

FanActivity Gazette

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January 2023

News of Fen of Interest to All Fen

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Appropriate Contributions welcome.

Editorial

As may be apparent, some of our major contributors have transferred their attentions to other fannish activities, so in the short run FanActivity Gazette will sadly be thinner than past issues have been. On the bright side, this time we did not lose our writer to the Grim Reaper. We may in a bit rearrange how we handle zines, for example by merging FanActivity Gazette with on of our other sfnal fanzines.

Speculative Societies:
Science Fiction Club Directory
By Heath Row

From the front lines and far afield, this directory lists local science fiction clubs that have hit our radar. Previous installments reported on sf club events that occurred in recent weeks—and that were expected to happen in the near future.

If you're active in a local club, feel free to send me activity reports and other updates via email at kalel@well.com. And if you don't participate in a local club in the area in which you live, please consider joining! I would, if I lived there.

Want to find a local club near you? Let us know; maybe we can help.

Active in a local club? Let us know what you've been up to!

Australia
Melbourne Science Fiction Club
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/4658278007>

University of Queensland Sci-Fi and Fantasy Society
<https://www.facebook.com/uqsffs>

University Science-Fiction and Fantasy Association
<https://tinyurl.com/unisfa>
<https://www.facebook.com/unisfaUWA>

Canada
Montreal Science Fiction and Fantasy Association
<http://www.monsffa.ca>

<https://www.facebook.com/MonSFFA>

Simon Fraser University Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Club

<https://www.instagram.com/sfusffbooks>

University of Waterloo Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Gaming Club

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2432779325>

Finland

Helsinki University Science Fiction Club

<https://hysfk.fi/en/main-page>

South Africa

Science Fiction and Fantasy South Africa

<https://www.sfsa.org.za>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/7967222257>

Sweden

Scandinavian SF Association

<https://tinyurl.com/SFSF-club>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/456183754468848/>

United Kingdom

England

Aylesbury Sci-Fi/Fantasy Meet

<https://tinyurl.com/Aylesbury-club>

Birmingham Science Fiction Group

<https://www.birminghamsgroup.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/33804681002>

British Fantasy Society

<https://www.britishfantasysociety.org>

British Science Fiction Association

<http://www.bsfa.co.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/BritishScienceFictionAssociation>

Cambridge University Science Fiction Society

<https://cusfs.soc.srcf.net>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/cusfs>

Humber Speculative Fiction

<https://humbersff.wordpress.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/humbersff>

Ireland

University College Dublin Science Fiction & Fantasy Society

<https://societies.ucd.ie/scifi>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/192288151120>

<https://www.instagram.com/ucdscifi>

Scotland

IO: Glasgow University Science Fiction and Fantasy Society

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064423880536>

University of Edinburgh Sci-Fi and Fantasy Society (Sciffy)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Sciffy>

Wales

Cardiff University Sci-Fi & Fantasy Society

<https://www.cardiffstudents.com/activities/society/scifi>

United States

Alabama

North Alabama Science Fiction Association

<https://tinyurl.com/NASFA-club>

California

Bay Area Science Fiction Association

<https://www.basfa.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/50764271460>

Darkstar (University of California San Diego)

<https://darkstar.ucsd.edu>

Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society

<http://www.lasfs.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/5825722948> (official)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/959701274086719> (unofficial)

Orange County Science Fiction Club

<http://ocsfc.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/103359626380866>

Florida

Orlando Area Science Fiction Society

<https://oasfis.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/46801485574>

Maryland

Baltimore Science Fiction Society

<https://www.bsfs.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/BaltimoreSciFi>

Massachusetts

Harvard-Radcliffe Science Fiction Association

<http://www.hrsfa.org>

MIT Science Fiction Society

<http://mitsfs.mit.edu>

New England Science Fiction Association
<http://www.nesfa.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nesfa>

Somerville Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club
<https://tinyurl.com/SomervilleSFFBC>

University of Massachusetts Science Fiction Society
<https://tinyurl.com/umsfs>

Worcester Public Library Science Fiction Book Club
<https://tinyurl.com/WPLSFBC>

Michigan
University of Michigan Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group
<http://websites.umich.edu/~esrabkin/fsftsched.html>

Minnesota
Minnesota Science Fiction Society
<https://mnstf.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/7399231094>

Missouri
Kansas City Science Fiction & Fantasy Society
<http://kacsffs.blogspot.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1376903289240618>

Nebraska
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Fantasy And Science Fiction Club
<https://tinyurl.com/UNL-LFSF>
<https://www.facebook.com/LincolnFSF>

New Jersey
Science Fiction Association of Bergen County
<https://tinyurl.com/sfabc-club>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1115586675167882>

New York
Columbia University Science Fiction Society
<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cusfs>

The Science Fiction Forum at Stony Brook University
<https://sf4m.org/home>

Ohio
Intergalactic Science Fiction Club at OSU
<https://www.facebook.com/SciFiClubOSU>

Pennsylvania
Bloomsburg University Science Fiction Club

<https://www.facebook.com/bloomu.scifi>

Carnegie-Mellon University Science Fiction & Fantasy Society
<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~sprite/CMU-SFFS>

Tennessee
Nashville Science Fiction Book Club
<https://tinyurl.com/NashvilleSFBC>

Washington
Lower Columbia College Science Fiction Club
<https://tinyurl.com/LCC-SFC>

Northwest Science Fiction Society
<http://www.nwsfs.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2381049519>

Conventions for February

Mindy Hunt

Each month we will provide a list of conventions from around the world.

This list is constantly being updated throughout the month. You can find our full events list as well as a calendar at <http://scifi4me.com/conventions-events/>.

During the week, we provide regular updates on our TV channel <http://scifi4me.tv/> with any schedule changes or cancellations. These updates also include any COVID-19 requirements the events are requesting. These requirements are also listed on our calendar for each event.

We are always looking to keep the list and calendar as current as possible. If you know of a local event, big or little, send us and email at events@scifi4me.com so we can add it and make it the most comprehensive conventions list on the internet.

FEB 2-6

ON-SITE

[Halloween & Attraction's Show](#) – St Louis, MO **Feb 2-6**

[Capricon](#) – Chicago, IL **Feb 2-5**

[Anime Milwaukee](#) – Milwaukee, WI **Feb 3-5**

[Creation Dallas](#) – Plano, TX **Feb 3-5**

[Edwardian Ball](#) – San Francisco, CA **Feb 3-4**

[Hollywood Show Los Angeles](#) – Los Angeles, CA **Feb 3-4**

[CreepIE Con](#) – Ontario, CA **Feb 4-5**

[Brick Fest Live](#) – Houston, TX **Feb 4-5**

[Little Rock Anime Festival](#) – Little Rock, AR **Feb 4-5**

[The Grave Plot Film Fest](#) – Seattle, WA **Feb 4**

[NOICE: Norfolk's Original Indie Comics Expo](#) – Norfolk, VA **Feb 5**

[Oddities & Curiosities Expo Louisville](#) – Louisville, KY Feb 4

[Old Time Comic Show](#) – Punta Gorda, FL Feb 4

[Wayne NJ Toy Show](#) – Wayne, NJ Feb 4

[Annandale Comic Con](#) – Annandale, MD Feb 5

[Folsom Toy-Anime-Comic Con](#) – Folsom, CA Feb 5

[London Comic Mart](#) – London, United Kingdom Feb 4

FEB 10-12

ON-SITE

[Animazing-Con](#) – Savannah, GA Feb 9-12

[Farpoint](#) – Hunt Valley, MD Feb 10-12

[Kami-Con](#) – Birmingham, AL Feb 10-12

[London Anime & Gaming Con](#) – London, United Kingdom Feb 10-12

[Animangapop Winter](#) – Plymouth, United Kingdom Feb 11-12

[Brick City Anime Fest](#) – Ocala, FL Feb 11-12

[Brick Fest Live Austin](#) – Austin, TX Feb 11-12

[Japan Weekend](#) – Madrid, Spain Feb 11-12

[Oddities & Curiosities Atlanta](#) – Atlanta, GA Feb 11-12

[Aurora Comicon](#) – Aurora, Ontario, Canada Feb 11

[KupoCon](#) – Glasgow, United Kingdom Feb 11

[Milwaukee Comic Con](#) – Milwaukee, WI Feb 11

[Missouricon](#) – St Louis, MO Feb 11

[Turlock Toy-Anime-Comic Con](#) – Turlock, CA Feb 11

[Captial Trade Shows](#) – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Feb 12

[Clandestine Comics](#) – Lualaba, MD Feb 12

[Jersey Shore Comic Book Show Tom's River](#) – Tom's River, NJ Feb 12

[London Brick Festival](#) – London, United Kingdom Feb 12

[SWFL-Animefest](#) – Fort Myers, FL Feb 12

FEB 14-19

ON-SITE

[ConVoluted CON Cruise](#) – Miami, FL Feb 14-19

[LTUE](#) – Provo, UT Feb 16-18

[DunDraCon](#) – Santa Clara, CA Feb 17-20

[Lux](#) – Birmingham, United Kingdom Feb 17-19

[Mad Monster Party Carolina](#) – Charlotte, NC Feb 17-19

[Boskone](#) – Boston, MA Feb 17-19

[Con Nooga](#) – Chattanooga, TN Feb 17-19

[Fan Expo Portland](#) – Portland, OR Feb 17-19

[Gallifrey One](#) – Los Angeles, CA Feb 17-19

[HarmonyCon](#) – Irving, TX Feb 17-19

[Katsucon](#) – National Harbor, MD Feb 17-19
[LVL Up Expo](#) – Las Vegas, NV Feb 17-19
[Sci-Fi Ball](#) – Southampton, United Kingdom Feb 17-19
[Fan Expo Vancouver](#) – Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada Feb 18-20
[Brick Fest Live Mesa](#) – Mesa, AZ Feb 18-19
[GenreCon](#) – South Brisbane, Queensland, Australia Feb 18-19
[Japan Impact](#) – Lausanne, Switzerland Feb 18-19
[Oddities & Curiosities Expo Charlotte](#) – Charlotte, NC Feb 18-19
[OWLCON](#) – Houston, TX Feb 18-19
[Hickory Comic Con](#) – Hickory, NC Feb 18
[Bournemouth Brick Festival](#)– Bournemouth, United Kingdom Feb 19
[Hanford Toy-Anime-Comic Con](#) – Hanford, CA Feb 19
[Ontario Collectors Con](#)– Mississauga, Ontario, Canada Feb 19

FEB 20-26

ON-SITE

[PrezCon](#) – Charlottesville, VA Feb 20-26
[Coastal Magic Convention](#) – Daytona Beach, FL Feb 23-26
[GenghisCon](#) – Aurora, CO Feb 23-26
[Atlantic Comic Convention](#) – Atlanta, GA Feb 24-26
[Captain's Comic Expo](#) – Charleston, SC Feb 25-26
[ConFinement](#) – Lebanon, TN Feb 24-26
[Festival International des Jeux](#)– Cannes, France Feb 24-26
[Fire & Ice Convention](#)– Manitowoc, WI Feb 24-26
[Gamicon](#)– Cedar Rapids, IA Feb 24-26
[Great Lakes Comic Convention](#) – Warren, MI Feb 24-26
[Japan Expo Sud](#)– Marseille, France Feb 24-26
[Pensacon](#) – Pensacola, FL Feb 24-26
[Alaska ComiCon](#) – Fairbanks, AK Feb 25-26
[Collect-a-Con Orlando](#) – Orlando, FL Feb 25-26
[MAGIC](#) – Monaco, Monaco Feb 25-26
[Retromania Dripping Springs](#)– Dripping Springs, TX Feb 25-26
[Frankfort Anime-Fest](#) – Frankfort, KY Feb 25
[Hero Hype Con Miami](#) – Miami, FL Feb 25
[Oshawa Comicon](#) – Oshawa, Ontario, Canada Feb 25
[Annandale Comic Con](#)– Annandale, VA Feb 26
[Hayward-Castro Valley Toy-Anime-Comic Con](#)– Castro Valley, CA Feb 26
[LexingtonCon](#) – Lexington, KY Feb 26
[Nerd Fest](#) – Swedesboro, NJ Feb 26
[Petersborough Comicon](#) – Petersborough, Ontario, Canada Feb 26

Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays

This list of fandom-related birthdays was first published by Bruce Pelz in the Fantasy Amateur Press Association. Andrew Porter published and updated the list for Science Fiction Chronicle. Updates are welcome!

Unless stated otherwise, all birthdays are in the 20th century.

February

Paul Turner, 2/1; George Pal, 2/1/06; Robert Rosenberg, 2/1/47; Richard Fidczuk, 2/1/61; Astra Poyser, 2/1/74; Thomas M. Disch, 2/2/40; Eric Lindsay, 2/2/47; Laurie Mann, 2/2/57; Hilda Hannifen, 2/3/46; Dorothea Faulkner, 2/4/1899; Ted White, 2/4/38; Malcolm Willits, 2/5/34; Shelley Belsky, 2/5/55; Yale Edeiken, 2/6/46; Michelle Lundgren, 2/6/50; Marc Schirmeister, 2/6/58; Curt Phillips, 2/6/59; Henry Hasse, 2/7/13; Jules Verne, 2/8/1828; Ned Brooks, 2/8/38; Tony Lewis, 2/8/41; Jim Young, 2/8; Dave Nee, 2/8/53; MaryElizabeth Hart, 2/8/65; Frank Frazetta, 2/9/28; Lionel Fanthorpe, 2/9/35; John Shirley, Tom Whitmore, 2/10/53.

Daniel F. Galouye, 2/11/20; Louis R. Chauvenet, 2/12/20; John Christopher, 2/12/22; Juanita Coulson, 2/12/33; Stu Shiffman, 2/12/54; Alexandra E. Honigsberg, 2/13/58; David A. Kyle, 2/14/19; Dale Hart, 2/14/20; J.T. McIntosh, 2/14/25; Rusty Hevelin, 2/16; Chuck Crayne, 2/16/38; Mike Glycer, 2/16/53; Charles R. Tanner, 2/17/1896; Bruce Gillespie, 2/17/47; Ray Capella, 2/18/33; Arthur Louis Joquel II, 2/19/19; Terry Carr, 2/19/37; Don Pauley, 2/19/39; Rosemary Ulliot, 2/19/46; Rick Raphael, 2/20/19; Alan Hunter, 2/20/23; Ed Clinton, Richard Matheson, 2/20/26; Dan Goodman, Suford Lewis, 2/20/43.

Richard A. Lupoff, 2/21/35; Marianne Turlington, 2/21/36; Bill Morrison, 2/21/48; Joanna Russ, 2/22/37; Genny Dazzo, 2/22/53; Dennis Fischer, 2/23/60; August Derleth, 2/24/09; Grant Thiessen 2/24/47; David Salomon, 2/24/88; Edgar Pangborn, 2/25/09; Anthony Burgess, Rex Gordon, 2/25/17; Frank Denton, 2/25/30; Jean Weber, 2/25/43; Wiktor Bukato, 2/25/49; Theodore Sturgeon, 2/26/18; Alex Eisenstein, 2/26/45; Phyllis Eisenstein, 2/26/46; Bob Devney, 2/26; Hank Davis, 2/27/44; A. Joseph Ross, 2/27/45; Michael A. Burstein, 2/27/70; John Coleman Burroughs, 2/28/13; Keith Freeman, 2/28/38; Steve Goldin, 2/28/47; Tim Powers, 2/29/52.

Marc Schirmeister

According to Fancyclopedia 3, Marc Schirmeister is an artist and cartoonist who founded Rowbrazzle, the cartoonist's apa, and contributed to Bruce Pelz's The Fantasy Showcase Tarot Deck, which is available on Fanac. (When I was compiling the Blue Moon Special apa directory more than a decade ago, I mostly dealt with subsequent collator William Earl Haskell.) Schirmeister's artwork continues to appear in fanzines, including Joseph T. Major's Alexiad Vol. 21 #3 (June 2022).

A 2015 Furry Writers' Guild article, "Guest post: 'A Conversation with Fred Patten' by Phil Geusz" offers some details on the origin of Rowbrazzle:

Vootie, the fanzine of the Funny Animal Liberation Front started in 1977. ... It was an APA for comic-book fans who didn't like costumed superheroes and could draw. One of its members was Marc Schirmeister in L.A. During 1981 and 1982 it became obvious that Vootie was dying because of apathy among its organizers. Schirm tried to keep it going but he failed; the last Vootie was in February 1983. Schirm then organized Rowbrazzle as its replacement, but he made an interest in funny animals rather than an ability to draw cartoons as the criterion for membership. ... Schirm went on a recruiting drive among the 1983-84 Cal Arts students and made several of them Rowbrazzle members whether they wanted to be or not. Most of them never contributed; Bruce Timm provided a "Duck Savage" drawing that he'd already done.

Rowbrazzle #1 appeared in February 1984. By that time, early furry fandom was dividing between those who were in Rowbrazzle and contributing to its quarterly issues, and those who gathered at conventions who were organized more by Mark Merlino & Rod O'Riley. Gallacci was concentrating on finalizing his story into publishable form as the comic book Albedo.

A 1975 photo of Schirmeister taken by Ned Brooks in the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society library is also available on Fanac. (That same year, he contributed a cover to APA-L #521.) He shared a table with Mike Glycer and Joe Zeff at the 75th anniversary gathering in 2009 and also attended the 70th anniversary club meeting in 2004. He contributed all of the artwork in Corflu 34's first progress report, a Hoo Hah publication published by Marty Cantor. A 2005 winner of the Rotsler Award, Schirmeister also contributed artwork to John Hertz's Vanamonde.

Comments in a 2016 Dogpatch Press article, "How did Disney inspire Furry fandom? A look at early influences by Fred Patten," suggest that Schirmeister worked professionally in the animation industry before getting involved in furry fandom. (He shared some stories about his professional work at Westercon 63 in 2010.) In 1989, Schirmeister passed on the official editorship of Rowrbrazzle to Patten. Both also appear in a YouTube video of a Loscon 15 (1988) furry party (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZ6JF1ahLQ8>).

Alan White's Skyliner #5 (2019) indicates that Schirmeister has worked at Warner Bros., DIC, and Saban. According to IMDb, recent credits include three episodes of Fairly OddParents (as storyboard artist) and a 2021 animated short, Katrina the Fuzzy Princess (as animator).

Schirmeister even attended a 2011 LASFS meeting during which he was recognized as Patron Saint (De Profundis #464 [October 2011]). Cantor shared some memories of Schirmeister's fanzine covers, including for Holier Than Thou (the cover for #7 from July 1980 is particularly fun), and said it was a shame that he'd never been nominated for the Best Fan Artist Hugo. Schirmeister's cover for No Award #10 (2001) and The Knarley Knews #121 (December 2006) are superb. That cat can draw!

To update this list, contact Heath Row at kalel@well.com via email with the subject "Science Fiction Pro and Fan Birthdays" or something similar.

The brief profile of Schirmeister originally appeared in slightly different form in Telegraphs & Tar Pits #25 (<https://tinyurl.com/Telegraphs-25>).



In February 1925 **The Lost World** was released by First National Pictures, and immediately created a sensation. Headlining Wallace Beery with an all star cast, the silent film was based on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's 1912 novel of the same name. The film featured a blend of live action humans with giant sized dinosaurs that appeared to move due to stop motion animation.

Stop motion animation was not an entirely new technique, but it was highly experimental, used mostly in segments for foreign short subjects. Animator Willis O'Brien had done a few very short films using stop motion animation as early as 1915 for the Edison Studio, but this was the first feature length film using the technique, and it was certainly the most ambitious use of the process ever attempted before. Using true to life models of authentic dinosaurs, the resulting effects were stunningly realistic and startled audiences wherever the film was shown.

First National insisted on making **The Lost World** a Class-A production. In addition to hiring top name actors, creating the dinosaur models, including the special skins, and doing the laboriously intensive stop motion animation took up a lot of time, and used up lots of money. But even at a final

production cost of \$700,000 the studio executives were certain audiences would flock to theaters to see the movie, and they were right. In its initial domestic release the film turned in a 1.3 million dollar box office. In April 1925 **The Lost World** became the first film ever shown on an airplane, an Imperial Airlines London to Paris flight.

Willis O'Brien went on to provide the stop motion animation for King Kong, Mighty Joe Young, The Last Days of Pompeii and many other films, including training future animation luminaries like Ray Harryhausen and Pete Peterson, but his personal life was filled with tragedy, and he was regarded as an anti-establishment rogue when he refused to accept an Oscar for his work on King Kong because he insisted that all the members of his crew should also receive a gold Oscar statue, which the Academy refused to go along with.

The movie poster takes liberties with the film story, showing a raging T-Rex dino smashing thru a terrified city, whereas the movie features a relatively benign escaped Brontosaurus, smashing bridges and buildings, a confused creature whose only desire is to get away from the city of London and go back home.

For unknown reasons the copyrights on **The Lost World** were never renewed, and thru the years many parts of the film print were lost. In 1998 the movie was added to the United States National Film Registry. Various lost segments were located over the years by dedicated film buffs, including elements in the Czech National Film Archive. In 2017 Flicker Alley merged all existing original material to release a fully restored Blue-Ray DVD version with a brand new orchestral score written by Robert Israel.

After almost half a century this movie still remains an impressive work of art, a film that retains its ability to thrill and fascinate with the enduring merging of an engaging story and brilliant special effect, insuring that **The Lost World** will continue to stir the imagination of viewers for many years to come.

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 No Politics Day	2 Ground Hog Day	3 The Day The Music Died	4 Create A Vacuum Day
5 National Shower With A Friend Day	6 National Chopsticks Day	7 Wave All Your Fingers At A Friend Day	8 Kite Flying Day	9 National Pizza Day	10 Umbrella Day	11 White T-Shirt Day
12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	13 Clean Out Your Computer Day	14 Valentine's Day National Organ Donor Day	15 National Gum Drop Day	16 Do A Grouch A Favor Day	17 Random Acts Of Kindness Day	18 National Battery Day
19 National Chocolate Mint Day	20 Cherry Pie Day	21 Card Reading Day	22 George Washington's Birthday	23 International Dog Biscuit Appreciation Day	24 National Tortilla Chip Day	25 Pistol Patent Day
26 National Pistachio Day	27 No Brainer Day	28 National Tooth Fairy Day				