

BCSFA NEWSLETTER #5**November 1973****V-CON III**

Announcing V-Con III, the Third Vancouver Science Fiction Convention. The guest of honour is the author of The Green Brain, Whipping Star, The Eyes of Heisenberg, Dragon In The Sea, The Heaven Makers, Destination: Void, Project 40, The Saratoga Barrier, The Godmakers, Dune Messiah, and Dune, Frank Herbert. The convention occurs on February 22-24, 1974 at the Georgia Hotel in Vancouver – and depending on the response, we have the flexibility of extending it in both directions. The cost is \$3.50 advance, \$10.00 with a banquet ticket (choice of stuffed chicken or baron of beef – price includes gratuity). Hotel rates for convention members are \$16/night for a single or \$21/night for a twin or double. After February 1st the convention membership fee goes to \$5.00 and the banquet to \$7.00, so pay early. (It helps us to plan better if we know how many are coming.) Hotel reservations may be made through us.

Mail money orders payable to “British Columbia Science Fiction Association” to BCSFA, P.O. Box 35577, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 4G9, or pay in person at an upcoming meeting.

BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENT

Did you realize Chuck Davis was born on the (?) anniversary of the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 on November 17th? To celebrate these dual events we are holding a meeting at Michael and Susan Walsh’s house (2965 W. 11th ave) at 7:30 PM on this date. Be there.

LAGNIAPPE

You may not believe this, but my fanzine, LAGNIAPPE, is still about to be published. A few more kinks have been ironed out. Phil Dick sent me an article as a 1972 Christmas present and I hope to send him a copy with his article published and a surprise cover by Christmas this year. Contributions for future issues are always desired.

CHRISTMAS COMET

Beware of the harbingers of doom! In spite of rumours to the contrary, I don’t think the comet Kohoutek is a sign signifying the Second Coming. However, this is going to be an impressive comet – bigger than Halley’s – which should become visible in late November and by Christmas it should be the

third brightest object in the sky. It will continue waxing until about January 15, 1974. Be sure to get a good look at this “God From Outer Space” as it will not return for 75,000 years.

CONAN OF AQUILONIA

The perceptiveness among you may have noticed in an earlier newsletter, the mentioning that Lancer Books has suspended operations. This was done suddenly. So suddenly in fact, that Conan Of Aquilonia, the last of the Conan series, was just about to be distributed. At this time the fate of this book is still not clear. If unreleased, it could become a collector’s item of note.

BOOKBUYING SERVICE

In celebration of a recent large, retroactive raise (\$1.00+ an hour, retroactive for 800+ hours), I am about to make a massive book purchase. If you wish to piggyback on my order and take advantage of a 20% discount, let me know. Two people already have. (Unverified rumour: Ed Beauregard mentioned that you can deduct up to \$500 from your taxable income for a hobby. Now if bookbuying is a hobby – especially if books appreciate 300%...

Purchasing hardcovers may seem foolhardy to some of you, but I’d like to point out that \$300 of purchases I made are now worth \$1500 – in about 3 years. Autographed books are more valuable and consequently I’m going to buy Dune and The Furthest Shore (by Ursula K. Le Guin). (Now doesn’t that imply something?)

ADDRESS CHANGES

If you move, and wish to keep receiving this newsletter, let me know. Also, advise me of your new ‘zips’, postal codes, etc, and I’ll add them to your computer cards as I’ve already done with some.

BELLINGHAM TAPES

A number of people have approached me to ask about their promised copies of cassette tapes made by Chuck Davis at the Bellingham Future Fact and Fantasy Fair. I asked Chuck about this matter and he told me that all was well except that he has lost the list of names he took. So people, to get your tapes contact Chuck, or me, or somebody and re-submit your names.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

On November 11, those who have volunteered to help in the convention organization, (myself, David George, Pat Burrows, Rob Leung, Ed Hutchings, Diane Keswick and Ron Norton) had a meeting at Pat Burrow’s. To our surprise (mine, anyway), Michael and Susan Walsh came and brought with

them Bill and Bubbles Broxon who were visiting from Seattle. We discussed programming for the convention, but we couldn't get too detailed because of some guest-of-honour problems.

Bubbles suggested a good idea for a panel on "The Clarion Experience". At the University of Washington an SF writer's workshop is held annually – called Clarion because it originated at a campus bearing that name in the east. The panel would be workshop veterans and they would simulate what actually happens in the course by dissecting a story.

We have tentatively scheduled a costume ball (or showing) for Saturday evening. Bubbles promised to arm-twist some SCAN people from Seattle to come to the convention in costume and perhaps organize a SCAN-type event. Singing or medieval music was mentioned.

SCAN – WHAT IS IT?

In 1966, the Society for Creative Anachronism was founded in Berkeley "*to have fun... to get a little wider perspective for our view of the World of Man...*" Members hold Tournaments and Revels throughout the year and at such dress and act in the period of their choice – pre 1649. Everyone is a lord or Lady.

The Broxons are very involved in the Seattle group which is simulating Celtic times. Many SCAN members, including the Broxons, are SF fans also – Sword & Sorcery fans, I'll wager. For example, Poul Anderson is a longtime WSCAN member and he rewrote *The Broken Sword* on the basis of his experience in Tournaments.

How many people are interested in organizing a local SCAN group? If you are, come to the next meeting and we'll discuss it fully. There's a lot more to it than I've written here.

DECEMBER MEETING?

Do you want one? December 15 or so? Think about it and we'll discuss it at the next meeting.

THIS NEWSLETTER is written, typed, run off, collated, stamped and mailed by Mike Bailey (2416 W. 3rd Ave #4, Vancouver, B.C.). Computer labels courtesy of Mike Bailey. Thanks for all those who sent \$1.00 to help cost of mailing the newsletter, and for some this is

THE END