

# **CANFAPA**

**THE CANADIAN FANZINE APA**

**DEVOTED TO:**

**PROMOTING AWARENESS OF CANADIAN SF FANZINES**

**CONVERTING CANADIAN SF FANS INTO FANEDS**

**PRESERVING CANADA'S SF FANZINE HERITAGE**

**MARCH 1998**

**VOLUME ONE. NUMBER 1. WHOLE NUMBER 1.**

**BCSFA/WCSFA PRESS PUBLICATION #1**

This invitational first issue of CANFAPA is being sent to the following people in the hope that they will want to join:

- Chester Cuthbert
- Brian Davis
- Mike Glicksohn
- Karl Johanson
- John Mansfield
- Murray Moore
- Lloyd Penney
- Robert Runte
- Dale Speirs
- Michael Skeet
- Garth Spencer
- Harry Warner Jr.
- Taral Wayne

In addition, informational copies will be sent to:

- BCSFA/WCSFA (Archive)
- Mike Glycer (FILE 770)
- The Merrill Collection
- MonSFA
- National Library
- OSFS
- Andrew Porter (Science Fiction Chronicle)

Note: additional copies may be available to interested parties at \$1.00 each.

#### TOP THREE REASONS NOT TO JOIN:

##### 1) APA's cost money!

FALSE: Not this one. The entire cost of printing and distributing contributions will be borne by myself. All you have to pay for is the envelope and the postage stamp you use to send in your contribution.

##### 2) APA's require too much work!

FALSE: Contributing to this APA is merely the equivalent of writing a Loc. As part of my scheme for keeping my costs way down:

The MINIMUM contribution is one page per issue (every three months).

The MAXIMUM contribution is two pages per issue (every three months).

At most, one sheet suitable for reproduction is all you have to send in!

##### 3) I've Gafiated!

MAYBE TRUE, BUT: Most of you have years of Fanac behind you, much of it as Faneds, and I'd hate to see all that knowledge and experience sink into oblivion. Besides, I bet most of you still have a soft spot in your heart reserved for zinedom, your hobby of choice for years, after all. Most of you probably retain your zine collection, and don't mind adding to it from time to time. All in all, I think CANFAPA is an appropriate idea whose time has come. I bet you're tempted.

Or, if not, please respond to the concept so that I can publish a second issue at least, if only to illustrate that it was a lousy idea and why.

But if it's just a question of your not being able to afford the time (or any of a thousand other possible legitimate reasons) yet you think CANFAPA is a good idea anyway, please suggest someone whom you think might well be interested. Probably 12-15 participants is the maximum number my finances can handle.

#### THE PURPOSE OF CANFAPA?

First and foremost to ensure that the practice of producing Canadian SF Fanzines ON PAPER survives into the 21st century. How to do this? In part by generating discussion on how to accomplish the three goals listed on the cover. I believe I have presented enough comment hooks in FC#3 to get things going, I hope. All suggestions and ideas are most welcome.

#### DEADLINES:

-- March 31st, 1998 for the April edition (#2).

-- June 30th, 1998 for the July edition (#3).

-- Sept 30th, 1998 for the October edition (#4).

-- Dec 31st, 1998 for the January edition (#5).

#### BASIC INFO:

CANFAPA = Canadian Fanzine Amateur Press Assoc.

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CANFAPA is produced quarterly.

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# THE FANTIQUARIAN CHRONICLER #3

Is brought to you by R. Graeme Cameron for the March 98 Mailing of CANFAPA #1. The first two issues of FC appeared in FHAPA #1&2. The Graeme is a former editor of BCSFAzine (#193 -- #268), six times Aurora nominee, 1997 C.U.F.F. winner, and currently Anti-Archivist of the WCSFA/BCSFA Archive, Editor of THE SPACE CADET GAZETTE, and O.E. of CANFAPA.

The idea of creating CANFAPA came to me after a telephone conversation I'd had with Garth Spencer on Feb 24th 1998 during which we discussed the notice we'd both seen in Mike Glycer's FILE 770 (#122) to the effect that Benoit Girard, Faned of THE FROZEN FROG, was ceasing publication for pressing personal reasons.

Later on I got to thinking. Hmmm. When my perzine SPACE CADET first came out in December 1994 someone (I forget who) remarked that SC was "part of the explosion of Canadian Fanzines newly on the scene." Yes, a veritable renaissance was going on. You had ZERO-GLAVATORY, ZX, UNDER THE OZONE HOLE, SERCON POPCULT LITCRIT FANMAG, THE SPACE CADET GAZETTE, BCSFAZINE, CONTRACT, OPUNTIA, OSFS STATEMENT, BARDIC RUNES, SOL RISING, FROM BEYOND THE OORT CLOUD, SACRED TRUST, WARP, THE FROZEN FROG & assorted Trek and other specialty zines.

Today, ZERO-G LAVATORY, ZX and THE FROZEN FROG have ceased publication, and UNDER THE OZONE HOLE is on hold pending future developments. Meanwhile SACRED TRUST has been replaced by GREEN STUFF, and SERCON POPCULT LITCRIT FANMAG by THE ROYAL SWISS NAVY GAZETTE. The others are still going strong -- I think. I've never seen FROM BEYOND THE OORT CLOUD. Does it still exist?

Meanwhile the internet is over run with all sorts of stuff, good and bad, including SF Ezines... The turn of the century approaches.... I've catalogued the 4,500 plus zines in the BCSFA/WCSFA archive, noting all the good writing produced in the past... I've compiled about 100 pages of notes for AN INCOMPLEAT GUIDE TO CANADIAN SCIENCE FICTION FANZINES which I hope to publish Summer of 1999... Which I trust will stir people to write in with corrections and additional info.... So that in the summer of 2000 AD I can print a revised version titled: AN INCOMPLEAT GUIDE TO TWENTIETH CENTURY CANADIAN SF FANZINES.... And I thought, by Ghu! It really will be the end of an era!

Then it struck me. Will there be a viable Canadian SF zinedom in the 21st Century? Or will zinedom be one of those rubbish icons swept aside simply because we flourished in the previous century and thus don't fit in the modern scheme of things?

In short, is Canadian SF zinedom dying?

*"In the past, Canada has been a considerable factor in the strength of the 'dom; but one by one, the Canadian Amateurs have fossilized, until at the present day, THE NUGGET, THISTLE, BOYS FOLIO and BRIC-A-BRAC are all that are left to represent the 'dom in Canada."*

Many of you will recognize the words of Harri W. Robinson from the February 1886 issue of BRIC-A-BRAC, which Dale Speirs reproduced a while back and sent to all of OPUNTIA's readers. (Mind you, it wasn't SF, but definitely amateur press though...)

In other words, no sooner is a zine created, when it begins to grow old and die. Clubs too. Anything for that matter! (Hence the title of my first zine: ENTROPY BLUES.) In short, there's nothing new about there not being anything new. So no reason to give up.

Besides, as long as I'm alive, there will be numerous other people with similar interests and tastes. How so? I'm a baby boomer. There are plenty of other people out there who imprinted on the SF of the '50s and '60s. Some fans complain about "the greying of the Fannish population", but it is the mighty clump of baby boomers who provide the core strength of fandom. If we can revive interest in zinedom among our fellow boomers, producing a new 'explosion' of intriguing zines, we can inspire a new generation to carry on well into the 21st century.

That's my theory, at any rate.

So let me begin with the first goal:

## PROMOTING AWARENESS OF CDN. SF ZINES

Never mind the younger set, 99% of baby boomer SF fans have never even heard of zinedom. (I just made that statistic up, but I suspect it's true.) The solution is to bring zinedom to their attention. I am guilty of falling

down on this. In my SPACE CADET I have let my own articles and the Loc column crowd out reviews. I swear from now on I will put in at least one page reviewing Canadian zines. This is preaching to the converted I suppose, but newcomers may well get ahold of my zine, see the other zines reviewed, and expand their trades.

Then there is my ambitious work-in-progress INCOMPLETE GUIDE already mentioned. More than a mere index, it will contain capsule reviews and comments on each zine to the limit of my sources. Hopefully this monograph will give people an insight into the scope of Canadian zinedom over the years. As Mike Glicksohn said when I showed him a (very) preliminary draft, "I didn't know there were so many." Once people understand there is an extensive body of work in this sub-genre, they may be more easily tempted to add something to it.

My proposed INCOMPLETE GUIDE is more of an information resource than a history, not something to read cover to cover. Once it is complete, however, I plan to rework the material into a more accessible decade-by-decade history concentrating on the more important zines.

And, of course, I'm attempting to start up this APA. What more can I do? I don't know... yet. I'm hoping you can give me some ideas.

What can you do? Well, I don't expect those of you who have fagiated to drop your current interests and start up new zines (though that would be welcome news indeed!), but I would appreciate your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions on a regular basis.

Bear in mind CANFAPA is meant to function two ways. First, to serve as a forum for knowledgeable and experienced Faneds to discuss any and all matters pertaining to the purpose of this APA, and second, in the form of extra copies distributed to interested fans, to actively seek converts to zinedom by exposing them to your combined experience. Sound like a plan?

Which brings me to the second goal:

#### CONVERTING CDN. SF FANS INTO FANEDS

I recently had a wild, wacky, radical, heretical idea. Dale Speirs wrote me that he didn't want to be nominated for C.U.F.F. (Cdn. Unity fan Fund) because he was a fanzine fan rather than a con fan. My first reaction was that he had misinterpreted my publicity for CUFF. But then I realised he was saying, or at least hinting, that imitating TAFF and DUFF might no longer be valid, that it wasn't worth the money and effort to fly

someone across the country to meet a 'demand' which in fact did not exist. Bad PR in other words. Surely there's something better we can do?

And that's when the weirdness descended upon me. Suppose we dared to change CUFF? Suppose, instead of promoting an expensive trip, we did something more concrete to promote and encourage zine fandom (which is my understanding of what CUFF and TAFF and DUFF are all about). Suppose we converted CUFF to an annual contest in which Neo Faneds submitted competing first issues? A contest in which the winners would receive cash grants to subsidize further issues? Say, something on the order of 3 prizes, \$500, \$300 & \$200, the recipients agreeing to use the money to produce at least four subsequent issues within two years. Hah?

Is not money to cover costs the biggest problem facing Faned wannabees? My proposed transformed CUFF would subsidize neo faneds until the egoboo kicked in and they determined to go it alone. A financial incentive which would produce a fresh crop of zines every year!

And fund raising would probably do better, since it would be easy to demonstrate what fans would be getting for their money. Is there a better way to ensure Cdn zinedom survives into the 21st century?

Howsomever, CUFF is showing signs of being disconcertingly healthy. Garth Spencer, John Mansfield, and Benoit Girard have received a nomination each, and Lloyd and Yvonne Penney have stated they wish to run as a team. Normally I'd say no, but as this year's CUFF is open Canada-wide and it would cost less to send both of them to Montreal than to send one person from the West Coast, why not? So, assuming they get six nominators, they win. Unless someone else gets six as well, in which case there'll be an election. Either way, there WILL be a CUFF winner this year! So my talk of transforming CUFF is undoubtedly premature. All the same, my proposal is a valid direction CUFF can take if the traditional role runs into trouble.

Or maybe this award could be COMBINED with CUFF's current role? Or separated entirely and run by the members of CANFAPA? Call it the FROME AWARDS after Nils Helmer Frome, Canada's first SF zine Faned?

What do YOU think of a cash grant incentive awards system as a mechanism for stirring up interest in producing new zines?

#### PRESERVING OUR FANZINE HERITAGE

A topic for the next issue, perhaps.

Cheers all! The Graeme

## A TENTATIVE LIST OF EARLY CANADIAN SF FANZINES BY DECADE

### 1930's

- The Canadian Science Fiction Fan
- Croutch Magazine Mart News
- Supramundane Stories

### 1940's

- Canadian Fandom
- Censored
- CSFA Newsletter
- Eight-Ball
- Light
- Macabre
- Mephisto
- The Voice

### 1950's

- A Bas
- Canadian Capers
- Canadian Fandom
- CSFA Newsletter
- Fie
- Filler
- Gasp
- Ibidem
- Light
- Mimi
- Wendigo
- Vanations

### 1960's

- Differential
- Honque
- Hugin & Munin
- Kevas & Trillium
- Le Beaver
- Thru The Haze

### 1970's

- Amor De Cosmos
- Antares
- As I See It
- BCAPA
- BCSFAzine
- Bela Bartok Air Adventurer
- Blue Jaunte

- Borealis
- Boowatt Weekly
- Compound Fracture
- Dark Fantasy
- Distaff

- DNQ
- Dolmen Shadow
- Dream Vendor
- Entropy Negative
- Energumen
- ESFACAS Newsletter
- Fantarama
- From The Subterranean penthouse

- Genre Plat
- The Long Goodbye
- Guard The North
- Imagine
- Input/Output
- Ishue
- Kratophany
- The Laid
- Lulu Review
- Miriad
- The Monthly Monthly
- Moss On The North Side

- Neology
- Non Sequitur
- Nunc Dimittis
- Old Zing
- Orca
- Pit Rot
- Requiem SF Fantastique
- Roethnium
- Sapphire Dreams
- The Science Fiction Collector

- Schmagg
- SF3 Newsletter
- Simulacrum
- Stardust
- Synapse
- VanAPA
- Volta
- The Witch And The Chameleon
- White Space

- Whiz Funnies
- The Zine That Has No Name
- Zosma

### 1980's

- Aluminium
- Atrazine
- BCSFAzine
- Beeswill
- Bimonthly/Monthly
- A Bolt Out Of The Blue
- Cadre

- Caer Pedryvan
- Callisto Rising
- Carefully Sedated
- Cascade
- CasperAPA
- Cause Celebre
- The Central Ganglion
- Chronic
- Come Hold The Moon
- Cordrazine
- Corpus Derelecti
- Cosmic Cinema
- Dean Nova
- Dopplegangers
- Dreadnought
- Dreamscapes
- Each Time
- Echelion
- The Electric Gang-Bang Pork Chop

- Entropy Blues
- ESFACAS Guide To SF & Fandom
- Fat, Old, & Boring
- The Fandom Zone
- Feltpixine
- Fictions Free-For-All
- First Draft
- Freefan Journal
- From The Ashes
- Galah Performance
- Gateway
- Halcon Sf Society Newsletter
- Horizons SF

- I'm Not Boring You, Am I?
- Impressions Of The Ditto Masters
- Just Me
- Kestral Log
- Krataphony
- The Laid
- Love Makes The World Go Awry
- The Maple Leaf Rag
- MLR
- Myles Boscon in '89
- Neology
- New Canadian Fandom
- New Toy
- New Wave Video Snacks
- North Atlantis Squadron
- Northern Lights
- Novoid
- Nuclear Bunnies
- Ogotrya
- OSFS Statement
- Otus
- Plastizine
- Pot Boiler
- Red Shift
- Schmagg Monthly
- SFA Digest
- Shrdlu Etaoin
- Sigh
- Smut
- Solaris
- Spintrian
- Stardock
- Starsongs
- State Of The Art
- Swill
- Torus
- VanAPA
- VCBC Bulletin
- Venus In Conjunction
- Wastelands
- Weird Tails
- The World According To Garth
- Zosma



