

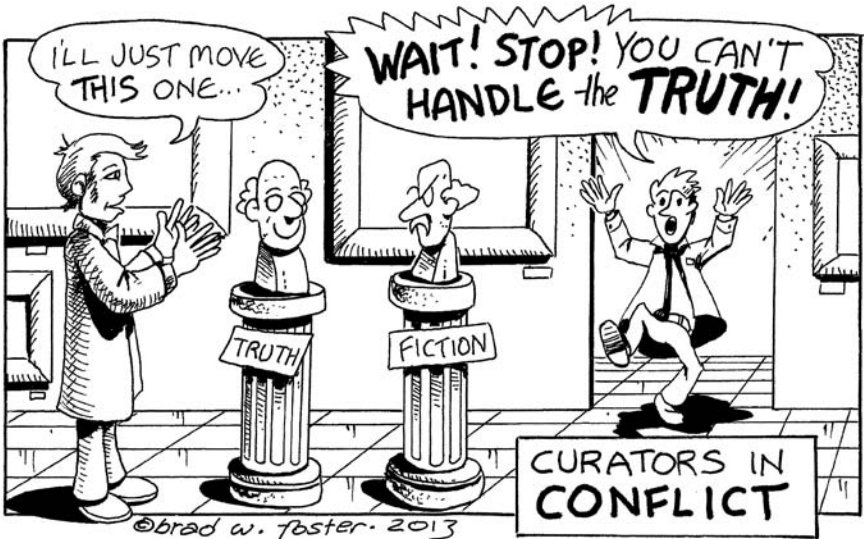
BCSFAzine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#533

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October 2017



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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 15 October 2017 at 6 PM: | October BCSFA meeting—at ABC Country Restaurant, 3580 Number Three Road, Richmond. |
| Friday 20 October 2017: | Submission deadline for November <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally). |
| Friday 27 October 2017: | November <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically). |
| Friday 17 November 2017: | Submission deadline for December <i>BCSFAzine</i> (ideally). |
| Sunday 19 November 2017 at 6 PM: | November BCSFA meeting—at ABC Country Restaurant. |
| Friday 24 November 2017: | December <i>BCSFAzine</i> production (theoretically). |

About BCSFA

The incumbent BCSFA Executive members are:

- 👤 WCSFA Social Committee Chairman/Archivist: R. Graeme Cameron, 604-584-7562
- 👤 Vice President: TBD
- 👤 Treasurer/Supporting *BCSFAzine* Production Donor: Kathleen Moore, 604-771-0845
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- 👤 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_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.*]

Taral Wayne
taral@bell.net

Thursday 11 October 2018

You really had me going for a while, and not in a good way—if there is such a thing.

You see, I keep extraordinary records of everything, and obviously including any bits of writing that I've farmed out for publishing. But there was a problem with "Now It's My Turn" as it appeared last issue. I had no record of it. I hastily checked my logs for December 2012, and it wasn't there. I then checked the next two or three years, even though I could not have made such a mistake. At that point, I began to panic. Suppose *you* had changed the title? Without a valid date or title, how was I supposed to confirm the existence of the piece that appeared in *BCSFAzine*? I might be forced to open and read the first lines of around a couple of hundred Word docs...



Fortunately, I decided that the original publication date on "Now It's My Turn" was wrong, and it had not been December 2012. *It was 2011.*

So you really had me going for a while. Fortunately, for the sake of my sanity and the integrity of my record keeping, all has been found in order.

[*My system is that I use the date that I received the article from the author (in this case, Sunday 2 December 2012).*]

However, I'm not sure that the same can be said for your record-keeping. Did that cover actually say *September 2017*? Fans are so mysterious sometimes.

[*That's the correct date. I'm a year behind schedule.*]

Since I wrote "Now It's My Turn" in 2011, quite a lot has changed. About three years ago, I finally paid for a brand-new computer, my first that was right out of the box and had not been someone else's cast-off. Acquiring a new computer made a world of difference, not only with an up-to-date operating system, but also with the speed and RAM space that I had only dreamed about before.

As things go, my Acer Veriton M6630G was not state-of-the-art when I bought it. In fact, I believed it inexpensive because the model was going out of production. No matter; it had 4 gig of RAM, a 3.1 GHz CPU and almost half a gigabyte of hard drive space, and it seemed out-of-this-world to me. It came installed with Windows XP.

I still have almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of my HD to fill, even after more than three years, and—once I moved up to a cable connection—I've never complained about speed. At some point I moved up to Windows 10, since I knew I would be forced to, and knew it would be completely free during the first year it was introduced. The package also gave me McAfee antivirus for life. I have had no problems to speak of, since.

I do have one small problem. I have a back-up hard drive for my personal files—writing, art and other personal matters—but the drive is rather small, and is very nearly full. As soon as I can, I need to replace the drive with something at least in the gig range.

Other than that...my computer is perfect! I just wish it wasn't me personally that wasn't shot to hell! I guess you just can't have everything.

Dave Haren
tyrbolo@comcast.net

Saturday 13 October 2018

Hi Felicity,

Links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZPCp8SPfOM>¹

Far out man!!!

[Joe Rogan is a nice guy and means well.

[Alex Jones was better fifteen or twenty years ago. He was a great guest on Coast to Coast AM with Art Bell in those days. He was fighting for the average person against the unelected and unaccountable people in power. It took guts to infiltrate the Bohemian Grove and protest Bilderberg conferences. You'll notice that when he pleads that he's not right-wing, all his examples are from that far back—WTO, George W. Bush...Since then he's drifted far to the right.



[Some of the information he brings to this interview is shocking and convincing. If I hadn't also seen Jones do scumbag things like harassing Bernie Sanders at an airport, I might reconsider my opinion of him. I guess the bottom line is we have to believe the things he can prove, and ignore the right-wing propoganda.

[I'm sure that if there's scary, evil behaviour going on in Washington, it isn't limited to one party. Let's see if Jones is willing to name some Republicans who do it. Also, he said he would criticise Trump if Trump did bad. For example, in the above video Jones promised that Trump would eliminate taxes on the poor, cut taxes on the middle class, and raise taxes on the rich—and all Trump has done is cut taxes on the rich. Think Jones will call him on it?

[The conspiracy, alien, and paranormal content of the episode was very enjoyable, though. Once the marijuana starts circulating things get much more fun.]

<https://wargamingwithbarks.blogspot.com/>²

Some interesting paint jobs.

[The Bolter is a surprisingly cute weapon! Like a pig nose with droid legs. ©]

<http://wfhgs.com/>³

Warning Order 49 is done.

1 [YouTube: The Joe Rogan Experience #911](#)—Alex Jones & Eddie Bravo.

2 [Wargaming with Barks](#).

3 [Wasatch Front Historical Gaming Society](#).

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-45226132>⁴

The wonders of politics.

[*Simpler, more innocent times.*]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k3YcGRCGEuY5>

Jimmy Dore.

[*In this video Rogan says the same thing about how Jones has changed in the last twenty years as I did above. Vindication!*]

<https://wikileaks.org/google-is-not-what-it-seems/6>

Fortunately they dumped that Don't Be Evil and are now freed to be pragmatic and businesslike.

[*No wonder the new Gmail interface is all screwed up!*]

[*Sad to see systemising-intelligence chauvinism from Assange.*]

<https://quillette.com/2018/09/07/academic-activists-send-a-published-paper-down-the-memory-hole/7>

New mad science method wears a new mask.

[*A sad case. I wonder what would have happened if the mathematicians had known in advance that their work would be misinterpreted, and had included very clear preamble, boilerplate, and caveats to the effect that they are for women in STEM, they have a good track record of actions toward that cause, and that the purpose of their research was not to argue that men are better at STEM, nor even to argue the greater male variability hypothesis, but to look for the reason for GMV. They probably did try to explain that several times after the scandal got rolling, but by that point, their opponents had already made up their minds. Being innocent is not enough sometimes (speaking strategically, not morally).*]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycPr5-27vSI8>

Elon.

[*I love Spaceballs (1987) too. I still have hope for flying cars, no matter how impractical or unworkable they are in real life. Merging with AI doesn't sound so bad, although according to Alex Jones in his Rogan episode, it's a trap.*]

<https://archive.org/details/pulpmagazinearchive9>

Someone in a loc mentioned that they would like to find olde pulps to read. Just follow this link. Brewster Kahle has been trying to build an archive of all human knowledge for years. Probably as noble an act as anyone ever tried. It is like rummaging in the attic of humanity for interesting stuff.

[*They have an issue of Car Toons! I haven't seen that in 30 years!*]

<https://baconfatblog.blogspot.com/2018/10/ramshackle-dwarf-bikes-jet-bikes.html>¹⁰

Poop Like a Boss!

4 **BBC News**: “1968 Democratic National Convention: A ‘Week of Hate.’ ”

5 **YouTube**: *The Joe Rogan Experience* #1156—Jimmy Dore.

6 **WikiLeaks**: “Google Is Not What It Seems” by Julian Assange.

7 **Quillette**: “Academic Activists Send a Published Paper Down the Memory Hole.”

8 **YouTube**: *The Joe Rogan Experience* #1169—Elon Musk.

9 The Pulp Magazine Archive.

10 Baconfat Log: Piles of Lead, Cyanoacrylate, and Toxic Paint: “Ramshackle Dwarf Bikes, Jet Bikes, Dwarves, and ‘Jersey’ Barriers.”

End links.

Troutwaxer on Charlie Stross blog:¹¹

27:

“I’ve been thinking a lot about Lovecraft’s ideas these days, particular his idea that the human race is the youngest, most un-advanced race in the galaxy, or maybe the whole universe.

“The Lovecraftian logic goes like this: the universe has been capable of producing intelligent life for 6–7 billion years (depending on when, exactly, enough complex elements have been created during super-nova events). Meanwhile, Earth is only 4.5 billion years old. Therefore, since we only evolved intelligence on Earth a hundred thousand years ago, we’re the simpletons of the universe, because other races have a million or billion year advantage over us in all the things that matter; philosophy, engineering, astronomy, genetics, physics, etc.



“So imagine that the very proud human race has finally figured out how to brute force an FTL starship, and is now voyaging through the galaxy. The ship makes its first stop at a planet which shows signs of life, goes into geo-stationary orbit above a large city, and tries to make contact by radio.

“Eventually a somewhat human-sized creature steps out a window, spreads its wings, and flies through the atmosphere, accelerates to orbital velocity, and knocks on the starship’s airlock. Why is this possible? Because after a 500 million years of studying physics, engineering, and genetics, this particular race has modified itself to be able to fly through space, because why not?

“And things degenerate from there, as the creature explains to them that using radio is dangerous, because there are bigger, stronger races out there, and they don’t like to be disturbed... Meanwhile, could the starship’s crew help the creature with the paper it has due on inferior races?

“The starship flies from one star system to another, and everyplace it stops the people are superior and un-interested. It’s like something written by Benford or Brin, but without the conflict (who cares what the humans are doing) or the happy ending. I call it Inferiority-Punk.”

It is an interesting set of ideas but alas not innovative. Heinlein explored it years ago in various stories. Greg Costikyan did a wonderful take on it in *First Contract*. Once you get past the ego-centric mindset forged on the African plains which is built into most humans it makes absolutely no sense to think that we occupy the highest rung of the ladder in this galaxy, let alone in the endless universe. We can’t even maintain a sustainable lifestyle with the evidences that show it was possible in the past. The distance between true and comfortable to believe gets wider every day. One aid is that you can’t copyright a fact. So a copyright claim immediately tags the material as opinion or falsehood.

¹¹ [Link](#).

I was totally amused by the media using the “fake news” meme. Given their track record since the beginning of the 20th century they should have avoided the term to save their own sorry reputations. Of course the example of Julian Assange shows what happens to people who publish the truth too often for government liking.

[*The media is allowed to broadcast the truth once per year when they report on the speech of the comedian at the White House Correspondents’ Dinner.*]

For MMA fans Conor has cracked Khabib mentally so now he’ll lose the re-match. The whole theory of yapping is to get your opponent to become exercised about what you said allowing him to charge into a left.

Lots of odd pics. Some may be of use. The Rus roleplay gangs are having way too much fun. The electric vehicle from Kalashnikov goes well with your AK74.

Keep on keepin’ on,
Dave

Lloyd Penney
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Tuesday 23 October 2018



Dear BCSFen:

Another *BCSFazine* has arrived, and I am trying hard not to let it go as much as I have...I have gotta keep up. So, here’s a letter of comment on issue 532.

[*Now that I’m finally over my cold, I have to get back on schedule too!*]

Hello to Sheryl! Good to see you are working your way through the seasons of *Murdoch Mysteries*. It has become the only show I follow regularly, at least until *Star Trek: Discovery* comes back in January. Most professions and even jobs out there demand qualifications that would have been sufficient for several jobs in the past. It’s a wonder even experienced workers qualify for any job these days.

Boris Johnson has been trying to become Britain’s Trump, I think. The current politics in the US has to start turning off even some Republican supporters. I hope that ratio keeps being as big as it is.

[*He’s already got the weird hair.*]

My loc...Yvonne’s job continues on at Casino Woodbine to the north of us. It looks like they are planning an expanded casino, a hotel and a massive convention centre, so it looks like there will be lots of work for lots of people there. They even have my resume, although I am not certain what I could do for them.

We’ve just had our municipal elections yesterday, and John Tory was re-elected as mayor. We hope he can still take on Premier Ford, and fight off whatever else he’s got planned for the city. As you say, lather, rinse, repeat. I was right that last Motor City Steam Con we attended was indeed the last one, but there is already evidence of a replacement convention coming up next year.

I did watch the first episode of the Jodie Whittaker Doctor, and quite enjoyed it. But, I have tried my best to have a policy of not letting any series control my schedule. I have lots to do, and television often gets in the way. Besides, that's what a PVR is for...

Time to shift this into the webstreams, and get this to you as soon as possible. Take care, see you later.

Yours,
Lloyd Penney

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

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 October, and 7, 14, 21, and 28 November 2017 (*Tuesdays*): Board Gamers: Tuesday Night Board Gaming, 5–10 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 October and 7, 14, 21, and 28 November 2017 (*Tuesdays*): Vancouver Hack Space Open House, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 October and 7, 14, 21, and 28 November 2017 (*Tuesdays*): Hot Improv Tuesdays at Café Deux Soleils!, 8 PM at Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Drive, Vancouver.—The Fictionals Comedy Co.

11 and 18 October and 1, 15, and 29 November 2017 (*alternate Wednesdays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Wednesday Is the New Monday!, 7–8 PM at Cuppa Joy, 2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

4, 11, 18, and 25 October and 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 November 2017 (*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

5, 12, 19, and 26 Thursday and 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 November 2017 (*Thursdays*): Thursday Hobby Build Nights, 6–9 PM at Agas Three and Up Gundam, 226–9855 Austin Road, Burnaby.—A3U Gundam

5 October and 2 November 2017 (*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.*]

5 October and 2 November 2017 (*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

6, 13, 20, and 27 October and 3, 10, 17, and 24 November 2017 (*Fridays*): Magic: The Gathering Friday Night Games, 5:30–9 PM at Imperial Hobbies, Unit #115–6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond.

6, 13, 20, and 27 October and 3, 10, 17, and 24 November 2017 (*Fridays*): Board Gamers: Friday Night Magic, 6:30–9:30 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

6, 13, 20, and 27 October and 3, 10, 17, and 24 November 2017 (*Fridays*): Friday Board Game Night—Drexoll Games, 7–11 PM at Drexoll Games, 2880 West 4th Avenue, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

7, 14, 21, and 28 October and 4, 11, 18, and 25 November 2017 (*Saturdays*): Board Gamers: Saturday Afternoon Gaming, 12–7 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

7, 14, 21, and 28 October and 4, 11, 18, and 25 November 2017 (*Saturdays*): Saturday Jam at the Brownsville Pub, 5:30–9:30 PM at the Brownsville Pub, 11940 Old Yale Road, Surrey.—Greg Cairns

1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 October and 5, 12, 19, and 26 November 2017 (*Sundays*): Kitsilano Board Games: Lazy Sundays, 2–3 PM at Cuppa Joy, #295–2083 Alma Street, Vancouver.—Keith Lim

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 October and 6, 13, 20, and 27 November 2017 (*Mondays*): Board Gamers: Painting Miniatures, 5–9 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 October and 6, 13, 20, and 27 November 2017 (*Mondays*): Vancouver Hack Space Craft Night, 7:30–10:30 PM at 270 East 1st Avenue, Vancouver.—Julian Castle

10 October and 7 November 2017 (*second Tuesday*): Meeting of Automotive Model Builders Vancouver, 7 PM at Burnaby Lions Club, 7420 Mulberry Place, Burnaby.

10 October and 7 November 2017 (*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

12 and 26 October and 9 and 23 November 2017 (*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)

12 October and 9 November 2017 (*second Thursday*): Vancouver Astronomy Monthly Meetup, 7:30–8:30 PM. [*No location given.*]—Keith Lim

12 October and 9 November 2017 (*second Thursday*): Fraser Valley Model Club Monthly Meeting, 7:30–9:30 PM at Kariton House Gallery, 2387 Ware Street, Abbotsford.—Keith Lim

14 October and 11 November 2017 (*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

18 October and 15 November 2017 (*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

20 October and 17 November 2017 (*third Friday*): IPMS Vancouver Monthly Meeting, 7–9:30 PM at Bonsor Recreation Complex, second floor “Arts Room,” 6550 Bonsor Avenue, Burnaby.—Keith Lim

21 October and 18 November 2017 (*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

15 October and 19 November 2017 (*third Sunday*): Board Game Swap Meetup, 11 AM–1 PM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

28 October and 25 November 2017 (*last Saturday*): Board Gamers: 12 Hours of Gaming, 12 PM–12 AM at Board Game Warriors, 708 Clarkson Street, New Westminster.—Keith Lim

October 2017

October is Bat Appreciation Month, Black Speculative Fiction Month, International Starman Month, National Stamp Collecting Month, and National Reading Group Month.

1 October 2017: **Dave Strutt**'s birthday.

1 October 2017: First Annual Penticton Zombie Walk and Games, 1–4 PM at Gyro Park, 55 Main Street, Penticton. Presented by Penti-Con.

3 October 2017: Techies Day.

4 October 2017: **Barbara Scutt**'s birthday.

5 October 2017: **Jim Naguib**'s birthday.

6 October 2017: **Arthur D. Hlavaty**'s and **Jason Solomon**'s birthdays. Mad Hatter Day. Premiere of film *Blade Runner 2049* (SF; Ryan Gosling, Dave Bautista, Robin Wright, Edward James Olmos, Jared Leto, Harrison Ford, Sean Young) and *My Little Pony: The Movie* (fantasy/animation; Emily Blunt, Kristin Chenoweth, Taye Diggs, Brian Dobson, Michael Dobson, Peter New, Mark Oliver, Michael Peña, Zoe Saldana, Liev Schreiber, Tabitha St. Germain, Tara Strong, Paul Dobson; art direction by Rebecca Dart).



7 October 2017: **Howard Chaykin**'s birthday.

11 October 2017: **Ivy Blais**'s birthday.

13 October 2017: Premiere of films *Happy Death Day* (horror) and *Professor Marston and the Wonder Women* (biography; Oliver Platt).

15 October 2017: **Verne Siebert**'s birthday.

16 October 2017: **Duncan McGregor**'s birthday.

19 October 2017: **Gareth von Kallenbach**'s and **Cathy Palmer-Lister**'s birthdays.

20 October 2017: **Richard Walters**'s birthday. Premiere of films *Geostorm* (SF; Gerard Butler, Andy Garcia, Ed Harris), *Boo 2! A Madea Halloween*¹² (horror/comedy), *Golmaal Again* (horror/comedy), and *Tragedy Girls* (horror/comedy; Craig Robinson, Loren Lester, Rosalind Chao).

21 October 2017: **Christopher J. Garcia**'s birthday.

23 October 2017: **Don Thompson**'s birthday.

25 October 2017: Punk for a Day Day.

27 October 2017: **Peter Tupper**'s birthday. Premiere of film *Jigsaw* (horror; Tobin Bell, Callum Keith Rennie).

¹² AKA *Tyler Perry's Boo 2! A Madea Halloween* (original title).

28 October 2017: **Church Haley**'s birthday.

29 October 2017: National Frankenstein Day.

30 October 2017: **Kirstin Morrell**'s birthday.

31 October 2017. **Lucretia DeVille**'s birthday. Halloween. Increase Your Psychic Powers Day.

November 2017

November is National Novel Writing Month.



1 November 2017: Author's Day.

3 November 2017: **Dale Speirs**'s birthday. Premiere of films *Thor: Ragnarok* (superhero; Jeff Goldblum, Anthony Hopkins, Clancy Brown, Sam Neill, Matt Damon, Stan Lee) and *Blade of the Immortal* (fantasy).

4 November 2017: Book Lovers' Day.

5 November 2017: **Shannon Enns**'s and **Hello Kitty**'s birthdays.

5 November 2017: Vancouver Comicon, 11 AM–5 PM at Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street, Vancouver. Special Guests: Joseph Keatinge (*Shutter*, *Ringside*, *Glory*), Nick Barber (*Ringside*), Owen Gieni (*Rat Queens*, *Shutter*, *Manifest Destiny*), Jim McPherson (*Phantacea*), *USNA*. Admission: \$4.00; kids under 14: free.

6 November 2017: **Stan Hyde**'s birthday.

7 November 2017: **Tim Maruyama**'s birthday.

9 November 2017: Carl Sagan Day.

10 November 2017: Premiere of film *Thelma* (horror).

11 November 2017: **Line Noise**'s and **John Clement**'s birthdays.

12 November 2017: National Young Readers Day.

17 November 2017: Premiere of films *Justice League* (superhero; Ben Affleck, Jeremy Irons, JK Simmons, Joe Morton, David Thewlis, Billy Crudup) and *The Star* (computer animation; Keegan-Michael Key, Aidy Bryant, Christopher Plummer,

Ving Rhames, Patricia Heaton, Kris Kristofferson, Mariah Carey, Oprah Winfrey, Tyler Perry, Tracy Morgan, Phil Morris, Fred Tatasciore, Gregg Berger, Scott Men-ville).

18 November 2017: **Ken Kato**'s birthday. Occult Day.

20 November 2017: **Bogglerat**'s birthday. Transgender Day of Remembrance.

23 November 2017: *Doctor Who* Day and Fibonacci Day.

24 November 2017: **Spider Robinson**'s birthday. Evolution Day. Premiere of film *Coco* (computer animation; Benjamin Bratt, Edward James Olmos, Cheech Marin, John Ratzenberger).

26 November 2017: **Amy Hearn**'s birthday.

28 November 2017: Red Planet Day.

News-Like Matter

Notes from August 2017 BCSFA Meeting

I missed this meeting.

Felicity Walker
Sunday 20 August 2017

Notes from September 2017 BCSFA Meeting

I missed this meeting.


Felicity Walker
Sunday 17 September 2017

Dave Duncan (1933–2018)

Author Dave Duncan of Victoria has passed away. His publisher has posted a tribute at <http://fiveriverspublishing.com/?p=4032>.

Via Lorina Stephens, Susan Walsh, and Kathleen Moore
Monday 29 October 2018

Passages: September 2017

 **Shelley Berman (Sheldon Leonard Berman)** (3 February 1925–1 September 2017). Comedian, actor, writer, and teacher. Genre work includes *The Twilight Zone* (1959), *Bewitched* (1964), *Beware! The Blob* (1972), *Knight Rider* (1982), *The Mun-*

sters *Today* (1987), *Monsters* (1988), *Garfield and Friends* (1988), *Teen Witch* (1989), *What a Dummy* (1990), *Providence* (1999), *In God We Trust* (2000), *Dead Like Me* (2003), *Pushing Daisies* (2007), and *The Legend of Secret Pass* (2010).

👱 **Elizabeth Kemp** (5 November 1951–1 September 2017). Actress. Genre work includes *The Clairvoyant* (1982), *Challenger* (1990), and *Murderous Vision* (1991).

👱 **Peadar Lamb** (1930–1 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Mystic Knights of Tir Na Nóg* (1998) and *Jakers! The Adventures of Piggley Winks* (2003).

👱 **Gastone Moschin** (8 June 1929–4 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Mr. Superinvisibile* (1970).¹³

👱 **Hansford Rowe** (12 May 1924–5 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Dark Shadows* (1966), *The Greatest American Hero* (1981), *Amy & The Angel* (1982), *V* (1983), *V: The Final Battle* (1984), *Bob* (1992), *Roswell* (1994), *Touched by an Angel* (1994), *Spider-Man* (1994), and *Dark Skies* (1996).

👱 **Terence Harvey (Terence John Humes)** (October 1944–7 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Invasion: Earth* (1998), *From Hell* (2001), *The Discovery of Heaven* (2001), *If Only* (2004), and *How to Be a Villain* (2015).

👱 **Blake Heron** (11 January 1982–8 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Reality Check* (1995), *Trilogy of Terror II* (1996), *Early Edition* (1996), and *Good Versus Evil* (1999).¹⁴

👱 **Toshihiko Nakajima** (中嶋 聡彦) (12 August 1962–8 September 2017). Actor and sound director. Genre work includes *MD Geist* (1986), *Devilman* (1987), *Patlabor: The Movie* (1989),¹⁵ *Urusei Yatsura: Denki Shikake no Oniwaban* (1989), *Urusei Yatsura: Tsuki ni Hoeru* (1989), *Urusei Yatsura: Hâto o Tsukame* (1989), *Record of the Lodoss War* (1990),¹⁶ *Spirit of Wonder: China-San no Yûutsu* (1992), *Gatchaman* (1994),¹⁷ *Street Fighter II: V* (1995), *Numamonjaa: Time and Space Adventures* (1996),¹⁸ *Escaflowne* (1996),¹⁹ *Slayers Great* (1997), *Pokémon* (1997),²⁰ *Burning Rangers* (1998), *Magical Stage Fancy Lala* (1998),²¹ *Mobile Suit Gundam: The 08th MS Team—Miller's Report* (1998),²² *Slayers Gorgeous* (1998), *Slayers: Excellent* (1998), *Cowboy Bebop* (1998), *eX-Driver* (2000), *Ghost Stories* (2000),²³



13 AKA *L'Inafferrabile Invincibile Mr. Invisibile* (original title).

14 AKA *G vs. E* (original title).

15 AKA *Kidô Keisatsu Patorebâ: Gekijô-Ban* (original title).

16 AKA *Rôdosu-Tô Senki* (original title).

17 AKA *Kagaku Ninja Tai Gatchaman* (original title).

18 AKA *Jikuu Bouken Numamonjaa* (original title).

19 AKA *Tenkû no Esukafurône* (original title).

20 AKA *Pocketto Monsutâ* (original title).

21 AKA *Mahô no Stêji Fanshî Rara* (original title).

22 AKA *Kidô Senshi Gandamu: Dai 08 MS Shôtai—Mirâzu Ripôto* (original title).

23 AKA *Gakkô no Kaidan* (original title).

Inuyasha (2000), *Shingu: Secret of the Stellar Wars* (2001),²⁴ *Cowboy Bebop: The Movie* (2001),²⁵ *Inuyasha the Movie: Affections Touching Across Time* (2001),²⁶ *Doraemon: Nobita and the Robot Kingdom* (2002), *InuYasha the Movie 2: The Castle Beyond the Looking Glass* (2002),²⁷ *Space Pirate Captain Harlock: The Endless Odyssey* (2002), *Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex* (2002),²⁸ *Mobile Suit Gundam Seed* (2002),²⁹ *Mermaid Melody Pichi Pichi Pitch* (2003), *Ninja Scroll: The Series* (2003),³⁰ *Sonic X* (2003), *Mars Daybreak* (2004),³¹ *Mobile Suit Gundam Seed Destiny* (2004),³² *Transformers: Galaxy Force* (2005), *Rockman.EXE: The Program of Light and Darkness* (2005),³³ and *Trinity Blood* (2005).



♣ **Jerry Pournelle** (7 August 1933–8 September 2017). SF author, journalist, psychologist, political scientist, and military strategist/tactician. Co-founder of the Citizens’ Advisory Council on National Space Policy. President of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America (1973). Recipient of Bronze Medal, American Security Council (1964); John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer (1973); Prometheus Award (1992); Seiun Award for Foreign Novel (in Japanese translation) (1998); Heinlein Society Award (with Larry Niven) (2005); National Space Society Robert A. Heinlein Memorial Award “for lifetime achievement in promoting the goal of a free, spacefaring civilization.” Genre work includes *Falkenberg’s Legion*, *Janisaries*, and *The Mote in God’s Eye* (with Larry Niven). Notable non-genre work includes the “Chaos Manor” column in *Byte*.

♣ **Mike Hodge** (24 February 1947–9 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Magic Sticks* (1987), *The Shaman* (1988), *Ghostwriter* (1992), *Dr. Jekyll and Ms. Hyde* (1995), and *Undermind* (2003).

♣ **Xavier Atencio** (4 September 1919–10 September 2017). Animator, writer, lyricist, Disney Imagineer, and Air Force aerial surveillance photo analyst. Genre work includes *Fantasia* (1940), *The Shaggy Dog* (1959), *Babes in Toyland* (1961), *The Misadventures of Merlin Jones* (1964), *Mary Poppins* (1964), *Winnie the Pooh and the Honey Tree* (1966), *Adventure Thru Inner Space* (1967), *Haunted Mansion* (1969), and *The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh* (1977).

24 AKA *Gakuen Senki Muryō* (original title).

25 AKA *Cowboy Bebop: Tengoku no Tobira* (original title).

26 AKA *Inuyasha—Toki wo Koeru Omoi* (original title).

27 AKA *Inuyasha—Kagami no Naka no Mugenjō* (original title).

28 AKA *Kōkaku Kidōtai: Stand Alone Complex* (original title).

29 AKA *Kidō Senshi Gundam Seed* (original title).

30 AKA *Jūbei Ninpūchō: Ryūhogyoku-Hen* (original title).

31 AKA *Kenran Budōsai: Za Māzu Deibureiku* (original title).

32 AKA *Kidō Senshi Gundam Seed Destiny* (original title).

33 AKA *Gekijōban Rockman.exe: Hikari to Yami no Puroguramu* (original title).

👤 **Kate Murtagh** (29 October 1920–10 September 2017). Actress. Genre work includes *The Twilight Zone* (1959), *The Munsters* (1964), *I Dream of Jeanie* (1965), *The Night Strangler* (1973), *The Car* (1977), *Highway to Heaven* (1984), and *Waxwork II: Lost in Time* (1992). Notable non-genre work includes cover of Supertramp’s *Breakfast in America* (1979).

👤 **Len Wein (Leonard Norman Wein)** (12 June 1948–10 September 2017). Comics writer and editor. Active in fanzine culture. Co-creator of Swamp Thing, Wolverine, and the Human Target. Creator of Abigail Arcane and Lucius Fox. Will Eisner Comic Book Hall of Fame inductee (2008). Recipient of Shazam Award for Best Writer (1972), Comic Fan Art Award (1974), Inkpot Award (1977), *Comic Buyer’s Guide* Fan Award (1982), and Horror Writers Association Bram Stoker Award (1998). Genre work includes *Teen Titans*, *The House of Secrets*, *Chamber of Darkness*, *Nightmare*, *Psycho*, *Boris Karloff Tales of Mystery*, *Microbots*, *Star Trek*, *The Twilight Zone*, *Daredevil*, *The Flash*, *Superman*, *The Phantom Stranger*, *Justice League of America*, *Thor*, *The Amazing Spider-Man*, *The Incredible Hulk*, *Fantastic Four*, *X-Men*, *Batman*, *Green Lantern*, *Camelot 3000*, *Who’s Who in the DC Universe*, *Watchmen*, *Blue Beetle*, *Wonder Woman*, *Street Fighter*, *ExoSquad*, *Phantom 2040*, *Godzilla*, *ReBoot*, *War Planets: Shadow Raiders*, *The Dreaming: Trial and Error*, *Justice Machine*, *Before Watchmen*, *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, *DC Challenge*, *The Shadow*, *Superboy*, *Iron Man*, *Batman: The Animated Series*, *Godzilla: The Series*, *Spider-Man: The Animated Series*, and *X-Men: The Animated Series*.



👤 **Mark LaMura** (18 October 1948–11 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Star Trek: The Next Generation* (1987),³⁴ *Bill & Ted’s Excellent Adventures* (1992), *Mattie Fresno and the Holoflux Universe* (2007), and *Christmas Cupid* (2010).

👤 **Basil Gogos** (12 March 1929–13 September 2017). Illustrator. Genre work includes *Famous Monsters of Filmland*, *Creepy*, *Eerie*, *The Spaceman*, *The Spirit*, and *Monsterscene*. Inducted to Monster Kid Hall of Fame at the Rondo Hatton Classic Horror Awards (2006).

👤 **Frank Vincent (Frank Vincent Gattuso Jr.)** (15 April 1937–13 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *NetForce* (1999), *Grand Theft Auto III* (2001), *Shark Tale* (2004), *Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas* (2004), *Stargate: Atlantis* (2004), *Grand Theft Auto: Liberty City Stories* (2005), *Mr. Pickles* (2013), and *Neo Yokio* (2017).

👤 **George Englund (George Howe Ripley)** (22 June 1926–14 September 2017). Writer, director, actor, and producer. Genre work includes *The World, the Flesh and the Devil* (1959) and *Challenger* (1990).

👤 **Otto Wanz** (13 June 1943–14 September 2017). Professional wrestler and wrestling promoter and boxer. AKA Big Otto and Bulldog Otto.

34 Episode “Transfigurations” (2 June 1990) as John Doe.

🐉 **Harry Dean Stanton** (14 July 1926–15 September 2017). Actor and musician. Genre work includes *The Wild Wild West* (1965), *Alien* (1979), *Death Watch* (1980),³⁵ *Escape from New York* (1981), *Christine* (1983), *Repo Man* (1984), *UFOría* (1985), *One Magic Christmas* (1985), *Dream a Little Dream* (1989), *The Jim Henson Hour* (1989), *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me* (1992), *The Green Mile* (1999), *Alien Autopsy* (2006), *Inland Empire* (2006), *Alice* (2009), *Rango* (2011), *Mongo Wrestling Alliance* (2011), *The Avengers* (2012), *Alien: Isolation* (2014), and *Twin Peaks* (2017).



🐉 **Suzan Farmer** (16 June 1942–17 September 2017). Actress. Genre work includes *Monster of Terror* (1965),³⁶ *Out of the Unknown* (1965), *Dracula: Prince of Darkness* (1966), *Rasputin: The Mad Monk* (1966), *Talk of the Devil* (1968), *UFO* (1970), *Leap in the Dark* (1973), and *Blake's 7* (1978).

🐉 **Bobby Heenan (Raymond Louis Heenan)** (1 November 1944–17 September 2017). Professional wrestler, commentator, manager, author, and actor. Genre work includes *Timemaster* (1995).

🐉 **Bernie Casey (Bernard Terry Casey)** (8 June 1939–19 September 2017).

Actor and football player. Genre work includes *Gargoyles* (1972), *Dr. Black, Mr. Hyde* (1976), *The Man Who Fell to Earth* (1976), *Ants!* (1977),³⁷ *The Martian Chronicles* (1980), *The Fantastic World of DC Collins* (1984), *Amazon Women on the Moon* (1987), *Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure* (1989), *Time Trax* (1993), *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* (1993), *SeaQuest 2032* (1993),³⁸ *Babylon 5* (1993), *In the Mouth of Madness* (1995), *Batman Beyond* (1999), and *Vegas Vampires* (2007). Notable non-genre work includes *Never Say Never Again* (1983) (as Felix Leiter) and *Revenge of the Nerds* (1984). One-time *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) guest star.

🐉 **Jake LaMotta (Giacobbe LaMotta)** (10 July 1922–19 September 2017). Boxer, actor, and comedian. Genre work includes *Maniac Cop* (1988) and *The Happy Moose* (1995).

🐉 **Kit Reed (Lillian Hyde Craig)** (7 June 1932–24 September 2017). SF author.

🐉 **Tony Booth (Anthony George Booth)** (9 October 1931–25 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *The Exorcism of Hugh* (1972)³⁹ and *Gone to the Dogs* (2006).

🐉 **Bobby Knutt (Robert Andrew Wass)** (25 November 1945–25 September 2017). Actor and comedian. Genre work includes *Earthfasts* (1994).

35 AKA *La Mort en Direct* (original title).

36 AKA *Die, Monster, Die!* (original title).

37 AKA *It Happened at Lakewood Manor* (original title).

38 AKA *Seaquest DSV* (original title).

39 AKA *Neither the Sea Nor the Sand* (original title).

Jan Tříska (4 November 1936–25 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *The Death of Tarzan* (1963),⁴⁰ *The Golden Fern* (1963),⁴¹ *Golden Hair* (1973),⁴² *Fantasy Island* (1977), *The Fantastic World of DC Collins* (1984), 2010: *The Year We Made Contact* (1984),⁴³ *Airwolf* (1984), *Quantum Leap* (1989), *Deadly Web* (1996), *Highlander* (1992), *Highlander: The Raven* (1998), *The Omega Code* (1999), *Lost Souls* (2000), *Year of the Devil* (2002),⁴⁴ and *Blizzard* (2003).



Barry Dennen (22 February 1938–26 September 2017). Actor, writer, and singer. Genre work includes *Batman*

(1966), *The Secret Cinema* (1968), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (1973), *Madhouse* (1974), *Wonder Woman* (1975), *Monster Squad* (1976), *The Shining* (1980), *Shock Treatment* (1981), *The Smurfs* (1981), *The Dark Crystal* (1982), *Superman III* (1983), *Tales from the Darkside* (1983), *The New Scooby Doo Mysteries* (1984), *Pink Panther and Sons* (1984), *Galtar and the Golden Lance* (1985), *Amazing Stories* (1985), *Adventures of the Gummi Bears* (1985), *Jonny Quest* (1986), *Pound Puppies* (1986), *DuckTales* (1987), *The Munsters Today* (1987), *Hard Time on Planet Earth* (1989), *The Further Adventures of SuperTed* (1989), *The Adventures of Don Coyote and Sancho Panda* (1990), *They Came from Outer Space* (1990), *Liquid Dreams* (1991), *The Pirates of Dark Water* (1991), *Batman: The Animated Series* (1992), *The Comic Strip Presents...* (1993), *Animaniacs* (1993), *The Shadow* (1994), *Weird Science* (1994), *Wing Commander IV: The Price of Freedom* (1996), *Grim Fandango* (1998), *Batman Beyond* (1999), *Star Trek: Hidden Evil* (1999), *Forgotten Realms: Icewind Dale—Heart of Winter* (2001), *Arcanum: Of Steamworks and Magick Obscura* (2001), *Metal Gear Solid 2: Sons of Liberty* (2001), *Star Trek: Armada II* (2001), *The Grim Adventures of Billy & Mandy* (2001),⁴⁵ *Star Trek: Bridge Commander* (2002), *Metal Gear Solid 2: Substance* (2002), *Tenchu: Wrath of Heaven* (2003),⁴⁶ *Lionheart* (2003), *Lionheart: Legacy of the Crusader* (2003), *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time* (2003), *Tenchu: Return from Darkness* (2004),⁴⁷ *World of Warcraft* (2004), *Jade Empire* (2005), *Fantastic Four* (2005), *Titan Quest* (2006), *Avatar: The Last Airbender* (2006), *Tokobot Plus: Mysteries of the Karakuri* (2006),⁴⁸ *Avatar: The Last Airbender—The Burning Earth* (2007), *Turning Point:*

40 AKA *Tarzanova Smrt* (original title).

41 AKA *Zlaté Kapradí* (original title).

42 AKA *Zlatovláska* (original title).

43 AKA *2010* (original title).

44 AKA *Rok Dábla* (original title).

45 AKA *Grim & Evil* (original title).

46 AKA *Tenchu San* (original title).

47 AKA *Tenchu San: Kaiki no Shō* (original title).

48 AKA *Korobotto Adobencha* (original title).

Fall of Liberty (2008), *Metal Gear Solid 2: Digital Graphic Novel* (2008), *Too Human* (2008), *The Rise of the Argonauts* (2008), *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* (2008), *Dragon Age: Origins* (2009), *Fallout: New Vegas* (2010), *Mad* (2010), *Dungeon Siege III* (2011), *Kingdoms of Amalur: Reckoning* (2012), *Darksiders II* (2012), *World of Warcraft: Mists of Pandaria* (2012), *Dota 2* (2013), *Infinity Blade III* (2013), *Lego Marvel Super Heroes: Maximum Overload* (2013), *Lightning Returns: Final Fantasy XIII* (2013), *World of Warcraft: Warlords of Draenor* (2014), *Justice League: Throne of Atlantis* (2015), *Final Fantasy Type-0 HD* (2015), *Alleluia! The Devil's Carnival* (2016), and *World of Warcraft: Legion* (2016). One-time *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) guest star.



☞ **Hugh Hefner** (9 April 1926–27 September 2017). Businessman, publisher, actor, and playboy. Founder and editor-in-chief of *Playboy* (1953), which frequently featured science fiction stories and comics. Genre work includes *Citizen Toxie: The Toxic Avenger IV* (2000) and *Hop* (2011). Notable non-genre work includes *Get Smart* (1965).

☞ **Anne Jeffreys (Annie Jeffreys Carmichael)** (26 January 1923–27 September 2017). Actress and singer. Genre work includes *I Married an Angel* (1942), *Zombies on Broadway* (1945), *Dick Tracy* (1945), *Dick Tracy vs. Cueball* (1946), *Topper* (1953), *Fantasy Island* (1977), *Battlestar Galactica* (1978), *Buck Rogers in the 25th Century* (1979), *Mr. Merlin* (1981), and *Port Charles* (1997). One-time *Murder, She Wrote* (1984) guest-star.

☞ **Marietta Marich** (5 April 1930–28 September 2017). Actress, writer, director, singer, and TV host. Genre work includes *Children of the Corn: The Gathering* (1996) and *House of Good and Evil* (2013).

☞ **Andreas Schmidt** (23 November 1963–28 September 2017). Actor and director. Genre work includes *Planet Alex* (2001), *Julie's Spirit* (2001),⁴⁹ *The Canterville Ghost* (2005),⁵⁰ *Rumpelstilzchen* (2007), *Spook Inn* (2010),⁵¹ *Faust* (2011), and *Mission: Sputnik* (2013).

☞ **Benjamin Whitrow** (17 February 1937–28 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Tales of the Unexpected* (1979) and *Chicken Run* (2000).

☞ **Ryūji Saikachi** (柳 柳 二) (27 March 1928–29 September 2017). Actor. Genre work includes *Kamen Rider* (1971), *Gatchaman* (1972),⁵² *Kamen Rider Amazon: The Movie* (1975), *Galaxy Express 999* (1979),⁵³ *Harmagedon: Genma Taisen*

49 AKA *Julies Geist* (original title).

50 AKA *Das Gespenst von Canterville* (original title).

51 AKA *Im Spessart Sind Die Geister Los* (original title).

52 AKA *Kagaku Ninja Tai Gatchaman* (original title).

53 AKA *Ginga Tetsudō Three-Nine* (original title).

(1983), *Armored Trooper Votoms* (1983),⁵⁴ *Unico in the Island of Magic* (1983),⁵⁵ *Fist of the North Star* (1984),⁵⁶ *Kenji Miyazawa's Night on the Galactic Railroad* (1985),⁵⁷ *Odin* (1985),⁵⁸ *Castle in the Sky* (1986),⁵⁹ *Dragon Ball* (1986), *Grimm Masterpiece Theatre* (1987), *Snatcher* (1988), *Legend of Lemnear* (1989),⁶⁰ *Psychic Wars* (1991),⁶¹ *The Space Adventure* (1991),⁶² *Rumik World: Mermaid Forest* (1991),⁶³ *Snatcher CD-ROMantic* (1992), *Dragon Ball Z* (1989), *Dragon Ball Z: Fusion Reborn* (1995),⁶⁴ *Inuyasha* (2000), *Ghost in the Shell: Stand Alone Complex* (2002),⁶⁵ *Wolf's Rain* (2003), and *Final Fantasy IV* (2007).

Elizabeth Baur (1 December 1947–30 September 2017). Actress. Genre work includes *Batman* (1966), *Nanny and the Professor* (1970), and *Fantasy Island* (1977).

Felicity Walker

Sunday 1 October 2017



Breaking ‘Doctor Who’ News Update

Looks like the Doctor and her three companions will be battling “The Demons of the Punjab” on BBC 1 at 7:00 PM November 11.

BBC 2 and two of BBC News’ cable services will be handling all “Armistice Day” (or “Remembrance Day” as we know it in this colony) events coverage after 7:00 PM (unless the last event covered by BBC 1 hasn’t concluded by 7:00 PM; then there will be a slight delay). This is mostly due to the fact that ITV (the largest independent broadcaster in the UK), Channel 4, and most domestic cable outlets (including five out of the seven owned and operated by the BBC) plan to do the same.

That evening’s line-up includes BBC 1’s number one show *Strictly Come Dancing* (which follows the Doctor’s adventure) that will conclude the “war eras” dance non-competition (started the evening before), instructed by one of continental Europe’s top choreographers and his equally as good son, as well as more tributes to the brave women who served with the British military during both world wars.

Ray Seredin

Saturday 3 November 2018

54 AKA *Sôkô Kihei Votomusu* (original title).

55 AKA *Uniko: Mahô no Shima E* (original title).

56 AKA *Hokuto no Ken* (original title).

57 AKA *Ginga-Tetsudô no Yoru* (original title).

58 AKA *Ôdin—Kôshi Hobune Stâraito* (original title).

59 AKA *Tenkû no Shiro Rapyuta* (original title).

60 AKA *Legend of Lemnear: Kyokuguro no Tsubasa Barukisasu* (original title).

61 AKA *Soju Senshi Psychic Wars* (original title).

62 AKA *Kobura II: Densetsu no Otoko* (original title).

63 AKA *Ningyo no Mori* (original title).

64 AKA *Dragon Ball Z: Fukkatsu no Fusion!! Gokuu to Vegeta* (original title).

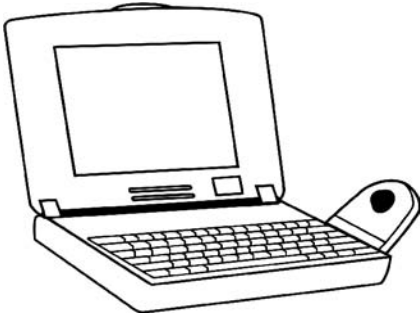
65 AKA *Kôkaku Kidôtai: Stand Alone Complex* (original title).

VCON 42 (2018) Day 1: Friday, October 5, 2018

Michael Bertrand

Con report time!

3 PM: Joe and I made it to the con. The line for registration was relatively short. One complaint on my part: the ancient laptop I had to use in order to input all my registration info was too low for comfortable use by a mountainous fellow like myself, so the whole time I was inputting, I was in acute pain from having to crouch down.



This happens all the time when you are significantly taller than average. Sinks, counters, some chairs, some ceilings (erk), and various other things are set at too low a height and we end up having to squish down.

It's not that big a deal, but it can be really annoying sometimes.

3:30 PM: After registration, I managed to catch the second half of a panel called "**Page 189.**" The premise was intriguing: one of the panelists would read page 189 of a book to the audience, and then ask the audience if they would read the rest of the book based on that one page.

Had a near-miss with a terrible faux pas. The very last page 189 they read out bored me to tears. It was entirely exposition about some primitive submarine's physical and command structure, and that kind of thing is all noise and no signal to me. Yawn!

So when they asked us if we would read the book based on that page, I was all ready to say *Hell no*. But I hesitated.

And it's good that I did, because it turned out that the book in question was written by *the very panelist who was reading it to us*.

Yikes. Dodged a bullet there!

4 PM: After that, I went to a panel called "**Blake's 7 and Bureaucratic Inertia.**" The basic idea was to have an open-ended discussion of all the day to day details of life as one of the nameless cogs in the massive machine of an evil fascist empire. This is a topic I find super interesting, so I was eager to participate.

One stimulating notion that emerged was the idea that *Blake's 7* depicts what life is like for everyone in *Star Trek's* Federation who is *not* in Starfleet and assigned to high status positions on the flagship of the fleet.

Obviously, this does not fly logically at all, and I furthermore have to strenuously object to it on philosophical and ethical grounds.

But it did bring up an interesting question: seeing as the Federation is a post-scarcity society, what, exactly, do the non-Starfleet citizens of the Federation do all day?

My guess is that most of them have jobs of some sort, but possibly not ones we would recognize as such, but these jobs would be socially rewarding but far from necessary in order to survive.

In other words, you might get status, a sense of accomplishment, the recognition of your peers, and a place in society where you can do meaningful labour out of one of these jobs, but money would not be part of the equation at all.

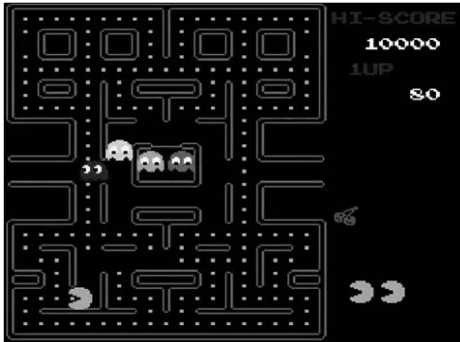
It's really not that important.

5 PM: Nothing going on that held my interest, so I wandered over to hospitality. There, my mind was blown by the fact that they were serving real hot food, including veggie pakora (delish), and *OMG so damned good* shepherd's pie.

I am not kidding. It was the best shepherd's pie I have ever had (sorry, Mom). The sauce was so rich and tasty. And I am not the only one who felt that way. Everyone who had it was talking about how good it was.

Excellent hot food in the hospitality suite?

Now that's what I call livin'.



6 PM: After a small amount of dithering, I ended up wandering in to “**Ghost Stories of an Antiquary**,” a panel about the history of the Victorian ghost story, of which *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens is the most famous.

It turns out that in England, it used to be a tradition that on Xmas eve, you would sit around the fire and tell ghost stories. That struck me and the panelists as something that hearkened to pagan Longest Night festivals based around the idea that the winter solstice was the night when the barrier between the world of the living and the world of the dead was at its thinnest.

How that got pushed all the way back to October 31 is beyond me.

7 PM: Enough frivolity, it was time for the very serious business of *food*. First, Joe and Felicity and I tried Denny's, but it was super busy. So we ended up at our other usual restaurant, ABC Country Kitchen.

Good food, good company, and good conversation. That's livin' too.

After that, there was nothing interesting going on until...

11 PM: I went to a fun panel with a highly flawed premise, “**What, No Sex In The Future?**” The idea was something like, “Why is there no sex in science fiction TV and movies?”, to which we all replied that there is lots, it's just not explicit, it's implied, like in the rest of mainstream media. If two people are shown in a passionate embrace in bed, then we cut to them waking up in the morning, we all know what happened in between.



And even that is not true any more now that there are shows like *Game of Thrones* and *Westworld* around. They abound with fuckin’.

Still, it was fun to talk about the future of sex. It made me realize that my main worry about a world where, whether via genetic modification or virtual reality, you can have any body you want and make whatever changes you want at any time is that I am pretty sure that would drive a lot of people insane.

Our bodies are our boundaries and if they become protean, I am not at all sure that our minds will be able to take it.

So I am thinking that even in a future where the technology allows unlimited bodily modification, there would be a strong set of rules and/or taboos that would keep things from going further than the mind can handle.

Losing your mind that way is a terrifying prospect, when you think about it.

Might make the basis for a heck of a horror story.

I shall think upon it. In the meantime...

I will talk to you nice people again tomorrow.

Michael John Bertrand

The Homepage of Michael John Bertrand

Tuesday 9 October 2018

Eight Science Fiction Haiku

Denny E. Marshall

do we really know?
first contact hasn't occurred
stone age visitors

frozen thousand years
not awoken for a cure
TV dinner meal

martian colony
lots of work available
except for lifeguards

martian colony
love the backyard most of all
never needs mowing

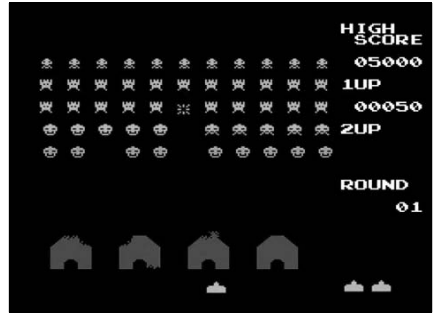


landing UFO
should have been a big story
reporters all crushed

first contact cut short
spaceship destroyed trying to
land in a war zone

an evolution
at the speed of zero and one
computer life form

desktop and laptop
on table, learn and evolve
now planning revenge



Denny E. Marshall
Monday 12 November 2018

Art Credits

Felicity Walker (font: Yann Le Coroller).....Masthead
Brad Foster..... Cover
Dave Haren.....Pages 1–16 (clip art)
Clker.com (clip art).....Page 17–19, 20 (top), 21 (top)
Clip art [*Pac-Man* (1980) screenshot].....Page 20 (bottom)
Felicity Walker (photo).....Page 21 (bottom)
Clip art [*Space Invaders* (1978) screenshot].....Page 22 (top)
Clip art [*The Transformers* (1984) screenshot (traced)]...Page 22 (bottom)

