

The Canadian Fancyclopedia: V – Version 1 (June 2009)

An Incomplete Guide To Twentieth Century Canadian Science Fiction Fandom
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A publication of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association (BCSFA)
And the West Coast Science Fiction Association (WCSFA).

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Canadian fanzines are shown in red,
Canadian Apazines in Green,
Canadian items in purple,
Foreign items in blue.

V

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VANAPA

-- **Faneds (O.E.): Fran Skene & Shelly Lewis Gordy.** The Vancouver APA, pubbed out of Vancouver, B.C. (Detail to be added)

"VANAPA tends to be slightly more frivolous than BCAPA and to discourage political discussions, etc." - (RR)

In her editorial in the last VANAPA (#34), Fran Skene wrote: *"We have our answer. VANAPA has perished. However, it served a need for a while as a place for locals to turn to when they couldn't stand the arguments in BCAPA."*

1978 - (#1 - Dec)

1979 - (#2 - Jan) (#3 - Feb) (#4 - Mar) (#5 - Apr) (#6 - May) (#7 - Jun) (#8 - Jul) (#9 - Aug) (#10 - Sep) (#11 - Oct) (#12 - Nov) (#13 - Dec)

1980 - (#14 - Jan) (#15 - Feb) (#16 - Mar) (#17 - Apr) (#18 - May) (#19 - Jun) (#20 - Jul) (#21 - Aug) (#22 - Sep) (#23 - Oct) (#24 - Nov) (#25 - Dec)

1981 - (#26 - Jan) (#27 - Feb) (#28 - Mar) (#29 - Apr) (#30/31 - May/June) (#32 - Nov)

1982 - (#33 - Jan) (#34 - Jun)

[See BCAPA]

VANATIONS

-- **Faned: Norman G. Browne.** Per/genzine ("VANATIONS: The fanzine for tendrillless fans") pubbed out of Edmonton, Alberta, circa 1952/1953. An EGOBOOB publication, affiliated with FAN VARIETY ENTERPRISES, there were six issues in all, with a print run of 500.

Because Browne founded the Vancouver SF Society in Dec of 1951, I thought VANATIONS was its clubzine. Turns out Browne had moved to Edmonton by summer of 1952 and, with the exception of #1, the entire run of VANATIONS was produced in that city. In #1 Browne thanks *"The Vancouver SF Society for showing me the truth in the statement; 'Blood, sweat, toil and tears go into bringing out a fanzine.'" #1 was prepared in Vancouver, at least it's cover printed there, but mailed from Edmonton with an Edmonton return address. So it seems Browne moved from Vancouver to Edmonton midway through producing the first issue of VANATIONS.*

Ted White describes it *"as a good fanzine of its times."* Harry Warner Jr. called it *"one of the few bulky Canadian fanzines of this era."* And in CANADIAN FANDOM #33a (Feb 1957), William D. Grant commented: *"Another fanzine appeared from the West called VANATIONS in 1952, showing remarkable promise, but after a few issues it vanished."*

In general, VANATIONS could be described as a humourzine with fiction, sercon articles and poetry, the quality of material ranging from pretty good to unbelievably bad (see 'War Stinks' in #3 for truly bad fiction). Art varied from good to mediocre, with the best contributions from Richard Bergeron, Naaman Peterson & Jack Harness. Ongoing features included Browne's obsessive analysis of response to the questionnaire included with nearly every issue, 'What The Censor Missed' - a listing of lines in promags which hinted at sex, and 'Borothy Bix, Fan Counselor' - a 'joke' gossip column.

Ongoing references to POGO make VANATIONS very much a product of 6th Fandom. Astonishingly, Norman was present at the 1953 meeting in Harlan Ellison's Cleveland home which saw the origin of the Seventh Fandomites. Consequently his last issue (#6) declared itself "A 7th Fandom Fanzine."

Every issue included a one-sheet questionnaire with questions like: *"What would you suggest as the theme of future writing contests?"*, *"List a question you would like to see asked"*, *"What is your percentage of interest in STF? In fandom?"*, & *"Of the material published in this issue what do you think was the worst?"* Seems Browne was adamant about getting feedback.

What does VANATIONS Mean? According to Browne: *"In choosing a fanzine name, I set up the following requirements: 1) It must be a completely coined word, unique and having no meaning, 2) It must be a completely static word, implying no meaning, 3) It must be easily spelled, 4) It must be easily pronounced, & 5) It must be one word of not more than three syllables. The simplest way to go about this, then, is to take two or three words, break them down into syllables and keep juggling the syllables around until the requirements are met. I took the words; CANADA, VANCOUVER, FANZINE and PUBLICATION and from them derived about eight possible titles of which VANATIONS was my final choice."*

1952 - (#1 - Jun) - This has a very striking cover: a photograph collage showing the original Flash Gordon-style spaceship sculpture which used to be on display at the Vancouver Airport (till discarded

in a city dump -- a 1986 duplicate made for expo 86 now stands on a pedestal at the south end of Cambie bridge) 'flying' over the Vancouver skyline above the Marine building, harbour and North Shore mountains in the background. Beautiful. Both photos were taken by Frank Stephens, and the cover printed at *"the extension dept of the University of B.C. All I did was rough out the format, pick the ripple-tone cover stock and lend them the negative."*

On the inside cover is a poem 'About The Cover' by Alfred W. Purdy, a member of the Vancouver SF Society, and in later life one of Canada's most famous poets. Worth quoting in full:

*"Nobody saw it come or go, and that was the peculiar thing.
Bells started to ring
In everyone's ears at once; and all looked up
Into the inverted cup
Of Blue sky. It filled a quarter of sky with a dull shine,
The centre of a single line
Of light that filled the head, took over the brain.
A thought of high disdain,
And heads popped out of the Marine building like pips
From portholes of ships
In the harbour men started upward, subtly held
In a stiff invisible weld.
Streetcars stopped on Granville St., and motorcars
Stood like stars;
And expensive women in fur coats stared out
For the space of a shout.
And when it was gone -- like a face leaning over a wall --
No one remembered it at all."*

As Browne explained in #2: "The inside (cover) poem was written with no connection in mind and originally titled 'Mirage'. I saw a very noticeable tie-up between the poem and the cover and used it in that connection." In #2 Doug Mitchell of Winnipeg commented: *"Cover fair to good. Rocket ship a bit Buck Rogerish tho."*

Browne states: *"This issue is not free or a complimentary copy."* Instead he offers his PAR scheme, or 'Pay After Reading'. In other words, send in what you think the zine is worth. Perhaps this is why it lasted but 6 issues?

Among 3 zines reviewed, V1#1 of the DIANETICS NEWSLETTER. *"A little more publicity and this fanzine will really go places."* But as Browne revealed in #2, this was a spoof article, the zines reviewed did not exist.

Graham Stone writes about 'Crud', a *"word rather new to fannish language"* and goes on to describe derivations like "crudistically" and "intercrudable". Oddly, he comes up with nearly 40 crud terms, yet 'crudzine' is not one of them. Predates the term?

A number of spoof articles deal with writing, titles like: "The Big Idea", "Types of Fan Letters" & "Rejected Manuscripts."

Under the heading "Recommended reading" Browne contributes some doggerel couplets of his own:

*"Want some complicated plots?
Read about the Weapon Shops.
Think my choices are all wet?
What about Space Cadet?
For a story that will make you drool
Read the Moon Pool.
And for a story about a dame
Try The Black Flame." (etc.)*

The best article is "Fantasy Censorship In Canada" by Alastair Cameron. He explains how the Minister of National Revenue, Dr. McCann is accountable to no one for his decisions. He does not even have to give a reason for banning a book! Talk about absolute power! Typical of the era.

At 500 copies, #1 cost \$54.77 to produce, a huge sum in 1952! Walt Willis asked him: *"What are you doing with those 500 copies?"* And Browne responded in #4: *"I keep about 25 for later requests...and distribute the rest in fandom. As a matter of fact, my distribution list looks like a directory of fandom. All BNFs get it, many pros get Vn, most members of NFFF, BSAW & FAPA get Vn. Besides this, about 50 are distributed in Canada and another 100 are sent to miscellaneous fen in the States, England, and Australia."* Even today this is impressive! And, considering modern printing & mailing costs, impossible!

Responses to #1 printed in #2 included: G.M. Carr - *"The mimeography and reproduction was excellent, so was the art-work. A fine looking job all around."* Chester D Cuthbert - *"I think you did a tremendous amount of work, but that aside from Alastair Cameron's article which I considered to be excellent, your work was wasted."* Gerald Steward - *"I think that the art in this zine is the best fanzine art I have ever seen."* Orville Mosher - *"I think your zine beats QUANDRY & SLANT by a mile."* (Personally, I think Steward & Mosher were putting him on.)

- (#2 - Sept) - 22 pages, 300 copies, cover alone cost \$15 to reproduce. The cover, as with all issues, has art offset to the right, the date is hand drawn down the left side, the title up top. Both possibly produced with stencils. The cover art, by Orville W. Mosher, depicts 3 people, a man formally dressed in jacket & tie flanked by two women in long dresses, both of whom are holding a flower, all three being pulled into the sky by the hair courtesy of an arm reaching down from what appears to be a passing rocket ship (rocket tubes and exhaust vaguely visible). Disturbing elements include a Jestor's head in the upper left corner laughing at their terrified expressions, and the two huge eyes open in the hillside from which they are being plucked. Very surreal.

In his editorial Browne states that he intended VANATIONS to be a generalzine which anyone, including novice fans, could read and understand. For it was his experience that many zines were full of insider references unfamiliar to newcomers, such as fannish slang, Big Name Fans, famous fannish events, etc. As he put it: *"I formulated a policy of the exact opposite for Vn. #1. ...a policy for a fanzine that I would like to read; that I would enjoy reading; that I could understand."* Now he intended: *"The policy of complete and utter generalness will be toned down considerably, but not to the point of complete and utter personalism which I tried originally to get away from."*

The rest of the issue is frankly not as interesting as the first. Browne devotes three pages to analysis of the first issue along with a page of mailing comments. This is followed by 'To Crud Or Not To Crud', in which a Prof. R.W. Clarkson, Ph.D., P.H.A.N. (yeah, right) purports to derive a Latin origin for the word 'crud'. ... Alastair Cameron comments further on censorship in Canada, and on the etymology of 'Fantastology', a word he coined. ... More 'Borothy Bix - Fan Counselor' advice: *"..during a lapse in*

conversation at a club meeting, come out with the statement you hate Pogo." (A raging controversy at the time) ... 'What The Censor Missed' contains more prurient quotes from prozines, such as *"I loved the flat-brained animal, enough to lead him into the bedroom if that's what he wanted"*. ... And speaking of prurience, Paul Wzszkowski of Toronto has an ad for a *"dry watercolour stf painting. Well executed. Symbolic. Semi-pornographic???? Title: 'Moonmaidens.' For a snapshot and more information, write..."* ... L.L. Layton contributes an interesting article on the difficulties (read slowness) of interstellar communication. He seems to hold out hope for utilizing gravity waves as a means of transmitting sound faster than light.

There are several poems, and three pieces of fiction. The first story, 'The Question' by Tod Cavanaugh, hinges on the difficulty of addressing an inhabitant of Venus. What do you call it? Venoozian? Venusite? Vonuser? etc. Mildly amusing. ... The second, 'Construction of a story', is more of a writing exercise. Browne offers the beginning of a story where in the SF writer Henry Kuttner comes to the door. It's up to the reader to finish it. Is it really Kuttner? Someone with the same name? Etc. An interesting experiment, but a tad lame and lazy. ... The third story 'The Decline of Fantopia', by John Gold Bixby Jr, assumes Miami Beach will become the centre of World Fandom, but will ultimately destroy itself through the splintering of fandom into rival cliques. A not so subtle spoof of fandom in general.

By far the most entertaining piece is a letter from Robert Bloch (who has not yet written 'Psycho'), in which he purports to be his own secretary: *"It is my duty to read his mail aloud to him at such times as I deem him sober enough to comprehend. During one of those rare intervals I went though VANATIONS in great detail, even going so far as to spell out and define many of the longer words... ran across a reference to one Jim Wills, described as "Canada's answer to Robert Bloch"... Mr. Bloch wishes me to tell you that in future he would prefer to be compared to such men as Albert Einstein, William Shakespeare, Abraham Lincoln and Bill Morse. Compared favorably, too."*

- (#3 - Nov) - 28 pages. Cover by Naaman Peterson depicts a head-in-a-jar alien perched atop an elephant-like doggie trotting along behind a long-legged woman in a tight-fitting one-piece 'bathing suit'. The mood of the artwork is very calm and placid. Pertson also contributes 3 well-done interior art works, one of which depicts a tentacled alien, seen from behind, intently watching 3 classic 1950s rocketships launch into space as he manipulates a remote control device. And Richard Bergeron, well known American fan, contributes a drawing of the head of a long-faced alien with a very sharp nose and piercing eyes.

Fiction content consists of 'The Answer' by Dick Clarkson, a continuation of 'The Question' from the previous issue. Sort of funny, mildly so. ... 'My Adventures on the Moon', a short-short by 'Uncle Ronald' which is an amusing spoof condensation of many a pulp plot. ... 'The Visitor' by Wally Weber, which answers questions posed by 'Construction of a Story' from the previous issue in an unexpected, highly amusing (if scarcely credible) manner.

And finally, 'War Stinks!' by Norbet Hirschorn, a painfully sincere condemnation of war. Basically, a replacement soldier experiences his first (and last!) battle on the Western front. Told from his point of view, it magically encapsulates every WWII movie cliché you can think of. Not written by a veteran. Sample prose: *"They didn't tell you what to do when the enemy is charging down on you, with a snarl on his lips, a maniacal gleam in his eye..."* The underlying philosophy? *"Man is in a transitional stage. He is experiencing growing pains... In a millennium man may have matured and will have realized his childish folly. War will cease to exist. Man will conquer all his adversaries by sheer intelligence and kindness..."* Yeah, right. Charmingly naive.

By far the best section in this issue are several essays written for Browne's 'What Science Fiction means to Me' contest. Contributors are George E. Dold, Larry Touzinsky, Neil Blum... and Harlan Ellison! Harlan explains why he is such a scrapper and what discovering fandom meant to him:

"I've always been a frustrated little kid... I was just about the only Jewish fellow in town of my age and had to fight for my blighted life darn near every day... I was piling up inhibitions and complexes by the carton-full...I came upon science fiction... I found a literature wherein the ideas I had long upheld, held sway. It spoke in grandiose terms of the equality of men, of the casual intermingling of races... It opened unto me the portals of worlds I had long dreamed about.... Then came fandom... a group of people whose only cohesive force was a general liking for S-F and a concerted liking for other people who were individual albeit off-their-rockers. And I felt a kinship immediately with these crazy, wonderful people..." (RGC) & (HWJ) & (CC)

1953 - (#4 - Feb)
- (#5 - April)
- (#6 - July)

[See VANCOUVER SF SOCIETY, BROWNE NORMAN G., PAPA, CONCUPISENT TALES, PAR, TORATIONS, DAMN!, FILLER, THE HIBITED MEN, SEVENTH FANDOM, & DOCTOR OF FANOLOGY]

THE VANCOUVER AREA FLYING SAUCER CLUB

-- The Vancouver area Flying Saucer Club was founded in July of 1956 by Mr. Herbert Clark and by Miss L. Margaret Fewster. By March of 1958 the club had grown to 180 members and was actively considering incorporating as a society. How long it survived after that I do not know.

While it existed, VAFSC cost \$2.00 to join, for which members were given a club card and a subscription to the single-sheet monthly newsletter. Any non-member was welcome to attend monthly meetings, in the fervent hope they would be moved to join, or at least toss some coins into the collection plate. Given the size of the club, meetings were probably held in rented halls, on at least one occasion at the Hermes Lodge of the Theosophical Society at 5th Avenue & Cypress.

Members were encouraged to write up their 'sightings', and to actively 'spot' UFOs. Wrote Miss Fewster: *"The junior branch are organizing themselves as U.F.O. 'spotters' and have taken a business-like inventory of their equipment... Any senior members of V.A.S.F.C. who are equally keen, possess a car, camera and binoculars, and enough gas to drive said car, is welcome to arrange field trips for (juniors & other) members of the club...discourage yourself from going alone.. you will need reliable witnesses...and don't forget your sandwiches; I am told extensive 'spotting' is a hungry business!"* 'Spotting' evidently came easy for some:

"The Secretary has been lucky enough to make five sightings this month, over Kerrisdale, at night, after 10 o'clock, in each case the object was a glowing orange colour, which manoeuvred in various directions, at incredible speed... sizes varying from that of an orange to half the size of the moon!"
"Mr. & Mrs. J. Rea, club members, made a wonderful sighting... at their home... (in) North Burnaby. Mrs. Rea, while gazing north over Mount Seymour, spotted a cigar-shaped U.F.O....She called her husband, who also saw object, both with naked eye and binoculars... and while watching object for

three quarters of an hour, saw it change shape from cigar to star shape, and also saw lights in the middle and end of object... and at the same time red lights or discs seem to emerge from the object. Size of object 8 to 10 inches, height at top of mountain about 3,500 feet."

The club bulletin contained numerous quotes from other sources, most trending towards the idea that an advanced civilization of aliens is urging humanity to cast off its primitive limitations and become one with the aliens through a meeting of the minds.

One quote, from London, England, is almost cheerfully reassuring: *"A friend of mine, whom I respect and revere, informs me that he traveled beyond the stratosphere in one of those vehicles (flying saucers) many years ago, that he knows how space ships work, why they can turn so quickly, and why those within them are not affected by centrifugal force. Those who man them, some of them from other planets, are concerned with safe-guarding life -- and not merely human life, which is not at the top of the evolutionary tree..."*

Given the nature of these quotes, and the reviews of books offering similar views, I am inclined to think they were selected because they probably corresponded to the philosophy of the majority of VAFSC members, who seem to have been nothing less than a spiritualist movement of utopianists waiting for aliens to guide mankind to the next stage of evolution.

VANCOUVER SF SOCIETY

-- Founded by Norman G. Browne in December of 1951. According to Harry Warner Jr., *"Vancouver got a local fan club for an odd reason. The unknown Norman G. Browne of that city had gone all the way to Nolacon,"* (the 1951 Worldcon in New Orleans) *"where he saw nobody he knew. This sense of being an outsider left him upon his return with a determination to become a real part of fandom. So he organized the Vancouver Science Fiction Society before he learned about the existence of CSFA"* -- the latter being the Canadian Science Fiction Association, which the Vancouver SF Society joined in 1952 and was still affiliated with in early 1953, so we know the club lasted at least that long.

Here is what Browne himself wrote about the founding of the club, excerpted from his 'NORMAN G. BROWNE: FAN' article in VANATIONS #4:

"I left the Nolacon with an overwhelming desire to become a fan.... My first act when I got home from the Nolacon was to organize a S-F club. This took considerable time due to the fact that I had no knowledge or experience in fandom or stf and knew nothing about organizing clubs. But by dint of sheer work and luck, the club was organized and had its first meeting in December of that same year (1951). At a later meeting I was installed as President of the club."

"As President of the Vancouver SF Society I pushed stf (Scientifiction) and my club as hard and strong as I could in my immediate area. Thus, from an utter unknown, I had made myself known and had created a sphere of influence to cover the Vancouver area. Gradually, I extended this sphere of influence to cover the whole of British Columbia."

"As President of this club, I became contact man with outside fandom. Through a prozine letter-column, I learned of the existence of the Canadian S-F Association and contacted them. Also, through the same medium, I learned of the existence of the Seattle SF Society 100 miles to the South of us and got in touch with them..."

Browne informally called the club 'THE HIBITED MEN', presumably based on a short story of the same title by L. Sprague de Camp. Members met in Browne's home, and presumably in each other's. At one club meeting Browne and Curt Lang "*got into quite an argument over the relative merits of certain comic books. Curt has taken fencing lessons and I own two swords...*"

Because members referred to themselves as 'THE HIBITED MEN', the Vancouver SF Society newsletter was titled HIBITED HAPPENINGS. In explaining how the first nine months of his fan activity after Nolacon brought him to the point of feeling qualified enough to start work on his perzine VANATIONS, Browne wrote: "*I had spent nine months studying and learning about fandom. I had learned about fan publishing and editing by studying fanzines and by editing a club newsletter....*" Thus he was both President AND Newsletter Editor for the Vancouver SF Society. However, after issue #3 of HIBITED HAPPENINGS he moved to Edmonton, and Frank Stephens took over as club newsletter editor.

What is clear about the Vancouver SF Society's involvement with VANATIONS is that the members of the club early on devoted their resources to helping Browne produce his first issue. They contributed art, articles, and a cover which was printed in Vancouver. The issue was actually mailed from Edmonton, where Browne had moved, in June of 1952. In #2 he commented: "*The planning for the first issue of VANATIONS covered a period of four months. The actual construction and work was done over a period of another three months.*" This would appear to indicate he started planning the zine the very month he formed the club, and that fellow members contributed by April, if not earlier.

As to who belonged to the club, Norman G. Browne, Alfred W. Purdy (later a famous poet), Victor Samoila, Frank Stephens, Jim (James) Wills & Curt Lang are known members. Close reading of issues of VANATIONS suggests other prospects, some probable, others merely possible. Of the probable members I include 2 Vancouver fans in touch with Browne: Vic Miller & Bill Galliene, 3 Vancouver fans known across Canada: Alan Child, Gordon Peck & Shirley K. Peck, & 2 fans located outside Vancouver but who contributed to VANATIONS & may well have belonged to the club: Terence Barker (of Westview, B.C.), & L. Lockhart Layton (of Prince Rupert, B.C.).

Of the possible club members, I quote from the CANADIAN FAN DIRECTORY (donated to the B.C.S.F.A. archive by Chester D. Cuthbert) published by the Canadian Science Fiction Association in Fall of 1952. This includes the names & addresses of Vancouver fans who were members of the Vancouver SF Society which was affiliated with the CSFA, single members of CSFA not involved with the VSFS, and well-known fans not members of either organization. Unfortunately the directory does not indicate their status. Consequently the following list merely consists of Vancouver fans contemporary with the VSFS, but since the basic source material used to compile the CANADIAN FAN DIRECTORY was undoubtedly the membership of the affiliated organizations, it is highly likely that most of the following persons named belonged to the Vancouver Science Fiction Society. Especially since Norman G. Browne himself was the primary source of information for the B.C. listings. He must have known, or known of, all of the following fans:

Allen Baratelli, M.S. Barnett, P.L. Booke, Robert H. Bowman, Edward Bowser, Mary Brock, E.J. Broome, H.O. Clarke, Yvonne Cooper, B. Creer, Roy Davidson, Peter Duncan, Donald Foster, Rose Frew, Gordon Futcher, Gordon Gibson Jr., Terry Graham, Peter Grant, Gordon Hackett, Rose Hafley, Arthur Harris, Terence W. Hibbert, James Hill, James C. Hinds, Brian Hurst, George M. Kerr, C.R. Mackenzie, Don Maclaren, Claude Mayes, S. McIntyre, Tom McKitch, G. McPherson, Barry Nelson, J.W. O'Connell, Otto Pfeifer, Jim Polson, S.R. Price, Ralph Redden, Gordon W. Rix, Eric Rogerson,

Tom Rosenburg, Helen Smith, Charles Stephens, George Stephens, Peter Whalley, R. White, & Bob Wilson.

(Note; the names I listed as 'known' & 'probable' members of the VSFS are also listed in the CANADIAN FAN DIRECTORY, with the exceptions of Victor Samoila & Shirley K. Peck.)

In sum, I have listed 60 fans who, if not all members of the VSFS, were known active fans, most of them from Vancouver. I haven't even mentioned the fans living in Victoria, Squamish, Penticton, Kelowna & elsewhere in B. C., some of whom may also have been members, given Browne's statement he "extended this sphere of influence to cover the whole of British Columbia." From the numbers it appears Science Fiction fandom was alive and thriving in B.C. in 1952!

If any of the above mentioned people come across this entry I would be happy to hear from them at: < canfancylopedia@shaw.ca > (RGC) & (HWJ) & (GS) & (CC)

[See **VANATIONS, BROWNE NORMAN G., PAPA, CONCUPISCENT TALES, PAR, TORATIONS, DAMN!, FILLER, THE HIBITED MEN, HIBITED HAPPENINGS, SEVENTH FANDOM, & DOCTOR OF FANOLOGY**]

VATI-CON III PROGRAM BOOK

-- **Faned: Victoria Vayne.** A 44 page mimeod perzine pubbed out of Toronto, Ontario, her first solo zine. "*A semi-one-shot...which I now include in the SIMULACRUM numbering system as Whole #1.*" (The first issue of SIMULACRUM came out in June of 1975.)

The VATI-CON III PROGRAM BOOK was based on a "Toronto in-joke." It contained articles like: a debate between God & Richard Nixon on the divine right of kings, a debate between Erich Von Danikan & Emmaual Velikovsky as to which was wrong, an account of an all-night bingo & Vatican roulette, & a banquet featuring 5 loaves of bread & 2 fishes for 5000 people.

Writing in NON SEQUITOR #15 (Jul 1979), Vayne commented: "*The first one I ever published and now extremely rare, I think. If you ever see a zine with a predominantly black Taral Wayne Macdonald cover with no title on front, that may be it... please grab and return it to me, I'll be grateful. Things like this are an embarrassment and the sooner they're out of circulation the better.*"

1975 - (#1 - Jan)

VCBC BULLETIN

-- Newsletter of the Vancouver Comic Book Club. Published out of Vancouver B.C. in the late 1970s and early 1980s. (Detail to be added)

1980 - (#19 - Apr)

1981 - (#23 - Spring?) - "...contains the 3rd & final portion of the John Byrne interview, a killer review of ALTERED STATES by Brian Oberquell, Steve Richard's 'Four Colour Thoughts', & Leonard Wong's 'My Column'. Wong's column (usually the zine's highlight for me) is given over this issue to a

letter from Trina Robbins, female comics artist extraordinaire. The VCBC Bulletin is the best comics clubzine in Canada." - (RR)

1983 - (#26 - Winter) - "This features news of exec resignations, plans for 1984, and announcement of the January Comix & Comics Con." (GS)

1984 - (#27 - Feb) - "Another one-sided photo-reduced single sheet; packs a lot of club news into a little space." (GS)

[See **PLASTIZINE**]

VCON

-- Vancouver's annual Science Fiction convention. ('VCON' is a registered trademark owned by the British Columbia Science Fiction Association.) Apart from the occasional Canadian Worldcon, VCON, started in 1971, is Canada's oldest ongoing convention. For comparison's sake, here are the startup dates of several Canadian Conventions, followed by some North West American conventions:

CANADIAN: VCON 1 - (1971), Halcon 1 - (1978), Maplecon 1 - (1978), Noncon 1 - (1978), Boreal 1 - (1979), Convention 1 - (1980), Ad Astra 1 - (1981), Conversion 1 - (1984), Keycon 1 - (1984), PineKone 1 - (1988) & Cancon 1 - (1989).

AMERICAN NORTH WEST: Norwescon 1 - (1978), Moscon 1 - (1979), Orycon 1 - (1979), Vikingcon 1 - (1980), & Rustycon 1 - (1984).

Note: events are as listed in program books. Some may have been cancelled and replaced with other items. Future research may result in some changes to listings, but at least as they stand the listings give an excellent idea as to what was planned for each VCON.)

Warning! Excessive amount of programming detail! But this CanFancylopedia is written on behalf of both BCSFA & WCSFA, the traditional sponsors of VCON, and the VCON entry is intended to provide the maximum amount of information possible for members of both organizations to understand their VCON heritage, and for the sake of old-timers like myself, to reminisce.

Them as has no interest are advised to scroll quickly through the pages devoted to VCON. Conrunners and Programmers, on the other hand, may find it of interest to track the evolution of programming over the decades in this, Canada's most venerable SF convention. And given that the programming involves changing tastes and interests among fans of the day, fan historians may find it of use as well.

1971 - (April 9-10) - VCON 1: (Actually just called Vancouver Science Fiction Convention).

Guest of Honour: URSULA K. LE GUIN. Venue: Hotel Georgia, Vancouver. Attending: 75.

CONCOM: *Co-Chairmen* - Mike Bailey & Daniel Say; *Treasurer* - Mike Bailey; *Operations* - Mike Bailey; *Publicity* - Rob Scott & Daniel Say; *Guest Liaison* - Daniel Say; *Short Films* - R. Graeme Cameron; *Elron Awards* - Mike Bailey.

Sponsored jointly by the B.C. Science Fiction Association, the Simon Fraser University Science Fiction Society (SF3), & the University of B.C. Science Fiction Society (UBC SFFEN). Two days of single track programming in a ballroom, plus displays, including some sort of computer gizmo, in a small room. There was a hospitality con-suite as well.

FRIDAY (Apr 9/71-Vcon 1): Apart from a prolonged get-together in the con-suite, the sole event was:

- a panel SF LOVES AND HATES with Bill Dodds, Brent MacClean & John Park.

SATURDAY (Apr 10/71- Vcon 1) was more formal, with events taking place in the York room. A talk on 'Russian Fantasy' was cancelled, Professor Mason Harris filling in with a wonderful off-the-cuff talk:

- FEAR OF SEX AND FOREIGN RACES IN THE FANTASY OF H.P. LOVECRAFT.
- This was followed by Ursula K. Le Guin (first time ever at an SF con) delivering a speech titled: THE CRAB NEBULA, THE PARAMECIUM, AND TOLSTOY arguing the existence of an all encompassing order to the universe.
- After lunch break Professor R.D. Callahan gave a talk: SF, INSULATION OR ILLUMINATION? which took two hours to explain that SF literature was essentially worthless.
- Then followed a panel on SF AND SOCIAL REALISM.
- Supper break involved 29 people including Le Guin and her husband having dinner at the Ho Inn in China Town.
- Afterwards at the hotel the ELRON AWARDS were presented for the first time, by Mike Bailey, with *"selected passages from the nominated novels read, to hilarious advantage, by Paul Green."*

The ConCom had hoped to include a dealers room, a banquet, and an art show, but not enough interest was shown to warrant their inclusion. One film was shown during the Saturday lunch break. The rest of the time R. Graeme Cameron provided an 8mm projector and a stack of 12 minute versions of SF classics in the bedroom of the consuite. Anyone who wanted to watch them was welcome to operate the projector themselves.

Summing up the con in a Province Newspaper article the following Monday, Michael Walsh wrote: *"The tone of the convention, one of literate appreciation rather than fascinated adulation, was set from the beginning by the science fiction sophisticates from the sponsoring clubs."*

1972 - (Feb 18-19) - VCON 2: (Actually just called 2nd annual Vancouver Science Fiction Convention).

Guest of Honour: PHILIP K. DICK. Toast Master: **MIKE HORVAT.** Venue: Biltmore Hotel, Vancouver. Attending: "Fewer than 100".

CONCOM: *Co-Chairmen* - Mike Bailey & Daniel Say; *Treasurer* - Mike Bailey; *Operations* - Mike Bailey; *Films* - Ed Hutchings; *Guest Liaison* - Mike Bailey. (*Elron Awards* not presented.) Sponsored jointly by the Simon Fraser University Science Fiction Society (SF3), & the University of B.C. Science Fiction Society (UBC SFFEN). At this point BCSFA was dormant, but would revive in 1973. Two days of single track programming in the hotel ballroom. Probably display room and hospitality suite also, but unknown to me.

FRIDAY (Feb 18/72 – Vcon 2) began at 5:00 pm with:

- a "CASH BAR PARTY - 75¢ a drink",

- a MASQUERADE CONTEST won by Bill & Bubbles Broxon as mad scientist & victim,
- and a series of probably 16mm films including H.G. Wells' THINGS TO COME.

SATURDAY (Feb 19/72 – Vcon 2) started:

- with a talk by Prof. Mason Harris on H.G. WELLS' TIME MACHINE: THE FOURTH DIMENSION A S PROPHECY,
- followed by a THINGS TO COME film panel moderated by John Wilson, with Mason Harris, John Park, Susan Walsh & Ed Hutchings.
- Then a lunch break, with more films being shown.
- Next, a talk on BELYAEV: THE RUSSIAN JULES VERNE by Murray Shoolbraid,
- and a panel on SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES with Marian Vaughn, Melez Massey, David Etter, Marilyn Wool & Jack Schofield.
- Philip K. Dick then delivered the KEYNOTE SPEECH 'THE HUMAN AND THE ANDROID: A CONTRAST BETWEEN THE AUTHENTIC PERSON AND REFLEX MACHINE' in which he suggested that scientists, instead of studying machines to gain insight into human behaviour, should study humans to gain insight into machine behaviour.

There was to be a banquet but it was cancelled due to lack of ticket sales. No Elrons awarded due to criticism of the previous year's awards as mean-spirited and frivolous. After the dinner break Mike Bailey gave a talk on FORGOTTEN HEROES OF SWORD & SORCERY, ending with a cash bar party that closed at midnight (in essence a Dead Dog Party, but not named as such).

1974 - (Feb 22-24) - VCON 3: (First to be called VCON).

Guest of Honour: FRANK HERBERT. Venue: Hotel Georgia, Vancouver. Attending: 425.

CONCOM: *Co-Chairmen* - Mike Bailey & David George; *Treasurer* - Mike Bailey; *Promotion* - Mike Bailey, David George & Allan Dickeson; *Registrar* - Pat Burrows; *Costume Ball* - Pat Burrows; *Displays* - Allan Dickeson; *Hotel Liaison* - David George; *Films* - Ed Hutchings; *Audio* - Al Betz; *Seattle Liaison* - Bubbles Broxon; *Program Book* - Diana Keswick; *Hucksters* - Robert Leung; *Art Show* - Ron Norton; *Elron Awards* - David George.

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of single-track programming with separate rooms for an art show and hucksters/displays, also a hospitality suite. A computer terminal with "Fanweb" was on display.

FIRST VCON to be recorded on electronic medium, namely reel to reel tape, courtesy of Al Betz, **FIRST VCON** with SCA participation, and **FIRST VCON** to last 3 days.

FRIDAY (Feb 22/74 – Vcon 3) began with:

- Frank Herbert's KEYNOTE ADDRESS 'SCIENCE FICTION AND THE WORLD IN CRISIS'
- followed by a COSTUME PARTY and MEDIEVAL DANCE DEMONSTRATION given by the Society for Creative Anachronism.

SATURDAY (Feb 23/74 – Vcon 3) started with:

- Frank Herbert giving a talk on THINGS SCIENCE FICTION FAILED TO PREDICT;
- followed by an author's panel IS SEX NECESSARY?;
- then Crawford Kilian speaking on FACISM IN SCIENCE FICTION.

- Next came a CLARION WORKSHOP in which 3 stories printed in the program book (written by Chuck Davis, Michael Walsh & John Parks) were savaged by the panel and con members who'd read them.
- Then Prof. Mason Harris reprised his FEAR OF SEX AND FOREIGN RACES IN THE FANTASY OF H.P. LOVECRAFT talk from VCON 1 (at one point H. Warner Munn stood up and declared "*I knew Lovecraft and the only thing he was afraid of was fish!*"). Next came the BANQUET,
- followed by the ELRON AWARDS as presented by David George.
- The day concluded with a showing of the film METROPOLIS after an introduction by Ed Hutchings.

SUNDAY (Feb 24/74 – Vcon 3) featured:

- a fan panel FANDOM REVEALED
- followed by a talk by Prof. Mason Harris. He was to lead a discussion on Philip K. Dick, but chose instead to give his own talk on FACISM IN SCIENCE FICTION in rebuttal to Kilian's lecture the day before. Convention ended at noon.

1975 - (Feb 21-23) - VCON 4:

Guest of Honour: ROBERT SILVERBERG. Venue: Sheraton Landmark Hotel, Vancouver. Attending: 600.

CONCOM: *Chairman* - Mike Bailey; *Treasurer* - Vicki Bushell; *Registrar* - Gary Walker; *Programming* - Ed Beauregard; *Publications* - Nick Grimshawe; *Publicity & Art* - Allan Dikson; *Hucksters* - Ken Wong; *Films* - Ed Hutchings; *Recordings* - Al Betz; *Elron Awards* - Brent McLean.

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of single-track programming in the ballroom, with separate rooms for art show and dealers, plus hospitality suite.

FIRST VCON to feature a separate room for film showings (in addition to those shown in the ballroom), **FIRST** to have an art auction, **FIRST** to have a dance, and **FIRST** to broadcast videos on the hotel's closed circuit TV. **FIRST VCON** attended by William Gibson. Famed comic artist Vaughn Bode also dropped by to promote his book *DEADBONE*.

FRIDAY (Feb 21/75 – Vcon 4)) began with:

- a showing of FORBIDDEN PLANET;
- followed by OPENING CEREMONIES
- and then THE IMPERIAL COSTUME BALL featuring the Free Air Ensemble, SCA dancers and the Synergy Lady Dancers, at which an antlered Bill Broxon got into trouble with his live snake. Lord High Reveller was Allan Dickson.

SATURDAY (Feb 22/75 – Vcon 4)) events included:

- SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE LARGE SCALE STRUCTURE OF THE UNIVERSE by Gregory Fahlman;
- TRIUMF: SOME FACTS AND FALLACIES by J. Brewer & T. Masterson;
- a NON-HUMAN INTELLIGENCE discussion;
- JOANNA RUSS AND THE PLACE OF WOMEN IN SF talk by Doug Barbour;
- PROPAGANDA IN SF by Crawford Kilian;
- a BANQUET with ELRON AWARDS presented by Brent McLean,

- followed by A READING BY ROBERT SILVERBERG;
- and the showing of several films, including BAMBI MEETS GODZILLA.

SUNDAY (Feb 23/75 – Vcon 4) events included:

- THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF FANZINE EDITING moderated by Mike Bailey with panelists Susan Wood, Elinor Busby & Frank Denton;
- KEYNOTE ADDRESS by Silverberg in which he announces he's quitting writing SF (he did in fact quit for several years);
- SCIENCE FICTION IN THE YEAR 2000 panel with authors Mildred D. Broxon, F.M. Busby, Michael G. Coney & John Park;
- Van VOGT'S 'THE WEAPON SHOPS OF ISHER' -- 1984 REVISITED by Jerry Wasserman;
- and concluded with SCIENCE FICTION AS THE DREAM AND NIGHTMARE OF PROGRESS by Prof. Mason Harris.

1976 - (May 21-23) - VCON 5:

Guest of Honour: LARRY NIVEN. Special Guest of Honour: **TERRY CARR.** Venue: Gage Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Attending: 375.

CONCOM: *Chairman* - David George; *Executive Assistant* - Pat Burrows; *Registrar* - Ed Beauregard; *Treasurer* - Norma Beauregard; *Programming* - Rick Mikkelson; *Publicity* - Susan Wood; *Program Book* - Fran Skene; *Design* - Tim Hammell; *Art Show* - Tim Hammell; *Films* - Ed Hutchings; *Audio* - Al Betz; *Hucksters* - Ed Beauregard, Jim Johnston & Ken Wong; *Accommodation* - Tom Balabanov; *Elron Awards* - David George.

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of single-track programming in the Isabel Macinnes Lounge (Banquet, speeches & Elrons in the Student Union Cafeteria), with separate rooms for art show and 10 dealers, plus hospitality suite.

FIRST VCON at the University of BC, **FIRST VCON** to have a theme (Hugo Gernsback & AMAZING STORIES), **FIRST** to title its costume masquerade the "Costume Bacchanal", **FIRST** to feature a gaming room, and **FIRST** to have a Dead Dog Party (or at least, first to list it in the program book which, by the way, contained art by Tim & Dale Hammel & also by William Gibson).

FRIDAY (May 21/76 – Vcon 5) events consisted of:

- Byron Black showing his SF film THE HOLY ASSASSIN and discussing it with the audience,
- followed by a COSTUME BACCHANAL which included a judging of the costumes, a skill-at-arms demonstration, and music by Whiskey Creek.

SATURDAY (May 22/76 – Vcon 5) events included:

- three talks on NON-HUMAN INTELLIGENCE by Computer Scientist H. Abramson, Zoologist Dr. N.R. Liley & Astronomer Dr. M. Ovenden, all from UBC,
- a panel on NON-HUMAN INTELLIGENCE with Larry Niven & Terry Carr;
- THE REAL WORLD OF SCIENCE FICTION address by Terry Carr;
- SEX AND SEXISM IN SCIENCE FICTION by Crawford Kilian;
- THE DEMONIC AND THE PASTORAL: LITERARY USES OF EXTRATERRESTRIALS IN THE WORKS OF C.S. LEWIS, H.P. LOVECRAFT & URSULA K. LE GUIN by Prof. Mason Harris;
- and then a BANQUET with SPEECHES

- and an ELRON AWARDS Presentation by David George.

SUNDAY (May 23/75 – Vcon 5) featured:

- TEACHING SCIENCE FICTION by Susan Wood;
- THE DISARRAY IN PARTICLE PHYSICS AND THE ERROR OF REDUCTIONISM lecture by J. Brewer of UBC;
- Prof. Mason Harris INTERVIEWING H. WARNER MUNN;
- then a HUGO GERNSBACK 50TH ANNIVERSARY SALUTE visual and aural presentation by Al Betz;
- Larry Niven's KEYNOTE ADDRESS;
- and a panel on "SCIENCE FICTION COLLECTABLES."
- The DEAD DOG PARTY began at 7:00 pm.

1977 - (Jul 1-4) - WESTERCON XXX:

(Bid for and hosted by BCSFA members & local fans as ambitious alternative to VCON).

Guest of Honour: DAMON KNIGHT. Special Guest of Honour: **KATE WILHELM.** Fan Guest of Honour: **FRANK DENTON.** Venue: Totem Park Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Attending: 1,067.

CONCOM: *Chairperson* - Fran Skene; *Programming* - Ed Hutchings, Alan R. Betz & John Fraser; *Treasurer* - Allyn Cadogan; *BCSFA Liaison* - Ed Beauregard; *Registrar* - Allyn Cadogan; *Publicity* - John Thomson; *Pro-Liaison* - Mildred Downey Broxon; *Accommodation* - Tom Balabanov; *Costume Bacchanal* - Bill & Mildred Downey Broxon Bjo Trimble; *Hucksters* - Ken Wong & Jim Johnston; *Audio/Video* - Alan R. Betz; *Films* - Ed Hutchings; *Bar* - Kat Ferguson, *Hotel Liaison* - Ed Hutchings; *Alternate Hotel Liaison* - Craig Miller; *Progress Reports* - Fran Skene; *Program Book* - Allyn Cadogan. (*Elron Awards* not presented.)

Sponsored by the Westercon 30 committee which consisted almost entirely of members of BCSFA, as did the ConCom, with exceptions like John & Bjo Trimble (Art Show) and Bill & Mildred Downey Broxon (Costume Bacchanal). Four days of two track, sometimes three track, programming with separate rooms for art show, hucksters, films and hospitality. Theme: "A Room of our Own", the need for active feminism in SF, coordinated by Susan Wood.

FIRST TIME BCSFAns had bid for and won an 'outside' convention, **FIRST** time attempted two track programming, **FIRST** to have a Fan Guest of Honour, **FIRST** time a gaming room -- featuring *Dungeons & Dragons* -- ran non-stop 24 hrs a day, **FIRST** to feature "The Amazing Karamazovs" acrobat troupe, **FIRST** to feature multiple writer's workshops, and **FIRST** four day convention.

A ROOM OF OUR OWN "is intended as a gathering place and informal function space for all... interested in discussing questions of feminism, sexism, sex-role stereotyping and related concerns (and what we can do constructively to overcome stereotyping) within science fiction and fantasy literature and fandom. We hope that spontaneous discussions will occur..."

Specific programming items pertaining to this theme included:

- "Dennis Howard discusses his feminism and anti-sexist magazine, WOMEN AND MEN";
- "Chelsea Quinn Yarbrow discusses MARKET CONDITIONS FOR WOMEN WRITERS -- WHAT TO EXPECT AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT";

- an ALTERNATIVE TO PATRIARCHY: AN EXPLORATION OF CHARACTER AND CULTURE IN SF panel with Jessica Amanda Salmonson, Terry Carr, & others;
- "Suzy McKee Charnas discusses her novels"
- and "SF and mystery writer Liz Lynn discusses her CLASS ON FEMINISM AND SF".

FRIDAY (Jul 1/77 – Westercon 30) events included:

- a slide show ON PAST CONVENTIONS;
- the HUGO GERNSBACK MEMORIAL slide show talk by Al Betz;
- MY LIFE IN THE SPACESHIP FACTORY GoH speech by Damon Knight;
- and a MEET THE AUTHORS party.

SATURDAY (Jul 2/77 – Westercon 30) events consisted of:

- RUBBER CEMENT, CREPES, LONG-DISTANCE SWIMMING AND OTHER FANNISH STAPLES workshop on fanzine publishing;
- A STAR TREK panel with Butch Day, Bjo Trimble and Barb Dryer;
- EARN BIG MONEY IN YOUR SPARE TIME SF writer's workshop with Damon Knight, Kate Wilhelm, F.M. Busby, M.D. Broxon, Terry Carr & Robert Silverberg;
- ELDRITCH DUNGEON slide show by artist Don Simpson;
- SOMEWHERE ELSE ENTIRELY panel on space colonization with Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle & Kathleen Sky;
- and THE HISTORY AND FASHION OF THE BRASS BRA IN SF ILLUSTRATION slide presentation by Alan R. Betz, "Vancouver expert on nostalgia and metallurgy".

SUNDAY (Jul 3/77 – Westercon 30) featured:

- A BANQUET BRUNCH; an SCA TOURNEY;
- an ART AUCTION with Jack Chalker as auctioneer;
- AN ECSTATIC APPRECIATION OF HOWARD THE DUCK with Michael Walsh;
- A CONVERSATION WITH KATE WILHELM with Allyn Cadogan;
- ONE MAN'S AUTHORIAN BRITAIN slideshow with FGoH Frank Denton;
- the COSTUME BACCHANAL;
- plus assorted readings.

MONDAY (Jul 4/77 – Westercon 30) had:

- another fanzine workshop; SOMEWHERE ELSE: ENTIRELY REVISITED second panel on space colonization, moderated by Greg Bennett;
- an AUTHORS PARTY;
- and a DEAD DOG PARTY beginning in the SFWA/ConCom suite at 9:00 PM.

1978 - (May 26-28) - VCON 6:

Guest of Honour: A.E. VAN VOGT. Fan Guest of Honour: **SUSAN WOOD.** Venue: Gage Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Attending: 500.

CONCOM: *Chairperson* - Fran Skene; *Programming* - Fran Skene; *Treasurer* - David Greer; *Secretary* - Cara Elrod; *Security* - John Fraser; *BCSFA Liaison* - Ed Beauregard; *Computer Services* - Tom Balabanov; *Registrars* - Helene Flanders & Steve Forty; *Publicity* - Helene Flanders & Ken Wong; *Costume Bacchanal* - Jo-Anne McBride; *Art Show* - Debra Simms; *Audio & Video* - Alan R. Betz; *Films* - Ed Hutchings; *Hucksters* - Ken Wong & Jim Johnston; *Publications* - Barb Dryer; *Hotel Liaison* - Ed Hutchings; *Trivia Quiz* - Holly Fraser, Ed Beauregard & Alan R. Betz; *Chief Go-fer* -

Paul Simms; *Elron Awards* - John Thomson; *Bar* - Kat Ferguson; *Elron Awards* - John Thomson & Ed Beauregard.

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of double-track programming with separate rooms for films, art show, hucksters, gaming & hospitality, plus Student Union Building Cafeteria for banquet.

***FIRST VCON** to feature a "Dead Authors" panel, FIRST to present a trivia quiz with teams competing for prizes, FIRST to have a Regency period dance, FIRST to have two dances, FIRST to feature Filksong programming, and FIRST -- in addition to audio recording -- to have selected program events recorded on video tape by Al Betz.*

FRIDAY (May 26/78 – Vcon 6) events included:

- A ROOM OF OUR OWN drop-in centre "for members interested in liberation issues";
- THE NEOFAN SLIDE AND TALK SHOW by John Thomson;
- YOUR FIRST TIME: CHILDREN'S SF & FANTASY panel with Susan Wood, Fran Skene & Lesleigh Luttrell;
- THE GREAT TRIVIA QUIZ COMPETITION with Quiz Master Ed Beauregard;
- FILKSINGING hosted by Vera Johnson;
- a GoH ADDRESS by A.E. van Vogt;
- and a MEET THE AUTHORS Reception.

SATURDAY (May 27/78 – Vcon 6) featured:

- CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND: THE ROLE OF FLYING CREATURES IN S&SF with moderator Julian Reid & panelists A.E. van Vogt, H. Warner Munn & Ted Collins;
- ALTERNATE FANNISH WORLDS moderated by Ed Beauregard with panelists Elinor Busby, Lari Davidson, Barb Dryer & Gary Stevens;
- a SPACE COLONIES slide show & talk by Greg Bennett;
- The USES AND ABUSES OF SF talk by Crawford Kilian;
- a WRITERS WORKSHOP;
- the REGENCY DANCE;
- an ALTERNATIVES TO PATRIARCHY: ENVISIONING NEW FUTURES panel moderated by Susan Wood with F.M. Busby & Paul Novitsky;
- THE FUTURE OF COMICS with moderator Terry Hamilton & Rand Holmes, Peter Green & Brent Boates;
- GODZILLA, THE REPTILE'S ROLE talk by Michel Walsh;
- DEAD AUTHORS PANEL with moderator Chuck Davis & Hugo Gernsback (Al Betz), H.P. Lovecraft (Mason Harris), Mary W. Shelly (Elinor Busby), and H. G. Wells (Ed Hutchings);
- FGoH ADDRESS by Susan Wood;
- COSTUME BACCHANAL with halftime entertainment by Vera Johnson FILKSINGING;
- followed by a DANCE
- and an ART AUCTION.

SUNDAY (May 28/78 – Vcon 6) had:

- a STAR TREK panel with Barb Dryer moderating & panelists Robert Earl Day, Adrian Fischer, Cat Middlemiss & David Schmidt;
- a panel on REVIEWING & LITERARY CRITICISM moderated by Susan Wood with Frank Denton, Jeanne Gomoll and William Gibson;
- BANQUET with SPEECHES by A.E. van Vogt & Susan Wood & ELRON AWARDS presented by John Thomson;

- the HELMET BASH SCA MEDIEVAL TOURNEY " (held outside),
- panel ON COLLECTING moderated by Ed Beauregard with Mike Bailey, Chuck Garvin & Bill Trojan;
- Panel on ECTOPIA: HOW TO MODERATE with John Berry (mod) & Loren MacGregor & Paul Novitsky;
- CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH HELL, HEAVEN, AND THE FEMALE: EXTRATERRESTRIAL RACES IN LOVECRAFT, LE GUIN, & OTHERS talk by Mason Harris;
- and a FANZINE WORKSHOP with Denys Howard (Mod) & Vaughn Fraser, Jo-Anne McBride & Dave Vereschagrin.

1979 - (May 25-27) - VCON 7:

Guest of Honour: JACK VANCE. Toast Master: **FRANK HERBERT.** Venue: Gage Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Attending: 700.

CONCOM: *Chairman* - Mike Bailey; *Programming* - Mike Bailey & Fran Skene; *Treasurer* - Ed Beauregard; *Chief Gofer* - Norma Beauregard; *Security* - Chris Bell; *Technical Support* - Al Betz; *Trivia Quiz* - Stuart cooper, *Bar* - Kat Ferguson; *Publicity* - Jim Welch & Helene Flanders; *Registration* - Steve Forty; *Hotel liaison* - John Fraser; *Hucksters* - Jim Johnston, Ken Wong, John Fraser; *Art Show* - Vaughn Fraser; *Films* - Ed Hutchings; *Costume Bacchanal* - Jo-Anne McBride; *Publications* - Barbara Przeklasa & Vaughn Fraser; *Logistics* - Thom Wescott; *Elron Awards* - Ed Beauregard.

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of double-track programming with separate rooms for films, art show, hucksters, gaming & hospitality, plus Student Union Building Cafeteria for banquet.

FIRST VCON to feature a musical jam session, **FIRST** to include a "pre-cancelled" early morning panel, **FIRST** to show videos on a "request basis" after midnight, and **FIRST** to have a demonstration of an electronic music synthesizer.

FRIDAY (May 25/79 – Vcon 7) events included:

- YOUR FIRST TIME panel on first experiences with SF, moderated by Jo-Anne McBride with panelists Ted Collins, David Greer & H. Warner Munn;
- opening round of the TRIVIA QUIZ with 8 teams of 4 people competing to answer 50 questions;
- a demonstration of the Roland Microcomposer Synthesizer courtesy of Bill Lewis Music & Jack Matthews;
- a MEET THE AUTHORS reception;
- a FILKSING led by Vera Johnson;
- a MUSIC AND SCIENCE FICTION panel with Stuart Cooper (mod) and Del Dettman, Paul Rudolph, John Shirley & Xaliman;
- and a MUSICAL JAM SESSION described as "an impromptu skiffle session with Jack Vance on Jazz Banjo!"

SATURDAY (May 26/79 – Vcon 7) featured:

- the PRE-CANCELLED PANEL;
- a talk on ENERGY WEAPONS by Dr. Jesse Brewer of UBC; the NEOFAN slide show &

- panel with Jon Thomson;
- a FAN PUBBING panel with Georges Giguere (mod) & Elinor Busby, Frank Denton, Steve Fahnestalk & Suzanne Tompkins;
- a panel on SCIENCE FARCE, LUDICROUS SCIENCE & AMAZING LOGIC by Jim Welch (mod) & Greg Bennett, Chuck Garvin, Roy Hunter and Ed Hutchings;
- a panel on TV, MOVIES & SF with Chuck Davis (mod) & Gordon Erickson, Jim Welch and Ken Wong;
- a SHORT STORY WORKSHOP with Julian Reid, Crawford Kilian, John Shirley & J.T. Stewart;
- a talk on the JUPITOR FLYBY by Tom Tothill;
- an H. WARNER MUNN READING;
- a STAR TREK panel with Barb Dryer (mod) & Robert Earl Day and Cat Middlemiss;
- ALIEN: A PREVIEW presented by Michael Walsh;
- ARMAGEDDON IN SF panel with Bob Brown (mod) & William Gibson, John Shirley and Alex Strachan;
- LONE SLOANE AND HIS FRIENDS slide show on French SF comics given by Ed Hutchings;
- AUTOGRAPH SESSION;
- 2nd round of TRIVIA QUIZ;
- and the COSTUME BACCHANAL, M.C.'d by John Tanner;
- followed by a DANCE with music by "The Melodic Energy Commission".

SUNDAY (May 27/79 – Vcon 7) had:

- an ART AUCTION with George Giguere as auctioneer;
- SOCIOLOGICAL IMPACT OF MICRO COMPUTERS panel with Bob Barnes (mod) & David Bowerman, Dr. A. Moshowitz, Dr. D. Sely and Thom Wescott;
- final round of TRIVIA QUIZ;
- the MARRIAGE, DREAMS AND FORBIDDEN KNOWLEDGE IN THE WORKS OF URSULA K. LE GUIN talk by Mason Harris;
- a DEAD AUTHORS PANEL with Leigh Brackett (Susan Walsh), John W. Campbell Jr. (Ed Beauregard), Hitler -- from Norman Spinrad's 'The Iron Dream' -- (Ed Hutchings) and H.G. Wells (Mason Harris);
- a BANQUET with speeches by Frank Herbert & Jack Vance,
- with ELRON AWARDS presentation by Ed Beauregard,
- ending with the DEAD DOG PARTY.

1980 - (May 23-25) - VCON 8:

Guest of Honour: ROGER ZELAZNY. Special Guest of Honour: **JOHN BYRNE.** Toast Master: **TED WHITE.** Fan Guest of Honour: **GEORGE METZGER.** Venue: Delta River Inn, Delta.
Attending: 750.

CONCOM: *Chairman* - Vaughn W. Fraser; *Treasurer* - Norma Beauregard; *Publications* - Barbara Przeklasa; *Operations* - Ed Beauregard; *Technical Support* - Alan R. Betz; *Films* - Ed Hutchings & Grandee Englehart; *Art Show* - Lari Davidson & Kipy Poyser (Auctioneer); *Publicity* - Jo-Anne McBRide & Jim Welch; *Trivia Quiz* - Stuart Cooper; *Secretary* - Becky Bennett; *Programming* - Vaughn W. Fraser, Ed Beauregard, Ed Hutchings & Joanne Burrows; *VCBA Liaison* - Leonard S. Wong; *Registration* - Steven Forty & Savid E. Wilson; *Dealers* - Ken Wong & Terry Rutherford; *Bacchanal* - John Thomson & Becky Bennett; *Hospitality Bar* - David Greer; *Head Go*

Fer - Chris Bell; *Security* - Jordan Brooks & Vancouver Star Trekkers; *BCSFA Liaison* - Steve Forty; *Logo* - Dean Motter. (*Elron Awards* not presented.)

Jointly sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association, and VCBC, the Vancouver Comic Book Club . Three days of triple-track programming with separate rooms for films, art show, hucksters, gaming & hospitality. Theme: comic & graphic SF art.

FIRST VCON to be jointly sponsored with another local club (the first two don't count since the members of the two university clubs also belonged to BCSFA), **FIRST** to feature three-track programming, **FIRST** to host a Cartoon War, and **FIRST** to show *THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW* (or at least, first to mention it in the program book).

FRIDAY (May 23/80 – Vcon 8) stuff included:

- Opening rounds of the TRIVIA QUIZ with defending champion team from Victoria;
- WOMEN IN COMICS slide show by Trina Robbins;
- NEOFAN slide show by John Thomson;
- a GUEST RECEPTION;
- then a HEAVY METAL ROAST of Ted White, HM Editor;
- ending with a showing of *THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW* with the following notice in bold face in the program book: "Note: Proper decorum must be observed during the showing or the film will be discontinued. NO audience participation!" What Brainiac came up with that? A policy soon reversed.

SATURDAY (May 24/80 – Vcon 8) featured:

- a VCBC BREAKFAST with speakers John Byrne & Trina Robbins;
- MARS IN 3-D film followed by a slide presentation of photos taken by the VIKING LANDERS ON MARS given by Bill Copeland;
- the ART MARKET panel on collecting SF art, with Steve Fahnstalk, Kipy Poyser, Darrel Anderson & John McLaughlin;
- PSYCHOLOGY OF ROBOTS lecture by Alan Mackworth of UBC;
- "GRAPHIC STORY WORKSHOP" with artists Steve Leialoha, John Byrne, George Metzger & Ken Stacy;
- "CANADIAN SCIENCE FICTION" panel with Susan Wood;
- SEX & DRUGS & SCIENCE FICTION discussion with with George Metzger, Trina Robbins & Artie Romero;
- SHORT STORY WORKSHOP with William Gibson, Eileen Gunn, George Gutherbridge & John Shirley;
- a MODEL BUILDING WORKSHOP;
- a slide show IMPRESSIONS OF 'THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK' & OTHER SF MOVIES by Jim Welch;
- GROWN UP COMICS with Ted White, Mike Friedrich & Dean Motter;
- THE SWORDSWOMEN OF ART, HISTORY AND MYTH by Jessica Amanda Salmonson;
- a COSTUMING WORKSHOP;
- F.M. Busby INTERVIEWS ROGER ZELAZNY;
- a GRAPHIC ART TECHNIQUES demonstration by Darrel Anderson;
- the JOHN BYRNE INTERVIEW;
- a TRIVIA QUIZ;
- a CARTOON JAM hosted by Steve Fahnstalk with artists Geoge Metzger, Trina Robbins, John Byrne, Marv Newland, Artie Romero, Tim Hammell, Darrel Anderson, Steve Leialoha & others;

- a BACCHANAL with COSTUME CONTEST & dance demonstrations by the Mid-Eastern Dance Association and Betty Bigelow,
- followed by a DANCE with music by 'Kingdom'.

SUNDAY (May 25/80 – Vcon 8) Started with:

- an ART AUCTION (Kipy Poyser as auctioneer);
- a BANQUET BRUNCH in the pub ending with SPEECHES by Roger Zelazny, George Metzger & Ted White;
- ANIMATION THAT LIVES panel with Michael Walsh (mod) & Marv Newland, Mel Collette, & Wayne Sterloff;
- BEYOND THE SOLAR SYSTEM talk by Tom Tothill;
- a PUPPET SHOW by Fran Skene,
- a FANZINE WORKSHOP complete with Gestetner co-ordinated by Jo-Anne McBride;
- another TRIVIA QUIZ round;
- NATURALLY YOU RETAIN CREATIVE CONTROL talk on converting written SF into Graphic Art with Roger Zelazny, Ken Stacey, Dean Motter & Mike Friedrich;
- STAR TREK panel moderated by Barb Dryer;
- THE SACRED AND THE PROFANE in which Dean Motter & Ken Stacey discuss their collaboration;
- ALTERNATE UNIVERSES discussion of SF & Comics fandoms with Ted White & Artie Romero;
- SCIENCE FICTION HAS BEEN VERY GOOD TO ME informal rap session with Roger Zelazny, Ted White & others;
- and finally the DEAD DOG PARTY.

1981 - (May 22-24) - VCON 9 / Convention 2:

Guest of Honour: VONDA MCINTYRE. Toast Master: **JON SINGER.** Fan Guest of Honour: **JON GUSTAFSON.** Venue: Holiday Inn Harbourside, Vancouver. Attending: 650.

CONCOM: *Chair* - Fran Skene; *Assistant Chair* - Steve Forty; *Treasurer* - Tim Boulton; *Registrar* - Gay Maddin; *Programming* - Stuart Cooper & Steve Forty; *Art Show* - David Greer, Jan Howard, finder & Lari Davidson; *Films* - Grandee Englehart; *Audio/Visual* - Al Betz & David George; *Dealer's Room* - Tom Stratton; *Canadian SF Award* - Fran Skene; *Fan Olympics* - Tom Stratton; *Security* - Warren Oddson; *Publicity* - Helene Flanders; *Costume Bacchanal* - Cara Elrod & Joanne Burrows; *Publications* - Con Hiebner; *Head Commissioners of the Royal Gopher Patrol* - Tom Waddell & Bruce Waddell; *Con Suite Bar* - Kay Briggs; *Bacchanal Master of Ceremonies* - Paul Simms; *Hotel Liaison* - Fran Skene; *Trivia Quiz* - John Thomson; *Short Story Workshop* - Fran Skene; *Elron Awards* - David George.

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of mostly triple-track programming with separate rooms for films, art show, hucksters, gaming & hospitality.

FIRST VCON to feature fannish Olympics, **FIRST** to open the Con-Suite for partying on the Thursday preceding, and **FIRST VCON** to host the Convention.

FRIDAY (May 22/81 – Vcon 9) includes:

- FUTURE TRENDS IN COMICS panel with Leonard Wong, Ron Norton & other Vancouver Comic Book Club members;

- ARMAGEDDEN IN SCIENCE FICTION panel with Jon Gustafson, William Gibson, Jim Welch & Stuart Cooper;
- a READING by Mildred Downey Broxon;
- THE HISTORY OF THE BRASS BRA slide show with Alan R. Betz & Stuart Cooper;
- a READING by Vonda McIntyre; &
- the TRIVIA QUIZ.

SATURDAY (May 23/81 – Vcon 9) has:

- COLONIES IN SPACE slide show by Allan Hildebrandt;
- the NEOFAN slide show with John Thomson;
- RATS IN THE WALL talk on H.P. Lovecraft by Prof. Mason Harris;
- SPACE WARFARE panel with Ed Beaugard, Ed Hutchings, Stuart Cooper & Warren Oddson;
- CARTOON WAR moderated by Jon Gustafson with artists William Warren, Lari Davidson, Vaughn Fraser, Warren Oddson & Tim Hammell;
- UTOPIAS panel with Vonda S. McIntyre, F.M. Busby, M.K. Wren & Frank Robinson;
- FIAWOL VS FIJAGDH debate (on whether fandom is a way of life or just a God-damned hobby) with Denys Howard, Stuart Cooper, Georges Giguere, Marg Galbraith-Hamilton, Jim Welch & Steve Forty;
- THE STEVE PANEL with Steve Forty, Steve Fahnestalk & Steve Bard moderated by Gary Farber re organizing clubs, cons, & other fannish things;
- PREVIEWS OF UPCOMING MOVIES with Larry Rothstein;
- TRIVIA QUIZ;
- THE FANNISH OLYMPIAD with the following contests: Collating, Book Sorting, Ice Bucket Race, Bheer Consumption, & Finish the SF Limerick;
- a SUSAN WOOD RETROSPECTIVE showing videos of her panels from past VCONs;
- THE FUTURE OF CANADIAN SCIENCE FICTION FILMS panel with Michael Walsh, Ed Hutchings, Jim Welch & Grandee Englehart;
- SPACE RESOURCES talk by Allan Hildebrandt;
- BANQUET with GoH SPEECHES & Convention 2 CANADIAN SF AWARD presentation;
- ANISCOPE: A NEW ANIMATION PROCESS film & Talk by Wayne Sterloff;
- MAX FLEISHER RETROSPECTIVE film & talk by Grandee Englehart;
- BUT THEY HAVE A LOVING RELATIONSHIP panel on censorship with William Gibson, Frank Robinson, F.M. Busby & Mildred Downey Broxon;
- REAL VS SCIENCE FICTIONAL COMPUTERS panel with Jon Singer, Tom Stratton & Greg Real;
- COSTUME BACCHANAL & DANCE.

SUNDAY (May 24/81 – Vcon 9) featured:

- the ART AUCTION;
- the ROLE OF FOOD IN FANDOM panel with Jon Singer (mod) and Cliff Wind, Teresa Nielsen Hayden & John Thomson;
- GENETICS ENGINEERING AND THE FUTURE OF MANKIND talk by Dr. Steven Wood;
- the ELRON AWARDS BRUNCH presented by David George;
- THE FUTURE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS talk by Doug Saxton;
- a second ART AUCTION; followed by an auction to raise money for the Down Under Fan Fund and the Susan Wood Scholarship Fund, conducted by Jan Howard Finder;
- a SHORT STORY WORKSHOP with Vonda N. McIntyre, J.T. Stewart & William Gibson;
- TRIVIA QUIZ finals;
- WESTERCON IN 83 bid presentation by Portland fans;

- SCIENCE FICTION HAS BEEN GOOD TO ME panel with F.M. Busby, Jon Singer & Jon Gustafson;
- SCA MEDIEVAL DANCING organized by Winifred the Witty:
- ending with "PARTY IN CON-SUITE".

1982 - (May 21-23) - VCON 10:

Guest of Honour: BEN BOVA. Toast Master: **MICHAEL WALSH.** Fan Guest of Honour: **ROBERT RUNTE.** Venue: Kings Motor Inn, Vancouver. Attending: 450.

CONCOM: *Co-Chairs (Two-Seater Sofa)* - Stuart Cooper & Jim Welch; *Secretary* - Marg Galbraith-Hamilton; *Publications* - Barbara Przeklasa; *Registrars* - Gay Maddin & Jerry Gallant; *Hospitality Bar* - Vaughn Fraser & Kay Briggs; *Operations* - Neil Williams; *Treasurer* - Bruce Waddell; *Dealers* - Steve Wodz; *Technical Support* - Alan R. Betz; *Art Show* - Tim Bolton & Marg Galbraith-Hamilton; *Films* - Grandee Englehart; *Programming* - Con Hiebner, Fran Skene, Jim Welch, Neil Williams, & Steve Wodz; *Bacchanal* - Joanne Burrows; *Trivia Quiz* - Stuart Cooper; *Publicity* - Jim Welch; *Head Go Fer* - Tom Waddell; *Elron Awards* - David George.

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of double-track programming with separate rooms for films, art show combined with dealers, & hospitality con-suite. No gaming room this year.

FIRST VCON to feature a short film contest (about which I have no info whatsoever).

FRIDAY (May 21/82 – Vcon 10) included:

- THAT CRAZY BUCK ROGERS STUFF slideshow by Jim Welch on the history of Space Opera;
- the NEOFAN panel with Steve Fahnstalk;
- THE PRO-SPACE MOVEMENT panel with Ben Bova, Allan Hildebrandt, Ken Lomas & Steve Wodz;
- HISTORY OF SF TV video documentary by Al Betz;
- TRIVIA QUIZ;
- & a TOUR OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM slide show by Allan Hildebrandt.

SATURDAY (May 21/82 – Vcon 10) featured:

- THE PUBBUG STRIKES BACK panel on fanpubbing with Roberte Runte, Neil Williams, Fran Skene & Lari Davidson;
- LET'S BUILD AN SF TV SHOW panel with Kay Briggs, Warren Oddsson & Jim Welch;
- HOLLYWOOD'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS SF FILM discussion with Michael Walsh & Ben Bova;
- CANADIAN FANDOM AND HISTORY panel with Robert Runte & others;
- CARTOONIST'S WAR with artists Vaughn Fraser, Lari Davidson, William Gibson, Warren Oddsson & Bill Warren moderated by Steve Fahnstalk;
- THE JOYS OF COSTUMING with Joanne Burrows, Vicki Mitchell & Julie Williams;
- SPACE EXPLORATION & COLONIZATION slideshow presented by Allan Hildebrandt;
- PROPAGANDA IN SCIENCE FICTION panel with Neil Williams, Evelyn Beheshti, Steve Wodz & Ed Hutchings;
- COSMIC TURKEYS look at bad movies with Grandee Englehart, Steve Fahnstalk & Jim Welch;

- KEYNOTE SPEECH by Ben Bova;
- ADVENTURE GAMING discussion with Marcus Shields, Mike Rea & Bruce Waddell;
- William Gibson READING,
- the finals of the TRIVIA QUIZ;
- an AUCTION by Portland fans;
- and BACCHANAL with halftime entertainment by 'Alan'.

SUNDAY (May 21/82 – Vcon 10) had:

- an ART AUCTION;
- the CRACKING THE EGG panel on breaking into SF writing with George Gutheridge, Eileen Kernaghan & Dale Hammell;
- a showing of the FILM CONTEST entries;
- YESTERDAY'S TODAY panel about old SF predictions with Ed Hutchings, Steve Fahnstalk, Steve Forty & Stuart Cooper;
- an SFX WORKSHOP;
- & a BANQUET with GoH SPEECHES, ELRON AWARDS & FILM CONTEST WINNERS.

1983 - (May 20-22) - VCON 11:

Guest of Honour: FRANK HERBERT. Toast Master: **GEORGES GIGUERE.** Artist Guest of Honour: **WARREN ODDSON.** Fan Guest of Honour: **ELIZABETH WARREN,** Venue: Richmond Inn, Richmond. Attending: ?

CONCOM: *Chair (Chaise Lounge)* - Gay Maddin; *Mascot (Assistant Chair)* - Jerry Gallant; *Treasurer* - Vaughn Fraser; *Registrar* - Steve Forty; *Hospitality Bar* - Tom Waddell & Kay Briggs; *Trivia Quiz* - Stuart Cooper; *Art Show* - Chris Bell; *Dealers* - Tim Boulton & Ken Wong; *Films* - Grandee Englehart; *Publications* - Barbara Przeklasa; *Technical Support* - Alan R. Betz; *Bacchanal* - Margaret Galbraith-Hamilton; *Publicity* - Jim Welch & Jo-Anne McBride; *Programming* - Fran Skene, Gay Maddin, Pat Burrows & David George; *Logistics* - Ed Kedzierski & Bruce Waddell; *Elron Awards* - David George.

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of double-track programming with separate rooms for films, art show, dealers, childcare, gaming & hospitality con-suite.

FIRST VCON To feature a *Childcare (Kidcon)* room, & **FIRST** to program SF Poetry.

FRIDAY included:

- TRIWAG, GIGER & OTHERS slideshow on graphic art in the 70s by Ed Hutchings;
- GAMES FEN PLAY panel moderated by Georges Giguere;
- GRUNGE FANTASY MEETS THE SPACE OPERA panel with F.M. Busby (mod) & Mildred Downey Broxon, Stuart Cooper & Jim Welch;
- SCIENCE FICTION AND THE MEDIA panel with Dianne Thompson, FGoH Liz Warren & others;
- THE GREAT TRIVIA QUIZ part 1;
- & AUTHORS RECEPTION.

SATURDAY featured:

- THE GREAT TRIVIA QUIZ part 2;

- NORTHWEST COAST MYTHOLOGY talk by David Vogt of UBC;
- a READING by Cyn Mason;
- HORROR AND TIME IN WELLS, DICK & WOLFE talk by Prof. Mason Harris;
- THE FANDOM PANEL with Georges Giguere, Liz Warren, Mike Finkbiner & others;
- READING by Eileen Kernaghan;
- SCIENCE FICTION POETRY with Eileen Kernaghan, J.T. Stewart & Gene Van Troyer;
- IF YOU LOVE THIS PLANET panel with F.M. Busby (mod), Frank Herbert, Marilyn Holt, George Gutheridge & Vicki Mitchell;
- ARE ALL STEVES REALLY SMOFS panel with Steve Fahnstalk (mod), Steve Berry, Steve Bieler, Steve Bard & Steve Forty;
- a READING by William Gibson;
- DEAD AUTHORS PANEL with Cyn Mason (mod), Mary Wollstonecraft Shelly (Susan Walsh), H. Beam Piper (Warren Oddson), & H.G. Wells (Mason Harris);
- THE UNICORNS ARE HUNG OVER THERE art panel with Bill Warren (mod), Jon Gustafson & others;
- READING by Steve Bieler;
- READING by Mildred Downey Broxon;
- CARTOONISTS WAR with Bill Warren, Richard Bartrop & others;
- THINGS SCIENCE FICTION DID NOT PREDICT panel with Jon Gustafson (mod), Cyn Mason, Dale Hammell & Ed Beauregard;
- AMATEUR FILM WORKSHOP;
- a talk ON THE MAKING OF DUNE, THE MOVIE by Frank Herbert;
- PORNOGRAPHY, TECHNOLOGY & THE LAW slideshow by Michael Walsh;
- ARTISTS RECEPTION, BACCHANAL & DANCE.

SUNDAY had:

- a SHORT STORY WORKSHOP with George Gutheridge, Gene Van Troyer & others;
- an ART AUCTION,
- an ARTISTS WORKSHOP;
- a BANQUET with SPEECHES, ELRON AWARDS & FILM CONTEST AWARDS;
- repeat of TRIWAG, GIGER & OTHERS slideshow by Ed Hutchings;
- another ART AUCTION;
- a WELCOME TO MY NIGHTMARE panel on distopias with Frank Herbert, Susan Walsh & others;
- FILM CONTEST entries showing;
- SF & FANTASY IN THE CLASSROOM panel with Mason Harris, J.T. Stewart, Gene Van Troyer, Terry Truscott & others,
- CHILDREN'S SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY panel with Fran Skene (mod), George Gutheridge, Jo-Anne McBride, Gael Blackhall, & Susan Walsh;
- & TRIVIA QUIZ FINALS.

1984 - (May 25-27) - VCON 12:

Guest of Honour: SAMUEL R. DELANEY. Other Guests of Honour: **THEODORE STURGEON & ELIZABETH A. LYNN.** Toast Master: **FRANK M. ROBINSON.** Fan Guest of Honour: **DEBBIE NOTKIN.** Venue: Gage Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Attending: ?

CONCOM: *Chair* - Jo-Anne McBride; *Publications* - Donna McMahon; *Special Needs & Childcare* - Evelyn Beheshti; *Films & Video* - Grandee Englehart; *Bacchanal* - Terry Kristoff;

Hospitality - Donna Markbride; *Security* - Mike Desotell; *Gophers* - Myles Bos; *Filksinging* - Josette Kernaghan; *Music & Mall* - Bruce Kalnins; *Writer's Workshop* - Casey Arnott; *Art Show* - Warren Oddson; *Registrar* - Ed Kedzierski; *Library Coordinator* - Ray Aaron; *Trivia* - Stuart Cooper; *Treasurer* - Mathilda Smille; *Children's Programming* - Janet Bellwether; *Fan Room* - Fran Skene; *Gaming* - William Lowe; *Technical Consultant* - Al Betz. (*Elron Awards* not presented.)

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of quadruple-track programming with separate rooms for films, art show, dealers, childcare, gaming, Fanzine fandom & hospitality con-suite. The Portland-based 'Friends of the Doctor' Dr. Who club provided programming throughout the convention in a room dedicated to their group.

FIRST VCON to feature a *Fan Room* (run by Fran Skene & BCSFA Archivist Gerald Boyko), **FIRST** to offer quadruple-track programming, & **FIRST** to offer Special Needs services (a braille program book at the registration desk & sign language interpreters available for the deaf).

FRIDAY included:

- WALKING TOURS OF THE UBC CAMPUS;
- TOURS OF TRIUMF (Nuclear Facility);
- MAKING CONNECTIONS: WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE GAY IN THE SCIENCE FICTION COMMUNITY closed reception;
- TRIVIA QUIZ round 1 with Quiz Master Stuart Cooper;
- COSTUME WORKSHOP with Terry Kristoff;
- William Gibson READING;
- ADULT'S STORYTIME with Nan Gregory & Melanie Roy;
- OPENING CEREMONIES;
- & SCARY STORIES with Aphrodite Harris & Jessica Amanda Salmonson.
- (Note: The U.S.S. Kestral Star Trek club had a dedicated room this day for programming of their own.)

SATURDAY featured:

- SPACE STATION lecture by Andrew Benkovich;
- SURVIVAL NOVELS panel moderated by Donna Markbride;
- "SON OF" PHILMS YOU LOVE TO HATE panel with Grandee Englehart;
- FOREIGN COMICS moderated by Bruce Kalnins;
- INTRODUCTION: PHASES OF AMATEUR FILMMAKING part 1 with Roger Brown;
- POETRY WORKSHOP led by Gene Van Troyer;
- US SPACE PROGRAM panel with Mike Dezotell;
- PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH WRITING AND CHARACTERS panel moderated by Samuel Delany;
- OBLIGATORY 1984 PANEL with F.M. Busby, Elinor Busby & others;
- ROLE MODELS IN SF moderated by Evelyn Beheshti;
- SARDONYX NET DISCUSSION GROUP led by Elizabeth A. Lynn;
- CARTOONIST WARS with Lari Davidson, Richard Bartrop, Warren Oddson & others;
- WHY NOT WESTERNS? panel with William Gibson, Steven Bryan Bieler & Elleen Gunn;
- INTRODUCTION TO MYSTERY FANDOM moderated by Frank Denton;
- SCIENCE FICTION RADIO DISCUSSION GROUP re The Ether Patrol with Evelyn Beheshti, Barry Reuger & Vaughn Fraser;
- TRIVIA QUIZ part 2;
- AUTHORS' RECEPTION;

- CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR;
- BACCHANAL
- & FILKSINGING.

SUNDAY had:

- an indoor SCA display;
- Brunch with speeches by Frank M. Robinson, Elizabeth A. Lynn & Debbie Notkin;
- WHAT THE HELL USE IS A COMPUTER ANYWAY? panel with Elleen Gunn & William Lowe;
- MORE ADVANCED TECHNIQUES IN FILMMAKING part 2 with Roger Brown;
- ART AUCTION;
- WRITING FICTION WORKSHOP;
- YOUNG PEOPLE'S PANEL with Janet Bellwether;
- WRITING NON-FICTION workshop;
- TRIVIA QUIZ FINALS;
- PROS & PROLETARIAT AUTHORS' RECEPTION,
- FILKSINGING
- & DEAD DOG PARTY.

1985 - (May 24-26) - VCON 13:

Guest of Honour: ROBERT BLOCH. Ghost of Honour: **H. P. LOVECRAFT (MASON HARRIS)**. Toast Master: **MICHAEL WALSH.** Artist Guest of Honour: **SHARREE SLEDGE.** Fan Guest of Honour: **JOHN BERRY.** Venue: Gage Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Theme: 'Horror in SF'. Attending: 567.

CONCOM: *Chair* - Donna McMahon; *Treasurers* - Ed & Norma Beauregard; *Registrars* - Steve Forty & Tom Waddell; *Art Show* - Doug Girling, Dave Quackenbush & Gordon Duane; *Dealers* - John Ray; *Security & Operations* - Gordon Miller & Spencer Macdonell; *Programming* - Donna McMahon; *Technical* - Al Betz; *Hospitality* - Evelyn Beheshti & Debbie Ferguson; *Video* - Grandee Englehart; *Fan Room* - Fran Skene; *Publicity* - Terry Lavender; *Gaming/SCA* - William Lowe; *Bacchanal* - Beth Finkbiner & YaLeah; *Dance* - Dave Wilson; *Trivia Quiz* - Stuart Cooper; *Writer's Workshop* - Eileen Kernaghan; *Publications & Program Book* - Donna McMahon; *Guest Liaisons* - Mikki Verneti & Thom Wescott; *Elron Awards* - Michael Walsh.

Sponsored by BCSFA, the British Columbia Science Fiction Association. Three days of quadruple-track programming with separate rooms for films, art show, dealers, gaming, Fanzine fandom & hospitality con-suite.

FIRST VCON to feature Turkey readings, **FIRST** to have *Dirigible Races* & **FIRST** to have an *Amateur Art Auction* in the *Rain Relaxacon* tradition.

FRIDAY (May 24 – Vcon 13) featured:

- BRASS BRA SLIDE SHOW presented by Al Betz;
- SURVIVAL NOVELS panel with Jo-Anne McBride, Howard Cherniack, Michael Coney, Mike Finkbiner & H. Beam Piper (played by ?);
- NEOFAN PANEL with Steve Forty, Jim Welch, Jo-Anne McBride & Eric Tilbrook;
- UPCOMING SF MOVIE RELEASES talk by Michael Walsh;
- TRIVIA QUIZ part 1 by Stuart Cooper;

- READING by Eileen Kernaghan;
- STAR TREK PANEL with Elizabeth Rose, Lois Salzer & John Fletcher of the Vancouver-based U.S.S. Kestral;
- DARK FANTASY panel with Robert Bloch, H.P. Lovecraft (Mason Harris), Bram Stoker (?), & Oscar Wilde (?);
- a READING by Bruce Taylor;
- OPENING CEREMONIES with Toast Master Michael Walsh & Guest of Honour Robert Bloch, Ghost GoH H.P. Lovecraft, Fan GoH John Berry & Artist GoH Sharee Sledge;
- a MEET THE AUTHORS RECEPTION;
- a DANCE
- & HORROR STORYTELLING with Gael Blackhall, H.P. Lovecraft (Mason Harris), Fran Skene & Bram Stoker (?).

SATURDAY (May 25 – Vcon 13) had:

- a PRE-CANCELLED PANEL;
- AMERICAN FLAGG COMIC slide show narrated by Michael Walsh;
- BUG-EYED MONSTERS panel with Michael Coney, Ed Hutchings & Jon Gufstafson;
- HORROR GAMES panel with William Lowe, Marcus Evanstar & Rick Smith;
- MYTHS ON FILM slide show lecture by Richard Purtill;
- "THE HAUNTING" OF THE POST OFFICE AND OTHER FANNISH HORRORS fanzine publishing panel with Fran Skene, John Berry, Jerry Kaufman & Garth Spencer;
- COSTUMING WORKSHOP with Yeleah, Sharreestra, Terry Kristoff & Beth Finkbiner;
- STARVING ARTISTS PANEL with Gail Butler, Julia Laquemont, Janet Kramer & Sharree Sledge;
- DEAD AUTHORS PANEL with H.G. Wells (?), Hugo Gernsback (Al Betz?), George Orwell (?), H.P. Lovecraft (Mason Harris), H. Beam Piper (?), Oscar Wilde (?), & Bram Stoker (?);
- HOLMES, DOYLE & LOVECRAFT talk by Peter H. Wood;
- SF RADIO SHOWS panel with Vaughn Fraser, John McLean, Al Betz, Dave Meyer, & David McDonald;
- BASIC WRITERS WORKSHOP with Bruce Taylor, Michael Coney, & Mary Choo;
- HELMET BASH demonstration by the Northern Society for Creative Anachronism;
- COMPUTER GRAPHICS panel led by Doug Girling;
- LOVECRAFT panel with Robert Bloch & H.P. Lovecraft (Mason Harris);
- DRUGS IN SF AS A SOCIAL CONTROL MECHANISM with George Orwell (?), Howard Cherniack, Paul Novitski & Jon Gufstafson;
- TRIVIA QUIZ part 2 with Stuart Cooper;
- POETRY WRITERS WORKSHOP with Eileen Kernaghan & J.T. Stewart;
- GAMING & SF NOVELS panel with John Ray, John Fletcher & William Lowe;
- THE HORROR OF SEQUELS panel with Jim Welch, Michael Walsh, Eileen Kernaghan, Michael Coney & Steve Fahnstalk;
- a READING by Dead Authors H.G. Wells, Bram Stoker & others as available;
- BACCHANAL & COSTUME CONTEST;
- a science panel WHY CAN'T YOU TICKLE YOURSELF
- & an introduction to the CALL OF CTHULHU game.

SUNDAY (May 26 – Vcon 13) included:

- a RELIGION IN SCIENCE FICTION panel with H.G. Wells (?), H. Beam Piper (?), & Ray Andrews;
- an ART AUCTION;

- a BRUNCH at the Hong Kong Chinese Foods restaurant which includes the ELRON AWARDS;
- a DARK SHADOWS lecture by Josette Kernaghan;
- a DR. WHO panel with Dianne Smith of the Victoria-based group 'The Keepers of the Key to Time' & Dave Cutbirth of the Bellingham Dr. Who club;
- the UNDEAD AUTHORS PANEL with Bram Stoker (?), Robert Bloch, H.P. Lovecraft (Mason Harris) & others discussing vampire literature;
- TRIVIA QUIZ FINALS with Stuart Cooper;
- ETHER PATROL RADIO WORKSHOP,
- an AMATEUR ART AUCTION & TURKEY READINGS,
- an ADVANCED WRITERS WORKSHOP with Eileen Kernaghan, Paul Novitski & H.P. Lovecraft (Mason Harris);
- a READING by Edgar Allan Poe (?),
- DIRIGIBLE RACES,
- followed by THE DEAD DOG PARTY.

NOTE: The following entries will be completed in the above format for version two sometime in the near future. Currently constitute working notes.

1986 - (May 23-25) - VCON 14 / Convention 6:

GoH: Frederik Pohl. TM: Randy Reichardt. Special GoH: Eileen Kernaghan. Artist GoH: Katherine Howes. Fan GoH's: Beth & Mike Finkbiner. Chair: Fran Skene. Venue: Totem Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Attending: 595.

1987 - (May 22-24) - VCON 15:

GoH: Sam Moskowitz. Artist GoH: Alex Schomburg. TM: Michael Walsh. Fan GoH: Forrest J. Ackerman (Unable to attend). Chair: Al Betz. Venue: Gage Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Theme: 'Celebrating the History of Science Fiction'. Attending: 725.

1988 - (May 27-29) - VCON 16:

GoH: Hal Clement. TM: James P. Hogan. Science GoH: John G. Cramer. Chair: Ed Beauregard. Venue: Gage Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Theme: 'The Science in Science Fiction'. Attending: 690.

1989 - (May 26-28) - VCON 17:

GoHs: Spider & Jeanne Robinson. Special GoH: Robert Sheckley. TM: Bob Shaw. Artist GoH: Donna Barr. Co-Chairs: Constantin Hiebner & Lisa Smedman. Venue: Totem Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Theme: 'Humour & Satire in Science Fiction'. Attending: 772.

1990 - (May 25-27) - VCON 18:

GoH: Elizabeth Ann Scarborough. Cdn GoH: Dave Duncan. TM: Elizabeth A. Lynn. Artist GoH: Roger Raupp. Chair: Lisa Smedman. Venue: Totem Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Theme: 'Worlds of Fantasy'. Attending: 853.

1991 - (Feb 15-17) - VCON 18.5:

GoH: Eileen Kernaghan. Fan GoH: Constantin Hiebner. Chair: Terry Fowler. Venue: Relax Hotel, Richmond. Theme: 'Sanctuary - A Relaxacon'. Attending: 100 +

This relaxacon featured pool parties with hot tub, 2 hospitality suites (smoking & non-smoking), a chocolate-making workshop, Lonely Cry Theatre, lingerie party, videos, author readings, turkey reading, artist's seminar & 'Burning Issues' panel.

1991 - (Jul 4-7) - VCON 19 / WESTERCON 44:

GOHs: C.J. Cherryh & William Gibson. Special GoH: Verna Smith-Trestrail. Artist GoH: Warren Oddson. Gaming GoH: Steve Jackson. TM: Steve Fahnstalk. Editor GoHs: Patrick & Teresa Neilsen Hayden. Fan GoHs: Jerry Kaufmann & Suzanne Tomkins. Chair: Terry Fowler. Venue: Gage Residence, UBC, Vancouver. Attending: 2,200.

1992 - (May 22-24) -- VCON 19.5:

Multiu-purpose GoH: Don H. DeBrandt. Co-Chairs: Vicki Oates & Jackie Wilson. Venue: Relax Plaza Hotel, Richmond. Theme: 'Small but Deadly'. Attending: 120.

1993 - (May 28-30) - VCON 20:

GoH: Charles de Lint. TM: Michael Coney. Artist GoH: Rob Alexander. Attending: 500

Note: Decision made to stick with small relaxacons till resources of club built back up to point of handling full-scale cons.

1994 - (Mar 19) - THE SCIENCE OF MURDER:

Chair: Clint Budd. Venue: Biltmore Hotel, Vancouver. Attending: 87.

This single day event's focus was on factual background to writing murder mystery. Vancouver Coroner Mary Lou Merner gave a slide show talk on how Coroners discover the facts, UBC Forensic Pathologist Dr. James 'Rex' Ferris discussed unusual cases (astounding how many bodies are discovered after they've passed thru the digestive system of bears), and Professor of Pathology Dr. Anne P. Autor gave a talk on DNA profiling. Reps from a private investigation firm explained how they handle cases, and Charlie Grant, a freelance special effects expert, described his work in such films as THE FLY 2 & EXTRO 2.

At 7:00 pm members sat down for a combined banquet/murder mystery. Each table represented a different starship or planet, those seated its diplomats. All had to play according to the characteristics

of their assigned culture. The game involved regular police reports, diplomatic communiques, trading of secret information, bribery, and even theft. This complex role-playing game, full of humour & surprise, was a great success. It was followed by an anarchist scavenger hunt, & then partying in the hospitality suite.

1995 - (Mar 19) - THE SCIENCE OF SURVIVAL:

Chair: Clint Budd. Venue: Biltmore Hotel, Vancouver. Attending: 63.

The theme of this one day event was 'Living and Working in Hazardous Environments'. Underwater Robotics expert Harry Bohm gave a talk on the future of undersea exploration, John C. Pollack spoke on diving in flooded caves, Oceanographer Clark Carmack discussed arctic survival (revealing that the further north you go, the worse pollution becomes, as chemical pollutants are concentrated by precipitation cycles), and Hugh M. Kelso spoke on current studies on the feasibility of a Lunar base. The Vancouver Fire Department parked its Hazardous Materials rig outside the hotel & everyone got a free tour. The evening programming included a buffet banquet, Elron awards & a dance. During the banquet people participated in an interactive event, a trading card role-playing game involving the creation of habitats in five environments: arctic, space, underwater, volcanic & underground. It was necessary to answer numerous scientific questions correctly to collect appropriate cards. Event ended with the usual partying.

1995 - (May 27) - SCIENCE FICTION SATURDAY (EVCON):

GoH: William Gibson. Chair: Donna McMahon. Theme: Memorial celebration of the life of Evelyn (Beheshti) Hildebrandt. Venue: Century Plaza Hotel, Vancouver. Attending: 167.

Authors Eileen Kernaghan, Mary Choo, Lisa Smedman, Don DeBrandt (Evelyn's husband), Dale Sproule, Donna Farley, William Gibson and Spider & Jeanne Robinson gave readings.

Lectures & panels included: 'At the SF Films' by R. Graeme Cameron & Michael Walsh, 'Breaking into Writing for TV & Movies' by Allan DiFiore, 'The History of SF Television 1959-1989' by Frank Garcia, 'Writing Game Books & Novels for Role Playing Games' by Lisa Smedman, & 'The Safer Sex Life of Godzilla' by R. Graeme Cameron & Stan G. Hyde.

Stan Hyde also presented his students from Sir Winston Churchill Secondary in a theatrical production of 'What's My Century' by Lisa Smedman.

The highlight was a special 'Hour with William Gibson'. He had been just another fan and a member of BCSEFA back in the mid 70s, contributing art & articles to the newsletter, and had known Evelyn from her early days in the club. That he cut short his publicity tour for the movie JOHNNY MNEMONIC with its premiere in Toronto on the Friday and fly home the very next day to attend the benefit honouring her memory was greatly appreciated by all.

1996 - (May 17-19) - VCON 21:

GoH: Kim Stanley Robinson. Fan GoH: William Gibson. TM: R. Graeme Cameron. Co-Chairs: Palle Hoffstein & David New. Venue: Delta Pacific resort, Richmond. Theme: 'Mars Wins!' Attending: "Nearly 500"

1997 - (May 25-27) -- VCON 22:

GoH: Steven Brust. Artist GoH: Stan G. Hyde. TM: Catherine Donahue. Chair: Palle Hoffstein. Venue: Surrey Inn, Surrey. Attending: ?

1998 - (May 15-17) -- VCON 23:

GoH: David Gerrold. Artist GoH: Mike Jackson. Chair: Les Shewchuk. Venue: Days Inn Surrey Centre, Surrey. Theme: 'Infestation!' Attending: 400 +

1999 - (May 21-23) -- VCON 24:

GoH: A.C. Crispin. Artist GoH: Betty Bigelow. Toastmaster: David Bigalow. Venue: Days Inn Surrey Centre, Surrey. Theme: 'Life In Space?' Attending: ?

Panels & lectures included: 'Wonderfully Bad SF B Movies', 'Triumph of Feminism in SF', 'The SCA - an Armed Society is a Polite Society', 'Homoerotic Themes in Classic SF', 'Advice to New Writers', 'Forgotten Editorial Giants of the Past' by Algis Budrys, 'Modeling With Attack Team Canada', 'Social Satire in SF', 'The Decline of the Real Prozine', 'Secret Life of Godzilla', 'The Art of Shameless Self Promotion', 'Trashing The Romantic Vampire', 'Life in Space: Rocket Exhaust or Vacuum Breath?', 'Creating Believable Aliens', 'Halls of Haggis - a Highlander Panel', etc.

Also author's readings, dealer's room, belly dancing, 'staging a fight for TV' demonstration, charity auction, Elron awards, Camarilla Kissing Auction, rocket construction, turkey reading, SCA demo, Cantina dance, & a performance Bacchanal.

2000 - (May 26-28) -- VCON 25:

GoH: Robert J. Sawyer. Fan GoHs: Lloyd & Yvonne Penney. Artist Ghost of Honour: The late Shane Desjardins. Artist GoH: Robert Kalthoff. TM: Mr. Science. Chair: R. Graeme Cameron. Venue: Days Inn Surrey Centre, Surrey. Theme: 'Mammals Beware! Dinosaurs Attack!' Attending: 400 +

Panels & lectures included: 'Origin of SF fandom & fanzines', 'How to Keep Writing When the Going Gets Tough', 'SF as Idea: Obsolete? Or Still Relevant?', 'Where Giant Monsters Come From', 'Mascots & Puppetry', 'History of SF comics', 'High Fantasy? Low Fantasy? What's the Difference?', 'Will fandom survive into the New Century?', 'Hugo Gernsback; Founder of modern SF', 'Sex Life of Godzilla', 'Anime fandom', 'The Life of S.H. Desjardins', 'Comic Book Writing: Oxymoron or Legit-lit?', 'Can the Main Character be Gay?', 'Phenomenon of Slash Fiction', 'Alternate Genders in Alien Biology', 'How to Domesticate your Dinosaur', 'Anecdotes from the History of SF Art', 'Building, Painting & Sculpting Dinosaurs', etc.

Also Gaming room, dealer's room, art show, fanzine room, Mr. Science experiment, Elron Awards, Lonely Cry Theatre, Science Fiction Jeopardy Contest, Writer's workshops, Beatles music jam session, readings from rare fanzines, turkey readings, authors readings, art auction, Camarilla kissing auction, a dance with live music by Darkest of the Hillside Thickets (an H.P. Lovecraft Tribute band), Figital (trip hop & techno band) & Landscape Body Machine (progressive ambient/industrial techno band), and a Bacchanal with Moog The Magnificent (Solar System's Worst Stand-up Comic) as MC, followed by another dance with music by Millennia Music & DJ Special K.

2001 - (May 4-6) - VCON 26 / Convention 21:

GoH: Lynne Abbey. Gaming GoH: James Ernest. Costuming GoHs: Betty & David Bigelow. Science GoH: George Dyson. Convention GoH: Candace Jane Dorsey. CUFF Winner GoH: Murray Moore. Fan GoH: Al Betz. TM: Robert J. Sawyer. Chair: Chris Sturges. Venue: Burnaby Radisson Hotel, Burnaby. Theme: '2001 -- A Space Oddity (Humour in SF)' Attending: 250 (The bus strike killed us!)

Panels & Lectures included: 'Gaming 101', 'Fanfiction as Mythology', 'Creating an Internally Consistent Religion', 'Obscure Space Programs as Documented by B Movies', 'Origins of Modern Feminism in B Movies', 'Getting Published Without Getting Ripped Off', 'Dinosaurs in SF', 'Small Press Publishing', 'Fantastic Technology Through the Ages', 'Business Side of Writing', 'History of Auroras, Convention & Cuff', etc.

Also Aurora awards & banquet, belly dancing, author's readings, dealer's room, writer's workshops, Mr. Science creating Nitrogen Ice Cream, make-up demo, Lonely Cry Theatre, turkey reading, Fanzine lounge, & Bacchanal (including dreaded "Oh no! He's back!" 2nd performance of Moog The Magnificent.)

2002 - (Oct 11-13) - VCON 27:

GoHs: Tim Powers, James P. Blaylock, Brom. Chair: Palle Hoffstein. Venue: Plaza 500 Hotel, Vancouver. Attending: "Nearly 600".

Panels & lectures included: 'What's Up With Godzilla?' - Stan Hyde, 'After cyberpunk', 'Adventures Of A First Time Novelist' - Donna McMahon, 'The Rise Of Dark Fantasy', 'Horror Without Gore', 'Comics To Film', 'On The Making Of Villains', 'Survival Of The Adequate', 'The Future Of Medicine', 'Surviving The Gaming Business', 'B-Movie Confessions', 'The Search For Exoplanets', 'How To Build A Game Board In An Hour', 'Shopping Your Work Around', etc.

Also author's readings, writer's workshop, dance, dealer's room, gaming room, art slide show, turkey reading, Elron awards, Judith Merrill Memorial Beatles Singalong (hosted by Spider & Jeanne Robinson), and a Bacchanal (with the 3rd appearance of Moog The Magnificent, the least of the talent presented).

2003 - (Oct 10-12) - VCON 28:

GoHs: Nalo Hopkinson & Esther Friesner. Artist GoH: Adrian Kleinbergen. Science GoH: Jordin Kare. Chair: Paul M. Carpentier. Venue: ?

2004 - (Oct 8-10) - VCON 29:

GoHs: Dave Duncan. Artist GoH: Todd Lockwood. Science GoH: Dr. Jamie Matthews. Special GoH: Lisa Smedman. Co-Chairs: Marie-Louise Beesley & Greg Cairns. Venue: Hilton Hotel Metrotown, Burnaby.

2005 - (Oct 7-9) - VCON 30:

GoHs: Robert Silverberg. Artist GoH: Todd Lockwood. Chair: Palle Hoffstein. Venue: Executive Airport Plaza Hotel, Richmond.

2006 - (Oct 6-8) - VCON 31:

GoH: Barbara Hambly. Artist GoH: Lynne Taylor Fahnestalk. Fan GoH: Randy McCharles. Chair: Clint Budd. Venue: Executive Airport Plaza Hotel, Richmond.

2007 - (Oct 19-21) - VCON 32 / Convention 27:

GoH: Peter S. Beagle. Artist GoH: Martin Springett. Gaming GoH: Lisa Smedman. Convention GoH: Matt Hughes. Filk GoH: vixy & Tony. Chair: Danielle Stephens. Venue: Radisson President Hotel, Richmond.

2008 – (Oct 3-5) – VCON 33:

Guests of Honour: KELLY ARMSTRONG & PATRICK ROTHFUSS. Artist GoH: LISA SNELLINGS. Gaming GoH: JAMES ERNEST. Science GoH: DR. JAYMIE MATTHEWS. TOASTMASTER: Michael Walsh. Venue: Compass Point Inn, Surrey. Attending: 400+?

CONCOM: *Chair* - Danielle Stephens; *Dance* - Trevor Jason; *Dealer's Room* - Jeff Currey; *Elrons* - R. Graeme Cameron; *Fan Clubs* - Keith Lim; *Filking* - Cindy Turner; *Games* - Rick Arino; *GoH Liaison* - Kristina Gray; *Guest Services* - Deej Barens; *Hospitality* - Jasmine Turner; *KidCon* - Andrew Brechin; *Media Liaison* - Michael Walsh; *Operations* – Trapa; *Program Book* - Pauline Walsh; *Programming* - Tammy Midttun; *Publications* - Pauline Walsh; *Publicity* - Russ Quick; *Registrar* - Les Shewchuck; *Tech & Transport* - Ashton Green; *Treasurer* - Tatina Lee; *Vice-Chair* - Pauline Walsh; *Volunteers* - Trevor Jason; *Webmaster* - Jenni Merrifield; *ConCom Support* - Susan Walsh, Chiulam & Paul Carpentier.

Sponsored by WCSFA, the West Coast Science Fiction Association. Three days of quadruple-track programming with separate rooms for art show, dealers, gaming, filking, Kidcon, & hospitality con-suite. Also a book launch party & The Retro Nightmare A-Go-Go Dance in Jake's Pub.

FRIDAY (Oct 3 – Vcon 33) included:

- NAME GAMES: ALL ABOUT ALIASES with Nick Aires, Alma Alexander, Don DeBrandt & Arinn Dembo.
- CHILDREN'S WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS OF B.C. with Linda Demeulemeester & Lynn Kruszewski.
- IS TECHNOLOGY REPLACING IDEOLOGY AS THE DRIVING FORCE IN HUMAN EVENTS? With Arinn Dembo, Dr. Jaymie Matthews, Nina Munteanu, Justyn Perry & Lynda Williams.
- THE GROWING SFF/ROMANCE CROSSOVER MARKET with Celu Amberstone, Brenda Carre & Nina Munteanu.
- I'LL JUST BE OVER HERE TWIDDLING MY THUMBS panel on group writing with Arinn Dembo, Virginia O'Dine & Justin Perry.

- REVISE, REVISE, REVISE! With Kelly Armstrong, Mary Choo, Lee Danielle Hubbard & Judith McCrosky.
- TABLE TOP GAMING VS BOARD GAMES with Clinton Boomer, Arinn Dembo, James Ernest & Jason Nelson.
- WHAT IS ANIME & MANGA? With Kristian Gray.
- IS SCIENTIFIC METHOD THE DEATH OF GOD? With Karl Johanson, Dr. Jaymie Matthews, Nina Munteanu, Lisa Snellings & Rick Sutcliffe.
- LONG & SHORT OF IT: SHORT STORIES VS NOVELS with Patrick Rothfuss, Rhea Rose & Bruce Taylor.
- CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM with Judith McCrosky, Stephanie Ann Johanson, Justyn Perry, Alyx J. Shaw, Marcie Tentchoff & C. June Wolf.
- OKAY, YOU'VE GOT THE MOON, WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH IT? Lunar colony panel with Eric Choi, Daniel D. Dubrick & Dr. Jaymie Matthews.
- MARTIAL ARTS IN SCIENCE FICTION with Devon Boorman, Tarol Hunt, Nathalie Mallet, Tamara Sheehan & Lynda Williams.
- THE WORLD OF FANFIC with Cindy Turner, Jennifer Lott & Tamara Sheehan.
- YOUNG ADULT SF & FANTASY 101 with Kelly Armstrong, Linda DeMeulemeester, Paula Johanson, Marcie Tentchoff & Lynda Williams.
- JAPAN'S SPACE PROGRAM with Daniel D. Dubrick.
- HOW STORIES END with Alma Alexander, Lee Danielle Hubbard, Jennifer Lott, Patrick Rothfuss & Alyx J. Shaw.
- OPENING CEREMONIES.
- FAMILY FRIENDLY GAMES with James Ernest & Lisa Smedman.
- MEDIA FILK with John Caspell, Juliana McCorison, Allegra Sloman & Cindy Turner.
- RPGS (Role Playing Games) with Clinton Boomer & Jason Nelson.
- FILK CONCERT.
- READINGS by Lisa Smedman, Bruce Taylor, Brenda Carre, Judith McCrosky,
- INTIMATE SHARING: BEDROOM ROLEPLAYING FOR BEGINNERS with Chris Sturges.

SATURDAY (Oct 4 – Vcon 33) had:

- ELECTRIC FENCING DEMO with Craig Bowlsby.
- GREAT CLICHES IN SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY with Donna McMahon, Lee Danielle Hubbard, Tarol Hunt, Julie McGalliard & Patrick Rothfuss.
- DARK FANTASY: IS IT JUST ANOTHER NAME FOR HORROR? With Kelly Armstrong, Louise Bohmer, Janine Cross, Julie McGalliard & Lisa Snellings.
- MEET THE 501ST GARRISON (of Star Wars).
- SF POETRY: WHAT SETS IT APART? With Mary Choo, Eileen Kernaghan & Marci Trentchoff.
- KINDERFILK with Steve DEixon & Creede Lambard.
- GAME DESIGN FROM START TO FINISH with James Ernest.
- COMICS: WORDS AND PICTURES with Nick Aires, Tarol Hunt, Julie McGalliard & Michael Walsh.
- MOVIES OF 2009 – 2012 AND BEYOND with Gareth Von Kallenbach.
- MORALITY, SF AND POSITIVE FUTURES with Jason Nelson, Spider Robinson, Robert J. Sawyer, Rick Sutcliffe & Lynda Williams.
- THE PHYSICS OF FANTASY with Alyx Dellamonica, Lee Danielle Hubbard, Nathalie Mallet, Julie McGalliard & Patrick Rothfuss.
- WHERE IS EVERYBODY? THE SETI CONUNDRUM with Alan R. Betz, Karl Johanson, Dr. Jaymie Matthews, Spider Robinson & Robert J. Sawyer.
- ARTIST GoH PRESENTATION: THE POPPET'S VISION with Lisa Snellings.

- ALTERNATE ROUTES TO PUBLICATION with Eileen Kernaghan, Louise Bohmer, Mary Choo, Paula Johanson, Justyn Perry & Rick Sutcliff.
- SF WRITING FOR TELEVISION with Jon Cooksey, Frank Garcia & Chirs Sturges.
- SCIENCE GoH EVENT: SEARCHING FOR TERRA NOVA – A NEW FRONTIER WITH CANADA’S SPACE TELESCOPE with Dr. Jaymie Matthews.
- CRAFTING MUSIC AND LYRICS: FINE ART OF WRITING A SONG with Jane Garthson, Steve Dixon, Callie Hills, Creede Lambard & Cindy Turner.
- AUTOGRAPH SESSION with Alma Alexander, Eric Choi, Eileen Kernaghan, Nina Munteanu, Spider Robinson, Jeanne Robinson, Patrick Rothfuss & Lisa Smedman.
- READINGS by Mary Choo, Rhea Rose, Spider Robinson, Lynne Kruszewski, Jennifer Lott, Eileen Kernaghan, C. June Wolf, Alma Alexander, Marcie Trentchoff, Nina Munteanu & Alyx J. Shaw.
- BELIEVABLE EVIL with Alma Alexander, Kelly Armstrong, Tarol Hunt, Patrick Rothfuss & Alyx J. Shaw.
- BLOGS AND THE MEDIA with Alyx Dellamonica, Creede Lambard, Nina Munteanu & Virginia O’Dine.
- AUTHOR GoH Q&A with Patrick Rothfuss.
- KILLING OFF CHARACTERS with Don DeBrandt & Tarol Hunt.
- RUNNING TV SHOWS with Jon Cooksey & Chris Sturges.
- BACK STORY with Kelly Armstrong & Patrick Rothfuss,
- PHYSICS OF SUPERHEROES with Don DeBrandt, Arinn Dembo, Dr. Jaymie Matthews & Julie McGalliard.
- FILK CONCERT.
- FAN FILMS ‘Mosquito’ by Nathan Town & ‘Fishbowl’ by Eric Johnson.
- SCIENTIFIC CREATIONISM IN SCHOOLS AND IN SOCIETY with Eric Choi, Karl Johanson, Dr. Jaymie Matthews & Rick Sutcliffe.
- OKAL REL UNIVERSE BRIEFING with Lynda Williams & Craig Bowsby.
- HOW TO UNFAIRLY JUDGE A BOOK BY PAGE 119 with Stephanie Ann Johanson & C. June Wolf.
- MASQUERADE.
- CRAFTING A GOOD SEX SCENE AND/OR BATTLE SCENE with Kelly Armstrong, Devon Boorman, Brenda Carre, Judith McCrosky & Nina Munteanu.
- FIRE, FIRE, FIRE, BURNING MAN (festival) with Don DeBrandt & Chris Sturges.
- DANCE in Jake’s Pub.
- BROAD UNIVERSE: RAPID FIRE READINGS with Alma Alexander, Brenda Carre, Alyx Dellamonica, Eileen Kernaghan, Nina Munteanu & Lynda Williams.
- MAD SCIENCE CABARET with John Caspell & Brooke Lunderville.
- SF PICTONARY with Susan Walsh.
- OPEN FILK with Steve Dixon, Creede Lambard, Douglas McCorison, Juliana McCorison, Allegra Sloman & Cindy Turner.

SUNDAY (Oct 5 – Vcon 33) featured:

- GREAT FIRST LINES with Kelly Armstrong, Alyx Dellamonica, Karl Johanson, Virginia O’Dine & Robert J. Sawyer.
- IS THERE TOO MUCH VIOLENCE IN COMICS, ANIMATION AND GAMING? With Janine Cross, James Ernest, Tarol Hunt & Jason Nelson.
- BOOKS WE READ AS KIDS THAT INFLUENCED WHERE AND WHO WE ARE NOW with Clint Budd, Linda DeMeulemeester, Lee Danielle Hubbard, Stephanie Ann Johanson, Dr. Jaymie Matthews & C. June Wolf.

- FANTASTIC WOMEN (in Fantasy) with Alma Alexander, Janine Cross, Arinn Dembo, Patrick Rothfuss, Tamar Sheehan.
- ARTIST GoH PRESENTATION FOR KIDS: THE CARE AND FEEDING OF YOUR BRAIN with Lisa Snellings.
- READING with Robert J. Sawyer.
- ACADEMIE DUELLO: HISTORICAL EUROPEAN SWORDPLAY with Devon Boorman.
- PENCILS AT HIGH NOON (Cartoon duel) between Lynne Fahynestalk & Chilam.
- BUSINESS SIDE OF WRITING: CONTRACTS, TAXES, AGENTS AND MORE with Alex Dellamonica, Patrick Rothfuss & Robert J. Sawyer.
- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ROBOTICS IN SF AND REALITY with Dr. Jaymie Matthews, Nina Munteaunu & Lynda Williams.
- JAM IN THE KEY OF C (music jam) with Douglas McCorison & Juliana McCorison.
- RUNNING CONVENTIONS: WHY DO YOU DO IT? With Bobbie DeFault, Clint Budd, Paul M. Carpentier, Donna McMahon, Danielle Stephens & Pauline Walsh.
- ART SHOW AUCTION.
- BEGINNINGS, MIDLES AND ENDS: THE CHALLENGES OF LONGER FORMS with Nick Aires, Judith McCrosky, Nina Munteaunu, Patrick Rothfuss & Lynda Williams.
- MAGIC REALISM IN FILMS with Arinn Dembo, Julie McGalliard, Bruce Taylor & Michael Walsh.
- CANADIAN SF: WHAT DISTINGUISHES IT? With Mary Choo, Judith McCrosky, Nina Munteaunu, Justyn Perry & Lynda Williams.
- WORLDS OF JOSS WHEDON: FROM THE HELLMOUTH TO THE DOLLHOUSE with Don DeBrandt, Julie McGalliard, Pauline Walsh, Susan Walsh & Michael Walsh.
- MCSI: MAGICAL CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION with Arinn Dembo & Nathalie Mallet.
- TURKEY READINGS (audience participation) with Fran Skene, Virginia O'Dine & C. June Wolf.
- USING MYTHS AND FAIRY-TALES IN WRITING with Louise Bohmer, Brenda Carre, Donna Farley, Nathalie Mallet & Lynda Williams.
- BRINGING ORDER TO CHAOS (world building) with Kelly Armstrong, Don DeBrandt, Arinn Dembo & Lynn Kruzewski.
- CON REVIEW (summing up).
- WRITING IN OTHER PEOPLE'S UNIVERSES with Don DeBrandt, Jennifer Lott, Jason Nelson & Cindy Turner.
- CLOSING CEREMONIES with Kelly Armstrong, James Ernest, Dr. Jaymie Matthews, Patrick Rothfuss, Lisa Snellings & Toastmaster Michael Walsh with Chair Danielle Stephens.
- ELRONS with R. Graeme Cameron.

VELVET GLOVES AND SPIT

-- **Faned: Shelly Gordy Lewis.** APAzine.

1979 – (#1 – Sep) (#2 – Oct)

1980 – (#3 - Jan) (#4 - Feb) (#5 - Mar) (#6 - Apr) (#7 - May) (#8 - Jun) (#9 - Jul) (#10 - Aug) (#11 - Sep)

VENUS IN CONJUNCTION

-- **Faned: Fran Skene.** Perzine pubbed out of Vancouver, B.C., in the mid to late 1980s. At least 33 issues. **1988** - (#33 - Sep)

VICTORY UPDATE

-- Faned: **Myles Bos**. Fourth update publication of the 'Myles Boscon in 89' spoof Worldcon bid.

[See **MYLES BOSCON IN 89**]

LA VIELLE LOBELIA

-- Quarterly newsletter of the 'Club Les Hobbits' pubbed out of Lebel-sur-Quevillon, Quebec, circa **1987**.

THE VIEW FROM THE EPICENTRE

-- Faned: **Howard Scrimgeour**. APAzine.

1980 – (#1 - Jun) (#2 - Jul) (#3 - Aug) (#4 - Sep) (#5 - Oct) (#6 - Nov) (#7 - Dec)

1981 – (#8 - Jan) (#9 - Feb) (#10 - Mar) (#11 - Apr) (#12 - May) (#13 - Jun) (#14 - Jul) (#15 - Aug)
(#16 - Sep) (#17 - Oct) (#18 - Nov) (#19 - Dec)

1982 – (#20 - Jan) (#21 - Feb) (#22 - Mar) (#23 - Apr) (#24 - May) (#25 - Jun) (#26 - Jul) (#27 - Aug)
(#28 - Sep)

VILE PRO

-- Affectionate term for any fan of science fiction who has successfully established a career in the field. Classic examples would include Isaac Asimov, Arthur C. Clarke, Harlan Ellison, Frederik Pohl, Lester del Rey, Bob Shaw, Robert Silverberg, Donald Wollheim, & James White. Concept first originated as 'Dirty Old Pro' in 1948. (HWJ)

[See **DIRTY OLD PRO**]

VISIONS

-- Faned: **Bruce Brown**. Pubbed out of Ottawa, Ontario, circa **1987**. "*A newsletter for SF, Fantasy & horror writers needing material...*" What sort of material? "*Writer's market newsletter/tip-sharing sheet.*" (GS)

VODKA ON THE ROCKS

-- Faned: **Debra Simms**. APAzine.

1980 – (#1 - Jan) (#2 - Feb) (#3 - Mar)

VOGON POETRY CONTEST

-- Douglas Adams introduced the concept (the worst poetry in the universe) in his extremely funny 1979 novel "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy". It caught on as a fannish fad and spawned numerous Vogon poetry contests at various conventions worldwide during the last two decades of the 20th century (though seldom lately). Canada can hold up its head with pride, as witness this superb example by long-time Vancouver fan (and recent author) Donna McMahon which she wrote in 1984 for Rustycon, an American convention (she placed second runner-up in the contest):

*"In null gravity
your dandruff bobs
like swirling serpent scales
blown from carcasses
spread-eagled
rotting in the sun.
Ah, for free fall
where your fulsome folds of fat
float fretlessly; frolicking...
Your globular self
ignites my groans...
Ah, I remember your legs....
Where are they now?"*

THE VOICE

-- **Faned: Leslie A. Croutch.** Issue #129 of LIGHT (Winter 1943) was his first issue for FAPA. He continued LIGHT as a combination genzine/apazine for the next 20 years, finally dropping out of FAPA and gafiating in 1963. During this period non-FAPA readers complained about the amount of FAPA mailing comments in LIGHT and accused Croutch of producing an apazine masquerading as a genzine. Eg: Samuel McKoy of Niagra Falls, Ontario, wrote: *"certainly discussions are all very well, but I sort of draw the line at a magazine full of them... to me the term 'magazine' ... would cover something of the type of thing LIGHT was before you got on this comments kick..."*

Due to early flack of this type, at one point Croutch reverted LIGHT back to a perzine/genzine and sent a new zine THE VOICE into FAPA as his apazine. But this lasted only 4 issues. With possibly #33 of LIGHT (Fall 1946 - would have been #140, but Croutch had restructured his numbering system) Croutch reverted to using LIGHT as his apazine.

In THE VOICE #3 Croutch gives some insight into his initial decision to create THE VOICE: *"I don't think those issues of LIGHT were so good either. The reason, I believe, was because I was trying to make the one magazine fit the two demands... solutions possible: That I make LIGHT 100% FAPA and drop all ideas of outside mailing... That I drop FAPA and devote myself to independency... Or I could make LIGHT 100% independent... and start a second magazine for the FAPA... Thus THE VOICE and thus LIGHT. If you have seen the latter you'll have realized that it is also far better than anything that came out in the FAPA...."*

THE VOICE consisted mostly of mailing comments, and I assume that it was frustration over not exposing his fellow FAPAn to his "far better" feature articles in LIGHT which led him to give up THE VOICE and submit LIGHT once again.

THE VOICE #3 would tend to support the above theory. Virtually all 11 printed pages are taken up with mailing comments, the exceptions being some general comments on FAPA policy and a page with 3 cartoons by Bob Gibson reprinted from the Mar 1946 issue of LIGHT.

1945 - (#1 - Summer) (#2 - Fall)

1946 - (#3 - Spring) (#4 - Summer)

[See **CROUTCH, CROUTCH NEWS, CROUCH MAGAZINE MART NEWS, ELECTRON, LET'S SWAP**]

VOLDESFAN

-- Canadian fan Boyd Raeburn invented the term Sercon (Serious Constructive). *"The opposite number of the serious-constructive fan was the volatile-destructive fan, which Raeburn abbreviated as 'VOLDESFAN'. The vagaries of fannish legend making have failed to preserve Sercon's counterpart. Pity; I can think of a few Voldesfen."* - (TW)

The term VOLDESFAN was self-applied to the Toronto Derelict Insurgents, of whom Raeburn was a member. Probably meant in the positive sense as a kind of boasting as to how hip and iconoclastic they were. Definitely meant to imply the opposite of 'Serious Constructive' or 'Sercon'.

Or to put it another way, a means of declaring "We're not a bunch of stuffed shirts! We know how to have fun!"

However, 'Volatile Destructive' may have struck some fans as too negative sounding, implying an anarchistic tendency to demean fanac and most fans. May have failed to catch on for that reason (and also because it's a rather awkward word which has to be explained for its meaning to be clear...).

VOLTA

-- **Faned: Daniel Farr.** Genzine pubbed out of Dunnville, Ontario. (Detail to be added)

1978 - (#2 - Mar?) - *"The usual suffices, but no artwork is wanted for obvious reasons. Bad repro. Little material makes a slim volume...."* - (TW)

1979 - (#5 - Mar) - *"...another of the new small genzines from the Toronto area, but although the editor has a lot of enthusiasm and some good ideas, the zine still has a way to go."* - (VV)

VOM / VOICE OF THE IMAGI-NATION

-- A fanzine pubbed by Forrest J. Ackerman and Morojo from 1939 to 1947. In origin the letter section of the LASFS publication IMAGINATION!, which ceased publication in 1938, Ackerman created VOM as a loczine continuation of the now defunct clubzine. It became notorious as a jousting ground for argumentative discussion between fans about many and varied topics such as: *"child rearing, the black arts, Michelism, religion, and what the postwar era might bring."* Even worse, it contained *"an interminable barrage of Ackerman puns"*. (Familiar to anyone like myself who grew up reading his later promag FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND.)

VOM was very influential, or at least widely read and discussed. More than 200 fans contributed locs over its 50 issues, one of whom was Canada's Leslie A. Croutch, usually employing the pseudonym 'The Professor'. Another was the infamous Claude Degler, whose April 1941 loc denouncing Ghu -- "*Down with the hordes of Ghu. Hail, Foo! Fight to make the world safe for science fiction. We will not accept any peace dictated by Ghu!*" -- is his first known appearance in fannish print. (HWJ) & (JS)

[See **CROUTCH, DEGLER, THE PROFESSOR, VOMAIDENS**]

VOMAIDENS

-- These are the subjects of "*sketches of physiologically unique women*" which frequently appeared on the cover of issues of Ackerman's VOM. Which is to say pneumatically-breasted and surprisingly nude (in light of the post office censorship policy of the day) Leslie A. Croutch had much to say about this in his guise as 'The Professor'. (HWJ)

[See **CROUTCH, THE PROFESSOR, VOM**]

VOMB

-- VOMB - Latin root word, derived from the prehistorical 'Waaumb', meaning fear or dread of the alien Vombii who rule the Earth (as they may well still do). 'Vomb' was coined by the Roman scholar who rediscovered the existence of the Vombii, probably Pliny the Elder.... Or so fans claimed circa 1938. (HWJ)

[See **VOMBI**]

VOMBI

-- Someone who believes in the existence of the alien Vombii. This has to do with a mock or spoof fannish conspiracy theory involving aliens in our midst (called Vombii)whose believers term themselves Vombi, or Vombists, sometimes known as the Society for the Advancement of Vombists. Existed circa **1938**. Went about using the catch phrase, "It's utterly Vombish!" and explaining the meaning of the word 'Vomb' via such concepts as "If that chair you're sitting in turned into a stack of Bar-O at 15¢ for two cans, that would be utterly Vombish!"

In time an entire vocabulary was developed:

LE VOMBITEUR - A weekly zine pubbed by Robert Lowndes from Dec 1938 to Dec 1940 in an effort to keep fans informed about anything that struck the faned's fancy, but presumably expressed in a Vombish fashion.

SAV - Society for the Advancement of Vombists.

THE VOMBUS - One shot zine pubbed by James V. Taurasi & Richard Wilson in Oct 1937. Perhaps the first modern revelation of the existence of the Vombii?

VOMBIC - Being Vombish by your (or its) very nature.

VOMBII - Plural of both Vombis (alien) and Vombus / Vombi (human).

VOMBICISM - Study of all things Vombic.

VOMBIS - Intelligent alien shapeshifter. Source of all mythological legends of shapeshifters. Many fanned typewriters suspected of being such, And today, who knows? Many a PC.

VOMBISH - Weird, unpredictable, and possibly sinister.

VOMBIST - Those aware of the existence of the Vombii, and consequently concerned enough to belong to the SAV.

VOMBITATE - To go around doing Vombish things.

VOMBITORIA - A private collection of vombish artifacts, or a personal repertoire of Vombic tricks, behaviour, etc.

VOMBULATE - To appear Vombic without doing anything Vombic.

VOMBUS - One who is Vombic.

WAAHMB - Cro-Magnon root word origin of latinized 'Vomb', which just goes to show how long the Vombii have been interfering in our affairs.

VULCAN

-- Harry Warner Jr. wrote: "By the fall of **1942**, John Hollis Mason of Toronto and Gordon L. Peck were planning fanzines.... This surge soon yielded to the effects of the draft and enlistments."

In the summer of 1942 Les Crutch clearly indicated that the Mason zine in question, actively in preparation at that time, was THE GOON'S GAZETTE. I believe Peck's planned zine was to be called VULCAN.

What I assume was the Peck's family home was located at 1656 Barclay Street in Vancouver, B.C. Here Gordon lived with his sister Shirley K. Peck and (probably) their parents. Both Gordon and Shirley were described by Crutch in 1942 as "both writers and able artists."

In #118 of LIGHT (Jul 1942), in the article which contained the above quote, an article devoted to the current state of contemporary Canadian fandom, Crutch wrote: "In British Columbia we have a new one in the labour of being given birth to: VULCAN." And also: "Every new fan who writes me will receive a copy of LIGHT for free and will be put in touch with VULCAN, CENSORED, & THE GOON'S GAZETTE."

Crutch's comments combined with Warner's statement convince me that Gordon Peck (& probably Shirley Peck) were actively working on the first issue of VULCAN when Gordon perhaps joined the armed forces and all publishing plans were cancelled.

Now, Canada had no draft, except for the purposes of recruiting men to serve in Canada itself. The forces overseas were all volunteers. Given that a later period (circa 1944?) Canadian fan directory reveals Gordon Peck living in Seattle, Washington, I wonder if Warner's reference to the draft implies the Pecks were of American origin and that Gordon, despite living in Canada, was drafted into the American armed services? Or perhaps he was in the Canadian Armed Forces serving in some sort of liaison capacity in Seattle? At any rate, it would appear that involvement with the war effort killed VULCAN before it could be published.

Or did it? There is a ghost of evidence indicating widespread awareness of the proposed VULCAN, if not its actual existence. The 1952 Pavlat/Evans Fanzine Index seems to have trouble differentiating the Canadian VULCAN from THE VULCAN by Lionel Inman of Ripley, Tennessee, THE VULCAN FANZINE by same, and VULCAN by Terry Carr & Peter Graha of California.

Carr's VULCAN we can dismiss as unconnected as it came out in the early 1950s.

Inman's THE VULCAN FANZINE appeared during 1943 & 1944, at least 7 issues, and its listing contains the following note: "This may well be THE VULCAN on which information is so lacking on the previous page."

THE VULCAN ran 6 issues in 1943 & 1944, with an anniversary in 1945. The publication dates mesh together suspiciously well with THE VULCAN FANZINE, issue # 6 of both zines in March of 44 for instance. So THE VULCAN & THE VULCAN FANZINE are probably one and the same.

The index lists several sources for the info including #57 of Tucker's LE ZOMBIE & Tucker's 1943 & 1944 FANZINE YEARBOOKS. The index also cites Les Crutch's #6 of LET'S SWAP (Jan 1944). Problem is, Crutch stated that LET'S SWAP predated LIGHT, which began in 1941. The source may possibly be a LET'S SWAP article within either #129 of LIGHT (Winter 1943) or #130 (Spring 1944), or perhaps an independent LET'S SWAP numbered far later than #6. #66 perhaps?

Point is, which VULCAN was Crutch writing about? The American or the Canadian? Perhaps the American as #5 of CANADIAN FANDOM (Nov 1943) carries an advert for VULCAN, but it's for Inman's VULCAN, so the proposed Canadian VULCAN may well have been forgotten by then.

But here's the kicker, the Pavlat/Evans Index lists the faneds of THE VULCAN as being: "Lionel Inman (and Gordon Peck?)"!!! It would be nice to think that the confusion was between 7 issues of THE VULCAN by Gordon Peck and 7 issues of THE VULCAN FANZINE by Lionel Inman.

Sadly, it is more likely that THE VULCAN & THE VULCAN FANZINE are identical, Lionel Inman being sole faned, and Gordon Peck's name crept in because Pavlat/Evans came across a reference to his editing VULCAN without grasping that the reference was to a separate Canadian zine of the same title which never appeared.

At the very least, the Pavlat/Evans index confirms Gordon Peck's association with a zine called VULCAN, making it 99% certain that the zine mentioned by Warner being planned by Peck and the zine mentioned by Crutch being prepared in B.C. are one and the same. VULCAN was Gordon's proposed 1942 fanzine. It would probably have contained both art and articles by Gordon and his sister, and perhaps a contribution from Les Crutch with whom they were on very good terms.

Does all of the above give you the impression that being a Fhistorian is an extremely obsessive hobby? Heh, heh.... (HWJ) & (MW) & (LAC) & (RGC) & (P/EFI52)

VULCAN MAIL

-- **Faned: Rebecca Seaman.** *"Semesterly magazine of the Gamesters of Triskelion (a.k.a. The G.O.T.)", a Science Fiction oriented Simon Fraser University gaming club pubbed out of Burnaby, B.C., circa early 1980s. Contributing artists included Mike Duteau & R. J. Bartrod. Member William Christopher Seth Affleck Asch Lowe contributed reviews and also conducted a play-by-mail Traveller game "Tales of the Omicron Galactic Clouds."*

1981 - (#1 - ?) - Rebecca Seaman contributes two stories: "There are Stranger Things in Heaven and Earth.." about a coven of witches on a starship, and "When No One Else Would Come", about a young boy and his imaginary cat-like friend. William C.S.A.A. Lowe begins a "Tale From The Omicron Galactic Clouds" (based on or at least advertising his play-by-mail game) with a chapter titled "Curse of the Vorpall Rabbit", which Edward Torr, writing in 'CALLISTO RISING' #1 described as *"...simultaneously confusing, funny, overblown, whimsical, and exhausting."* Lowe also contributes reviews of no less than 26 books. One 'Aselbart Istifix II' writes 'Clubbed News', *"a very amusing column that eventually deals with the history of the club."*

1981 - (#2 - Jun) - Cover, by editor Rebecca Seaman, depicts a leaf-like form with two eyes embedded within the trunk of a tree, titled "The Spell is Cast."

The first short story, 'THE ADOPTION' is one of those everyday life of people in the future described but it turns out they are mutants and their pets are ordinary humans type stories. In that the aliens & mutants have names like 'Simon' & 'Lori', and Simon is described as *"a healthy human twelve year old boy, with blue eyes and blond hair"*, and you don't find out till the last sentence that he has six legs and is covered in fur... I find the story a cheat of a shaggy dog story. But as Rebecca explains, it's meant as a plea for tolerance of inter-racial adoption.

Then follows first chapter of a serial story titled "Through an Open Door" by 'Satuka' (described as the "resident alien"). It's about Sheena, a sort of were-feline, who travels through 'doors' between worlds, encountering feline-eating plants, a planet of scholars called Cretan, and enjoying a meal of Clou and Zeefas. An attempt at fantasy world building but bereft of characterization or motivation.

Next a quiz with questions like "Who wrote GLORY ROAD" and "What is a Tarn-Rider?" Then a short story called BUG! by Rebecca with an after-apology in which she admits it's a cliché but she couldn't help herself. Aselbart (?) contributes more CLUBBED NEWS, and the editor reviews the films 'Excalibur' & 'Galaxina'. Of the latter, Rebecca comments *"They tried to parody everything and wound up sacrificing the story plot."*

Then a short essay where she compares the novels of John Wyndham with the movie 'Invasion of the Body Snatchers', followed by numerous single paragraph book reviews, including JOURNEY TO APRILIOTH by Eileen Kernaghan, *"This is Eileen's first book. I know her, and she is a Canadian author residing in or around Burnaby. I enjoyed 'Aprilioth' but found that Nhiall, our chief character, seemed to be in and out of one bad situation and into another, continually. The end seemed to need explanation but if Eileen writes a sequel that will all be explained."*

1981 - (#3 - Nov) - The cover features a bat-shaped bust of a nattily dressed vampire against a full moon, by Mike Duteau. Also a cartoon by R.J. Bartrod which had been auctioned off at Raintree (RAIN 3 relaxacon) in Vancouver (Feb 1981) and provided to VM by Mike Rae.

For a gaming zine, there's virtually nothing about gaming! Its 32 pages is mostly to do with SF&F. There's plenty of fiction: Chapter 2 of "Through An Open Door" by 'Satuka' where you *can* "follow Sheena as she takes up her duties on Pheras and consequently meets Zarth of Thazran", plus a fantasy story "What Was In That Drink?" by Rebecca Seaman, and a horror story "As It Was In The Beginning..." by Anne Marie Leduc. There's a Science Fiction short story quiz. (Sample Question: "*In INSTINCT* by Lester Del Rey, the robots thought that they were only programmed, but in actual fact did have one instinct. What was that one instinct?" Answer: "*To serve Man.*") As well as numerous film reviews of such as 'Outland', 'Dragonslayer', & 'Raiders Of The Lost Ark', and book reviews of such as 'Father To The Stars' by Philip Jose Farmer & 'The Deathbird Stories' by Harlan Ellison.

For those fans who tend to think of gamers as a phenomena entirely apart from SF fans, VULCAN MAIL proves them wrong. There's far more SF in this game club zine than in many an SF club zine.

[See **THE GAMESTERS GUIDE & GOT**]