

# MonSFFA • A MonSFF IMPULSE

NEWS BULLETIN  
OF THE MONTREAL  
SCIENCE FICTION  
AND FANTASY  
ASSOCIATION

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

February / Février 2010 (Vol. 14, No./Nº 1)

## NEXT MonSFFA MEETING IS THIS WEEKEND

**Sunday, February 21**

1:00PM-5:00PM

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

### SCHEDULED PROGRAMMING 1:00PM

#### RADIO FEN FROM THE MOON (PART 1):

As an in-meeting group project, we'll produce an old-fashioned sci-fi radio play. This afternoon, step one: penning a script. We'll pool ideas and together bang out a draft. Bring along your best stuff, including any short stories or interesting scenes you may already have written that might be adapted for our purposes. Keep things at no more than 5 minutes running time as we'll likely incorporate a few tales, anthology-like.

### 3:30PM

#### BRAINSTORMING SESSION, OUTSIDE-

OF-MEETING FUNDRAISERS: We'll take an hour to consider means of raising funds for the club outside of our meetings. Fresh and innovative ideas required; thinking caps on!

## Next Month's MonSFFA Meeting:

MARCH 28

We conclude our radio play project by performing and recording the piece we've written

## 2009 MonSFFA Christmas Dinner and Party

The club held its traditional festive soirée in celebration of Christmas on Saturday evening, December 5. Close to 30 folk chatted affably while enjoying a meal and the salad buffet at the downtown Scores restaurant on Ste-Catherine street. After dinner, some of the party-goers repaired to the "Not So Privateer" club, our usual seasonal watering hole, the Park Place Bar, spruced up some and operating under a new name. There, the smaller group bellied up to the bar, or the backroom pool table for several hours of stick, and continued their conversations as the night unfolded. Despite the quantities of beer and liquor consumed, some rather good ideas came out of the evening with regard to club operations, promotions, fund-raising, and such. Heck, maybe we should hold our BoA meetings in a bar!

In addition to the traditional Christmas party raffle, we held our first "Rewards Raffle" draw (see next item), through which we offered exclusively those club members who ran programming or volunteered their time to the club during the past year a humble thank-you for their efforts.

Also, as is our custom at Christmastime, we collected toys and non-perishable food items at the party for donation to Sun Youth's Christmas Basket Drive. The contributions of MonSFFA put food on the Christmas table and toys under the tree for some of the less fortunate in our community. Well done, people.

Our thanks to club co-VP Keith Braithwaite, who saw to the delivery of the collected items to Sun Youth. Keith also booked the bar for us and provided several hours of mixed music for the occasion. Thanks are due, as well, MonSFFA president Berny Reischl, who saw to our reservations at Scores. And finally, thanks, of course, to Deb and her staff at the "Not So Privateer", who again warmly hosted our group, as they have for many years, now.

We trust all of our members and friends enjoyed a very merry Christmas, and a happy New Year.

## Rewards Raffle Draw at Christmas Party

During our Christmas party (see previous item), we held MonSFFA's first "Rewards Raffle", the culmination of a year-long program designed to reward those MonSFFA who

**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*:

BOOM, Hendrik  
DUROCHER, Marc  
JAMES, David  
KENNEY, Daniel P.  
McCULLOGH, Brian  
McCULLOGH, Megan  
McCULLOGH, Philip  
ST-PIERRE, Sylvain  
WADSWORTH, Beulah

**Annual membership  
fees are due this month,  
February, from the  
following club members:**

**KRIMP, Nick  
LUPIEN, Denise  
LUPIEN, Leslie**

Annual membership fees will become due next month, March, from the following club members :

D'ORTUN-BOYER, Lynda  
HAMMOCK, Christopher  
MENARD, François  
SIMARD, Phil  
WALLING, René

Please renew your MonSFFA membership in timely fashion. The annual fee for a standard membership is \$25. Fill out the application form, below, include payment (cheque or money order made out to MonSFFA), and mail to:

MonSFFA c/o  
4456 Boul. Ste-Rose  
Laval, Québec, Canada  
H7R 1Y6

Thank you for your membership renewal.

## MonSFFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Name / Nom: \_\_\_\_\_ Age / Âge: \_\_\_\_\_

Address / Adresse: \_\_\_\_\_

No. & STREET / N° ET RUE      APT./APP.

CITY/VILLE      PROVINCE      POSTAL CODE / CODE POSTAL

## AMonSFF FORMULAIRE D'INSCRIPTION

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

Tel./Tél.: (      ) (      )

HOME/MAISON

WORK/TRAVAIL

E-mail/Courriel: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests/Intérêts: \_\_\_\_\_

provided content at our meetings, pitched in on special projects, or otherwise volunteered time to the club in 2009. This program, conceived of and overseen by co-VP Lindsay Brown, awarded club members "participation coupons" for each applicable volunteer action performed in 2009. It is these coupons that served as Rewards Raffle tickets in this exclusive draw.

Having collected coupons throughout the year, club members brought these to the Christmas party, inscribed their names on them, and tossed them into a hat. Not every one of our coupon-holders, of course, was going to walk away with a prize. But all of them had a chance at winning one of the prizes and the club takes this opportunity to thank for their efforts each and every MonSFFAn who ran programming in 2009 or otherwise volunteered. This club runs on the involvement of its members and your having taken part is greatly appreciated.

Our first Rewards Raffle saw four winners and each received a nice gift as a modest token of thanks.

We have decided to run this same rewards-for-participation program again in 2010 and we encourage club members to volunteer to give a presentation or sit on a panel at a MonSFFA meeting, volunteer time at the club table during a convention, or help out with one of the club's special projects. The more you participate, the more coupons you'll receive and the better become your chances of winning one of the Rewards Raffle prizes come our 2010 Christmas party. But more importantly, you will have the satisfaction of having contributed to your club, and you will find that there's a lot of fun to be had in so doing. The more each of us puts into MonSFFA, the more we'll all receive in return!

## 2010 EVENTS CALENDAR

The club's January 17 BoA meeting saw this year's schedule of principal activities drafted, leaving but a few details yet to be filled in. As always, programming is subject to change. Note that we will probably move our June 13 meeting to avoid conflicting with the returning Montreal Grand Prix. MonSFFA's 2010 Events Calendar is as follows:

### January 17

1. MonSFFA Executive Elections
2. It was a Dark and Stormy Night: An introduction to the annual Bulwer-Lytton writing competition in celebration of really bad prose, and an accompanying workshop.
3. Board of Advisor's Meeting

### February 21

1. Radio Fen from the Moon (Part 1): An in-meeting group project, this first part of which is the collective writing of an old-fashioned SF/F-themed radio play. MonSFFans are asked to bring in their best ideas, including any short stories they may have written or rough drafts they may wish to pen in advance of the meeting. Said drafts should not exceed an approximately 5-minute running time.
2. Brainstorming Session, Outside-of-Meeting Fundraisers: We'll take an hour to consider means of raising funds for the club outside of our meetings and by some fresh and innovative method.

### March 28

1. Radio Fen from the Moon (Part 2): The second part of our sci-fi radio play project is the performance and recording of the script that came out of the February meeting. Parts will be cast and actors will rehearse and perform the piece, which will be recorded and later augmented with the addition of sound effects and music. A CD of the final radio play will be produced.

### April 18

1. Science Fiction and Fantasy Blogs: A look at some of the more interesting examples currently online.
2. Open Discussion: We experiment with the idea of open, free-form debate; members may bring up and expound upon any SF/F-related matter in a 30-minute unstructured discussion that we expect will meander over many topics.
3. *Timeline* Production Meeting: We take a half-hour to prepare for next month's video shoot.
4. Sci-Fi Social Networking: Enjoying the Genre and communicating with fellow SF/F fans using Facebook, Twitter, and other online tools.

### May 16

1. *Timeline* Video Shoot: We resurrect the abandoned *Timeline* fan film project; actors will be shot against green-screen, at a later date to be composited with backdrops in post production. We hope to complete all principal photography during this May 16 session.

### June 13

1. Paper or Plastic?: We look at trends in traditional plastic scale model-making and demonstrate techniques in both plastic and paper modelling. Members are encouraged to bring in models they are currently working on to benefit from tips to be offered by the club's master modellers.
2. Sci-Fi Fair: A fund-raiser with an emphasis

on *fun* in which members try their hand at a variety of challenging SF/F-themed carnival midway-like games; premium prizes will be awarded the highest point-getters. A bake sale is planned in conjunction with the fair. Bring a friend!

### July 25

MonSFFA Barbecue: Our annual gathering at Parc Angrignon for a pleasant afternoon in the sun. Should weather threaten, the event will be bumped to the following Sunday, August 1.

### August 15

1. Fancraft Workshops: In a series of workshops running concurrently throughout the afternoon, members try their hand at a variety of SF/F-themed crafts, such as the creation of exotic sci-fi "jewelry" from nuts, bolts, and other hardware-store items.

### September 19

1. Introduction to Computer Gaming: A 1-hour primer on popular computer gaming.
2. Guest Speaker Olivier Xavier: Local special effects artist Olivier Xavier speaks on his professional career, the modern visual effects industry, and the clever FX techniques employed by low-budget independent filmmakers. (Tentative; confirmation pending.)

### October 17

1. Future's History: We explore the evolution of the Captain Future character over a variety of media.
2. Weird Sci-Fi Technologies: A review of some of the more bizarre technologies to be found in the annals of science fiction.
3. Science Fiction Themes and Visuals in Commercial Advertising: A look at advertising's use of SF to sell products and services.

### November 21

1. Signs and Symbols, Legends and Mythologies: An examination of these, their origins and connections.
2. *Star Trek* Remastered: An appreciation of the remastered versions of the original *Star Trek* episodes, in which the visual effects have been updated.
3. Fan Film Theatre: Screenings of some of the most interesting and recent examples of SF/F fan films available on the Web.

### December 4

Christmas Dinner and Party

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*We are just plain out of space, here, so we'll have to postpone until next issue coverage of January's meeting, the ascension of "Emperor Reischl I", and notes on our new suggestion box and planned MonSFFA calendar.*

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 c/o  
4456 Boul. Ste-Rose  
Laval, Québec, Canada, H7R 1Y6

- E-mail: [bigewok@total.net](mailto:bigewok@total.net)
- Voice mail: 450-692-8831

Visit MonSFFA on the Web:

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](mailto:bigewok@total.net)

Visitez l'AMonSFF sur internet:

- Boîte vocale: 450-692-8831
- Par la poste à l'adresse du club, à l'attention de "Impulse":  
AMonSFF a/s de  
4456 Boul. Ste-Rose  
Laval, Québec, Canada, H7R 1Y6

[www.MonSFFA.com](http://www.MonSFFA.com)