NEWSLETTER OF THE MONTREAL

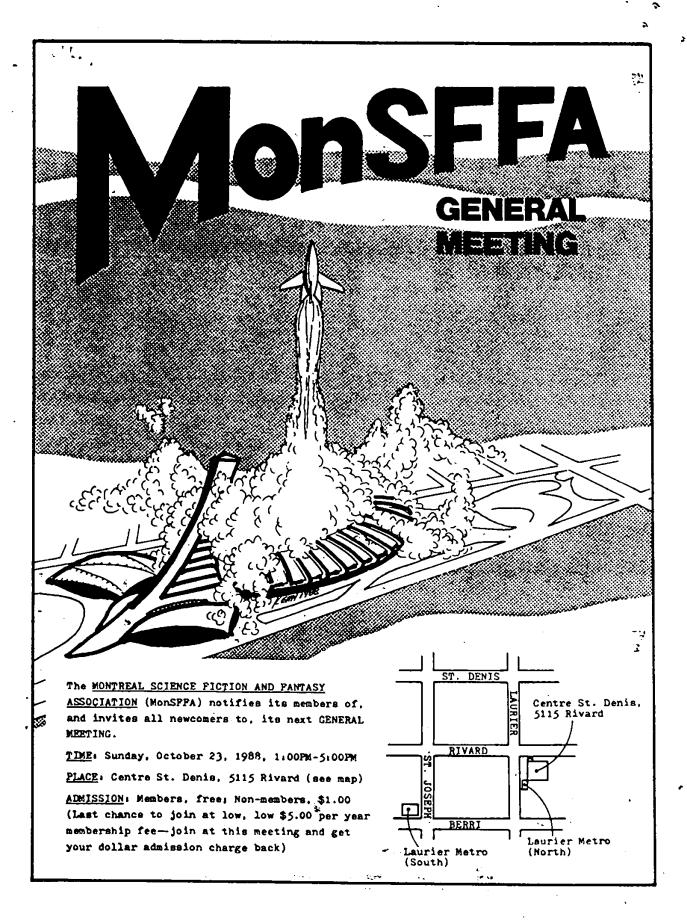
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FREE TO MONSFFA MEMBERS

SCIENCE FICTION FANTASY ASSOCIATION

NUMBER 1 VOL. 2





Roll Call

MonSFFA.

Montreal Science-Fiction and Fantasy Association is a non-profit organization designed to provide a forum for those people interested in science-fiction, fantasy, gaming, costumes, conventions, artwork, comics, 'zines, etc.

Based in the greater Montreal area, MonSFFA is open to all interested life-forms. Elections for executives are annual, and any paid member may volunteer for a position.

President: Luke A. Fallon Vice-Presidents: C.R. Plourde Keith Braithwaite Treasurer: Emile Richard Secretary: James P. Poon Public Relations: Capucine R. Plourde

Newsletter: Michael Masella & Kevin Holden

Any correspondance for MonSFFA should be sent to:

MonSFFA P.O. Box 2413 Dorval, Quebec H9S 5N4.

(The address at Box 215, Bourassa Station in Montreal is no longer in service, but any previous correspondance sent to the club will be received).

President's Letter





PREZ LETTER

Well, its been a year since the club was first conceived and already our membership is approaching 160. As one of the founders of MonSTA (now MonSFFA), I find this totally mind-boggling! Back then, we expected a membership of about 50 and thought that was wildly optimistic! We've certainly learned a lot since then.

Considering that Montreal was once seen as a "dead zone" in sf fandom, we're pleased to see such a positive response to our group. Montreal is finally on the fandom "map." But, as well as we've done in such a short time, changes are forthcoming.

First, as most of you already know, our membership rates will be going up. No, I will not be buying a new Ferrari with the extra cash. The money will go to improving services in the club, as well as to provide exciting and entertaining events for our members.

Also, it's only fair to warn you that elections for the club executive will be coming soon. At this time, it's doubtful that I'll run for any position because of other very pressing obligations.

At the next meeting, you may notice the presence of TV cameras and microphones. As I am writing this, the Quatres Saisons television station has expressed an interest in covering one of our get-togethers for a story on "Trekkers."

To close, I would like to thank Geoff Bovey, who has been compelled to step down as vice-president, but nonetheless remains an active member of the club. I would also like to thank Capucine Plourde for her tireless efforts and welcome back Kevin Holden.

'Til next time, be seeing you...

Luke A. Fallon President

Maplecon Review



Larry "the Doctor" Stewart and Diane Carey



Masquerade grand prize

by Geoff Bovey

On the weekend of Friday, July 29th through to Monday, August 1st, Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario, played hosts to the tenth annual Maplecon convention.

The science fiction, fantasy and comic book con featured guests like George R. R. Martin (Executive Story Consultant for the CBS television series *Beauty and the Beast*), award-winning sf author Hal Clement, artist Don Maitz, comic-book artist Bill Willingham, and *Star Trek* author Diane Carey, whose most recent novel *Ghost Ship* is the first original story to be published featuring the characters of *Star Trek*, *The Next Generation*. They were just a few of the many guests that appeared on the weekend covering all aspects of science fiction, fantasy.

The highlights of the con included the panels, which covered in large part (but not entirely) media and television. George R. R. Martin, Diane Carey, and other personalities from the media world could be found speaking at the various panels covering, in detail, such topics as *Star Trek*, writing for television, aspiring artists, amateur press publication, and much, much more.

I very much enjoyed the panel "Immorality of the Prime Directive". Panellists included Diane Carey, Cindy Huckle, and the con's MC, Larry "the Doctor" Stewart, but it was all Diane's show as the panel turned into an anti-Gene Roddenberry rally and a crusade against Paramount Pictures Corp.'s alleged tyranny over *Star Trek*.

Another interesting panel was "Small Press Publishing" which dealt with amateur press publications, better known as fanzines. On this panel were Montreal's own Luke Fallon and Chris Daly discussing the fanzine "Final Frontier".

At 9 p.m. on Saturday evening, the Masquerade was held, with almost the entire con attendance present. The costumes, about twenty in all, were very exciting and original. The lineup included an ameoba (a contestant wrapped in a multicolored bedsheet) and a tribute to Doctor Who and his lovely female partner, who appeared on stage with their mechanical mutt K-9, showstopper! Our very own Capucine Plourde appeared as her regular character, "Peregrin", a costume that has previously won her several awards. The grand prize went to the lady dressed as the "Black Queen", who appeared in a stylized, rather shadowy, but commanding interpretation of the queen we more commonly see on a chess board. Kudos to the costumes and to MC Larry Stewart. A natural onstage comic presence.

Party hi-lights included those thrown by Joe Casey (Pinekone I), and by Lloyd and Yvonne Penney (Toronto Trek 2). Sunday evening, the art auction was held in the dealers' room and many original works were auctionned of at unspeakably low prices. Three original pencil sketches of Roger Rabbit done by one of the film's artists went for a mere \$50. Puh-Puh-Puh-Puh-Lease!

Even though we left early-the con continued though Monday-we thoroughly enjoyed the two days we spent there. I would highly recommend Maplecon, which is returning next year, to anyone interested in science fiction or fantasy.

Toronto Trek Review A Neophyte's view

by Keith Braithwaite

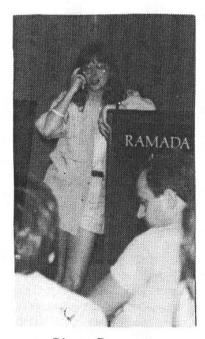
I'm new to this fandom stuff. Six months ago I would not have believed such things possible–Klingons in the hotel lobby, someplace called the "con suite" handing out free beer (free!), partying in Toronto past midnight! But it all happened (I don't think we're in Kansas anymore, Toto!) over the weekend of August 12-14, at Toronto Trek Celebration 2.

It was a well attended "con" with a good deal to see and do. I particularly enjoyed the very entertaining and informative panels. Guests of honour, Diane Duane, Peter Morwood, Shirley Maiewski, and added to the roster at the eleventh hour, Diane Carey (accompanied by husband and collaborator Greg Brodeur), sparked many interesting discussions on a variety of subjects; "The Prime Directive," "Star Trek Rumours," and "How to Get Your Book Published," to name a few. The masquerade featured a number of finely crafted recreations from the Star Trek universe and ended with a "rock concert" by Romulan rock and roll band "Birds of Prey," which generated a healthy laugh from all in attendance.

Also of comic note was an entry called, "Klingons on Vacation," a kind of "Beach Blanket Klingon." The Toronto Trek Players put on their satirical play "Star Trek: The Motion Sickness," and other activities included the dealer's room, an art show and auction, a Trek trivia contest, and videos.

The parties had the three things essential to a successful party: beer, no time limit, and beer. At the "dead dog" party on Sunday, we were not treated to the "Next Generation" blooper reel, because, of course T.T.C. 2 was not in possession of said reel (That would be illegal!). Nor was it replayed for the benefit of Diane Duane, who missed not seeing it the first time.

All in all, T.T.C. 2 was a great convention. Planning has already begun on T.T.C. 3. It's scheduled for August 11-13, 1989, and Vonda N. McIntyre is confirmed as a guest-they're working on getting Mark Lenard, too.



Diane Duane



Yvonne Penney and Shirley Maiewski

Q-C)000

by Keith Braithwaite

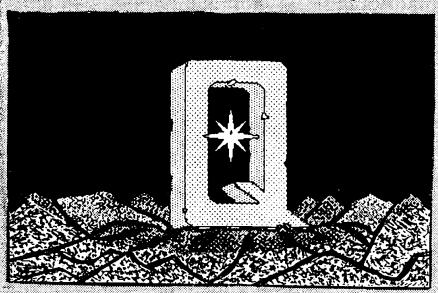
The "Q-Con" was the first science fiction/fantasy convention held in Montreal in God-knows-how-manyyears. A one day affair held in late June at an east end CEGEP, the reviews are mixed.

The general concensus wasthat the "con" was poorly advertised-no one knew about it! Thus, attendance was minimal. A great deal of work went into the planning and organizing of "Q-Con," but because of the short time schedule, the whole thing was carried out, initial planning to realized event, in a few months. Advertising got out too late or not at all. This was unfortunate because the "con" had a great many things to see and do.

One room housed an extensive and very impressive model display. Star Trek and Star Wars models, many of them kit-bashed or scratchbuilt, occupied about half of the room-a couple of finely detailed dioramas were in evidence here. The other half of the room was taken up by an amazing collection

of Japanese models-Godzilla, Ultraman, Complementing this etc. collection were Japanimation/Japanese st videos. It was fun to see Ultraman do battle once again! A goodly number of artists displayed their paintings and drawings in the main foyer, offering the con-goers a look at what amounted to a fine art show. A number of discussion panels were held, as were several classic sf films (War of the Worlds, Forbidden Planet) shown. The audience. strangely, was rather sparse for these films, perhaps because of the constantly running videos set up at various stations around the main fover. These seemed much more popular. The evening saw the handing out of prizes for the artwork and models, and then a small costume competition was held and prizes awarded for that.

Despite a few organizational flaws (it was difficult to find your way around the site, for instance) and the problem of limited advertising, "Q-Con" was a basically good Sadly, these convention. oversites, advertising in particular, resulted in its not succeeding as it should have. However, having spent the day there and having thoroughly enjoyed myself, I would have to rate it more favourably than not.



Book Review



Larry Niven

Legacy of the Heorot. Written by Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle, and Steven Barnes

by Kevin Holden

A colony of humans have settled down on an alien world. Eventually they grow accustomed to its ecology, stake out their homesteads and prepare for a peaceful and prosperous future.

Unfortunately, nature has other plans, as the colonists are soon forcedinto a confrontation with a deadly, previously unknown species, which looks at the colony as a buffet from heaven. The colonists enlist the services of a former military commander, who must singlehandedly battle the creatures and save the colony. However once the colony is saved and the creatures elimenated, the colony must face an even greater danger.

The problem with LEGACY OF THE HEOROI is that when you consider who wrote it, the same team who created THE MOTE IN GODS EYE and FOOTFALL, that it is not a far more original piece of work. As a matter of fact, Ifoundmyself often comparing the story to Peter Benchley's JAWS, with the townsfolk threatened by the marauding sea creature, and the lone sherrif out to save them all and prove his manhood. The story moves quickly enough, with lots of suspense and suprises, but the characters are largely two-dimensional stereotypes, and the plot threatens to sink to the level of soap-opera more than once.

Not to sound overly negative mind you, I enjoyed the book for what it is, a good action yarn with lots of violence and heroics, but I justy could not help but feel as if the whole thing was being written with a movie screenplay in mind, too formulaic, especially as it took three of SF's best writers to put it together. You would think they could have come up with something more original and thought-provoking. All in all though, the book did hold my attention untiol the very end, which is more than a lot of SF novels can do these days. Hopefully, the books rather open-ended conclusion does not mean that a sequel is on the way, and we can look forward to more groundbreaking work from this great team in the future.

Gen-Con Review

Gen-Con/Origins '88 Game Fair Review

by Michael Masella

After months of preparation, myself and over 9000 other people converged for a midwestern town called Milwaukee. It was there that the largest gaming tournaments in the world took place: Gen-Con/Origins '88. Not only are both conventions known to be the largest in the world, but for both to be in the same place at the same time? Whoa! That's too much!

Well so were the lines.

Registration on thursday morning was hell! Lineups for PRE-REGISTERED people were ten times as long as the line for people who were registering on-site. The only difference was that those who had pre-registered could also be pre-registered for events which would quickly close during Friday morning (kind of like registering at John Abbott College).

Some things couldn't be helped like the cloth dividers for each gaming cubicle (these were arranged in the large convention halls at the MECCA Convention Centre) which meant that everyone had to shout out what they were doing to everyone else.

On the brighter side of things, many, many special guests were on-hand for people to meet and talk to. Among others were Rowena Morrill (fantasy artist), Andrew J. Offutt (SF writer), Ed Greenwood (creator of the "Forgotten Realms" campaign world), and Donald Featherstone (British historian and military expert). Other special attendees included such artists as Larry Elmore, Keith Parkinson, Clyde Caldwell, Jeff Easley, Paul Jaquays, George Barr and Rick Harris. These artists and more forwarded work for the art show. Speaking of shows, the "World's largest collection of Miniatures" was on display, with their owners using them in historical scenarios like "Mekong River Patrol", "Iroquois Terror", "Medieval Skirmish", and "Rearguard at Durrenstein".

The major role-playing tourmanents that were being run included the 13th Annual AD&D $^{\rm TM}$ Open Tournament called "The Changing Seasons", Zef III "Knight's Tour" where players role-played characters who were roleplaying in an adventure dubbed "Queen Bea vs Lord Buckett"! Also there was the RPGA $^{\rm TM}$ network running all kinds of adventures for a whole slew of game systems.

Of special note, MonSFFA's own Capuzine Plourde entered the costuming contest and won first place for Best Show! Congratulations and good luck for the future!

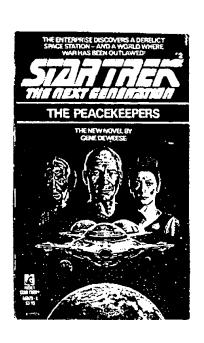
Finally, a intriguing promotional stunt was put on by Fasa Corporation. Players of the game "Battletech" will recognize the names Melissa Steiner and Hanse Davion. Well, they finally tied the knot and a wedding reception was held at the Fasa booth where they served cake and fruit punch. Not your everyday occurence!

Overall, the convention was well done. To quote one of the players there: "If you aren't dead after Gen-Con, you didn't enjoy yourself"! Boy, was I dead!

Book News

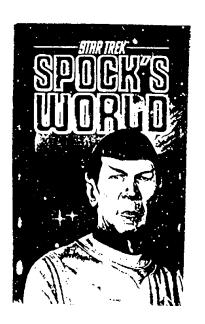
Star Trek Fiction

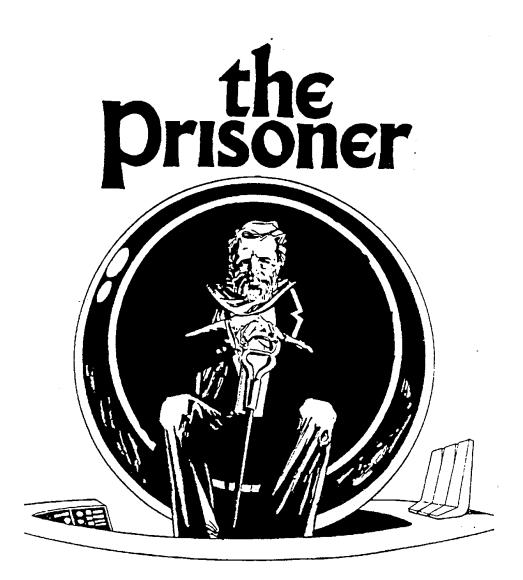
The latest Trek novel, the third in the Next Generation series, described by one reader as "typical Next Generation"; released in Canada in October. Recommended only if you are a devoted Next Generation fan.



Star Trek Hardcover

The second known Trek hardcover, Spock's World, is described as a "serious political story concerning Vulcan leaving the Federation". Written by Trek veteran, Diane Duane, is highly recommended.





You are no. 6!!



THE REVIEWS ARE IN on the first issue of the PRISONER comic book. The response has so far been overwhelmingly positive. The story takes place several years after the original series, where we left the prisoner after his departure from the Village. We return to the Village today with another secret agent who finds herself unknowingly dispatched to the remote hideaway for "security reasons". There she must contend with a withered number Six in questionable mental condition.

Gaming

Star Trek: The Next Generation: The Role-Playing Game (Is there enough additions to the end of *Star Trek?*)

by Michael Masella

I was two and a half hours before I was to leave for the Gen-Con Origins Game Fair when I tushed into Hobby International when all of a sudden, I saw Fasa's new gaming product: Star Trek, The Next Generation role-playing game supplement. What??? It hasn't even been a year since the show has been on the air, and already this is on the market? With no pre-release publicity? How totally unlike Fasa! Usually, they have a habit of putting products off till the cows come home.

Anyway this product has some neat points going for it: its art is very well done (motify the deck plan/blueprist type drawings), although the strip art leaves something to be desired. The race descriptions (these include the Ferengi, the Betazolds, the Binars, the Ugonians, the Edo (from the Rubicon system), the Molodar, the Angelites, the Bandi, the Seley, the Q, the Anticars and the Turellians) are just little paragraphs each, while the "regular" races (Fed. Kingon, Rom. Grin. Otton get their usual "updates". A couple new shipboard weapons are thrown in for good measure (try calling the phaser bans FH-11's) as well as some neat pictures of the NG hand phasers but there are no statistics given for them! Further, the VISOR (Geordi's "Ray Charles" shades) is described in some detail.

The most interesting part of the supplement, however is the description and commentary on Lt. Cmdr. Data. This part has very good illustrations of Data along with a history of the Federation's first (and second; don't forget Lore!) walking AI (artificial intelligent) unit created by Dr. Noonian Soong,

So If you're looking to upgrade your campaign to the NG level, and If you're willing to do most of the work grinding out specifics for personal equipment, not to mention your own character creation system for NG characters, or if you only wish to use it as source material, then go out and get if!

Otherwise..

Identify for Retina Scan...

Captain's Log Stardate: 8809.14.

Strained political relations in the Triangle Zone has caused tremendous concern in Starfleet Command. *LEXINGTON* has been chosen to lead the 6th Fleet to patrol the border of the Federation-Triangle Zone. Our purpose is to act as an emergency contingency force in the interest of the Federation. If any of the recent rumours hold true, then the threat of war between the Federation, the Klingon Empire, and the Romulan Star Empire is imminent.

IKFV "QaHugH" Imperial Logdate:::825,1470

Imperial Klingan High Command—Avahz Quadrant has activated the Third Imperial Fleet in Triangle Zone, and Operation "In hact-lurian" is now committed.

Commanders's Statement 5011 lass B'llm 15 Tocom

The Project has addressed the Fleet to patrol the territory known as the "Wedge." It is believed that possible military invasion through this area may be enacted against the Star Empire. ch' Grasvaga has been confirmed to set course for the "Mangle area."

This is a feet, strategy and tactics game with political and economic intrigue to it. For all those interested in participating in a fleet confrontation, and in commanding battle groups, there will be openings for up to a players. Starting Monday, October 3, 1988. To find out all the details, please contact James P. Poon at 273-0837 (11 a.m.-5 p.m.).

EarthShattering Trumors

✓ Batman, the Movie (Biff, Sock!, Powie!)

It has been confirmed that Michael Keaton will be playing the Caped Crusader in the upcoming feature. Rumour has it that Jack Nicholson will be costarring as the Riddler. Contrary to earlier reports and fan expectation, the film will be a campy treatment as opposed to a serious drama (Bof!).

Holy U.P.I Batman! Stop the Presses> Comic News reports that the film is a straight drama like the first Superman film. *Entertainment Tonight* differs, and reports it will be a comedy. Let's hope that Comic News is right.

Alien, Aliens, more Aliens, a shitload of Aliens!

Plans are in the works for the making of not only a third Aliens movie, but also a fourth! Plot rumours are numerous. including an expidition to the Aliens indiginous planet and the "Company's" crossbreeding of Aliens and humans to create super-warri-It is said that James Cameron will not be involved in it's production, nor, reportedly is Sigourney Weaver. Jones the cat is reported to be negotiating for the feature role.

Sheen in space movie

Filming has started at the Alabama Space Center on a film entitled *Personal Choice*.

It portrays the friendship of a teenager and an astronaut played by Martin Sheen.

✓ Indiana Jones vs. Godzilla

Rumour has it that in the next Indiana Jones film, Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, ILM will pit go-motion dinosaurs against Indy and his father, played by Sean Connery.

License Revoked

In the next James Bond thriller, License Revoked, James Bond, played by Timothy Dalton, is kicked out of the Secret Service when he abandons his mission in order to avenge the death of his long-time friend, Felix Leighter. He is then hunted down by his own collegues and must work alone to overcome a deluge of double-O operatives. Filming in Florida was recently completed and the cast and crew are currently in Mexico.

Crosby terrorized by King

The latest of Stephen King's novels to be adapted for the screen, *Pet Semetary* is currently being lensed in Maine, King's home state. The star of the film: Denise Crosby.

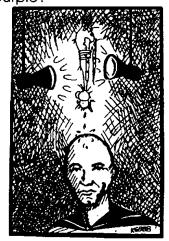
Twilight Zone to return

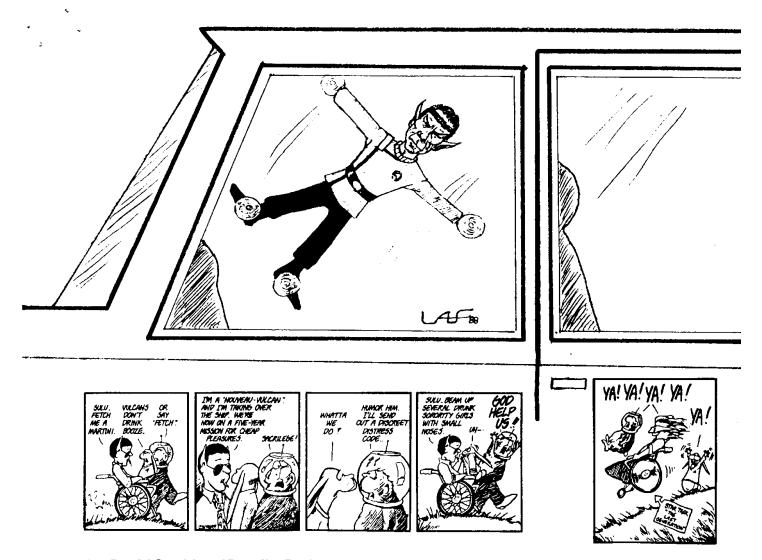
The new Twilight Zone series has been given a new lease on life. Reason given is that not enough episodes from its two seasons were produced to allow for a decent syndication package.

✓ This Sunday, October 30th will mark exactly the fifthieth anniversary of Orson Welles' famous War of the Worlds radio broadcast.

✓ More Star Trek: The Next Generation news

It has been confirmed that comedienne Whoopi Goldberg will become a semi-regular member of the new Enterprise crew, as the host of a recreational lounge aboard the ship. Rumor has it that the first show of the new season will send the Enterprise to a planet inhabited entirely by comedians. The show is titled: "Take My Worf, Please". The auestion is: Where does this leave helmsman Geordi Laforge? Is a romance planned? Will he see the light or just the color purple?





- ✓ **David Gerrld and Dorothy Fontana** are continuing their legal struggle against Paramount Pictures. They aledge that Paramount stole some of their ideas and characters for *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Fontana is still working for Paramount, and Gerrold, author of *The Trouble with Tribbles*, is a freelance writer.
- ✓ Dan Akroyd stars in a Christmas release as a scientist who is looking for aliens via radio astronomy, and accidentally marries one! My Stepmother is an Alien co-stars Kim Basinger and is directed by Richard Benjamin.
- ✓ Alien Nation: Due for release in October, this new film by James Cameron (Terminator, Aliens) concerns a future where 250,000 aliens inflitrate Earth (read California) society and inevitably one of them becomes a cop and teams up with a tough but lovable human detective to solve mysteries.
- ✓ Rumor has it that the Alien known as the "Q" on ST:TNG will return as a regular this season. Apparently "Q"'s masters figure that the only way to understand humanity is to join it, And so, "Q" joins the crew, minus his powers.

Convention Center

by C. Plourde

T3A 0X4

(403) 286-8128

Noncon 11-Edmonton, Alberta. Oct. 7-9, 1988 SF, Fantasv. GOH: F.M. Busby Guest: Janis Svilpis Events: Masquerade, dealer's room, banquet, speeches, panels, dances, contests, art show, videos. Membership: \$20 (regular), \$10 (children). Attendance: 550 Venue: Palliser Hotel 133 9th Ave S.W. (403) 262-1234 Gen. Info: 5308 40th Ave., N.W. Calgary, AB

Pinekone-Ottawa, Ontario. Oct. 14-16, 1988 SF/Fantasy, small press fanzi-GOH: Barry Longyear, Will Shetterly, Emma Bull Art GOH: Bob Egaleton, Lloyd & Yvonne Penney. Music GOH: Gravity's Rain-Events: Fandom panel, Worldcon flirtation panel, banquet, dance, literary competition, publishing workshop and seminars, dealers, art show, hall costume contest but no masauerade. Membership: \$25 (regular

at the door)
Attendance: 500 attendance limit
Venue: Holiday Inn Market
Square
350 Dalhousie
(613) 236-0201
Gen. Info.:
Box 5368
Station F
Ottawa, Ontario,
K2C 3J1
(613) 596-0815: Joseph
Casey (chairman)

Readercon 2-Boston, Massachusetts. Nov. 18-20, 1988 GOH: Samuel Delany Events: panels, discussion groups, reading Membership: \$15 to October 15th, \$20 at the door

Hilton Lowell, Massachusetts
Gen. Info.:
Box 6138
Boston, Massachusetts,
USA 02209
(617) 576-0415 (evenings
& weekends)

Venue:

Creation
Thanksgiving-New
York, New York.
Nov. 24-27, 1988
Comics, Star Trek, Dr. Who,
Robotech.
Events: Blake's 7, dealers,
films, guests
Gen. Info.: Creation Cons,
Inc.

145 Jericho

Turnpike, Mineola, New York, 11530 (516) 746-9626



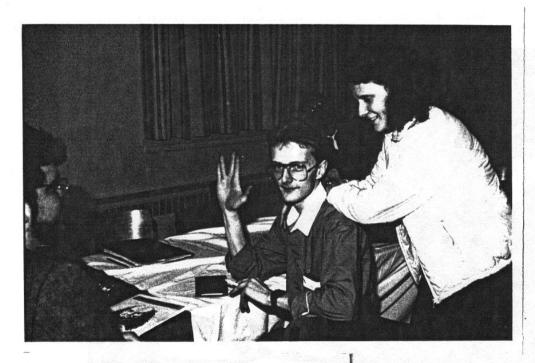
THE OLD VIKING WONDER IF SPACECRAFT THAT LANDED HERE IN WORKING.

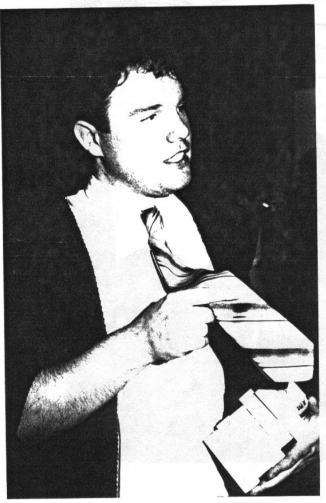
THE '70s!

WZ & WONDER IF IT'S STILL WORKING.









ALAIN CARRIER & SYLVIE BEAULIEU from Caoticook Québec at the club's first meeting.



Former V.P. Geoff Bovey at the club's first meeting:

"What? This stain? Why...uhhh... it's...it's lemon juice... Yeah, that's it! It's lemon juice. Yeah!" Near the beginning of December, 1987, MonSFFA Prez Luke Fallon appeared on Dave Patrick's early morning, CJAD radio program, speaking for the club prior to its first public meeting (Dec. 12).



A private club party held in honour of Kevin Holden and Chris Campbell, both of whom were leaving for the summer. Kevin has since retuned, but Chris has not, who is attending the University of New Brunswick. Chris and his wife are expecting their first child in December. We wish them all the best for the future.





MIKE MASELLA CAPUCINE PLOURDE AND CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL AT THE APRIL 22 RED-HOUR PARTY AT LE GRAND CAFE, RUE ST. DENIS.



LEFT: A BUNCH OF FANS IN COSTUME AT THE MONTREAL RED-EYE PARTY.

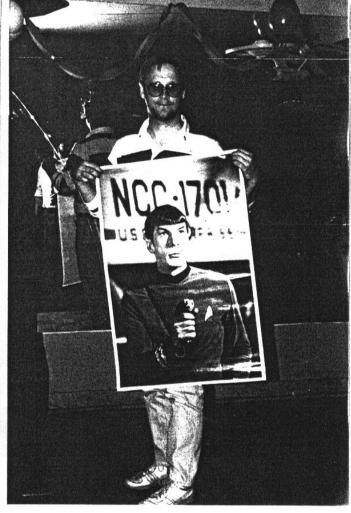


(left) FANS AT APARTICON in TORONTO,

BELOW LEFT:
OTTAWA'S PAUL
VALCOUR AND
TORONTO'S LLOYD
PENNEY AT
APARTICON

BELOW:
BARRY WIGHT
WITH HIS POSTER
WON AT THE
RED-EYE PARTY
IN MONTREAL





something ifferent mapleween

A HALLOWEEN PARTY • GAMES COSTUMES • OLD-FASHIONED FUN!

