

BCSFAZine

VCON CONTAINMENT ISSUE

May 1998 - Volume 26, #5 se #300 se

The Monthly Newsletter of the British Columbia Science Fiction Association Established 1970 - \$2.00 per issue.

Treasurer's Island

-OR- How I Learned to Stop Worrying & Love My Computer

Just another update from the lunatic fringe..... Some of you, if you look on the envelope label of this BCSFAZine, will see the phrase "reminder" appearing under your name.

In some cases, this is because the membership you purchased a year ago is about to run out. In other cases, this is because I've gone back and counted the number of 'zines mailed out I have on record for you since The Case of the Wandering Computer, and have found a number fast approaching 12.

If this count is not correct, *Don't Panic* (Hopefully, JWICK found a font with large friendly letters to put that in.) Do not accuse me of trying to rob you blind. (After all, I'm the treasurer... that means I'm honest and respectable, right? Right??? Hello-o-o...?)

Do not fire off nasty letters to our editor laying this at his feet. He is a warm and sensitive individual who would never resort to common thievery. (He's paid up - I have to say that about him!)

ENDEAVOUR PRIZE

Call for submissions for the Endeavour Award for the year's best science fiction or fantasy novel by a Pacific Northwest Writer (sponsored by Oregon Science Fiction Conventions, Inc (OSFCI), which sponsors Orycon and other conventions, funds and scholarships)

The award, consisting of a statue AND A CASH GRANT OF US\$500 AND PERHAPS US\$1000, will be given at Orycon (Portland OR, held in Novembers) in 1999 for a book published in 1998 by any Pacific NW (defined as Oregon, Washington, Alaska and British Columbia) sf/f writer (who must attest that a majority of said book was actually written in the PNW), and annually there-

If you have proof that your membership is good for a few more months, or if you're a professional or a trader, (I tried to update the list as info came in - sorry if I missed you!) send a note to BCSFAZine, or email me at les@portal.ca.

Here's what the current messages mean:

• **reminder:** Next month is your last paid issue. If you would like to continue your membership, please send a cheque payable to WCSFA - **\$25.00 for a single membership, \$31.00 for a family.**

• **due:** This month is your last paid issue. If you would like to continue your membership, please send a cheque payable to WCSFA - **\$25.00 for a single membership, \$31.00 for a family.**

• **expired:** Your membership has expired. This is the last issue you will receive. To purchase a new membership, please send a cheque payable to WCSFA - **\$26.00 for a single membership, \$32.00 for a family.**

See y'all at VCON!!

-Dolores Poirier, WCSFA Treasurer

PS: Ummm.... You did believe me about the "honest and respectable" bit, right???

after. Authors are asked to submit 4 copies if possible; if that's not possible the OSFCI committee say they will try to obtain copies from the publisher, or failing that buy their own copies while funds last.

Third parties (other than author or publisher - fans, in other words) who wish to insure a work's consideration may also nominate it and submit copies.

SUBMISSION ADDRESS:

Endeavour Award
c/o OSCFI
P.O. Box 5703
Portland, OR 97228

Acrobatic BCSFAZine

In light of the financial situation of the club, it is important that we try and save money for special events. One of those methods is for members to come down to FRED friday nights to pick up your copy, thus saving us the price of the stamp.

I have gone one step further now with a new format of this magazine. It will now be available in ADOBE Acrobat format. (.pdf) What you need to receive this new format BCSFAZine is a computer with internet access. First, get and install the free Adobe Acrobat Reader at:

<http://www.adobestudios.com/>

Then e-mail me at: woolf@vcn.bc.ca to subscribe. Your name will be taken off the mailing list and I will be e-mailing the magazine to you instead as soon as I finish it, usually some two weeks before collation.

These files can then be displayed on your computer screen or printed out with ease. Oh yeah, whenever possible, it will also be in colour and have extra articles!

Give it a try! ☺

Editor

Show it again...Sam

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LOGO QUEST 97

YOU KNOW YOU'VE BEEN ONLINE TOO LONG IF:

45. You have your computer set so it goes directly into AOL's welcome screen.

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Show it again, Sam...

Who was it who said that there are no new ideas any more, only old ones remade? Well, Hollywood is admitting that they have no new ideas any more. They have taken it one step further and decided to not remake anything either.

Welcome to the age of the big screen second showing. It wasn't all that long ago that they showed the trilogy that made science fiction what it is today.

The marketing for the re-releases was incredible. Come see this old film with a whole four minutes of extra, newly made footage inserted into the middle.

Hear the digitally re-mastered soundtrack! See the digitally enhanced film! New sounds! New music! New special FX! Millions of dollars worth of additions to enhance four whole minutes of film!

And you know what? We ate it up! Three times! Star Wars, The Empire Strikes Back, and Return of the Jedi, we all got up off our ergonomic chairs, looked away from our computer screens and we took those tentative steps **OUTSIDE!!!**

And we paid **eight dollars** to see **four new minutes** of footage in a film we have *on video at home!*

How many of us were in costume? I saw enough Jawas, Vaders, and Yodas walking towards the theatre, I thought we were being invaded. MIB where were you?

Three times the phone lines cooled down on a Friday night because millions of modems went dead.

Now don't get me wrong. I was among that crowd on opening night at the head of the line with the rest of my friends. I also have an excuse. I never saw Star Wars on the big screen. I never saw Jedi on the big screen either. The only reason I saw Empire was because my cousin, who was older than me by a good twenty years took, me to see it.

So there I was hanging out in front of the theatre three hours before show time with my friends acting all

excited about seeing a film made twenty years ago.

So this is the fanaticism that made it feasible for George Lucas to sprinkle the film with a couple million dollars, and make it all back on opening night. I am guessing that he will be re-releasing the entire ORIGINAL Star Wars trilogy on it's twenty fifth anniversary. Again with all the hype that got us up out in the first place. This time, it will be shown after the third instalment of Clone Wars, the prequels to Star Wars.

Now let's not lay all the blame on him. You have to remember that these things do happen from time to time. Remember the re-release of Lawrence of Arabia? Or how about Gone With the Wind? Big name feature films which have extra previously unreleased scenes added to attract the audiences into the theatres. Each film is digitally cleaned up, and remastered.

Sure people showed up to see these things, but not enough to make it worth doing on a big scale. Each time it was with limited engagements at selected theatres.

It could only be George Lucas who could pull off a trilogy re-release at theatres everywhere and make money doing so.

Now we see other films coming into re-release like **Grease** with Olivia Newton John and John Travolta, singing and dancing into the hearts of our youth one more time. Listen to the radio and you can not help but hear a song from that movie. Let's hope that they are smart enough to not re-release **Grease 2**.

Shortly before the successful re-release of Star Wars, there was talk of bringing Close Encounters of the Third Kind back to the theatres. They were wondering how E.T. would do. They instead opted for the top grossing movie of all time. (Titanic now holds that spot, but if you considered the price of tickets and the fact that Star Wars held this spot for over twenty years you realize that the number of tickets sold still has Star Wars at the very top.)

So, Hollywood has given up making new movies with original ideas. They see movies like The Postman and wonder if they should risk making any more Science Fiction movies. They look at Mars Attacks and tell the actors to try and forget the experience. Then they see the figures for Independence Day and MIB and they come back with a plan!

The next movie for re-release... Porky's!

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Dear Ken:

Ah, an editor again. Well, the position is open, I guess, and if you're not doing anything important...sure, I guess the membership will keep you as editor. I have issue 298 of BCSFAzine here, so further comments are bound to follow...

I'm sure FREDs/FRECs/FREFFs are/have been/will be popular...the short time Irish fan Tommy Ferguson was in Toronto, he started up a regular fannish pub night. For those who might be coming to Toronto in the near future, First Thursday takes place the first Thursday of the month (to no one's surprise) at the Foxes' Den at 1075 Bay St. in the downtown area. Another fannish pub night has been started in the west end of Toronto, Third Wednesday. No need to tell you when it is, but it happens at Orwell's Pub (perfect place for a fannish pub night, hm?) on Bloor east of Islington.

I'm sure that most Canfen agree with me when I say that I wish Canada Post didn't have the right to strike, but unions are fairly strong up here. Unions tread the fine line between fairly representing employees and abusing their power against management, and the Canada Post unions cross that line into abusing power from time to time.

Yvonne and I have placed our names up for nomination for CUFF for this year, but it hasn't been easy...we have three nominations so far, but getting other nominations has been difficult. If we don't get one more Eastern and two more Western nominations, we can't get on the ballot. I'll be making one last attempt to rouse fandom from its apathy.

One last question...seeing this is issue 298, are there any plans for a special issue 300?

That's it for now...take care, and see you all next issue.

Yours,

Lloyd Penney.

Watch out to all the people who piss me off!

Now get this. I was sitting at my desk, when I remembered a phone call I had to make. I found the number and

dialled it. A man answered nicely saying, "Hello???"

I politely said, "This is Patrick Hanifin and could I please speak to Robin Carter?" Suddenly the phone was slammed down on me! I couldn't believe that anyone could be that rude. I tracked down Robin's correct number and called her. She had transposed the last two digits. After I hung up with Robin, I spotted the wrong number still lying there on my desk. I decided to call it again. When the same person once more answered, I yelled, "You're an @\$\$hole!" and hung up.

Next to his phone number I wrote the word "@\$\$hole," and put it in my desk drawer. Every couple of weeks, when I was paying bills, or had a really bad day, I'd call him up. He'd answer, and then I'd yell, "You're an @\$\$hole!" It would always cheer me up. Later in the year the phone company introduced caller ID. This was a real disappointment for me, I would have to stop calling the @\$\$hole.

Then one day I had an idea. I dialed his number, then heard his voice, "Hello???" I made up a name. "Hi. This is Herman with the telephone company and I'm just calling to see if you're familiar with our caller ID program?"

He went, "No!" and slammed the phone down. I quickly called him back and said, "That's because you're an @\$\$hole!"

And the reason I took the time to tell you this story is to show you how if there's ever anything really bothering you, you can do something about it. Just dial 722-4822.

The old lady at the mall really took her time pulling out of the parking space. I didn't think she was ever going to leave. Finally her car began to move and very slowly, she backed out of the stall. I backed up a little more to give her plenty of room to pull out. Great, I thought, she's finally leaving. All of a sudden this black Camaro came flying up the parking aisle in the wrong direction and pulled into her space. I started honking my horn and yelling, "You

can't just do that, Buddy. I was here first!" The guy climbed out of his Camaro completely ignoring me. He walked toward the mall as if he didn't even hear me. I thought to myself, this guy's an @\$\$hole, there's sure a lot of @\$\$holes in this world. I noticed he had a For Sale sign in the back window of his car. I wrote down the number. Then I hunted for another place to park.

A couple of days later, I was at home sitting at my desk. I had just gotten off the phone after calling 722-4822 and yelling, "You're an @\$\$hole!" (It's really easy to call him now since I have his number on speed dial). I noticed the phone number of the guy with the black Camaro lying on my desk and thought I'd better call this guy, too.

After a couple rings someone answered the phone and said, "Hello."

I said, "Is this the man with the black Camaro for sale?"

"Yes it is."

"Can you tell me where I can see it?"

"Yes, I live at 1802 West 34th street. It's a yellow house and the car's parked right out front.

I said, "What's your name?"

"My name is Don Hansen."

"When's a good time to catch you, Don?"

"I'm home in the evenings."

"Listen Don, can I tell you something?"

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LOGO QUEST 97

**YOU KNOW YOU'VE
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46. *You wait 6 hours online for a certain "special" person to come home from work.*

"Yes."

"Don, you're an @\$\$hole!"

And I slammed the phone down. After I hung up I added Don Hansen's number to my speed dialer. For a while things seemed to be going better for me. Now when I had a problem I had two @\$\$holes to call. Then after several months of calling the @\$\$holes and hanging up on them, the whole thing started to seem like an obligation. It just wasn't as enjoyable as it used to be. I gave the problem some serious thought and came up with a solution. First, I had my phone dial @\$\$hole #1. A man answered nicely saying, "Hello."

I yelled "You're an @\$\$hole!" But I didn't hang up.

The @\$\$hole said, "Are you still there?"

I said, "Yeah.."

He said, "Stop calling me."

I said, "No."

He said, "What's your name, Pal?"

I said, "Don Hansen."

"Where do you live?"

"1802 West 34th Street. It's a yellow house and my black Camaro's parked out front."

"I'm coming over right now, Don. You'd better start saying your prayers."

"Yeah, like I'm really scared, @\$\$hole!" and I hung up. Then I called @\$\$hole #2.

He answered, "Hello."

I said, "Hello, @\$\$hole!"

He said, "If I ever find out who you are..."

"You'll what?"

"I'll kick your butt."

"Well, here's your chance. I'm coming over right now @\$\$hole!"

And I hung up.

Then I picked up the phone and called the police. I told them a big gang fight was going down at 1802 West 34th Street. After that I climbed into my car and headed over to 34th Street to watch the whole thing. I turned onto 34th Street and parked my car under the shade of a tree half a block from @\$\$hole #2's house. There were two guys fighting out front. Suddenly there were about 12 police cars and a helicopter.

The police wrestled the two men to the ground and took them away. It was a nice way to break the boring cycle I had gotten myself into.

I don't suffer from insanity, I enjoy every minute of it! 🐾

Forget Reality Enjoy Feeding Frenzies

(or tell me why I don't like Monday's again)

by Doug Finnerty

FREFF is an informal dinner gathering open to all food fans and runs the last Monday of the month. FREFF was founded in Doug's belief (as echoed in last issue's President's Message) that membership in BCSFA means much more than just a glorified newsletter subscription, and that maintaining (if not increasing) current membership levels will

only happen if more BCSFA events are organized for BCSFA members by BCSFA members. March's FREFF at New Westminster's Old Spaghetti Factory went quite well, with an attendance level that was very high by BCSFA standards. Finding tables to accommodate us all was not a problem as the

premises was relatively dead (as can be expected on your average Monday night). In fact, we stayed there engaging each other in very stimulating conversations until management booted us out at five to ten. It seems that they were closing.

Last issue, I mentioned why I felt May's FREFF was the best Chinese restaurant in New Westminster — by describing some of the food. This issue, I will discuss more mundane things like parking and bus routes. Sixth on Sixth Wonton House (522 6th Avenue) is, as the name suggests, at the corner of New Westminster's 6th Street and 6th Avenue. For those of you who hate parking meters, the two local shopping malls (Westminster Mall and Royal City Centre) offer free underground parking. However it is best to arrive around 6:30 as patrons of the Westminster Hall's theatre plex tend to take much advantage of this very fact. But, if the movie selection is right that night, perhaps we can be patrons too! Skytrainers have the option of disembarking at either New Westminster Station or 22nd St. Station. At 22nd St. Station, the 154 and 155 (Coquitlam Rec Centre) and the

101 (Lougheed Mall) run on the half hour, while at New Westminster Station, the 106 (Metrotown Station) runs on a more frequent basis. All of the above will drop you off at the intersection of 6th Street and 6th Avenue. So remember. Monday May 25th at 7 pm, "Sixth On Sixth Wonton House" (522 6th Avenue, New Westminster)

For June's FREFF, we're going to the Blue Note Jazz Bistro (2340 W 4th). Ever since reading a review on this place, I've wanted to check it out. Although the concept of pasta dishes with fruit sauces may turn some people off, the menu features more dishes that cater to traditional tastes than you might expect. And as an added bonus, there are live Jazz bands at 8 pm. So remember.

Monday June 29 at 7 pm, "Blue Note Jazz Bistro" (2340 West Fourth Avenue, Vancouver)

Note to latecomers: Thus far, the establishments we've picked have been fairly small. So if by unfortunate circumstance you should arrive late, our table will be easy to find. But if we manage to pack the place again, you might not have a choice as to where you're seated.

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P E R S P E C T I V E S

Okay, X-Files is leaving Vancouver.

Would everyone please get over this already?

I'm sorry, but the absolute panic and terror this little announcement has engendered ever since Mr. Duchovny's weather-related PR mishap has been very, very, very...embarrassing.

Yes. EMBARRASSING.

On an oblique slant to my topic, how often in your lifetime have you heard the mantra about New York City being a filthy, crime-ridden hell-hole of violence and disease? Lots, right? Well, when's the last time you saw little man-in-the-street (yeah, I used the PI phrase—come and get me loonies) interviews with dozens of New Yorkers whimpering: "That's just mean...make the bad people stop saying that." Never, right?

'Cause you know what? New York City has lots of crime, and dirt and random violence. The people who live there know that better than any of us ever could.

Here's another shocker: IT RAINS IN VANCOUVER. IT RAINS A LOT IN VANCOUVER. THAT'S WHY WE HAVE ALL THIS PRETTY RAIN FOREST.

Were any of you really surprised by this?

It certainly seems to have been a shock to all the candy-assed nitwits who immediately started screaming "Draw and quarter him!". And look—I don't even like Mr. David. Sure, he's decorative as hell but he couldn't act his way out of a wet paper bag. And I am certainly on file (get it?), in very LOUD print, about how little I like the X-Files. I have no personal stake in defending the man...but, COME ON...just how bush, how small town, how numbingly pathetic does Vancouver have to be when a man as crashingly unimportant as David Duchovny's JOKE about the amount

of rain we get should have a man walk up to me while I'm working downtown and proudly announce that he and his friends once cornered David in the Yam Cafe and called him a "c**ksucker"? How much lower can this beautiful, vibrant city sink when a close friend of mine feels the need to go into a full blown tantrum about how "He's just trying to ruin the film industry in Vancouver and put the X-Files crew out of work, and..."??

Let me fill everyone in on a few facts:

A) The film industry in Vancouver is as good and better than it ever was. A new Sci-fi series, "First Wave", just started shooting here. Next year there will be over a hundred projects based in the city—and it will go up again the year after that.

B) The X-Files crew purely didn't care about the move. Oh, it mattered to them in the sense of not being over-joyed that they might lose touch with the people they'd worked beside for so long, and the end of anything is always sad, but it will have no effect on their incomes. The X-Files crew is the best, most experienced in Vancouver right now. They have their pick of jobs. Gillian's stand-in and photo double is quite happy about it all in fact; she's newly pregnant.

C) Did you all think the show would go on forever? (shudder) Things *end*; shows *end*. This too would have passed eventually.

Besides, after a year of lousy L.A. locations, the Files will either fold or come back to Vancouver anyway.

Enough about silly me-

dia things.

(Okay, just one more: WATCH "BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER". Best show on T.V.)

As to the life (or unlife) of the club: May I thank Doug Finnerty for all the excellent suggestions the has given me to date about club social activities. Some of them, slightly modified, will work quite nicely. My thought were already leaning and pulling in those directions anyway.

There should be a barbecue this year—I fear I was lax about getting the details from the inestimable S40 the last time I saw him. Steve—E-mail me. We need to talk.

IMPORTANT QUESTION COMING UP

Would any of our members who have the time and interest and would like to be part of a "Science in Science Fiction" series of talk to schools and the like please contact me by phone (985-1567) or e-mail (mgemino@axionet.com)?

I would also like to know if there are any artists or otherwise inclined members who would like to be involved in a similar talk(s) about "The Images of Sci-fi"?

Working titles only, of course.



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by R. Graeme Cameron

(1997 CUFF Winner, 1998 CUFF Administrator)

FIRST THE GOOD NEWS:

We have a winner, or rather, two winners! The husband and wife team of LLOYD and YVONNE PENNEY are the 1998 CUFF winners (and the 1999 CUFF administrators). They will be attending Con*Cept '98/Convention 18 in Montreal in October.

(NOTE: Normally only one person is permitted to win. But because nominations were open Canada wide this year, and the cost of sending two people from Toronto to Montreal is probably less than, say, sending one person from Vancouver to Montreal, I ruled that a nominee duo was permissible. The circumstances are unique to this year's contest however, and my ruling should not be considered a precedent for CUFF under normal conditions.)

By March 31st 1998 (the nominations deadline announced in my January 'Call For 1998 CUFF Nominations'), the following nominations had been received:

- one each for John Mansfield, Garth Spencer, Karl Johanson, Benoit Girard, & Dale Sproule.

- Nine for Lloyd & Yvonne, consisting of: From the West: Steve George (Winnipeg), Cath Jackel (Edmonton), Steve Forty (Vancouver), Garth Spencer (Vancouver), Karl Johanson (Victoria), and from the East: Rene Walling (Montreal), Carolyn Clink (Toronto), Robert J. Sawyer (Toronto) & Murray Moore (Midlands).

CUFF FUNDS: The Vancouver account currently holds \$539.29, of which \$10 was donated by Jean-Pierre Normand, \$20 by the Ottawa SF Society, \$55 by the VCON 21 Fanzine auction, \$70 by the LAcon III Fan Lounge via Don Fitch, \$190 by NonCon XX via Cath Jackal and \$194.29 by my efforts. The Montreal account holds \$537.43 (approx), & the Fran Skene account \$209.00 (approx). Total = about \$1,285.72

This is adequate to cover 1998 expenses and provide seed money for 1999.

AND NOW THE BAD NEWS:

The following article appeared in the Vol 10 #2 Mar-Apr 98 issue of John Mansfield's ConTRACT: "*CUFF FOR THE TRUE FANS*" "R. Graeme Cameron, *THE current CUFF administrator, has decided that THE only people who should be allowed to be nominated for CUFF, would be those who are either fanzine editors or contributors. This decision*

was given with no if's ands or but's. When Linda talked about closing CUFF the IDEA was talked about it for two years. Like those who worked his recent positioning as CUFF administrator, we were just told after THE fact."

"I stand against this, against Robert Runte's ideas that THE only True SF Fan was those who write THE stuff, and THE coup of who runs CUFF. I am not one and I hope you are not one, who accepts that others should be deciding what's good for t4/e/m/us."

"BTW, Graeme Cameron has written a historian view of CUFF in his SPACE CADET #9. While some of us were there when CUFF started, attended two day meetings where CUFF caused massive discussions, and been at the Convention biz meetings for the last ten years, yet this will



be the official history. This travesty of lies, is proof that if Winston Churchill ever came back from the dead, the historians would line up to kill him."

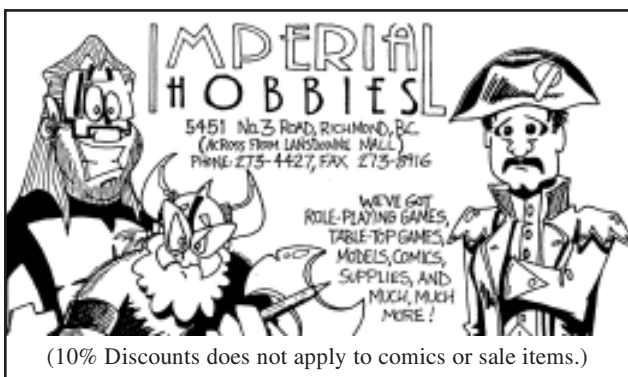
Let me make it perfectly clear that John has every right to hold his opinions, to share and express his opinions, and to expect that his opinions be taken seriously, for as a long-time Fan and former Chair of one of the rare Canadian Worldcons (Conadian '94) his views carry considerable weight. I do not object to John opposing my policy as administrator, or opposing my being a CUFF winner. What upsets me is the implication that my actions and efforts are somehow malignant in intent, as if I'm part of some evil conspiracy to pervert the purpose of CUFF and falsify its history. He doesn't give me any credit at all for trying to publicize CUFF and enhance its prestige and reputation.

In the letter accompanying my January 'Call For CUFF Nomina-

tions' I stated "I have redefined the purpose of CUFF" and "narrowed the nominee focus to Fanzine Fandom." I neglected to make the point that in the course of my research on the history of CUFF I had come to believe that CUFF was originally meant to be a sub-genre SF award specifically aimed at promoting Fanzine Fandom very much in the tradition (as I see it) of TAFF, after which CUFF was patterned. Certainly the first three CUFF winners (Michael Hall, Taral Wayne & Robert Runte) were chosen because of their fanzine fanac. But if you take the contrary viewpoint, as John evidently does, that if CUFF is to remain relevant it must be a Fandom-wide award open to any active Fan at all, a well-known and appreciated costumer for instance, or a highly successful con organizer, then you might want to communicate this to Lloyd & Yvonne since, after October they will be the administrators of CUFF and free to take it in any direction a consensus of Canadian Fandom would appear to desire.

As for myself, I will continue to advocate what I believe to be the true and useful purpose of CUFF. And NOT because of "...Robert Runte's ideas that THE only True SF Fan was those who write THE stuff..." Runte never said any such thing as far as I am aware. The truth is ANYONE IN FANDOM IS A TRUE FAN! If you love SF comics, or SF illustrations, or SF film media, or happen to be a voracious reader of SF literature, you are absolutely every bit as much a fan as somebody who puts out a fanzine. Probably more so, in fact. I deeply resent the implication that my attempt to restore CUFF to its roots is a heinous manipulative elitist plot on the part of snobby old me to give the finger to everyone else in Fandom. Anyone who knows me knows that that is not true, that it could not possibly be true.

It all boils down to the fact that there is no standing sub-committee of CUFF experts, no Star Chamber of CUFF SMOFs guarding and preserving the **rules** and regulations, hardly any rules and regulations in fact, and



no organization at all. My promotional efforts have been like shouting into a vast void and not even hearing an echo. In spite of this near total vacuum of fannish input I dare to make decisions. As 1998 administrator I have every right to do so. I feel no need to apologize for doing my job.

“...yet this will be the official history. This travesty of lies...” I utilized as sources some 56 fanzine articles, no less than 17 of which were written either by John or his wife Linda. In the six pages devoted to CUFF under Linda’s administration I quote both Linda and John for an (approximate) total of 127 sentences, including extensive quotes from her proposed CUFF Guidelines. Consequently, I haven’t got a clue what John is going on about when he accuses me of being a liar. ”

“...if Winston Churchill ever came back from the dead, the historians would line up to kill him.” Actually, I’d be the first to line up to shake his hand and ask him what he’d been up to while he was dead.

SO WHAT DO I DO NOW?

Since I had intended the CUFF history printed in SPACE CADET to be a PRELIMINARY version inviting further material, the way I see it I have 2 options:

1) Reprint the history with such revisions from others as I chance to get, leaving the “Linda years” as is, with myself continuing to insist that my account of her efforts, if it is anything at all, is a TRIBUTE to her skill and determination as a CUFF administrator, or:

2) If I hear from Linda or John, or both, incorporate their additional information and corrections into the revised manuscript, either by inserting and altering the MS paragraph by paragraph, or if length of contribution dictates, adding their comments in the form of an appendix as a sort of rebuttal essay to the history.

Consequently I will go with option #1, unless they provide me with detailed additions and corrections, in which case I will go with option #2. And that’s the way it will be. ☹

April 18th, 1998 By Anti-Archivist R. Graeme Cameron

CURRENT STATUS:

BCSFA/WCSFA PRESS – In July 19th of last year the membership and executive of the club accepted my proposal to establish a club press to publish a series of monographs on subjects of potential interest to SF fans. I have been rather slow in getting this off and running. All the same, as of March 1998 I have published three items which will be available at the CUFF table in the dealers room at VCON 23 (or by writing to me at the club address). They are:

BCSFA/WCSFA PRESS PUBLICATION #1 – CANFAPA #1

This is a Canadian Fanzine APA devoted to “Promoting awareness of Canadian SF Fanzines” and “Preserving Canada’s SF Fanzine Heritage.” The first issue is merely an invite to perspective contributors and contains only 4 pages of writing. Future issues will, I hope, serve as a lively forum on the topic of Canadian Fanzines. Although an APA in terms of its core contributors, unlike most APA’s CANFAPA will be available to interested persons for a subscriber’s fee and will have a LoC column (if all goes according to plan). I have received contributions thus far from Lloyd Penney, Dale Speirs, Garth Spencer, Chester Cuthbert & Rodney Leighton. A second issue should appear prior to VCON. Price and subscription fee not yet determined.

BCSFA/WCSFA PRESS PUBLICATION #2 – WIERDS DO IT! THE CHRONICLES OF B.C.S.F.A. VOLUME ONE: 1968 – 1972.

This is a revised version of the first section of my history of the club. Thirty pages long, it deals with, among other things, the origin of the club, the first two ‘VCONs’, and Philip K. Dick’s visit to Vancouver. Price: \$4.00 Canadian, half of which goes to CUFF, the other half to the club. (Note: ‘Wierd’ is old Anglo-Saxon spelling for the modern ‘Weird’, the title being inspired by an ancient poem.)

BCSFA/WCSFA PRESS PUBLICATION #3 – INDEX TO BCSFAZINE, VOLUME THREE: 1990 – 1997.

The first two volumes covering the first two decades have yet to be compiled, but I’ll get around to it eventually. Vol. 03 consists of 32 pages listing the articles and writers to be found within issues 0200 to 0296 along with some mention of their topics. It provides a quick overview of BCSFAzine’s evolution during the ’90s. Price: \$4.00 Canadian, half of which goes to CUFF, the other half to the club.

UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS: I have received permission from Sidney Trim to publish his collected SPACE REPORTS, from Ed Hutchings to publish his COLLECTED ESSAYS, and from Stan Hyde to publish his collected THEATRE OF WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN. And, of course, I hope to publish the club’s third edition of THE COLLECTED MR. SCIENCE. All of these are massive projects and will appear in the usual Fannish ‘soonest’. And these are just a few of the projects I have in mind!

THE WORTH OF THE ARCHIVE:

Recently, in Mike Glycer’s ‘FILE 770’ #123, Harry Warner Jr. had some thoughts relating to the recent death of Bill Rotsler, the Hugo winning Fan Artist: “None of the articles and locs about Bill Rotsler has mentioned so far one phase of his fanac, and I’m worried about the danger it might be lost for all time. When he was much younger he produced a limited circulation publication entitled ‘KTEIC’... It was fascinating detailed stuff about Bill’s life and thoughts... I wonder if copies of this survive anywhere. Any written Rotsleriana is precious and if there’s a file of this particular zine in existence anywhere it should be treasured and somehow guaranteed continued existence.”

Well, I’m glad to reveal that the club archive contains a representative sampling of ‘KTEIC’, some twenty-five issues from the years 1974 to 1979. They were originally sent to Susan Wood, and were donated to the archive by her family after her death in 1980. Her estate donation also included 6 art portfolios by Rotsler, with titles like “The Curse of the Tattooed Dragon” and

YOU KNOW YOU’VE BEEN ONLINE TOO LONG IF:

47. You don’t know where the time has gone.

“Rotsler on Dagon.”

‘KTEIC’ is full of Rotsler’s art as well, but also numerous anecdotal articles with lines like “Vincene struck up a friendship with a depraved looking nun” and “When the porn actress discovered they expected her to have a real orgasm (opposed to a cinematically faked one) she fell apart, said she couldn’t be unfaithful to her husband & left.” Simply put, a lot of interesting experiences, Fannish and otherwise, recounted. One issue is entirely devoted to Fannish crossword puzzles!

I would be tempted to publish a ‘BEST OF KTEIC’ in memory of Rotsler, except that he published the zine for a small circle of close friends and I’m not sure he would ever have wanted anything reprinted. On the other hand, it would be a fine sampling of his wry wit. At any rate, as a piece of Fannish history, these rare issues of ‘KTEIC’ are priceless. The true value of an archive like ours is its ability to arrest time and preserve zines for current and future researchers, and through selected reprints, for generations of fans yet to come.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS:

Garth Spencer recently donated eight boxes of fanzines to the club archive. I am still sorting for preliminary cataloguing purposes, but a number of stand-out treasures are already in evidence.

By far the most important are eight issues of ‘CANADIAN FANDOM’ from the 1950’s. Perhaps the most significant Canadian Fanzine of the decade, it contains numerous highly interesting articles by prominent fans of the day reflecting the spirit of the times. I will review these zines for a future report.

Then there’s Taral Wayne’s ‘TORONTO THE GHOOD’, a collection of essays by Toronto Fans starting as far back as 1946!

And Harry Warner Jr’s ‘ALL OUR YESTERDAYS’. Not his book describing Fandom in the 1940s (I own a copy, and will someday donate it to the archive), but the collected essays of the same title which appeared in various fanzines. Some essays deal with early fanzines like Bob Silverburg’s ‘SPACESHIP’ or Canadian Fan Leslie Crouch’s ‘LIGHT’, some recount the history of prominent (or infamous) fans like Bob Tucker or Claude Degler, and others deal with famous one-shot publications or club organizations. A very significant reference book indeed. And loads of fun to read.

While some of the zines donated are duplicates of ones the archive already possesses, many are additions. Another 35 issues of ‘ANSIBLE’ for instance, 18 more issues of ‘THYME’, another 13 issues of ‘WEBERWOMAN’S WREVENGE’, to name just a few. Slowly, donation by donation, and trade by trade, the archive grows.

At some point in the future, in the tradition of Crouch’s want list zine ‘CROUTCH MAGAZINE MART NEWS’ I hope to publish a series of thin zines titled ‘THE LUSTFUL ARCHIVIST’ in which I will list duplicates available for trade or sale along with want lists of zines desired for the archive, and distribute these to collectors and clubs in the hope this will enable me to expand the archive further.

As ‘Anti-Archivist’ I take my duties seriously!



YOU KNOW YOU’VE BEEN ONLINE TOO

LONG IF:

48. You end sentences with 3 (or more) periods while writing letters by hand.

40 WINKS

F.R.E.D. is doing well these days. We have been getting about 15 to 20 fans most nights. On the 17th of April we had 27 fans show up over the evening. Come out and enjoy pleasant conversation with fellow fans.

If I got 25 fans out to a BCSFA function, I would be very happy. If I got 15-20 people I wouldn’t mind doing the work to organize an event. Right now Doug Finnerty is organizing a once a month restaurant outing, it would be really nice if we could give him some support.

Do you FANs want something organized that you will go to? If the answer is yes, send a response to me or Lisa and if we can get enough support it will happen. Science World, Planetarium, IMAX Movie, Movie Preview, Video Night, Games Night, Author Reading, Outing to Whistler, Discussion Groups, e-mail apa, e-mail discussion group.... let us know. We can do it with support from YOU. If you would like a discussion group (in person or by e-mail) let us know, we can organize it.

The Writer’s groups are doing well, so get involved. FRED and FREC are doing well, so turn up occasionally.

VCON needs support and advertising, go to the convention, and if possible tell friends who are interested to come as well. Get some flyers and post them as many places as you can. Our clubs goal is to support and promote Science Fiction: Let’s do it.

Support your local SF club, let’s get activities going again. Send your ideas to BCSFAzine for printing and discussion. Be a part of YOUR club.

By the way we have been challenged by the Star Trek clubs to be a part of the battle of the Starships event in August. If enough of you show interest, I will organize a team to show that although we lost at bowling to them, we can beat them at a general competition. Please let me know if you are interested. I will post more details at a later date.

Steve 40

SF BOOK REVIEWS

by Donna McMahon

Like the Academy Awards, the Hugos and Nebulas are a tawdry popularity contest masquerading as a merit prize. Who won best supporting actress this year from an Academy full of American voters? The only American actress nominated. Who will win Nebulas this year? Well, I haven't checked the list, but since 98% of qualified voters have not read 98% of the nominated books, it will doubtless be well known authors. The quality of their current offering is not very relevant, so long as they have a current offering to get their name on the ballot.

For that reason, I suppose that **Lois McMaster Bujold** might win an award for **Memory**. This is rather a shame since it's one of her weakest novels. Bujold seems to have listened to her fan club and produced a self-indulgent book which tries to tie up all the loose ends in her Miles Vorkosigan universe. Fans always agitate for this kind of trivia, but it makes for a weak novel with many long, irrelevant sidetracks that would baffle a first-time reader.

For those familiar with the Miles books, **Memory** might best be subtitled **Miles Grows Up**. For this very good reason he is less manic and fun than we have been accustomed to. Still, the first third of the book has that wonderful Bujold zing as she sets up the plot and then sends in shit-disturber-on-amphetamines Miles to pull the rabbit out of the Barrayan hat.

Unfortunately, this is where the book stalls and digresses, leaving the reader just a little too much time to ponder some of the plot and character inconsistencies. Just one instance: would an obsessive-workaholic secret police chief adjust quickly and gracefully to forced retirement and permanent brain injury? Well, I sure doubt it.

Still, criticisms aside, a poor Bujold book is better than 99% of other science fiction books, so I won't grumble too much if people want to throw awards at her.

Two less readable books recently came my way via publisher mail-out promos. In **Wizard of the Winds**, writer **Allan Cole** creates a mythical world based loosely on historical China, where the hordes threatening to cross the desert are demons rather than Mongols. Protagonist Safar Timura grows up in a remote mountain village, reminiscent of Tibet, where wars and demons seem impossibly far removed. Safar hides his gift for magic, content to live with his family and learn his father's pottery trade. His plans are, of course, disrupted—first by the arrival of a young man raised as a warrior, then by a party of demons scouting an invasion route through the mountain passes.

It's a strong set up, with solid writing and good characterization. Unfortunately, the first section of the book ends abruptly and the next section takes up several years

later, many miles away and with a mostly new cast of characters. Large time lapses are always dicey in a novel, allowing readers to lose all sense of immediacy. If you also add a protagonist who has lost much of his appeal with age, you risk losing your reader. Like me.

So I can't tell you a lot more, other than what I learned from the prologue, the foreshadowings in every chapter, and Clint, who did read to the end and says I didn't miss anything. It's not a terrible novel, but it's no winner.

In contrast, I did finish **The Merro Tree** because **Katie Waitman** has the talent to grip even a reluctant, irritated reader right to the end.

Waitman's style reminds me of Stanislaw Lem or late Cordwainer Smith or very early Samuel Delaney. This is not hard SF or even soft SF; it's human myth cloaked in metaphors of space ships and aliens. Although often lyrical, this is also not an SF style I'm fond of, but Waitman's compelling characters and good pacing kept me reading.

The story starts with the Performance Master Mikk waiting in jail for a trial which seems certain to end in a death sentence, and then flashes back to tell the story of his life. Waitman alternates the past and current story competently, although the past story is far longer and denser, necessitating that she draw out the trial sequence tidbit by tidbit until a cynical reader starts hoping she'll get that rabbit out of the hat before it dies of old age.

In fact, there are a number of signs that the book is too long. The first half of the book is strongest as we see Mikk's bizarrely cruel childhood, and then his unexpected apprenticeship to the galaxy's premier Performance Master. Once he settles down to a career as the galaxy's next rising star and starts battling Great Questions of Art and Censorship, the book loses momentum and intensity.

Waitman's galaxy is populated with a host of nonhuman alien species living in societies that are (inevitably) representative of human extremes. Although she writes well and leavens her description with amusing detail, I eventually wore out my patience after the snake planet, the dog planet, the Puritan planet, the Zen planet, etc. etc.

Still, describing music and performance art is a tough challenge for any writer and Waitman has done an interesting and imaginative job without neglecting the primary job of any writer—telling a story. I'd say that she's a writer to watch.



Writer's Group is open for new Members

Clarion-style critique group for science fiction writers meet every two weeks, 7pm, Thursdays at the Metrotown Public Library in Burnaby.

All other genres are welcome. Our next scheduled meeting days are as follows:

May 14, May 28,
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Those interested in finding out if a writer's workshop is right for them should feel free to show up on the above mentioned meeting dates.

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THINGS TO PONDER

1. I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
2. Why do they call it the Department of Interior when they are in charge of everything outdoors?
3. Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?
4. Do Roman paramedics refer to IV's as "4's"?
5. Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?
6. If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?
7. Should you trust a stockbroker who's married to a travel agent?
8. Is boneless chicken considered to be an invertebrate?
9. Do married people live longer than single people or does it just SEEM longer?
10. If all those psychics know the winning lottery numbers, why are they all still working?
11. Tell a man that there are 400 billion stars and he'll believe you. Tell him a bench has wet paint and he has to touch it.
12. How come Superman could stop bullets with his chest, but always ducked when someone threw a gun at him?
13. Why is lemon juice mostly artificial ingredients but dishwashing liquid contains real lemons?
14. Why buy a product that it takes 2000 flushes to get rid of?
15. Why are they called apartments, when they're all stuck together?
16. Isn't the best way to save face to keep the lower part shut?
17. Sooner or later, doesn't EVERYONE stop smoking?

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Post Accident Report II.

The good news: the pain is going away, only my right ear still rings. Yes I'll be there, ready for action at VCon23 Infestation! So keep an eye out for me eh.

The bad news: My cat for 13 years, "Josie" has died. I'll miss that animal, she was a true friend.

Oh, Uncle LJS said "Hello" again.

X-Files: So Long Vancouver.

It's now official, the series that put our town on the Sci-Fi map is heading south. Many think David Duchovny is the real reason the series is Hollywood bound. (He has every right to do that, he wants to spend time with his wife.) There was talk of Gillian Anderson quitting as well. Chris Carter said there are many reasons why the series is moving and even looked into doing it without Scully and Mulder, thus keeping it in town. However when FOX executives got wind of this they almost fired him.

The last Vancouver made X-File wrapped production in mid-April and should air on the weekend of VCon. The over 200 hundred people who worked on the series will likely find new jobs in the local industry, but with the one hour non-family dramatic network series going the way of the dodo, it will be mostly in TV movies and feature films work.

So it's the end of an era. I remember a day in 1993 when I found the X-Files shooting at the Vancouver Art Gallery. I watched for a few minutes. Knowing now what a hit it has become I should have stayed longer. What I did see was good and hoped the series would not be cancelled after two weeks.

The series will survive, still it may be hard for us to watch it without the region we call home as its background.

Carter's Millennium will remain up here, yet rumor has that the series is history. FOX is replacing it with New York Undercover, which in turn is replaced by MAAD's American Tragedies a series that focuses on drinking and driving tragedies.

Babylon 5: The End and The Beginning.

It also an end of an era down south. The last episode of B5 wrapped up on March 20th. The cast took part in a On-line-chat with their fans on AOL with many treats.

This could be "The End", but it isn't.

TNT is already planning two more two hour B5 movies.

One is The River of Souls, went into production in mid April. The script by JMS himself, deals with a stolen ancient relic believed to be the key to eternal life from... Hey, I'm not giving that plot-line away.

The other, A Call to Arms, goes into production in June. I'm not giving its plot away either, just it leads into a whole new series.

Now put your eyes back in their sockets, you did read that right.

The new series called Babylon Project Crusade, possibly starring Tracy Scoggins, Jeff Conaway and quite likely Jerry Doyle in their roles from the original series. It take place on a starship that's sent out to find the cure for the... I'm not giving this one away folks, even if you paid me. The only thing I'm saying is that it premieres on January 6, 1999 in the US..

It looks like B5 is the start of a new SF franchise, one that is ready to match most of its rivals in viewership Worldwide. Hopefully I'll see a bit of season five at VCon, and I know a lot of you want to see it back on local TV. So keep writing those stations!!!

Brits Say, "We Want Our Dr. Who."

The results of the BBC poll shows that of viewers asked, 22.9% want to see a new Dr. Who series, topping the list of programs they want returned. The network is keeping very tight lipped about the series though, only stating now that it won't return without a co-production deal with a big American studio. So its back to square one again.

One big American studio is furious at a fan who leak their "copy rited" information onto the internet.

The fan, who works at the BBC, somehow got the information on a proposed Dr. Who co-production. Distressed by what he saw, he posted it on his website. Now the studio is considering suing the fan, who is on two months unpaid leave from the network The information has since been removed from the site. As for the deal, its off. The BBC didn't like it either and, of what I had seen, it would have turned the series into Highway to Heaven.

On this side of the pond, our friends down south can tune in to the Doctor's adventures again. BBC America is airing the series twice a week at 8:15PM PT Sundays and again at 2:15AM PT Mondays in the original 25 minutes format. The best thing about it is they are starting with Tom Baker, which should get a new generation of American fans interested and could lead to the new series.

Well, that's what I hope. The seven remaining PBS stations that still airs the series are dropping it in September.

Star Trek: "Will She, Won't She"?

That's the question Trekkers are asking these days. Is Terry Farrell leaving or staying on DS9? Paramount is saying that Dax will remain on the station and if Terry leave the series he will get a new "host" while Jadzia goes off on her own. Jadzia will not be killed off, but who knows. And you thought eight regenerations on Dr. Who was difficult to follow.

Another rumor shot down is Voyager returning to Earth next season. Paramount said there is no truth to this what-so-ever.

I've got some stuff on the up coming movie folks. It's titled Star Trek: Prime Directive and guest stars F. Murray Abraham, Anthony Zerbe, Donna Murphy and Armin Shimerman from DS9..

Sorry I ran out of space folks, so til' next time this is

Dr. Media

...signing off.

drmedia@thecentre.com

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49. *Your relationship online has gone farther than any real one you have had.*

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VCON 23 - Infestation! May 15, 16,
 17 1998 (Victoria Day Weekend)
 GOH: David Gerrold (Chtorr Series,
 The Trouble with Tribbles)
 Art GOH: Mike Jackson
 (BattleTech, Star Wars, Aeon Flux,
 ReBoot)

SITE: Surrey Inn
 9850 King George Highway,
 Surrey B.C. V3T 4Y3 Canada
 HOTEL#:1-800-663-0600
 Single \$72, Quad \$82
 MEMBERSHIPS:
 After May 1st. \$40.00

For more information Write to:

VCON 23 INFESTATION
 #316 4683 Arbutus St.
 Vancouver, B.C.
 V6J 4A3 Canada
 Web: <http://www.spellbinder.bc.ca/bcsfa/cons.htm>
 E-Mail: les@portal.ca or
woolf@vcn.bc.ca

KEYCON 98 MAY 15-17
 WINNIPEG, MB Ramada
 Marlborough Hotel. GoH Kristine
 Kathryn Rusch, Art GoH:Frank
 Kelly Freas, Media Guest:Bruce
 Hyde, FanGoH:Connie Lyon.
 Memb: \$30. till 31 DEC,97 Info:PO
 Box 3178, Winnipeg, MB, R3C 4E7

AEUG 1 JUNE 20-21
 EDMONTON, AB The local
 Edmonton Anime club is hoping to
 put on a con dealing with Jap
 Anime. If you want to support it,
 please contact them at
baka@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca.

**56th Annual World SF CON. AUG
 5-9 BUCCONEER BALTIMORE,
 MD, USA Various Hotels.**
 GoH C. J. Cherryh,
 FanGoH Milton A Rothman,
 EdGoH Stanley Schmidt,
 ArtGoH Michael Whelan.
 Memb: \$110. USD till SEP 30,97.
 Info: PO Box 314, Annapolis
 Junction, MD, 20701. or
 Fx(301)474-8237/
Baltimore98@access.digex.net/
www.access.digex.net/~balt98.

OURCON 2 WINNIPEG, SEP 12-13
 MB Airliner Hotel, \$52 s/\$65 D.
 GoH:TBA, Memb: \$25 till 1.1.98.
 Info: PO Box 67001, RPO Maples,
 Winnipeg, MB, R2P 2T3
INCONSEQUENTIAL
 FREDERICTON, NB, SEP 25-27
 Hotel TBA. Go: David Fundic.
 Memb:\$15. till 31.12.96. Info:
 403-527 Beaverbrook Ct,
 Fredricton, NB, E3B 1X6,
 (506)452-7479 or Breeze@mi.net

INFESTATION 1998

May									
3	4	5	EP	7	pFRED	9			
10	11	12	EP	14	V-Con23	-			
VCON	Victoria Day	19	EP	21	FRED	23			
24	25	26	EP	28	FRED	30			
31									
June									
	1	2	EP	4	FRED	6			
7	8	9	EP	11	pFRED	13			
14	15	16	EP	18	Deadline AEUG				
AEUG	22	23	EP	25	FRED	27			
28	29	30							
July									
			Canada Day	2	FRED	4			
5	6	7	EP	9	pFRED	11			
12	13	14	EP	16	Deadline	18			
19	20	21	EP	23	FRED	25			
26	27	28	EP	30	FRED				
August									
									1
2	Civic Holiday	4		56th WorldCon (Baltimore)					
WCon	10	11	EP	13	Deadline	15			
16	17	18	EP	20	FRED	22			
23	24	25	EP	27	FRED	29			
30	31								
September									
			1	EP	3	FRED	5		
6	Labour Day	8	EP	10	pFRED	OryCon			
13	14	15	EP	17	Deadline	19			
20	21	22	EP	24	InCin	sequential			
InCON	28	29	EP						
October									
				1	2	3			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
November									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
8	9	10	Remembrance Day	12	13	14			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
29	30								
December									
				1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	21	22	23	Christmas	26				
27	28	29	30	New Year's Eve					

WCSFA-On Line

<http://spellbinder.bc.ca/bcsfa>

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