday) and 9 AM–3 PM (Sunday) at Thompson Community Centre, 5151 Granville Avenue, Richmond. “Fiction, non-fiction. Sorted. Priced low! Good selection for children, young readers, and adults. All funds benefit your library. Drop off your donated books at any Richmond Library Branch. Care to join Friends? Ask library staff for a Friends membership brochure.”

4–5 October 2014: 21st Alternative Press Expo AKA APE (Comic Con) in San Francisco.—Julian Castle

5 October 2014: **Jim Naguib**’s birthday.

5 October 2014: Bolt Action: Tank You Very Much!, 12–5 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Players bring as many tanks and/or anti-tank vehicles as you can and battle it out to see who is the greatest tank commander!! Each player will generate one skill per veterancy (e.g. 1 for inexperienced, 2 for regular, etc.) for each tank under their command and play a free-for-all death-match style game. Prizes for last man standing, first kills and first out. Afterwards there will be demos using the new armored platoon rules to showcase the way they function. Contact: Chris.”

5, 12, 19, and 26 October and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 November 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

6 October 2014: **Arthur Hlavaty**’s birthday.

6, 13, 20, and 27 October and 3, 10, 17, and 24 November 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

6, 13, 20, and 27 October and 3, 10, 17, and 24 November 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

7 October 2014: **Howard Chaykin**’s birthday.

7, 14, 21, and 28 October and 4, 11, 18, and 25 November 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



7, 14, 21, and 28 October and 4, 11, 18, and 25 November 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

7, 14, 21, and 28 October and 4, 11, 18, and 25 November 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.

8 and 22 October and 5 and 19 November 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

9 and 23 October and 6 and 20 November 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)

9 October and 9 November 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

9 October and 9 November 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

10 October 2014: Premiere of films *Dracula Untold* (action/vampire; Charles Dance) and *Dead Snow 2: Red vs. Dead*² (horror/comedy).

11 October 2014: **Ivy Blais**’s birthday.

11 October 2014: 44th Annual IPMS Vancouver Fall Show and Swap Meet, 9 AM–4:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby. “Our show attracts scale modellers from around the Pacific Northwest, Western Canada, and Europe. Past competitions have had up to 450 scale models on display. This year’s

2 AKA *Død Sno 2*.

theme: ‘The Great War—1914–1918.’ [...] Admission is \$5 for anyone 17 years and older and *free* for 16 and younger. Parking is also free and we are very close to Metrotown SkyTrain station. Door prizes donated by local hobby shops and industry suppliers will be given out all day long, and awards will be handed out at the end of the day for the winning models. Our famous vendors’ room will be open as well for those looking for some modelling bargains. For more information please go to <http://www.ipmsvancouver.ca/>.”



11–12 October 2014: GeekGirlCon at the Conference Center at the Washington State Convention Center, [*800 Convention Place*], (8th Avenue & Pike Street), Seattle, Washington. E-mail: info@geekgirlcon.com. Twitter: [@geekgirlcon](https://twitter.com/geekgirlcon). Facebook.

13 October 2014: Canadian Thanksgiving.

14 October and 11 November 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.”

14 October and 11 November 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

15 October 2014: **Verne Siebert**’s birthday.

16 October 2014: **Duncan McGregor**’s birthday.

17 October 2014: Premiere of films *The Book of Life* (computer animation; Zoe Saldana, Channing Tatum, Ron Perlman, Danny Trejo, Christina Applegate, Ice Cube, Grey DeLisle, Cheech Marin, Gabriel Iglesias, Hector Elizondo, Carlos Alazraqui, Plácido Domingo), *Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)* (comedy; Emma Stone, Naomi Watts, Edward Norton, Michael Keaton, Zach Galifianakis), and *The Tale of Princess Kaguya* (anime; Beau Bridges, James Caan, Dean Cain, Lucy Liu, Chloë Grace Moretz, Oliver Platt, Mary Steenburgen).

17 October and 21 November 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

18 October 2014: Magic: The Gathering: Khans of Tarkir 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. Contact: Stephanie.”

18 October 2014: The 6th Annual Bellingham Comicon, 10 AM–5 PM at Ferndale Events Center, 5715 Barrett Road, Ferndale, Washington. “Exit 262—just three blocks east of I-5. Northwest Washington’s largest selection of comics from the golden age to modern, toys, action figures, and more! Guests: Norm Breyfogle, Patricia Briggs, Stefano Gaudiano, Randy Emberlin, James Taylor, Rick Hoberg. Tons of free parking! Admission only \$7 (kids seven and under free).”

18 October and 15 November 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

18–19 October 2014: Vancouver Halloween Parade & Expo, at Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, 1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver (convention) and Granville Street, Smith Street, and Howe Street, downtown Vancouver (parade). “Cosplay, films, comics, anime, games, toys, and costumes. E-mail: feedback@vanhalloween.com. Telephone: 778-300-7456. Meet the original Alien. Meet the original Predator. Meet the original Gohan Dragon Ball. Meet the original Kiba Naruto.”

18–19 October 2014: Portland Retro Gaming Expo, Portland, Oregon.—Julian Castle

18–19 October 2014: 5th annual NPC-Con (formerly MiniCon), 10 AM–11 PM (staff & vendors can enter at 9 AM) at Knox United Church, 1448 5th Avenue, Prince George. Presented by Northern Players Connection. LARP, tabletop, video game

tournament, games, costume contest, silent auction, concession, etc. At door: \$10 day or \$15 weekend; \$10 weekend with student ID. Pre-reg at <http://www.npc-con.ca/> for \$10 weekend. Warhorn link: <https://www.warhorn.net/events/npc-con-2014>.—Julian Castle

19 October 2014: **Gareth von Kallenbach** and **Cathy Palmer-Lister**'s birthdays.

19 October and 16 November 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 October 2014: **Richard Walters**'s birthday.

21 October 2014: **Christopher Garcia**'s birthday.

21 October 2014: Gunpla Night Meeting, 6–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, 5451 Number Three Road, Richmond. “Drop by for a build and socialize evening with a group of local Gunpla (Gundam model) hobbyists. For details, please check out Vanpla Mecha Model Club Facebook group. Contact: Wilson.”

24 October 2014: All Star Wrestling Pro-Wrestling Fright Night, 8 PM at Alice McKay Building, Cloverdale Fairgrounds, 6050 176th Street, Surrey. “Gangrel, Jinder Mahal, Cremator, Gama Singh Jr. For more information call 604-710-0872 or visit <http://allstar-wrestling.com/>. Tickets: \$20 front row; \$15 general admission. Join us after the show at Rusty's Pub, 17770 56 Avenue, Surrey.”

25 October 2014: The Vancouver Writers [sic] Fest: Probables and Impossibles, 10:30 AM at Performance Works, [1218 Cartwright Street, Granville Island, Vancouver]. Sebastien de Castell, AM Dellamonica, and William Gibson. Tickets: \$20. “What’s the difference between fantasy and science fiction? Fantasy can’t happen. Science fiction is something that hasn’t happened, but could. Two fantasy writers and one science fiction writer talk about the worlds of the probable and the impossible that they’ve imagined onto the pages of their new novels. William Gibson’s *The Peripheral* is his latest invention in a long string of inventive novels that have earned him rave reviews and a worldwide following over three decades. Working in the world of the impossible are fantasy writers AM Dellamonica and Sebastien de Castell. Travel to Dellamonica’s Stormwrack, an ocean-based world on the other side of the portal. Or duck the barbarians at the borders of de Castell’s Tristia. Good thing these worlds are impossible—and very entertaining.”

22–26 October 2014: Spark Animation Festival. Conference & job fair: 24–25 October at Vancity Theatre, 1181 Seymour Street, Vancouver. Conference pass \$175. Conference tix \$25 per event. Film tix via theatre website: regular \$11, accessible \$9, senior (65+) \$9, student (post-secondary ID required) \$9. Tickets probably available at door. Job fair is *free* to attend.—Julian Castle

24 October 2014: Premiere of film *Ouija* (horror).

24–25 October 2014: Vancouver Island Fifth Annual Most Amazing Collectable Show!, 5–9:30 PM (Friday) and 10 AM–4 PM (Saturday) at Pearkes Field House, 3100 Tillicum Road, Victoria. “With featured guests Trina Robbins (artist for *Wonder Woman* and *Pretty in Ink*) and Steve Leialoha (artist for *Fables* and *Star Wars*) Admission \$4; children with adults free. For further information call 250-361-5909 or e-mail acoccola@shaw.ca.”

25 October 2014: Punk for a Day Day.

25 October and 29 November 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 & Critty”—Keith Lim

26 October 2014: Canadian Comics Promotions Presents: Vancouver Comic Show, 11 AM–5 PM at Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive, Vancouver. “Anime, gaming, toys. Cosplay encouraged. Our spookiest show of the year! ‘Tons of comics and comic-related fun for everyone.’ With special guests: Diana Greenhalgh, Andy Poon, Jason Copland, Michael Roberds, Glenn Taranto, Richard Yee. Door prizes! Ample free parking! ATM bank machine provided at show! One hundred tables! Ten-minute walk from Broadway SkyTrain! Food concession provided at show. Contact info: 1-855-881-9991 (toll free). <http://www.canadiancomics.net/>. Visit and like us at <http://www.facebook.com/vancouvercomicshow>—check the website for updates. Happening all day on the main stage: The Reptile Guy—play with and learn about amphibians, reptiles, and tarantulas! <http://www.reptileguy.ca/>. Free entry tournaments: The Settlers of Catan 12–1 PM, Dominion 1:30–2:30 PM, DC Deck Building Game 3–4 PM. First place prize—\$10 gift card for use anywhere at show! General admission \$5; kids under 13 free! \$10 and \$25 gift cards for use anywhere at show to be periodically handed out at door and raffled off throughout the day!”

27 October 2014: **Peter Tupper**’s birthday.

27 October 2014: Steampunk Murder Mystery—The Seance, 7 PM at La Fontana Caffè, #101–3701 Hastings Street, Burnaby. “We have killed at the Legion Hall and we took the life of another at Emerald City Comicon. Now it is time to take another life, Hallowe’en style. You are invited to join us as another member of the Steamteam leaves us for the great beyond. In true Hallowe’en style, this time it will be during a seance. The Spectral Lantern will be presented to the guests as the connection between both worlds. Once everyone has decided what treats they would like to snack on for the evening, they will be seated and the lights will go out. Once the lights are out we ask that everyone remain seated as who knows who or what will come through the thin veil between both worlds. By the glow of the Lantern, the Steamteam will attempt to call on the dead. At the end of the experience the Inspector will ask for the audience’s help in deciding who the murderer is, so come early enough to watch the characters interact. Clues will be dropped during the social time before the seance. Time: Doors open between 6:45 and 7:30 PM. Seance and ‘murder’ around 7:45 PM. Tickets: \$15 pre purchase; \$20 at the door. This is a small café and therefore fairly intimate. It is recommended that if purchasing at the door please feel free to call the hotline and make sure tickets are left. Pre-buying tickets *highly* recommended. 778-925-3378. No refunds. Ticket sales final. Tea, coffee, juice, pop, and desserts available for purchase. Steampunk cupcakes by Cakenista. Vendor Bits & Keys will also be present. Child friendly, however please be aware at one point there is a murder and a ‘blackout.’ Please print out your PayPal receipt as your proof of payment and entry.”—Times Past Entertainment

27 October–22 November 2014: StoryStylus Launch Tour—Interactive Fiction Publishing Engine. “Know a writer, screenwriter or game designer? Please share this—your support means so much to this indie games studio! One More Story Games is launching StoryStylus, a platform for storytellers to create, publish and profit share from the development of interactive story games. This is an hour long demo with a Q&A session afterwards. See below for more info on the software. For Twitter, this is what we’ve been tweeting: ‘Love #interactivefiction & #storytelling? Get a sneak peek of new publishing software #StoryStylus on eight-city tour <http://bit.ly/OMSGTour>.’ [...] *Vancouver*: Sunday 2 November, 3:30 PM <http://bit.ly/OMSGVAN3>. Sunday 2 November, 7 PM <http://bit.ly/OMSGVan2>. Monday 3 November, 7 PM—The Network Hub, Gastown, <http://bit.ly/OMSGVan1>. Tuesday 4 November—Vancouver Film School, Game Design—private. *Victoria*: Wednesday 5 November, 7 PM—<http://bit.ly/OMSGVic>. *Seattle*: Friday 7 November, 7 PM (limited to 15 people). Please enquire. Saturday 8 November, 11 AM—Redmond area, TBA. Saturday 8 November, 7 PM (limited to 15 people). Please enquire. Learn about the features of StoryStylus: ● Create simple or complex worlds ● Make custom maps and locations ● Write rich and detailed characters, branching dialogue and story endings ● Work with translators and publish worldwide in 20+ languages ● Retain full copyright of your own work ● Have your own storefront and social media fan page for your stories ● From start to finish, we provide you with the platform to create, share and sell your storyworlds. Game developers will love prototyping in Stylus. If you’ve used Twine, you’ll find this an easy to use system that is intuitive, requires little coding and ports out easy to our marketplace. Or if you just want to prototype your stories, be our guest! For writers and screenwriters, Stylus is a great way to ex-

pand into a new market—interactive fiction and social games. Create free short story mini-games and direct readers to your full novels. This is part of an eight-city launch tour, with stops in Toronto, Calgary, Vancouver, Victoria, Seattle, San Francisco, Long Beach and Los Angeles. One More Story Games is an indie games studio based out of Barrie, Ontario. It is led by Blair Leggett, 14+ year industry veteran formerly of Electronic Arts and Zynga, and his wife Jean Leggett. They have an amazing team that has grown from 5 to 20 since January 2014. Once a bootstrap company, OMSG has successfully raised \$156,000 from friends and family and is poised to launch StoryStylus and its first games portal Mystery World in November 2014.”—Richard Walters

28 October 2014: **Church Haley**'s birthday. Plush Animal Lovers' Day.

29 October 2014: **Tamara Gerbrandt**'s birthday. National Cat Day.

30 October 2014: **Kirstin Morell**'s birthday.

30 October 2014: Steampunk Murder Mystery—The Seance, Part 2, 7 PM at La Fontana Caffè, #101–3701 Hastings Street, Burnaby. [*See description for 27 October 2014.*]

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

31 October 2014: Halloween. Frankenstein Friday. Increase Your Psychic Powers Day. Premiere of films *ABCs of Death 2* (horror; Tristan Risk, Voltaire) and *Horns* (horror; Daniel Radcliffe, Heather Graham, James Remar, David Morse, Jay Brazeau).

31 October 2014: Penticton Zombie Walk & Costume Parade, 4:30 PM at Nanaimo Square (corner of Nanaimo Avenue West & Main Street), Penticton. Details TBA.

31 October 2014: Glamour Trash Halloween Ball, 9 PM–3 AM at Club 23 West, 23 West Cordova Street, Vancouver.

November 2014

1 November 2014: Book Lovers' Day.

1 November 2014: NW-B5 20th Ann. Seasons 1 & 2 Gathering, 4 PM at La Fontana Caffè, #101–3701 East Hastings Street (at Boundary Road), Burnaby. “We are going to hold a screening of some key Season 1 and 2 eps. RSVP: nw-b5@intergate.ca so I can get a handle on numbers.”—John Francis

1 November 2014: Parade of Lost Souls 2014: Masquerade!, 6 PM at secret location. “[...] Public Dreams has closed and passed the torch to [...] the [...] Dusty Flowerpot. [...] It is the time for celebration and for ceremony. For reflection and renewal. Wear a costume. Bring an instrument. Make a dance. Join a dance. This parade is for you and by you, all the lost souls of the world. Bring your past and your presence for a celebration of life, and depth. We may all be lost, but at least we are lost together. Let the revelry begin, at the Parade of Lost Souls! [...] *Theme*: As you know, this harvest time is simultaneously a celebration of life and an acknowledgement of death. This year we will be looking at the life and death of civilizations, presently and throughout history. Include the animal kingdom in your musings on this topic. [...] To contact us to get involved in performance, volunteering or production: katsingledain@gmail.com. Most workshops will be held at Britannia Community Centre! The Sounders. Thriller. Leather Mask Making. [...] Check out <http://www.dustyflowerpotcabaret.com/> for information on more workshops hosted at the Dusty Flowershop, the studio located at 2050 Scotia Street, [Vancouver].” After-party: 9 PM–2 AM at Astorinos, 1739 Venables Street, Vancouver. (After-party tickets only available on-line.)

2 November 2014: Vanpla 2014 November Workshop, 1–5 PM at 木: Ki Tea House Cafe, #105–6888 Royal Oak Avenue, Burnaby. [See description for *Vanpla 2014 October Workshop*.]

2 November 2014: Amazing Bingo—The Tournament, 1–4 PM at the Lux Lounge, 1180 Howe Street, Vancouver. “Doors: 12:30 PM. Proceeds to benefit Children’s Wish. Grand prize ‘an amazing night out’ includes a special: River Rock Casino Resort & Keg Richmond package! This is bingo with strategy! 32 seats only. Age 19+ only.”

3 November 2014: **Dale Speirs**’s birthday.

5 November 2014: **Hello Kitty**’s birthday.

6 November 2014: **Stan Hyde**’s birthday.

7 November 2014: **Tim Maruyama**’s birthday. Premiere of films *Interstellar* (action/SF; Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Wes Bentley, Michael Caine, Topher Grace, Casey Affleck, Ellen Burstyn, John Lithgow, Bill Irwin, Francis X. McCarthy, Matt Damon) and *Big Hero 6* (computer animation; Alan Tudyk, Damon Wayans, Jr., Maya Rudolph, James Cromwell, Charles Adler).

7–9 November 2014: Fifth annual Bent Con (LGBTQ & allies geek convention) in Burbank, California. Twitter: <https://twitter.com/OfficialBentCon>.—Julian Castle

7–9 November 2014: BottosCon 2014: A Mere Matter of Gaming at Vancouver Sheraton Guildford Hotel, Surrey. “The North Shore Wargaming Society is proud to host BottosCon [...] our [...] *annual* gaming convention for all gamers in the Greater Vancouver area and Pacific Northwest. This year’s convention will return to the

Vancouver Sheraton Guildford Hotel. We have more gaming space and room to grow our convention. Our focus will be on gaming, not structure. BottosCon is an opportunity to play some great games, whether they be war, Euro, or miniatures, and make some new friends. George Kelln's ASL West Coast Rumble and Andrew Nick's ever popular BottosFront Up Front tournament will be returning again to this year's BottosCon. The majority of the games are arranged between players ahead of time, but there is always room for a pick-up game. Open gaming will be subject to space availability and will be on a first come, first served basis. Last year's game swap table was a resounding success, so if you have a game you're looking to sell or trade, please bring it along and there will be space to display your wares. I'm asking each attendee to please bring a non-perishable item for the local foodbank. I'll have a bin at the sign in desk for any and all donations. Thank you. \$35.00 pre-reg. \$40.00 @ the door. \$25.00 day pass. Couples/family rates available. [...] PayPal for pre-reg in Canadian funds to scouterrob@telus.net. Cash at the door. Convention hours: Friday 12 PM–12 AM, Saturday 8 AM–12 AM, Sunday 8 AM–6 PM. If you have any questions please e-mail me at scouterrob@telus.net.—Rob Bottos, Bottos-Con Actual.”

8 November 2014: 12th annual Howloween (furmeet) at Executive Hotel & Conference Center Burnaby, 4201 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby (west of Brentwood Town Centre SkyTrain station). This year's theme: “Mad Science.” Hotel reservations: 604-298-2010, option 1. Hotel event code: #19088. Admission: \$20 (cash only at door).—Julian Castle

8 November 2014: Pop Culture Collectibles Fair & Computer Swap Meet/Sale, 11 AM–4 PM at Scottish Cultural Centre, 8886 Hudson Street, Vancouver. “Monitors, printers, hardware, software, parts, games, cameras, printer refills, vintage comics, toys & collectibles, records, CDs, VHS, DVDs, manga, Warhammer, books, magazines, Star Wars, Hot Wheels, wrestling, Canucks memorabilia, jewellery...and lots more at great prices! Lots of great Christmas gift ideas! Free comic book to the first 100 guests. Turn your extra items into cash \$. Eight-foot dealer tables \$40 each or two for \$70. Admission: \$3; children 12 & under free. Free parking. For more info, please visit <http://www.fun-promo.com/>. 601-521-6304. funpromo@shaw.ca.”—Verne Siebert

8 November 2014: Nerdfest—A Night of Epic Fantasy, 7 PM at the Rickshaw Theatre, 254 East Hastings Street, Vancouver. Tickets: presale \$15; door \$18.

9 November 2014: Vancouver Comic Con, 11 AM–5 PM at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street, Vancouver. “Admission: \$4; kids under 14: free. Dealer tables: \$60/centre; \$70/wall. 604-322-6412. Guests: Ed Piskor (*Hip Hop Family Tree*, *Wizzywig*), Joe Keatinge (*Shutter*, *Tech Jacket*, *Glory*), Leila del Duca (*Shutter*), Steve Rolston (*Queen & Country*, *The Escapists*, *Ghost Projekt*), Ed Brisson (*Sheltered*, *The Field*, *Robocop*), Mike Myrhe (*Space Jet*), MEL Levrault (*Phobiasoft*). Hourly door prizes. Win tickets to Vancouver Theatresports' The Superhero Show! Comics for classrooms: donate a new or gently-used school-appropriate

graphic novel for free admission to this show. Books collected will be donated to Vancouver schools. (Sorry, no manga can be accepted.) Follow us on [Twitter](#).”

16 November 2014: Button Day.

18 November 2014: **Ken Kato**’s birthday. Occult Day.

20 November 2014: **Boggle Rat**’s birthday.

21 November 2014: Premiere of films *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay—Part 1* (action/SF; Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Woody Harrelson, Julianne Moore, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Jeffrey Wright, Stanley Tucci, Donald Sutherland) and *V/H/S: Viral* (horror).

23 November 2014: [Victoria Comic Book Expo](#), 11 AM–4 PM at Comfort Inn & Conference Centre, 3020 Blanshard Street, Victoria. Dealers: \$35 per eight-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](#)

24 November 2014: **Spider Robinson**’s birthday.

28 November 2014: Red Planet Day. Premiere of film *Penguins of Madagascar* (computer animation; Chris Miller, Benedict Cumberbatch, Peter Stormare, John Malkovich, Werner Herzog).

30 November 2014: Stand Up for Mental Health at Yuk Yuk’s Vancouver, 2837 Cambie Street, Vancouver. **Ray Seredin** will be performing. Details TBA.

News-Like Matter

Notes from September 2014 BCSFA Meeting



Photo from Ray’s stand-up comedy debut.

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

Graeme said that VCON program book cover artist Jean-Pierre Normand said that for the authentic zine experience he would print out the PDF of Graeme’s e-zine, staple it, fold it, and put it in his mailbox for three

days! Graeme said “Be sure to leave the mailbox open a little so one corner of it gets rained on!”

Ray is doing another stand-up performance on Sunday 30 November 2014, this time at the Yuk Yuk’s on Cambie Street near 12th Avenue, over by City Hall.

I showed the group the comics my parents brought back from their European cruise. One was *Nemi* (2013), a Norwegian comic about a goth girl, by Lise Myhre. The other two were *Proovisõit* (1981) and *Seiklus Sekontias* (1986), Estonian underground comics by Olimar Kallas. They were published during the Communist era, when that kind of thing was very restricted.



Graeme neatly summarized this activity as *samizdat*. He then mentioned *Crocodile* (1922),³ the Soviet equivalent of *Mad* magazine, in which some satire was permitted. You could make fun of the mistakes officials made but not the officials themselves, or the system. And, of course, you could make fun of capitalism and the west.⁴

Sid said that he’d upgraded his Linux: Fedora from version 14 to 20; GNOME from version 3 to 4. I joked that Fedora was a hipster OS (because of the name). Sid said “Fedora was the only OS that would work on my computer. I’m *not* kidding.” I’m still happy with Ubuntu 12 (“Precise Pangolin”), but it’s no longer in long-term support, and Ubuntu 14 (“Trusty Tahr”) is all different and weird.

Barb brought various superhero masks from the Night Market and a flyer for an expensive-looking event at the Sheraton downtown.



“No ignorant slut shaming.”

Ray said “Despite what you may have heard, ’80s *Saturday Night Lives* are funny,” and brought up the *Twilight Zone* parody with Dan Aykroyd as Rod Serling (“Why do women take longer in the bathroom?”). It sounded like he was thinking of the ’70s episodes, which I usually don’t find funny, though the “superhero party” sketch was one exception. Fru agreed and also liked “Jane, you ignorant slut.” Stew said that that was a reference to (and exaggeration of) “Point/Counterpoint” on *60 Minutes* (1968) with liberal Shana Alexander and conservative Jack Kilpatrick. Sid thought that the conservatives of those days would seem like liberals today. That reminded me of Newt Gingrich’s recent fictional Ronald Reagan speech in which he wrote what he prefers to believe Reagan would say, rather than what he actually did say. Fruvous said it was “conservative fanfiction.”

Someone asked if Hillary Clinton will be the Democratic nominee in 2016. She seems to be pre-chosen by the media. Fruvous said that they thought that in 2008, too, before Barack Obama. Someone said Joseph Biden makes too many gaffes. The latest were referring to Asia as “the Orient” and bankers as “Shylocks.” On the “Orient” faux pas, we felt that it was just an old-fashioned term that men of his generation would use, and it was not as if he had referred to Asians as “Orientals,” which is

3 Or Крокодил (Krokodil).—Future Felicity

4 And minorities!—Future Felicity

worse. Regarding the “Shylock” quote, my theory was that he meant to say “shyster,” which is not a racist term (though it sounds like one because of its similarity to “Shylock”). Graeme pointed out that the actual Shylock, the moneylender from William Shakespeare’s *Merchant of Venice*, can be interpreted as a sympathetic, tragic character, an extraordinarily progressive concept for Elizabethan times. Fruvous said that Biden was “liked, but not well-liked,” or is the corny uncle that shows up at family gatherings and tells terrible jokes, but everyone loves him. His skill is being likable but not in charge.



Relatedly, Ray reported that a group got Teletoon to stop showing old racist cartoons, such as the episode of *The Flintstones* (1960) with the karate instructor.⁵ This reminded me of when local Bellingham, Washington station KVOS-TV briefly showed the old animated *Dick Tracy* (1961) to coincide with the hype for the film *Dick Tracy* (1990). It was quickly cancelled, presumably when someone actually watched it and saw its racist stereotype characters.

Felicity Walker

Additional writing by R. Graeme Cameron

Sunday 21 September 2014

VCON 39 Turkey Readings Proceeds

...is \$247.55, rounded up by me as usual making the total \$270 to send to the CUFF administrator.

If any of you are at the Dead Dog as I write this, do pass the word.

This is less than last year, but that was because we had pix from Pencils at High Noon to auction off as well, and those sold well. Otherwise, this year’s proceeds would have set a record for VCON Turkey Reading monies for CUFF.

Congrats to all participants!!!

Fran Skene

BC Sci-Fi Assc. Yahoo! Group

Sunday 5 October 2014

2014 Canadian Fanzine Fanac Award Results

Greetings all! [...]

2014 Faned Awards (for Fanac in 2013)

Presented at VCON 39 October 5th, 2014 by R. Graeme Cameron. (Point system applied. 1st choice = 6 points, 2nd choice = 5 points, etc.)

Best Writer (in a Canadian SF&F fanzine circa 2013)

- Winner—Tara Wayne (97 points)
- 1st runner-up—Dale Speirs (51 points)
- 2nd runner-up—Garth Spencer (48 points)

5 “The Prowler” (30 December 1960).—Future Felicity

Best LOC Writer (in a Canadian SF&F fanzine circa 2013)

- Winner—Brad Foster (55 points)
- 1st runner-up—Eric Mayer (51 points)
- 2nd runner-up—Sheryl Birkhead (47 points)

Best Artist (in a Canadian SF&F fanzine circa 2013)

- Winner—Brad Foster (95 points)
- 1st runner-up—Steve Stiles (70 points)
- 2nd runner-up—Teddy Harvia (51 points)

Best Canadian Fanzine (circa 2013)

- Winner—*Broken Toys*, editor Taral Wayne (87 points)
- 1st runner-up—*BCSFAzine*, editor Felicity Walker (62 points)
- 2nd runner-up—*Opuntia*, editor Dale Speirs (58 points)

2014 Faned Hall of Fame

○ Fred Hurter Jr., editor of *Censored* from June 1941 to 1951, a fanzine noted for its high quality silkscreen covers and wide-ranging variety of content. Surpassed *Light* and inspired the creation of the fanzine *Canadian Fandom*.

R. Graeme Cameron

Wednesday 8 October 2014

Elizabeth Peña (1959–2014)

Elizabeth Peña: Cuban-American film/TV actress and TV director, died 14 October aged 55. Genre appearances include **Batteries Not Included* (1987), *Vibes* (1988), *Jacob's Ladder* (1990), *The Outer Limits* (TV, 1995), *The Invaders* and *It Came From Outer Space II* (both 1995 TV movies), *Impostor* (2001, from the story by Philip K. Dick) and *Ghost Whisperer* (TV, 2009). Her voice-only work included *The Incredibles* (2004, as Mirage, repeating the role in the 2013 video game *Disney's Infinity*) and *Justice League* (2004–2005, as Paran Dul).

Steve Green

Wednesday 15 October 2014

Notoriety at Last!

Taral Wayne

[This article was previously published at File 770 (site/blog edited by Mike Glycer).]

Imagine my surprise when I Googled my name this afternoon! I do this from time to time, out of curiosity. Just about the last thing I expected to find was that there is a book about me! It was unlikely enough that there was another “Taral Wayne” in the world, but surely not another associated with “science fiction, the Hugo Award, the Worldcon and furry fandom”? However, under the title “*Taral Wayne*,” that’s exactly what the cover says. I surrender graciously to the conclusion that this really is a book about *me*.

The editors Lambert M. Surhone, Mariam T. Tennoe and Susan F. Henssonow are nobody known to me, and I suspect to anyone else in the publishing business. The listed price on one web page was \$45.

Also on the cover is a bright red seal guaranteeing “High Quality Content by Wikipedia Articles!”

After a bit more searching I found a blog that talked about this. You might want to read about this scam in more detail:

<http://www.chrisrand.com/blog/index.php/2010/02/27/odd-tale-alphascript-publishing-betascript-publishing/#comment-17619>

The publishers are apparently “Betascript Publishing,” who use Wikipedia articles and some publishing software to print on-demand copies of *over 50,000 titles!* “Betascript” is perhaps a misnomer. Also known as “Alphascript,” “Fastbook” and dozens of other imprints, they are all subsidiaries of *VDM Publishing*, who gives Mauritius as the head office. The publisher has likely downloaded articles from Wikipedia *en masse*, and has software that searches for articles with a high degree of connectivity. It then plugs them into a .pdf template—poof!—instant book! *VDM* may have been a legitimate academic publisher at one time, but appears to have mutated, virus-like, into a more aggressive form that is actually beginning to clog up legitimate listings of books online.

Evidently, “*Taral Wayne*” includes Wikipedia articles on the Hugo, Worldcon, and furry fandom as well as the one on myself (which I admit I had a hand in writing). More worrisome is the statement on one bookseller’s page that the volume is 68 pages long, with “black and white illustrations.” This is an entirely different and actionable kettle of fish. Even when it is pirated by some internet site, my art is nevertheless protected by copyright, and reproducing it without permission, or even my knowledge, should make *VDM* very liable to a costly legal action.

Alas...international lawsuits are generally impractical. Even giant corporations like *Sony*, *Disney* and *Warner* have trouble stamping out Pacific Rim piracy. Clearly, I’m unable to pay an army of lawyers over several years, so what chance have I got?

I suppose I’ll have to be satisfied with warning book dealers somewhat disingenuously that *they* might be liable to legal action for selling the book...But, mainly I’d better just try to get a laugh out of the experience. Not every fanartist is worth ripping off...

Taral Wayne

Monday 12 December 2011

Art Credits

Sheryl Birkhead.....	Masthead
<u>Brad Foster</u>	Cover
<u>Dave Haren</u> (photo).....	Page 1
Clip art (via <u>Dave Haren</u>).....	Pages 2, 6, 8, 10, 12
Michael Gaines (font).....	Page 3
Clip art (<u>Clker.com</u>).....	Pages 4, 19 (right), 20
<u>Felicity Walker</u> (photo).....	Page 18