

# BCSFRAZINE

NO. 39  
SEPT. 1976

The British Columbia Science Fiction Association newsletter, PO Box 35577, Vancouver, B.C. V6M 4G9. Memberships: active \$4 (family \$6), associate (non-voting) (the only kind available to non-B.C. residents) \$3 (family \$5). Both active and associate members receive the newsletter; we do not offer subscriptions. John Thomson aided in the gargantuan task of attempting to put the entire newsletter together in one night. Art by Dale Hammell, Tony Hill and Alf the Whip. Edited by Allyn Cadogan, information officer.



The SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING will be at Chuck and Edna Davis', 1704 East 14th Ave., Vancouver, on Saturday Sept. 18, at 8 pm. Scheduled programming: the Star Trek blooper reel. BYOBooze, soft drinks, munchies. See you there!

The OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING will be held at Star Treader Books, 4325 West 10th, Vancouver, Saturday, Oct. 16, at 8 pm.

RELAXICON will be held at John Garr's home on Lummi Island, Sept. 25. Phone Mike Bailey for details, and to let us know you're coming.

The SEPTEMBER EXECUTIVE MEETING will be held at John Thomson's, Apt. 201, 6634 Dow Ave., Burnaby, Tuesday, Sept. 21, at 7:30 pm. All members welcome to attend.

The WESTERCON 30 (Van-con) COMMITTEE: will meet at John Thomson's Thursday, Sept. 9, at 7:30.

#### EXECUTIVE INFO:

Mike Bailey, president, #108 1972 York St., Vancouver, 731-8451.  
John Thomson, vice president, #201 6634 Dow Ave., Burnaby, 434-5286.  
Norma Beauregard, secretary, #119 2055 York St., Vancouver, 732-8202.  
Al Betz, treasurer, Box 33806 Stn D, Vancouver, 733-7607.  
Allyn Cadogan, information officer, 1916 W. 15th, Vancouver, 684-1497.



## Editorial Ramblings

After producing the August and September clubzines, I no longer feel like such a neo. I now know just about everything there is to know about running a Gestetner, including how to clean ink off the rollers. (Probably the only mistake I didn't make was to spill glue on the silk-screen - anything else that could have gone wrong in putting out last ish did.)

On that note, much grateful thanx to all the people who wrote, phoned, and dropped in to say they enjoyed the newsletter. The praise made it all worthwhile. In future, tho, if you write to me personally, please send letters to my home address, not the studio. Ta.

You may notice that this issue has an awfully lot of lists in it. This is to fill up space (as well as to get valuable info to you) and hopefully to bring home the fact that I sure could use more copy!! (Bill Gibson and Ed Beauregard came up with two last-minute articles for which I am extremely grateful). Now that I'm attempting to hold down 3½ paying part-time jobs, I am just not going to be able to devote full time to making this the best clubzine in the world. I need and would love to have your help - how about it?

On the subject of jobs, I seem to have landed a regular column in the Canucks' programme book. Since I'm a dyed-in-the-wool hockey freak, I'm pleased no end about this. Thanks, people, but I've already had all the offers I can accomodate to accompany me to games for which I expect to have free passes. Besides, they'll probably make me sit in the press box, and you really wouldn't enjoy that, would you? (For those of you who have expressed doubt and/or confusion, yes, the editor is a lady, uh huh.)

John Park: If you are out there somewhere will you PLEEZE phone me? No one ever answers your telephone!!

Sincere apologies to Barb Dryer for messing up the Star Trek article she gave me last ish. The incoherence of the last paragraph of the item is entirely my doing.

Normally I'm not going to devote space to meeting reviews but the Aug. general meeting was so strange I felt it needed some comment. For starters, it seemed that at least a third of the people there were new members or at least strange faces. Another third of the people there were members who don't frequently attend meetings. The rest of us were "regulars." Now we're used to seeing maybe two or three new faces at each meeting - some of these become regulars while others may join but seldom attend meetings. I was quite pleased to see so many new people at the meeting since we've been engaged in a (low-key, admittedly) campaign to get more people out. The problem was that many of our regulars, good mixers, were out of town that weekend, and we ended up with a lot of people sitting around not talking, apparently not quite knowing what to do with themselves. I'm hoping that these people won't think all our meetings are so quiet and be scared away from attending future meetings. The August meeting broke up at roughly 11:30, which has to be something of a record. This is not intended to reflect badly on Paula Brown, who was an excellent hostess, keeping people fed and comfortable.

Part of the problem could be directly attributed to the film we screened, No Blade of Grass. It was an excellent film, but so heavy in content that by the end most of us could do nothing more than sit there in stunned silence. Elsewhere in this zine is a list of movies available for future meetings. Tell Mike Bailey if you see anything you think would go over well. Personally, I think we should stay away from super heavy films at future meetings. We did quite well financially with No Blade



of Grass, considering how few people attended. We collected \$28 toward the \$40 rental fee -- nice, as most of that money seemed to come from the "new faces."

There was an extremely active story creating session happening in Paula's kitchen, but I managed to make my getaway before the masterpiece was finished and no one has mailed it to me so, alas!, no BCSFA fiction this ish. (If we do have space for fillers the poetry used will be a product of the July meeting.)

Just as an afterthought, if you would like to submit fiction to BCSFA Zine, please do. The only stipulation I'll make is that it be of rather better quality than that which comes out of the BCSFA meetings (which would mean that you were presumably sober when you wrote it.)

Note to all you English purists who are wincing loudly at my end-of-line hyphenations: I really do know how to break words properly, but in the BCSFAZine I'm more concerned with cramming as much onto each line as possible. Instead of worrying about hyphenations, I'm concentrating on reasonably accurate spelling. Me and Ted White.

-Allyn Cadogan

## *Hugo Winners*

In an amazing display of coordinated effort, Mike Bailey, Al Betz and I bring you the 1976 Hugo Award winners direct from Kansas City:

FAN WRITER: DICK GEIS.

Nominees: Charlie Brown, Don D'Amassa, Don Thompson, Susan Wood.

FAN ARTIST: TIM KIRK.

Nominees: Grant Canfield, Phil Foglio, Bill Rotsler, Jim Shull.

FANZINE: LOCUS

Nominees: Algol, Don-O-Saur, 'Out-worlds, Science Fiction Review.

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST: KELLY FREAS.

Nominees: George Barr, Vincent Di Fate, Steve Fabian, Rick Sternbach.

DRAMATIC PRESENTATION: A BOY AND HIS DOG.

Nominees: The Capture, Dark Star, Monty Python and the Holy Grail, Rollerball.

PROFESSIONAL EDITOR: BEN BOVA

Nominees: Jim Baen, Ed Ferman, Bob Silverberg, Ted White.

SHORT STORY: CATCH THAT ZEPPELIN by Fritz Leiber

Nominees: Doing Lennon by Gregory Benford, Rogue Tomato by Michael Bishop, Croatian by Harlan Ellison, Sail the Tide of Mourning By Richard Lupoff, Child of All Ages by P. J. Plauger.

NOVELETTE: BORDERLAND OF SOL, by Larry Niven.

Nominees: The New Atlantis by Ursula LeGuin, "... and Seven Times Never Kill a Man" by George R.R. Martin, Tinker by Jerry Pournelle, San Diego Lightfoot Sue by Tom Reamy.

NOVELLA: HOME IS THE HANGMAN by Roger Zelazny.

Nominees: The Silent Eyes of Time by Algis Budrys, The Custodians by Richard Cowper, The Storms of Windhaven by George R. R. Martin and Lisa Tuttle, ARM by Larry Niven.

NOVEL: THE FOREVER WAR by Joe Haldeman.

Nominees: The Computer Connection by Alfred Bester, Inferno by Larry Niven and Jerry Pournelle, The Stochastic Man by Robert Silverberg, Doorways in the Sand by Roger Zelazny.

SPECIAL AWARDS PRESENTED AT WORLDCON:

SPECIAL AWARD: James Gunn for ALTERNATE WORLDS.

GANDALF AWARD: (presented by Lin Carter and SAGA for life's work in fantasy) L. Sprague de Camp.

JOHN W. CAMPBELL AWARD: (presented by Conde Nast for best new writer) Tom Reamy.

BIG HEART AWARD (No explanation of this award given): Ronald Graham, an Australian.



FIRST FANDOM AWARD: Harry Bates, who wrote the Hawk Carse series, edited Astounding when it was owned by the Clayton chain, and wrote the story, Farwell to the Master, from which the movie The Day the Earth Stood Still was adapted. (This short bio compliments of Ed Hutchings.)

## News, Rumors, & True Facts

RELAXICON will be held Sept. 25 at John Gaar's abode on Lummi Island. For information about rides, etc., phone Mike Bailey (731-8451). We are also trying to keep track of how many people to expect, so phone even if you don't need a ride, please.

Fran Skene has resigned as chairperson of the constitution committee. Al Betz has graciously volunteered to take on the job.

ISAAC ASIMOV'S SCIENCE FICTION MAGAZINE is slated to begin publication this fall. This is a new prozine from Davis Publications who also publish Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine. It will be a quarterly retailing at \$1. George H. Scithers is the actual editor with Asimov directing editorial policy. Scithers' address for submissions is: Box 8243, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101.

Thanks to all of you who wrote and phoned to let me know that The 27th Day has already been made into a movie (it showed at the Planetarium early in August), and where I could find a copy of the book. I eventually bought a copy from Ken Wong, who just happened to have an extra, read it and don't think I'll bother to review it after all. If anyone feels a burning need to read the book, my copy is available.

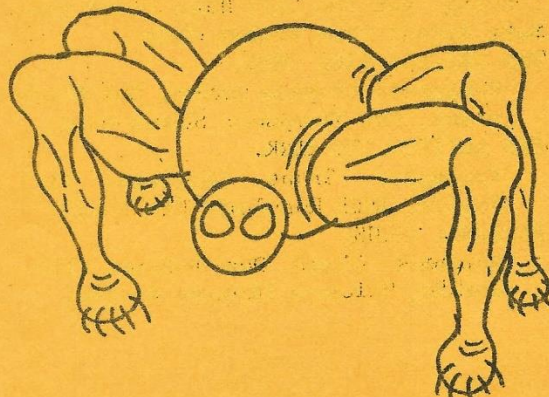
The 1978 Worldcon will be held at Phoenix. There were approximately one thousand votes cast at this year's worldcon, with Phoenix beating L. A.

by 73 votes. You may recall that L.A. beat Phoenix for the 1978 Westercon earlier this year. The '78 worldcon will feature Harlan Ellison as GoH and F.M. Busby as toastmaster.

Other Worldcon tidbits: Mike Bailey, reporting from the huckster room, tells us that the price on pulps has gone up, and that the most expensive painting sold as of Sunday was by George Barr, the cover from Minkins of Yan by Thomas Burnett Swann, which went for \$625.

Continuing Education at UBC will be offering a course this fall called "Exploring Ecotopia" taught by Arthur Gladstone, formerly a psychology prof at the U. of Saskatchewan. As part of the course two NFB films, The Factory, and The New Alchemists, will be shown. Ecotopia author David Callenbach will also be making a brief appearance. The course starts Oct. 27. Phone Robin Fried at Continuing Ed. if you are interested.

Continuing Ed. is also offering a series of free conferences at UBC this fall: Work as Play, Recycling, and I can't translate my notes on the title of the third. Sorry. David Morris from the Institute for Self-Reliance, economist Robert Theobald, who also spoke at Habitat Forum, Carl Hess, a former speechwriter for Barry Goldwater before he became an anarchist, and David Callenbach are all slated to appear at the conferences. My information is incomplete, so best to call Robin Fried at Continuing Ed. for more info. The first conference will apparently be held the first weekend in November.





There is a rumor that Ecotopia is being developed into a tv series by a group in the States called the National Centre for Experimental Theater.

I was close - Ellison's new wife's name is Lori (Horowitz) and they were married June 5.

-Allyn Cadogan

The following pinched from KARASS: GALILEO is a new quarterly prozine. The first issue is scheduled for Sept 2. Subs are \$1.50/copy, 4/\$4. Write: Galileo, 339 Newbury St., Boston, Ma. 02115.

AMAZING's sale is being negotiated. (If anyone knows anything more about this, please let me know. -Allyn)

Harry Warner's 50's fan history will be published by Joe Siclari's new Fanhistorica Press. The mimeographed, 1000-numbered edition will be \$8 mail order plus 75¢ postage and handling. Profits will go to finance the hardbound edition. Write Joe Siclari, P.O. Box 1343, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10019.

The British prozine SF MONTHLY has died, but New English Library is publishing the quarterly SF DIGEST.

Tolkien's THE SIMARILLION is being worked on and may be published in 1977. Brian Aldiss is editing a new pb series for New English Library called SF Master Series.

Bill Rotsler did a novelization of FUTUREWORLD and of SINBAD AND THE EYE OF THE TIGER, probably under John Ryder Hall pseudonym. He also did RETURN TO THE PLANET OF THE APES under William Arrow.

Wayne Hooks, 2200 Chalfont Dr., Apt. 28, Richmond, Va. 23224, is working on an article about racism and sexism in fandom and would like to hear the opinions of fans on such things as why are most fans WASP males? Does economics play a role? Are cons set up to appeal to WASP males? Is fandom not racist or sexist? Is fandom withdrawn or sexist? Etc. (If you know the answers to these questions, write to Wayne and let him know. -A.)

1976 FANTHOLOGY: Taral MacDonald and Victoria Vane will be preparing this reprint-zine with some of the

year's best fan art and prose. They say, "What we haven't read we can't reprint. If you've got a zine in which you feel you have the best, you are doing fandom (and us) a service by sending copies of it to both of us. Original publishers and contributors will receive a free copy of the \$2 edition, natch. (\$2.50 by mail). The rest will pay for the costs. Profits will go to fan charities."

ALGOL is going tri-yearly. (Feb., June, Oct.)



#### THE REVENGE OF VERA GEMINI

my love is like an etiolated corruscating  
amoeba  
that pulsates through the void of the  
night  
it lands silently upon the sterily waste-  
lands in fecundity,  
stately, plump Bob Heinlein came from the  
stairhead  
bearing a crossed razor and a pipewrench.  
"Sweet heart of stone, my love can only  
belong to

You  
You  
You."

-you guessed it



## *From the Secretary*

Norma Beauregard

Minutes of the August 21, 1976, General Meeting: The election for vice president was held. The ballot results were: John Thomson (20 votes), John Fraser (7 votes) Tom Balabanov (7 votes), Ken Wong (2 votes). John Thomson was declared the winner. The meeting opened at 8:30 and adjourned after the vote count as no further business was brought up.

Minutes of the August 24, 1976, Executive Meeting: The meeting was held at Mike Bailey's and began at 8:00 pm. Mike enquired of the executive whether the club would be willing to pay for a phone call by him from the Kansas City Worldcon for the purpose of relating the Hugo winners. After some discussion, the committee agreed. Al Betz agreed to become chairman of the constitution committee. There was some discussion of getting a business licence. However, it was thought that we might require a legal address and that we might endanger our non-profit status. The treasurer stated that we had approximately \$185.00 in the chequing account and exactly \$37.02 in the savings account. The relaxicon at John Gaar's place has been set for Sept. 25th/76. Al however suggested that the meeting be postponed in order that carpools could be arranged. Tim Hammell is to be presented with a bill for the advertising enclosed in a newsletter. Mike Bailey asked for comment on his questionnaire for new members that he distributed at the last executive meeting. It was generally agreed that the questions were slightly redundant and wordy. However, in general the questionnaire was a good one. Mike has promised to give address lists of BCSEFA members to each of the executive so that they can update it and return it to him in order that he can make changes to our computerized mailing labels. The meeting adjourned at nine thirty after agreeing on the upcoming meeting locations mentioned elsewhere in this zine.

Mail received by the BCSEFA: letters from Brian Smith and David Vereschagin; memo and copies of Starsongs 1 & 2 from Mike Dillon, WATSFIC, U. of Waterloo; KARASS; GRANFALLOON; August newsletters returned from Mary Blodgett and OSFIC. Anyone knowing correct addresses for these people please let us know.

## *Reviews*

### FAMILY MAN FROM OUTER SPACE:

-Bill Gibson reviews *The Man Who Fell To Earth*.

*The Man Who Fell To Earth* is an uneven, frustrating, but often brilliant film. During the first two thirds Nick Roeg is able to keep a firm check on the brutal montage which had viewers of his earlier *Performance* feeling as though they had been physically assaulted. The strain of soft pedaling in the editing room proves too great, though, and the final third erupts and collapses in gratuitous confusion. *Performance*, a clau-

strophobically dense circuit-board of images, is able to contain its ambiguities and resolve itself coherently though only having shifted the viewer into a spooky dark space where the logic of waking reality hardly applies. *The Man Who Fell To Earth* simply falls apart, and the film is only rescued by the great closing scene and the line, "I think that Mr. Newton has had enough."

The film is also flawed by Roeg's confused approach to the nature of Newton's *alienness*. Bowie, in his randomly-chosen wardrobe (an expensively-tailored silk suit with a thick brown flannel workshirt--deaf to the intricate social language of dress) is convincingly, almost heartbreakingly *alien*. Right off the boat, so to



speak. Roeg's bargain basement Lovecraftian revelation of the alien's "real" appearance shatters the viewer's delight in Bowie as alien flesh and the spaceman turns out to be a dead ringer for every bald, genital-less B movie man from Mars.... Worse, Roeg contradicts Bowie's effectively exhausted portrayal of terminal culture-shock by intercutting technically excellent but ridiculously sentimental segments of an alien wife and two alien kiddies longing for Daddy. After having gone to a great deal of trouble to present Newton convincingly as an alien, Roeg sets about convincing us that aliens are just folks. (The Egyptian death glyph was a man splitting his own head with an axe.)

See this film for Bowie's entrance to Artesia, New Mexico; for the Fortean time-mirage that reveals a speeding black Cadillac to a group of eighteen-nineties settlers; for the "letters" Newton sends home in the form of television commercials; for the "over-stimulated" technology--"A free camera with every twelve-pack (of film)!"; for Candy Clark's sweet-dumb girl going rancid. Keep Sturgeon's Law in mind. It's a frustrating film, but the good bits are worth it.

#### EIGHT FANZINE REVIEWS

by Taral/Wayne MacDonald

AY CHINGAR! 2 - Larry Downes -21960 Avon, Oak Park, Mi. 48327 (313-968-1632). 46 pages, offset, available for the usual or the Mercy of Allah.

Larry is a nasty faneditor. Nastier than Dick Geis even. Store him in a dark cheese cellar for a couple of years and he'd mellow, and become a fine faneditor. As is, his sarcasm tends to obscure his talent a little. (The court will admit the plea of "youth.") This issue was notable to me for two principal things. First, Larry screwed up the credits to the artwork and credited me with some Rotsler illos I had sent him. (And this after my prolonged debate on Rotsler in my own SYNAPSE. Owwww....

Second, Harlan Ellison acts the bully again and puts Larry down soundly for being styled "the next Young Harlan Ellison" by Bruce Coulson.

UNREAL 4 - Rod Snyder - 3600 Ripple Creek, Austin, Tx. 78746. 20 pages, reduced offset, annually, 35¢ and probably the usual.

You won't want this one, folks, unless you are brave and tolerant. This is a comics zine. But Rod is a convert to fandom, or would like to be with a little help. Send him your fanzine if you can spare one, and maybe we can get him pubbing "real" fanzines to trade back.

And, well, there were a few touches to UNREAL that made the rest of it worth bearing. One in particular sticks in my mind - a melee with Conan in its midst, beating back other combatants and quipping, "These hucksters' rooms are getting wilder all the time." Hilarious - and all too true if you've ever attended a comix con.

DANGEROUS CRUDZINES 1 - Elst Weinstein - APDO 60869 Guadalajara 6, Jalisco Mexico. 7 pages, reduced offset, available for the usual or a "sticky quarter" (literally, I guess).

This is a neat little personalzine, but kind of empty. The only zine with wider borders that I've seen is the fabulously obscure newsletter NOR, but that's another story. Write at greater length, Elst, you're not all that uninteresting, you know.

CYGNUS X-1 #2 - Bob Ruben - 1351 Denniston Ave; Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217. 22 pages, offset, I assume the usual.

CYGNUS is a fresh new fanzine that I like. Its editor has managed to avoid most of the pitfalls of a neo fanzine, his contributors have mostly given him clever material, and the layout of the second issue has improved 200% over the first. I especially enjoyed the cartoon strip MORE SPACED by Tom Tuttle; his art and humour is crude in places, but indicates a developing talent. Bob lists only seven titles received in trade. CYGNUS deserves better treatment than that.

THE JOURNAL SUPPLEMENT 194 - Don Miller - 12315 Judson Rd, Wheaton, Md.



20906.49 pages, mimeo, very frequent, 30¢ or the usual, but you won't be able to keep up.

Relax, this is just THE SON OF THE WSFA JOURNAL with a case of schizophrenia. The WSFA minutes and detective novel have been given their own zine. THE JOURNAL SUPPLEMENT's primary value is its book and fanzine reviews. The news is a little too cluttered to find without confusion.

KNIGHTS OF THE PAPER SPACE SHIP 11, 12 - Mike Bracken - 3918 North 30th, Tacoma, Wa. 98407. 56 pages, mimeo, quarterly, 75¢ or the usual.

A genzine of the classic mold, KPSS fails to achieve excellence by a slim margin. It lacks the finishing touches, the ultimate splurges of care, the frozen perfection of the best genzines in their heyday a few years ago. The temper of KBSS is variously fannish and sercon. I lean to the sercon myself. The low point of both KNIGHTS was VOLKSWAGEN WEEKEND by Patrick Myers, which read like a scene from AMERICAN GRAFITTI. The high points for me tended to be Don D'Ammassa's articles, but the fannish in me also enjoyed the fanzine reviews, the lettercols, and especially the editorials. The artwork also deserves comment. At times it was the average unprintable scribble, but often it rose to some really excellent pieces by James Shull, Randy Bathurst and Grant Canfield. Al Sirois does a somewhat sloppy but funny cover on number 12.

FRAUD 1 - Tim Kyger and "Gumfoord C. Farkquat" - c/o Lyle Stubbs, 940 E, 8th Ave., Mesa, Az. 85204. 34 pages,

offset,  
thrice-  
yearly,  
75¢ or  
the usual.

Interesting but insubstantial was my first impression of FRAUD. Yet this



issue does include a transcript of a speech by Theodore Sturgeon. Only I've never heard Theodore Sturgeon sound so dumb.... Aside from this there are really only two articles, one by Ned Young on the "effete" army tradition, and the other by Kathy Sullivan on urinal chauvinism. I liked both, but they are not enough to properly round out the issue. The other 25 or so pages are largely filler material, a selection of slightly above average artwork, and a portfolio of art by Skip Olsen. Olsen's portfolio is mostly Cthulhu mythos stuff, not particularly to my interest, but was quite good nonetheless. FRAUD's cover is by Al Sirois and not precisely his best work. The back cover by Liz Danworth is an excellent drawing, even if imitative of Alicia Austin.

SOUTH OF THE MOON 10 - Tim C. Marion - 614 72nd St, Newport News, Va. 23605, and David R. Ortman - 1388 Theatre Rd, Box 33, Tabb, Va. 23602. 18 pages, mimeo, bimonthly or quarterly, available for information or the usual. Trades should go to David Ortman's address.

SOUTH OF THE MOON, an apa index, has had a long and curious history, and falls at last into the hands of Tim Marion. I can't imagine what I would want with an apa index, myself, but some, I've no doubt, will consider this a useful pursuit. Tim needs information about apas desperately. His current information, as exemplified by his first issue of SOUTH OF THE MOON, is out of date and incomplete. He also expresses a need of artwork.

#### VERA GEMINI HAS GREY EYES

Three men returned from the war.  
They agreed not to discuss it.  
None of them were willing to discuss

Vera Gemini.

Rhododactylos A urorax smiled  
Upon the post-scripted Earth and  
Extending one rosy-tinted digit  
Thrust it upwards. And yet  
Her cold grey eyes,  
Her cold grey glittering  
Dark-gyred eyes  
are...

-gadzooks, they did it again



## Miscellany



beginning with:

### A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY WARGAMING by Ed Beauregard

While wargaming has been an active and growing hobby for the last twenty years, it is only in the last four or five years

that games on science fiction or fantasy topics have appeared. Very little of this growth can be attributed to what might seem an obvious cause - running out of more orthodox subjects for games. Rather, wargaming has attracted numbers of sf fans, and these fans, in converting some of their favourite sf epics into games, have spurred interest among non-sf wargamers.

Before I get into a description of some of the sf and fantasy games available, I'd better explain some of the basic types of wargames. There are three principal varieties: boardgames, miniatures, and role-playing games. Some games tend to overlap categories, but most can be placed into one of the three descriptions above.

Miniatures wargaming involves the use of small models of troops, tanks, warships or whatever on a table-top surface. The scale for land battles ranges for 1/72nd to 1/300th, while naval battles customarily use 1/1200th scale lead ship models (though 1/2400th is becoming more popular).

Boardgames are more abstract. The playing surface is usually a cardboard or plastic map with a hexagonal grid printed on it to regularize movement and combat. The size of the playing board varies greatly - from

the 6 inch by six inch board of Strike Force One up to the 8 foot by 6 foot map of "War in Europe." The actual playing pieces are cardboard counters, which are from one-half to one inch across.

Role playing games are derived from 'think tank' simulations. There are no boards or playing pieces; each player negotiates with the other players according to the rules, to achieve victory conditions. Diplomatic trade-off situations are the usual basis of such games.

Interestingly, science fiction games have tended to be boardgames, while fantasy games have tended to be based on miniatures.

It is difficult to say exactly what constitutes a science fiction game. For example, a game called "See-lowe" covers the possible German invasion of Britain in 1940. Another, "Operation Olympic," deals with an Allied invasion of Japan in 1946, had atomic weapons not been used. I would not classify these as science fiction but I'm not so sure about a game like "Dixie," which is based on an alternate time track world in which the South wins the American Civil War, only to have a second civil war (the subject of the game) break out 75 years later.

Turning to the modern era, there are games like "Foxbat and Phantom" (jet aircraft combat), "The East is Red" (Sino-Soviet war), "NATO" (Russian invasion of Western Europe) and "Sixth Fleet" (Russo-American clash in the Mediterranean) which all revolve around hypothetical conflicts using forces and weapons available today. There are many more such games which are possibly of peripheral interest to the sf fan. "Invasion: America," dealing with what might be considered World War IV (1990 or thereabouts), is more science fiction in content than any others previously mentioned.



"Hold on a minute," I hear you cry. "Where are the spaceships?" Glad you asked.

We come now to the out-and-out sf games, generally designed by sf fans. The first efforts along these lines produced games like "Lensman," "Nebula 19" and "Cold War 2007." A brief description of the latter will suffice. Up to six players compete for control of the asteroid belt, manoeuvring several types of ships from their home worlds. Diplomacy and double-dealing are the backbone of the game. Unlike most such games, the services of an additional person, to act as judge or referee, are required.

In the early seventies many such games were printed, always by individuals or small groups. The ill-fated fanzine of the UBC SFEN, "Stage One," even included such a game. These games demonstrated only that there was a market with sufficient interest to buy sf games, even when the rules were vague and contradictory, and the game components execrable in quality.

Better games soon appeared from the amateur designers. Lou Zocchi, designer of "Battle of Britain" (well known among wargamers), designed "Alien Space," which might best be described as a spaceship to spaceship miniatures game, in which each player controls one spaceship. Erwin Strauss a regular Westercon attendee, produced "Spacewar," involving 2 to 20 spaceships fighting each other and the gravity field of the solar system they're in.

An irregularly published space wargaming fanzine called "Supernova," soon appeared. Some issues even contained complete new games.

All of this amateur activity was bound to attract the attention of the large wargame publishers, such as Simulations Publications, Game Designers Workshop and Avalon Hill. Next month I'll describe their entry into the field, and discuss fantasy wargaming.



next, a letter from:

David Verechagin  
RR #2, New Sarepta,  
Alberta, T0B 3M0

I am the editor of ANTARES, a new sf fanzine whose first issue hopes to be out in early September and which is ostensibly for the Edmonton Science Fiction and Comic Arts Society. Which means, if you want to get technical I'm supposed to be doing it for them though anybody who wants to buy it can.

I already wrote to Susan Wood about it but if you ask her, she'll come up with a blank. ANTARES? That was back when (before V-con V) the thing was still called CELIPHAS and was going to be digest-sized. Well, as editor I can make changes as I see fit so the zine has become ANTARES and got fatter so it's now 8½ by 11. It should come out four times a year (which means I'll try for a quarterly schedule, but am allowing myself some leeway). It'll cost a buck an issue, by mail \$1.25. Subs will be 4/\$4.

Now, as information officer, or so it says in the issue of the BCSFA aine I picked up at V-con (oh, horrors, it is revealed--I am not a member) I hope you'll pass on what I've got to say here to the other members.

My plans for ANTARES are for it to be a good genzine, with a bias towards sercon. Right now it seems folks in Edmonton have carried this too far and the first ish might be all sercon. Alas. If you've got anybody who can write (or thinks they can write) humourous, fannish stuff, I want to hear from them as well as from those sercon writers. And art--I've written to a number of fan artists but it looks like this ish I will be rather sparse. Now, I know its hard to draw for a zine you have never seen, but if anybody would care to submit some stuff to me they might be pleasantly surprised and I would be overjoyed and if I print it they'll get (goshwow) a contributor's copy. Right now, because of printing limitations, I cannot use stuff that has solid tones as



with airbrush or ink washes. But (always a catch) if it's good and full-sized I can put it on either the front or back cover.

That's about all. I guess you'd be the best person to send a sample ish to c/o the association as a whole, eh? I'll be glad to answer any questions. (and for comix fans, plans are for a comic zine, too, as yet unnamed. Best regards.

AND NOW, FOR YOUR READING ENJOYMENT,  
lists:

#### Cassettes:

The following cassettes have been donated to the BCSFA library by Allan R Betz. They are available for loan to all members. Please see/phone Allyn Cadogan for borrowing details as the tapes are currently being stored at the studio:

X Minus One: 29 May '55 & 18 Jan. '56  
THE DOLL SHOP/1 Feb '56 THE CAVE OF  
NIGHT. Dimension X: 14 Jul '50 THE  
MAN IN THE MOON/21 Jul '50 BEYOND IN-  
FINITY. Theatre Five: LOOK WHO'S  
TALKING/THOSE WONDERFUL STAMPS FROM  
EL DORADO. X Minus One: 19 Sept '57  
TSYLANA/27 June '57 THE CATEGORY IN-  
VENTOR. X Minus One: 28 Aug '56 SUR-  
FACE TENSION/1 May '55 THE PARADE.  
Dimension X: 24 Dec '50 THE GREEN  
HILLS OF EARTH/16 Aug '51 VITAL FAC-  
TOR. X Minus One: 3 July '56 MR. COS-  
TELLO, HERO/17 Oct '57 NO POINT OF  
DEPARTURE. X Minus One: 12 Dec '56  
PICTURES DON'T LIE. X Minus One: 15  
May '56 HALLUCINATION ORBIT/15 June  
'56 PROJECT MASTODON. X Minus One: 7  
Aug '56 THE LAST MARTIAN/26 Dec '57  
TARGET ONE. Dimension X: 20 May '50  
THE LOST/11 Aug '50 THE CASTAWAYS. X  
Minus One: 19 Dec '57 DOUBLE DARE/9  
Jan '58 GRAY FLANNEL ARMOR. Tom Cor-  
bett, Space Cadet: 28 Jan '52 ROCKET  
INTO DANGER, parts 1&2. BCSFA Panel:  
17 Jan '76 THE SECRETS OF A WRITER,  
OR THE ROLE OF THE REJECTION SLIP IN  
SCIENCE FICTION.

#### Movies:

In keeping with the idea of trying to provide an element of programming at each meeting the following is a list of films that are tentatively avail-

able for showing. Please note that some of them will not be feasible to show due to their high rentals but please tell Mike which movies you would like to see. They are as follows:  
2001: A Space Odyssey, Young Frankenstein, Forbidden Planet, Planet of the Apes, No Blade of Grass, Zardoz, Soy-lent Green, Time Machine, Fantastic Voyage, The Haunting, The Day the Earth Stood Still, Village of the Damned, Freaks, Phantom of the Paradise, Battle for the Planet of the Apes, Escape from Planet of the Apes, Beneath the Planet of the Apes, Fly, She, One Million Years BC, Legend of Hell House, Atlantis: The Lost Continent, Captain Nemo - Underwater City, Around the World Under the Sea, Loved One, Magus, Way Way Out, Canterville Ghost, House on Skull Mountain, Mephisto Waltz, Thief of Baghdad, and the Wizard of Oz.

THIS MONTH'S NEW SCIENCE FICTION AT VAN COUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY: Anderson, Poul, and Gordon R. Dickson: "Star Prince Charlie" (about Charlie Stuart, who journeys to Talynia, 200 light-years from earth. This was marketed as a juvenile novel but the take-offs of sf plot conventions are best appreciated by older folks). "Arena: Sports Sf" ed. by Ed Ferman (stories first published 1944-76 by Maltzberg, Brown, Budrys, Gunn and others). Ballard, J.G.: "High-Rise" (the residents in an elegant new 40 storey condominium building become, within weeks, divided into hostile camps and separated from the outside world). Benford, Gregory: "Jupiter Project" (the adventures of teenaged Matt, who works in the ice fields of Ganymede). Boyce, Chris: "Catchworld" (about a voyage of revenge, during which the human crew is absorbed into the computer). Dickson, Gordon, and Harry Harrison: "The Lifeship" (fast-paced novel about survival and rival philosophies in outer space). Crichton, Neil: "Rerun" (a forty-year old man walks through a mysterious curtain of light and finds that he has escaped 14 years into his past. A first novel by a Canadian author). "Epoch" ed. by Robert Silver-



berg and Roger Elwood (an important original anthology, with stories by Niven, Simak, Vance and many others). "Evil Earths" ed. by Brian Aldiss (collection of stories first published 1935-70 by various authors). Farmer, Philip José: "The Maker of Universes" (about a small universe deliberately created with strange laws and limits). "Future Power" ed. with commentary by Jack Dann and Gardner Dozois (mostly original anthology of stories by numerous authors). Kornbluth, C.M.: "The Syndic Equinox" (in which organized crime becomes legit, and takes the place of government). Lafferty, R.: "In the Wake of Man" (three stories by Lafferty, Wolfe and Moudy). LeGuin, Ursula: "Planet of Exile" (finally in hardcover). LeGuin, Ursula: "The Word For World is Forest" (exactly as published in "Again, Dangerous Visions"). Norton, Andre: "The Crystal Gryphon" (in which a small crystal sphere unites two young people who then set out

to save their world). "Orbit 18" ed. by Damon Knight (collection of stories). Simak, Clifford: "Shakespeare's Planet" (the only survivor from a shipboard cryogenics failure is trapped along with another being on a rather strange planet). Williamson, J.: "The Early Williamson" (short stories originally published 1928-33). Zelazny, Roger: "The Hand of Oberon" (fourth in the Amber quintet. As usual, a good read).

-Fran Skene

In closing:

Well, it looks like I had lots more copy than I thought. Just shows what faith in great ghu can do for a zine ed. Next month we'll have another article by Ed Beauregard on war games, a review of Ecotopia by Allyn, a list of sf book stores across the continent, the rest of the lists I didn't use this time, and a cover by Vaughn Bode.

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