

IMPULSE

MonSFFA • A MonSFF

NEWS BULLETIN
OF THE MONTREAL
SCIENCE FICTION
AND FANTASY
ASSOCIATION

LE BULLETIN
D'INFORMATION
DE L'ASSOCIATION
MONTRÉALAISE DE
SCIENCE-FICTION ET
DE FANTASTIQUE

January / Janvier 2007 (Vol. 11, No./Nº 1)

NEXT MonSFFA MEETING IS THIS WEEKEND

Sunday, January 21

1:00PM-5:00PM

St-François Room, Days Hotel
1005 Guy Street, Montreal

SCHEDULED PROGRAMMING

1:00PM

ELECTION OF 2007 EXECUTIVE:

Election of MonSFFA's Executive
Committee for the coming year.

1:15PM

FAN FICTION, PART I: We devote
the afternoon to an exploration of fan
fiction, or "fanfic," first covering the
genre's history and terminology, impact
on SF/F fan- and prodrom, and the
legal issues surrounding the practise.

2:45PM

BREAK: A mid-meeting pause
for refreshments, announcements of
interest to club members, and our
fund-raising raffle.

3:00PM

FAN FICTION, PART II: We'll hear
from both creators and consumers of
fanfic, and take the opportunity to
hold a quick writing workshop dealing
with the requested submissions of
club members (see sidebar, next
page, for details).

Next MonSFFA Meeting:

FEBRUARY 18

Crime and Punishment

2006 Christmas Dinner and Party

MonSFFA's final event of 2006 was the club's
Christmas dinner/party, held on the evening of
December 9. Some 25 or so club members and friends
began their festive celebrations with dinner at Guido &
Angelina's Restaurant in the AMC Forum, downtown.
The group then moved a few blocks east to party at the
familiar Park Place Bar on Mackay street, which has
received MonSFFA's seasonal revellers, now, for more
than a decade. There ensued an evening of music,
conversation, drinks and, as always, *pool*. The bar's
backroom pool table was quickly appropriated and
remained in use until closing time as between beers, a
succession of MonSFFA members queued up to poke their balls
with a long stick.

Meanwhile, movie passes and other prize items
were raffled off to raise a few dollars for the club. A
couple of these items were deemed worthy of auction
and were put on the block, adding a generous portion
to the raffle revenue.

Keith Braithwaite saw to the collection for charity
of non-perishable food items and a number of toys, and
was pleased to report that club members' beneficence
filled the trunk of his car. Keith later delivered the
haul to Sun Youth as MonSFFA's contribution to that
organization's annual Christmas basket drive.

Our thanks to MonSFFA president Berny Reischl,
who organized the dinner at Guido & Angelina's; Keith,
who in addition to overseeing our collection for charity,
also set up the Park Place party and provided the
evening's musical soundtrack; and Debbie and Heather,
our wonderfully welcoming Park Place hostesses. We
appreciate, as well, the donations of raffle/auction items
for the party.

We trust all MonSFFA members, their families and
friends, enjoyed a Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year.

DOES YOUR NAME APPEAR BELOW? WATCH THIS SPACE TO KNOW IF YOUR ANNUAL MonSFFA MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE.

The annual membership fees
of the following MonSFFA
members are overdue:

BLAIS, Annie
GAUDET, Jacques
KRIMP, Nick
LUPIEN, Denise
LUPIEN, Leslie
RUIZ-DIAZ, Karina

**Annual membership
fees are due this month
(January) from the
following MonSFFA
members:**

**BROWN, Lindsay
MINEAU, Sebastien
NOËL, Kim
SMITH, Garry**

Annual membership fees
will become due next month
(February) from the following
MonSFFA members:

SIMARD, Phil
HAMMOCK, Christopher
KENNEY, Daniel

Please renew your MonSFFA
membership in timely fashion.
Annual dues are \$25. Fill out
the membership application
form, bottom of page, include
cheque or money order, made
out to MonSFFA, and mail to:

**MonSFFA
P.O. Box 1186, Place du Parc
Montreal, Québec
H2X 4A7**

If you have already done so,
ignore this notice. We thank you
for renewing your membership
in MonSFFA, Montreal's
premiere SF/F fan club.

MonSFFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please print legibly. Cut out form and mail as per directions.

AMonSFF FORMULAIRE D'INSCRIPTION

Complétez lisiblement. Découpez le coupon et postez tel qu'indiqué.

Name / Nom: _____ Age / Âge: _____

Tel. / Tél.: () _____ () _____
HOME / MAISON WORK / TRAVAIL

Address / Adresse: _____
No. & STREET / NO ET RUE APT. / APP.

E-mail / Courriel: _____

CITY / VILLE PROVINCE POSTAL CODE / CODE POSTAL

Interests / Intérêts: _____

2007 MonSFFA Meeting Dates Confirmed

MonSFFA's 2007 meeting dates have been confirmed. MonSFFA meets once a month, except in July and December, on a Sunday afternoon from 1:00-5:00PM, typically in the St-François room of the downtown Days Hotel, 1005 Guy Street. Some of our meetings include a morning session, usually scheduled from 10:30 or 11:00AM to about 12:30PM, during which special projects are undertaken or other such activities take place. An informal dinner at a nearby restaurant often follows each meeting.

Our 2007 meeting schedule is as follows: January 21, February 18, March 25, April 22, May 27, June 10, August 19, September 23, October 21, November 18.

The club's annual Parc Angrignon barbecue will be held on Sunday, July 29, this year. The following Sunday, August 5, has been slated as the alternate date should inclement weather prevail on the 29th.

Finally, our traditional Christmas party will be combined this year with the club's 20th anniversary celebrations, scheduled for Saturday, December 8. Planning for this event is currently underway and details will follow in subsequent issues of *Impulse*.

2007 Club Elections

The first order of business at the club's January 21 meeting is the selection of MonSFFA's 2007 Executive Committee. All full club members are encouraged to participate in this process.

MonSFFA elects annually a president, vice-president, and treasurer—who together form the Executive Committee—and charges them with the responsibility of running the club on behalf of the membership. The three executives recruit advisors and appoint officers to assist them in carrying out this responsibility.

Any full MonSFFA member in good standing who is responsibly and reliably able to carry out the duties of office may run for any one of the Executive posts.

Candidates may nominate themselves or accept nomination from another full member in good standing. Nominations are received by the chief returning officer, or CRO, usually just before the commencement of voting on election day.

All full MonSFFA members in good standing are eligible to cast a ballot. Members are asked to be present at the designated place and time in order to exercise their right to vote. Proxy voting is *not* permitted.

FanFic Topic of this Month's MonSFFA Meeting

The principal topic at the club's first meeting of 2007 (January 21) will be fan fiction. Customarily shortened to "fanfic," or simply "fic," fan fiction is that particular brand of unauthorized amateur writing based on a published work, or a television series or movie franchise. Some may expand the definition to include amateur-level original fiction as well as authorized publications rooted in an original work. The general understanding, however, is that a fanfic story is one set in the universe of an original work employing characters created by the original's author.

We will allow the wider definition of fanfic at our meeting so as to include amateur works of original fiction. MonSFFA members are welcome to actively participate in the meeting as detailed in the sidebar, this page.

It is interesting to note that much of fanfic centers on romantic and/or sexual relationships between characters. These are sometimes extrapolations of relationships found in the original work or, often, pairings not intended by the original's author. Some such stories depart entirely from the canon of established characters, portraying them as homosexual, for example, or perhaps as practitioners of BDSM.

Fanfic authors may also pen "crossovers," in which characters from two or more original works are brought together.

Scholarly studies have recognized

Original and Fan Fiction Wanted for this Month's MonSFFA Meeting

We invite and *encourage* any MonSFFA member who has penned or is currently writing a work of either original or fan fiction to bring in to our January 21 club meeting a single-page outline or excerpt to share with the group. Feedback may be offered and perhaps we can provide constructive suggestions on working out a particularly vexing scene, tackling a plot device, or drafting potent dialogue.

Further, we challenge MonSFFA's fan fiction enthusiasts to write the first draft of a short fanfic tale based on one of the following established works:

Encounters of the Very Close Kind
Beavra
MooseMan
The Simpletons' Life

or, an original SF, fantasy, or horror story of no more than 500 words under one of the following titles:

Remembrance of Things Past
Though This be Madness
The Instruments of Darkness
A Better World Than This

an element of wish-fulfillment in fanfic. Authors regularly insert themselves or a thinly veiled representation of themselves into their stories, often in the form of a protagonist exceedingly idealized to the point of cliché. Such a character typically dominates the story, saves the day, wins the respect and admiration of the original work's characters, and the heart of one in particular, the fanfic author's favourite.

Fan fiction has been described as the present-day version of the oral tradition of shared stories, in which a popular legend or fairy tale may be retold from a different perspective, enhanced, or substantially changed. When corporations own what amount to contemporary myths, fan fiction provides an outlet for ordinary folk to contribute to their own culture.

The advent of the Internet has allowed fanfic writers an inexpensive means of widespread distribution; one of the most popular Web sites dedicated to fan fiction is: FanFiction.net

Impulse is put together monthly by Keith Braithwaite on behalf of MonSFFA. An e-version is available on MonSFFA's Web site courtesy Kurt Schmidt. Contact Keith in regards to this publication by any of the following methods:

- In person at a MonSFFA meeting
- Via the club's mailing address, to the attention of "Impulse":
MonSFFA
P.O. Box 1186, Place du Parc
Montreal, Québec, H2X 4A7

- E-mail: bigewok@total.net
- Voice mail: 450-692-8831

Impulse est préparé une fois par mois par Keith Braithwaite au nom de l'AMonSFF. Il est aussi disponible en version électronique sur le site internet du club grâce à Kurt Schmidt. Pour toutes questions concernant cette publication, contactez Keith soit:

- En personne à une réunion du club
- Courriel: bigewok@total.net

- Boîte vocale: 450-692-8831
- Par la poste à l'adresse du club, à l'attention de "Impulse":
AMonSFF
C.P. 1186, Place du Parc
Montréal, Québec, H2X 4A7

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Visitez l'AMonSFF sur internet:

www.MonSFFA.com