

IMPULSE

onSFFA • A MonSFF

NEWS BULLETIN
OF THE MONTREAL
SCIENCE FICTION
AND FANTASY
ASSOCIATION

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

May / Mai 2010 (Vol. 14, No./N° 4)

NEXT MonSFFA MEETING IS COMING SOON

Sunday, May 16

1:00PM-5:00PM

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

SCHEDULED PROGRAMMING

1:00PM

PAPER OR PLASTIC? By way of a workshop, we look at recent trends in traditional plastic scale model-making and showcase techniques in both plastic and increasingly popular paper modelling. Members are encouraged to bring in models on which they are currently working to benefit from tips to be offered by the club's master modellers.

2:30PM

GARAGE SALE PLANNING MEETING:

We take a moment to finalize plans for our new fund-raising effort, a neighbourhood garage sale (see item "Garage Sale Fund-Raiser", right).

2:45PM

SCI-FI FAIR: An in-meeting fund-raiser with an emphasis on *fun!* Try your luck at challenging SF/F-themed carnival midway-like games! Premium prizes awarded highest point-getters! A bake sale will run in conjunction with the fair. Bring a friend! Bring some coin!

**NEXT MONTH:
Garage Sale Fund-Raiser
(Details to be announced)**

Discount for MonSFFen at Fringe Festival Play

MonSFFA members will enjoy a discount on admission to *Shades of Grey*, a stage play to be presented as part of the upcoming Montreal Fringe Festival. The Festival runs from June 1 through 20 in the Plateau. *Shades of Grey* is scheduled for six shows during this time, the first on Saturday, June 12.

Inspired by *The Twilight Zone*, Rod Serling's acclaimed SF/F anthology, the production is mounted entirely in black and white! Sets, costumes, props and make-up have all been designed to capture the stark palette of the classic Serling television series.

Club members carrying a valid MonSFFA membership card will save \$2 off the \$12 ticket price. *Shades of Grey* will unfold at the Festival's Venue 7 (Portuguese Association) on St-Urbain Street, corner Rachel. Show dates/times are:

Saturday, June 12, 11:45PM

Sunday, June 13, 10:00PM

Tuesday, June 15, 11:00PM

Wednesday, June 16, 7:45PM

Friday, June 18, Midnight

Sunday, June 20, 5:45PM

Members may enjoy an additional two-for-one special on tickets for the June 15 show.

ConCept's new chair, Liz Cano, is one of the people behind *Shades of Grey* and arranged for the discount for our folk. Thanks, Liz!

For more information on the Festival, surf to the event's Web site: www.montrealfringe.ca

And look for MonSFFA's ad in the *Shades of Grey* programme book!

Garage Sale Fund-Raiser

One of the many suggestions recently offered by MonSFFen regarding outside-of-meeting fund-raisers was that of holding a garage sale at a willing club member's residence. The idea was to feature not only sci-fi items but all manner of second-hand stuff. It was put forth that a friendly neighbourhood garage sale would, one, draw upon a fresh and larger pool of buyers, and two, probably generate more

**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*:

DODDS, Georges
KRIMP, Nick
LOMBART, Marc
SYSAVANE, Khoba
WALLING, René

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

**BROWN, Lindsay
BURAKOFF, Mark
RINZ, Joshua
SICHEL, Danny
WHITELAW, Maureen**

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

BELLEMARE, Josée
DION, Mireille
METHE, Ann
NORMAND, Jean-Pierre
SILVERMAN, Barbara

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 renewing your membership.

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.

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E-mail/Courriel: _____

Interests/Intérêts: _____

revenue than the annual Sci-Fi Garage Sales we've been holding, which, after several years of declining income, have pretty much run their course as effective fund-raising vehicles.

But there were a few things that would need to be in place for the neighbourhood garage sale idea to work.

First, we'd need access to someone's driveway in order to mount our sale. On-island, off-island, north, south, east or west—it didn't matter, so long as we were set up in a suburban neighbourhood. The need of special permits and other requirements would have to be investigated so that we might hold our sale in respect of local bylaws.

Second, we'd have to collect donated items from the membership in advance of the date of the sale and price everything. If each member were to supply a small box or two of stuff, we'd have ourselves a fair selection of merchandise to lay out. Aside from any Genre material that folk might donate, we'd gratefully accept gardening and workshop tools; kitchenware; small items of houseware like desktop lamps, ashtrays, or flower vases; children's games and toys; jewelry and decorative knick-knacks; and various mechanical or electronic gadgets of interest. Large items, like shelving units, bicycles, lawn furniture and such could also be included provided we could arrange to transport these to the sight of the sale.

Finally, we'd have to assemble a team of perhaps five or six people, at least half of them with their own means of transportation, to run the sale. From among the members of this team, we'd need to provide portable tables on which to display the merchandise, table cloths, and chairs in which to sit. The club would supply a cash box with some \$20 or \$30 worth of small change as a float.

In the wake of our having cancelled the club's June meeting (as reported last issue), the notion of trying to organize such a garage sale for that month was brought up at the April club meeting. The idea as outlined above was thrown out to the group and favourably received. Before long, we had someone volunteer her driveway! She has since looked at the local bylaws and reports that her municipality requires no permits nor places any date restrictions on garage sales. We have therefore decided to give this thing a try!

And so, we are asking MonSFFen to put

together a small box or two worth of saleable items for the cause and bring these in to our May 16 meeting. Your boxes should be about the size of a picnic cooler or microwave oven. Some slightly larger things, like a table lamp, toaster, dart board, or pre-schooler's tricycle, could be brought in along with your boxed material. As for very big pieces, like lawn furniture or those multi-coloured, sturdy plastic children's playhouses/jungle-gyms (almost guaranteed to sell!), let us know what you have and we'll see if we can arrange transportation. The big stuff usually brings in big coin at a garage sale, so we hope to have at least a few such items included.

Remember, your donations need not necessarily be Genre-related; *non-SF/F items are also wanted*. Please select pieces in fairly good condition. Items missing parts or otherwise inoperative tend not to sell for very much, if at all. Give your stuff a good soap-and-water wash, if needed, particularly children's toys like plastic vehicles or building blocks. Games and puzzles should, of course, be complete. These are unsellable if missing tokens, cards, and such. Stuffed animals and dolls are usually popular; make sure they are clean and without torn stitching or missing buttons. Any clothing should be in wearable condition and *must* be laundered. Magazines tend not to sell all that well, but books—paperback or hardcover—and comics in good shape frequently do. Finally, anything unique, unusual often draws buyers.

This is your opportunity to clear out some of the clutter in your garage or basement and at the same time, help finance your club's activities!

Upon receiving your generous donations at the May 16 meeting, we'll sort out the remaining details of our garage sale. The date we are considering for the sale is Saturday, June 12.

April MonSFFA Meeting

MonSFFA's April 18 meeting programme was revised on the fly to accommodate a very special last-minute guest: Claude Gauthier, who worked on the just-released, locally produced film *The Wild Hunt*, about a group of live-action role-players who take their outdoor medieval fantasy game a little too far. *Lord of the Flies*-too far, in fact! Without giving anything away, an enthusiastic Claude spoke at

length about the film, offering that it was a fascinating exploration of the modern human psyche by way of the LARPing community. The story is both humorous and dramatic, peopled by characters that readily engage an audience.

He spoke, too, of the challenges of producing a film in Canada, notably that one must do so with rather less money that would be available for even a low-budget Hollywood production. Filmed at a sprawling LARPing site—Duché de Bicolline—outside of Shawinigan, *The Wild Hunt* was made for about \$400,000 and has garnered considerable praise and several film-festival honours. Claude credited the many talented people involved, in particular Alexandre Franchi, directing his first feature, and an outstanding cast, including lead Mark A. Krupa, who co-wrote the script with Franchi. Some of the cast members have since furthered their careers in Hollywood.

Claude himself did duty as a stunt coordinator and had a small role in the film, though his best scenes ended up on the cutting room floor for reasons of pacing. His principal job, however, was casting director.

Before making his exit, Claude invited MonSFFen to a special screening/wrap party for the film in off-island St-Eustache the following weekend. The short notice notwithstanding, some half-dozen MonSFFen made the trek.

Prior to Claude's arrival, Berny Reischl gave a quick presentation on SF/F blogs, showcasing some of his favourites and offering a cross-section of the countless number of Genre-related blogs currently online.

The meeting also found time to record a few more pages of script for the club's ongoing old-fashioned radio project, and introduce a period of open, free-form discussion that allowed folk to expound upon any Genre-related subject. The group spoke of numerous things but latched on to the topic of recent and rather frustrating network programming practices involving the launching of new series.

Cathy Palmer-Lister was to have given a treatise on fandom and online social networking, but graciously bowed out to allow time for our special guest.

We thank our guest, Claude Gauthier, for dropping in. Thanks, also, to everyone who put together and ran this one.

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":
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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: keith1958@live.ca

Visitez l'AMonSFF sur internet:

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- Par la poste à l'adresse du club, à l'attention de "Impulse":
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