

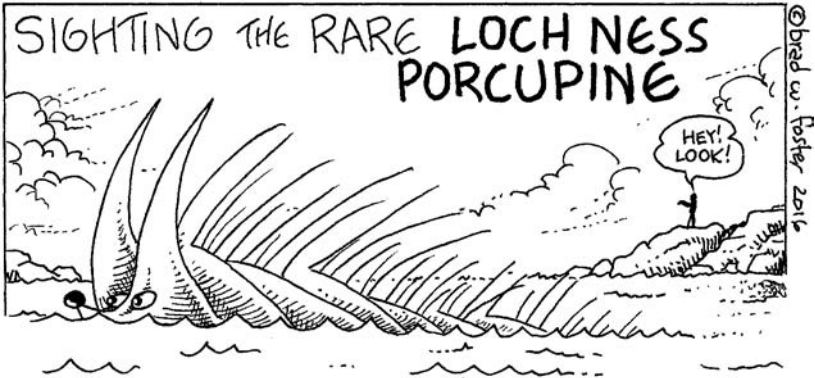
BCSFAzine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#517

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June 2016



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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 17 June:	Submission deadline for July <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Sunday 19 June at 7 PM:	June BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin’s, 707 Hamilton Street (recreation room), New Westminster.
Friday 24 June:	July <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).
Sunday 17 July at 7 PM:	July BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin’s.
Friday 22 June:	Submission deadline for August <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Friday 29 July:	August <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: TBD

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

Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973

Editor/Supporting *BCSFAzine* Production Donor: Felicity Walker, 604-447-3931 (*new number*)

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

FRED Organizer: Michael Bertrand, 604-447-3931

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

BCSFA’s website is at <http://www.bcsfa.net/> (thank you to webmasters [Garth Spencer](#) and [R. Graeme Cameron](#)). The BCSFA e-mail list is “BC Sci-Fi Assc.” (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_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

Friday 19 August 2016

Hi Felicity,

Gonzo is indeed quite negative but there is a time when positivity does a person more disservice than a realistic attitude does. Since I don't think much of Panglossianism (I have read far too much history), someone who points out the obvious does not seem overly negative to me.

[*It's not the truth that's negative, it's his tone. Like I said, there's some usable information in there. I still like Bernie Sanders, anyway.*]

<http://disinfo.com/2016/08/human-iguana-criticizes-alt-right-forgets-fascist-gonzo-conjure-16/>

[*Judging just from the URL this must be about Hillary Clinton.*]

<https://brtrain.files.wordpress.com/2016/08/c3i29-intvw.pdf>

Train¹ is a local (BC) and shares a bunch of interests.

**DON'T PRAY IN OUR SCHOOLS AND WE WON'T THINK IN YOUR CHURCHES
UNATTENDED CHILDREN WILL BE SOLD INTO SLAVERY**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3byI94zEjc4>

<https://boingboing.net/2016/08/31/dea-will-ban-kratom-a-popular.html>

Thinking of getting off your heroin habit? Better hurry up before this gets put on Schedule I.

[*I saw [the Young Turks' report on that.](#)*]

<https://archive.org/details/korroska-1987>

Basque Ska music.

<https://boingboing.net/2016/09/02/trump-supporter-warns-of-tac.html>

I wish it was true.

[*It sounds delicious.*]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KvOmu9nKvCY>

Hannah herself on TV.²

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2016/aug/31/pride-and-prejudice-and-zombies-author-sued-by-publisher-hachette-seth-grahame-smith>

TS Eliot recommended stealing to improve past works but you have to rework the public domain enough to make a plagiarism complaint thin stuff.

<https://www.jacobinmag.com/2016/09/pipelines-explosion-sabotage-disaster-fracking-bp-iww/>

Interesting points but the arguments have trouble matching the conclusions.

You can skip ahead on most YT videos using a reasonable browser. Some of the more egregious windbaggery occurs from academics and leftists and academic leftists. Blyth made the point that most intros are a verbatim read from the speaker's first read in a monotone akin to funeral oratory.

1 Game designer Brian Train.

2 Philosopher Hannah Arendt.

I don't think there has been much work done on the "how" of seekers after belief systems. Most concentrate on the issue of "why." For me that was answered by a long tail of evidence from Brooks Robotics, Ramachandran's work on the brain, and the realization that multiple specific tasked modules do their work in the invisible darkness below the conscious threshold.



*In the future we will wear
MC Hammer pants.*

If a human doesn't find something to plug into that specific modular area they will grab almost anything to fill the void. Since in Darwinian terms every module needs to be used or it atrophies, the desire to find a meaningful guide to mystery keeps prodding humans along until they lock onto "it." Belief systems, BS as RAW put it, act as a way to frame "reality" in a way that makes your interaction with the world fit into a larger context. What makes things a lot more interesting is we have spread from small family groups and tribes without contacts with others into the modern interlocked and interdependent world and brought the familial and tribal BS right along with us into the 21st century. This has caused horrific bloodshed and animosities since the tribal gods made people "know" that the unbelievers

over the next hill couldn't possibly be real people because they did things in a different way. When you have 7 billion humans with thousands of BS systems all claiming they know the answers it shouldn't be too much of a surprise that people would rather be a Trekkie or a Jedi.

Now if a BS has the wrong template for what a human is, or what constitutes unacceptable deviance, then things get really ugly in a hurry. Being wrong in the scientific sense about humans causes some real horrors to be perpetuated against folk who have been condemned by their very existence. That's a Hel of a verdict for a child to have to work out their place in things against a culture.

I have suspected Heinlein of clairvoyance since the Waco episode. Either that or he knew a lot more about government reactions to fairly harmless cults than he let on. I fully expect to see "the roasted Lamb of God" resurrected into deity in the far future. Since "khoresh" is a word meaning "barbeque" it seems only fitting that the Second Coming was met with fire instead of crucifixion.

[*"Khoresh" (خورش) is Persian food; "Koresh" (کوروش), the last name of the Branch Davidian leader, is Persian for "Cyrus" (something I remember from the news coverage at the time). Still, a neat synchronicity. If he had a follower named "Kebab," case closed!*]

This was also the first crime scene I ever saw bulldozed under without any investigation taking place. Similar to the rush to dispose of the Twin Towers after 9/11 before someone looked too closely at the wreckage. Not for conspiracy proof; just to see how much sand was in the concrete mix or if it was the right kind of sand to get reasonable cohesion and strong building material. Two damaged buildings falling make sense. A third undamaged one falling the same way makes me suspect the building inspectors of less than workmanlike behaviors.

You can also forget about the pristine purity of the primitive which some academic nitwits claimed in their interpretations of what they didn't understand. Those

folk who have been isolated are just as rule-nutty as any post-modern art snobbler or ivory-towered academic.

Real science on the other hand has to be based on experiments that are repeatable leading to conclusions that along with the experiment have to be duplicated by peer review. It is the best guide you can use to escape from the morass of broken, specious and wrong BS we are afflicted by currently, and that includes economic and political BS. I think you should be allowed to believe anything you wish, until you start to push it on non-believers.



[*Unfortunately, too many people forget the first half of that sentence.*]

To paraphrase Heinlein, “your right to swing your fist ends just short of my nose.”

[*And even that’s assault.*]

My next set of acquisitions are for the **SUPPORT YOUR RIGHT TO ARM BEARS** campaign. The Alin Ru’ are ursinoids allied with the Eli, degenerate space pirates, and they should be here any day now.

[*The Alin Ru’ remind me of Boris the Bear. I see that the Eli are sometimes called “Vacuum Vikings,” which is a cool phrase.*]

Car Wars’ next edition is going to be scaled at HO railroad size. The previous edition was a nice match to N scale. HO (1/87) has a lot of materials and vehicles available so it is good news for the road warriors among you. I picked up a guest artist cardset (Goomi, from Unspeakable Vault) for Munchkin, a nice addition to the mad Munchkin scheme to absorb all of the good stuff into its clutches.

Gotta go. It’s time for my animefreak.tv weekly fix. The Straw Hats³ are fighting on the back of a giant elephant. I also bought a copy of the armor modeller’s special anime *Girls und Panzers* which shows the interiors of a number of fighting machines.

Warm regards,

Dave

Pics are well-dressed 21st century man; one of Pablo Escobar’s Colombian hippo escapees; poster; Chinese pagan festival; reaction against art prices; movie box cover; shirt ad; steampunk mech costume; 1968 political ad from the folk who nominated a pig for president.

Michael Bertrand
fruvousfox@gmail.com

Saturday 27 August 2016

Hey there BCSFAns! It’s your intrepid reporter and entertainment industry insider-to-be, Michael “Fruvous” Bertrand, here with his award-winning Letter of Commentary.

Nothing *too* exciting on the VFS front. I am making it through the days well enough and enjoying my classes most if not all of the time. I am enjoying the chal-

3 *One Piece* (1998).

lence of writing a 100-page screenplay over 28 days. That's 25 pages a week, or a bit more than 3.5 pages a day. If I hadn't been made to come up with a detailed outline last term, it would be a lot harder. But with said detailed outline, I can concentrate on the writing of it without having to keep all the plot details in my head at the same time.



On with the LOCage!

Re: John Purcell's theory of time travel:

Perhaps I am being thick, but I don't see how having a time warp be underwater would make it any more practical. Rather the opposite, I would think. Personally, I would put it in a mall.

Re: JP goes to CB:

Cape Breton is quite beautiful, John Purcell, but it's a fairly stark beauty. Not to put too fine a point on it, the place is pretty much just a rock in the ocean. I am sure there are plenty of educational opportunities in nearby Prince Edward Island, which is verdant and green and full of gently rolling hills and picturesque farms. The people are friendly and good-natured, and always on the lookout for intelligent, educated persons such as yourself looking for a slower pace of life in God's Back Garden.

But I might be biased, as I am from there. ☺

Re: Dave Haren and me:

Glad you liked my review. I agree, Stephen King's best works come from his deep insight into the dark corners of the human psyche. *Carrie* deals with teenage isolation and the casual cruelty of childhood. *It* deals with childhood fears. *The Shining* plumbs the darkest depths of the male mind. *Cujo* deals with the monsters we make our pets. *Needful Things* is a meditation on materialism and its alienating force. *Misery* explores the boundary between creator and creation, and between creation and reality.

In my opinion, that makes all the ghouls and ghosts and things that go bump in the night seem rather silly. The real monster, as always, is us.

Well that's enough of my verbalizing. I will see you next ish, BCSFAns!

We Also Heard From: Kathleen Moore.

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

7, 14, 21, and 28 June and 5, 12, 19, and 26 July 2016 (*Tuesdays*): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5–10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

7, 14, 21, and 28 June and 5, 12, 19, and 26 July 2016 (*Tuesdays*): Vancouver Hack Space Open House, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

7, 14, 21, and 28 June and 5, 12, 19, and 26 July 2016 (*Tuesdays*): Hot Improv Tuesdays at Café Deux Soleils!, 8 PM at Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.—The Fictionals Comedy Co.

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 June and 6, 13, 20, and 27 July 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

2 June and 7 July 2016 (*first Thursday*): Wordplay: A Free Writing Prompt Group with Facilitator Alan Girling, 7–9 PM at the Network Hub, #205–810 Quayside Drive, New Westminster.—Alan Girling

2, 16, and 30 June and 14 and 28 July 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 Lowson (on Richmond Writers Network Facebook Group)

2 June (*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. [*No Drop-In Drawing in July.*]

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 June and 7, 14, 21, and 28 July 2016 (*Thursdays*): Thursday Hobby Build Nights, 6–9 PM at Ages Three and Up Gundam, 226–9855 Austin Road, Burnaby.—A3U Gundam

3, 10, 17, and 24 June and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 July 2016 (*Fridays*): Magic: The Gathering Friday Night Games, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond.

3, 10, 17, and 24 June and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 July 2016 (*Fridays*): Board Gamers: Friday Night Magic, 6:30–9:30 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

3, 10, 17, and 24 June and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 July 2016 (*Fridays*): Friday Board Game Night—Drexoll Games, 7–11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

4, 11, 18, and 25 June and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 July 2016 (*Saturdays*): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

4, 11, 18, and 25 June and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 July 2016 (*Saturdays*): Saturday Jam at the Brownsville Pub, 5:30–9:30 PM at the Brownsville Pub, 11940 Old Yale Road, Surrey.—Greg Cairns

5, 12, 19, and 26 June and 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 July 2016 (*Sundays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Lazy Sundays, 2–3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295–2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 June and 4, 11, 18, and 25 July 2016 (*Mondays*): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5–9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 June and 4, 11, 18, and 25 July 2016 (*Mondays*): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

14 June and 12 July 2016 (*second Tuesday*): Meeting of Automotive Model Builders Vancouver, 7 PM at Burnaby Lions Club, 7420 Mulberry Place, Burnaby.

14 June and 12 July 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

8 and 22 June and 6 and 20 July 2016 (*alternate Wednesdays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!, 7–8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

9 June and 14 July 2016 (*second Thursday*): Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup, 7:30–8:30 PM. [*No location given.*]—Keith Lim

9 June and 14 July 2016 (*second Thursday*): Fraser Valley Model Club Monthly Meeting, 7:30–9:30 PM at Kariton House Gallery, 2387 Ware Street, Abbotsford.—Keith Lim

11 June and 9 July 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

22 June and 20 July 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

17 June and 15 July 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

18 June and 16 July 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

19 June and 17 July 2016 (*third Sunday*): Board Game Swap Meetup, 11 AM–1 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

25 June and 30 July 2016 (*last Saturday*): Board Gamers: 12 Hours of Gaming, 12 PM–12 AM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

June 2016

June is Adopt a Cat Month.

2 June 2016: **Lloyd Penney**'s birthday.

3 June 2016: **Karl Johanson**'s birthday. Premiere of films *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows* (SF/unnecessary update; Will Arnett, Laura Linney, Tyler Perry, Tony Shalhoub, Brad Garrett, Kevin Eastman, Shanel Felicissimo) and *The Wailing* (fantasy/horror).

3 June 2016: All Star Wrestling, 7:30 PM at Tzeachten Hall, Tzeachten Community Centre, 45855 Promontory Road, Chilliwack. “Wrestling in the ’Wack!”

4 June 2016: Hug Your Cat Day.

5 June 2016: **Alyssa Foote**'s birthday.

8 June 2016: **Ian Boothby**'s birthday.

10 June 2016: Premiere of films *The Conjuring 2* (horror; Patrick Wilson, Gone Thursday) and *Warcraft* (fantasy; Paula Patton, Dominic Cooper, Clancy Brown, Callum Keith Rennie, Eugene Lipinski, One Take Charlie, Glenn Close).



11 June 2016: **Kathleen Moore**'s and **Ray Seredin**'s birthdays.

11–12 June 2016: Vancouver Mini Maker Faire at the PNE Forum, 2901 East Hastings Street, Vancouver.—Jax Coldwolf

13 June 2016: **Bobbi Schneider**'s birthday.

15 June 2016: **Jay Demetrick**'s birthday.

"We are building a better market where art is affordable and snobs like you have to lower your prices"



17 June 2016: Premiere of films *Finding Dory* (computer animation; Ellen DeGeneres, Albert Brooks, Ed O'Neill, Diane Keaton, Eugene Levy, Idris Elba, Kate McKinnon, Bill Hader, Sigourney Weaver, John Ratzenberger, Willem Dafoe, Brad Garrett, Austin Pendleton, Stephen Root, Vicki Lewis), *Raiders!: The Story of the Greatest Fan Film Ever Made* (documentary; Chris Gore,

Harry Knowles, John Rhys-Davies, Eli Roth), and *Clown* (fantasy/horror; Peter Stormare, Chuck Shamata, Eli Roth).

21 June 2016: **Clare Taylor**'s birthday. Worldwide Party Day.

23 June 2016: **Amos Iu**'s birthday.

24 June 2016: Premiere of films *Independence Day: Resurgence* (SF; Liam Hemsworth, Jeff Goldblum, Bill Pullman, Sela Ward, William Fichtner, Judd Hirsch, Brent Spiner, Vivica A. Fox, Angelababy, Robert Loggia), *The Shallows* (horror; Blake Lively), *The Neon Demon* (horror; Keanu Reeves), and *Swiss Army Man* (fantasy; Daniel Radcliffe).

24 June 2016: All Star Wrestling, 7:30 PM at Cloverdale Fairgrounds, Alice McKay Building, 6050 176 Street, Surrey. "WrestleReunion VI."

25 June 2016: **Ed Beauregard**'s birthday.

25 June 2016: All Star Wrestling, 7:30 PM at Kamloops Indian Band Pow-Wow Grounds, Southern Yellowhead Highway, Kamloops.

26 June 2016: **Todd Bussey**'s birthday.

28 June 2016: **Toren Atkinson**'s birthday.

29 June 2016: **Leonard Wong**'s birthday.

30 June 2016: Meteor Day.

July 2016

1 July 2016: Premiere of films *The BFG* (fantasy; Jermaine Clement, Bill Hader, Matt Frewer), *The Purge: Election Year* (horror/SF; Mykelti Williamson, Ethan Phillips), *Life, Animated* (documentary/animation; Jonathan Freeman, Gilbert Gottfried), and *Satanic* (horror).

2 July 2016: **Arnie Katz**'s birthday. World UFO Day.

3 July 2016: Vancouver Comicon, 11 AM–5 PM at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street, Vancouver.

5 July 2016: X-Day.

8 July 2016: **Don DeBrandt**'s and **Aaron Harrison**'s birthdays. Video Games Day. Premiere of films *The Secret Life of Pets* (computer animation; Louis CK, Kevin Hart, Jenny Slate, Albert Brooks, Dana Carvey, Hannibal Buress, Bobby Moynihan, Steve Coogan, Michael Beattie, Jason Marsden, Jim Cummings, Laraine Newman, Jess Harnell, John Kassir, Danny Mann, Jim Ward), *Zero Days* (documentary; Mahmoud Ahmedinejad, George W. Bush, Hillary Clinton, Mikhail Gorbachev, Nancy Reagan, Ronald Reagan, Raisa Gorbachev, Benjamin Netanyahu, Richard Nixon, Barack Obama, Michelle Obama), and *Cell* (horror/SF; John Cusack, Samuel L. Jackson, Stacey Keach, Lloyd Kaufman, Clint Tingler).



13 July 2016: Embrace Your Geekness Day.

14 July 2016: **Amanda Doran**'s birthday.

15 July 2016: Premiere of films *Ghostbusters* (comedy/fantasy/unnecessary remake; Kristen Wiig, Ed Begley, Jr., Charles Dance, John Milhiser, Melissa McCarthy, Kate McKinnon, Leslie Jones, Dave Allen, Chris Hemsworth, Nate Corddry, Daniel Ramis, Bill Murray, Michael McDonald, Ozzy Osbourne, Toby Huss, Andy Garcia, Cecily Strong, Annie Potts, Dan Aykroyd, Al Roker, Ernie Hudson, Sigourney Weaver, Bob Dio, Kevin James, Mb X. McClain, Frank Sabbath, Ernie Slaughter), *Equals* (romance/SF; Kristen Stewart, Guy Pearce, Toby Huss), and *Phantom Boy* (animation/fantasy; Fred Armisen, Vincent D'Onofrio, Dana Snyder).

16 July 2016: **Dennis Kristos**'s birthday.

17 July 2016: Yellow Pig Day.

20 July 2016: **Julie McGalliard**'s birthday. Moon Day.

22 July 2016: **Evahn Thorsen**'s birthday. Premiere of films *Star Trek Beyond* (SF; Karl Urban, Zoe Saldana, Simon Pegg, John Cho, Anton Yelchin, John Cho, Idris Elba, Deep Roy, Greg Grunberg, Fiona Vroom), *Ice Age: Collision Course* (computer animation; Neil deGrasse Tyson, Queen Latifah, Denis Leary, John Leguizamo, Jennifer Lopez, Nick Offerman, Simon Pegg, Ray Romano, Wanda Sykes, Moosie Drier), *Lights Out* (horror), and *Train to Busan* (horror).

23 July 2016: **Spencer Wilson**'s birthday. Batman Day.



23 July 2016: West Coast Science Fiction Association Special General Meeting, 2–4 PM at Bonsor Recreation Centre, Multi-Use Room #1, 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby (near Metrotown). “Doors open 1:30 PM for sign-up, sign-in, and proxy registration.”—Jenni Merri-field

25 July 2016: **Graeme Cameron**'s birthday.

28 July 2016: **Robin Bougie**'s birthday. System Administrator Appreciation Day.

29 July 2016: Premiere of film *Into the Forest* (SF; Ellen Page, Evan Rachel Wood, Callum Rennie, Wendy Crewson, Lorne Cardinal).

31 July 2016: **Michael Barrick**'s and **Felicity Walker**'s birthdays.

News-Like Matter

Notes from May 2016 BCSFA Meeting

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

Graeme told Fruvous “Your story will appear in *Polar Borealis* #2.”⁴

SF Canada told Graeme “You’re probably getting a lot of submissions from our members because we’ve been talking about you.”

Julian brought zines he got at VanCAF (Vancouver Comic Arts Festival), 21–22 May 2016 at the Roundhouse.⁵

Graeme gets only one to two submissions a day and so can afford to be more accepting than big publishers. Example: big publishers don’t even look at “deal with the devil” stories because there have been so many of them that the chances of the new story be-



4 *Polar Borealis* #2 has now been published! Go to <http://polarborealis.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/POLAR-BOREALIS-2-Jul-Aug-2016.pdf>.—Future Felicity

5 The Roundhouse Community Arts & Recreation Centre, 181 Roundhouse Mews, downtown.

ing original are slim. However Graeme likes these sort of stories, and in this case the author was a scientist who had come up with a fresh take on it.

"Sssssss"

I went to the bathroom and missed stuff. That is, the discussion, not the toilet.

Fruvous said, "Remember the kafuffle over colourisation?" I said that they're colourising colour movies now—that's what "colour grading" is—instead of filming things in their natural colours, or using physical lighting.

Graeme saw a classic 1970s B-movie on *Svengoolie: Ssssss* (1973). He said Strother Martin was creepy in it, but the ending was lame. I've seen it. Dirk Benedict plays the unfortunate lab assistant who gets turned into a cobra.

Graeme said "The [US] Army says they have enough Abrams tanks, but they keep making more." I said "We have enough Abrams *Star Trek* but they keep making more." Actually, although funny, that was incorrect—Abrams has finished off *Star Trek* and has moved on to *Star Wars*, as Joe pointed out.

Ray said that *Mystery Science Theater 3000* is getting back together. I asked "All of them? Joel & Mike? Both Crows?" Ray and Fru answered that Joel is a "hard maybe." Ray can't wait to see what movies they do. (It's not in my notes but I'm pretty sure Ray said they would "have a field day" with whatever movies they got.)


Someone said that VCON 42 could have a SF/comedy theme because of the number 42. If so, I suggested Graeme (as alien comic Moog), Ray, and I do SF-themed stand-up.

Felicity Walker

Additional writing by R. Graeme Cameron and Kathleen Moore

Sunday 22 May 2016

Passages: May 2016

 **William Schallert** (6 July 1922–8 May 2016), prolific character actor whose best-known genre work was as Nilz Baris in the *Star Trek* (1966) episode "The Trouble with Tribbles" (29 December 1967) and who is also fondly remembered as the Admiral in charge of CONTROL in *Get Smart* (1967). Other genre work includes *The Man from Planet X* (1951), *Space Patrol* (1951), *Them!* (1954), *Tobor the Great* (1954), *Commando Cody: Sky Marshall of the Universe* (1955), *Science Fiction Theatre* (1955), *The Incredible Shrinking Man* (1957), *The Monolith Monster* (1957), *Men into Space* (1960), *The Twilight Zone* (1960), *Life with Archie* (1962), *Philbert (Three's a Crowd)* (1963), *Archie* (1964), *Bewitched* (1964), *Land of the Giants* (1969), *The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes* (1969), *Colossus: The Forbidden Project* (1970), *The Six Million Dollar Man* (1974), *The Strongest Man in the World* (1975), *The Bionic Woman* (1976), *Tunnel Vision* (1976), *Legends of the Superheroes* (1979), *Hangar 18* (1980), *Twilight Zone: The Movie* (1983), *Gremlins*



William Schallert as Chris Hayes.

(1984), *The Smurfs* (1984), *Pink Panther and Sons* (1984), *Galtar and the Golden Lance* (1985), *The Twilight Zone* (1985), *Innerspace* (1987), *Quantum Leap* (1989), *Dinosaurs* (1991), *Fish Police* (1992), *Matinee* (1993),⁶ *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* (1993), *Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman* (1993), *Harvey* (1996), *The Angry Beavers* (1997), *The Zeta Project* (2001), *What's New, Scooby Doo?* (2002), *True Blood* (2008), *Green Lantern: First Flight* (2009), and *Medium* (2010).



🎭 **Rosanna Huffman** (12 August 1938–20 May 2016), actress. Genre credits include *The Day After* (1983), *Starchaser: The Legend of Orin* (1985), *The Wizard* (1986), *Oliver & Company* (1988), *Nick Knight* (1989), and *FernGully: The Last Rainforest* (1992). Also a seven-time guest-star on *Murder, She Wrote* (1984).

🎭 **Bert Kwouk** (18 July 1930–24 May 2016), actor. Guest-starred in *Doctor Who* (1963) episode “Four to Doomsday” (18–26 January 1982) as Lin Futu. Best-known from the *Pink Panther* films as Kato/Cato Fong. Also appeared in James Bond movies *Goldfinger* (1964), *Casino Royale* (1967), and *You Only Live Twice* (1967). Genre credits included *The Avengers* (1961), *Out of the Unknown* (1965), *The Brides of Fu Manchu* (1966), *Rollerball* (1975), *The Strange Case of the End of Civilization as We Know It* (1977), *The Tomorrow People* (1978), *The Fiendish Plot of Dr. Fu Manchu* (1980), *I Bought a Vampire Motorcycle* (1990), *Space Precinct* (1994), and *Warhammer 40,000: Fire Warrior* (2003) (video game).

🎭 **Mell Lazarus** (3 May 1927–24 May 2016), cartoonist and novelist, best-known for comic strips *Miss Peach* (1957) and *Momma* (1970). Winner of the National Cartoonists’ Society’s award for Newspaper Strip, Humour, in 1973 and 1979; the Reuben Award for Outstanding Cartoonist of the Year in 1981; the Silver T-Square Award for dedication/service in 2000; and the Medal of Honour in 2016. President of NCS from 1989–1993. Made a cameo appearance as himself in comic-strip-related *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) episode “The Dead File” (15 November 1992).

Felicity Walker

Wednesday 1 June 2016

Google Doodle: 37th Anniversary of ‘The Neverending Story’s’ First Publishing



Today’s Google Doodle is for “37th Anniversary of *The Neverending Story’s* First Publishing.”

That Google page also says “And today’s Doodle adds a 3D dimension, with an artwork-packed slideshow that uses parallax scrolling—a Doodle first!”

Julian Castle

Thursday 1 September 2016

6 In *Mant!* (1962), the awesome movie within the movie.

Google Doodle: Cartoonist Mario and Animator Lotte



Other recent Google Doodles of possible interest to *BCSFAzine* readers.

* 2 May 2016: Mario Miranda's 90th birthday: "Mario Miranda was a beloved cartoonist..."

* 2 June 2016: Lotte Reiniger's 117th birthday: "Lotte Reiniger created visually stunning and fantastical films using black cardboard, scissors, and boundless imagination. Pre-dating Walt Disney by nearly a decade..." (Doodle is a lovely 91-second animation that can also be watched at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?=&CkgirvbPJnw>.)

Julian Castle

Thursday 1 September 2016

A Message from West Coast Science Fiction Association

Hi! We're contacting you today because we wanted to let you know about something we've just added to our programming!

Workshops!

We are very excited to be offering a number of workshops this year. We have arranged for a number of experienced instructors to donate their time to teach a wide variety of fun and interesting new skills to you!

Most of these workshops have a limited number of seats, and some do require a fee to cover the cost of materials that will be used during the workshop, which means pre-registration is required in most cases.

For all the nitty gritty details, *visit our workshops web page*.

To whet your appetite, a summary of all available workshops is listed below.

The dollar signs after each title are there to give you an idea of the material costs involved according to the following: [-] Free; [\$] \$1 to \$5; [\$\$] \$6 to \$20; [\$\$\$] \$21 to \$40.

Workshops with a materials fee of \$5 or less may still require pre-registration but the fee will not be collected until you are at the workshop.

Basic Puppet Manipulation for Beginners with Jeny Cassady [\$]

Learn from a professional puppeteer the techniques and some tricks of the trade for manipulating complex hand puppets like you might see on TV or film, and gain a new appreciation for puppeteering!



Broken Doll Makeup Presented by New Image College [\$\$\$]

Learn from a professional FX Makeup Artist how to do a makeup that creates the look of a broken ceramic doll and have the chance to apply it to your own model.



Foamsmithing—An EVA Armor Workshop with Loushy [\$\$]

Ever wondered how to get started on a costume armor build? Loushy of Six AM Cosplay will walk you through the basics of armor building where you'll be working with EVA floor matting—the same type of matting you can buy at any hardware or dollar store—simple and cost effective way to build armor.

Frankenstuffies [\$]

A hands-on crafting session where you create your very own Frankenstein's monster inspired stuffie toy by snipping off and sewing together parts from multiple stuffies donated for the purpose.

Make Miniature Aliens and Robots with Thyrsa [\$\$]

Learn to make miniature aliens from polymer clay and then photograph them in dioramas that illustrate scenes from a story created by the participants.

Marionette Makeup Presented by New Image College [\$\$\$]

Learn from a professional FX Makeup Artist how to do a makeup that creates the look of a marionette puppet and have the chance to apply it to your own model.

Muppet-Style Puppetry: Create, Write, and Perform with Frances Skene [\$]

Gain a practical knowledge of how to produce and script a Muppet-style show.

Rubber Duck Painting Party [\$]

Before the Convention really gets into the swing, come chill out and paint some cute rubber ducks in whatever crazy way you like, and then take them home with you where they can be your friends forever.

Song-Writing Workshop with Dara [-]

Singer-songwriter Dara Korra'ti will meet with workshop participants for a collaborative review of songs-in-progress. The focus will be on general feedback and constructive criticisms for improvement from both her and other participants. *Note:* This workshop requires pre-submissions of your work.

The Three-Hour Monster Puppet Head [\$\$\$]

Learn from a professional puppeteer and puppet designer how to build a simple hand operated monster puppet head.

World-Building Through Map-Making with Brenda Carre [-]

Those who controlled the maps controlled the power. Learn how to take the power of map-making into your own hands and build worlds, cultures, and quests around the stories you discover.

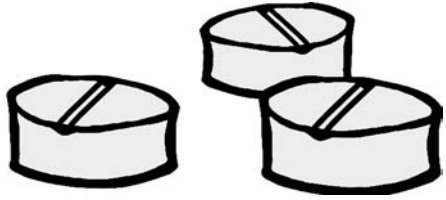
West Coast Science Fiction Association
Tuesday 13 September 2016

VCON 37 Thoughts, Part 2

Michael Bertrand

Saturday, I managed to get to more panels, but not nearly as many as I wanted. Why? That is a little complicated, but in a word: sleepiness.

I made the mistake of taking two Quetiapine when I went to bed at around 2 AM, after leaving Kathleen's excellent room party. It seemed like a smart idea at the time. I figured I would get to sleep and sleep for a long while then wake up bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, ready to attend a zillion panels. I would mostly be asleep during a time when there was no programming, and hence, my waking time would be synced up with the time when there was stuff to do. Perfect.



But no. I forgot that it takes between an hour and an hour and a half for the pills to kick in, and that ideally I should be active in that period for full effectiveness. Instead, I took the pills and went straight to bed without even doing any reading first, and that just does not work for me. The change is too abrupt from active to dormant, and I was in a strange bed and a strange place to boot.

The result was that it took a very long time for me to fall asleep at all, and when I did, it was not very good quality sleep. Overall, it was a pretty lousy night.

And when I finally managed to drag myself out of bed, get showered and get out to the con, I was so sleepy that I could barely remain upright, even after scoring a can of Diet Coke from a vending machine.⁷

So when at 11 AM I managed to get to the “So You Want to Be a Writer” panel, I was a wreck. I had to rest my head against the (empty) chair in front of me just to keep from passing out. At the time I was paranoid that the panelist would think that I was being a total dick by pretending to be extremely bored, but that was just the sleepiness talking. They are experienced panelists, and have probably had some attendees in their audiences who were worse off than I was considering that I don't even drink. They probably assumed I was hung over, if they noticed me at all. They certainly would not take it personally.

So, phew there.

It was a fun panel, or at least what little I remember of it was fun. Frankly, I was not exactly in the most retentive of frame of mind.

And so, despite my plans, I had to go back to our hotel room and get more sleep. This still pisses me off when I think about it. I will get over it eventually, I

⁷ Why am I the only person in the world who can't rely on caffeine? Sometimes it wakes me up. But just as often it makes me sleepy. That's like the opposite of what it is supposed to do. I guess overtired people get sleepy from caff. Still, it sucks. [Editor's note: Sometimes it doesn't affect me either. Once, when I was a teenager, I drank a six-pack of Jolt Cola (“All the Sugar and Twice the Caffeine”) and got no effect from it.—Felicity]

imagine. But for now, I am sort of angry at the universe for making me miss a big chunk of the day's activities.

So I slept for two and a half hours, then went to Hospitality for more food, and then went to a hella fun panel called "Justify the Science Flaw." The basic idea was that the panel brought up a lot of bad science from bad (and good) science fiction stories, and with the help of we the audience, tried to come up with some kind of way to explain them away.⁸

It turned out to be even more fun than that sounds, because we were all keenly aware of the absurdity of the exercise and especially of our explanations, so we were pretty much laughing the whole way through.

Sadly, I was not yet fully awake, so I do not remember most of the specifics. I remember us talking about an obscure moment from an obscure show, namely *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea: The Series*.



The gist of it was that at one point, the *Nautilus* was under the Arctic ice when huge pieces of said ice began to *fall down on it*.

Um, ice floats, folks. Look in your cocktail glass. Life on Earth could not exist if solid water, namely ice, was not less dense than liquid water.

I forget our solution, but it involved a massive magnetic field magnetizing the ice, so it was not exactly plausible. Funny, though.

Then, sadly, I needed more naptime, so the next panel was at 6 PM, and it was another red-hot science injection. In this case, it was "The Discovery of the Accelerating Universe."

Regular readers will know that astrophysics is one of my favorite drugs, and learning how they figured out that the expansion of the universe is accelerating involved a lot of it. So while I would rather have talked about the implications of the discovery rather than its history, it was still a crash course in astrophysics and I was once more left with a pleasantly glowing brain.

After that, a bunch of us nerds went to a sushi place called Tengoku, and I discovered that years of only eating Japanese food at all you can eat places had completely wrecked my ability to decide what I want from a standard menu.

Eventually I just got two orders of kappa maki and a teriyaki donburi. The donburi was particularly good. A lot of places think that all you need to do to make a donburi is put the main ingredient on rice, but a proper donburi has layers of veggies and such as well. And the Tengoku people know this.

All that for around \$15, too. Not bad!

After that, we went back to the hotel and went to bed.

Michael Bertrand

The Blog of Michael John Bertrand

Tuesday 2 October 2012

⁸ For us Marvel fans, yup, that is exactly what you had to do to win a No-Prize back in the day.

Excess Resolutions for 2016, #4.3: Poetry, The Inescapability Of

Kathleen Moore

Hi, all.

Just when you (and I) thought I wouldn't get any sent in May—

Le Mai: Ils M'Accusaient

A jury of black judges, all debating and complaining
Was gathered on the wires by the roadside that I walked.
I wondered at their clamour—saw the body of another
Stricken in the roadway, hit by heedless cars that passed.

No good grave for this small body, just a hedge or stingy gravel
For shelter from more damage. Risking my own safety,
I did but move the body to the curb edge of the roadside
And pass on, trailed by crows all shrieking "Shame!"

Crows have but one word for wrath, for woe—
One cry alike bewailing and berating
The stricken, guilty, useless all at once.
And crows hold guilty each and every party
For striking down, for failing to raise up,

For passing by, for passing by unstruck.



I make no apologies for the title of this one being
in French. (Blame William the Bastard, and
Geoffrey Chaucer.) I do apologize for the not-exactly-sonnet form. The inspiring
(expiring?) incident happened a couple of springs ago, and the title and lines 9–11
formed first.



Kathleen Moore
Tuesday 31 May 2016

RANDOM NOSTALGIA

**XFL
CHINDOGU
SUSAN POWTER
EMU'S PINK WINDMILL SHOW
ALT.JEN-HS-BEAVIS
SHARP X68000**



Art Credits

<u>Felicity Walker</u> (font: <u>Yann Le Coroller</u>).....	Masthead
<u>Brad Foster</u>	Cover
Clip art (via <u>Dave Haren</u>).....	Pages 2 , 4, 7–9, 10 (L), 12 (R), 13 (R)
Clip art (<i>Your World As I See It</i> screenshot).....	Page 3
Clip art (<u>Clker.com</u>).....	Pages 10 (R), 15, 17 (R)
Clip art [<i>Sssssss</i> (1973) screenshot].....	Page 11 (L)
Clip art [<i>The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis</i> (1959) screenshot]..	Page 11 (R)
Clip art (via <u>Julian Castle</u>).....	Pages 12 (R), 13 (L), 14
Clip art [“Ninja Rap” (March 1991) screenshot].....	Page 16
<u>Kaiserzharkhan</u> (font).....	Page 17 (L)
<u>José Sánchez</u>	Page 18