

FanActivity Gazette

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News of Fen of Interest to All Fen

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Appropriate Contributions welcome.

Editorial

Sadly, Justin E. A. Busch has passed away. In the mystery of death, all men are in the end initiates. His review column *Fanfaronade*, writ by his hand, has appeared for the last time under his authorship. We shall search for a worthy successor. A memorial tribute to his work appears herein, precisely where *Fanfaronade* would have appeared.

Letters of Comment

Dear George:

I seem to be getting in the habit of responding to two issues of many fanzines, and I think that's a bad habit to get into, but at this point, editing yet another book, it's about all I can do. Here come some comments on the *FanActivity Gazette*, Vol. 2, Nos. 4 and 5, for September and October.

V2#4... To be honest, outside of the usual pro-run conventions, there aren't a lot of cons left in Canada. The pandemic did an effective job of killing a lot of them, like VCON in Vancouver, and Ad Astra in Toronto. We started the year with four great shows, but our fifth, in the nearby Toronto suburb of Richmond Hill, was our first stinker, with a single \$15 sale for all day. We will soon be situating vendors at their tables for Anime North, so that work will start soon. I saw a statistic yesterday that said about 15% of Canadians have had their fourth shot for COVID... Yvonne and I have received our fifth.

Cathode Ray does watch a lot of TV... I just don't have the time. What do I watch? Murdoch Mysteries, now in its 16th season, plus Star Trek: Discovery, Picard and Strange New Worlds. I watch some vet shows and documentaries, and not much else. Movies? What are those? Haven't seen one in years.

(Speaking of Murdoch Mysteries and then something on the premiere of Tarzan, a guy named Ed Burroughs was part of a writer's conference. He was told the name of his main character sounded great, and using his full name gave him a measure of gravitas.)

V2#5... It's been a very long time since Toronto has its own SF club. We have visited with Montreal friends in the past, but I've never had much experience with clubs, except to belong to them.

Convention list...I had to look up Blood in the Snow, and found it's a horror film festival in the Toronto area. I hadn't heard of it until now. Corflu Pangloss starts tomorrow as I write, and I hope the con is a success, but at this point, I cannot even hope to be there, so I will look for con reports. I recently ditched Discord, so if there is time, I will get it again, and see if I can connect to the Corflu Discord.

It is now late enough in the day, I should get on with dinner. I struggled to come up with things to say, and right now, all I want to do is lie down and close my eyes. This is poor payment for two fanzines, but it is all I can muster at this point. And I had two coffees this morning, too... Many thanks for these two issues, and I will search for more RSN.

Yours, Lloyd Penney

**Speculative Societies:
Science Fiction Club News
By Heath Row**

From the front lines and far afield, this column reports on recent happenings among local science fiction clubs. This installment reports on events that occurred in recent weeks—and that are 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.

I'm especially interested in learning about university and college clubs. University sf clubs recently came up in the fanzines Beam and Sporadic, and have historically been a major influence and inspiration for newcomers to sf, fantasy, and horror. I'd like this column to help showcase college club activities as well, as a way to better integrate them into broader fandom, given interest from students.

In Aylesbury, England, the Aylesbury Sci-Fi/Fantasy Meet gathers monthly and will meet again Nov. 24 at the Charter, a Table Table pub. The Meetup tends to average about 15 participants regardless of visible RSVPs. (<https://tinyurl.com/Aylesbury-club>)

The Baltimore Science Fiction Society has an extremely active schedule planned for November. Members of the club are participating in National Novel Writing Month (Nanowrimo), gathering in person and online for group writing sessions every Sunday afternoon. The Balticon 57 planning meeting and BSFS business meetings will be held Nov. 12. Congratulations to Neffer Sam Lubell for being elected chair of Balticon 58 in 2024! A relatively new monthly workshop focusing on speculative poetry is held every third Thursday of the month. The next instance occurs Nov 17 via Zoom. The club's board gaming nights occur on the first and third Thursdays of each month, with the next planned for Nov. 17 and Dec. 1. A film night is scheduled for Nov. 19, featuring fan films and the 2018 superhero drama Fast Color. Nov. 24, Thanksgiving Day, the group will hold a potluck picnic event at the BSFS building. "[V]isit the family and then come on down to the Baltimore Science Fiction Society Building to recover," the organizers say. The BSFS book club will next meet Nov. 26 to discuss Macroscopic by Piers Anthony. An anime social will also be held that day to screen the first three episodes of Shine on! Bakamatsu Bad Boys! and the first three episodes of The Girl from the Other Side before

continuing with Demon Slayer. Tabletop roleplaying returns Nov. 27 via Discord. Premade characters will be available. And the Writing Circle will next meet via Zoom on Dec. 8. The 15,000-item library is open during all in-person events. The group also offers a low-traffic Facebook group. (<https://www.bsfs.org>)

The California Bay Area Science Fiction Association continues to meet online. Discussion during meetings in October and early November focused on local events such as upcoming meetings of the Legion of Rasselon, a Bay Area Doctor Who fan club, and Fan Expo San Francisco; the online Or-E-Con 2; television series such as Doctor Who, Electric Dreams, House of the Dragon, The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power, and She-Hulk: Attorney at Law; and movies including Black Adam, The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari, Crimes of the Future, The Midnight Sky, The Northman, Under the Shadow, and Wendell & Wild. The group meets weekly and offers an active Facebook group. Minutes are frequently distributed via email and Facebook. (<https://www.basfa.org>)

The Birmingham Science Fiction Group in England featured its president, author Christopher Priest, at its Nov. 4 meeting. His most recent novel, Expect Me Tomorrow, was published this fall. The group's Facebook page recently featured humorous photographs, a mention of Kurt Vonnegut's 100th birth anniversary, a Ray Bradbury-focused podcast, book projects, and upcoming conventions. (<https://www.birminghamsfgroup.org.uk>)

The October edition of the British Fantasy Society's Monthly Bulletin offered information about some changes the group is considering making to its membership structure and dues. Having recently adopted a revised constitution, the group intends to put itself on firmer legal and financial footing, diversifying its sources of income. A final Golden Jubilee event was held Nov. 12. The society seeks a new editor for the BFS Journal, as well as other volunteers for a number of positions. The current editors extended the deadline for its special issue on fantasy and games for select writers to the end of October. The society posts book reviews frequently to the Web site. (<https://www.britishfantasysociety.org>)

The British Science Fiction Association's membership newsletter for October addressed the Clarke Awards event at the London Science Museum and winner Deep Wheel Orcadia by Harry Josephine Giles. The museum's science fiction exhibition is reportedly excellent. Nominations for the 2022 BSFA Awards are now open. The upcoming issues of Focus and Vector are at the printers and should be mailed soon. Reviews from The BSFA Review and articles from other club publications are frequently published online. With the first volume of Fission #2 published earlier this year, the second volume is currently being prepared. The first volume contains almost 20 short stories by a wide range of authors. The group also offers a friendly and fun Facebook group. (<http://www.bsfa.co.uk>)

Humber Speculative Fiction, also in England, will host an event Nov. 27 featuring Daniel Godfrey, author of New Pompeii, Empire of Time, and The Synapse Sequence; and Sunyi Dean, author of The Book Eaters. The group's Facebook page focuses mostly on club business. (<https://humberff.wordpress.com/>)

The Kansas City Science Fiction & Fantasy Society held a Halloween party last month, featuring "some spooky readings." This month, the group will gather Nov. 19 for a Thanksgiving potluck. Local slipstream and horror author Sean Demory will present a reading. The club's Facebook group offered recent news and commentary about a local public sculpture, Kurt Vonnegut's 100th birth anniversary, military sf written by veterans, a new local sf/horror audio drama, the World Fantasy Awards, and other topics. (<http://kacsffs.blogspot.com/>)

The Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society hosted an event in late October featuring member Kevin Segall, who discussed the life and career of Mel Blanc through documents and ephemera. Members are turning their attention to the upcoming Loscon at the end of November, gathering for con planning committee meetings, to organize and prepare a storage unit for unloading, and other con business. The society will meet in person during Loscon. Several board members were recently elected to new or renewed positions on the board, and the

club's procedural positions come up for election next month. Rumors indicate that I plan to run for scribe. After-meeting hangouts continue online, and the club offers at least two active Facebook groups. (<http://www.lasfs.org/>)

The Minnesota Science Fiction Society will participate in Give to the Max day Nov. 17, and has planned a game party for Nov. 18 and 25, an outdoor fire circle Nov. 19, an online Minicon meeting Nov. 30, and its next club meeting Dec. 3. A member hosts a weekly game night in his home. The club's Facebook group mostly focused on the recent Halloween party at Dream Park (a local fan site), new members, local events such as a new roleplaying game convention, and other topics. Recent editions of Einblatt, the group's newsletter, promoted events held by other local groups such as the Gaylactic Network and the Rivendell Group, events at local bookstores, and member birthdays. I also received a copy of Rune #92, edited by Linda Lounsbury, in the mail. (<https://mnstf.org>)

The Montreal Science Fiction and Fantasy Association met online in mid-November, offering a presentation of "Seven Stupid Science Fiction/Fantasy Shark Movies" that touched on Empire of the Sharks, Land Shark, Ouija Shark, Planet of the Sharks, Sharkenstein, Shark Side of the Moon, and Sharkula; atomic-age Christmas ornaments and decorations; genre-themed snow globes; a discussion of monarchies in sf and fantasy; and other topics. Whoever plans the club's programming really did an excellent job this month—definitely a meeting worth participating in! Meetings even include a break during which members can procure beer and chips. Recordings of the Zoom meetings are also available to members. The group plans a Christmas party and lunch Dec. 10. (<http://www.monsffa.ca>)

The Nashville Science Fiction Book Club gathered in early November for a book discussion. The group will meet again Dec. 1 to discuss a book not yet selected. The Meetup meets the first Thursday of every month at Bonfire Mongolian Grill in Hermitage, Tenn. (<https://tinyurl.com/NashvilleSFBC>)

The New England Science Fiction Association's Boskone and business meeting was held Nov. 13. The NESFA Writers group will meet online Nov. 21 and 28, a game day will be held Nov. 27, and the reading group will next meet Dec. 2 to discuss Jonathan Lethem's absolutely excellent Gun, with Occasional Music. It's grand to see the group select older titles as well as newer work. The club's library will be open Nov. 16, 19, and 30, and the club will empty its dumpster Nov. 21 and Dec. 5. What wonders might await in the dumpster? Volunteers, ahoy. (<http://www.nesfa.org>)

The North Alabama Science Fiction Association meets on the third Saturday of each month in Huntsville, Ala. The next meeting is Nov. 19. (<https://tinyurl.com/NASFA-club>)

Members of the Northwest Science Fiction Society in Seattle participated in an advance screening of The Peripheral last month at a local theater. The group's Facebook group is relatively inactive. (<http://www.nwsfs.com/>)

Members of the Orange County Science Fiction Club will gather Dec. 14 to discuss John Scalzi's novel Lock In. Nov. 9, the group focused on Eric Silberstein's The Insecure Mind of Sergei Kraev. In the group's Facebook group, members discussed the upcoming Loscon—I'll see you among the fan tables!—a Worlds of Wonder Toastmasters panel exploring the sf and fantasy creative writing process, the Writers of the Future contest, and recent reading. (<http://ocsfc.org>)

The Orlando Area Science Fiction Society has scheduled a holiday party, including a book exchange, for Dec. 10. The society's Facebook group recently offered humorous photographs, an Orlando Weekly article on a local comic book writer, recognition of Jim Baen's birth anniversary, and promotions of local events such as the forthcoming Krampus Kon. (<https://oasfis.org>)

The Scandinavian SF Association will meet Nov. 16 to discuss T.L. Huchu's novel *The Library of the Dead*. The group will meet again Dec. 14 to discuss Johan Egerkrans's *Nordiska väsen* and Francesco Verso's *Nexhuman*. The group also plans a holiday event featuring "simpler Christmas food." (<https://tinyurl.com/SFSF-club>)

Science Fiction and Fantasy South Africa will host its annual dinner Nov. 19. Digby Ricci will give a talk about Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*. The anthology *50 Science Fiction Tales: Short Stories from the South African Nova Competition 1969-2019*, edited by Gary Kuyper and Gail Jamieson, was published last month. The South African Nova Competition is held annually by SFFSA, and the club is exploring a bulk purchase of the new anthology for members. A recording of the October meeting is available at <https://tinyurl.com/sfsa-recordings>. On the group's Facebook page, members discussed the World Fantasy Award, book projects, trades and exchanges, and other topics. (<https://www.sfsa.org.za/>)

Members of the New Jersey Science Fiction Association of Bergen County gathered early this month to watch the miniseries *The 10th Kingdom* at a member's home. Nov. 9, members discussed the 1968 BBC adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* featuring Helen Mirren, Judi Dench, and Diana Rigg. The group also met to explore science fiction, fantasy, and horror films of the 1960s. Nov. 12, the club hosted an event featuring Brian Trent, author of *Redspace Rising* and *Ten Thousand Thunders*.

Next month, Dec. 10, the group will feature film score composer and musician Matt Cannon, who scored the low-budget horror films *Force to Fear* and *Spirit Animal*. The group's Facebook page offers links to book reviews, many of which are also distributed via email; online video shorts; and other information. (<https://tinyurl.com/sfabc-club>)

The Somerville Sci-Fi/Fantasy Book Club in Massachusetts will gather Nov. 15 to discuss Maureen F. McHugh's *China Mountain Zhang*. The group meets monthly. (<https://tinyurl.com/SomervilleSFFBC>)

The University of Massachusetts Science Fiction Society recently drew the attention of alumni and former members still in western Massachusetts. Inspired by the upcoming 60th anniversary, former members were interested in whether the group still met and whether the library of 8,000 books was still accessible. One such alumnus even went to a meeting, where he met with the club's current officers—and was asked to leave because of student union security concerns. Since then, club officers have indicated that UMSFS meetings and its Discord server are restricted to current students.

The club's current members are planning a 60th anniversary celebration that will welcome alumni. And for current students, UMSFS plans a short story night Nov. 16, a game night Nov. 30, and a book organizing party Dec. 7. The group maintains an Instagram presence. (<https://tinyurl.com/umsfs>)

Seattle-area fan group Vanguard is still meeting. Ulrika O'Brien recently shared information about the group's virtual party Nov. 5. We'll keep our eyes open for future such events.

The Worcester Public Library Science Fiction Book Club in Massachusetts will meet Dec. 20 to discuss Mary Doria Russell's *The Sparrow*. (<https://tinyurl.com/WPLSFBC>)

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!

Heath Row <kalel@well.com>

A Memorial Tribute to Justin E. A. Busch



Justin Edwin Anton Busch, child of Norbert Aloysius Francis Busch and Jeanne Elizabeth Busch nee Staples, Editor of Fanfaronade and Films Fantastic, died peacefully in his sleep in the early evening of Friday, October 21, 2022. His death, while untimely, was not unexpected. Toward the end he had been moved from hospital to hospice care.

Busch's contributions to the N3F included his monthly column Fanfaronade, a thoughtful review of fanzines, and his editorship through four issues of Films Fantastic, the N3F film review zine. In recent years he produced several other fanzines, including Far Journeys: A Sercon Fanzine and Dreams Renewed.

Busch was a musician-composer of chamber music and a writer. His musical contributions with the Esperanza Ensemble can be watched on YouTube

Chamber Music of Justin E.A. Busch --- 15 works from the Esperanza Ensemble
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLu9PeLYFv9UuJShguxmQkh6G_oB1SNDEt

The Sorceress of Zoom with the Esperanza ensemble
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7pDphlenipc>

and heard on a CD as Music of Anton Rubinstein and Justin E.A. Busch

<https://music.apple.com/mx/album/music-of-anton-rubinstein-and-justin-e-a-busch/289153667>

<https://www.amazon.com/Rubinstein-Sechs-Lieder-Desire-Destiny/dp/B001EN41A2>

He had two published books:

The Utopian Vision of H.G. Wells

<https://bookshop.org/p/books/the-utopian-vision-of-h-g-wells-justin-e-a-busch/11113500?ean=9780786446056>

Self and Society in the Films of Robert Wise

<https://bookshop.org/p/books/self-and-society-in-the-films-of-robert-wise-justin-e-a-busch/11122743?ean=9780786459155>

Busch was widely respected among sf/fans. Shortly before his death, he was given the First Fandom Merit Award, "Presented to Justin E. A. Busch for attaining excellence in his work." The Award included a ceremonial plaque. Coker writes "...So sad about our colleague Justin E. A. Busch. What a guy! His example continues to motivate me in my work."

First Fandom Merit Award

(2022)

For Attaining Excellence in his Work



Justin E. A. Busch

Scholar, Author, Editor, Publisher
Musical Composer and Performer

Busch's widespread interests extended to a Master of Arts in Humanities from Old Dominion University and a Master of Arts in Philosophy from Queen's College.

Catherine Groves, Editor of Christian New Age Quarterly, writes "Justin's passing is tragic and shocking to me. It's hard to believe that a person as talented and kind as he is gone. I think many at N3F will miss him deeply. It was a privilege getting to know Justin, even if it was so briefly."

Busch also received a memorial notice in File 770 and an extended obituary by William Breiding in This Here ...

Conventions for December 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.

DEC 1-4

CCXP – São Paulo, Brazil Dec 1-4
Anime Frontier –Fort Worth, TX Dec 2-4
GalaxyCon Columbus – Columbus, OH Dec 2-4
LA Comic Con – Los Angeles, CA Dec 2-4
PAX Unplugged – Philadelphia, PA Dec 2-4
SMOFCon – Montreal, Quebec, Canada Dec 2-4
Season's Screaming – Pasadena, CA Dec 2-4
Abilene Comic Con – Abilene, TX Dec 3-4
Brick Fest Live – Secaucus, NJ Dec 3-4

For the Love of Sci-Fi – Manchester, United Kingdom Dec 3-4
German Comic Con Winter – Dortmund, Germany Dec 3-4
Paris Manga & Sci-Fi Show – Paris, France Dec 3-4
WinterCon – Jamaica, NY Dec 3-4
Wales Comic Con – Teleford, United Kingdom Dec 4-5
Dragonmeet – London, United Kingdom Dec 3
Jekyll & Hyde Fandom Con – Brunswick, GA Dec 3
Modesto Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Modesto, CA Dec 3
Wayne NJ Toy Show – Wayne, NJ Dec 3
Canton-Akron Comic Book, Toy & Nostalgia Show – Canton, OH Dec 4
Comic Con Okinawa – Okinawa, Japan Dec 4
Lodi-Galt Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Lodi, CA Dec 4
Raleigh Comic Book Show – Raleigh, NC Dec 4

DEC 8-11

– Lisbon, Portugal Dec 8-11
Tekko – Pittsburgh Dec 9-12
Cosplay Expo – Las Vegas, NV Dec 9-11
Ecchi Expo Anime– San Marcos, T Dec 9-11
Game of Thrones Official Fan Covention – Los Angeles, CA Dec 9-11
rAge Expo – Midrand, South Africa Dec 9-11
Yama-Con – Pigeon Forge, TN Dec 9-11
Brick Fest Live – Oklahoma City, OK Dec 10-11
Anime Pasadena – Pasadena, CA Dec 11-12
Raptor Con – Evansville, IN Dec 10-11
Singapore Comic Con – Singapore, Singapore Dec 10-11
Super Ultra Mega Con – Colorado Springs, CO Dec 10-11
2DY Toy Expo – San Antonio, TX Dec 10
GeekPOP Hawai'i – Honolulu, HI Dec 10
LouisvilleCon – Louisville, KY Dec 10
Ocean City Comic Con – Ocean City, MD Dec 10
Captial Trade Show – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Dec 11
Comic & Toy Show – Dayton, OH Dec 11
Merced Toy-Anime-Comic Con – Merced, CA Dec 11

DEC 16-18

Con+Alt+Delete – Chicago, IL Dec 16-18
Holiday Matsuri – Orlando, FL Dec 16-18
Supernational Official Convention – Nashville, TN Dec 16-18
Brick Fest Live – Corpus Christi, TX Dec 17-18
Sac Gamers Expo – Sacramento, CA Dec 17-18
Big Apple Comic Com – New York City, NY Dec 17

DEC 28-JAN 1

Cosplay Matsuir – Pasay City, Philippines Dec 28-30
Brick Fest Live – Hampton, VA Dec 30-31
OKiCon – Oklahoma City, OK Dec 31-Jan 2
Comic Market – Tokyo, Japan Dec 30-31
Furvester – Stuttgart, Germany Dec 28-Jan 1

Corlu Pangloss Videos

Thanks to Rob Jackson, Corflu Pangloss Program(me) items are on YouTube, so you can get a taste of the Corflu Experience. Note that, due to issues with the microphones, the audio is sometimes less than perfect. Also, note that the videos have closed captioning supplied by software.

Pangloss Timebinding Game: <https://youtu.be/V2xdC0erspY>
Pangloss Remembrance: https://youtu.be/d6G_wYfhaSc
Pangloss Opening Ceremony and Fanzine of Honor debate: <https://youtu.be/S-NDFEwRgz8>
Pangloss British Columbia fandom panel: <https://youtu.be/Dqa-IRv6SLs>
Pangloss Moshe Feder interview: <https://youtu.be/-Dj4p8SBPa4>
Pangloss Susan Wood celebration: <https://youtu.be/GFfejEtUlcGM>
Pangloss Cocktails gossip: <https://youtu.be/eeuDtPHYb1U>
Pangloss Just A Minac: <https://youtu.be/X0-kG-M4qdE>
Pangloss Turkey Readings: <https://youtu.be/ov42BSlt1lo>
Pangloss GoH speech, closing ceremony: <https://youtu.be/TEStuMAhG1Q>

Rabid Ears: Ravings of a TV Fiend By Cathode Ray

Turn on and tune in for this month's edition of "Rabid Ears: Ravings of a TV Fiend." This is an occasional column about the newest and most notable science fiction, fantasy, horror, and other genre television programming options. Let's see what's what—now, and next—on the old boob tube, shall we?

First of all, let's recognize this year's recipients of the TV-related Saturn Awards. I tuned in to the online event held by the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Films in late October. Among the genre TV award winners were:

Best Science Fiction Television Series Network/Cable—SUPERMAN & LOIS
Best Fantasy Television Series: Network/Cable—SHINING VALE
Best Horror Film Television Series: Network/Cable—THE WALKING DEAD
Best Supporting Actress in a Network/Cable Series: Lauren Cohan (THE WALKING DEAD)
Best Performance by a Younger Actor: Network/Cable Series—Brec Bassinger (DC'S STARGIRL)

Best Guest-Starring Performance: Network/Cable Series—Jennifer Tilly (CHUCKY)
Best Animated Series—STAR WARS: THE BAD BATCH
Best Science Fiction Series (Streaming)—STAR TREK: STRANGE NEW WORLDS
Best Fantasy Series (Streaming): LOKI
Best Horror/Thriller Series (Streaming): STRANGER THINGS
Best Action/Adventure Series (Streaming): THE BOYS
Best Limited Event Series (Streaming): OBI-WAN KENOBI
Best Actor in a Streaming Series: Oscar Isaac (MOON KNIGHT)
Best Actress in a Streaming Series: Ming-Na Wen (THE BOOK OF BOBA FETT)
Congratulations to all of the Saturn Award recipients, as well as the nominees. It was a good year for genre TV.

Come to think of it, October was a good month! What will November bring us?

The cover of the Oct. 10-23, 2022, issue of TV Guide focuses solely on the premiere of THE WINCHESTERS. Calling it “a SUPERNATURAL love story,” the cover promotes “the true tale of Sam and Dean’s monster-hunting parents.” Inside the edition, there’s a three-page feature story about THE WINCHESTERS, a SUPERNATURAL prequel that’s set in the 1970s. A sidebar introduces some of the new characters from the program, which premiered early last month on the CW. The issue also includes a two-page article on HBO’s lost-in-space comedy AVENUE 5, which also premiered early last month. The program concentrates on the passengers and crew of an off-course luxury spaceship. I usually don’t look so far back when writing these columns, but the cover photo and opening features seemed notable given the topic of this column.

THE WINCHESTERS also claims the cover of the Oct. 9-15, 2022, issue of TV Weekly. Cover lines for that edition also promote LET THE RIGHT ONE IN and an interview with horror host Svengoolie. Inside, there is a half-page feature on the SUPERNATURAL prequel. The half-page interview with Svengoolie focuses on the TV shows Rich Koz watched as a child, the first scary movie he ever saw—The Wizard of Oz, which will air on TBS on Nov. 19 and TNT on Nov. 24—and interactions with fen.

With its Oct. 24 to Nov. 6, 2022, edition, TV Guide offers its Halloween Special, which features GHOSTS on the cover, offering to go “behind the scenes of TV’s most spirited comedy,” as well as a list of 10 more “scary-good shows.” Given that Halloween occurred not long ago, we might still be able to experience the waning days of the plethora of genre offerings aired in the spirit of the season. In fact, GHOSTS secured the No. 9 position in TV Insider’s “25 Top Shows,” claiming 6.5 million viewers tuning in the week of Sept. 26 to Oct. 2, 2022. In the ranking in TV Guide’s Nov. 7-20 edition, GHOSTS came in at No. 9 again, maintaining its 6.5 million viewers in the week of Oct. 10-16, 2022. The show remains the only genre program to consistently rank in recent months.

The issue’s “Halloween Special!” feature rounds up 11 new Halloween-themed episodes of shows including QUANTUM LEAP, THE SIMPSONS, and others. A two-page article focuses on GHOSTS, concentrating on its Halloween episode, which featured a seance. And Damian Holbrook’s “Cheers & Jeers” column gave a Cheer to “TV’s new wave of bloodsuckers,” lauding AMC’s ANNE RICE’S INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE and Showtime’s LET THE RIGHT ONE IN. He also gave a Jeer to THE HANDMAID’S TALE for a plot misstep, and to HOUSE OF THE DRAGON’s overly grisly Oct. 9 episode, which reportedly makes GAME OF THRONES’ Red Wedding look downright tame.

In TV Guide’s Nov. 7-20, 2022, issue, Holbrook’s column offers a Cheer to THE WINCHESTERS for cross-casting several characters from SUPERNATURAL and a Jeer to AMERICAN HORROR STORY: NYC for trafficking in stereotypes: “[T]he scariest part about Season 11 of FX’s horror show is how it reduces the 1980s LGBTQ community to archaic cliches.”

In TV Weekly’s Oct. 23-29, 2022, edition, the “Ask Matt” column includes a question from undead fan Mark—if that even be his real name—who asked, “Why are they still making new WALKING DEAD shows? THE WALKING DEAD and FEAR could have had great legacies if they’d stopped when they should have.” Answer man Matt Roush responded, saying that even though the fan base for the franchise remains strong, the shows were “once-upon-a-time riveting” and THE WALKING DEAD is “a classic example of a network milking a successful premise to death.” While Roush expressed skepticism of the many spin-off series, he recalled fondly “how the episodes found different tones and approaches to spin stories within the zombie apocalypse, TWILIGHT ZONE-style.” He especially recommends the TALES OF THE WALKING DEAD’s episode “Amy/Dr. Everett.”

The finale of THE WALKING DEAD also earned a cover line and half-page feature in the November 2022 issue of Channel Guide. The brief piece celebrates the show’s 10 years and 177 episodes. That issue also includes a feature story titled “Happy 50th, HBO,” which lists 50 of the cable channel’s most notable offerings. Genre options include FRAGGLE ROCK (No. 47, 1983-1987), TALES FROM THE CRYPT (No. 38,

1989-1996), ANGELS IN AMERICA (No. 32, 2003), WESTWORLD (No. 31, 2016-present), TRUE BLOOD (No. 22, 2008-2014), TRUE DETECTIVE (No. 16, 2014-present), THE LEFTOVERS (No. 13, 2014-2017), WATCHMEN (No. 11, 2019), and GAME OF THRONES (No. 3, 2011-2019).

Channel Guide's "The Top 15" for November includes MANIFEST on Netflix (Nov. 4), the forthcoming WEDNESDAY also on Netflix (Nov. 23), the animated KRAPOPOLIS on Fox (Nov. 27), and the forthcoming WILLOW on Disney+ (Nov. 30). The WILLOW series is set in the world of the 1988 movie, and Warwick Davis and Joanne Whalley will return to their roles as Willow Ufgood and Sorsha.

There were a few noteworthy premieres, finales, and cancellations in recent weeks. GUILLERMO DEL TORO'S CABINET OF CURIOSITIES premiered on Netflix on Oct. 25. STAR WARS: TALES OF THE JEDI began on Disney+ on Oct. 26. STAR TREK: PRODIGY debuted on Paramount+ on Oct. 27. THE BASTARD SON & THE DEVIL HIMSELF launched on Netflix on Oct. 28. THE DEVIL'S HOUR premiered on Prime Video on Oct. 28. Meanwhile, STAR TREK: LOWER DECKS aired a finale on Paramount+ on Oct. 27. And VAMPIRE ACADEMY crawled into its coffin on Peacock on Oct. 27.

Netflix canceled its GRENDEL adaptation of the wonderful comic books by Matt Wagner, Showtime canceled THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH, and Prime Video canceled PAPER GIRLS. Similarly, Netflix canceled RESIDENT EVIL after its first season, and THE UMBRELLA ACADEMY will end after its upcoming fourth season.

Renewals include ANNE RICE'S INTERVIEW WITH A VAMPIRE, which has already secured an eight-episode second season on AMC. A second season of MOONHAVEN will air on AMC+. FOR ALL MANKIND will offer a fourth season on Apple TV+. HARLEY QUINN will also see Season 4 on HBO Max. And THE HANDMAID'S TALE's sixth and final season will air on Hulu.

In recent days, you might have missed some quality television. TV Weekly named the Oct. 24 episode of QUANTUM LEAP on NBC a Best Bet. GUILLERMO DEL TORO'S CABINET OF CURIOSITIES is a new anthology series streaming on Netflix since Oct. 25. Del Toro introduces each of the eight episodes, and two of them adapt H.P. Lovecraft stories: "Dreams in the Witch House" and "Pickman's Model." The program earned a half-page feature in the Oct. 23-29, 2022, issue of TV Weekly. Del Toro created and executive produced the anthology but didn't direct any of the episodes. THE WINCHESTERS' Oct. 25 episode earned a TV Weekly Best Bet recommendation. MANIFEST's fourth and final season has moved from NBC to stream on Netflix since Nov. 4. (The show earned a cover line for the November 2022 issue of Channel Guide.) Season 6 of the adult animation BIG MOUTH began on Netflix on Oct. 28. THE DEVIL'S HOUR began streaming on Prime Video on Oct. 28. A new animated series, ABOMINABLE AND THE INVISIBLE CITY, launched on Hulu recently. The animated STAR WARS: TALES OF THE JEDI has been available on Disney+ since Oct. 26.

The Travel Channel's Oct. 28 GHOSTS OF FLIGHT 401 paired an investigator with a medium to contact the spirits of passengers killed in a 1972 plane crash. Decades aired all 14 episodes of the 1974 TV series PLANET OF THE APES beginning Oct. 29. (Did any Neffers catch that marathon? I'd have gone ape!) The season finale of Epix's WAR OF THE WORLDS aired Oct. 30. On Halloween itself, Oct. 31, FETV aired six episodes of BEWITCHED, Decades offered a 1987 NEWHART episode featuring an alien invasion, and Re-wind TV showcased six Halloween episodes from SABRINA, THE TEENAGE WITCH. Cozi TV featured three seasonal episodes of FRASIER, as well as two frightful ROSEANNE eps.

TV Weekly gave LA BREA's Nov. 1 episode on NBC a Best Bet recommendation. It did the same for DC'S STARGIRL's Nov. 2 outing on the CW. That program won one of the recent Saturn Awards as detailed above. Season 4 of TITANS started streaming on HBO Max on Nov. 3. And MANIFEST's Nov. 4 episode on Netflix earned a TV Weekly Best Bet.

Pencil these in your calendar, fen and fellow freaks: ZOOTOPIA+, six animated shorts based on the film

Zootopia, will debut on Disney+ on Nov. 9. Hulu's finale of THE HANDMAID'S TALE will air Nov. 9. WARRIOR NUN will premiere on Netflix on Nov. 10. TV Guide highlighted the Nov. 10 episode of GHOSTS on CBS. The 10-episode animated series TRANSFORMERS: EARTHSPARK will become available on Paramount+ on Nov. 11. ANNE RICE'S INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE will air a finale on AMC on Nov. 13, earning a Channel Guide Best Bet notice. Nov. 14's AVENUE 5 episode on HBO earned a TV Guide mention. A second reboot of TELETUBBIES will premiere on Netflix on Nov. 14. (Personally, I think the original is outre enough!) AMERICAN HORROR STORY: NYC on FX will wrap up Nov. 16, earning a Channel Guide Best Bet. A new original Christmas-themed limited series starring Tim Allen, THE SANTA CLAUSES, will premiere on Disney+ on Nov. 16. Also on that day, the 10-episode series HAUNTED SCOTLAND will premiere on Discovery+.

The animated DRAGONS: THE NINE REALMS will return to Hulu and Peacock on Nov. 17. The creators of the absolutely fascinating DARK will offer a new program titled 1899 on Netflix beginning Nov. 17. AMC's THE WALKING DEAD will air a finale Nov. 20, earning a Channel Guide Best Bet. (But don't worry, because Pluto TV recently introduced a new channel dedicated to the series. There are, after all, almost 180 episodes.) WEDNESDAY will premiere on Netflix on Nov. 23. On Nov. 25, Nickelodeon will air SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS PRESENTS THE TIDAL ZONE, the first universe crossover involving SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS, THE PATRICK STAR SHOW, and KAMP KORAL: SPONGEBOB'S UNDER YEARS. There's also a sneak preview of KRAPOPOLIS on Fox on Nov. 27.

The November 2022 issue of Remind focuses on "Wild West Heroes," but there are still a few items of interest to frenetic TV fen. The piece on Yul Brynner addresses his turn as Gunslinger in the 1973 movie Westworld, precursor to the TV series. The article included a fun fact: "Gunslinger's thermal vision includes the first use of computer digitized images as part of a feature film. It took eight hours to produce every 10 seconds of footage from the Gunslinger's pixelated POV shots."

The Time Capsule "Back in 1964" includes ABC's BEWITCHED among the top TV shows of the year. The roundup also addresses notable premieres and finales that year. VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA (ABC, 1964-1968) premiered Sept. 14, 1964. BEWITCHED (ABC, 1964-1972) premiered Sept. 17. THE ADDAMS FAMILY (ABC, 1964-1966) premiered Sept. 18. THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E. (NBC, 1964-1968) premiered Sept. 22. THE MUNSTERS (CBS, 1964-1966) premiered Sept. 24. And UNDERDOG (NBC, 1964-1967) premiered Oct. 3. THE TWILIGHT ZONE, which premiered in 1959, aired its program finale June 19, 1964. In addition, popular books in 1964 included Lloyd Alexander's The Book of Three and Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

From across the Big Pond, a few recent British magazines included articles of potential interest to Neffers. Infinity #54 features the second part of Mark Phillips's article about TIME TUNNEL. Brian J. Robb contributes a five-page feature on Gerry Anderson's FIREBALL XL5. Richard Molesworth's "Musings" column is a daft dismissal of Jodie Whittaker's stint as the 13th DOCTOR WHO.

"[T]here is not one thing I can point to, not one story that was worth telling, not one single aspect of the 13th Doctor's time on the Tardis that is worth applauding," he wrote. "I feel sorry for Jodie Whittaker. ... [S] he's been completely let down by the scripts, by the vision, and by the complete lack of any creative direction." When Molesworth turned his attention to the show's "wokery," I rolled my eyes. Regardless, Molesworth places all blame at the feet of showrunner Chris Chibnall, suggesting that the entire 13th Doctor "should be wiped away." What think you, Neffers?

The issue also includes a Blu-ray and DVD review of the TALES OF UNEASE collection, OBI-WAN KENOBI on Disney+, and the THE WALKING DEAD: World Beyond—Final Season Blu-ray. Add to that a feature story on the almost forgotten program MEN INTO SPACE and the 1996 TV movie DOCTOR WHO: THE MOVIE, and it's quite an excellent issue. If you don't regularly read Infinity, I strongly recommend the periodical.

The Dark Side #236 features an article titled “Simply Fantastic!” about the Festival of Fantastic Films. The piece mentions the Delta SF Group, an sf club in Manchester, England, that focused its activities on producing fan films and low-budget movies. Active between 1957-1970, members of the club went on to found the festival, which has been running since 1988.

The cover of the December 2022 edition of SFX (#359) features WILLOW, along with cover lines showcasing LET THE RIGHT ONE IN, THE PERIPHERAL, STAR TREK: PRODIGY, ANDOR, TITANS, WE ARE NOT ALONE, and WEDNESDAY. Inside, there are short pieces about LET THE RIGHT ONE IN, the animated STAR TREK: PRODIGY, and TRANSFORMERS: EARTHSPARK. There are also longer feature stories focusing on THE PERIPHERAL, which adapts the William Gibson novel; TITANS; the two-part WE ARE NOT ALONE; WEDNESDAY; and WILLOW.

Richard Edwards interviews ANDOR’s Ben Bailey Smith, and reviews touch on THE BASTARD SON & THE DEVIL HIMSELF, Stephen King adaptation CHAPELWAITE, THE DEVIL’S HOUR, DOCTOR WHO: THE POWER OF THE DOCTOR, THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RINGS OF POWER, THE MIDNIGHT CLUB, THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD AND EVIL, SHE-HULK: ATTORNEY AT LAW, the DVD release of TALES OF UNEASE, WEREWOLF BY NIGHT, and WRECK. But the edition’s highlight is the brief book review of Garth Marenghi’s Terrortome, which collects three stories written by the fictional horror hack behind GARTH MARENCHI’S DARKPLACE. There’s also a page-long interview with Marenghi. If you haven’t watched DARKPLACE yet, put this clubzine down and get to the nearest computer or television. It is amazing.

And Total Film #330 (November 2022), while mostly movie related, also includes some genre TV tidbits. Shorter pieces in the front of the book concentrate on THE DEVIL’S HOUR and THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD AND EVIL. Jordan Farley’s column in the back of the book asks “Is It Just Me, or Should Most Miniseries Be Movies?” It’s a fair question. “[S]tudios don’t think they can turn a profit at the cinema any more,” he wrote. “[S]hows ... are financed by content-hungry streaming services instead, produced on a small-screen budget and timeframe with one expectation: keep as many people subscribed to their service for as long as possible.”

Farley contended that OBI-WAN KENOBI, for example, could have been a two-hour movie instead of a six-hour miniseries. I’ve long thought that movies that go straight to streaming are the direct-to-video movies of our era. On the other hand, some streaming series (primarily translated imports) are truly premium TV, and some are over-long expansions of what could have been a very good movie. “[T]he stories that could restore a healthy, varied theatrical slate already exist, they’re just being made for the wrong medium.” He’s not wrong.

The Nov. 7 TV Guide crossword, Puzzle #1451, included several brain teasers of note. 46 Across is “Barry’s wife on THE FLASH.” 50 Across is “1992 NBC series NIGHTMARE ____.” 5 Down is “Genre of SAILOR MOON.” 25 Down is “THE ATOM ____ SHOW.” 29 Down is “SNOWPIERCER network.” And 41 Down is “STAR TREK character Seven of ____.” Send in your best guesses care of this clubzine.

The focus of TV Guide Magazine Puzzler Vol. 3 #3 (November 2022) is “TV Cartoons of the ’60s.” While the entire issue is a joy to behold, notable genre options include THE ATOM ANT SHOW, THE JETSONS, JONNY QUEST, SPEED RACER, and UNDERDOG.

Until next time, this is “Cathode Ray,” your guide to the best of what’s hidden in the grids. Turn on, tune in, and blast off!

Motion Pictures: Celluloid Sentience By Cathode Ray

This column, “Celluloid Sapience,” is a periodic listing focusing on upcoming movie and DVD (including Blu-ray and 4K) releases of potential interest to fans of science fiction, fantasy, and horror—as well as upcoming Turner Classic Movie and Svengoolie screenings. Release dates occasionally change, and we will do our best to update them in this listing. (Movies labeled with an * are particularly recommended.) Please check your local listings before you go to the movie theater. And tell ’em Ray sent you! (That’s got to be good for a free box of Sno-Caps, at least!) If you become aware of any movie or DVD release dates, send them in care of this clubzine, and we’ll do our best to verify and include your submissions. And if you see any of these fantastic flicks, consider writing a review to share with other Neffers.

Movie Release Dates

13 Exorcisms (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 4)
All Jacked Up and Full of Worms (Horror, streaming, Nov. 8)
Amityville Thanksgiving (Horror, streaming, Nov. 8)
Aqua Teen Forever: Plantasm (Animated, streaming, Nov. 7)
Awful Silence (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 1)
Bathtub Shark Attack (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 1)
* Black Panther: Wakanda Forever (Fantasy, theatrical, Nov. 11)
Blood Relatives (Horror, streaming, Nov. 22)
Bones and All (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 18)
The Castle (Horror, streaming, Nov. 11)
A Christmas Mystery (Fantasy, streaming, Nov. 24)
Deborah (Science Fiction, streaming, Nov. 1)
Disenchanted (Fantasy, streaming, Nov. 18)
Fantasy Football (Fantasy, streaming, Nov. 25)
Girl at the Window (Horror, streaming, Nov. 4)
The Guardians of the Galaxy Holiday Special (Fantasy, streaming, Nov. 25)
Hex (Horror, streaming, Nov. 1)
I’m Totally Fine (Science Fiction, theatrical and streaming, Nov. 4)
The Fearway (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 14)
The Friendship Game (Horror, theatrical and streaming, Nov. 11)
Issac (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 17)
Leonor Will Never Die (Fantasy, theatrical, Nov. 25)
Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile (Fantasy, theatrical, Nov. 18)
Mandrake (Horror, streaming, Nov. 10)
Menorah in the Middle (Fantasy, streaming, Nov. 4)
* The Menu (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 18)
My Father’s Dragon (Animated/Fantasy, streaming, November)
Nanny (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 23)
* Next Exit (Science Fiction, theatrical, Nov. 4)
* Nocebo (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 4)
Nocebo (Horror, streaming, Nov. 22)
* Nope (Horror, streaming, Nov. 18)
One Piece Film Red (Animated/Fantasy, theatrical, Nov. 4)
Presence (Horror, streaming, Nov. 17)
Revealer (Horror, streaming, Nov. 15)
R.I.P.D. 2: Rise of the Damned (Fantasy, streaming, Nov. 15)
Satan’s Slaves: Communion (Horror, streaming, Nov. 4)
Scrooge: A Christmas Carol (Fantasy, theatrical, Nov. 18)
Searcher Clade (Animated, theatrical, Nov. 23)

- * Seire (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 4)
- Sleep. Walk. Kill. (Horror streaming, Nov. 4)
- Slumberland (Fantasy, streaming, Nov. 18)
- Something in the Dirt (Horror, theatrical, Nov. 4)
- SpaceTastic Volume One (Animated/Science Fiction, streaming, Nov. 3)
- SpaceTastic Volume Two (Animated/Science Fiction, streaming, Nov. 13)
- Spellbound (Animated/Fantasy, streaming, Nov. 11)
- * Strange World (Animated/Science Fiction, theatrical, Nov, 22)
- A True Christmas (Fantasy, streaming, Nov. 1)
- The Witch: Part 2—The Other One (Science Fiction, streaming, Nov. 8)

DVD Release Dates

- Ainbo (Animated/Fantasy, DVD, Nov. 29)
- Aqua Teen Forever: Plantasm (Animated, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 8)
- Children Shouldn't Play with Dead Things: VCI Entertainment 50th Anniversary Collector's Edition (Horror, Blu-ray, Nov. 22)
- * The Classic Christmas Specials Collection (Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Frosty the Snowman, and Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town) (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 1)
- The Company of Wolves: Scream Factory Collector's Edition (Horror, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 22)
- Cyborg She (Science Fiction, DVD, Nov. 8)
- Devil's Workshop (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 8)
- A Discovery of Witches The Complete Trilogy (TV, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 15)
- A Discovery of Witches: Season 3 (TV, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 8)
- Doom Patrol: The Complete Third Season (TV, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 15)
- * E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial: 40th Anniversary Limited Edition Gift Set (Science Fiction, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 1)
- * Evil Dead 2-Film Collection (Horror, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 1)
- * Frosty the Snowman (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 1)
- Ghosts Season 1 (TV, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 29)
- Gundam Build Divers Re:Rise Blu-ray Collection (Animated, Blu-ray, Nov. 8)
- * Halo: Season One (TV; DVD, Blu-ray, and 4K; Nov. 15)
- * Hatching (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 22)
- The Inhabitant (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 15)
- Irina: The Vampire Cosmonaut: The Complete Season (Animated, Blu-ray, Nov. 1)
- Jeepers Creepers: Reborn (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 15)
- The Librarians: The Ultimate Collection (TV, DVD, Nov. 22)
- Mobile Suit Gundam SEED Destiny Collection 2 (Animated, Blu-ray, Nov. 8)
- * Moonhaven (TV, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 8)
- * Peacemaker: The Complete First Season (TV, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 22)
- * Pearl (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 15)
- Pennywise: The Story of IT: Collector's Edition (Documentary, Blu-ray, Nov. 22)
- * Piranha (1978): Scream Factory Collector's Edition (Horror, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 1)
- R.I.P.D. 2: Rise of the Damned (Fantasy, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 15)
- * Rubikon (Science Fiction, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 1)
- * Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 1)
- * The Running Man: 35th Anniversary SteelBook (Science Fiction, 4K, Nov. 1)
- * Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 1)
- She Will (Horror, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 8)
- Sonic the Hedgehog: 2-Movie Collection SteelBook (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray and DVD, Nov. 15)
- * Starship Troopers: 25th Anniversary SteelBook (Science Fiction, Blu-ray and 4K, Nov. 1)
- The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2: Vinegar Syndrome (Horror, Blu-ray, Nov. 29)

Three Thousand Years of Longing (Fantasy; DVD, Blu-ray, and 4K; Nov. 15)
 * Ultraman Cosmos: The Complete Series + Specials (Fantasy, DVD, Nov. 1)
 * Ultraman Max: The Complete Series (Fantasy, DVD, Nov. 15)
 * Ultraman Nexus + Ultraman: The Next (Fantasy, DVD, Nov. 15)
 * Urusei Yatsura: Always My Darling (Animated/Fantasy, Blu-ray, Nov. 29)
 * WALL-E: The Criterion Collection (Animated, 4K, Nov. 22)
 The Werewolf vs. Vampire Woman: Vinegar Syndrome (Horror, Blu-ray, Nov. 29)
 * Westworld: The Complete Fourth Season (TV; DVD, Blu-ray, and 4K; Nov. 29)
 The Witch: Part 2—The Other One (Science Fiction, DVD and Blu-ray, Nov. 8)

The following movies, shorts, serials, and cartoons are scheduled for broadcast on Turner Classic Movies in November, according to TCM's Web site. All times listed are Pacific Time. Please check your local listings before tuning in.

Nov. 1—12:30 a.m.: Dracula's Daughter (1936), 1:45 a.m.: The Black Cat (1934)
 Nov. 3—6:30 a.m.: Between Two Worlds (1944)
 Nov. 4—7 p.m.: The Mummy (1932)
 Nov. 5—5 a.m.: MGM Cartoon—Garden Gopher (1950), 6:30 a.m.: The New Adventures of Tarzan—Flaming Waters (1935), 7 a.m.: Popeye—Fright to the Finish (1954), 11 a.m.: The Canterville Ghost (1944)
 Nov. 7—3:45 a.m.: Things to Come (1936), 6:30 a.m.: The Time Machine (1960), 8:30 a.m.: Battle Beneath the Earth (1967), 10:30 a.m.: Time Bandits (1981), 12:30 p.m.: The Ice Pirates (1984), 2:15 p.m.: Stalker (1979)
 Nov. 8—4:45 a.m.: The Thing from Another World (1951)
 Nov. 9—2 a.m.: Tarzan's Peril (1951)
 Nov. 11—11:15 p.m.: Dr. Jekyll and Sister Hyde (1971)
 Nov. 12—1 a.m.: Prehistoric Women (1967), 5 a.m.: MGM Cartoons—The Impossible Possum (1954), 6:30 a.m.: The New Adventures of Tarzan—Angry Gods (1935), 7 a.m.: Popeye—Greek Mirthology (1954), 10:45 a.m.: The Invisible Man (1933)
 Nov. 13—5 a.m.: Angel on My Shoulder (1946)
 Nov. 14—7:45 a.m.: It Happened Tomorrow (1944)
 Nov. 15—6:30 a.m.: Beauty and the Beast (1946)
 Nov. 18—12:15 p.m.: The Thing from Another World (1951), 1:45 p.m.: The Snow Devils (1965)
 Nov. 19—5 a.m.: MGM Cartoons—The Little Mole (1941), 6:30 a.m.: The New Adventures of Tarzan—Doom's Brink (1935), 7 a.m.: Popeye's 20th Anniversary (1954), 11 a.m.: Mad Love (1935)
 Nov. 23—3 a.m.: Rudyard Kipling's Jungle Book (1942), 9:15 a.m.: The Incredible Mr. Limpet (1964), 3:15 p.m.: The Muppets Take Manhattan (1984)
 Nov. 25—5 p.m.: The Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm (1962), 7:30 p.m.: Rescuing a Fantasy Classic (2021), 11:15 p.m.: Scream, Queen! My Nightmare on Elm Street (2019)
 Nov. 26—5 a.m.: MGM Cartoons—The Field Mouse (1941), 6:30 a.m.: The New Adventures of Tarzan—Secret Signals (1935), 7 a.m.: Private Eye Popeye (1954)
 Nov. 27—11:30 p.m.: Solaris (1972)
 Nov. 30—10:15 a.m.: The Silver Chalice (1954)

Neffers might also be interested in the movies screened by Svengoolie on MeTV. Airing Saturdays at 8 p.m. ET (7 p.m. CT), November's features include Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein, X: The Man with the X-Ray Eyes, Fiend Without a Face, and The Crawling Eye. Also airing at 11 a.m. CT Saturdays on the CW 26, Svengoolie is featuring Count Yorga, Vampire, Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein, X: The Man with the X-Ray Eyes, and Fiend Without a Face.

Until next time, double feature creatures, this is "Cathode Ray," your guide to the best of what's crawling in the aisles and on the big screen. Ticket, please!

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.

December

Charles Finney, 12/1/05; Jerry Sohl, 12/2/13; Brian Lumley, 12/2/37; Doug Beason, Leigh Strother-Vein, 12/3/53; Tony Cvetko, 12/3/54; Ian Wallace, 12/4/12; Bill & Dick Glass, 12/4/45; Richard Lynch, 12/4/49; Walt Richmond, 12/5/22; Betsy Wollheim, Susan Palermo, 12/5/51; Susan Rothman, 12/5/54; William P. McGivern, 12/6/21; Ted Pauls, 12/6/42; Leigh Brackett, 12/7/15; Buzz Dixon, 12/7/53; Tom Galloway, 12/7/60.

John Morrissey, 12/8/30; Ann Morris, 12/8/49; Lise Eisenberg, 12/8/56; Steve Fahnstalk, 12/9/47; Curt Stubbs, 12/9/48; Nicki Lynch, 12/9/52; George McDonald, 12/10/1824. Fred Patten, 12/11/40; Ralph Roberts, 12/11/45; Ken Fletcher, 12/11/46; Rebecca Lyons, 12/11/53; Ken Ozanne, 12/12/41; Paul Novitski, 12/12/50; Timothy Lane, 12/12/51; Susan R. Higgins, 12/12/52; Joan Verba, 12/12/53; Toni Weisskopf, 12/12/65; Shirley Jackson, 12/14/16; J.G. Newkom, 12/14/35; John Baxter, 12/14/39; Edward Llewelyn, 12/15/17.

John Sladek, 12/15/37; John Guidry, 12/15/44; Harry Hopkins III, 12/15/55; Leslie Smith, 12/15/58; Arthur C. Clarke, 12/16/17; Philip K. Dick, 12/16/28; Norm Metcalf, 12/16/37; Steve Forty, 12/16/48; Alexander Bouchard, 12/16/56; Lex Nakashima, 12/16/60; Jack Chalker, 12/17/44; J.R. Madden, 12/17/50; Angela Kessler, 12/17/70; H.H. Munro, 12/18/1870; Alfred Bester, 12/18/13; Walter J. Daugherty, 12/18/16; Sterling Lannier, 12/18/27; David G. Hulan, 12/18/36; Fran Skene, 12/18/37; Michael Moorcock, 12/18/39; Stephen Spielberg, 12/18/47; Harry Warner, Jr., 12/19/22; Lee Pelton, 12/19/49; Tom Boardman, 12/20/30. James Sallis, 12/21/44; Lenny Bailes, 12/21/46; Mandy Slater, 12/21/63.

Norma Auer Adams, 12/22/39; Bea Barrio, 12/22/42; David H. Keller, 12/23/1880; Chuch Harris, 12/23/27; George Heap, 12/23/28; Fritz Leiber, 12/24/10; Dan Morgan, 12/24/25; Ray Beam, 12/24/32; Joseph T. Major, 12/24/54; Rod Serling, 12/25/24; Bill Fesselmeyer, 12/26/47; Ken Slater, 12/27/17; Perdita Boardman, 12/27/31; Fred Lerner, 12/27/45.

James E. LaBarre, 12/27/59; George Zebrowski, 12/28/45; Sheryl Birkhead, 12/28/46; Charles L. Harness, 12/29/15; Sam Long, 12/29/45; David L. Travis, 12/30/35; Avedon Carol, 12/30/51; Bob Shaw, 12/31/31.

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.



SANTA CLAUS, one of the most enduring fantasy figures of all time makes his traditional appearance on December 24th every year.

To quote directly from his Wikipedia entry---[Santa Claus, also known as Father Christmas, Saint Nicholas, Saint Nick, Kris Kringle, or simply Santa, is a legendary character originating in Western Christian culture who is said to bring children gifts during the late evening and overnight hours on Christmas Eve of toys and candy or coal or nothing, depending on whether they are "naughty or nice".

He supposedly accomplishes this with the aid of Christmas elves, who make the toys in his work-

shop, often said to be at the North Pole, and flying reindeer who pull his sleigh through the air.

The modern character of Santa is based on folklore traditions surrounding Saint Nicholas, the English figure of Father Christmas and the Dutch figure of Sinterklaas.

Santa is generally depicted as a portly, jolly, white-bearded man, often with spectacles, wearing a red coat with white fur collar and cuffs, white-fur-cuffed red trousers, red hat with white fur, and black leather belt and boots, carrying a bag full of gifts for children. He is commonly portrayed as laughing in a way that sounds like "ho ho ho". This image became popular in the United States and Canada in the 19th century due to the significant influence of the 1823 poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas". Caricaturist and political cartoonist Thomas Nast also played a role in the creation of Santa's image. This image has been maintained and reinforced through song, radio, television, children's books, family Christmas traditions, films, and advertising.]

So powerful is this image of holiday good will and gift giving to children that it has been adopted into other cultures that have no long standing Christian traditions to support it, including Japan and Korea, where it is seen as an opportunity to have a family holiday and give sweets and gifts to children.

In addition to the zillions of stories about him that have appeared in prose, verse, visual and audio media of all kinds, the character has been the subject of serious scientific studies including weighty examinations of the potential psychological effects Santa Claus can have on young children happily accepting everything they hear about him as factual.

Despite being relentlessly commercialized, the traditional image of Santa retains his appeal, easily overcoming critics, cynics, disbelievers, and would-be distracters. Grumps and Scrooges are no match for the venerable legend who embodies the very spirit of good will and happiness.

Santa Claus has been an icon of western civilization for centuries, but it is also clear that the need for a holiday of thanksgiving and gift giving in the midst of winter, a holiday positioned at or just after the Winter Solstice, is a long standing tradition in most human cultures. The worst of winter might be still ahead, but the sun is returning and we, our families, our friends, and our neighbors will manage to survive. And Santa Claus is just the latest incarnation of this universal spirit of hope and thanksgiving.

December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Eat A Red Apple Day	2 National Fritters Day	3 National Roof Over Your Head Day
4 Wear Brown Shoes Day	5 Bathtub Party Day	6 Put On Your Own Shoes Day	7 National Cotton Candy Day	8 National Brownie Day	9 National Pastrie Day	10 Nobel Prize Day
11 Nation Noodle Ring Day	12 National Ding- A-Ling Day	13 Violin Day	14 Roast Chestnuts Day	15 National Lemon Cupcakes Day	16 National Chocolate Covered Anything Day	17 National Maple Syrup Day
18 Bake Cookies Day	19 Oatmeal Muffins Day	20 Go Caroling Day	21 Crossword Puzzle Day	22 National Date- Nut Bread Day	23 Festivus	24 National Egg Nog Day
25 Christmas Day	26 National Candy Cane Day	27 National Fruit Cake Day	28 Card Playing Day	29 Pepper Pot Day	30 National Bicarbondate Of Soda Day	31 Make Up Your Mind Day

