

Illuminated Thoughts

BY ANDREW COOK

If someone were to tell you Dalhousie had a society called "Dalhousie's Illuminated Thoughts", a number of questions would likely pop into your head. The first thing that came to my mind was "What are these people all about?"

Member Ingrid MacIsaac described the group as, "a place for weird people to come and hang out." Meeting late Saturday afternoons in the Student Union Building, Illuminated Thoughts normally has about 10 to 12 members at each meeting and is made up of about 25 members who show up whenever they feel like it. Illuminated Thoughts meetings often begin with a cult movie or board game, and close with the group heading down to the Little Nugget for a late dinner. Last week's meeting was held under a conference table in the pitch dark.

The group will often hold special events such as their recent celebration of Lenin's birthday. On this occasion group members brought in red Kool-Aid and "communist cookies" and referred to each other as comrade (with a k).

The society began in the mid-eighties as the Dr. Who society, a tribute to the famous television show. As Dr. Who faded away, the group was renamed the Science Fiction Society. Movies became the focus, with Star Trek and Star Wars getting the most attention.

As The Science Fiction Society's membership changed with time, members felt a new name would better suit their interests. Their present name Illuminated Thoughts set them apart, satisfying everyone.

One of the many unique features of this society is their acceptance of high school students. As many as half of their members attend high school in the metro area and come in to Dal on Saturdays to enjoy themselves.

When talking with them, it is easy to see the common bonds that members share. They are adamant about being an alternative to "normal" teenage activities such as drugs and alcohol. "We don't need to be drunk or high to have fun because we are too weird," said one of the group's high school mem-

bers.

Always looking for new members, Illuminated Thoughts say if you are interested just show up and don't be afraid. Also big on the groups list, don't be pretentious. "Anyone who wants to be here, we want them here," says secretary James Ingram.

The society is summed up quite nicely with one thought from group member Alex Kennedy. "This is a place where off-the-wall, zany, supernatural people come and bounce off the walls."

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Date: Monday October 7th 1996

Time: Place:

Am Session:	10:00-12:00	Room 307 Student Union Bldg. Dalhousie University
Pm Session:	14:00-16:00	Student Conference Center, 3rd floor of Student Union Bldg. St-Mary's University

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