

MonSFFA CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Saturday, December 3

MonSFFA's members, their families, and the club's many friends, are invited to celebrate the season with us!

DINNER at 6:00PM, downtown
LES 3 BRASSEURS RESTAURANT
1356 Ste-Catherine Street West
(corner Crescent; Guy-Concordia
or Peel Metro)
*Reservations under name of
Bernard Reischl*

PARTY at 8:00PM, downtown
"NOT SO PRIVATEER" BAR
(formerly Park Place Bar)
1244 Mackay Street
(between Ste-Catherine and
René-Lévesque)

*Drinks, Music, and Pool! • Collection
of toys, non-perishable foods for Sun
Youth Christmas Baskets; please give in
the spirit of the season • Rewards Raffle
for volunteer members—don't forget to
bring your orange "Participation
Coupons"! • MonSFFA Christmas
Raffles!*

NEXT MonSFFA MEETING
Sunday, January 22, 2012
(Club Elections)

Club's Christmas Celebrations

MonSFFA will celebrate the 2011 holidays with our traditional Christmas Dinner and Party, this year scheduled for Saturday evening, December 3. All of the club's members and their families, and MonSFFA's many friends, are welcome to celebrate the season with us! See the events column, left, for the official invitation and details.

We will gather at Les 3 Brasseurs restaurant on Ste-Catherine, corner Crescent, at 6:00PM. Reservations have been made under the name of club president Bernard Reischl; seating is limited so don't be late! The selections are certainly appetizing; main courses available include fettuccine primavera, Atlantic salmon, flank steak and grilled shrimp, and chicken brochette with frankfurter sausage. We have posted the restaurant's Holiday Menu on the club's Web site.

Following our festive dinner, we'll walk the few blocks to the "Not So Privateer" bar on Mackay (between Ste-Catherine and René-Lévesque) for the evening's party. Long-time club members will recognize this establishment as our traditional watering hole for these many years (it used to be called the Park Place Bar).

As is our custom, we'll be collecting toys and non-perishable food items at the party for donation to Sun Youth's Christmas Basket Drive—please give in the spirit of the season. We have a few Christmas raffles planned, as well, including our Rewards Raffle.

The Rewards Raffle is an exclusive draw and the means by which we offer special thanks for their participation to those club members who ran programming at our meetings this year, or pitched in to help with special events and projects. For such volunteer actions in 2011 club members have received, or will receive at the dinner, orange participation coupons. These coupons will serve as raffle tickets in the

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

The Annual Membership Fees of the Following Club Members are...

Overdue:
BOIES, Marquise
BOOM, Hendrik
DUROCHER, Marc
KENNEY, Daniel P.
NOVO, Fernando
PENALBA, Theresa
ST-PIERRE, Sylvain

Due this Month, December:
SINCLAIR, Julia
REISCHL, Bernard
RUFIANGE, Yolande

Due Next Month, January:
Ø

Standard membership is only \$25 annually. We offer a family rate of \$40. Add \$10 to either of these to enjoy our premium "Platinum" membership level. Please complete the 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
patronage*

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.: _____ - _____ - _____

ADDRESS/ADRESSE: _____
No. & Street/N° et Rue Apt./App. City/Ville

Province Postal Code/Code Postal E-MAIL/COURRIEL: _____

INTERESTS/INTÉRÊTS: _____

Rewards lottery. Each coupon-holding MonSFFAn will have a chance to win one of the prizes offered by the club as humble tokens of thanks. Members having coupons in hand are asked to bring these to the party and to write their names on each in the space provided. The coupons will be tossed into a hat as we kick off the party, and winners drawn.

The club takes this opportunity to thank for their efforts each and every MonSFFAn who ran programming in 2011 or helped with special events and projects. This club runs on the involvement of its members and your having taken part is greatly appreciated.

And so, we hope to see all of you at the club's 2011 Christmas Dinner and Party, and to all we offer our early wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

November MonSFFA Meeting

A goodly number were in attendance for the club's final meeting of 2011, held on November 20.

Keith Braithwaite opened proceedings with a game of Sci-Fi Telephone Line. Giving full props to MonSFFAn Marquise Boies, who back in the '90s originated this particular variation on the traditional parlour game, Keith selected four artists and four writers from the group and made of them two teams. A writer from each team was shown an image—a spacecraft on the one hand and a monster on the other—and given five minutes to write a description. These descriptions were then handed to each of the next team members in line—artists—who each produced a sketch based on their respective team member's freshly penned description, and so on through another set of writer and artist, resulting in final sketches, which were then compared to the original images.

It was interesting to note the diversions from the original, as well as the similarities, with folk observing that hardware—here the spaceship—seemed to come through this process in better shape than organics—the monster.

In addition to our usual raffle, the mid-meeting break saw a new idea for an in-meeting fund-raiser tested, with positive results. Continued discussion of plans for 2012 meeting programming followed—we had begun laying out the coming year's activities at our October gathering—as well as talk of various other items of club business. A suggestion to, at some point soon, cease producing and mailing paper issues of *Impulse* as a means of saving the club a couple hundred dollars per year was met with largely favourable reaction. *Impulse* would thus become an exclusively electronic publication. A few MonSFFen, however, remain attached to the traditional paper news bulletin. We'll explore the issue further in the coming months.

The meeting wrapped up with a brief recording session, committing the last few remaining pages of dialogue to "tape" with regard to our on-going old-fashioned radio play project. Paul Gareau and Keith Braithwaite gave emotive performances, with Berny Reischl working the board as recording engineer. We have rededicated ourselves to this recently neglected group undertaking and with this session, now have all of the voice work completed. Editing and post-production (sound effects and music) are next!

2012 MonSFFA Meeting and Events Dates

The club has booked the following Sunday meeting dates for 2012: January 22, February 19, March 25, April 22, May 27, August 19, September 23, October 28, and November 18. We have an outing planned for Sunday, June 10, and will hold our annual barbecue on Sunday, July 22 (should the forecast call for rain, we'll bump the barbecue ahead a week to Sunday, July 29). Finally, we have scheduled Saturday, December 8, as the date of our traditional Christmas Dinner and Party.

We await confirmation from the Hôtel Espresso as to meeting dates; please note that all dates are subject to change.

2012 Club Elections

The first order of business as the club begins a new year is traditionally the election of MonSFFA's Executive Committee for that year. The club's 2012 elections will take place at our first meeting of the new year, slated for January 22. All MonSFFA members in good standing are encouraged to participate.

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. Our sitting Executive is as follows: Berny Reischl, president; Keith Braithwaite, vice-president; Sylvain St-Pierre, treasurer.

Any 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 member in good standing. Nominations are received by the chief returning officer, or CRO, usually just before the commencement of voting on election day. *Warp* editor Cathy Palmer-Lister, a former MonSFFA president, is currently our chief returning officer.

All 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, except under special circumstances and by approval of the CRO (out-of-town members unable to attend the vote, for example, may have their ballots cast by the CRO in their absence, or make their choices via e-mail or other form of communication outside of the designated voting hour).

Briefly

- We note with sadness the passing, on November 21 at her home in Ireland, of award-winning author Anne McCaffrey, best known for her *Dragonriders of Pern* novels, which deftly combined science fiction and fantasy. She was 85.
- Reports indicate that, unfortunately, ConCept 2011 did not cover expenses. However, the organization remains in the black when accumulated past revenues are considered, though with rather less financial wiggle room. Planning for 2012 has tentatively begun; volunteers are needed to keep the long-running convention a going concern.
- Apparently, the decades-long popularity of the Tintin comics here in Québec has prompted producers to release the French-language version of *The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn* right here at home, on December 9, before the movie opens in English across the rest of North America on December 21. Steven Spielberg directs and serves, too, as co-producer with Peter Jackson. The footage we've seen of this motion-capture animated extravaganza looks rather impressive.
- We remind MonSFFen to renew their club memberships in timely fashion.

Visit MonSFFA on the Web / Visitez l'AMonSFF sur internet: www.MonSFFA.com

Impulse is put together monthly by Keith Braithwaite of 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 means: In person at a MonSFFA meeting ● E-mail: keith1958@live.ca ● Voice mail: 450-692-8831 ● Via the club's mailing address, to the attention of "Impulse": MonSFFA c/o 4456 Boul. Ste-Rose, Laval, Québec, Canada, H7R 1Y6

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 ● Boîte vocal: 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