

BCSFAzine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#513

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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*).

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This and Next Month in BCSFA

Friday 19 February:	Submission deadline for March <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Sunday 21 February at 7 PM:	February BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin's, 707 Hamilton Street (recreation room), New Westminster.
Friday 26 February:	March <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).
Friday 18 March:	Submission deadline for April <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Sunday 20 March at 7 PM:	March BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin's.
Friday 25 March:	April <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).

About BCSFA

The incumbent BCSFA Executive members are:

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

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

Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973

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

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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/bc_sci_fi_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.]

Dave Haren
tyrbolo@comcast.net

Wednesday 9 March 2016



Hi Felicity,

Given the last vanishing LOC, this may wind up in dev/nul but its the thought that counts.

One might find it hard to build anything but a despotism without a library in the language. Marx being a bookworm himself probably couldn't make the connection due to his inner racist.

From *Revolutions of 1848*:

“Dr. Tkalac was one of the intellectuals who tried to make his countrymen proud of being Slavic, yet as late as 1840, when he was in his twenties, he had never

read a Slavic book. The reason was there were none, though he spent most of his schoolboy allowance getting books, allowed and forbidden, from booksellers in Pest and Vienna. He remembered that at this early age the idea of nationality seemed limiting to him, for he wanted to claim all Europe in his heritage. Since history officially stopped with the French Revolution in his school, Tkalac spent a large part of his adolescence trying to find out what had happened in the world since then.”

Even Karl Marx, good German that he was, noted that Slavs always supported despotism, and since he felt that Slavic countries were unsuited to industrialism, he deplored any revolutions they made.

From *Revolutions of 1848* (the section on Venice):

“The prize exhibit which Manin dug up in his investigation was a certain Padovini, who was confined to an insane asylum though he was perfectly sane. Padovini had been an orphan, apprenticed to a tailor until his eyes became too bad for him to work. Not blind enough for charity, not strong enough for heavy outdoor work, not old enough for the old folks' home, he could get no help from any agency and began to beg. When this was forbidden him, he raised a frenzied placard saying, ‘Shame on a government that lets an honest workman starve.’ For this action he was carried off to an asylum. Once he escaped and made his way as far as Milan, where a kind tailor gave him work but since he had no passport eventually he had to give himself up and go back to the asylum.”

This is the unkindest description of humans I've seen lately!!

“He also invented Chirpsithra (non-sentient males). I don't see any problem with one sex being non-sentient, if the other cares for the young.”—[Posted by] Elderly Cynic¹

1 [Link](#).

This is the same kind of thing that produced JPL, the crossover between the occult and science. If you remember that DeCartes got his inspiration for modern science from an angel in the birthplace of Einstein, that becomes clearer.

[I get that the first quote is about a Larry Niven species, and I've read about the occult activities of Jack Parsons, but I don't get the connection. Can you storyboard it for us? ☺]

"The witch thing, that need to know, is fueled by a sense of wonder," she says. "Many people aren't that wonderful. They don't wonder about what people are or what the universe is. So if I can get people to consider, even for a second, what they'd want to know if they could have any information they wanted, that's a victory."—[From an article about] Maja D'Acoust²

And for you politics fans. Here's an eyewitness account of the Bern in Florida.

[As opposed to the Bern in Switzerland. ☺]

"The revolution starts with us!" roared the megaphone. Muted cheers now, though somebody in the crowd screams 'I'm ready to die for Bernie Sanders!' Is he joking, being ironic? The beginnings of a Sandernista jihad? Hard to say. As if on cue a biker rolls by, giving the fucking Nazi salute and shouting 'Trump! Trump! Trump!' Yes, an actual Nazi salute. If anybody tells you 'nobody's voting for Trump' and he isn't a fascist please tell them to inform the Floridians. The crowd, rather than respond with threats of violence instead chants 'Ber-nie! Ber-nie!' Strange this, candidates almost reminiscent of tribal totems, Bernie's sacred name invoked against the plague of Trumpler Fascism as if it carried some witchy warding ability. The bike rolled on and the Sandernistas seemed happy with a momentary victory; on this day at least their god had been the stronger. This wasn't the only opposition, however. Somebody with a 'Coexist' bumper sticker actually flipped the rally off, confusing not only myself but many around me. 'What the hell was that about?' a young woman asked aloud. 'Hillary interlopers,' I replied. 'As I understand it she's got some hardcore Maoists amongst her flock. They've been given strict orders to stay armed at all times. I heard they actually opened fire at a rally in Orlando.' 'Really?' 'Yep. She's getting desperate. The law's on their side though. They know they can get away with shooting into a crowd as long as there's one black person in it. This is Florida after all.' She paused, not quite sure what I meant. I walked away and said nothing. Let her chew on that for a while."—From Dr. Bones on Disinfo.com³

[For best results, imagine the above in a Bill-Murray-as-Hunter-S.-Thompson voice.]



2 [Link.](#)

3 [Link.](#)

Check this out:

https://www.vice.com/en_uk/read/global-resilience-guru

[*I worry about these things all the time; I'm glad someone competent is working on it.*]

For those who want to live dangerously in computer land. Just type this into your searchbar: Hiren's BootCD.15.2. (Windows only folk. Mac users will have to find their own way to brick a comp by living dangerously.)

Like Mark Twain said, allowing folks to carry a cat by the tail teaches them a lot about cats that cannot be learned any other way.

[*Like that five of their six ends are pointy!*]

I happened to find Shatner and the girly from *True Grit* in a movie version of Zenna Henderson, *The People*,⁴ quite nicely done. It was on YouTube in the account section called TVTERRORLAND.⁵



If you're evil minded it doesn't take much to realize why the Turks don't want to be merged with the Kurds.

The logos of the Libertarian Alliance and the Sturmabteilung look very suspicious when side by side.

Warm regards,
Dave

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Tuesday 15 March 2016

Dear BCSFAns:

Thank you for *BCSFazine* 512, and a fast letter is heading your way, as soon as I can compose it, type it, correct all the spelling mistakes, and load it into the outgoing e-mail. I am sure there will be at least one spelling mistake left over, but it's a Where's Waldo? game not everyone wants to play.

[*Thanks for the fast letter! I proofread BCSFazine several times per issue, and one trick I borrowed from music teaching is proofreading it "backwards" at least once—reading the articles and sections in reverse order. Also, it changes font when I copy and paste it into e-mail, so that's another chance for typos to decloak. ☺*]

The Convention will be in Halifax in 2017? Halcon is usually a media SF convention, so I am hoping that they can adjust enough to cater to the SF writers and readers of the country, and make them feel at home. Fingers crossed, and I am sure this doubt is balanced by the desire to see the Convention spread out through more of the country.

I am hopeful for Graeme's *Polar Borealis*, for I think we all know so many budding SF writers who are having a terrible time getting their works published and

4 (1972).

5 [Link](#).

sold to readers. I wish there was a website that listed all the online SF magazines/websites. I find it difficult to grasp where all these SF magazines are, and there are some I didn't know about who are just now announcing their shutdown. Does the Canadian magazine *AE* still exist?

[*Good question! I found this website: <http://aescifi.ca/>.*]

My letter...I still get requests or veiled demands for articles here and there, but I never know what to write about. I needed an assignment editor when I was a journalism student, and I guess I still need one. I've never been such a writer that I can whip off articles about nearly nothing. More about *Murdoch*...Yannick Bisson himself announced on national television that *MM* has been renewed for its tenth season.

Fewer Republican clowns, but they are still there, and Trump looks the worst of the lot, and the most dangerous. I expect his supporters to start wearing brown shirts, his security team to start wearing black, and the Trump Youth to start making appearances. It's getting scarier with every day, and even the right-wing press that supported Trump at first, now is against him. If this is catering to Trump's ego, it's bad enough, but if it is indeed aimed at subverting what's left of America's democracy, Americans should be truly frightened.

Our itinerary for the next little while...We're going to the Toronto Comic Con. We'd usually avoid these pro-run cons like the plague, but Jason Isaacs, better known as Lucius Malfoy from the *Harry Potter* movies will be there, so we are going for an expensive, seconds-long photo-op, and a run around the dealers' room. Fortunately for me, we know a lot of the dealers, so we should have a good time. I hope Yvonne enjoys her second with Mr. Isaacs. After that, the beginning of April is the Kitchener Comic Con, and the end of April is Ad Astra 2016 (№ 35 if they counted the way VCON does), and we will have dealers' tables at both.

All for now, see you next!

Yours,

Lloyd Penney

Michael Bertrand
fruvousfox@gmail.com

Wednesday 16 March 2016

Hey there BCSFAns!

Something suspiciously like spring is happening here. For the first time in what feels like forever, the sun was still shining when I left one of my 4 PM to 7 PM classes, and that made me feel good. When I was a kid, the time of the year I hated the most was the dead of winter, when it would still be kind of dark when I left for school, and just as dark when I got home around four.

Made me feel like sunshine was for other people.



[When I worked the graveyard shift at 7-Eleven, and got off work just before sunrise, I felt like I had to hurry home and get into my coffin.]

My studies continue apace. Linguistics class continues to vex me, but I'm doing better in the current section, Phonetics, than I did in the previous section, Syntax. I have taught myself the International Phonetic Alphabet, so I can now claim to be bilingual, or at least, bitextual.

[Now Wikipedia's pronunciations will actually be useful!]



Right now, I am pondering alternatives to signing up for more Kwantlen. I am losing faith in the quality of the education I am getting, and so I am beginning to contemplate other institutions of higher learning.

Also, I am feeling restless. Maybe it's spring fever, but I have a craving for pastures anew. I am going to try again to get into Vancouver Film School's Writing for TV and Film program, and if that

fails, I might look into UBC or SFU. Or whatever the equivalent of Emily Carr is for writers. Someplace where creative writing class involves less group work and more actual writing.

So wish me well, BCSFans! I might start a brand new journey soon.

[Best wishes!]

I will talk to you nice people again next ish!

John Purcell

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Friday 18 March 2016

The issue count continues to climb. Onward and upward, says I.

Golly, I feel so privileged having two LOCs in the same issue. I guess that's what happens when there is such a lag time between getting the zine online vs. a print copy, which is currently on the desk in front of me. Thus, a few pithy comments.

[I think it's because I accidentally skipped a LOC before. ☺]

Too bad Dave Haren had some computer problems, but I see that now that he's back online there is no dearth of material for him to write about. Man, he sure provides a mess of links. To be honest, I really don't have a lot of time to peruse any of them, but one of these days I'm going to spend an hour doing just that. Some of the things he finds are simply nuts or fascinating. For example, I really need to get onto DeviantArt again—it's been months—and look at the assorted steampunk artwork in there. There are truly some incredible artists on display on that site.

[I should start drawing more.]

Lloyd Penney, I dearly hope your job possibilities are opening up. I am glad that you and Yvonne are having success with the steampunk sales at assorted conventions and events. Tomorrow, in fact, Valerie will be setting her tent up at the Guerrilla Art Take-Over (on Saturday, March 19, 2016) at Nina's Flowers in Bryan, Texas. Then next month, down in Houston there is a big show, Art in the Park, which is usually very productive in sales. As I type here, she is in her art studio—used to be the master bedroom, but now that we're empty-nesters, we've moved our bedroom into her former studio to give her more space—working on a couple pieces for tomorrow and future shows. I will let you folks know how she does.

I really enjoyed reading Michael Bertrand's VCON 40 report. That Turkey Reading panel sounds like great fun. AggieCon, our local SF convention, has something similar called the Iron Man Artist Contest, where each year's Artist Guest of Honor wields his paint brush against other artists as the audience calls out the subject matter the artists must create. One year they had to create a transvestite zombie armadillo superhero, which definitely was a challenge. The winner of the Iron Man Artist Contest—as decreed by the appreciative audience, which has kept up a running commentary during the competition—signs his work, and the top three works go to auction, with proceeds going to Scotty's House, a local organization that works with abused and special needs children. The Iron Man Art Contest is always a blast, and I rarely miss it. This year I won't be attending AggieCon because I will be at a professional conference where I am presenting research results/observations on my dissertation subject, a student reading motivation study. This is over the April 1–3, 2016 weekend, so I'm getting a bit nervous, but excited. It should make for an interesting discussion among interested colleagues.



[I tried drawing a transvestite zombie armadillo superhero, and I could only get it to be a transvestite armadillo. I couldn't fit zombie or superhero in there.]



Well that should do for now. In the meantime, I thank you once again for mailing the zine to me. The latest *Askance* (issue #36) was just emailed directly to a bunch of folks and has likewise been sent to Bill Burns, so it should be posted very soon to www.efanzines.com. You have been warned. So thank you, and as always, keep your stick on the ice.

All the best,
John Purcell

We Also Heard From: Brent Francis, Kathleen Moore, Spider Robinson, and 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

Recurring

2, 9, 16, and 23 February and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 March 2016 (*Tuesdays*): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5–10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

2, 9, 16, and 23 February and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 March 2016 (*Tuesdays*): Vancouver Hack Space Open House, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

2, 9, 16, and 23 February and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 March 2016 (*Tuesdays*): Hot Improv Tuesdays at Café Deux Soleils!, 8 PM at Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.—The Fictionals Comedy Co.

3, 10, 17, and 24 February and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 March 2016 (*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.—Keith Lim/Julian Castle

4 February and 3 March 2016 (*first Thursday*): Wordplay: A Free Writing Prompt Group with Facilitator Alan Girling, 7–9 PM at the Network Hub, #205–810 Quay-side Drive, New Westminster.—Alan Girling

11 and 25 February and 10 and 24 March 2016 (*alternate Thursdays*): Burnaby Sci-Fi Writers' Group, 7–9 PM at Metrotown Public Library, 6100 Willingdon Avenue, Burnaby, in Program Room or Connections Lounge.—Allan Lawson (on Richmond Writers Network Facebook Group)

4 February and 3 March 2016 (*first Thursday*): Drop-In Drawing for Adults: Pick Up a Pencil, 6–9 PM at Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond Cultural Centre, 7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond.

4, 11, 18, and 25 February and 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 March 2016 (*Thursdays*): Thursday Hobby Build Nights, 6–9 PM at Ages Three and Up Gundam, 226–9855 Austin Road, Burnaby.—A3U Gundam

5, 12, 19, and 26 February and 4, 11, 18, and 25 March 2016 (*Fridays*): Magic: The Gathering Friday Night Games, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond.

5, 12, 19, and 26 February and 4, 11, 18, and 25 March 2016 (*Fridays*): Board Gamers: Friday Night Magic, 6:30–9:30 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

5, 12, 19, and 26 February and 4, 11, 18, and 25 March 2016 (*Fridays*): Friday Board Game Night—Drexoll Games, 7–11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 February and 5, 12, 19, and 26 March 2016 (*Saturdays*): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 February and 5, 12, 19, and 26 March 2016 (*Saturdays*): Saturday Jam at the Brownsville Pub, 5:30–9:30 PM at the Brownsville Pub, 11940 Old Yale Road, Surrey.—Greg Cairns

7, 14, 21, and 28 February and 6, 13, 20, and 27 March 2016 (*Sundays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Lazy Sundays, 2–3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295–2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 February and 7, 14, 21, and 28 March 2016 (*Mondays*): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5–9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 February and 7, 14, 21, and 28 March 2016 (*Mondays*): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

9 February and 8 March 2016 (*second Tuesday*): Meeting of Automotive Model Builders Vancouver, 7 PM at Burnaby Lions Club, 7420 Mulberry Place, Burnaby.

9 February and 8 March 2016 (*second Tuesday*): Monthly Steampunk Coffee Klatch, 7:30–9 PM at Waves Coffee House—large private room, #100–900 Howe Street (@ Smithe), Vancouver.—Keith Lim

3 and 17 February and 2, 16, and 30 March 2016 (*alternate Wednesdays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!, 7–8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

11 February and 10 March 2016 (*second Thursday*): Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup, 7:30–8:30 PM. [*No location given.*]—Keith Lim

11 February and 10 March 2016 (*second Thursday*): Fraser Valley Model Club Monthly Meeting, 7:30–9:30 PM at Kariton House Gallery, 2387 Ware Street, Abbotsford.—Keith Lim

13 February and 12 March 2016 (*second Saturday*): Teen Manga and Anime Group (former name Teen Manga Advisory Group), 3:30–5:30 PM at Harvey Southam Room, Lower Level, Vancouver Public Library Central Branch, 350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver. Free.—Julian Castle

17 February and 16 March 2016 (*third Wednesday*): Richmond BC Writers' Club Critique Night, 7–8:30 PM at Richmond Public Library, Ironwood Branch, Unit 8200, 11688 Steveston Highway, Richmond.—Richmond BC Writers' Club

19 February and 18 March 2016 (*third Friday*): IPMS Vancouver Monthly Meeting, 7–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, second floor “Arts Room,” 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby.—Keith Lim

20 February and 19 March 2016 (*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.—Keith Lim

21 February and 20 March 2016 (*third Sunday*): Board Game Swap Meetup, 11 AM–1 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

27 February and 26 March 2016 (*last Saturday*): Board Gamers: 12 Hours of Gaming, 12 PM–12 AM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

February 2016

February is National Library Lovers' Month.

3 February 2016: **Alan Girling's** birthday.

3 February 2016: BC Renaissance Festival Audition/Meet & Greet/Form Pickup, 6 PM at Coming Home Cafe, 753 Sixth Street, New Westminster.—Christina Carr

5 February 2016: Premiere of films *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* (horror/action/romance; Charles Dance) and *Southbound* (SF/horror; Dana Gould).

6 February 2016: **Melanie Erin, Lin Aylward, and Bill Marles's** birthdays.

7 February 2016: BC Renaissance Festival Meet & Greet/Form Pick Up, 3:30 PM at Coming Home Cafe, 753 Sixth Street, New Westminster.—Christina Carr

10 February 2016: **Kevin King's** birthday.

10 February 2016: BC Renaissance Festival Audition/Meet & Greet/Form Pickup, 5 PM at the Rustic Rooster, #5–5723 176 Street, Surrey.—Christina Carr

12 February 2016: Premiere of films *Deadpool* (superhero; Ryan Reynolds, Morena Baccarin, Leslie Uggams, Stan Lee) and *Zoolander № 2* (comedy; Olivia Munn, Christine Taylor, Kristen Wiig, Ben Stiller, Benedict Cumberbatch, Justin Theroux, Milla Jovovich, Will Ferrell, Owen Wilson, Susan Sarandon, Billy Zane, Justin Bieber, Katy Perry, Kiefer Sutherland, Jerry Stiller, John Malkovich, Fred Armisen, Kyle Mooney, Anna Wintour, Lenny Kravitz, Naomi Campbell, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Sting, Kate Moss, Susan Boyle, Beck Bennett, Tommy Hilfiger, Matt Lauer, Katy Couric, MC Hammer, Christiane Amanpour, Hal Yamanouchi, Skrillex, Jim Lehrer, Don Lemon).



12–14 February 2016: [Tsukino-Con 2016](#) at Engineering and Computer Science Building, University of Victoria, Victoria.

13 February 2016: [Gunpla/Gundam Showcase at Tsukino-Con](#), 11 AM–1 PM at Tsukino-Con, Finnerty Road, Victoria.—[Travis Doucette](#)

13 February 2016: [Sugar Spread Launch and Coloring Contest at the Blim!](#), 8–11 PM at Blim, 115 East Pender Street, Vancouver.—[Robin Bougie](#)

15 February 2016: **Liana Kerzner**'s birthday.

19 February 2016: Premiere of film *The Witch* (horror/mystery; Julian Richings).

19 February 2016: [BC Renaissance Festival Open Auditions/Meet/Form Pickup](#), 6–9 PM at Coming Home Cafe, 753 Sixth Street, New Westminster.—[Christina Carr](#)

19 February 2016: IPMS Annual Swap Meet, 7 PM at Bonsor Centre, 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby.—[Miguel Bastarrachea](#)

20 February 2016: [Gundam Hobby.ca Open House](#), 10 AM–4 PM at [Gundam Hobby.ca](#), #1150–1368 Kingsway Avenue, Port Coquitlam.—[Mentor Wang](#)

20 February 2016: [Warmachine Tournament: Love Machine!](#), 10:30 AM–5:30 PM, at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond.

20 February 2016: [Fun Promotions Pop Culture Swap Meet](#), 11 AM–4 PM at Scottish Cultural Centre, 8886 Hudson Street, Vancouver.

20 February 2016: [HeroClix: Worlds Finest Sealed](#), 12:30–5:30 PM at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond.

20 February 2016: Get Out of Your House and Build: February Edition, 1 PM at Metropolis Comics and Toys, 4735 Kingsway, Burnaby.—Stan Hyde

20 February 2016: All Star Wrestling, 6:45 PM at Tzeachten Hall, 48555 Promontory Road, Chilliwack.

21 February 2016: BC Renaissance Festival Open Auditions/Meets/Form Pickup, 3:30–6:30 PM at Coming Home Cafe, 753 Sixth Street, New Westminster.—Christina Carr

23 February 2016: Teen Pizza & Games, 5–7 PM at George Mackie Library, 8440 112th Street, Delta.

24 February and 30 March 2016: Wednesday Night Board Gaming, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond.

25 February 2016: **Alyx Delamonica**'s birthday.

26 February 2016: Premiere of films *Gods of Egypt* (fantasy/adventure; Gerard Butler, Geoffrey Rush, Rufus Sewell, Bryan Brown), *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny* (fantasy/action; Michelle Yeoh, Jason Scott Lee), and *The Last Man on the Moon* (science documentary/history; Eugene Cernan, Christopher Kraft, Jim Lovell).

26 February 2016: Teen Pizza & Games Night, 5–8 PM at McGill Library, 4595 Albert Street, Burnaby.

26 February 2016: BC Renaissance Festival Open Auditions/Meet/Pick Ups, 6–9 PM at Coming Home Cafe, 753 Sixth Street, New Westminster.—Christina Carr

26 February 2016: All Star Wrestling, 6:45 PM at Cloverdale Fairgrounds, Alice McKay Building, 6050 176 Street, Surrey.—Verne Siebert

27 February 2016: **Sharkbyte LePirate**'s birthday.

28 February 2016: **Swill VileFen Press**'s birthday.

28 February 2016: Vancouver Comic Show, 11 AM–5 PM at Croatian Cultural Centre, 3250 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.

March 2016

3 March 2016: If Pets Had Thumbs Day.

4 March 2016: Premiere of films *Zootopia* (computer animation/furry; Jason Bateman, Idris Elba, Bonnie Hunt, Don Lake, Tommy Chong, JK Simmons, Alan Tudyk,

Shakira, Maurice LaMarche, Fuschia!, John DiMaggio, Tommy “Tiny” Lister, Kath Soucie, Peter Mansbridge, Kristen Bell) and *The Other Side of the Door* (horror).

5 March 2016: Cinema Sewer #29 Launch Party, 7–10 PM at Pulp Fiction Books 2422 Main Street, Vancouver. “That yearly get-together known as the *Cinema Sewer* launch party is upon us yet again. Show up and get your copy of the magazine signed by author Robin Bougie! It’s only \$5, and that’s peanuts! See you there, fellow genre film fans and perverts!”—Robin Bougie

11 March 2016: **Cameron Russell’s** birthday. Premiere of films *10 Cloverfield Lane* (SF/mystery; John Goodman, Bradley Cooper) and *Creative Control* (SF/drama; Reggie Watts, H. Jon Benjamin).

12 March 2016: Symetra the Boardgame Demo Day, 1–4 PM at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond. “Want to learn a new and exciting board game? Well come on down to Imperial Hobbies and take part in this demo day for a innovative new sci-fi fantasy game *Symetra*! Resource management, card placement, & tactical timing make this a original and enlightening game experience. Contact: Chris.”

14 March 2016: Pi Day.

14 March 2016: Teen Pizza & Games Day, 2–4 PM at Newton Library, 13795 70th Avenue, Surrey. “Want something to do during Spring Break? Do you love to play board games? Are you between 12 and 19 years old? Then come to the library for a fun night of gaming and free pizza. Pizza and games compliments of Imperial Hobbies. Registration is required. Contact: Chris.”



15 March 2016: **Jenni Merrifield’s** birthday.

15 March 2016: Teen Pizza & Games Day, 3–5 PM at Guildford Library, 15105 105th Avenue, Surrey.

16 March 2016: “Stone Cold” Steve Austin Day.

16 March 2016: Vancouver Comic Con, 11 AM–5 PM at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street, Vancouver. “Special guests: Colin Lorimer (*Burning Fields, X-Files, Blackout, Curse*), James Lloyd (*Futurama, The Simpsons, Adventure Time*), Steve Rolston (*Public Relations, Ghost Projekt, Emiko Superstar*), Miguel Molina, David Nytra, Mel Levrault. Admission: \$4; kids under 14 free. Hourly door prizes!”

16 March 2016: Teen Pizza & Games Night, 5:30–8:30 PM at Ladner Pioneer Library, 4683 51st Street, Delta.

18 March 2016: Premiere of film *The Divergent Series: Allegiant* (SF/action; Naomi Watts, Xander Berkeley, Jeff Daniels, Conchidance, Pokey Spears) and *Midnight Special* (SF; Kirsten Dunst, Plynlmmon Sanguis).

18 March 2016: All Star Wrestling Presents Sea to Sky Rumble, 7:30 PM at Totem Hall, 1380 Stawamus Road, Squamish. “Fundraiser for youth recreation programs at Totem Hall. Doors at 6:45 PM. Show at 7:30 PM. \$15 adult general admission. \$10 kids under 12 general admission. • All Star Wrestling returns to Squamish! • *Sea to Sky Rumble*: 10 men compete in a royal-rumble-style match. Two wrestlers start then every two minutes another enters the ring. To be eliminated you must be thrown over the top rope and both feet must touch the floor. The winner will receive a future title shot of his choice. • Battle of Adam Firestorm Champions—Azeem the Dream (former champion) vs. Mr. India (current champion). • Tag Team Mayhem—Devastation (Pain & Suffering) vs. The Breakers (Iton & Bruiser). • The Toga Boy vs. The Salty Seaman. • The Great Kasaki vs. Travis Sionys.”

20 March 2016: Extraterrestrial Abductions Day.

21 March 2016: Teen Pizza & Games Day, 2–4 PM at Ocean Park Library, 12854 17th Avenue, Surrey.

23 March 2016: Teen Pizza & Games Day, 2–4 PM at City Centre Library, 10350 University Drive, Surrey.

24 March 2016: Teen Pizza & Games Day, 1:30–3:30 PM at Cloverdale Library, 5642 176A Street, Surrey.

24 March 2016: Teen Pizza & Games Night, 6–8 PM at Fleetwood Library, 15996 84 Avenue, Surrey.

24–27 March 2016: Norwescon 39: Remembering the Future at DoubleTree by Hilton Seattle Airport, 18740 International Boulevard, SeaTac, Washington. GOH: Tanya Huff (author), Janny Wurts (artist), William K. Hartmann (science), and DAW (spotlight publisher).

25 March 2016: Premiere of films *Batman vs. Superman: Dawn of Justice* (superhero; Henry Cavill, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Ben Affleck, Jason Momoa, Diane Lane, Jeremy Irons, Holly Hunter, Laurence Fishburne, Valiant Michael) and *The Invitation* (horror; Toby Huss).

25 March 2016: All Star Wrestling, 7:30 PM at Alice McKay Building, Cloverdale Fairgrounds, 6050 176 Street, Surrey.

26 March 2016: Yard Sale, 4364 Vipond Place, Burnaby. Books and games.—Garth Spencer

April 2016

8 April 2016: Jefferson's Barbershop Rock 'n' Roll Party at Lana Lou's, 8:30 PM–1:30 AM at Lana Lou's, 362 Powell Street, Vancouver. “Those Things—songs about monsters! The Blue Nones—in the beginning...there were filthy garages, yelling and beer...old habits die hardest. Skagger—genericore/the new drum and bass! (Track coming soon!)”—Purple Crow

13 April 2016: **David Thayer** and **Marilyn Blew's** birthdays.

16 April 2016: Get Out of Your House and Build!, 1–5 PM at Metropolis Comics and Toys, 4800 Kingsway, Burnaby. “It's time for you to climb out of the basement, let the monsters out of the dungeons, and bring them into the light of day. Let's build, paint, create in front of people and share the latest news! Come on! Everyone! Let's get out of the house and build!!!!”—Stan Hyde

22 April 2016: Galaxion: Game Over: '80s Dance & Gamer Party, 9 PM–3 AM at Hindenburg, 23 West Cordova, Vancouver. “*Hey youuuuuuuu gyyyyys!* Guess what? We're *back*...but maybe just for one last ultimate party? More details coming shortly...meantime...invite everyone you know and re-share this event! *Drink. Dance. Game. Massive '80s dance party. Video game lover's paradise.* Check out our insanely rad promo video...a super fun two minutes of the party in action!”—Jennifer Hawe

23 April 2016: Times Past at Earth Day Maple Ridge, 10 AM–2 PM at Haney Place Mall, between 224 Street and 226 Street on Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge.—Christina Carr

30 April–1 May 2016: 30-Year Celebration: Expo 86 at Telus World of Science,⁶ 1455 Quebec Street, Vancouver. Classic Expo 86 films *Rainbow War* and *A Freedom to Move* (OMNIMAX). Celebratory display by the Vancouver Lego Club. Fun, science activities, and make-and-takes inspired by the celebration.”

News-Like Matter

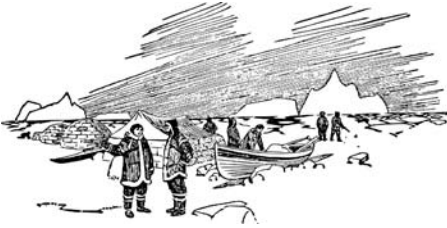
Notes from January 2016 BCSFA Meeting

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, Teresa Spanics, and Sidney Trim.

Bookman Old Style

6 (Science World.)

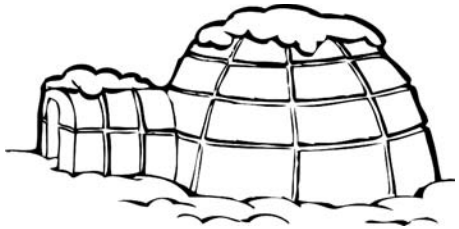
Graeme's new magazine, *Polar Boreal*, will pay contributors. I suggested Fruvous submit something. It could be Fruvous's first paid sale. I asked Graeme what fonts he'd be using. Based on his fanzines, I was expecting he'd say Times New Roman (in red), but the answer was Bookman Old Style for body text, Monotype Corsiva for bylines, and Engravers MT for headlines ("Makes you want to salute!" said Graeme). I said that Bookman Old Style is readable but takes up a lot of room. Graeme replied that the magazine is PDF only, so length is not a problem. Good thing, since the size will be 13 point!



Someone said that the word "Eskimo" is still needed sometimes because not all polar natives are Inuit. Some are Alaskan natives, and some are Russian natives. Fruvous said that Alaskan natives have embraced the term "Eskimo" and if you ask them "Are you Inuit?" they'll say "No! I'm Eskimo!"

Someone mentioned the *Buck Rogers* copyright fiasco. Someone (Ray?) said that *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946) was public domain but got re-copyrighted. Fruvous said "You know what that makes them? Scurvy little spiders!" Sidney said "They're charging rent."

My first computer, a Commodore 64, had a big black brick-like power supply that would melt if you used your computer for too long, and a Commodore 1541 5¼-inch floppy disk drive that constantly had to be repaired. This reminded Sidney of a floppy-disk copy-protection method that involved



punching a hole in the disk that told the disk drive to stop at that spot. This was bad in two ways. First, the disk would suddenly stop spinning with a loud thud that sounded like it was bad for the drive. Second, the magnetic plastic around the punched hole would start to break down, leaving particles in the drive.

Graeme's first computer was a Persona, made by the Nelma Data Corporation of Mississauga, Ontario. It was a CP/M system, better than a Kaypro (\$9000 with its tiny screen) or an early Radio Shack computer (\$5000 and if you turn it off, you lose everything). While shopping for his first computer, Graeme tried visiting the IBM store, which had some beautiful equipment, but with prices starting at \$8000. Graeme said "I guess I could take out a loan..." and the salesman replied "The people we are accustomed to dealing with do not need to take out loans." Fruvous said "That's Big Blue for you."

7 Since renamed "*Polar Borealis*."—Future Graeme



Sidney said “Does anyone remember the Peanut?” I asked if that was the PCjr and Sidney said “Yup!” and mentioned its two most infamous flaws: the Chiclet keyboard and the fact that it wasn’t IBM-PC-compatible. According to my notes, I replied that “the best features of the PCjr were put into the Tandy 1000, which was more IBM-PC-compatible,” though I don’t remember saying that. Sidney told the story of MS-DOS.

Ray mentioned Powell River, trains, buses, ferries, and *Doctor Who*. Someone said that suntan lotion is bad for fish, and someone else replied “So don’t put it on them.” Fruvous added “It tastes terrible.” Fruvous hoped that wasn’t true of Tan ’n’ Guard, the suntan lotion/insect repellent his family used back in Prince Edward Island.

Imperial Hobbies has moved. Someone asked if the bus goes there. Someone (Ray?) replied that the C92 does. Inglis Road is the nearest stop. Graeme remembered another hobby shop in Richmond tucked away in the Chinese mall district. I thought I knew the one he meant—that blue building that just says “Hobby Shop.”⁸ Graeme said it’s run by an old Japanese couple that barely speak English. They have Huma model kits (a German company), which are not usually available here—not even online! Not surprisingly, they cost \$100.



I was wrong—it says “Hobby Hut,” and, upon closer examination, also says “Phil’s” and Ltd.”—Future Felicity

Felicity Walker

Additional writing by R. Graeme Cameron
Sunday 17 January 2016

Aurora Nomination Deadline Is Fast Approaching

Only a few days before Spring arrives. Oh, and that also means the close of this year’s Aurora Award nomination period. Yes, you must have your nominations in by Midnight, EDT this Saturday, March 19th. If you are in BC it means by 9 PM, Alberta by 10 PM and in Halifax by 1 AM (Sunday).

There is still time to submit your favorite works from 2015 for this year’s awards. The Aurora Awards require your support to help us get the best works onto the ballot. We don’t want you to miss out.

8 I went there recently to check the name, and it’s gone! It’s been replaced by a dance studio.—Future Felicity

If you need any help don't forget that we have a fairly good list of what is eligible for this year's awards. If you don't see something you know was done in 2015 either add it to the list or nominate it and we will make sure it gets there. (<http://www.prixaurorawards.ca/aurora-awards/eligibility-lists/>)

Remember, all nominated works must have been originally published or done in 2015. We request that you nominate what you know and enjoyed.

Clifford Samuels
Aurora Awards Administrator

admin@prixaurorawards.ca
Thursday 17 March 2016

Rondo Voting Time!

Brent Francis reminds us that it is voting time for the 14th Annual Rondo Hatton Classic Horror Awards. The deadline is Sunday 10 April 2016. The ballot is too large to reproduce here, but you can find it at the Rondo Awards blog: <http://rondoaward.com/rondoaward.com/blog/?p=224>. Please e-mail your votes to taraco@aol.com.

Felicity Walker
Friday 18 March 2016

2016 Aurora Award Announcement

We are pleased to announce that the ballot for the 2016 Aurora Awards for best works and activities done by Canadians in 2015 is available. There are eight categories for professional works and three for fan activities and work.

The voter's package will be available later in April but voting for this year's awards will not begin until June 15th. CSFFA (Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association) members have until Midnight, EDT on July 23rd to cast their ballots. Membership is open to all Canadians and Landed Immigrants.

The awards will be given out at Convention 36, hosted by When Words Collide, www.whenwordscollide.org, in Calgary, Alberta on the weekend of August 12–14th. Full details about CSFFA, the awards and voting can be found at www.prixaurorawards.ca.

For the list of this year's finalists for the Aurora awards go to our website at www.prixaurorawards.ca.

Aurora Awards Admin
Friday 1 April 2016

May BCSFA Meeting Moved

Ray Seredin, BCSFA meeting host, phoned to say that the *May* meeting will be moved from its usual third Sunday to one week later, Sunday 22 May 2016. Ray is volunteering at a train convention on the third Sunday of May and will not be able to host.

Felicity Walker
Sunday 10 April 2016

Excess Resolutions for 2016, #4.1: Poetry, More of, Inflicting Same

Kathleen Moore

Hi, all.

For the greenest day of the common calendar, a not-so-green entry:

March: Beach Clean-Up

What have we removed?
All the bright scraps of plastic,
All the lost socks and toys,
All the crinkly candy wrappers,
And the sharp shards of glass:

These we have gathered up, and taken away
To another place, to be properly disposed of.

What have we let stay?
All the fine gray beach sand,
All the wave-worn drifts of wood,
All the dry seaside grass,
All the algae-slick grey rocks,
And some scattered wings and bodies of young gulls.

These we have left for you, and left untouched
To be admired in their proper place.

This one started wandering around in my head a couple of years ago, based on certain concurrent observations at Garry Point Park.

Kathleen Moore
Thursday 17 March 2016

Art Credits

<u>Felicity Walker</u> (font: <u>Yann Le Coroller</u>).....	Masthead
<u>Taral Wayne</u>	Cover
Clip art (via <u>Dave Haren</u>).....	Pages 1–5, 10, 12
<u>Felicity Walker</u> (font: <u>Alexander Phemister</u>).....	Page 14
Clip art (via <u>Clker.com</u>).....	Pages 15, 16 (left)
<u>Felicity Walker</u>	Page 6
<u>Felicity Walker</u> (photo).....	16 (right)