

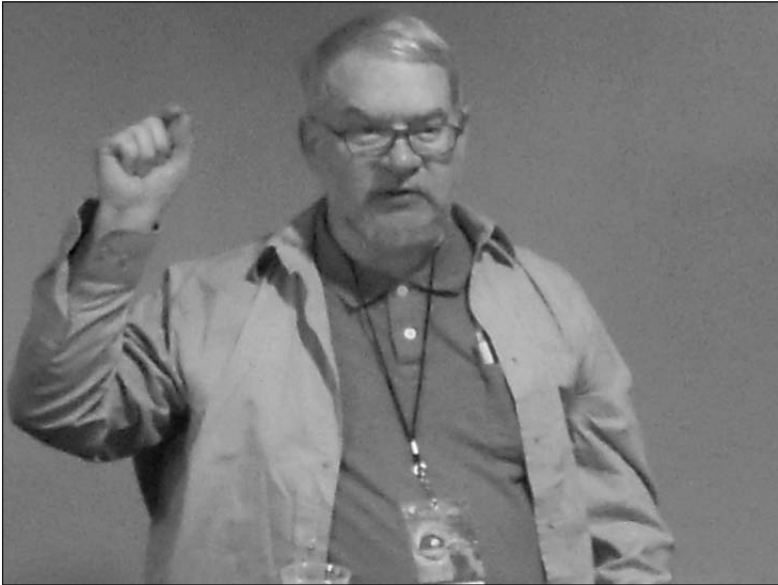
BCSFAzine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#518

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July 2016



VCON 41 Chair R. Graeme Cameron

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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

Sunday 17 July at 7 PM:	July BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin’s, 707 Hamilton Street (recreation room), New Westminster.
Friday 22 July:	Submission deadline for August <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Friday 29 July:	August <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically).
Friday 19 August:	Submission deadline for September <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally).
Sunday 21 August at 7 PM:	August BCSFA meeting—at Ray Seredin’s.
Friday 26 August:	September <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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Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973

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

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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_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 21 September 2016

Hi Felicity.

Links first:

<https://realmofchaos80s.blogspot.com/2016/08/citadel-colour-interview-with-mike-mcvey.html>

▲ Here's a bit of gamer nostalgia for olde fartes.

<http://disinfo.com/2016/09/art-fiorillo-odyssey-forces-death/>

▲ Very disturbing artiste who fell through the cracks.¹

<https://archive.org/details/WhyGirlsLeaveHomepartIGreencroftHaremParty>

▲ Vancouver history film.²

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

▲ Short version of his explanation of world econ.³

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2-QCv-hChY>

▲ Taleb.⁴



[I did not understand it. It was as if I had come in late and missed some vital first sentence that decoded the rest of it. It seemed completely random and disconnected. That may be because he's talking to a classroom of students who already have some education in his field. When he'd get to the end of a paragraph and say "You

see?", I'd think "But what does that mean? What does that have to do with anything?"

[I saw a related Taleb video called "How to Live in a World We Don't Understand" and thought "Perfect." However, it has the same problem—he seems to be starting in the middle of his presentation, and has already lost me. By the way, "Nassim Taleb" is an anagram of "Bent Salamis."⁵]

<http://www.vocativ.com/358530/smart-dildo-company-sued-for-tracking-users-habits/>

▲ IOT (Internet of Things).⁶

[*The Internet of Thingies!*]

1 A. Fiorillo.

2 Eric Werge Hamber, CMG (1879–1960), Canadian businessman and 15th Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia.—[Wikipedia](#)

3 Mark Blyth: "The Austerity Delusion."

4 Nassim Taleb: "How Things Gain from Disorder."

5 Also "Satan Be Slim" and "Batman Isles."

6 "Teeth Rinsing Font."

<https://oldguardgamingaccoutrements.blogspot.com/2013/10/the-gray-mouser-one-and-two.html>

▲ I was thinking about Fritz and found this by chance later.

[*I have one issue of the Howard Chaykin/Mike Mignola comics adaptation, and hope to find the rest sometime. According to Wikipedia, Leiber and his friend also created wargames set in the same fictional world.*]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8LAUQwv77Q>

▲ The best standup comedian on earth.⁷

[*How so?*]

<https://polymatharchives.blogspot.ca/2015/01/the-inappropriately-excluded.html>

▲ You know who you are, or then again maybe you don't. Either way the face in the mirror won't change.

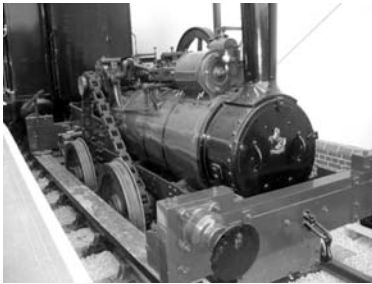
[*That partially maps to my mileage. I have a high IQ and I suck at life. However my intelligence is all verbal and not at all math or spatial, so I doubt that my best career environment is mathematics or theoretical physics, as the article suggests. I wonder what the Polymathic Institute plans to do to help me.*]

<https://pauljamesog.blogspot.com.au/2015/01/steam-trek-where-no-dapper-chaps-have.html>

▲ For Lloyd Penney.

[*"Sorry, the blog at pauljamesog.blogspot.com has been removed." However, Google's cache is still up, and it credits a BuzzFeed article and a Steam Trek website (although the site is mostly broken).*]

<https://boingboing.net/2016/09/19/hp-detonates-its-timebomb-pri.html>



▲ Here's your preview of the Internet of Things.

[*Bastards! The EFF has it right.*]

Internet Archive community video "1952 Vampire Over London."⁸

▲ "While you are here Mrs. Riley, you will see a great many things you will not understand."

"Yes, gentle reader, your wondering eyes do not deceive you. A security employee of the

Royal Canadian Mint actually volunteered—or was ordered—to shove a greased seven-ounce puck of solid gold up his or her ass so that they could test the vital question of whether it could be detected by the hand-held metal detectors used for backup screening. I ask you, is that dedication to your job, or is that dedication to your job? And further consider this: the 'let's test these wands' project had to be documented fairly well, or what's the point of the exercise? Somewhere in the bowels (you will forgive this pun if you forgave the 'metric buttoad' characterization at the top of the post) of the Royal Canadian Mint, there is almost certainly video of a security guard waddling through a checkpoint with an extra half-a-pound

7 Mark Blyth: "Plenary 7—Short-Term Politics Versus Long-Term Returns—Lessons from History."

8 <https://archive.org/details/1952VampireOverLondon>

of unaccustomed gravity in his or her stride while Canadian-polite co-workers try very hard to act like nothing abnormal is happening...”⁹ Dedicated government employee of the month award.



Here’s the US version:

“It’s hard to sort out people you are indiscriminately bombing.”—John Kerry, Secretary of State
Links end.

Tightbeam is going to be continued/resurrected by Jennings according to the last *TNFF* zine. The hope is to have an active lettercol while only doing a digital version. Taral is winding down *Broken Toys* with issue 50. *Opuntia* has some truly strange things photographed this time around. It begins to look like a Canadian version of Burning Man.

“1952 Vampire Over London” in the searchbar of Internet Archive section “Community Video”⁸ will show you why Bela was cast into *Invasion Plan 9*. They also have a quadruple feature of *The Killer Tomatoes* which only a purist completist can get through in one sitting.

CJ Cherryh is making noises about doing something in the Union/Alliance universe again. The Bren Cameron saga has been keeping folks who want to know about what happened between Downbelow and Cyteen after the war waiting.

Someone is selling a comp-be-gone USB stick. Plug it in and it charges up and then blows the computer it is plugged into. The next fiendish device is a remotely ignited candle reachable by the Net. Too cheap to have any possible security it raises hazardous dimwittery to an all new level.

If you thought James Bond’s PPK was rough—“delivery like a brick thru plate glass”—try the new Walther PPQ, .45 Caliber model or 11.25 mm if you remember Hoddy Ringo.¹⁰

Project Gutenberg¹¹ has passed 53,000 books and there are a bunch of SF stories recently in the latest batches.

Warm regards,
Dave

Pics: chaindriven locomotive; SF mag cover; steampunk ectometron; movie actress; inverted meme; SF comic cover; bottom half of dreadnought; astronaut (hybrid vigour India/Slovene).



9 <http://www.erosblog.com/2016/09/21/an-ass-full-of-gold/>

10 <https://archive.org/stream/lonestarplanet20121gut/pg20121.txt>

11 <https://www.gutenberg.org/>

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Friday 23 September 2016

Dear BCSFen:

I go away for two weeks, and everything piles up! Honestly! Suddenly, I have three issues of *BCSFazine* to catch up with, issues 515 to 517. And, I will do that now.



[*The fact that I suddenly started publishing every two weeks to get back on schedule probably doesn't help.* ☺]

515...I always figured that correspondence is key in this fanzine thing, so every LOC I write goes into a file I keep on my computer, and I also put them on my LiveJournal. Does anyone use LiveJournal any more? Mine is my LOC archive. If you wonder where my LOC went, you can go to my LiveJournal to find it, or just ask me, and I will fish it out of my personal archive.

[*I still have a LiveJournal but I haven't used it in a long time.*]

The American presidential race. *Ick! Urghh! Yuck!* I've never seen anything so ridiculous, and I've never seen the Rethuglicans sink so low. There must be a sizable percentage of right-wing voters who cannot stomach the ideas of Donald Trump as president. They should thank their lucky stars that None of the Above isn't on the ballot. America a democracy? Well, so many brag about it, but right now, it is an oligarchy, and democracy goes to the highest bidder, which is definitely not the typical American citizen/voter.

[*This has been a weird election.*]

My LOC...we did okay at the Bazaar of the Bizarre, and at the Alice/Steampunk Invasion event at Historic Benares House in Mississauga. After that, we had our amazing trip to England, and what fun it was. Yvonne had her *Harry Potter* adventures in Watford and at the Platform 9¾ shop at Kings Cross station (went there four times), and we had our steampunk fun in Lincoln at the Asylum. Can't believe it's come and gone! Then, we went to Hamilton for the Locke Street Festival, and we vended there...rain and wind all day.

The Aurora Awards...I did not nominate or vote this year. I didn't feel I knew anything about the field this year. Given the motion to allow pros to vie for the fan Auroras for unpaid writing, I suspect that fans will not be able to win the fan Auroras. More and more, the fandom we knew is going away, and motions like this push fandom closer to the brink of extinction.

I know Steve Baldassara, and yes, he's a big guy. I've been called the same, and at one point, I weighed 230 pounds. Given my 5'4" height, I should never weigh that much. I cut back on snacking to get me down to 221 lbs., but couldn't get below that. Yvonne found a low-carb diet we could both follow, so now I am down to 205 lbs., and hope to lose some more weight.

[*Best wishes! I am also trying to lose weight.*]

516...John Purcell, come to Ontario! There's still some fandom here, plus steampunk that you and Valerie will enjoy. Trump and Clinton are now about neck and neck, and some polls predict a Trump victory. I am happy to be on this side of the border. Still looking for work, but I have applied to a lot of great jobs recently, and fingers continue to be crossed. (If you do go to Cape Breton...well, my father's side of the family is originally from there. There are great bars in Dominion and Donkin. That's about all I know.)

And there's my birthday. I'm a young sprite of 57 years. How's I get so old so fast? (We all ask ourselves that question.)

[*Personally, I blame myself.*]

(Saw the other day that there is now a Harlan Ellison biography due to be released shortly. Brace yourselves...)

517...I think Bernie Sanders could be a valuable asset to a Clinton administration, if only his supporters could get rid of their hate-on for Hillary. MC Hammer pants...nah, too much material. Maybe in Vancouver. In Toronto, we'd need them made of flannel for those cold winters.

A question...who thinks *Star Trek Beyond* is the final reboot movie? I heard some good reviews, but for the first time in my life, this was a *Trek* movie I didn't care to see, and I didn't. Did I miss something good? Or is it just more exploding starships and lens flares?

[*The last Star Trek movie I saw was Star Trek: Nemesis (2002).*]

Yvonne gets sleepy with caffeine. I get perkyperky. And, I've already had two cups today, which is probably why I am getting anything at all done today. I remember Jolt Cola fondly...it couldn't say "twice the caffeine" here, for it would then qualify as a pharmaceutical, and couldn't legally be sold.

Mission accomplished. This weekend, Yvonne and I will head down to Niagara-on-the-Lake for the Grand Canadian Steampunk Exposition. Just for the Saturday... should be great fun. And, I may have some involvement with CSFFA soon...juicy hint at what may come. Take care, and have a great weekend.

Yours,

Lloyd Penney



Michael Bertrand Saturday 24 September 2016
fruvousfox@gmail.com

Hola BCSFarios! It's your intrepid reporter again, giving you all the inside scoop on the life of a student at VFS.

It's just as glamorous as it sounds.

I reached a milestone recently: I have finished the first draft of my first ever screenplay. Yes, I, Michael "Fruvous" Bertrand, have written a movie. It needs a

lot of work, of course, being only the first draft. But it was fun to write, despite it taking a lot out of me (or perhaps because it did) and I think it would make a pretty good flick, although probably not a summer blockbuster. More like a charming indie movie, or maybe some channel's Movie of the Week.



I'm also $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way through my first ever TV episode script, an episode of *Bob's Burgers*. Golly, I am productive.

Now on the LOCing!

Re: Dave Haren and BS:

I totally agree that people need to find something to fill the belief system "module" in their minds. That's because we clever monkeys are aware of what we do not know. We can see the edges of our knowledge and when we reach a space where we cannot even imagine figuring out an answer, we invent, adopt, or absorb one in order to maintain the continuity of one's knowledge. Thus, the extremely vital sense that one knows enough to function in the world is maintained, and as long as the invented belief is about things with no direct bearing on the individual's life, it is actually extremely functional no matter how illogical or irrational said belief is.

Many of us brainy nerdy intellectual types think this need can be filled by logic, rationality, and science. But that is only true if the individual actually understands science. Many do not. And even when they do, science is rational and hence, by nature, incomplete. So science can perform some of the functions of a belief system, [but] it can never actually complete the job.

Thus, there will always be the need for something to fill the gaps.

So I cannot agree that science and reason are always the best way out of the morass of non-rational belief systems. It certainly can cut through the irrationality of many religions' world views, but it cannot actually fill the void that leaves behind.

But enough of my incandescent gas. Seeya next ish, folks!

We Also Heard From: José Sánchez, Cathy Palmer-Lister.

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

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 July and 5, 12, 19, and 26 August 2016 (*Fridays*): Magic: The Gathering Friday Night Games, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond.

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 July and 5, 12, 19, and 26 August 2016 (*Fridays*): Board Gamers: Friday Night Magic, 6:30–9:30 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 July and 5, 12, 19, and 26 August 2016 (*Fridays*): Friday Board Game Night—Drexoll Games, 7–11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 July and 6, 13, 20, and 27 August 2016 (*Saturdays*): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 July and 6, 13, 20, and 27 August 2016 (*Saturdays*): Saturday Jam at the Brownsville Pub, 5:30–9:30 PM at the Brownsville Pub, 11940 Old Yale Road, Surrey.—Greg Cairns

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 July and 7, 14, 21, and 28 August 2016 (*Sundays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Lazy Sundays, 2–3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295–2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

4, 11, 18, and 25 July and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 August 2016 (*Mondays*): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5–9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

4, 11, 18, and 25 July and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 August 2016 (*Mondays*): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

5, 12, 19, and 26 July and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 August 2016 (*Tuesdays*): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5–10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

5, 12, 19, and 26 July and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 August 2016 (*Tuesdays*): Vancouver Hack Space Open House, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

5, 12, 19, and 26 July and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 August 2016 (*Tuesdays*): Hot Improv Tuesdays at Café Deux Soleils!, 8 PM at Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.—The Fictionals Comedy Co.

6 and 20 July and 3, 17, and 31 August 2016 (*alternate Wednesdays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!, 7–8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 July and 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 August 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

7 July and 4 August 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

7, 14, 21, and 28 July and 4, 11, 18, and 25 August 2016 (*Thursdays*): Thursday Hobby Build Nights, 6–9 PM at Ages Three and Up Gundam, 226–9855 Austin Road, Burnaby.—A3U Gundam

9 July and 13 August 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

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

12 July and 9 August 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

14 and 28 July and 11 and 25 August 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)

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

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

15 July and 19 August 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

16 July and 20 August 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

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

20 July and 17 August 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

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

4 August 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. [*No Drop-In Drawing in July.*]

July 2016

July is National Anti-Boredom Month and International Zine Month.

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 Raimis, 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).

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

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 Merrifield

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.

August 2016

5 August 2016: **Scott Tycholaz**'s and **Élisabeth Vonarburg**'s birthdays. Premiere of films *Suicide Squad* (comics adaption; Will Smith, Ike Barinholtz, Jared Leto, Common, Joel Kinnaman, Adam Beach, Ben Affleck) and *Nine Lives* (fantasy; Kev-

in Spacey, Jennifer Garner, Christopher Walken, Sook Hexamer, Barry Sonnenfeld, Lil Bub, Talking Tom).

6 August 2016: **Christina Carr**'s birthday.

12 August 2016: **Lynda Louise Ciaschini**'s birthday. Premiere of films *Pete's Dragon* (fantasy; Bryce Dallas Howard, Robert Redford, Wes Bentley, Karl Urban, John Kassir, Bart the Bear), *Sausage Party* (computer animation; Michael Cera, Ian James Corlett, Brian Dobson, Michael Dobson, James Franco, Bill Hader, Salma Hayek, Jonah Hill, Nick Kroll, Danny McBride, Edward Norton, Craig Robinson, Seth Rogen, Paul Rudd, Kristen Wiig, Harland Williams), and *Ghost Team* (comedy; Jon Heder, Justin Long, Amy Sedaris, Tom Schiller).



13 August 2016: **Alex Curylo**'s birthday.

16 August 2016: **Thomas Phinney**'s birthday.

17 August 2016: National Black Cat Awareness Day.

19 August 2016: Premiere of films *Kubo and the Two Strings* (computer animation; Charlize Theron, Ralph Fiennes, George Takei, Cary-Hiroyuki Tagawa, Brenda Vaccaro, Matthew McConaughey), *Lo and Behold, Reveries of the Connected World* (documentary; Werner Herzog, Lawrence Krauss, Kevin Mitnick, Elon Musk, Sebastian Thrun, Lucianne Walkowicz), and *Kingsglaive: Final Fantasy XV* (computer animation?/fantasy/SF; Aaron Paul, Sean Bean).



24 August 2016: **Karen New**'s birthday.

26 August 2016: **Sarah Stierch**'s birthday.

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

RANDOM NOSTALGIA

ARLAN LEVITAN
INDIANA JOE ("RAIDERS OF THE LOST MUSHROOM")
THE MUFFIN BREAK

News-Like Matter

Notes from June 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.



Topic: the death of physical media, DRM, etc. Archiving things. CBC. My mother’s library of audio tapes. Fruvous said something about German engineers. Ray mentioned 16 RPM records used for full-length operas or congressional sessions and hearings. Ray said that there was a *Rocky & Bullwinkle* where they were in a jet that was running out of fuel. They played one of the congressional records because politicians are full of hot air.

Graeme said that a dry topic can be made interesting and a great topic can be made boring by the quality of the writing. This reminded me of the zine *Opuntia* and some of the topics (such as clearing branches off a road) that were made surprisingly interesting by the good writing quality.

Someone (Graeme?) said that bathroom graffiti has been found in Pompeii saying things like “Secundus defecated here” and “Apollinaris, personal physician of the emperor Titus, defecated well here.” This sort of thing is omitted from the classier books on Pompeii.

This reminded Fruvous of a Woody Allen sketch with intellectual prostitutes, which reminded me of the Woody Allen movie *Shadows and Fog* (1991).

Graeme said that the bubonic plague is still with us, but you can only catch it in Mongolia or the Rockies and it’s treatable now. Graeme also mentioned some new facts about HP Lovecraft. Lovecraft was drafted by the army, but before he was called in his mother went to the army and said “You can’t hire him; he’s insane.” He only got as far as grade eleven in school. During a depressed period in his late teenage years, he slept 20 hours a day, never left the house, and only wore his bathrobe. It was normal in the 1890s for boys to be dressed like girls until about age two; for Lovecraft it was until age six. He married a Jewish woman, Sonia Green, and she lived until the 1970s!¹²



“Obey Giant! Frodo lives!”

Graeme reported that conventions being cancelled or shutting down is a trend continent-wide. I said that I tried to explain VCON to my stand-up comedy course classmates and their closest point of reference was Creation-style conventions. Graeme thought that the idea of SF as a genre is fading and modern fans are into specific subgenres, fandoms, topics, shows, and writers.

¹² Also, she was a pulp writer and a fanzine and APA publisher!—Future Felicity



Close the door. You're letting all the food out.

Fruvous had a brilliant idea: that with modern 3D printers you could set up a business making HO versions of real people so that they can put themselves into their model trains!

Ray mentioned Laura Ingalls Wilder, but to my surprise, also mentioned Jeanne Moos.¹³

Kathleen reported that the VCON refrigerator is full-size and hard to move. Ray said that it dates back to VCON 2 (1972). Kathleen added that they would like some smaller fridges and coolers. Ray suggested “keg fridges” which Fruvous said are also called “kegerators.”

Felicity Walker

Additional writing by

R. Graeme Cameron and Kathleen Moore¹⁴

Sunday 19 June 2016

Passages: June 2016

David Spielberg (6 March 1939–1 June 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *The Henderson Monster* (1980), *Mork & Mindy* (1978), *Tucker's Witch* (1982), *Christine* (1983), *Blue Thunder* (TV series) (1984), *Automan* (1984), *Airwolf* (1984), *Highway to Heaven* (1984), *Space* (1985), *Starman* (TV series) (1986), *Star Trek: The Next Generation* (1987),¹⁵ *Monsters* (1988), *Seaquest 2032* (1993), *The Pretender* (1996), *Mr. Murder* (1998), *Silent Predators*¹⁶ (1999), and *Flight of the Living Dead* (2007). Also appeared in two episodes of *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) and in its spinoff *The Law and Harry McGraw* (1987).

Willis Pyle (3 September 1914–2 June 2016). Animator. Genre work includes *Pinochio* (1940), *Fantasia* (1940), *Bambi* (1942), *Robin Hoodlum* (1948), *The Sailor and the Seagull* (1949), *The Magic Fluke* (1949), *Ragtime Bear*¹⁷ (1949), *Giddyap* (1950), *Gerald McBoing-Boing* (1950) and *The Gerald McBoing-Boing Show* (1956), *Popeye the Sailor* (1960), *Noah's Animals* (1976), *Raggedy Ann & Andy: A Musical Adventure* (1977), *The Mouse and His Child* (1977), *Halloween Is Grinch Night* (1977), *A Special Valentine with the Family Circus* (1978), *A Family Circus Christmas* (1979), and *This Is America, Charlie Brown* (1989).

Bill Richmond (19 December 1921–4 June 2016). Screenwriter/producer/actor. Genre credits include *The Nutty Professor* (1963), *I Dream of Jeannie* (1965), *Wizards and Warriors* (1983), *Scorch* (1992), and *The Nutty Professor* (1996).

Leonard Hill (11 October 1947–7 June 2016). Writer/producer/TV executive. Genre works included *Tucker's Witch* (1982), *Jack the Ripper* (1988), and *Earth An-*

13 See *BCSFAzine* #482 for more about Jeanne Moos.


14 Kathleen facetiously adds that “various chirps and beeps from the microwave [...] were actually intended as input to the conversation.”


15 Episode “Starship Mine” (27 March 1993).


16 Ironically, this movie is about rattlesnakes.

17 A *Mister Magoo* short.

gel (1991). Also produced *Shootdown* (1988) (starring Angela Lansbury) and *Summer Dreams: The Story of the Beach Boys* (1990) (mentioned by Stewart Smyth in *BCSFAzine* #515).

 **Gordon Connell** (19 March 1923–12 June 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *Bewitched* (1964), *Rosemary's Baby* (1968), *The Six Million Dollar Man* (1974), *Once Upon a Brothers Grimm* (1977), *The Ghost of Flight 401* (1978), *The Incredible Hulk* (1978), and *Creepshow 2* (1987).

 **Janet Waldo** (4 February 1920–12 June 2016). Actress. Best-known as Judy Jetson on *The Jetsons* (1962). Genre credits include *The Flintstones* (1960), *Jonny Quest* (1964), *The Secret Squirrel Show* (1965), *Get Smart* (1965), *The Atom Ant Show* (1965), *Alice in Wonderland or What's a Nice Kid Like You Doing in a Place Like This?* (1966), *The Man Called Flintstone* (1966), *The Space Kidettes* (1966), *The New Adventures of Superman* (1966), *The Adventures of Superboy* (1966), *Shazzan* (1967), *The Superman/Aquaman Hour of Adventure* (1967), *Fantastic Four* (1967), *The Atom Ant/Secret Squirrel Show* (1967), *Wacky Races* (1968), *Cattanooga Cats* (1969), *The Perils of Penelope Pitstop* (1969), *Josie and the Pussycats* (1970), *Help!...It's the Hair Bear Bunch!* (1971), *Josie and the Pussy Cats in Outer Space* (1972), *The New Scooby Doo Movies* (1972), *The Amazing Chan and the Chan Clan* (1972), *Fantastic Planet* (1973), *The Addams Family* (1973), *Inch High, Private Eye* (1973), *Jeannie* (1973), *Freedom 2000* (1974), *Hong Kong Phooey* (1974), *Jabberjaw* (1976), *The Scooby Doo/Dynomutt Hour* (1976), *CB Bears* (1977), *Captain Caveman and the Teen Angels* (1977), *ABC Weekend Specials* (1977),¹⁸ *The Adventures of the Little Prince* (1978), *Yogi's Space Race* (1978), *Battle of the Planets* (1978), *The New Fred and Barney Show* (1979), *Scooby Doo and Scrappy Doo* (1979), *Gulliver's Travels* (1979), *The Plastic Man Comedy/Adventure Show* (1979), *Yogi's First Christmas* (1980), *Thundarr the Barbarian* (1980), *Spider-Man and His Amazing Friends* (1981), *The Smurfs* (1981), *The Gary Coleman Show* (1982), *Yogi Bear's All-Star Christmas Caper* (1982), *Jokebook* (1982), *Pac-Man* (1982), *Rubik, the Amazing Cube* (1983), *Unico in the Island of Magic* (1983), *The New Scooby and Scrappy Doo Show* (1983), *Mr. T* (1983), *The Dukes* (1983), *Beauty and the Beast* (1983), *Saturday Supercade* (1983), *Alvin and the Chipmunks* (1983), *The New Scooby Doo Mysteries* (1984), *Yogi's Treasure Hunt* (1985), *The Jetsons Meet the Flintstones* (1987), *Alice Through the Looking Glass* (1987), *Rockin' with Judy Jetson* (1988), *The Canterville Ghost* (1988), *Dink, the Little Dinosaur* (1989), *Jetsons: The Movie* (1990), *I Yabba-Dabba Do!* (1993), *Once Upon a Forest* (1993), *Hollyrock-a-Bye Baby* (1993), *King of the Hill* (1997), and *Wacky Races* (2000) (video game).

 **Chris Warren** (27 May 1967–12 June 2016). Musician. Worked for World Wrestling Federation (WWF) and Total Nonstop Action Wrestling (TNA). Performed lead vocals for the DX Band's D-Generation-X entrance theme "Break It Down" in WWF.

18 Including episodes "The Trouble with Miss Switch" (1980), "Bunnacula, the Vampire Rabbit" (1982), "Miss Switch to the Rescue" (1982), and "The Secret World of Og" (1983) (adaptation of Pierre Berton novel).

☞ **Michu Meszaros** (1 October 1939–13 June 2016). Actor and circus performer. Genre work includes *ALF* (1986), *Waxwork* (1988), *Warlock: The Armageddon* (1993), *Freaked* (1993), and *Death to Cupid* (2015).

☞ **Ronnie Claire Edwards** (9 February 1933–14 June 2016). Actress. Genre credits include *Future Cop* (1976) and *Star Trek: The Next Generation* (1987).¹⁹ Guest-starred in one episode of *Murder, She Wrote* (1984). I also enjoyed her as movie critic Molly Fisher in *The Dead Pool* (1988).

☞ **Ann Morgan Guilbert** (16 October 1928–14 June 2016). Actress. Genre credits include *I Dream of Jeannie* (1965), *The Ghost Busters* (1975), *Herman's Head* (1991), and *Picket Fences* (1992). Guest-starred in one episode of *Murder, She Wrote* (1984).

☞ **Yumi Shirakawa**²⁰ (21 November 1936–14 June 2016). Actress. Genre credits include *Rodan* (1956), *The Mysterians* (1957), *The Princess of Badger Palace* (1958), *The H-Man* (1958), and *Gorath* (1962).

☞ **Lois Duncan** (28 April 1934–15 June 2016). Author and editor. Genre work includes *Down a Dark Hall* (1974), *Stranger with My Face* (1981), *The Third Eye* (1984), *Locked in Time* (1985), *Psychic Connections* (1995), and *Gallows Hill* (1997). I also remember reading *Killing Mr. Griffin* (1978) and seeing its TV-movie adaptation (1997).

☞ **Ron Lester** (4 August 1970–17 June 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *The Karate Dog* (1995) and *Sabrina, the Teenage Witch* (1996).

☞ **Anton Yelchin** (11 March 1989–19 June 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *Star Trek* (2009), *Terminator Salvation* (2009), *The Smurfs* (2011), *Fright Night* (2011), *Star Trek Into Darkness* (2013), *The Smurfs 2* (2013), and *Star Trek Beyond* (2016).

☞ **James Victor** (27 July 1939–20 June 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *The Amazing Spider-Man* (1977) and *Desire, the Vampire* (1982). Also guest-starred in one episode of *Murder, She Wrote* (1984).

☞ **Stuart Nisbet** (17 January 1934–23 June 2016). Actor. Genre work includes *The Twilight Zone* (1959), *The Munsters* (1964), *My Mother, the Car* (1965), *The Green Hornet* (1966), *Bewitched* (1964), *The Invaders* (1967), *Get Smart* (1965), *Night Gallery* (1969), *Kolchak: The Night Stalker* (1974), *The Six Million Dollar Man* (1974), *Oh, God!* (1977), *Project UFO* (1978), *Fantasy Island* (1977), *Buck Rogers in the 25th Century* (1979), *Highway to Heaven* (1984), and *They Came from Outer Space* (1990). Guest-starred in one episode of *Murder, She Wrote* (1984).

☞ **Maurice G. Dantec** (13 June 1959–25 June 2016). SF writer and punk rocker.

☞ **Trevor Steedman** (25 May 1954–25 June 2016). Actor and stuntman. Genre credits include *Doctor Who* (1963),²¹ *Aliens* (1986), *Superman IV: The Quest for Peace* (1987), *The Tomorrow People* (1992), *Children of Men* (2006), and *Mutant Chronicles* (2008).

☞ **Bud Spencer** (31 October 1929–27 June 2016). Actor. Genre credit is *Superfantagenio* (AKA *Aladin*) (1986).

19 Episode “Thine Own Self” (12 February 1994).

20 白川由美

21 Episode “Warriors of the Deep” (5–13 January 1984).

☛ **Alvin Toffler** (4 October 1928–27 June 2016). Writer, researcher, and futurist. Books include *Future Shock* (1970), *The Futurists* (1972), *Learning for Tomorrow* (1974), *The Eco-Spasm Report* (1975), *The Third Wave* (1980), and *Powershift: Knowledge, Wealth and Violence at the Edge of the 21st Century* (1990).

Felicity Walker
Friday 1 July 2016

[Breaking] Herschell Gordon Lewis (1929–2016)

Herschell Gordon Lewis: US director, died 26 September, aged 87. Nicknamed the “Godfather of Gore,” Lewis achieved greater career success as a leading figure in the US direct marketing industry, writing more than 20 books on the subject. Entered movie-making in 1961 with a series of “nudie” exploitation releases, but made his mark with *Blood Feast* (1963) and *Two Thousand Maniacs!* (1964). Later genre credits include *Something Weird*, *A Taste of Blood* and *The Gruesome Twosome* (all 1967), *The Wizard of Gore* (1970), [and] *The Gore Gore Girls* (1972). He returned to directing with 2002’s *Blood Feast 2*, and *Herschell Gordon Lewis’ Bloodmania* is currently in post-production.

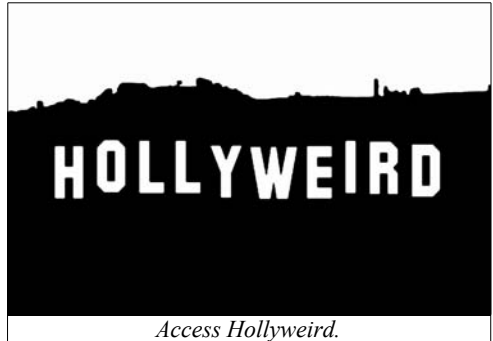
Steve Green
Monday 26 September 2016

VCON 37 Thoughts, Part 3

Michael Bertrand

This is when things get really cool.

First panel of the day (I think... memories are beginning to fade. Better get this stuff blogged out ASAP) was a ton of fun called “Greetings from Hollyweird.” It was that most prized (to entertainment industry wannabe me) of things, a panel where people who work in the industry here in Hollywood North show up at the convention to answer questions from the paltry peons like myself.



Sadly, only three of the seven guests listed showed up, and none of them was a writer. That was what I really wanted, to talk to a Real Live Honest to Goodness Television Writer, and get some tips for getting into the business from them, or at least to hope some of their magical “industry insider” pixie dust rubs off on me.

Instead, it was two artists (one storyboard guy just starting out and one highly experienced illustrator) and an actor who has had small roles in a bunch of sci-fi stuff.

Still, it was a good talk. I just enjoyed feeling closer to what I want as my eventual dream job: to be a full-time writer for TV. And they had cool insider stories about what it is like to work in Hollywood North and do arts for the biz.

Rather handily, the one who was an actor (sorry, I would love to credit you, but I am terrible with names) is also a theater producer, and exhorted us to pick up a mini-flyer for his latest production at the panel's end, which was the perfect bridge between my desire to talk to them and my social anxiety. I went up, picked up a flyer, and asked them if they knew anything about the writing end of the game.

They didn't really know much, but I think they saw how nervous and eager I am, so they told me to write stuff, film it, and put it on the Internet.

Which is pretty much what I plan to do if I can ever get my video camera connected to the computer again.

Next I went to Hospitality, where I met my nemesis: a big jar of miniature peppermint patties.

Whatever resolve I had to not be a bad diabetic exploded into a million shreds because I am an utter *slave* to anything with mint and chocolate together. They are both awesome apart, but put them together and something marvelous happens in my brain and I cannot get enough.

So I was a bad, bad boy last weekend. I hope my pancreas can forgive me.

After that, it was on to the second-best thing I do every year at the con, the Elron and Faned awards. For those who do not know, the Elrons are the oldest science fiction anti-awards in the world, given to only the worst and dimmest in the world. They are administered by R. Graeme Cameron, who delivers them with such marvelous dry wit (and to universally deserving targets) that is an absolute delight to attend the ceremony. It is a ray of elegant hilarity and this year was no different.

And then there were the Faned awards, which R. Graeme Cameron also does. They are awards he bestows upon the best in Canadian fanzine publishing, both to recognize quality and to encourage their continued existence in this increasingly digital era.

And I won one!

Believe me, I was as surprised as you are if not more so. I had absolutely no idea it was coming. He gave me the award for best "LOC hack," which is fanzine slang for someone who writes LOCs (letters of comment) to one or more fanzines.

And apparently, he liked my LOCs to *BCSFazine* so much, he thought I deserved an award. And he had such nice things to say about me that it makes me blush to think of them! He said mine was the kind of letter writing that elevated the whole LOC field.

I swear, I am incandescent in the infrared right now, I am so flushed. I had no idea I was so humble. I suppose I always figured I could handle that sort of thing with flair or at least composure. But it was so unexpected! I was completely flummoxed. And, of course, incredibly pleased.

But at the same time, part of me wanted to disappear into a crack in the floor. Everyone was looking at me all of a sudden! Ah, the perils of being shy by nature. But perhaps it was for the best. If I had been ready for it, I might have hammed it up and given people the wrong impression.

Instead, I blushed like a courtesan and hopefully came across as adorable.

After that major wonder whammy, I went to a panel called “You’ll Get My Books When You Pry Them from My Cold, Dead Hands.” You can figure out what that was about. We had a good talk about real books versus ebooks, and whether they will stop printing books in our lifetime. The consensus was that print on demand will always be there, and that there’s a lot to be said for ebooks, but those of us who grew up loving books will never let ours go.

That’s certainly true for me. I have no real desire to get an ebook reader. I love books beyond all reason. I find libraries and book stores inherently happy places. I am not just a lover of reading, I am a bibliophile. I cannot imagine life without a book at my bedside and hundreds of more on shelves.

I will get an ebook reader eventually, I am sure. But I will never let my books go. I heart them. As a lonely child, books were my only friends.

And you do not give up on friends just because something cooler comes along.



After that, I went to the Turkey Readings, which are, officially, the most fun I have all year. Briefly, the panelists read terrible sci-fi and/or fantasy novels, and people can bid to stop the reading, and then others can bid to start it again.

While this is going on, volunteers from the audience act out the story, taking on the various roles. And being the ham I am, I volunteered a few times, and had a blast, and best of all, made the audience laugh.

And for a comedy nerd like me, that laughter is the best drug in the world.

After that, we went to dinner with some friends at a nearby Red Robin, and then it was back to Richmond to sleep in our own beds once more, and dream of next year.

And that was about it, really.

Tomorrow, I resume having to think about what to write again.

Michael Bertrand
The Blog of Michael John Bertrand
Tuesday 4 October 2012

Art Credits

- Felicity Walker (font: Yann Le Coroller).....Masthead
- Felicity Walker (photos).....Cover, Page 11 (bottom)
- Clip art (various screenshots).....Pages 1, 3 (right), 5 (left)
- Clip art (via Dave Haren)...Pages 2 , 3 (left), 4, 5 (left), 6, 9–10, 11 (top)
- Clip art.....Page 12 (left)
- Clip art (Clker.com).....Pages 12 (right), 13
- Felicity Walker (clip art: Clker.com + font: ShyWedge).....Page 16
- Clip art (James Dean Smith/Valaska Smith/Dan McKinnon)....Page 18