

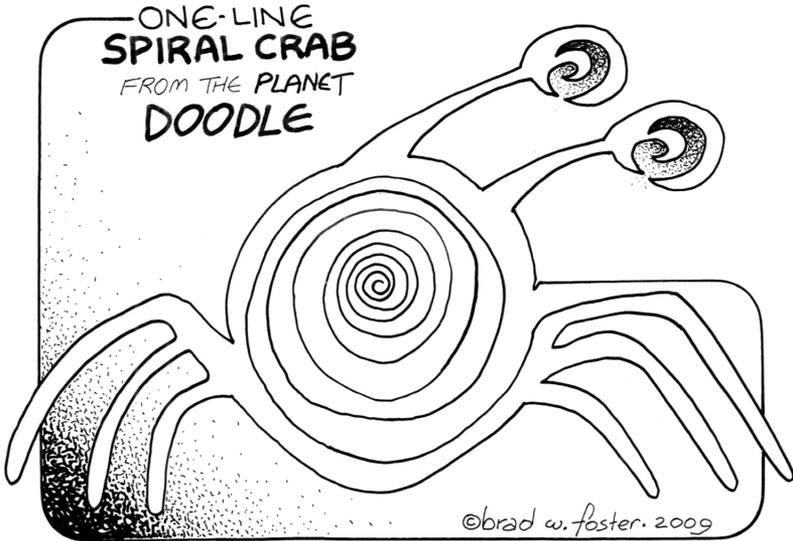
BCSFA Zine

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association

#432

\$3.00/Issue

May 2009



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Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at felicity4711@gmail.com or #209-3851 Francis Road, Richmond, BC, Canada, V7C 1J6. *BCSFazine* solicits electronic submissions and black-and-white line illustrations in JPG, GIF, BMP, or PSD format, and offers printed contributor's copies as long as the club budget allows.

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This Month in BCSFA

- Sunday 3 May: **Vancouver Discordians Meetup Group** at the Grind Gallery & Café, 4124 Main Street, Vancouver.
- Thursday 14 May @ 7 p.m.: **April book discussion** will now be held at the Grind Gallery & Café, starting at 7 p.m. Book to be discussed will be *Ubik* by Philip K. Dick.
- Friday 15 May: **BCSFazine deadline**—see Felicity's contact information in the indicia above.
- Saturday 16 May @ 7 p.m.: **BCSFA meeting/party**—at Kathleen Moore and Philip Freeman's place—7064 Number One Road, Richmond. Phone 604-277-0845 for directions.
- Friday 29 May: **BCSFazine production.**

Art Credits

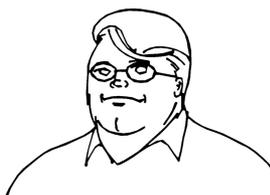
Sheryl Birkhead.....	Masthead, Page 3
Brad Foster.....	Cover
Scott McCloud.....	Page 1 (top)
Felicity Walker.....	Pages 1 (bottom), 17
Michael Bertrand.....	Page 2
Clip Art.....	Pages 10, 11, 14, 16, 18

Editorial

The Great Debate

I'm re-reading [Scott McCloud](#)'s *Comics* trilogy (*Understanding Comics*, *Reinventing Comics*, and *Making Comics*), and thinking about his frequent theme of the comics medium's untapped potential. I like his vision of a diverse comics industry with comics created by and for people from all walks of life, with subject matter as wide-ranging as any other medium—but what if it's wishful thinking? What if only a certain type of brain can see the inherent beauty of comics—not the content, but the form itself—a type of brain found frequently, but not exclusively, in male nerds? When we attack comics' narrow demographics, we *assume* that it's a Catch-22, and not a natural outcome, and that if comics were created and marketed properly, things would be different. To my knowledge, no-one has disproven the other possibility: that even if every assumption about comics could be magically erased and the industry rebooted, it would still turn out that a certain type of brain gravitates towards comics, and that comics that appeal to that type of brain (such as superheroes) make a profit. I don't say that this is necessarily true, or that I want it to be true; just that it's an overlooked contingency.

Also, because superhero comics are the most common type of comic, to the point of seeming to crowd out other types, we also think of them as a indivisible, unified genre. But it occurs to me that *within* the superhero genre, McCloud's advice could still be applied, and superhero subgenres could be established. There is already diversity within the superhero genre, both in subject matter and minority representation. In the last twenty years, superhero comics have also—with great fanfare—been used to deal with mature themes. Have critics of the medium given the creators responsible for that diversity and maturity any credit, or have they written off their work as “just superheroes”?

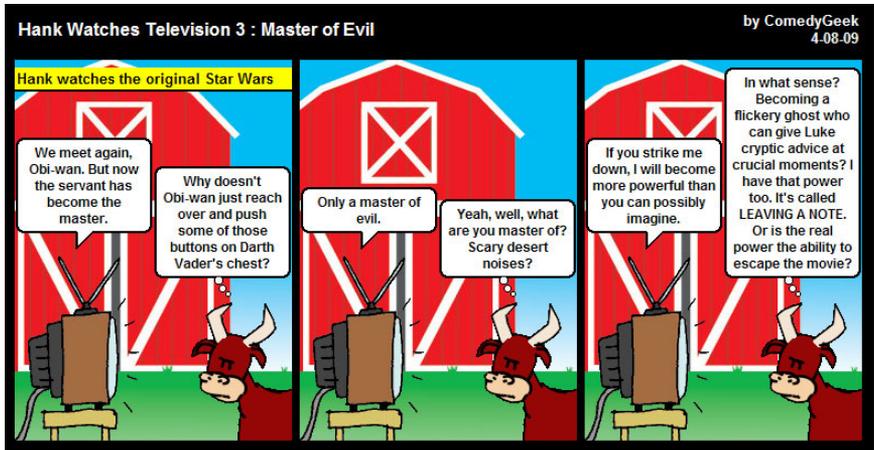


Say Something, Damn It

I've been watching the DVD set *Family Guy—Volume 1—Seasons 1 & 2*. When wanting to know more about media entertainment, I normally find the writers to be a richer source of content than the actors—so I was surprised that in the audio commentaries, the writers mostly watched the show and didn't say much, while the actors improvised show-related comedy and told stories. I guess writers are just quieter people than actors, and if you want to know what they think, you have to get them to write it down for you.

Hank Watches Television

Michael Bertrand



For more “Hank Watches Television,” go to <http://www.hankwatchtelevision.com/>.

Letters of Comment

[*Editor's responses in brackets.*]

From: **Sheryl Birkhead**,
25509 Jonnie Court,
Gaithersburg, MD 20882
USA

Tuesday 17–Wednesday 25 March 2009

Dear *BCSFAites*,

Sorry it has taken so long to get this to you—ghood intentions and all that....

I have two very healthy looking issues (both with nifty *Brad Foster* cover illos!!) sitting here—way to go!

[*Thanks!*]

Yeah, I *know* I'm way behind the cyber curve...nothing that winning the lottery wouldn't cure. I actually got motivated enough (huh?) to locate the *Face-book* and *MySpace* sites (or whatever the true names are—you can see how up-to-date I am!) to see if I could figure out what all the fuss was about. But, to even poke around one has to register and I am *very* tired of registering for everything and getting on list after list for spam about things I do not want—so I simply clicked out of the site.

I suspect the *Hugo* ballot has been decided by now. I have tried to get to the *Anticipation* website several different ways and with several different browsers—but keep getting the message that the page does not exist.



[*I checked, and it seems to be OK now.*]

Hmm...guess I'll have to wait a bit longer to check and see if the ballot has solidified.

Graeme's Editorial in #429—well, I won't be able to print out a copy, but I understand your rationale. If I need to be dropped, it has been a nice ride.

Hmm, what do *I* find interesting? Well, movie reviews (totally subjective—I already know I never agree with *real* critics), various TV shows (as opposed to extended discussions going into areas that already require an in-depth knowledge of the show—I need suggestions as to what I am missing or need to look for on *Netflix*), fandom (micro and macro), book information—especially by authors local to the zine, convention information...and LOCs that just ramble—more or less.

[*If I haven't already, I should send you the issues of Ish that contain movie reviews.*]

Your comment about including a paragraph about each convention: I can (usually) tell by the name of the convention what the “theme” is. If I have ever attended one of the cons (in a series), then I usually know if it has any specific leanings.

You are right in that a lot of what I am talking about is movie stuff.

[*When did I say that?*]

I need to have others give me a list of movies to hunt for on *Netflix* since actually going to the theater is neither affordable nor convenient—so I can create my want list!

Pretty much all my actual reading is professional. I do a lot of listening to audio books while I am in the car—which is quite a bit. So far I have not found any recent SF in an audio format at the local library. I have tried to listen to a handful of SF books and found I did *not* (for whatever reason) enjoy listening.

[*I like listening to text in the car, too, but found that with audio books, I had to keep rewinding to repeat passages I missed because I was distracted by driving tasks. Now the text I listen to is talk shows like Coast to Coast AM and The Phil Hendrie Show.*]

So, my fanac is reading zines, LOCing, fanart, watching SF, listening to SF, and reading SF—I am not, specifically, into either fantasy or horror (or even media per se for that matter)—but keep an open mind (yeah, you never know what might fall in).

The movement of zines to electronic format: because I am unable to look at them, I can only repeat what I have heard...that response (the coin of fannish life) rate is much lower than for the *paperzine*. There is something just...um...satisfying about holding your printed zine in your hand that gives you a feeling

of accomplishment. Out of curiosity, do most *ezines* have actual pagination or not? I would guess that it is not strictly necessary—just keep on typing. I would guess that the fanned could insert fillos or comments and just keep on going in one long scroll. This does not sound as if it would feel as if it was much of an accomplishment compared to working page by page—each being looked at as an entity. Bear in mind that I have no idea if this is truly the case or not—just that it seems it would be so much simpler to just start typing and keep on going since one would not be constrained by an actual page.

[[An e-zine in HTML](#) could be done without pagination or page numbers, using hyperlinks to move up and down a single webpage of text, or back and forth between multiple webpages. PDFs, like BCSFAzine's e-copy and the other zines at [efanzines.com](#), have pagination and page numbers.]

My apologies beforehand—I have absolutely no idea what the correct address is for this—I see three different possible addresses and will select one, cross my fingers...and hope as I toss this into the mailbox!

Sheryl

[*The correct address for letters of comment to BCSFAzine is my address, on the inside front cover—“Please send comments, suggestions, and/or submissions to Felicity Walker (the editor), at felicity4711@gmail.com or #209-3851 Francis Road, Richmond, BC, Canada, V7C 1J6.” Your letter made it, though you wrote “Felicity Rd.” and someone (a postal worker?) wrote “**TRY FRANCIS**” on the envelope. I like the idea of Felicity Road. Maybe someday I'll have my own street!*]

From: **Lloyd Penney** (penneys@allstream.net),
1706-24 Eva Rd.
Etobicoke, ON
M9C 2B2

Thursday 9 April 2009

Dear Felicity:

Thank you for another *BCSFAzine*, issue 431. I'm right before the announced deadline, so I will rush this a bit and get it to you tout suite.

So much fuss over the *Watchmen* movie...I did not see it, and not being a comics reader, I probably never will. As you say, Sir Gravedigger, *super* yes, *hero* no. Perhaps we are tired of the squeaky-clean superhero like a Superman, or even the hero with a problem, like Batman or Spider-Man. The movie *Hancock* was symptomatic of this tiredness, and after that, the *Watchmen* were a logical progression.

I started this loc with a .pdf of this issue, and while I was dithering with the beginning of it, a paper version arrived in the mail, and thank you very much for it. The production of this issue has to come out of someone's pocket, given that club memberships are free, so if sending me a paper issue becomes a financial burden, I'll be happy with a .pdf. Don't spend money you shouldn't spend on my account.

[You received a contributor's copy for your LOC, which is covered by the budget. If you prefer the PDF, or have no preference, I'll send a PDF instead of a paper version, but if you like the paper version, I'll continue sending one in exchange for each LOC.]

My loc...I can now announce that DUFF ballots are available...Google them up, and they are available through a website. We were asked to support Alison Barton, and we hope she does well. CUFF is yet to come, although we should have at least one candidate shortly. I hope that Lance Sibley will soon announce a candidate, possibly two of them this year.

The 5½×8½" format with portrait pages is fine for me. Dale Speirs uses this size in a landscape orientation, and I've gotten used to it. As long as reading style is linear, starting at the front, and ending at the back, whatever size you feel is best is fine with me.

What so many people need—in the spirit of what I said in my loc, that I'd prefer if people taught rather than dumped on others—is an article at least, and a booklet at most, on these other areas of fandom that others may be mystified by.

[That's Garth's forte. There's also the *FancyClopeditas*.]

They need some explanation, some context, and some history to truly understand Worldcons, or fannish fandom, or why there's a *Vegas Fandom Weekly*, and its importance. (I think it sums up as *VFW* being seen by some as a fanzine of record, especially in its descent from older zines and the history of the very beginnings of fandom in the 1930s, '40s and '50s.)

Ah, Norwescon is on as I type. Gotta wonder how many Vancouver fans are there.

[Ray Sereidin attended Norwescon, and may write a report.]

I wish we had regional conventions near Toronto...a midNorthcon would have been good. However, we've never had one, and we must rely on our local cons. Ad Astra was a terrific time, by the way.

I know you must have the Aurora Awards nominees ready for the next issue...I can relay the winners of the FAAn Awards given out at Corflu Zed in Seattle on March 15...

- Best Fanzine*.....eI, edited by Earl Kemp
 - Best Fan*.....Bruce Gillespie
 - Best Fan Artist*.....Dan Steffan
 - Harry Warner Jr. Memorial Award for Best Letterhack*.....Lloyd Penney
 - Best Fan Website*.....eFanzines.com, edited by Bill Burns
 - Best New Fan*.....(tie) Jean Martin, Kat Templeton
- And again, I'm a happy guy.

[*Congratulations!*]

I am going to wind this up...tomorrow is Good Friday, and a long weekend, and I suspect I'll be spending a lot of this weekend helping Yvonne with spring cleaning, which means invasion forces of dust bunnies, industrial amounts of

Swiffer dusters and an impending garage sale. Enjoy the long weekend, and see you next issue.

Yours,
Lloyd Penney

From: **Cathy Palmer-Lister**
(cathypl@sympatico.ca),
Ste. Julie, Quebec, Canada
<http://www.conceptsf.ca>
<http://www.monsffa.com/>

Thursday 23 April 2009

Hi, Felicity!

We have *WARPs* 70 & 71 on line now. Go to <http://www.monsffa.com/monsffahtml/warp.html>.

Click on the yellow title under the cover pictures. You will be asked for the passwords.

WARP 70—RorschachRules

WARP 71—PolarisInferno

They are case sensitive; you might want to cut and paste. Feel free to pass this on to your membership, or post as we have done:

<http://www.monsffa.com/monsffahtml/tradingpost.html>

Cathy

Calendar

Underlined events have an associated URL. URLs included in PDF version at <http://www.efanzines.com/BCSFA/>.

May 2009

1 May 2009: premiere of *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*.

1 May 2009: No Pants Day. “No Pants Day is a day where everyone leaves their pants behind. Usually this means wearing thick, appropriately modest boxer shorts, but bloomers, slips, briefs, and boxer-briefs all work as well” (from FAQ at nopantsday.com). [Reported by Julian Castle]

2 May 2009 (Saturday): Free Comic Book Day. Free comics available at participating comic book stores. Unclear what stores are participating because FCBD website only lists stores that have paid an extra fee to be listed. Example: website doesn't list Elfsar, but Elfsar's website has a page dedicated to its participation in this year's FCBD. If a comic store isn't listed below, phone them and ask if they are participating.

BURNABY:

[Tazmanian Comic Connection](#), 4702 East Hastings Street. 604-298-6208. 11 a.m.–5 p.m. (regular Saturday hours on FCBD).

VANCOUVER:

(V1) [Book & Comic Emporium](#), 1539 West Broadway (West of Granville). 604-682-3019. Open 10 a.m.–7 p.m. on FCBD (asked via phone).

(V2) [Comic Land](#), 3845 Rupert Street. 604-437-4545. Open 11 a.m.–8 p.m. on FCBD (regular Saturday hours on FCBD).

(V3) [The Comicshop](#), 2089 West 4th Ave. 604-738-8122. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (regular Saturday hours on FCBD).

(V4) [Elfsar Collection](#), 1007 Hamilton Street. 604-688-5922. 11 a.m.–7 p.m. (Source: Elfsar website.)

(V5) Pow Comics, 5395 Victoria Drive. 604-321-1402. 11 a.m.–6 p.m. (asked via phone).

(V6) [RX Comics](#), 2418 Main Street (North of Broadway). 604-454-5099. 11 a.m.–7 p.m. (regular Saturday hours on FCBD).

RICHMOND:

[Imperial Hobbies](#), 5451 No. 3 Road. 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m. (regular Saturday hours on FCBD). [Reported by Julian Castle]

[15–16 May 2009: 10th Annual UFO Festival—UFOFest—McMinnville, Oregon](#) (well, as you might guess—a UFO enthusiast event taking place in the Pacific Northwest).

[15–17 May 2009: Zompire—Portland, Oregon](#) (undead film festival).

16 May 2009: [Vancouver Comic Jam](#) at 8 p.m. at the Jolly Alderman pub, 500 West 12th Avenue (at intersection of Cambie Street), Vancouver. “The Vancouver Comic Jam provides a venue for local comic artists to meet and socialize, creating a unique experience and furthering the sense of community. Participants each take a turn drawing a panel before handing the page off to another artist. The result is a collaborative story, built by several artists. All comics are then placed on this website for all to see.” NOTE: Date and location are tentative. Check <http://www.vancouvercomicjam.com/> before attending.

19 May 2009: Michael “Fruvous” Bertrand’s birthday.

[22–25 May 2009: MisCon 23—Missoula, Montana](#) (general SF).

22 May 2009: premiere of new *Terminator* series, starting with *Terminator: Salvation*.

[22–24 May 2009: CONduit XIX—Salt Lake City](#) (general SF).

[24 May 2009: Vancouver Comicon](#)—11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Heritage Hall, 3102 Main Street, Vancouver, BC. Special Guests: Douglas Wheatley (*Star Wars: Dark Times*), Steve Rolston (*Emiko Superstar*, *The Escapists*, *Degrassi: Extra Credit*), Dave McCaig (*Star Wars: Dark Times*, *Ultimate Wolverine vs. Hulk*), Joseph Gilland (animator; author of *Elemental Magic*), Jesse Davidge (*Mathemagick and Mystipysics*), Kelly Everaert (*Jungle Tales*, *Trilogy of Terror*), Mike Myhre (*Space Jet Comics*), Andrew Salmon (*Secret Agent X*), Robin Thompson (*Champions of Hell*, *Hemp Island*), Laura Eveleigh, Mary Karaplis, Donald King, Carrie McKay, Critical Hit Comics, New Reliable Press, Capilano University IDEA students. Dealer Tables: \$50/centre; \$60/wall. Admission: \$4.00. Kids under 14: free. For more information about this show, please email ls Wong@uniserve.com or call 604-322-6412.

29 May 2009 (Friday), 5 p.m.–8 p.m.: [Funday Sunnies](#) official launch party (comics) at [Lucky's Comics](#), 3972 Main, Vancouver. 604-875-9858. “The official launch of Cloudscape Comics’ newest anthology, *Funday Sunnies*, a hilarious full-colour tribute to the classic newspaper strip!” [Reported by Julian Castle]

[30 May 2009: Spokane Comicon—Spokane, Washington](#) (comics).

June 2009

2 June 2009: Lloyd Penney’s birthday.

5 June 2009: premiere of *Land of the Lost*.

5–7 June 2009: **ConComCon 16**—Compass Point Inn in Surrey, British Columbia. (ConComCon is a convention-type gathering of the conrunning community.) Memberships \$35. Write the co-chairs Alex von Thorn (Seattle) or Marah Searle-Kovacevic (Toronto) c/o either: ConComCon 16, c/o SWOC, Box 1066, Seattle, WA 98111, USA, or ConComCon 16, 151 Gamma Street, Toronto, Ontario, M8W 4G3, or e-mail concomcon16@worldhouse.com.

[12–14 June 2009: Anime Evolution—Vancouver, BC, Canada](#): Vancouver’s Japanese Animation Convention and Asian Popular Culture Festival; at the Vancouver Convention and Exhibition Centre, Vancouver, BC.

28 June 2009: Toren Atkinson’s birthday.

July 2009

2–5 July 2009: **FiestaCon/Westercon 62** at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, Arizona. Guests of Honor: Artist Todd Lockwood; Author Alan Dean

Foster; Editor Stanley Schmidt; Fans Jim & Doreen Webbert; TMs Patrick and Teresa Nielsen Hayden. Rooms (1-800-547-8705, booking code 2T80CO) range from \$119/nite S/D to \$139 Queen. Memberships range from \$30 supporting to \$70 full attending. Write: FiestaCon c/o Leprecon, Inc., PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285, telephone (480) 945-6890 (24-hour home office), e-mail info@fiestacon.org, or see <http://www.fiestacon.org>.

July 4, 2009: Third annual International [Free Hugs Day](#). [Reported by Julian Castle]

8 July 2009: Aaron Harrison's birthday.

17–19 July 2009: **BC RenFest 2009**, probably at Aldor Acres. Keep watching <http://www.bcrenfest.com>.

17 July 2009: premiere of *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*.

20 July 2009: Julie McGalliard's birthday.

28 July 2009: Adam Charlesworth and Robin Bougie's birthdays.

31 July 2009: Felicity Walker's birthday.

[31 July–2 August 2009: SpoCon—Spokane, Washington](#) (general SF).

August 2009

6–10 August 2009: **Anticipation (67th Worldcon)**, Palais des congrès de Montreal, Montreal, Canada. GOH Neil Gaiman, Elisabeth Vonarburg, Taral Wayne, David Hartwell, Tom Doherty. Contact CP 105, Succursale NDG, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H4A 3P4. Author Julie Czerneda will be Master of Ceremonies. Artist GOH announced: Ralph Bakshi. Memberships now Can55/\$US55/£30/€35 supp; discounts for site selection voters, presupporters, etc. See <http://www.anticipationsf.ca/>, e-mail: media@anticipationsf.ca or write to: Anticipation—The 67th World Science Fiction Convention, PO Box 105, Station NDG, Montréal, Québec, H4A 3P4.

[7–9 August 2009: Fandemonium—Boise, Idaho](#) (general SF, media and more).

[15 August 2009: Zombie Walk](#).

[16 August 2009: Voltaire concert](#).

21–23 August 2009: **Con-Version 25** in Calgary, Alberta. Hotel venue: TBA. Guests of Honour are Terry Brooks and Tanya Huff. See <http://www.con-version.org>.

September 2009

Labour Day Weekend: **3-Day Novel Contest** by Anvil Press in Vancouver.

4–7 September 2009: **The North American Discworld Convention** at the Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, Arizona; a celebration of Terry Pratchett’s series. GOH: Terry Pratchett, with Diane Duane, Peter Morwood, and Esther Friesner; more guests TBA. Rooms 1-800-547-8705, booking code 2TC4Y9) range from \$119/nite S/D to \$139 Queen. Memberships range from \$30 supporting to \$80 full attending; pay online with PayPal. Write North American Discworld Convention 2009, c/o Leprecon, Inc., PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285, telephone (480) 945-6890 (24-hour home office), or e-mail info@nadwcon.org. For more information see <http://www.nadwcon.org>.



October 2009

2–4 October 2009: **VCon 34** at the Compass Point Inn, Surrey, BC. GOHs: Author Tanya Huff, Art-GOH Miles Tweet (SF and fantasy film illustrator). Hotel: Compass Point Inn, 9850 King George Highway, Surrey, BC, V3T 4Y3, <http://www.compasspointinn.com>. Reservations: +1-800-663-0660. Box 78069, Grandview RPO, Vancouver, BC V5N 5W1; **phone:** (778) 230-1605; website: <http://www.vcon.ca>.

23–25 October 2009: **Steamcon** at the SeaTac Marriott in Seattle, WA. A convention celebrating “steampunk” (DIY technology-tweaking, but set in the Victorian mechanical age). Writer GOH: Tim Powers (e.g. *The Anubis Gates*, *The Stress of Her Regard*, *On Stranger Tides*). For more information see <http://www.steam-con.com>.

November 2009

19 November 2009: Ashton Green’s birthday.

[27–29 November 2009: Orycon 31—Portland, Oregon](#) (general SF and the quintessential SF convention in Oregon).

News-Like Matter

Book View Café Holds Twitter-Fic Contest

BookViewCafé.com is holding its very first Twitter-Fic contest! The task: To write a complete story incorporating the contest theme in one tweet (126 characters or fewer). First place prize: An autographed copy of Pati Nagle's brand new release *The Betrayal*. Second and third place prizes to be announced. The judges: A crack team of noted authors: Pati Nagle, Jennifer Stevenson and Sarah Zettel. Stories will be judged on creative use of the theme and the medium. Winners will be announced next week at <http://www.bookviewcafe.com>.

The theme: Elf Meets Vampire

The timeline: The contest opens at 9 a.m. EST Friday April 10 and closes 9 p.m. Sunday April 12.

Where: Twitter: <http://twitter.com/bookviewcafe>

THE RULES:

- (1) Up to five entries per twitterer.
- (2) One tweet per entry.
- (3) All work must be original to the twitterer.
- (4) No obscenity. If you can't say it on network TV between the hours of 10 p.m.–12 p.m. you can't say it here.
- (5) No late entries will be considered.
- (6) No early entries will be considered.
- (7) Tweet your entry @bookviewcafe (type "@bookviewcafe" and a space, then your story, into your update box). All entries must *begin* with @bookviewcafe.

Once the contest begins, the entries may be viewed at <http://search.twitter.com/search?q=+%3Abookviewcafe>

New on Twitter and need help? Check <http://help.twitter.com/forums/10711/entries/13920>

Need more info? Contact BookViewCafe.com: <http://www.bookviewcafe.com/index.php/Contact-Us>

GOOD LUCK!

[Sue Lange](#),

Thursday 9 April 2009

New Goth House—April 10

Epitaph part three: http://www.gothhouse.org/gh_features/epitaph.php?iid=20

Or go to the beginning: http://www.gothhouse.org/gh_features/epitaph.php

See you at Norwescon. I'll be reading at *Talebones* live Saturday at 8 p.m.

—Julie



[Julie McGalliard](#),

Friday 10 April 2009, 1:48 p.m.

Horror Comes to Winnipeg

For Immediate Release

6 April 2009—For the first time in Western Canada, the 2009 World Horror Convention (WHC) will be held April 30–May 3 2009 at the Marlborough Hotel in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The World Horror Convention is an annual gathering of professionals in the horror industry; publishers, authors, artists, filmmakers, dealers and, of course, horror fans. WHC serves as both an industry insider's networking event and a chance for fans of the genre to get together, meet some of the creative talents in the field, and generally spend a weekend celebrating All Things Scary.

In the late 1980s, a growing number of horror professionals which included Dark Fantasy & Horror and fans who attended the World Fantasy Convention (at that time one of the only conventions for horror fans) felt that they needed a convention of their own. Founded by Beth Gwinn (who had the idea), Joann Parsons and Maurine Dorris, the first World Horror Convention was held in Nashville, Tennessee in 1991. There has been a World Horror Convention every year since, in cities all over North America and, as of 2009, in Western Canada. Guests of Honour have included virtually every living legend in the horror field.

Contacts:

E-mail: mrm2@mts.net

WHC 2009, PO Box 2003, Winnipeg, MB, R3C 3R3

Web page: www.whc2009.org

“WHC,” “World Horror Convention” are registered service marks of the World Horror Society, an unincorporated literary society.

Forwarded by Garth Spencer,
Saturday 11 April 2009

‘Royal Swiss Navy Gazette’ #17 Published

Dear Guys,

[Herewith](#), the latest *Royal Swiss Navy Gazette*, with
2009: A YEAR IN REVIEW
POSITION PAPERS
GET FURRIES! and ESSENTIAL REFURANCE by Taral Wayne
THE BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY
ELDER GHODS V. MICROSOFT
WHAT I LEARNED FROM FORENSIC TV SHOWS and
WHAT I LEARNED FROM RECENT POLICE
NEWS (Garth Spencer).

Yours,
Garth

[Garth Spencer](#)

Sunday 19 April 2009

Upcoming Vancouver Fan Events

Keith Lim wrote in [Vancouver Fandom on Facebook](#):

“Hello everyone,

“I’ve just posted some upcoming fan events in the News section of the ‘Vancouver Fandom’ group (also in this e-mail, for convenience), and hope to continue to do so more regularly. I trust that everyone will sooner or later see something that interests them and will enjoy.

“23 April 2009, 7:00 p.m.: Editor Karl Johanson and *Neo-Opis* fiction writers Janine Cross and Nina Munteanu will be appearing at Strategic Games and Hobbies, 3878 Main Street, Vancouver. Janine will read from her story ‘The Power of Love,’ and Nina will read from her story ‘Virtually Yours.’ (Both stories were published in issue 3 of *Neo-Opis*.) Karl will give a brief talk on science fiction and gaming.

“25 April 2009, 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.: The Vancouver Gaming Guild will hold its Annual General Meeting and Game Day at the Thunderbird Recreation Centre, 2311 Cassiar Street, Vancouver (15-minute walk from Rupert Skytrain Station). Come out and meet local gamers, play some new games, and help form a Board for the VGG’s non-profit society.

“30 April 2009, 7:30 p.m.: The Burnaby British Comedies Meetup Group is holding a ‘*Red Dwarf*: Back to Earth 1, 2, 3’ event at La Fontana Café, 3701 Hastings Street in Burnaby (on the northeast corner of Hastings and Boundary, a block uphill from Kootenay Loop). There is a \$1.00 per person Meetup fee.

“(More to come soon.)”

Keith Lim

Thursday 23 April 2009

BookViewCafe.com to Release McIntyre Novel

On April 26, Book View Café (<http://www.bookviewcafe.com>), the newly launched authors' consortium, will release its ninth downloadable ebook, Vonda N. McIntyre's *Dreamsnake*.

Dreamsnake was originally published by Houghton Mifflin in 1978. It won the Nebula Award®, the Hugo, the Locus Award, and the Pacific Northwest Booksellers' Award. McIntyre is also known for her *Starfarers* series and five *Star Trek* novels. "I like reading fiction on my Treo," says McIntyre (<http://www.bookviewcafe.com/index.php/Vonda-N.-McIntyre/>), "and I think electronic fiction is the wave of the future. I'm delighted to be presenting *Dreamsnake* in electronic formats."

BVC's presentation of *Dreamsnake* includes an exclusive afterword. *Dreamsnake* and its fantasy cast (which the Book View Café blog helped create, with "Casting *Dreamsnake*" [<http://blog.bookviewcafe.com/2009/04/12/casting-dreamsnake/>]) will soon be featured at the website My Book, the Movie (<http://mybookthemovie.blogspot.com/>).

McIntyre has several short stories available at Book View Café, including "Misprint," originally published by the science journal *Nature*, "The Adventure of the Field Theorems" (a Sherlock Holmes scientific romance), and "The Natural History and Extinction of the People of the Sea," illustrated by Ursula K. Le Guin. "Natural History" is the faux encyclopedia article that developed into McIntyre's Nebula-winning novel, *The Moon and the Sun*, which is also available at BVC.

"I'm very pleased to be part of Book View Café," McIntyre says. "When my friend, physicist and SF writer Dr. John Cramer, showed me Tim Berners-Lee's first iteration of the World Wide Web, I said, 'This is going to change everything,' but I have to admit it took me a few years to begin to see the difference it would make in publishing."

Other Book View Café members include Ms. Le Guin, Sarah Zettel, Jennifer Stevenson, Laura Anne Gilman, Maya Kaathryn Bohnhoff, Brenda Clough, Kate Daniel, Christie Golden, Anne Harris, Sylvia Kelso, Katharine Eliska Kimbriel, Sue Lange, Rebecca Lickiss, Nancy Jane Moore, Pati Nagle, Darcy Pattison, Irene Radford, Madeleine Robins, Amy Sterling, and Susan Wright.



The group formed in November 2008 as a way to offer via the Internet work that is out of print, experimental, or not yet published. With new fiction featured every day, the site has attracted nearly 800 registered users in the first six months of operation. Pleased with their success so far, the members have voted to expand their membership. Starting next month they will add one new member per month to their roster. Authors coming on board include Alma Alexander, Jane Yolen, Rachel Caine, and Judith Tarr.

[Sue Lange](#)

Thursday 23 April 2009

From Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund Delegate Steve

Hi Felicity,

Would appreciate it if you could find space to mention in your news coverage that I've set up a LiveJournal community to discuss my itinerary when I visit Canada as TAFF delegate this August. It's members-only, but that's just to keep the outside world outside.

<http://community.livejournal.com/taff2009/>

I'm really looking forward to renewing my acquaintance with those Canadian fans I've met before, or known through their fanzines, and to making plenty of new friends.

All very best,

Steve

Hi again,

If you need the actual TAFF results, they're here:

<http://johnnyeponymous.livejournal.com/170099.html>

Cheers,

Steve

[Steve](#)

Thursday 23 April 2009

VCON Pre-Con Bash

The VCON 34 Convention Committee (ConCom) is pleased to [announce](#) our spring membership drive and fundraising event—the VCON Pre-Con Bash on Sunday May 3rd, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Rio Theatre in Vancouver [1660 East Broadway (at Commercial)].

The VCON Pre-Con Bash will be an afternoon of fun events and activities intended to appeal to fantasy and science fiction fans of all kinds and will include short movie screenings, trivia games, a costume show, filk sing-along, door prizes and more. There will also be a Q&A session with ConCom members for attendees who are unfamiliar with our convention and would like to know more about what VCON is and why they absolutely have to come this year.

Costumes are highly encouraged so pull out your Browncoat duster or put on your fairy wings and sparkle makeup before you come. We'd love to see you strut your best stuff and be part of our costume show.

As with VCON itself, the VCON Pre-Con Bash will be kid-friendly so bring out the whole family and all your friends!

Admission is by donation. Cash, non-perishable food and books all accepted. All cash donations will go to our charity, [The Canadian Children's Book Center](#).

Keith Lim
778-230-1605

vconpublications@gmail.com

Saturday 25 April 2009

Media File

Ray Seredin

'Doctor Who' News

The TARDIS lands on Space.

After four seasons on the CBC, *Doctor Who* is moving over to the CTV-owned cable outlet Space, starting with the 2008 Xmas special that aired on March 14. The service plans to air the four 2009/2010 specials, with "Planet of the Dead" airing on June 20 (the delay likely caused by their American series and Canadian content commitments) and season five.

So, why is the CBC dropping their most successful overseas co-production? The word *overseas* is the main reason. With all the North American networks losing ad money left and right in this recession, it makes sense the publicly-funded CBC spend as much as they can here at home and not elsewhere. (Note: the reason they are keeping the two American game shows they air—besides the tons of money they make—is that they're under a five-year contract with their producers.)

**THERE ARE
MARTIANS
AMONG US!**

As for the first four seasons of the new series of *Doctor Who* and the 2005–2007 Xmas specials, their Canadian rights still belong to the CBC and still could air on their digital cable outlet CBC Bold.

That's all for now, so be seeing you.

Cosmic Ray Seredin

Zines Received

‘Opuntia’ 67.1D

Published by Dale Speirs, Box 6830, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2P 2E7. I love *Opuntia*’s format.

“Sherlockiana: Part 4” covers multiple aspects of Sherlock Holmes: the fandom (including clubs—known as “scions”—and publications); pretending Holmes really existed; whether Holmes was lawful; whether his intelligence was an informed attribute; being arched by Dr. Moriarty; the apartment at 221B Baker Street (real and fictional). Interesting article. I want to read Parts 1 to 3 ASAP. Coincidentally, I recently heard the radio play *A Scandal in Bohemia*, starring Sirs John Gielgud and Ralph Richardson. *Opuntia* 67.1D had put me in the right mood for it.



“The Algonquin Round Table Considered as Pastiche” reviews two mystery novels that use members of the group as characters: Dorothy Parker in *The Dorothy Parker Murder Case*, and the Marx Brothers in *You Bet Your Life*.

It seems there’s a mystery subgenre for every interest, and “Death Comes for the Rubber Stamper” reviews one book and three stories that involve rubber stamping.

Also in this issue: a wide variety of zine listings (contact information, short description), a book review (the “future history” collection *Federation*, by H. Beam Piper), World Wide Party reminder, and Chester Cuthbert obituary.

About BCSFA

The incumbent BCSFA Executive members are:

President & Archivist: R. Graeme Cameron, 604-584-7562

Vice President: TBA

Treasurer: Kathleen Moore, 604-771-0845

Secretary: Barb Dryer, 604-267-7973

Editor: Felicity Walker, 604-448-8814

Keeper of FRED Book: Garth Spencer, 604-325-8714

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

BCSFA’s website is at www.bcsfa.net. The BCSFA e-mail list is bc_scifi_assc@yahoogroups.com, archived at groups.yahoo.com/group/bc_scifi_assc/.

Why You Got This

- ___ You are a member.
- ___ I thought you were a member.
- ___ You trade with us.
- ___ You carry sample copies of *BCSFAzine* to advertise us.
- ___ You bought a copy in person.
- ___ You contributed.
- ___ You talked to strangers.
- ___ You wrote in starlight.
- ___ You hid in doorways.
- ___ You went to heaven.
- ___ You smelled the flowers.
- ___ You dreamed of women.
- ___ You let them inside your mind.
- ___ You danced in darkness.

